

# Emergent eigenstate solution of quantum transport far from equilibrium

Marcos Rigol

Department of Physics  
The Pennsylvania State University

*Spin and Heat Transport in Quantum and Topological Materials*

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In collaboration with:

*Deepak Iyer (Bucknell), Ranjan Modak (ICTP), Lev Vidmar (Jožef Stefan Institute)*  
*David Weiss, Wei Xu & Yicheng Zhang (Penn State)*

## 1 Introduction

- An experiment with ultracold bosons in 1D lattices
- Emergence of quasi-condensates at finite momentum

## 2 Emergent eigenstate solution

- Noninteracting fermions and related models
- Geometric quantum quench and emergent Hamiltonian

## 3 Emergent Gibbs ensemble

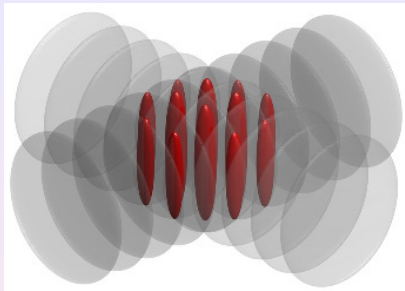
- Effective cooling during the melting of a Mott insulator
- Emergent Gibbs ensemble

## 4 Fully interacting example

- Spinless fermions with nearest neighbor interactions (XXZ chain)

## 5 Summary

# Experiments in the 1D regime



## Effective one-dimensional $\delta$ potential

M. Olshanii, PRL **81**, 938 (1998).

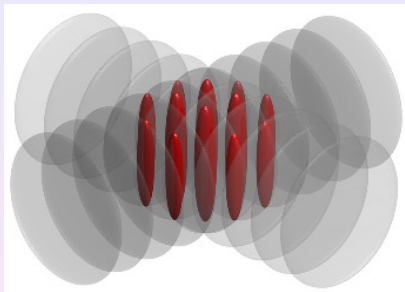
$$U_{1D}(x) = g_{1D}\delta(x)$$

where

$$g_{1D} = \frac{2\hbar a_s \omega_{\perp}}{1 - C a_s \sqrt{\frac{m\omega_{\perp}}{2\hbar}}}$$

Lieb & Liniger '63, Girardeau '60 ( $g_{1D} \rightarrow \infty$ )

# Experiments in the 1D regime



Lieb, Schulz, and Mattis '61 ( $U/J \rightarrow \infty$ )

B. Paredes *et al.*,  
Nature (London) **429**, 277 (2004).

$n(p)$ : Momentum distribution  $\Leftrightarrow$

$n(x)$ : Site occupations  $\Leftrightarrow$

Effective one-dimensional  $\delta$  potential

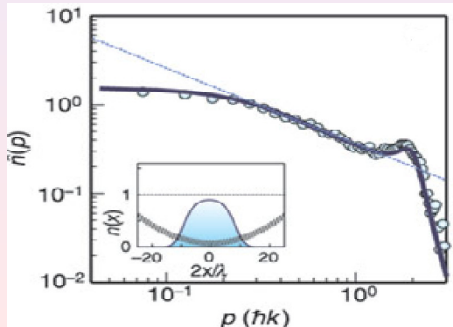
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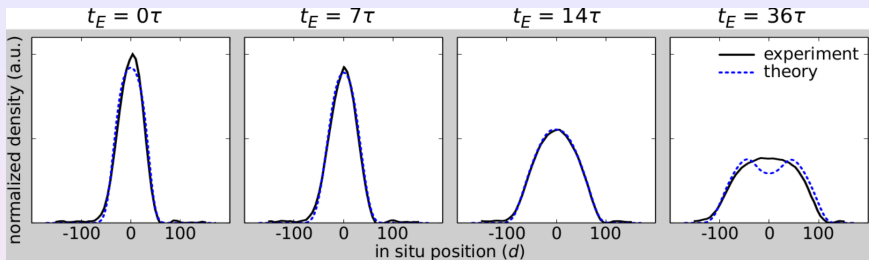
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# Emergence of quasi-condensates at finite momentum

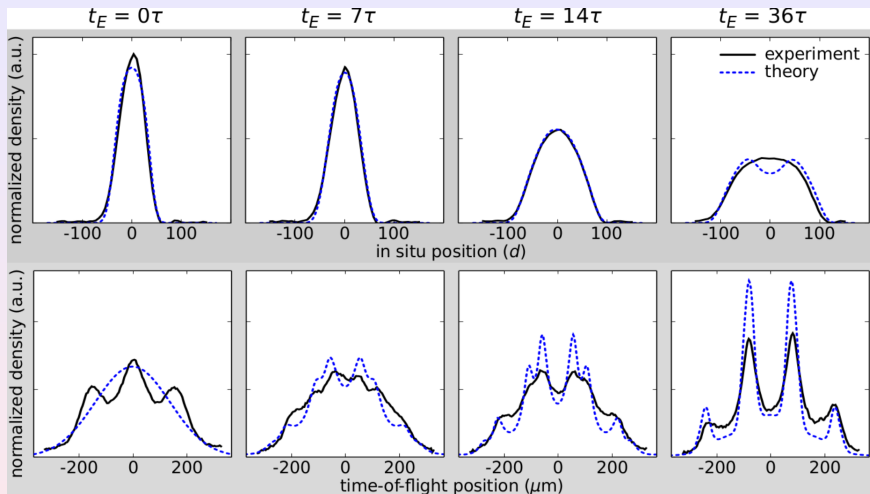


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# Bose-Fermi mapping in a 1D lattice ( $U \gg J$ )

Hard-core boson Hamiltonian in an external potential

$$\hat{H} = -J \sum_i \left( \hat{b}_i^\dagger \hat{b}_{i+1} + \text{H.c.} \right) + \sum_i v_i \hat{n}_i$$

