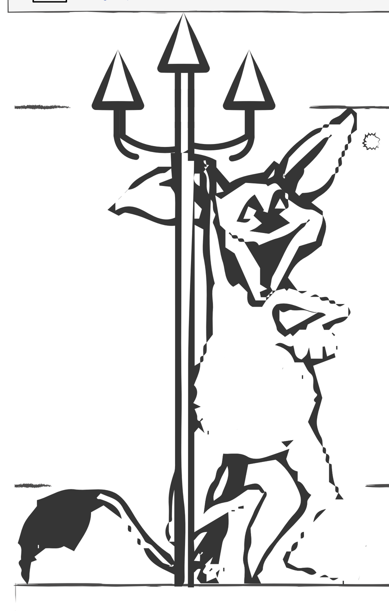
Thermal recall: Memory-assisted Markovian thermal processes

Jakub Czartowski, A. de Oliveira Junior and Kamil Korzekwa

arXiv: 2303.12840 Institute of Theoretical Physics, Jagiellonian University, ul. Łojasiewicza 11, 30-348 Krakow, Poland.



$\Delta S > 0$? W? How to describe the thermodynamic of a small system?

- No memory ⟶ Markovian thermal process (MTP)
- **Finite-memory** ⟶ How to interpolate? ⟶ **Memory-assisted MTP (MeMTP)**
- (infinite) memory ⟶ Thermal operations (TO)

Setting the scene

i. Minimal assumptions on the joint system-bath dynamics: joint system closed, arbitrarily strong correlations

$$\mathcal{E}(\rho) = \mathrm{tr}_E\left[U\left(\rho \otimes \frac{e^{-\beta H_E}}{\mathrm{Tr}[e^{-\beta H_E}]}\right)U^\dagger\right] \quad \text{with} \quad [U, H\otimes \mathbb{1}_E + \mathbb{1}\otimes H_E] = 0$$

γ

ii. Joint system-bath undergoes an open dynamics: weak coupling, large bath size, quickly decaying correlations...

$$\frac{d}{dt}\rho(t) = -i[H,\rho(t)] + \mathcal{L}_t[\rho(t)] \quad \text{with} \quad \mathcal{L}_t(\rho) = \sum_i r_i(t)\left[L_i(t)\rho L_i^\dagger(t) - \frac{1}{2}\left\{L_i^\dagger(t)L_i(t), \rho\right\}\right]$$

Assumption: $(\rho, H) = \left(\sum p_i |e_i\rangle\langle e_i|, \sum E_i |e_i\rangle\langle e_i|\right)$ — Energy-incoherent state $\mathbf{p} = (p_1, ..., p_d)$

Fundamental question: Given $\mathbf{p}$, $\mathbf{q}$, and a thermal bath at β: ● + bath $\xrightarrow{?}$ ●

Answer in a nutshel:

Memoryless	$\mathbf{p} \xrightarrow{\text{MTP}} \mathbf{q}$	$\Longleftrightarrow$	$\mathbf{p} \succ_\beta \mathbf{q}$
Finite memory	$\mathbf{p} \xrightarrow{\text{MeMTP}} \mathbf{q}$	$\Longleftrightarrow$	$\mathbf{p}\otimes\gamma_M \gg_\beta \mathbf{q}\otimes\gamma_M$
Full control	$\mathbf{p} \xrightarrow{\text{TO}} \mathbf{q}$	$\Longleftrightarrow$	$\mathbf{p} \gg_\beta \mathbf{q}$

