

# Thermodynamics along individual quantum trajectories of a qubit

Kater Murch, Washington University, St. Louis, MO

Students: Mahdi Naghiloo, Dian Tan, Patrick Harrington

Theory collaborators: Eric Lutz, Alessandro Romito, Klaus Mølmer, Andrew Jordan,



Naghiloo et al, Arxiv 2016, 2017

# Where in the world is St. Louis?



Experimental research with superconducting qubits.

**Quantum Measurement:** Zeno effects, quantum trajectories

**State smoothing and post-selection:** weak values, retrodiction, optimal routes

**Metrology:** frequency metrology, Axion dark matter search

**Quantum Thermodynamics:** heat, work, entropy, heat engines

# Thermodynamics...

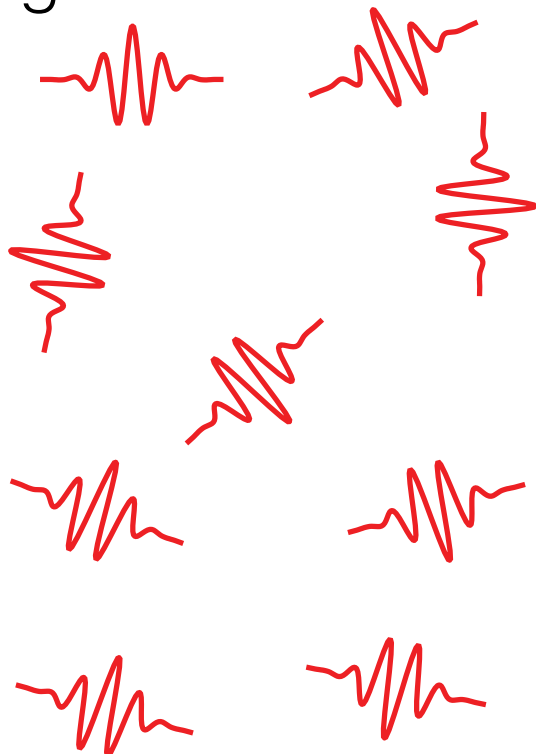
## toward the quantum regime



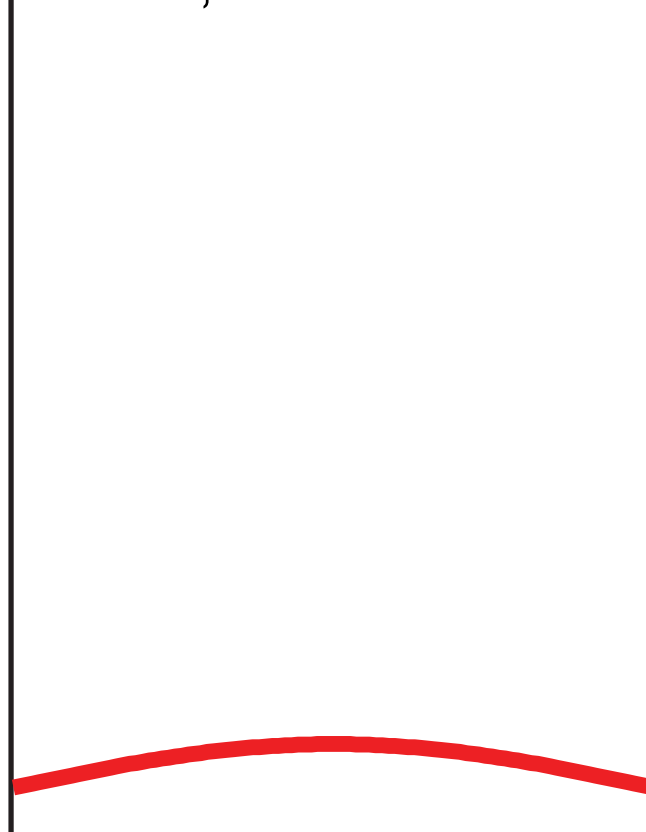
Quantities such as heat and work for macroscopic systems

How do we get fire to do work?

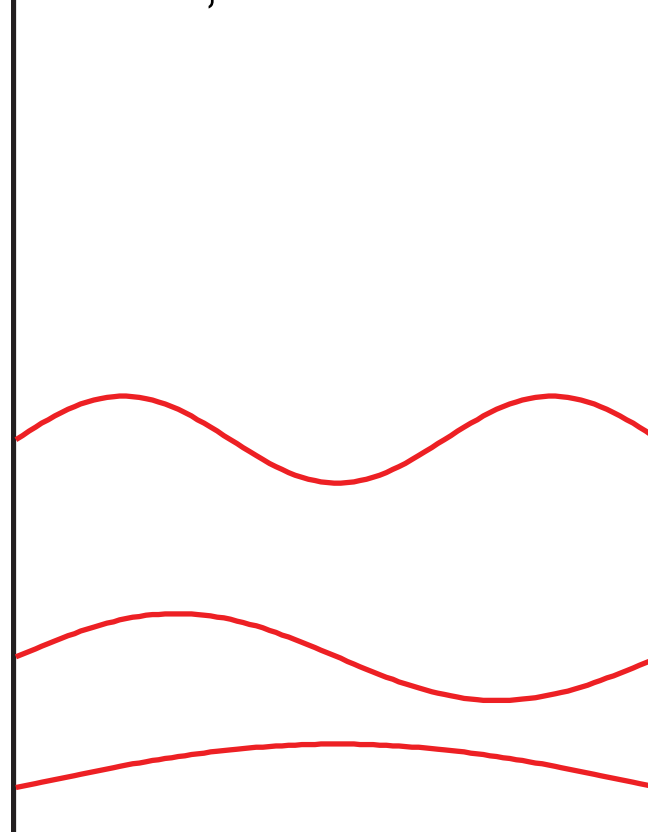
High T



Low T, Bosons



Low T, Fermions



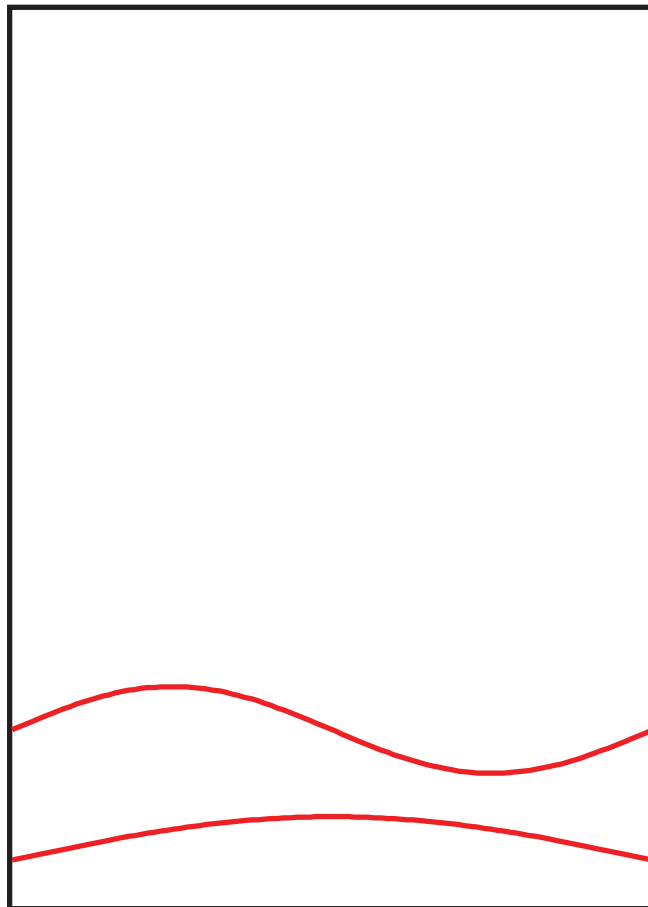
# Thermodynamics...

## toward the quantum regime



Quantities such as heat and work for macroscopic systems

How do we get fire to do work?



Thermodynamics for a single quantum system

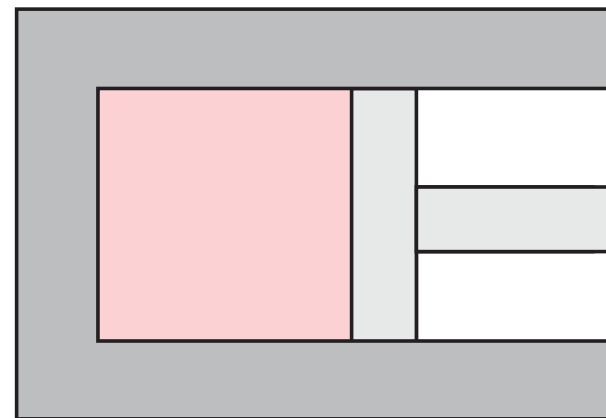
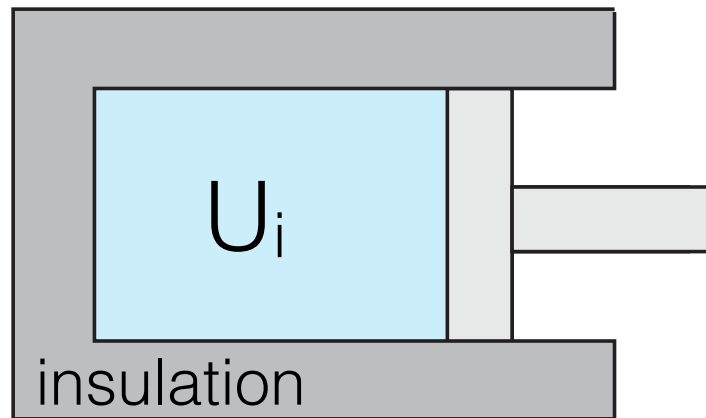
$$\psi = \alpha\psi_1 + \beta\psi_2$$

Quantify heat and work



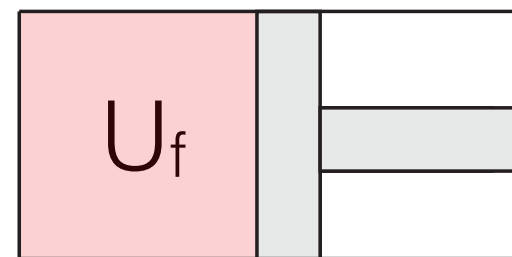
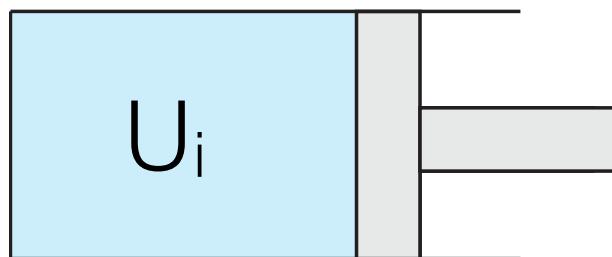
# Classical Thermodynamics

Work is defined as change in energy of an isolated system



$$W = \Delta U$$

Non-isolated systems: heat is the difference



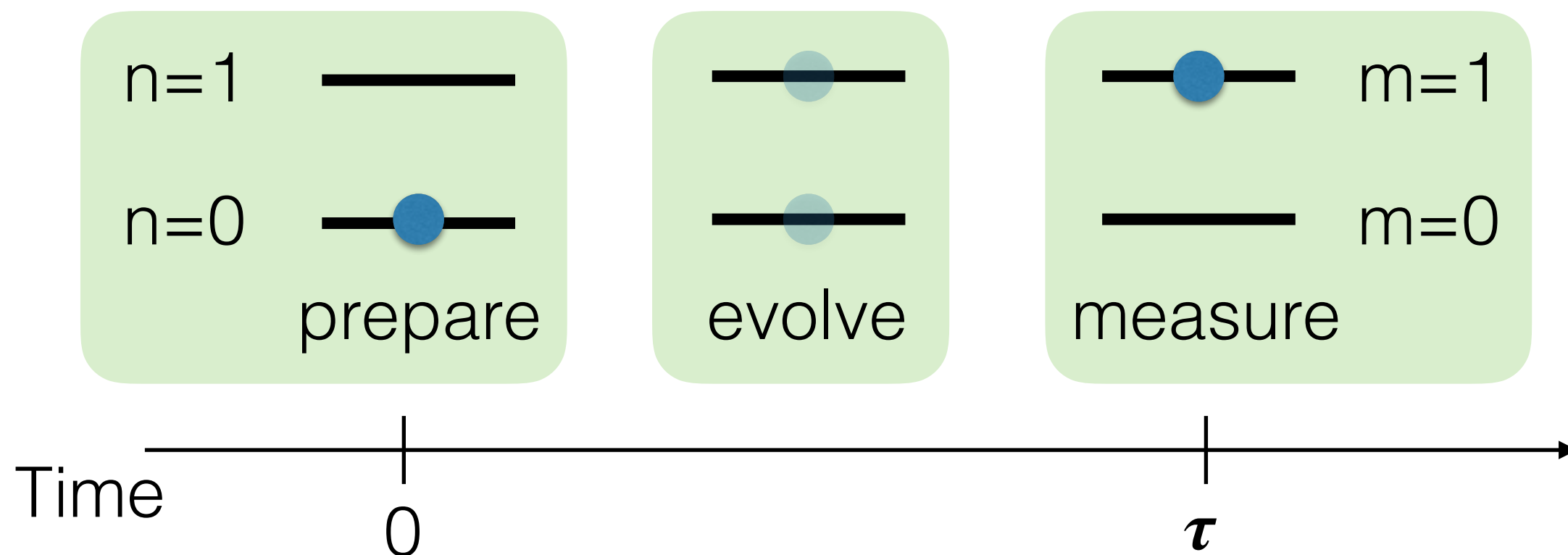
$$Q = \Delta U - W$$

Thermal isolation is important for distinguishing heat from work

# At the quantum level...

## Systems need not occupy definite states.

-Distribution of total energy change from transition probabilities



$$P(\Delta U) = \sum_{m,n} P_{m,n}^{\tau} P_n^0 \delta(\Delta U - (E_m^{\tau} - E_n^0))$$

-Verification of fluctuation theorems for closed systems.

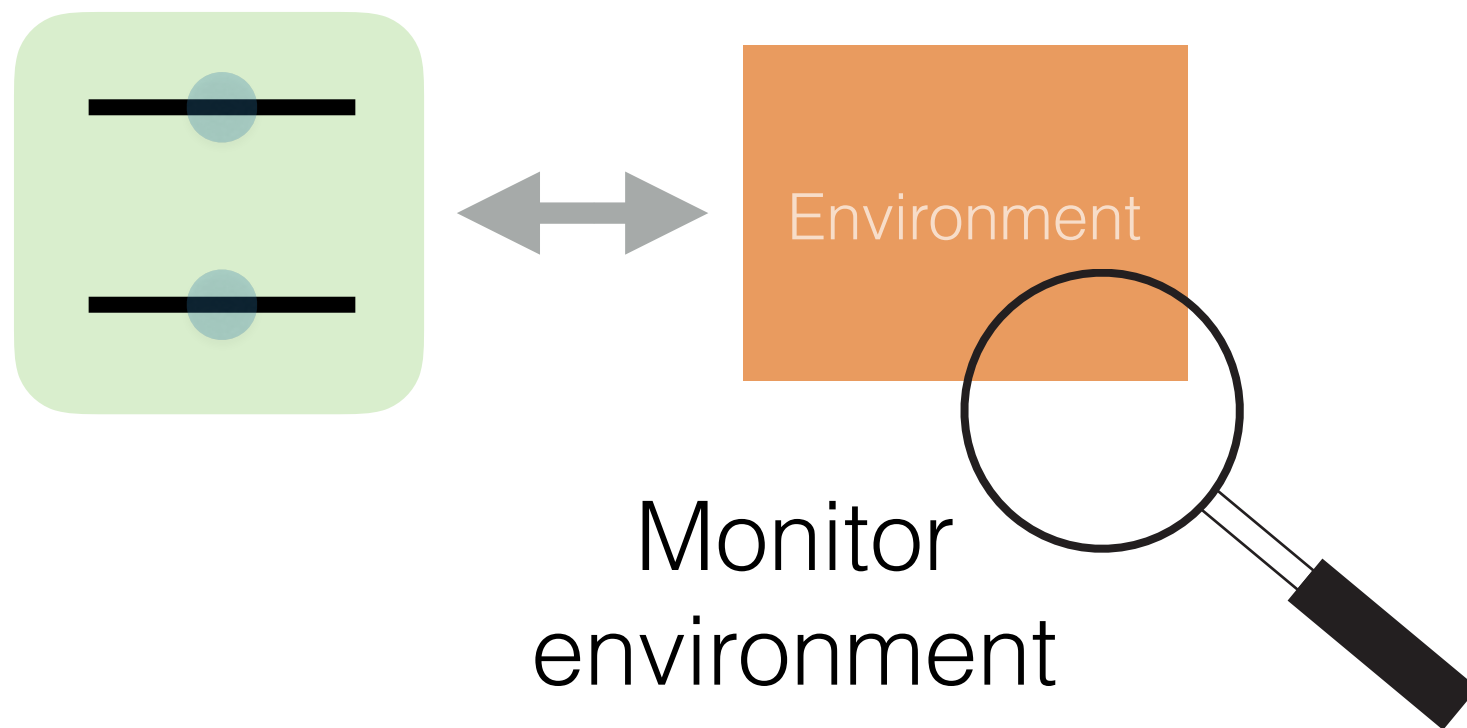
# Heat or Work?

**Open system: cannot in general separate heat from work**

(Work is not an observable)

Talkner PRE 2007

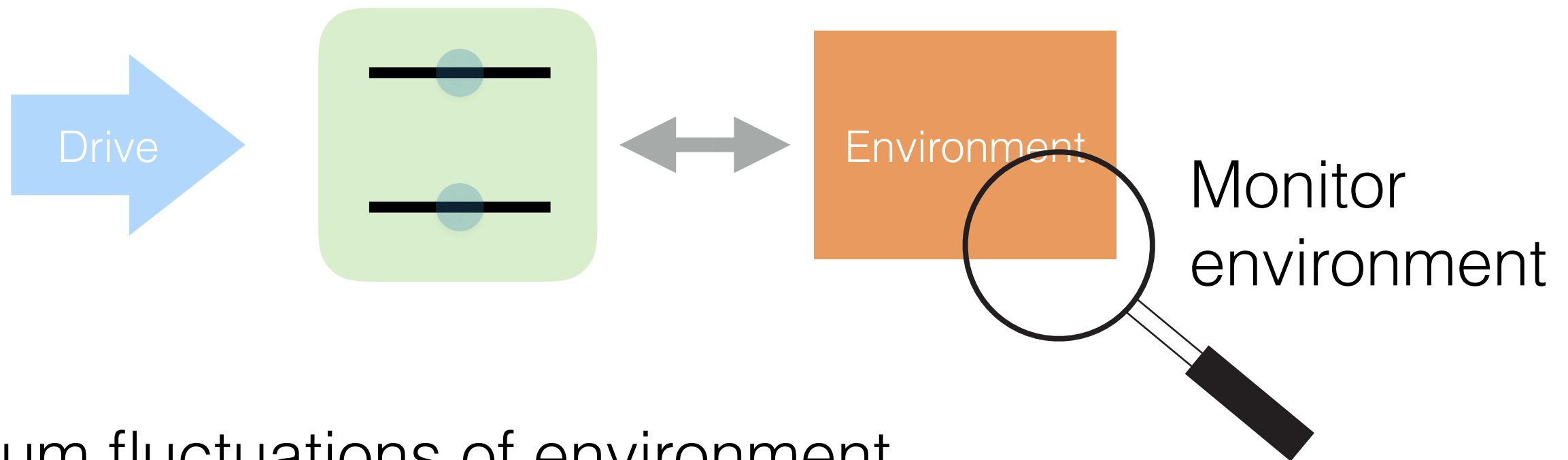
Except when the environment can be monitored



-Environment is weakly entangled with qubit.

-Measurement of environment conveys information and induces back action on qubit. (Not necessarily projection into eigenstates)

# Quantum trajectories



- Quantum fluctuations of environment  
→ stochastic evolution + unitary evolution from drive

Quantum trajectory of state  $\tilde{\rho}(t)$ , even for a single experimental protocol.

A plot showing a wavy line representing a quantum trajectory. The line starts at a point labeled  $\tilde{\rho}_i$  on the left and ends at a point labeled  $\tilde{\rho}_f$  on the right, curving upwards.

$$d\tilde{\rho}_t = \delta\mathbb{W}[\tilde{\rho}_t]dt + \delta\mathbb{Q}[\tilde{\rho}_t]dt$$

Decompose trajectory into unitary and non-unitary components



# Theory

$$\begin{aligned} d\tilde{U}_t &= \text{tr}[H_t \tilde{\rho}_t] - \text{tr}[H_{t-dt} \tilde{\rho}_{t-dt}] \\ &= \text{tr}[\tilde{\rho}_{t-dt} dH_t] + \text{tr}[H_t d\tilde{\rho}_t] \end{aligned}$$

Both stochastic and unitary parts  
 $-\frac{i}{\hbar} \text{tr}[H_t [H_t, \rho_t] dt] = 0$   
only stochastic part contributes

$$\underbrace{\text{tr}[\tilde{\rho}_{t-dt} dH_t]}_{\delta \tilde{W}_t} + \underbrace{\text{tr}[H_t d\tilde{\rho}_t]}_{\delta \tilde{Q}_t}$$

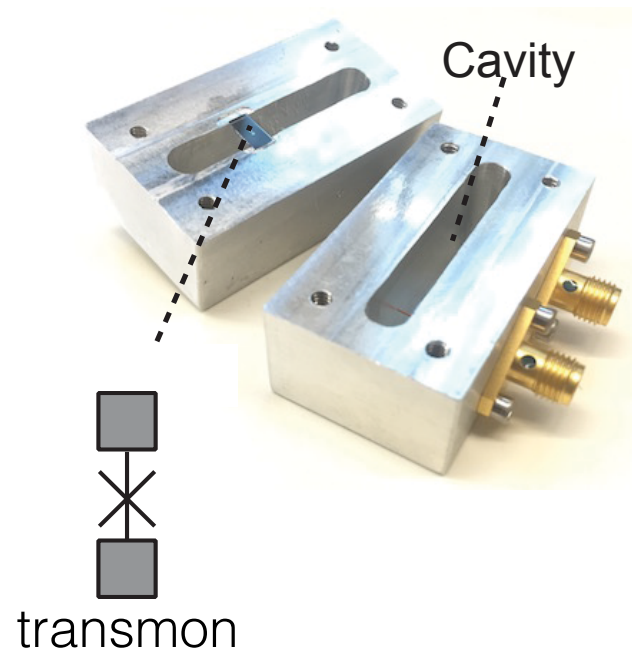
Work is associated with change in Hamiltonian, heat is associated with stochastic changes in state.

# Goals for this research

- Experimentally determine  $\delta\tilde{Q}_t$  and  $\delta\tilde{W}_t$  along single quantum trajectories from stochastic and unitary components of  $\tilde{\rho}(t)$ .
- Verify the 1st law. 
$$\Delta U = \int_0^\tau \delta\tilde{W} + \int_0^\tau \delta\tilde{Q}$$
- Quantum feedback loop eliminate heat by applying additional work.
- Verify Jarzynski equality from transition probabilities.

