

# Optimizing Quantum Simulation of Low-Range Electronic Structure Hamiltonians

by

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## ABSTRACT

Quantum computational chemistry aims to use quantum computers to model molecular systems where classical computers struggle to handle the exponential complexity of quantum chemical effects. Typically, the simulation of such a physical system involves decomposing its Hamiltonian and approximating its evolution with deterministic Trotter-like methods or randomized algorithms such as qDRIFT. One important Hamiltonian is the electronic structure Hamiltonian arising from the Born-Oppenheimer approximation, which decomposes to  $O(n^4)$  terms in the generic case, leading to very high asymptotic gate costs. A decomposition technique called double factorization allows an asymptotic reduction of the number of terms at the expense of an increased cost of implementing an individual term. We propose, design, and analyze in detail a quantum circuit that can reduce the asymptotic cost of such an individual term for certain classes of Hamiltonians. Specifically, for a “ $K$ -range Hamiltonian”, a term that we define, we reduce the cost of a double-factorized term from  $O(n^2)$  to  $O(n(\log_2 n + K))$ . We also show that the orbital count threshold at which the proposed method’s asymptotic advantages translate into numerical cost savings is fairly low, enabling its use in realistic chemical systems. We also propose a framework for expanding the application of this circuit from strictly low-range Hamiltonians to generic real-world Hamiltonians, which are often “low-range dominant”.

Thesis supervisor: Aram Harrow

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# Chapter 1

## Introduction

The field of computational chemistry aims to use computers to simulate and better understand the behavior of complex chemical systems in the real world. Drug discovery, materials science, and nanotechnology are only a few areas that would benefit from the ability to computationally predict behavior of molecular systems. However, chemical systems at the particle level are inherently shaped by quantum effects, which are not easily modeled by a classical (non-quantum) computer. For example, the phenomenon of quantum superposition allows a system to be in a linear combination of an exponential number of basis states at the same time. A classical computer must numerically store this exponential amount of data, a prohibitive task.

Quantum computational chemistry aims to perform this task using quantum computers, which can represent such systems more easily because its hardware, by definition, is inherently quantum. A superposition in a chemical system, for example, can be represented by physically putting a quantum computer’s hardware into superposition.

The first half of this Chapter 1 will summarize well-known techniques in second quantization and Hamiltonian simulation that are relevant to our central problem in this paper, the electronic structure Hamiltonian. The second half will focus on one particular technique called “double factorization” that is useful on electronic structure Hamiltonians. Chapter 2 proposes a quantum circuit that can reduce the asymptotic cost of individual terms in the double factorization for certain types of Hamiltonians and numerically analyzes its cost in comparison to competing methods. Chapter 3 explores the usage of this quantum circuit in low-range and related Hamiltonians.

### 1.1 Hamiltonian Simulation

In any quantum system, the behavior in which its state changes over time is dictated by its Hamiltonian operator  $H$ . In particular, if the system starts in state  $|\psi(0)\rangle$ , then we can determine its state  $|\psi(t)\rangle$  at time  $t$ .

$$|\psi(t)\rangle = e^{-iHt} |\psi(0)\rangle \tag{1.1}$$

A wavefunction maps a continuous physical quantity (such as position) to an amplitude. A state denotes a physical system’s wavefunction at a particular moment. An operator linearly

maps wavefunctions to wavefunctions like how a matrix maps vectors to vectors.

The Hamiltonian  $H$  depends on many factors, such as the nature of interactions between particles in the system or external forces such as electric or magnetic fields acting in the system.  $H$ , and in turn  $U = e^{-iHt}$  can be very complex, and usually it's not feasible to simulate  $U$  exactly. Instead, we try to find a different operator  $\tilde{U}$  that is easy to simulate and sufficiently close to  $\tilde{U}$ . Usually we choose to define the error as the spectral norm (largest singular value) of the difference between  $U$  and  $\tilde{U}$ . The goal is for the error to be below some variable threshold  $\epsilon$ .

$$\epsilon \geq \|U - \tilde{U}\| = \|e^{-iHt} - \tilde{U}\| \quad (1.2)$$

At the same time, we want to minimize the cost of simulating  $\tilde{U}$  on a quantum computer. To function well in practice, quantum computers require error correction, which generally only work on particular sets of gates. The Clifford+T set is usually considered the most promising set, meaning that we must decompose  $\tilde{U}$  as a series of Clifford group gates and  $T$  gates. Because  $T$  gates over 100 to 10000 times [1] more costly than Clifford gates, the number of  $T$  gates, or the “ $T$ -count”, is often used as the cost metric. Hence, we wish to construct  $\tilde{U}$  within error  $\epsilon$  of  $e^{-iHt}$  while minimizing  $T$ -count.

This task is accordingly named Hamiltonian simulation.

One important Hamiltonian is the electronic structure Hamiltonian, which describes the behavior of electrons in a molecule consisting of many nuclei and electrons. In modeling this system, we use the Born-Oppenheimer approximation, which assumes that the positions of the nuclei are essentially fixed. This is justified by the fact that the nuclei are far more massive than the electrons, so we can study the movement of electrons separately from the movement of the nuclei. With this assumption, the electronic structure Hamiltonian contains only terms for the electrons' kinetic energies, for the interactions between electrons and nuclei, and for the interactions among electrons.

$$H = - \sum_p \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e} \nabla_p^2 - \sum_{p,P} \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Z_P}{|\vec{r}_p - \vec{R}_P|} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{p \neq q} \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{|\vec{r}_p - \vec{r}_q|} \quad (1.3)$$

$\vec{r}_p$  denotes the position of the  $p$ th electron, and  $\vec{r}_P$  and  $Z_P$  denote the position and charge of the  $P$ th nucleus.

The ultimate goal of electronic structure theory is to find the eigenvalues and eigenstates of  $e^{-iHt}$ , or the states that are invariant (up to a phase) under  $e^{-iHt}$ . The ability to simulate the behavior of  $e^{-iHt}$  on an arbitrary state can directly be used to find the eigenvalues using the quantum phase estimation algorithm. The details of this algorithm are explained in [2]; the relevant fact for this paper is the power unlocked by performing  $e^{-iHt}$ .

## 1.2 Second Quantized Fock States

We would like to model the electronic structure system described by  $H$  in (1.3). As previously described, the system consists of numerous identical electrons and numerous nuclei at fixed positions. The indistinguishability of the electrons means that the joint wavefunction is only determined by how many electrons are in each basis state, rather than which electron is

in which state. For example, electrons 1 and 2 being in respective states  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$  must create the same wavefunction as them being in the states  $\phi_2$  and  $\phi_1$ . In addition, the joint wavefunction of many identical fermions must be anti-symmetric upon exchange of any pair of fermions. For example, if we want to express a state where one electron is in state  $\phi_1$  and the other is in state  $\phi_2$ , a simple tensor product  $\phi_1 \otimes \phi_2$  would not be a valid joint wavefunction. Instead, it must be anti-symmetrized.

$$\psi = \phi_1 \otimes \phi_2 - \phi_2 \otimes \phi_1 \quad (1.4)$$

This required process can make many-body calculations very cumbersome. Fortunately, second quantization significantly simplifies the representation of many-body systems by introducing the Fock basis, whose states are inherently anti-symmetrized.

Suppose for a single electron we'd like to use a basis  $\{\phi_i\}$ . Although the basis has infinite size, usually only basis states below a certain energy threshold are relevant, restricting our concern to a finite basis  $\{\phi_i\}_{i \in [0, n)}$ .

If there are many identical particles, we often want to express a state where  $f_i$  particles are in the  $\phi_i$  state. We can label such a state with a vector  $\vec{f}$ . This is a Fock state  $|\vec{f}\rangle$ . For fermions (such as electrons),  $f_i \in \{0, 1\}$  due to the Pauli-Exclusion Principle, so  $\vec{f} \in \{0, 1\}^n$ .

$$|\vec{f}\rangle = |f_0, f_1, \dots, f_{n-1}\rangle \quad (1.5)$$

With  $n$  orbitals (basis states), there are  $2^n$  such Fock states, one for each  $n$ -bitstring  $\vec{f} \in \{0, 1\}^n$ . These  $2^n$  states form a complete basis of the many-body Hilbert space. That is, any state possible for a many-body system within these  $n$  orbitals can be expressed as a linear combination of these Fock states.

We can define fermionic creation  $a_i^\dagger$  and annihilation  $a_i$  operators that map Fock states to Fock states.

$$\begin{aligned} a_i^\dagger |\vec{f}\rangle &= a_i^\dagger |f_0, \dots, f_{n-1}\rangle \\ &= \delta_{f_i, 1} (-1)^{\sum_{j=0}^{i-1} f_j} |f_0, \dots, f_i \oplus 1, \dots, f_{n-1}\rangle \end{aligned} \quad (1.6)$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_i |\vec{f}\rangle &= a_i |f_0, \dots, f_{n-1}\rangle \\ &= \delta_{f_i, 0} (-1)^{\sum_{j=0}^{i-1} f_j} |f_0, \dots, f_i \oplus 1, \dots, f_{n-1}\rangle \end{aligned} \quad (1.7)$$

$a_i^\dagger$  transforms a Fock state with  $f_i = 0$  into a Fock state with  $f_i = 1$ , thereby “creating” a fermion in state  $\phi_i$  and adding a phase shift to account for anti-symmetry. If orbital  $i$  is already occupied, the new state is 0 (it disappears).  $a_i$  does the reverse of  $a_i^\dagger$  and de-occupies orbital  $i$ .

As typical with creation and annihilation operators, their product is a number operator  $n_i = a_i^\dagger a_i$  [3].

$$n_i |\vec{f}\rangle = f_i |f_0, \dots, f_{n-1}\rangle \quad (1.8)$$

The creation and annihilation operators have anti-commutation relations [3] that are analogous to typical commutation relations of creation and annihilation operators.

$$\{a_i^\dagger, a_j\} = \delta_{i,j} \quad (1.9)$$

$$\{a_i, a_j\} = \{a_i^\dagger, a_j^\dagger\} = 0 \quad (1.10)$$

Second quantization, in short, equips us with a concise representation of many-fermion wavefunction in the form of Fock states and operators  $a_i^\dagger, a_i$  to easily manipulate them.

### 1.3 Jordan-Wigner Transformation

The Fock basis allows us to easily represent physical systems of many electrons. We would like to encode these physical systems on a quantum computer made of qubits so that we can compute on them. Conveniently, it is very straightforward to do so with the Fock basis.

Quantum computers are comprised of qubits. A qubit is simply a system with a two-dimensional Hilbert space. One example is an electron spin (up or down). Given a basis  $\{|0\rangle, |1\rangle\}$ , the state of a qubit can be any normalized linear combination of these two basis vectors.

$$|\psi\rangle = A_0 |0\rangle + A_1 |1\rangle \text{ such that } |A_0|^2 + |A_1|^2 = 1 \quad (1.11)$$

The joint state of  $n$  qubits can be any normalized superposition of all  $2^n$  basis states  $\{|\vec{x}\rangle\}_{\vec{x} \in \{0,1\}^n} = \{|x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}\rangle\}_{\vec{x} \in \{0,1\}^n}$ .

