

# Hello Everyone!

Jacopo Surace - December 2024



University of  
**Strathclyde**  
**Glasgow**



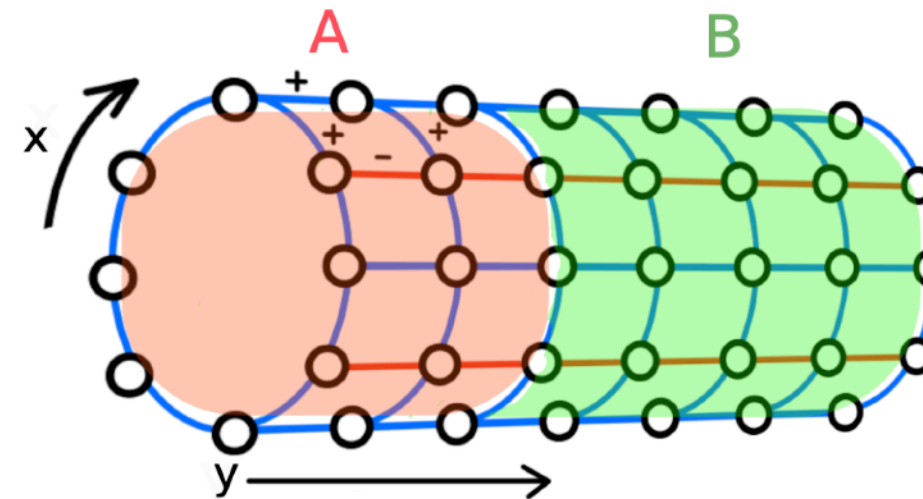
**PhD in Condensed Matter,  
Glasgow, Scotland, Strathclyde University**

Supervisor Luca Tagliacozzo

## Entanglement in many-body systems:

### Tools that I learned:

- Ising Chains, Entanglement growth, Tensor networks, DMRG, Conformal field theories



### Tools that I created:

- Package for simulation of Fermionic Systems in Julia



**Postdoc in Quantum Information group  
Barcelona, Spain, ICFO**

Supervisor Antonio Acín

**Many body system certification:**

- Certification of bound on energies and other observables of many body systems with SDP and DMRG.

**Undecidability theory:**

- Undecidability of the membership problem in resource theories.  
Techniques for proving undecidability.  
Algorithmic information theory.

**Information Geometry:**

- Fisher Information, contractivity of channels, non-Markovianity, Reverse Csiszar theorem, error correction.

**Foundation of probability theory:**

- Bayes Theorem, Maximum entropy methods, derivation of probability, De Finetti subjectivism.



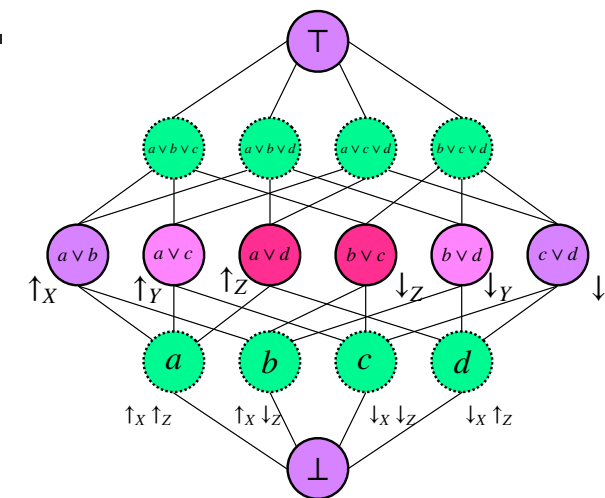
**Postdoc in Quantum Foundation group  
Waterloo, ON, Canada, Perimeter Institute  
Supervisor Robert Spekkens**

**Symmetries and Local tomography:**

- Unitary representation of groups, failure of local tomography in classical, quantum and post-quantum theories and GPT.

**Logic, lattices, quasi-probability:**

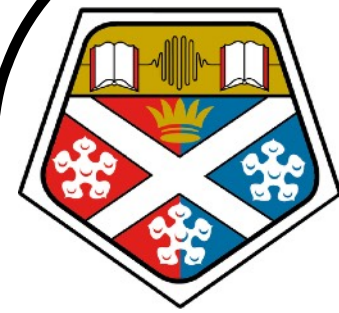
- Reconstruction of probability and quasi-probability from logic, Inaccessibility Hypothesis, epistemic restrictions. Reconstruction of quantum mechanics from logic.



**Correlations in time and space:**

- State over times, quantum inference, Wigner Friends, time reversal in quantum and classical mechanics.





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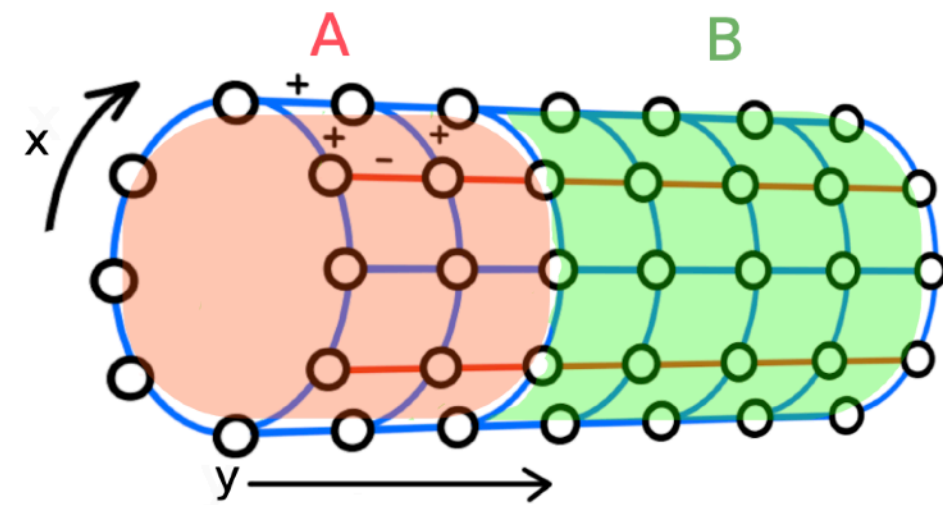
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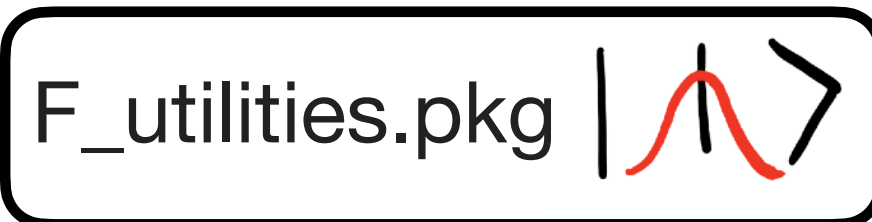
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**ICFO**<sup>R</sup>



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**PI PERIMETER  
INSTITUTE**



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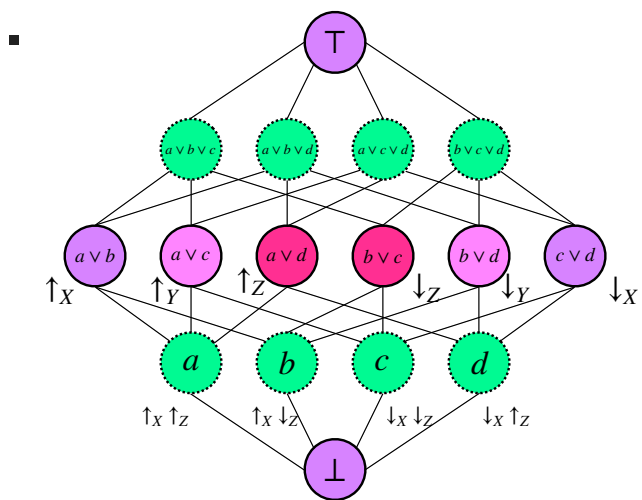
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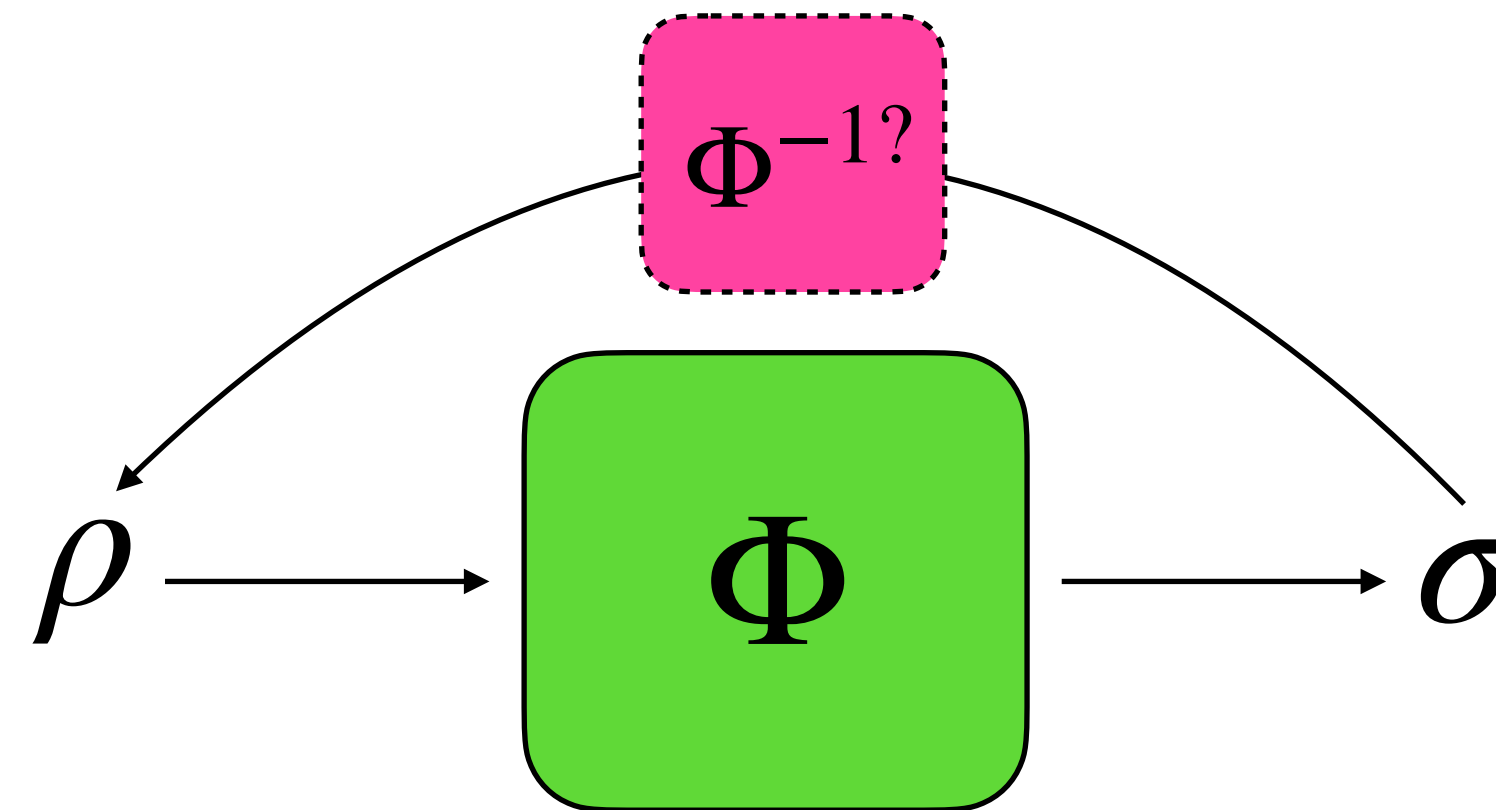
- State over times, quantum inference, Wigner Friends, time reversal in quantum and classical mechanics.

# **State retrieval beyond Bayes' retrodiction and reverse processes**

# How to **reverse** a not **reversible** channel?

Intuitive analogy

Mathematical definition

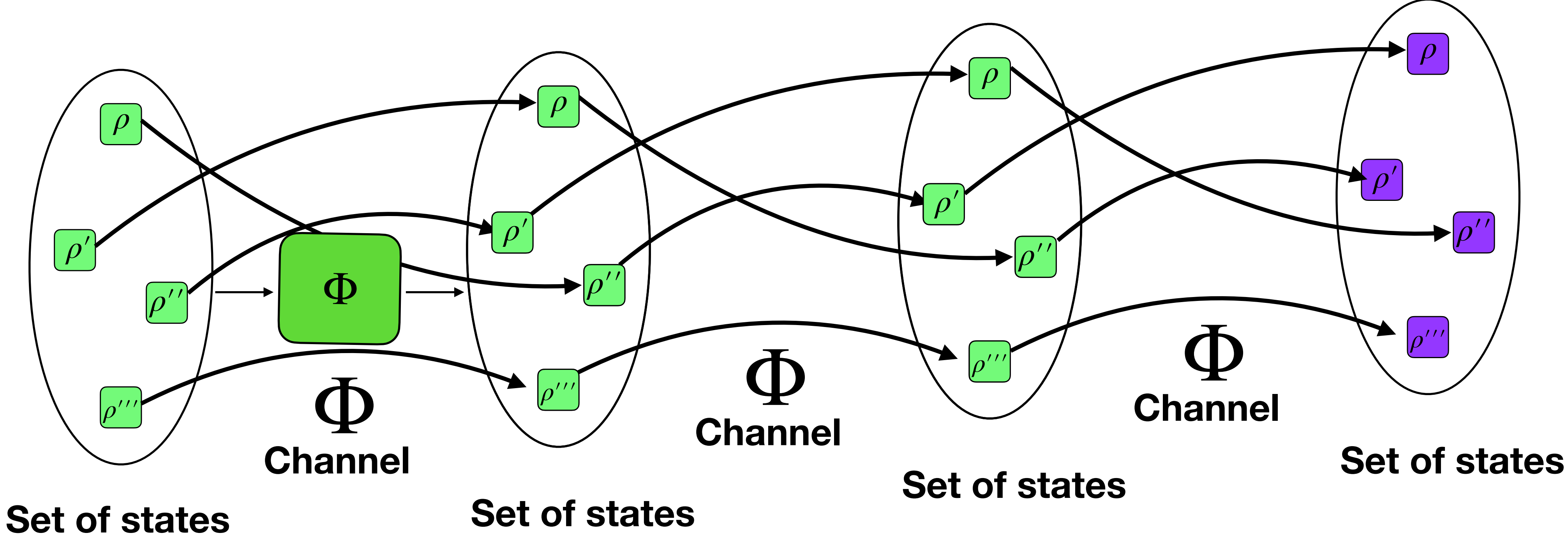


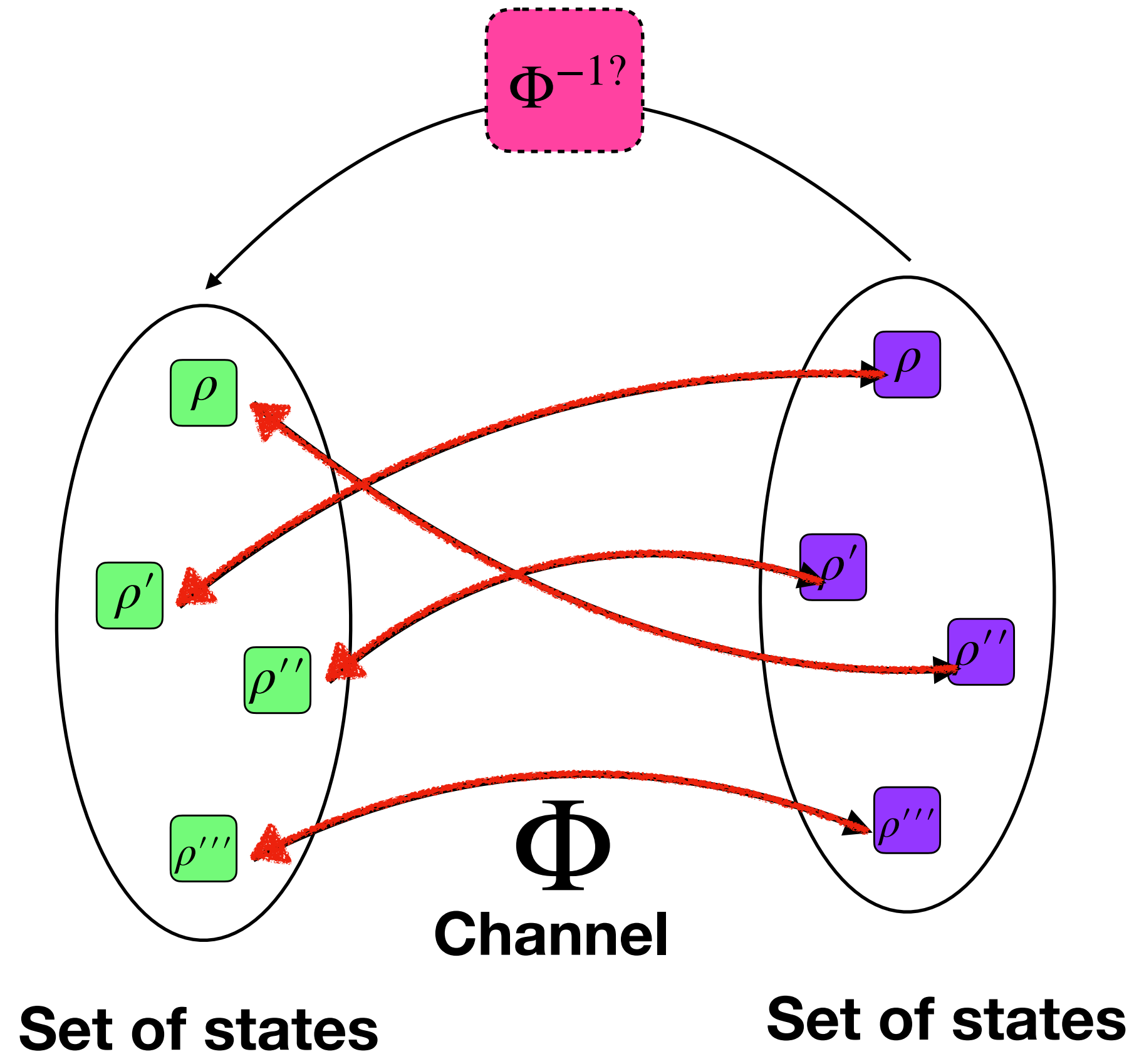
## How to formalise the intuitive idea of the reverse of a not reversible channel?

**We start from some examples**

# Discrete state space, discrete time

Channels  $\rightarrow$  Maps between states

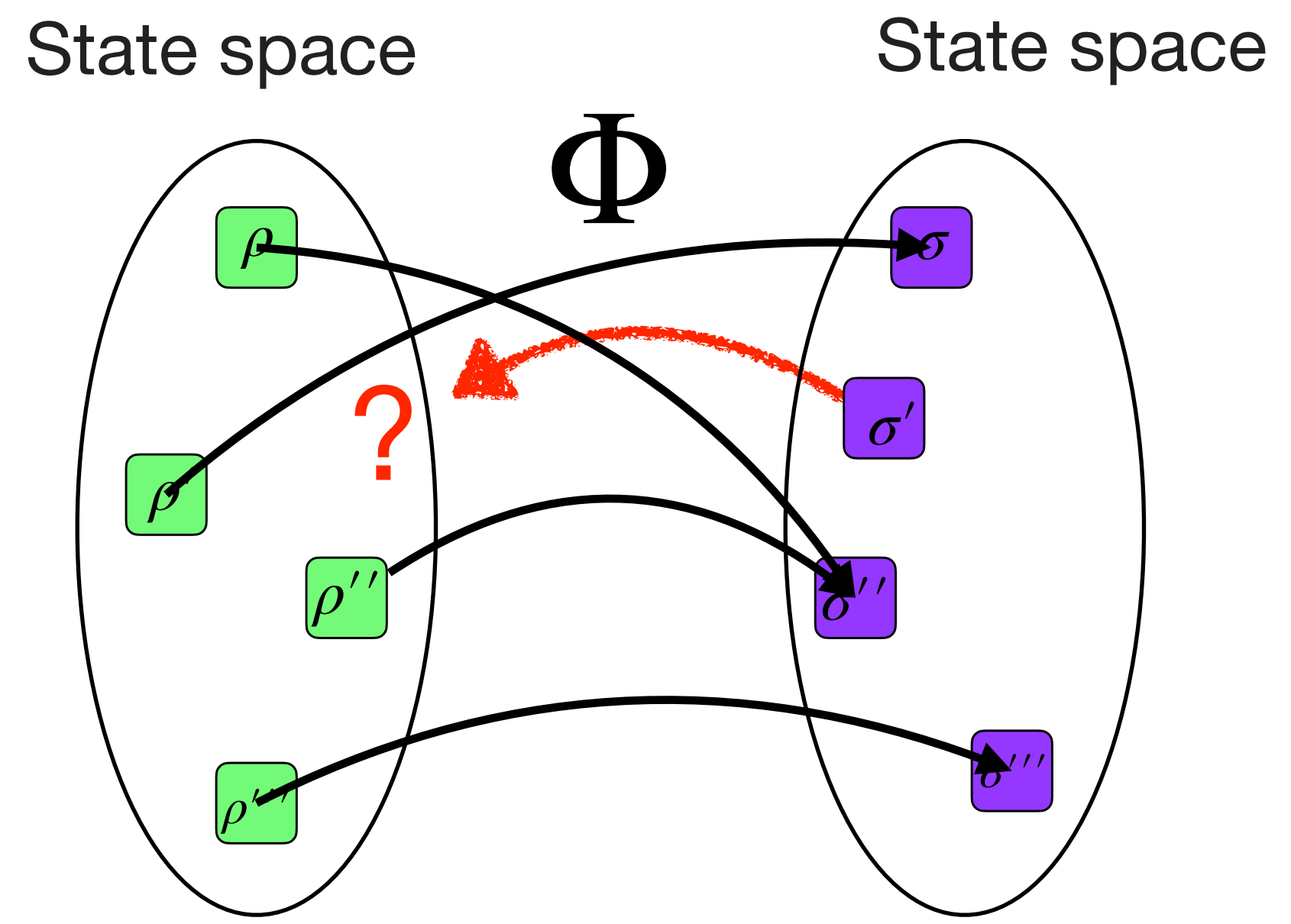
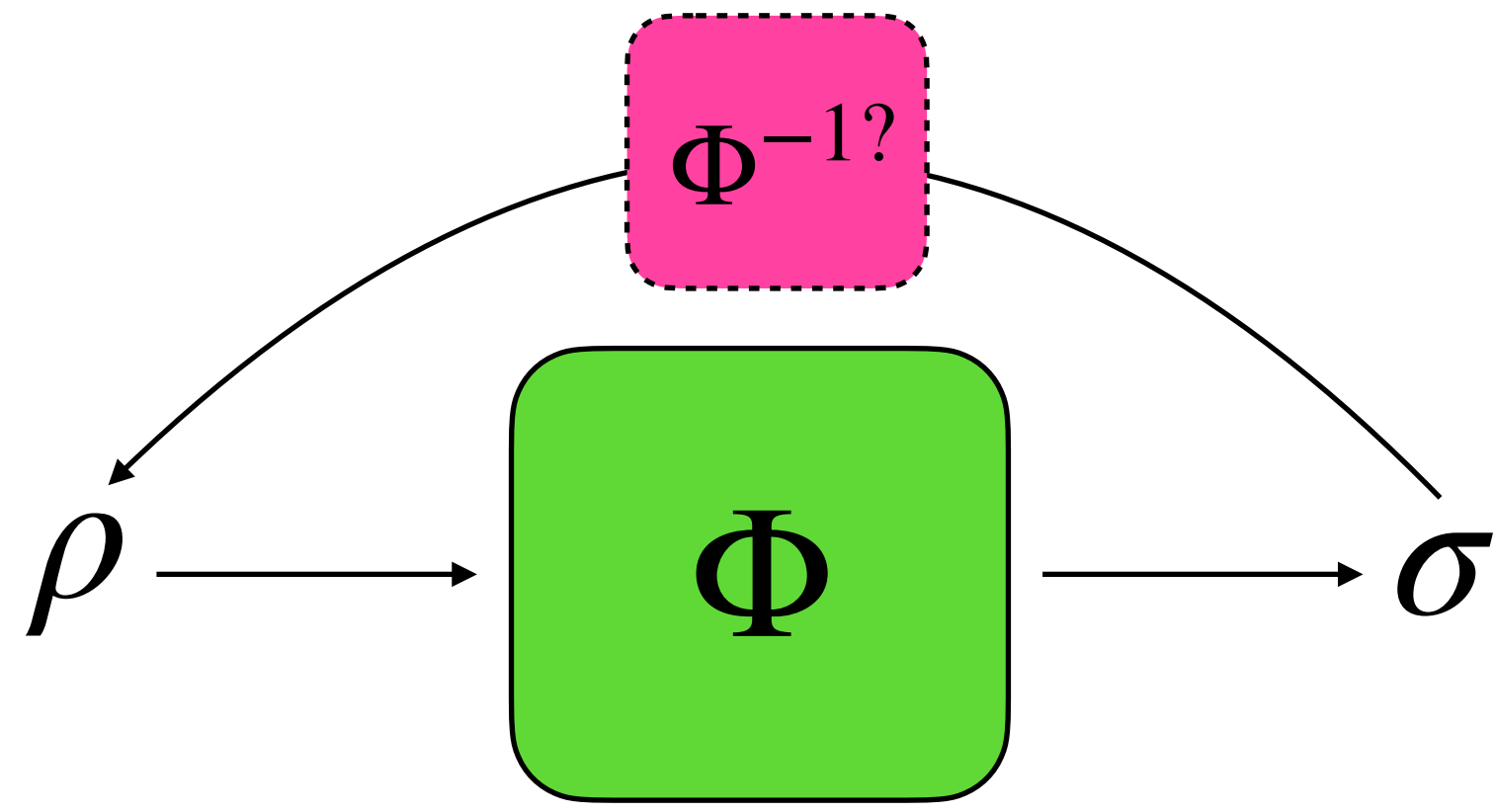