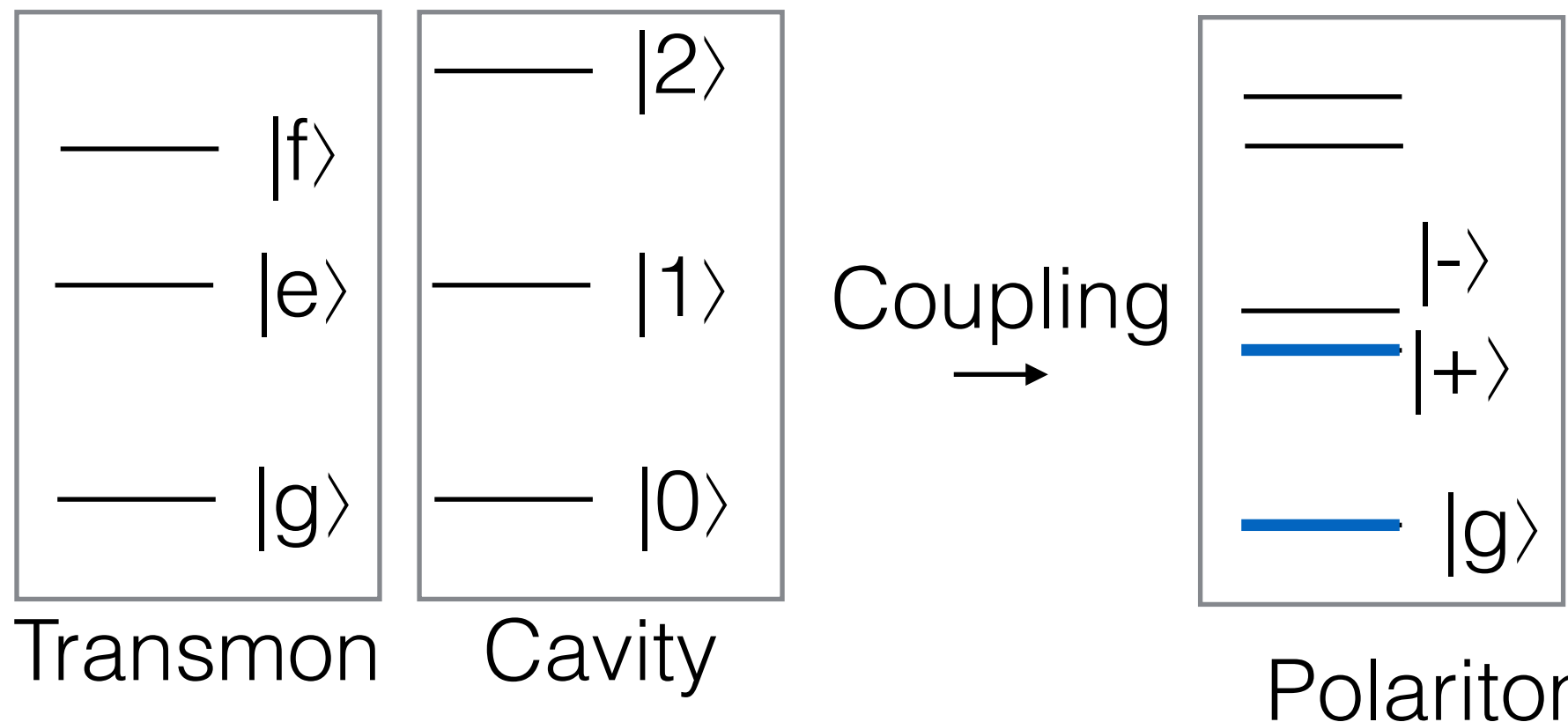
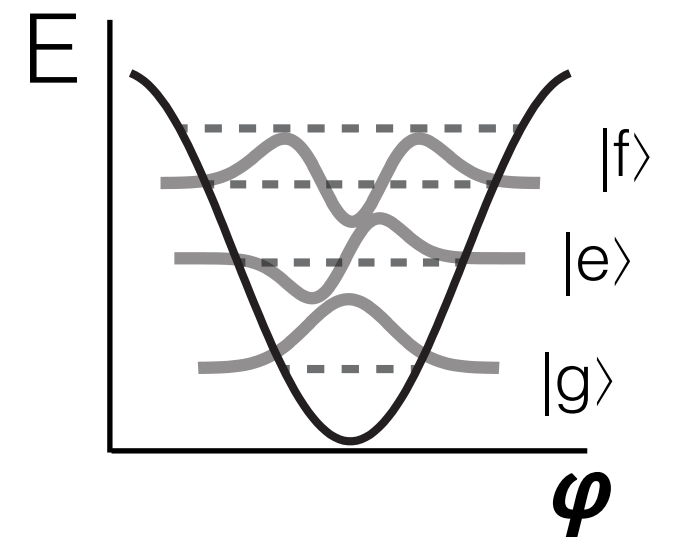
# The experimental system

Transmon qubit resonantly coupled to a waveguide cavity



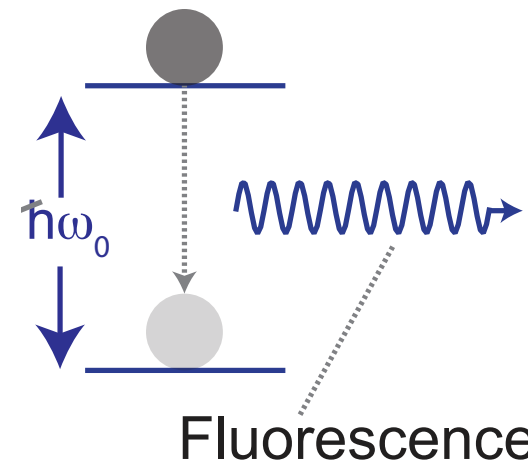
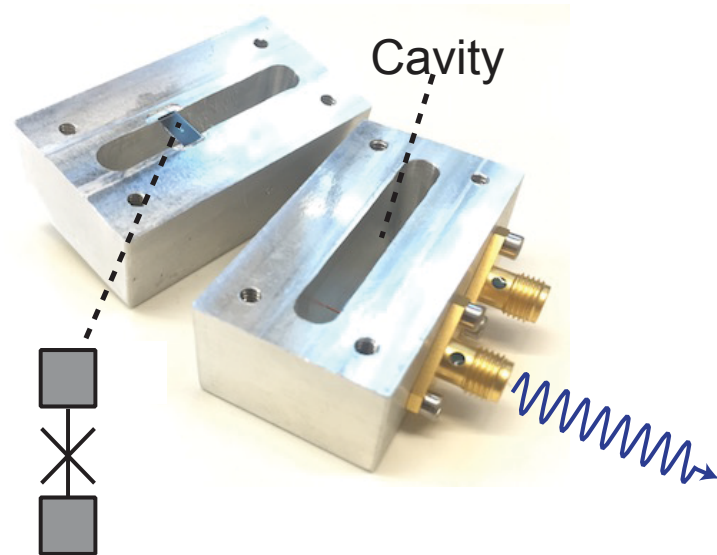
A schematic diagram of a transmon qubit circuit, showing a loop with a Josephson junction (represented by a cross) and a capacitor (represented by two parallel lines). The energy of the junction is  $E_J$  and the energy of the capacitor is  $E_C$ . Below the circuit, it is noted that  $E_J \gg E_C$ .

$$\hat{H} = 4E_C(\hat{n} - n_g)^2 - E_J \cos \hat{\phi}.$$



# The experimental system

Transmon qubit resonantly coupled to a waveguide cavity



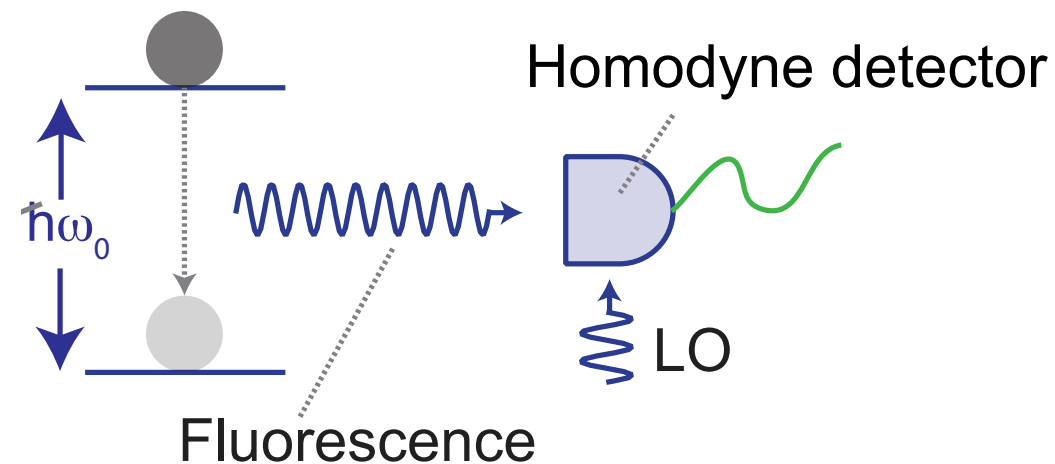
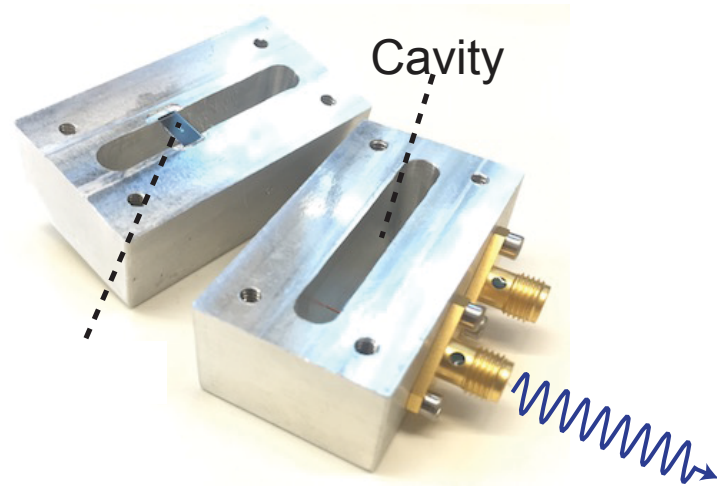
$$\omega/2\pi = 6.541 \text{ GHz}$$
$$T_1 = 590 \text{ ns}$$

“One dimensional” atom

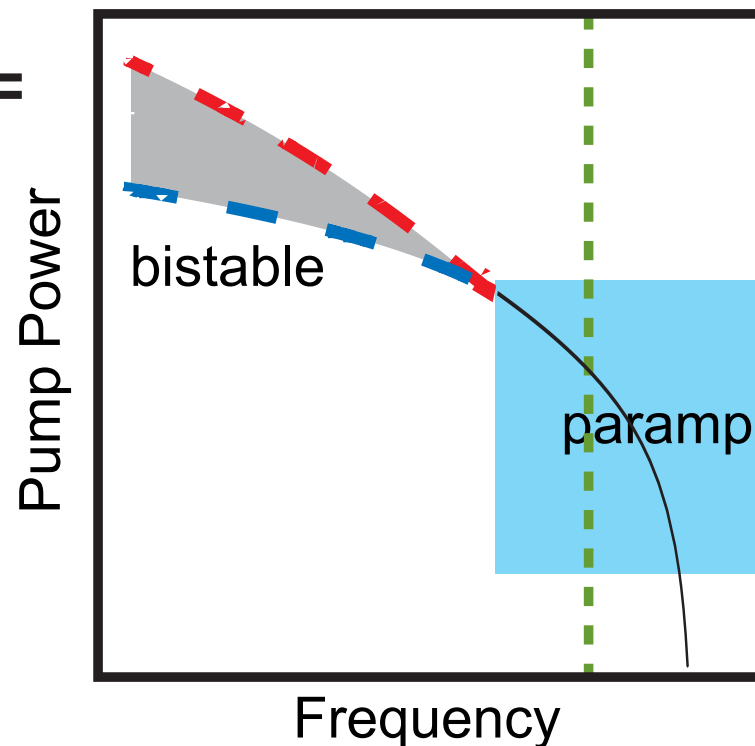
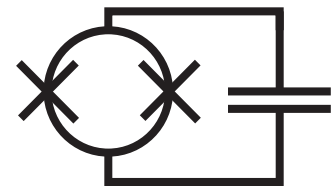
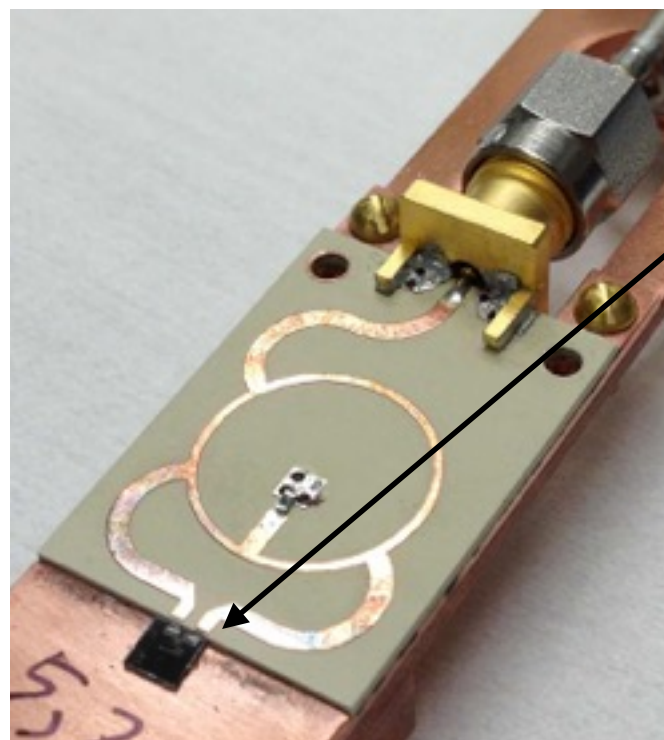


# The experimental system

Transmon qubit resonantly coupled to a waveguide cavity



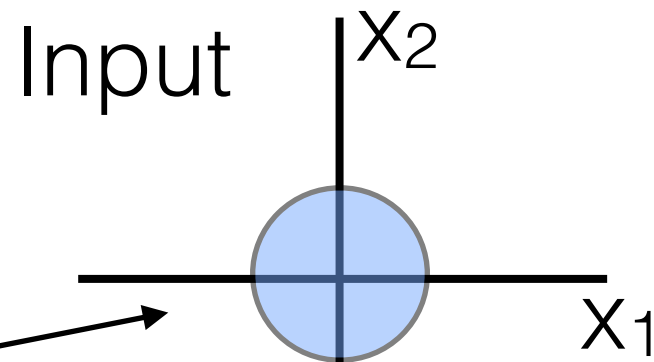
Homodyne detector: Josephson parametric amplifier



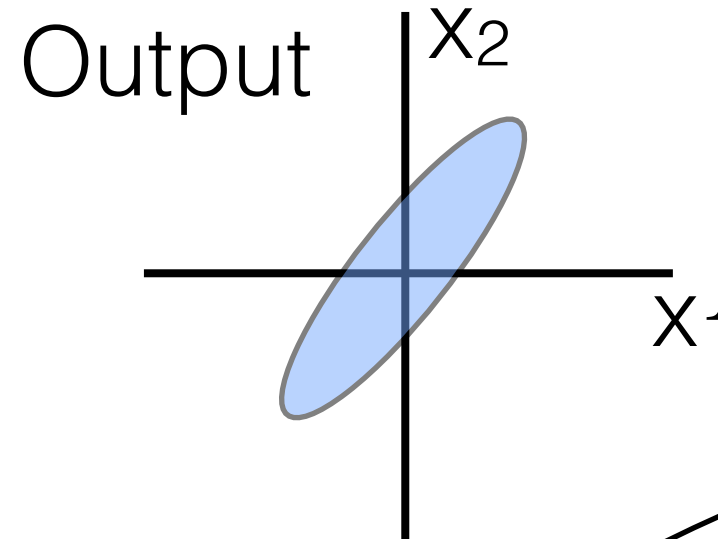
When Pump freq. =  
signal freq.  
we get "phase sensitive  
amplification",  
(squeezing).

Ideal, noiseless  
homodyne detection

# Phase sensitive amplification

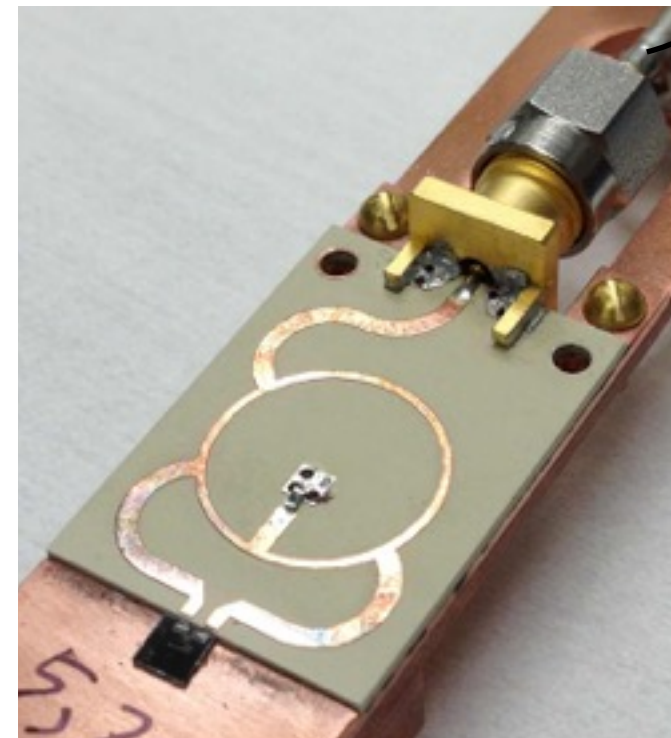
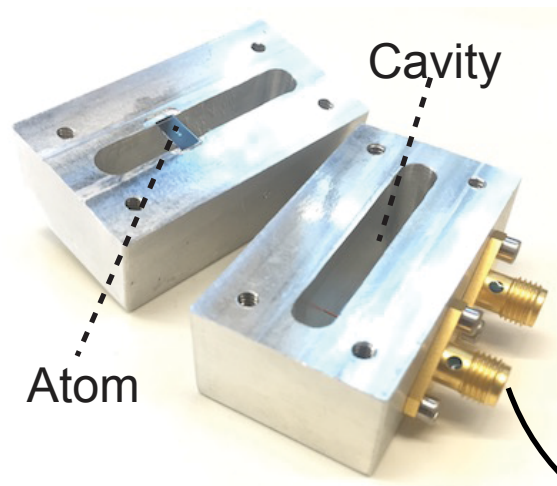


Quadrature space  
of the electromagnetic  
field

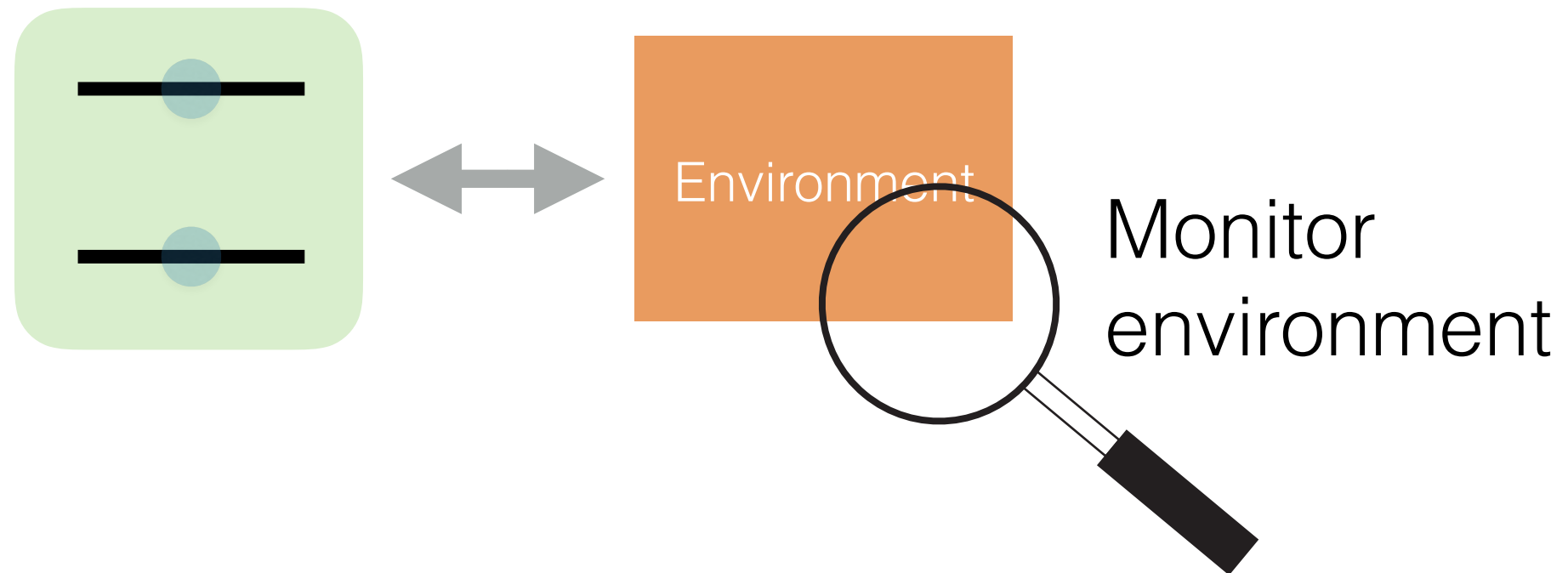


Measure an arbitrary  
field quadrature.

$$a^\dagger e^{i\phi} + a e^{-i\phi}$$



# Homodyne measurement of fluorescence



Interaction Hamiltonian:  $H_{\text{int}} = \gamma(a^\dagger \sigma_- + a \sigma_+)$   
 couples an arbitrary field quadrature,  $a^\dagger e^{i\phi} + a e^{-i\phi}$   
 to the emitter dipole,  $\sigma_- e^{i\phi} + \sigma_+ e^{-i\phi}$ . If we set  $\phi = 0$   
 then the homodyne signal is proportional to  $\sigma_- + \sigma_+ = \sigma_x$ .

