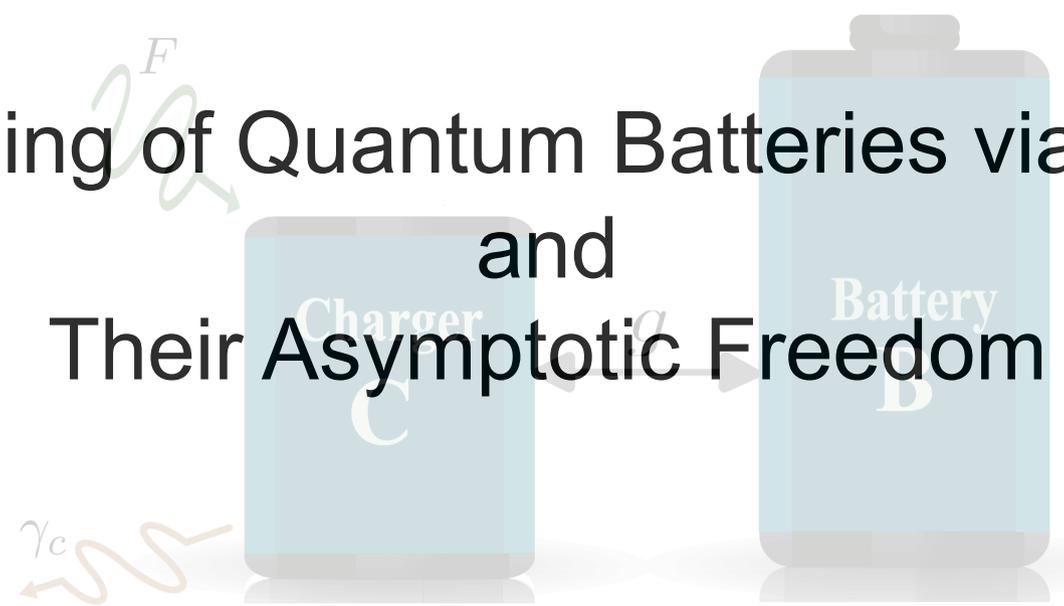


Fast Charging of Quantum Batteries via Dephasing and Their Asymptotic Freedom



Shastri, Jiang, Xu, Venkatesh & GW, npj Quantum Inf. **11**, 9 (2025)

Purkait, Venkatesh & GW, arXiv:2508.13497 (2025)

Gentaro Watanabe
(Zhejiang University)





IIT Gandhinagar



Dr. Rahul Shastri



Prof. B. Prasanna Venkatesh



Zhejiang Univ.



Dr. Chao Jiang
(Ningbo U. of
Fin. & Econ.)



Dr. Guohua Xu
(Univ. of Tokyo)

Shastri, Jiang, Xu, Venkatesh & GW,
npj Quantum Inf. **11**, 9 (2025)

Purkait, Venkatesh & GW, arXiv:2508.13497 (2025)



Dr. Chayan Purkait



Batteries (Energy storage)

Batteries: energy storage & power supply to other machines
For remote (spatial and/or temporal) usage.

Ubiquitous device with a large variety in size and purpose.



For power plants



For daily-life gadgets



For microdevices



Quantum batteries (QBs)

Quantum batteries: Quantum systems used to store energy.

Ex.: Two-level sys. (TLS), harmonic osc. etc.

Reviews: Bhattacharjee & Dutta, EPJ B **94**, 239 (2021)
 Quach, Cerullo & Virgili, Joule **7**, 2195 (2023)
 Campaoli *et al.*, ROMP **96**, 031001 (2024)

Unlike classical battery, quantum batteries are usually non-electric.

“Work reservoir”

Incentive:

Improving the battery performance using quantum resources
(quantum coherence, entanglement, etc.).

Alicki & Fannes, PRE **87**, 042123 (2013)

Hovhannisyan *et al.*, PRL **111**, 240401 (2013)

Binder *et al.*, NJP **17**, 075015 (2015)

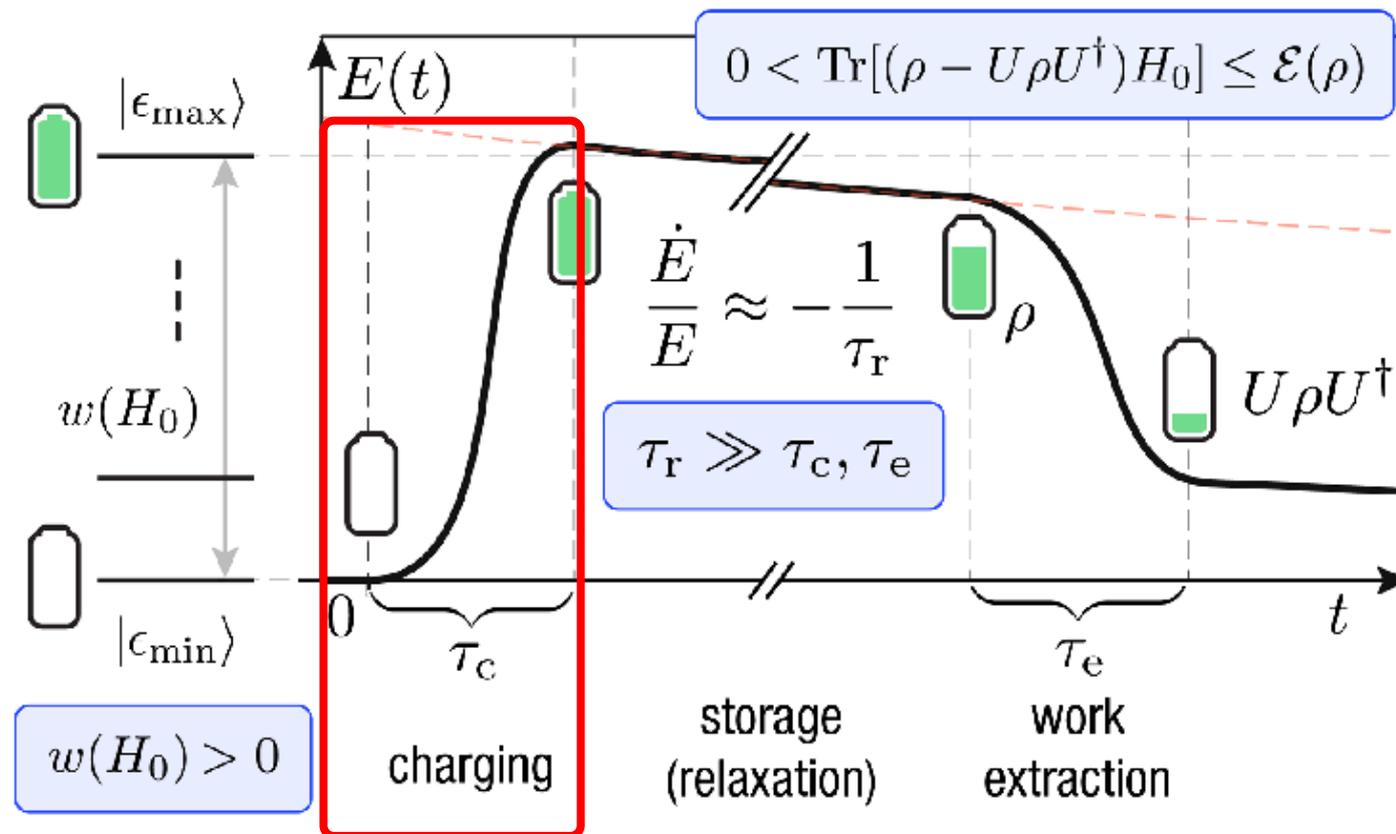
Campaoli *et al.*, PRL **118**, 150601 (2017)

Julia-Farre *et al.*, PRR **2**, 023113 (2020)

Andolina, Polini *et al.*; Gyhm, Safranek & Rosa; Barra, ...

An; Son, Talker, Thingna; ...

Quantum batteries in operation



Campaioli *et al.*, ROMP **96**, 031001 (2024)

1. **Charging**: Higher power, larger energy, smaller fluctuation
2. **Storage**: Smaller loss (leakage) for longer time
3. **Discharging**: Larger energy, higher/const. power, smaller fluct.



Quantum coherence: Nonzero off-diag. elements of $\hat{\rho}$ in \hat{H} -basis.

Originated from superposition of energy eigenst.

Such superposition is easy to destroyed by the interaction with environment.

Decoherence

Dissipation: Involving energy exchange with environment.

Dephasing: Without energy exchange with environment.

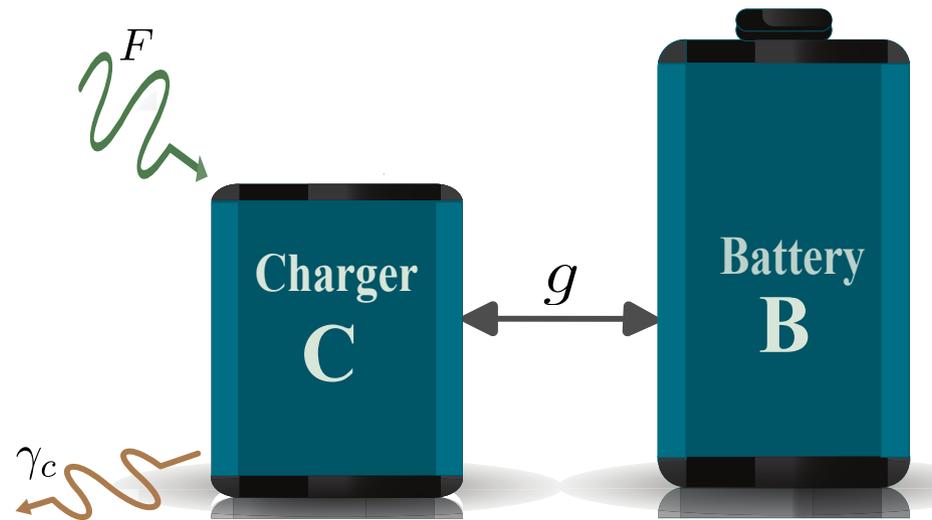
Open models of quantum batteries.

Farina *et al.*, PRB **99**, 035421 (2019)

Ghosh *et al.* PRA **104**, 032207 (2021)

Saha *et al.*, arXiv:2309.15634 (2023)

Shaghaghi *et al.*, Entropy **25**, 430 (2023)



Usually, decoherence is “thing to avoid”.

Decoherence (dephasing) as a **resource**?

Shastri, Jiang, Xu, Venkatesh & GW, npj Quantum Inf. **11**, 9 (2025)

Dephasing: Decay of off-diagonal elements in \hat{H} -basis.

(coherence: nonzero off-diag. elements in \hat{H} -basis.)

Example: For a TLS

$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|e\rangle + e^{i\theta}|g\rangle) \quad \{|e\rangle, |g\rangle\} : \text{basis of } \hat{H}$$

$$\hat{\rho} = |\psi\rangle\langle\psi| = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & e^{-i\theta} \\ e^{i\theta} & 1 \end{pmatrix} : \text{pure st.}$$

Dephasing \longrightarrow $\frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} : \text{statistical mix. } \begin{cases} |e\rangle & 50\% \\ |g\rangle & 50\% \end{cases}$

$$\langle \hat{H}^n \rangle \equiv \text{Tr}[\hat{\rho} \hat{H}^n] \text{ unchanged.}$$

Dephasing: Decay of off-diagonal elements in \hat{H} -basis.

