

# A GLIMPSE OF THE EARLY UNIVERSE WITHOUT REAL LIGHT

arXiv:1501.01650

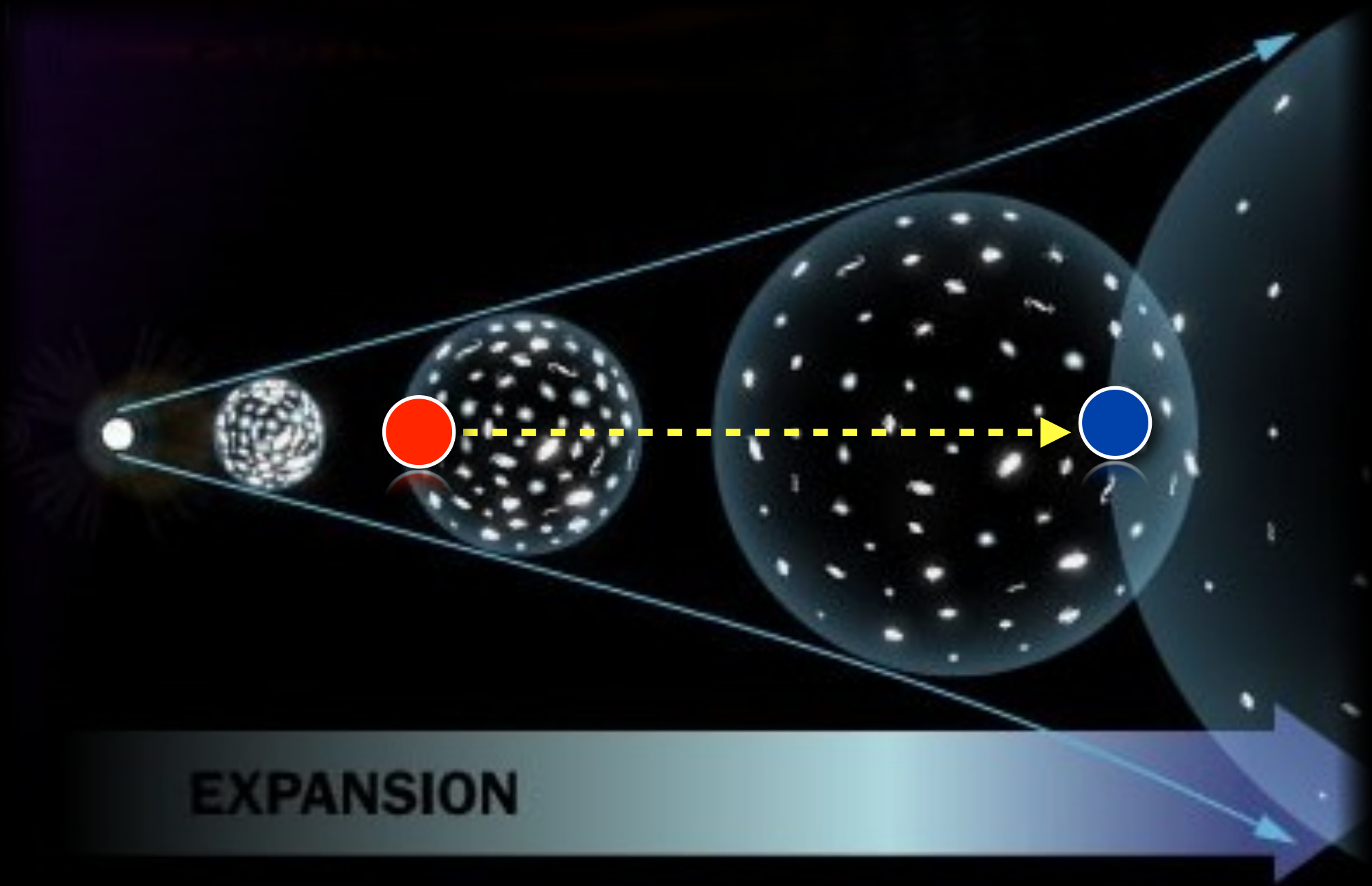
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**Jarramplas 2015**



Transmission of information from the early Universe to the current era

## STRONG HUYGENS PRINCIPLE

THE **RADIATION GREEN'S FUNCTION** OF A MASSLESS SCALAR FIELD HAS SUPPORT ONLY ON THE LIGHT-CONE

—————> THE **COMMUTATOR** HAS SUPPORT ONLY ON THE **LIGHT-CONE**

$$\square G(x, x') = -4\pi\delta_4(x, x') \qquad [\Phi(x), \Phi(x')] = \frac{i}{4\pi}G(x, x')$$

- True in 3+1 Flat spacetime
- Violated in general if there is curvature (unless there is conformal invariance)

[McLenaghan, Sonogo, Faraoni, ...]

# VIOLATION OF THE STRONG HUYGENS

PRINCIPLE: CONSEQUENCES ON RELATIVISTIC QUANTUM  
COMMUNICATION in COSMOLOGY

In curved spacetimes, **communication through massless fields** is not confined to the light-cone, but there can be a leakage of information towards the **inside of the light-cone**.

Robert H. Jonsson, Eduardo Martín-Martínez, and Achim Kempf.  
Quantum Collect Calling. arXiv:1405.3988, 2014.

SPATIALLY **FLAT**, **OPEN** **FRW** SPACETIME 3+1D:

$$ds^2 = a(\eta)^2(-d\eta^2 + dr^2 + r^2 d\Omega^2)$$

$\eta$  : conformal time  
 $a(\eta)$  : scale factor  
 $t$  : cosmological time,  
 $dt = a(\eta)d\eta$   
 units:  $\hbar = c = 1$

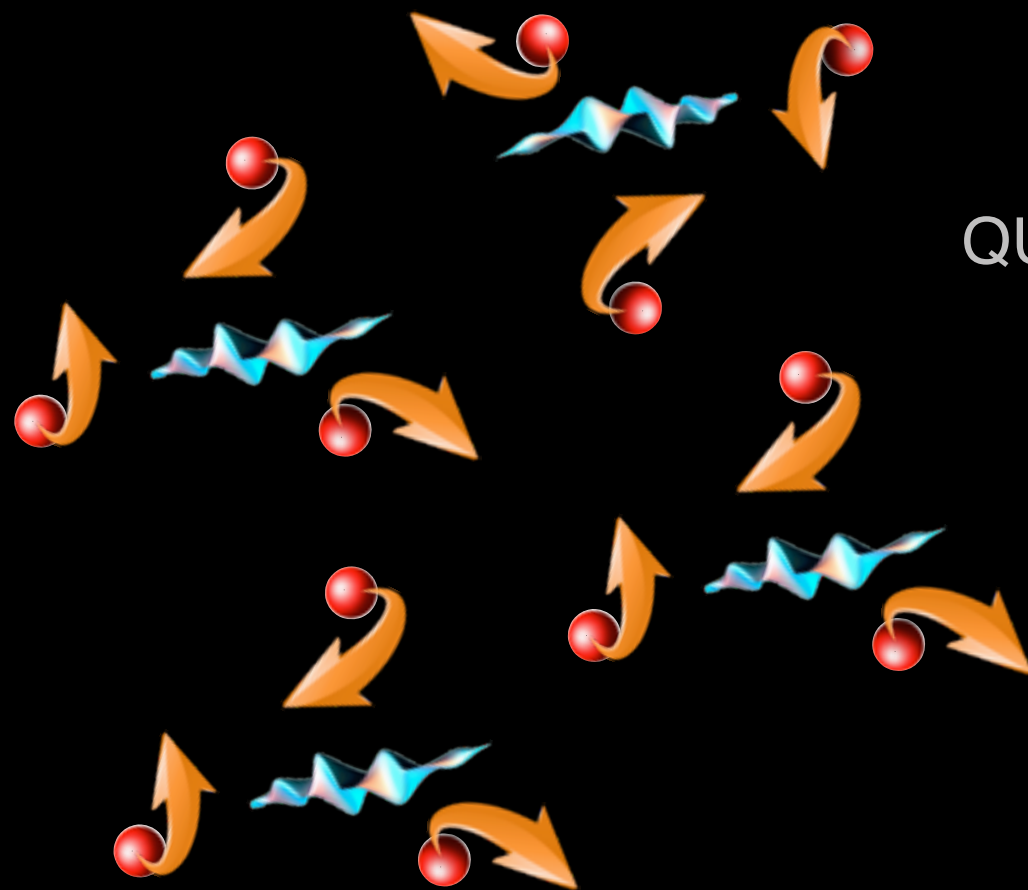
This geometry will be generated by:

a **perfect fluid** with a constant density-to-pressure ratio  $p = w\rho$   $w > -1$

→ the **scale factor** evolves as  $a \propto \eta^{\frac{2}{3w+1}} \propto t^{\frac{2}{3(w+1)}}$

SET UP:  
**TEST FIELD**

**COUPLED** TO THIS BACKGROUND GEOMETRY:



A TEST **MASSLESS SCALAR FIELD**  
QUANTIZED e.g. IN THE ADIABATIC VACUUM

# SCALAR FIELD COUPLING TO GRAVITY

## KLEIN-GORDON EQUATION

$$(\square - m^2 + \xi R)\phi = 0$$

$$\square = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|g|}} \partial_\mu (\sqrt{|g|} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\nu)$$

CONFORMAL COUPLING

VS

MINIMAL COUPLING

$$\xi = \frac{1}{6}$$

$$\xi = 0$$

# ENCODING OF INFORMATION

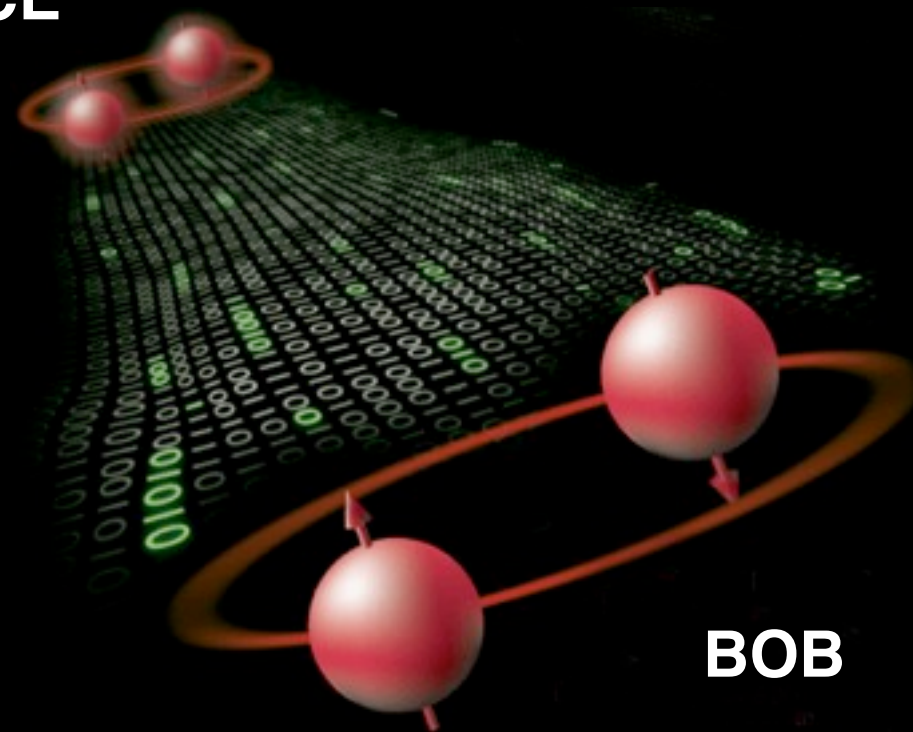
Alice & Bob do not have direct access to the field.

Alice makes a local perturbation of the field (let's model it with a particle detector)

Bob can perform measurements on the field indirectly by **locally coupling 'particle detectors'**

Information is **encoded** in the **quantum state of the field**

ALICE



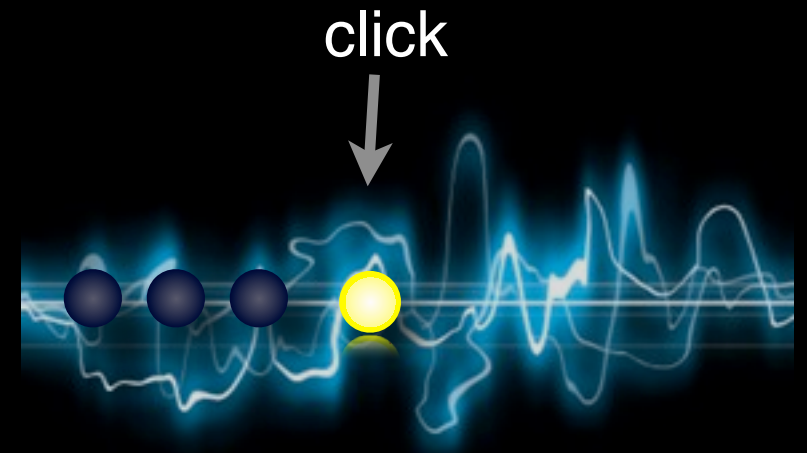
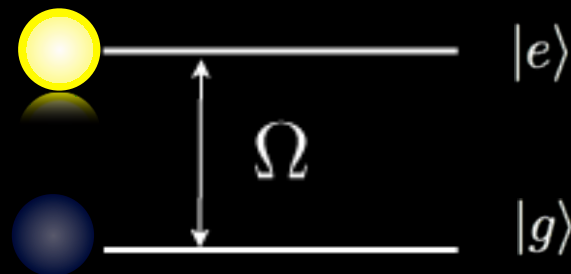
BOB



# ALICE & BOB'S DETECTOR MODEL

## Unruh-DeWitt DETECTOR

-Two-level system



-Energy gap ground-excited states:

$$\Omega$$

-Monopole moment operator:

$$\mu_\nu(t) = |e_\nu\rangle\langle g_\nu|e^{i\Omega_\nu t} + |g_\nu\rangle\langle e_\nu|e^{-i\Omega_\nu t}$$

-Spatially smeared:

$$F(\vec{x}, t) = \frac{1}{\sigma^3\sqrt{\pi^3}}e^{-a(t)^2\vec{x}^2/\sigma^2}$$

Detectors:  $\nu = \{A, B\}$

DETECTOR-FIELD  
**INTERACTION**  
HAMILTONIAN

$$H_{I,\nu} = \lambda_\nu \chi_\nu(t) \mu_\nu(t) \int d^3\mathbf{x} a(t)^3 F[\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_\nu(t), t] \Phi[\mathbf{x}, \eta(t)]$$

