

# A gentle introduction to quantum complexity theory<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>[https://groups.uni-paderborn.de/fg-qi/courses/UPB\\_QCOMPLEXITY/2020/UPB\\_QCOMPLEXITY\\_syllabus.html](https://groups.uni-paderborn.de/fg-qi/courses/UPB_QCOMPLEXITY/2020/UPB_QCOMPLEXITY_syllabus.html) for course notes/Youtube videos

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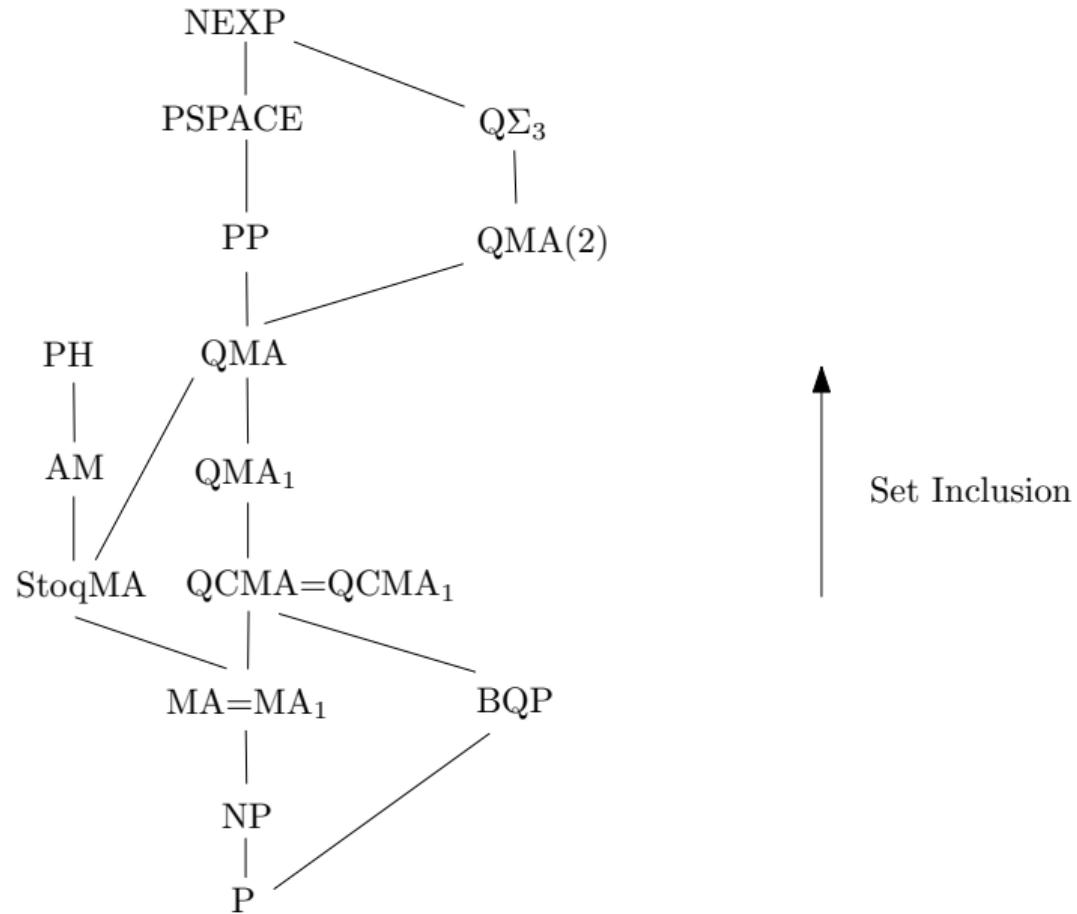
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High-level steps:

- ① Formal model for computation
- ② Complexity theory within this model (classical and quantum)

# Preview



# Outline

## 1 Classical complexity theory

- The computational model
- Decision problems, P, and NP
- Reductions and NP-hardness

## 2 BQP

- Circuit families and BQP
- A BQP-complete problem: MI
  - $MI \in BQP$
  - MI is BQP-hard

## 3 QMA

## 4 Kitaev's "quantum Cook-Levin theorem" for QMA

## 5 Beyond QMA: The many flavors of "quantum NP"

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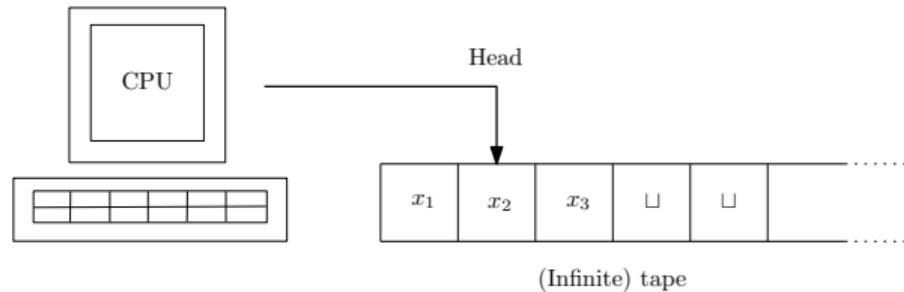
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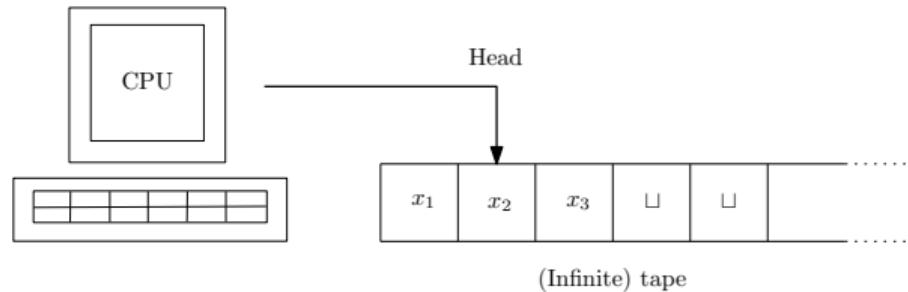


