

Title: Mixed-state quantum anomaly and multipartite entanglement

Speakers: Leonardo Almeida Lessa

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Abstract: Quantum entanglement measures of many-body states have been increasingly useful to characterize phases of matter. Here we explore the surprising connection between symmetry-protected topology (SPT) and separability of their boundary mixed states. More specifically, we consider lattice systems in  $d$  space dimensions with anomalous symmetry  $G$ , where the anomaly is characterized by a bulk SPT invariant in the group cohomology  $H_{d+2}(G, U(1))$ . We show that any mixed state  $\rho$  that is strongly symmetric under  $G$ , in the sense that  $G \rho G^{-1} = \rho$ , is necessarily  $(d+2)$ -nonseparable, i.e. is not the mixture of tensor products of  $d+2$  states in the Hilbert space. Furthermore, such states cannot be prepared from any  $(d+2)$ -separable states using finite-depth local quantum channels, so the non-separability is long-ranged in nature. The anomaly-nonseparability connection also allows us to generate simple examples of mixed states with nontrivial multi-partite entanglement.

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Zoom link TBA

# Mixed-state quantum anomaly and multipartite separability

Leonardo A. Lessa



PI Grad student seminars - Feb. 26, 2024

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## Mixed-state quantum anomaly and multipartite entanglement

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Quantum entanglement measures of many-body systems have been used to characterize phases of matter. Here we explore a new class of quantum entanglement and 't Hooft anomaly. More specifically, we study systems with anomalous symmetry  $G$  where the anomaly is captured by the cohomology of the symmetry group  $G$ .



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1. Quantum anomaly
2. Mixed-state quantum anomaly
3. Main result in 1d
4. Example of anomalous mixed state in 1d
5. Summary

