

Thermodynamics of Gambling Demons: Theory and Experiment

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PRL **126**, 080603 (2021) [arXiv: 2008.01630]



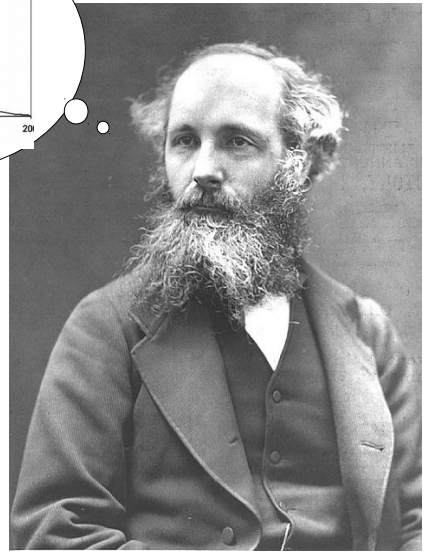
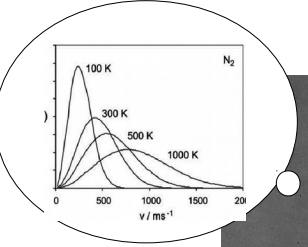
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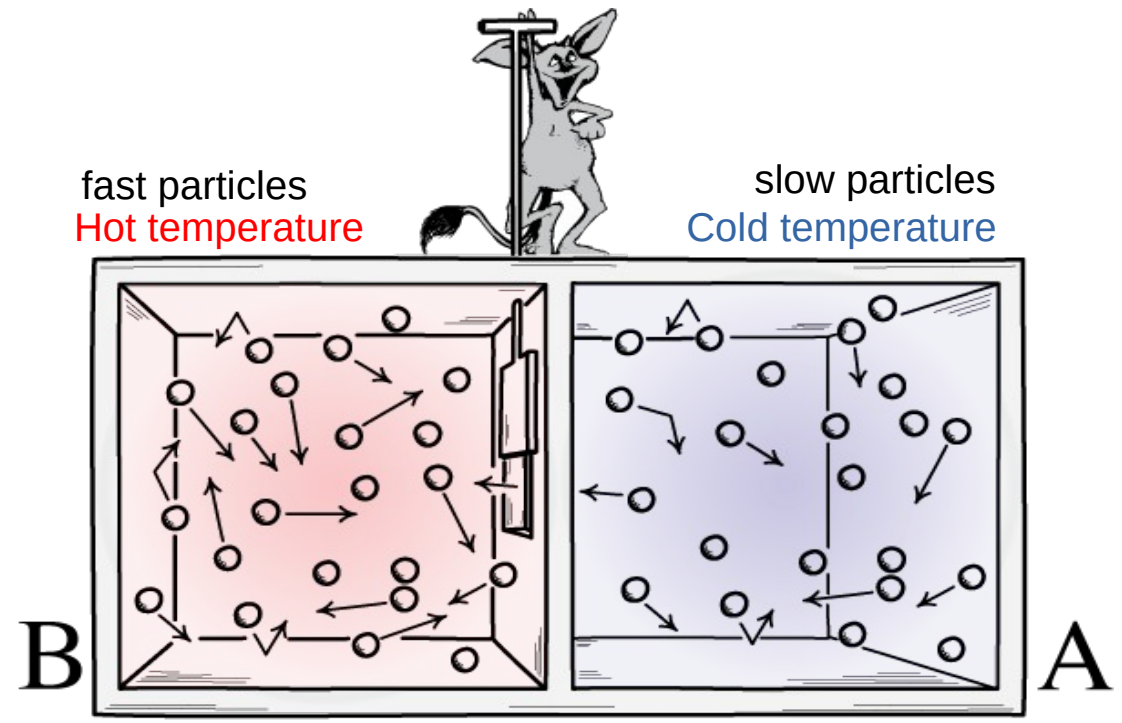
Outline:

- **Introduction and motivation**
- **Gambling demon theory**
- **Experiment in a single-electron box**
- **Quantum gambling**
- **Main conclusions**

Maxwell's demon 1867



James C. Maxwell (1831 – 1879)

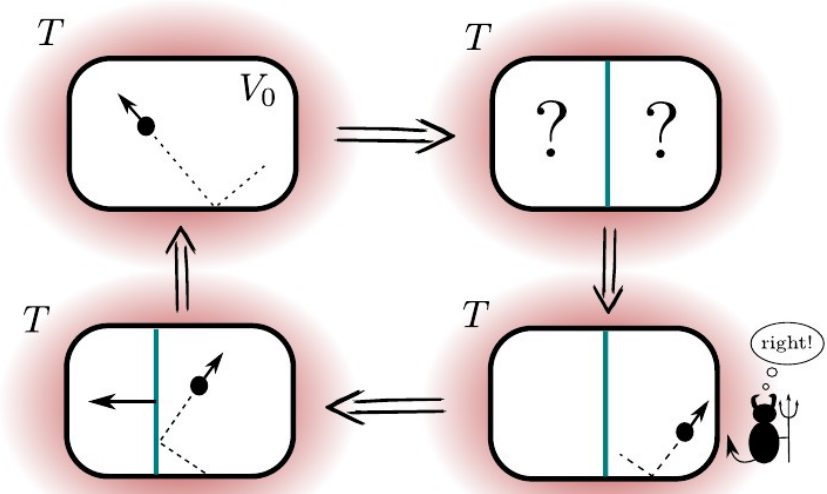


Drawing: Jonh D. Norton

Szilard's engine 1929:

Isothermal expansion:

$$W_{\text{ext}} = k_B T \log 2$$



Leo Szilard (1898 - 1964)

Informational Exorcism

Only apparent “violations” of second law. Take into account information processing costs!



Charles H. Bennett

Landauer’s Erasure 1961

$$W \geq k_B T \log 2$$

Erasing (1 bit of) information has a minimum work cost even if doing it reversibly

NO FREE LUNCH!

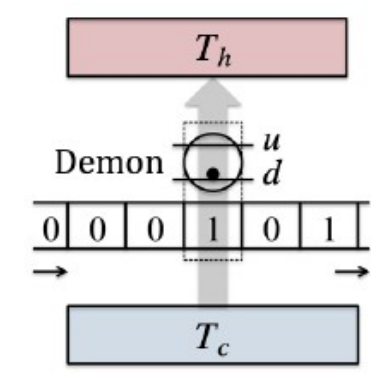


Information is physical!

