



**IICQI** International Iran Conferences  
on Quantum Information

# Qubit sensors in correlated noise environments: Advances in noisy quantum metrology

Thu • 4 Mar 2021

**Lorenza Viola**

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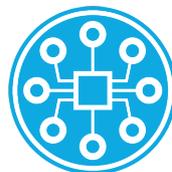
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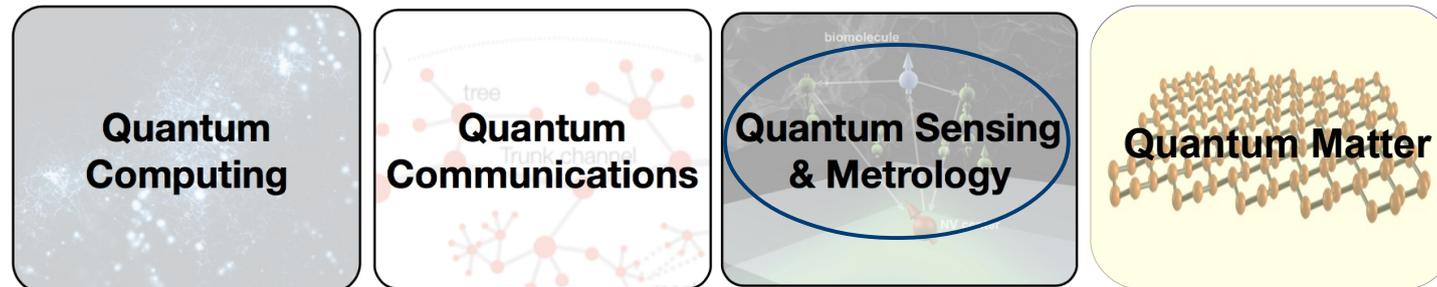


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# Broad context: Quantum frontiers

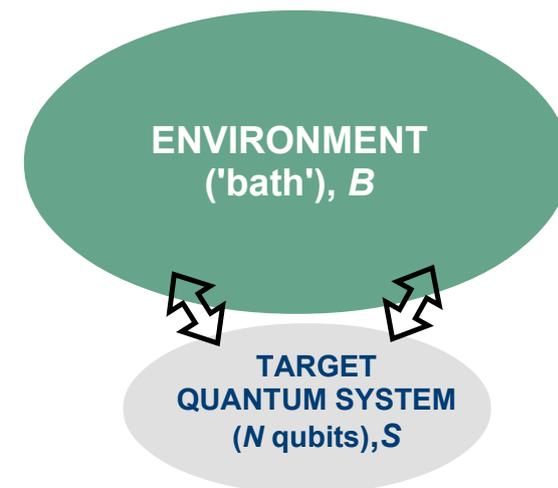


- ❖ Quantum science offers unique, unprecedented capabilities for fundamental and practical advances toward 'taming quantum complexity' – by supplying means for:
  - Performing computational and simulation tasks that are intractable classically...
  - Transmitting information in ways that are intrinsically secure...
  - **Pushing quantum measurements to their ultimate precision limits...**
  - Designing and probing new states of matter, at equilibrium and beyond...
- ❖ Determining the extent to which 'quantum advantages' may be achievable *in practice* demands unprecedented level of understanding and control over noise effects...
  - 'Noisy Intermediate-Scale Quantum' ⇒ 'large' size of target quantum system,  $N > 50$  qubits...  
Preskill, *Quantum* 2, 79 (2018).

**Challenge:** To obtain accurate, predictive characterization of open quantum dynamics – in natural and engineered quantum systems – under *realistic noise environments...*

# Quantum frontiers (a theorist's view...)

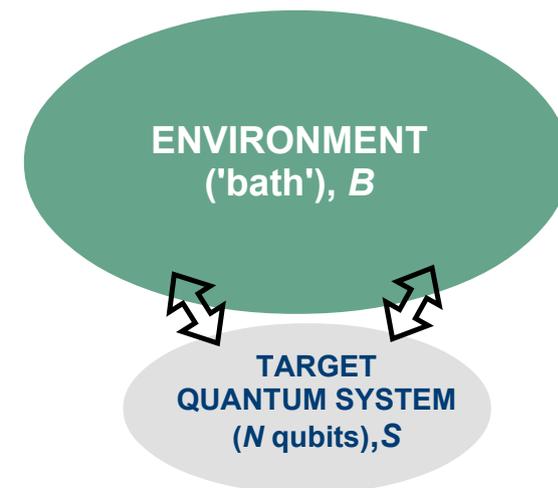
- ❖ Theoretical and computational approaches to [controlled] open quantum system dynamics necessarily involve one or more *simplifying assumptions*, including:
  - Initial system-bath factorization
  - Initial thermal equilibrium  $\Rightarrow$  Stationary noise
  - Weak (linear) system-bath coupling  $\Rightarrow$  Perturbative treatments
  - Gaussianity  $\Rightarrow$  Gaussian noise statistics
  - Classicality  $\Rightarrow$  Stochastic ('commuting') noise
  - Lack of temporal correlations (white noise, 'Markovianity')
  - Lack of spatial correlations ('independent noise')
  - ⋮
- ❖ On the one end: Each of these assumptions requires careful scrutiny – they cannot be taken as *a priori* valid nor do they need to be quantitatively accurate for tasks of interest...
- ❖ On the other end: Increasing complexity of NISQ-scale devices and tasks prevents complete theoretical descriptions (or brute-force numerics) from remaining viable...



**Challenge (again):** To achieve successful *model reduction* – open-system characterization, control analysis, and synthesis must strike a balance between simplicity and accuracy...

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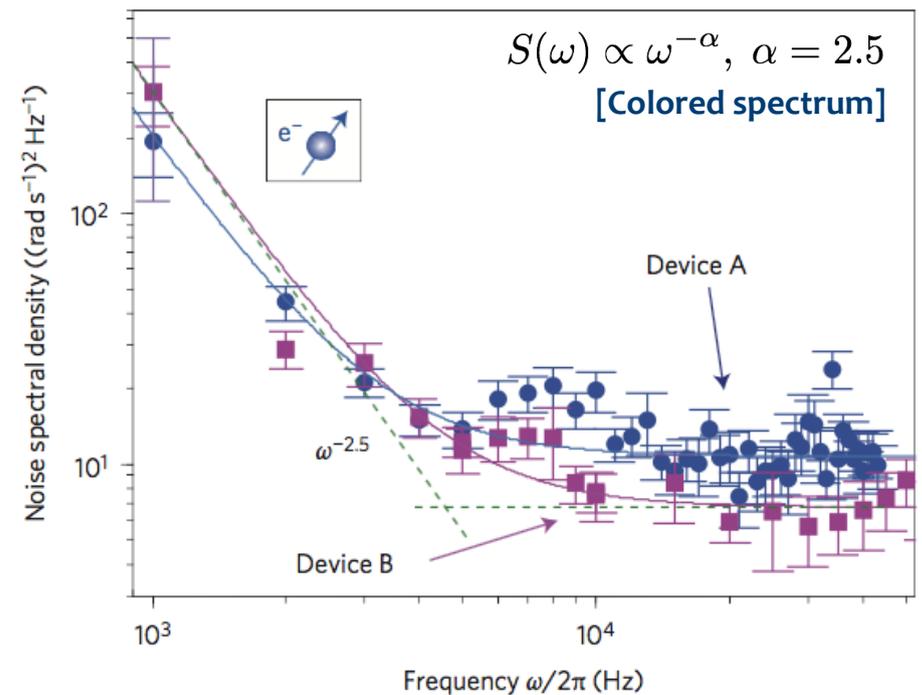


**Challenge (again):** To achieve successful *model reduction* – open-system characterization, control analysis, and synthesis must strike a balance between simplicity and accuracy...

