

# REVISING A CLASSICAL GAME THEORY PARADOX WITH QUANTUM WALKS

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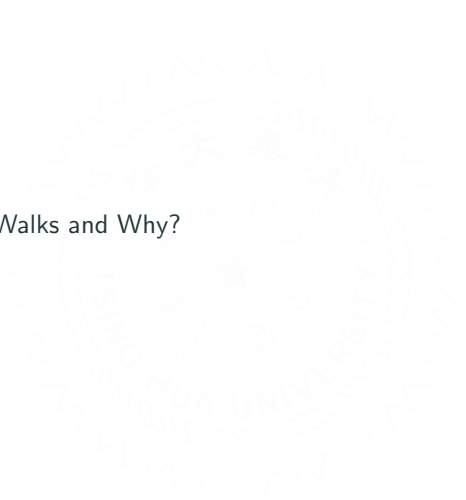
VIKASH MITTAL

NATIONAL TSING HUA UNIVERSITY, HSINCHU, TAIWAN

2025.01.22



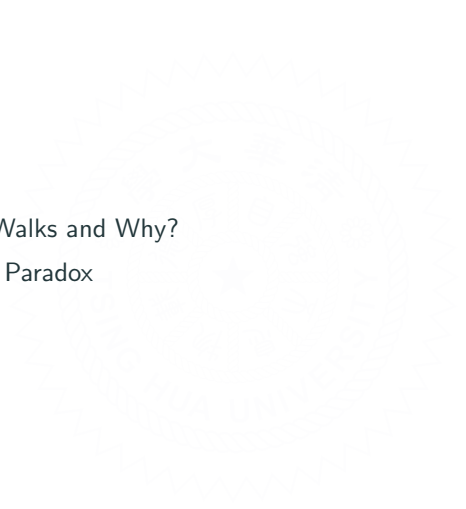
- Quantum Walks and Why?



# Overview

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- Quantum Walks and Why?
- Parrondo's Paradox





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- Quantum Walks and Why?
- Parrondo's Paradox
- Quantum Walk and Parrondo's Paradox

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- Quantum Walk and Parrondo's Paradox
- Conclusion and Outlook

## Parrondo's paradox in quantum walks with inhomogeneous coins

Vikash Mittal <sup>1,\*</sup> and Yi-Ping Huang <sup>1,2,3,†</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>*Physics Division, National Center for Theoretical Sciences, Taipei 10617, Taiwan*

<sup>3</sup>*Institute of Physics, Academia Sinica, Taipei 115, Taiwan*

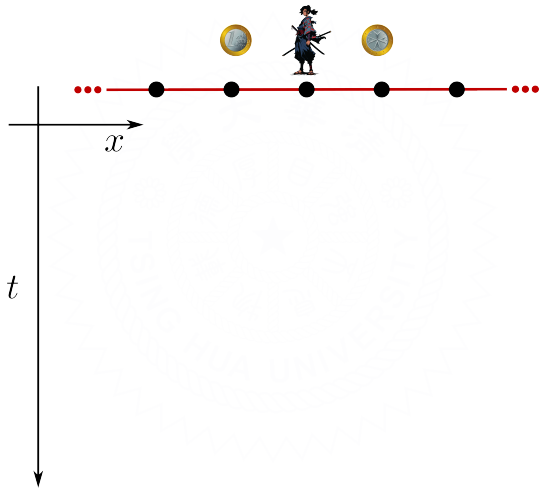


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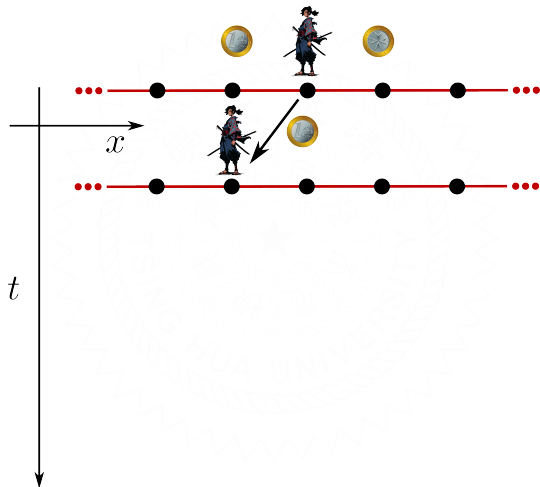
Parrondo's paradox, a counterintuitive phenomenon in which two losing strategies combine to produce a winning outcome, has been a subject of interest across various scientific fields, including quantum mechanics. In this study, we investigate the manifestation of Parrondo's paradox in discrete-time quantum walks. We demonstrate the existence of Parrondo's paradox using site- and time-dependent coins without the need for a higher-dimensional coin or adding decoherence to the system. Our results enhance the feasibility of practical implementations and provide deeper insights into the underlying quantum dynamics, specifically the propagation constrained by the interference pattern of quantum walks. The implications of our results suggest the potential for more accessible and efficient designs in quantum transport, broadening the scope and application of Parrondo's paradox beyond conventional frameworks.

