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# Engineered thermalization in quantum many-body systems

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Sandia National Laboratories, Livermore

Physics of Quantum Electronics, January 2019



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**



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# Analog quantum simulation

- Emulate one quantum system by engineering another to mimic it
- Feynman's original idea for *quantum supremacy*  
Feynman, Int. J. Theor. Phys. **21**, 467 (1982)
- Already an experimental reality:

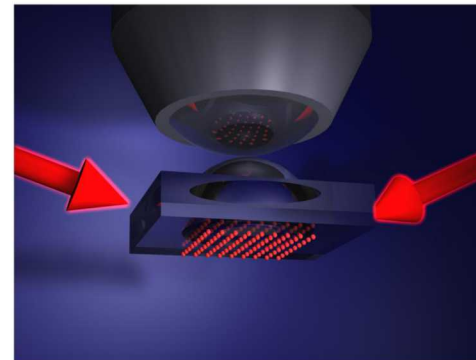
nature  
physics

ARTICLES

PUBLISHED ONLINE: 19 FEBRUARY 2012 | DOI: 10.1038/NPHYS2232

## Probing the relaxation towards equilibrium in an isolated strongly correlated one-dimensional Bose gas

S. Trotzky<sup>1,2,3\*</sup>, Y.-A. Chen<sup>1,2,3</sup>, A. Fleisch<sup>4\*</sup>, I. P. McCulloch<sup>5</sup>, U. Schollwöck<sup>1,6</sup>, J. Eisert<sup>6,7,8</sup> and I. Bloch<sup>1,2,3</sup>



Greiner Lab, Harvard

ARTICLE

doi:10.1038/nature09994

## Quantum simulation of antiferromagnetic spin chains in an optical lattice

Jonathan Simon<sup>1</sup>, Waseem S. Bakr<sup>1</sup>, Ruichao Ma<sup>1</sup>, M. Eric Tai<sup>1</sup>, Philipp M. Preiss<sup>1</sup> & Markus Greiner<sup>1</sup>

nature

Vol 465 | 3 June 2010 | doi:10.1038/nature09071

LETTERS

## Quantum simulation of frustrated Ising spins with trapped ions

K. Kim<sup>1</sup>, M.-S. Chang<sup>1</sup>, S. Korenblit<sup>1</sup>, R. Islam<sup>1</sup>, E. E. Edwards<sup>1</sup>, J. K. Freericks<sup>2</sup>, G.-D. Lin<sup>3</sup>, L.-M. Duan<sup>3</sup> & C. Monroe<sup>1</sup>

**New Journal of Physics**

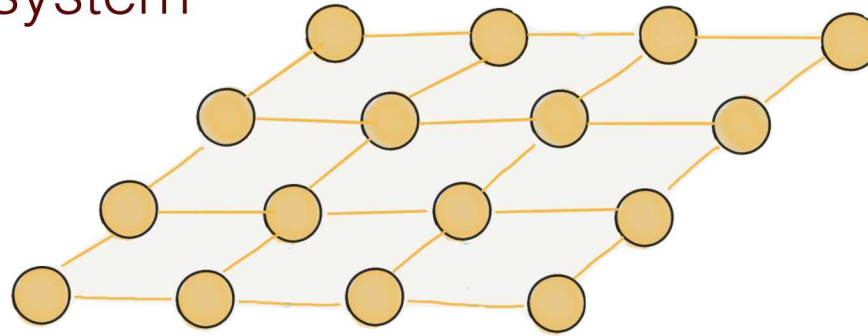
The open-access journal for physics

## Quantum simulation of the transverse Ising model with trapped ions

K Kim<sup>1,5,6</sup>, S Korenblit<sup>1</sup>, R Islam<sup>1</sup>, E E Edwards<sup>1</sup>, M-S Chang<sup>1,7</sup>, C Noh<sup>2,8</sup>, H Carmichael<sup>2</sup>, G-D Lin<sup>3,9</sup>, L-M Duan<sup>3</sup>, C C Joseph Wang<sup>4</sup>, J K Freericks<sup>4</sup> and C Monroe<sup>1</sup>

# Simulation of many-body systems

Many-body lattice system



Engineered Hamiltonian

$$H$$

How do we prepare a thermal state at temperature  $T$ ?  $\rho(\beta) = \frac{e^{-\beta H}}{\mathcal{Z}}$

The apparatus has a physical temperature, but this is not always relevant.

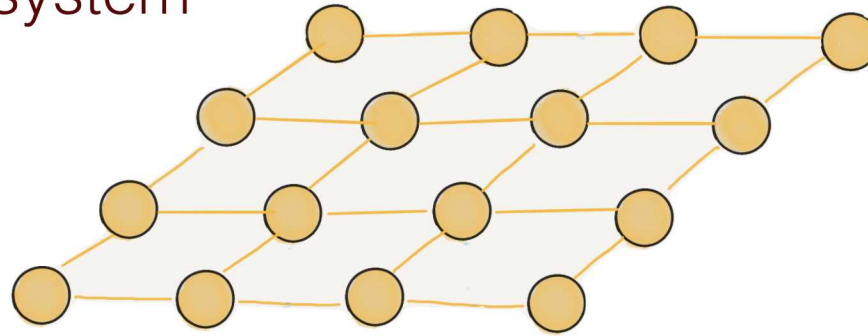
The errors/noise on the logical degrees of freedom may be non-equilibrating.