# Focus: Spatiotemporally correlated noise

- ❖ Many [most?] realistic noise sources generically exhibit non-trivial spatiotemporal correlations:
  - The occurrence of *temporal correlations* has been verified across a variety of systems through *dynamical decoupling* and *quantum noise spectroscopy* experiments...

Bylander *et al*, Nat. Phys. **7** (2011); Muhonen *et al*, Nat. Nanotech. **9** (2014);  
Romach *et al*, PRL **114** (2015); Malinowski *et al*, *ibid.* **118** (2017)...



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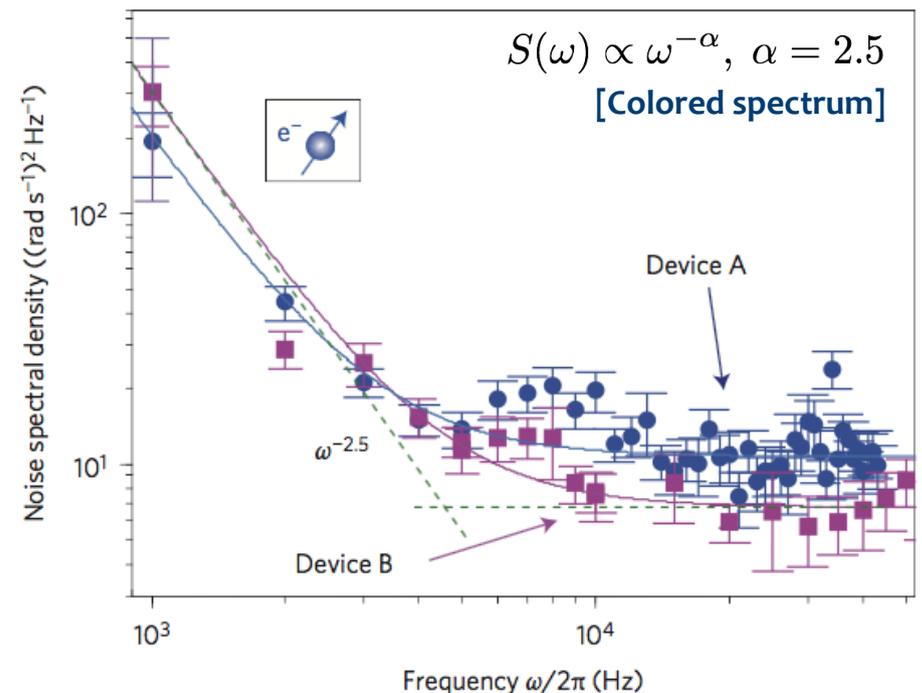
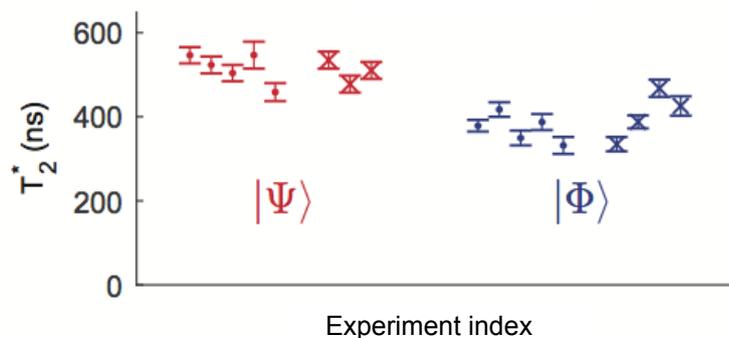
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→ *Spatially correlated* low-frequency noise has been reported for Si/SiGe two-qubit devices...

Boter *et al*, PRB **101** (2020).

$$|\Psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\downarrow\uparrow\rangle - i|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle) \quad |\Phi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\downarrow\downarrow\rangle - i|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle)$$



# Focus: Spatiotemporally correlated quantum noise

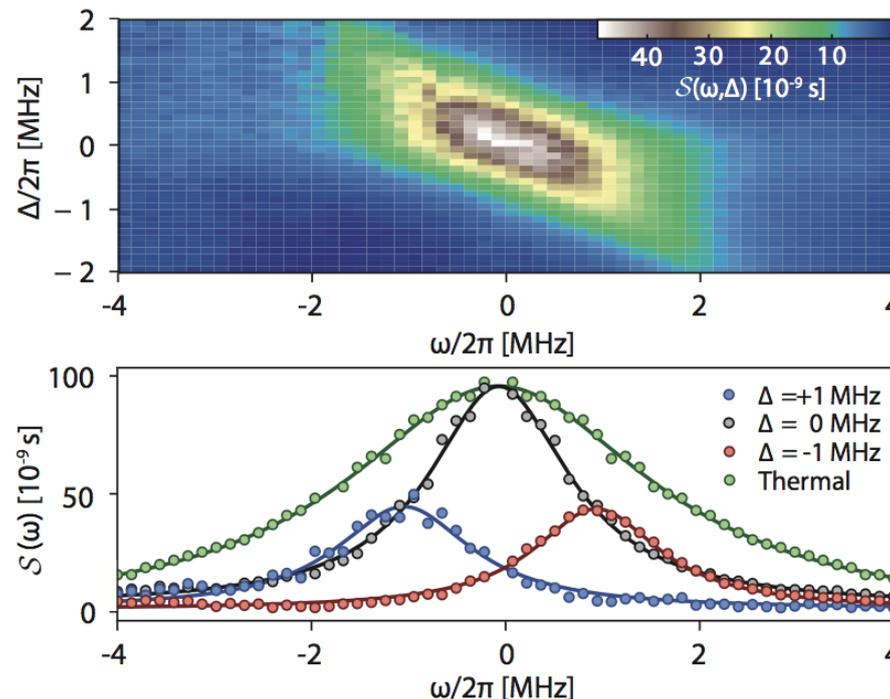
- ❖ Many [most?] realistic noise sources generically exhibit non-trivial spatiotemporal correlations and may entail *intrinsically non-commuting* degrees of freedom:

$$S(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt e^{-i\omega t} \langle B(t)B(0) \rangle_B = \frac{1}{2} [S^+(\omega) + S^-(\omega)] \neq S(-\omega)$$

Classical spectrum (symmetric)    Quantum spectrum (asymmetric)

→ *Non-classical* noise environments have been directly probed in recent experiments, for both single- and two-qubit devices...

