



Quantum Phases and Phase Transitions in Open Quantum Systems

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Y. Guo, K. Ding, and S. Yang #, Rep. Prog. Phys. 88, 118001 (2025)

Y. Guo and S. Yang #, Phys. Rev. B 111, L201108 (2025), Editors' Suggestion

Y. Guo *, J.-H. Zhang *, H.-R. Zhang, S. Yang #, and Z. Bi #, Phys. Rev. X 15, 021060 (2025)

Y. Guo and S. Yang #, arXiv: 2602.21979

Outline

- imaginary-time Lindbladian evolution

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- locally purified density operator (LPDO) and purification perspective

Y. Guo *, J.-H. Zhang *, H.-R. Zhang, S. Yang #, and Z. Bi #, Phys. Rev. X 15, 021060 (2025)

Y. Guo and S. Yang #, arXiv: 2602.21979

Part one

Imaginary-time Lindbladian evolution

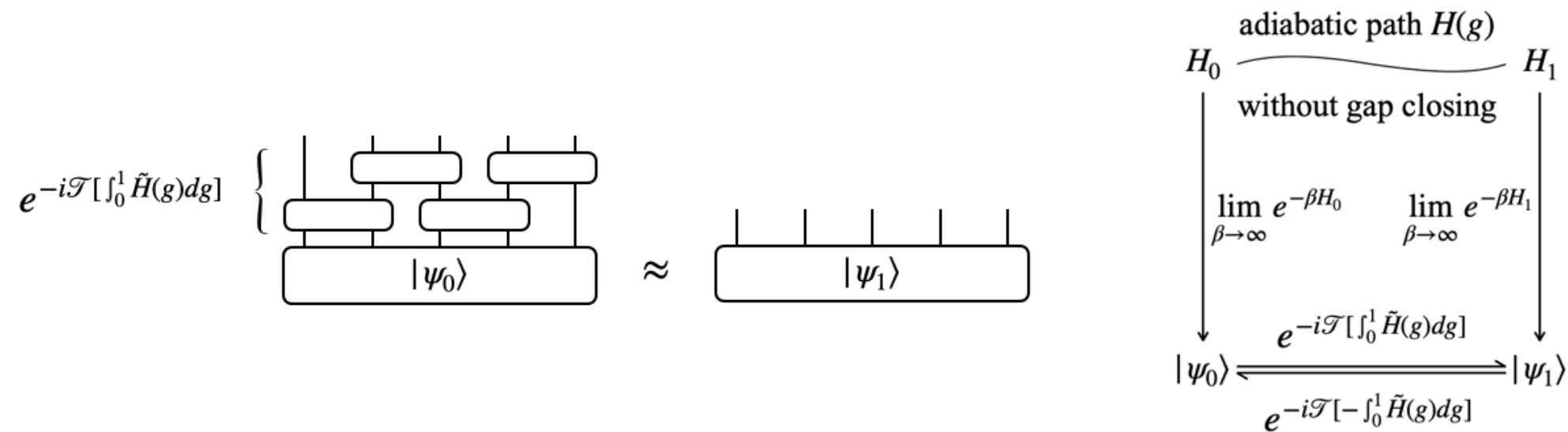
Y. Guo, K. Ding, and S. Yang #, Rep. Prog. Phys. 88, 118001 (2025)

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Classification in closed systems

- equivalence relation for Hamiltonians

two local, gapped Hamiltonians H_0 and H_1 belong to the same quantum phase if and only if there is a smooth path $H(g)$ connecting H_0 and H_1 , the **energy gap $\Delta(g)$** is always finite along the path



- equivalence relation for ground states

two local, gapped Hamiltonians H_0 and H_1 belong to the same quantum phase if and only if their corresponding ground states $|\psi_0\rangle$ and $|\psi_1\rangle$ can be connected by

finite-time local evolution $|\psi_1\rangle = e^{-i\mathcal{T}[\int_0^1 \tilde{H}(g)dg]} |\psi_0\rangle$ and $|\psi_0\rangle = e^{-i\mathcal{T}[-\int_0^1 \tilde{H}(g)dg]} |\psi_1\rangle$

Real-time Lindbladian evolution in open systems

- time evolution of a mixed state in an open system is described by the **Lindbladian master equation**

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = -i[H, \rho] + \sum_k \left[L_k \rho L_k^\dagger - \frac{1}{2} \{ L_k^\dagger L_k, \rho \} \right]$$

- density matrix $\rho = \sum_k \lambda_k |\psi_k\rangle \langle \psi_k| \Rightarrow$ **supervector form** $|\rho\rangle\rangle = \sum_k \lambda_k |\psi_k\rangle \otimes |\psi_k^*\rangle$

- Liouville supervector** $\mathcal{L}|\rho\rangle\rangle = (-iH_{\text{eff}} \otimes I + iI \otimes H_{\text{eff}}^* + \sum_k L_k \otimes L_k^*)|\rho\rangle\rangle$

$$H_{\text{eff}} = H - \sum_k \frac{i}{2} L_k^\dagger L_k$$

- the eigen-decomposition of Liouville superoperator $\mathcal{L}|\rho_i\rangle\rangle = \lambda_i |\rho_i\rangle\rangle$

$$\text{Re}(\lambda_i) \leq 0, \text{ and } \text{Im}(\lambda_i) = 0 \text{ if } \rho_i \text{ is Hermitian}$$

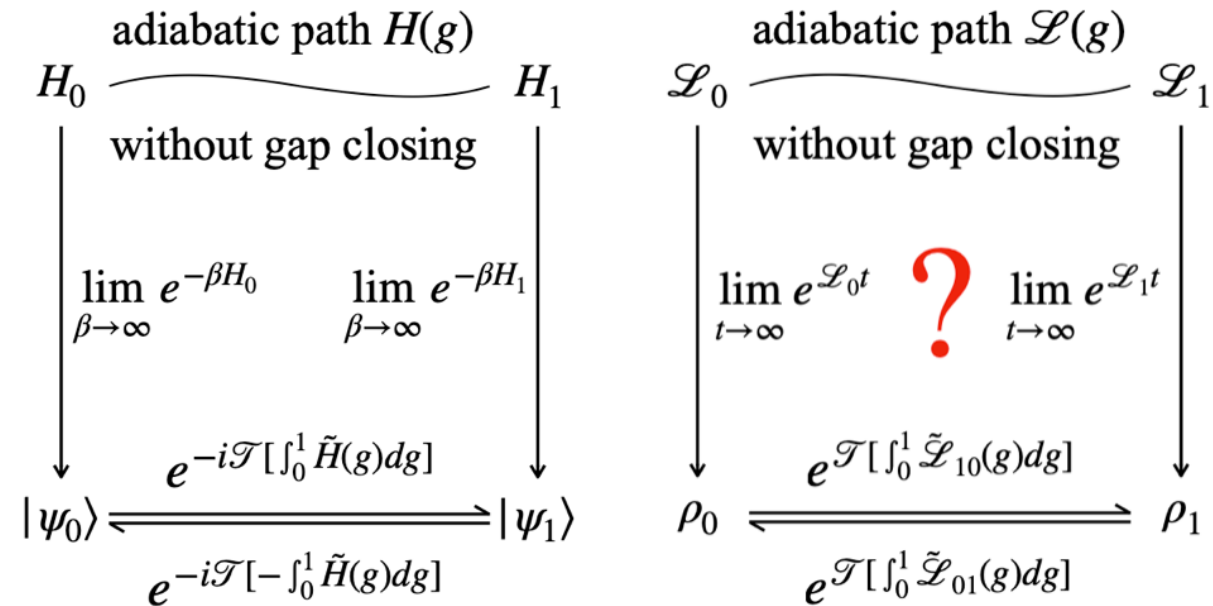
- the **steady state** is obtained by **real-time Lindbladian evolution** $\rho_{\text{ss}} = \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} e^{\mathcal{L}t} \rho(0)$, satisfying

$$\mathcal{L}|\rho_{\text{ss}}\rangle\rangle = 0$$

- Liouville gap** is $\Delta = -\text{Re}(\lambda_1)$, where λ_i is arranged as $0 = \lambda_0 \geq \text{Re}(\lambda_1) \geq \text{Re}(\lambda_2) \geq \dots$

H.-P. Breuer and F. Petruccione, The Theory of Open Quantum Systems (Oxford University Press, 2007)

Paradox in open systems



- inconsistency when degrading to the pure state

1. take the jump operators $L_k = 0$, Lindbladian equation $\rightarrow$ Schrodinger equation

all eigenstates of H become the steady states of $e^{\mathcal{L}dt}$ with zero eigenvalues $\rightarrow$ not degrade to ground state

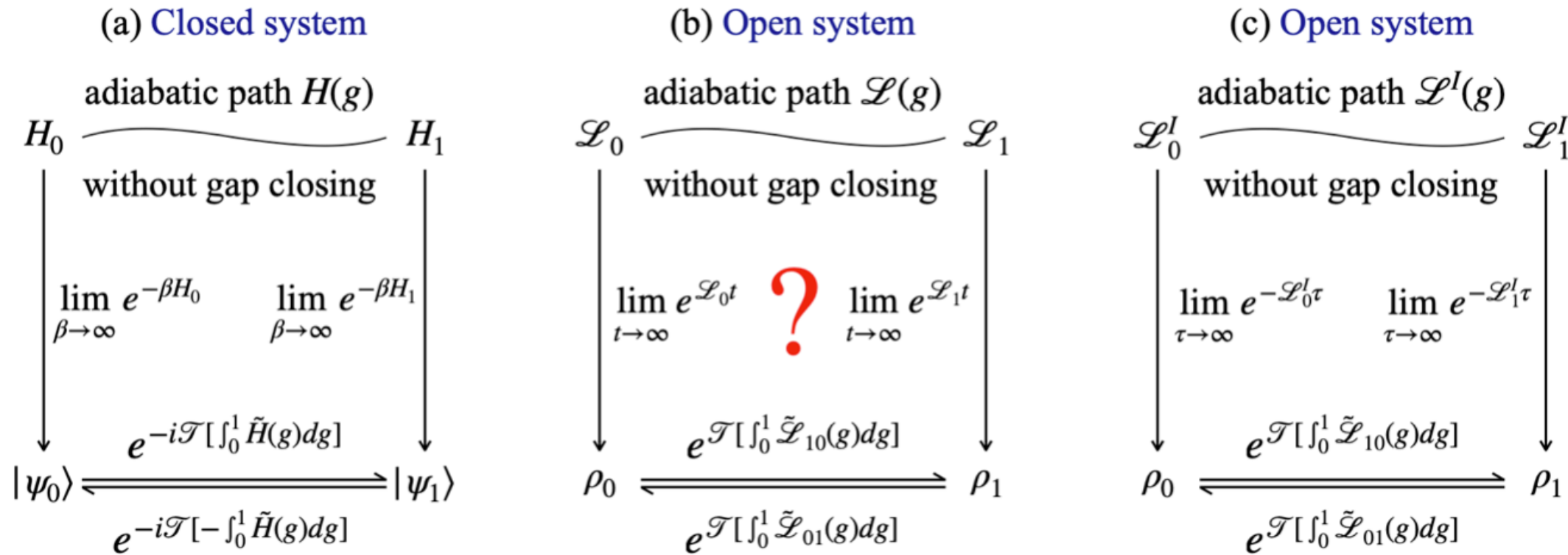
2. although the Liouville gap may close along a path $\mathcal{L}(g)$ connecting $\mathcal{L}(0)$ and $\mathcal{L}(1)$

it is still possible to connect $\rho(0)$ and $\rho(1)$ via finite-time Lindbladian evolutions $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{01} = \mathcal{L}(0)$, $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{10} = \mathcal{L}(1)$

because $\rho(i)$ can be achieved through $\mathcal{L}(i)$ from any initial states not orthogonal to it

all $\rho(i)$ in the same phase $\rightarrow$ cannot distinguish between distinct phases

New framework: Imaginary-time Lindbladian evolution



- consider the **time evolution for the entire system** (system and environment) then trace out environment

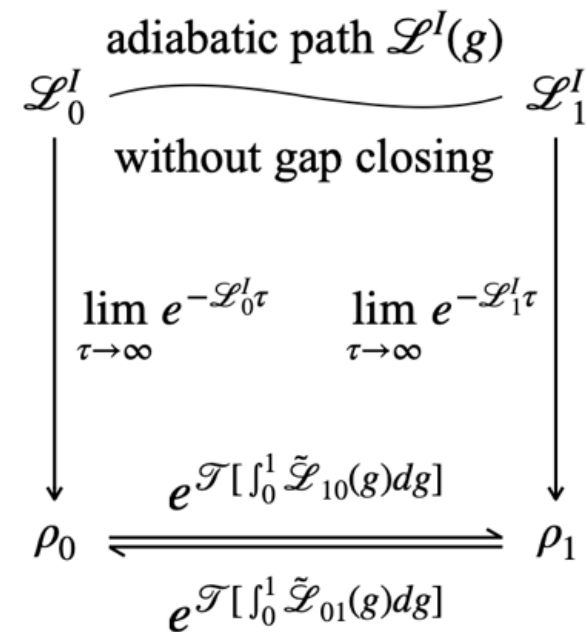
real-time	$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = -i[H, \rho] + \sum_k \left[L_k \rho L_k^\dagger - \frac{1}{2} \{L_k^\dagger L_k, \rho\} \right] \equiv \mathcal{L}(\rho)$	$\mathcal{L} \rho\rangle\rangle = \left(-iH_{\text{eff}} \otimes I + iI \otimes H_{\text{eff}}^* + \sum_k L_k \otimes L_k^* \right) \rho\rangle\rangle$	$H_{\text{eff}} = H - \frac{i}{2} \sum_k L_k^\dagger L_k$
imaginary-time	$\frac{d\rho}{d\tau} = -\{H, \rho\} + \sum_k \left[L_k \rho L_k^\dagger + \frac{1}{2} \{L_k^\dagger L_k, \rho\} \right] \equiv -\mathcal{L}^I(\rho)$	$\mathcal{L}^I \rho\rangle\rangle = \left(H_{\text{eff}}^I \otimes I + I \otimes H_{\text{eff}}^{I*} - \sum_k L_k \otimes L_k^* \right) \rho\rangle\rangle$	$H_{\text{eff}}^I = H - \frac{1}{2} \sum_k L_k^\dagger L_k$

- imaginary-Liouville superoperator** $\mathcal{L}^I$

Classification in open systems

- equivalence relation for imaginary-Liouville superoperator

two local, gapped open systems $\mathcal{L}^I(0)$ and $\mathcal{L}^I(1)$ belong to the same quantum phase if and only if there is a smooth path $\mathcal{L}^I(g)$, the **imaginary-Liouville gap** $\Delta^I(g)$ is always finite along the path



- equivalence relation for mixed states

two local, gapped open systems $\mathcal{L}^I(0)$ and $\mathcal{L}^I(1)$ belong to the same quantum phase if and only if their corresponding steady states $\rho(0)$ and $\rho(1)$ can be connected by

finite-time local Lindbladian evolutions $|\rho(0)\rangle\rangle = e^{\mathcal{T}[\int_0^1 \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{01}(g) dg]} |\rho(1)\rangle\rangle$ and $|\rho(1)\rangle\rangle = e^{\mathcal{T}[\int_0^1 \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{10}(g) dg]} |\rho(0)\rangle\rangle$

Phase transitions in open systems

- imaginary-Liouville superoperator $\mathcal{L}^I$

$$\frac{d\rho}{d\tau} = -\{H, \rho\} + \sum_k \left[L_k \rho L_k^\dagger + \frac{1}{2} \{L_k^\dagger L_k, \rho\} \right] \equiv -\mathcal{L}^I(\rho)$$

- diagonalize $\mathcal{L}^I$, $\mathcal{L}^I(\rho) = E\rho$

sort the spectrum according to real parts, $\text{Re}(E_0) \leq \text{Re}(E_1) \leq \text{Re}(E_2) \leq \dots$

the imaginary-time Lindbladian evolution has a steady state if and only if E_0 is real

- **imaginary-Liouville gap** $\Delta^I = \text{Re}(E_1) - E_0$

Δ^I gap closing $\Rightarrow$ phase transition in open system

naturally degrades to closed systems

Phase diagram

- four imaginary-Liouvilles $\mathcal{L}^I$ in an open system with $\mathbb{Z}_2^\sigma \times \mathbb{Z}_2^\tau$ symmetry

phase (α, β)	Hamiltonian	jump operator	quantum state
trivial pure (0,0)	$H^{00} = - \sum_i \tau_{i+1/2}^x - \sum_i \sigma_i^x$	$L^{00} = 0$	$ \cdots \rightarrow_\sigma \rightarrow_\tau \rightarrow_\sigma \rightarrow_\tau \cdots\rangle$
SPT (0,1)	$H^{01} = - \sum_i \sigma_i^z \tau_{i+1/2}^x \sigma_{i+1}^z - \sum_i \tau_{i-1/2}^z \sigma_i^x \tau_{i+1/2}^z$	$L^{01} = 0$	$\frac{1}{2^{N/2}} \sum_{\{\sigma_i\}} \cdots \uparrow_\sigma \rightarrow_\tau \uparrow_\sigma \leftarrow_\tau \downarrow_\sigma \cdots\rangle \equiv \frac{1}{2^{N/2}} \sum_{\{\sigma_i\}} \psi_{\{\sigma_i\}}^{\text{SPT}}\rangle$
trivial mixed (1,0)	$H^{10} = - \sum_i \tau_{i+1/2}^x$	$L_i^{[1]10} = \sigma_i^z, L_i^{[2]10} = \sigma_i^x$	$\cdots \left[\frac{1}{2} (\uparrow\rangle\langle\uparrow + \downarrow\rangle\langle\downarrow)_\sigma \right] \otimes \rightarrow\rangle\langle\rightarrow _\tau \cdots$
ASPT (1,1)	$H^{11} = - \sum_i \sigma_i^z \tau_{i+1/2}^x \sigma_{i+1}^z$	$L_i^{[1]11} = \sigma_i^z, L_i^{[2]11} = \tau_{i-1/2}^z \sigma_i^x \tau_{i+1/2}^z$	$\frac{1}{2^N} \sum_{\{\sigma_i\}} \psi_{\{\sigma_i\}}^{\text{SPT}}\rangle \langle \psi_{\{\sigma_i\}}^{\text{SPT}} $

