

Effects of control restrictions in quantum thermodynamics

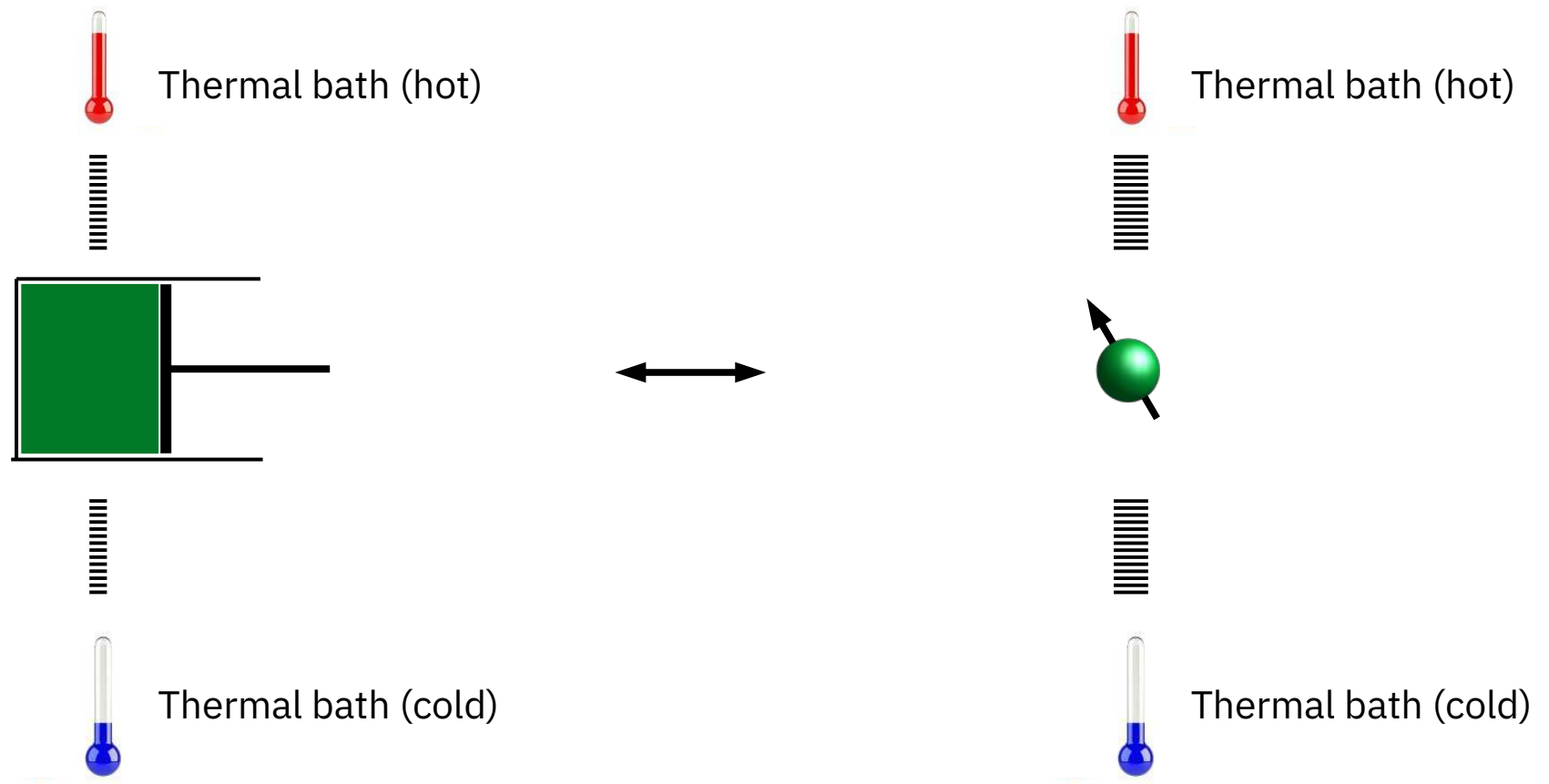
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Work with: Rodrigo Gallego, Jens Eisert, Jaqueline Lekscha, Martí Perarnau-Llobet, Arnau Riera

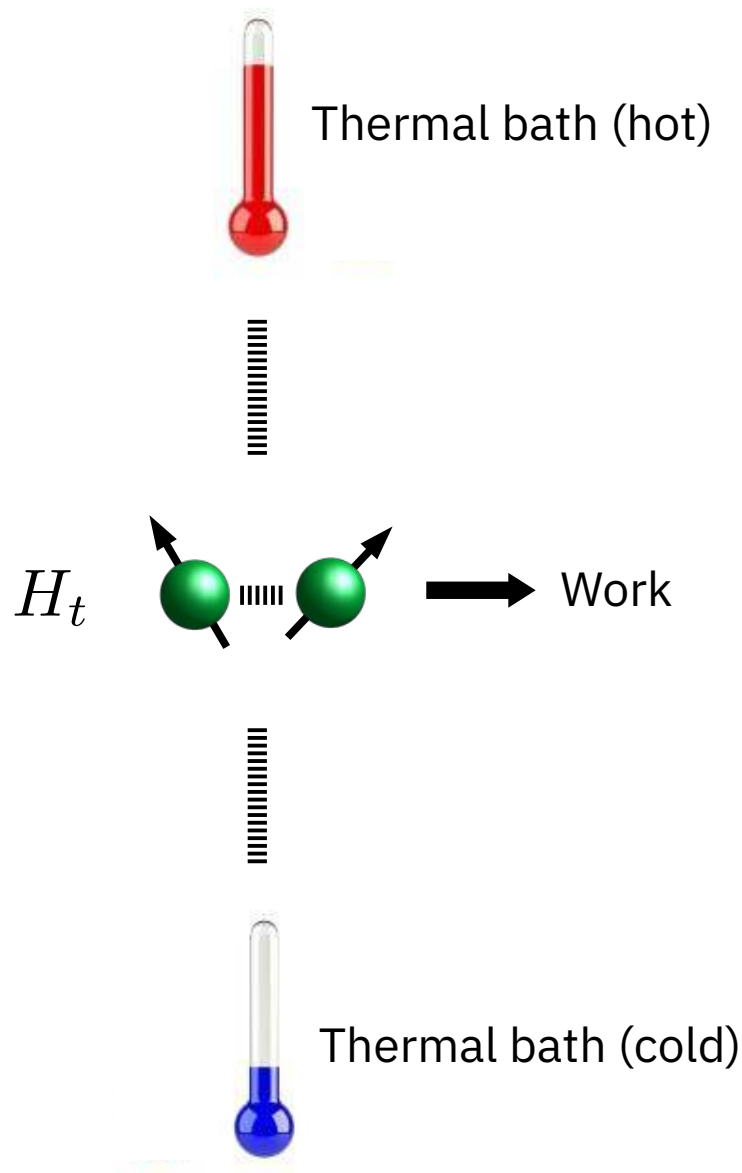
Motivation: Thermal machines

Macroscopic machines: Only **limited control** necessary to (approximately) **achieve** thermodynamic bounds.

Quantum machines: Also have thermodynamic bounds. Less clear what implications limited experimental control has on being able to achieve them.



The model



We can do any combination of three elementary operations:

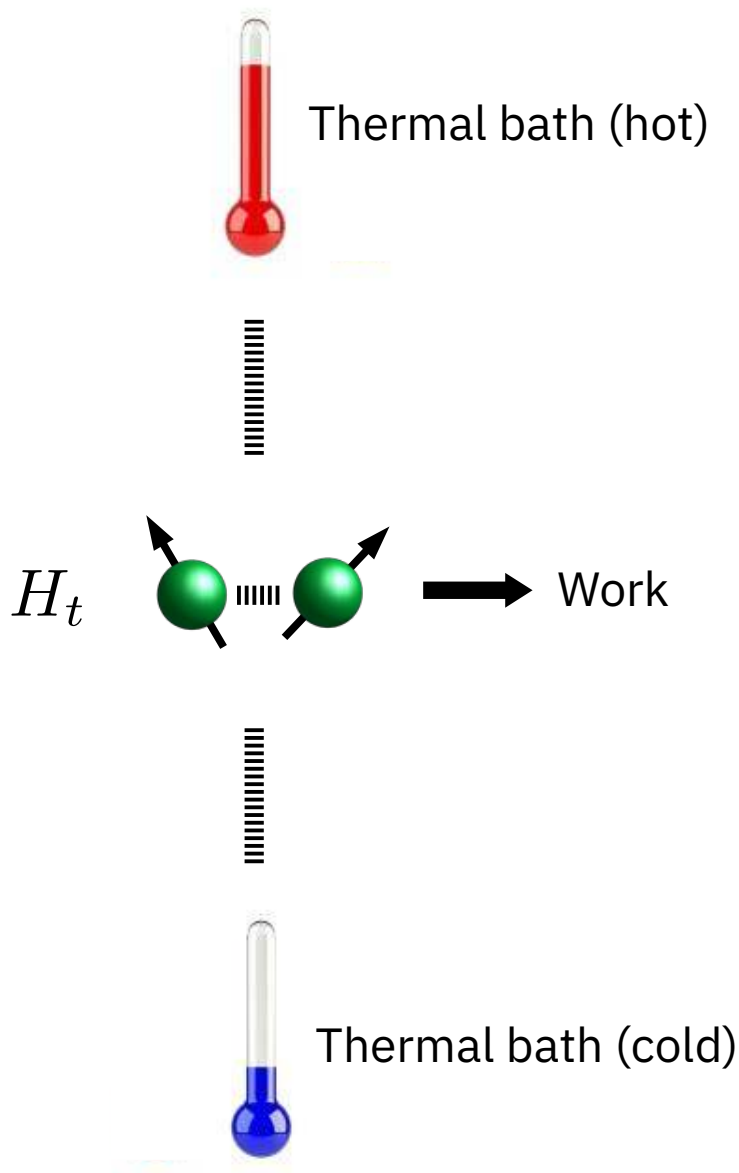
1. Change the Hamiltonian of system over time (**unitary dynamics**). Associated with **average work**:

$$W = \text{Tr}(\rho_{t_1} H_{t_1}) - \text{Tr}(U \rho_{t_1} U^\dagger H_{t_2})$$

2. (De-)Couple system with **one** of the baths.

3. Let system thermalize (if coupled with bath). Associated with **heat flow**.

The model: Landscape of assumptions



Various scenarios to be considered:

i. Coupling to bath can be fixed or controllable

H. W., R. Gallego, and J. Eisert, *Phys. Rev. E* 93.4 (2016).

ii. If fixed, the coupling can be weak or strong

M. Perarnau-Llobet, H. W., A. Riera, R. Gallego, and J. Eisert, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 120, 120602 (2018)

iii. Hamiltonian can be restricted or can be controlled arbitrarily

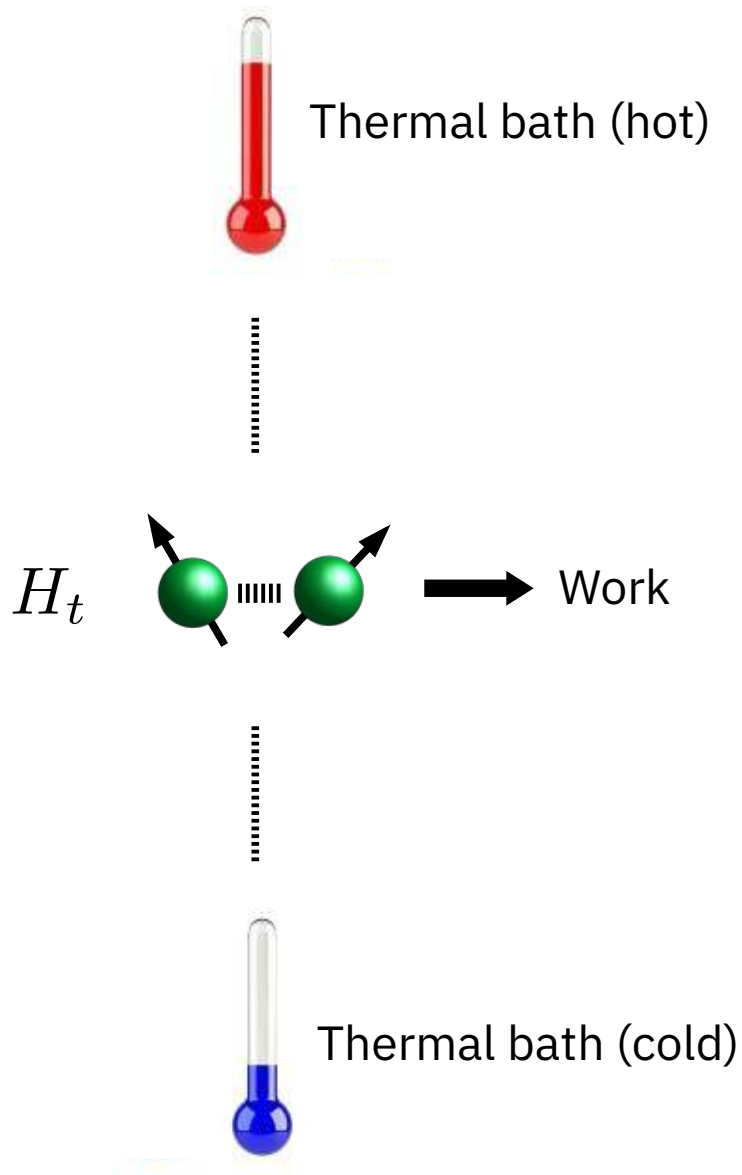
H. W., R. Gallego, and J. Eisert, *Phys. Rev. E* 93.4 (2016).

J. Lekscha, H. W., J. Eisert, and R. Gallego, *Phys. Rev. E* 97 (2), 022142 (2018)

iv. System thermalizes to Gibbs state or not

M. Perarnau-Llobet, A. Riera, R. Gallego, H. W., and J. Eisert *New J. Phys.* 18.12 (2016)

We have general results/bounds in all these settings.
But today I will focus on simple toy models.



The *weak-coupling limit* consists of:

1. Work-cost of (de)coupling the bath can be neglected.

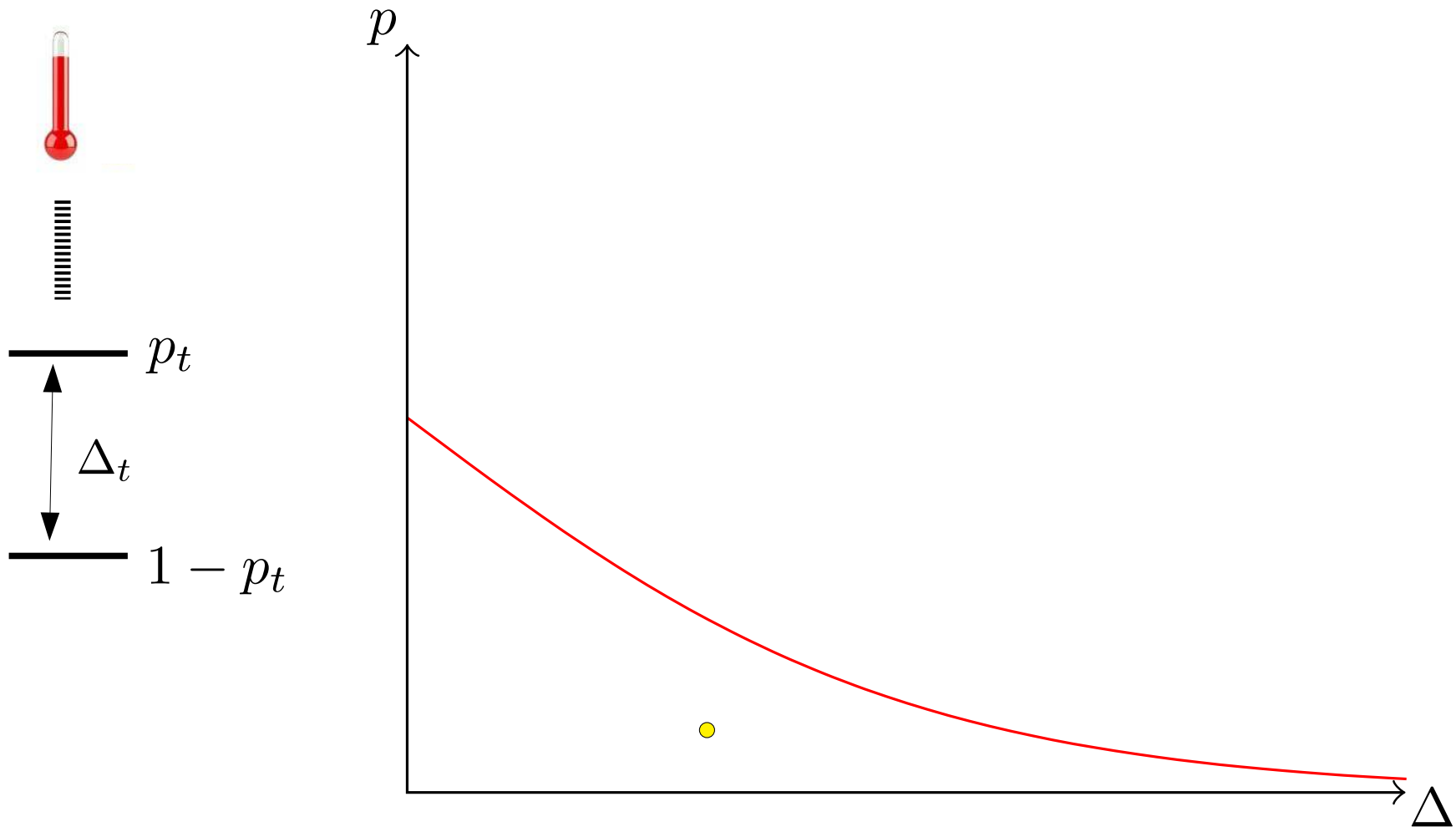
2. System thermalizes to **Gibbs state**:

$$\rho_t \mapsto \omega_\beta(H_t) = \frac{e^{-\beta H_t}}{Z_t}$$

3. Heat transferred from the bath in a thermalization step is given by

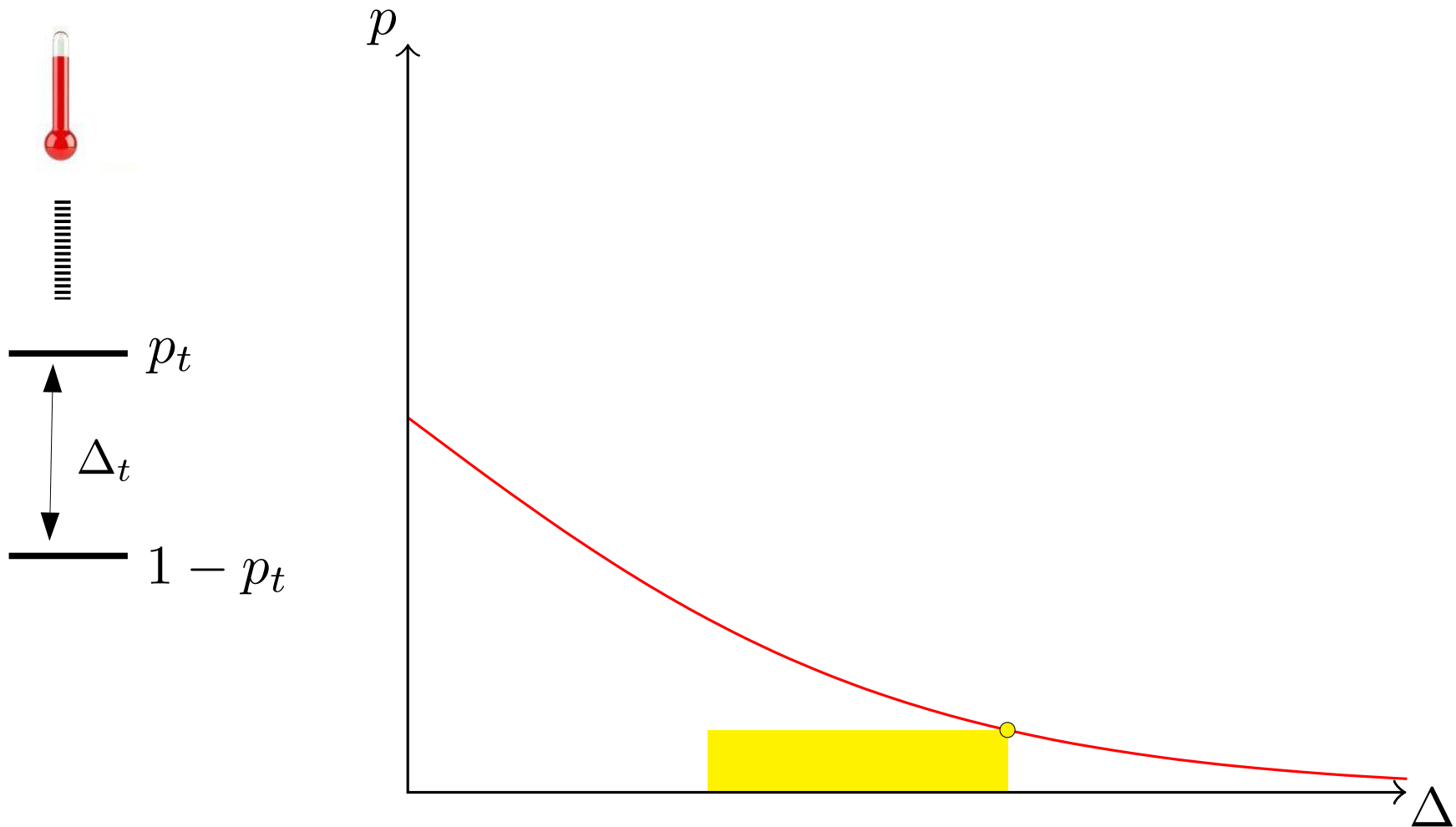
$$Q = \text{Tr}(H_t \omega_\beta(H_t)) - \text{Tr}(H_t \rho_t)$$