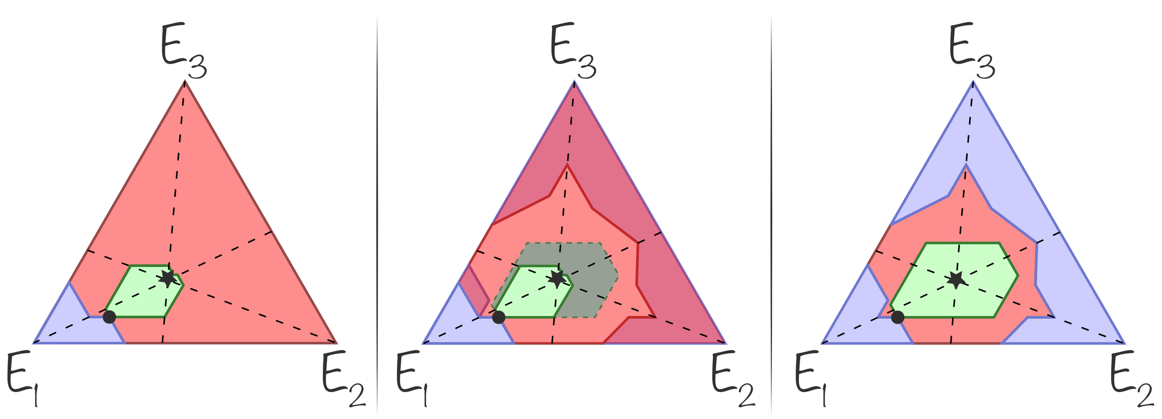
$\succ_\beta$: thermomajorisation — M. Horodecki & Jonathan Oppenheim, Nat.Commun (2013)

$\gg_\beta$: continuous thermomajorisation — M. Lostaglio & K. Korzekwa Phys. Rev. A, (2022)

A gap to be filled...

