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**Title:** Speed Limits: From Thermodynamics to Annealing

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# Speed Limits: From Thermodynamics to Annealing

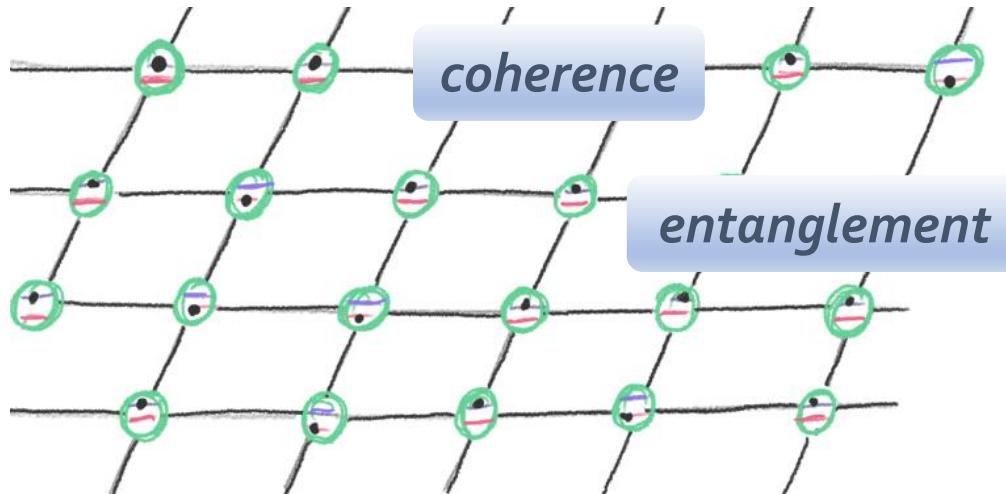
Luis Pedro García-Pintos  
Los Alamos National Laboratory

# Isolated Quantum Systems

vs

# Open Quantum Systems

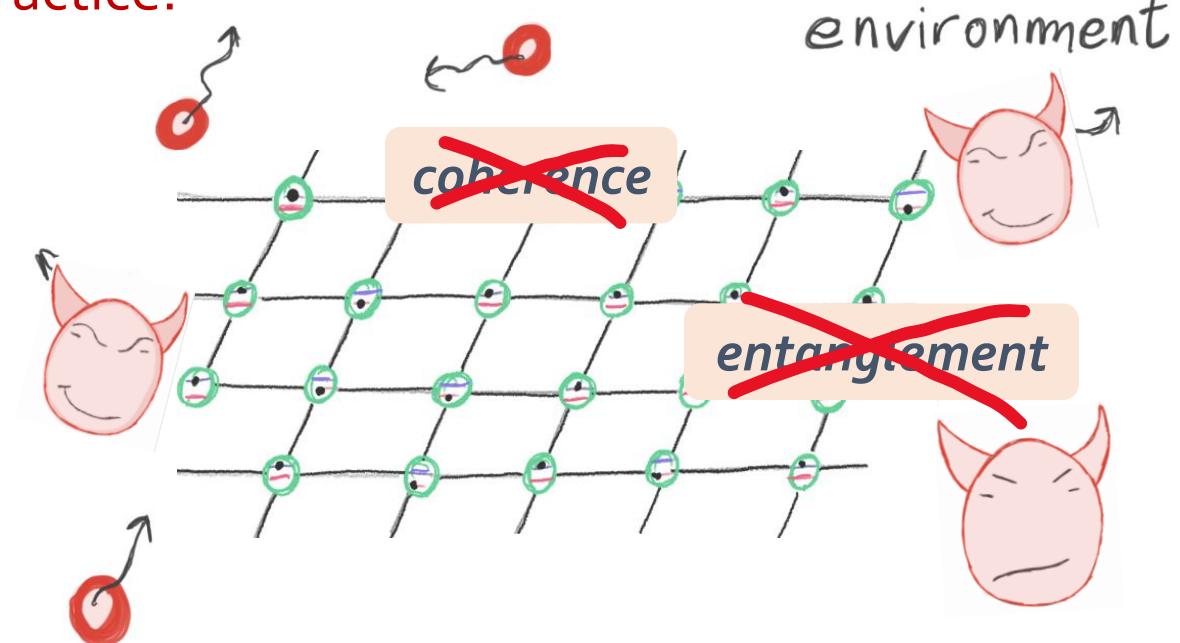
Ideally:



$$\frac{d|\psi_t\rangle}{dt} = -iH|\psi_t\rangle$$

Quantum advantages over  
classical processes

In practice:

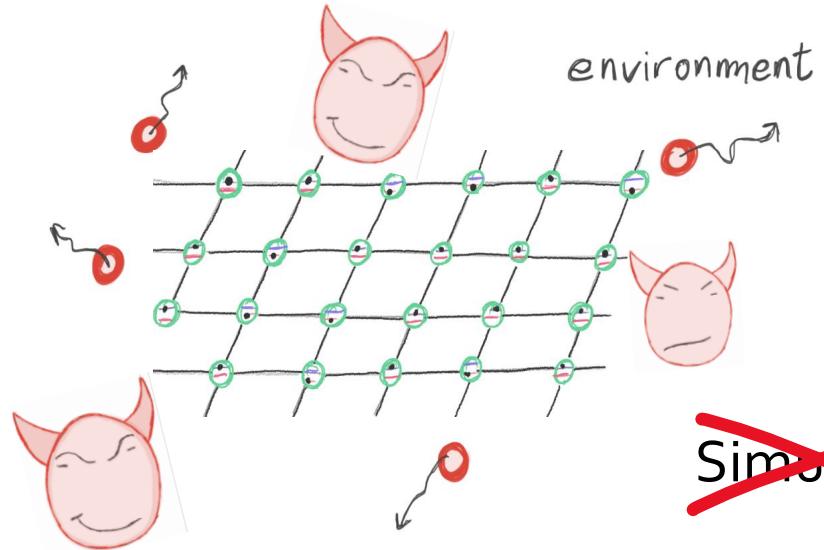


$$\frac{d\rho_t}{dt} = -i[H', \rho_t] + \mathcal{D}(\rho_t)$$

Quantum advantages over  
classical processes



# Dynamics of a Realistic Quantum System: How do we usually solve it?

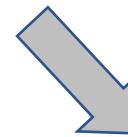


$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d\rho_t}{dt} &= -i[H, \rho_t] + \mathcal{D}(\rho_t) \\ &\approx -i[H, \rho_t] + \sum_n \gamma_n [L_n [L_n, \rho_t]]\end{aligned}$$

approximations  
(weak coupling, Markov)

Today – alternative first-principles analysis:  
**general traits of dynamics from minimal assumptions**

$$\frac{d\langle A \rangle}{dt} = ?$$



Insight?

I. Introduction: Quantum Speed Limits

II. Speed Limits on Observables

III. An application : Quantum Annealing

# Quantum Speed Limits

Bounds to the speed of evolution of a quantum system

J. Phys. USSR 9, 249–254 (1945)

## The Uncertainty Relation Between Energy and Time in Non-relativistic Quantum Mechanics

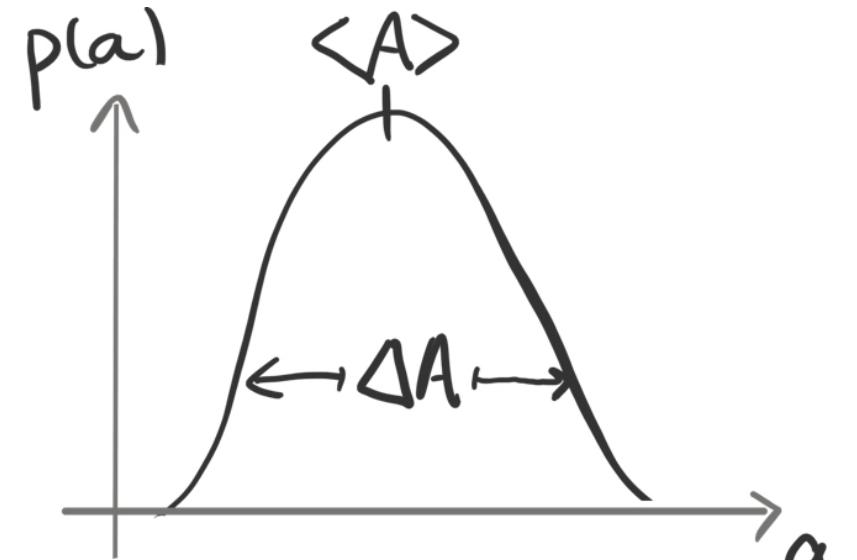
By L. Mandelstam<sup>1</sup> and Ig. Tamm