Quintana et al, PRL 118 (2017);  
 Yan et al, *ibid.* 120 (2018)...



$$S(\omega) = e^{\beta\hbar\omega} S(-\omega)$$

[Fluctuation-dissipation at equilibrium]

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PRX QUANTUM 1, 010305 (2020)

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## Two-Qubit Spectroscopy of Spatiotemporally Correlated Quantum Noise in Superconducting Qubits

Uwe von Lüpke<sup>1,†</sup>, Félix Beaudoin<sup>2,3</sup>, Leigh M. Norris<sup>2</sup>, Youngkyu Sung<sup>1</sup>, Roni Winik<sup>1</sup>,  
Jack Y. Qiu<sup>1</sup>, Morten Kjaergaard<sup>1</sup>, David Kim<sup>4</sup>, Jonilyn Yoder<sup>4</sup>, Simon Gustavsson<sup>1</sup>, Lorenza Viola<sup>1,2</sup>,  
and William D. Oliver<sup>1,4,5,\*</sup>

[Also featured in Phys. Rev. Journal Club, <https://journals.aps.org/journal-club>]

# Motivation and outline

❖ Key task: Quantum metrology – to achieve precision measurements by employing *quantum sensors and distinctively quantum effects*:

- Entanglement and squeezing;
- Quantum correlations beyond entanglement, indistinguishability;
- Dynamical non-linearities, interaction...

Pezzè *et al*, RMP **90**, 035005 (2018);  
Braun *et al*, *ibid.* 035006 (2018).

(Q1) How does correlated quantum noise impact *entanglement-assisted parameter estimation*?  
(Q2) What *experimental metrological settings* may be directly/most affected?  
(Q3) How/how well can effects of correlated quantum noise be *effectively countered*?



PHYSICAL REVIEW A **98**, 020102(R) (2018)

Rapid Communications

## Ramsey interferometry in correlated quantum noise environments

Félix Beaudoin, Leigh M. Norris, and Lorenza Viola

*Department of Physics and Astronomy, Dartmouth College, 6127 Wilder Laboratory, Hanover, New Hampshire 03755, USA*

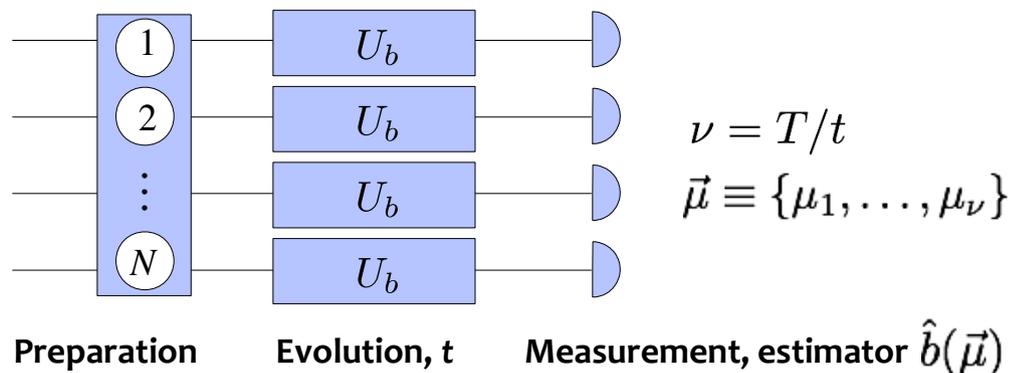
Riberi, Norris, Beaudoin & LV, forthcoming (2021).

Francisco  
Riberi



# Noiseless quantum metrology

- ❖ Goal: To exploit entanglement between  $N$  qubit sensors to achieve *super-classical precision scaling* in parameter estimation, for specified resources – fixed  $N$  and  $T$  (or,  $N$  and  $\nu$ ).



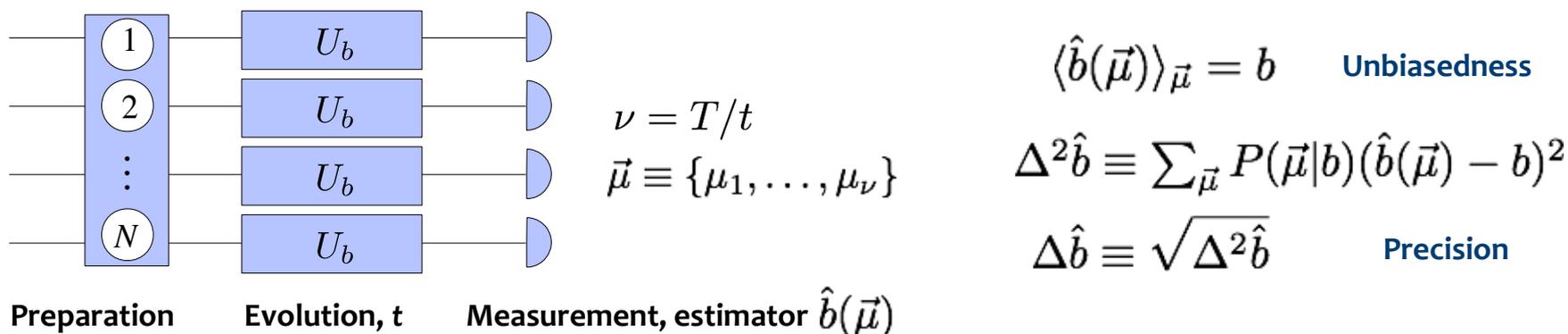
$$\langle \hat{b}(\vec{\mu}) \rangle_{\vec{\mu}} = b \quad \text{Unbiasedness}$$

$$\Delta^2 \hat{b} \equiv \sum_{\vec{\mu}} P(\vec{\mu}|b) (\hat{b}(\vec{\mu}) - b)^2$$

$$\Delta \hat{b} \equiv \sqrt{\Delta^2 \hat{b}} \quad \text{Precision}$$

# Noiseless quantum metrology

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- ❖ The variance of any unbiased estimator is *lower-bounded by the Cramér-Rao bound*,

$$\Delta^2 \hat{b} \geq \Delta^2 \hat{b}_{\text{CR}} = \frac{1}{\nu F_{\text{cl}}[P(\vec{\mu}|b)]}, \quad F_{\text{cl}}[P(\vec{\mu}|b)] \equiv \sum_{\vec{\mu}} \frac{1}{P(\vec{\mu}|b)} \left( \frac{\partial P(\vec{\mu}|b)}{\partial b} \right)^2 \quad \text{Classical Fisher information}$$

→ Maximizing classical FI over all possible POVMs yields *quantum FI*,  $F_{\text{Q}}[\rho_b] \equiv \max_{\{\mathcal{E}\}} F_{\text{cl}}[\rho_b]$ .