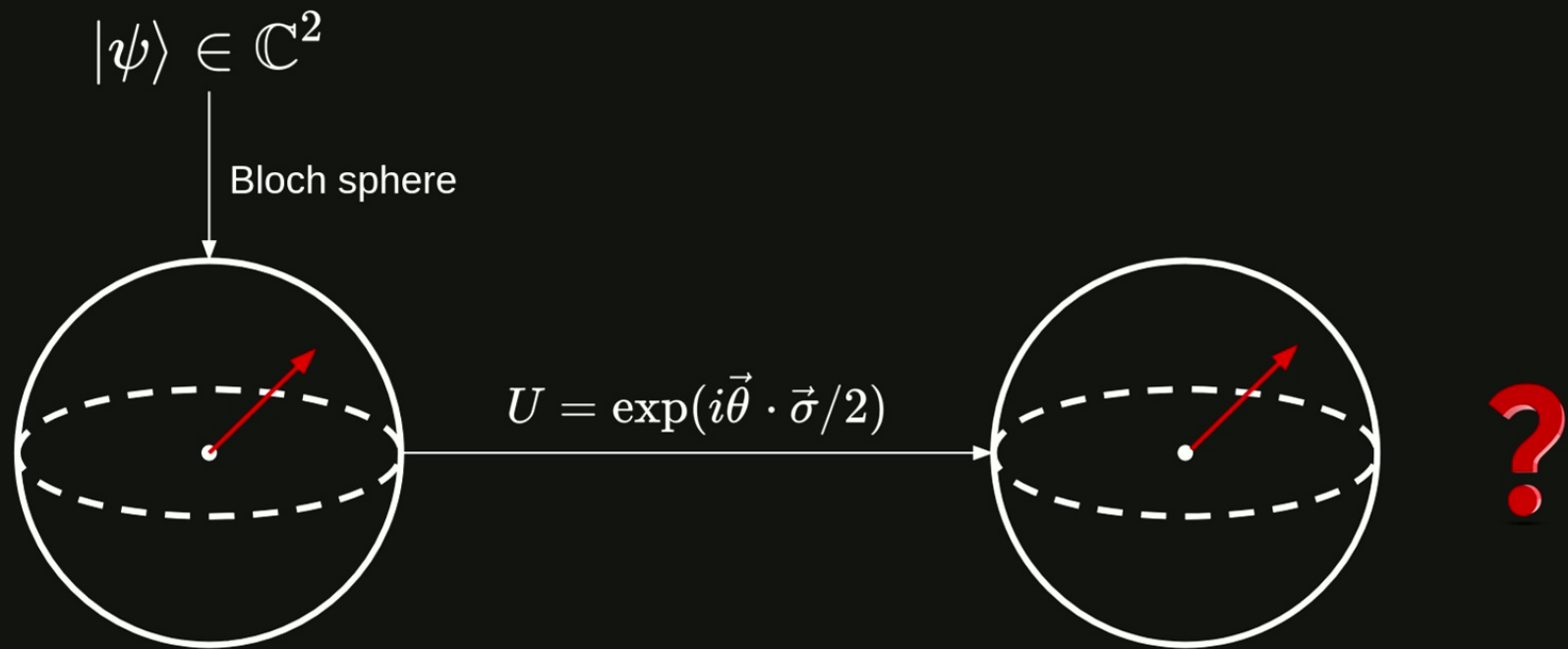
**Quantum anomalous symmetry**

$\approx$

**Symmetric states are *nontrivial*\***

# Example 1

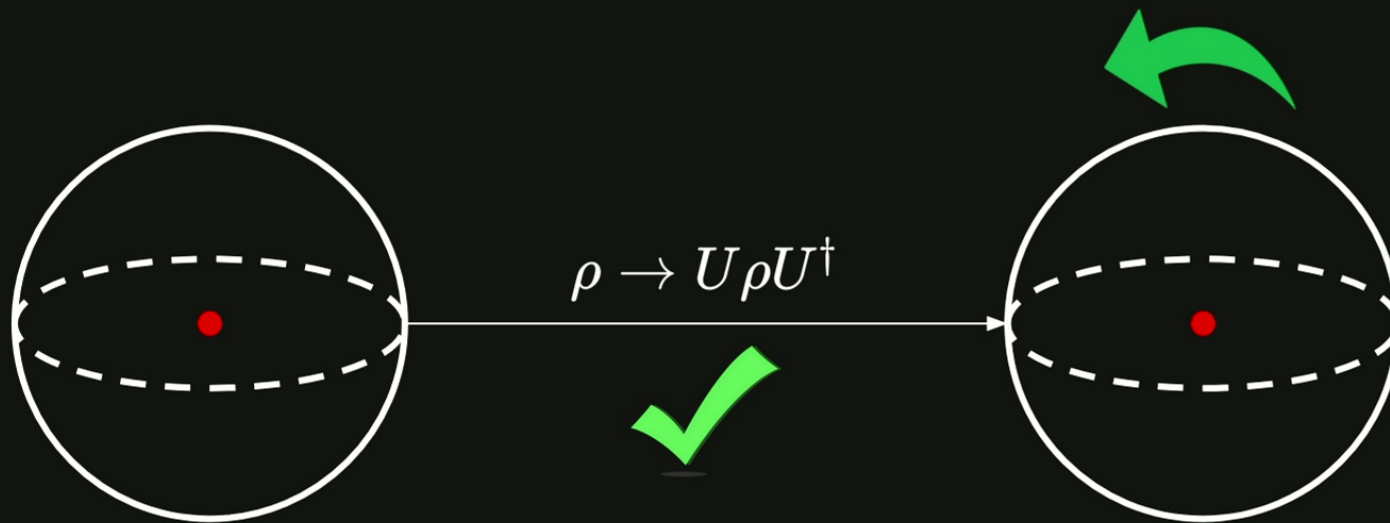