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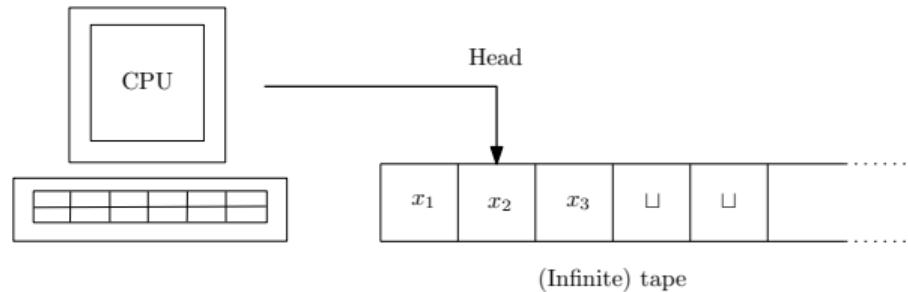
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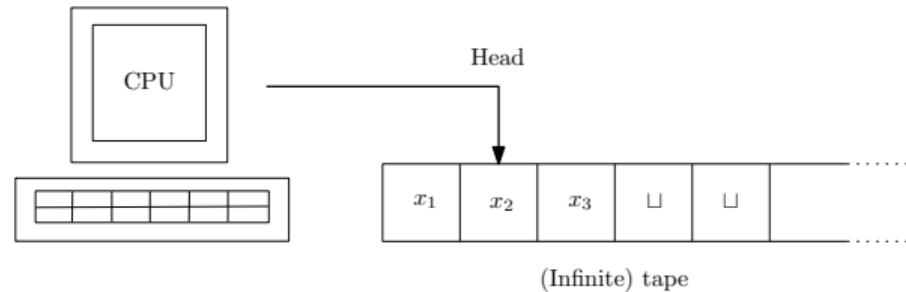
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- What is  $n$ ? Input size, i.e.  $x \in \{0, 1\}^n$ .

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- Robust: Power of model unchanged under minor modifications (e.g. 2 tapes instead of 1)
- Church-Turing thesis:

If there exists a mechanical process for computing function  $f : \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^*$ , then there exists a Turing machine computing  $f$ .

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Suppose  $A_{\text{yes}} \cup A_{\text{no}}$  partition  $\{0, 1\}^*$ , i.e.  $A_{\text{yes}}$  are “YES” instances,  $A_{\text{no}}$  the “NO” instances.

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- Formally,

$$A_{\text{yes}} = \left\{ (x, y, t) \in \mathbb{Z}^3 \mid xy \leq t \right\}, \quad A_{\text{no}} = \{0, 1\}^* \setminus A_{\text{yes}}.$$

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- Grade-school multiplication algorithm on TM takes  $O(n^2)$  steps  $\Rightarrow$  MULTIPLY  $\in$  P.
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Bonus: In contrast to FACTOR, checking if  $x$  has *any* non-trivial factor is in P [Agrawal, Kayal, Saxena 2002]

# Sanity check



Why isn't the naive brute force algorithm poly-time?

**Input:**  $(x, t) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$

**Output:** Factor  $y \in \mathbb{Z}$  of  $x$  with  $y \leq t$ , if one exists

- ➊ Set  $k = 2$
- ➋ While ( $k < t$ )
  - a) If  $x \bmod k = 0$  then return  $k$
  - b)  $k = k + 1$
- ➌ Return “no factor found”

**Runtime:**  $\approx$  num loop iterations  $O(x)$ .

**Exercise 1:** Why is this not poly-time?

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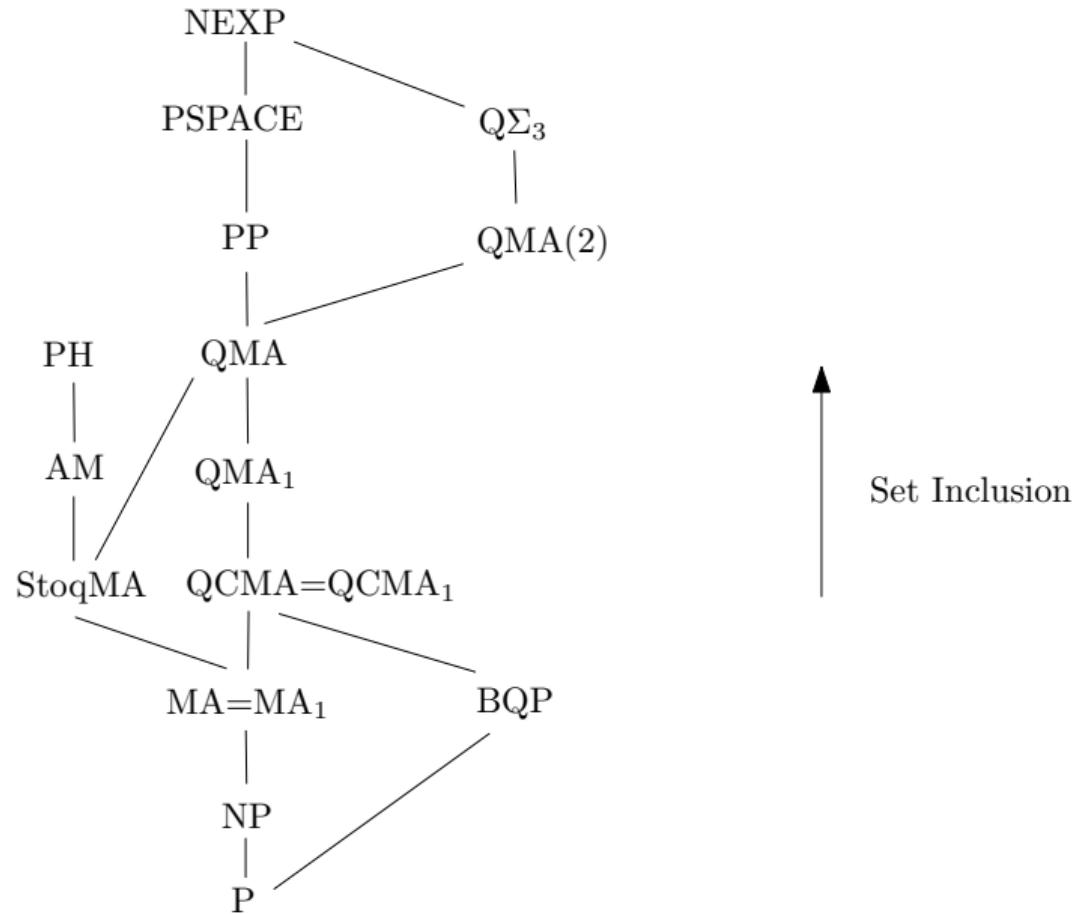
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Note: FACTOR  $\in NP$  (given “proof”  $y \in \mathbb{Z}$ , can efficiently check if  $y \leq t$  and  $x \bmod y = 0$ ).

