



# gauge invariance of heat and charge transport coefficients in electronic insulators

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*serious answers to two silly questions*





## *serious answers to two silly questions*

- how come the heat conductivity is well defined, when the energy current that determines it, is not?



## *serious answers to two silly questions*

- how come the heat conductivity is well defined, when the energy current that determines it, is not?
- how come the electric conductivity of non-ionic fluids vanishes, when the current fluctuations that determine it, do not?



*the linear-response theory of transport*

$$\mathbf{J} = \lambda \mathbf{F}$$





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charge transport

$$\mathbf{J}_Q = \sum_I q_I \mathbf{v}_I$$

$$\mathbf{F}_Q = -\nabla\phi$$

$\lambda$  = electric conductivity





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$\sum_I e_I = E$

$\frac{\partial e_I}{\partial R_J}$

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$$\lambda \propto \int_0^\infty \langle \mathbf{J}(t) \mathbf{J}(0) \rangle dt$$

Green-Kubo



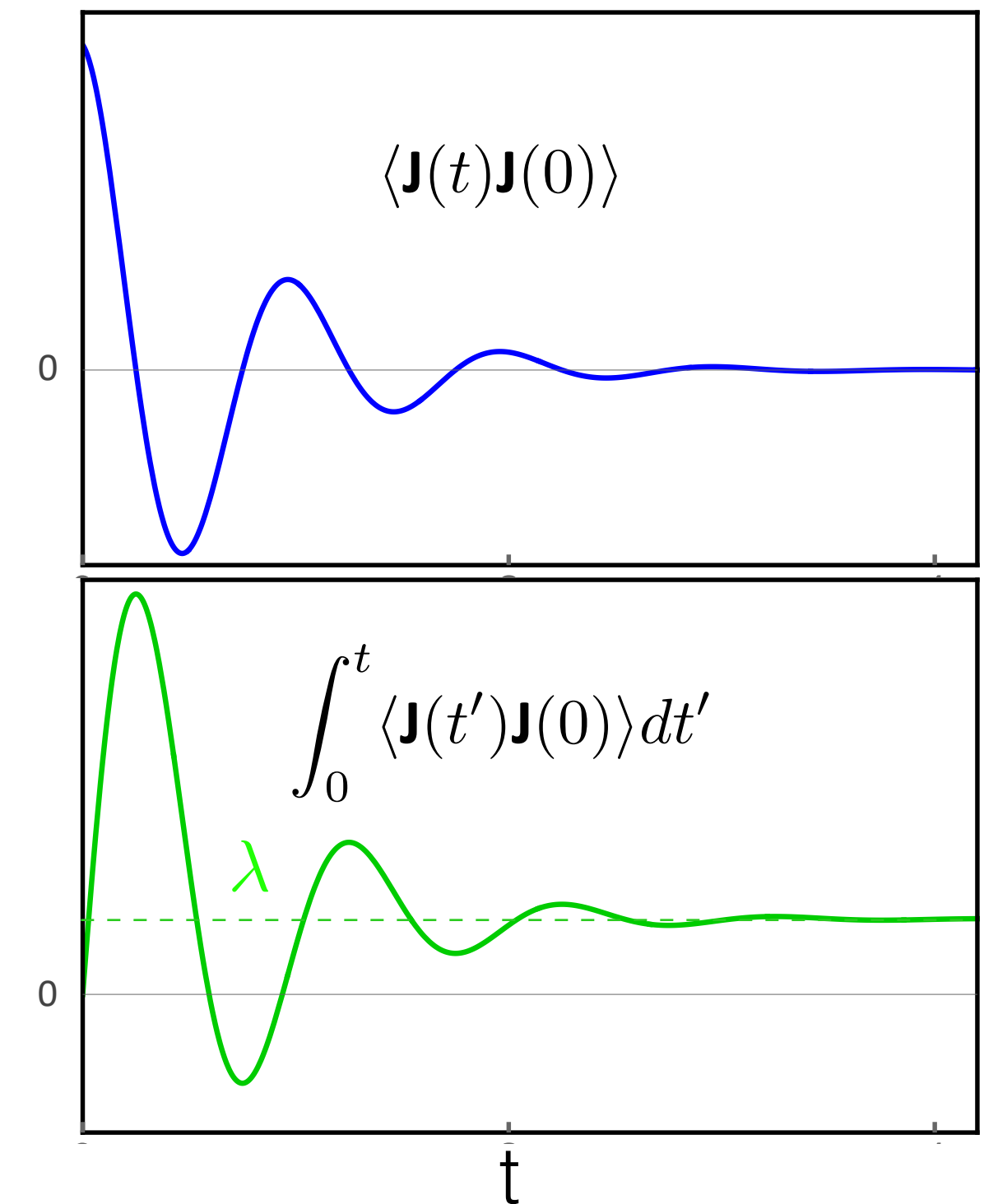


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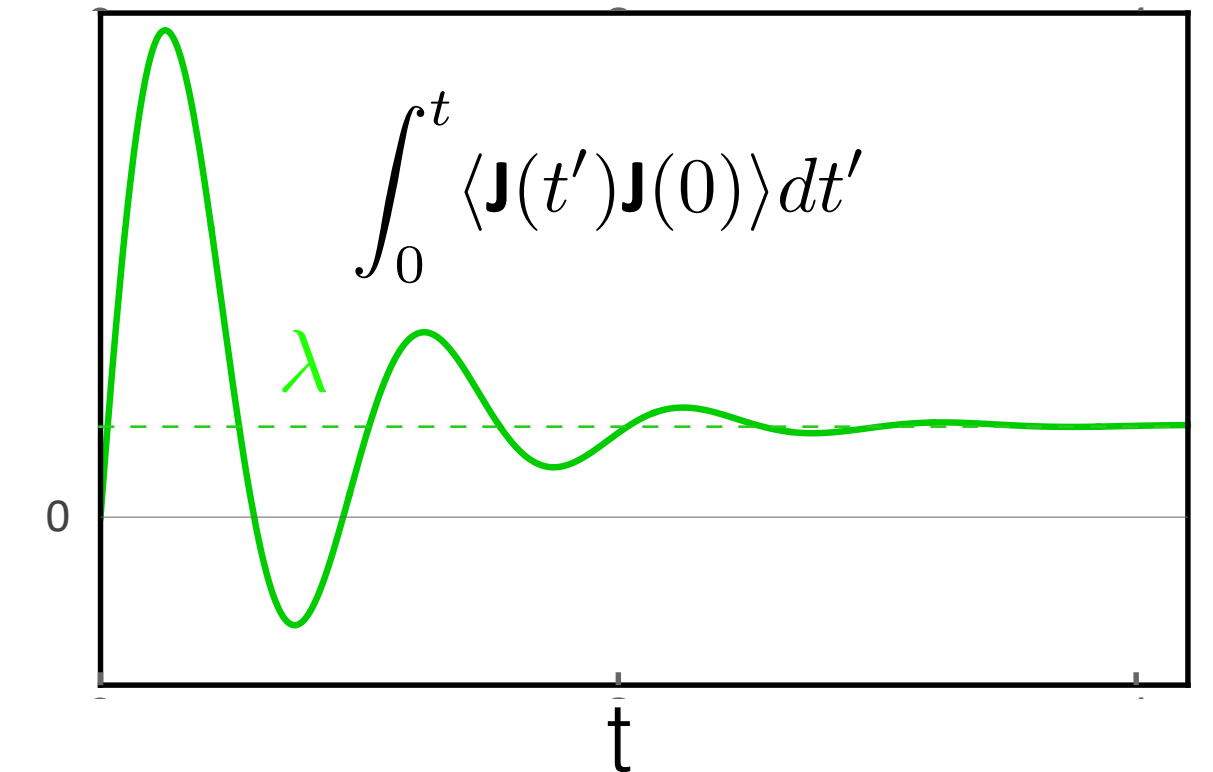
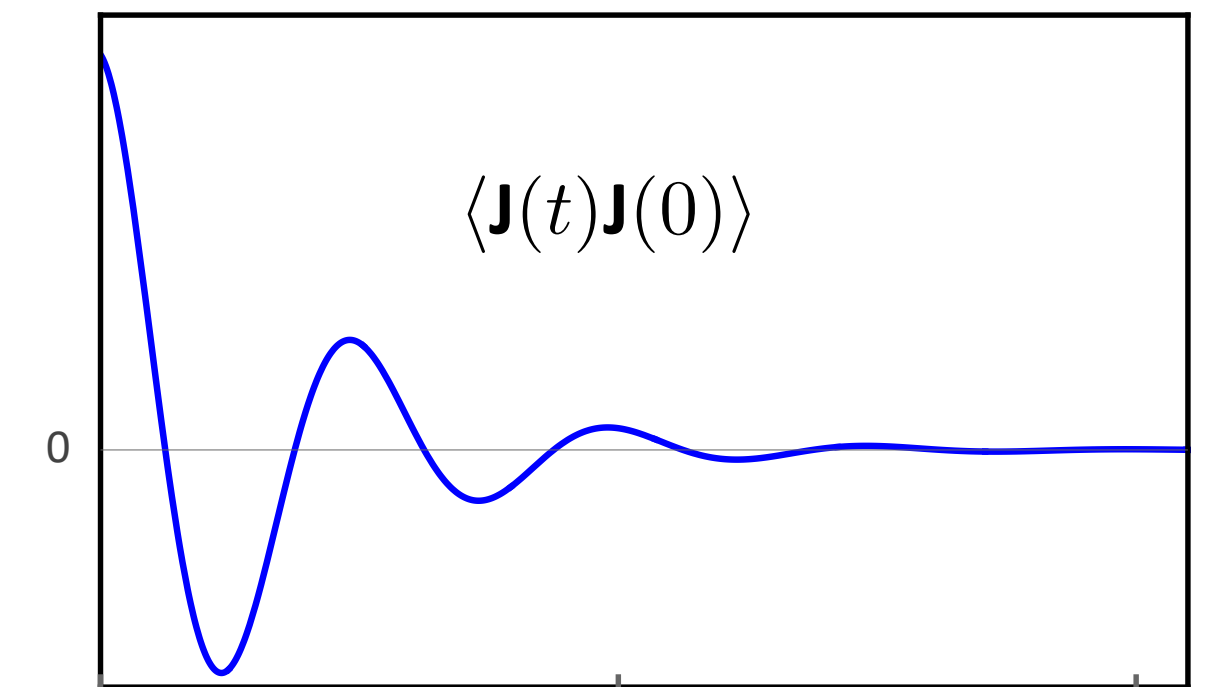


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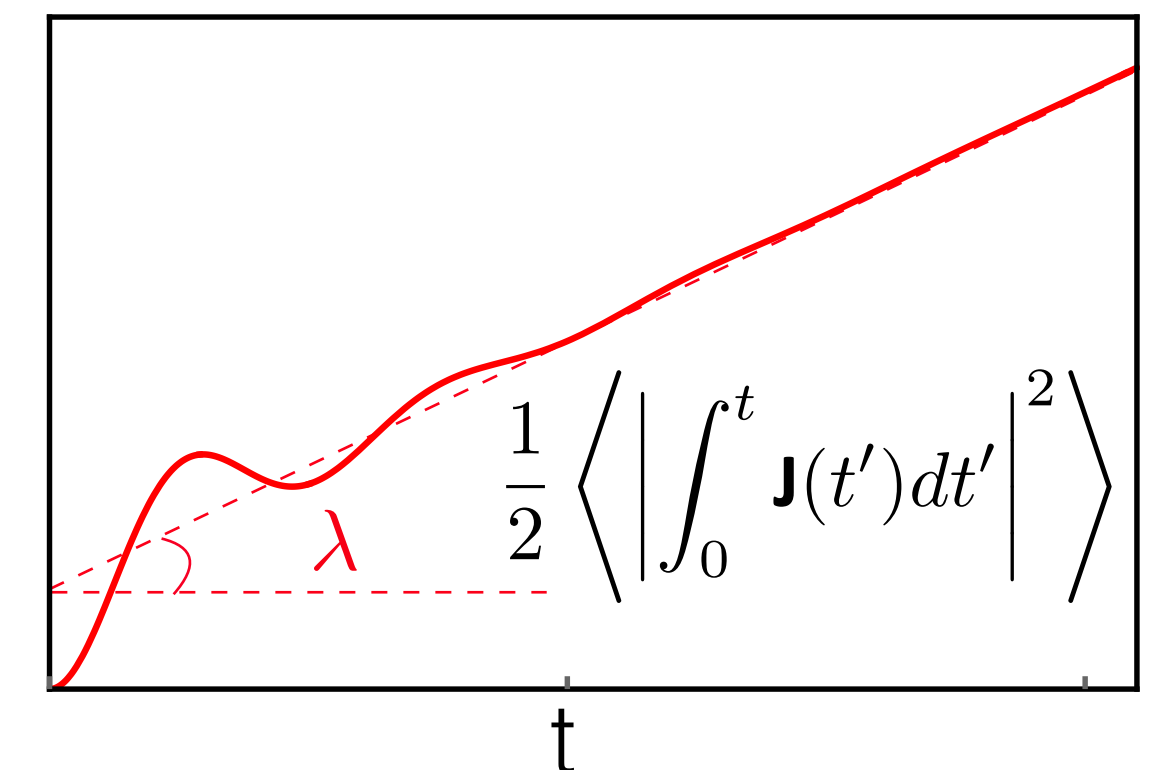
Green-Kubo

$$\lambda \propto \underbrace{\int_0^\infty \langle \mathbf{J}(t) \mathbf{J}(0) \rangle dt}_{\langle \mathbf{J}^2 \rangle \tau}$$



Einstein-Helfand

$$\lambda \propto \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2t} \text{var} \left[ \int_0^t \mathbf{J}(t') dt' \right]$$





# classical and quantum adiabatic heat transport

$$J_{\mathcal{E}} = \sum_I e_I \mathbf{v}_I + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{I \neq J} (\mathbf{v}_I \cdot \mathbf{F}_{IJ}) (\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{R}_J)$$

PRL **104**, 208501 (2010)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending  
21 MAY 2010

## Thermal Conductivity of Periclase (MgO) from First Principles

Stephen Stackhouse\*

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Lars Stixrude<sup>†</sup>

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Bijaya B. Karki<sup>‡</sup>

*Department of Computer Science, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803, USA  
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sensitive to the form of the potential. The widely used Green-Kubo relation [14] does not serve our purposes, because in first-principles calculations it is impossible to uniquely decompose the total energy into individual contributions from each atom.





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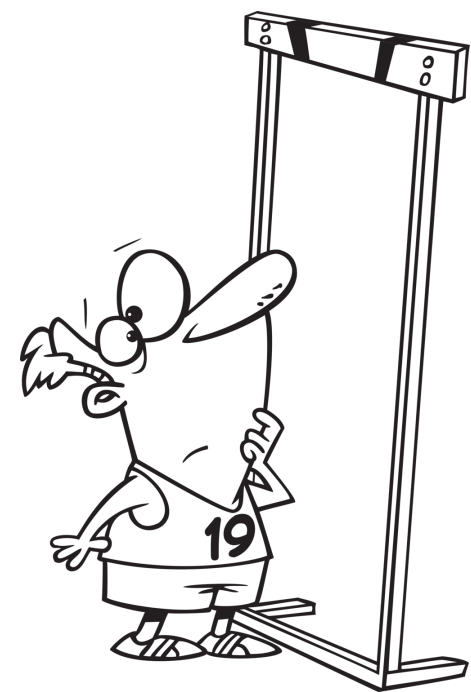
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how come?





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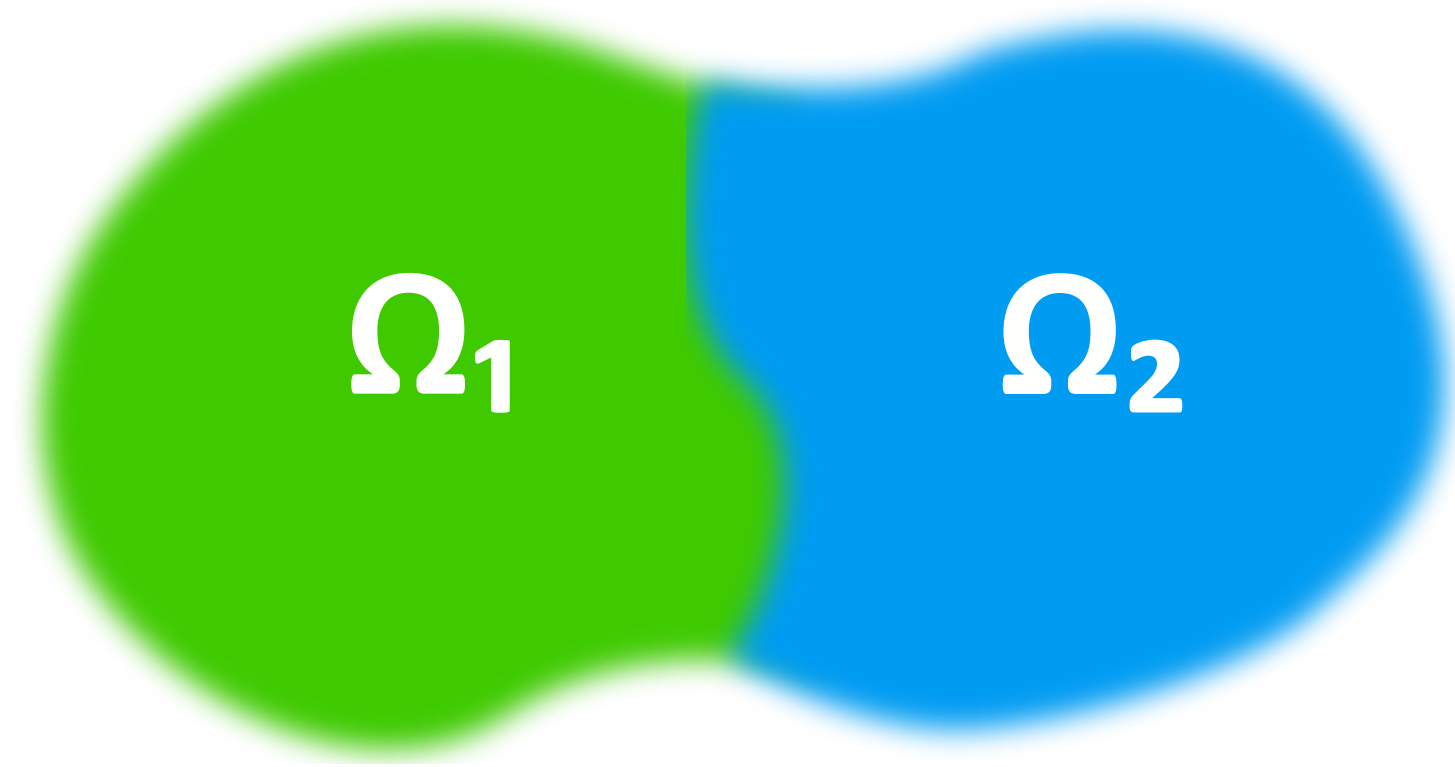


how is it that a formally exact theory of the electronic ground state cannot predict *all* measurable adiabatic properties?



# *gauge invariance of transport coefficients*

energy is extensive

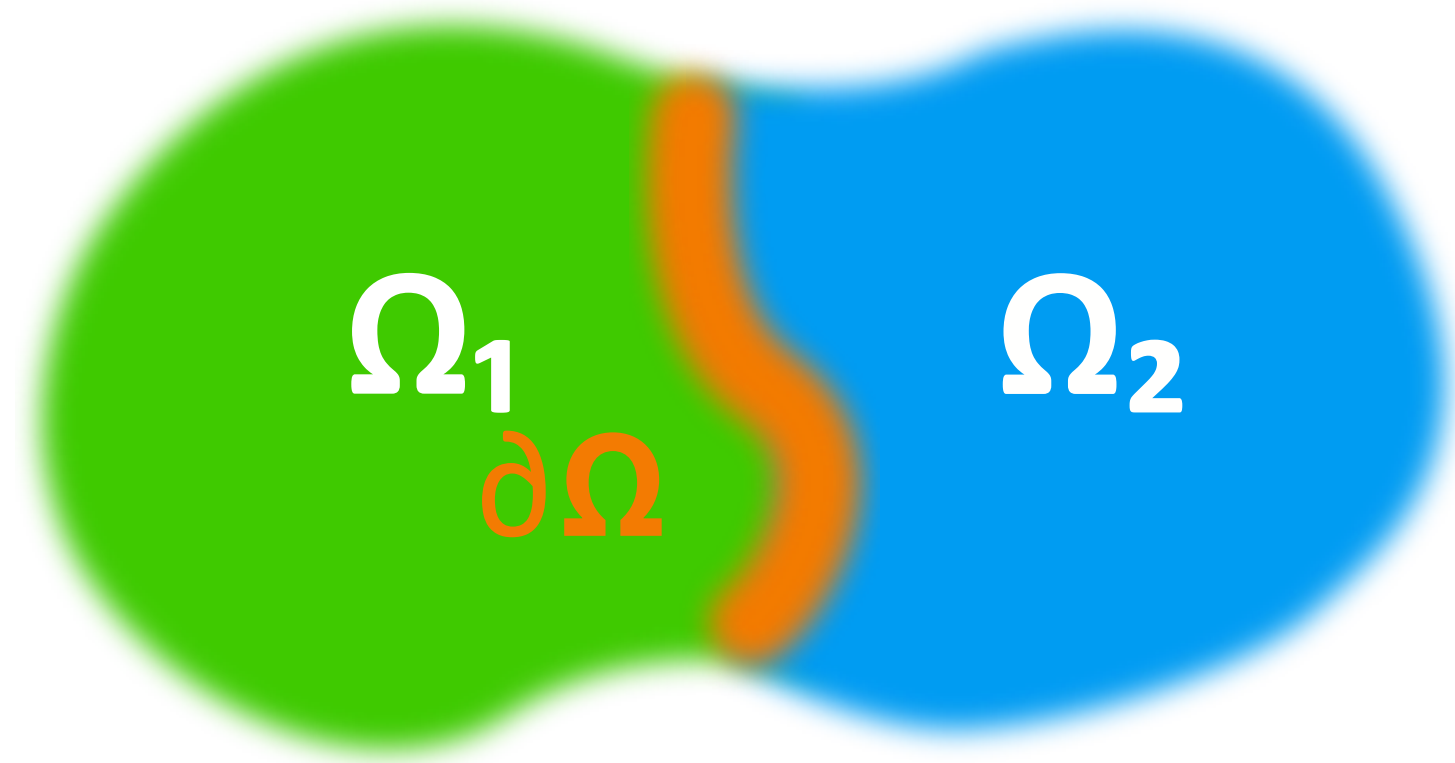


$$E[\Omega_1 \cup \Omega_2] = E[\Omega_1] + E[\Omega_2]$$



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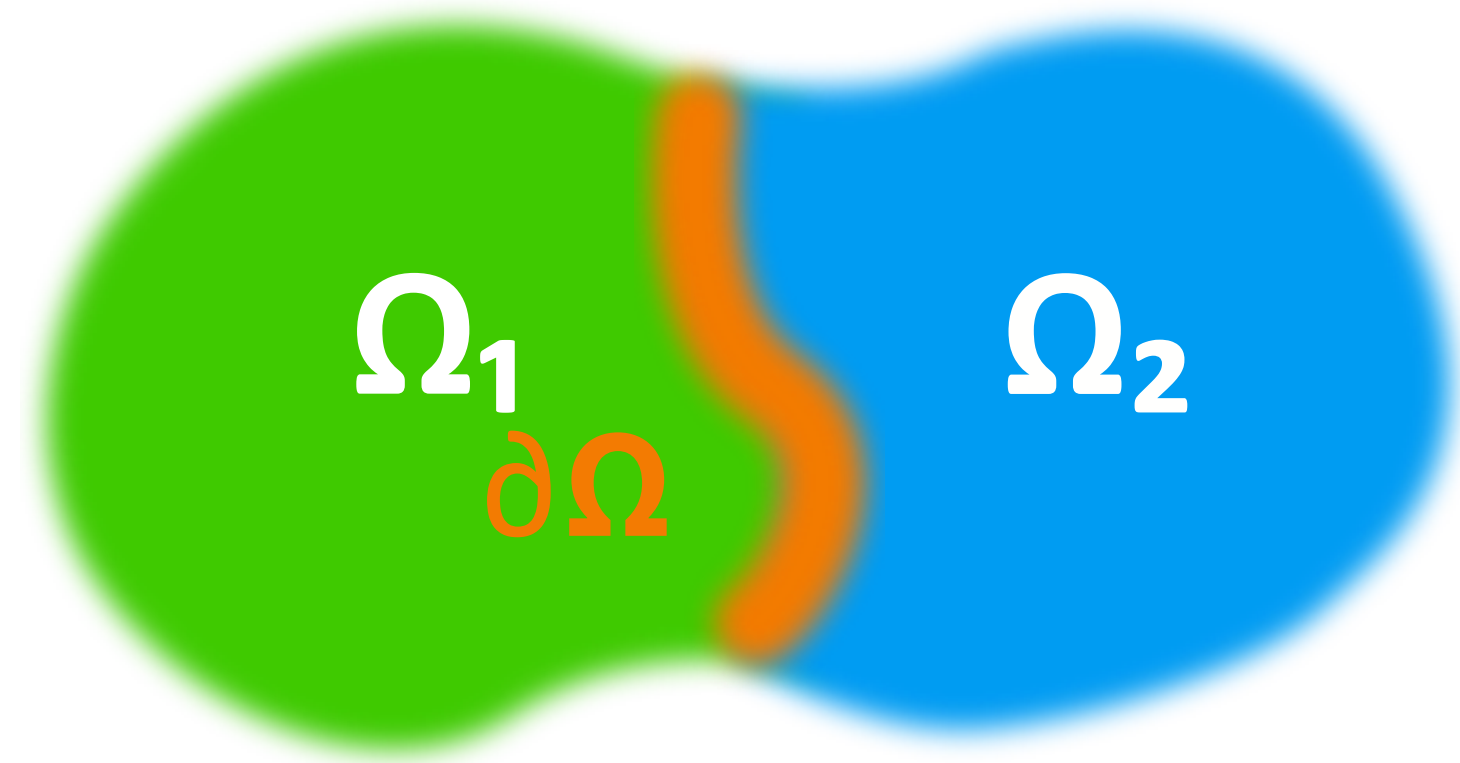


$$E[\Omega_1 \cup \Omega_2] = E[\Omega_1] + E[\Omega_2] + W[\partial\Omega]$$



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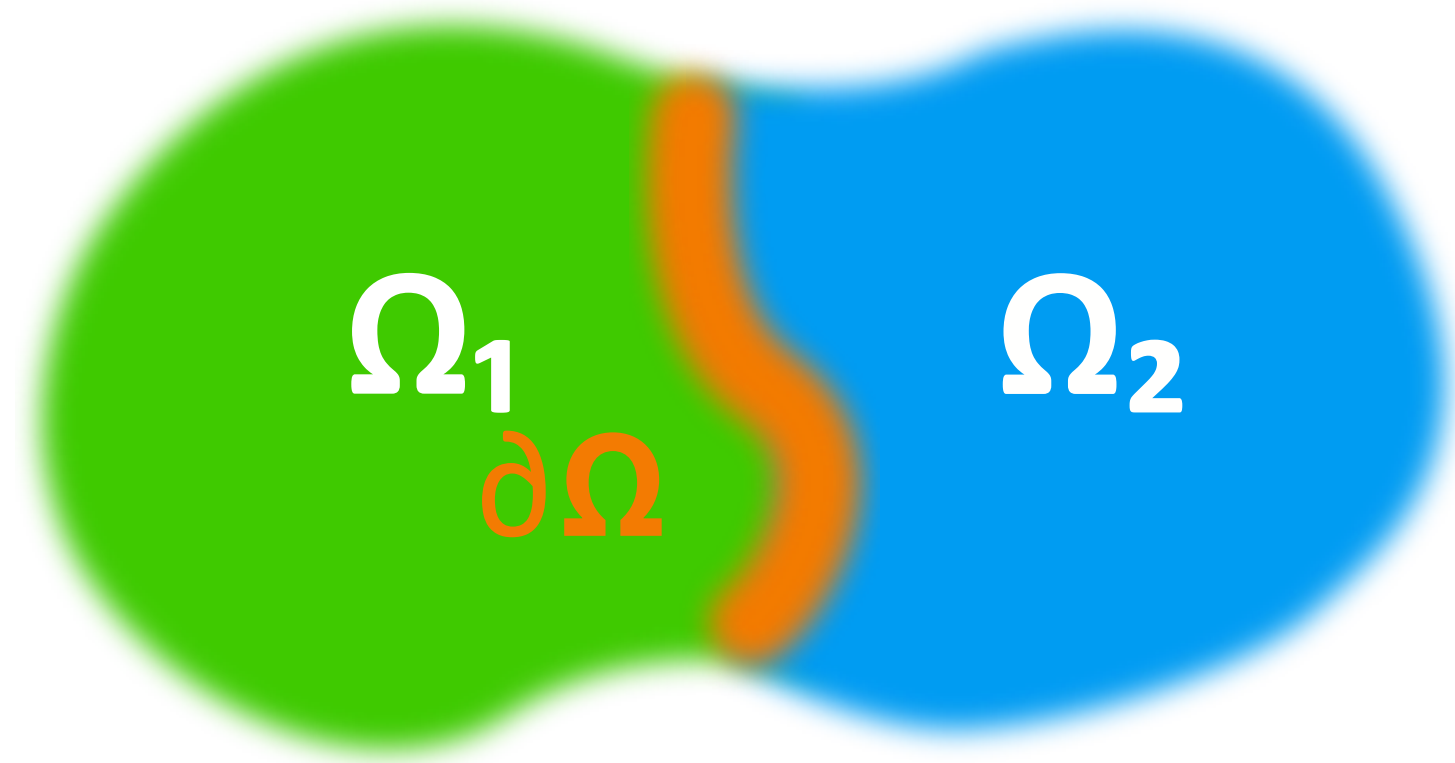
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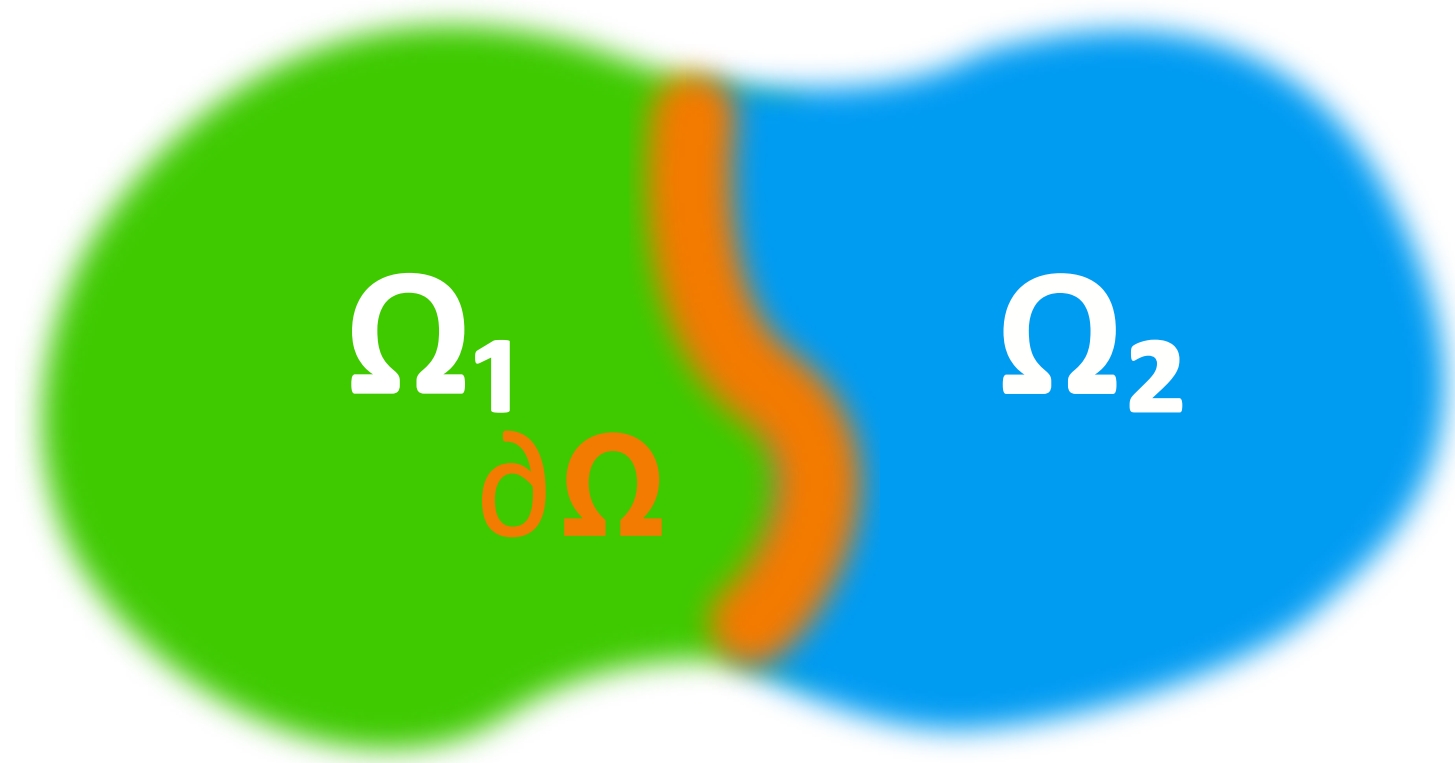
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thermodynamic invariance

