

# QUANTUM THERMOMETRY

Lecture notes Quantum thermodynamics Summer School

## Main topics and relevant references → (biased selection!)

1. Motivation (review q. thermometry: arxiv. 1811.03988)
2. Crámer - Rao bound (e.g. see arxiv: 1804.10048)
3. Quantum Fisher Information (see e.g. arxiv: 0804.2981)
4. Energy - temperature uncertainty relation:  $\Delta E \Delta H \geq 1$ .
5. low - temperature thermometry (arxiv: 1711.08987)
6. Optimal thermometers and critically - enhanced thermometry (arxiv: 1411.2437, arxiv: 2108.05932)

## Motivation

Q. Thermometry: an applied science, with fundamental implications.

↓  
cold atomic ensembles  
nanoresonators  
black body radiation

↓  
nature of temperature & entropy  
equivalence of ensembles  
third law of thermodynamics

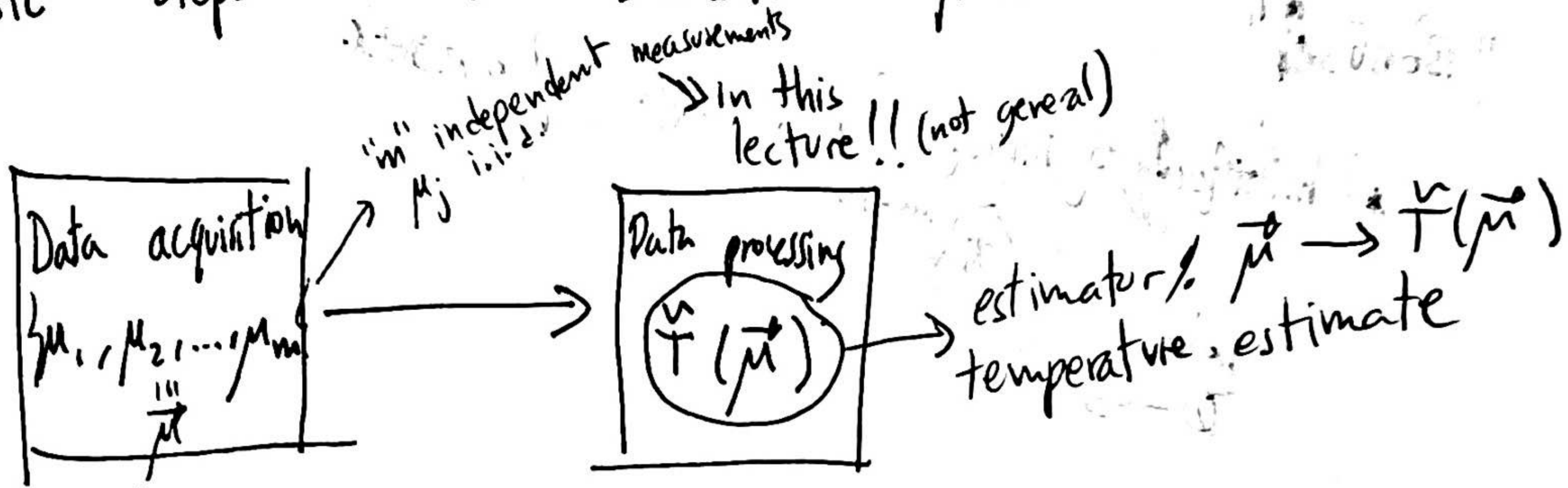


$$\rho = \frac{e^{-H/k_B T_0}}{Z}$$

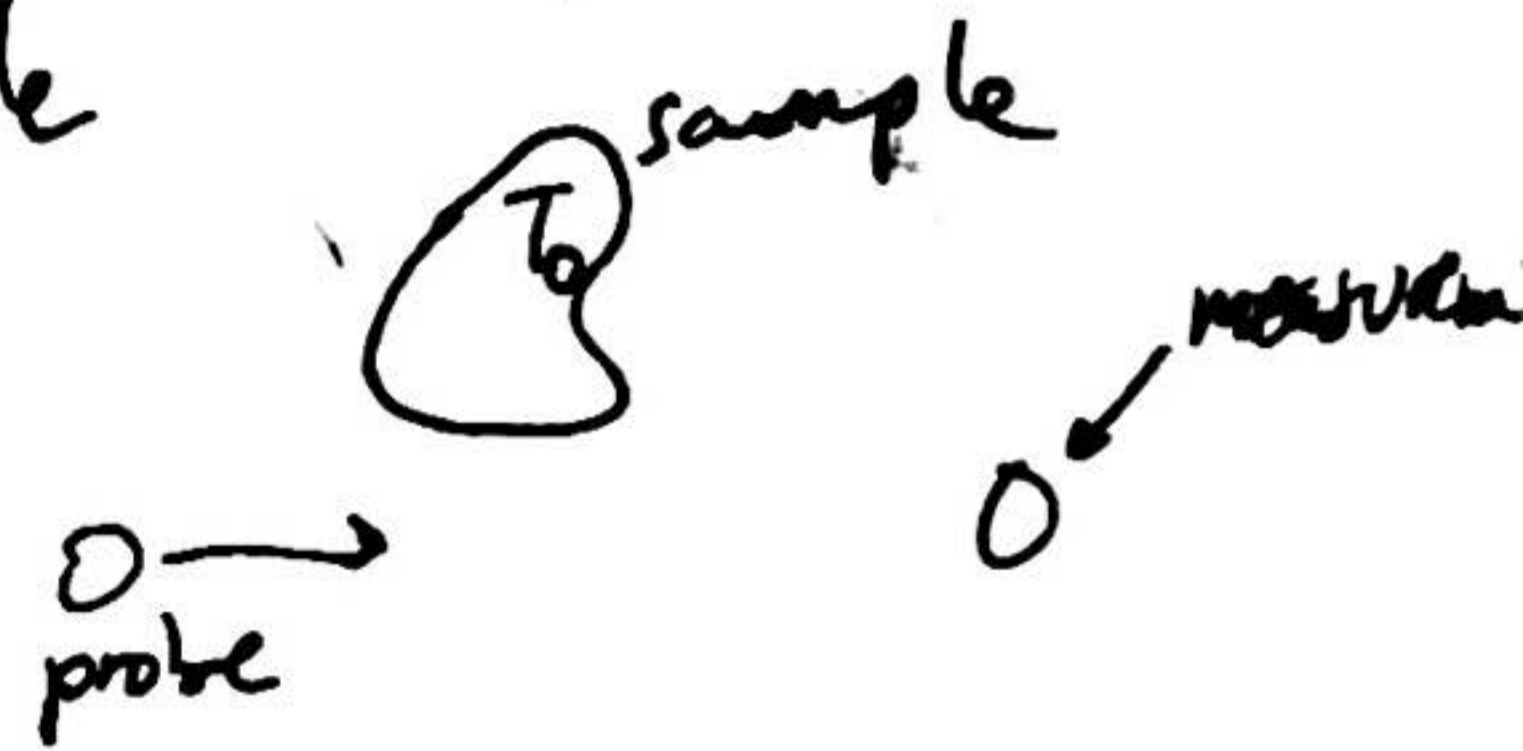
but also microcanonical ensemble,  
pure state ...

Temperature is not an observable,  
it needs to be indirectly inferred

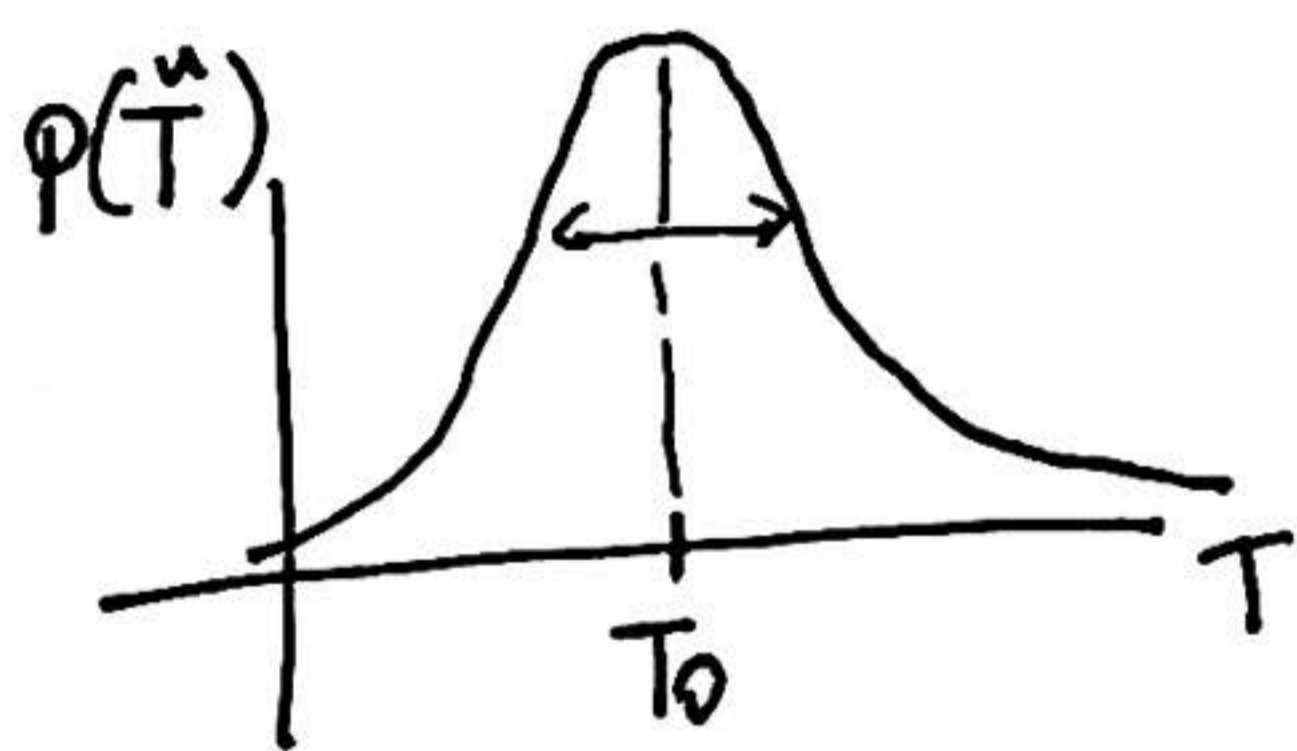
# Basic steps in an estimation process:



- direct measurements of the sample  
 probe-based thermometry



$\rightarrow$  When "m" is finite, and due to thermal and quantum fluctuations,  $\hat{T}$  will usually fluctuate.