Thermal operations vs Markovian thermal processes

$\mathbf{p} = (0.7, 0.2, 0.1)$, $E_s = (0, 1, 2)$ and $\beta = 0.3$

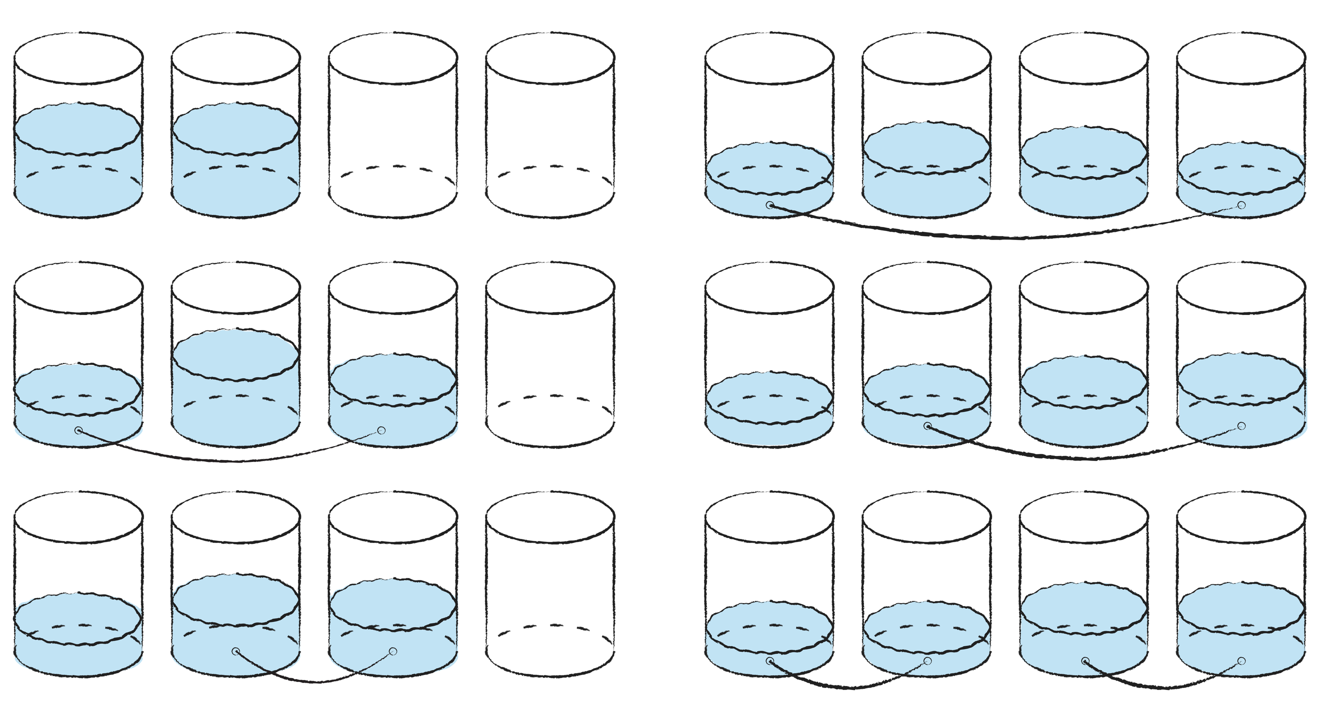


Some definitions/remarks

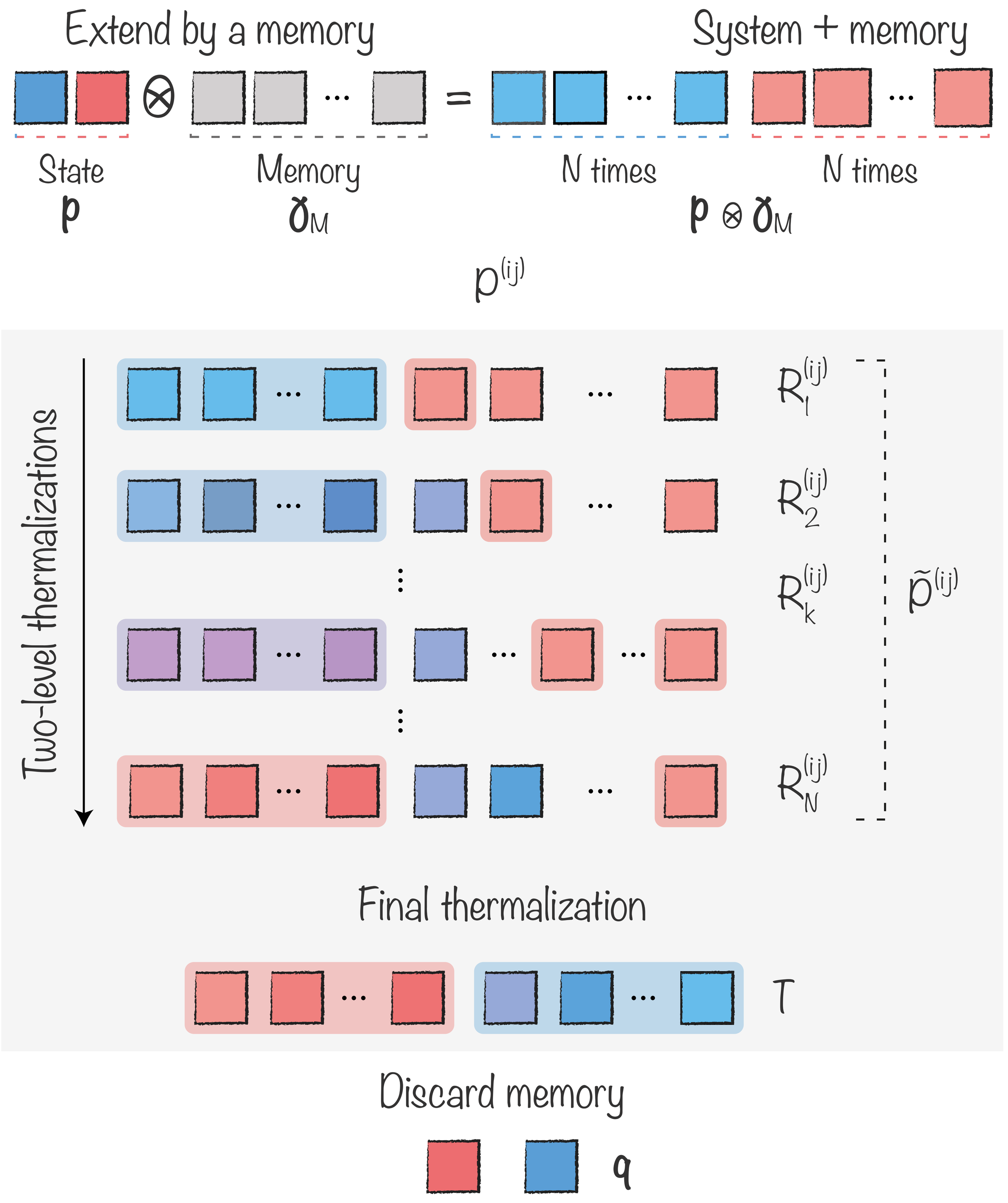
- Total variation distance: $\delta(\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}) := \frac{1}{2}\sum_{i=1}^{d}|p_i - q_i|$
- If $\beta = 0$, then: $\Pi = \Pi_{i_m j_m} \dots \Pi_{i_1 j_1}$ with $\Pi_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}_{ij}$ — permutation decomposability
- If $\beta \neq 0$, then: $\Pi^\beta \neq \Pi^\beta_{i_m j_m} \dots \Pi^\beta_{i_1 j_1}$ with $\Pi^\beta_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - e^{-\beta(E_j - E_i)} & 1 \\ e^{-\beta(E_j - E_i)} & 0 \end{pmatrix}_{ij}$ — β-permutation (non) decomposability
- Extreme points of $\mathcal{T}(\mathbf{p})$: Some are given by non-overlapping β-swaps