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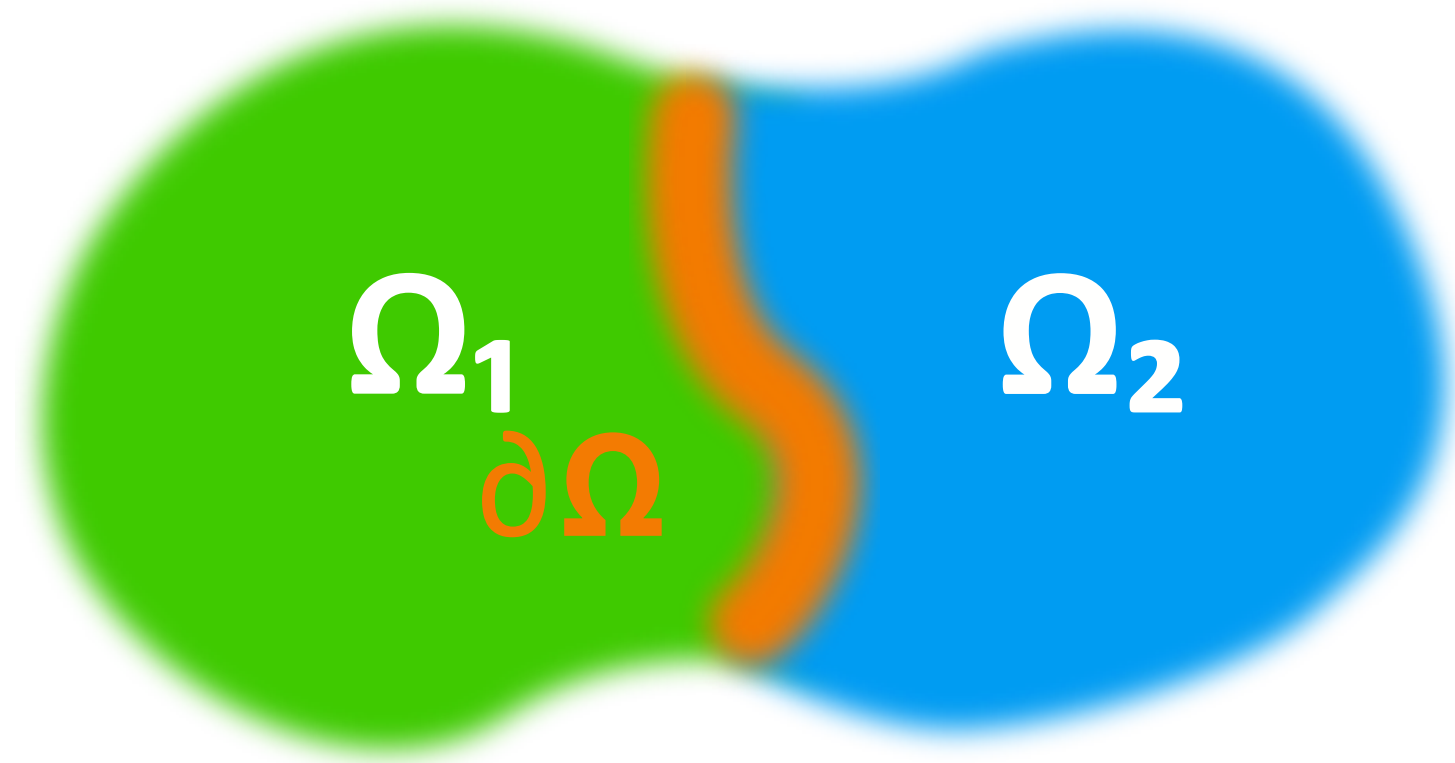
gauge invariance

$$e'(\mathbf{r}) = e(\mathbf{r}) - \nabla \cdot \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{r})$$



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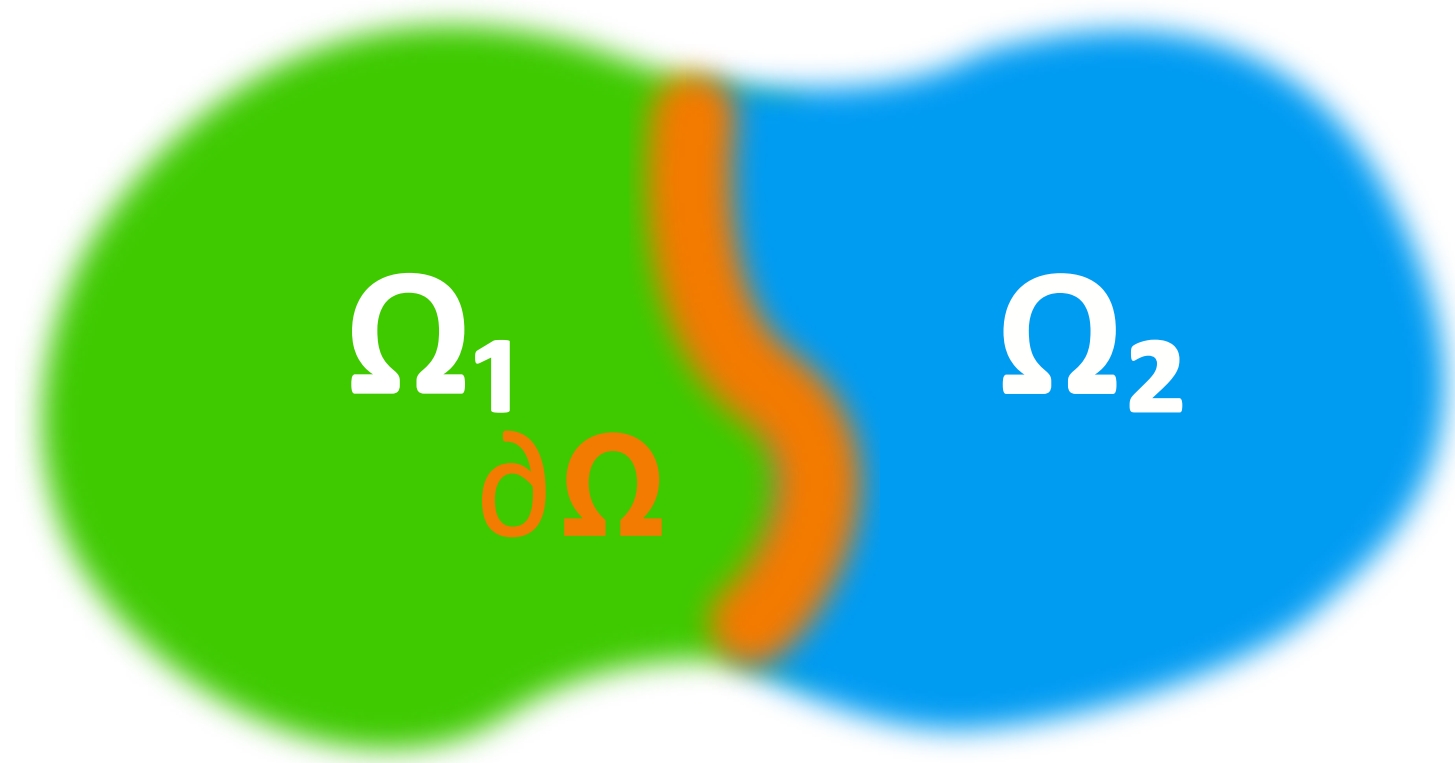
$$e'(\mathbf{r}) = e(\mathbf{r}) - \nabla \cdot \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{r})$$

energy is conserved

$$\dot{e}(\mathbf{r}, t) = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{j}(\mathbf{r}, t)$$

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gauge invariance

$$e'(\mathbf{r}) = e(\mathbf{r}) - \nabla \cdot \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{r})$$
$$\mathbf{j}'(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mathbf{j}(\mathbf{r}, t) + \dot{\mathbf{p}}(\mathbf{r}, t)$$

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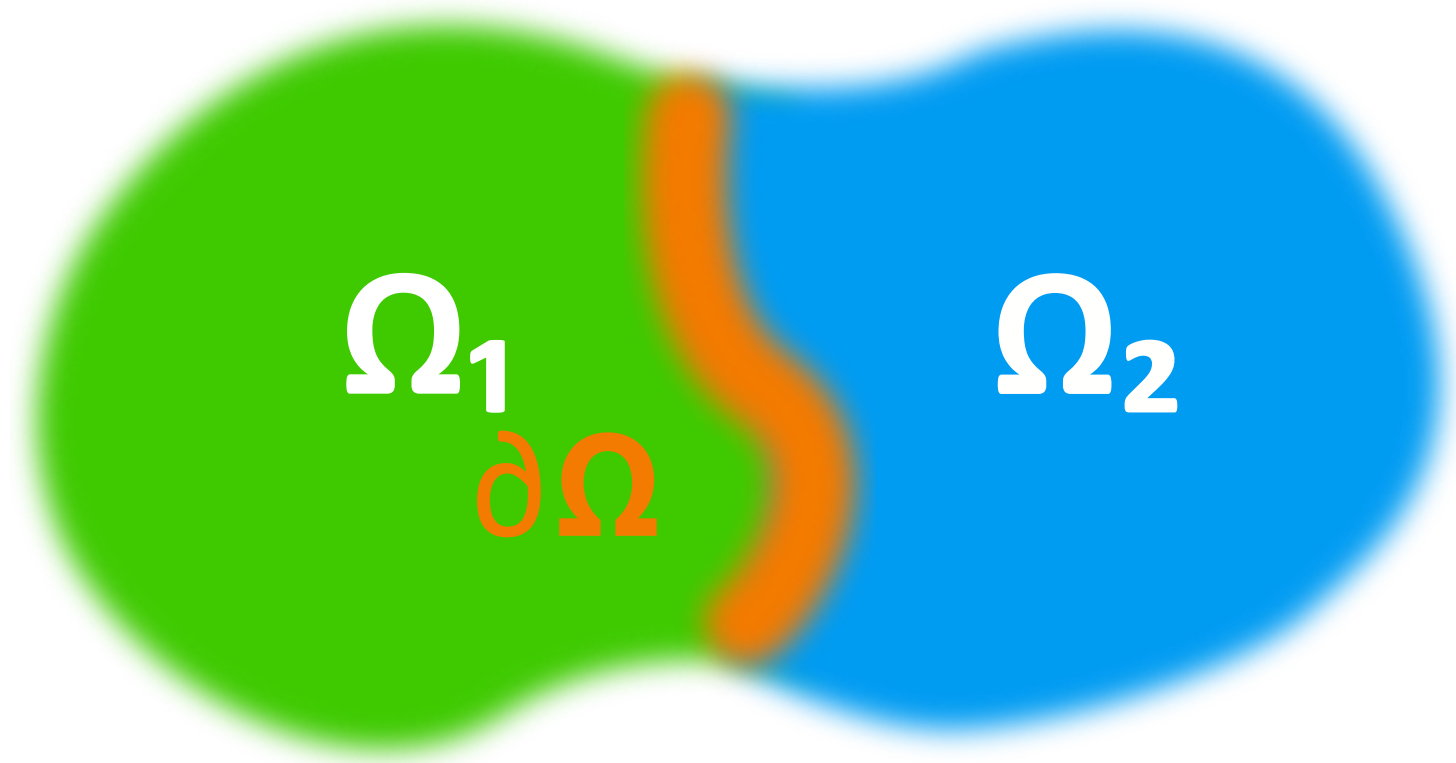
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$$\mathcal{E}[\Omega] = \int_{\Omega} e(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r}$$

$$\mathbf{J}(t) = \frac{1}{\Omega} \int \mathbf{j}(\mathbf{r}, t) d\mathbf{r}$$

thermodynamic invariance

$$\mathcal{E}'[\Omega] = \mathcal{E}[\Omega] + \mathcal{O}[\partial\Omega]$$

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$$\mathbf{J}'(t) = \mathbf{J}(t) + \dot{\mathbf{P}}(t)$$

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*gauge invariance of transport coefficients*

$$\mathbf{J}' = \mathbf{J} + \dot{\mathbf{P}}$$





# *gauge invariance of transport coefficients*

$$\mathbf{J}' = \mathbf{J} + \dot{\mathbf{P}}$$

$$\lambda \sim \frac{1}{2t} \text{var}[\mathbf{D}(t)] \quad \mathbf{D}(t) = \int_0^t \mathbf{J}(t') dt'$$

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# *gauge invariance of transport coefficients*

$$\mathbf{J}' = \mathbf{J} + \dot{\mathbf{P}}$$

any two conserved densities that differ by the divergence of a (bounded) vector field are physically equivalent

the corresponding conserved fluxes differ by a total time derivative, and the transport coefficients coincide

nature  
physics

ARTICLES

PUBLISHED ONLINE: 19 OCTOBER 2015 | DOI: 10.1038/NPHYS3509

Microscopic theory and quantum simulation of  
atomic heat transport

Aris Marcolongo<sup>1</sup>, Paolo Umari<sup>2</sup> and Stefano Baroni<sup>1\*</sup>



# *gauge invariance of heat transport*

PRL **104**, 208501 (2010)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

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## Thermal Conductivity of Periclase (MgO) from First Principles

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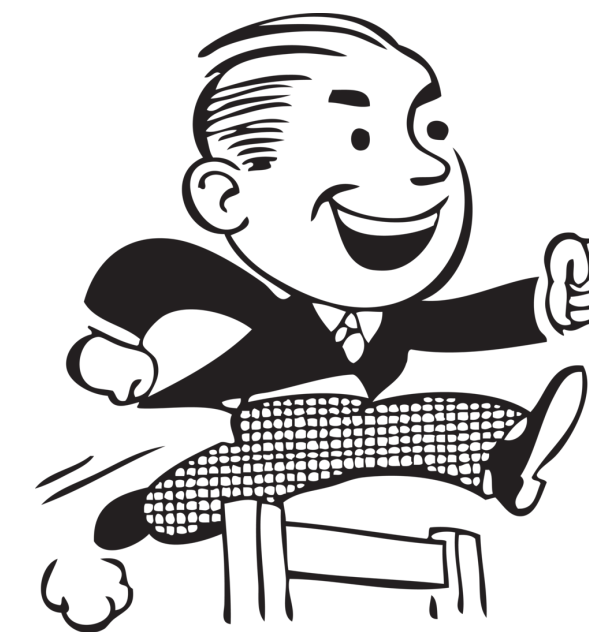
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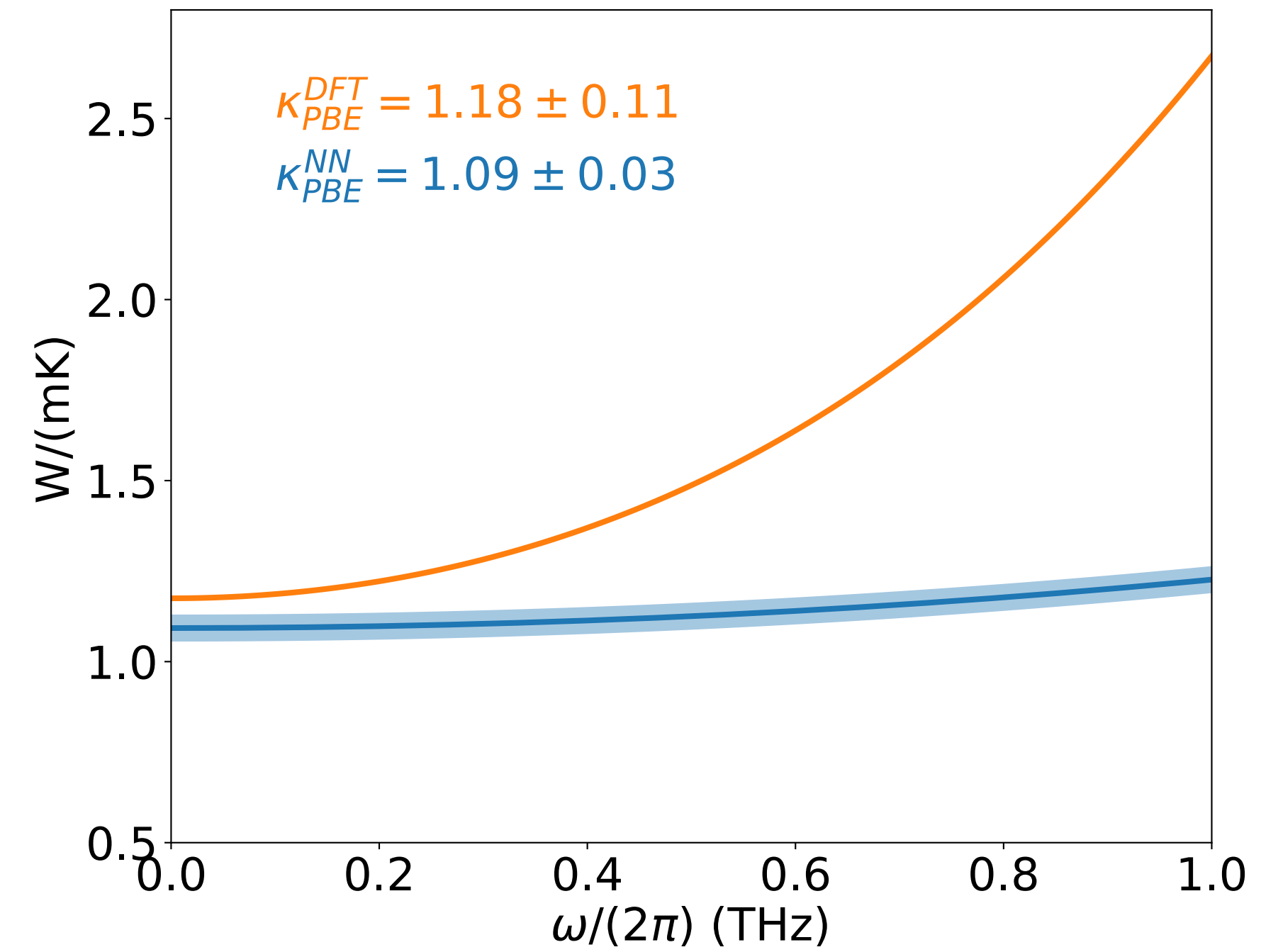
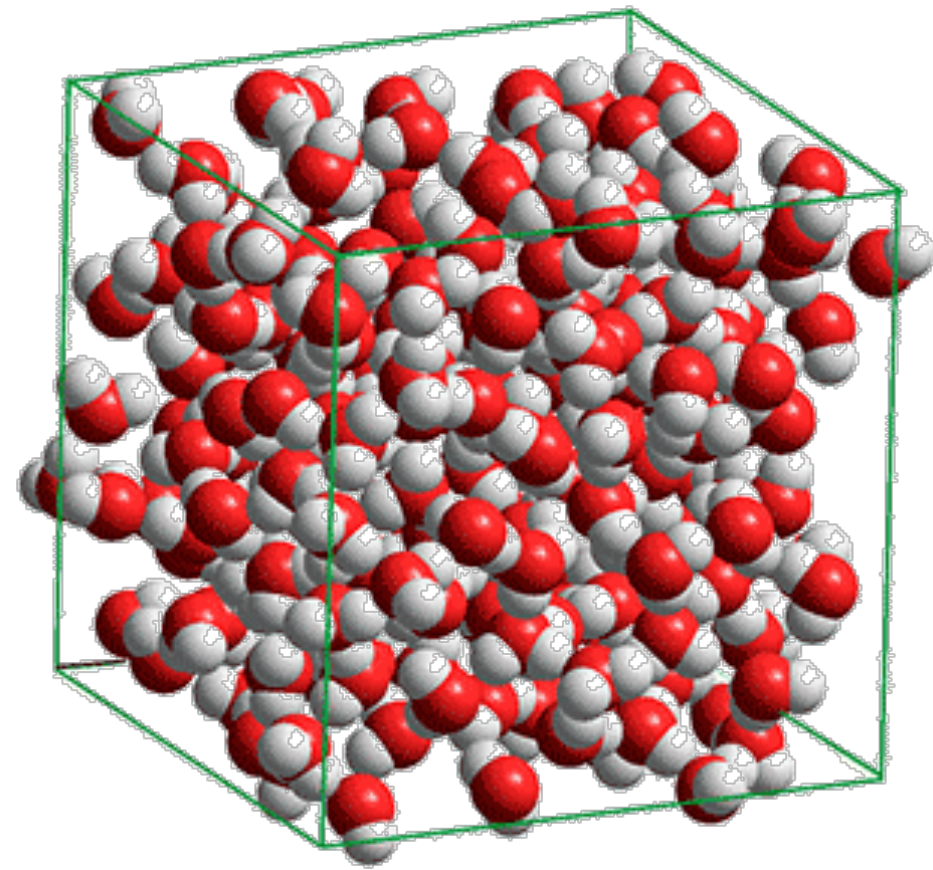
### **solution:**

choose *any* local representation of the energy that integrates to the correct value and whose correlations decay at large distance — the conductivity computed from the resulting current will be *independent* of the chosen representation.

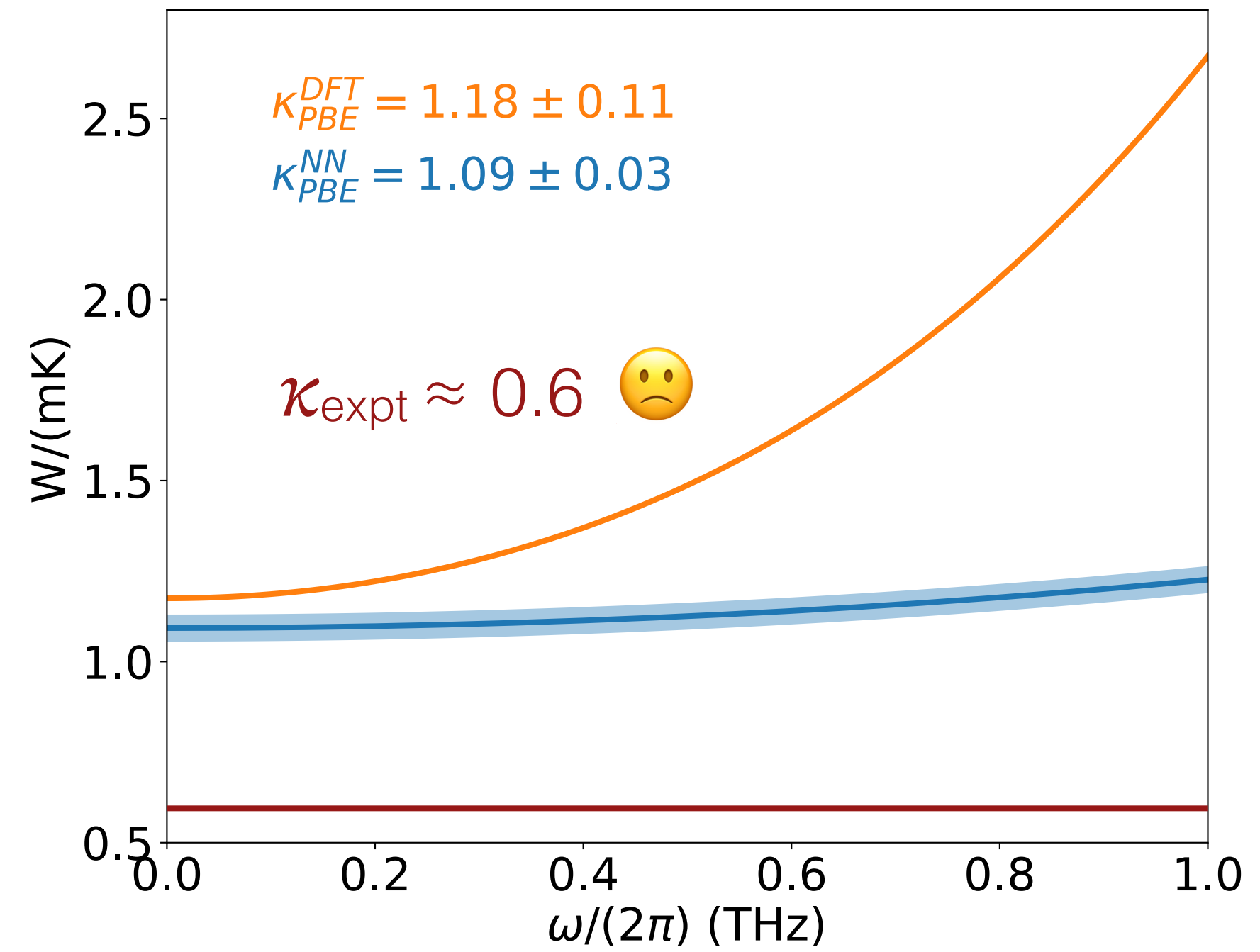
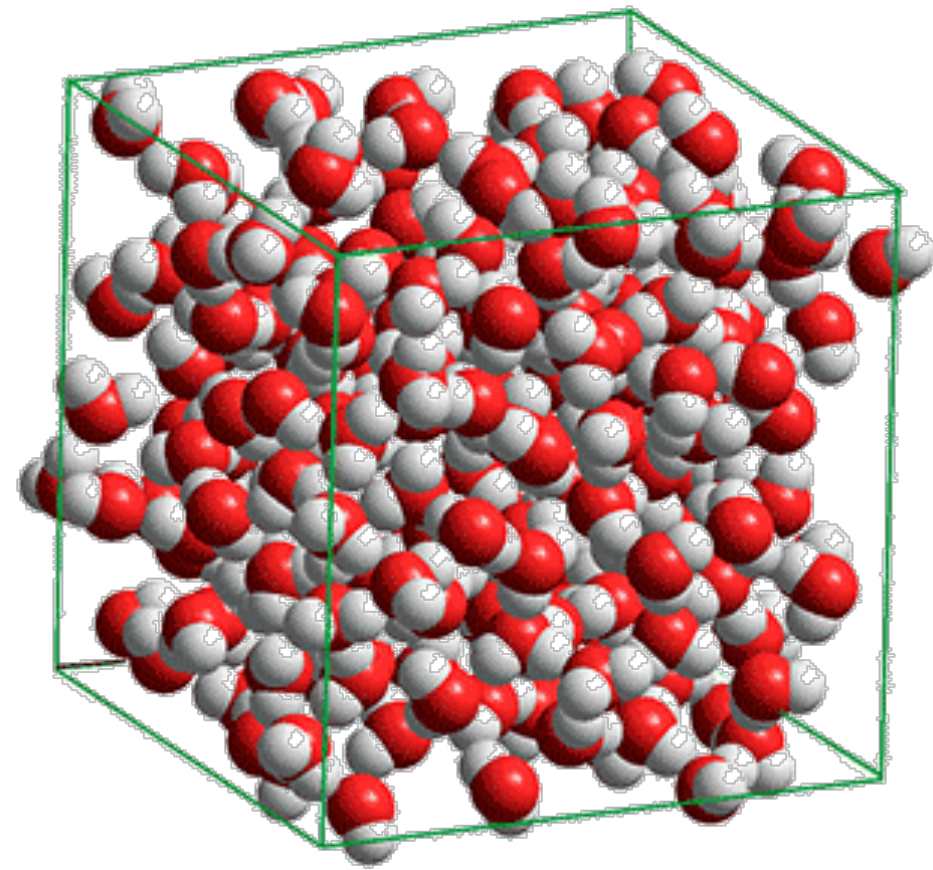




# *thermal conductivity of liquid water from DFT*

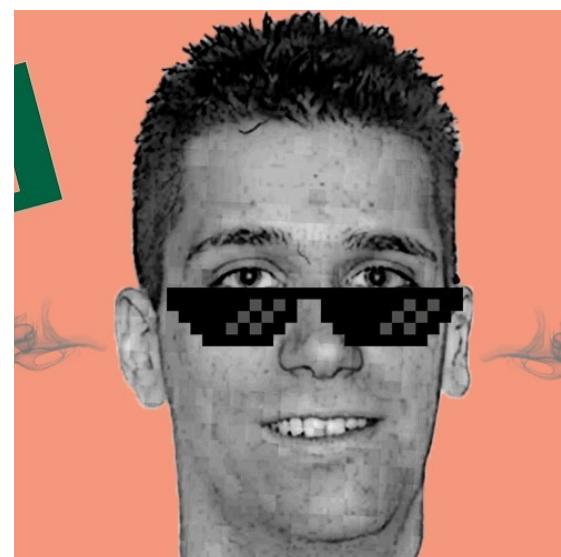
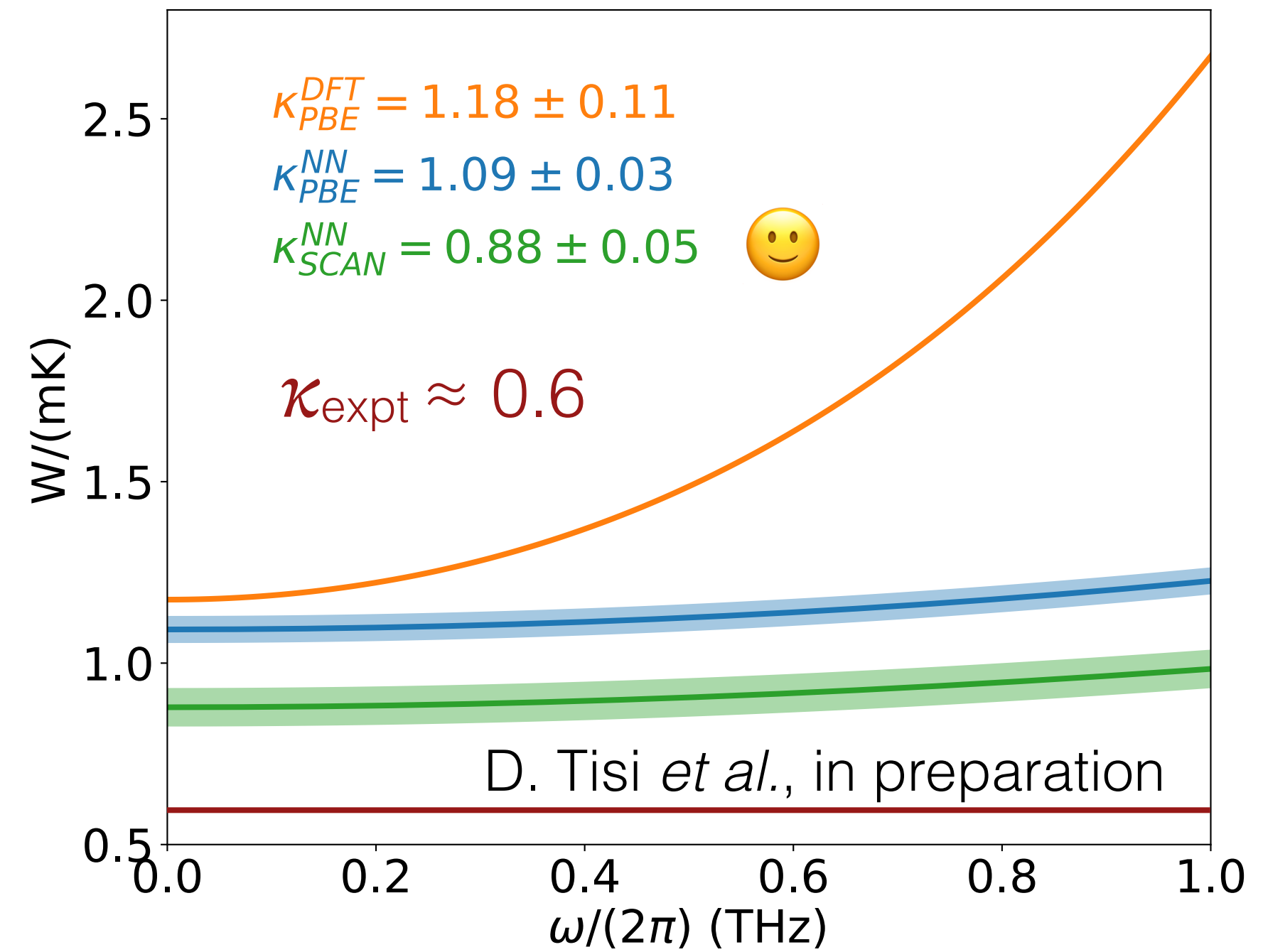
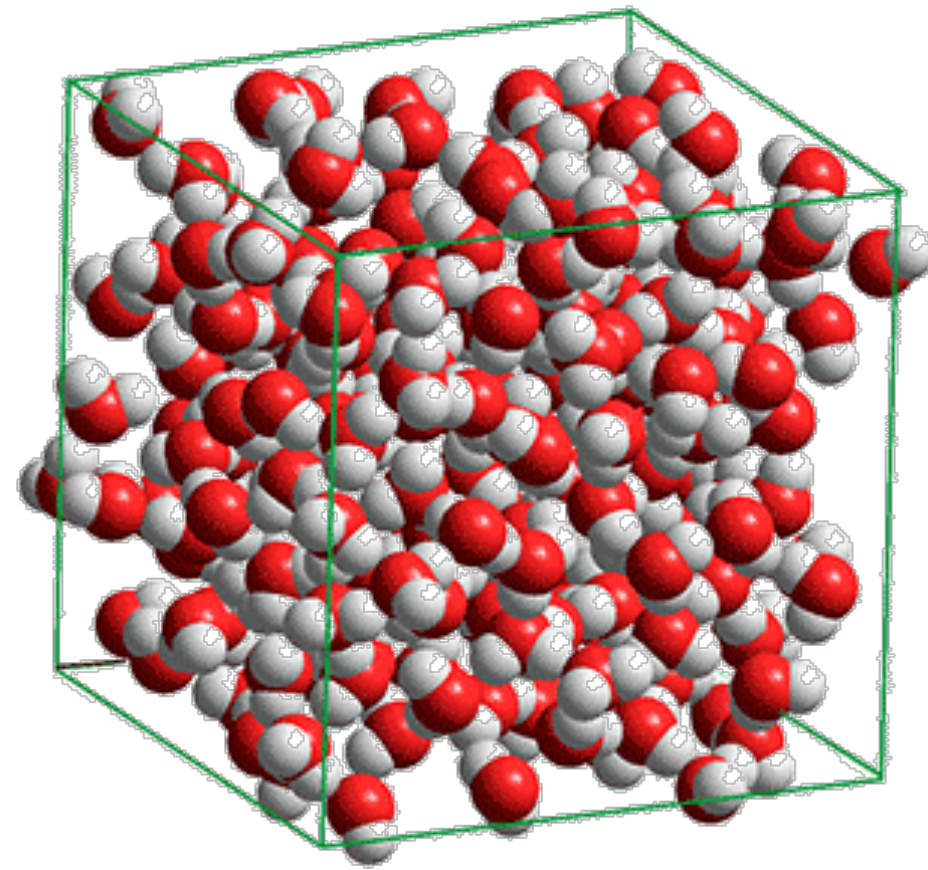