Rolf W. Landauer (1927 - 1999)

Thermodynamics of feedback control:

$$\Delta S - \frac{Q}{T} \geq -\mathcal{I} \quad \text{(mutual) information acquired /stored}$$



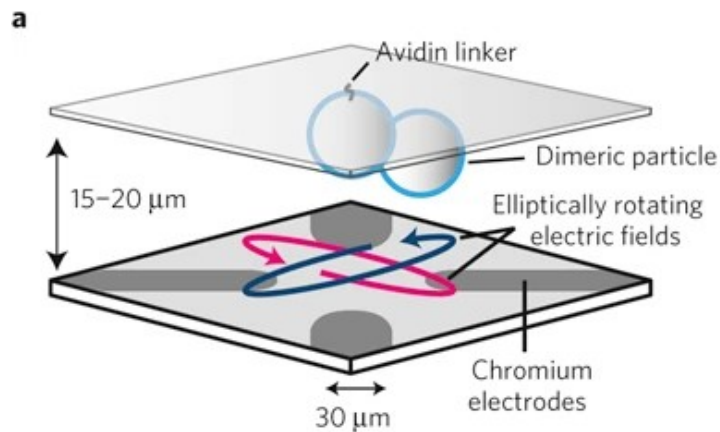
Information reservoirs (resource)

Mandal PRL (2013)

Experiments

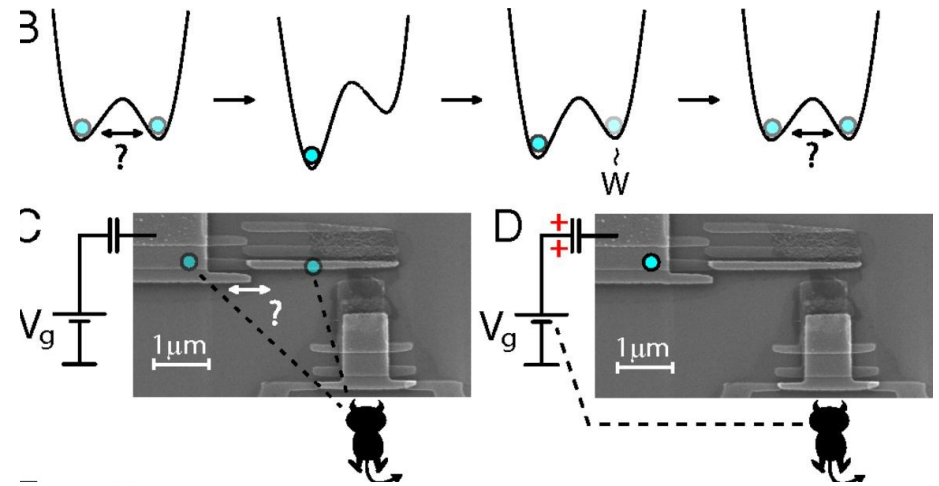
Colloidal particles in optical traps

S Toyabe *et al.* Nat. Phys. **6** (2010)



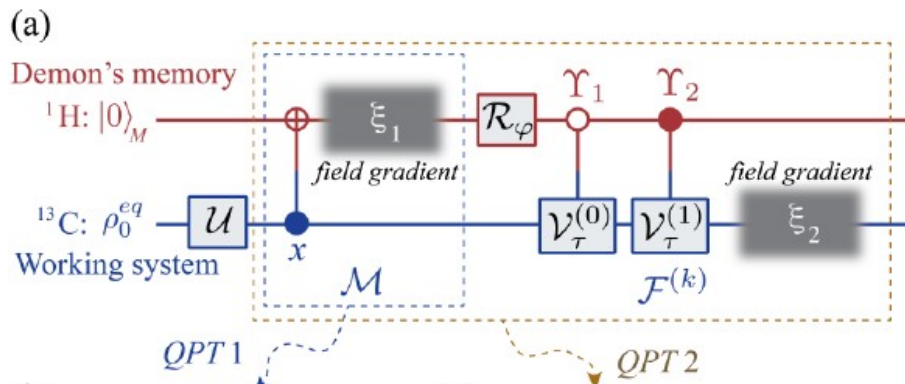
Electronic devices

JV Koski *et al.* PNAS **111** (2014)



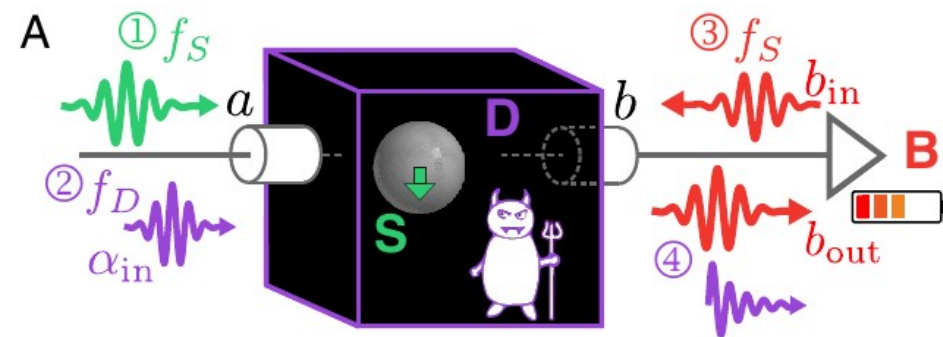
Nuclear spins and NMR spectrometry

PA Camati *et al.* PRL **117** (2016)



Circuit QED setups

N Cottet *et al.* PNAS **114** (2017)



Remark: Maxwell's demon has two basic ingredients

(I) gather information about the microscopic state

(II) feedback control over the system (trapdoor / piston)

Demon without feedback? → Gambling Demon



Can only stop (or not) the dynamics

Players in the casino can decide to play or quit a game, but cannot change the rules of the game (feedback).