*e.g.* Spin lattice, and independent depolarizing channel on each spin

$$\rho(t) \rightarrow \frac{\mathbf{1}}{n}$$

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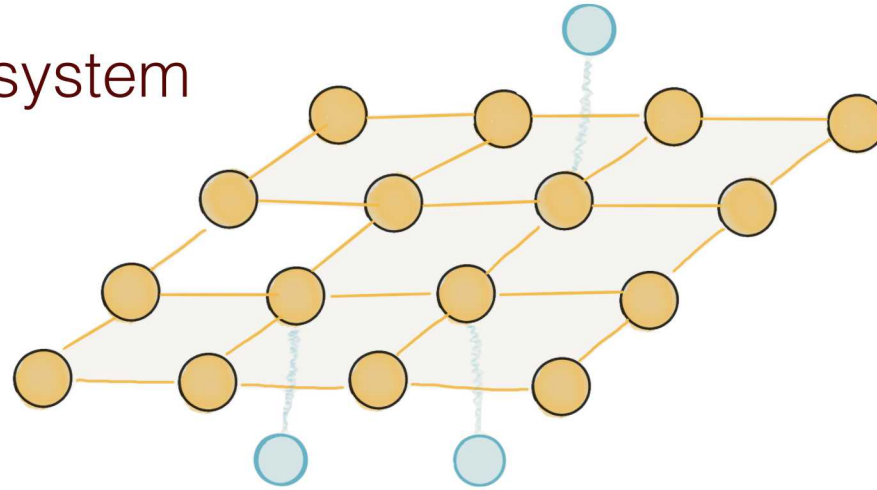
$$\rho(t) \rightarrow \frac{\mathbf{1}}{n}$$

Need to *engineer* thermalization also



# How to thermalize?

Many-body lattice system



Engineered Hamiltonian

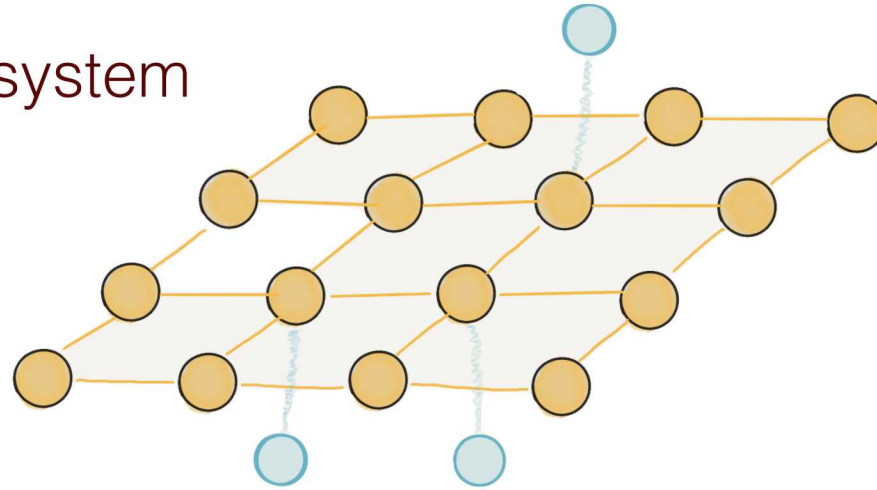
$$H$$

Engineered dissipative evolution

$$\dot{\rho}(t) = \mathcal{L}\rho(t)$$

# How to thermalize?

Many-body lattice system



Engineered Hamiltonian

$$H$$

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$$\dot{\rho}(t) = \mathcal{L}\rho(t)$$

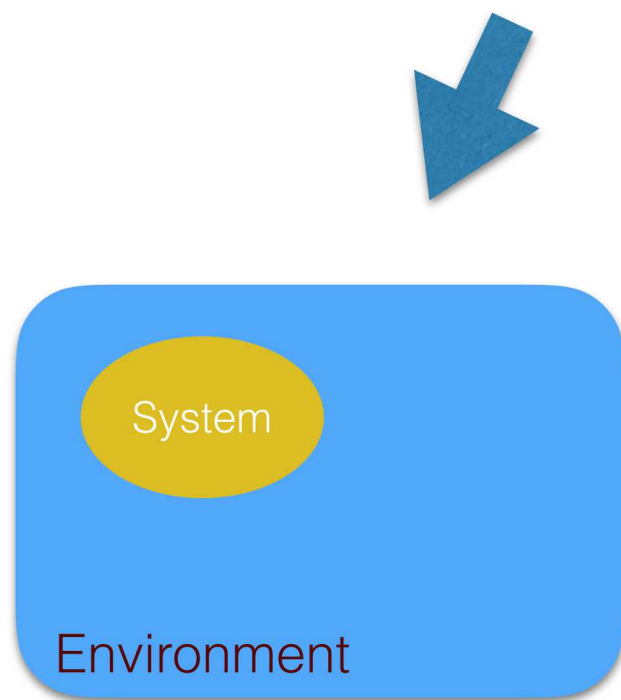
But what kind of evolution will result in a thermal state?

