

Ferromagnetism in tilted fermionic Mott insulators

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Introduction: tilted potential in periodic systems

Long history of research:
Response of electrons in solids
to electric field

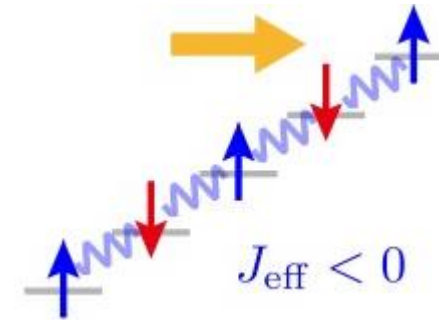
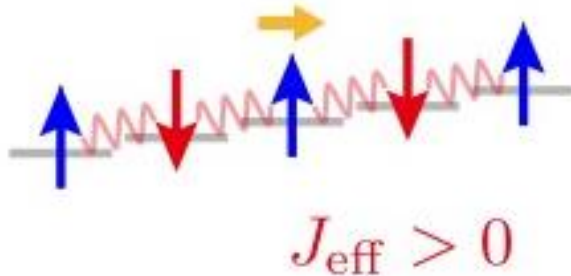
e.g. Bloch oscillation, Zener tunneling

Renewed interest in the
context of localization of
quantum many-body system

e.g. Hilbert space fragmentation,
Hilbert space shuttering,
quantum many-body scars



Introduction: Magnetism of tilted Mott insulators



Static tilt enhances J_{eff}
[K. Takasan and M. Sato,
PRB **100**, 060408 (2019)]

What happens for
larger E ?

Localized spin system?
→ Wannier-Stark
localization occurs!

Main result: Effective interaction
becomes ferromagnetic

cf. Mentink, Balzer and Eckstein, Nat. Commun. **6**, 6708 (2015)
Reversible control of exchange interaction **by periodic modulation**

Setup

One-dimensional Hubbard model

$$\hat{H} = -t_h \sum_{j=1}^{L-1} \sum_{\sigma=\uparrow,\downarrow} (\hat{c}_{j+1,\sigma}^\dagger \hat{c}_{j,\sigma} + \text{h.c.}) + U \sum_{j=1}^L \hat{n}_{j,\uparrow} \hat{n}_{j,\downarrow} + \sum_{j=1}^L \sum_{\sigma=\uparrow,\downarrow} jE \hat{n}_{j,\sigma}$$

with a **linear** potential

[length gauge]

Initial state: antiferromagnetic

$$|\uparrow\downarrow\uparrow\downarrow\uparrow\downarrow\cdots\uparrow\downarrow\rangle$$

no double occupancy

Time-dependent gauge transformation

$$U(t) = \exp \left[-iEt \sum_{j,\sigma} j n_{j,\sigma} \right], \tilde{H}(t) = U^\dagger H U - iU^\dagger \partial_t U$$

$$\tilde{H}(t) = -t_h \sum_{j=1}^{L-1} \sum_{\sigma=\uparrow,\downarrow} (e^{iEt} \hat{c}_{j+1,\sigma}^\dagger \hat{c}_{j,\sigma} + \text{h.c.}) + U \sum_{j=1}^L \hat{n}_{j,\uparrow} \hat{n}_{j,\downarrow}$$

[velocity gauge]