Memory-assisted protocols

"We start with 4 glasses of water..."



β - swap protocol



Two-level thermalization: $\{p_i, p_j\} \longrightarrow \frac{p_i + p_j}{\gamma_i + \gamma_j}(\gamma_i, \gamma_j)$

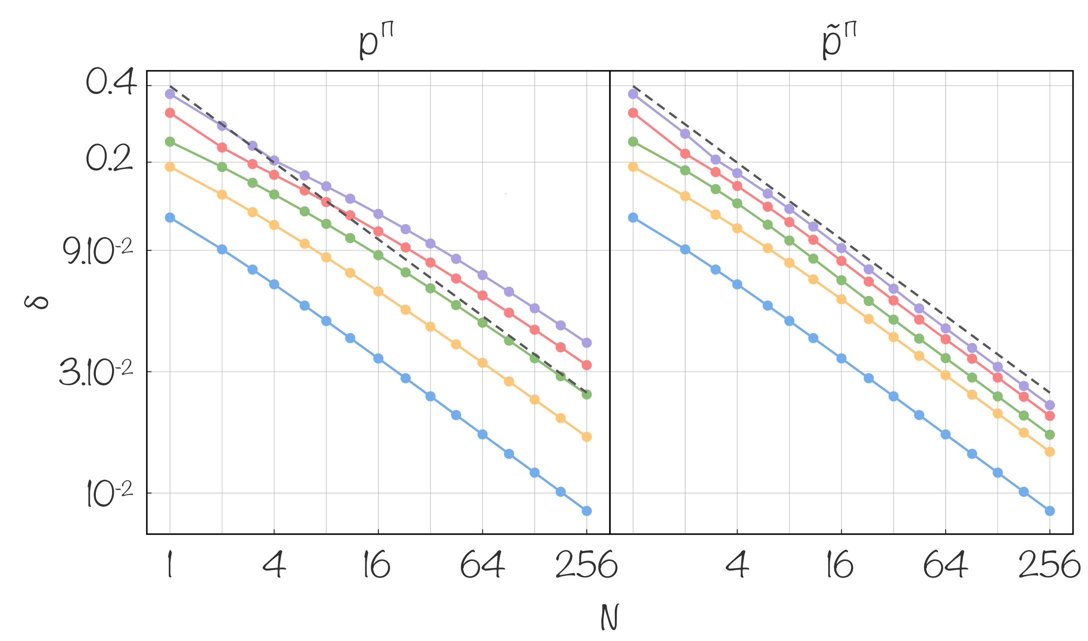
Convergence and conjectures

$\beta = 0$

☆ For an N-dimensional memory, the MeMTP protocol act as

$$P^{(ij)}(\mathbf{p}\otimes\boldsymbol{\eta}_M) = \mathbf{q}\otimes\boldsymbol{\eta}_M, \text{ with } \mathbf{q} = [\Pi_{ij} + \varepsilon(\mathbb{1} - \Pi_{ij})]\mathbf{p}$$

and ε given by $\varepsilon = (\pi N)^{-1/2} + o(N^{-1/2})$



? For an N-dimensional memory, $\tilde{P}^\Pi$ gives a better approximation of a permutation Π than P^Π:

$$\delta(\Pi\mathbf{p}, \tilde{\mathbf{q}}) \leq \delta(\Pi\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q})$$

where $\tilde{P}^\Pi(\mathbf{p}\otimes\boldsymbol{\eta}_M) = \tilde{\mathbf{q}}\otimes\boldsymbol{\eta}_M$ and $P^\Pi(\mathbf{p}\otimes\boldsymbol{\eta}_M) = \mathbf{q}\otimes\boldsymbol{\eta}_M$

