



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO  
DIPARTIMENTO DI FISICA



*BELL*  
*Fundamental Problems*  
*in Quantum Physics*

Dipartimento di Fisica  
Università degli Studi di Milano

INFN  
Sezione di Milano

*Consiglio Sezione INFN*

Milano, Luglio 2023

# Outline

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- General infos on BELL
- Quantum thermodynamics
- Collaborations and publications

- Involved units:

**Trieste (Angelo Bassi)**

**Genova**

**Parma**

**Pavia**

**Milano**

**Trento**



# BELL



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI MILANO

**Mathematics Department** (**field theory and general relativity**)

**Livio Pizzocchero**



**POLITECNICO**  
MILANO 1863

**Mathematics Department** (**quantum measurement**)

**Alberto Barchielli**

**Alessandro Toigo**

**Davide Fermi**

- Members of Milan unit:



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Physics Department (**open quantum systems**)

Bassano Vacchini

Andrea Smirne

Francesco Albarelli

# Outline

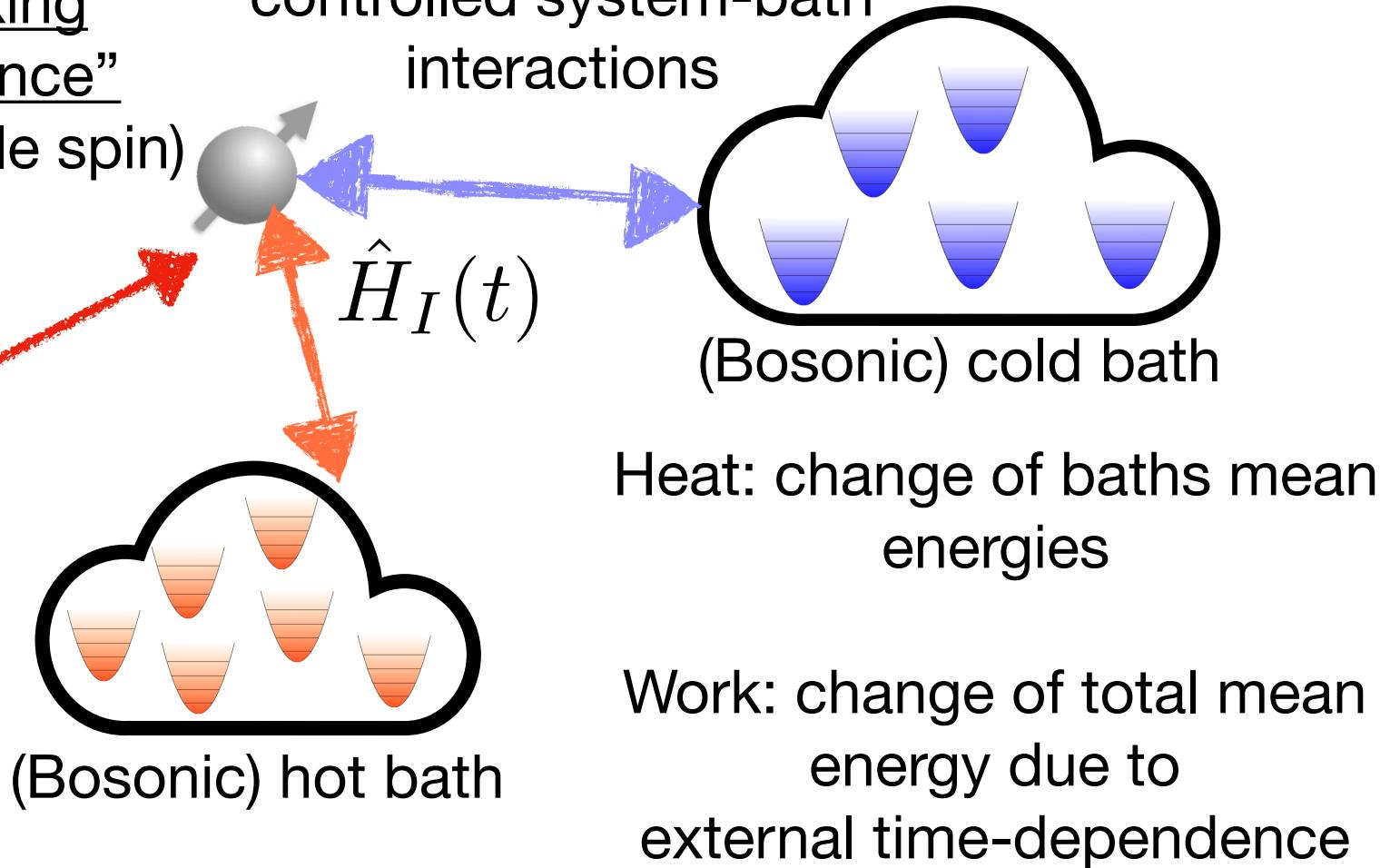
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- General infos on BELL
- **Quantum thermodynamics**
- Collaborations and publications