\* Explain Frameworks here.

$\rightarrow$  What makes a good estimation process?

\* Accurate (unbiased)

$$\langle \text{Bias} \rangle \equiv \langle \hat{T} \rangle - T_0 = \left\langle \sum_{\vec{\mu}} p(\vec{\mu} | T_0) \hat{T}(\vec{\mu}) \right\rangle - T_0$$

the sum extends over all possible outcomes for a given "m"

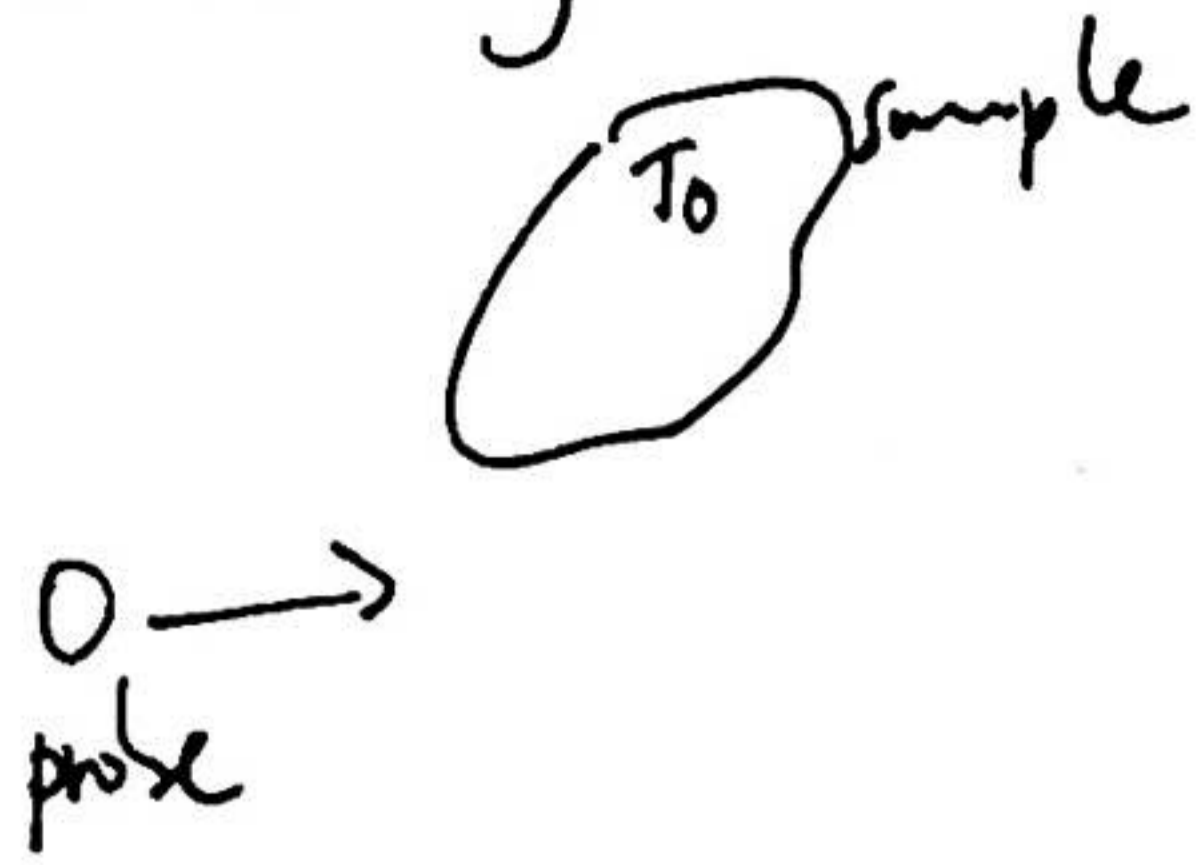
- unbiased:  $\langle \text{Bias} \rangle = 0 \quad \forall T_0 \rightarrow$  great, but typically not the case.

