

# *Quantum Phase Transitions in Optical Cavity QED*

Felipe Dimer

Howard Carmichael

SP

Benoit Estienne (Paris)

Sarah Morrison (Innsbruck)

 THE UNIVERSITY  
OF AUCKLAND  
DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS



Volume 46A, number 1

PHYSICS LETTERS

19 November 1973

**HIGHER ORDER CORRECTIONS  
TO THE DICKE SUPERRADIANT PHASE TRANSITION**

H.J. CARMICHAEL, C.W. GARDINER and D.F. WALLS  
*School of Science, University of Waikato, Hamilton, New Zealand*

Received 4 September 1973

The phase transition in the Dicke model for superradiance obtained by Hepp and Lieb and Wang and Hioe is modified by eliminating the rotating wave approximation.

## Outline

- **Single-mode Dicke model**
  - equilibrium phase transition
  - $T=0$  quantum phase transition
- **Proposed realisation in optical cavity QED**

Dimer, Estienne, Parkins & Carmichael, PRA **75**, 013804 (2007)

  - Raman transition scheme
  - open system dynamics – non-equilibrium phase transition
  - monitoring the system: cavity output field
  - critical behaviour of quantum entanglement
- **Other possibilities for effective spin systems**

## Dicke Model

- $N$  two-level atoms at fixed positions in a cavity of volume  $V$  (constant coupling strength)
- Inter-atomic separations large  $\Rightarrow$  neglect direct interactions between atoms
- However, the atoms interact with the **same radiation field**  
 $\Rightarrow$  they cannot be treated as independent, must be treated as a **single quantum system**

Dicke, Phys. Rev. **93**, 99 (1954)

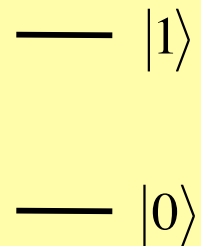
## The Single-Mode Dicke Model

- $N$  two-level atoms coupled identically to a single EM field mode

$$H_{\text{Dicke}} = \omega a^\dagger a + \omega_0 J_z + \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{N}} (a + a^\dagger)(J^- + J^+)$$

- Coupling constant  $\lambda \propto \sqrt{\frac{N}{V}}$
- Collective atomic operators

$$J^- = \sum_{i=1}^N |0_i\rangle \langle 1_i|, \quad J_z = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N (|1_i\rangle \langle 1_i| - |0_i\rangle \langle 0_i|)$$



# Phase Transition in the Dicke Model

Hepp & Lieb, Phys. Rev. A **8**, 2517 (1973)

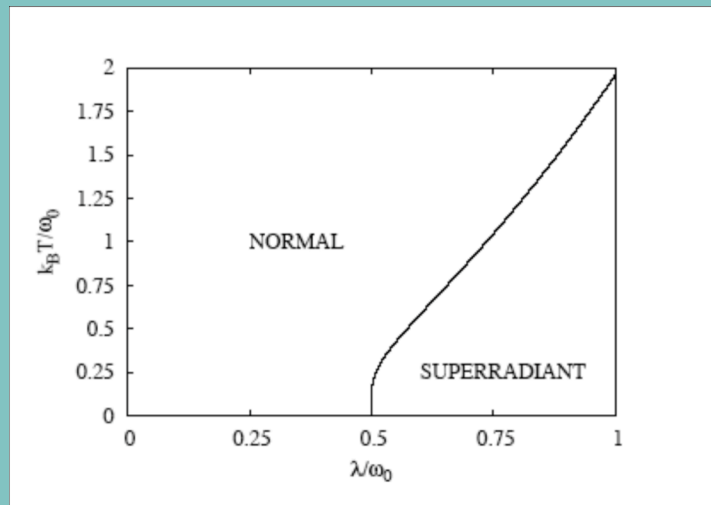
Hioe, Phys. Rev. A **8**, 1440 (1973)

Carmichael, Gardiner & Walls, Phys. Lett. **46A**, 47 (1973)

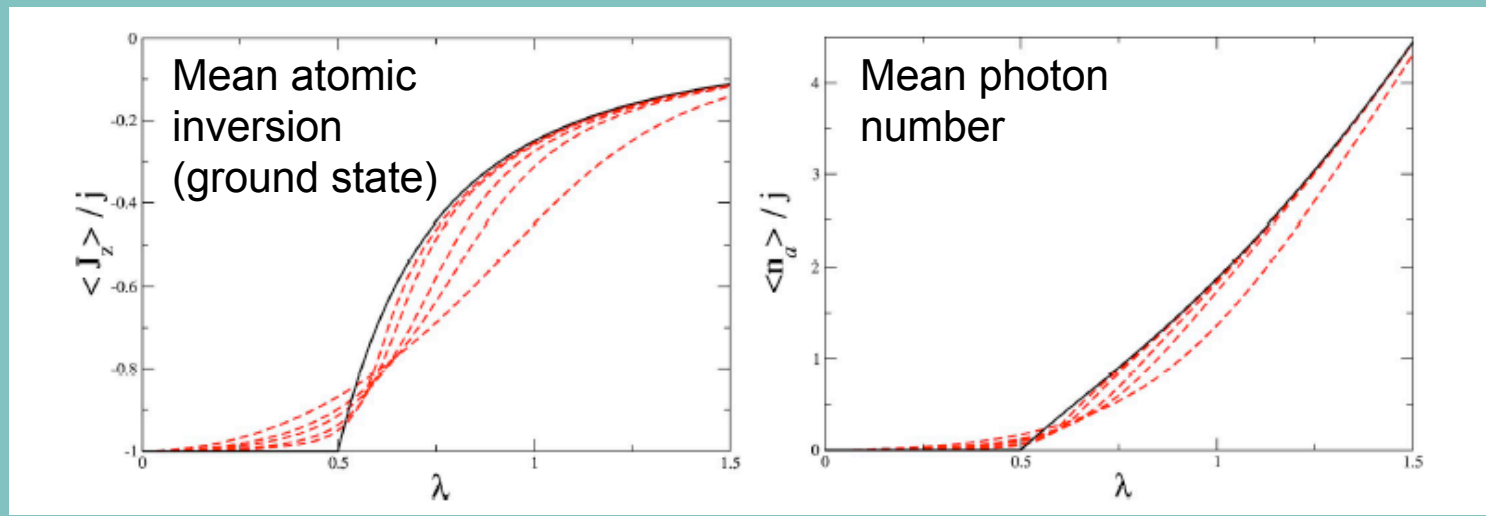
Thermodynamic limit  
 $N, V \rightarrow \infty, N/V$  finite

- Phase transition to superradiant state for

$$\lambda > \lambda_c = \frac{\sqrt{\omega\omega_0}}{2}, \quad T < T_c \text{ where } \frac{\omega\omega_0}{4\lambda^2} = \tanh\left(\frac{\omega_0}{2k_B T_c}\right)$$



## “Order Parameters” ( $T=0$ )



(Dashed lines: finite atom number,  $N=1,2,3,6,10$ )

# But ... no equilibrium phase transition with $A^2$ term included

## Phase Transitions, Two-Level Atoms, and the $A^2$ Term

K. Rzażewski\* and K. Wódkiewicz\*

*Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Rochester, Rochester, New York 14627, and  
Institute of Theoretical Physics, Warsaw University, 00-681, Warsaw, Poland*

and

W. Żakowicz

*Institute of Nuclear Research, 00-681, Warsaw, Poland*

(Received 11 June 1975)

We show that the presence of the recently discovered phase transition in the Dicke Hamiltonian is due entirely to the absence of the  $A^2$  terms from the interaction Hamiltonian.

