

# Metastability in open quantum systems

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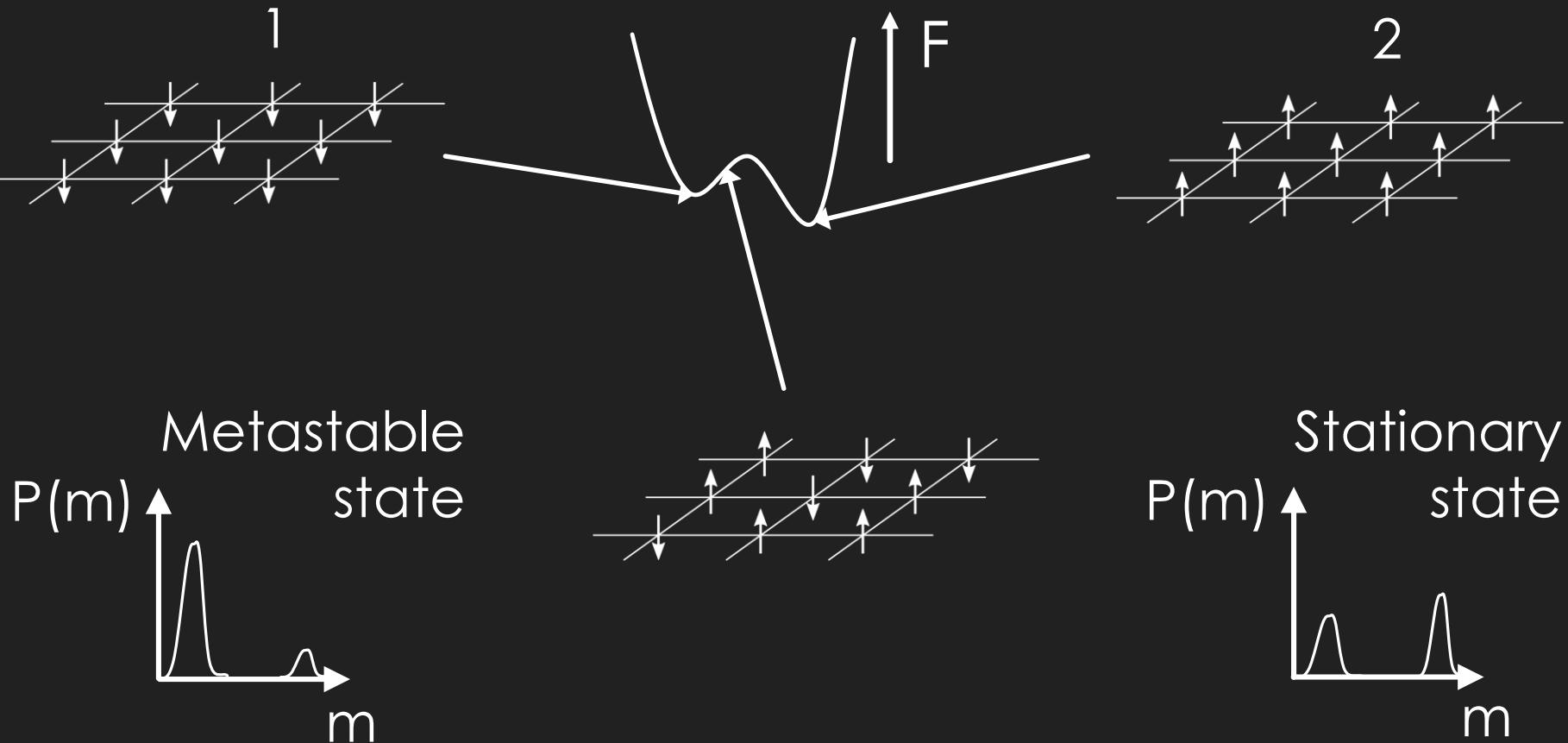
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The University of Nottingham,

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W. Köckenberger, I. Lesanovsky  
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- Metastability in an open quantum Ising model,  
PRE 94, 052132 (2016)
- Metastability in the open quantum East model,  
in preparation
- Dynamical nuclear polarization,  
arXiv:1703.07159

