

14-17 January 2025, Naples, Italy

11th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON  
QUANTUM SIMULATIONS AND QUANTUM WALKS - @QSQW2025

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# Quantum walks (QWs) of correlated photons in engineered photonic lattices

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2025/01/15

# Content

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- I. Research Background.**
- II. QWs in the emulated curved space.**
- III. QWs in non-Hermitian photonic lattices.**
- IV. Brief Summary.**

# Quantum Simulation (QS)

## Richard Feynman



One could employ a controllable quantum system to mimic other quantum systems to dispose of these intractable problems

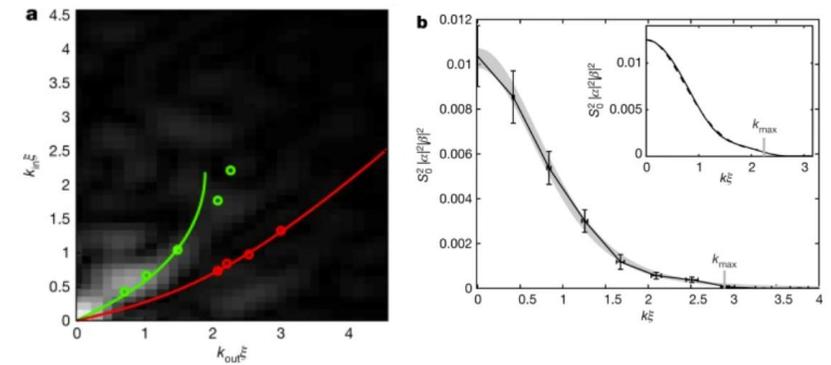
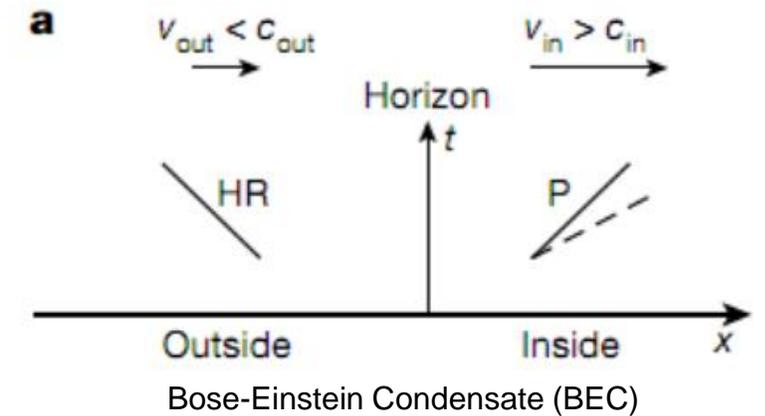
## ■ Quantum computation



## ■ Hawking Radiation



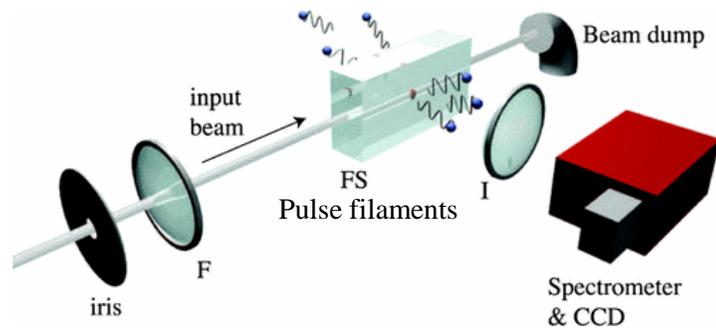
## ■ Hawking radiation using QS



Nature 569, 688 (2019)

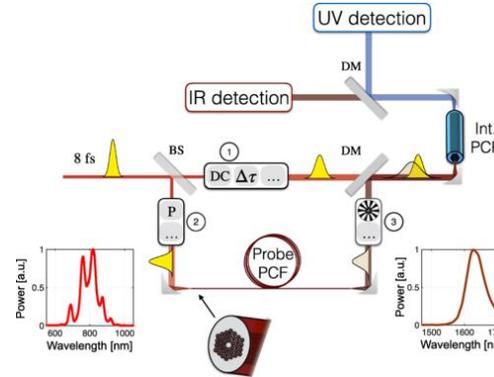
# Photonic Quantum Simulation

## ■ Spontaneous Hawking radiation



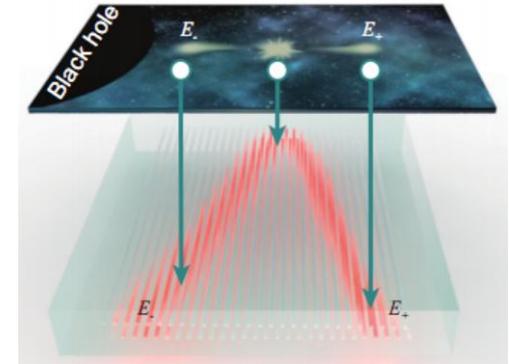
Phys. Rev. Lett. 105, 203901 (2010)

## ■ Stimulated Hawking radiation



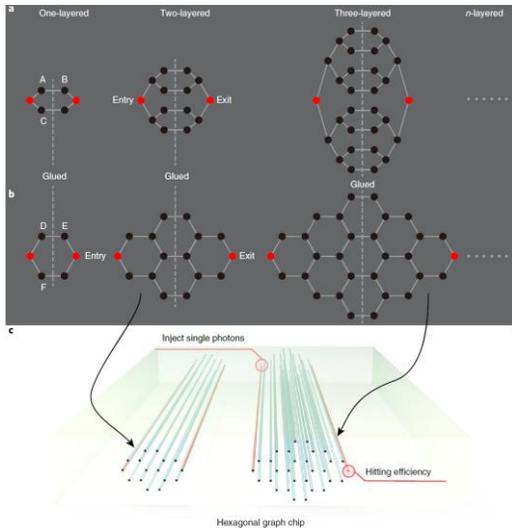
Phys. Rev. Lett. 122, 010404 (2019)

## ■ Dirac particle separation



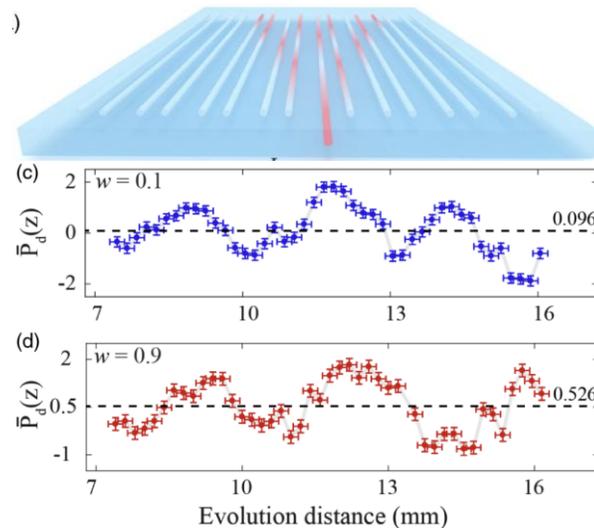
National Science Rev. 7, 1476 (2020)

## ■ Quantum fast hitting



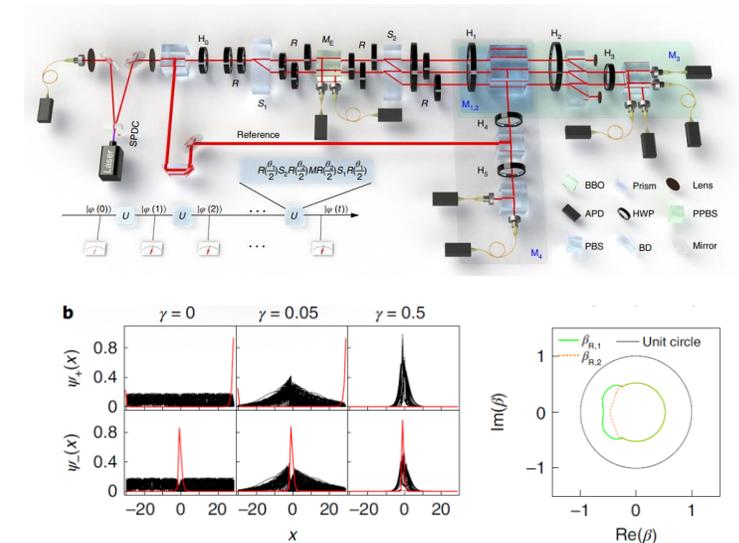
Nat. Photon 12, 754 (2018)

## ■ Topological physics



Phys. Rev. Lett. 122, 193903 (2019)

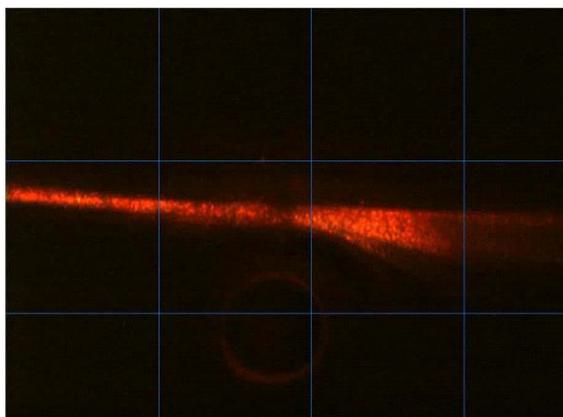
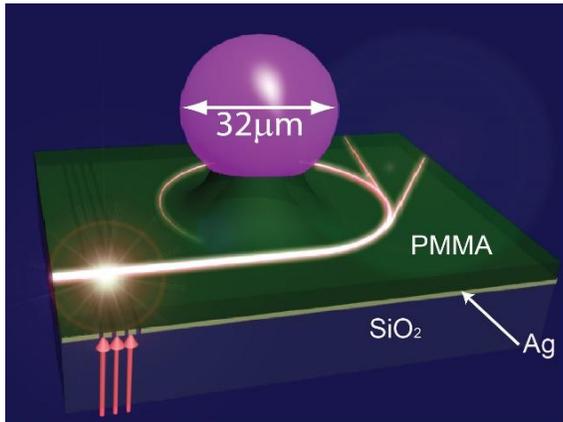
## ■ Non-Hermitian physics



Nat. Physics 16, 761 (2020)

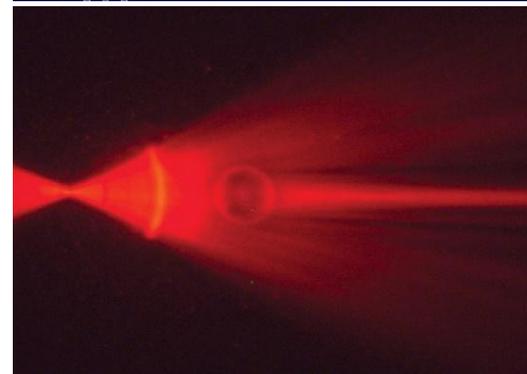
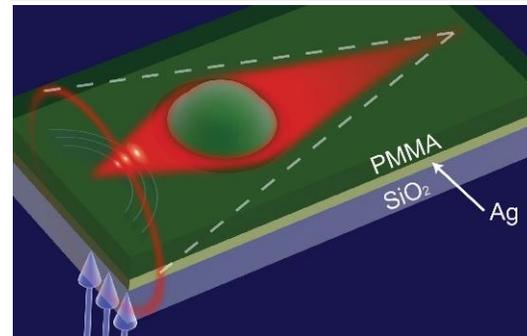
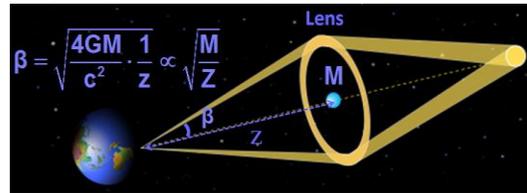
# On-chip Photonic Simulation @ our group

- Black hole-like cavity  
 $n(r) \propto 1/r^2$



Nat. Photon 7,903 (2013)