# Quantum thermal machines

quantum  
"working  
substance"  
(e.g. single spin)

external  
drive  
 $\hat{H}_S(t)$



# Quantum thermal machines

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- Many challenges to study QTM going beyond standard idealised scenarios:
  - Strong system-bath coupling: non-Markovian dynamics & nonperturbative simulation techniques
  - Finite-time evolution (non-adiabaticity)

# Invasiveness of quantum thermometry

quantum

probe

(e.g. single  
spin)



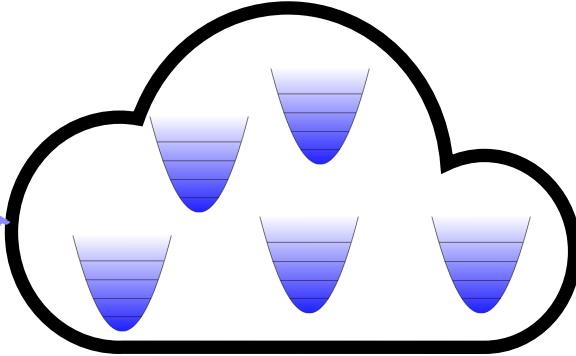
Measurement  
on the probe

outcomes  
statistics  estimate  
of T

$$\rho_B(0) = \mathcal{Z}^{-1} e^{-H_E/kT}$$

probe-sample  
interaction

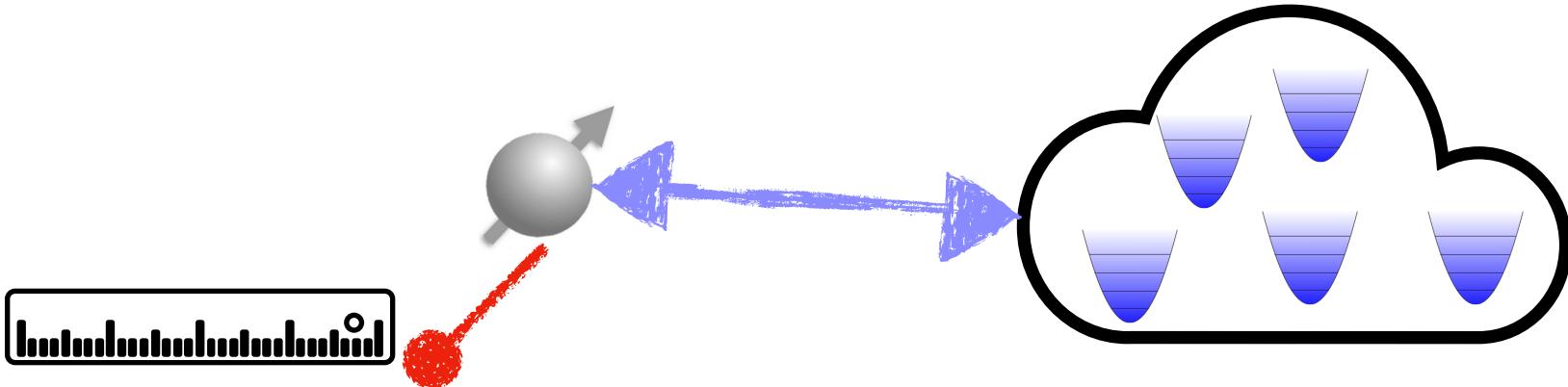
$$\hat{H}_I$$



Bosonic bath =  
thermal sample

**The probing is invasive!**  
Bosonic bath increases mean  
energy: absorbed heat

# Case study: pure-dephasing thermometry

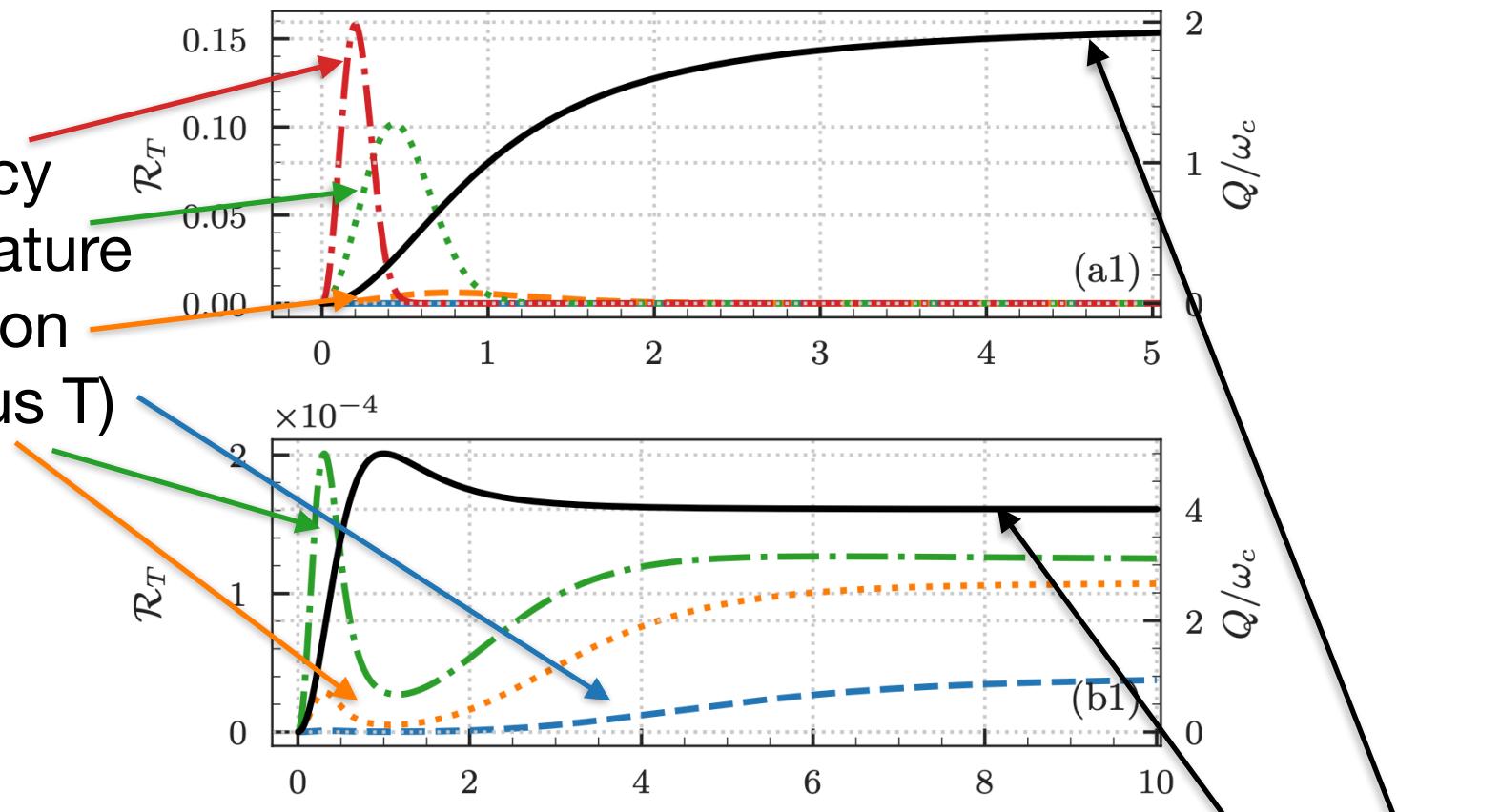


- Interaction preserves energy of the probe, but not of the sample
- Dissipated heat = external work to couple and decouple probe and sample