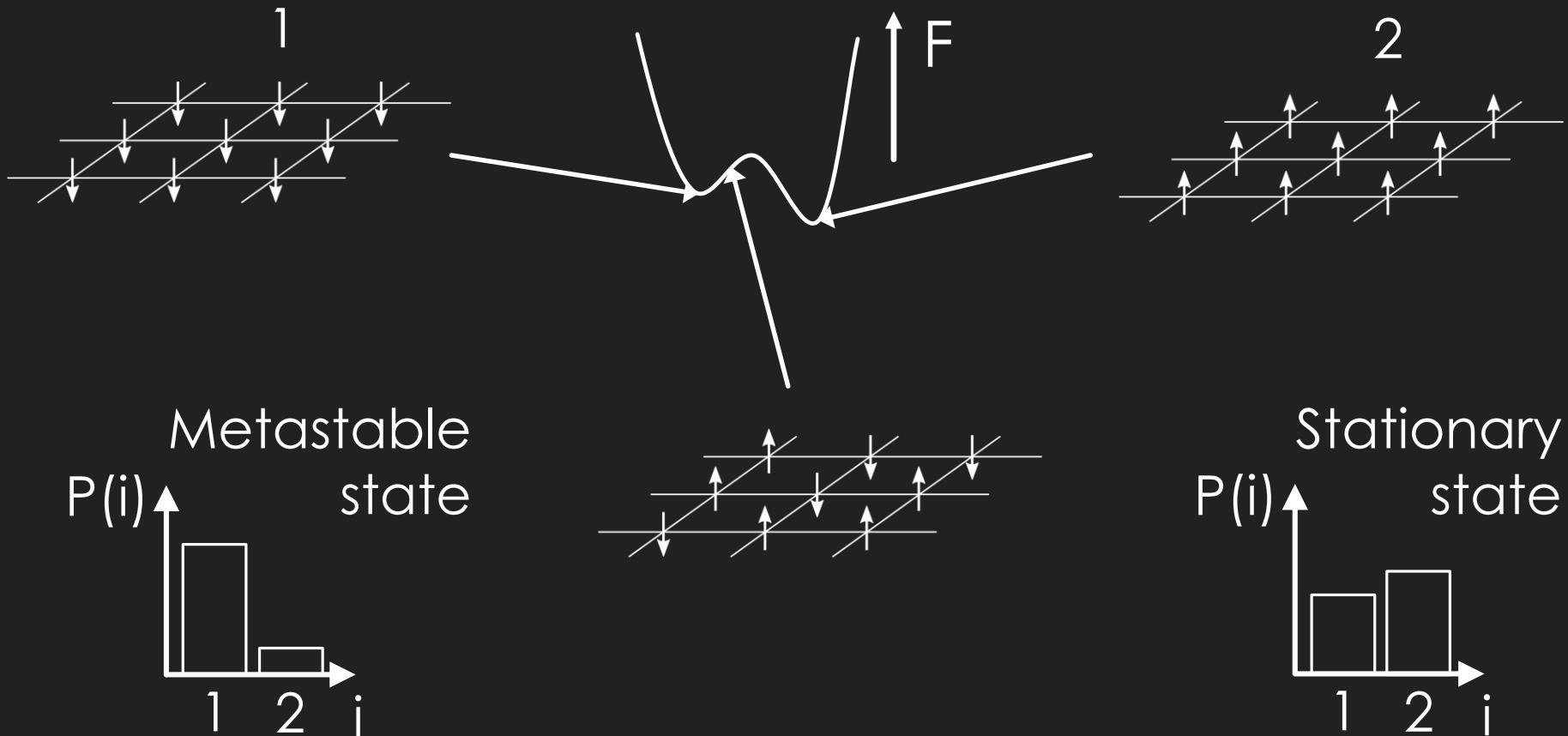
# What is metastability?