DETECTOR-FIELD  
**INTERACTION**  
 HAMILTONIAN

$$H_{I,\nu} = \lambda_\nu \chi_\nu(t) \mu_\nu(t) \int d^3x a(t)^3 F[\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_\nu(t), t] \Phi[\mathbf{x}, \eta(t)]$$

Coupling strength

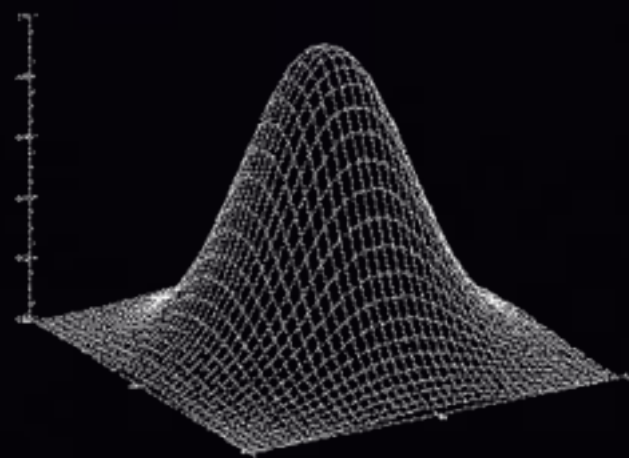
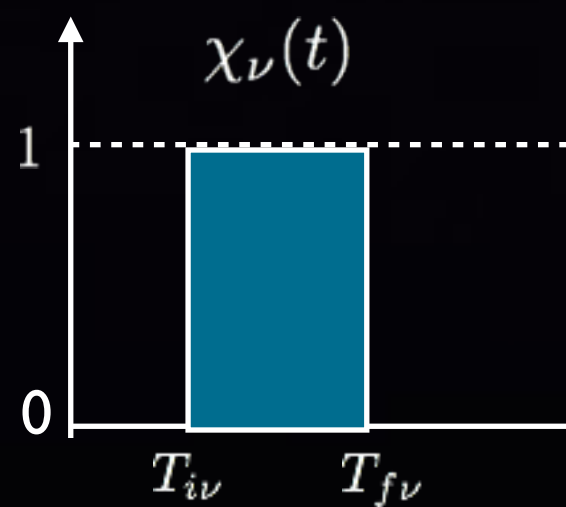
Monopole moment

Scale factor

Smearing function

Detector's trajectory

Switching function



Total Interaction Hamiltonian:

$$H_I = H_{I,A} + H_{I,B}$$

# TRANSMISSION OF INFORMATION

Influence of the presence of  $A$  on  $B$   **SIGNALING ESTIMATOR,  $S$**

how much information can be sent?  **CHANNEL CAPACITY,  $C$**

How is **B's excitation probability** modulated by the interaction of A with the field?

-Initial state:  $\rho_0 = \rho_{A0} \otimes \rho_{B0} \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0|$

$$\rho_{\nu 0} = |\psi_{\nu 0}\rangle\langle\psi_{\nu 0}|$$

$$|\psi_{\nu 0}\rangle = \alpha_{\nu}|e_{\nu}\rangle + \beta_{\nu}|g_{\nu}\rangle$$

-At time  $T$ :  $\rho(T) = U_T \rho_0 U_T^\dagger$

Taking  $\lambda_{\nu}$  small, perturbative expansion:  $U_T = \mathbb{I} + U_T^{(1)} + U_T^{(2)}$

$$\rho_B(T) \simeq \text{Tr}_{A,\Phi} \left[ \rho_0 + \cancel{U_T^{(1)} \rho_0} + \cancel{\rho_0 U_T^{(1)\dagger}} + U_T^{(1)} \rho_0 U_T^{(1)\dagger} + U_T^{(2)} \rho_0 + \rho_0 U_T^{(2)\dagger} \right]$$

How is **B's excitation probability** modulated by the interaction of A with the field?

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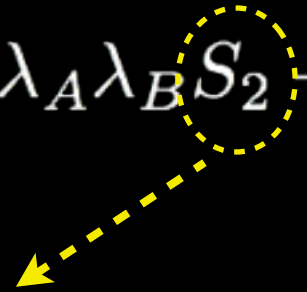
Taking  $\lambda_{\nu}$  small, perturbative expansion:  $U_T = \mathbb{I} + U_T^{(1)} + U_T^{(2)}$

$$\rho_B(T) \simeq \rho_{B0} + \lambda_B^2 \left( \dots \dots \dots \right) + \lambda_A \lambda_B \left( \boxed{S_2} \dots \dots \dots \right) + \mathcal{O}(\lambda_{\nu}^4)$$

$$S = \lambda_A \lambda_B S_2 + \mathcal{O}(\lambda_{\nu}^4)$$

**SIGNALING**  
ESTIMATOR,  $S$

$$S = \lambda_A \lambda_B S_2 + \mathcal{O}(\lambda_\nu^4)$$



$$S_2 = 4 \int dt \int dt' \chi_A(t) \chi_B(t') \operatorname{Re}(\alpha_A^* \beta_A e^{i\Omega_A t}) \operatorname{Re}(\alpha_B^* \beta_B e^{i\Omega_B t'}) [\Phi(\vec{x}_A, t), \Phi(\vec{x}_B, t')]$$

**SIGNALING  
ESTIMATOR,  $S$**

$$S = \lambda_A \lambda_B S_2 + \mathcal{O}(\lambda_\nu^4) \quad (\text{INDEPENDENT OF STATE OF } \Phi)$$

$$S_2 = 4 \int dt \int dt' \chi_A(t) \chi_B(t') \operatorname{Re}(\alpha_A^* \beta_A e^{i\Omega_A t}) \operatorname{Re}(\alpha_B^* \beta_B e^{i\Omega_B t'}) [\Phi(\vec{x}_A, t), \Phi(\vec{x}_B, t')]$$

**CONFORMAL COUPLING**

$$[\Phi(\vec{x}_A, t), \Phi(\vec{x}_B, t')] = \frac{i}{4\pi} \frac{\delta(\Delta\eta + R) - \delta(\Delta\eta - R)}{a(t)a(t')R}$$

$$\Delta\eta = \eta(t) - \eta(t')$$

$$R = \|\vec{x}_A - \vec{x}_B\|$$



# COMMUTATOR

## CONFORMAL COUPLING

support on the  
light cone

$$[\Phi(\vec{x}_A, t), \Phi(\vec{x}_B, t')] = \frac{i}{4\pi} \frac{\delta(\Delta\eta + R) - \delta(\Delta\eta - R)}{a(t)a(t')R}$$

Decay with Spatial  
separation

CONFORMAL INVARIANCE

NO VIOLATION OF STRONG HUYGENS PRINCIPLE

CONFORMAL COUPLING

support on the light cone

$$[\Phi(\vec{x}_A, t), \Phi(\vec{x}_B, t')] = \frac{i}{4\pi} \frac{\delta(\Delta\eta + R) - \delta(\Delta\eta - R)}{a(t)a(t')R}$$

Decay with Spatial separation

BUT...WHAT HAPPENS IF WE CONSIDER **MINIMAL** COUPLING?