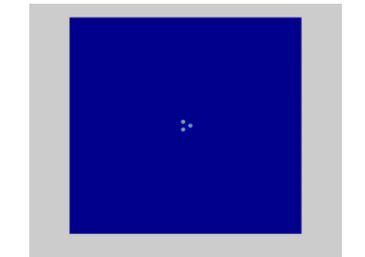
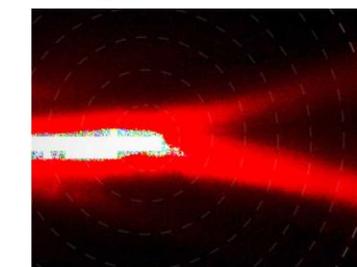
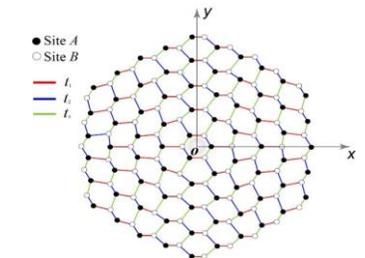
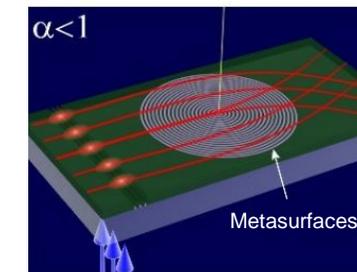
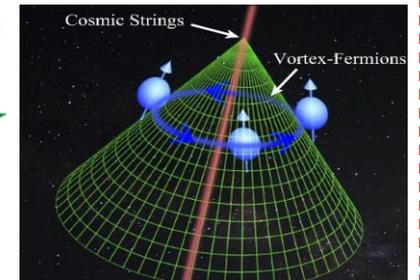
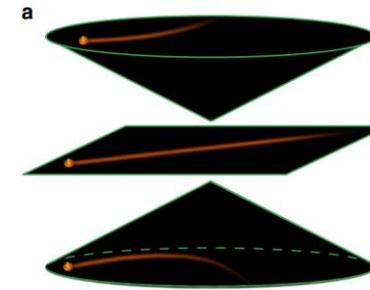
- Einstein ring  
 $n(r) \propto a/(1 + (r/r_c)^b)$



Nat. Commun. 7,10747 (2016)

- Cosmic string

$$n = \begin{bmatrix} n_r & 0 \\ 0 & n_\theta \end{bmatrix} \alpha = n_r/n_\theta$$

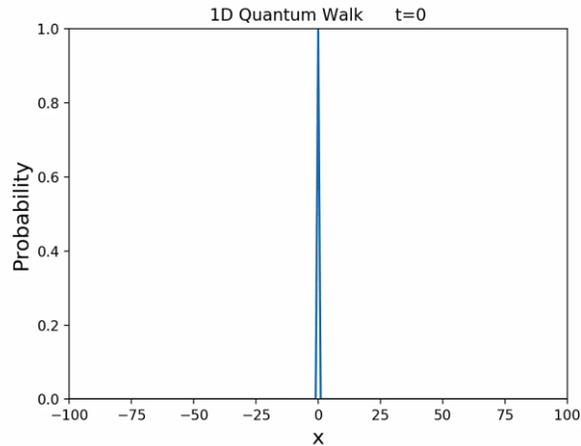


Nat. Commun. 9,4271 (2018)

Light Sci. Appl.11, 243 (2022)

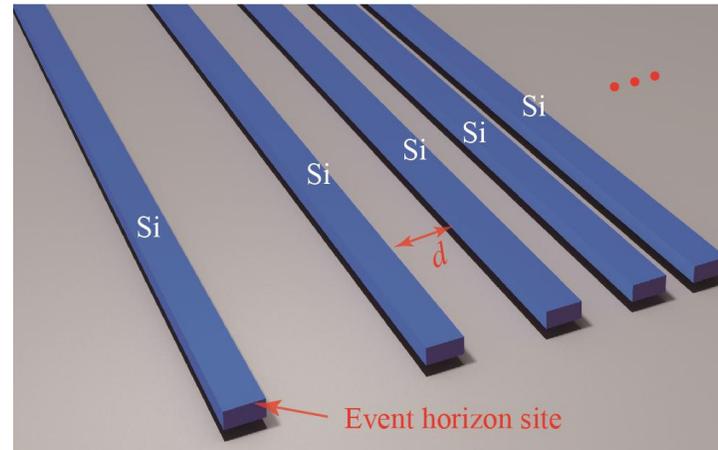
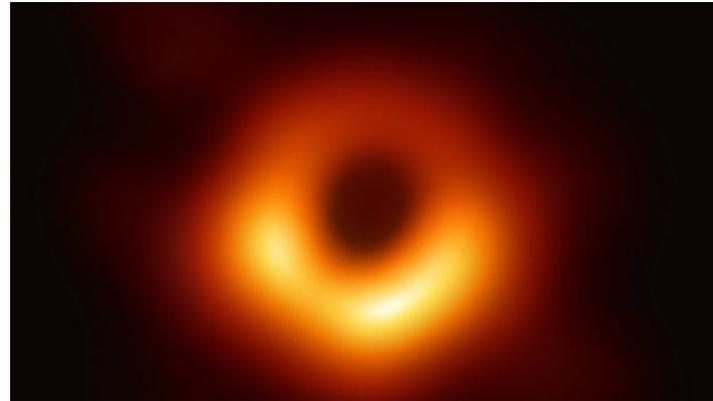
# QWs using photonic lattices

## QWs & silicon photonics

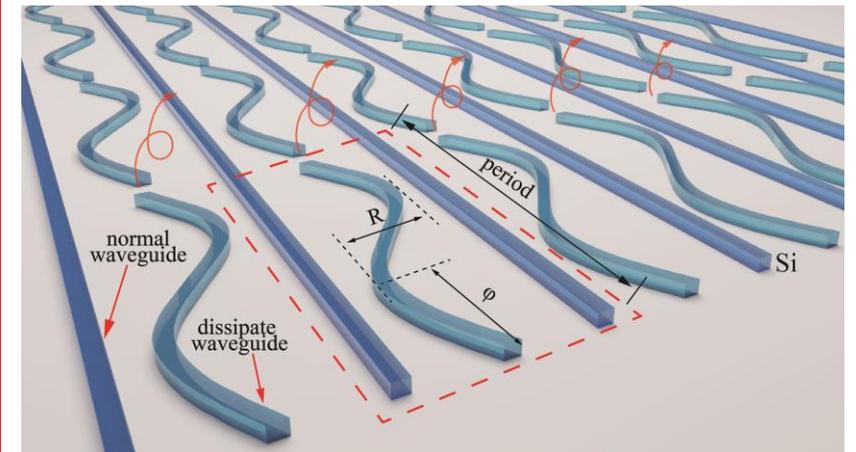
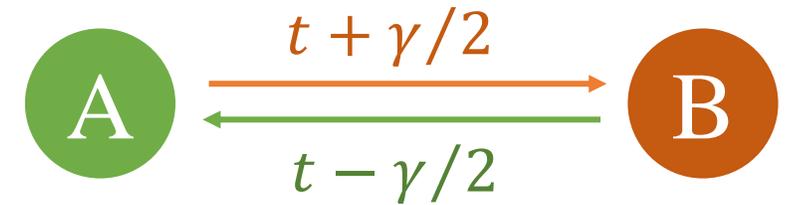


CMOS fabrication

## QWs in curved space



## QWs in non-Hermitian system



# Content

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- I. Research Background.
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- IV. Brief Summary.

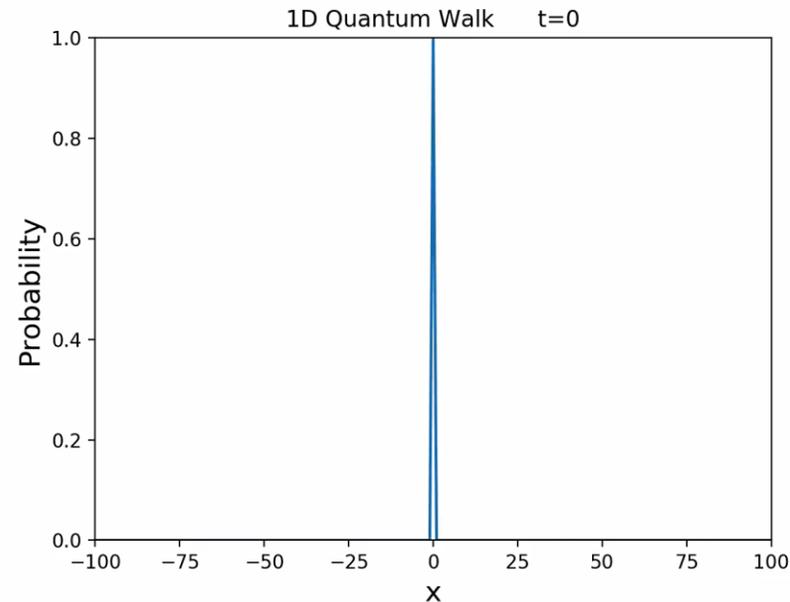
# QWs in curved space

## Motivation: What about quantum walks in curved space?

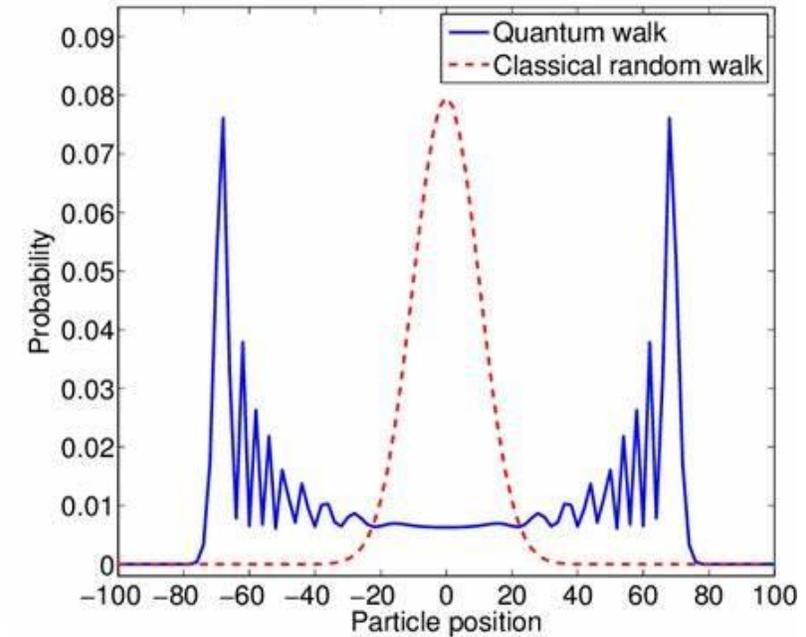
### ■ Classical random walk



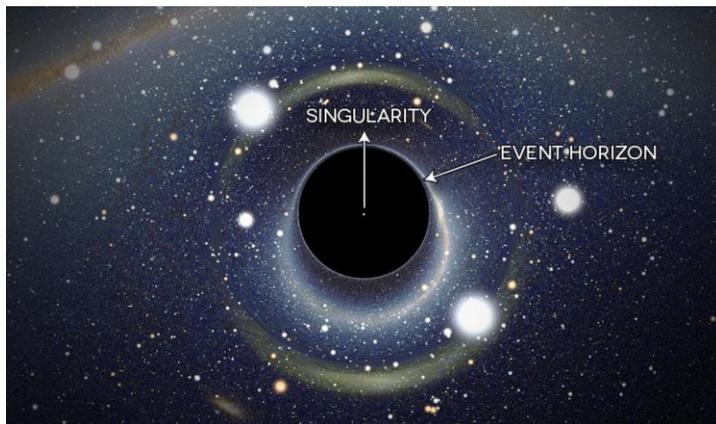
### ■ Quantum walk



### ■ The comparison

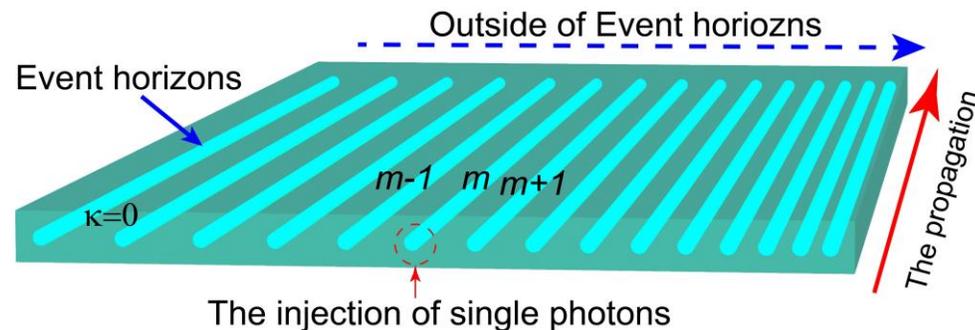
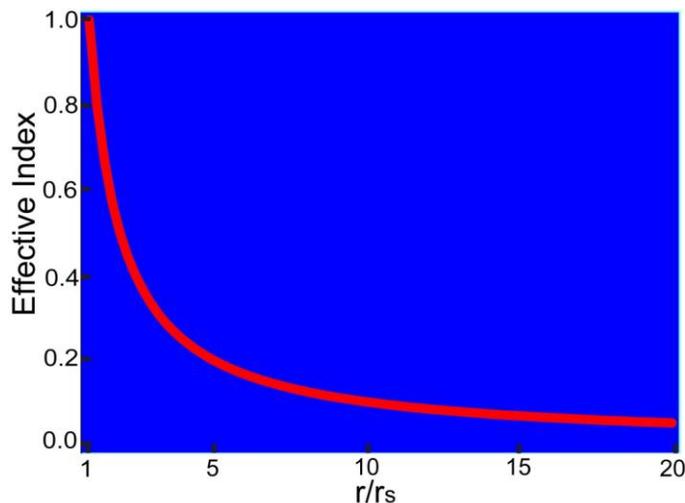


