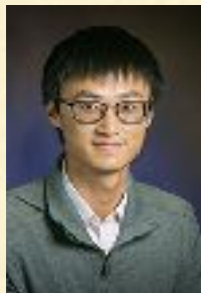


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# INFINITE TEMPERATURE QUANTUM MECHANICS: HOW SHORT QUANTUM CIRCUITS LEAD TO THE BREAKDOWN OF STATISTICAL PHYSICS AND OTHER STORIES ABOUT MANY-BODY LOCALIZATION

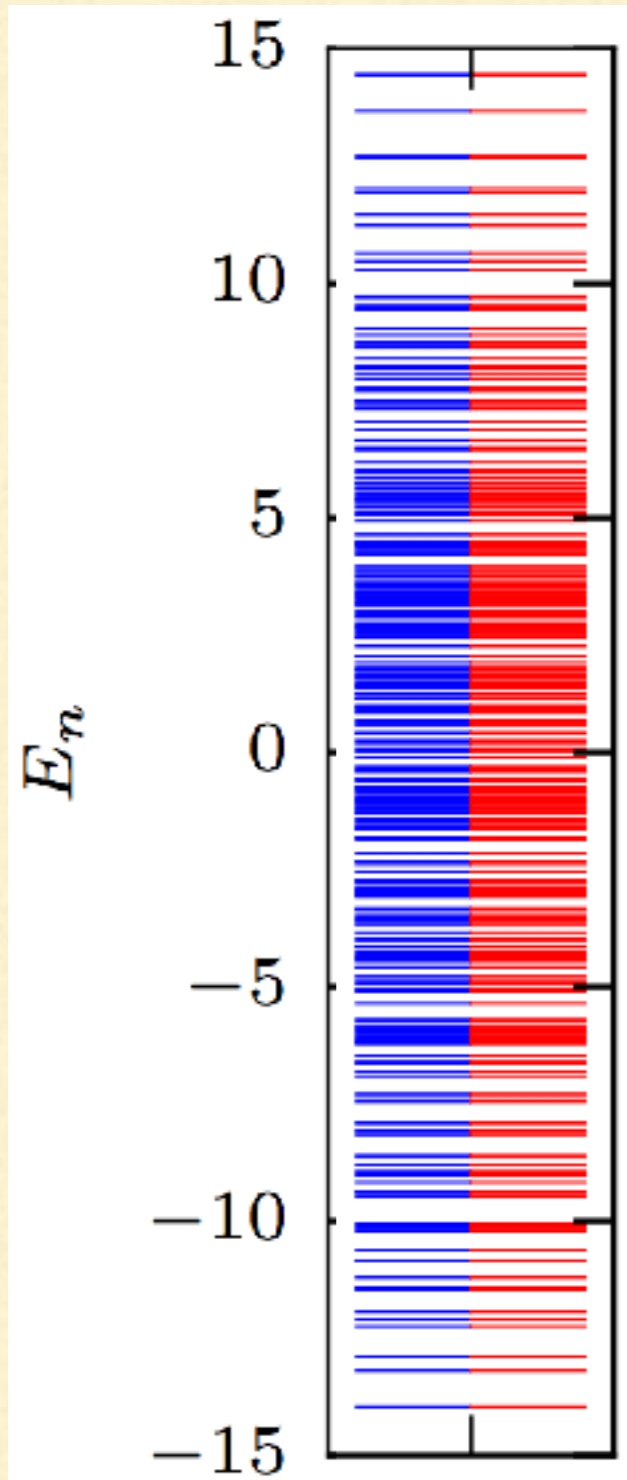
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Bryan K Clark



This is a talk about the interplay between quantum mechanics and statistical mechanics.

$T = \infty$   
↑  
 $T = 0$



↑  
Statistical Mechanics  
Quantum Mechanics

# Statistical Mechanics 101

A hot cup of coffee eventually equilibrates to the temperature of the room. It **thermalizes**



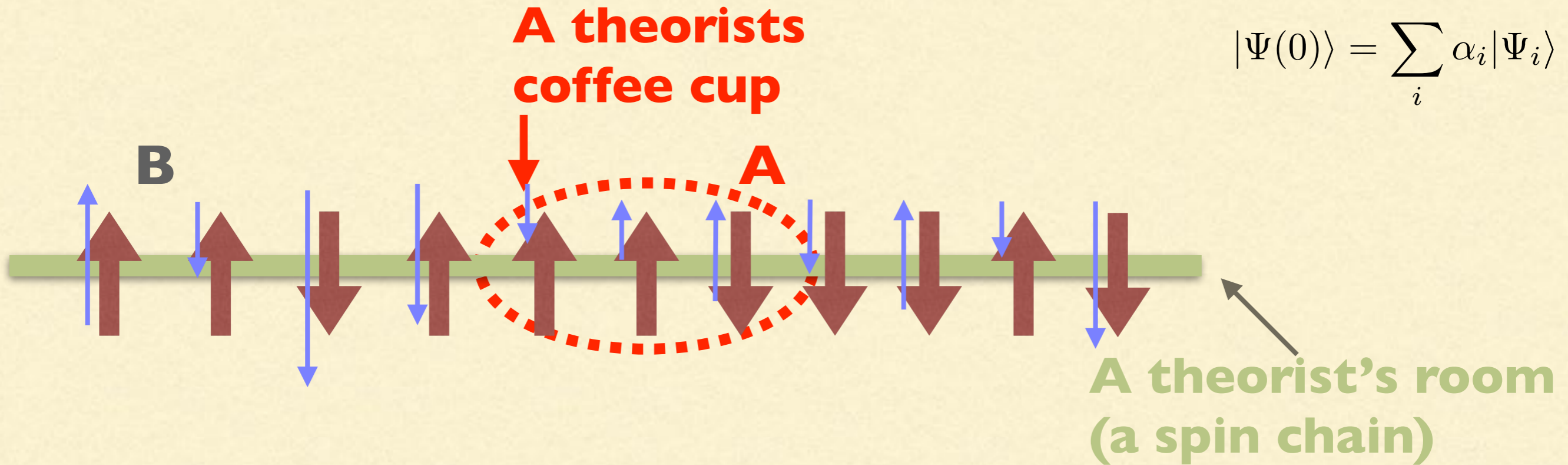
*Is there another option?*

Are there cases where subsystems don't thermalize?

*yes...particularly systems with interaction + disorder*

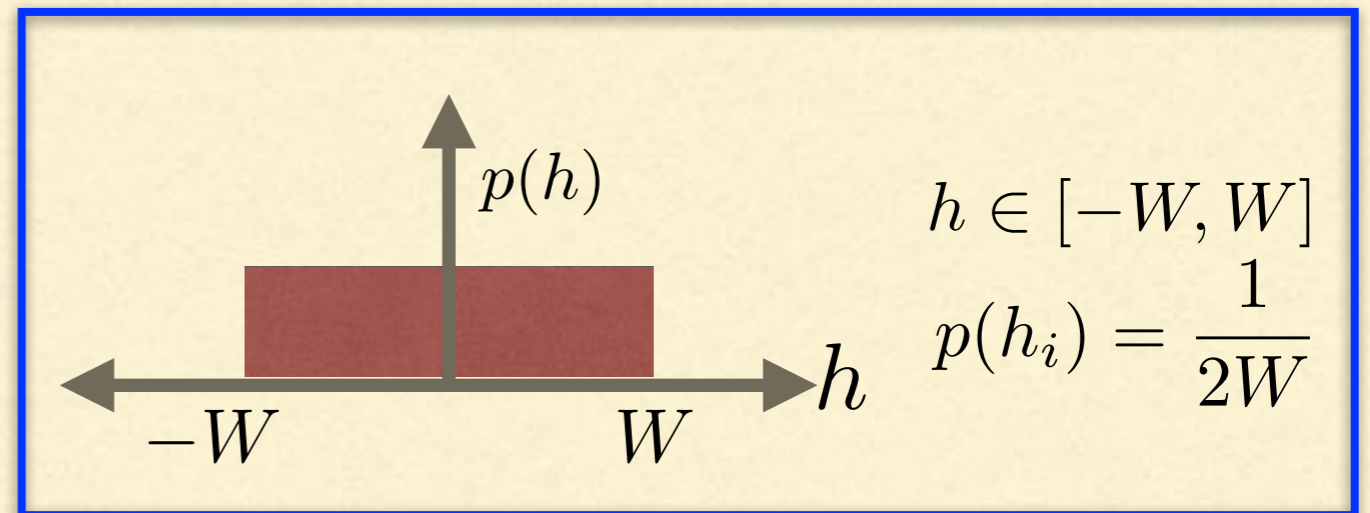


$$|\Psi(0)\rangle = \sum_i \alpha_i |\Psi_i\rangle$$



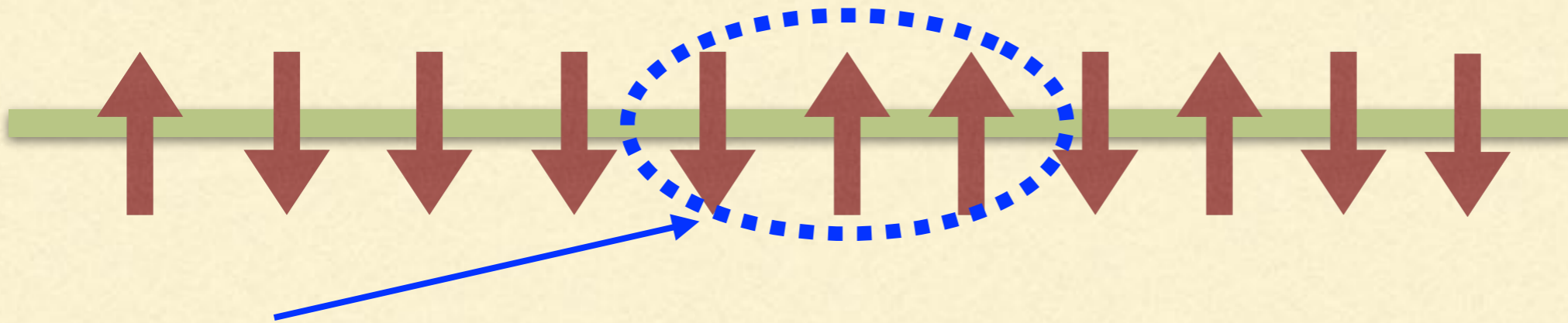
$H = \text{interaction} + \text{disorder}$

$$H = \sum_i \left( \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_{i+1} + h_i S_i^z \right)$$



Something we will measure a lot:  $\langle S_6^z \rangle$

# Equilibration means...

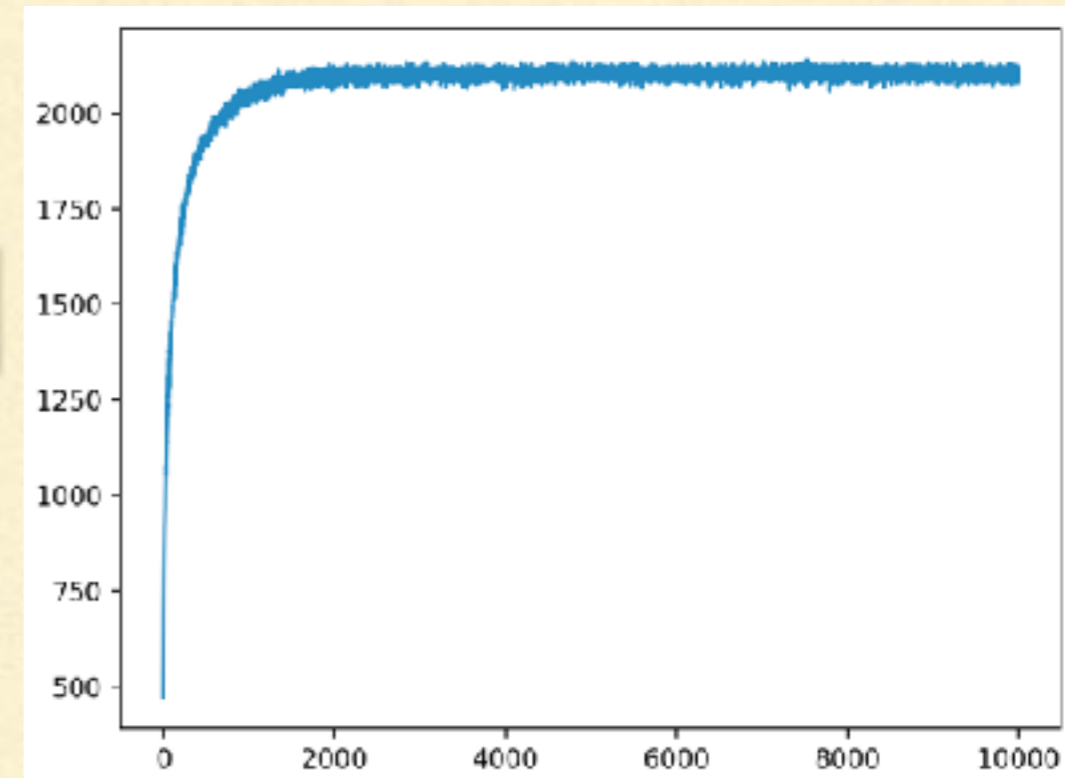


$$|\Psi(0)\rangle = \sum_i \alpha_i |\Psi_i\rangle$$

Local observable  $A$  on this subsystem  $A(t) = \langle \Psi(t) | \hat{A} | \Psi(t) \rangle$

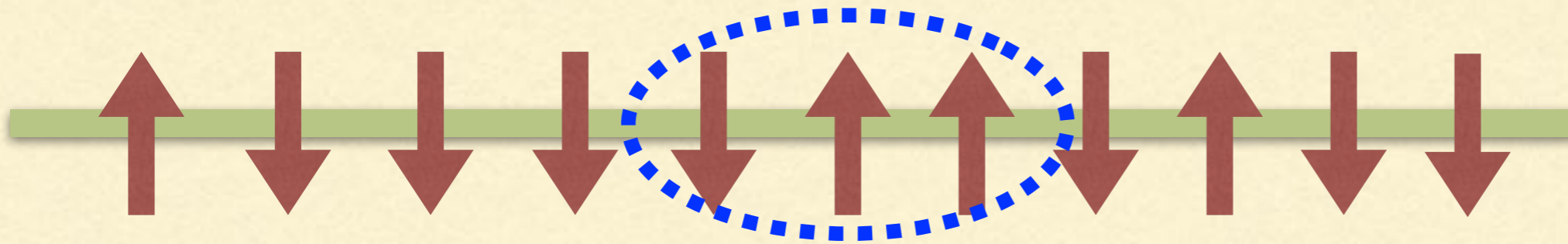
you forget where you started.

$A(t)$



$t$

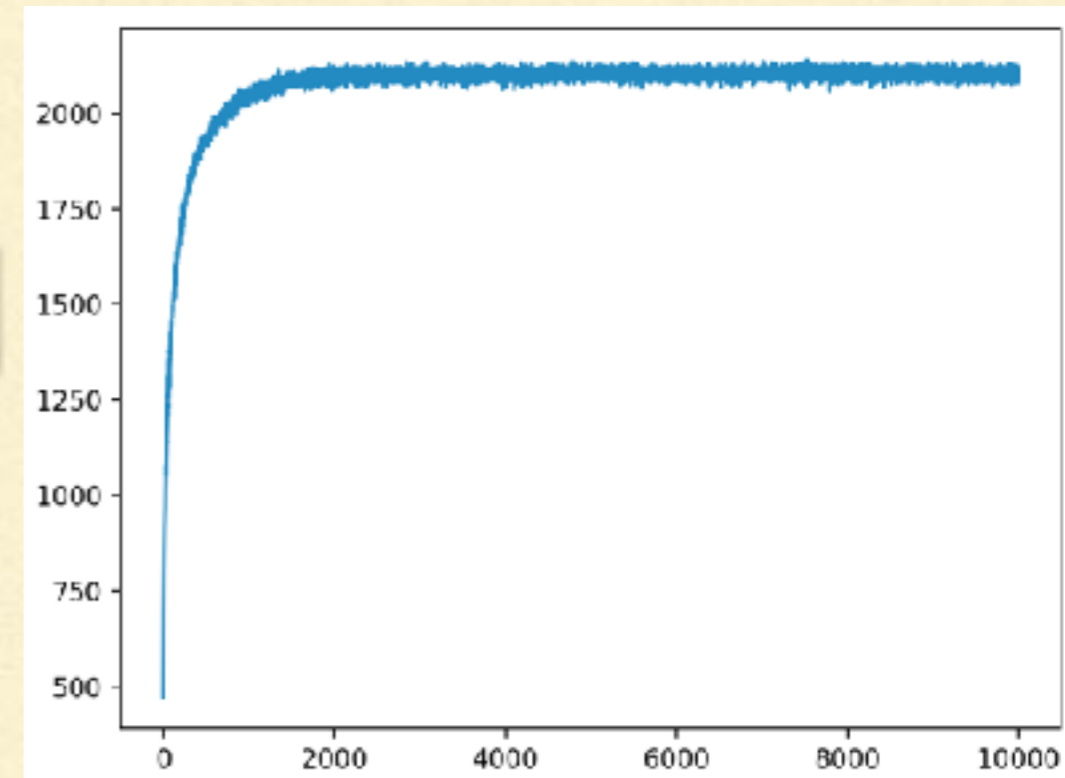
# Equilibration means...



$$|\Psi(0)\rangle = \sum_i \alpha_i |\Psi_i\rangle$$

you get the thermal value of the observables.