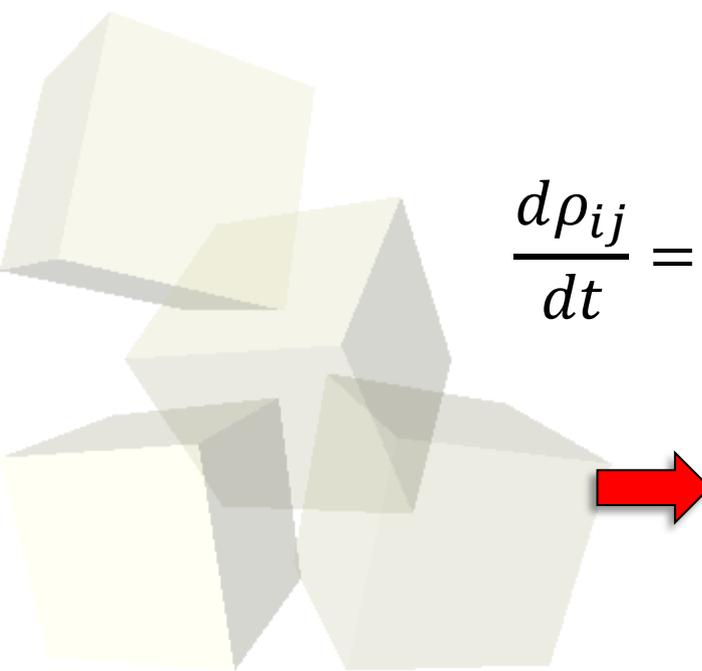
(coherence: nonzero off-diag. elements in \hat{H} -basis.)

Corresponding jump op. $\hat{L} \propto \hat{H}$ ($\hat{L} = \hat{H}/\varepsilon$).

$$\frac{d\hat{\rho}}{dt} = -i[\hat{H}, \hat{\rho}] + \frac{\tilde{\Gamma}}{2} (2\hat{H}\hat{\rho}\hat{H}^\dagger - \hat{H}^\dagger\hat{H}\hat{\rho} - \hat{\rho}\hat{H}^\dagger\hat{H}) \quad (\tilde{\Gamma} \equiv \Gamma/\varepsilon^2)$$

$$\hat{\rho}(t) = \sum_{i,j} \rho_{ij}(t) |\varepsilon_i\rangle\langle\varepsilon_j|$$

$$\frac{d\rho_{ij}}{dt} = -i(\varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_j)\rho_{ij} - \frac{\tilde{\Gamma}}{2}(\varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_j)^2 \rho_{ij}$$



$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{off-diag. } (i \neq j): \rho_{ij}(t) \propto \rho_{ij}(0) e^{-\frac{\tilde{\Gamma}}{2}(\varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_j)^2 t} \\ \text{diag. } (i = j): \rho_{ii}(t) = \rho_{ii}(0) \end{array} \right.$$



Master eq. describing dephasing:

$$\frac{d\hat{\rho}(t)}{dt} = \frac{\gamma}{2} (2\hat{L}\hat{\rho}(t)\hat{L} - \{\hat{L}^2, \hat{\rho}(t)\}) \quad \text{with} \quad [\hat{L}, \hat{H}] = 0$$

For a TLS with $\hat{H} = \omega\hat{\sigma}^+\hat{\sigma}^-$

$$\hat{L} = \hat{\sigma}^+\hat{\sigma}^-$$

Example:

1. Continuous weak energy measurement

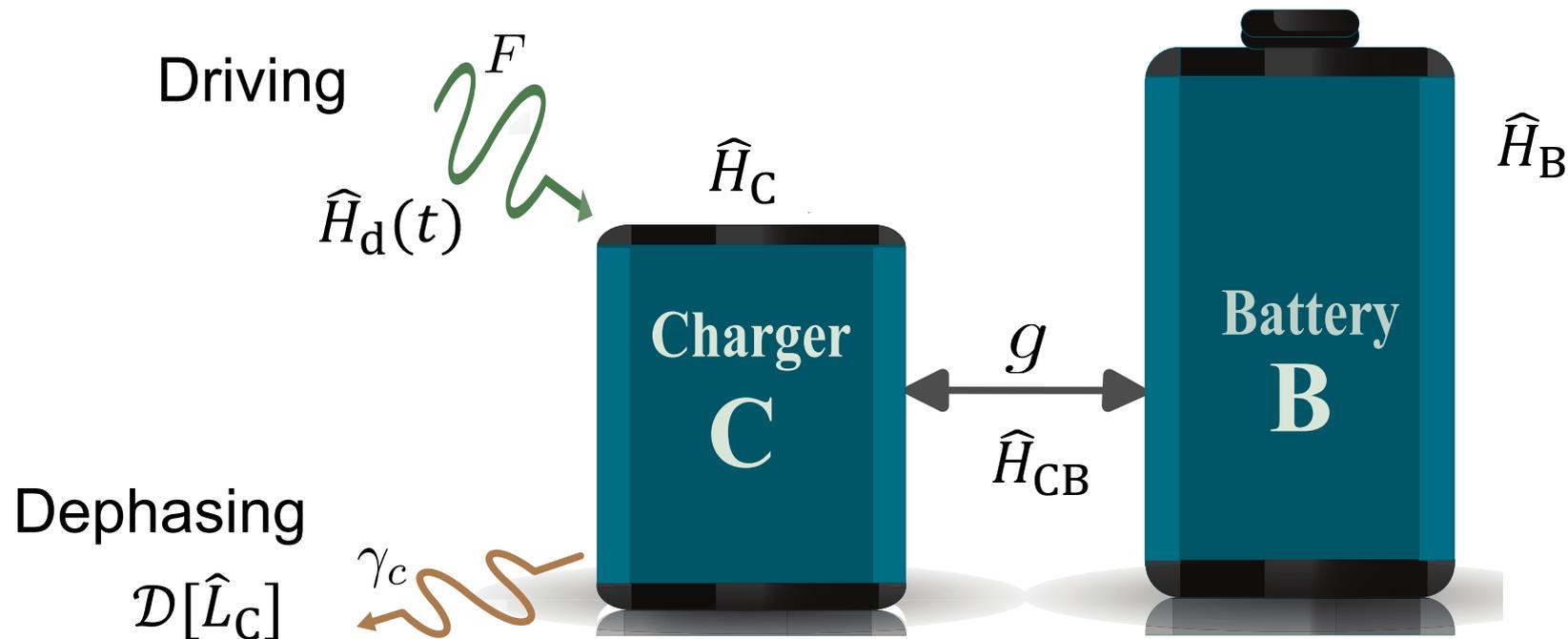
Initial st. with coherence reduces to one of the energy eigenst.

2. Spins under a noisy magnetic field

$$\hat{H}'(t) = B(t)\hat{\sigma}_z \quad \text{with} \quad B(t) = \sqrt{\gamma/2}\xi(t)$$

Relative phase in the initial superposition is randomized stochastically.

Ensemble avr. of $\hat{\rho} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & e^{-i\theta} \\ e^{i\theta} & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ with random θ .



$$[\hat{L}_C, \hat{H}_C] = 0$$

See also:

Farina *et al.* PRB **99**, 035421 (2019)

Saha *et al.* arXiv:2309.15634 (2023)

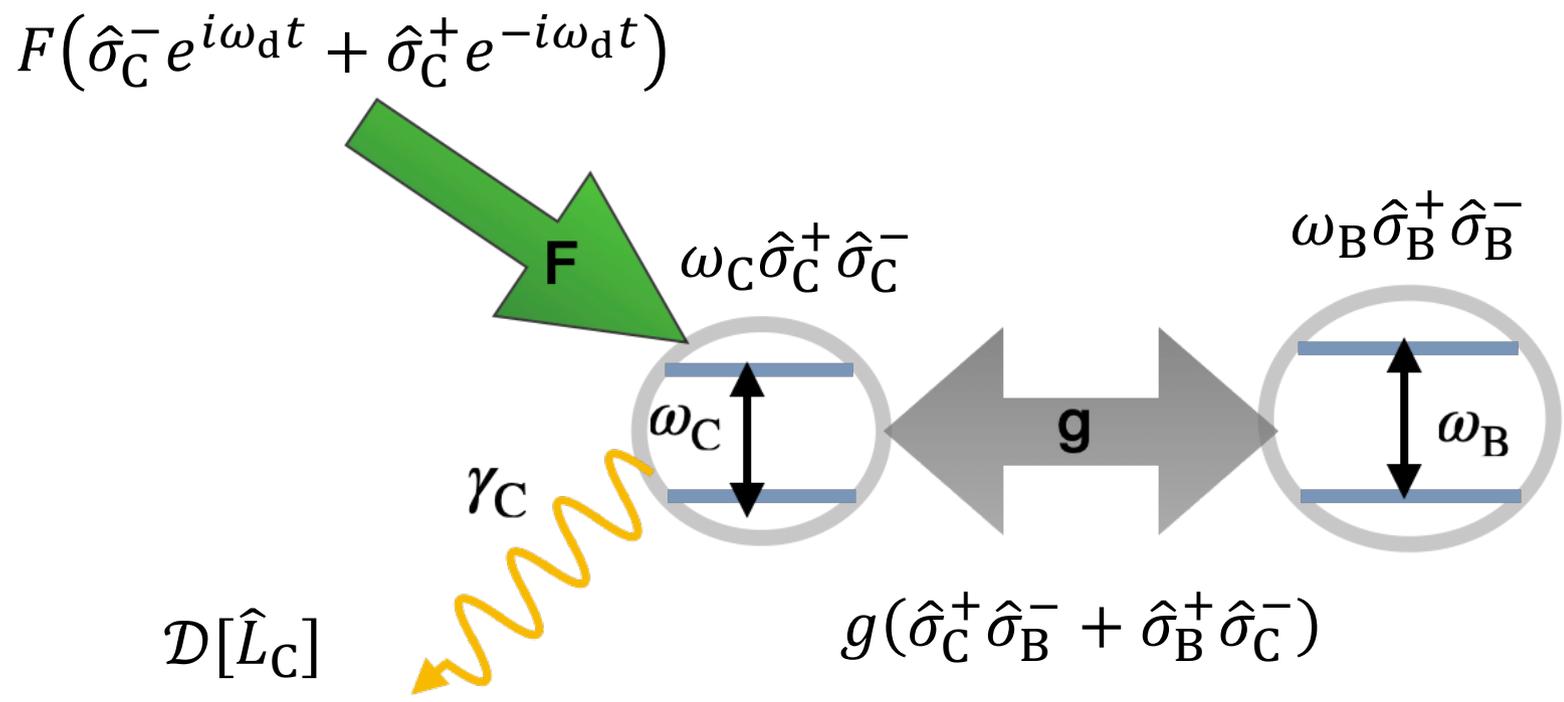
$$\hat{H}(t) = \hat{H}_C + \hat{H}_d(t) + \hat{H}_B + \hat{H}_{CB}$$

$$\frac{d\hat{\rho}(t)}{dt} = -i[\hat{H}, \hat{\rho}(t)] + \frac{\gamma_c}{2} (2\hat{L}_C\hat{\rho}(t)\hat{L}_C - \{\hat{L}_C^2, \hat{\rho}(t)\})$$

$$\equiv -i[\hat{H}, \hat{\rho}(t)] + \mathcal{D}[\hat{L}_C] \hat{\rho}(t)$$



Two-level systems (TLSs)



$$\hat{L}_C = \hat{\sigma}_C^+ \hat{\sigma}_C^- = (\mathbb{I} + \hat{\sigma}_C^z)/2$$

