

# Small self-contained quantum fridges

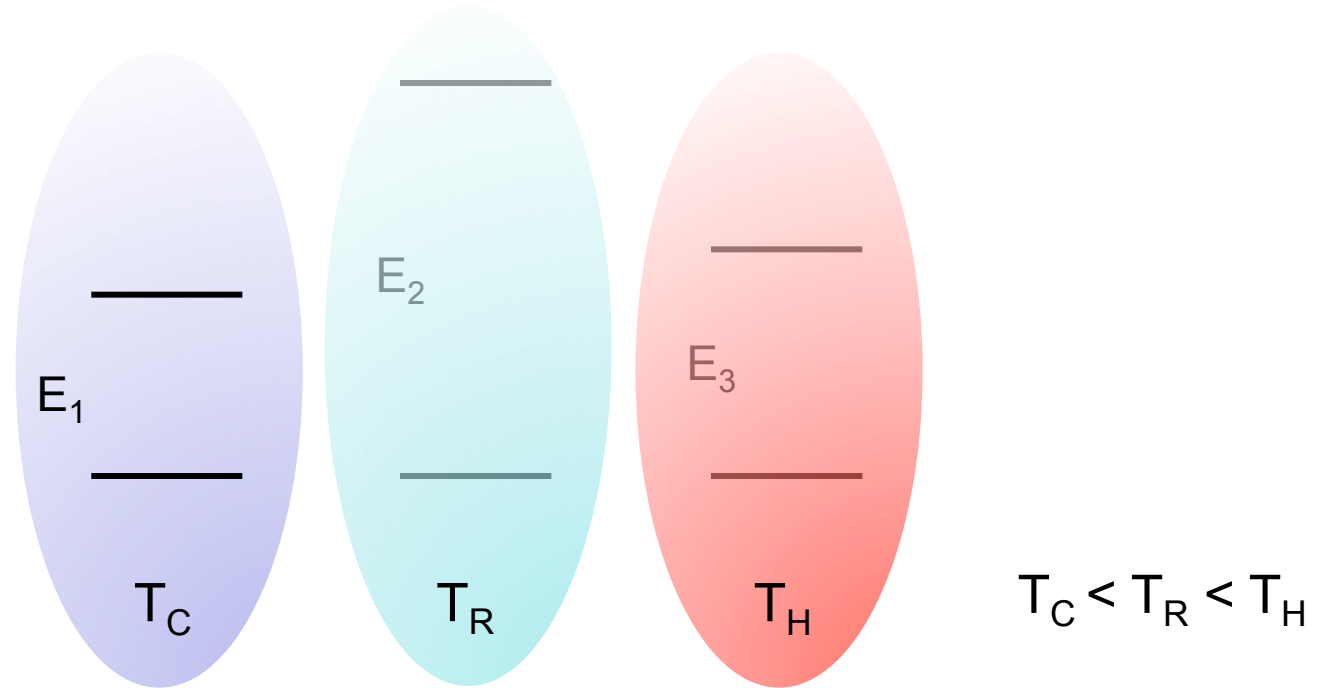
**Nicolas Brunner**



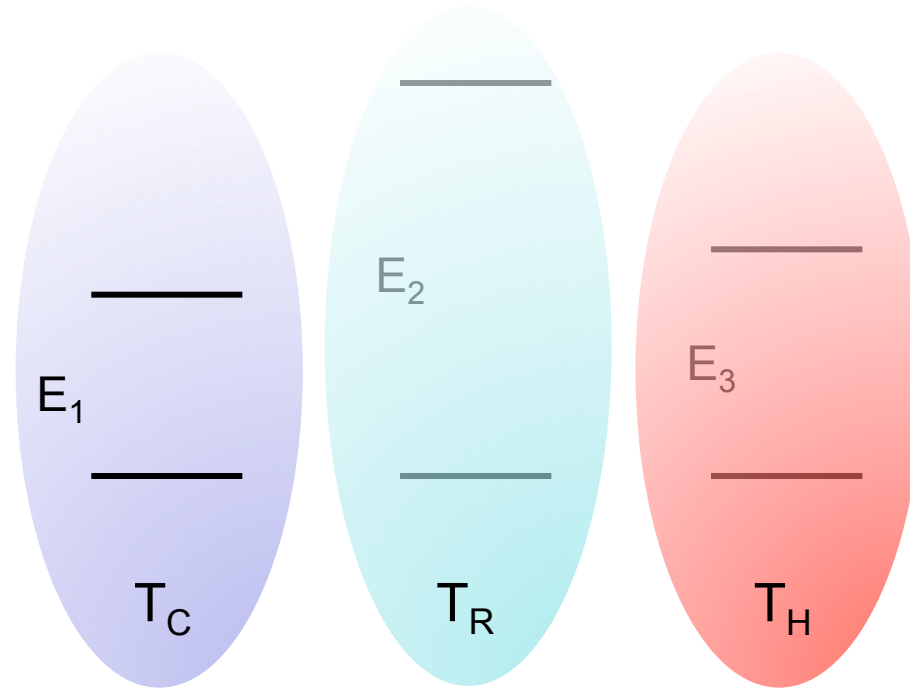
**UNIVERSITÉ  
DE GENÈVE**

Joint work with: Paul Skrzypczyk, Sandu Popescu,  
Noah Linden, Ralph Silva, Marcus Huber