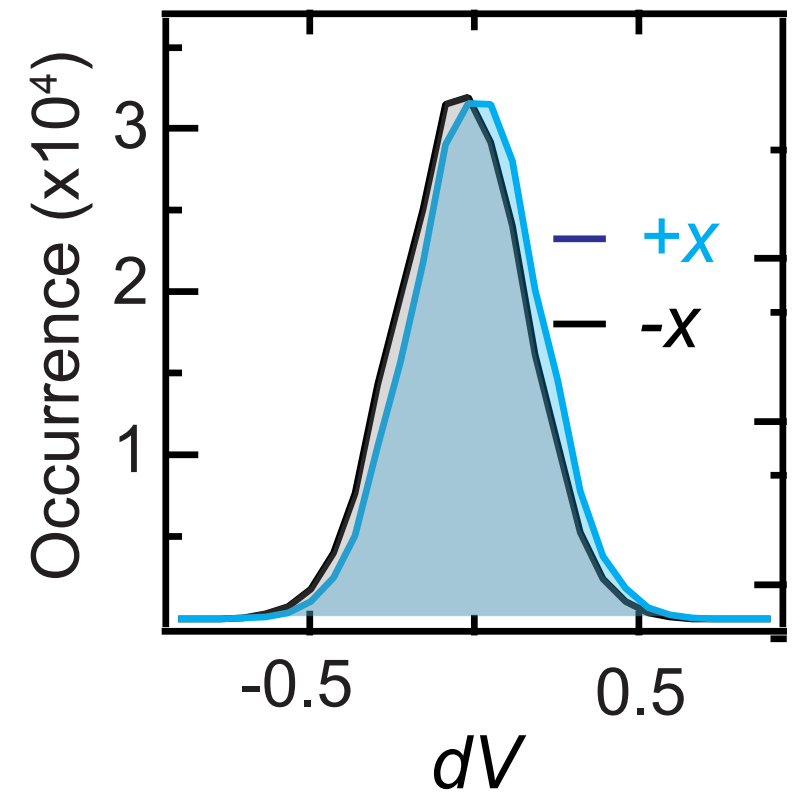
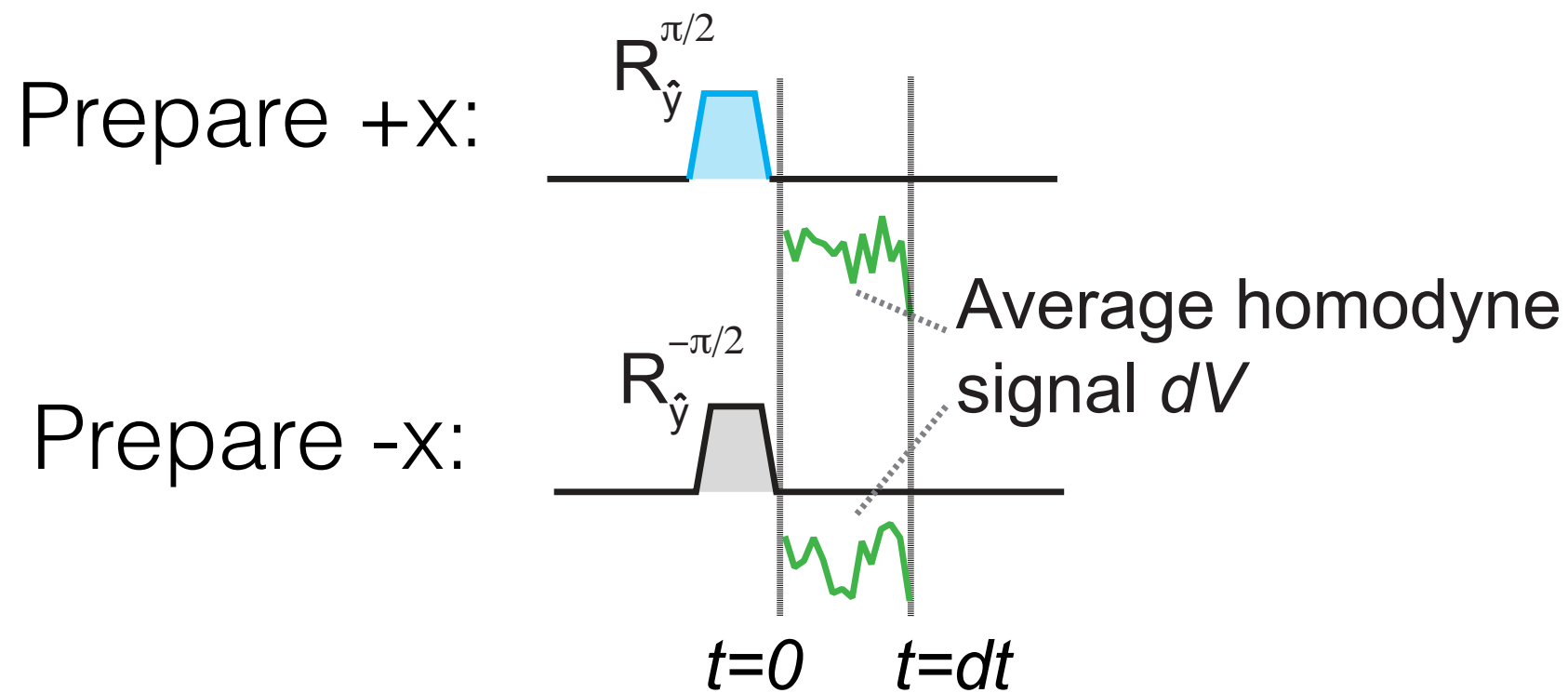
All told, our signal is:

$$dV_t = \sqrt{\eta}\gamma\langle\sigma_x\rangle dt + \sqrt{\gamma}dW_t$$

proportional to  $\langle\sigma_x\rangle$

+ zero mean white noise

# A SIMPLE EXPERIMENT TO CHECK:



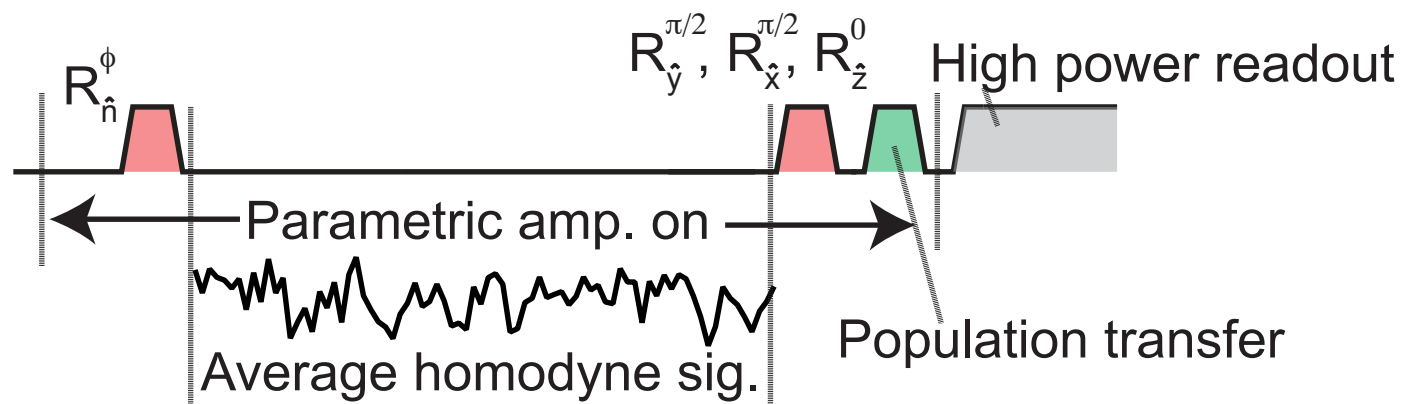
(the signal is dominated by noise)

$$dV_t = \sqrt{\eta}\gamma\langle\sigma_x\rangle dt + \sqrt{\gamma}dW_t$$

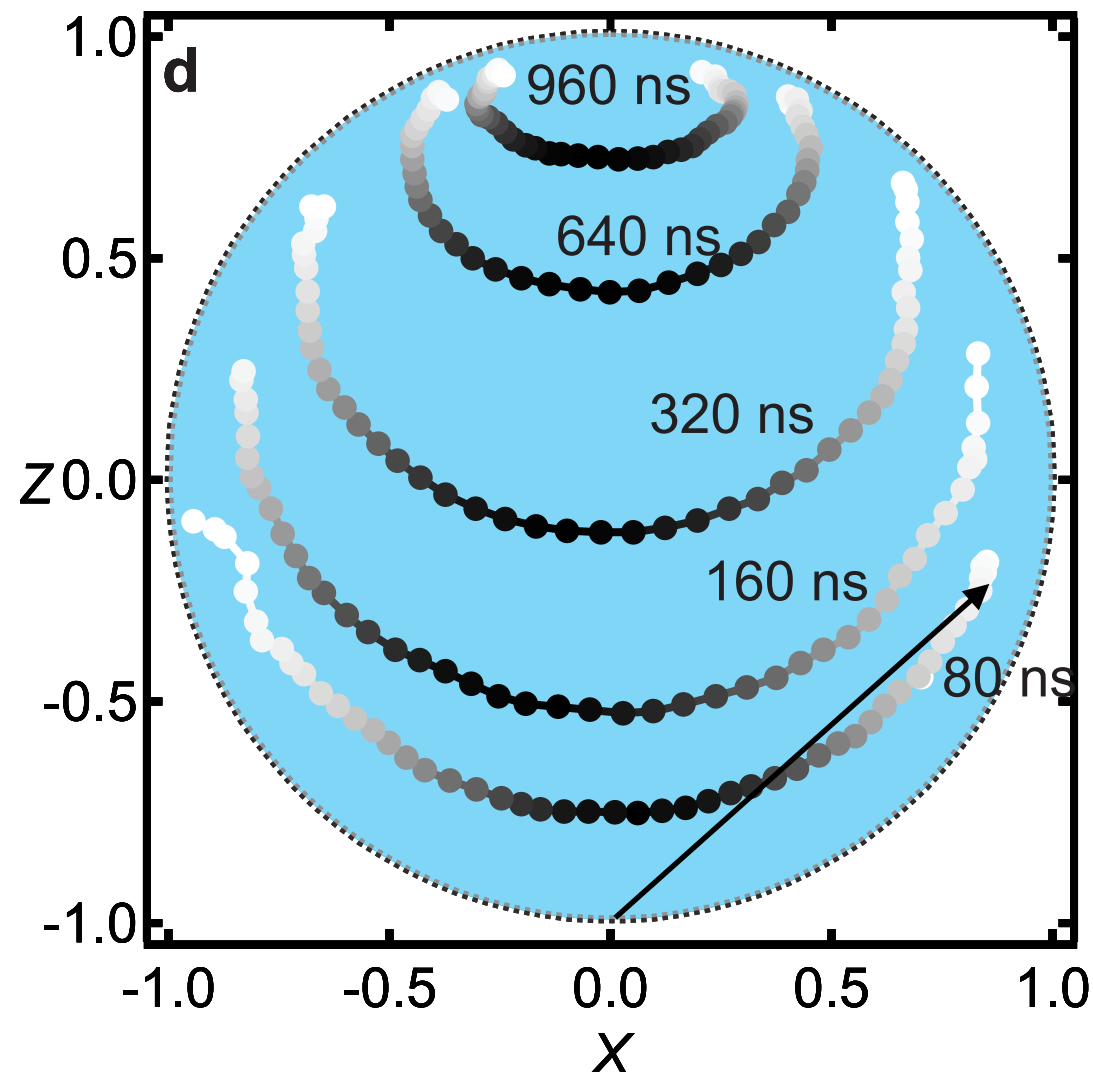
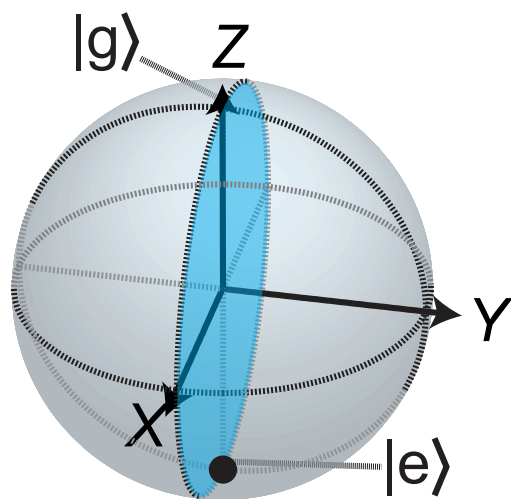
“Weak measurement”



# DECAY DYNAMICS



repeat several times, average tomography conditioned on average signal



“quantum smiley”

# STOCHASTIC MASTER EQUATION

Open up a textbook....

$$d\rho = \gamma \mathcal{D}[\sigma_-] \rho dt + \sqrt{\eta\gamma} \mathcal{H}[\sigma_- dW_t] \rho$$

“dissipation” and “jump” superoperators

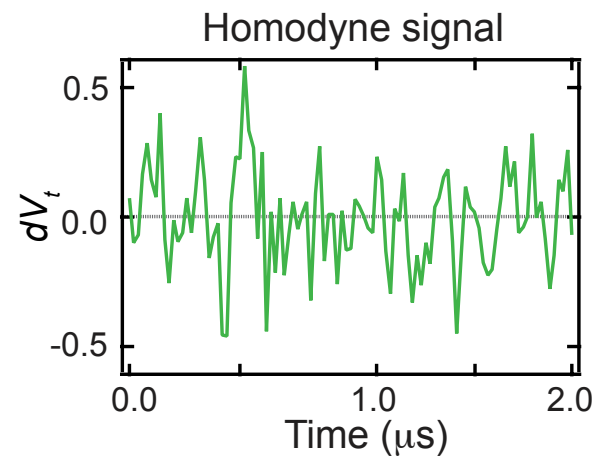
Stochastic differential equations:

$$dx = -\frac{\gamma}{2} x dt + \sqrt{\eta} (1 - z - x^2) (dV_t - \gamma \sqrt{\eta} x dt),$$

$$dz = \gamma(1 - z) dt + \sqrt{\eta} x(1 - z) (dV_t - \gamma \sqrt{\eta} x dt),$$

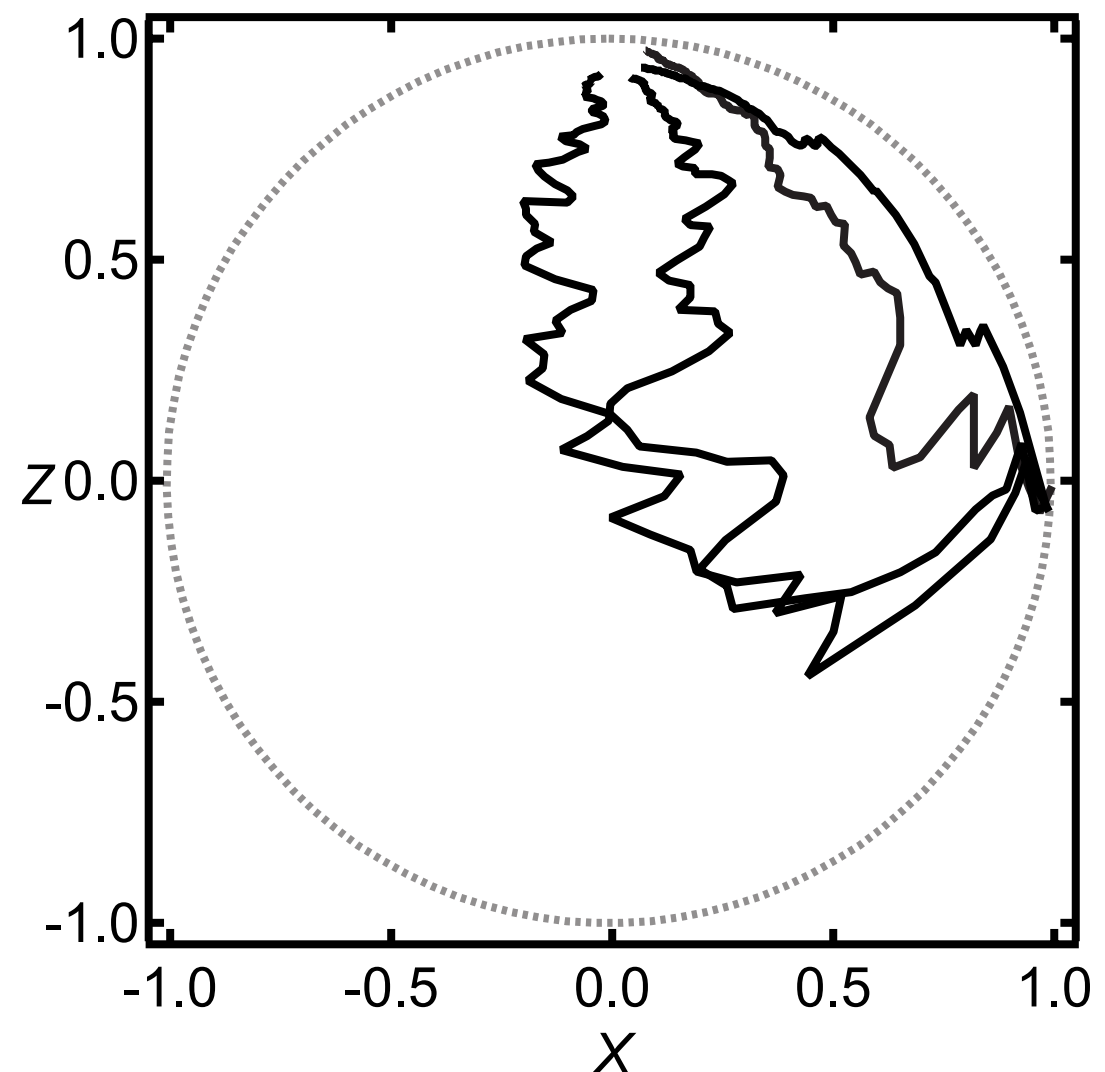
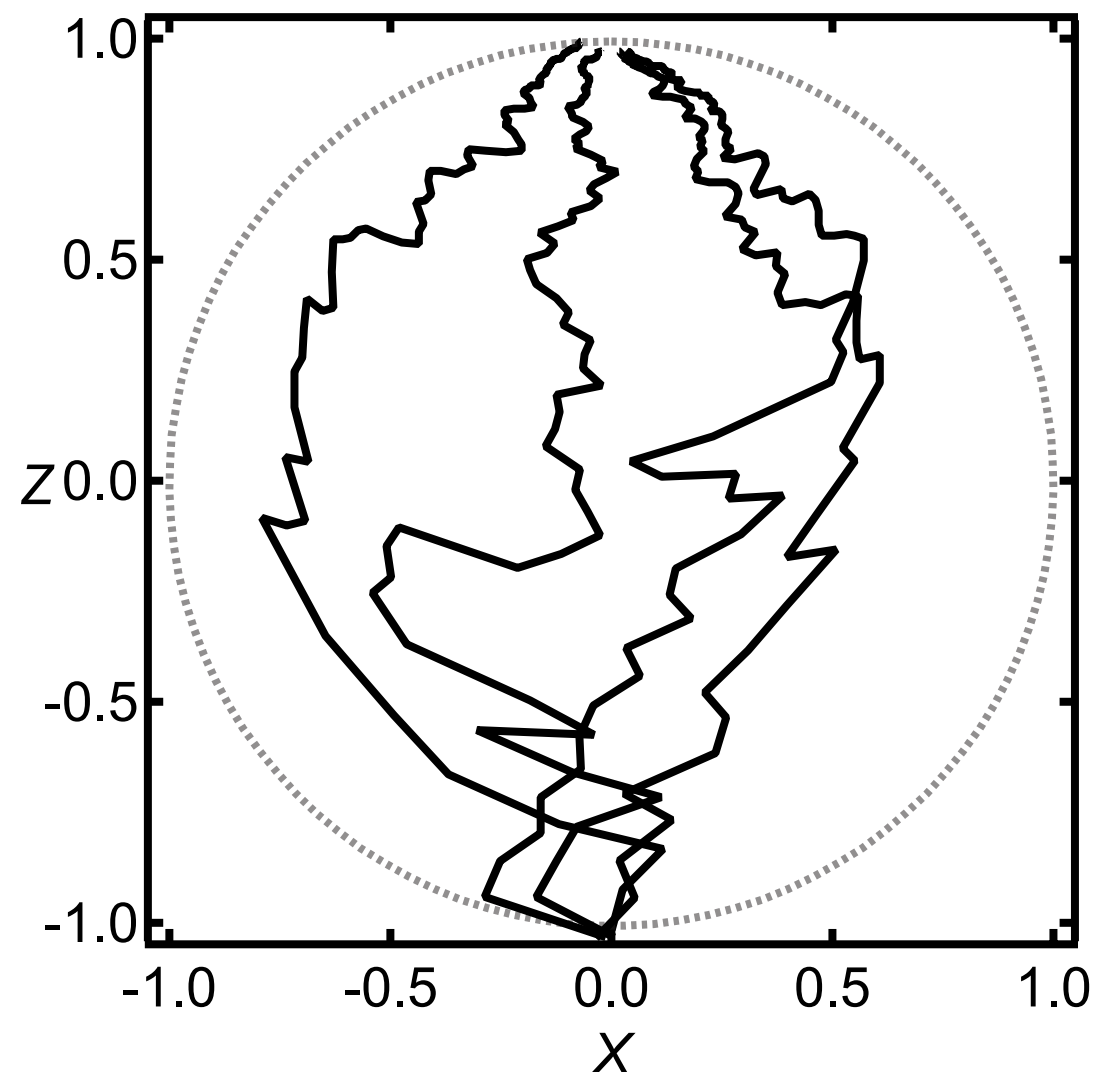
$$dy = -\frac{\gamma}{2} y dt - \sqrt{\eta} xy (dV_t - \gamma \sqrt{\eta} x dt).$$

# STOCHASTIC MASTER EQUATION

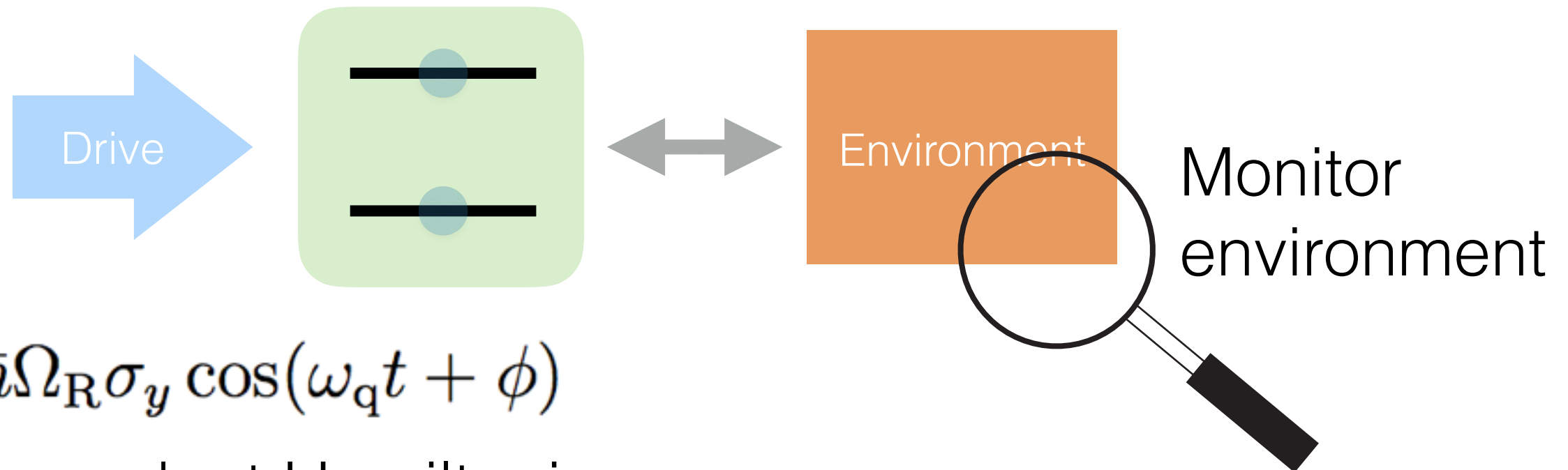


$$\begin{aligned} dx &= -\frac{\gamma}{2}xdt + \sqrt{\eta}(1-z-x^2)(dV_t - \gamma\sqrt{\eta}xdt), \\ dz &= \gamma(1-z)dt + \sqrt{\eta}x(1-z)(dV_t - \gamma\sqrt{\eta}xdt), \\ dy &= -\frac{\gamma}{2}ydt - \sqrt{\eta}xy(dV_t - \gamma\sqrt{\eta}xdt). \end{aligned}$$