Consider the well-studied Hamiltonian

$$H_1 = \frac{\hbar\omega_{ba}}{2} \sum_{j=1}^N \sigma_j^z + \hbar\omega a^\dagger a + \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{j=1}^N (\sigma_j^+ a + \sigma_j^- a^\dagger). \quad (1)$$

This Hamiltonian describes the collective interaction of a single mode of radiation (frequency  $\omega$ ) with a single transition between levels  $a$  and  $b$  (frequency  $\omega_{ba} > 0$ ) in  $N$  identical two-level atoms. Operators  $a$  and  $a^\dagger$  denote here the annihilation and creation operators of the photons;  $\sigma_j^z$ ,  $\sigma_j^+$ ,  $\sigma_j^-$  are Pauli matrices used to describe the  $j$ th atom. The Hamiltonian (1), sometimes called the Dicke Hamiltonian,<sup>1</sup> may be derived<sup>2</sup> from the more familiar one

$$H = \sum_{j=1}^N \left[ \frac{1}{2m} \left( \hat{p}_j - \frac{e}{c} \vec{A}(\vec{r}_j) \right)^2 + V(\vec{r}_j) \right] + \hbar\omega a^\dagger a \quad (2)$$



## Dicke Model Quantum Phase Transition ( $T=0$ )

Emary & Brandes, Phys. Rev. E **67**, 066203 (2003)

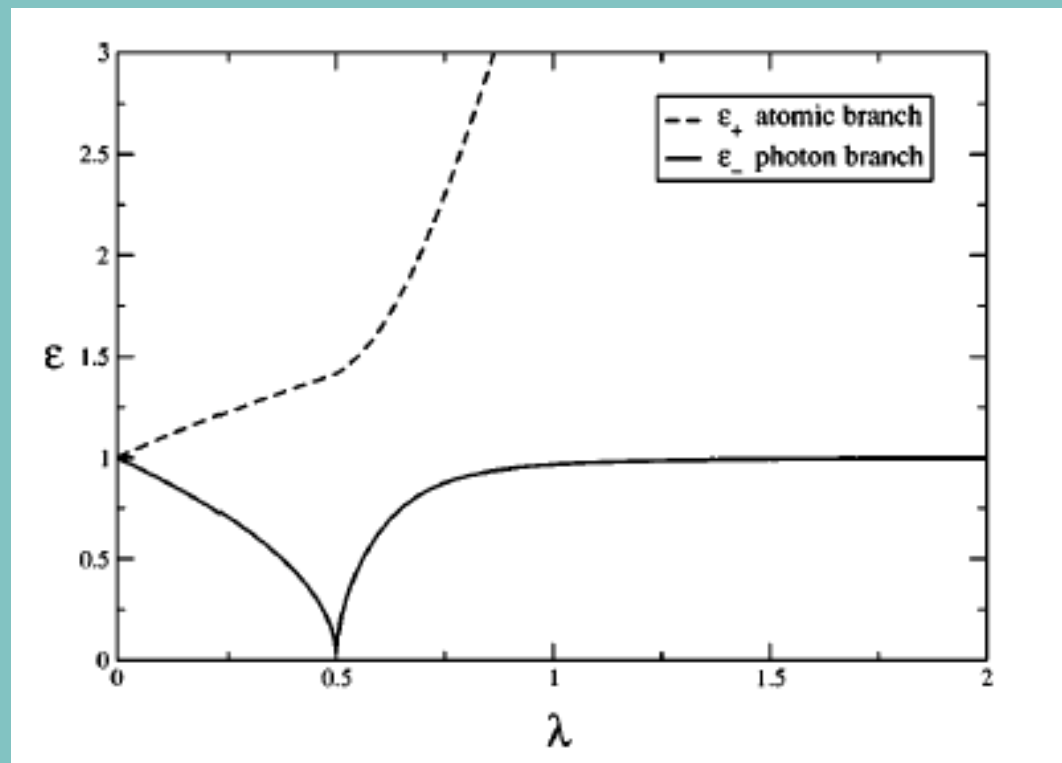
$$H_{\text{Dicke}} = \omega a^\dagger a + \omega_0 J_z + \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{N}} (a + a^\dagger)(J^- + J^+)$$

- Holstein-Primakoff representation of angular momentum operators

$$J^- = \left(\sqrt{N - b^\dagger b}\right) b, \quad J_z = b^\dagger b - \frac{N}{2}, \quad [b, b^\dagger] = 1$$

- Large- $N$  expansion of  $H_{\text{Dicke}}$ 
  - $H_{\text{normal}}, H_{\text{SR}}$  quadratic in  $(a, a^\dagger, b, b^\dagger)$
  - diagonalise (Bogoliubov transformation)
  - excitation energies

# Excitation Energies $(\omega = \omega_0 = 1, \lambda_c = 0.5)$



## Note: Derivation of $\{H_{\text{normal}}, H_{\text{SR}}\}$

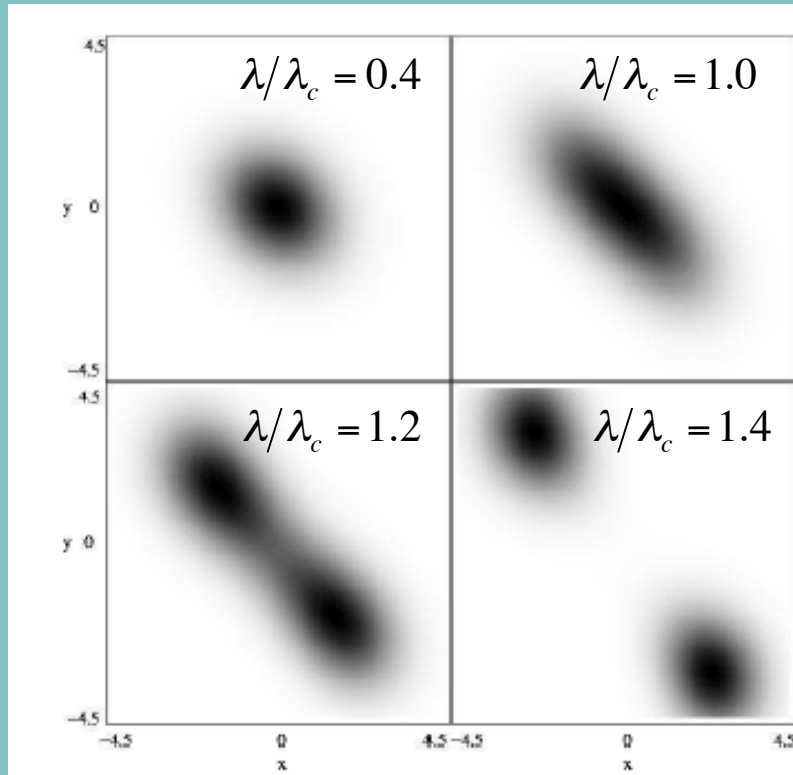
$$\lambda < \lambda_c : J \rightarrow \sqrt{N} b$$

$\lambda > \lambda_c : a \rightarrow a \pm \alpha, b \rightarrow b \pm \beta$  (coherent displacements)  
then expand in  $N$   
(i.e. linearisation about semiclassical amplitudes)

$$\langle a^\dagger a \rangle = |\alpha|^2, \quad \langle J_z \rangle = |\beta|^2 - \frac{N}{2}$$

## Note: Ground State “Wave Function”

$$|\psi(x, y)|^2 \quad (N = 10 \text{ atoms})$$



Transition from  
localised state  
to delocalised  
“Schrödinger Cat”  
state

$$|\Psi_g\rangle \sim |\alpha\rangle| -N/2\rangle_x + |-\alpha\rangle| N/2\rangle_x$$