# 3-qubit fridge

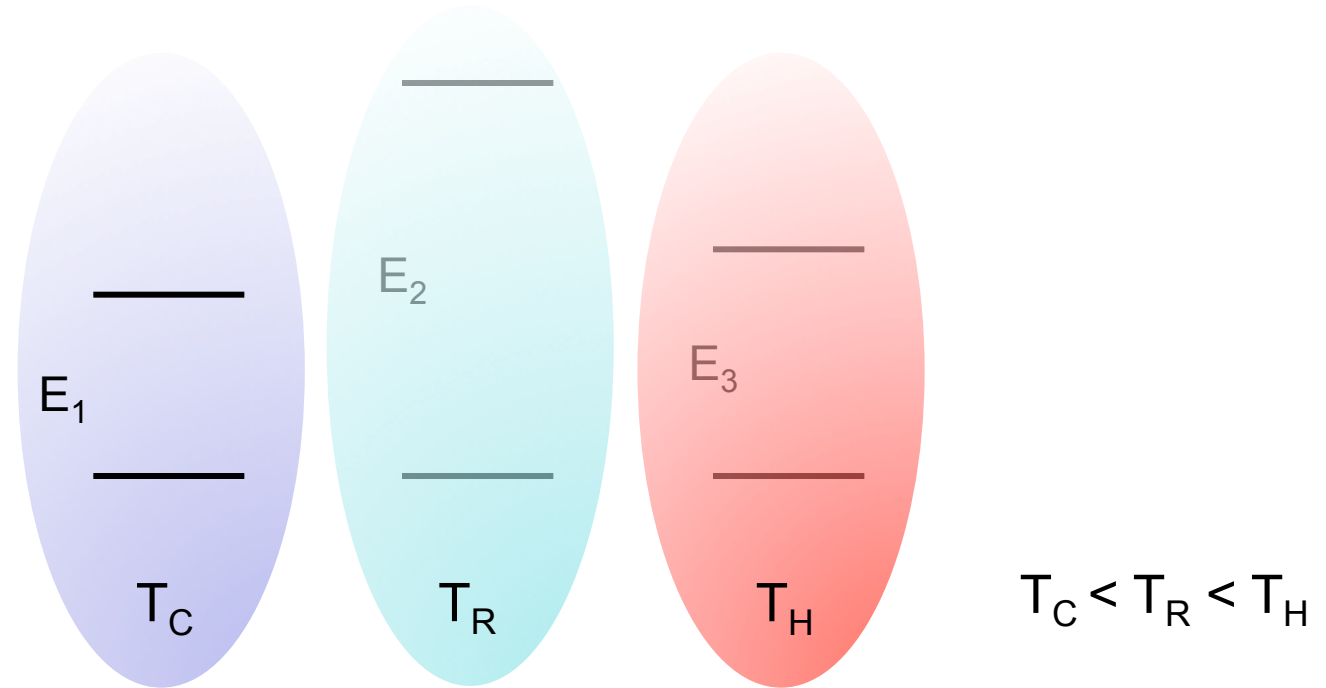


# 3-qubit fridge



**Design:**  $E_2 = E_1 + E_3$

# 3-qubit fridge



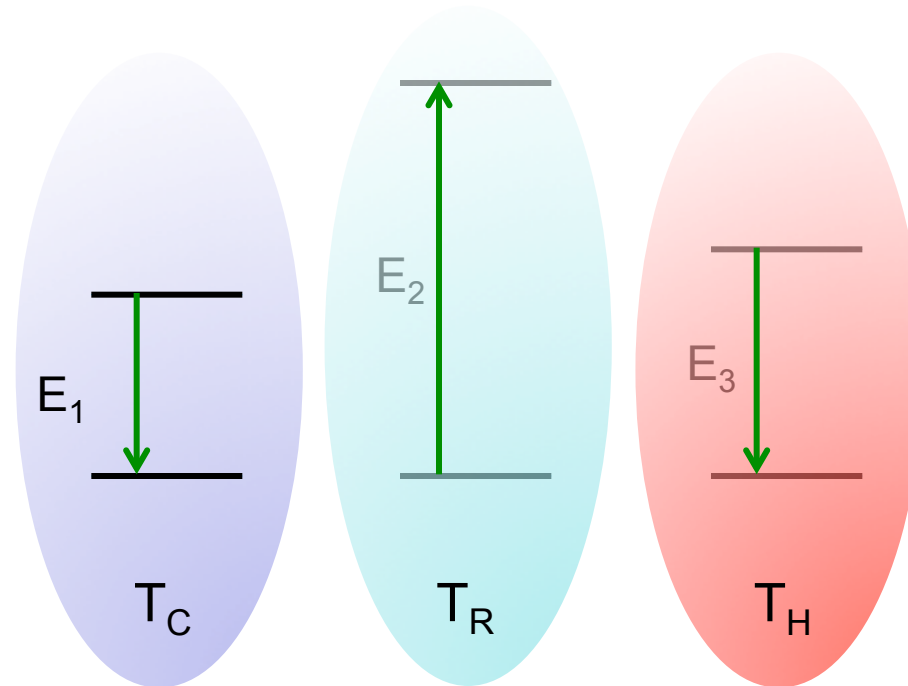
**Design:**  $E_2 = E_1 + E_3$

$|101\rangle$

$|010\rangle$



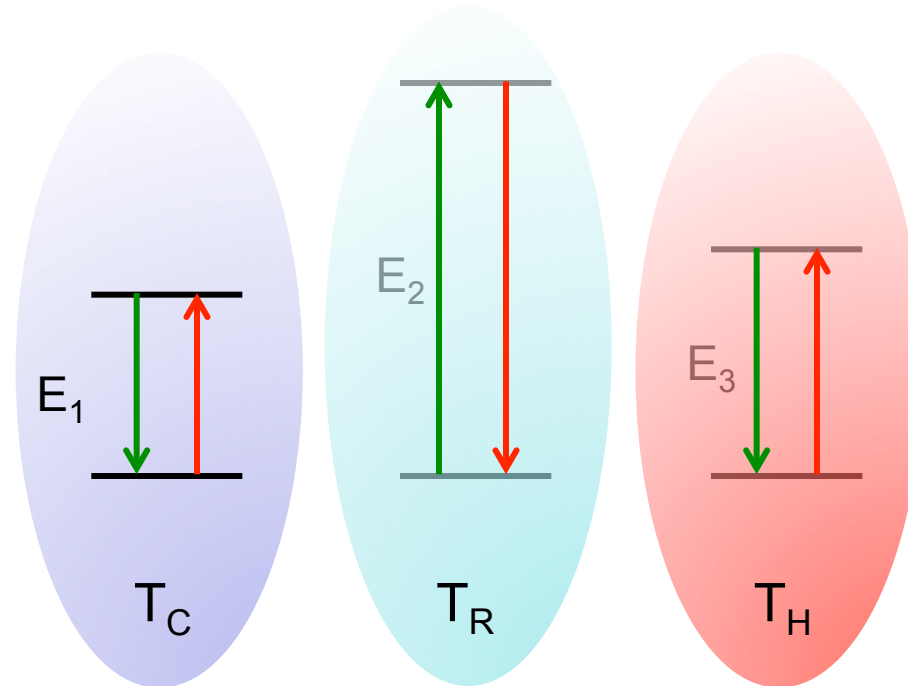
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**Design:**  $E_2 = E_1 + E_3$