Only general characterization known [*e.g.* Breuer & Petruccione, The theory of open quantum systems]:

Born-Markov master equation + ergodicity + KMS conditions  $\Rightarrow$  thermal steady state

# How to thermalize?

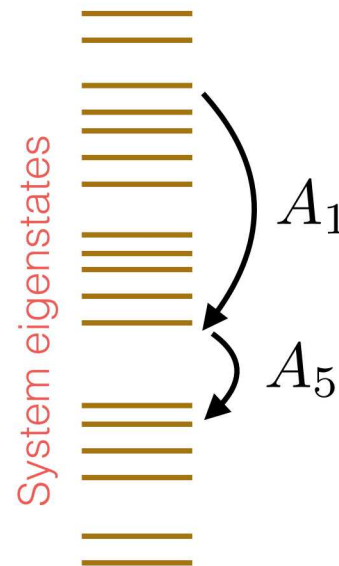
Born-Markov master equation + ergodicity + KMS conditions  $\Rightarrow$  thermal steady state



- Weak coupling to many degrees of freedom
- Fast relaxing environment

$$[A_\alpha, X] = [A_\alpha^\dagger, X] = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow X \propto 1$$



$$\frac{\gamma_{\alpha\beta}(-\omega)}{\gamma_{\beta\alpha}(\omega)} = e^{-\beta\omega}$$

Bath induced fluctuations and dissipation satisfy detailed balance

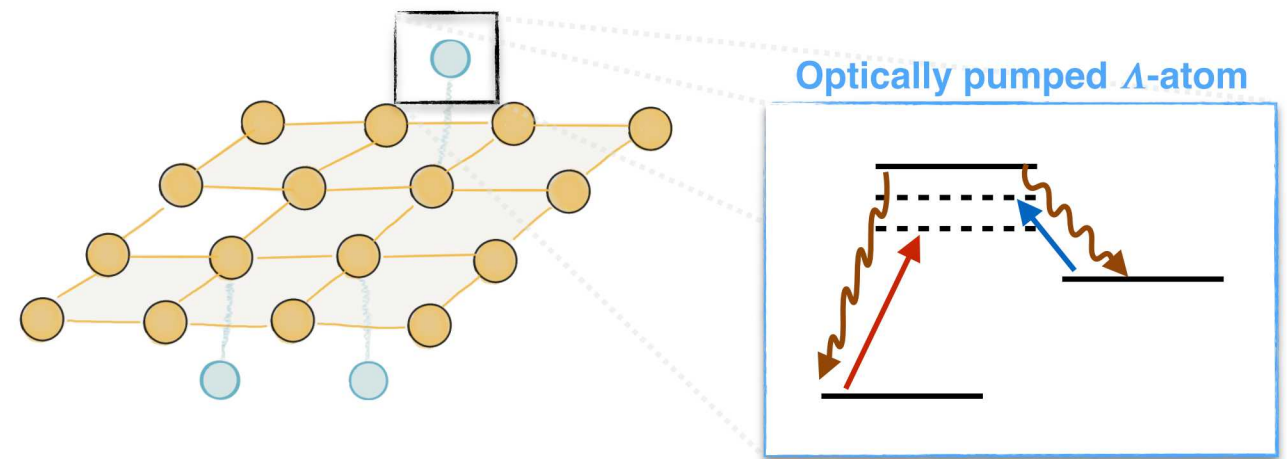
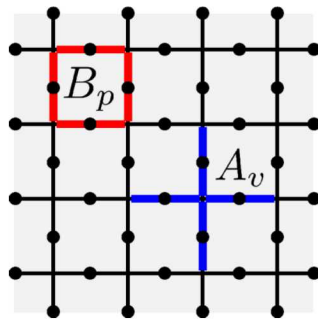
$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = -i[H, \rho] + \sum_{\omega, \alpha, \beta} \gamma_{\alpha\beta}(\omega) \left( A_\beta(\omega) \rho A_\alpha^\dagger(\omega) - \frac{1}{2} \{ A_\alpha^\dagger(\omega) A_\beta(\omega) \} \right)$$

# A constructive approach to thermalization for stabilizer models

K. Young, M.S. *et al.* J. Phys. B, **45**, 154012 (2012)

e.g. toric code

$$H_{TC} = -\lambda_e \sum_v A_v - \lambda_m \sum_p B_p$$

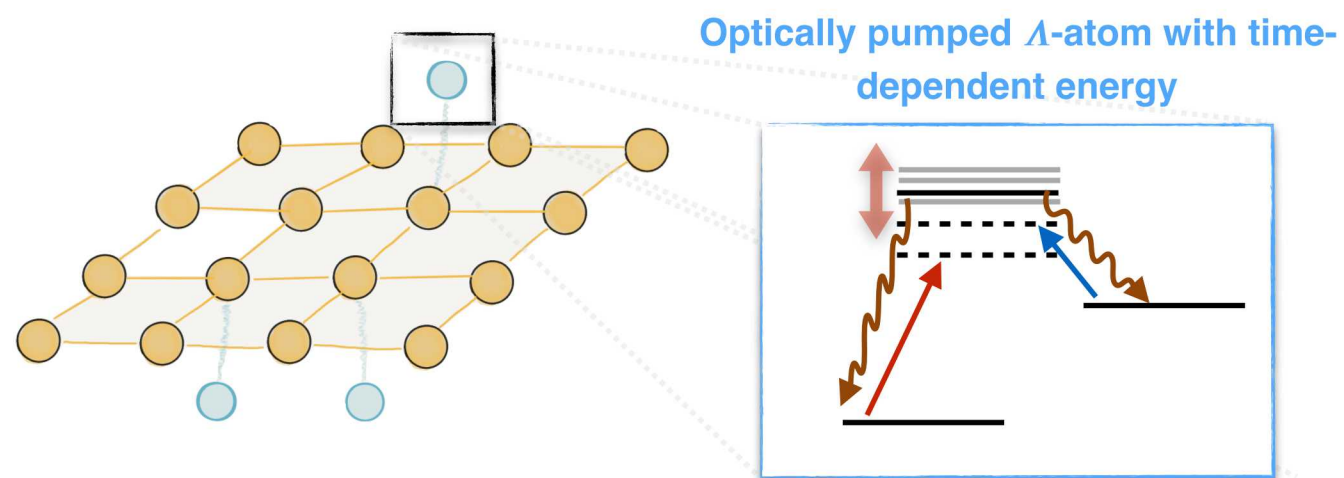


A number of special properties of stabilizer Hamiltonians make this work:

