

Observation of Time-Crystalline Eigenstate Order



September 2021, KITP

Pedram Roushan

Dramatis Personae



Xiao Mi



Kostyantyn Kechedzhi



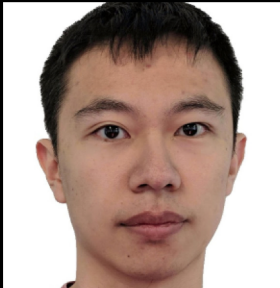
Chris Quintana



Ami Greene



Jimmy Chen



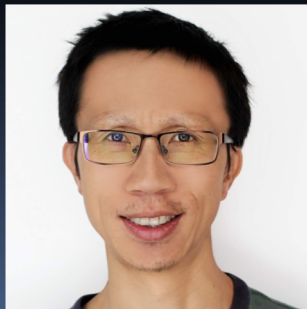
Jonathan Gross



Vadim Smelyanskiy



Yu Chen



External Collaborators

Matteo Ippoliti
(Stanford)



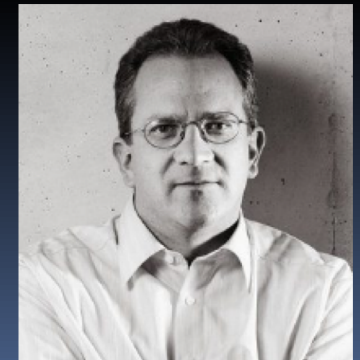
Vedika Khemani
(Stanford)



Shivaji Sondhi
(Princeton → Oxford)

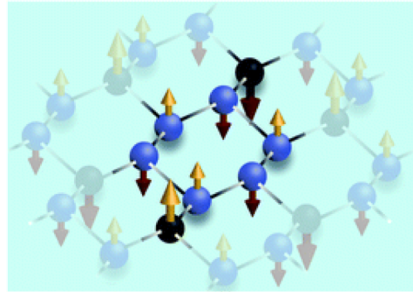
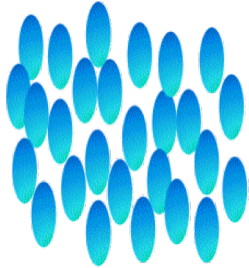


Roderich Moessner
(Max-Planck)



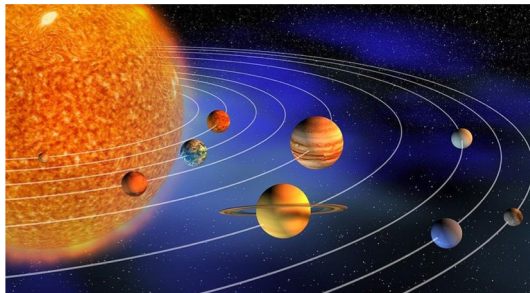
Time Crystal: indefinite oscillation in a many-body isolated system

spatial ordering...

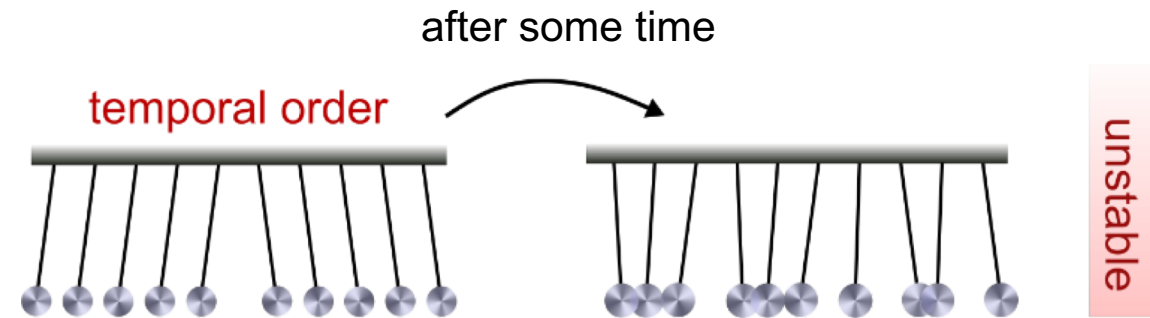
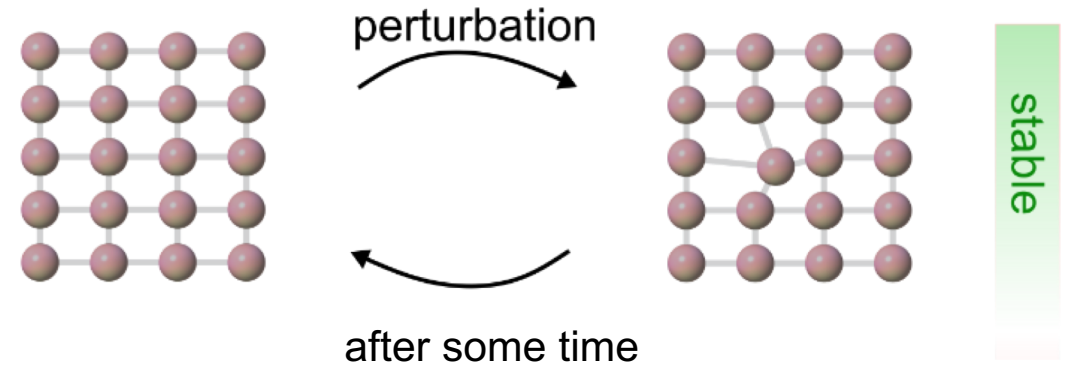


...stable for any number of interacting particles

temporal ordering...

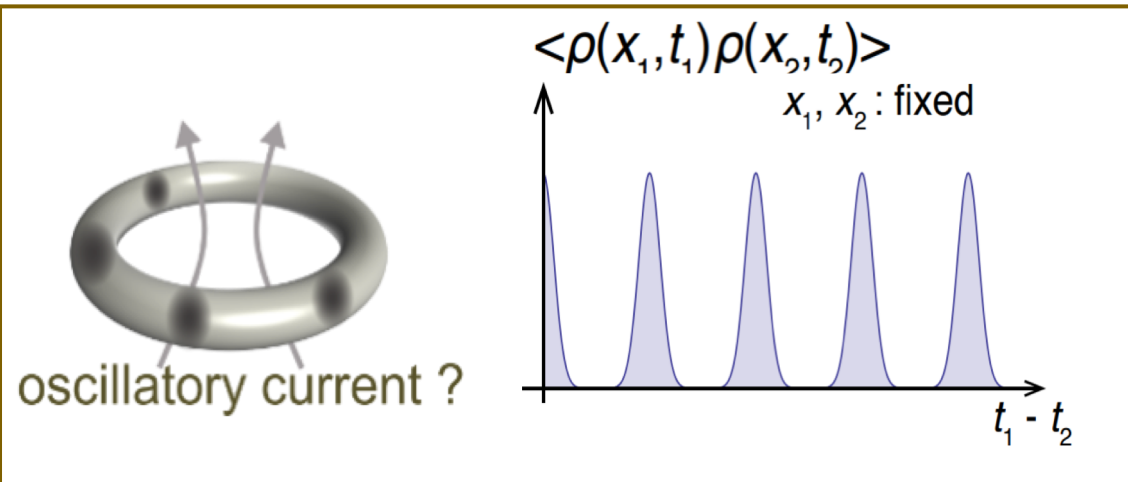
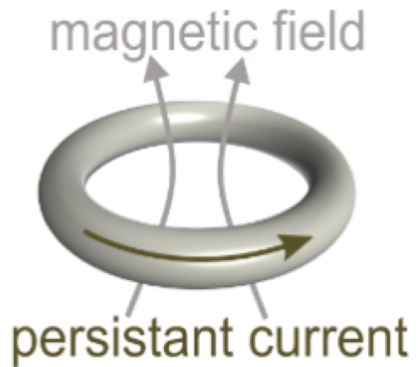
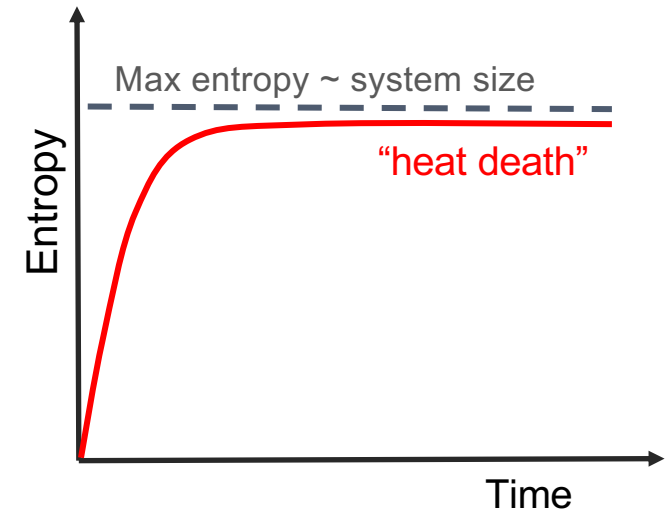
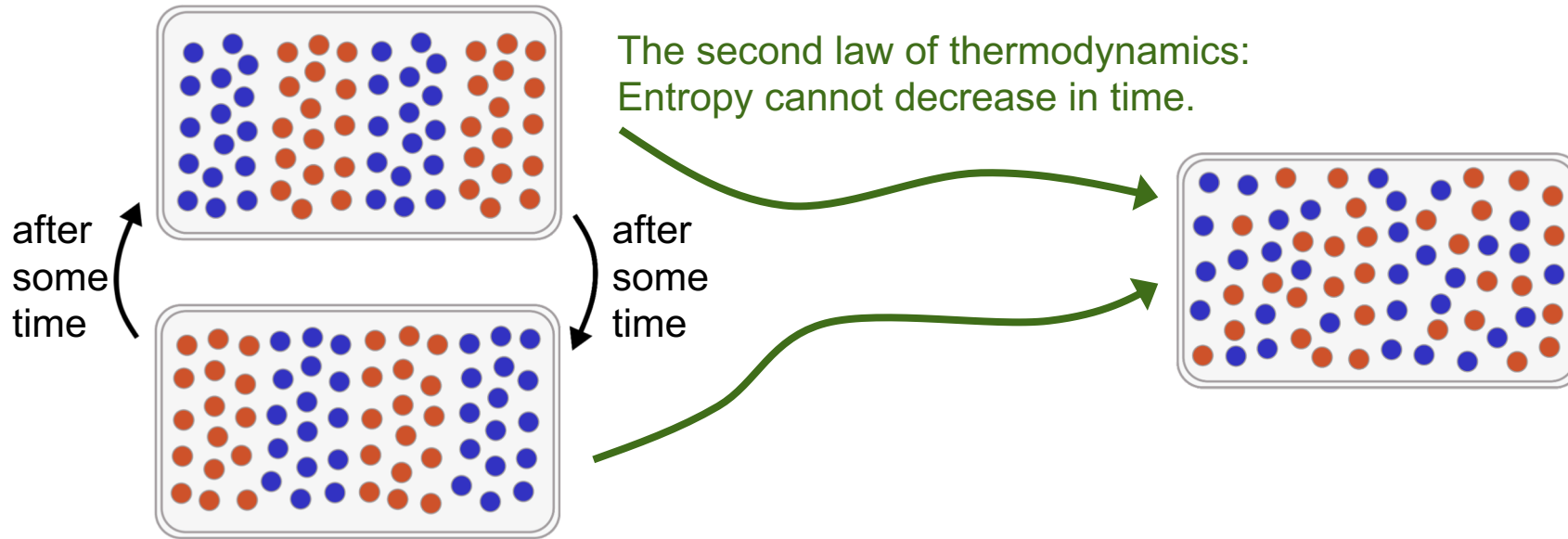


