

1607.03104  
1709.00506

# Fundamental work cost of quantum processes

Philippe Faist<sup>1,2</sup>, Renato Renner<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Institute for Theoretical Physics, ETH Zurich*

<sup>2</sup>*Institute for Quantum Information and Matter, Caltech*



Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich  
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich



steam engines  
gases

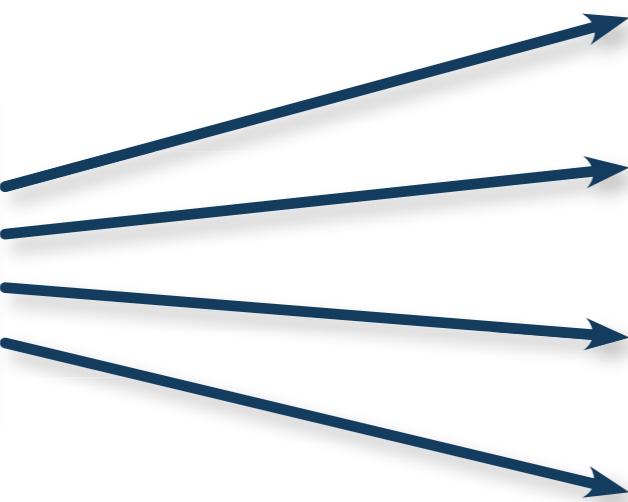
electromagnetic radiation

chemistry

solid state physics

black holes

steam engines  
gases



electromagnetic radiation

chemistry

solid state physics

black holes

Maxwell's demon

anomalous heat flows

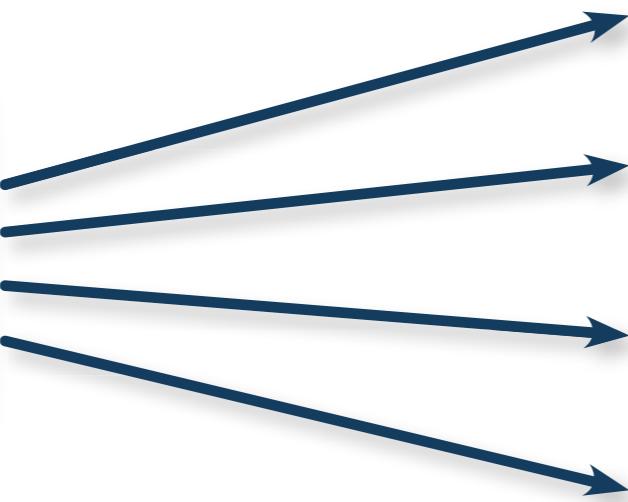
Jennings & Rudolph, PRE, 2010

?

side information

del Rio *et al.*, Nature, 2011

steam engines  
gases



electromagnetic radiation

chemistry

solid state physics

black holes

Maxwell's demon

anomalous heat flows

Jennings & Rudolph, PRE, 2010

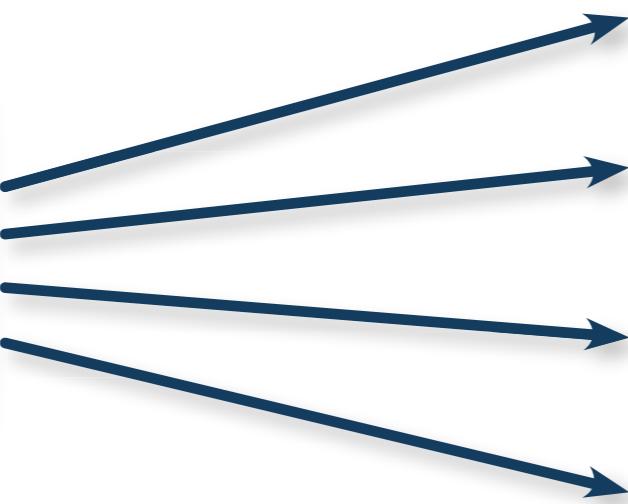
side information

del Rio *et al.*, Nature, 2011



actually OK, just  
need to be careful

steam engines  
gases



electromagnetic radiation

chemistry

solid state physics

black holes

Maxwell's demon

anomalous heat flows

Jennings & Rudolph, PRE, 2010

side information

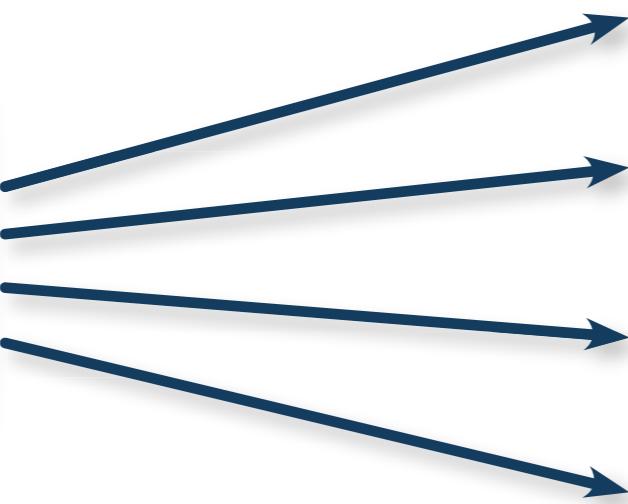
del Rio *et al.*, Nature, 2011



actually OK, just  
need to be careful

- ▶ **What is the most general formulation of thermodynamics?**

steam engines  
gases



electromagnetic radiation

chemistry

solid state physics

black holes

Maxwell's demon

anomalous heat flows

Jennings & Rudolph

side inform

del Rio *et al.*, *Nature*, 2017



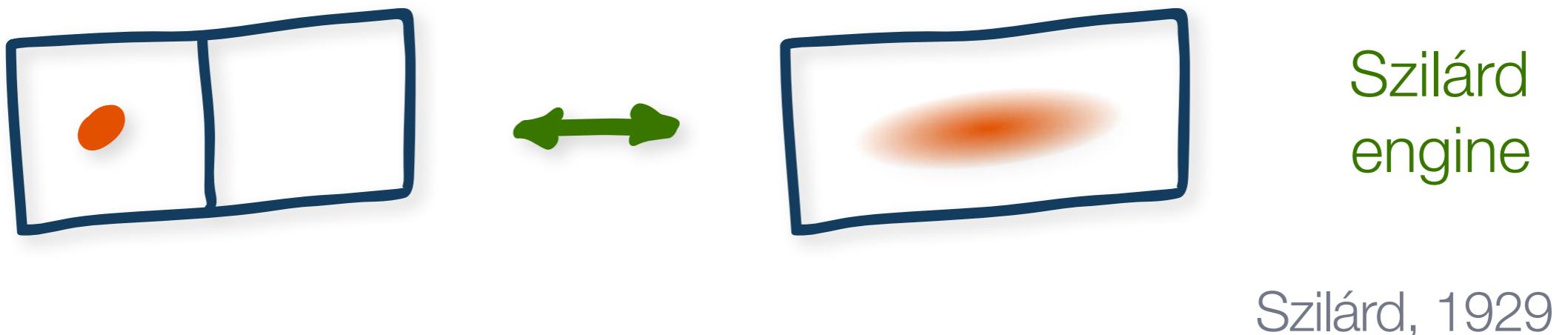
actually OK, just  
need to be careful

Idea: role of information

f

# Information and Thermodynamics

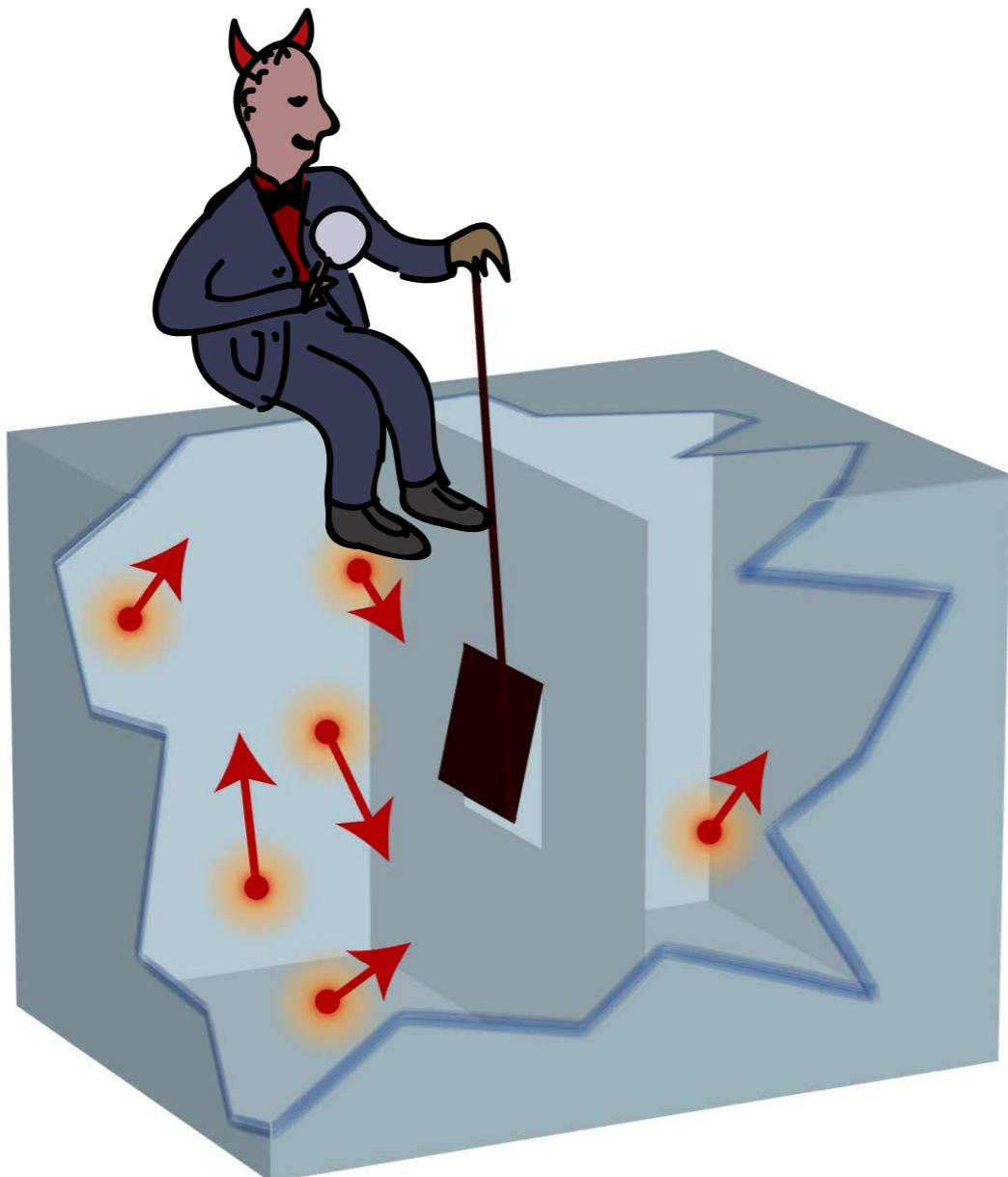
1 bit of information can be traded for  $kT \ln 2$  work



Landauer: Irreversible information processing incurs thermodynamic cost

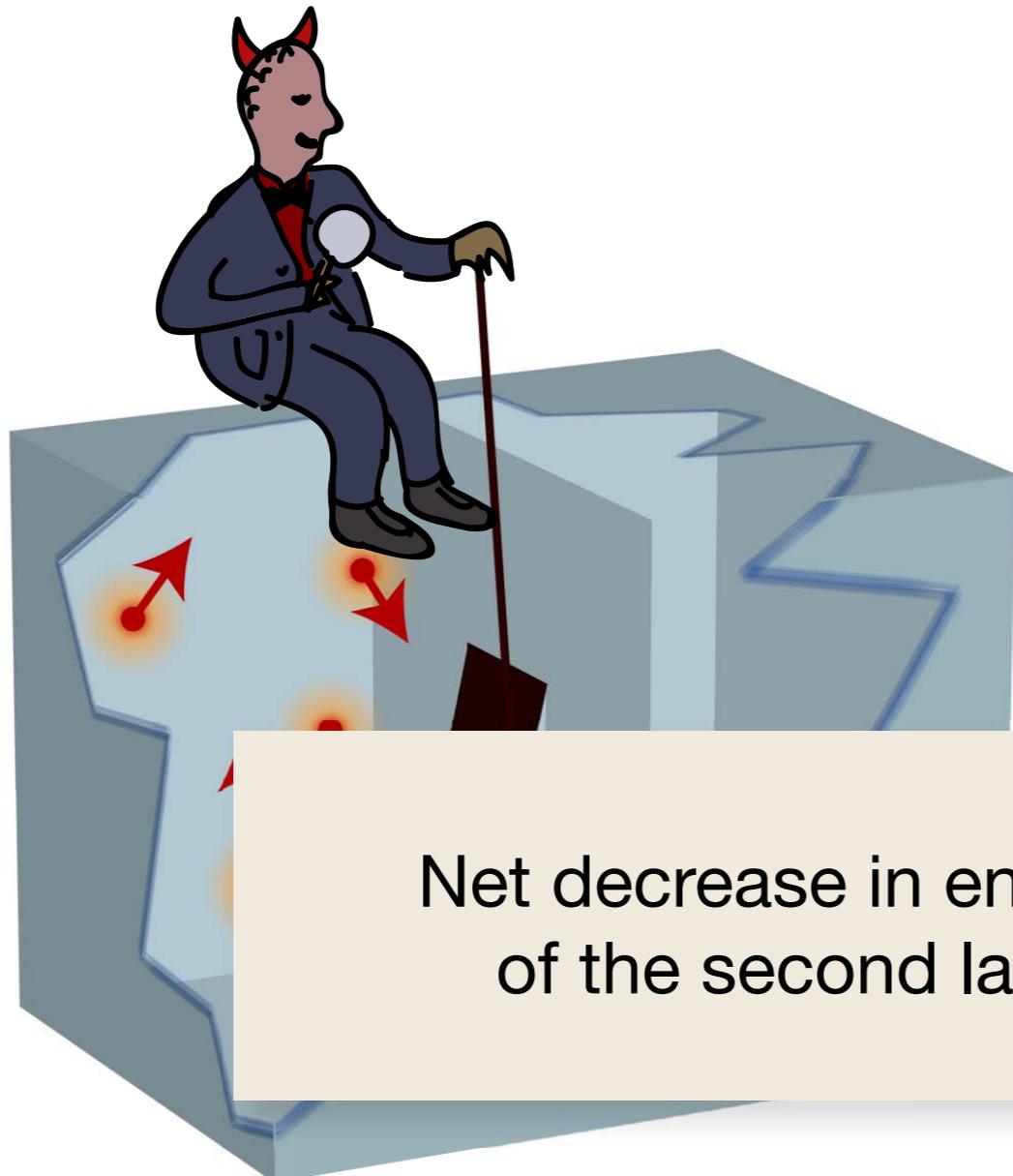
Landauer, 1961  
Bennett, 1982, 2003

# Maxwell's Demon



Demon lets particles go  
from right to left only

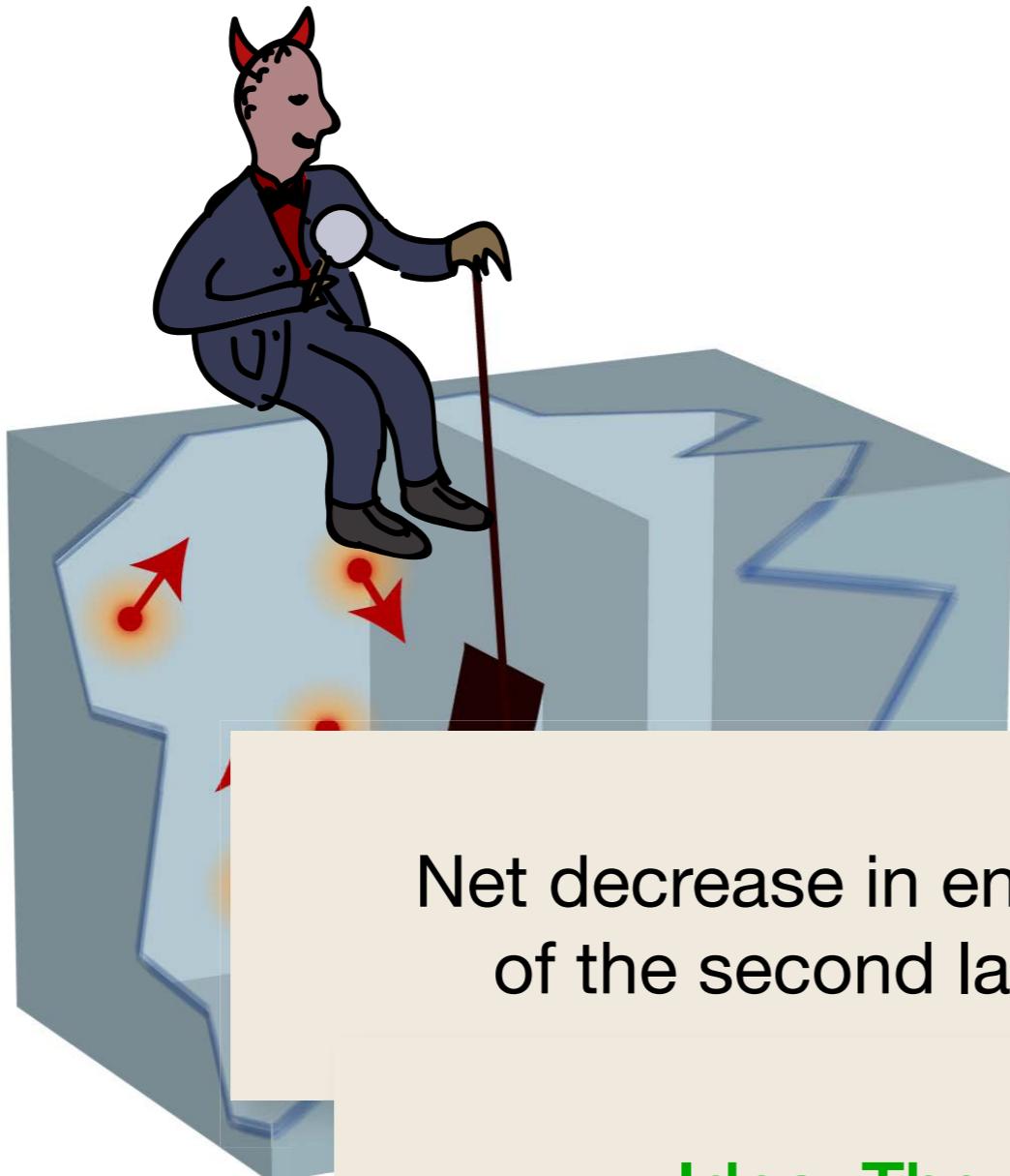
# Maxwell's Demon



Demon lets particles go  
from right to left only

Net decrease in entropy of gas → violation  
of the second law of thermodynamics ?