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# Example 1

Is there a  $SO(3)$  symmetric mixed qubit state?

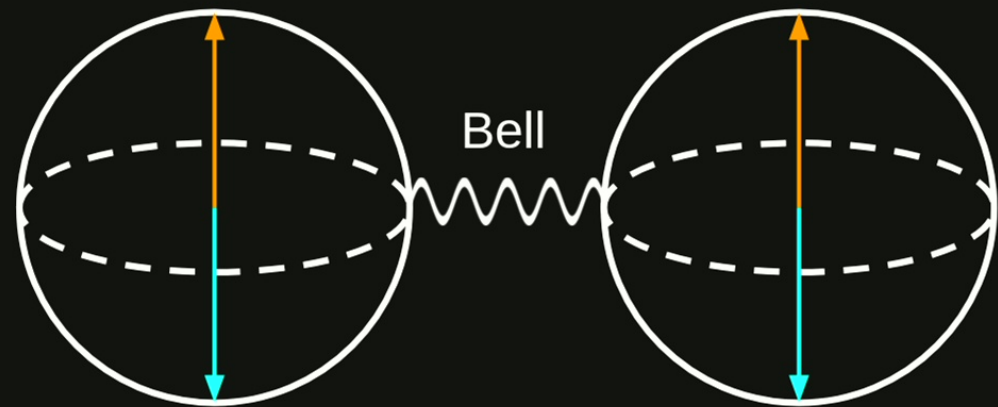
**Answer:** Only the maximally mixed state  $I/2$ .