# Dynamics of relevant figures of merit

Albarelli, Paris, Vacchini, Smirne, arXiv:230503436

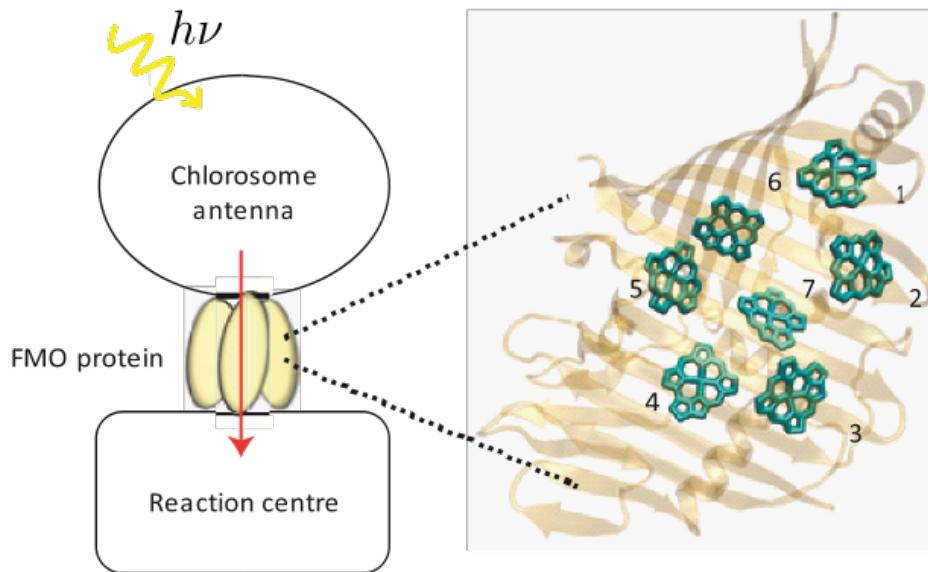
accuracy  
of temperature  
estimation  
(for various T)



Inevitable tradeoff at short times  
-> study of optimal schemes

absorbed heat  
(indep of T)

# Complex and structured environments

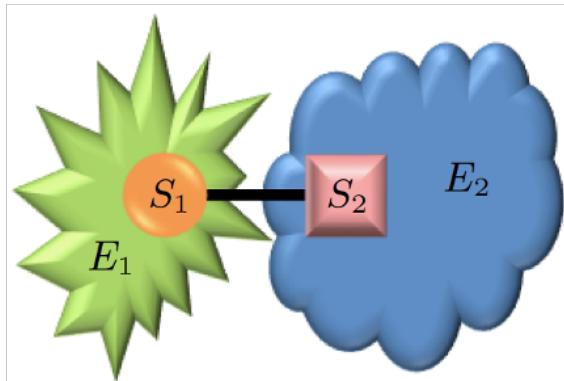


Thermal machines,  
Quantum biological systems,  
Solid-state systems (eg NV  
centers), ....

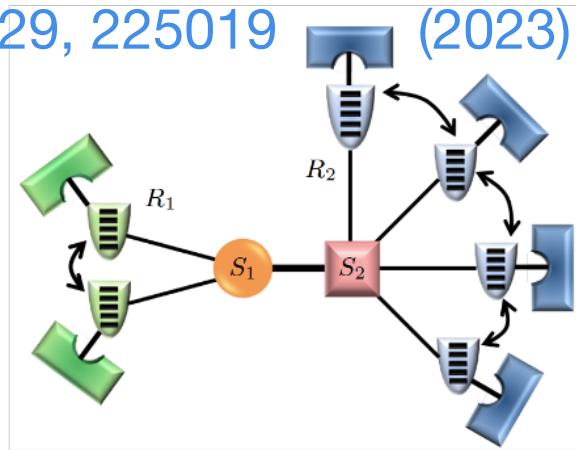
- Memory effects: **non-Markovian dynamics**
- Strong coupling: **nonperturbative** approaches  
are needed