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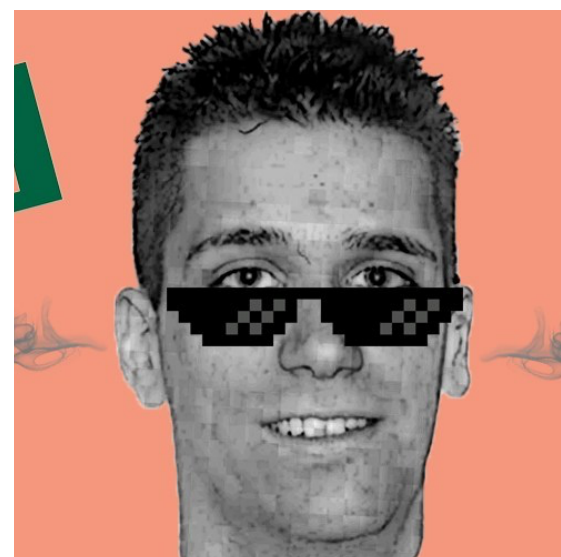
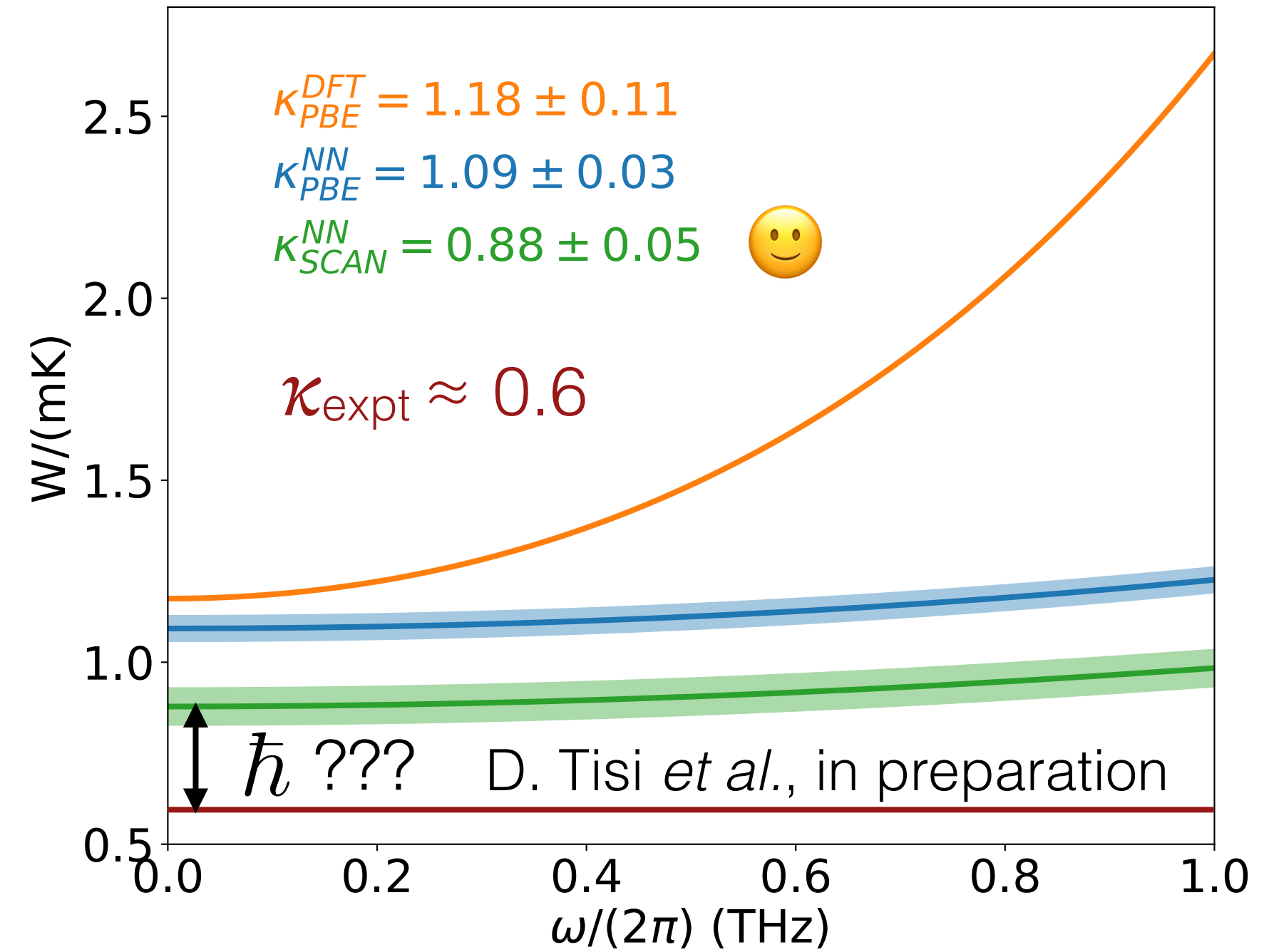
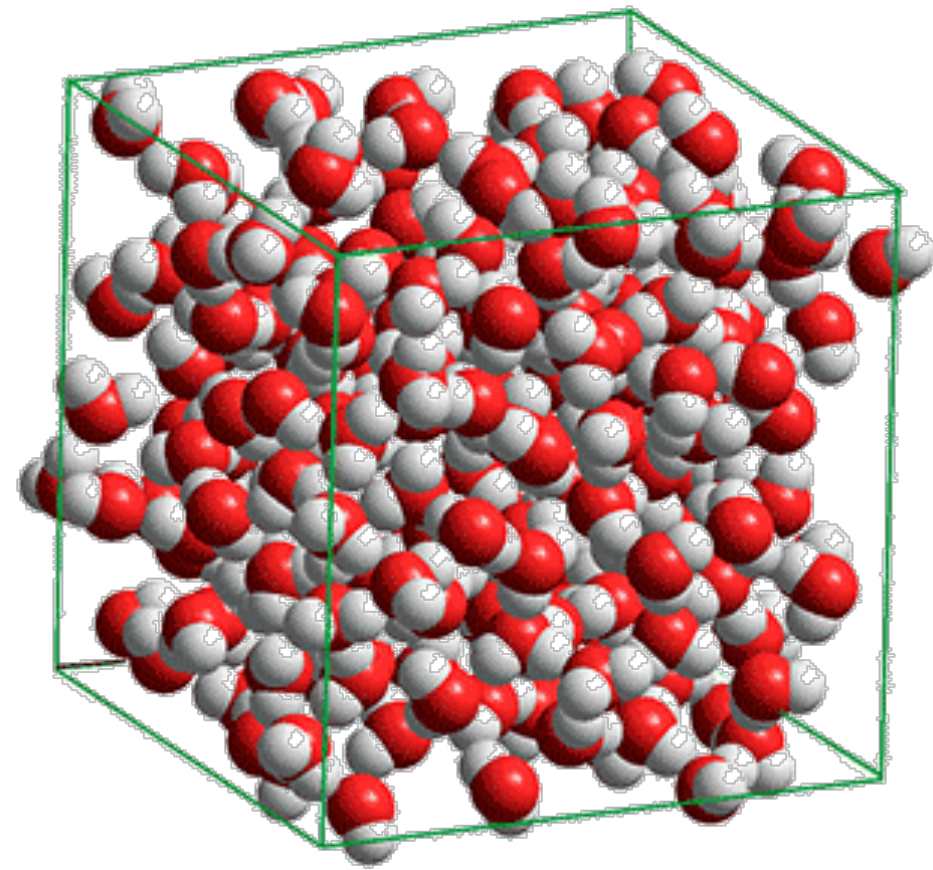
Monday, March 15, 2021  
9:36AM - 9:48AM

Live

[A20.00007: Heat transport in water from Deep Neural Network potentials](#)  
Davide Tisi, Linfeng Zhang, Roberto Car, Stefano Baroni



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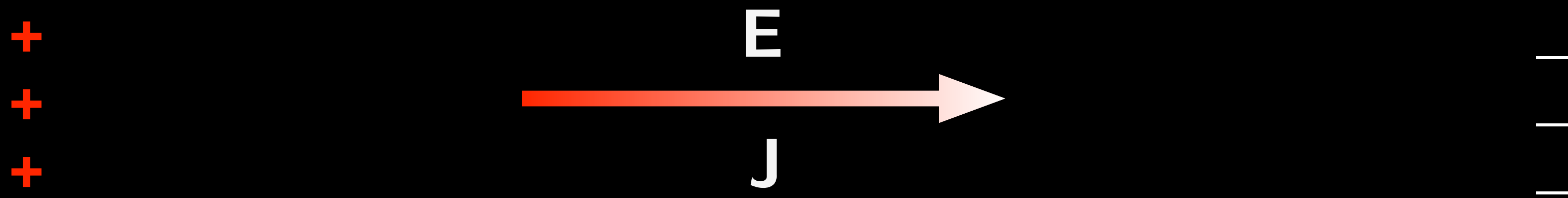
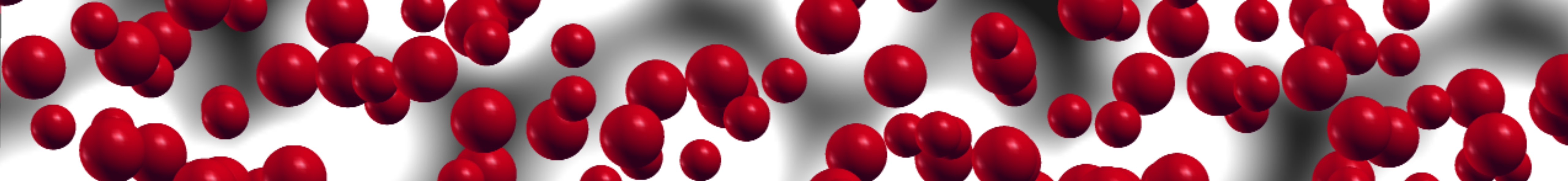
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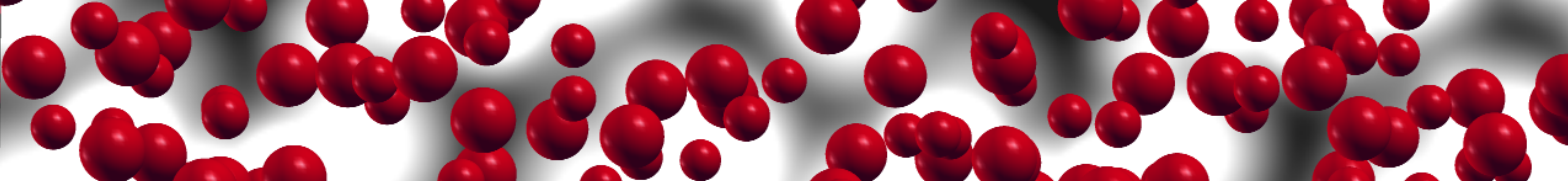
# ionic transport







$$\mathbf{J} = \sigma \mathbf{E}$$



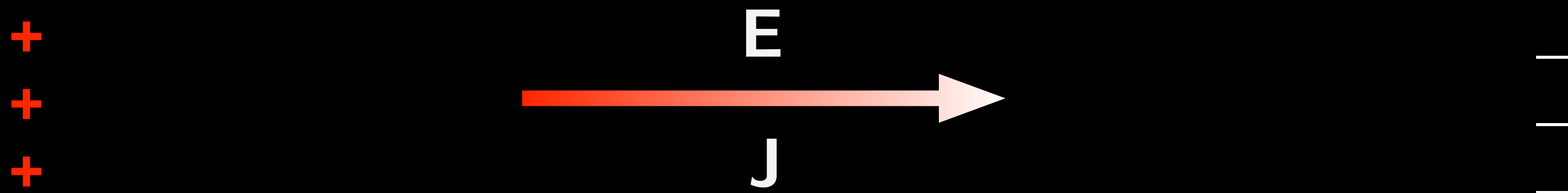
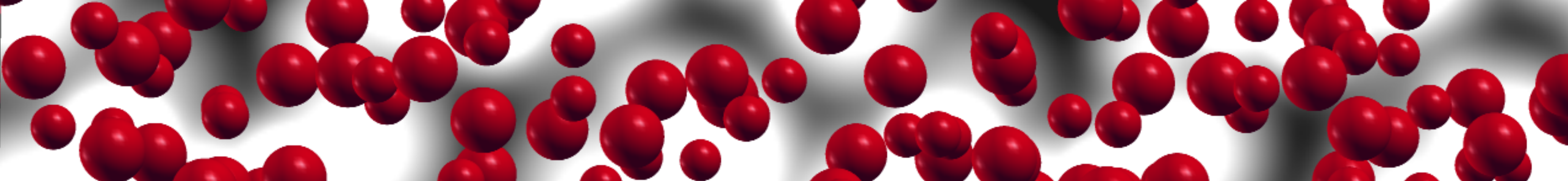
+  
+  
+



-  
-  
-

$$\mathbf{J} = \sigma \mathbf{E}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{J} &= \frac{1}{\Omega} \dot{\boldsymbol{\mu}} \\ &= \frac{1}{\Omega} \sum_i \mathbf{z}_i^* \cdot \mathbf{v}_i \end{aligned}$$

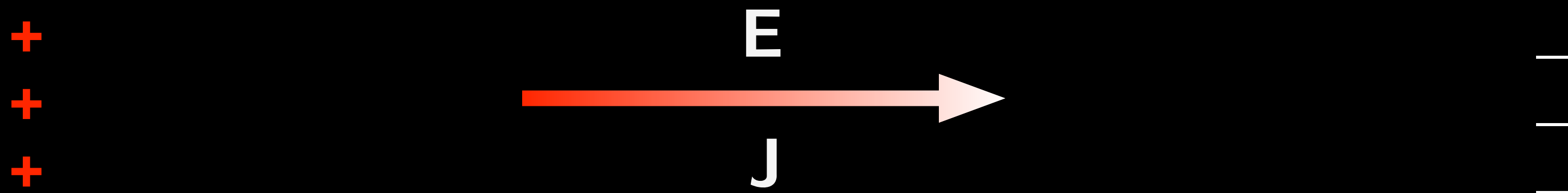
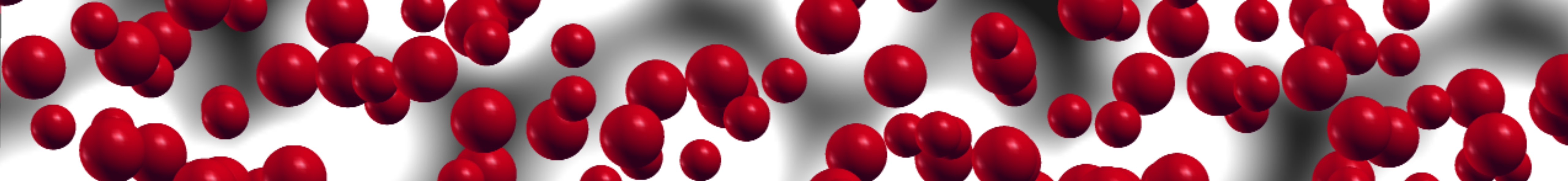


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$\mathbf{z}_{i\alpha\beta}^* = \frac{\partial \mu_\alpha}{\partial u_{i\beta}}$





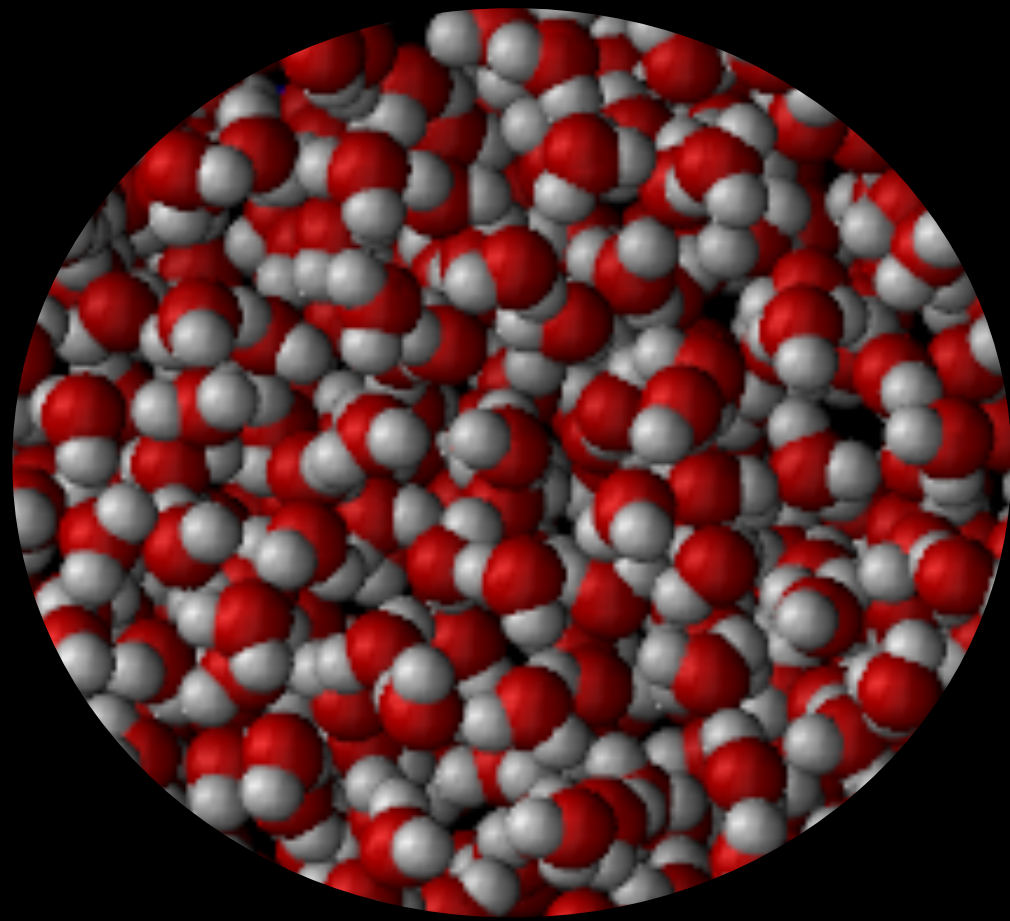
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$z_{i\alpha\beta}^* = \frac{\partial \mu_\alpha}{\partial u_{i\beta}}$

$$\sigma = \frac{\Omega}{3k_B T} \langle |\mathbf{J}|^2 \rangle \times \tau_J$$

# *the conundrum*



pure, undissociated  
H<sub>2</sub>O

$$\mathbf{J} = \frac{1}{\Omega} \sum_i \mathbf{z}_i^* \cdot \mathbf{v}_i$$

$$\neq 0$$

$$\sigma = \frac{\Omega}{3k_B T} \langle |\mathbf{J}|^2 \rangle \times \tau_J$$

$$= 0$$

???

# the conundrum

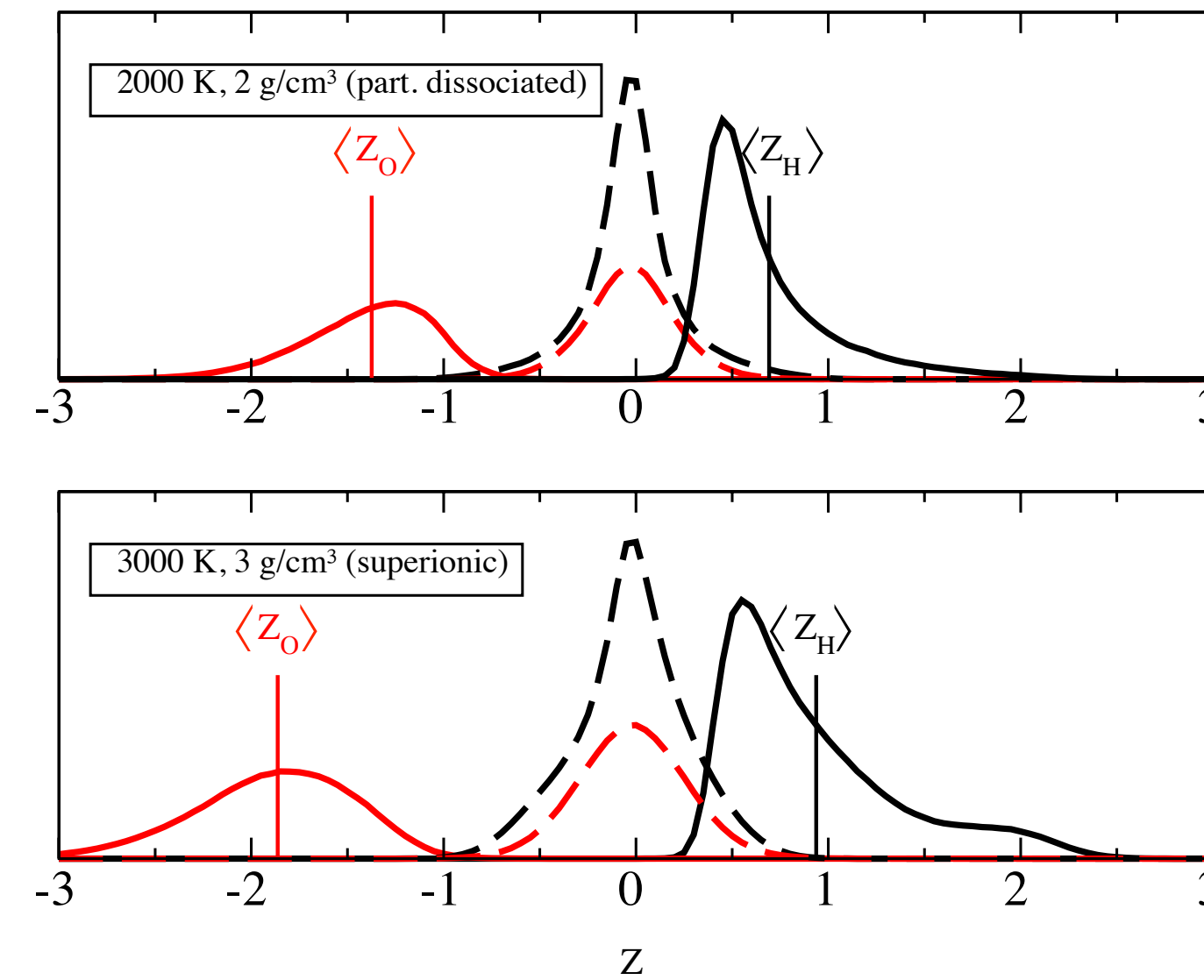
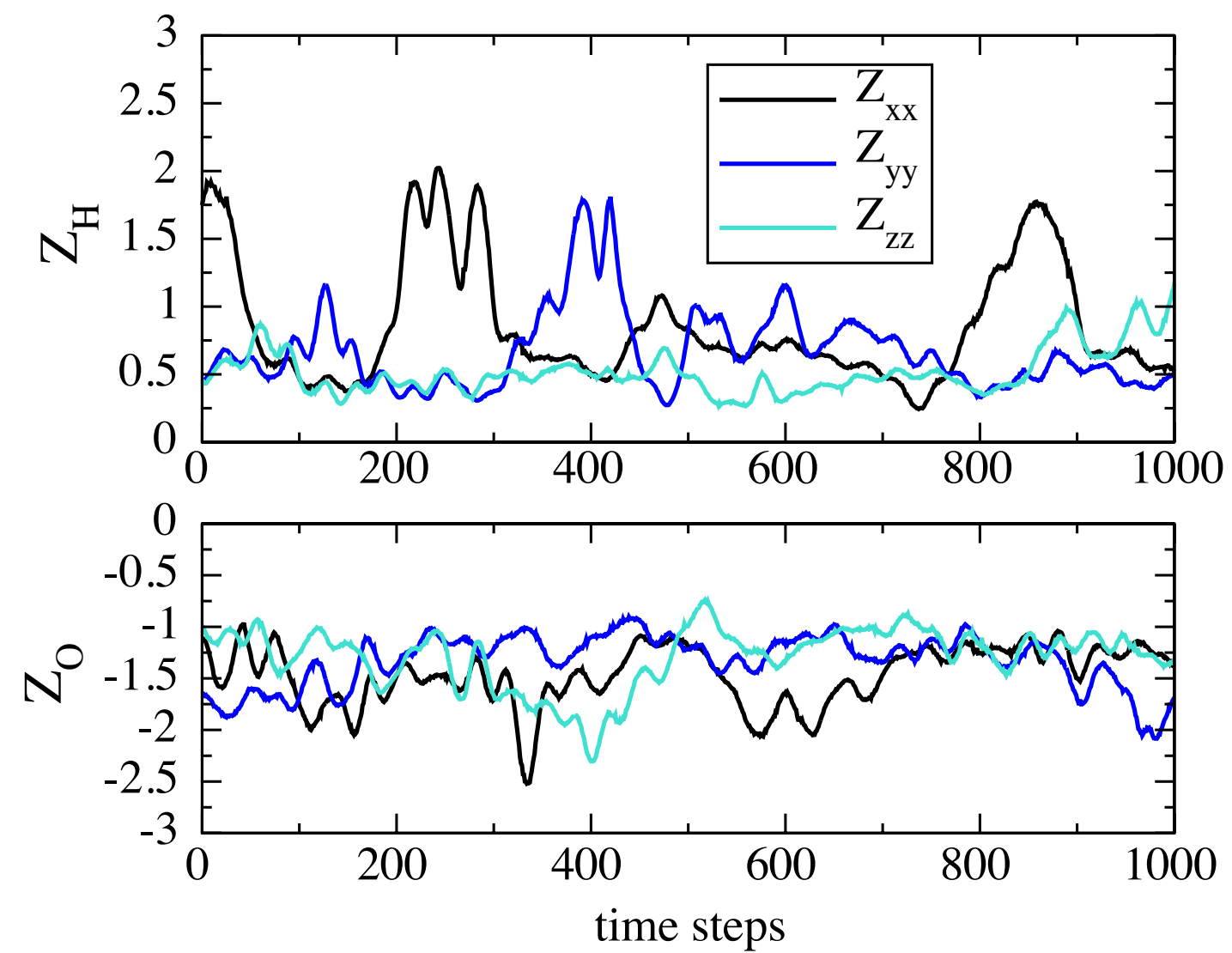
PRL 107, 185901 (2011)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending  
28 OCTOBER 2011

## Dynamical Screening and Ionic Conductivity in Water from *Ab Initio* Simulations

Martin French,<sup>1</sup> Sebastien Hamel,<sup>2</sup> and Ronald Redmer<sup>1</sup>



