

# Exactly Solvable Minimal Model of Maximal Quantum Chaos

*Tomaž Prosen*

Faculty of mathematics and physics, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

KITP, August 30, 2018

B Bertini, P Kos, TP, arXiv:1805.00931



- 1 Spectral correlations in quantum systems and  
The Quantum Chaos Conjecture
- 2 Self-dual Kicked Ising model:  
a minimal solvable model for maximal many body quantum chaos  
(*No small parameter, such as  $\hbar$  or inverse local Hilbert space dimension!*)
- 3 Sketch of the derivation/proof



Consider hamiltonian  $H$  of a quantum system with finite volume  $L$  (length, in 1D) and let  $\{E_n\}_{n=1, \dots, \mathcal{N}=2^L}$  be its **spectrum**.



Consider hamiltonian  $H$  of a quantum system with finite volume  $L$  (length, in 1D) and let  $\{E_n\}_{n=1,\dots,\mathcal{N}=2^L}$  be its **spectrum**.

Analogous object in periodically driven systems

$$H(t) = H(t + T)$$

is the set of **quasi-energies**  $\{\varphi_n \in [0, 2\pi]\}_{n=1,\dots,\mathcal{N}}$  such that  $\{e^{-i\varphi_n}\}$  is the spectrum of the Floquet operator

$$U = T \exp\left(-i \int_0^T ds H(s)\right).$$



## The spectrum as a gas in one dimension

Spectral density (1-point function):

$$\rho(\varphi) = \frac{2\pi}{\mathcal{N}} \sum_n \delta(\varphi - \varphi_n).$$

Spectral pair correlation function (2-point function):

$$r(\vartheta) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} d\varphi \rho(\varphi + \frac{1}{2}\vartheta) \rho(\varphi - \frac{1}{2}\vartheta) - 1.$$

**Spectral Form Factor (SFF)** (Fourier transform of 2-point function):

$$\begin{aligned} K(t) &= \frac{\mathcal{N}^2}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} d\vartheta r(\vartheta) e^{it\vartheta} = \sum_{m,n} e^{i(\varphi_m - \varphi_n)} - \mathcal{N}^2 \delta_{t,0} \\ &= |\text{tr } U^t|^2 - \mathcal{N}^2 \delta_{t,0}. \end{aligned}$$



## The **spectrum** as a **gas** in one dimension

Spectral density (1-point function):

$$\rho(\varphi) = \frac{2\pi}{\mathcal{N}} \sum_n \delta(\varphi - \varphi_n).$$

Spectral pair correlation function (2-point function):

$$r(\vartheta) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} d\varphi \rho(\varphi + \frac{1}{2}\vartheta) \rho(\varphi - \frac{1}{2}\vartheta) - 1.$$

**Spectral Form Factor (SFF)** (Fourier transform of 2-point function):

$$\begin{aligned} K(t) &= \frac{\mathcal{N}^2}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} d\vartheta r(\vartheta) e^{it\vartheta} = \sum_{m,n} e^{i(\varphi_m - \varphi_n)} - \mathcal{N}^2 \delta_{t,0} \\ &= |\text{tr } U^t|^2 - \mathcal{N}^2 \delta_{t,0}. \end{aligned}$$

**Caveat:** SFF is not self-averaging! Consider instead  $\bar{K}(t) = \mathbb{E}[K(t)]$ .

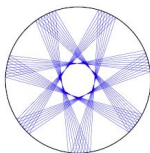


# The Quantum Chaos Conjecture

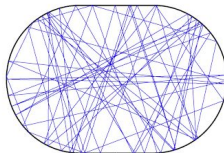
Casati, Guarnerri, Valz-Gris 1980, Berry 1981, Bohigas, Giannoni, Schmidt 1984

The spectral fluctuations of quantum systems with chaotic and ergodic classical limit are *universal* and described by Random Matrix Theory (RMT).

