

# The Watrous Post-Quantum Zero-Knowledge Proof

A Crypto Reading Group Talk

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Aug. 2nd, 2021

# Post-Quantum ZK for NP

The model:

- ▶ Classical  $P$  and  $V$
- ▶ ZK system for NP languages
- ▶  $V^*$  can be quantum.
  - ▶ Modeled as a quantum polynomial-time (QPT) Turing machine.
  - ▶ equivalently (and more preferred in quantum-computing literature), poly-size quantum circuits.
  - ▶ Non-uniformity:  $V^*$  has an auxiliary quantum state that depends only on the security para.  $n$ . More accurately,

$$V^* = \{\text{QC}_n, |\psi_n\rangle\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$$

# Post-Quantum (Black-Box) ZK Is Hard

Why's **rewinding** hard?

- ▶ information gain VS state disturbance
- ▶ the no-cloning theorem

The major result in [Wat06]: a quantum rewinding lemma

# Some Historical Notes

Techniques inspired by Marriot-Watrous [[MW04](#)]

- ▶ error-gap amplification for QMA using only 1 witness state

First published at STOC'06 [[Wat06](#)]

- ▶ Explicit connection to [[MW04](#)]
- ▶ Simple, ad hoc proof
- ▶ This talk mainly focuses on this version
- ▶ The notation herein is consistent with this version

Then, on SIAM Journal of Computing in 2009 [[Wat09](#)]

- ▶ Abstracts out a general quantum rewinding lemma
- ▶ Hides the connection with Marriot-Watrous
- ▶ We'll also see the high-level idea of this version

# Agenda for Today

- ▶ Prove quantum ZK for the Graph Isomorphism protocol [GMW86] (in detail)
  - ▶ Originally ad hoc [Wat06]
  - ▶ We'll take a general perspective
- ▶ Extends to the Graph-3-coloring Protocol [GMW86] in the ideal Com model (simple)
  - ▶ General quantum rewinding lemma
- ▶ G3C ZK with computationally-secure Com (simple-yet-tedious)
  - ▶ Rewinding lemma in its most general form — allowing small perturbations
  - ▶ the widely-used version in crypto literature

# GMW ZK for Graph Isomorphism (GI)

Some Remarks:

- ▶ GI is not known to be NP-complete.
- ▶ the 1st message of the GMW GI protocol is perfectly uniform.

**Input for  $P$ :** statement  $(G_0, G_1) \in \mathcal{G}_n \times \mathcal{G}_n$ , witness  $w = \sigma$  s.t.  $\sigma(G_1) = G_0$

**Input for  $V$ :**  $(G_0, G_1)$

1.  $P$  samples  $\pi \leftarrow S_n$ , sends  $H = \pi(G_0)$
2.  $V$  sends  $a \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$
3.  $P$  sends  $\tau = \pi \circ \sigma^a$

**$V$ 's decision:** accept iff  $\tau(G_a) = H$

**Classical Sim:** guess the bit  $b$ . Set  $H = \pi(G_b)$ . Win if  $b == a$ .

# Modeling in Quantum Way

**Model a Quantum  $V^*$ :** circuit family  $\{\mathbf{V}_H\}_{H \in \mathcal{G}_n}$ , auxiliary input  $|\psi\rangle$

- ▶ Receives  $H$  from  $P$
- ▶ Perform  $\mathbf{V}_H |\psi\rangle_W |0\rangle_V |0\rangle_A = \alpha_0 |\psi_0\rangle_{WV} |0\rangle_A + \alpha_1 |\psi_1\rangle_{WV} |1\rangle_A$ 
  - ▶  $V$ : work space
  - ▶  $A$ : single-qubit register to store  $V^*$ 's challenge.
  - ▶ Note that  $\mathbf{V}_H$  operates on space  $W \otimes V \otimes A$

# Modeling in Quantum Way

View the protocol through a quantum lens:

- ▶ The full space  $W \otimes X$ , where  $X = V \otimes A \otimes Y \otimes B \otimes Z$
- ▶ Sim performs (classical Sim in superposition)

$$\mathbf{T} |0\rangle_{YBZ} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2^n!}} \sum_{b \in \{0,1\}} \sum_{\pi \in S_n} |\pi(G_b)\rangle_Y |b\rangle_B |\pi\rangle_Z$$

- ▶  $V$  apply  $\mathbf{V} = \sum_{H \in \mathcal{G}} \mathbf{V}_H \otimes |H\rangle\langle H|_Y \otimes \mathbb{1}_{BZ}$  on the full space  $W \otimes X$ 
  - ▶ recall that  $\mathbf{V}_H$  operates on  $|\psi\rangle_W |0\rangle_V |0\rangle_A$
  - ▶ corresponding to the exec. in super-position
  - ▶ Output format:

$$\alpha_{00} |\psi_{00}\rangle |00\rangle_{AB} + \alpha_{01} |\psi_{01}\rangle |01\rangle_{AB} + \alpha_{10} |\psi_{10}\rangle |10\rangle_{AB} + \alpha_{11} |\psi_{11}\rangle |11\rangle_{AB}$$

In summary, the protocol up to step 2 is:

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{VT}}_{\text{on } W \otimes X} (|\psi\rangle_W |0\rangle_{X=VAYBZ}) \Leftrightarrow \underbrace{\mathbf{VT}(\mathbb{1}_W \otimes |0\rangle_X)}_{\text{only on } W} |\psi\rangle \quad (1)$$



# Measuring the Guess

Define a binary-outcome measurement on the full space  $W \otimes X$ :

- ▶  $\Pi_0 = |00\rangle\langle 00|_{AB} + |11\rangle\langle 11|_{AB}$ ,  $\Pi_1 := \mathbb{1}_{AB} - \Pi_0$
- ▶ work on the full space  $W \otimes X$ . Just tensor identities on registers other than AB

Performing  $\{\Pi_0, \Pi_1\}$  on  $\mathbf{V}\mathbf{T} |\psi\rangle_W |0\rangle_X$ :

- ▶ w.p.  $\text{Tr}(\langle\psi| \mathbf{Q} |\psi\rangle)$ , the outcome is 0.
- ▶ w.p.  $\text{Tr}(\langle\psi| (\mathbb{1}_W - \mathbf{Q}) |\psi\rangle)$ , the outcome is 1.

where  $\mathbf{Q} = (\mathbb{1}_W \otimes \langle 0|_X) \mathbf{T}^\dagger \mathbf{V}^\dagger \Pi_0 \mathbf{T} \mathbf{V} (\mathbb{1}_W \otimes |0\rangle_X)$ . (See Expression (1).)

Two important facts:

- ▶  $\{\mathbf{Q}, \mathbb{1}_W - \mathbf{Q}\}$  form a POVM
- ▶  $\text{Tr}(\langle\psi| \mathbf{Q} |\psi\rangle) = \text{Tr}(\langle\psi| (\mathbb{1}_W - \mathbf{Q}) |\psi\rangle) = \frac{1}{2}$ , independent of  $|\psi\rangle$ . (Cuz 1st msg. of GI prot. is perfectly uniform.)

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{Q} = \mathbb{1}_W - \mathbf{Q} = \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{1}_W$$

# An Important Lemma

Let  $\Delta_0 := \mathbb{1}_W \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0|_X$ .

- ▶  $\Delta_0$  projects register  $X$  to all-0 qubits.
- ▶  $\Delta_0 = \Delta_0^\dagger$
- ▶  $\Delta_1 := \mathbb{1}_{WX} - \Delta_0$ . The  $\{\Delta_0, \Delta_1\}$  form a POVM.

## LEMMA 1:

For all  $|\psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}(W)$ ,  $|\gamma_0\rangle = |\psi\rangle_W |0\rangle_X$  is an eigenvector of  $\underbrace{\Delta_0^\dagger \mathbf{T}^\dagger \mathbf{V}^\dagger \Pi_0 \mathbf{V} \mathbf{T} \Delta_0}_{:=\mathbf{M}}$  with corresponding eigenvalue  $\lambda = 1/2$ .