DOI: [10.1103/PhysRevA.110.052440](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevA.110.052440)

# Classical Random Walk

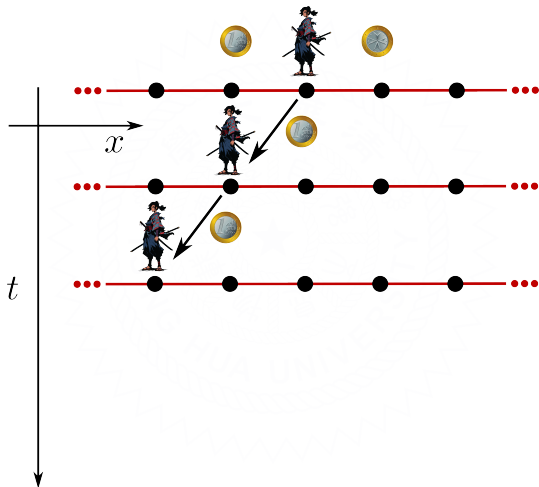


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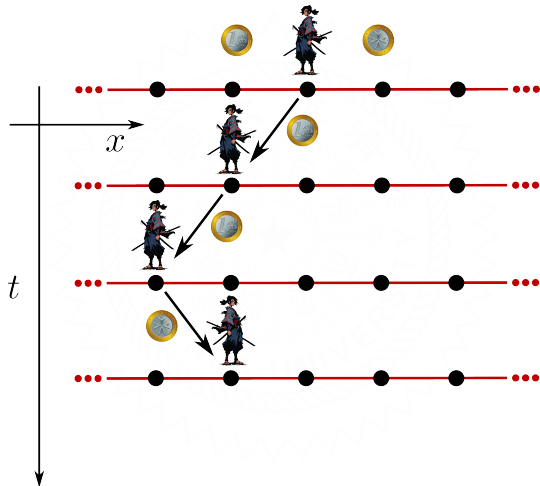




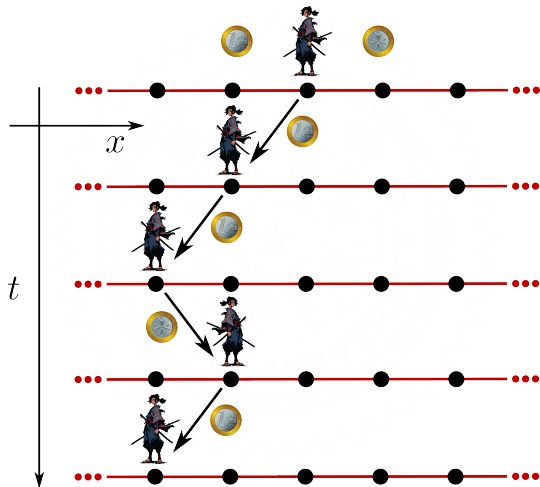
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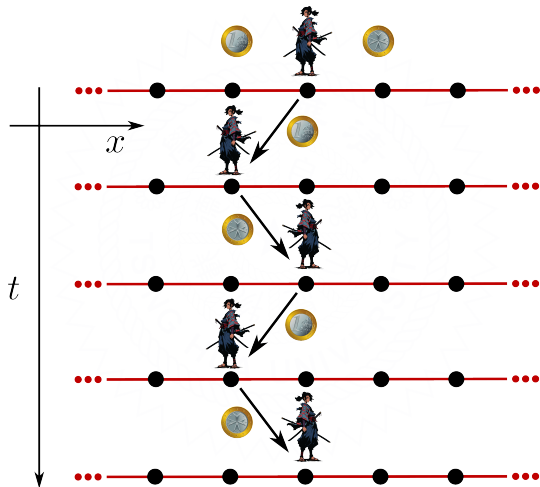
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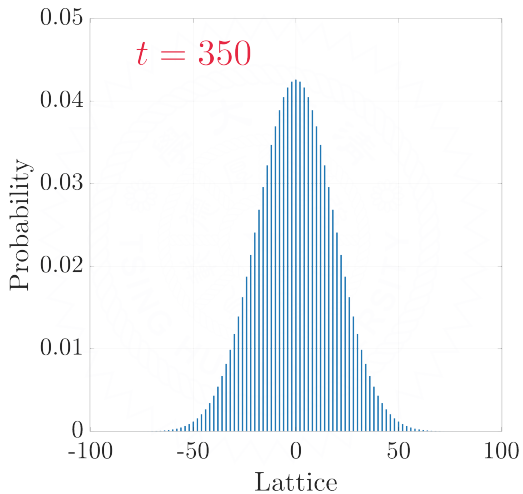
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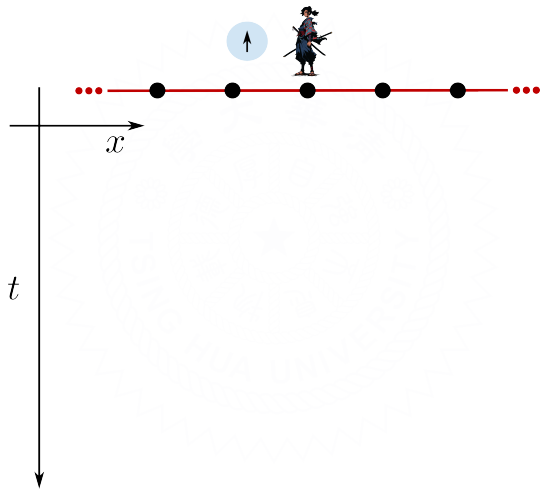
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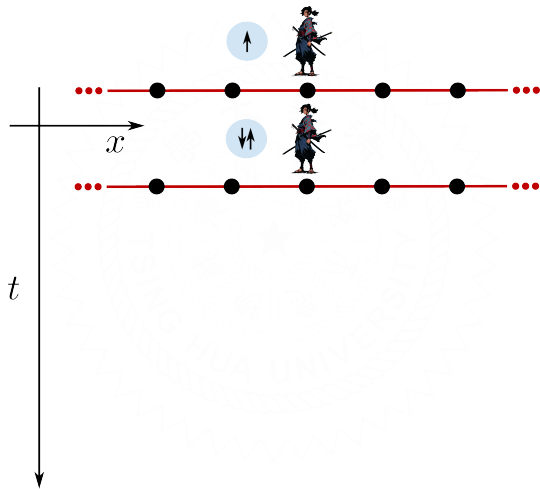
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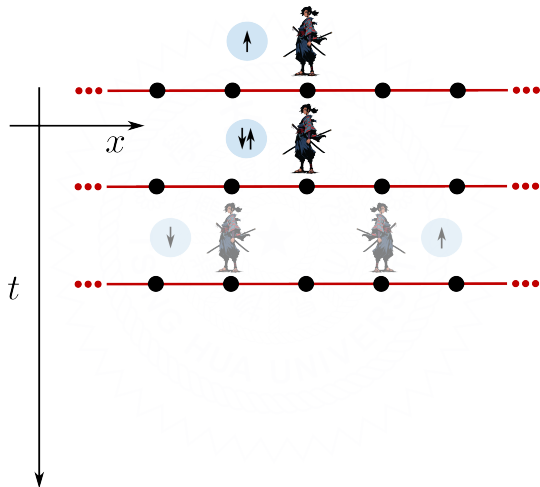
# Quantum Random Walk