**This is reversible**

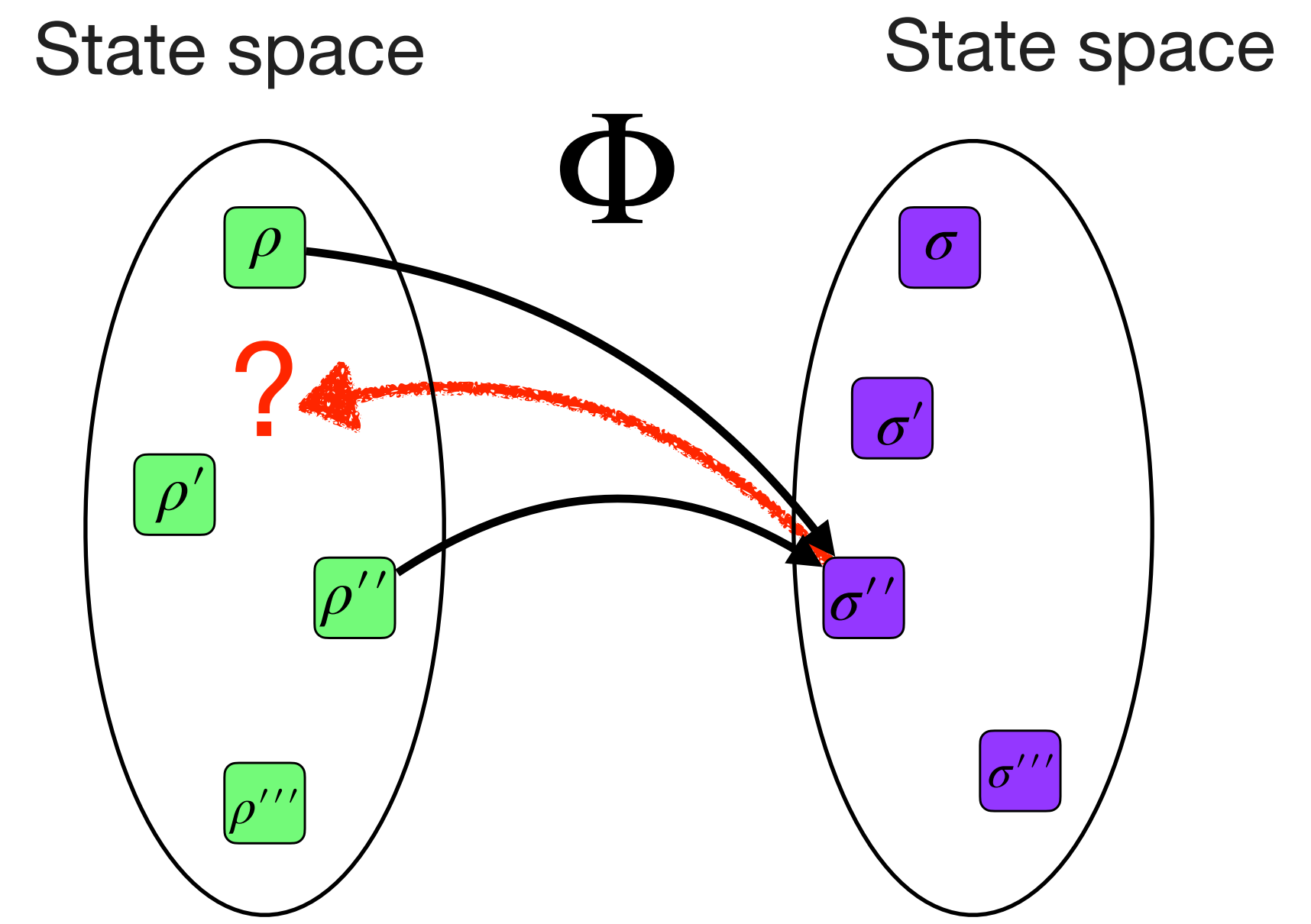
**Let's make it not reversible**





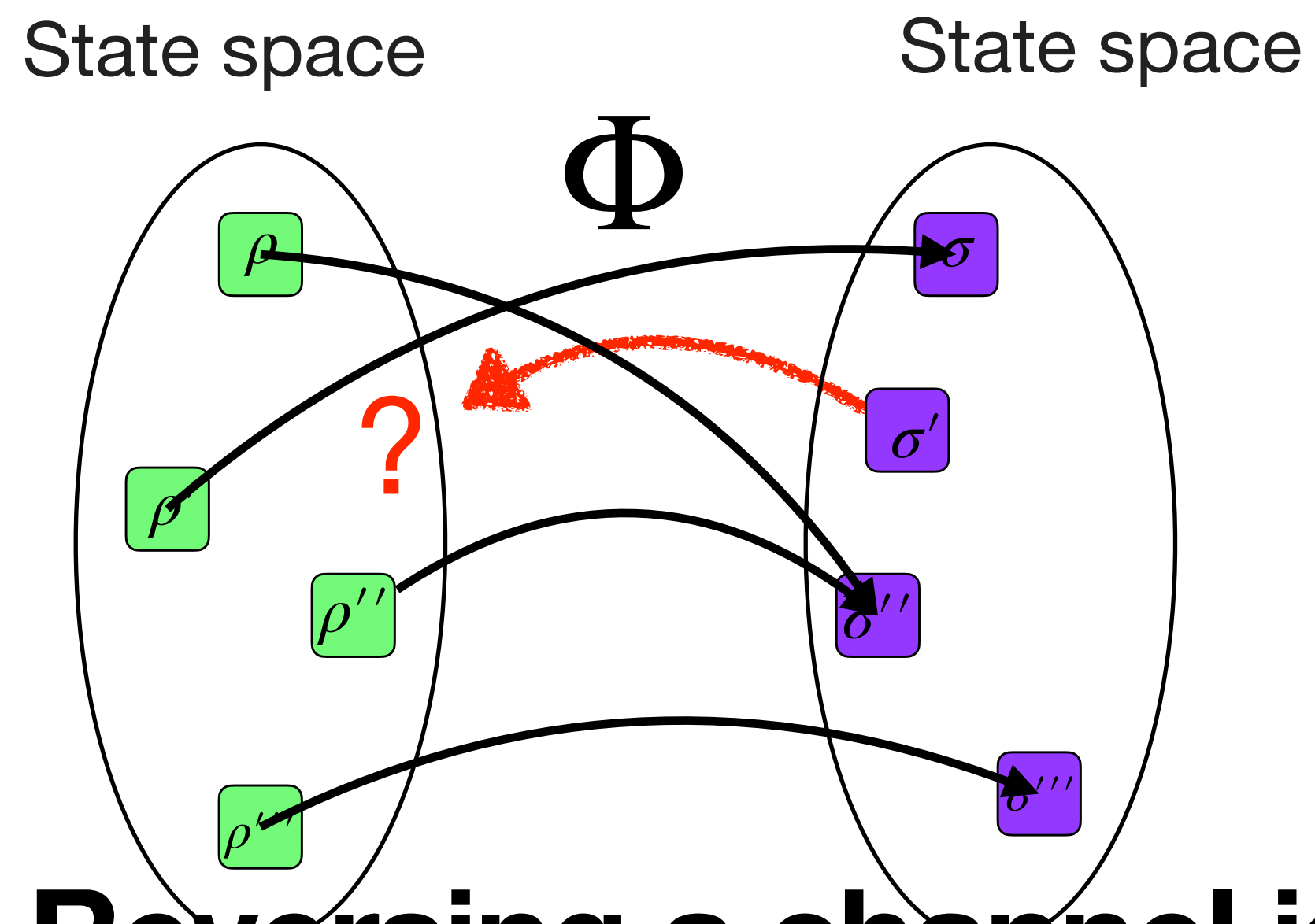
**First Problem: not surjective**

Well... we never reach that state in the image so it does not make sense to go back from there.



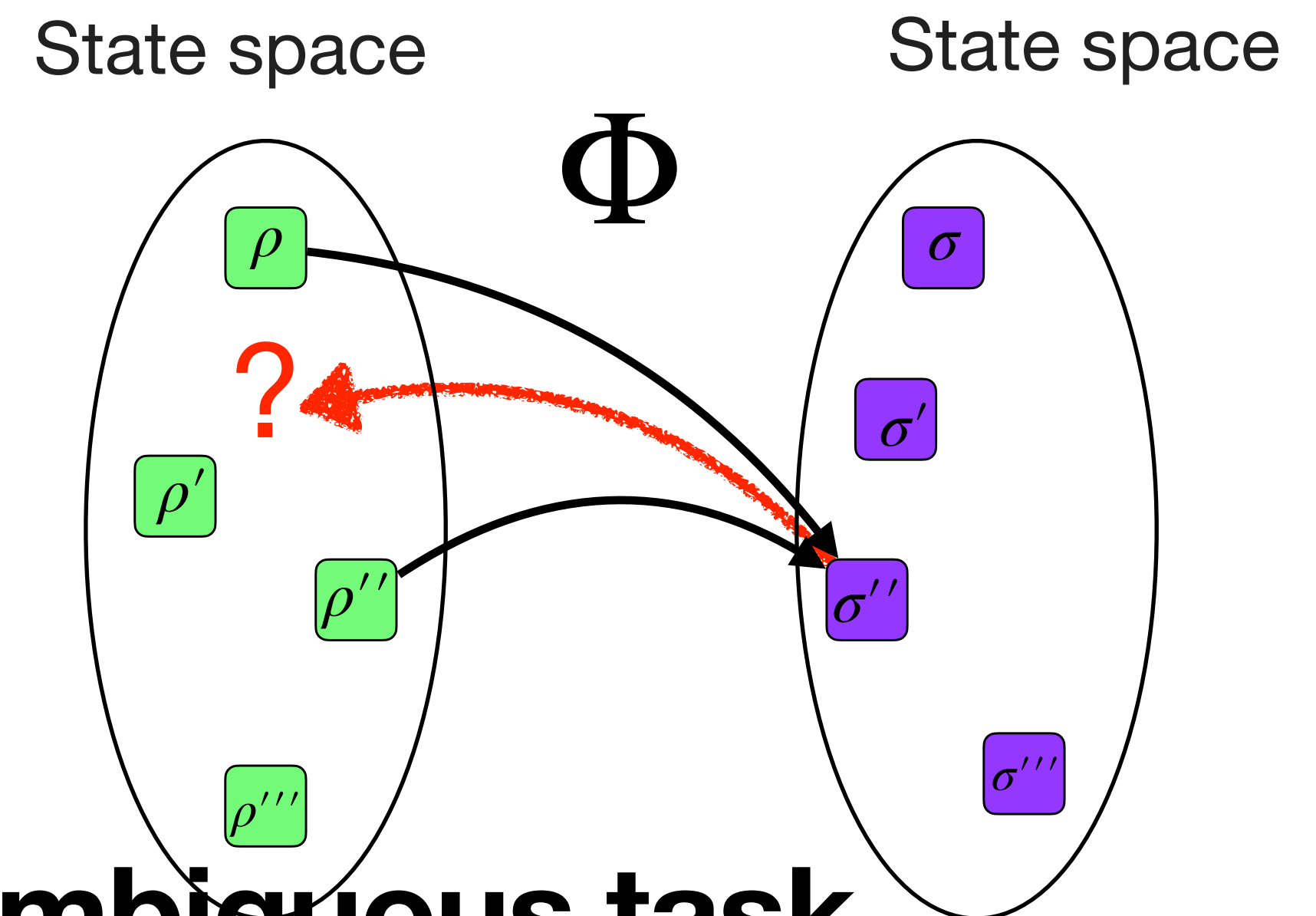
**Second Problem: not injective**

Reversing is not possible because we may forget from where we come from, so we don't know where to go back.



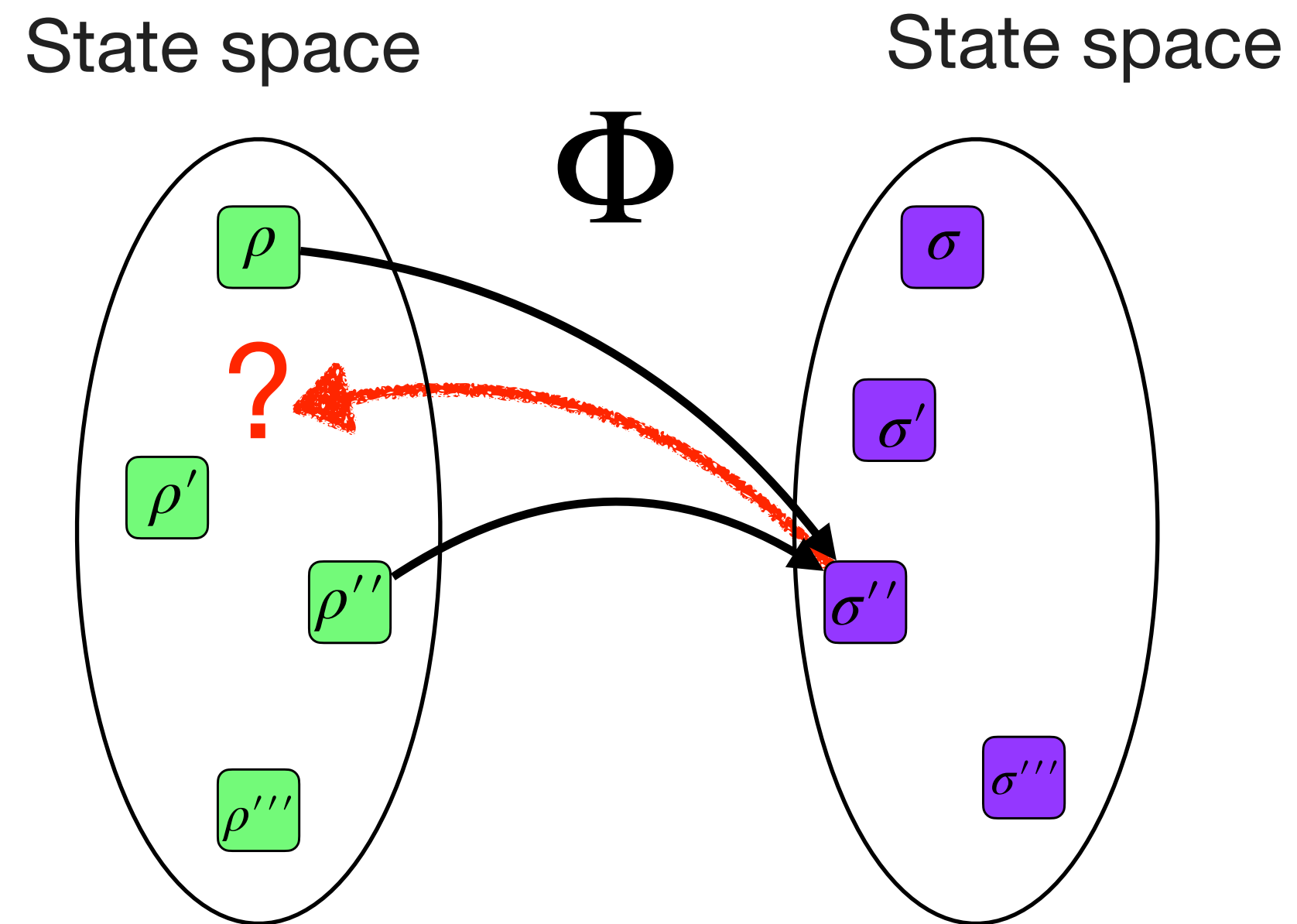
**Reversing a channel is quite an ambiguous task.**

First Problem: not surjective



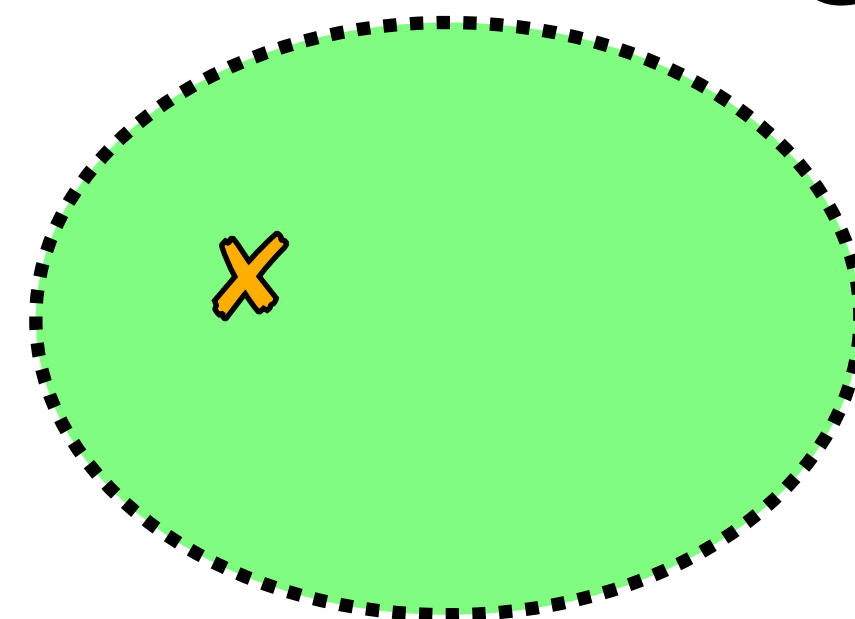
Second Problem: not injective

Well... we never reach that state in the image so it does not make sense to go back from there.



**Reversing any possible choices for a given channel.**

**How to choose one?**



The set of possible reverse channels

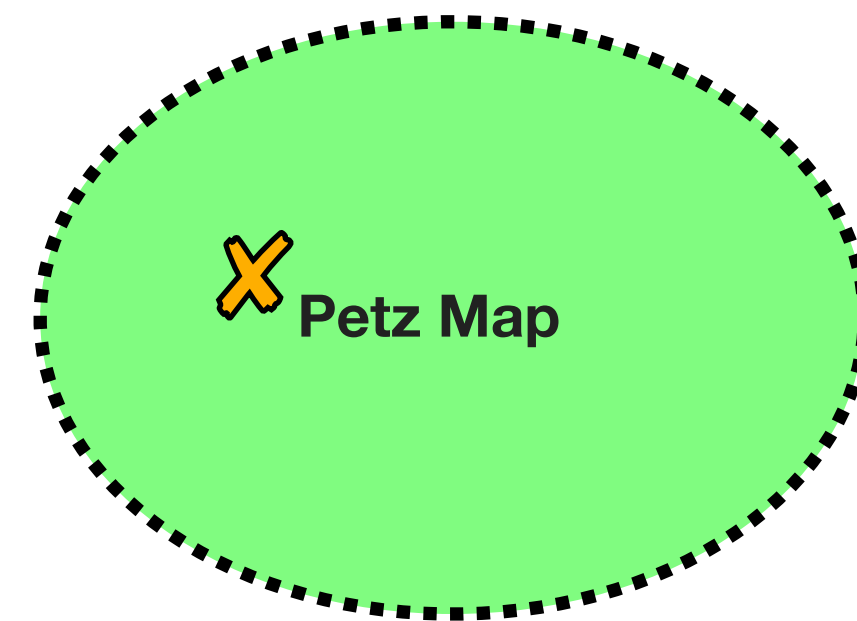
# Looking for a canonical reverse channel

Reverse channels are used already in many different field!

- In **thermodynamics** are a fundamental tool for deriving fluctuation relations at the core of the discussion on the **arrow of time**.
- Reverse channels lies at the core of **error correction**.

The most commonly used reverse channel

**Petz (recovery) map**



The set of possible reverse channels.

Does there exist a framework explaining why the Petz map should be THE reverse channel?

D. Petz, Sufficient subalgebras and the relative entropy of states of a von neumann algebra, Comm. Math. Phys. 105, 123 (1986).

D. Petz, Sufficiency of channels over von Neumann algebras, The Quarterly Journal of Mathematics 39, 97 (1988).

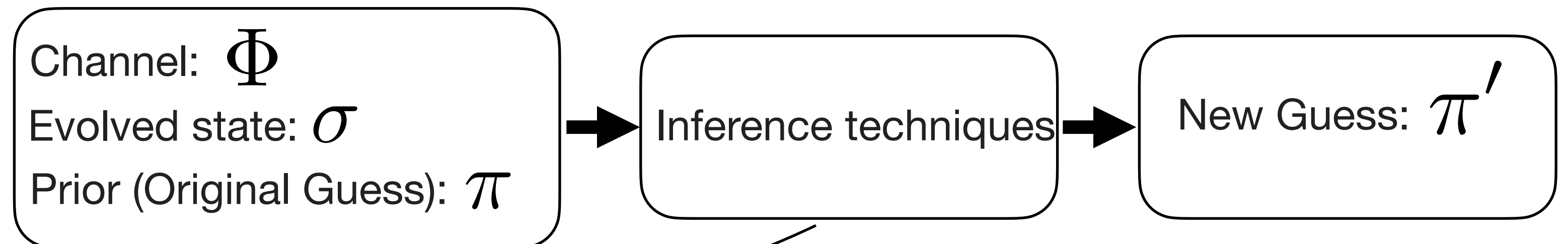
# Looking for a canonical reverse channel



Satoshi Watanabe

The problem of reversing a channel is the problem of **retrodicting** a state: inferring the original state from the knowledge of the channel, (possibly) some prior information and the evolved state.

Being at time  $t_1$  you want to retrodict the state present at time  $t_0 < t_1$  knowing that at time  $t_1$  your state is  $\sigma$ .



Canonical Statistical inference methods **→** **Petz (recovery) map and Bayes inspired reverse channel**

S. Watanabe, Symmetry of physical laws. part iii. prediction and retrodiction, Rev. Mod. Phys. 27, 179 (1955).

S. Watanabe, Conditional probabilities in physics, Progr. Theor. Phys. Suppl. E65, 135 (1965).

D. Petz, Sufficient subalgebras and the relative entropy of states of a von Neumann algebra, Comm. Math. Phys. 105, 123 (1986).

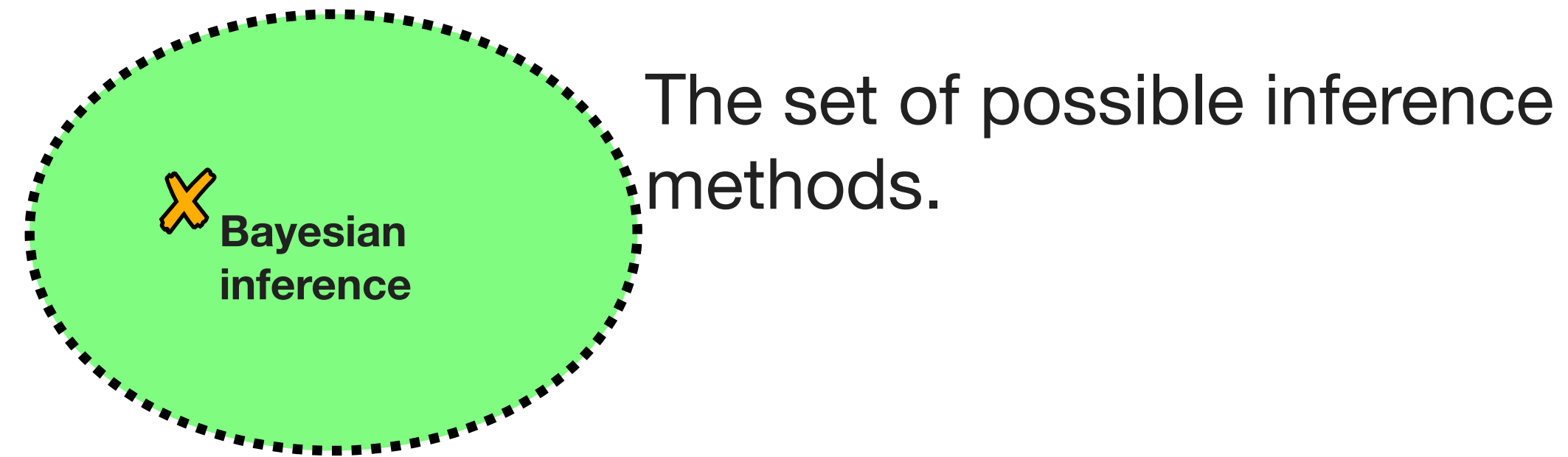
D. Petz, Sufficiency of channels over von Neumann algebras, The Quarterly Journal of Mathematics 39, 97 (1988).

Buscemi, Francesco and Scarani, Valerio, Fluctuation Theorems from Bayesian Retrodiction, 10.1103/PhysRevE.103.052111

C. C. Aw, F. Buscemi, and V. Scarani, Fluctuation theorems with retrodiction rather than reverse processes, AVS Quantum Science 3, 045601 (2021), <https://doi.org/10.1116/5.0060893>.



# Ambiguity again: why Bayesian inference?



- Duality with maximum likelihood.
- Derivation from maximum entropy principles.
- Derivation from minimization of geometric distances (e.g. Kullback-Leibler).
- Derivation from principles of information geometry (Amari)
- Derivation from geometric principles (Csizar).
- Consideration on properties of the convergence of subjective probability updates (e.g. Jeffrey, Bernardo,...).
- ...

Does there exist a framework explaining why Bayesian inference should be THE inference method?