Constraints on the bosonic operators

$$\hat{b}_i^{\dagger 2} = \hat{b}_i^2 = 0$$



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## Map to spins and then to fermions (Jordan-Wigner transformation)

$$\hat{\sigma}_i^+ = \hat{f}_i^\dagger \prod_{\beta=1}^{i-1} e^{-i\pi \hat{f}_\beta^\dagger \hat{f}_\beta}, \quad \hat{\sigma}_i^- = \prod_{\beta=1}^{i-1} e^{i\pi \hat{f}_\beta^\dagger \hat{f}_\beta} \hat{f}_i$$



## Non-interacting fermion Hamiltonian

$$\hat{H}_F = -J \sum_i \left( \hat{f}_i^\dagger \hat{f}_{i+1} + \text{H.c.} \right) + \sum_i v_i \hat{n}_i^f$$

# One-body density matrix

## One-body Green's function

$$G_{ij} = \langle \Psi_{HCB} | \hat{\sigma}_i^- \hat{\sigma}_j^+ | \Psi_{HCB} \rangle = \langle \Psi_F | \prod_{\beta=1}^{i-1} e^{i\pi \hat{f}_\beta^\dagger \hat{f}_\beta} \hat{f}_i \hat{f}_j^\dagger \prod_{\gamma=1}^{j-1} e^{-i\pi \hat{f}_\gamma^\dagger \hat{f}_\gamma} | \Psi_F \rangle$$

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## Time evolution

$$|\Psi_F(t)\rangle = e^{-i\hat{H}_F t} |\Psi_F^I\rangle = \prod_{\delta=1}^N \sum_{\sigma=1}^L P_{\sigma\delta}(t) \hat{f}_\sigma^\dagger |0\rangle$$

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## Exact Green's function

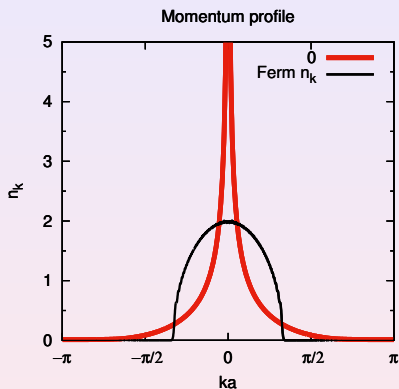
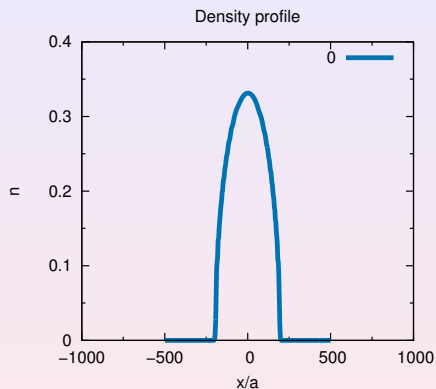
$$G_{ij}(t) = \det \left[ (\mathbf{P}^i(t))^\dagger \mathbf{P}^j(t) \right]$$

Computation time  $\propto L^2 N^3 \rightarrow$  study very large systems

$\sim 10000$  lattice sites,  $\sim 1000$  particles

MR and A. Muramatsu, PRA **70**, 031603(R) (2004); PRL **93**, 230404 (2004).

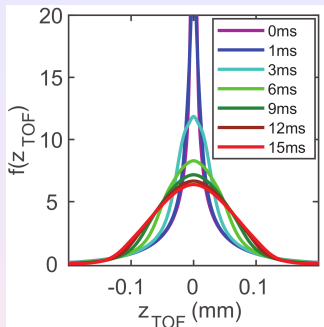
# Dynamical fermionization



M. Rigol and A. Muramatsu, Phys. Rev. Lett. **94**, 240403 (2005).

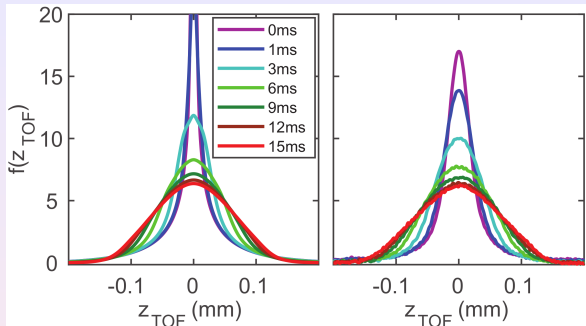
“Problem” with TOF: B. Sutherland, Phys. Rev. Lett. **80**, 3678 (1998).