# Example 1

Is there a  $SO(3)$  symmetric **two-qubit** state?

Bell state is invariant under *joint*  $SO(3)$  rotations.

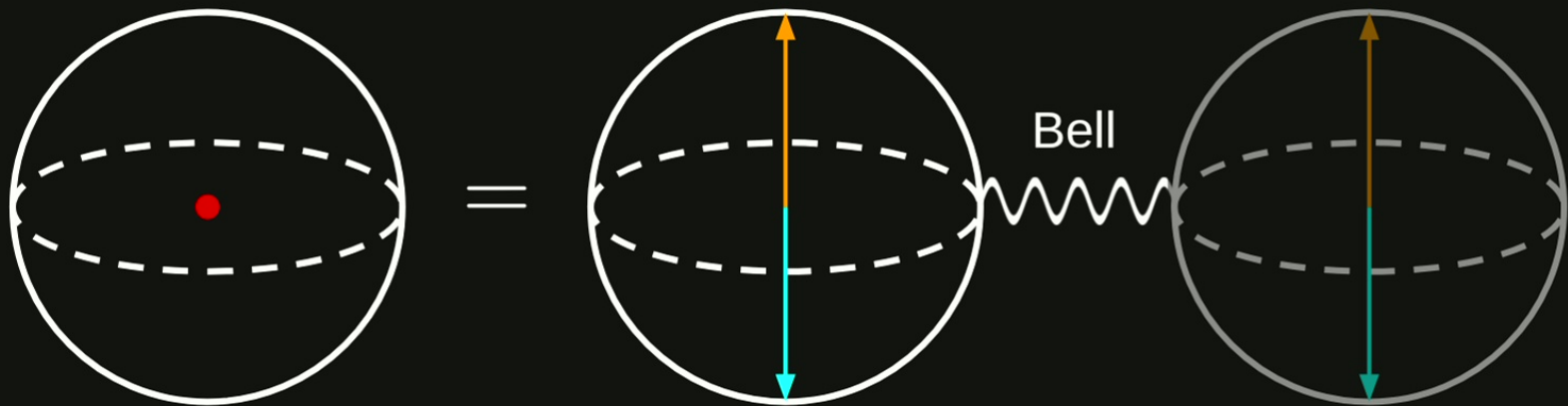




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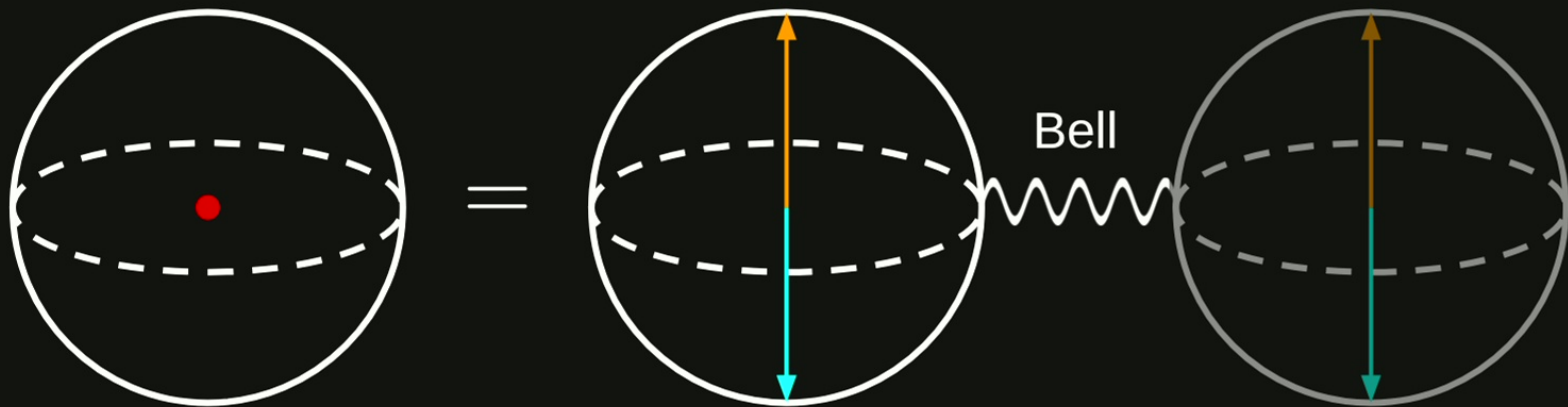
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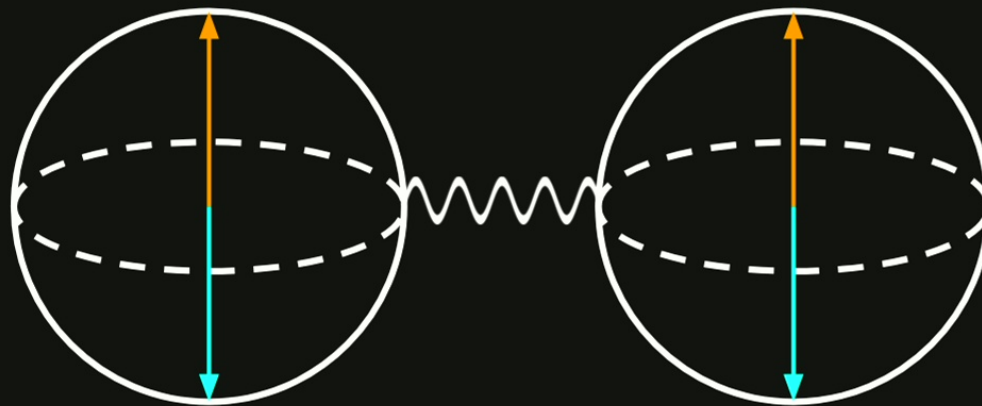
**Reason:** spin- $1/2$  is **projective** rep., but  $1/2+1/2 = 0,1$  is not!