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_{\vec{x} \in \{0,1\}^n} A_{\vec{x}} |\vec{x}\rangle \text{ such that } \sum_{\vec{x} \in \{0,1\}^n} |A_{\vec{x}}|^2 = 1 \quad (1.12)$$

It is then straightforward that basis states (1.5) of an  $n$ -orbital many-electron physical system correspond to basis states (1.12) of  $n$  qubits in a quantum computer. This is the Jordan-Wigner Encoding.

$$|\vec{f}\rangle \leftrightarrow |\vec{x}\rangle \quad (1.13)$$

That is, in the Jordan-Wigner Encoding, the value  $x_i$  of the  $i$ th qubit represents the occupation  $f_i$  of the orbital  $\phi_i$ .

Accordingly, creation (1.6) and annihilation (1.7) operators on the physical system also correspond to qubit operators.

$$a_i \leftrightarrow Z_0 Z_1 \dots Z_{i-1} |0\rangle \langle 1|_i \quad (1.14)$$

$$a_i^\dagger \leftrightarrow Z_0 Z_1 \dots Z_{i-1} |1\rangle \langle 0|_i \quad (1.15)$$

$$n_i = a_i^\dagger a_i \leftrightarrow |1\rangle \langle 1|_i \quad (1.16)$$

We use the short-hand  $U_i = I^{\otimes i} \otimes U \otimes I^{\otimes n-i-1}$  to denote applying a gate  $U$  on the  $i$ th qubit.

Observe that individual physical and annihilation operators map to a series of  $i$  gates (qubit operators). In the average case, this amounts to  $O(n)$  gates, which is not ideal. There are other encodings that optimize the efficiency of operator mappings, but they sacrifice the simplicity in basis state mappings exhibited by the Jordan-Wigner Encoding. For the purposes of this project, the Jordan-Wigner Encoding is sufficient.

## 1.4 Second-Quantized Electronic Structure Hamiltonian

Equipped with Fock states and creation and annihilation operators, we can rewrite the electron structure Hamiltonian from (1.3) in a simpler, second-quantized form.

$$H = \sum_{i,j} h_{ij} a_i^\dagger a_j + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j,k,l} h_{ijkl} a_i^\dagger a_j^\dagger a_k a_l \quad (1.17)$$

The real coefficients  $h_{ij}$  and  $h_{ijkl}$  are the projections of  $H$  onto the chosen single-particle basis  $\{\phi_i\}_{i \in [0,n)}$ . These can be calculated on a classical computer.

$$\begin{aligned} h_{ij} &= \langle \phi_i | \left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e} \nabla^2 - \sum_I \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Z_I}{|\vec{r} - \vec{R}_I|} \right) | \phi_j \rangle \\ &= \int \phi_i^*(\vec{r}) \left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e} \nabla^2 - \sum_I \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Z_I}{|\vec{r} - \vec{R}_I|} \right) \phi_j(\vec{r}) d^3\vec{r} \end{aligned} \quad (1.18)$$

$$\begin{aligned} h_{ijkl} &= \langle \phi_i, \phi_j | \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{|\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2|} | \phi_l, \phi_k \rangle \\ &= \iint \phi_i^*(\vec{r}_1) \phi_j^*(\vec{r}_2) \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{|\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2|} \phi_l(\vec{r}_1) \phi_k(\vec{r}_2) d^3\vec{r}_1 d^3\vec{r}_2 \end{aligned} \quad (1.19)$$

Observe from (1.18) that  $h_{ij}$ , which is real, must be symmetric between  $i$  and  $j$ . From (1.19),  $h_{ijkl}$ , which is also real, must also be symmetric between  $i$  and  $l$ ,  $j$  and  $k$ , and  $(i, l)$  and  $(j, k)$ . Inspired by this symmetry, we can rearrange the operators in the second summation using anti-commutation relations to put  $i, l$  and  $j, k$  next to each other.

$$\begin{aligned} H &= \sum_{i,j} h_{ij} a_i^\dagger a_j + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j,k,l} h_{ijkl} a_i^\dagger a_j^\dagger a_k a_l \\ &= \sum_{i,j} h_{ij} a_i^\dagger a_j - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j,k,l} h_{ijkl} a_i^\dagger a_j^\dagger a_l a_k \\ &= \sum_{i,j} h_{ij} a_i^\dagger a_j - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j,k,l} h_{ijkl} a_i^\dagger (\delta_{jl} - a_l a_j^\dagger) a_k \\ &= \sum_{i,j} h_{ij} a_i^\dagger a_j - \frac{1}{2} \left( \sum_{i,j,k} h_{ijkj} a_i^\dagger a_k - \sum_{i,j,k,l} h_{ijkl} a_i^\dagger a_l a_j^\dagger a_k \right) \\ &= \sum_{i,j} (h_{ij} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_k h_{ikjk}) a_i^\dagger a_j + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j,k,l} h_{ijkl} a_i^\dagger a_l a_j^\dagger a_k \\ &= \sum_{i,j} h'_{ij} a_i^\dagger a_j + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j,k,l} h'_{iljk} a_i^\dagger a_l a_j^\dagger a_k \\ &= H_{1e} + H_{2e} \end{aligned} \quad (1.20)$$

We introduced new coefficients  $h'_{ij}$  and  $h'_{iljk}$  for this new ordering and label the summations  $H_{1e}$  and  $H_{2e}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} h'_{ij} &= h_{ij} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_k h_{ikjk} \\ H_{1e} &= \sum_{i,j} h'_{ij} a_i^\dagger a_j \end{aligned} \tag{1.21}$$

$$\begin{aligned} h'_{iljk} &= h_{ijkl} \\ H_{2e} &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j,k,l} h'_{iljk} a_i^\dagger a_l a_j^\dagger a_k \end{aligned} \tag{1.22}$$

## 1.5 Trotterization

We would like to simulate  $U = e^{-iHt}$  on a quantum computer. Unfortunately, simulating  $U$  itself is very difficult: we don't even know what the eigenstates of  $H$  are. The main problem is  $H$  is sum of many terms, each of which act very differently on a state. We'd like to study each term separately. Fortunately, Trotterization allows us to do so.

Consider a generic Hamiltonian  $H$  that is the sum of  $L$  terms  $h_j$ .

$$H = \sum_{j=0}^{L-1} h_j \tag{1.23}$$

We can use the Lie-Trotter formula to approximate the target operator  $U = e^{-iHt}$  as the product of many smaller rotations.

$$U = e^{-iHt} = e^{-i \sum_{j=0}^{L-1} h_j t} = \lim_{M \rightarrow \infty} \left( \prod_{j=0}^{L-1} e^{-ih_j \frac{t}{M}} \right)^M \tag{1.24}$$

In other words, for sufficiently large  $M$ ,  $U$  is essentially equivalent to iterating  $M$  times through smaller evolutions  $e^{-ih_j \frac{t}{M}}$ . We can denote  $\Delta t = \frac{t}{M}$  the step size. This is the first-order Trotter-Suzuki Algorithm. One can use the term ‘‘Trotterize’’ to denote the breaking of  $e^{-iHt}$  into the product of many  $e^{-ih_j \Delta t}$

However,  $M$  must be sufficiently large to make the approximation sufficiently precise. In first-order Trotterization,  $M = O(\frac{(L\Delta t)^2}{\epsilon})$  (in which  $\lambda = \max_j \|h_j\|$ , the largest singular value of a term), scales quadratically with the number of terms  $L$ . Each iteration requires  $L$  steps, totalling  $O(ML = O(\frac{L^3(\Delta t)^2}{\epsilon}))$  steps.

We can reduce the asymptotic number of iterations necessary with the second-order Trotter-Suzuki Algorithm, which essentially iterates  $[h_j]_j$  in ascending order then descending order.

$$U = e^{-iHt} = e^{-i \sum_{j=0}^{L-1} h_j t} = \lim_{M \rightarrow \infty} \left( \prod_{j=0}^{L-1} e^{-ih_j \frac{t}{2M}} \prod_{j=L-1}^0 e^{-ih_j \frac{t}{2M}} \right)^M \tag{1.25}$$



Second-order Trotterization requires  $M = O(\frac{(L\Delta t)^{1.5}}{\sqrt{\epsilon}})$ . In fact, one can continue increasing the order: in general, the  $2k$ th order Trotterization requires  $M = O(\frac{(L\Delta t)^{1+\frac{1}{2k}}}{\epsilon^{\frac{1}{2k}}})$ . However, increasing the order  $k$  quickly increases the constant factor, so in practice it's rarely useful to go beyond  $k = 3$ .

Randomizing the order of the steps  $e^{-ih_j\Delta t}$  can significantly improve performance. [4] proposed the qDRIFT algorithm, which samples among terms  $[h_j]_j$ , assigning  $h_j$  a probability proportional to  $\|h_j\|$ . It requires at most  $\frac{2\lambda^2 t^2}{\epsilon} \leq \frac{2L^2 \Lambda^2 t^2}{\epsilon}$  total steps, in which  $\lambda = \sum_j \|h_j\|$ .

The power of such techniques like Trotterization and qDRIFT (breaking  $e^{-iHt}$  into many  $e^{-ih_j\Delta t}$ ) allows us to analyze each term  $h_j$  independently of the others. If one can simulate  $e^{-ih_j\Delta t}$  for arbitrary  $\Delta t$  for every term, one can approximately simulate  $U = e^{-iHt}$ .

For example, one can Trotterize the electronic structure Hamiltonian (1.20). One can substitute the operator correspondances from (1.14) and (1.15) into (1.20) to obtain the corresponding qubit Hamiltonian, which would be a sum of many tensor products of Paulis. However, with  $O(n^4)$  terms in (1.22), there end up being  $L = O(n^4)$  tensor products of Paulis in the qubit Hamiltonian. Each such term can contain up to  $O(n)$  Paulis, requiring  $O(n)$  gates to implement individually, with methods such as [5], [6], [7], [8]. However, most of these gates are actually Clifford gates, which don't contribute to the  $T$ -count. Taking the implementation of [8], there are only  $O(1)$  non-Clifford gates (namely  $R_z$ ), which cost  $O(\log_2 1/\epsilon)$   $T$  gates (where  $\epsilon$  is the error bound for the step). If we only consider asymptotic scaling in  $n$ , then we can consider a such a step to have  $O(1)$  cost. This relies on the assumption that the relative cost of  $T$  gates eclipses the  $O(n)$  quantity of Clifford gates in a step.

If we accordingly assume a constant cost per step, with  $L = O(n^4)$ , the number of iterations with second-order Trotter-Suzuki becomes  $M = O(L^{1.5}) = O(n^6)$ , totalling  $O(ML) = O(n^{10})$  total steps. In the rest of this paper, we will refer to this direct Trotterization as the "brute force method" We'd like to see if there's a more concise method.

