Floquet conformal field theory

Xueda Wen^{1,*} and Jie-Qiang Wu²

¹Department of Physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA 02139, USA ²Center for Theoretical Physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge MA, 02138 USA (Dated: May 23, 2018)

Given a *generic* two-dimensional conformal field theory (CFT), we propose an analytically solvable setup to study the Floquet dynamics of the CFT, *i.e.*, the dynamics of a CFT subject to a periodic driving. A complete phase diagram in the parameter space can be analytically obtained within our setup. We find two phases: the heating phase and the non-heating phase. In the heating phase, the entanglement entropy keeps growing linearly in time, indicating that the system keeps absorbing energy; in the non-heating phase, the entanglement entropy oscillates periodically in time, *i.e.*, the system is not heated. At the phase transition, the entanglement entropy grows logarithmically in time in a universal way. Furthermore, we can obtain the critical exponent by studying the entanglement evolution near the phase transition. Mathematically, different phases (and phase transition) in a Floquet CFT correspond to different types of Möbius transformations.

Introduction The dynamics of periodically driven (Floquet) many-body systems has received extensive attentions recently. It sheds light on fundamental issues in condensed matter physics and statistical physics such as the phase structures and thermalization. Striking examples include Floquet topological insulators, ¹⁻¹⁰ Floquet symmetry protected/enriched topological phases, ¹¹⁻¹⁵ Floquet time crystals, ¹⁶⁻²¹ and Floquet thermodynamics. ²²⁻²⁶

In this work, we are interested in the Floquet dynamics of a (1+1) dimensional quantum critical point which is described by a conformal field theory (CFT). To our knowledge, little attention has been paid in this direction. In Ref.27, the Floquet dynamics of a boundary driven quantum critical point was studied. It was found that, depending on the driving frequency, there are multiple dynamics regimes, including a heating regime and several other non-heating regimes. Since the energy injected (from the boundary) per cycle is not extensive in system size, it is still an open question on the Floquet dynamics of a bulk-driven quantum critical point. It is well known that CFTs after a quantum quench have brought to us much insight in the non-equilibrium dynamics of many-body systems. ^{28–30} Now, for a periodically bulk-driven CFT, it is desirable to understand its Floquet dynamics. However, an analytically solvable setup is still lacking.

We fill this gap by proposing an analytically solvable setup for a bulk-driven Floquet CFT. Both the correlation functions and the entanglement entropy can be analytically obtained in the whole parameter space within our setup. We find two different phases depending on the driving frequency, namely the heating and non-heating phases.³¹ In the heating phase, the entanglement entropy keeps growing linearly in time, which indicates that the system keeps absorbing energy; in the nonheating phase, the entanglement entropy keeps oscillating in time, indicating that the system is not heated. In particular, in the high frequency driving regime of the non-heating phase, the oscillation period of entanglement entropy is independent of the driving frequency. In addition, as we approach the phase transition, the oscillation period of entanglement entropy diverges, based on which we can extract the critical exponent $\zeta = 1/2$. The same critical exponent can

be obtained if we approach the phase transition from the heating phase, by studying the slope of the linear growth of entanglement entropy. At the phase transition, in the long time limit, the entanglement entropy grows logarithmically in time as $\frac{c}{3}\log t$, where c is the central charge of CFT. We confirm our CFT result with a numerical simulation based on a free fermion lattice model. We also find an elegant mathematical structure underlying the phase diagram. The heating phase, non-heating phase and phase transition in the Floquet CFT correspond to three kinds of Möbius transformations, *i.e.*, hyperbolic, elliptic, and parabolic transformations, respectively. Our setup applies to a family of periodically driven CFTs.

Our setup Now we consider a generic (1+1) dimensional CFT defined on a finite space of length L, with conformally invariant boundary conditions imposed at x=0 and x=L, respectively.³² The initial state is prepared as the ground state $|G\rangle$ of Hamiltonian H_0 , and then we drive the system in the following way



Here H_0 denotes a uniform Hamiltonian of the form

$$H_0 = \int_0^L \frac{dx}{2\pi} T_{\tau\tau}(x),$$
 (0.1)

where $T_{\tau\tau}(x)$ is the 'time-time' component of the stress tensor. For later convenience, we have defined our theory in Euclidean space with $w=\tau+ix$, so that $T_{\tau\tau}=T_{ww}+T_{\bar{w}\bar{w}}=:T+\overline{T}$. The other Hamiltonian H_1 , among a family of candidates, 61 is constructed by deforming H_0 as follows

$$H_1 = H_0 - \frac{1}{2} (H_+ + H_-),$$
 (0.2)

where $H_{\pm}=\int_{0}^{L}\frac{dx}{2\pi}\left(e^{\pm2\pi w/L}T(w)+e^{\mp2\pi\bar{w}/L}\overline{T}(\bar{w})\right)$. H_{1} itself describes a sine-square deformed CFT which was extensively studied recently.^{33–51} It was found that a CFT with

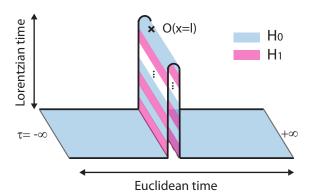


FIG. 1. Path integral representation of the single-point correlation function $\langle \psi(t)|\mathcal{O}(x)|\psi(t)\rangle$ in w-plane, with $w=\tau+ix$.

Hamiltonian H_1 has a continuous Virasoro algebra that results in a continuous energy spectrum, 45,46 which is in contrast with H_0 that has discrete energy spacing $\propto 1/L$. 52 In short, starting from the ground state $|G\rangle$ of H_0 , we drive the system with H_1 for a time interval T_1 , and then with H_0 for a time interval T_0 , and repeat this driving procedure. To characterize the Floquet dynamics of the system, we study the correlation functions and entanglement entropy evolution at time $t=n(T_0+T_1)$, with $n=0,1,2,\cdots$.

The wavefunction after n cycles of driving can be written as $|\psi(t)\rangle = e^{-iH_0T_0}e^{-iH_1T_1}\cdots e^{-iH_0T_0}e^{-iH_1T_1}|G\rangle$, based on which we can evaluate the multi-point correlation functions. For simplicity, now let us consider the single point correlation function $\langle \psi(t)|\mathcal{O}|\psi(t)\rangle$. Its path integral representation in w-plane is shown in Fig.1, with $\tau\in(-\infty,\infty)$ and $x\in[0,L]$, i.e., the path integral is defined on a strip. Note there is Lorentz (real) time evolution introduced by the driving. To evaluate $\langle \mathcal{O}\rangle$, we go to the Euclidean space by writing $|\psi(t)\rangle$ as $|\psi(\tau)\rangle=e^{-H_0\tau_0}e^{-H_1\tau_1}\cdots e^{-H_0\tau_0}e^{-H_1\tau_1}|G\rangle$, and do the analytical continuation $\tau_0\to iT_0$, $\tau_1\to iT_1$ in the final step.

One-cycle driving Before studying the effect of n-cycle driving, it is helpful to check how a primary operator $\mathcal O$ evolves under one-cycle driving. First, with a conformal mapping $z=e^{\frac{2\pi w}{L}}$, we map the strip in w-plane to the complex z-plane, where the boundaries along x=0 and x=L in w-plane are mapped to the slit along the half real axis $\operatorname{Re}(z)\geq 0$ in z-plane. Based on the study in Ref.51, one can find that under one-cycle driving, the operator $\mathcal O$ in z-plane evolves from $(z,\bar z)$ to $(z_1,\bar z_1)$ as follows

$$U_{\text{eff}}^{\dagger} \mathcal{O}(z, \bar{z}) U_{\text{eff}} = \left(\frac{\partial z_1}{\partial z}\right)^h \left(\frac{\partial \bar{z}_1}{\partial \bar{z}}\right)^h \mathcal{O}(z_1, \bar{z}_1), \quad (0.3)$$

where we have defined the time evolution operator $U_{\rm eff}:=e^{-H_0\tau_0}e^{-H_1\tau_1}$, 53 and h (\bar{h}) is the conformal dimension of \mathcal{O} . In particular, z_1 (\bar{z}_1) is related to z (\bar{z}) by a Möbius transformation: 51,54

$$z_1 = f(z) = \frac{az+b}{cz+d} \quad \to \quad \mathfrak{H} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}, \quad (0.4)$$

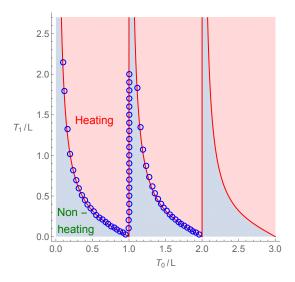


FIG. 2. (Part of) Phase diagram for a Floquet CFT, plotted according to Eq.(0.7). The solid dots are obtained from a numerical simulation based on a free fermion chain with L=500 and $T_0/L<2$.

where we have associated to the Möbius transformation $z_1=f(z)$ a matrix \mathfrak{H} , and defined $a:=(1+\frac{\pi\tau_1}{L})\cdot e^{\frac{\pi\tau_0}{L}}$, $b:=-\frac{\pi\tau_1}{L}\cdot e^{\frac{-\pi\tau_0}{L}}$, $c:=\frac{\pi\tau_1}{L}\cdot e^{\frac{\pi\tau_0}{L}}$, and $d:=(1-\frac{\pi\tau_1}{L})\cdot e^{\frac{-\pi\tau_0}{L}}$. As will be seen shortly, the Möbius transformation in Eq.(0.4) determines the Floquet dynamics of our periodically driven CFT. Note that the Möbius transformation has been normalized so that ad-bc=1. By defining the trace square of \mathfrak{H} as $\sigma(\mathfrak{H}):=\left[\mathrm{Tr}(\mathfrak{H})\right]^2$, it is known that the value of $\sigma(\mathfrak{H})$ classifies different types Möbius transformations. After analytical continuation $\tau_0\to iT_0$ and $\tau_1\to iT_1$, one can find that

$$\sigma(\mathfrak{H}) = 4(1 - \Delta),\tag{0.5}$$

with

$$\Delta = \left[1 - \left(\frac{\pi T_1}{L}\right)^2\right] \sin^2 \frac{\pi T_0}{L} + \frac{\pi T_1}{L} \cdot \sin \frac{2\pi T_0}{L}. \quad (0.6)$$

Depending on the values of Δ , there are three types of Möbius transformations as follows:⁵⁴

$$\begin{cases} 0 \leq \sigma < 4, & 0 < \Delta \leq 1, & \text{Elliptic,} \\ \sigma = 4, & \Delta = 0, & \text{Parabolic,} \\ \sigma > 4, & \Delta < 0, & \text{Hyperbolic.} \end{cases} \tag{0.7}$$

The elliptic, parabolic, and hyperbolic transformations are conjugate to the operation of rotation, translation, and dilation in z-plane, respectively. As we will see, $\Delta=0$ determines the phase transition in a Floquet CFT (see Fig.2), and the elliptic and hyperbolic transformations correspond to non-heating and heating phases in the phase diagram, respectively.

n-cycle driving To have a more intuitive picture on the effect of different Möbius transformations in Eq.(0.7), let us consider the n-cycle driving. It can be found that the operator \mathcal{O} in z-plane, after n cycles of driving, is driven from (z,\bar{z}) to (z_n,\bar{z}_n) , with

$$\frac{z_n - \gamma_1}{z_n - \gamma_2} = \eta^n \cdot \frac{z - \gamma_1}{z - \gamma_2},\tag{0.8}$$

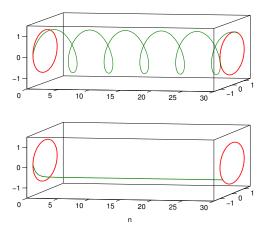


FIG. 3. Trajectory of z_n in z-plane as a function of n in the non-heating phase (top) and the heating phase (bottom). We choose $T_0 = T_1 = L/10$ in the non-heating phase and $T_0 = T_1 = L/2$ in the heating phase. The subsystem length is chosen as l = L/2.

and similarly for \bar{z}_n . Here γ_1 and γ_2 are called 'fixed points' of the Möbius transformation and are determined by $f(\gamma) = \gamma$ in Eq.(0.4), with the explicit expression $\gamma_{1,2} = \left(a - d \mp \sqrt{(a-d)^2 + 4bc}\right)/2c$. The multiplier η shows qualitatively different behaviors depending on the types of Möbius transformations (after analytical continuation):

$$\eta = \begin{cases} e^{i2\phi}, & \text{Elliptic,} \\ 1, & \text{Parabolic,} \\ e^{2\phi'}, & \text{Hyperbolic.} \end{cases} \tag{0.9}$$