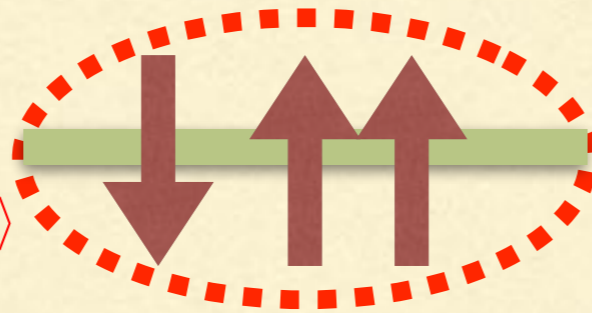
$A(t)$



$t$

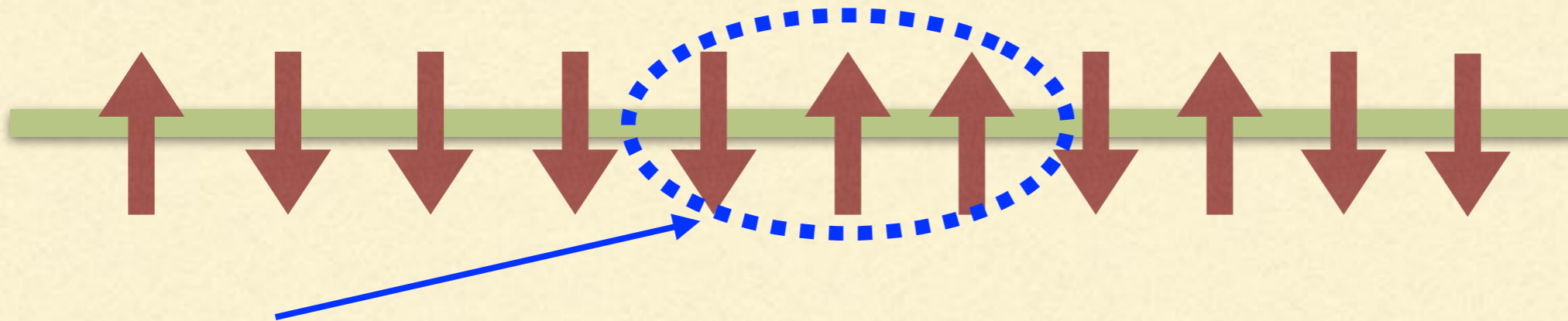
Finite temperature observables

$$A_{\text{thermal}} = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_i \exp[-\beta E_i] \langle \Psi_i | \hat{A} | \Psi_i \rangle$$





# Equilibration means...



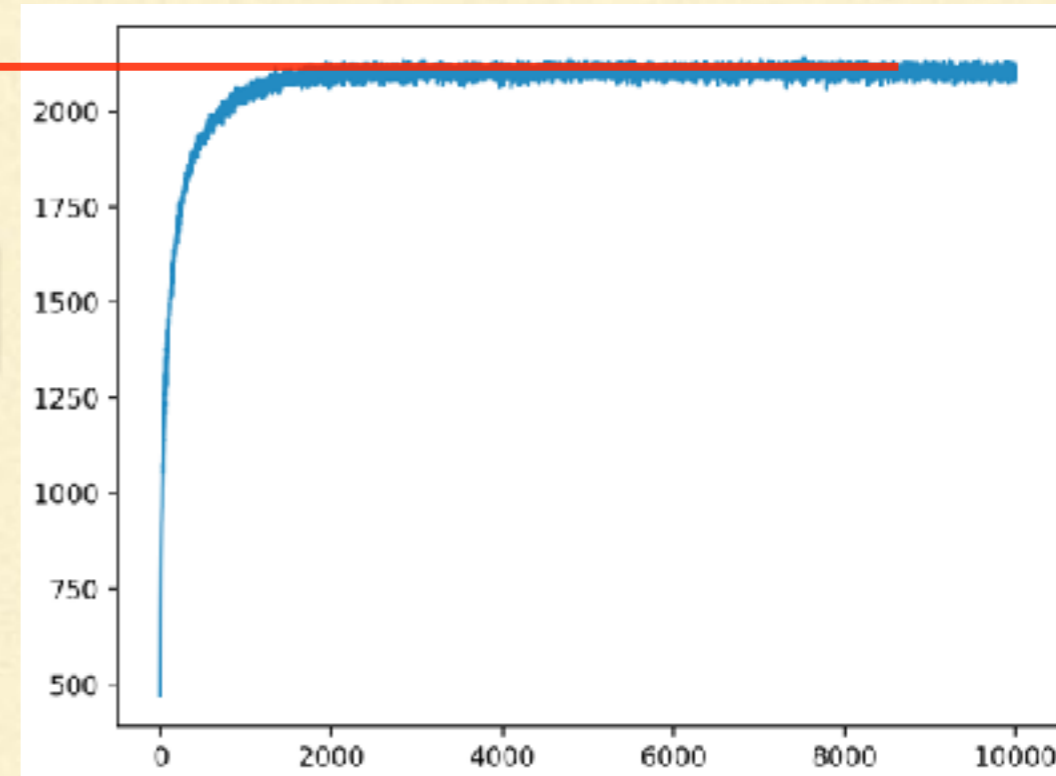
$$|\Psi(0)\rangle = \sum_i \alpha_i |\Psi_i\rangle$$

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$A_{\text{thermal}}$

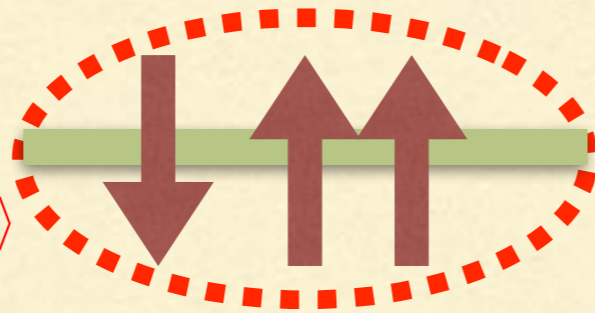
$$A_{\text{thermal}} = \frac{1}{T} \int_t^{t+T} A(t) dt$$

$A(t)$



Finite temperature observables

$$A_{\text{thermal}} = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_i \exp[-\beta E_i] \langle \Psi_i | \hat{A} | \Psi_i \rangle$$

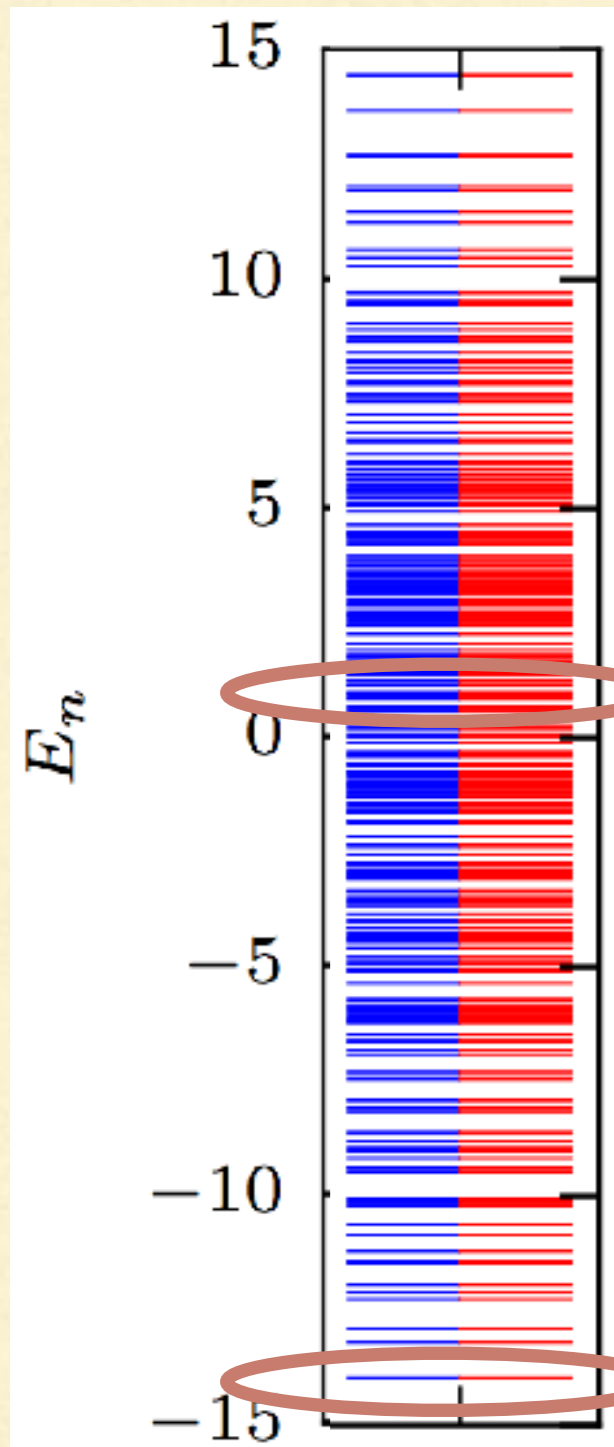


\* Choose  $\beta$  such that  $\text{Tr}[H \rho_{\text{thermal}}(\beta)] = E$

$t$

# Failure to thermalize must mean something goes wrong with the eigenstates

*Spectrum of  $H$*



The relevant information is encoded in the eigenstates in the middle of the spectrum.

For quantum phases we look at the ground state.

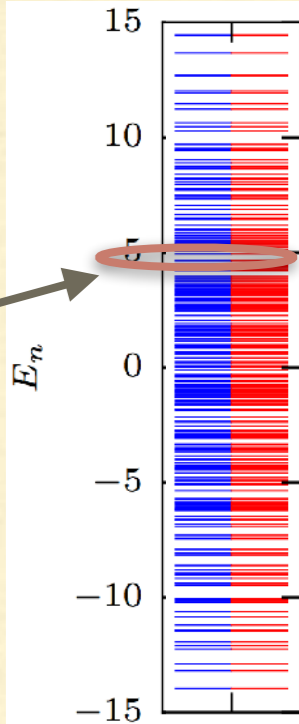


# Eigenstate Thermalization Hypothesis

Equilibration means...you forget where you started.

Start with  $|\Psi(0)\rangle = \sum_i \alpha_i |\Psi_i\rangle$  concentrated around fixed  $E$ .

$$\langle \Psi(0) | \hat{A} | \Psi(0) \rangle = \sum_{ij} \alpha_i^* \alpha_j \langle \Psi_i | \hat{A} | \Psi_j \rangle \longrightarrow \text{Depends heavily on } \alpha_i$$



To equilibrate, the observable  $A(t)$ , at large  $t$ , needs forget where we started.

$$\langle \Psi(t) | A | \Psi(t) \rangle = \sum_{ij} \alpha_i^* \alpha_j \exp[-it(E_i - E_j)] \langle \Psi_i | \hat{A} | \Psi_j \rangle$$

If  $t \gg (E_i - E_j)$  then  $i \neq j$  terms average to zero.

$$\langle \Psi(t) | A | \Psi(t) \rangle = \sum_i |\alpha_i|^2 \langle \Psi_i | \hat{A} | \Psi_i \rangle$$

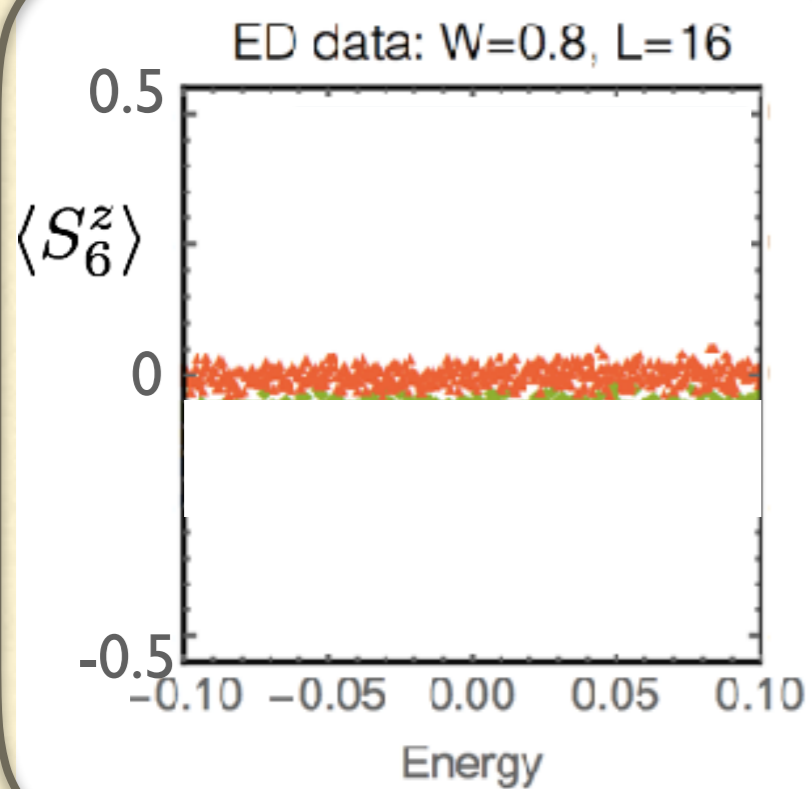


If  $\langle \Psi_i | \hat{A} | \Psi_i \rangle \approx \langle \Psi_j | \hat{A} | \Psi_j \rangle$  then we forget the initial conditions.

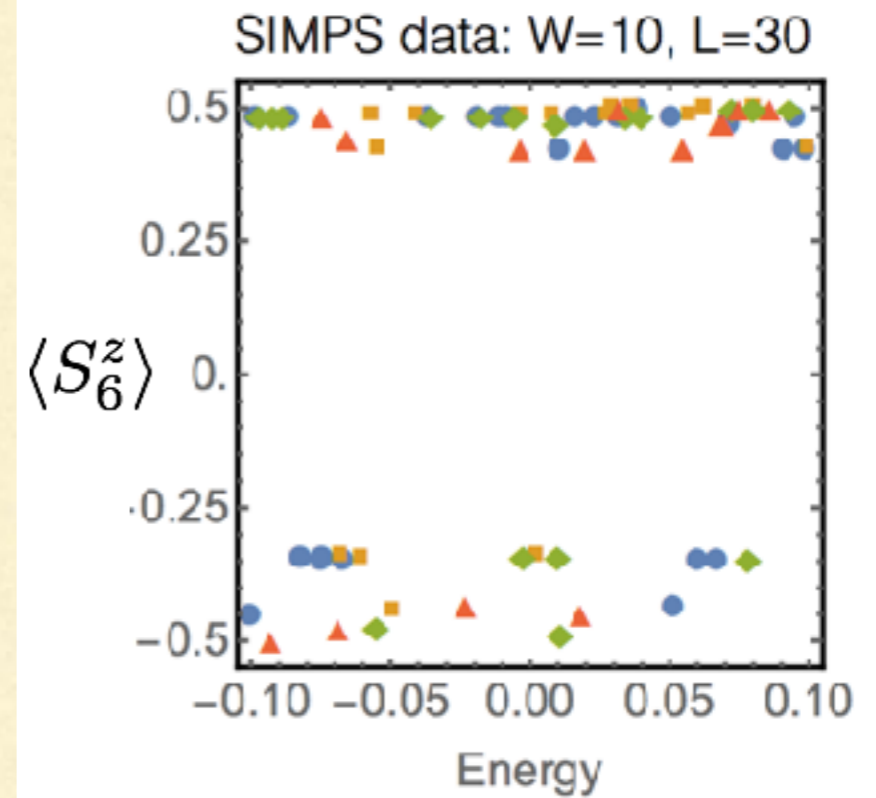
# Eigenstate Thermalization Hypothesis

Equilibration means...you forget where you started.