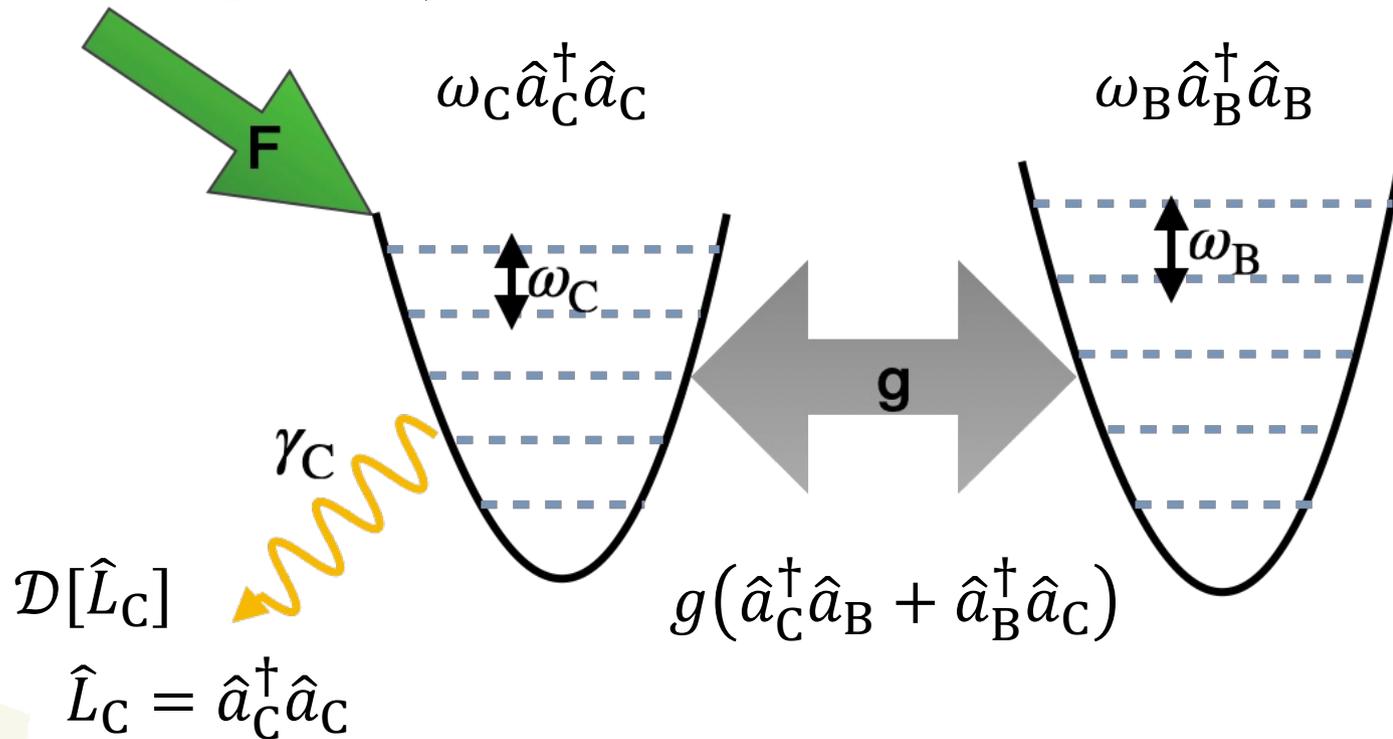
initial st.: $\hat{\rho}(0) = |g\rangle\langle g|_B \otimes |g\rangle\langle g|_C$

$$\hat{H} = \omega_C \hat{\sigma}_C^+ \hat{\sigma}_C^- + \omega_B \hat{\sigma}_B^+ \hat{\sigma}_B^- + g(\hat{\sigma}_C^+ \hat{\sigma}_B^- + \hat{\sigma}_B^+ \hat{\sigma}_C^-) + F(\hat{\sigma}_C^- e^{i\omega_d t} + \hat{\sigma}_C^+ e^{-i\omega_d t})$$

$$\omega_C = \omega_B \implies [\hat{H}_C + \hat{H}_B, \hat{H}_{CB}] = 0$$

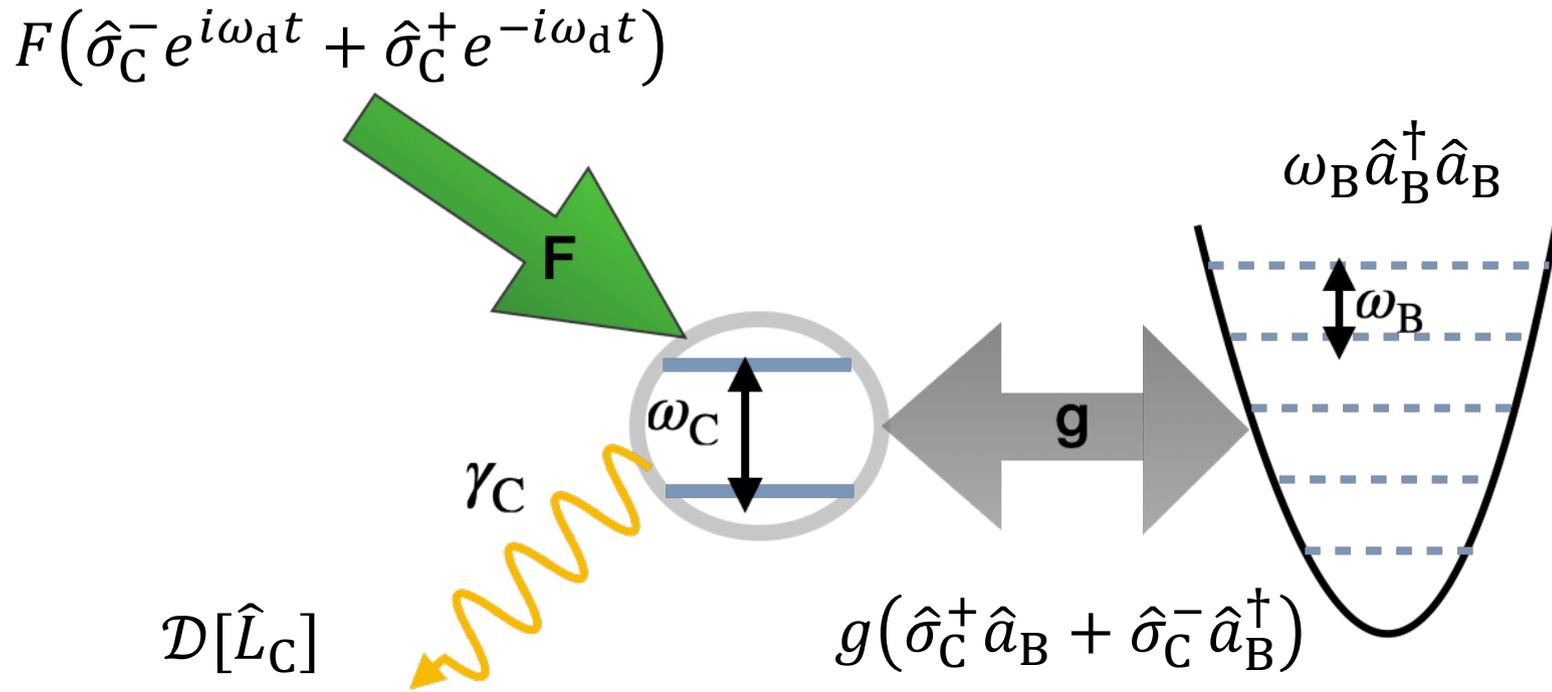
Harmonic oscillators (HOs)

$$F(\hat{a}_C e^{i\omega_d t} + \hat{a}_C^\dagger e^{-i\omega_d t})$$



$$\hat{H} = \omega_C \hat{a}_C^\dagger \hat{a}_C + \omega_B \hat{a}_B^\dagger \hat{a}_B + g(\hat{a}_C^\dagger \hat{a}_B + \hat{a}_B^\dagger \hat{a}_C) + F(\hat{a}_C e^{i\omega_d t} + \hat{a}_C^\dagger e^{-i\omega_d t})$$

$$\omega_C = \omega_B \implies [\hat{H}_C + \hat{H}_B, \hat{H}_{CB}] = 0$$



$$\hat{L}_C = \hat{\sigma}_C^+ \hat{\sigma}_C^- = (\mathbb{I} + \hat{\sigma}_C^Z)/2$$

$$\hat{H} = \omega_C \hat{\sigma}_C^+ \hat{\sigma}_C^- + \omega_B \hat{a}_B^\dagger \hat{a}_B + g(\hat{\sigma}_C^+ \hat{a}_B + \hat{\sigma}_C^- \hat{a}_B^\dagger) + F(\hat{\sigma}_C^- e^{i\omega_d t} + \hat{\sigma}_C^+ e^{-i\omega_d t})$$

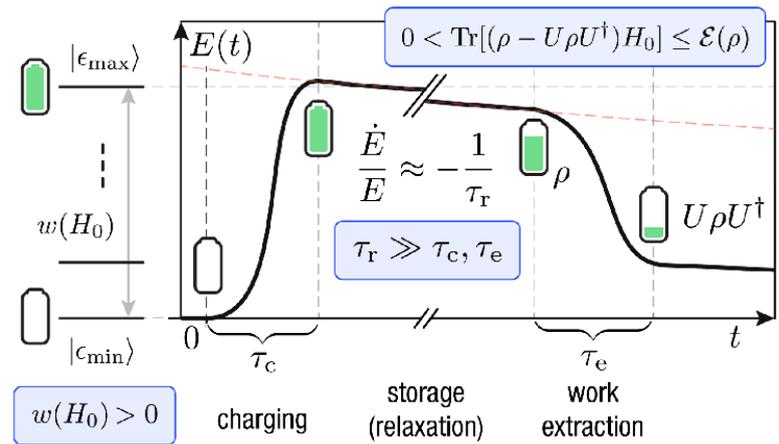
$$\omega_C = \omega_B \implies [\hat{H}_C + \hat{H}_B, \hat{H}_{CB}] = 0$$

Energy of the battery E_B

$$E_B = \text{Tr}_B[\hat{\rho}_B \hat{H}_B]$$

Ergotropy of the battery \mathcal{E}_B

$$\mathcal{E}_B = E_B - \min_{\hat{U}_B \in \text{SU}(d)} \text{Tr}_B[\hat{U}_B \hat{\rho}_B \hat{U}_B^\dagger \hat{H}_B]$$



[Campaoli *et al.*, ROMP **96**, 031001 (2024)]

[Allahverdyan *et al.* EPL **67**, 565 (2004)]

Maximum extractable energy by all possible unitary.

“quality” of the energy

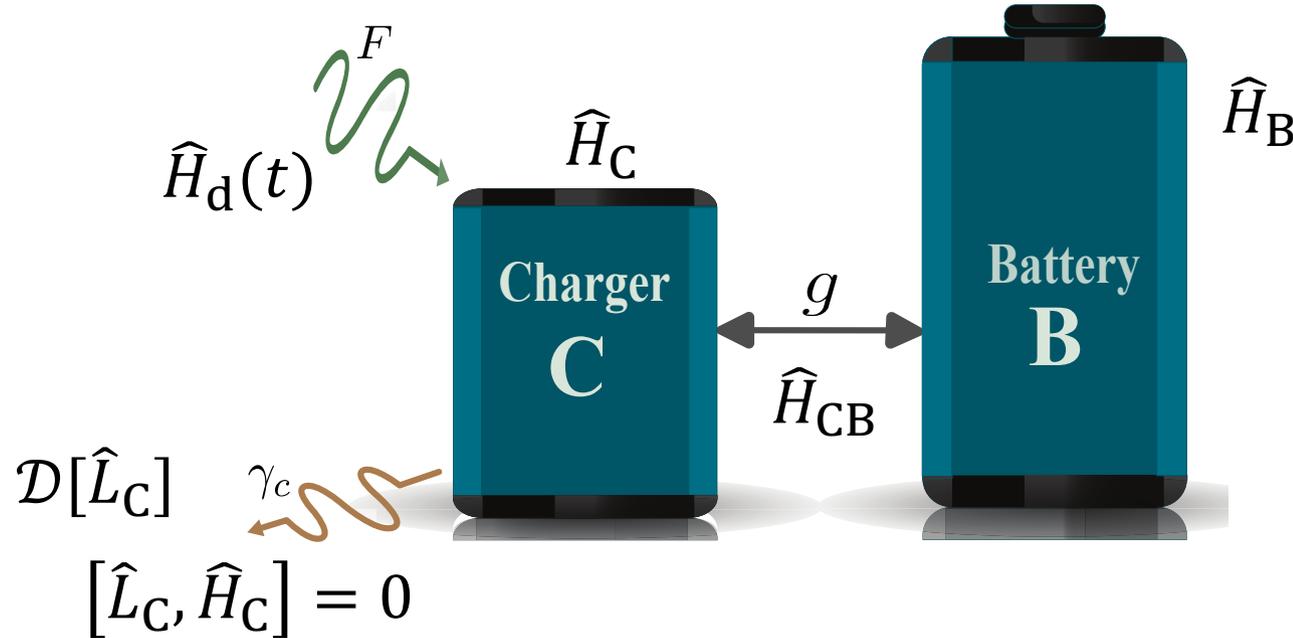
Charging time τ

$$\left| \frac{E_B(\tau) - E_B(\infty)}{E_B(0) - E_B(\infty)} \right| = e^{-n}$$

(standard exp decay: $n = 1$)



Setup of the numerical simulations



Initial state: $\hat{\rho}(0) = |g\rangle\langle g|_B \otimes |g\rangle\langle g|_C$
 Both battery & charger are “empty”.