- $(\rho_{00}, \rho_{01}, \rho_{10}, \rho_{11}) \Rightarrow (H^{00}, H^{01}, H^{10}, H^{11}), (L^{00}, L^{01}, L^{10}, L^{11}) \Rightarrow (\mathcal{L}_{00}^I, \mathcal{L}_{01}^I, \mathcal{L}_{10}^I, \mathcal{L}_{11}^I)$
- linearly interpolation between these four systems, calculate the ground state of $\mathcal{L}^I(\alpha, \beta)$

$$\mathcal{L}^I(\alpha, \beta) = (1 - \alpha)(1 - \beta)\mathcal{L}_{00}^I + (1 - \alpha)\beta\mathcal{L}_{01}^I + \alpha(1 - \beta)\mathcal{L}_{10}^I + \alpha\beta\mathcal{L}_{11}^I, \quad \mathcal{L}^I(\alpha, \beta) \Rightarrow \rho_{\alpha, \beta}$$

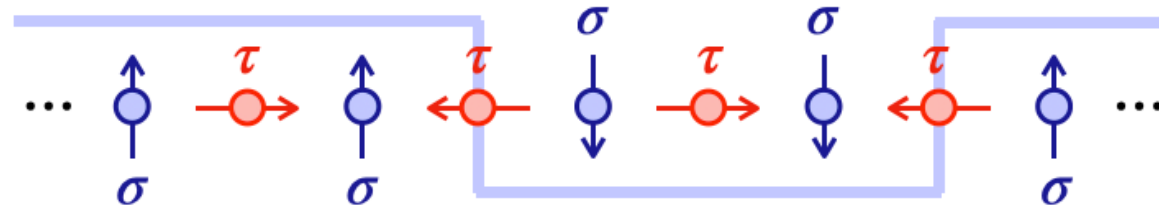
SPT phase: cluster state (Haldane phase)

- **cluster state** in the closed system (Haldane phase)

$$H = - \sum_i \left(\sigma_i^z \tau_{i+1/2}^x \sigma_{i+1}^z + \tau_{i-1/2}^z \sigma_i^x \tau_{i+1/2}^z \right)$$

- two global $\mathbb{Z}_2$ symmetries $U = \prod_i \sigma_i^x$ and $K = \prod_i \tau_{i+1/2}^x$
- ground state follows the **decorated domain wall** construction

$$|\psi^{\text{SPT}}\rangle = \frac{1}{2^{N/2}} \sum_{\{\sigma_i\}} |\cdots \uparrow_{\sigma} \rightarrow \tau \uparrow_{\sigma} \leftarrow \tau \downarrow_{\sigma} \rightarrow \tau \downarrow_{\sigma} \leftarrow \tau \uparrow_{\sigma} \cdots\rangle \equiv \frac{1}{2^{N/2}} \sum_{\{\sigma_i\}} |\psi_{\{\sigma_i\}}^{\text{SPT}}\rangle$$



- **excitations of τ spins are placed at the domain wall of σ spins**

all components $|\psi_{\{\sigma_i\}}^{\text{SPT}}\rangle$ span the degenerate ground states manifold of $H_1 \equiv - \sum_i \sigma_i^z \tau_{i+1/2}^x \sigma_{i+1}^z$

$H_2 \equiv - \sum_i \tau_{i-1/2}^z \sigma_i^x \tau_{i+1/2}^z$ introduces a map between different components

X. Chen, Y.-M. Lu, & A. Vishwanath, Nat. Commun. 5, 3507 (2014)

Average symmetry-protected topological (ASPT) phase

- decohered Haldane phase

one of the $\mathbb{Z}_2$ symmetry is broken to weak symmetry due to **decoherence**

density matrix is constructed as $\rho^{\text{ASPT}} = \frac{1}{2^N} \sum_{\{\sigma_i\}} |\psi_{\{\sigma_i\}}^{\text{SPT}}\rangle \langle \psi_{\{\sigma_i\}}^{\text{SPT}}|$

where $|\psi_{\{\sigma_i\}}^{\text{SPT}}\rangle = |\cdots \uparrow_{\sigma} \rightarrow_{\tau} \uparrow_{\sigma} \leftarrow_{\tau} \downarrow_{\sigma} \rightarrow_{\tau} \downarrow_{\sigma} \leftarrow_{\tau} \uparrow_{\sigma} \cdots\rangle$

- $K = \prod_i \tau_{i+1/2}^x$ remains a **strong symmetry**, $K\rho = e^{i\theta}\rho$

$U = \prod_i \sigma_i^x$ becomes a **weak symmetry**, $U\rho \neq e^{i\theta}\rho$ but $U\rho U^\dagger = \rho$

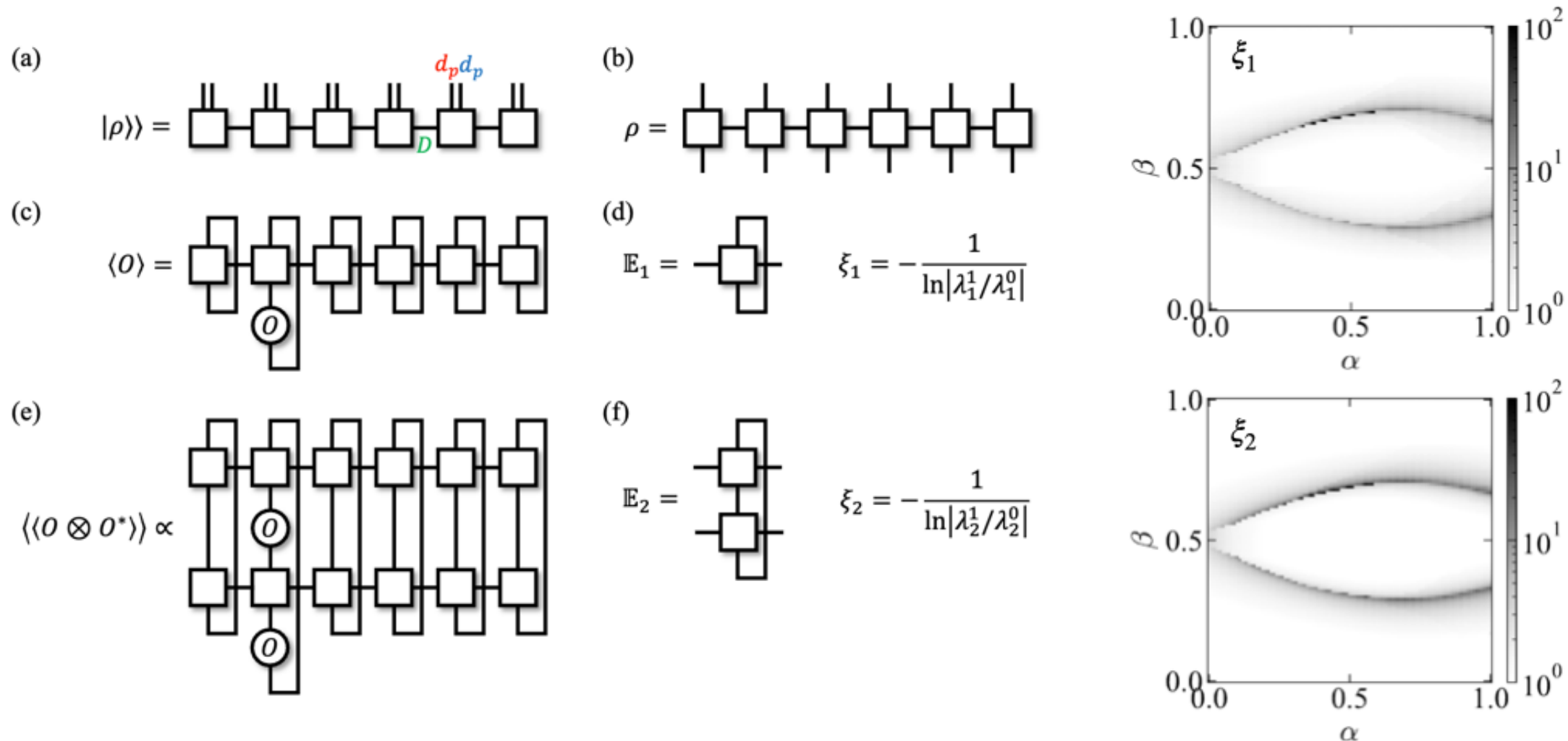
nontrivial topological properties **jointly protected by strong and weak symmetries**

R. Ma and C. Wang, Phys. Rev. X 13, 031016 (2023)

Y. Guo *, J.-H. Zhang *, H.-R. Zhang, S. Yang #, and Z. Bi #, Phys. Rev. X 15, 021060 (2025)

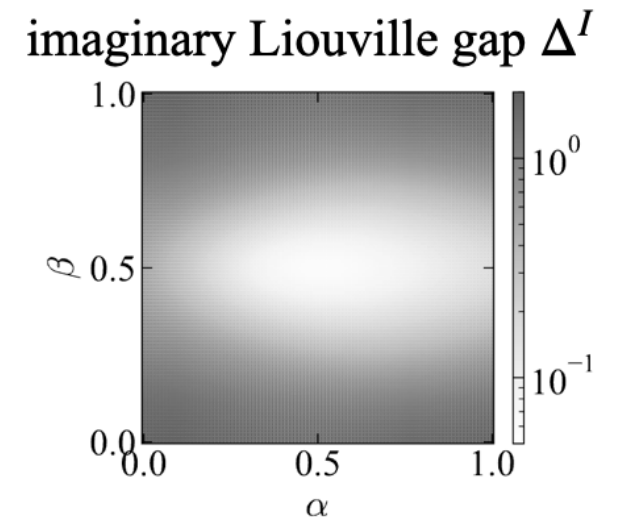
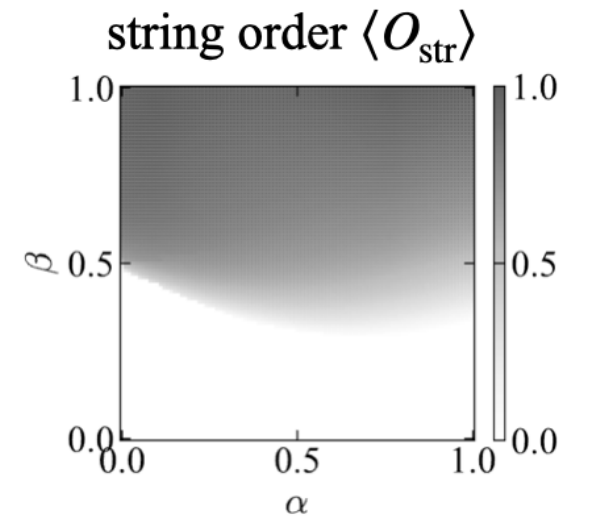
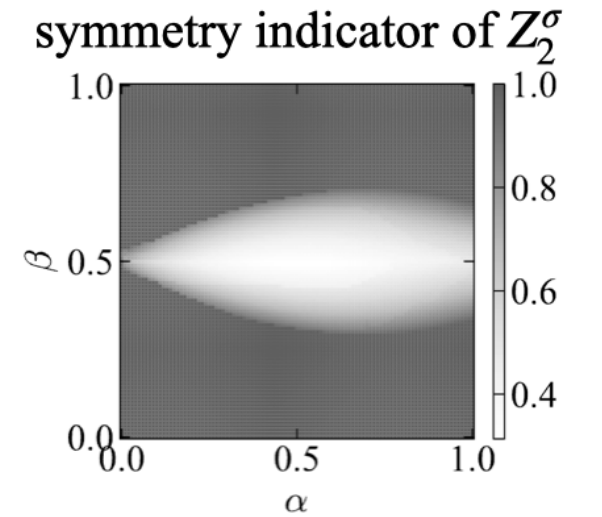
Correlation lengths

- expectation value over the density matrix $\langle O \rangle \equiv \text{Tr}[\rho O]$, **detect strong symmetry**
 expectation value over the supervector $\langle\langle O \otimes O^* \rangle\rangle = \frac{\langle\langle \rho | O \otimes O^* | \rho \rangle\rangle}{\langle\langle \rho | \rho \rangle\rangle} = \frac{\text{Tr}[\rho O \rho O^\dagger]}{\text{Tr}[\rho^2]}$, **detect weak symmetry**
- linear correlation function** $C^{(1)}(i, j) \equiv \langle O_i O_j \rangle - \langle O_i \rangle \langle O_j \rangle \sim e^{-|i-j|/\xi_1}$
Renyi-2 correlation function $C^{(2)}(i, j) \equiv \langle\langle O_i O_j \otimes O_i^* O_j^* \rangle\rangle - \langle\langle O_i \otimes O_i^* \rangle\rangle \langle\langle O_j \otimes O_j^* \rangle\rangle \sim e^{-|i-j|/\xi_2}$



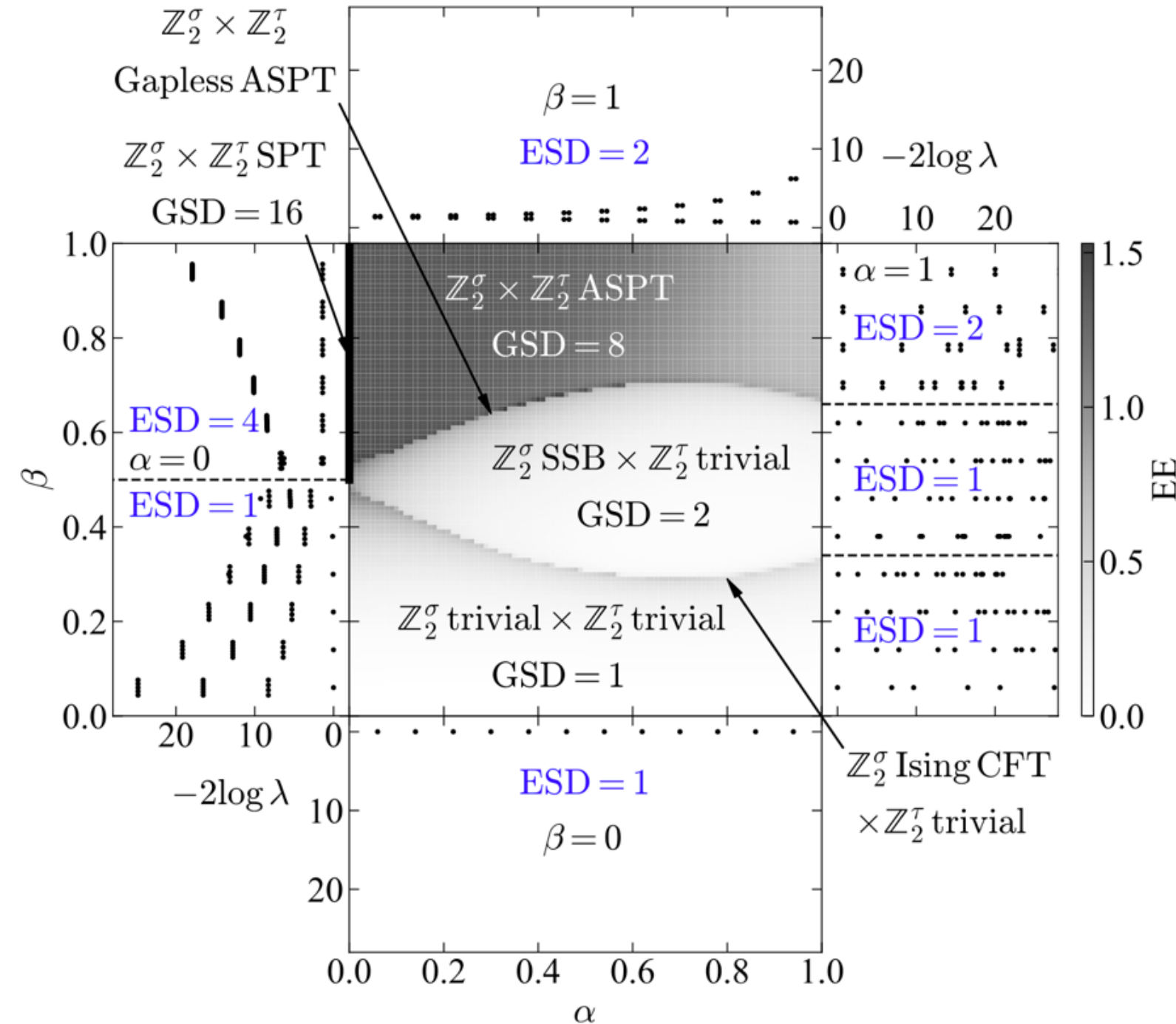
Symmetry properties

- **strong symmetry indicator** $|\langle K \rangle| = |\text{Tr}(\rho \prod_i \tau_{i+1/2}^x)| = 1$
the steady state always preserves the Z_2^τ symmetry
- **weak symmetry indicator** $\langle \langle U \otimes U^* \rangle \rangle = \frac{\text{Tr}[\rho(\prod_i \sigma_i^x)\rho(\prod_i \sigma_i^x)]}{\text{Tr}[\rho^2]}$
- **string order** $\langle O_{\text{str}} \rangle \equiv \lim_{|i-j| \rightarrow \infty} \langle \sigma_i^z \tau_{i+1/2}^x \tau_{i+3/2}^x \cdots \tau_{j-3/2}^x \tau_{j-1/2}^x \sigma_j^z \rangle$
$$\langle O_{\text{str}} \rangle \sim \begin{cases} O(1), & \text{domain wall decoration (ASPT)} \\ \langle \sigma_i^z \sigma_j^z \rangle, & \text{trivial decoration} \end{cases} \sim \begin{cases} O(1), & Z_2^\sigma \text{ SSB} \\ 0, & Z_2^\sigma \text{ trivial} \end{cases}$$
- **imaginary Liouville gap** $\Delta^I(\alpha, 1 - \beta) = \Delta^I(\alpha, \beta)$