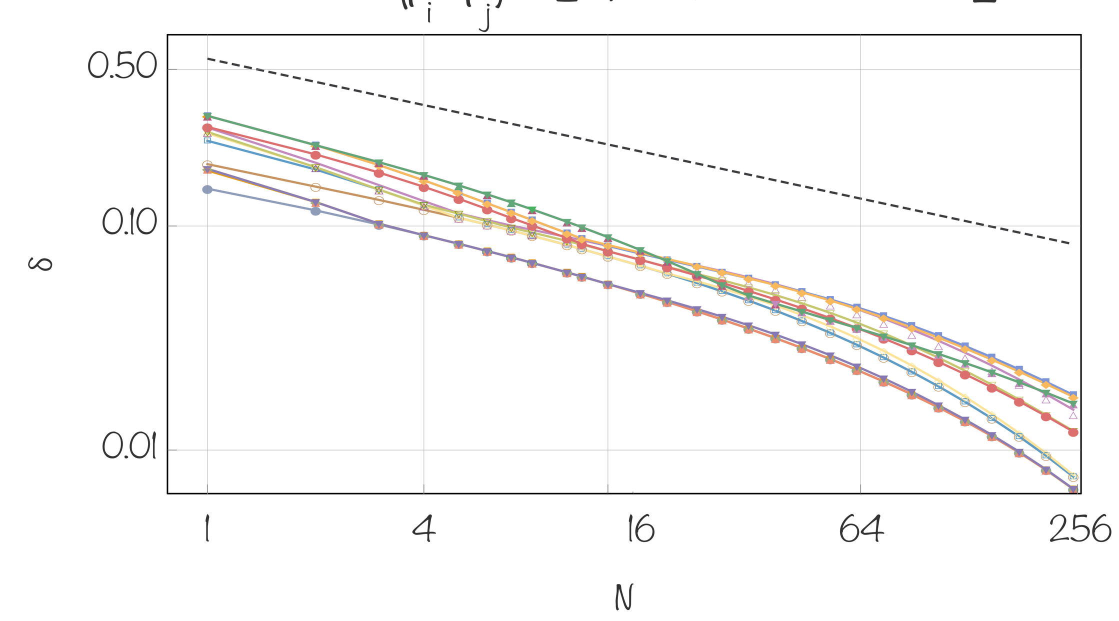
$\beta \neq 0$

☆ For an N-dimensional memory (with trivial Hamiltonian), Π^β_{ij} can be approximated by the MeMTP protocol as

$$P^{(ij)}(\mathbf{p}\otimes\boldsymbol{\eta}_M) = \mathbf{q}\otimes\boldsymbol{\eta}_M$$

with

$$\delta(\mathbf{q}, \Pi^\beta_{ij}\mathbf{p}) = \frac{(4\Gamma_i\Gamma_j)^N}{(\Gamma_i - \Gamma_j)^2}\left[\frac{|p_i\Gamma_j - p_j\Gamma_i|}{(N+1)\sqrt{\pi N}} + o(N^{-3/2})\right]$$



? For extreme points p^π with any β-order π:

$$\delta(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{p}^\pi) = O\left(\frac{e^{-A(\Pi)N}}{N^{3/2}}\right)$$