→  $(x(t), y(t), z(t))$



# Resonance fluorescence



$$H_R = \hbar \Omega_R \sigma_y \cos(\omega_q t + \phi)$$

Time dependent Hamiltonian

Stochastic master equation:

$$d\tilde{\rho}_t = \underbrace{-\frac{i}{\hbar} [H_R, \tilde{\rho}_t] dt}_{\delta \mathbb{W}[\tilde{\rho}_t]} + \underbrace{\gamma \mathcal{D}[\sigma_-] \tilde{\rho}_t dt + \sqrt{\eta \gamma} \mathcal{H}[\sigma_- dX_t] \tilde{\rho}_t}_{\delta \mathbb{Q}[\tilde{\rho}_t]}$$

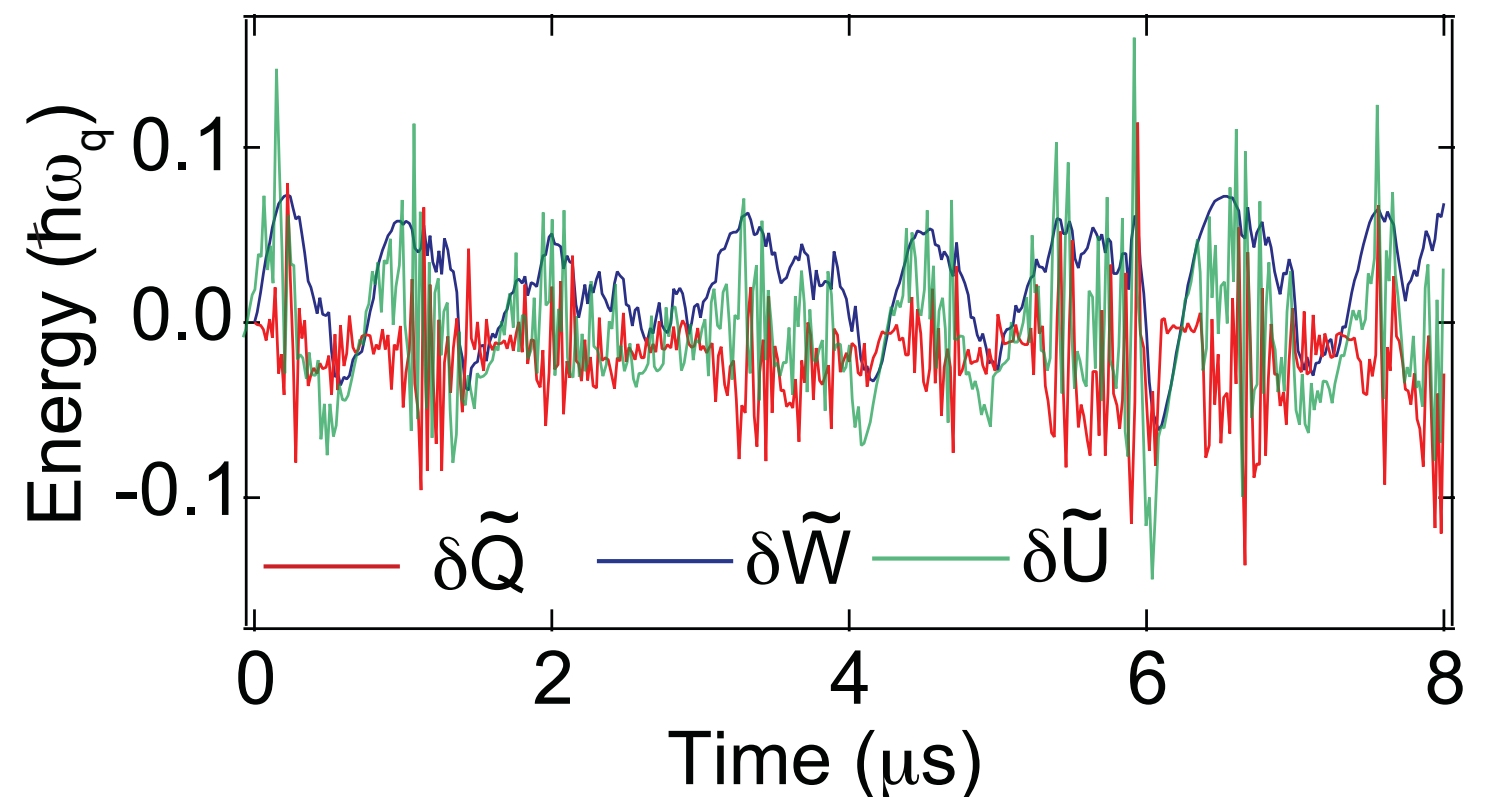


# Heat and work

$$d\tilde{\rho}_t = \underbrace{-\frac{i}{\hbar}[H_R, \tilde{\rho}_t] dt}_{\delta\mathbb{W}[\tilde{\rho}_t]} + \underbrace{\gamma\mathcal{D}[\sigma_-]\tilde{\rho}_t dt + \sqrt{\eta\gamma}\mathcal{H}[\sigma_-dX_t]\tilde{\rho}_t}_{\delta\mathbb{Q}[\tilde{\rho}_t]}$$

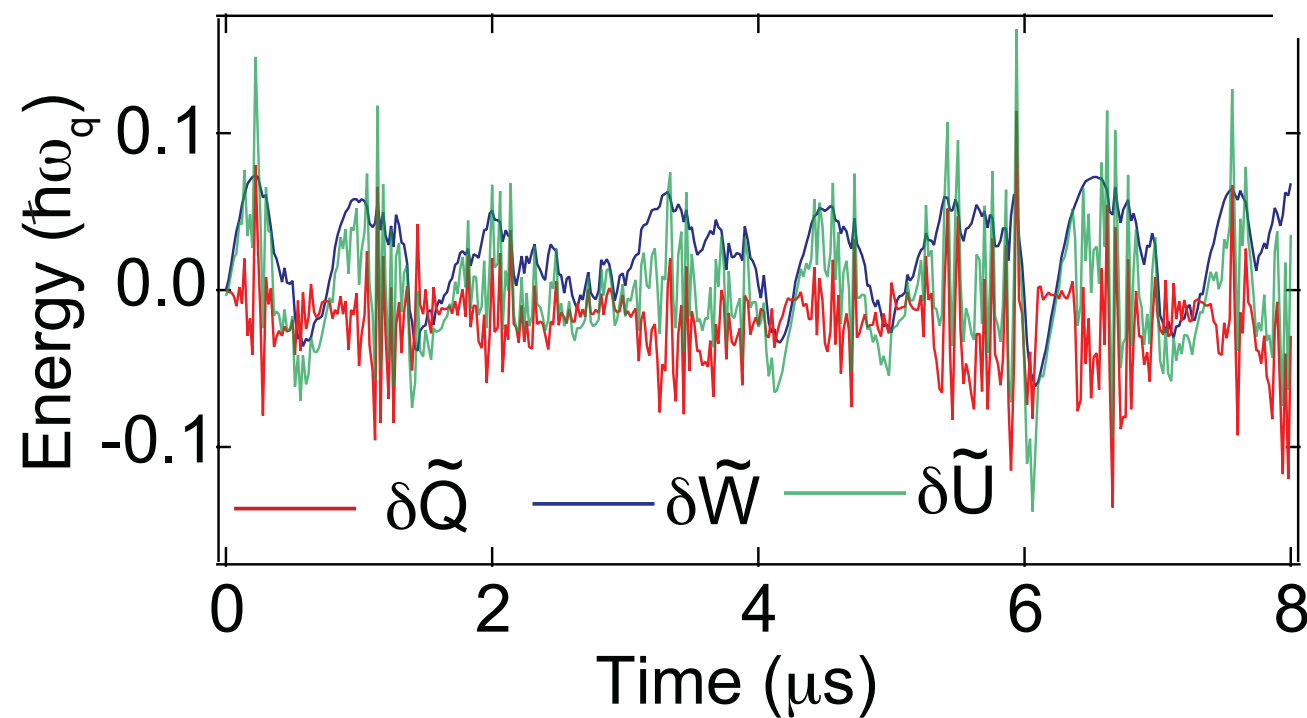
$$\delta\tilde{W} = \hbar\omega_q \text{tr} [\Pi_{m=1} \delta\mathbb{W}[\tilde{\rho}_t]] \quad \delta\tilde{Q} = \hbar\omega_q \text{tr} [\Pi_{m=1} \delta\mathbb{Q}[\tilde{\rho}_t]]$$

Heat and work  
along a single  
quantum trajectory



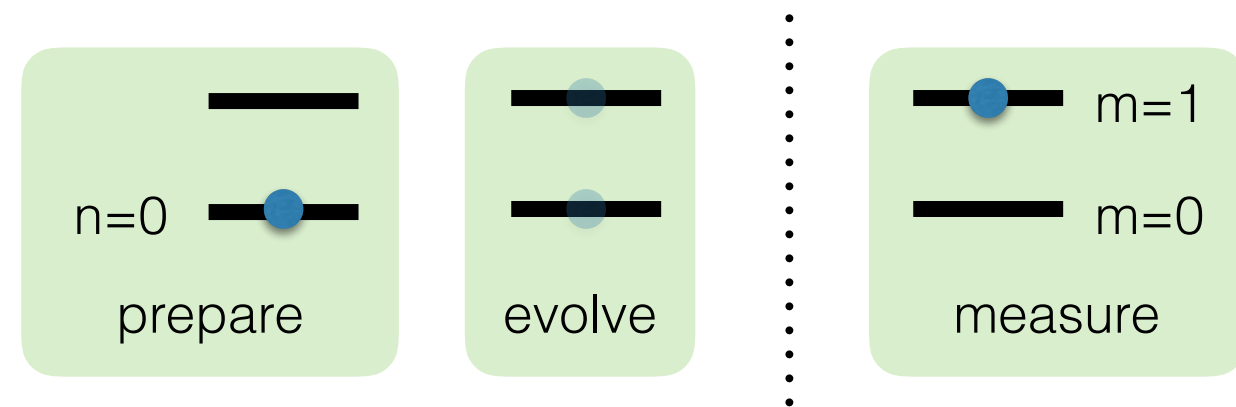
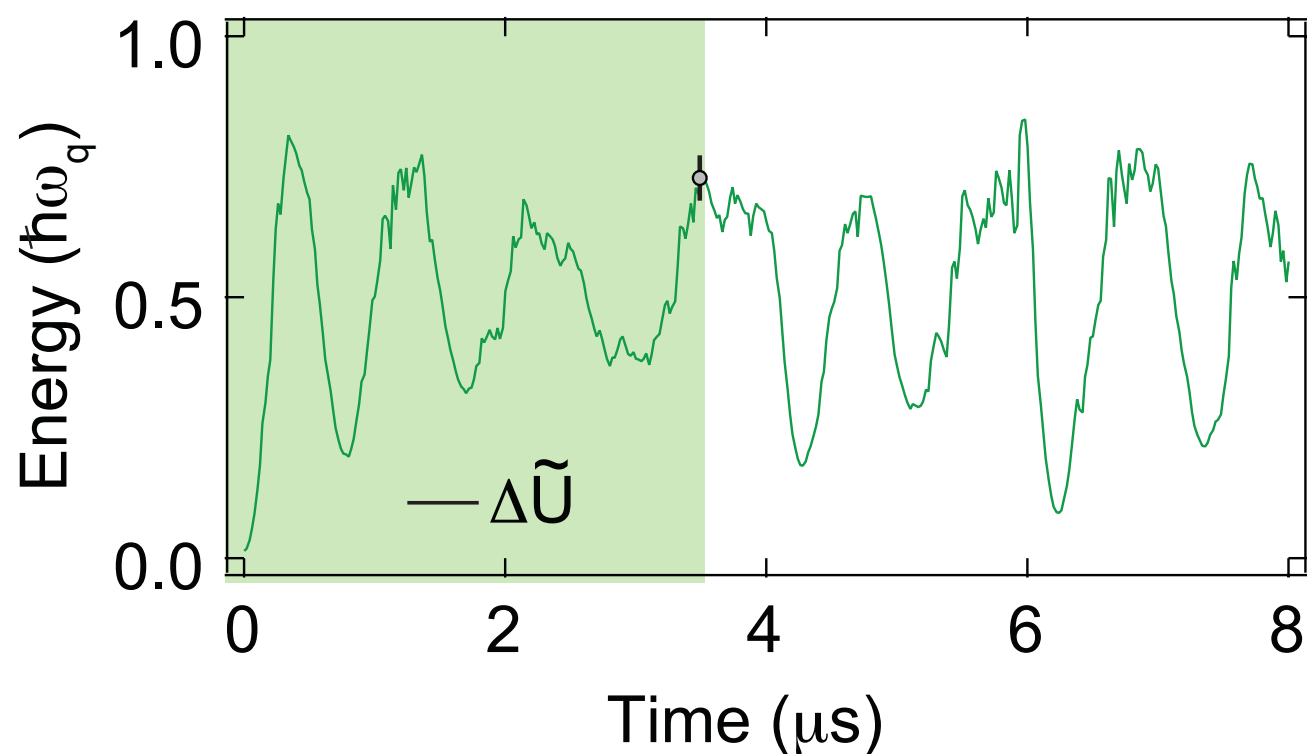
# First Law of Thermodynamics

First law of thermodynamics:  $\Delta U = \int_0^\tau \frac{\delta \tilde{W}}{dt} dt + \int_0^\tau \frac{\delta \tilde{Q}}{dt} dt$



Instantaneous heat and work along a single quantum trajectory.

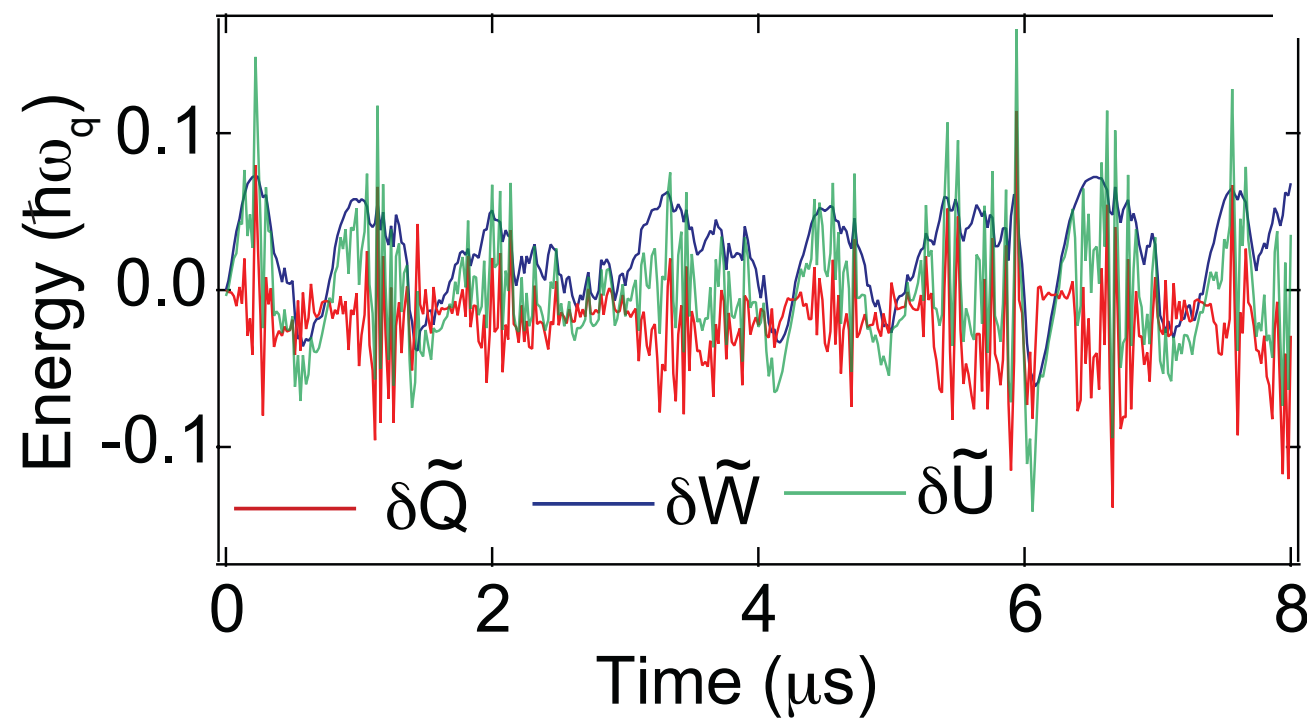
Integrated over time.



Condition on  $\Delta \tilde{U}$

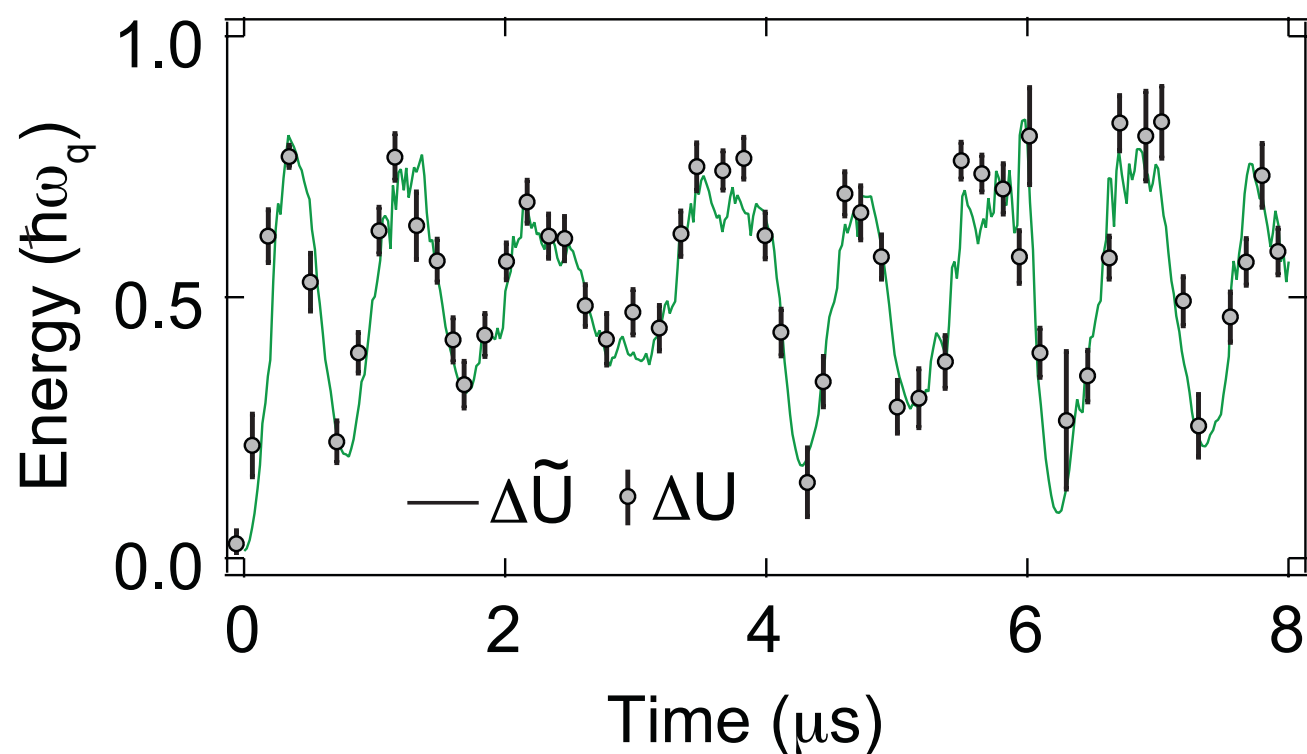
# First Law of Thermodynamics

First law of thermodynamics:  $\Delta U = \int_0^\tau \frac{\delta \tilde{W}}{dt} dt + \int_0^\tau \frac{\delta \tilde{Q}}{dt} dt$

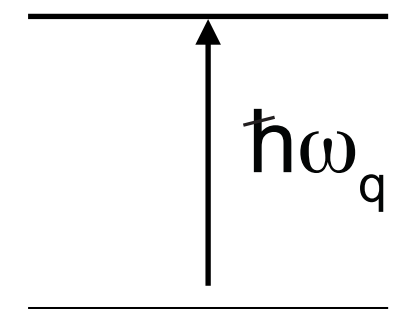


Instantaneous heat and work along a single quantum trajectory.

Integrated over time.



Matches the energy changes of obtained from transition probabilities.