$t_h = 1$: unit of energy, $E = |e|a\varepsilon/\hbar$

$L = 10$ in numerical simulations

e : elementary charge

a : lattice constant

ε : electric field

Time-periodic system

Period: $\frac{2\pi}{E}$

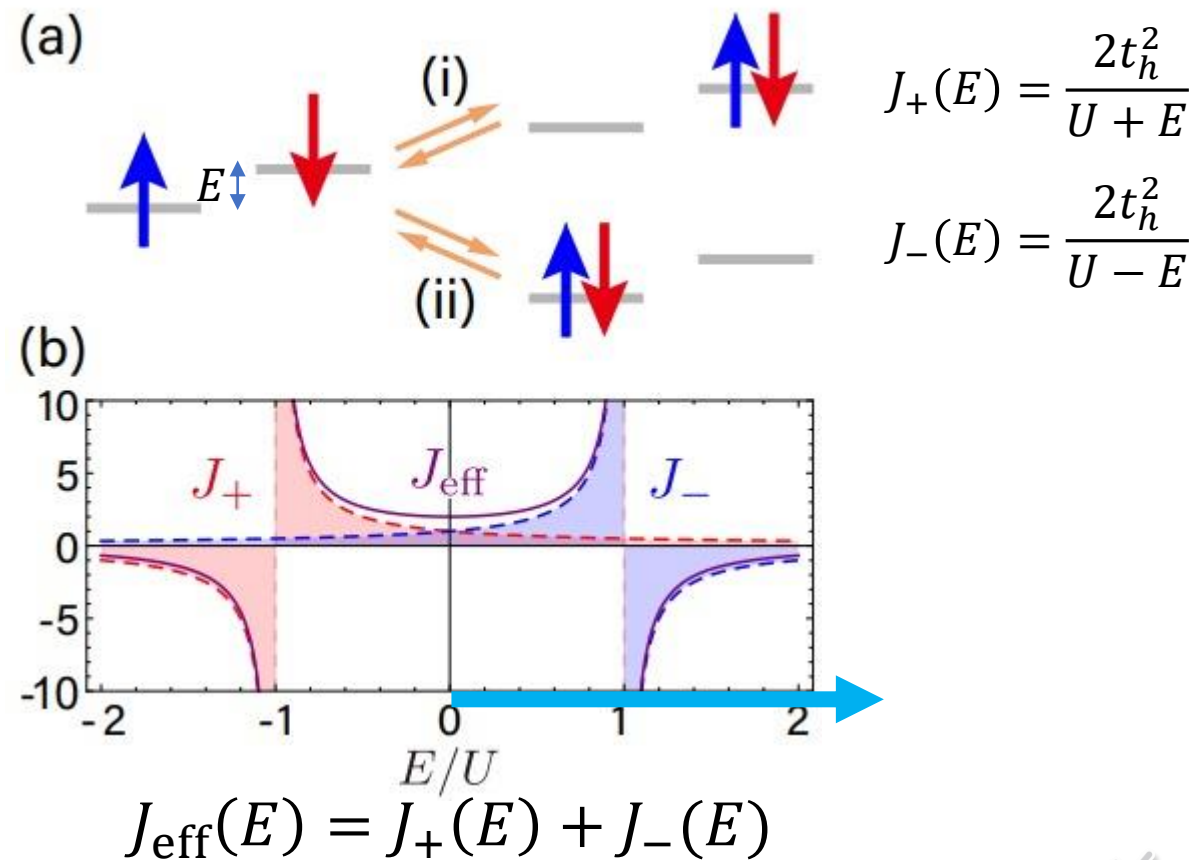
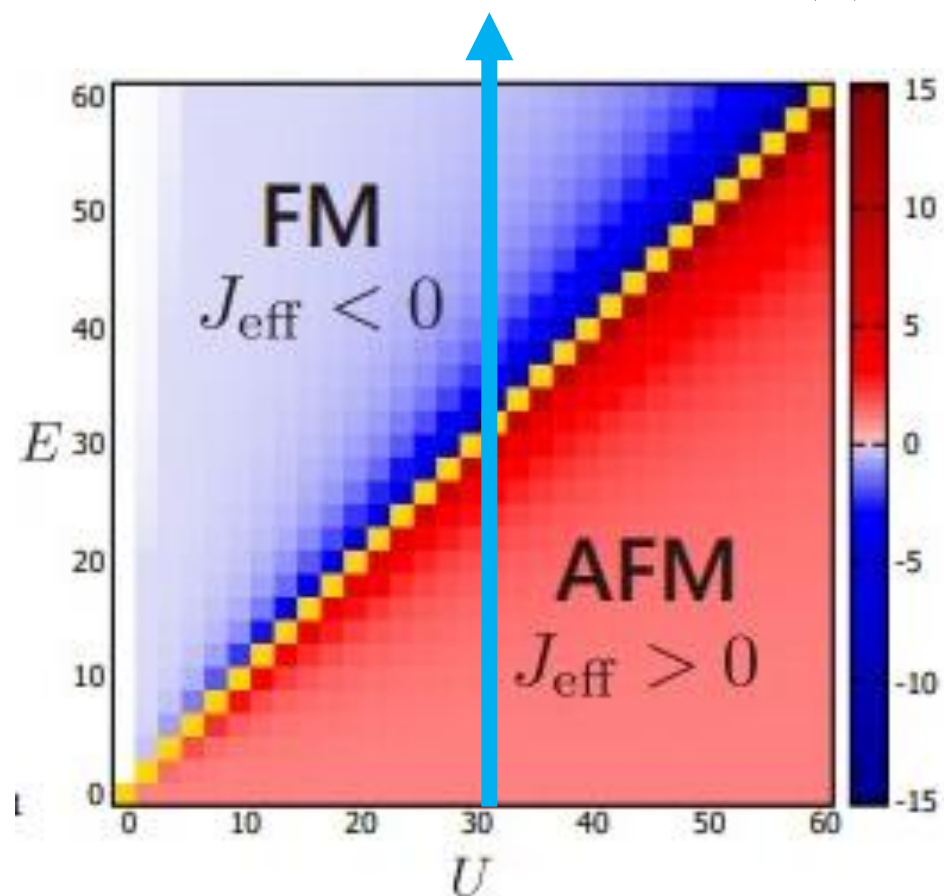