## 1.6 Double Factorization of Electronic Structure Hamiltonian

Recall that  $h'_{iljk} = h_{ijkl}$  is symmetric between  $(i, l)$  and  $(j, k)$ .  $h'$  can then be treated as a real symmetric  $n^2 \times n^2$  matrix and eigendecomposed with eigenvalues  $\lambda_r$  and eigenvectors  $Q^{(r)}$  whose indices are  $(i, l)$  ordered pairs. A Cholesky decomposition is also an option but for now we will use an eigendecomposition. Denote  $R = \text{rank}(h')$ .

$$h'_{iljk} = \sum_{r=0}^{R-1} \lambda_r Q_{i,l}^{(r)} Q_{j,k}^{(r)} \quad (1.26)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
H_{2e} &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j,k,l} h'_{ijkl} a_i^\dagger a_l a_j^\dagger a_k \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j,k,l} \sum_{r=0}^{R-1} \lambda_r Q_{i,l}^{(r)} Q_{j,k}^{(r)} a_i^\dagger a_l a_j^\dagger a_k \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{r=0}^{R-1} \lambda_r \sum_{i,l} Q_{i,l}^{(r)} a_i^\dagger a_l \sum_{j,k} Q_{j,k}^{(r)} a_j^\dagger a_k \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{r=0}^{R-1} \lambda_r \left( \sum_{i,j} Q_{i,j}^{(r)} a_i^\dagger a_j \right)^2 \\
&= \sum_{r=0}^{R-1} H_{2e}^{(r)}
\end{aligned} \tag{1.27}$$

We have written  $H_{2e}$  as a sum of terms  $H_{2e}^{(r)}$ , defined in (1.28). The number  $R$  of terms is the rank of  $h'$ , and in the worst case  $R = n^2$ . However, for molecular systems,  $h'$  is often low-rank, with  $R$  often being  $O(n)$ , such as in the carbon-hydrogen systems studied in [9]. If we could simulate  $U_2^{(r)} = e^{-iH_{2e}^{(r)}\Delta t}$  for an arbitrary  $\Delta t$ , then we could Trotter or qDRIFT over these  $R$  terms to implement  $U_2$ , far fewer than the  $O(n^4)$  terms in direct Trotterization of  $H_{2e}$ .

$$H_{2e}^{(r)} = \frac{1}{2} \lambda_r \left( \sum_{i,j} Q_{i,j}^{(r)} a_i^\dagger a_j \right)^2 \tag{1.28}$$

Observe that  $h'_{ijkl}$  is symmetric between  $i$  and  $l$  and between  $j$  and  $k$ , implying that  $Q_{i,j}^{(r)}$  is symmetric between  $i$  and  $j$ . Each  $n^2$ -length vector  $Q^{(r)}$  can then be treated as a symmetric  $n \times n$  matrix to be further eigendecomposed with eigenvalues  $\lambda_s'^{(r)}$  and real orthonormal eigenvectors  $u_s^{(r)}$  as the columns of  $u^{(r)}$ , which is orthogonal.

$$\begin{aligned}
Q^{(r)} &= u^{(r)} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_0'^{(r)} & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \lambda_{n-1}'^{(r)} \end{bmatrix} u^{(r)T} \\
Q_{i,j}^{(r)} &= \sum_s \lambda_s'^{(r)} u_{is}^{(r)} u_{js}^{(r)}
\end{aligned} \tag{1.29}$$

We introduce the operators  $\tilde{a}_s^{(r)\dagger}, \tilde{a}_s^{(r)}$ , which are respectively linear combinations of the the creation operators  $\{a_i^\dagger\}_{i \in [0,n]}$  and annihilation operators  $\{a_i\}_{i \in [0,n]}$ . Because  $u^{(r)}$  is orthogonal (and therefore unitary), these  $\tilde{a}_s^{(r)\dagger}, \tilde{a}_s^{(r)}$  are actually creation and annihilation operators of a different Fock basis; that is, the Fock basis created from the single-particle basis  $\{\tilde{\phi}_s = \sum_i u_{is}^{(r)} \phi_i\}_{s \in [0,n]}$ . This rotated basis also has its own number operators  $\tilde{n}_s^{(r)}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{a}_s^{(r)\dagger} &= \sum_i u_{is}^{(r)} a_i^\dagger \\
\tilde{a}_s^{(r)} &= \sum_i u_{is}^{(r)} a_i \\
\tilde{n}_s^{(r)} &= \tilde{a}_s^{(r)\dagger} \tilde{a}_s^{(r)}
\end{aligned} \tag{1.30}$$

We can rewrite  $H_{2e}^{(r)}$  in terms of  $\tilde{a}_s^{(r)\dagger}, \tilde{a}_s^{(r)}, \tilde{n}_s^{(r)}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
H_{2e}^{(r)} &= \frac{1}{2} \lambda_r \left( \sum_{i,j} Q_{i,j}^{(r)} a_i^\dagger a_j \right)^2 \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \lambda_r \left( \sum_{i,j} \sum_s \lambda_s'^{(r)} u_{is}^{(r)} u_{js}^{(r)} a_i^\dagger a_j \right)^2 \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \lambda_r \left( \sum_s \lambda_s'^{(r)} \sum_i u_{is}^{(r)} a_i^\dagger \sum_j u_{js}^{(r)} a_j \right)^2 \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \lambda_r \left( \sum_s \lambda_s'^{(r)} \tilde{a}_s^{(r)\dagger} \tilde{a}_s^{(r)} \right)^2 \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \lambda_r \left( \sum_s \lambda_s'^{(r)} \tilde{n}_s^{(r)} \right)^2
\end{aligned} \tag{1.31}$$

We would like to simulate  $U_2^{(r)} = e^{-iH_{2e}^{(r)} \Delta t}$  for an arbitrary  $\Delta t$ . If the operator's eigenbasis were the same as the qubits' computational basis, it would be very simple. However, its eigenbasis is the Fock basis constructed from the rotated basis  $\{\tilde{\phi}_s\}$ . Meanwhile, the qubit computational basis  $\{|\vec{x}\rangle\}$  corresponds to the original physical Fock basis  $\{|\vec{f}\rangle\}$  constructed from  $\{\phi_i\}$ . To deal with this, we have to essentially rotate the operator  $U_r$  into the computational basis. [10] uses the Thouless Theorem to show that such a rotation operator  $U_R(u^{(r)})$  necessary can be calculated from  $u^{(r)}$  and corresponds to a maximum of  $\binom{n}{2} = O(n^2)$  gates on the quantum computer.

$$U_2^{(r)} = e^{-\frac{i\Delta t}{2} \lambda_r \left( \sum_s \lambda_s'^{(r)} \tilde{n}_s^{(r)} \right)^2} = U_R(u^{(r)})^\dagger e^{-\frac{i\Delta t}{2} \lambda_r \left( \sum_s \lambda_s'^{(r)} n_s \right)^2} U_R(u^{(r)}) = U_R(u^{(r)})^\dagger U_A^{(r)} U_R(u^{(r)}) \tag{1.32}$$

$$U_A^{(r)} = e^{-\frac{i\Delta t}{2} \lambda_r \left( \sum_s \lambda_s'^{(r)} n_s \right)^2} \tag{1.33}$$

### 1.6.1 Double-Factorized Expansion Method

We'd like to find a qubit analog to  $U_A^{(r)}$ . One way is to expand the square inside  $U_A^{(r)}$  and factor it into  $\binom{n+1}{2}$  individual operators, since the terms all commute. Let's call this the “double-factorized expansion method”, or “expansion method” for short.

$$\begin{aligned}
U_A^{(r)} &= e^{-\frac{i\Delta t}{2}\lambda_r \left(\sum_s \lambda_s^{(r)} n_s\right)^2} \\
&= e^{-\frac{i\Delta t}{2}\lambda_r \sum_{s,s'} \lambda_s^{(r)} \lambda_{s'}^{(r)} n_s n_{s'}} \\
&= \prod_{s,s'} e^{-\frac{i\Delta t}{2}\lambda_r \lambda_s^{(r)} \lambda_{s'}^{(r)} n_s n_{s'}} \\
&= \prod_s e^{-\frac{i\Delta t}{2}\lambda_s (\lambda_s^{(r)})^2 n_s} \prod_{s < s'} e^{-i\Delta t \lambda_r \lambda_s^{(r)} \lambda_{s'}^{(r)} n_s n_{s'}}
\end{aligned} \tag{1.34}$$

Each operator with a single  $n_s$  corresponds (up to a phase) to a  $R_z$  operator on the  $s$ th qubit in a quantum computer. Each operator with  $n_s n_{s'}$  corresponds (up to a phase) to a controlled  $R_z$  operator on the  $s$ th and  $s'$ th qubits in a quantum computer.

$$e^{-\frac{i\Delta t}{2}\lambda_r (\lambda_s^{(r)})^2 n_s} \leftrightarrow R_z\left(-\frac{\Delta t}{2}\lambda_r (\lambda_s^{(r)})^2\right)_s \tag{1.35}$$

$$R_z(\varphi) = \begin{bmatrix} e^{-i\frac{\varphi}{2}} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\frac{\varphi}{2}} \end{bmatrix} = e^{-i\frac{\varphi}{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\varphi} \end{bmatrix} = e^{-i\frac{\varphi}{2}} (|0\rangle\langle 0| + e^{i\varphi} |1\rangle\langle 1|) \tag{1.36}$$

$$e^{-\frac{i\Delta t}{2}\lambda_r \lambda_s^{(r)} \lambda_{s'}^{(r)} n_s n_{s'}} \leftrightarrow CR_z\left(-\frac{\Delta t}{2}\lambda_r \lambda_s^{(r)} \lambda_{s'}^{(r)}\right)_{s,s'} \tag{1.37}$$

$$CR_z(\varphi) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & e^{i\varphi} \end{bmatrix} \tag{1.38}$$

There are therefore  $n$   $R_z$  operators and  $\binom{n}{2}$   $CR_z$  operators in this decomposition. Each  $CR_z$  can be decomposed (up to a phase) to two  $CNOT$ s and three  $R_z$ s, shown in 1.1. This results in  $n + 3\binom{n}{2} = \frac{3n(n-1)}{2}$   $R_z$  gates total in  $U_A^{(r)}$ .

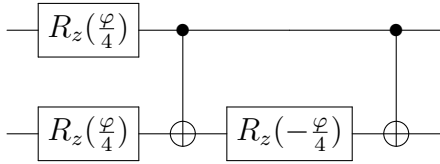


Figure 1.1: Construction of  $CR_z(\varphi)$  in (1.38) with two  $CNOT$  gates and three  $R_z$  gates

[11] achieves a fault-tolerant implementation of  $R_z$  using at most  $10 + 4 \log_2(\frac{1}{\epsilon_z})$  T-gates, in which  $\epsilon_z$  is the the desired error bound of  $R_z$ . Since  $U_A^{(r)}$  contains  $\frac{3n(n-1)}{2}$   $R_z$  gates and error (which is by operator norm) propagates sub-additively, we need  $\epsilon_z \leq \frac{\epsilon}{\frac{3n(n-1)}{2}}$  to guarantee a threshold  $\epsilon$  for the error of  $U_A^{(r)}$ .

We can then calculate the upper bound for the  $T$ -count  $\tilde{N}_T$  of  $U_A^{(r)}$  using the expansion method in terms of  $n, \frac{1}{\epsilon}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{N}_T &= \frac{3n(n-1)}{2} (10 + \log_2(\frac{1}{\epsilon_z})) \\
&= \frac{3n(n-1)}{2} (10 + \log_2(\frac{\frac{3n(n-1)}{2}}{\epsilon})) \\
&= O(n^2 \log_2(\frac{n}{\epsilon}))
\end{aligned} \tag{1.39}$$

## 1.7 Discussion

Similarly to (1.34),  $U_R(u^{(r)})$  in (1.32) can be decomposed into at most  $O(n^2)$  non-Clifford gates as described in [10], resulting in a  $O(n^2 \log_2(\frac{n}{\epsilon}))$   $T$ -count. Combined with (1.39), one can achieve an overall  $T$ -count of  $O(n^2 \log_2(\frac{n}{\epsilon}))$  for  $U_2^{(r)}$ .