MINIMAL COUPLING

$$[\Phi(\vec{x}_A, t), \Phi(\vec{x}_B, t')] = i \frac{\theta(-\Delta\eta) - \theta(\Delta\eta)}{\pi^2 a(t) a(t') R} \int_0^\infty dk \sin(kR) g_\alpha(\eta(t), \eta(t'), k)$$

$$g_\alpha(\eta, \eta', k) = \sqrt{\frac{\eta}{\eta'}} \frac{J_\alpha(k\eta) Y_\alpha(k\eta') - Y_\alpha(k\eta) J_\alpha(k\eta')}{Y_\alpha(k\eta') [J_{\alpha-1}(k\eta') - J_{\alpha+1}(k\eta')] - J_\alpha(k\eta') [Y_{\alpha-1}(k\eta') - Y_{\alpha+1}(k\eta)]}$$

$J_\alpha, Y_\alpha$  BESSEL FUNCTIONS

$$\alpha = \frac{3 - 3w}{6w + 2}$$

# COMMUTATOR

## MINIMAL COUPLING

$$[\Phi(\vec{x}_A, t), \Phi(\vec{x}_B, t')] = i \frac{\theta(-\Delta\eta) - \theta(\Delta\eta)}{\pi^2 a(t)a(t')R} \int_0^\infty dk \sin(kR) g_\alpha(\eta(t), \eta(t'), k)$$

$$g_\alpha(\eta, \eta', k) = \sqrt{\frac{\eta}{\eta'}} \frac{J_\alpha(k\eta)Y_\alpha(k\eta') - Y_\alpha(k\eta)J_\alpha(k\eta')}{Y_\alpha(k\eta') [J_{\alpha-1}(k\eta') - J_{\alpha+1}(k\eta')] - J_\alpha(k\eta') [Y_{\alpha-1}(k\eta') - Y_{\alpha+1}(k\eta')]}$$

$J_\alpha, Y_\alpha$  BESSEL FUNCTIONS  $\alpha = \frac{3 - 3w}{6w + 2}$

**MATTER DOMINATED  
UNIVERSE**

$$w = 0$$

$$\alpha = 3/2$$

$$a \propto \eta^2 \propto t^{2/3}$$

$$[\Phi(\vec{x}_A, t), \Phi(\vec{x}_B, t')] = \frac{i}{4\pi} \left[ \frac{\delta(\Delta\eta + R) - \delta(\Delta\eta - R)}{a(t)a(t')R} + \frac{\theta(-\Delta\eta - R) - \theta(\Delta\eta - R)}{a(t)a(t')\eta(t)\eta(t')} \right]$$

# COMMUTATOR

## CONFORMAL COUPLING

$$[\Phi(\vec{x}_A, t), \Phi(\vec{x}_B, t')] = \frac{i}{4\pi} \frac{\delta(\Delta\eta + R) - \delta(\Delta\eta - R)}{a(t)a(t')R}$$

support on the  
light cone

Decay with Spatial  
separation

## MINIMAL COUPLING

$$[\Phi(\vec{x}_A, t), \Phi(\vec{x}_B, t')] = \frac{i}{4\pi} \left[ \frac{\delta(\Delta\eta + R) - \delta(\Delta\eta - R)}{a(t)a(t')R} + \frac{\theta(-\Delta\eta - R) - \theta(\Delta\eta - R)}{a(t)a(t')\eta(t)\eta(t')} \right]$$

**COMMUTATOR**

**CONFORMAL COUPLING**

support on the light cone

$$[\Phi(\vec{x}_A, t), \Phi(\vec{x}_B, t')] = \frac{i}{4\pi} \frac{\delta(\Delta\eta + R) - \delta(\Delta\eta - R)}{a(t)a(t')R}$$

Decay with Spatial separation

**MINIMAL COUPLING**

**VIOLATION OF STRONG HUYGENS PRINCIPLE !!!!**

$$[\Phi(\vec{x}_A, t), \Phi(\vec{x}_B, t')] = \frac{i}{4\pi} \left[ \frac{\delta(\Delta\eta + R) - \delta(\Delta\eta - R)}{a(t)a(t')R} + \frac{\theta(-\Delta\eta - R) - \theta(\Delta\eta - R)}{a(t)a(t')\eta(t)\eta(t')} \right]$$

Does NOT decay with Spatial separation

Timelike-leakage

To obtain a lower bound to the channel capacity, we use a simple  
**COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL:**

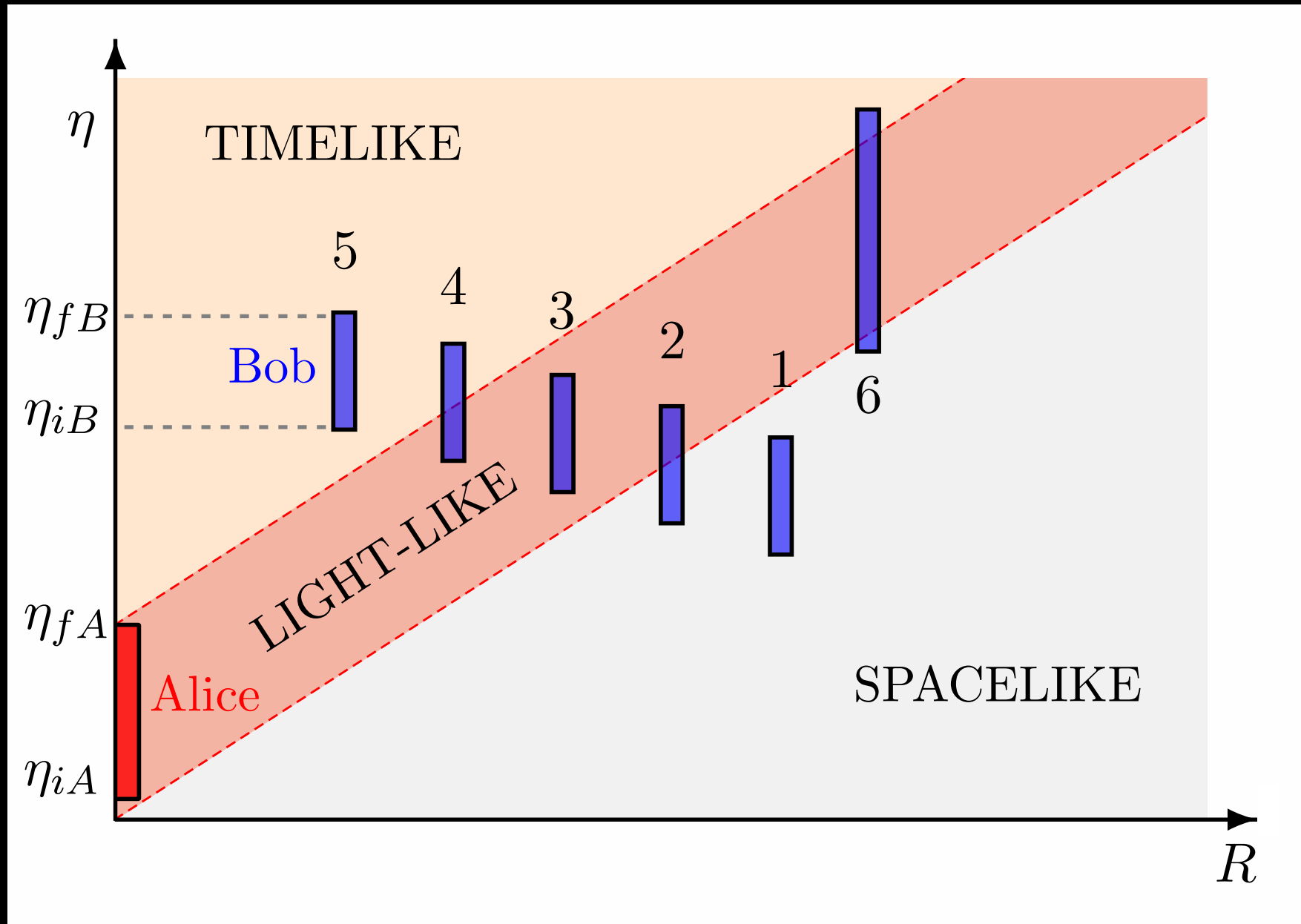
- **Alice** encodes “1” by coupling her detector A to the field, and “0” by not coupling it.
- Later **Bob** switches on B and measures its energy. If B is excited, Bob interprets a “1”, and a “0” otherwise.