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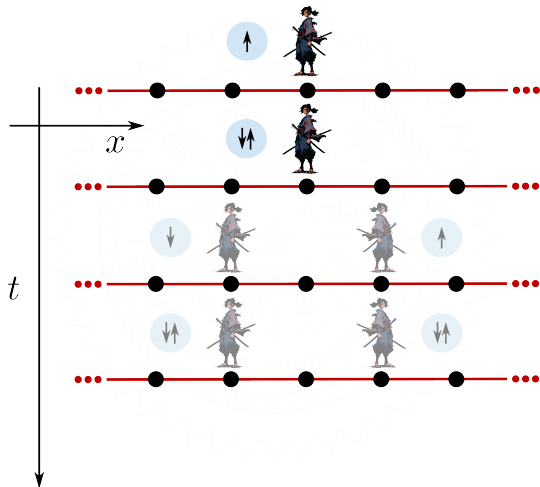


# Quantum Random Walk

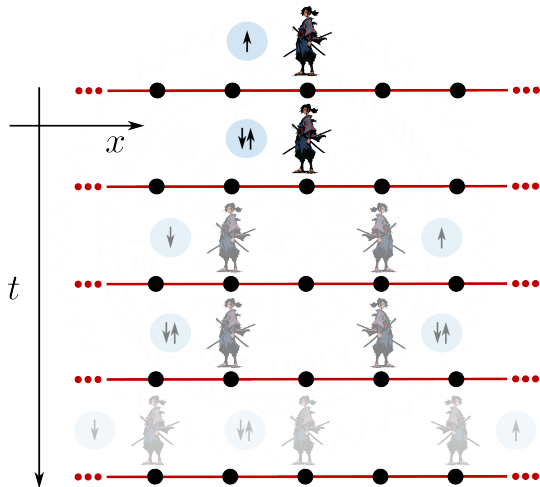




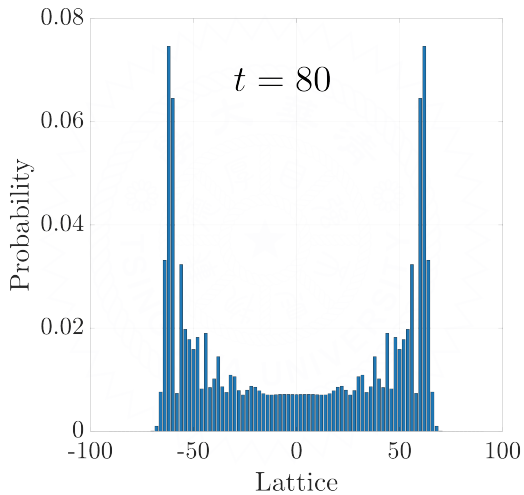
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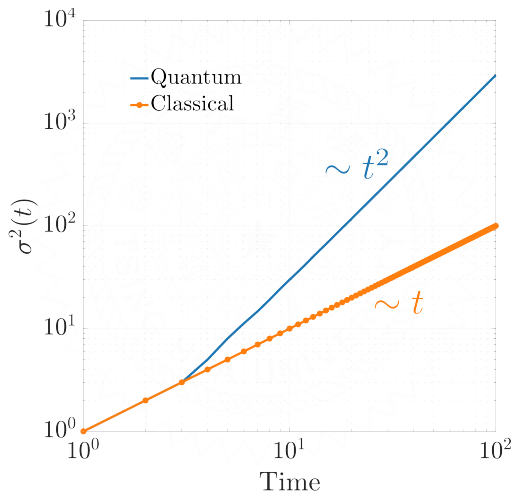
# Quantum Random Walk