# Synthetic horizons using photonic lattices



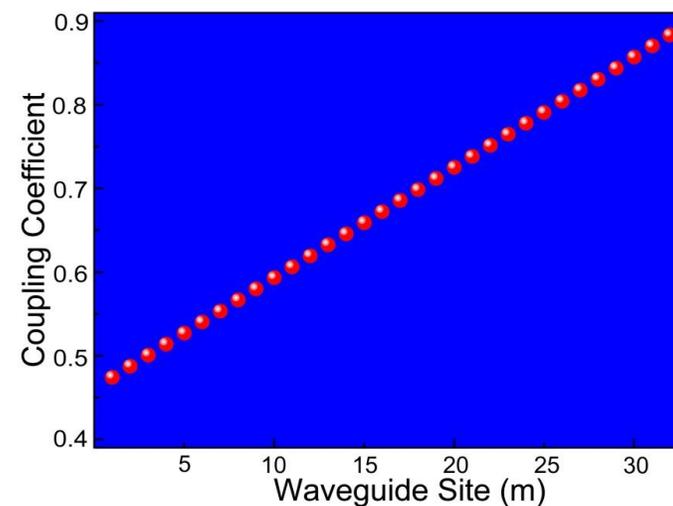
Metric:  $ds^2 = -(\alpha r)^2 dt^2 + dr^2$

Velocity:  $v = dr/dt \propto r$

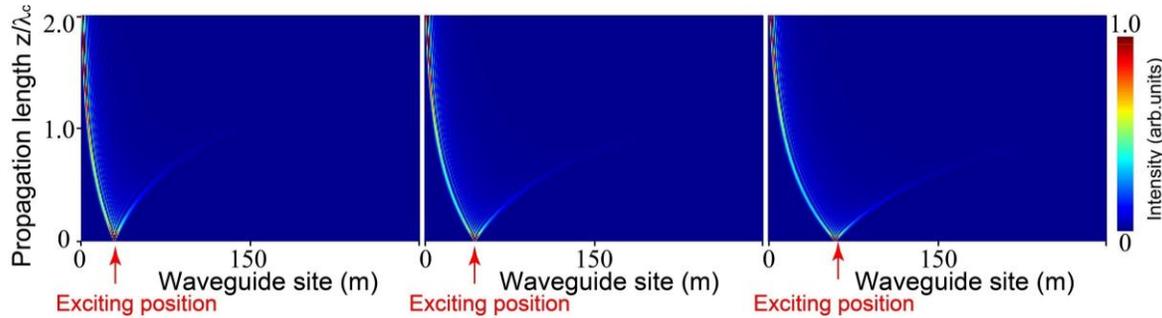
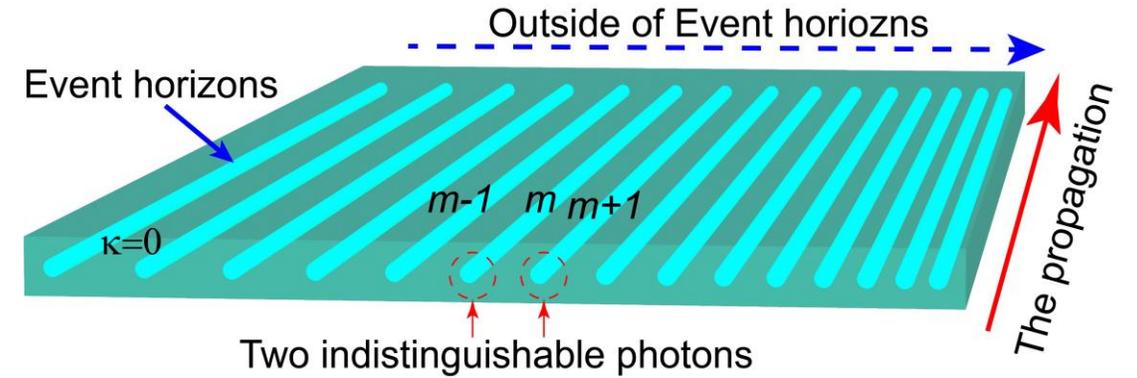
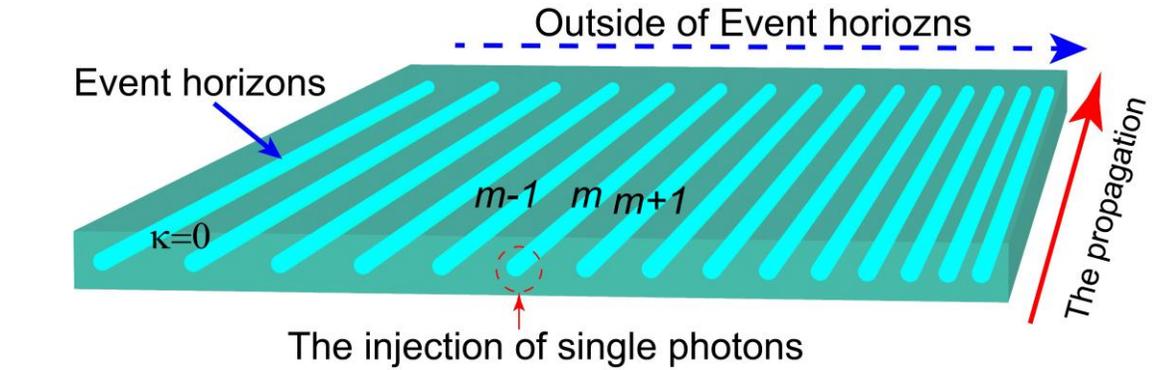


Velocity:  $v \propto \kappa$

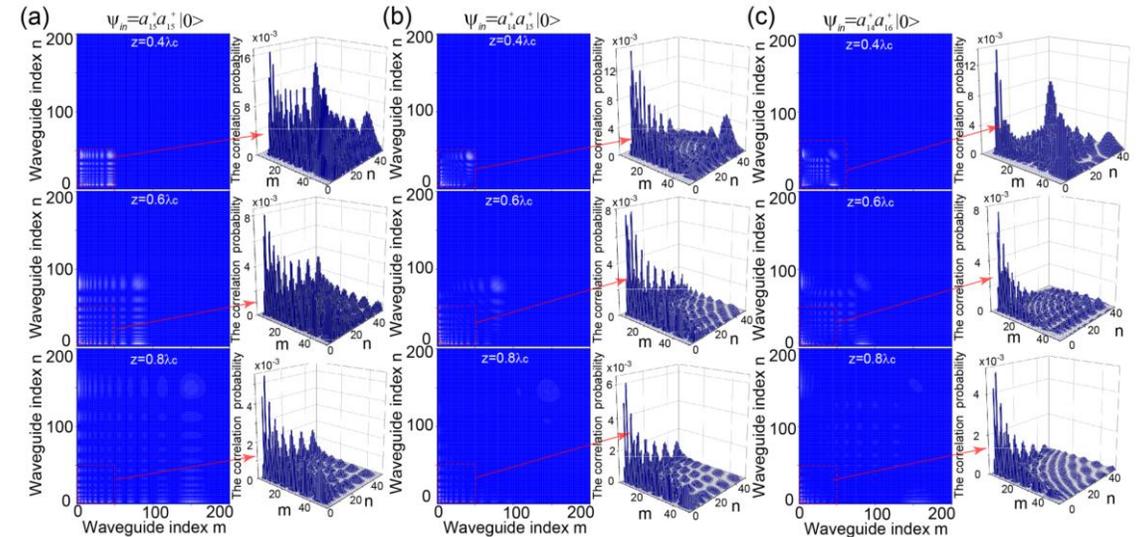
Coupling coefficients:  $\kappa(m) \propto \alpha m$



# Trapping photons by synthetic horizons



## Space correlation spectrum



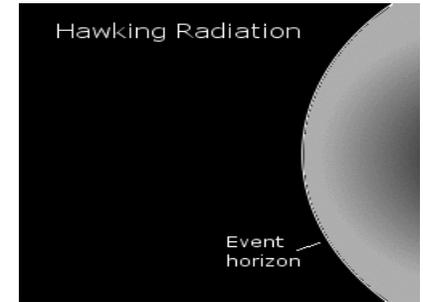
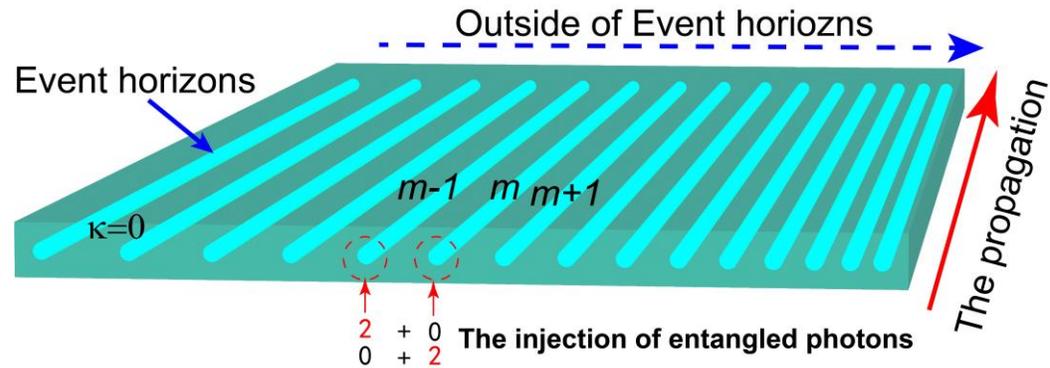
**Green Function:** 
$$U_{mn} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dq \exp \left\{ inq - i2m \cdot \right.$$

$$\left. \arctan \left[ \tanh \left( \operatorname{arctanh} \left[ \tan \frac{q}{2} \right] - \frac{\kappa z}{2} \right) \right] - i\beta_0 z \right\}$$

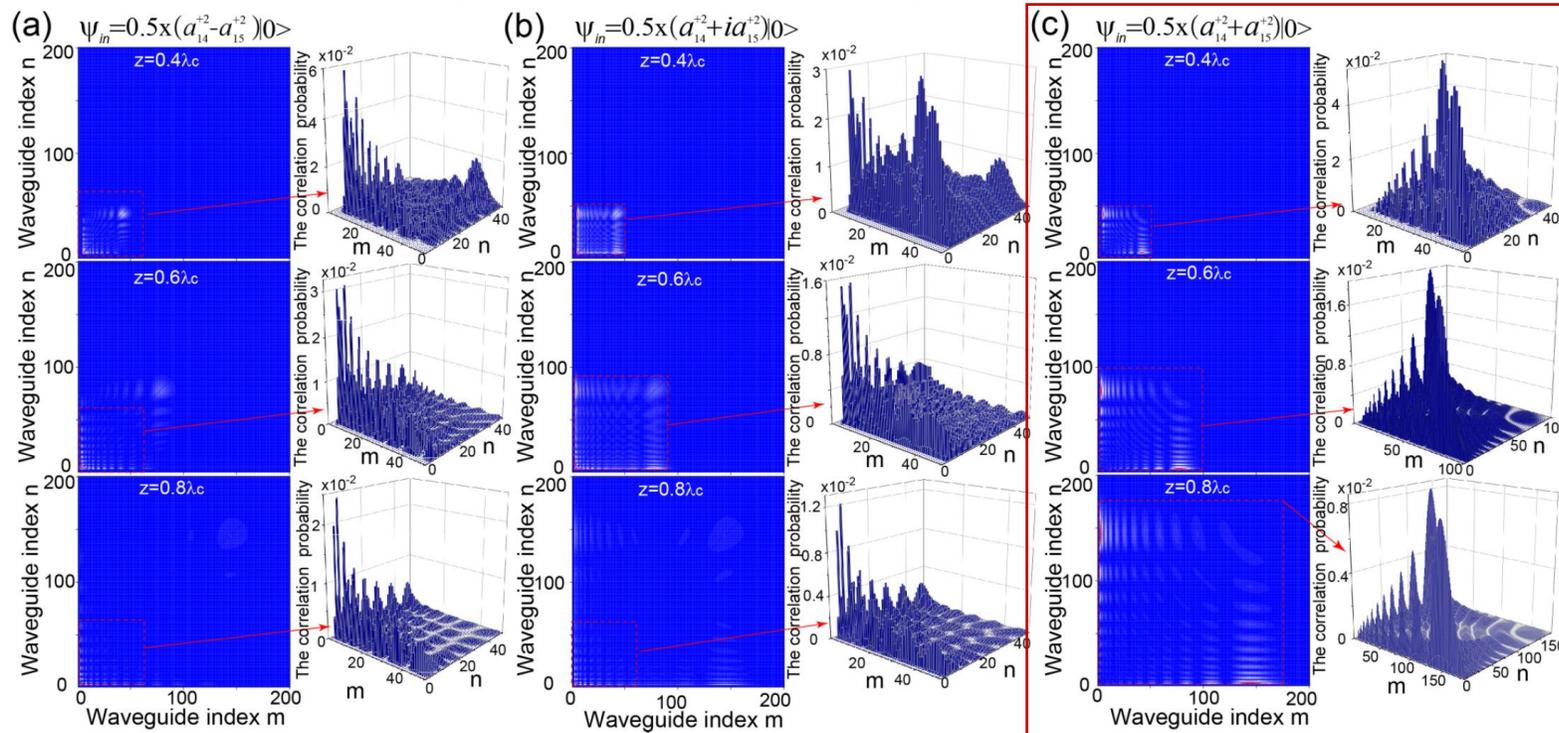
when  $\kappa z/2 \gg 1$ , the simplified Green Function:

$$U_{mn} = \delta(n) \exp(i m \pi / 2 - i \beta_0 z)$$

# Photons escape cause by quantum inferences



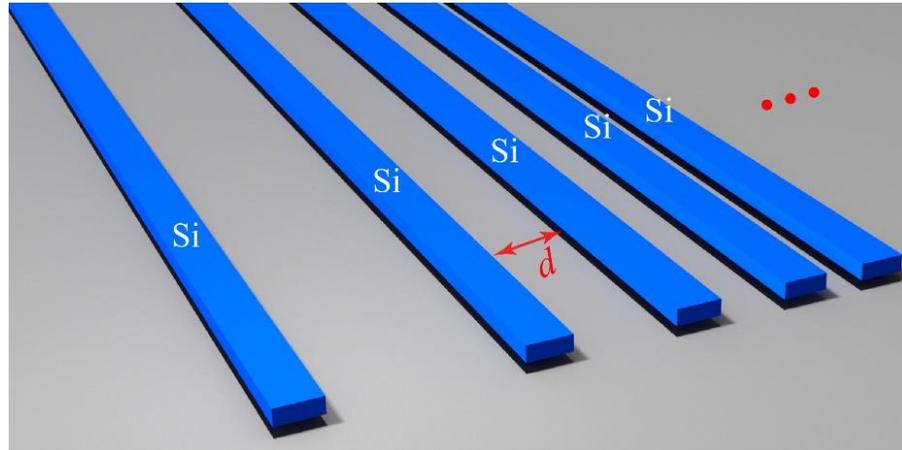
## Space correlation spectrum



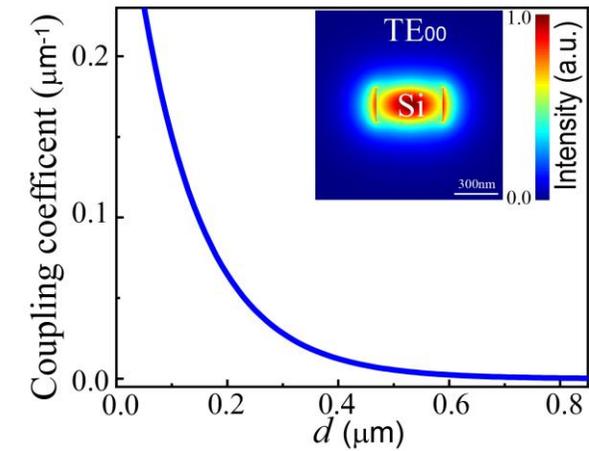
Photon escape caused by **quantum interference**

# Experimental demonstration

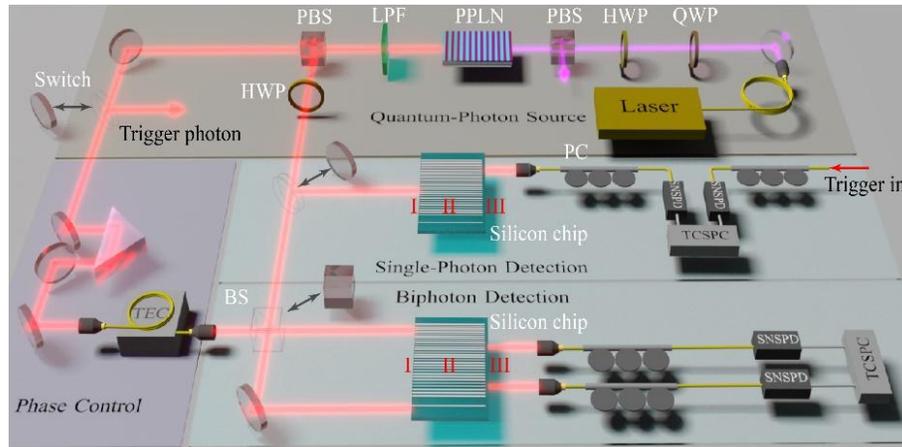
## ■ Nonuniform silicon lattices



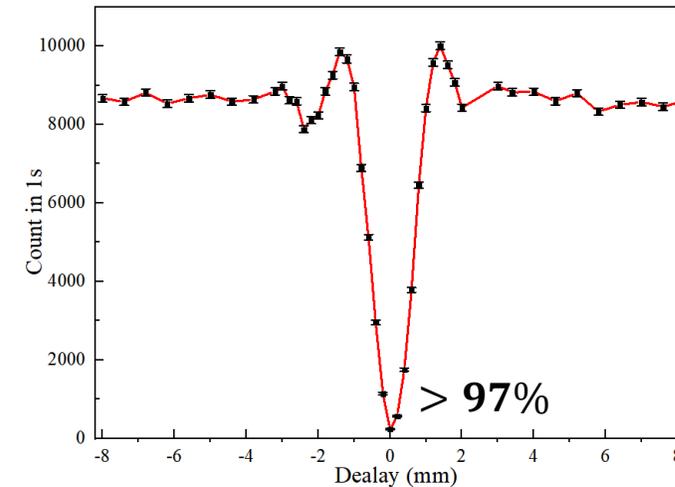
## ■ Coupling coefficients



## ■ Experimental setup

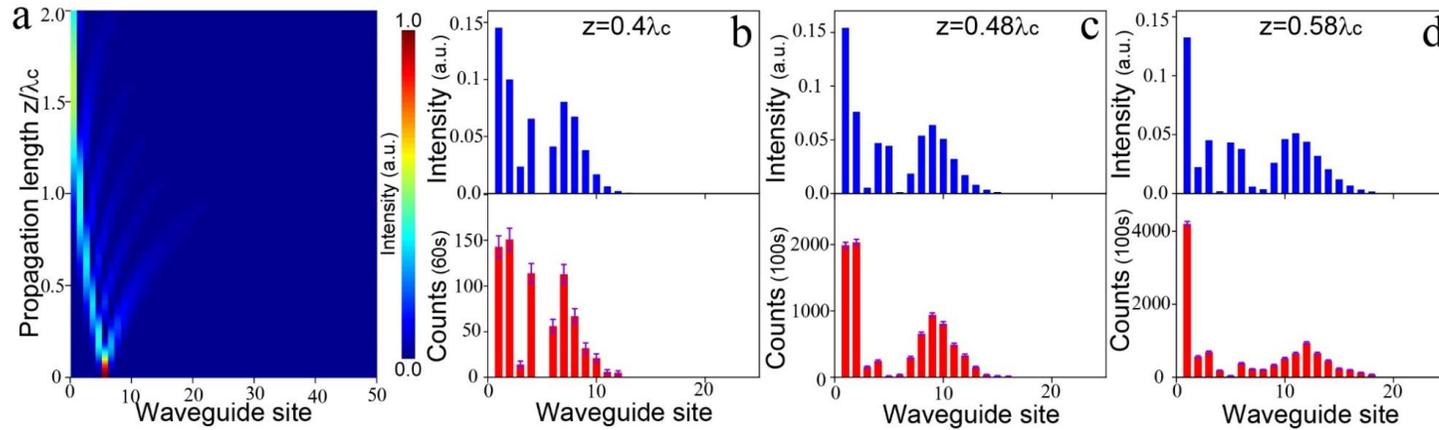


## ■ Quantum light sources

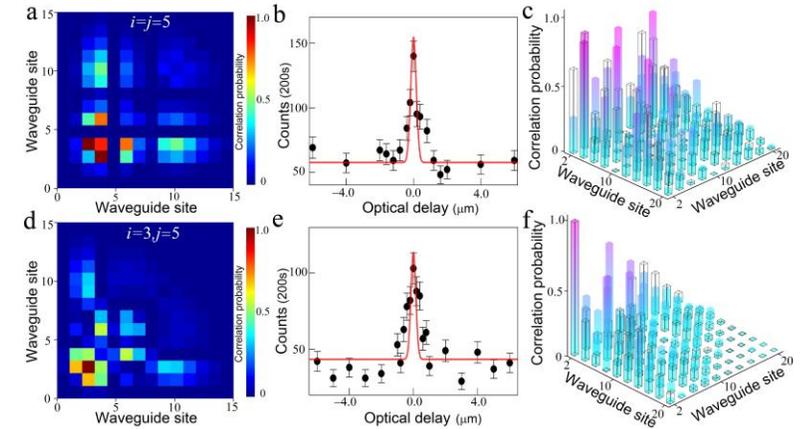


# Experimental demonstration

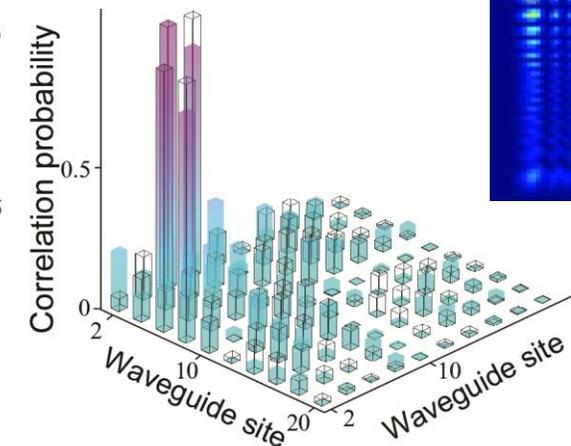
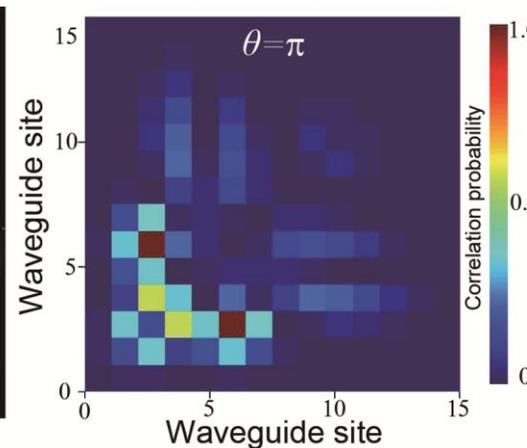
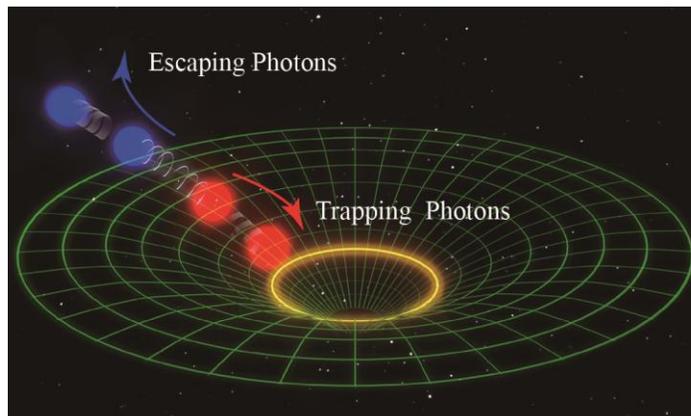
## Single photons



