

# A polynomial-time algorithm for ground states of spin trees

Nilin Abrahamsen

# Local Hamiltonians

- Many-body spin system:  $n$  local Hilbert spaces  $\mathfrak{H}_v \simeq \mathbb{C}^d$ ,

$$\mathfrak{H} = \bigotimes_{v \in V} \mathfrak{H}_v, \quad |\mathfrak{H}| = d^n.$$

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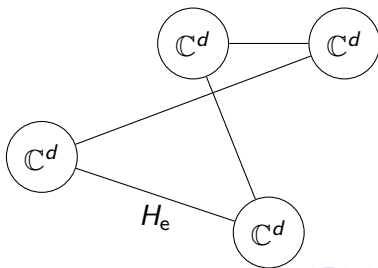
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- Local Hamiltonian:**

$$H = \sum_{e \in E} H_e \otimes \mathbb{I}_{V \setminus e}.$$

- where  $H_{(v,w)} \in \text{Herm}(\mathfrak{H}_v \otimes \mathfrak{H}_w)$ .



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**For  $\Delta = o(1)$  QMA-hard** [Kempe-Kitaev-Regev]  
**even in 1D** [Aharonov-Gottesman-Irani].

# Background

## **Efficient classical algorithm for spin chains (1D)**

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**matrix product states**

[Vidal]

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**Other geometries**  
e.g. lattices

**Tensor networks**

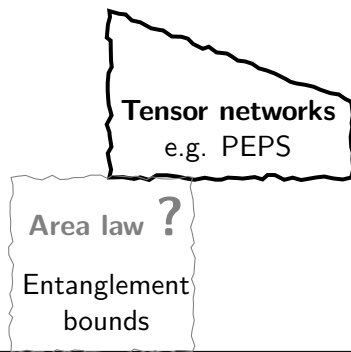
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## Other geometries e.g. lattices

**#P-hard  
to contract**

**Tensor networks**  
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**Area law ?**

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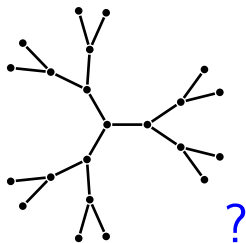
## Interaction *tree*

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First area law and efficient algorithm beyond spin chains

# Fractal dimension of interaction tree $T$

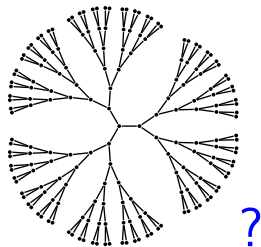
**Motivation.** Geometry of physical system (e.g. large branched polymer).





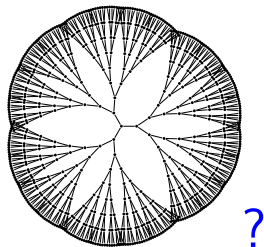
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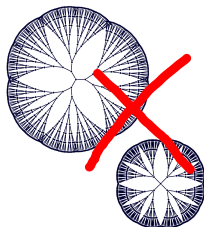
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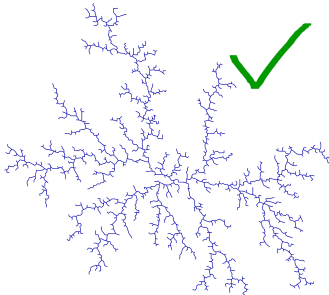
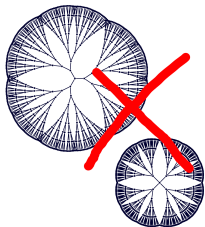
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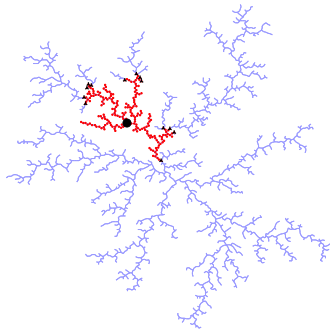
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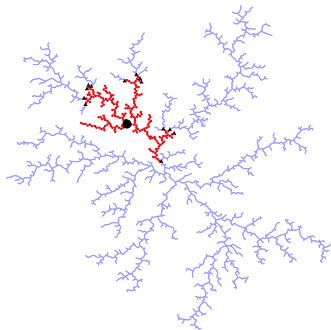
Neighborhood  $\mathcal{N}_{v \in T}(r)$ :



$$\mathcal{N}_{v \in T}(r) = \{\text{vertices connected to } v \text{ by path in } T \text{ of length } \leq r\}.$$