Ergodic



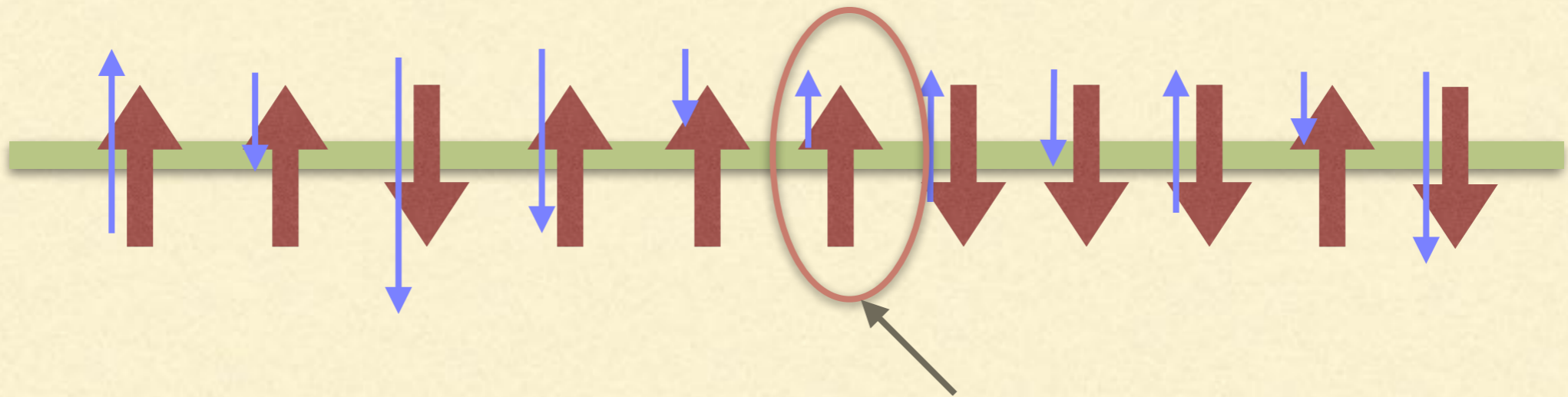
MBL



## Let's talk about entanglement

Equilibration means... you get the thermal value of the observables.

$$\langle \Psi_i | \hat{A} | \Psi_i \rangle \approx \langle \Psi_j | \hat{A} | \Psi_j \rangle \approx A_{\text{thermal}}$$



**Q:** At infinite temperature, when measured, how often is this spin up vs down?

**A:** Up half the time and down half the time

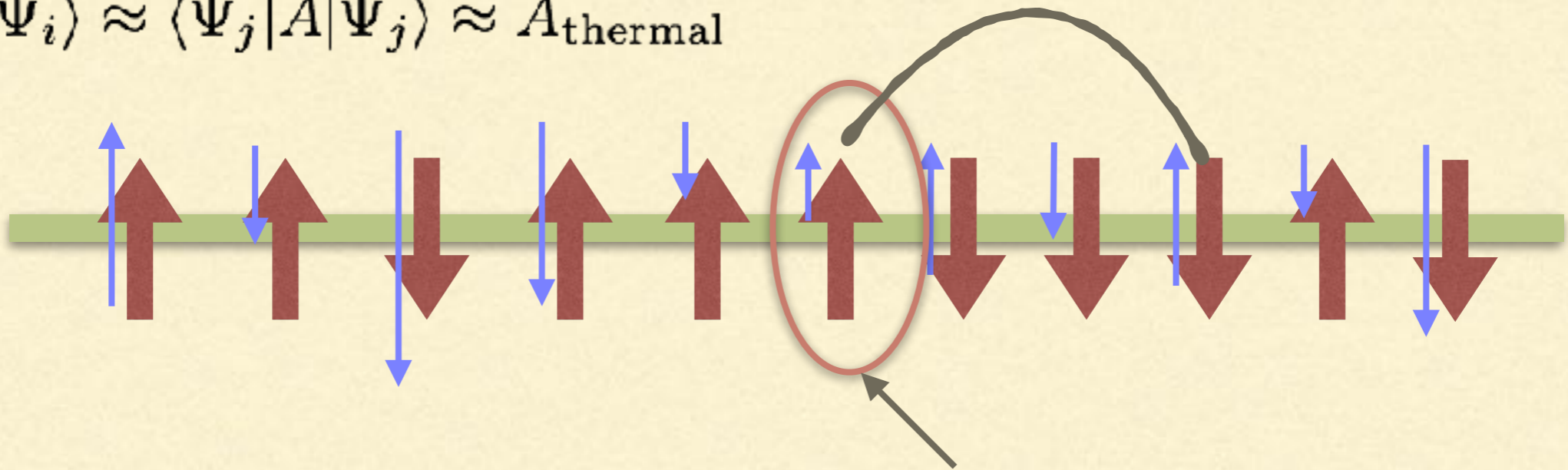
**Q:** What quantum state, when measured, is up half the time and down half the time?



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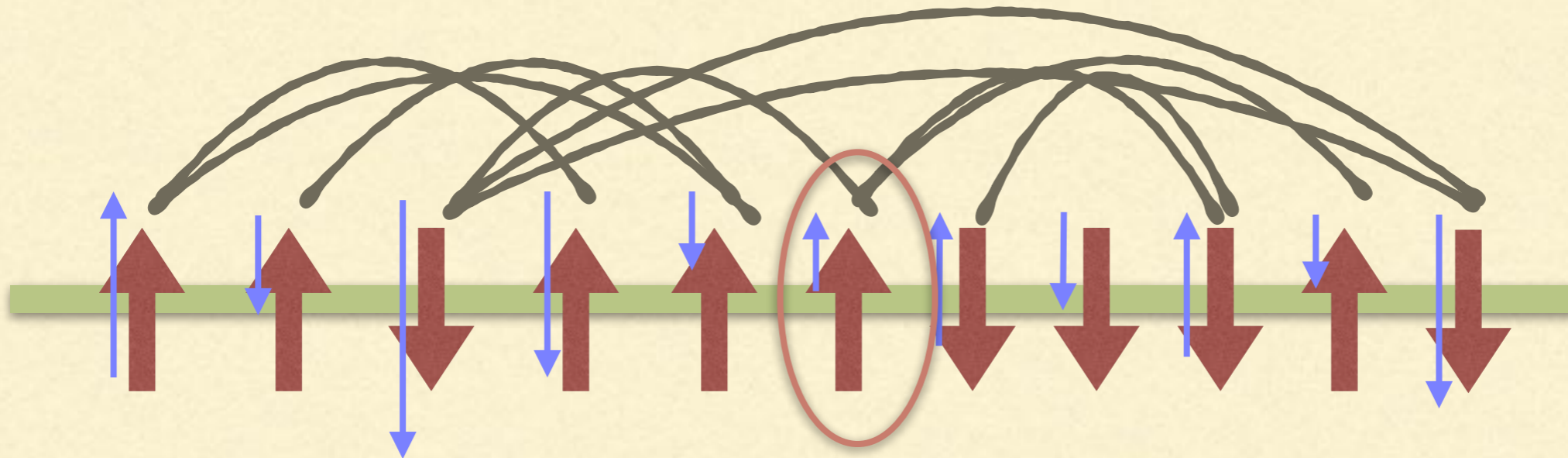
**Q:** What quantum state, when measured, is up half the time and down half the time?

**A:** Entangle it with another spin:  $|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle$

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$$\langle \Psi_i | \hat{A} | \Psi_i \rangle \approx \langle \Psi_j | \hat{A} | \Psi_j \rangle \approx A_{\text{thermal}}$$



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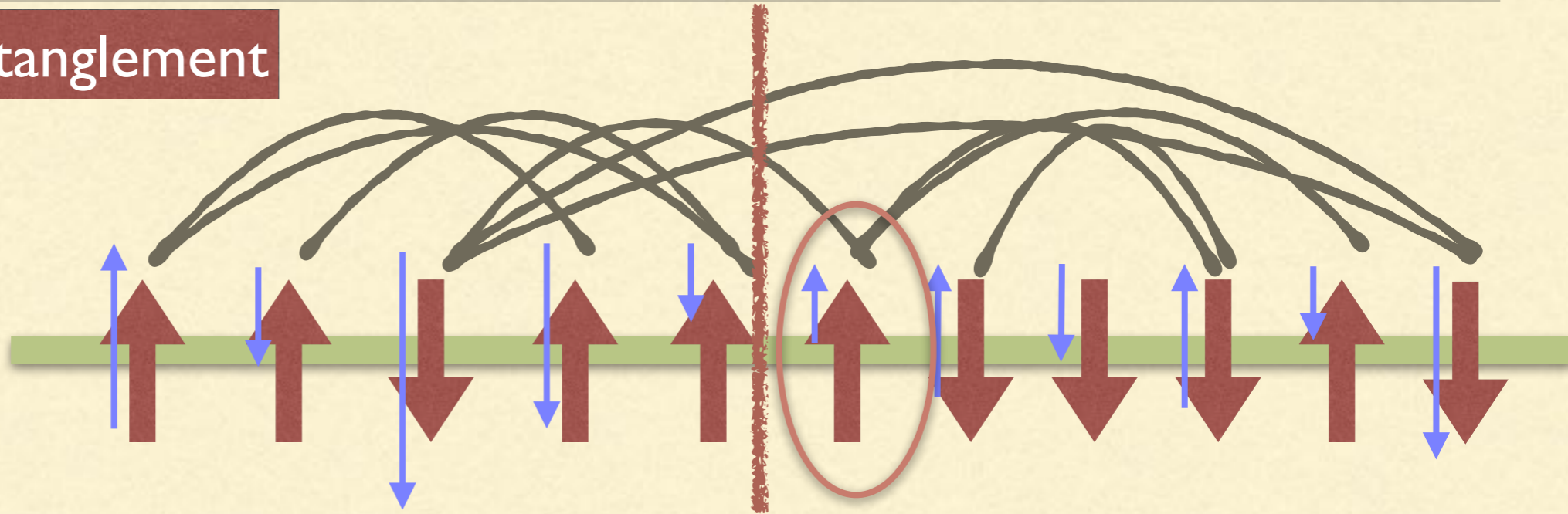
**Q:** What quantum state, when measured, is up half the time and down half the time?

**A:** Entangle it with another spin:  $|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle$

Better is to weakly entangle everyone with everyone else.



# Let's talk about entanglement

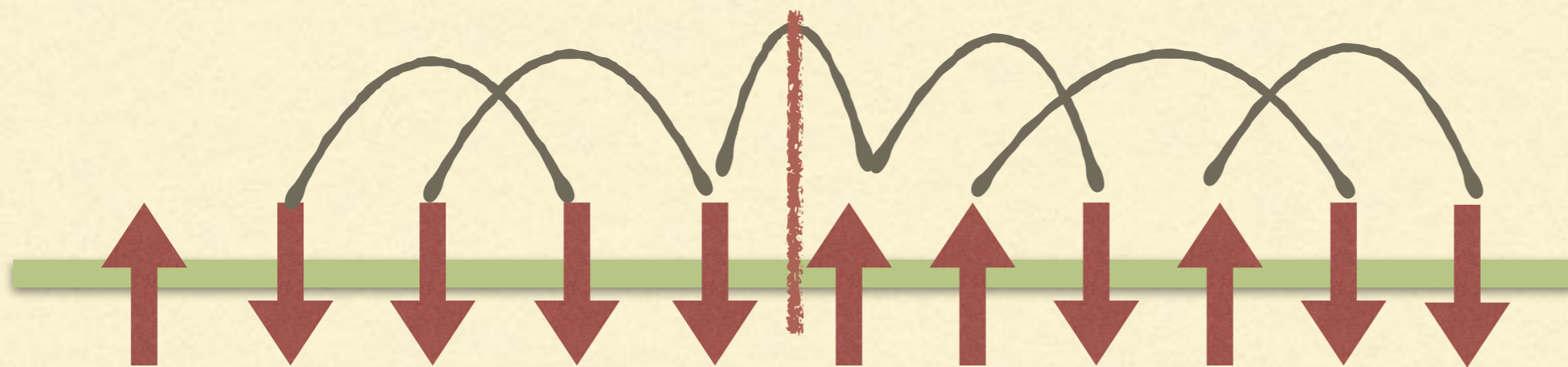


The entanglement over the half cut goes as  $S \propto L$   
Volume Law Entanglement

Sanity Check: Most states are highly entangled.

No concept of locality

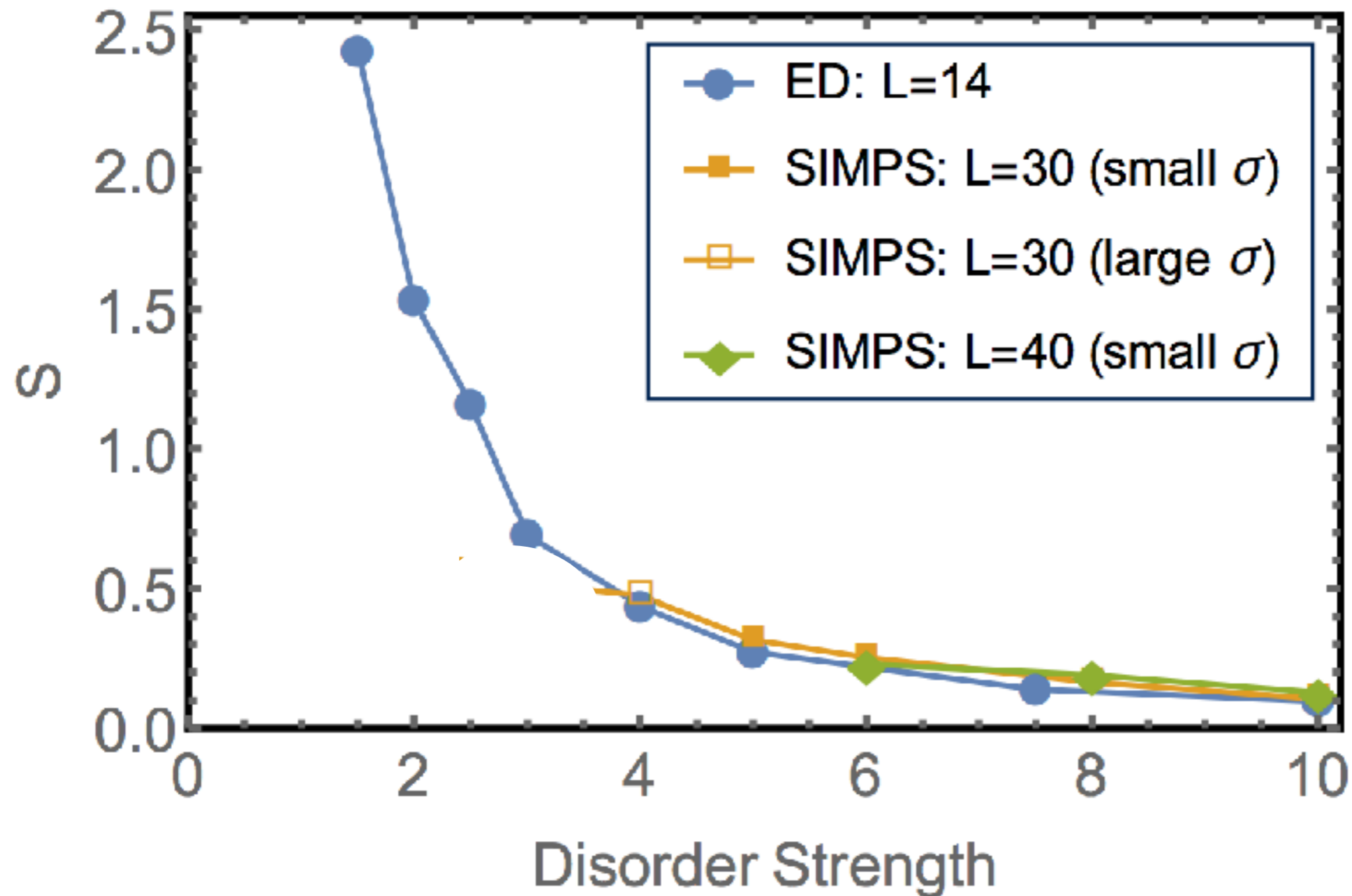
Entangled states can hide information; forget initial conditions

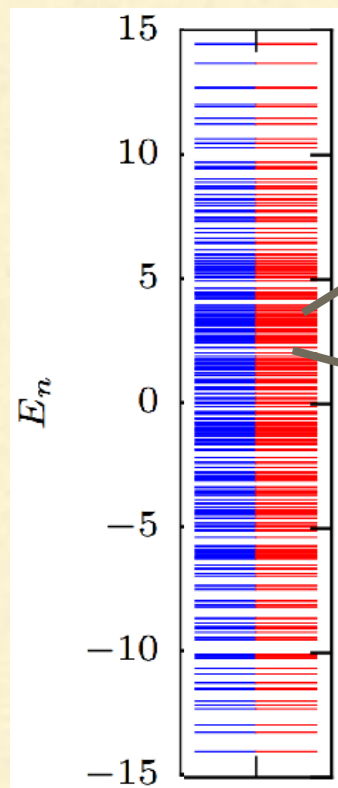


MBL states and ground states are “weakly entangled”  $S \propto O(1)$   
Area Law Entanglement



## Let's talk about entanglement



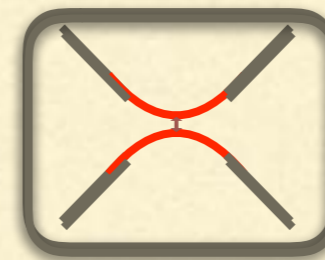


How far apart is the next eigenstate?

Naive expectation: *Just random*

Typical situation: *Level Repulsion* gives GOE statistics

Level Repulsion:



Ergodic Phase: GOE statistics

MBL Phase: Poisson statistics

---

**An algorithmic interlude:** How do we get eigenstates to see if something weird has happened to them?

$L = 16$  Use exact diagonalization

$L = 22$  Use shift and invert\*

$L \geq 30$  A no-go theorem exists for inter-level spacing at the level of machine precision.



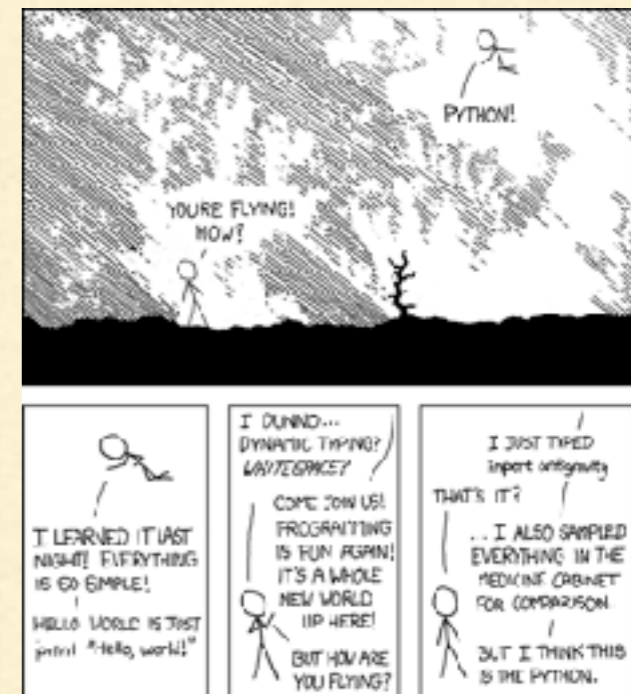
# A no-go theorem

**Goal:** Find an eigenstate.

**Program:** Find an quantum state with zero variance at energy  $E$

$$\sqrt{\langle \Psi | H^2 | \Psi \rangle - |\langle \Psi | H | \Psi \rangle|^2}$$

Linear superposition of eigenstates have zero (up to machine resolution) variance. Essentially a no-go theorem.