**Interaction:**  $|101\rangle \longrightarrow |010\rangle$

# 3-qubit fridge

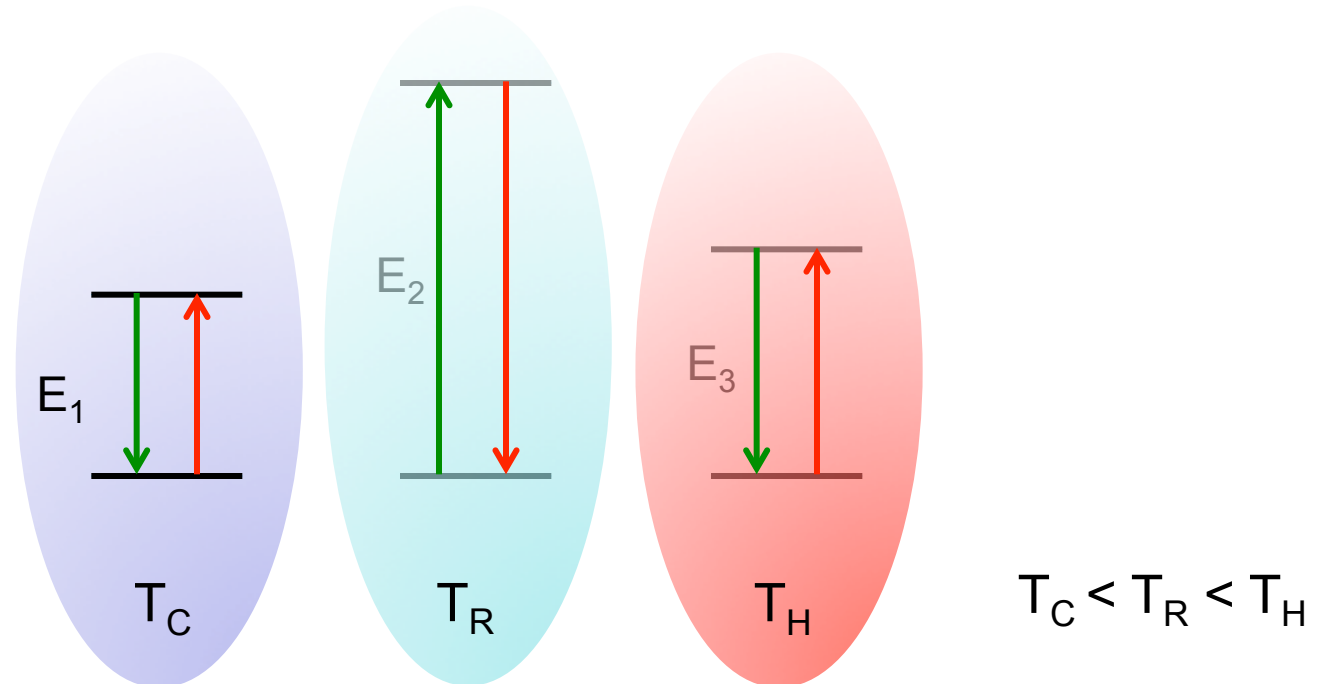


$$T_C < T_R < T_H$$

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# 3-qubit fridge



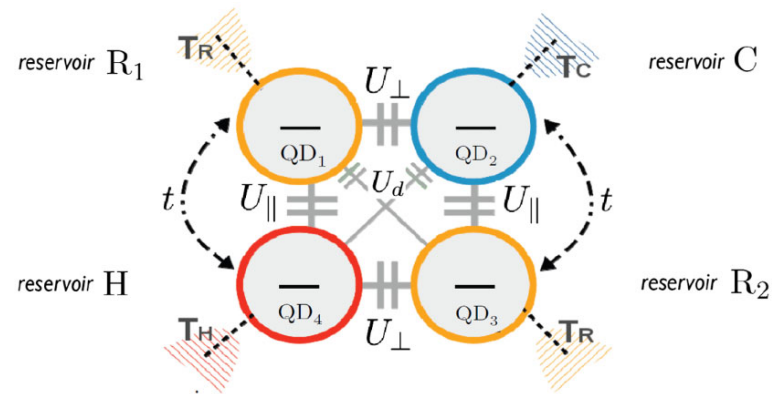
**Design:**  $E_2 = E_1 + E_3$

**Interaction:**  $|101\rangle \begin{matrix} \leftarrow \text{red} \\ \rightarrow \text{green} \end{matrix} |010\rangle$