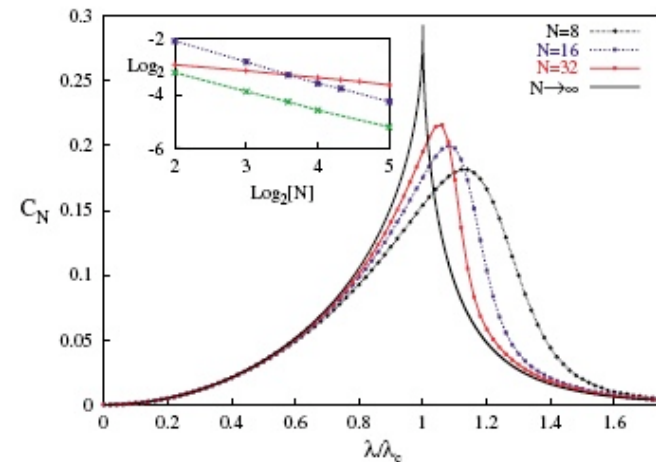
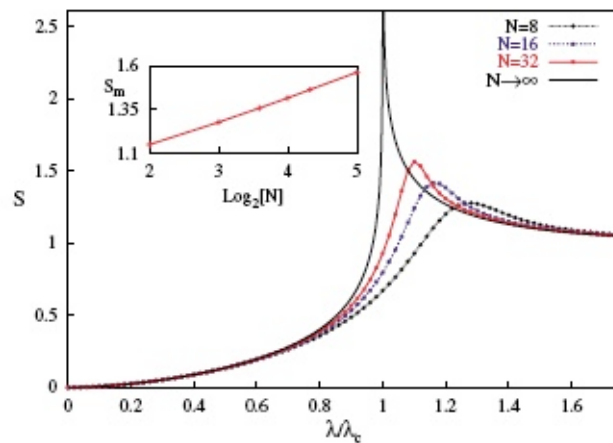
where

$$J_x|\pm N/2\rangle_x = \pm N/2|\pm N/2\rangle_x$$

# Entanglement properties

Critical behaviour of **atom-field** and **atom-atom** quantum entanglement at transition

Lambert, Emary & Brandes, Phys. Rev. Lett. **92**, 073602 (2004)



## Possible Realisation?

Issues to confront:

- To date,  $\lambda \ll \{\omega, \omega_0\}$  in cavity QED experiments
- Atomic spontaneous emission, cavity mode losses
- And the  $A^2$  issue

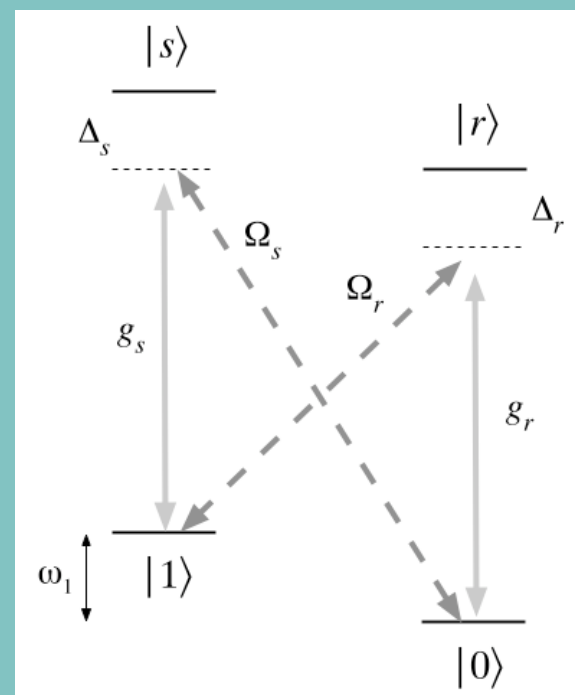
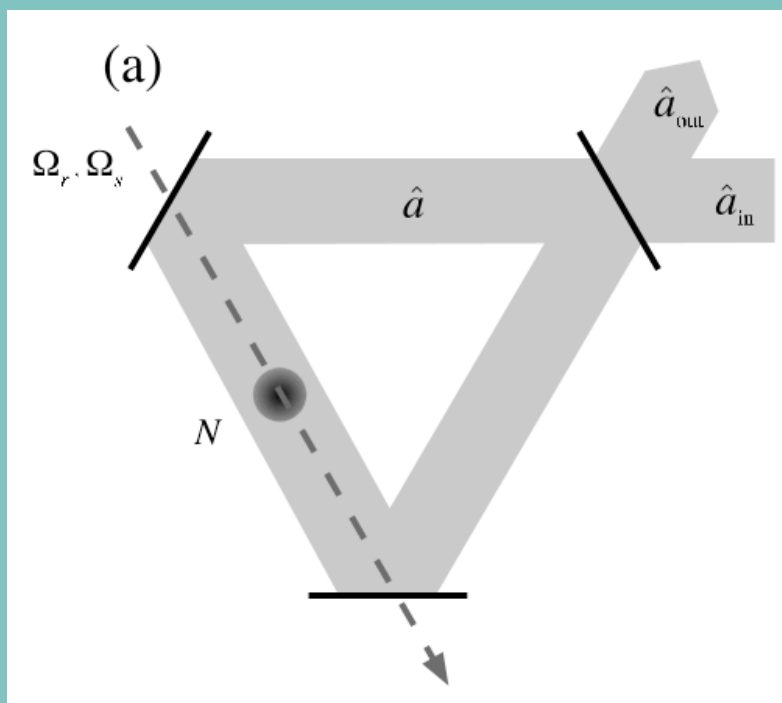
Our approach:

- Raman scheme,  $\{\omega, \omega_0\} \propto \{\text{level shifts, Raman detunings}\}$ ,  
 $\lambda \propto \text{Raman transition rate}$
- Open-system dynamics  
 $\Rightarrow$  **non-equilibrium** (dynamical) **quantum phase transition**

Dimer, Estienne, Parkins & Carmichael, PRA **75**, 013804 (2007)

## Possible Realisation in Optical Cavity QED

- $N$  atoms identically coupled to single optical (ring) cavity mode
- Lasers + cavity field drive **two distinct Raman transitions** between stable ground states  $|0\rangle$  and  $|1\rangle$



## Model: Adiabatic elimination of atomic excited states

Effective Hamiltonian (rotating frame)

$$H = \left[ \delta_{\text{cav}} + \frac{1}{2} N \left( \frac{g_r^2}{\Delta_r} + \frac{g_s^2}{\Delta_s} \right) \right] a^\dagger a + \left( \frac{g_r^2}{\Delta_r} - \frac{g_s^2}{\Delta_s} \right) a^\dagger a J_z$$
$$+ \left( \frac{\Omega_r^2}{4\Delta_r} - \frac{\Omega_s^2}{4\Delta_s} + \delta' \right) J_z$$
$$+ \frac{g_r \Omega_r}{2\Delta_r} (a J^+ + a^\dagger J^-) + \frac{g_s \Omega_s}{2\Delta_s} (a^\dagger J^+ + a J^-)$$

$$\delta_{\text{cav}} = \omega_{\text{cav}} - \frac{1}{2} (\omega_{L_s} + \omega_{L_r})$$
$$\delta' = \omega_1 - \frac{1}{2} (\omega_{L_s} - \omega_{L_r})$$

Choose  $\frac{g_s^2}{\Delta_s} = \frac{g_r^2}{\Delta_r}, \quad \frac{g_r \Omega_r}{2\Delta_r} = \frac{g_s \Omega_s}{2\Delta_s}$

then ...