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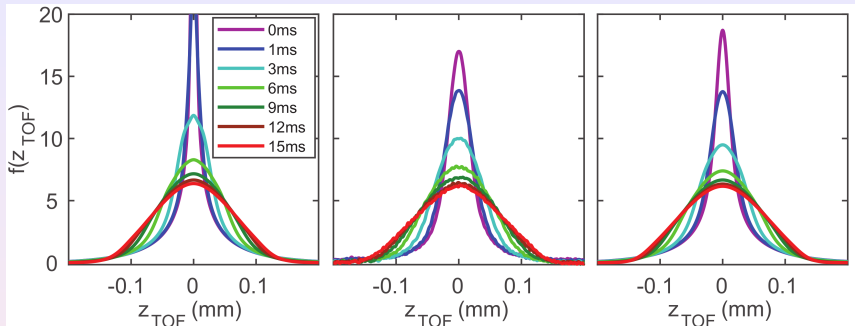
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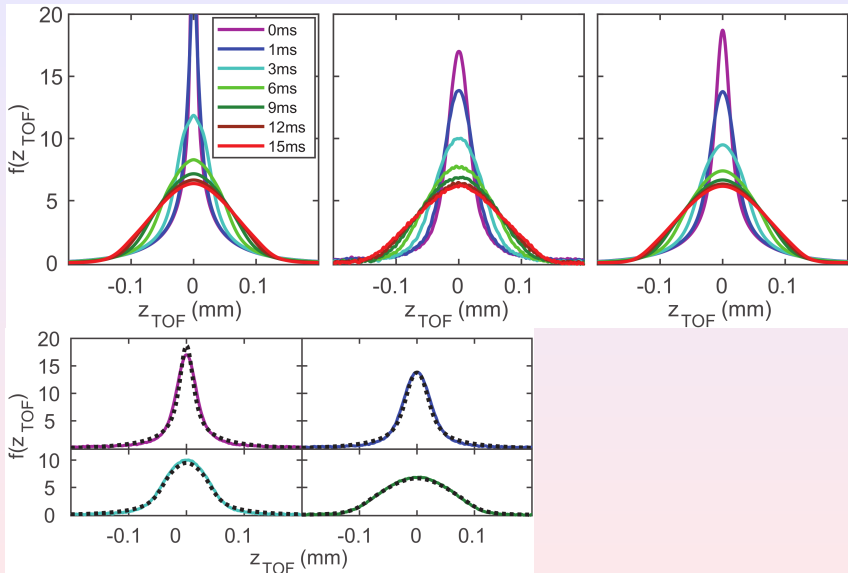
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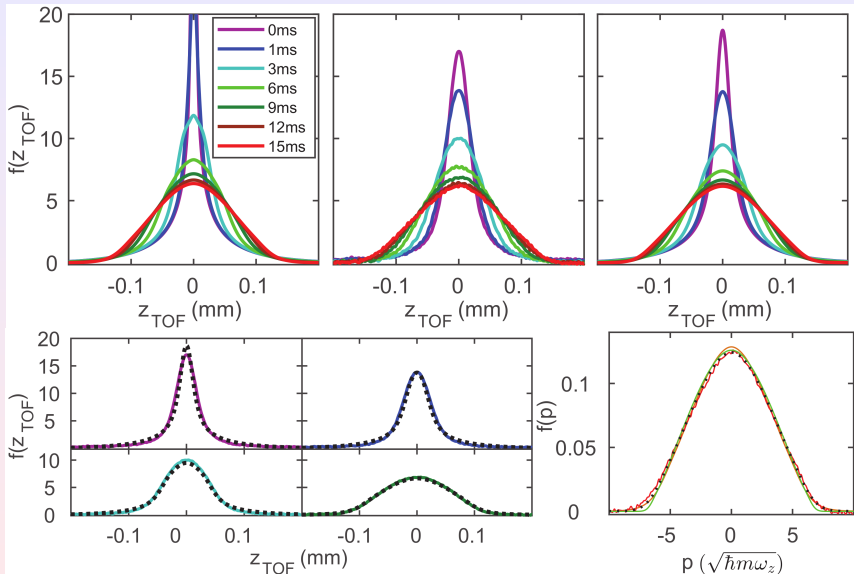


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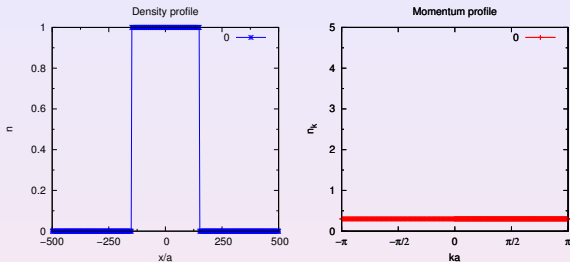
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# Emergence of quasi-condensates at finite momentum

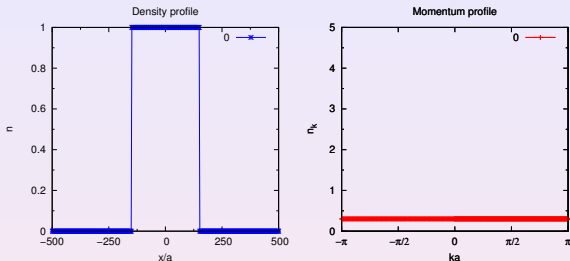
## Density and momentum profiles during the expansion



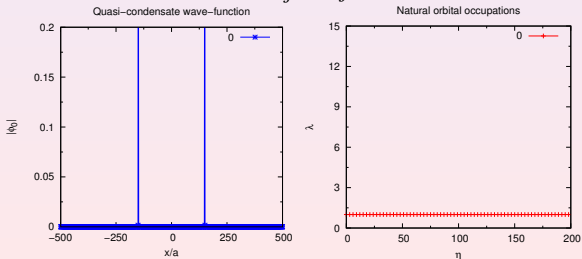
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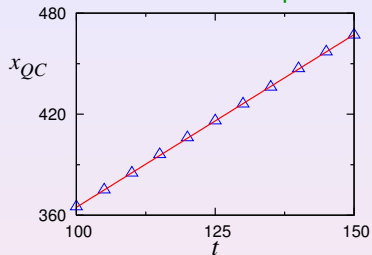
Dynamics of the natural orbitals:  $\sum_j \langle \hat{b}_i^\dagger \hat{b}_j \rangle \phi_\eta(j) = \lambda_\eta \phi_\eta(i)$



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# Emergence of quasi-condensates at finite momentum

## Quasi-condensate position



## Velocity of the quasi-condensate

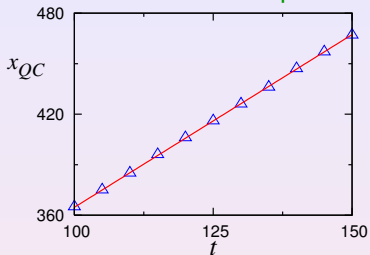
$$v_{NO} = \pm 2aJ = \frac{\partial \epsilon_k}{\partial k}$$