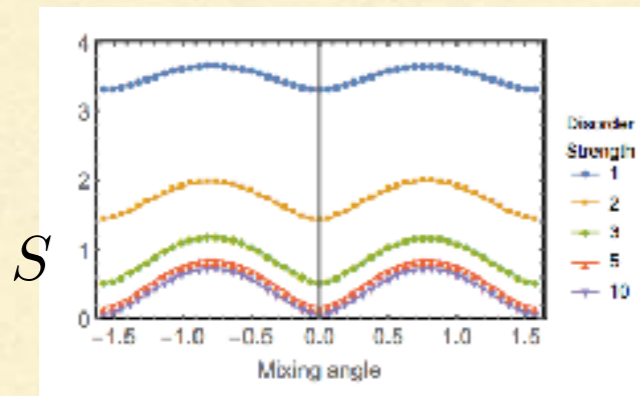


**Goal:** Find an eigenstate

**New Program:** Find the quantum state with zero variance at energy  $E$  and is locally minimal in entanglement.

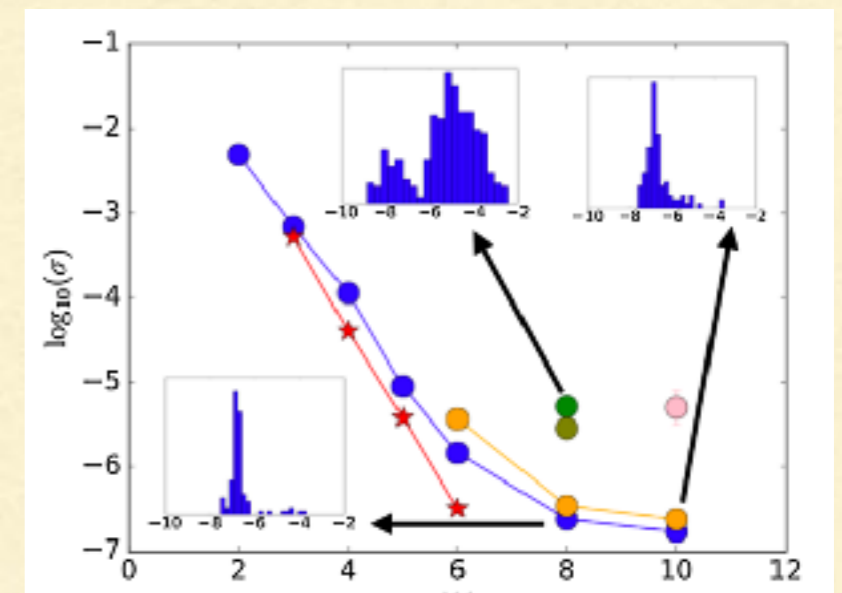
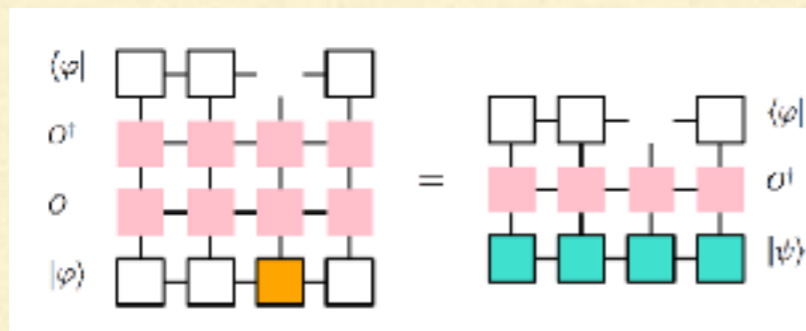
**Q:** Why does this work?

**A:**



$$|\Psi\rangle = \cos(\alpha)|\Psi_i\rangle + \sin(\alpha)|\Psi_{i+1}\rangle$$

SIMPS



End of **algorithmic interlude**



# Properties of Eigenstates

## Ergodic

ETH - Eigenstates equal thermal observables

Volume Law Entanglement

Eigenspectrum obeys GOE statistics

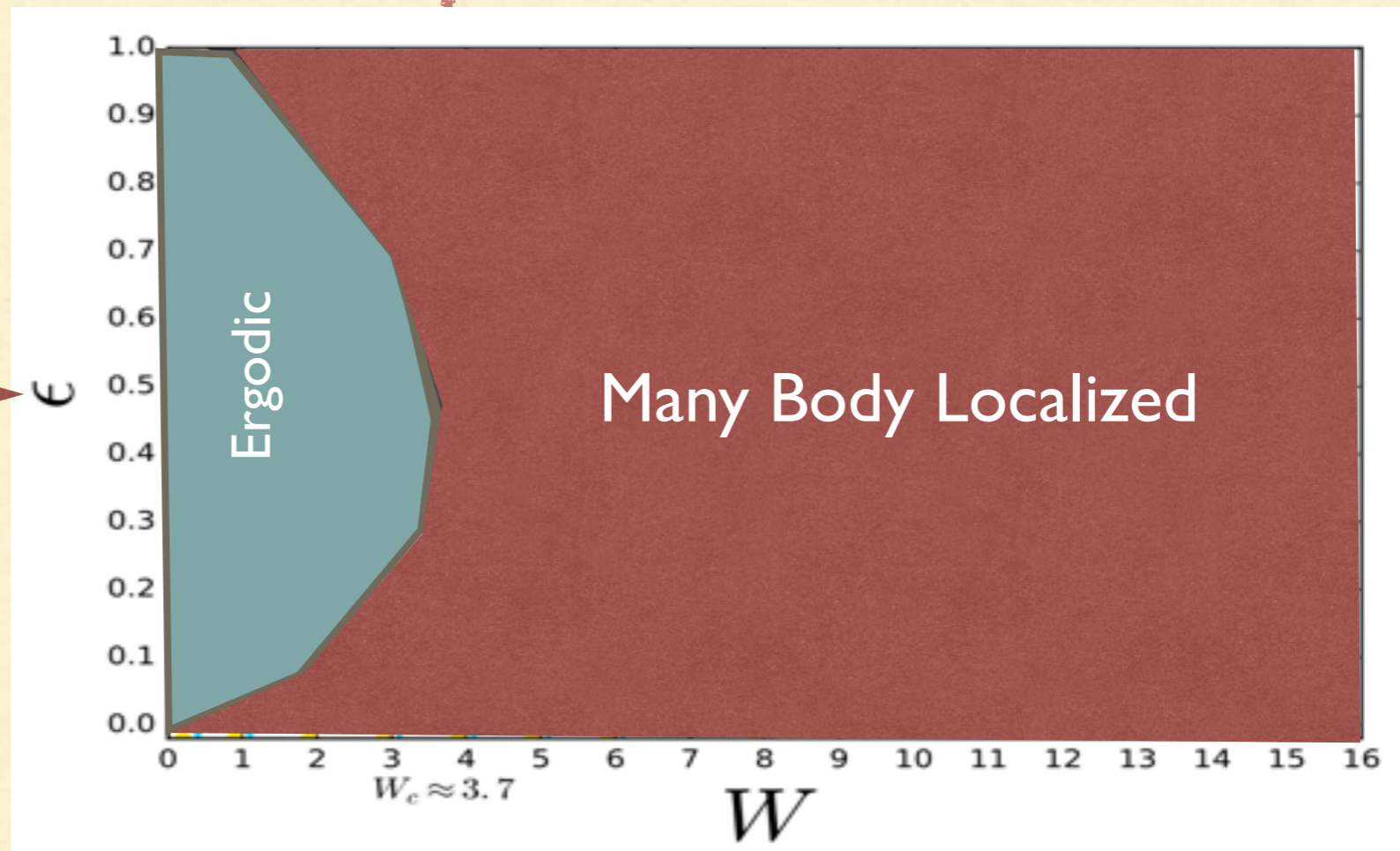
## MBL

Eigenstates have disparate observables

Area Law Entanglement

Eigenspectrum obeys poisson statistics

infinite  
temperature





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Our goal is now to figure out a unifying story for how we get unusual eigenstates.

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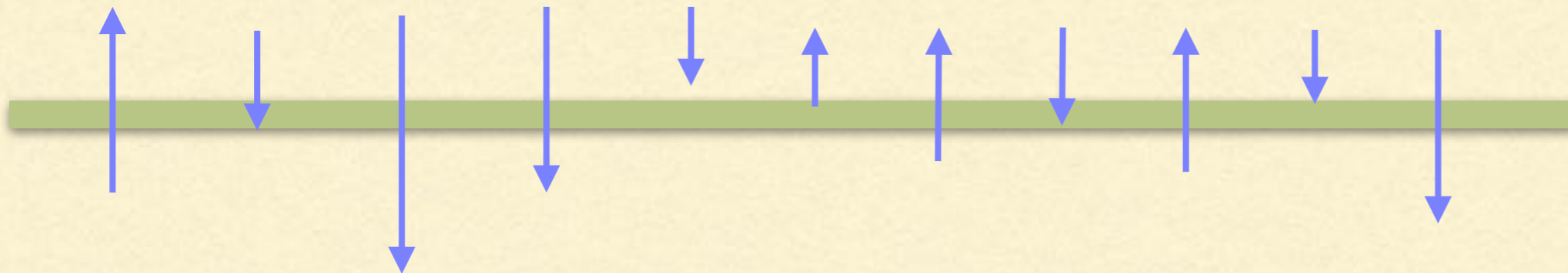
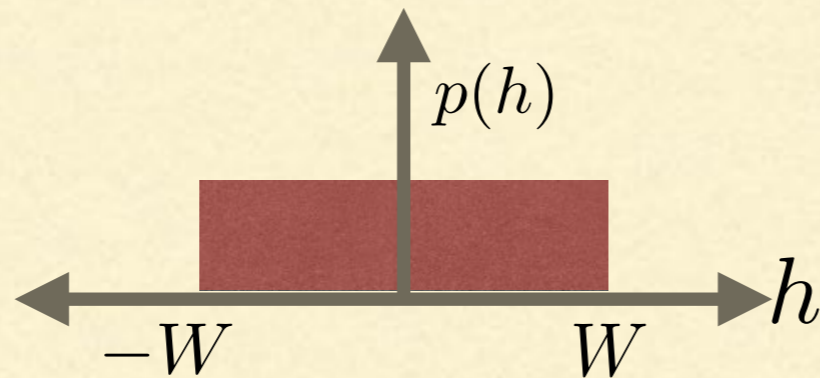
Our goal is now to figure out a unifying story for how we get unusual eigenstates.

Just disorder...

$$H = \sum_i h_i S_i^z$$

$$h \in [-W, W]$$

$$p(h_i) = \frac{1}{2W}$$



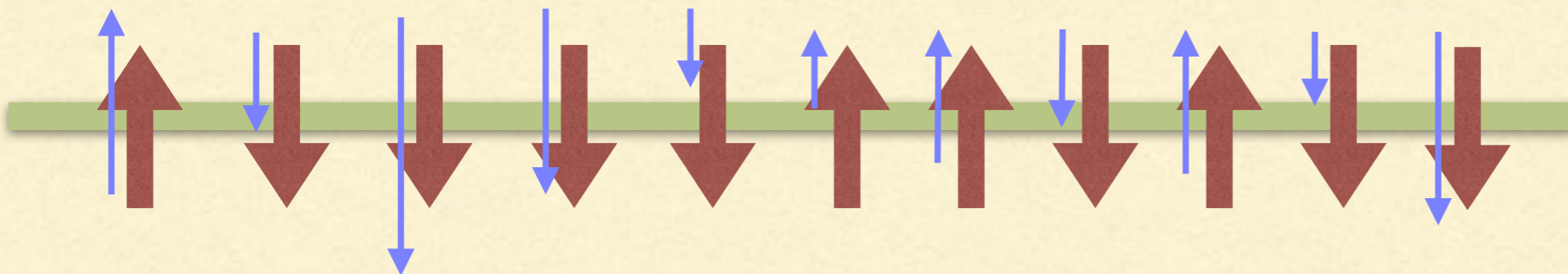
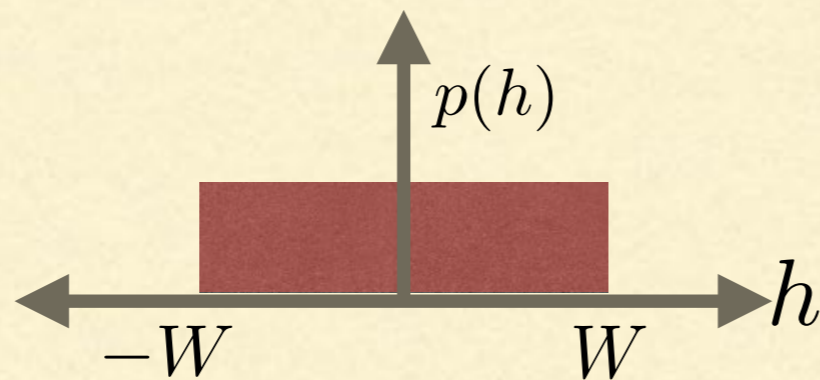
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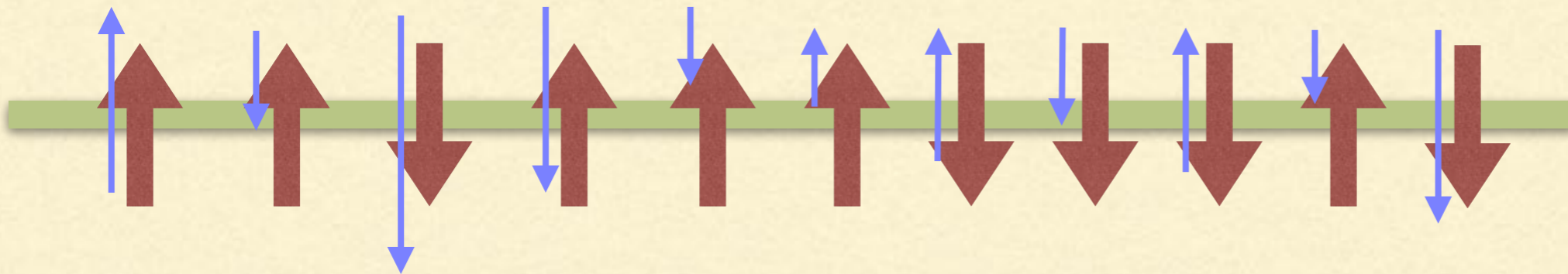


Our goal is now to figure out a unifying story for how we get unusual eigenstates.

No entanglement!

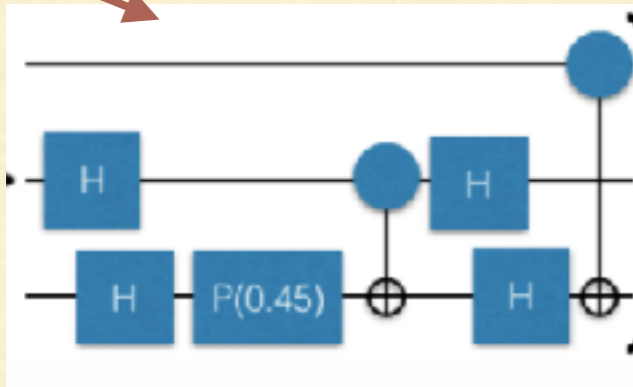
$|\uparrow\uparrow\downarrow\uparrow\downarrow\uparrow\uparrow\downarrow\rangle$  and  $|\downarrow\downarrow\downarrow\uparrow\downarrow\downarrow\uparrow\uparrow\rangle$  have same energy but different  $\langle S_6^z \rangle$

No level repulsion



# Why are the eigenstates so weird?

$$UHU^\dagger = H_{\text{diagonal}}$$



There are many different unitary quantum circuits which diagonalize a Hamiltonian  $H$ .