- ❖ The ultimate precision limit for noiseless estimation is set by the *quantum Cramér-Rao bound*,

$$\Delta^2 \hat{b}_{\text{CR}} \geq \Delta^2 \hat{b}_{\text{QCR}} = \frac{1}{\nu F_{\text{Q}}[\rho_b]}$$

# Entanglement-assisted noiseless quantum metrology

- ❖ The QFI of *any initial separable state* of  $N$  qubits is upper-bounded by  $N \Rightarrow$  the ultimate classically achievable precision is independent of measurement and estimator used:

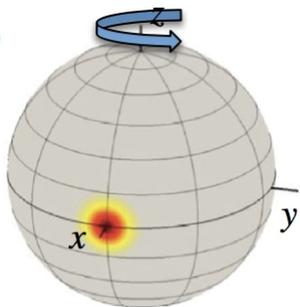
$$\Delta \hat{b}_{\text{SQL}} = \frac{1}{t\sqrt{N\nu}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{NtT}} \quad \text{Standard Quantum Limit}$$

$\rightarrow$  Super-classical precision scaling requires that  $F_Q[\rho_b] > N \dots$

- ❖ The QFI attains its maximum value if the initial state exhibits genuine  $N$ -partite entanglement  $\Rightarrow$  the ultimate precision limit is improved by a factor of  $N^{-1/2}$  for same, fixed resources:

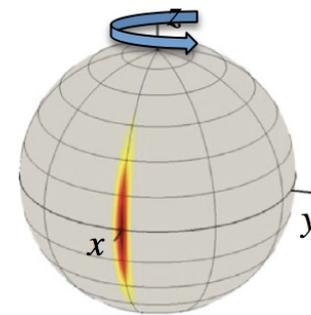
$$\Delta \hat{b}_{\text{HL}} = \frac{1}{Nt\sqrt{\nu}} = \frac{1}{N\sqrt{tT}} \quad \text{Heisenberg Limit}$$

Coherent Spin State



CSSs are optimal separable states,  
 $\Delta \hat{b} = \Delta \hat{b}_{\text{SQL}} \propto N^{-1/2}$

Spin-Squeezed State



SSSs possess metrologically useful entanglement,  
 $\Delta \hat{b} \propto N^{-1}$

Wineland et al, PRA 46 (1992); Kitagawa & Ueda, *ibid.* 47 (1993).

# Entanglement-assisted noisy quantum metrology

- ❖ The impact of noise on predicted metrological advantages has been extensively studied...
  - No super-classical scaling permitted under fully uncorrelated [Markovian, independent] noise  
Huelga et al, PRL 79 (1997); Escher et al, Nat. Phys. 7 (2011)...
  - The presence of noise correlations has generally [so far?] been found to be less adversarial:
    - Temporally correlated, independent noise: DD cannot restore Heisenberg scaling; but, super-classical precision may be achieved at short detection times ('Zeno-like' regime).  
Chin et al, PRL 109 (2012)... Sekatski et al, NJP 18 (2016)...
    - Spatially correlated, white noise: Super-classical scaling achievable by DFS encodings; or, noise effects may be filtered from signal by tailored QEC...  
Dorner, NJP 14 (2012); Layden & Cappellaro, npj QI 4 (2018)...
    - Spatially and temporally correlated, classical noise: Memory effects may be beneficial to retain enhanced sensitivity over longer times...  
Szankowski, Trippenbach & Chwedenczuk, PRA 90 (2014).

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Szankowski, Trippenbach & Chwedenczuk, PRA 90 (2014).
- ❖ Qubit sensors coupled to a common, quantum noise environment can become entangled in an uncontrolled way, which opens the door to an additional source of uncertainty...
  - Especially relevant to spin-squeezing generation by coupling to bosonic modes.  
Bohnet et al, Science 352 (2016); Hu et al, PRA 96 (2017)...

# Noisy Ramsey interferometry: Setting

- ❖ Task: Frequency estimation by  $N$  qubit sensors under *correlated quantum dephasing noise*,

$$H_{SB}(t) = \frac{\hbar}{2} \sum_{n=1}^N [y_0(t)b + y(t)B_n(t)] \sigma_n^z \quad \mathbf{b} = \text{Target frequency parameter}$$

→ Allow for the possibility of open-loop control via  $y_0(t), y(t)$  ( $= 1$  if no control is applied)

- ❖ Noise spectra acquire distinctive features relative to classical setting:

$$S_{nm}(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt e^{-i\omega t} \langle B_n(t)B_m(0) \rangle_B = \frac{1}{2} [S_{nm}^+(\omega) + S_{nm}^-(\omega)]$$

Classical spectra      Quantum spectra

$$S_{nm}^+(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt e^{-i\omega t} \langle [B_n(t)B_m(0)]_+ \rangle_B \quad S_{nm}^-(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt e^{-i\omega t} \langle [B_n(t)B_m(0)]_- \rangle_B$$

- Quantum spectra vanish for classical noise. Quantum non-commutativity manifests in *different symmetry properties* that spectra obey,

$$[S_{nm}^+(\omega)]^* = S_{nm}^+(-\omega), \quad [S_{nm}^-(\omega)]^* = -S_{nm}^-(-\omega) \quad \Rightarrow \quad S_{nm}(\omega) \neq S_{nm}(-\omega)$$

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- ❖ Noise spectra encode information about *spatiotemporal noise correlations*

$$C_{nm}(t) \equiv \langle B_n(t)B_m(0) \rangle_B \begin{cases} \rightarrow c_{nm}\delta(t) & \text{Temporally uncorrelated (white)} \\ \rightarrow \delta_{nm}f_n(t) & \text{Spatially uncorrelated} \end{cases}$$

# Noisy Ramsey interferometry: Protocol

❖ Task: Frequency estimation by  $N$  qubit sensors under *quantum correlated dephasing noise*

$$H_{SB}(t) = \frac{\hbar}{2} \sum_{n=1}^N [y_0(t)b + y(t)B_n(t)] \sigma_n^z \quad S_{nm}(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt e^{-i\omega t} \langle B_n(t)B_m(0) \rangle_B$$

→ Allow for the possibility of open-loop control via  $y_0(t), y(t)$  ( $= 1$  if no control is applied)

**Precess**

**Measure**

$$J_y = \sum_{n=1}^N \sigma_n^y / 2 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \Delta \hat{b}(t) \equiv \frac{\nu^{-1/2} \Delta J_y(t)}{|\partial \langle J_y(t) \rangle / \partial b|}$$