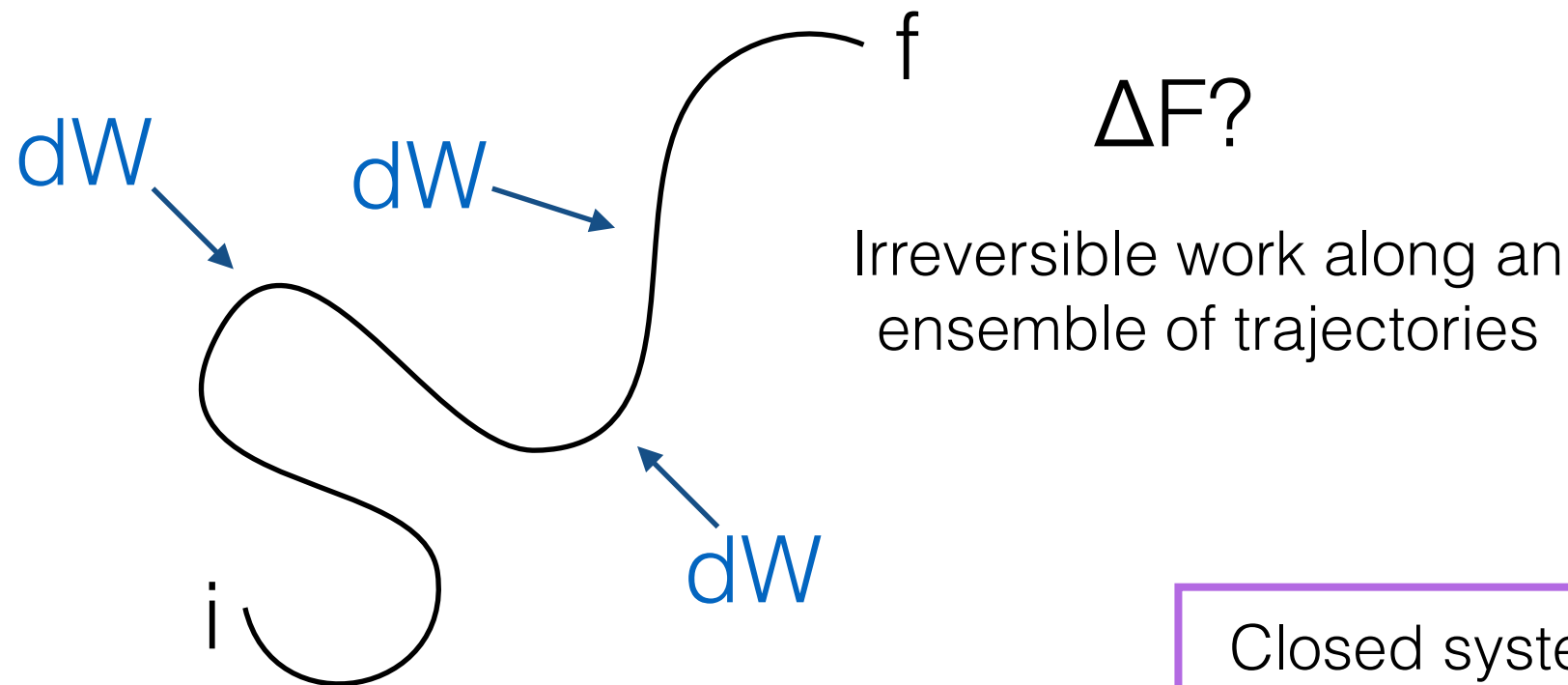


# Second Law of Thermodynamics

Jarzynski equality:  $\langle e^{-\beta W} \rangle = e^{-\beta \Delta F}$

$F = U - TS$  (Ability of a system to do work)

in general:  $\Delta F \leq W$  (equality for quasi-static)



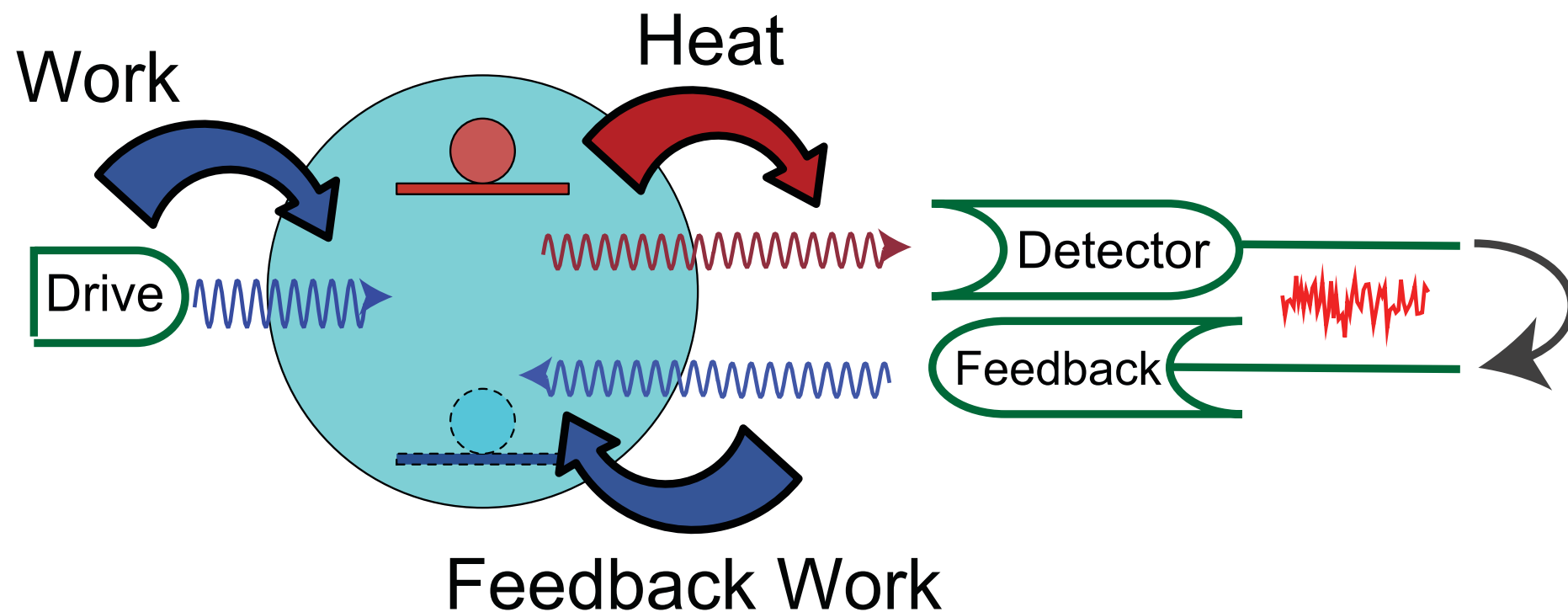
$$\langle e^{-\beta W} \rangle = \int P(W) e^{-\beta W} dW = \int P(\Delta U) e^{-\beta \Delta U} d\Delta U$$

Infer work distribution  
from total energy change

# Quantum feedback to isolate qubit

Goal: determine work distribution from projective energy measurements (transition probability).

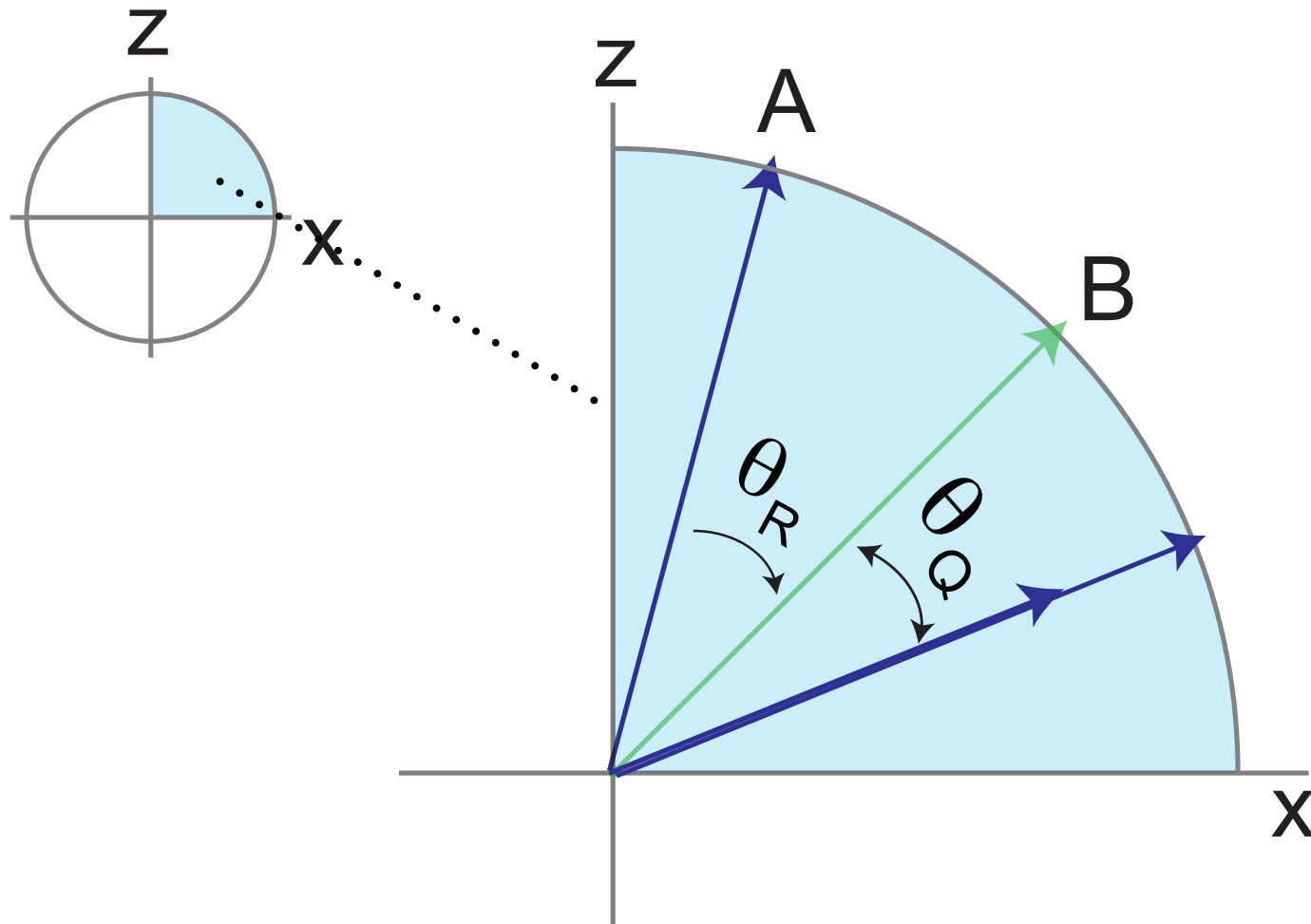
Use quantum feedback loop to cancel heat contributions to the transition probability.



# Quantum feedback loop

## Bloch sphere representation of qubit state

Break evolution into infinitesimal steps



-unitary evolution due to the drive (work)

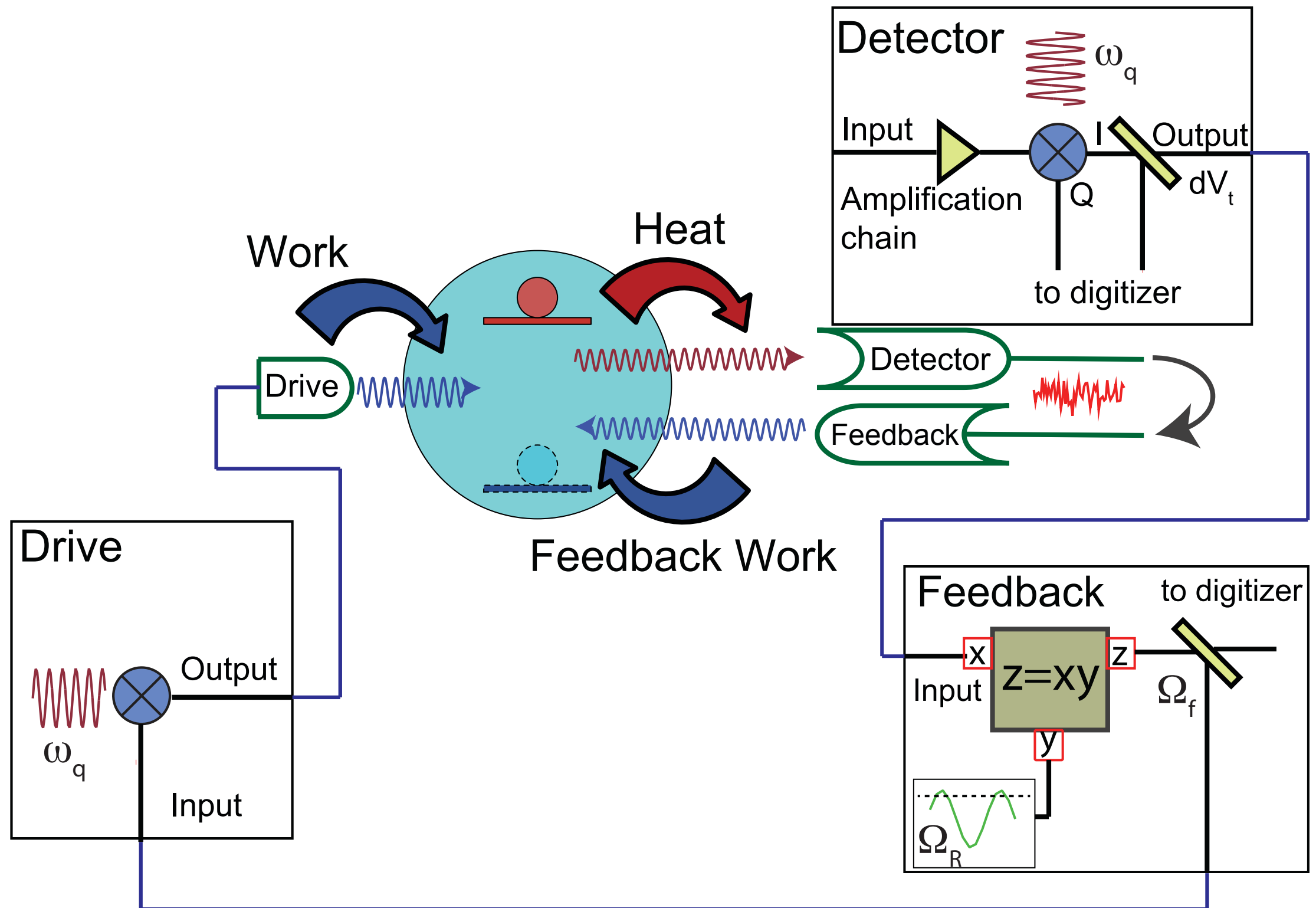
-stochastic evolution due to heat

-Inefficient detection:  
average over stochastic  
evolution

-Apply additional unitary rotation to maintain original phase



# Quantum phase locked loop



# Quantum phase locked loop

State update in Bloch components

$$\begin{aligned} dz &= +\Omega x dt + \gamma(1-z)dt + \sqrt{\eta}x(1-z)(dV_t - \gamma\sqrt{\eta}xdt) \\ dx &= -\Omega z dt - \frac{\gamma}{2}xdt + \sqrt{\eta}(1-z-x^2)(dV_t - \gamma\sqrt{\eta}xdt) \end{aligned}$$

Cancel these terms

With unitary rotations:

$$dz = \Omega_F x dt, \quad dx = -\Omega_F z dt,$$

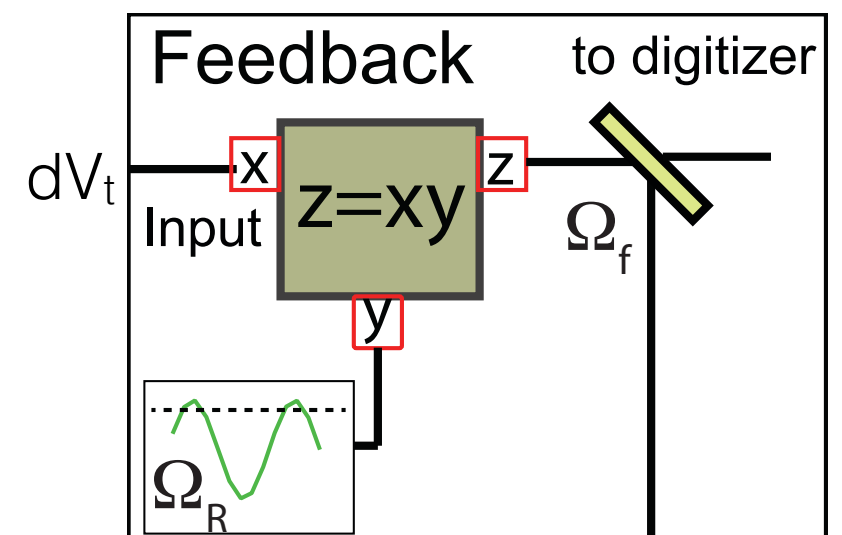
Focus on z component

small for weak measurement

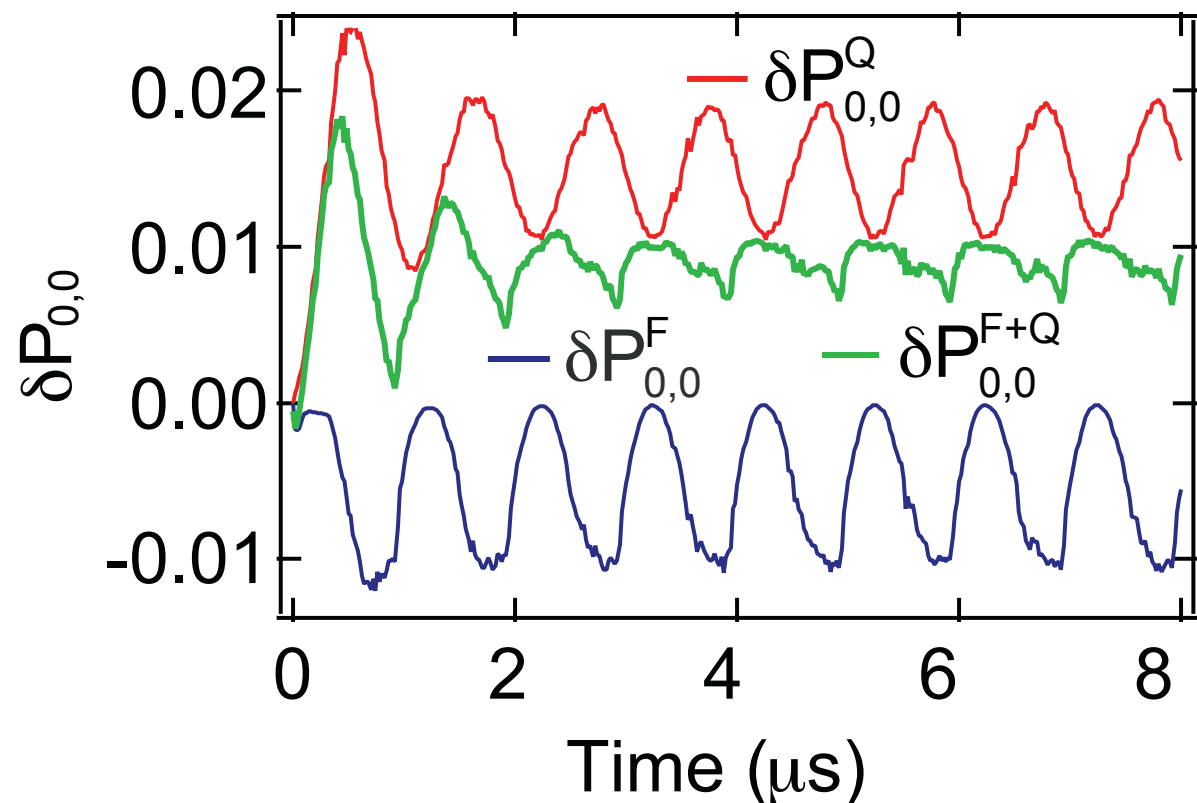
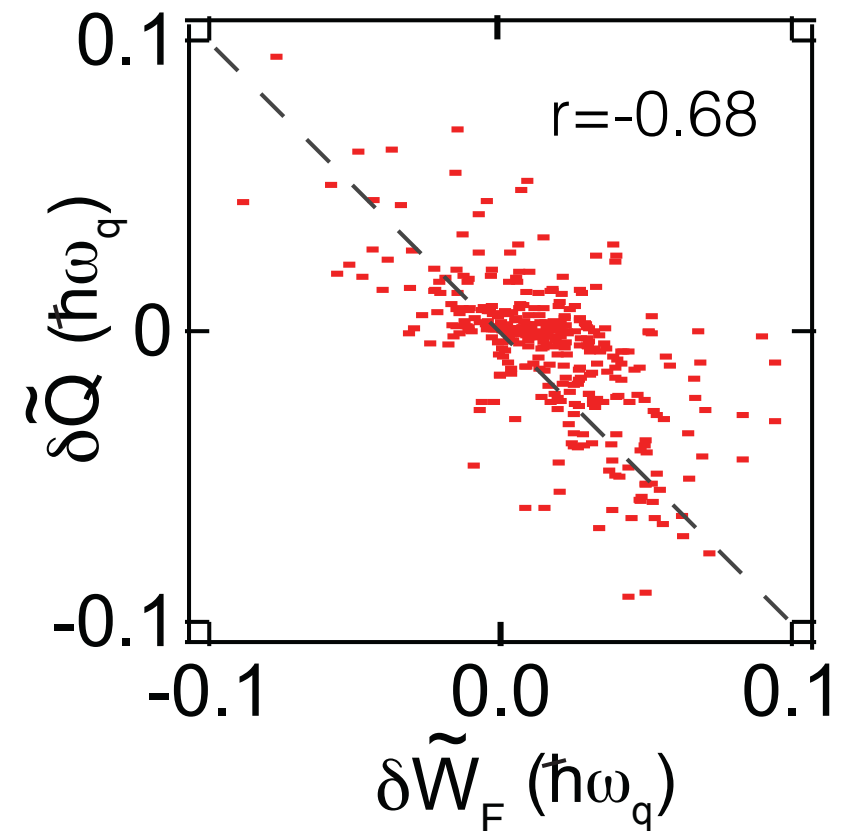
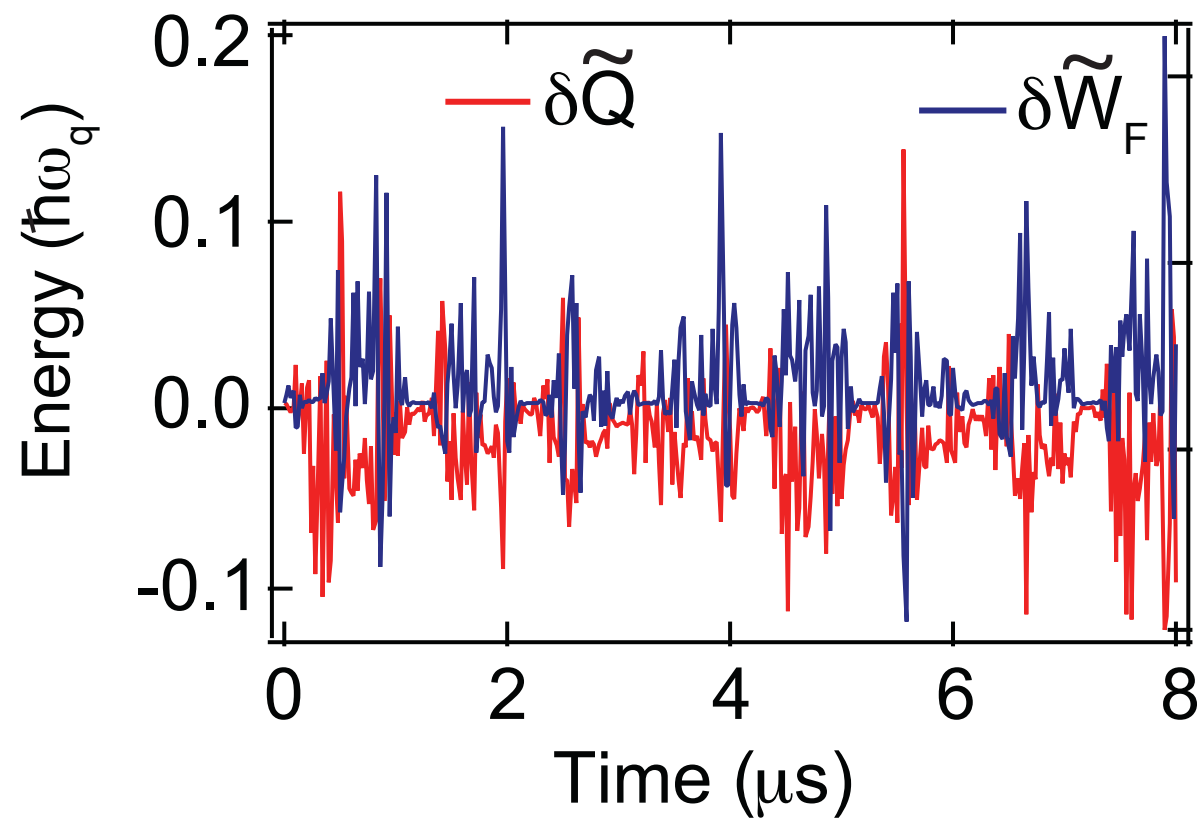
$$\Omega_F x dt = -\sqrt{\eta}x(1-\boxed{z})(dV_t - \cancel{\gamma\sqrt{\eta}xdt})$$