Bias  $\rightarrow$  qubit 1 is cooled:  $T_1 < T_C$

# Proposals for implementation

## 1. Quadri-Dot Fridge



Venturelli, Fazio, Giovanetti, PRL 2013

## 2. Superconducting qubits

Chen, Li, EPL 2012

## 3. Optomechanics

Mari, Eisert, PRL 2012

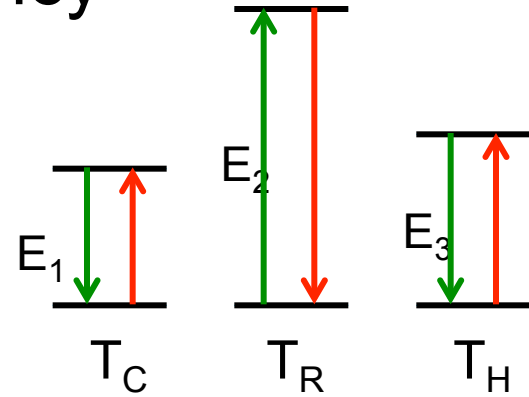
2-body interactions



Effective 3-body interaction

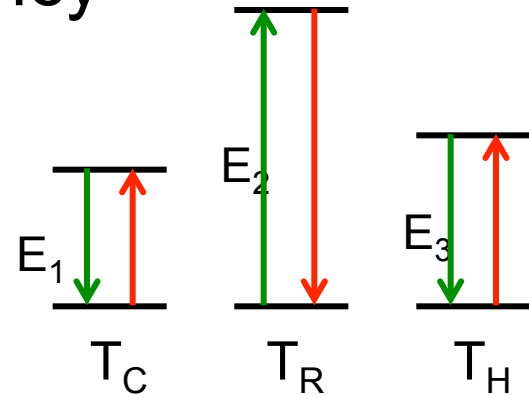
# Cooling & Efficiency

$|101\rangle \begin{matrix} \leftarrow \\ \rightarrow \end{matrix} |010\rangle$



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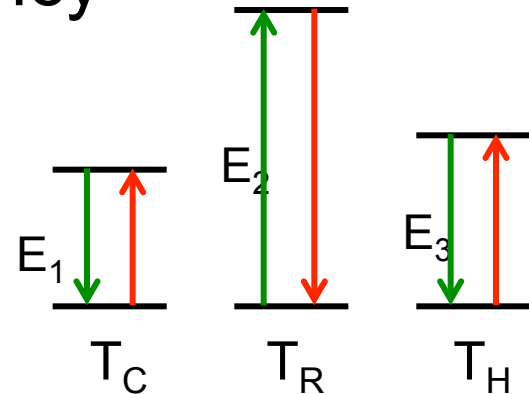


**Cooling:** when  $|101\rangle$  is more populated than  $|010\rangle$

$$e^{-E_1/T_C} e^{-E_3/T_H} > e^{-E_2/T_R} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \frac{E_1}{E_3} < \frac{1 - \frac{T_R}{T_H}}{\frac{T_R}{T_C} - 1}$$

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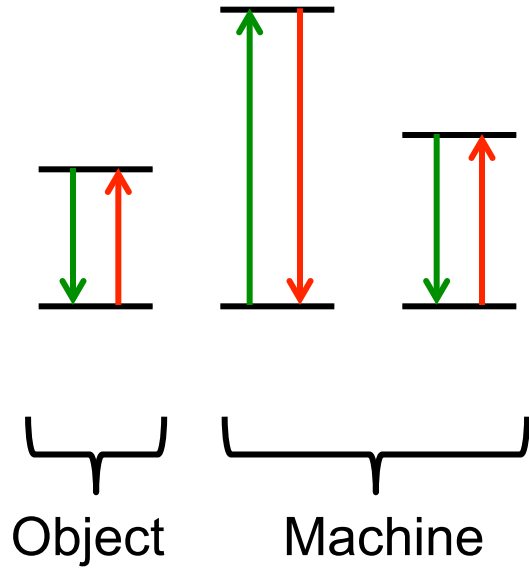
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**Efficiency**  $\rightarrow$  Carnot limit

$$\eta^Q = \frac{Q_C}{Q_H} = \frac{E_1}{E_3} < \frac{1 - \frac{T_R}{T_H}}{\frac{T_R}{T_C} - 1}$$

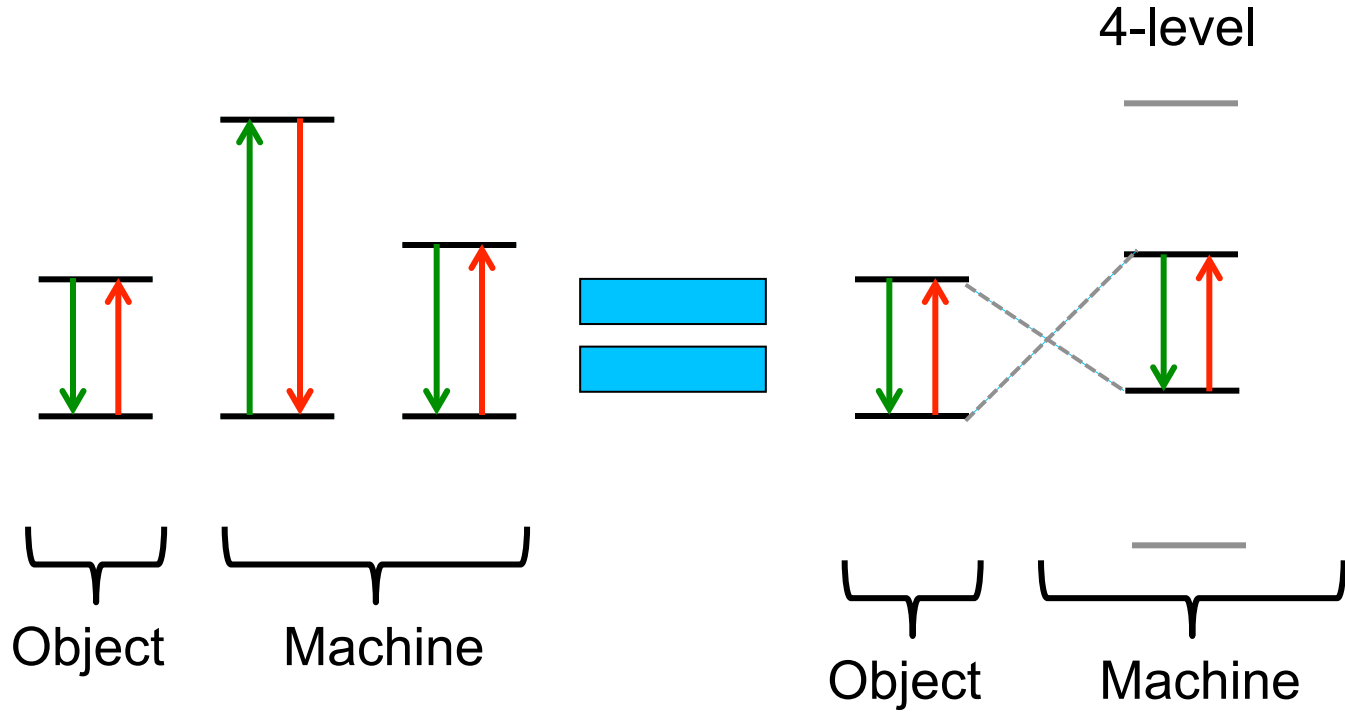
No trade-off between size and efficiency!