(1) Spin coherent state (CSS):

$|\text{CSS}\rangle = |\uparrow_x\rangle^{\otimes N}$

SQL scaling:  $\Delta \hat{b} \propto N^{-1/2}$

(2) One-axis twisted state (OAT):

$|\text{OAT}\rangle = e^{-i\theta(\hat{n}\cdot\mathbf{J})^2} |\text{CSS}\rangle$

Noiseless superclassical scaling:  $\Delta \hat{b} \propto N^{-5/6}$

# Noisy Ramsey interferometry: Reduced dynamics

❖ Quantities needed to determine the estimation precision:

$$\langle J_y \rangle = \sum_{n=1}^N \langle \sigma_n^y \rangle / 2 \quad \langle J_y^2 \rangle = N/4 + \sum_{n \neq m} \langle \sigma_n^y \sigma_m^y \rangle / 4$$

→ Exact results may be obtained through a cumulant expansion over bath operators:

$$\langle \sigma_n^y \rangle = e^{-\chi_{nn}(t)/2} \text{Tr}_S \left[ e^{-i\Phi_n(t)} \rho_S(0) \sigma_n^y \right]$$
$$\langle \sigma_n^y \sigma_m^y \rangle = e^{-[\chi_{nn}(t) + \chi_{mm}(t)]/2} \text{Tr}_S \left[ e^{-i\Phi_{nm}(t)} \rho_S(0) \sigma_n^y \sigma_m^y \right]$$

in terms of 'decay parameters'  $\chi_{nm}(t)$  and 'effective propagators'  $\Phi_n(t)$ ,  $\Phi_{nm}(t)$ .

❖ Contributions mediated by classical spectra:

$$\chi_{nm}(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \text{Re} \int_0^\infty d\omega F^+(\omega, t) S_{nm}^+(\omega)$$

Decay of coherences

Control filter function (FF)  $F^+(\omega, t) \equiv \left| \int_0^t ds y(s) e^{-i\omega s} \right|^2 = \frac{4 \sin^2(\omega t/2)}{\omega^2}$  (no control)

# Noisy Ramsey interferometry: Reduced dynamics

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❖ Contributions mediated by quantum spectra:

$$\Psi_{nm}(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \text{Im} \int_0^\infty d\omega F^-(\omega, t) S_{nm}^-(\omega)$$

Phase contributions

Control FF  $F^-(\omega, t) \equiv \int_0^t ds y(s) \int_0^s du y(u) e^{-i\omega(u-s)}$

$$\Phi_n(t) = \varphi(t) \sigma_n^z + \sum_{\ell, \ell \neq n} \Psi_{n\ell}(t) \sigma_n^z \sigma_\ell^z$$

$$\varphi(t) \equiv b \int_0^t ds y_0(s), \quad \Phi_{nm}(t) = \varphi(t) (\sigma_n^z + \sigma_m^z) - i\chi_{nm}(t) \sigma_n^z \sigma_m^z + \sum_{\ell, \ell \neq nm} [\Psi_{n\ell}(t) \sigma_n^z \sigma_\ell^z + \Psi_{m\ell}(t) \sigma_m^z \sigma_\ell^z]$$

# Noisy Ramsey interferometry: Reduced dynamics

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$$\langle \sigma_n^y \rangle = e^{-\chi_{nn}(t)/2} \underbrace{\text{Tr}_S \left[ e^{-i\Phi_n(t)} \rho_S(0) \sigma_n^y \right]}_{\text{Initial CSS}}$$
$$\langle \sigma_n^y \sigma_m^y \rangle = e^{-[\chi_{nn}(t) + \chi_{mm}(t)]/2} \underbrace{\text{Tr}_S \left[ e^{-i\Phi_{nm}(t)} \rho_S(0) \sigma_n^y \sigma_m^y \right]}_{\text{Initial OAT}}$$

- (1) Initial CSS: Traces can be evaluated *exactly*
- (2) Initial OAT: Traces can be evaluated through a *cumulant expansion over qubit operators* (truncated to 2nd-order)

❖ Simplest [but most adversarial?] setting: *Collective*, permutation-invariant noise regime

$$B_n(t) \equiv B(t), \forall n, t \quad \Rightarrow \quad \chi_{nm}(t) \equiv \chi(t), \Psi_{nm}(t) \equiv \Psi(t)$$

→ For collective noise, non-zero phase parameter  $\Psi(t)$  is distinctive of *non-classical* dephasing noise that is *both* spatially and temporally correlated.

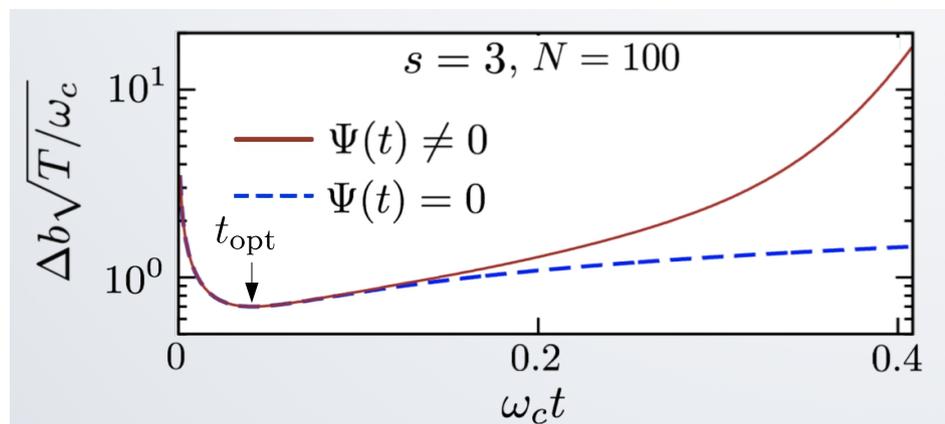
# Results: Spin-boson model

❖  $N$  qubit sensors collectively coupled to a bosonic bath in thermal equilibrium:

$$B(t) = 2 \sum_k (g_k a_k^\dagger e^{i\Omega_k t} + \text{H.c.}) \quad |g_k|^2 \rightarrow I(\omega) = \alpha \omega_c^{1-s} |\omega|^s e^{-|\omega|/\omega_c}$$

(1) **Initial CSS:** A finite  $\Psi$  results in significantly increased uncertainty. At short time, optimizing for fixed total evolution time  $T = \nu t$  yields asymptotic scaling

$$\Delta \hat{b}_{\text{opt}} = (2\omega_c/T)^{1/2} [\alpha \Gamma(s+1)]^{1/4} N^{-1/4} \quad \text{Worse than SQL}$$