**It would be nice to tame the ambiguity.**

**To characterise the set of all the reasonable retrodiction channels.**



**Why Bayesian inference?**

**Is it possible to characterise all the reasonable retrodiction channels?**

**What makes Bayes so fundamental?**

**Is it possible to find a better retrodiction channel?**

# Stochastic maps

$$\Phi = \begin{pmatrix} \phi_{1,1} & \phi_{1,2} & \cdots & \phi_{1,n} \\ \phi_{2,1} & \phi_{2,2} & \cdots & \phi_{2,n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \phi_{n,1} & \phi_{n,2} & \cdots & \phi_{n,n} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\forall k \sum_{i=1}^n \phi_{i,k}$$

$$\forall k, i \phi_{i,k} \in [0, 1]$$

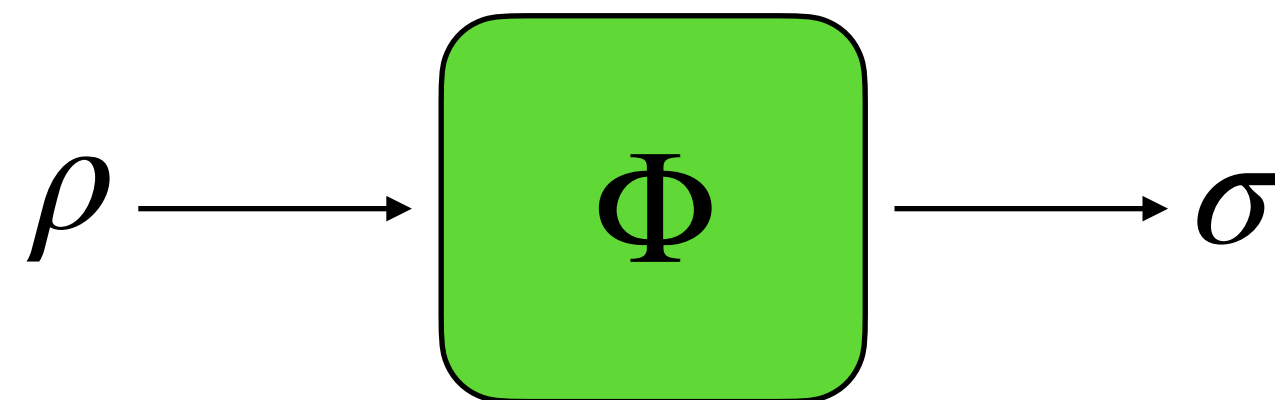
**Left stochastic map**

$$\rho = (\rho_1, \rho_2, \dots, \rho_n)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \rho_i = 1$$

$$\forall i \rho_i \in [0, 1]$$

**Probability vector**



$$\sigma = \Phi \rho$$

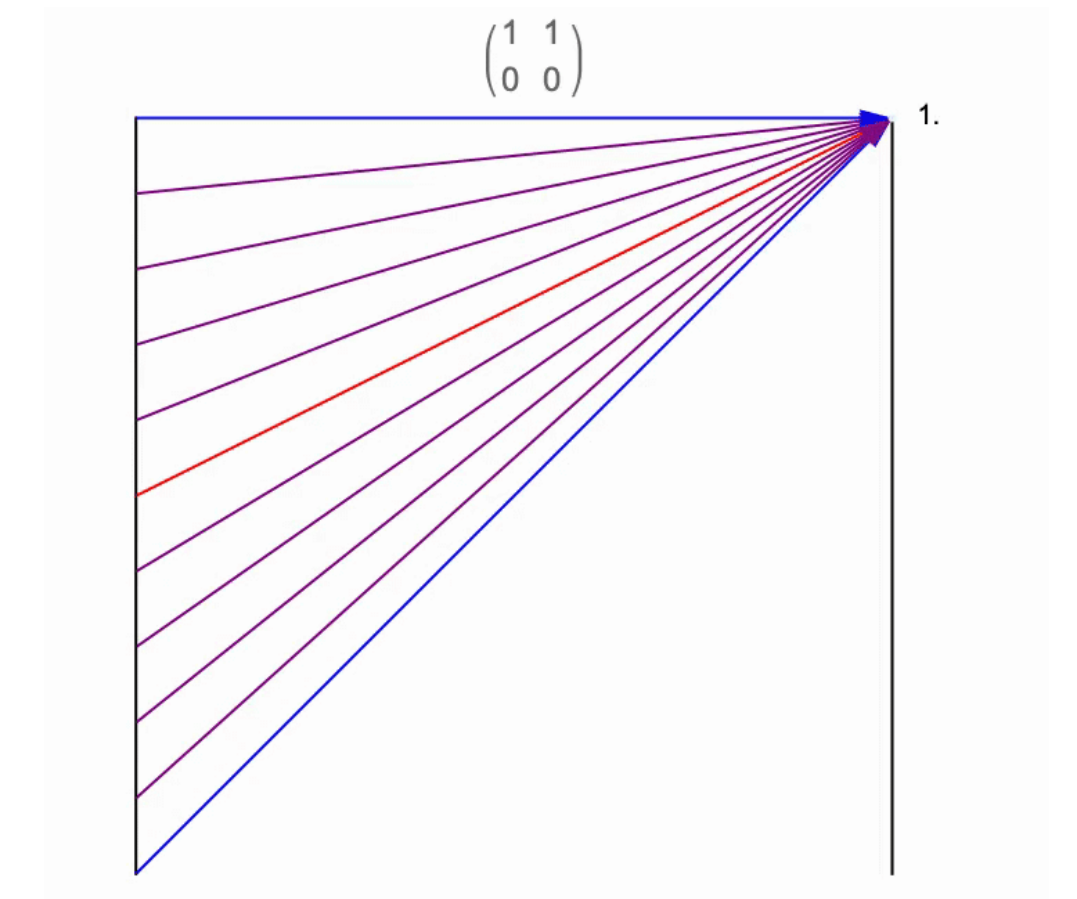
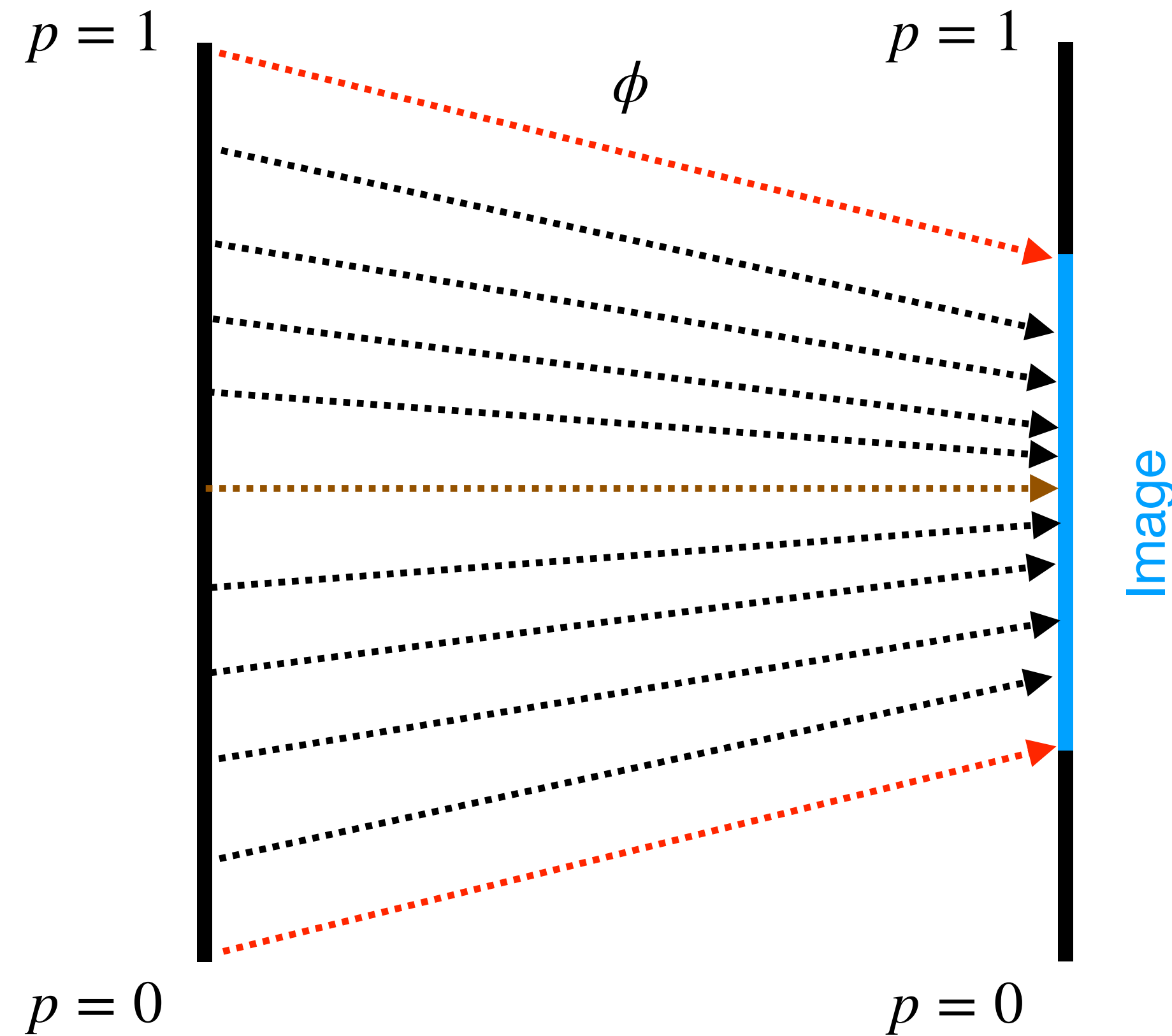
# Example in 2 dimensions

Stochastic map

$$\Phi = \begin{pmatrix} 0.75 & 0.25 \\ 0.25 & 0.75 \end{pmatrix}$$

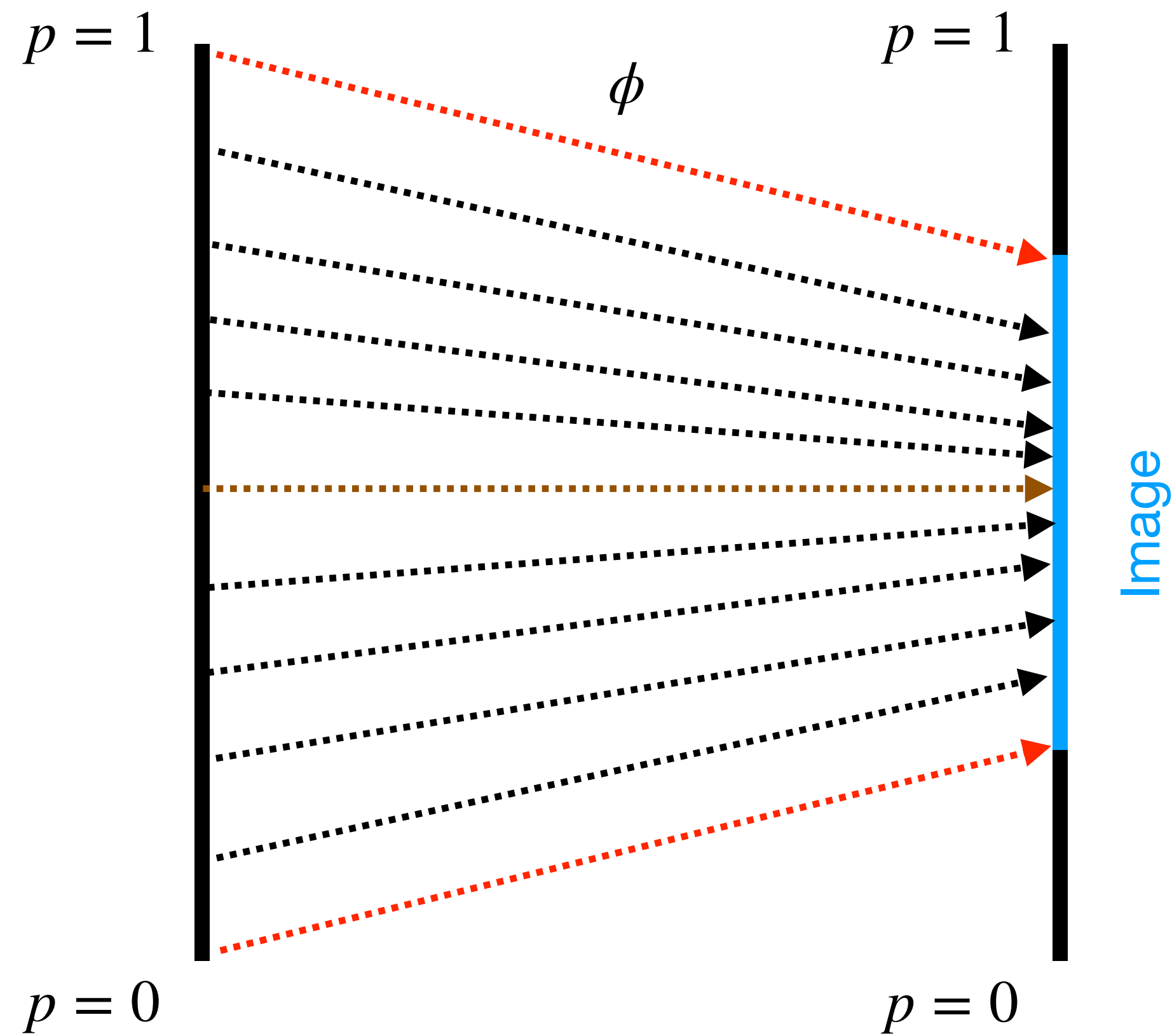
Probability vector

$$\rho = (p, 1 - p) \quad p \in [0, 1]$$

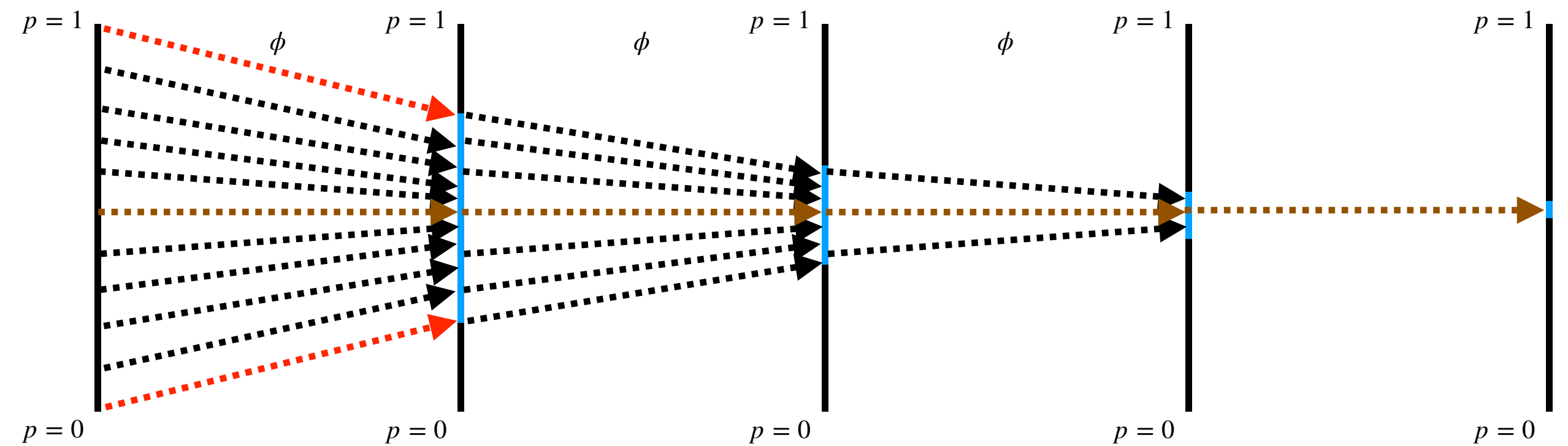
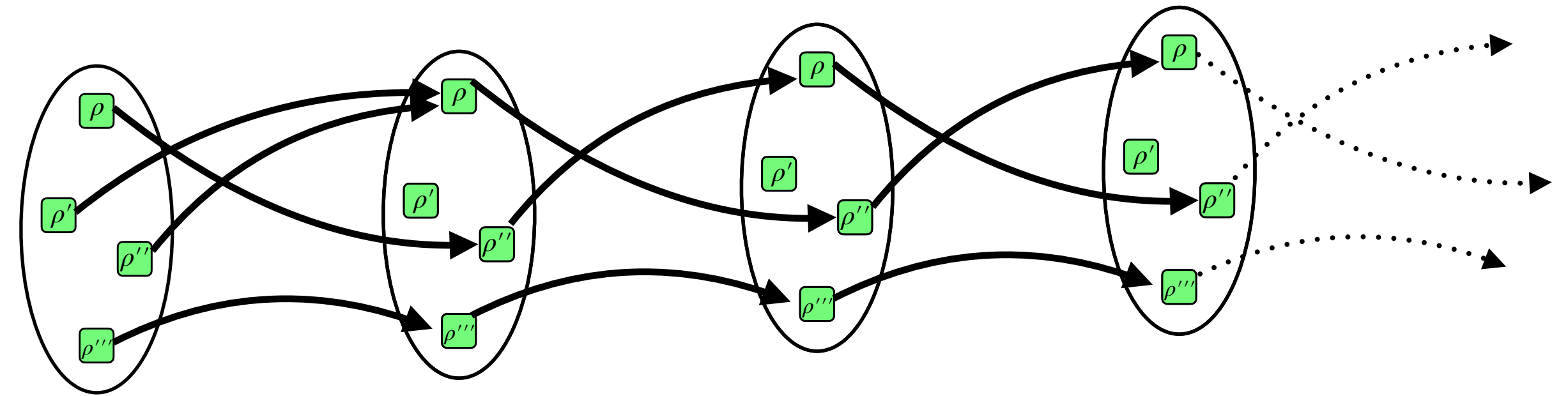


Reversing is connected to the idea of recovering the information about the initial state.  
In the case of stochastic maps, states are probability vectors.

# Loss of information for stochastic maps: contractivity

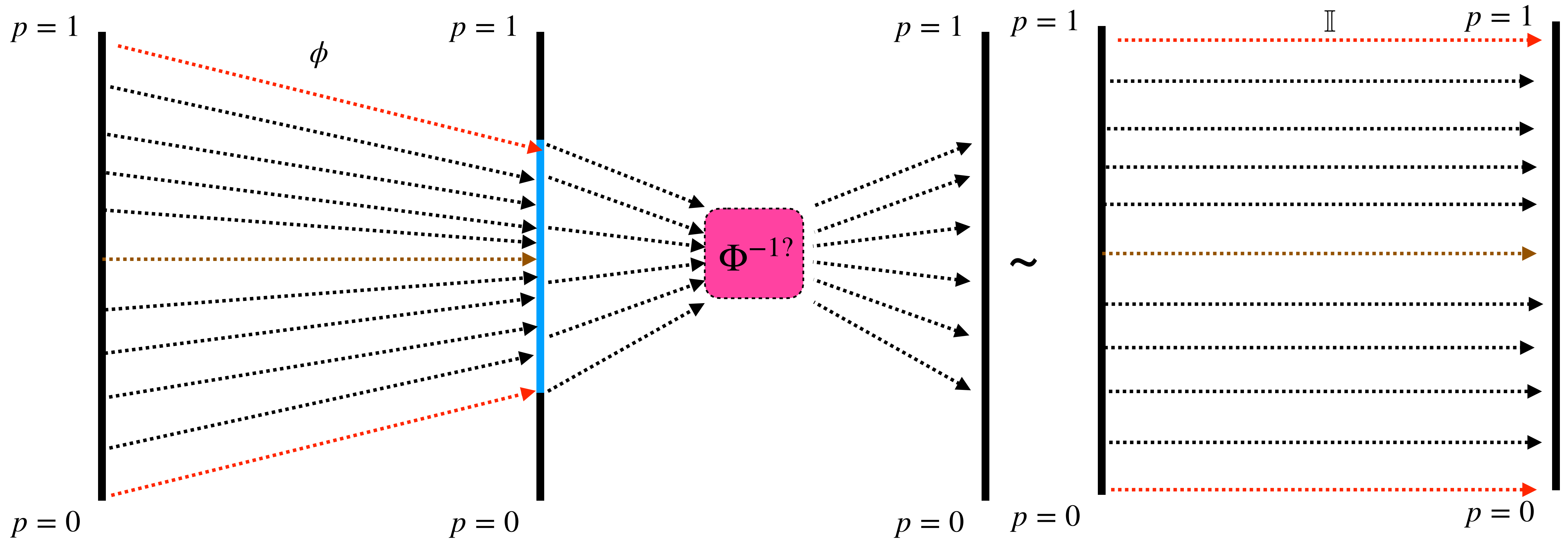


In the continuous case we find a new problem for the reversibility: channels are **contractive**.



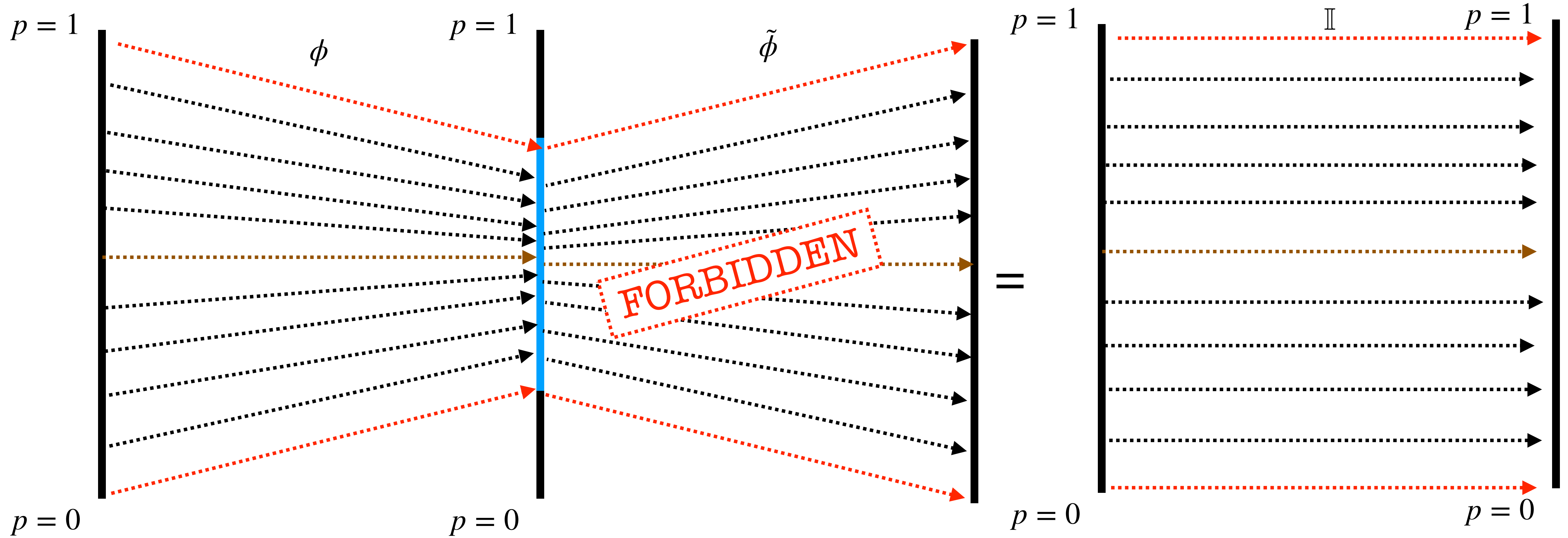
Contractivity is a property of channels. **Channels never expand.**

# Reversing a channel



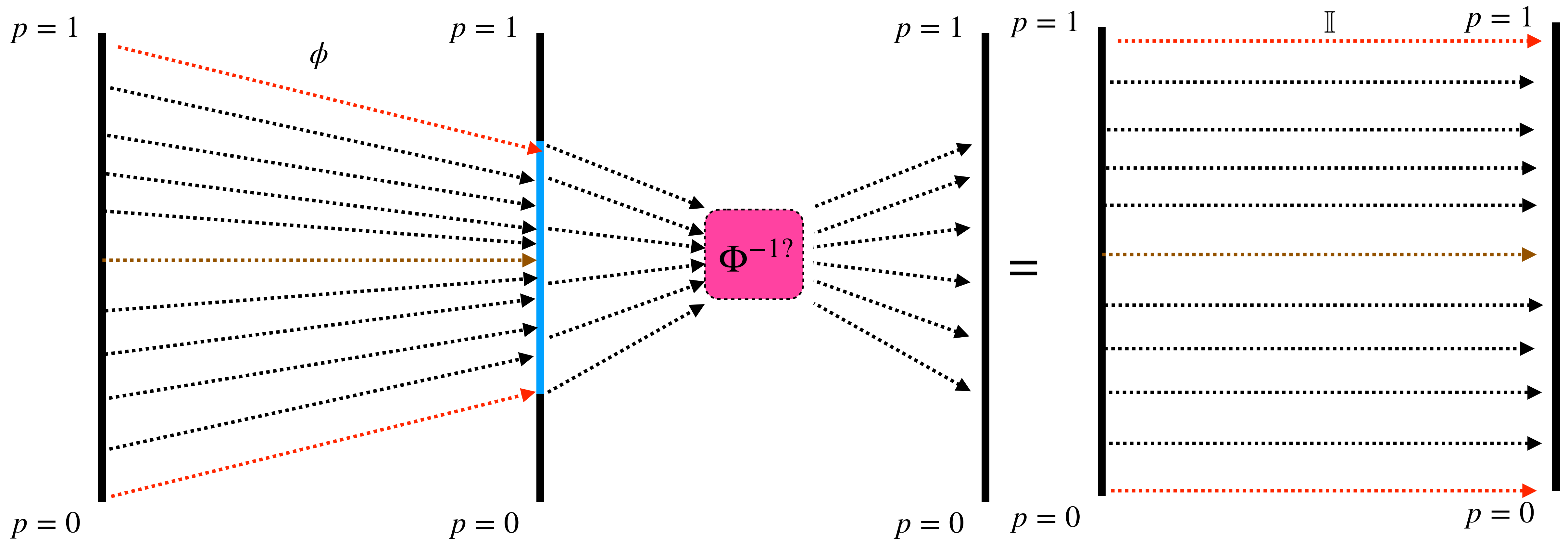
**The central object to study is the forth-and-back channel**