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## (Many-one) reduction

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- **Implication:** If  $A \leq_p B$ , then if  $B \in \mathbf{P} \Rightarrow A \in \mathbf{P}$ .

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- **Implication:** If  $A \leq_p B$ , then if  $B \in \mathbf{P} \Rightarrow A \in \mathbf{P}$ .
- **Exercise 2:** Show that MULTIPLY reduces to ADD =  $\{(x_1, \dots, x_k, t) \in \mathbb{Z}^{k+1} \mid k \geq 0 \text{ and } \sum_{i=1}^k x_i \leq t\}$ .  
Is your reduction poly-time?

# NP-complete problems



“Strongest/hardest” problems in NP

Formally:

- $B = (B_{\text{yes}}, B_{\text{no}})$  is **NP-hard** if for **all**  $A = (A_{\text{yes}}, A_{\text{no}}) \in \text{NP}$ ,  $A \leq_p B$ .
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  - ▶ Implication:  $B \in \text{P} \Rightarrow \text{P} = \text{NP}$ .
- $B$  is **NP-complete** if  $B$  is NP-hard **and**  $B \in \text{NP}$ .
  - ▶ Implication:  $B$  “characterizes” the power of NP.

# NP-complete problems



“Strongest/hardest” problems in NP

Formally:

- $B = (B_{\text{yes}}, B_{\text{no}})$  is **NP-hard** if for all  $A = (A_{\text{yes}}, A_{\text{no}}) \in \text{NP}$ ,  $A \leq_p B$ .
  - ▶ Implication:  $B \in \text{P} \Rightarrow \text{P} = \text{NP}$ .
- $B$  is **NP-complete** if  $B$  is NP-hard **and**  $B \in \text{NP}$ .
  - ▶ Implication:  $B$  “characterizes” the power of NP.
- **Cook-Levin Theorem:** 3-SAT is NP-complete [Cook 1971, Levin 1973]

# 3-SAT

**Input:** Boolean formula  $\phi : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  in “3-Conjunctive Normal Form (3-CNF)”, e.g.

$$\phi = (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \overline{x_3}) \wedge (x_4 \vee \overline{x_1} \vee \overline{x_9}) \cdots (\overline{x_1} \vee x_5 \vee \overline{x_2})$$

**Output:** Is there a “satisfying assignment”, i.e.  $\exists x \in \{0, 1\}^n$  such that  $\phi(x) = 1$ ?

**Exercise 3:** Show that 3-SAT is NP-hard even if each variable  $x_i$  appears at most 3 times in  $\phi$ .

**Exercise 4:** What is the complexity of 3-SAT if each variable  $x_i$  appears **exactly** 3 times in  $\phi$ ? (Hint: Google “Hall’s marriage theorem”.)

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Quantumly: Work with poly( $n$ )-size quantum circuit implementing  $n$ -qubit unitaries  $U$ , e.g.

$$|0\rangle^{\otimes n} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} |0\rangle \xrightarrow{H} \dots \xrightarrow{H} \\ |0\rangle \xrightarrow{X} \dots \xrightarrow{\cdot} \\ \vdots \\ |0\rangle \xrightarrow{H} \dots \xrightarrow{Z} \end{array} \right\} |\psi\rangle \in (\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes n}$$



What happened to our beloved TMs?

# The computational model

What computational model to use for quantum complexity theory?

- Idea 1: Use “quantum Turing machines”...



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- ▶ **Exercise 5.** If 3-SAT formula  $\phi$  is satisfiable,  $\exists$  poly-size circuit computing  $x$  with  $\phi(x) = 1$ .
- ▶ **Problem:** Even if poly-size circuit exists, can be hard to **find** it!  
If the poly-size circuit is hard to find, not very useful for solving problems ☺

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If the poly-size circuit is hard to find, not very useful for solving problems ☺
- ▶ **Solution:** Use “poly-time uniformly generated” circuits.

**Remark:** All quantum circuits in this lecture are sequences of 1- and 2-qubit gates.

### P-uniform quantum circuit family

A family of quantum circuits  $\{Q_n\}$  is **P-uniform** if there exists a poly-time TM  $M$ , which given as input  $1^n$ , outputs a classical description of  $Q_n$  via a sequence of 1- and 2-qubit gates.

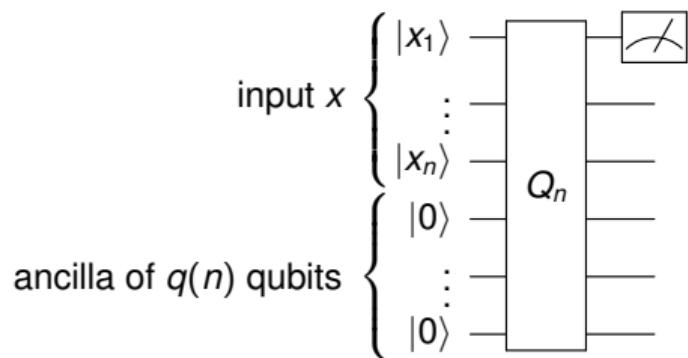
**Exercise 6:** Why does  $M$  get  $1^n$  as input, instead of  $n$  written in binary?

**Henceforth:** Use P-uniform quantum circuit families, not TMs.

## Bounded-error quantum polynomial-time (BQP)

Promise problem  $\mathbb{A} = (A_{\text{yes}}, A_{\text{no}}, A_{\text{inv}}) \in \text{BQP}$  if  $\exists$  P-uniform quantum circuit family  $\{Q_n\}$  and polynomial  $q$  as below. The first output qubit of  $Q_n$  is measured in the standard basis and returned. For any input  $x \in \{0, 1\}^*$ :

- (YES case) If  $x \in A_{\text{yes}}$ , then  $Q_n$  outputs 1 with probability at least  $2/3$ .
- (NO case) If  $x \in A_{\text{no}}$ , then  $Q_n$  outputs 1 with probability at most  $1/3$ .
- (Invalid case) If  $x \in A_{\text{inv}}$ ,  $Q_n$  outputs 0 or 1 arbitrarily.