## Effective (Dissipative) Dicke Model

Master equation for atom-field density operator  $\rho$  :

$$\dot{\rho} = -i[H, \rho] + \kappa(2a\rho a^\dagger - a^\dagger a\rho - \rho a^\dagger a)$$

where

$$H = \omega a^\dagger a + \omega_0 J_z + \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{N}}(a + a^\dagger)(J^- + J^+)$$

with

$$\omega = \delta_{\text{cav}} + \frac{Ng_r^2}{\Delta_r}, \quad \omega_0 = \delta', \quad \lambda = \frac{\sqrt{N}g_r\Omega_r}{2\Delta_r}$$

"tunable" such that  $\omega \sim \omega_0 \sim \lambda$

## Potential Experimental Parameters?

- Ring cavity / many atoms (e.g., Tübingen, Hamburg,  $^{85}\text{Rb}$ )

$$g_i/2\pi \approx 50 \text{ kHz}, \quad \kappa/2\pi \approx 20 \text{ kHz}, \quad N \approx 10^6$$

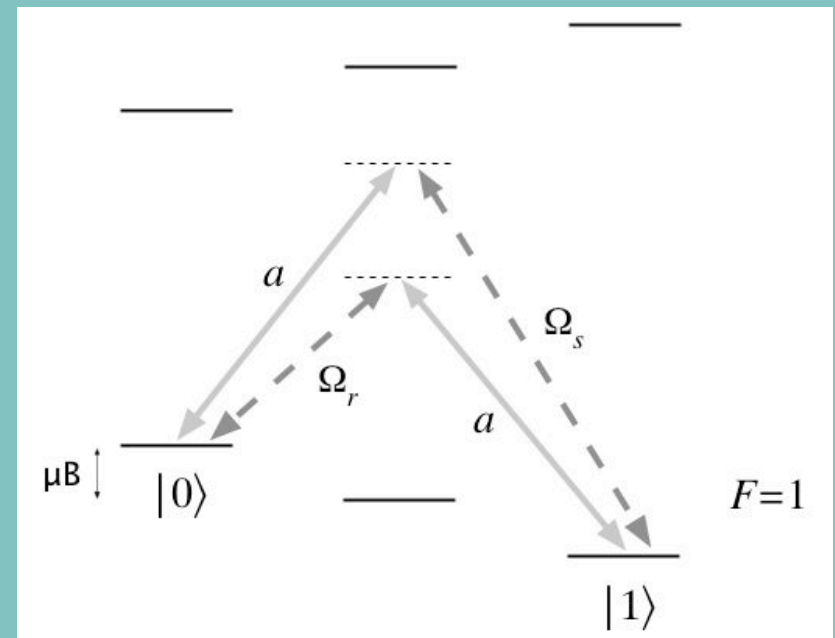
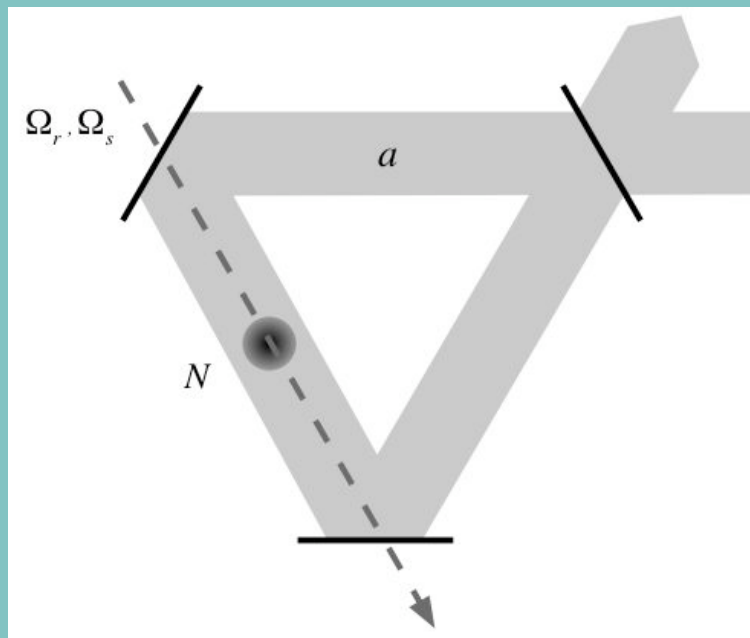
$$\frac{\Omega_i}{\Delta_i} \approx 0.005 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\lambda}{2\pi} \approx \sqrt{N} \times 0.125 \text{ kHz} \approx 125 \text{ kHz}$$

- Strong coupling CQED / few atoms (e.g., Georgia Tech,  $^{87}\text{Rb}$ )

$$g_i/2\pi \approx 30 \text{ MHz}, \quad \kappa/2\pi \approx 2 \text{ MHz}, \quad N \approx 100$$

$$\frac{\Omega_i}{\Delta_i} \approx 0.05 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\lambda}{2\pi} \approx \sqrt{N} \times 0.75 \text{ MHz} \approx 7.5 \text{ MHz}$$

e.g., ring cavity +  $^{87}\text{Rb}$  + magnetic field



## Holstein-Primakoff Analysis ( $N \rightarrow \infty$ ): Normal Phase

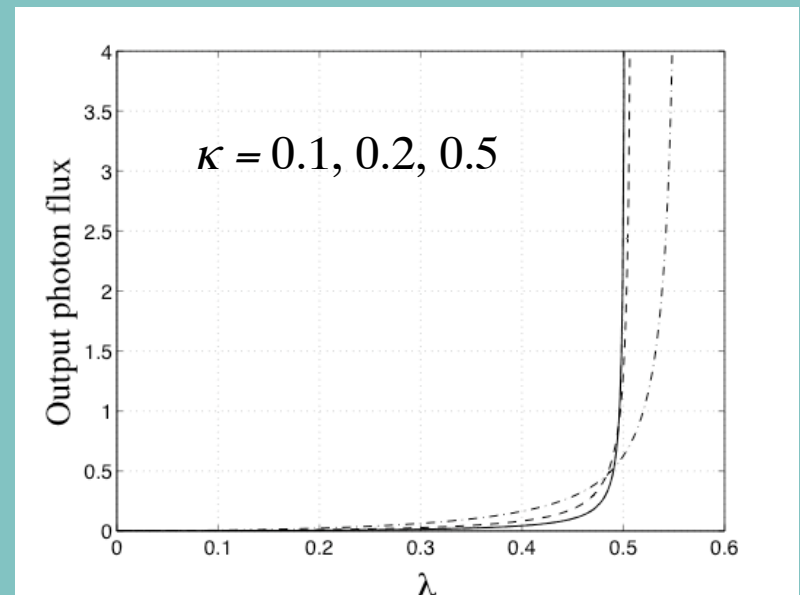
$$\dot{\rho} = -i[H^{(1)}, \rho] + \kappa(2a\rho a^+ - a^+a\rho - \rho a^+a)$$

with

$$H^{(1)} = \omega a^+ a + \omega_0 b^+ b + \lambda(a + a^+)(b + b^+)$$

for

$$\lambda < \lambda_c = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\omega_0}{\omega} (\kappa^2 + \omega^2)}$$