1. Easily predicted equidistant spectra => we can choose the energies of few ancilla to achieve resonant energy exchange
2. Local perturbations create energy excitations => so local couplings to ancilla move one up and down between eigenstates (ergodicity easy)

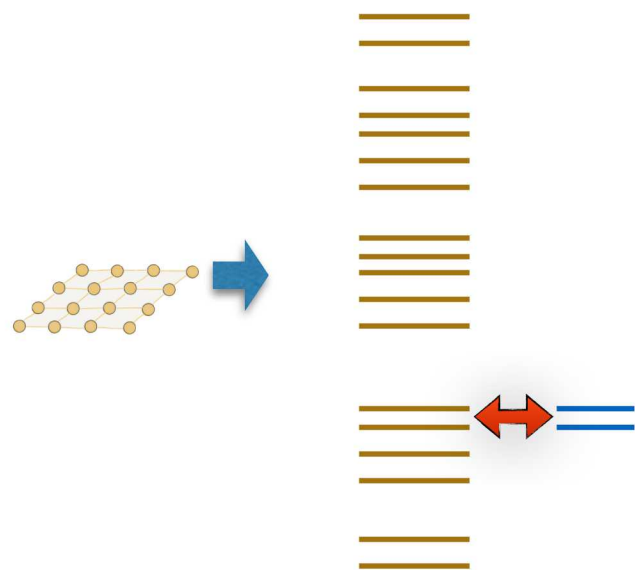


# A generalization to arbitrary models

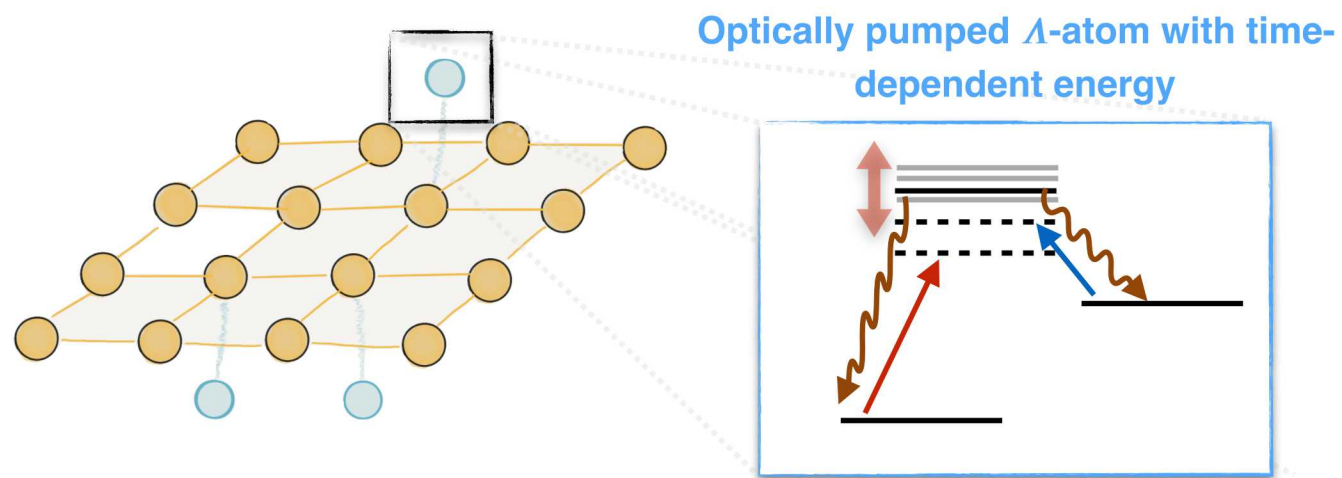


We assume ergodicity is satisfied by the system-ancilla couplings

This mimics a macroscopic bath over some longer timescale

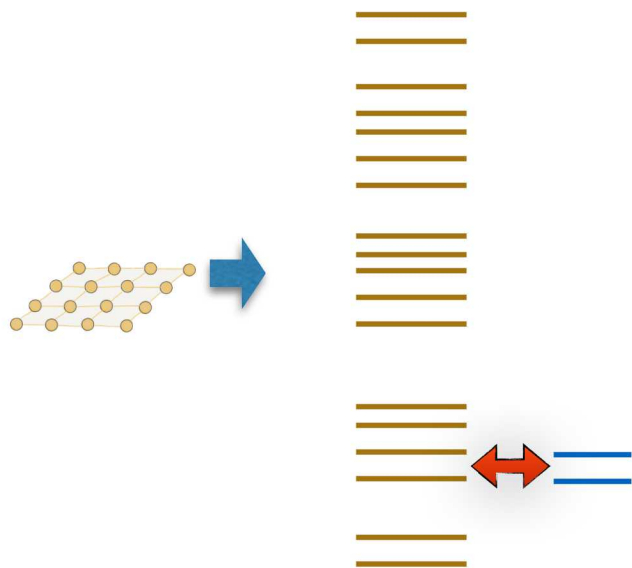