# What does the fridge actually do?

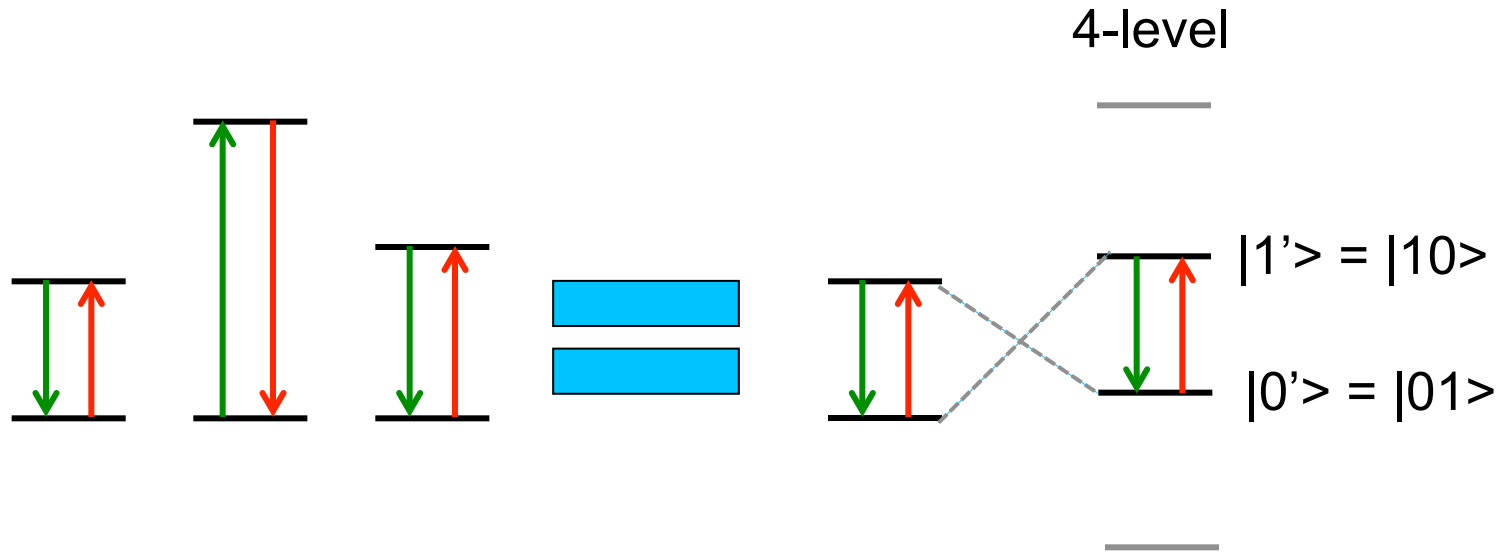




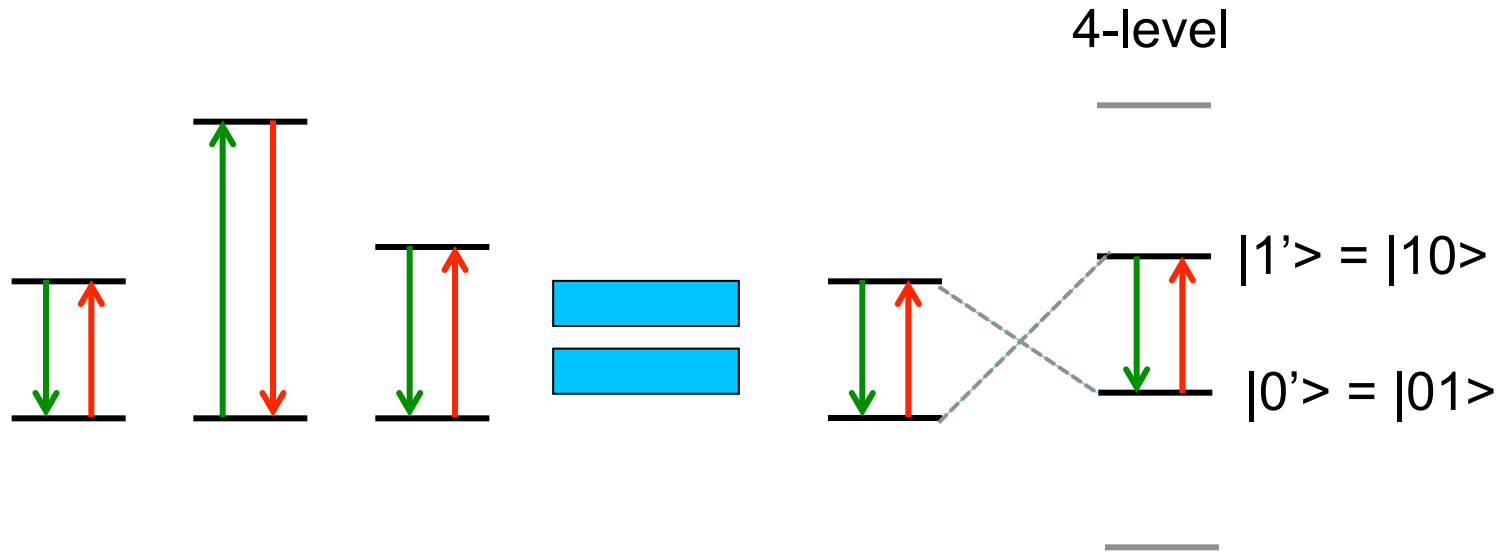
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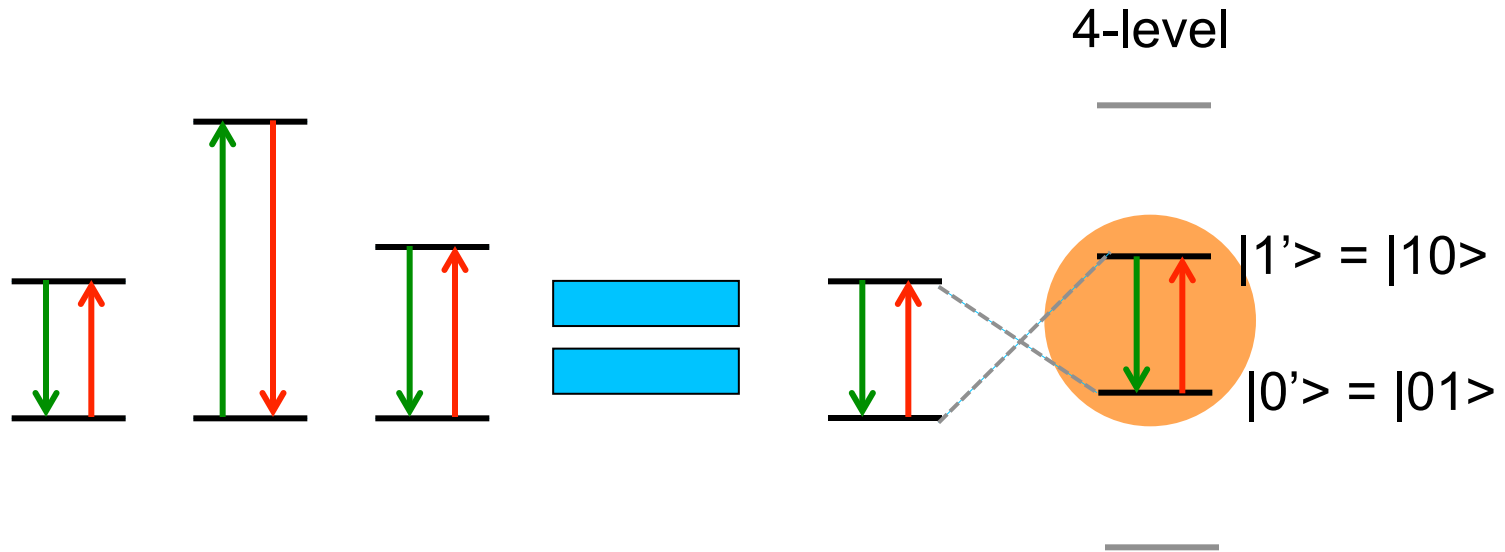
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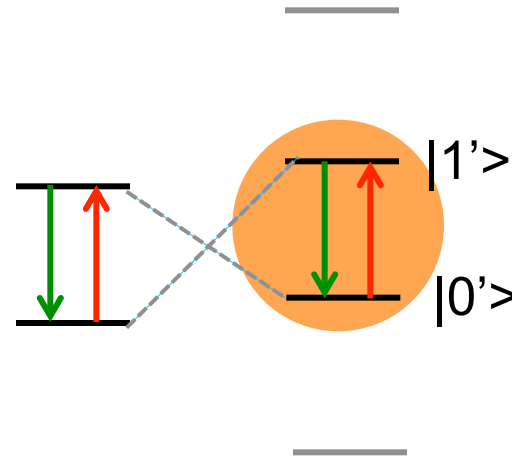