$$C \simeq \lambda_A^2 \lambda_B^2 \frac{2}{\ln 2} \left( \frac{S_2}{4|\alpha_B||\beta_B|} \right)^2 + \mathcal{O}(\lambda_\nu^6)$$

(noisy asymmetric binary channel)



# A&B CAUSAL RELATIONSHIPS



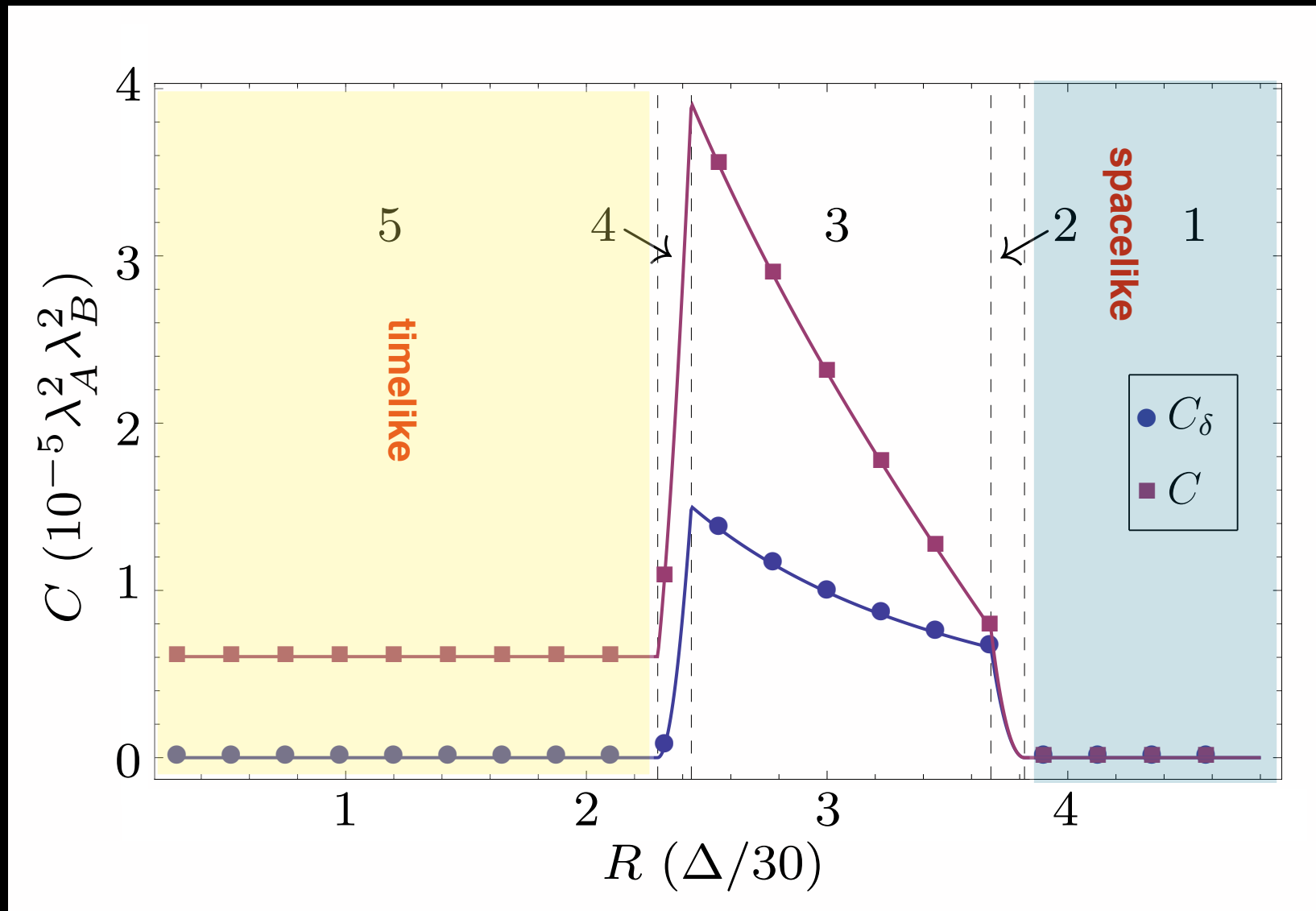
$$\eta_{i\nu} \equiv \eta(T_{i\nu})$$

$$\eta_{f\nu} \equiv \eta(T_{f\nu})$$



# CHANNEL CAPACITY

VARIATION WITH THE **SPATIAL SEPARATION** BETWEEN ALICE AND BOB



$$|\psi_{\nu 0}\rangle = \alpha_\nu |e_\nu\rangle + \beta_\nu |g_\nu\rangle$$

$$|\alpha_A| = |\beta_A| = 1/\sqrt{2}$$

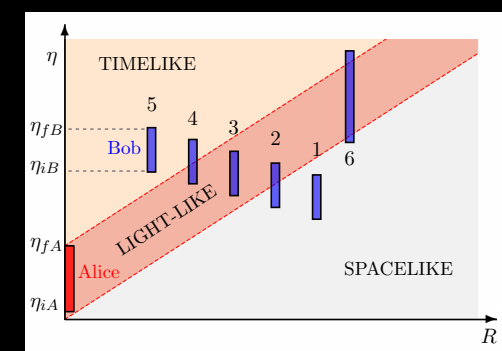
$$\arg(\alpha_A) - \arg(\beta_A) = \pi$$