# Maxwell's Demon

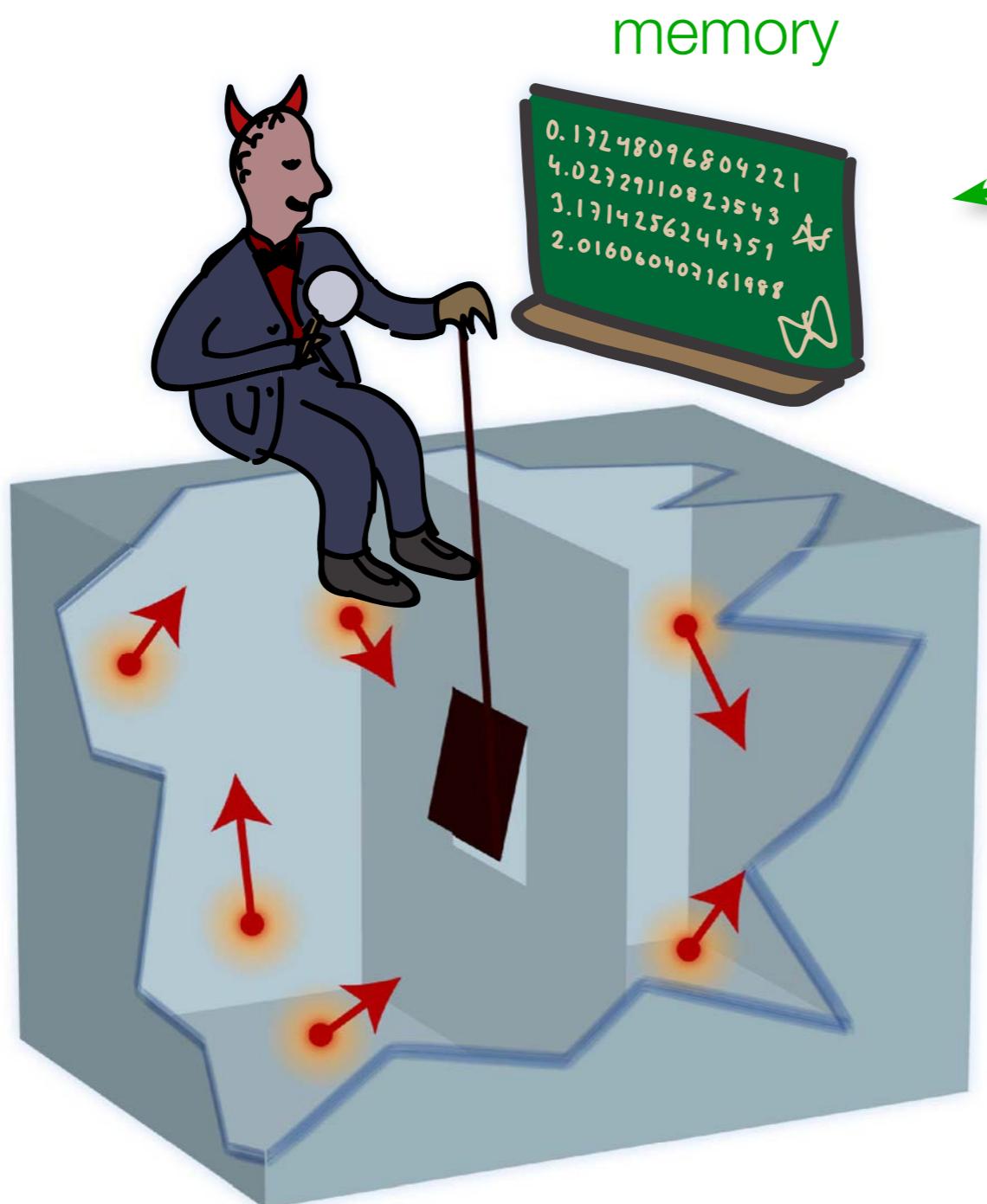


Demon lets particles go  
from right to left only

Net decrease in entropy of gas → violation  
of the second law of thermodynamics ?

**Idea: The demon has access to  
microscopic information**

# Maxwell's Demon

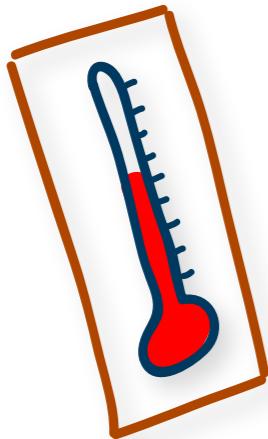


The demon stores  
the measurement  
results

Resetting this  
memory costs  
work!

Landauer, 1961  
Bennett, 1982, 2003

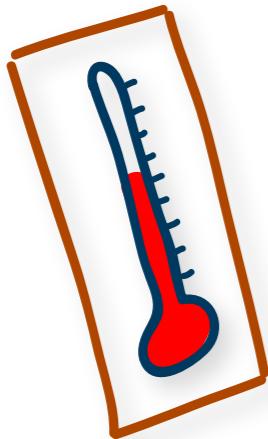
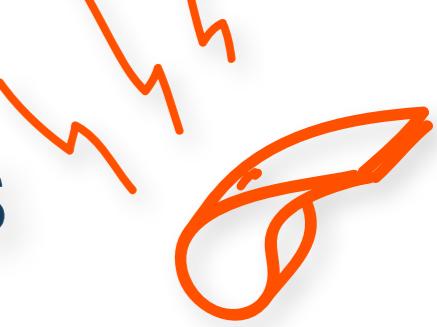
# Resource Theory of thermal operations



- Allowed any ancilla in a Gibbs state

$$\gamma_B = e^{-\beta H_B} / \text{tr}(e^{-\beta H_B})$$

# Resource Theory of thermal operations

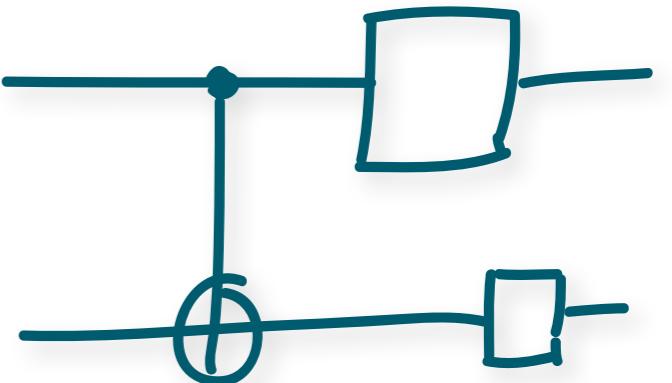


- Allowed any ancilla in a Gibbs state

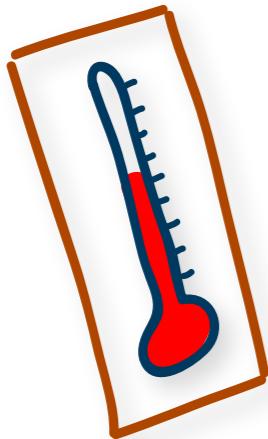
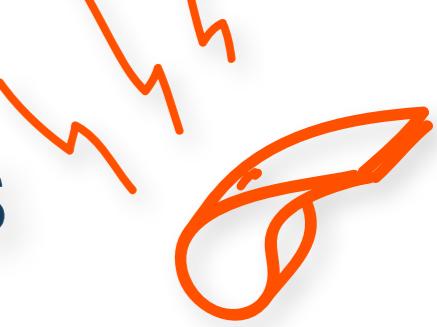
$$\gamma_B = e^{-\beta H_B} / \text{tr}(e^{-\beta H_B})$$

- Allowed any energy-conserving unitaries:

$$[U, H_{\text{total}}] = 0$$



# Resource Theory of thermal operations

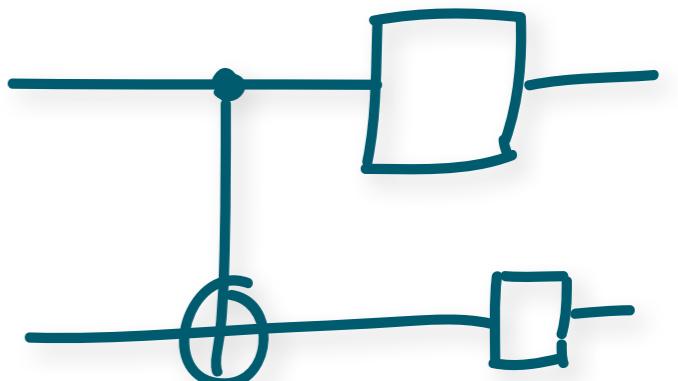


- Allowed any ancilla in a Gibbs state

$$\gamma_B = e^{-\beta H_B} / \text{tr}(e^{-\beta H_B})$$

- Allowed any energy-conserving unitaries:

$$[U, H_{\text{total}}] = 0$$

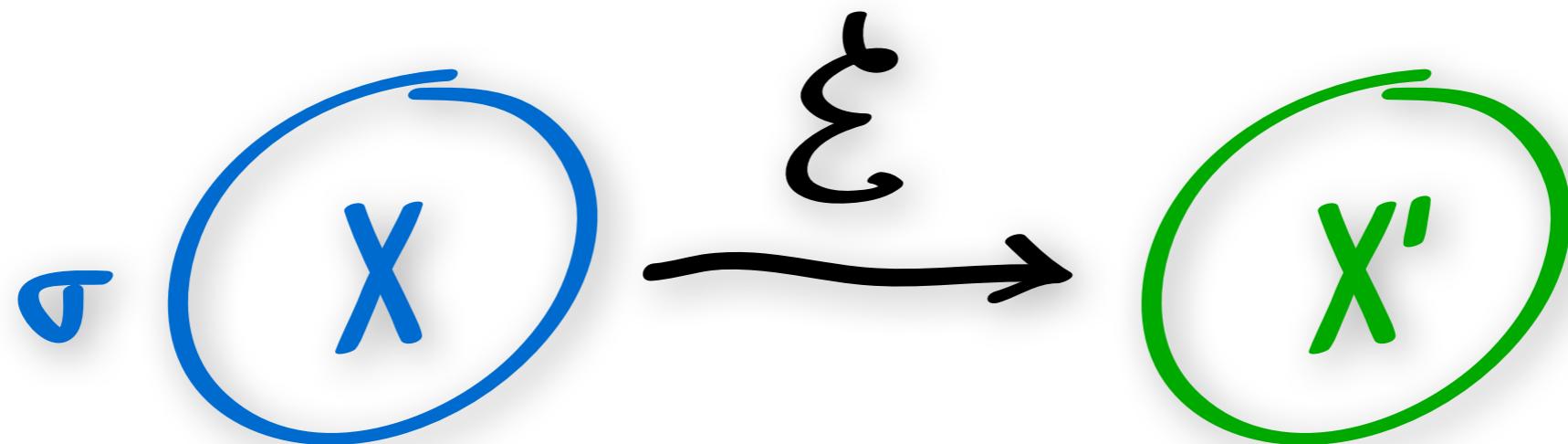


- Allowed to discard any system

# Known Results

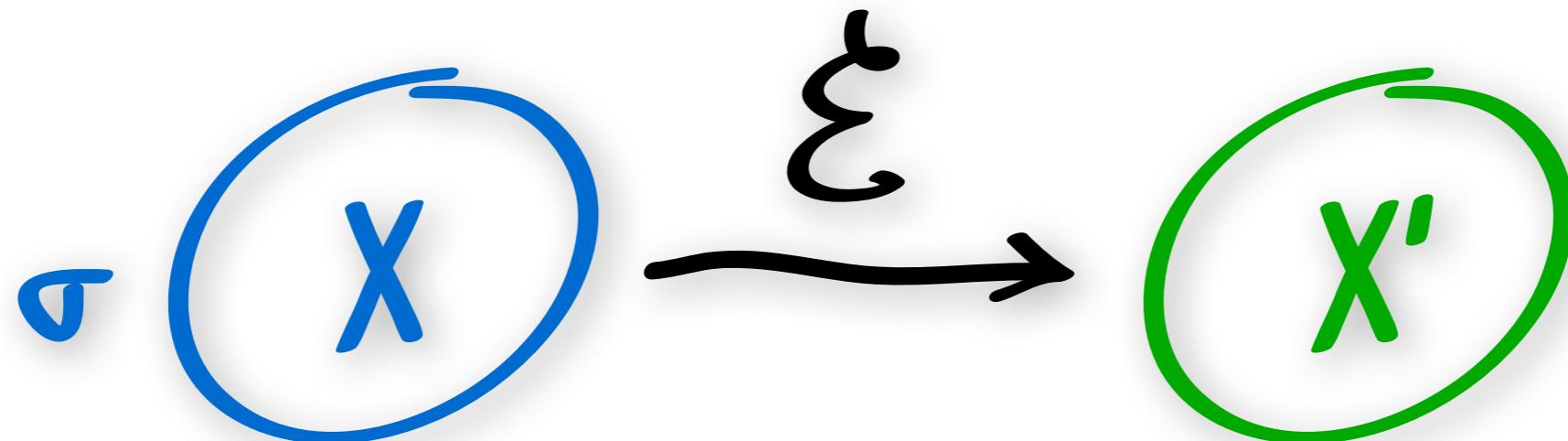
- Necessary and sufficient conditions for  $\rho \rightarrow \sigma$   
(thermo-majorization, block-diagonal states)  
Horodecki & Oppenheim, Nat. Comm. 2013
- Conversion rates  $\rho^{\otimes m} \leftrightarrow \sigma^{\otimes n}$   
Brandão *et al.*, PRL, 2013
- Rényi- $\alpha$  entropies monotones: “second laws”  
Brandão *et al.*, PNAS, 2015
- Generalized thermodynamic baths  
Yunger Halpern & Renes, PRE, 2016 , ...
- Catalytical transformations, correlations ...  
Ng *et al.*, NJP, 2015; Lostaglio *et al.*, PRL, 2015 ...  
...

# Thermodynamic cost of any process?



- ▶ mapping of **input states** to **output states**
  - AND, XOR, ... gate
  - any classical or quantum computation
  - any physical process (completely positive, trace-preserving map)

# Thermodynamic cost of any process?



- ▶ mapping of **input states** to **output states**
    - AND, XOR gate
    - any circuit
    - any physical process
- Fundamental thermodynamic limit  
to the cost of implementing  $\xi$ ?**

# Our approach



A **restriction** on what we can do

# Our approach



A restriction on what we can do

- ▶ **Free operations must preserve the thermal state**

(most generous set of maps)

# Our approach

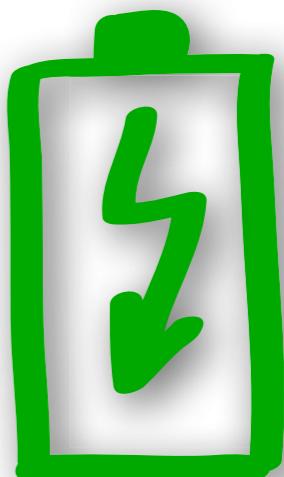


A restriction on what we can do

- ▶ **Free operations must preserve the thermal state**

(most generous set of maps)

A resource which we can use to overcome the restriction



# Our approach



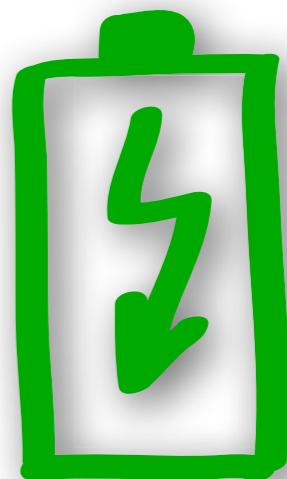
A restriction on what we can do

- ▶ **Free operations must preserve the thermal state**

(most generous set of maps)

A resource which we can use to overcome the restriction

- ▶ **Battery system**



## Framework (2)

$\Gamma$

To each system of interest  $S$  is associated an operator  $\Gamma_S \geqslant 0$

## Framework (2)

$\Gamma$

To each system of interest  $S$  is associated an operator  $\Gamma_S \geq 0$

Choose  $\Gamma_S = e^{-\beta H_S}$

## Framework (2)

$\Gamma$

To each system of interest  $S$  is associated an operator  $\Gamma_S \geq 0$

Choose  $\Gamma_S = e^{-\beta H_S}$



Allowed only trace-nonincreasing CPMs satisfying  $\Phi(\Gamma) \leq \Gamma$

## Framework (2)

$\Gamma$

To each system of interest  $S$  is associated an operator  $\Gamma_S \geq 0$

Choose  $\Gamma_S = e^{-\beta H_S}$



Allowed only trace-nonincreasing CPMs satisfying  $\Phi(\Gamma) \leq \Gamma$

Can always be dilated to trace-preserving,  $\Phi'(\Gamma) = \Gamma$

## Framework (2)

$\Gamma$

To each system of interest  $S$  is associated an operator  $\Gamma_S \geq 0$

Choose  $\Gamma_S = e^{-\beta H_S}$



Allowed only trace-nonincreasing CPMs satisfying  $\Phi(\Gamma) \leq \Gamma$

Can always be dilated to trace-preserving,  $\Phi'(\Gamma) = \Gamma$



Information battery

## Framework (2)

$\Gamma$

To each system of interest  $S$  is associated an operator  $\Gamma_S \geq 0$

Choose  $\Gamma_S = e^{-\beta H_S}$



Allowed only trace-nonincreasing CPMs satisfying  $\Phi(\Gamma) \leq \Gamma$

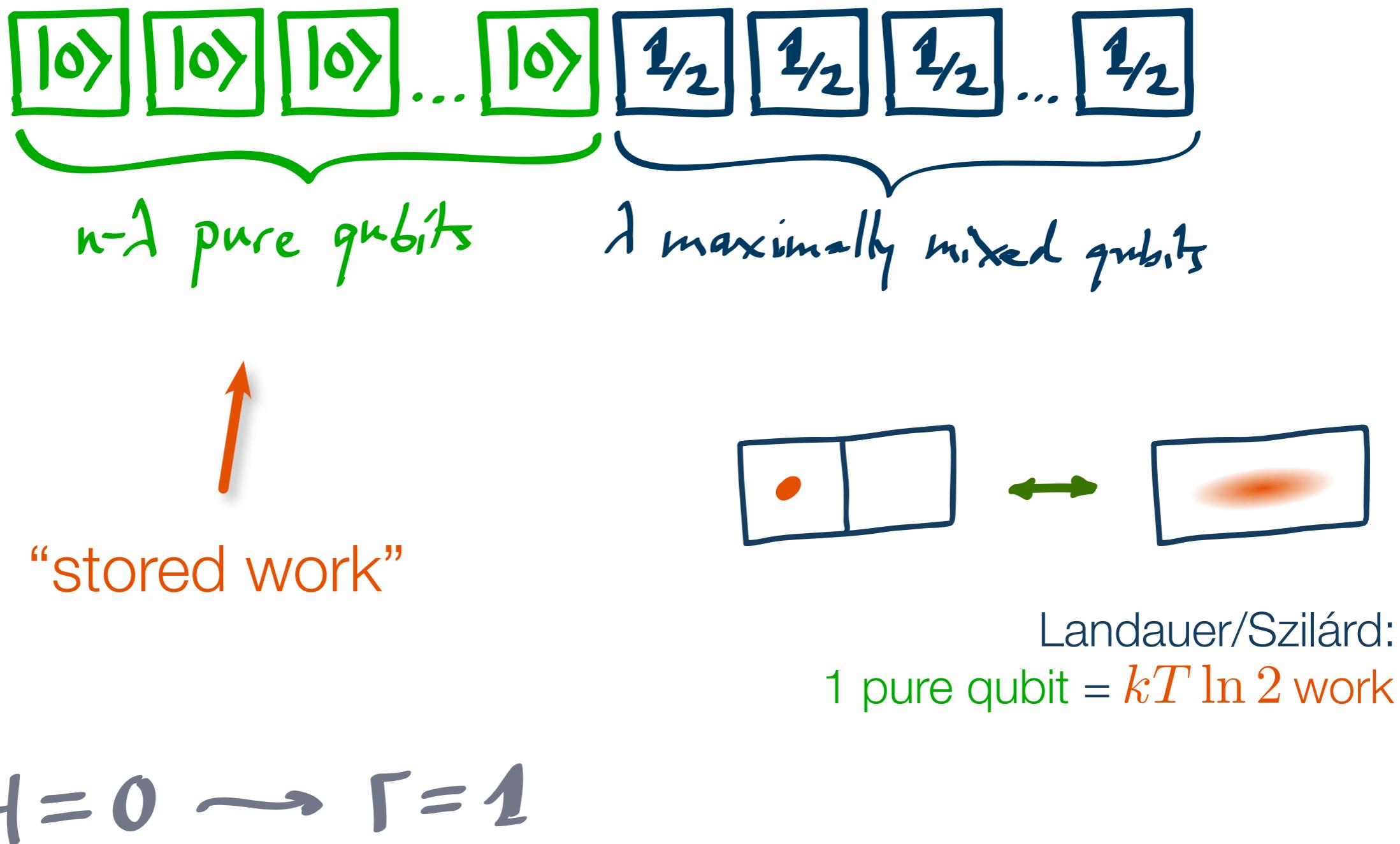
Can always be dilated to trace-preserving,  $\Phi'(\Gamma) = \Gamma$