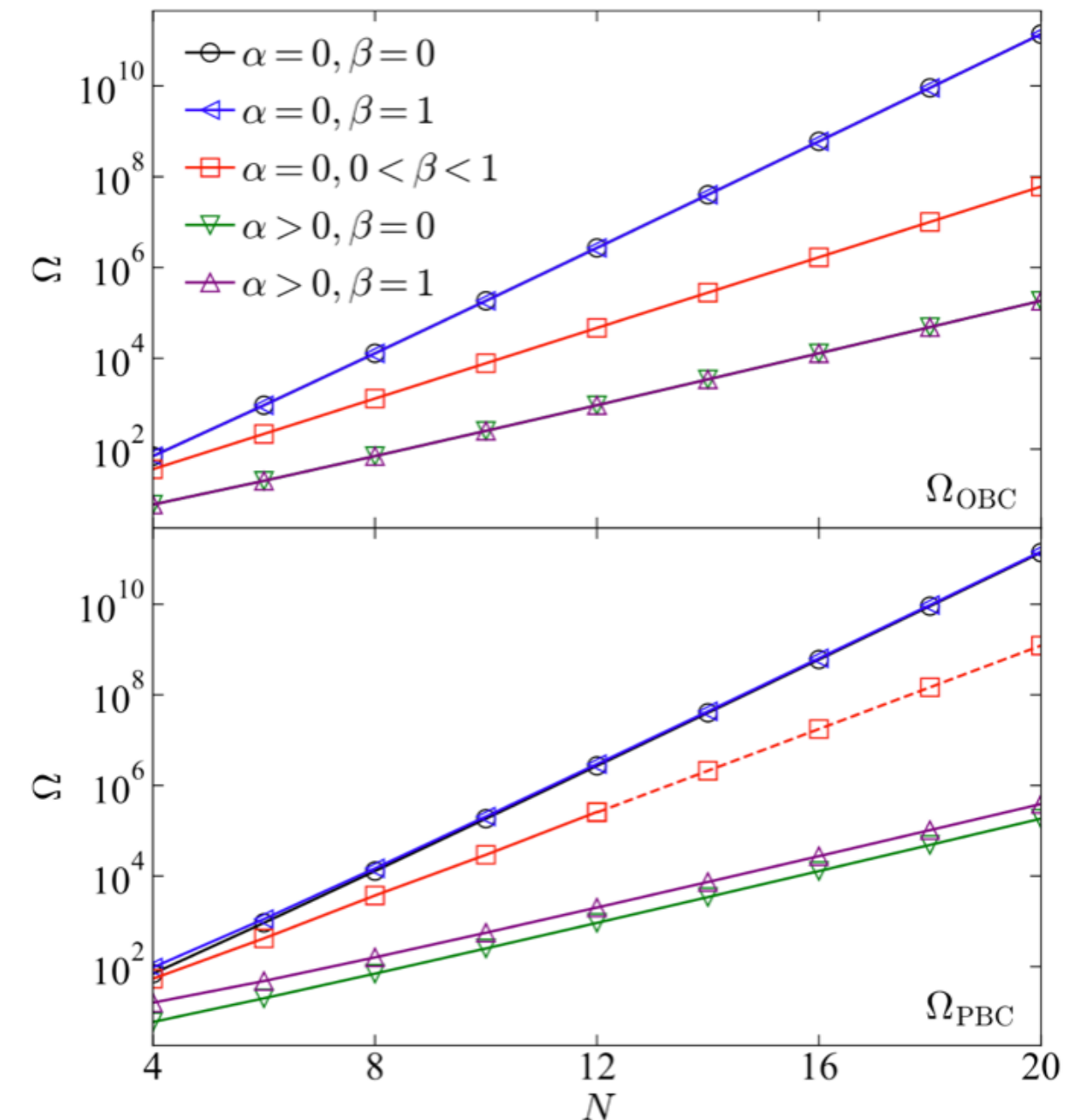
Phase diagram

- entanglement entropy and entanglement spectrum for the supervector $|\rho\rangle\rangle$
- **entanglement spectrum degeneracy (ESD)**
4-fold degeneracy for SPT, **2-fold for ASPT**
- **ground state degeneracy (GSD) under OBC, $N = 6$**
2-fold degeneracy for SSB
8-fold for ASPT
totally 3 independent edge modes, $\text{GSD} = 2^3 = 8$
- **duality map** $U_{\text{DW}} \equiv \prod_i \text{CZ}_{i-1/2,i}^{\tau,\sigma} \text{CZ}_{i,i+1/2}^{\sigma,\tau}$
gapless SPT $\leftrightarrow$ conventional Ising criticality
trivial product state $\leftrightarrow$ cluster state
phase diagram has symmetry $\beta \leftrightarrow 1 - \beta$
 $U_{\text{DW}} \otimes U_{\text{DW}}^* \mathcal{L}^I(\alpha, \beta) = \mathcal{L}^I(\alpha, 1 - \beta) U_{\text{DW}} \otimes U_{\text{DW}}^*$



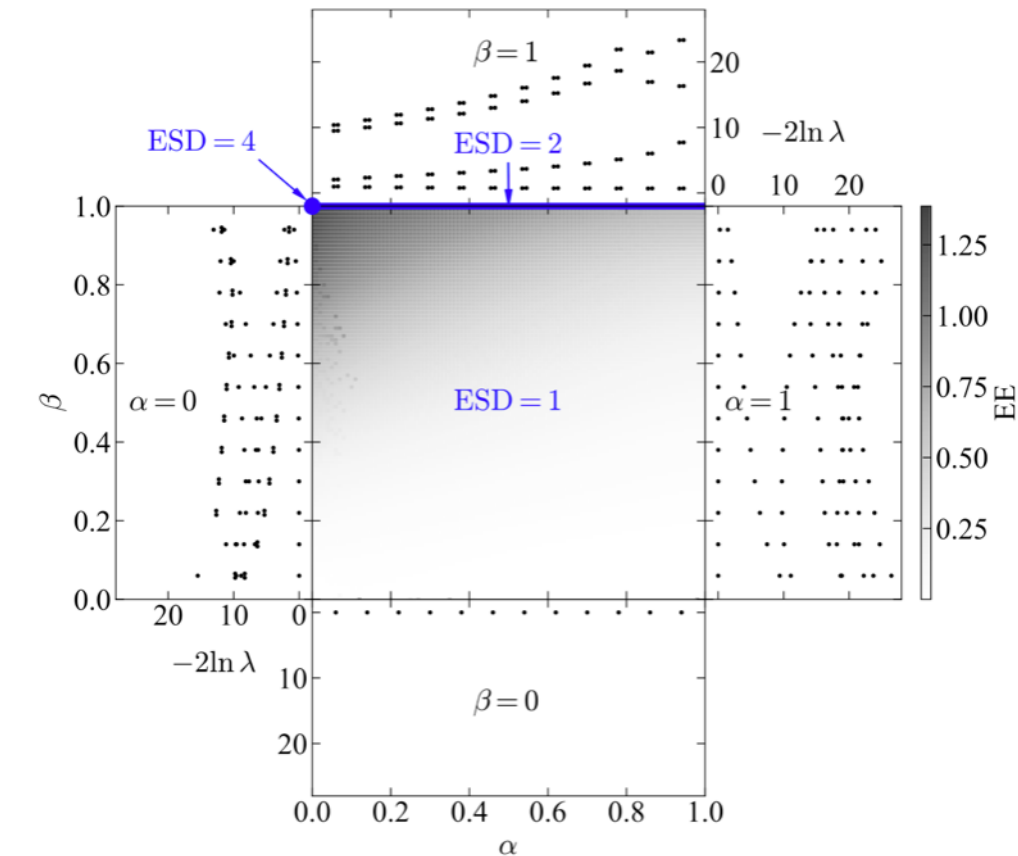
Comparison with real-time Lindbladian evolution (1)

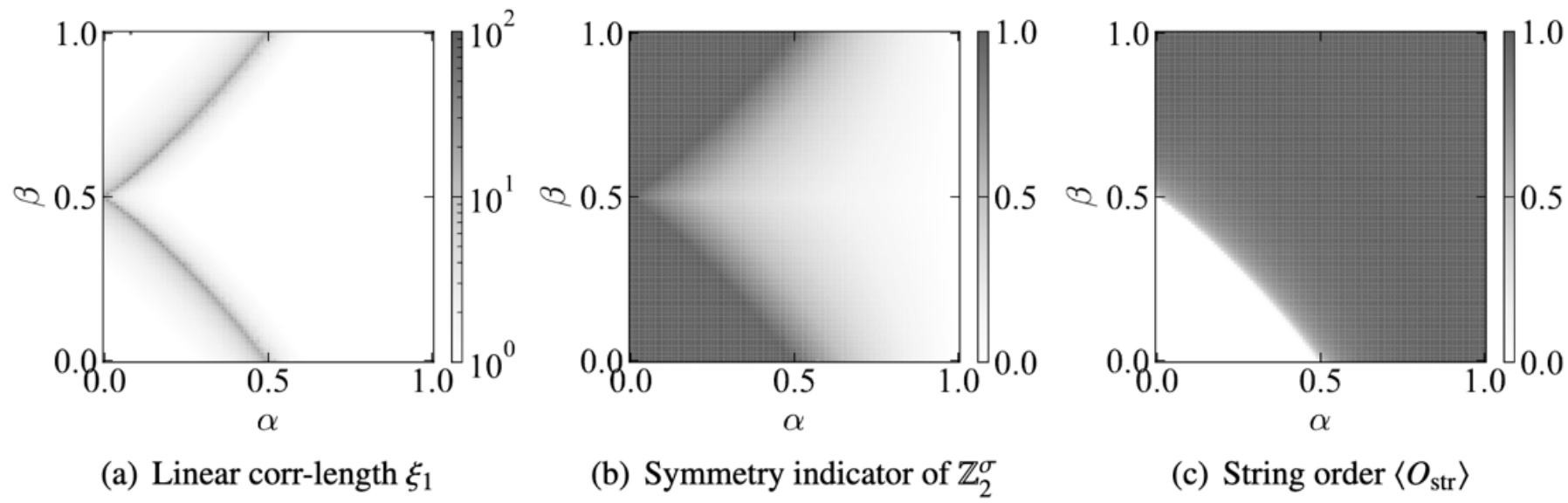
- method 1: use the same set of H and L_k
- in the pure-state limit, degrades to the Schroedinger equation
- all eigenstates of H are steady states of $e^{\mathcal{L}t}$
 $\Rightarrow$ **highly degenerate** steady-state subspace
- **unable to characterize** the phase transition between trivial state and SPT state
- this degeneracy survives when stepping into the mixed state regime



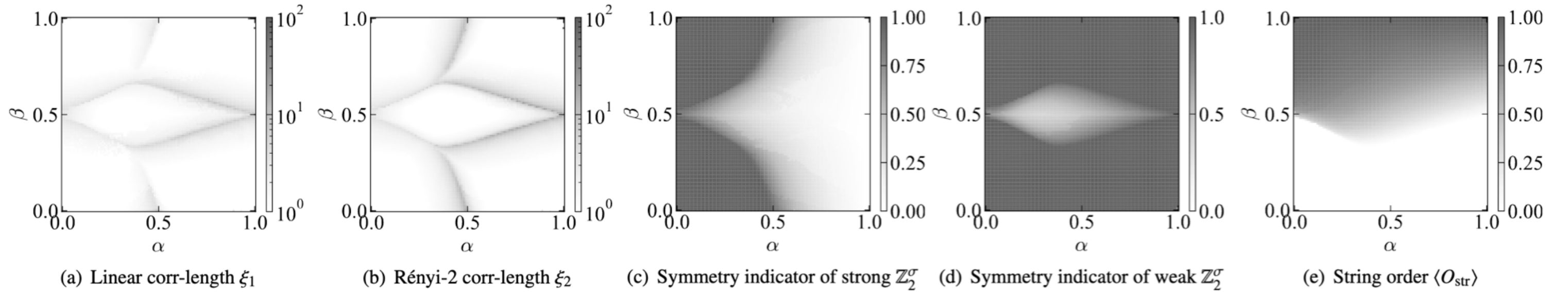
Comparison with real-time Lindbladian evolution (2)

- method 2: use the same steady-state density matrix to construct real-time Lindbladian $\Rightarrow$ different H and L_k
- $\mathcal{L}$ for four corner states
- trivial pure: $L_i^{[1]00} = \sigma_i^z \frac{1-\sigma_i^x}{2} \sigma_{i+1}^z$, $L_i^{[2]00} = \tau_{i-1/2}^z \frac{1-\tau_{i-1/2}^x}{2} \tau_{i+1/2}^z$
- SPT: $L_i^{[1]01} = \sigma_i^z \frac{1-\tau_{i-1/2}^z \sigma_i^x \tau_{i+1/2}^z}{2} \sigma_{i+1}^z$, $L_i^{[2]01} = \tau_{i-1/2}^z \frac{1-\sigma_{i-1}^z \tau_{i-1/2}^x \sigma_i^z}{2} \tau_{i+1/2}^z$
- trivial mixed: $L_i^{[1]10} = \sigma_i^z$, $L_i^{[2]10} = \sigma_i^x$, $L_i^{[3]10} = \tau_{i-1/2}^z \frac{1-\tau_{i-1/2}^x}{2} \tau_{i+1/2}^z$
- ASPT: $L_i^{[1]11} = \sigma_i^z$, $L_i^{[2]11} = \tau_{i-1/2}^z \sigma_i^x \tau_{i+1/2}^z$,
 $L_i^{[3]11} = \tau_{i-1/2}^z \frac{1-\sigma_{i-1}^z \tau_{i-1/2}^x \sigma_i^z}{2} \tau_{i+1/2}^z$.
- entanglement entropy and entanglement spectrum are **smoothly connected** between different phases $\Rightarrow$ **real-time Lindbladian formalism fails to capture the essential phase transitions**





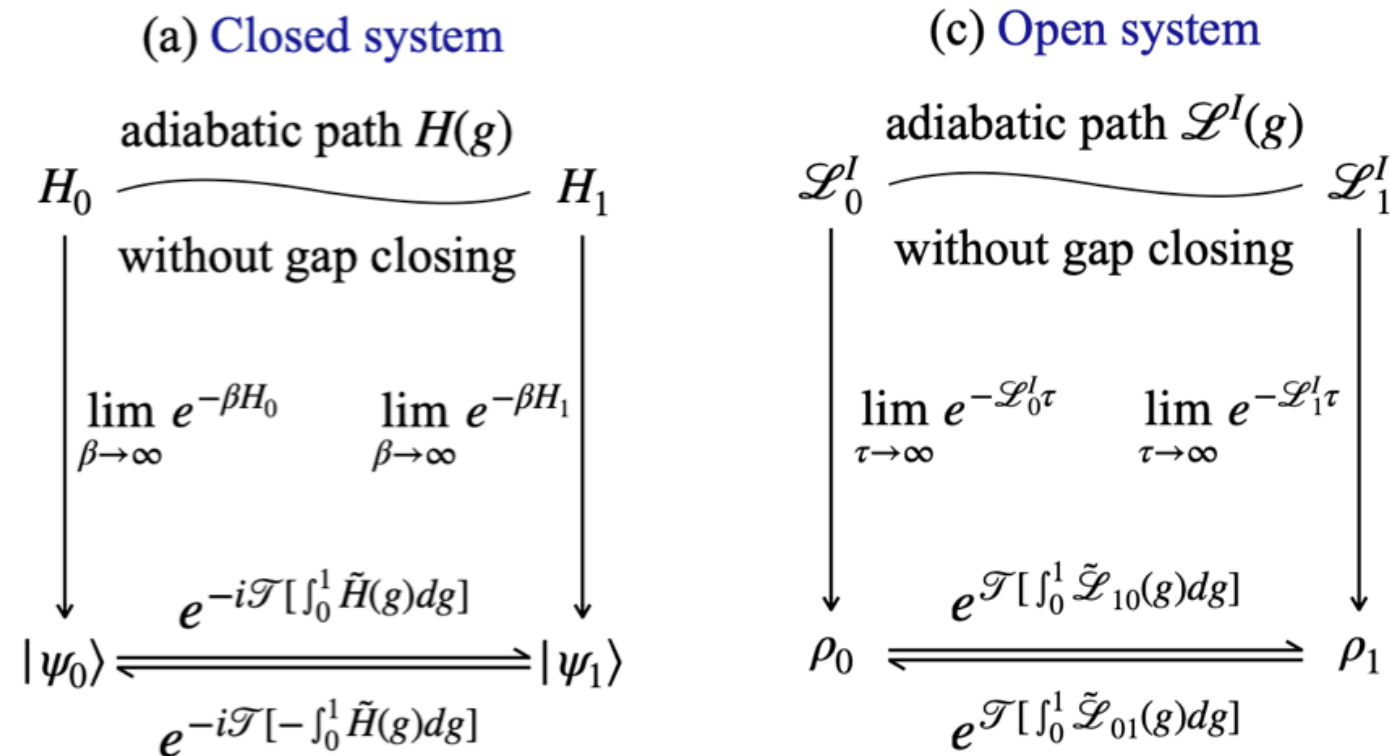
Phase	Edge modes	SSB	GSD_{OBC}	GSD_{PBC}
$\mathbb{Z}_2^\sigma$ trivial $\times \mathbb{Z}_2^\tau$ trivial	1	I	1	1
$\mathbb{Z}_2^\sigma$ SWSSB $\times \mathbb{Z}_2^\tau$ trivial	1	$\mathbb{Z}_2^\sigma$	2	2
$\mathbb{Z}_2^\sigma$ SNSSB $\times \mathbb{Z}_2^\tau$ trivial	1	$(\mathbb{Z}_2^\sigma)^{\otimes 2}$	4	4
$\mathbb{Z}_2^\sigma$ (S) $\times \mathbb{Z}_2^\tau$ (S) ASPT	$2^4 = 16$	I	16	1
Double ASPT	$2^3 = 8$	$\mathbb{Z}_2^\sigma$	16	2