- locally unbiased:  $\left[ \langle \hat{T} \rangle = T_0 \text{ for a given } T_0 \right]$   
 $\frac{d(\langle \hat{T} \rangle - T)}{dT} \Big|_{T=T_0} = 0$

\* Precise (small fluctuations)  
 mean squared error  $\leftarrow$  M.S.E  $\equiv \langle (\hat{T} - T_0)^2 \rangle = \sum_{\vec{\mu}} p(\vec{\mu} | T_0) (\hat{T}(\vec{\mu}) - T_0)^2$   
 as small as possible:  $\boxed{\text{MSE} \rightarrow 0}$  guarantees both accurate and precise  
 $\rightarrow$  main figure of merit. 12

# "BONUS"

\* minimally-invasive estimation processes



\* optimal use of resources: | number of probes/measurements "m"  
time, "t"

$$\text{M.S.E.} \sim f(m, t)$$

\* → gen before  
→ Frameworks

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| Frequentist | → applicable to any "m" but most useful for $m \gg 1$ .<br>(and given identical repeated measurements)     |
| Bayesian    | → useful for any "m" (and for correlated/adaptive measurements)<br>→ needs the notion of a prior/posterior |

↓  
see arxiv:2011.13018, arxiv:2108.05932

**Cramér - Rao bound**

$$\rightarrow M.S.E_{T_0} = \Delta^2 \tilde{T} + \overbrace{(\langle \tilde{T} \rangle_{T_0} - T_0)^2}^{\text{Bias}}$$

$$\Delta^2 \tilde{T} = \langle (\tilde{T} - \langle \tilde{T} \rangle_{T_0})^2 \rangle_{T_0} \quad \text{with } \langle \dots \rangle_{T_0} = \int p(\mu | T_0) \chi(\dots)$$

$$\rightarrow \left( \frac{d \langle \text{Test} \rangle_T}{dT} \right)^2 = \left( \sum_{\vec{\mu}} \frac{d p(\vec{\mu} | T)}{dT} \tilde{T}(\vec{\mu}) \right)^2$$

$$\sum_{\vec{\mu}} \frac{d p(\vec{\mu} | T)}{dT} = \left[ \sum_{\vec{\mu}} \frac{d p(\vec{\mu} | T)}{dT} (\tilde{T}(\vec{\mu}) - \langle \tilde{T} \rangle) \right]^2$$

Cauchy-Schwarz ~~inequality~~

$|\langle \vec{x}, \vec{y} \rangle|^2 \leq \langle \vec{x}, \vec{x} \rangle \langle \vec{y}, \vec{y} \rangle$

$$\leq \left[ \sum_{\vec{\mu}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{p(\vec{\mu} | T)}} \frac{d p(\vec{\mu} | T)}{dT} \right] \underbrace{\left[ \sum_{\vec{\mu}} p(\vec{\mu} | T) (\tilde{T}(\vec{\mu}) - \langle \tilde{T} \rangle)^2 \right]}_{\chi_j}$$

identical, uncorrelated  
"m" measurements:  
 $p(\vec{\mu} | T) = \prod_{i=1}^m p(\mu_i | T)$

$$= m \cdot \left[ \sum_{\vec{\mu}} \frac{1}{p(\vec{\mu} | T)} \left( \frac{d p(\vec{\mu} | T)}{dT} \right)^2 \right]$$

Fisher information  $F_C$

$\rightarrow$  For locally unbiased estimators:  $\left( \frac{d \langle \text{Test} \rangle_T}{dT} \right) \Big|_{T=T_0} = 1$ ,  
 $\Delta^2 \tilde{T} = M.S.E.$

$$M.S.E \geq \frac{1}{m F_C}$$

# → Examples of estimators and asymptotic unbiasedness

"m" qubits at temperature  $T_0$

$$q_0 = \frac{e^{-\epsilon/k_B T_0}}{1 + e^{-\epsilon/k_B T_0}} \rightarrow \text{excitation probability}$$

$\ominus \ominus \dots \ominus$

measure energy (in the computational basis)

data set:  $\vec{\mu} = \{0, 1, 1, \dots, 0\}$   
 (example)

$k \rightarrow 1$ 's  
 $m-k \rightarrow 0$ 's

$$p(\vec{\mu} | T_0) \rightarrow p(k | q_0) = q_0^k (1-q_0)^{m-k} \frac{m!}{k!(m-k)!}$$