Information battery

Large family of battery models are equivalent

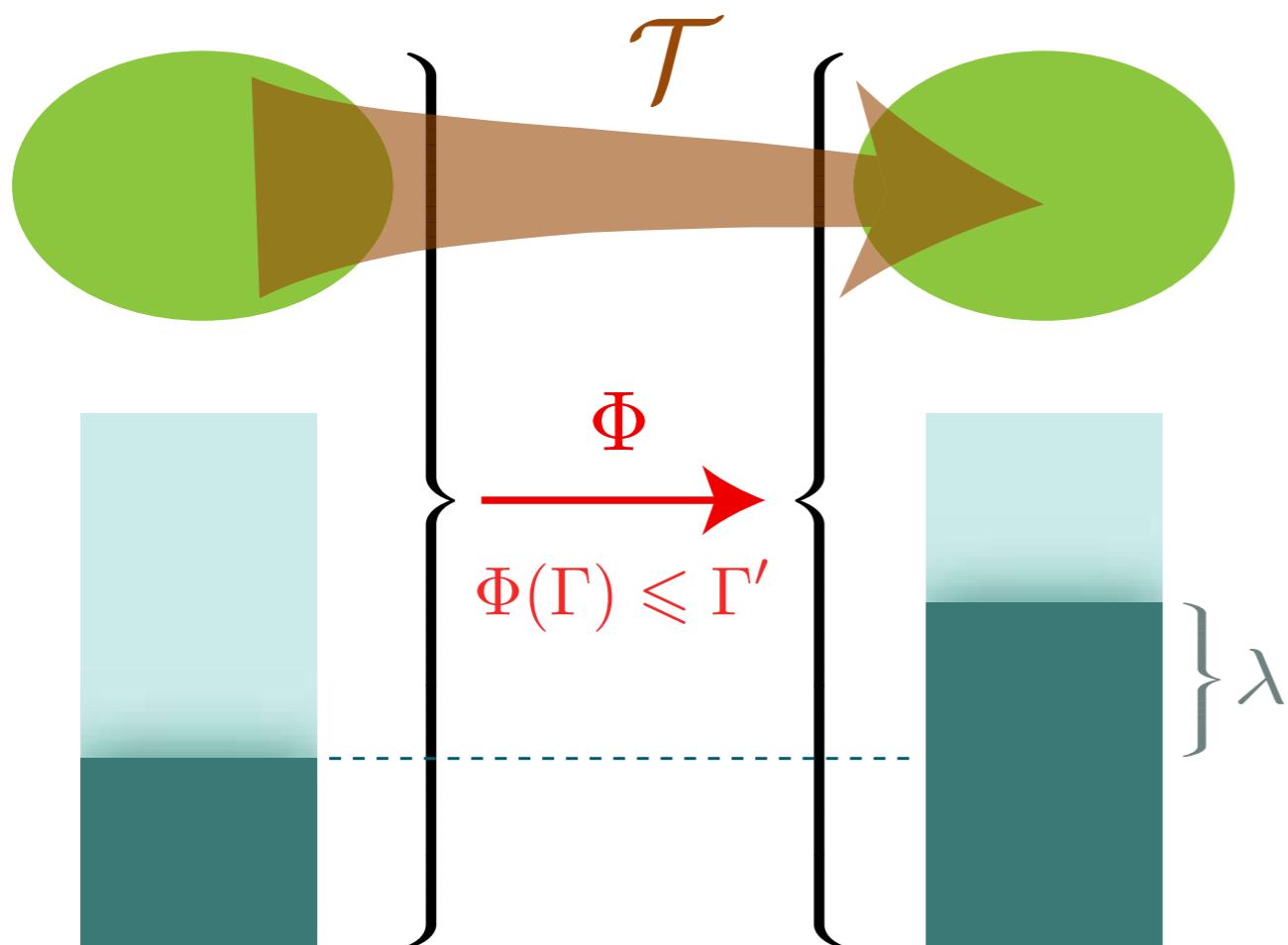
# Information Battery



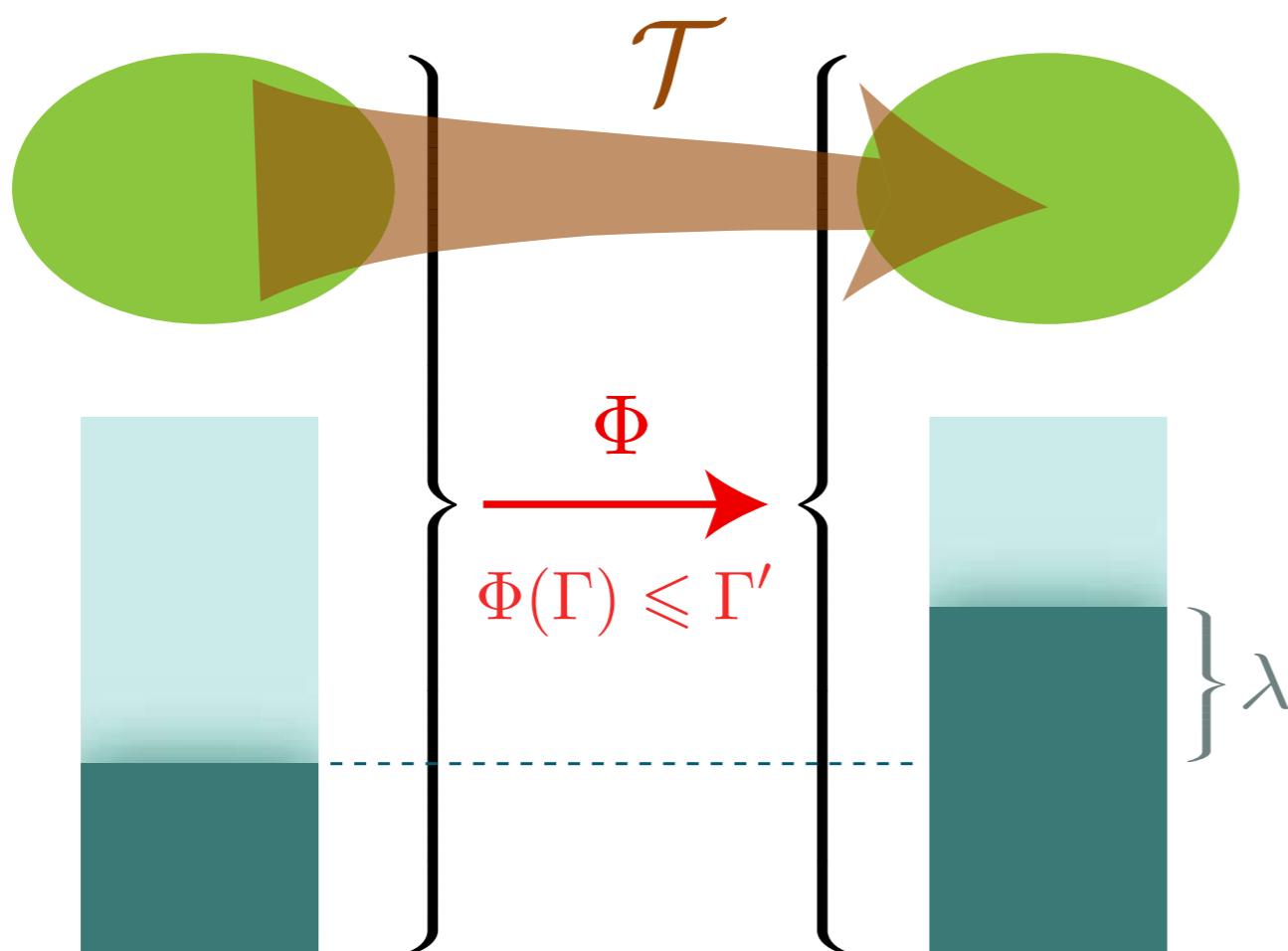
# Step #1: Limit for an exact process



# Step #1: Limit for an exact process

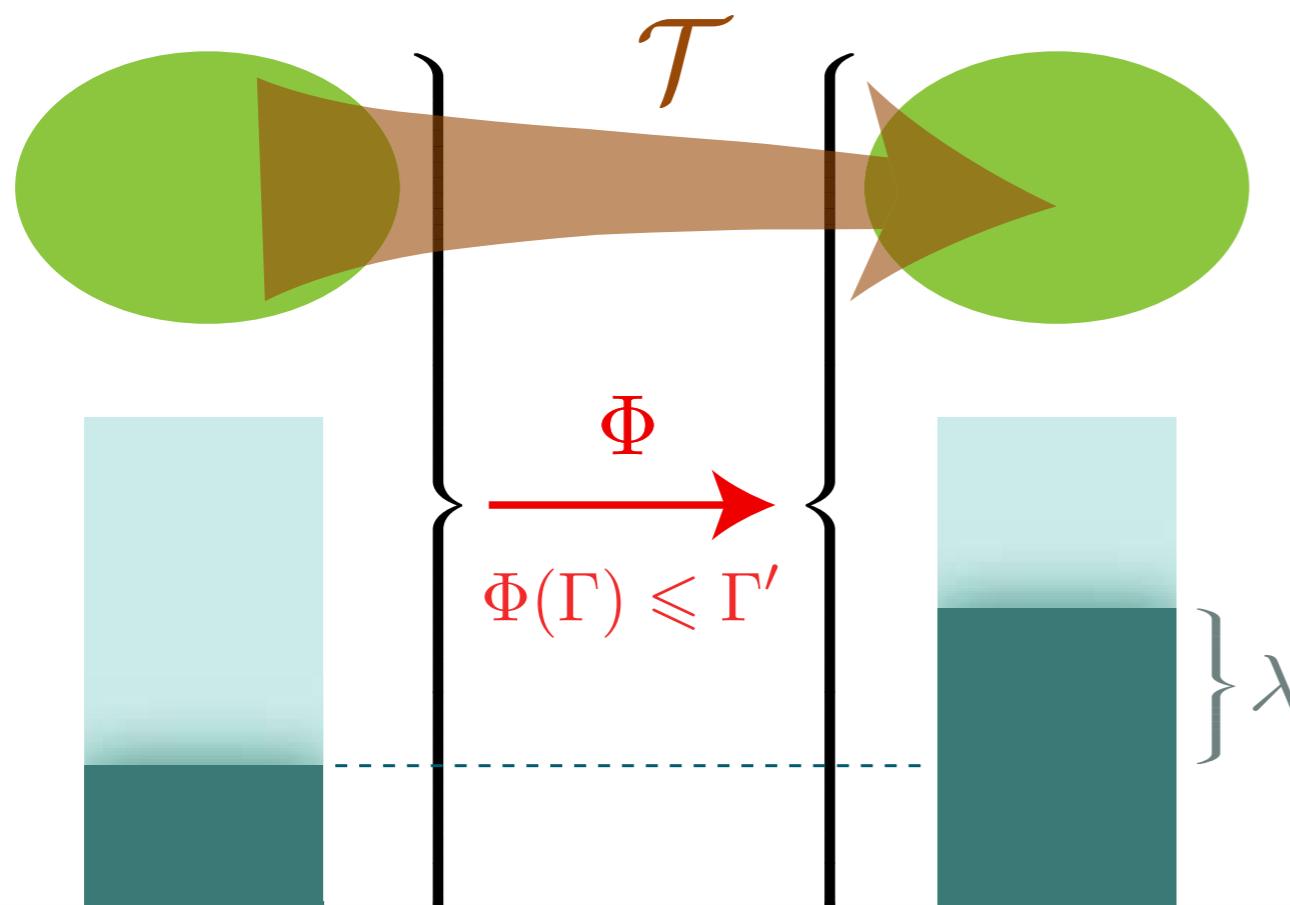


# Step #1: Limit for an exact process

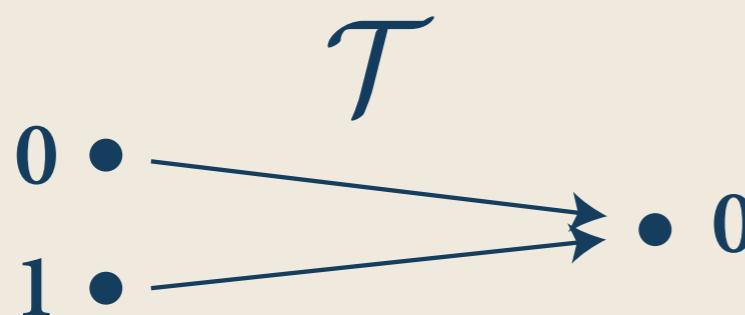


$$\begin{aligned} & \exists \Phi : \\ & \Phi(\Gamma_{\text{tot}}) \leq \Gamma'_{\text{tot}} \\ & \iff \\ & \mathcal{T}(\Gamma) \leq 2^{-\lambda} \Gamma' \end{aligned}$$

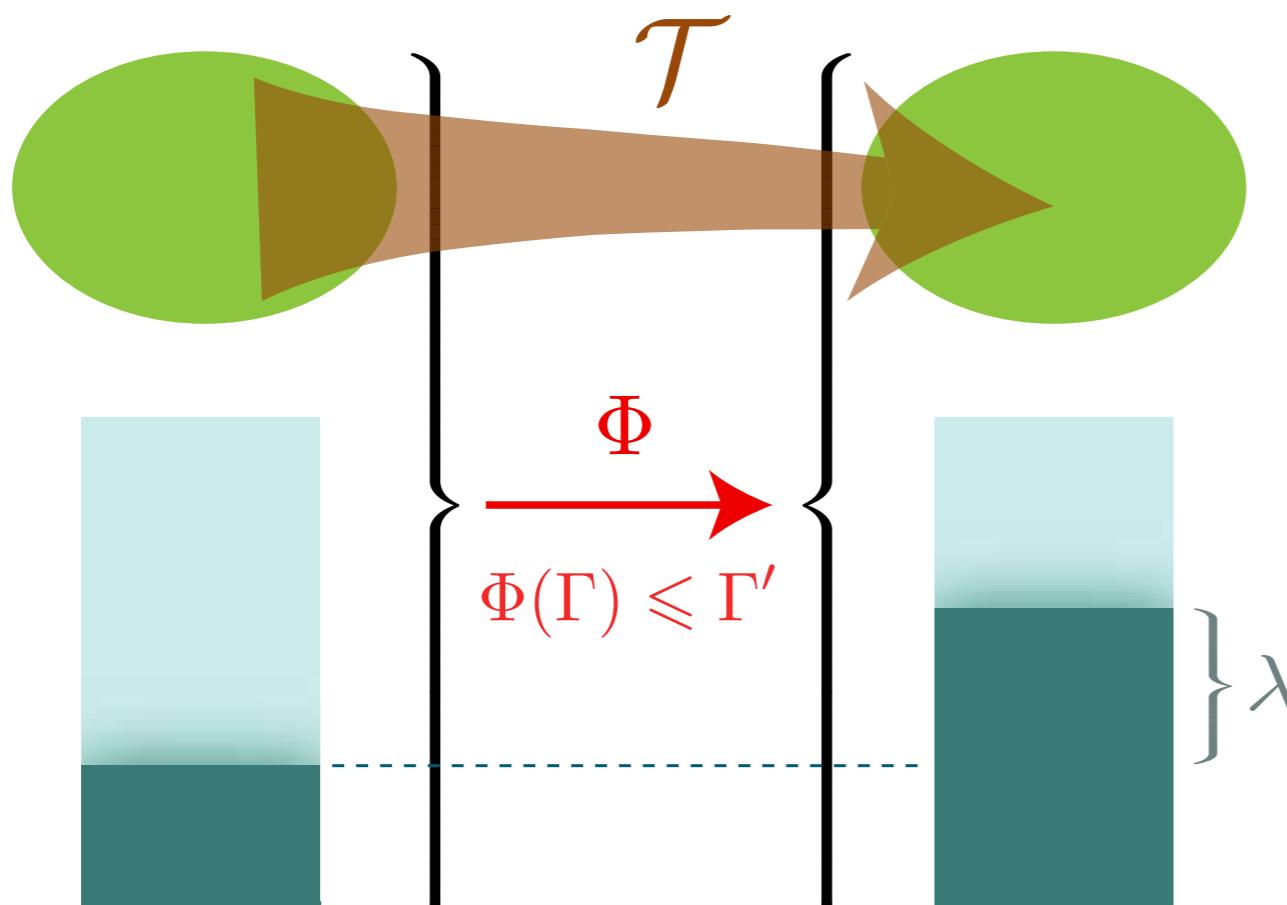
# Step #1: Limit for an exact process



$$\exists \Phi : \Phi(\Gamma_{\text{tot}}) \leq \Gamma'_{\text{tot}}$$
$$\iff$$
$$\mathcal{T}(\Gamma) \leq 2^{-\lambda} \Gamma'$$