Effective spin Hamiltonian

$$\hat{H}_{\text{eff}} = \sum_j J_{\text{eff}}(E) \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_{i+1}, J_{\text{eff}}(E) = \frac{J_0}{1 - \left(\frac{E}{U}\right)^2}$$

For $E = 0$,

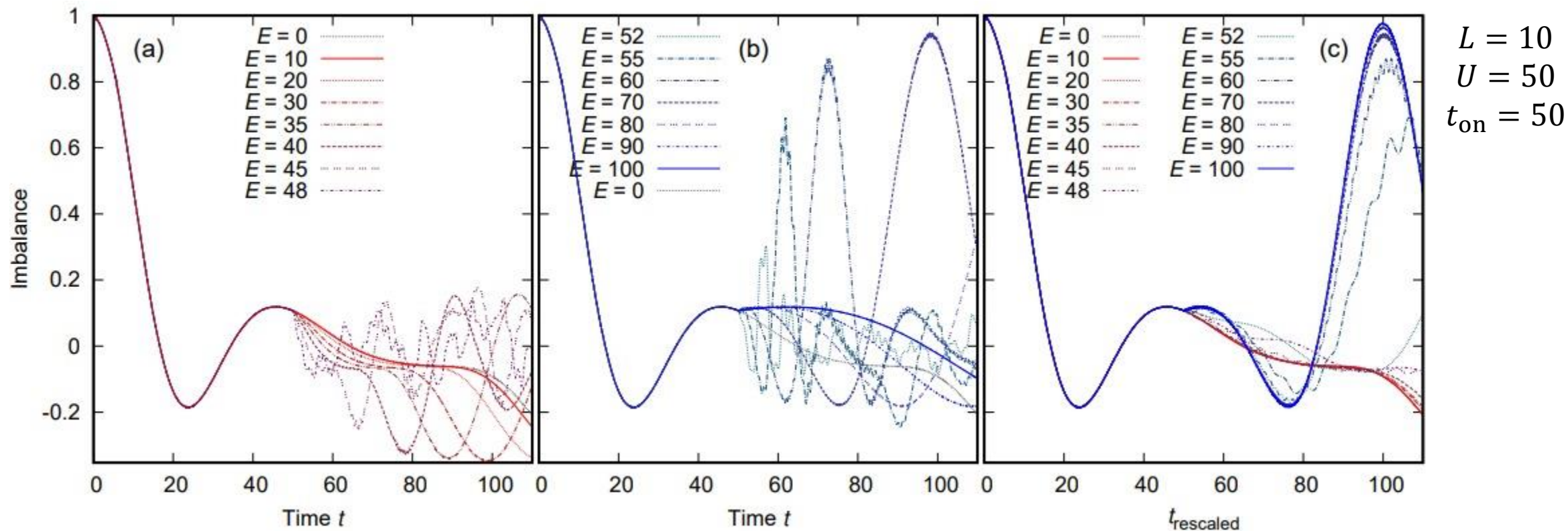
$$\hat{H}_{\text{eff}} = \sum_j J_0 \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_{i+1}, J_0 = \frac{4t_h^2}{U}.$$