 ϕ and ϕ' are real functions of driving periods T_0 and T_1 , and the explicit expressions will be given in the following discussions on entanglement entropy. Several remarks here: First, as shown in Fig.3, for $\Delta > 0$, *i.e.*, the Möbius transformation is elliptic, η is a phase, and one can find that the trajectory of z_n in the complex z-plane keeps oscillating as a function of n.⁵⁵ On the other hand, for $\Delta < 0$, *i.e.*, the Möbius transformation is hyperbolic, z_n will converge to one of the fixed points $\gamma_{1,2}$ (depending on $\phi' > 0$ or $\phi' < 0$) exponentially in n, and will not come back to its initial value. This difference will result in different behaviors of correlation functions and entanglement entropy evolution. Second, for $\Delta = 0$, i.e., the Möbius transformation is parabolic, one can find that $\eta = 1$ and the two fixed points merge into a single one, namely $\gamma_1 = \gamma_2 = \gamma = (a-d)/2c$. In this case, one cannot use Eq.(0.8) to determine the trajectory of z_n . It can be found that z_n is now determined by

$$\frac{1}{z_n - \gamma} = \frac{1}{z - \gamma} + n \cdot \beta,\tag{0.10}$$

where $\beta=c$ [see the expression of c below Eq.(0.4)] is the so-called 'translation length'. Then, z_n converges to the fixed point γ in the way $z_n-\gamma \propto \frac{1}{n}$ for large n, in contrast to the exponential convergence in the hyperbolic case. As a remark, it is interesting to compare our (1+1)-d Floquet CFT with the

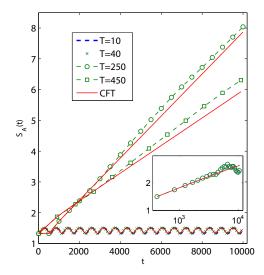


FIG. 4. Comparison of entanglement entropy evolution between CFT calculations and numerical simulations in heating phase, non-heating phase, and at the phase transition (inset). We choose $T_0=T_1=T,\,L=500$ and l=L/2. The phase transition happens at $T^*/L\simeq 0.416$ in CFT prediction and at $T^*/L\simeq 0.418$ in the numerical simulation for T< L.

(0+1)-d quantum Mathieu's harmonic oscillator. These two systems have similar phase diagrams due to the underlying algebra structures which are isomorphic to each other.⁵⁶

Single-point function and Entanglement entropy To characterize the Floquet dynamics, now let us focus on two physical quantities, i.e., single-point correlation functions and entanglement entropy for a subsystem A = [0, l]. For a primary operator \mathcal{O} , one has $\langle \psi(t)|\mathcal{O}(w,\bar{w})|\psi(t)\rangle = \left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial w}\right)^h \left(\frac{\partial \bar{z}}{\partial \bar{w}}\right)^{\bar{h}} \left(\frac{\partial z_n}{\partial \bar{z}}\right)^h \left(\frac{\partial \bar{z}_n}{\partial \bar{z}}\right)^{\bar{h}} \langle \mathcal{O}(z_n,\bar{z}_n)\rangle_z$, where $\langle \cdots \rangle_z$ represents the correlation function of "···" in z-plane, and $\langle \mathcal{O}(z_n,\bar{z}_n)\rangle_z = A_{\mathcal{O}}^b \cdot \left(\frac{1}{4}\frac{1}{\sqrt{z_n}}\frac{1}{\sqrt{\bar{z}_n}}\right)^h \cdot \left(\frac{2\epsilon i}{\sqrt{z_n}-\sqrt{\bar{z}_n}}\right)^{2h}$. Here $A_{\mathcal{O}}^b$ is an amplitude depending on the selected boundary condition $|b\rangle$, and ϵ is a UV cutoff which may be interpreted as the lattice constant in a lattice model. Then the α -th Renyi entanglement entropy $S_A^{(\alpha)}(t)$ for A = [0,l] is directly related to the single point correlation function of twist operator \mathcal{T}_{α} , which is itself a primary operator with conformal dimension $h = \bar{h} = \frac{c}{24} \left(\alpha - \frac{1}{\alpha}\right)$, where c is the central charge and α is the Renyi index. Explicitly, one has 57,58

$$S_A^{(\alpha)}(t) = \frac{1}{1-\alpha} \log \langle \psi(t) | \mathcal{T}_\alpha | \psi(t) \rangle, \qquad (0.11)$$

where \mathcal{T}_{α} is inserted at w=0+il in the w-plane. In later discussion, we will use the von Neumann entropy defined by $S_A(t):=\lim_{\alpha\to 1}S_A^{(\alpha)}(t)$. Based on Eq.(0.11), one can infer the behavior of single-point correlation function from $S_A^{(\alpha)}(t)$ (and vice versa),⁵⁹ and therefore we will mainly focus on the entanglement entropy hereafter. In 59, we have obtained the analytical expression of $S_A(t)$ for A=[0,l] with $l\in(0,L)$ under arbitrary driving periods T_0 and T_1 . Since the expres-

Mobius Transformation	Conjugate to	Multipliers	Entanglement growth	Single-point function	Phases in Floquet CFT
Elliptic	Rotation	$\eta = e^{i2\phi}$	Oscillating	Oscillating	Non-heating
Parabolic	Translation	$\eta = 1$	Logarithmic	Power-law decay	Phase transition
Hyperbolic	Dilation	$\eta = e^{2\phi'}$	Linear	Exponential decay	Heating

TABLE I. Summary of correspondence between Möbius transformations and different phases (and phase transition) in a Floquet CFT.

sion is quite involved in general, as an illustration, we will mainly focus on l=L/2, for which the entanglement entropy has an elegant expression.

Non-heating phase In the non-heating phase, both the correlation functions and the entanglement entropy keep oscillating in time. This phase corresponds to the case $\Delta>0$ in Eq.(0.5) and the Möbius transformation is elliptic. One can find the entanglement entropy of subsystem A=[0,L/2] as

$$S_A(t) \simeq \frac{c}{6} \log \left[\frac{L}{\pi \epsilon} \cdot \frac{R \cos(2n\phi + \varphi) - K}{R \cos \varphi - K} \right], \quad \text{for } \Delta > 0,$$

$$(0.12)$$

where the driving time is defined as $t:=n(T_0+T_1)$. Here (and in the following) we use " \simeq " instead of "=" because we only keep the leading term of $S_A(t)$. The subleading constant term that depends on the boundary condition is of order $\mathcal{O}(1)$ and is neglected hereafter. The parameters in Eq.(0.12) depend on the driving periods T_0 and T_1 as follows: $e^{i2\phi}:=(Q-iP)(Q+iP)$, with $Q:=\sin\frac{\pi T_0}{L}-\frac{L}{\pi T_1}\cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L}$, and $P:=\frac{L}{\pi T_1}\sqrt{\Delta}$. $Re^{i\varphi}:=W\cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L}+1+iP\sin\frac{\pi T_0}{L}$ and $K:=W\cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L}+W^2$, with $W:=\cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L}+\frac{L}{\pi T_1}\sin\frac{\pi T_0}{L}$. For n=0, i.e., there is no driving, one has $S_A(t=0)=\frac{c}{6}\log\frac{\pi L}{\epsilon}$, which is the entanglement entropy in the ground state of H_0 , as expected.

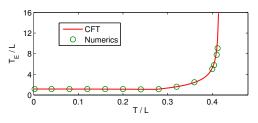
There are several remarkable features for $S_A(t)$ in Eq.(0.12): (i) $S_A(t)$ oscillates as a function of driving cycles n all the way (and so does the single-point correlation function⁵⁹), indicating that the system is not heated. The oscillation period of entanglement entropy in time t is

$$T_E = \pi \cdot (T_0 + T_1)/|\phi|.$$
 (0.13)

(ii) In the high-frequency driving limit $T_0, T_1 \ll L$, $S_A(t)$ only depends on the ratio of T_1 and T_0 . ⁵⁹ Here let us take $T_0 = T_1 = T$, then one can find that in the limit $T \ll L$, $S_A(t)$ has a simple form

$$S_A(t) \simeq \frac{c}{6} \log \frac{L}{\pi \epsilon} + \frac{c}{6} \log \left[2 - \cos(\sqrt{3\pi t}/L) \right], \quad (0.14)$$

where $t:=n(T_0+T_1)=2nT$. Then the oscillation period of $S_A(t)$ is $T_E=2L/\sqrt{3}$, which is proportional to the length of the system. In other words, in the high frequency limit, T_E is independent of the driving frequency, as shown in Fig.5. To further understand the result in Eq.(0.14), we note that in the high frequency limit $T\ll L$, one may consider the approximation $e^{-H_0T}e^{-H_1T}\simeq e^{-(H_0+H_1)T}$. Then the high-frequency driving limit of Floquet dynamics corresponds to a single quench with the effective Hamiltonian



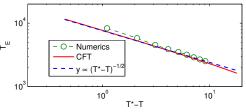


FIG. 5. (Top) Oscillation period T_E of the entanglement entropy for A=[0,L/2] as a function of the driving period T. (We choose $T_0=T_1=T$.) (Bottom) Scaling behavior of T_E near the phase transition.

 $H_F=\frac{1}{2}(H_0+H_1)$, which has been studied in in Ref.51. Therein it was found that the entanglement entropy evolution indeed displays oscillations with period $T_E=2L/\sqrt{3}$.⁵¹ (See also 59 for more discussions.)

Heating phase In contrast to the non-heating phase, the entanglement entropy keeps growing in time in the heating phase, and the single-point function decays exponentially in time. This phase corresponds to the case $\Delta<0$ in Eq.(0.5) and the Mobius transformation is hyperbolic. The entanglement entropy for A=[0,L/2] has the expression

$$S_A(t) \simeq \frac{c}{6} \log \left[\frac{L}{\pi \epsilon} \cdot \frac{R' \cosh(2n\phi' + \varphi') - K}{R' \cosh \varphi' - K} \right], \text{ for } \Delta < 0.$$
(0.15)

As before, here we neglect the subleading constant term. The parameters in Eq.(0.15) are as follows. $e^{2\phi'}:=(Q+P)/(Q-P)$, where Q has the same expression as the nonheating case, i.e., $Q:=\sin\frac{\pi T_0}{L}-\frac{L}{\pi T_1}\cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L}$, but P is now expressed as $P:=\frac{L}{\pi T_1}\sqrt{-\Delta}$. $R'e^{\varphi'}:=W\cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L}+1$ and $R'=\frac{T_0}{L}$, $R'e^{-\varphi'}:=W\cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L}+1$ and $R'=\frac{T_0}{L}$, $R'=\frac{T_0}{L}$, with $R'=\frac{T_0}{L}$, with $R'=\frac{T_0}{L}$ and $R'=\frac{T_0}{L}$ and $R'=\frac{T_0}{L}$. Compared to $R'=\frac{T_0}{L}$, with $R'=\frac{T_0}{L}$ and the parameters are defined similarly except that $R'=\frac{T_0}{L}$. The 'cos' term in Eq.(0.12) now becomes a 'cosh' term, which may be intuitively viewed as a transition from 'real time' to 'imaginary time'. Again, for R'=0, $R'=\frac{T_0}{L}$.

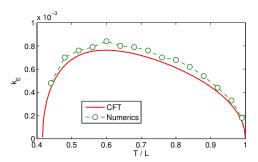


FIG. 6. The slope k_E of linear growth in $S_A(t)$ as a function of T in the heating phase. We choose $T_0=T_1=T$ and L=500 in the numerical simulations. The phase transitions happen at $T^*/L\simeq 0.416$ and $T^*/L=1$ for $T\leq 1$.

reduces to the ground state entropy. As n grows, $S_A(t)$ can be approximated as

$$S_A(t) \simeq \frac{c}{6} \log \frac{L}{\pi \epsilon} + \frac{c}{3} \cdot \frac{|\phi'|}{T_0 + T_1} \cdot t, \quad t = n(T_0 + T_1).$$
 (0.16)

I.e., the entanglement entropy grows linearly in time t [see Fig.4 for a typical plot based on Eq.(0.15)], with slope

$$k_E := \frac{\partial S_A(t)}{\partial t} = \frac{c}{3} \cdot \frac{|\phi'|}{T_0 + T_1}.$$
 (0.17)

We emphasize that here $S_A(t)$ keeps growing all the way since there are infinite number of degrees of freedom and the energy spectrum goes to infinity with no upper bound in CFT.⁶⁰ In a lattice model, however, the entanglement entropy will finally saturate because of the UV cutoff introduced by the lattice constant.⁵⁹ As shown in Fig.6, we plot the slope of the linear growth, *i.e.*, k_E , as a function of T (by choosing $T_0 = T_1 = T$). It can be found that the slope goes to zero as we approach the phase transitions, which indicates that the linear-growth behavior disappears at the phase transitions, as expected.