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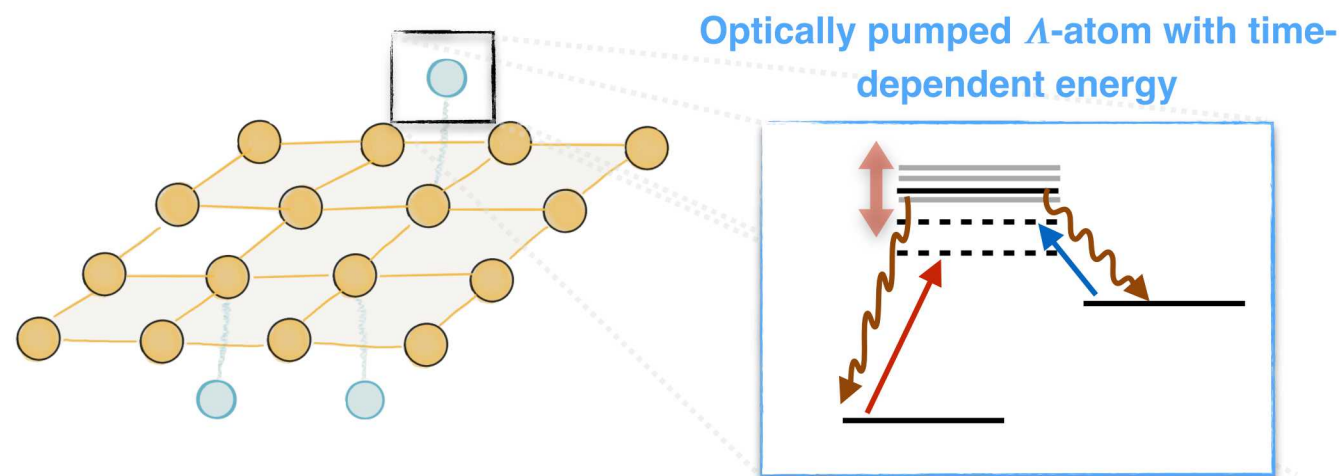


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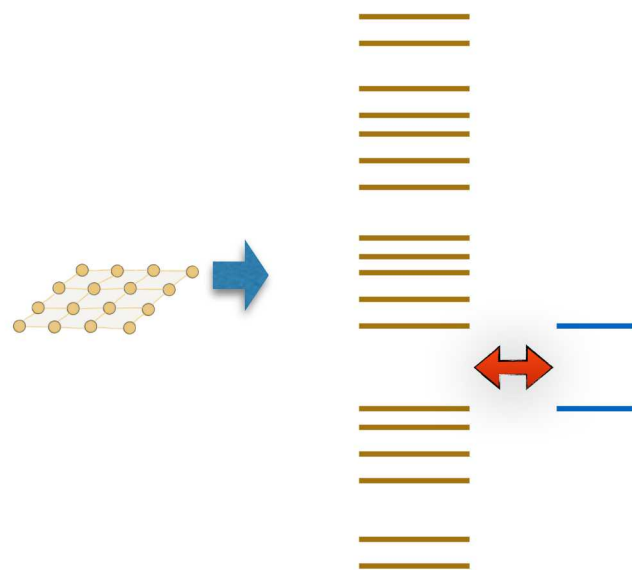


# A generalization to arbitrary models



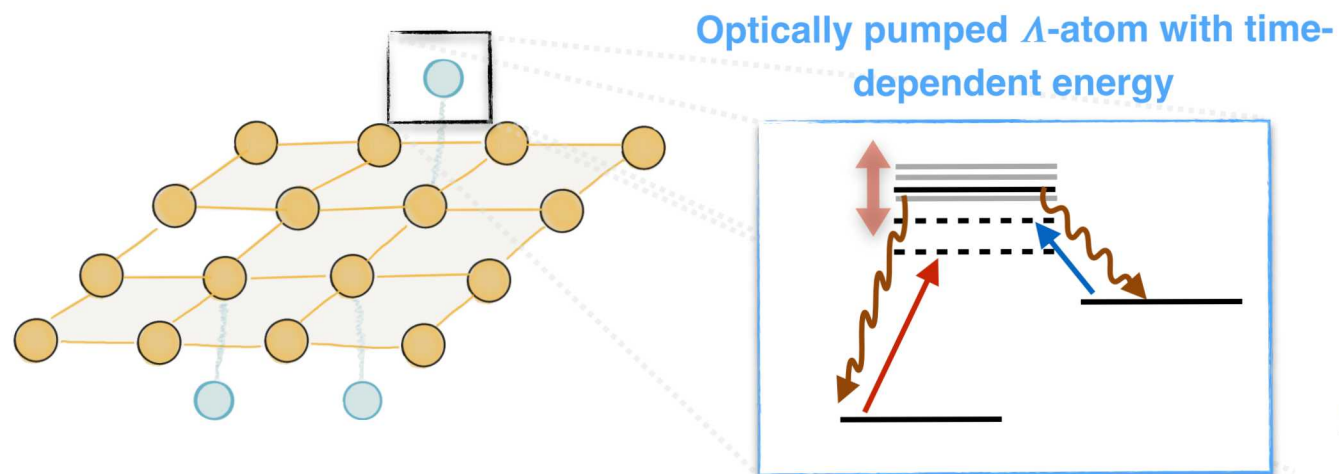
We assume ergodicity is satisfied by the system-ancilla couplings

This mimics a macroscopic bath over some longer timescale



Ancillas will be resonant with different energy transitions in the system at different times, so as long as we maintain Boltzmann populations in the ancilla at all time, we will induce transitions that thermalize the system.