Evolution:
$$\frac{d\hat{\rho}(t)}{dt} = -i[\hat{H}(t), \hat{\rho}(t)] + \mathcal{D}[\hat{L}_C] \hat{\rho}(t)$$

Battery will be charged up by the charger under driving $\hat{H}_d(t)$.



Results

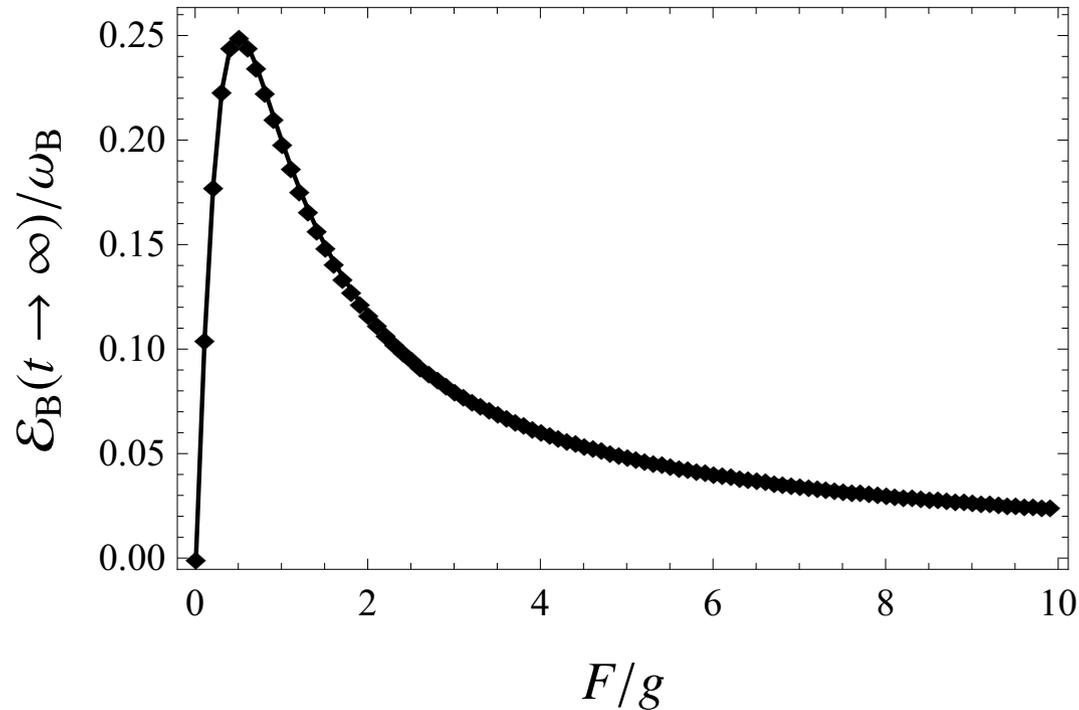
Shastri, Jiang, Xu, Venkatesh & GW, npj Quantum Inf. **11**, 9 (2025)

Purkait, Venkatesh & GW, arXiv:2508.13497 (2025)



TLs at resonance: Steady state

At resonance: $\omega_B = \omega_C = \omega_d$



Steady st. E_B & \mathcal{E}_B are indep. of γ_C .

$$E_B(\infty) / \omega_B = \frac{1}{2}$$

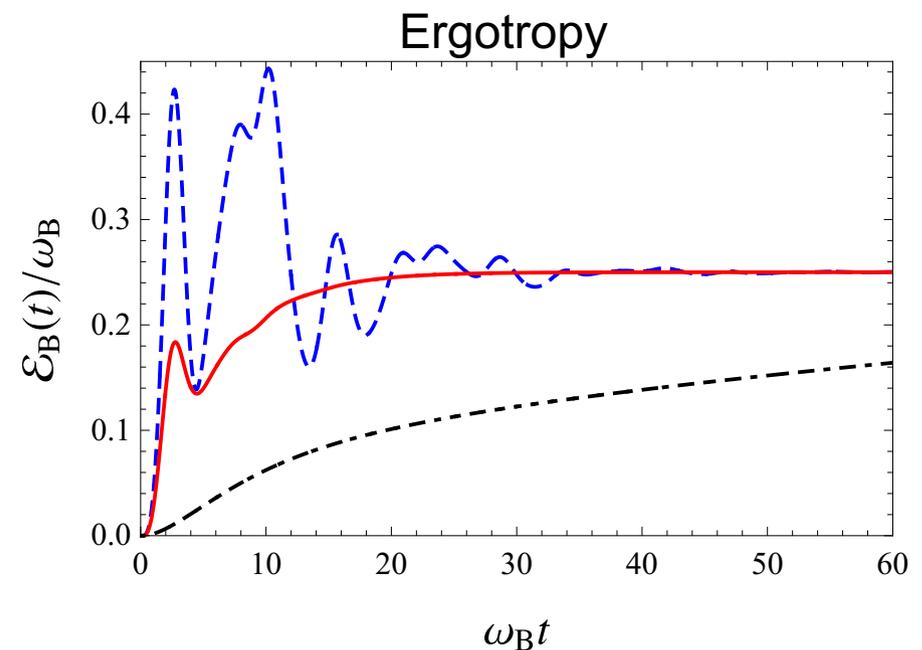
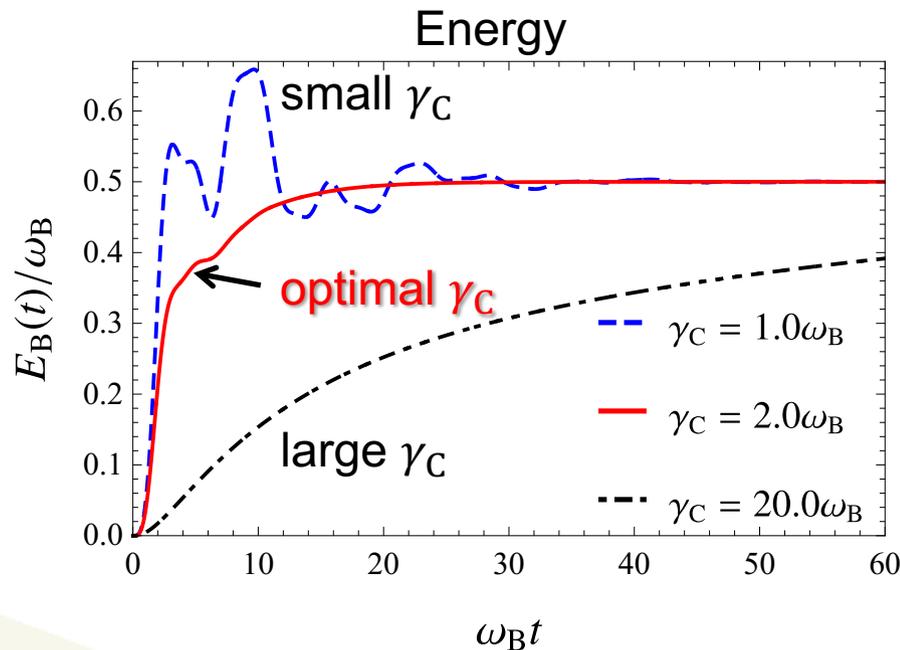
$$\mathcal{E}_B(\infty) / \omega_B = \frac{F/g}{1 + (F/g)^2}$$

$\mathcal{E}_B(\infty)$ takes max ($0.25\omega_B$) when $F/g = 0.5$.



TLs at resonance: Charging dynamics

For intermediate (optimal) driving: $F/g = 0.5$ ($g = 1.0\omega_B$)



Moderate dephasing leads to fast stabilization to steady state!

Transient maxima are **impractical**:

1. Fine temporal control is required.
2. Disturbance by sudden parameter change for decoupling is inevitable.

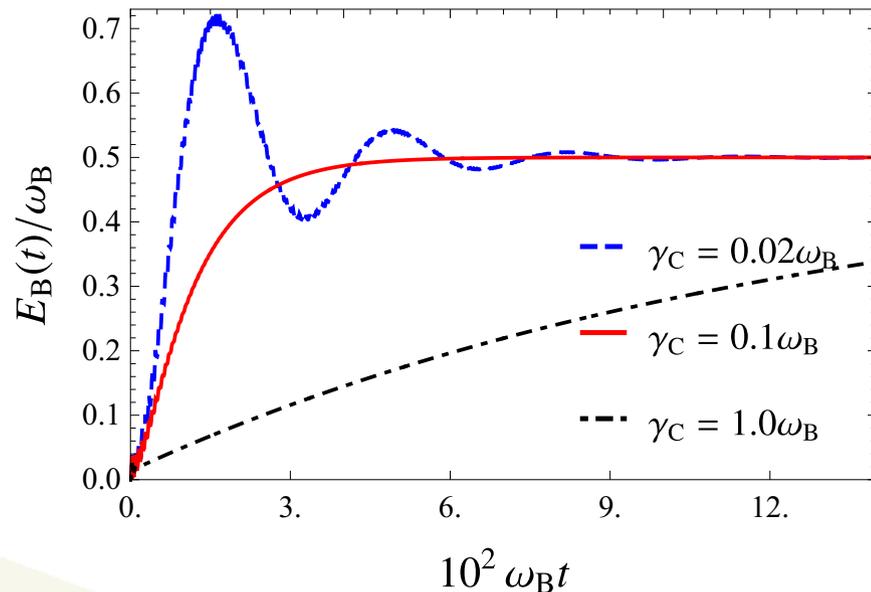


TLs at resonance: Charging dynamics

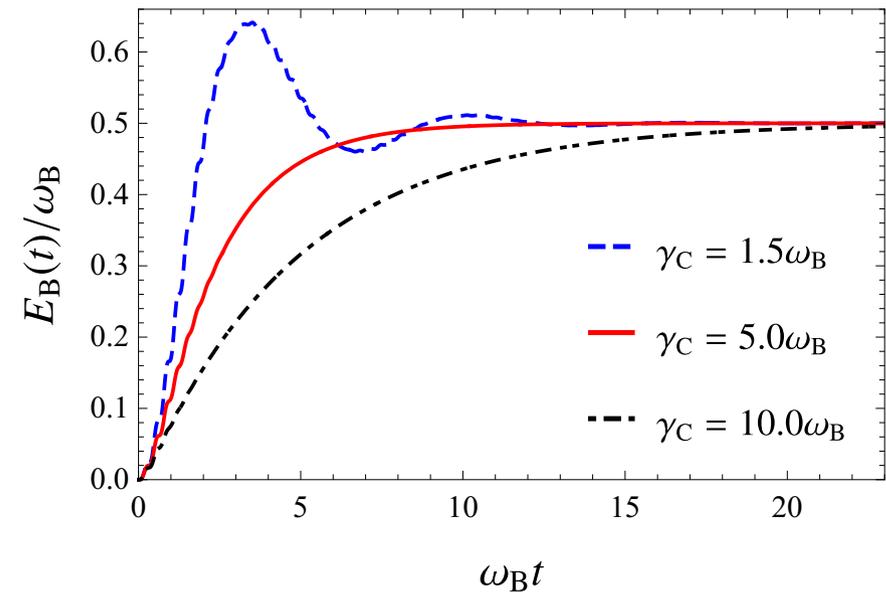
Weak & strong driving

($g = 1.0\omega_B$)

$F/g = 0.1$



$F/g = 10$



Moderate dephasing leads to fast stabilization to steady state!