Strong-to-weak SSB meets ASPT order, Y. Guo and S. Yang #, Phys. Rev. B 111, L201108 (2025), Editors' Suggestion

Summary of part one

- **new framework** to understand quantum phases and phase transitions in open systems
- **imaginary-Liouville superoperator** $\mathcal{L}^I \rightarrow$ imaginary-time Lindbladian evolution $e^{-\mathcal{L}^I \tau} \rightarrow$ steady state ρ
- completing the last piece of the puzzle for open-system quantum phases, open a new avenue



Y. Guo, K. Ding, and S. Yang #, Rep. Prog. Phys. 88, 118001 (2025)

Y. Guo and S. Yang #, Phys. Rev. B 111, L201108 (2025), Editors' Suggestion

Part two

Locally purified density operator and purification perspective

Y. Guo *, J.-H. Zhang *, H.-R. Zhang, S. Yang #, and Z. Bi #, Phys. Rev. X 15, 021060 (2025)

Y. Guo and S. Yang #, arXiv: 2602.21979

Matrix product states for SPT phases

- $(1 + 1)D$ system, $|\psi\rangle = \sum_{\{i_j\}} \text{Tr} (A^{i_1} \dots A^{i_N}) |i_1 \dots i_N\rangle$

$$|\psi\rangle = \dots \text{---} \boxed{|\psi\rangle} \text{---} \dots = \dots \text{---} \boxed{A} \text{---} \boxed{A} \text{---} \boxed{A} \text{---} \dots, \quad A = \sum_{\alpha\beta i} A_{\alpha\beta}^i |i\rangle(\alpha, \beta| = (\alpha| \boxed{A} |i\rangle (\beta|$$

- **injective MPS**, $A_{\alpha\beta}^i : (\mathbb{C}^D)^{\otimes 2} \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}^{d_p})^{\otimes L}$ forms an injective map

this implies that the physical space of the local tensor can span the entire virtual space

- an injective MPS characterizes a **short-range correlated state**

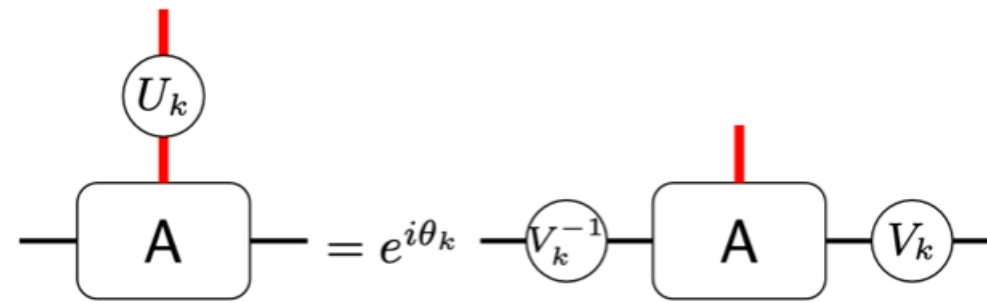
$$C(i, j) \equiv \langle \psi | O_i O_j | \psi \rangle - \langle \psi | O_i | \psi \rangle \langle \psi | O_j | \psi \rangle \sim e^{-|i-j|/\xi}$$

- equivalent definition, **transfer matrix $\mathbb{E}$ has a unique dominant eigenvalue**

$$\mathbb{E} = \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \boxed{A} \text{---} \\ | \\ \text{---} \boxed{A^*} \text{---} \end{array}$$

Projective representation on virtual indices

- impose **symmetry constraints** on short-range correlated states $\rightarrow$ SPT states
- symmetry group K , the onsite symmetry action on the **physical index** forms a **linear representation**
 $U(k_1)U(k_2) = U(k_1k_2), \quad k_1, k_2 \in K$
- the symmetry action on the physical index induces a gauge transformation $V(k)$ on the virtual indices



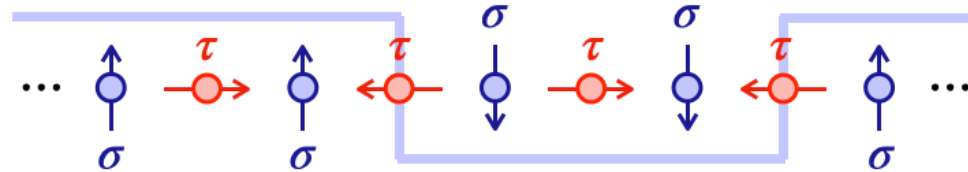
- sequentially applying $U(k_2)$ and $U(k_1)$, the resulting **tensor should be identical** to that for $U(k_1k_2)$
the transformations on the **virtual index** should be equivalent up to a $U(1)$ phase
 $V(k_1)V(k_2) = \mu_2(k_1, k_2)V(k_1k_2), \quad \mu_2(k_1, k_2) \in U(1)$
projective representation of the symmetry K

X. Chen, Z.-C. Gu, Z.-X. Liu, and X.-G. Wen, Phys. Rev. B 87, 155114 (2013)

SPT phase: cluster state (Haldane phase)

- decorated domain wall construction

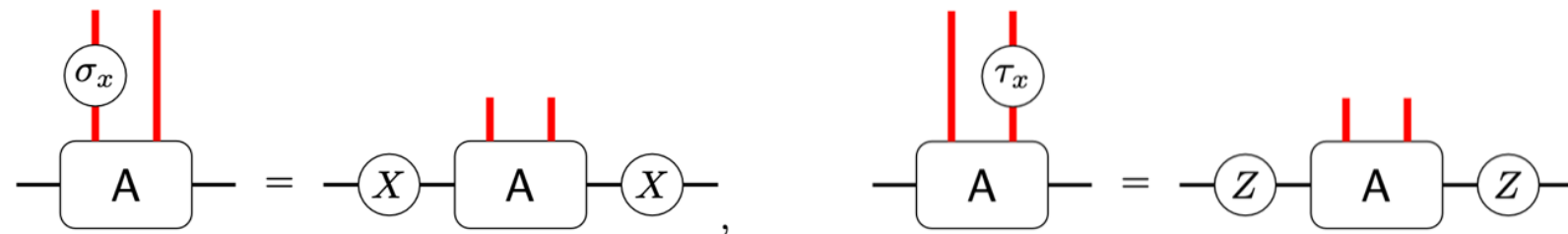
$$|\psi^{\text{SPT}}\rangle = \frac{1}{2^{N/2}} \sum_{\{\sigma_i\}} |\cdots \uparrow_{\sigma} \rightarrow_{\tau} \uparrow_{\sigma} \leftarrow_{\tau} \downarrow_{\sigma} \rightarrow_{\tau} \downarrow_{\sigma} \leftarrow_{\tau} \uparrow_{\sigma} \cdots\rangle \equiv \frac{1}{2^{N/2}} \sum_{\{\sigma_i\}} |\psi_{\{\sigma_i\}}^{\text{SPT}}\rangle$$



- cluster state can be represented by an injective MPS with $D = 2$



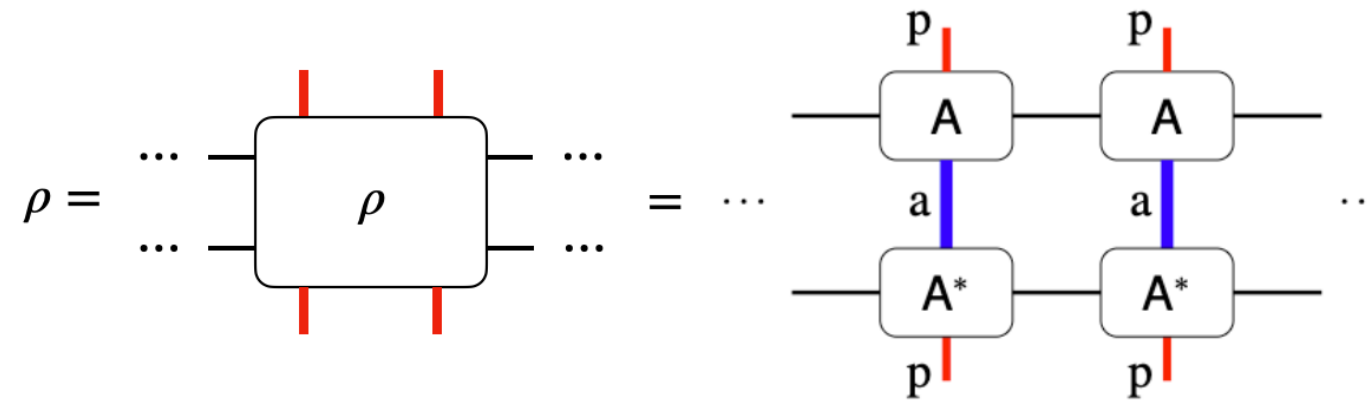
- symmetry actions



- nontrivial SPT phase characterized by the projective representation on virtual indices

Locally purified density operator (LPDO)

- tensor network representation for mixed state, with **physical** (p) and **ancillary** (a) degrees of freedom



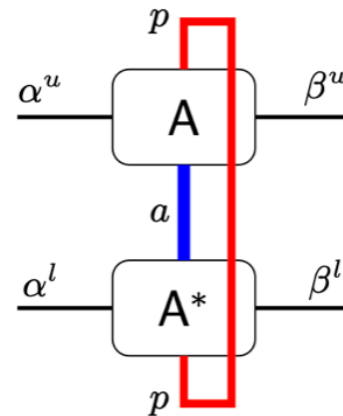
- LPDO is **Hermitian and positive semidefinite by design**
natural and efficient representation for mixed states
- quantum state tomography** with locally purified density operators
Y. Guo and S. Yang #, Commun. Phys. 7, 322 (2024)
- locally purified density operators for **noisy quantum circuits**
Y. Guo and S. Yang #, Chin. Phys. Lett. 41, 120302 (2024), Editors' Suggestion
- locally purified density operators for **symmetry-protected topological phases** in mixed states

Weak Injectivity condition

- requires this map be injective

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{---} \boxed{\text{A}} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} : \mathbb{C}^D \times \mathbb{C}^D \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{d_p} \times \mathbb{C}^{d_k}$$

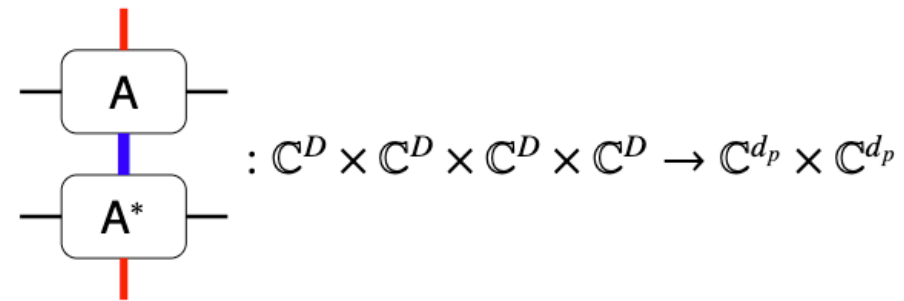
- linear correlation function** $\mathcal{C}^{(1)}(O, i, j) \equiv \text{Tr}[\rho O_i O_j] - \text{Tr}[\rho O_i] \text{Tr}[\rho O_j] \sim e^{-|i-j|/\xi_1}$
- transfer matrix has a unique dominant eigenvalue



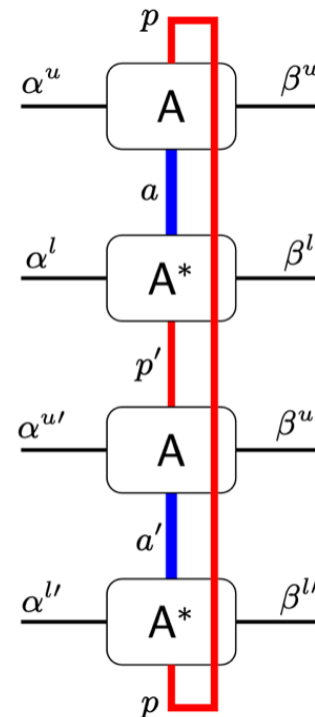
Y. Guo *, J.-H. Zhang *, H.-R. Zhang, S. Yang #, and Z. Bi #, Phys. Rev. X 15, 021060 (2025)

Strong injectivity condition

- requires this map be injective

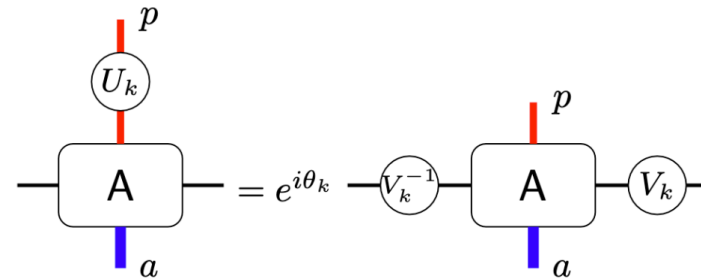


- Renyi-2 correlation function** $\mathcal{C}^{(2)}(O, i, j) \equiv \frac{\text{Tr}[\rho O_i O_j \rho O_i O_j]}{\text{Tr}[\rho^2]} - \frac{\text{Tr}[\rho O_i \rho O_i]}{\text{Tr}[\rho^2]} \frac{\text{Tr}[\rho O_j \rho O_j]}{\text{Tr}[\rho^2]} \sim e^{-|i-j|/\xi_2}$
- transfer matrix has a unique dominant eigenvalue



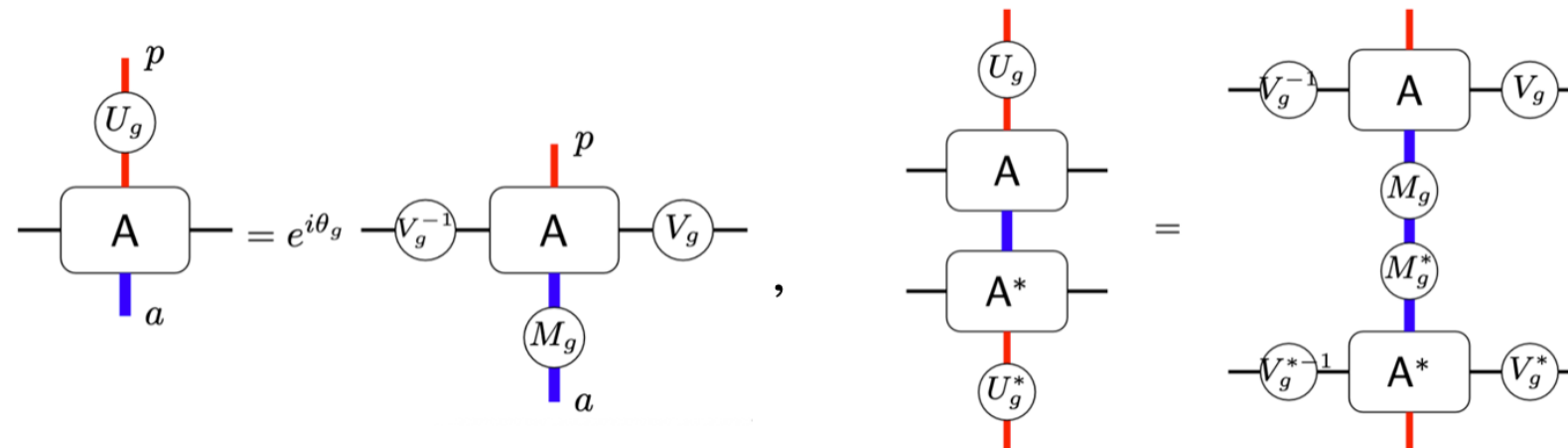
Symmetries in the LPDO representation

- **strong symmetry** $U(k)\rho = e^{i\theta}\rho$



- **strong symmetry indicator** $\langle O \rangle \equiv \text{Tr}[\rho O]$

- **weak symmetry** $U(g)\rho U(g)^\dagger = \rho$



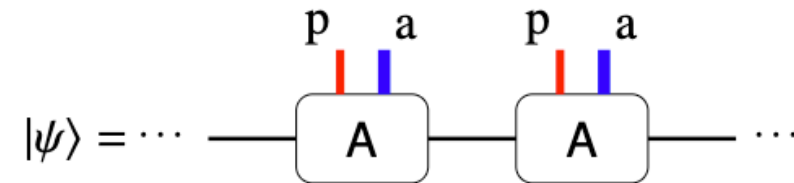
- **weak symmetry indicator** $\text{Tr}[\rho O \rho O] / \text{Tr}[\rho^2]$

