

Time-domain fluctuations in quantum non-equilibrium systems

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In collaboration with Mark Mitchison & Michael Kewming

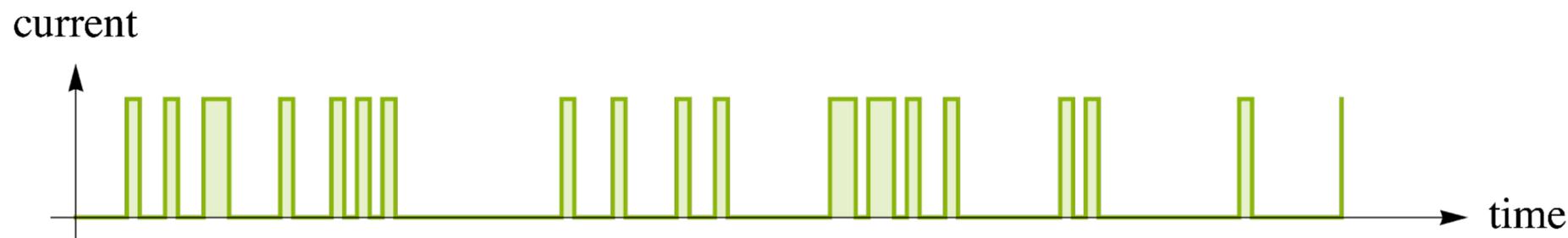
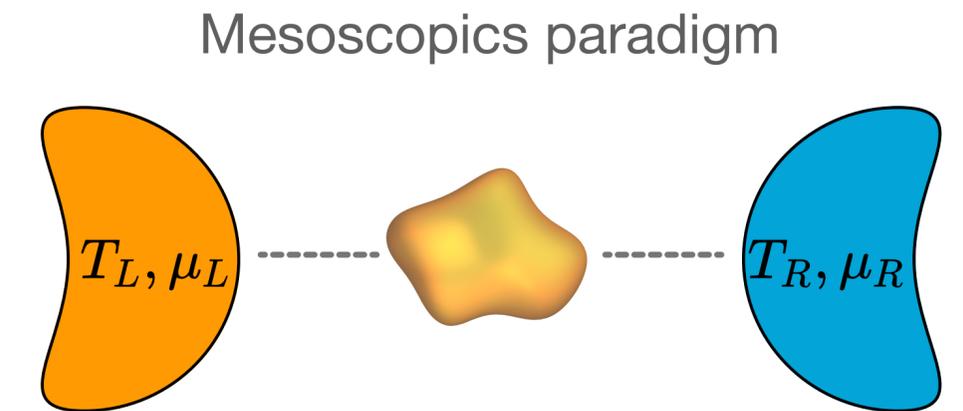
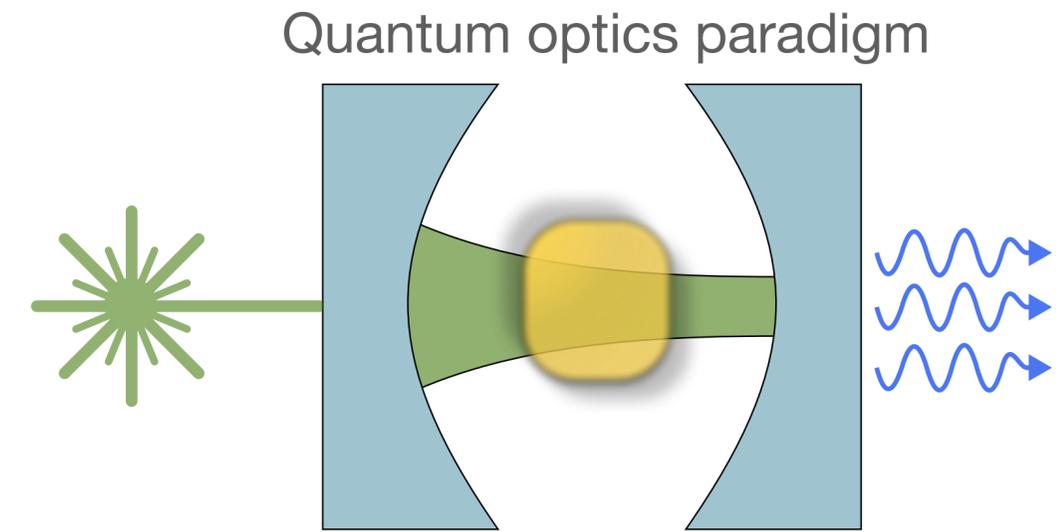
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The story

- Open Quantum Systems generate **classical (stochastic) currents**.
- Experimental characterization via continuous measurements.
 - Discrete like emissions: photo-detection, electron counting.
 - Continuous emissions: homodyne, heterodyne.
- **Motivation:** to go beyond the average, and understand the **fluctuations** Δ_I^2 of the output current.



Detection record

$$\zeta_t = (0,0,1,0,0,0,0,1,1,0,1,\dots)$$

Thermodynamic Uncertainty Relations (TUR) & Kinetic Uncertainty Relations (KUR):

- Fluctuations in classical systems are bounded by dissipation:

$$\frac{\Delta_I^2}{\langle I \rangle^2} \geq \frac{2}{\dot{\sigma}} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\Delta_I^2}{\langle I \rangle^2} \geq \frac{1}{K}$$

K = dynamical activity (jumps/second)

$\dot{\sigma}$ = entropy production rate

(measure of dissipation and the 2nd law)

- Simple, elegant and counter-intuitive.
 - But can be violated in the quantum regime!

Metrology:

- Fluctuations determine the precision (Cramér-Rao bound): $\Delta_I^2 \geq 1/F(\zeta_t)$
- But fluctuations also contain information (because output is correlated in time).

Summary

Unpublished work.

Part 1: tutorial paper in PRX Quantum.

- Bridge the gap between these 2 fields.
 - Develop methods/formulas to efficiently compute fluctuations numerically.

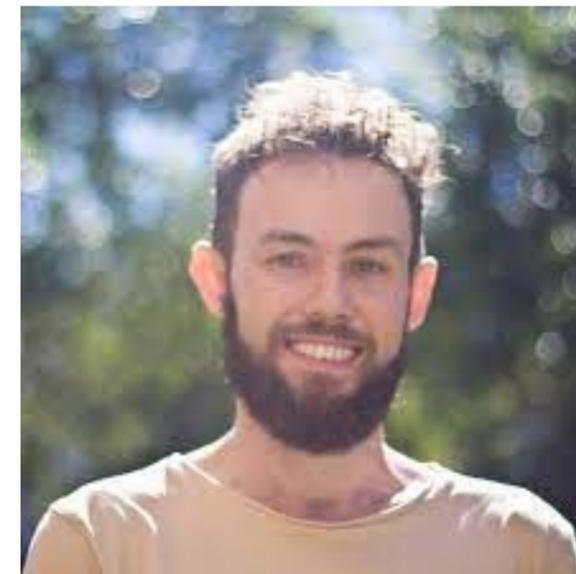
Part 2: applications to Kerr non-linearity.

- Study fluctuations in critical Kerr resonators.
- Continuous & discontinuous transitions.
- Exponential divergence of fluctuations.

Toolbox

Cond. Mat: Full Counting Statistics.

Quantum optics: input-output, power spectrum, etc.



Michael Kewming



Mark Mitchison

Setup: quantum master equation

- We are going to consider systems described by a Quantum Master equation

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = \mathcal{L}(\rho) = -i[H(t), \rho] + \sum_k L_k \rho L_k^\dagger - \frac{1}{2} \{L_k^\dagger L_k, \rho\}$$

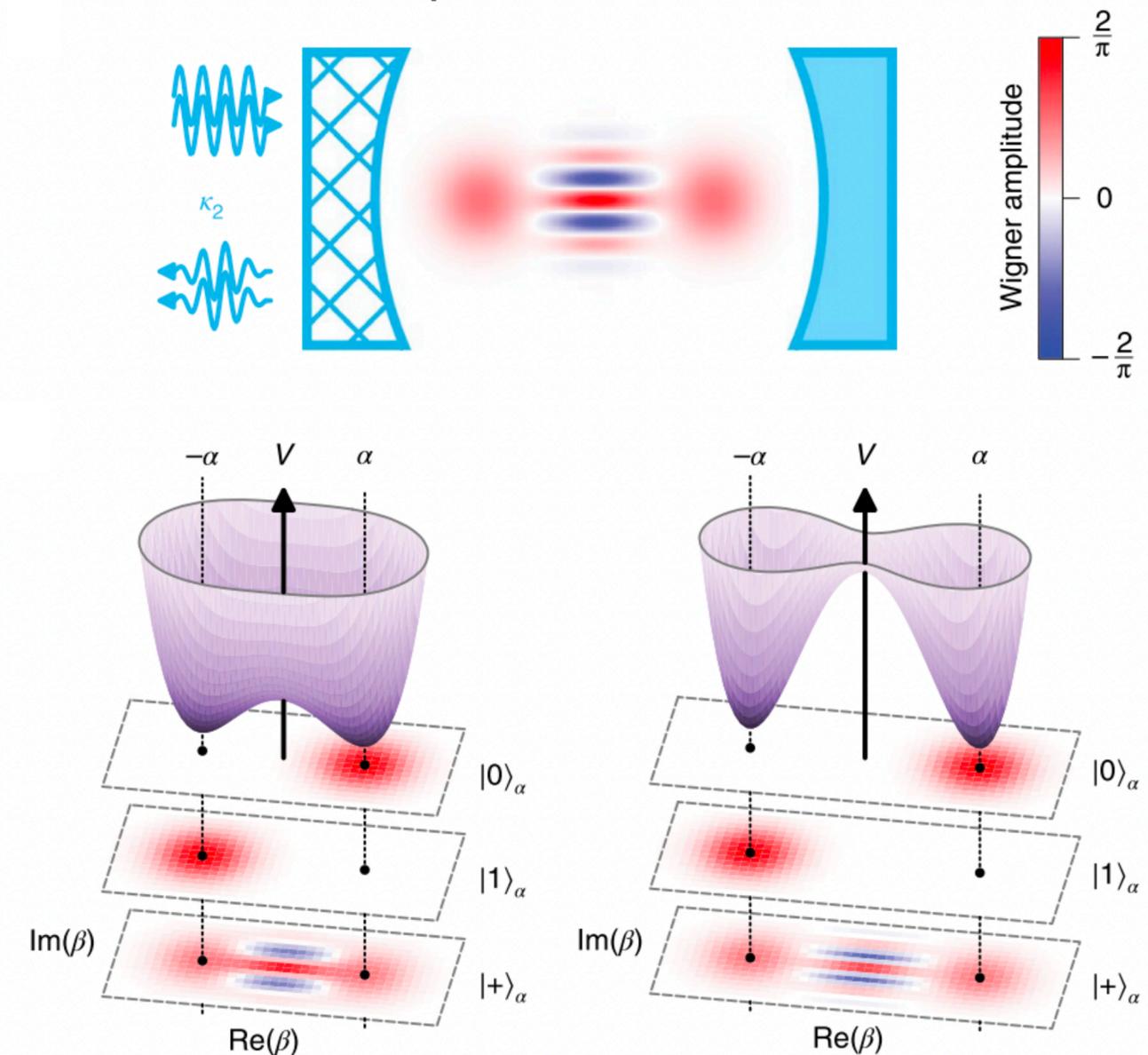
- Ex. 1:** optical cavity with leaky photons.