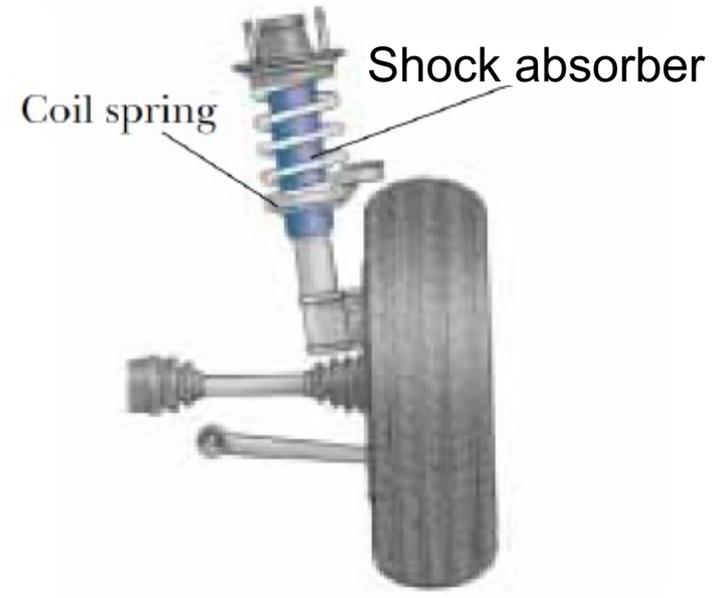
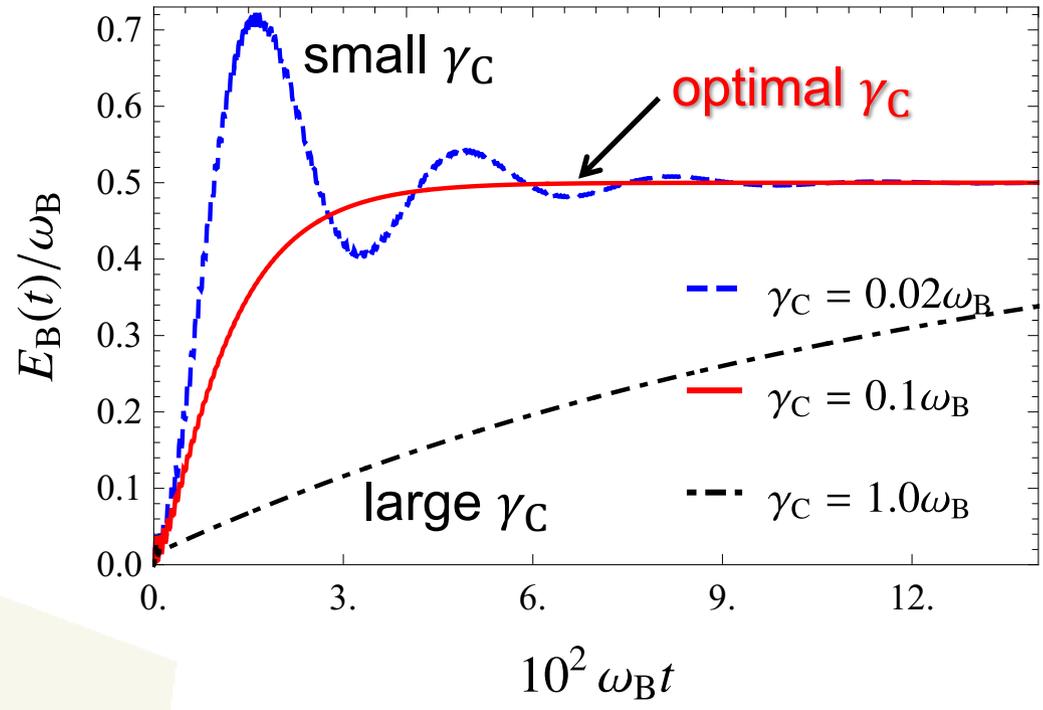
Transient maxima are **impractical**:

1. Fine temporal control is required.
2. Disturbance by sudden parameter change for decoupling is inevitable.



Coherent osc. vs quantum-Zeno

Moderate dephasing leads to fast charging!



- weak dephasing ($\gamma_C \lesssim F, g$): underdamped coherent oscillation
- strong dephasing ($\gamma_C \gg F, g$): quantum Zeno effect \rightarrow slow energy flow
- \rightarrow Optimal γ_C with fast relaxation.

Dephasing works as something similar to a shock absorber of the car.



Universal competition under dephasing

Competition:

Coherent oscillation

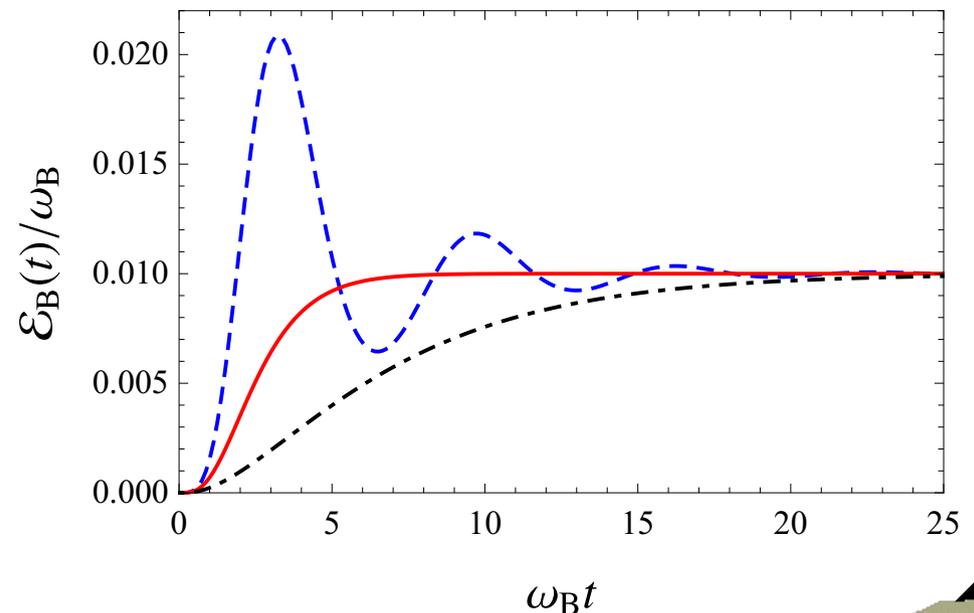
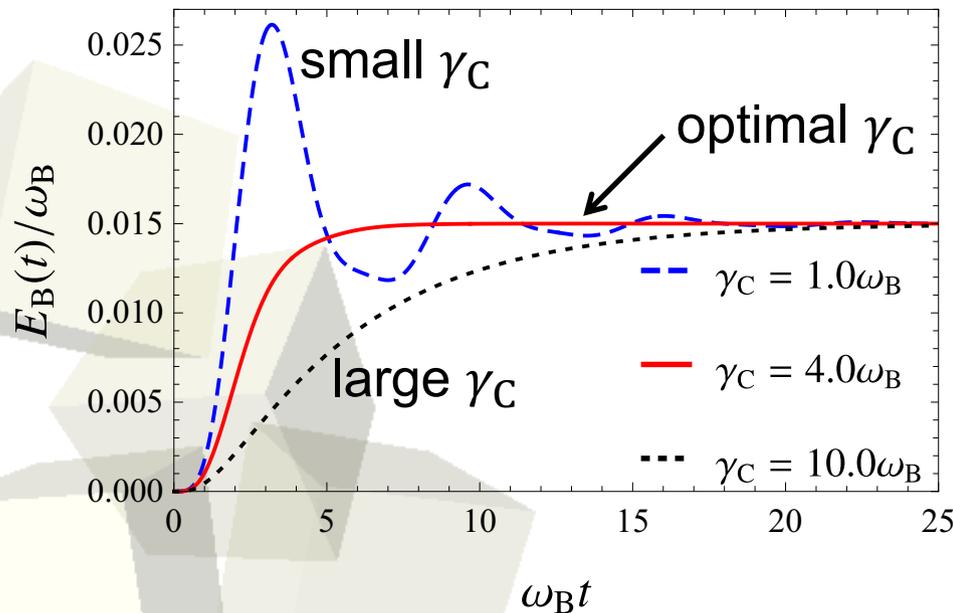
vs

Quantum Zeno freezing

Universal for systems under dephasing.

HOs at resonance

$(F/g = 0.1, g = 1.0\omega_B)$





Universal competition under dephasing

Competition:

Coherent oscillation

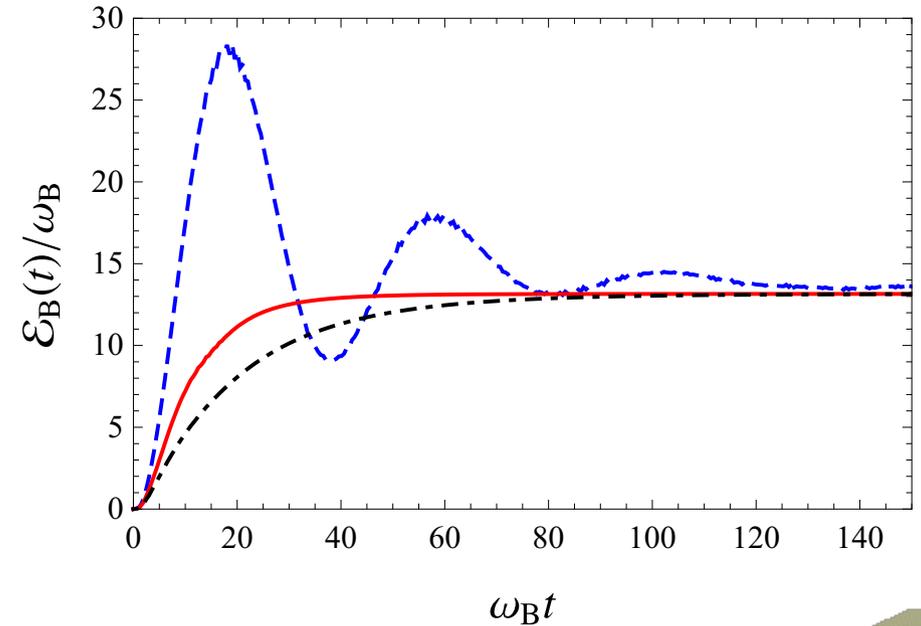
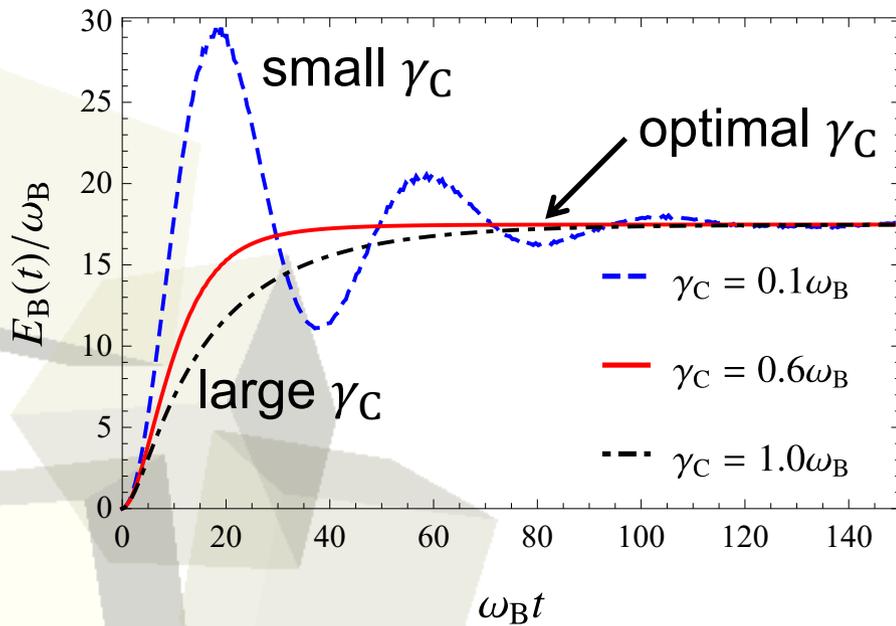
vs

Quantum Zeno freezing

Universal for systems under dephasing.