# Quantum Random Walk



# Quantum Random Walk



$$T = \sum_x |\uparrow\rangle\langle\uparrow| \otimes |x+1\rangle\langle x| + |\downarrow\rangle\langle\downarrow| \otimes |x-1\rangle\langle x|,$$

$$R(\theta) = e^{-i\theta(\hat{x}, \hat{t})\sigma_y/2} \otimes \mathbf{1}_N,$$

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such that

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$$|\psi(t)\rangle = (U(\theta))^t |\psi(0)\rangle = \sum_j \psi_{\uparrow,x}(t) |\uparrow\rangle \otimes |x\rangle + \psi_{\downarrow,x}(t) |\downarrow\rangle \otimes |x\rangle,$$

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$$P(x, t) = |\langle\uparrow| \otimes \langle x|\psi(t)\rangle|^2 + |\langle\downarrow| \otimes \langle x|\psi(t)\rangle|^2 = |\psi_{\uparrow,x}(t)|^2 + |\psi_{\downarrow,x}(t)|^2.$$



- quantum algorithms (Ambainis, Childs, 2003),



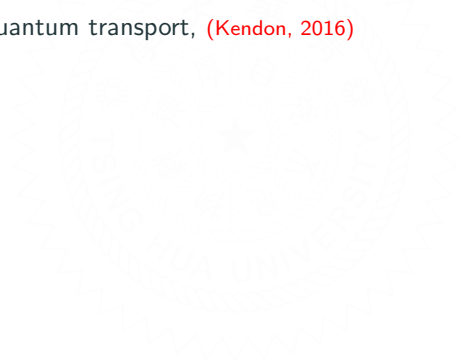
- quantum algorithms (Ambainis, Childs, 2003),
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- generation of hybrid-entangled states (Mittal *et al*, 2023),
- generation of robust entanglement (Work in Progress)

# Parrondo's Paradox

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Game A



# Parrondo's Paradox

Game A

Coin 1



# Parrondo's Paradox

Game A

Coin 1



$p_1$



$1 - p_1$

# Parrondo's Paradox

Game A

Game B

Coin 1



$p_1$



$1 - p_1$

# Parrondo's Paradox

Game A

Coin 1



$p_1$



$1 - p_1$

Game B

Capital is divisible by  $M$



# Parrondo's Paradox

Game A

Coin 1



$p_1$



$1 - p_1$

Game B

Capital is divisible by  $M$



Yes

Coin 2



$p_2$



$1 - p_2$



# Parrondo's Paradox

Game A

Coin 1



$p_1$



$1 - p_1$

Game B

Capital is divisible by  $M$



Yes

No

Coin 2



$p_2$



$1 - p_2$

Coin 3



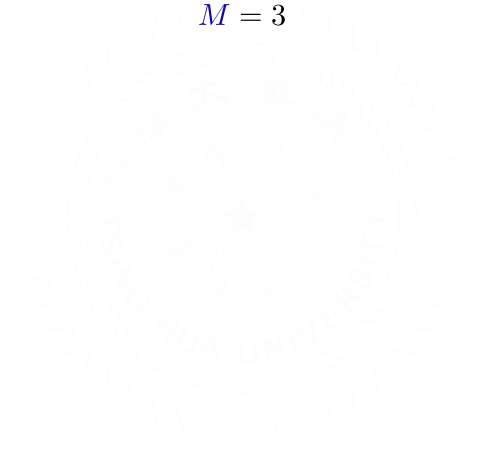
$p_3$



$1 - p_3$

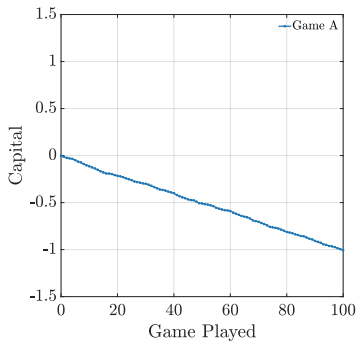
$$p_1 = 1/2 - \epsilon, \quad p_2 = 1/10 - \epsilon, \quad p_3 = 3/4 - \epsilon, \quad \text{with } \epsilon = 0.005$$