Example: Work extraction using a two-level system

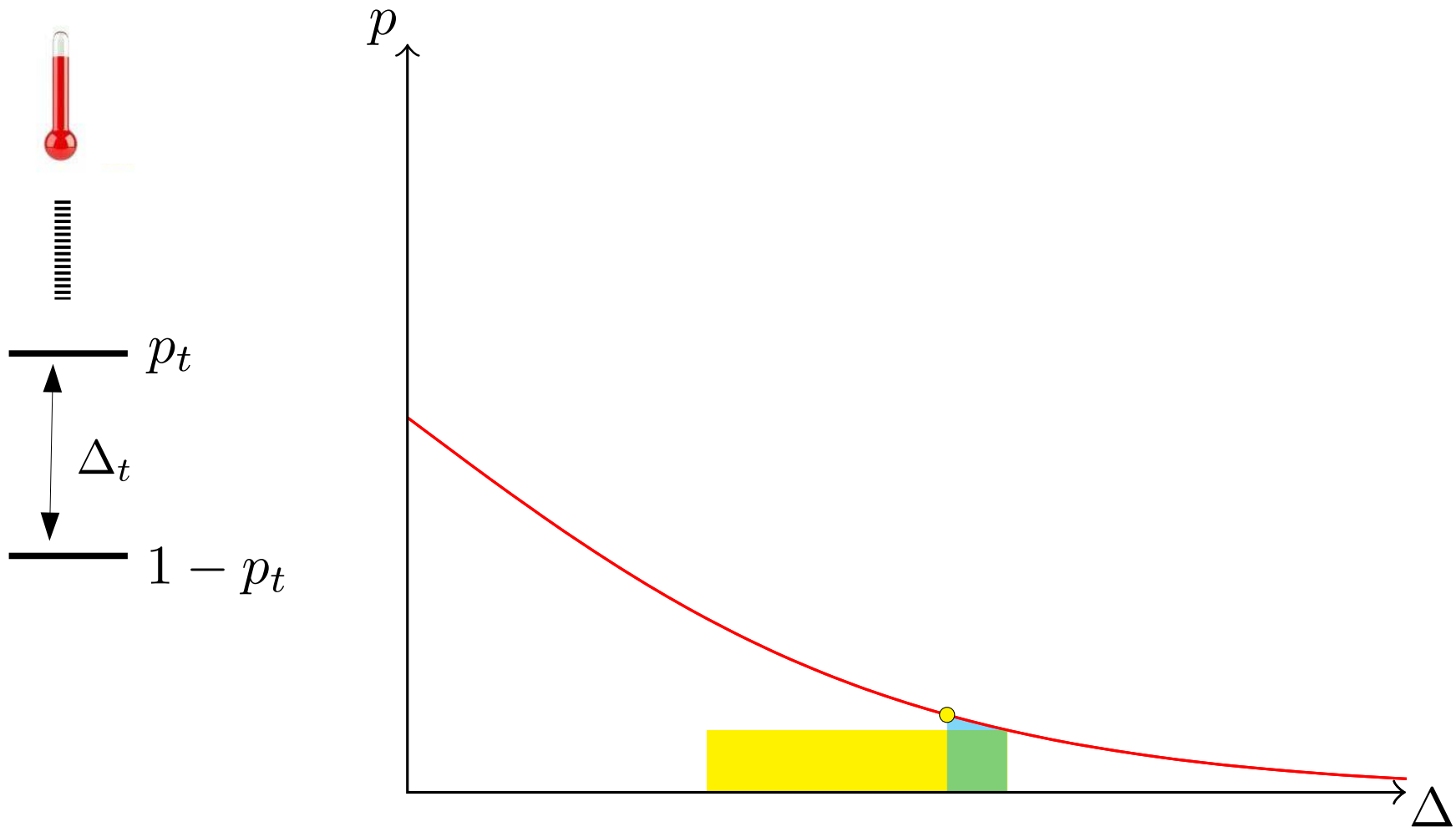


In the adiabatic parts of the protocol, **any unitary transformation** can be implemented. But one can show that it is always optimal to “stay classical” if initial state diagonal in energy eigenbasis.

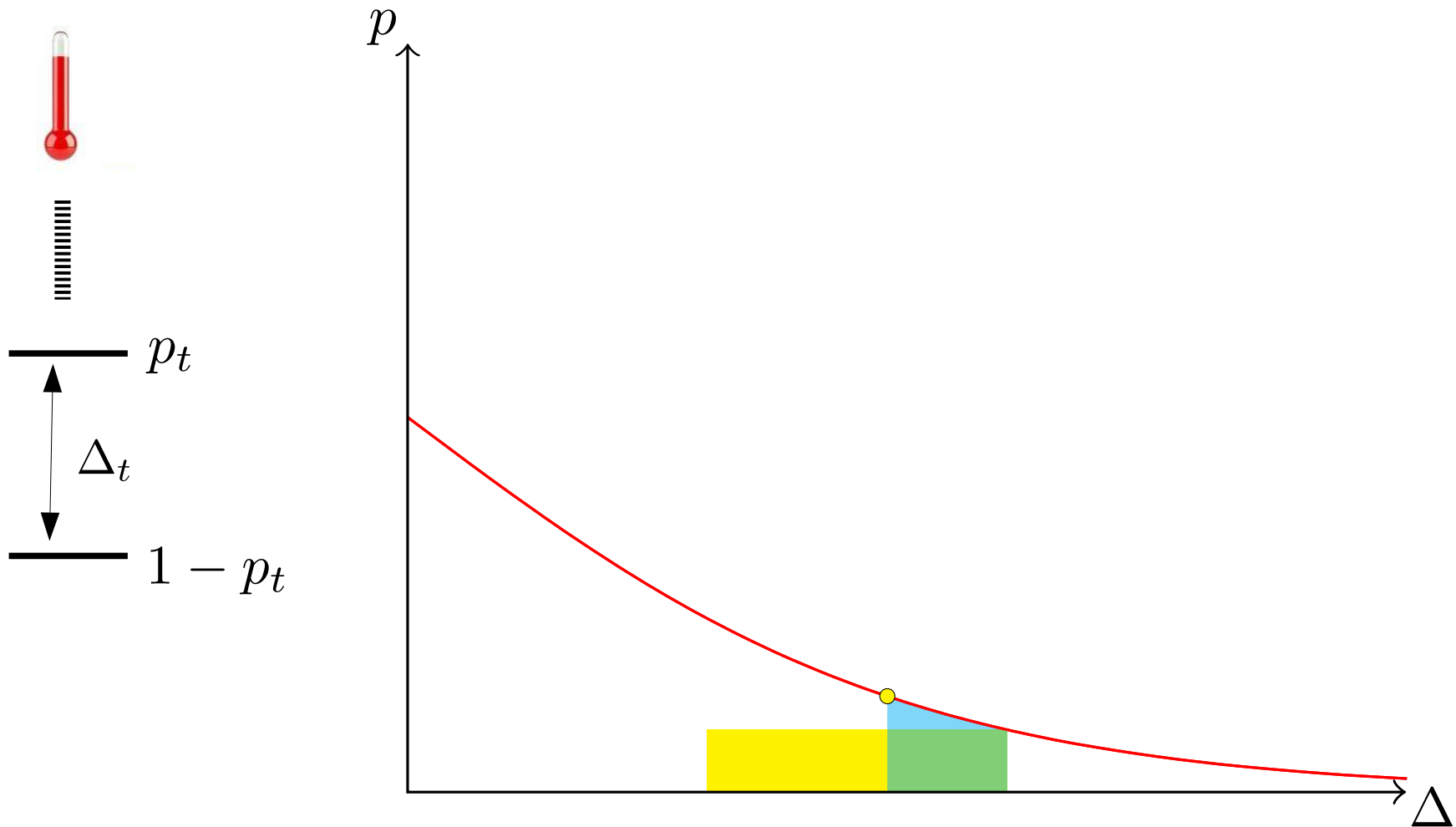
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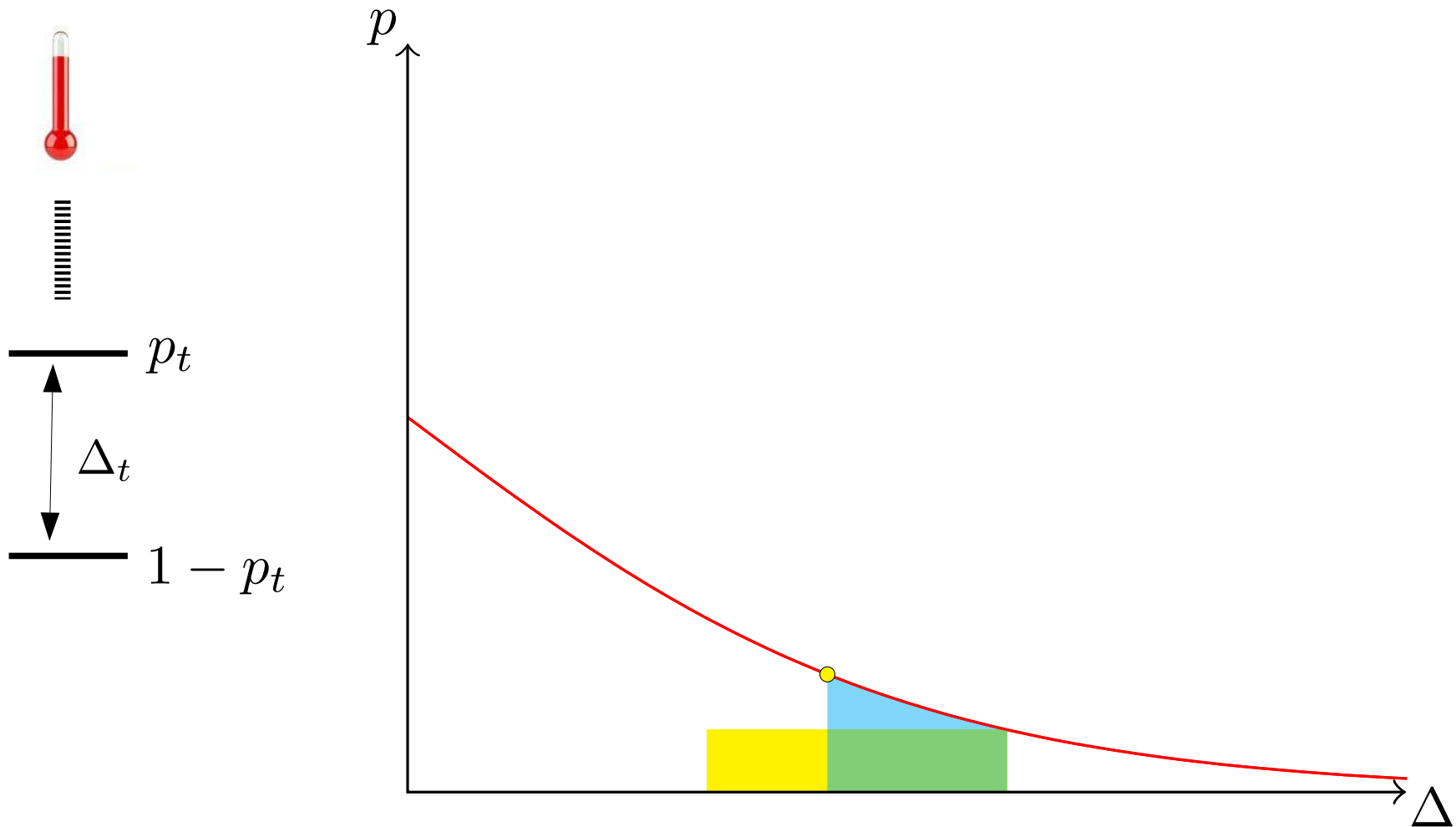
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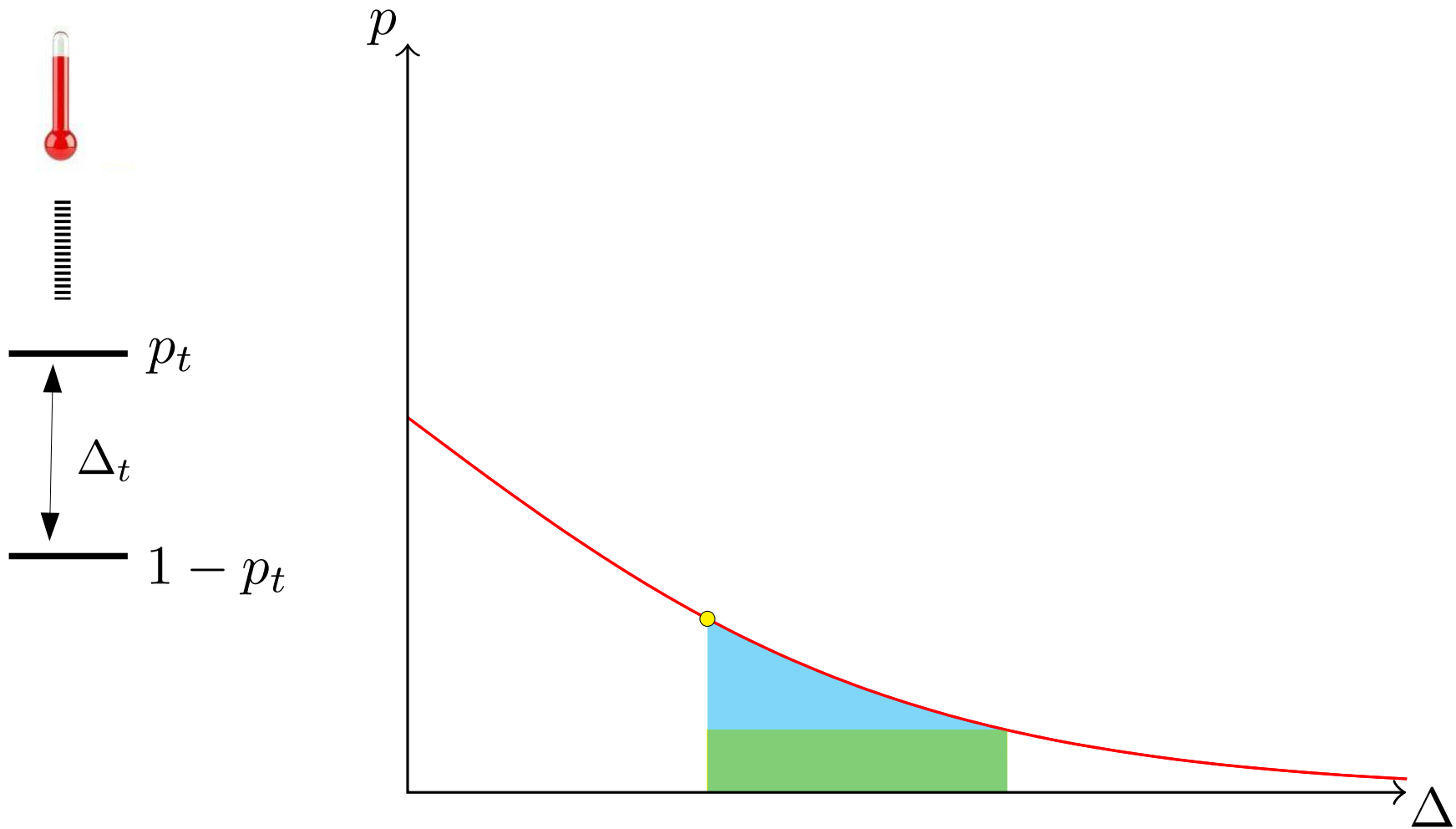
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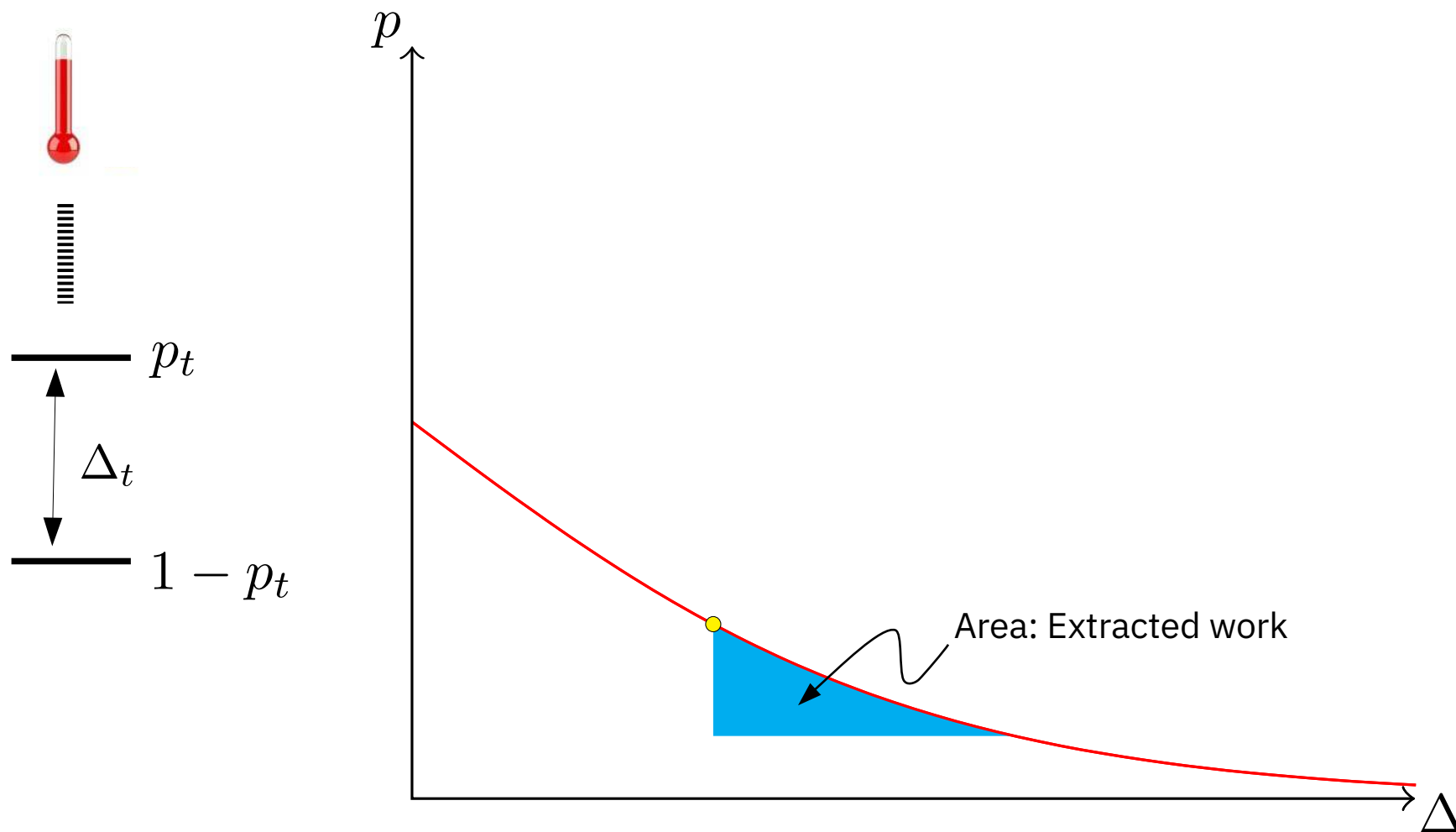
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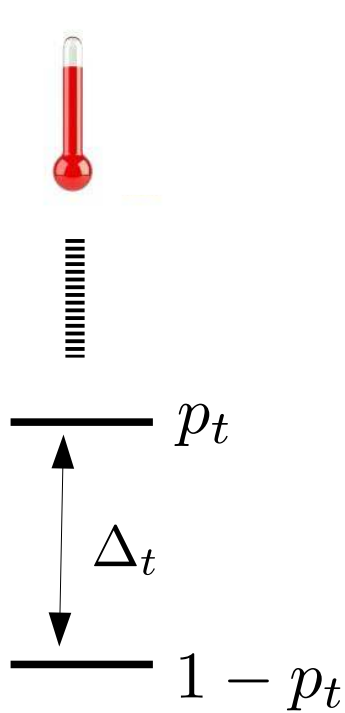


Example: Work extraction using a two-level system



Similar protocol exists for **any** initial quantum state and **any** Hamiltonian.