## Holstein-Primakoff Analysis ( $N \rightarrow \infty$ ): Superradiant Phase

$$a \rightarrow c \pm \alpha, \quad b \rightarrow d \mp \beta$$

$$\dot{\rho} = -i[H^{(2)}, \rho] + \kappa(2c\rho c^+ - c^+c\rho - \rho c^+c)$$

with

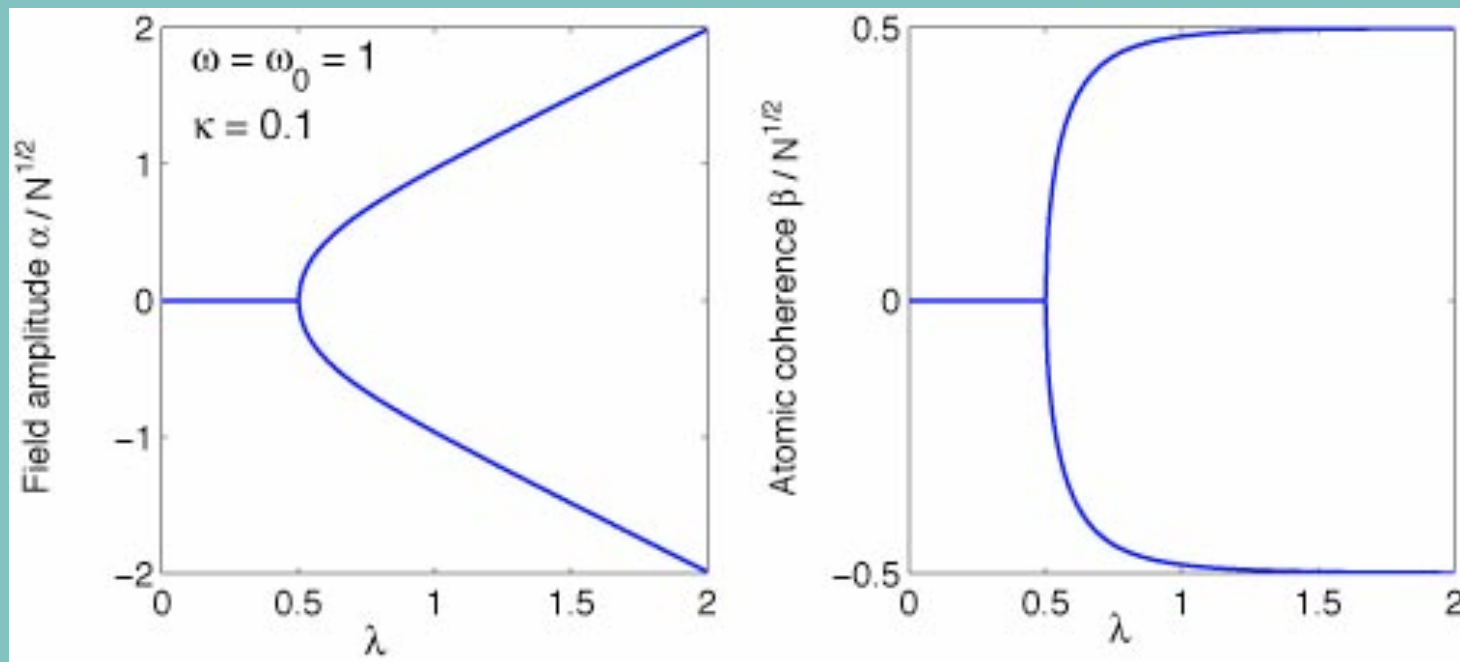
$$H^{(2)} = \omega c^+c + \frac{\omega_0}{2\mu}(1+\mu)d^+d + \frac{\omega_0(1-\mu)(3+\mu)}{8\mu(1+\mu)}(d^+ + d)^2 \\ + \lambda\mu\sqrt{\frac{2}{1+\mu}}(c^+ + c)(d^+ + d), \quad \mu = \frac{\lambda_c^2}{\lambda^2}$$

for

$$\lambda > \lambda_c = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{\frac{\omega_0}{\omega}(\kappa^2 + \omega^2)}$$

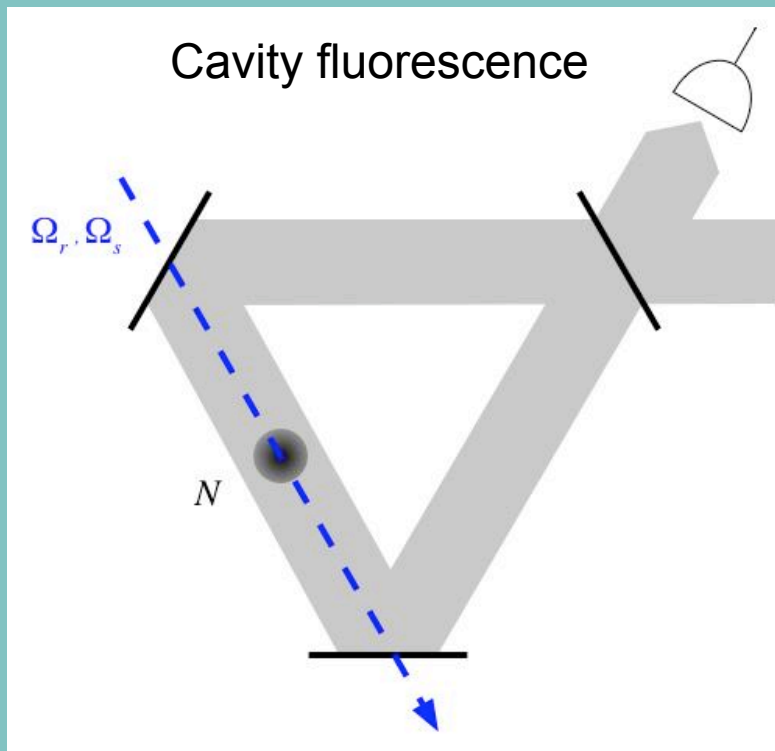
## Field and Atomic Amplitudes $\alpha$ and $\beta$

$$\alpha = \pm \frac{\lambda \omega_0}{2\lambda_c^2} \sqrt{\frac{N}{4} \left(1 - \frac{\lambda_c^4}{\lambda^4}\right)} \left(1 + i \frac{\kappa}{\omega}\right), \quad \beta = \mp \sqrt{\frac{N}{2} \left(1 - \frac{\lambda_c^2}{\lambda^2}\right)}$$