$$D[a] = \kappa \left[a \rho a^\dagger - \frac{1}{2} \{a^\dagger a, \rho\} \right]$$

- e.g. the Parametric Kerr model.

$$H = -\Delta a^\dagger a + \frac{U}{2} a^\dagger a^\dagger a a + \frac{G}{2} (a^{\dagger 2} + a^2)$$

Cat qubits:
useful for quantum error correction

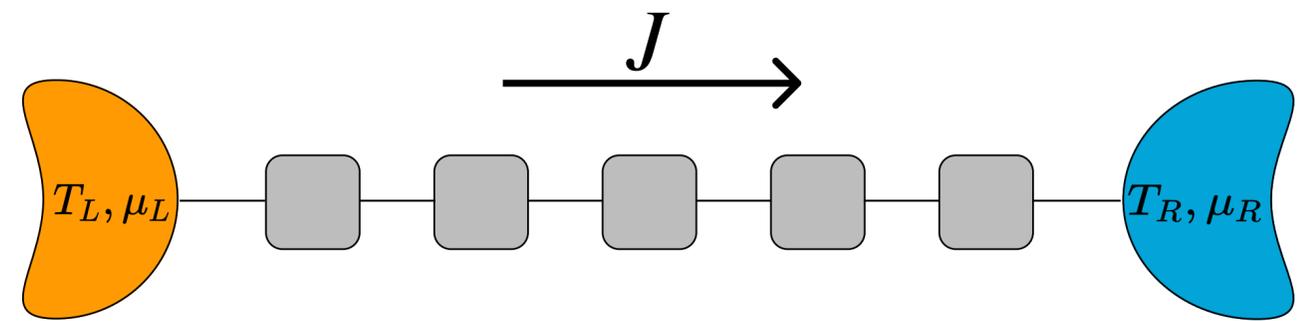


- **Ex. 2:** fermionic transport. A chain of fermionic sites (e.g. quantum dots) modeled by

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = -i[H, \rho] + \sum_i \gamma(1 - f_i) D_{c_i}(\rho) + \gamma f_i D_{c_i^\dagger}(\rho)$$

with

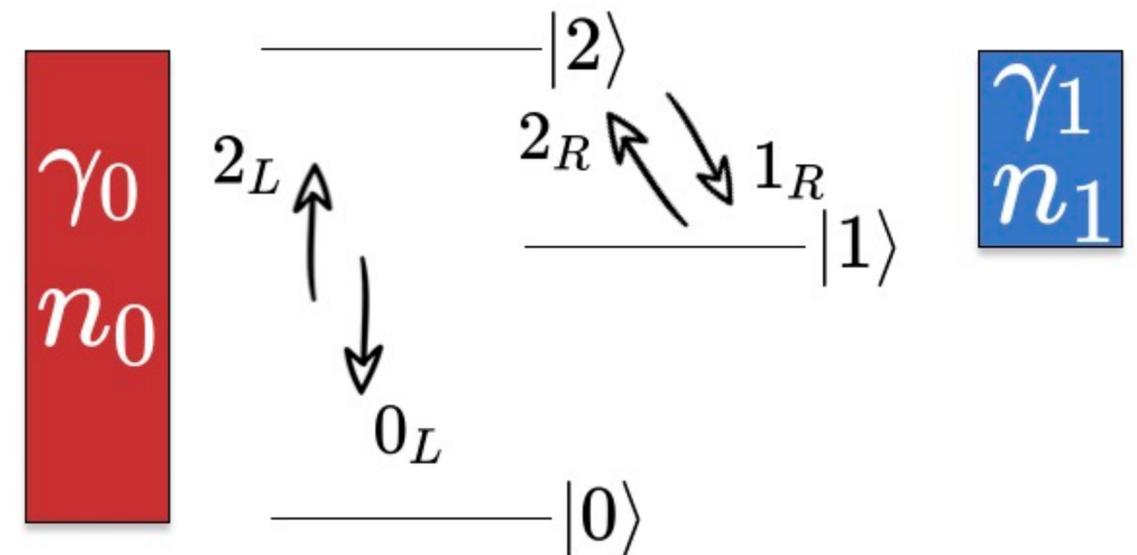
$$H = \sum_{i=1}^L \epsilon_i c_i^\dagger c_i - J \sum_{i=1}^{L-1} (c_i^\dagger c_{i+1} + c_{i+1}^\dagger c_i)$$



- **Ex. 3:** 3-level maser

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\rho}{dt} = & -i[H, \rho] + \gamma_0(n_0 + 1)D[\sigma_{02}] + \gamma_0 n_0 D[\sigma_{20}] \\ & + \gamma_1(n_1 + 1)D[\sigma_{12}] + \gamma_1 n_1 D[\sigma_{21}] \end{aligned}$$

- $\sigma_{ij} = |i\rangle\langle j|$



Conditional evolution



$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = \mathcal{L}(\rho) = -i[H(t), \rho] + \sum_k L_k \rho L_k^\dagger - \frac{1}{2} \{L_k^\dagger L_k, \rho\}$$

- We associate each $L_k \rho L_k^\dagger$ with a **quantum jump**:

$$\mathcal{L}_1(\rho) := \sum_k \mathcal{J}_k(\rho) = \sum_k L_k \rho L_k^\dagger$$

- Decompose:

$$\mathcal{L}(\rho) = \mathcal{L}_0(\rho) + \mathcal{L}_1(\rho) \quad \text{where} \quad \mathcal{L}_0 = \mathcal{L} - \mathcal{L}_1 \text{ is the no-jump operator.}$$

- **Dyson series:**

$$e^{\mathcal{L}t} \rho_0 = e^{\mathcal{L}_0 t} \rho_0 + \int_0^t dt_1 e^{\mathcal{L}_0(t-t_1)} \mathcal{L}_1 e^{\mathcal{L}_0 t_1} \rho_0 + \int_0^t dt_1 \int_0^{t_1} dt_2 e^{\mathcal{L}_0(t-t_1)} \mathcal{L}_1 e^{\mathcal{L}_0(t_1-t_2)} \mathcal{L}_1 e^{\mathcal{L}_0 t_2} \rho_0 + \dots$$

$$e^{\mathcal{L}t}\rho_0 = e^{\mathcal{L}_0 t}\rho_0 + \int_0^t dt_1 e^{\mathcal{L}_0(t-t_1)} \mathcal{L}_1 e^{\mathcal{L}_0 t_1} \rho_0 + \int_0^t dt_1 \int_0^{t_1} dt_2 e^{\mathcal{L}_0(t-t_1)} \mathcal{L}_1 e^{\mathcal{L}_0(t_1-t_2)} \mathcal{L}_1 e^{\mathcal{L}_0 t_2} \rho_0 + \dots$$

- This allows us to break the evolution into pieces **conditioned** on specific numbers of jumps.
- **Ex:** probability of no jump up to time t

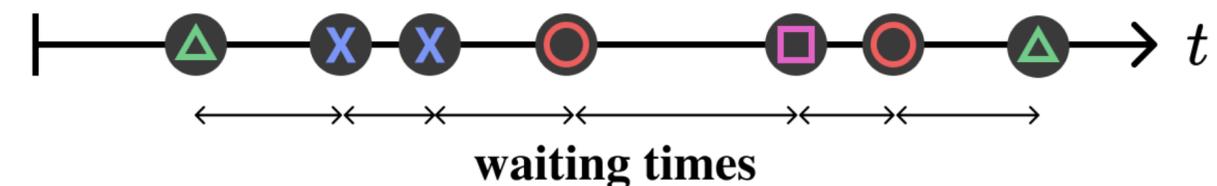
$$P_{\text{no jump}}(t) = \text{tr}(e^{\mathcal{L}_0 t} \rho_0)$$

- **Ex:** probability that first jump occurs exactly at time t (**waiting-time distribution**)