Example: Work extraction using a two-level system



Maximum work that can be extracted:

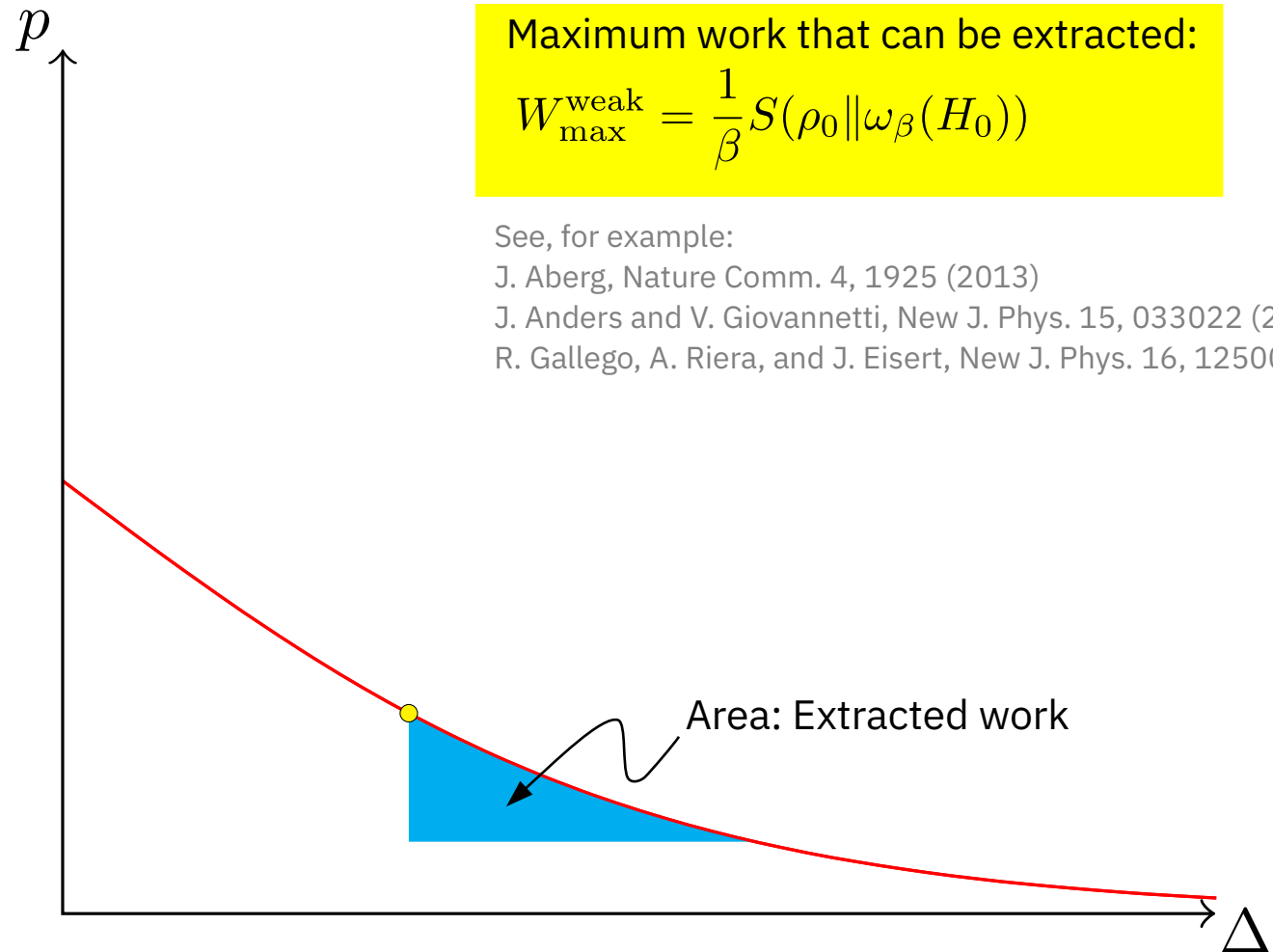
$$W_{\max}^{\text{weak}} = \frac{1}{\beta} S(\rho_0 \| \omega_\beta(H_0))$$

See, for example:

J. Aberg, Nature Comm. 4, 1925 (2013)

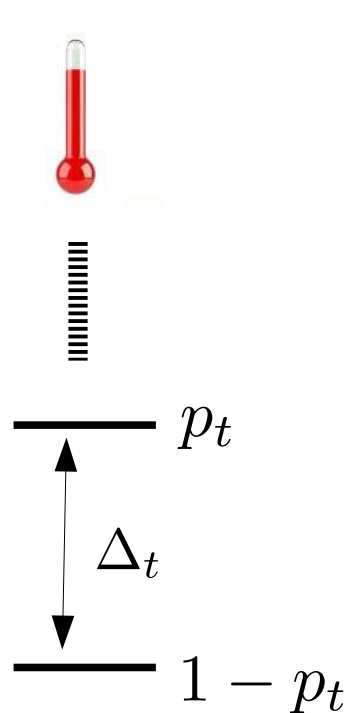
J. Anders and V. Giovannetti, New J. Phys. 15, 033022 (2013)

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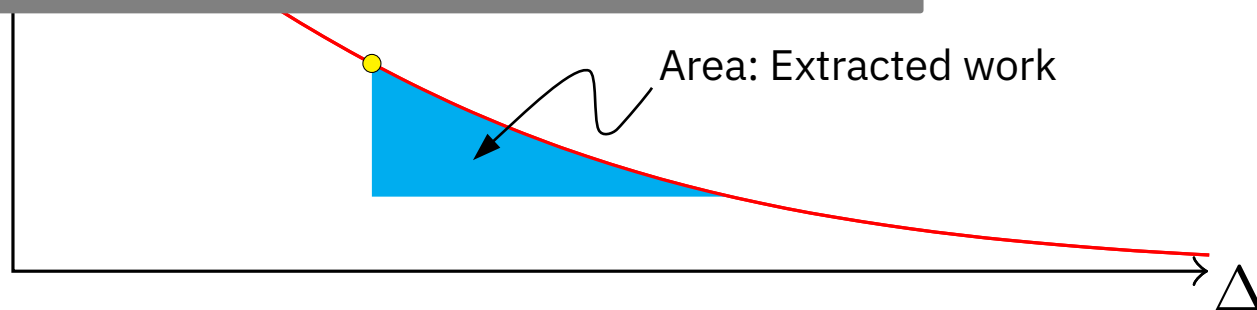
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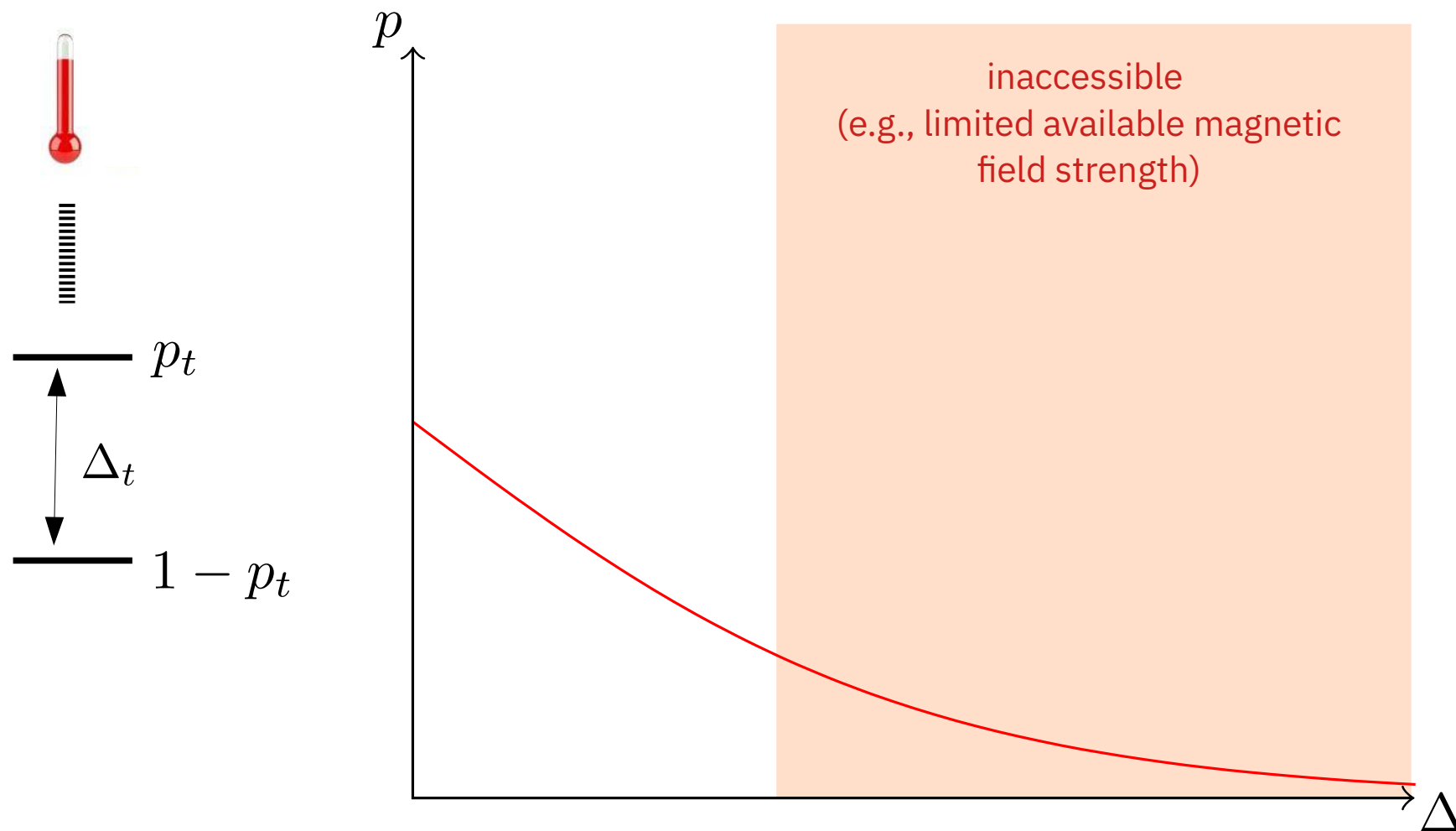
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What happens if H_t is restricted due to limited experimental control?



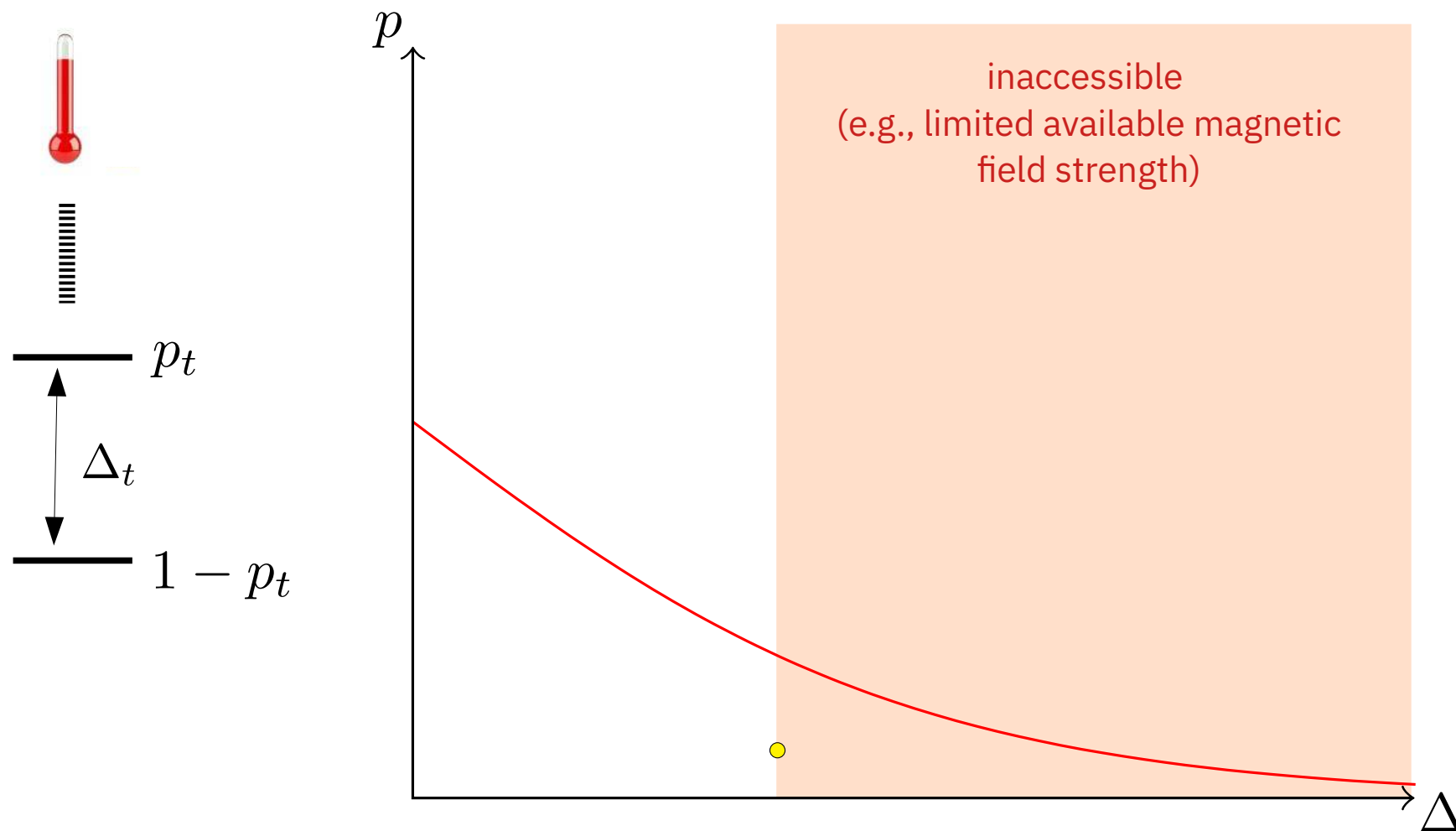
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Toy example of limited control: Work extraction using a two-level system

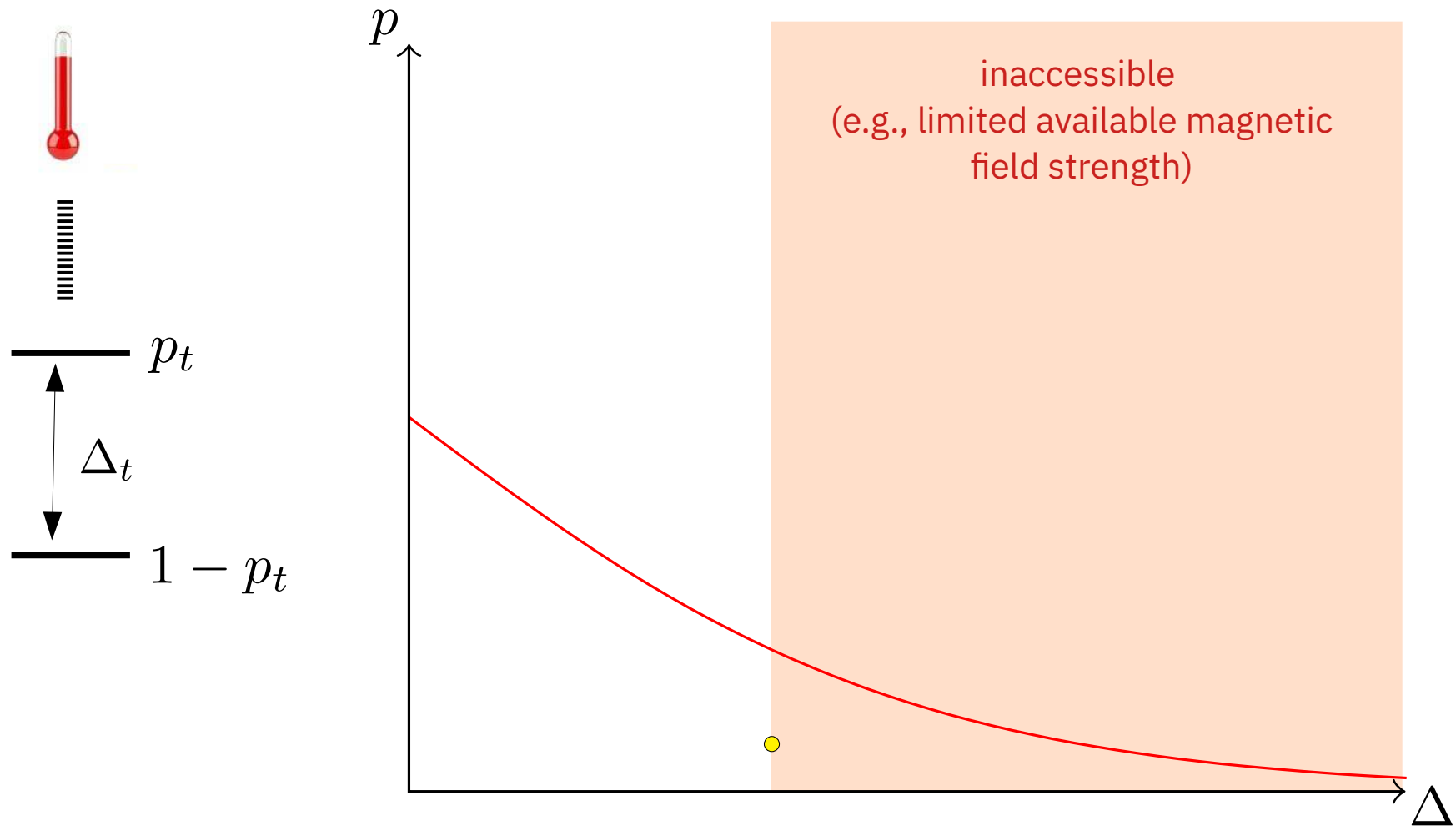


In the adiabatic parts of the protocol, **still any unitary transformation** can be implemented.