We'd like to find alternative fault-tolerant implementations of  $U_2^{(r)}$  with a lower asymptotic  $T$ -count. For this to be possible, the chemical system must have a Hamiltonian with “easy” basis rotations; that is, it double factorizes such that all  $U_R(u^{(r)})$  decomposes using the [10] method to  $o(n^2)$  non-Clifford gates. We also need to both implement  $U_A^{(r)}$  more efficiently.

Chapter 2 introduces and explicitly constructs a quantum circuit that simulates  $U_R(u^{(r)})$  with  $O(n \log_2(\frac{n}{\epsilon}) + \log_2(\frac{1}{\epsilon})^2)$   $T$ -count. We call this quantum circuit the “coherent method”, in contrast to the “expansion method”. Chapter 3 explores types of Hamiltonians with “easy” basis rotations and how to effectively leverage the “coherent method” for these Hamiltonians.



## Chapter 2

# Quantum Arithmetic Circuit Design for Double-Factorized Electronic Structure Hamiltonian Simulation

We now propose and analyze a quantum circuit that approximately simulates  $U_A^{(r)}$  from (1.34).

$$U_A^{(r)} = e^{-\frac{i\Delta t}{2}\lambda_r \left(\sum_s \lambda_s'^{(r)} n_s\right)^2} \quad (2.1)$$

We can substitute the number operator correspondence from (1.16) to find the equivalent qubit operator.

$$U_A^{(r)} = e^{-\frac{i\Delta t}{2}\lambda_r \left(\sum_s \lambda_s'^{(r)} n_s\right)^2} \leftrightarrow e^{-\frac{i\Delta t}{2}\lambda_r \left(\sum_s \lambda_s'^{(r)} |1\rangle\langle 1|_s\right)^2} \quad (2.2)$$

This qubit operator, when acting on a qubit computational basis state  $|\vec{x}\rangle$ , it simply applies a phase shift that is a function of  $\vec{x}$ .

$$e^{-\frac{i\Delta t}{2}\lambda_r \left(\sum_s \lambda_s'^{(r)} |1\rangle\langle 1|_s\right)^2} |\vec{x}\rangle = e^{-\frac{i\Delta t}{2}\lambda_r \left(\sum_s \lambda_s'^{(r)} x_s\right)^2} |\vec{x}\rangle \quad (2.3)$$

We want to find an efficient way to approximately simulate  $U_A^{(r)}$ . That is, we want to find an operator  $\tilde{U}_A^{(r)}$  that applies the specified phase rotation on  $|\vec{x}\rangle$  as precisely as possible and with as few gates as possible. As a reminder, the error (and therefore precision) is measured by the operator norm of the difference in the ideal and approximate operators.  $\epsilon$  is a parameter that limits the maximum error of this approximation and it affects the cost of  $\tilde{U}_A^{(r)}$ . A tighter bound requires more gates to achieve that bound.

$$\epsilon \geq \|U_A^{(r)} - \tilde{U}_A^{(r)}\| = \|e^{-\frac{i\Delta t}{2}\lambda_r \left(\sum_s \lambda_s'^{(r)} n_s\right)^2} - \tilde{U}_A^{(r)}\| \quad (2.4)$$

(1.34) presented a method that simulated  $U_A^{(r)}$  exactly (no error) but it required  $O(n^2)$  gates. We now present a  $\tilde{U}_A^{(r)}$  that requires  $O(n \log_2(\frac{n}{\epsilon}) + \log_2(\frac{1}{\epsilon})^2)$  gates. The idea is to coherently calculate the phase of the phase rotation on a separate qubit register and use

these qubits representing the phase as controls to apply a phase rotation. Hence, we call this the “coherent” method.

More formally, denote the value of the summation in the phase rotation as  $y_r(\vec{x})$ .

$$\begin{aligned} y_r(\vec{x}) &= \sum_s \lambda_s^{(r)} x_s \\ U_A^{(r)} |\vec{x}\rangle &= e^{-i \frac{\Delta t}{2} \lambda_r y_r(\vec{x})^2} |\vec{x}\rangle \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

We begin with a register of  $n$  qubits in a Fock state  $|\vec{x}\rangle$  and introduce an ancilla register of  $\frac{m}{2}$  and another of  $m$  qubits, both initialized to zeros. We calculate an approximation  $\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})$  onto the smaller ancilla register. We use the value stored in the smaller register to compute an approximation  $\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2$  into the larger register. Then we use values of the  $m$  ancilla qubits to rotate the phase by  $e^{-i \frac{\Delta t}{2} \lambda_r \tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2} |\vec{x}\rangle$ . Finally, we uncompute the ancilla register and remove them afterwards. These steps comprise the proposed  $\tilde{U}_A^{(r)}$ . If we wish to construct this circuit fault-tolerantly (i.e. with Clifford gates and T gates), the (2.9) step, which is non-Clifford, will be an approximation.

$$|\vec{x}\rangle \rightarrow |\vec{x}\rangle |0^{\frac{m}{2}}\rangle |0^m\rangle \quad (2.6)$$

$$\rightarrow |\vec{x}\rangle |\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})\rangle |0^m\rangle \quad (2.7)$$

$$\rightarrow |\vec{x}\rangle |\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})\rangle |\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2\rangle \quad (2.8)$$

$$\rightarrow e^{-i \frac{\Delta t}{2} \lambda_r \tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2} |\vec{x}\rangle |\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})\rangle |\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2\rangle \quad (2.9)$$

$$\rightarrow e^{-i \frac{\Delta t}{2} \lambda_r \tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2} |\vec{x}\rangle |0^{\frac{m}{2}}\rangle |0^m\rangle \quad (2.10)$$

$$\rightarrow e^{-i \frac{\Delta t}{2} \lambda_r \tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2} |\vec{x}\rangle \quad (2.11)$$

$$= e^{-i \frac{\Delta t}{2} \lambda_r (\sum_s \tilde{\lambda}_s^{(r)} |1\rangle\langle 1|_s)^2} |\vec{x}\rangle \quad (2.12)$$

$$\approx \tilde{U}_A^{(r)} |\vec{x}\rangle \quad (2.13)$$

## 2.1 Summation

Because  $\lambda^{(r)}$  can assume any real (including irrational) values, a finite set of qubits will not be able to represent  $y_r(\vec{x}) = \sum_s \lambda_s^{(r)} x_s$  precisely. Instead, we compute an approximation  $\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})$  that can be expressed in  $\frac{m}{2}$  bits. We essentially truncate (or round) each term in the sum and add them together.  $m$  can be increased to enhance precision at the cost of ancilla qubits and more gates, and vice versa. In short, we'd like to use the qubits  $|\vec{x}\rangle$  to transform  $|0^{\frac{m}{2}}\rangle$  to  $|\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})\rangle$ .

$$|\vec{x}\rangle |0^{\frac{m}{2}}\rangle \rightarrow |\vec{x}\rangle |\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})\rangle = |\vec{x}\rangle \left| \sum_s \tilde{\lambda}_s^{(r)} x_s \right\rangle \quad (2.14)$$

The encoding between values  $z$  and qubit states must be able to handle negative numbers and must be able to hold the all possible values of  $\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})$ . We define  $Y_r$  as the largest number (by absolute value) that the register must hold, and we assign qubit  $j$  to represent a value



$2^{M_r - (\frac{m}{2} - 1) + j}$ , where  $M_r$  is defined below. We use a signed method, so qubit  $\frac{m}{2} - 1$  represents the sign of the number.

$$Y_r = \max_{\vec{x} \in \{0,1\}^n} |y_r(\vec{x})| = \max \left( \sum_{s: \lambda_s^{(r)} > 0} |\lambda_s^{(r)}|, \sum_{s: \lambda_s^{(r)} < 0} |\lambda_s^{(r)}| \right) \quad (2.15)$$

$$M_r = \lfloor \log_2 Y_r \rfloor + 2 \quad (2.16)$$

$$|\vec{y}\rangle \leftrightarrow \sum_{j=-\infty}^{\frac{m}{2}-1} (-1)^{\delta_{j, \frac{m}{2}-1}} y_j 2^{M_r - (\frac{m}{2} - 1) + j} \quad (2.17)$$

Then this register can hold all values between  $-2^{M_r}$  and  $2^{M_r} - 2^{M_r - (\frac{m}{2} - 1)}$  that are multiples of  $2^{M_r - (\frac{m}{2} - 1)}$ . By the definition of  $M_r$ , all possible  $\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})$  lie within this range. We can then define the bits  $[\lambda_s^{(r)}]_j$  of each  $\lambda_s^{(r)}$  in this signed binary form.

$$\lambda_s^{(r)} = \sum_{j=-\infty}^{\frac{m}{2}-1} (-1)^{\delta_{j, \frac{m}{2}-1}} [\lambda_s^{(r)}]_j 2^{M_r - (\frac{m}{2} - 1) + j} \quad (2.18)$$

Since we only care about the bits for the values  $2^{M_r - (\frac{m}{2} - 1)}$  to  $2^{M_r}$ ,  $\tilde{\lambda}_s^{(r)}$  is the accordingly truncated version of  $\lambda_s^{(r)}$ .

$$\tilde{\lambda}_s^{(r)} = \sum_{j=0}^{\frac{m}{2}-1} (-1)^{\delta_{j, \frac{m}{2}-1}} [\lambda_s^{(r)}]_j 2^{M_r - (\frac{m}{2} - 1) + j} \quad (2.19)$$

As shown in A.1, (2.7) can be achieved by a series of controlled additions. There are many ways to implement such an adder, we chose the most direct way, which simply converts a classical adder into quantum circuits. A.2 shows how to implement a controlled addition of an arbitrary  $w$  in the described signed form.

$$w = \sum_{j=0}^{\frac{m}{2}-1} (-1)^{\delta_{j, \frac{m}{2}-1}} [w]_j 2^{M_r - (\frac{m}{2} - 1) + j} \quad (2.20)$$

## 2.2 Squaring

We now have a register of  $\frac{m}{2}$  qubits representing the value  $\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})$  and use this to calculate a value of  $\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2$  on the register of  $m$  qubits.

$$|\vec{x}\rangle |\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})\rangle |0^m\rangle \rightarrow |\vec{x}\rangle |\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})\rangle |\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2\rangle \quad (2.21)$$

We now design a circuit that adds the square of an arbitrary signed  $\frac{m}{2}$ -qubit  $|w\rangle$  to an  $m$ -qubit register.

$$|w\rangle |z\rangle \rightarrow |w\rangle |z + w^2\rangle \quad (2.22)$$

Because the smallest value represented by a qubit in the  $|w\rangle$  register is  $2^{M_r - (\frac{m}{2} - 1)}$ , the smallest value represented by a qubit in the  $|z\rangle$  register will be  $2^{2(M_r - (\frac{m}{2} - 1))}$ . So qubit  $k$  in the latter register will have value  $(-1)^{\delta_{k,m-1}} 2^{2(M_r - (\frac{m}{2} - 1)) + k}$ .

We can expand one of the  $w$  to turn  $w^2$  into a sum.

$$w^2 = \sum_{j=0}^{\frac{m}{2}-1} (-1)^{\delta_{j,\frac{m}{2}-1}} [w]_j 2^{M_r - (\frac{m}{2} - 1) + j} w \quad (2.23)$$

If one is to add  $w^2$  to  $z$ , it's equivalent to adding each of these terms separately. The  $j$ th term in (2.23) is only nonzero if  $[w]_j = 1$ , so it's equivalent to a having a control on the  $j$ th qubit in  $|w\rangle$ . Adding  $2^{M_r - (\frac{m}{2} - 1) + j} w$  is equivalent to adding  $w$  but shifted up  $j$  qubits. Note that because  $[w]_{\frac{m}{2}-1}$  is a sign bit, it must continue to be added to all bits in  $|z\rangle$  until the end, accordingly with classical signed addition. A.3 shows a quantum circuit that adds  $[w]_j 2^{M_r - (\frac{m}{2} - 1) + j} w$ . We can handle the  $(-1)^{\delta_{j,\frac{m}{2}-1}}$ , which flips the sign for  $j = \frac{m}{2} - 1$ , by performing a controlled subtraction instead of an addition. A controlled subtraction is equivalent to the Hermitian (in this case, a reverse circuit) of the controlled addition.