$q_0 \leftrightarrow T_0$

→ maximum likelihood estimator

$$\hat{q}_0(k) = \arg \max_{q_0} p(k | q_0)$$

$$\hat{q}_0(k) = \frac{k}{m}$$

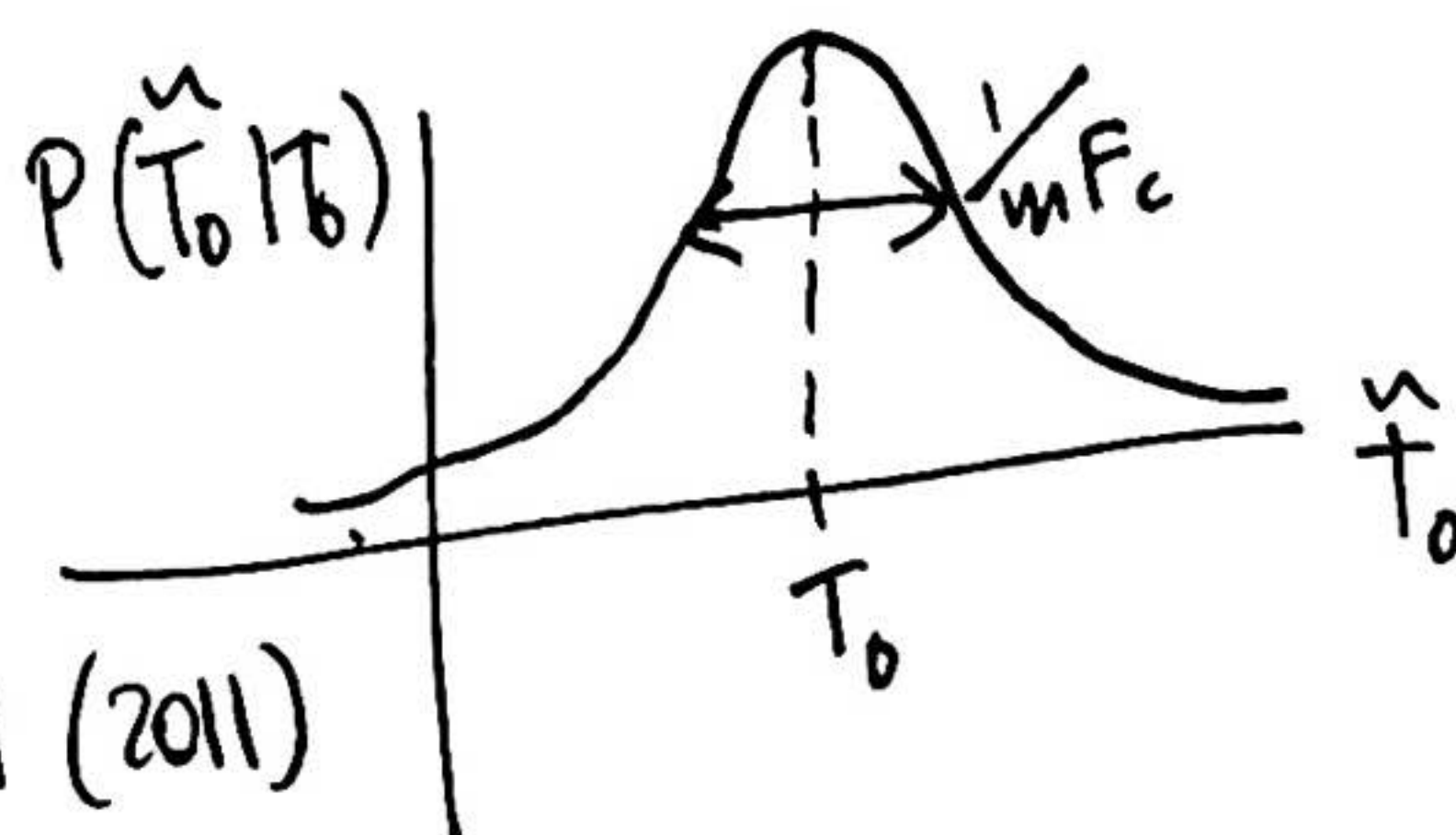
from here we complete  $\hat{T}_0(k)$

→ mean estimator

→ For sufficiently large  $m \gg 1$ , we obtain (using binomial limit)

$$P\left(\frac{\hat{q}_0}{T_0} | T_0\right) = \sqrt{\frac{m F_c}{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{m F_c}{2} (T_0 - \frac{\hat{q}_0}{T_0})^2}$$

unbiased estimator with  $\Delta \hat{T}^2 = \frac{1}{m F_c}$



⚠ Exercise: reproduce calculations of Jahnke, Lanégy, Mahler, PRE 83, 011109 (2011)

# Quantum Fisher Information / POVM.

Quantum mechanics:

$$p(\mu | T_0) = \text{Tr}(\Pi_\mu \rho_{T_0})$$

→ symmetric logarithmic derivative.

let us introduce:  $\frac{\partial \rho_T}{\partial T} = \frac{L_T \rho_T + \rho_T L_T}{2}$

$$\partial_T p(\mu | T) = \text{Tr}(\partial_T \rho_T \Pi_\mu) = \text{Re}(\text{Tr}[\rho_T \Pi_\mu L_T])$$

- Fisher information:

$$F_c = \sum_\mu \frac{1}{p_\mu} \left( \frac{dp_\mu}{dT} \right)^2 = \sum_\mu \frac{\text{Re}(\text{Tr}[\rho_T \Pi_\mu L_T])^2}{\text{Tr}(\rho_T \Pi_\mu)}$$

saturated when  $\text{Tr}[\rho_T \Pi_\mu L_T]$  is real why - Schwarz

$$\leq \sum_\mu \left| \frac{\text{Tr}[\rho_T \Pi_\mu L_T]}{\sqrt{\text{Tr}(\rho_T \Pi_\mu)}} \right|^2 = \sum_\mu \left| \text{Tr} \left[ \frac{\sqrt{\rho_T} \sqrt{\Pi_\mu}}{\sqrt{\text{Tr}(\rho_T \Pi_\mu)}} \sqrt{\Pi_\mu} L_T \sqrt{\rho_T} \right] \right|^2$$