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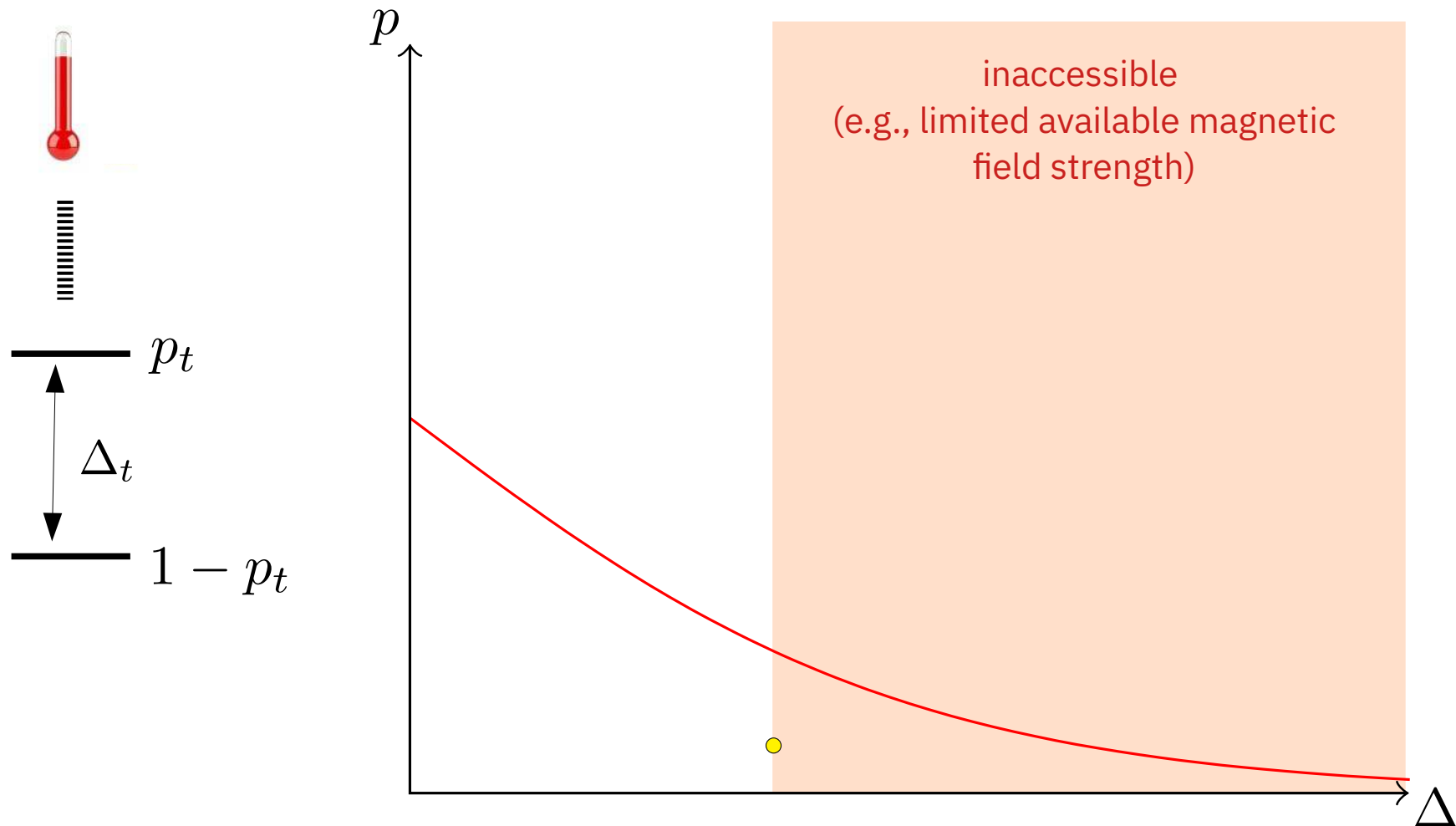


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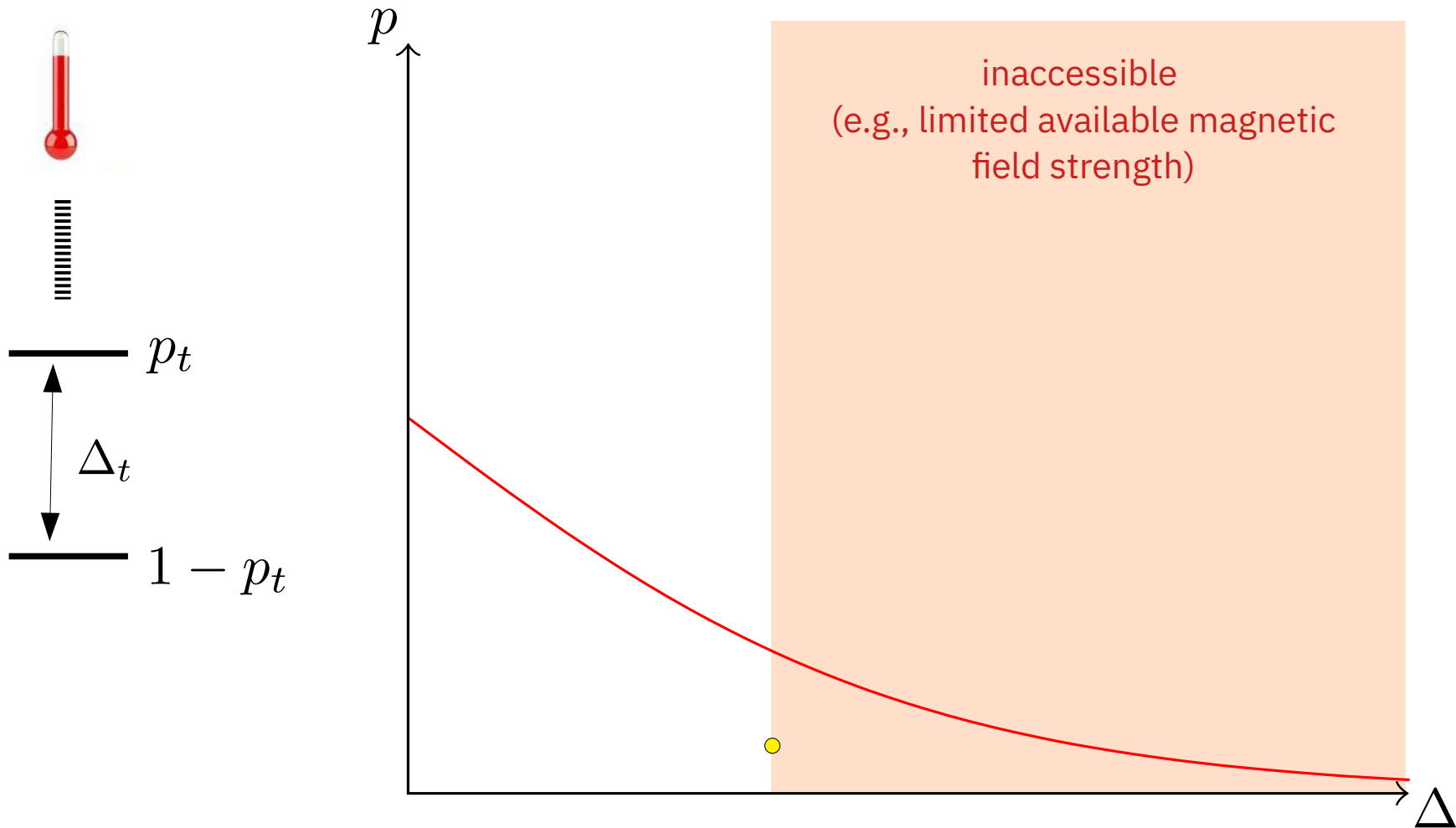
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Initial configuration is "passive" due to limited Hamiltonian control.

Cannot perform counter-clockwise cycle:
No positive work can be extracted by any protocol.

Reason: Cannot cross isothermal (only way to move vertically is by thermalization to the isothermal).

Toy example: The role of control over the bath and the β -swap

So far, bath simply thermalizes. What if we had some control over the bath?

For any temperature and qubit Hamiltonian, there exists a (quantum) channel \mathcal{G}_β s.t.:

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$$\mathcal{G}_\beta[|0\rangle\langle 0|] = (1 - e^{-\beta\Delta})|0\rangle\langle 0| + e^{-\beta\Delta}|1\rangle\langle 1|$$