Time reversal by the strong electric field

$$\text{Imbalance } I = \frac{1}{L} \sum_{j=1}^L (-1)^j \langle \psi(t) | (\hat{n}_{j\downarrow} - \hat{n}_{j\uparrow}) | \psi(t) \rangle \quad | \uparrow \downarrow \uparrow \downarrow \uparrow \downarrow \dots \uparrow \downarrow \rangle$$

$$J_{\text{eff}}(E) = \frac{J_0}{1 - \left(\frac{E}{U}\right)^2}$$



Fast-forward dynamics

$$J_{\text{eff}}(E) > J_0 \text{ for } 0 < E < U$$

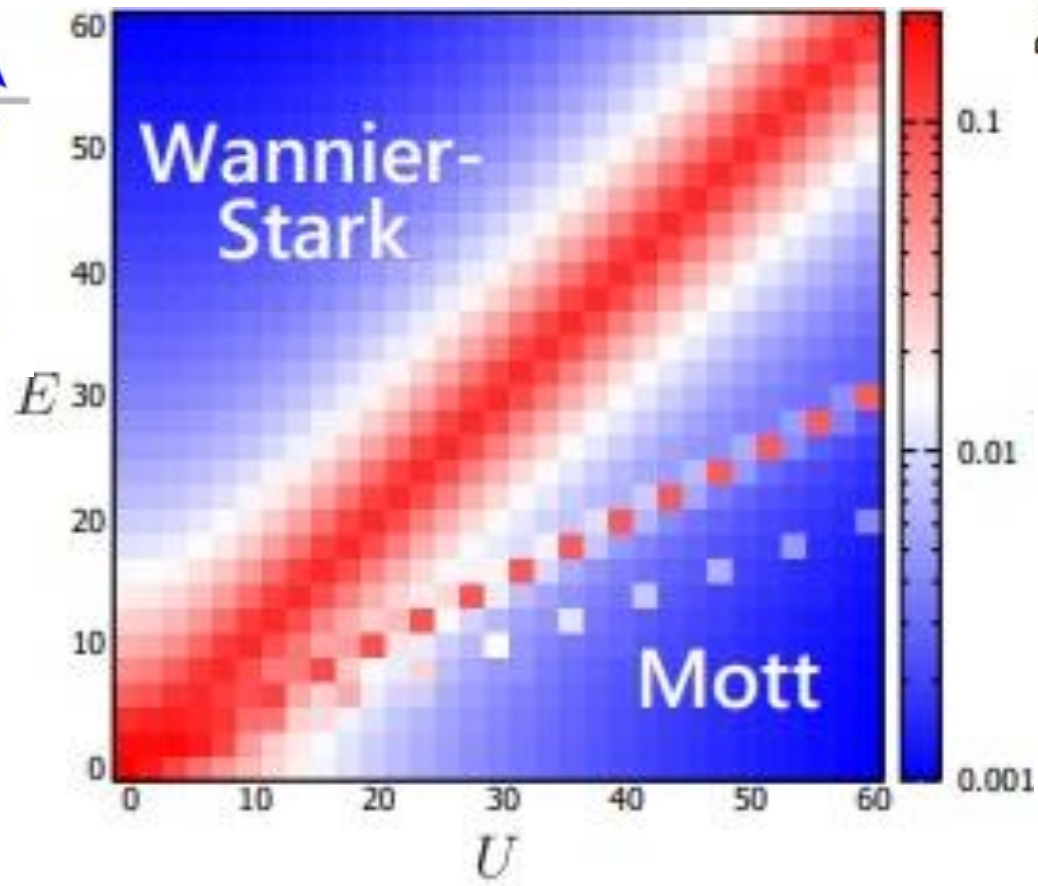
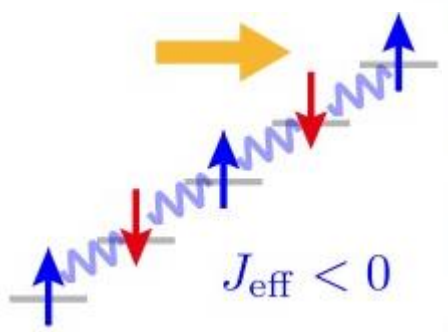
Reversed dynamics