Purification framework

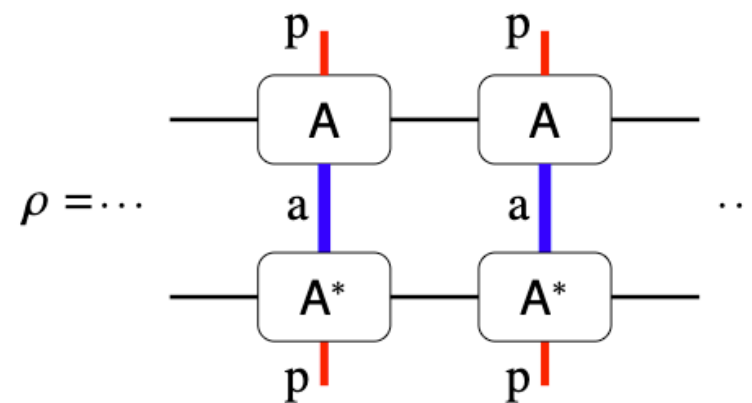
- mixed-state $\rho \rightarrow$ enlarged pure state $|\psi\rangle$
- classify all 1D mixed-state phases with $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ symmetry
by mapping them to a pure-state model with $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ symmetry

Y. Guo and S. Yang #, arXiv: 2602.21979

- **LPDO** naturally encodes a **purification** as a **matrix product state** (MPS)



- each physical index is **locally purified** by an ancillary index, satisfying $\rho = \text{Tr}_a[|\psi\rangle\langle\psi|]$



Trivial weakly symmetric state

- **trivial product state** $\rho_\sigma^W = \frac{1}{2^N} \prod_i \sigma_i^0$
does not satisfy the strong symmetry, $K\rho_\sigma^W \neq \rho_\sigma^W$
satisfies the weak symmetry, $U\rho_\sigma^W U^\dagger = \rho_\sigma^W$
- purification given by the product of **Bell pairs**
 $|\psi_{\kappa\sigma}^{\text{Bell}}\rangle = \frac{1}{2^{N/2}} \prod_i (|\uparrow_{\sigma_i} \uparrow_{\kappa_i}\rangle + |\downarrow_{\sigma_i} \downarrow_{\kappa_i}\rangle)$
tracing out environment κ yields ρ_σ^W
- environment $\rightarrow$ **local charge reservoir**, keeps track of symmetry transformation

Pure state $\mathbb{Z}_2^\sigma \times \mathbb{Z}_2^\kappa$ SPT $\leftrightarrow$ Mixed state $\mathbb{Z}_2^\sigma$ SWSSB

- the fixed-point density matrix characterizing $\mathbb{Z}_2$ **strong-to-weak spontaneous symmetry breaking (SWSSB)**

$$\rho_\sigma^{\text{SWSSB}} = \frac{1}{2^N} (\prod_i \sigma_i^0 + \prod_i \sigma_i^x) = \rho_+ + \rho_-$$

- $K = \prod_i \sigma_i^x$, the entire state has **strong symmetry** $K \rho_\sigma^{\text{SWSSB}} = \rho_\sigma^{\text{SWSSB}}$

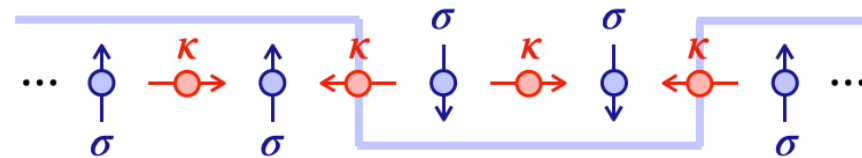
each term only has **weak symmetry** $K \rho_+ = \rho_-$, $K \rho_- = \rho_+$

- $\rho_\sigma^{\text{SWSSB}}$ can be purified to a **1D cluster state with SPT order** protected by $\mathbb{Z}_2^\sigma \times \mathbb{Z}_2^\kappa$ symmetry

decorated domain-wall (DW) construction

$$|\psi_{\kappa\sigma}^{\text{SPT}}\rangle = \frac{1}{2^{N/2}} \sum_{\{\sigma_i\}} |\cdots \uparrow_\sigma \rightarrow_\kappa \uparrow_\sigma \leftarrow_\kappa \downarrow_\sigma \leftarrow_\kappa \uparrow_\sigma \cdots\rangle = \frac{1}{2^{N/2}} \sum_{\{\sigma_i\}} |\psi_{\kappa\sigma}^{\text{DW}}\rangle_{\{\sigma_i\}}$$

excitations of κ spins are placed on the domain wall of σ spins



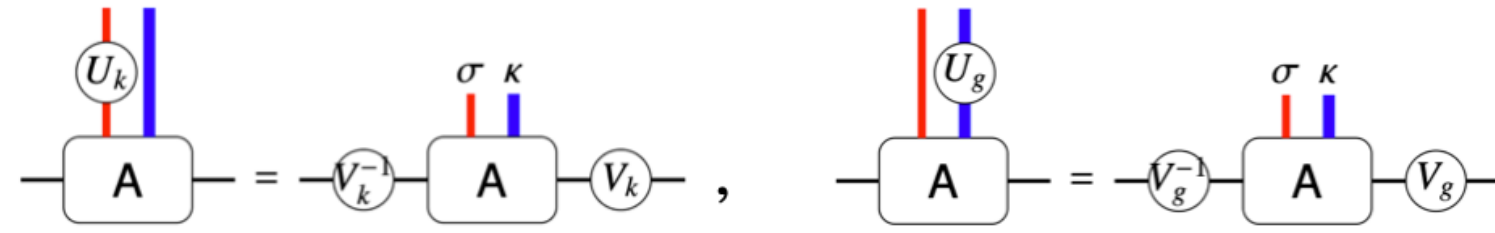
- environment $\rightarrow$ stores nonlocal domain-wall information

long-range order appears in fidelity correlators and Renyi-2 correlator

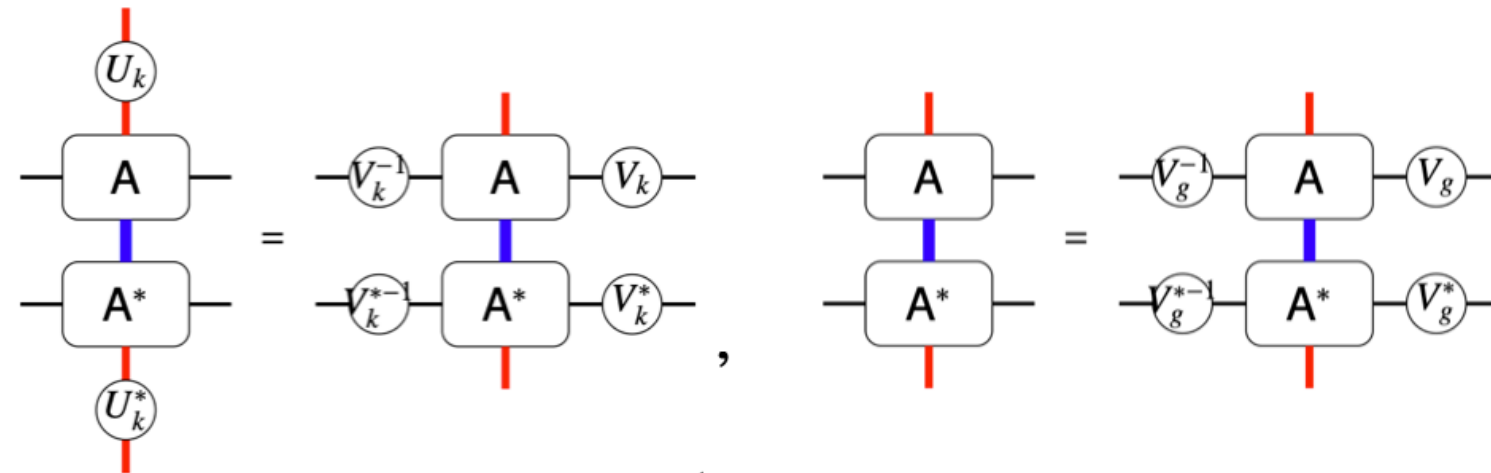
microscopic mechanism of SWSSB from the purification view

Pure state $\mathbb{Z}_2^\sigma \times \mathbb{Z}_2^\kappa$ SPT $\leftrightarrow$ Mixed state $\mathbb{Z}_2^\sigma$ SWSSB

- $\mathbb{Z}_2^\sigma \times \mathbb{Z}_2^\kappa$ SPT state, the symmetry transformation of the local tensor



- after tracing out κ , the local tensor satisfies



- $\mathbb{Z}_2^\sigma \times \mathbb{Z}_2^\kappa$ SPT $\leftrightarrow$ nontrivial mixed anomaly between K and $G \leftrightarrow$ the resulting LPDO violates the strong injectivity condition $\leftrightarrow$ long-range Renyi-2 correlator $\leftrightarrow$ the mixed state has SWSSB order

$$\mathcal{C}^{(2)}(O, i, j) \equiv \frac{\text{Tr}[\rho O_i O_j \rho O_i O_j]}{\text{Tr}[\rho^2]} - \frac{\text{Tr}[\rho O_i \rho O_i]}{\text{Tr}[\rho^2]} \frac{\text{Tr}[\rho O_j \rho O_j]}{\text{Tr}[\rho^2]}$$

Domain wall (DW) duality map with controlled- Z (CZ) gates

- $U_{\sigma\tau}^{\text{DW}} \equiv \prod_i \text{CZ}_{\tau_{i-1}\sigma_i} \text{CZ}_{\sigma_i\tau_i}$ exchanges the trivial symmetric state and the cluster state
 $U_{\sigma\tau}^{\text{DW}} |\psi_{\sigma\tau}^{\text{Trivial}}\rangle = |\psi_{\sigma\tau}^{\text{SPT}}\rangle, \quad U_{\sigma\tau}^{\text{DW}} |\psi_{\sigma\tau}^{\text{SPT}}\rangle = |\psi_{\sigma\tau}^{\text{Trivial}}\rangle$
 $|\psi_{\sigma\tau}^{\text{Trivial}}\rangle = |\psi_{\sigma}^{\text{Trivial}}\rangle \otimes |\psi_{\tau}^{\text{Trivial}}\rangle = \prod_i |\rightarrow_{\sigma_i}\rangle \otimes \prod_i |\rightarrow_{\tau_i}\rangle$

ASPT

- pure state $|\psi_{\sigma\tau\kappa}^{\sigma-\tau \text{ SPT}, \sigma-\kappa \text{ Parallel}}\rangle = U_{\sigma\tau}^{\text{DW}} (|\psi_{\kappa\sigma}^{\text{Bell}}\rangle \otimes |\psi_{\tau}^{\text{Trivial}}\rangle)$
- mixed state $\rho_{\sigma\tau}^{\text{ASPT}} = U_{\sigma\tau}^{\text{DW}} (\rho_{\sigma}^{\text{W}} \otimes |\psi_{\tau}^{\text{Trivial}}\rangle\langle\psi_{\tau}^{\text{Trivial}}|) U_{\sigma\tau}^{\text{DW}\dagger}$

R. Ma and C. Wang, Phys. Rev. X 13, 031016 (2023)

Y. Guo *, J.-H. Zhang *, H.-R. Zhang, S. Yang #, and Z. Bi #, Phys. Rev. X 15, 021060 (2025)

Double ASPT

- pure state $|\psi_{\sigma\tau\kappa}^{\sigma-\tau \text{ SPT}, \sigma-\kappa \text{ SPT}}\rangle = U_{\kappa\sigma}^{\text{DW}} (|\psi_{\sigma\tau}^{\text{SPT}}\rangle \otimes |\psi_{\kappa}^{\text{Trivial}}\rangle) = U_{\kappa\sigma}^{\text{DW}} U_{\sigma\tau}^{\text{DW}} |\psi_{\sigma\tau\kappa}^{\text{Trivial}}\rangle$
- mixed state $\rho_{\sigma\tau}^{\sigma\text{-double ASPT}} = U_{\sigma\tau}^{\text{DW}} (\rho_{\sigma}^{\text{SWSSB}} \otimes |\psi_{\tau}^{\text{Trivial}}\rangle\langle\psi_{\tau}^{\text{Trivial}}|) U_{\sigma\tau}^{\text{DW}\dagger}$

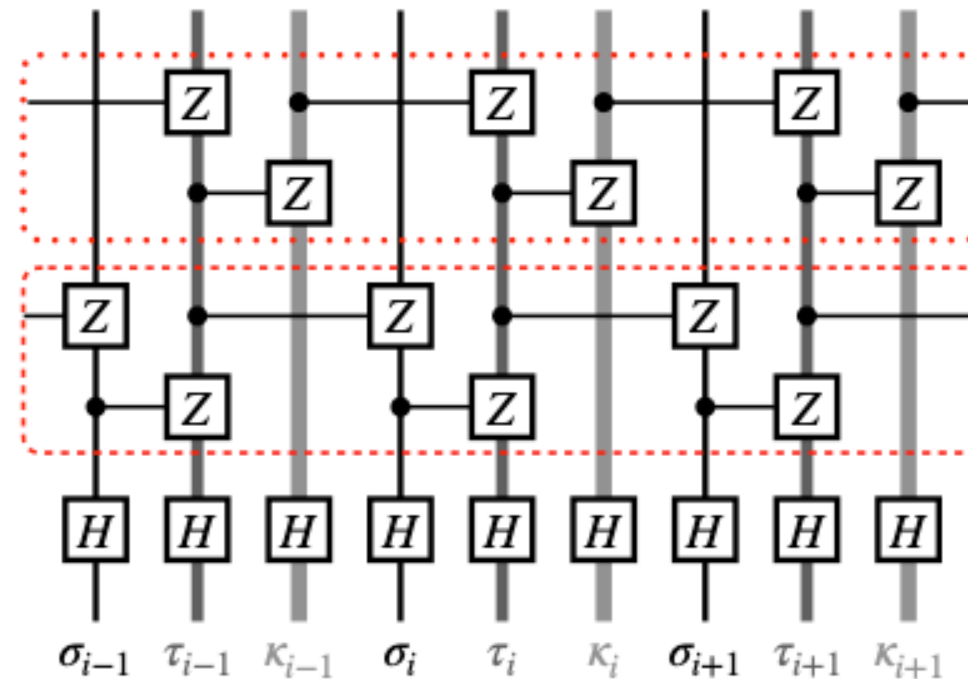
Y. Guo and S. Yang #, Phys. Rev. B 111, L201108 (2025), Editors' Suggestion

Minimal $\mathbb{Z}_2^\sigma \times \mathbb{Z}_2^\tau \times \mathbb{Z}_2^\kappa$ purified model

- **pure-state SPT** phases protected by $\mathbb{Z}_2^\sigma \times \mathbb{Z}_2^\tau \times \mathbb{Z}_2^\kappa$ symmetry are labeled by $\mu = (\mu_{\sigma\tau}, \mu_{\tau\kappa}, \mu_{\kappa\sigma}) \in \{\pm 1\}^3$
 $\mu_{\alpha\beta} = -1$ indicates the **mixed anomaly** between α and β , with $\alpha, \beta \in \{\sigma, \tau, \kappa\}$

- **eight fixed point wavefunctions** can be constructed by **decorating domain walls with controlled-Z gates**

$$|\psi_{\sigma\tau\kappa}^\mu\rangle = (U_{\sigma\tau}^{\text{DW}})^{\frac{1-\mu_{\sigma\tau}}{2}} (U_{\tau\kappa}^{\text{DW}})^{\frac{1-\mu_{\tau\kappa}}{2}} (U_{\kappa\sigma}^{\text{DW}})^{\frac{1-\mu_{\kappa\sigma}}{2}} |\psi_{\sigma\tau\kappa}^{\text{Trivial}}\rangle$$



- quantum circuit to generate $|\psi_{\sigma\tau\kappa}^{(-1,-1,+1)}\rangle$
starting from the product state $\prod_i |\uparrow\rangle_i$, one layer of Hadamard gates (H) generates $|\psi_{\sigma\tau\kappa}^{(+1,+1,+1)}\rangle = \prod_i |\rightarrow\rangle_i$