...too few degrees of freedom



[If stable → need energy injection or fine-tuned]

A challenge and an impossibility



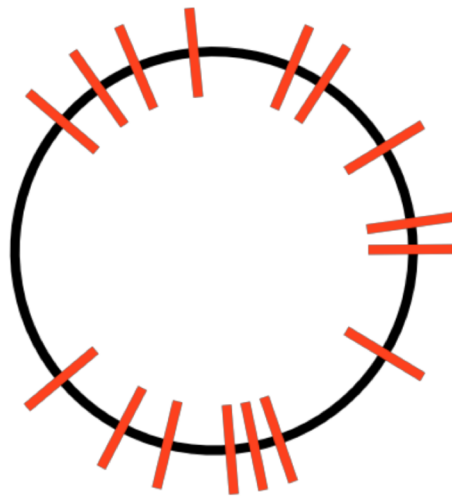
Impossible: breaking time-translational symmetry spontaneously at equilibrium

Discrete Time Crystals (DTC): Rigid oscillation in isolation

$$\hat{H}(t) = \hat{H}_0$$



$$\hat{H}(t + T) = \hat{H}(t)$$

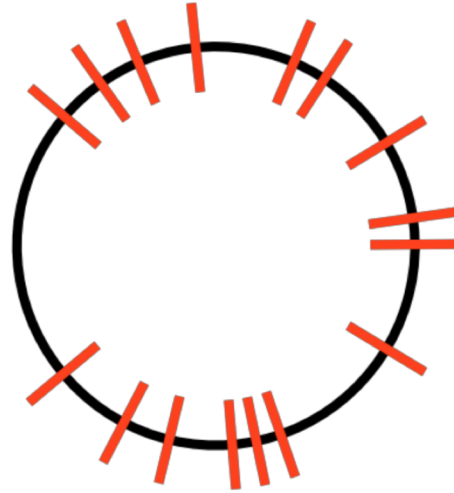


Discrete Time Crystals (DTC): Rigid oscillation in isolation

$$\hat{H}(t) = \hat{H}_0$$

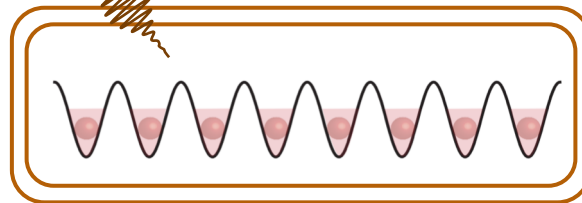


$$\hat{H}(t + T) = \hat{H}(t)$$



Periodic drive

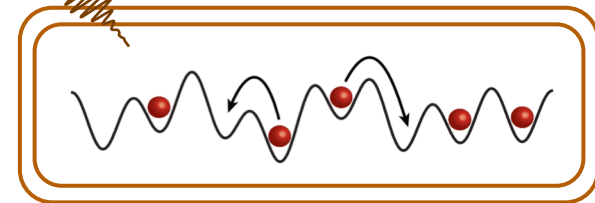
No disorder



→ energy absorption

Periodic drive

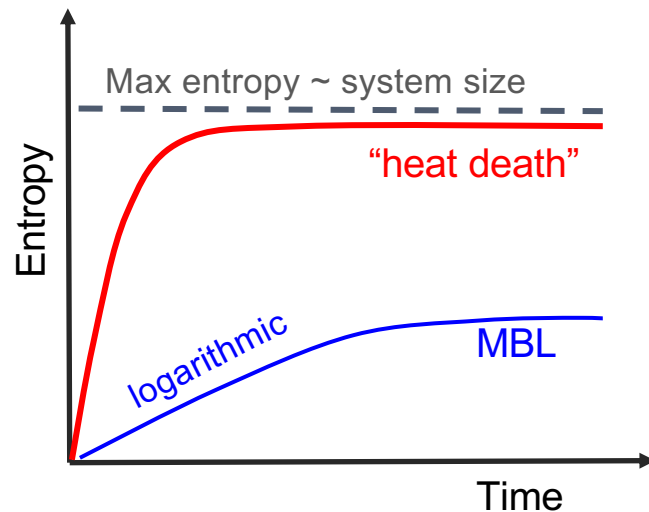
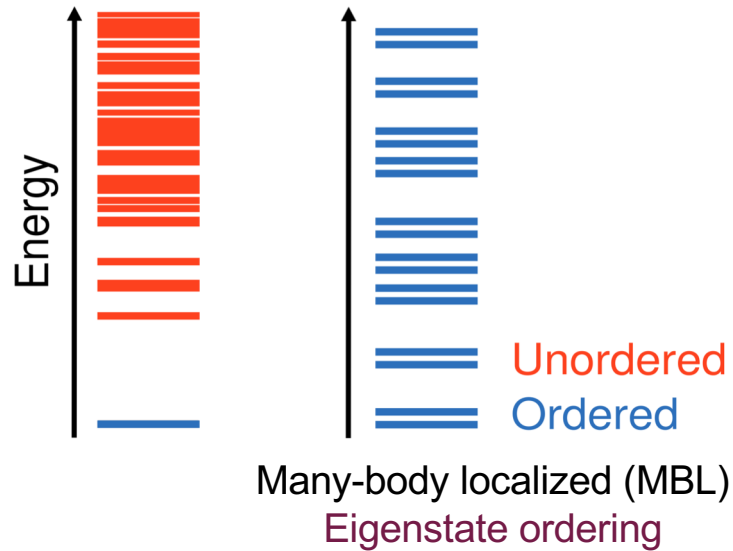
disordered



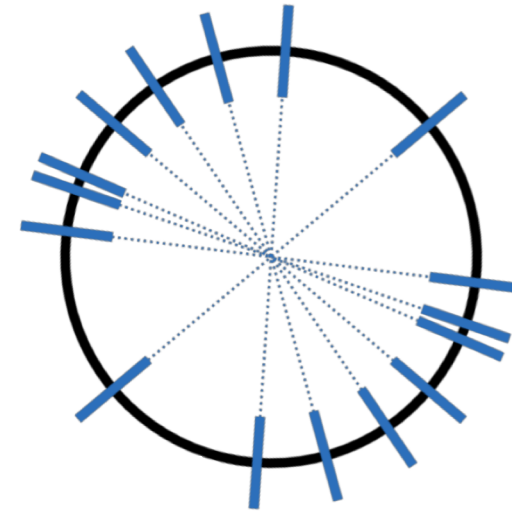
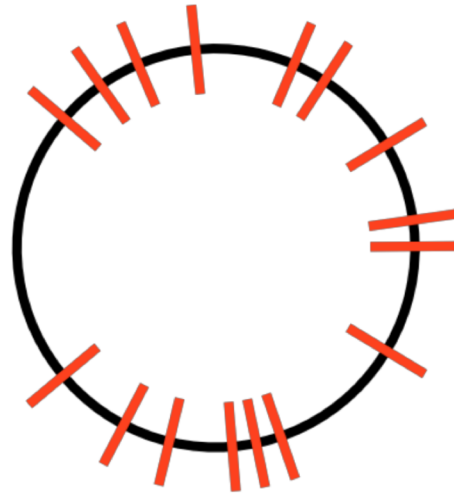
→ Many-body localization

Discrete Time Crystals (DTC): Rigid oscillation in isolation

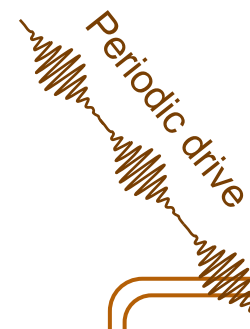
$$\hat{H}(t) = \hat{H}_0$$



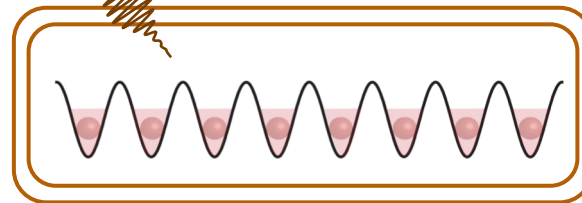
$$\hat{H}(t + T) = \hat{H}(t)$$



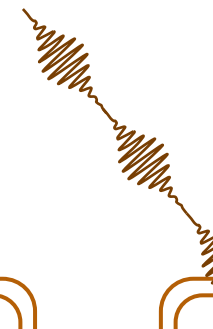
MBL-DTC
Eigenstate ordering



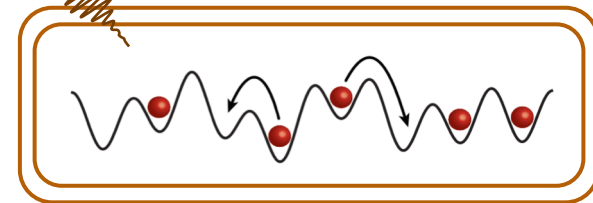
No disorder



→ energy absorption



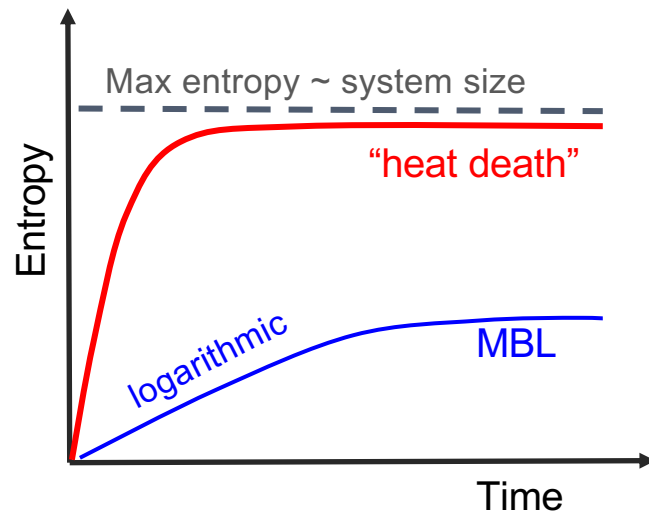
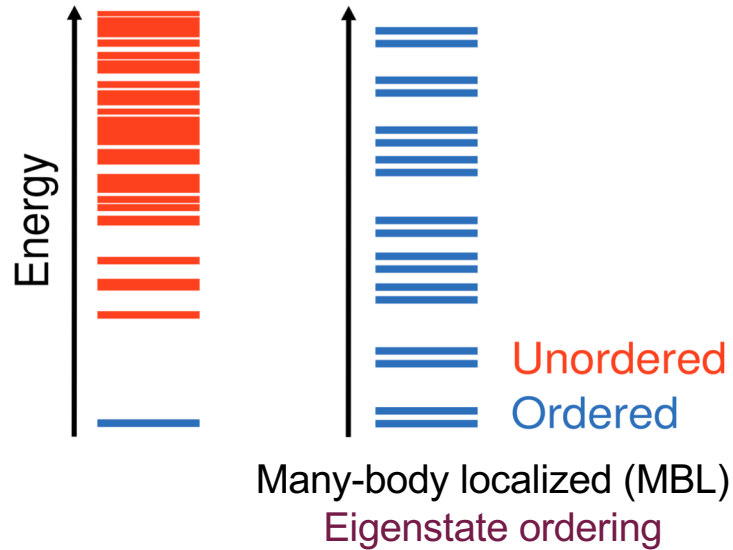
disordered