$$J_{\text{eff}}(E) < 0 \text{ for } E > U$$

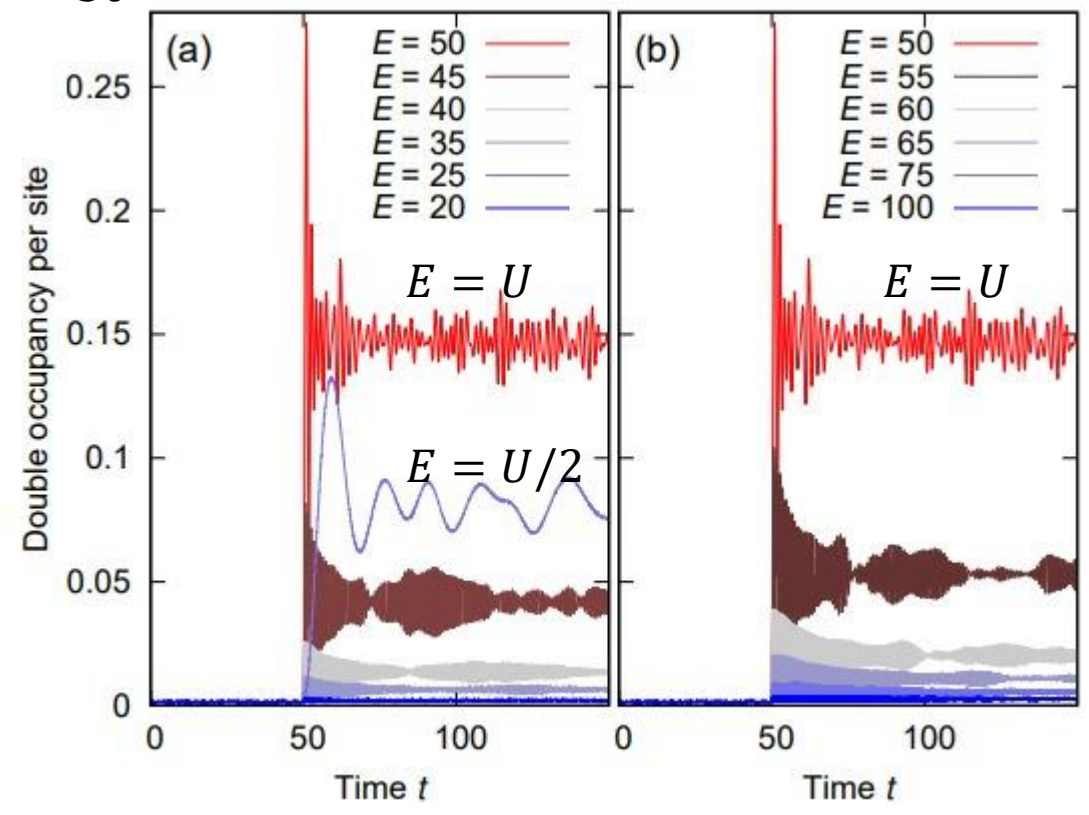
$$t_{\text{rescaled}} = t_0 + \frac{J_0}{|J_{\text{eff}}(E)|} (t - t_0)$$

Double occupancy?