$\text{Tr}[A+B]^2 \leq \text{Tr}[A^2] + \text{Tr}[B^2]$

$$\leq \sum_\mu \text{Tr}[\Pi_\mu L_T \rho_T L_T]$$

$$\sum_\mu \Pi_\mu = I \Rightarrow \text{Tr}[\rho_T L_T^2]$$

Quantum Fisher information

$$F_c \leq \text{Tr}[\rho_T L_T^2]$$

$$F_Q = \text{Tr}[\rho_T L_T^2]$$

it depends only on  $\rho_T$ , independent of the measurement

$$\max_{\text{all measurements}} (F_c) = F_Q$$

Optimal measurement

$$L_\lambda = \sum_k q_k \Pi_k$$

for this is tight: POVM C-S

$$\sqrt{\Pi_k} \propto \sqrt{\Pi_k} L_T \sqrt{\rho_T}$$

# Quantum Fisher Information in Thermometry

$$\rho_T = \frac{e^{-H/T}}{\text{Tr}(e^{-H/T})} \quad (\text{in what follows } k_B = 1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \rho_T}{\partial T} &= \frac{e^{-H/T} H}{Z T^2} - \frac{e^{-H/T} \text{Tr}(H e^{-H/T})}{Z^2 T^2} \\ &= \frac{H \rho_T}{T^2} - \frac{\rho_T \langle H \rangle_{\rho_T}}{T^2} \\ &= \rho_T \left( \frac{H - \langle H \rangle_{\rho_T}}{T^2} \right) \\ &\quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{L_T} \end{aligned}$$

$$\langle A \rangle_{\rho_T} \equiv \text{Tr}(A \rho_T)$$

$$F_Q = \text{Tr}(\rho_T L_T^2) = \frac{1}{T^4} \text{Tr}(\rho_T (H - \langle H \rangle_{\rho_T})^2)$$

$$F_Q = \frac{1}{T^4} \Delta H^2$$

Recap:

|                   |        |                             |        |                                |
|-------------------|--------|-----------------------------|--------|--------------------------------|
| $\Delta \rho_T^2$ | $\geq$ | $\frac{1}{m F_C}$           | $\geq$ | $\frac{T^4}{m \Delta H^2}$     |
| M.S.E             |        | $\uparrow$                  |        | $\uparrow$                     |
| SE                |        | locally unbiased estimators |        | projective energy measurements |

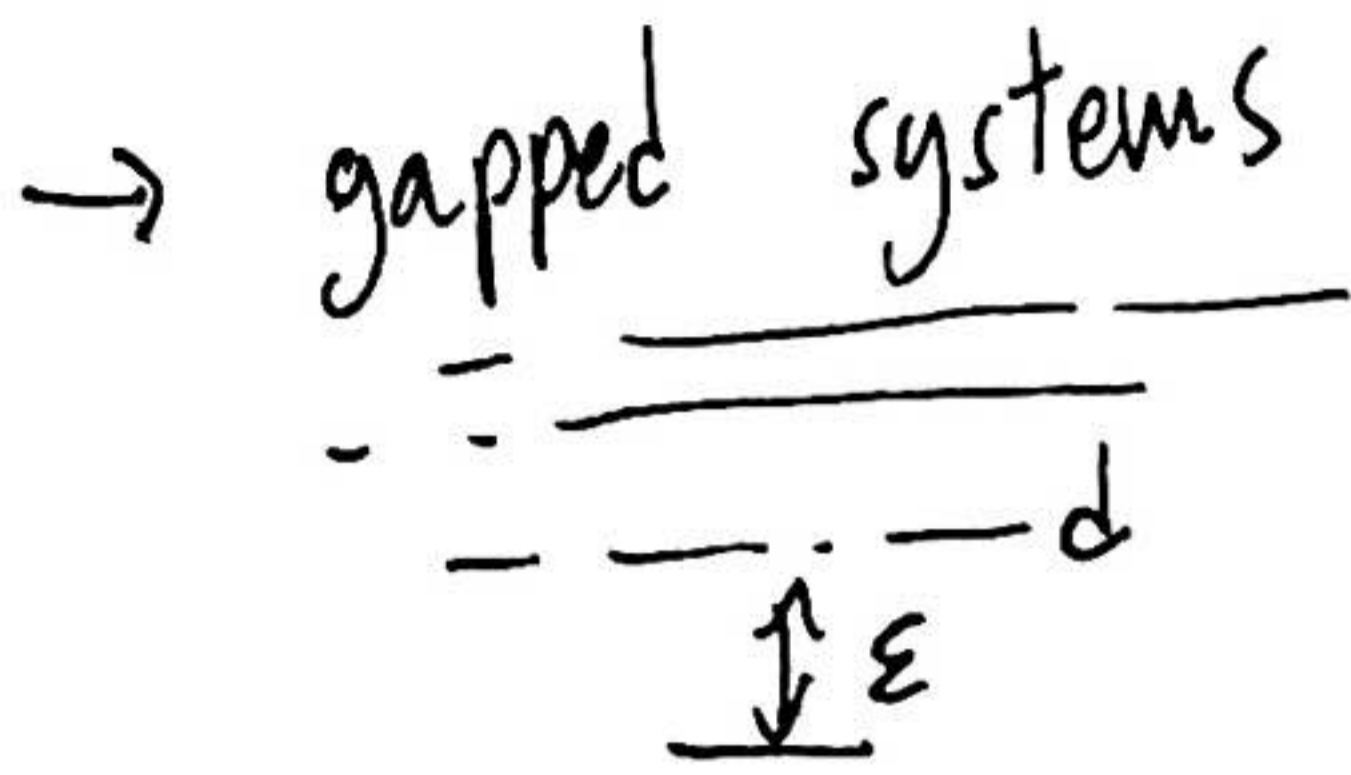
← MAIN TAKE-HOME MESSAGE.