# Spin lattice example



$$\frac{dr^m(t)}{dt} = \mathcal{L}_m(t)[r^m(t)] = \gamma_+^m(t)\mathcal{D}[\tau_+]r^m(t) + \gamma_-^m(t)\mathcal{D}[\tau_-]r^m(t),$$

$$H_T(t) = H_{\text{sys}} - \sum_{m=1}^M \frac{\Omega_m(t)}{2} \tau_z^m + \sum_{m=1}^M g_m (\sigma_x^{k_m} \tau_x^m),$$

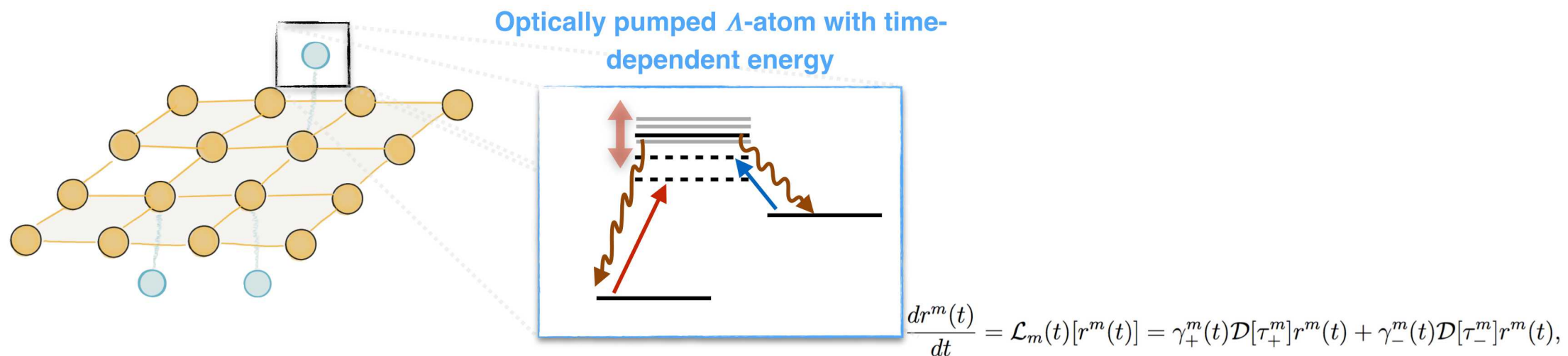
We require the parameter regime

$$\left| \frac{d\Omega_m(t)}{dt} \right| \ll g_m \sim \Gamma^m \ll \|H_{\text{sys}}\|, \quad \forall m, t$$

$$\Gamma^m \equiv \gamma_+^m + \gamma_-^m$$



# Spin lattice example



$$H_T(t) = H_{\text{sys}} - \sum_{m=1}^M \frac{\Omega_m(t)}{2} \tau_z^m + \sum_{m=1}^M g_m (\sigma_x^{k_m} \tau_x^m),$$

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In this regime we can derive a reduced master equation for the system alone that describes its evolution when the ancilla dynamics is averaged over.

# Removing the ancilla DOF

We require the parameter regime

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In this regime we can derive a reduced master equation for the system alone that describes its evolution when the ancilla dynamics is averaged over.

**A reduced master equation describes system evolution**

when the ancilla dynamics is averaged over

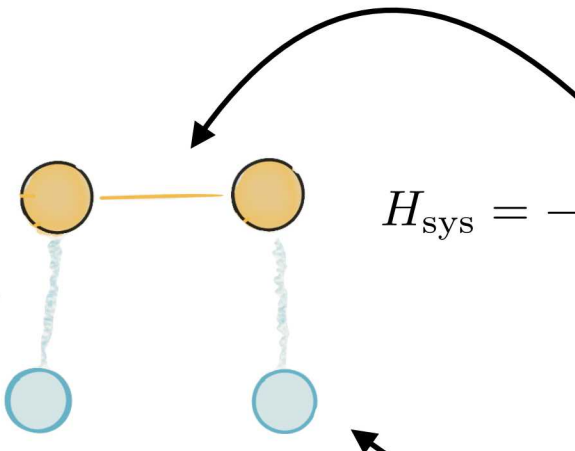
$$\dot{\rho} = g^2 \sum_{\omega} \gamma(t, \omega) \left( X(\omega) \rho X^\dagger(\omega) - \frac{1}{2} \{ X^\dagger(\omega) X(\omega), \rho \} \right) \quad \text{Operator on System}$$

$$X(\omega) = \sum_{\epsilon' - \epsilon = \omega} |\epsilon\rangle \langle \epsilon| \sigma_x^k |\epsilon'\rangle \langle \epsilon'|$$

**Ancilla Correlation Functions**

$$\gamma(t, \omega) = \frac{P_0(t)\Gamma}{\left(\frac{\Gamma}{2}\right)^2 - (\omega - \Omega(t))^2} + \frac{P_1(t)\Gamma}{\left(\frac{\Gamma}{2}\right)^2 - (\omega + \Omega(t))^2}$$