## Dispersion in the lattice

$$\epsilon_k = -2J \cos ka \implies k = \pm \pi/2a$$

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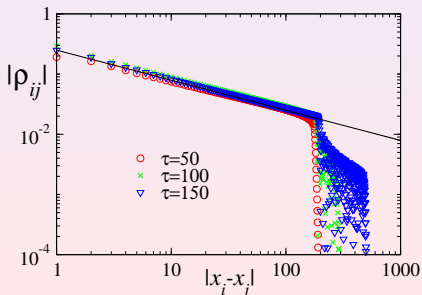
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## Quasi-condensate occupation

$$n_{k=\pm\pi/2}^{\max} \sim \lambda_0^{\max} \propto \sqrt{N}$$

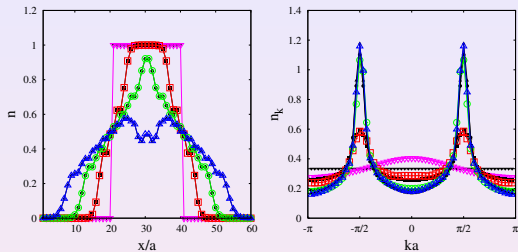
## One-body correlations

$$|\rho_{ij}| \propto 1/\sqrt{|x_i - x_j|} \implies$$



# Emergence of quasi-condensates (finite $U/J$ )

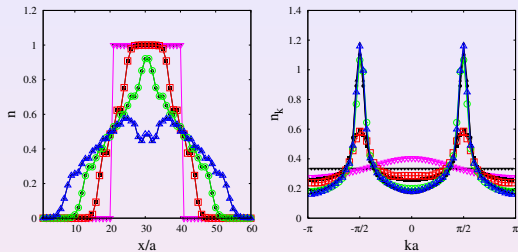
Density and momentum profiles during the expansion ( $U = 40J$ )



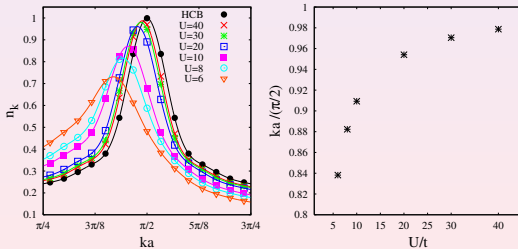
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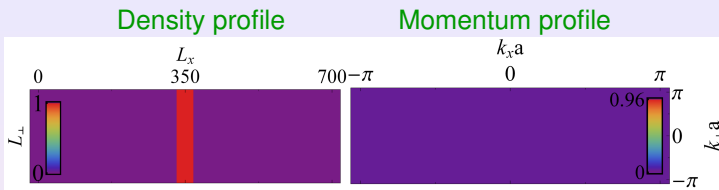
Quasi-condensate momenta



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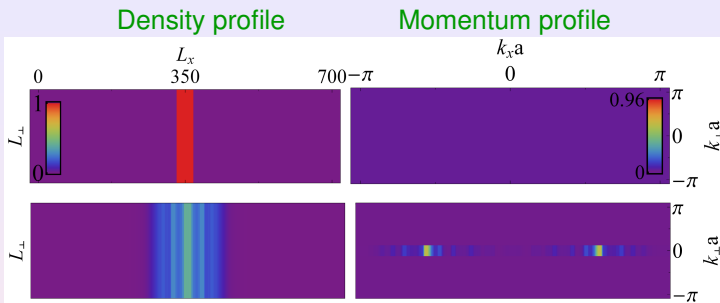


# Gutzwiller mean-field theory for $U \gg J$ in 3D



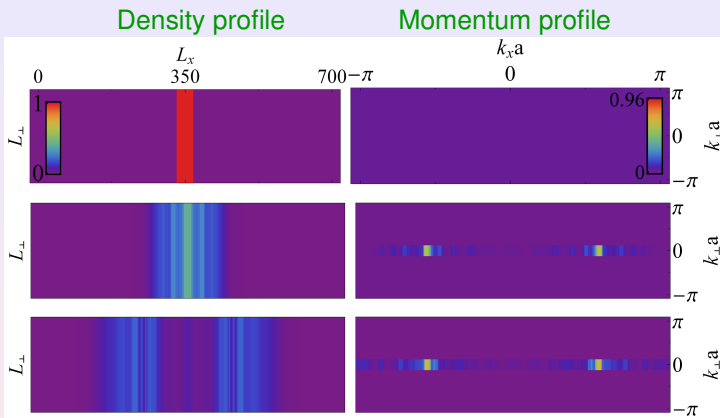
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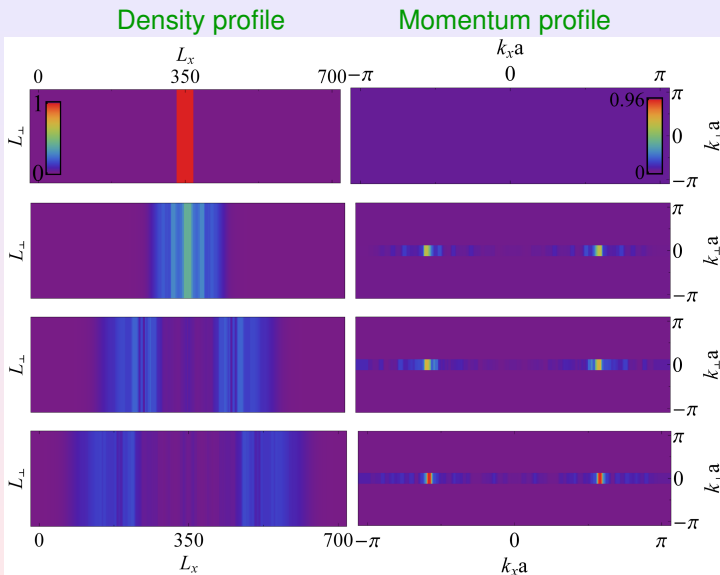
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- Spontaneous emergence of ground-state-like correlations  
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This is an example of a (geometric) quantum quench:

$|\psi_0\rangle$  is an eigenstate of some  $\hat{H}_0(\text{local})$ , and  $|\psi(t)\rangle = e^{-i\hat{H}t}|\psi_0\rangle$

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# Emergent eigenstate solution

Initial state:

$$(\hat{H}_0 - \lambda)|\psi_0\rangle = 0$$

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$$(e^{-i\hat{H}t}\hat{H}_0e^{i\hat{H}t} - \lambda)|\psi(t)\rangle \equiv \hat{M}(t)|\psi(t)\rangle = 0$$

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This is, in general, a useless observation because

$$\hat{M}(t) = \hat{H}_0 - \lambda - it[\hat{H}, \hat{H}_0] + \frac{(it)^2}{2!}[\hat{H}, [\hat{H}, \hat{H}_0]] + \dots$$

is highly nonlocal. Note that  $\hat{M}_H(t) = \hat{H}_0 - \lambda$ .

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Something remarkable occurs if

$$[\hat{H}, \hat{H}_0] = ia_0\hat{Q} \quad \text{with} \quad [\hat{H}, \hat{Q}] = 0.$$

We can define  $\hat{\mathcal{H}}(t) \equiv \hat{H}_0 + a_0t\hat{Q} - \lambda$ , and  $|\psi(t)\rangle$  is an eigenstate of  $\hat{\mathcal{H}}(t)$ .  
 $\hat{\mathcal{H}}_H(t) = \hat{H}_0 - \lambda$ ,  $\hat{\mathcal{H}}(t)$  is a local conserved quantity!

L. Vidmar, D. Iyer, and MR, PRX 7, 021012 (2017).

# Noninteracting fermions (or models mappable to them)

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Which means that ( $a_0 = -1$ ):

$$[\hat{H}, \hat{H}_0] = -i\hat{Q}, \quad \text{with} \quad \hat{Q} = \sum_l (i\hat{f}_{l+1}^\dagger \hat{f}_l + \text{H.c.}).$$

$\hat{Q}$  is the charge current, which is “conserved” (up to boundary terms).

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And the emergent Hamiltonian is

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}}(t) = \sum_l l \hat{n}_l - t\hat{Q} - \lambda$$

$|\psi(t)\rangle$  is the ground state of  $\hat{\mathcal{H}}(t)$  (up to corrections that vanish as  $L \rightarrow \infty$ ).

# Noninteracting fermions (or models mappable to them)

Boundary terms are responsible for the nonvanishing charge current

$$[\hat{H}, \hat{Q}] = -2i(\hat{n}_1 - \hat{n}_L)$$

This means that  $\langle \psi(t) | \hat{\mathcal{H}}(t) | \psi(t) \rangle \neq 0$ .

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One can compute it! Writing  $\langle \psi_0 | \hat{\mathcal{H}}_H(t) | \psi_0 \rangle$ , one gets

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-n)i^n t^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} \langle \psi_0 | \underbrace{[\hat{H}, [\hat{H}, \dots [\hat{H}, \hat{Q}] \dots]]}_{n \text{ commutators}} | \psi_0 \rangle.$$

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Quadratic term ( $n = 1$ ):

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Leads to a redefinition  $\lambda \rightarrow \lambda(t) = \lambda - t^2$ . Take particle number  $N = L/2$ .

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The result is exponentially small for  $t \lesssim 2N/e$ .

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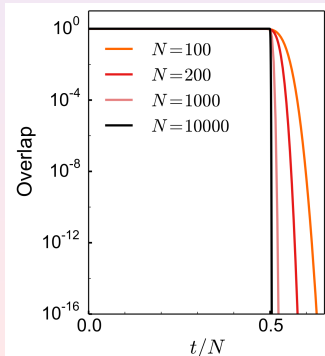
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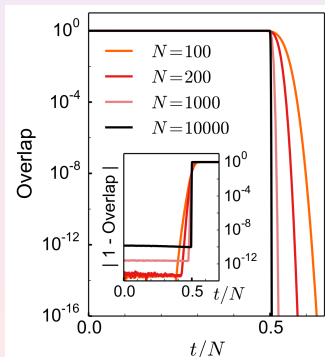
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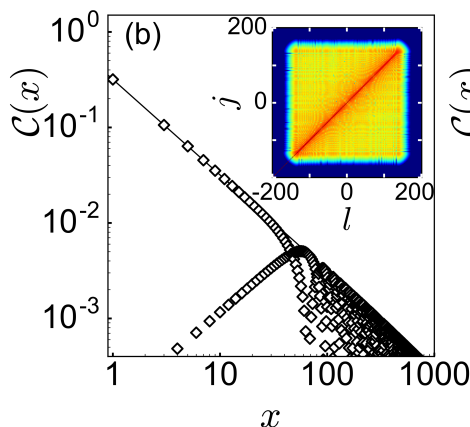


# Noninteracting fermions and hard-core bosons

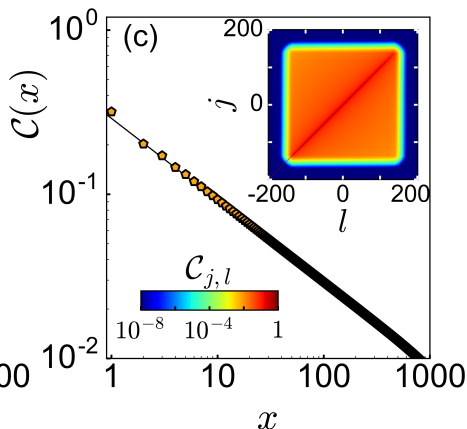
$$C_{j,l} = |\langle \hat{f}_j^\dagger \hat{f}_l \rangle|$$

$$C_{j,l} = |\langle \hat{b}_j^\dagger \hat{b}_l \rangle|$$

Noninteracting  
spinless fermions



Hard-core bosons



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# Dynamics of hard-core bosons at finite temperature

## One-body density matrix (grand-canonical ensemble)

$$\rho_{ij}(t) = Z_0^{-1} \text{Tr} \left[ e^{i\hat{H}t} \hat{b}_i^\dagger \hat{b}_j e^{-i\hat{H}t} e^{-(\hat{H}_0 - \mu\hat{N})/T} \right] \quad \text{where} \quad Z_0 = \text{Tr} [e^{-(\hat{H}_0 - \mu\hat{N})/T}]$$

MR, PRA **72**, 063607 (2005); W. Xu and MR, PRA **95**, 033617 (2017).