$$\boxed{\cos(\Omega t + \phi)}$$

$$\Omega_F = \sqrt{\eta}(\cos(\Omega t + \phi) - 1)dV_t/dt$$



# Isolating the qubit with quantum feedback

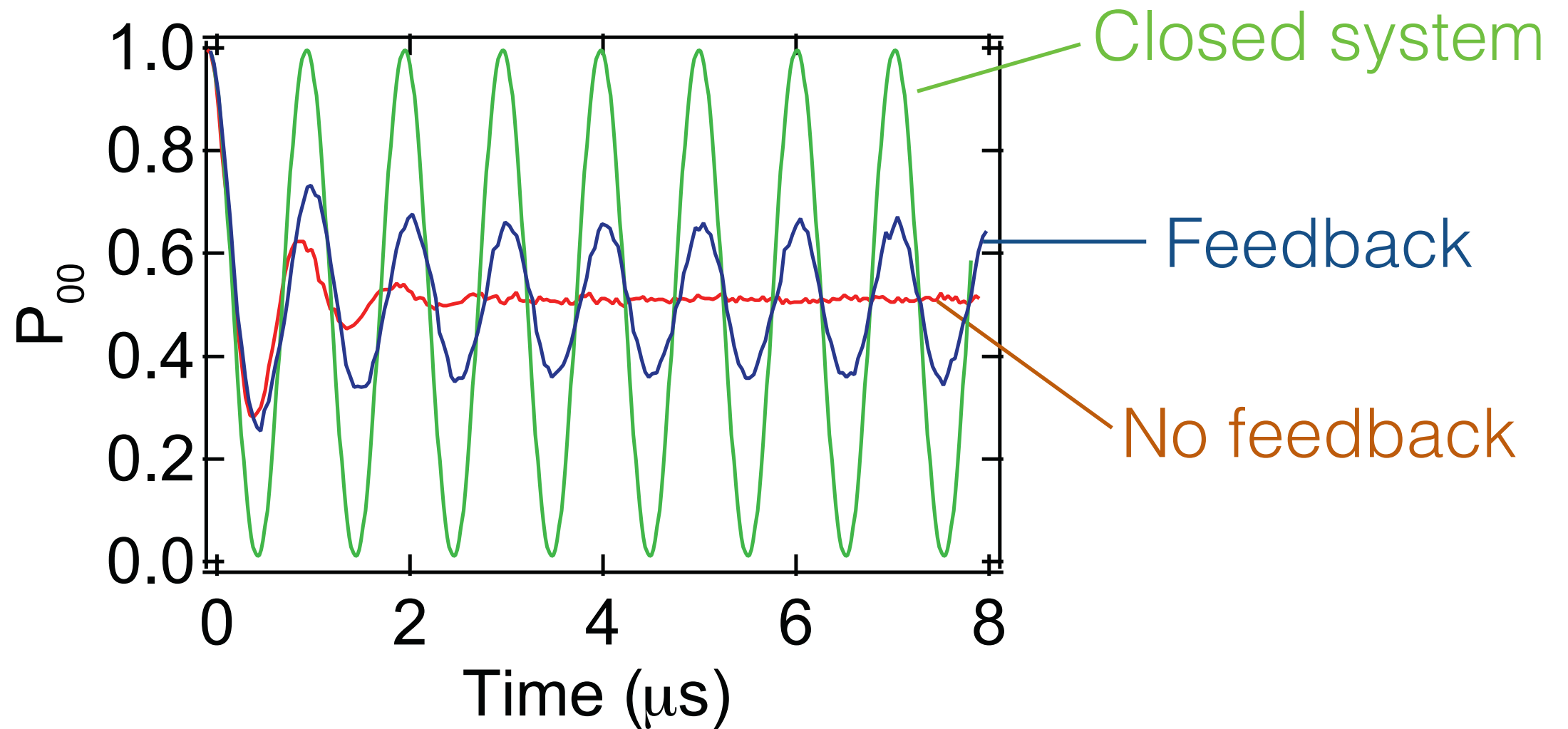


-Additional work at each time point to compensate for the exchanged heat

-Quantum efficiency ( $\eta = 0.3$ ) means the compensation is not perfect.

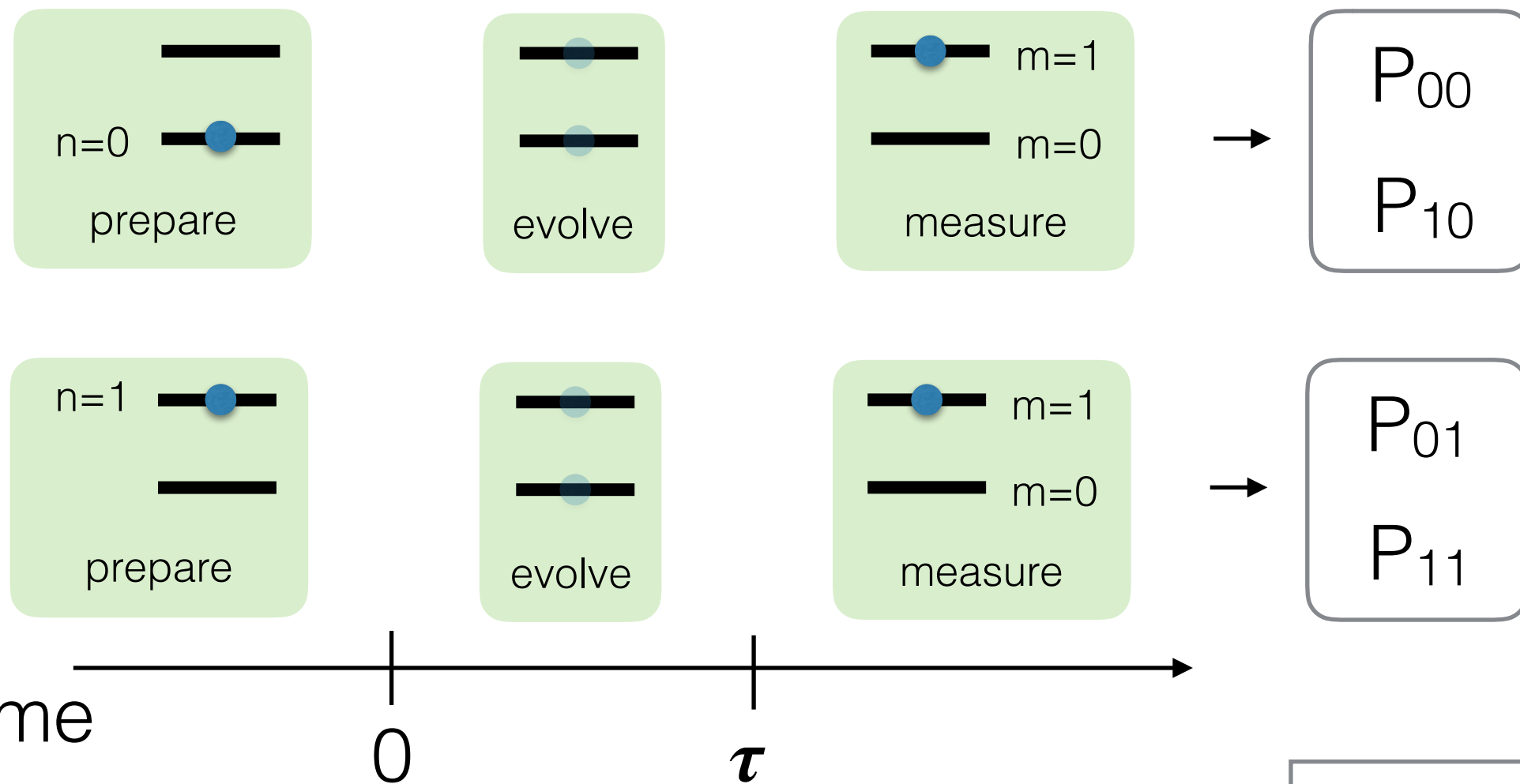
# Persistent Rabi oscillations

Ensemble transition probabilities:



With feedback, transition probabilities oscillate as with closed system, lower contrast.

# Jarzynski Equality



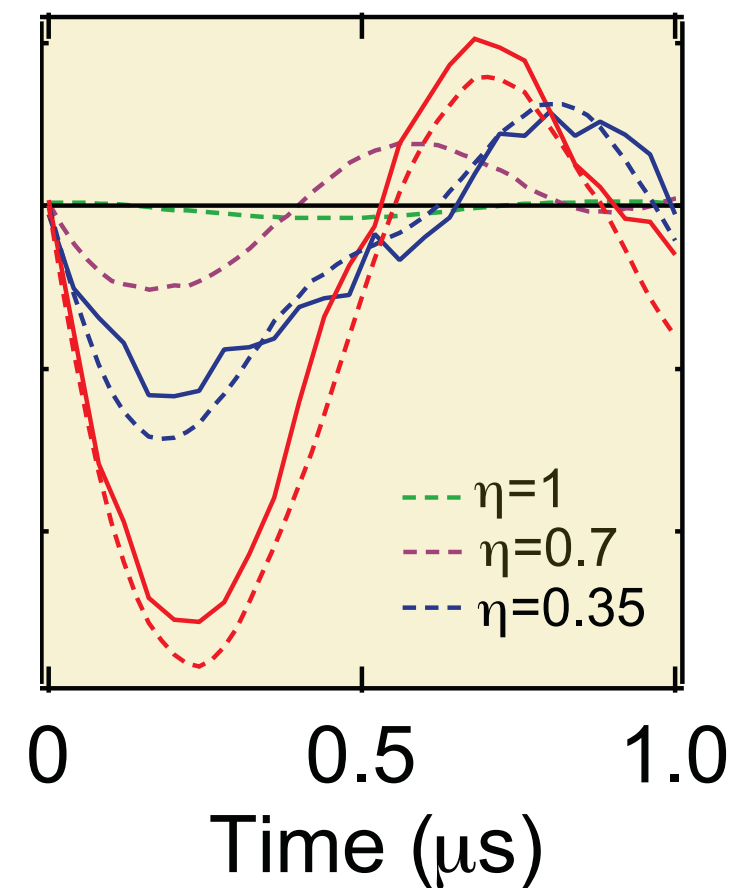
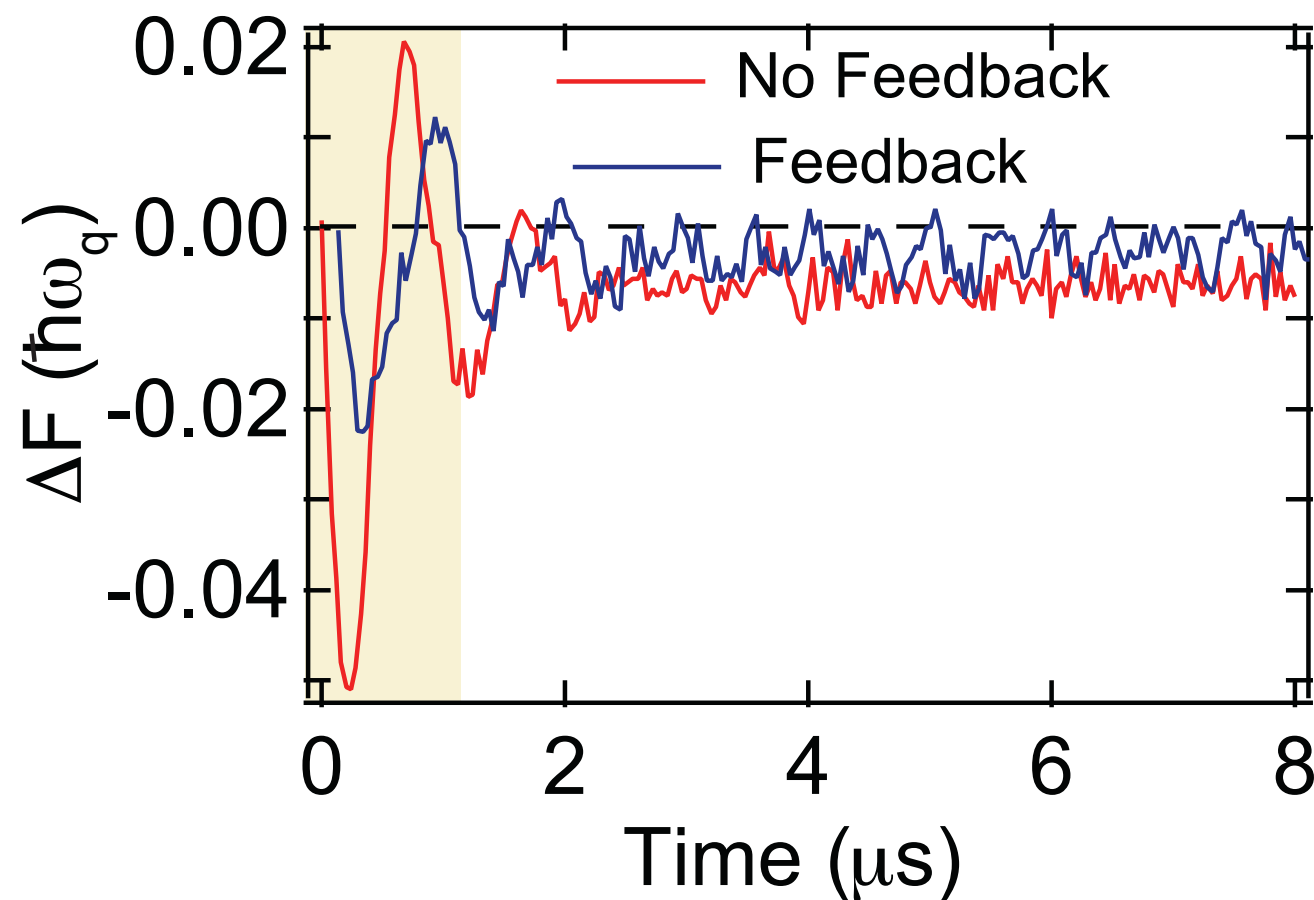
$$P(\Delta U) = \sum_{m,n} P_{m,n}^{\tau} P_n^0 \delta(\Delta U - (E_m^{\tau} - E_n^0))$$

$$P_n^0 = \frac{e^{-\beta E_n}}{e^{-\beta E_0} + e^{-\beta E_1}}$$

$$\beta / \hbar \omega_q = 3.5 \quad (P_1 = 3\%)$$

$$\langle e^{-\beta W} \rangle = \int P(W) e^{-\beta W} dW = \int P(\Delta U) e^{-\beta \Delta U} d\Delta U$$

# Jarzynski Equality



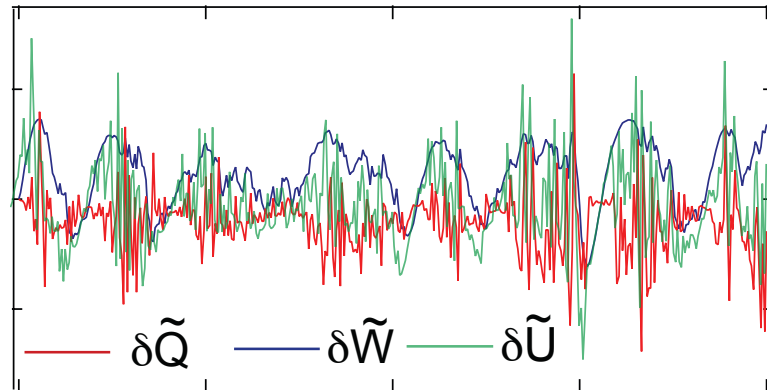
Initial and final Hamiltonians are the same so expect  $\Delta F=0$

Feedback reduces deviations by factor of 2

Residual deviation is due to finite quantum efficiency

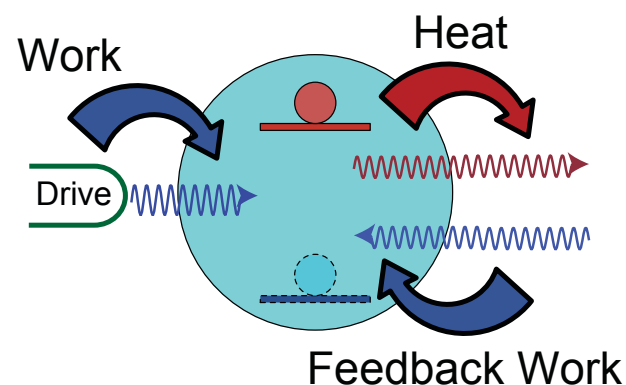
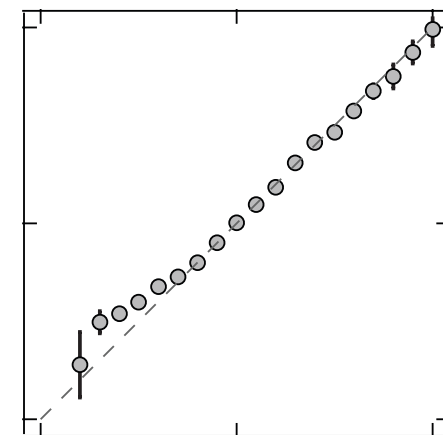


# Summary so far



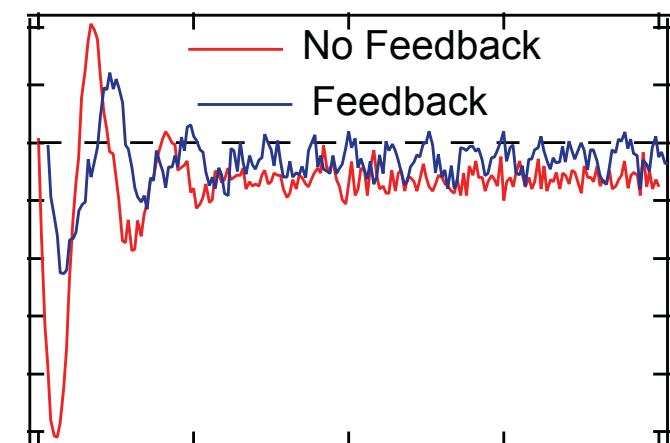
Identify heat and work along single quantum trajectories.

Verify that the sum of the integrated heat and work along single quantum trajectories is equal to the total energy change



Quantum feedback loop to compensate for heat with additional work.

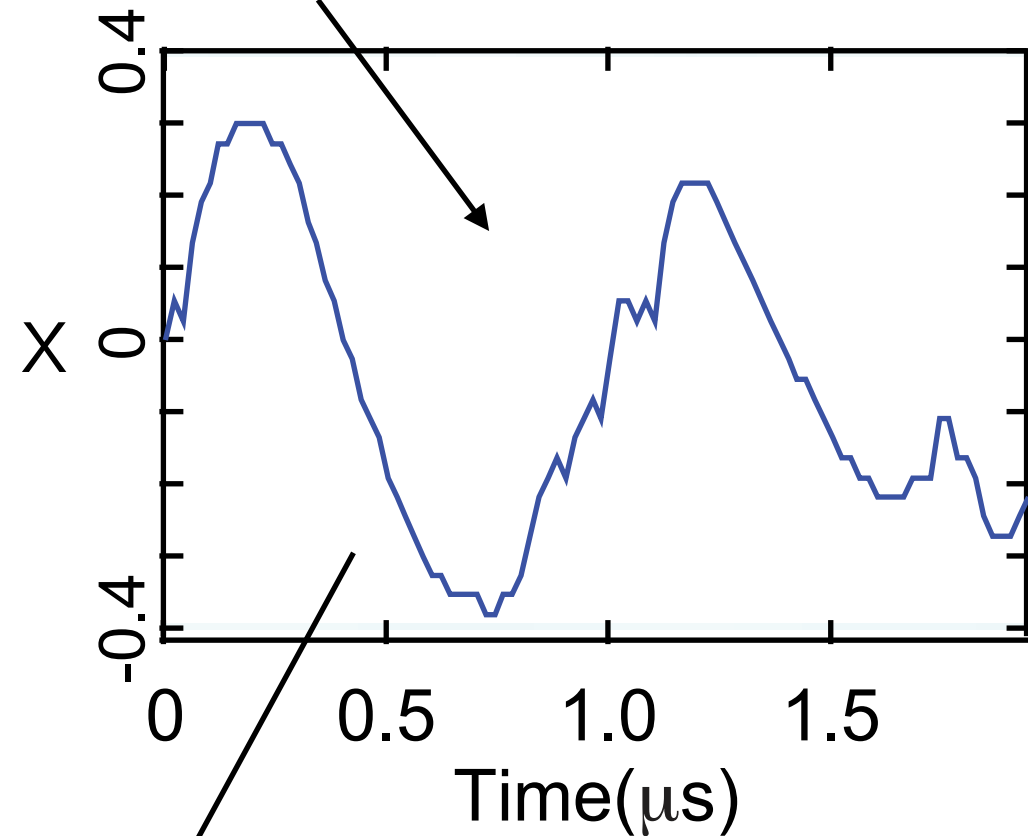
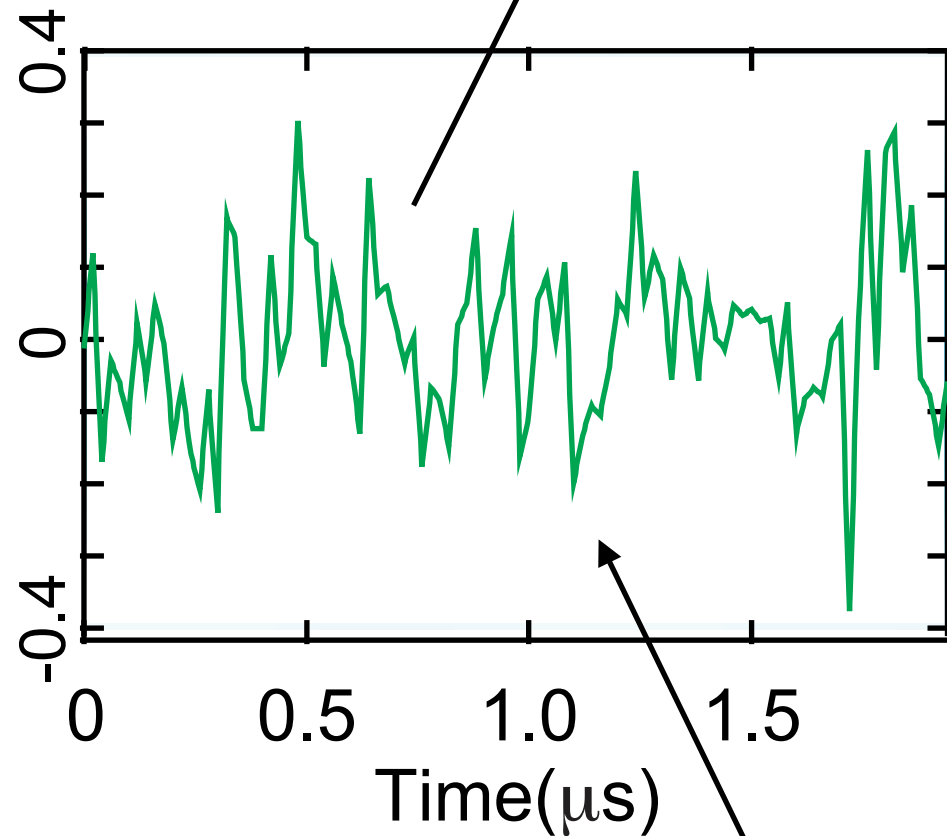
Jarzynski equality based on projective energy measurements.