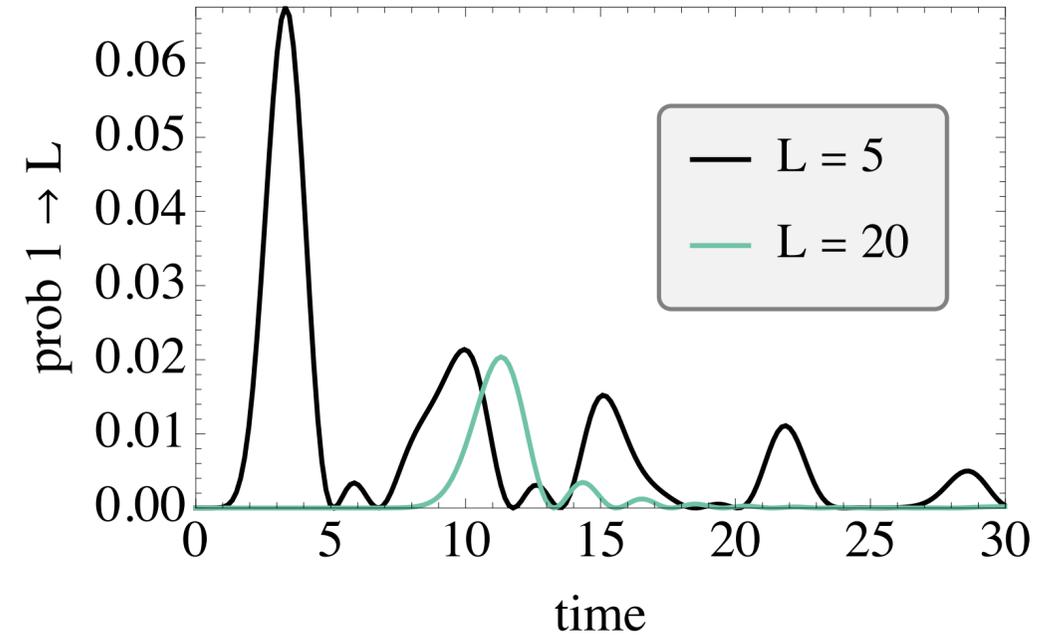
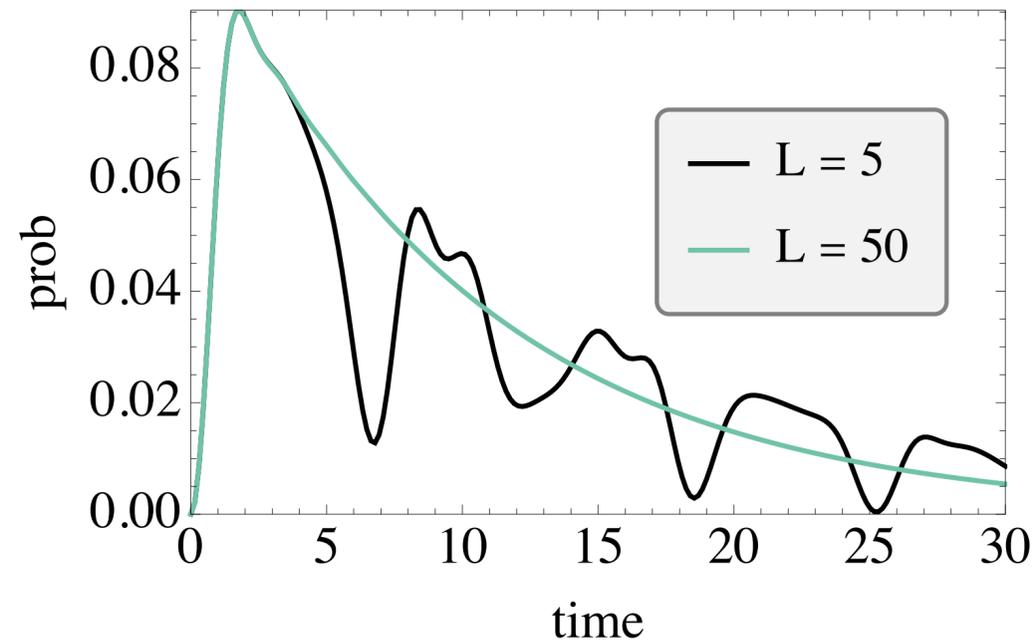
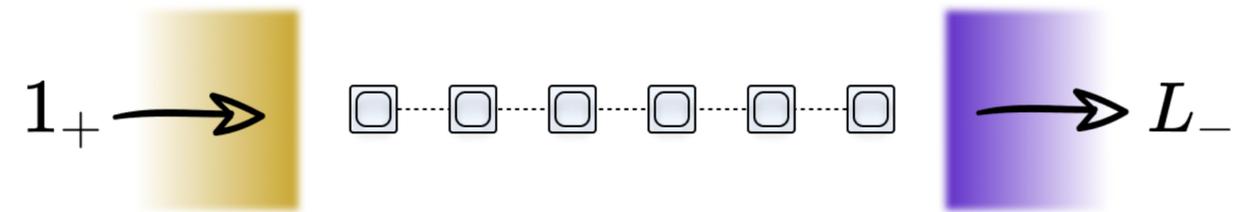
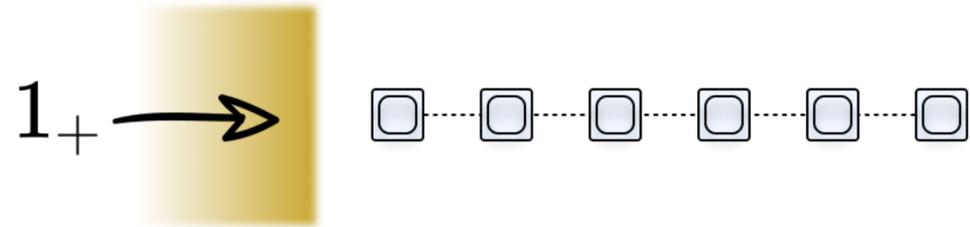
$$W(t) = \text{tr} \left\{ \mathcal{L}_1 e^{\mathcal{L}_0 t} \rho_0 \right\}$$

- Can also be resolved over individual channels

$$W(t, k) = \text{tr} \left\{ \mathcal{J}_k e^{\mathcal{L}_0 t} \rho_0 \right\}$$



Ex: tight-binding chain



- 2nd injection is affected by the 1st.
- And also by finite-size interference effects.

Output currents

- To each jump we associate a counting variable $N_k(t)$, such that $dN_k = 1$ when $L_k \rho L_k^\dagger$ occurs.
- The probability that a jump happens in a time interval dt is

$$P(dN_k(t) = 1) = dt \text{tr}(\mathcal{J}_k \rho_t) = dt \text{tr}(L_k \rho_t L_k^\dagger) = dt \langle L_k^\dagger L_k \rangle$$

- The joint probability for two jumps at different times is

$$P(dN_k(t) = 1, dN_q(t + \tau) = 1) = dt^2 \text{tr} \left\{ \mathcal{J}_q e^{\mathcal{L}\tau} \mathcal{J}_k \rho_t \right\}$$

- Note that this assumes anything can happen in the middle (unlike the WTD).

- The counting operators now define **physical (classical) currents**:

$$I(t) = \sum_k \mu_k \frac{dN_k}{dt} \quad N(t) = \int_0^t dt' I(t')$$

- The μ_k are parameters that depend on the current in question; e.g.,

- Particle current: $\mu_k = 1$ for $c\rho c^\dagger$ and $\mu_k = -1$ for $c^\dagger\rho c$

- Energy current : $\mu_k = \pm \epsilon$ (tight-coupling).

- Dynamical activity: $\mu_k = 1$ for all channels.

- Very general framework. Not widely known/appreciated.

- Can also be extended to multiple currents: $I_\alpha = \sum_k \mu_{\alpha,k} \frac{dN_k}{dt}$

- Interesting for studying current-current correlations.

- **Average current:**

$$J(t) = E(I(t)) = \frac{1}{dt} \sum_k \mu_k E(dN_k)$$

But

$$E(dN_k) = 1 \times P(dN_t = 1) = dt \langle L_k^\dagger L_k \rangle$$

$$\therefore J(t) = \sum_k \mu_k \langle L_k^\dagger L_k \rangle$$

- **Fluctuations: 2-point correlation function.**

$$F(t, t + \tau) = E(\delta I_t \delta I_{t+\tau}), \quad \delta I_t = I_t - J_t$$

- A similar & simple calculation leads to

$$F(t, t + \tau) = K_t \delta(\tau) + \text{tr} \left\{ \mathcal{L}_I e^{\mathcal{L}\tau} \mathcal{L}_I \rho_t \right\} - J_t^2$$

where

$$K_t = \sum_k \mu_k^2 \langle L_k^\dagger L_k \rangle$$

and

$$\mathcal{L}_I(\rho) = \sum_k \mu_k L_k \rho L_k^\dagger$$

$$F(t, t + \tau) = K_t \delta(\tau) + \text{tr} \left\{ \mathcal{L}_I e^{\mathcal{L}\tau} \mathcal{L}_I \rho_t \right\} - J_t^2$$

- The second term is the generalization of Glauber's 2nd order coherence function $g^{(2)}$ in quantum optics:
 - Indeed, assuming the quantum regression theorem:

$$\text{tr} \left\{ \mathcal{L}_I e^{\mathcal{L}\tau} \mathcal{L}_I \rho_t \right\} = \sum_{k,q} \mu_k \mu_q \langle L_q(t) L_k^\dagger(t + \tau) L_k(t + \tau) L_q(t) \rangle$$

- Reduces to $g^{(2)}$ when $L_k = a$.
- At steady-state $F(t, t + \tau) = F(\tau)$ and one usually studies the **power spectrum** (Fourier transform)

$$S(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau e^{-i\omega\tau} F(\tau)$$

Connection with full counting statistics

- Probability distribution of the integrated current $N(t) = \int_0^t dt' I(t')$.
- Append a counting field χ to each jump operator

$$\mathcal{L}_\chi(\rho) = -i[H(t), \rho] + \sum_k e^{i\chi\mu_k} L_k \rho L_k^\dagger - \frac{1}{2} \{L_k^\dagger L_k, \rho\}$$

The weights of the counting fields are related to the current coefficients μ_k .

- Cumulant generating function & Probability distribution

$$C(\chi) = \ln \text{tr} \left\{ e^{\mathcal{L}_\chi t} \rho_0 \right\} \quad \text{and} \quad P(N(t) = n) = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \frac{d\chi}{\pi} e^{-in\chi} \text{tr} \left\{ e^{\mathcal{L}_\chi t} \rho_0 \right\}$$

- **Famous FCS result:** $C(\chi) \sim t \ln \lambda_\chi$

Diffusion coefficient

- The **diffusion coefficient**, or **noise** or **scaled variance**, is defined as