# Caution



Quantum complexity classes typically **promise** classes

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<sup>2</sup>Best strategy: Run circuit in parallel, take majority vote of output answers, apply Chernoff bound.

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  - ▶ **Intuition:**  $\text{poly}(n)$  runs of quantum circuit cannot distinguish<sup>2</sup> YES vs NO thresholds like

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^n} \quad \text{versus} \quad \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2^n}.$$

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- ▶ **Exercise 7:** Chernoff bound has “exponential scaling”. Why does it not suffice above?

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# The Pikachu of BQP

Linear system solving:

- Input: Invertible  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{N \times N}$  and target vector  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{C}^N$
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- $A$  and  $\mathbf{x}$  given explicitly in matrix form  $\Rightarrow \mathbf{x} = A^{-1}\mathbf{b}$  classically in time  $\text{poly}(N)$ 
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- $A$  represented “succinctly” via “query-access” and  $\mathbf{b}$  given via quantum circuit?

# Matrix inversion problem (MI)

Input:

- $O(1)$ -sparse row-computable invertible Hermitian matrix<sup>3</sup>  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{N \times N}$
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MI is BQP-complete under poly-time many-one reductions.

Proof steps:

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## Framework: Eigenvalue surgery

- ➊ Eigenvalue extraction (via Hamiltonian simulation and Quantum Phase Estimation (QPE))
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## (Time-independent) Schrödinger equation

Time evolution of any  $n$ -qubit system governed by Hermitian matrix  $H \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes n}$ , called a **Hamiltonian**:

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## Hamiltonian simulation [Low, Chuang 2017]

Given  $d$ -sparse  $H$ , simulation time  $t \geq 0$ , and  $\epsilon > 0$ , can simulate  $e^{iHt}$  up to error  $\epsilon$  and success probability at least  $1 - 2\epsilon$  in time<sup>a</sup>

$$O\left(td \|H\|_{\max} + \frac{\log(1/\epsilon)}{\log \log(1/\epsilon)}\right).$$

---

<sup>a</sup>Query complexity. Gate complexity has  $O(n)$  overhead.

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Given precision  $k$ , and ability to efficiently compute controlled- $U^{2^K}$  for  $1 \leq K \leq k$ , can map

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where  $\tilde{\lambda}_j$  is  $\lambda_j$  up to  $k$  bits.

**Exercise 9a:** Given  $n$ -qubit unitary  $U$ , can we efficiently compute  $U^{2^n}$  in general?

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## Step 1: Eigenvalue extraction (recall $A = \sum_i \lambda_i |\psi_i\rangle\langle\psi_i|$ )

- Prepare target state

$$|b\rangle = \sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_j |\psi_j\rangle \in \mathbb{C}^N,$$

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## Step 2: Eigenvalue processing

- Conditioned on the first register, rotate a new single-qubit ancilla as follows:

$$\sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_j |\lambda_j\rangle |\psi_j\rangle \left( \sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{\lambda_j^2 \kappa^2(A)}} |0\rangle + \left( \frac{1}{\lambda_j \kappa(A)} \right) |1\rangle \right) \in (\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes n} \otimes \mathbb{C}^N \otimes \mathbb{C}^2.$$

**Exercise 9b:** Google “condition number”, learn about it.

**Exercise 10:** Assume  $\|A\|_\infty = 1$ . Show  $1/\kappa(A) \leq 1/(\lambda_j \kappa(A)) \leq 1$ . Thus, amplitudes above well-defined.

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## Step 3: Eigenvalue reinsertion

- Measure third register in standard basis, postselect on outcome 1, discard third register:

$$\sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_j \left( \frac{1}{\lambda_j} \right) |\psi_j\rangle \propto A^{-1} |b\rangle \in \mathbb{C}^N.$$

**Exercise 11.** Prove that probability of obtaining outcome 1 is at least  $1/\kappa^2(A)$ .

**Exercise 12.** What is the expected number of repetitions for postselection to succeed? Can we improve this with amplitude amplification?

# Runtime

If we run QPE to get additive inverse poly error for phases, runtime is

$$\tilde{O}(\kappa(A)(T_b + s^2 \log^2(N)))$$

for  $T_b$  the number of gates to prepare  $|b\rangle$ ,  $N$  the dimension of  $A$ , and  $\log N$  the number of qubits.

## Implication:

- When  $\kappa(A), T_b, s \in \text{polylog}(N)$ , exponentially faster than classically solving the entire  $N \times N$  system.
- For definition of MI, suffices to obtain  $\text{MI} \in \text{BQP}$ .

**Exercise 13\*\*.** Although the quantum algorithm can give exponential speedups, why is it incorrect to directly compare it to classical linear system solvers?

# Matrix inversion problem (MI)

Input:

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MI is BQP-complete under poly-time many-one reductions.

Proof steps:

- 1 MI  $\in$  BQP.
- 2 MI is BQP-hard.

<sup>4</sup>Technically, need condition number  $\kappa(A)$  to satisfy  $\kappa^{-1}(A)I \preceq A \preceq I$  with  $\kappa(A) \in \text{polylog}(N)$ .

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- The computational model
- Decision problems, P, and NP
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# MI is BQP-hard

**Goal:** Show that any BQP computation  $V$  poly-time reducible to an instance  $A$  of MI.

**Starting point:** Let  $V = V_m \cdots V_1$  be a BQP circuit on  $n$  qubits,  $N = 2^n$ . Assume WLOG  $m$  is power of 2.

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**Exercise 12:** Check that  $U$  is unitary.

**Exercise 13:** Check that  $U^m |0^{\log m}\rangle |0^n\rangle = |m\rangle V |0^n\rangle$ .

**Implication:** Measuring first qubit of second register of  $U^m |0^{\log m}\rangle |0^n\rangle$  simulates measuring output qubit of  $V$ !