**Q:** What is the circuit depth of the smallest unitary which diagonalizes  $H$ ?

# Building the unitary circuit

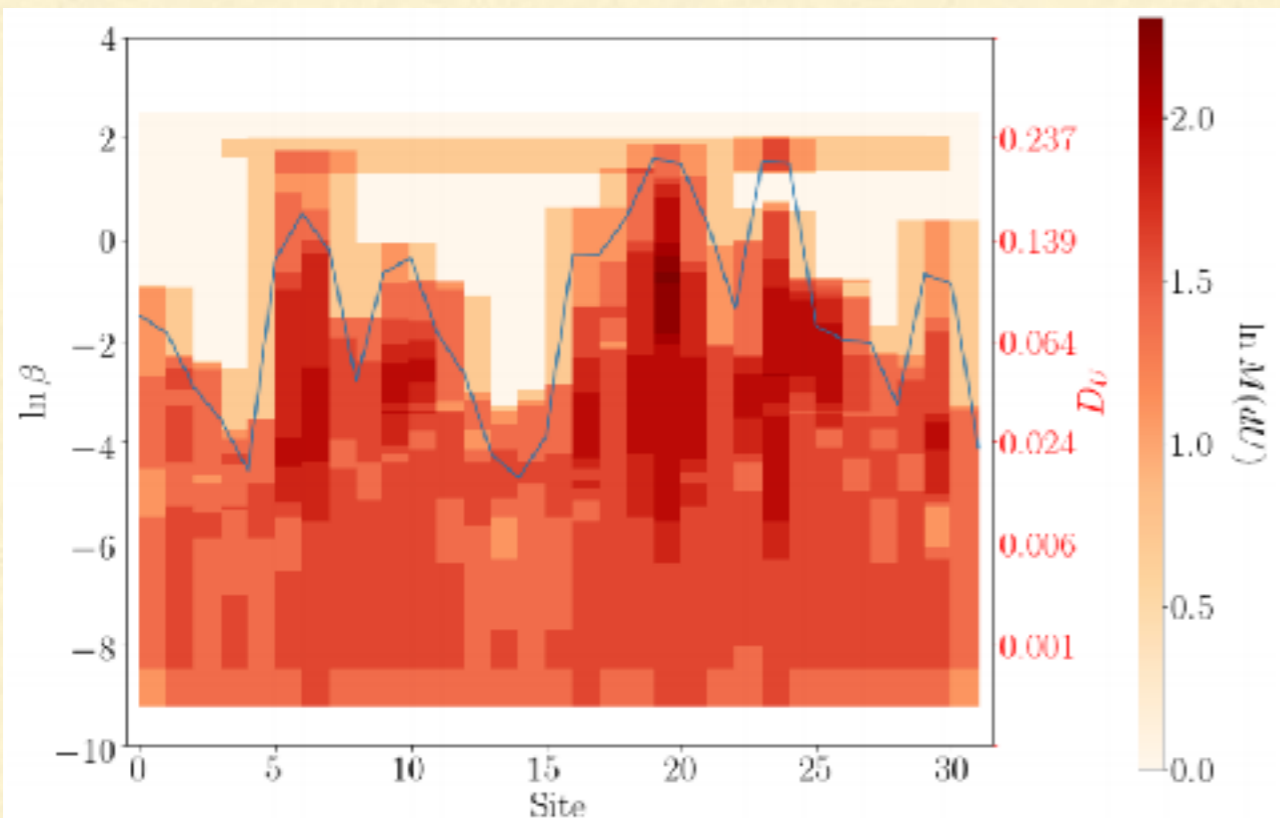
$$\eta(\beta) = [H_D(\beta), H_{OD}(\beta)]$$

$$U(\beta) = e^{i\eta(\beta)}$$

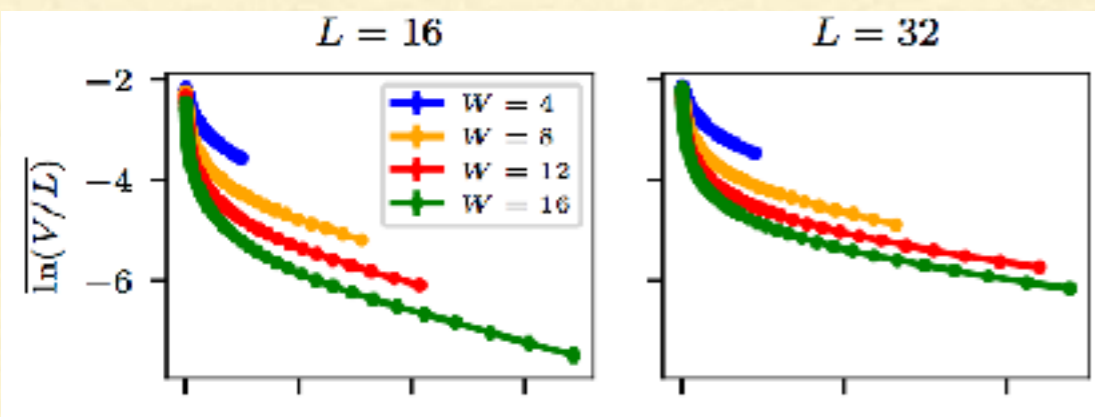
$$H(\beta + \delta\beta) = U(\beta)H(\beta)U^\dagger(\beta)$$

Unitary RG Process

Wegner-Wilson Flow



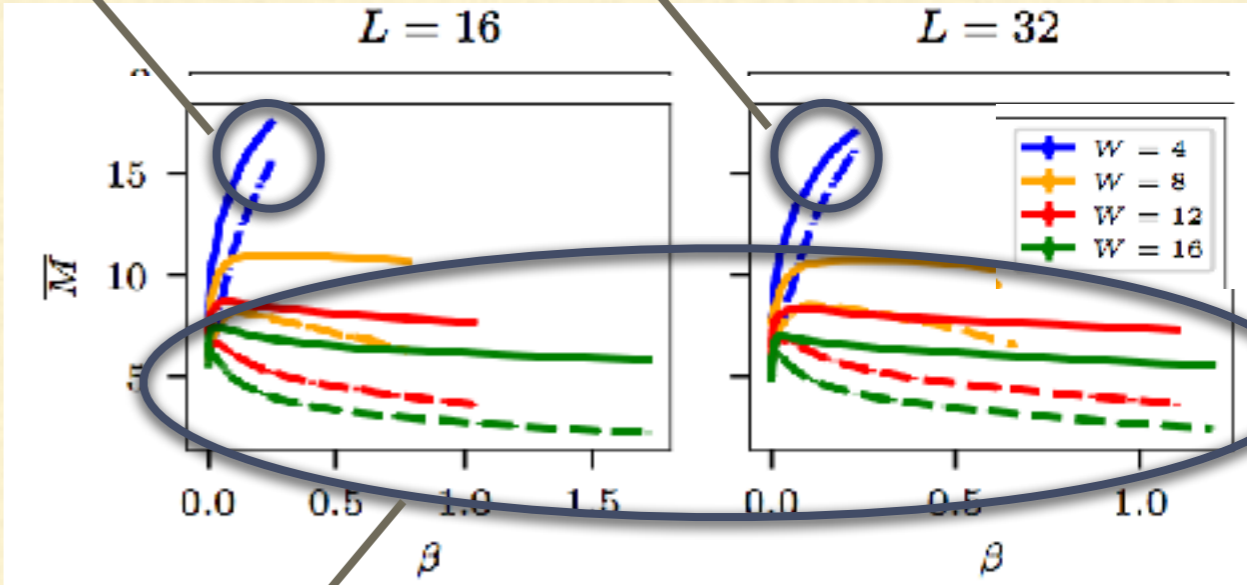
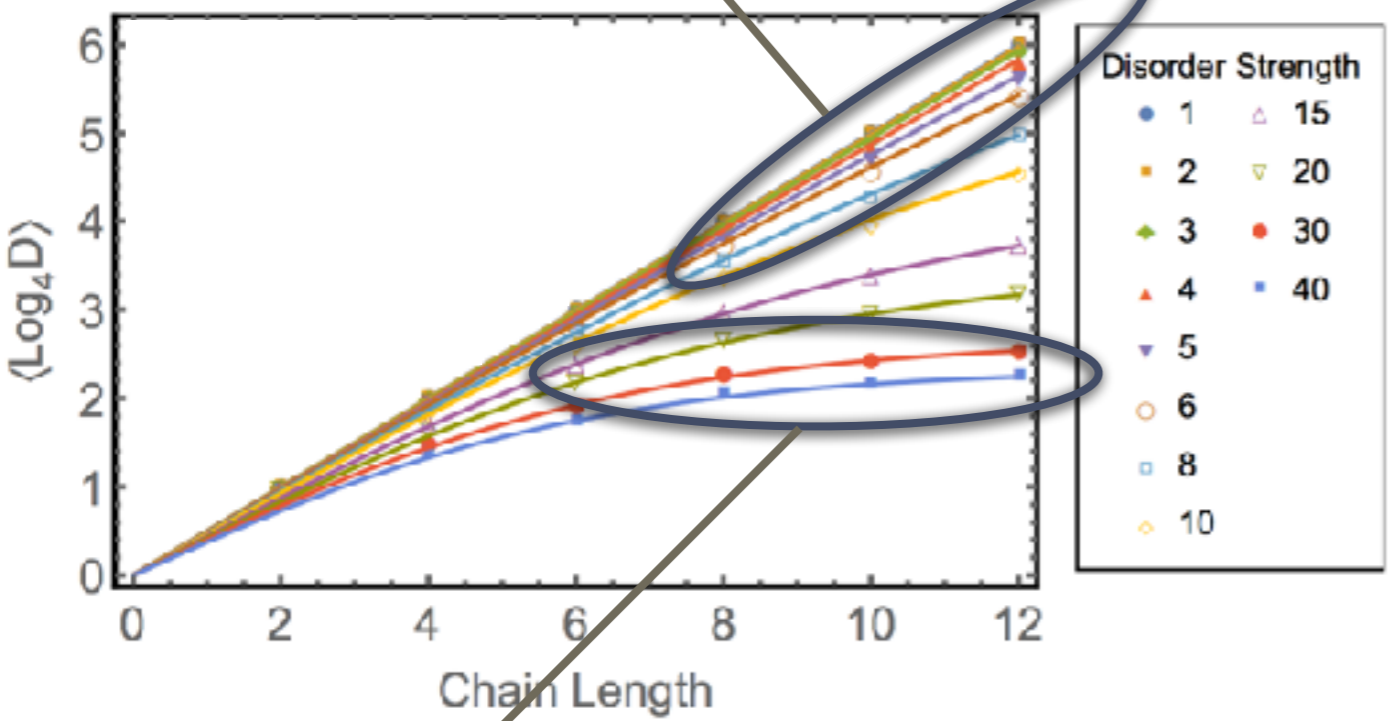
PEPSification of the flow





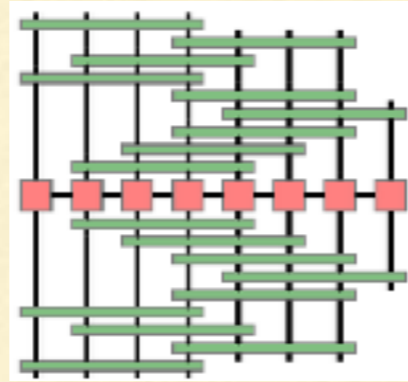
# Why are the eigenstates so weird?

weak disorder = ergodic = linear-depth quantum circuit

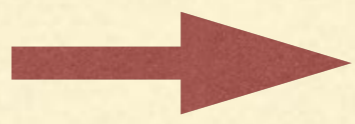
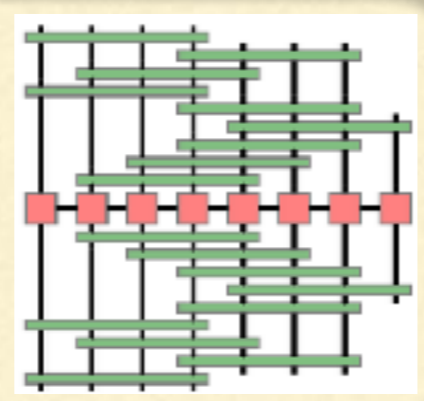


strong disorder = MBL = constant-depth quantum circuit

# Short Diagonalizing Quantum Circuits



Short Diagonalizing  
Quantum Circuits



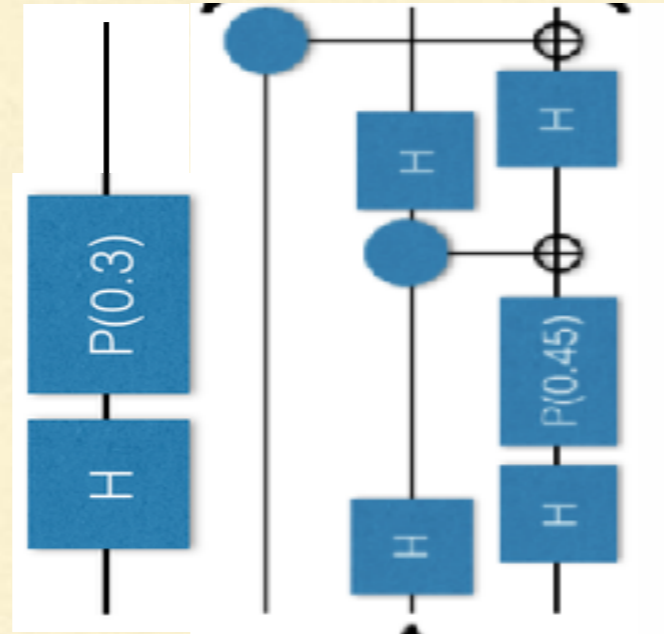
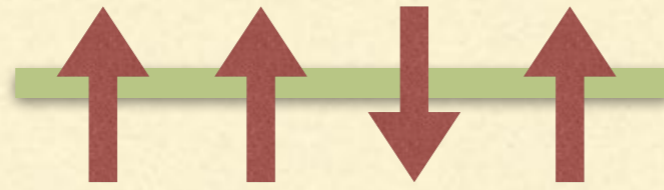
Low Entanglement  
Simple Eigenstate Structure





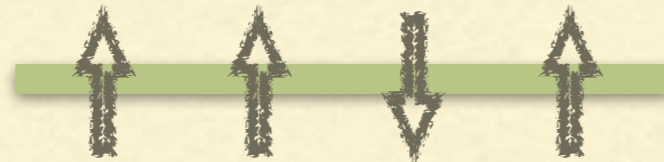
# Low Entanglement + Simple Eigenstate Structure

Product State  
(no entanglement)



constant depth  
can't add much entanglement

Eigenstate  
(low entanglement)



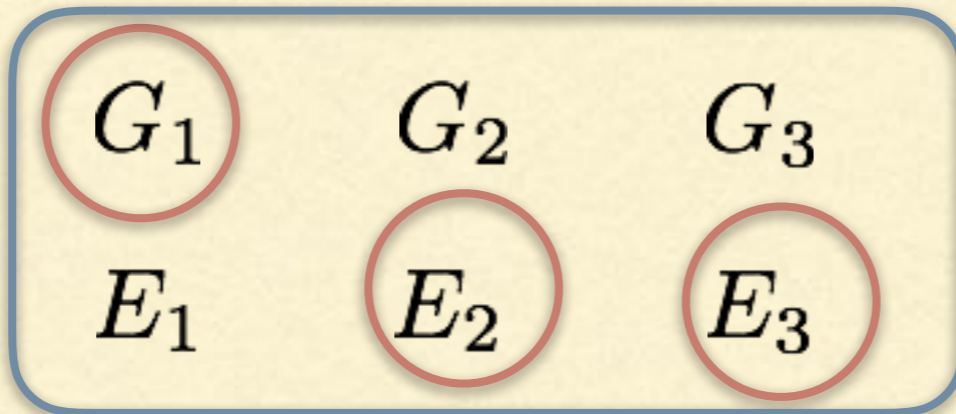
# Simple Eigenstate Structure

$G_i$  Tensor of  $2D^2$  numbers

$E_i$  Tensor of  $2D^2$  numbers

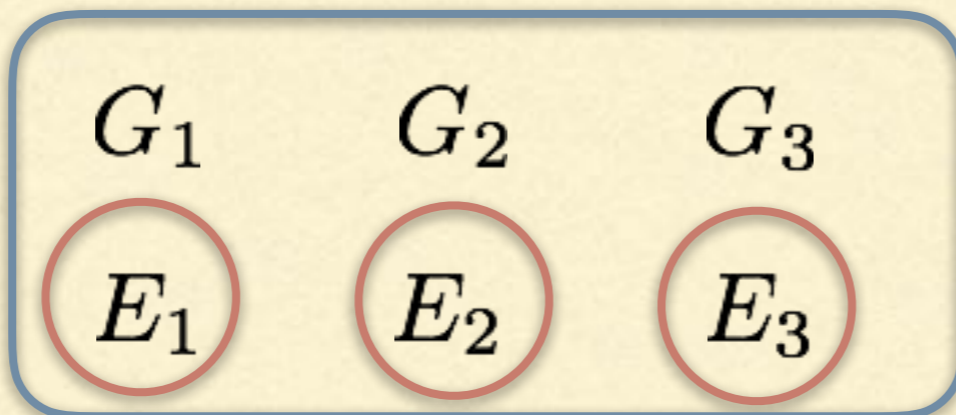
Eigenstate one:

$|\uparrow\downarrow\downarrow\rangle \rightarrow$



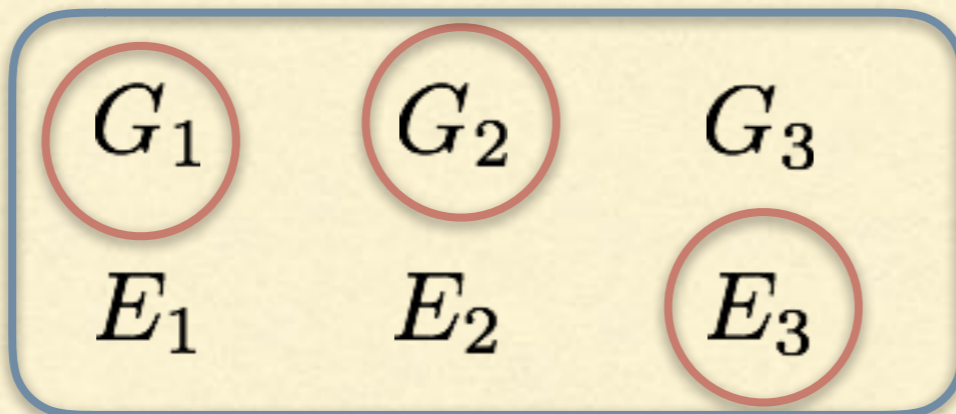
Eigenstate two:

$|\downarrow\downarrow\downarrow\rangle \rightarrow$



Eigenstate three:

$|\uparrow\uparrow\downarrow\rangle \rightarrow$



#`s for all eigenstates

Expected

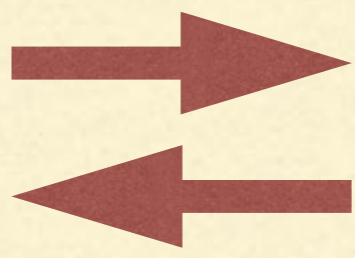
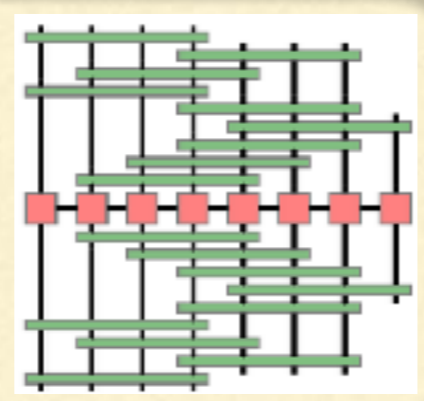
$2^n 2^n$

Actual

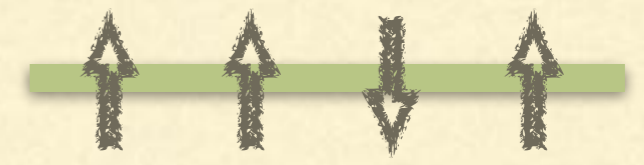
$nD^2$

*Really surprising!*

Short Diagonalizing  
Quantum Circuits



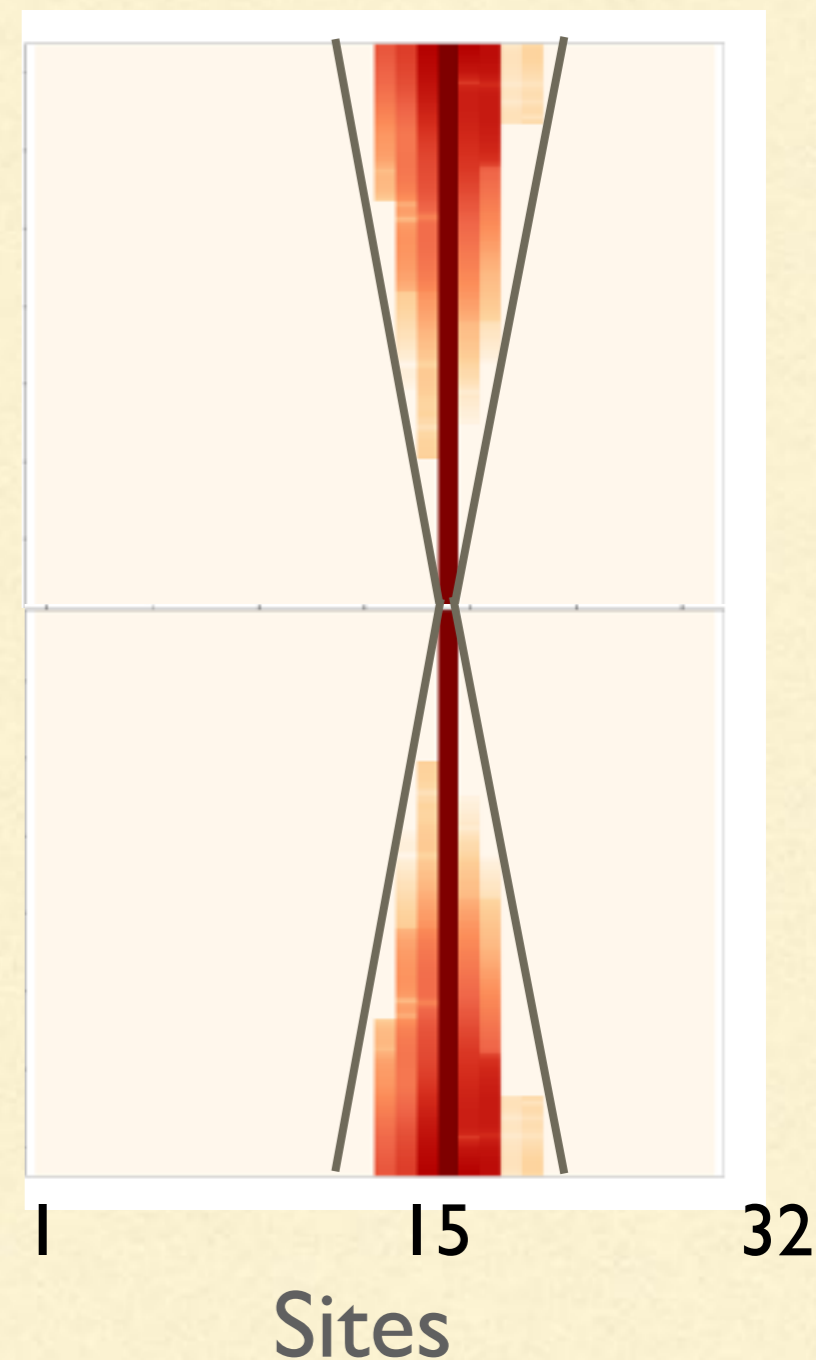
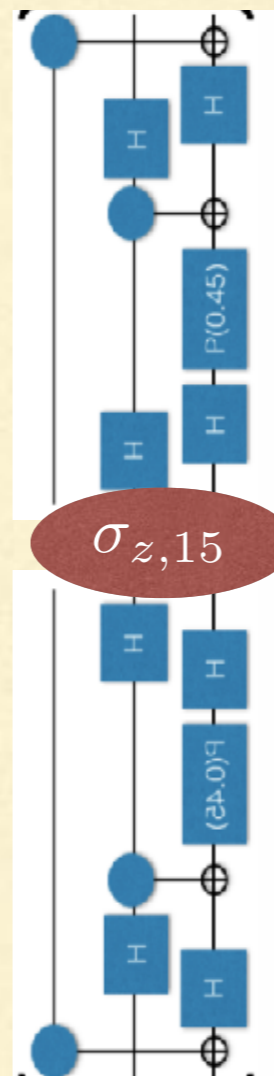
Simple Eigenstate Structure





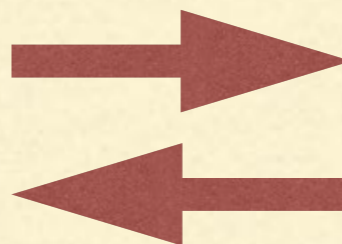
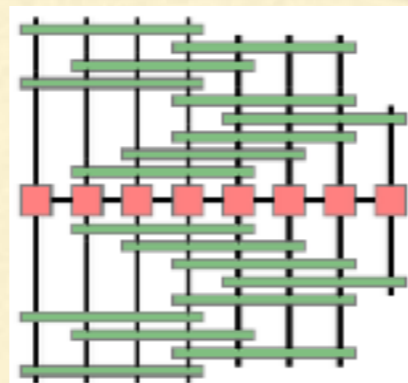
Circuits have a light cone.

$$U\sigma_{15}^z U^\dagger \text{ is close to } \sigma_{15}^z$$

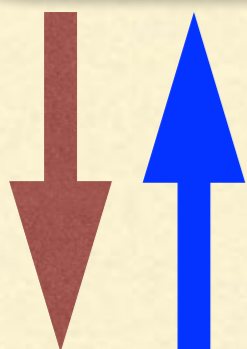


$|\uparrow\uparrow\downarrow\uparrow\downarrow\uparrow\uparrow\downarrow\rangle$  and  $|\downarrow\downarrow\downarrow\uparrow\downarrow\downarrow\uparrow\uparrow\rangle$  have same energy but different  $\langle U S_6^z U^\dagger \rangle$

Short Diagonalizing  
Quantum Circuits



Simple Eigenstate Structure



$\ell$ -bits

$$[H, \hat{O}_i] = 0$$

$$[\hat{O}_j, \hat{O}_i] = 0$$

$$\text{Tr}[\hat{O}_i \hat{O}_j] = 0$$

$\ell$ -bits

Some commuting operators

$$\tau_1 = U^\dagger \sigma_{1,z} U$$

$$\tau_2 = U^\dagger \sigma_{2,z} U$$

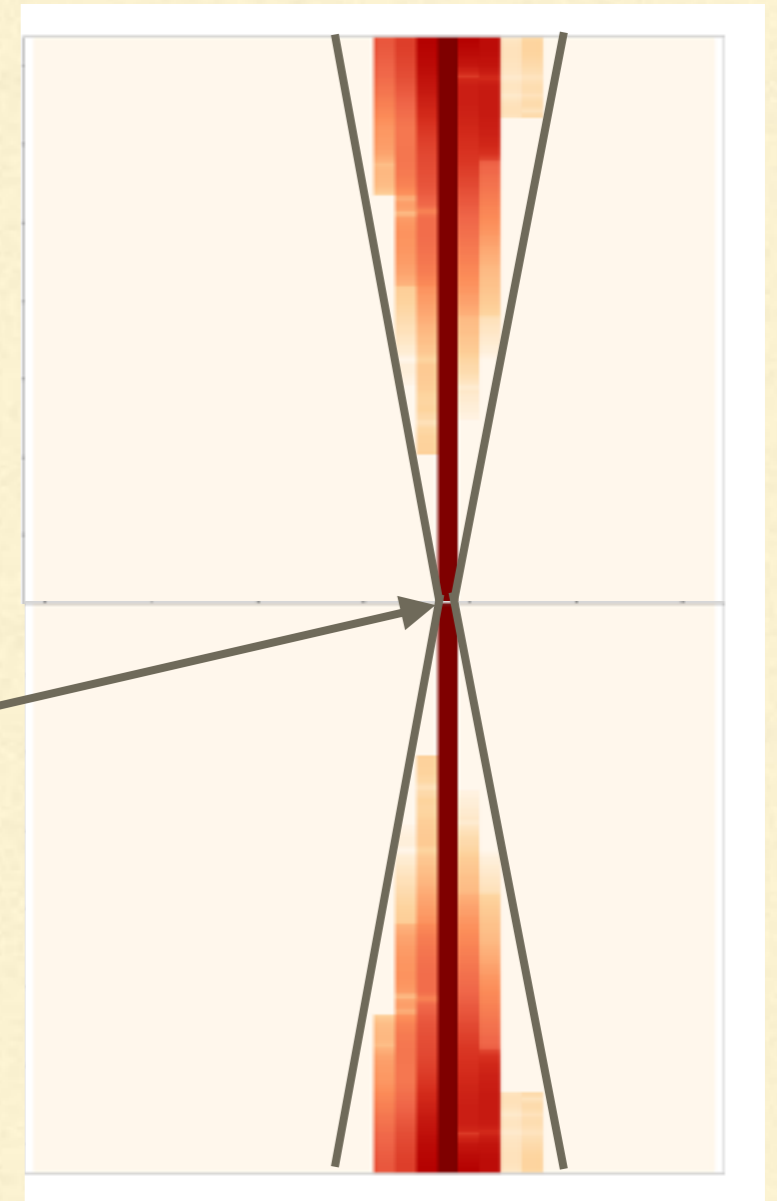
$$\tau_3 = U^\dagger \sigma_{3,z} U$$

⋮

$$\tau_{15} = U^\dagger \sigma_{15,z} U$$

⋮

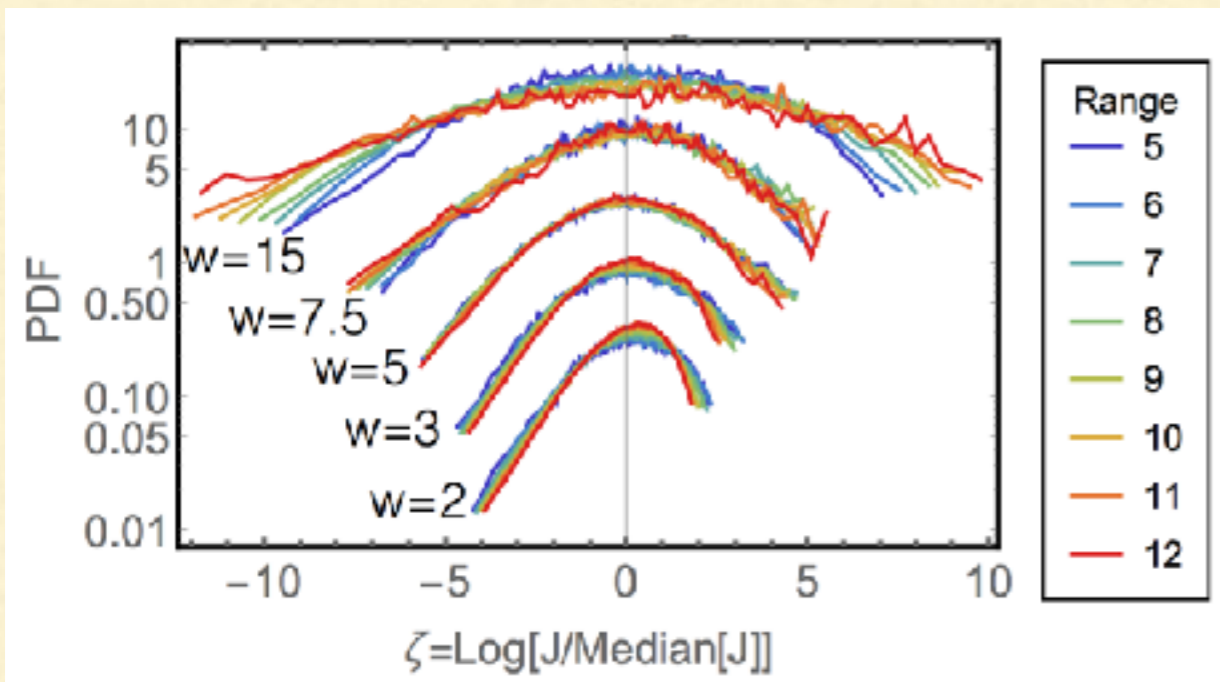
$$\tau_{32} = U^\dagger \sigma_{32,z} U$$



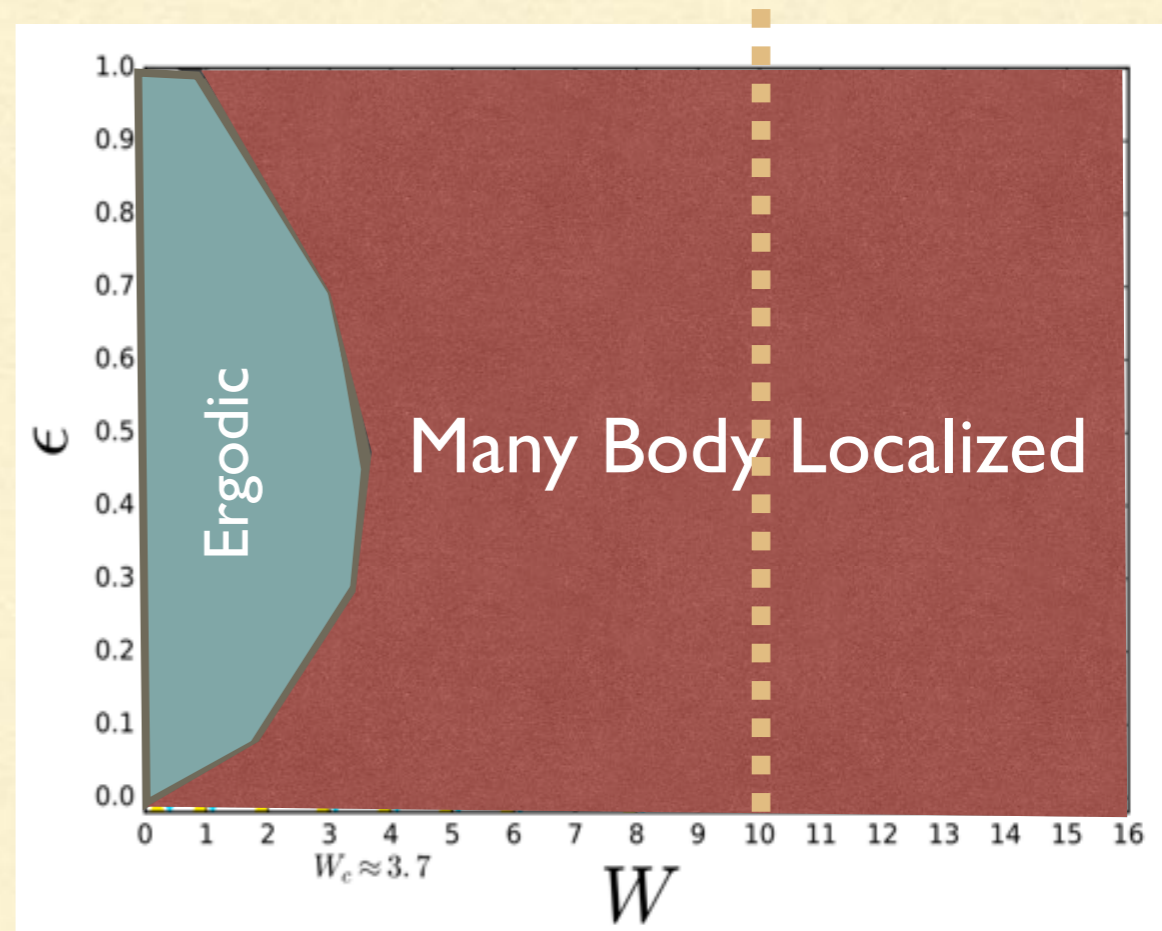
A local commuting operator



$$H = \sum_i J_i \tau_i^z + \sum_{ij} J_{ij} \tau_i^z \tau_j^z + \sum_{ijk} J_{ijk} \tau_i^z \tau_j^z \tau_k^z + \dots$$