Phase Transition The phase transition between heating and non-heating phases happens at $\Delta=0$, where the entanglement entropy grows logarithmically in time, and the singlepoint function decays in a power-law in time. There are two sets of solutions for $\Delta=0$ [see Eq.(0.6)]. One is $T_0=mL$, with $m=1,2,3,\cdots$, as depicted in the vertical lines in Fig.2. The entanglement entropy for A=[0,L/2] has a simple expression

$$S_A(t) \simeq \frac{c}{6} \log \left\{ \frac{L}{\pi \epsilon} \cdot \left[1 + 4n^2 \cdot \left(\frac{\pi T_1}{L} \right)^2 \right] \right\}, \quad (0.18)$$

where $t:=n(T_0+T_1)=n(mL+T_1)$. In the large n limit, one has $S_A(t)\simeq \frac{c}{3}\log t$. Another set of solutions for $\Delta=0$ are determined by $\left[1-\left(\frac{\pi T_1}{L}\right)^2\right]\sin\frac{\pi T_0}{L}+2\cdot\frac{\pi T_1}{L}\cdot\cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L}=0$. In this case, one has

$$S_A(t) \simeq \frac{c}{6} \log \left\{ \frac{L}{\pi \epsilon} \left(\frac{4 \left(\frac{\pi T_1}{L} \right)^4}{1 + \left(\frac{\pi T_1}{L} \right)^2} n^2 - \frac{4 \left(\frac{\pi T_1}{L} \right)^2}{1 + \left(\frac{\pi T_1}{L} \right)^2} n + 1 \right) \right\}.$$

Different from $S_A(t)$ in Eq.(0.18), now $S_A(t)$ decreases first and then grows in time. Again, in the large n limit, one has $S_A(t) \simeq \frac{c}{3} \log t$. A typical plot for the entanglement entropy at the phase transitions can be found in Fig.12.

The correspondence between different phases and Möbius transformations *et al.* is summarized in Table I.

Near the phase transition Now let us check the entanglement entropy evolution near the phase transition. First, as we approach the phase transition from the non-heating phase, as shown in Fig.5, one can find that the oscillation period of $S_A(t)$ diverges. By taking $T_1 = k \cdot T_0$ with arbitrary k > 0, one can find that ⁵⁹

$$T_E \propto |T_0 - T_0^*|^{-1/2}$$
. (0.19)

The critical exponent is independent of k. If we approach the phase transition from the heating phase, as shown in Fig.6, the slope k_E of the linear growth will vanish. In other words, $1/k_E$ will diverge, and we find that⁵⁹

$$1/k_E \propto |T_0 - T_0^*|^{-1/2}. (0.20)$$

In short, by approaching the phase transition from both sides, one can obtain the critical exponent $\zeta = 1/2$.

Comparison with numerics We compare our CFT calculation with the numerical simulations based on a free fermion lattice which has finite sites L with open boundary conditions. We prepare the initial state as the ground state of $H_0 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{L-1} c_i^{\dagger} c_{i+1} + h.c.$ with half filling. The sine-square deformed Hamiltonian has the form $H_1 = \sum_{i=1}^{L-1} \sin^2\left(\frac{\pi(i+1/2)}{L}\right) c_i^{\dagger} c_{i+1} + h.c.$, where c_i (c_i^{\dagger}) are fermionic operators, which satisfy the anticommutation relations $\{c_i, c_j\} = \{c_i^{\dagger}, c_j^{\dagger}\} = 0$, and $\{c_i, c_j^{\dagger}\} = \delta_{ij}$. We compare our field theory result with the numerical simulations in Figs.2, 4, 5 and 6, respectively. The agreement in the nonheating phase is remarkable. In the heating phase, the numerical results deviate from the CFT results as t grows. This is as expected, since the lattice system can no longer be well described by a CFT as it keeps absorbing energy. (Recall that only the low energy limit can be well described by a CFT.)

Discussion and Conclusion We have proposed an analytically solvable setup to study the Floquet dynamics of a generic CFT. The phase diagram, entanglement entropy and correlation functions can be analytically obtained. There are many future problems, and we mention a few of them: (i) The Hamiltonians H_0 and H_1 considered in this work are composed of three generators of sl(2, R) algebra, which is a subalgebra of the Virasoro algebra in a two dimensional CFT. Our setup applies to the general case with H(t) = H(t+T), as long as H(t) is a combination of the three generators of sl(2,R) algebra, i.e., the Virasoro generators L_0 , L_n and L_{-n} (and the anti-holomorphic parts), as will be discussed in more detail in Ref.61. On the other hand, it is an open question if the Hamiltonian H(t) is a combination of generators of the Virasoro algebra, which is infinite dimensional. (ii) It is also desirable to study the multi-point correlation functions (although quite involved) in our setup. As discussed in 59, our system with periodic driving is not uniformly heated. It is our future

work to use two-point correlation functions to measure the local 'temperature' of the Floquet CFT. (iii) Our setup also works for non-periodic driving schemes, such as the quasiperiodic driving and random driving CFTs, which deserve future studies. (iv) Since our setup applies to a generic CFT including the large-c CFT, it would also be interesting to consider the holographic description of our setup^{62–64}, which may shed new lights on the Floquet dynamics in AdS/CFT.^{65–67}

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* wenxueda@mit.edu

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essential here. We can also consider the Hamiltonian $H_1=H_0-\frac{\tanh(2\theta)}{2}$ (H_++H_-) with $\theta\geq 0$. For finite θ , H_1 has discrete energy spacing $\propto 1/L\cosh(2\theta)$. One can find similar physics in the Floquet CFT in this case.⁶¹.

It is noted that studying $U_{\rm eff}$ is equivalent to studying the property of the Floquet Hamiltonian H_F , which is defined through $U_{\rm eff}=e^{-H_F(\tau_0+\tau_1)}$. Aside from the types of Möbius transformations in Eq.(0.4), one can alternatively use the Floquet Hamiltonian to characterize/classify different phases. A detailed discussion on the Floquet Hamiltonian and its spectrum in a Floquet CFT will be given in 61.

54 See, e.g., https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mobius_ transformation for more details on Mobius transformation.

It is noted that although the trajectory is plotted in a continuous way, it is only well defined at discrete n. It is the same in the following plots for entanglement entropy evolution $S_A(t)$, where t is defined at discrete values $t = n(T_0 + T_1)$.

⁵⁶ In our setup for the (1+1)-d Floquet CFT, the trajectory of $\mathcal{O}(z_n,\bar{z}_n)$ in z-plane displays three kinds of behaviors depending on the types of Möbius transformations. This is similar to certain classical Floquet dynamics such as the classical Mathieu's harmonic oscillator (see, e.g., Ref.68), where the harmonic oscillator displays three kinds of trajectories in the phase space depending on the elliptic, parabolic or hyperbolic transformations between $(x_n, p_n)^T$ and $(x_{n+1}, p_{n+1})^T$. x_n and p_n are the position and momentum of the harmonic oscillator after n cycles of driving. Depending on the trajectories of the harmonic oscillator, there are stable and non-stable regions separated by a boundary, similar to the non-heating and heating phases with a phase transition in our Floquet CFTs. (For the non-stable region in Mathieu's harmonic oscillator, the amplitude of oscillator keeps increasing by absorbing energy from the external driving. This is similar to the heating phase of our Floquet CFTs, where the entanglement entropy keeps growing in time.) In addition, the 'phase diagram' of Mathieu's oscillator also shows periodic structure as the driving period increases, which results from higher order resonances. In fact, there is a deep reason on the similarity between our (1+1)-d Floquet CFTs and the (0+1)-d quantum Mathieu's harmonic oscillators. The Hamiltonians in our Floquet CFTs are composed of three generators of sl(2,R) algebra, while the Hamiltonians in quantum Mathieu's harmonic oscillators are composed of three generators of su(1,1) algebra.⁶⁹ The similarity on the 'phase diagram' of the two systems originates from the algebraic structure $sl(2,R) \cong su(1,1)$, where '\(\text{\text{\text{\$\dec}'}}\) represents 'is isomorphic to'. From this point of view, we may say that within our setup a (1+1)-d Floquet CFT \cong a (0+1)-d quantum Mathieu's harmonic

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It is noted that the UV cutoff ϵ in $S_A(t)$ is introduced only at the entanglement cut. In the bulk of the subsystem A, there are always infinite degrees of freedom in a quantum field theory. And the energy spectrum (in a CFT) goes to infinity without an upper bound. Then the system can keep absorbing energy. Similar things also appear in the entanglement entropy in a CFT with finite temperature. In the high temperature limit, the entanglement entropy for a finite subsystem of length l is $S_A(\beta) \simeq \frac{c}{3} \log \frac{l}{\epsilon} + \frac{c}{3} \cdot \frac{\pi l}{\beta}$, where ϵ is the UV cutoff introduced at the entanglement cut. To The

entanglement entropy grows linearly with the temperature $1/\beta$ all the way. This is not the case in a lattice, where there are always a finite number of degrees of freedom in a finite subsystem, and the bandwidth of energy spectrum is finite. The entanglement entropy in a lattice system will finally saturate as $1/\beta$ increases.

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Floquet CFT: Supplemental Materials

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I. ON THE SETUP AND ENTANGLEMENT ENTROPY

In the supplementary materials, we present more details on the calculations, as well as analysis and discussions on the results in the main text.

A. More about the setup

The system is driven by two different Hamiltonians periodically, with

$$\begin{cases} H_0 = \int_0^L h(x)dx, \\ H_1 = \int_0^L \sin^2\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right) h(x)dx, \end{cases}$$
 (1.1)

where h(x) is the Hamiltonian density which is uniform in space. We start from the ground state of H_0 , and drive the system with H_1 and H_0 periodically (see the main text). In the CFT calculation, it is convenient to rewrite the Hamiltonian in terms of stress energy tensors, *i.e.*,

$$\begin{cases}
H_0 = \int_0^L \frac{dx}{2\pi} T_{\tau\tau}(x), \\
H_1 = H_0 - \frac{1}{2} (H_+ + H_-),
\end{cases}$$
(1.2)

with $T_{\tau\tau} = T(w) + \bar{T}(\bar{w})$, and

16

$$H_{\pm} = \int_{0}^{L} \frac{dx}{2\pi} \left(e^{\pm 2\pi w/L} T(w) + e^{\mp 2\pi \bar{w}/L} \bar{T}(\bar{w}) \right). \quad (1.3)$$

The CFT lives on a finite space of length L, with conformal boundary condition imposed. In path integral, the partition function is defined on a strip

$$w = \tau + ix, (1.4)$$

where τ is the imaginary time, and x is the space, with

$$\tau \in (-\infty, +\infty), \quad x \in (0, L). \tag{1.5}$$

The wavefunction after n cycles of driving can be written as

$$|\psi(t)\rangle = e^{-iH_0T_0}e^{-iH_1T_1}\cdots e^{-iH_0T_0}e^{-iH_1T_1}|G\rangle.$$
 (1.6)

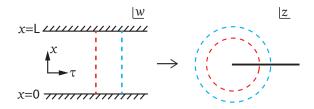
We can evaluate the n-point (equal time) correlation function in state $|\psi(t)\rangle$ as follows:

$$\langle \psi(t) | \mathcal{O}_1 \mathcal{O}_2 \cdots \mathcal{O}_n | \psi(t) \rangle.$$
 (1.7)

To obtain the correlation functions of operators at different time, we simply need to insert these operators at different time slices. Shown in Fig.1 is the path integral representation of single-point correlation function $\langle \psi(t)|\mathcal{O}(x)|\psi(t)\rangle$. In the calculation, we will consider the Euclidean space, *i.e.*,

$$|\psi(\tau)\rangle = e^{-H_0\tau_0}e^{-H_1\tau_1}\cdots e^{-H_0\tau_0}e^{-H_1\tau_1}|G\rangle,$$
 (1.8)

and take analytical continuation $\tau_0 \to iT_0$ and $\tau_1 \to iT_1$ in the final step. We map the strip w-plane to z-plane as follows,



by using the conformal transformation

$$z = e^{\frac{2\pi w}{L}}. (1.9)$$

Instead of studying how $e^{-H_0\tau_0}$ and $e^{-H_1\tau_1}$ act on the ground state, we consider the Heisenberg picture here. I.e., we study how the operator evolves during the periodic driving. For the operator $\mathcal{O}(z,\bar{z})$ in z-plane, it is found that the effect of Hamiltonian H_i , with i=0,1, is to evolve the operator in the following way

$$e^{\tau H_i} \mathcal{O}(z, \bar{z}) e^{\tau H_i} = \left(\frac{\partial z_{\text{new}}^i}{\partial z}\right)^h \left(\frac{\partial \bar{z}_{\text{new}}^i}{\partial \bar{z}}\right)^h \mathcal{O}(z_{\text{new}}^i, \bar{z}_{\text{new}}^i). \tag{1.10}$$