- Approximate stationarity in evolution



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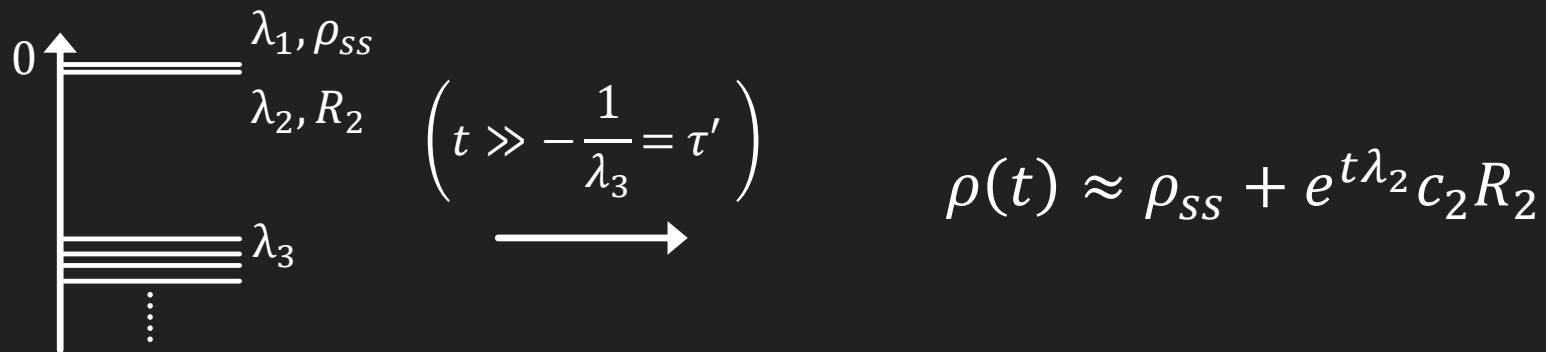


# Theory of metastability

- Evolution given by master equation

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = \mathcal{L}(\rho) \longrightarrow \rho(t) = \sum_i e^{\lambda_i t} c_i R_i$$