For isolated systems:

$$\left| \frac{d\langle A \rangle}{dt} \right| \leq 2 \Delta A \Delta H$$

expectation value  $\rightarrow \langle A \rangle = \text{Tr} [A \rho_t]$

standard deviations  $\rightarrow \begin{cases} \Delta A = \sqrt{\langle A^2 \rangle - \langle A \rangle^2} \\ \Delta H = \sqrt{\langle H^2 \rangle - \langle H \rangle^2} \end{cases}$



Mandelstam-Tamm's Uncertainty Relation:  
limits to the speed of any physical process on isolated quantum systems

# Quantum Speed Limits

For isolated systems:

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## The Uncertainty Relation Between Energy and Time in Non-relativistic Quantum Mechanics

By L. Mandelstam<sup>1</sup> and Ig. Tamm

Lots of posterior work:  
speed limits on the state  $\dot{\rho}_t$   
of an open quantum system

### TOPICAL REVIEW

Quantum speed limits: from Heisenberg's uncertainty principle to optimal quantum control

Sebastian Deffner<sup>1</sup>  and Steve Campbell<sup>2</sup> 

Published 10 October 2017 • © 2017 IOP Publishing Ltd

Shortcoming: speed of observables  
can be very different!

$$|\Psi_0\rangle = |T \uparrow T \uparrow T \uparrow T \uparrow T \uparrow T \rangle$$

$$|\Psi_+\rangle = |\uparrow T \uparrow T \uparrow T \uparrow T \uparrow \downarrow \rangle$$

Aim: speed limits on observables for open quantum systems

I. Introduction: Quantum Speed Limits

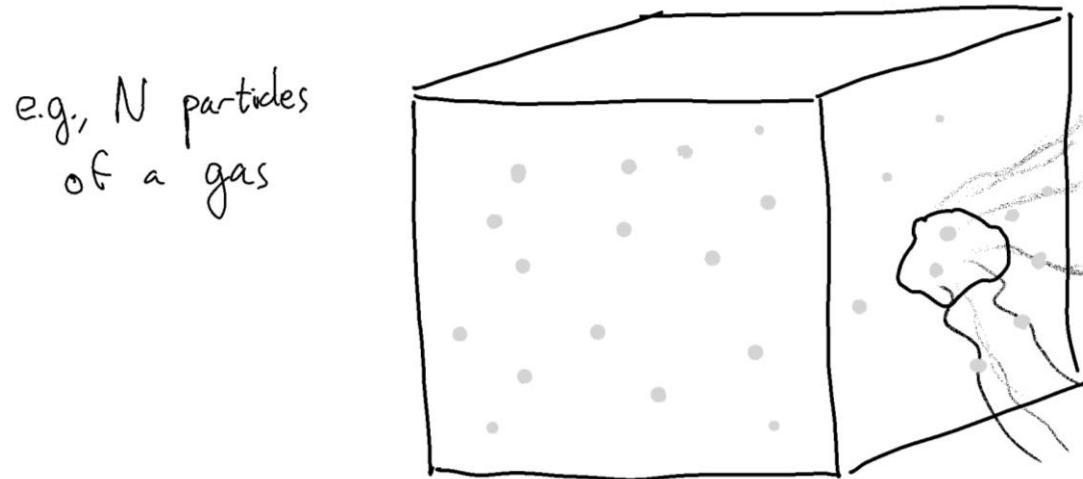
II. Speed Limits on Observables

$$\frac{d\langle A \rangle}{dt} = ?$$

III. An application : Quantum Annealing

# Classical Stochastic Systems

*Classical system with 'states'  $j$  that occur with probabilities  $p_j$*



(e.g.,  $j$  denotes a point in phase space)

The distribution  $\mathbf{p} = \{p_{x_1}, p_{x_2}, \dots\}$  represents the state of the system