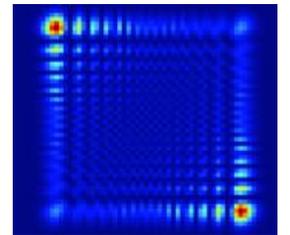
## Two indistinguishable photons



## Entangled photons



## Antibunching



Photons  
Escape

# Content

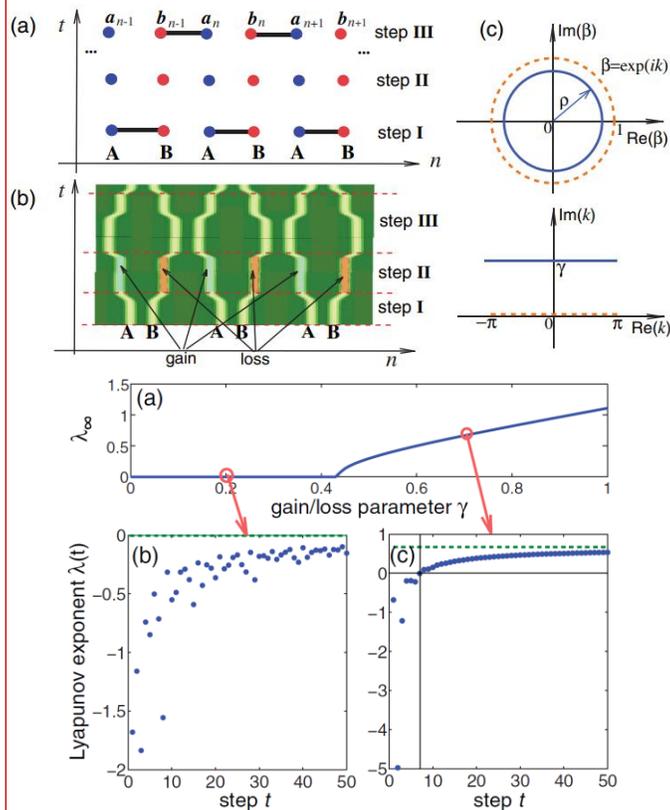
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# Non-Hermitian optics: QWs

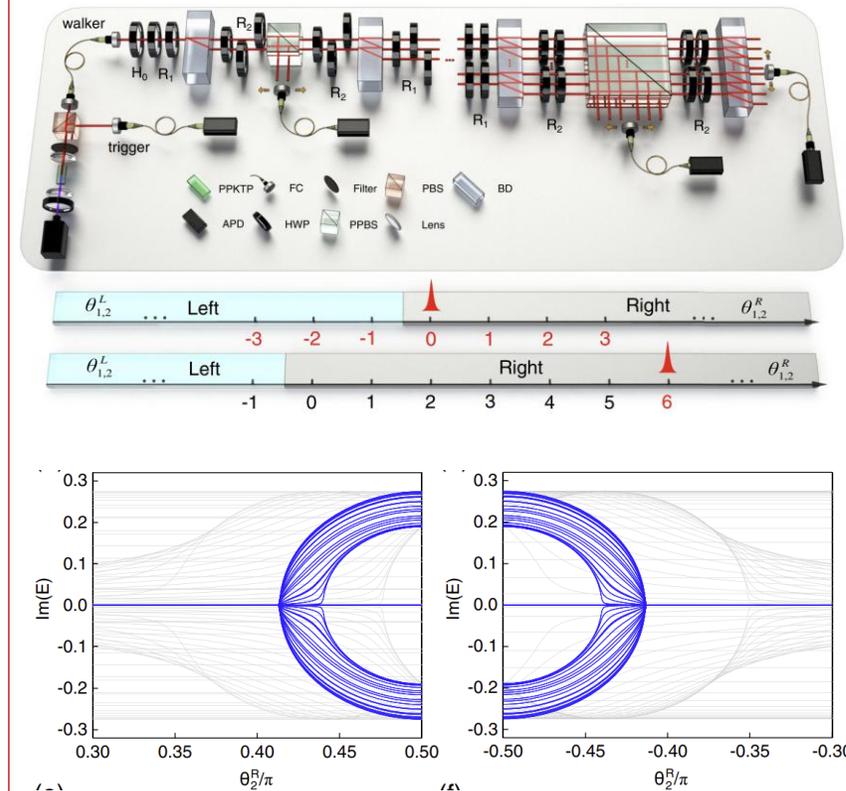
## Motivation: entropy in non-Hermitian photonic lattices ?

### Parity-time phase transition



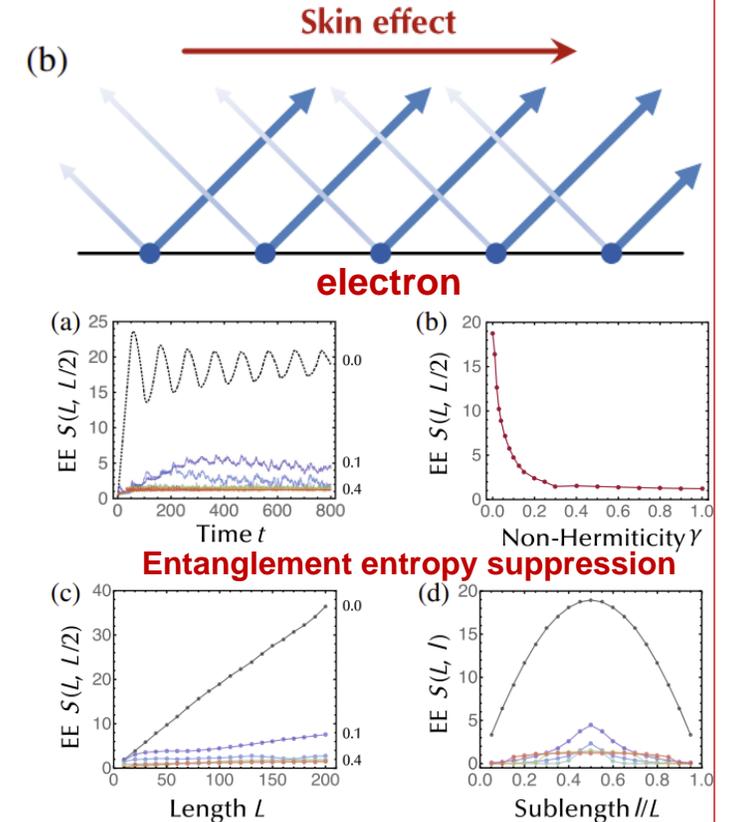
Opt. Lett. 44, 5804 (2019)

### Exceptional point



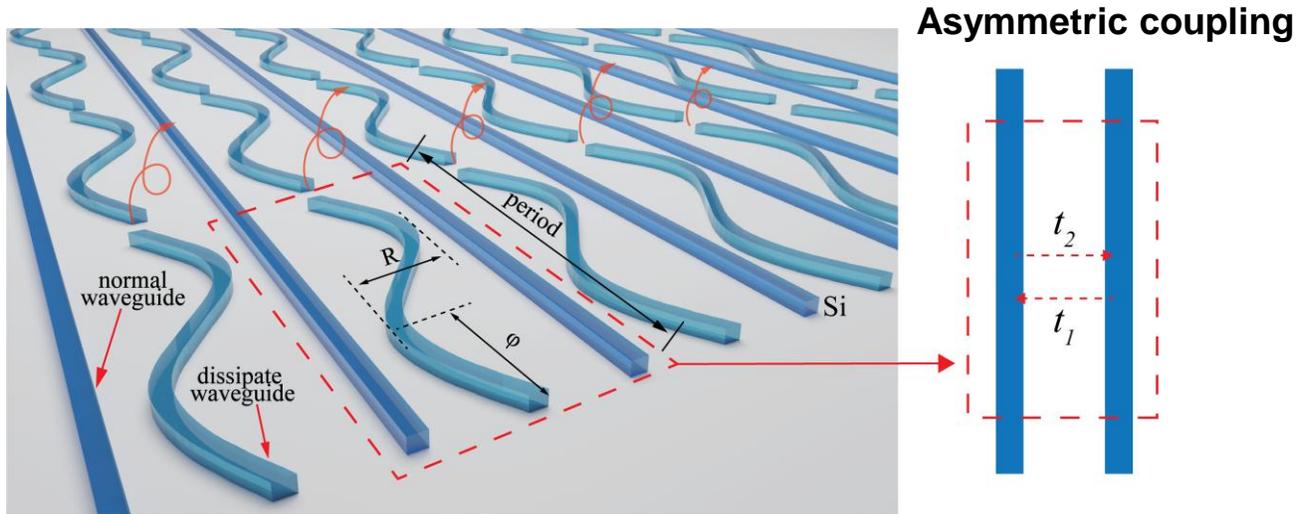
Phys. Rev. Lett. 126, 230402 (2021)

### Multiparticle entropy



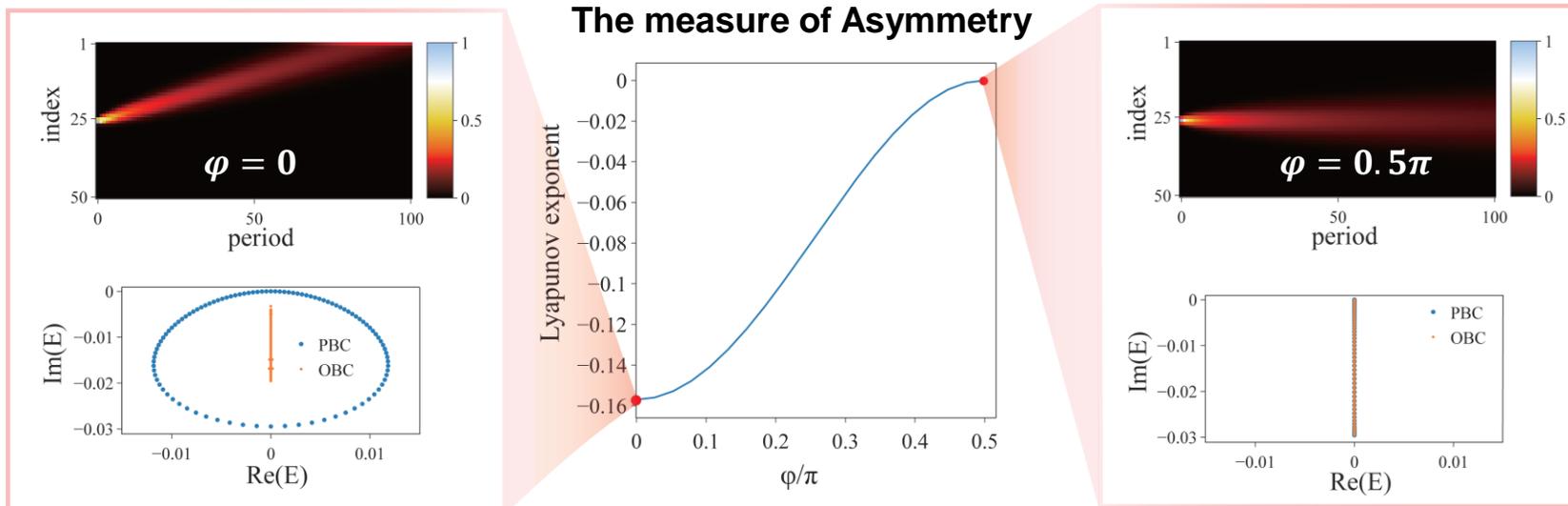
Phys. Rev. X 13, 021002 (2023)

# Non-Hermitian photonic lattices



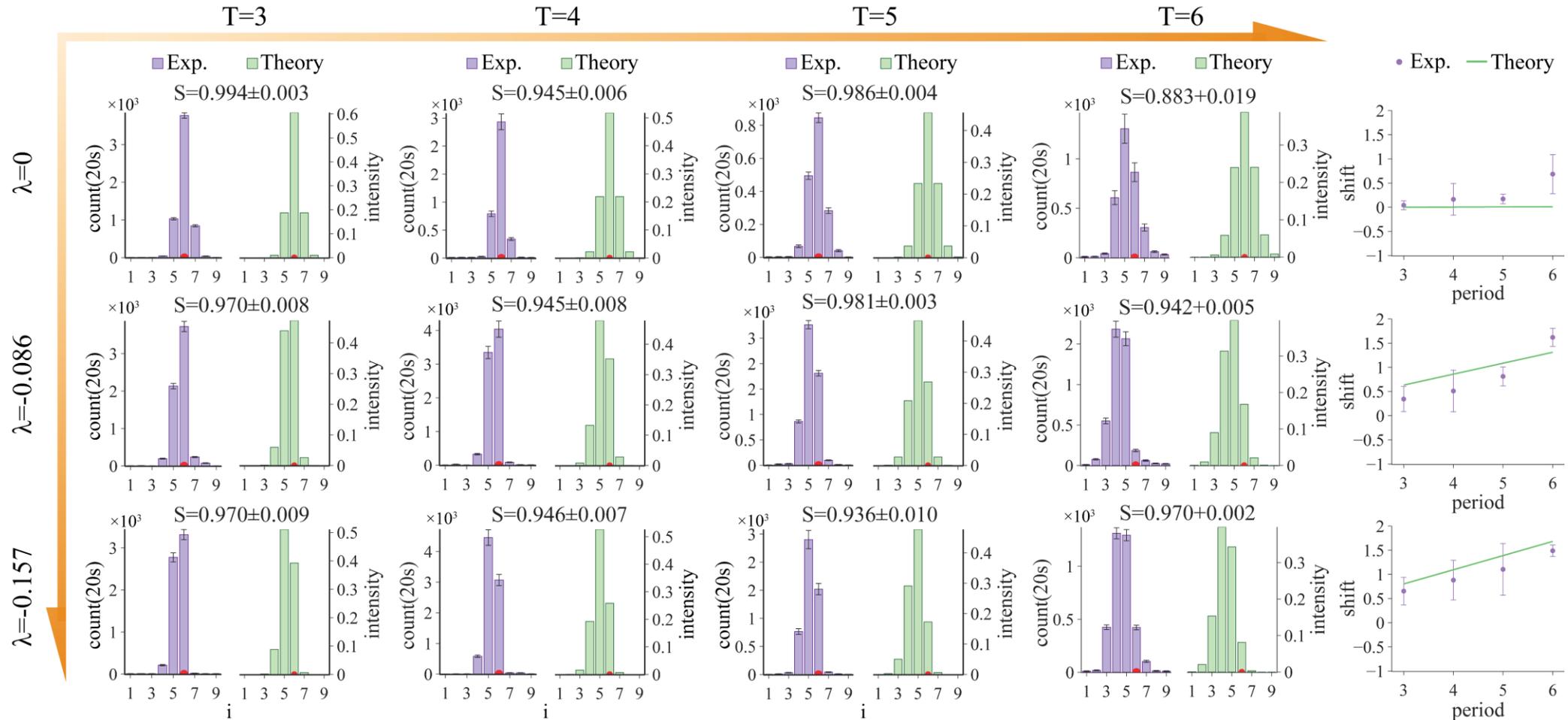
The modulation by the auxiliary waveguide:  
 $R \sin(\omega t + \varphi)$