# Results: Spin-boson model

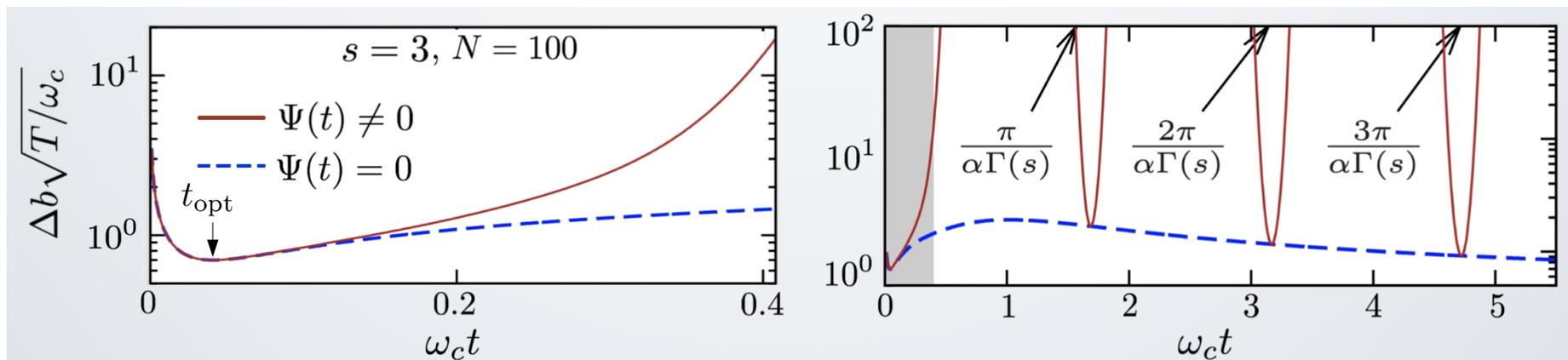
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- The uncertainty minima at longer times correspond to *disentanglement among the sensors* – the concurrence between any qubit pair vanishes (nearly) exactly at those times.
- The width of the 1st minimum in  $\Delta \hat{b}(t)$  wrto  $t$  is suppressed as  $N^{-1/2} \Rightarrow$  Even with perfect knowledge of all noise parameters, it becomes increasingly hard to minimize  $\Delta \hat{b}(t)$  in practice...



# Results: Spin-boson model

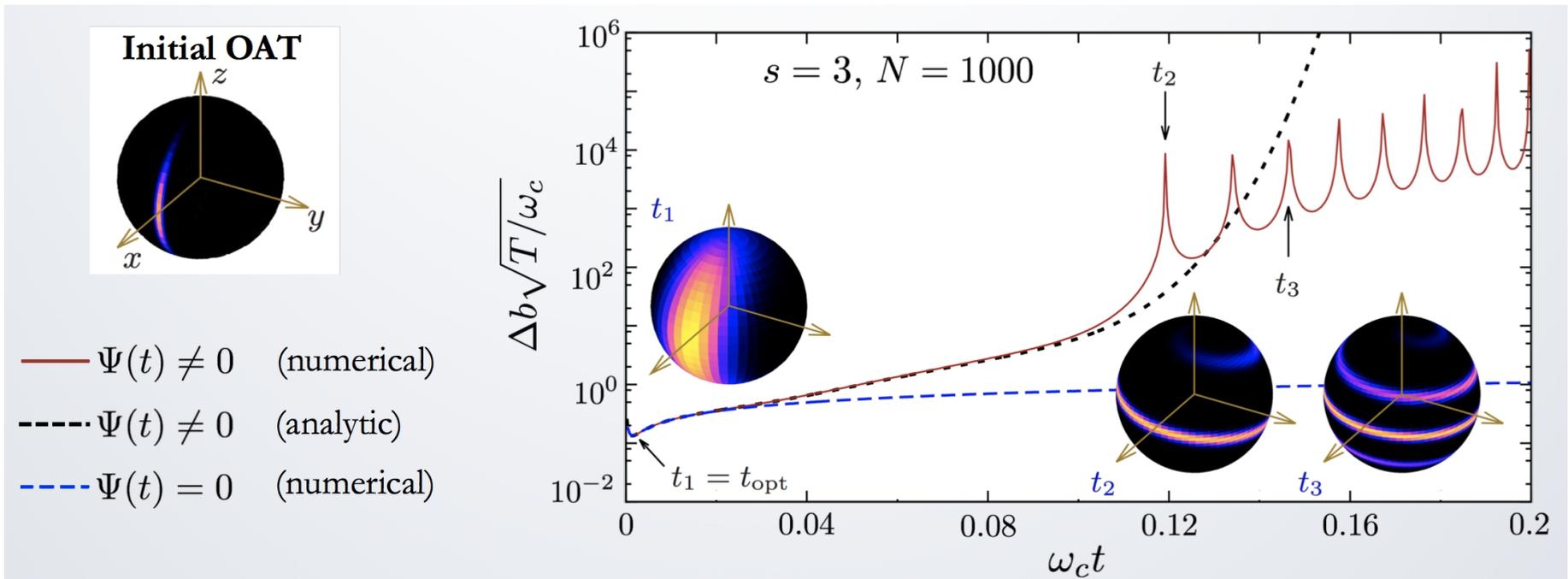
❖  $N$  qubit sensors collectively coupled to a bosonic bath in thermal equilibrium:

$$B(t) = 2 \sum_k (g_k a_k^\dagger e^{i\Omega_k t} + \text{H.c.}) \quad |g_k|^2 \rightarrow I(\omega) = \alpha \omega_c^{1-s} |\omega|^s e^{-|\omega|/\omega_c}$$

(2) Initial OAT, minimizing initial uncertainty  $\Delta J_y(0)$  – At short time, optimizing for fixed total evolution time  $T = vt$  yields asymptotic scaling

$$\Delta \hat{b}_{\text{opt}} = (4/3)^{1/12} (2\omega_c/T)^{1/2} [\alpha \Gamma(s+1)]^{1/4} N^{-5/12} \quad \text{Better than CSS but not super-classical}$$

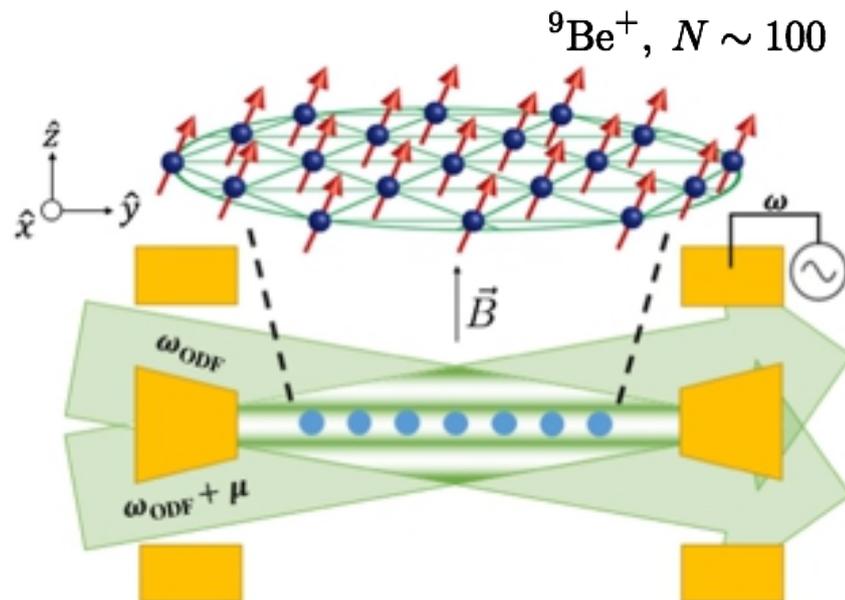
■ The optimal [Kitagawa-Ueda] noiseless OATS angles remain optimal under dephasing noise.