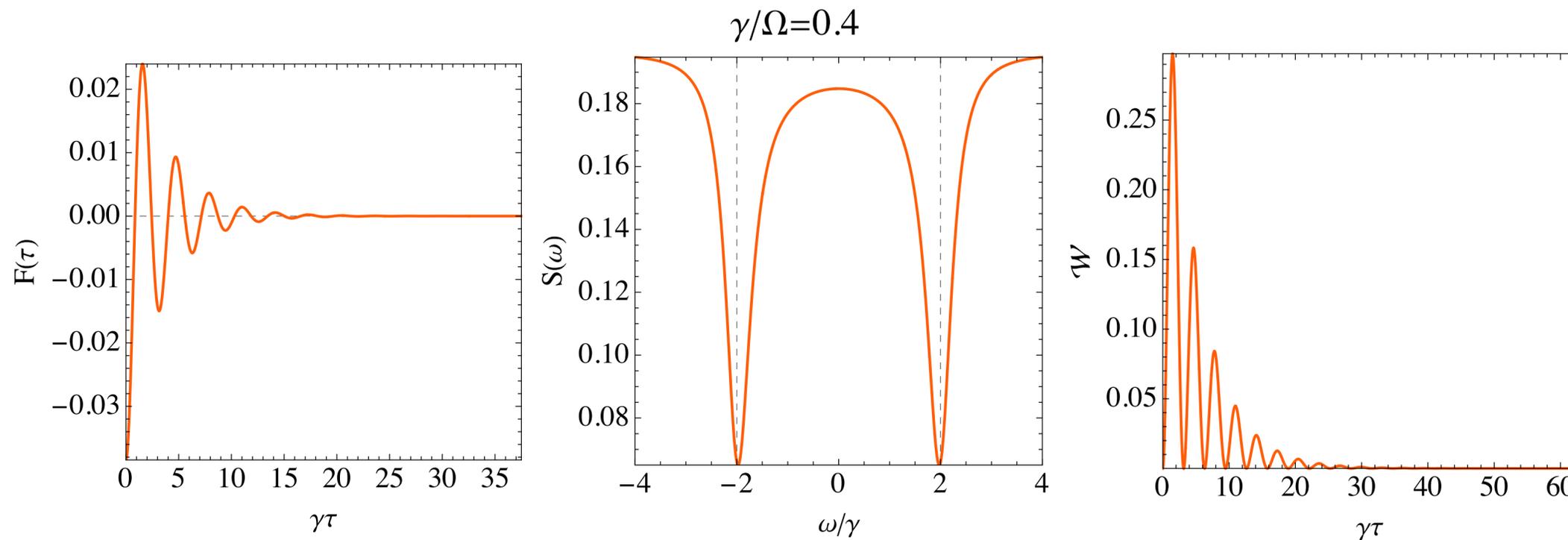
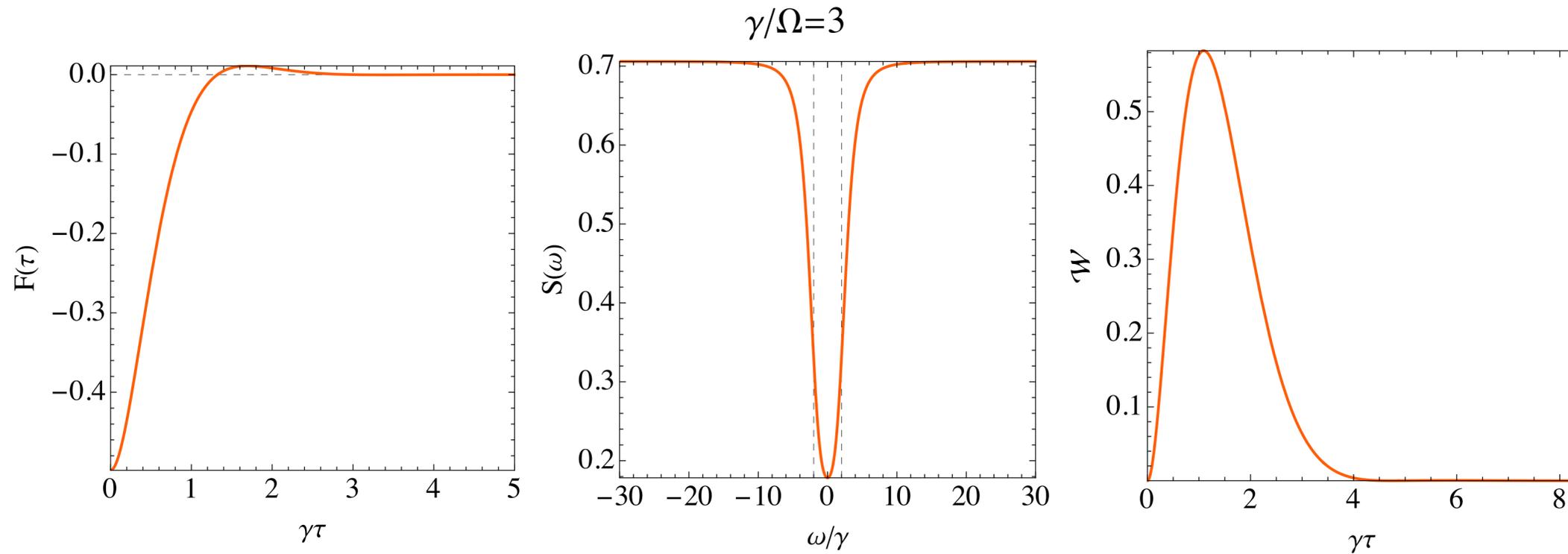
$$\mathcal{D} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{d}{dt} \left[E\left(N^2(t)\right) - E\left(N(t)\right)^2 \right]$$

- ***This is the quantity Δ_I^2 studied in any TUR paper.***
- Connection with previous results:

$$\mathcal{D} = S(0) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(\tau)$$

- Can also be generalized to multiple currents: *noise covariance matrix* $\mathcal{D}_{\alpha\beta}$
 - Describes statistical correlations between different currents.

- **Ex:** driven qubit $H = \Omega\sigma_x$ and $\frac{d\rho}{dt} = -i[H, \rho] + \gamma D(\sigma_-)$



Mollow Triplet

Efficient computation of \mathcal{D} and $S(\omega)$

- Focusing on steady-state $\mathcal{L}(\rho) = 0$: $F(\tau) = K \delta(\tau) + \text{tr} \left\{ \mathcal{L}_I e^{\mathcal{L}\tau} \mathcal{L}_I \rho \right\} - J^2$

where $K = \sum_k \mu_k^2 \langle L_k^\dagger L_k \rangle$ and $\mathcal{L}_I(\rho) = \sum_k \mu_k L_k \rho L_k^\dagger$

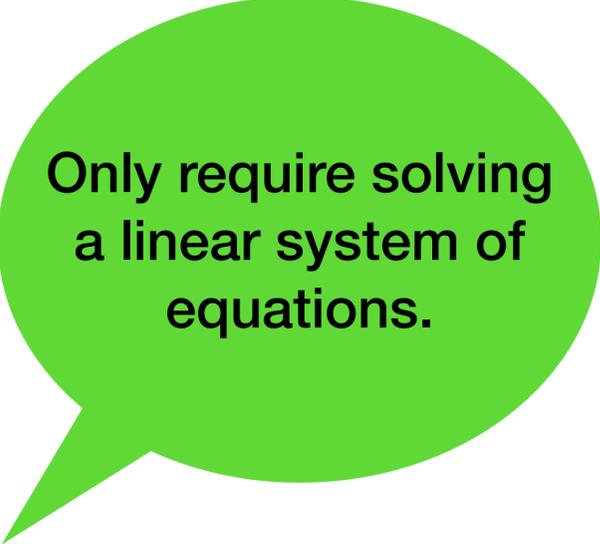
- Then

$$S(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau e^{-i\omega\tau} F(\tau) = K - \text{tr} \left\{ \mathcal{L}_I \left(\frac{\mathcal{L}}{\mathcal{L}^2 + \omega^2} \right) \mathcal{L}_I \rho \right\}$$

- and

$$\mathcal{D} = K - \text{tr} \left\{ \mathcal{L}_I \mathcal{L}^+ \mathcal{L}_I \rho \right\}$$

where \mathcal{L}^+ is the Drazin inverse.



Only require solving a linear system of equations.

Qulib

Simple, yet useful, functions for dealing with Quantum Information and Open Quantum Systems.

Gabriel T. Landi

QT² group

Contributors: [Jader P. dos Santos](#), [Artur Lacerda](#), [Anthony Kiely](#).

General purpose functions »

Quantum theory, information & thermodynamics »

Open quantum systems

Vectorization-based routines »

Collision models »

Full counting statistics ▾

DrazinApply: Applies the [Drazi](#) inverse of an operator »

Average current »

Diffusion matrix »

Power spectrum »

$g^{(2)}$ function »

Two-point function $F_{\alpha\beta} = M_{\alpha\beta} \delta(\tau) + J_{\alpha} J_{\beta} (g_{\alpha\beta}^{(2)} - 1)$ »

Examples

Example usage »

Example: Reproducing Fig. 2(a) of arXiv 2103.07791 »

Example: “[Mollow Triplet](#)”; comparison with the emission & absorption spectra »

Ex: [Mollow Triplet](#), exact formulas »

$$H = \frac{\Delta}{2} \sigma_Z + \frac{\Omega}{2} \sigma_X;$$

$$c = \sqrt{\gamma} \sigma_m;$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \text{Liouvillian}[H, \{c\}] // \text{cf};$$

$$\rho = \text{AnalyticalSteadyState}[\mathcal{L}];$$

$$S = \text{FCSPowerSpectrumLinearSys}[\{\omega\}, \rho, \mathcal{L}, c] [[1, 2]] // \text{cf}$$

Out[12798]=

$$\frac{\gamma \Omega^2 \left(1 + \frac{\gamma (i\gamma + 2\omega) \Omega^2}{(4\Delta^2 + (\gamma - 2i\omega)^2) (\gamma - i\omega) \omega + 2(\gamma - 2i\omega) \omega \Omega^2} + \frac{\gamma (-i\gamma + 2\omega) \Omega^2}{(4\Delta^2 + (\gamma + 2i\omega)^2) (\gamma + i\omega) \omega + 2(\gamma + 2i\omega) \omega \Omega^2} \right)}{\gamma^2 + 4\Delta^2 + 2\Omega^2}$$

Homodyne detection (quantum diffusion)

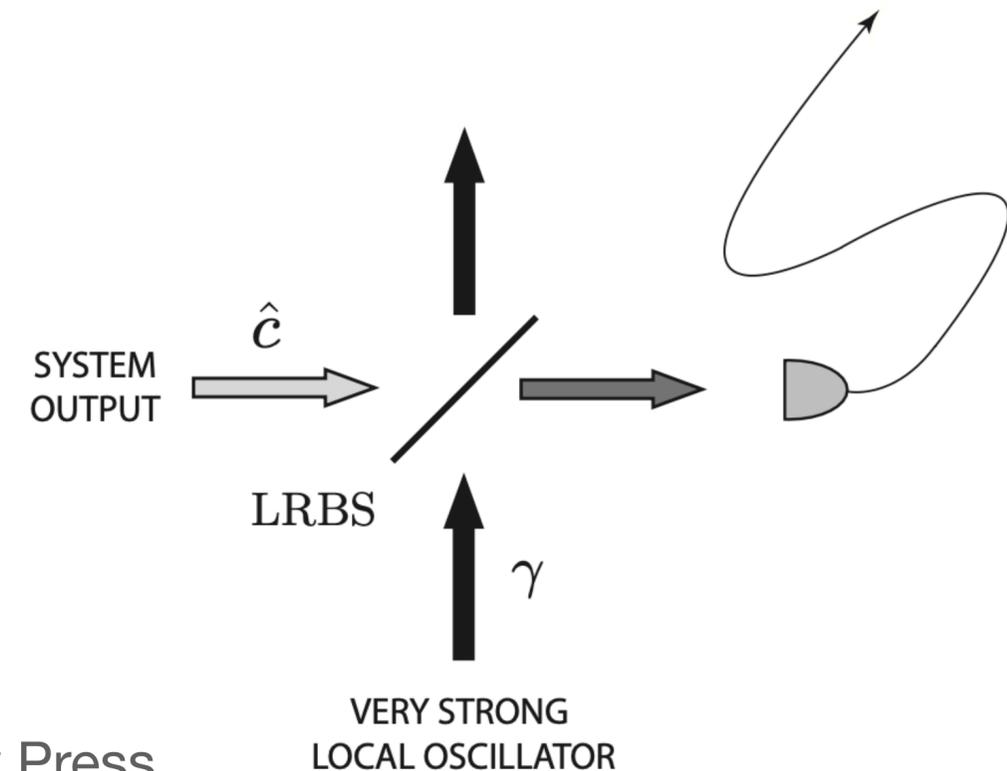
- The Lindblad equation is invariant under the gauge transformation

$$L_k \rightarrow L_k + \alpha_k, \quad H \rightarrow H - \frac{i}{2}(\alpha_k^* L_k - \alpha_k L_k^\dagger)$$

- In optical cavities this can be done by mixing the signal with a classical (high intensity) laser field.
- This leads to stochastic currents

$$J_{\text{hom}} = \sum_k \mu_k (\langle x_k \rangle + \xi_k(t)), \quad x_k = L_k + L_k^\dagger$$

where $\xi_k(t)$ are Gaussian white noises.