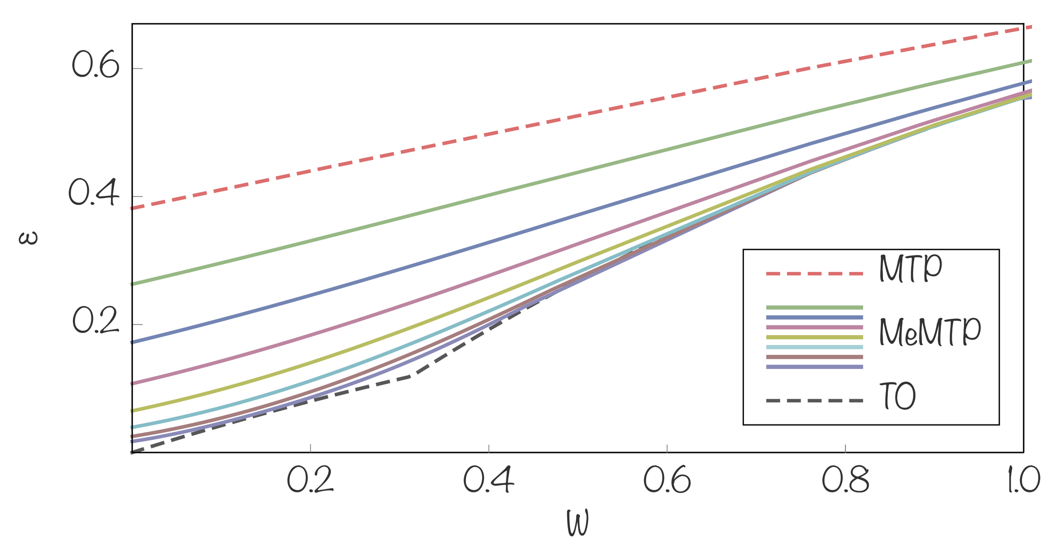
$A(\Pi) = O(1)$ is a permutation dependent exponent

Applications

Work extraction

Setting: ● ⊗ battery $\xrightarrow{\varepsilon}$ bath ⊗ battery (ε-deterministic)

M. Horodecki & Jonathan Oppenheim, Nat.Commun (2013)



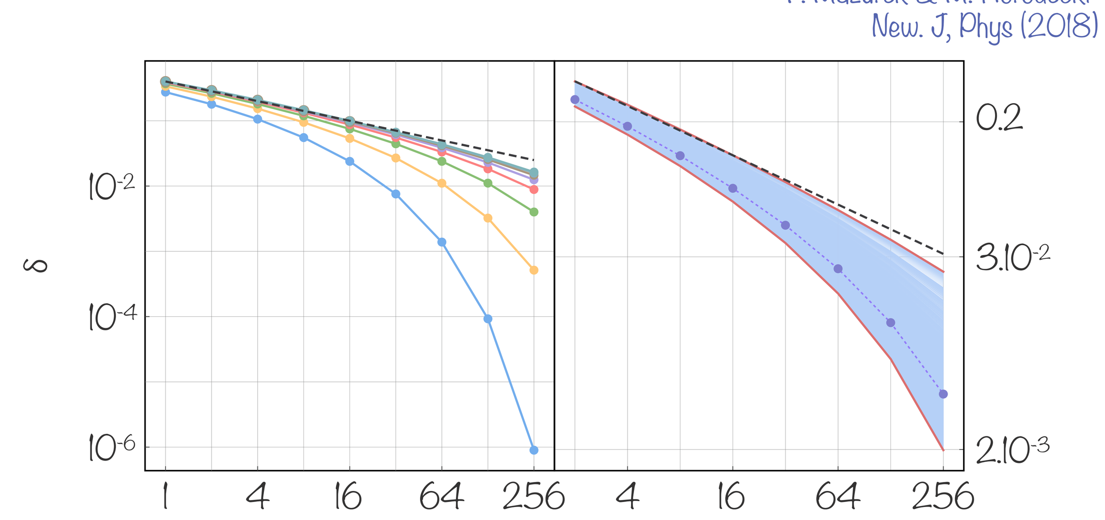
Two-level system with energy splitting Δ prepared in a thermal state at temperature $1/\beta_S$ smaller than the environmental temperature $1/\beta$ with parameters $\beta_S\Delta = 2$ and $\beta\Delta = 1$

Two-level control is sufficient for TO

Problem: ● + bath $\xrightarrow{\text{Elementary thermal operations}}$ ● (crossed out)

M. Lostaglio, A.M. Alhambra & C. Perry, Quantum (2018)

P. Mazurek & M. Horodecki New. J. Phys (2018)



Our MeMTP is able to transform the initial state into a final state that approximates it arbitrary well!

alexssandre.oliveirajunior@uj.edu.pl

P. K. Dick, Total Recall (Vintage Books, 1990)

The authors acknowledge financial support from the Foundation for Polish Science through the TEAM-NET project (contract no. POIR.04.04.00-00-17C1/18-00) and NCN 2019/35/0/ST2/01049