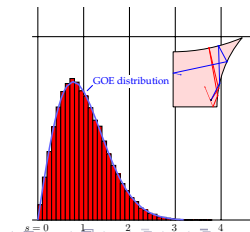
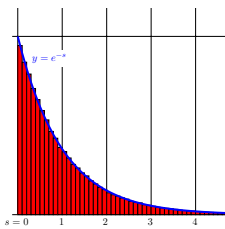
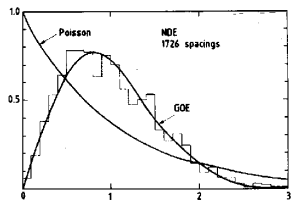
The same holds for periodically-driven systems if one considers the statistics of quasi-energies instead.



(a)



(b)



# Comparison to RMT spectral form factors

RMT (No time reversal symmetry):

$$K_{\text{CUE}}(t) = t, \quad t < \mathcal{N}.$$

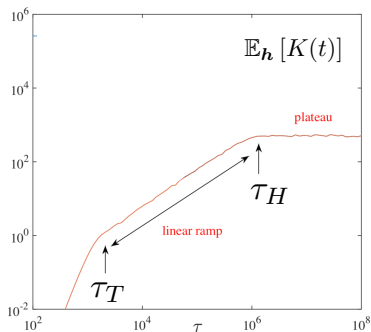
RMT (With time reversal symmetry):

$$K_{\text{COE}}(t) = 2t - \log(1 + 2t/\mathcal{N}), \quad t < \mathcal{N}.$$

Random (uncorrelated, Poissonian) spectrum  $\{\varphi_n\}$ :

$$K_{\text{Poisson}} \equiv \mathcal{N}.$$

Real System:



Review: Chen and Ludwig 2017

$$\mathbb{E}[K(t)] = \mathbb{E} \left[ \sum_{m,n} e^{i(\varphi_m - \varphi_n)} \right].$$

Saturation  $\bar{K}(t) \sim \mathcal{N}$  beyond **Heisenberg time**  $t > t_H = \mathcal{N} = 1/\Delta\varphi$ .

Non-universal (system-specific) behaviour below **Ehrenfest/Thouless time**  $t < t_T$ .





To first order, this is captured by the *diagonal approximation* (Berry 1985)

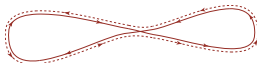
$$K(\tau) \sim \sum_p^\tau \sum_{p'}^\tau A_p e^{iS_p/\hbar} A_{p'}^* e^{-iS_{p'}/\hbar} \simeq (2) \sum_p^\tau |A_p|^2 = (2)t$$



To first order, this is captured by the *diagonal approximation* (Berry 1985)

$$K(\tau) \sim \sum_p^\tau \sum_{p'}^\tau A_p e^{iS_p/\hbar} A_{p'}^* e^{-iS_{p'}/\hbar} \simeq (2) \sum_p^\tau |A_p|^2 = (2)t$$

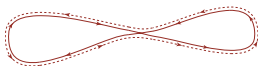
To second order, the RMT term is reproduced by considering so-called Sieber-Richter (2001) pairs of orbits



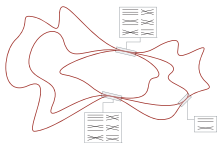
To first order, this is captured by the *diagonal approximation* (Berry 1985)

$$K(\tau) \sim \sum_p \sum_{p'} A_p e^{iS_p/\hbar} A_{p'}^* e^{-iS_{p'}/\hbar} \simeq (2) \sum_p |A_p|^2 = (2)t$$

To second order, the RMT term is reproduced by considering so-called Sieber-Richter (2001) pairs of orbits



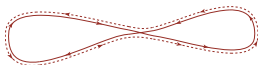
To all orders, RMT terms are reproduced by considering full combinatorics of self-encountering orbits (Müller et al, 2004)



To first order, this is captured by the *diagonal approximation* (Berry 1985)

$$K(\tau) \sim \sum_p \sum_{p'} A_p e^{iS_p/\hbar} A_{p'}^* e^{-iS_{p'}/\hbar} \simeq (2) \sum_p |A_p|^2 = (2)t$$

To second order, the RMT term is reproduced by considering so-called Sieber-Richter (2001) pairs of orbits



To all orders, RMT terms is reproduced by considering full combinatorics of self-encountering orbits (Müller et al, 2004)



*Rigorous proof only possible for very specific class of models:* Fully connected incommensurate quantum graphs [Pluhař and Weidenmüller, PRL 2014]