Performing the circuit described in 2.23 using  $w = \tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})$  will successfully accomplish 2.21.

## 2.3 Phase Rotation

We now have a register of  $m$  qubits in which the  $k$ th qubit has state  $|\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2\rangle_k$ .

$$\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2 = \sum_k (-1)^{\delta_{k,m-1}} [\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2]_k 2^{2(M_r - (\frac{m}{2} - 1)) + k} \quad (2.24)$$

As described in (2.9), we'd like to apply a phase of  $e^{-i\frac{\Delta t}{2}\lambda_r \tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2}$ . We can rewrite this phase in the form  $e^{i\sum_k [\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2]_k \varphi_k}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{\Delta t}{2} \lambda_r \tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2 &= \frac{\Delta t}{2} \lambda_r \sum_k (-1)^{\delta_{k,m-1}} [\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2]_k 2^{2(M_r - (\frac{m}{2} - 1)) + k} \\ &= \sum_k [\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2]_k \varphi_k \end{aligned} \quad (2.25)$$

$$\varphi_k = -(-1)^{\delta_{k,m-1}} \frac{\Delta t}{2} \lambda_r 2^{2(M_r - (\frac{m}{2} - 1)) + k} \quad (2.26)$$

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{\Delta t}{2} \lambda_r \tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2 &= \frac{\Delta t}{2} \lambda_r \sum_k (-1)^{\delta_{k,m-1}} [\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2]_k 2^{2(M_r - (\frac{m}{2} - 1)) + k} \\ &= \sum_k [\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2]_k \varphi_k \end{aligned} \quad (2.27)$$

We can then decompose the phase operation into several  $R_z$  gates. These gates are shown in A.1.

$$\begin{aligned}
|\vec{x}\rangle |\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})\rangle |\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2\rangle &\rightarrow e^{i\frac{\Delta t}{2}\lambda_r\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2} |\vec{x}\rangle |\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})\rangle |\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2\rangle \\
&= |\vec{x}\rangle |\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})\rangle e^{i\sum_k [\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2]_k \varphi_k} |\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2\rangle \\
&= |\vec{x}\rangle |\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})\rangle \prod_k e^{i[\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2]_k \varphi_k} |\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2\rangle \\
&= |\vec{x}\rangle |\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})\rangle \prod_k (|0\rangle\langle 0| + e^{i\varphi_k} |1\rangle\langle 1|)_k |\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2\rangle \\
&= |\vec{x}\rangle |\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})\rangle e^{i\sum_k \varphi_k} \prod_k R_z(\varphi_k)_k |\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2\rangle
\end{aligned} \tag{2.28}$$

$$R_z(\varphi) = \begin{bmatrix} e^{-i\frac{\varphi}{2}} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\frac{\varphi}{2}} \end{bmatrix} = e^{-i\frac{\varphi}{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\varphi} \end{bmatrix} = e^{-i\frac{\varphi}{2}} (|0\rangle\langle 0| + e^{i\varphi} |1\rangle\langle 1|) \tag{2.29}$$

We observe that factoring the phase into  $R_z$  rotations results in a global phase factor  $e^{i\sum_k \varphi_k}$ . However, such a phase can be ignored as long as it is independent of  $\vec{x}$  (which it is).

Because the  $R_z$  gate is not a Clifford gate, it cannot be directly implemented in a fault-tolerant way. Instead, it must be approximated using Clifford and  $T$  gates. The number of such gates scales with  $O(\log_2(\frac{1}{\epsilon_z}))$ , where  $\epsilon_z$  is the desired precision of the  $R_z$  operator. An implementation by [11] achieves a  $T$ -count of  $10 + 4\log_2(\frac{1}{\epsilon_z})$ .

Once the phase has been applied, it is necessary to uncompute the values  $\tilde{y}_r(\vec{x}), \tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2$  computed in the ancilla registers and reset the registers to zeros. One can simply do this by applying all the previous gates (in the summation and squaring) in reverse order. Then the empty registers can be safely removed and  $\tilde{U}_A^{(r)}$  has successfully been applied.

## 2.4 Error Analysis

The size of the ancilla registers is determined by  $m$  and affects the precision of the applied phase. A larger  $m$  means more ancilla registers and a more precise phase, but increases the gate cost. If we want to guarantee an error below  $\epsilon$  accordingly with (2.4),  $m$  must be sufficiently large. We now calculate the relation between  $\epsilon$  and  $m$ . This is to say that we upper bound the error  $||U_A^{(r)} - \tilde{U}_A^{(r)}||$  in terms of  $m$ .

The error originates from both the truncation of  $\lambda_s^{(r)}$  into  $\tilde{\lambda}_s^{(r)}$  and the inherent error in applying non-Clifford ( $R_z$ ) gates. The error then propagates into  $\tilde{U}_A^{(r)}$ . So we begin by bounding the error in  $\tilde{\lambda}_s^{(r)}$ .

$$|\lambda_s^{(r)} - \tilde{\lambda}_s^{(r)}| = \sum_{j=-\infty}^{-1} [\lambda_s^{(r)}]_j 2^{Mr - (\frac{m}{2}-1)+j} \leq \sum_{j=-\infty}^{-1} 2^{Mr - (\frac{m}{2}-1)+j} \leq 2^{Mr - (\frac{m}{2}-1)} \leq \frac{4Y_r}{2^{\frac{m}{2}-1}} \tag{2.30}$$

We propagate this error to  $\tilde{y}(\vec{x})$ .

$$|y_r(\vec{x}) - \tilde{y}(\vec{x})| = |\sum_s (\lambda_s^{(r)} - \tilde{\lambda}_s^{(r)}) x_s| \leq n |\lambda_s^{(r)} - \tilde{\lambda}_s^{(r)}| \leq \frac{Y_r}{2^{\frac{m}{2}-3}} \tag{2.31}$$

We propagate this error to  $\tilde{y}(\vec{x})^2$ .

$$\begin{aligned} |y_r(\vec{x})^2 - \tilde{y}(\vec{x})^2| &= |2y_r(\vec{x})(y_r(\vec{x}) - \tilde{y}(\vec{x})) - (y_r(\vec{x}) - \tilde{y}(\vec{x}))^2| \\ &\leq \max \left( 2|y_r(\vec{x})|n\frac{Y_r}{2^{\frac{m}{2}-3}}, \left(n\frac{Y_r}{2^{\frac{m}{2}-3}}\right)^2 \right) \end{aligned} \quad (2.32)$$

Recall that there is some error generated from the  $m$   $R_z$  gates in  $\tilde{U}_A^{(r)}$ . Each gate generates error  $\epsilon_z$ , which is variable depending on how many Clifford +  $T$  gates we use to implement it. Since the operator norm is a norm, the total error is sub-additive.

$$\|e^{-\frac{i\Delta t}{2}\lambda_r} \left( \sum_s \tilde{\lambda}_s^{(r)} |1\rangle\langle 1|_s \right)^2 - \tilde{U}_A^{(r)}\| \leq m\epsilon \quad (2.33)$$

We can propagate both errors into the overall error  $\|U_A^{(r)} - \tilde{U}_A^{(r)}\|$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \|U_A^{(r)} - \tilde{U}_A^{(r)}\| &\leq \|U_A^{(r)} - e^{-\frac{i\Delta t}{2}\lambda_r} \left( \sum_s \tilde{\lambda}_s^{(r)} |1\rangle\langle 1|_s \right)^2\| + \|e^{-\frac{i\Delta t}{2}\lambda_r} \left( \sum_s \tilde{\lambda}_s^{(r)} |1\rangle\langle 1|_s \right)^2 - \tilde{U}_A^{(r)}\| \\ &\leq \max_{|\psi\rangle: \|\psi\rangle\|=1} \|(U_A^{(r)} - e^{-\frac{i\Delta t}{2}\lambda_r} \left( \sum_s \tilde{\lambda}_s^{(r)} |1\rangle\langle 1|_s \right)^2) |\psi\rangle\| + m\epsilon_z \\ &= \max_{\vec{x} \in \{0,1\}^n} \|(e^{-\frac{i\Delta t}{2}\lambda_r} y_r(\vec{x})^2 - e^{-\frac{i\Delta t}{2}\lambda_r} \tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2) |\vec{x}\rangle\| + m\epsilon_z \\ &= \max_{\vec{x} \in \{0,1\}^n} \|(e^{-\frac{i\Delta t}{2}\lambda_r} (y_r(\vec{x})^2 - \tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2) - 1) |\vec{x}\rangle\| + m\epsilon_z \\ &\leq \max_{\vec{x} \in \{0,1\}^n} \frac{\Delta t}{2} |\lambda_r| |y_r(\vec{x})^2 - \tilde{y}_r(\vec{x})^2| + m\epsilon_z \\ &\leq \frac{\Delta t}{2} |\lambda_r| \max_{\vec{x} \in \{0,1\}^n} \max \left( 2|y_r(\vec{x})|n\frac{Y_r}{2^{\frac{m}{2}-3}}, \left(n\frac{Y_r}{2^{\frac{m}{2}-3}}\right)^2 \right) + m\epsilon_z \\ &= n \frac{|\lambda_r| Y_r^2 \Delta t}{2^{\frac{m}{2}-4}} \max \left( 1, \frac{n}{2^{\frac{m}{2}-2}} \right) + m\epsilon_z \end{aligned} \quad (2.34)$$

We want  $m$  to be large enough and  $\epsilon_z$  small enough that this quantity is at most  $\epsilon$ . We can calculate the thresholds  $m^*$  and  $\epsilon_z^*$  above which this is the case. To make the calculations simpler, we can (arbitrarily) restrict both terms to at most  $\frac{\epsilon}{2}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\epsilon}{2} &\geq n \frac{|\lambda_r| Y_r^2 \Delta t}{2^{\frac{m}{2}-4}} \max \left( 1, \frac{n}{2^{\frac{m}{2}-2}} \right) \\ \implies m^* &\approx \max(2 \log_2 \left( n \frac{|\lambda_r| Y_r^2 \Delta t}{\epsilon} \right) + 4, \log_2 \left( n^2 \frac{|\lambda_r| Y_r^2 \Delta t}{\epsilon} \right) + 6) \\ &= 2 \log_2(n) + 2 \log_2 \left( \frac{|\lambda_r| Y_r^2 \Delta t}{\epsilon} \right) + 4 \end{aligned} \quad (2.35)$$

We choose the first input of the max. Both options are asymptotically the same, so we choose the one with the larger constant factor to establish an upper bound on the threshold.

If it turns out that  $\log_2 \left( n^2 \frac{|\lambda_r| Y_r^2 \Delta t}{\epsilon} \right) < 2$ , then  $m^*$  won't be much larger than (and may be less than)  $2 \log_2(n)$  anyway.