The relevance of the **Lyapunov exponent** to the geometric phase ( $\varphi$ )



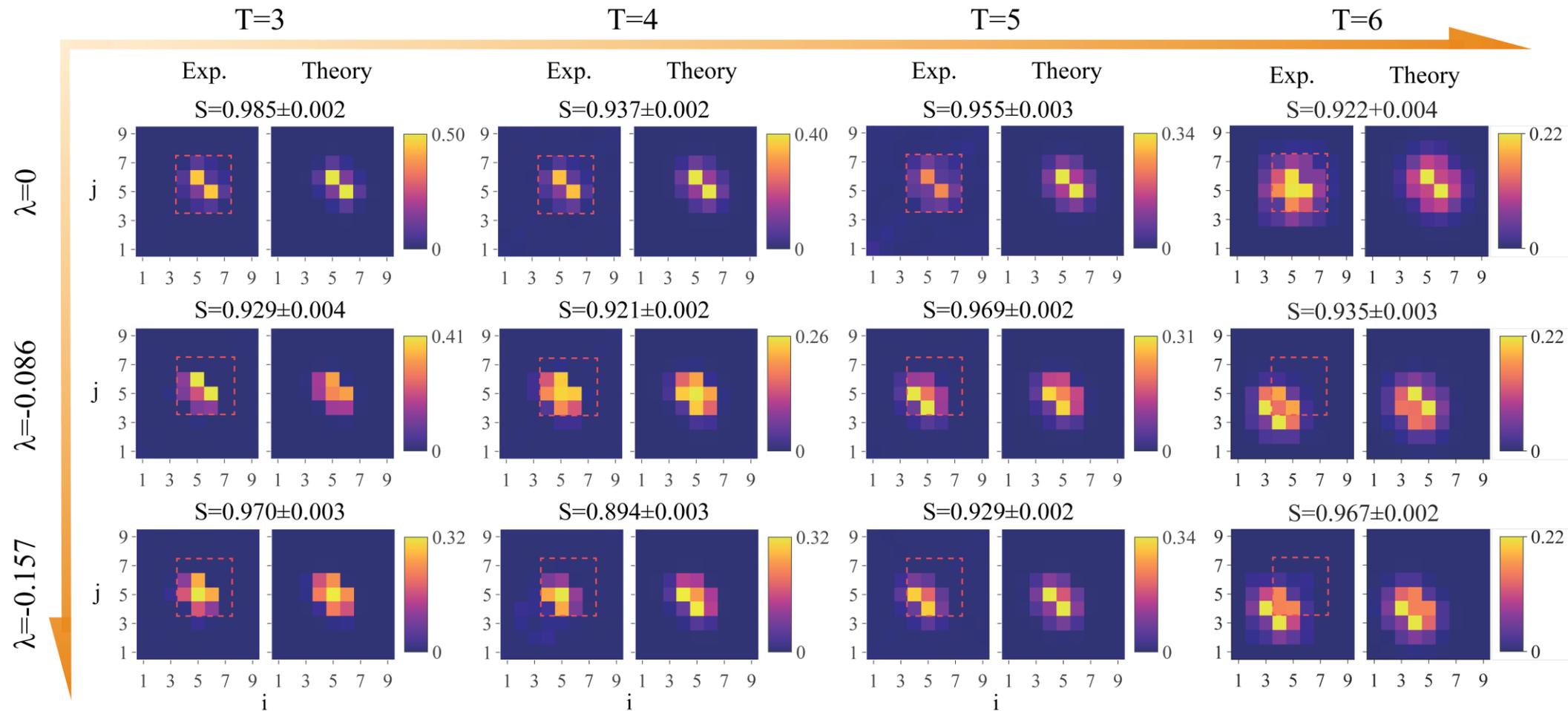
# QWs of single photons

## The unidirectional behavior vs. Lyapunov exponents and evolution periods



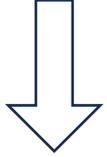
# QWs of two indistinguishable photons

The coincident distribution vs. Lyapunov exponents and evolution periods



# Lindblad master equation

$$\dot{\rho}_{tot} = -i [\hat{H}_{tot}, \rho_{tot}], \hat{H}_{tot} = \hat{H}_S + \hat{H}_E + \hat{V}$$



- Trace over the environment
- Born approximation

## Born-Markov master equation

$$\dot{\rho}(t) = -i Tr_E [V(t), \rho_{tot}(0)] - \int_0^t dt Tr_E [V(t), [V(t_1), \rho_{tot}(t_1)]]$$



- Rotating wave approximation
- Single mode approximation
- Ignore inter-coupling between auxiliary WGs

## Lindblad master equation

$$\dot{\rho} = -i [H', \rho] + \sum_i D[\sqrt{2}a_i]\rho(t), H' = -\Delta\omega \sum_i a_i^\dagger a_i$$

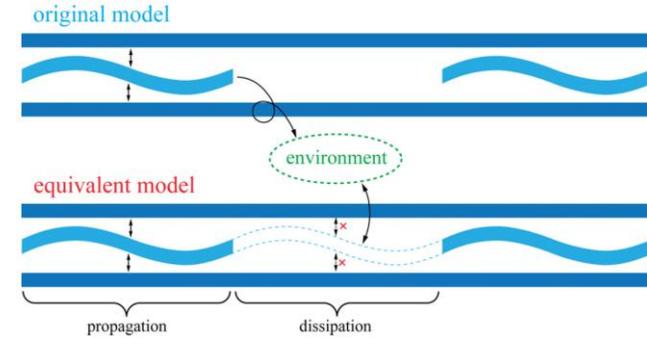
$$\rho = c_0|0\rangle\langle 0| + \sum_n c_{n,1}|1_n\rangle\langle 0| + \sum_j c_{j,2}|0\rangle\langle 1_j| + \sum_{n,j} c_{n,j,3}|1_n\rangle\langle 1_j| + \sum_{n,m} c_{n,m,4}|2_{n,m}\rangle\langle 0|$$

$$+ \sum_{j,l} c_{j,l,5}|0\rangle\langle 2_{j,l}| + \sum_{n,m,j} c_{n,m,j,6}|2_{n,m}\rangle\langle 1_j| + \sum_{n,j,l} c_{n,j,l,7}|1_n\rangle\langle 2_{j,l}| + \sum_{n,m,j,l} c_{n,m,j,l,8}|2_{n,m}\rangle\langle 2_{j,l}|.$$



## Second-order Rényi entropy

$$S_2 = -\log \text{Tr} \rho_A^2$$



$$H_S = \beta_0 \sum_i a_i^\dagger a_i$$

$$H_E = \sum_k \omega_k b_k^\dagger b_k \quad \text{assumption for the loss process in our system}$$

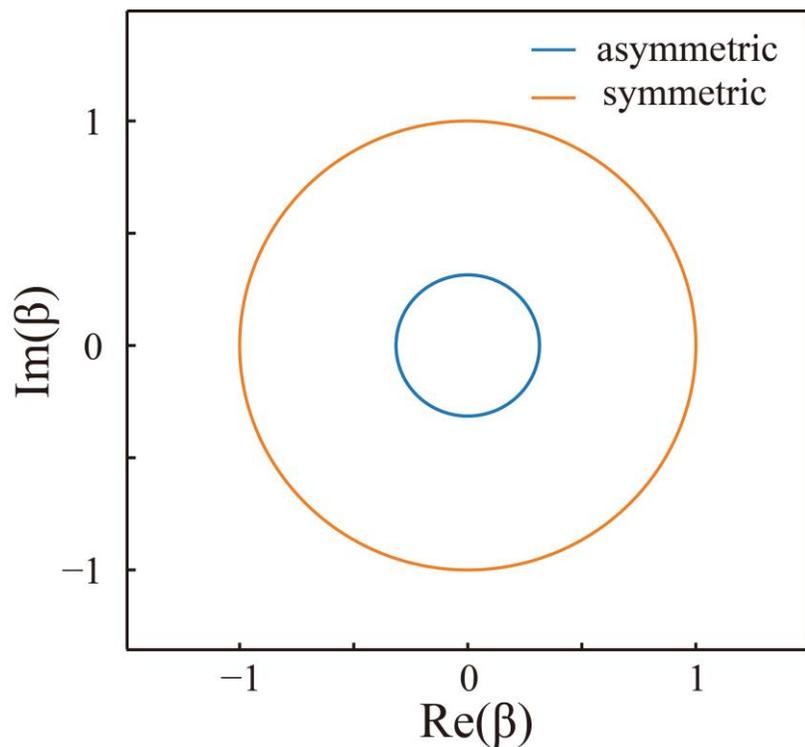
$$V = \sum_{k,i} (g_k b_k + g_k b_k^\dagger) (a_i + a_i^\dagger)$$

**Effective non-Hermitian Hamiltonian** under semi-classical limit

$$H'_{eff} = H' - i \sum_i a_i^\dagger a_i$$

# Entanglement entropy and skin effect

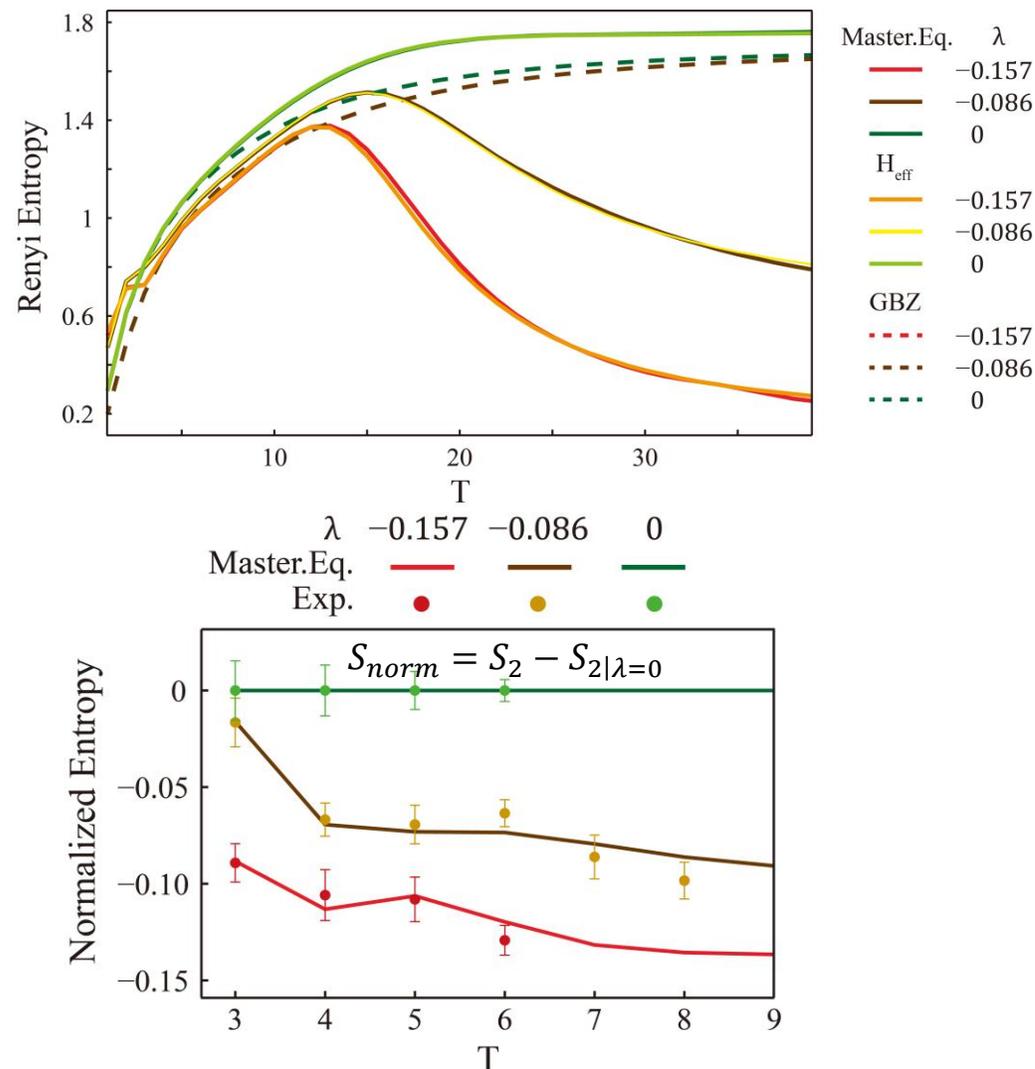
Generalized Brillouin zone



$$\bar{H} = SH_{\text{eff}}S^{-1}, \quad S = \text{diag}\{e^{-1g}, e^{-2g}, e^{-3g}, \dots, e^{-ng}\}$$