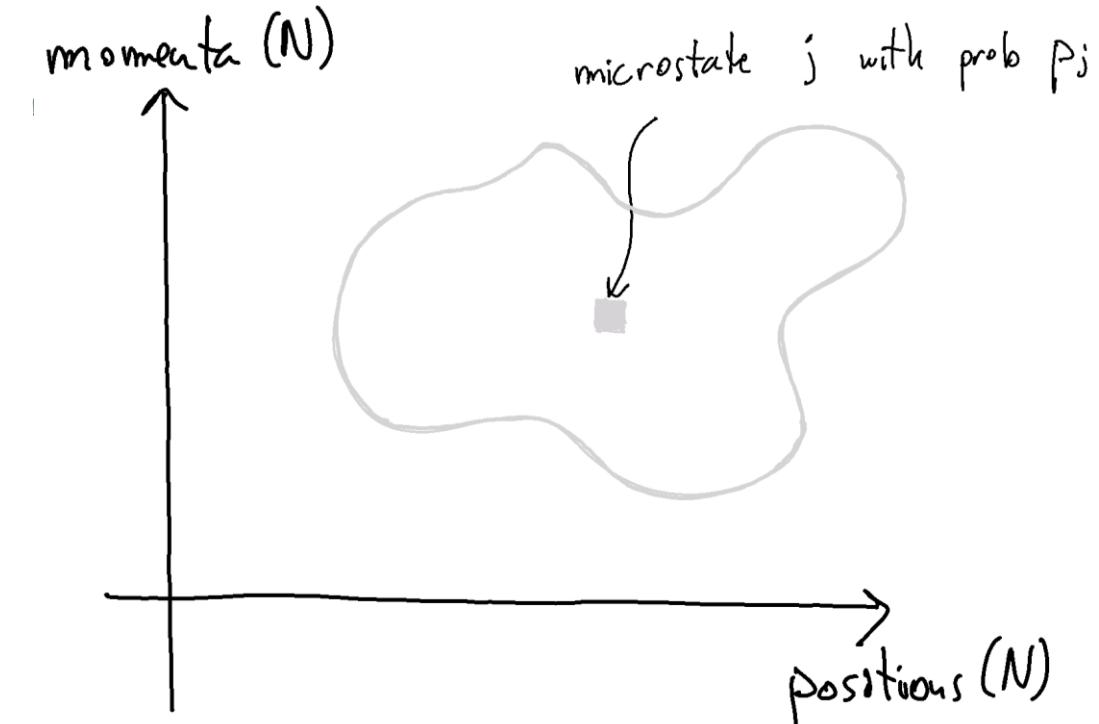
Dynamics:  $\mathbf{p}(t) = \{p_1(t), p_2(t), \dots\}$

Article | Published: 21 September 2020

## Time-information uncertainty relations in thermodynamics

Schuyler B. Nicholson, Luis Pedro García-Pintos, Adolfo del Campo & Jason R. Green [✉](#)

*Nature Physics* **16**, 1211–1215(2020) | Cite this article



Classical observable  $A$  takes values  $a_j$  for state  $j$   
(e.g., particle density, energy)

$$\langle A \rangle = \sum_j p_j(t) a_j$$

# Classical Speed Limits

Classical speed limit on observables

$$\text{surprisal} \leftarrow I_j := \ln \frac{1}{p_j}$$

$$\text{cov}(A, B) := \langle AB \rangle - \langle A \rangle \langle B \rangle$$

assumptions:  $p_j \neq 0$  &  $\exists \dot{p}_j$

$$\left| \frac{d\langle A \rangle}{dt} \right| = \left| \text{cov}(A, \dot{I}) \right| \leq (\Delta A) (\Delta \dot{I})$$

speed      classical uncertainty      dynamics

Uncertainty relation bounds the speed of classical stochastic processes

Article | Published: 21 September 2020

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(Classical) Fisher Information (~ measure of speed of  $p_j$ )

$$\mathcal{I}_F := (\Delta \dot{I})^2 = \sum_j p_j \left( \frac{d}{dt} \ln p_j \right)^2$$

