

# Coin Flipping where weakness is a virtue

# Overview

Acknowledgments

Motivation

Stolen shamelessly from Prof Schaffner's QIP 2018 tutorial talk.

Problem Statement

Strong CF, Weak CF, correctness and bias

Prior Art

Bounds and protocols, Kitaev's Frameworks, Mochon's Breakthrough

Contribution

TEF, Blinkered Unitaries, 1/10 explicit, Elliptic-Monotone-Align Algorithm

Conclusion

# Acknowledgments

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Bearing incoherence induced torture  
Co-inventing the elliptic method  
Tirelessly exposing reasoning flaws  
Ambition, Faith and Freedom

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Mathemagic: Weingarten maps and how to use  
them  
Rigorous insight into 2->2 transitions  
Unique thinking style

# Tobias Fritz

Helped prove EBM=EBRM  
(through mathoverflow)

# Nicolas Cerf

Inquisitive listener  
Penetrating questions  
Hard to fool

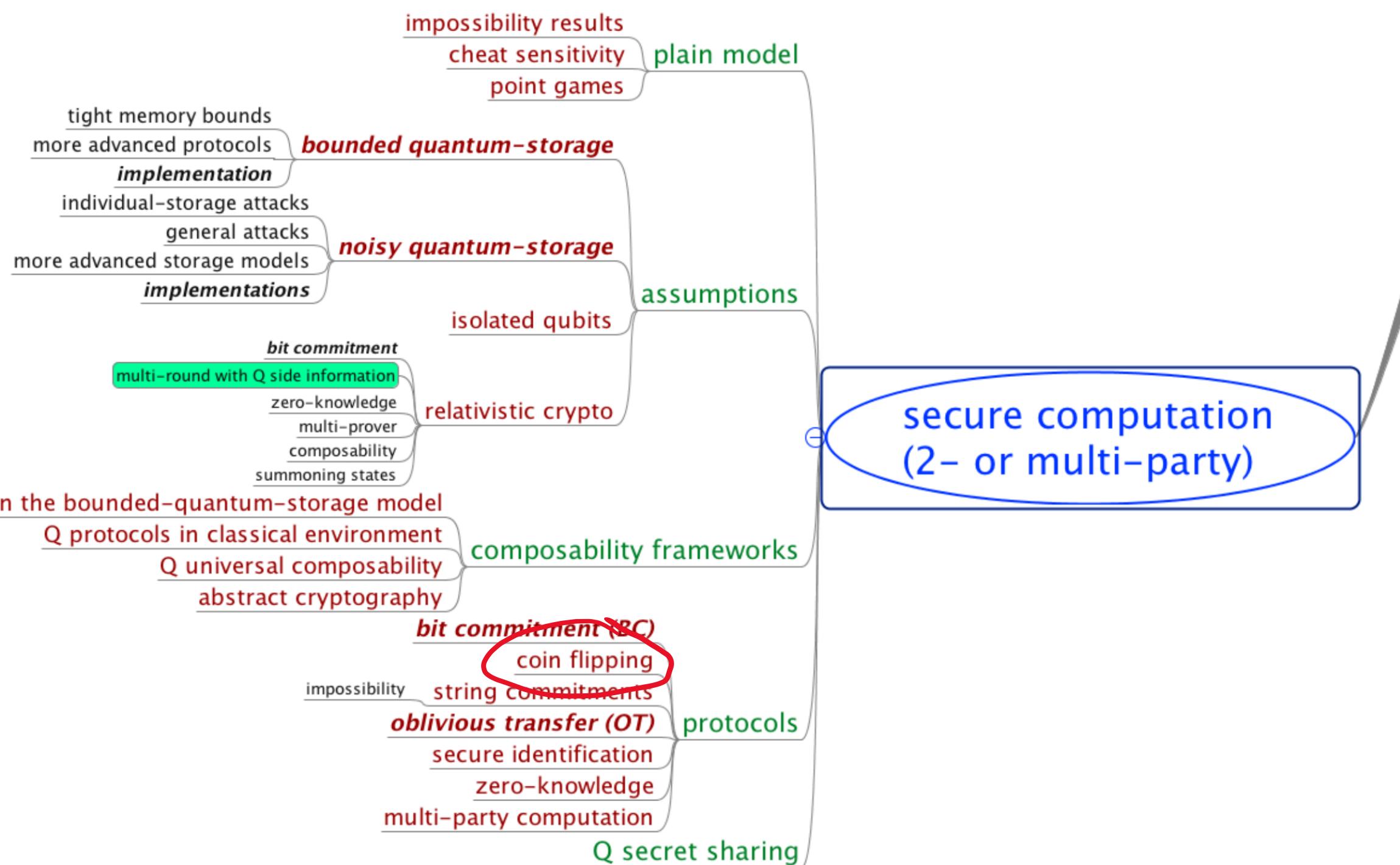
# Mathieu Brandeho

Rational listener

\* co-authors

# Motivation

Stolen shamelessly from Prof Schaffner's QIP 2018 tutorial talk.



# Beyond QKD

Multi-party Computation  
(dishonest majority)



Two-party  
Secure Function Evaluation



Oblivious Transfer

$\Downarrow, \not\Downarrow, \Uparrow$

Bit Commitment

Quantumly  
Impossible  
[Mayers<sup>97</sup>,  
LoChau<sup>97</sup>]

$\Downarrow, \not\Downarrow$

Coin Flipping

Classically all  
are impossible.

# Problem Statement

Strong CF, Weak CF, correctness and bias

# Problem Statement

■ **Coin Flipping (CF):** Alice and Bob wish to agree on a random bit remotely without trusting each other.

- • **Strong Coin Flipping:** No player knows the preference of the other.
- • **Weak Coin Flipping (WCF):** Each player knows the preference of the other.

# Situations

Honest player: A player that follows the protocol exactly as described.

Alice	Bob	Remark
Honest	Honest	Correctness
Cheats	Honest	Alice can bias
Honest	Cheats	Bob can bias
Cheats	Cheats	Independent of the protocol

**Bias** of a protocol: A protocol that solves the CF problem has bias  $\epsilon$  if neither player can force their desired outcome with probability more than  $\frac{1}{2}+\epsilon$ .

# Situations | Weak CF

| NB. For WCF the players have opposite preferred outcomes.

Alice	Bob	Pr(A wins)	Pr(B wins)
Honest	Honest	$P_A$	$P_B = 1 - P_A$
Cheats	Honest	$P_A^*$	$1 - P_A^*$
Honest	Cheats	$1 - P_B^*$	$P_B^*$

| Bias:

smallest  $\epsilon$  s.t.  $P_A^*, P_B^* \leq \frac{1}{2} + \epsilon$

| NB.

$$0 \leq \epsilon \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

# Situations | Weak CF | Flip and declare

| Protocol: Alice flips a coin and declares the outcome to Bob.

Alice	Bob	Pr(A wins)	Pr(B wins)
Honest	Honest	$P_A = 1/2$	$P_B = 1/2$
Cheats	Honest	$P_A^* = 1$	$1 - P_A^* = 0$
Honest	Cheats	$1 - P_B^* = 1/2$	$P_B^* = 1/2$

| **Bias:**      smallest  $\epsilon$  s.t.  $P_A^*, P_B^* \leq \frac{1}{2} + \epsilon$        $\implies \epsilon = \frac{1}{2}$

# Prior Art

Bounds and protocols, Kitaev's Frameworks, Mochon's Breakthrough

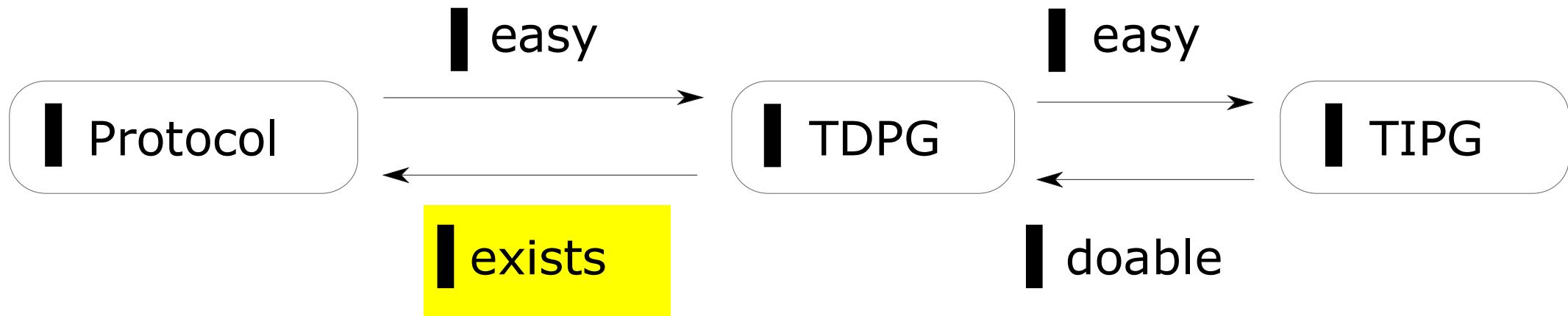
# Bounds and Protocols

Classically:  $\epsilon = \frac{1}{2}$  viz. at least one player can always cheat and win.