Remark:  $\frac{1}{4}$  for  $n=1$  (this is justified because  $p(\mu|T)$  belongs to the exponential family see e.g. arxiv:1409.0535)

$$\Delta T^2 \geq \frac{T^4}{\Delta H^2}$$

Energy - temperature uncertainty relation

low-temperature thermometry: why so hard?  
 why is it so hard?



assume  $k_B T \ll \epsilon$ , then population is found in the first two levels (up to exponential corrections)

$$p \approx \frac{d e^{-\epsilon/T}}{1 + d e^{-\epsilon/T}}$$

$$\Delta H^2 = \epsilon^2 p(1-p) \approx \epsilon^2 p \approx \epsilon^2 d e^{-\epsilon/T}$$

$$\Delta H^2 = \epsilon^2 d e^{-\epsilon/T} + \mathcal{O}(e^{-2\epsilon/T})$$

$$\Delta T^2 \geq \frac{k_B T^4 e^{\epsilon/T}}{m d \epsilon^2}$$

diverges exponentially!

$$\frac{\Delta T^2}{T^2} \geq \frac{k_B T^2 e^{\epsilon/T}}{m d \epsilon^2}$$

→ gapless systems

Remark:  $C = \frac{\Delta H^2}{T^2}$ ;  
 ↑ heat capacity!

$$C = T \frac{\partial S_{th}}{\partial T} = \frac{\partial \langle H \rangle_T}{\partial T}$$

$$\langle H \rangle_T = \frac{H e^{-\beta H}}{Z}$$

$$S = -T \left( p_T \ln p_T \right)$$

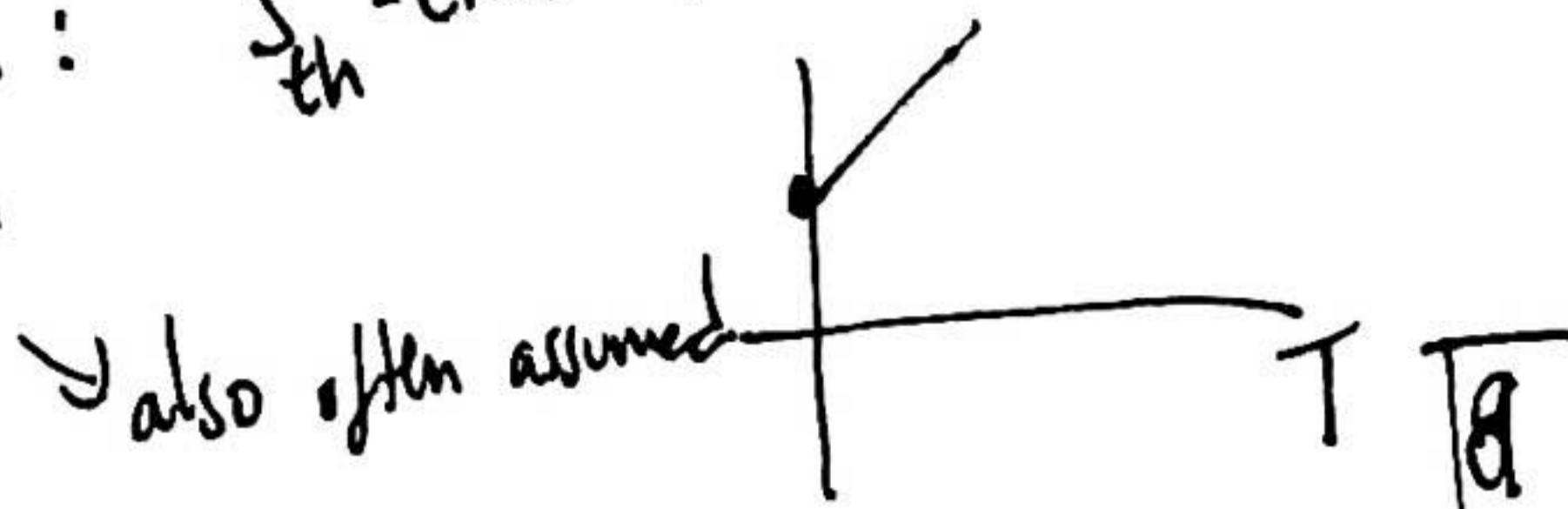
$$\frac{\Delta T^2}{T^2} \geq \frac{1}{C} = \frac{1}{T \partial_T S_{th}}$$

$$\frac{\Delta T^2}{T^2} \sim \frac{1}{T}$$

non-exponential divergence!  
 see e.g. arxiv:1711.09927

Third law of thermodynamics:  $S_{th} = \text{const}$  at  $T=0$ .