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**Condition:**

$$|\mathcal{N}_{v \in T}(r)| = O(r^\beta)$$

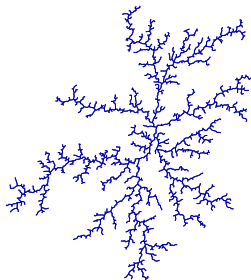
for *discrete fractal dimension*  $\beta < 2$ .

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Random examples with  $|\mathcal{N}_{v \in T}(r)| = O(r^\beta)$  for  $\beta < 2$ :

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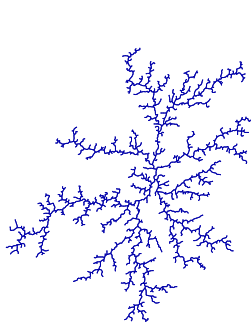
2D DLA

$\beta \approx \mathbf{1.7}$  [M83]



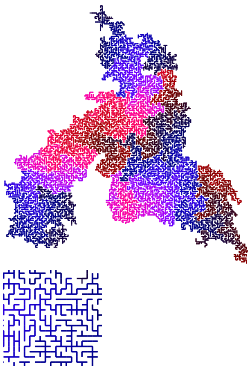
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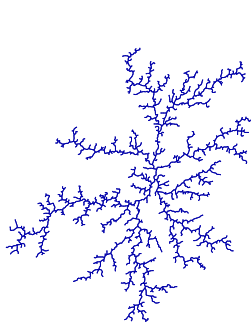


2D lattice UST

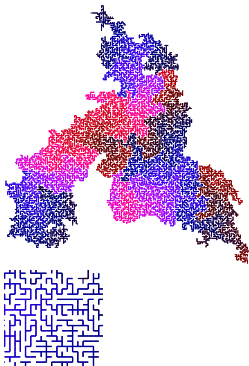
$\beta = \mathbf{1.6}$  [BM11].

# Fractal dimension of interaction tree T

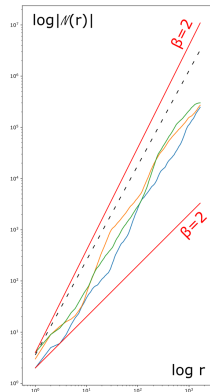
Random examples with  $|\mathcal{N}_{v \in T}(r)| = O(r^\beta)$  for  $\beta < 2$ :



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3D lattice UST

# Fractal dimension of interaction tree $T$

## Definition

**Discrete fractal dimension** of  $T$ :  $\beta = \sup_{v \in V, r > C} \frac{\log |\mathcal{N}_{v \in T}(r)|}{\log r}$ .

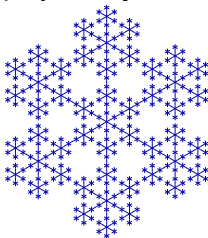
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## Deterministic example:

Model of branched polymers [Blumen et al. *Macromolecules*]



3D Vicsek tree

$$\beta = \log_3 7 = 1.77...$$

## Results

Local Hamiltonian  $H$  on  $T$  with eigs  $E_0 = \dots = E_{D-1} < E_D \leq \dots$ .

Ground states

$$\mathcal{Z} = \ker (H - E_0)$$

$$|\mathcal{Z}| = D$$

Spectral gap

$$\Delta = E_D - E_{D-1}$$

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## Theorem (Area law)

Let  $T = L \sqcup R$  be a partition with  $|\partial L| = O(1)$  and let  $|\psi\rangle \in \mathcal{Z}$ .