$$U(g)U(h) = \omega(g, h)U(g \cdot h)$$



# Example 1: Projective representations

**Anomaly  $\Rightarrow$  nontrivial symmetric states**

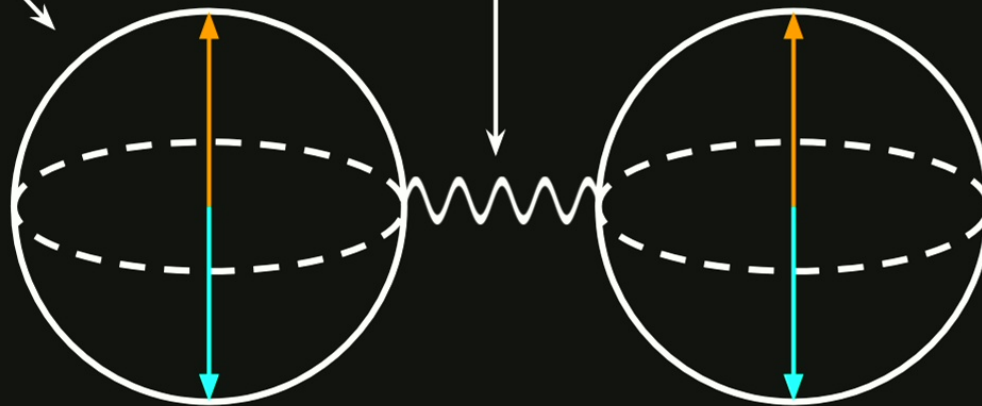


# Example 1: Projective representations

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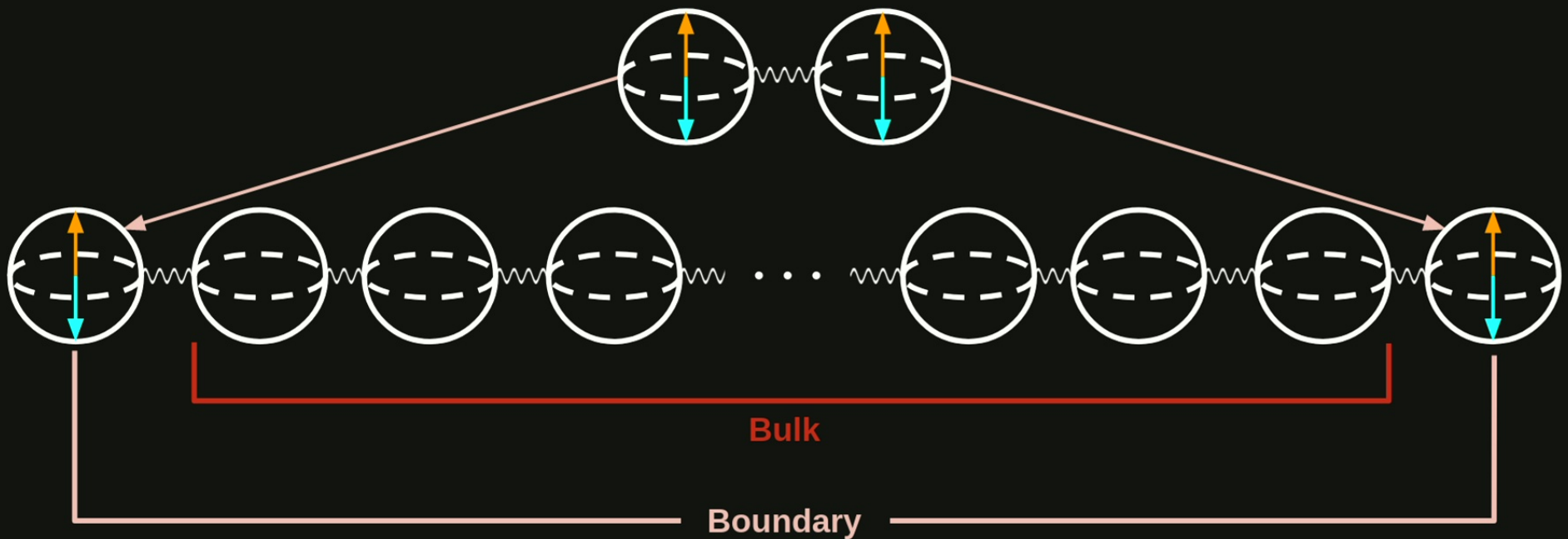
Projective rep.

Entangled



## Example 2: Boundary of SPT phases

*Anomalous boundary of a 1d symmetry-protected topological (SPT) system*



# Beyond pure states?

**Why?** Interaction with environment is inevitable.

$$|\psi\rangle \rightarrow \rho$$

Does quantum anomaly makes sense for  $\rho$ ?

Does quantum anomaly imply  $\rho$  nontrivial?

Can we use quantum anomaly to find new *mixed-state phases of matter*?

# Beyond pure states?

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Can we use quantum anomaly to find new *mixed-state phases of matter*?

Yes!

# Symmetry for mixed states?

Does quantum anomaly makes sense for  $\rho$ ?

Weak / average symmetry

$$g\rho g^{-1} = \rho$$



$$\rho = \sum_i p_i |\psi_i^{(\alpha_i)}\rangle \langle \psi_i^{(\alpha_i)}|$$

Mixture of symmetric states



Strong / exact symmetry

$$g\rho = e^{i\alpha} \rho$$



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Mixture of symmetric states  
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**Too weak!**

Maximally-mixed state is symmetric for *any* symmetry

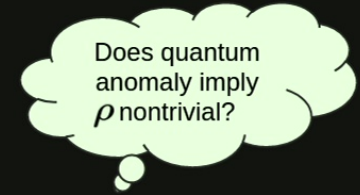
$$g \frac{I}{d} g^{-1} = \frac{I}{d}$$

Property X of symmetric pure states

Convexity

Property X of *strongly symmetric* mixed states

# Entanglement for mixed states?



- Pure state  $|\psi\rangle$  is (bipartite) **entangled**, or **non-separable** if



Convexity

$$|\psi\rangle \neq |\psi_A\rangle \otimes |\psi_B\rangle$$

Easy

- Mixed state  $\rho$  is (bipartite) **entangled**, or **non-separable** if



More parties

$$\rho \neq \sum_i p_i \rho_i^A \otimes \rho_i^B$$

(NP-)Hard

- Mixed state  $\rho$  is **k-partite entangled**, or **non-separable** if

$$\rho \neq \sum_i p_i \rho_i^{A_1} \otimes \rho_i^{A_2} \otimes \dots \otimes \rho_i^{A_k}$$

Even harder



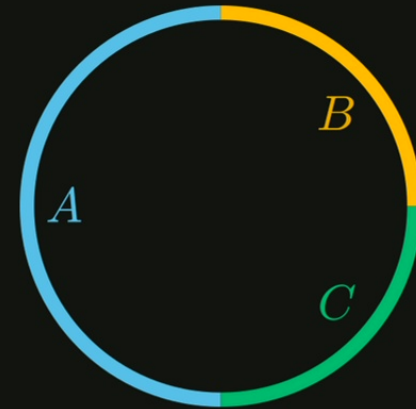
E.g., There are mixed states of three qubits that are separable under any bipartition, but still tripartite entangled! (Bennett *et al.*)