$$\partial_T S_{th} = \text{const}$$





# Criticality-enhanced thermometry

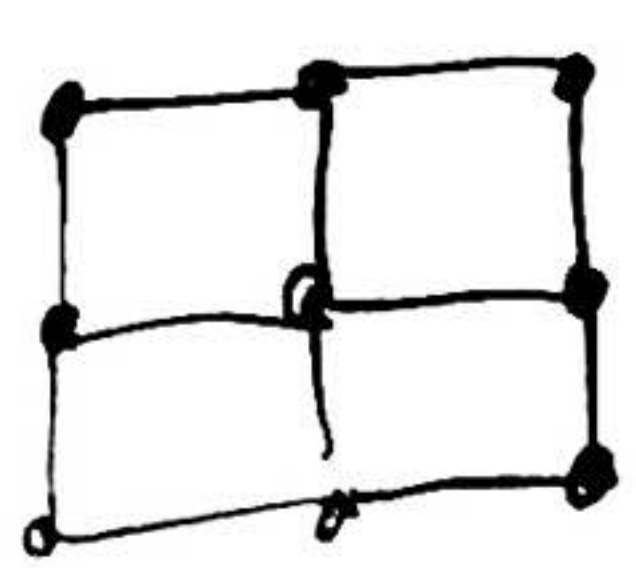
$$\frac{\Delta T^2}{T^2} \geq \frac{1}{mC} \quad C = \frac{\Delta H^2}{T^2}$$

↑  
heat capacity

→ imagine our sample is a set of "n" ~~parts~~ systems

⊖ ⊖ -- ⊖  $C = n \cdot C_{\text{sys}}$

→ our sample is a ~~set~~ <sup>composed</sup> of "n" interacting systems but away from a phase transition (recall Alvaro's talk)



$C = n \sim C_{\text{sys}}$  → same scaling, different slope.

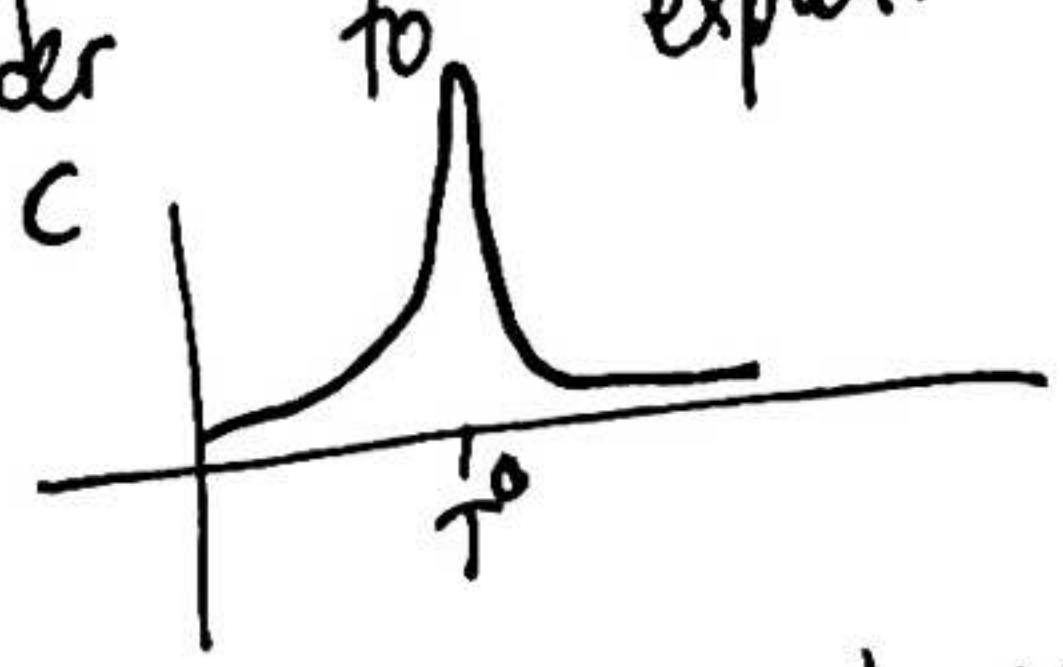
→ However, in a phase transition:  $C \propto n^{1+\alpha}$  with  $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$

If turns out that the maximum C satisfies

$\max_{\Delta H} C \sim \frac{n^2}{4}$

arxiv: 1411.2437

- But:
- \* it requires highly non-local interactions
  - with two body interactions it is possible to achieve  $\approx \frac{C_{\text{max}}}{2}$
  - \* it requires very precise <sup>prior</sup> knowledge of the <sup>estimated</sup> temperature in order to exploit criticality



This can be ~~overcome~~ <sup>overcome</sup> via adaptive strategies  
arxiv: 2108.05432