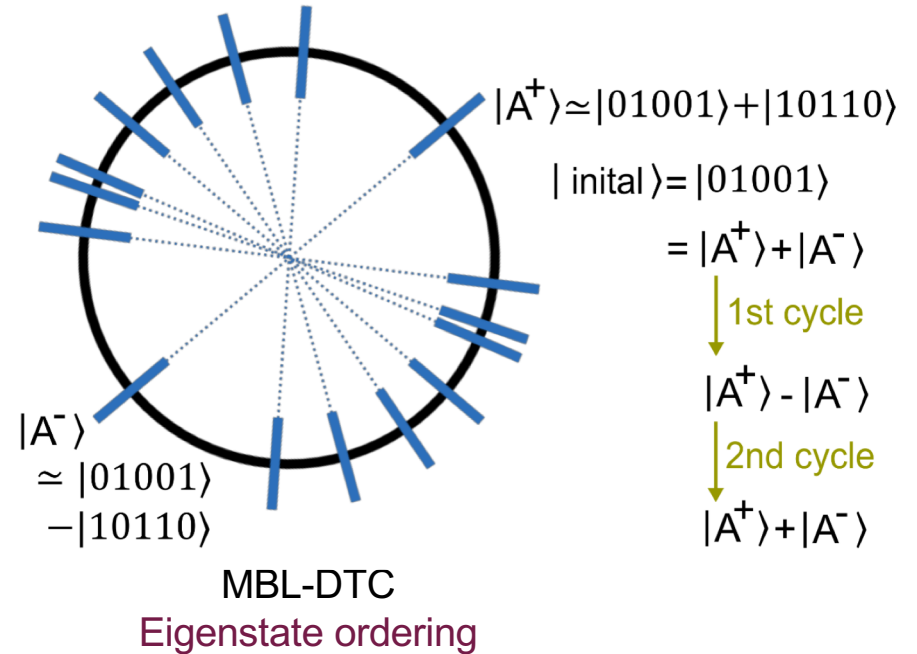
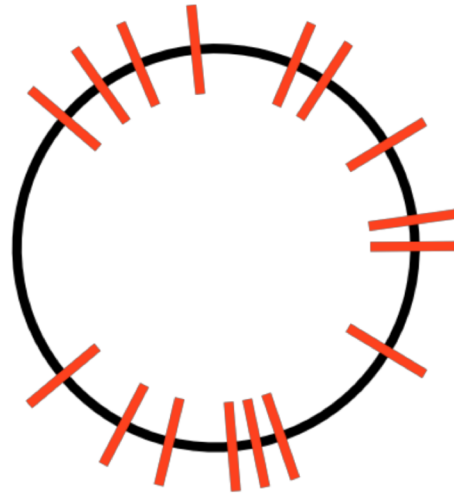
→ Many-body localization

Discrete Time Crystals (DTC): Rigid oscillation in isolation

$$\hat{H}(t) = \hat{H}_0$$

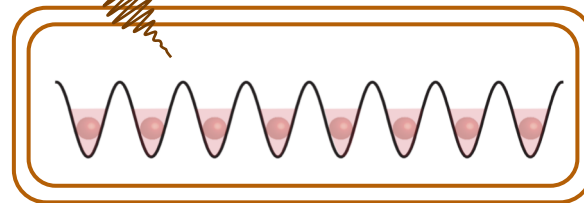


$$\hat{H}(t + T) = \hat{H}(t)$$



Periodic drive

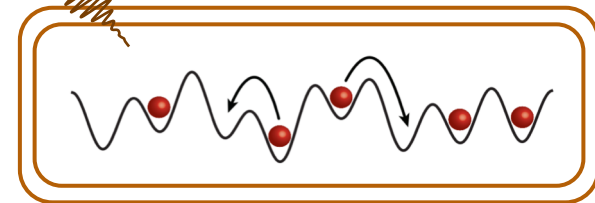
No disorder



→ energy absorption

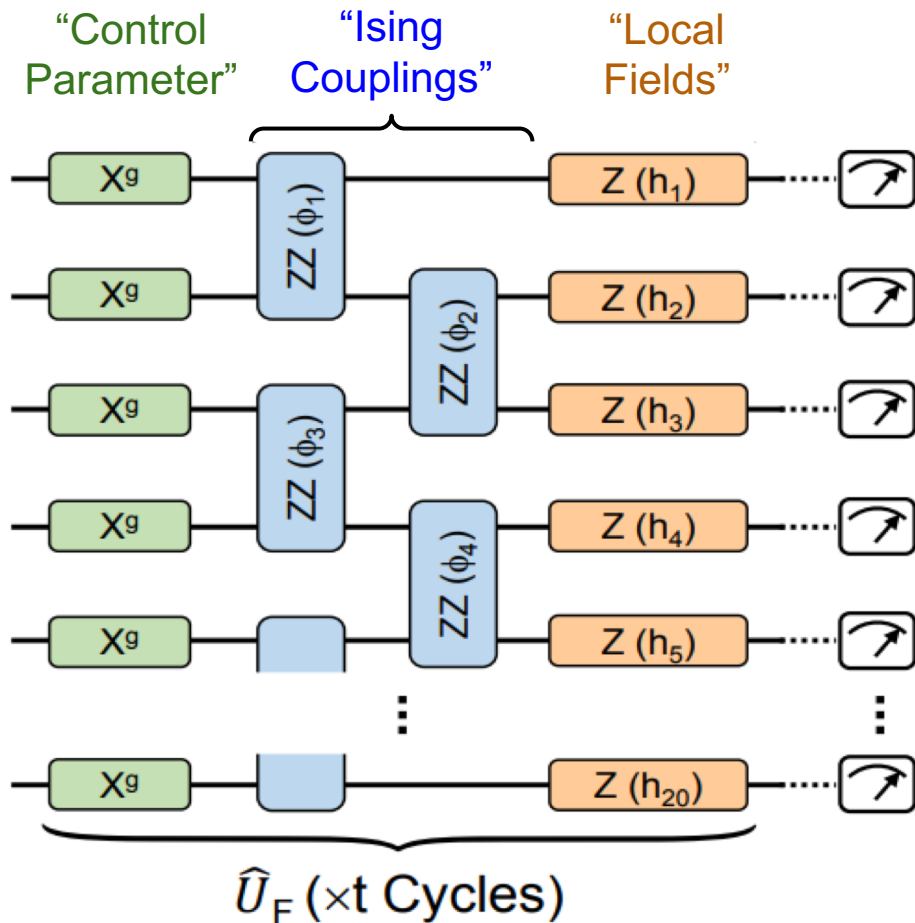
Periodic drive

disordered



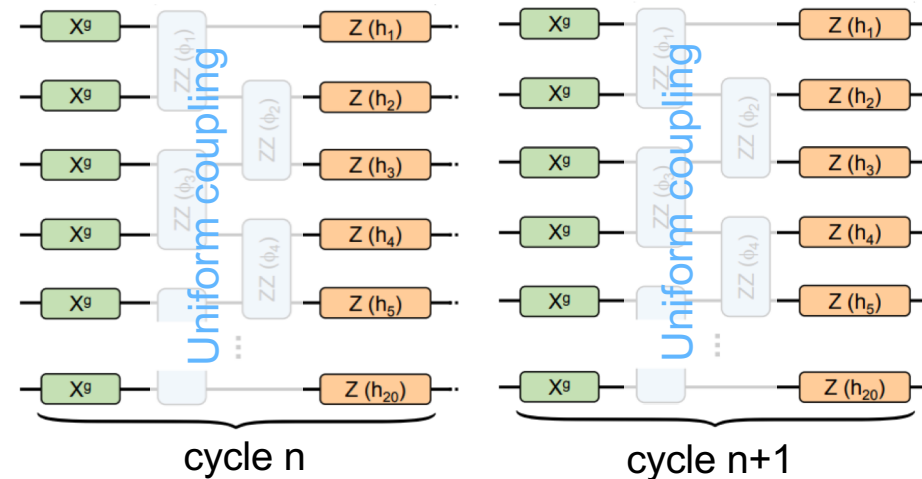
→ Many-body localization

Transverse field Ising model



$$\hat{U}_F = \underbrace{e^{-\frac{i}{2} \sum_i h_i \hat{Z}_i}}_{\text{longitudinal fields}} \underbrace{e^{-\frac{i}{4} \sum_i \phi_i \hat{Z}_i \hat{Z}_{i+1}}}_{\text{Ising interaction}} \underbrace{e^{-\frac{i}{2} \pi g \sum_i \hat{X}_i}}_{x \text{ rotation by } \pi g}$$