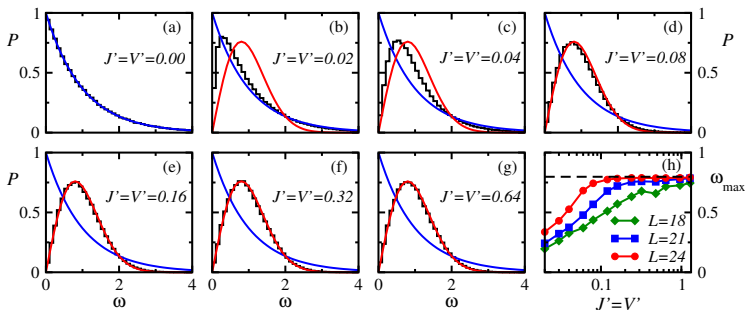


What about QCC for many-body systems at ' $\hbar \sim 1$ '?  
(say for interacting spin 1/2 or fermionic systems)



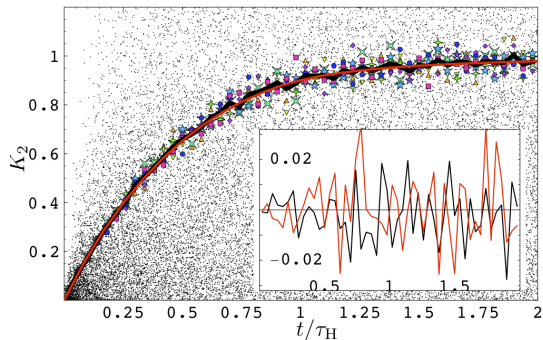
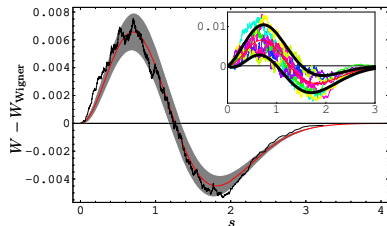
What about QCC for many-body systems at ' $\hbar \sim 1$ '?  
(say for interacting spin 1/2 or fermionic systems)

$$H = \sum_{j=0}^{L-1} (-Jc_j^\dagger c_{j+1} - J'c_j^\dagger c_{j+2} + \text{h.c.} + Vn_j n_{j+1} + V'n_j n_{j+2}), \quad n_j = c_j^\dagger c_j.$$



From [Rigol and Santos, 2010]

# Detailed numerical study in Kicked Ising Model



From [Pineda and TP, PRE 2007]

## Floquet long-ranged (non-integrable/non-mean field) spin 1/2 chains

[arXiv:1712.02665]


PHYSICAL REVIEW X **8**, 021062 (2018)

---

### Many-Body Quantum Chaos: Analytic Connection to Random Matrix Theory

Pavel Kos, Marko Ljubotina, and Tomaž Prosen\*

*Physics Department, Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, University of Ljubljana,  
Jadranska 19, SI-1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia*

 (Received 5 February 2018; revised manuscript received 12 April 2018; published 8 June 2018)

## Floquet local quantum circuits with random unitary gates in the limit of large local Hilbert space dimension $q \rightarrow \infty$

[arXiv:1712.06836, arXiv:1803.03841]

### Solution of a minimal model for many-body quantum chaos

Amos Chan, Andrea De Luca and J. T. Chalker

*Theoretical Physics, Oxford University, 1 Keble Road, Oxford OX1 3NP, United Kingdom*  
(Dated: December 20, 2017)

## Spectral statistics in spatially extended chaotic quantum many-body systems

Amos Chan, Andrea De Luca and J. T. Chalker

*Theoretical Physics, Oxford University, 1 Keble Road, Oxford OX1 3NP, United Kingdom*  
(Dated: April 4, 2018)





What about fermionic or spin  $1/2$  systems with strictly local interactions?