# Reversing a channel

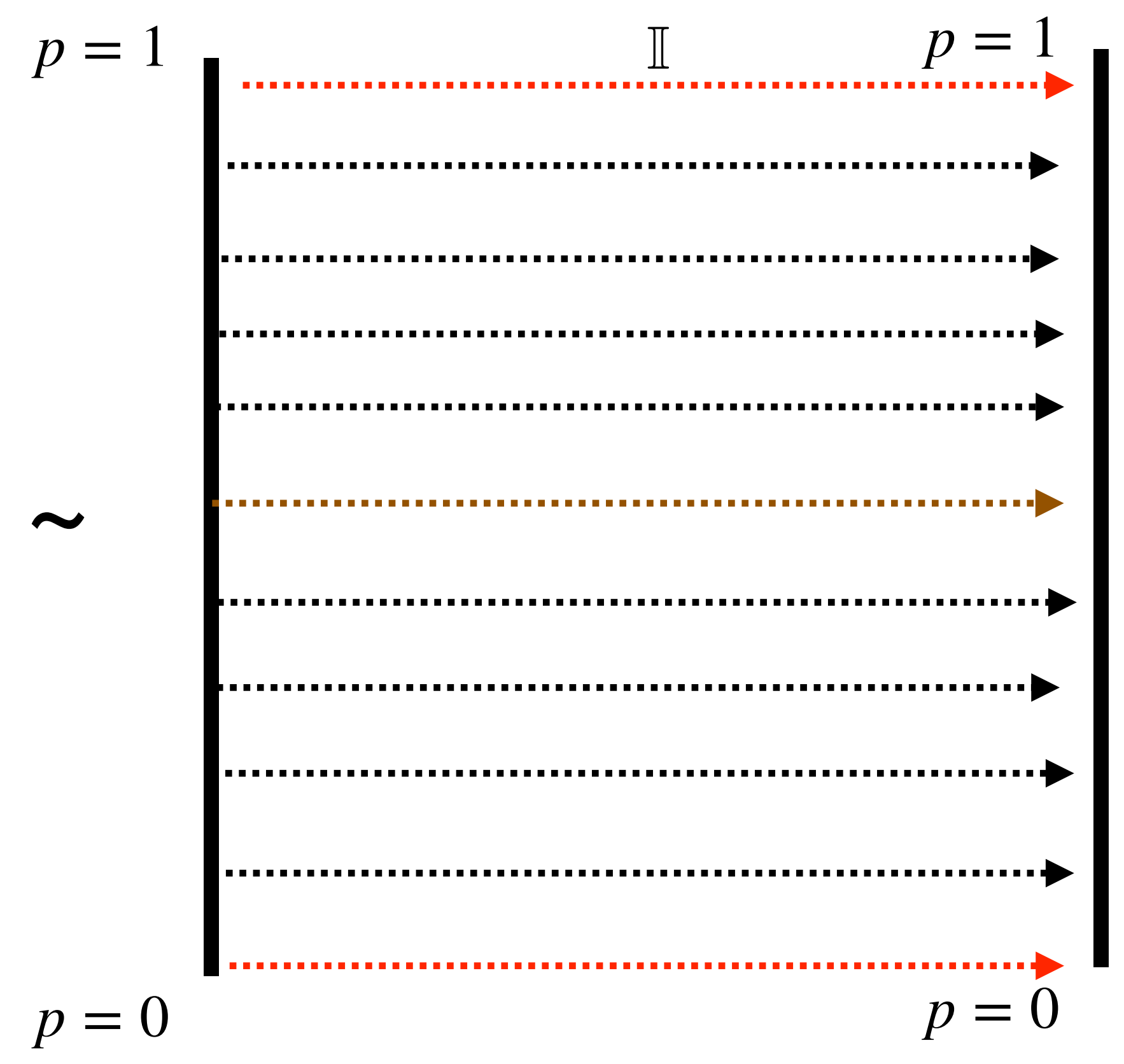
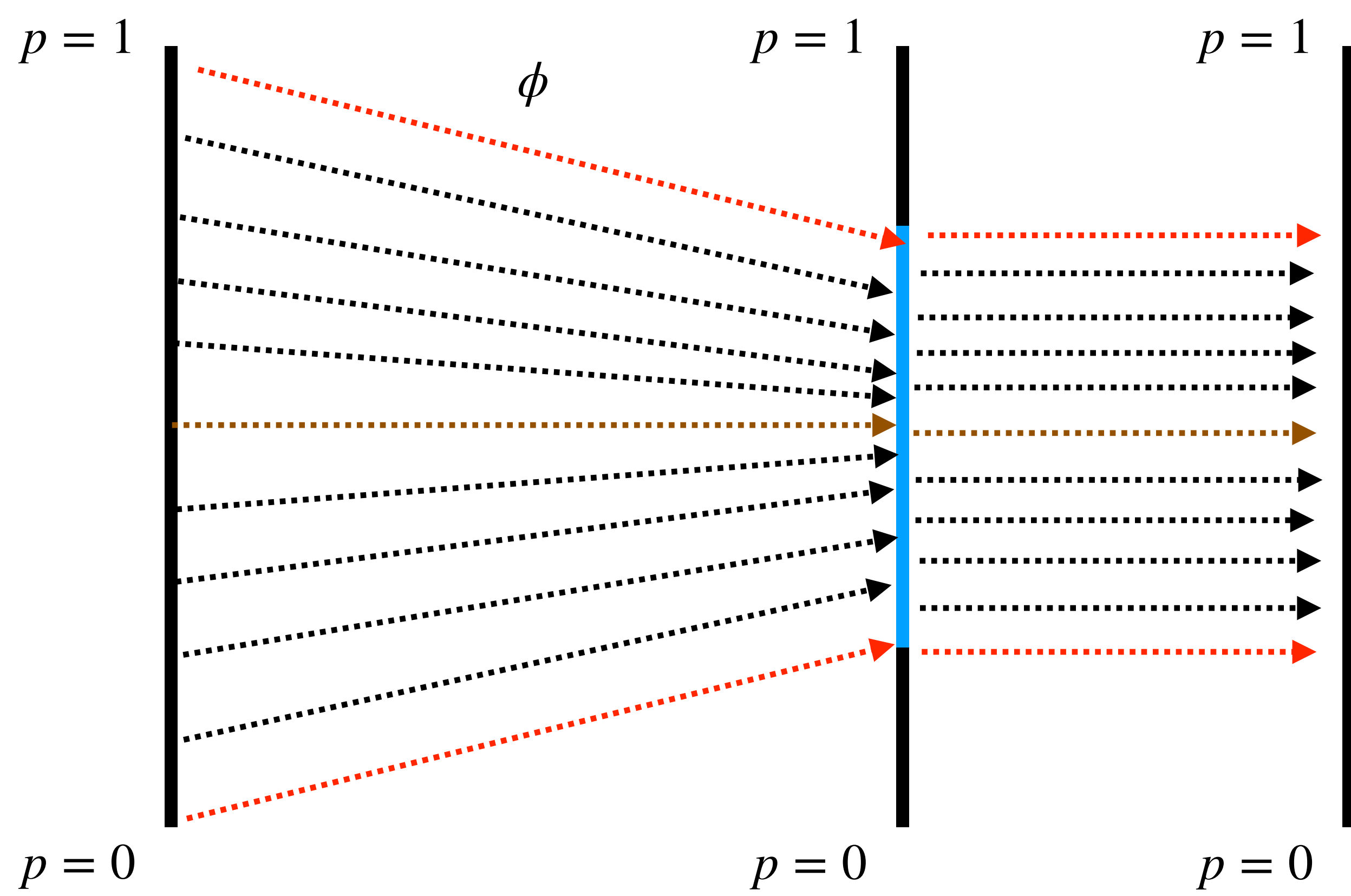




# Reversing a channel

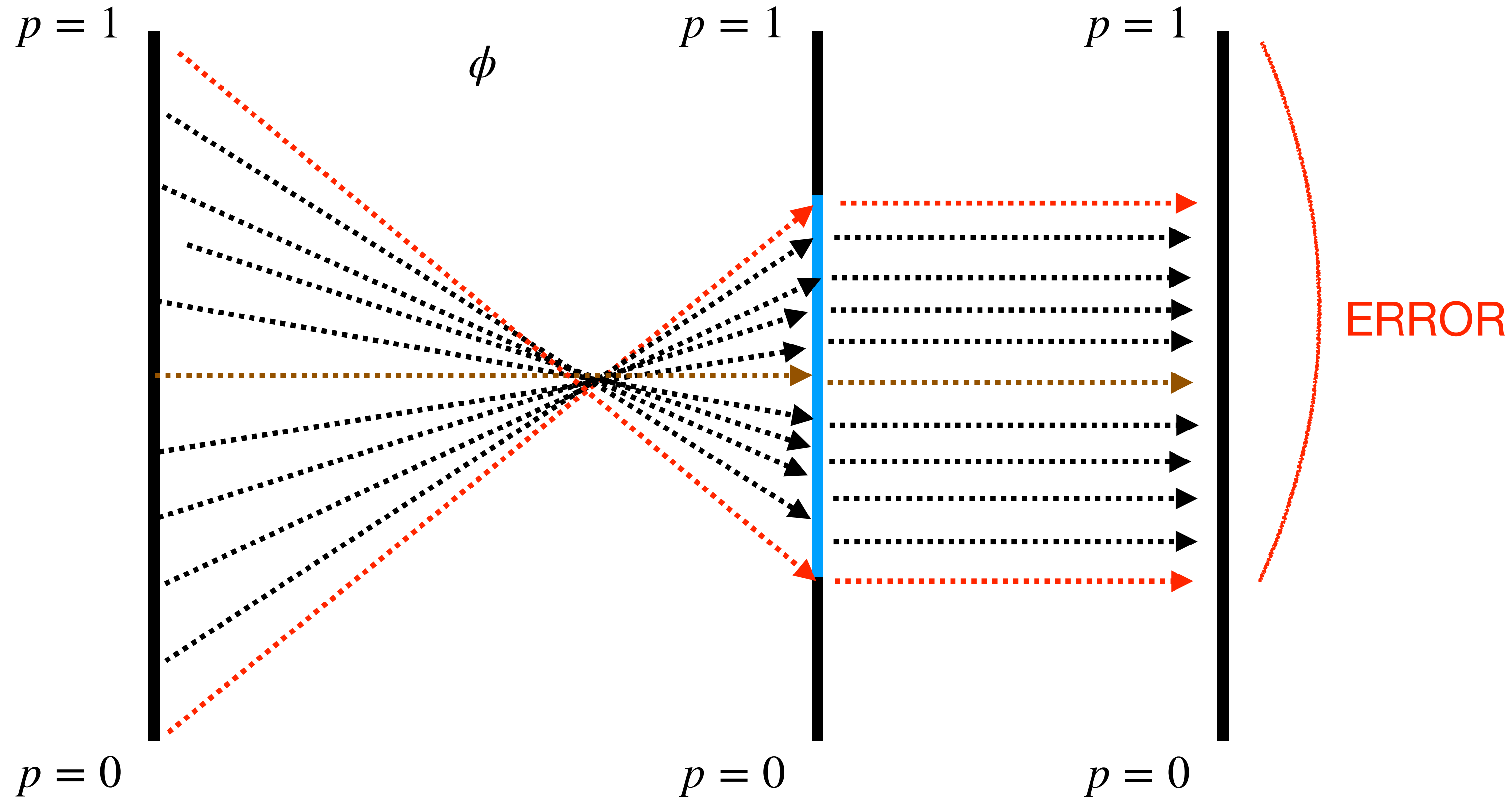


# Reversing a channel



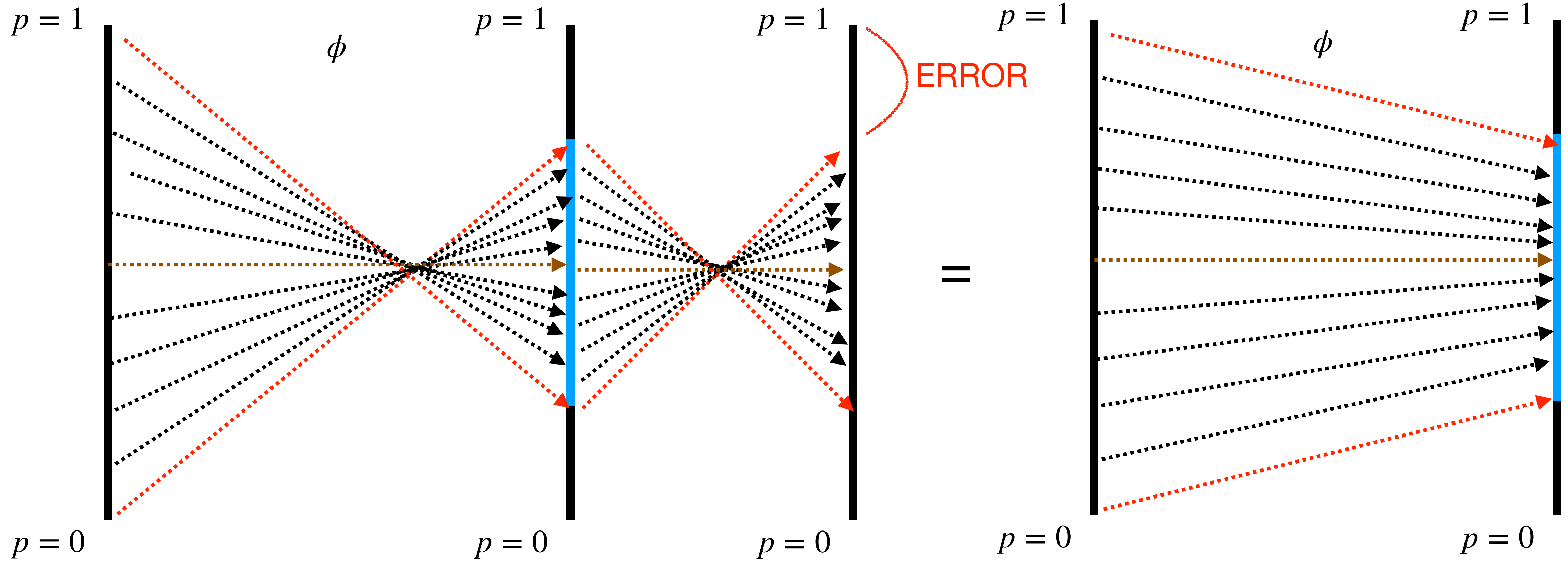
# Reversing a channel

Flips are dangerous



# Reversing a channel

Flip should be avoided going forth-and-back



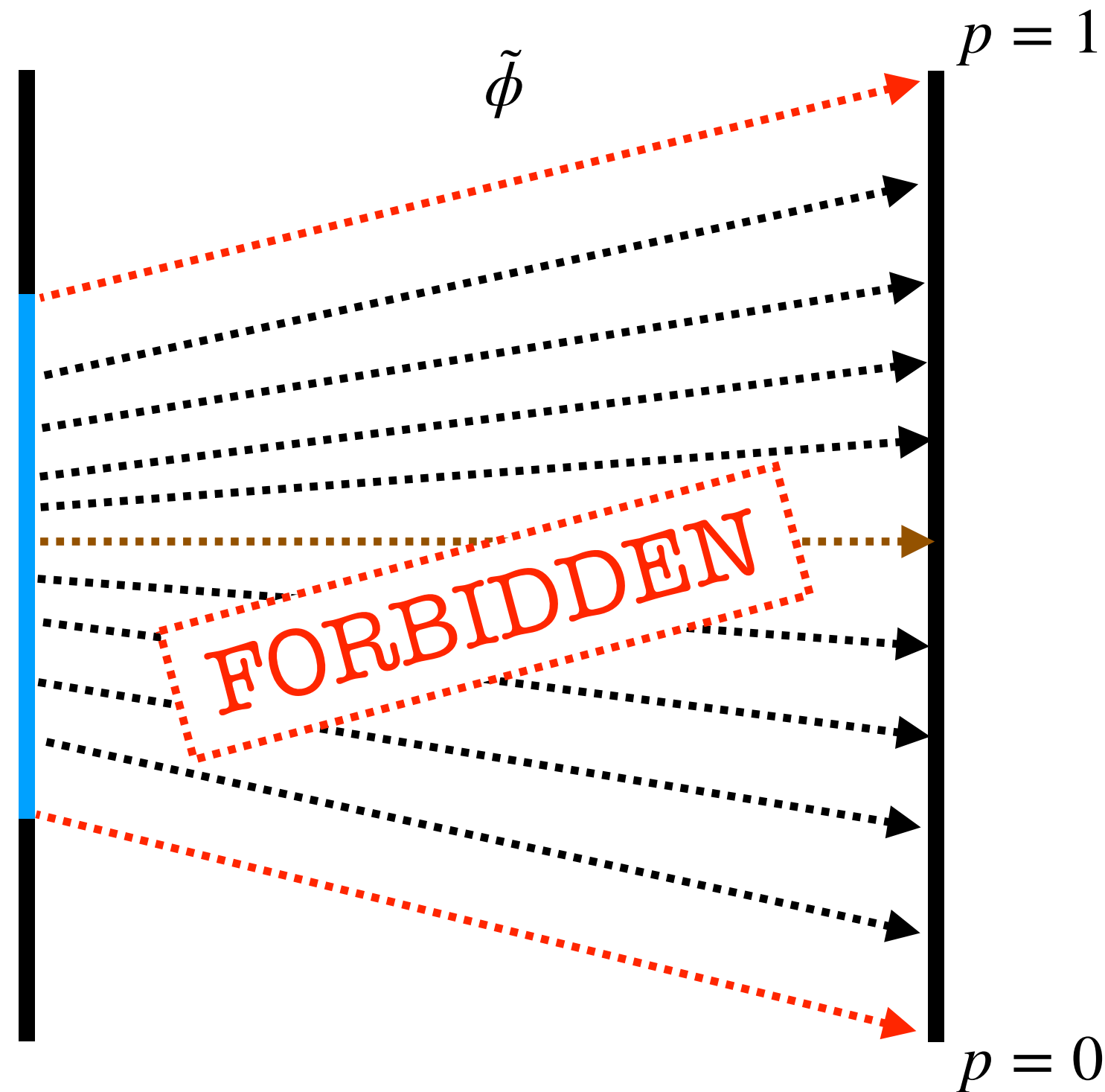
**Petz and Bayes Reverse always take this in consideration!**

**First 3 principles for a reverse channel**

**1. If the channel can be inverted just by simply inverting the arrow, just do it. “we already know how to take the inverse of a permutation or unitary channel”.**

## 2. The state retrieval channel should be physical.

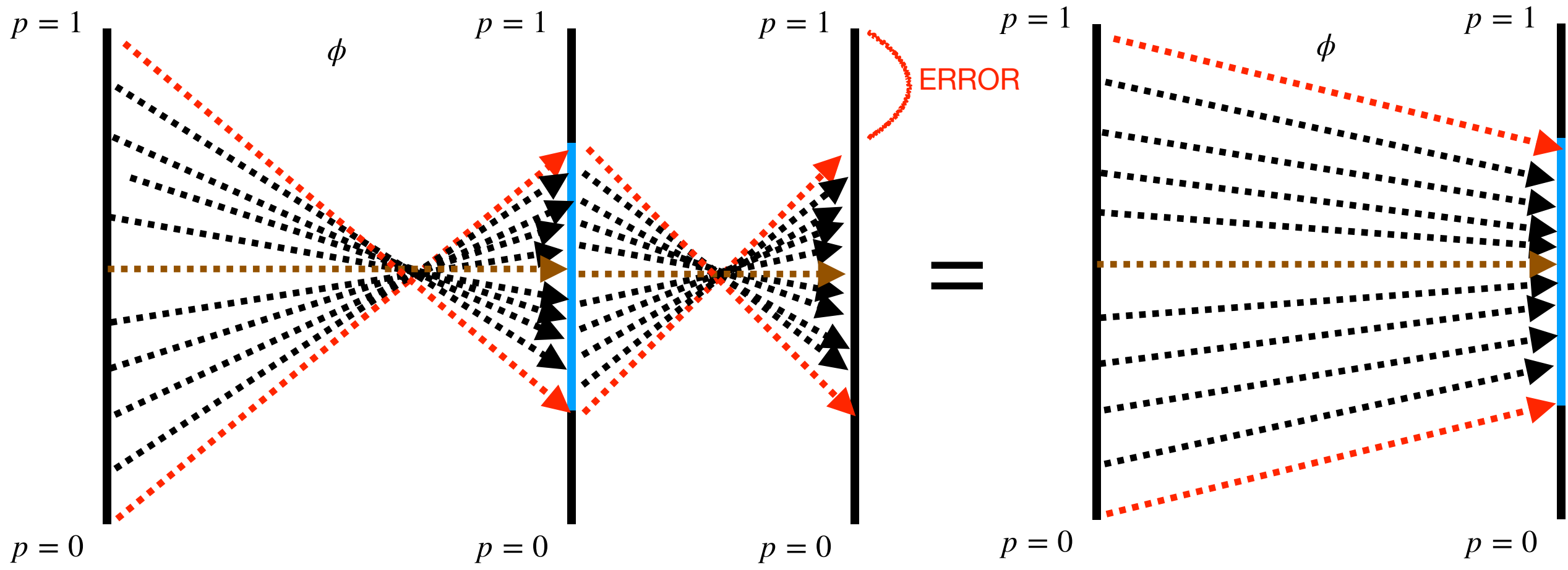
*“It should be a meaningful retrieval map even in the single-shot scenario, not just in the full statistics case”.*



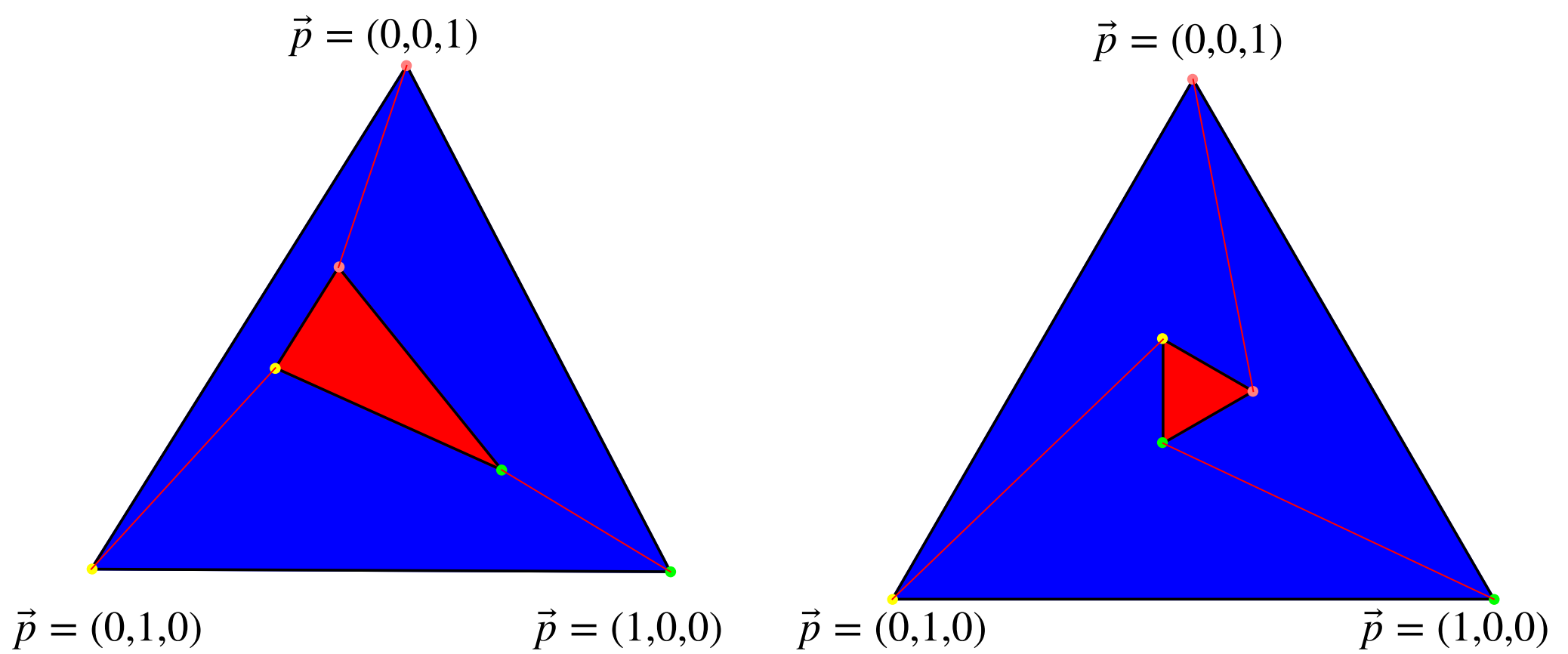


### 3. All the eigenvalues of the back and forth map must be positive.

*“Every inversion (negative eigenvalues) or rotation (complex eigenvalues) ruins the retrieval.”*