- Reduced dimension from spectral separation

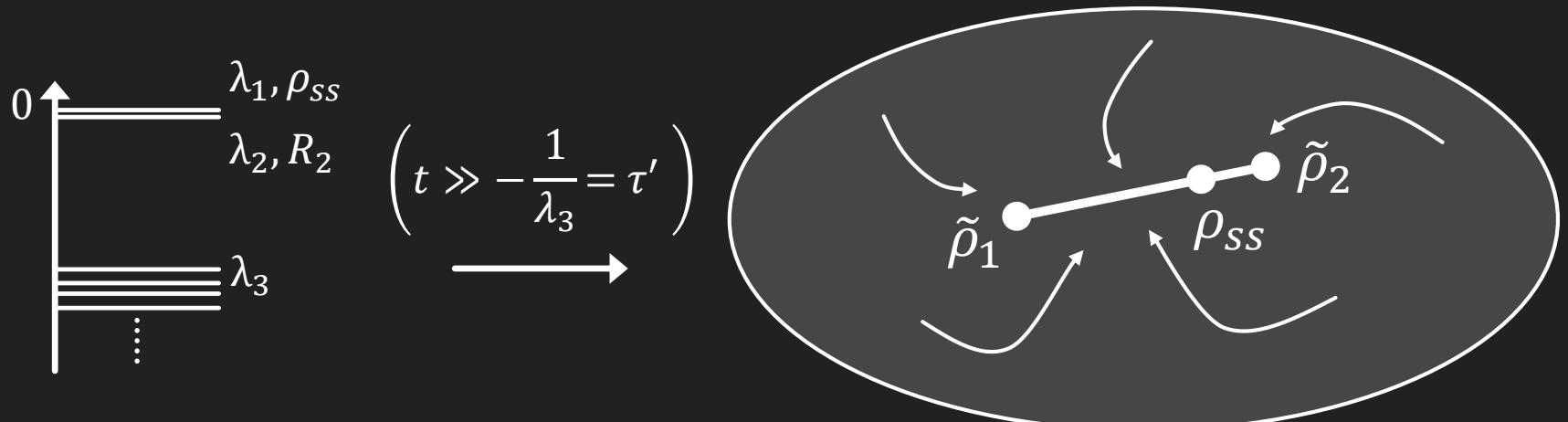


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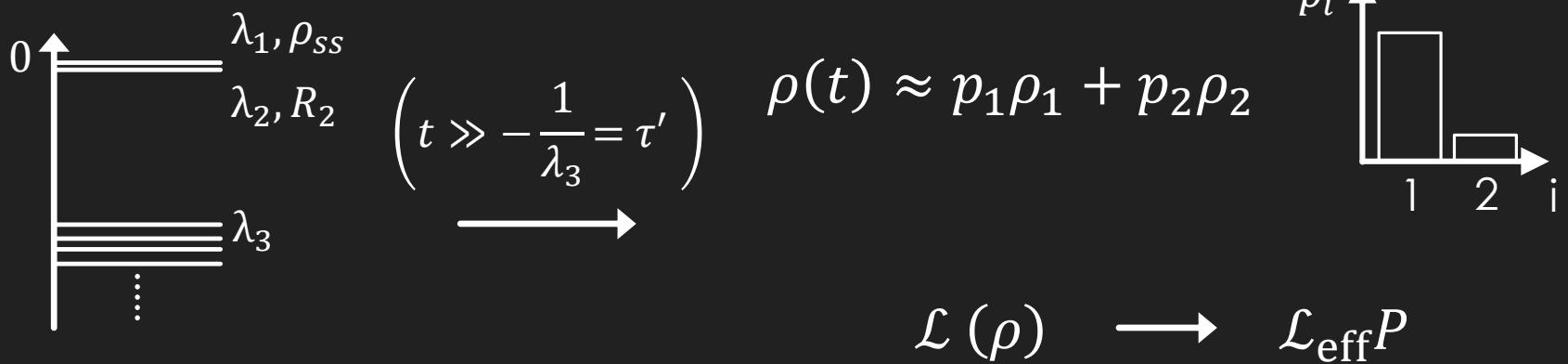


# Theory of metastability

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# Open quantum Ising model

- Described by Lindblad equation

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = \mathcal{L}(\rho) = -i[H, \rho] + \sum_{i=1}^N \left[ J_i \rho J_i^\dagger - \frac{1}{2} \{ J_i^\dagger J_i, \rho \} \right]$$

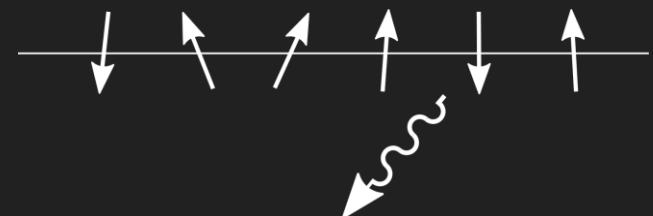
- Coherent evolution: transverse Ising model

$$H = \Omega \sum_{i=1}^N S_x^i + V \sum_{i=1}^N S_z^i S_z^{i+1}$$

- Dissipative evolution:

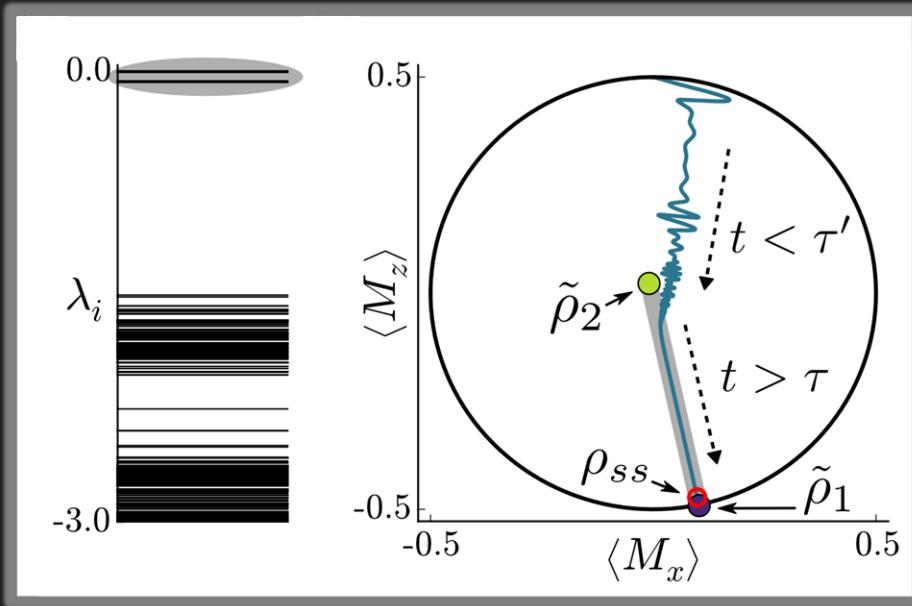
photon emissions

$$J_i = \sqrt{\kappa} S_-^i$$

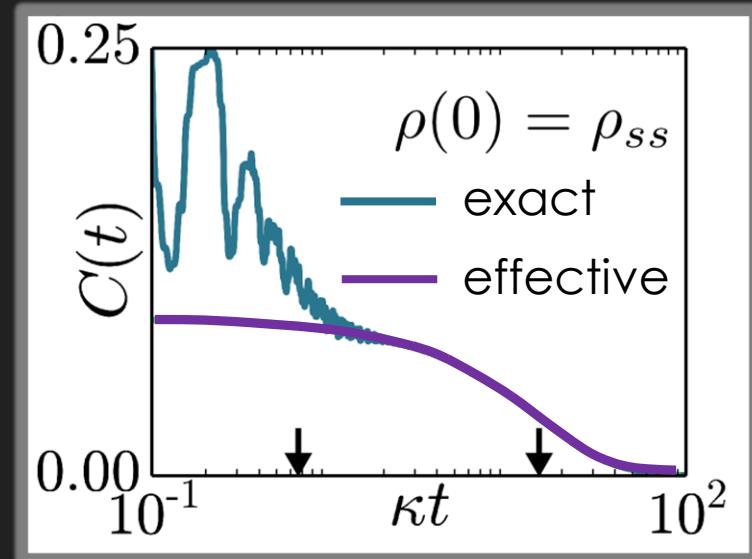


# Open quantum Ising model: metastability

- Separation close to steady state transition

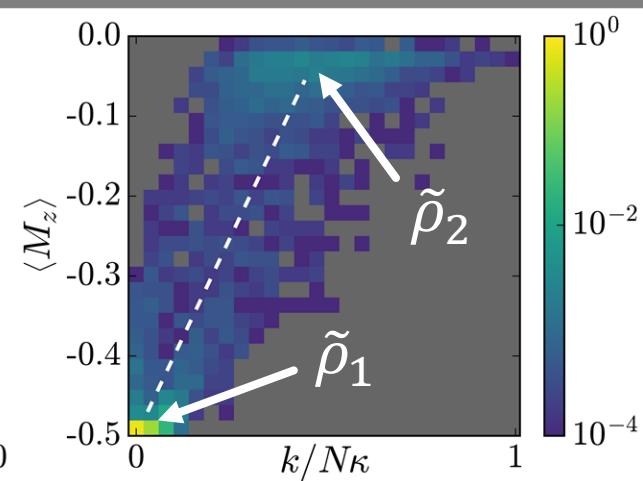
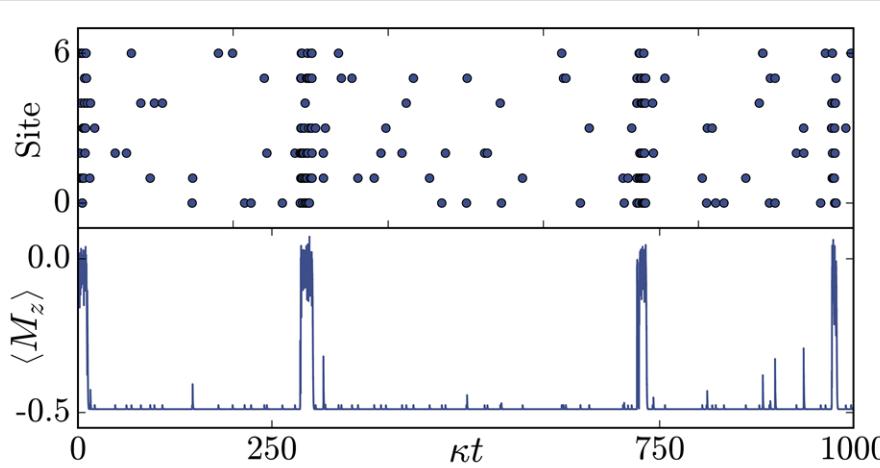
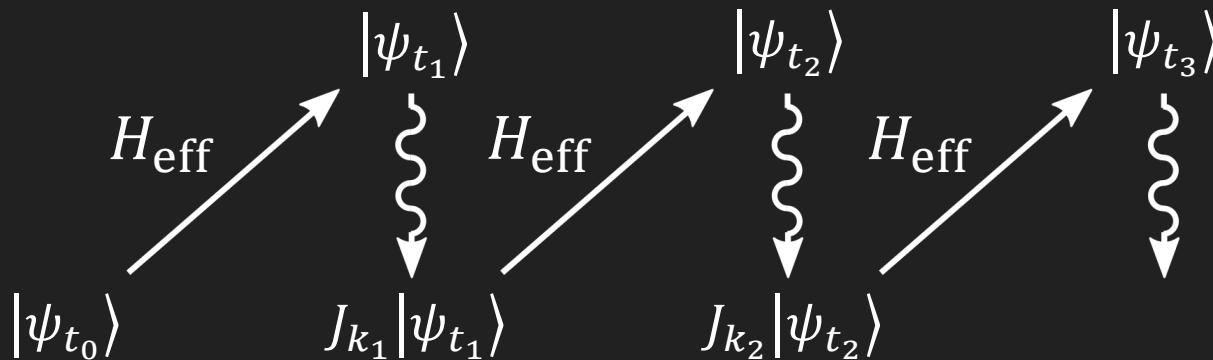