Machine places object in thermal contact with a **virtual qubit**

# Virtual temperature

Temperature of virtual qubit

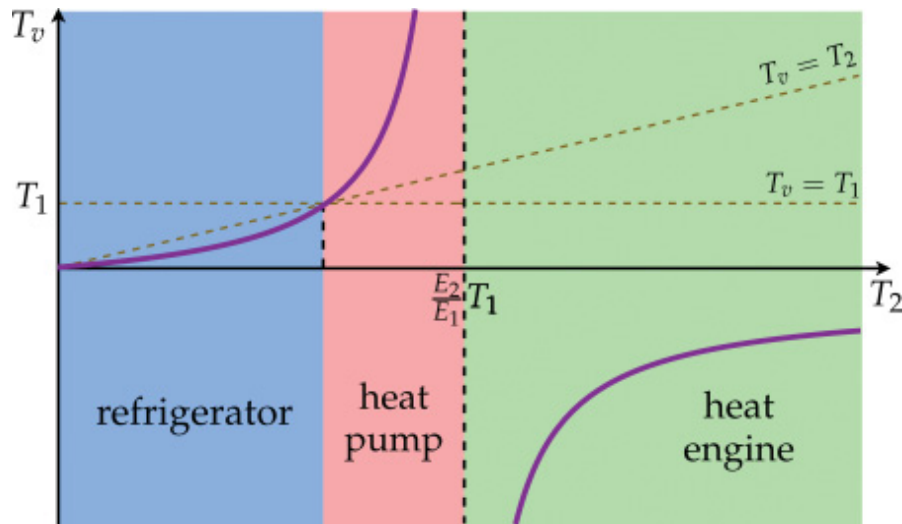
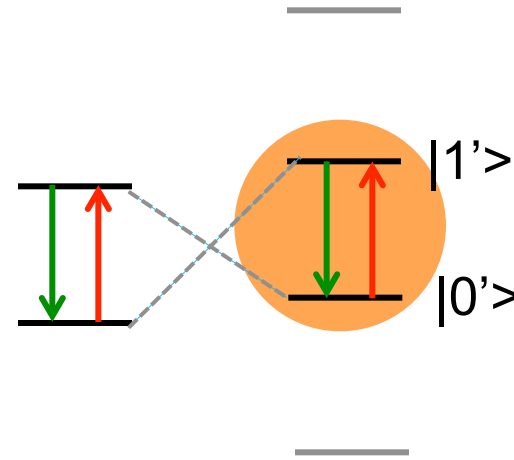
$$T_V = \frac{E_1}{\frac{E_2}{T_R} - \frac{E_3}{T_H}}$$



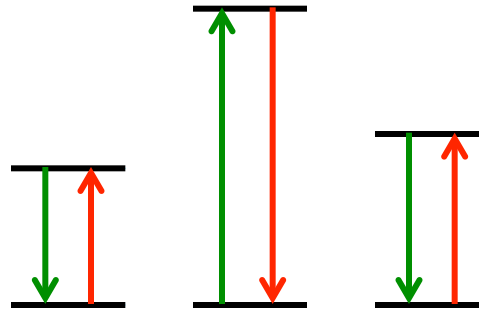
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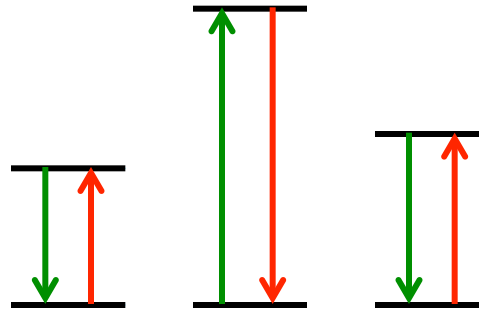
# Quantum effects?



Are there regimes in which the 3-qubits get entangled?

If yes, is this entanglement useful?