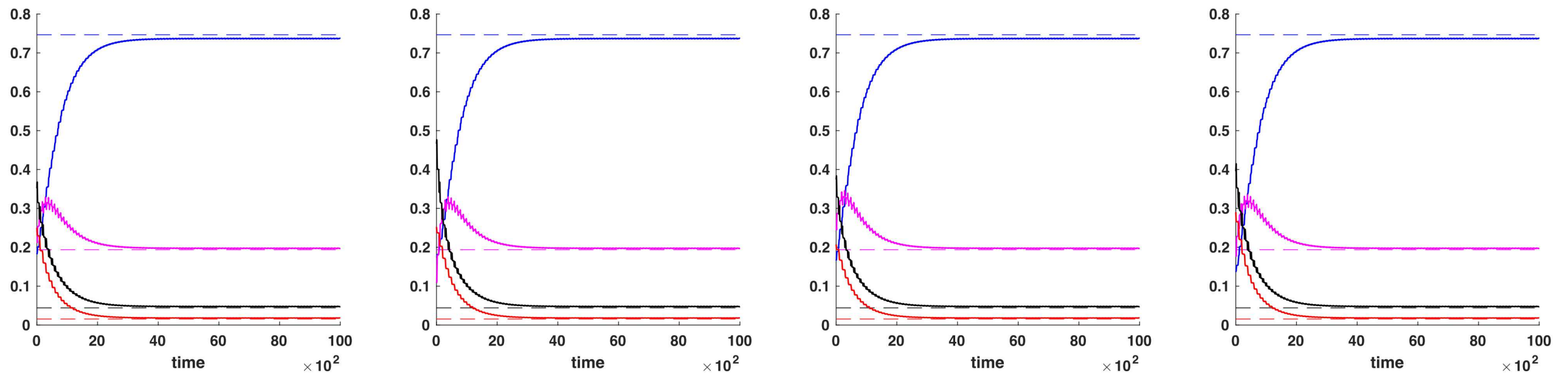
# A simple example

$$H_{s-a} = \sum_{i=1}^2 g(\sigma_x^i \tau_x^1) \longrightarrow$$


$$H_{\text{sys}} = -\frac{\omega_1}{2}\sigma_z^1 - \frac{\omega_2}{2}\sigma_z^2 + J_x\sigma_x^1\sigma_x^2 + J_y\sigma_y^1\sigma_y^2 + J_z\sigma_z^1\sigma_z^2$$

$$\Omega_i(t) = \Omega_{\min} + \Omega_{\max} \sin(\omega t)$$

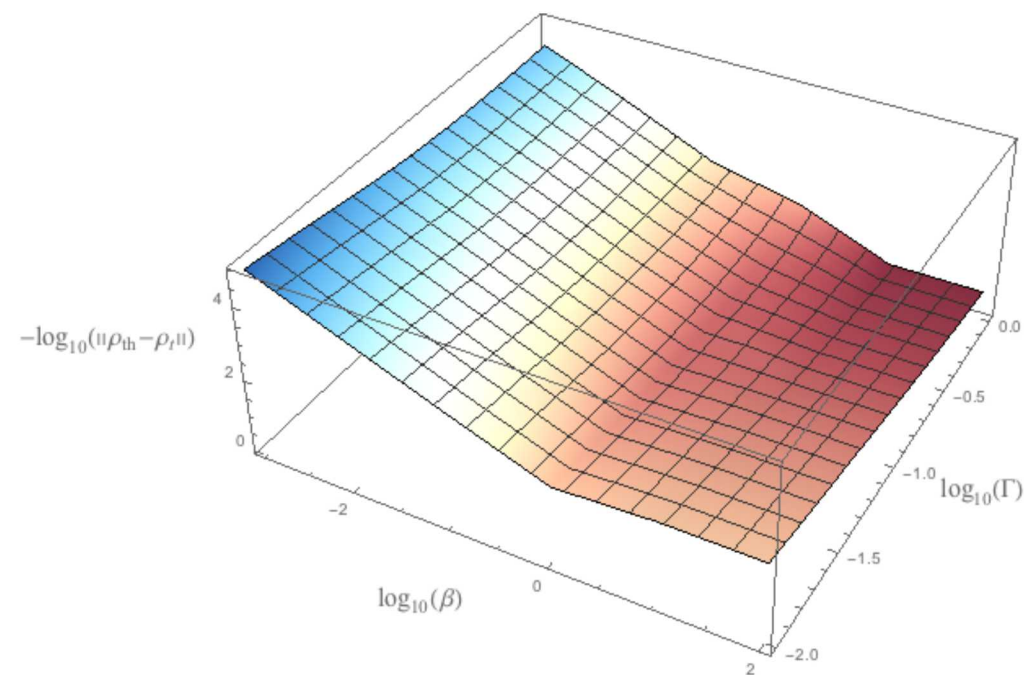
Thermalization from four random initial states