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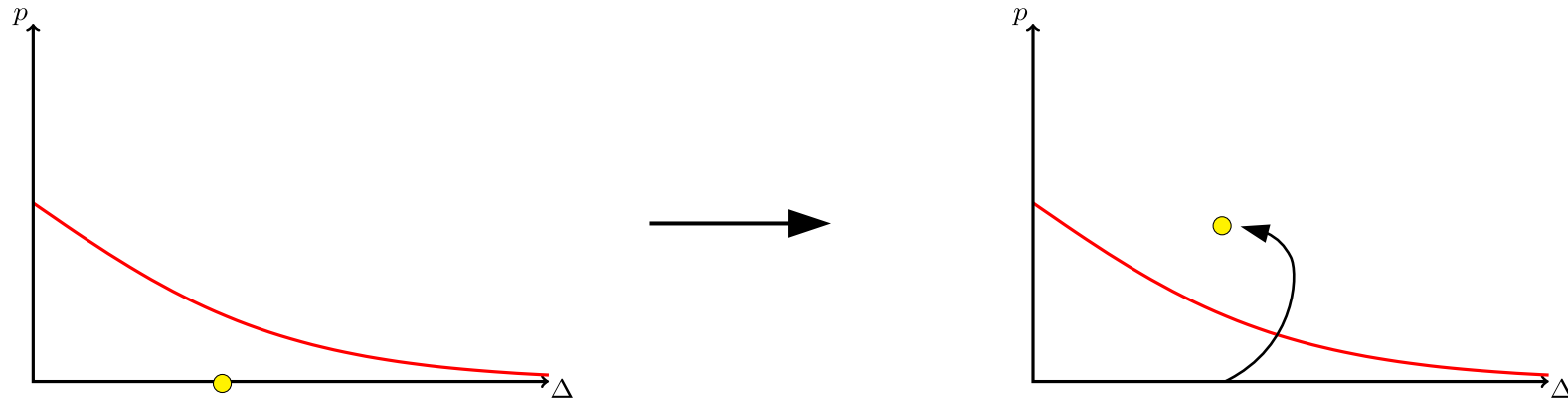
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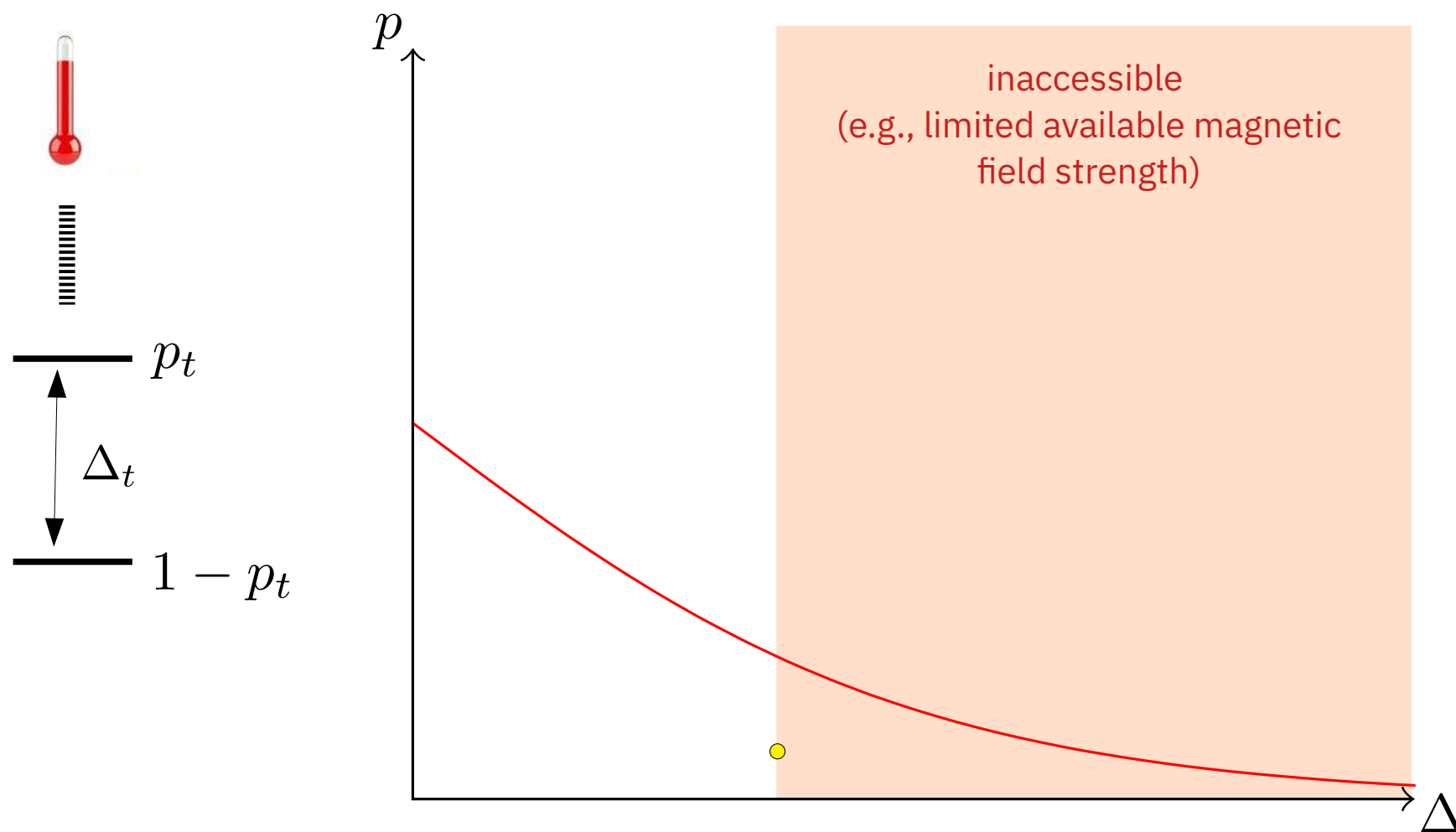
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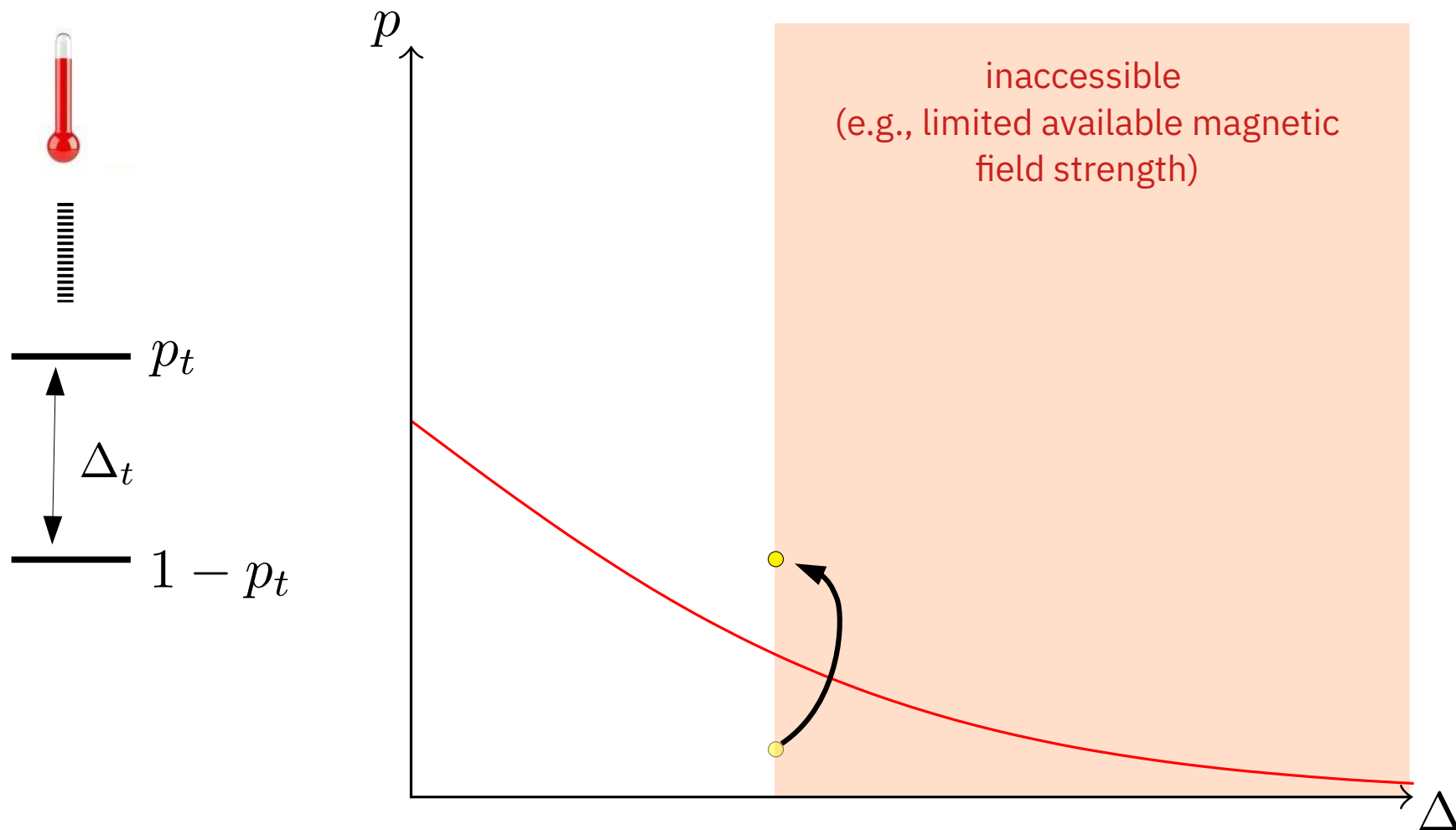
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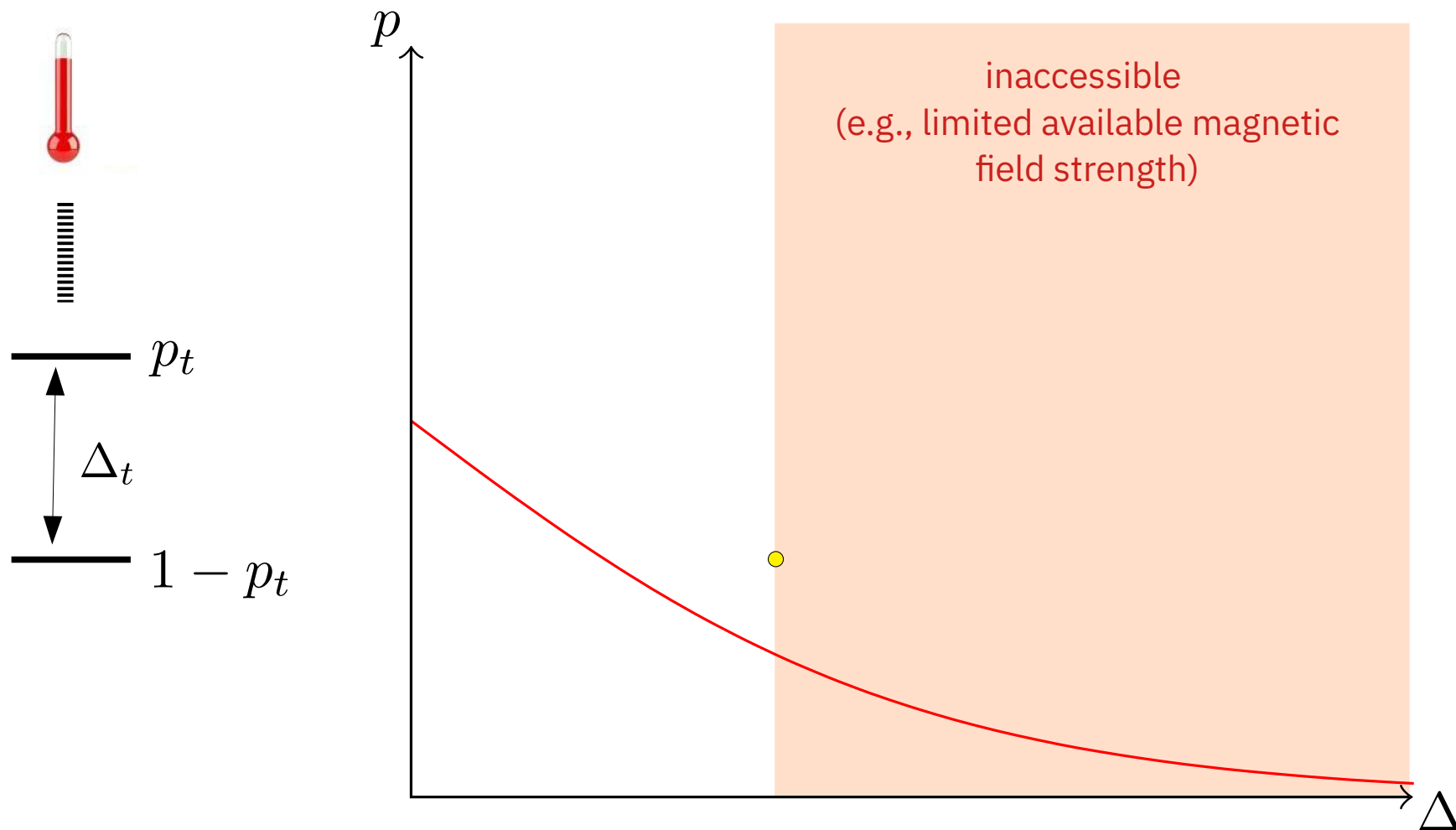
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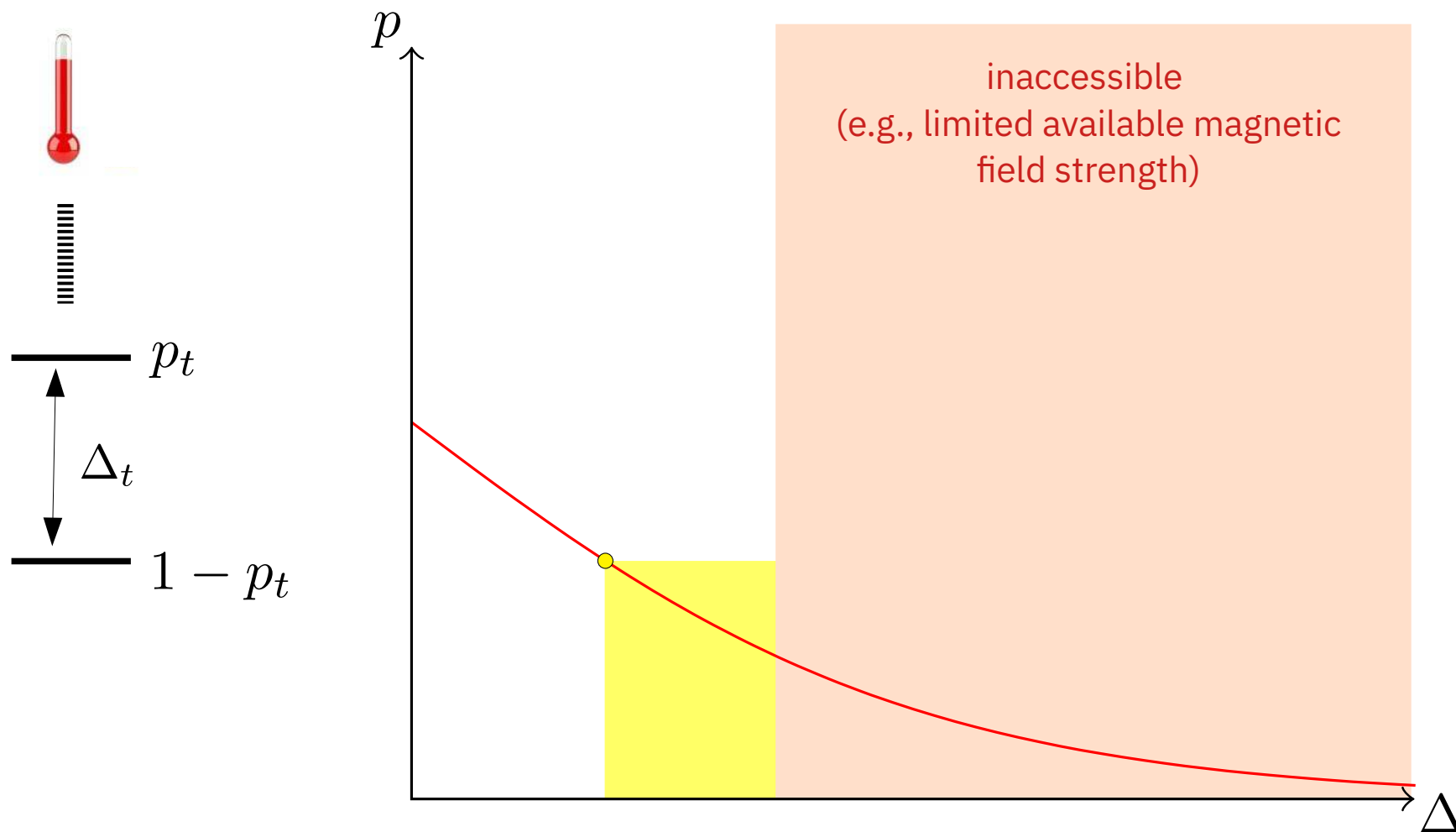
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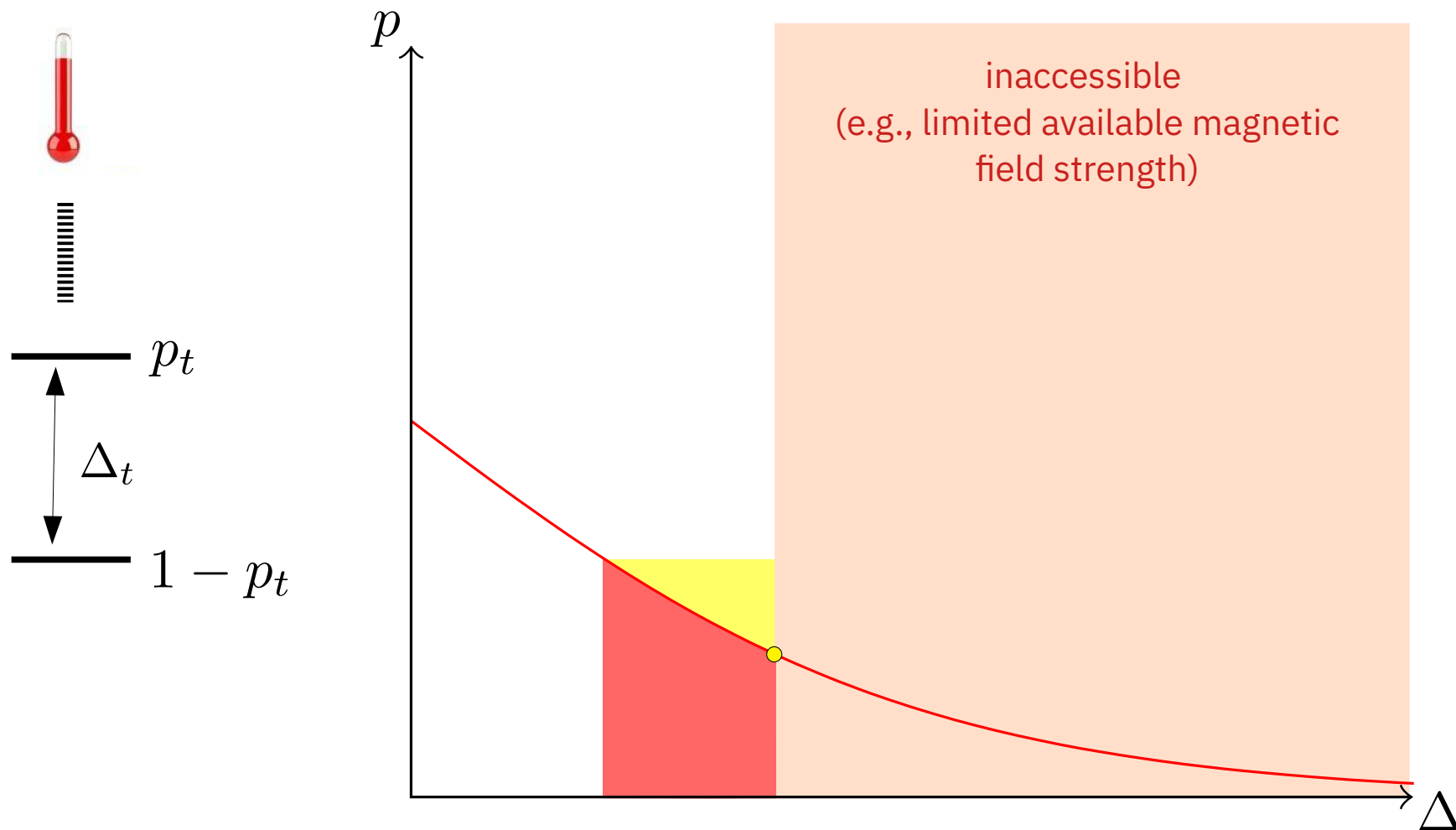
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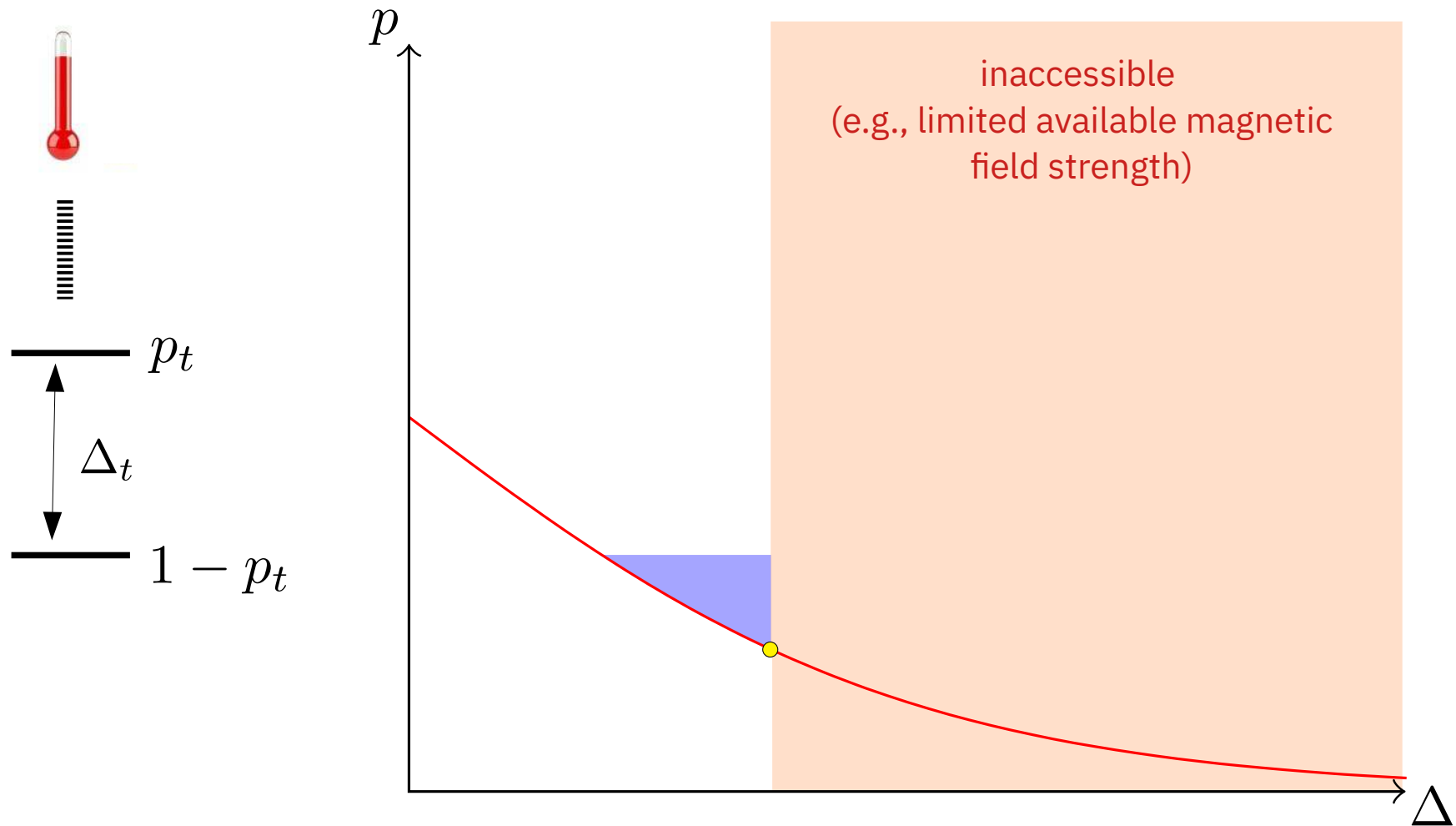
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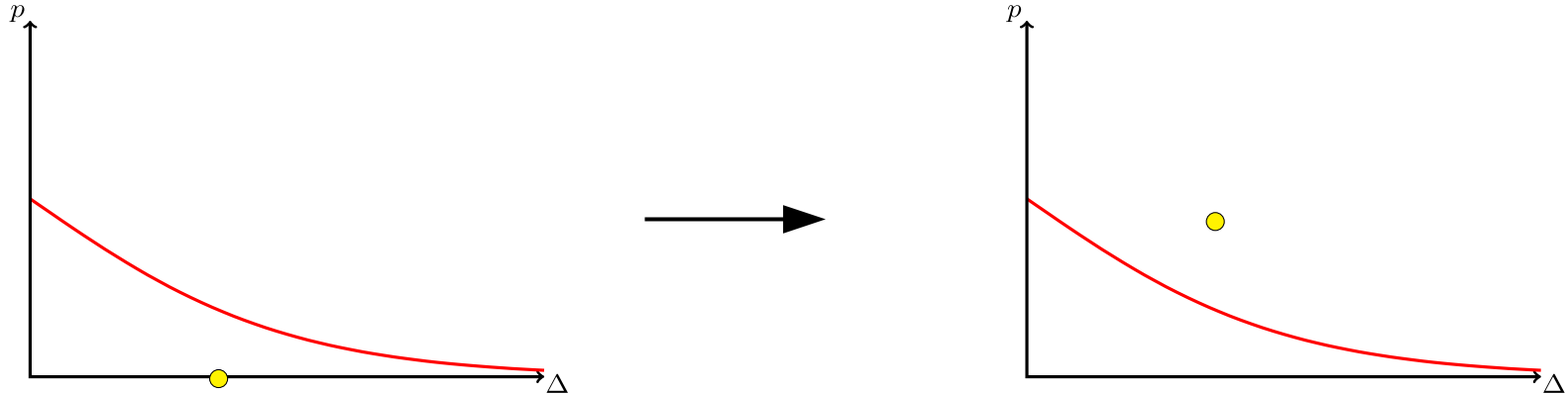
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Positive work can be extracted.

Increased control over system-bath interaction can lift (to some extent) restrictions imposed by lack of control over possible Hamiltonians.

Some comments on the β -swap \mathcal{G}_β



1) In **classical** setting, **cannot** be implemented by **Markovian evolution**.

(But as a stochastic matrix on system or as a permutation of energy levels of system+bath.)

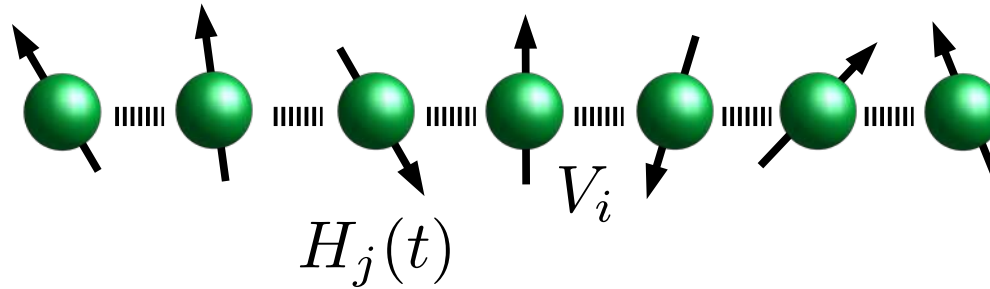
2) In **quantum** setting, **can** be implemented by **Markovian evolution**.

(However, it then requires a **source of coherence** apart from the bath, since state at intermediate times is not diagonal in energy eigenbasis.)

For details, see **K. Korzekwa, M. Lostaglio, arXiv: 2005.02403.**

More relevant scenario:

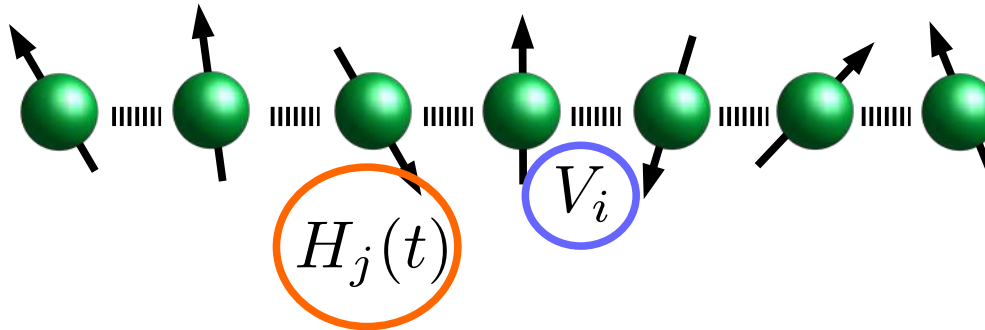
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Local control

More relevant scenario:

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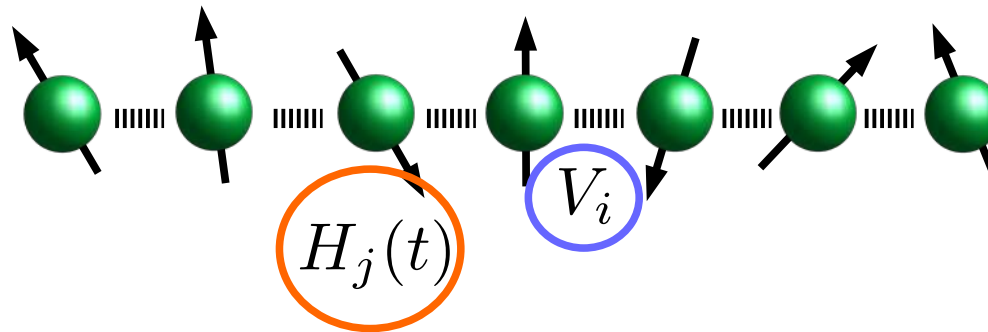


External fields: can be controlled

Internal interactions: fixed

More relevant scenario:

$$H_t = H_{\text{ext}}(t) + H_{\text{int}}$$



External fields: can be controlled

Internal interactions: fixed

General result in quantum control theory: For any “true” interaction, arbitrary unitaries on full system can be generated if arbitrary local fields can be applied.