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**Exercise 15:** I cheated less slightly somewhere else on this slide. Where did I make a bigger boo boo?

# Final exercises for MI

Construction *almost* works, but for 3 issues to check:

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- ➍ I cheated again. There is a 4th issue —  $A$  must be Hermitian. But I will spare you these details.

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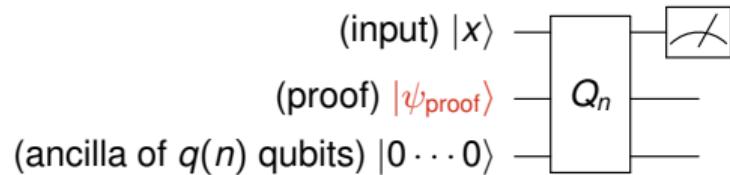
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## Quantum Merlin-Arthur (QMA)

Promise problem  $\mathbb{A} = (A_{\text{yes}}, A_{\text{no}}, A_{\text{inv}}) \in \text{QMA}$  if  $\exists$  P-uniform quantum circuit family  $\{Q_n\}$  and polynomials  $p, q$ :

- (YES case) If  $x \in A_{\text{yes}}$ ,  $\exists$  proof  $|\psi_{\text{proof}}\rangle \in (\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes p(n)}$ , such that  $Q_n$  accepts with probability at least  $2/3$ .
- (NO case) If  $x \in A_{\text{no}}$ , then  $\forall$  proofs  $|\psi_{\text{proof}}\rangle \in (\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes p(n)}$ ,  $Q_n$  accepts with probability at most  $1/3$ .
- (Invalid case) If  $x \in A_{\text{inv}}$ ,  $Q_n$  may accept or reject arbitrarily.



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## Weak error reduction (the “obvious” type)

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**Obstacle:** No-cloning theorem says we cannot *copy*  $|\psi_{\text{proof}}\rangle$ ...



# Marriot-Watrous strong error reduction

- Set  $i = 0$ .
- Do while  $i \leq N$ :
  - ▶ (Run verification  $Q_n$ ) Run  $Q_n$  and measure output qubit to obtain bit  $y_i$ . Set  $i = i + 1$ .
  - ▶ (Run  $Q_n$  in reverse) Run  $Q_n^\dagger$  and measure whether input “resets” to  $x$  and ancillae to  $|0 \cdots 0\rangle$ . If yes, set  $y_i = 1$ , else set  $y_i = 0$ . Set  $i = i + 1$ .
- (Postprocessing) If the number of indices  $i \in \{0, \dots, N - 1\}$  such that  $y_i = y_{i+1}$  is at least  $N/2$ , accept. Otherwise, reject.

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## (Time-independent) Schrödinger equation

Time evolution of any  $n$ -qubit system governed by Hermitian matrix  $H \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes n}$ , called a **Hamiltonian**:

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**Question:** What kind of Hamiltonians  $H$  appear in nature?

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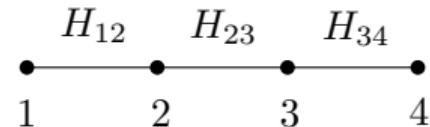
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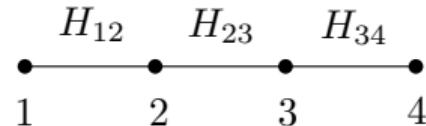
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Then,  $H = H_{12} \otimes I_{34} + I_1 \otimes H_{23} \otimes I_4 + I_{12} \otimes H_{34} \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{C}^{16})$ .

# Quantum constraint satisfaction

## $k$ -local Hamiltonian problem ( $k$ -LH)

- Input:  $k$ -local Hamiltonian  $H$  on  $n$  qubits, thresholds  $0 \leq \alpha \leq \beta$  s.t.  $|\alpha - \beta| \geq 1/\text{poly}(n)$
  - Promise:  $\lambda_{\min}(H) \leq \alpha$  or  $\lambda_{\min}(H) \geq \beta$
  - Output: Decide whether  $\lambda_{\min}(H) \leq \alpha$  or  $\lambda_{\min}(H) \geq \beta$
- 
- Canonical QMA-complete problem!
  - Motivation: Show superfluid helium video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Z6UJbwxBZI>

# Selected history

- “Quantum Cook-Levin Theorem”: 5-LH is QMA-complete [Kitaev, 1999]

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## Variants:

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- QMA-hard for  $|\alpha - \beta| \in \Omega(1)$ ?



Quantum PCP conjecture! (see [Aharonov, Arad, Vidick, 2013] for survey)

# Kitaev's quantum Cook-Levin theorem

Goal: Map  $U$  to instance  $(H, \alpha, \beta, |\psi\rangle)$  of LH such that  $\beta - \alpha \geq 1/\text{poly}(n)$  and

$$\begin{aligned}\text{if } U \text{ accepts } x &\implies \lambda_{\min}(H) \leq \alpha \\ \text{if } U \text{ rejects } x &\implies \lambda_{\min}(H) \geq \beta\end{aligned}$$

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- Let  $U = U_m \cdots U_1$  be a QMA circuit verifying proof  $|\psi_{\text{proof}}\rangle$ .
- Design local terms  $H_i$  to force ground state to be **history state**:

$$|\psi_{\text{hist}}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{m+1}} \sum_{t=0}^m U_t \cdots U_1 |\psi_{\text{proof}}\rangle_A |0 \cdots 0\rangle_B |t\rangle_C$$

$A$ : proof register     $B$ : ancilla register     $C$ : clock register

# Feynman-Kitaev circuit-to-Hamiltonian construction

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**Question:** How to check time propagation, i.e.  $U_t$  applied at time  $t$ ?

# The propagation term

$$|\psi_{\text{hist}}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{m+1}} \sum_{t=0}^m U_t \cdots U_1 |\psi_{\text{proof}}\rangle_A |0 \cdots 0\rangle_B |t\rangle_C$$

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Why does this work?

# The propagation term

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Why does this work?