— diagonal  
- - - off-diagonal





# the conundrum

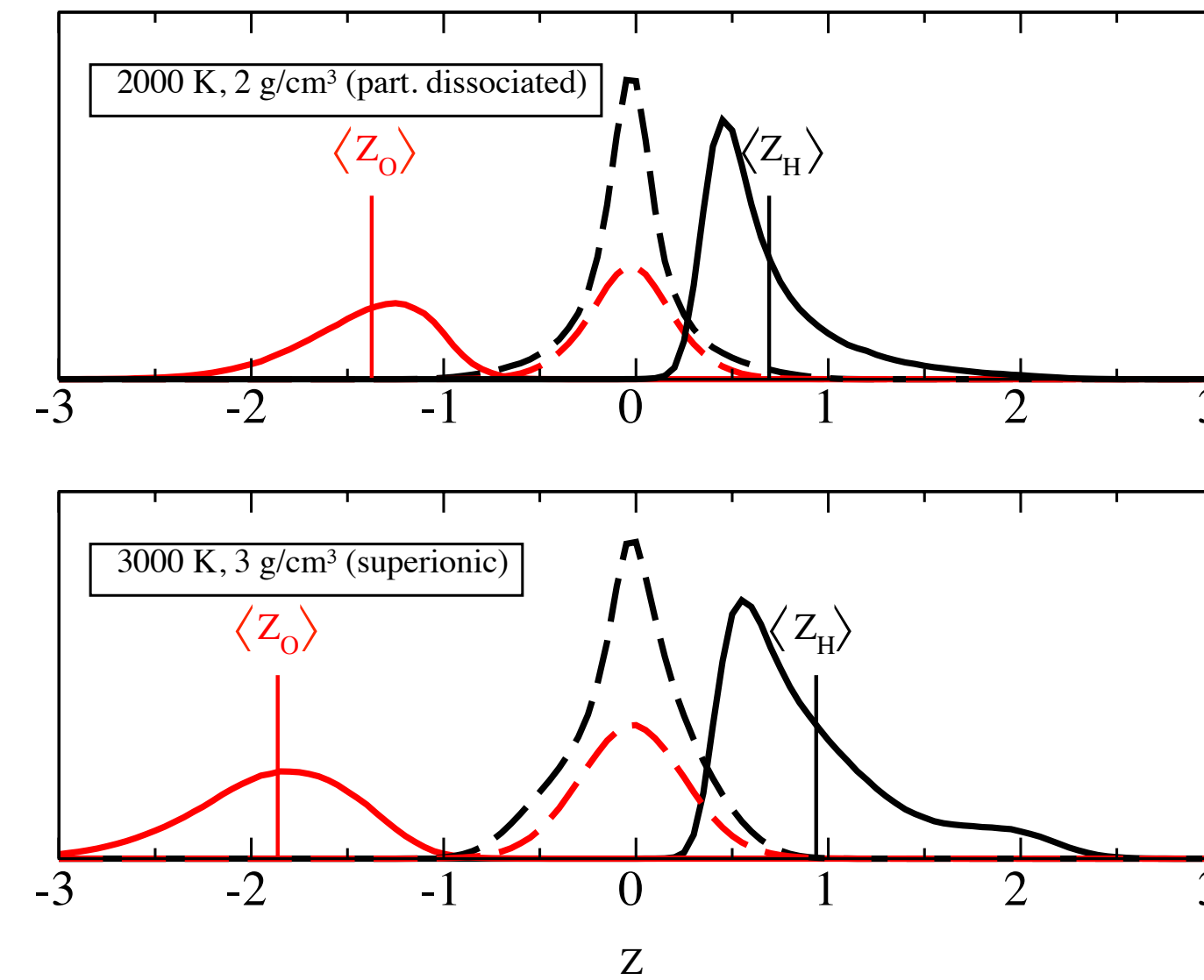
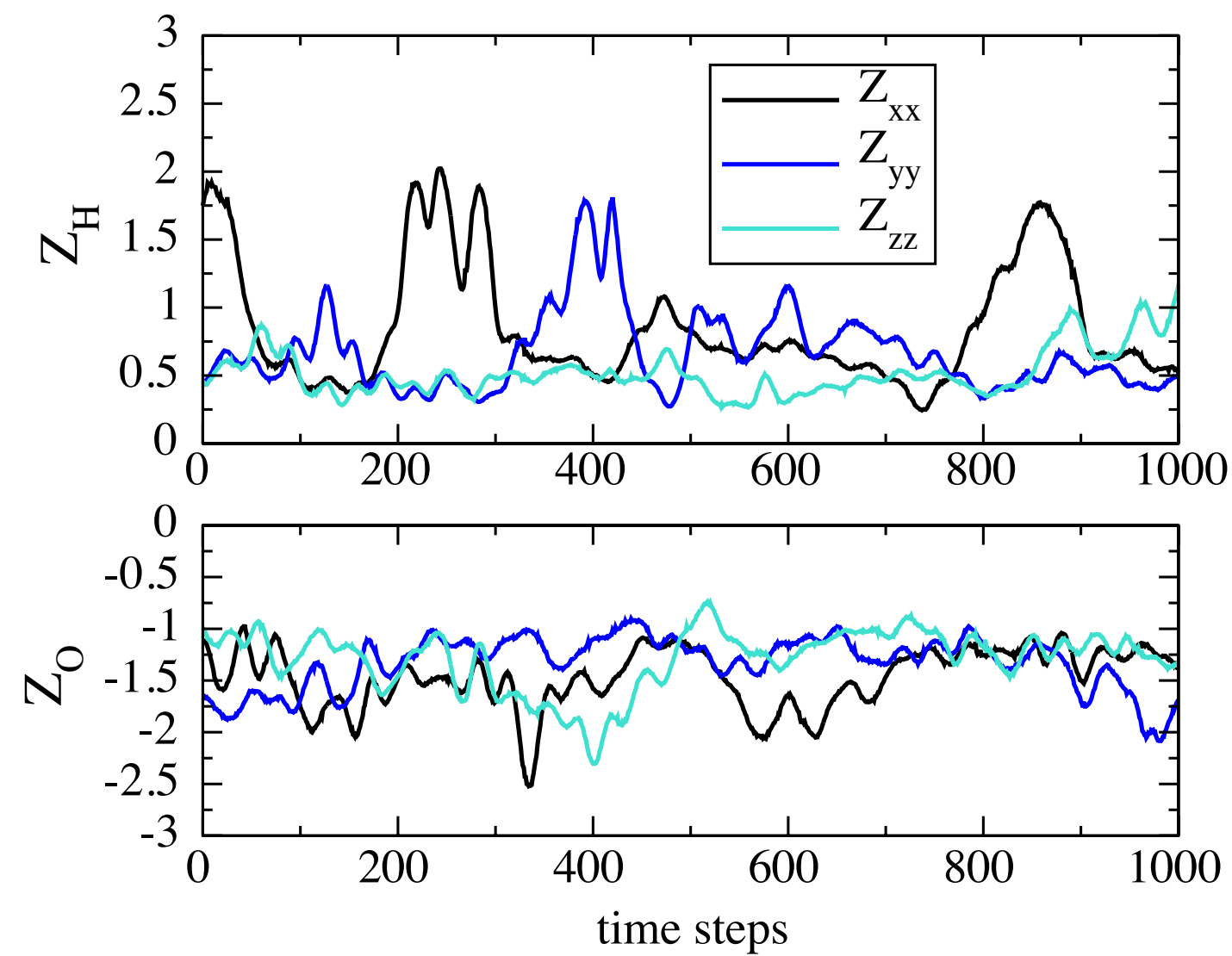
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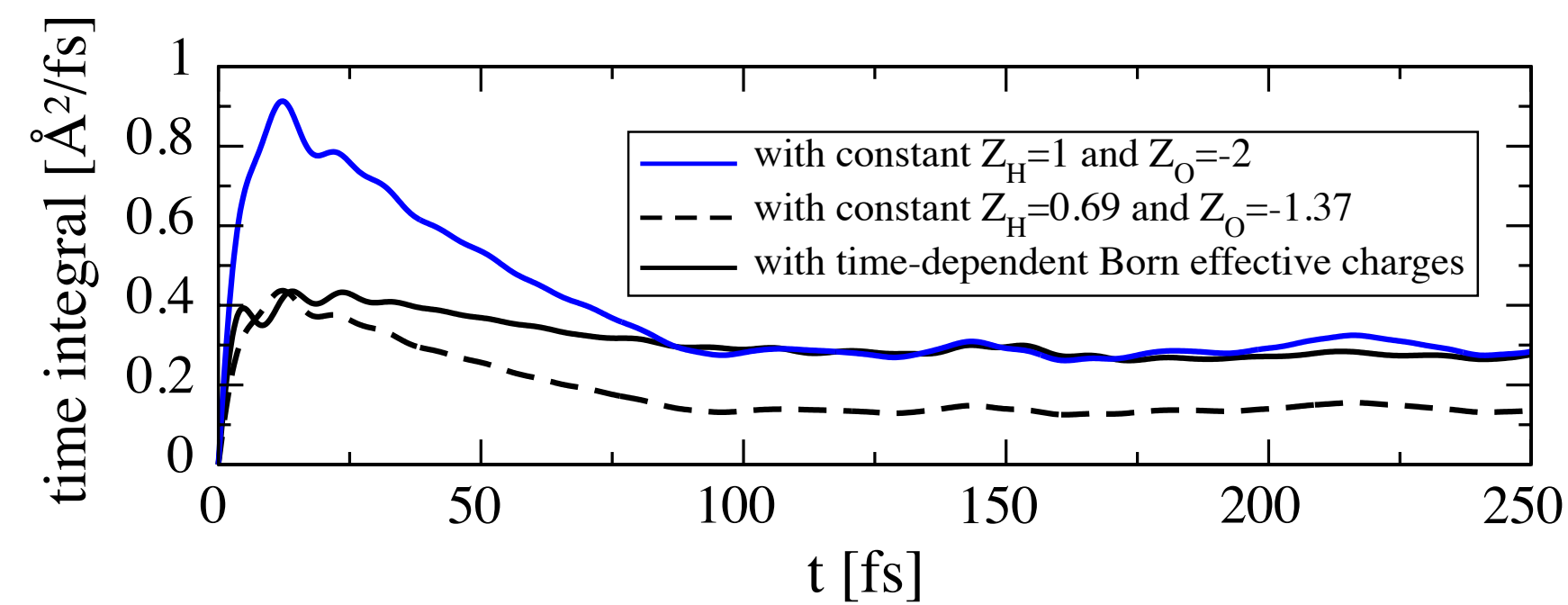
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$$\int_0^t \langle \mathbf{J}(t') \mathbf{J}(0) \rangle dt'$$



# the conundrum

PRL 107, 185901 (2011)

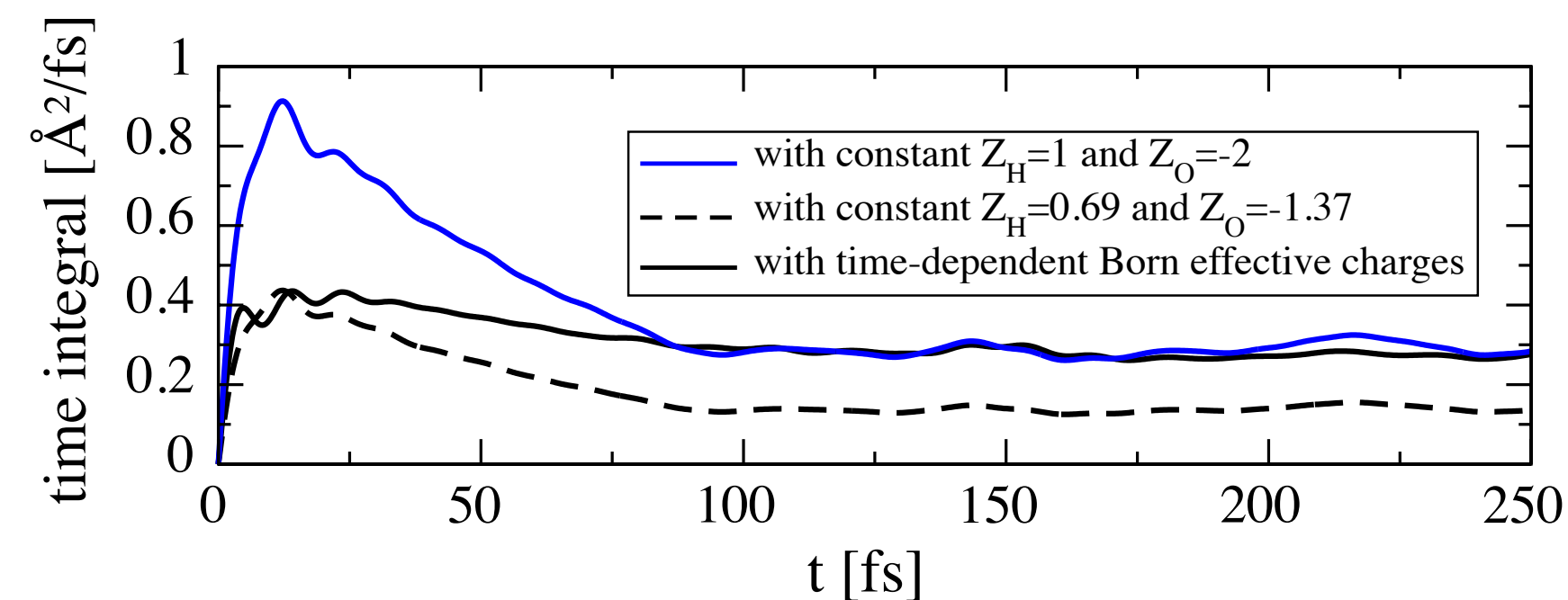
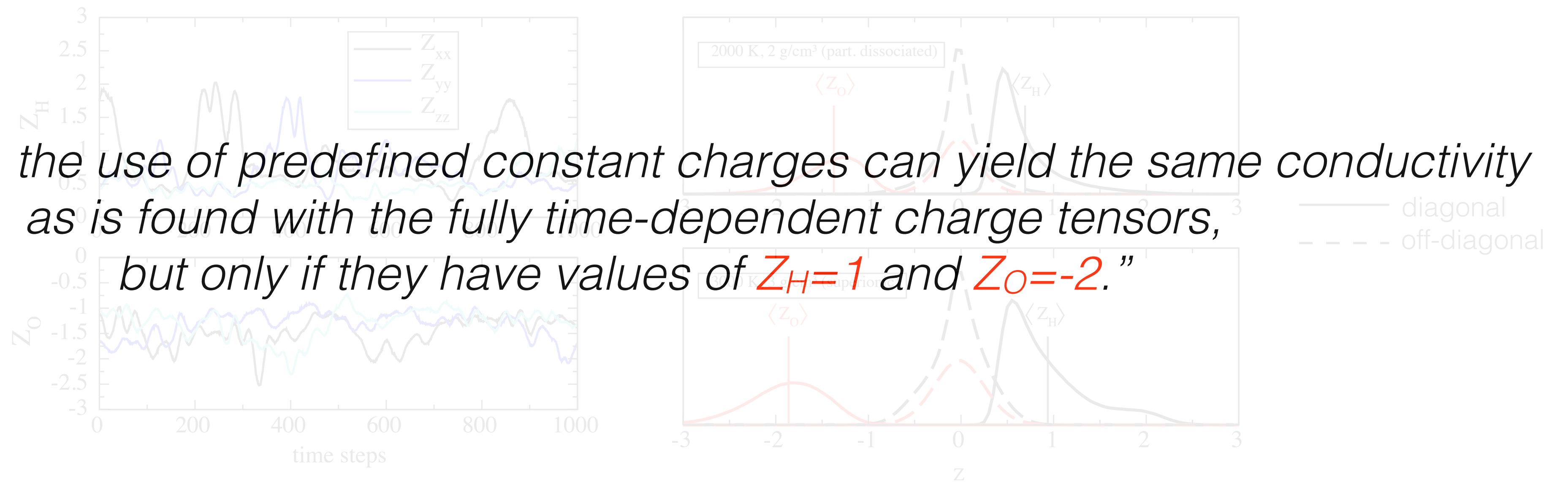
PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending  
28 OCTOBER 2011

## Dynamical Screening and Ionic Conductivity in Water from *Ab Initio* Simulations

Martin French,<sup>1</sup> Sebastien Hamel,<sup>2</sup> and Ronald Redmer<sup>1</sup>

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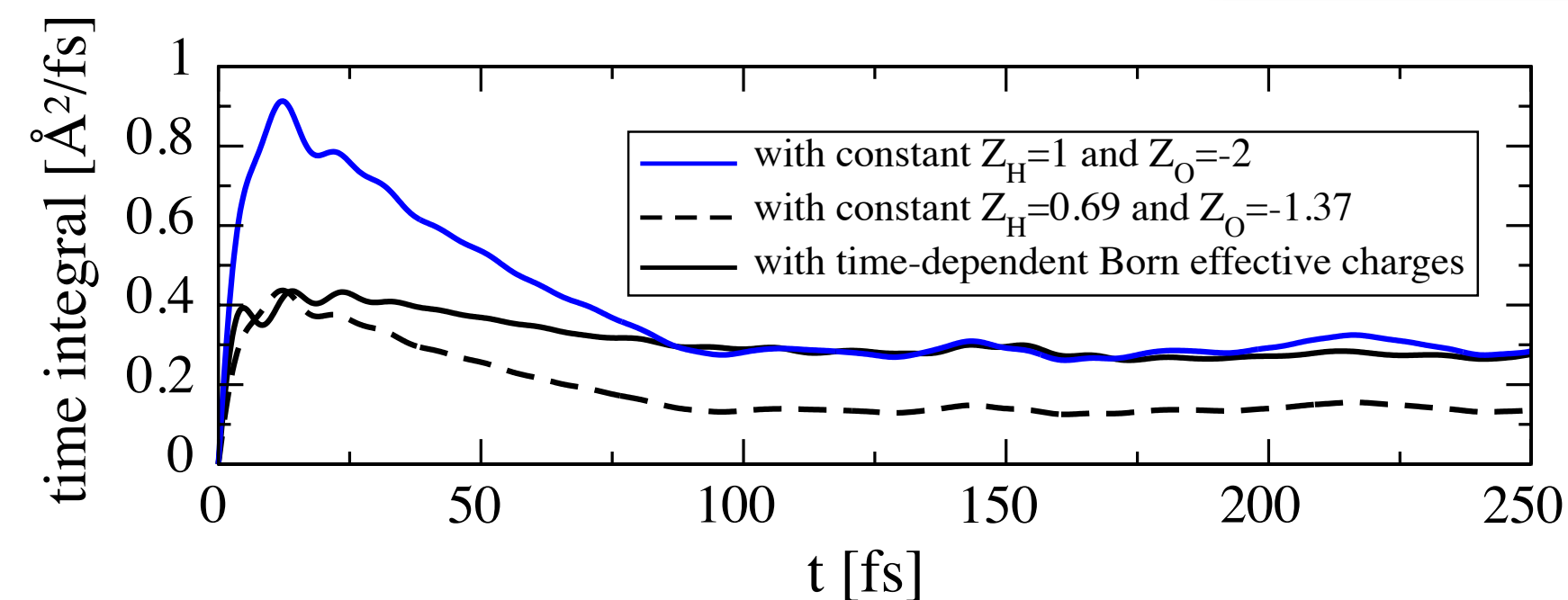
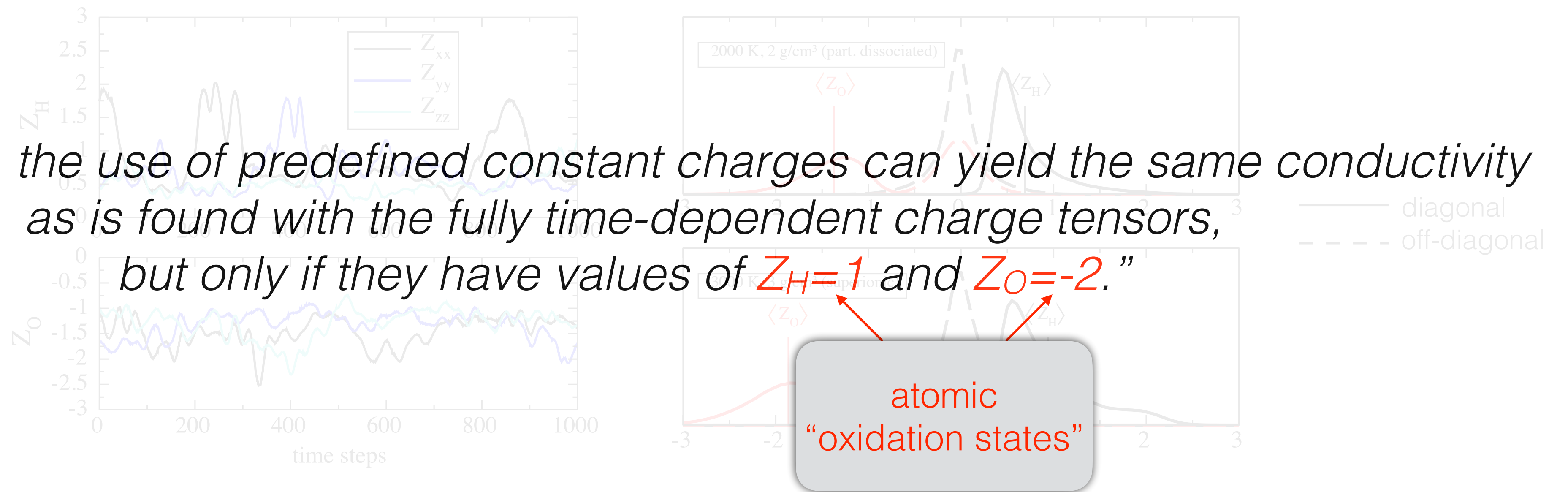
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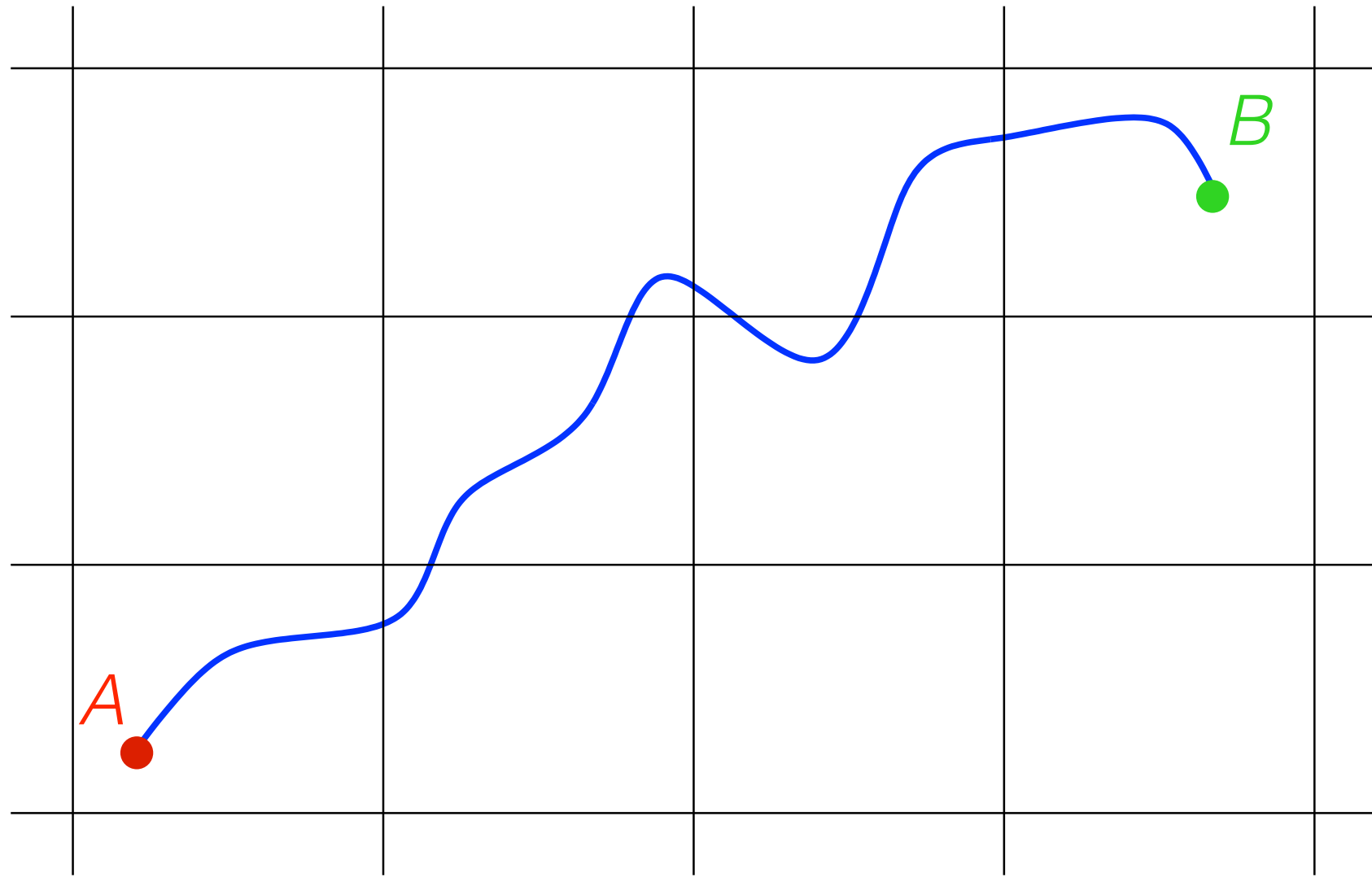






how come?

# *gauge invariance of charge transport*



$$\sigma \propto \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2t} \text{var} [\mu_{AB}(t)]$$

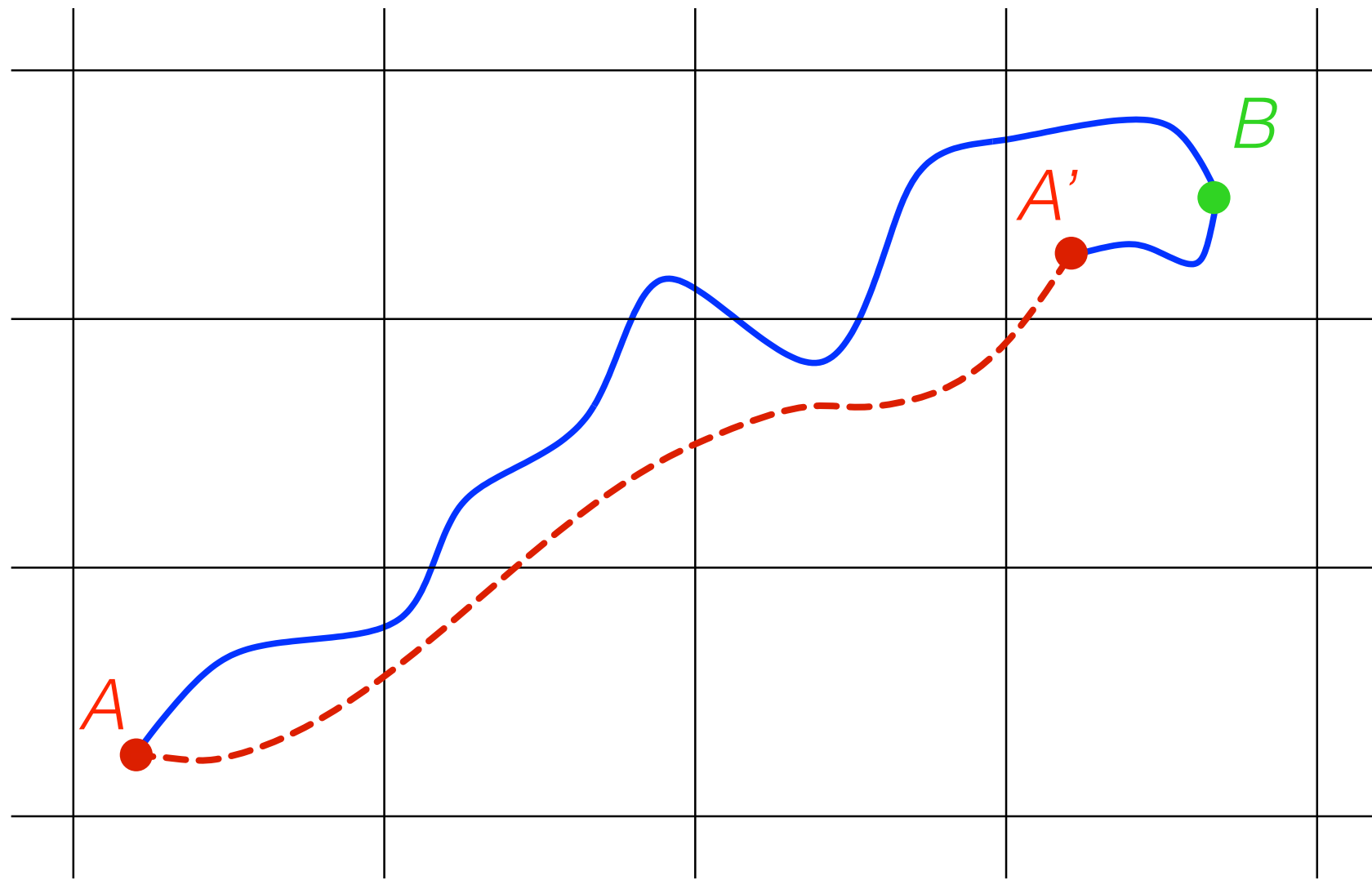
$$\mu_{AB}(t) = \int_0^t J(t') dt'$$







# *gauge invariance of charge transport*

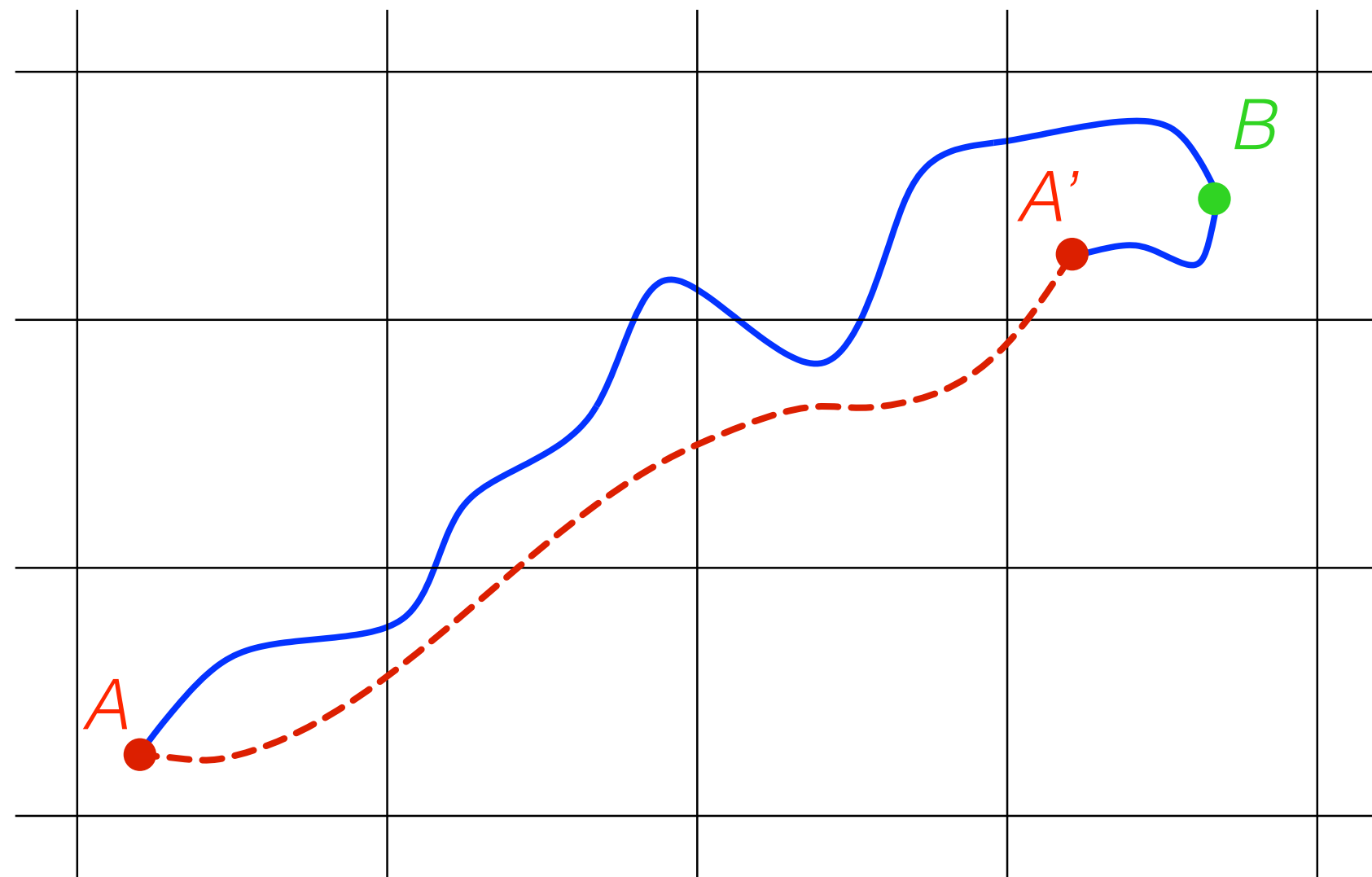


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$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{AB}(t) &= \int_0^t J(t') dt' \\ &= \mu_{AA'} + \mu_{A'B} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{var} [\mu_{AB}] = \underbrace{\text{var} [\mu_{AA'}]}_{\mathcal{O}(t)} + \underbrace{\text{var} [\mu_{A'B}]}_{\mathcal{O}(1)} + 2 \underbrace{\text{cov} [\mu_{AA'} \cdot \mu_{A'B}]}_{\mathcal{O}(t^{\frac{1}{2}})}$$

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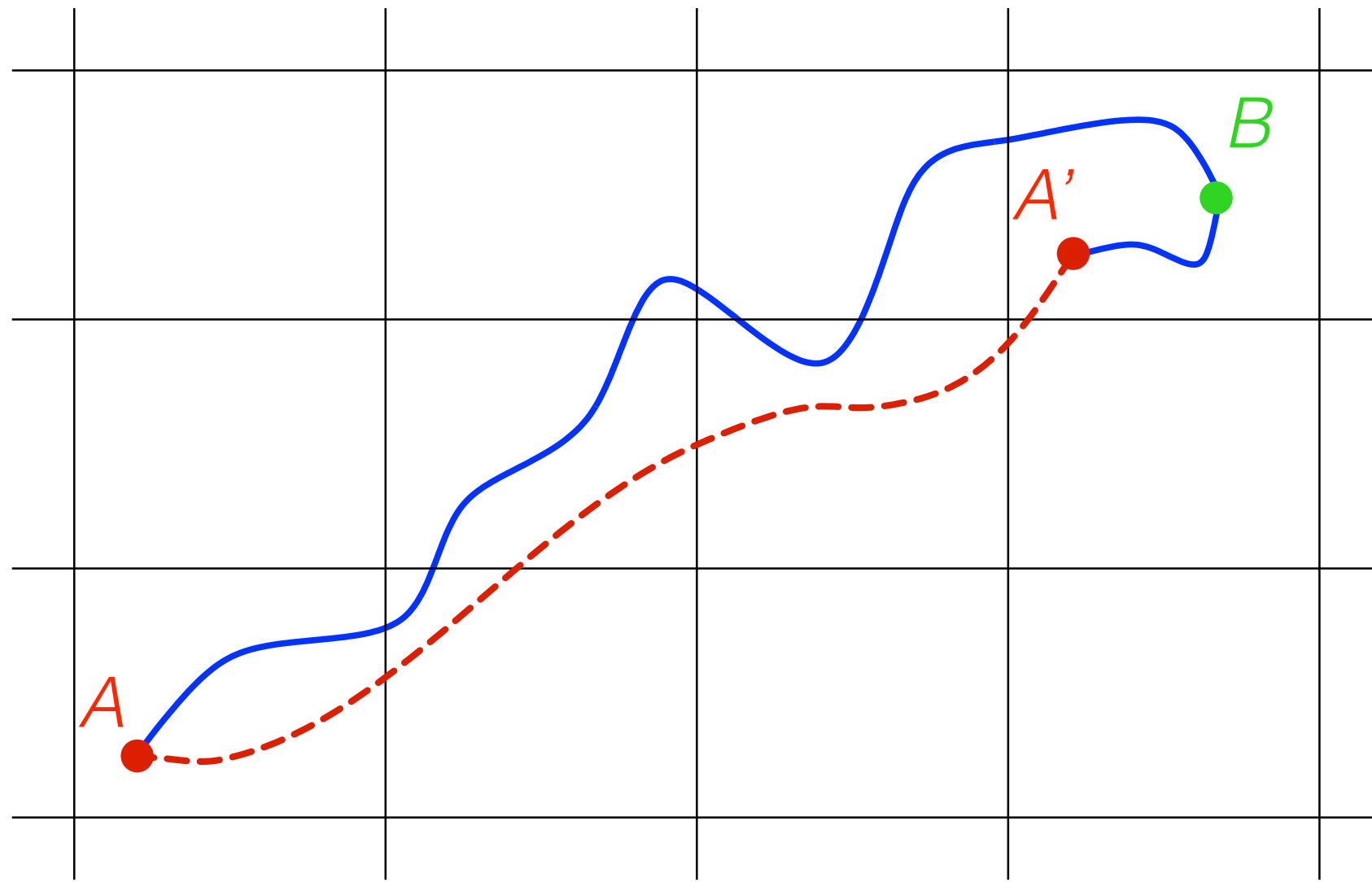
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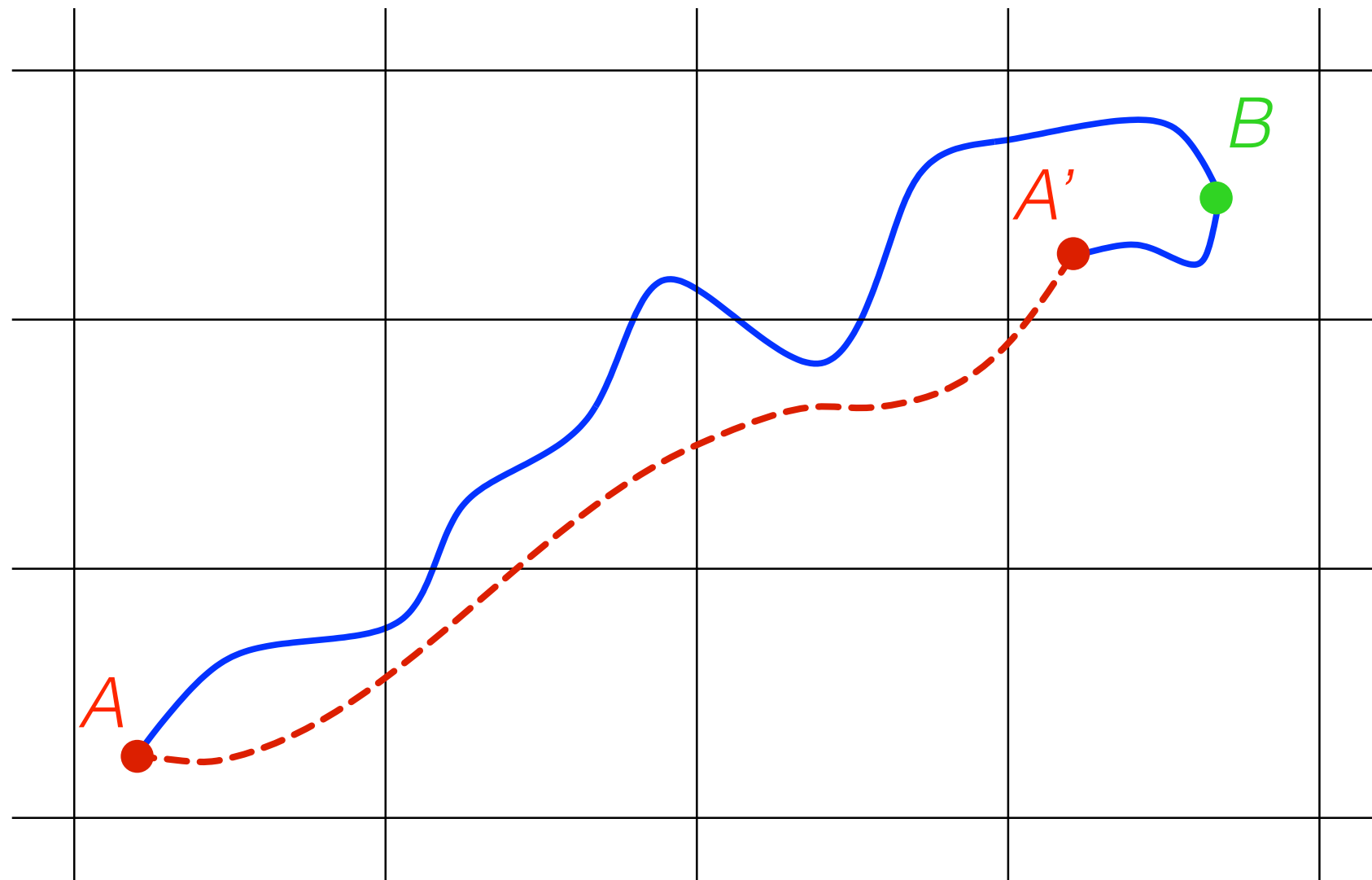