Flips

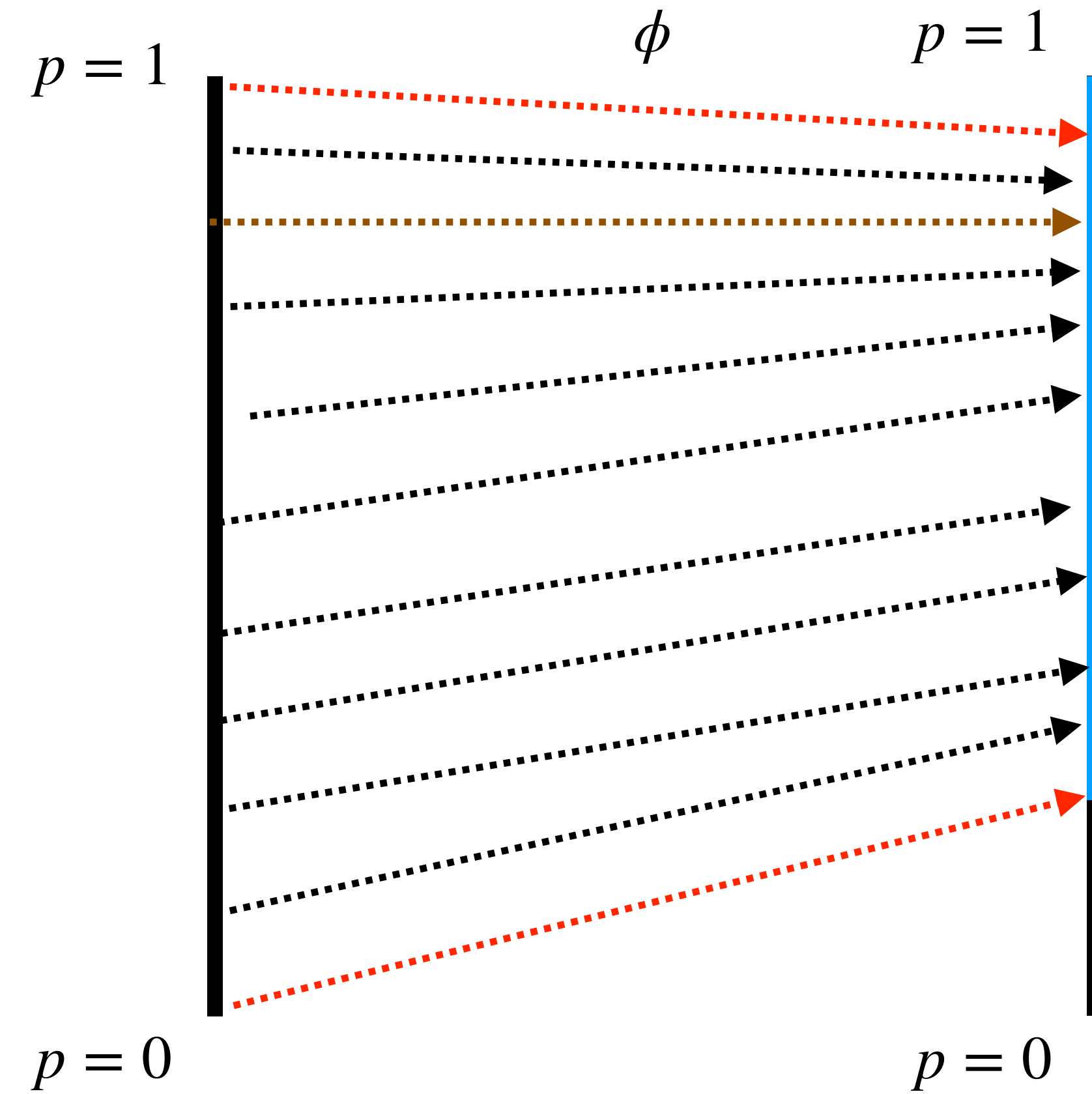
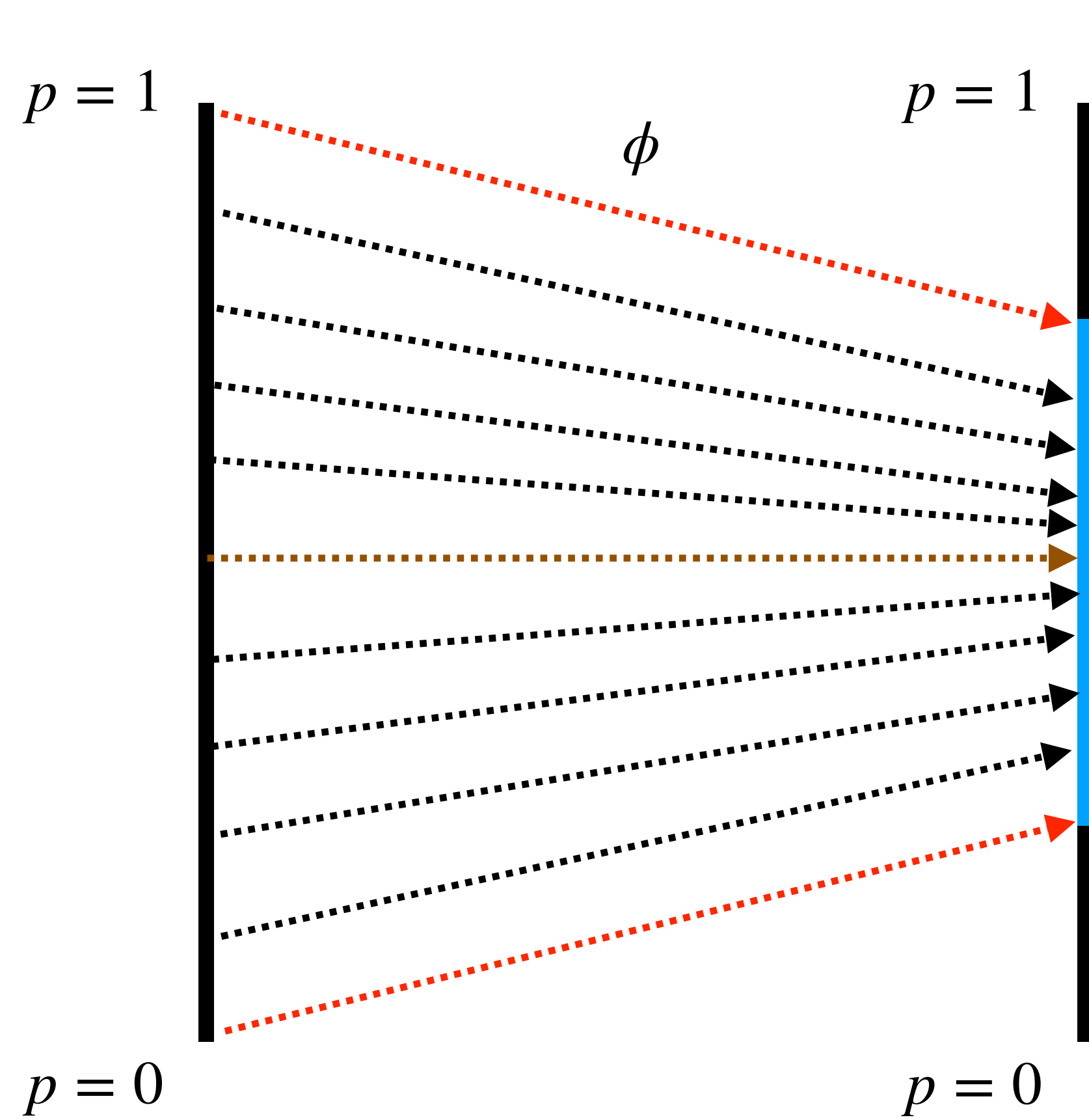


Rotations

**Exploiting a general property of channels**

# An additional property of channels

Every channels always **preserves at least one vector or state**, they have at least one fixed point.



We want to exploit this property.

Stochastic channel:  $\Phi$   
Prior:  $\pi$

Basic ingredients

**Exploiting our prior knowledge, last 2 principles for a reverse channel**

**4. The fixed point of the forth-and-back channel must be the prior.**

*“Since every channel has a fixed point, we take advantage of this property and we encode all our additional knowledge in it. We select a typical initial state that we want to always perfect recover”.*

**5. The prior should be an equilibrium state for the back-and-forth channel.** *“The back-and-forth channel should be time symmetric on the fixed point”.*

# Taming the ambiguity: the space of retrieval channels

Stochastic channel:  $\Phi$   
 Prior:  $\pi$

Basic ingredients

$\tilde{\Phi}$  Must be a (left-)stochastic matrix

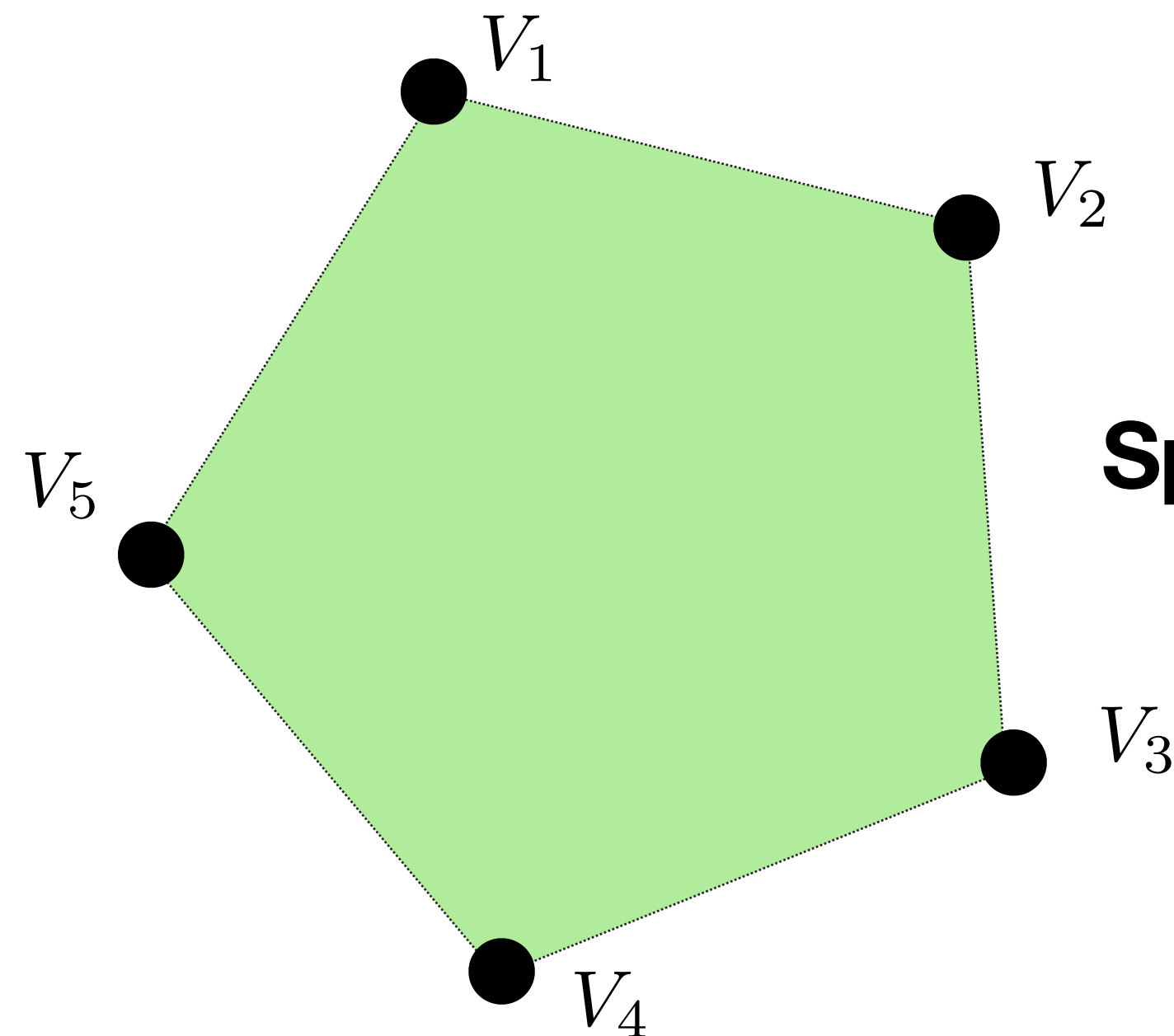
$\tilde{\Phi} \circ \Phi$  The back-and-forth channel must have positive eigenvalues

$\tilde{\Phi} : \Phi\pi \rightarrow \pi$   $\tilde{\Phi}$  have this transition fixed.

$(\tilde{\Phi}\Phi)_{j,i}\pi_i = (\tilde{\Phi}\Phi)_{i,j}\pi_j$  The prior state is the equilibrium state for the back-and-forth channel

- Convex Set
- Finite set of vertices
- Algorithm for computing vertices by Jurkat and Ryser

- The forth-and-back channel is a positive semidefinite matrix



**Space of retrieval channels**

Each reverse channel is completely characterised by the vector of coefficients. This is a probability vector. Each reverse channel is characterised by a probability vector.

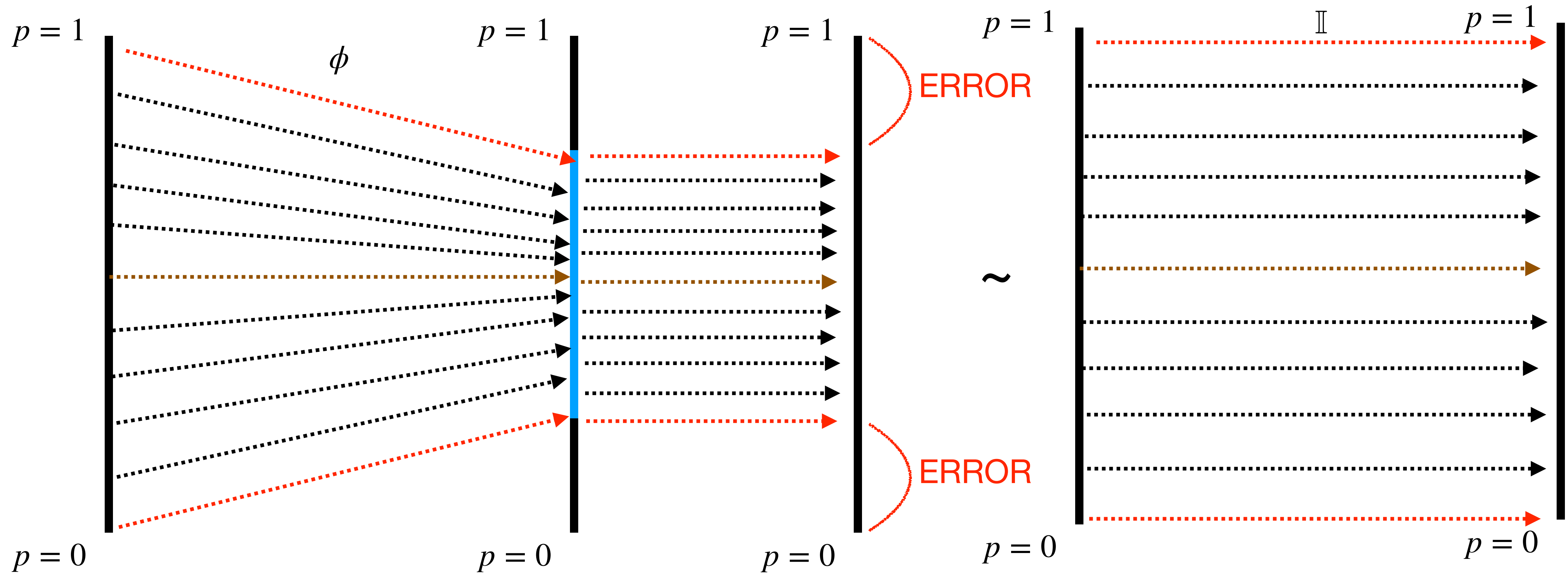
$$\tilde{\Phi} \leftrightarrow \vec{\lambda}^{\tilde{\Phi}}$$

**Finding the optimal retrieval channel**



# Reversing a channel

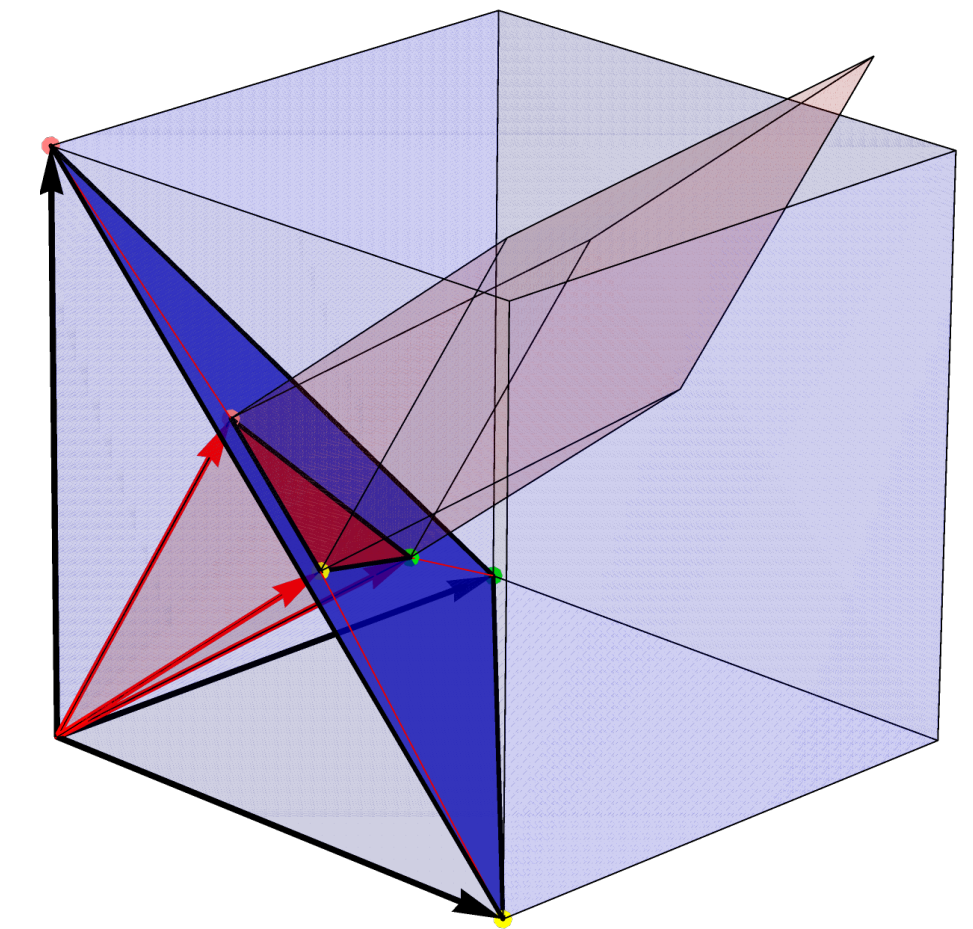
**IDEA: Contract least possible**



## IDEA: minimal contraction

**Optimisation criterion: The optimal retrieval map is the one that maximise the determinant of the forth-and-back channel.**

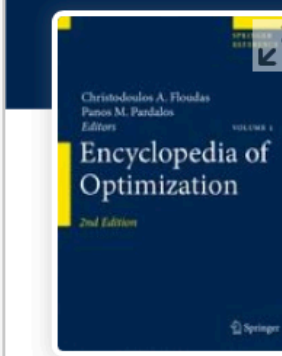
$$\tilde{\Phi}_o = \max_{\tilde{\Phi} \in \mathcal{C}} \det \tilde{\Phi} \Phi$$



**Second reason for choosing this optimisation criterion**

$$\begin{aligned} D(\tilde{\Phi} \Phi \| Y_{\mathbb{I}}) &= \text{Tr}[\mathbb{I}(\log \mathbb{I} - \log \tilde{\Phi} \Phi)] = \\ &= -\text{Tr}[\log \tilde{\Phi} \Phi] = \log \det(\tilde{\Phi} \Phi)^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

## Practical reason



[Encyclopedia of Optimization](#) pp 3375–3380 | [Cite as](#)

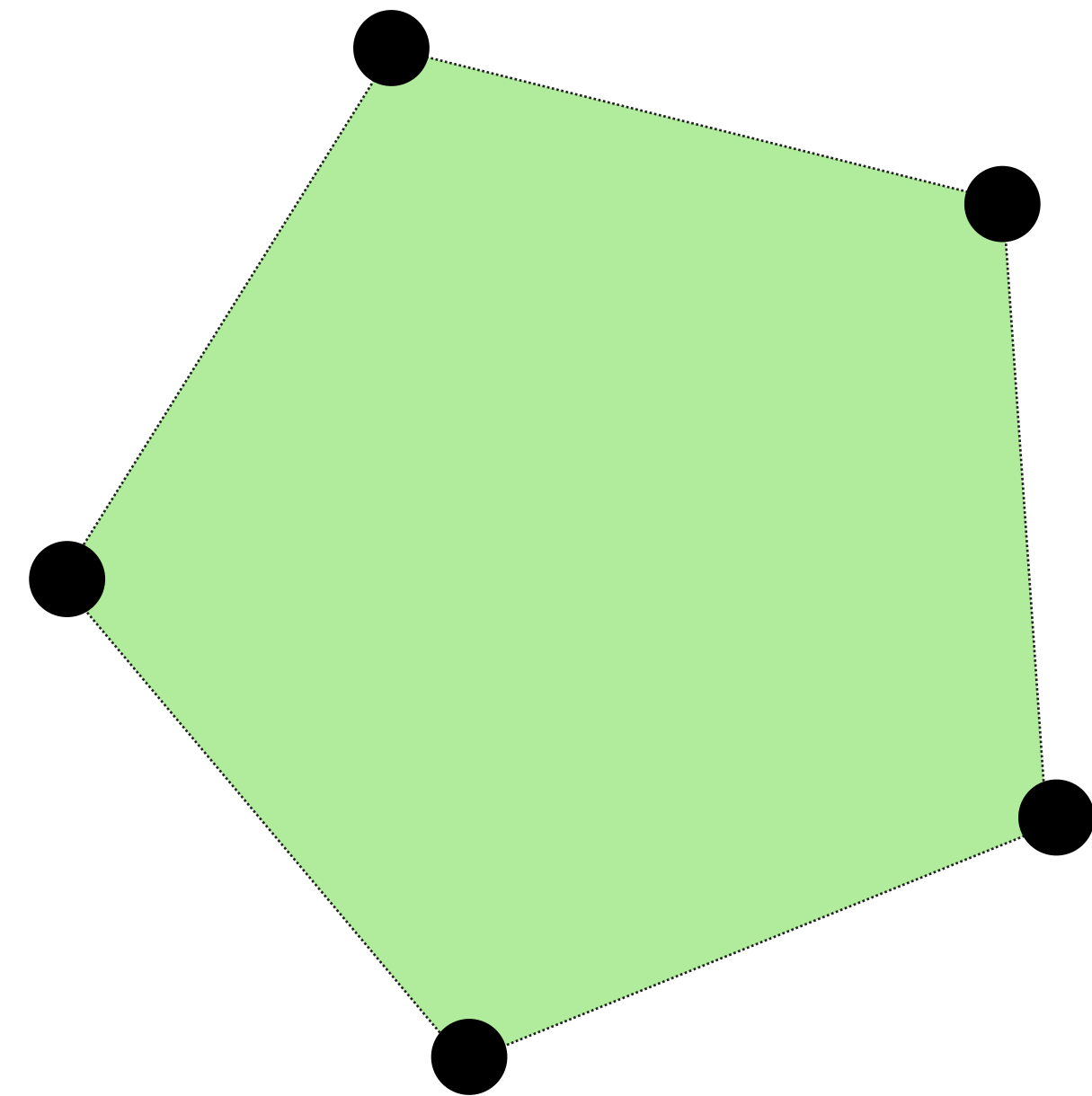
Semidefinite Programming and Determinant Maximization

[Lieven Vandenberghe](#), [Stephen Boyd](#) & [Shao-Po Wu](#)