$$M = 3$$



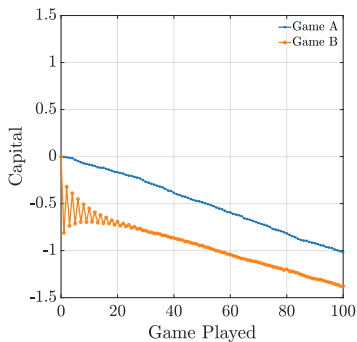
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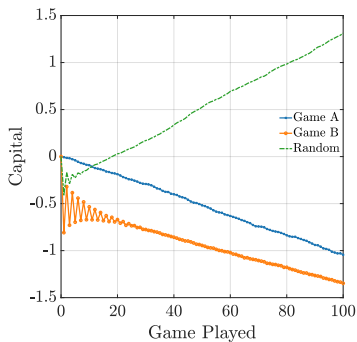
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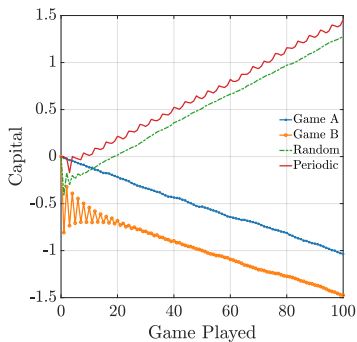
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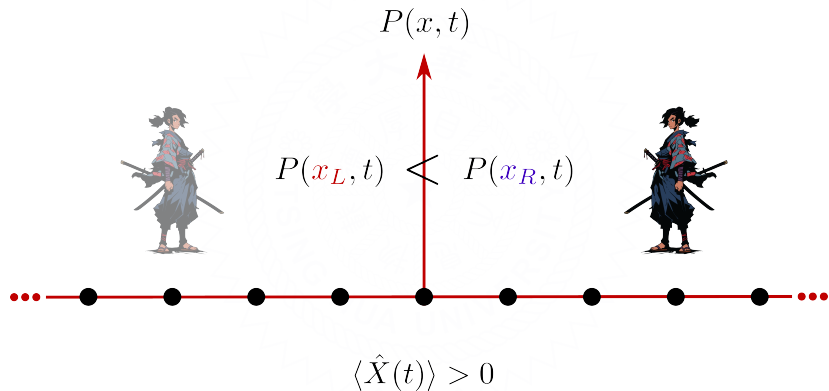
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$M = 3$

A combination of **losing strategies** becomes a **winning strategy**.

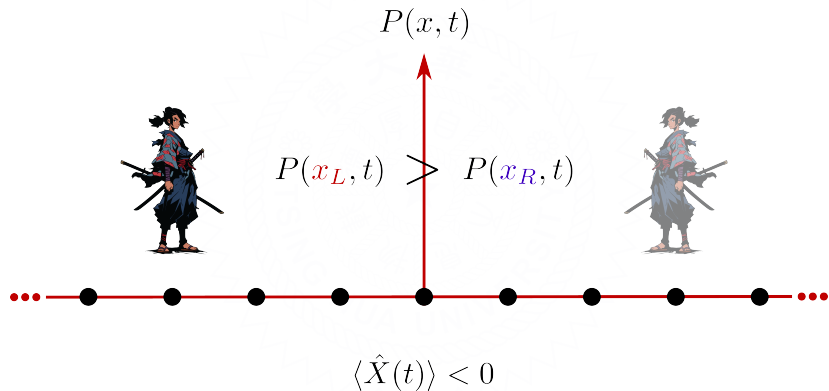


# Parrondo's Paradox in QW





# Parrondo's Paradox in QW



## Site-Dependent Coin

$$\mathcal{C}_A = e^{-i\theta_A \sigma_y / 2} \otimes \mathbb{1}_N, \quad \mathcal{C}_B = \sum_x e^{-i\theta_B(\theta_{B+}, \theta_{B-}; x) \sigma_y / 2} \otimes |x\rangle\langle x|$$

## Site-Dependent Coin

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where

$$\theta_B(\theta_{B+}, \theta_{B-}; x) = \frac{\theta_{B+} (1 + \tanh(x)) + \theta_{B-} (1 - \tanh(x))}{2}.$$

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$$\theta_A = \pi/2, \quad \theta_{B-} = -\pi/8, \quad \theta_{B+} = \pi/4$$

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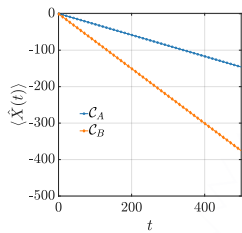
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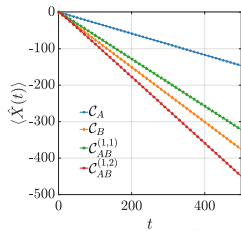
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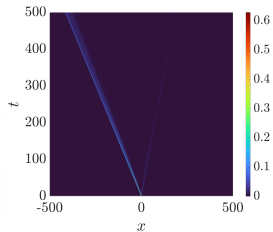
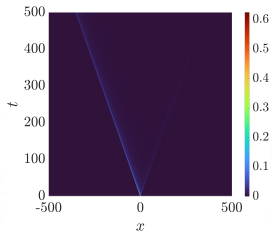
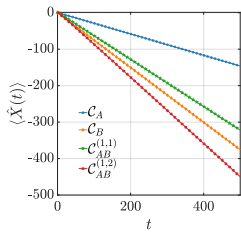
With the initial state

$$|\Psi(0)\rangle = |\downarrow\rangle \otimes |0\rangle.$$

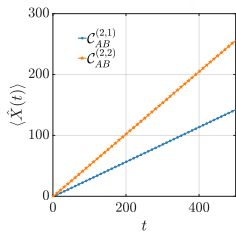
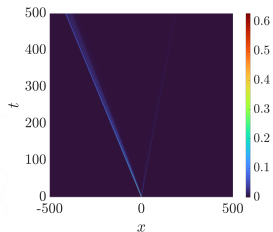
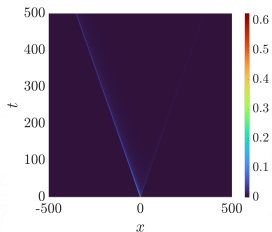
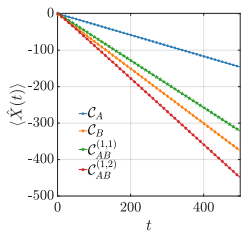