- Plateau in correlation evolution



# Open quantum Ising model: intermittence

- Alternate approach: trajectories



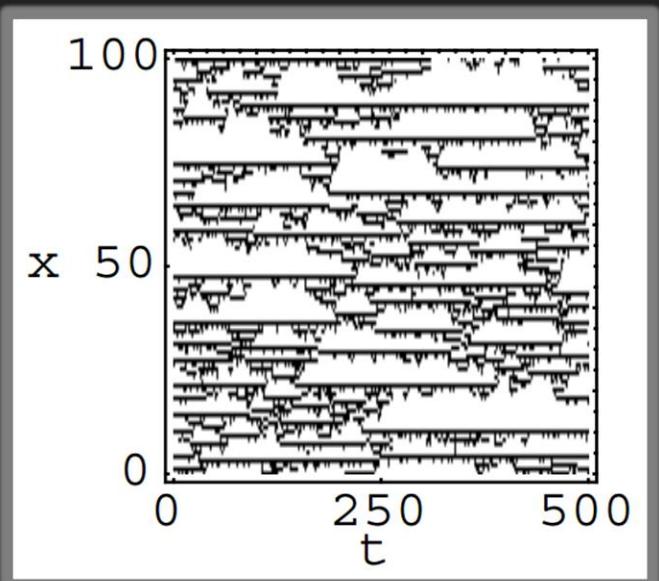
# East model

- Constrained spin dynamics



- Slow relaxation

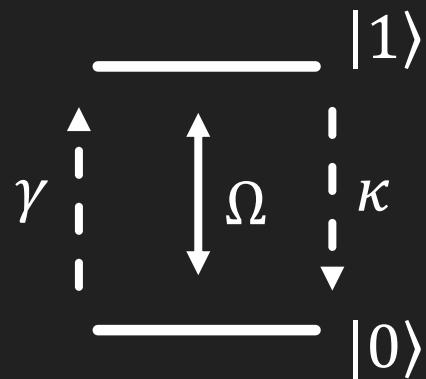
- Dynamical heterogeneity



Jäckle-Eisinger, Z. Phys. B (1991)  
Sollich-Evans, PRL (1999)  
Garrahan-Chandler, PRL (2002)