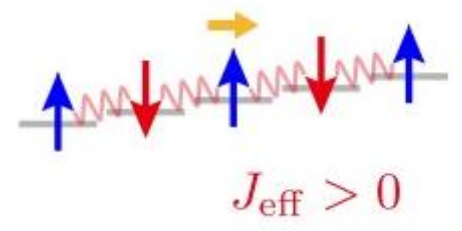
$$\overline{\mathcal{N}_{\text{double}}} = \frac{\int_{t=t_0}^{t_1} \frac{1}{L} \sum_{j=1}^L \langle \Psi(t) | \hat{n}_{j\uparrow} \hat{n}_{j\downarrow} | \Psi(t) \rangle}{t_1 - t_0}$$



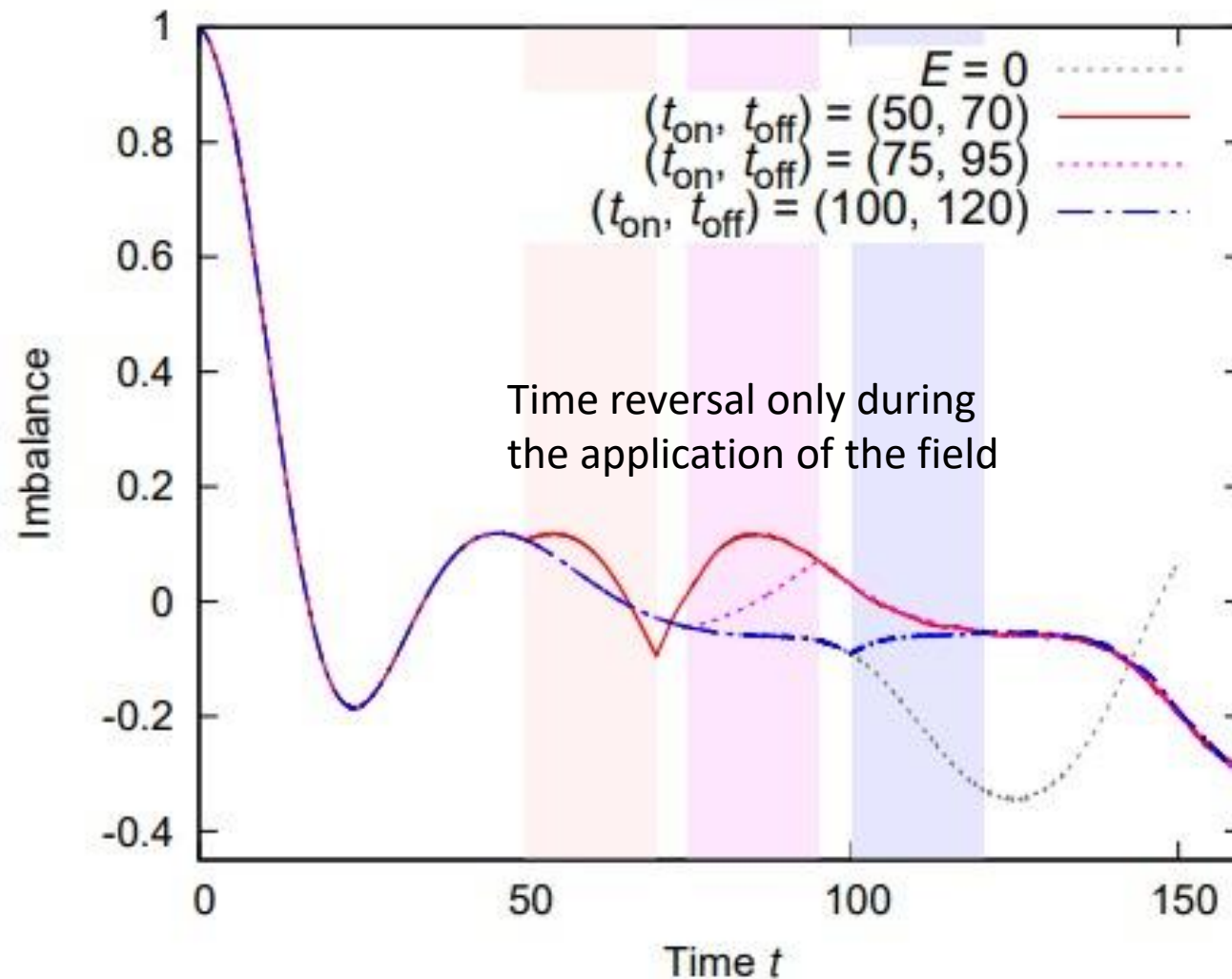
$U = 50$



$E = U, \frac{U}{2}, \frac{U}{3}, \dots$: resonances



Dynamics after limited-time field application



$$\frac{E}{\sqrt{2}} = U = 50,$$

$$J_{\text{eff}} = \frac{J_0}{1 - \left(\frac{E}{U}\right)^2} = -J_0$$

Same $\Delta t = t_{\text{off}} - t_{\text{on}}$
 \rightarrow Same dynamics after time reversal