TLS-HO at resonance

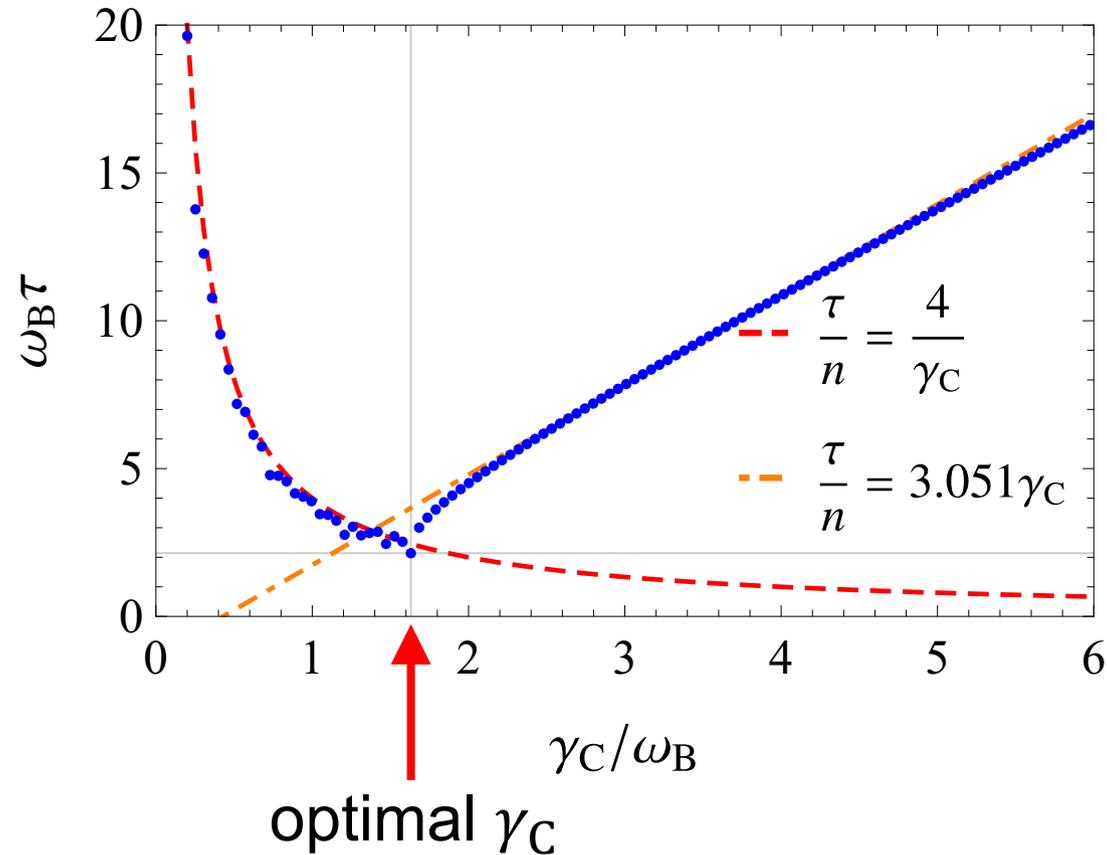
$(F/g = 3.0, g = 1.0\omega_B)$



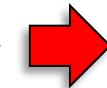


Charging time (TLSs at resonance)

For intermediate driving: $F/g = 0.5$



weak dephasing ($\gamma_C \ll g, F$) : $\tau \sim 1/\gamma_C$
 strong dephasing ($\gamma_C \gg g, F$) : $\tau \sim \gamma_C/[E^2]$



Minimum τ when

$$\frac{1}{\gamma_C} \sim \frac{\gamma_C}{[E^2]}$$



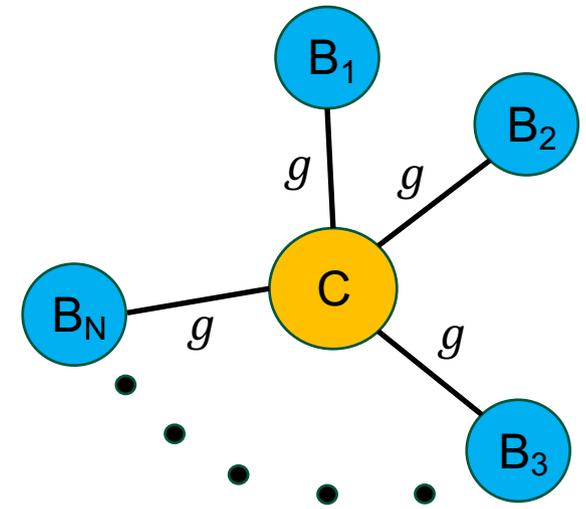
Batteries in star configuration

To enhance steady-state ergotropy:

→ **Multiple batteries in star configuration**

$$\hat{H}_C = \omega_C \hat{\sigma}_C^+ \hat{\sigma}_C^-$$

$$\hat{H}_B = \sum_{i=1}^N \hat{H}_{B_i} \quad \text{with} \quad \hat{H}_{B_i} = \omega_{B_i} \hat{\sigma}_{B_i}^+ \hat{\sigma}_{B_i}^-$$

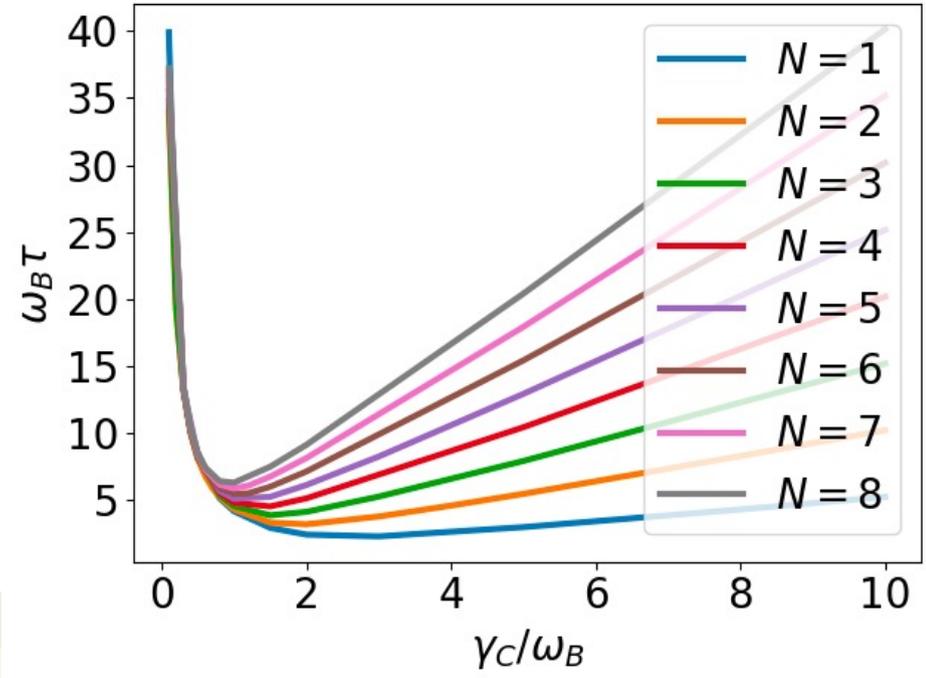


$$\hat{H}_{CB} = g \left(\hat{\sigma}_C^- \sum_{i=1}^N \hat{\sigma}_{B_i}^+ + \hat{\sigma}_C^+ \sum_{i=1}^N \hat{\sigma}_{B_i}^- \right) \quad : \text{ "Star" config.}$$

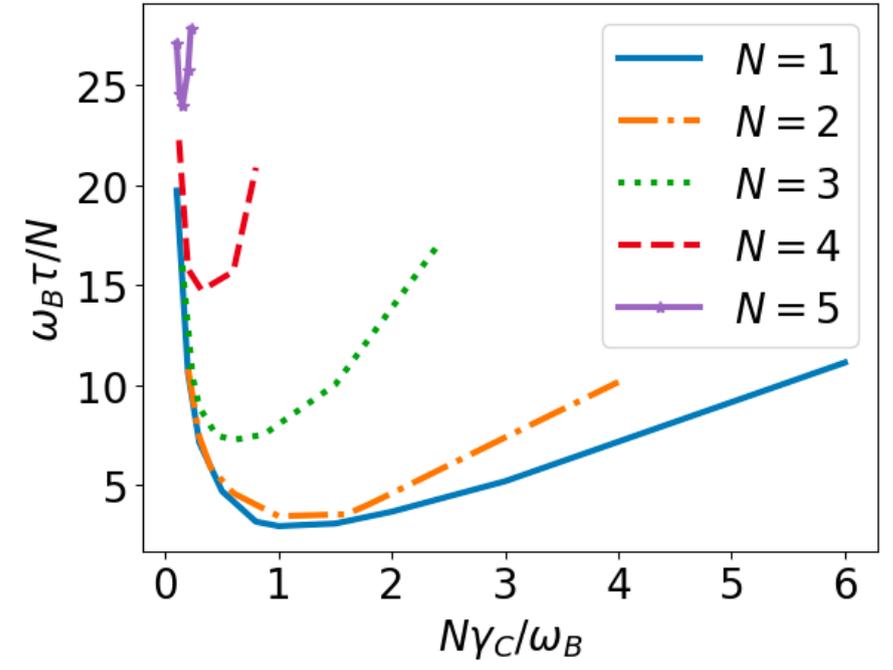
$$\hat{H}_d = F \left(\hat{\sigma}_C^- e^{i\omega_d t} + \hat{\sigma}_C^+ e^{-i\omega_d t} \right)$$



Strong drive ($F/g = 10$)



Intermed. drive ($F/g = 0.5$)



In all the cases, there is an **optimum γ_C** for fast charging.

Strong driving regime: minimum $\tau \sim N$

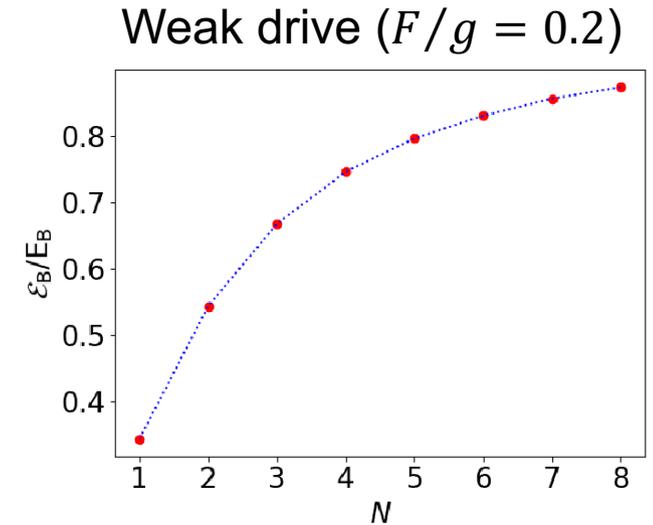
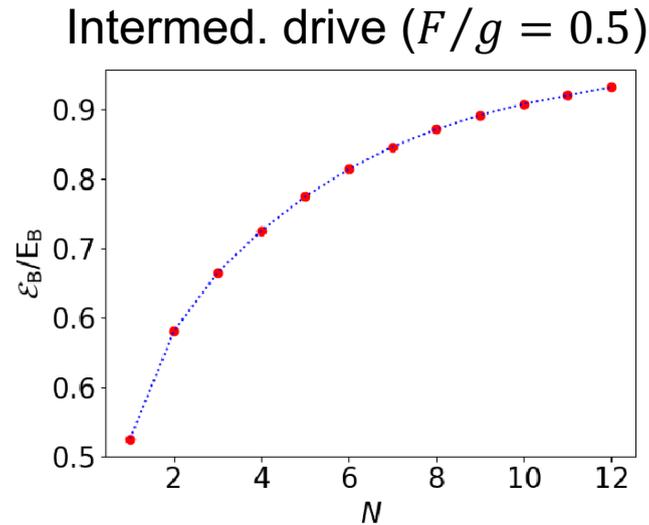
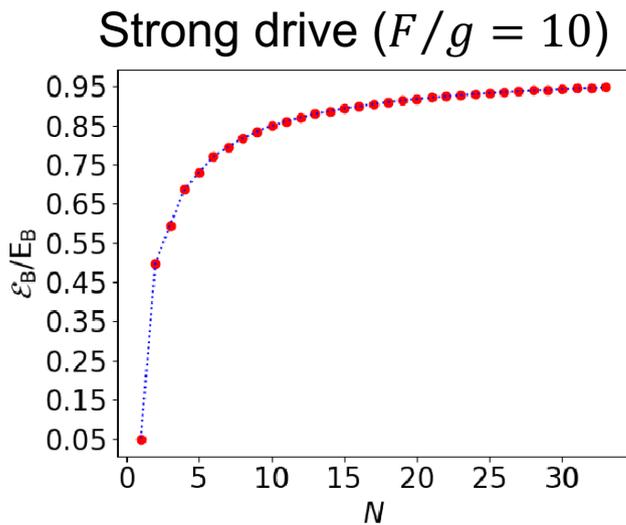
Intermediate driving regime: minimum $\tau \sim N^{3.2}$