To be concrete, we have⁵¹

$$\begin{cases} z_{\text{new}}^{0} = e^{\frac{2\pi\tau_{0}}{L}} z, \\ z_{\text{new}}^{1} = \frac{\left(1 + \frac{\pi\tau_{1}}{L}\right)z - \frac{\pi\tau_{1}}{L}}{\frac{\pi\tau_{1}}{L}z + \left(1 - \frac{\pi\tau_{1}}{L}\right)}, \end{cases}$$
(1.11)

Then, after one-cycle driving, one can obtain

$$U_{\text{eff}}^{\dagger} \mathcal{O}(z, \bar{z}) U_{\text{eff}} = \left(\frac{\partial z_1}{\partial z}\right)^h \left(\frac{\partial \bar{z}_1}{\partial \bar{z}}\right)^{\bar{h}} \mathcal{O}(z_1, \bar{z}_1), \quad (1.12)$$

where we have defined the time evolution operator $U_{\text{eff}} := e^{-H_0\tau_0}e^{-H_1\tau_1}$. z_1 has the explicit expression

$$z_{1} = \frac{\left(1 + \frac{\pi \tau_{1}}{L}\right) \cdot e^{\frac{2\pi \tau_{0}}{L}} \cdot z - \frac{\pi \tau_{1}}{L}}{\frac{\pi \tau_{1}}{L} \cdot e^{\frac{2\pi \tau_{0}}{L}} \cdot z + \left(1 - \frac{\pi \tau_{1}}{L}\right)},$$
(1.13)

Written in a normalized form of Möbius transformation, z_1 has the expression:

$$z_{1} = \frac{\left(1 + \frac{\pi\tau_{1}}{L}\right) \cdot e^{\frac{\pi\tau_{0}}{L}} \cdot z - \frac{\pi\tau_{1}}{L} \cdot e^{\frac{-\pi\tau_{0}}{L}}}{\frac{\pi\tau_{1}}{L} \cdot e^{\frac{\pi\tau_{0}}{L}} \cdot z + \left(1 - \frac{\pi\tau_{1}}{L}\right) \cdot e^{\frac{-\pi\tau_{0}}{L}}} =: \frac{az + b}{cz + d}.$$
(1.14)

That is, we have defined a, b, c and d as follows:

$$\begin{cases} a := (1 + \frac{\pi \tau_1}{L}) \cdot e^{\frac{\pi \tau_0}{L}}, \\ b := -\frac{\pi \tau_1}{L} \cdot e^{\frac{-\pi \tau_0}{L}}, \\ c := \frac{\pi \tau_1}{L} \cdot e^{\frac{\pi \tau_0}{L}}, \\ d := \left(1 - \frac{\pi \tau_1}{L}\right) \cdot e^{\frac{-\pi \tau_0}{L}}, \end{cases}$$

$$(1.15)$$

which satisfies ad - bc = 1. Note that τ_0 and τ_1 are real numbers, and \bar{z}_1 has the form

$$\bar{z}_1 = \frac{\left(1 + \frac{\pi \tau_1}{L}\right) \cdot e^{\frac{\pi \tau_0}{L}} \cdot \bar{z} - \frac{\pi \tau_1}{L} \cdot e^{\frac{-\pi \tau_0}{L}}}{\frac{\pi \tau_1}{L} \cdot e^{\frac{\pi \tau_0}{L}} \cdot \bar{z} + \left(1 - \frac{\pi \tau_1}{L}\right) \cdot e^{\frac{-\pi \tau_0}{L}}}.$$
 (1.16)

This Möbius transformation (before analytical continuation) forms a SL(2,R) group. For later convenience, we write the Möbius transformation in Eq.(1.14) in the normal form:

$$\frac{z_1 - \gamma_1}{z_2 - \gamma_2} = \eta \cdot \frac{z - \gamma_1}{z - \gamma_2},\tag{1.17}$$

where γ_1 and γ_2 are called 'fixed points', and η is called 'multiplier' in a Möbius transformation. γ_1 , γ_2 and η have the explicit form

$$\begin{cases} \gamma_1 = \frac{a - d - \sqrt{(a - d)^2 + 4bc}}{2c}, \\ \gamma_2 = \frac{a - d + \sqrt{(a - d)^2 + 4bc}}{2c}, \\ \eta = \frac{(a + d) + \sqrt{(a - d)^2 + 4bc}}{(a + d) - \sqrt{(a - d)^2 + 4bc}}. \end{cases}$$
(1.18)

Note that one can take an inverse on both sides of Eq.(1.17), so that $\gamma_1 \to \gamma_2, \gamma_2 \to \gamma_1$ and $\eta \to \eta^{-1}$.

Now we repeat the above procedure for n cycles of driving, and denote the coordinate of \mathcal{O} as z_n and \bar{z}_n . Then one has

$$\langle \psi(\tau) | \mathcal{O}(z, \bar{z}) | \psi(\tau) \rangle = \left(\frac{\partial z_n}{\partial z} \right)^h \left(\frac{\partial \bar{z}_n}{\partial \bar{z}} \right)^h \mathcal{O}(z_n, \bar{z}_n), \tag{1.19}$$

where

$$\begin{cases}
\frac{z_n - \gamma_1}{z_n - \gamma_2} = \eta^n \cdot \frac{z - \gamma_1}{z - \gamma_2}, \\
\frac{\bar{z}_n - \gamma_1}{\bar{z}_n - \gamma_2} = \eta^n \cdot \frac{\bar{z} - \gamma_1}{\bar{z} - \gamma_2}.
\end{cases} (1.20)$$

B. Expression for entanglement entropy

The entanglement entropy of subsystem A = [0, l] with 0 < l < L can be obtained by calculating the single-point correlation function of a twist operator \mathcal{T}_{α} . The entanglement measure we use is the so-called Renyi entropy

$$S_A^{(\alpha)}(t) = \frac{1}{1 - \alpha} \log \operatorname{tr} \left[\rho_A^{\alpha}(t) \right], \tag{1.21}$$

where α is the Renyi index, and the von Neumann entropy

$$S_A(t) = \lim_{\alpha \to 1} S_A^{(\alpha)}(t). \tag{1.22}$$

The term ${\rm tr}(\rho_A^\alpha)$ in $S_A^{(\alpha)}(t)$ is related with the single-point correlation function of twist operator as follows: 57,58

$$\operatorname{tr}(\rho_A^{\alpha}) = \langle \psi(t) | \mathcal{T}_{\alpha}(x=l) | \psi(t) \rangle, \tag{1.23}$$

where \mathcal{T}_{α} is a primary operator with conformal dimension

$$h = \bar{h} = \frac{c}{24} \left(\alpha - \frac{1}{\alpha} \right), \tag{1.24}$$

In the following, we will evaluate the correlation function in Eq.(1.23) with path integral method. Pictorially, $\langle \psi(t)|\mathcal{T}_{\alpha}(x=l)|\psi(t)\rangle$ is shown in Fig.1 by setting $O(x)=\mathcal{T}_{\alpha}(x)$. Note that there are both Euclidean time and Lorentzian time in the path integral. As shown in the following, we will do calculation in the Euclidean space by setting $it=\tau$, and analytically continue back to Lorentzian time in the final step.

Let us start by evaluating the single-point correlation function:

$$\langle \psi(t) | \mathcal{T}_{\alpha}(w, \bar{w}) | \psi(t) \rangle$$

$$= \left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial w} \right)^{h} \left(\frac{\partial \bar{z}}{\partial \bar{w}} \right)^{h} \left(\frac{\partial z_{n}}{\partial z} \right)^{h} \left(\frac{\partial \bar{z}_{n}}{\partial \bar{z}} \right)^{h} \langle \mathcal{T}_{\alpha}(z_{n}, \bar{z}_{n}) \rangle_{z},$$
(1.25)

where we have considered the fact $h=\bar{h}$ for the twist operator. Note that $\langle \mathcal{T}_{\alpha}(z_n,\bar{z}_n)\rangle_z$ is the single point correlation function in the ground state in z-plane, with a slit lying along the half real-axis $[0,\infty)$. Conformal boundary conditions are imposed along the slit. Then one has

$$\langle \mathcal{T}_{\alpha}(z_n, \bar{z}_n) \rangle_z = A_{\alpha}^{b} \cdot (\frac{1}{4} z_n^{-\frac{1}{2}} \bar{z}_n^{-\frac{1}{2}})^h \cdot (\frac{2\epsilon i}{z_n^{\frac{1}{2}} - \bar{z}_n^{\frac{1}{2}}})^{2h},$$
 (1.26)

where $A^{\rm b}_{\alpha}$ is an amplitude depending on the selected boundary condition $|b\rangle$ as well as the Renyi index α . It will affect the entanglement entropy by an order $\sim \mathcal{O}(1)$ term. ϵ is a UV cut-off, which may be considered as the lattice spacing in a lattice model. In Eq.(1.25), one has

$$\left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial w}\right)^h \left(\frac{\partial \bar{z}}{\partial \bar{w}}\right)^h = \left(\frac{2\pi}{L}\right)^{2h}.$$
 (1.27)

To evaluate other terms in Eq.(1.25), first we rewrite Eq.(1.20) as

$$z_n = \frac{(\gamma_1 - \eta^n \gamma_2)z - (1 - \eta^n)\gamma_1 \gamma_2}{(1 - \eta^n)z - (\gamma_2 - \eta^n \gamma_1)} =: \frac{\mathfrak{a}z + \mathfrak{b}}{\mathfrak{c}z + \mathfrak{d}}, \quad (1.28)$$

where we have defined

$$\begin{cases}
\mathfrak{a} := \gamma_1 - \eta^n \gamma_2, \\
\mathfrak{b} := -(1 - \eta^n) \gamma_1 \gamma_2, \\
\mathfrak{c} := 1 - \eta^n, \\
\mathfrak{d} := -(\gamma_2 - \eta^n \gamma_1).
\end{cases} (1.29)$$

One can find that

$$\left(\frac{\partial z_n}{\partial z}\right)^h \left(\frac{\partial \bar{z}_n}{\partial \bar{z}}\right)^h = \left[\frac{(\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{d} - \mathfrak{b}\mathfrak{c})^2}{(\mathfrak{c}^2 + 2\mathfrak{c}\mathfrak{d} \cdot \cos\frac{2\pi l}{L} + \mathfrak{d}^2)^2}\right]^h \tag{1.30}$$

We also need to evaluate the single-point correlation function $\langle \mathcal{T}_{\alpha}^{(z)}(z_n, \bar{z}_n) \rangle$ in Eq.(1.26). For convenience, we write z_n as

$$z_n = \frac{E + iF}{G} =: R_n \cdot e^{i\varphi_n}, \tag{1.31}$$

where

$$\begin{cases} E = \mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{c} + (\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{d} + \mathfrak{b}\mathfrak{c})\cos\frac{2\pi l}{L} + \mathfrak{b}\mathfrak{d}, \\ F = (\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{d} - \mathfrak{b}\mathfrak{c})\sin\frac{2\pi l}{L}, \\ G = \mathfrak{c}^2 + 2\mathfrak{c}\mathfrak{d} \cdot \cos\frac{2\pi l}{L} + \mathfrak{d}^2. \end{cases}$$
(1.32)

Then, we have

$$\begin{split} &\langle \mathcal{T}_{\alpha}^{(z)}(z_{n},\bar{z}_{n})\rangle \\ =& A_{\alpha}^{\mathrm{b}} \cdot (\frac{1}{4}z_{n}^{-\frac{1}{2}}\bar{z}_{n}^{-\frac{1}{2}})^{h} \cdot (\frac{2\epsilon i}{z_{n}^{\frac{1}{2}} - \bar{z}_{n}^{\frac{1}{2}}})^{2h}, \\ =& A_{\alpha}^{\mathrm{b}} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{z_{n}}\bar{z}_{n}}\right)^{h} \cdot \left(\frac{-4\epsilon^{2}}{z_{n} + \bar{z}_{n} - 2\sqrt{z_{n}}\bar{z}_{n}}\right)^{h}, \\ =& A_{\alpha}^{b} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{R_{n}}\right)^{h} \cdot \left(\frac{-4\epsilon^{2}}{2R_{n} \cdot \cos\varphi_{n} - 2R_{n}}\right)^{h} \\ =& A_{\alpha}^{b} \cdot \left[\frac{\epsilon^{2}}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{R_{n}^{2} \cdot (1 - \cos\varphi_{n})}\right]^{h}. \end{split}$$

$$(1.33)$$

Note that

$$\begin{cases}
R_n := \left(\frac{E^2 + F^2}{G^2}\right)^{1/2}, \\
\cos \varphi_n := \frac{E/G}{\sqrt{(E^2 + F^2)/G^2}}.
\end{cases} (1.34)$$