# Main result in 1d

Anomalous symmetry  $G$

&

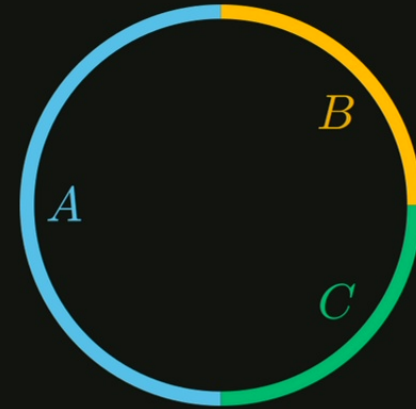
$$G|\psi\rangle \propto |\psi\rangle$$



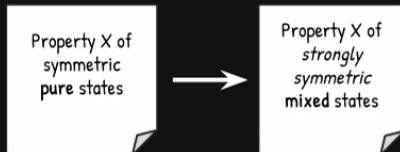
$$|\psi\rangle \neq |A\rangle|B\rangle|C\rangle$$

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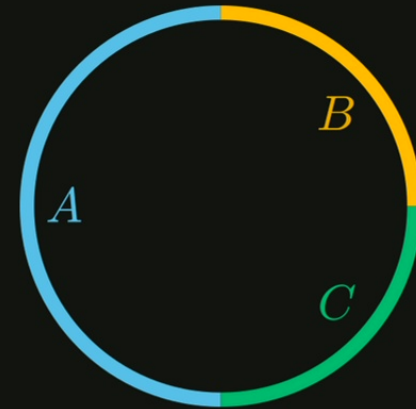


$$\rho \neq \sum_i p_i \rho_i^A \otimes \rho_i^B \otimes \rho_i^C$$

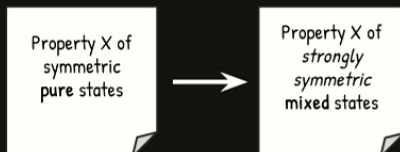


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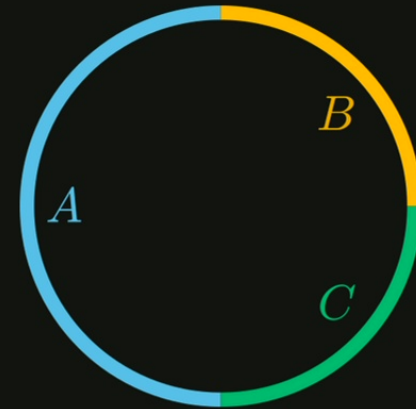


$$\rho \neq \mathcal{E}_{\text{Finite-depth}} \left[ \sum_i p_i \rho_i^A \otimes \rho_i^B \otimes \rho_i^C \right]$$

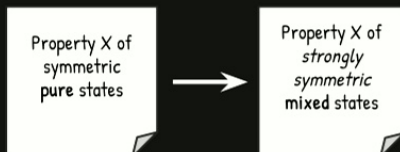


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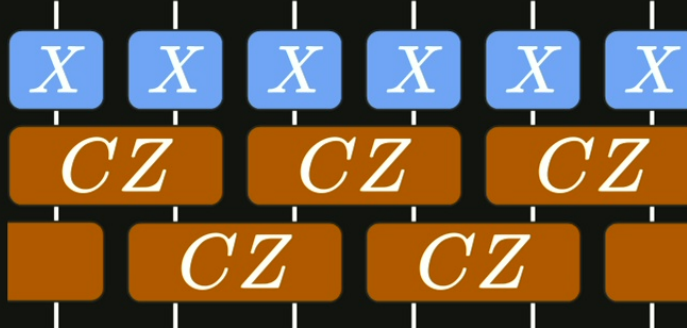
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**Anomaly  $\Rightarrow$  Long-range tripartite entanglement**

## Example: CZX model

Qubit chain with anomalous  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  symmetry generated by (Chen, Liu, Wen)