$$H_{\text{KI}}[\mathbf{h}; t] = H_{\text{I}}[\mathbf{h}] + \delta_p(t)H_{\text{K}}, \quad H_{\text{I}}[\mathbf{h}] \equiv \sum_{j=1}^L \{J\sigma_j^z\sigma_{j+1}^z + h_j\sigma_j^z\}, \quad H_{\text{K}} \equiv b \sum_{j=1}^L \sigma_j^x,$$

with Floquet propagator

$$U_{\text{KI}} = e^{-iH_{\text{K}}} e^{-iH_{\text{I}}}.$$

$J, b$ : homogeneous spin-coupling and transverse field

$h_j$ : position dependent longitudinal field



$$H_{KI}[\mathbf{h}; t] = H_I[\mathbf{h}] + \delta_p(t)H_K, \quad H_I[\mathbf{h}] \equiv \sum_{j=1}^L \{J\sigma_j^z\sigma_{j+1}^z + h_j\sigma_j^z\}, \quad H_K \equiv b \sum_{j=1}^L \sigma_j^x,$$

with Floquet propagator

$$U_{KI} = e^{-iH_K} e^{-iH_I}.$$

$J, b$ : homogeneous spin-coupling and transverse field  
 $h_j$  position dependent longitudinal field

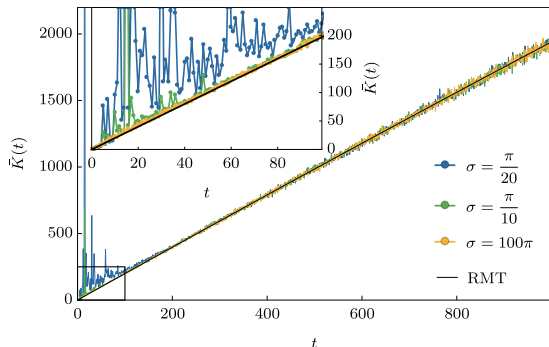
Remarks:

- KI model is integrable if  $b = 0$  or  $h_j \equiv 0$ .
- For generic  $h_j$  and  $b \neq 0$ , the model has no symmetries.
- The clean model  $h_j \equiv h$ , for  $J \sim b \sim h \sim 1$  appears to be ergodic and its spectral statistics well described by RMT
- The clean model appears to display non-trivial non-ergodicity – ergodicity transition when  $h$  is varied [TP PRE 2002, TP JPA 2007, see also Vajna, Klobas, TP, Polkovnikov, PRL 120, 200607 (2018)]



Consider longitudinal magnetic field  $h_j$  to be i.i.d. (Gaussian) variable with mean  $\bar{h}$  and standard deviation  $\sigma$

$$\bar{K}(t) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{h}}[K(t)] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left( \prod_{j=1}^L \frac{dh_j}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{(h_j - \bar{h})^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \right) K(t).$$



For  $|J| = |b| = \pi/4$  and  $\sigma$  large enough the behaviour seems immediately RMT-like ( $t_T \sim 1$ )

Interpreting  $\bar{K}(t)$  in terms of a partition function of  $2d$  classical statistical model, we can study SFF analytically in thermodynamic limit!

*Theorem:* For odd  $t$ :

$$\lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \bar{K}(t) = \begin{cases} 2t - 1, & t \leq 5 \\ 2t, & t \geq 7 \end{cases} .$$



*Theorem:* For odd  $t$ :

$$\lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \bar{K}(t) = \begin{cases} 2t - 1, & t \leq 5 \\ 2t, & t \geq 7 \end{cases}.$$

*Conjecture:* For even  $t$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{K}(2) &= 2, \quad \bar{K}(4) = 7, \quad \bar{K}(6) = 13, \quad \bar{K}(8) = 18, \quad \bar{K}(10) = 22, \\ \bar{K}(t) &= 2t + 1, \quad t \geq 12. \end{aligned}$$



*Theorem:* For odd  $t$ :

$$\lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \bar{K}(t) = \begin{cases} 2t - 1, & t \leq 5 \\ 2t, & t \geq 7 \end{cases}.$$

*Conjecture:* For even  $t$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{K}(2) &= 2, \quad \bar{K}(4) = 7, \quad \bar{K}(6) = 13, \quad \bar{K}(8) = 18, \quad \bar{K}(10) = 22, \\ \bar{K}(t) &= 2t + 1, \quad t \geq 12. \end{aligned}$$

Remarks:

- Results independent of  $\sigma > 0$ : The model is ergodic for any disorder strength (**no Floquet-MBL!**). In particular, we can take the limit of a clean system at the end  $\sigma \searrow 0$ .
- Results independent of  $\bar{h}$ : We can set  $\bar{h} = 0$  which corresponds to a limiting integrable system.