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## Mapping to noninteracting fermions

$$\rho_{ij}(t) = Z_0^{-1} \text{Tr} \left[ e^{i\hat{H}t} \left( \prod_{\alpha=1}^{i-1} e^{-i\pi \hat{f}_\alpha^\dagger \hat{f}_\alpha} \right) \hat{f}_i^\dagger \hat{f}_j \left( \prod_{\beta=1}^{j-1} e^{i\pi \hat{f}_\beta^\dagger \hat{f}_\beta} \right) e^{-i\hat{H}t} e^{-(\hat{H}_0 - \mu\hat{N})/T} \right]$$

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## Exact one-body density matrix

$$\rho_{ij}(t) = \frac{(-1)^{i-j}}{Z} \left\{ \det \left[ U_0^\dagger e^{iHt} O_j (I - A) O_i e^{-iHt} U_0 + e^{-(E_0 - \mu)/T} \right] - \det \left[ U_0^\dagger e^{iHt} O_j O_i e^{-iHt} U_0 + e^{-(E_0 - \mu)/T} \right] \right\}$$

## Computation time $\propto L^5$ : $\sim 1000$ sites

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# Melting of a finite-temperature domain wall

Initial state is thermal equilibrium state of:

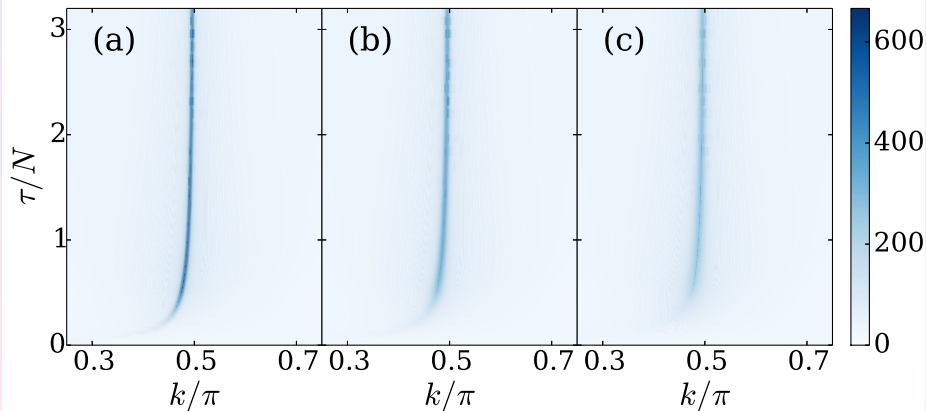
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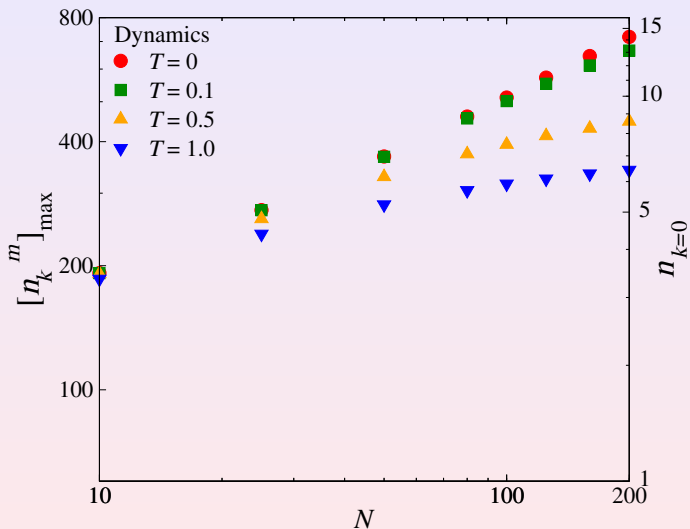
$n(k)$  for: (a)  $T = 0.1$                       (b)  $T = 0.5$                       (c)  $T = 1.0$



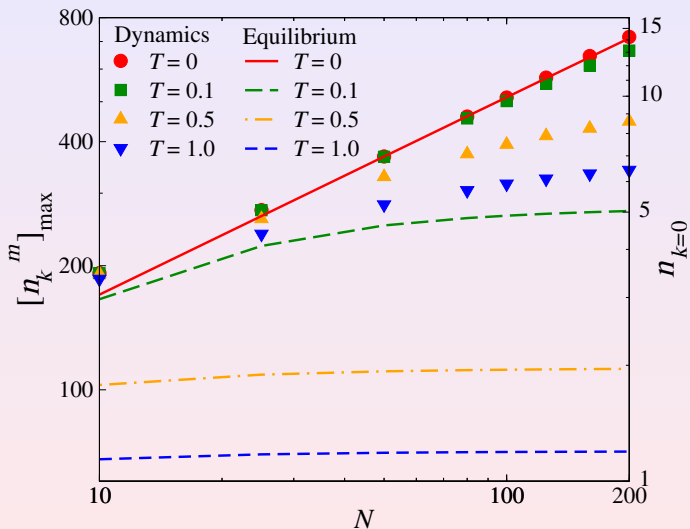
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# Emergent Gibbs ensemble

Initial state:

$$\hat{\rho}_0 = Z_0^{-1} e^{-\beta \hat{H}_0}, \quad \text{where} \quad Z_0 = \text{Tr}[e^{-\beta \hat{H}_0}]$$

L. Vidmar, W. Xu, and MR, PRA **96**, 013608 (2017).

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Again, one can introduce an operator  $\hat{\mathcal{M}}'(t) \equiv e^{-i\hat{H}t} \hat{H}_0 e^{i\hat{H}t}$  so that:

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If  $\hat{\mathcal{M}}'(t)$  is a local operator,  $\hat{\mathcal{M}}'(t) \equiv \hat{\mathcal{H}}'(t)$ :

$$\hat{\Sigma}(t) = Z_0^{-1} e^{-\beta \hat{\mathcal{H}}'(t)}.$$

Then the time-evolving state is a thermal state of an emergent Hamiltonian.