Deep in the MBL phase, as  $|i - j| \rightarrow \infty$  the probability that  $J_{ij}$  is of strength  $10^k$  is independent of  $k$

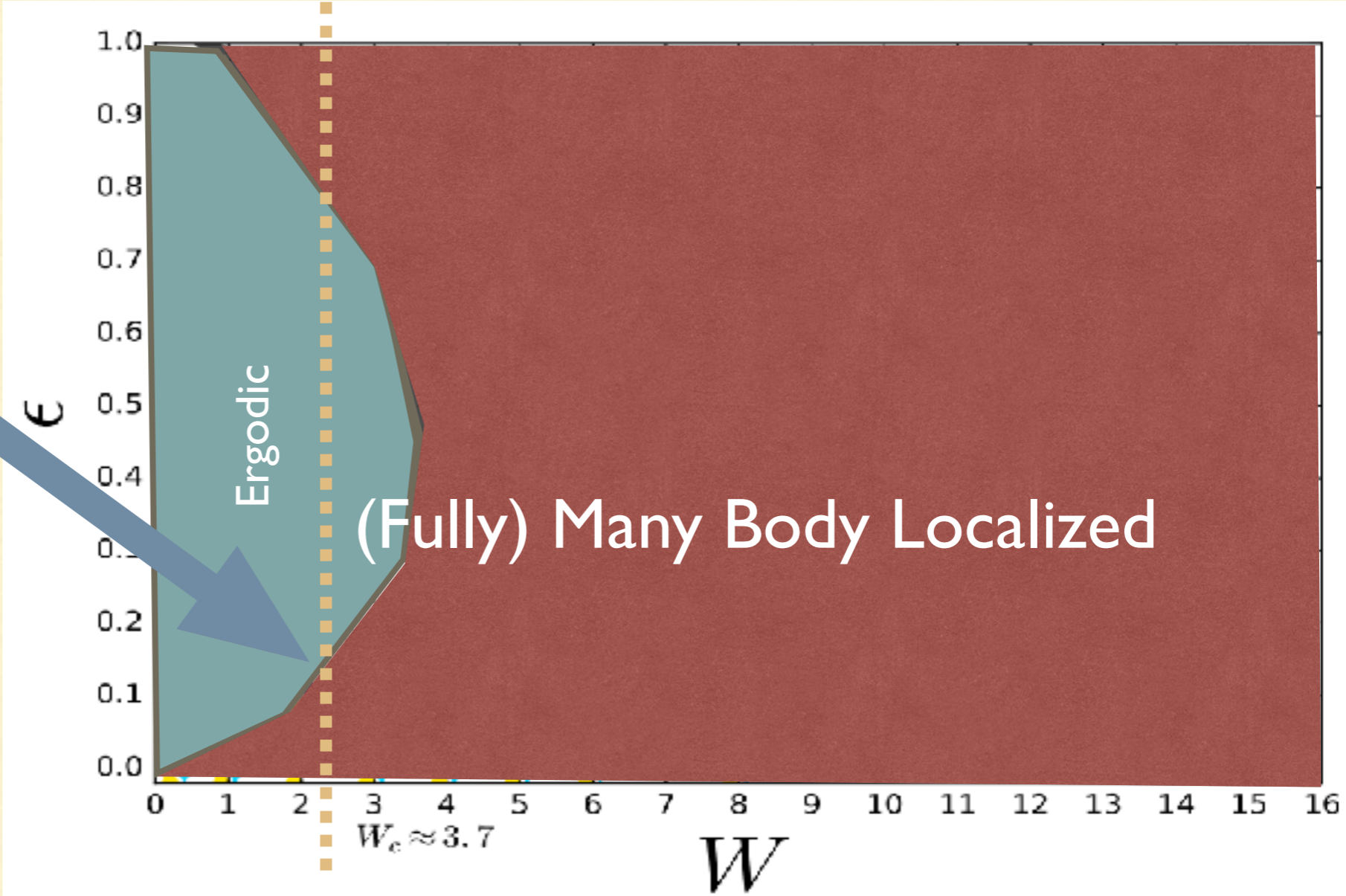
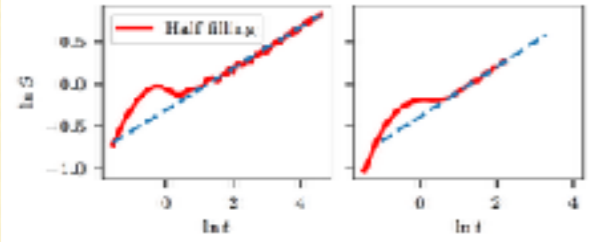


# Open Challenges:

Mobility  
Edge

Transition

Beyond MBL



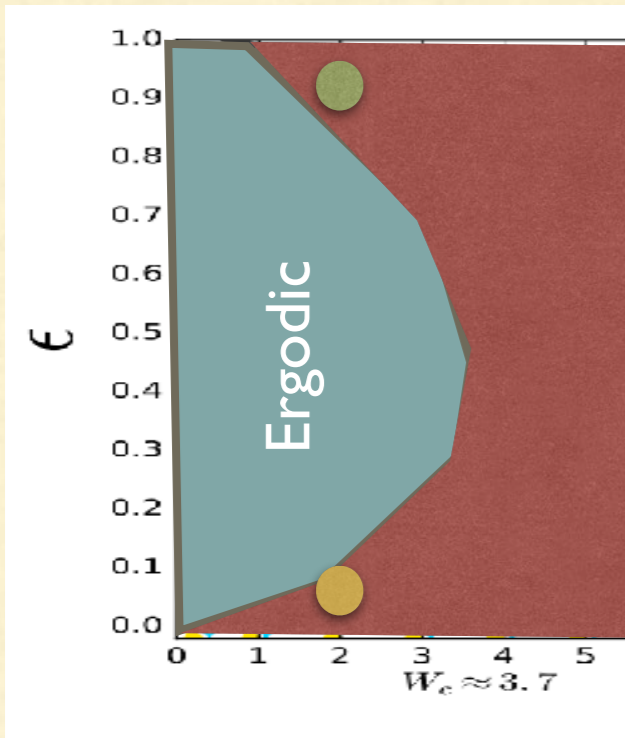
Eigenstates which are logarithmically entangled which equilibrate strangely.

Yu, Luo, Clark (Feb 2018)



# Mobility Edge

Single eigenstates know about the whole spectrum.

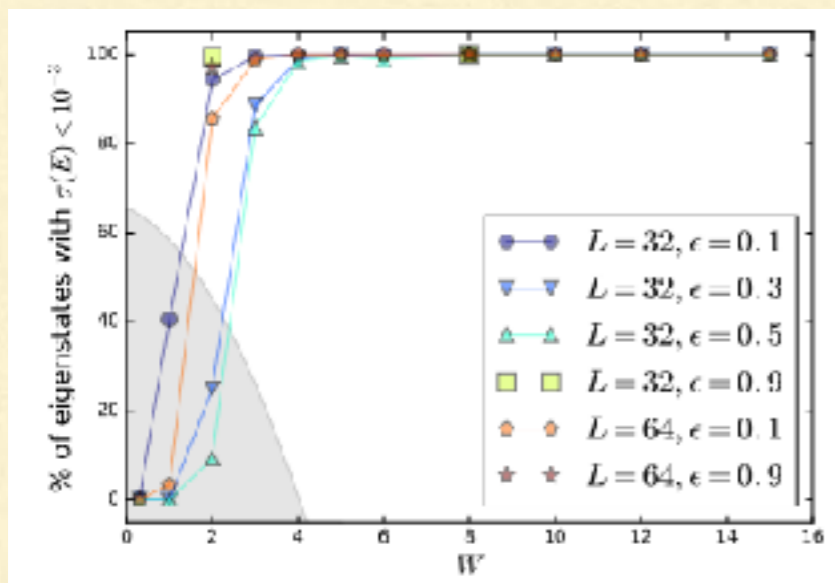
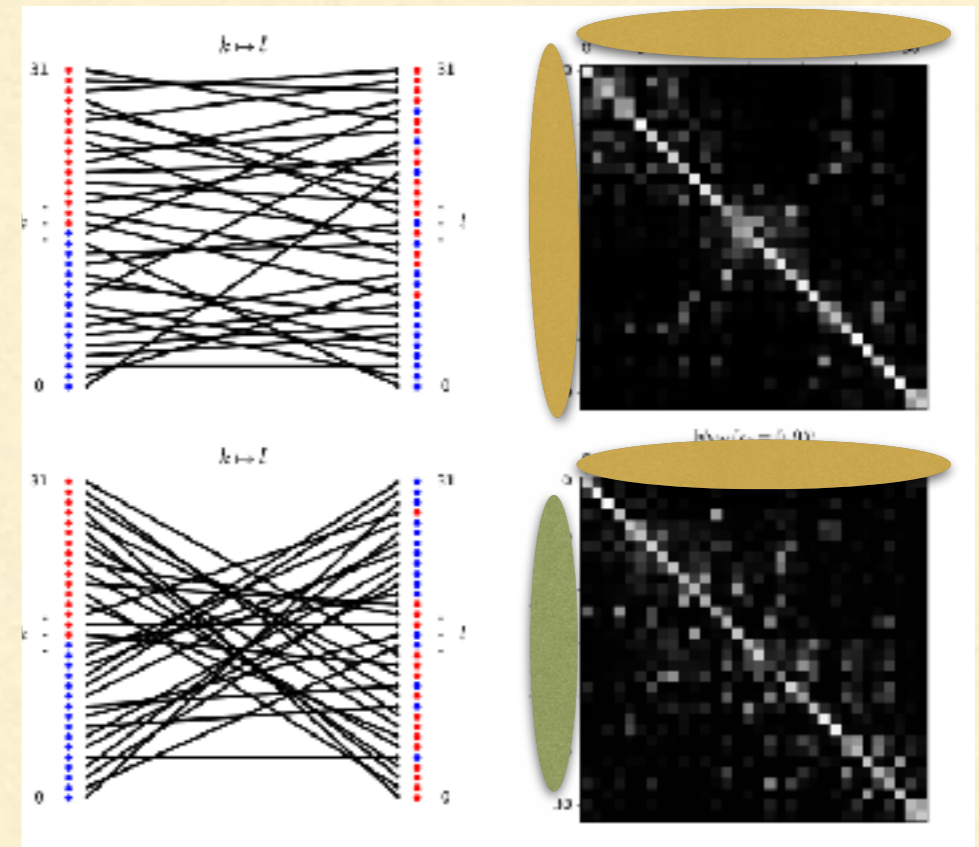


MBL Eigenstate

$$\langle c_i^\dagger c_j \rangle$$

eigenvectors

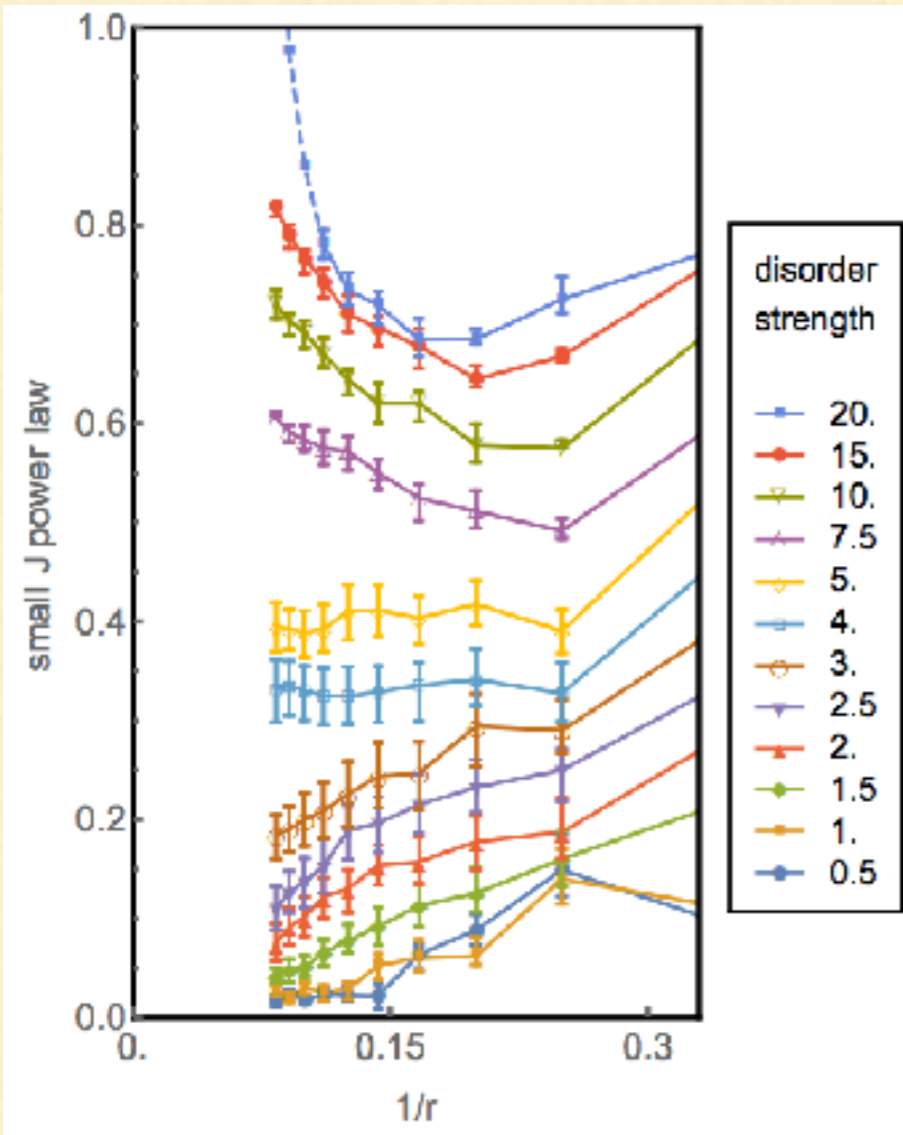
$$\phi_i$$



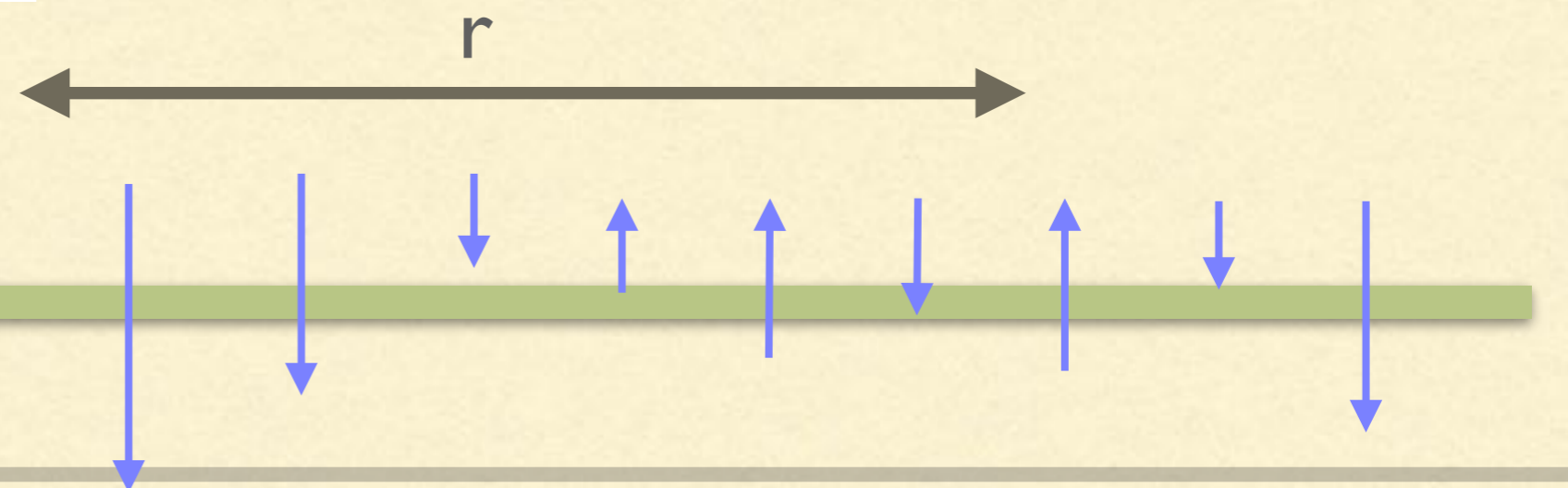


# Transition

$$H = \sum_i J_i \tau_i^z + \sum_{ij} J_{ij} \tau_i^z \tau_j^z + \sum_{ijk} J_{ijk} \tau_i^z \tau_j^z \tau_k^z + \dots$$