Collecting all these terms, one can obtain [see Eq.(1.25)]

$$\langle \psi(t) | \mathcal{T}_{\alpha}(w, \bar{w}) | \psi(t) \rangle$$

$$= \left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial w} \right)^{h} \left(\frac{\partial \bar{z}}{\partial \bar{w}} \right)^{h} \left(\frac{\partial z_{n}}{\partial z} \right)^{h} \left(\frac{\partial \bar{z}_{n}}{\partial \bar{z}} \right)^{h} \langle \mathcal{O}^{(z)}(z_{n}, \bar{z}_{n}) \rangle$$

$$= \left(\frac{2\pi}{L} \right)^{2h} \cdot \left[\frac{(\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{d} - \mathfrak{b}\mathfrak{c})^{2}}{(\mathfrak{c}^{2} + 2\mathfrak{c}\mathfrak{d} \cdot \cos\frac{2\pi l}{L} + \mathfrak{d}^{2})^{2}} \right]^{h}$$

$$\cdot A_{\alpha}^{b} \cdot \left[\frac{\epsilon^{2}}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{R_{n}^{2} \cdot (1 - \cos\varphi_{n})} \right]^{h}$$

$$= A_{\alpha}^{b} \cdot \left(\frac{2\pi}{L} \right)^{2h} \cdot \left[\frac{\epsilon^{2}}{2} \cdot \frac{(\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{d} - \mathfrak{b}\mathfrak{c})^{2}}{E^{2} + F^{2} - \frac{\sqrt{G^{2}}}{G}} E\sqrt{E^{2} + F^{2}}} \right]^{h}.$$
(1.35)

Then, based on Eqs.(1.21) and (1.23), the α -th Renyi entropy is related with $\langle \psi(t)|\mathcal{T}_{\alpha}(w,\bar{w})|\psi(t)\rangle$ as follows

$$S_A^{(\alpha)} = \frac{1}{1 - \alpha} \log \langle \psi(t) | \mathcal{T}_\alpha(w, \bar{w}) | \psi(t) \rangle. \tag{1.36}$$

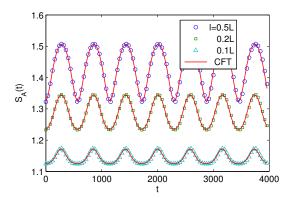


FIG. 7. Comparison between numerical simulations and CFT calculations for entanglement evolution in the non-heating phase with c=1. Here we choose L=500, and $T_0=T_1=T=20$.

One can find the entanglement entropy as

$$S_A(t) \simeq \frac{c}{6} \log \frac{L}{\pi \epsilon} + \frac{c}{12} \log \frac{E^2 + F^2 - \frac{\sqrt{G^2}}{G} E \sqrt{E^2 + F^2}}{2(\mathfrak{ad} - \mathfrak{bc})^2},$$
(1.37)

where we only keep the leading term, and the subleading term of order $\mathcal{O}(1)$ has been neglected. In the following parts, we need to evaluate Eqs.(1.35) and (1.37), by making analytical continuation $\tau_0 \to iT_0$ and $\tau_1 \to iT_1$.

II. ENTANGLEMENT ENTROPY EVOLUTION

As discussed in the main text, the behavior of the entanglement entropy evolution is determined by the sign of Δ in Eq.(0.6). For $\Delta>0$, we have the non-heating phase. Both the entanglement entropy and the single-point correlation function oscillate in time; For $\Delta<0$, we have the heating phase. The entanglement entropy keeps growing linearly in time, and the single-point correlation function decays exponentially in time; For $\Delta=0$, there is a phase transition. The entanglement entropy grows logarithmically in time, and the single point correlation function shows a power-law decay in time.

In the following, we give the explicit expressions of $S_A(t)$ in Eq.(1.37) for different cases, by doing analytical continuation $\tau_0 \to iT_0$ and $\tau_1 \to iT_1$. The procedure is tedious but quite straightforward, and here we list the main results and give some discussions.

A. Non-heating phase

The non-heating phase corresponds to $\Delta > 0$ in Eq.(0.6). After doing analytical continuation, one can find

$$S_A(t) \simeq \frac{c}{6} \log \frac{L}{\pi \epsilon} + \frac{c}{12} \log \frac{\mathcal{E}^2 + \mathcal{F}^2 - \mathcal{E}\sqrt{\mathcal{E}^2 + \mathcal{F}^2}}{2P^4},$$
 (2.1)

with $t := n(T_0 + T_1)$ and

$$\begin{cases}
\mathcal{E} = R\cos(2n\phi + \varphi) - K, \\
\mathcal{F} = P^2\sin\frac{2\pi l}{L},
\end{cases}$$
(2.2)

where we have defined

$$\begin{cases}
e^{i2\phi} := (Q - iP)(Q + iP), \\
Q := \sin\frac{\pi T_0}{L} - \frac{L}{\pi T_1}\cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L}, \\
P := \frac{L}{\pi T_1}\sqrt{\Delta}, \\
K := W\cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L} - W^2\cos\frac{2\pi l}{L}, \\
W := \cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L} + \frac{L}{\pi T_1}\sin\frac{\pi T_0}{L}, \\
Re^{i\varphi} := W\cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L} - \cos\frac{2\pi l}{L} + iP\sin\frac{\pi T_0}{L}.
\end{cases}$$
(2.3)

One can find that in the non-heating phase, the entanglement entropy oscillates in time, with the period

$$T_E = \frac{\pi}{|\phi|} \cdot (T_0 + T_1).$$
 (2.4)

Now let us do a self-consistent check. For n=0, *i.e.*, the system is not driven at all and stays in the ground state, one can find that

$$\mathcal{E} = R\cos\varphi - K = (W^2 - 1)\cos\frac{2\pi l}{L}$$

$$= P^2\cos\frac{2\pi l}{L},$$
(2.5)

where we have considered the fact that $W^2-P^2=1$. Then one can obtain

$$S_A(t=0) = \frac{c}{6} \log \left(\frac{L}{\pi \epsilon} \sin \frac{\pi l}{L} \right),$$
 (2.6)

which is the entanglement entropy in the ground state, as expected.

For a generic l, a typical plot deep in the non-heating phase is shown in Fig.7. It can be found that $S_A(t)$ for different l oscillate with the same period, as can be also straightforwardly observed in Eqs. $(2.1)\sim(2.3)$.

Now let us check the specific case l=L/2 as discussed in the main text. In this case, one has $\mathcal{E}=R\cos(2n\phi+\varphi)-K$, and $\mathcal{F}=0$. Moreover, one can find that

$$|R| - K < 0, \quad \mathcal{E} < 0, \tag{2.7}$$

based on the following facts: $R^2 = \left(W + \cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L}\right)^2$, $K^2 = W^2 \cdot \left(W + \cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L}\right)^2$, $W^2 = P^2 + 1 > 1$, and K > 0. Note that K > 0 because $K = W^2 + W \cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L} > W^2 - W^2 = 0$. Therefore, the entanglement entropy in Eq.(2.1) becomes

$$S_A(n) = \frac{c}{6} \log \frac{L}{\pi \epsilon} + \frac{c}{6} \log \frac{K - R\cos(2n\phi + \varphi)}{P^2}.$$
 (2.8)

Note also that $K - R\cos\varphi = P^2$. Therefore, one has

$$S_A(n) = \frac{c}{6} \log \left[\frac{L}{\pi \epsilon} \cdot \frac{K - R \cos(2n\phi + \varphi)}{K - R \cos \varphi} \right], \quad (2.9)$$

which is Eq.(0.12) in the main text.

1. High frequency limit

Now let us look at the behavior of $S_A(t)$ in the high frequency limit $T_0, T_1 \ll L$. We will show that the result only depends on the ratio

$$\sigma := T_0/T_1. \tag{2.10}$$

In this limit, one can find that the parameters in Eq.(2.3) can be approximated by (keeping the leading order) $\Delta \simeq \left(\frac{\pi T_0}{L}\right)^2 + \frac{\pi T_1}{L} \left(\frac{2\pi T_0}{L}\right), P \simeq \sqrt{\left(\frac{T_0}{T_1}\right)^2 + \frac{2T_0}{T_1}} = \sqrt{\sigma^2 + 2\sigma}, Q \simeq -\frac{L}{\pi T_1},$ $W \simeq 1 + \frac{T_0}{T_1}, K \simeq \left(1 + \frac{T_0}{T_1}\right) - \left(1 + \frac{T_0}{T_1}\right)^2 \cos\frac{2\pi l}{L}, \ \phi \simeq \frac{\pi T_1}{L} \cdot \sqrt{\left(\frac{T_0}{T_1}\right)^2 + \frac{2T_0}{T_1}}, \text{ and } Re^{i\varphi} \simeq 1 + \frac{T_0}{T_1} - \cos\frac{2\pi l}{L}. \text{ Then } \mathcal{E},$ \mathcal{F} and P in Eq.(2.1) are approximated by

$$\begin{cases}
\mathcal{E} \simeq \left(1 + \sigma - \cos\frac{2\pi l}{L}\right) \cdot \cos\left(2n \cdot \frac{\pi T_1}{L} \cdot \sqrt{\sigma^2 + 2\sigma}\right) \\
- (1 + \sigma) + (1 + \sigma)^2 \cos\frac{2\pi l}{L}, \\
\mathcal{F} \simeq (\sigma^2 + 2\sigma) \cdot \sin\frac{2\pi l}{L}, \\
P \simeq \sqrt{\sigma^2 + 2\sigma}.
\end{cases}$$
(2.11)

From Eqs.(2.1) and (2.11), one can obtain the oscillation period of entanglement entropy as

$$T_E = \frac{1+\sigma}{\sqrt{\sigma^2 + 2\sigma}}L. \tag{2.12}$$

In particular, for l=L/2, the entanglement entropy has a simple expression

$$S_A(t) \simeq \frac{c}{6} \log \frac{L}{\pi \epsilon} + \frac{c}{6} \log \frac{1 + \sigma - \cos\left(\frac{\sqrt{\sigma^2 + 2\sigma}}{1 + \sigma} \cdot \frac{2\pi t}{L}\right)}{\sigma}.$$
(2.13)

Now let us consider the simple case $T_0 = T_1 = T$. Then one has

$$\begin{cases}
\mathcal{E} \simeq \left(2 - \cos\frac{2\pi l}{L}\right) \cdot \cos\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}\pi}{L}t\right) - 2 + 4\cos\frac{2\pi l}{L}, \\
\mathcal{F} \simeq 3\sin\frac{2\pi l}{L}, \\
P \simeq \sqrt{3},
\end{cases}$$
(2.14)

where t=2T. As a self-consistent check, one can find that for t=0, one has $\mathcal{E}\simeq 3\cos\frac{2\pi l}{L}$. Then $S_A(t)$ in Eq.(2.1) has

the expression $S_A(t=0)=\frac{c}{6}\log\left(\frac{L}{\pi\epsilon}\cdot\sin\frac{\pi l}{L}\right)$, which is the entanglement entropy in the ground state, as expected. From Eqs.(2.1) and (2.14), one can find that the oscillation period of entanglement entropy is

$$T_E = \frac{2L}{\sqrt{3}},\tag{2.15}$$

which is observed in the numerical simulation in Fig.4 and Fig.7. In particular, for $l=L/2,\,S_A(t)$ can be further simplified as

$$S_A(t) \simeq \frac{c}{6} \log \frac{L}{\pi \epsilon} + \frac{c}{6} \log \left[2 - \cos \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}\pi}{L} t \right) \right],$$
 (2.16)

which is Eq.(0.14) in the main text.

2. Comparison with a single-quench

As mentioned in the main text, in the high-frequency driving limit, one can consider the approximation $e^{-H_0T}e^{-H_1T}\simeq e^{-(H_0+H_1)T}$, and then the Floquet dynamics can be effectively described by a single quench with the effective Hamiltonian $H_F=\frac{1}{2}(H_0+H_1)$. Here let us check this approximation explicitly.