There exists  $|\phi\rangle \approx |\psi\rangle$  with

$$|\phi\rangle = \sum_{i=1}^r |\phi_i^L\rangle |\phi_i^R\rangle, \quad r = D \exp(\tilde{O}(\Delta^{-\frac{\beta}{2-\beta}})).$$

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## Theorem (Algorithm)

If  $D = n^{O(1)}$ , can compute  $\tilde{\mathcal{Z}} \prec \mathfrak{H}$  such that w.h.p.  $\tilde{\mathcal{Z}} \approx_\epsilon \mathcal{Z}$  where  $\epsilon = 1/n^{10}$ . Time complexity:

$$n^{O(\Delta^{-\frac{\beta+1}{2-\beta}})}.$$

# Closeness of subspaces

For subspaces  $\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{Z} \prec \mathfrak{H}$ :

## Definition

- $\mathcal{Y} \succ_{\delta} \mathcal{Z}$  if: For all unit  $|z\rangle \in \mathcal{Z}$ ,

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## Viable subspaces

Let  $T = \Omega_1 \sqcup \cdots \sqcup \Omega_k$

so  $\mathfrak{H} = \mathfrak{H}_{\Omega_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathfrak{H}_{\Omega_k}$

Find local “solutions”  $\mathcal{V}_j \prec \mathfrak{H}_{\Omega_j}$  such that  $\mathcal{V}_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathcal{V}_k \succ_{\delta} \mathcal{Z}$ .

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Given  $\mathcal{Z} \prec \mathfrak{H}_{LR}$  in bipartite  $\mathfrak{H}_{LR}$ .  $\mathcal{V} \prec \mathfrak{H}_L$  is  **$\delta$ -viable** for  $\mathcal{Z}$  if

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## Partial approximate projectors

Given  $\mathcal{V} \prec \mathfrak{H}_L$  which is  $\delta$ -viable for  $\mathcal{Z} \prec \mathfrak{H}_{LR}$  in bipartite  $\mathfrak{H}_{LR}$ .  
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Let  $OP_L = \{\text{Linear operators } \mathfrak{H}_L \rightarrow \mathfrak{H}_L\}$ .

## Definition ( $\sigma$ -PAP)

A  $\sigma$ -PAP for  $\mathcal{Z} \prec \mathfrak{H}_{LR}$  is a **subspace**  $\mathcal{A} \prec OP_L$  such that  $\mathcal{A} \otimes OP_R$  contains a  $\sigma$ -AGSP onto  $\mathcal{Z}$ .

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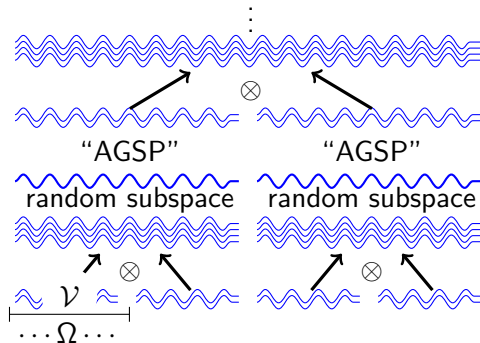
$\mathcal{A} \prec OP_L$  is **viable** for some  $\sigma$ -AGSP  $A \in OP_{LR}$ .

Goal: Given region  $L \subset T$ , construct  $\sigma$ -PAP  $\mathcal{A}$  with

$$|\mathcal{A}| \cdot \sigma \ll 1.$$

# 1D algorithm

## 1D algorithm [Arad-Landau-Vazirani-Vidick]:



# Bird's eye view of algorithm

## 1D chain

[Arad-Landau-Vazirani-Vidick]