# Exact mapping to an auxiliary configuration

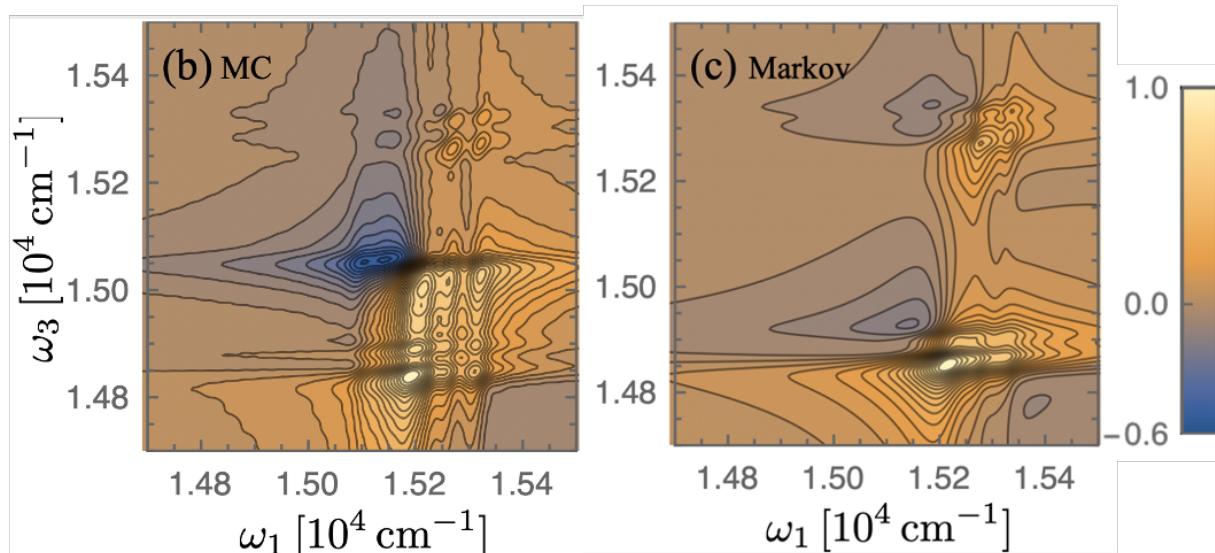
Smirne, Tamascelli, Lim, Plenio, Huelga OSID 29, 225019 (2023)



Equivalence  
theorem:  
match  $C(t)/J(\omega)$



2D electronic spectrum of a dimeric complex



- Non-Markovian features detected
- **Linear** (instead of quadratic) scaling of **CPU time** vs simulation time

# Collaborations

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-  H.-P. Breuer - Uni Freiburg - Germany
-  M. Paternostro - Uni Belfast - United Kingdom
-  S. Campbell - University College Dublin - Ireland
-  F. Ciccarello, S. Lorenzo, G. Palma - Uni Palermo
-  J. Piilo, K. Luoma - Uni Turku - Finland
-  D. Chruscinski - Uni Torun - Poland
-  S. Huelga -Uni Ulm - Germany