# Results: Trapped ion crystals

- ❖ Task: Amplitude sensing of classical center-of-mass (CM) lattice oscillations in 2D ion crystal.

Gilmore *et al*, PRL 118 (2017).



A weak RF drive is applied nearly resonant with the CM mode:

$$H_{\text{rf}}(t) = \varepsilon \cos(\omega_{\text{rf}}t + \delta) \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2M\omega_z}} (a_{\text{CM}} + a_{\text{CM}}^\dagger)$$

$$\omega_{\text{rf}} = \mu \quad D \equiv \omega_z - \mu \ll \omega_z, \mu$$

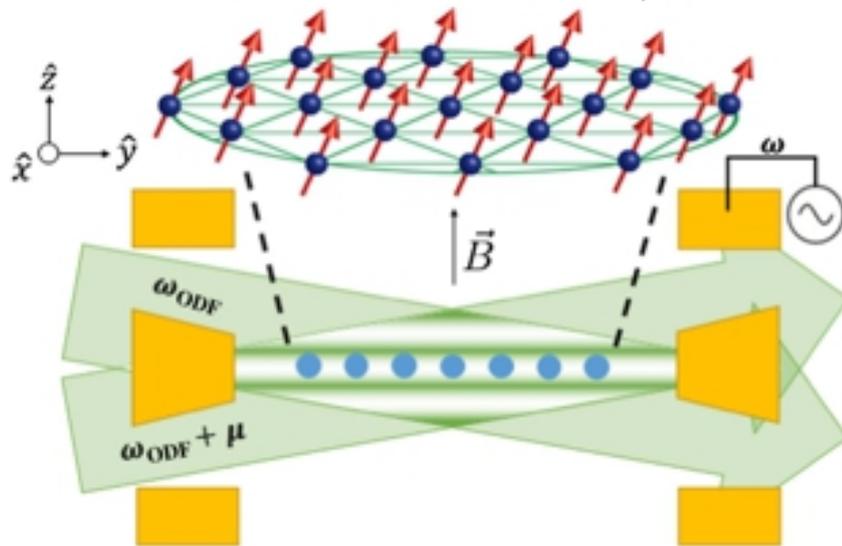
Time-dependent optical dipole force couples CM oscillations to collective spin of the ions.

# Results: Trapped ion crystals

- ❖ Task: Amplitude sensing of classical center-of-mass (CM) lattice oscillations in 2D ion crystal.

${}^9\text{Be}^+$ ,  $N \sim 100$

Gilmore *et al*, PRL 118 (2017).



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Time-dependent optical dipole force couples CM oscillations to collective spin of the ions.

- ❖ Assuming that CM is far-detuned from all other modes, and invoking RWA, the problem maps to frequency estimation under appropriate time-dependent modulation functions:

$$H_{\text{SB}}(t) \approx \left[ \frac{U\delta k Z_c}{2} (1 - \cos Dt) + \cos \mu t B_{\text{CM}}(t) \right] \sum_n \sigma_n^z$$

$$B_{\text{CM}}(t) = \frac{2U\delta k}{\hbar} \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2MN\omega_z}} (a_{\text{CM}} e^{-i\omega_z t} + \text{H.c.}) \quad \Psi(t) \approx \left( \frac{U\delta k}{\hbar} \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{MN\omega_z}} \right)^2 \frac{\omega_z t (1 - \text{sinc} Dt)}{\mu^2 - \omega_z^2}$$

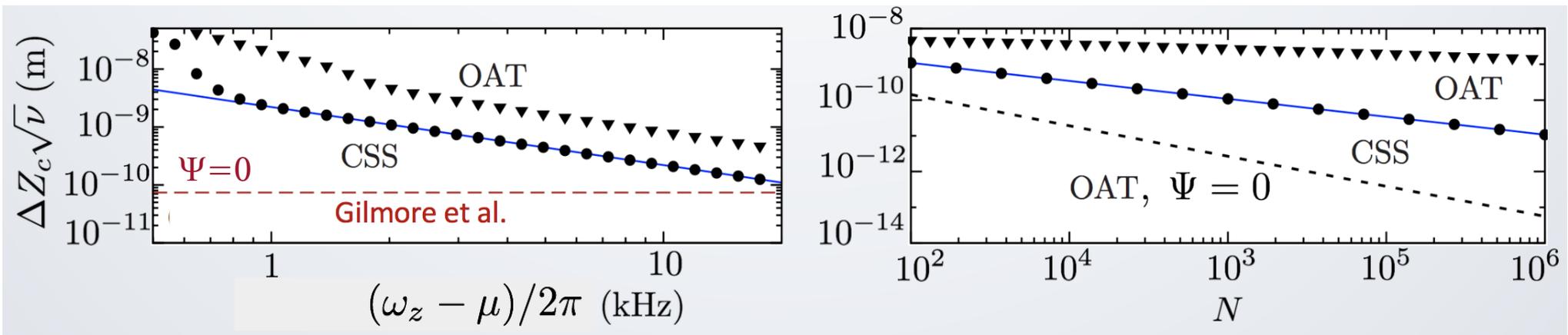
# Results: Trapped ion crystals

- ❖ Task: Amplitude sensing of classical center-of-mass (CM) lattice oscillations in 2D ion crystal.

$$H_{SB}(t) \approx \left[ \frac{U\delta k Z_c}{2} (1 - \cos Dt) + \cos \mu t B_{CM}(t) \right] \sum_n \sigma_n^z$$

→ The uncertainty is now optimized at a fixed number of experimental shots,  $\nu = T/t$ .

- (1) **Initial CSS**: Due to finite  $\Psi(t)$ , driving near resonance with CM yields uncertainty that exceeds significantly the one estimated by neglecting quantum noise.
- (2) **Initial OAT, minimizing initial uncertainty  $\Delta J_y(0)$** : The uncertainty is even larger than SQL, due to the fact that *the state becomes anti-squeezed by the noise* ⇒ **Quantum correlations have a detrimental effect on precision!**



# [Ongoing] Countering non-Markovian collective noise?

❖ The quantum nature of the noise brings about additional unexpected features...