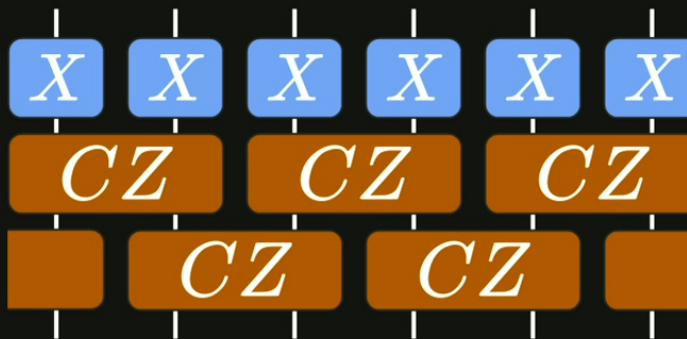
$$U = \prod_i X_i \prod_i CZ_{i,i+1} =$$


Boundary symmetry of 2d bosonic SPT (Levin, Gu)

In 1d, *anomalous symmetry*  $\approx$  *non-on-site symmetry*, like the one above

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**Claim:**  $U|\psi\rangle \propto |\psi\rangle \Rightarrow |\psi\rangle \neq |A\rangle|B\rangle|C\rangle$  .



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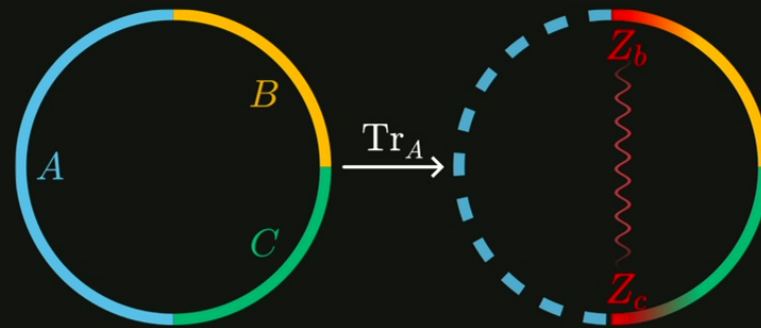
Proof by contradiction:

$$U|A\rangle|B\rangle|C\rangle \propto |A\rangle|B\rangle|C\rangle$$

$\downarrow \text{Tr}_A$

$$U_{BC}|B\rangle|C\rangle \propto |B\rangle|C\rangle$$

$$U = \prod_i X_i \prod_i CZ_{i,i+1}$$



where  $U_{BC}$  acts like  $U$  in the bulk of BC

satisfying  $U_{BC}^2 \propto Z_b Z_c$

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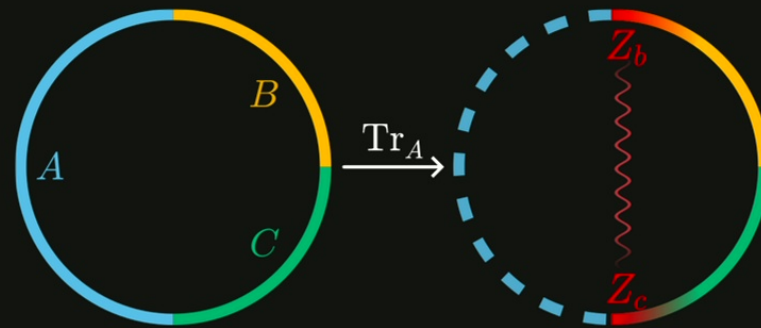
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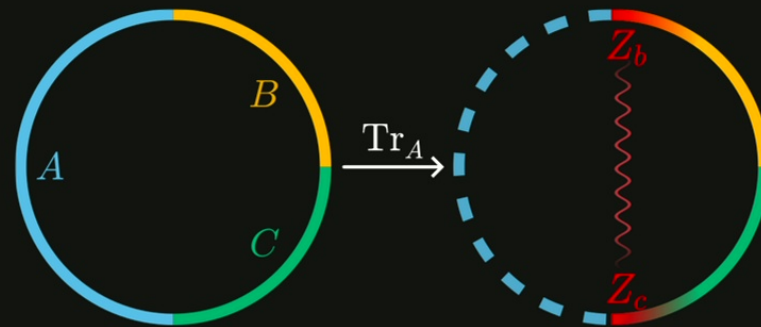
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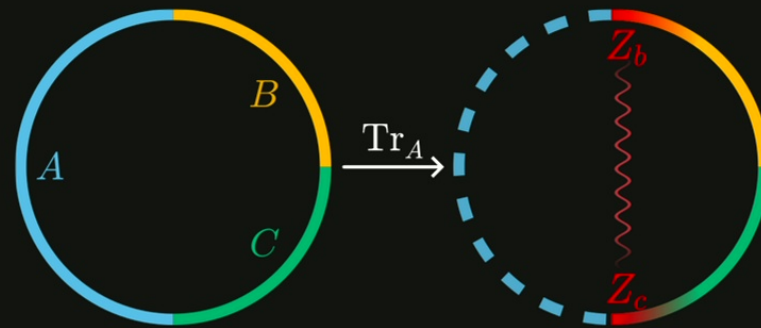
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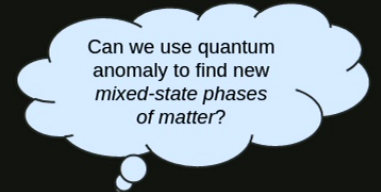