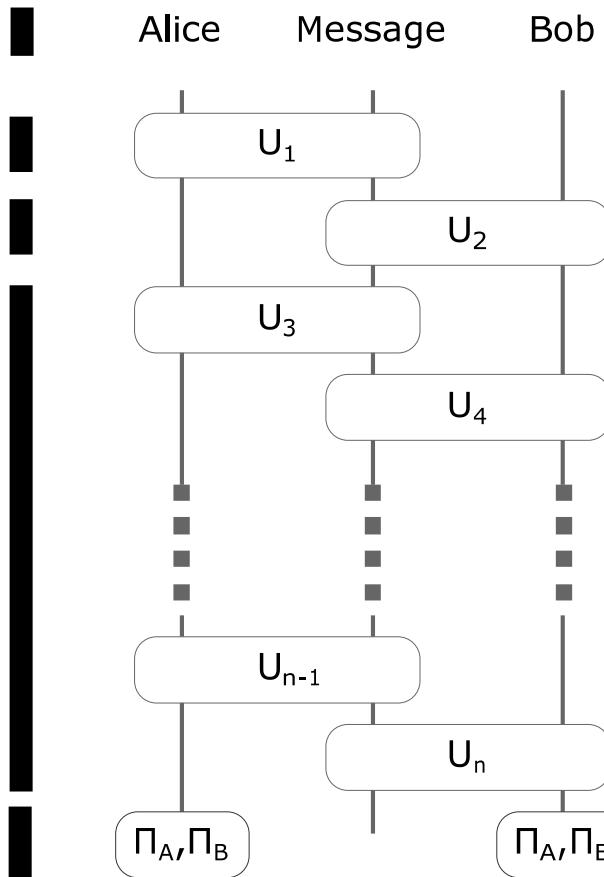
Quantumly:

	<b>Bound</b>	<b>Best protocol known</b>
Strong CF	$\epsilon \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{2}$ [Kitaev 03]	$\epsilon \Rightarrow \frac{1}{4\sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{2}$ [Ambainis 01] [Chailloux Kerenidis 09]
Weak CF	$\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ [Mochon 07] [Aharonov et al 16]	$\epsilon \rightarrow \frac{1}{6}$ [Mochon 05]

# Kitaev's Frameworks



# Kitaev's Frameworks | Protocol



- Variables involved:  $\rho, U$
- Two SDPs
  - $P_A^*$  is an SDP in  $\rho_B$ :  $P_A^* = \max(\text{tr}(\Pi_A \rho_B))$  s.t. the honest player (Bob) follows the protocol.
  - Similarly for  $P_B^*$ .
- Dual:  $\rho \leftrightarrow Z$ ,  $\max \leftrightarrow \min$ ,  $P^* = \max \leftrightarrow P^* \leq \text{certificate}$

# Kitaev's Frameworks | TDPG

| Time Dependent Point Game (TDPG):

A sequence of frames (frames = points on a plane) such that

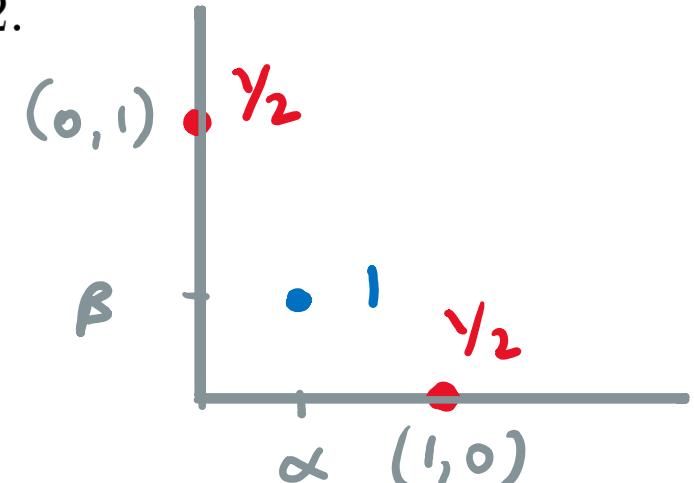
- Starts with points at  $(0, 1)$  and  $(1, 0)$  with weight  $1/2$ .
- Consecutive frames: along a line, for all  $\lambda \geq 0$

$$\sum_z \frac{\lambda z}{\lambda + z} p_z \leq \sum_{z'} \frac{\lambda z'}{\lambda + z'} p'_{z'}.$$

- Ends with a single point  $(\beta, \alpha)$ .

| Mathemagic: For a valid TDPG there is a protocol with  $P_A^* \leq \alpha$ ,  $P_B^* \leq \beta$ .

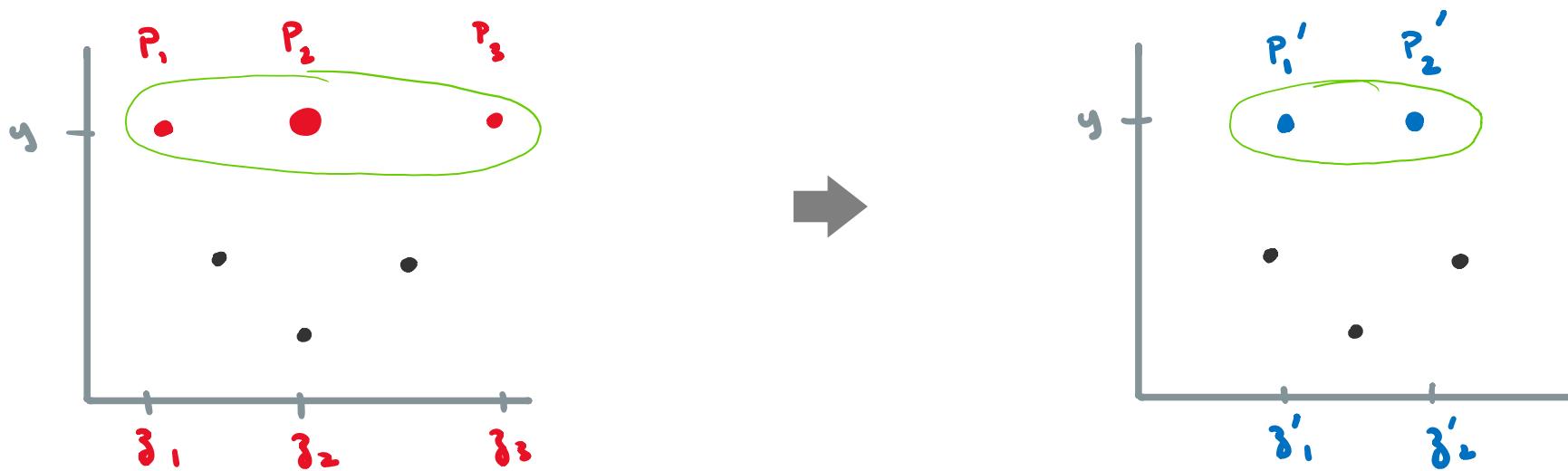
| Charm: Operator monotone functions.