**Optimal retrieval channels**

Stochastic channel:  $\Phi$   
Prior:  $\pi$

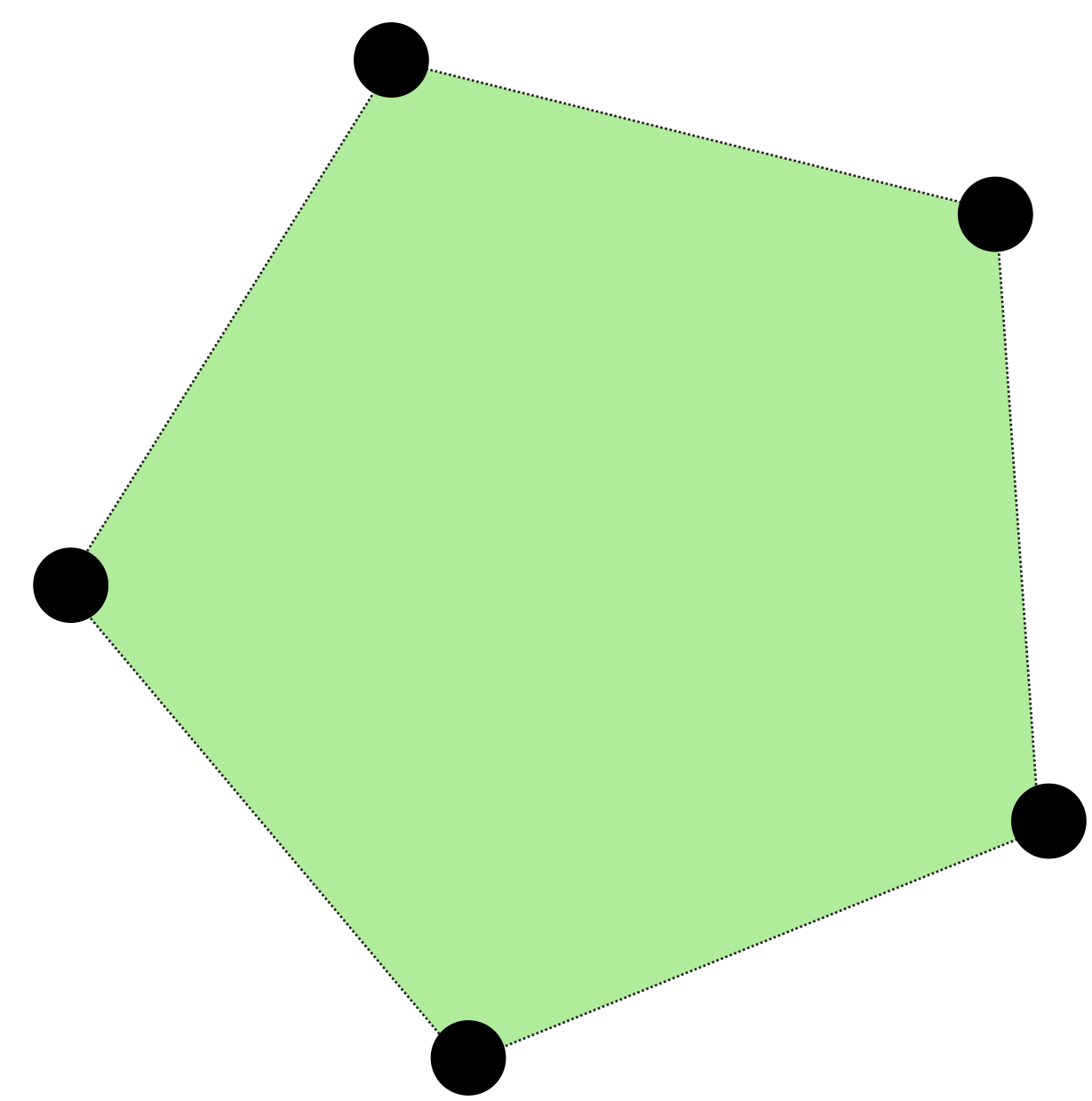
Basic ingredients



Space of retrieval channels  
 $\tilde{\Phi} : \Phi\pi \rightarrow \pi$

Stochastic channel:  $\Phi$   
Prior:  $\pi$

Basic ingredients

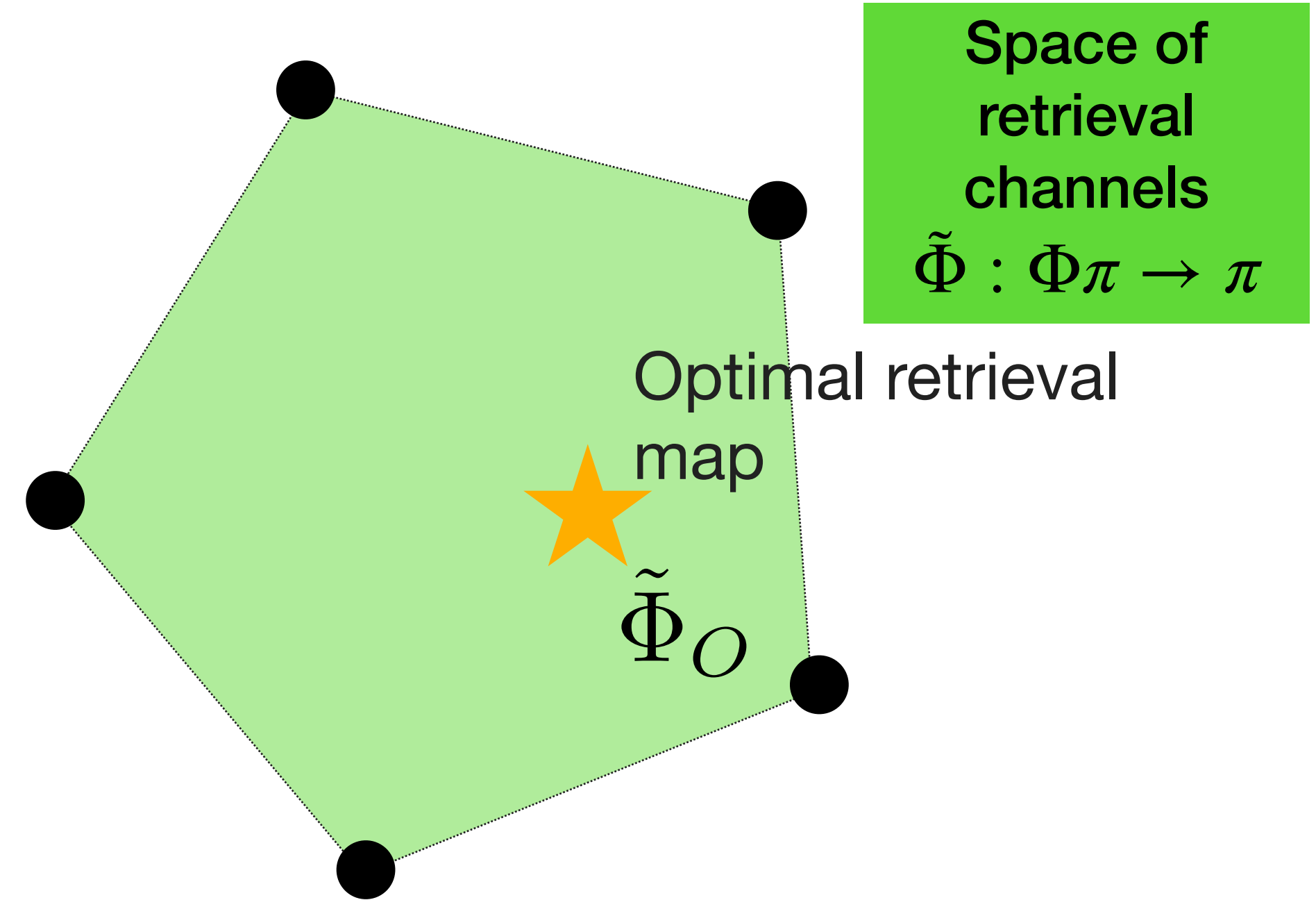


Space of retrieval channels  
 $\tilde{\Phi} : \Phi\pi \rightarrow \pi$

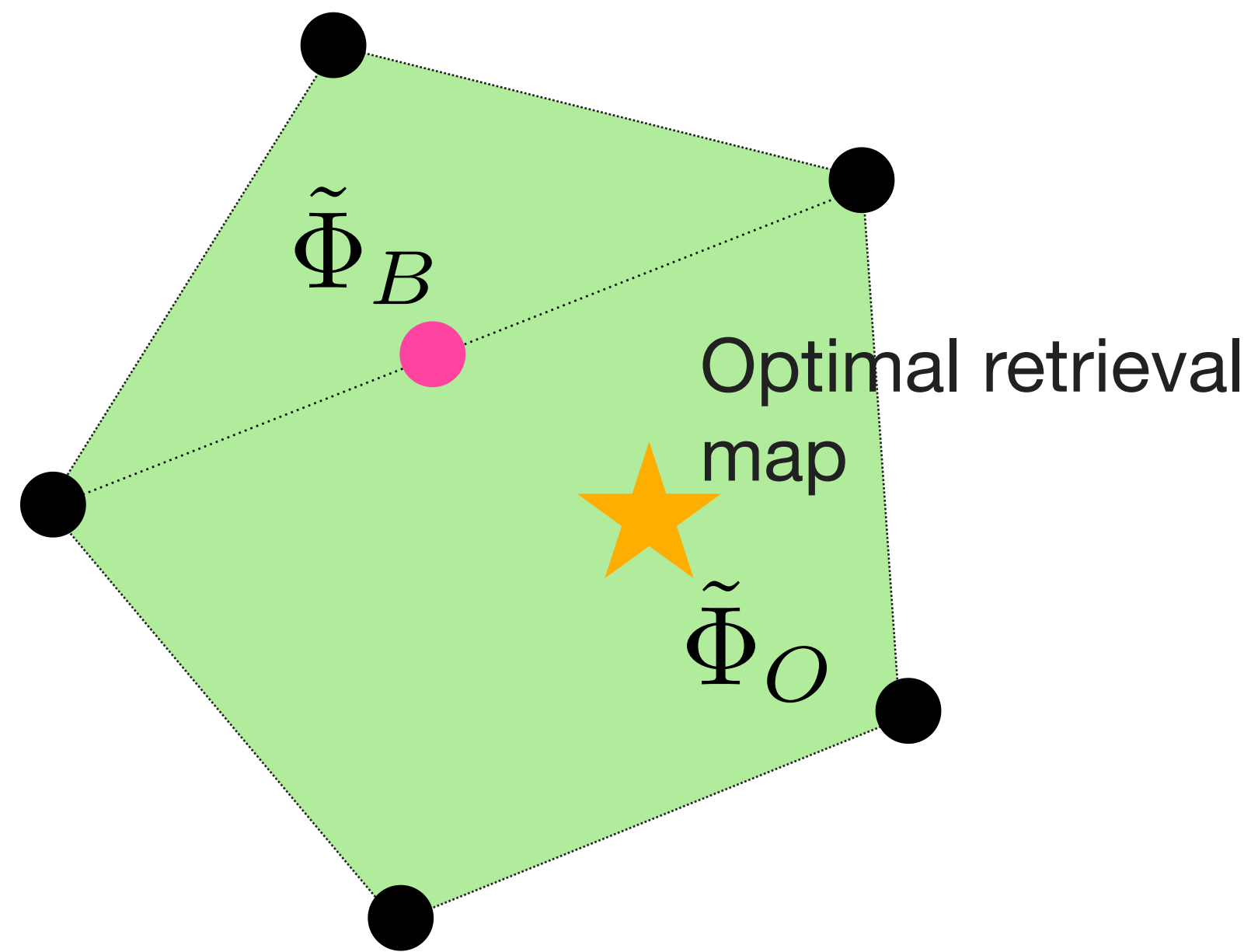
**Run the optimisation algorithm...**

Stochastic channel:  $\Phi$   
Prior:  $\pi$

Basic ingredients



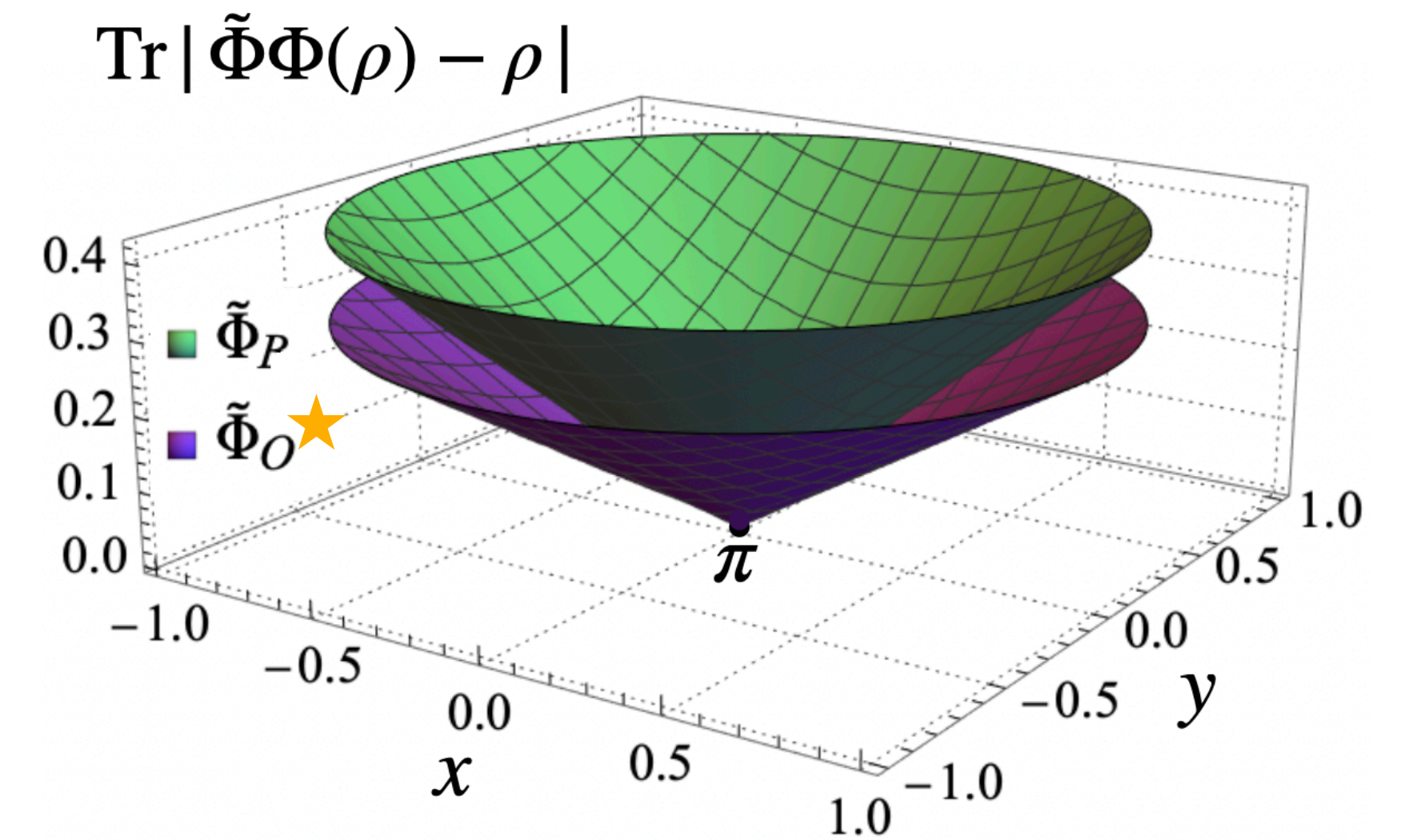
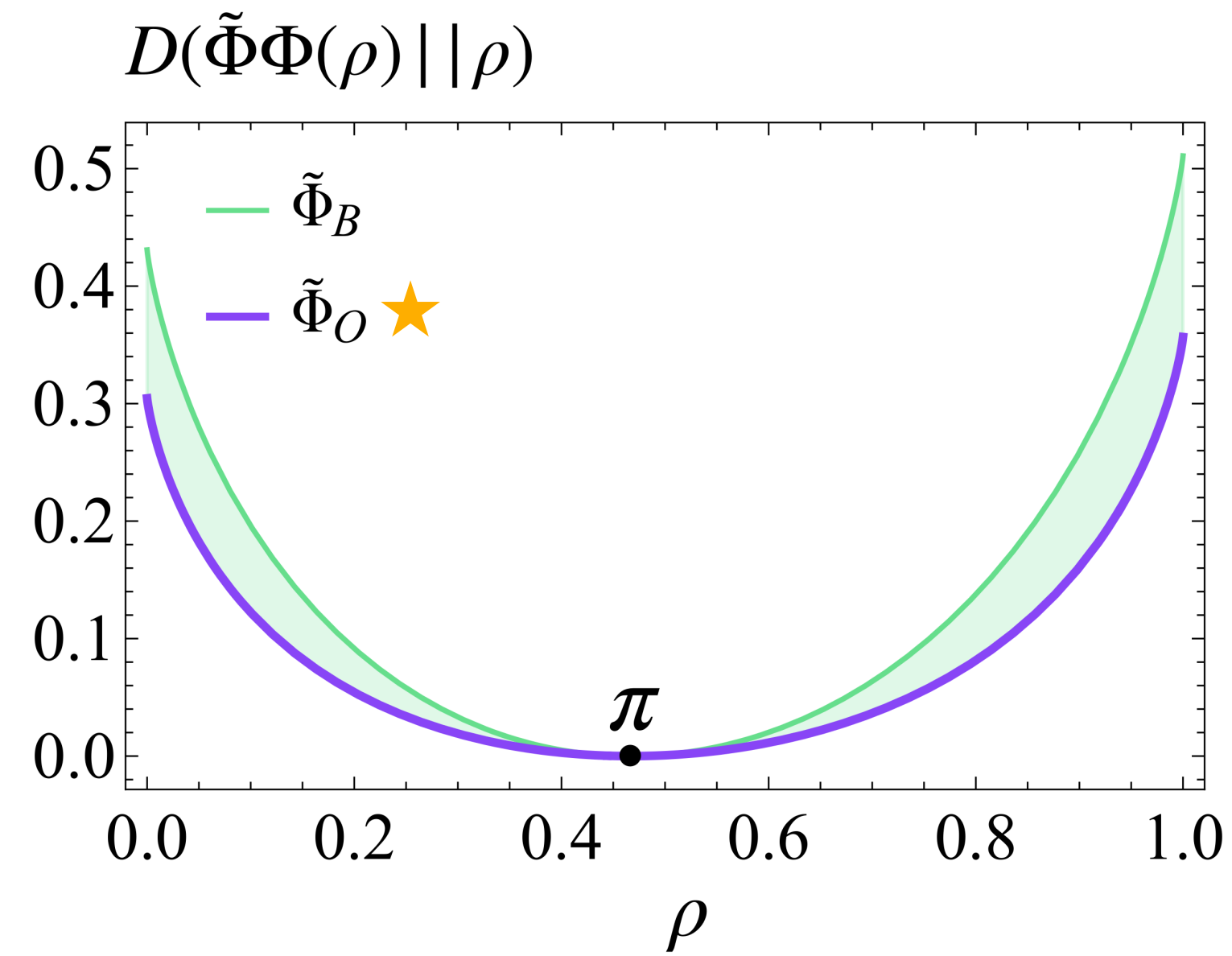
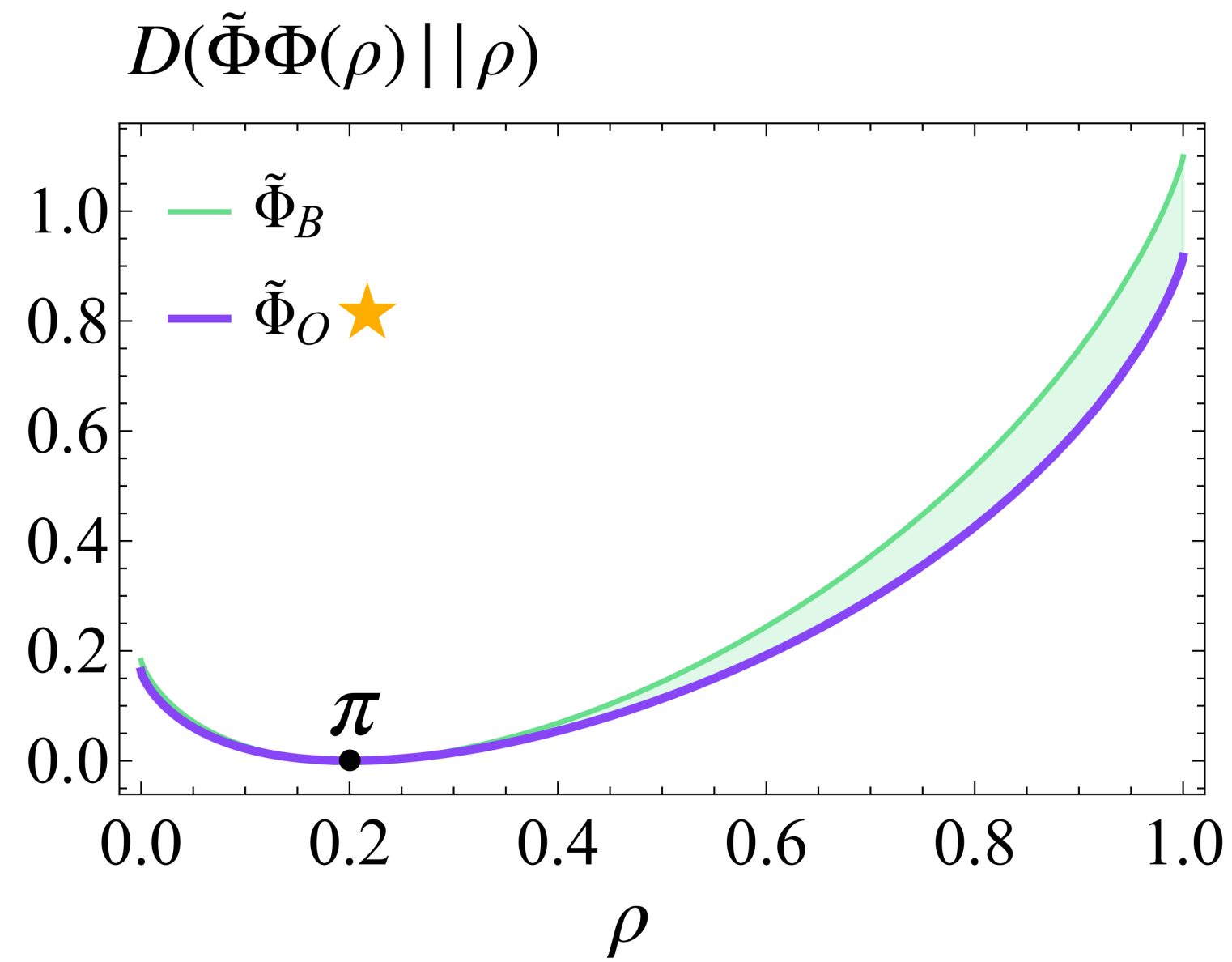
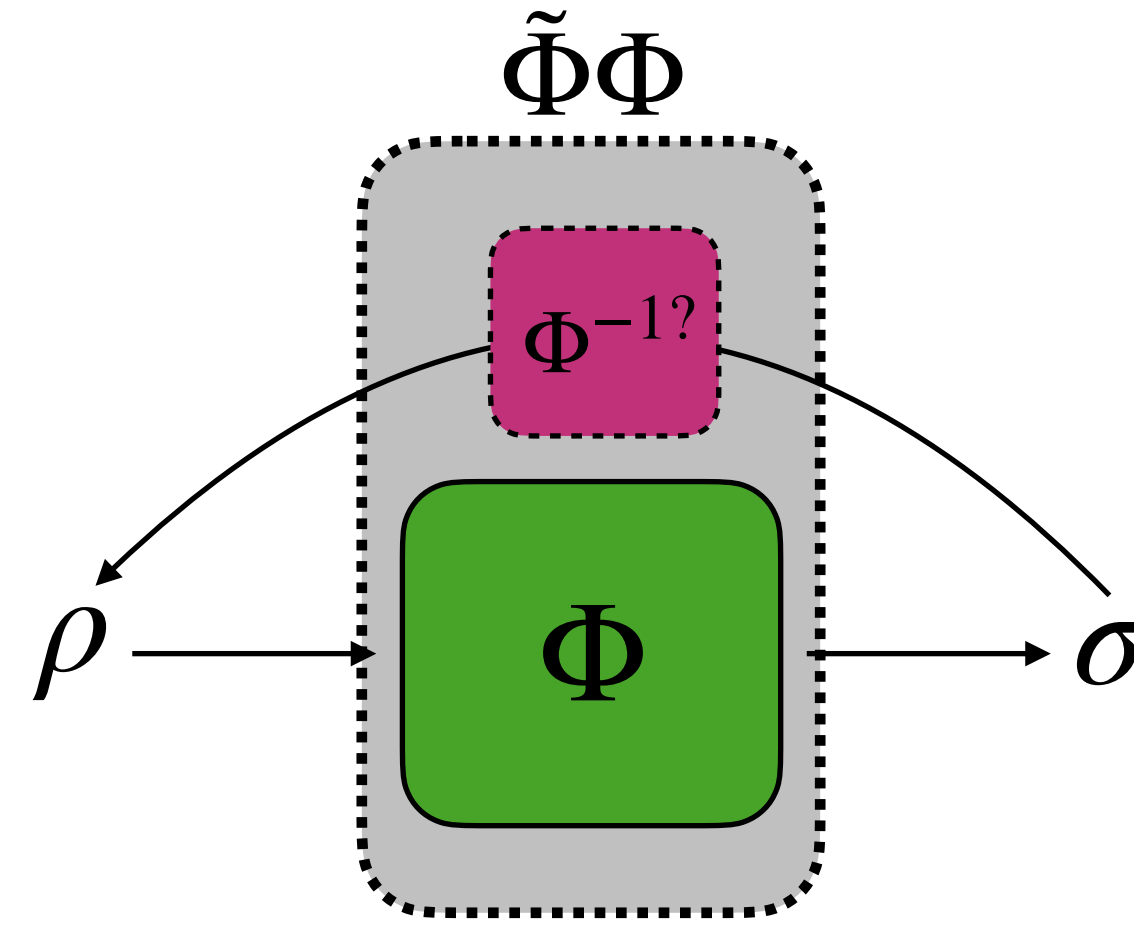
**The optimal retrieval map is found!**



**Bayes inverse and the optimal retrieval map are not the same!**  
**Petz map and the optimal retrieval map are not the same!**



# Comparison of the state retrieval with Bayes and Petz



Stochastic maps and Bayes

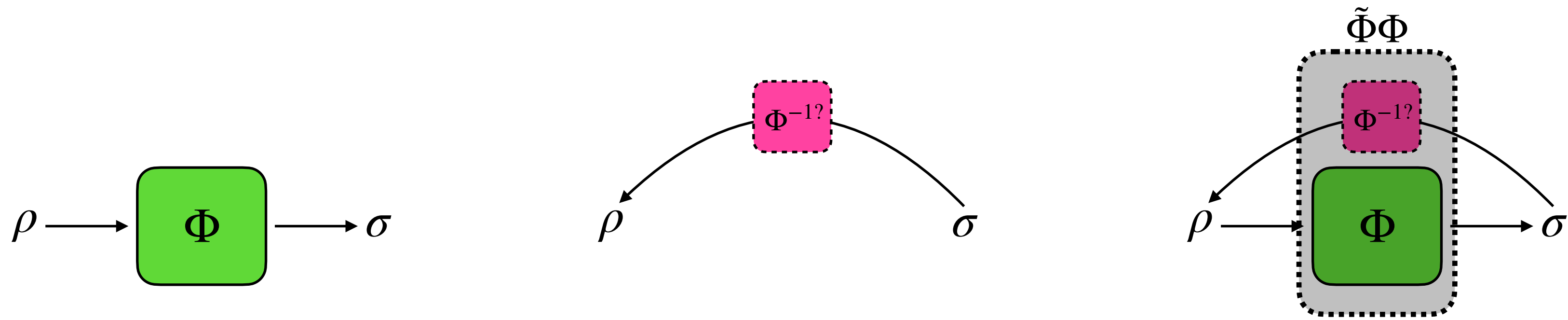
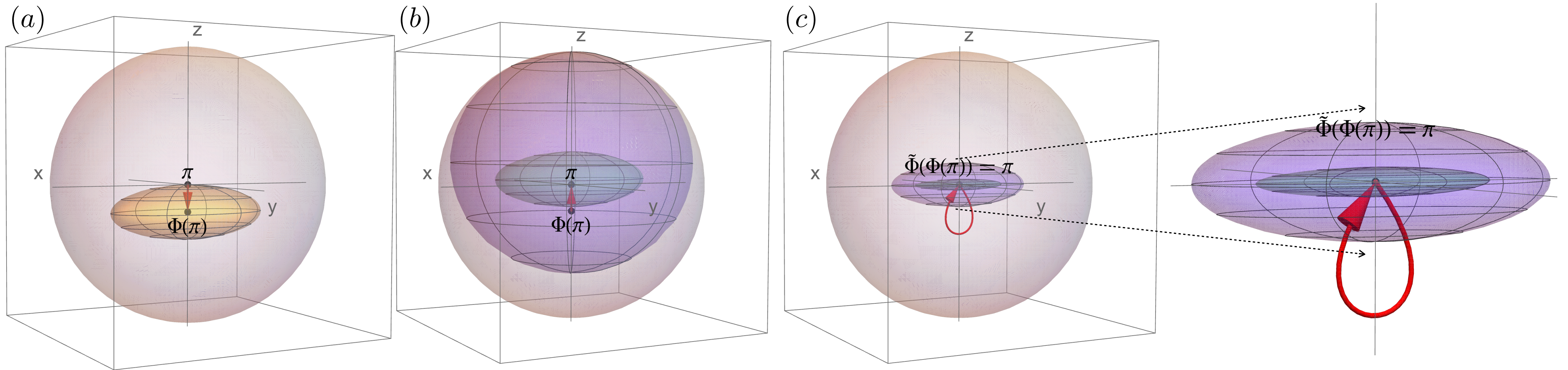
Quantum channels and Petz