The GBZ circle as  $e^g = |\beta_{1(2)}|$

Rényi entropy suppressed by the skin effect



# Content

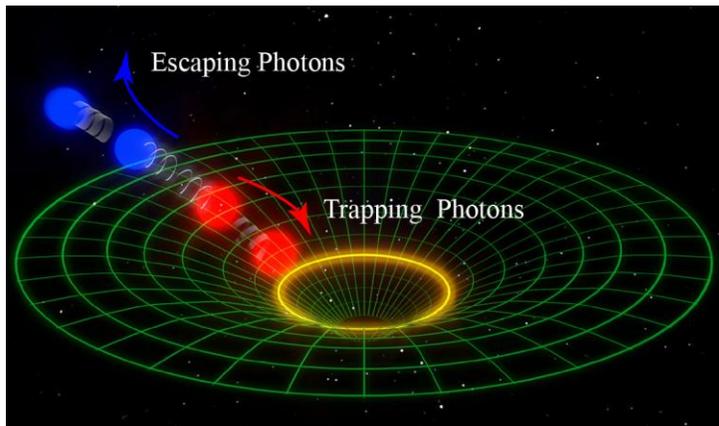
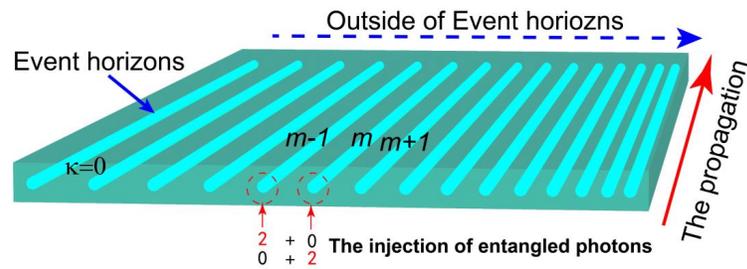
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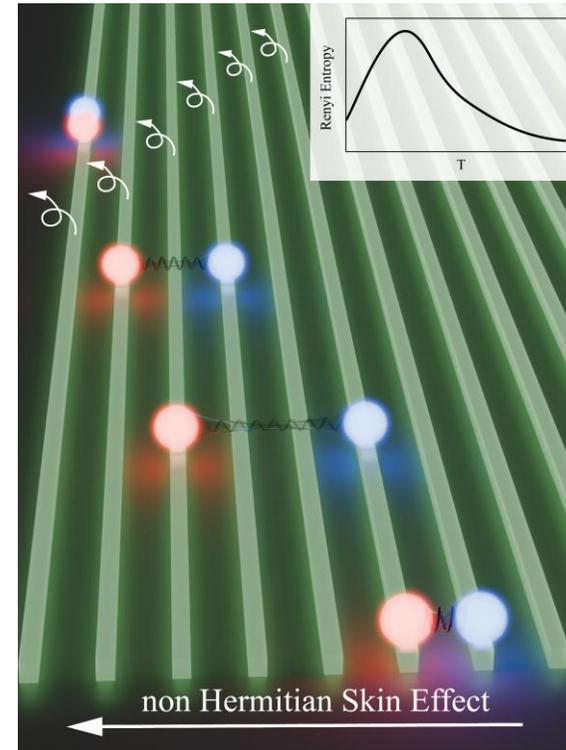
# Conclusion and Prospect

Photonic lattices are a promising platform for quantum simulation.

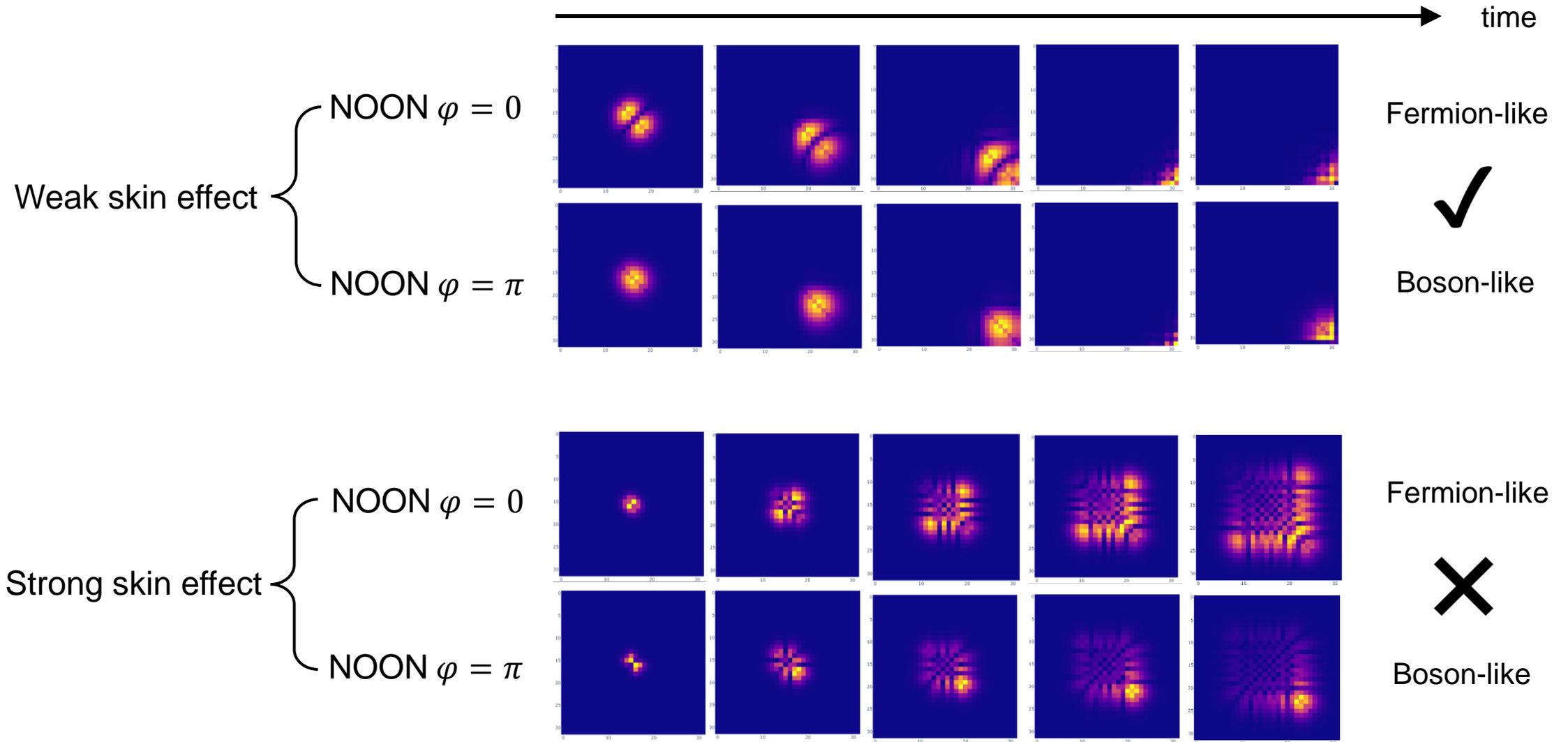
## Relativity



## Non-Hermitian physics



# Conclusion and Prospect



## Collaborators

Prof. Shining Zhu @ Nanjing University  
Prof. Hui Liu @ Nanjing University  
Prof. Yanxiao Gong @ Nanjing University  
Prof. Kun Ding @ Fudan University  
Prof. Liangliang Lu @ Nanjing Normal University  
Dr. Runqiu He @ Nanjing University  
Dr. Yule Zhao @ Nanjing University  
Dr. Mingyuan Gao @ Nanjing University

## Funds

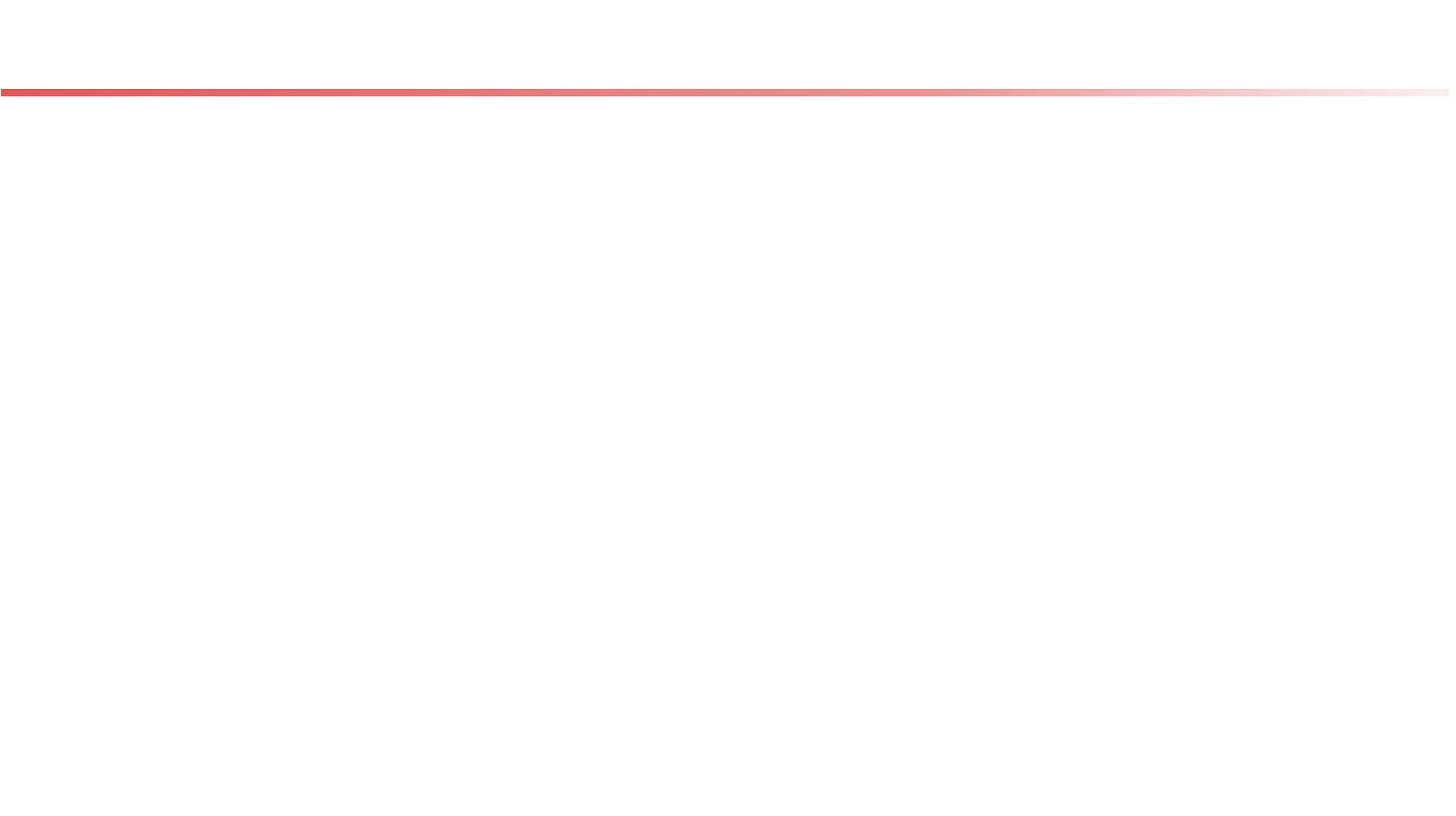
- National Key Research and Development Program of China (2023YFB2805700)
- National Natural Science Foundation of China (12174187, 92150302, 62288101)
- Natural Science Foundation of Jiangsu Province, China (BK20240164, BK20243009)