# Kitaev's Frameworks | TDPG | Rule

Consecutive frames: along a line, for all  $\lambda \geq 0$

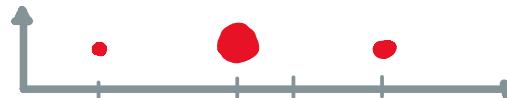
$$\sum_i \frac{\lambda z_i}{\lambda + z_i} p_i \leq \sum_i \frac{\lambda z'_i}{\lambda + z'_i} p'_i.$$



# Kitaev's Frameworks | TDPG | Rule

Merge ( $n_g \rightarrow 1$ ):

$$\langle x_g \rangle \leq x_h$$



Split ( $1 \rightarrow n_h$ ):

$$\frac{1}{x_g} \geq \left\langle \frac{1}{x_h} \right\rangle$$



Raise ( $n_g = n_h \rightarrow n_h$ ):

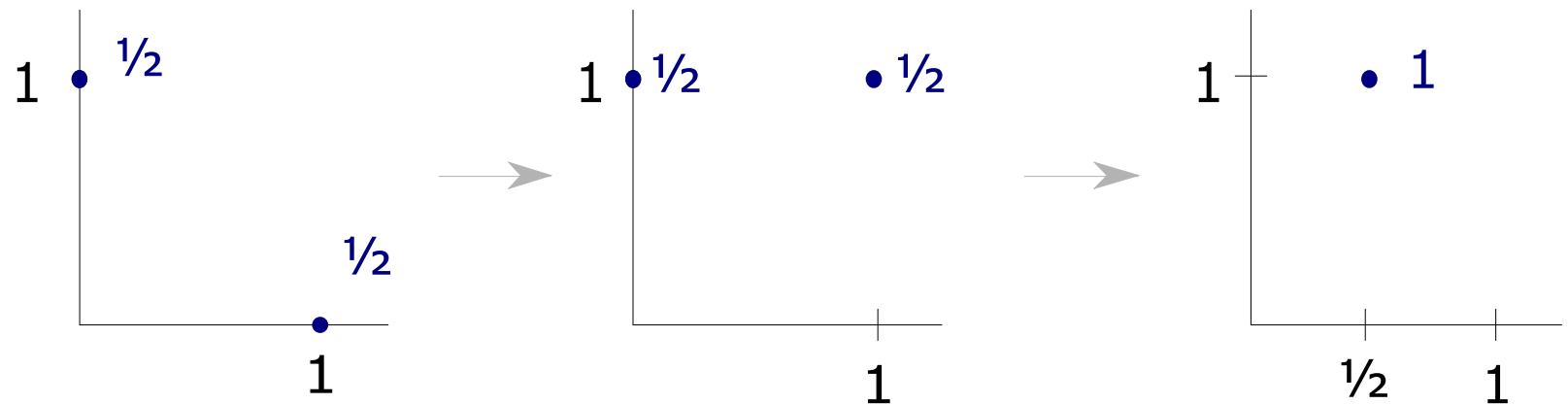
$$x_{g_i} \leq x_{h_i}$$



# Kitaev's Frameworks | TDPG | Example

Merge ( $n_g \rightarrow 1$ ):

$$\langle x_g \rangle \leq x_h$$



Split ( $1 \rightarrow n_h$ ):

$$\frac{1}{x_g} \geq \left\langle \frac{1}{x_h} \right\rangle$$

Raise ( $n_g = n_h \rightarrow n_h$ ):

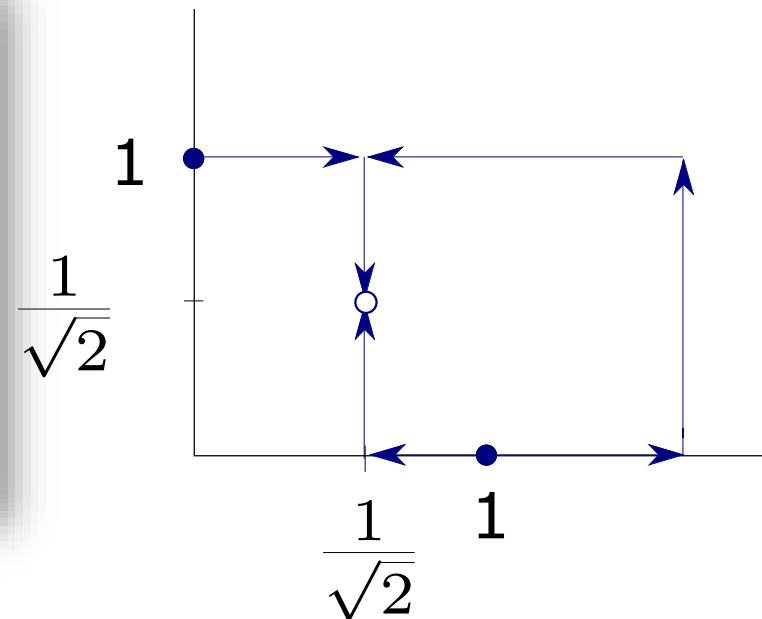
$$x_{g_i} \leq x_{h_i}$$

The flip and declare protocol!

# Kitaev's Frameworks | TDPG | Example

Merge ( $n \rightarrow 1$ ):

	<b>Bound</b>	<b>Best protocol known</b>
Strong CF	$\epsilon \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{2}$ [Kitaev 03]	$\epsilon = \frac{1}{4}$ [Ambainis 01]
Weak CF	$\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ [Mochon 07] [Aharonov et al 16]	$\epsilon \rightarrow \frac{1}{6}$ [Mochon 05]
	$\overline{x_g} \geq \left\langle \overline{x_h} \right\rangle$	



Raise ( $n_g = n_h \rightarrow n_h$ ):

$$x_{g_i} \leq x_{h_i}$$

Spekkens Rudolph protocol (PRL, 2002)

# Kitaev's Frameworks | TDPG | Example

Merge ( $n_g \rightarrow 1$ ):

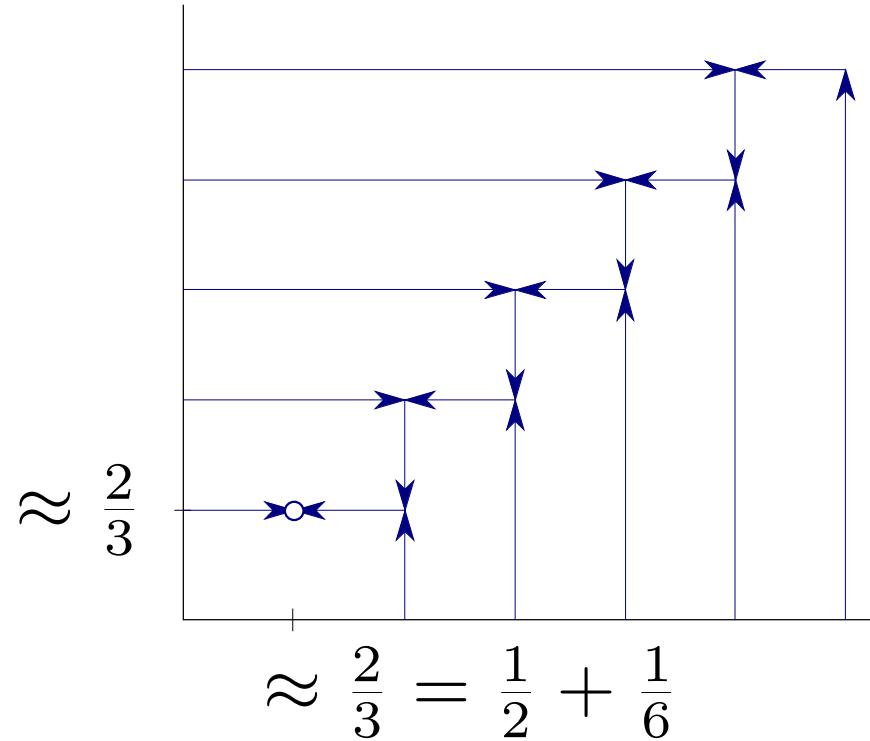
$$\langle x_g \rangle \leq x_h$$

Split ( $1 \rightarrow n_h$ ):

$$\frac{1}{x_g} \geq \left\langle \frac{1}{x_h} \right\rangle$$

Raise ( $n_g = n_h \rightarrow n_h$ ):

$$x_{g_i} \leq x_{h_i}$$



Best known explicit protocol:  
Dip Dip Boom (Mochon, PRA 2005)

# Kitaev's Frameworks | TIPG

Time Independent Point Game (TIPG):