Non-integrability: $h_i \in [0, 2\pi]$, MBL: $\phi_i \in [-1.5\pi, -0.5\pi]$



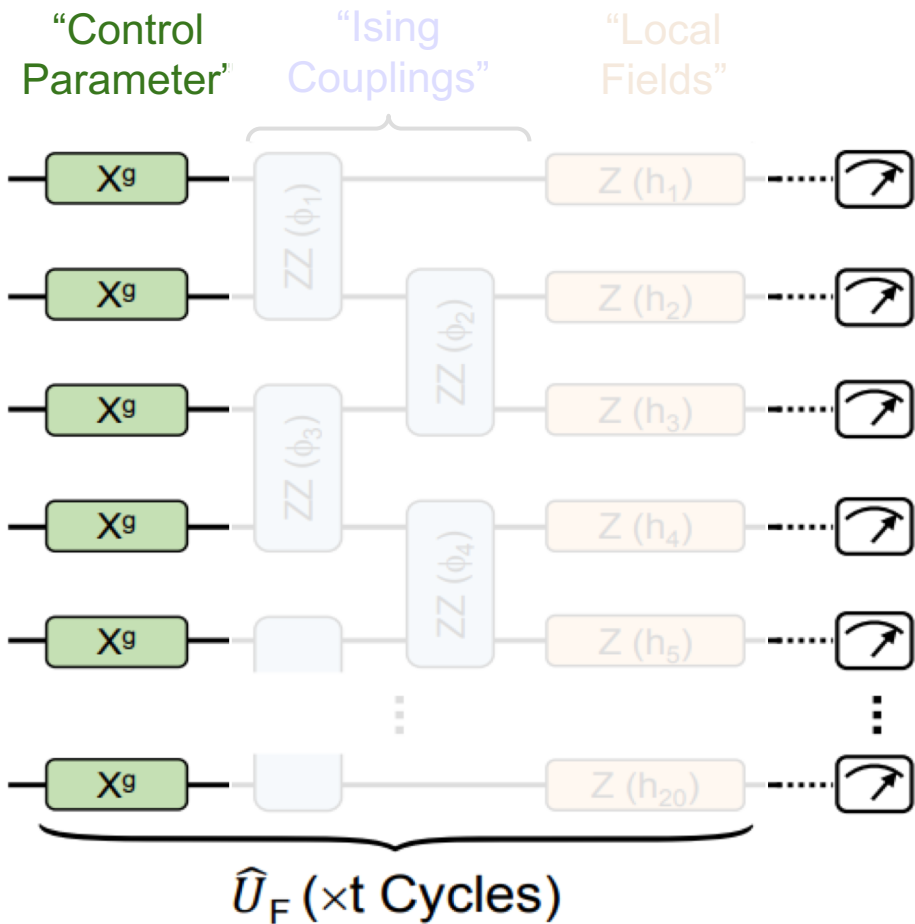
landscape as seen by the excitations:

 +  → cancelation



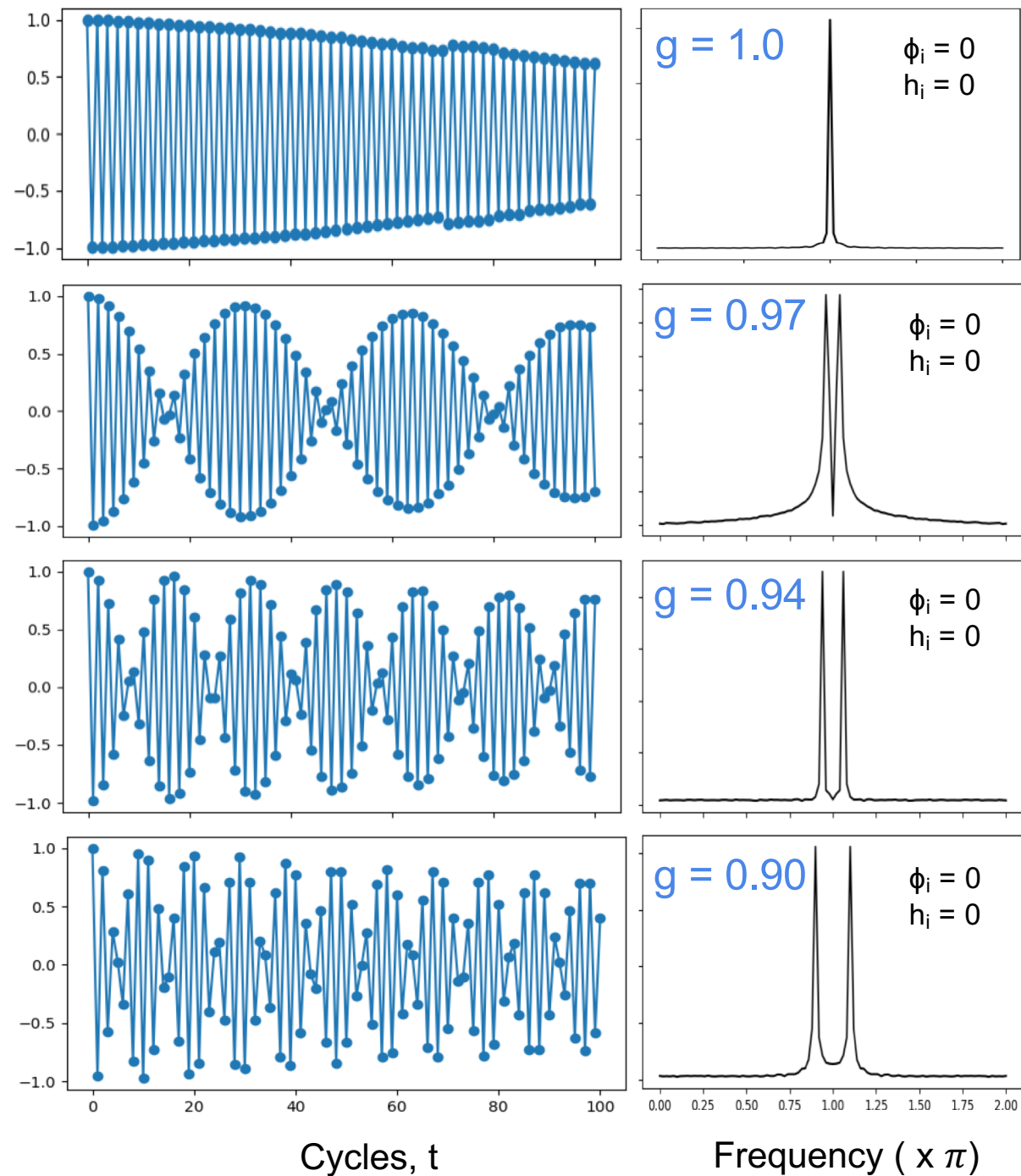
~~CPHASE gates~~ ~~no MBL~~
Before Elvis there was nothing.

— John Lennon —

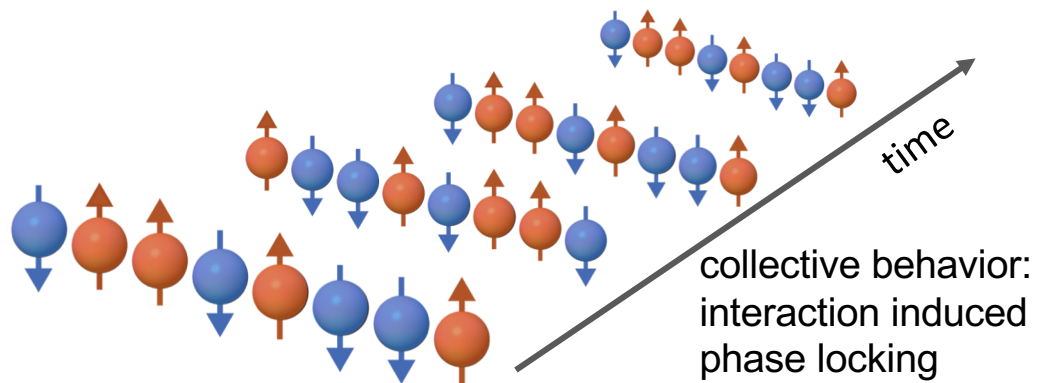
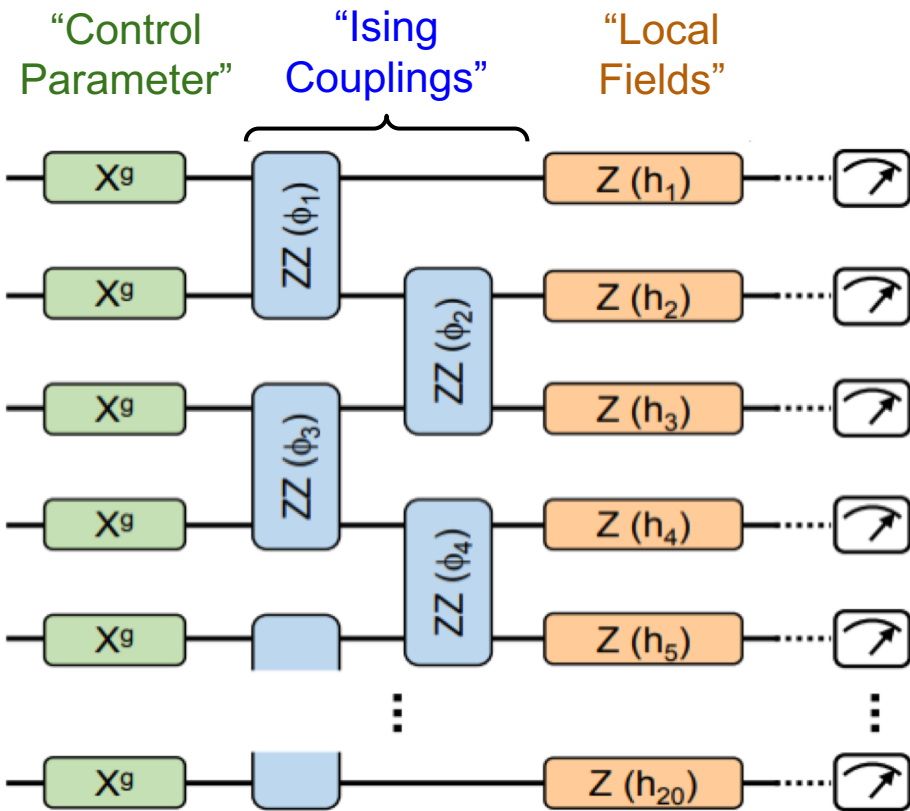


$$\hat{U}_F = \underbrace{e^{-\frac{i}{2} \sum_i h_i \hat{Z}_i}}_{\text{longitudinal fields}} \underbrace{e^{-\frac{i}{4} \sum_i \phi_i \hat{Z}_i \hat{Z}_{i+1}}}_{\text{Ising interaction}} \underbrace{e^{-\frac{i}{2} \pi g \sum_i \hat{X}_i}}_{x \text{ rotation by } \pi g}$$