Clearly  $m^*$  is asymptotically logarithmic in  $n$ , as long as  $|\lambda_r|$  and  $Y_r$  are not exponential in  $n$  (in reality they are sublinear). Referring back to (2.38), the total asymptotic gate cost of  $\tilde{U}_A^{(r)}$  is therefore  $O(mn + m^2) = O(n \log n + (\log n)^2) = O(n \log n)$ .

$m^*$  is also logarithmic in  $\Delta t$  and in  $\frac{1}{\epsilon}$ .

Meanwhile, the restriction on  $m\epsilon_z$  leads to a threshold  $\epsilon_z^*$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\epsilon}{2} &\geq m\epsilon_z \\ \implies \epsilon_z^* &= \frac{\epsilon}{2m} \end{aligned} \tag{2.36}$$

## 2.5 Complexity Analysis

We would like to establish an upper bound on the cost of  $\tilde{U}_A^{(r)}$ . In implementing fault-tolerant quantum circuits, the  $T$ -count is the usual cost metric, since  $T$ -state distillation is usually the bottleneck.

The controlled constant addition in A.2 requires  $\frac{m}{2} - 1$  ancilla qubits (in addition to the target register) and its gate count depends on the values of  $[w]_j$ . At maximum, it requires  $1.5m - 5$  Toffolis and  $2.5m - 7$  CNOTs.

Next, we wish to find the cost of the squaring circuit in A.3. Observe that for each  $|z\rangle_{j+2}, \dots, |z\rangle_{m-1}$ , there are 8 Toffolis<sup>1</sup>. There are 4 additional Toffolis (2 for the highest bit and 2 at the beginning and end). This is a total of  $8(m - j - 2) + 4$  Toffolis in A.3.

Since the squaring protocol performs A.3 for each  $j \in [0, \frac{m}{2})$ , we can calculate the total number of Toffolis in the squaring protocol.

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=0}^{\frac{m}{2}-1} (8(m - j - 2) + 4) &= 8m^2 - 8 \frac{\frac{m}{2}(\frac{m}{2} - 1)}{2} - 8m + 4m \\ &= 7m^2 - 2m \end{aligned} \tag{2.37}$$

In our implementation of  $\tilde{U}_A^{(r)}$ , there are  $2n$  controlled constant additions ( $n$  to compute and  $n$  to uncompute) and 2 squaring protocols (once to compute and uncompute). The phase rotations only contribute  $n$  single-qubit gates, which are negligible. We can calculate the total number of Toffolis in  $\tilde{U}_A^{(r)}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{N}_{CCNOT} &= 2n(1.5m - 5) + 2(7m^2 - 2m) \\ &= 3mn - 10n + 14m^2 - 4m \\ &= O(mn + m^2) \end{aligned} \tag{2.38}$$

---

<sup>1</sup>When iterating through each of the qubits in  $|w\rangle$ , inevitably one or more of these qubits will be  $|w\rangle_j$ . One of the gates in an iteration is a Toffoli controlled by  $|w\rangle_j$  and the iterated qubit, which in this case is itself. Then that Toffoli will actually be a CNOT with a lower cost. We ignore this edge case because we only need an upper bound

Given  $\epsilon_z$ , each  $R_z$  gate requires  $10 + 4 \log_2(\frac{1}{\epsilon_z})$  T-gates using the implementation in [11]. There are  $m$   $R_z$  gates in  $\tilde{U}_A^{(r)}$ . We can use the threshold  $\epsilon_z^*$  calculated in (2.36) to upper-bound this  $T$ -count in terms of  $m$  and  $\epsilon$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{N}_{T;Rz} &= m(10 + 4 \log_2(\frac{1}{\epsilon_z})) \\ &= 10m + 4m \log_2(\frac{2m}{\epsilon})\end{aligned}\tag{2.39}$$

The traditional construction of the Toffoli gate uses 2 Hadamard gates, 6 CNOT gates, and 7 T-gates. However, [12] proposed a construction that uses only 4  $T$ -gates. We can calculate the total  $T$ -count of  $\tilde{U}_A^{(r)}$  if we use the latter construction.

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{N}_T &= 4\tilde{N}_{CCNOT} + \tilde{N}_{T;Rz} \\ &= 12mn - 40n + 56m^2 - 16m + 10m + 4m \log_2(\frac{2m}{\epsilon}) \\ &= 12mn - 40n + 56m^2 - 6m + 4m \log_2(\frac{2m}{\epsilon}) \\ &= O(mn + m^2 + m \log_2(\frac{1}{\epsilon}))\end{aligned}\tag{2.40}$$

We can substitute the asymptotic threshold  $m^* = O(\log_2(\frac{n}{\epsilon}))$  from (2.35) to obtain an asymptotic  $\tilde{N}_T$  in terms of  $n$  and  $\frac{1}{\epsilon}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{N}_T &= O(\log_2(\frac{n}{\epsilon})n + (\log_2(\frac{n}{\epsilon}))^2 + \log_2(\frac{n}{\epsilon}) \log_2(\frac{1}{\epsilon})) \\ &= O(n \log_2(\frac{n}{\epsilon}) + \log_2(\frac{1}{\epsilon})^2)\end{aligned}\tag{2.41}$$

## 2.6 Numerical Cost Estimates

The gate cost of this  $\tilde{U}_A^{(r)}$  is asymptotically lower in  $n$  than the  $O(n^2 \log_2(\frac{n}{\epsilon}))$  cost of the expansion method in (1.39), which is a significant advantage. It's useful to get a (very rough) numerical estimate of the gate counts to understand the scale ( $n$ ) at which the advantage appears.

The value of  $\Delta t$  depends on the particular Trotter-like algorithm used. An obvious but very loose upper bound for  $\Delta t$  is  $t$  itself. [13] establishes  $t = 6000 \frac{1}{E_h}$  and  $\epsilon = 10^{-6}$  as typical values. For estimates of  $|\lambda_r| Y_r^2$ , we decomposed Hamiltonians of hydrogen chain systems for various  $n$  ( $n$  is the number of  $H$ s and the number of orbitals) to obtain values of  $|\lambda_r|$  and  $Y_r$ . It turns out for these systems that  $|\lambda_r| Y_r^2 \approx n \log_2 n E_h$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
m_H^* &\approx 2 \log_2(n) + 2 \log_2 \left( \frac{|\lambda_r| Y_r^2 t}{\epsilon} \right) + 4 \\
&\approx 2 \log_2(n) + 2 \log_2 \left( \frac{n \log_2 n \times 6000}{10^{-6}} \right) + 4 \\
&\approx 4 \log_2(n) + 2 \log_2(\log_2(n)) + 69
\end{aligned} \tag{2.42}$$

In practice,  $\Delta \ll t$ , so  $t$  is not a useful order of magnitude for  $\Delta t$ . [13] also mentions a value  $\Delta t = 0.01 \frac{1}{E_n}$  which is probably closer to the actual of  $\Delta t$ .

$$m_H^* \approx 2 \log_2(n) + 2 \log_2 \left( \frac{n \log_2 n \times 0.01}{10^{-6}} \right) + 4 \approx 4 \log_2(n) + 2 \log_2(\log_2(n)) + 30.57 \tag{2.43}$$

$$\tilde{N}_T = 12m(n)n - 40n + 56m(n)^2 - 6m(n) + 4m(n) \log_2 \left( \frac{2m(n)}{\epsilon} \right) \tag{2.44}$$

We plot this  $T$ -count of the “coherent method” as well as that of the “expansion method” in (1.39) as functions of  $n$ . It turns out that the expansion method surpasses the coherent method in  $T$ -count at approximately  $n \approx 64$ . At  $n = 64$ , the coherent method requires about  $2.51 * 10^5$   $T$ -gates and has  $m = 60$ , while the expansion method requires about  $2.57 * 10^5$   $T$ -gates.

We reiterate that this is a very rough estimate, intended to show the order of magnitude of the threshold  $n$ , rather than a specific practical value. The number of ancillas and the gate count of the coherent method are highly dependent on the scale of values  $\lambda_r, Y_r$  which are highly dependent on the specific Hamiltonian. The values of  $\epsilon$  and  $\Delta t$  are also vary significantly across use cases.

Additionally, the circuit design describes an uncontrolled implementation of  $e^{-i\hat{H}_2^{(r)}\delta t}$ , while in practice the main use case of an operation  $e^{-iHt}$  is in phase estimation to obtain the ground state of  $H$ . Phase estimation will require a controlled version of  $e^{-iHt}$ , and therefore a controlled version of  $e^{-i\hat{H}_2^{(r)}\delta t}$ . This will turn the Toffoli gates into  $CCCNOT$  gates,  $CNOT$  gates into Toffolis,  $R_z$  gates into  $CR_z$  gates, and  $CR_z$  gates into  $CCR_z$  gates, which will increase the gate count of both the expansion and coherent methods and will shift the threshold  $n$ . However, such a transformation will only affect the the gate counts by a constant factor (e.g. a  $CCCNOT$  can be implemented with 3 Toffolis) and will not affect the asymptotic performance of the coherent and expansion methods.

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## 2.7 Discussion

The asymptotic (in  $n$ ) advantage of the coherent method ( $O(n \log_2 n)$ ) over the expansion method ( $O(n^2)$ ) is only useful in  $U_A^{(r)}$  if the number of  $T$  gates in  $U_R(u^{(r)})$  can also be reduced

from  $O(n^2 \log_2(\frac{n}{\epsilon}))$ . Otherwise, the latter complexity dominates and maintains the overall complexity unchanged.

In Chapter 3, we explore chemical systems and Hamiltonians for which it is the case that  $U_R(u^{(r)})$  can be decomposed “easily” as such.



# Chapter 3

## Low Range Hamiltonians

### 3.1 Sparse Hamiltonians

We would like to identify Hamiltonians for which the double factorization has “easy” rotations; that is, each  $U_R(u^{(r)})$  decomposes to a small number of basis rotations.

Consider the minimum case: for all  $r \in [0, n^2)$ ,  $U_R(u^{(r)}) = I$ , which occurs when  $u^{(r)} = I$ . That is,  $Q^{(r)}$  is already diagonal with  $\lambda_s^{(r)} = Q_{s,s}^{(r)}$  and zero basis rotations are necessary. In this case, the Hamiltonian  $H_{2e}$  itself can actually be written as a sum of products of number operators.

$$\begin{aligned}
 H_{2e} &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_r \lambda_r \left( \sum_{i,j} Q_{i,j}^{(r)} a_i^\dagger a_j \right)^2 \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_r \lambda_r \left( \sum_s \lambda_s^{(r)} n_s \right)^2 \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{s,s'} n_s n_{s'} \sum_r \lambda_r \lambda_s^{(r)} \lambda_{s'}^{(r)} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_s n_s \sum_r \lambda_r (\lambda_s^{(r)})^2 + \sum_{s < s'} n_s n_{s'} \sum_r \lambda_r \lambda_s^{(r)} \lambda_{s'}^{(r)}
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.1}$$

With  $H_{2e}$  in the form (3.1) analogous to (1.34) in the expansion method,  $U_2 = e^{-iH_{2e}t}$  corresponds to a product of  $n$   $R_z$  gates and  $\binom{n}{2}$   $CR_z$  gates, which, just like in the expansion method, costs  $O(n^2 \log_2(\frac{n}{\epsilon}))$   $T$  gates. Then Trotterization over  $H_{2e}$  is not necessary because there is only one term. In such a case, it’s unlikely that double factorization will be useful at all, since  $H_{2e}$  is already so simple.