*Note that the temperature “is the same” as that in the initial state.*

L. Vidmar, W. Xu, and MR, PRA **96**, 013608 (2017).

# Initial state with a finite hopping amplitude

Initial state is a stationary state of:

$$\hat{H}_0 = - \sum_l (\hat{b}_{l+1}^\dagger \hat{b}_l + \text{H.c.}) + V_1 \sum_l l \hat{n}_l .$$

L. Vidmar, D. Iyer, and MR, PRX 7, 021012 (2017).



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$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mathcal{H}}(t) = & - \sum_l (\hat{f}_{l+1}^\dagger \hat{f}_l + \text{H.c.}) - \lambda \\ & + V_1 \left[ \sum_l l \hat{n}_l - t \sum_l (i \hat{f}_{l+1}^\dagger \hat{f}_l + \text{H.c.}) + t^2 (\hat{n}_1 - \hat{n}_L) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

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$\hat{\mathcal{H}}(t)$  can be rewritten as (replacing  $\hat{n}_1 \rightarrow 1$  and  $\hat{n}_L \rightarrow 0$ )

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}}(t) = -\mathcal{A}(t) \sum_l (e^{-i\varphi(t)} \hat{f}_{l+1}^\dagger \hat{f}_l + \text{H.c.}) + V_1 \sum_l l \hat{n}_l - (\lambda - V_1 t^2),$$

where  $\mathcal{A}(t) = \sqrt{1 + (V_1 t)^2}$  and  $\varphi(t) = \arctan(V_1 t)$ .

L. Vidmar, D. Iyer, and MR, PRX 7, 021012 (2017).

# Effective temperature

Effective Hamiltonian:

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\text{eff}}(t) = - \sum_l (e^{-i\varphi(t)} \hat{f}_{l+1}^\dagger \hat{f}_l + \text{H.c.}) + \frac{V_1}{\sqrt{1 + (V_1 t)^2}} \sum_l l \hat{n}_l,$$

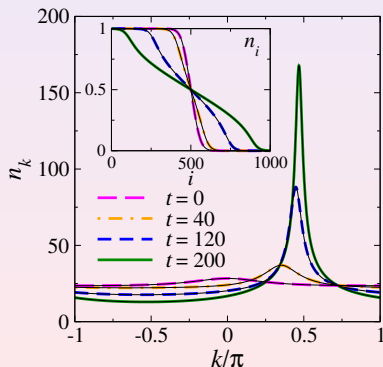
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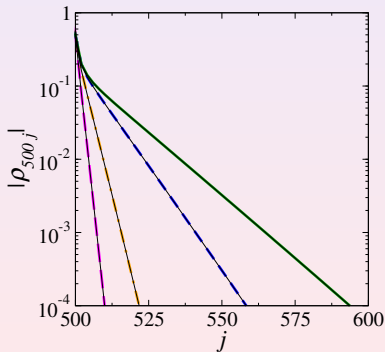
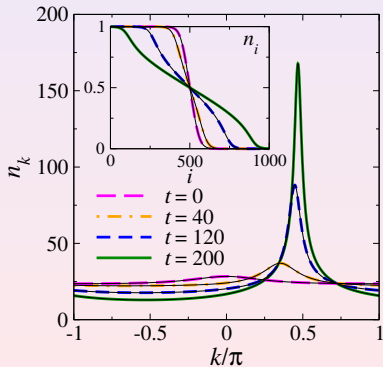
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# Spinless fermions with nearest neighbor interactions

Physical Hamiltonian:

$$\hat{H}(V) = \sum_{l=-N+1}^{N-1} \hat{h}_l(V), \text{ with } \hat{h}_l(V) = -(\hat{f}_{l+1}^\dagger \hat{f}_l + \text{H.c.}) + V(\hat{n}_l - 1/2)(\hat{n}_{l+1} - 1/2)$$



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And the emergent Hamiltonian is:

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}}_V(t) = \hat{H}_0(V) + t\hat{Q}(V)$$

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## Numerical verification

$$\hat{H}(V) \rightarrow |\psi(t)\rangle$$

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Overlap

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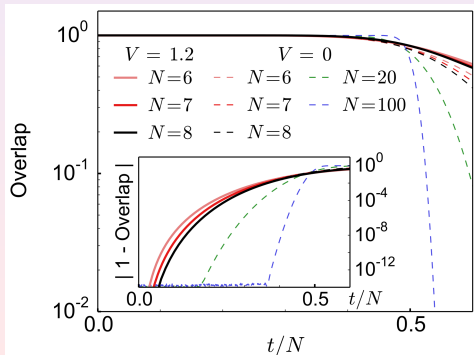
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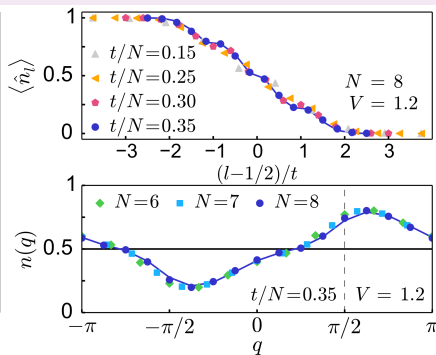
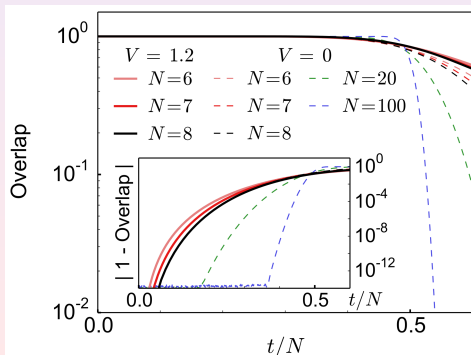
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$$|\langle \psi_t | \psi(t) \rangle|$$