# Thermodynamics from the statistical mechanics angle.

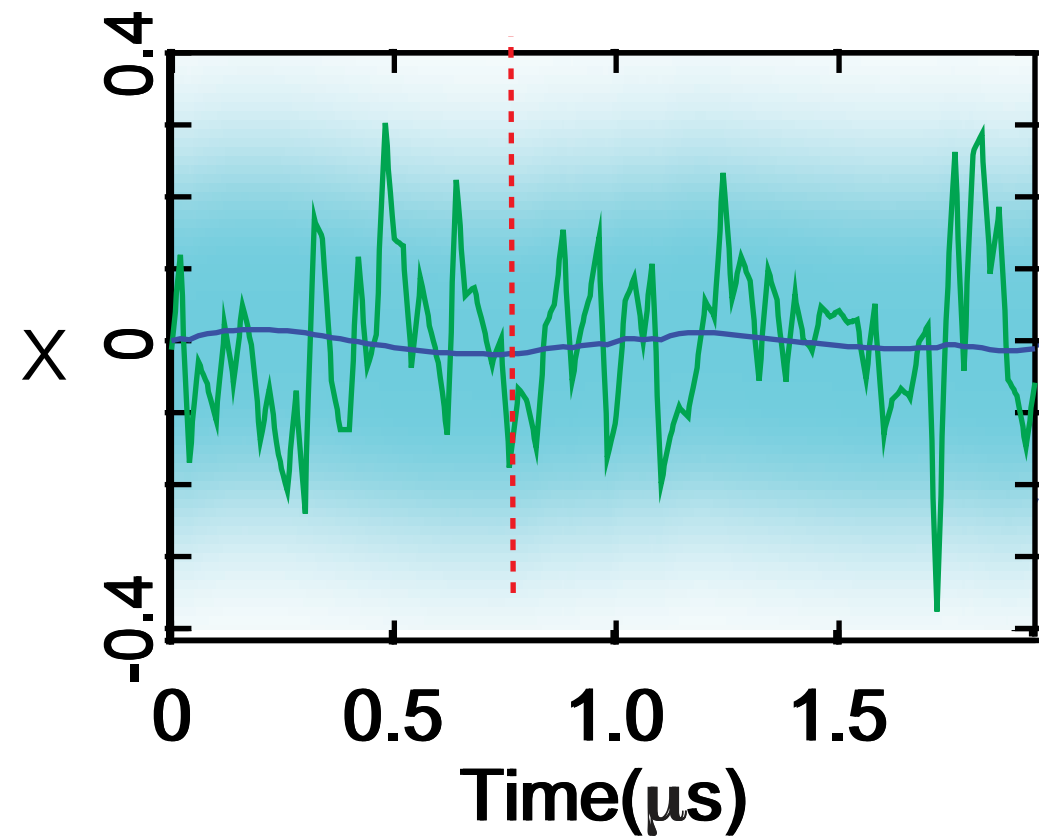
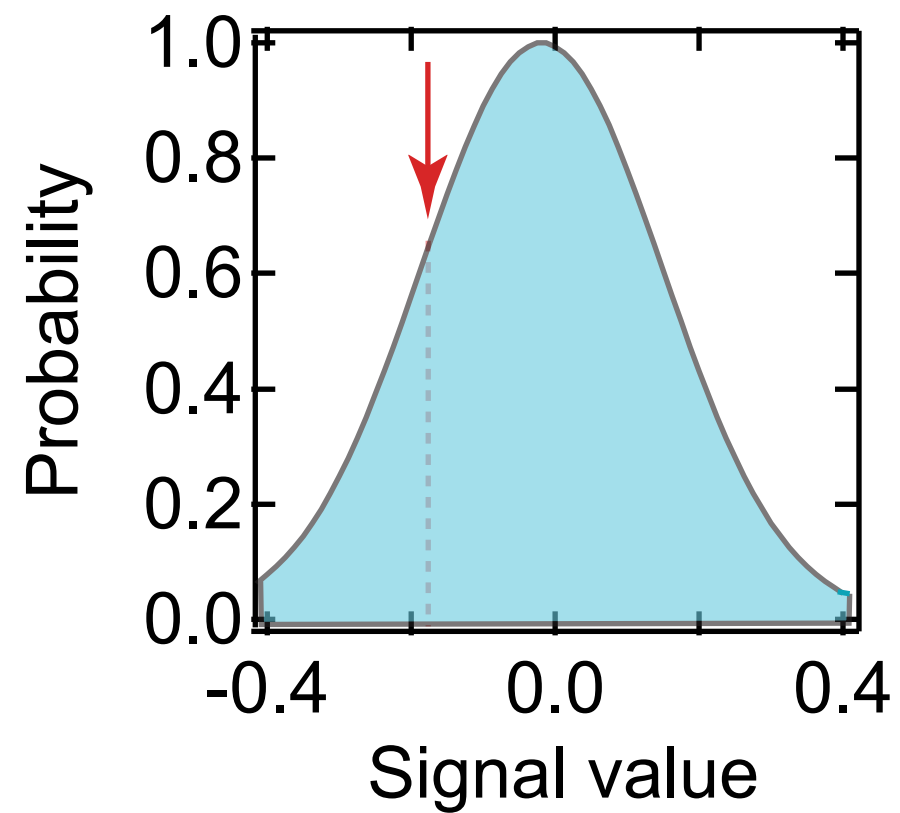
$$\begin{aligned} dz &= -\Omega x dt + \gamma(1-z)dt + \sqrt{\eta}x(1-z)(dI_t - \gamma\sqrt{\eta}xdt) \\ dx &= +\Omega z dt - \frac{\gamma}{2}xdt + \sqrt{\eta}(1-z-x^2)(dI_t - \gamma\sqrt{\eta}xdt) \end{aligned}$$

Homodyne signal



$$dV_t = \sqrt{\eta}\gamma\langle\sigma_x\rangle dt + \sqrt{\gamma}dW_t$$

# Path Probability



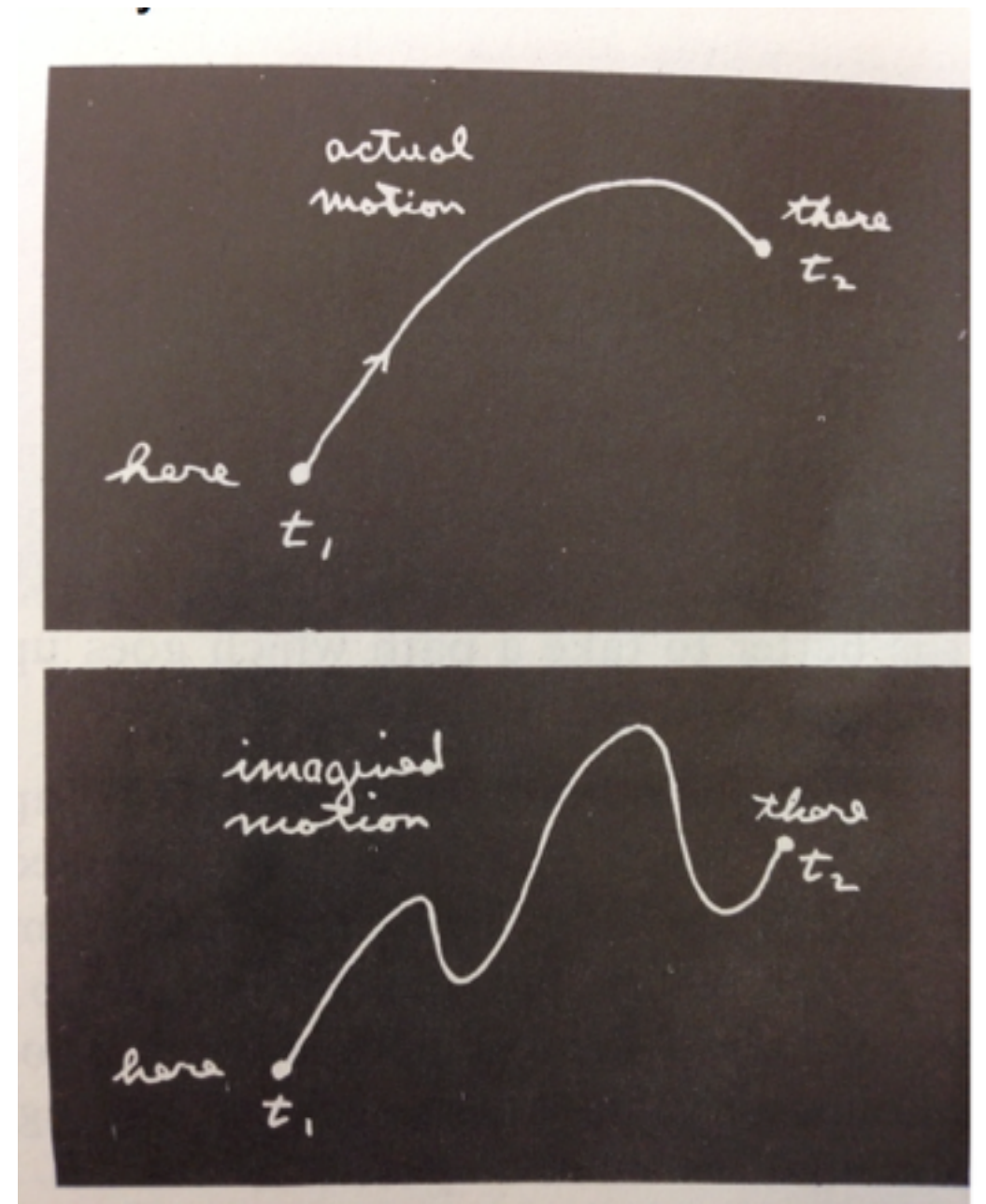
$$P_{path} = \prod_{n=0}^{N-1} \mathcal{P}(dV_t | x) = \prod_{n=0}^{N-1} e^{-\frac{(dI_t - \gamma\sqrt{\eta}xdt)}{2\gamma dt}}$$

# A most likely path?

Borrow some ideas from  
Feynman:

Classical mechanics:  
principle of least action

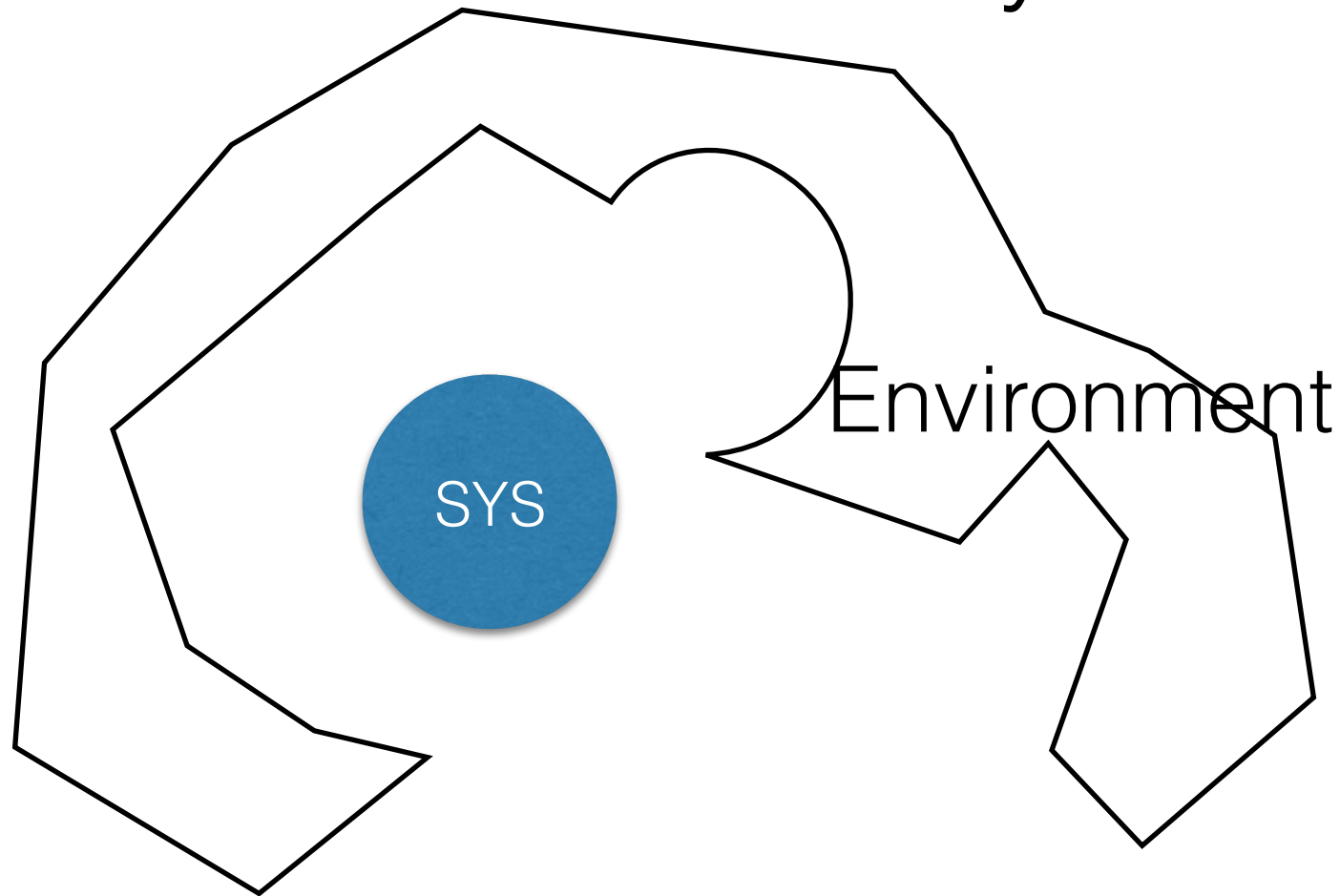
Stochastic trajectories:  
extremize the stochastic action  
(maximize the path probability)



S. Weber et al. Nature (2014), A. Chantasri, PRA **88**, 042110 (2013)

M. Naghiloo et al. arXiv 2016: "Quantum caustics in resonance fluorescence trajectories"

# Path Probability is related to entropy.

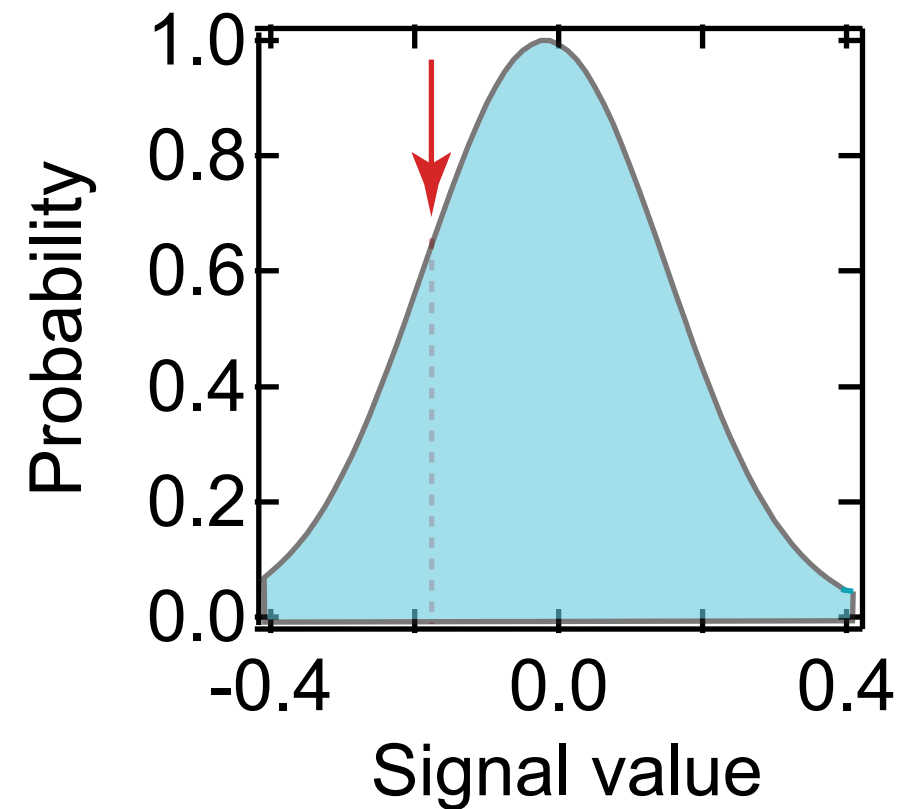


$$\Delta S_{\text{SYS}} \sim \ln(P_{\text{final}}/P_{\text{initial}})$$

$$\Delta S_{\text{env}}?$$

Seifert: look at the path probability!

$$\Delta S_{\text{env}} \sim \ln(P_{\text{forward}}/P_{\text{backwards}})$$



Fluctuation theorem:

$$\langle e^{-\Delta S_{\text{tot}}} \rangle = 1$$

Are measurement  
dynamics  
reversible?  
Arrow of time?

# Are quantum measurements reversible?

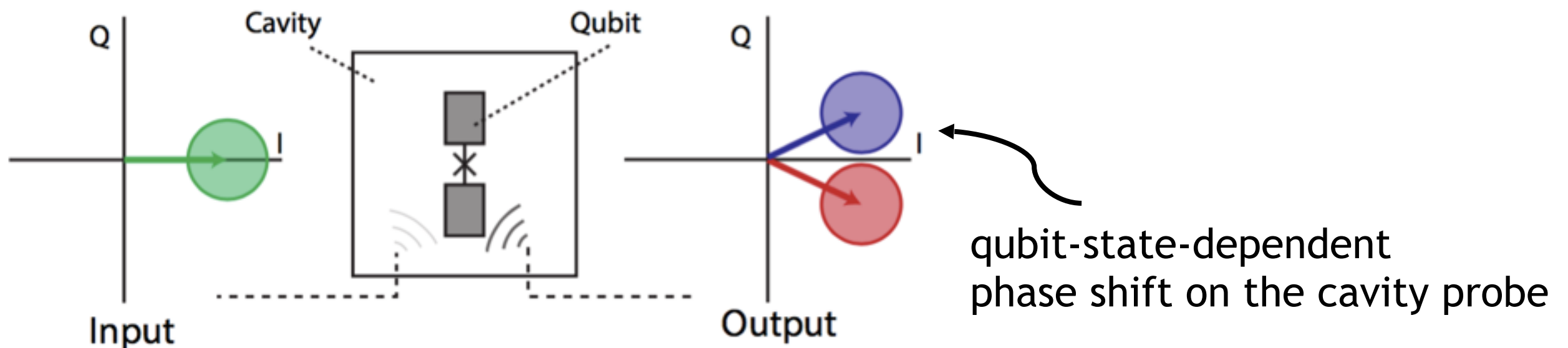
Projective measurements: No

Weak measurements: Yes

Example: dispersive  $\sigma_z$  measurement.

$$\hat{H} = \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}\hbar\omega_q\hat{\sigma}_z}_{\text{qubit}} + \underbrace{\hbar(\omega_c + \chi\hat{\sigma}_z)(\hat{a}^\dagger\hat{a} + \frac{1}{2})}_{\text{cavity}}$$

Coherent cavity probe

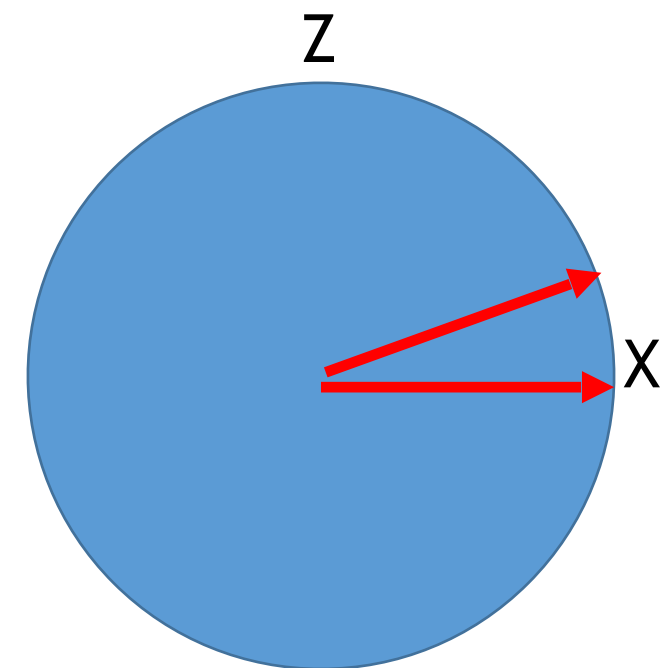
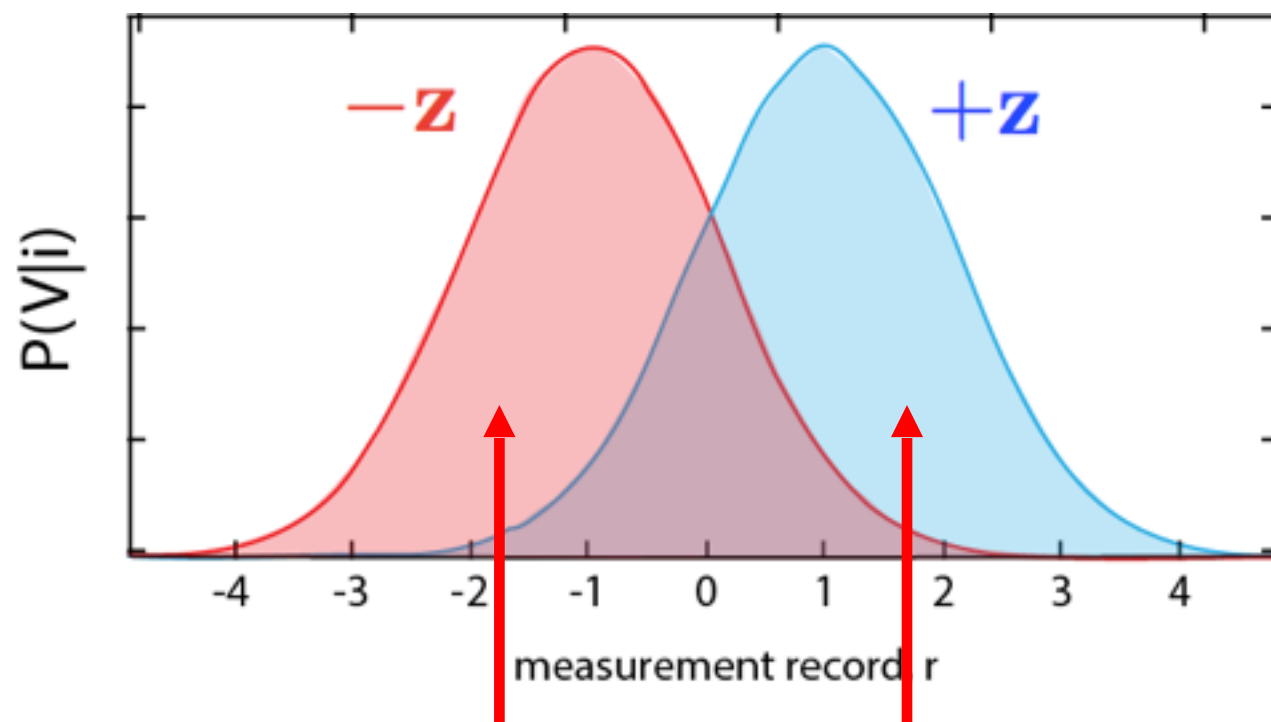