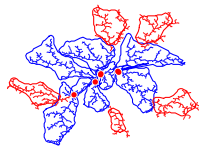
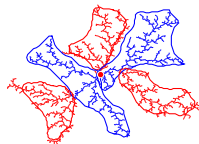
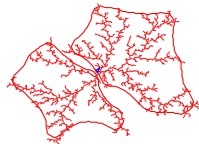
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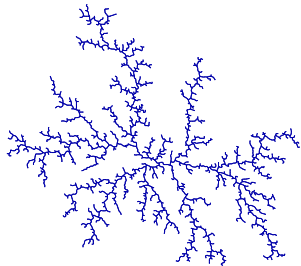


## Tree (this work)



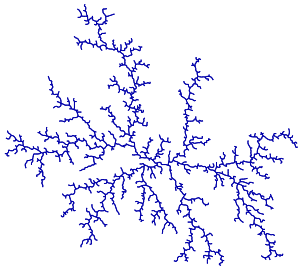
# META-tree

Given interaction tree

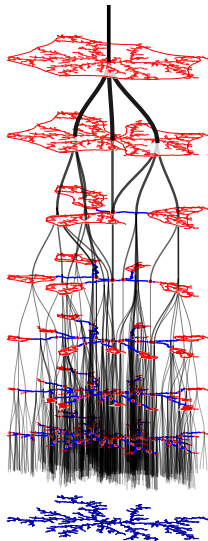


# META-tree

Given interaction tree



Output state encoded as tensor network on META-tree:



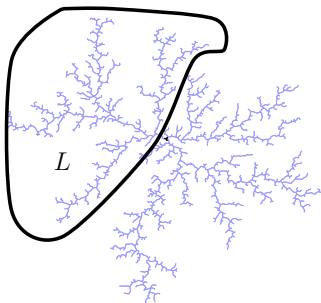


# Constructing a $\sigma$ -PAP

Given subtree  $L \subset V$  with  $|\partial L| = O(1)$ .

**Objective:** Construct  $\sigma$ -PAP  $\mathcal{A} \prec \mathfrak{H}_L$  with target  $\approx \mathcal{Z}$ , and

$$\sigma \cdot |\mathcal{A}| \ll 1.$$

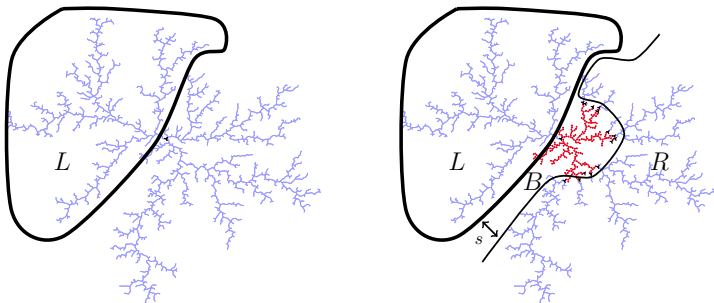


# Constructing a $\sigma$ -PAP

Given subtree  $L \subset V$  with  $|\partial L| = O(1)$ .

**Objective:** Construct  $\sigma$ -PAP  $\mathcal{A} \prec \mathfrak{H}_L$  with target  $\approx \mathcal{Z}$ , and

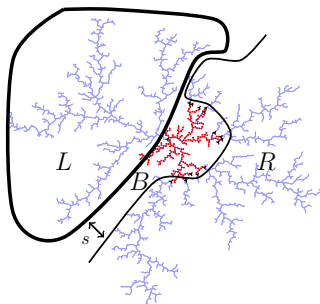
$$\sigma \cdot |\mathcal{A}| \ll 1.$$



# Constructing a $\sigma$ -PAP

## Objective:

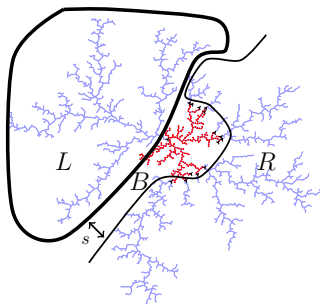
Construct  $\sigma$ -PAP  $\mathcal{A} \prec \mathfrak{H}_L$ .