## Site and momentum occupations

$$\hat{n}_l = \hat{f}_l^\dagger \hat{f}_l$$

$$n(q) = \frac{1}{2N+1} \sum_{j,l} e^{iq(j-l)} \langle \hat{f}_j^\dagger \hat{f}_l \rangle$$



- Geometric quenches (resulting in transport far from equilibrium) can produce states that are eigenstates of emergent local Hamiltonians

## Publications exploring these ideas:

- L. Vidmar, D. Iyer, and MR. *Emergent Eigenstate Solution to Quantum Dynamics Far from Equilibrium*. Phys. Rev. X **7**, 021012 (2017).
- W. Xu and MR. *Expansion of one-dimensional lattice hard-core bosons at finite temperature*. Phys. Rev. A **95**, 033617 (2017).
- L. Vidmar, W. Xu, and MR. *Emergent eigenstate solution and emergent Gibbs ensemble for expansion dynamics in optical lattices*. Phys. Rev. A **96**, 013608 (2017).
- R. Modak, L. Vidmar, and MR. *Quantum adiabatic protocols using emergent local Hamiltonians*. Phys. Rev. E **96**, 042155 (2017).
- Y. Zhang, L. Vidmar, and MR. *Quantum dynamics of impenetrable  $SU(N)$  fermions in one-dimensional lattices*. Phys. Rev. A **99**, 063605 (2019).

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- Geometric quenches (resulting in transport far from equilibrium) can produce states that are eigenstates of emergent local Hamiltonians
- For initial thermal states such quenches result in states that can be described by emergent Gibbs ensembles
- Only one conserved (or quasi-conserved) quantity is needed for the emergent Hamiltonian construction to work
  - Nonintegrable systems?

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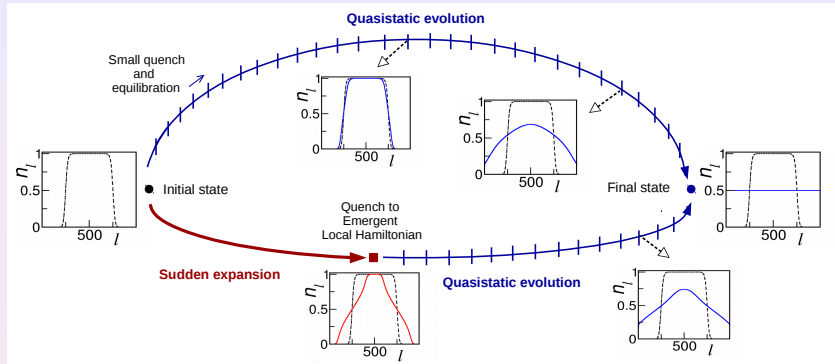
# Collaborators

- Deepak Iyer (Penn State → Bucknell)
- Ranjan Modak (Penn State → ICTP, Trieste)
- *Lev Vidmar (Penn State → Jožef Stefan Institute)*
- David Weiss & group (Penn State)
- *Wei Xu (Penn State → PayPal)*
- *Yicheng Zhang (Penn State)*
- Alejandro Muramatsu (Buenos Aires 1951- Stuttgart 2015)

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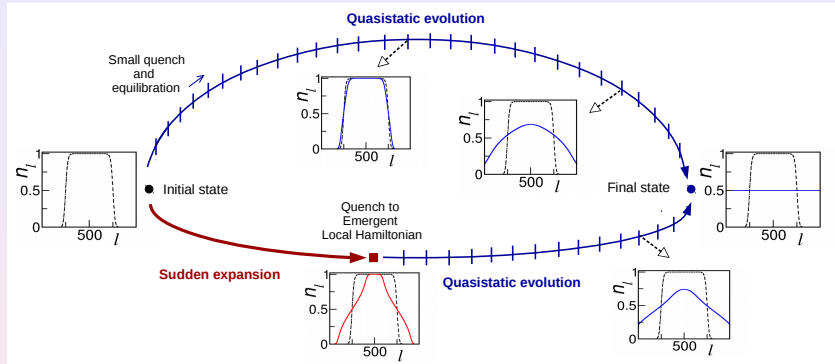


# Quasi-adiabatic transfer from power-law to box traps



R. Modak, L. Vidmar, and MR, PRE **96**, 042155 (2017).

# Quasi-adiabatic transfer from power-law to box traps



The emergent Hamiltonian for an initial harmonic trap takes the form:

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}}^{(2)}(t) = \frac{1}{R^2} \sum_{l=1}^L \tilde{l}^2 \hat{n}_l - \left(\frac{t}{R}\right)^2 \sum_{l=1}^{L-2} (\hat{c}_l^\dagger \hat{c}_{l+2} + \text{H.c.}) - \sum_{l=1}^{L-1} A^{(2)}(t, l) (e^{i\phi^{(2)}(t, l)} \hat{c}_l^\dagger \hat{c}_{l+1} + \text{H.c.})$$

$$\tilde{l} = l - (L + 1)/2, \quad A^{(2)}(t, l) = \sqrt{1 + [(2t/R^2)(l + 1/2)]^2}, \quad \phi^{(2)}(t, l) = \arctan [2t(l + 1/2)/R^2]$$

R. Modak, L. Vidmar, and MR, PRE **96**, 042155 (2017).