# Step #1: Limit for an exact process

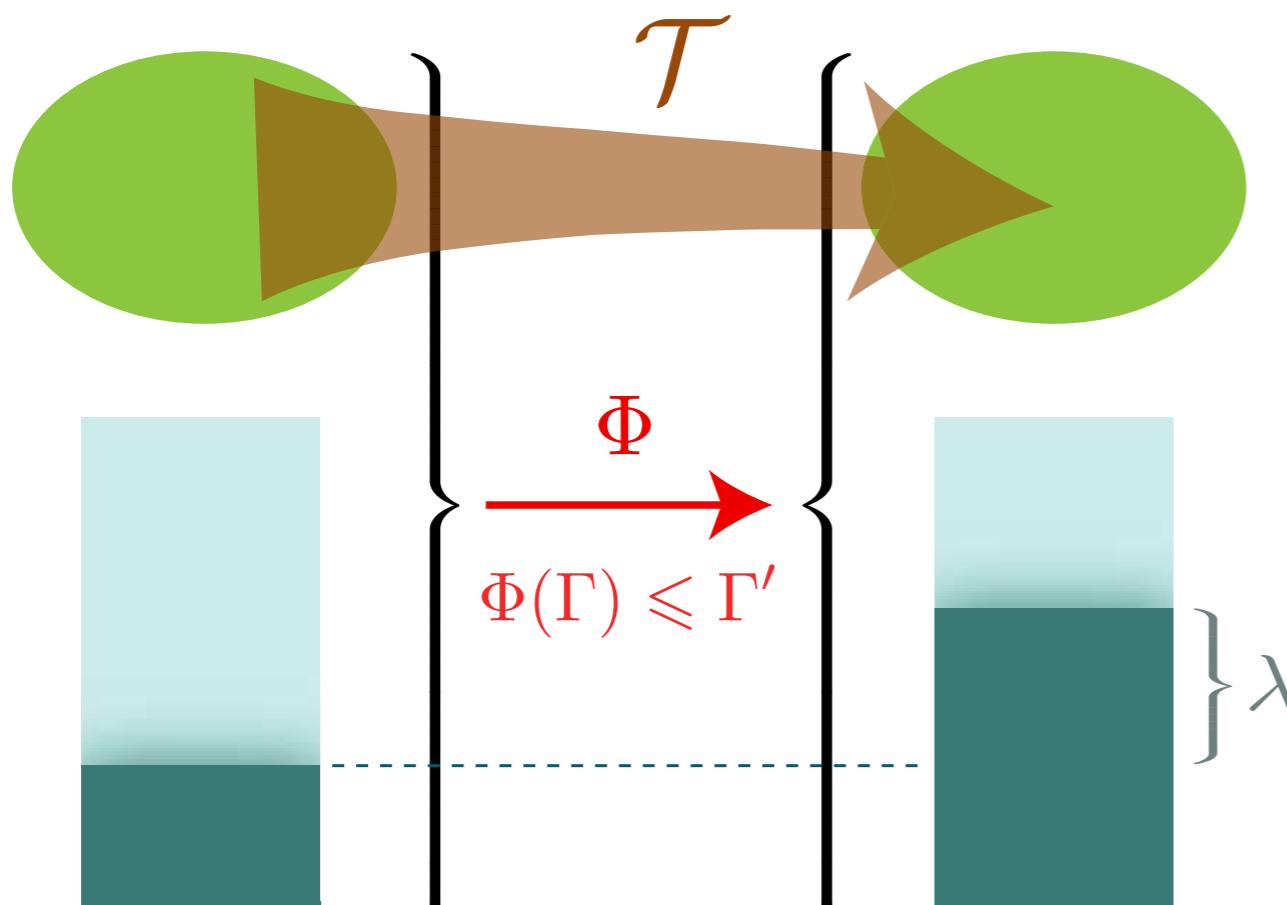


$$\exists \Phi : \Phi(\Gamma_{\text{tot}}) \leq \Gamma'_{\text{tot}}$$
$$\iff \mathcal{T}(\Gamma) \leq 2^{-\lambda} \Gamma'$$

$$\begin{matrix} 0 & \xrightarrow{\mathcal{T}} & 0 \\ 1 & \xrightarrow{\quad} & 0 \end{matrix}$$

$$\mathcal{T}(1) = 2|0\rangle\langle 0| \leq 2|1\rangle\langle 1|$$

# Step #1: Limit for an exact process



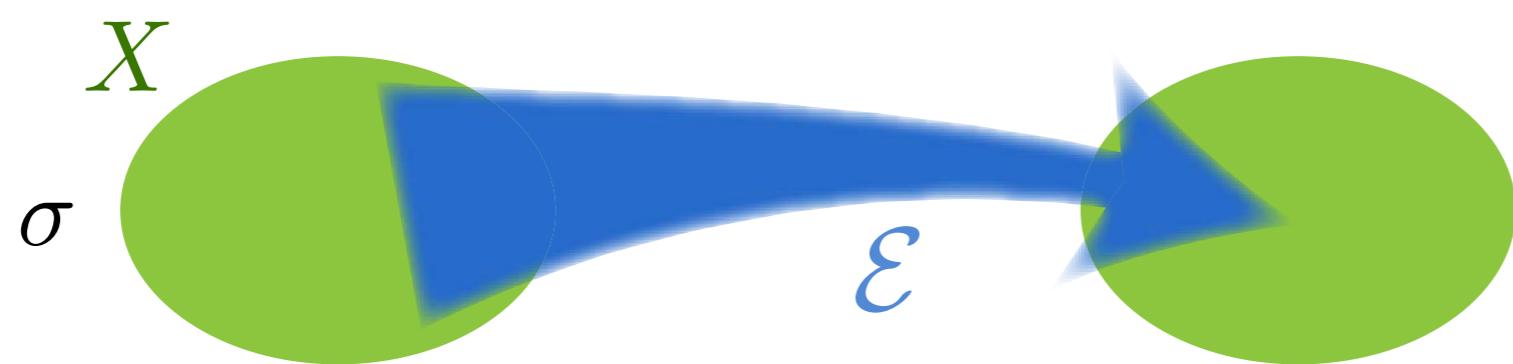
$$\exists \Phi : \Phi(\Gamma_{\text{tot}}) \leq \Gamma'_{\text{tot}}$$
$$\iff$$
$$\mathcal{T}(\Gamma) \leq 2^{-\lambda} \Gamma'$$



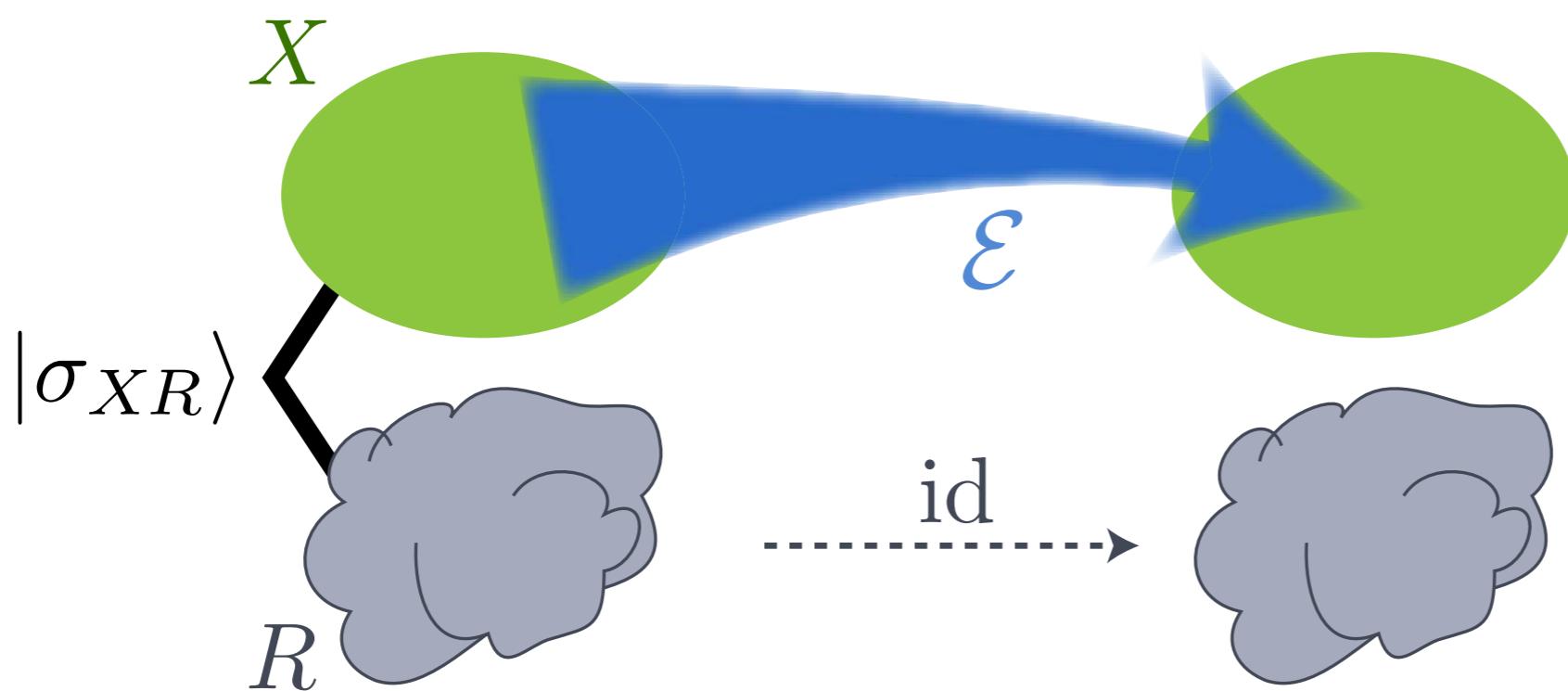
$$\mathcal{T}(1) = 2|0\rangle\langle 0| \leq 2|1\rangle\langle 1|$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda \leq -1$$

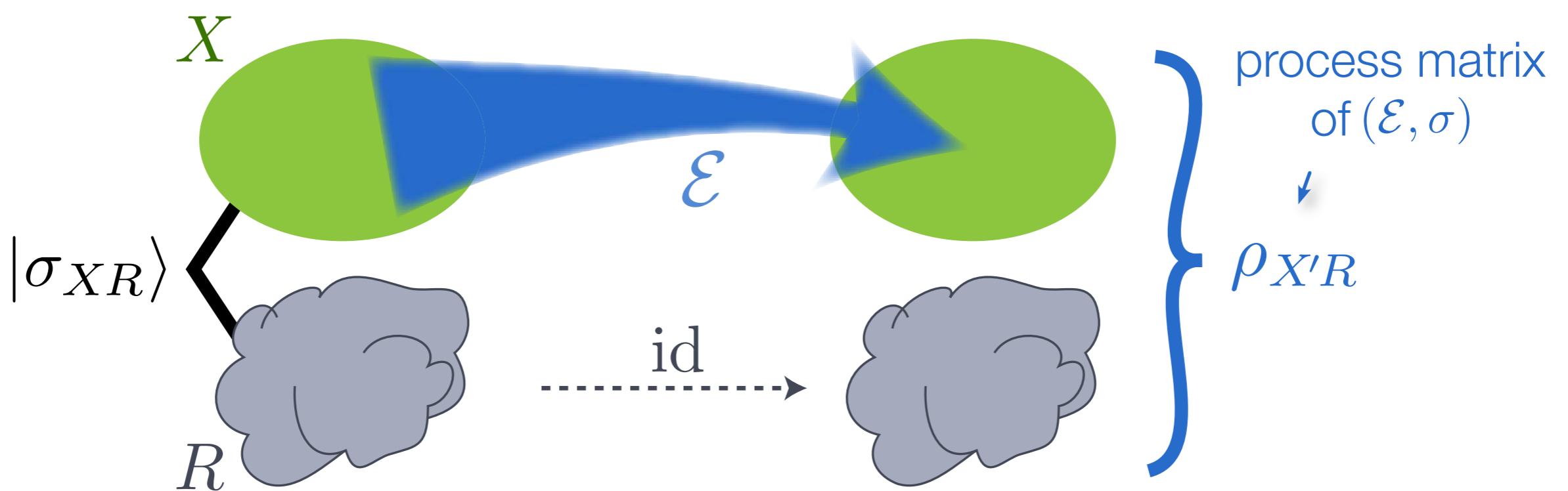
## Step #2: Optimize effective process



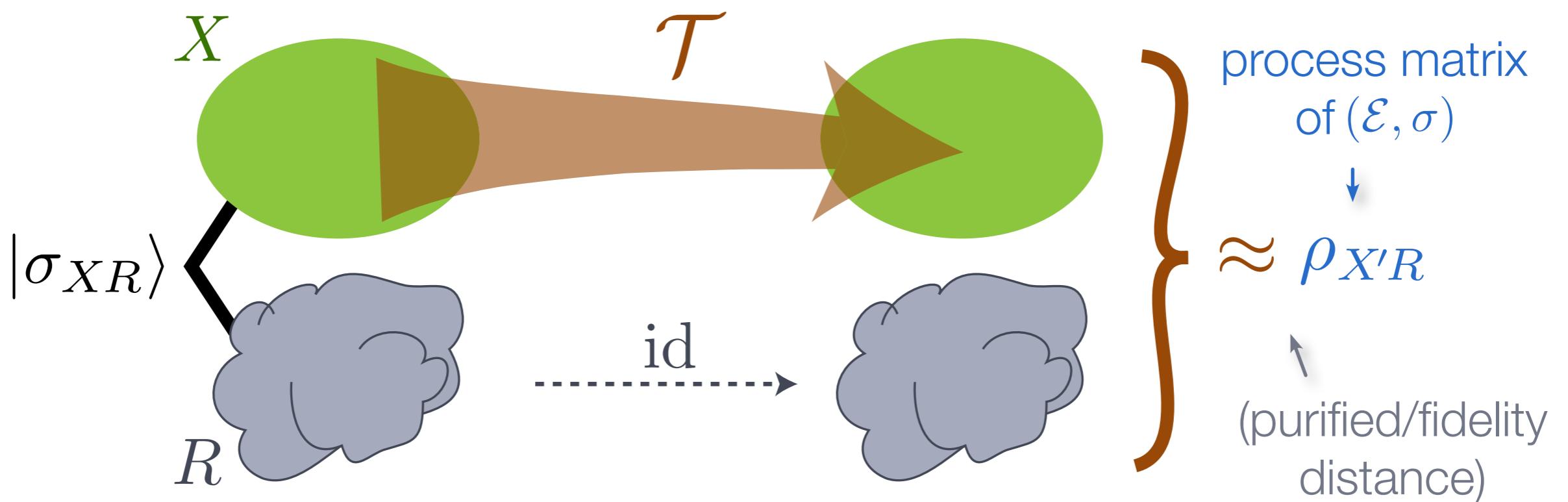
## Step #2: Optimize effective process



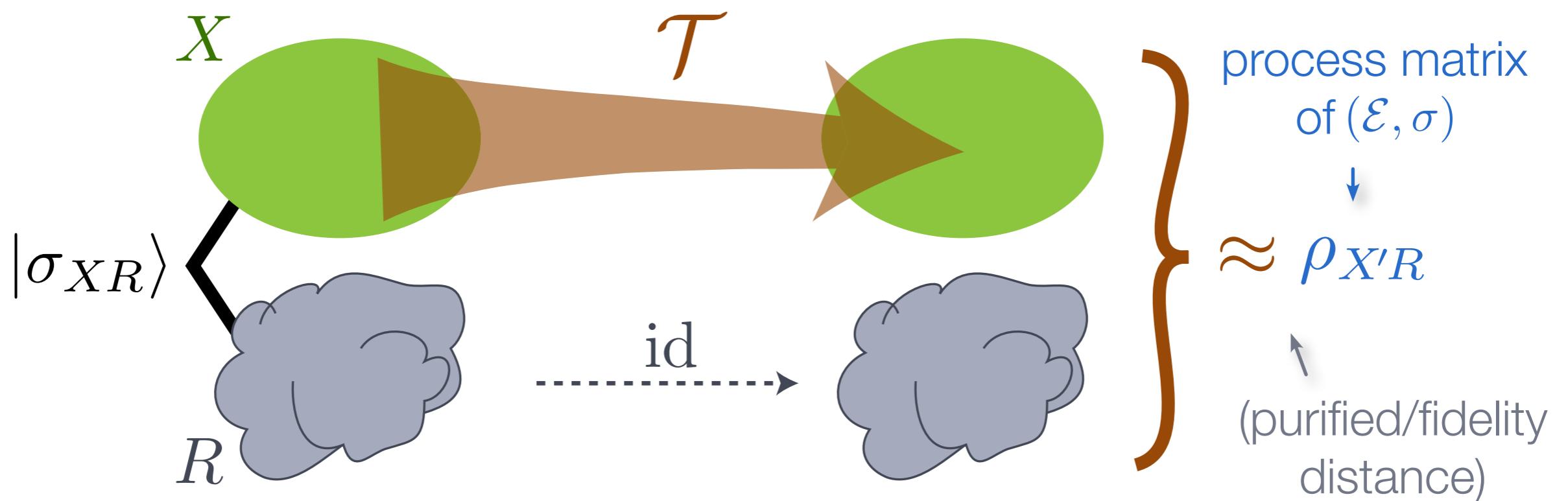
## Step #2: Optimize effective process



## Step #2: Optimize effective process



## Step #2: Optimize effective process

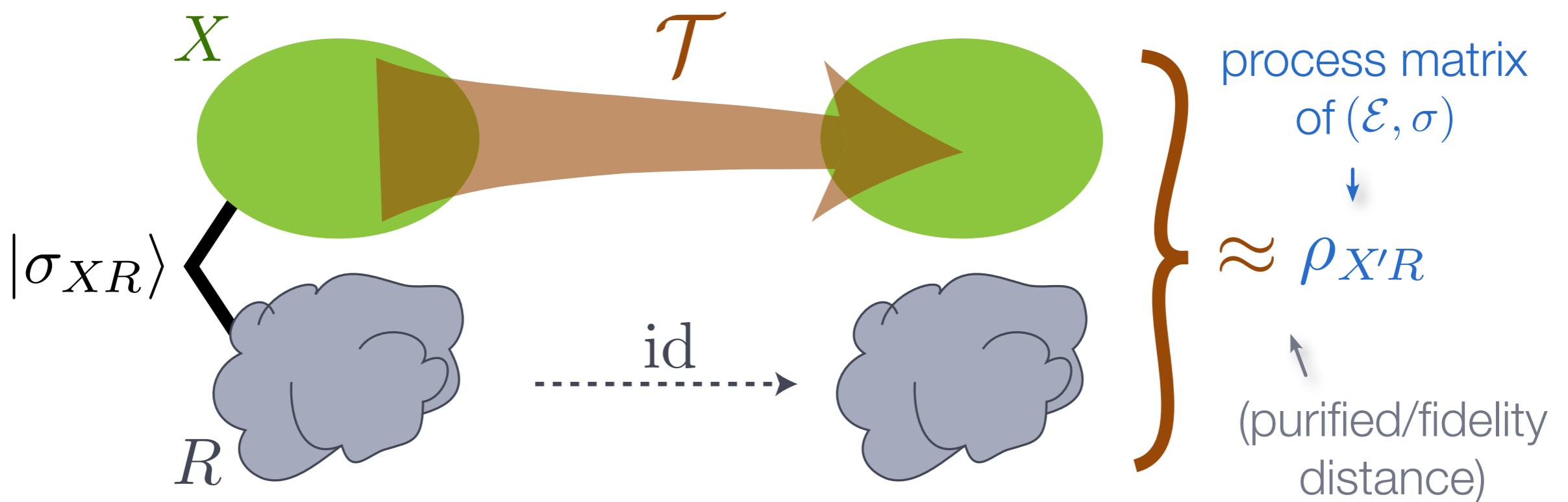


limit for specific  $\mathcal{T}$  =

**Step #1**

$$\max_{\lambda: \mathcal{T}(\Gamma) \leq 2^{-\lambda} \Gamma} \lambda$$

## Step #2: Optimize effective process



fundamental limit =

$$\max_{\mathcal{T}(\sigma_{XR}) \approx \rho_{X'R}}$$

$$\max_{\lambda: \mathcal{T}(\Gamma) \leq 2^{-\lambda} \Gamma} \lambda$$

# Results

fundamental limit =

$$\max_{\mathcal{T}(\sigma_{X'R}) \approx \rho_{X'R}}$$

$$\max_{\lambda: \mathcal{T}(\Gamma) \leq 2^{-\lambda}} \Gamma \quad \lambda$$

# Results

fundamental limit =

**Steps #1 & #2**

$$\max_{\substack{\mathcal{T} \text{ c.p. tr.-noninc., } \lambda \\ \mathcal{T}(\Gamma) \leq 2^{-\lambda} \Gamma' \\ \mathcal{T}(\sigma_{X'R}) \approx \rho_{X'R}}} \lambda$$

# Results

$$\hat{D}_{X \rightarrow X'}^\epsilon(\rho_{X'R} \| \Gamma_X, \Gamma'_{X'}) = \max_{\substack{\mathcal{T} \text{ c.p. tr.-noninc., } \lambda \\ \mathcal{T}(\Gamma) \leq 2^{-\lambda} \Gamma' \\ \mathcal{T}(\sigma_{XR}) \approx \rho_{X'R}}} \lambda$$

coherent relative  
entropy

Ultimate maximum extractable work for  
implementing a map with process matrix close  
to  $\rho_{X'R} =$

$$kT \ln(2) \cdot \hat{D}_{X \rightarrow X'}^\epsilon(\rho_{X'R} \| \Gamma_X, \Gamma'_{X'})$$