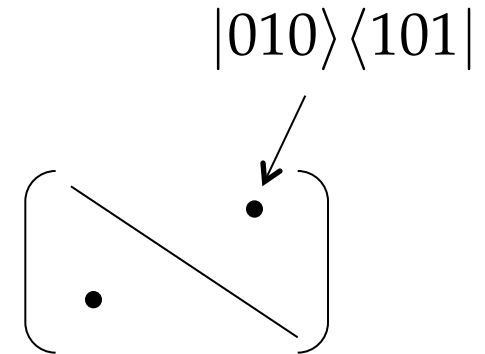
# Entanglement?



**Steady state**

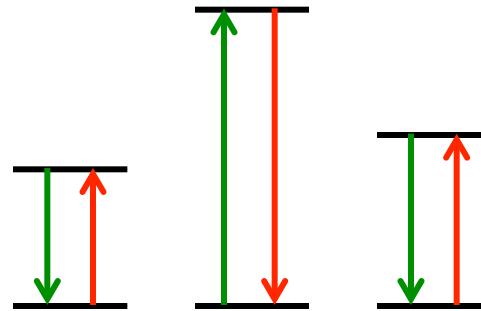
$$\rho_S = \tau_1 \tau_2 \tau_3 + \gamma \sigma =$$

bias population  $|010\rangle$  vs  $|101\rangle$





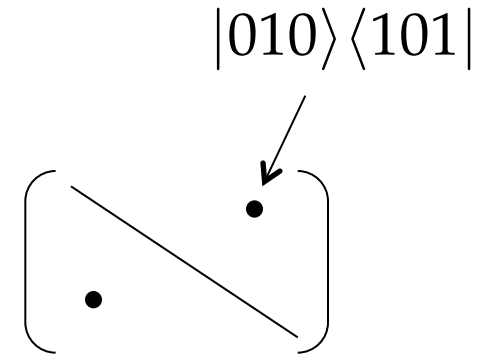
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**Carnot point**

$$\gamma = 0, \quad \longrightarrow \quad \rho_S = \tau_1 \tau_2 \tau_3 \quad \text{separable}$$

Entanglement is detrimental for efficiency

# Entanglement?

Moving away from Carnot point, entanglement can be found

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Tools: entanglement witnesses

Guhne, Seevinck NJP 2010, Huber et al. PRL 2010

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**Does this entanglement play any role?**

# Can entanglement enhance cooling?

Consider: (i) object (qubit 1) to be cooled (fix  $E$ ,  $T_C$ )

(ii) resources: hot bath  $T_H$  and cold bath  $T_R$

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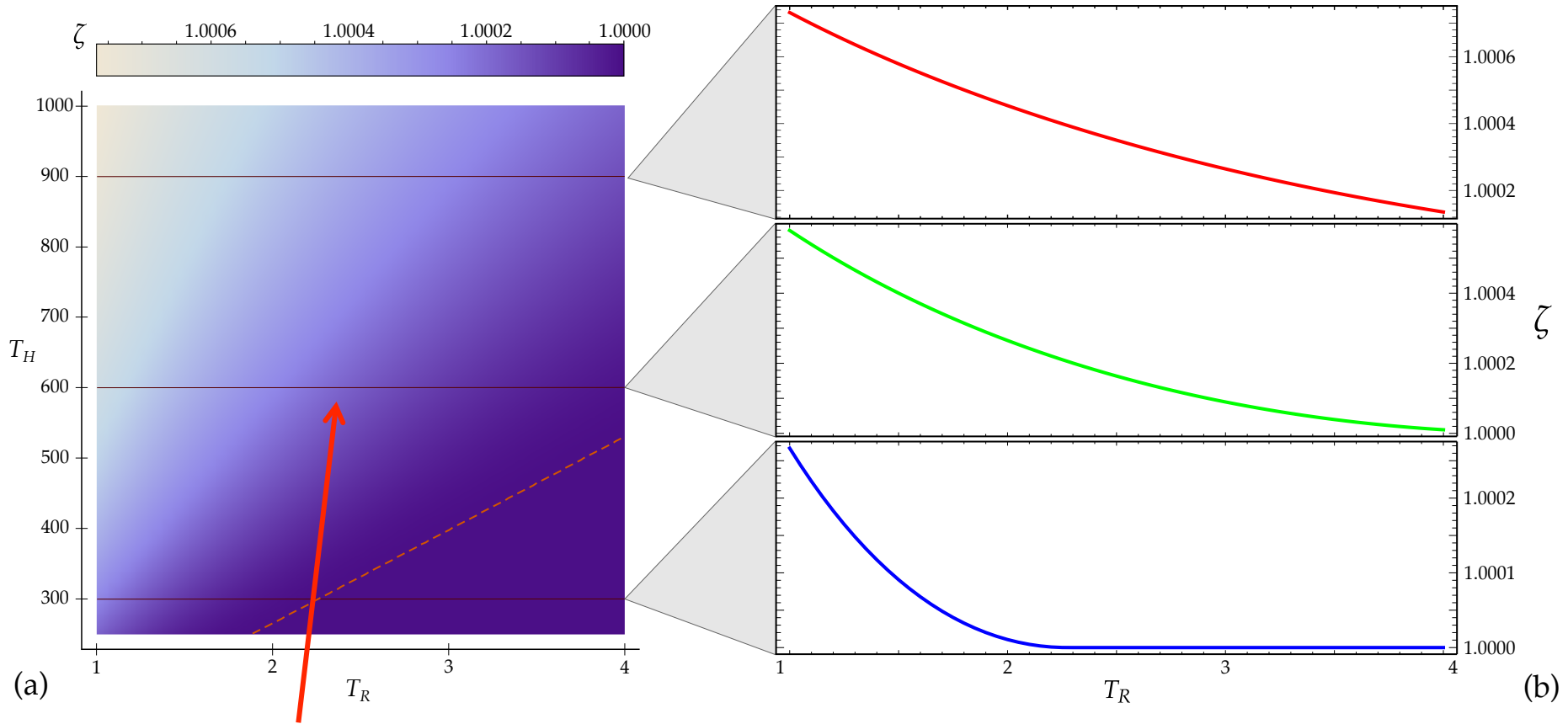
Case A: **entanglement** is allowed      Lowest temp =  $T_S$

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Relative cooling enhancement       $\zeta = \frac{T_C - T_S}{T_C - T_S^*}$