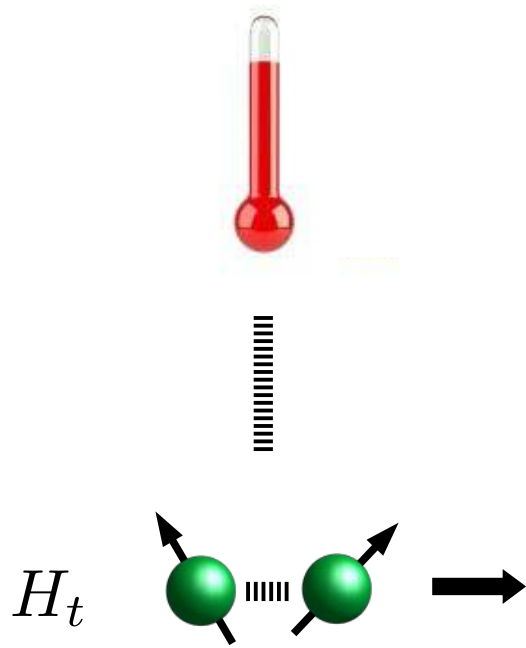
See, for example:

Lloyd, S., *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **75**, 346-349 (1995)

Janzing, D. *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. A* **65**, 022104 (2002)

Burgarth, D., *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. A* **65**, 060305(R) (2009)

Simple example: Two Spins



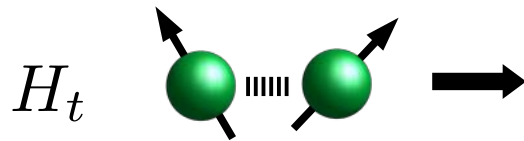
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Theorem:

- 1) For the initial Hamiltonian $H_0 = \sigma_Z \otimes \sigma_Z$ and under local control, the maximally mixed initial state is **passive**.
- 2) There exist $\omega_\beta(H_0)$ -preserving channels \mathcal{G}_β that lift the passivity if they can be used at the beginning of the protocol.

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Proof somewhat complicated, but situation exactly analogous to the case of restricted field strength for single spin.

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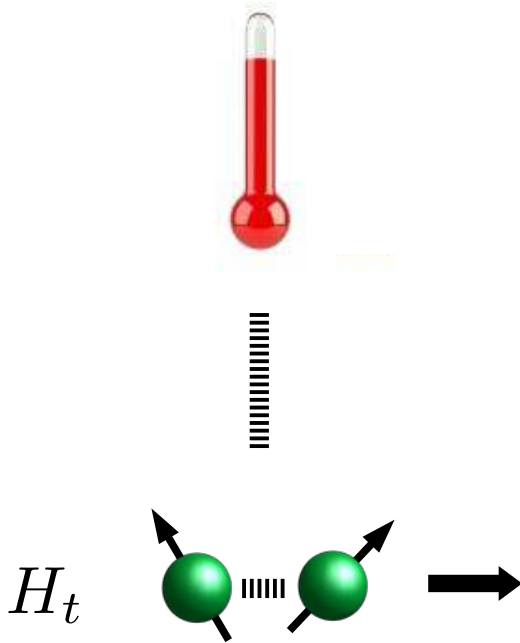
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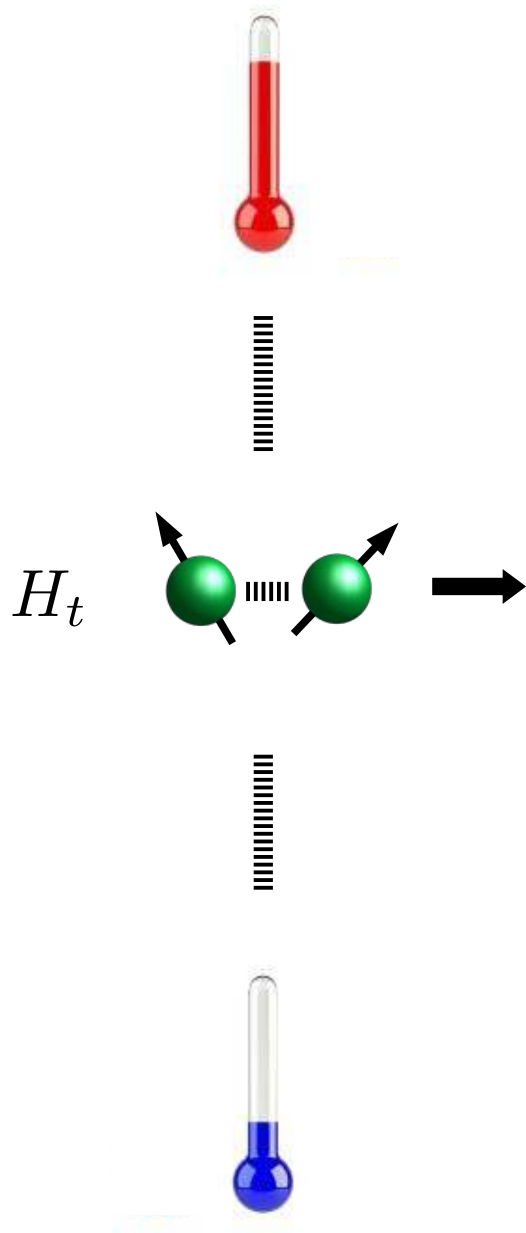
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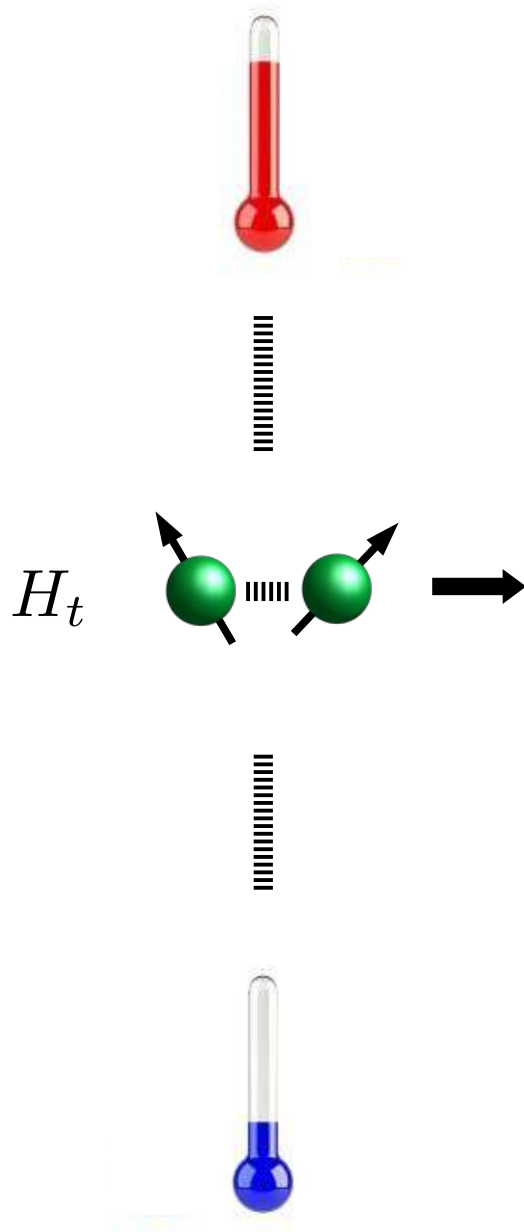
What effects does restriction to local control have in **many-body systems**?



The Second Law under control restrictions



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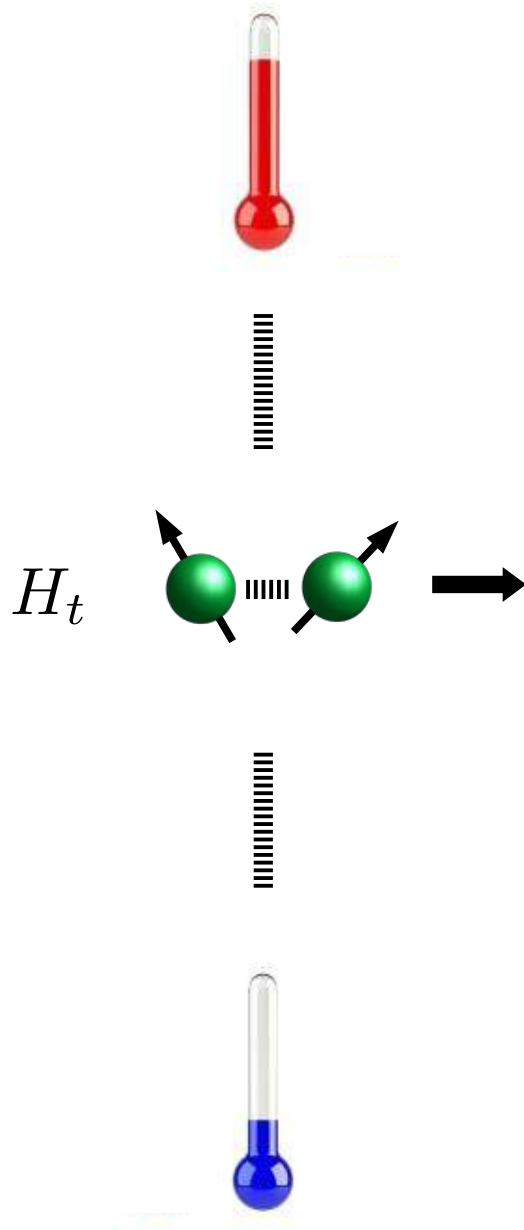


Theorem (General bound on efficiency):

The maximum efficiency of an engine operated under restricted control is given by

$$\eta = 1 - \frac{T_c}{T_h} \left[\min_{\substack{U_h, U_c, \\ H^{(1)}, \dots, H^{(4)}}} \frac{\Delta S + \text{Dissip.}^c}{\Delta S - \text{Dissip.}^h} \right]$$

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$$\text{Dissip.}^c = S(U_c \omega_{\beta_h}(H^{(2)}) U_c^\dagger \| \omega_{\beta_c}(H^{(3)}))$$

$$\text{Dissip.}^h = S(U_h \omega_{\beta_c}(H^{(4)}) U_h^\dagger \| \omega_{\beta_h}(H^{(1)}))$$

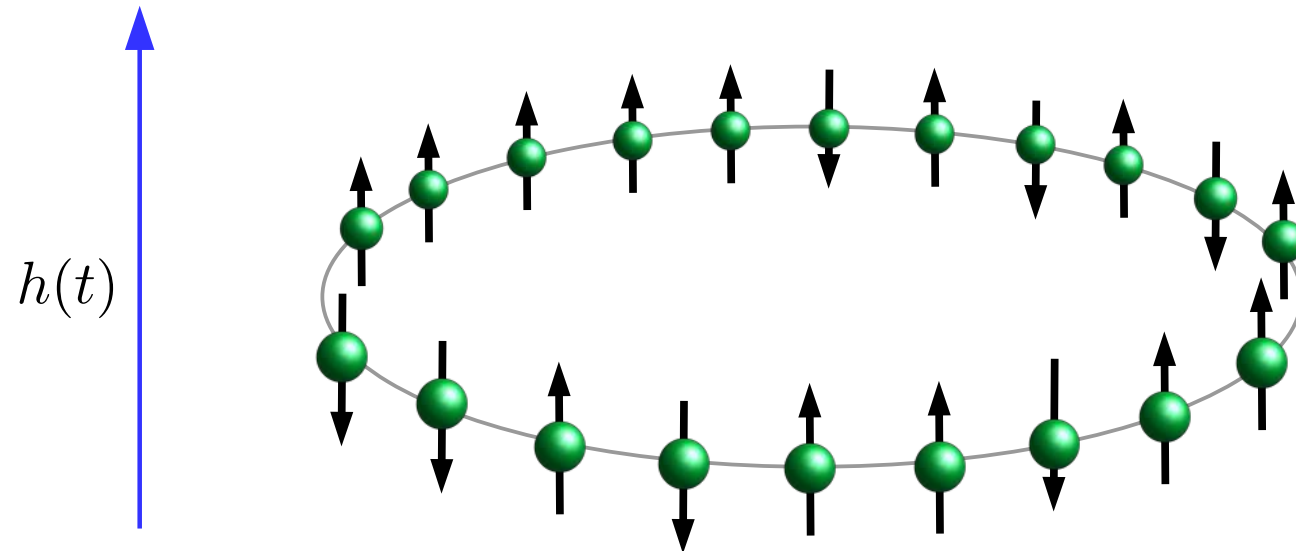
$$\Delta S = S(\omega_{\beta_h}(H^{(2)})) - S(\omega_{\beta_c}(H^{(4)}))$$

$H^{(i)}$: Hamiltonians of the form $H_t = H_{\text{ext}}(t) + H_{\text{int}}$

$U_{c/h}$: Arbitrary unitaries that can be obtained by evolving under the possible Hamiltonians

Case study: Classical 1-D Ising model with periodic boundary conditions

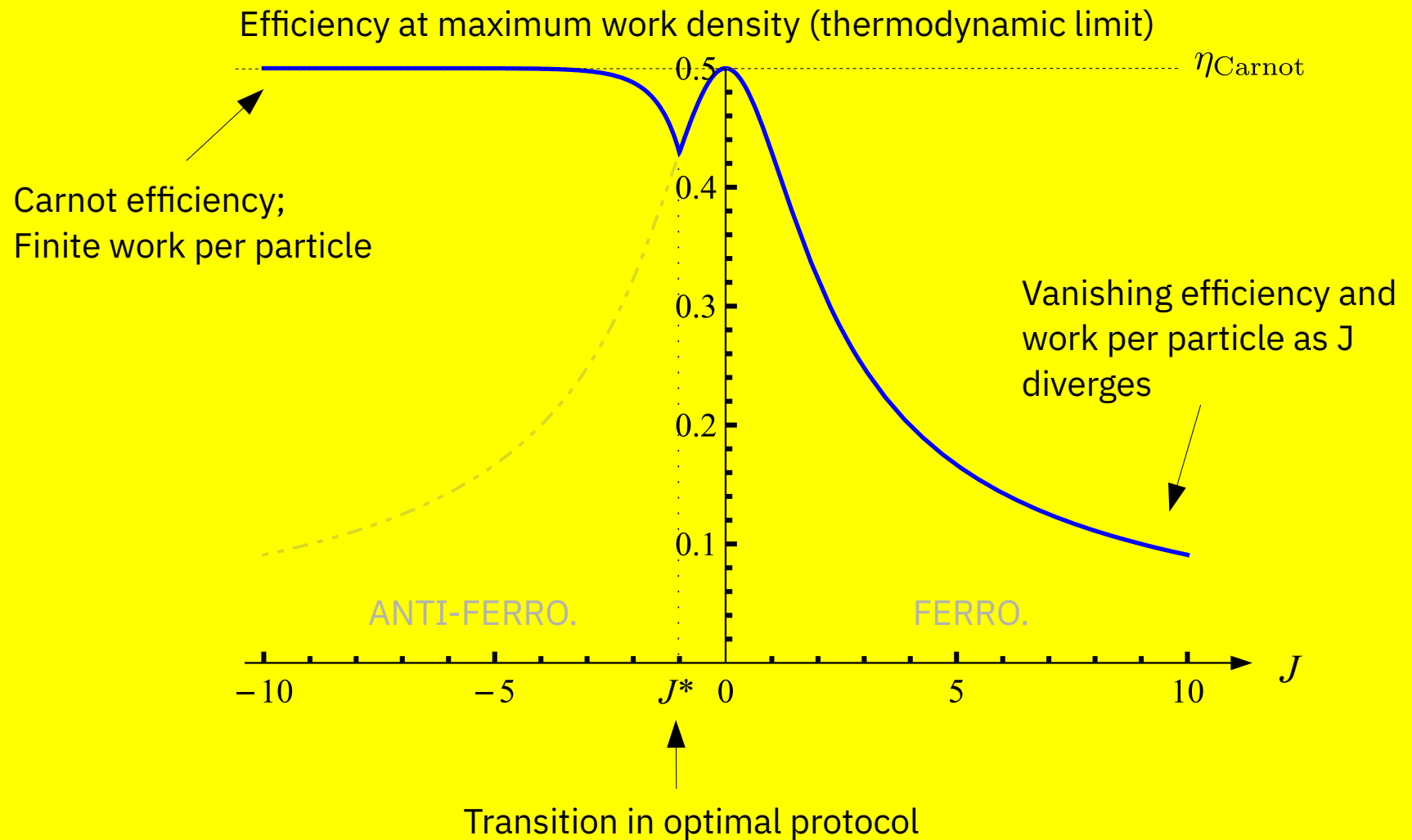
$$H_N = h(t) \sum_{j=1}^N \sigma_z^{(j)} - J \sum_{j=1}^N \sigma_z^{(j)} \sigma_z^{(j+1)}$$



How does the performance depend on the interaction strength?
(Energy scales introduced by temperatures of heat baths)

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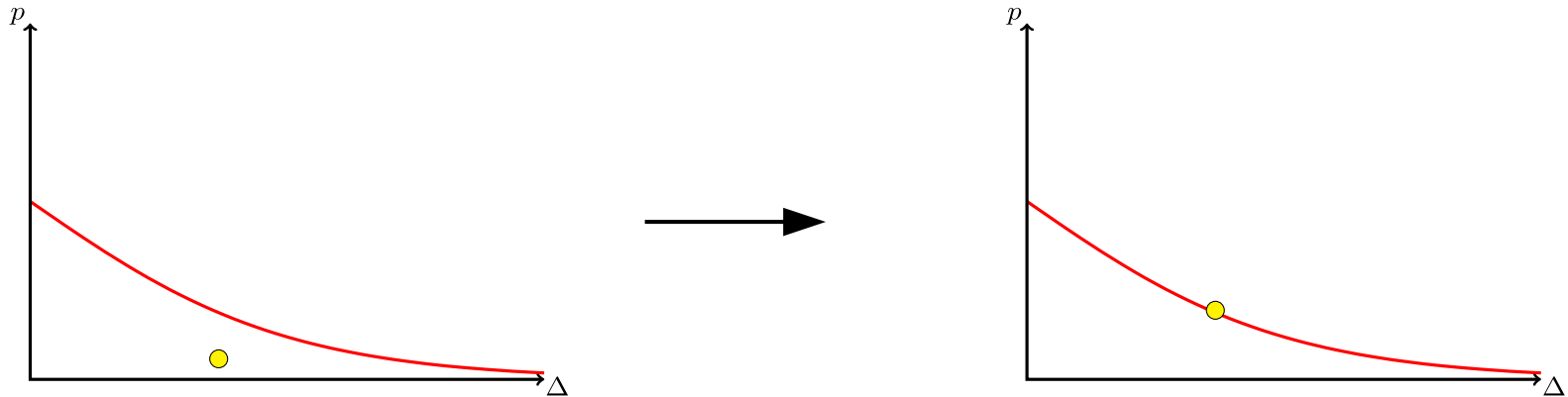


Summary

- Limitations on the implementable Hamiltonians can lead to situations where **no work can be extracted from non-equilibrium condition** even if reachable Hamiltonians still allow to implement **arbitrary unitary processes on working system**.
- This limitation may be overcome if more fine-grained control over the heat baths is available. Can be possible using **small heat baths**, consisting of a few particles.
- (Not shown today) Related effects can arise in strong coupling settings and with heat baths that thermalize to Generalized Gibbs Ensembles (GGEs).