- Define $\mathcal{H}_I(\rho) = \sum_k \mu_k (L_k \rho + \rho L_k^\dagger)$.

- The average homodyne current reads

$$J_{\text{hom}} = \text{tr} \mathcal{H}_I(\rho) = \sum_k \mu_k \langle x_k \rangle$$

- The 2-point function reads

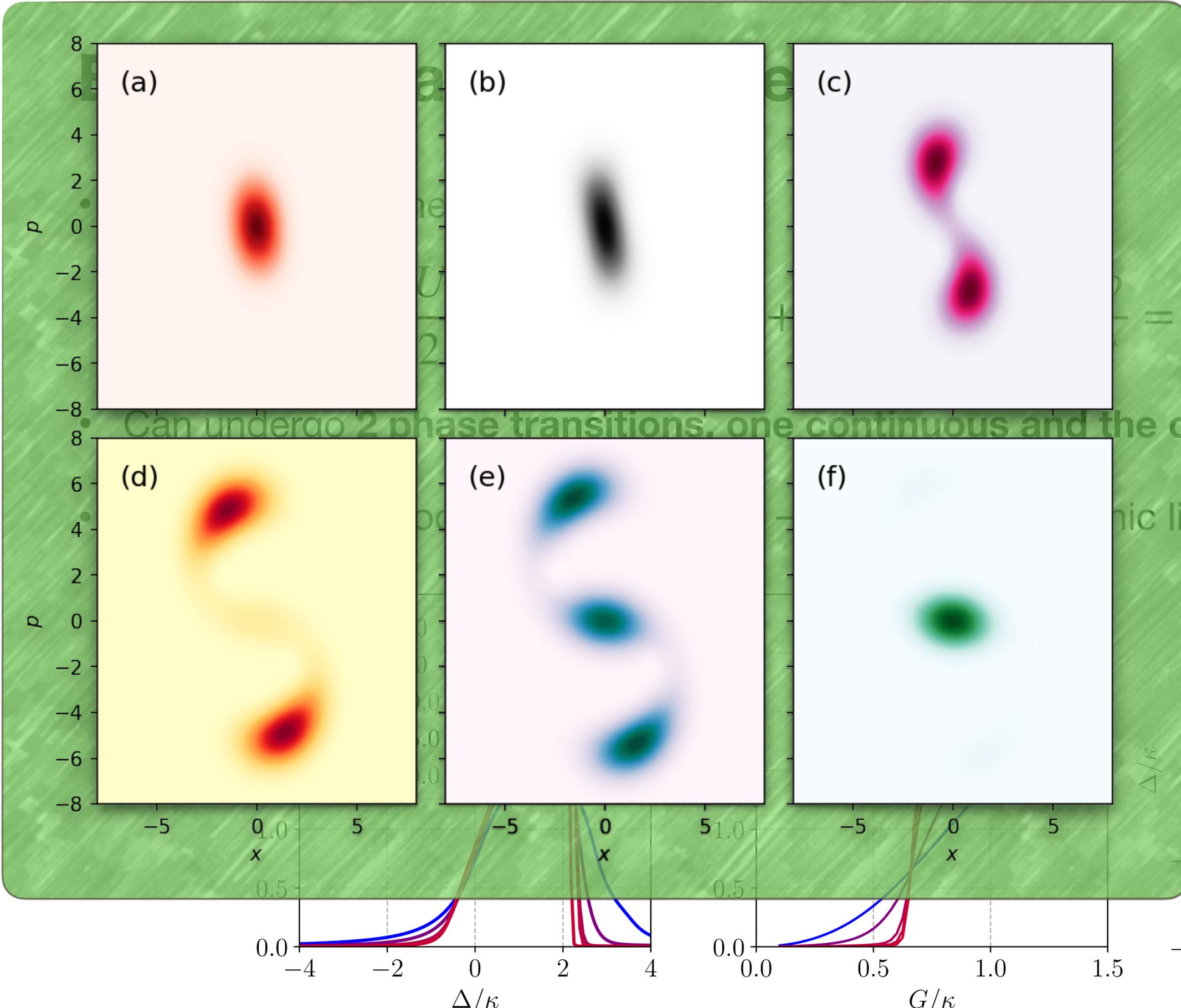
$$F_{\text{hom}}(\tau) = K_{\text{hom}} \delta(\tau) + \text{tr} \left\{ \mathcal{H}_I e^{\mathcal{L}\tau} \mathcal{H}_I \rho \right\} - J_{\text{hom}}^2$$

where $K_{\text{hom}} = \sum_k \mu_k^2$

- The delta term is now proportional to “1”: vacuum fluctuations (shot noise) of the local oscillator.
- Results for homodyne detection are almost identical to what we had before,

$$K \rightarrow K_{\text{hom}} \quad \mathcal{L}_I \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_I$$

Parametric Kerr model



$$\dot{\rho} = -i[H, \rho] + \kappa D[a]$$

Can undergo 2 phase transitions, one continuous and the other discontinuous:

(“cubic limit”)