*Theorem:* For odd  $t$ :

$$\lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \bar{K}(t) = \begin{cases} 2t - 1, & t \leq 5 \\ 2t, & t \geq 7 \end{cases}.$$

*Conjecture:* For even  $t$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{K}(2) &= 2, \quad \bar{K}(4) = 7, \quad \bar{K}(6) = 13, \quad \bar{K}(8) = 18, \quad \bar{K}(10) = 22, \\ \bar{K}(t) &= 2t + 1, \quad t \geq 12. \end{aligned}$$

Remarks:

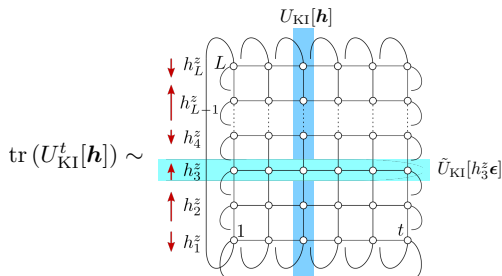
- Results independent of  $\sigma > 0$ : The model is ergodic for any disorder strength (**no Floquet-MBL!**). In particular, we can take the limit of a clean system at the end  $\sigma \searrow 0$ .
- Results independent of  $\hbar$ : We can set  $\hbar = 0$  which corresponds to a limiting integrable system.

We found a simple locally interacting model with finite dimensional local Hilbert space with proven RMT spectral correlations at all time-scales!





The trace of  $U_{\text{KI}}^t$  is equivalent to a partition sum of a classical 2d Ising model with **row-homogeneous field**  $h_j$ :

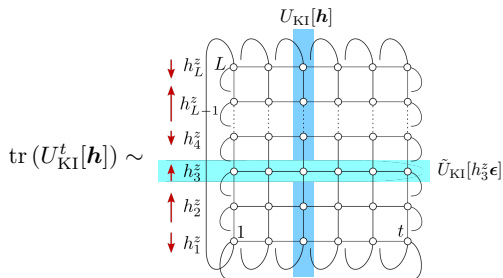


Duality relation

$$\text{tr}(U_{\text{KI}}[\mathbf{h}])^t = \text{tr}\left(\prod_{j=1}^L \tilde{U}_{\text{KI}}[h_j \epsilon]\right)$$

where  $\epsilon = (1, 1, \dots, 1)$  and  $\tilde{U}_{\text{KI}}$  is a KI model on a ring of size  $t$  with twisted parameters  $\tilde{J}(J, b), \tilde{b}(J, b)$ .

The trace of  $U_{\text{KI}}^t$  is equivalent to a partition sum of a classical 2d Ising model with **row-homogeneous field**  $h_j$ :



Duality relation

$$\text{tr}(U_{\text{KI}}[\mathbf{h}])^t = \text{tr}\left(\prod_{j=1}^L \tilde{U}_{\text{KI}}[h_j \epsilon]\right)$$

where  $\epsilon = (1, 1, \dots, 1)$  and  $\tilde{U}_{\text{KI}}$  is a KI model on a ring of size  $t$  with twisted parameters  $\tilde{J}(J, b)$ ,  $\tilde{b}(J, b)$ .

Remarkably:  $\tilde{U}_{\text{KI}}$  is **unitary** for  $|J| = |b| = \pi/4$  (Self-dual,  $J = \pm \tilde{J}$ ,  $b = \pm \tilde{b}$ )