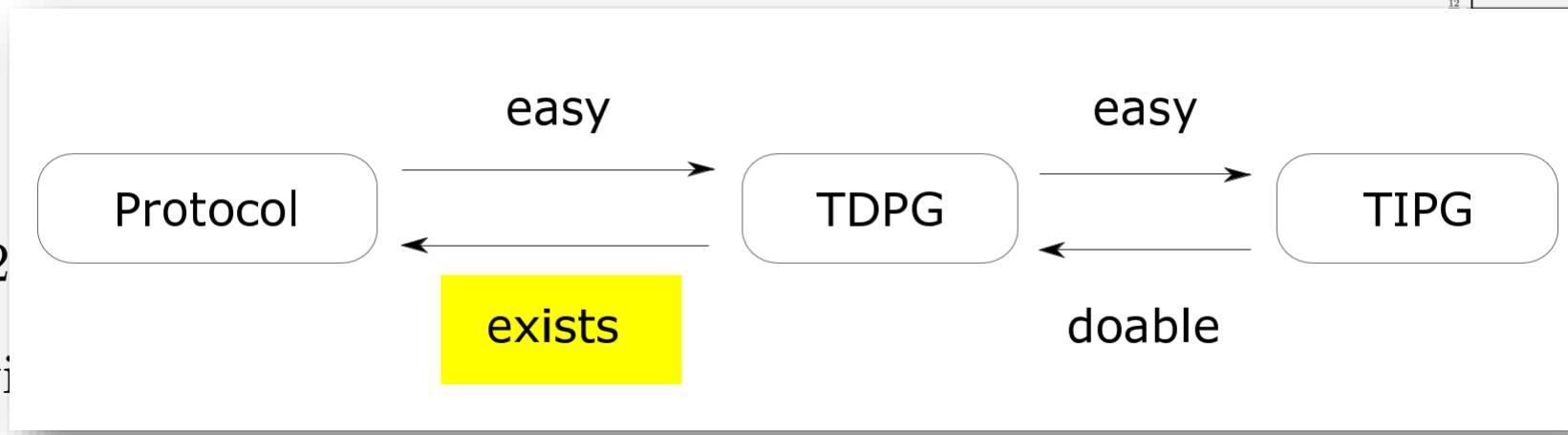
- Key idea: Allow negative weights
- $h(x, y), v(x, y)$  s.t.  
 $h + v = \text{final frame} - \text{initial frame}$   
 $h, v$  satisfy a similar equation.

Mathemagic: For a valid TIPG there is TDPG with the same last frame.

Charm: Catalyst state.

# Mochon | Near-perfect WCF is possible

- Mathemagic: Family of TIPGs that yield



- $k = 1$  yields

- Charm: Polynomials.

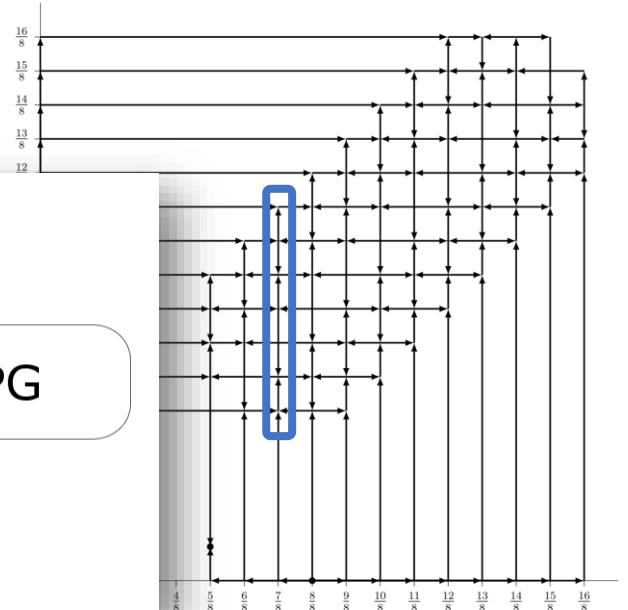
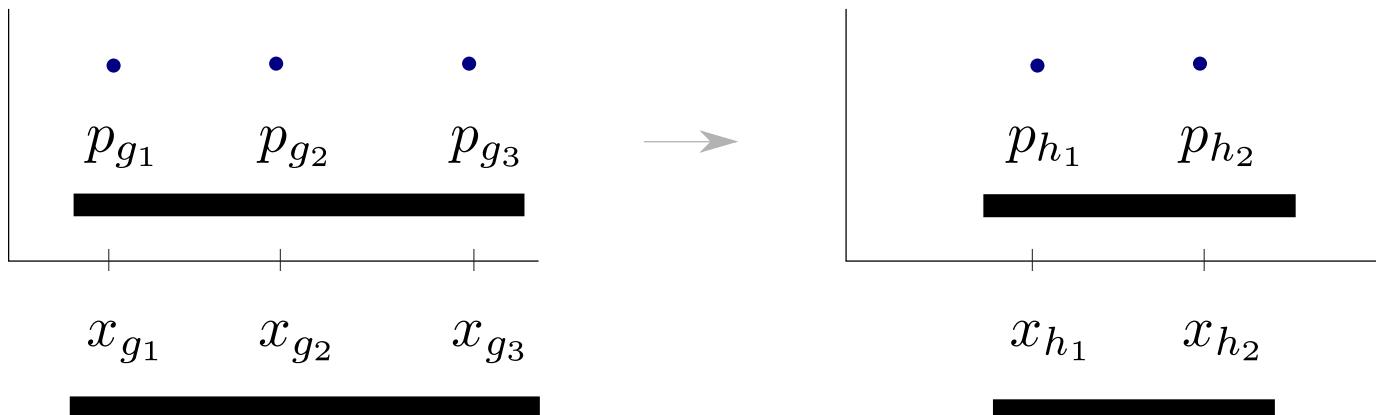


Image taken from E. Pelchat's Master Thesis

# Contribution

TEF, Blinkered Unitaries, 1/10 explicit, Elliptic-Monotone-Align Algorithm

# TEF



TDPG to Explicit protocol Framework (TEF):

A TDPG  $\rightarrow$  Protocol if  
for each consecutive frame of a TDPG one can construct a  $U$  s.t.

$$\sum \underline{x_{h_i}} |h_i\rangle \langle h_i| - \sum \underline{x_{g_i}} E_h U |g_i\rangle \langle g_i| U^\dagger E_h \geq 0$$

and

$$U(\underbrace{\sum \sqrt{p_{g_i}} |g_i\rangle}_{|v\rangle}) = \underbrace{\sum \sqrt{p_{h_i}} |h_i\rangle}_{|w\rangle}.$$

# Blinkered Unitaries

For the Dip Dip Boom ( $\epsilon = 1/6$ ) protocol, we need a  $U$  that implements

- Split:  $1 \rightarrow n_h$
- Merge:  $n_g \rightarrow 1$

Claim:  $U_{\text{blink}} = |w\rangle\langle v| + |v\rangle\langle w| + \mathbb{I}_{\text{else}}$  can perform both.

Significance: Current best protocol from its point game directly.