Gambling Demon

Environment: isothermal $\beta = 1/T$

Driving: fixed protocol until final time

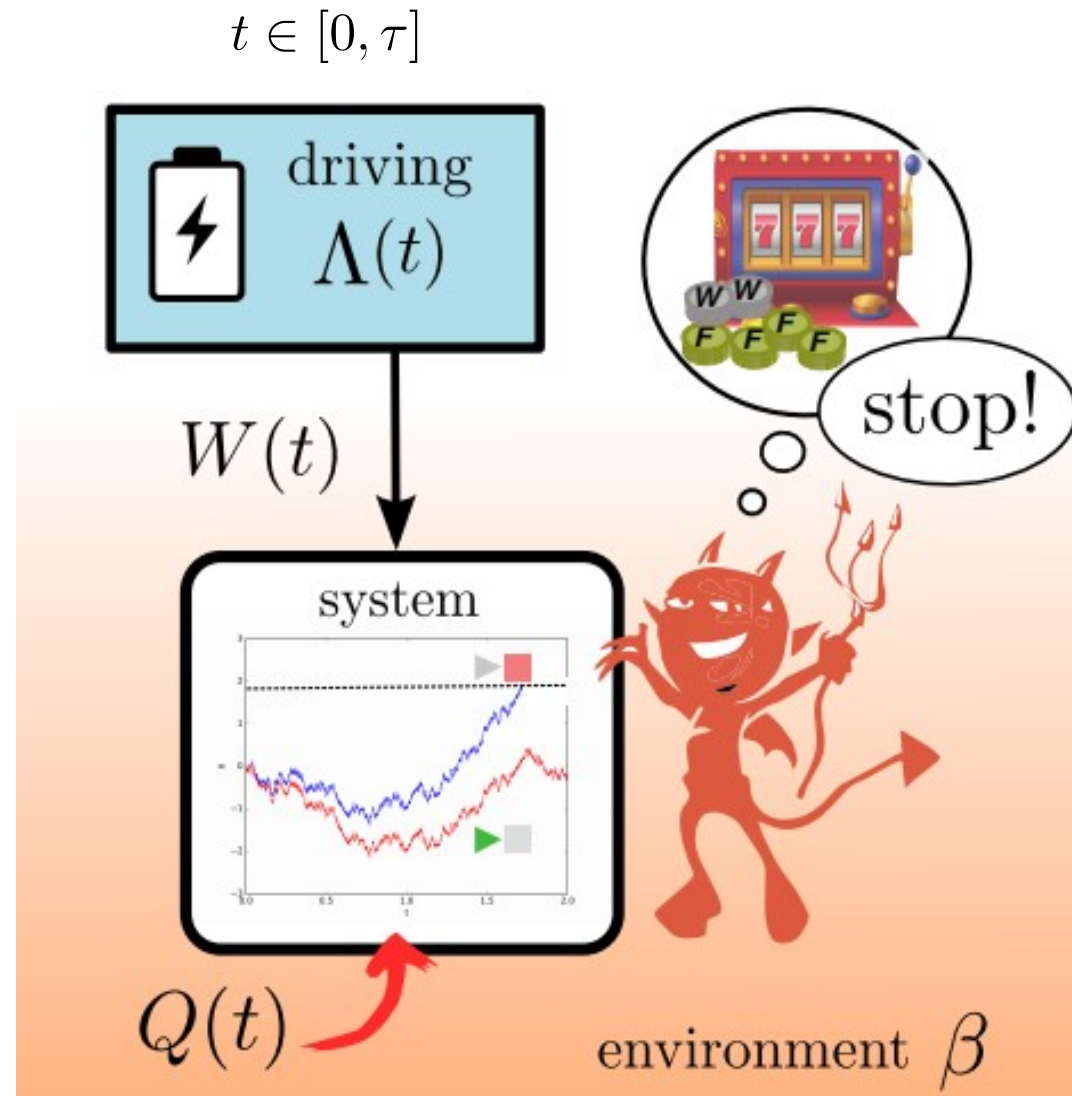
Measurement: continuous monitoring

$$\gamma_{[0,\tau]} = \{x(t)\}_{t=0}^{\tau}$$

Gambling strategy: When a condition is verified for the first time, the Demon stops the dynamics. Otherwise the process continues until the end.

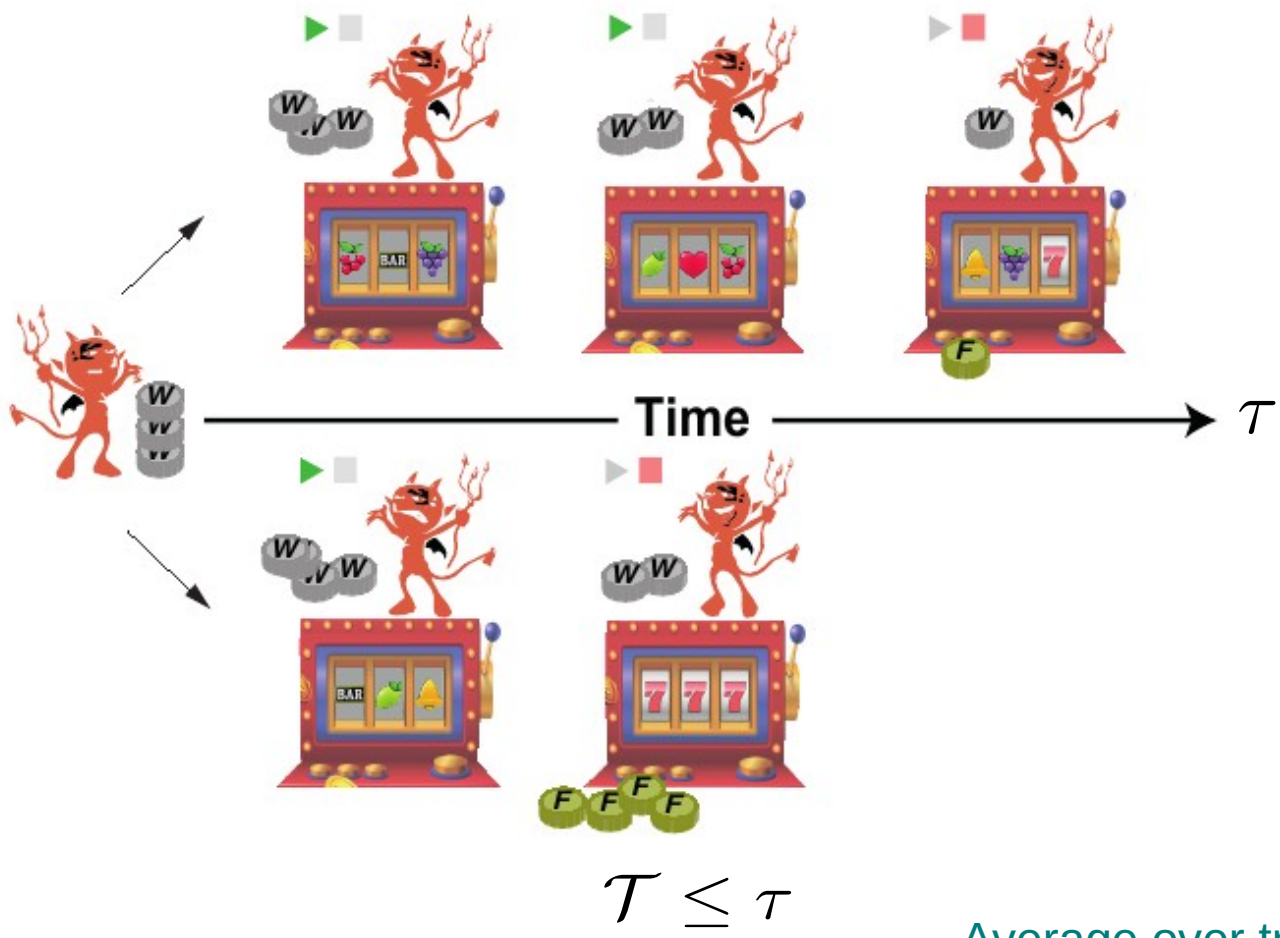
Stopping time: the time at which the demon stops

$$0 \leq \mathcal{T} \leq \tau \text{ (random variable)}$$



Demon without feedback? → Gambling Demon

Analogous to a gambler in a slot machine:



At final time: \mathcal{T}

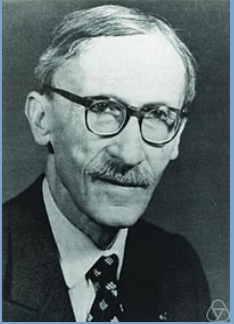
$$\langle W \rangle > \langle \Delta F \rangle$$

At stopping times: \mathcal{T}

$$\langle W \rangle_{\mathcal{T}} < \langle \Delta F \rangle_{\mathcal{T}}$$

Average over trajectories of different length !