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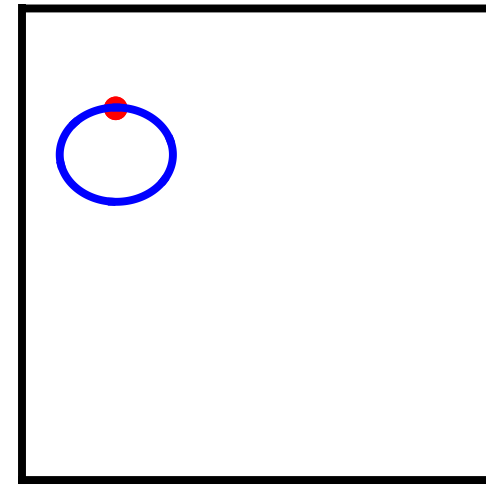
$$Q(AA') = \frac{1}{\ell} \int_A^{A'} d\mu(X) \\ \in \mathbb{Z}$$

D.J. Thouless, *Quantization of particle transport*, Phys. Rev. B 27, 2083 (1983)



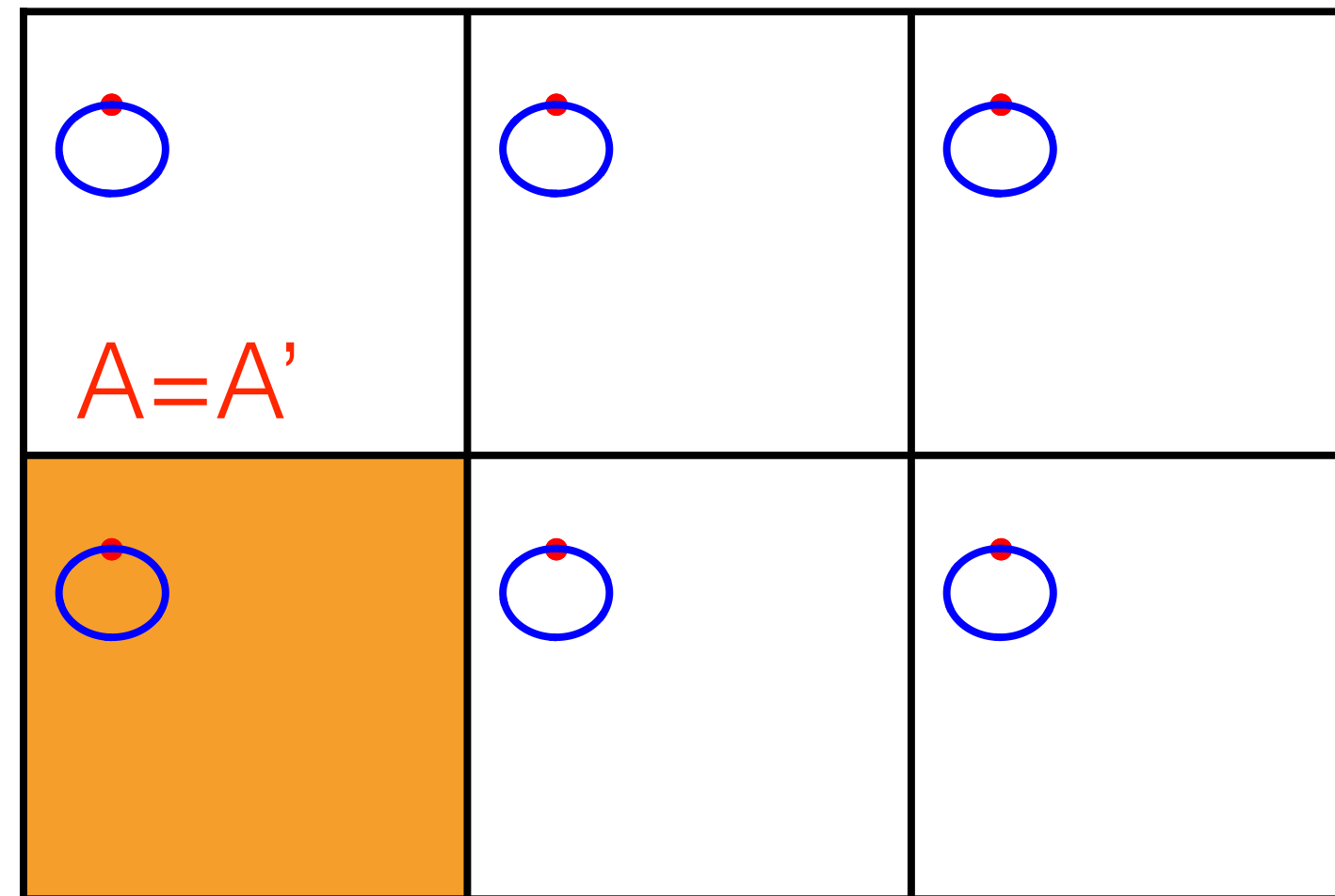
# *topological invariants*

$$A=A'$$

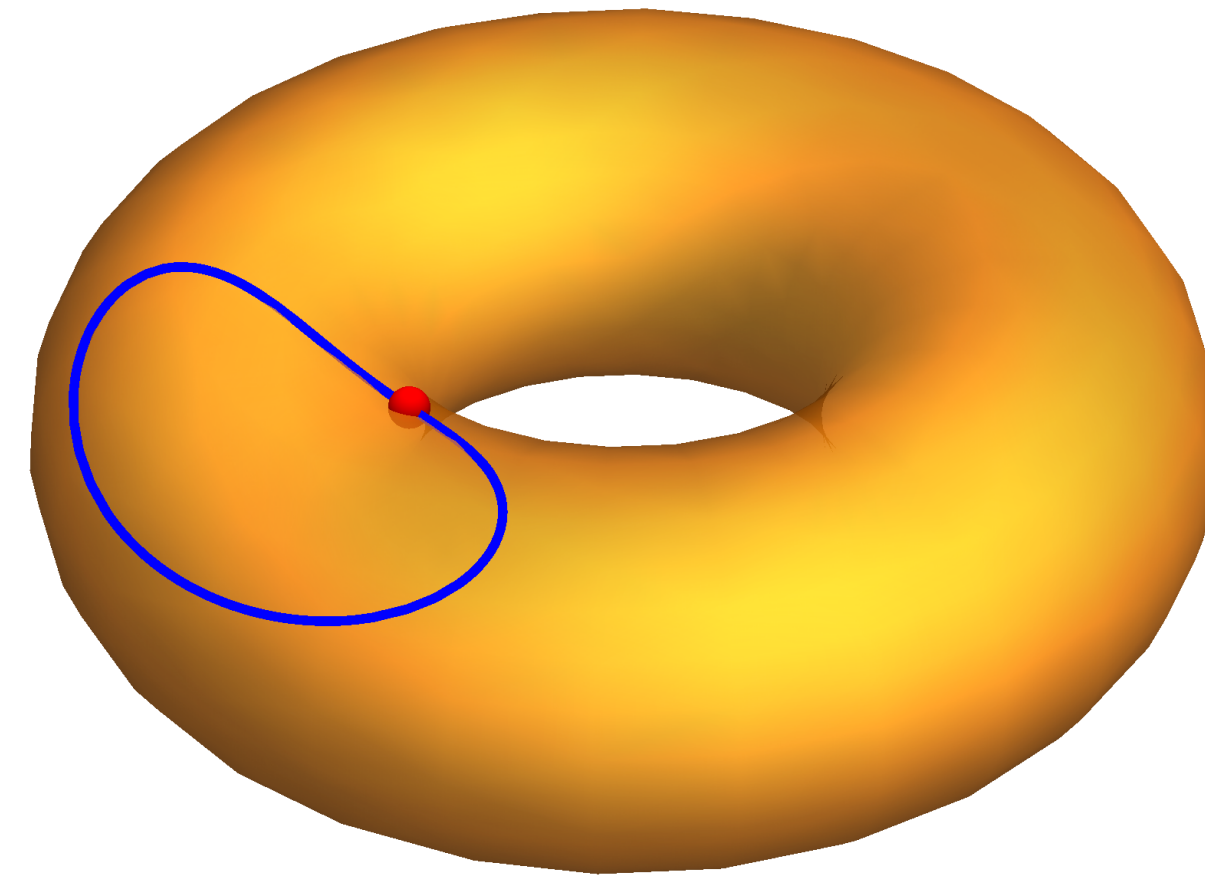
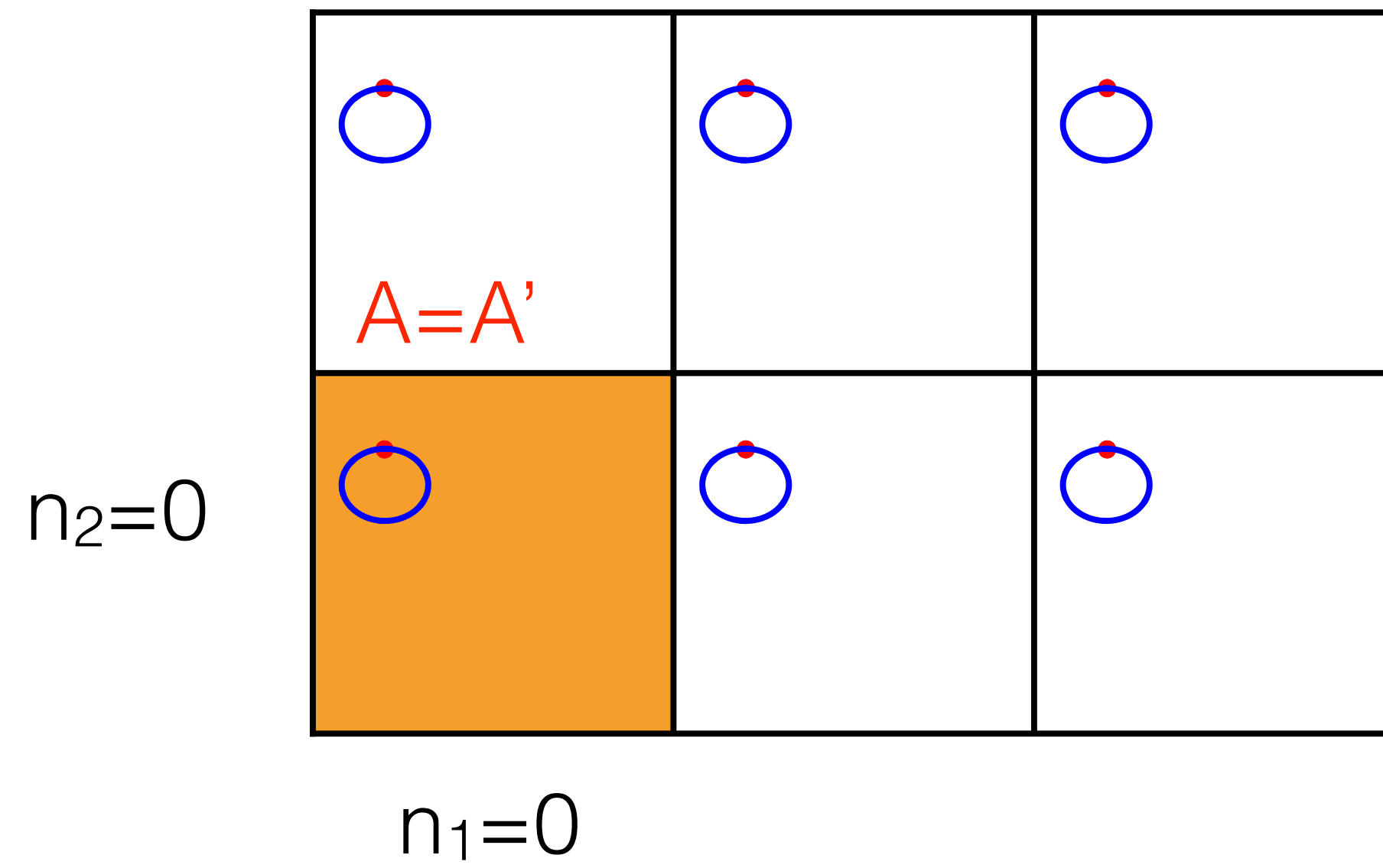




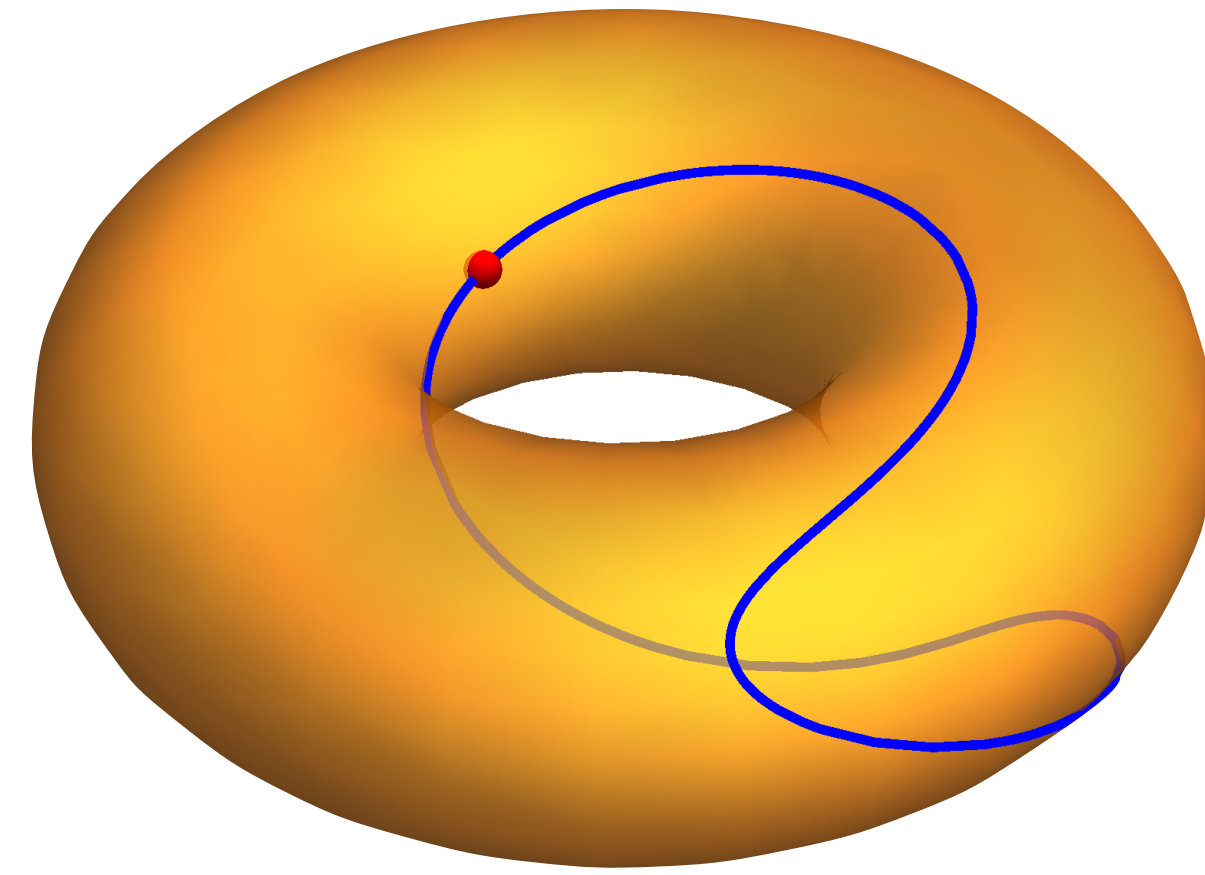
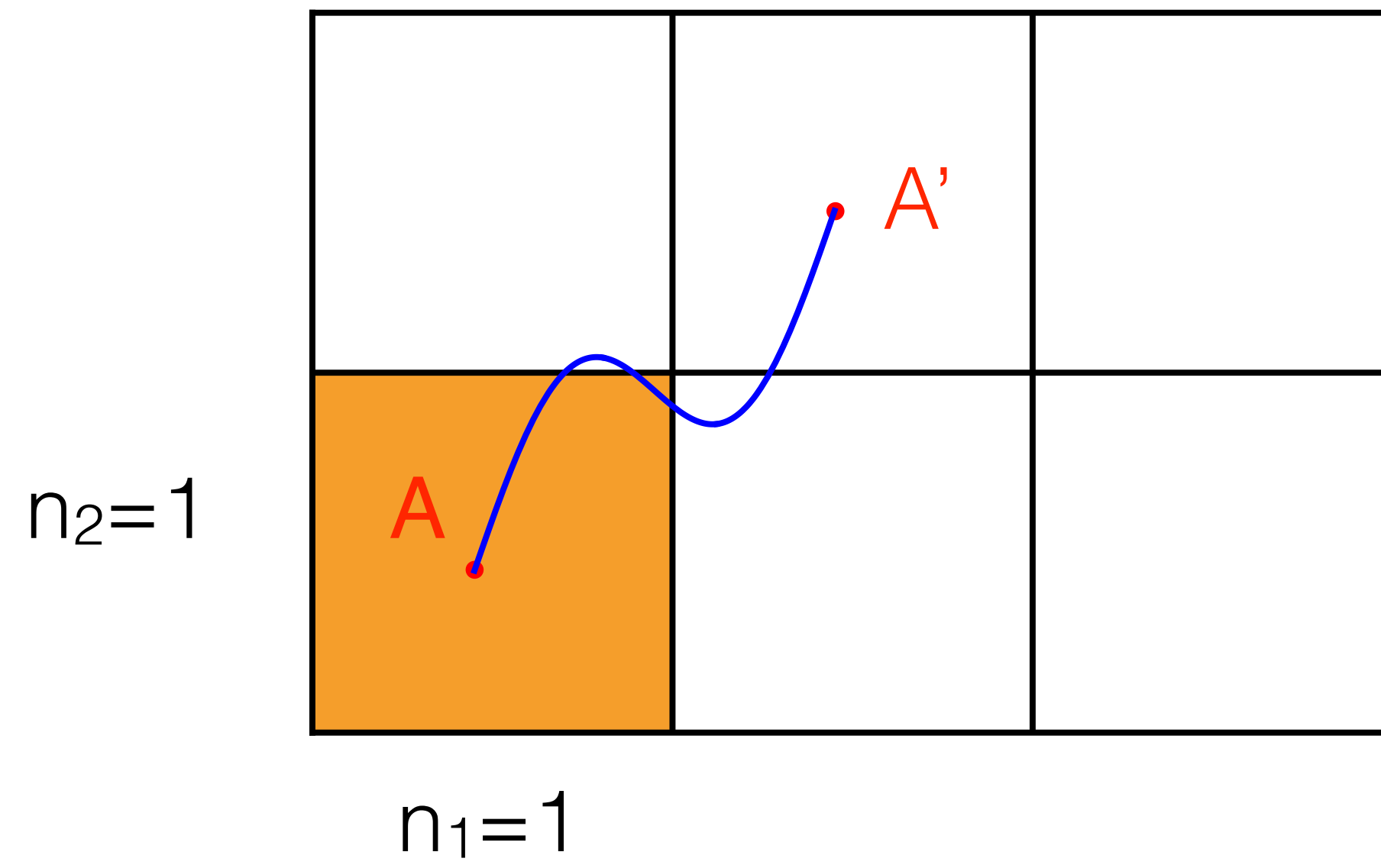
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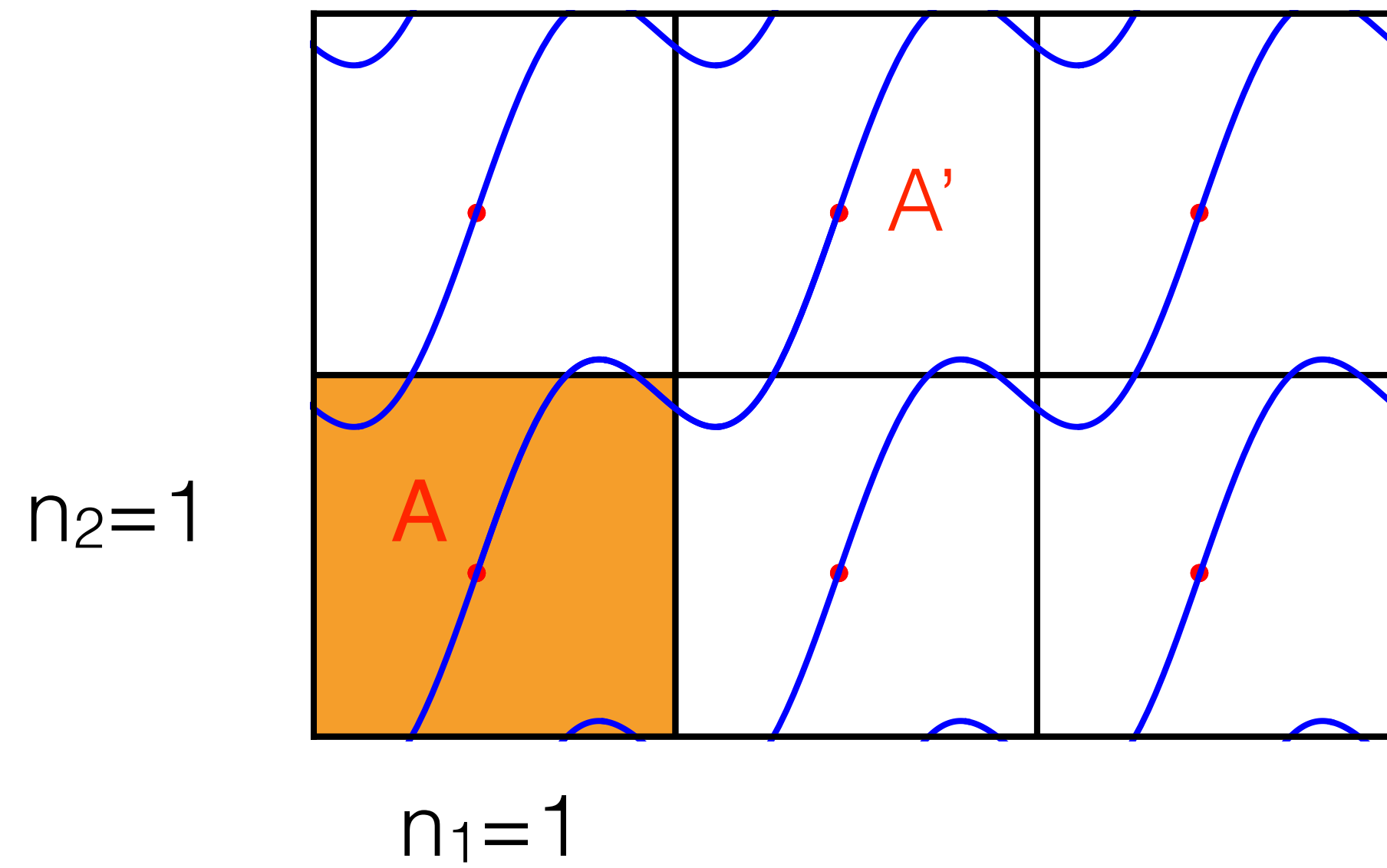


# *topological invariants*

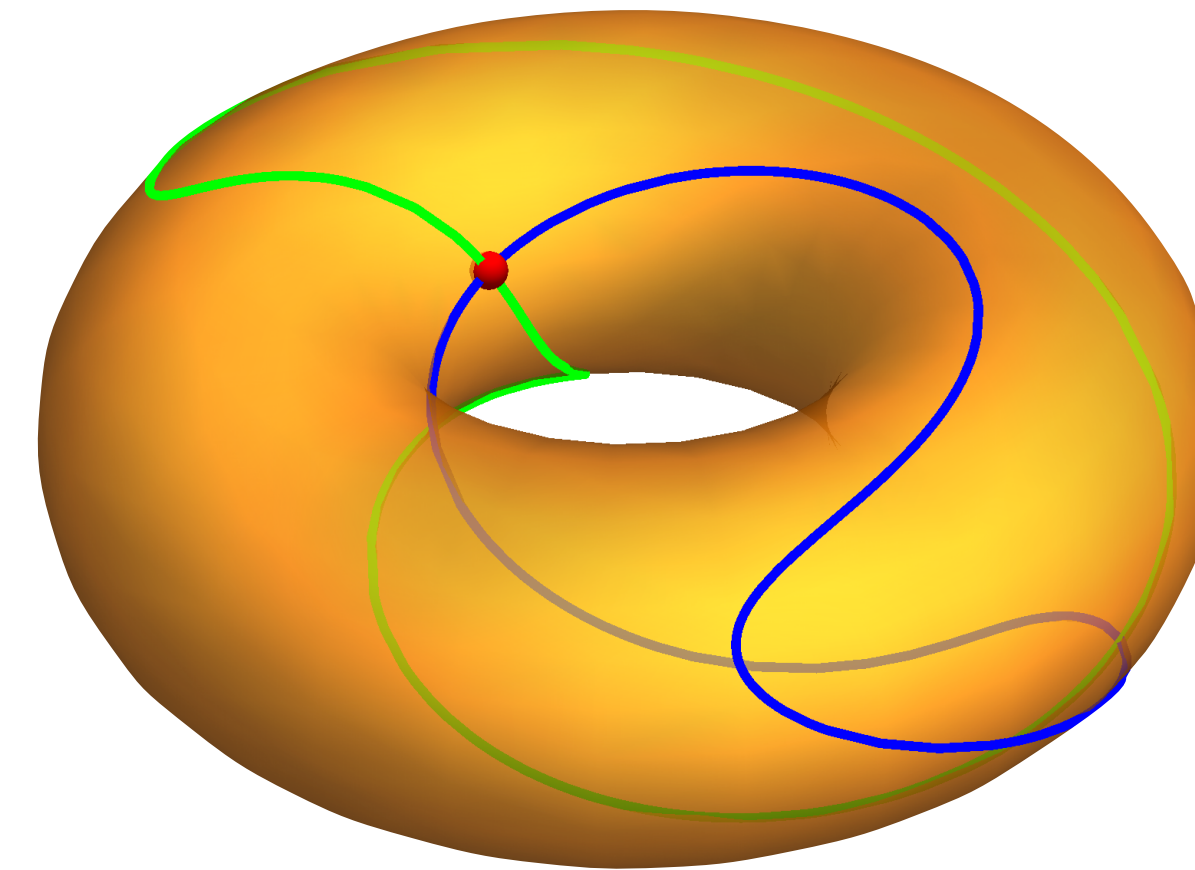
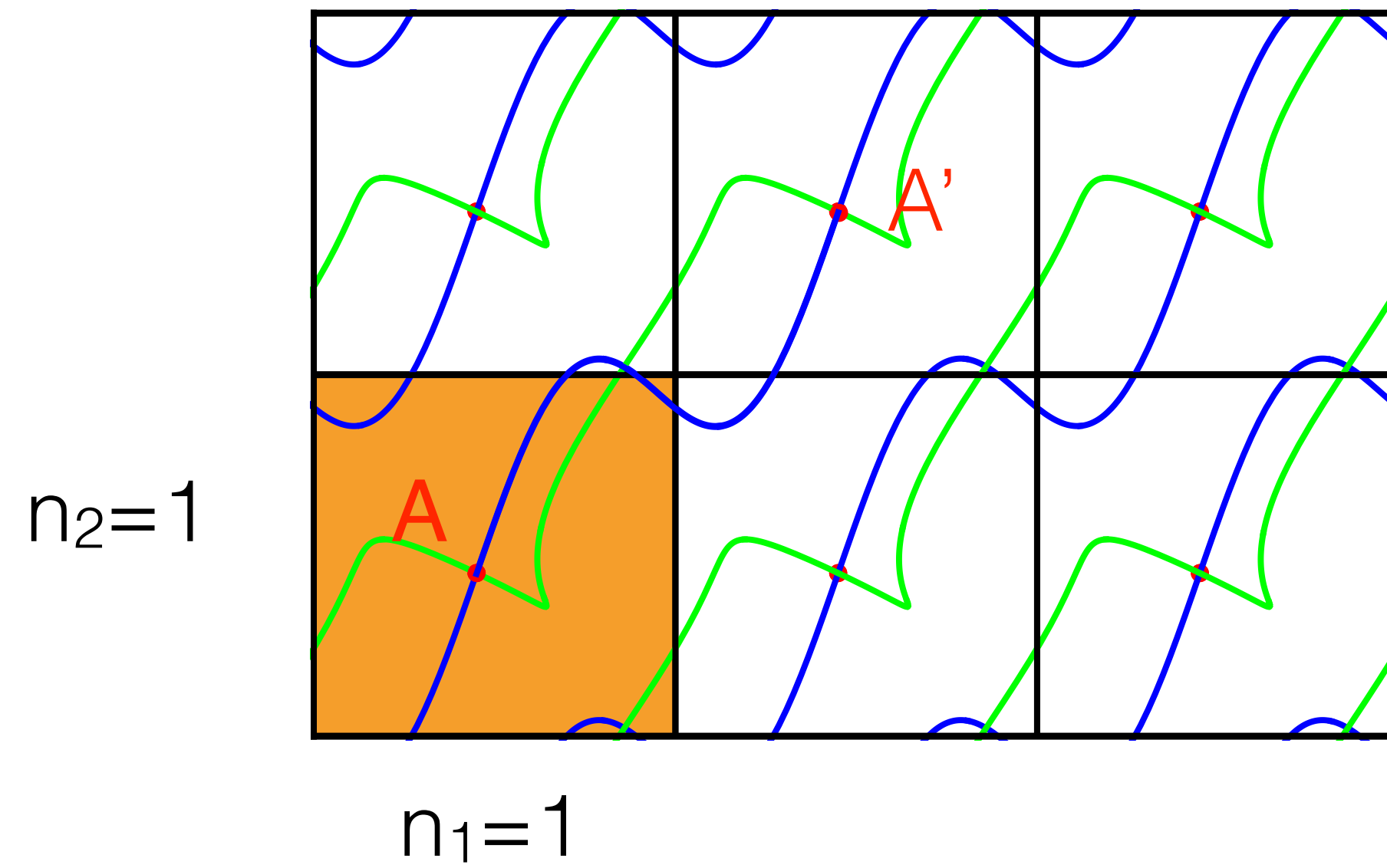