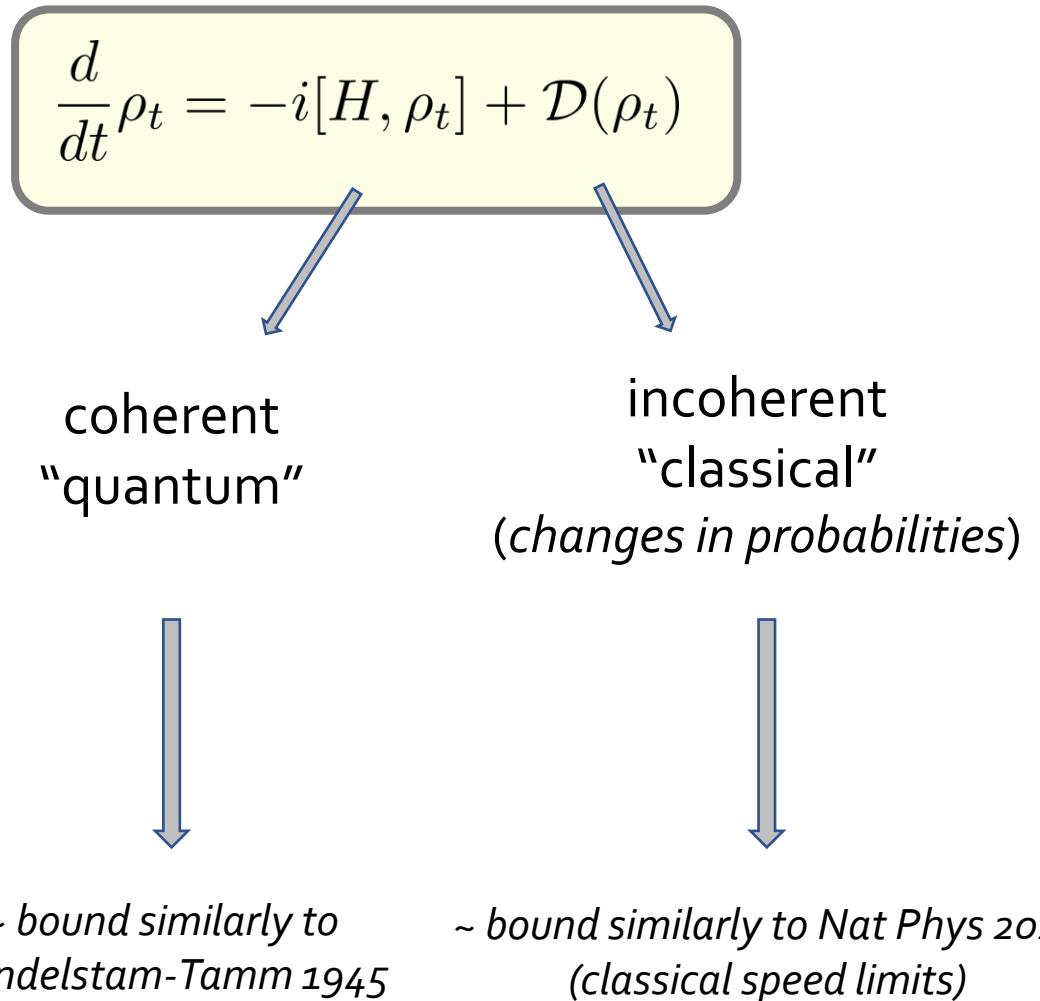
Compare: quantum bound  $\left| \frac{d\langle \hat{A} \rangle}{dt} \right| \leq 2 \Delta \hat{A} \Delta \hat{H}$

Applications to stochastic thermodynamics:

heat flow  $|\dot{Q}|$   
entropy rates  $|\dot{S}|$

# Dynamics of Open Quantum Systems

Any open quantum system evolves following



PHYSICAL REVIEW X 12, 011038 (2022)

## Unifying Quantum and Classical Speed Limits on Observables

Luis Pedro García-Pintos<sup>1,\*</sup>, Schuyler B. Nicholson,<sup>2</sup> Jason R. Green<sup>3,4,5</sup>,  
Adolfo del Campo<sup>6,7,5</sup> and Alexey V. Gorshkov<sup>1</sup>

$$\rho_t = U_t \sum_j p_j(t) |j\rangle_0 \langle j| U_t^\dagger; \quad H_t \equiv i \dot{U}_t U_t^\dagger$$

$$\rho_t = \sum_j p_j(t) |j\rangle_t \langle j| \quad \longrightarrow \quad \text{density matrix}$$

$$-i[H, \rho_t] \quad \longrightarrow \quad \text{coherent evolution}$$

$$\mathcal{D}(\rho_t) \quad \longrightarrow \quad \text{incoherent evolution}  
(\text{dephasing, errors, environment})$$

If  $\mathcal{D}(\rho_t) = 0 \Rightarrow$  'Ideal' isolated quantum dynamics

If  $H = 0 \Rightarrow$  *Classical* stochastic dynamics

# Speed Limits for Open Systems

$$\frac{d}{dt} \rho_t = -i[H, \rho_t] + \mathcal{D}(\rho_t)$$

coherent  
“quantum”

incoherent  
“classical”

$$\left| \frac{d\langle A \rangle}{dt} \right| = \left| \text{cov}(A_C, L_C) + \text{cov}(A_I, L_I) \right|$$

$$\leq \Delta A_C \Delta L_C + \Delta A_I \Delta L_I$$

PHYSICAL REVIEW X 12, 011038 (2022)