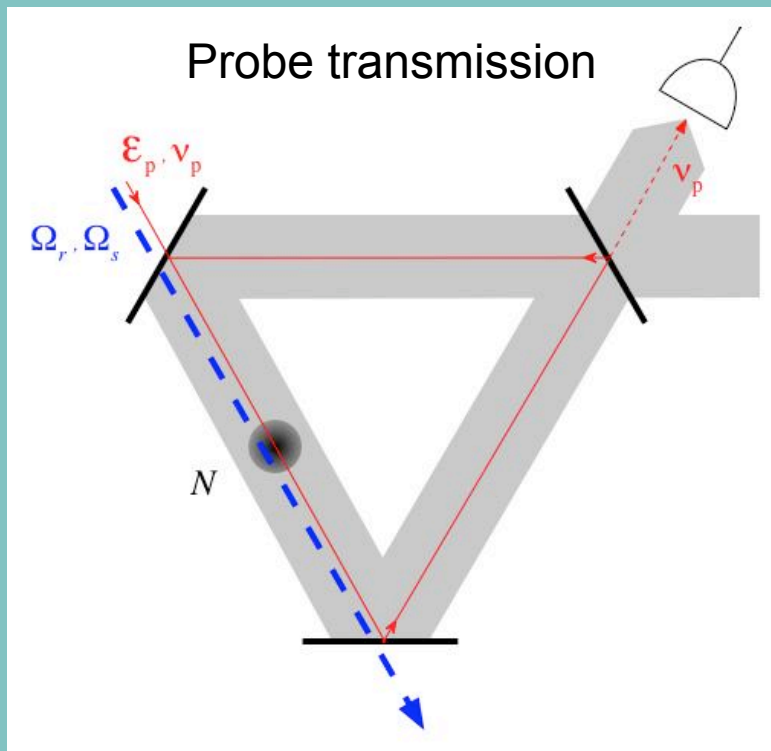


# Spectra of the Light Emitted from the Cavity

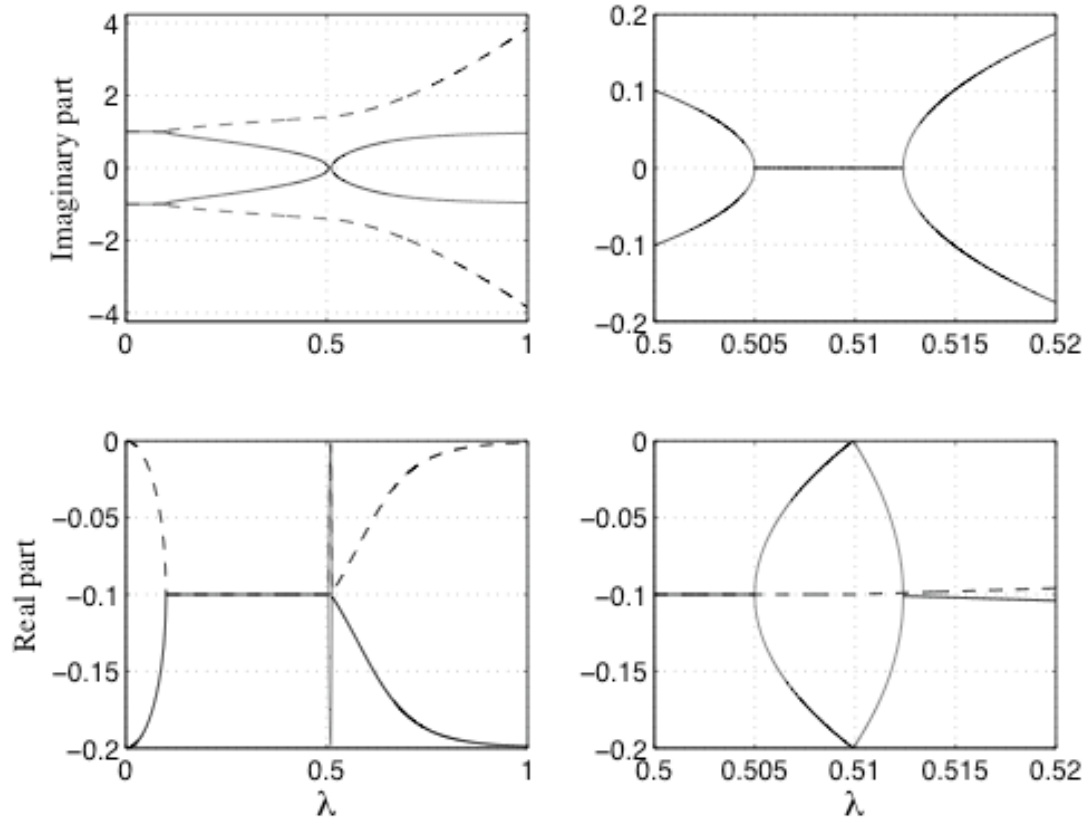
## Cavity fluorescence



## Probe transmission

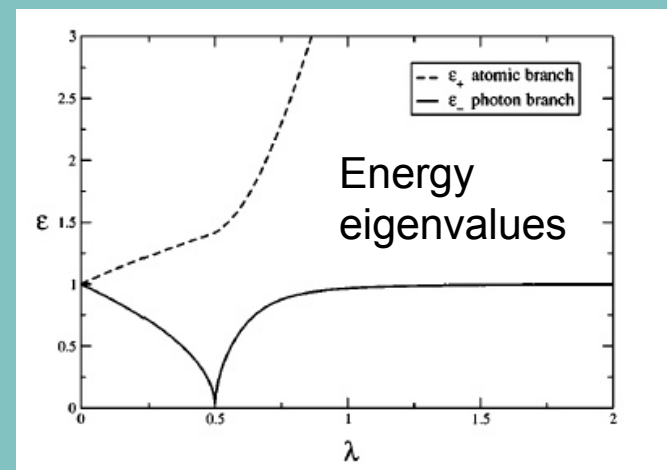
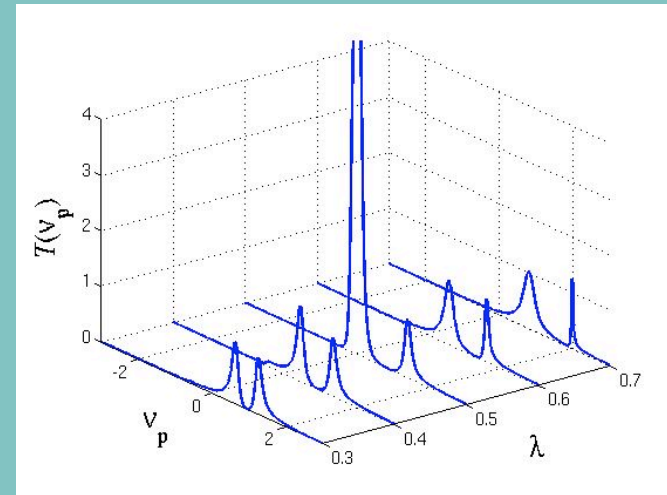
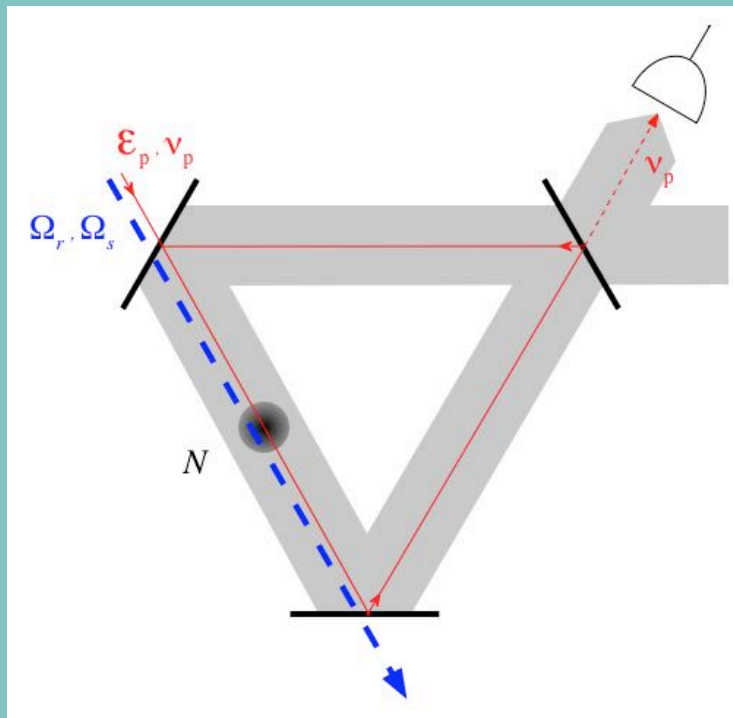


## Eigenvalues of the linearised model

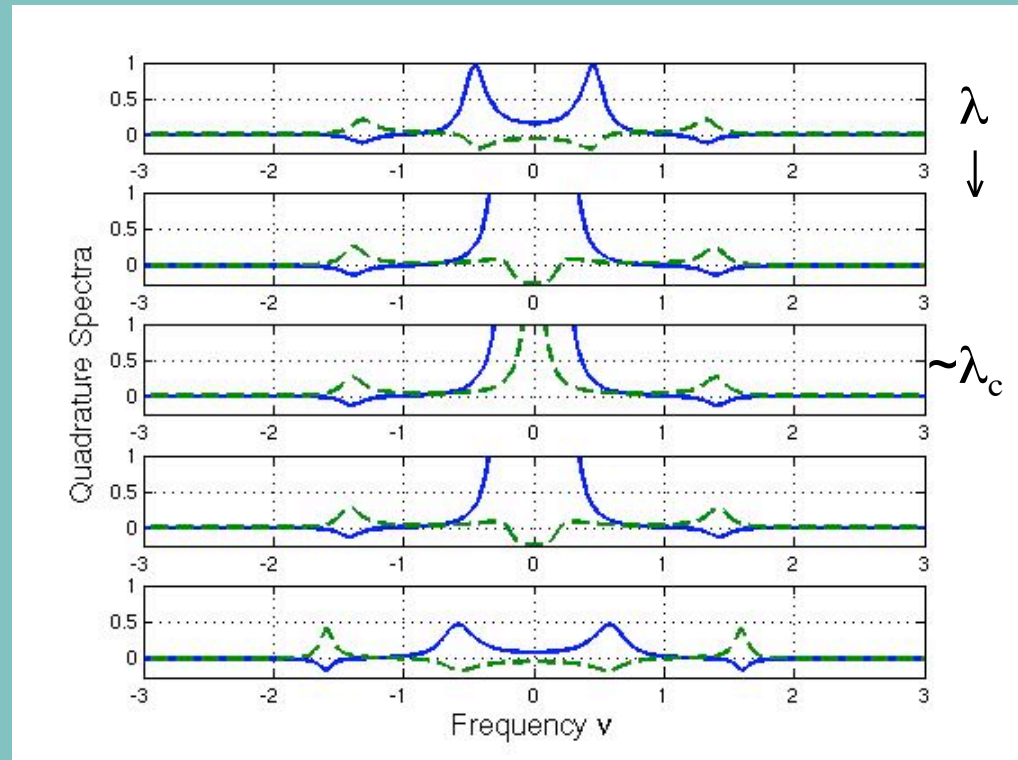
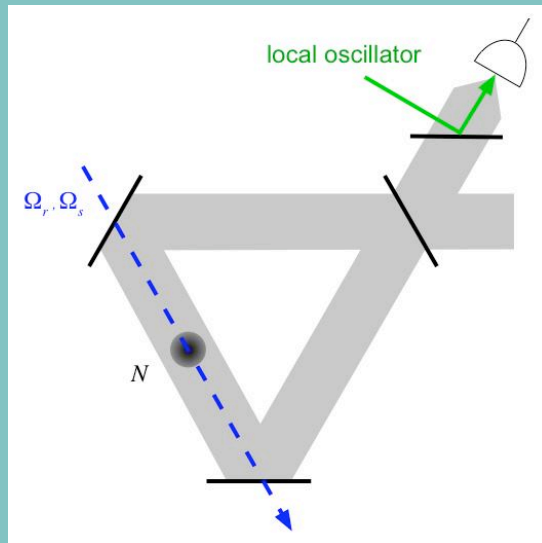