→ Thanks to symmetry, GHZ state is *insensitive to quantum noise*:  $\Psi(t)$  does not enter the reduced dynamics  $\Rightarrow$  effectively classical, correlated noise,

$$\Delta \hat{b}_{\min}(t) = 1/\sqrt{F_Q} \quad \Rightarrow \quad F_Q = N^2 e^{-2N^2 \chi(t)}$$

(Q1) Can the use of dynamical control/filter-shaping techniques *suppress decay*, while retaining a favorable signal-to-noise ratio for metrological advantage?...

→ Quantum noise enters the reduced dynamics *unitarily*:  $\rho_S(t) = e^{-i\Psi(t)J_z^2} [\rho_S(t)|_{\Psi=0}] e^{i\Psi(t)J_z^2}$ .

Since the QFI is unitarily invariant,  $\Delta \hat{b}_{\min} = \Delta \hat{b}_{\min}|_{\Psi=0}$

(Q2) Can measurement(s) that *optimally cancels the effects of quantum noise* be constructed?...

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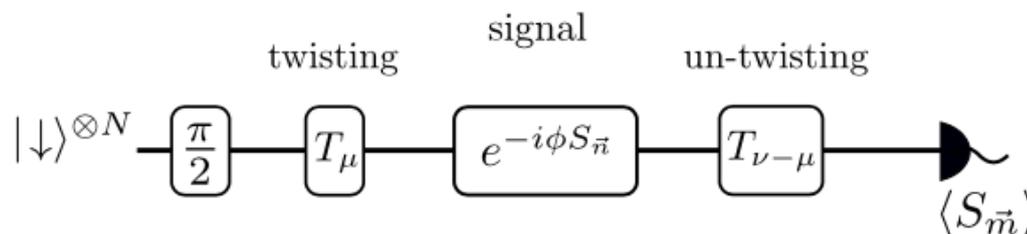
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(Q2) Can measurement(s) that *optimally cancels the effects of quantum noise* be constructed?...

❖ Detailed knowledge about the noise may be exploited in principle to adaptively modify the measurement protocol, while also altering the probe dynamics with external control

(Q3) Expand and further generalize *twisting-echoes protocols* to noisy settings?...



Schulte et al, Quantum 4 (2020).

# [Ongoing] Non-collectivity as a resource?

- ❖  $N$  qubit sensors coupled to a bosonic bath in thermal equilibrium:

$$B(t) = 2 \sum_k (g_k a_k^\dagger e^{i\Omega_k t} + \text{H.c.}) \mapsto B_n(t) = 2 \sum_k \underbrace{(g_k e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}_n} a_k^\dagger e^{i\Omega_k t} + \text{H.c.})}_{\text{Position-dependent coupling}}, \quad \Omega_k = v|\vec{k}| = vk$$

- Case study: Randomize sensor's spatial location – make sensors i.i.d. according to

$$P(\vec{r}_n) = \frac{e^{-r_n^2/2\epsilon^2}}{(2\pi\epsilon^2)^{d/2}}, \quad d \in \{1, 2, 3\}, \quad \mathbb{P}(\vec{r}_1, \dots, \vec{r}_N) = \prod_n P(\vec{r}_n)$$

Averaging over sensors' locations effectively suppresses noise spatial correlations,

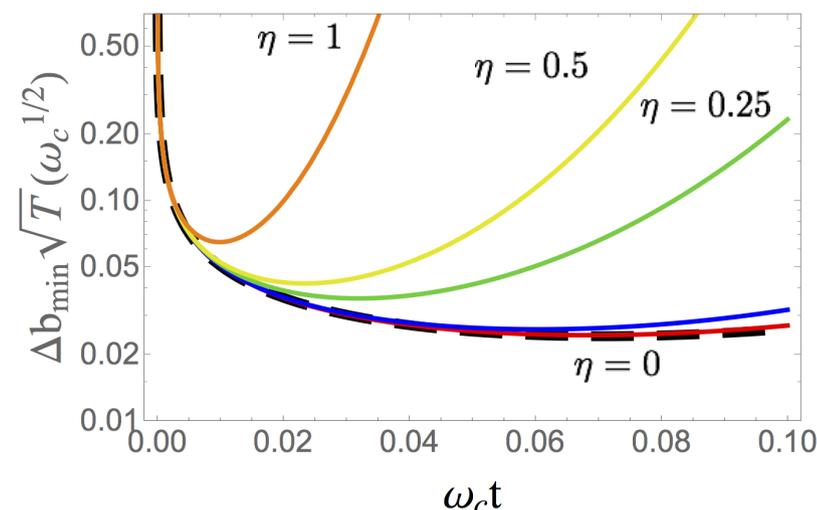
$$\mathbb{E} \{ \text{Tr}_B \{ B_n(t) B_m(0) \rho_B \} \}_{\vec{r}} \rightarrow \delta_{nm} f_n(t) \quad \eta \equiv v/(\epsilon\omega_c) \ll 1$$

- ❖ Super-classical precision scaling may be recovered – in principle – for initial entangled states:

OAT scaling:  $\Delta \hat{b}_{\min} \propto N^{-2/3}$

GHZ scaling:  $\Delta \hat{b}_{\min} = \Delta \hat{b}_{\text{opt}} \propto N^{-3/4}$  **Zeno scaling**

Riberi, Norris, Beaudoin & LV, forthcoming (2021).



# Conclusion

- ❖ Characterizing and controlling realistic quantum systems calls for modeling open dynamics beyond simplifying assumptions – by acknowledging *nontrivial spatiotemporal correlations and non-classicality* of the noise environment. Additional complexity may stem from
  - Initial *non-factorization* – need improved dynamical representations...  
Paz-Silva *et al*, PRA **100** (2019); Alipour *et al*, PRX **10** (2020).
  - *Non-Gaussianity* – need higher-order correlators and polyspectra...
  - *Non-stationarity* – need filter functions/quantum noise spectroscopy beyond frequency domain...  
Norris *et al*, PRL **116** (2016); Chalermkusitarak *et al*, arXiv:2008.13216.
- ❖ Spatiotemporally correlated quantum noise introduces *additional uncertainty* in quantum parameter estimation, due to bath-mediated entanglement and squeezing among sensors. *Quantitative noise knowledge* becomes a prerequisite for tailoring noise-mitigation protocols...
- ❖ **Additional work is needed to assess *metrological impact* of spatiotemporally correlated noise:**
  - Other physical settings: Amplitude sensing *beyond collective regime*?... Atomic clocks?...
  - Once noise is characterized, *what dictates ultimate precision bound*?...
  - Can schemes for QEC-sensing be extended to non-Markovian regime?...
  - To what extent *can external control or QEC help restore metrological advantage*?...