Space-time duality allows to simply express the disorder averaging:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \mathbb{E}_h [K(t)] \\
 & \equiv \\
 & \mathbb{E}_{h_3^z} \left[ \left[ \begin{array}{c} L \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{c} \downarrow h_L^z \\ \uparrow h_{L-1}^z \\ \downarrow h_4^z \\ \uparrow h_3^z \\ \downarrow h_2^z \\ \uparrow h_1^z \end{array} \left[ \begin{array}{c} L \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{array} \right] \right] \equiv \mathbb{T} \\
 & = \\
 & \text{tr} (\mathbb{T}^L) \quad \begin{array}{l} \swarrow \text{Unitary} \\ \searrow \text{Non-Unitary} \end{array} \\
 & \mathbb{T} \equiv \mathbb{E}_h \left[ \tilde{U}_{\text{KI}}[h\epsilon] \otimes \tilde{U}_{\text{KI}}[h\epsilon]^* \right] = (\tilde{U}_{\text{KI}} \otimes \tilde{U}_{\text{KI}}^*) \cdot \mathbb{O}_\sigma \quad \begin{array}{l} \nearrow \text{Contraction} \\ \searrow \end{array} \\
 & \mathbb{O}_\sigma = \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 (M_z \otimes I - I \otimes M_z)^2 \right]
 \end{aligned}$$



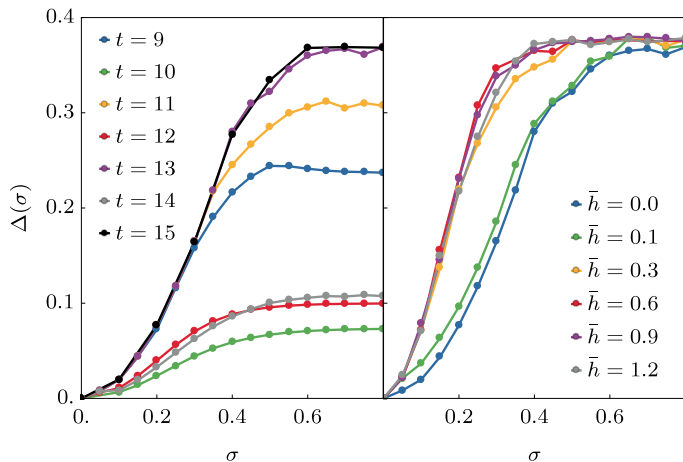
Space-time duality allows to simply express the disorder averaging:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \mathbb{E}_h [K(t)] \\
 & \equiv \\
 & \mathbb{E}_{h_{\vec{s}}} \left[ \left( \begin{array}{c} L \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{array} \right) \begin{array}{c} \downarrow h_L^z \\ \uparrow h_{L-1}^z \\ \downarrow h_4^z \\ \uparrow h_3^z \\ \downarrow h_2^z \\ \uparrow h_1^z \end{array} \left( \begin{array}{c} L \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{array} \right) \right] \equiv \mathbb{T} \\
 & = \\
 & \text{tr} (\mathbb{T}^L) \quad \begin{array}{l} \swarrow \text{Unitary} \\ \searrow \text{Contraction} \end{array} \\
 & \mathbb{T} \equiv \mathbb{E}_h \left[ \tilde{U}_{\text{KI}}[h\epsilon] \otimes \tilde{U}_{\text{KI}}[h\epsilon]^* \right] = (\tilde{U}_{\text{KI}} \otimes \tilde{U}_{\text{KI}}^*) \cdot \mathbb{O}_\sigma \quad \text{Non-Unitary} \\
 & \mathbb{O}_\sigma = \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 (M_z \otimes I - I \otimes M_z)^2 \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

Computation of thermodynamic SFF  $\lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{T}^L$  thus amounts to determining the multiplicity of eigenvalue 1 of  $\mathbb{T}$  and proving positive spectral gap.



# Empirical convergence of the spectral gap



The following is straightforward to show:

## Property 1

- 1 The eigenvalues of  $\mathbb{T}$  of maximal (unit) magnitude are either  $+1$  or  $-1$ .
- 2 Each eigenvector associated to the eigenvalue  $\pm 1$  is uniquely parametrized by an operator  $A \in \text{End}((\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes t})$  satisfying

$$UAU^\dagger = \pm A, \quad [A, M_\alpha] = 0, \quad \alpha \in \{x, y, z\}. \quad (1)$$

where we have defined  $M_\alpha = \sum_{\tau=1}^t \sigma_\tau^\alpha$ ,  $U = \exp \left[ i \frac{\pi}{4} \sum_{\tau=1}^t (\sigma_\tau^z \sigma_{\tau+1}^z - 1) \right]$ .

$U$  is the parity of half-number of domain walls in the spin configuration,  
 $U^2 = \mathbb{1}$ .