Martingale theory:



Martingale process

Introduced in prob. theory by **Paul Lévy** in 1934

$$\langle M(\tau) | \gamma_{[0,t]} \rangle = M(t)$$

for $0 \leq t \leq \tau$

Doob's optional stopping theorem:

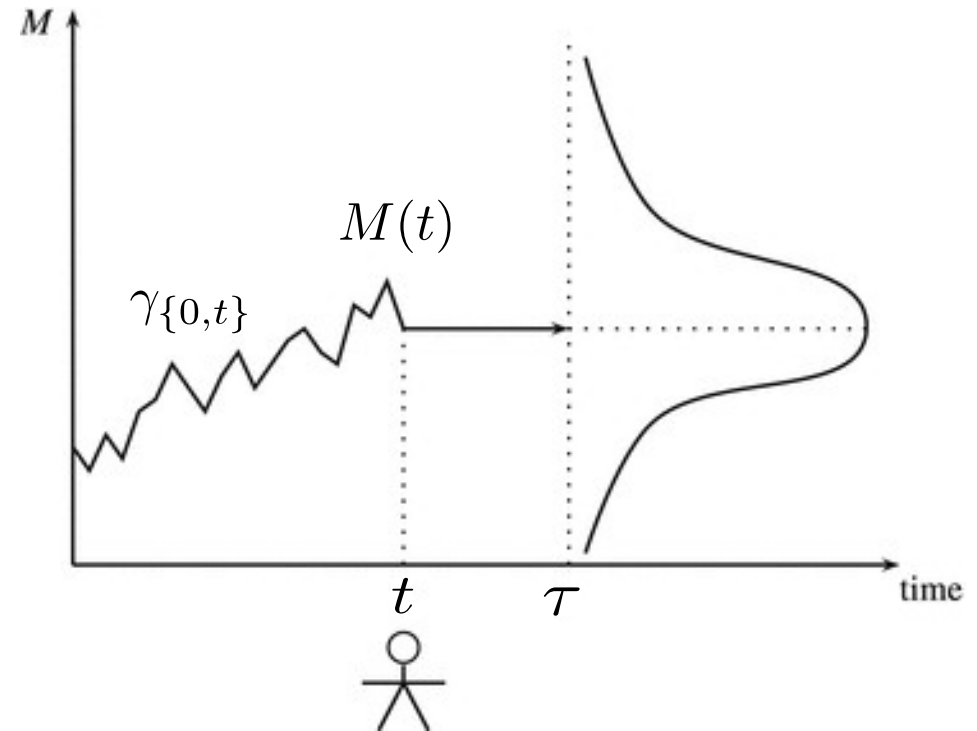
$$\langle M(\mathcal{T}) \rangle_{\mathcal{T}} = \langle M(0) \rangle$$

Useful in stochastic thermodynamics:

$$\langle e^{-\Delta S_{\text{tot}}(\tau)} | \gamma_{[0,t]} \rangle = e^{-\Delta S_{\text{tot}}(t)}$$

(Only in non-eq. stationary processes)

Stronger than fluctuation theorem! if $t = 0$ $\langle e^{-\Delta S_{\text{tot}}(\tau)} \rangle = e^{-\Delta S_{\text{tot}}(0)} = 1$



Stopping-times work fluctuation relation:

$$\langle e^{-\beta[W - \Delta F] - \delta} \rangle_{\mathcal{T}} = 1$$

$$\langle W \rangle_{\mathcal{T}} - \langle \Delta F \rangle_{\mathcal{T}} \geq -k_B T \langle \delta \rangle_{\mathcal{T}}$$

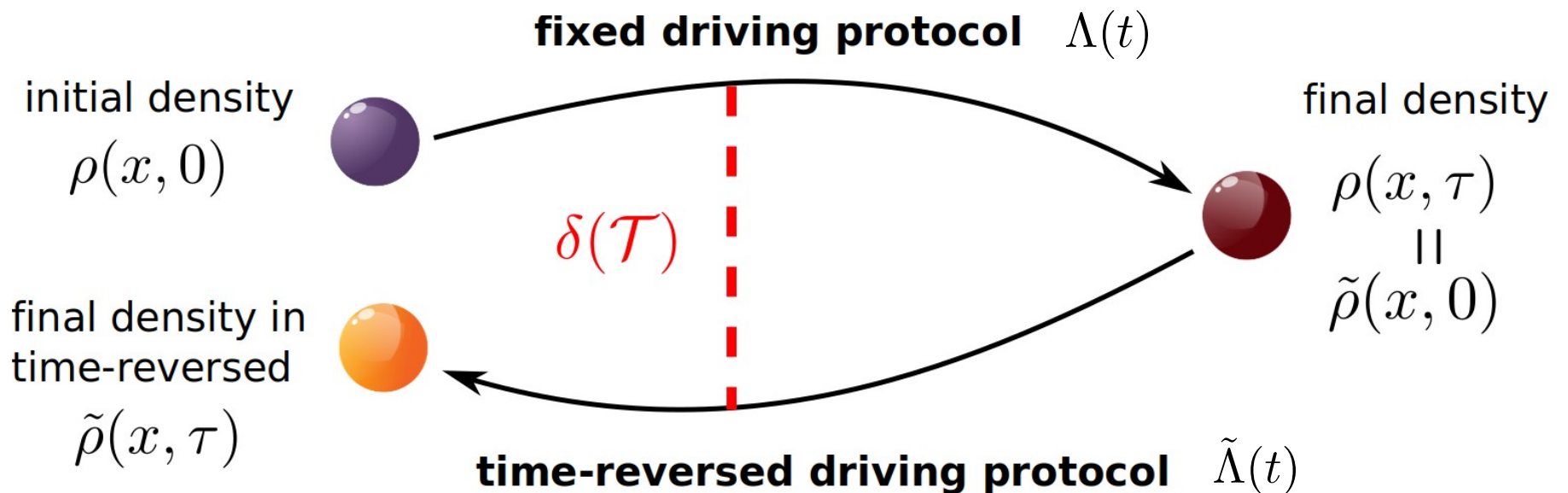
Entropy production

Extra term !