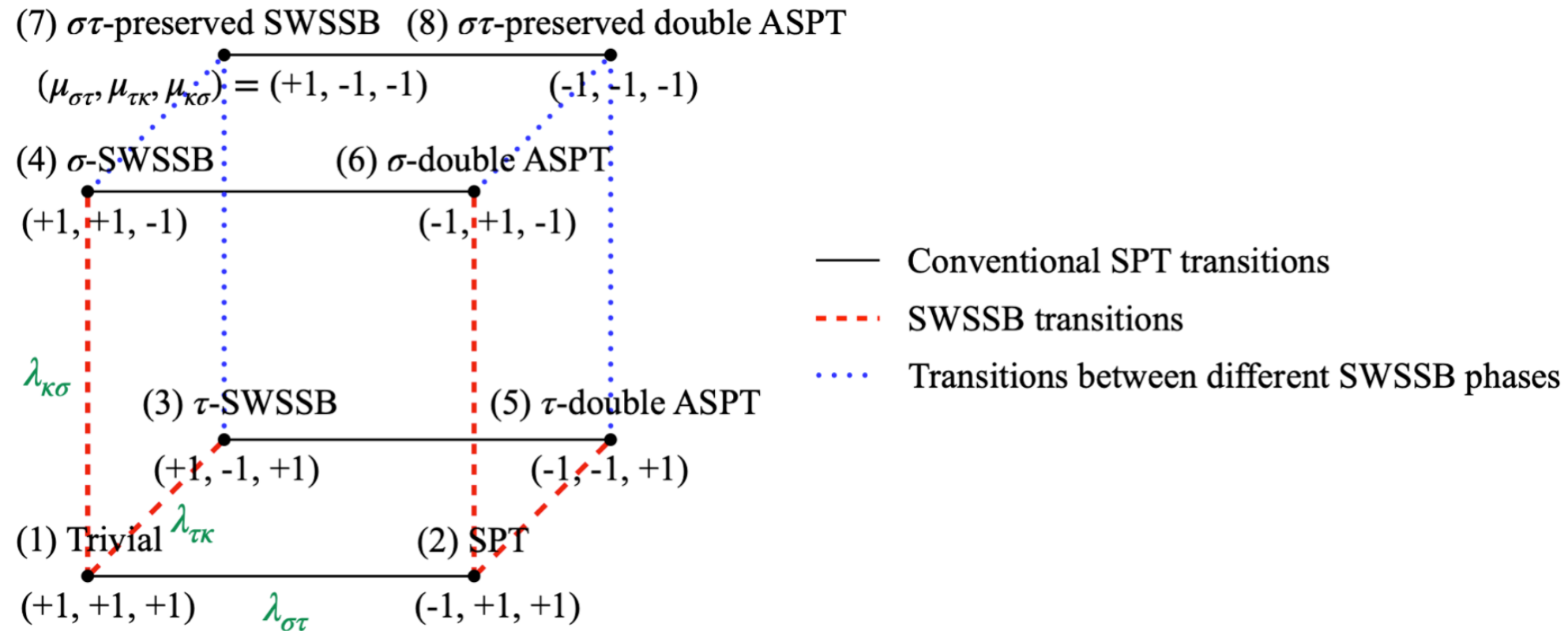
Eight fixed points labeled by $(\mu_{\sigma\tau}, \mu_{\tau\kappa}, \mu_{\kappa\sigma}) \in \{\pm 1\}^3$

mixed state	pure state	mixed state	pure state
(1) Trivial $\mu = (+1, +1, +1)$		(5) τ -double ASPT $\mu = (-1, -1, +1)$	
(2) SPT $\mu = (-1, +1, +1)$		(6) σ -double ASPT $\mu = (-1, +1, -1)$	
(3) τ -SWSSB $\mu = (+1, -1, +1)$		(7) $\sigma\tau$ -preserved SWSSB $\mu = (+1, -1, -1)$	
(4) σ -SWSSB $\mu = (+1, +1, -1)$		(8) $\sigma\tau$ -preserved double ASPT $\mu = (-1, -1, -1)$	

Phase cube

- we implement a **trilinear interpolation** between **eight fixed-point Hamiltonians**

$$\begin{aligned}
 H(\lambda_{\sigma\tau}, \lambda_{\tau\kappa}, \lambda_{\kappa\sigma}) = & (1 - \lambda_{\sigma\tau})(1 - \lambda_{\tau\kappa})(1 - \lambda_{\kappa\sigma})H_{\sigma\tau\kappa}^{(+1,+1,+1)} + \lambda_{\sigma\tau}(1 - \lambda_{\tau\kappa})(1 - \lambda_{\kappa\sigma})H_{\sigma\tau\kappa}^{(-1,+1,+1)} \\
 & + (1 - \lambda_{\sigma\tau})\lambda_{\tau\kappa}(1 - \lambda_{\kappa\sigma})H_{\sigma\tau\kappa}^{(+1,-1,+1)} + (1 - \lambda_{\sigma\tau})(1 - \lambda_{\tau\kappa})\lambda_{\kappa\sigma}H_{\sigma\tau\kappa}^{(+1,+1,-1)} \\
 & + \lambda_{\sigma\tau}\lambda_{\tau\kappa}(1 - \lambda_{\kappa\sigma})H_{\sigma\tau\kappa}^{(-1,-1,+1)} + \lambda_{\sigma\tau}(1 - \lambda_{\tau\kappa})\lambda_{\kappa\sigma}H_{\sigma\tau\kappa}^{(-1,+1,-1)} \\
 & + (1 - \lambda_{\sigma\tau})\lambda_{\tau\kappa}\lambda_{\kappa\sigma}H_{\sigma\tau\kappa}^{(+1,-1,-1)} + \lambda_{\sigma\tau}\lambda_{\tau\kappa}\lambda_{\kappa\sigma}H_{\sigma\tau\kappa}^{(-1,-1,-1)}
 \end{aligned}$$

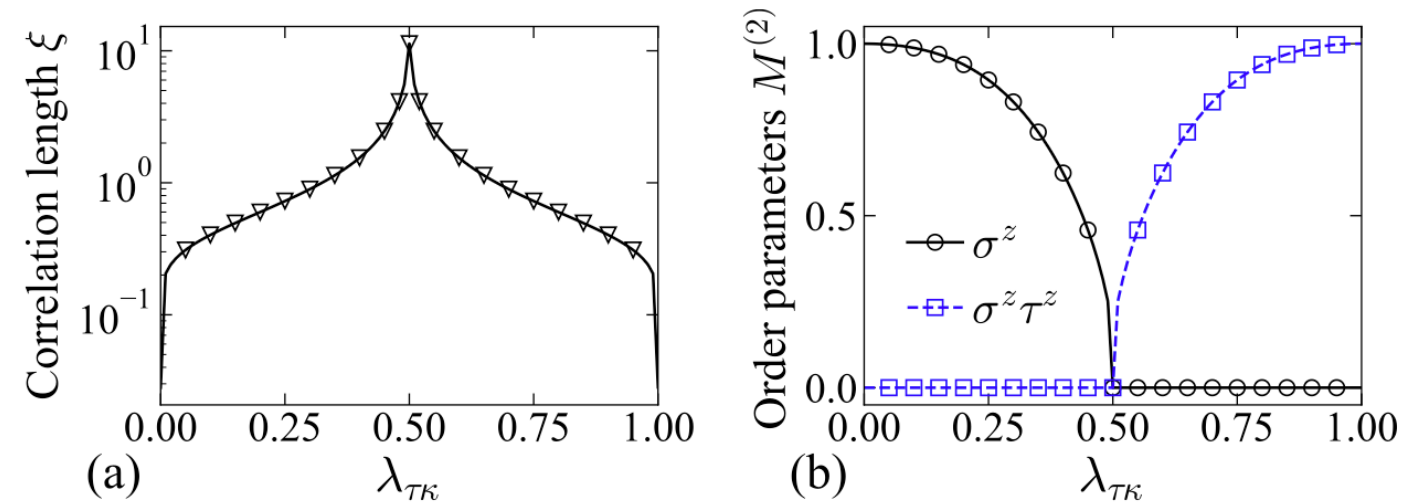


σ -SWSSB $\leftrightarrow$ $\sigma\tau$ -preserved SWSSB

- linear interpolation $H(\lambda_{\tau\kappa}) = (1 - \lambda_{\tau\kappa})H_{\sigma\tau\kappa}^{(+1,+1,-1)} + \lambda_{\tau\kappa}H_{\sigma\tau\kappa}^{(+1,-1,-1)}$
- **duality relation** $U_{\tau\kappa}^{\text{DW}} H(\lambda_{\tau\kappa}) U_{\tau\kappa}^{\text{DW}\dagger} = H(1 - \lambda_{\tau\kappa})$, **self-dual critical point** at $\lambda_c = 0.5$
- compute the **ground state** using the **VUMPS method**

trace out κ spins to obtain mixed states, calculate **Renyi-2 correlators** to detect SWSSB

$$M_{\sigma}^{(2)} = \lim_{|i-j| \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{C}^{(2)}(\sigma^z, i, j), \quad M_{\sigma\tau}^{(2)} = \lim_{|i-j| \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{C}^{(2)}(\sigma^z \tau^z, i, j)$$

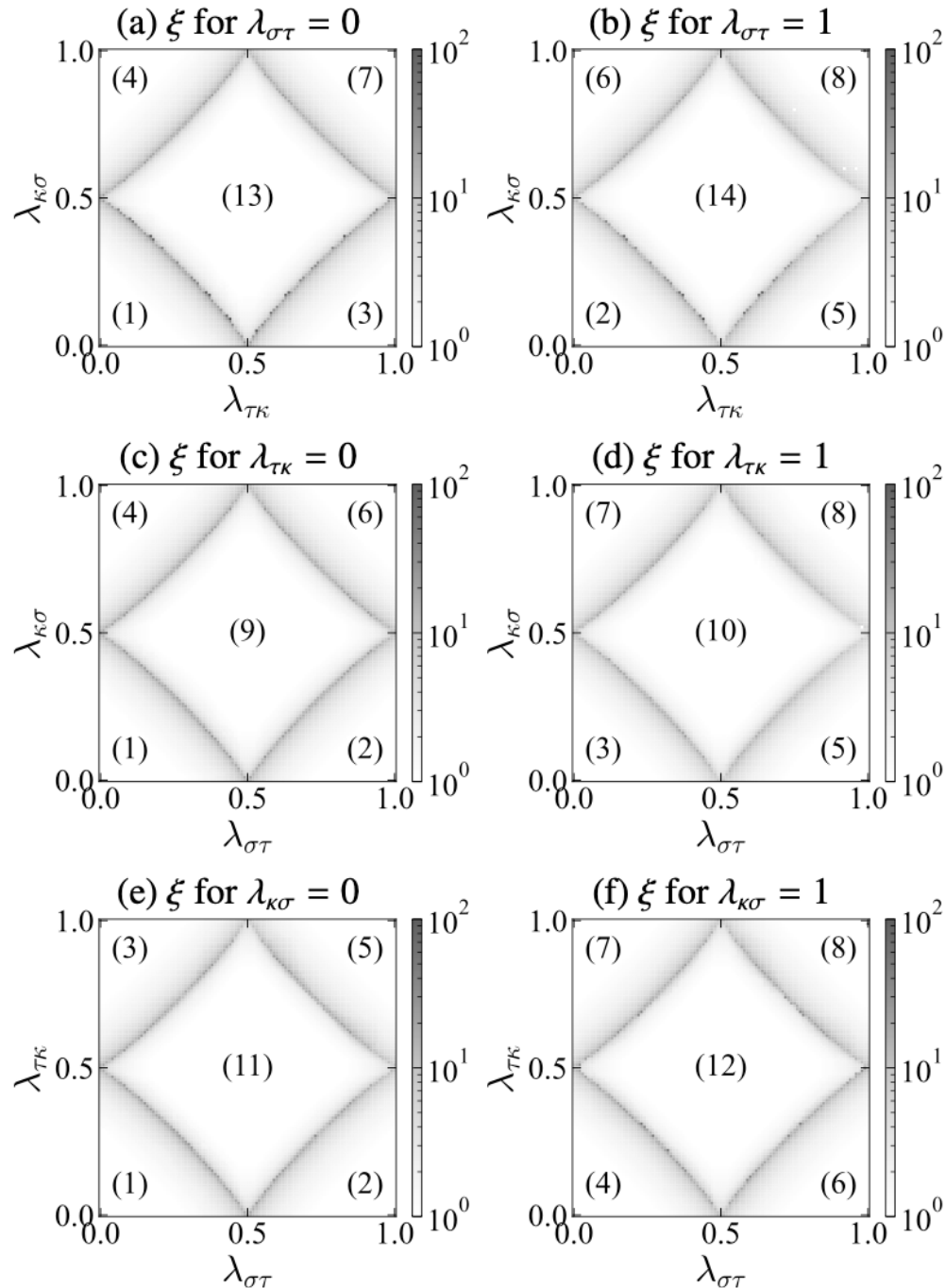


- σ -SWSSB phase ($\lambda_{\tau\kappa} < \lambda_c$): $M_{\sigma}^{(2)} \neq 0$, $\mathbb{Z}_2^{\sigma}$ weak, $\mathbb{Z}_2^{\tau}$ strong, $\mathbb{Z}_2^{\sigma\tau}$ weak
- $\sigma\tau$ -preserved SWSSB phase ($\lambda_{\tau\kappa} > \lambda_c$): $M_{\sigma\tau}^{(2)} \neq 0$, $\mathbb{Z}_2^{\sigma}$ weak, $\mathbb{Z}_2^{\tau}$ weak, $\mathbb{Z}_2^{\sigma\tau}$ strong

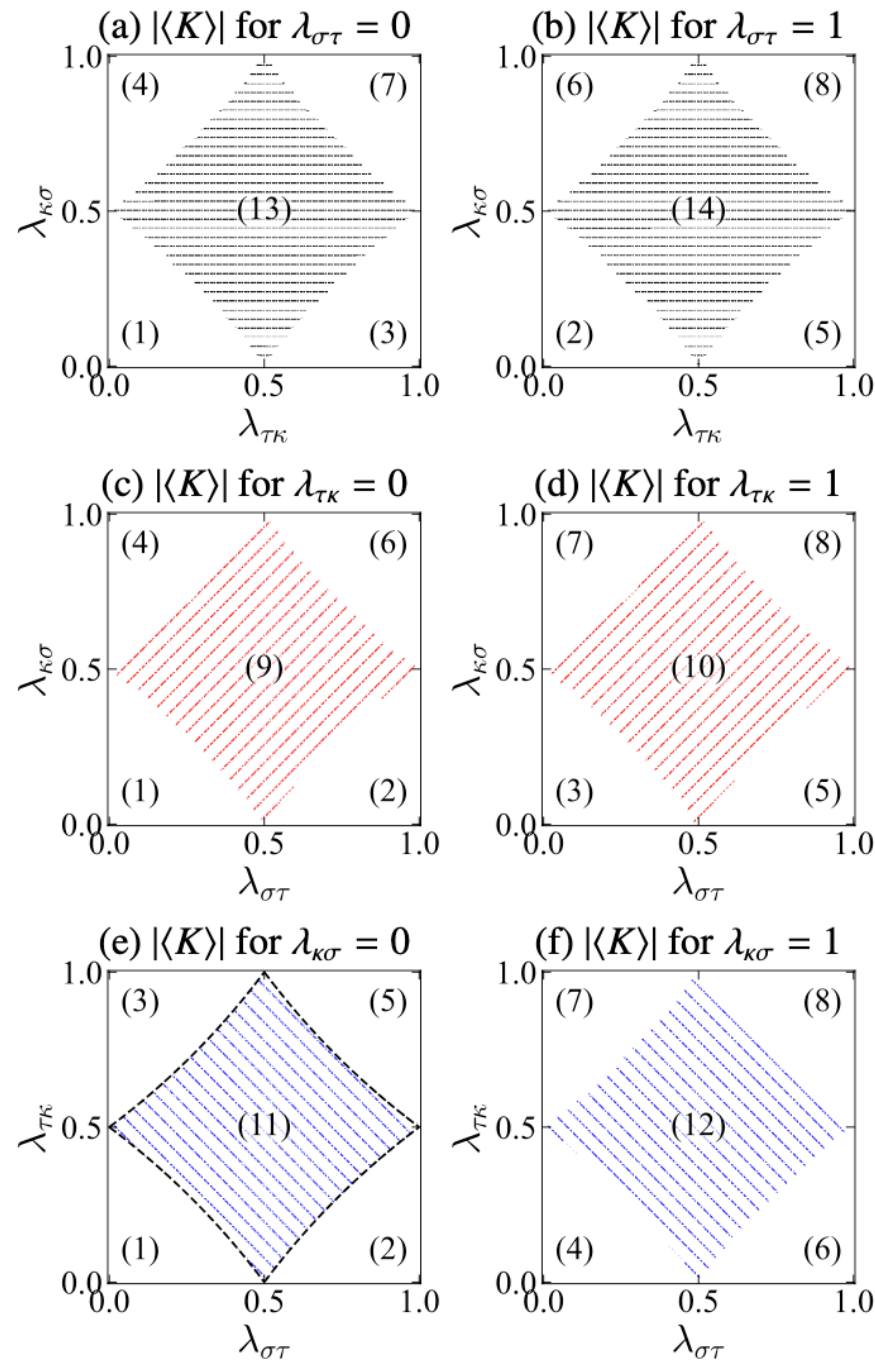
only in open systems , weak symmetry is hidden under SWSSB rather than eliminated