More generally, if  $H_{2e}$  is very sparse, then a direct brute force Trotterization will not involve as many terms as the worst case  $O(n^4)$ , and its gate count may be low enough to make double factorization (and thereby the coherent method) unnecessary. At the same time, the coherent method requires the number of rotations composing  $u^{(r)}$  to be small, and having very few rotations tends to make  $Q^{(r)}$  (and thereby  $H_{2e}$ ) very sparse. Therefore, this opens the problem of finding Hamiltonians  $H_{2e}$  that are sufficiently dense but for which the  $Q^{(r)}$  are sufficiently easily decomposable.

## 3.2 K-Range Hamiltonian

Define an electronic structure Hamiltonian from (1.20) as  $K$ -range if its values  $h_{ijkl}$  satisfy the following condition.

$$H = \sum_{i,j} h_{ij} a_i^\dagger a_j + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j,k,l} h_{ijkl} a_i^\dagger a_j^\dagger a_k a_l \quad (3.2)$$

such that  $h_{ijkl} = 0$  if  $\min(\max(|i-l|, |j-k|), \max(|i-k|, |j-l|)) > K$

Any  $K$ -range Hamiltonian can be rewritten in the following more restrictive form. This is because, for an index  $(i, j, k, l)$  such that  $\max(|i-k|, |j-l|) > K$  but  $\max(|i-l|, |j-k|) \leq K$ , we can substitute  $h_{ijkl} a_i^\dagger a_j^\dagger a_l a_k = -h_{ijkl} a_i^\dagger a_j^\dagger a_k a_l$ . This term satisfies the more restrictive condition and can be combined with the original term indexed  $(i, j, l, k)$ . From this process of substitutions and combination we get new terms  $\bar{h}_{ijkl}$ .

$$H = \sum_{i,j} h_{ij} a_i^\dagger a_j + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j,k,l} \bar{h}_{ijkl} a_i^\dagger a_j^\dagger a_k a_l \quad (3.3)$$

such that  $\bar{h}_{ijkl} = 0$  if  $\max(|i-l|, |j-k|) > K$

Then, accordingly with (1.20), this Hamiltonian can be rearranged into  $H_{1e}$  and  $H_{2e}$ , and accordingly with (1.27),  $H_{2e}$  can be double factorized. The condition does not change.

$$\begin{aligned} H_{2e} &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j,k,l} h'_{iljk} a_i^\dagger a_l a_j^\dagger a_k \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_r \lambda_r \left( \sum_{i,j} Q_{i,j}^{(r)} a_i^\dagger a_j \right)^2 \\ &= \sum_{r=0}^{R-1} H_{2e}^{(r)} \end{aligned} \quad (3.4)$$

such that  $h'_{iljk} = \bar{h}_{ijkl} = 0$  if  $\max(|i-l|, |j-k|) > K$

Observe that fewer than  $K^2 n^2$  indices  $iljk$  satisfy the range condition, so  $H_{2e}$  can be expressed as the sum of  $O(K^2 n^2)$  Pauli tensor products in context of the brute force method. As one might expect, decreasing  $K$  makes  $H_{2e}$  sparser.

Observe also that the range condition implies, for all  $r$ , that  $Q_{i,j}^{(r)} = 0$  if  $|i-j| > K$ . This means that all  $Q^{(r)}$  are band matrices with bandwidth  $K$ .

$$Q^{(r)} = \begin{bmatrix} Q_{0,0}^{(r)} & \cdots & Q_{0,K}^{(r)} & 0 & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & Q_{1,K+1}^{(r)} & \ddots & & & & \vdots \\ Q_{K,0}^{(r)} & \cdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & & & 0 \\ 0 & Q_{K+1,1}^{(r)} & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & Q_{n-K-2,n-2}^{(r)} & 0 \\ \vdots & & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \cdots & Q_{n-K-1,n-1}^{(r)} \\ \vdots & & & & \ddots & Q_{n-2,n-K-2}^{(r)} & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & 0 & Q_{n-1,n-K-1}^{(r)} & \cdots & Q_{n-1,n-1}^{(r)} \end{bmatrix} \quad (3.5)$$

If  $Q^{(r)}$  has bandwidth  $K$ , this guarantees  $u^{(r)}$  can be decomposed into fewer than  $Kn$  Givens rotations, corresponding to at most  $O(Kn)$  two-qubit basis rotations comprising  $U(u^{(r)})$ <sup>1</sup>

Therefore, a  $K$ -range Hamiltonian can be expressed as a sum of  $R$  terms  $H_{2e}^{(r)}$ , each simulable with either the  $O(n^2)$  expansion method or the  $O(n(\log n + K))$   $T$ -gates (we ignore  $\epsilon$  factors for simplicity).

3.1 lists bounds on second-order Trotterization  $T$ -counts using the brute force, double-factorized expansion, and double-factorized coherent methods. It considers their performance on generic  $H_{2e}$  as well as ones that are  $K$ -range, linear-rank, or both. We chose to list second-order Trotterization costs rather than first-order to show that the double-factorized coherent method holds advantages over brute-force methods even in higher-order Trotterization, reduces the asymptotic impact of  $L$ , which is more present in the latter.

Observe that the coherent method has the lowest asymptotic upper bound among all three methods for low-rank  $K$ -range Hamiltonians, as long as  $K = o(n)$  (otherwise it's the same as the expansion method). This remains the case even for higher-order Trotterization. Of course, this is assuming that  $K$  is not so low (i.e.  $K = 0$ ) that  $H_{2e}$  simplifies into a sum of commuting terms (which comprise one Trotter term) in the way of (3.1). For generic-rank  $K$ -range  $H_{2e}$ , it performs asymptotically better than brute force if  $K = \omega(n^{0.25})$  and better than expansion if  $K = o(n)$ . This generalizes with arbitrary  $k$ th-order Trotterization to a  $k$ -dependent lower bound  $K = \omega(n^{\frac{1}{3+\frac{1}{k}}})$  and the same upper bound  $K = o(n)$ . For example, for fourth-order Trotterization ( $k = 2$ ), we would need  $K = \omega(n^{\frac{1}{3.5}})$ .

<sup>1</sup>To see this, observe that (as quoted from [10] and appropriated for our purposes), when a Givens rotation matrix  $r_{pq}(\theta)$  left multiplies a matrix, it effects a rotation between rows  $p$  and  $q$  which can be used to zero out a single element in one of the rows. In [10] there were  $\binom{n}{2}$  elements below the diagonal, in  $Q^{(r)}$  there are  $\binom{n}{2} - \binom{n-K}{2} = \frac{2Kn - K^2 - 2n + K}{2} < Kn$ . So  $u^{(r)}$  requires less than  $Kn$  Givens rotations (on each side) to make  $Q^{(r)}$  diagonal.

	$L$	$\tilde{N}_T$	$M = O(L^{1.5})$	Total = $ML\tilde{N}_T$
Generic $H_{2e}$				
Brute Force	$O(n^4)$	$O(1)$	$O(n^6)$	$O(n^{10})$
DF Expansion Method	$R = O(n^2)$	$O(n^2)$	$O(n^3)$	$O(n^7)$
DF Coherent Method	$R = O(n^2)$	$O(n^2)$	$O(n^3)$	$O(n^7)$
K-Range				
Brute Force	$O(K^2n^2)$	$O(1)$	$O(K^3n^3)$	$O(K^5n^5)$
DF Expansion Method	$R = O(n^2)$	$O(n^2)$	$O(n^3)$	$O(n^7)$
DF Coherent Method	$R = O(n^2)$	$O(Kn)$	$O(n^3)$	$O(Kn^6)$
Low Rank ( $R = O(n)$ )				
Brute Force	$O(n^4)$	$O(1)$	$O(n^6)$	$O(n^{10})$
DF Expansion Method	$R = O(n)$	$O(n^2)$	$O(n^{1.5})$	$O(n^{5.5})$
DF Coherent Method	$R = O(n)$	$O(n^2)$	$O(n^{1.5})$	$O(n^{5.5})$
Low Rank and K-Range				
Brute Force	$O(K^2n^2)$	$O(1)$	$O(K^3n^3)$	$O(K^5n^5)$
DF Expansion Method	$R = O(n)$	$O(n^2)$	$O(n^{1.5})$	$O(n^{4.5})$
DF Coherent Method	$R = O(n)$	$O(Kn)$	$O(n^{1.5})$	$O(Kn^{3.5})$

Table 3.1: Asymptotic  $T$ -count of the brute force, double-factorized expansion method, and double-factorized coherent method on various types of Hamiltonians. We assume a second-order Trotterization. We ignore  $\log_2 n$  terms and  $\log_2 \frac{1}{\epsilon}$  terms for simplicity.

### 3.3 Extraction of Low-Range Terms from Practical Electronic Structure Hamiltonians

We have shown some asymptotic advantages for the coherent method within a deterministic Trotterization assumption. In practice, the large empirical discrepancy between the absolute values of the largest and smallest terms in typical electronic structure Hamiltonians makes qDRIFT much more suitable than deterministic Trotterization. In addition, electronic structure Hamiltonians typically are not strictly low-range, but often elements in high-range indices tend to be very small, and much of the “weight” is concentrated in low-range areas. We can combine these two concepts to potentially leverage the asymptotic advantage of the coherent method towards simulating generic electronic structure Hamiltonians that are “low-range dominant”.

We propose a framework for decomposition in which  $H_{2e}$  is broken into a sum of a term  $H_L$  that has small rank  $R$  and low range  $K$  and a term  $H_H$  that contains “everything else” and has no restrictions. Then we would qDRIFT over the  $R$  terms in  $H_L$  and the  $O(n^4)$  tensor-product Pauli terms in  $H_H$ . Setting  $R = 0$  would be equivalent to a conventional qDRIFT approach over the entire  $H_{2e}$ . The idea is that as  $R$  is increased and weight is “moved”

from  $H_H$  to  $H_L$ ,  $H_L$  should gradually “capture” most of the weight in the Hamiltonian if it is indeed low-range dominant. Then,  $H_H$  would be left with many very small terms, which can be handled effectively with qDRIFT, whose complexity scales only with the total weight, rather than the number of terms. Meanwhile,  $H_L$  is able to handle the larger-valued low-range “weight” more efficiently due to its asymptotic advantages.

$$\begin{aligned} H_{2e} &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j,k,l} h'_{iljk} a_i^\dagger a_l a_j^\dagger a_k \\ &= H_L + H_H \end{aligned} \tag{3.6}$$

Unfortunately, it was not feasible to provide a specific implementation or numerical results in context of this framework, due to both the limited time frame of this project and the fact that  $T$ -count advantages of the coherent method only manifest asymptotically above a threshold at which Hamiltonian sizes become difficult for classical computers to manipulate. However, we hope that presenting this potential framework both conveys the applicability of the coherent method in realistic electronic structure Hamiltonians and inspires future work in this direction.



# Chapter 4

## Conclusion

In this work, we have designed in detail a quantum circuit that reduces the asymptotic gate complexity of simulating certain types of electronic structure Hamiltonians, in particular those that are low-range. With specific calculations of  $T$  counts and error bounds, we showed that asymptotic advantages of the proposed “double-factorized coherent method” over the competing “double-factorized expansion method” begin to manifest at a fairly low threshold of  $n$ : for example, fewer than a hundred orbitals for hydrogen chain systems.