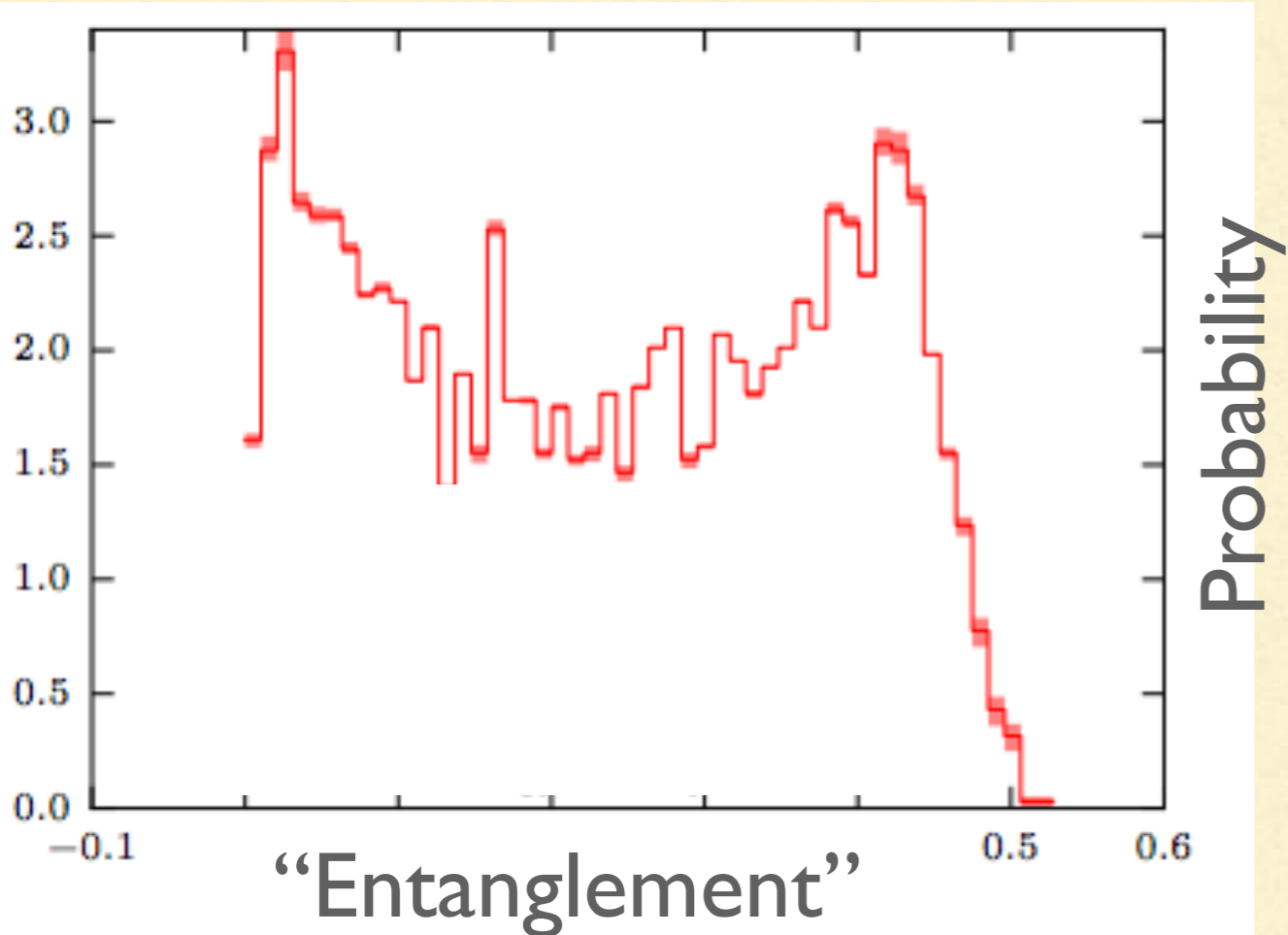
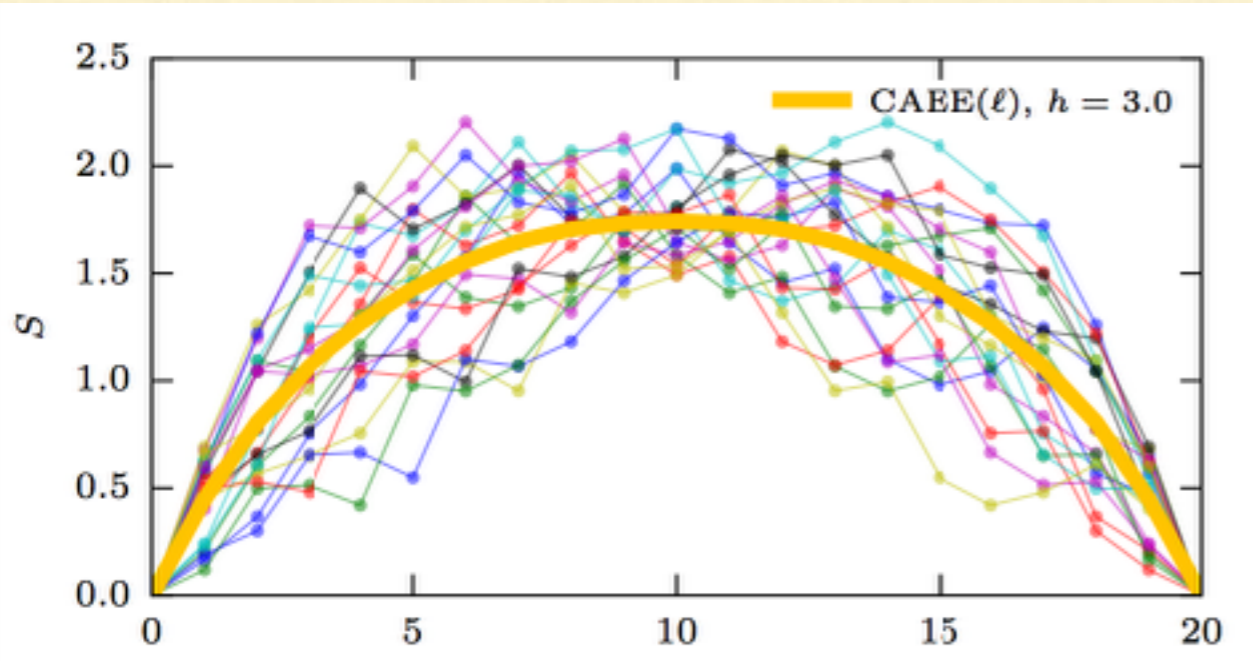


Probability distribution of coupling constants of the I-bit Hamiltonians are scale invariant at the transition.



# Transition

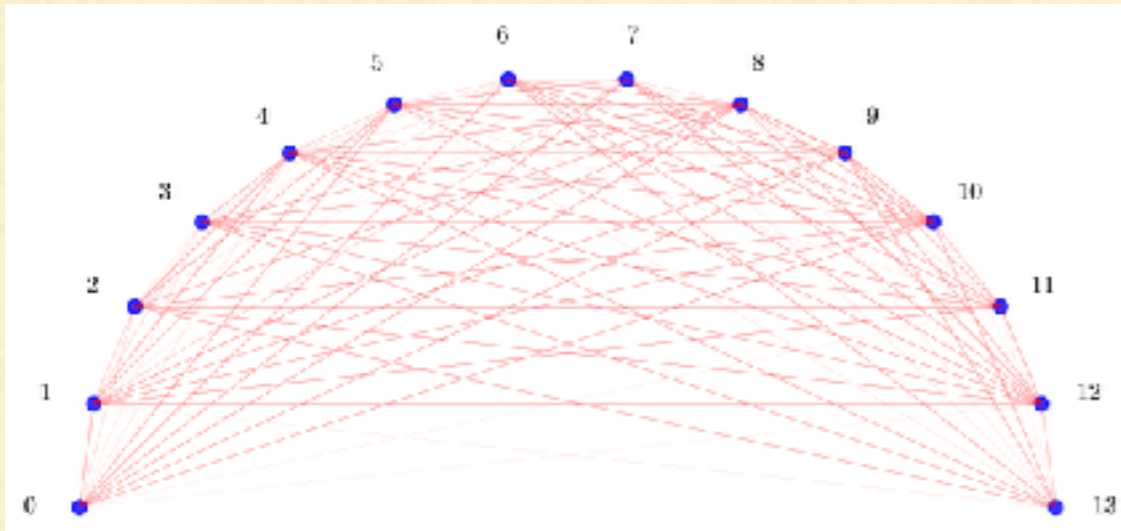
# Bimodality of Entanglement



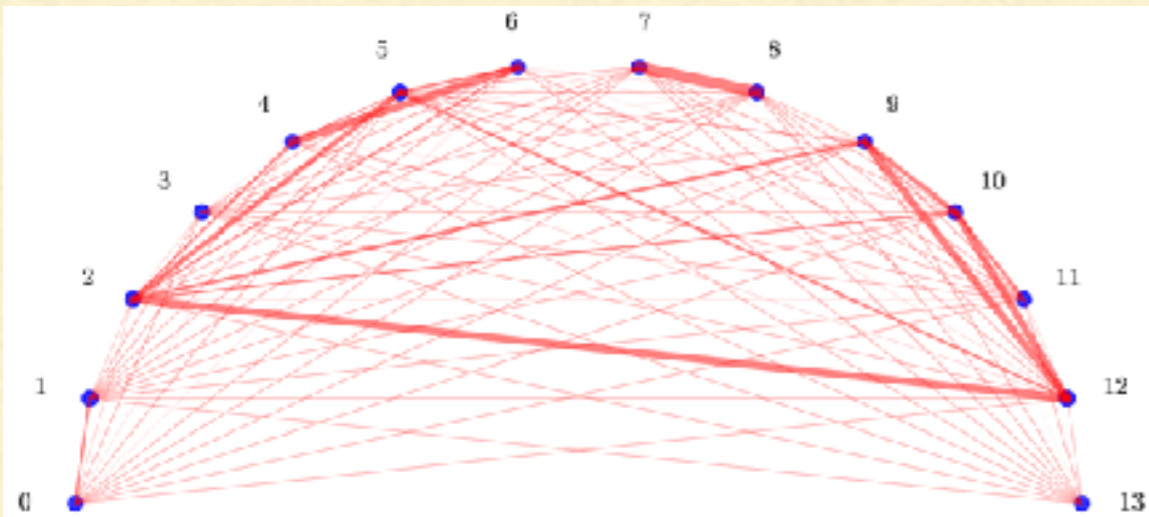
Eigenstates at the transition have both area law and volume law states

# Transition

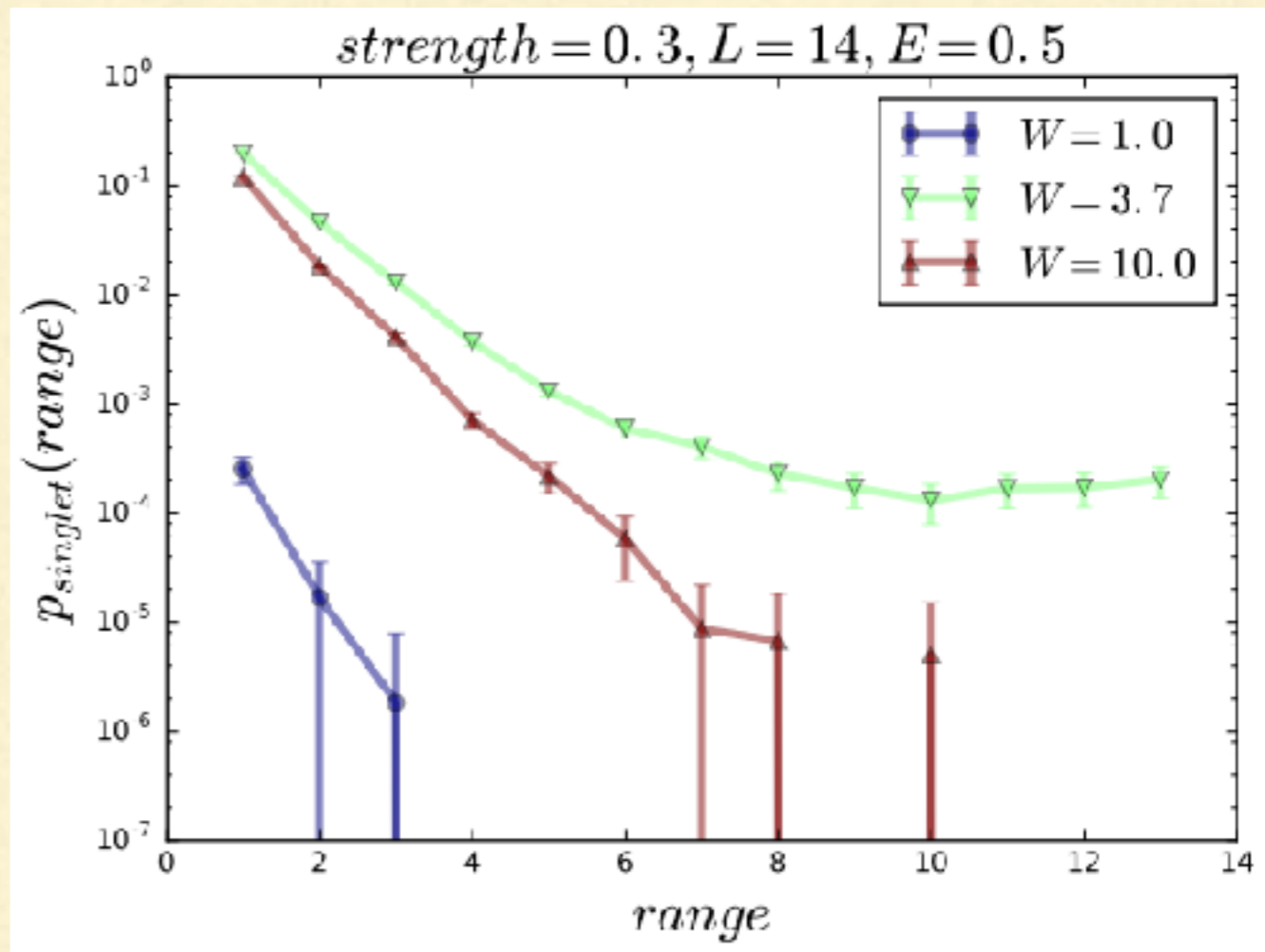
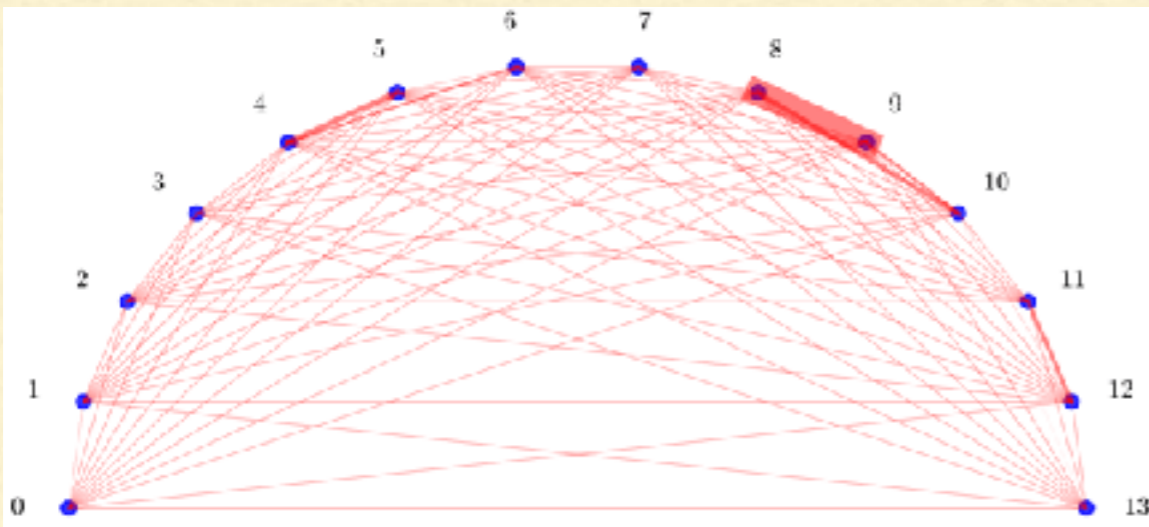
$W=1.0$



$W=3.7$



$W=10$





---

Some Hamiltonians don't thermalize  
because their eigenstates are pathological  
because you can diagonalize the Hamiltonian with short circuits  
which implies low entangled, a compact eigenstate structure  
and l-bits.

MBL eigenstates know about the mobility edge.

Bimodality at the transition

Scale-invariance at the transition

*Algorithms/new observables:*

SIMPS to get eigenstates

Tensor-network wegner-flow to get unitary tensor networks

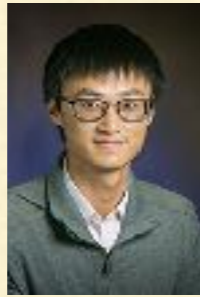
CAEE window-averaging to convexify.

Universal approximate l-bits from eigenstates.

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# Acknowledgements

MBL



Frustrated  
Magnetism



Finite T Algorithms  
Quantum Information



Inverse approaches  
to finding parent  
Hamiltonians



Superconductivity