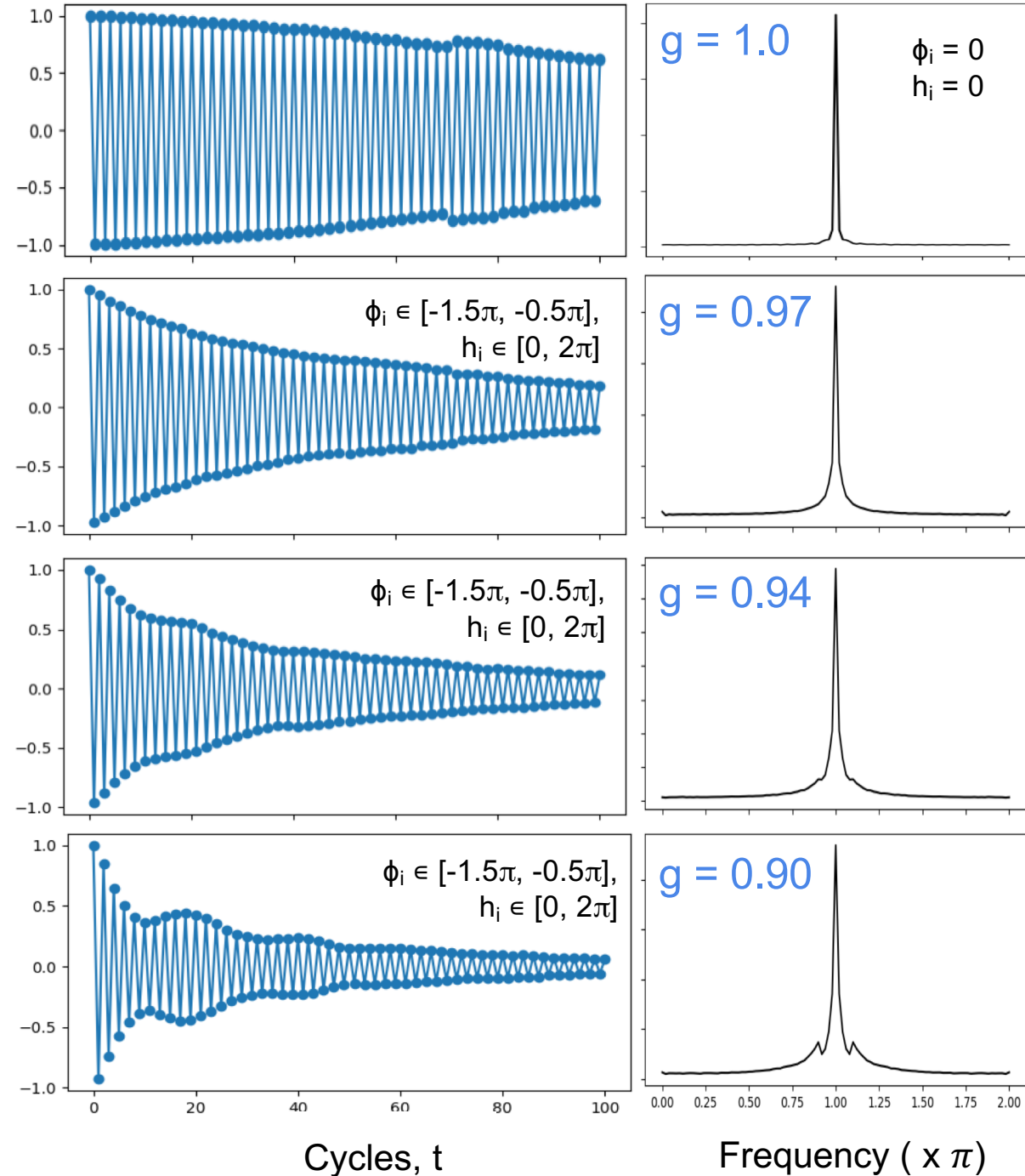
Autocorrelator, $A = \langle Z(0)Z(t) \rangle$



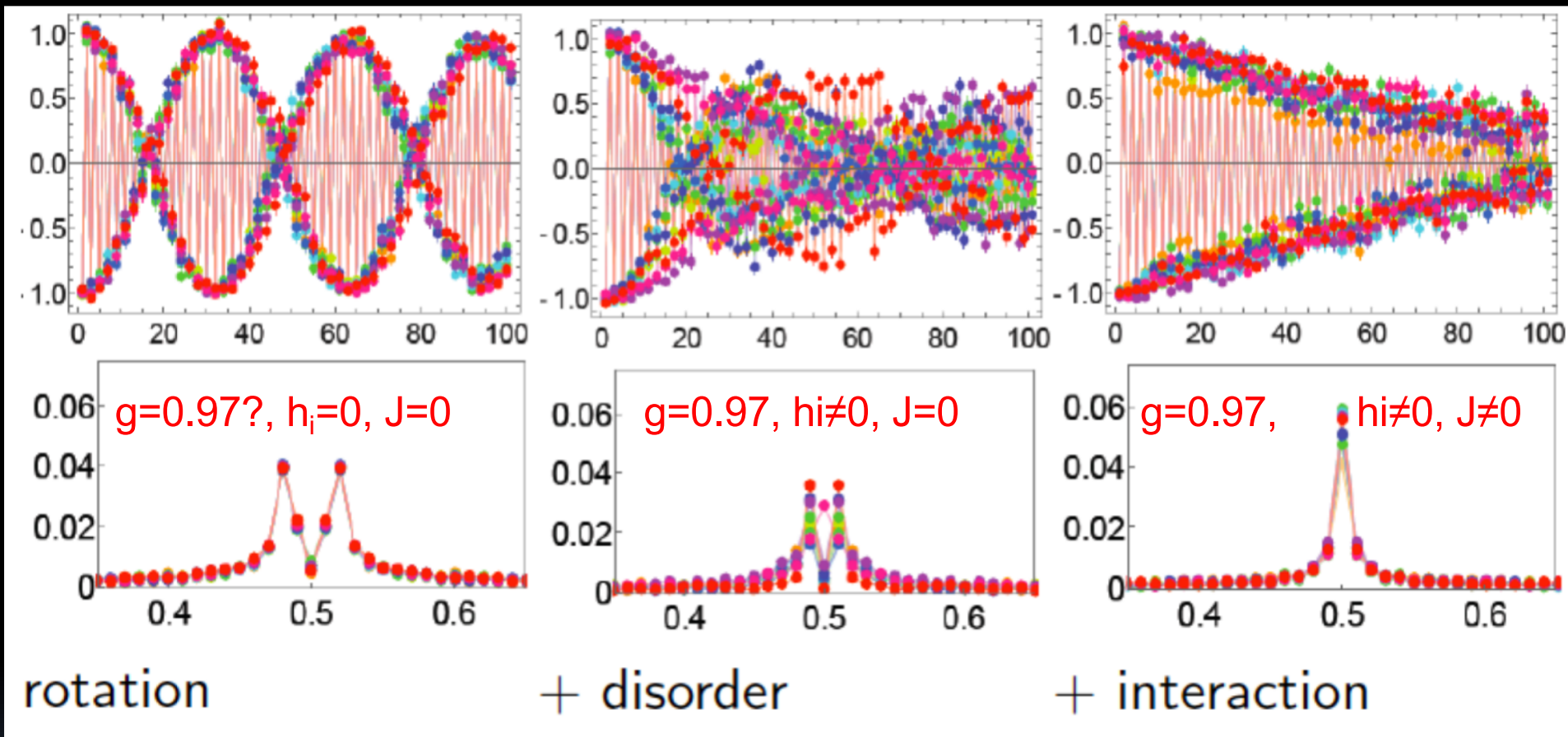
Transverse field Ising model



Autocorrelator, $A = \langle Z(0)Z(t) \rangle$



First generation experiments: observing period doubling response



Observation of sub-harmonic response

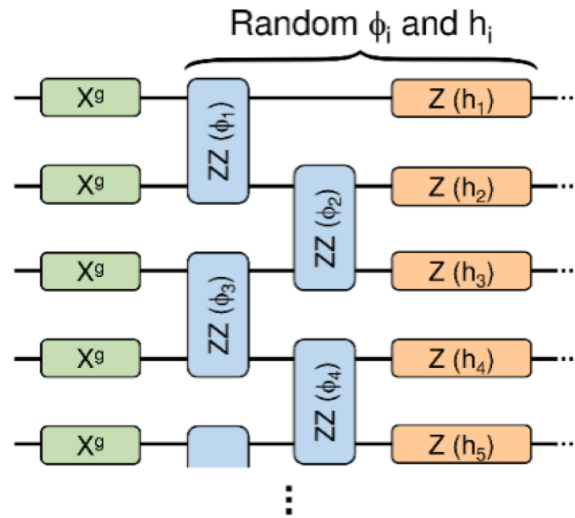
- over range of parameters
- few initial states

interactions induced mode locking

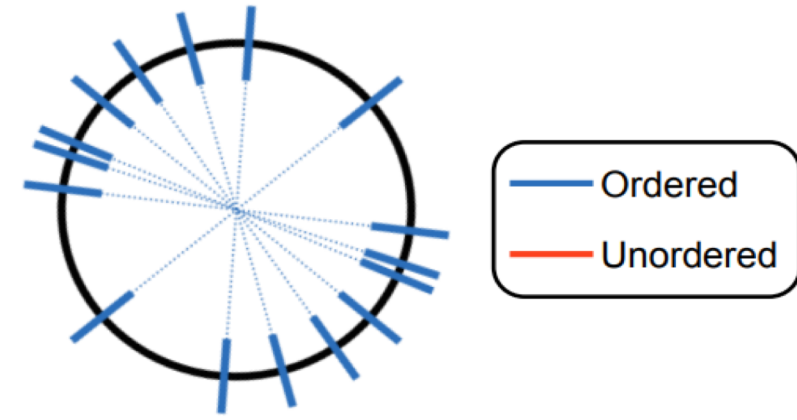
Challenges: going beyond response and verifying formation of a phase