The following is straightforward to show:

## Property 1

- 1 The eigenvalues of  $\mathbb{T}$  of maximal (unit) magnitude are either  $+1$  or  $-1$ .
- 2 Each eigenvector associated to the eigenvalue  $\pm 1$  is uniquely parametrized by an operator  $A \in \text{End}((\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes t})$  satisfying

$$UAU^\dagger = \pm A, \quad [A, M_\alpha] = 0, \quad \alpha \in \{x, y, z\}. \quad (1)$$

where we have defined  $M_\alpha = \sum_{\tau=1}^t \sigma_\tau^\alpha$ ,  $U = \exp \left[ i \frac{\pi}{4} \sum_{\tau=1}^t (\sigma_\tau^z \sigma_{\tau+1}^z - 1) \right]$ .

$U$  is the parity of half-number of domain walls in the spin configuration,  $U^2 = \mathbb{1}$ .

*Observation:* The operators  $U, M_\alpha$  are translationally invariant and reflection symmetric  $\Rightarrow$  All elements of  $\mathcal{D}_t = \{\Pi^n R^m, n \in \{0, 1, \dots, t-1\}, m \in \{0, 1\}\}$  fulfill (1) with  $+1$ , where

$$\Pi = \prod_{\tau=1}^{t-1} P_{\tau, \tau+1}, \quad R = \prod_{\tau=1}^{\lfloor t/2 \rfloor} P_{\tau, t+1-\tau}$$

are *translation* and *reflection* on a spin ring of length  $t$ .



## Property 2

The number of linearly independent elements of  $\mathcal{D}_t$  is  $2t$  for  $t \geq 6$ ,  $2t - 1$  for  $t \in \{1, 3, 4, 5\}$ , and 2 for  $t = 2$ .





### Property 2

The number of linearly independent elements of  $\mathcal{D}_t$  is  $2t$  for  $t \geq 6$ ,  $2t - 1$  for  $t \in \{1, 3, 4, 5\}$ , and 2 for  $t = 2$ .

### Property 3

For odd  $t$ , Eq. (1) can be fulfilled only for eigenvalue  $+1$ .



### Property 2

The number of linearly independent elements of  $\mathcal{D}_t$  is  $2t$  for  $t \geq 6$ ,  $2t - 1$  for  $t \in \{1, 3, 4, 5\}$ , and 2 for  $t = 2$ .

### Property 3

For odd  $t$ , Eq. (1) can be fulfilled only for eigenvalue  $+1$ .

### Theorem

For odd  $t$ , all  $A$  satisfying (1) are given by linear combination of elements of  $\mathcal{D}_t$ .



## Property 2

The number of linearly independent elements of  $\mathcal{D}_t$  is  $2t$  for  $t \geq 6$ ,  $2t - 1$  for  $t \in \{1, 3, 4, 5\}$ , and 2 for  $t = 2$ .

## Property 3

For odd  $t$ , Eq. (1) can be fulfilled only for eigenvalue  $+1$ .

## Theorem

For odd  $t$ , all  $A$  satisfying (1) are given by linear combination of elements of  $\mathcal{D}_t$ .

*Observation:* For even  $t$ , we find generically exactly one additional operator  $A$  satisfying Eq. (1). For special values of  $t \leq 10$  we find an extra additional operator, and also solutions of Eq. (1) for eigenvalue  $-1$ .

$t$	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
$\#_{+1}$	2	5	7	9	13	14	18	18	22	22	25	26	29	30	33	34
$\#_{-1}$	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



- The first exact result on ergodicity in terms of spectral correlations for an interacting quantum many-body problem
- Self-dual instances of Kicked Ising chain provide a minimal model of quantum many-body chaos with no intrinsic time scales (Thouless time = 1)

Pending open problems and promising future directions:

- 1 Complete the picture by rigorous analysis of the even  $t$  case.
- 2 Structural stability of the self-dual point: Perturbation theory may have a finite radius of convergence?
- 3 Potentially accessible ergodicity – MBL transition from the ergodic side?
- 4 Computing dynamics of entanglement entropy via space-time duality.
- 5 Path to a rigorous approach to ETH?

This work has been supported by the Slovenian Research Agency (ARRS) and



European Research Council  
Established by the European Commission