$$\arg(\alpha_B) - \arg(\beta_B) = \pi/2$$

$$T_{fA} - T_{iA} = T_{fB} - T_{iB} = \Delta$$

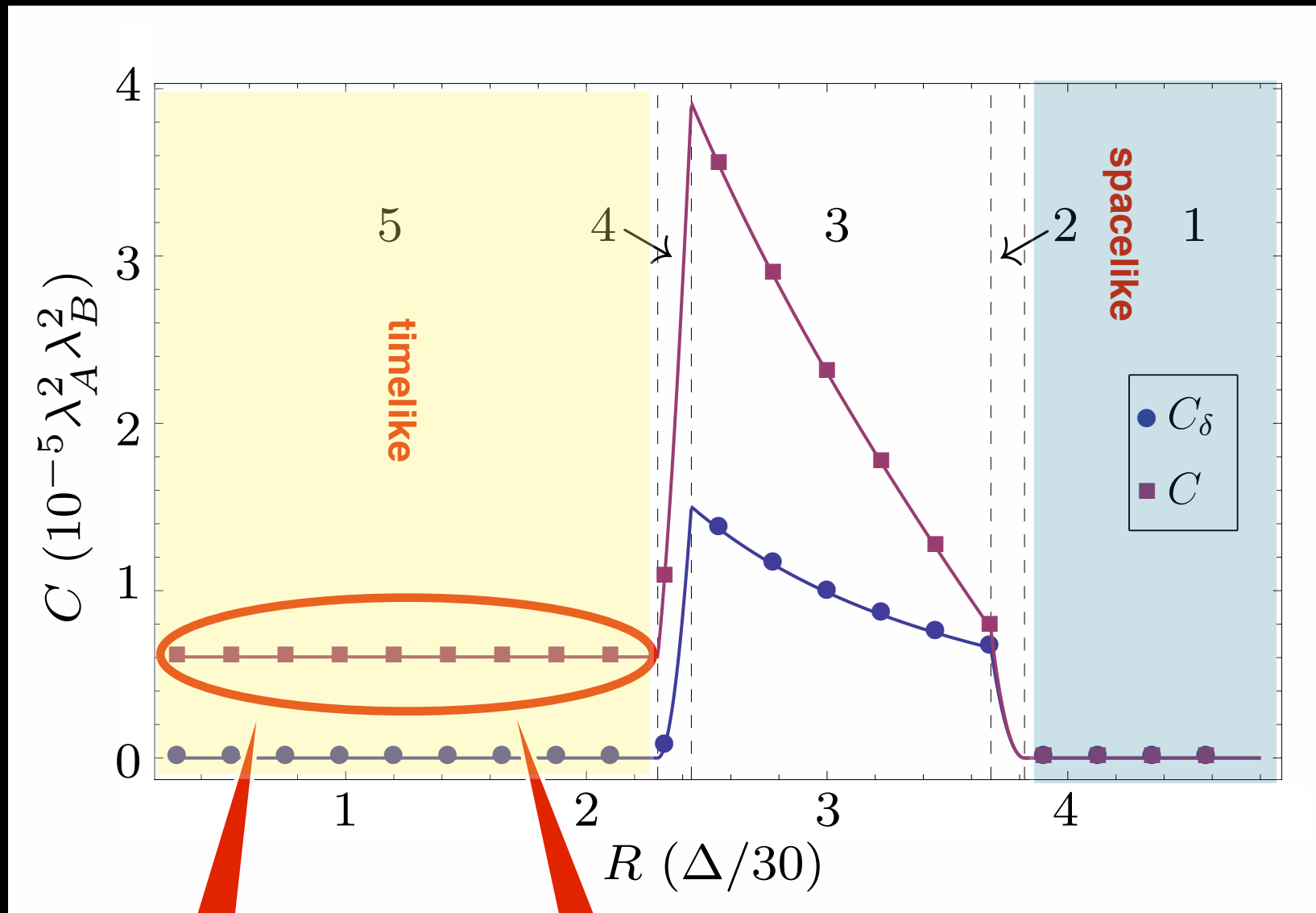
$$T_{iA} = \Delta/30$$

$$T_{iB} = 10\Delta$$



# CHANNEL CAPACITY

## VARIATION WITH THE SPATIAL SEPARATION BETWEEN ALICE AND BOB



**VIOLEATION OF STRONG HUYGENS PRINCIPLE !!!!**

**NO DECAY with R**

$$|\psi_{\nu 0}\rangle = \alpha_{\nu}|e_{\nu}\rangle + \beta_{\nu}|g_{\nu}\rangle$$

$$|\alpha_A| = |\beta_A| = 1/\sqrt{2}$$

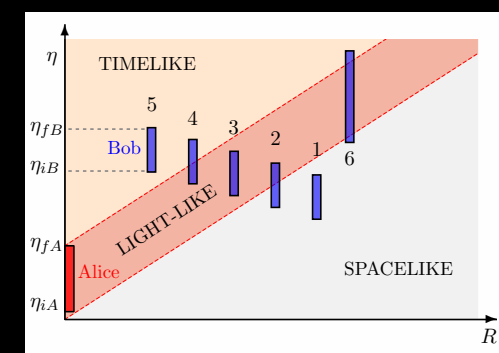
$$\arg(\alpha_A) - \arg(\beta_A) = \pi$$