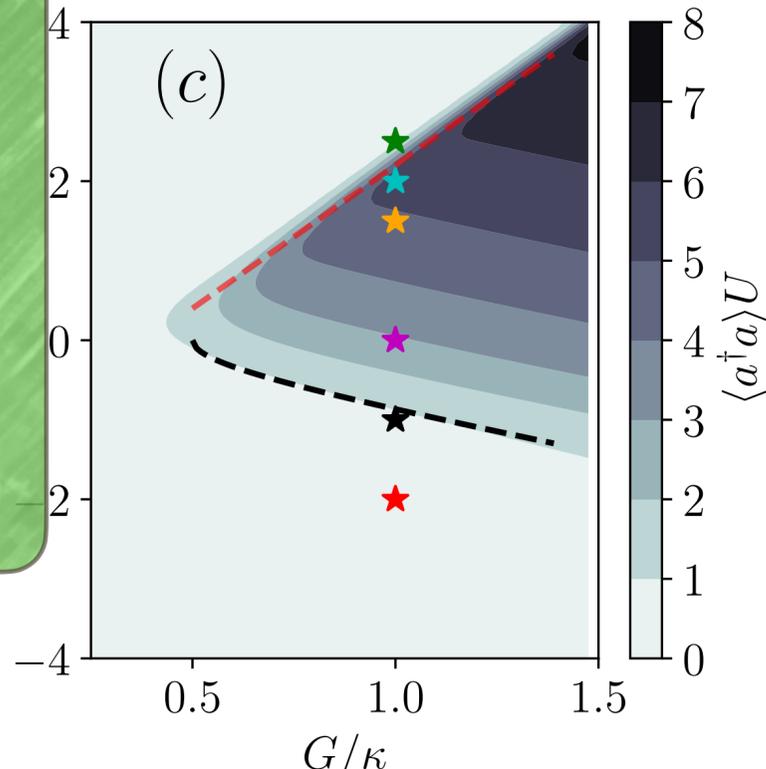
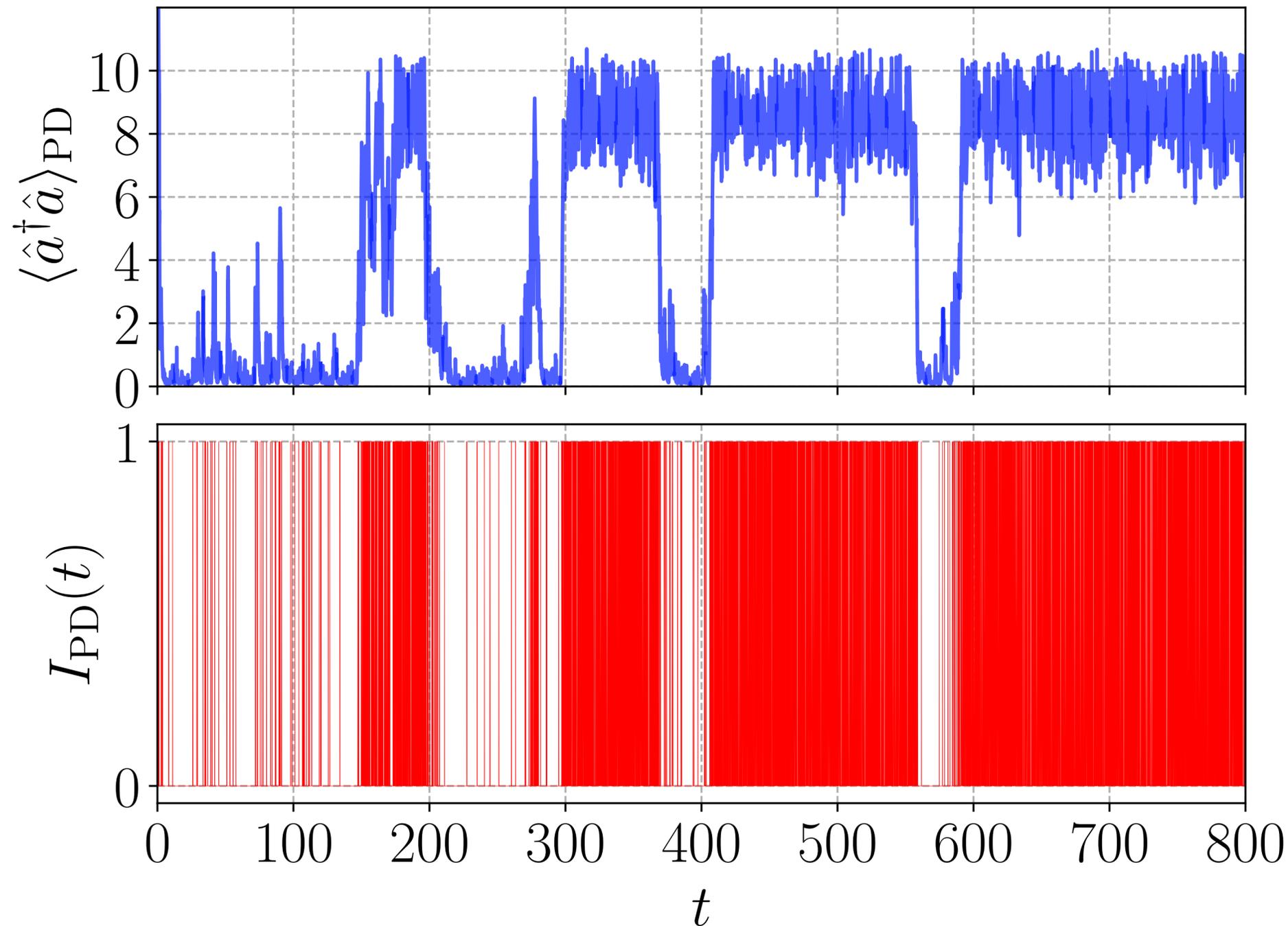
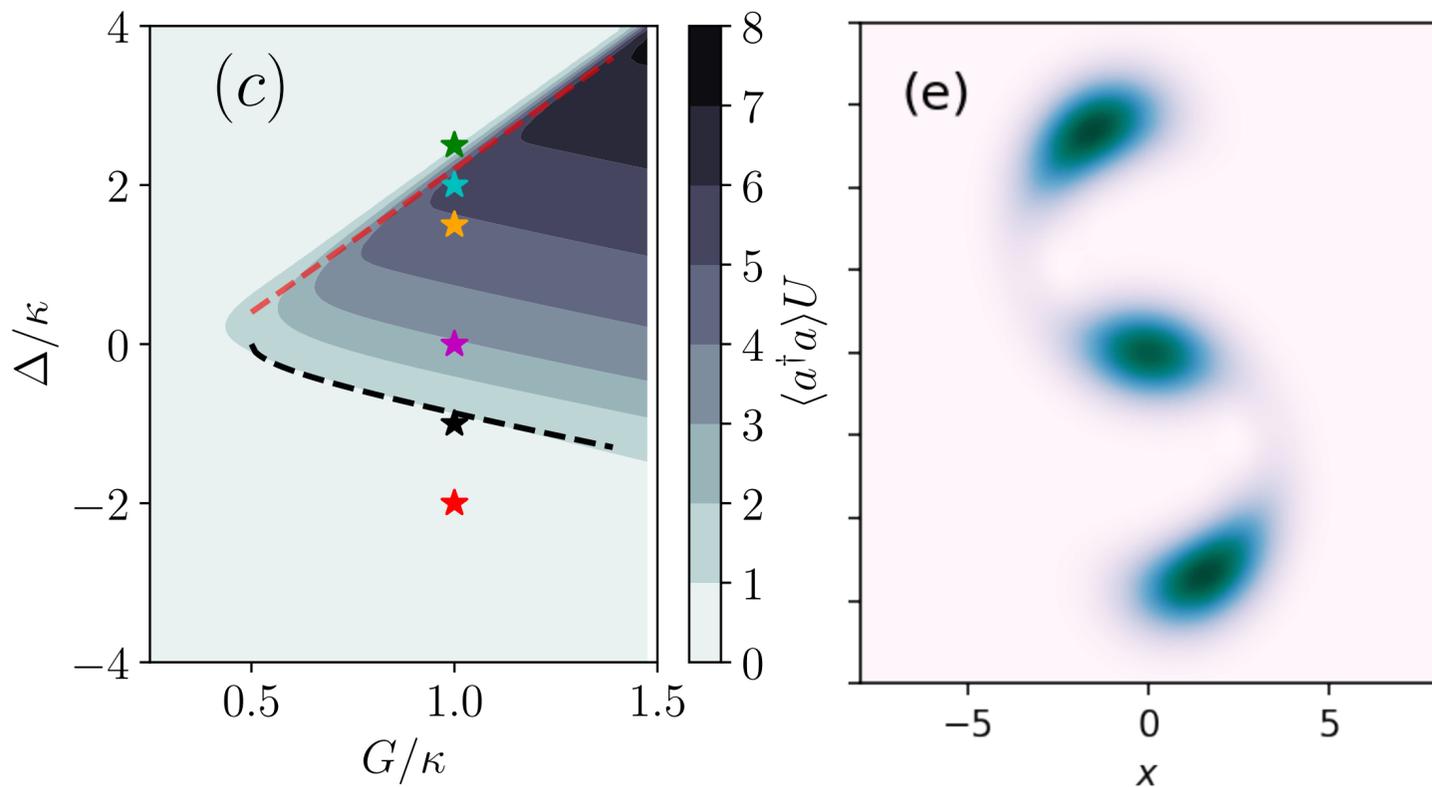


Photo-detection current

- @ discontinuous transition: on/off (telegraph) behavior of the current.
- Photo-detection cannot resolve upper or lower lobes.



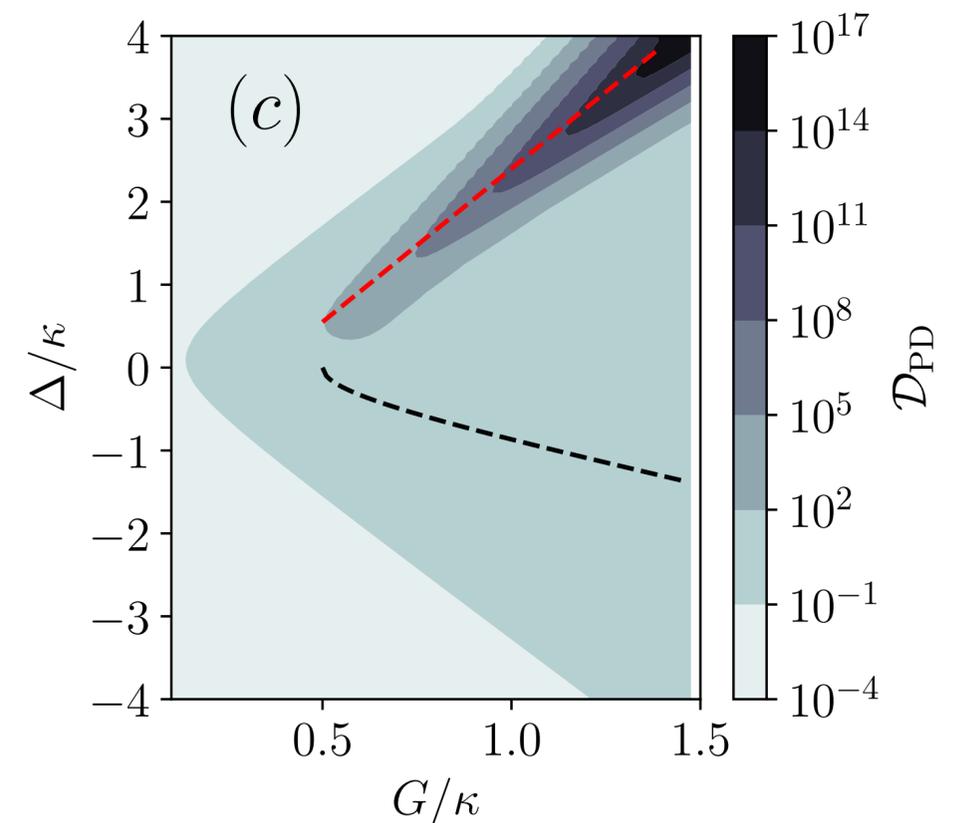
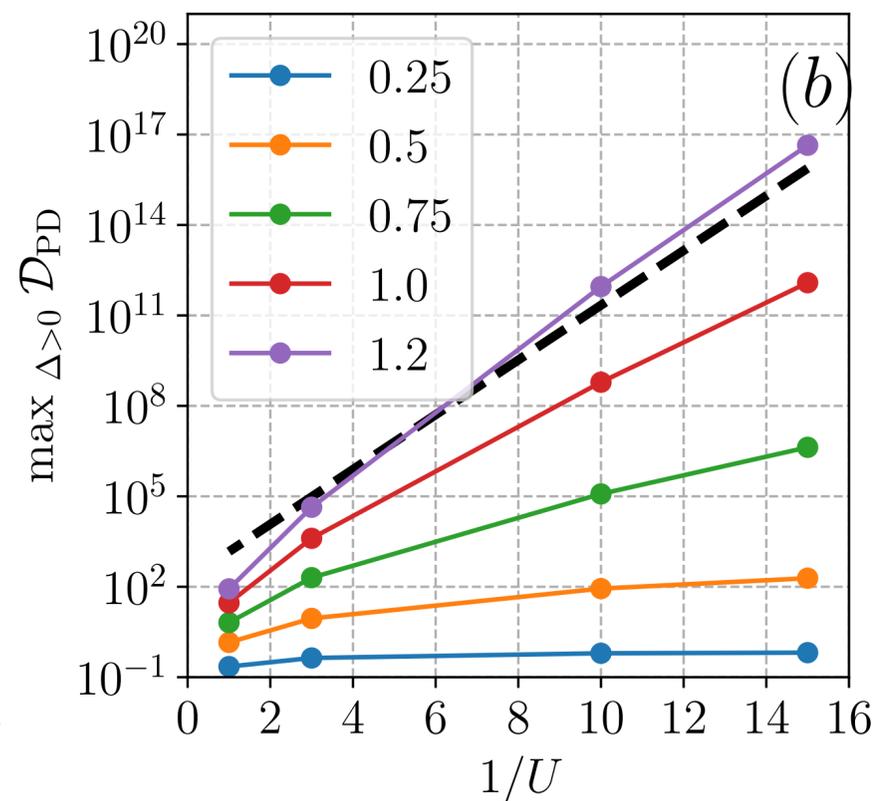
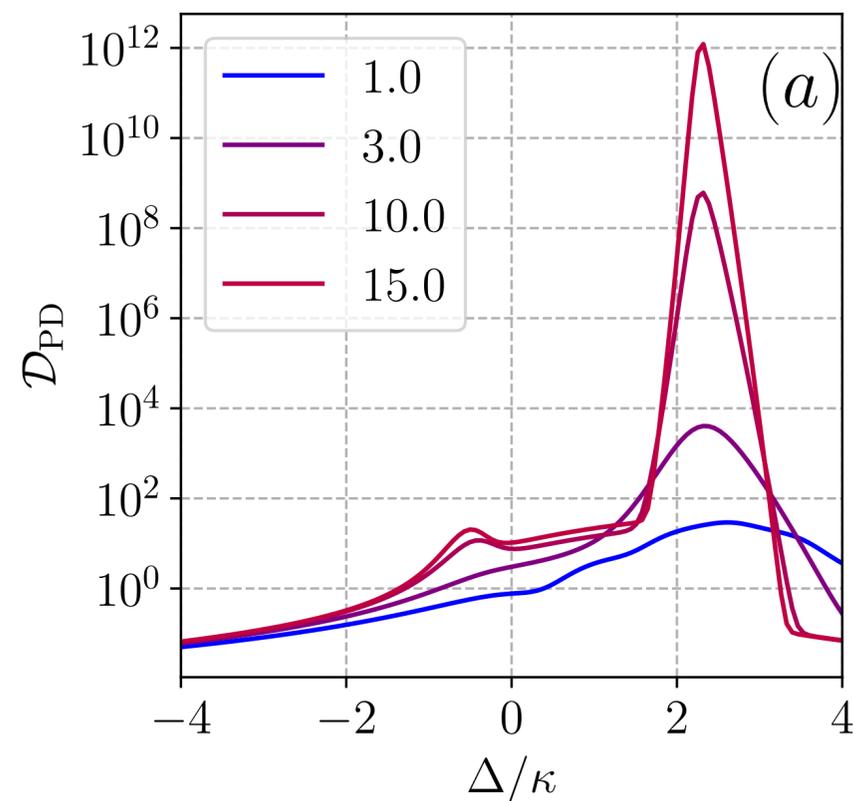
Divergence of the diffusion coefficient