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$$\rho_t = \sum_j p_j(t) |j\rangle\langle j|$$

$$A_C = \sum_{j \neq k} A_{jk} |j\rangle\langle k|$$

$$A_I = \sum_j A_{jj} |j\rangle\langle j|$$

$$L_C := -2i \sum_{j \neq k} \frac{\langle j | [H_t, \rho_t] | k \rangle}{(p_j + p_k)} |j\rangle\langle k|$$

$$L_I := \sum_j \frac{d \ln p_j}{dt} |j\rangle\langle j|$$

Coherent Fisher Information  $\mathcal{I}_F^C := (\Delta L_C)^2$

Incoherent Fisher Information  $\mathcal{I}_F^I := (\Delta L_I)^2$

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# Speed Limits for Open Systems

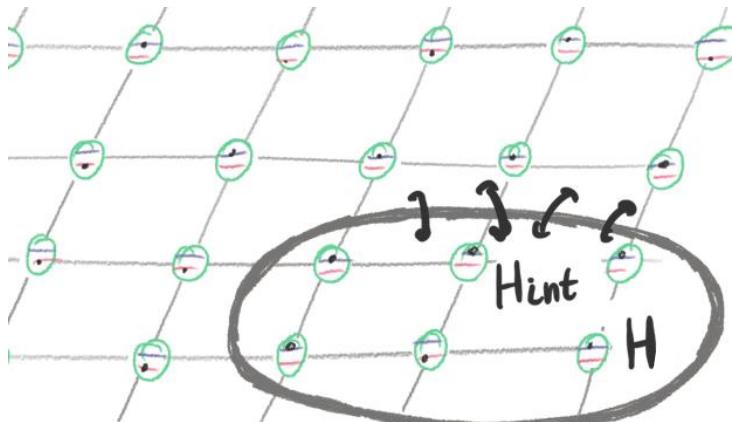
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$$\leq \Delta A_C \Delta L_C + \Delta A_I \Delta L_I$$



$$\mathcal{I}_F^I \leq 4(\Delta H_{\text{int}})^2$$

PHYSICAL REVIEW X 12, 011038 (2022)

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Luis Pedro García-Pintos<sup>1,\*</sup>, Schuyler B. Nicholson,<sup>2</sup> Jason R. Green<sup>3,4,5</sup>, Adolfo del Campo<sup>6,7,5</sup> and Alexey V. Gorshkov<sup>1</sup>

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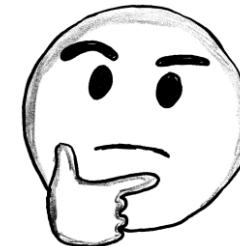
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Coherent Fisher Information  $\mathcal{I}_F^C := (\Delta L_C)^2$

Incoherent Fisher Information  $\mathcal{I}_F^I := (\Delta L_I)^2$

*So, how are these bounds useful anyways?*



*Can they accurately reflect timescales of evolution?*

$$\left| \frac{d\langle A \rangle}{dt} \right| \leq \Delta A_C \Delta L_C + \Delta A_I \Delta L_I$$

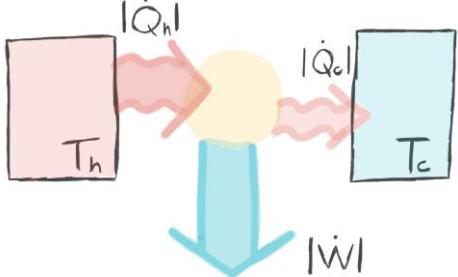
***Speed limits are saturated in a range of problems!***

Article | Published: 21 September 2020

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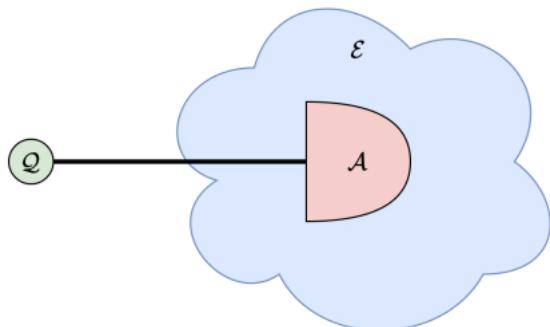


$$\left| \frac{d\langle A \rangle}{dt} \right| \leq \Delta A_C \Delta L_C + \Delta A_I \Delta L_I$$

## Quantum-to-classical transition

### Bounding the Minimum Time of a Quantum Measurement

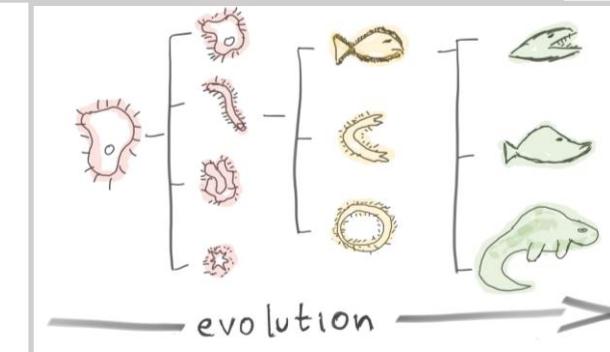
Nathan Shettell,<sup>1</sup> Federico Centrone,<sup>2</sup> and Luis Pedro García-Pintos<sup>3</sup>