$$\arg(\alpha_B) - \arg(\beta_B) = \pi/2$$

$$T_{fA} - T_{iA} = T_{fB} - T_{iB} = \Delta$$

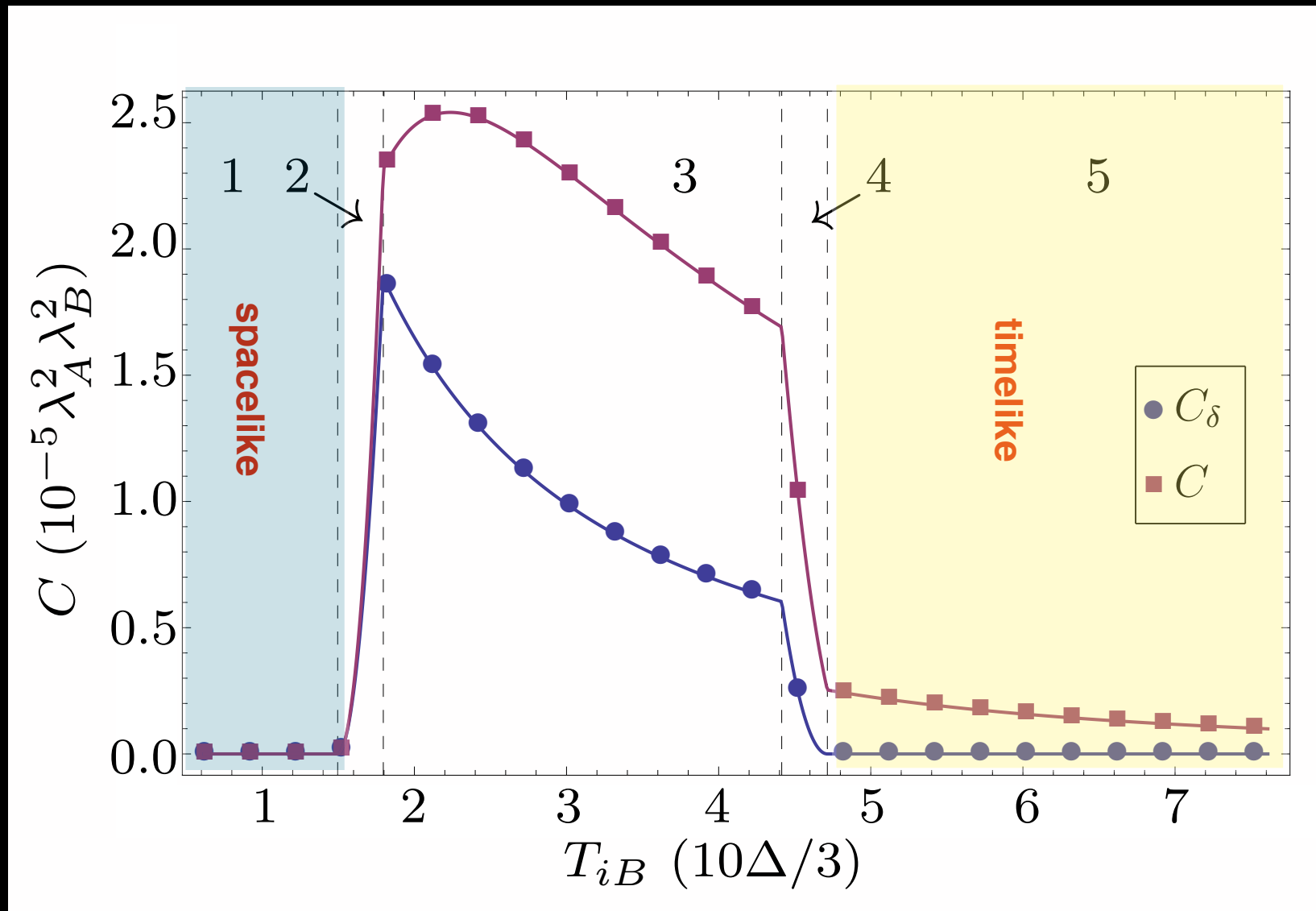
$$T_{iA} = \Delta/30$$

$$T_{iB} = 10\Delta$$



# CHANNEL CAPACITY

VARIATION WITH THE **TEMPORAL SEPARATION** BETWEEN ALICE AND BOB



$$|\psi_{\nu 0}\rangle = \alpha_\nu |e_\nu\rangle + \beta_\nu |g_\nu\rangle$$

$$|\alpha_A| = |\beta_A| = 1/\sqrt{2}$$

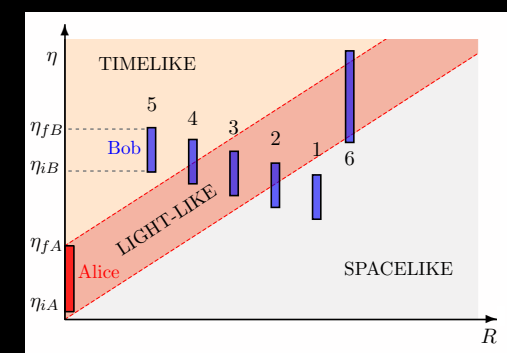
$$\arg(\alpha_A) - \arg(\beta_A) = \pi$$

$$\arg(\alpha_B) - \arg(\beta_B) = \pi/2$$

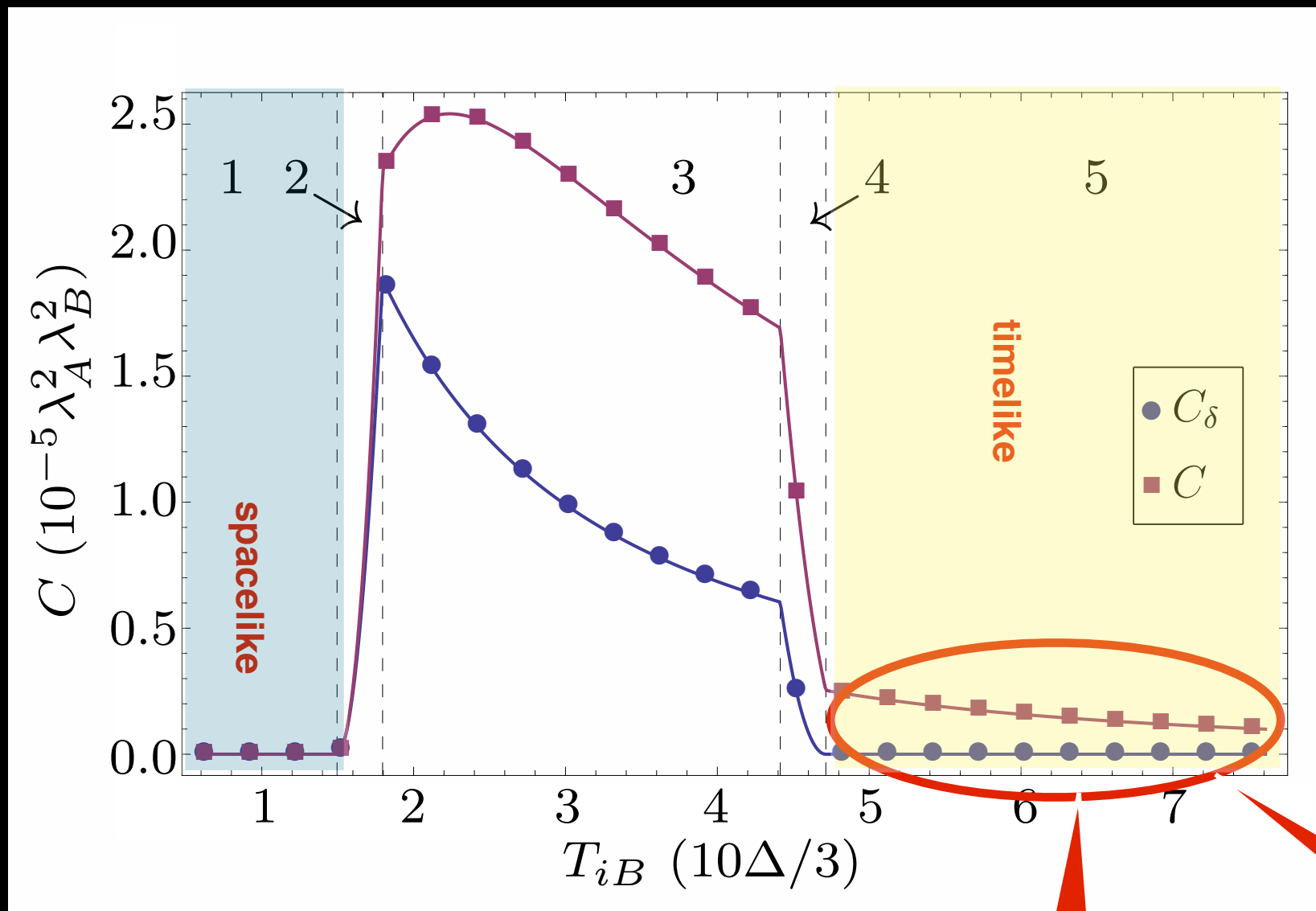
$$T_{fA} - T_{iA} = T_{fB} - T_{iB} = \Delta$$

$$T_{iA} = \Delta/30$$

$$R = \Delta/10$$



## VARIATION WITH THE TEMPORAL SEPARATION BETWEEN ALICE AND BOB



$$|\psi_{\nu 0}\rangle = \alpha_\nu |e_\nu\rangle + \beta_\nu |g_\nu\rangle$$

$$|\alpha_A| = |\beta_A| = 1/\sqrt{2}$$

$$\arg(\alpha_A) - \arg(\beta_A) = \pi$$

$$\arg(\alpha_B) - \arg(\beta_B) = \pi/2$$

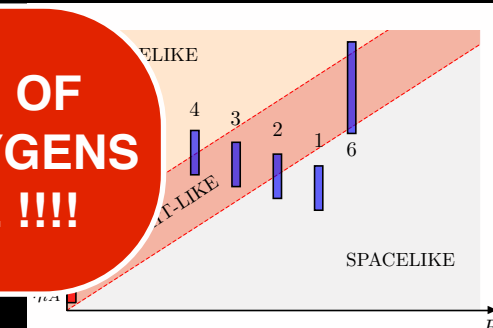
$$T_{fA} - T_{iA} = T_{fB} - T_{iB} = \Delta$$