Potential application

Out-of-time ordered correlations: characterize operator scrambling

[Wiener 1938][Larkin and Ovchinnikov, JETP 1969]

$$C(t) = \langle |[W(t), V(t=0)]|^2 \rangle = \langle W^\dagger(t) V^\dagger(0) W(t) V(0) \rangle + \dots$$

OTOC $\sim e^{2\lambda_L t}$ at long times with $\lambda_L > 0$: chaotic

$\lambda_L \leq 2\pi k_B T / \hbar$ (chaos bound)

[Maldacena, Shenker, and Stanford, JHEP08(2016)106]

$$W(t) = \boxed{e^{iHt}} W e^{-iHt}$$

Time evolution by $-H$ is key to the measurement

Non-commutating

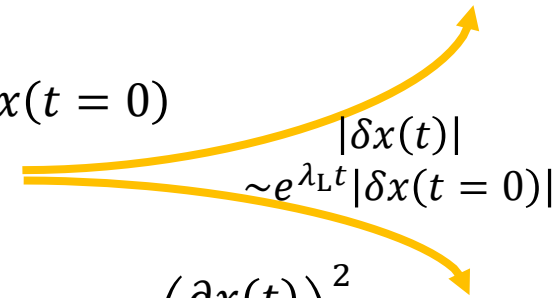
$$VW(t) \neq W(t)V$$

scrambling

Commuting

$$VW(0) = W(0)V$$

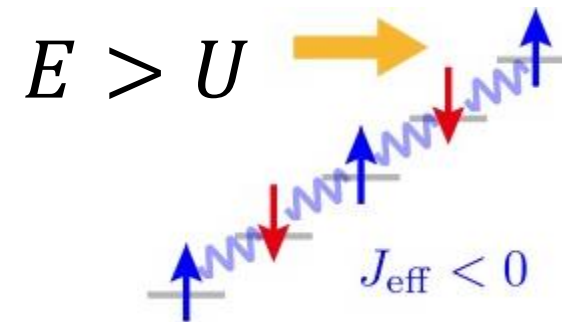
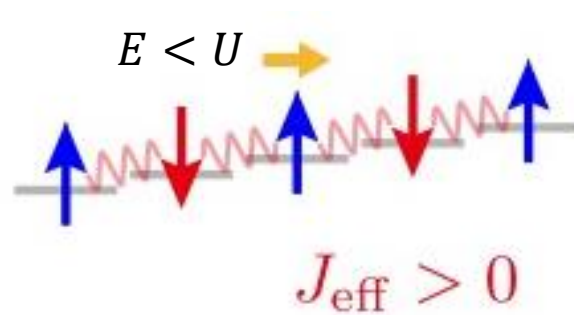
cf. chaos in classical dynamics


$$\begin{aligned} & \delta x(t=0) \quad \begin{array}{l} |\delta x(t)| \\ \sim e^{\lambda_L t} |\delta x(t=0)| \end{array} \\ & \left(\frac{\partial x(t)}{\partial x(0)} \right)^2 \\ & = \{x(t), p(0)\}_{\text{PB}}^2 \sim e^{2\lambda_L t} \\ & \lambda_L: \text{Lyapunov exponent} \end{aligned}$$



Summary

- One-dimensional Mott insulator (half-filled Hubbard model) + tilt
- Effective spin interaction: $J_{\text{eff}}(E) = J_0 / (1 - (E/U)^2)$



- Double occupancy suppressed for $U \gg t_h$ away from $E = U, \frac{U}{2}, \frac{U}{3}, \dots$
- Sign reversal may be useful for measuring out-of-time-order correlators