# *topological invariants*



# *topological invariants*



$$Q(AA') = Q(AA') = Q[n_1 = 1, n_2 = 1]$$

# *atomic oxidation states*

$$Q_{\alpha}[\mathcal{C}] = \frac{1}{\ell} \mu_{\alpha}[\mathcal{C}]$$





# *atomic oxidation states*

$$\begin{aligned} Q_\alpha[\mathcal{C}] &= \frac{1}{\ell} \mu_\alpha[\mathcal{C}] \\ &= Q_\alpha(n_{1x}, n_{1y}, n_{1z}, \dots, n_{Nz}) \end{aligned}$$



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- All loops can be shrunk to a point without closing the gap (*strong adiabaticity*);
- Any two like atoms can be swapped without closing the gap



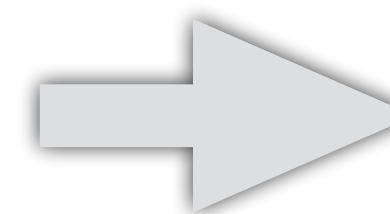
# atomic oxidation states

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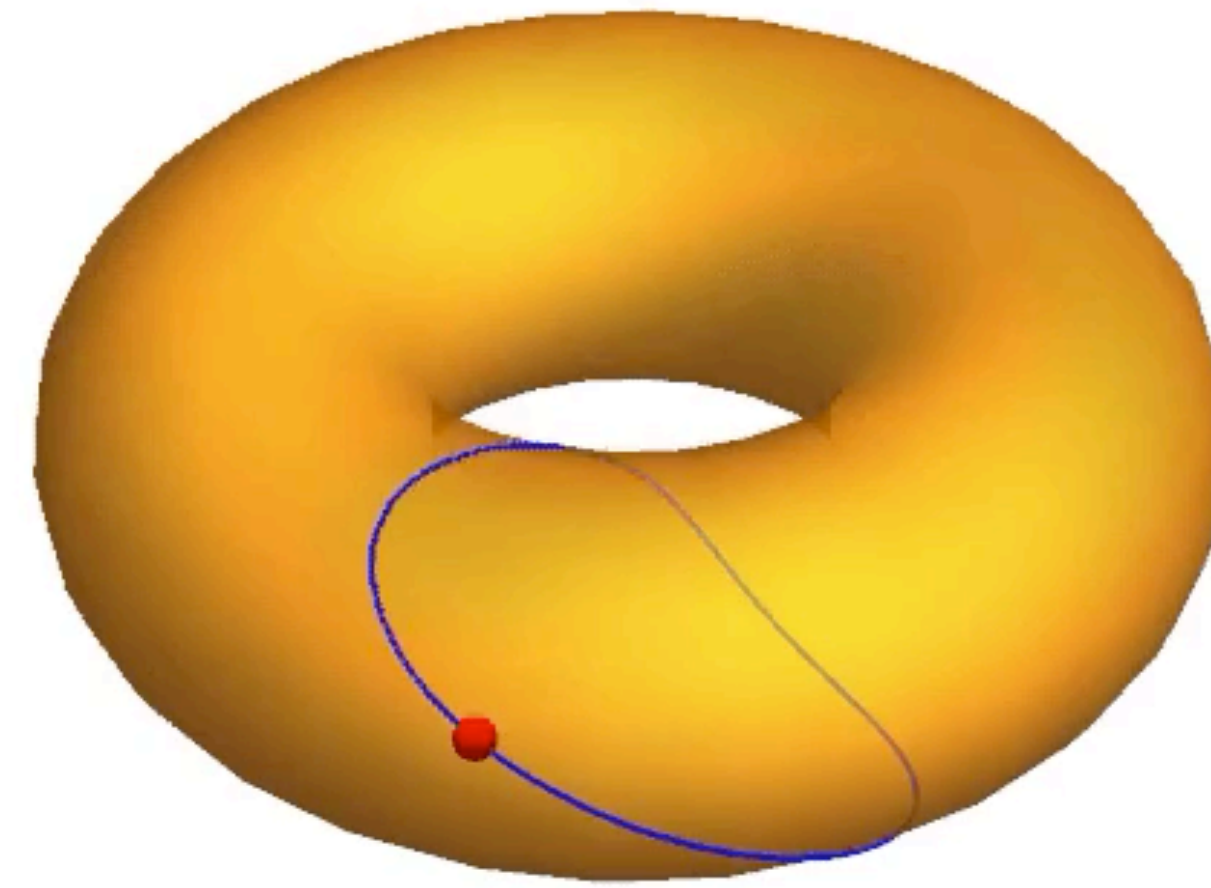
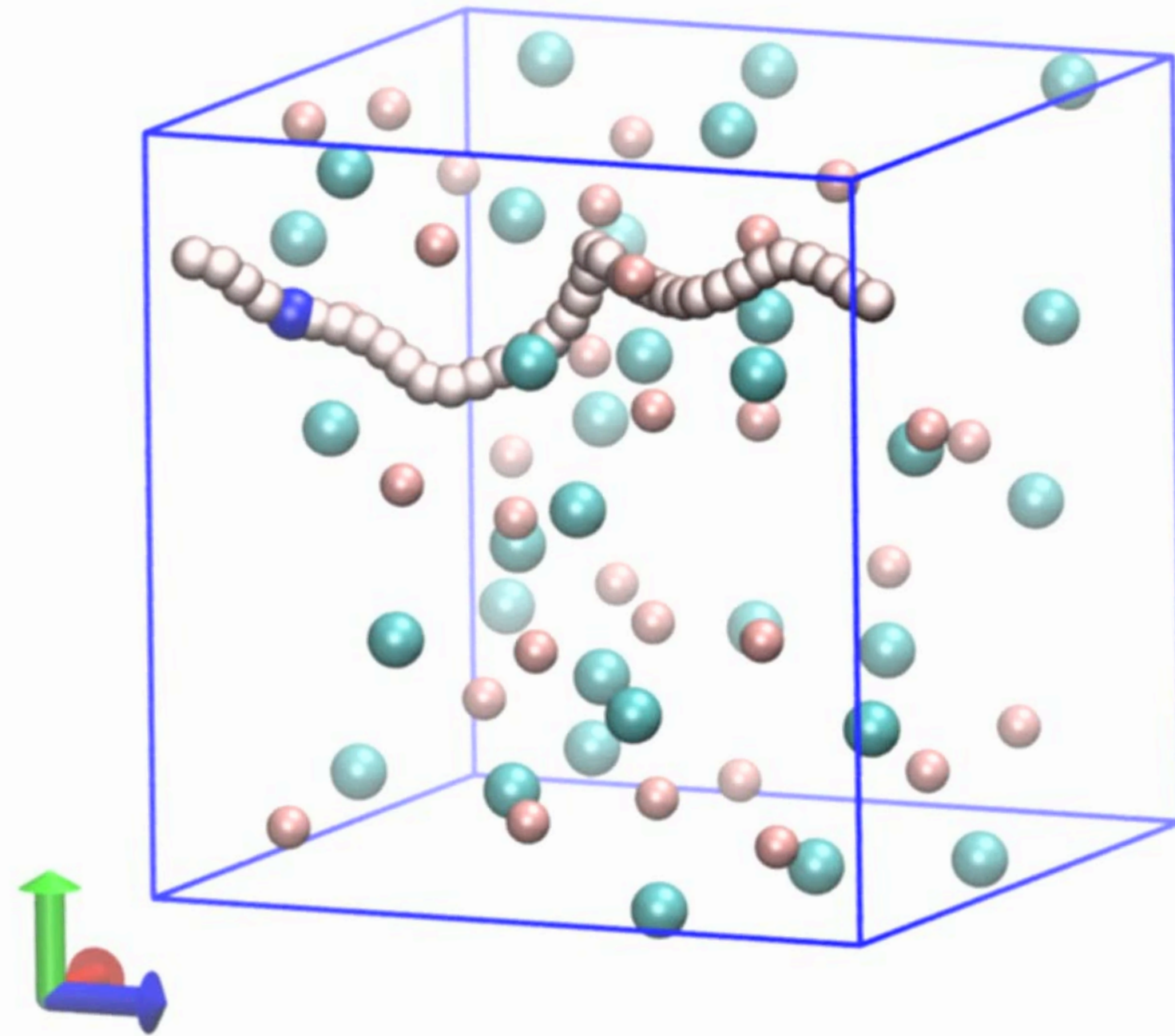
- All loops can be shrunk to a point without closing the gap (*strong adiabaticity*);
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$$q_{i\alpha\beta} = q_{S(i)} \delta_{\alpha\beta}$$

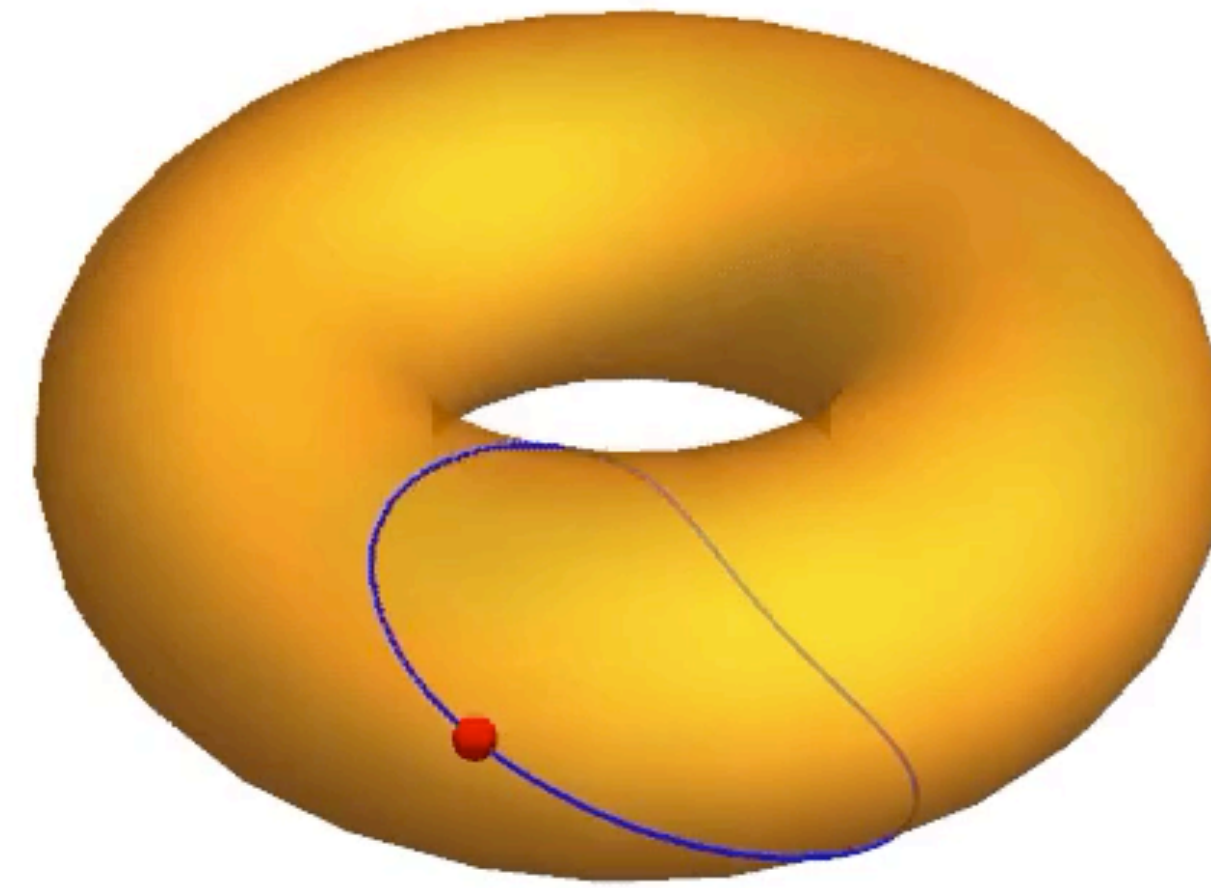
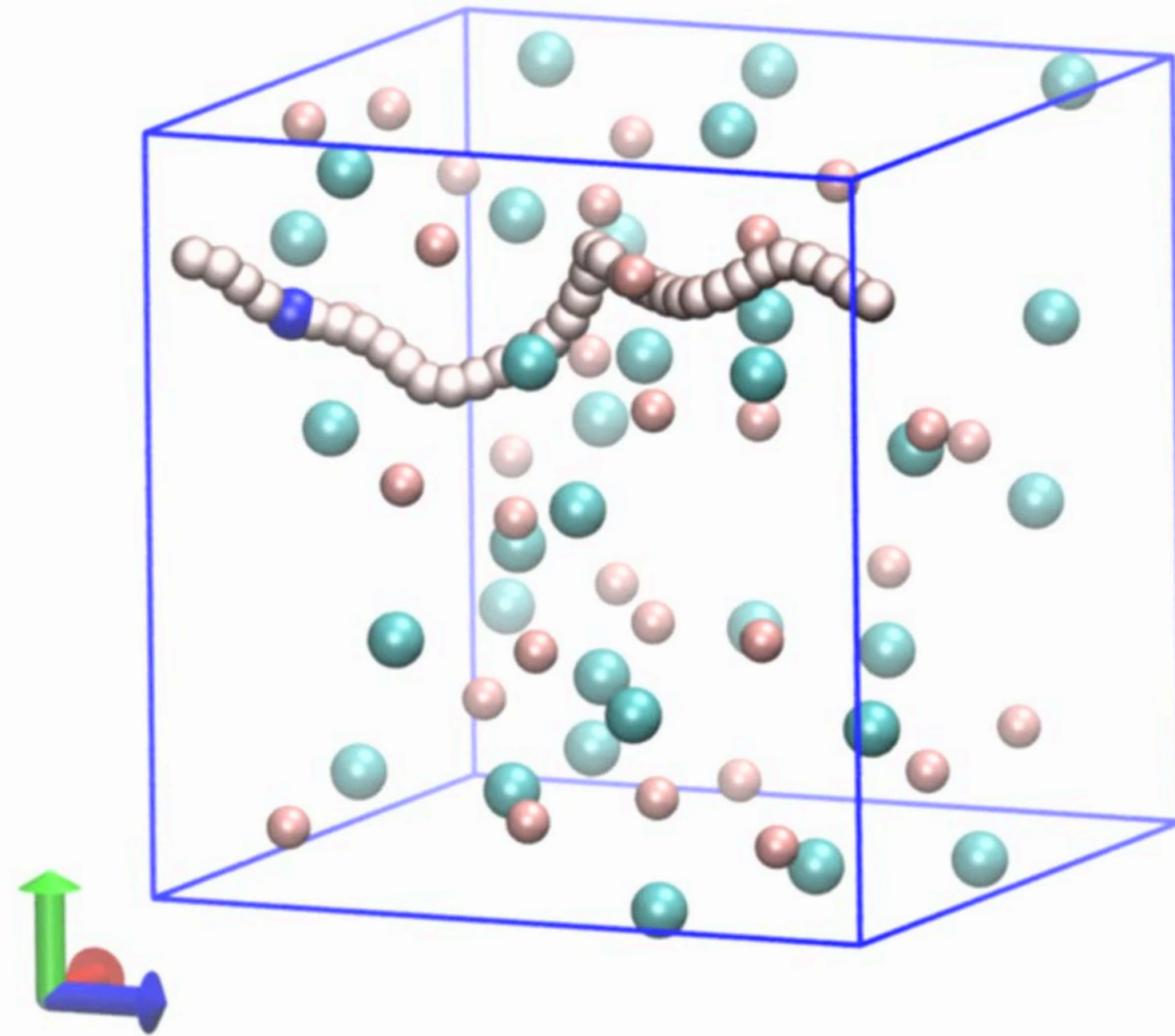
*atomic oxidation state*

# *a numerical experiment on molten KCl*



a topologically non-trivial minimum-energy path  
connecting two identical configurations of a ionic fluid

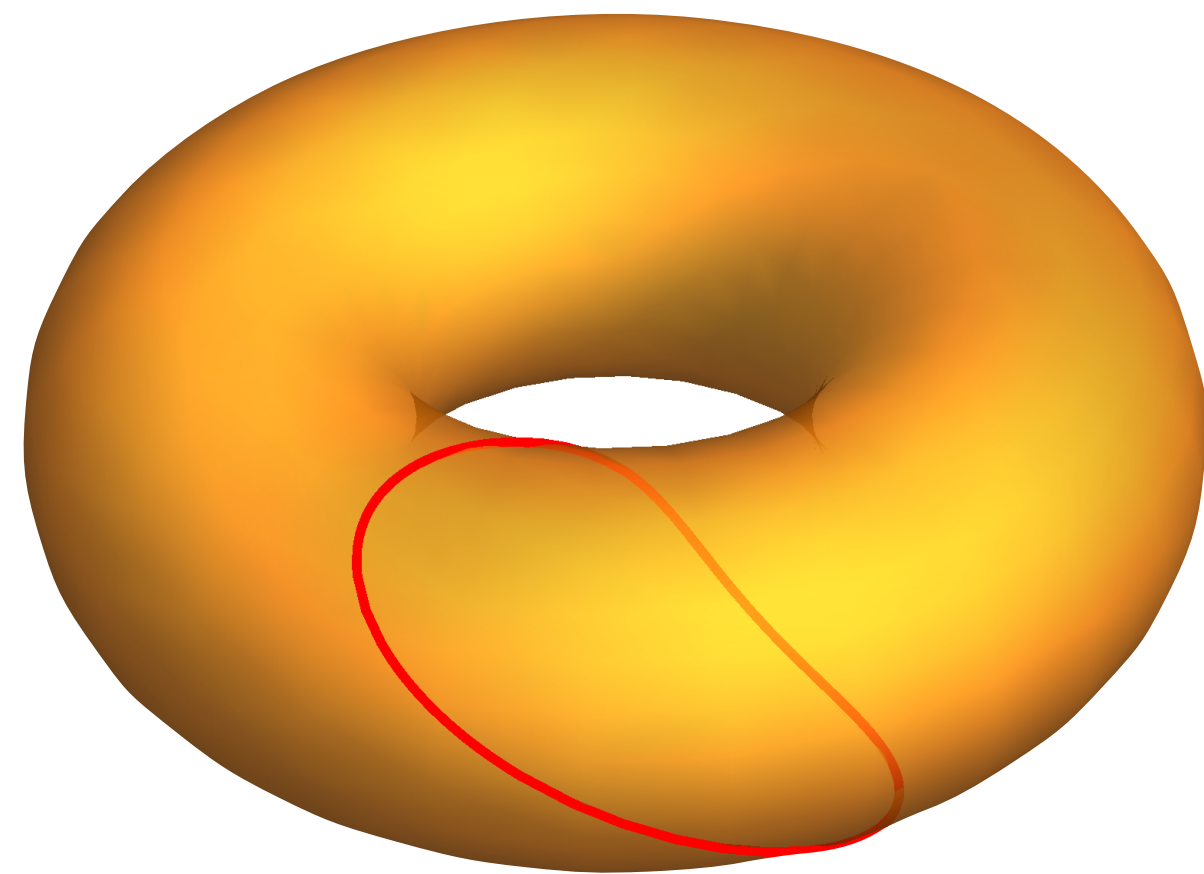
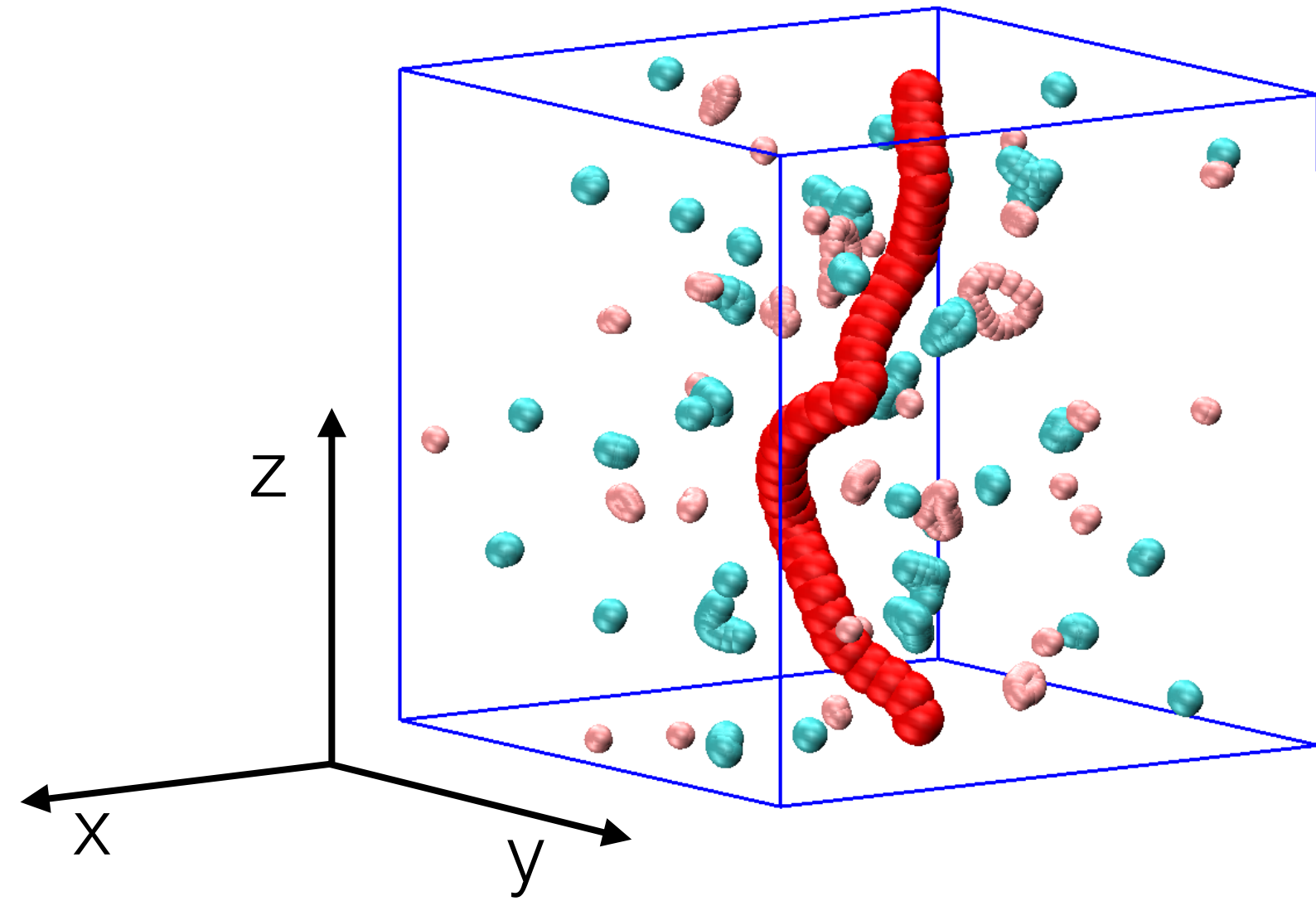
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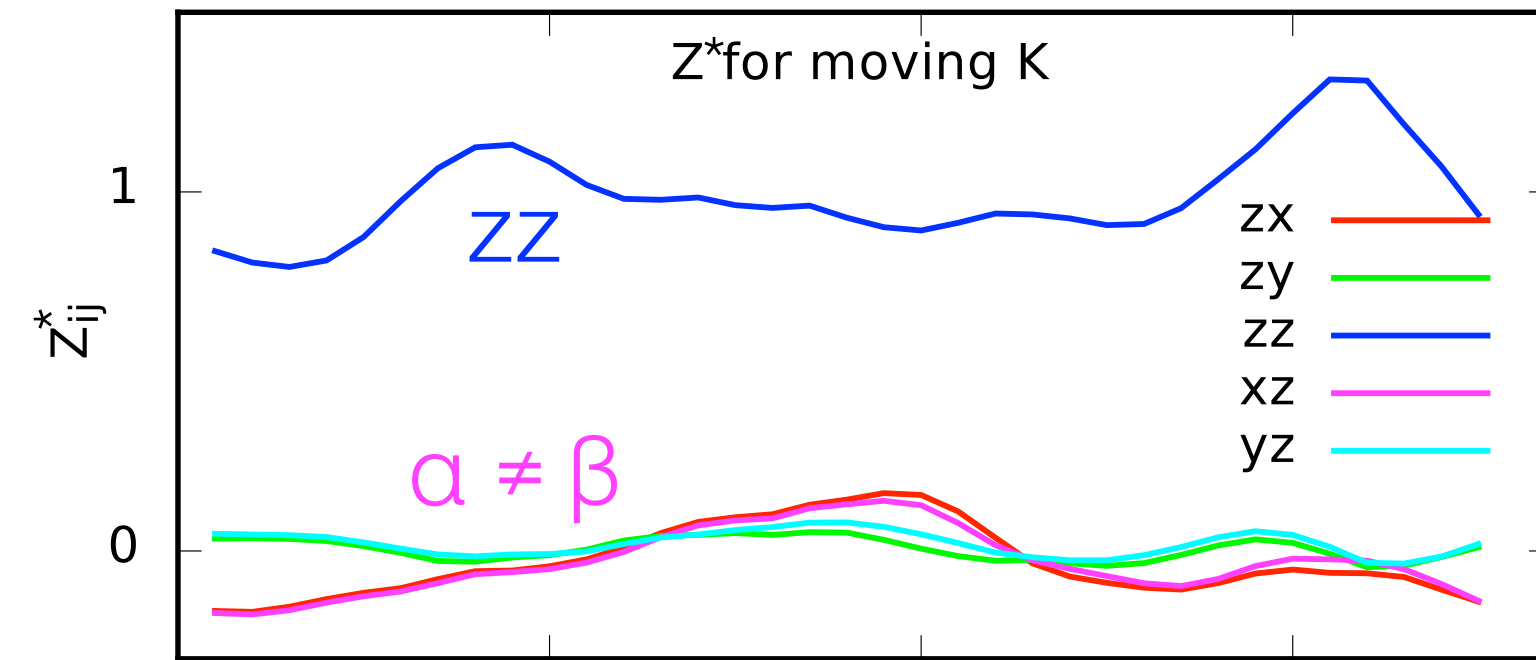
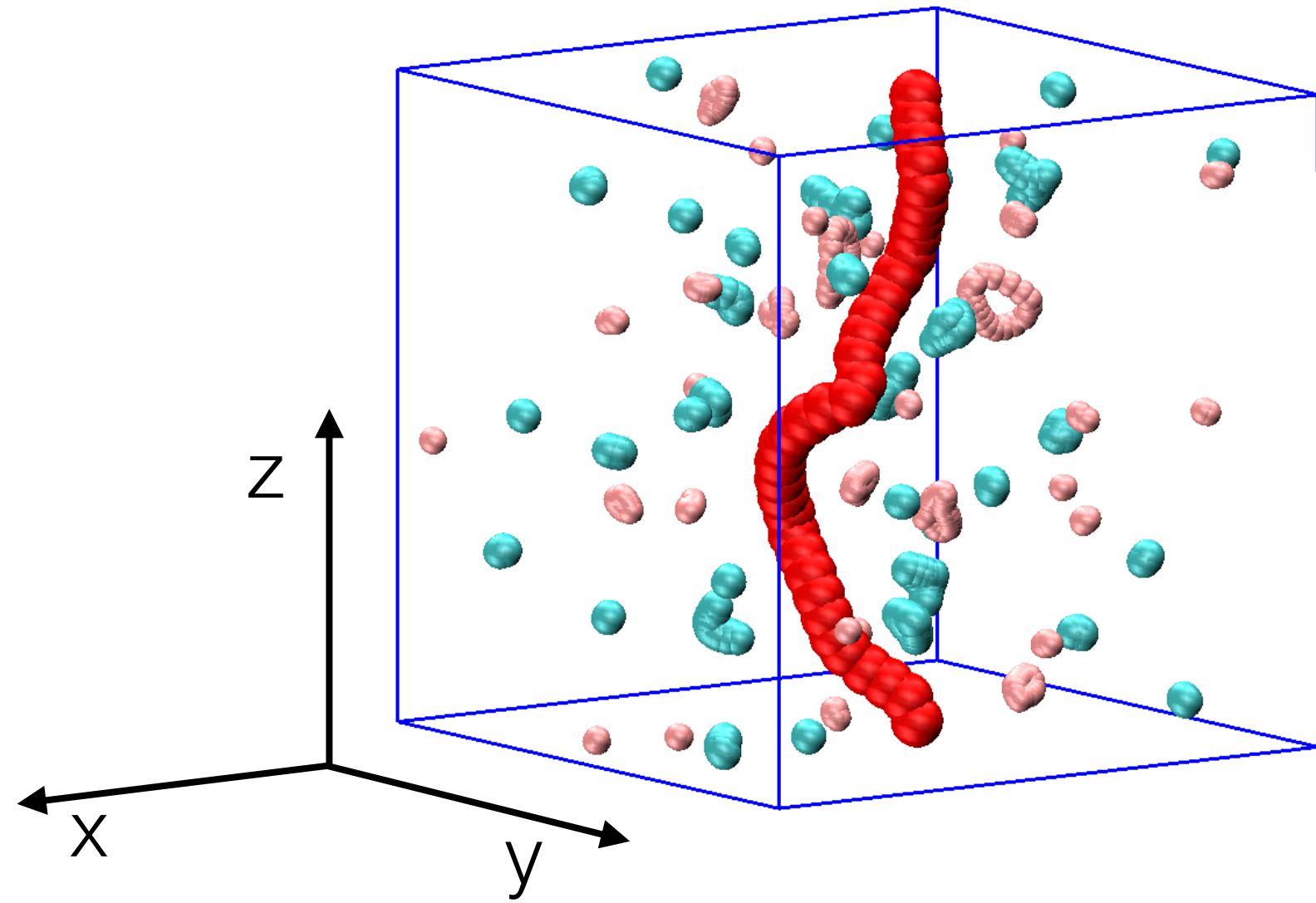
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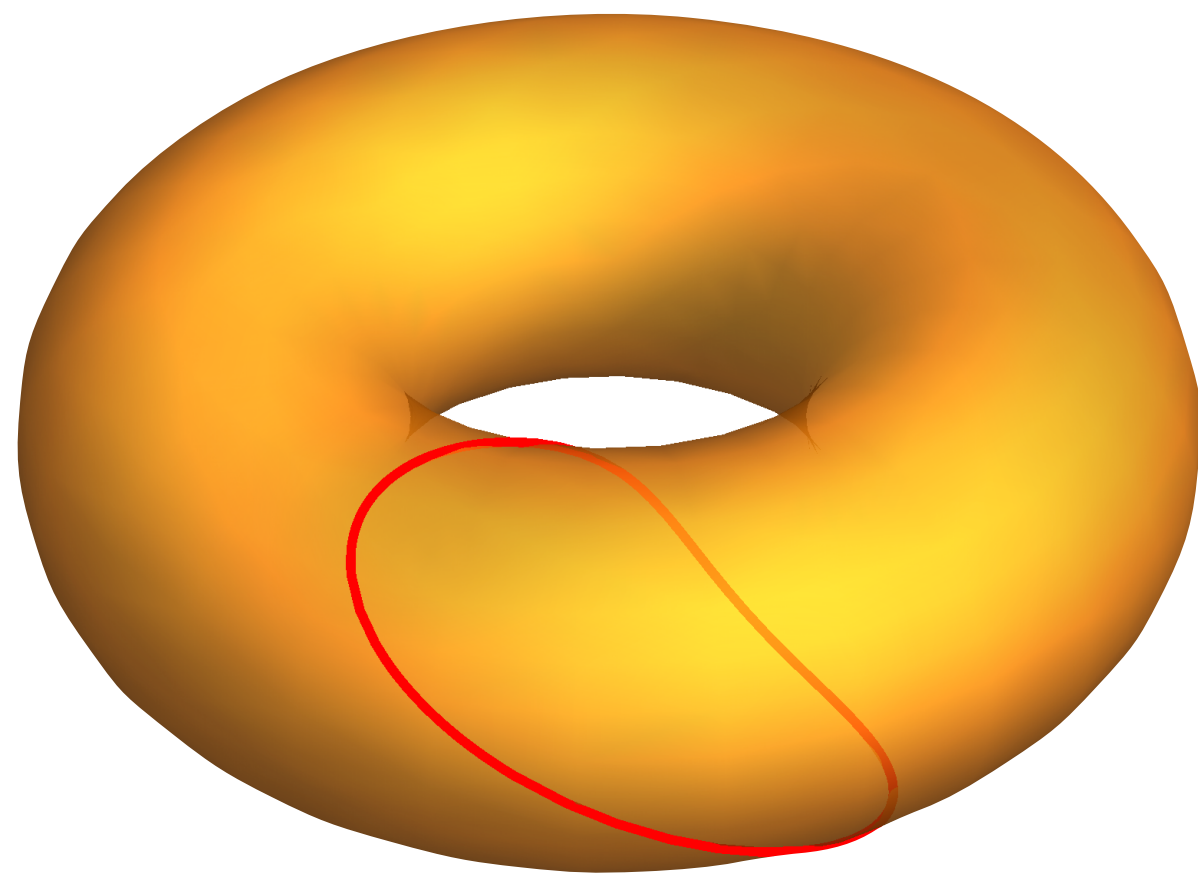
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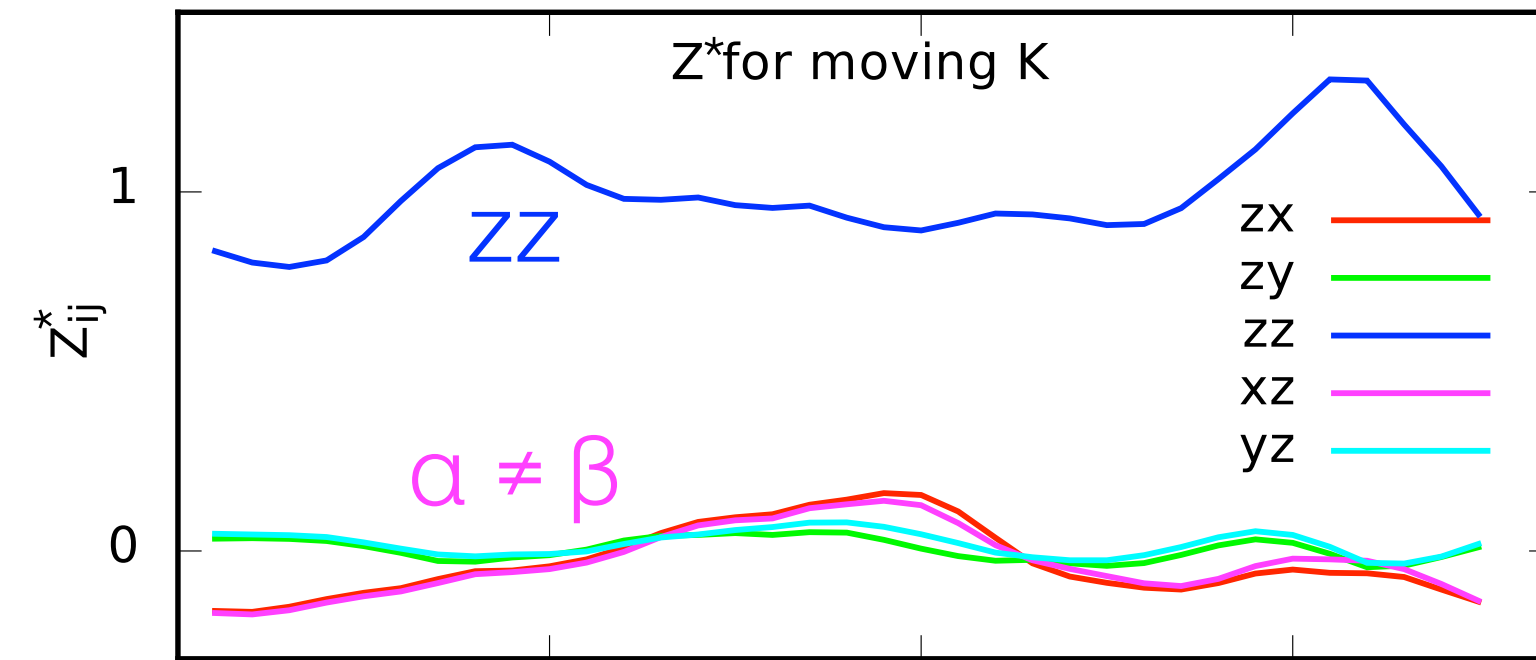
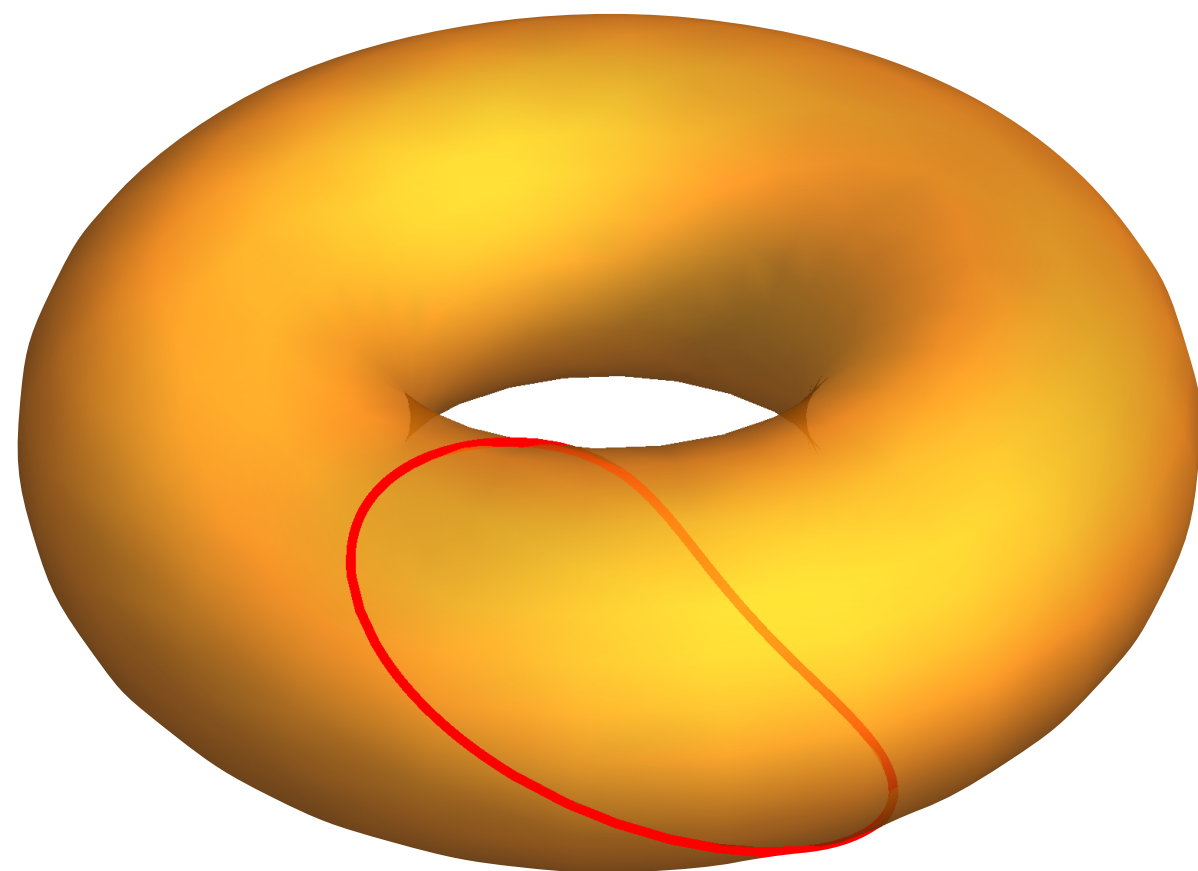
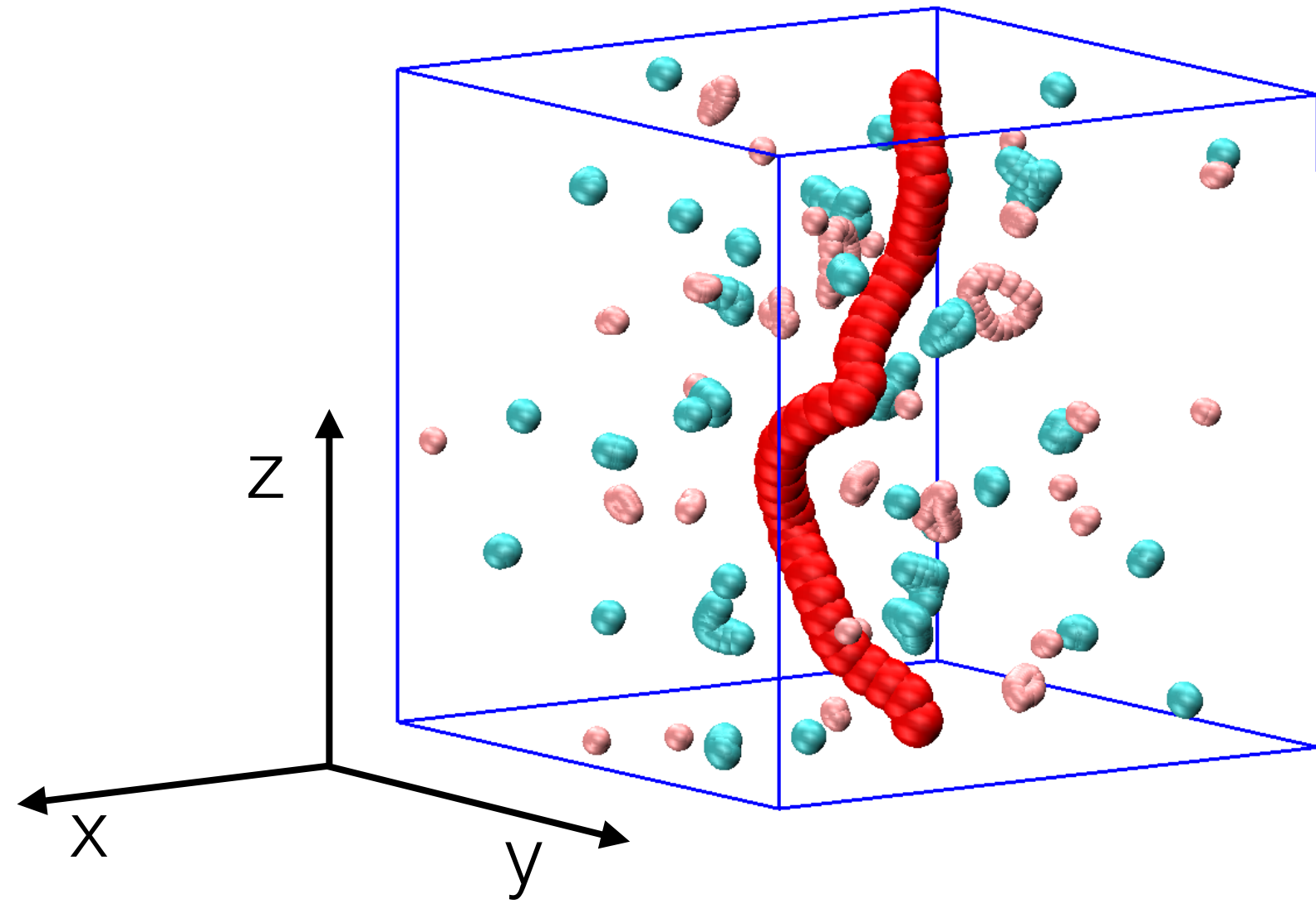
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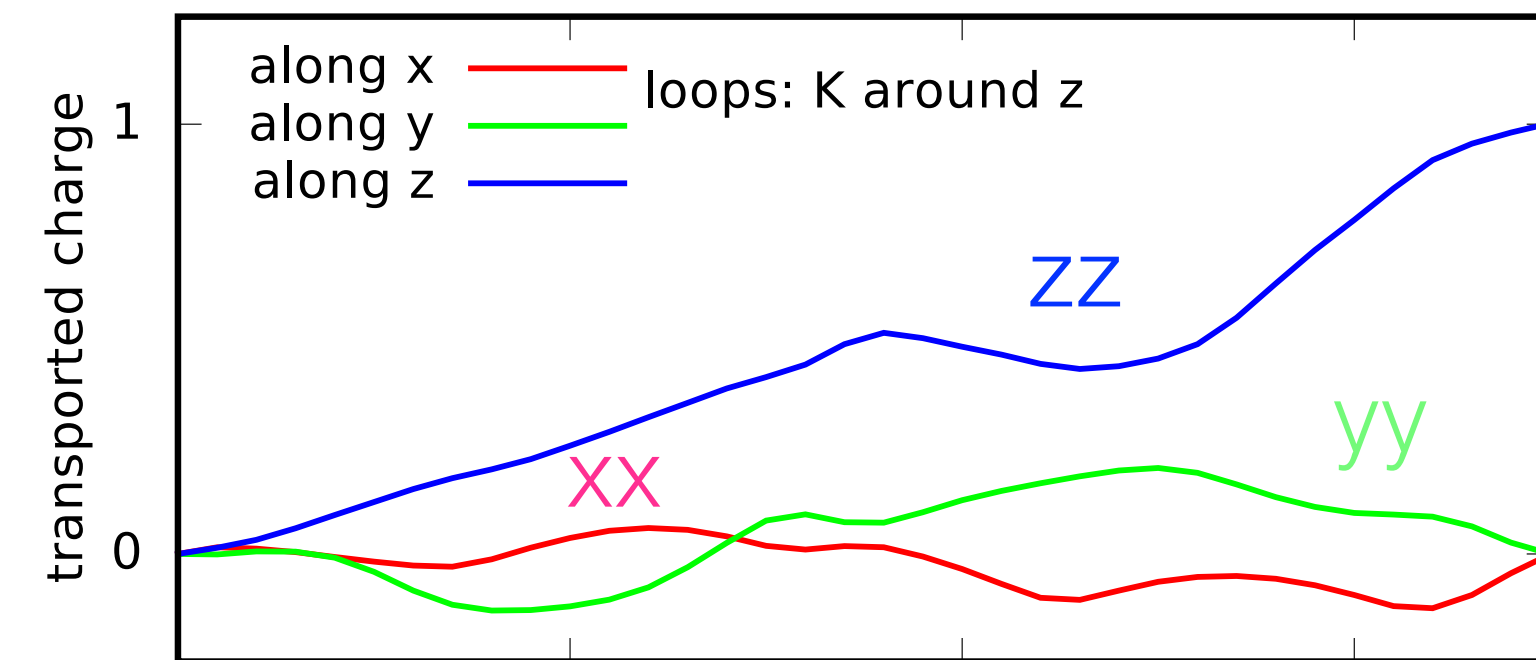
effective charge