Asymptotic freedom

Asympt. freedom: “Locked” energy $E_B - \mathcal{E}_B$ vanishes as $N \rightarrow \infty$.
(passive energy)

Andolina *et al.*, PRL **122**, 047702 (2019)



Purkait, Venkatesh & GW, arXiv:2508.13497 (2025)

$$\frac{\mathcal{E}_B}{E_B} \sim 1 - \frac{a}{N}$$

as $N \rightarrow \infty$ with a const. $a = O(1)$



$$\frac{\mathcal{E}_B}{E_B} \sim 1 - \frac{a}{N} \quad \text{as } N \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{with a const. } a = O(1)$$

Purkait, Venkatesh & GW, arXiv:2508.13497 (2025)

Rough proof: $E_B - \mathcal{E}_B$ is upper & lower bounded by a const.

$$\Rightarrow 1 - \frac{\mathcal{E}_B}{E_B} \sim 1/N$$

Upper bound \leftarrow Dimensional reduction because of the permutation sym.

Lower bound \leftarrow Battery state is non-pure even in the $N \rightarrow \infty$ limit.

More generally, one can prove:

For any d -level systems, \mathcal{E}_B/E_B approaches unity as

$$\frac{\mathcal{E}_B}{E_B} \sim 1 - \frac{a}{N}$$

or faster.

GW, Venkatesh, Chen (in preparation)

Physical mechanism of asymptotic freedom

Asymptotic steady state is mixed st.

Ground state is unique: $|0\rangle^{\otimes N}$

Q: Why asymptotic free even though the state is mixed?

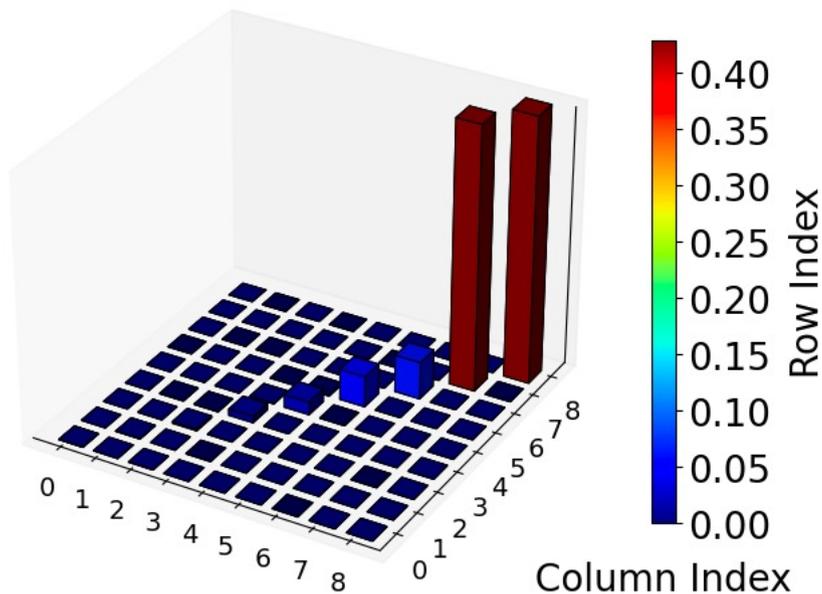
A: Emergent **approximate ground st. degeneracy** in $N \rightarrow \infty$.

Relevant quantity for discussion of \mathcal{E}_B/E_B : Δ_g/E_B

Δ_g : energy gap btwn. ground & 1st excited st.

$$\Delta_g \sim \omega_B, E_B \sim N\omega_B \quad \rightarrow \quad \Delta_g/E_B \sim 1/N$$

Gap becomes negligible as $N \rightarrow \infty$.

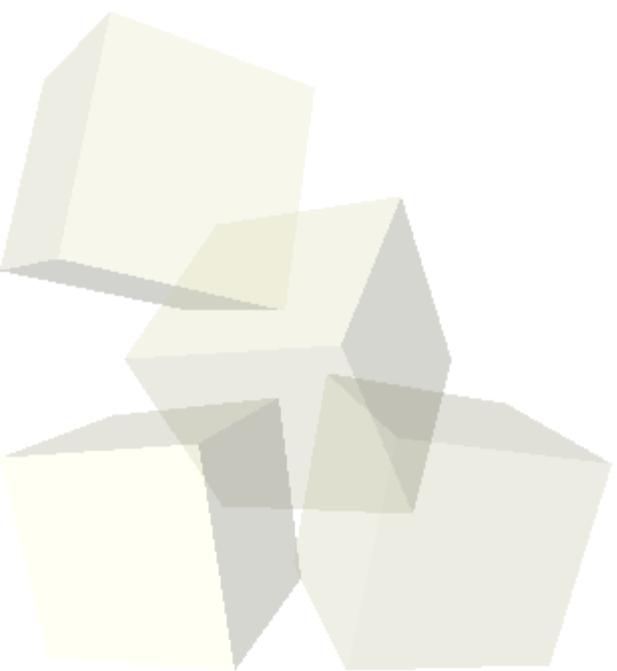


Decoherence can be a resource.

- Moderate dephasing helps fast charging!
- General behavior: Tradeoff between
Coherent oscillations vs Zeno freezing
- Multiple batteries in star configuration:
Asymptotic free due to approx. ground st. degeneracy.

Shastri, Jiang, Xu, Venkatesh & GW, npj Quantum Inf. **11**, 9 (2025)

Purkait, Venkatesh & GW, arXiv:2508.13497 (2025)





Charging time & optimal dephasing

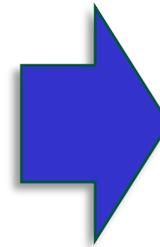
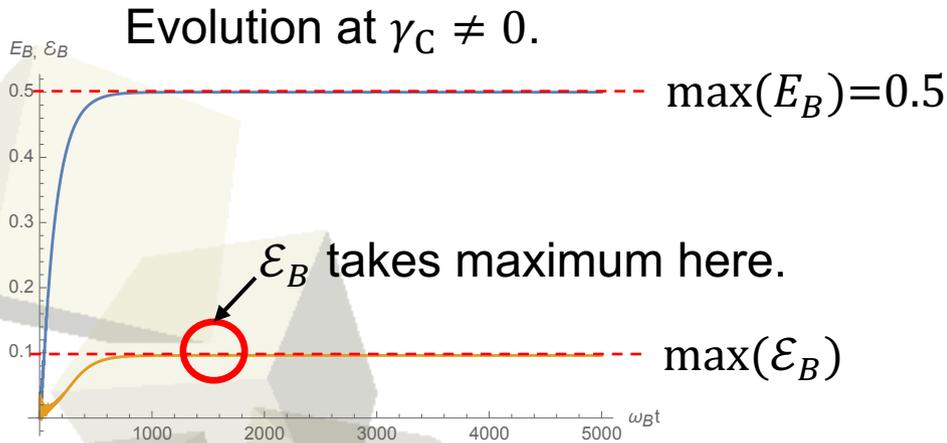
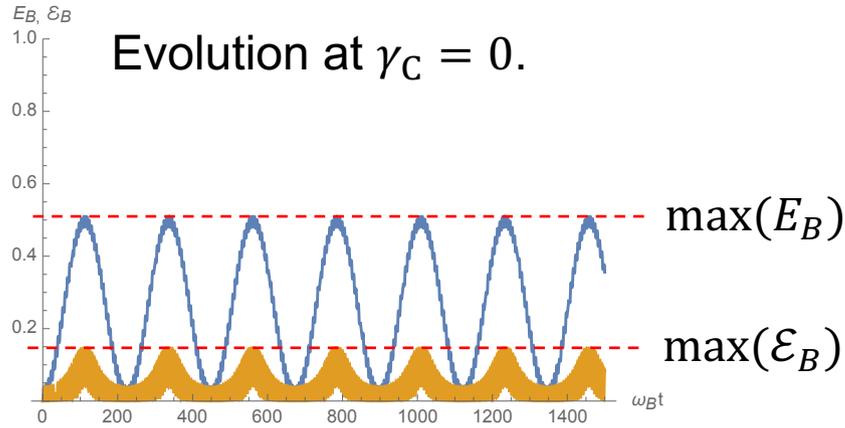
	$F/g \gg 1$	$F/g \ll 1$
$\gamma_C \ll g$	$\tau \sim \frac{4}{\gamma_C}$	$\tau \sim \frac{4}{\gamma_C}$
$\gamma_C \gg g, F$	$\tau \sim \frac{1}{2g^2} \gamma_C$	$\tau \sim \frac{g^2}{F^4} \gamma_C$
Optimal dephasing	$\gamma_C^* \approx 2\sqrt{2} g$	$\gamma_C^* \approx \frac{8F^2}{\sqrt{2}g}$

Charging strategy

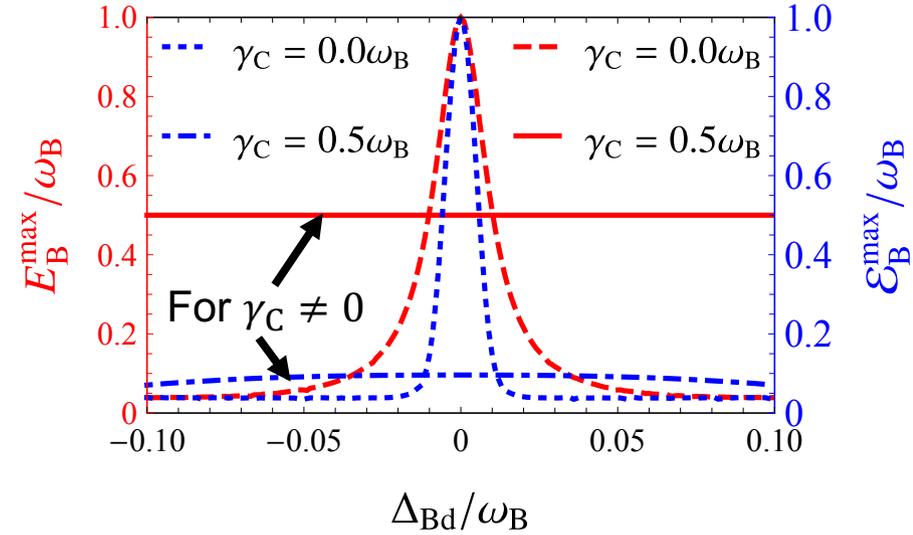
1. Set $F/g = 0.5$, maximizing the steady state \mathcal{E}_B .
2. Since $\gamma_C^* \approx \frac{8}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{F}{g} F = 2\sqrt{2}F$ and $\tau \sim \frac{4}{\gamma_C} \approx \sqrt{2}/F$, make F, g as large as possible.