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# Correctness

Completeness: By design,

$$\langle \psi_{\text{hist}} | H_{\text{in}} + H_{\text{prop}} + H_{\text{out}} + H_{\text{stab}} | \psi_{\text{hist}} \rangle \sim 0 + 0 + 0 + \frac{1 - \Pr(U \text{ accepts } x)}{\text{poly}(m)} \sim \text{"small".}$$

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Soundness:

- Goal: Show  $\lambda_{\min}(H_{\text{in}} + H_{\text{prop}} + H_{\text{out}} + H_{\text{stab}}) \geq \text{"large"}$ .
- Problem:  $H_{\text{in}} + H_{\text{out}}$  and  $H_{\text{prop}}$  do not commute (i.e. cannot add  $\lambda_{\min}(H_{\text{in}} + H_{\text{out}})$  and  $\lambda_{\min}(H_{\text{prop}})$ !)

## Geometric Lemma

Let  $A_1, A_2 \succeq 0$ , and let  $v$  lower bound the minimum non-zero eigenvalues of both  $A_1$  and  $A_2$ . Then,

$$\lambda_{\min}(A_1 + A_2) \geq 2v \sin^2 \frac{\angle(\text{Null}(A_1), \text{Null}(A_2))}{2},$$

where the angle between spaces  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $\mathcal{Y}$  is defined as

$$\angle(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}) := \arccos \left( \max_{\substack{|x\rangle \in \mathcal{X}, |y\rangle \in \mathcal{Y} \\ \| |x\rangle \|_2 = \| |y\rangle \|_2 = 1}} |\langle x|y \rangle| \right).$$

Recall:

- $\text{Null}(H_{\text{in}} + H_{\text{out}})$  - correct initialization and correct input
- $\text{Null}(H_{\text{prop}})$  - correct time propagation

# Outline

## 1 Classical complexity theory

- The computational model
- Decision problems, P, and NP
- Reductions and NP-hardness

## 2 BQP

- Circuit families and BQP
- A BQP-complete problem: MI
  - $MI \in BQP$
  - MI is BQP-hard

## 3 QMA

## 4 Kitaev's "quantum Cook-Levin theorem" for QMA

## 5 Beyond QMA: The many flavors of "quantum NP"

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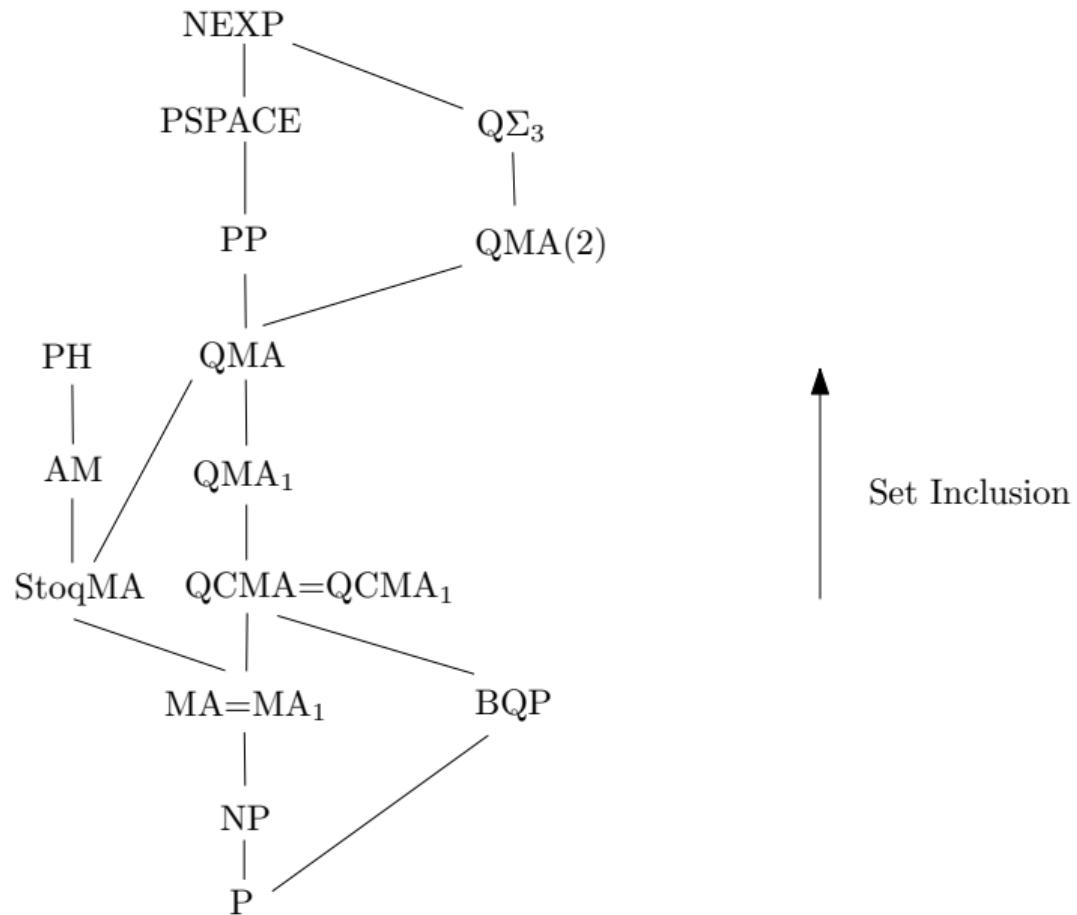
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- (Sneezy) NQP: Quantum TM accepts  $x \in A_{\text{yes}}$  in poly-time with probability  $> 0$ .  
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- (Dopey) StoqMA: QMA with  $\{|0\rangle, |+\rangle\}$  ancillae, classical gates, measurement in  $X$  basis

# Relationships



QMA(2)

What does an “unentangled” proof  $|\psi_1\rangle \otimes |\psi_2\rangle$  buy us?