# Probe transmission spectra ( $\omega = \omega_0 = 1, \kappa = 0.2$ )



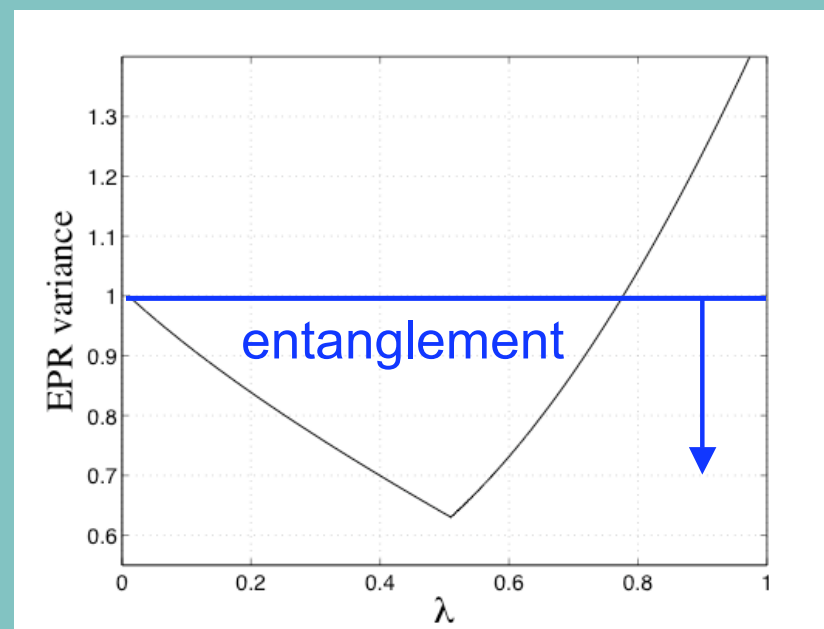
# Homodyne detection (quadrature fluctuation spectra)



# Atom-field entanglement

Gaussian continuous variable state: quadrature/EPR operators

$$X_a^\theta = \frac{1}{2}(ae^{-i\theta} + a^\dagger e^{i\theta}), \quad X_b^\phi = \frac{1}{2}(be^{-i\phi} + b^\dagger e^{i\phi})$$
$$u = X_a^\theta + X_b^\phi, \quad v = X_a^{\theta+\pi/2} - X_b^{\phi+\pi/2}$$



Possible to deduce from cavity output field

$$\langle (\Delta u)^2 \rangle + \langle (\Delta v)^2 \rangle < 1$$

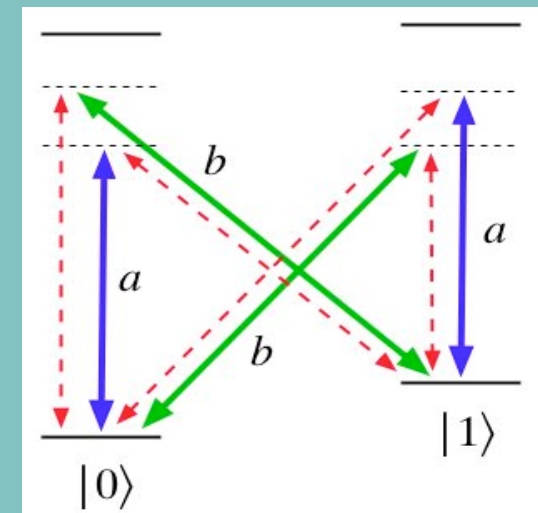
## Other possibilities for effective spin systems

- Two cavity modes + off-resonant Raman transitions
- Effective spin-spin interactions:

$$H_{\text{eff}} = -2hJ_z - \frac{2\lambda}{N} (J_x^2 + \gamma J_y^2), \quad -1 < \gamma < 1$$

(Lipkin-Meshkov-Glick model)

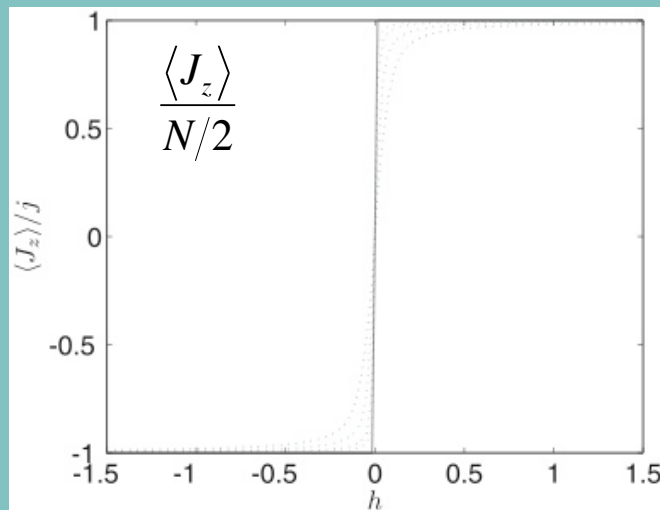
- $\lambda \gg$  dissipative rates possible
- 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> order quantum phase transitions



Example: (“antiferromagnetic”)  $H_{\text{eff}} = -2hJ_z - \frac{2\lambda}{N} J_x^2$ ,  $\lambda < 0$

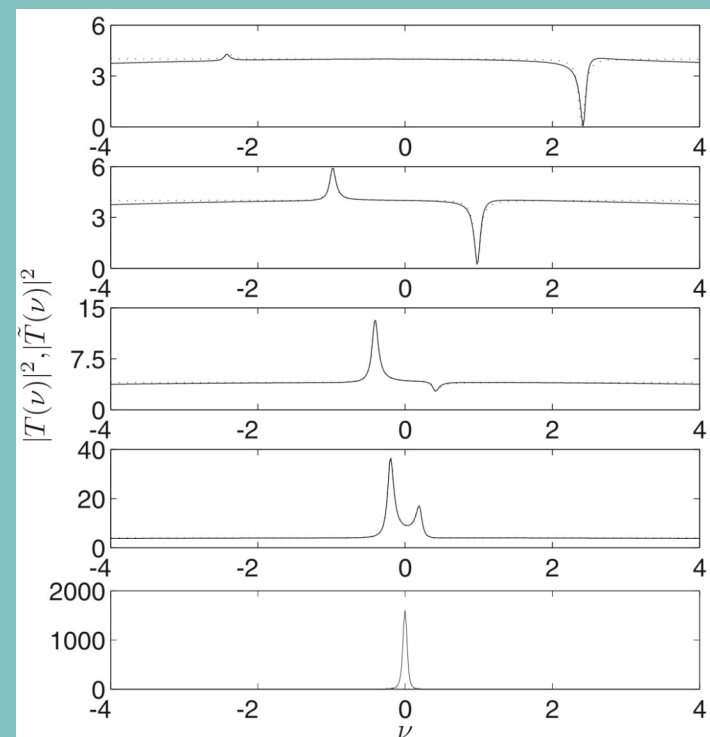
$$\dot{\rho} = -i[H_{\text{eff}}, \rho] + \frac{4\Gamma_a}{N} (2J_x \rho J_x - J_x^2 \rho - \rho J_x^2) + \frac{\Gamma_b}{N} (2J_- \rho J_+ - J_+ J_- \rho - \rho J_+ J_-)$$