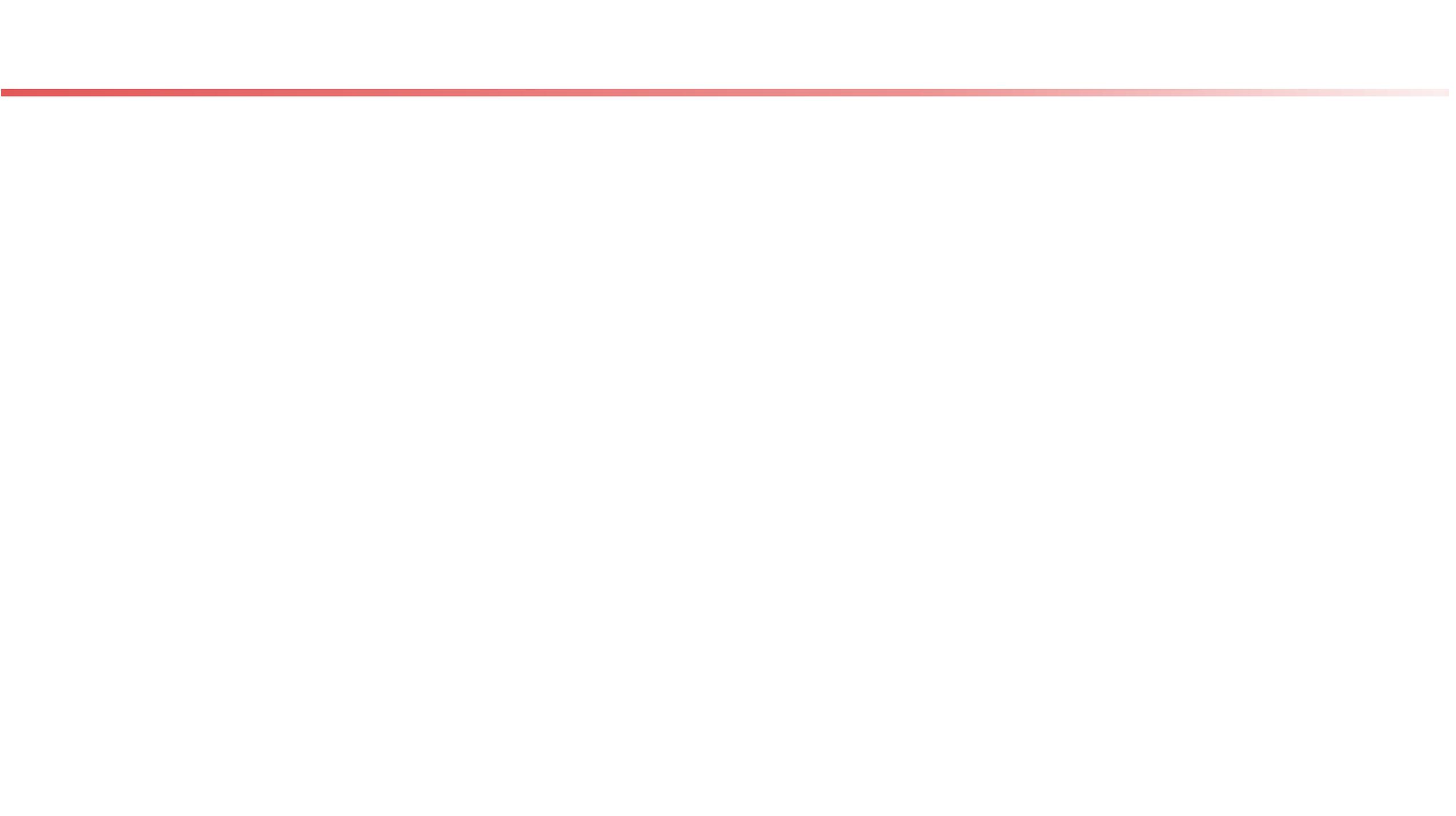


中华人民共和国科学技术部  
Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China

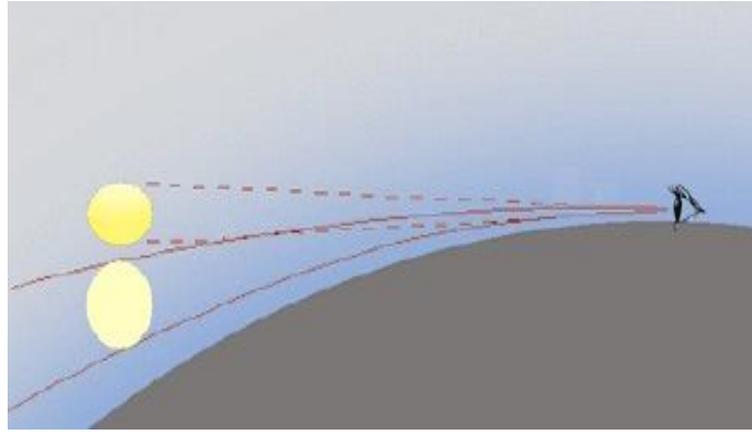


# Thanks! Welcome for discussion!



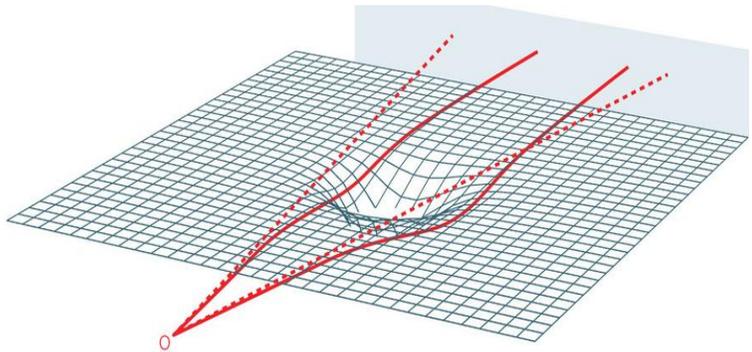


# Transformation Optics



## Maxwell Equations

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \times \vec{E} &= -\mu(\mathbf{r}) \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{H}}{\partial t} \\ \nabla \times \vec{H} &= \epsilon(\mathbf{r}) \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t}\end{aligned}$$



## Einstein Equations

$$R_{uv} - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{g}_{uv} R = -\frac{8\pi G}{c^4} T_{uv}$$

## Metamaterials

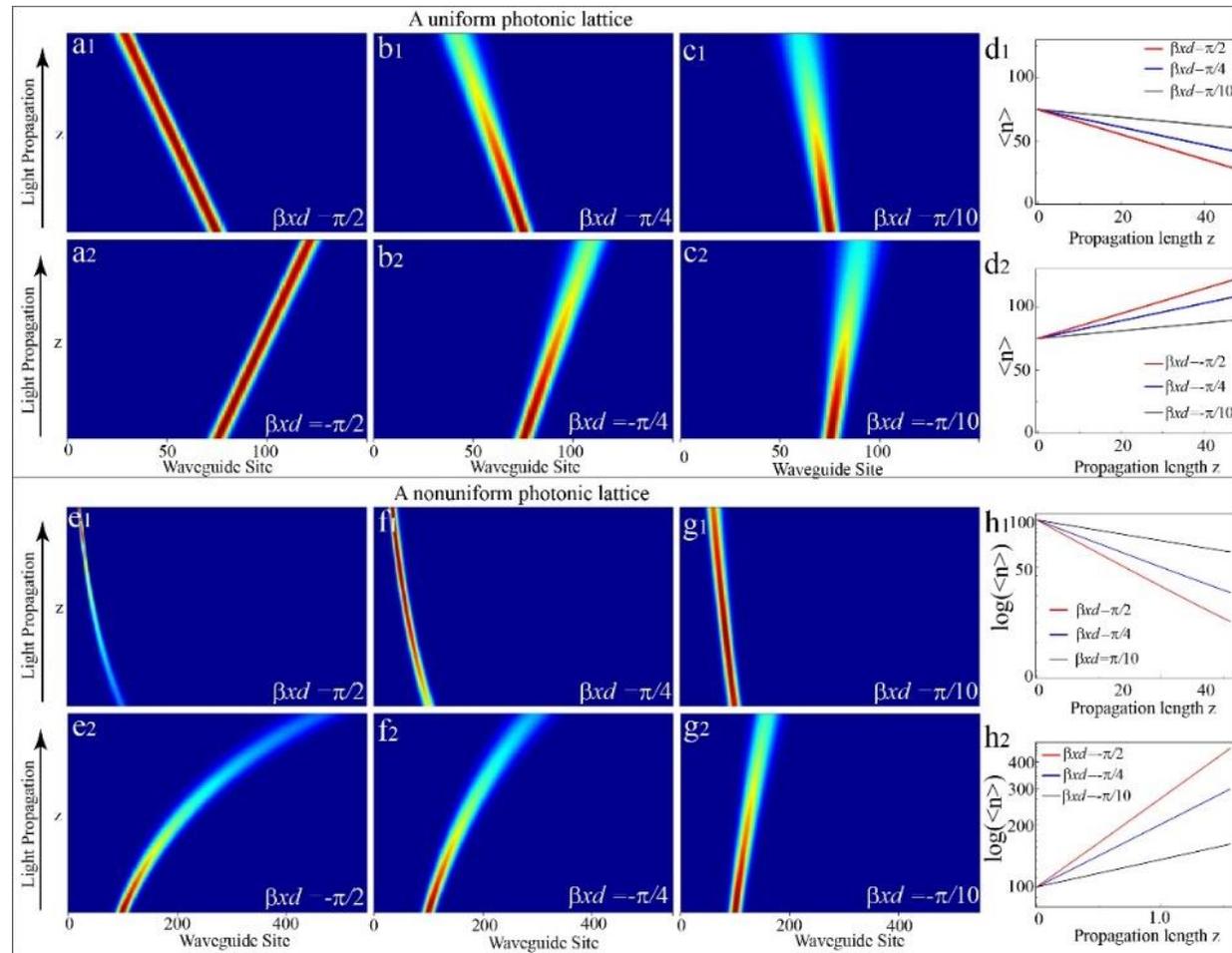


IEEE Trans. Microwave Theory Tech. 47, 2075 (1999)

## Transformation Optics

The relation of material parameters and metrics in curved space:

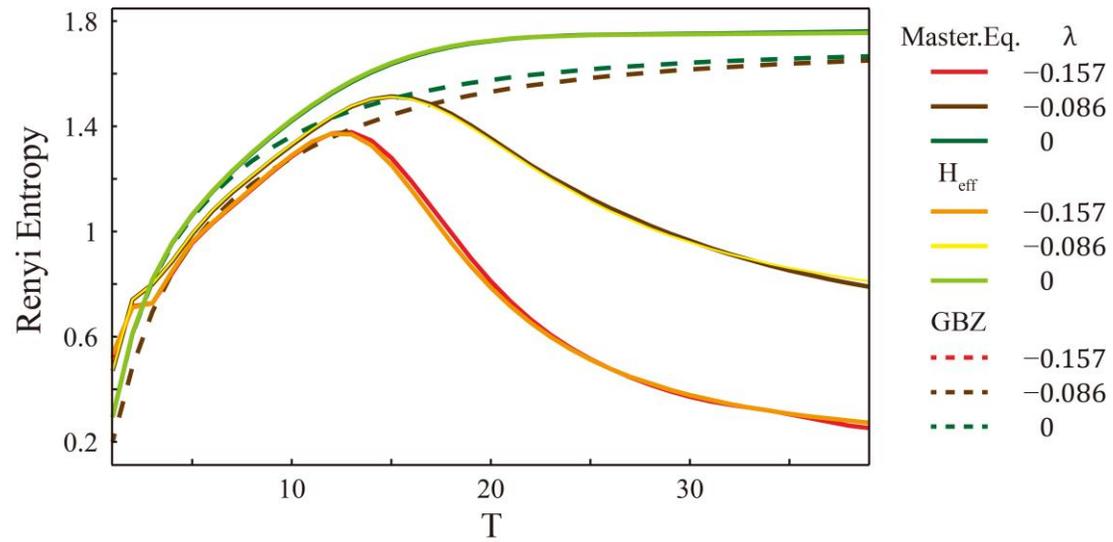
$$\epsilon_{ij} = \mu_{ij} = \mp \frac{\sqrt{-g}}{g_{00}} g^{ij}, w_i = \frac{g_{0i}}{g_{00}}$$



The dynamics of single-photon wave packet in photonic waveguide lattice can be described by a set of coupled discrete Schrodinger equations, which is derived from Schrodinger-type paraxial wave equation by employing the tight-binding mode:

$$i \partial \varphi_m / \partial z = \beta_0 \varphi_m - \kappa_m \varphi_{m-1} - \kappa_{m+1} \varphi_{m+1}$$

In experiments, the lattice system has total sites  $N = 9$ .



## ■ Coupling coefficients