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# Exotic topological mixed state in 1d



Even highly mixed states are constrained by anomaly:

$$\rho_{\infty, \pm} = \frac{1}{2^L} (I \pm U_{\text{CZX}})$$

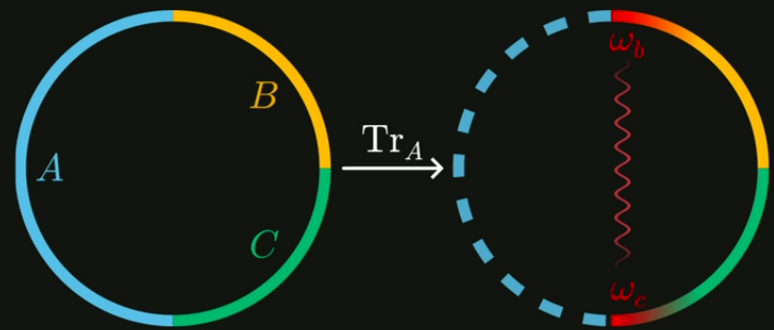
"Infinite-temperature" mixture of all states with same charge  $U_{\text{CZX}} = \pm 1 \Rightarrow$  strongly symmetric

- Anomaly   $\Rightarrow$  long-range tripartite entangled
  - At the same time, it is bipartite separable!
- Only global correlations: any subsystem is trivial,  $\text{Tr}_A[\rho_{\infty, \pm}] \propto I$

# Conclusion

- Quantum anomalous symmetries have *nontrivial* symmetric states
  - Pure states: projective reps., boundaries of SPTs, etc.
  - Strongly symmetric mixed states too:

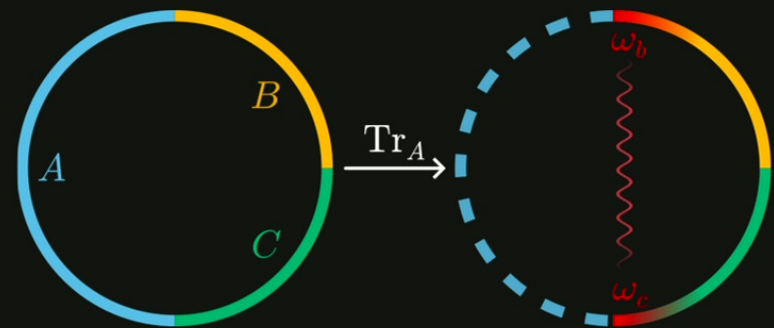
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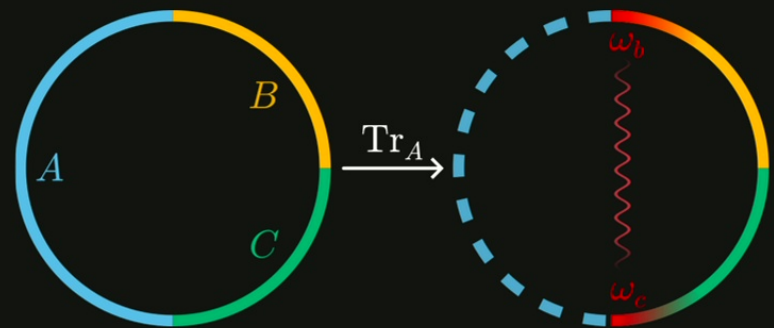


- Generalizations done in the paper:
  - Higher dimension (d-dimensional anomaly implies (d+2)-partite entangled symmetric states)
  - Mixed anomaly and Lieb-Schultz-Mattis
- Open questions:
  - Practical measurement of tripartite entanglement?
  - Higher-form symmetries? Fermions? Field theory?
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*Thank you!*