# Results

$$\hat{D}_{X \rightarrow X'}^\epsilon(\rho_{X'R} \| \Gamma_X, \Gamma'_{X'}) =$$

coherent relative  
entropy

$$\max_{\substack{\mathcal{T} \text{ c.p. tr.-noninc., } \lambda \\ \mathcal{T}(\Gamma) \leq 2^{-\lambda} \Gamma' \\ \mathcal{T}(\sigma_{X'R}) \approx \rho_{X'R}}} \lambda$$

*semidefinite program*

Ultimate maximum extractable work for  
implementing a map with process matrix close  
to  $\rho_{X'R} =$

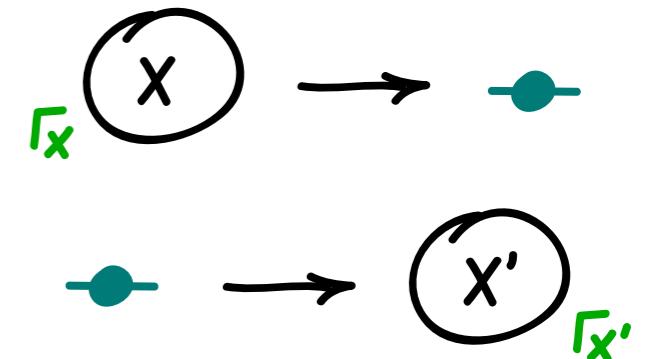
$$kT \ln(2) \cdot \hat{D}_{X \rightarrow X'}^\epsilon(\rho_{X'R} \| \Gamma_X, \Gamma'_{X'})$$

# Coherent relative entropy: Special cases

“relative”

$$\hat{D}_{X \rightarrow \emptyset}(\rho_X \| \Gamma_X, 1) = D_{\min}(\rho_X \| \Gamma_X)$$

$$\hat{D}_{\emptyset \rightarrow X'}(\rho_{X'} \| 1, \Gamma_{X'}) = -D_{\max}(\rho_{X'} \| \Gamma_{X'})$$



Datta, IEEE TIT (2009)

Åberg, Nat Comm (2013)

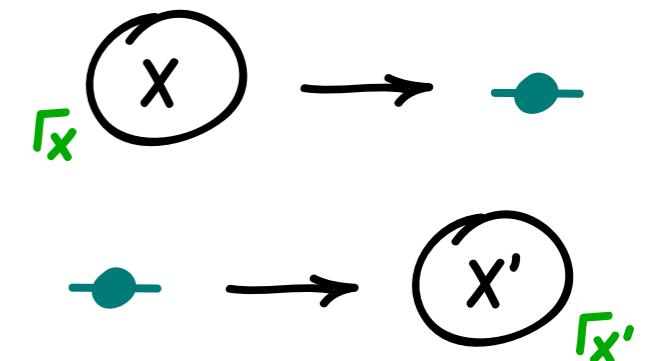
Horodecki & Oppenheim, Nat Comm (2013)

# Coherent relative entropy: Special cases

“relative”

$$\hat{D}_{X \rightarrow \emptyset}(\rho_X \| \Gamma_X, 1) = D_{\min}(\rho_X \| \Gamma_X)$$

$$\hat{D}_{\emptyset \rightarrow X'}(\rho_{X'} \| 1, \Gamma_{X'}) = -D_{\max}(\rho_{X'} \| \Gamma_{X'})$$



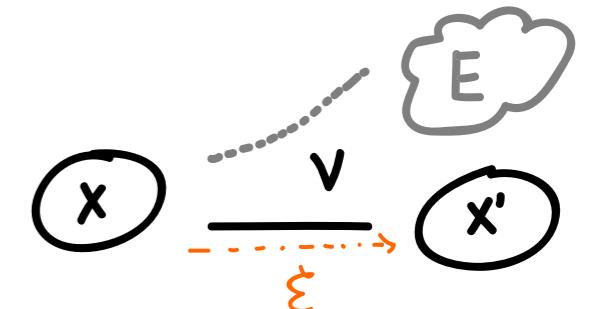
Datta, IEEE TIT (2009)

Åberg, Nat Comm (2013)

Horodecki & Oppenheim, Nat Comm (2013)

“coherent” (“conditional”)

$$\hat{D}_{X \rightarrow X'}^\epsilon(\rho_{X'R} \| \mathbb{1}_X, \mathbb{1}_{X'}) = -\hat{H}_{\max}^\epsilon(E | X')_\rho$$



for pure  $|\rho\rangle_{X'R_X E}$

# Examples (with trivial Hamiltonian)

“Pure information processing” – no internal energy

$$\text{cost} = kT \ln 2 \cdot H_{\max}^{\epsilon}(E | X')_{\rho}$$

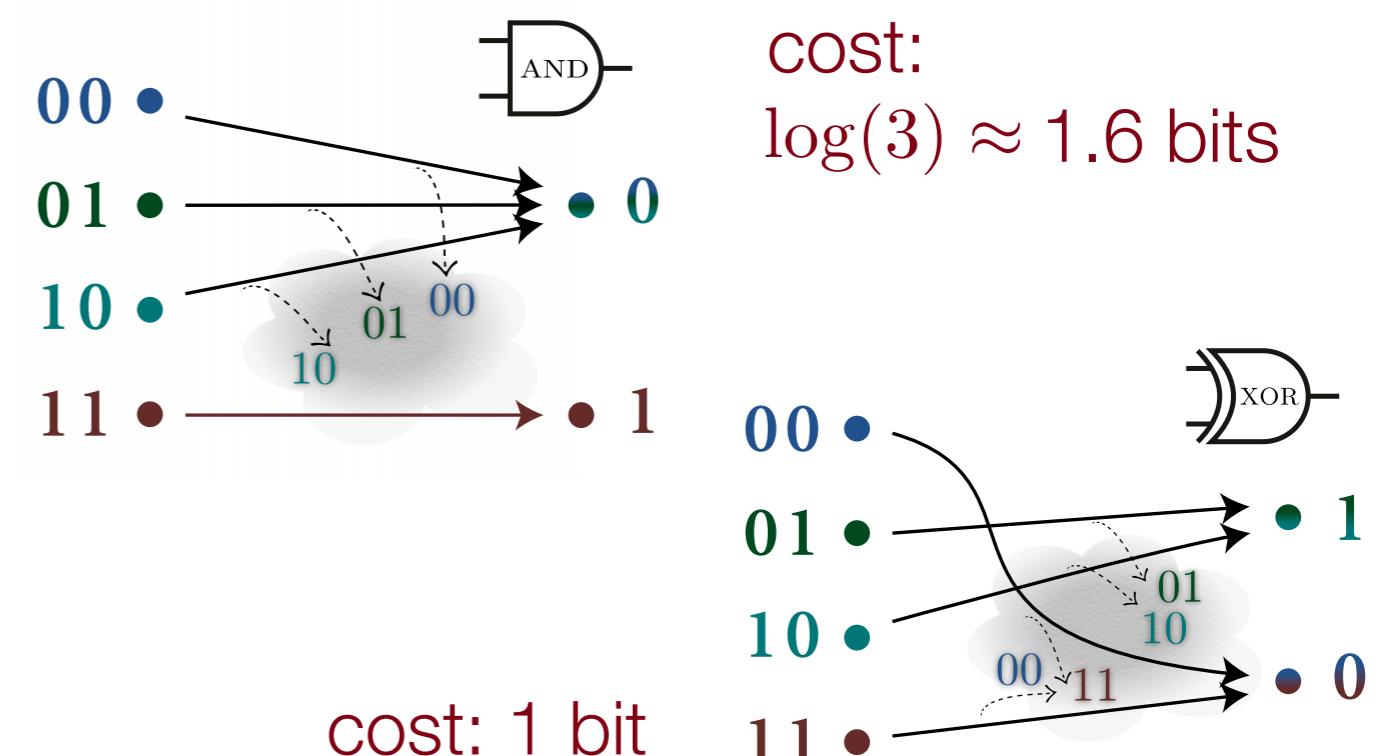
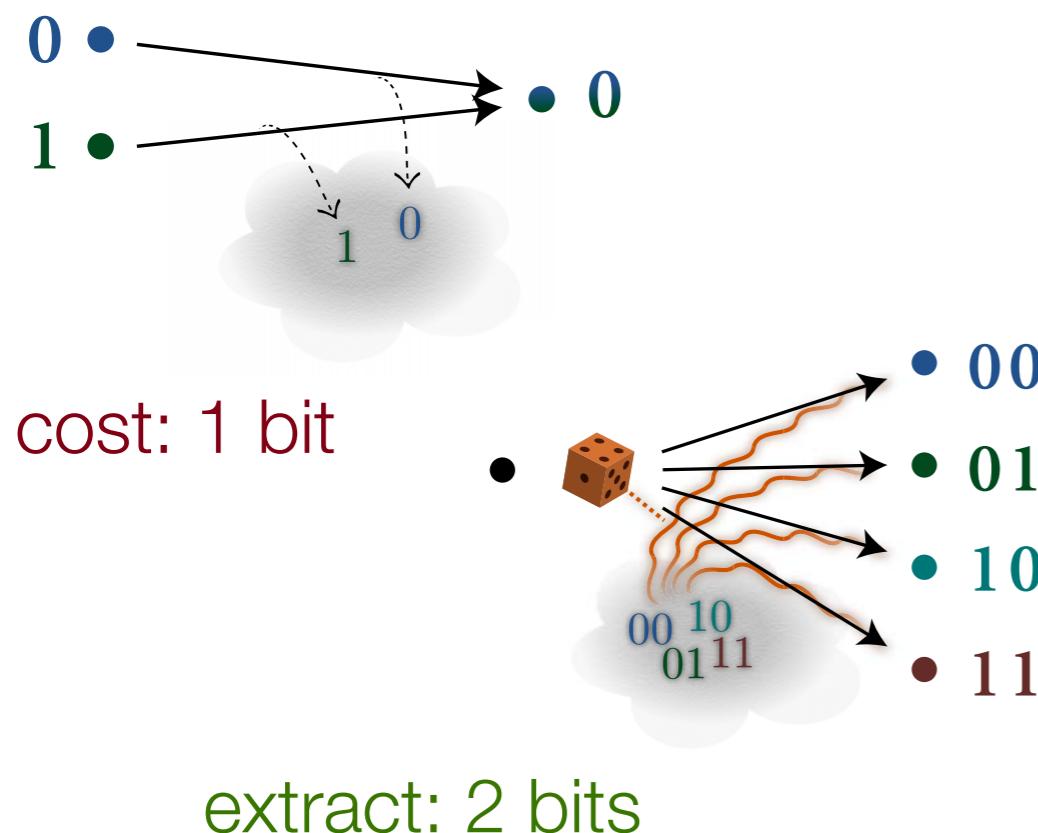
discarded information      output

PhF, Dupuis, Oppenheim, Renner, Nat Comm, 2015

# Examples (with trivial Hamiltonian)

“Pure information processing” – no internal energy

$$\text{cost} = kT \ln 2 \cdot H_{\max}^{\epsilon}(E | X')_{\rho}$$



PhF, Dupuis, Oppenheim, Renner, Nat Comm, 2015

# The Coherent Relative Entropy

$$\hat{D}_{X \rightarrow X'}^\epsilon(\rho_{X'R} \| \Gamma_X, \Gamma_{X'})$$

- Data processing inequality
- Chain rule
- Asymptotic equipartition property: For many independent copies  $\rightarrow D(\rho_X \| \Gamma_X) - D(\rho_{X'} \| \Gamma_{X'})$

# The Coherent Relative Entropy

$$\hat{D}_{X \rightarrow X'}^\epsilon(\rho_{X'R} \| \Gamma_X, \Gamma_{X'})$$

- Data processing inequality
- Chain rule
- Asymptotic equipartition property: For many independent copies  $\rightarrow D(\rho_X \| \Gamma_X) - D(\rho_{X'} \| \Gamma_{X'})$

**The coherent relative entropy:**

- ▶ **measure of information**
- ▶ **has desirable properties**
- ▶ **reduces to known special cases**

# Battery models

Define  $\tau(P) = \frac{P\Gamma P}{\text{tr}(P\Gamma)}$  for  $[P, \Gamma] = 0$

For  $\tau(P) \rightarrow \tau(P')$ :

$$\hat{D}_{X \rightarrow X'}(\rho_{X'R} \| \Gamma, \Gamma') = \log \text{tr}(P'\Gamma) - \log \text{tr}(P\Gamma)$$

- ▶ **Reversibly interconvertable**
- ▶ **Some common battery models equivalent**  
(information battery, wit, weight)
- ▶ **Battery states are robust to smoothing**  
(no need to smooth battery states)

Brandão et al., PNAS (2015)

# Emergence of Macro Thermodynamics

For a certain class of states (e.g. microcanonical):

$$\bar{D}_{X \rightarrow X'}^\epsilon(\rho_{X' R_X} \| \Gamma_X, \Gamma_{X'}) = \Lambda(\rho_R) - \Lambda(\rho_{X'})$$

# Emergence of Macro Thermodynamics

For a certain class of states (e.g. microcanonical):

$$\bar{D}_{X \rightarrow X'}^\epsilon(\rho_{X' R_X} \| \Gamma_X, \Gamma_{X'}) = \Lambda(\rho_R) - \Lambda(\rho_{X'})$$

derives from a potential!

# Emergence of Macro Thermodynamics

For a certain class of states (e.g. microcanonical):

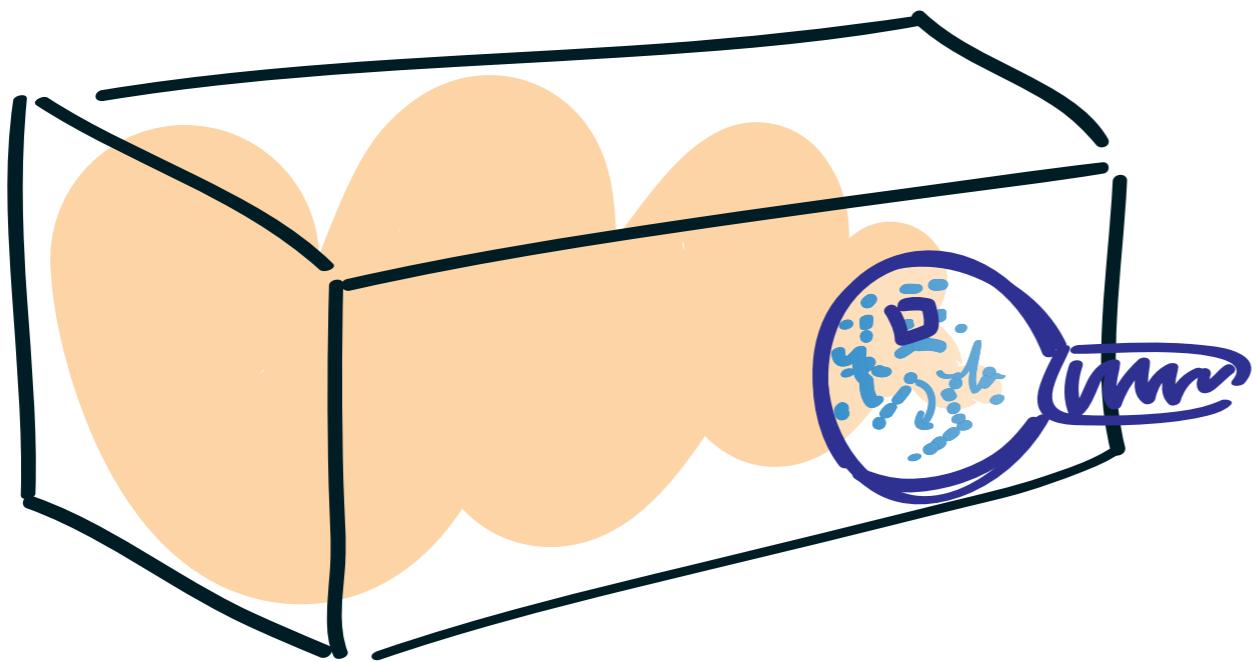
$$\bar{D}_{X \rightarrow X'}^\epsilon(\rho_{X' R_X} \| \Gamma_X, \Gamma_{X'}) = \Lambda(\rho_R) - \Lambda(\rho_{X'})$$

derives from a potential!

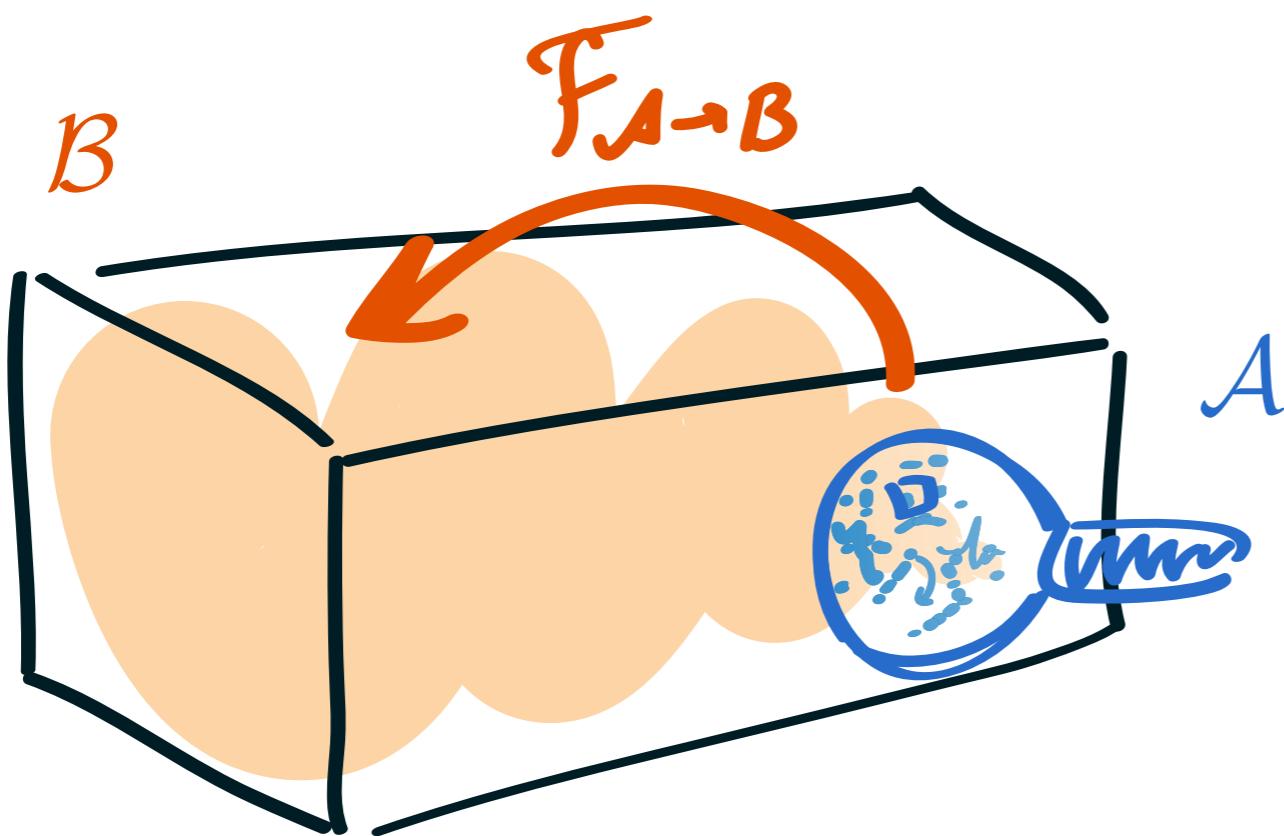
free  $\rho \rightarrow \rho + d\rho$  within class  $\rightarrow d\Lambda \leq 0$

- ▶ isolated system:  $\Lambda = -S$
- ▶ contact with heat bath:  $\Lambda = \beta F$
- ▶ no i.i.d.  
assumption