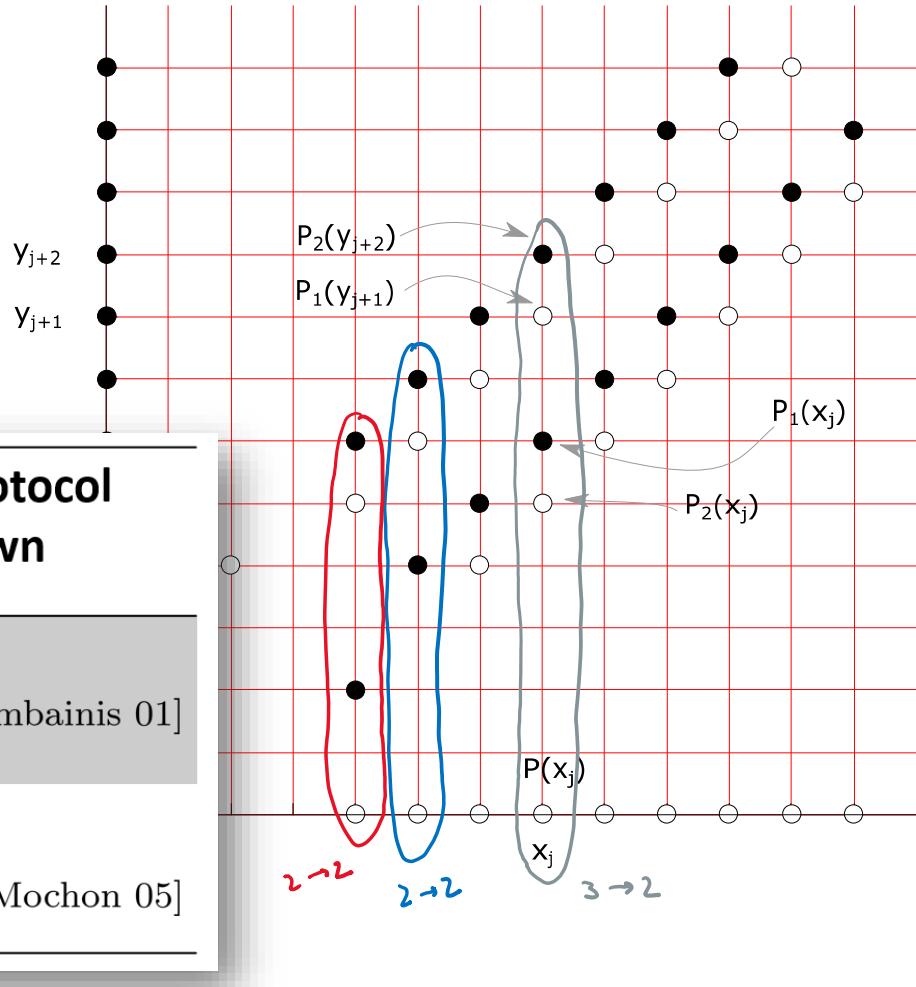
# 1/10 Explicit

For initialising and the catalyst state we need

- Merge
- Split

and to cle

	Bound	Best protocol known
Strong CF	$\epsilon \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{2}$ [Kitaev 03]	$\epsilon = \frac{1}{4}$ [Ambainis 01]
Weak CF	$\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ [Mochon 07] [Aharonov et al 16]	$\epsilon \rightarrow \frac{1}{6}$ [Mochon 05]



$$U_{3 \rightarrow 2} = |w_1\rangle \langle v_1| + (|v'_2\rangle + |w_2\rangle) \langle v'_2| + |v'_0\rangle \langle v'_0| + (|v'_2\rangle - |w_2\rangle) \langle w_2| + |v_1\rangle \langle w_1|$$

$$U_{2 \rightarrow 2} = |w_1\rangle \langle v_1| + (\alpha |v_1\rangle + \beta |w_2\rangle) \langle v_2| + |v_1\rangle \langle w_1| + (\beta |v_1\rangle - \alpha |w_2\rangle) \langle w_2|$$

# EMA | Problem



Find a  $U$  s.t.

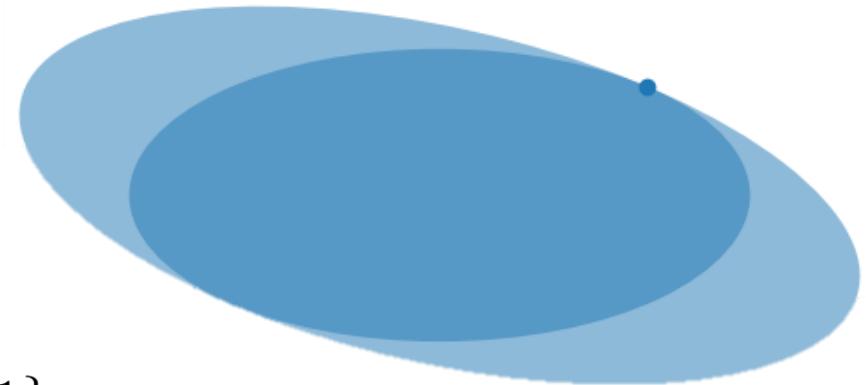
$$\sum x_{h_i} |h_i\rangle \langle h_i| - \sum x_{g_i} E_h U |g_i\rangle \langle g_i| U^\dagger E_h \geq 0$$

and

$$U(\underbrace{\sum \sqrt{p_{g_i}} |g_i\rangle}_{|v\rangle}) = \underbrace{\sum \sqrt{p_{h_i}} |h_i\rangle}_{|w\rangle}.$$

where  $X_h = \text{diag}(\omega_{h_1}, \omega_{h_2}, \dots)$ ,  $|\omega\rangle = (\sqrt{p_{h_1}}, \sqrt{p_{h_2}}, \dots)$ .  
 $X_g$  and  $|v\rangle$  are similarly defined.

# EMA | Elliptic Representation



- For  $X$  diagonal

$$\mathcal{E}_X = \{|u\rangle \mid \langle u| X |u\rangle = 1\}$$

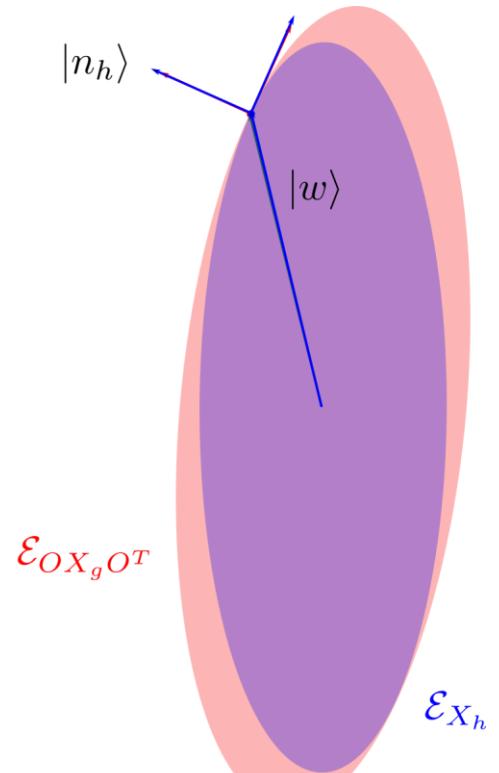
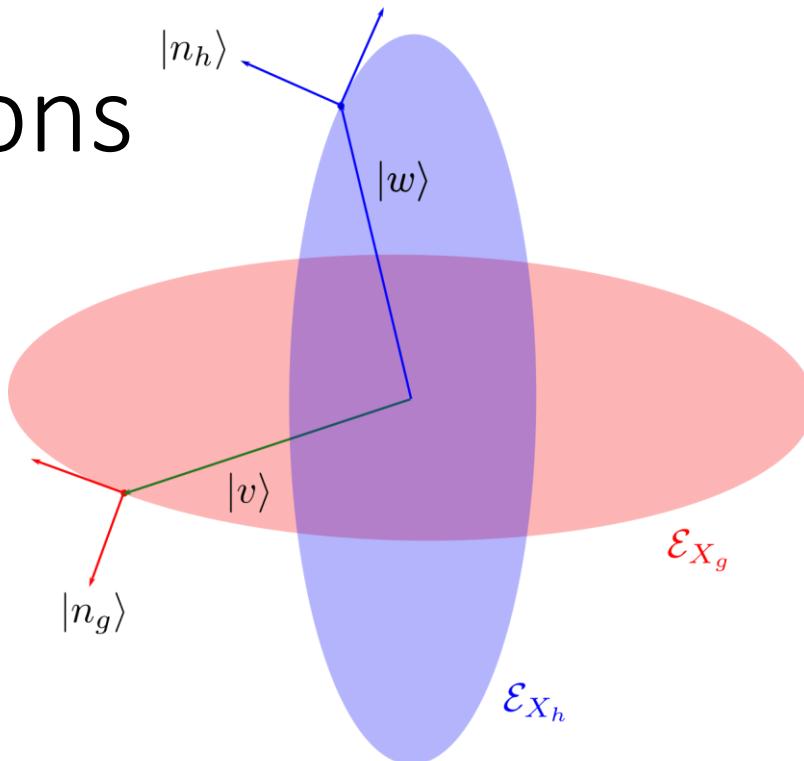
is  $\vec{u}$  which satisfy  $\sum x_i u_i^2 = 1$ , viz. an ellipsoid.

- Generalises to all  $X > 0$ .
- $\underbrace{X_h}_{H} \geq \underbrace{OX_gO^T}_{G}$  means  $\mathcal{E}_H$  is contained in  $\mathcal{E}_G$  (containment is reversed).