## Diversity and Fitness Uncertainty Allow for Faster Evolutionary Rates

Luis Pedro García-Pintos<sup>1,\*</sup>

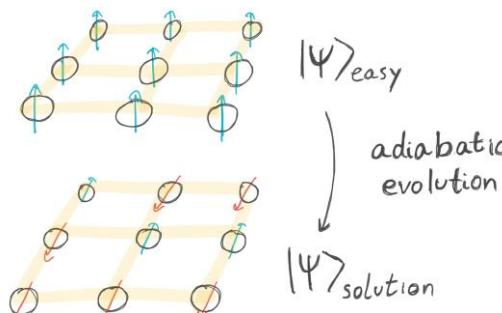
<sup>1</sup>Joint Center for Quantum Information and Computer Science and Joint Quantum Institute, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742, USA  
(Dated: February 22, 2022)



## Quantum annealing\*

### Lower Bounds on Quantum Annealing Times

Luis Pedro García-Pintos,<sup>1,2,\*</sup> Lucas T. Brady,<sup>3,4</sup> Jacob Bringewatt,<sup>1,2</sup> and Yi-Kai Liu<sup>1,5</sup>



I. Introduction: Quantum Speed Limits

II. Speed Limits on Observables

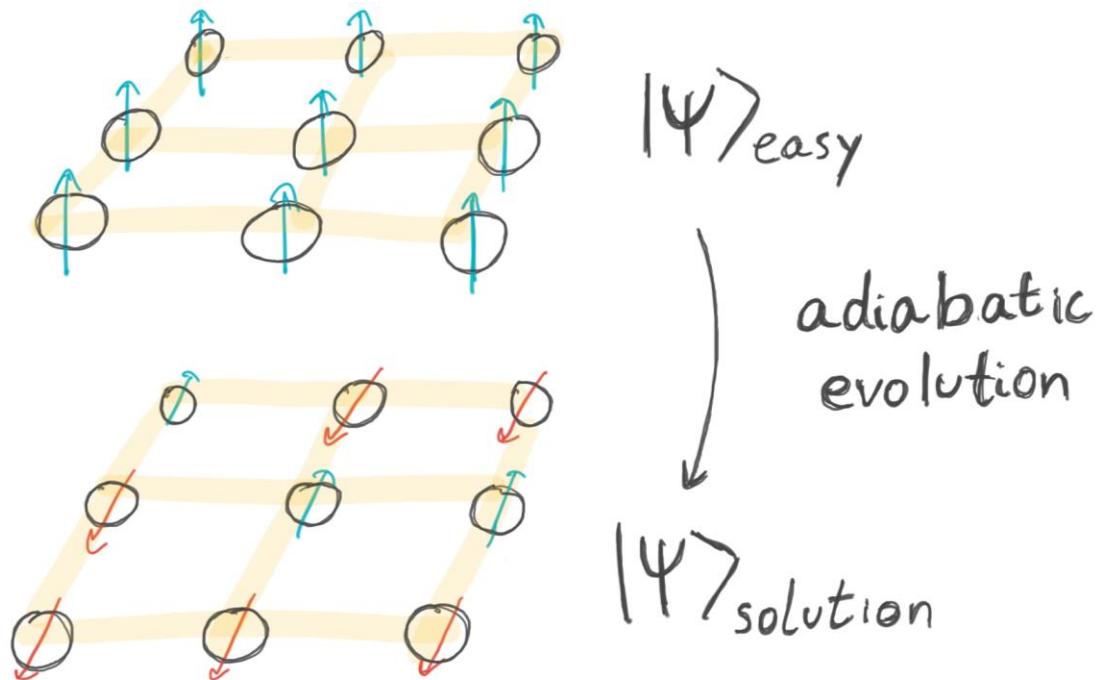
III. An application : Quantum Annealing

# Adiabatic quantum annealing

Annealing:

$$H_t = (1 - g_t)H_0 + g_t H_1 \quad g_0 = 0; \quad g_1 = 1$$

$$|\psi\rangle_0 = |\text{gs}\rangle_0 \quad \text{aim:} \quad |\psi\rangle_{t_f} = |\text{gs}\rangle_{t_f}$$



Adiabatic theorem: if the process is slow enough the system ends close to the target state

$$\text{if} \quad t_f \geq T_{\text{adiab}} \sim \frac{\|t_f \dot{H}_t\|}{\Delta^2} \quad \Rightarrow \quad |\psi\rangle_{t_f} \approx |\text{gs}\rangle_{t_f} \quad \text{sufficient condition for annealing}$$

But, annealing need not be adiabatic! How fast can it be?