# Observers in Thermodynamics

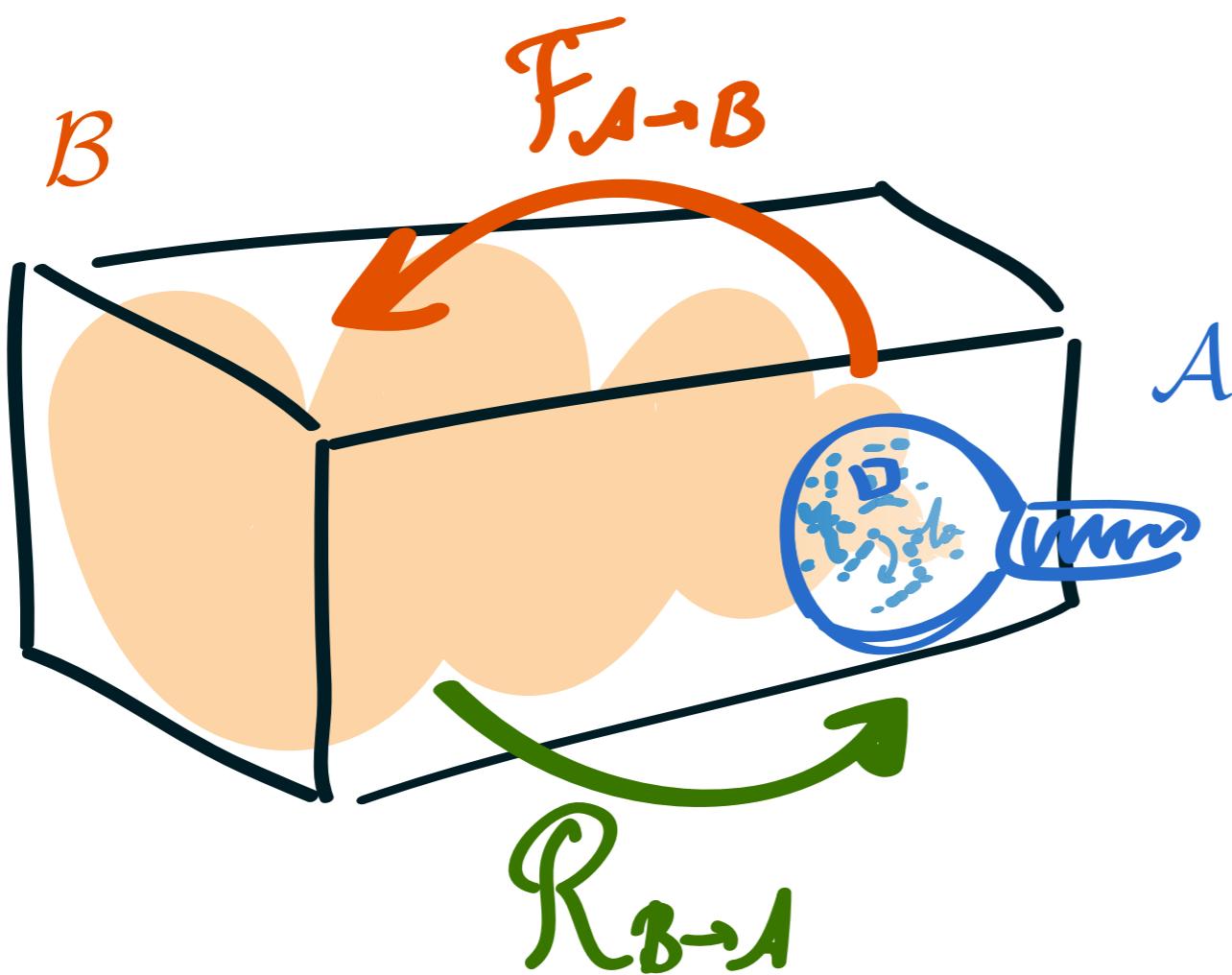


# Observers in Thermodynamics



$$\Gamma_B = \mathcal{F}(\Gamma_A)$$

# Observers in Thermodynamics

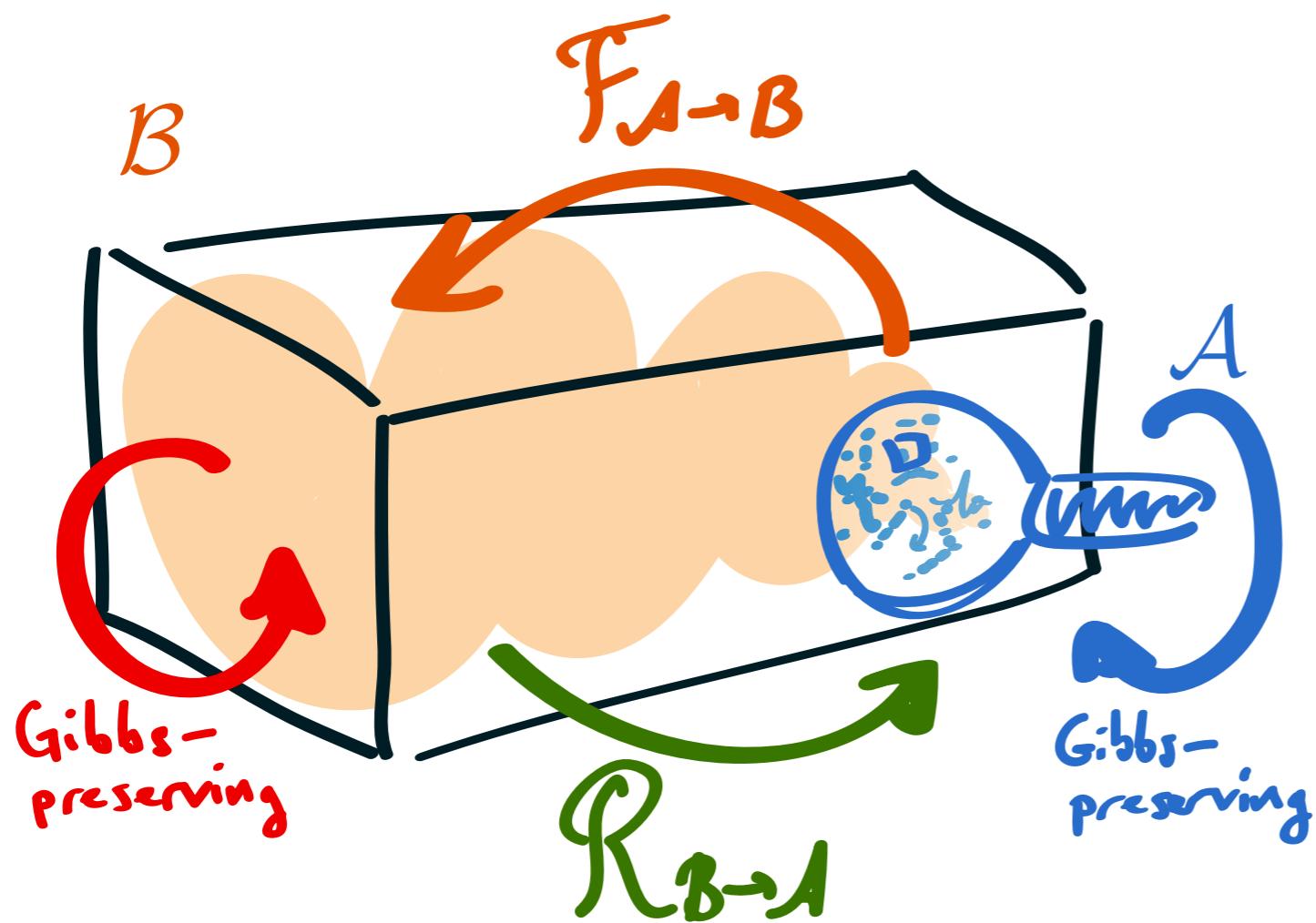


$$\Gamma_B = \mathcal{F}(\Gamma_A)$$

$$\mathcal{R}(\Gamma_B) = \Gamma_A$$

Petz, CMP (1986);  
Fawzi & Renner CMP (2015);  
Wilde PRSA (2015); ...

# Observers in Thermodynamics



$$\Gamma_B = \mathcal{F}(\Gamma_A)$$

$$\mathcal{R}(\Gamma_B) = \Gamma_A$$

$$\mathcal{E}^{\mathcal{B}} = \mathcal{F} \circ \mathcal{E}^{\mathcal{A}} \circ \mathcal{R}$$

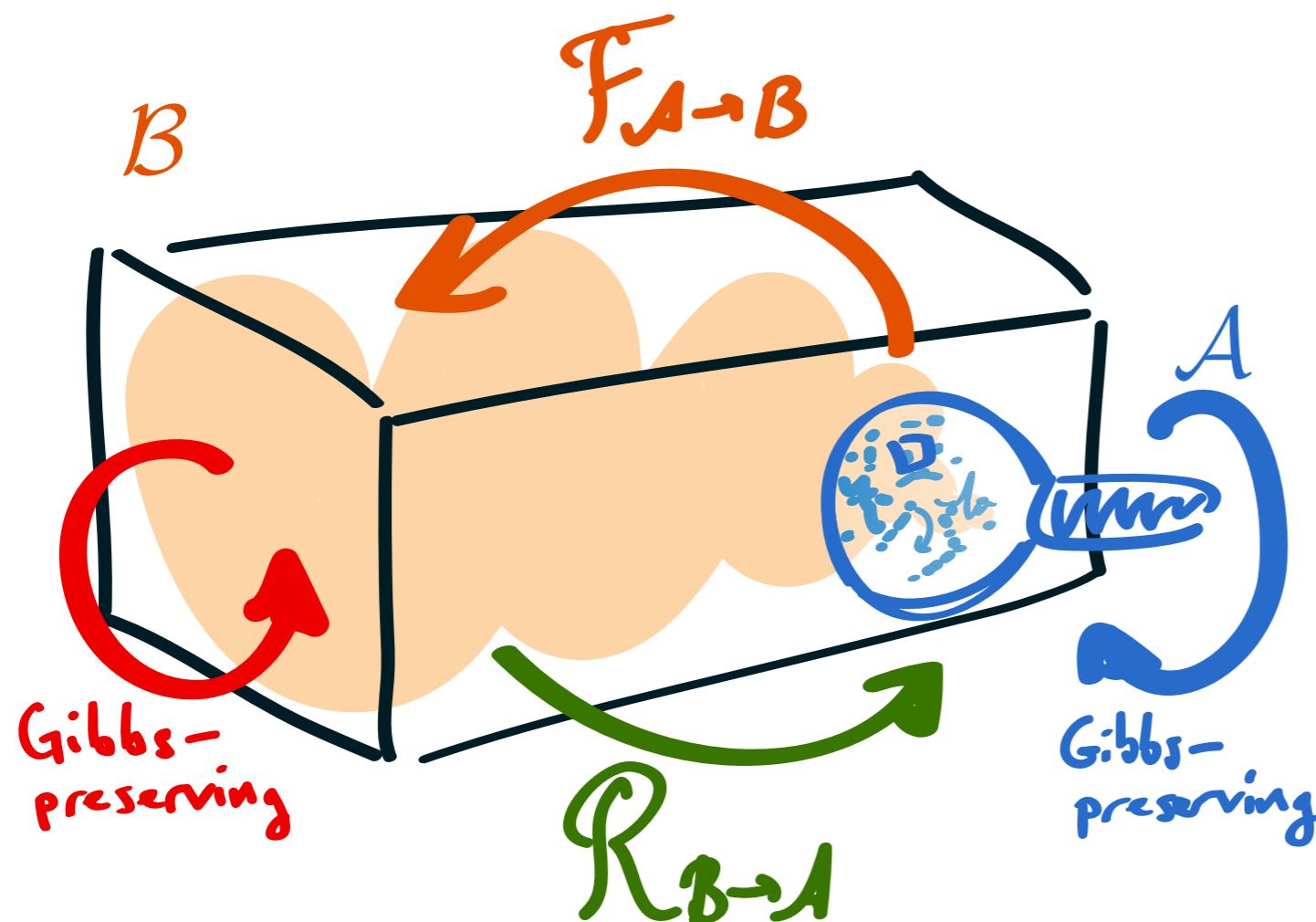
$$\mathcal{E}^{\mathcal{A}}(\Gamma_A) \leqslant \Gamma_A$$

implies

$$\mathcal{E}^{\mathcal{B}}(\Gamma_B) \leqslant \Gamma_B$$

Petz, CMP (1986);  
Fawzi & Renner CMP (2015);  
Wilde PRSA (2015); ...

# Observers in Thermodynamics



$$\Gamma_B = \mathcal{F}(\Gamma_A)$$

$$\mathcal{R}(\Gamma_B) = \Gamma_A$$

$$\mathcal{E}^B = \mathcal{F} \circ \mathcal{E}^A \circ \mathcal{R}$$

$$\mathcal{E}^A(\Gamma_A) \leq \Gamma_A$$

implies

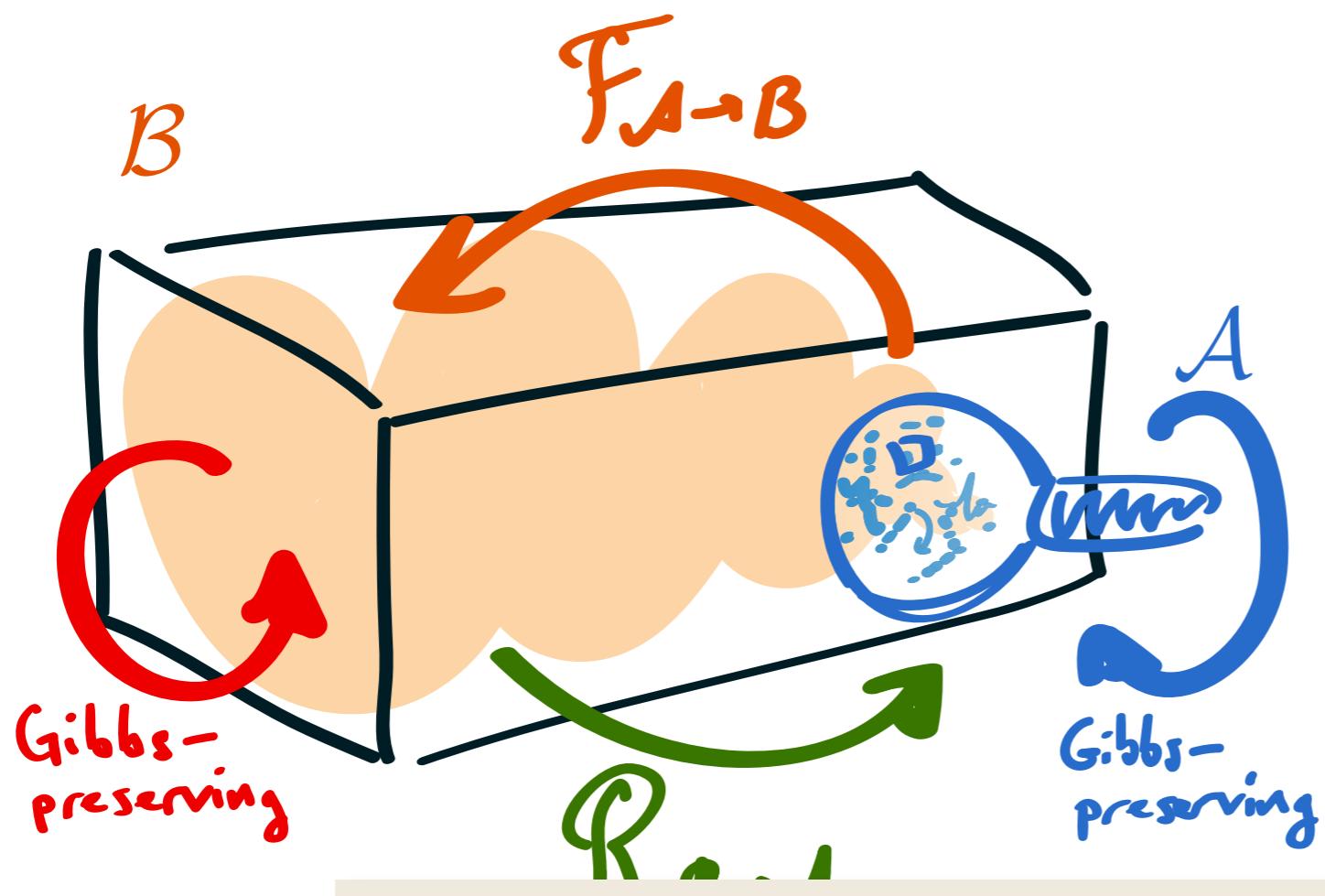
$$\mathcal{E}^B(\Gamma_B) \leq \Gamma_B$$

What if  $\rho^A \neq \mathcal{R}(\rho^B)$  ?

- **possible apparent violation of second law**

Petz, CMP (1986);  
Jawzi & Renner CMP (2015);  
Wilde PRSA (2015); ...

# Observers in Thermodynamics



$$\Gamma_B = \mathcal{F}(\Gamma_A)$$

$$\mathcal{R}(\Gamma_B) = \Gamma_A$$

$$\mathcal{E}^B = \mathcal{F} \circ \mathcal{E}^A \circ \mathcal{R}$$

$$\mathcal{E}^A(\Gamma_A) \leq \Gamma_A$$

implies

$$\mathcal{E}^B(\Gamma_A) \leq \Gamma_B$$

What if  $\rho$

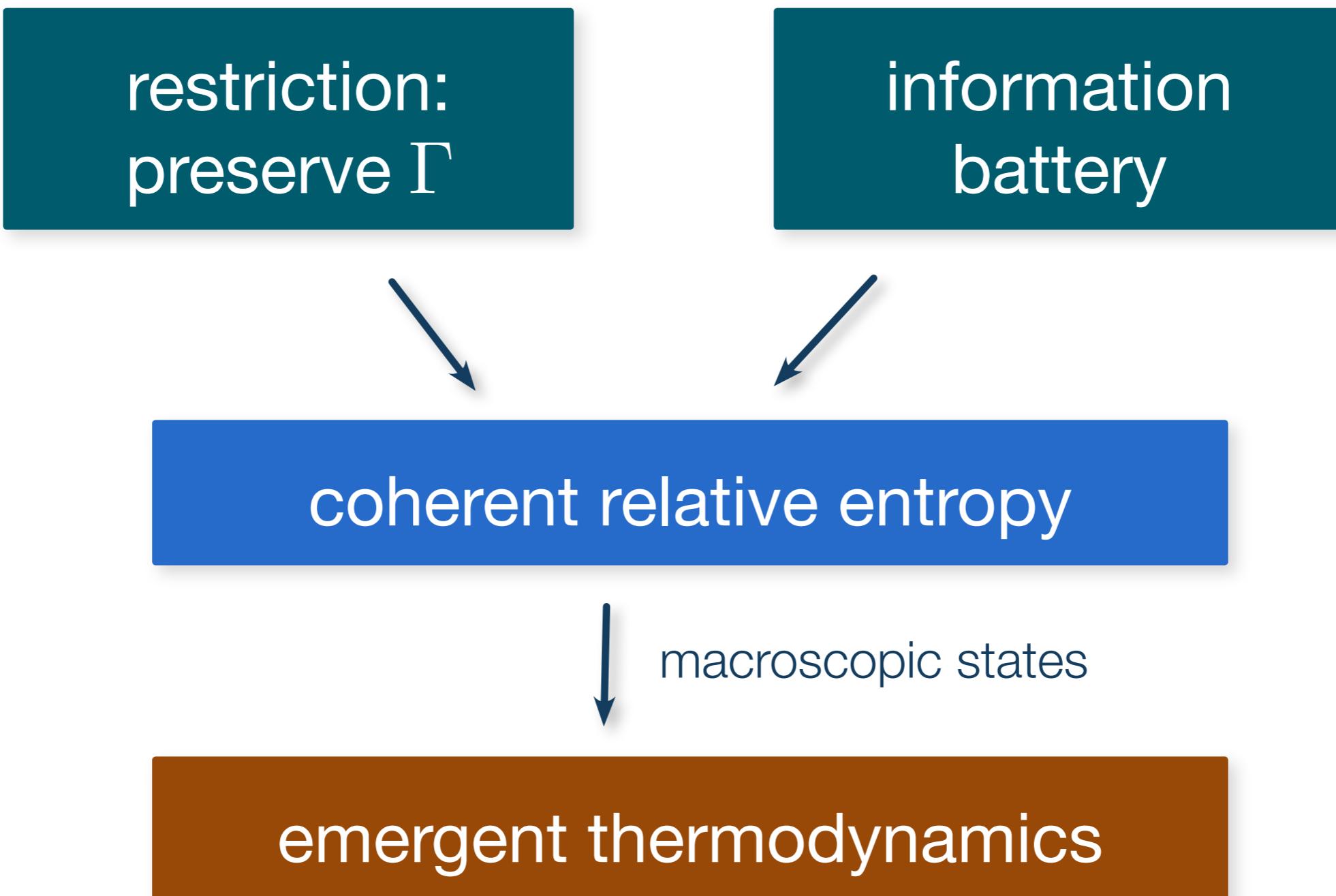
- ▶ possibly second

- ▶ Criterion for when coarse-grained laws of thermodynamics hold:

$$\rho^A = \mathcal{R}(\rho^B)$$

P (1986);  
P (2015);  
2015); ...