# a numerical experiment on molten KCl



effective charge

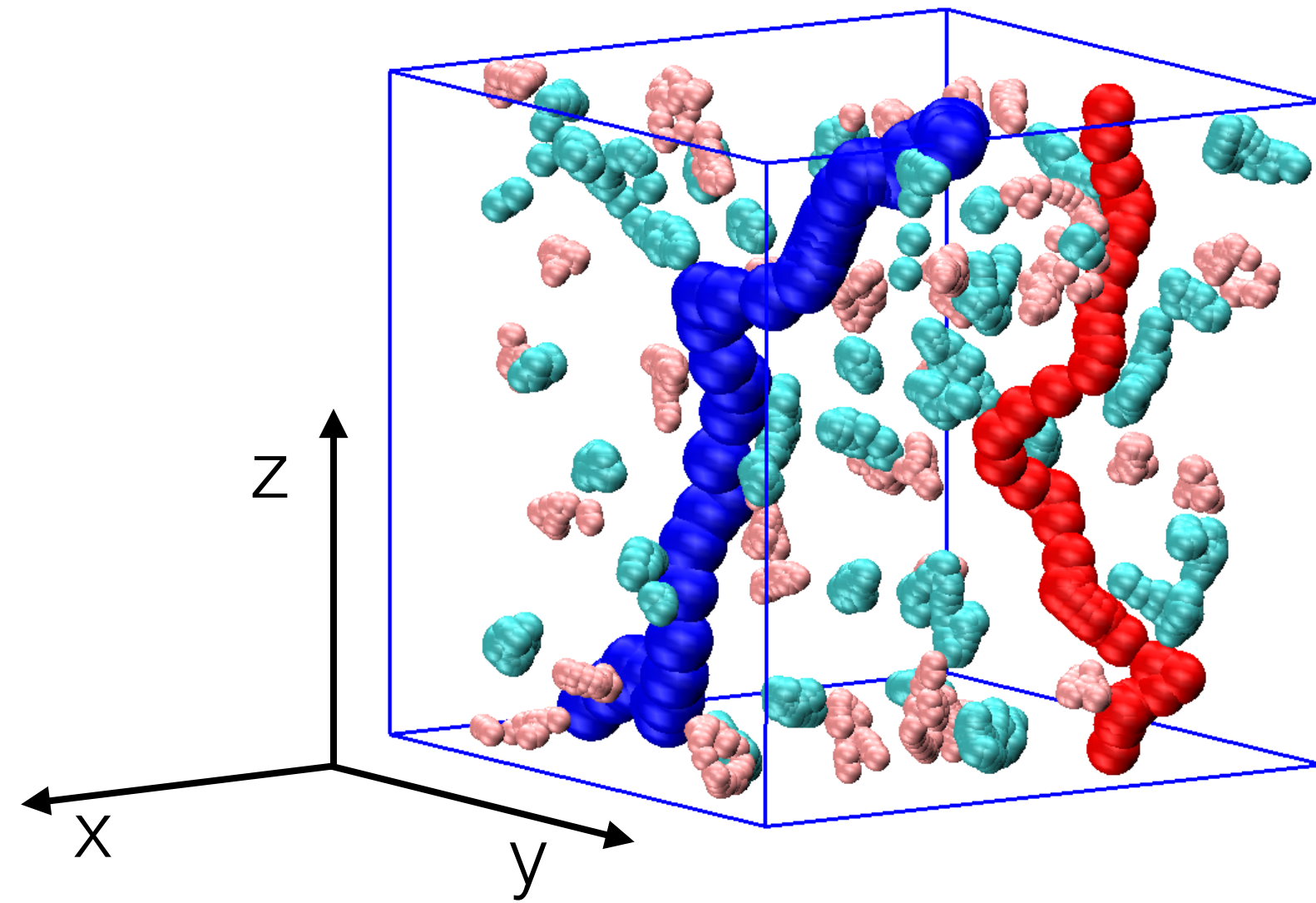


topological charge

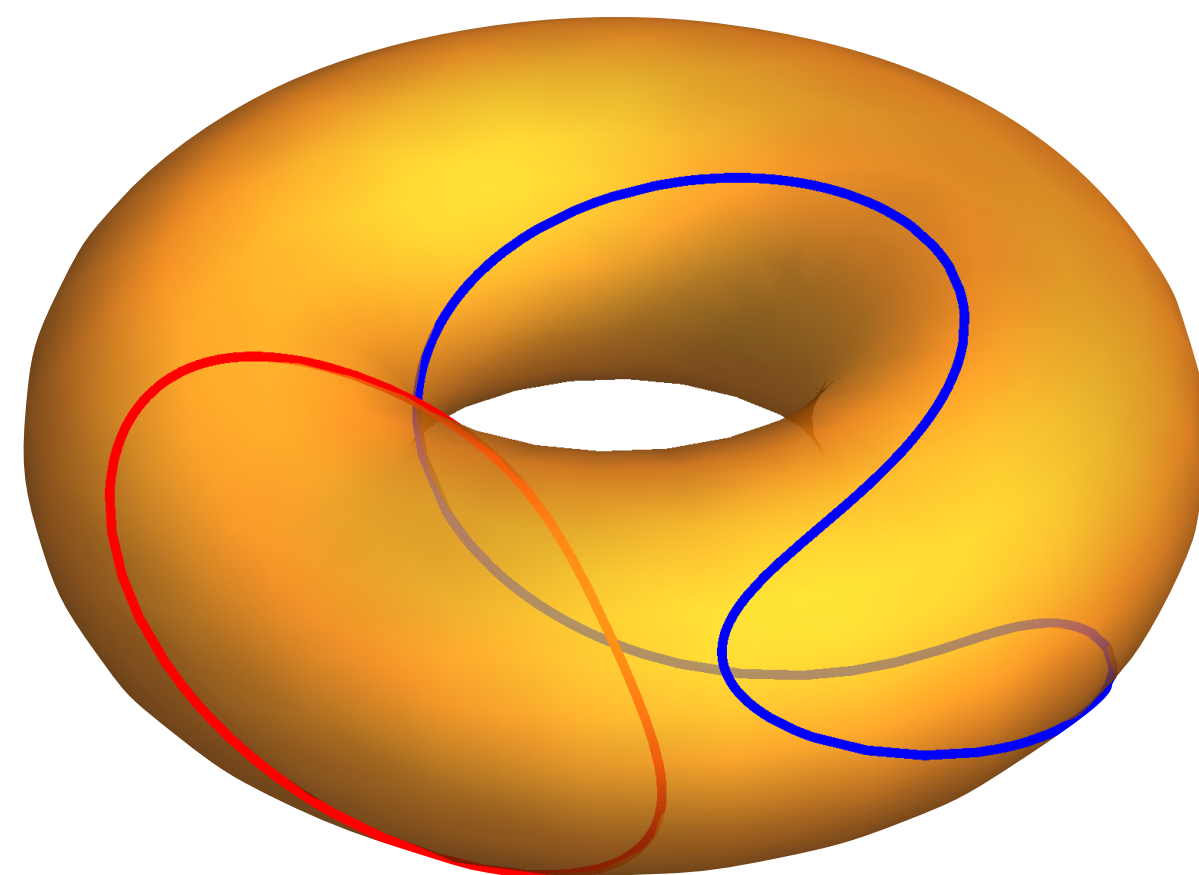
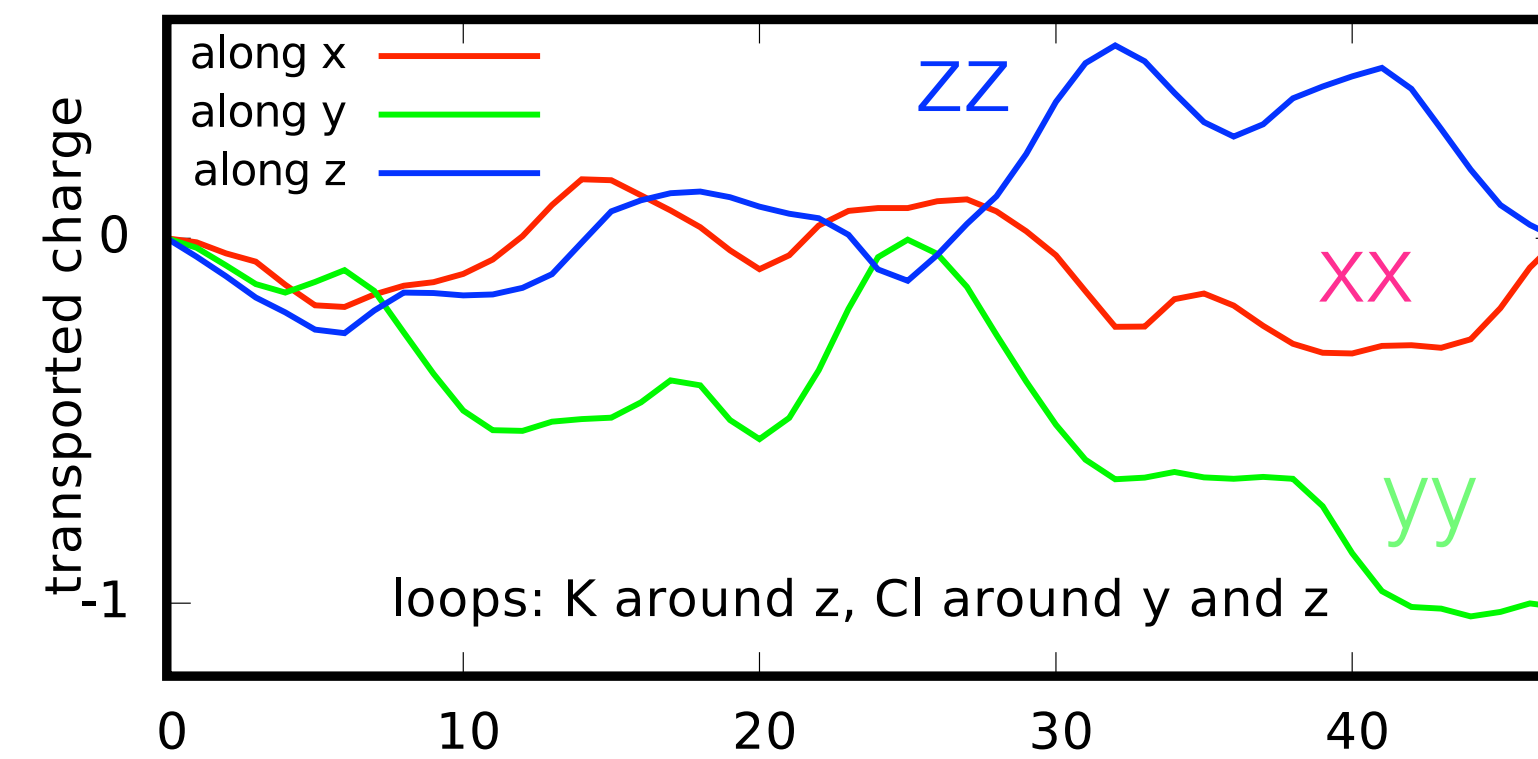
$$q_x = -0.000(6); \quad q_y = 0.000(2); \quad q_z = 1.00(18)$$



# *a numerical experiment on molten KCl*



$$\begin{aligned} Q_z[\text{Cl}] &= -1 & Q_y[\text{Cl}] &= -1 \\ Q_z[\text{K}] &= 1 & Q_z[\text{K}] &= 0 \end{aligned}$$



the charges transported by K and Cl  
around z cancel exactly



# currents from atomic oxidation numbers

$$J_{\alpha} = \sum_{i\beta} Z_{i\alpha\beta}^* V_{i\beta} \quad (2)$$

$$J'_{\alpha} = \sum_i q_{S(i)} V_{i\alpha} \quad (9)$$

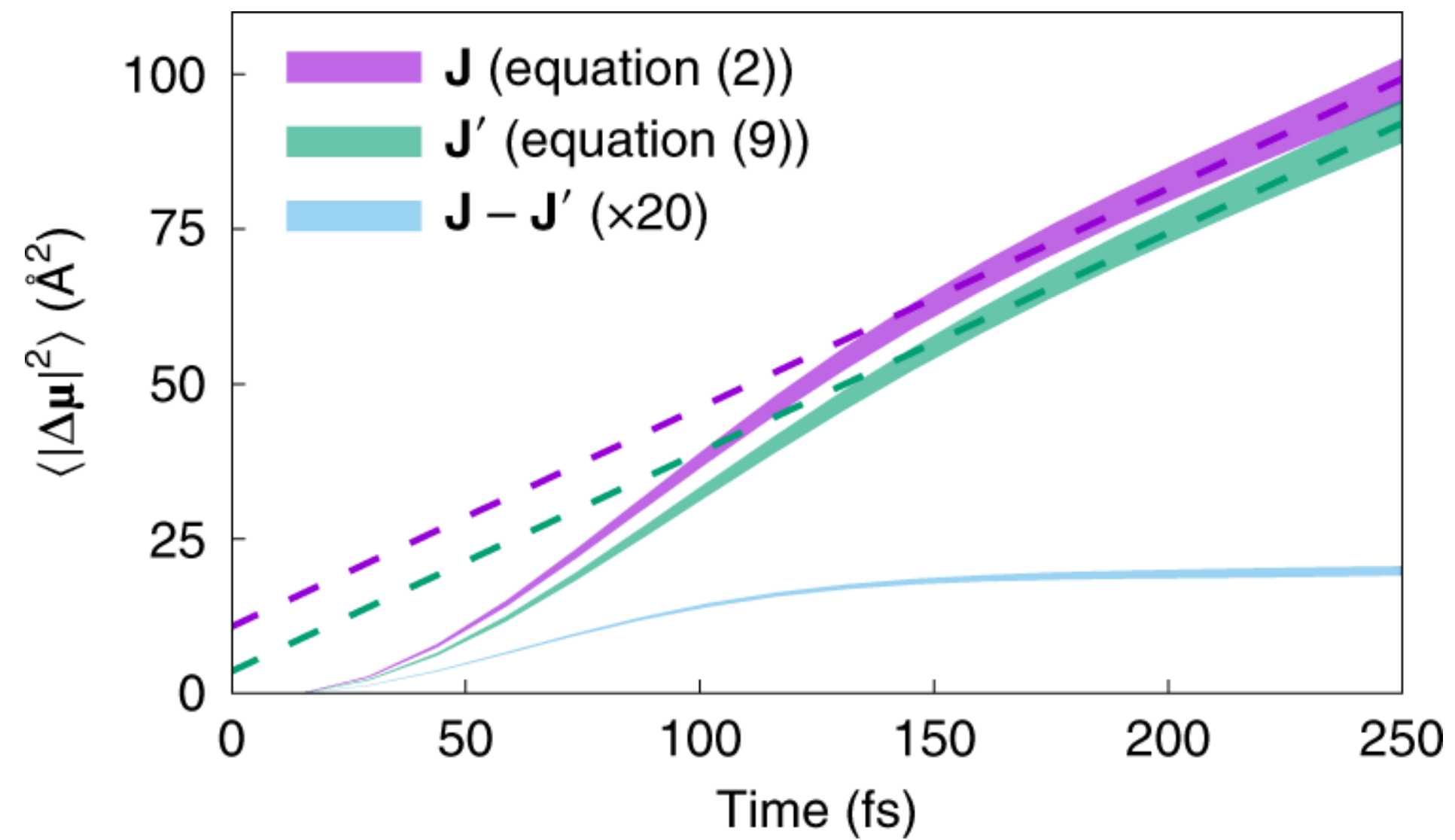
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<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41567-019-0562-0>

## Topological quantization and gauge invariance of charge transport in liquid insulators

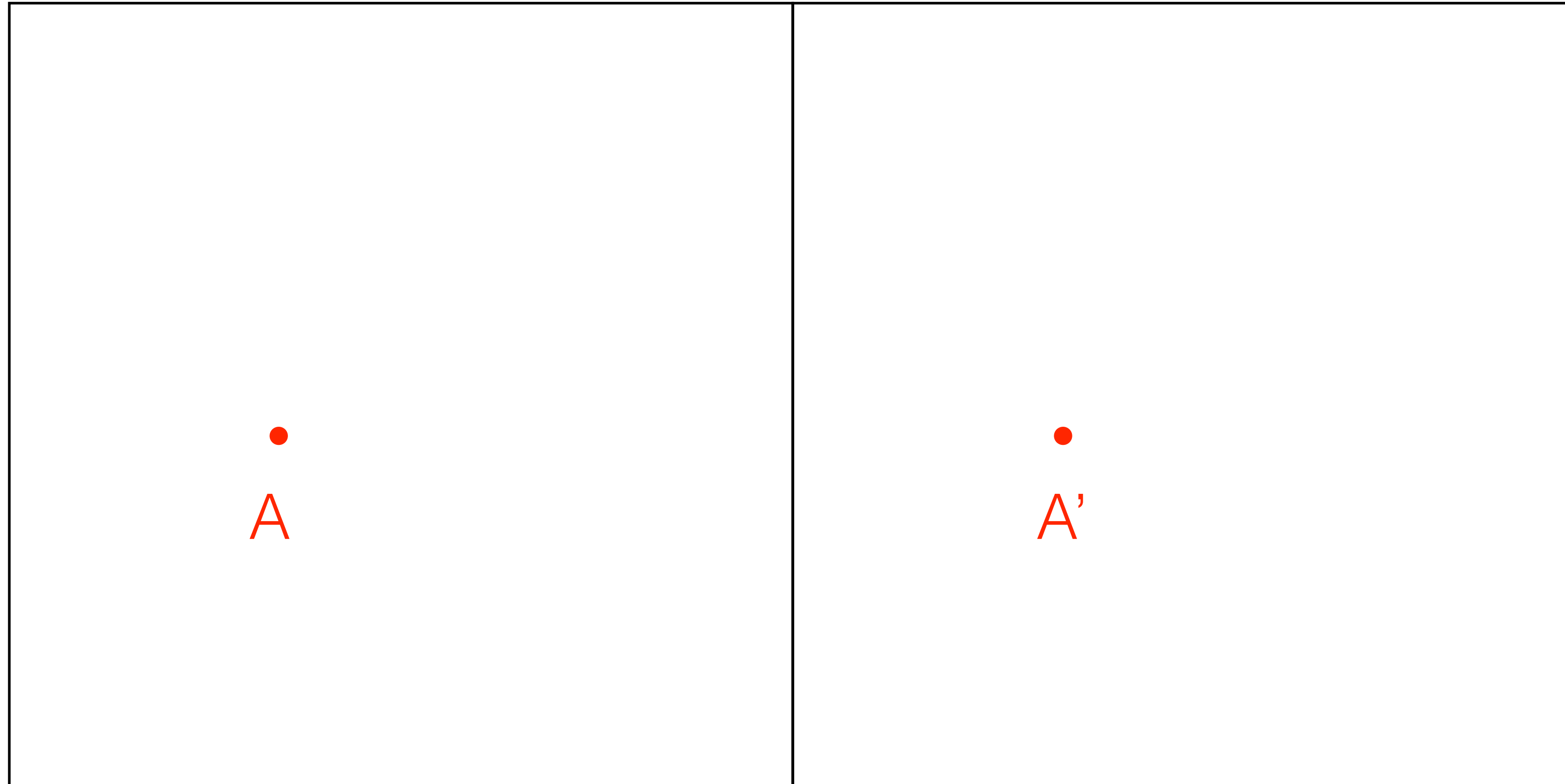
Federico Grasselli<sup>1</sup> and Stefano Baroni<sup>1,2\*</sup>