# Lower bounds on annealing times

$$\|A\|_1 = \text{Tr} \left[ \sqrt{AA^\dagger} \right] \quad \|A\| = \max \text{eigs}(A)$$

How fast can annealing be?

## Lower Bounds on Quantum Annealing Times

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Defining

$$\langle H_1 \rangle_0 = \langle \psi_0 | H_1 | \psi_0 \rangle$$

$$\langle H_0 \rangle_{t_f} = \langle \psi_{t_f} | H_0 | \psi_{t_f} \rangle$$

$$\langle H_1 \rangle_{t_f} = \langle \psi_{t_f} | H_1 | \psi_{t_f} \rangle$$

$$C_1(|\psi_t\rangle) = \min_{\sigma_t: [\sigma_t, H_t] = 0} \| |\psi_t\rangle\langle\psi_t| - \sigma_t \|_1 \quad \text{measure of coherence in eigenbasis of } H_t$$

## Quantifying Coherence

T. Baumgratz, M. Cramer, and M. B. Plenio

Phys. Rev. Lett. **113**, 140401 – Published 29 September 2014

**Necessary conditions for annealing:**  $t_f \geq \tau_1 \geq \tau_2$

$$\tau_1 \equiv 2 \frac{\langle H_0 \rangle_{t_f} + \langle H_0 \rangle_0 - \langle H_1 \rangle_{t_f}}{\|[H_1, H_0]\| \frac{1}{t_f} \int_0^{t_f} C_1(|\psi_t\rangle) dt}$$

$$\tau_2 \equiv \frac{\langle H_0 \rangle_{t_f} + \langle H_0 \rangle_0 - \langle H_1 \rangle_{t_f}}{\|[H_1, H_0]\|}$$

# Lower bounds on annealing times

$$\|A\|_1 = \text{Tr} \left[ \sqrt{AA^\dagger} \right] \quad \|A\| = \max \text{eigs}(A)$$

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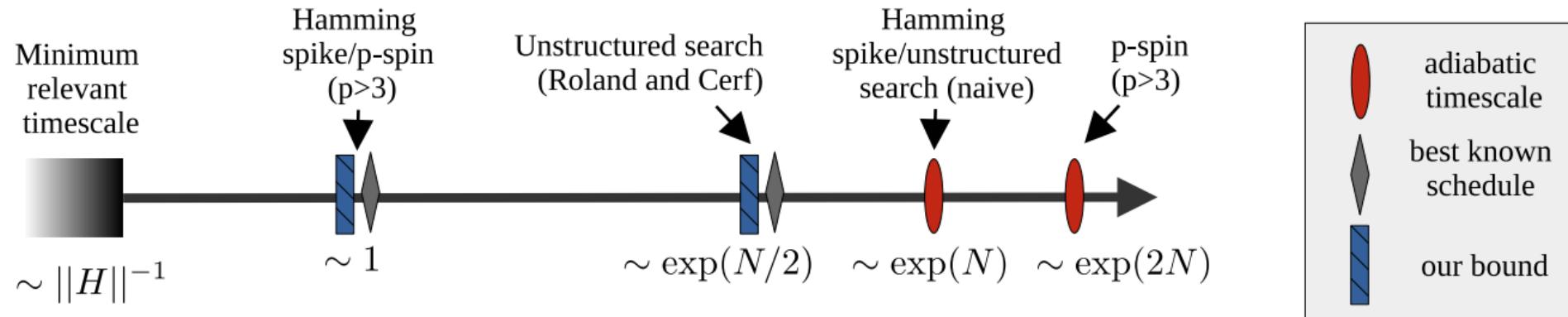


FIG. 1. **Annealing timescales.** An illustration of the range of possible timescales in annealing problems and how our bounds and the adiabatic timescales fit in the picture.

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# Summary

- I. General framework to derive bounds on rates  $\frac{d\langle A \rangle}{dt}$  and when they are saturated
- II. Speed limits reflect actual dynamics in a range of problems
- III. Saturable lower bounds on annealing times