- Establishing MBL
- Long-lived oscillation
- Check all initial states

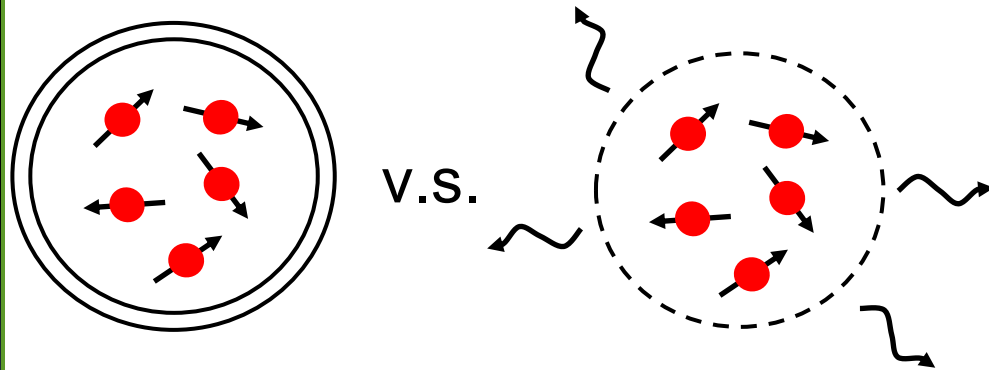
Stable Phase Structure showing MBL



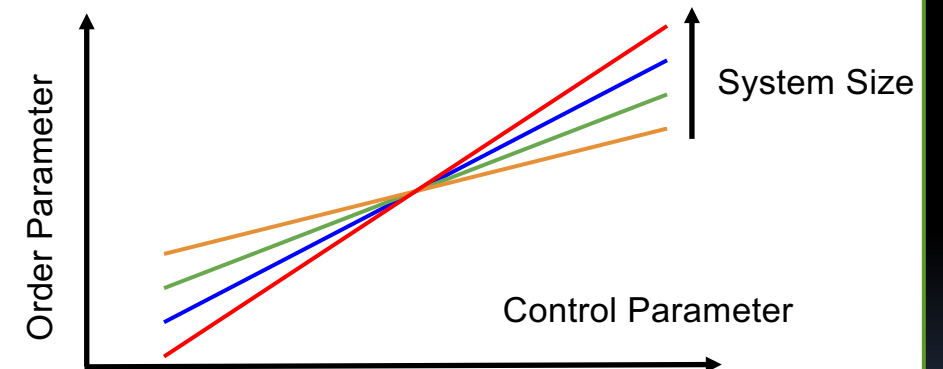
Quantum Order in all Eigenstates



Separating Decoherence and Thermalization



Finite Size Effects & Phase Transition

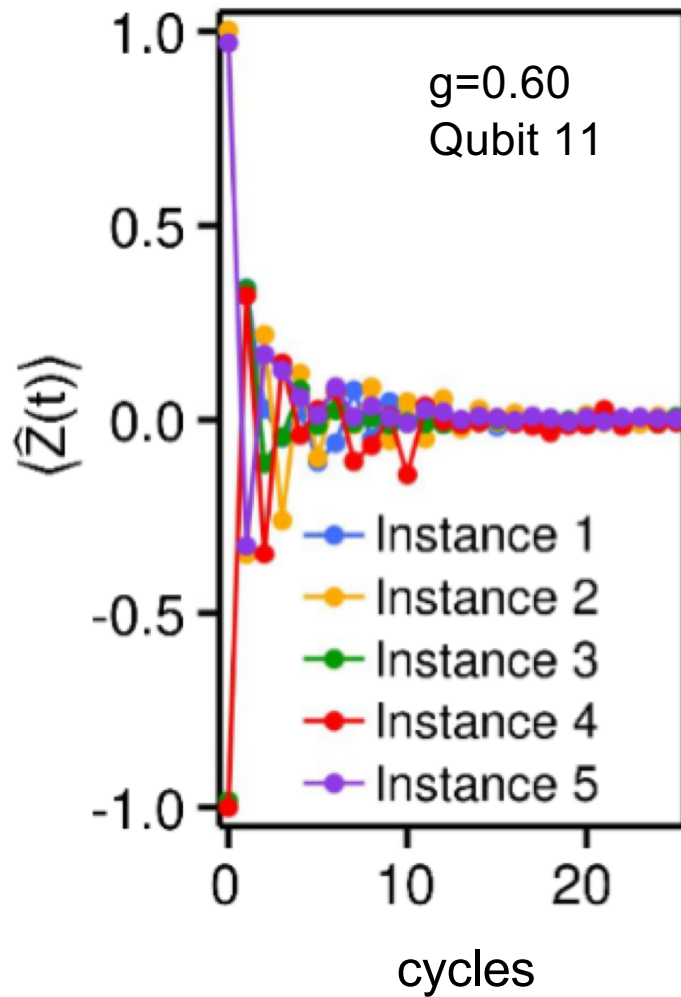


Definition of DTC: a phase that shows indefinite temporal ordering with no heating in a Hamiltonian system for all initial states.

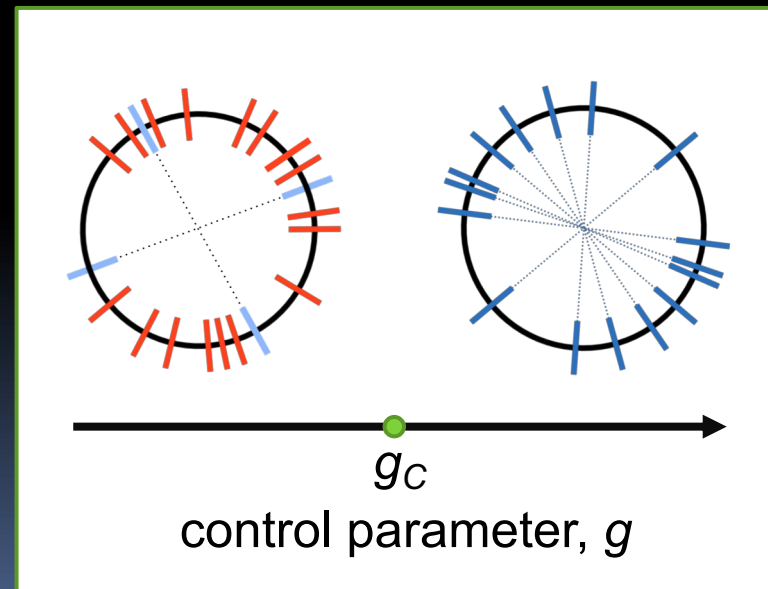
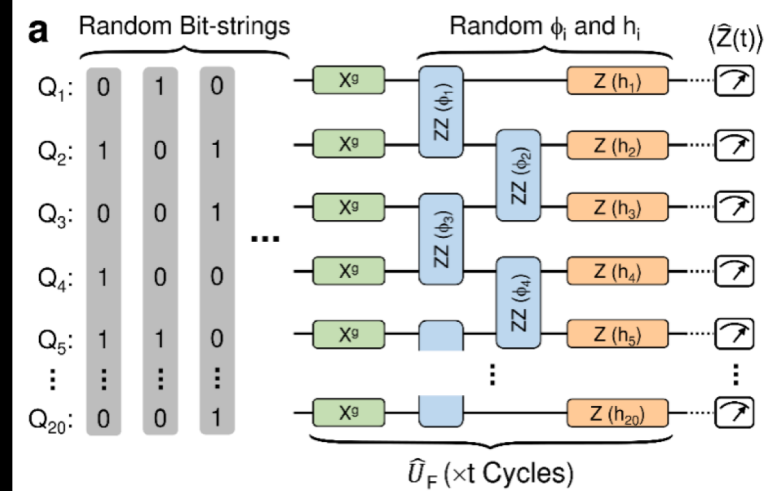
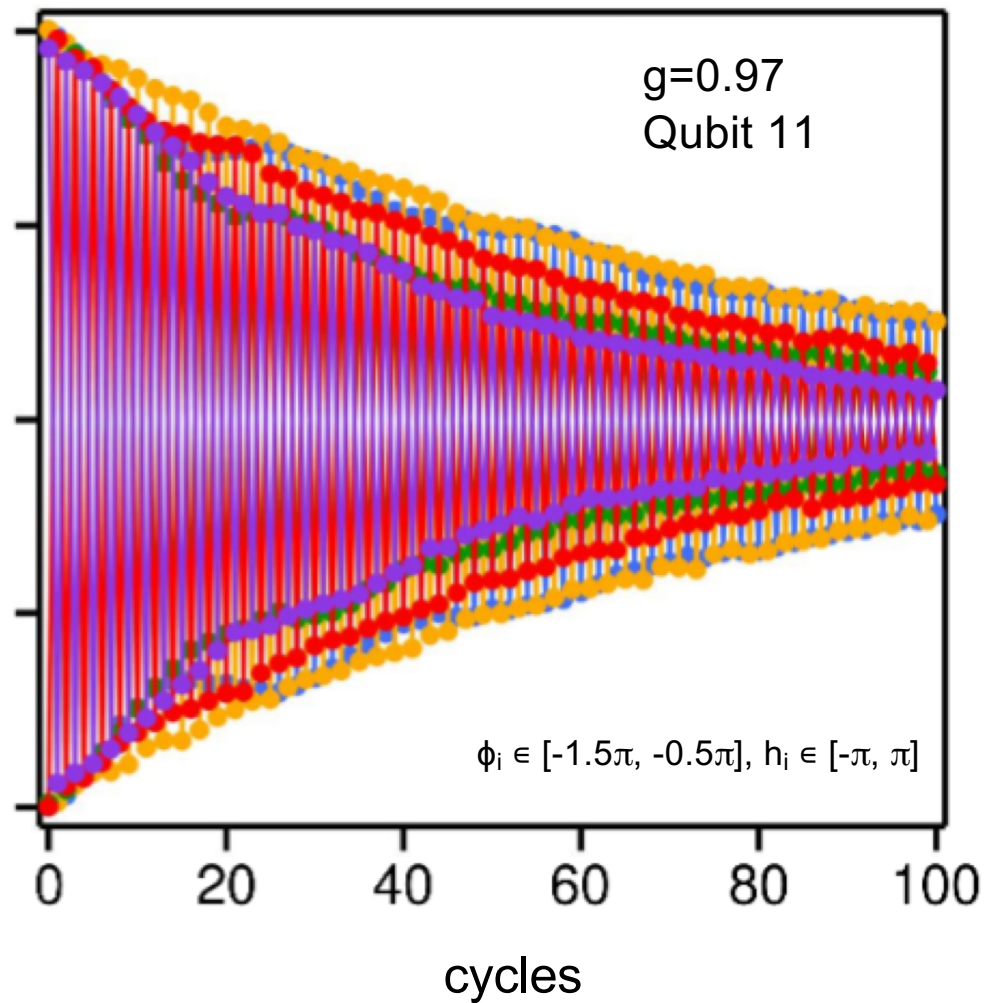
↓ Stable to perturbation
 ↓ Indefinite period doubling
 ↓ MBL
 ↓ Isolated
 ↓ Eigenstate order
 infinite size
 Periodically driven