Second-law-like inequality

Stochastic distinguishability under time-reversal

$$\delta(\mathcal{T}) = \log \left(\frac{\rho(x_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{T})}{\tilde{\rho}(x_{\mathcal{T}}, \tau - \mathcal{T})} \right)$$



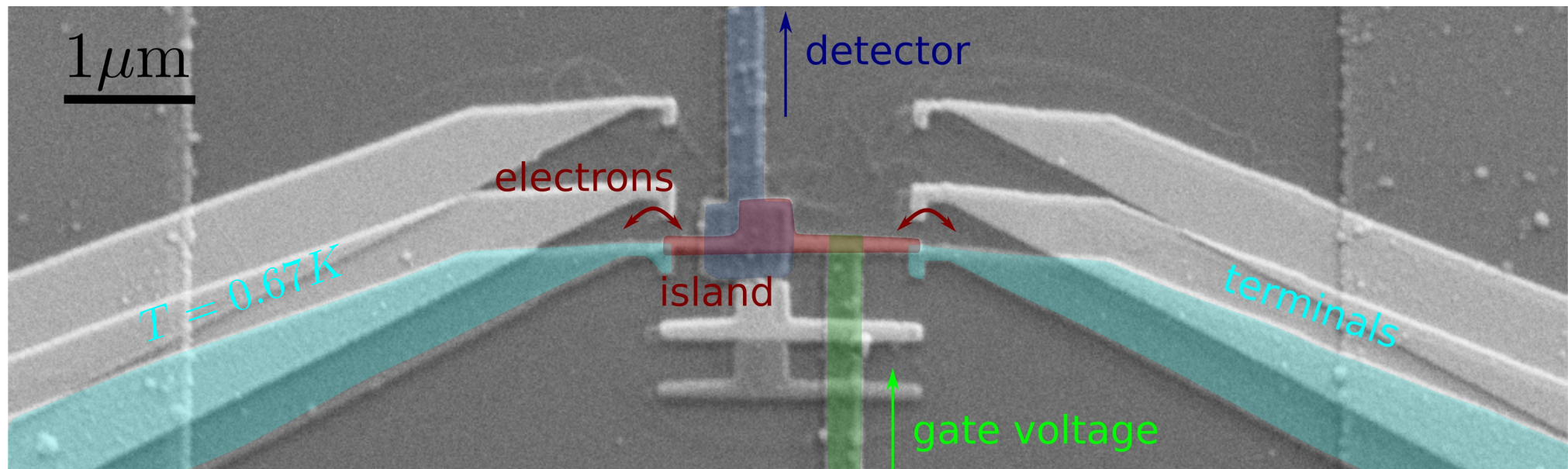
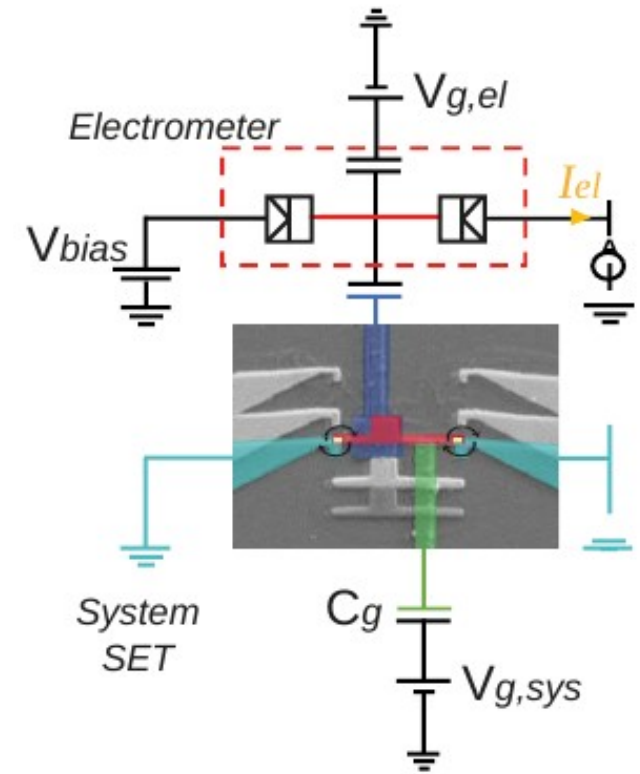
Single Electron Box (SEB): [PICO group (Helsinki)]

System: Cu island

Thermal reservoir: Al superconducting leads

Driving protocol: gate voltage following a linear ramp

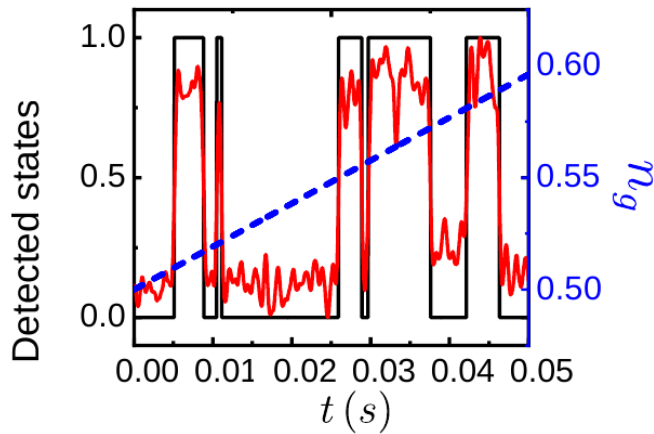
Detector: SET monitors tunneling events



scanning electron micrograph

Driven two-level system:

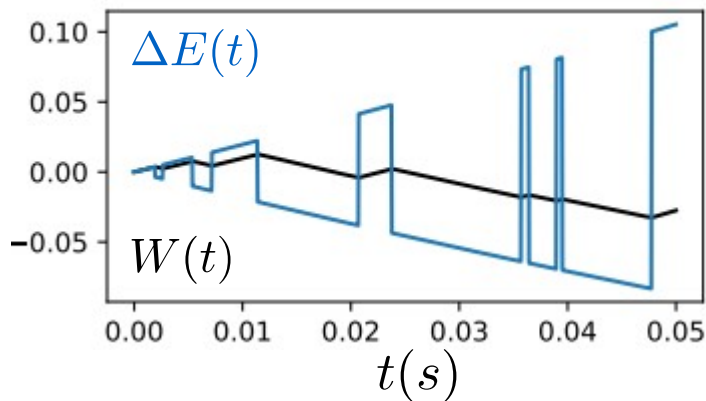
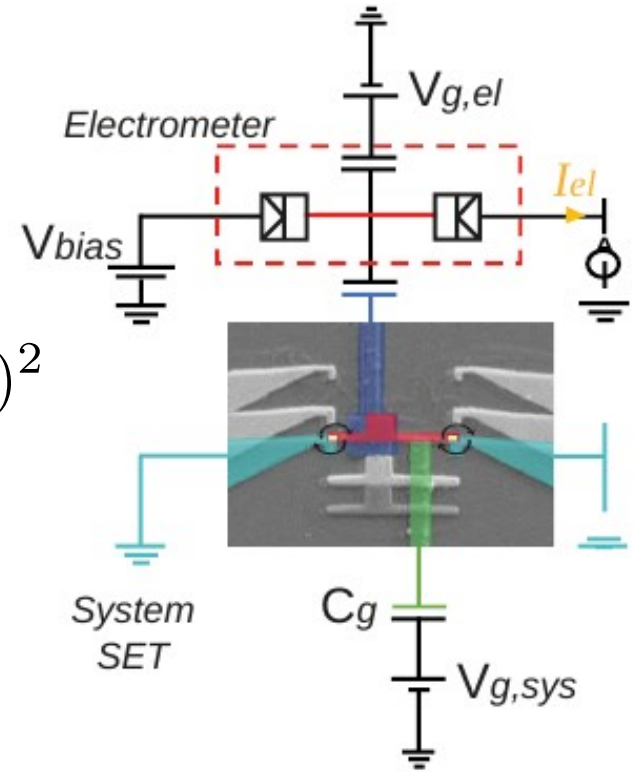
$n=0 / n=1$ (excess) electron in the box



$$H(n) = E_c(n - n_g)^2$$

charge state

offset charge



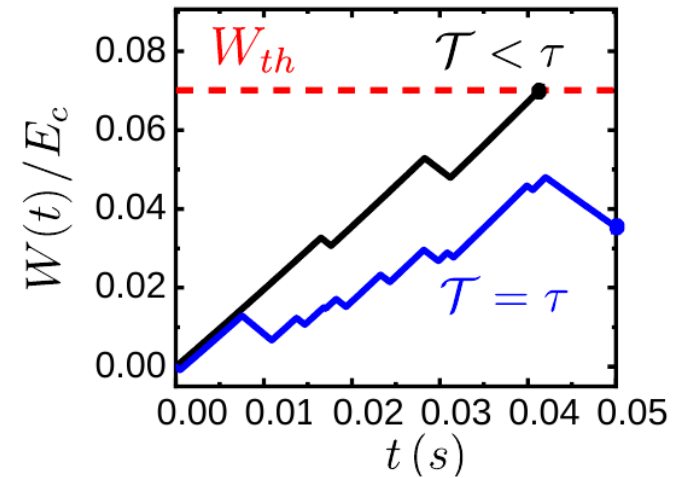
$$E_c = 109 \mu\text{eV} \simeq 1.9 k_B T$$



Strategy: *Finite-horizon work first-passage time*

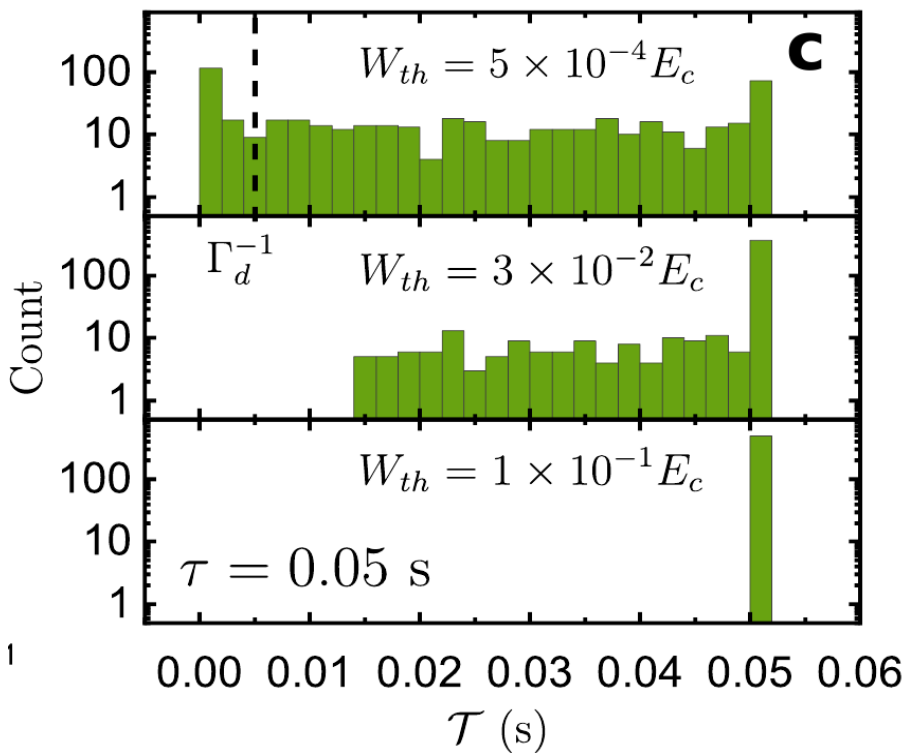
Stop trajectories when the work reaches a threshold

If threshold is not reached, we continue until the end.

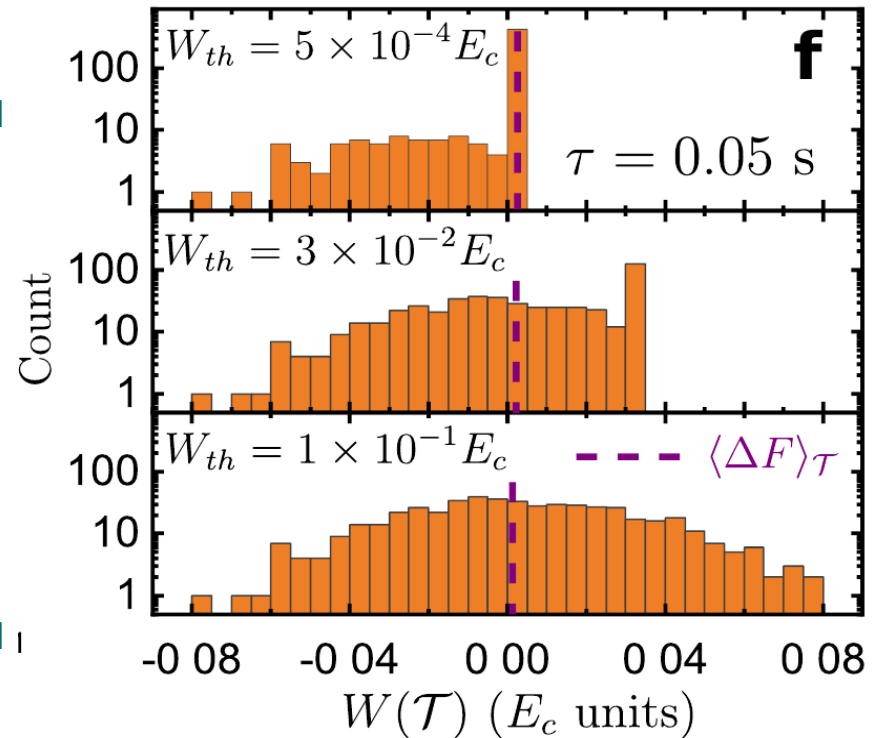


Results:

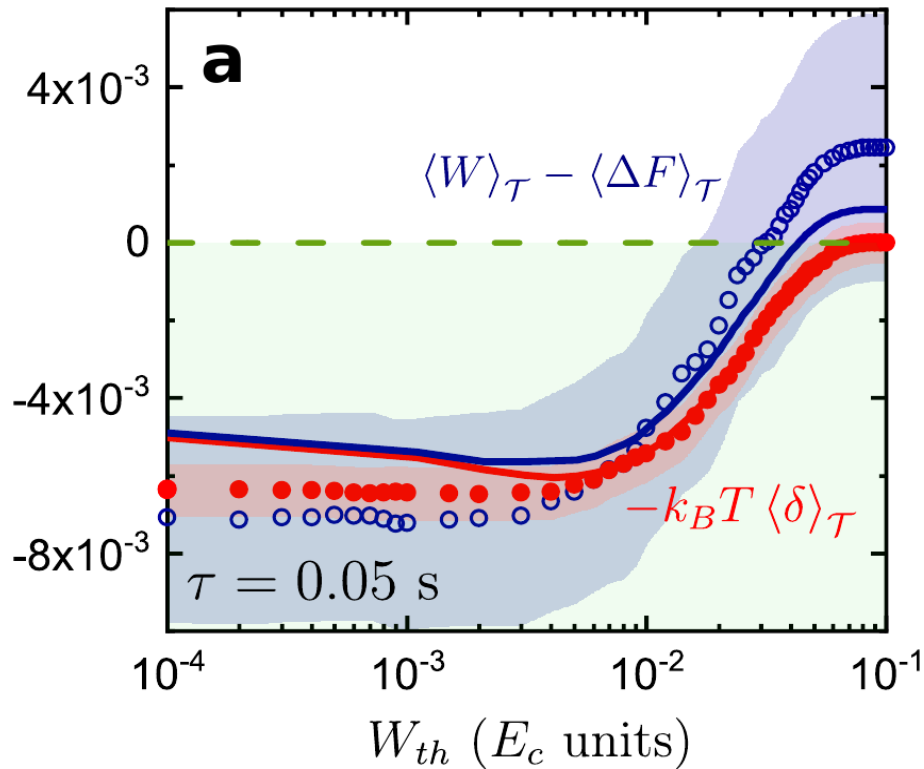
Stopping times histogram



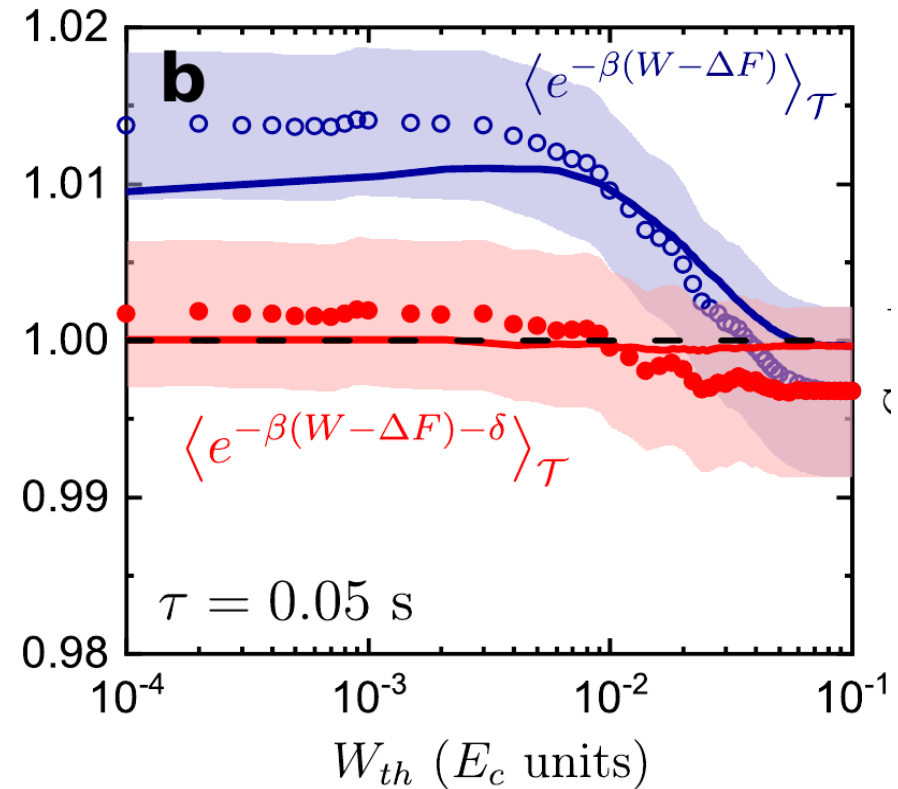
Work prob. distribution



S-L inequality



Fluctuation Theorem (FT)



We can extract work by stopping at small thresholds (on average) !

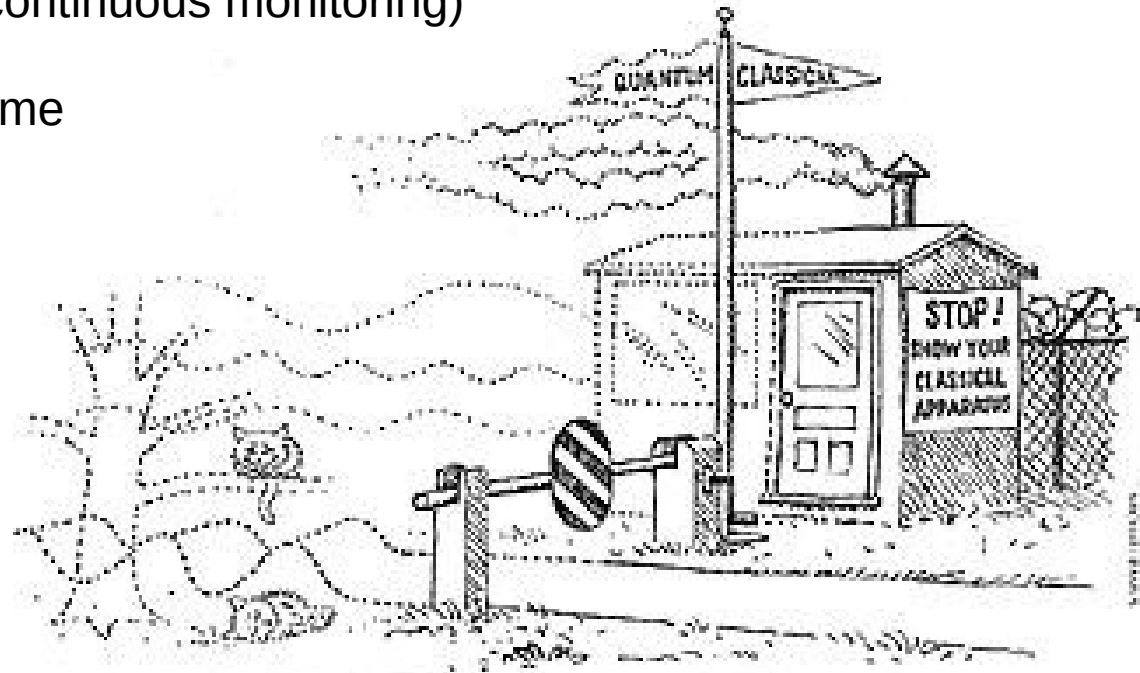
S-L inequality is tight for small thresholds in noneq. situation.