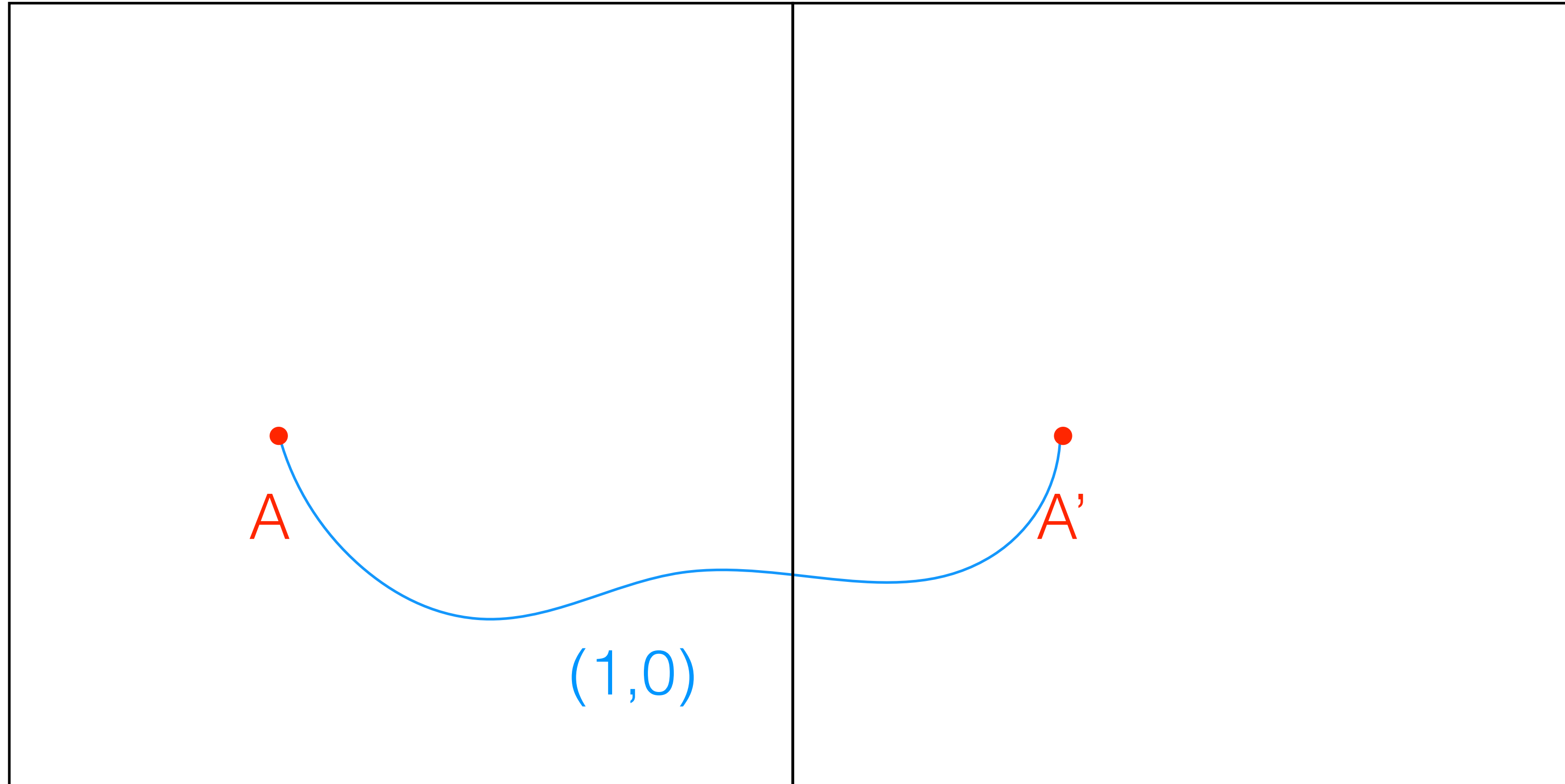
$$\left\langle \left| \int_0^t \mathbf{J}(t') dt' \right|^2 \right\rangle$$



# *breach of strong adiabaticity*

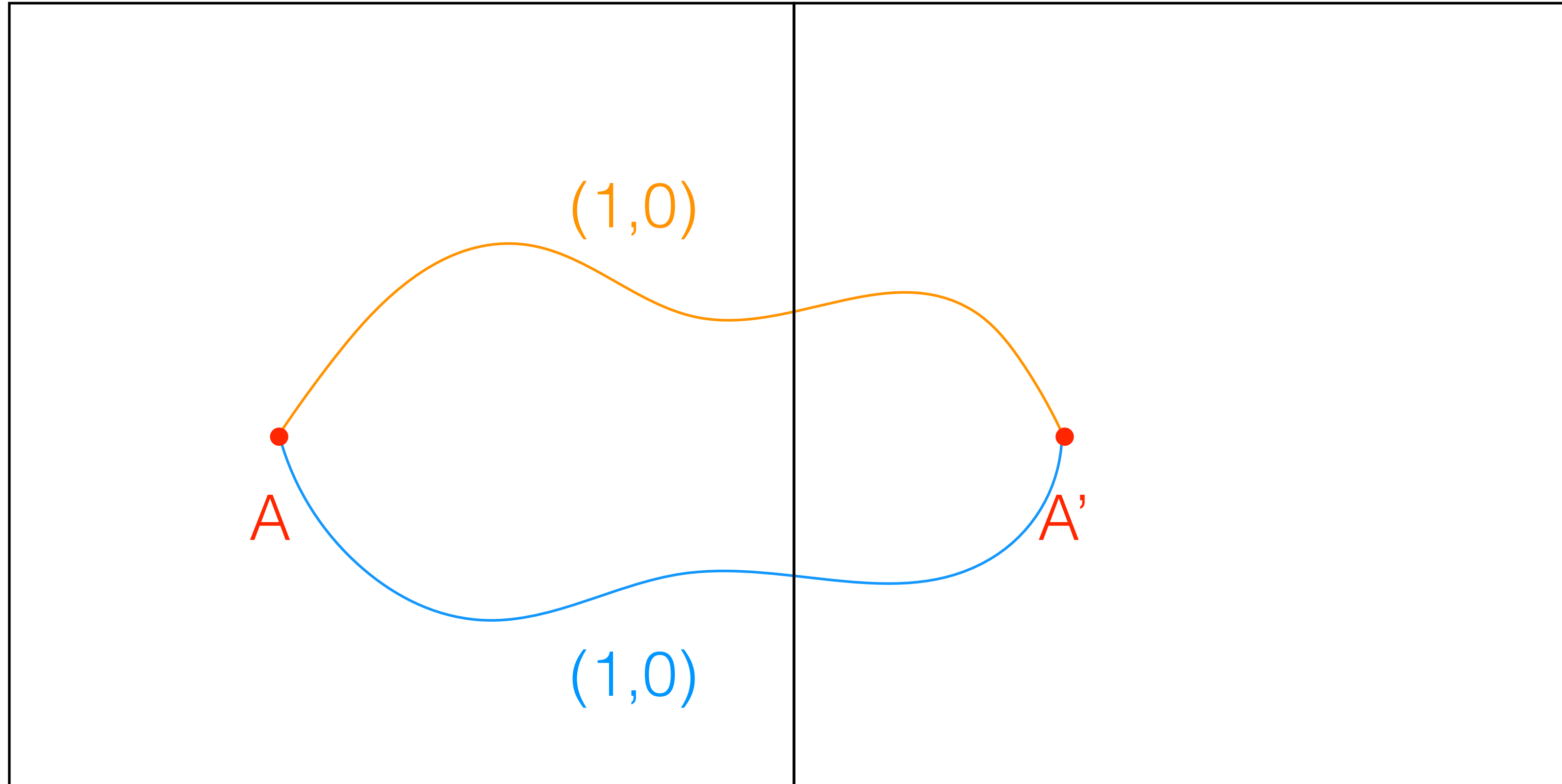


# *breach of strong adiabaticity*



$\mu$

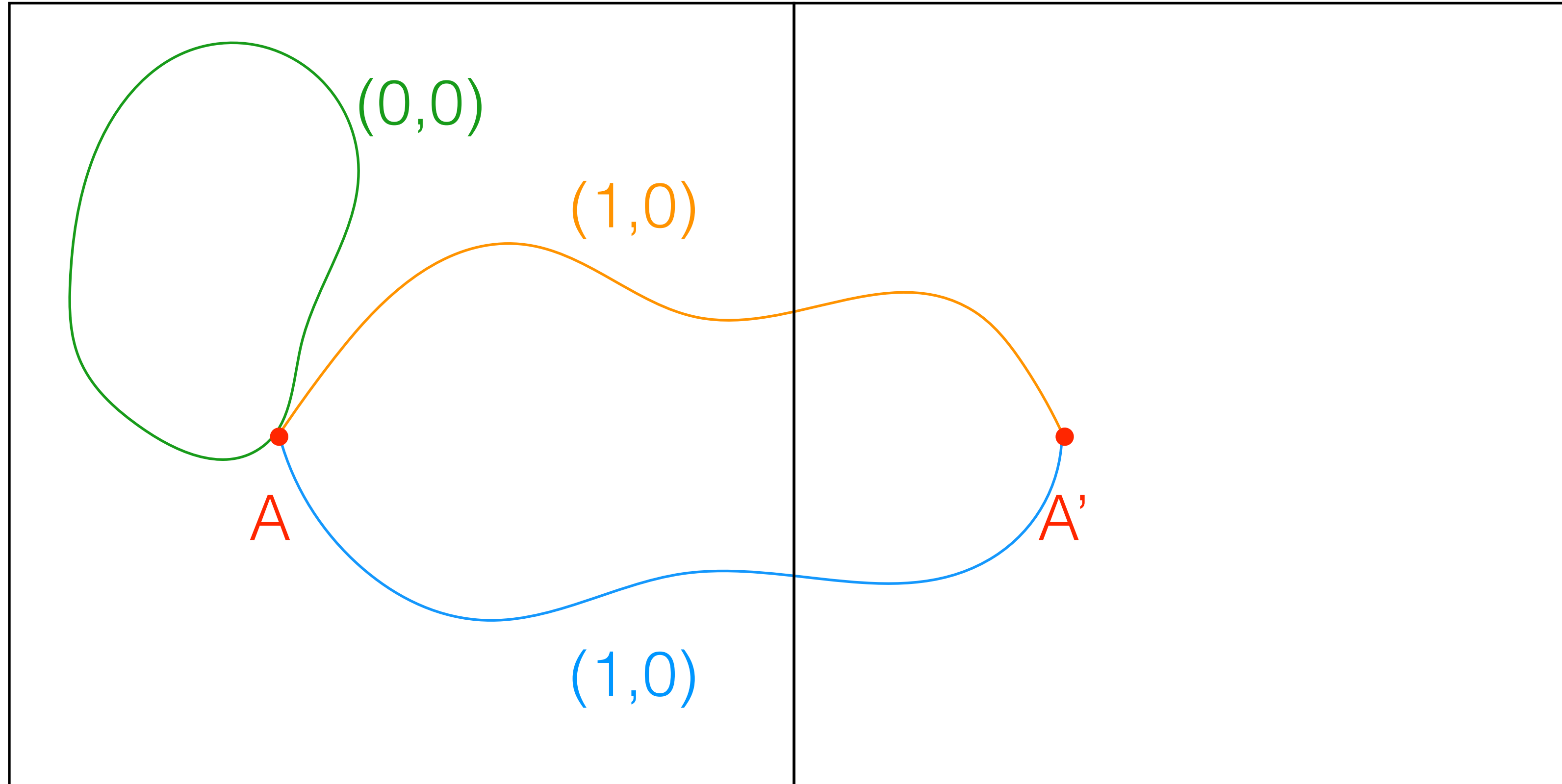
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$$\mu = \mu^*$$



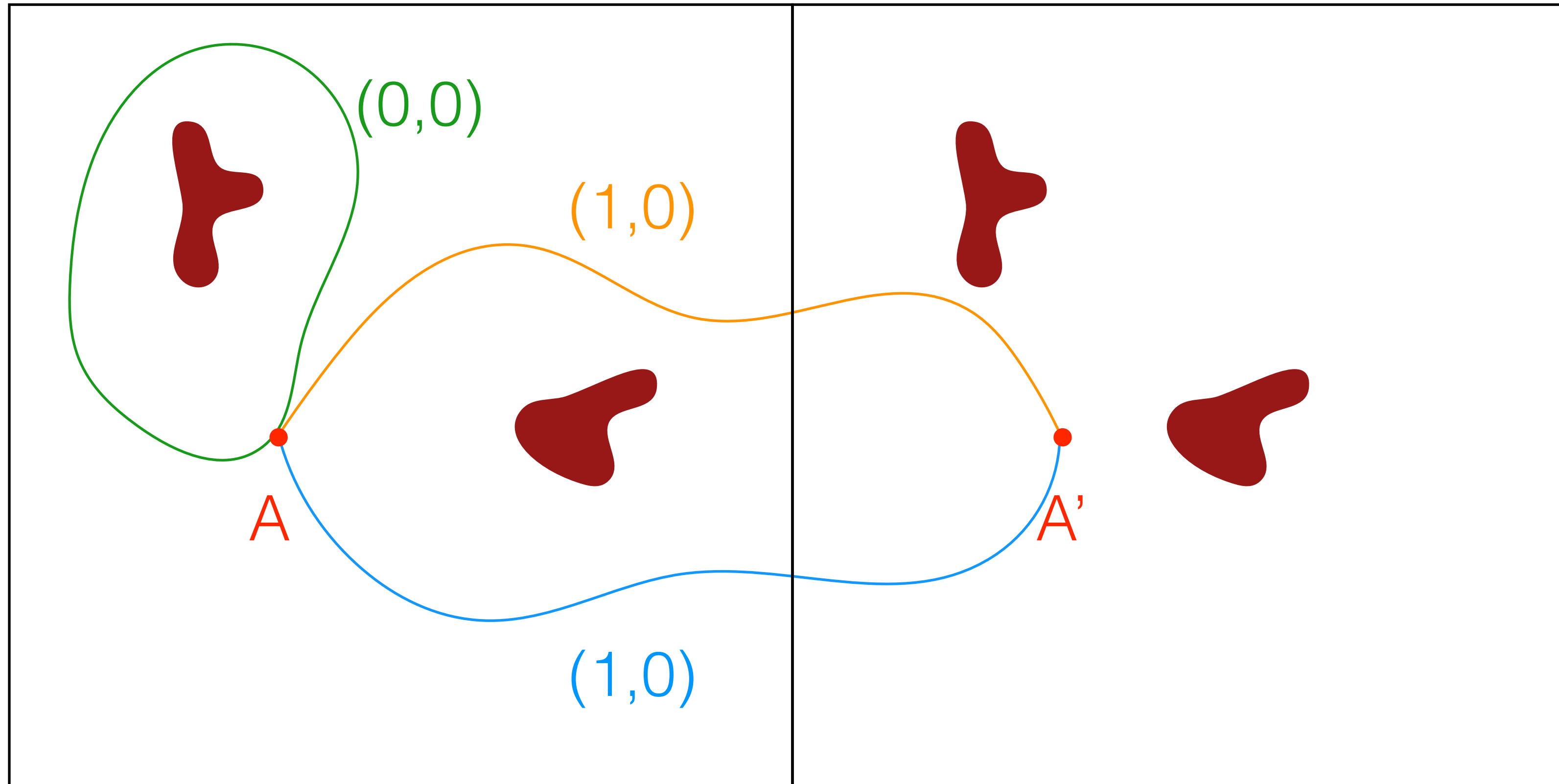
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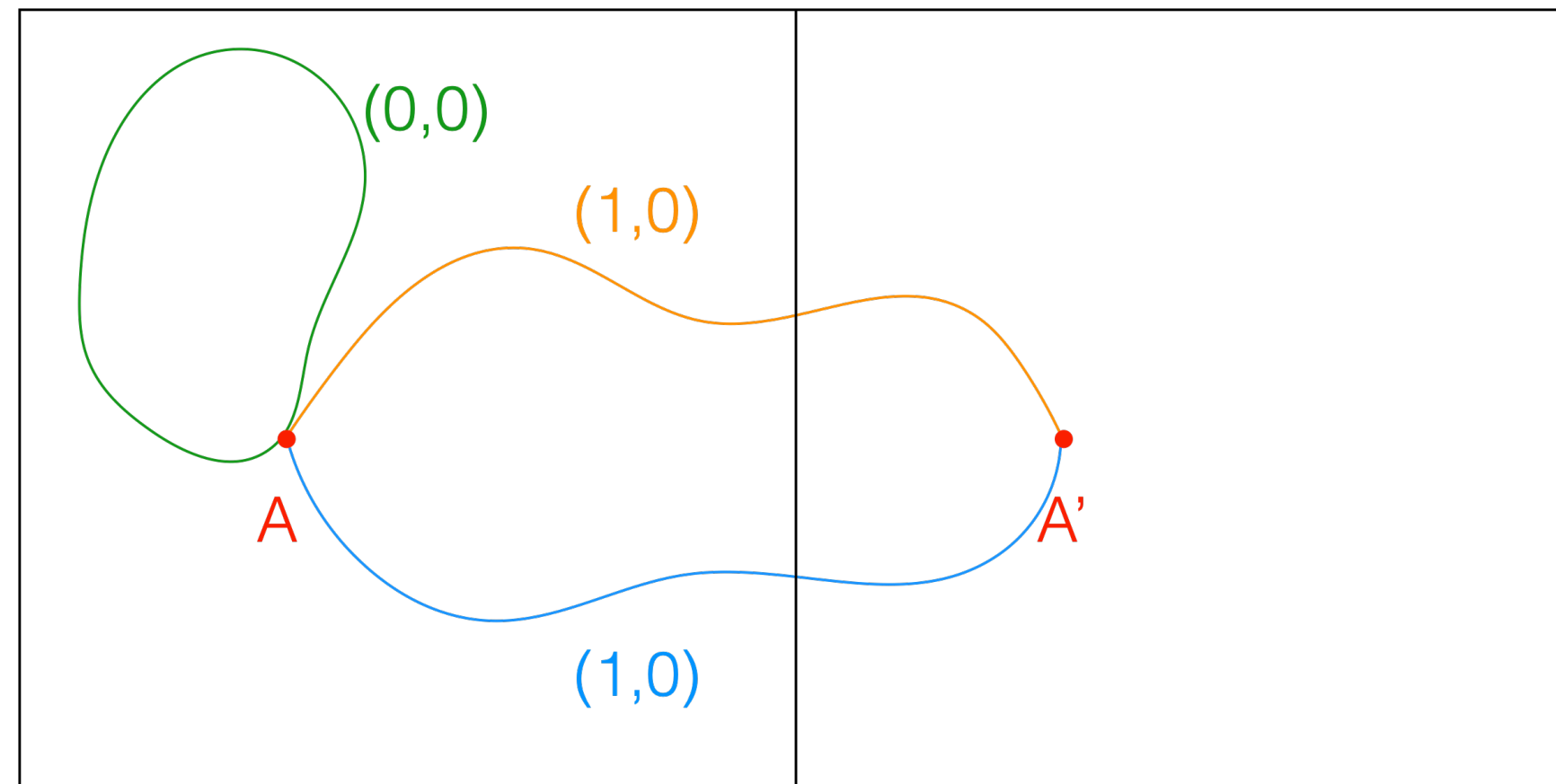
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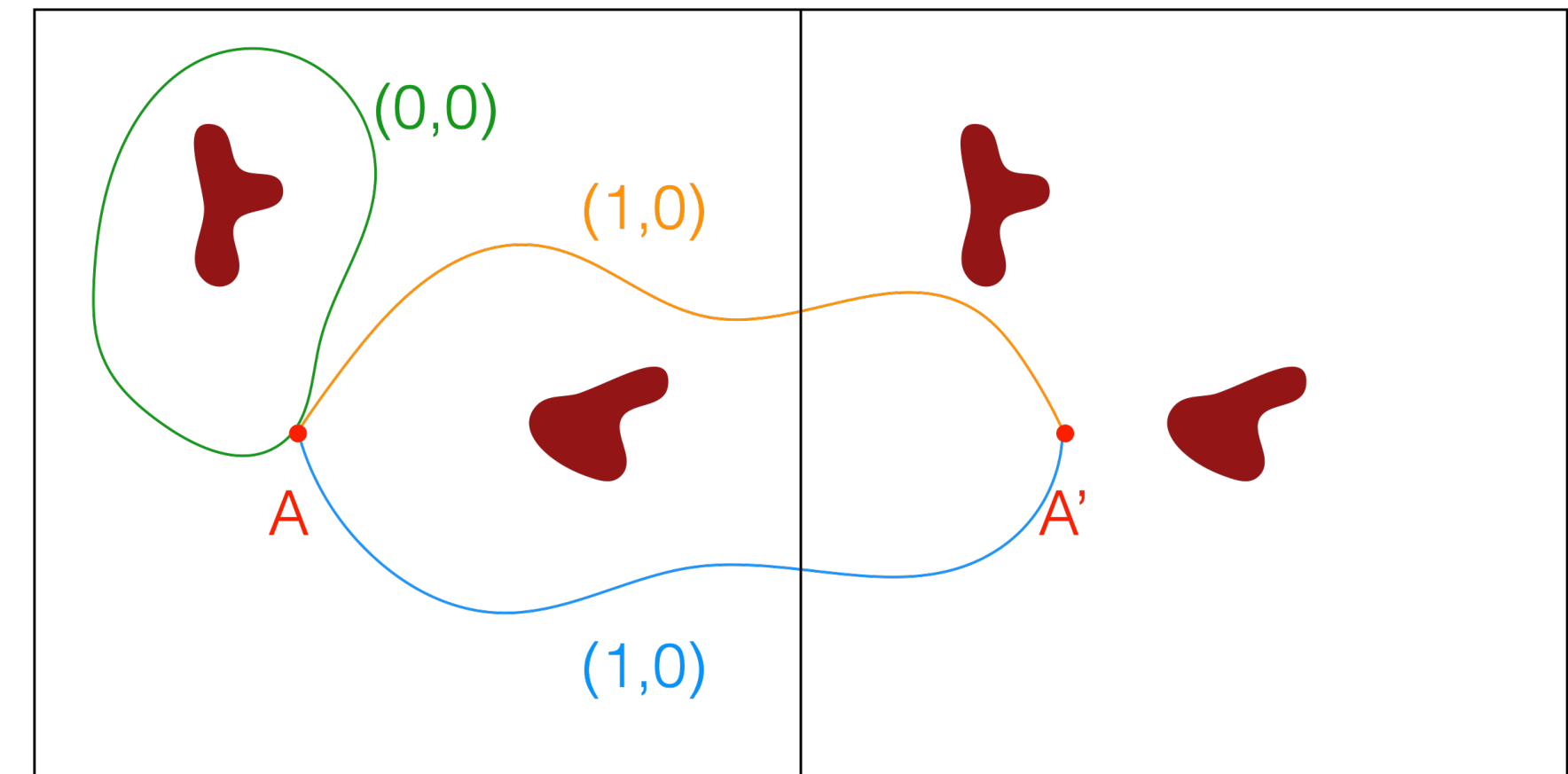
# strongly adiabatic transport



$$\begin{aligned} \mu &= \mu^* \\ \mu &= 0 \end{aligned}$$



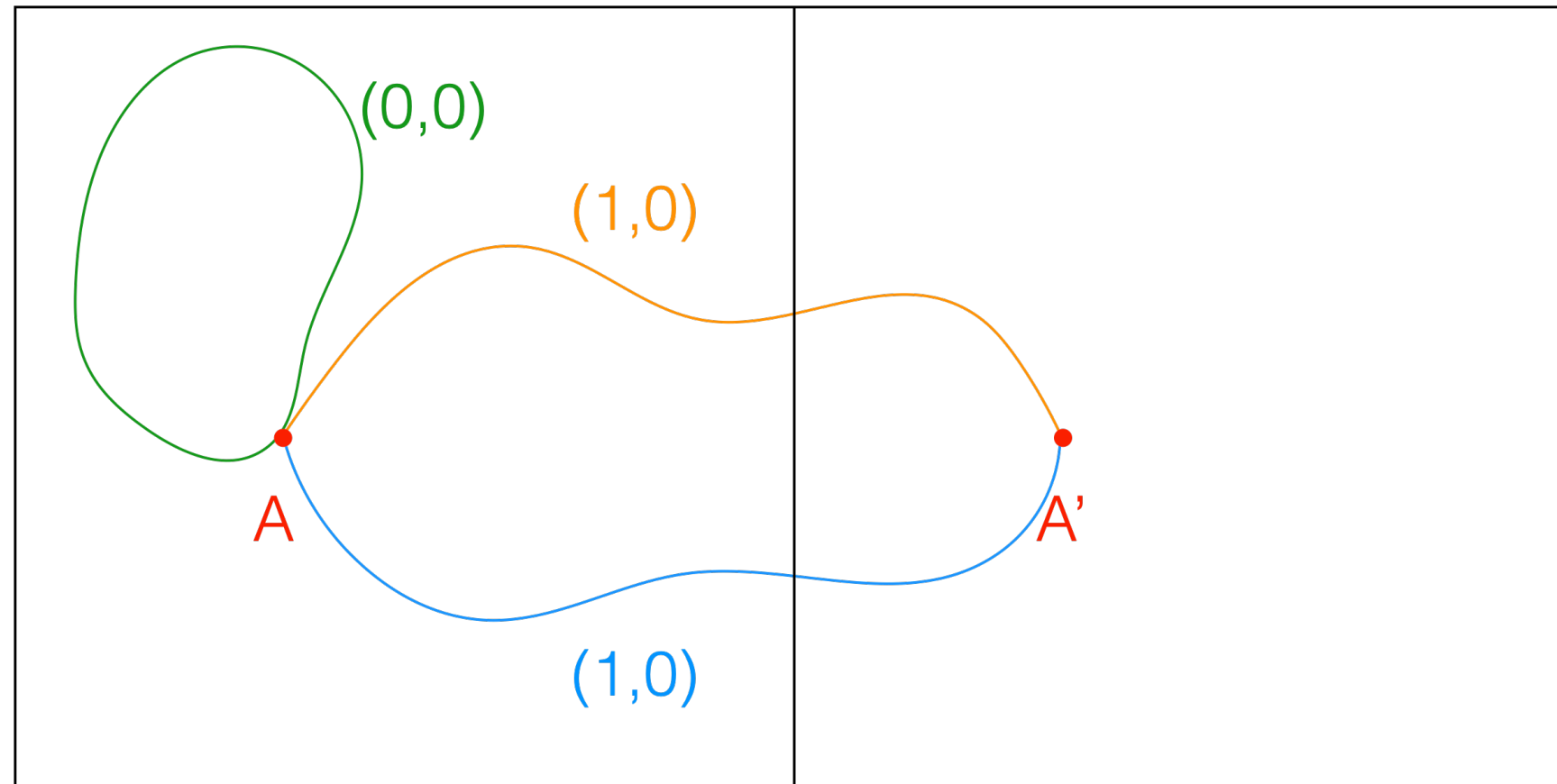
# weakly adiabatic transport



$$\begin{aligned} \mu &\neq \mu^* \\ \mu &\neq 0 \end{aligned}$$



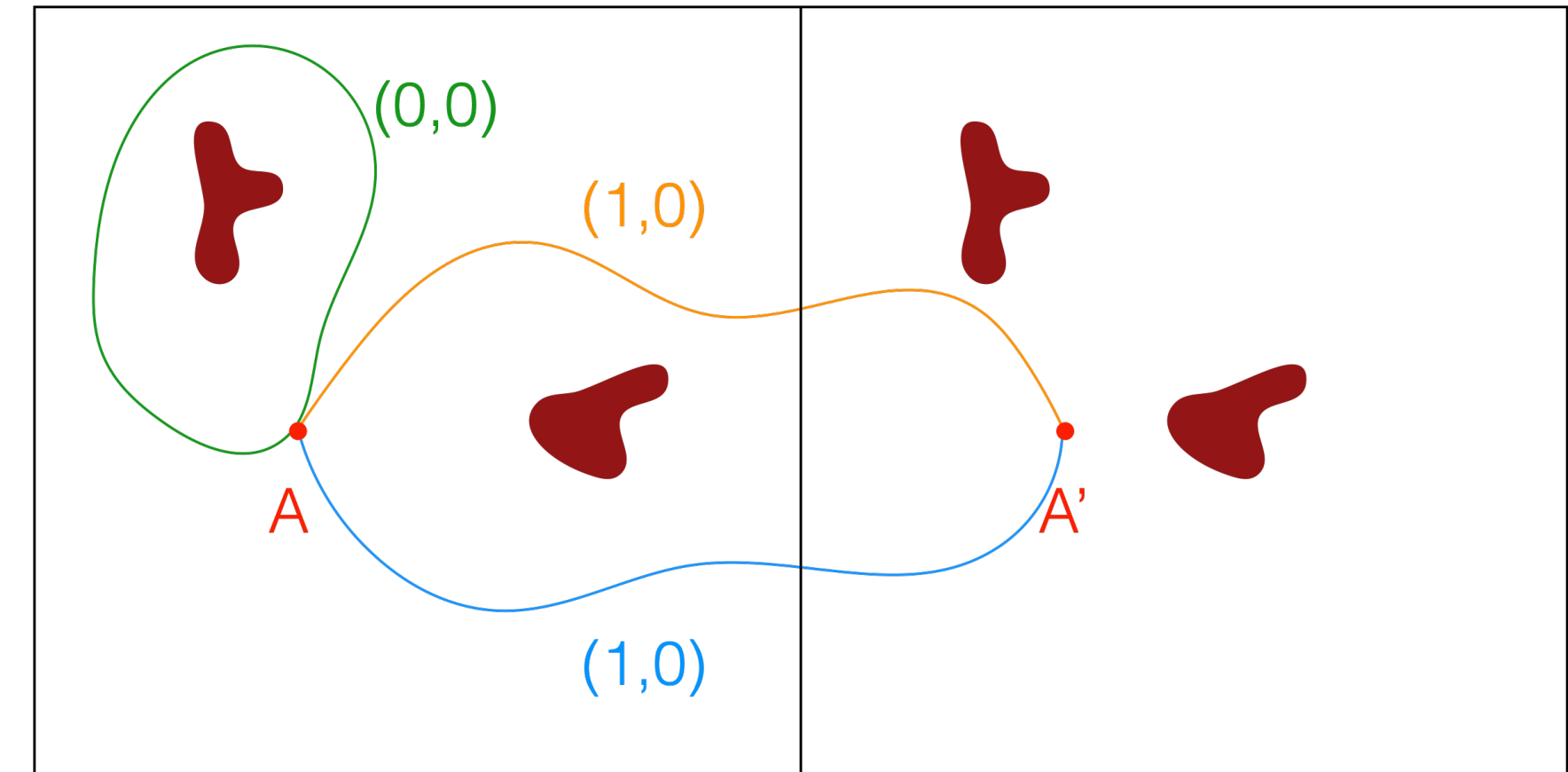
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## PHYSICAL REVIEW X

Oxidation States, Thouless' Pumps, and Nontrivial Ionic Transport in Nonstoichiometric Electrolytes

Paolo Pegolo, Federico Grasselli, and Stefano Baroni  
Phys. Rev. X **10**, 041031 – Published 12 November 2020

Wednesday, March 17, 2021  
1:54PM - 2:06PM

Live

[M20.00011: Oxidation states, Thouless' pumps, and nontrivial transport in nonstoichiometric electrolytes](#)  
Paolo Pegolo, Federico Grasselli, Stefano Baroni





# *conclusions*

- conserved currents are intrinsically ill-defined at the atomic scale;
- conservation and extensiveness make transport coefficients independent of the specific microscopic representation of the conserved densities and currents;
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- gauge invariance and topological quantisation of charge transport make the electric conductivity of stoichiometry ionic conductors depend on the formal oxidation numbers of the ionic species, via the Green-Kubo formula;
- surprises are to be expected in non-stoichiometric ionic conductors.



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Giuseppe Barbalinardo



Davide Donadio



Federico Grasselli



Paolo Pegolo



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PUBLISHED ONLINE: 19 OCTOBER 2015 | DOI: 10.1038/NPHYS3509

## Microscopic theory and quantum simulation of atomic heat transport

Aris Marcolongo<sup>1</sup>, Paolo Umari<sup>2</sup> and Stefano Baroni<sup>1\*</sup>

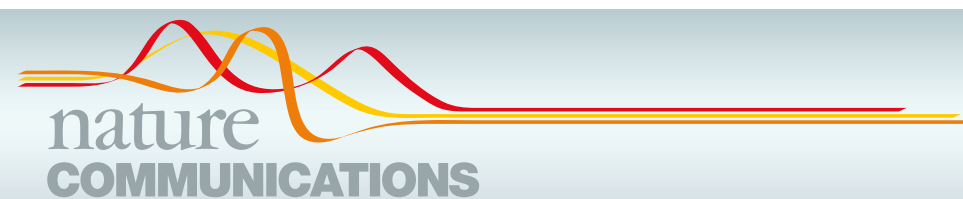
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## Topological quantization and gauge invariance of charge transport in liquid insulators

Federico Grasselli<sup>1</sup> and Stefano Baroni<sup>1,2\*</sup>



ARTICLE

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-019-11572-4>

OPEN

## Modeling heat transport in crystals and glasses from a unified lattice-dynamical approach

Leyla Isaeva<sup>1</sup>, Giuseppe Barbalinardo<sup>2</sup>, Davide Donadio<sup>2</sup> & Stefano Baroni<sup>1,3</sup>

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