# A picture of thermodynamics



# Physics

Hamiltonian  
time evolution

# Information Theory

quantum state  
unitary operation

# Physics

Hamiltonian  
time evolution  
energy, number of  
particles

# Information Theory

quantum state  
unitary operation

# Physics

Hamiltonian  
time evolution  
energy, number of  
particles

# Information Theory

quantum state  
unitary operation

thermodynamics  
(at least 2nd law)

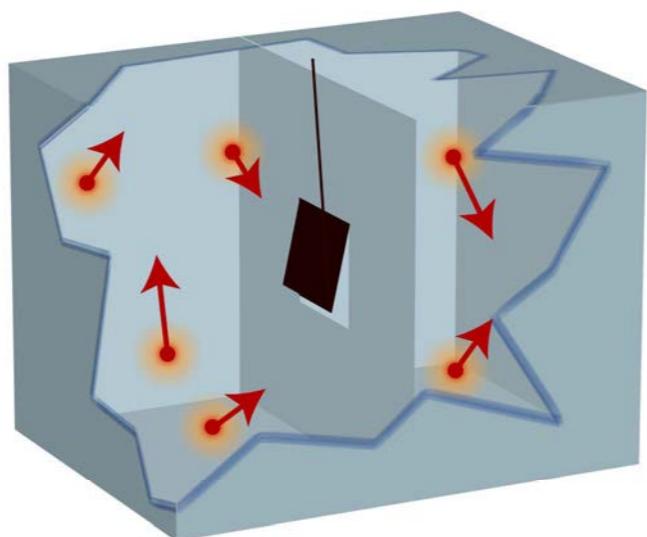
# Outlook

- A simple yet general, single-instance, observer-dependent view of thermodynamics
  - better understanding of universality of thermodynamics
- New measure of information
  - non-i.i.d. version of **relative entropy difference**
- Achievability with thermal operations (+ ...)?
- Applications to information theory, coding?
- Applications to physical systems?

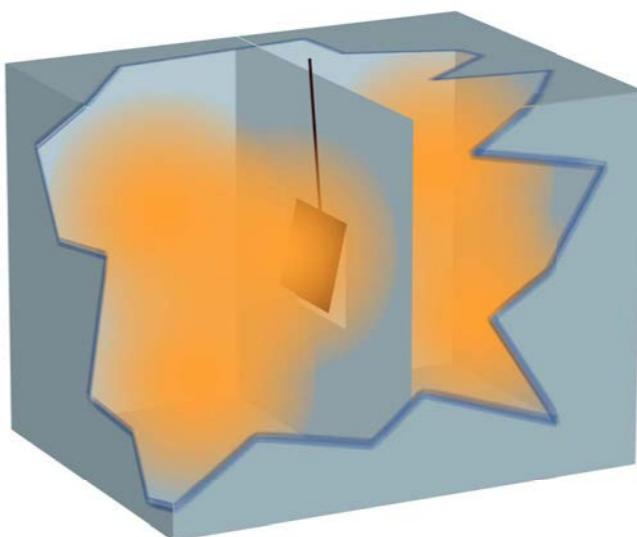
Thank you for  
your attention!

# Example: Maxwell's Demon

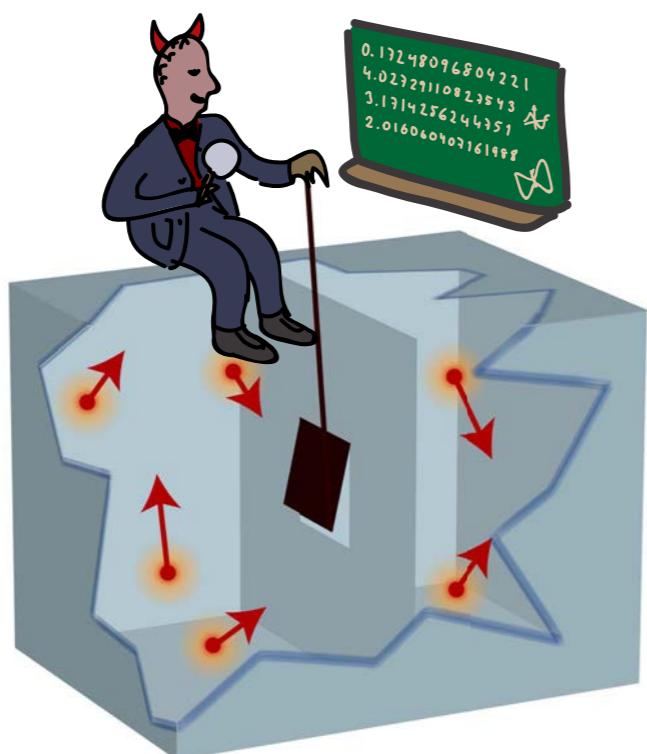
microscopic picture



macroscopic picture



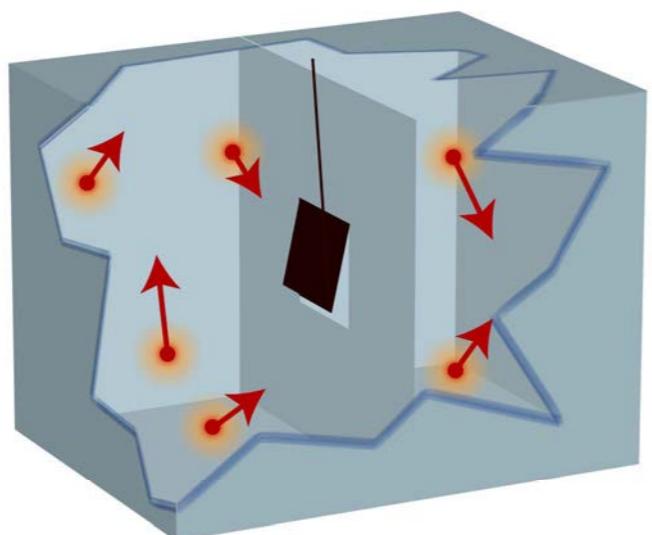
implicit  
demon



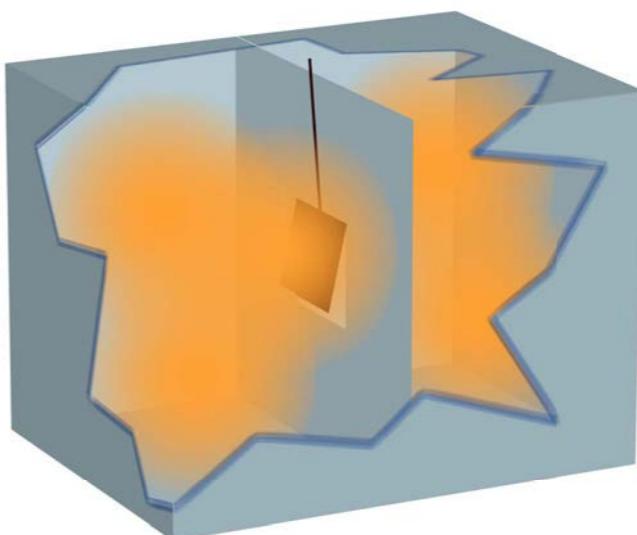
explicit  
demon

# Example: Maxwell's Demon

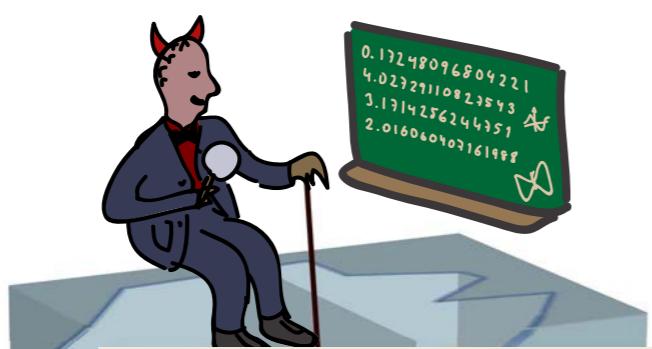
microscopic picture



macroscopic picture



implicit  
demon



explicit  
demon

**thermodynamic entropy is  
observer-dependent!**

# General case: non-trivial Hamiltonian

Fundamental work cost for any process

$$W = kT \ln 2 \cdot \hat{D}_{X \rightarrow X'}^{\epsilon}(\rho_{X' R_X} \| \Gamma_X, \Gamma_{X'})$$

coherent  
relative  
entropy



process matrix,  
characterizes  $\mathcal{E}$   
and input state



measures information  
relative to Gibbs weights  
 $\Gamma = e^{-\beta H}$



# Approaches to information thermodynamics

statistical mechanics

Piechocinska, PRA, 2000

...

resource theory  
approach

Brandão *et al.*, PRL, 2013

...

axiomatic approach

Lieb & Yngvason, PR, 1999  
Weilenmann *et al.*, PRL, 2016

...

# Approaches to information thermodynamics

## statistical mechanics

Piechocinska, PRA, 2000

...

work probability distributions, time evolution, fluctuation relations

## resource theory approach

Brandão *et al.*, PRL, 2013

...

inherently one-shot, epsilon-work, general processes

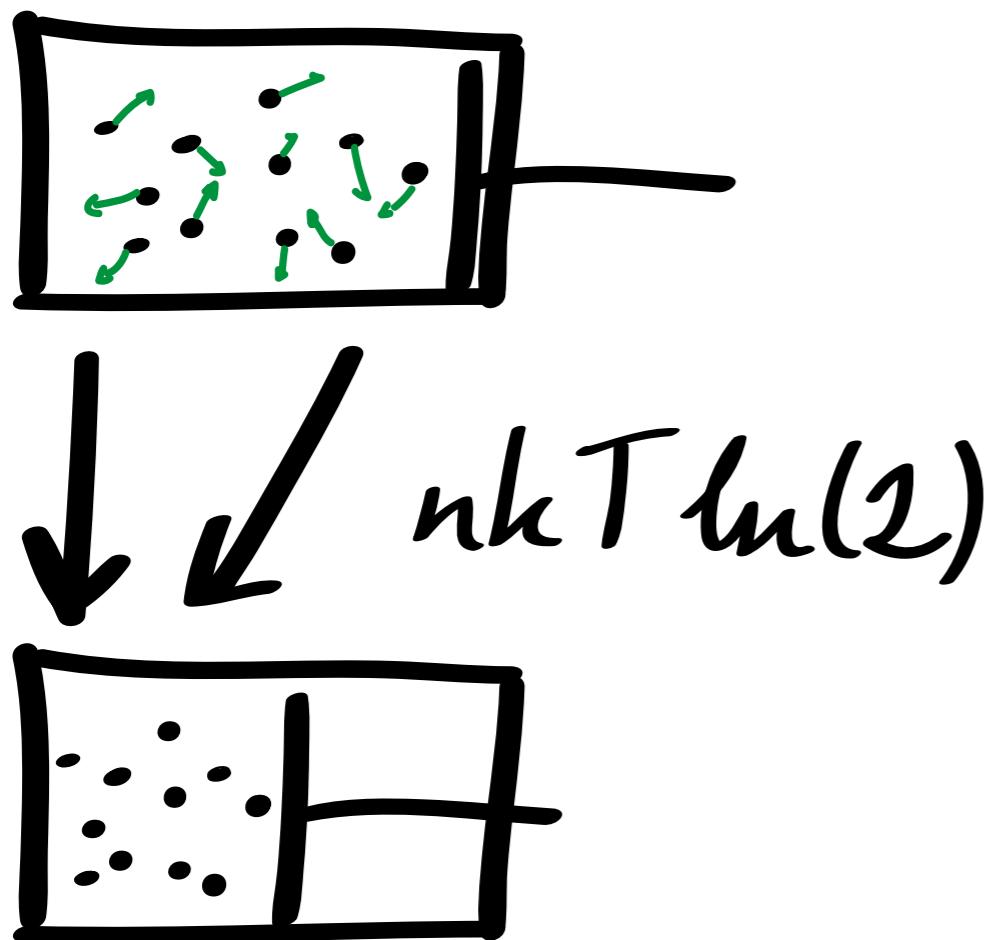
## axiomatic approach

Lieb & Yngvason, PR, 1999  
Weilenmann *et al.*, PRL, 2016

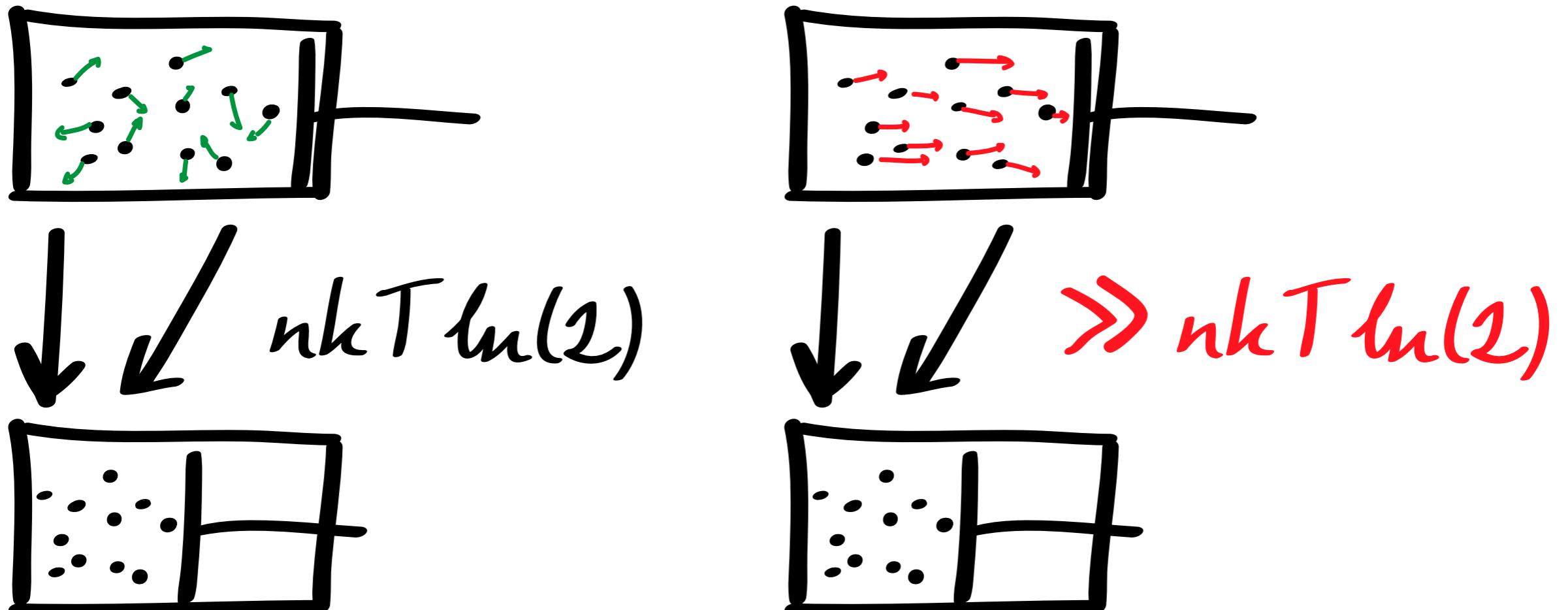
...