In Ref.51, we have considered a single quench starting from the ground state of H_0 , and switch the Hamiltonian to $H_{\text{M\"ob}}$ suddenly, with

$$H_{\text{M\"ob}}(\theta) = H_0 - \frac{\tanh(2\theta)}{2}(H_+ + H_-),$$
 (2.17)

where

$$\begin{cases}
H_0 = \int_0^L \frac{dx}{2\pi} T_{\tau\tau}(x) = \int_0^L \frac{dx}{2\pi} \left(T(w) + \bar{T}(\bar{w}) \right), \\
H_{\pm} = \int_0^L \frac{dx}{2\pi} \left(e^{\pm 2\pi w/L} T(w) + e^{\mp 2\pi \bar{w}/L} \bar{T}(\bar{w}) \right).
\end{cases}$$
(2.18)

Then the entanglement entropy evolution has the form: 51

$$S_A(t) \simeq \frac{c}{6} \log \frac{L}{\pi \epsilon} + \frac{c}{12} \log \frac{f(t)^2 + f(t) \cdot h(t)}{2}$$
 (2.19)

where

$$f(t) = \sqrt{h(t)^2 + \sin^2 \frac{2\pi l}{L}},$$
 (2.20)

and

$$h(t) = -\left(\sin^2 \frac{\pi t}{L_{\text{eff}}} \cdot \cosh(4\theta) + \cos^2 \frac{\pi t}{L_{\text{eff}}}\right) \cos \frac{2\pi l}{L} + \sin^2 \frac{\pi t}{L_{\text{eff}}} \cdot \sinh(4\theta),$$
(2.21)

with $L_{\rm eff}=L\cosh(2\theta)$. Now we consider the high frequency limit of the Floquet CFT with $T_0=T_1=T$. Then one has $H_F=\frac{1}{2}(H_0+H_1)=H_{\text{M\"ob}}(\theta)$ with

$$tanh(2\theta) = \frac{1}{2}.$$
(2.22)

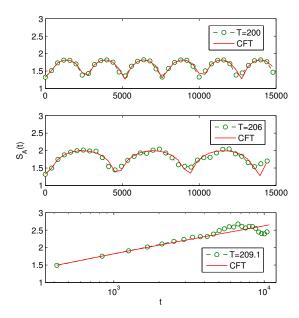


FIG. 8. Comparison between numerics and CFT calculation for entanglement evolution in the non-heating phase near the phase transition. The driving period in CFT calculation is $T_0 = T_1 = T = 199.5, 205.1$, and 207.94, respectively. Here we choose L = 500.

Then one has $e^{4\theta}=3$, $\cosh(2\theta)=2/\sqrt{3}$, and $\sinh(2\theta)=1/\sqrt{3}$. It is straightforward to check that the entanglement entropy evolution in Eq.(2.19) is the same as the high-frequency limit of a Floquet CFT in Eqs.(2.1) and (2.14).

3. Near the phase transition

As we approach the phase transition from the side of non-heating phase, one can find that the oscillation period of entanglement entropy diverges, as shown in Fig.5 in the main text. [See also Fig.8.]

Now let us check the behavior of T_E in Eq.(2.4), i.e., $T_E = \pi (T_0 + T_1)/|\phi|$, near the phase transition explicitly. Since there are two sets of solutions for the phase transition [see the main text], here we consider them separately. We approach the phase transition along

$$T_1 = k \cdot T_0$$
, for arbitrary $k > 0$. (2.23)

One set of solution are $T_0 = mL$, with $m = 1, 2, 3, \cdots$ [see the vertical lines in Fig.2]. Let us take

$$T_0^* = mL, \quad T_1^* = kT_0^*.$$
 (2.24)

Since we approach the phase transition from the non-heating phase, then we make $T_0 = T_0^* + \delta$ and $T_1 = T_1^* + k\delta$, with $\delta \ll T_0^*$. Expanding to the first order in δ , one has

$$\Delta \simeq \frac{2\pi^2 km}{L} \delta. \tag{2.25}$$

After some straightforward algebra, one can obtain

$$|\phi| \simeq \sqrt{\Delta} \simeq \kappa \delta^{1/2} = \kappa \cdot (T_0 - T_0^*)^{1/2}, \tag{2.26}$$

where $\kappa := \sqrt{2\pi^2 km/L}$. Therefore, near the phase transition in Eq.(2.24), the oscillation period T_E depends on $(T_0 - T_0^*)$ as follows

$$T_E \simeq \frac{(1+k)mL}{\sqrt{2km/L}} \cdot \frac{1}{(T_0 - T_0^*)^{1/2}}.$$
 (2.27)

In particular, for $T_0 = T_1 = T$, i.e., k = 1, one has

$$T_E \simeq \sqrt{2m} \cdot L^{3/2} \cdot \frac{1}{(T - T^*)^{1/2}}.$$
 (2.28)

The other set of solutions for the phase transition are determined by $\left[1-\left(\frac{\pi T_1}{L}\right)^2\right]\sin\frac{\pi T_0}{L}+2\cdot\frac{\pi T_1}{L}\cdot\cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L}=0.$ By choosing $(n-1)L< T_0^*< nL,$ $T_0=T_0^*-\delta,$ and $T_1=k\cdot T_0,$ one can find that

$$\Delta \simeq \kappa' \cdot \delta + \mathcal{O}(\delta^2),$$
 (2.29)

where $\kappa'=\sin\frac{\pi T_0^*}{L}\Big\{2\cdot\frac{\pi^2T_1^*}{L^2}\cdot\sin\frac{\pi T_0^*}{L}\cdot(1+k)-\frac{\pi}{L}\cdot\cos\frac{\pi T_0^*}{L}\cdot\left[1+2k-\left(\frac{\pi T_1^*}{L}\right)^2\right]\Big\}.$ Then one can obtain

$$T_E \simeq \left| \frac{\pi T_1^*}{L} \sin \frac{\pi T_0^*}{L} - \cos \frac{\pi T_0^*}{L} \right| \cdot \frac{\pi (T_0^* + T_1^*)}{\sqrt{\kappa'}} \cdot \frac{1}{(T_0^* - T_0)^{1/2}}.$$
(2.30)

That is, $T_E \propto 1/(T_0^* - T_0)^{1/2}$.

In a short summary, for the non-heating phase near the phase transitions, one always has $\Delta \propto \delta$, and $|\phi| \propto \delta^{1/2}$, based on which we can obtain $T_E \propto |T_0 - T_0^*|^{-1/2}$.

B. Heating phase

1. Entanglement entropy evolution

The heating phase corresponds to $\Delta < 0$ in Eq.(0.6). After doing analytical continuation, one can find

$$S_A(t) \simeq \frac{c}{6} \log \frac{L}{\pi \epsilon} + \frac{c}{12} \log \frac{\mathcal{E}^2 + \mathcal{F}^2 - \mathcal{E}\sqrt{\mathcal{E}^2 + \mathcal{F}^2}}{2P^4},$$
(2.31)

with $t = n(T_0 + T_1)$ and

$$\begin{cases}
\mathcal{E} = -\cosh(2n\phi') \cdot \left(W \cdot \cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L} - \cos\frac{2\pi l}{L} \right) \\
+ \sinh(2n\phi') \cdot \left(P \cdot \sin\frac{\pi T_0}{L} \right) + K, \\
\mathcal{F} = P^2 \sin\frac{2\pi l}{L},
\end{cases} (2.32)$$

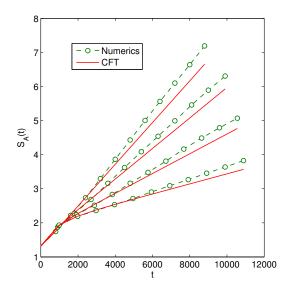


FIG. 9. Comparison between numerics and CFT calculation for entanglement evolution in the heating phase. From top to bottom: $T_0 = T_1 = T = 400,\,450,\,480,\,$ and 495. Here we choose L = 500.

where

$$\begin{cases} e^{2\phi'} := \frac{Q+P}{Q-P}, \\ Q := \sin\frac{\pi T_0}{L} - \frac{L}{\pi T_1}\cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L}, \\ P := \frac{L}{\pi T_1}\sqrt{-\Delta}, \\ W := \cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L} + \frac{L}{\pi T_1}\sin\frac{\pi T_0}{L}, \\ K := W \cdot \cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L} - W^2 \cdot \cos\frac{2\pi l}{L}. \end{cases}$$
(2.33)

It is helpful to compare the parameters above with those in Eq.(2.3) for the non-heating phase. As a self-consistent check, now let us look at the case with n=0, i.e., t=0. Then one has $\mathcal{E}=(1-W^2)\cos\frac{2\pi l}{L}=P^2\cos\frac{2\pi l}{L}$, where we have used the fact that $W^2+P^2=1$. Then $S_A(t)$ in Eq.(2.31) can be simplified as

$$S_A(t=0) \simeq \frac{c}{6} \log \left[\frac{L}{\pi \epsilon} \sin \left(\frac{\pi l}{L} \right) \right],$$
 (2.34)

which is the entanglement entropy in the ground state, as expected.

Now let us check the specific case with l=L/2, so that $S_A(t)$ in Eq.(2.31) can be further simplified. One can find that $\mathcal{F}=0, K=W\cdot\cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L}+W^2$, and

$$\mathcal{E} = -R' \cosh(2n\phi' + \varphi') + K, \tag{2.35}$$

where we have defined

$$\begin{cases} R'e^{\varphi'} = W\cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L} + 1 - P\sin\frac{\pi T_0}{L}, \\ R'e^{-\varphi'} = W\cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L} + 1 + P\sin\frac{\pi T_0}{L}. \end{cases}$$
(2.36)

Then the entanglement entropy can be expressed as

$$S_A(t) \simeq \frac{c}{6} \log \left[\frac{L}{\pi \epsilon} \cdot \frac{R' \cosh(2n\phi' + \varphi') - K}{P^2} \right].$$
 (2.37)

At n = 0, one can check that

$$R'\cosh\varphi' - K = 1 - W^2 = P^2.$$
 (2.38)

Therefore, one has $S_A(t=0)=\frac{c}{6}\log\frac{L}{\pi\epsilon}$, which is the entanglement entropy in the ground state. For generic t, one has

$$S_A(t) \simeq \frac{c}{6} \log \left[\frac{L}{\pi \epsilon} \cdot \frac{R' \cosh(2n\phi' + \varphi') - K}{R' \cosh \varphi' - K} \right], \quad (2.39)$$

which is Eq.(0.15) in the main text. A typical plot of $S_A(t)$ for different driving periods is shown in Fig.9. It is noted that as n grows, $S_A(t)$ grows linearly in time as follows

$$S_A(t) \simeq \frac{c}{6} \log \frac{L}{\pi \epsilon} + \frac{c}{3} \cdot |\phi'| \cdot n.$$
 (2.40)

Noting that $t := n(T_0 + T_1)$, one has

$$S_A(t) \simeq \frac{c}{6} \log \frac{L}{\pi \epsilon} + \frac{c}{3} \cdot \frac{|\phi'|}{T_0 + T_1} \cdot t, \quad t = n(T_0 + T_1).$$
 (2.41)

In the above result, the entanglement entropy keeps growing linearly in time without saturation. This is because in the conformal field theory, the energy spectrum goes to infinity without an upper bound, and there are infinite degrees of freedom. On a lattice, however, we always have a finite number of degrees of freedom for a finite subsystem and the bandwidth of energy spectrum is finite. Therefore the entanglement entropy will finally saturate, as will be discussed shortly. (See Fig.11)

Now let us check the entanglement entropy for an arbitrary subsystem A = [0, l] with 0 < l < L. Based on Eqs.(2.31) and (2.32), it looks that for a generic l the entanglement entropy will always grow linearly in time in the large n limit. However, this is not the case. Let us rewrite $\mathcal E$ in Eq.(2.32) as follows

$$\mathcal{E} = \frac{e^{2n\phi'}}{2} \left(-W \cos \frac{\pi T_0}{L} + \cos \frac{2\pi l}{L} + P \sin \frac{\pi T_0}{L} \right) + \frac{e^{-2n\phi'}}{2} \left(-W \cos \frac{\pi T_0}{L} + \cos \frac{2\pi l}{L} - P \sin \frac{\pi T_0}{L} \right) + K.$$
(2.42)

The entanglement entropy will grow linearly in time for large n when satisfying: (i) $\phi'>0$ and $-W\cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L}+\cos\frac{2\pi l}{L}+P\sin\frac{\pi T_0}{L}<0$, or (ii) $\phi'<0$ and $-W\cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L}+\cos\frac{2\pi l}{L}-P\sin\frac{\pi T_0}{L}<0$. One can check that for l=L/2, one of the above situations must be satisfied, and therefore the entanglement entropy will always grow linearly in time for large n.

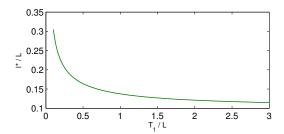


FIG. 10. A typical plot of l^* as a function of driving period T_1 in the heating phase. Here we choose $T_0/L=0.9$.