**Proof.** Recall  $\mathbf{Q} = (\mathbb{1}_W \otimes \langle 0|_X) \mathbf{T}^\dagger \mathbf{V}^\dagger \Pi_0 \mathbf{V} \mathbf{T} (\mathbb{1}_W \otimes |0\rangle_X) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{1}_W$ .

$$\Rightarrow \Delta_0^\dagger \mathbf{T}^\dagger \mathbf{V}^\dagger \Pi_0 \mathbf{V} \mathbf{T} \Delta_0 = (\mathbb{1}_W \otimes |0\rangle_X) \mathbf{Q} (\mathbb{1}_W \otimes \langle 0|_X) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{1}_W \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0|_X$$

$$\Rightarrow \forall |\psi\rangle, \Delta_0^\dagger \mathbf{T}^\dagger \mathbf{V}^\dagger \Pi_0 \mathbf{V} \mathbf{T} \Delta_0 \underbrace{|\psi\rangle_W |0\rangle_X}_{|\gamma_0\rangle} = \left( \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{1}_W \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0|_X \right) \underbrace{|\psi\rangle_W |0\rangle_X}_{|\gamma_0\rangle} = \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{|\psi\rangle_W |0\rangle_X}_{|\gamma_0\rangle}$$

# Marriot-Watrous Lemma

## LEMMA 2: MARRIOT-WATROUS [MW04]

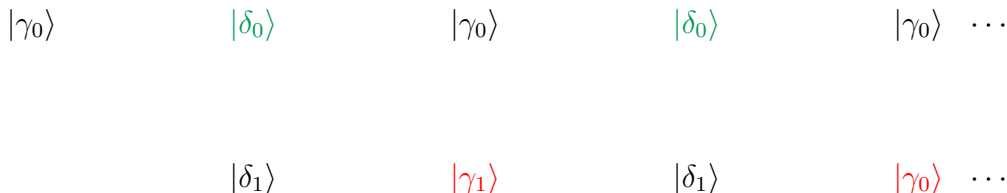
Given unitary  $\mathbf{U}$ , proj. mnt.  $\{\Pi_0, \Pi_1\}$  and  $\{\Delta_0, \Delta_1\}$ . Assume  $|\gamma_0\rangle$  is an evec. of  $\Delta_0 \mathbf{U}^\dagger \Pi_0 \mathbf{U} \Delta_0$  with eval.  $\lambda$ . Define

$$|\delta_0\rangle := \frac{\Pi_0 \mathbf{U} |\gamma_0\rangle}{\sqrt{\lambda}}, \quad |\delta_1\rangle := \frac{\Pi_0 \mathbf{U} |\gamma_0\rangle}{\sqrt{1-\lambda}}, \quad |\gamma_1\rangle := \frac{\Delta_1 \mathbf{U}^\dagger |\delta_0\rangle}{\sqrt{1-\lambda}}.$$

Then,  $\langle \gamma_0 | \gamma_1 \rangle = \langle \delta_0 | \delta_1 \rangle = 0$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{U} |\gamma_0\rangle &= \sqrt{\lambda} |\delta_0\rangle + \sqrt{1-\lambda} |\delta_1\rangle & \mathbf{U}^\dagger |\delta_0\rangle &= \sqrt{\lambda} |\gamma_0\rangle + \sqrt{1-\lambda} |\gamma_1\rangle \\ \mathbf{U} |\gamma_1\rangle &= \sqrt{1-\lambda} |\delta_0\rangle - \sqrt{\lambda} |\delta_1\rangle & \mathbf{U}^\dagger |\delta_1\rangle &= \sqrt{1-\lambda} |\gamma_0\rangle - \sqrt{\lambda} |\gamma_1\rangle \end{aligned}$$

(draw the evolution diagram)



# In Our Setting: Marriot-Watrous + Post-Mnt. Selection

In our setting, we have  $\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{V}\mathbf{T}$ ,  $\lambda = 1/2$ , and  $|\gamma_0\rangle = |\psi\rangle_{\mathbf{W}} |0\rangle_{\mathbf{X}}$