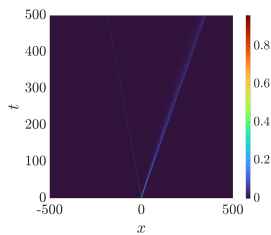
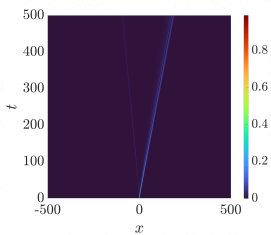
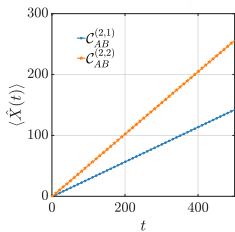
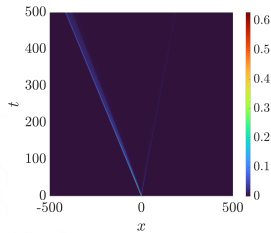
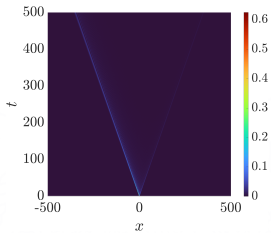
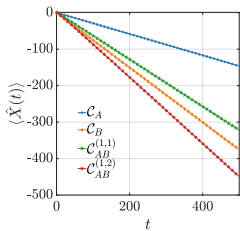


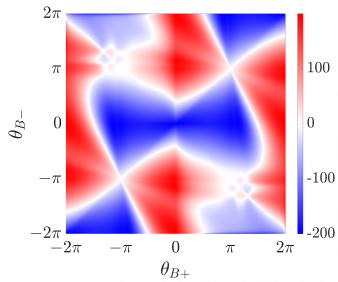
$$C_{AB}^{(m,n)} \equiv C_A^m C_B^n$$

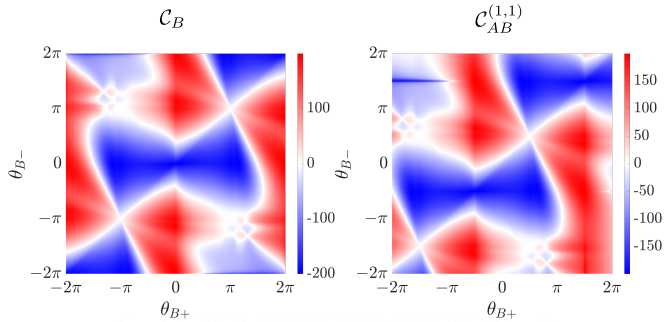


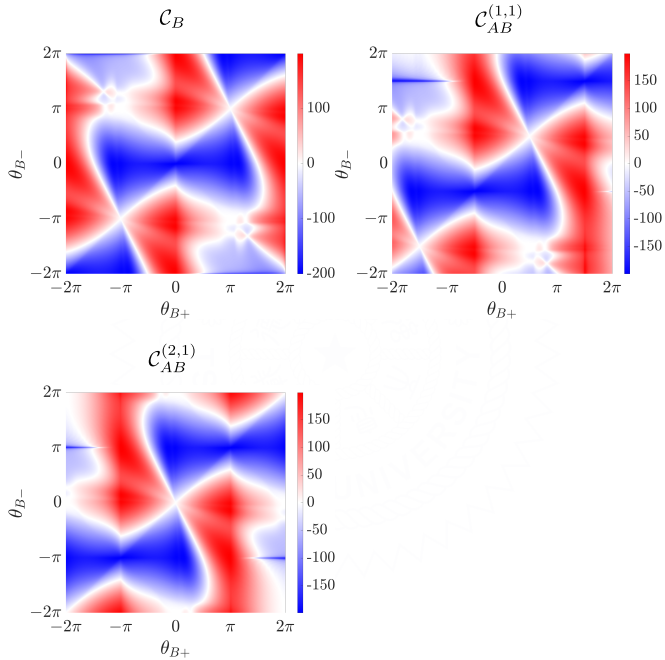


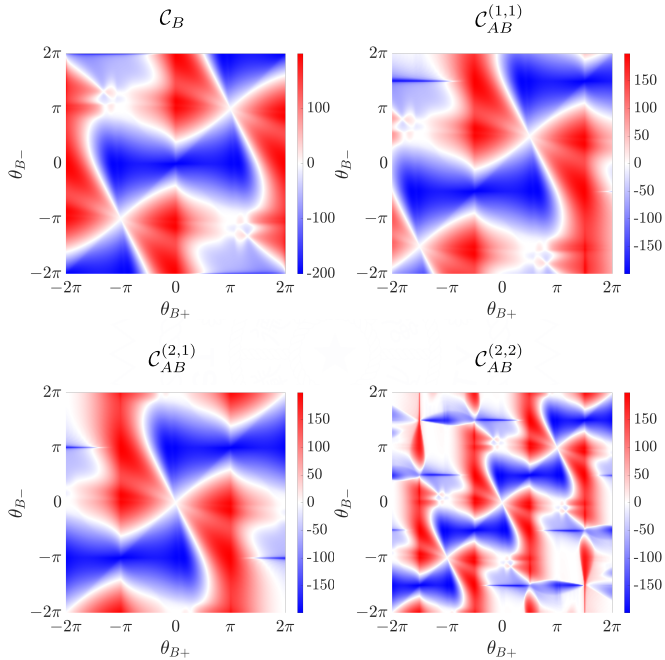




$\mathcal{C}_B$ 







## Time-Dependent Coin

$$\mathcal{C}(q(t), \alpha(t), \beta(t)) = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{q(t)} & \sqrt{1-q(t)}e^{i\alpha(t)} \\ \sqrt{q(t)}e^{i\beta(t)} & -\sqrt{q(t)}e^{i(\alpha(t)+\beta(t))} \end{pmatrix}$$