Face phase diagrams

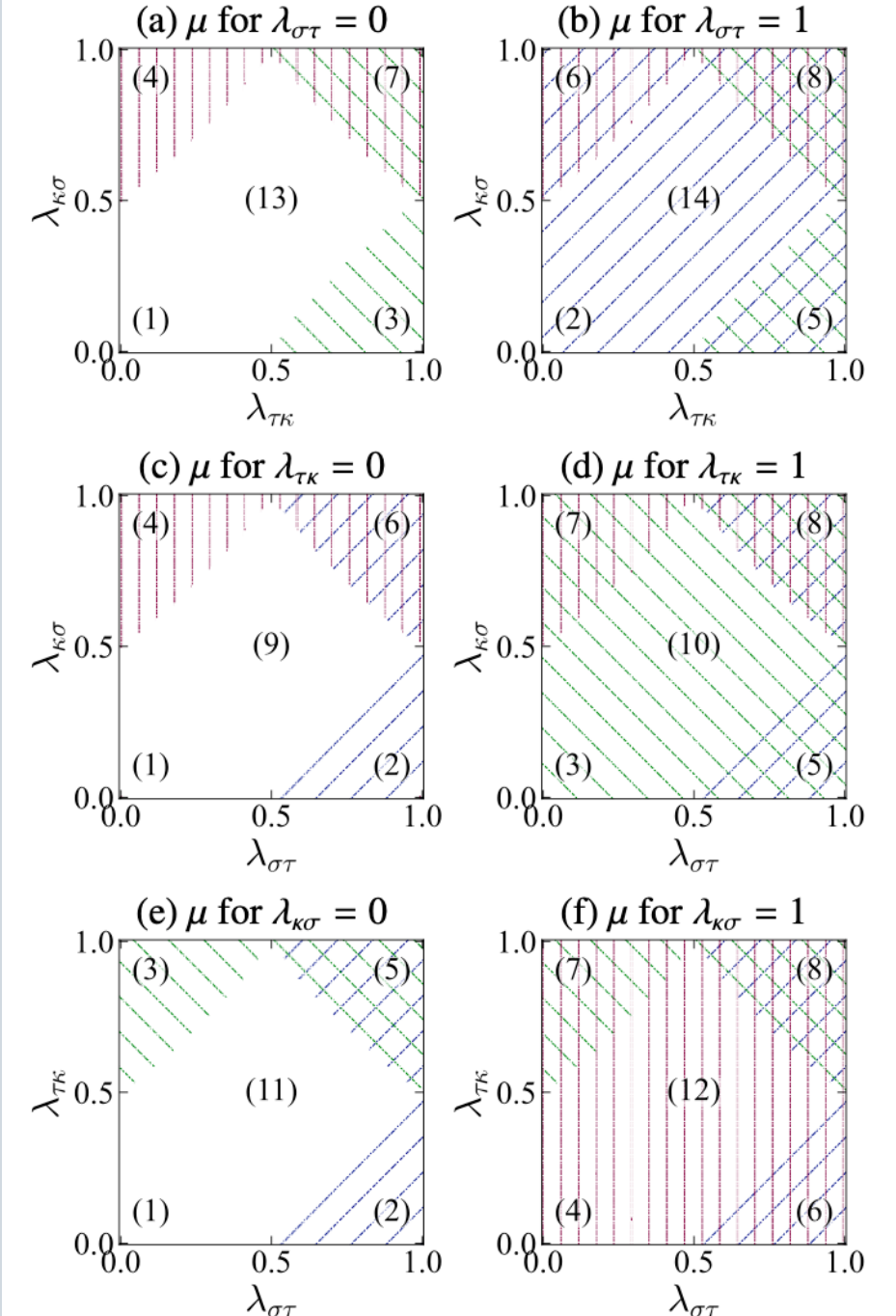
correlation length



symmetry indicator

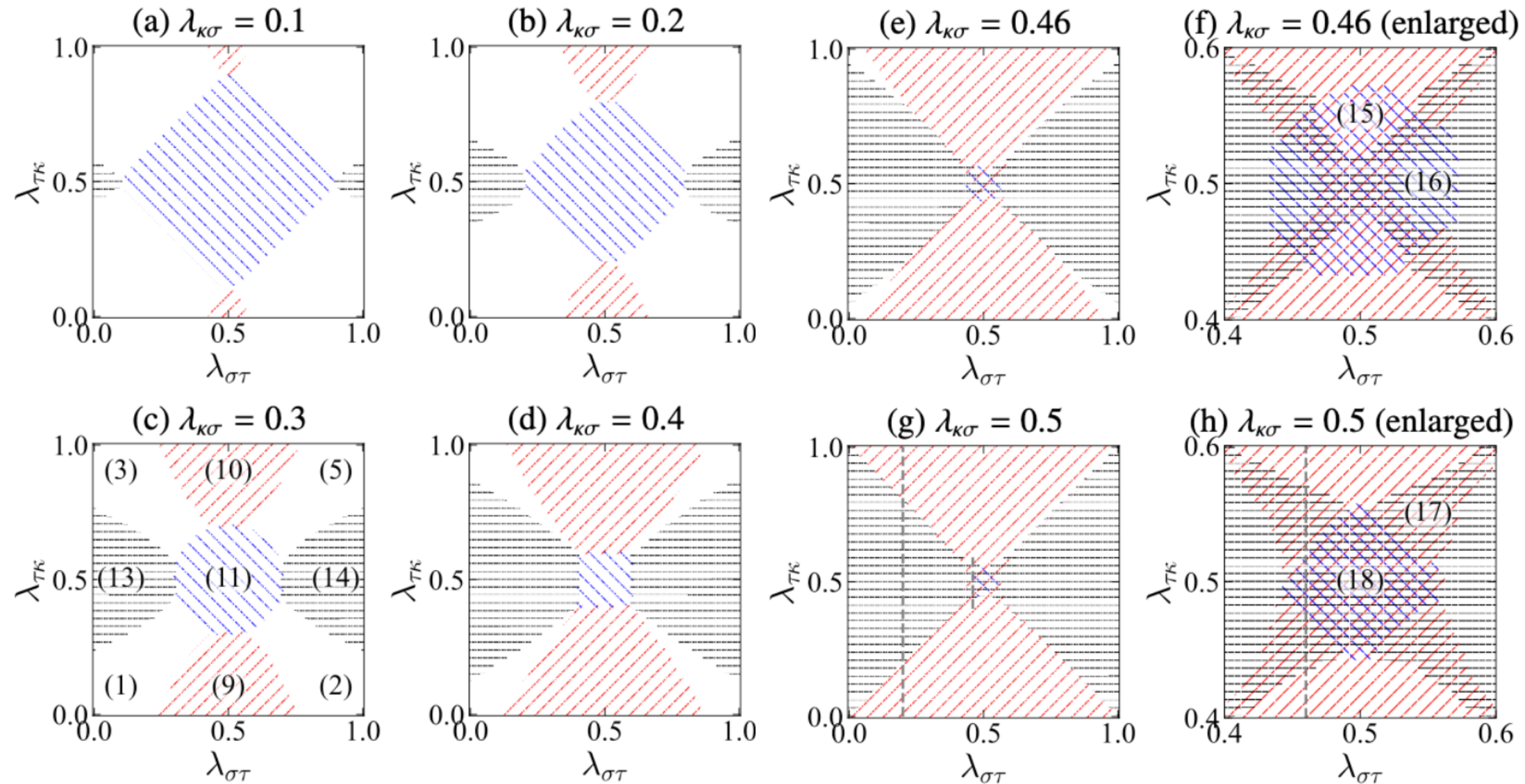


topological invariant



Inside the phase cube

- each SSB region is rooted on one face and extends into the bulk, occupying a pyramid-like volume
- complete symmetry breaking at the cube center

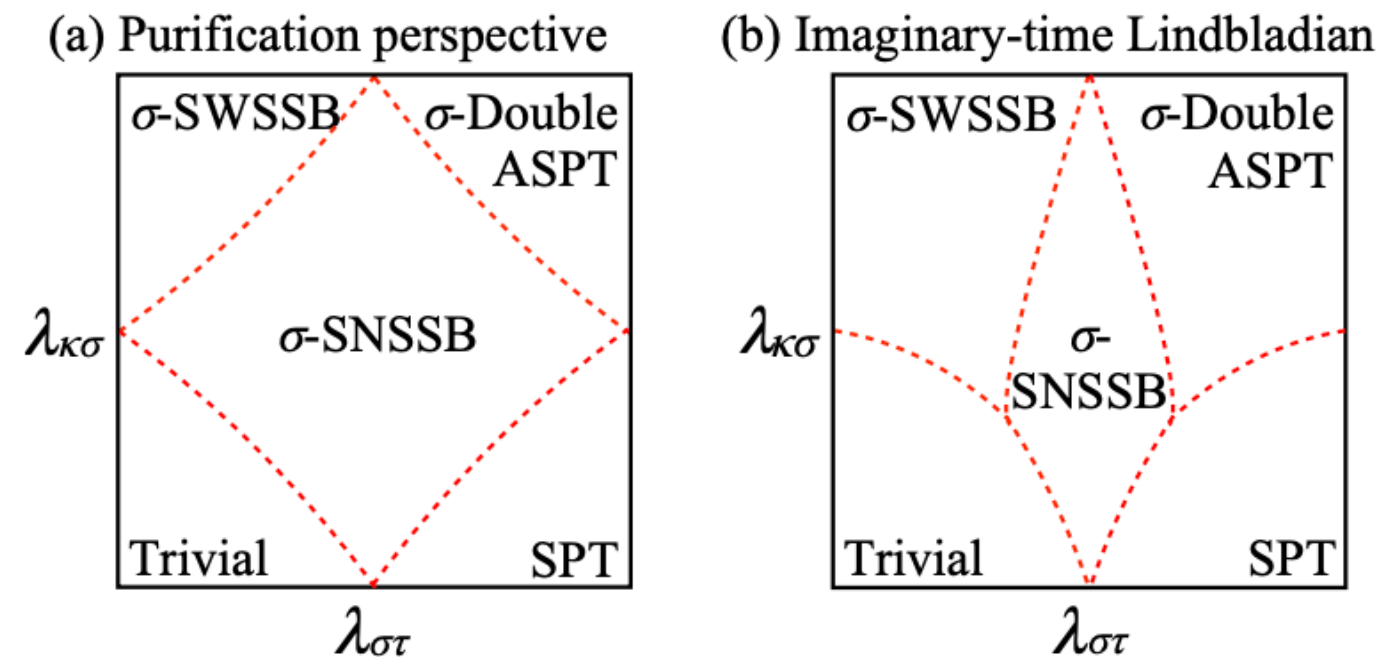


All phases in the phase cube

No.	Pure-state phase								Mixed-state phase				
	$\mathbb{Z}_2^\sigma$	$\mathbb{Z}_2^\tau$	$\mathbb{Z}_2^\kappa$	Hatch $_{ \langle K \rangle }$	$\mu_{\sigma\tau}$	$\mu_{\tau\kappa}$	$\mu_{\kappa\sigma}$	Hatch $_\mu$	$\mathbb{Z}_2^\sigma$	$\mathbb{Z}_2^\tau$	$\mathbb{Z}_2^{\sigma\tau}$	$\mu_{\sigma\tau}$	Phase name
1	Symmetric	Symmetric	Symmetric	None	+1	+1	+1	None	Symmetric	Symmetric	Symmetric	+1	Trivial
2	Symmetric	Symmetric	Symmetric	None	-1	+1	+1	/	Symmetric	Symmetric	Symmetric	-1	SPT
3	Symmetric	Symmetric	Symmetric	None	+1	-1	+1	\	Symmetric	SWSSB	SWSSB	+1	τ -SWSSB
4	Symmetric	Symmetric	Symmetric	None	+1	+1	-1		SWSSB	Symmetric	SWSSB	+1	σ -SWSSB
5	Symmetric	Symmetric	Symmetric	None	-1	-1	+1	/\	Symmetric	SWSSB	SWSSB	-1	τ -double ASPT
6	Symmetric	Symmetric	Symmetric	None	-1	+1	-1	/	SWSSB	Symmetric	SWSSB	-1	σ -double ASPT
7	Symmetric	Symmetric	Symmetric	None	+1	-1	-1	\	SWSSB	SWSSB	Symmetric	+1	$\sigma\tau$ -preserved SWSSB
8	Symmetric	Symmetric	Symmetric	None	-1	-1	-1	/\	SWSSB	SWSSB	Symmetric	-1	$\sigma\tau$ -preserved double ASPT
9	SSB	Symmetric	Symmetric	//	+1	+1	+1	None	SNSSB	Symmetric	SNSSB	+1	σ -SNSSB
10	SSB	Symmetric	Symmetric	//	+1	-1	+1	\	SNSSB	SWSSB	SNSSB	+1	σ -SNSSB τ -SWSSB
11	Symmetric	SSB	Symmetric	//	+1	+1	+1	None	Symmetric	SNSSB	SNSSB	+1	τ -SNSSB
12	Symmetric	SSB	Symmetric	//	+1	+1	-1		SWSSB	SNSSB	SNSSB	+1	σ -SWSSB τ -SNSSB
13	Symmetric	Symmetric	SSB	=	+1	+1	+1	None	Symmetric	Symmetric	Symmetric	+1	Trivial
14	Symmetric	Symmetric	SSB	=	-1	+1	+1	/	Symmetric	Symmetric	Symmetric	-1	SPT
15	SSB	SSB	Symmetric	//\	+1	+1	+1	None	SNSSB	SNSSB	SNSSB	+1	σ -SNSSB τ -SNSSB
16	Symmetric	SSB	SSB	// =	+1	+1	+1	None	Symmetric	SNSSB	SNSSB	+1	τ -SNSSB
17	SSB	Symmetric	SSB	// =	+1	+1	+1	None	SNSSB	Symmetric	SNSSB	+1	σ -SNSSB
18	SSB	SSB	SSB	//\ =	+1	+1	+1	None	SNSSB	SNSSB	SNSSB	+1	σ -SNSSB τ -SNSSB

Comparison of the phase diagrams

- imaginary-time Lindbladian $\rightarrow$ an infinite-size reservoir with a fast relaxation process repeated reinitialization of ancillae at each time step
- this purified model $\rightarrow$ only involves a single ancilla on each site



- while there exists a one-to-one correspondence between the phases in the two approaches the precise locations of the phase boundaries do not coincide

Summary of part two

- propose **LPDO and purification-based framework**
→ construct, classify, and diagnose quantum phases and criticality in open quantum systems
- **eight fixed points** form a **phase cube** → recover the full structure of mixed-state phases and transitions
- a unique class of **critical behavior** that **connects distinct SWSSB phases**, only exists in open systems

Y. Guo *, J.-H. Zhang *, H.-R. Zhang, S. Yang #, and Z. Bi #, Phys. Rev. X 15, 021060 (2025)

Y. Guo and S. Yang #, arXiv: 2602.21979

Quantum phase transitions in open quantum systems

- imaginary-time Lindbladian evolution

$$\frac{d\rho}{d\tau} = -\{H, \rho\} + \sum_k \left[L_k \rho L_k^\dagger + \frac{1}{2} \{L_k^\dagger L_k, \rho\} \right] \equiv -\mathcal{L}^I(\rho)$$

Y. Guo, K. Ding, and S. Yang #, Rep. Prog. Phys. 88, 118001 (2025)

Y. Guo and S. Yang #, Phys. Rev. B 111, L201108 (2025), Editors' Suggestion

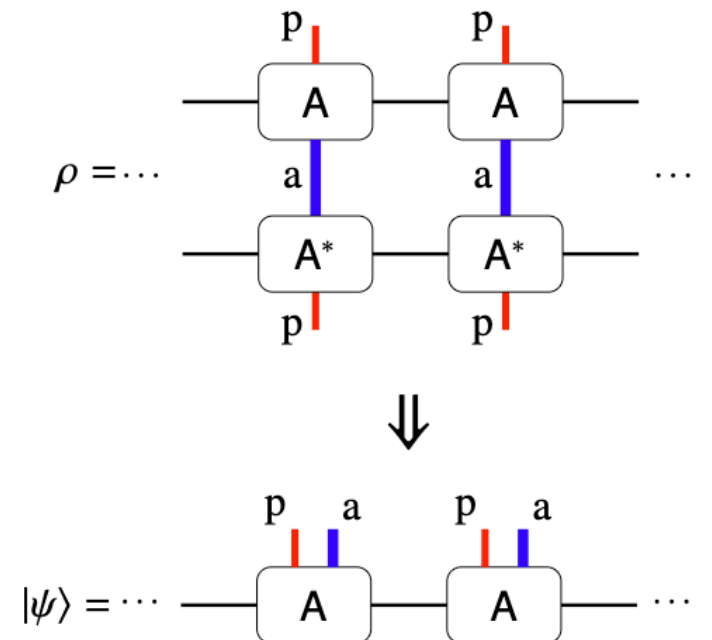
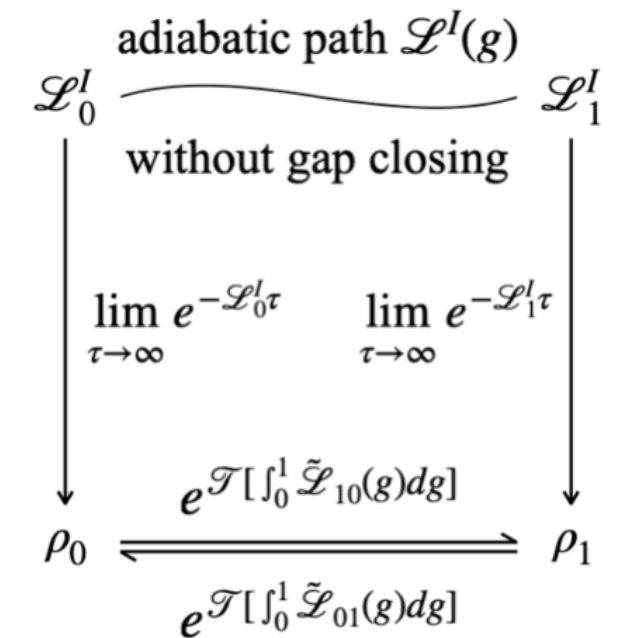
- locally purified density operator and purification perspective

LPDO $\Rightarrow$ MPS

Y. Guo *, J.-H. Zhang *, H.-R. Zhang, S. Yang #, and Z. Bi #, Phys. Rev. X 15, 021060 (2025)

Y. Guo and S. Yang #, arXiv: 2602.21979

Thank you!