Image taken from a  $2 \rightarrow 2$  move related to  $\epsilon = 1/10$

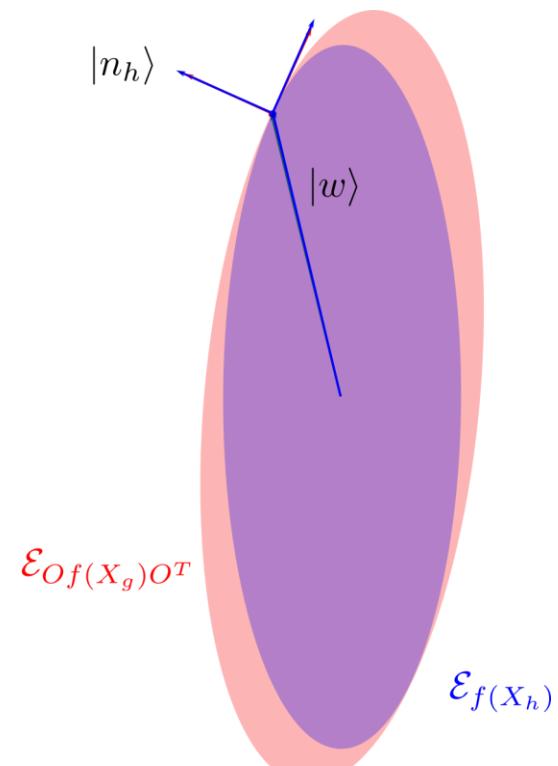
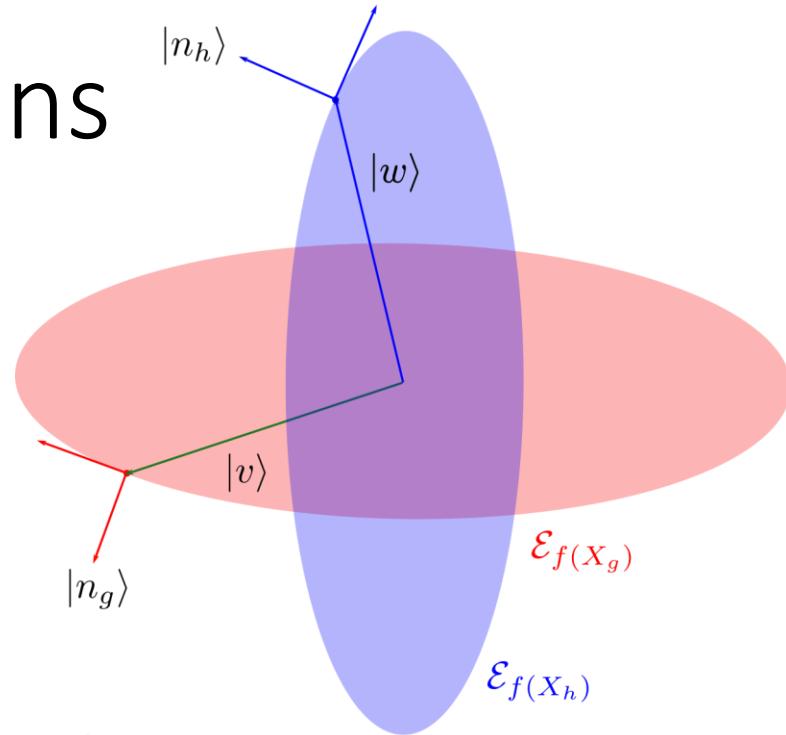
# EMA | Observations

- Suppose:  $\langle w | X_h | w \rangle = \langle v | X_g | v \rangle$  viz. average is preserved.
- Consequence: Ellipsoids touch along  $|w\rangle$ .
- Contact point:  $|c\rangle = |w\rangle / \sqrt{\langle w | X_h | w \rangle}$  belongs to both.
- $X_h \geq OX_gO^T$  requires
  - Normals: Must co-incide, viz.  $O|n_g\rangle = |n_h\rangle$ .
  - Curvature:  $\mathcal{E}_{X_h}$  more curved than  $\mathcal{E}_{X_g}$  at contact.



# EMA | Observations

- $\exists f$  s.t.
  - $f(H) \geq f(G) \iff H \geq G$
  - $\langle w| f(X_h) |w\rangle = \langle v| f(X_g) |v\rangle$
- Consequence: Ellipsoids touch along  $|w\rangle$ .
- Contact point:  $|c\rangle = |w\rangle / \sqrt{\langle w| f(X_h) |w\rangle}$  belongs to both.
- $f(X_h) \geq O f(X_g) O^T$  requires
  - Normals: Must co-incide, viz.  $O |n_g\rangle = |n_h\rangle$ .
  - Curvature:  $\mathcal{E}_{f(X_h)}$  more curved than  $\mathcal{E}_{f(X_g)}$  at contact.



# EMA | Big Picture

■ Best Strategy  
(SDP)

$\xrightarrow{\text{Dual}}$

Constraint: Honest player follows the protocol

$$\rho_f = \text{tr}(U\rho_i U^\dagger)$$

■ (SDP)

$\xrightarrow{\text{Kitaev}^\dagger}$

Constraint: Matrix inequality

$$\underbrace{Z_f}_H \geq \underbrace{(U Z_i U^\dagger)}_G$$

■ TDPG

frame

=Measurement outcome of  $Z_A \otimes Z_B$  with prob. given by  $|\psi\rangle$   
= Prob[ $Z_A \otimes Z_B, |\psi\rangle$ ]

■ Constraint: (\*)

$^\dagger$  Combine the dual SDP with the “honest state” or primal variable to get rid of the extra basis information.  
Same idea behind his bound on Strong CF.

# EMA | Big Picture (cont.)

| (\*) Expressible By Matrices  
(EBM)

$$H \geq G, |\psi\rangle \text{ s.t.}$$

$$\text{Prob}[G, |\psi\rangle] \rightarrow \text{Prob}[H, |\psi\rangle]$$

| Operator monotone function

$$f \text{ s.t.}$$

$$\forall H \geq G, f(H) \geq f(G)$$

| Valid functions

$$\sum_{\text{final}} \frac{\lambda z}{\lambda + z} p_z \geq \sum_{\text{init}} \frac{\lambda z}{\lambda + z} p_z$$

**$K$  : cone of EBM**

$\xrightarrow{\text{Dual}}$

**$K^*$  : cone of  
Operator Monotones**

$\xrightarrow{\text{Dual}}$

**$K^{**}$  : cone of  
valid functions**



# EMA | EBRM=EBM

Expressible By  
Real Matrices (EBRM)

$H \geq G, |\psi\rangle$  s.t.

$\text{Prob}[G, |\psi\rangle] \rightarrow \text{Prob}[H, |\psi\rangle]$

$K' : \text{cone of EBRM}$

$\xrightarrow{\text{Dual}}$

$K^* : \text{cone of}$   
 $\text{Operator Monotones}$

$\xrightarrow{\text{Dual}}$

Valid functions

$$\sum_{\text{final}} \frac{\lambda z}{\lambda+z} p_z \geq \sum_{\text{init}} \frac{\lambda z}{\lambda+z} p_z$$

$f$  s.t.

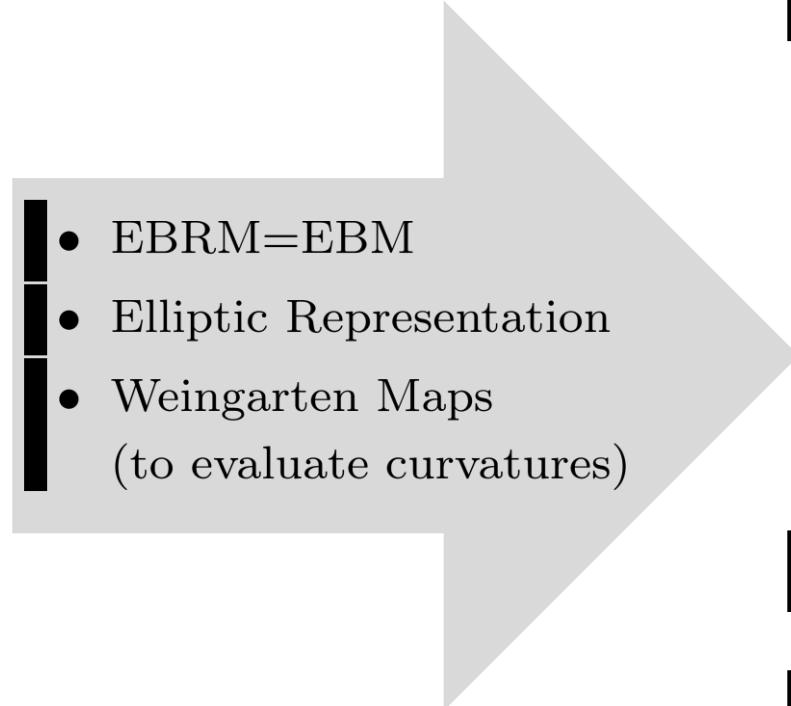
$$\forall H \geq G, f(H) \geq f(G)$$

$$\implies K' = K$$

Lemma:  $K' = K^{**}$

i.e. we don't need complex numbers for quantum weak coin flipping.