# Comparison of the optimal state retrieval with Petz

Stochastic channel:  $\Phi$   
 Prior:  $\pi$       Basic ingredients

$\tilde{\Phi}_P$    
 $\tilde{\Phi}_O$   



# General analytical results are possible

**Theorem.** *Whenever a transformation  $\Phi$  has positive spectrum and it is detailed balance with respect to the prior state (meaning that  $\Phi \mathbb{J}_\pi = \mathbb{J}_\pi \Phi^\dagger$ ) the optimal state retrieval is given by the identity map.*

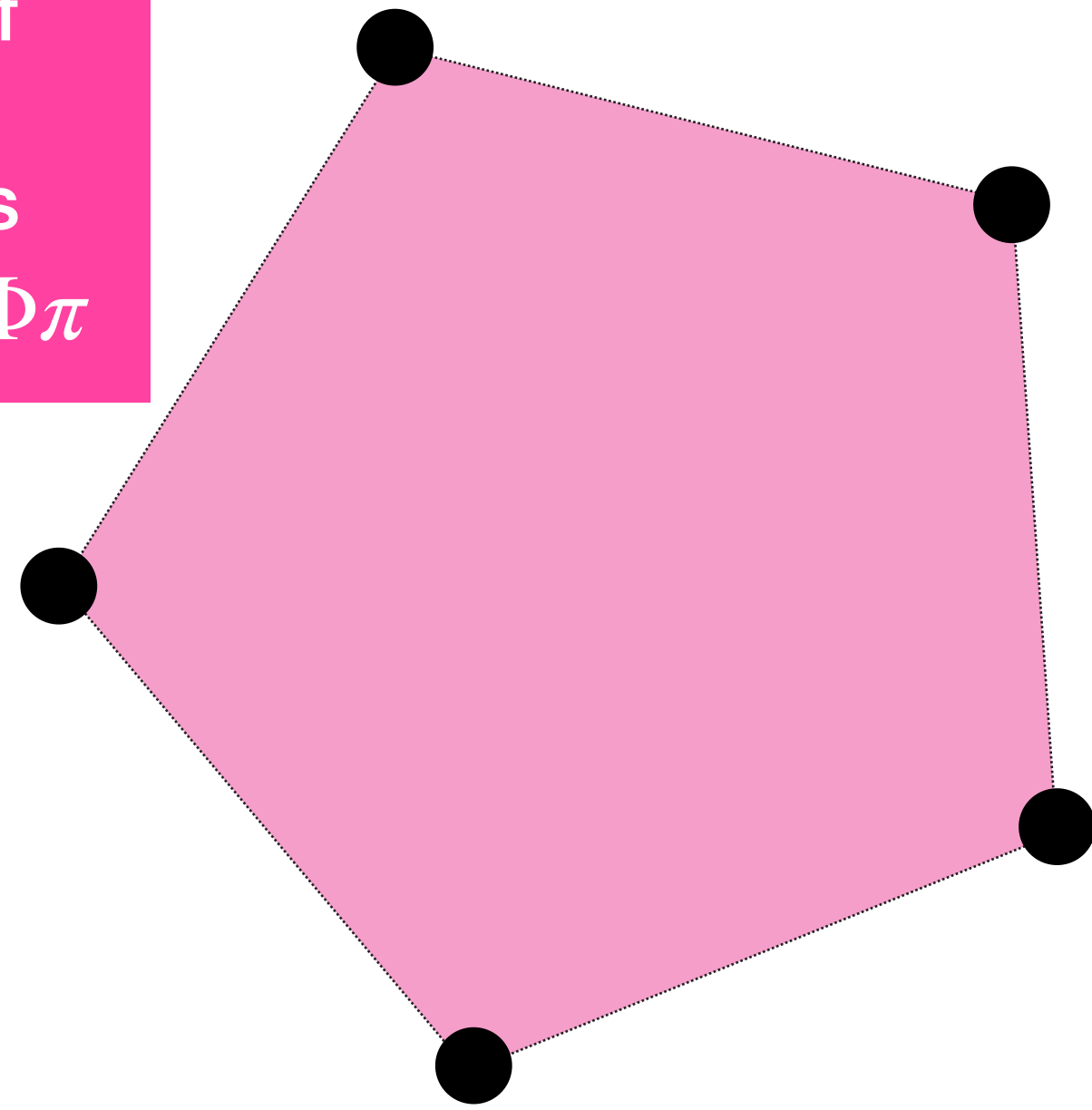
**Where does Bayes come from?**

**Can we add a property that shrinks the whole space of retrieval maps to a single point?**

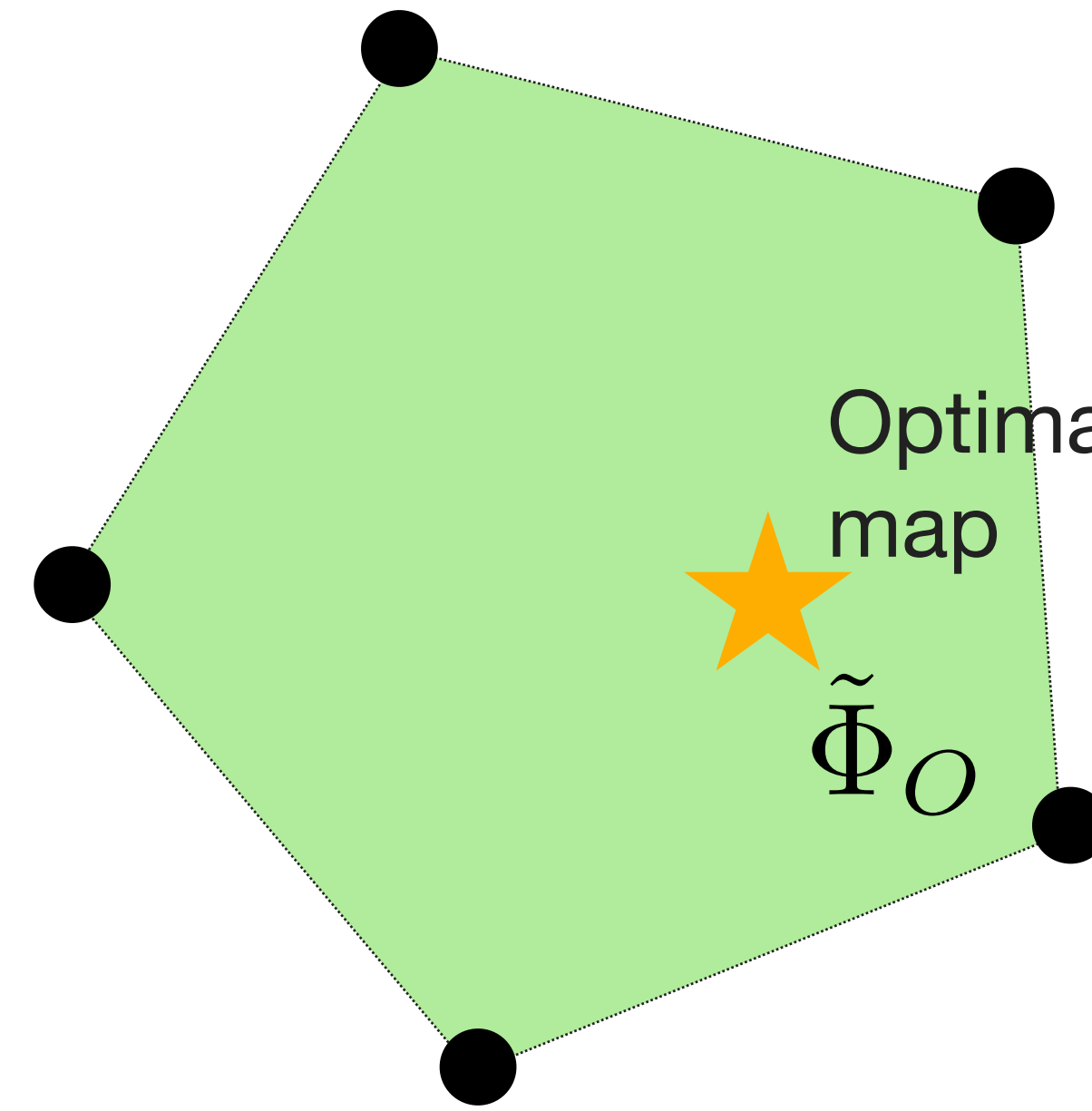
Stochastic channel:  $\Phi$   
Prior:  $\pi$

Basic ingredients

Space of forward channels  
 $\hat{\Phi} : \pi \rightarrow \Phi\pi$



Space of retrieval channels  
 $\tilde{\Phi} : \Phi\pi \rightarrow \pi$



Optimal retrieval



$\tilde{\Phi}_O$

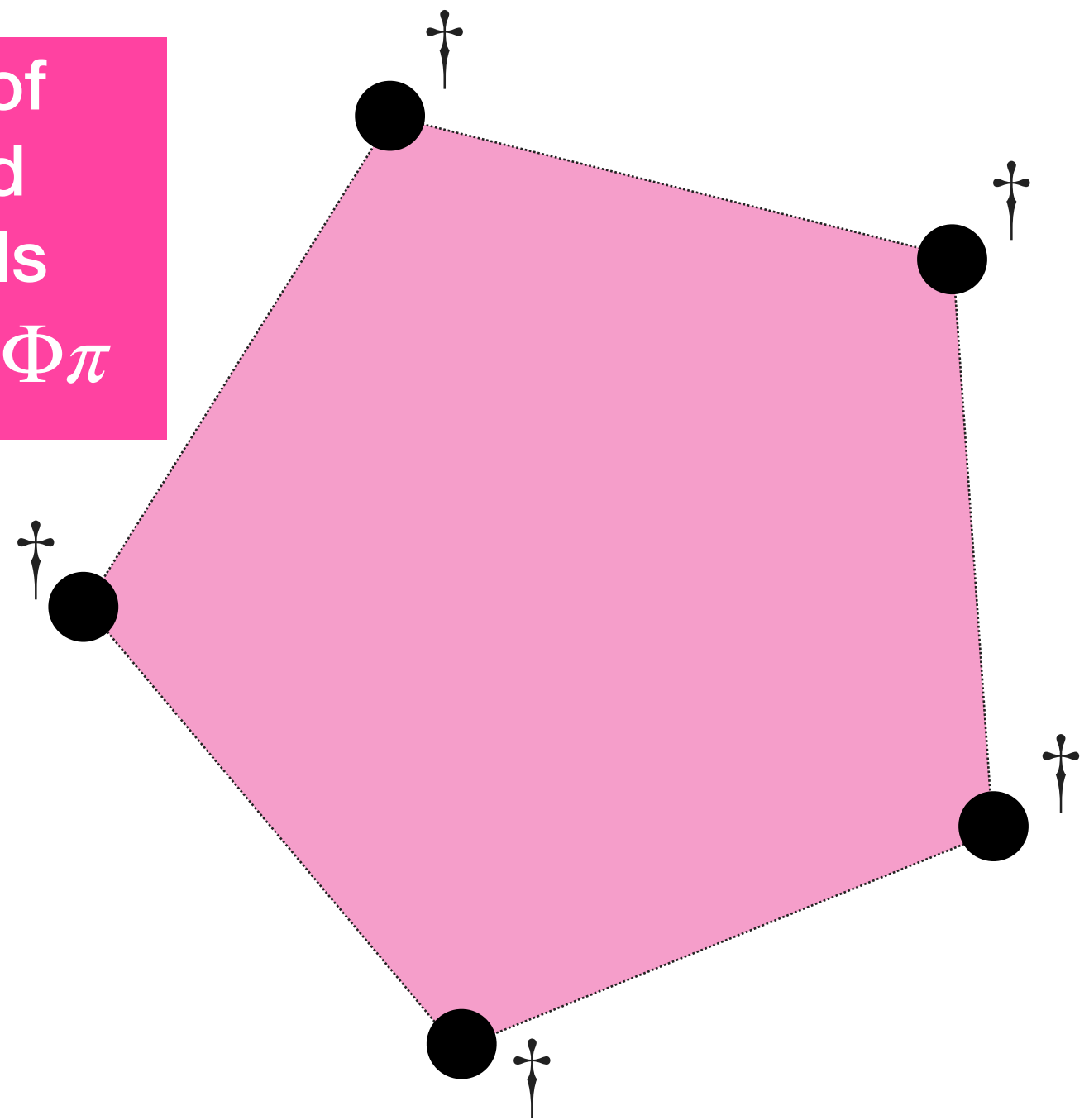


Stochastic channel:  $\Phi$   
 Prior:  $\pi$

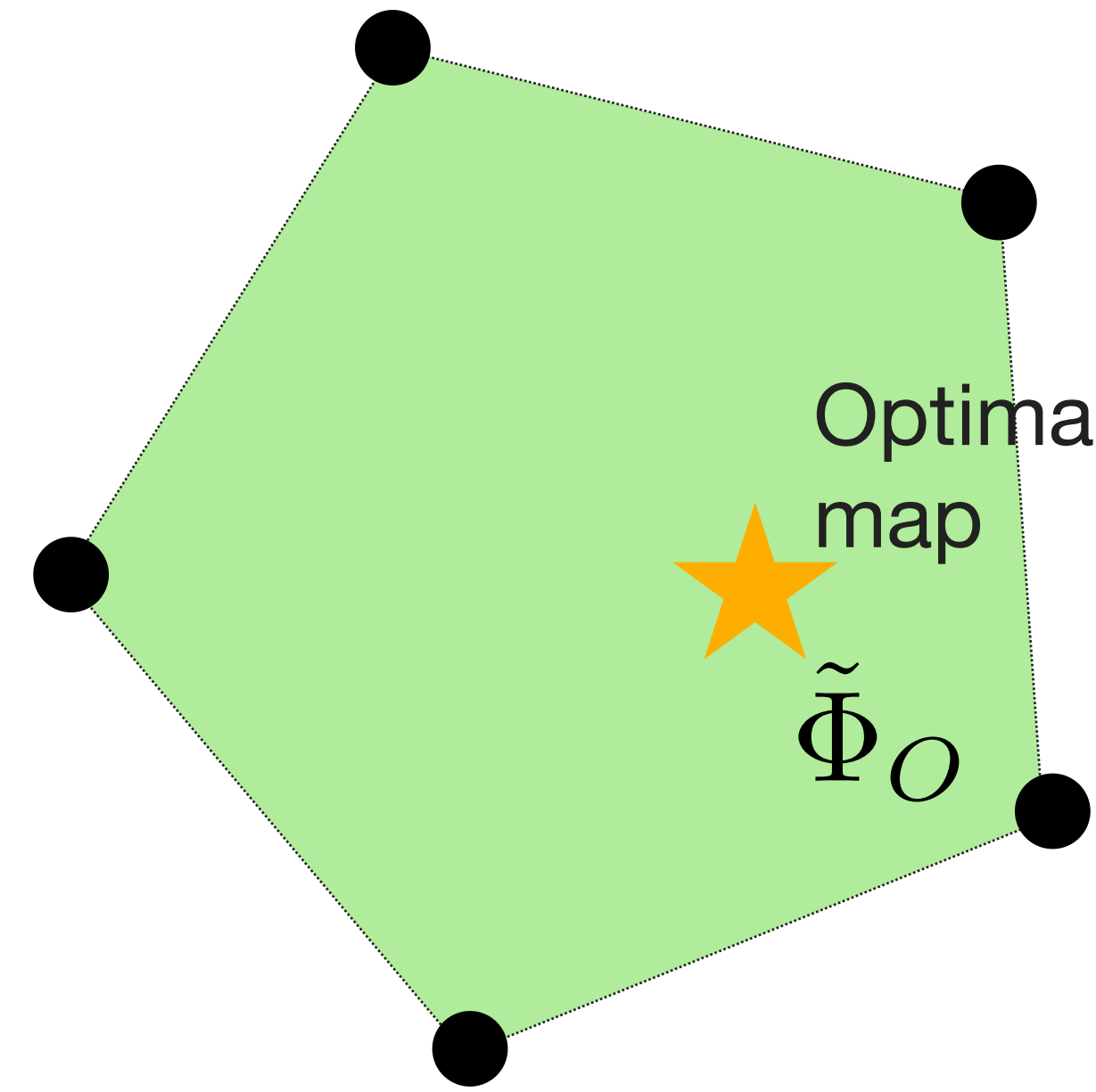
Basic ingredients

**The vertices are the self-adjoints!**

Space of forward channels  
 $\hat{\Phi} : \pi \rightarrow \Phi\pi$



Space of retrieval channels  
 $\tilde{\Phi} : \Phi\pi \rightarrow \pi$



Optimal retrieval map



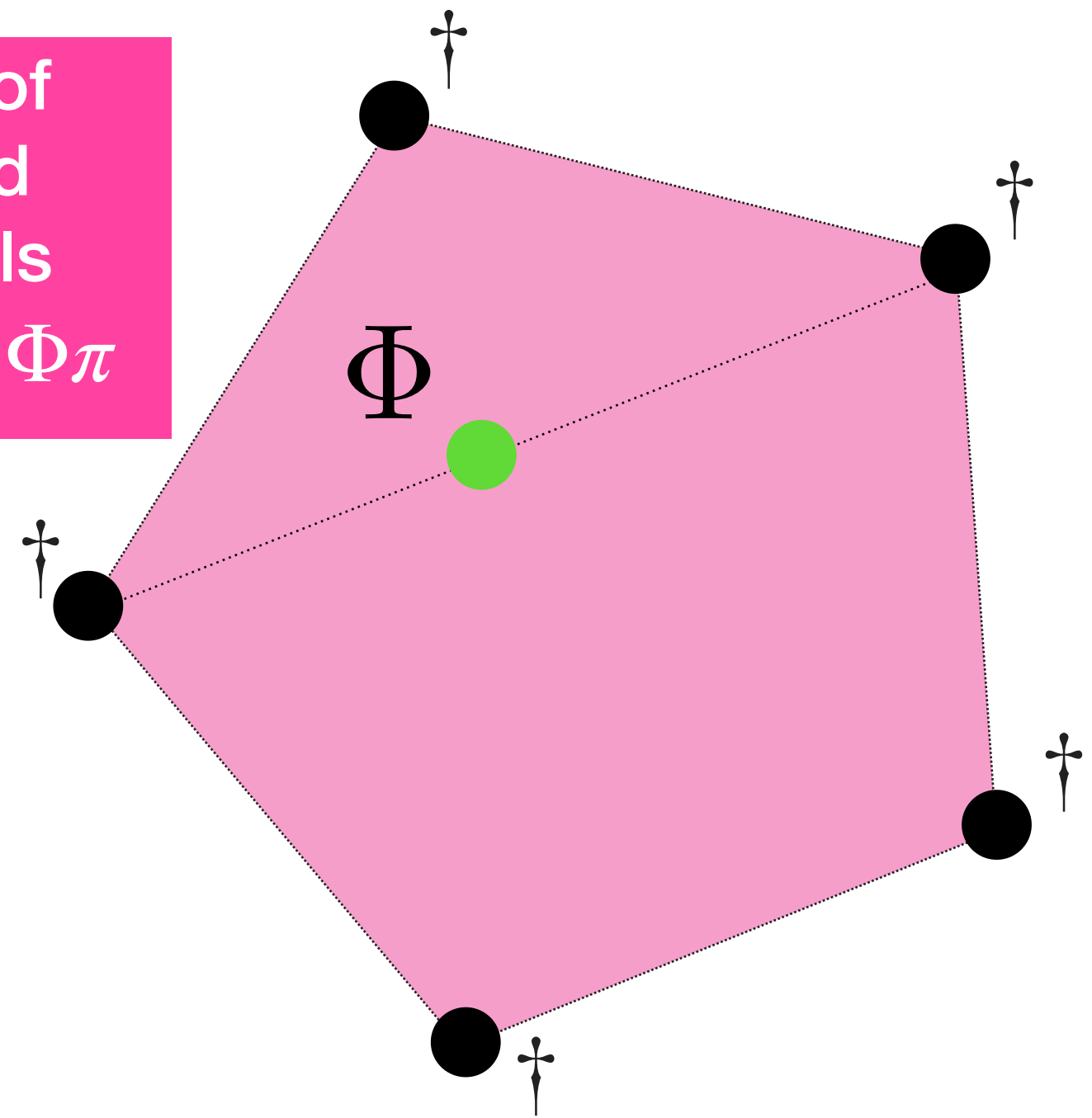
$\tilde{\Phi}_O$

Stochastic channel:  $\Phi$   
 Prior:  $\pi$

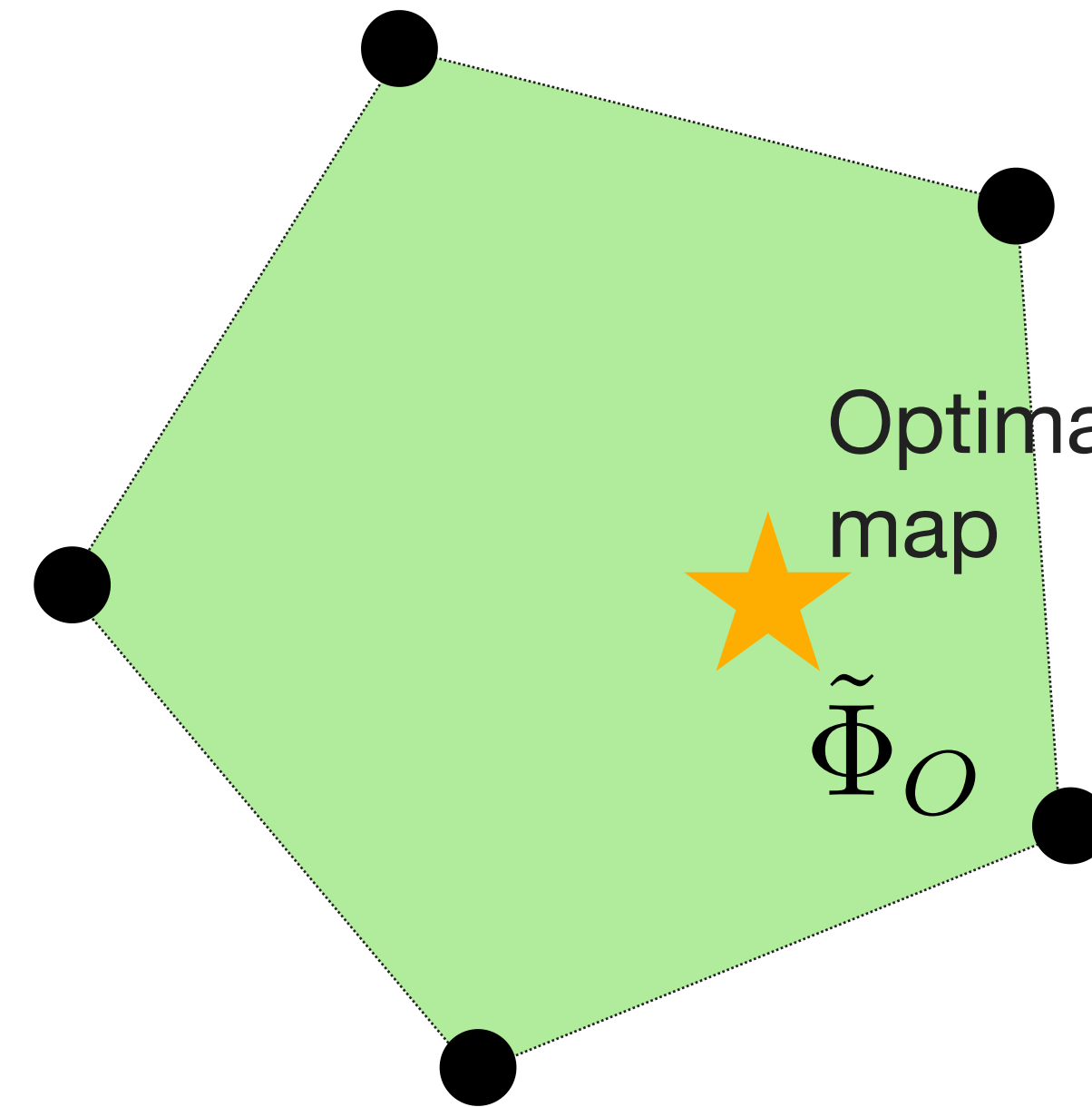
Basic ingredients

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$$\Phi \leftrightarrow \vec{\lambda}^\Phi$$