Real-time and imaginary-time Lindbladian evolution

real-time evolution

$$\begin{aligned}
 \rho(t + \Delta t)_s &= \text{Tr}_a \left[e^{-iH_s \otimes I_a \Delta t - iL_{ks} \otimes \sigma_a^+ \sqrt{\Delta t} - iL_{ks}^\dagger \otimes \sigma_a^- \sqrt{\Delta t}} \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \rho(t)_s \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0|_a e^{iH_s \otimes I_a \Delta t + iL_{ks}^\dagger \otimes \sigma_a^- \sqrt{\Delta t} + iL_{ks} \otimes \sigma_a^+ \sqrt{\Delta t}} \right] \\
 &= \text{Tr}_a \left[(\rho(t)_s - iH_s \rho(t)_s \Delta t + i\rho(t)_s H_s \Delta t) \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0|_a \right. \\
 &\quad - iL_{ks} \rho(t)_s \otimes |1\rangle\langle 0|_a \sqrt{\Delta t} + i\rho(t)_s L_{ks}^\dagger \otimes |0\rangle\langle 1|_a \sqrt{\Delta t} \\
 &\quad + L_{ks} \rho(t)_s L_{ks}^\dagger \otimes |1\rangle\langle 1|_a \Delta t \\
 &\quad \left. - \frac{1}{2} (L_{ks}^\dagger L_{ks} \rho(t)_s + \rho(t)_s L_{ks}^\dagger L_{ks}) \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0|_a \Delta t \right] \\
 &= \rho(t)_s - i[H_s, \rho(t)_s] \Delta t \\
 &\quad + \sum_k \left[L_{ks} \rho(t)_s L_{ks}^\dagger - \frac{1}{2} \{L_{ks}^\dagger L_{ks}, \rho(t)_s\} \right] \Delta t,
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{d\rho}{dt} &= -i[H, \rho] + \sum_k \left[L_k \rho L_k^\dagger - \frac{1}{2} \{L_k^\dagger L_k, \rho\} \right] \\
 &\equiv \mathcal{L}(\rho)
 \end{aligned}$$

imaginary-time evolution

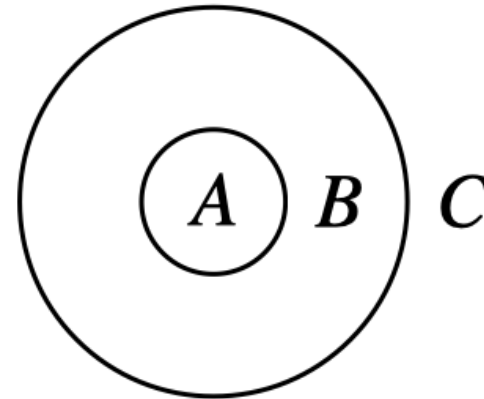
$$\begin{aligned}
 \rho(\tau + \Delta\tau)_s &= \text{Tr}_a \left[e^{-H_s \otimes I_a \Delta\tau - L_{ks} \otimes \sigma_a^+ \sqrt{\Delta\tau} - L_{ks}^\dagger \otimes \sigma_a^- \sqrt{\Delta\tau}} \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \rho(\tau)_s \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0|_a e^{-H_s \otimes I_a \Delta\tau - L_{ks}^\dagger \otimes \sigma_a^- \sqrt{\Delta\tau} - L_{ks} \otimes \sigma_a^+ \sqrt{\Delta\tau}} \right] \\
 &= \text{Tr}_a \left[(\rho(\tau)_s - H_s \rho(\tau)_s \Delta\tau - \rho(\tau)_s H_s \Delta\tau) \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0|_a \right. \\
 &\quad - L_{ks} \rho(\tau)_s \otimes |1\rangle\langle 0|_a \sqrt{\Delta\tau} - \rho(\tau)_s L_{ks}^\dagger \otimes |0\rangle\langle 1|_a \sqrt{\Delta\tau} \\
 &\quad + L_{ks} \rho(\tau)_s L_{ks}^\dagger \otimes |1\rangle\langle 1|_a \Delta\tau \\
 &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{2} (L_{ks}^\dagger L_{ks} \rho(\tau)_s + \rho(\tau)_s L_{ks}^\dagger L_{ks}) \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0|_a \Delta\tau \right] \\
 &= \rho(\tau)_s - \{H_s, \rho(\tau)_s\} \Delta\tau \\
 &\quad + \sum_k \left[L_{ks} \rho(\tau)_s L_{ks}^\dagger + \frac{1}{2} \{L_{ks}^\dagger L_{ks}, \rho(\tau)_s\} \right] \Delta\tau,
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{d\rho}{d\tau} &= -\{H, \rho\} + \sum_k \left[L_k \rho L_k^\dagger + \frac{1}{2} \{L_k^\dagger L_k, \rho\} \right] \\
 &\equiv -\mathcal{L}^I(\rho)
 \end{aligned}$$

Different correlation functions for a mixed state

- linear correlator $C(O, i, j) \equiv \langle O_i O_j \rangle - \langle O_i \rangle \langle O_j \rangle \sim e^{-|i-j|/\xi}$
- Renyi- n correlator $C^{(n)}(O, i, j) \equiv \langle O_i O_j \rangle^{(n)} - \langle O_i \rangle^{(n)} \langle O_j \rangle^{(n)} \sim e^{-|i-j|/\xi_n}$, $\langle O \rangle^{(n)} \equiv \frac{\text{Tr}[\rho^{\frac{n}{2}} O \rho^{\frac{n}{2}} O]}{\text{Tr}[\rho^n]}$
- conditional mutual information (CMI)
 $I(A : C|B) = S(AB) + S(BC) - S(B) - S(ABC) \sim e^{-L_B/\xi_M}$
 $S(X) = -\text{Tr}[\rho_X \ln \rho_X]$, ξ_M is Markov length

S. Sang and T. H. Hsieh, Phys. Rev. Lett. 134, 070403 (2025)



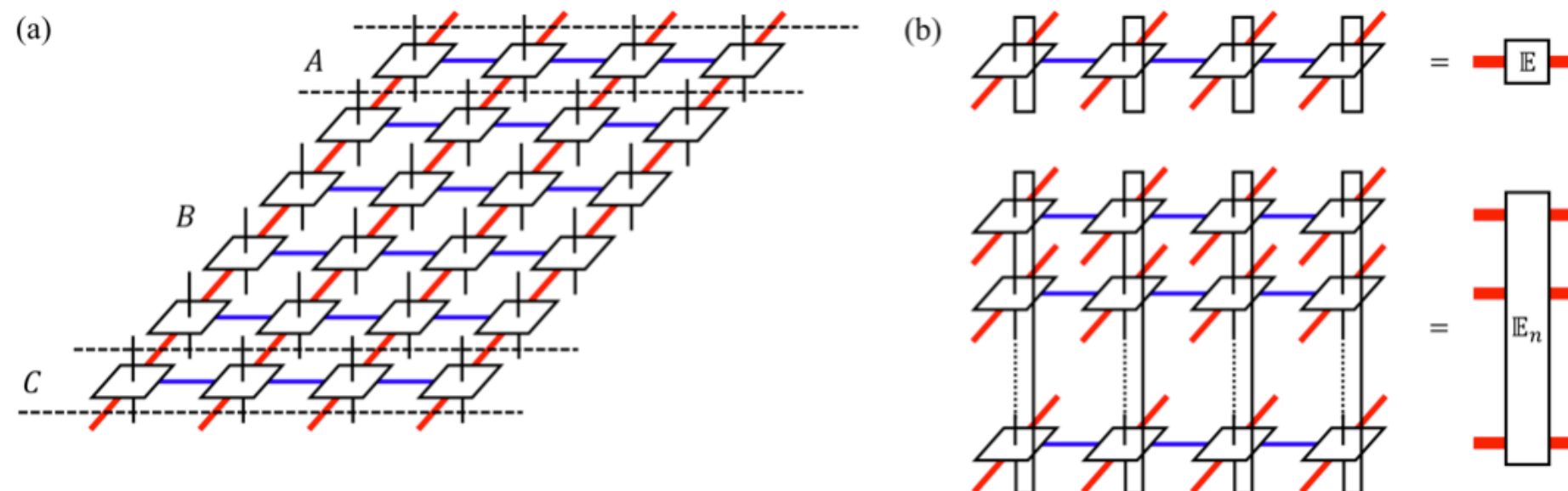
- divergence of Markov length is an indicator for phase transition

Markov length remains finite in the same phase

Calculation of Markov length

- calculate conditional mutual information with Renyi- n entropy and extrapolate to $n \rightarrow 1$

$$S^{(n)}(X) = \frac{1}{1-n} \ln \text{Tr} [\rho_X^n]$$
- linear or Renyi- n correlation lengths are determined by the spectrum of the transfer operators $\mathbb{E}$ and $\mathbb{E}_n$ for even n
- Spectral decomposition $\mathbb{E}_n = \sum_i \lambda_n^i |r_n^i\rangle \langle l_n^i|$ with decreasing order $|\lambda_n^0| \geq |\lambda_n^1| \geq \dots$
Renyi- n correlation length $\xi_n = -1 / \ln |\lambda_n^1 / \lambda_n^0|$



Calculation of Markov length

- Renyi- n conditional mutual information

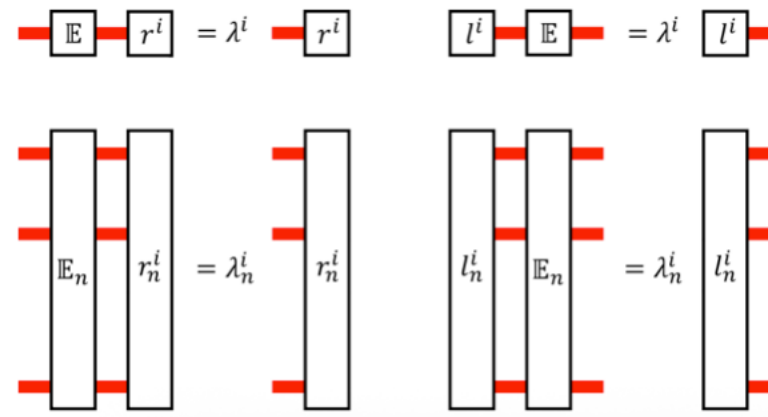
$$\text{Tr}[\rho_X^n] = \sum_i (\lambda_n^i)^{L_X} (l^{0 \otimes n} | r_n^i) (l_n^i | r^{0 \otimes n}) \equiv \sum_i (\lambda_n^i)^{L_X} f_n^i$$

$$S^{(n)}(X) = \frac{1}{1-n} \ln \text{Tr}[\rho_X^n] \approx \frac{1}{1-n} \ln \left\{ (\lambda_n^0)^{L_X} f_n^0 \left[1 + \left(\frac{\lambda_n^1}{\lambda_n^0} \right)^{L_X} \frac{f_n^1}{f_n^0} \right] \right\} \approx \frac{1}{1-n} \left[L_X \ln \lambda_n^0 + \ln f_n^0 + \frac{f_n^1}{f_n^0} e^{-L_X/\xi_n} \right]$$

$$I^{(n)}(A : C | B) = \frac{1}{1-n} \frac{f_n^1}{f_n^0} \left[e^{-L_{AB}/\xi_n} + e^{-L_{BC}/\xi_n} - e^{-L_B/\xi_n} - e^{-L_{ABC}/\xi_n} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{n-1} \frac{f_n^1}{f_n^0} (1 - e^{-L_A/\xi_n}) (1 - e^{-L_C/\xi_n}) e^{-L_B/\xi_n} \propto e^{-L_B/\xi_n}$$

- Renyi- n Markov length $\xi_M^{(n)}$ is just Renyi- n correlation length ξ_n for even n
- in 1D systems, finite $\xi_2 \Rightarrow$ finite ξ
- $\mathcal{L}^I$ is gapless $\Rightarrow$ divergent $\xi_2 \Rightarrow$ divergent $\xi_{2^k} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow 1} \text{divergent } \xi_M$



Parent Hamiltonian and mixed state

- the **stabilizer Hamiltonian** for the trivial state $|\psi_{\sigma\tau\kappa}^{(+1,+1,+1)}\rangle = \prod_i |\rightarrow\rangle_i$ is $H_{\sigma\tau\kappa}^{\text{Trivial}} = -\sum_i (\sigma_i^x + \tau_i^x + \kappa_i^x)$
- the **parent Hamiltonian** for $|\psi_{\sigma\tau\kappa}^\mu\rangle$ can be generated by conjugating with the corresponding DW maps

$$H_{\sigma\tau\kappa}^\mu = \left[(U_{\sigma\tau}^{\text{DW}})^{\frac{1-\mu_{\sigma\tau}}{2}} (U_{\tau\kappa}^{\text{DW}})^{\frac{1-\mu_{\tau\kappa}}{2}} (U_{\kappa\sigma}^{\text{DW}})^{\frac{1-\mu_{\kappa\sigma}}{2}} \right] H_{\sigma\tau\kappa}^{\text{Trivial}} \left[(U_{\sigma\tau}^{\text{DW}})^{\frac{1-\mu_{\sigma\tau}}{2}} (U_{\tau\kappa}^{\text{DW}})^{\frac{1-\mu_{\tau\kappa}}{2}} (U_{\kappa\sigma}^{\text{DW}})^{\frac{1-\mu_{\kappa\sigma}}{2}} \right]^\dagger$$
- using the relations $U_{\sigma\tau}^{\text{DW}} \sigma_i^x U_{\sigma\tau}^{\text{DW}\dagger} = \tau_{i-1}^z \sigma_i^x \tau_i^z$ and $U_{\sigma\tau}^{\text{DW}} \tau_i^x U_{\sigma\tau}^{\text{DW}\dagger} = \sigma_i^z \tau_i^x \sigma_{i+1}^z$
- the **parent Hamiltonian** has a **compact form** $H_{\sigma\tau\kappa}^\mu = -\sum_i (S_{\sigma_i}^\mu + S_{\tau_i}^\mu + S_{\kappa_i}^\mu)$

$$S_{\sigma_i}^\mu = \sigma_i^x \left(\tau_{i-1}^z \tau_i^z \right)^{\frac{1-\mu_{\sigma\tau}}{2}} \left(\kappa_{i-1}^z \kappa_i^z \right)^{\frac{1-\mu_{\kappa\sigma}}{2}}$$

$$S_{\tau_i}^\mu = \tau_i^x \left(\sigma_i^z \sigma_{i+1}^z \right)^{\frac{1-\mu_{\sigma\tau}}{2}} \left(\kappa_{i-1}^z \kappa_i^z \right)^{\frac{1-\mu_{\tau\kappa}}{2}}$$

$$S_{\kappa_i}^\mu = \kappa_i^x \left(\tau_i^z \tau_{i+1}^z \right)^{\frac{1-\mu_{\tau\kappa}}{2}} \left(\sigma_i^z \sigma_{i+1}^z \right)^{\frac{1-\mu_{\kappa\sigma}}{2}}$$
- tracing out the κ degrees of freedom yields mixed states $\rho_{\sigma\tau}^\mu = \text{Tr}_\kappa [|\psi_{\sigma\tau\kappa}^\mu\rangle\langle\psi_{\sigma\tau\kappa}^\mu|]$

String order and fidelity correlator

- parent Hamiltonian of the cluster state $|\psi_{\kappa\sigma}^{\text{SPT}}\rangle$ is $H_{\kappa\sigma}^{\text{SPT}} = -\sum_i [\kappa_{i-1}^z \sigma_i^x \kappa_i^z + \sigma_i^z \kappa_i^x \sigma_{i+1}^z]$
- $|\psi_{\kappa\sigma}^{\text{SPT}}\rangle$ exhibits **nonlocal string order**, $\lim_{|i-j|\rightarrow\infty} |\langle S(\sigma^z, \kappa^x, i, j) \rangle| = 1$
 where $\langle S(\sigma^z, \kappa^x, i, j) \rangle = \langle \psi_{\kappa\sigma}^{\text{SPT}} | \sigma_i^z \left(\prod_{l=i}^{j-1} \kappa_l^x \right) \sigma_j^z | \psi_{\kappa\sigma}^{\text{SPT}} \rangle$
- **fidelity correlator of the mixed state** $\mathcal{C}^{\mathcal{F}}(\sigma^z, i, j) \equiv \mathcal{F}(\sigma_i^z \sigma_j^z \rho \sigma_i^z \sigma_j^z, \rho)$
 $\mathcal{F}$ denotes the **fidelity between two mixed states** $\mathcal{F}(\rho_1, \rho_2) = \left(\text{Tr} \sqrt{\sqrt{\rho_1} \rho_2 \sqrt{\rho_1}} \right)^2$
- we introduce two pure states $|\psi_1\rangle \equiv \sigma_i^z \sigma_j^z |\psi_{\kappa\sigma}^{\text{SPT}}\rangle$ and $|\psi_2\rangle \equiv \prod_{l=i}^{j-1} \kappa_l^x |\psi_{\kappa\sigma}^{\text{SPT}}\rangle$
- string order parameter can be expressed using the fidelity between these two states

$$|\langle S(\sigma^z, \kappa^x, i, j) \rangle| = |\langle \psi_1 | \psi_2 \rangle| = \sqrt{\mathcal{F}(|\psi_1\rangle\langle\psi_1|, |\psi_2\rangle\langle\psi_2|)} \leq \sqrt{\mathcal{F}(\text{Tr}_{\kappa}[|\psi_1\rangle\langle\psi_1|], \text{Tr}_{\kappa}[|\psi_2\rangle\langle\psi_2|])}$$

$$= \sqrt{\mathcal{F}(\sigma_i^z \sigma_j^z \rho_{\sigma}^{\text{SWSSB}} \sigma_i^z \sigma_j^z, \rho_{\sigma}^{\text{SWSSB}})} = \sqrt{\mathcal{C}^{\mathcal{F}}(\sigma^z, i, j)}$$
- if the original **pure state** has a **long-range string order** $\lim_{|i-j|\rightarrow\infty} |\langle S(\sigma^z, \kappa^x, i, j) \rangle| \rightarrow O(1)$
 the **mixed state** is **long-range correlated** in terms of the **fidelity correlator** $\lim_{|i-j|\rightarrow\infty} \mathcal{C}^{\mathcal{F}}(\sigma^z, i, j) \rightarrow O(1)$