Extended over a parameter range

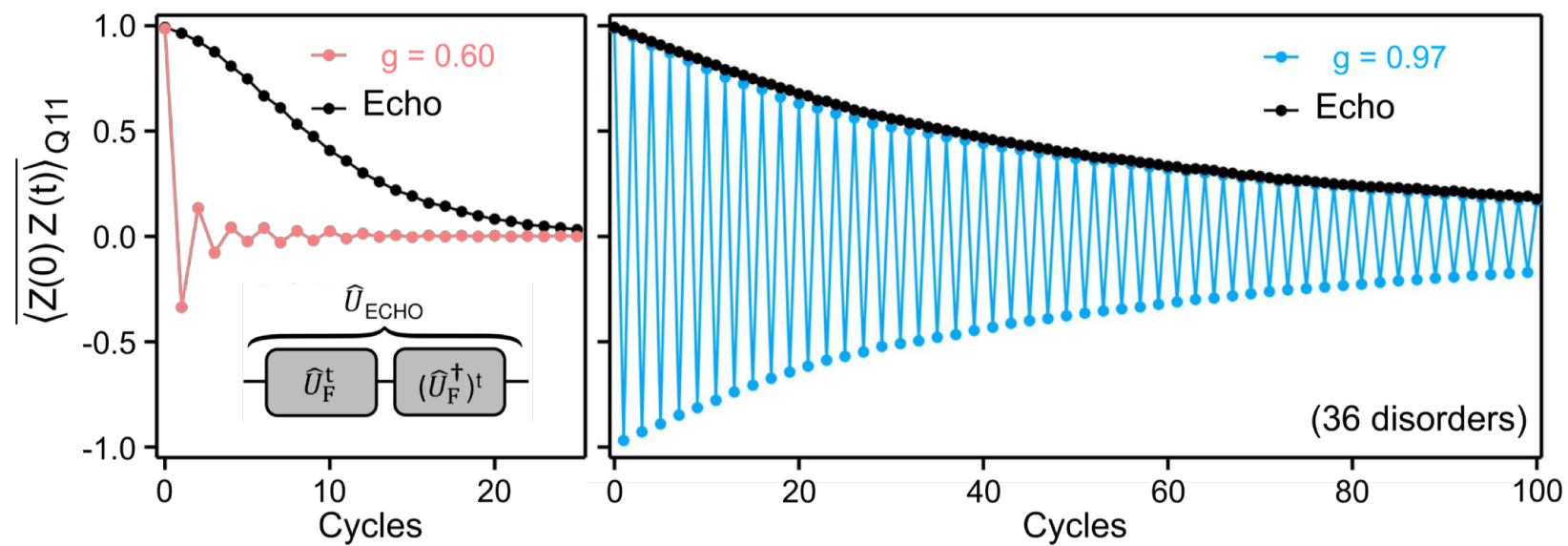
Thermal



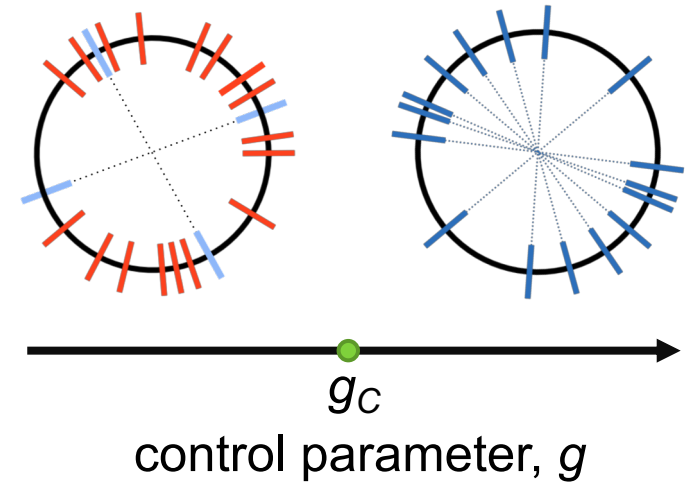
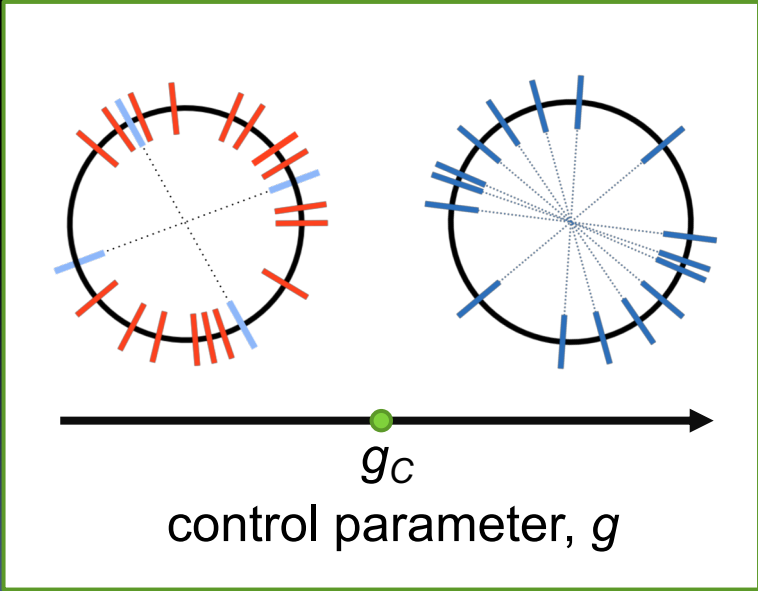
MBL-DTC



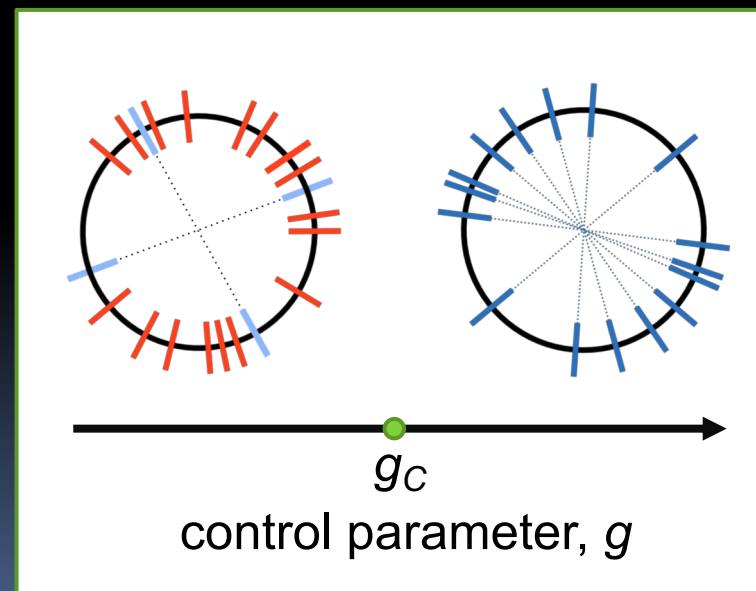
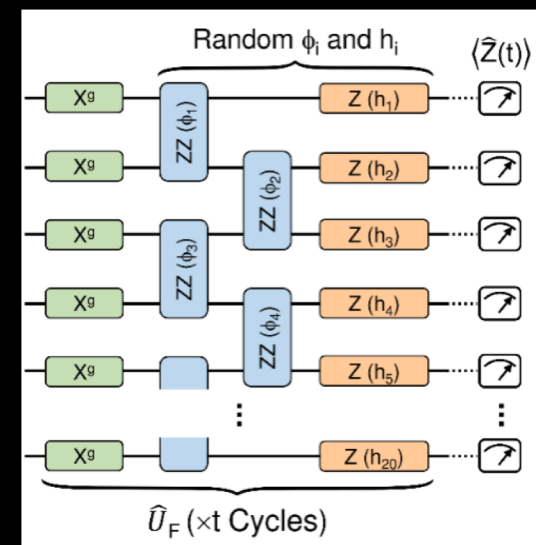
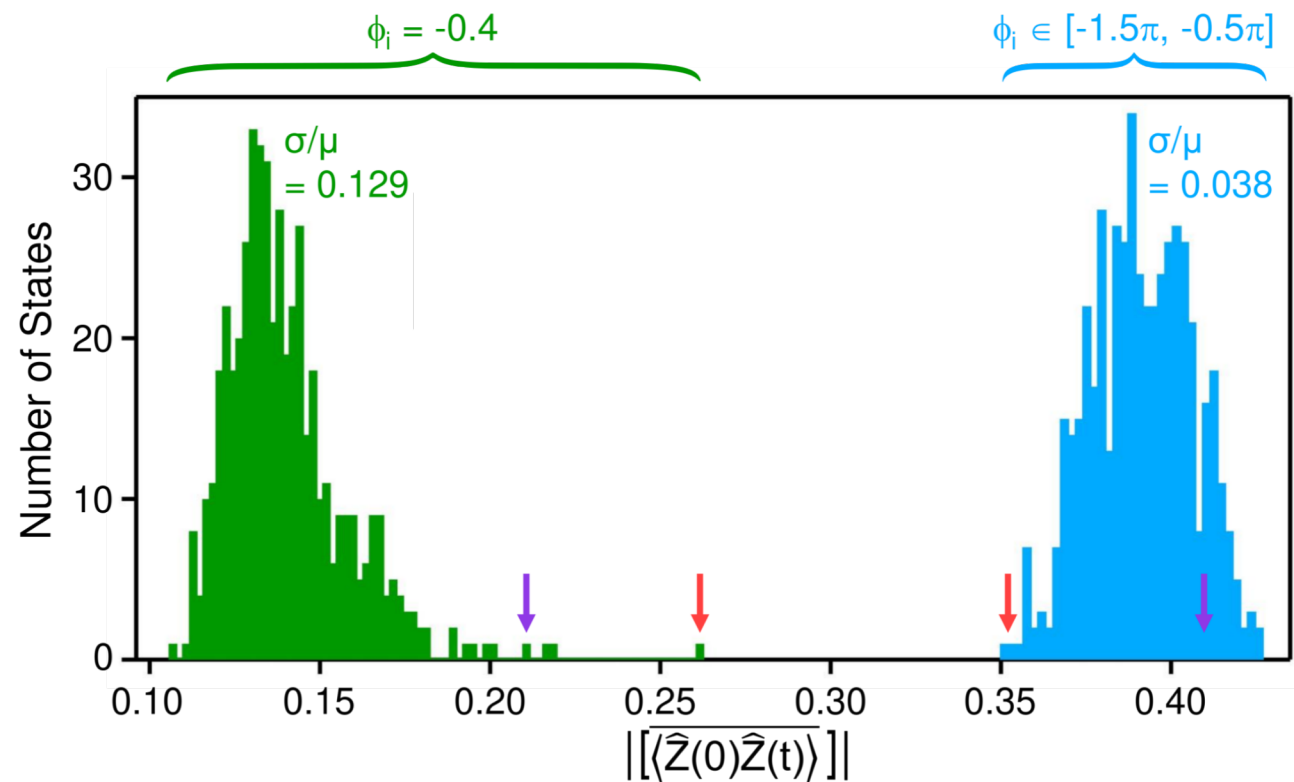
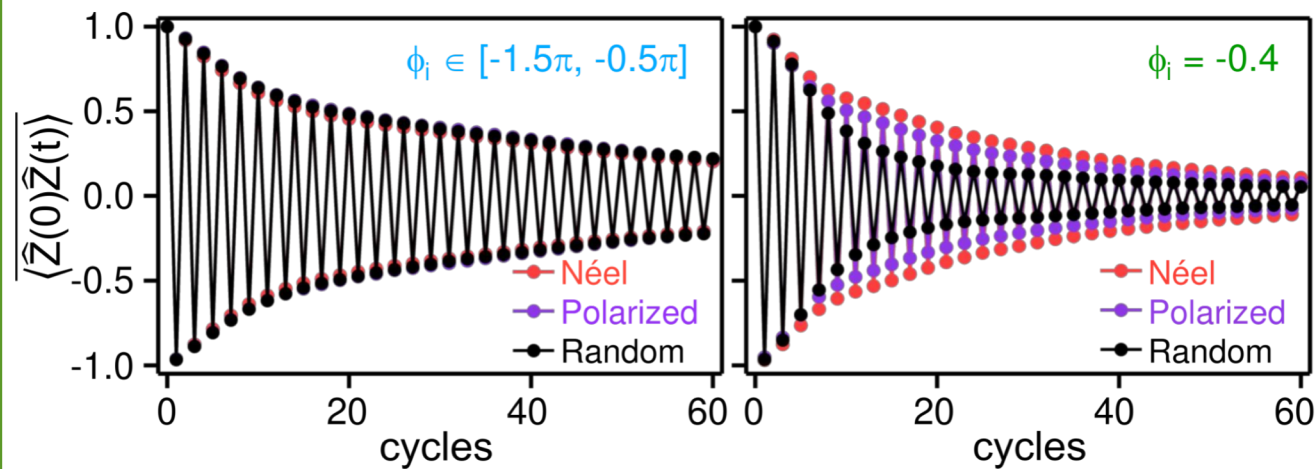
Separating Decoherence and Thermalization