For large thresholds we recover the standard version of S-L and FT. $\mathcal{T} \simeq \tau$

Thermodynamics along quantum trajectories:

- + Quantum jump trajectories (indirect continuous monitoring)
- + Two Point Measurement (TPM) scheme

- $\gamma_{\{0,\tau\}} \equiv \{n(0), \mathcal{R}_0^\tau, n(\tau)\}$
- $|\psi(t)\rangle$ conditioned on \mathcal{R}_0^t (SSE)
- Average over trajectories:
 $\rho(t)$ (master eq. GKLS form)



Stochastic entropy production:

$$\Delta S_{\text{tot}}(\tau) = \log \left(\frac{p_{n(0)}(0)}{p_{n(\tau)}(\tau)} \right) - \beta Q[\mathcal{R}_0^\tau] = \beta [W(\tau) - \Delta F(\tau)]$$

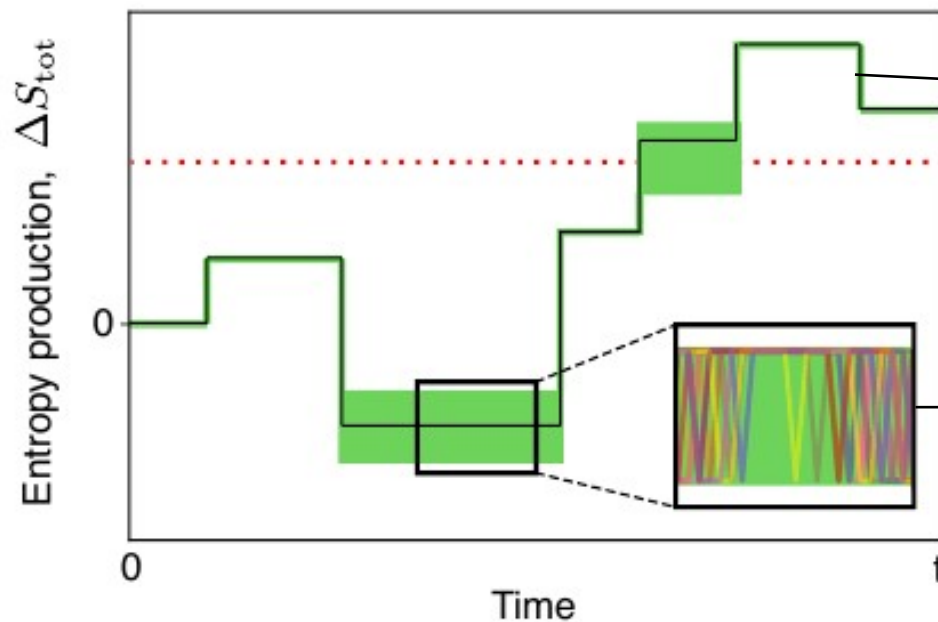
system entropy change (TPM)

stochastic heat (jumps record)

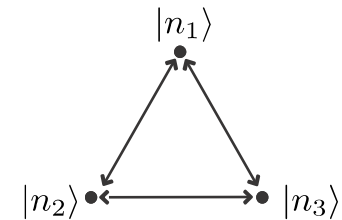
$$W(\tau) = \Delta E(\tau) - Q[\mathcal{R}_0^\tau]$$

Thermodynamics along quantum trajectories:

We extended our results for quantum systems indirectly and continuously monitored

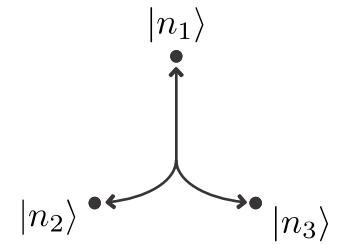


classical jumps



superposition

$|\psi(t)\rangle$



How it affects the bounds to gambling?

Quantum term:

$$\langle W \rangle_{\mathcal{T}} - \langle \Delta F \rangle_{\mathcal{T}} \geq -k_B T [\langle \delta_q \rangle_{\mathcal{T}} - \langle \Delta S_{\text{unc}} \rangle_{\mathcal{T}}]$$

$$\langle e^{-\beta[W - \Delta F] - \delta_q + \Delta S_{\text{unc}}} \rangle_{\mathcal{T}} = 1$$

- Beneficial if $\langle \Delta S_{\text{unc}} \rangle_{\mathcal{T}} < 0$
- Detrimental if $\langle \Delta S_{\text{unc}} \rangle_{\mathcal{T}} > 0$

Main conclusions

- We introduced a “gambling demon” which stops a driven nonequilibrium thermodynamic process at stochastic times according to some gambling strategy.
 - + Since it does not require feedback control, its applicability should be easier.
- We derived classical and quantum universal fluctuation relations at stopping times and second-law-like inequalities. We tested them in a SEB experiment.
 - + Results can be extended to more general situations e.g. several baths, etc.
 - + Use for small heat engines? Optimal gambling strategies?
 - + Autonomous Gambling Demon?
- In the quantum case, coherent dynamics introduces an extra uncertainty term that can be, in principle, either beneficial or detrimental.
 - + How to design beneficial quantum strategies?



THANK YOU

for your attention

MORE INFORMATION:

Gambling demons: Phys. Rev. Lett. **126**, 080603 (2021) [arXiv: 2008.01630]

Quantum Martingales: Phys. Rev. Lett. **122**, 220602 (2019) [arXiv: 1903.02925]

Recent related work (stochastic thermo): G. Manzano and É. Roldán, arXiv: 2109.03260 (2021)