Some open questions/problems:

- For small systems, it could be more important to optimize fluctuations instead of mean values. How do control restrictions enter fluctuation theorems?
- More systematic study of how locality constrains thermodynamics.



Thanks a lot for the nice workshop and your attention!

References for more detail:

H. Wilming., R. Gallego, and J. Eisert. *Phys. Rev. E* 93.4 (2016).

J. Lekscha, H. Wilming, J. Eisert, and R. Gallego. *Phys. Rev. E* 97 (2), 022142 (2018).

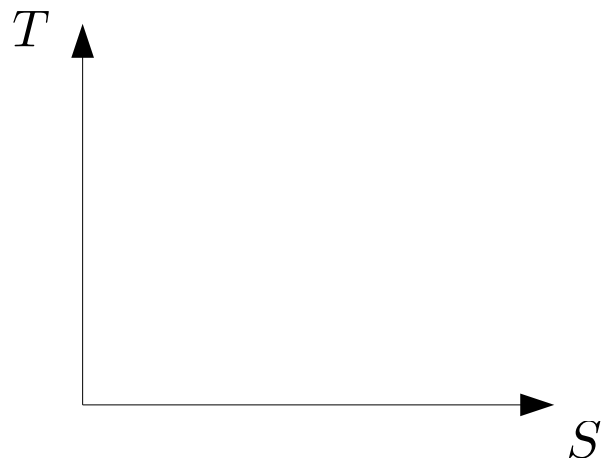
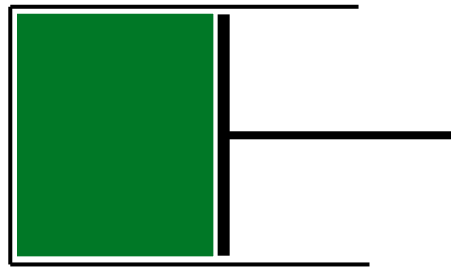
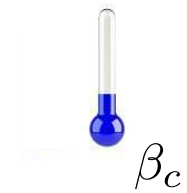
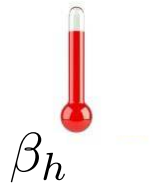
Generalized Gibbs ensembles and strong-coupling:

M. Perarnau-Llobet, A. Riera, R. Gallego, H. Wilming, and J. Eisert. *New J. Phys.* 18.12 (2016)

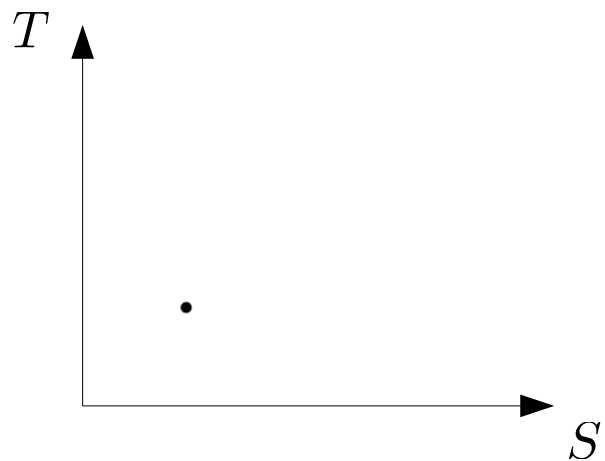
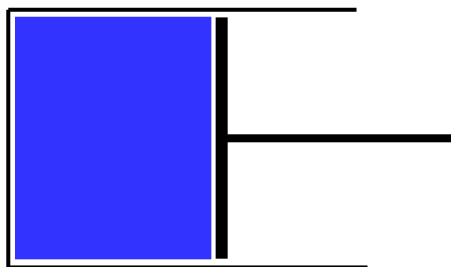
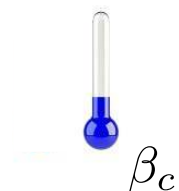
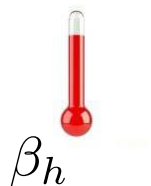
M. Perarnau-Llobet, H. Wilming, A. Riera, R. Gallego, and J. Eisert. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 120, 120602 (2018)

Appendix

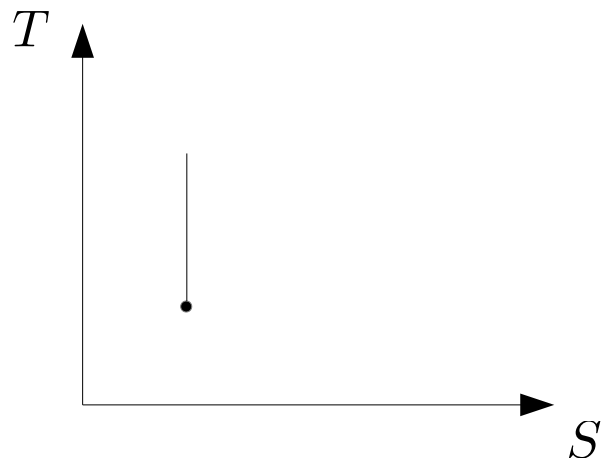
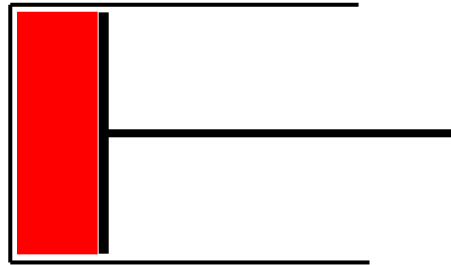
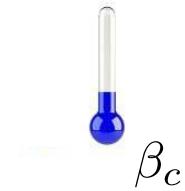
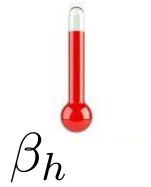
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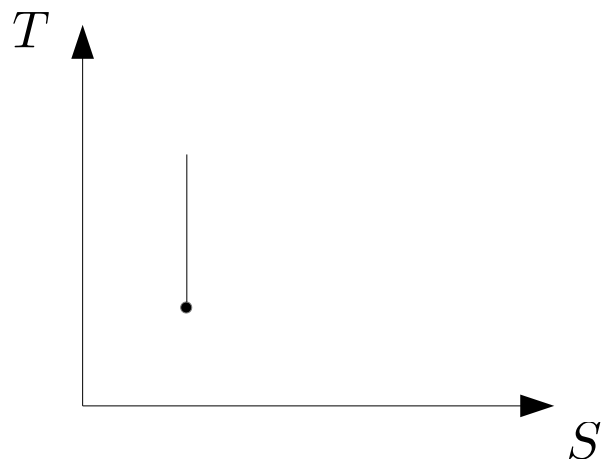
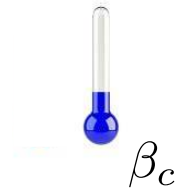
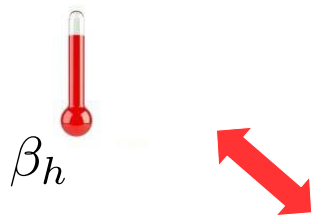
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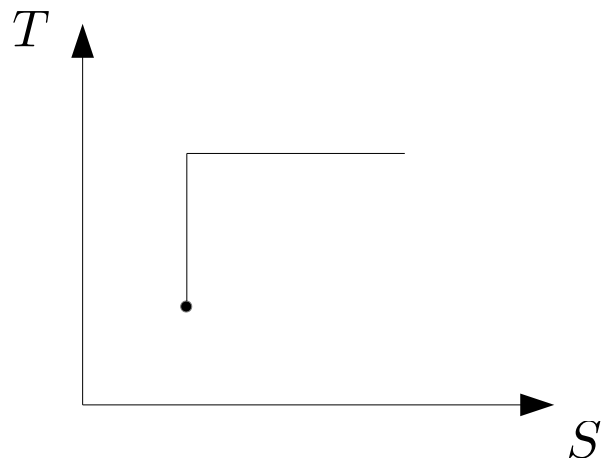
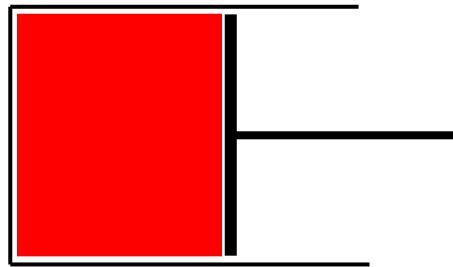
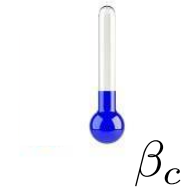
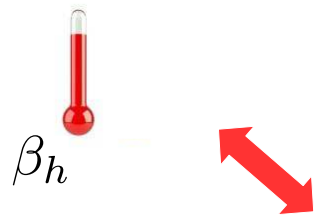
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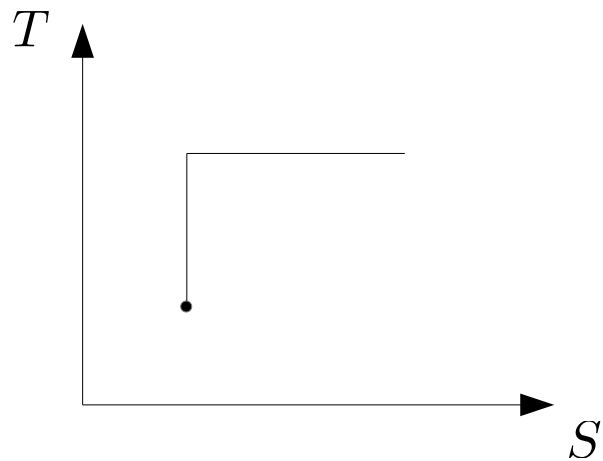
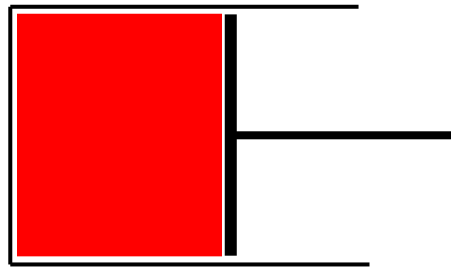
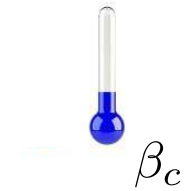
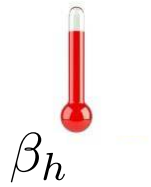
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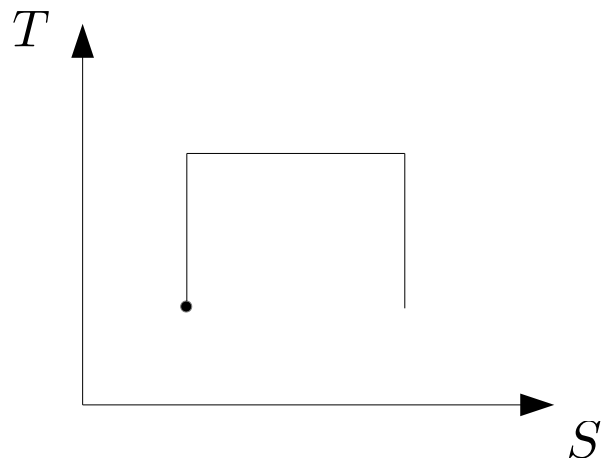
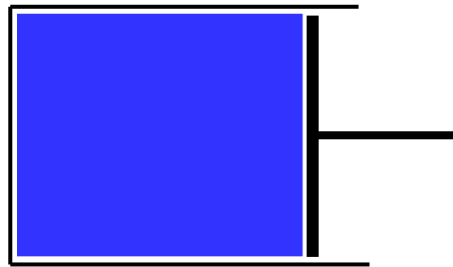
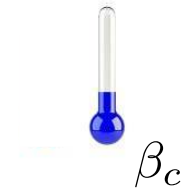
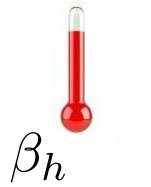
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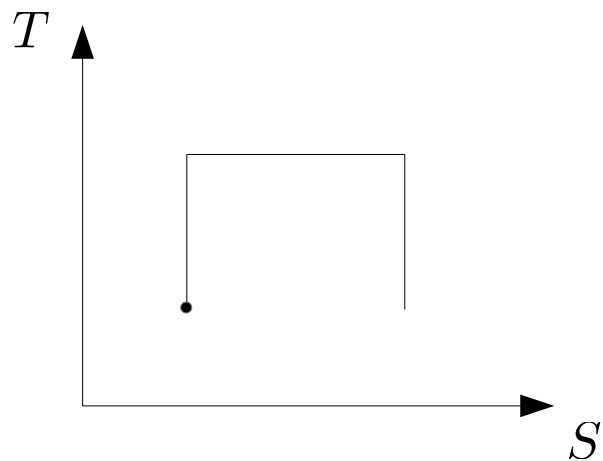
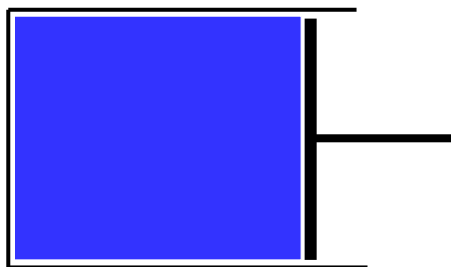
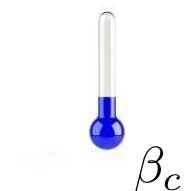
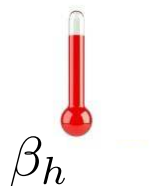
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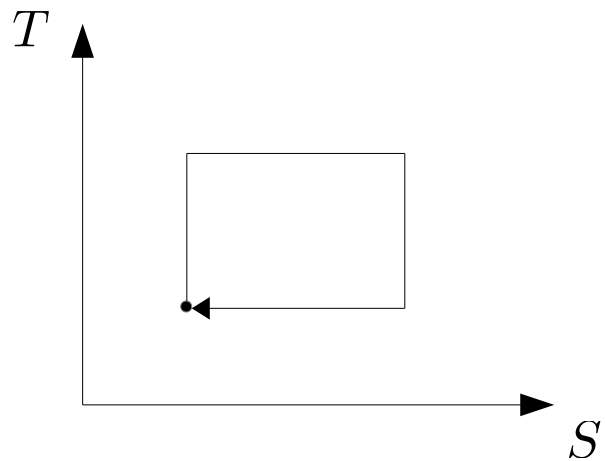
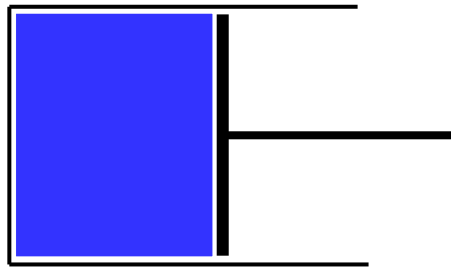
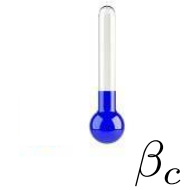
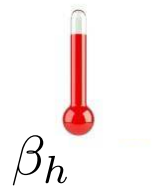
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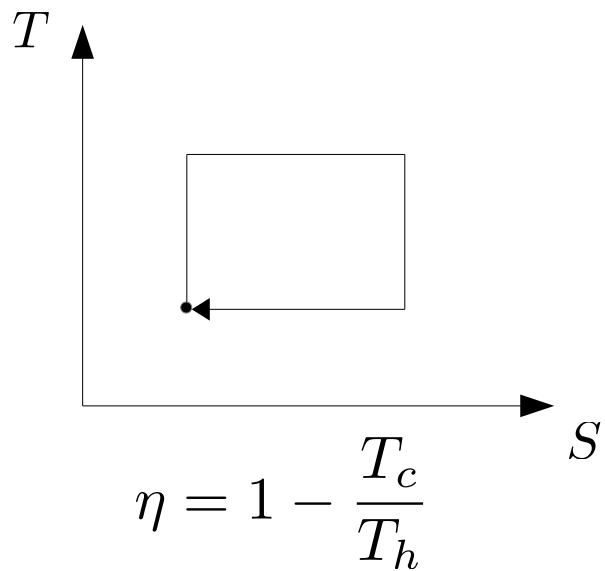
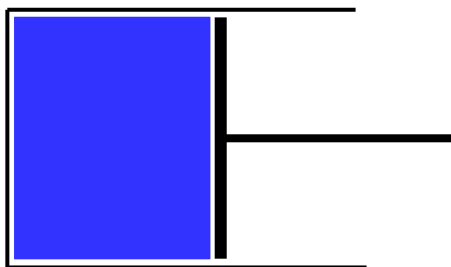
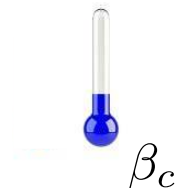
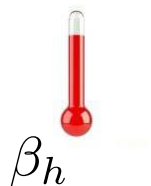
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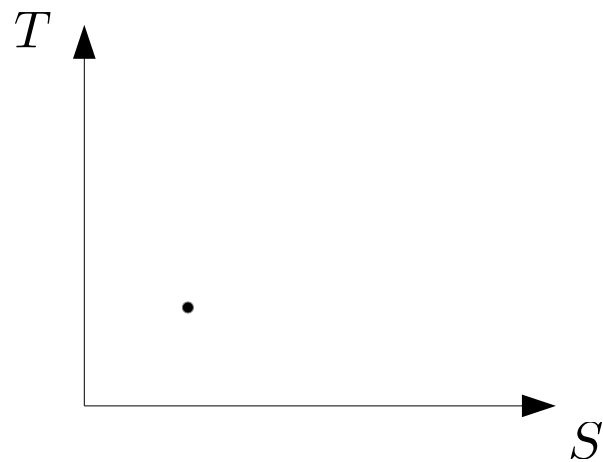
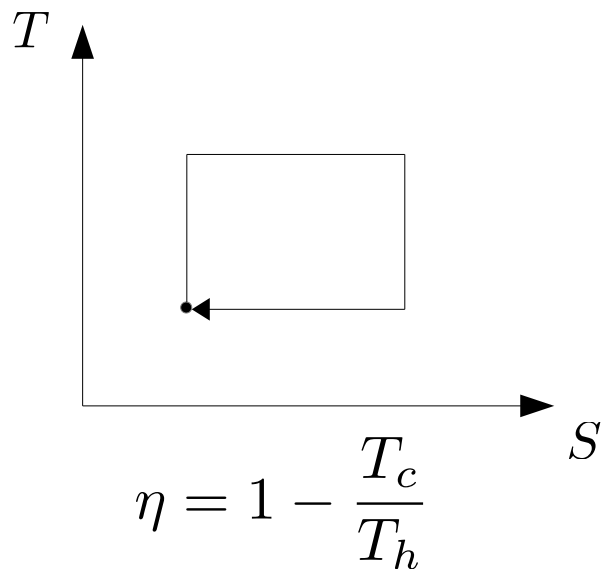
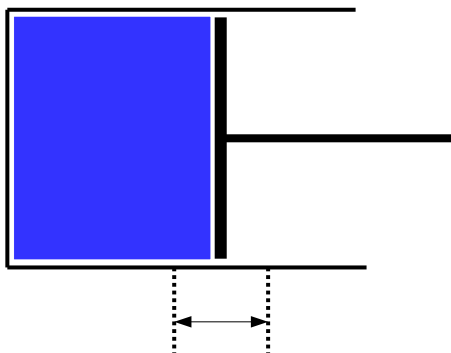
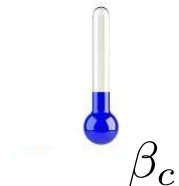
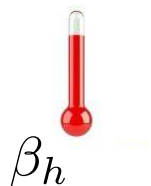
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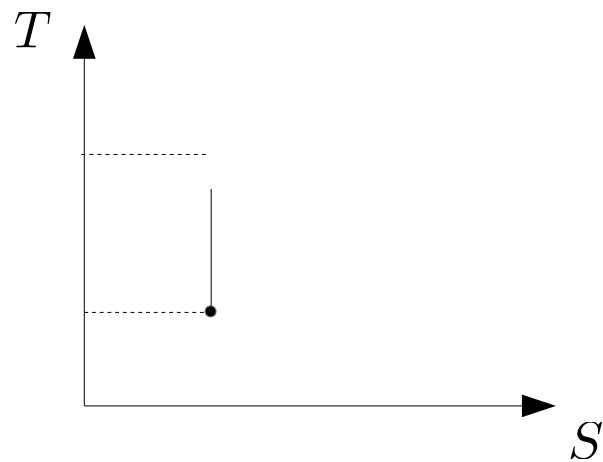
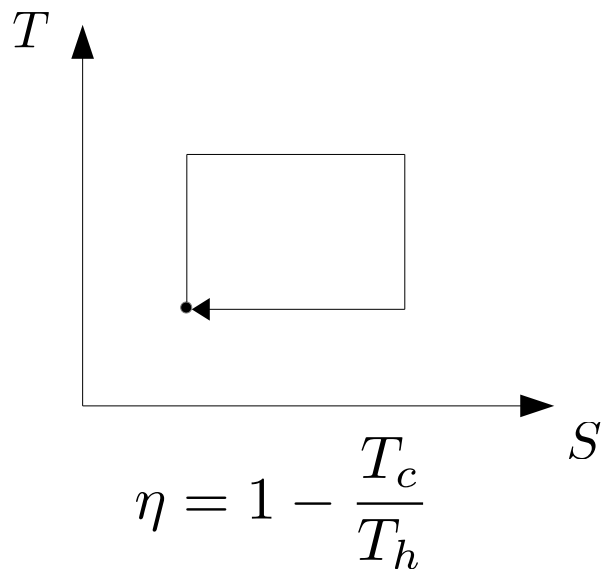
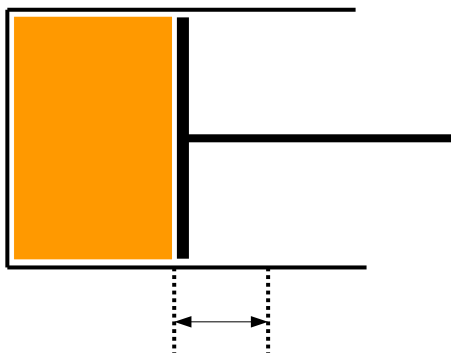
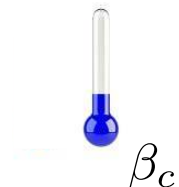
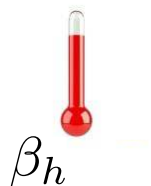
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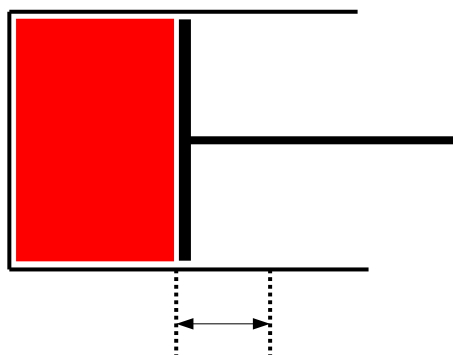
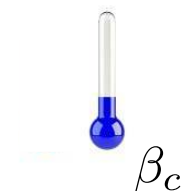
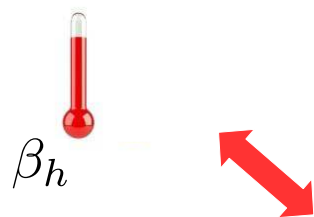
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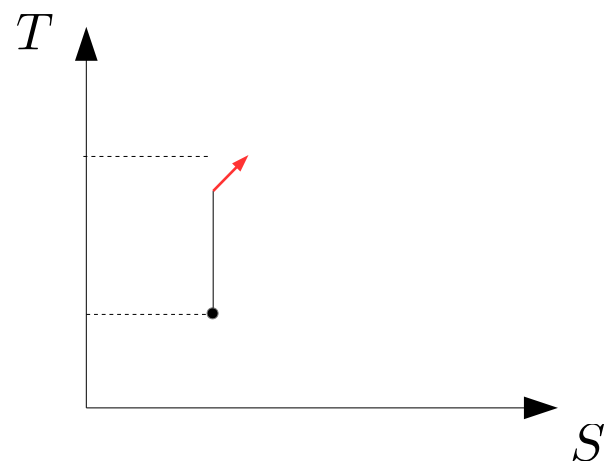
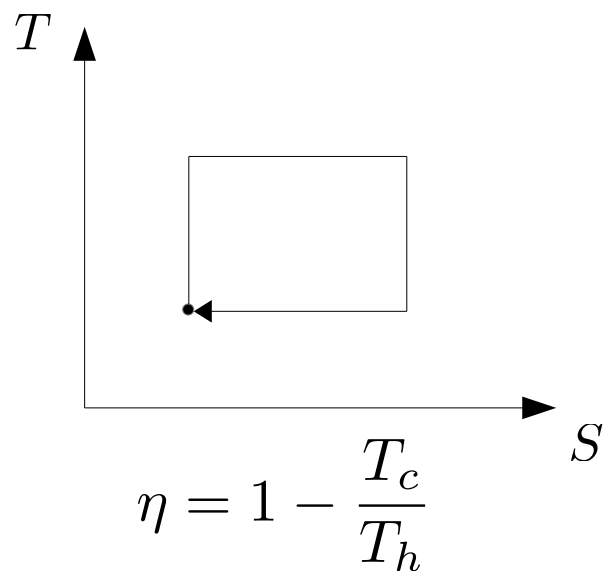
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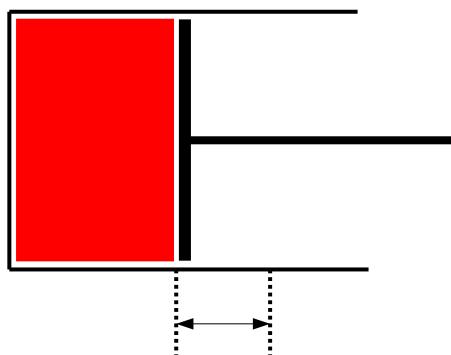
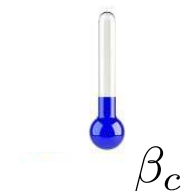
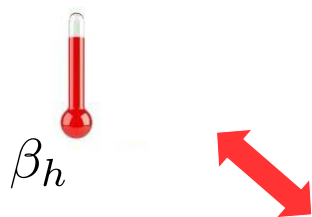
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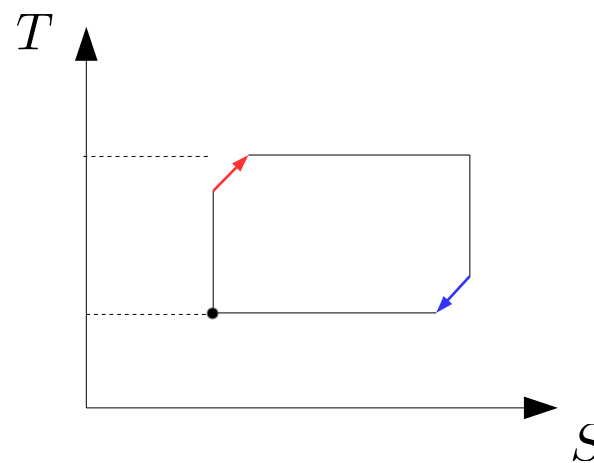
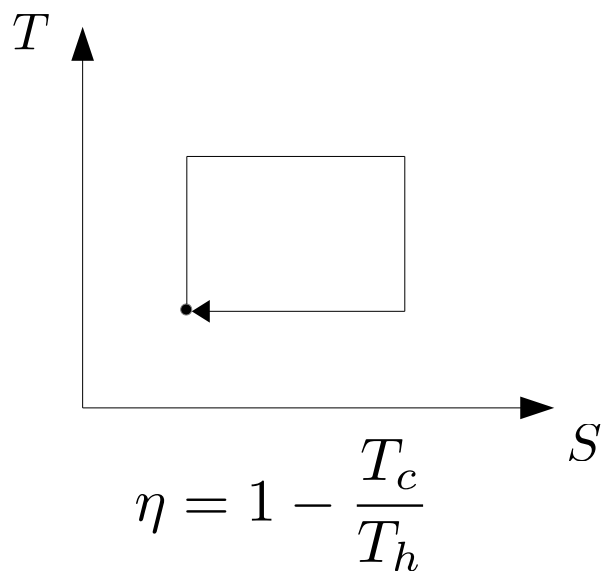
Limitations on the position of the piston induce irreversibility