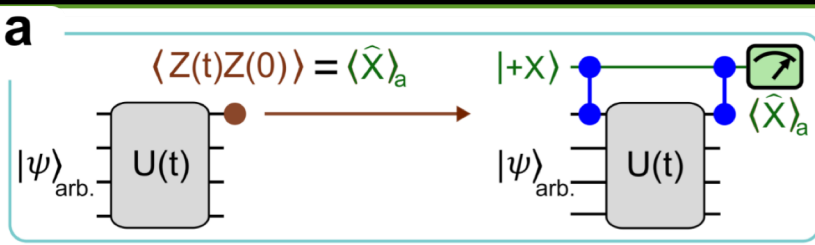


Establishing MBL



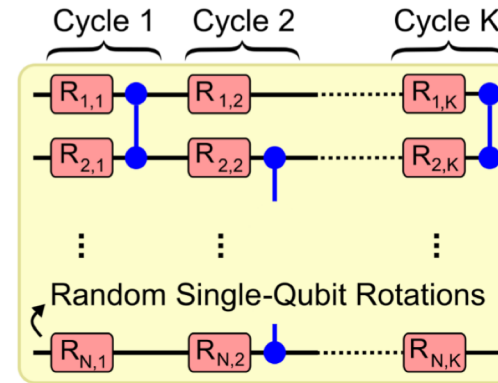
Signatures of eigenstate ordering



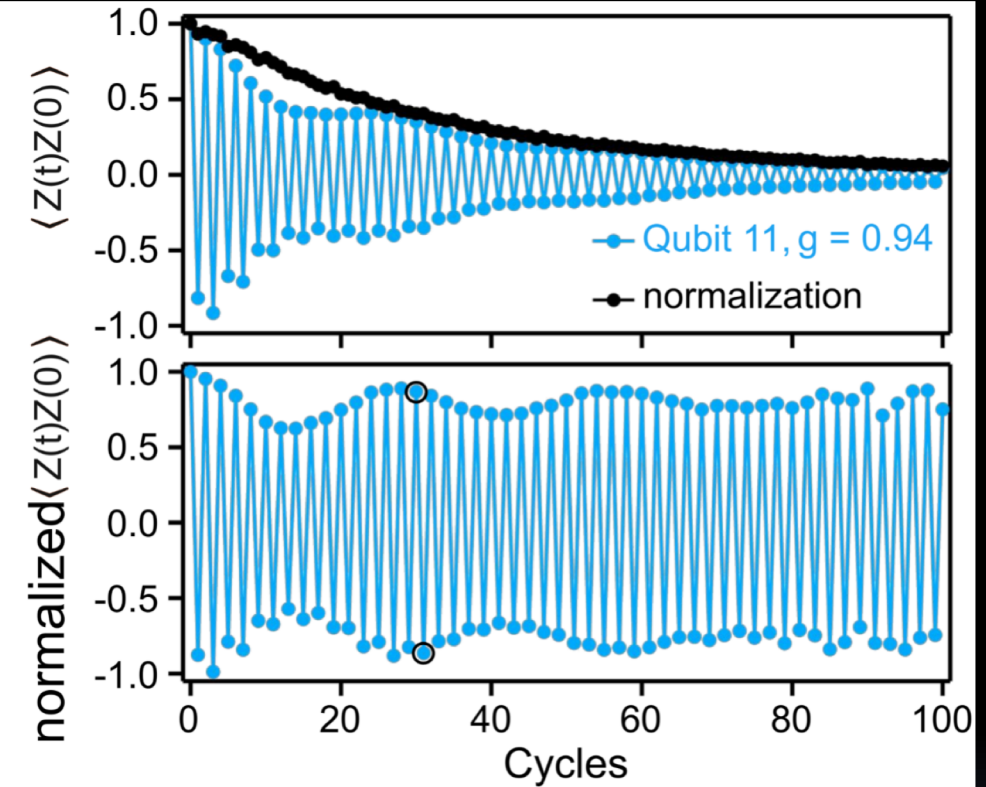


$|\psi\rangle_S$: product state $\xrightarrow{K=0}$ random state $\xrightarrow{\text{large } K \sim N}$

Scrambling Circuit, \hat{U}_S



Average spectral response via quantum typicality



Ensemble average behavior \rightarrow fully mixed state

Typicality:

\rightarrow pure state randomly from Hilbert space.

I usually do not measure time crystals...

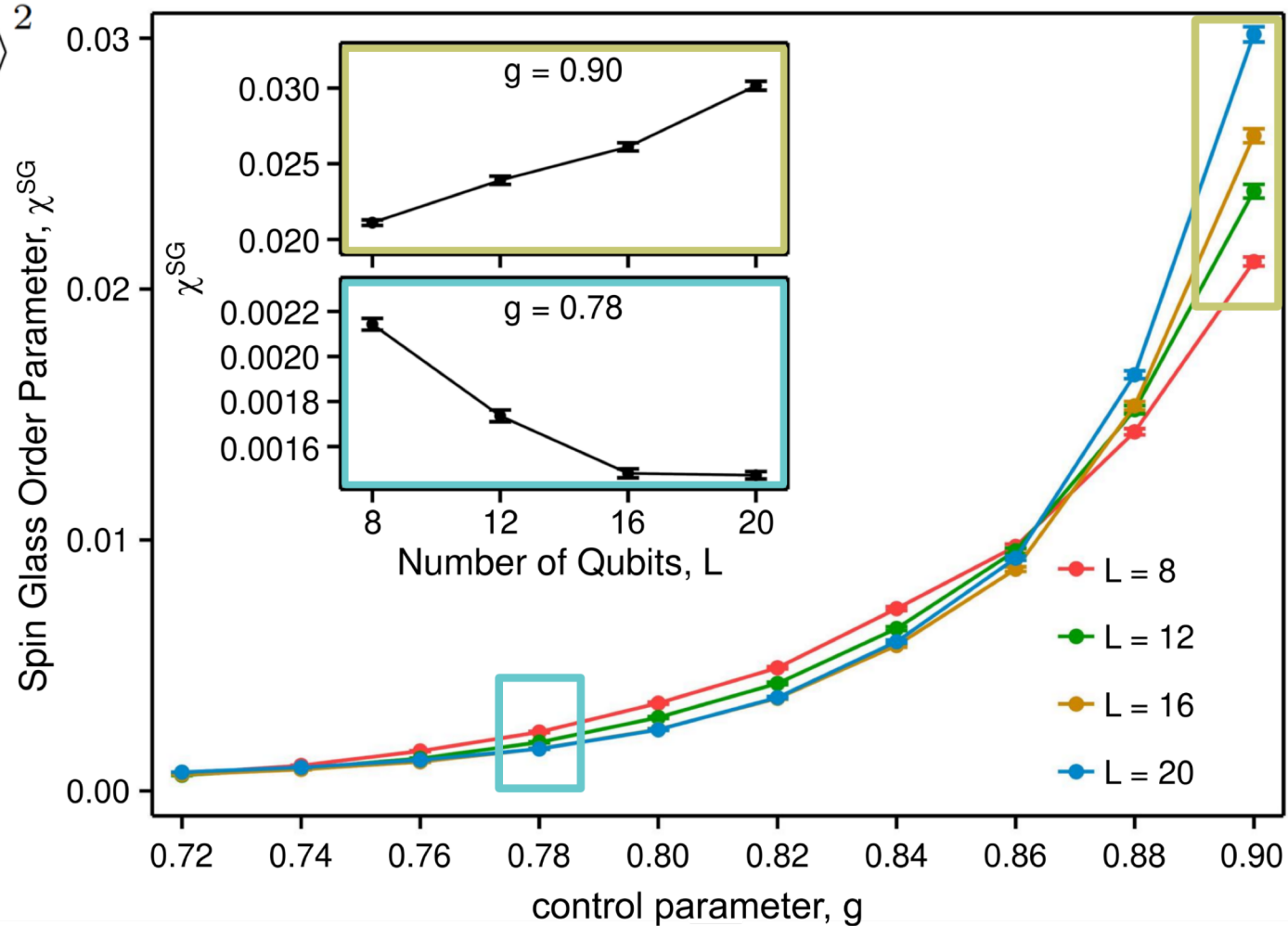
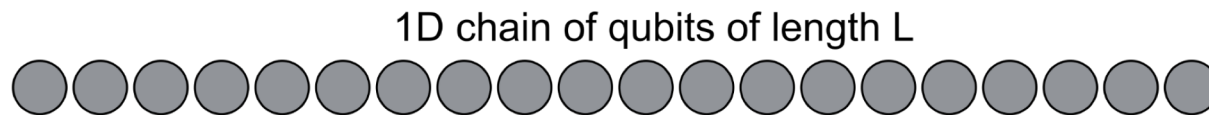


But when I do, I use typicality to check the entire spectrum

Estimating phase-transition by varying system size

$$\chi^{\text{SG}} = \frac{1}{L-2} \sum'_{i \neq j} \langle \hat{Z}_i \hat{Z}_j \rangle^2$$

Edwards-Anderson
order parameter



average of cycles 51 to 60
40 disorder instances
40,000 stats at cycle and disorder

Did Google team realized a time crystal? **NO!**


SCIENCE

Google Claims It Created a New Phase of Matter That's In Perpetual Motion

NEWSLETTERS

Sign up to read our regular email newsletters

NewScientist

News Podcasts Video Technology Space Physics Health More  Shop Courses Events

Google researchers made a time crystal inside a quantum computer

Google's 'time crystals' could be the greatest scientific achievement of our lifetimes

EurekaEurekaEurekaEureka!

Google says it has created a time crystal in a quantum computer, and it's weirder than you can imagine



thermodynamical phase → **Bose-Hubbard**
vs.
Dynamical phase → **Time crystals**

Study of non-equilibrium phenomena is challenging
(limited programmability, coherence, and size of NISQ hardware)

...establish a scalable approach to studying non-equilibrium
phases of matter on current quantum processors.