# EMA | Elliptic Monotone-Align Algorithm

- 
- EBRM=EBM
  - Elliptic Representation
  - Weingarten Maps  
(to evaluate curvatures)

- Given a  $k$  dimension problem:
  - Tighten;
  - Normals must coincide at the point of contact;
  - The inner ellipsoid must be more curved than the outer ellipsoid,
- which yields a  $k - 1$  dimension problem.
- Apply iteratively and combine to get  $U$ .
- Significance: Explicit protocol for Weak CF with  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ .

# Conclusion

# Summary

- TEF: Framework for finding protocols from games used in proving their existence.
  - Split and Merge, basic moves in these games, exactly converted to unitaries
    - $1/6$
    - Catalyst State
  - $1/10$  moves exactly known
- EMA Algorithm:
  - A systematic way of finding unitaries for any valid move, i.e., Protocol for WCF with  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ .

# Summary

Classically:  $\epsilon = \frac{1}{2}$  viz. at least one player can always cheat and win.

Quantumly:

	<b>Bound</b>	<b>Best protocol known</b>
Strong CF	$\epsilon \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{2}$ [Kitaev 03]	$\epsilon \Rightarrow \frac{1}{4\sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{2}$ [Ambainis 01] [Chailloux Kerenidis 09]
Weak CF	$\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ [Mochon 07] [Aharonov et al 16]	$\epsilon \rightarrow \frac{1}{10}$ (analytic) $\epsilon \rightarrow 0^6$ [Mochon 05] (algorithmic)

# Outlook

- • *Resources.* Compile the 1/10 game into a neater protocol
- • *Structure.* Relation between Mochon's polynomial assignment and the EMA solution
- • *Simpler.* Study the Pelchat-Høyer point games and its moves
- • *Robust.* Account for noise in the unitaries
  - • EMA will run with finite precision; quantify its effect on the bias
- • *Bounds.* Prove lower bounds on number of points needed for achieving a certain bias



?

# Thank you

The work was funded by FRIA, FNRS; FNRS grant QUICTIME; FNRS grant QuantAlgo.

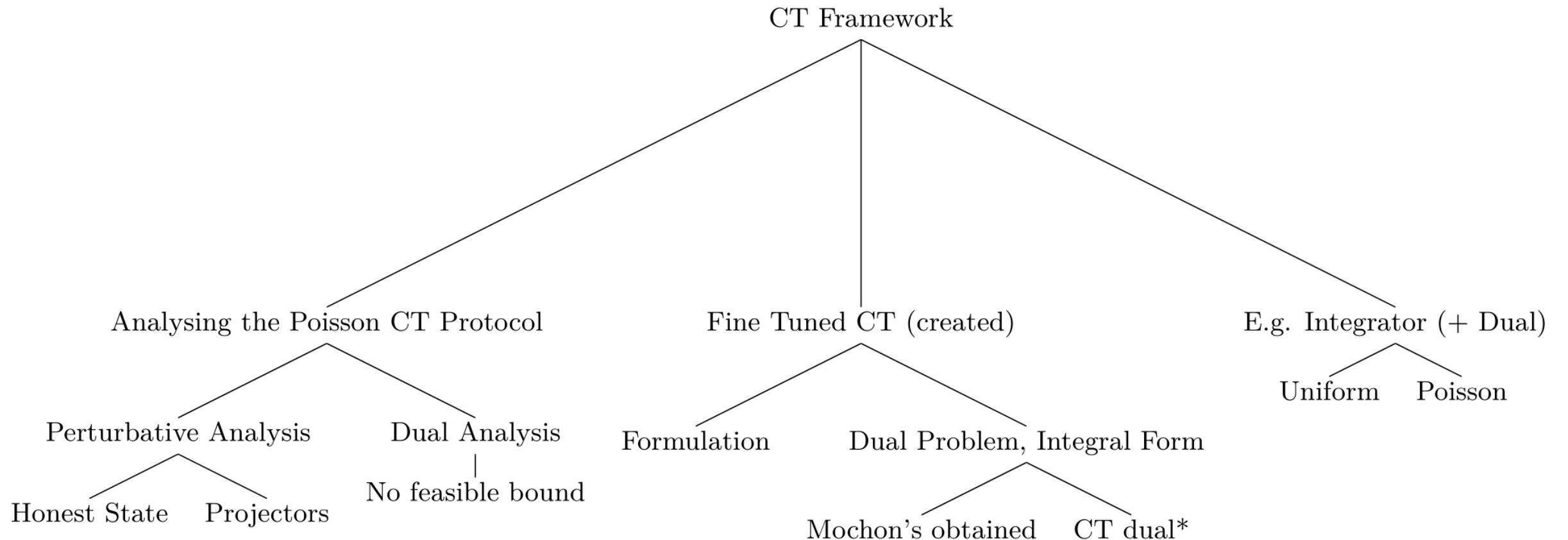


Figure 1: Attempting calculation of bias (performance parameter of the WCF protocols) using the CT framework