However, one can find there exists a length l^* , so that for $l < l^*$, neither condition (i) nor (ii) is satisfied. That is, for A = [0, l] or A = [L - l, L] with $l < l^*$, the entanglement entropy will not grow linearly in time even for large n. In other words, the region with $l < l^*$ is not 'heated', and only the region in $(l^*, L - l^*)$ is 'heated'. A typical plot of l^* in the heating phase is shown in Fig.10. For $l < l^*$, one can find that as n grows, $S_A(t)$ will not grow linearly in time, but evolve to a stable value with

$$S_A(n\phi' \gg 1) \simeq \frac{c}{6} \log \left(\frac{L}{2\pi\epsilon} \cdot \sin \frac{2\pi l}{L} \right), \quad l < l^*. \quad (2.43)$$

As a remark, this is a typical feature in a quantum quench by quenching the ground state of H_0 [see Eq.(0.1)] with a new Hamiltonian $H_1=H_0-\frac{h}{2}\left(H_++H_-\right)$ where h>1 and $H_\pm=\int_0^L\frac{dx}{2\pi}\left(e^{\pm 2\pi w/L}T(w)+e^{\mp 2\pi \bar{w}/L}\overline{T}(\bar{w})\right)$. More details will be presented in 61.

In the lattice model under a periodic driving, we did not observe this stable behavior in Eq.(2.43). For arbitrary l < L in a lattice model, we always observed a linear growth in $S_A(t)$ before saturation [see Fig.11 for example]. This disagreement may result from the lattice effect, which we leave as a future problem.

2. Near the phase transition

As shown in Fig.6, the slope k_E of linear growth of the entanglement entropy will vanish near the phase transitions. In other words, $1/k_E$ diverges near the phase transitions. In the following, we will show that as we approach the phase transition along $T_1 = k \cdot T_0$, where k is an arbitrary positive real number, $1/k_E$ always diverges as $1/k_E \propto |T_0 - T_0^*|^{-1/2}$. The critical exponent $\zeta = 1/2$ is the same as that obtained from the side of non-heating phase.

The analysis is similar to that in the non-heating phase in Sec.II A 3. There are two sets of solutions for the phase transitions and let us discuss them separately. First, for $T_0 = mL$, with $m=1,\,2,\,3\cdots$, [see the vertical lines in Fig.2]. Let us take $T_0^*=mL$, $T_1^*=kT_0^*$. Since we approach the phase transition from the heating phase, then we make $T_0=T_0^*-\delta$, and $T_1=T_1^*-k\delta$. Expanding to the first order in δ , one has

$$\Delta \simeq -\frac{2\pi^2 km}{L}\delta. \tag{2.44}$$

Based on the definitions in Eq.(2.33), one can obtain

$$|\phi'| \simeq \sqrt{-\Delta} \simeq \kappa \delta^{1/2} = \kappa \cdot (T_0^* - T_0)^{1/2},$$
 (2.45)

where $\kappa := \sqrt{2\pi^2 km/L}$. Therefore, near the phase transitions at $T_1 = mL$ with $m = 1, 2, 3 \cdots, 1/k_E$ for the linear growth of entanglement entropy depends on $(T_0 - T_0^*)$ as follows

$$\frac{1}{k_E} = \frac{3(T_0 + T_1)}{c} \cdot \frac{1}{|\phi'|} \simeq \frac{3(T_0^* + T_1^*)}{c\sqrt{2\pi^2 km/L}} \cdot \frac{1}{(T_0^* - T_0)^{1/2}}.$$
(2.46)

The other set of solutions for the phase transition are determined by $\left[1-\left(\frac{\pi T_1}{L}\right)^2\right]\sin\frac{\pi T_0}{L}+2\cdot\frac{\pi T_1}{L}\cdot\cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L}=0.$ By choosing $(n-1)L< T_0^*< nL, T_0=T_0^*+\delta,$ and $T_1=k\cdot T_0,$ one can find that

$$\Delta \simeq -\kappa' \cdot \delta,$$
 (2.47)

where $\kappa'=\sin\frac{\pi T_0^*}{L}\Big\{2\cdot\frac{\pi^2T_1^*}{L^2}\cdot\sin\frac{\pi T_0^*}{L}\cdot(1+k)-\frac{\pi}{L}\cdot\cos\frac{\pi T_0^*}{L}\cdot\left[1+2k-\left(\frac{\pi T_1^*}{L}\right)^2\right]\Big\}.$ Then one can obtain

$$\frac{1}{k_E} \simeq \left| \frac{\pi T_1^*}{L} \sin \frac{\pi T_0^*}{L} - \cos \frac{\pi T_0^*}{L} \right| \cdot \frac{3(T_0^* + T_1^*)}{c \cdot \sqrt{\kappa'}} \cdot \frac{1}{(T_0 - T_0^*)^{1/2}}.$$
(2.48)

In short, for the heating phase near the phase transitions, one always has $\Delta \propto -\delta$ and $|\phi'| \propto \delta^{1/2}$, based on which we can obtain $1/k_E \propto |T_0-T_0^*|^{-1/2}$.

As a short summary, by approaching the phase transitions from both the non-heating phase and the heating phase, one can obtain the critical exponent $\zeta=1/2$ from the entanglement entropy evolution.

3. Long time limit in a lattice model

As seen from Eqs.(0.15) and (0.16) in the main text, the entanglement entropy for A=[0,L/2] grows linearly in time all the way, without saturation. As we already mentioned, this is because there are infinite number of degrees of freedom inside the subsystem A and the energy spectrum goes to infinity without an upper bound, so that the system can absorb energy all the way. In a lattice model, however, the degrees of freedom in a finite subsystem are finite. The bandwidth of energy spectrum is also finite. It is expected that the entanglement entropy will saturate in the long time limit.

As shown in Fig.11, we calculate the entanglement evolution in the long time limit on a free fermion lattice (See Sec.III for the lattice model.). The entanglement entropy grows linearly in time first, and then saturates, as expected.

At the current stage, in the field theory approach, it is an open question for us to introduce the saturation in the entanglement evolution in the heating phase. (Note that this is different from the case of a global quench in CFTs where the saturation in entanglement evolution is introduced by the finite energy density in the initial state.²⁹ In the Floquet CFT, since we drive the system periodically, the system can absorb energy all the way if there are infinite degrees of freedom and the

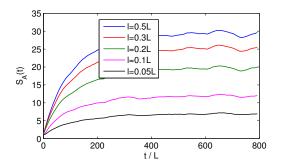


FIG. 11. Numerical simulation for the entanglement entropy evolution in the long time limit in the heating phase. We choose $T_1 = T_2 = T = 0.9L$, with L = 500.

energy spectrum goes to infinity.) Similar problems also appear in the entanglement entropy in a CFT with finite temperature. In the high temperature limit, the entanglement entropy for a finite subsystem of length l is $S_A(\beta) \simeq \frac{c}{3} \log \frac{l}{\epsilon} + \frac{c}{3} \cdot \frac{\pi l}{\beta},$ where ϵ is the UV cutoff introduced at the entanglement cut. The entanglement entropy grows linearly with the temperature $1/\beta$ all the way. In a lattice system, however, the entanglement entropy will finally saturate as $1/\beta$ increases, since there are a finite number of degrees of freedom in a finite subsystem and the bandwidth (of the energy spectrum) is finite.

C. Phase transitions

The phase transitions happen at $\Delta=0$ [see Eq.(0.6)]. To study the entanglement entropy at the phase transition, we cannot use the formula in Eq.(1.37) directly. It is because after analytical continuation, one has $\eta=1$ and $\gamma_1=\gamma_2$. Therefore, $\mathfrak{a}=\mathfrak{b}=\mathfrak{c}=\mathfrak{d}=0$ in Eq.(1.29), and then Eq.(1.37) is not well defined. In this case, z_n is related to z in Eq.(0.10), i.e.,

$$\frac{1}{z_n - \gamma} = \frac{1}{z - \gamma} + n \cdot \beta. \tag{2.49}$$

where $\gamma=(a-d)/2c$ and $\beta=c$, with a,b,c,d given in Eq.(1.15). Then Eq.(2.49) can be rewritten as

$$z_n = \frac{\mathfrak{a}z + \mathfrak{b}}{\mathfrak{c}z + \mathfrak{d}}. (2.50)$$

where $\mathfrak{a}=1+n\beta\cdot\gamma$, $\mathfrak{b}=-n\beta\cdot\gamma^2$, $\mathfrak{c}=n\beta$, and $\mathfrak{d}=1-n\beta\cdot\gamma$. Then, following the procedure in Sec.IB, one can obtain the entanglement entropy at the phase transitions as follows:

$$S_A(n) = \frac{c}{6} \log \frac{L}{\pi \epsilon} + \frac{c}{12} \log \frac{\mathcal{E}^2 + \mathcal{F}^2 - \mathcal{E}\sqrt{\mathcal{E}^2 + \mathcal{F}^2}}{2}.$$
(2.51)

Note that there are two sets of solutions for $\Delta=0$ at the phase transitions, and the expressions of \mathcal{E} and \mathcal{F} are different for these two sets of solutions, as discussed in the following.

1. Phase transition I

One set of solutions for the phase transitions are $T_0 = mL$, with $m = 1, 2, 3 \cdots$, which correspond to the vertical lines in Fig.2. Here we denote this set of solutions as phase transition I. In this case, one can find that the entanglement entropy has the expression in Eq.(2.51) with

$$\begin{cases}
\mathcal{E} = -4n^2 \left(\frac{\pi T_1}{L}\right)^2 \cdot \sin^2 \frac{\pi l}{L} + \cos \frac{2\pi l}{L}, \\
\mathcal{F} = \sin \frac{2\pi l}{L}.
\end{cases} (2.52)$$

One can check that for t = 0, i.e., n = 0, one has

$$S_A(t=0) = \frac{c}{6} \cdot \log\left(\frac{L}{\pi\epsilon} \cdot \sin\frac{\pi l}{L}\right),$$
 (2.53)

which is the entanglement entropy in the ground state, as expected. For l=L/2, the entanglement entropy can be simplified as

$$S_A(n) = \frac{c}{6} \log \frac{L}{\pi \epsilon} + \frac{c}{6} \log \left[1 + 4n^2 \cdot \left(\frac{\pi T_1}{L} \right)^2 \right], \quad (2.54)$$

which is Eq.(0.18) in the main text. A typical plot is shown in Fig.12 (top).

As a remark, it is interesting that $S_A(n)$ at phase transition I has the same form as that after a single quench in Ref.51. In Ref.51, we start from the ground state of H_0 , and evolve it with the new Hamiltonian H_1 . Then the entanglement entropy evolution has the expression in Eq.(2.51) with

$$\begin{cases}
\mathcal{E} = -4 \left(\frac{\pi t}{L}\right)^2 \sin^2 \frac{\pi l}{L} + \cos \frac{2\pi l}{L}, \\
\mathcal{F} = \sin \frac{2\pi l}{L}.
\end{cases} (2.55)$$

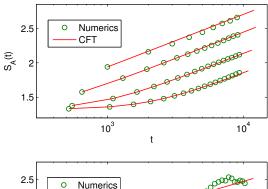
By making $t=nT_1$, Eqs.(2.52) and (2.55) are the same. This is not a coincidence. In the case of Floquet CFTs, for $T_0=mL$ with $m=1,\,2,\,3\cdots$, the state 'revives' after a time evolution of T_0 with H_0 . Effectively, the state only evolves according to H_1 , corresponding to the single-quench case. This can be easily seen based on Eq.(0.4). After one cycle of driving, one has (after analytical continuation)

$$z_{1} = \frac{\left[\left(1 + \frac{i\pi T_{1}}{L} \right) \cdot e^{\frac{i\pi T_{0}}{L}} \right] z - \frac{i\pi T_{1}}{L} \cdot e^{\frac{-i\pi T_{0}}{L}}}{\left(\frac{i\pi T_{1}}{L} \cdot e^{\frac{i\pi T_{0}}{L}} \right) z + \left(1 - \frac{i\pi T_{1}}{L} \right) \cdot e^{\frac{-i\pi T_{0}}{L}}}.$$
 (2.56)

One can find that for $T_0 = mL$ with $m = 1, 2, 3 \cdots, z_1$ has the same form as that for $T_0 = 0$. I.e., effectively, the state only evolves with the Hamiltonian H_1 .

2. Phase transition II

The other set of solutions for phase transitions are determined by $\left[1-\left(\frac{\pi T_1}{L}\right)^2\right]\sin\frac{\pi T_0}{L}+2\cdot\frac{\pi T_1}{L}\cdot\cos\frac{\pi T_0}{L}=0.$



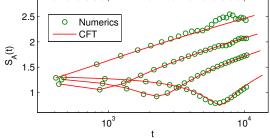


FIG. 12. Entanglement entropy evolution at the phase transition. (Top) Phase transition at $T_0=L$, with $T_1=500,\ 150,\ 50,\$ and 20 (from top to bottom); and (Bottom) phase transition for $T_0<L$ with $T_1=150,\ 80,\ 50$ and 30 (from top to bottom). Here we choose $L=500,\$ and l=L/2.