# Publications (2020-2023)

Autori	Titolo	Rivista	Anno
1 Fermi, D; Pizzocchero, L	On the Casimir Effect with delta-Like Potentials, and a Recent Paper	ANN HENRI POINCARE	2023
2 Gherardini, S; Smirne, A; Huelga, SF; Caruso, F	Transfer-tensor description of memory effects in open-system dynamical systems	QUANTUM SCI TECHNOL	2022
3 Smirne, A; Cialdi, S; Cipriani, D; Carmeli, C; Toigo, A; Vaccaro, A	Experimentally determining the incompatibility of two qubit measurements	QUANTUM SCI TECHNOL	2022
4 Carmeli, C; Heino Saari, T; Toigo, A	Quantum guessing games with posterior information	REP PROG PHYS	2022
5 Megier, N; Smirne, A; Campbell, S; Vacchini, B	Correlations, Information Backflow, and Objectivity in a Class of Pure States	ENTROPY-SWITZ	2022
6 Smirne, A; Megier, N; Vacchini, B	Holevo skew divergence for the characterization of information backflow	PHYS REV A	2022
7 Banchielli, A; Santamato, A	Eight-port homodyne detector: The effect of imperfections on quantum optics	PHYS REV A	2022
8 Settimi, F; Breuer, HP; Vacchini, B	Entropic and trace-distance-based measures of non-Markovianity	PHYS REV A	2022
9 Smirne, A; Megier, N; Vacchini, B	On the Use of Total State Decompositions for the Study of Reduced Density Matrices	OPEN SYST INF DYN	2022
10 Dann, R; Megier, N; Kosloff, R	Non-Markovian dynamics under time-translation symmetry	PHYS REV RES	2022
11 Chruscinski, D; Luoma, K; Piilo, J; Smirne, A	How to design quantum-jump trajectories via distinct master equations	QUANTUM-AUSTRIA	2022
12 Smirne, A; Tamascelli, D; Lim, J; Plenio, MB; Huelga, SF	Non-Perturbative Treatment of Open-System Multi-Time Expectation Values	OPEN SYST INF DYN	2022
13 Pizzocchero, L	On the global stability of smooth solutions of the Navier-Stokes equations	APPL MATH LETT	2021
14 Smirne, A; Megier, N; Vacchini, B	On the connection between microscopic description and memory effects	QUANTUM-AUSTRIA	2021
15 Banchielli, A; Gregoratti, M	Quantum optomechanical system in a Mach-Zehnder interferometer	PHYS REV A	2021
16 Megier, N; Smirne, A; Vacchini, B	Entropic Bounds on Information Backflow	PHYS REV LETT	2021
17 Megier, N; Ponzi, M; Smirne, A; Vacchini, B	Memory Effects in Quantum Dynamics Modelled by Quantum Renormalization Group	ENTROPY-SWITZ	2021
18 Cakmak, B; Mustecaplioglu, OE; Paternostro, M; Vacchini, B	Quantum Darwinism in a Composite System: Objectivity versus Classification	ENTROPY-SWITZ	2021
19 Trevisan, A; Smirne, A; Megier, N; Vacchini, B	Adapted projection operator technique for the treatment of initial conditions	PHYS REV A	2021
20 Campbell, S; Vacchini, B; Campbell, S	Collision models in open system dynamics: A versatile tool for deep learning	EPL-EUROPHYS LETT	2021
21 O'Connor, E; Vacchini, B; Campbell, S	Stochastic Collisional Quantum Thermometry	ENTROPY-SWITZ	2021
22 Pizzocchero, L; Tassi, E	On approximate solutions of the equations of incompressible magnetohydrodynamics	NONLINEAR ANAL-THEOR	2020
23 Smirne, A; Caiaffa, M; Piilo, J	Rate Operator Unraveling for Open Quantum System Dynamics	PHYS REV LETT	2020
24 Hashimoto, K; Vacchini, B; Uchiyama, C	Lower bounds for the mean dissipated heat in an open quantum system	PHYS REV A	2020
25 Banchielli, A; Gregoratti, M	Entropic measurement uncertainty relations for all the infinite components	J PHYS COMMUN	2020
26 Puebla, R; Smirne, A; Huelga, SF; Plenio, MB	Universal Anti-Kibble-Zurek Scaling in Fully Connected Systems	PHYS REV LETT	2020
27 Carmeli, C; Heino Saari, T; Toigo, A	Quantum random access codes and incompatibility of measurements	EPL-EUROPHYS LETT	2020
28 Fermi, D; Gengo, M; Pizzocchero, L	Integrable scalar cosmologies with matter and curvature	NUCL PHYS B	2020
29 Megier, N; Smirne, A; Vacchini, B	Evolution Equations for Quantum Semi-Markov Dynamics	ENTROPY-SWITZ	2020
30 Vacchini, B	Quantum renewal processes	SCI REP-UK	2020
31 Megier, N; Smirne, A; Vacchini, B	The interplay between local and non-local master equations: exact and numerical results	NEW J PHYS	2020
32 Smirne, A; Nitsche, T; Egloff, D; Barkhofen, S; De, S; Dhar, A	Experimental control of the degree of non-classicality via quantum optics	QUANTUM SCI TECHNOL	2020