In the continuous transition ($\Delta < 0$)

$$\mathcal{D} \sim (1/U)^2$$

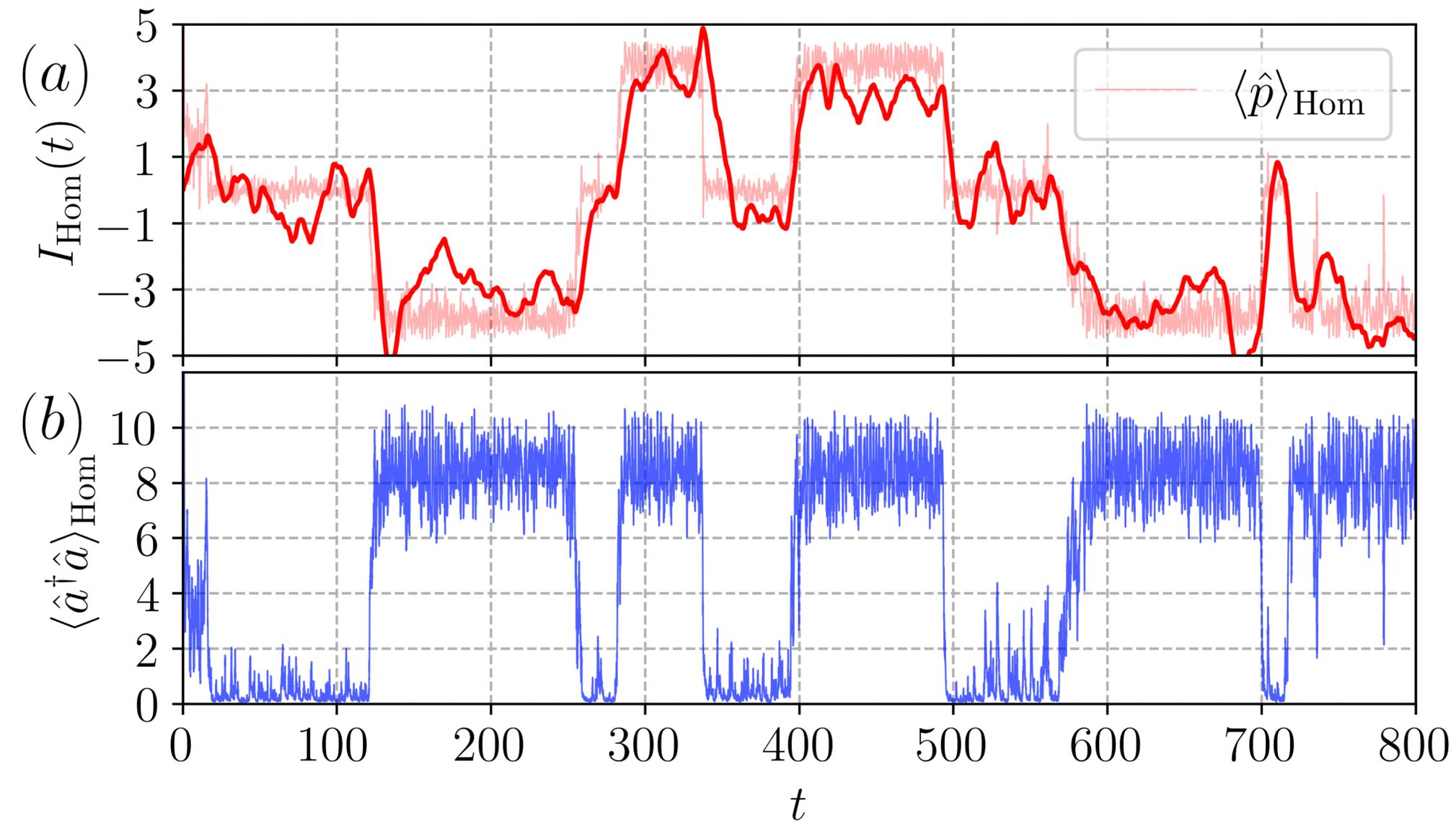
In the discontinuous transition ($\Delta > 0$)

$$\mathcal{D} \sim e^{1/U}$$



Homodyne current (in p quadrature)

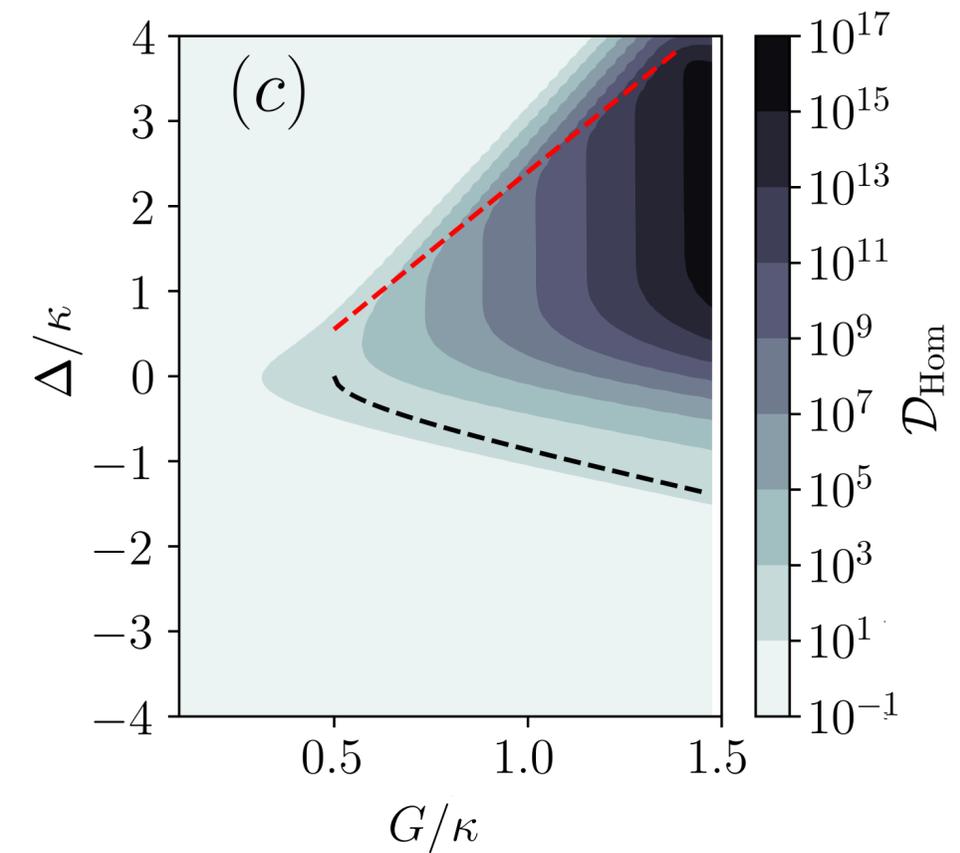
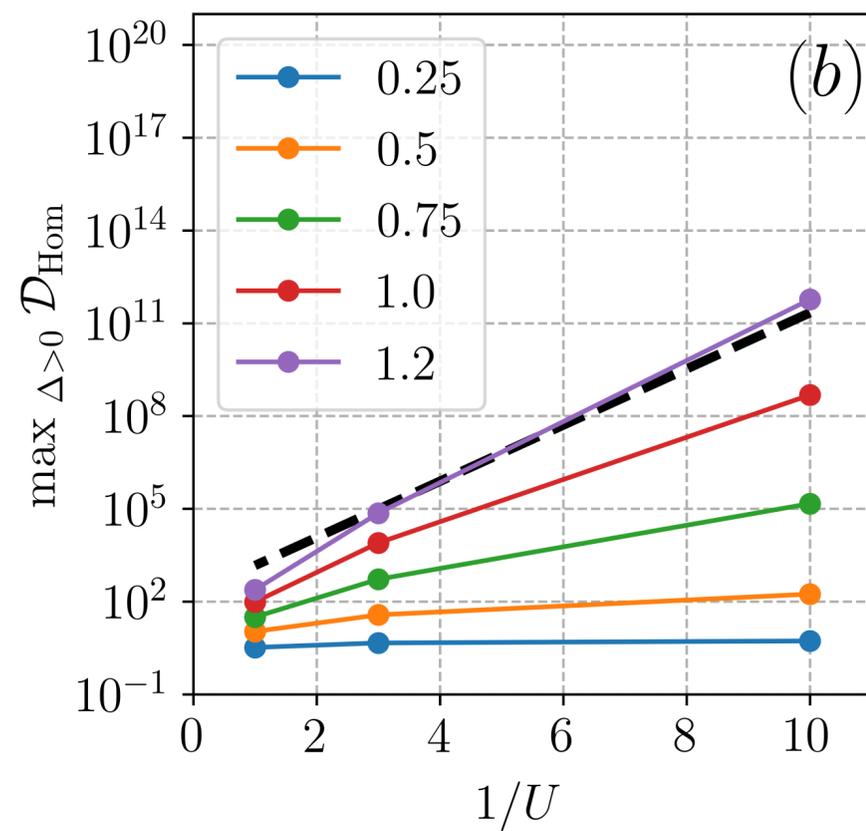
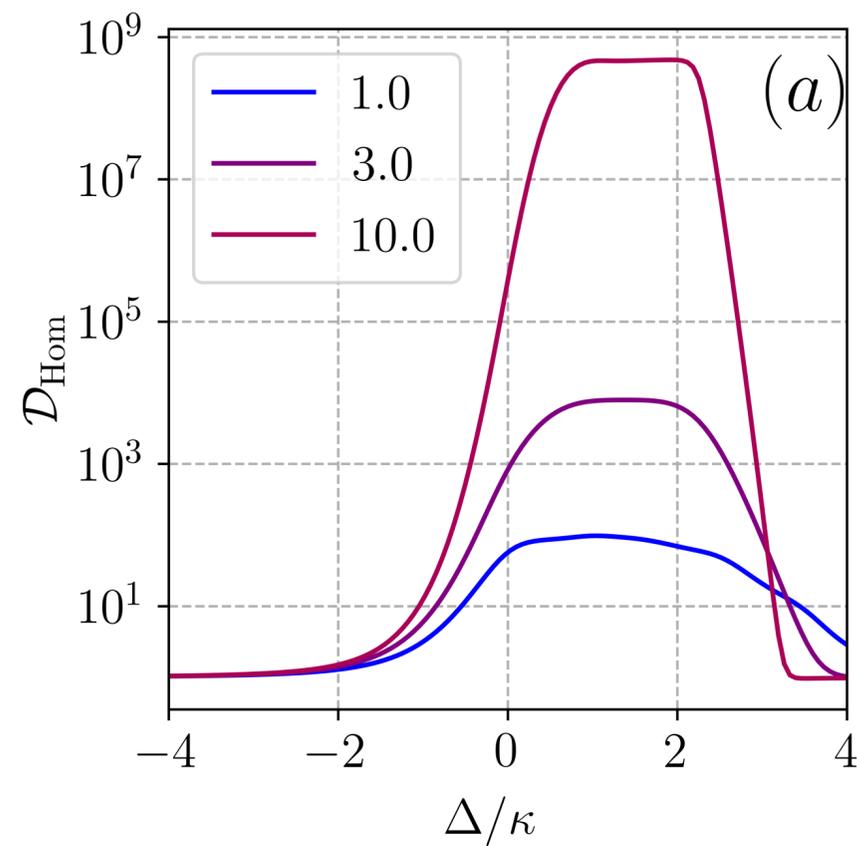
- The homodyne current switches between 3 values (+,0,-).
- Captures the tunneling between the 3 blobs.