1st-order quantum phase transition



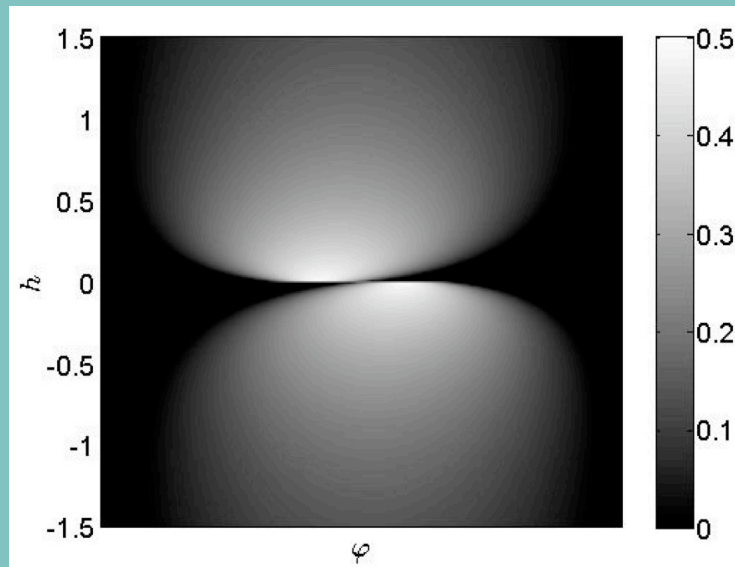
$$\lambda = -1, \Gamma_a = 0.01, \Gamma_b = 0.2$$

Probe transmission spectrum

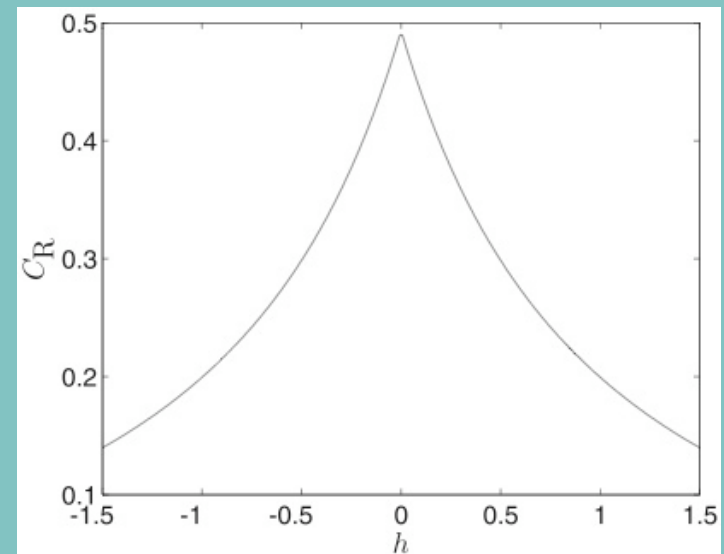


## Bipartite entanglement criterion / spin variances

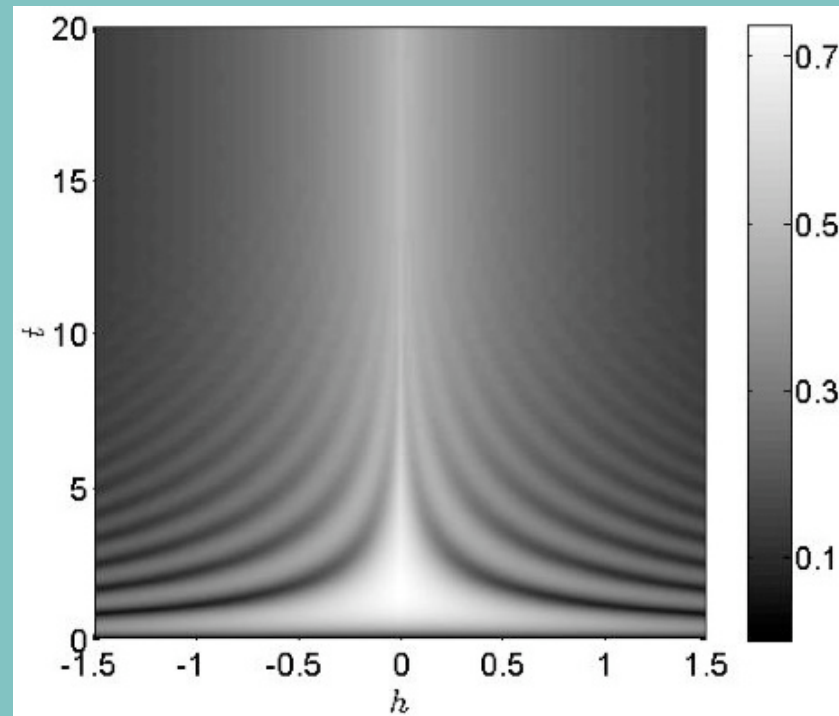
$$C_\varphi = 1 - \frac{4}{N} \langle \Delta J_\varphi^2 \rangle - \frac{4}{N^2} \langle J_\varphi \rangle^2 > 0, \quad J_\varphi = J_x \sin\varphi + J_y \cos\varphi$$



$$C_R = \max_\varphi C_\varphi$$



## Time-dependence of entanglement, $C_R(t)$



Note: Cavity output field  $b_{\text{out}} \propto J_-$  so  $C_R$  can be deduced from measurable correlation functions

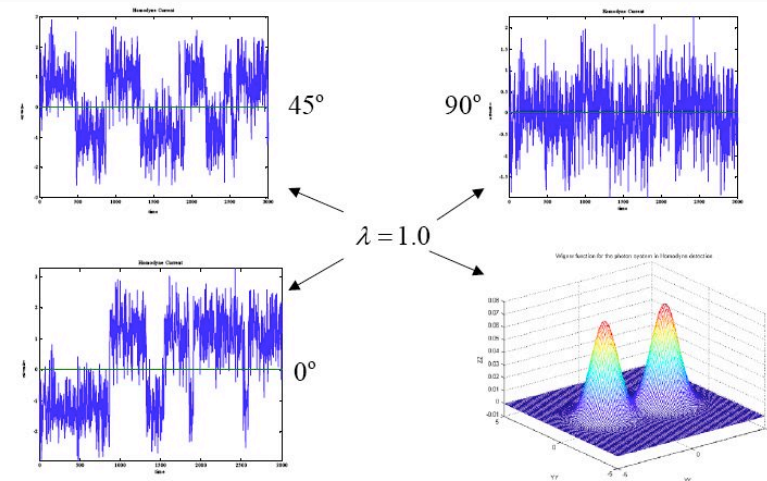
## Summary

- Proposed realisation of Dicke model in cavity QED for study of (non-equilibrium) quantum phase transition
- Well-defined cavity output provides measurable signatures/properties of the phase transition
- Other effective spin models possible



## Further possibilities ...

- Finite- $N$  systems
  - small  $\rightarrow$  large quantum noise
  - entangled state preparation and characterisation
  - measurement back-action



- Combination with optical-lattice many-body systems (long-range + short-range interactions)
- Disordered systems