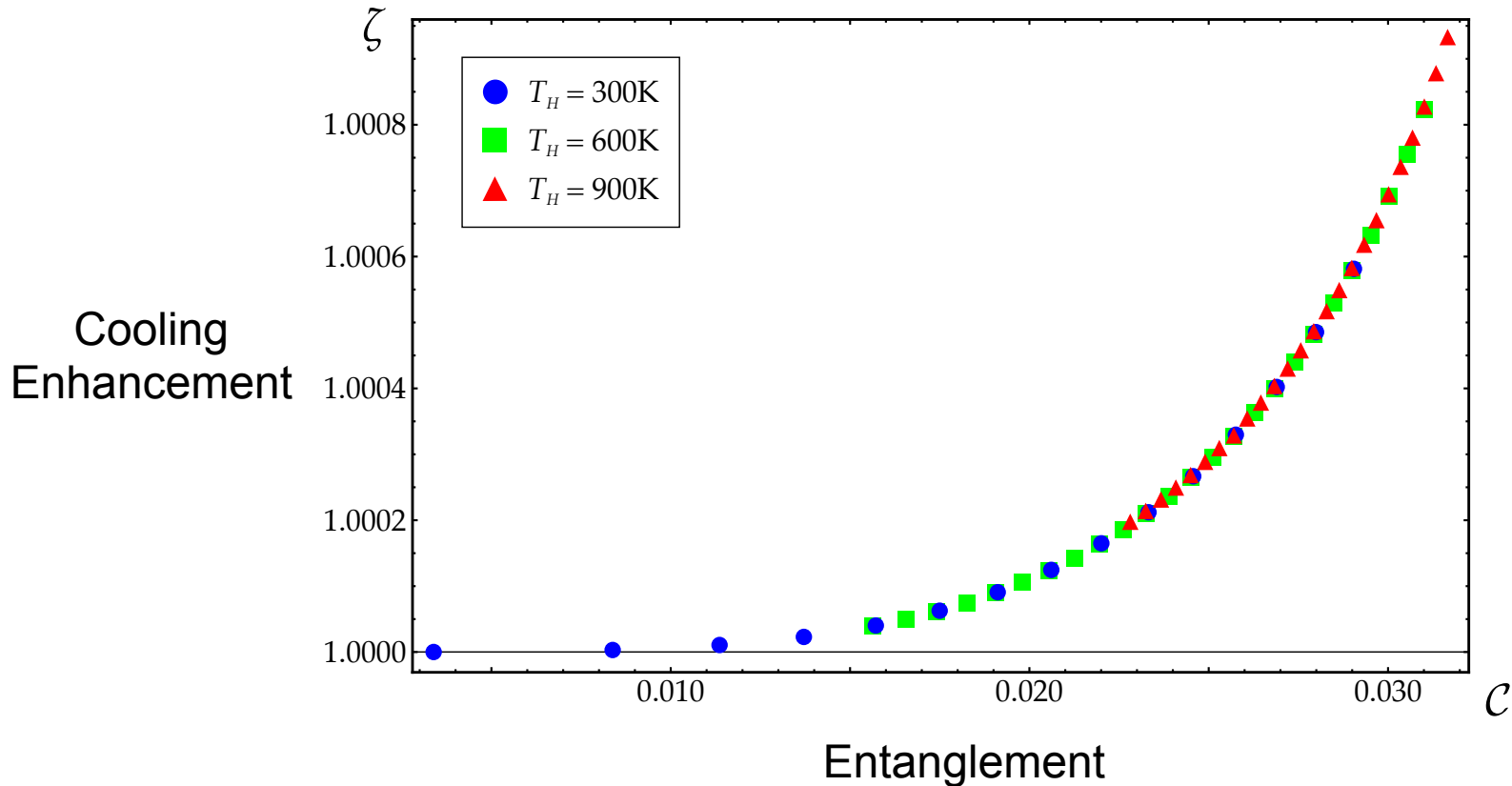
 If  $\zeta > 1$  entanglement helps!

# Entanglement helps



Enhancement

# Functional relationship?



Amount of entanglement determines cooling enhancement

# Remarks

1. Which qubits get entangled?

Energy IN / Energy OUT  
Entanglement enhances transport

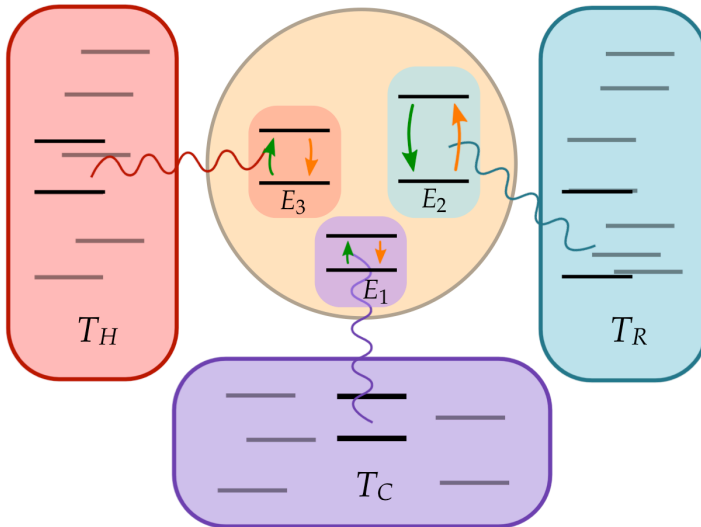
2. Steady state entanglement in open quantum system

# Open questions

- Beyond weak coupling regime
- Other models
- Macroscopic fridges
- Heat engines
- Other quantum effects. Bath?



# THE MODEL



## FREE HAMILTONIAN

$$H_0 = E_1\Pi_1 + E_2\Pi_2 + E_3\Pi_3$$

WITH  $E_2 = E_1 + E_3$

## INTERACTION

$$H_{int} = g (|010\rangle\langle 101| + |101\rangle\langle 010|)$$

## THERMALISATION

$p_i \rightarrow$  RESET QUBIT TO THERMAL STATE  $\tau_i$

$$\tau_i = r_i|0\rangle_i\langle 0| + (1 - r_i)|1\rangle_i\langle 1| \quad r_i = 1/(1 + e^{-E_i/T_i})$$

**WEAK COUPLING REGIME**  $p_i \approx g \ll E_i$