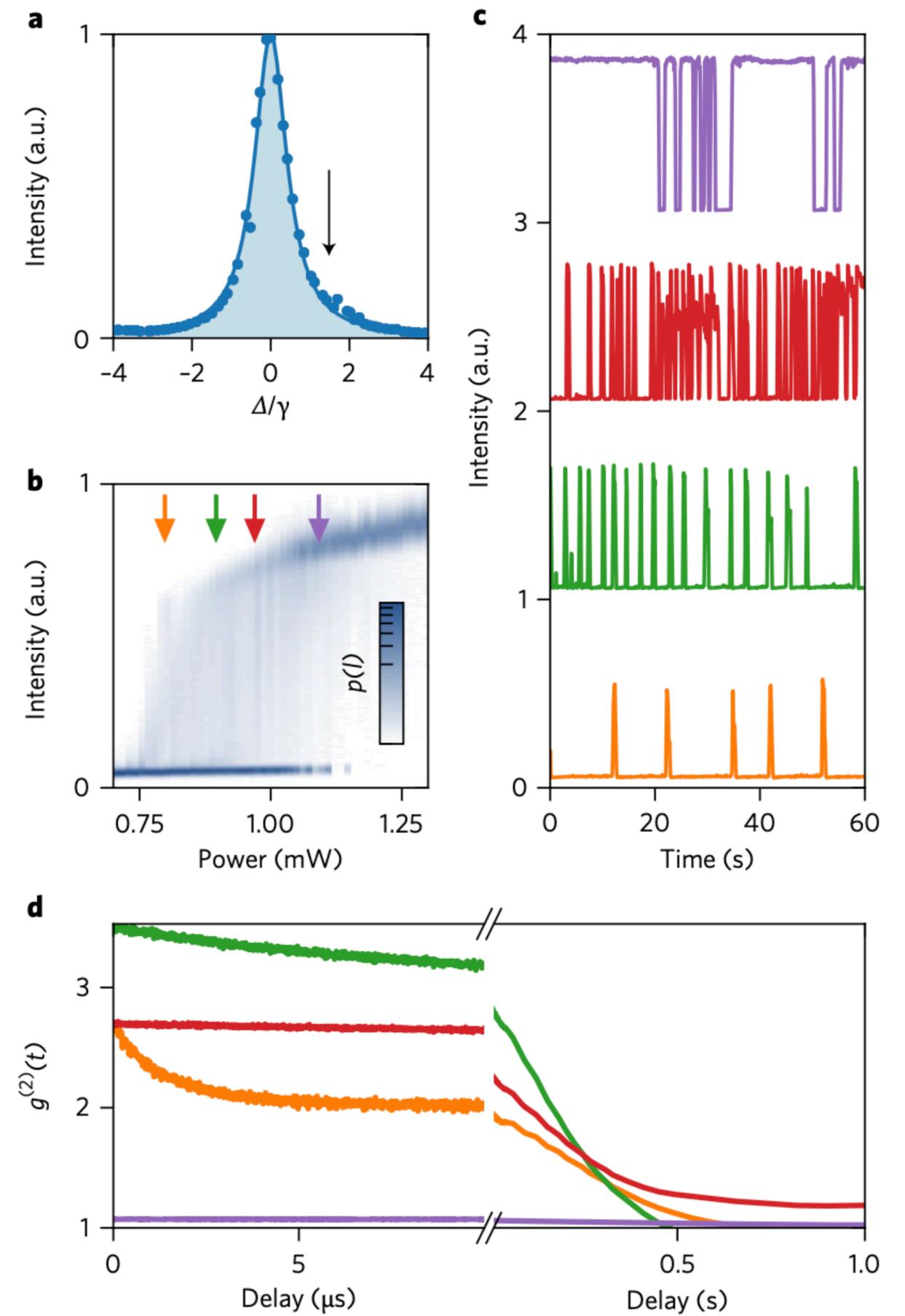
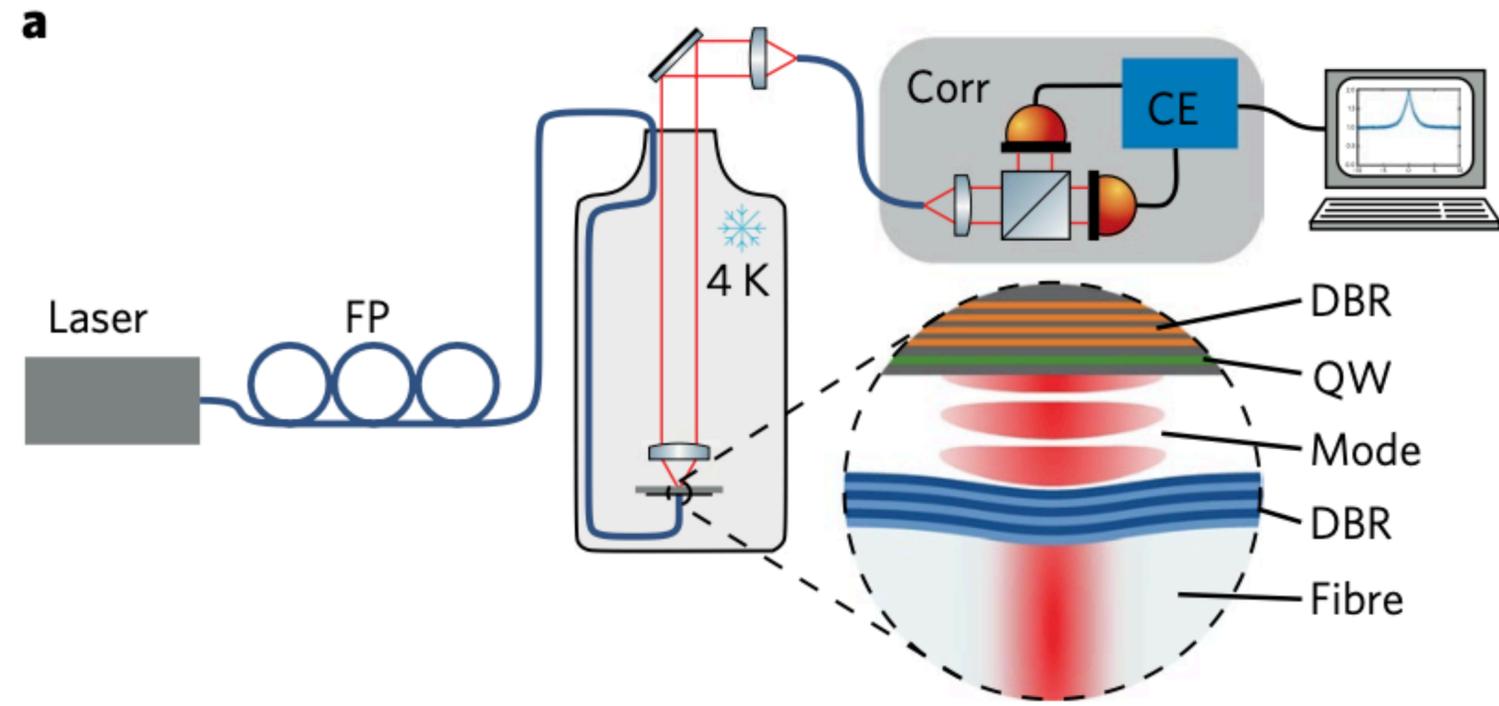
Divergence of the diffusion coefficient

Homodyne current diverges exponentially in a much broader region

$$\mathcal{D} \sim e^{1/U}$$



GaAs cavity polaritons.



Conclusions

- Efforts to go beyond the NESS.
 - Analyze fluctuations in the time domain.
- Connection between quantum optics and full counting statistics.
 - Easy to use/compute formulas.
- Parametric Kerr model: exponential divergences of the diffusion in discontinuous transitions.

Thank you.