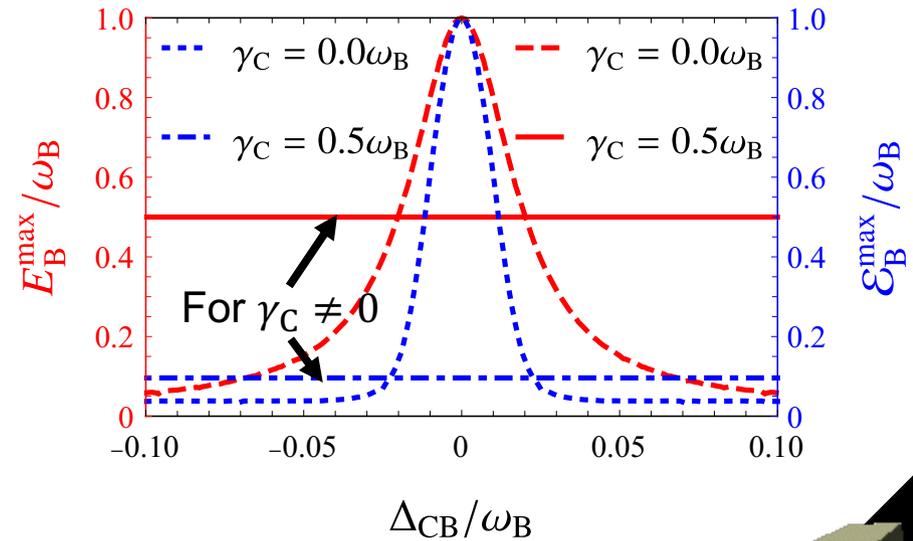
Robustness against detuning



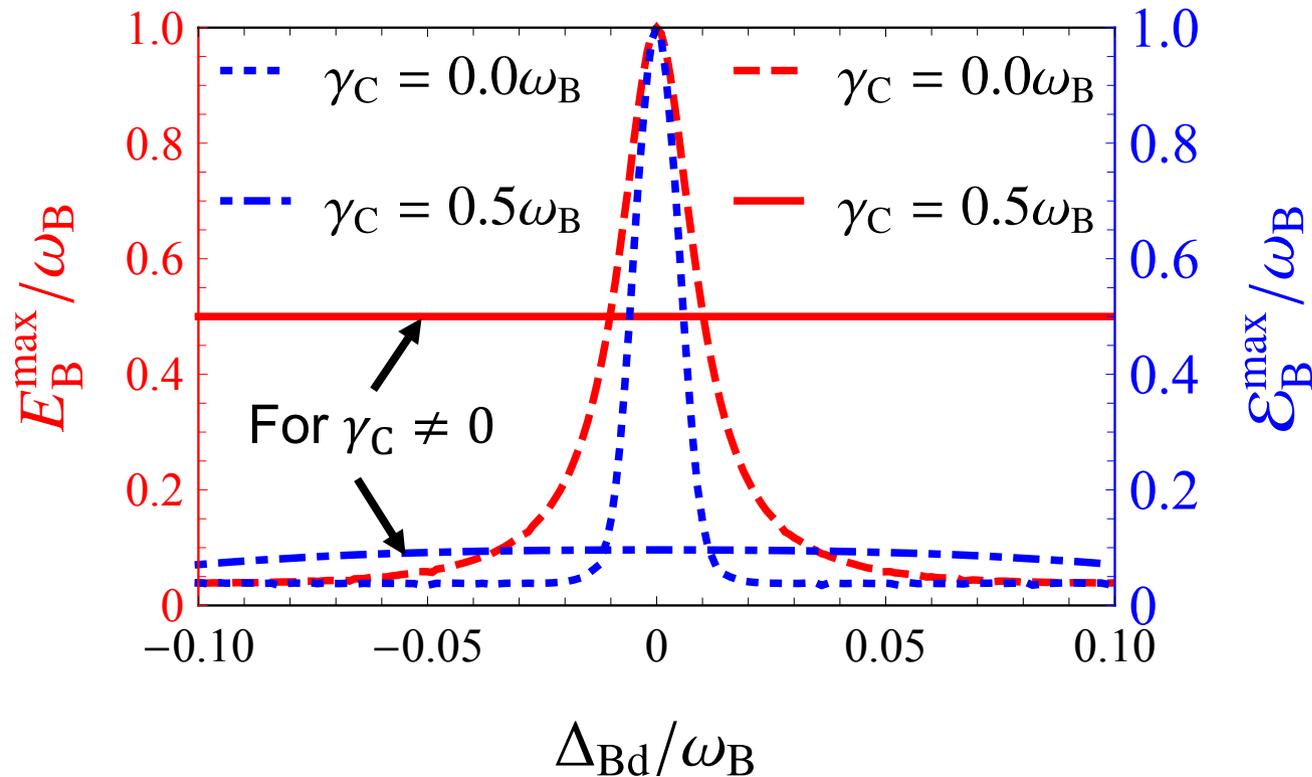
Detuning of ω_d : $\Delta_{Bd} \equiv \omega_B - \omega_d$



Detuning of ω_C : $\Delta_{CB} \equiv \omega_C - \omega_B$



Robustness against detuning



- Nonzero γ_C leads to **robust** charging performance against the detuning!
- Set $F/g = 0.5$ and $\gamma_C \approx 2\sqrt{2}F$, and take F & g as large as possible.

 Fast & robust charging.

Bounds of the passive energy: $\omega_B \delta \leq (E_B - \mathcal{E}_B) < \omega_B$

1. Dimensional reduction because of the permutation symmetry of the Liouvillian & initial state. $[2^N \rightarrow N + 1]$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr}[\hat{H}_B \hat{\rho}^\downarrow] &= \sum_{i=1}^{N+1} r_i^\downarrow \varepsilon_i^\uparrow \leq \frac{1}{N+1} \sum_{i=1}^{N+1} \varepsilon_i^\uparrow \\ &= \frac{1}{N+1} \left[0 \binom{N}{0} + \omega_B \binom{N}{1} \right] = \frac{N}{N+1} \omega_B < \omega_B \end{aligned}$$

→ Upper bound: $(E_B - \mathcal{E}_B) < \omega_B$

2. Nonzero asymptotic passive energy because of the mixture.

Mixed st.: $r_1^\downarrow < 1$ and some $r_{i \neq 1}^\downarrow > 0$ **→** Define $\delta \equiv 1 - r_1^\downarrow \Big|_{N \rightarrow \infty} > 0$

$$\text{Tr}[\hat{H}_B \hat{\rho}^\downarrow] = \sum_{i=1} r_i^\downarrow \varepsilon_i^\uparrow = \sum_{i=2} r_i^\downarrow \varepsilon_i^\uparrow \geq \varepsilon_2^\uparrow \delta$$

→ Lower bound: $\omega_B \delta \leq (E_B - \mathcal{E}_B)$

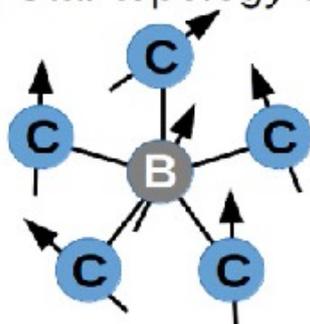
Together with $E_B = N\omega_B/2$, we get: $\frac{\mathcal{E}_B}{E_B} \sim 1 - \frac{a}{N}$ with $2\delta \leq a \leq 2$



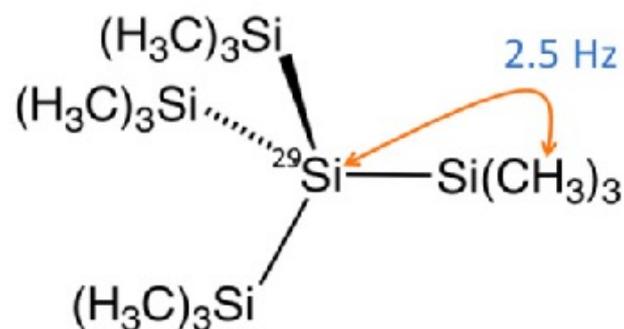
Joshi & Maheshi, PRA **106**, 042601 (2022)

Implementation of charger-battery sys. in NMR spin sys.

(a) Star topology system



(f) TTSS



1 battery coupled to multiple chargers

Battery: central nuclear spin ($I = \frac{1}{2}$)

Charger: ^1H nuclear spin ($I = \frac{1}{2}$)

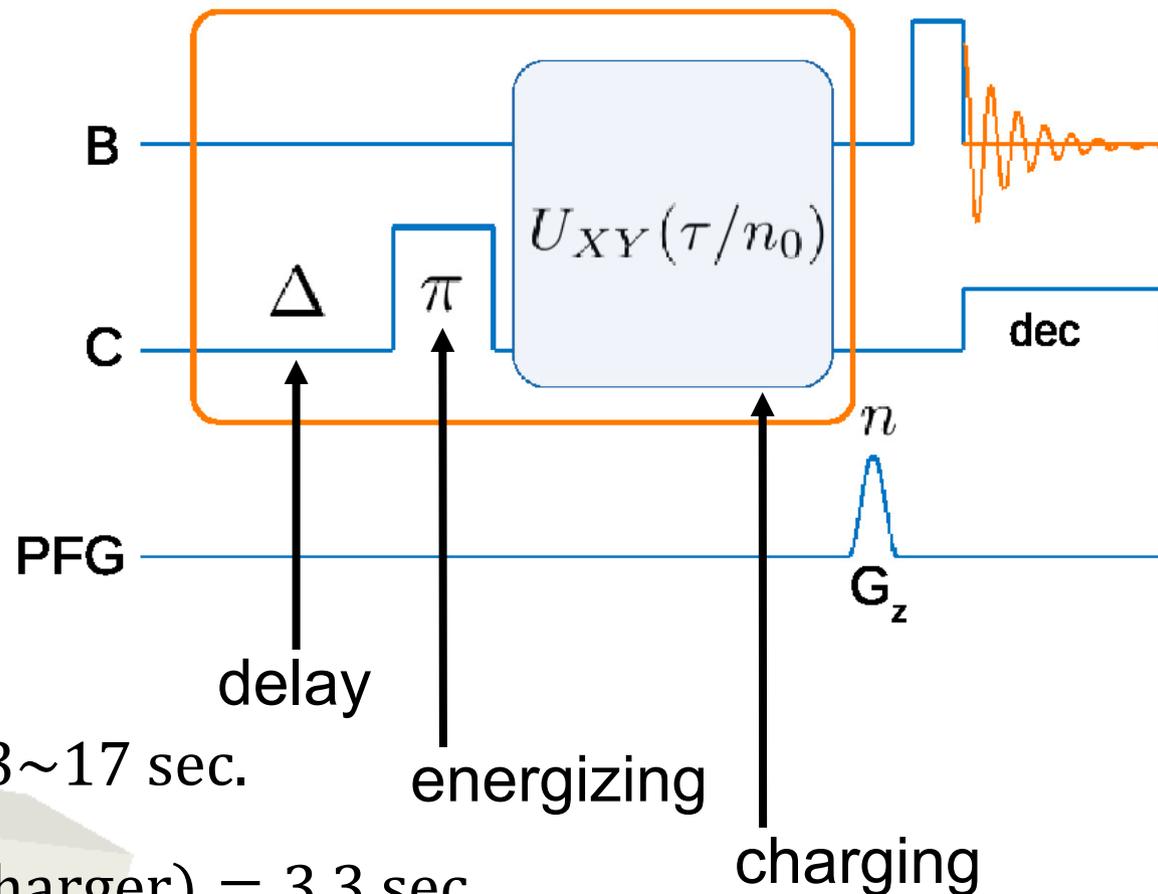
$$\hat{H}_{\text{BC}} = J(\hat{S}_x \hat{I}_x + \hat{S}_y \hat{I}_y)$$

$\hat{S}_{x,y,z}$: battery spin

$\hat{I}_{x,y,z} = \sum_i \hat{I}_{x,y,z}^i$: battery spins

Joshi & Maheshi, PRA **106**, 042601 (2022)

Mimic dephasing by iteratively reenergizing chargers after delay.



$\Delta = 3 \sim 17$ sec.

$T_1(\text{charger}) = 3.3$ sec.

$T_1(\text{battery}) = 115.4$ sec.