# State Tracking: intuitive example

Prepare:  $|+\mathbf{x}\rangle = \frac{|+\mathbf{z}\rangle + |-\mathbf{z}\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$

$$P(r|+\mathbf{z}) \propto \exp[-(r-1)^2/2\tau]$$

$$P(r|-\mathbf{z}) \propto \exp[-(r+1)^2/2\tau]$$



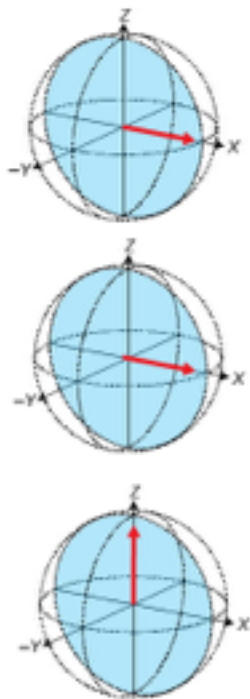


# Janus sequences

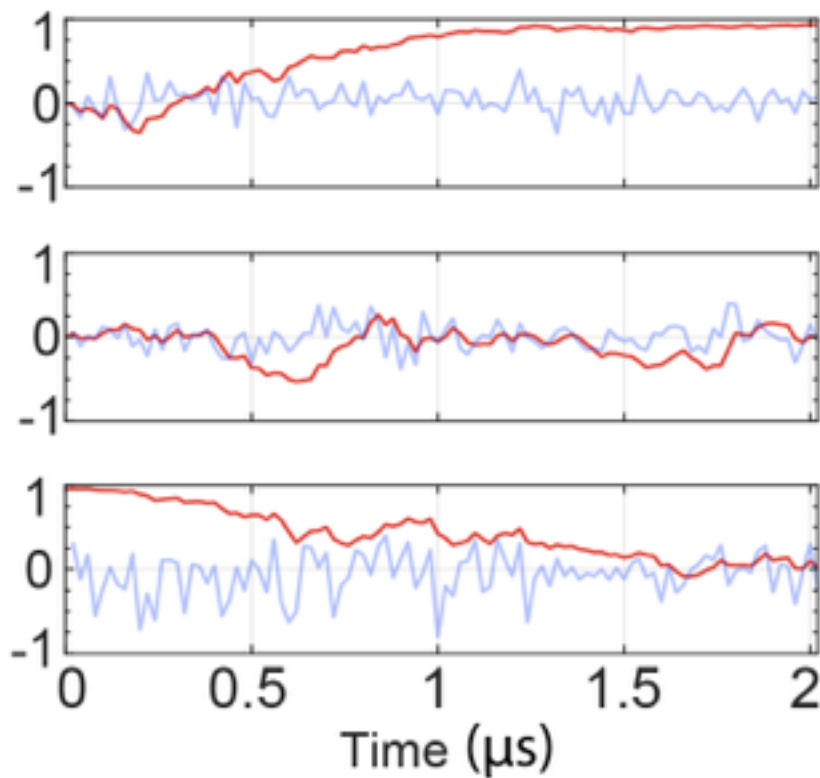


A.Jordan, A. Chantasri, KWM, J. Dressel, A. Korotkov (2017)

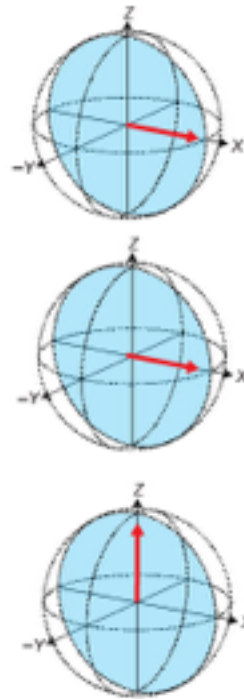
Initial state



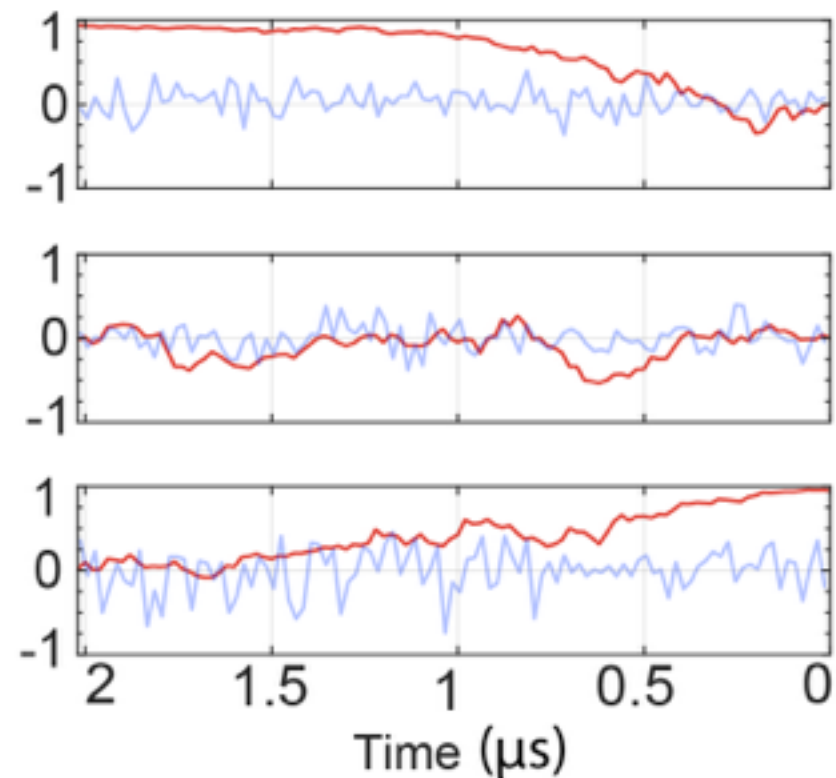
$\langle Z \rangle, r_t$  (a.u.)



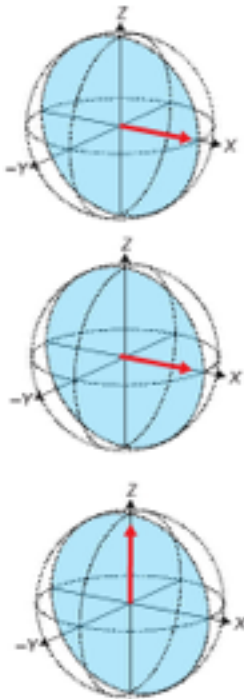
Final state



$t \rightarrow -t$   $r \rightarrow -r(T-t)$

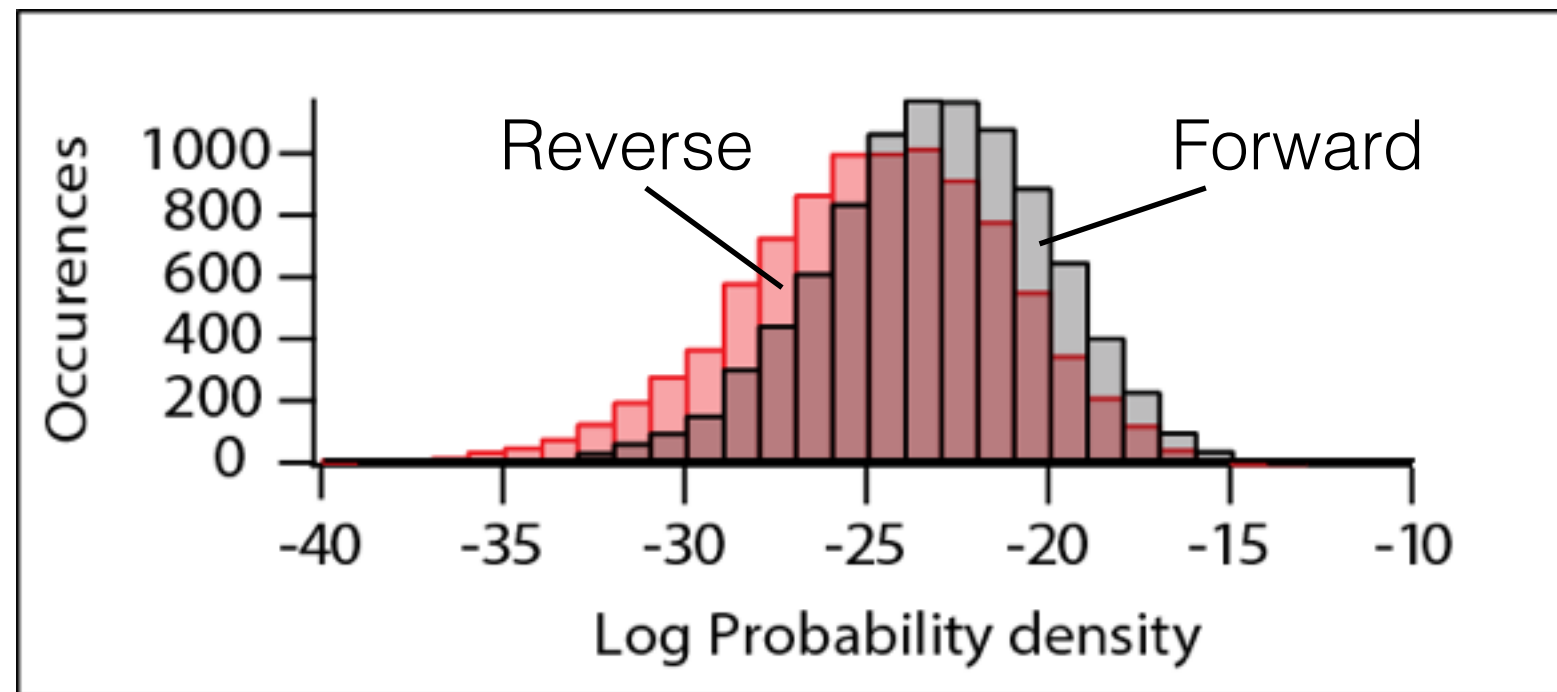


Initial state

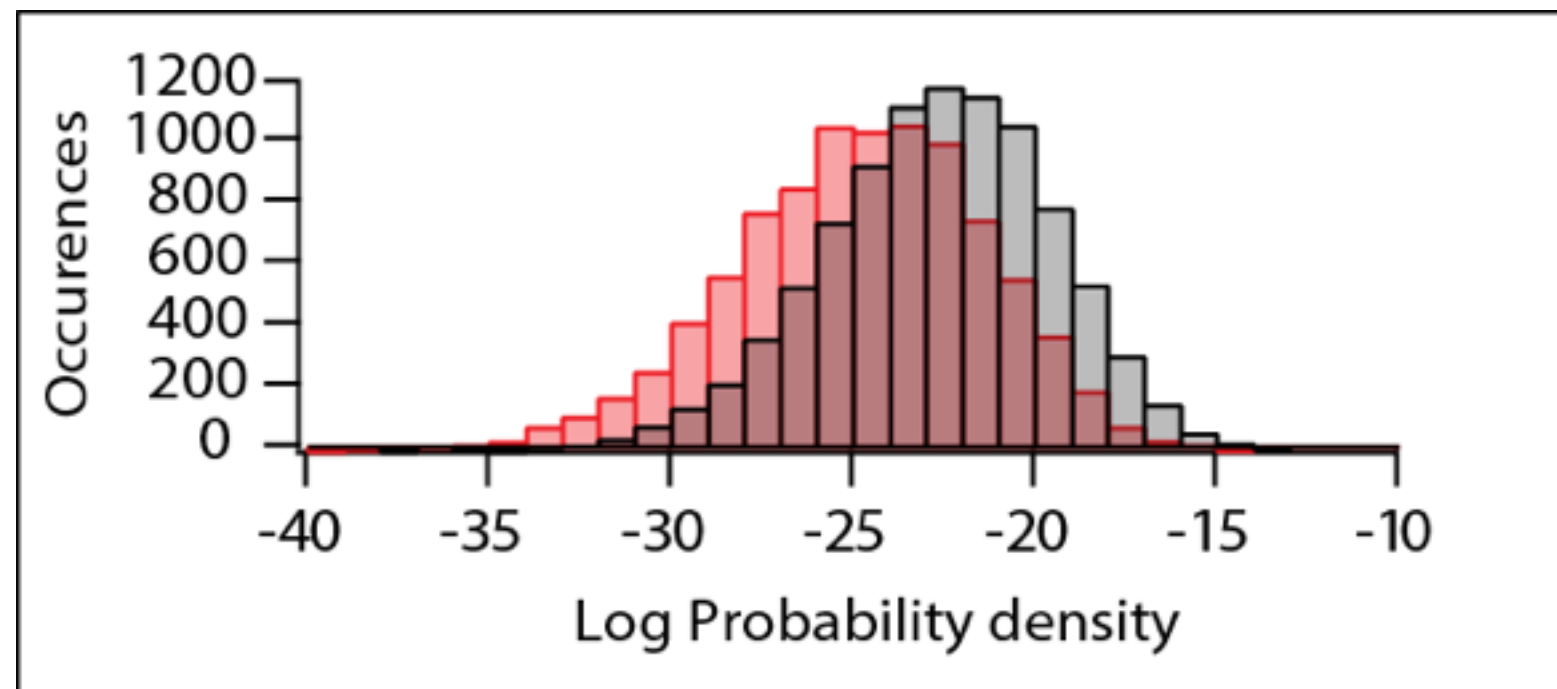


# Statistical arrow of time in quantum measurement

$$Z_i = 0$$



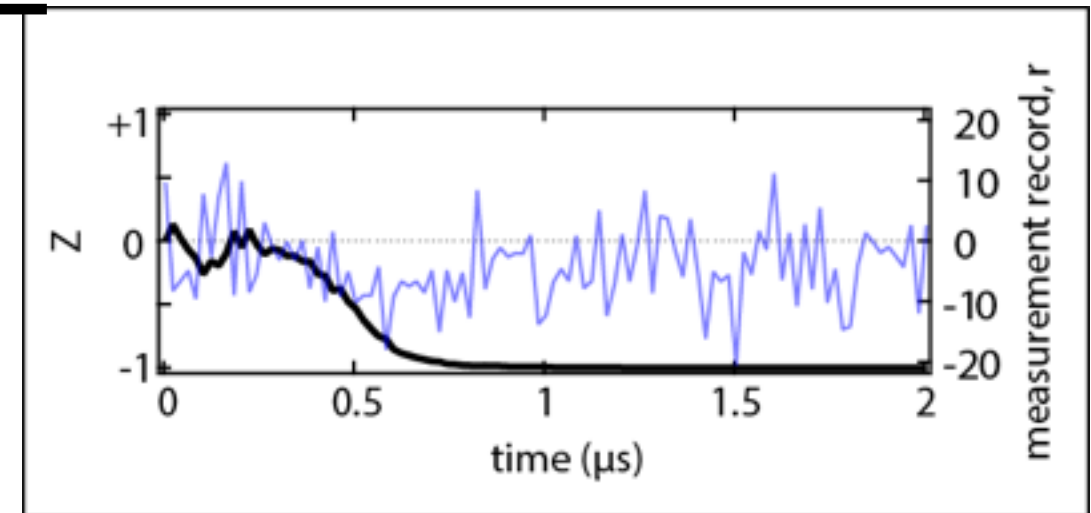
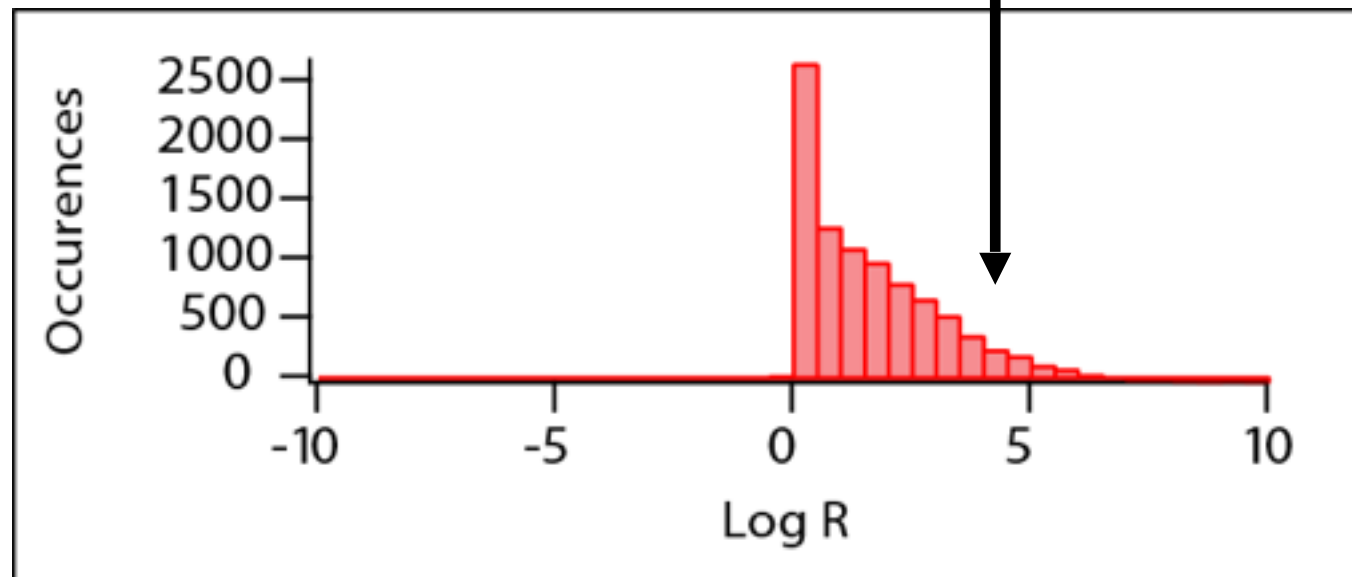
$$Z_i = 0.87$$



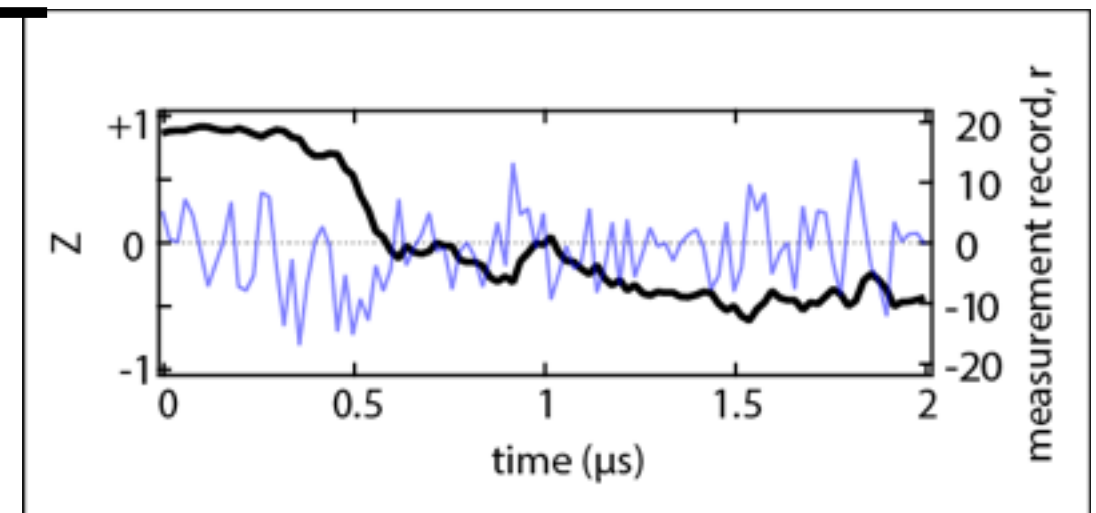
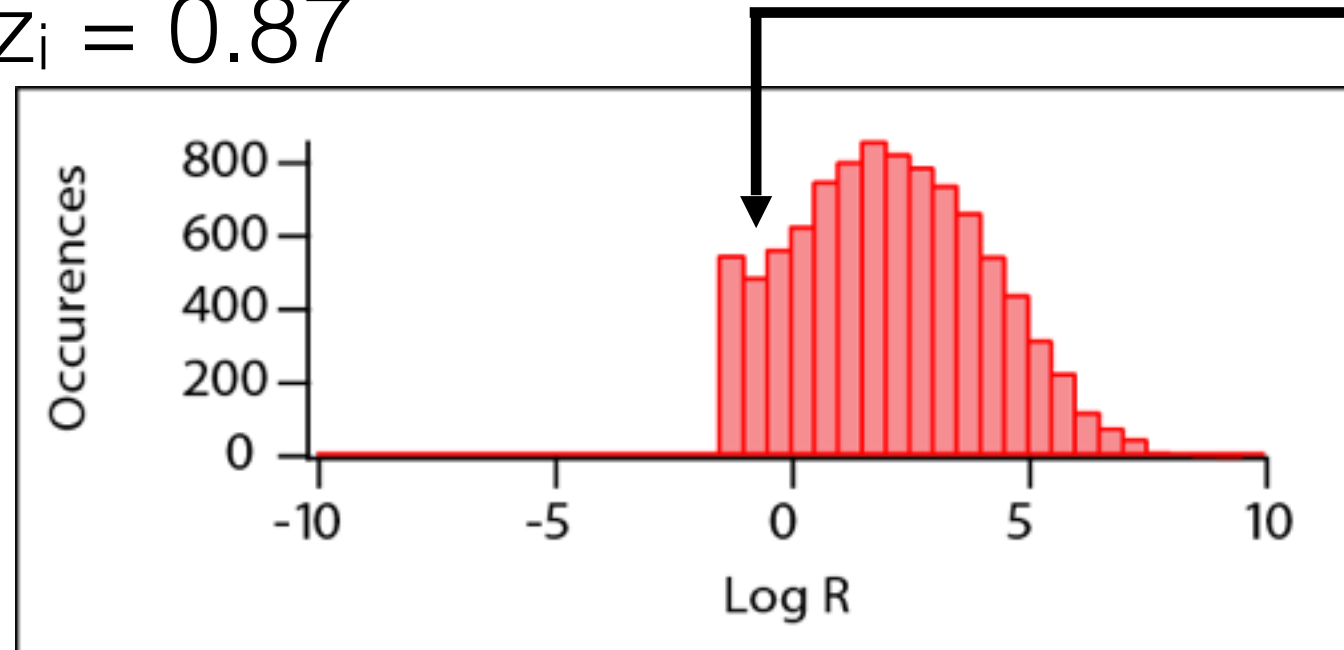
# The Arrow-of-time Ratio

$$\mathcal{R} = \frac{P_F}{P_B}$$

$z_i = 0$



$z_i = 0.87$



seemingly “backwards in time”

# What's next?

Current case is completely classical: Probability depends only on populations.

- Include a Rabi drive: populations  $\rightleftharpoons$  coherences
- Different measurement operator ( $\sigma_-$ )

Fluctuation theorem, entropy  $\rightleftharpoons$  heat, temperature





## People involved:

### WU:

**Mahdi Naghiloo,**  
Dian Tan,  
Arian Jadbabaie,  
Patrick Harrington,  
Neda Forouzani

### Theory:

Alessandro Romito,  
Eric Lutz,  
José Alonso

## Funding:



John  
Templeton  
Foundation



Washington University in St. Louis

Postdoc positions available