$$T_{iA} = \Delta/30$$

$$R = \Delta/10$$

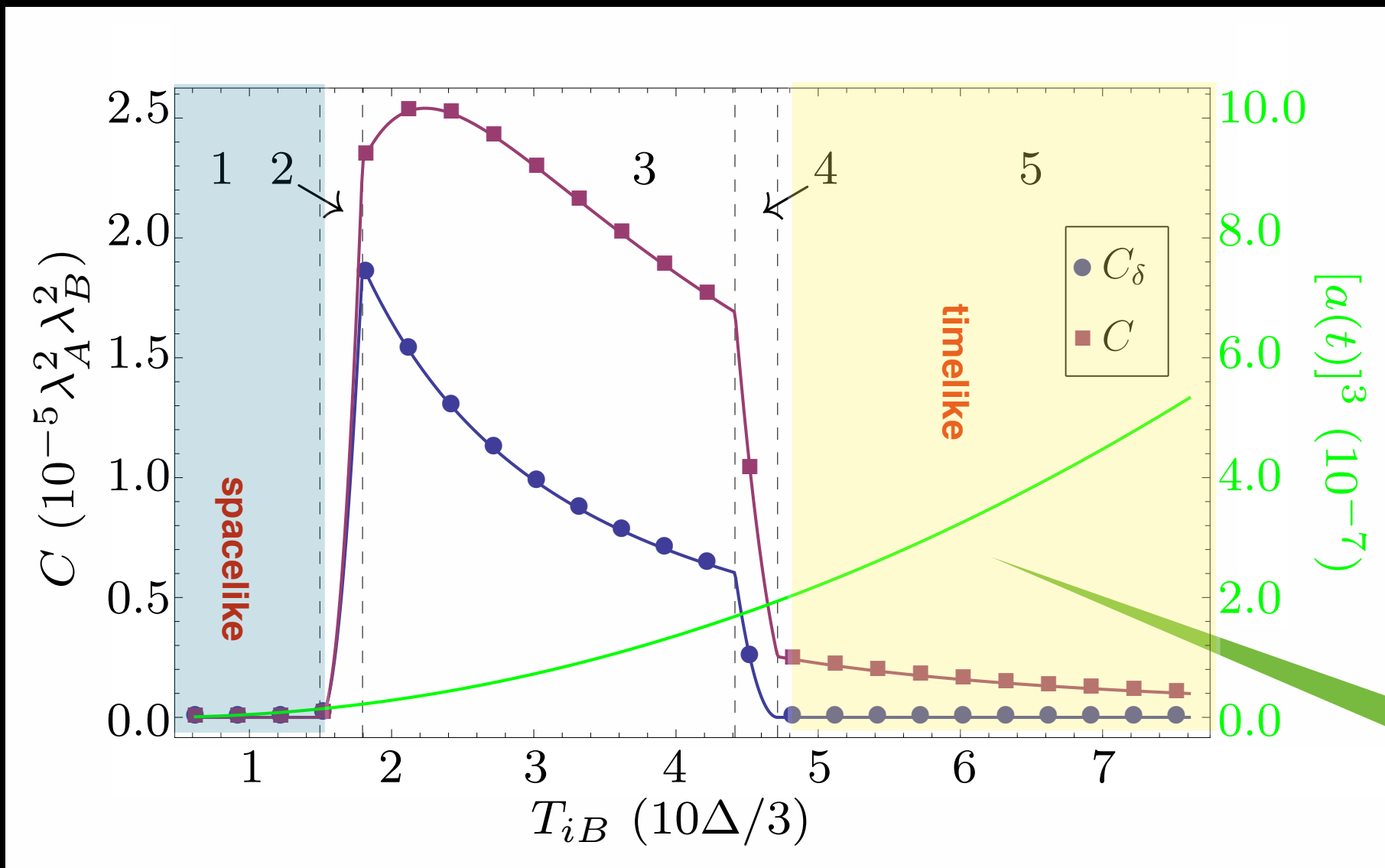
DECAY, could we compensate it?

VIOLETION OF STRONG HUYGENS PRINCIPLE !!!!



# CHANNEL CAPACITY

VARIATION WITH THE **TEMPORAL SEPARATION** BETWEEN ALICE AND BOB

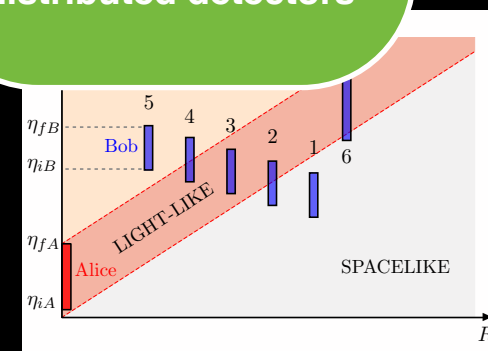


$$S_2 \propto \ln \left( \frac{\eta_{fA}}{\eta_{iA}} \right) \ln \left( \frac{\eta_{fB}}{\eta_{iB}} \right)$$

↓

$$\eta_{iB} = \eta(T_{iB})$$

compensate decay with distributed detectors



# ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELD

THE **ELECTROMAGNETIC TENSOR**  $F_{\mu\nu}$  IS CONFORMALLY INVARIANT

—————> **IT DOES NOT VIOLATE** STRONG HUYGENS PRINCIPLE

# ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELD

THE **ELECTROMAGNETIC TENSOR**  $F_{\mu\nu}$

IS CONFORMALLY INVARIANT

—————> IT **DOES NOT VIOLATE** STRONG HUYGENS PRINCIPLE

**BUT**

THE **ELECTROMAGNETIC POTENTIAL**  $A_\mu$  **DOES VIOLATE IT**

Charged currents couple to  $A_\mu$ . Electromagnetic **antennas will see** the strong Huygens principle **violation** (in the same fashion they see e.g. the Aharonov-Bohm effect or Casimir forces.)

# Conclusions

- ✓ All events that generate light signals also generate timelike signals (not mediated by massless quanta exchange), that decay slower.
- ✓ For a matter dominated universe we find that these signals do not decay with the spatial separation to the source. Temporal decay can be compensated by deploying a network of receivers inside the light-cone.
- ✓ We particularize the discussion to a concrete channel as a mere example to illustrate the non--decaying behaviour of the information capacity.
- ✓ Inflationary phenomena, early universe physics, primordial decouplings, etc, will also leave a timeline echo on top of the light signals that we receive from them.

**OUR RESULTS MAY PERHAPS INSPIRE NOVEL WAYS TO LOOK AT  
THE EARLY UNIVERSE VIA THE TIMELIKE SIGNALS**



**NAME THAT EXOPLANET**  
The rush to go down in astronomical history

# NewScientist

WEEKLY January 24 - 30, 2015



Dig that reverb

**Ancient echoes speak  
to us from the big bang**

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THANK YOU