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$$\mathcal{C}_A(t) = \mathcal{C}(1/2, \alpha(t), 0) \quad \mathcal{C}_B(t) = \mathcal{C}(1/2, 0, \beta(t)).$$

with

$$\alpha(t) = \frac{2\pi}{T}t = \beta(t)$$



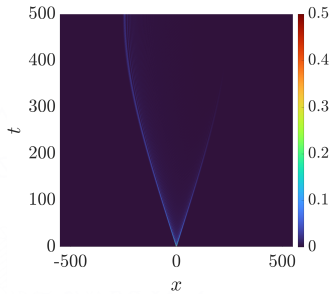
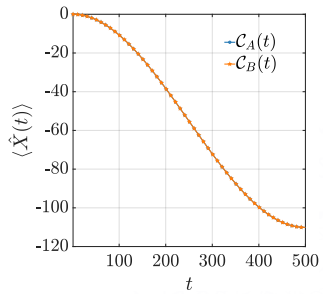
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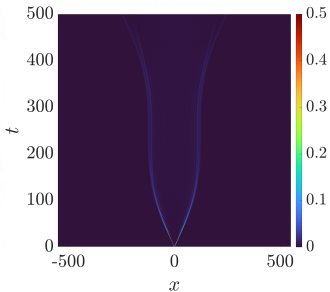
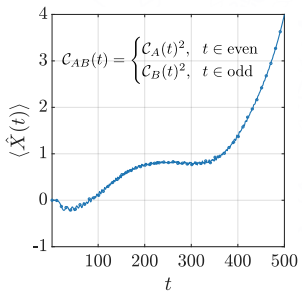
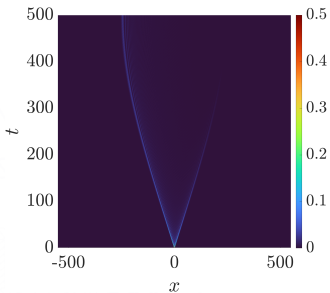
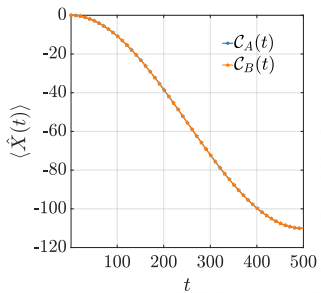
$$\mathcal{C}_A(t) = \mathcal{C}(1/2, \alpha(t), 0) \quad \mathcal{C}_B(t) = \mathcal{C}(1/2, 0, \beta(t)).$$

with

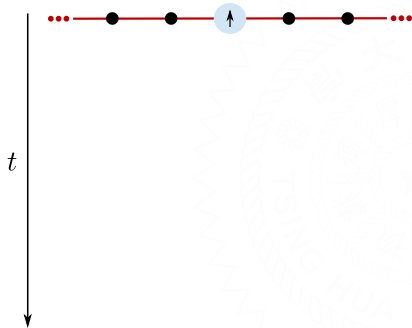
$$\alpha(t) = \frac{2\pi}{T}t = \beta(t)$$

$$|\Psi(0)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\rangle + i|\downarrow\rangle) \otimes |0\rangle.$$