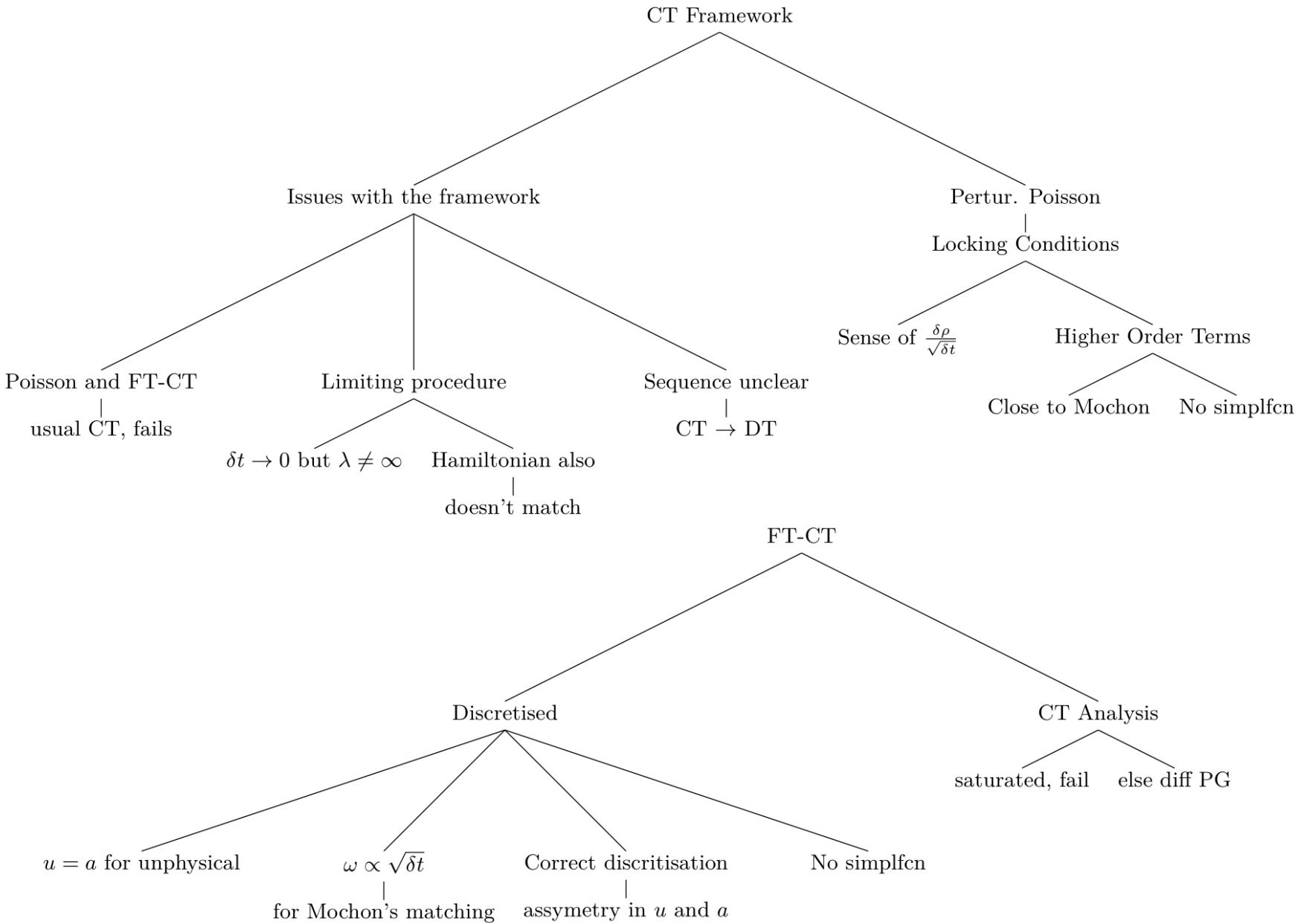


Figure 2: Comparing the difference in approach

Kitaev-Mochon Framework extension:  
TDPG → Explicit Protocol

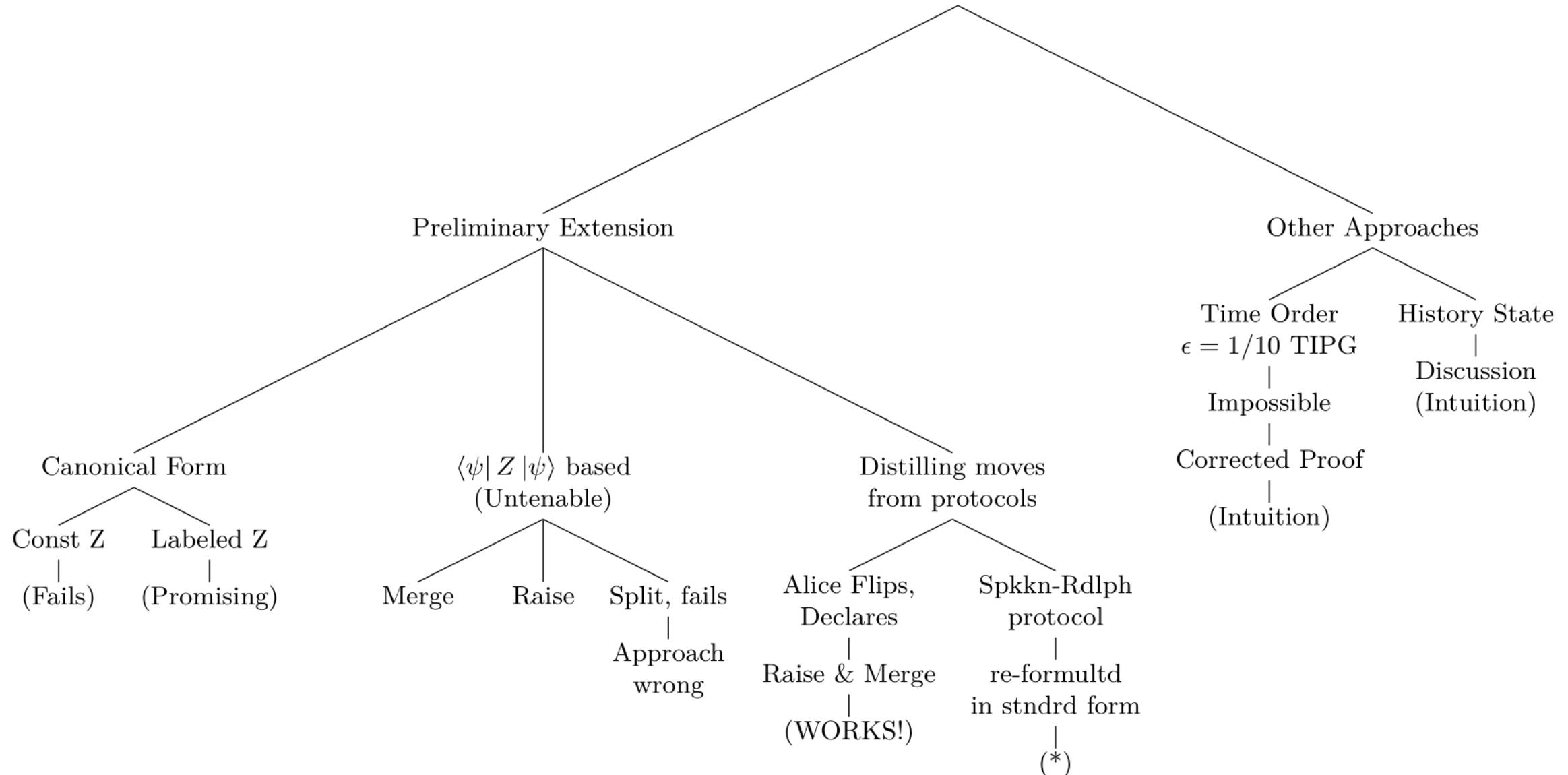


Figure 3: Extending the Kitaev-Mochon Framework to allow TDPG→Explicit Protocol construction

Kitaev-Mochon Framework extension:

TDPG → Explicit Protocol

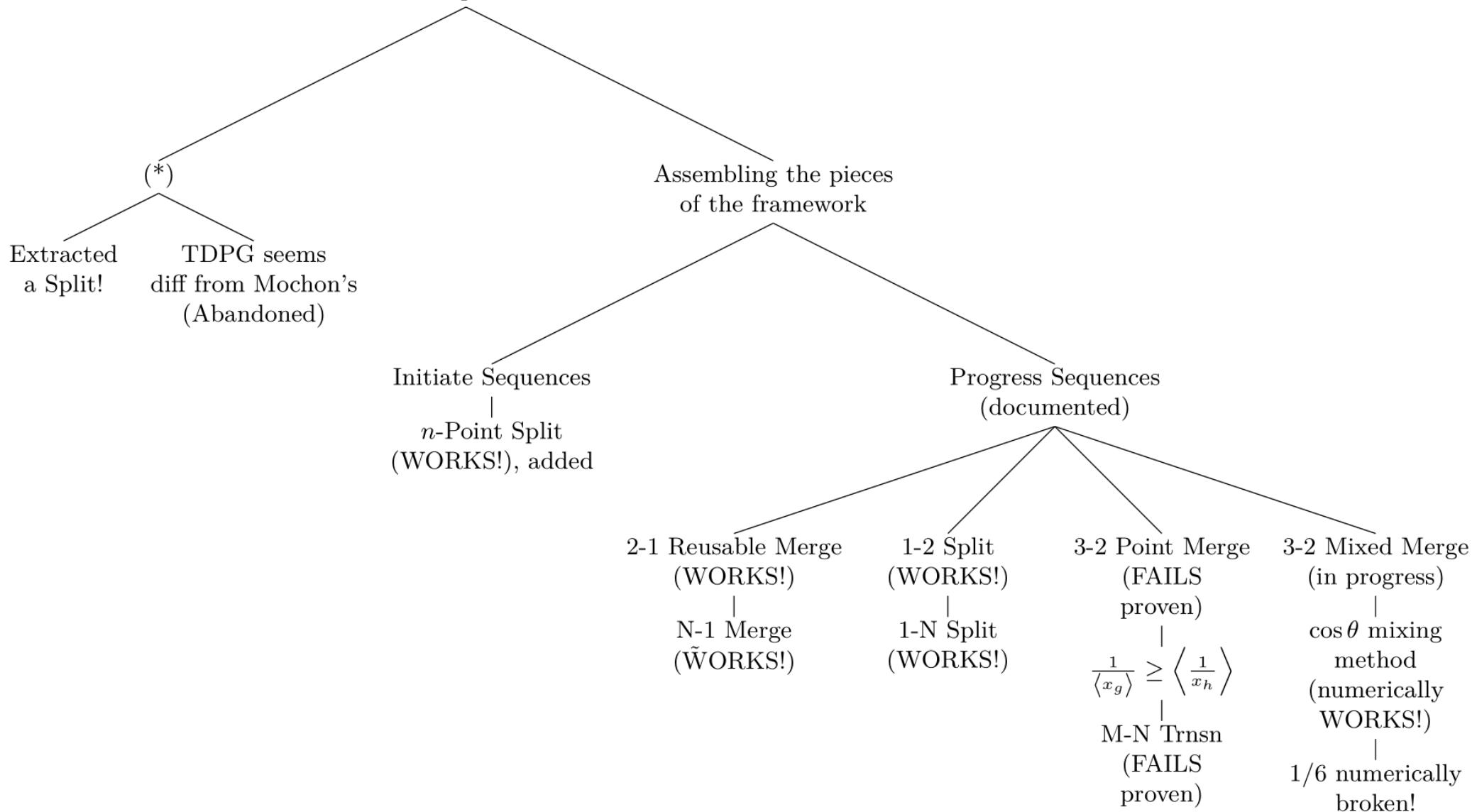


Figure 4: Adding moves to the framework for TDPG→Explicit Protocol construction