

Another reason that makes finding good qLDPC an hard task.

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October 2, 2023

**Claim 0.1.** *Let  $C_X/C_Z^\perp$  be CSS a qLDPC code with non constant distance. Denote by  $H_X, H_Z$  their parity check matrices and by  $C'_Z, H'_Z$  the code and the parity check matrix obtained by removing one arbitrary check from  $H_Z$ . Then  $C_X/C_Z^{\perp'}$  is a CSS pair with constant distance.*

*Proof.* First notice that any of the rows of  $H'_Z$  commute with the rows of  $H_X$ , so we defently obtain a CSS code with higher rate. Second any codeword of the quantum code  $C_X/C_Z^{\perp'}$  has the form

$$|\mathbf{x}\rangle = \sum_{z \in C_Z^{\perp'}} |x + z\rangle$$

Using the fact that the generator matrix of the dual of any binary code is the transposed parity check matrix of it, the above become:

$$|\mathbf{x}\rangle = \sum_{z \in \mathbb{F}_2^s} |x + H_Z^{\perp, prime} z\rangle$$

Observe that because  $C_X/C_Z^\perp \subset C_X/C_Z^{\perp'}$  we have also that the following state is in  $C_X/C_Z^{\perp'}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathbf{x}'\rangle &= \sum_{z \in \mathbb{F}_2^{s+1}} |x + H_Z^\perp z\rangle \\ &= \sim_{w \in \mathbb{F}_2} \sum_{z \in \mathbb{F}_2^s} |x + H_Z^{\perp, prime} z + h'w\rangle \end{aligned}$$

Where  $h'$  is the check that removed from  $H_Z$  to obtain  $C'_Z$ . Now let us give an quantum circuit act non-trivially on no more than constant qubits and with probability  $\frac{1}{2}$  transform  $|\mathbf{x}\rangle$  to  $|\mathbf{x}'\rangle$ . So first we prepare ancilla in the  $|+\rangle$  state, then controlled on it's value we add  $h'$ . After that we rotate back the ancilla by applying  $H$  (Hadamard) again and measuring, with probability  $\frac{1}{2}$  we measure  $|0\rangle$  and the remaining qubits hold the state  $|\mathbf{x}'\rangle$ . As  $h'$  is also a check of the LDPC code  $C_Z$  it has a constant weight and thus all the circuit touch a constant number of qubits. Therefore the operator which transform  $|\mathbf{x}\rangle$  into  $|\mathbf{x}'\rangle$  is supported only on paulis with constant degree.  $\square$