We denote this set of solution as phase transition II. It can be found that the entanglement entropy has the expression in Eq.(2.51) but with \mathcal{E} and \mathcal{F} as follows

$$\begin{cases}
\mathcal{E} = -\left[n^2 \cdot \left(\frac{2(1-x^2)}{x^2(1+x^2)} - \frac{2}{x^2}\cos\frac{2\pi l}{L}\right) \\
-n \cdot \frac{4}{1+x^2} - \cos\frac{2\pi l}{L}\right] \\
\mathcal{F} = \sin\frac{2\pi l}{L}.
\end{cases} (2.57)$$

where we have defined $x:=\frac{L}{\pi T_1}$. As a self-consistent check, for n=0, one has $\mathcal{E}=\cos\frac{2\pi l}{L}$. Then one can find that

$$S_A = \frac{c}{6} \log \left(\frac{L}{\pi \epsilon} \cdot \sin \frac{\pi l}{L} \right), \tag{2.58}$$

which is the entanglement entropy in the ground state, as expected. For the specific case with l=L/2, one has

$$\mathcal{E} = -\left[n^2 \cdot \frac{4}{x^2(1+x^2)} - n \cdot \frac{4}{1+x^2} + 1\right], \qquad (2.59)$$

and $\mathcal{F}=0$. Then the entanglement entropy can be simplified as

$$S_A(t) \simeq \frac{c}{6} \log \left\{ \frac{L}{\pi \epsilon} \left(\frac{4 \left(\frac{\pi T_1}{L} \right)^4}{1 + \left(\frac{\pi T_1}{L} \right)^2} \, n^2 - \frac{4 \left(\frac{\pi T_1}{L} \right)^2}{1 + \left(\frac{\pi T_1}{L} \right)^2} \, n + 1 \right) \right\}.$$

which is Eq.(0.19) in the main text. A typical plot of $S_A(t)$ is shown in Fig.12 (bottom). It is noted that for both phase transitions I and II, the entanglement entropy grows as $S_A(t) \simeq \frac{c}{3} \log t$ for large n.

D. On single-point correlation function

Since the entanglement entropy in this work is calculated through the correlation function of twist operators which are themselves primary operators, it is straightforward to obtain the correlation functions from the results of entanglement entropy (and vice versa). This can be clearly seen in Eqs. $(1.35)\sim(1.37)$.

As an example, for a primary operator in the non-heating phase, one can find that

$$\langle \psi(t)|\mathcal{O}(x=l)|\psi(t)\rangle$$

$$=A_{\mathcal{O}}^{b} \cdot \left(\frac{\pi\epsilon}{L}\right)^{2h} \cdot \left(\frac{2P^{4}}{\mathcal{E}^{2} + \mathcal{F}^{2} - \mathcal{E}\sqrt{\mathcal{E}^{2} + \mathcal{F}^{2}}}\right)^{h}$$
(2.60)

where h is the conformal dimension, and P, \mathcal{E} , and \mathcal{F} are given in Eqs.(2.2) and (2.3). For l=L/2, one has

$$\langle \psi(t)|\mathcal{O}(x=L/2)|\psi(t)\rangle$$

$$=A_{\mathcal{O}}^{b} \cdot \left(\frac{\pi\epsilon}{L} \cdot \frac{K - R\cos\varphi}{K - R\cos(2n\phi + \varphi)}\right)^{2h}.$$
(2.61)

See Eq.(2.3) for definitions of variables. That is, the single-point correlation function oscillates in time with $t:=n(T_0+T_1)$. Similarly, one can find that the single-point correlation function decays exponentially in time in the heating phase, and decays in a power-law in time at the phase transitions.

The behaviors of entanglement entropy and single-point correlation functions and their correspondence with Möbius transformations are summarized in Table I.

III. A LATTICE MODEL ON CRITICAL FERMION CHAIN

Here we give some details on the calculation of entanglement entropy in a free fermion lattice under periodic driving. The essential part is to calculate the equal time two-point correlation functions. Then based on the method in 71, one can evaluate the entanglement entropy explicitly.

We consider a free fermion chain with half filling. It has finite sites L with open boundary conditions. The Hamiltonians H_0 and H_1 have the following form:⁵¹

$$\begin{cases}
H_0 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{L-1} c_i^{\dagger} c_{i+1} + h.c., \\
H_1 = \sum_{i=1}^{L-1} \sin^2 \left(\frac{\pi(i+1/2)}{L} \right) c_i^{\dagger} c_{i+1} + h.c.
\end{cases}$$
(3.1)

where c_i (c_i^{\dagger}) are fermionic operators, which satisfy the anticommutation relations $\{c_i, c_j\} = \{c_i^{\dagger}, c_j^{\dagger}\} = 0$, and

 $\{c_i,c_j^\dagger\}=\delta_{ij}$. At t=0, we prepare the initial state as the ground state $|G\rangle$ of H_0 , and then evolve the state with H_1 for time T_1 , and H_0 for time T_0 . Then we repeat this driving procedure in time.

For completeness, in the following we list the procedures of calculating two-point correlation functions in various cases.

A. Ground state

Now we consider the ground state $|G\rangle$ of H_0 , and evaluate $\langle G|c_m^{\dagger}c_n|G\rangle$. With a unitary transformation

$$c_n = \sum_i U_{ni} \gamma_i, \quad \gamma_i = \sum_j (U^{\dagger})_{ij} c_j,$$
 (3.2)

one can diagonalize the Hamiltonian H_0 as follows

$$H_0 = \sum_{i=1}^{L} \epsilon_i \gamma_i^{\dagger} \gamma_i. \tag{3.3}$$

Note also that $c_n^\dagger = \sum_i \gamma_i^\dagger U_{ni}^* = \sum_i \gamma_i^\dagger (U^\dagger)_{in}$, and $\gamma_i^\dagger = \sum_j (U^\dagger)_{ij}^* c_j^\dagger = \sum_j c_j^\dagger U_{ji}$. The ground state $|G\rangle$ can be written as

$$|G\rangle = \prod_{i=1}^{L/2} \gamma_i^{\dagger} |\text{vac}\rangle. \tag{3.4}$$

Then one can find

$$\langle G|c_m^{\dagger}c_n|G\rangle = \sum_{i \in \text{occ.}} U_{ni}(U^{\dagger})_{im},$$
 (3.5)

where 'occ.' denote the occupied modes.

B. Quantum quench and Floquet case

Now we consider a single quench by evolving the ground state $|G\rangle$ with the Hamiltonian H_1 . Then the time dependent wavefunction has the form

$$|\psi(t)\rangle = e^{-iH_1t}|G\rangle.$$
 (3.6)

Now we evaluate $\langle \psi(t)|c_m^{\dagger}c_n|\psi(t)\rangle$. We need another unitary transformation to diagonalize H_1 , *i.e.*,

$$c_n = \sum_i V_{ni} \beta_i, \quad \beta_i = \sum_j (V^{\dagger})_{ij} c_j,$$
 (3.7)

so that

$$H_1 = \sum_i \epsilon_i^1 \beta_i^{\dagger} \beta_i. \tag{3.8}$$

Note also that $c_n^\dagger = \sum_i \beta_i^\dagger V_{ni}^* = \sum_i \beta_i^\dagger (V^\dagger)_{in}, \ \beta_i^\dagger = \sum_j (V^\dagger)_{ij}^* c_j^\dagger = \sum_j c_j^\dagger V_{ji}, \ e^{iH_1t} \ \beta_j^\dagger e^{-iH_1t} = \ e^{i\epsilon_j^1 t} \beta_j^\dagger, \ \text{and}$

 $e^{iH_1t}\,\beta_j\,e^{-iH_1t}=e^{-i\epsilon_j^1t}\beta_j$. Then one can find that

$$\beta_{i} = \sum_{j} (V^{\dagger})_{ij} c_{j} = \sum_{j} (V^{\dagger})_{ij} \sum_{k} U_{jk} \gamma_{k}$$

$$= \sum_{k} (V^{\dagger} U)_{ik} \gamma_{k} =: \sum_{k} W_{ik} \gamma_{k}.$$
(3.9)

That is,

$$\beta_i = \sum_j W_{ij} \gamma_j. \tag{3.10}$$

where we have defined $W = V^{\dagger}U$. Similarly, one has

$$\gamma_k = \sum_i (W^{\dagger})_{ki} \beta_i. \tag{3.11}$$

Then we can check that

$$e^{iH_1t}c_ne^{-iH_1t}|G\rangle = \sum_i V_{ni}e^{-i\epsilon_i^1t} \sum_k W_{ik}\gamma_k|G\rangle. \quad (3.12)$$

It is convenient to define

$$W_{ik}^{(t),1} := e^{-i\epsilon_i^1 t} W_{ik}, \tag{3.13}$$

and then

$$e^{iH_1t}c_ne^{-iH_1t}|G\rangle = \sum_i V_{ni} \sum_k W_{ik}^{(t),1} \gamma_k |G\rangle$$
$$= \sum_i \left[V \cdot W^{(t),1} \right]_{nk} \gamma_k |G\rangle. \tag{3.14}$$

Then, it is straightforward to check that

$$\langle G|e^{iH_{1}t}c_{m}^{\dagger}e^{-iH_{1}t}e^{iH_{1}t}c_{n}e^{-iH_{1}t}|G\rangle$$

$$=\langle G|\gamma_{k'}^{\dagger}[V\cdot W^{(t),1}]_{k'm}^{\dagger}\sum_{k}[V\cdot W^{(t),1}]_{nk}\gamma_{k}|G\rangle$$

$$=\sum_{k\in\text{occ.}}[V\cdot W^{(t),1}]_{nk}\cdot[V\cdot W^{(t),1}]_{km}^{\dagger}.$$
(3.15)

Let us move one step further to the 'double quench', and consider the state $|\psi(t)\rangle=e^{-iH_0T_0}e^{-iH_1T_1}|G\rangle$, with $t=T_0+T_1$. We check the following quantity:

$$e^{iH_{1}T_{1}}e^{iH_{0}T_{0}}c_{n}e^{-iH_{0}T_{0}}e^{-iH_{1}T_{1}}|G\rangle$$

$$=\sum_{i}U_{ni}e^{-i\epsilon_{i}^{0}T_{0}}\sum_{i}(W^{\dagger})_{ij}e^{-i\epsilon_{j}^{1}T_{1}}\sum_{k}W_{jk}\gamma_{k}|G\rangle.$$
(3.16)

By defining

$$W_{ik}^{(T_0),0} = e^{-i\epsilon_i^0 T_0} (W)_{ik}^{\dagger}, \tag{3.17}$$

one has

$$e^{iH_{1}T_{1}}e^{iH_{0}T_{0}}c_{n}e^{-iH_{0}T_{0}}e^{-iH_{1}T_{1}}|G\rangle$$

$$=\sum_{k\in\mathbb{C}^{n}}\left[U\cdot W^{(T_{0}),0}\cdot W^{(T_{1}),1}\right]_{nk}\gamma_{k}|G\rangle. \tag{3.18}$$

Then it is straightforward to obtain

$$\langle \psi(t) | c_m^{\dagger} c_n | \psi(t) \rangle = \sum_{k \in \text{occ.}} \left[U \cdot W^{(T_0), 0} \cdot W^{(T_1), 1} \right]_{nk} \cdot \left[U \cdot W^{(T_0), 0} \cdot W^{(T_1), 1} \right]_{km}^{\dagger} . \tag{3.19}$$

Now we consider the Floquet case, with

$$|\psi(t)\rangle = e^{-iH_0T_0}e^{-iH_1T_1}\cdots e^{-iH_0T_0}e^{-iH_1T_1}|G\rangle, \quad (3.20)$$

where $t = n(T_0 + T_1)$. Based on the above examples, it is straightforward to obtain

$$\langle \psi(t)|c_m^{\dagger}c_n|\psi(t)\rangle = \sum_{k \in \text{occ.}} \mathcal{W}_{nk} \cdot (\mathcal{W}^{\dagger})_{km},$$
 (3.21)

where

$$\mathcal{W} = U \cdot [W^{(T_0),0} \cdot W^{(T_1),1}] \cdots [W^{(T_0),0} \cdot W^{(T_1),1}]. \quad (3.22)$$

In the above, we showed how to obtain the two-point correlation functions for various cases, based on which we can obtain the entanglement entropy evolution by using the method in Ref.71.