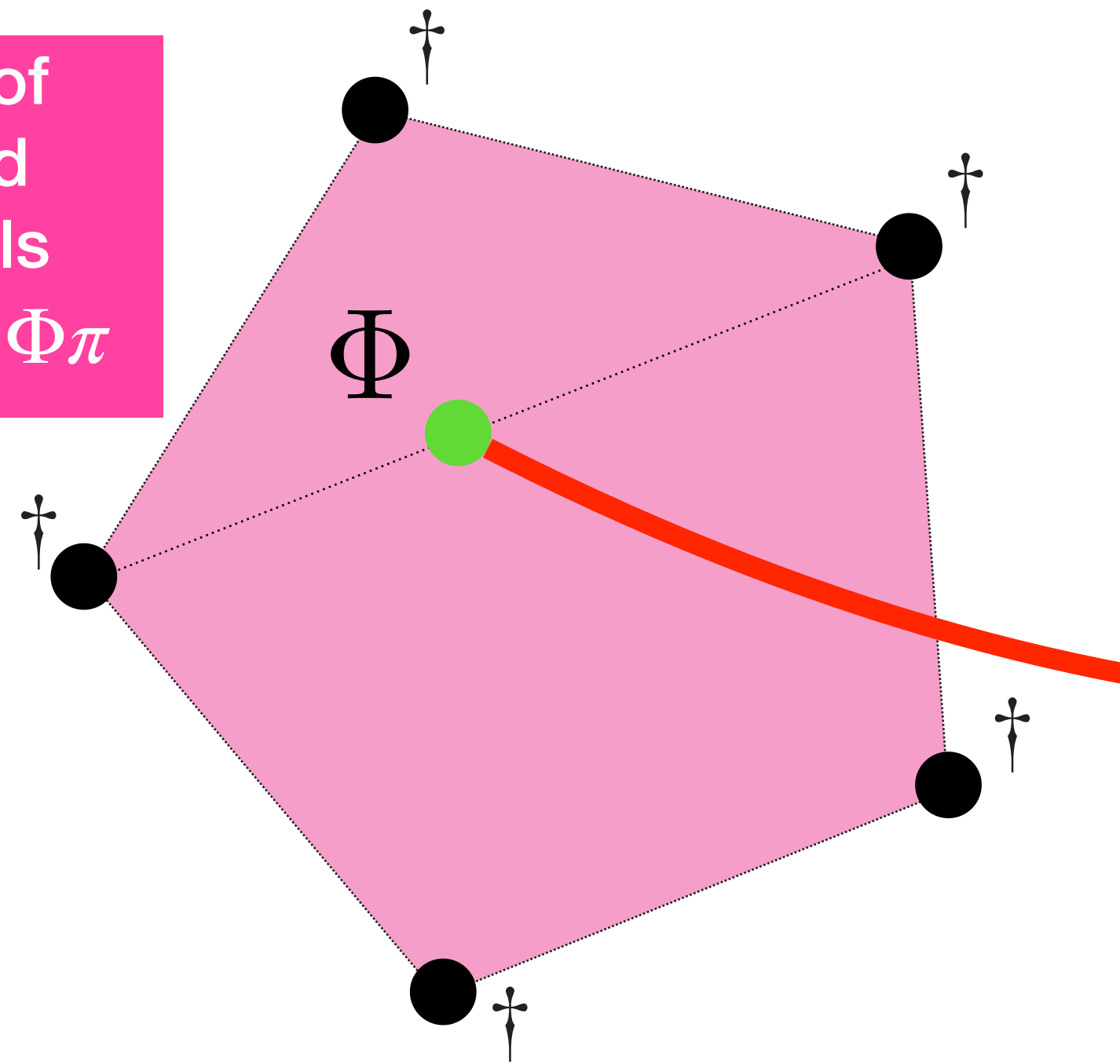
**Reversion as a linear transformation between these two spaces**

Stochastic channel:  $\Phi$   
 Prior:  $\pi$

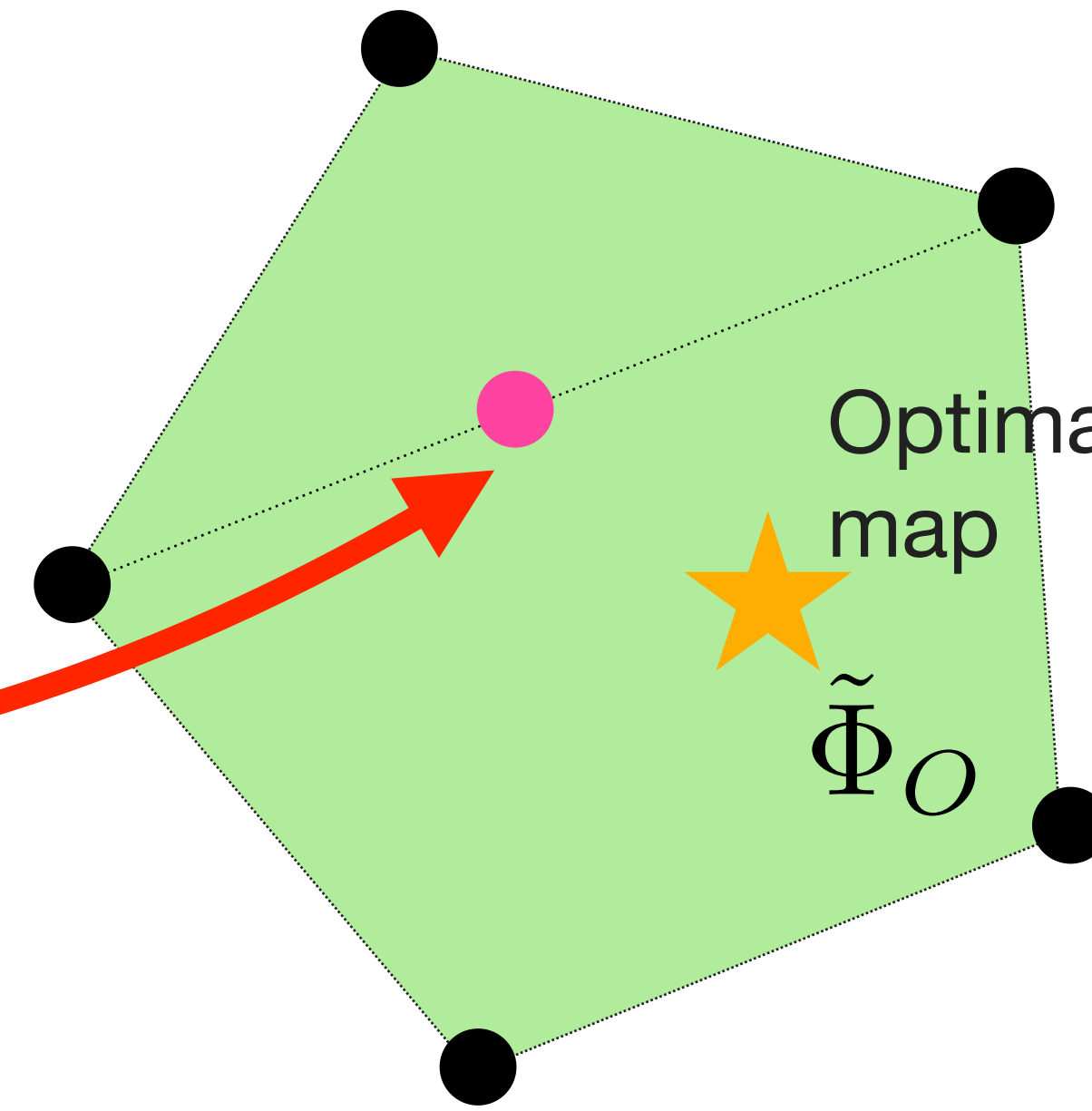
Basic ingredients

The vertices are the self-adjoints!

Space of forward channels  
 $\hat{\Phi} : \pi \rightarrow \Phi\pi$



Space of retrieval channels  
 $\tilde{\Phi} : \Phi\pi \rightarrow \pi$



Identity  $\mathbb{I}$

$$\Phi \leftrightarrow \vec{\lambda}^\Phi$$

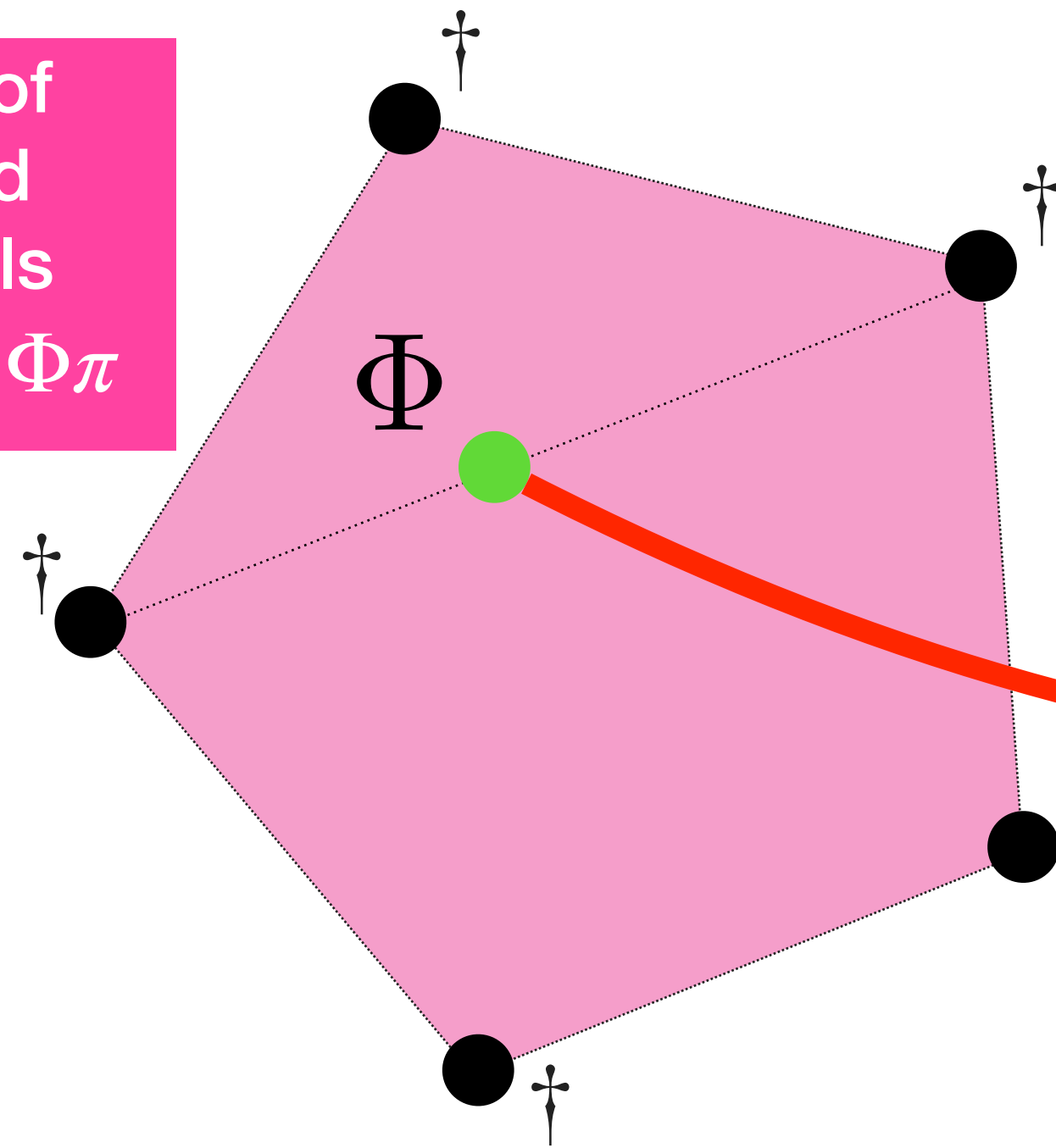
Reversion as a linear transformation between these two spaces

Stochastic channel:  $\Phi$   
 Prior:  $\pi$

Basic ingredients

The vertices are the self-adjoints!

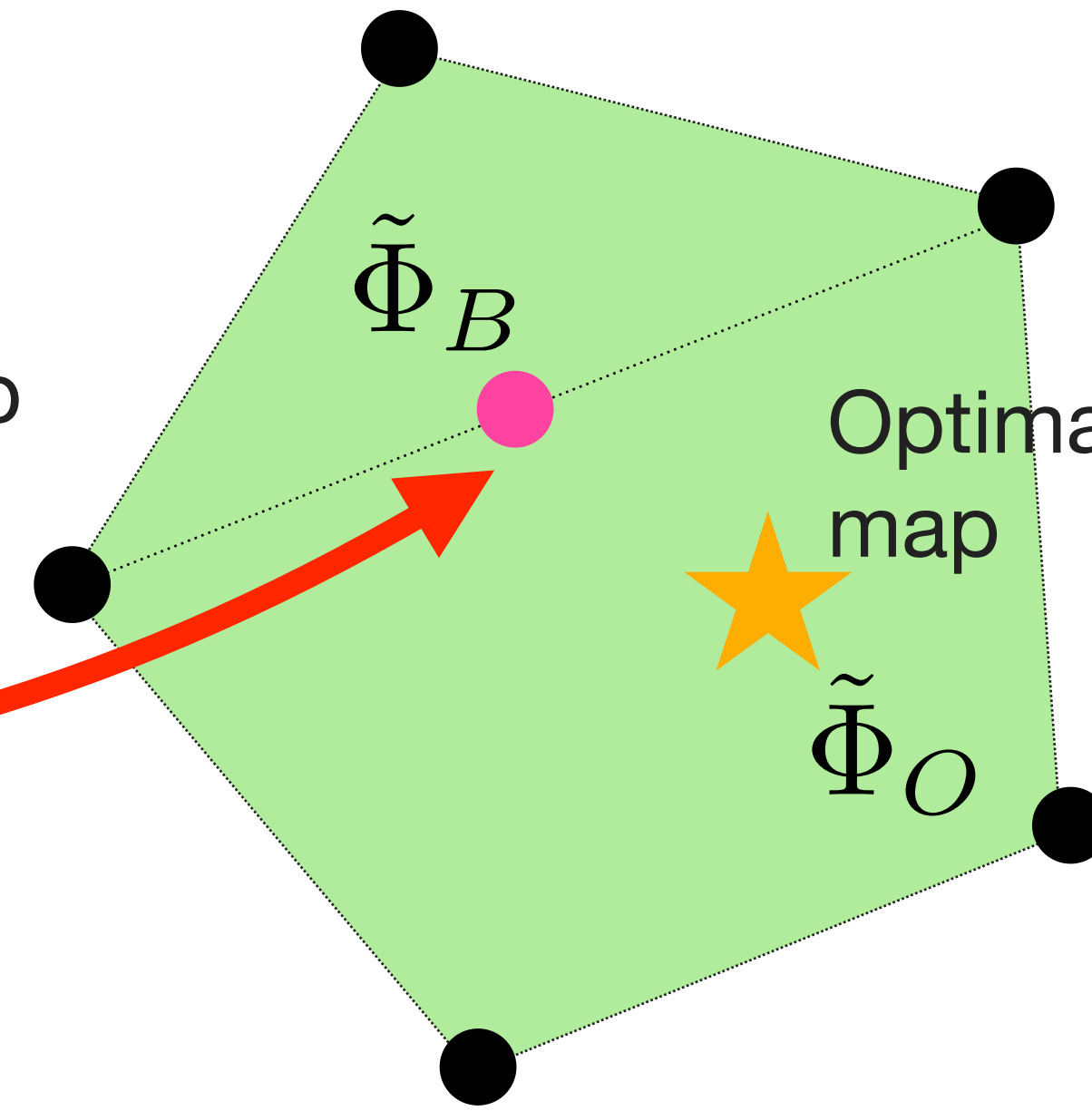
Space of forward channels  
 $\hat{\Phi} : \pi \rightarrow \Phi\pi$



Bayes inverse and Petz map

Identity  $\mathbb{I}$

Space of retrieval channels  
 $\tilde{\Phi} : \Phi\pi \rightarrow \pi$

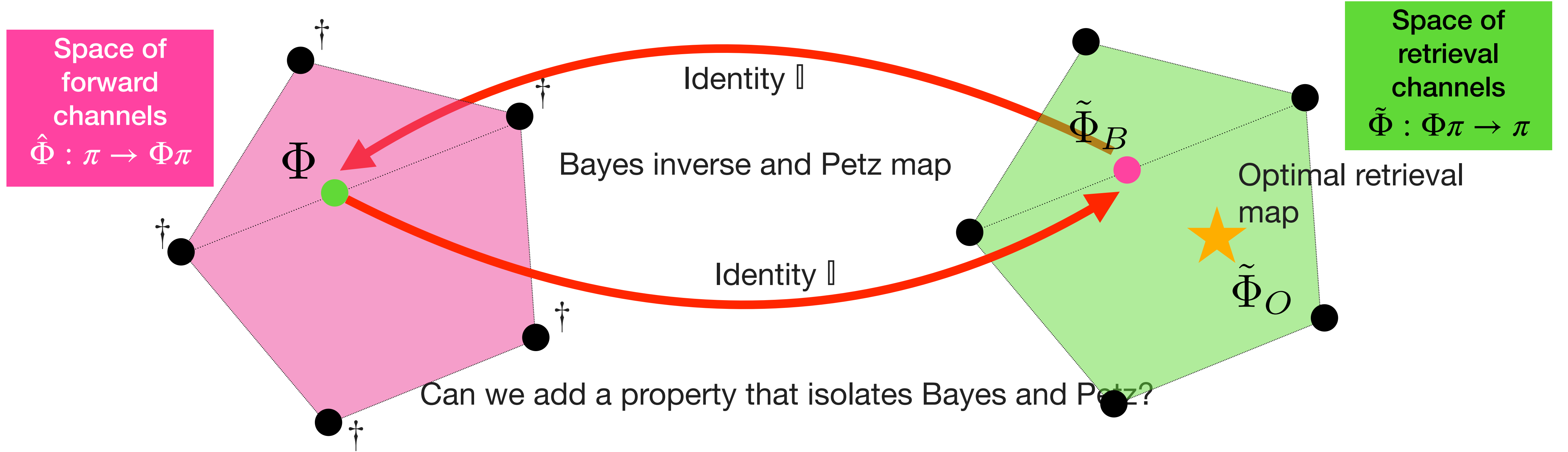


Optimal retrieval

$$\Phi \leftrightarrow \vec{\lambda}^\Phi \quad \longrightarrow \quad \tilde{\Phi} \leftrightarrow \vec{\lambda}^{\tilde{\Phi}} = \mathbb{I}\vec{\lambda}^\Phi = \vec{\lambda}^\Phi$$

Reversion as a linear transformation between these two spaces



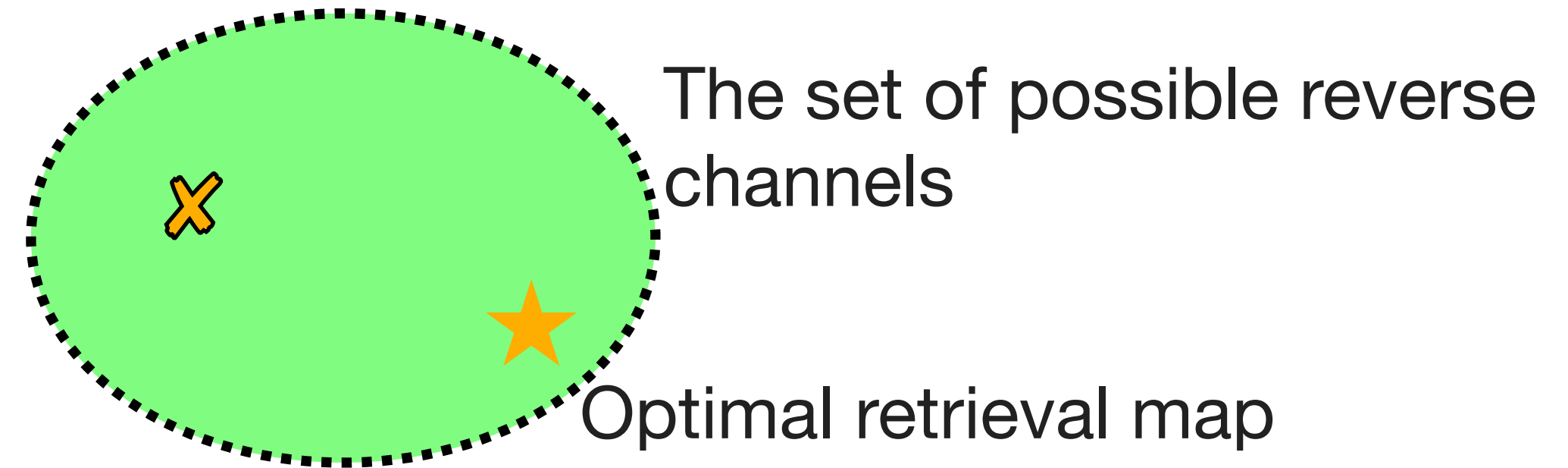


Maybe.

Numerical evidence of a sufficient 6th property (involutivity) that  
**Simplicity is a nice criterion**  
 isolates Bayes and Petz!

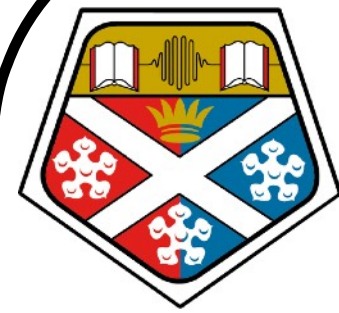
# Conclusions

- We dealt with the ambiguity in defining a reverse channel by characterising a set of admissible retrieval channels.
- We gave a computable criterion for choosing the optimal retrieval channel.
- The “canonical” reverse channel (Bayes inspired) is an admissible retrieval channels.
- The Bayes and Petz maps maybe can be isolated by asking for involutivity.



**Thank you**





University of  
**Strathclyde**  
Glasgow



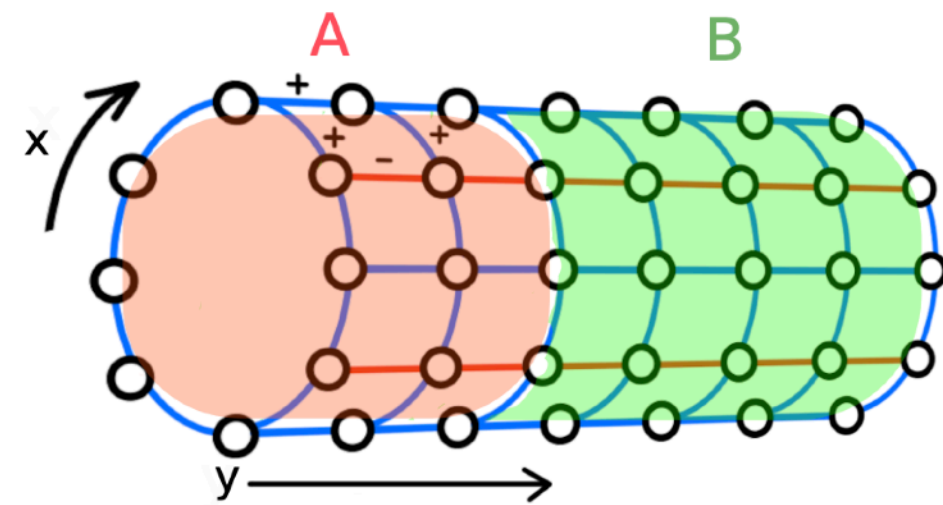
**PhD in Condensed Matter,  
Glasgow, Scotland, Strathclyde University**

Supervisor Luca Tagliacozzo

**Entanglement in many-body systems:**

**Tools that I learned:**

- Ising Chains, Entanglement growth, Tensor networks, DMRG, Conformal field theories



**Tools that I created:**

- Package for simulation of Fermionic Systems in Julia

F\_utilities.pkg



**ICFO**<sup>R</sup>



**Postdoc in Quantum Information group  
Barcelona, Spain, ICFO**

Supervisor Antonio Acín

**Many body system certification:**

- Certification of bound on energies and other observables of many body systems with SDP and DMRG.

**Undecidability theory:**

- Undecidability of the membership problem in resource theories. Techniques for proving undecidability. Algorithmic information theory.

**Information Geometry:**

- Fisher Information, contractivity of channels, non-Markovianity, Reverse Csizar theorem, error correction.

**Foundation of probability theory:**

- Bayes Theorem, Maximum entropy methods, derivation of probability, De Finetti subjectivism.

**PI PERIMETER  
INSTITUTE**



**Postdoc in Quantum Foundation group  
Waterloo, ON, Canada, Perimeter Institute**

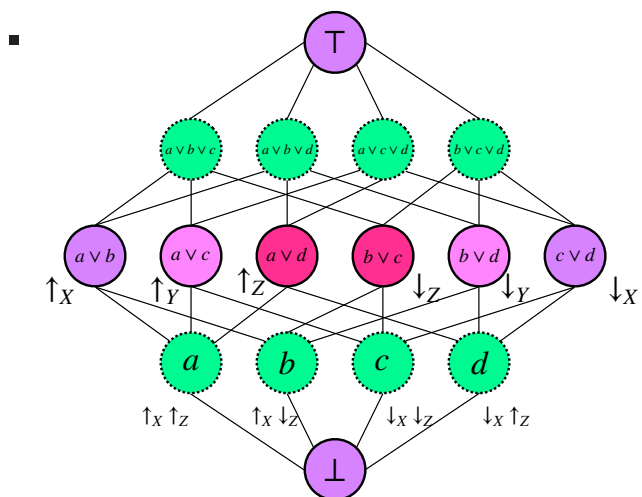
Supervisor Robert Spekkens

**Symmetries and Local tomography:**

- Unitary representation of groups, failure of local tomography in classical, quantum and post-quantum theories and GPT.

**Logic, lattices, quasi-probability:**

- Reconstruction of probability and quasi-probability from logic, Inaccessibility Hypothesis, epistemic restrictions. Reconstruction of quantum mechanics from logic.



**Correlations in time and space:**

- State over times, quantum inference, Wigner Friends, time reversal in quantum and classical mechanics.