## QMA(2)

Promise problem  $\mathbb{A} = (A_{\text{yes}}, A_{\text{no}}, A_{\text{inv}}) \in \text{QMA}(2)$  if there exists P-uniform quantum circuit family  $\{Q_n\}$  s.t.:

- (YES) If  $x \in A_{\text{yes}}$ ,  $\exists$  proof  $|\psi_1\rangle \otimes |\psi_2\rangle \in (\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes \text{poly}(n)} \otimes (\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes \text{poly}(n)}$ , s.t.  $Q_n$  accepts w.p.  $\geq 2/3$ .
- (NO) If  $x \in A_{\text{no}}$ , then  $\forall$  proofs  $|\psi_1\rangle \otimes |\psi_2\rangle \in (\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes \text{poly}(n)} \otimes (\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes \text{poly}(n)}$ ,  $Q_n$  accepts w.p.  $\leq 1/3$ .
- (Invalid case) If  $x \in A_{\text{inv}}$ ,  $Q_n$  may accept or reject arbitrarily.

Defined as QMA( $k$ ) for  $k$  parties by [Kobayashi, Matsumoto, Yamakami 2003]

Sad state of affairs:  $\text{QMA} \subseteq \text{QMA}(2) \subseteq \text{Q}\Sigma_3 \subseteq \text{NEXP}$ .

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- (NO) If  $x \in A_{\text{no}}$ , then  $\forall$  proofs  $|\psi_1\rangle \otimes |\psi_2\rangle \in (\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes \text{poly}(n)} \otimes (\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes \text{poly}(n)}$ ,  $Q_n$  accepts w.p.  $\leq 1/3$ .
- (Invalid case) If  $x \in A_{\text{inv}}$ ,  $Q_n$  may accept or reject arbitrarily.

Defined as QMA( $k$ ) for  $k$  parties by [Kobayashi, Matsumoto, Yamakami 2003]

Sad state of affairs:  $\text{QMA} \subseteq \text{QMA}(2) \subseteq \text{Q}\Sigma_3 \subseteq \text{NEXP}$ .



It's 2022. What's the holdup?

# Apples to apples

For both classes:

$$\Pr(Q_n \text{ accepts } |\psi\rangle) = \text{Tr} \left( |1\rangle\langle 1|_{A_1} \otimes I_B (Q_n |\psi\rangle_A |0 \cdots 0\rangle_B) (\langle \psi|_A \langle 0 \cdots 0|_B Q_n^\dagger) \right)$$

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<sup>5</sup>For general Hermitian matrices  $M$ , not necessarily  $M_{\text{acc}}$  arising from some  $Q_n$  [Gurvits 2003]

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Complexity	poly-time in dimension of $M_{\text{acc}}$	NP-complete <sup>5</sup> dimension of $M_{\text{acc}}$

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Open question: Why does “unentanglement” help compress proof lengths?

# Relationship to Quantum NPSPACE

- Classically: PSPACE = NPSPACE [Savitch, 1970]
- Quantumly:
  - ▶ PSPACE = BQPSPACE [Watrous 2003]
  - ▶ QMA SPACE = BQPSPACE [Fefferman, Remscrim 2021]

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# Relationship to Quantum NPSPACE

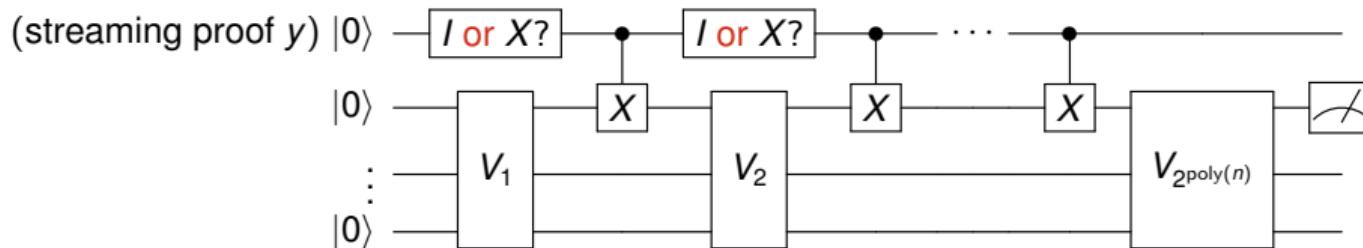
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    - ★ QMSPACE is “quantum NPSPACE” with *poly*-size *quantum* proof
    - ★ Problem: NPSPACE requires *exponential* length proof!

Question: How to define “Quantum NPSPACE” with exp-length proof?

## Streaming QCMA SPACE (SQCMASPACE)

Promise problem  $A = (A_{\text{yes}}, A_{\text{no}}) \in \text{SQCMASPACE}$  if there exists a poly-time succinctly generated quantum circuit family  $\{Q_n\}$ , thresholds  $\alpha, \beta$  satisfying  $\alpha - \beta \geq 2^{-\text{poly}(n)}$  s.t.:

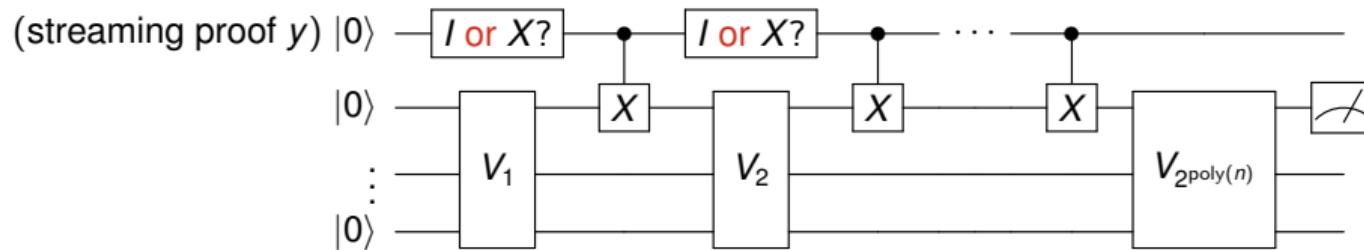
- (YES case) If  $x \in A_{\text{yes}}$ ,  $\exists$  **classical streaming** proof  $y \in \{0, 1\}^{2^{\text{poly}(n)}}$ , s.t.  $Q_n$  accepts with probability  $\geq \alpha$ .
- (NO case) If  $x \in A_{\text{no}}$ ,  $\forall$  **classical streaming** proofs  $y \in \{0, 1\}^{2^{\text{poly}(n)}}$ ,  $Q_n$  accepts with probability  $\leq \beta$ .



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- SQCMASPACE = NEXP, even with 1 vs 1/2 promise gap [G, Rudolph, 2022]
- **Question:** Embed **exp**-length streaming proofs into **poly**-size history state construction?