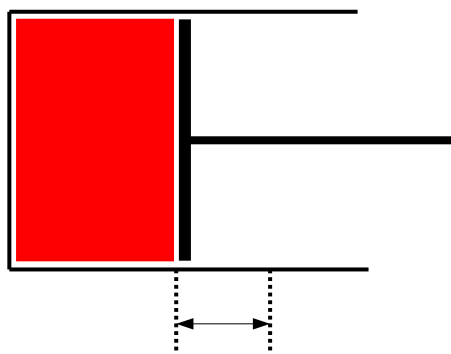
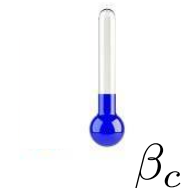
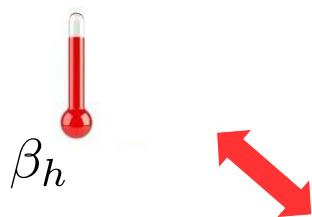
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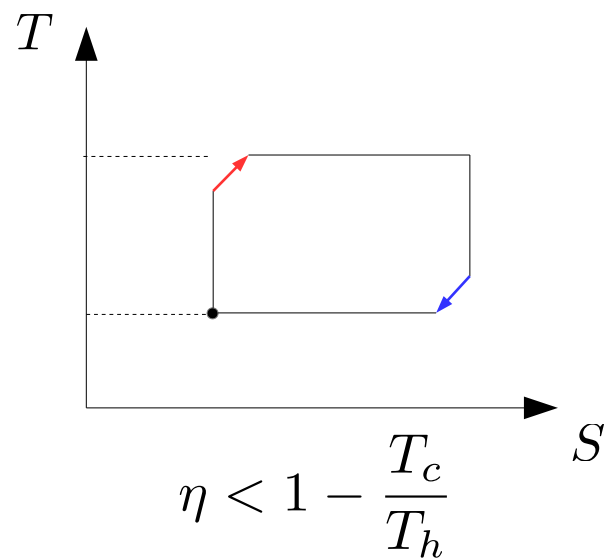
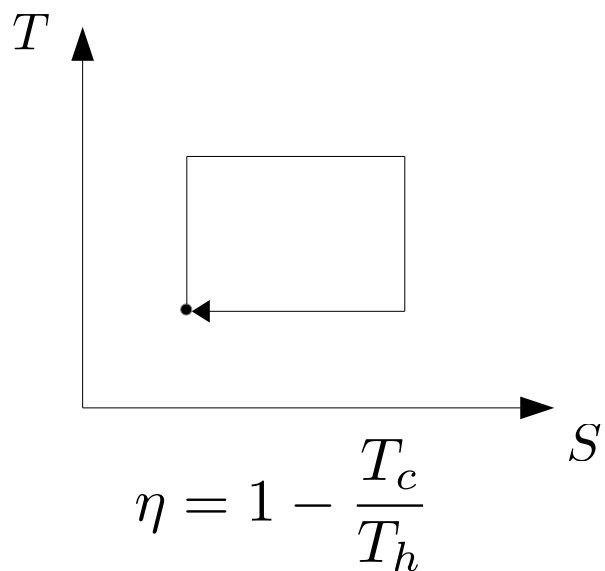
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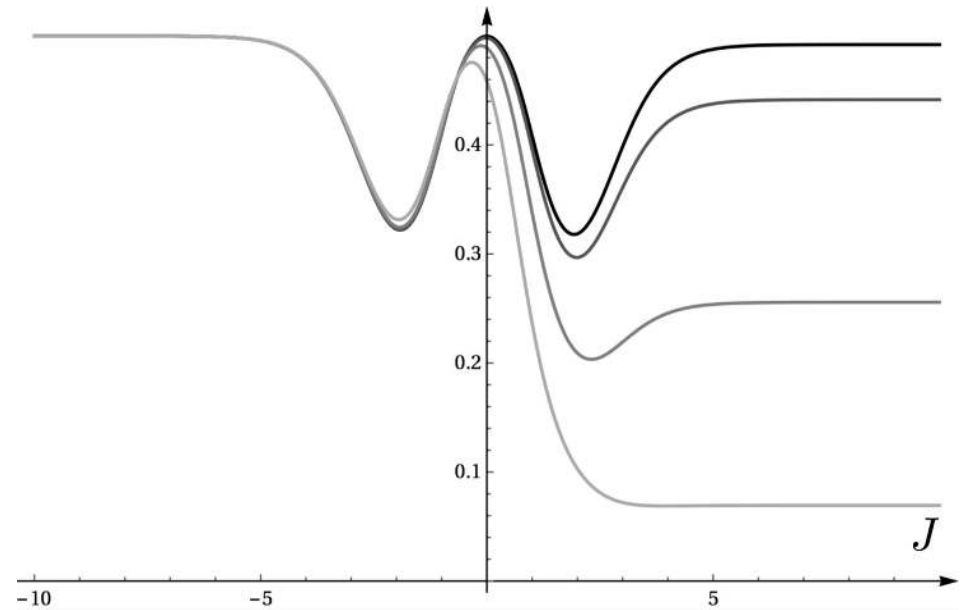
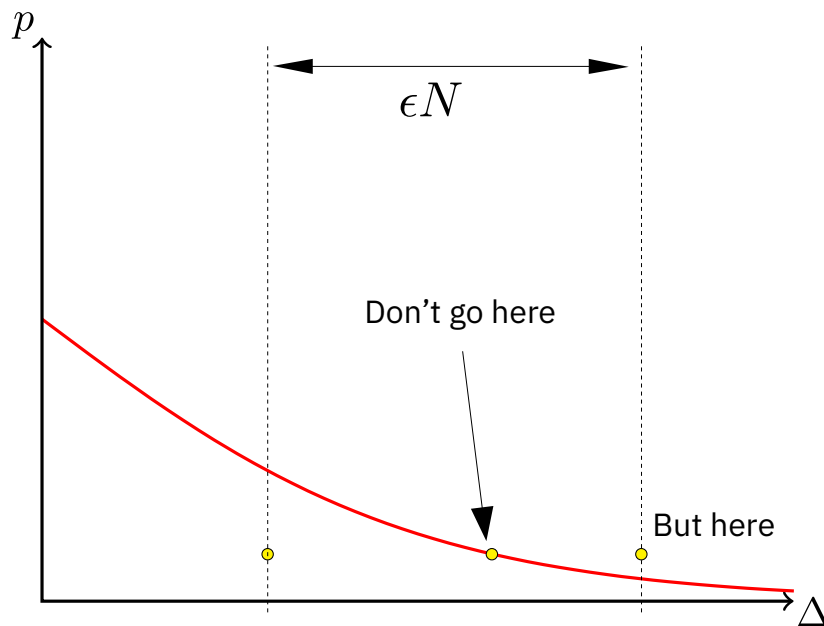
Ising model: Toy-model explanation of behaviour of ferromagnetic regime

$$H = J \left[\frac{h(t)}{J} \sum_j \sigma_z^j - \sum_j \sigma_z^j \sigma_z^{j+1} \right] = J H_J$$

For finite N , but J extremely large, we have (for zero magnetic field)

$$\omega_\beta(H) = \omega_{J\beta}(H_J) \approx \frac{1}{2} [|0 \dots 0\rangle \langle 0 \dots 0| + |1 \dots 1\rangle \langle 1 \dots 1|]$$

For **small fields** but **very large J** , state is still essentially confined to $|0 \dots 0\rangle$ and $|1 \dots 1\rangle$, but changing the field by a small amount ϵ changes the energy difference between the two states by a large amount (proportional to N). Thus, finite but small error on magnetic field yields huge errors in the control of the state.



Efficiency at maximum work for 6 spins and different accuracies for magnetic field in cycle

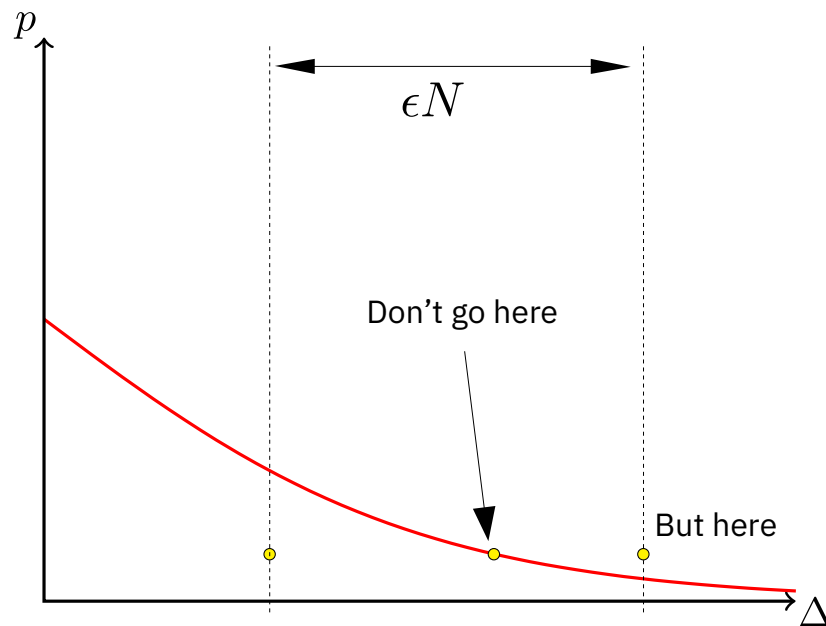
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$$\lim_{J \rightarrow \infty} \eta = \frac{T_h - T_c}{T_h} \mathcal{O}(e^{-\epsilon N})$$

Work-density in cycle given by

$$\frac{W}{N} = (T_h - T_c) \frac{\Delta S}{N} - \text{corrections}$$

Required that we can choose magnetic fields in parts of thermodynamic cycle (as functions of J) so that we have finite **entropy density** for any value of J . For **large J** , this is **impossible** in the **ferromagnetic** regime, since groundstate degeneracy does not grow exponentially with N and the system is essentially stuck in the groundstate subspace of the interaction.

$$H = |J| \left[-\frac{h}{|J|} \sum_j \sigma_z^j + \sum_j \sigma_z^j \sigma_z^{j+1} \right] = |J| H_{|J|}$$

For finite N , but $|J|$ extremely large, we have

$$\omega_\beta(H) = \omega_{|J|\beta}(H_{|J|}) \approx \text{normalized ground-state projector of } H_{|J|}$$

For $h = 2|J|$, we have **exponential** ground-state degeneracy:

$$\text{Energy}(\uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow) = [-2N + N] = -N$$

$$\text{Energy}(\downarrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow) = [(-2N + 4) + (N - 4)] = -N$$

$$\text{Energy}(\downarrow \uparrow \downarrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow) = [(-2N + 8) + (N - 8)] = -N$$

Can choose at least for every second spin
whether we want to flip or not:
Exponentially many choices



Finite entropy density in groundstate for $h=2|J|$.

Zero entropy density for $h=0$.

--> Finite work-density.