abstract, first-principles approach, structure of thermodynamics

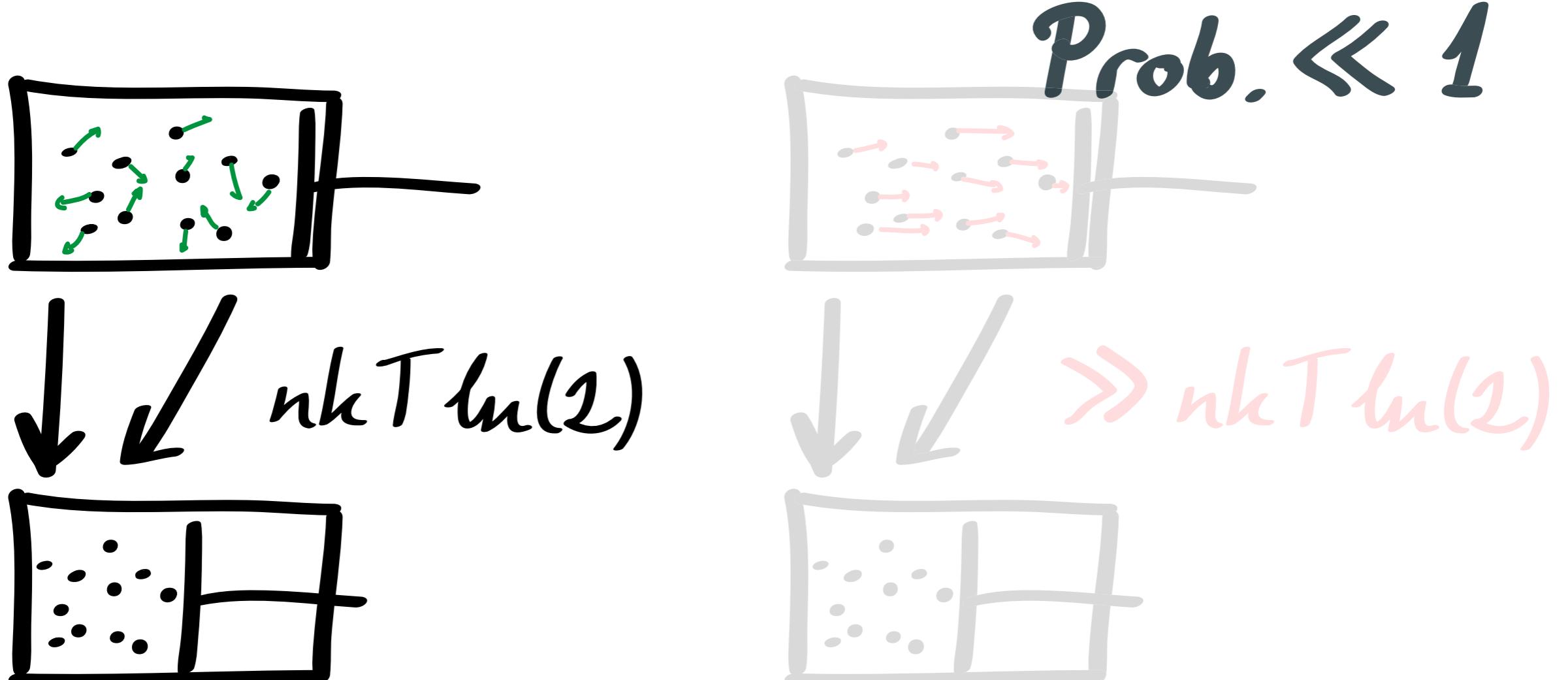
# Smoothing



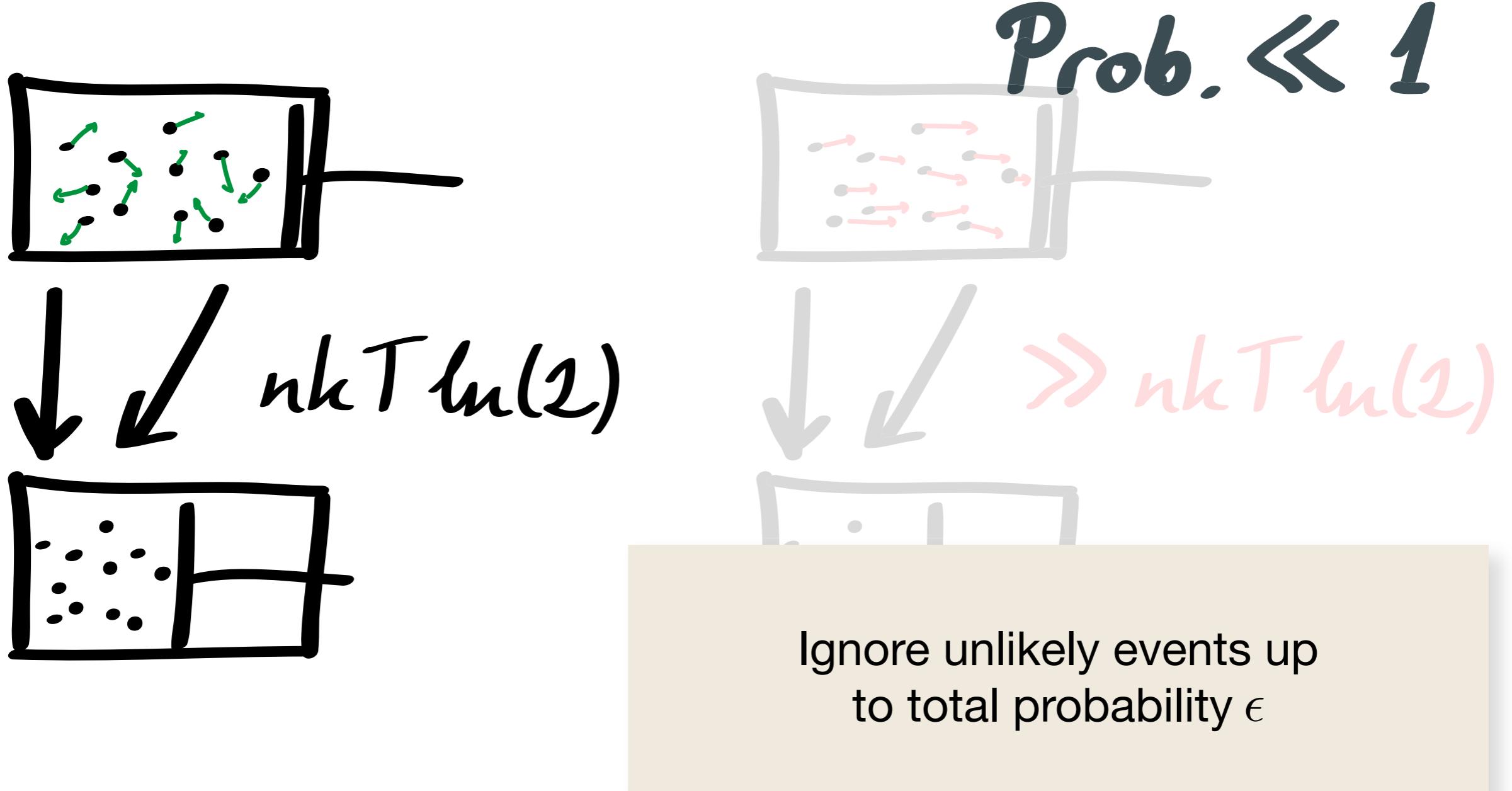
# Smoothing



# Smoothing



# Smoothing



# What About Statistical Mechanics?

- Model system's time evolution
- Average energy, von Neumann entropy; one-shot statements more tricky
- Count work?  $p(W)$  not well defined quantum
- Closer to applications than resource-theory approaches

# Work?

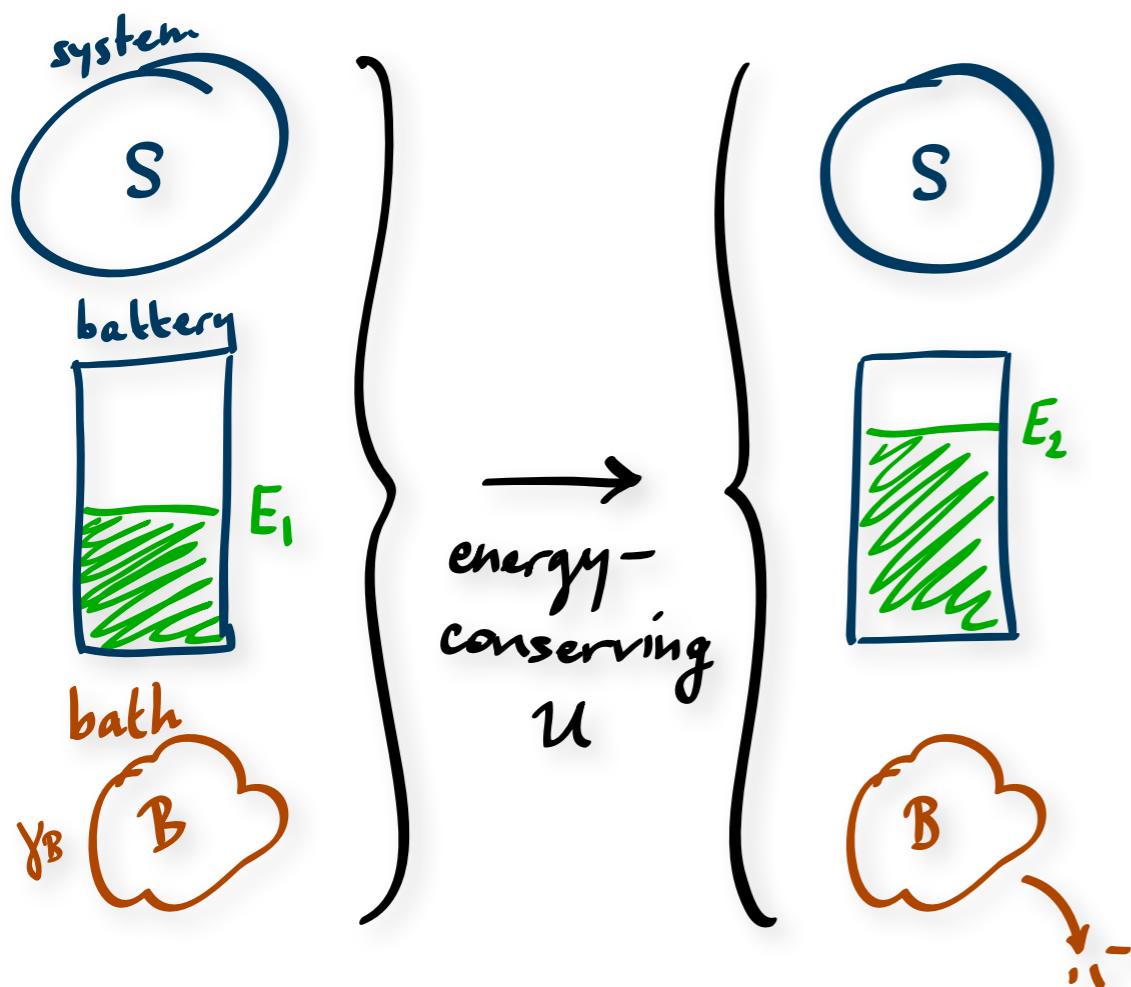
Count *work* using a battery system



Horodecki & Oppenheim, Nat. Comm. 2013

# Work?

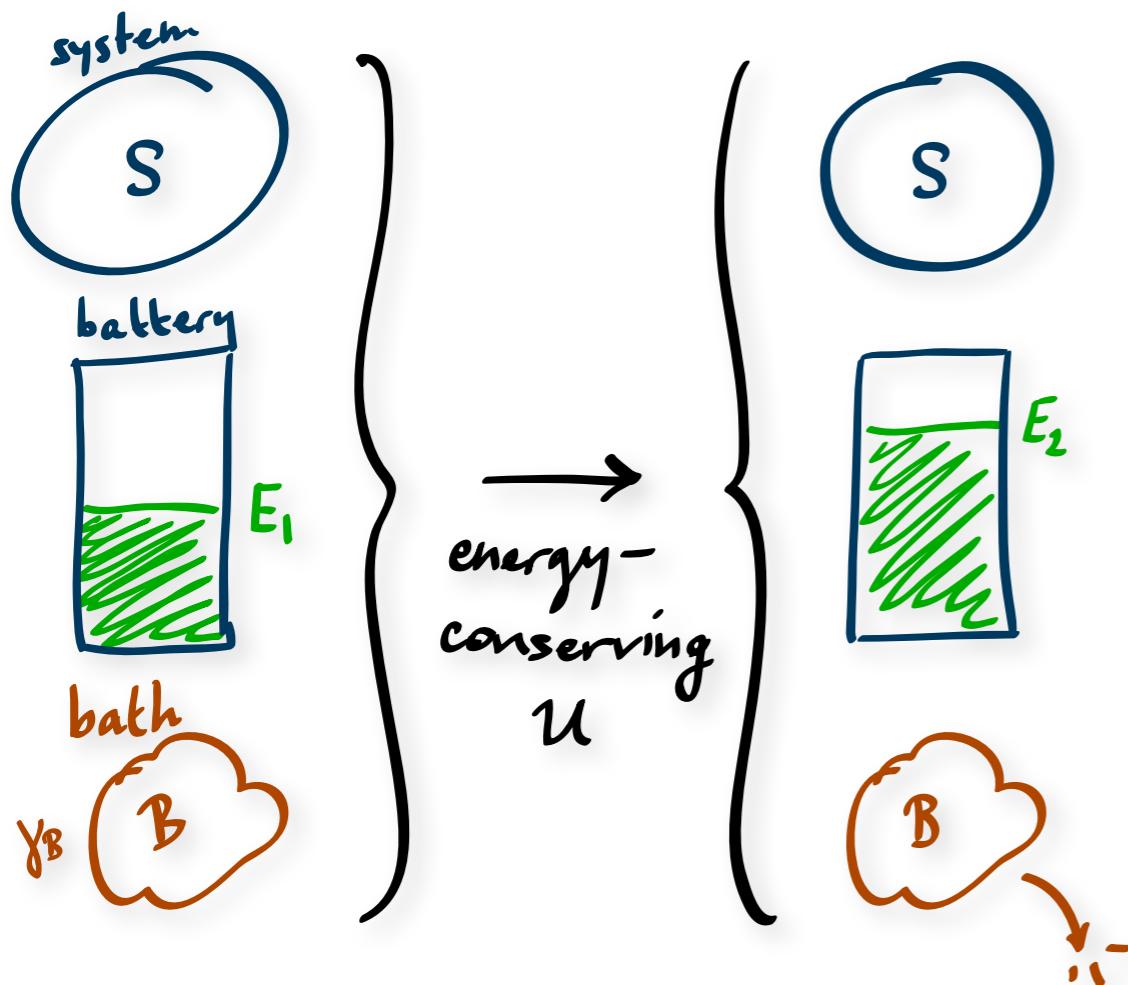
Count work using a battery system



Horodecki & Oppenheim, Nat. Comm. 2013

# Work?

Count work using a battery system



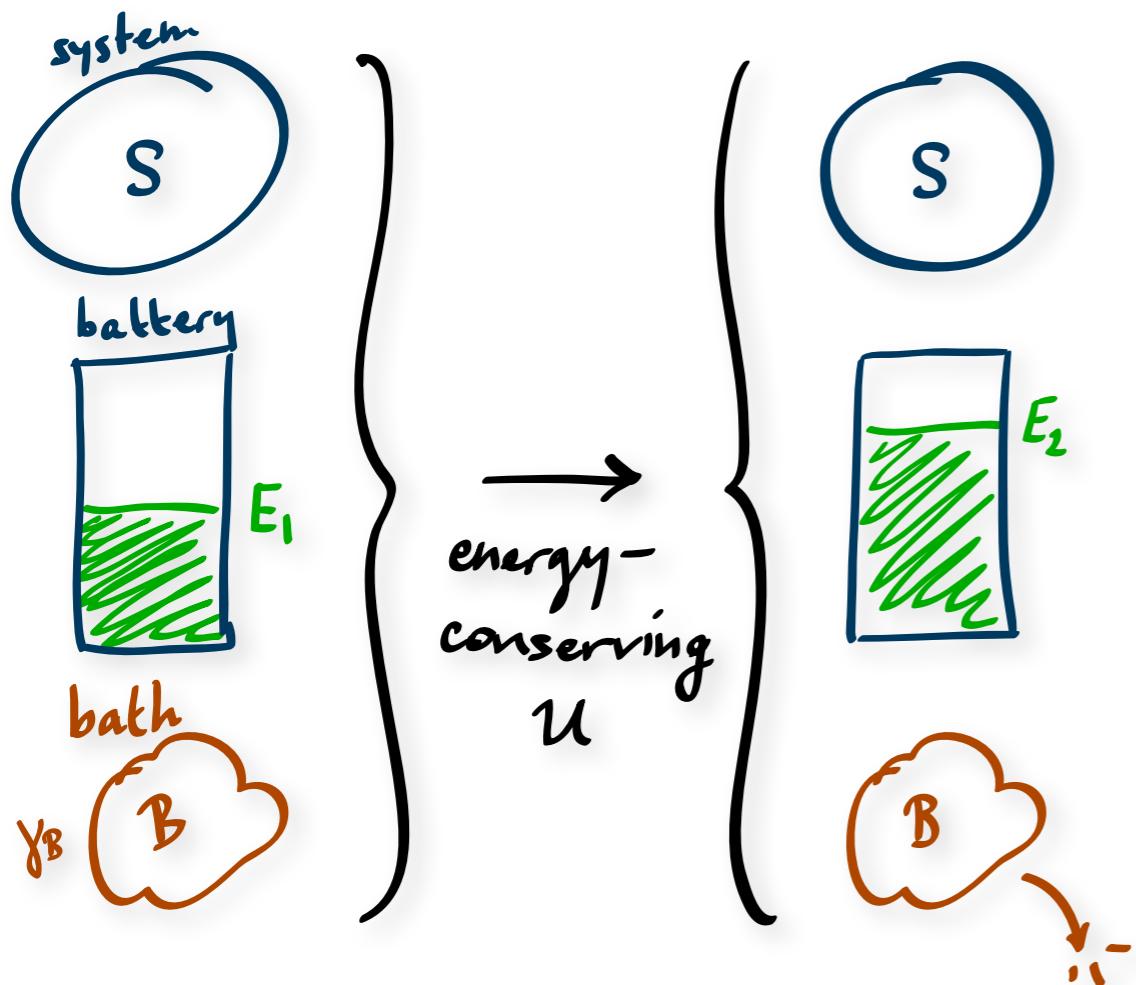
Work extraction  $\rho \rightarrow \gamma$ :

$$E_2 - E_1 = F_{\min}^{\epsilon}(\rho)$$

Horodecki & Oppenheim, Nat. Comm. 2013

# Work?

Count work using a battery system



Work extraction  $\rho \rightarrow \gamma$ :

$$E_2 - E_1 = F_{\min}^\epsilon(\rho)$$

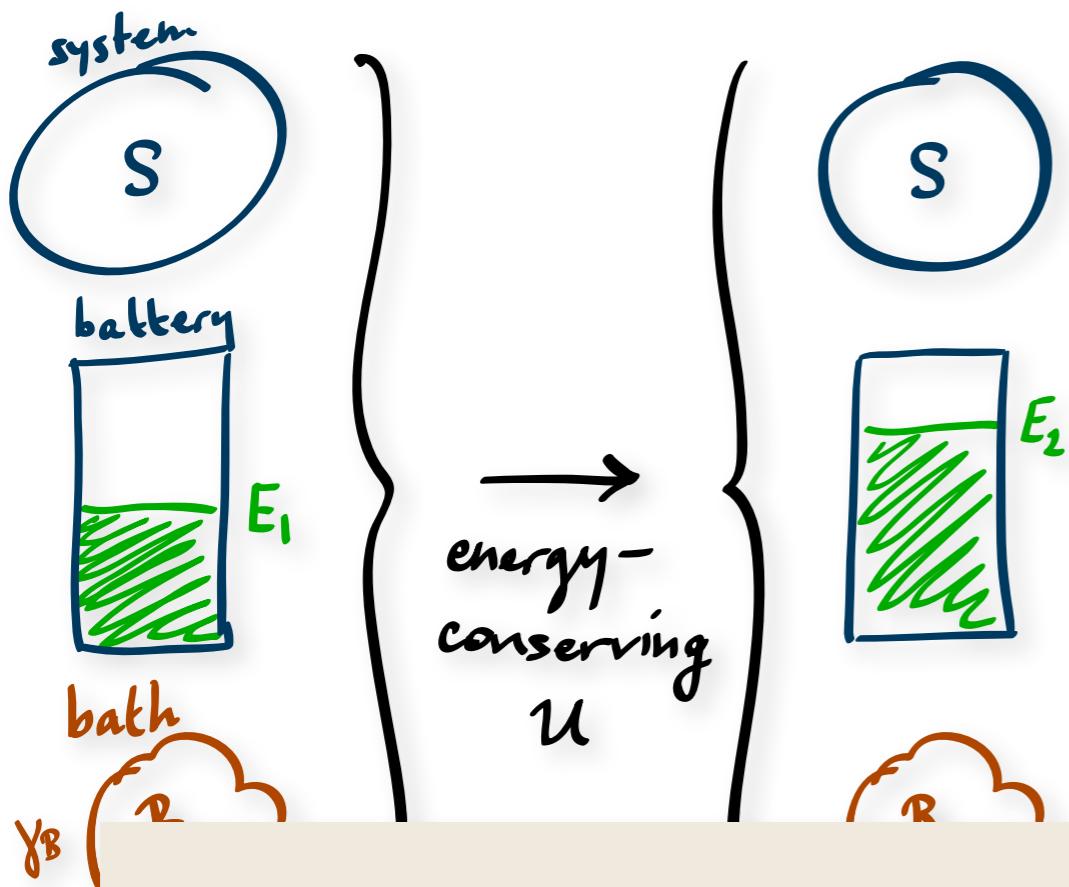
Work cost of formation  $\gamma \rightarrow \rho$ :

$$E_1 - E_2 = F_{\max}^\epsilon(\rho)$$

Horodecki & Oppenheim, Nat. Comm. 2013

# Work?

Count work using a battery system



Work extraction  $\rho \rightarrow \gamma$ :

$$E_2 - E_1 = F_{\min}^\epsilon(\rho)$$

Work cost of formation  $\gamma \rightarrow \rho$ :

$$E_1 - E_2 = F_{\max}^\epsilon(\rho)$$

- ▶ valid for single instance of the process
- ▶ macroscopic limit  $F_{\min}^\epsilon(\rho), F_{\max}^\epsilon(\rho) \rightarrow F(\rho)$

2013