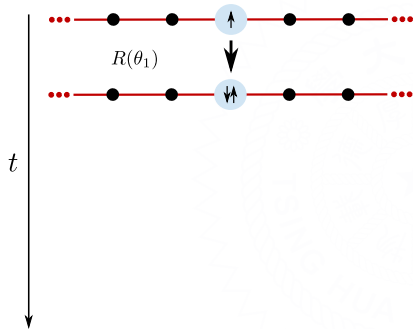




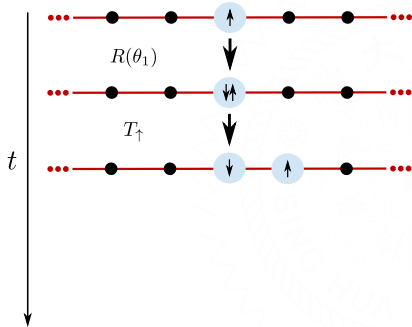
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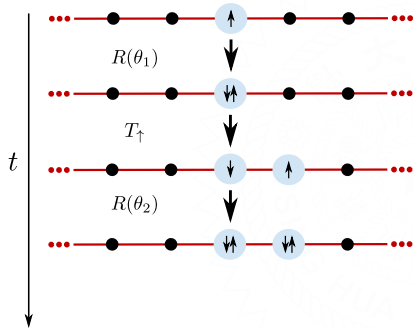
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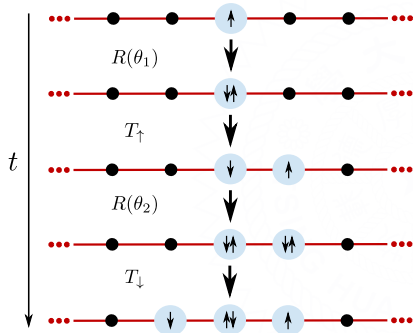
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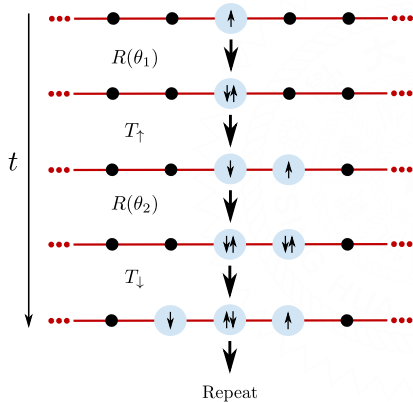


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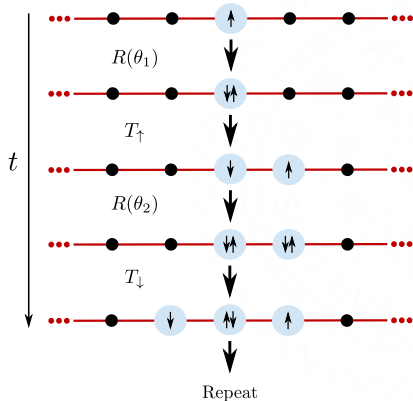




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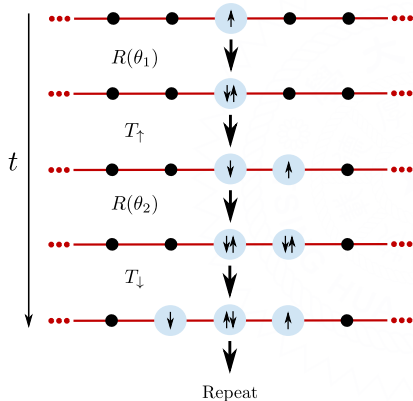


# Motivation from SSQW (Kitagawa (2012), Asboth (2012))



$$U_{\text{SS}}(\theta_1, \theta_2) = T_\downarrow R(\theta_2) T_\uparrow R(\theta_1)$$

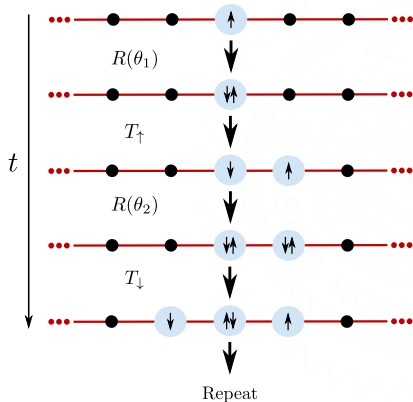
# Motivation from SSQW (Kitagawa (2012), Asboth (2012))



$$U_{\text{SS}}(\theta_1, \theta_2) = T_{\downarrow} R(\theta_2) T_{\uparrow} R(\theta_1)$$

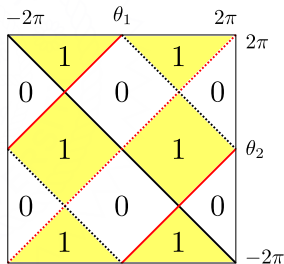
$$U_{\text{SS}} = e^{-iHt} \longrightarrow H_k(\theta_1, \theta_2)$$

# Motivation from SSQW (Kitagawa (2012), Asboth (2012))



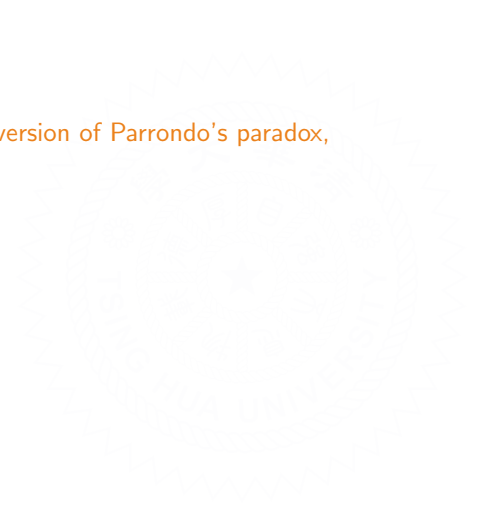
$$U_{\text{SS}}(\theta_1, \theta_2) = T_{\downarrow} R(\theta_2) T_{\uparrow} R(\theta_1)$$

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- quantum version of Parrondo's paradox,
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- topological advantage to design the winning strategies (Work in Progress)
- more generalized strategies



# Summary and Outlook

## Conclusion

- quantum version of Parrondo's paradox,
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## Outlook

- topological advantage to design the winning strategies (Work in Progress)
- more generalized strategies
- different criterion for the game to win and realization of Parrondo's paradox



THANK YOU  
SO MUCH

**Thanks for listening.**  
**Please feel free to contact me if you have any**  
**questions/doubts.**  
**vikashmittal.iiser@gmail.com**