# Constructing a $\sigma$ -PAP

## Objective:

Construct  $\sigma$ -PAP  $\mathcal{A} \prec \mathfrak{H}_L$ .



## Lemma

Can construct  $\mathcal{A} \prec OP_L$  such that  $I, H, \dots, H^m \in \mathcal{A}_L \otimes OP_{BR}$ ,  
and

$$|\mathcal{A}| = m^{m/s+|B|}$$

$\mathcal{A}$  is **degree- $m$  viable** for  $H$ .

## Proof.

pigeonhole principle [Arad-Kitaev-Landau-Vazirani].



# Why $\beta < 2$ ?

## Lemma

$\mathcal{A}$  degree- $m$  viable for  $H \Rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is  $\sigma$ -PAP for  $\mathcal{Z}$  where

$$\sigma = \exp \left[ -\Omega \left( m \sqrt{\frac{\Delta}{\|H\|}} \right) \right].$$

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$\mathcal{A}$  degree- $m$  viable for  $H$



$\mathcal{A}$  viable for Chebyshev AGSP [Arad-Kitaev-Landau-Vazirani].



# Why $\beta < 2$ ?

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$\mathcal{A}$  degree- $m$  viable for  $\tilde{H} \Rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is  $\sigma$ -PAP for  $\mathcal{Z}$  where

$$\sigma = \exp \left[ -\Omega \left( \frac{m}{\sqrt{|B|}} \right) \right] \xrightarrow{\text{trunc}} \exp \left[ -\Omega \left( \frac{m}{\sqrt{|B|}} \right) \right].$$

## Proof.

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## Why $\beta < 2$ ?

### Lemma

We can construct  $\mathcal{A}$  such that  $I, H, \dots, H^m \in \mathcal{A}_L \otimes OP_{BR}$ , and

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### Lemma

$\mathcal{A}$  is  $\sigma$ -PAP for  $\mathcal{Z}$  where

$$\sigma = \exp \left[ -\Omega \left( \frac{m}{\sqrt{\textcolor{blue}{m}}} \right) \right] \xrightarrow{\textcolor{red}{trunc}} \exp \left[ -\Omega \left( \frac{\textcolor{red}{m}}{\sqrt{\textcolor{red}{|B|}}} \right) \right].$$



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By fractal dimension bound:

$$\textcolor{red}{|B|} \ll \textcolor{red}{s^2}$$

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By fractal dimension bound:

$$|B| \ll s^2 \Rightarrow \frac{\textcolor{red}{m}}{\sqrt{|B|}} \gg \textcolor{red}{m/s}$$

## Why $\beta < 2$ ?

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We can construct  $\mathcal{A}$  such that  $I, H, \dots, H^m \in \mathcal{A}_L \otimes OP_{BR}$ , and

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By fractal dimension bound:

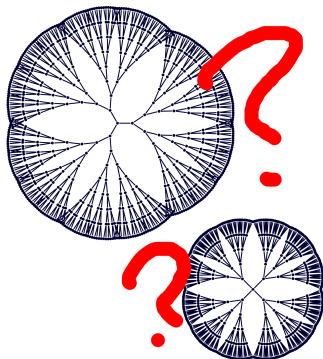
$$\textcolor{red}{|B|} \ll \textcolor{red}{s^2} \Rightarrow \frac{\textcolor{red}{m}}{\sqrt{\textcolor{red}{|B|}}} \gg \textcolor{red}{m/s} \Rightarrow \sigma |\mathcal{A}| \ll 1.$$

PAP constructed.

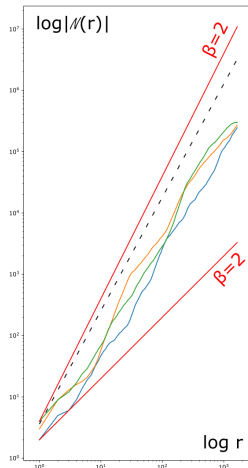


# Open Questions

Extension to  
k-regular trees?



Does 3D lattice UST  
satisfy  $\beta < 2$ ?



**Thanks!**

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