# Recall: Circuit-to-Hamiltonian construction for QMA

$$|\psi_{\text{hist}}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{m+1}} \sum_{t=0}^m U_t \cdots U_1 |\psi_{\text{proof}}\rangle_A |0 \cdots 0\rangle_B |t\rangle_C$$

Define  $H = H_{\text{in}} + H_{\text{out}} + H_{\text{prop}} + H_{\text{stab}}$  such that

- |                     |  |  |
|---------------------|--|--|
| $H_{\text{in}}$ :   | Correct ancilla initialization at time $t = 0$     | $\Rightarrow \langle \psi_{\text{hist}}   H_{\text{in}}   \psi_{\text{hist}} \rangle = 0$  |
| $H_{\text{prop}}$ : | Gate $U_t$ applied at time $t$                     | $\Rightarrow \langle \psi_{\text{hist}}   H_{\text{prop}}   \psi_{\text{hist}} \rangle = 0$  |
| $H_{\text{stab}}$ : | Clock register $C$ encoded correctly in unary      | $\Rightarrow \langle \psi_{\text{hist}}   H_{\text{out}}   \psi_{\text{hist}} \rangle = 0$   |
| $H_{\text{out}}$ :  | Penalize rejecting computation $U$ at time $t = m$ | $\Rightarrow \langle \psi_{\text{hist}}   H_{\text{out}}   \psi_{\text{hist}} \rangle \sim \frac{1 - \Pr(U \text{ accepts } x)}{\text{poly}(m)}$ |

Define for each  $t \in \{0, \dots, m-1\}$ :

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**Problem:** Need to know each gate  $U_t$  in **advance**. But “proof gates” *a priori* unknown.

# Using history states to encode the future

$$H^{\textcolor{red}{U}} := -\textcolor{red}{U} \otimes |t\rangle\langle t-1|c - \textcolor{red}{U}^\dagger \otimes |t-1\rangle\langle t|c + I \otimes |t-1\rangle\langle t-1|c + I \otimes |t\rangle\langle t|c.$$

Idea [G, Rudolph, 2022]: Use “unentanglement”, i.e. try to force prover to send  $|\psi_{\text{hist}}\rangle \otimes |\psi_{\text{hist}}\rangle$ .

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Thought experiment: Imagine parallel universes  $L$  and  $R$ , s.t.  $L$  streams 0,  $R$  streams 1.

round	L	R
1	0	
2	0	
3		1
4	0	
5		1

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$$(H_L^I \otimes H_R^X)|\psi\rangle_L \otimes |\phi\rangle_R = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad H_L^I|\psi\rangle = 0 \text{ OR } H_R^X|\phi\rangle = 0.$$

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Attempt 2:

$$\begin{aligned} (H_L^I \otimes H_R^X + H_L^X \otimes H_R^I) |\psi\rangle_L \otimes |\phi\rangle_R = 0 &\Leftrightarrow (H_L^I|\psi\rangle = 0 \text{ AND } H_R^I|\phi\rangle = 0) \text{ OR} \\ &\quad (H_L^X|\psi\rangle = 0 \text{ AND } H_R^X|\phi\rangle = 0) \end{aligned}$$

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In words:

- Each universe can stream either proof bit, as long as both universes choose the same bit!

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- Exploited **quadratic** property of unentanglement to simulate **logical EQUALS** function on  $L$  vs  $R$ .
- Gives intuitive explanation as to **why** unentanglement helps!

# Full construction

$$\tilde{H} = \Delta_{\text{in}} \tilde{H}_{\text{in}} + \Delta_{\text{prop}} \tilde{H}_{\text{prop}} + \Delta_{\text{sym}} \tilde{H}_{\text{sym}} + \tilde{H}_{\text{out}} \quad (1)$$

$$\tilde{H}_{\text{in}} = (H_{\text{in}})_L \otimes I_R + I_L \otimes (H_{\text{in}})_R \quad (2)$$

$$\tilde{H}_{\text{prop}} = \sum_{t=1}^m \tilde{H}_t, \quad \text{where } \tilde{H}_t \text{ is defined as} \quad (3)$$

$$\tilde{H}_t = \begin{cases} (H_t^l)_L \otimes (H_t^{iX})_R + (H_t^{iX})_L \otimes (H_t^l)_R & \text{if } t \in P \\ (H_t)_L \otimes I_R + I_L \otimes (H_t)_R & \text{if } t \notin P \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

$$\tilde{H}_{\text{out}} = (H_{\text{out}})_L \otimes I_R + I_L \otimes (H_{\text{out}})_R \quad (5)$$

$$\tilde{H}_{\text{sym}} = I - P_{LR}^{\text{sym}} \quad \text{for} \quad P_{LR}^{\text{sym}} = \frac{1}{2} \left( I_{LR} + \sum_{xy} |xy\rangle\langle yx|_{LR} \right), \quad (6)$$

- Recall: Analysis not an eigenvalue analysis!

# Full construction

$$\tilde{H} = \Delta_{\text{in}} \tilde{H}_{\text{in}} + \Delta_{\text{prop}} \tilde{H}_{\text{prop}} + \Delta_{\text{sym}} \tilde{H}_{\text{sym}} + \tilde{H}_{\text{out}} \quad (1)$$

$$\tilde{H}_{\text{in}} = (H_{\text{in}})_L \otimes I_R + I_L \otimes (H_{\text{in}})_R \quad (2)$$

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- **Recall:** Analysis not an eigenvalue analysis!
- **With more work:** Can encode any multi-prover interactive proof into QMA(2), but promise gap scales  $1/\exp$  with communication length
- **Upshot:** First systematic “compression” of long proofs into small history states, but does **not** yet resolve QMA(2) versus NEXP (our construction requires  $1/\exp$  gap for QMA(2) to capture NEXP).

# Summary

- Turing machines rule theoretical computer science
- Quantumly, we use uniformly generated circuit families
- Matrix Inversion is BQP-complete
- Local Hamiltonian problem is QMA-complete
- Kitaev's quantum Cook-Levin theorem: Embed computation into low-energy history state
- Quantum NP has many versions, including:
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Thank you and happy quantuming!