Furthermore, we proposed a framework for adapting the usage of the double-factorized coherent method from strictly-low-range electronic structure Hamiltonians to those that are “low-range dominant”, which tend to be the case for practical systems. We intend to continue formulating more specific decomposition techniques in this framework and numerically analyze the performance of the coherent method in conjunction with qDRIFT and qDRIFT-like methods; unfortunately this was not feasible within the timeframe of this thesis. We strongly encourage this framework as an area of future work for others inspired by the findings in this paper. We also hope that our work opens up a search for other types of electronic structure Hamiltonians (beyond low-range) for which the asymptotic advantages of the coherent method can take effect, namely those with “easy” basis rotations.





# Appendix A

## Quantum Circuit Diagrams

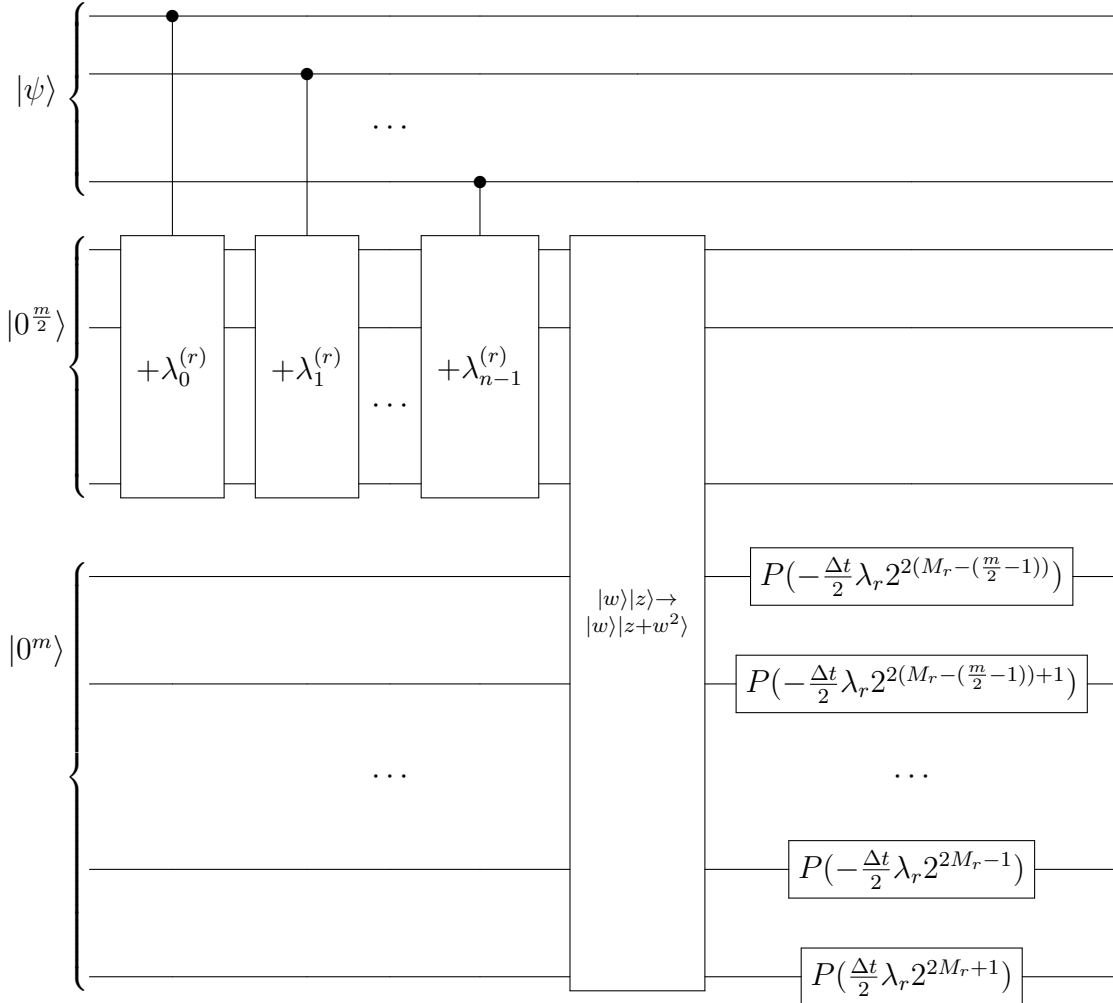


Figure A.1: Quantum circuit diagram for  $U_A^{(r)}$  using arithmetic circuits (uncomputing not shown)

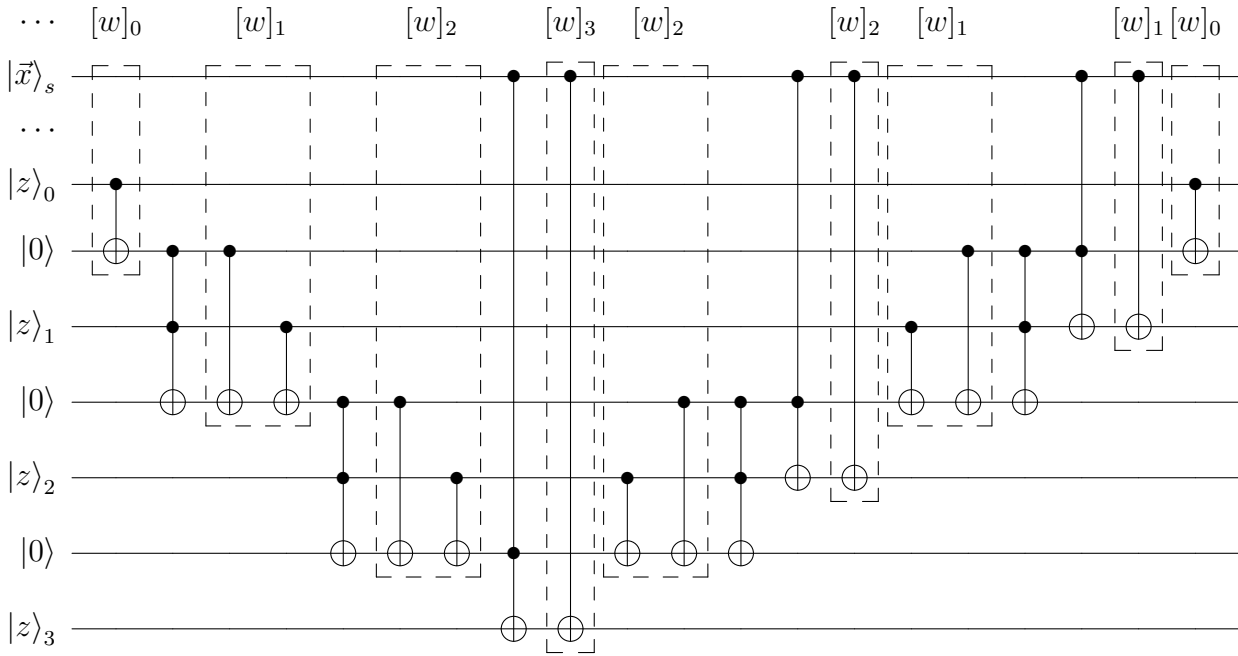


Figure A.2: Example quantum circuit diagram for a controlled addition of  $w$  for  $\frac{m}{2} = 4$ . The label  $[w]_j$  indicates that the correspondingly boxed gates are only applied when  $[w]_j = 1$ .

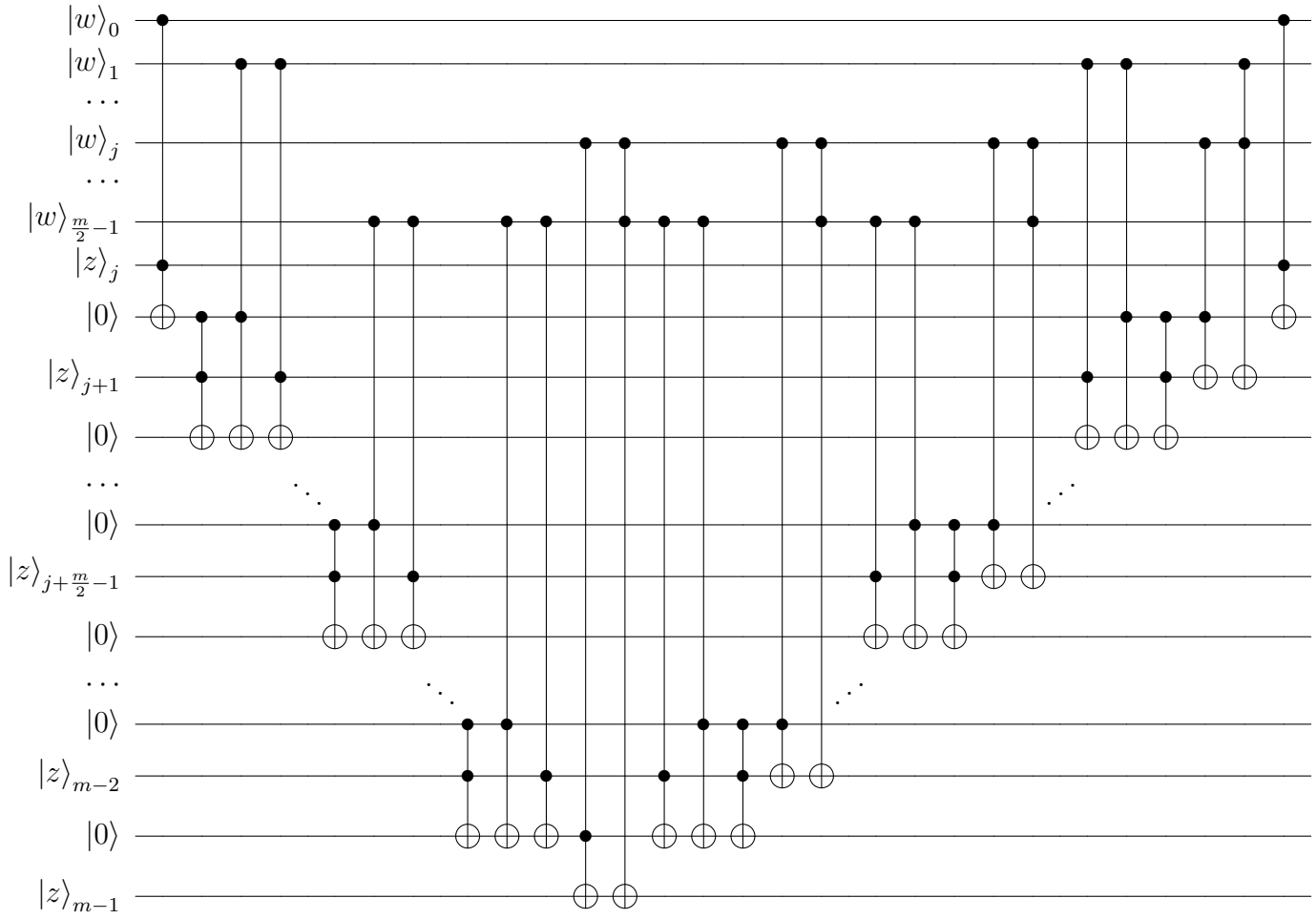


Figure A.3: Quantum circuit diagram for  $|w\rangle|z\rangle \rightarrow |w\rangle|z + [w]_j 2^{M_r - (\frac{m}{2} - 1) + j} w\rangle$ . This is essentially the equivalent of A.2 if the added input were quantum, and if the controlling qubit  $|\vec{x}\rangle_s$  were instead a qubit in  $w$ , and if the . Qubits 0 to  $j - 1$  of the  $|z\rangle$  register are not shown.



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