# Open quantum East model

- Classical + transverse field



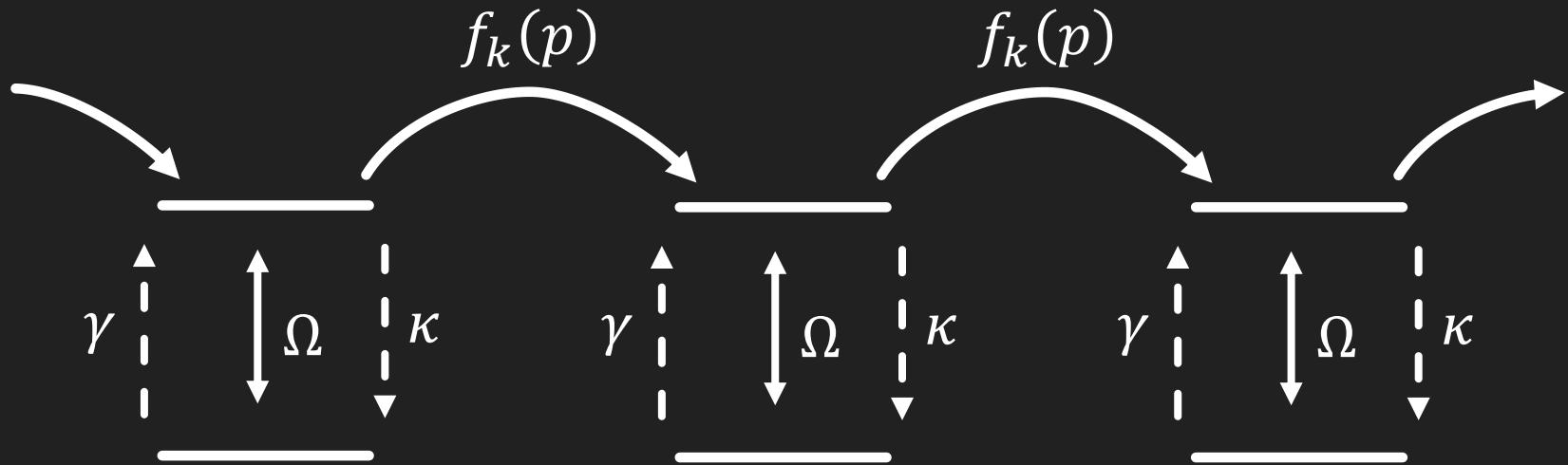
$$H = \Omega \sum_{k=1}^N \sigma_x^k$$
$$J_k^+ = \sqrt{\gamma} \sigma_k^+$$
$$J_k^- = \sqrt{\kappa} \sigma_k^-$$

- One spin case:

$$\rho_{ss} = \lambda_E |E\rangle\langle E| + \lambda_u |u\rangle\langle u|$$

# Open quantum East model

- Classical + transverse field



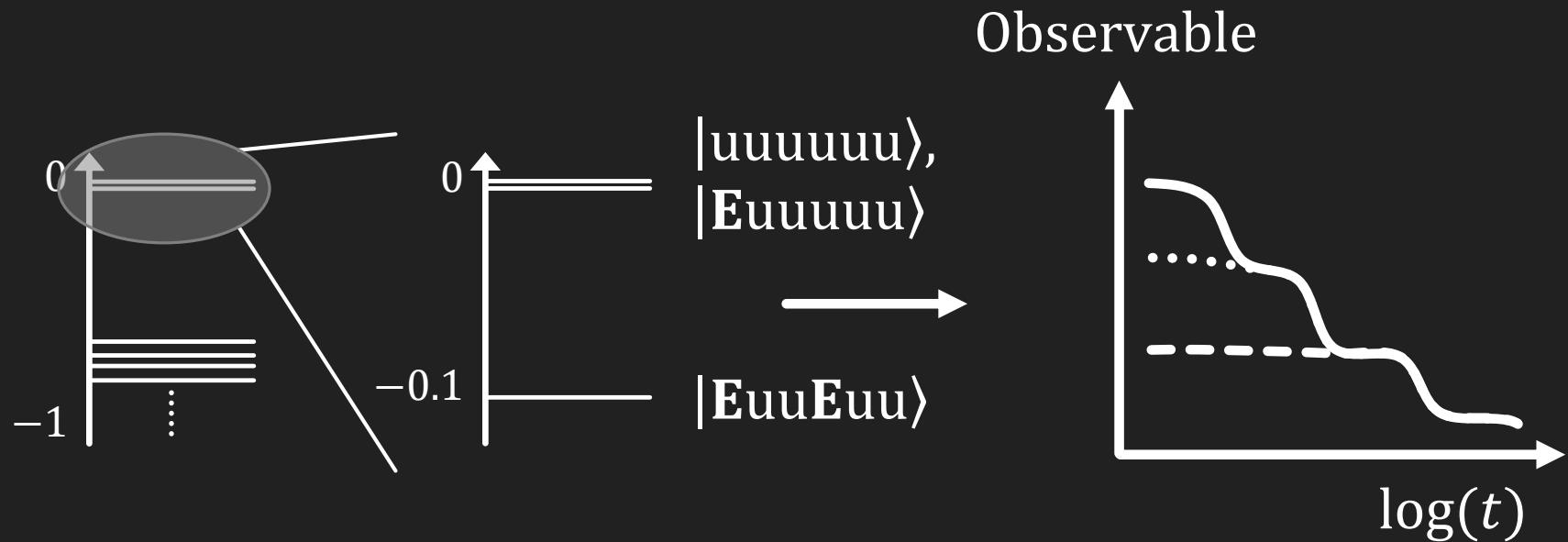
- One spin case:

Constraint:

$$\rho_{ss} = \lambda_E |\mathbf{E}\rangle\langle\mathbf{E}| + \lambda_u |\mathbf{u}\rangle\langle\mathbf{u}| \longrightarrow f_k(p) = p |\mathbf{E}\rangle_k\langle\mathbf{E}|_k + (1-p)I$$

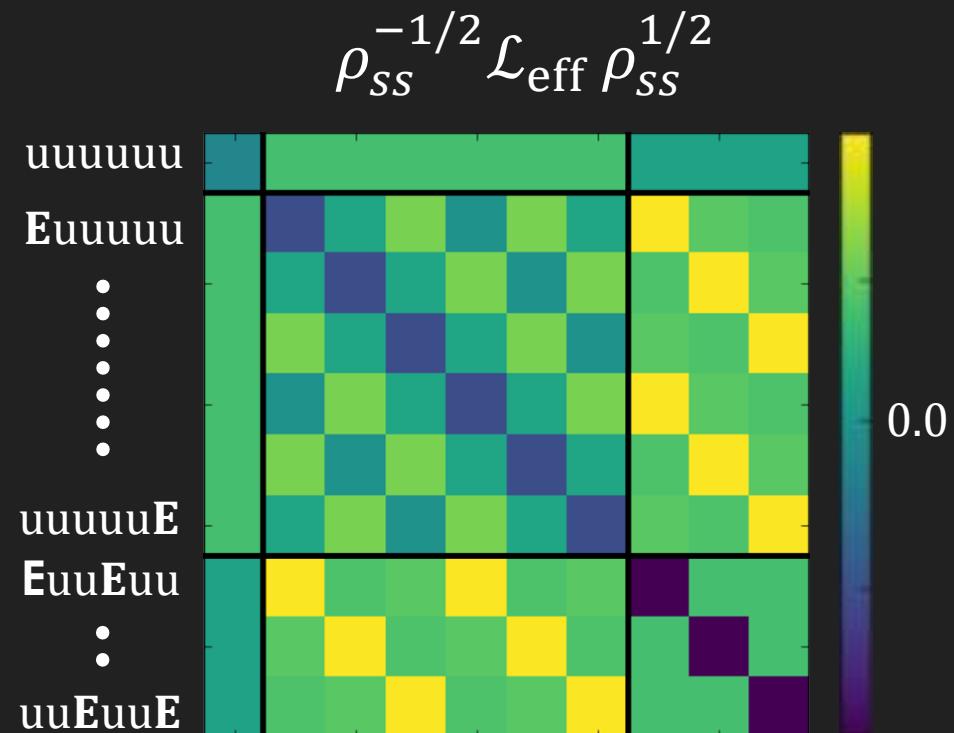
# Open quantum East model: hierarchy

- Hierarchy of timescales (e.g. 6 sites)



# Open quantum East model: effective dynamics

- Detailed balance
- Effective energy interaction independent



# Conclusion

- Metastability in; open quantum Ising model, open quantum East model
- Theory provides understanding of relevant long time states and dynamics between them
- Appears as intermittence in trajectories
- Ideas apply to dynamical nuclear polarization, arXiv:1703.07159

# Open quantum East model

- Coherent dynamics:

$$H = \Omega \sum_{k=1}^N \sigma_x^k f_{k+1}^2(p)$$

- Dissipative dynamics:

$$L_k^+ = \sqrt{\gamma} \sigma_k^+ f_{k+1}(p)$$

$$L_k^- = \sqrt{\kappa} \sigma_k^- f_{k+1}(p)$$

- One spin case:

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_{ss} = & \lambda_e |e\rangle\langle e| \\ & + \lambda_u |u\rangle\langle u| \end{aligned} \qquad \longrightarrow \qquad$$

- Constraint:

$$f_k(p) = p |e\rangle_k \langle e|_k + (1 - p) I$$