# Examining the fixed point of dynamics

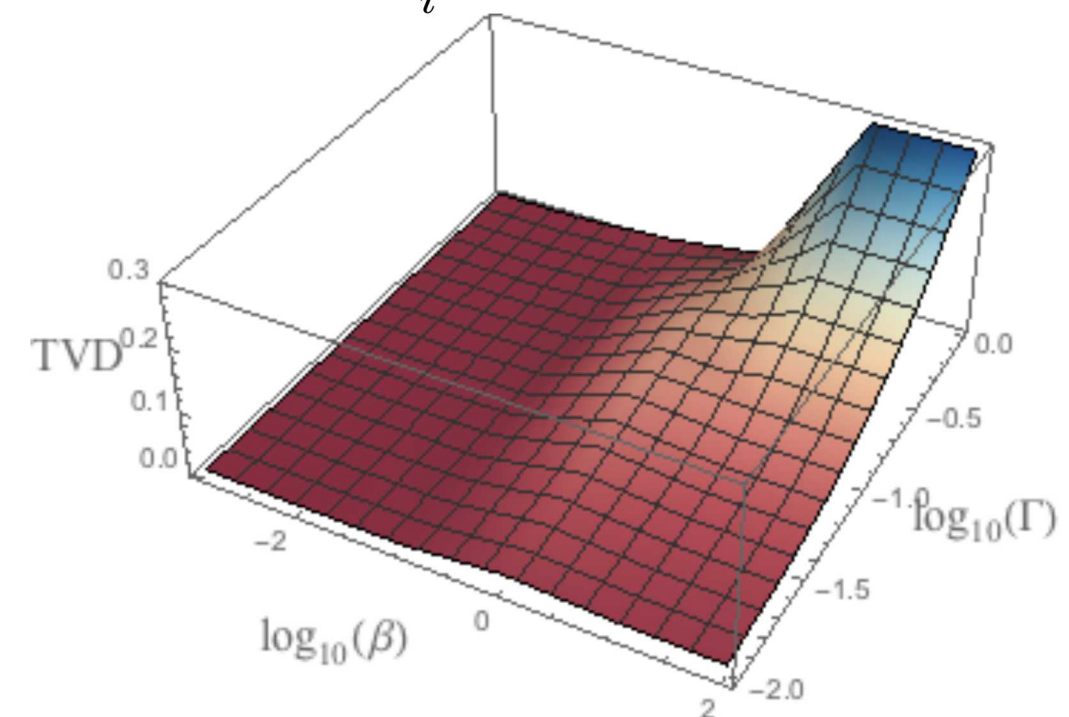
## Frobenius Norm

$$||\rho^{th} - \rho^*||$$



## Total Variation Distance in system's eigenbasis

$$\sum_i |p_i^{th} - p_i^*|$$





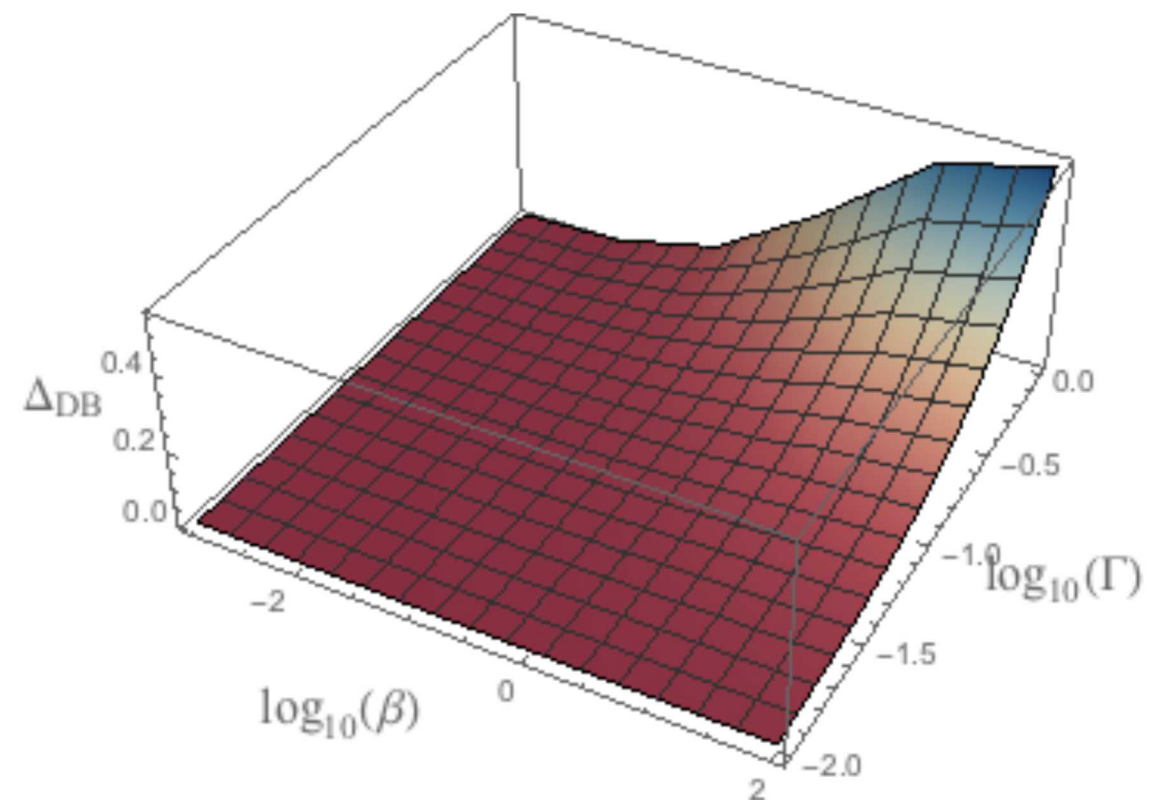
# Detailed balance

The regimes of poor thermalization are marked by a breakdown of detailed balance in the engineered reservoir

$$\frac{\gamma(-\omega, t)}{\gamma(\omega, t)} = e^{-\beta\omega}$$

$$\gamma(t, \omega) = \frac{P_0(t)\Gamma}{\left(\frac{\Gamma}{2}\right)^2 - (\omega - \Omega(t))^2} + \frac{P_1(t)\Gamma}{\left(\frac{\Gamma}{2}\right)^2 - (\omega + \Omega(t))^2}$$

$$\Delta = \int_0^{\omega_m} d\omega \int_0^T dt \left( \frac{\gamma(-\omega, t)}{\gamma(\omega, t)} - e^{-\beta\omega} \right)$$



# Ongoing work

1. Bounds on thermalization time of this protocol
2. Discrete-time (gate-based version of the protocol)
  1. Can derive strong bounds on performance in this case
  2. Useful for comparison to other discrete-time (gate-based) thermalization protocols (e.g. quantum Metropolis)

# Thanks!

## Collaborators

Mekena Metcalf  
Sandia National Labs

Jonathan Moussa  
Molecular Sciences Software Institute

## Funding



ASCR programs:  
Quantum Computing Application Teams  
Quantum Algorithm Teams



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