Lemma 2  $\Rightarrow |\gamma_0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |\delta_0\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |\delta_1\rangle$ , and the following:

$$|\delta_0\rangle = \sqrt{2}\mathbf{\Pi}_0\mathbf{V}\mathbf{T}|\gamma_0\rangle, \quad \mathbf{T}^\dagger\mathbf{V}^\dagger|\delta_1\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\gamma_0\rangle - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\gamma_1\rangle, \quad \mathbf{V}\mathbf{T}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\gamma_0\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\gamma_1\rangle\right) = |\delta_0\rangle$$

Starting with  $|\gamma_0\rangle \rightarrow \mathbf{V}\mathbf{T}|\gamma_0\rangle \rightarrow \text{measurement } \{\mathbf{\Pi}_0, \mathbf{\Pi}_1\}$ :

- ▶ w.p. 1/2, it is  $|\delta_0\rangle$  — we are done!
- ▶ w.p. 1/2, it is  $|\delta_1\rangle$ 
  - ▶ Key observation:  $\mathbf{T}^\dagger\mathbf{V}^\dagger|\delta_1\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\gamma_0\rangle - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\gamma_1\rangle$
  - ▶ If we can flip the phase of the 2nd term  $\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\gamma_0\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\gamma_1\rangle$ .
  - ▶ Then, simply do  $\mathbf{V}\mathbf{T}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\gamma_0\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\gamma_1\rangle\right) = |\delta_0\rangle$

Yes, we can! (next slide)

## Phase Flip for the 2nd Term

We want:  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |\gamma_0\rangle - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |\gamma_1\rangle \rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |\gamma_0\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |\gamma_1\rangle$

Recall the following

- ▶  $|\gamma_0\rangle = |\psi\rangle_W |0\rangle_X$  and  $\Delta_0 = \mathbb{1}_W \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0|_X$
- ▶  $\Rightarrow \Delta_0 |\gamma_0\rangle = |\gamma_0\rangle$
- ▶ Lemma 2 says  $|\gamma_1\rangle = \sqrt{2} \Delta_1 \mathbf{T}^\dagger \mathbf{V}^\dagger |\delta_0\rangle \Rightarrow \Delta_0 |\gamma_1\rangle = 0$

Therefore, it is not hard to come up with the following idea:

$$\begin{aligned} \underbrace{(2\Delta_0 - \mathbb{1}_{WX})}_{=\Delta_0 - \Delta_1} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |\gamma_0\rangle - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |\gamma_1\rangle \right) &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}} \Delta_0 |\gamma_0\rangle - \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}} \Delta_0 |\gamma_1\rangle - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |\gamma_0\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |\gamma_1\rangle \\ &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}} |\gamma_0\rangle - 0 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |\gamma_0\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |\gamma_1\rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |\gamma_0\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |\gamma_1\rangle \end{aligned}$$

# Summarizing the Watrous Simulator

- ▶ Start with  $|\gamma_0\rangle_{\text{XW}} = |\psi\rangle_{\text{X}} |0\rangle_{\text{W}}$
- ▶ Perform  $\mathbf{VT}$   $|\gamma_0\rangle_{\text{XW}}$
- ▶ Perform measurement  $\{\mathbf{\Pi}_0, \mathbf{\Pi}_1\}$ 
  - ▶ If outcome is 0 — guessed correctly (in  $|\delta_0\rangle$ ). Go next step.
  - ▶ Otherwise, we are in  $|\delta_1\rangle = \sqrt{2}\mathbf{\Pi}_1\mathbf{VT}|\gamma_0\rangle$ .
    - ▶ Perform  $\mathbf{T}^\dagger\mathbf{V}^\dagger|\delta_1\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\gamma_0\rangle - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\gamma_1\rangle$
    - ▶ Perform  $(2\mathbf{\Delta}_0 - \mathbb{I}_{\text{WX}})(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\gamma_0\rangle - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\gamma_1\rangle) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\gamma_0\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\gamma_1\rangle$
    - ▶ Perform  $\mathbf{VT}(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\gamma_0\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\gamma_1\rangle) = |\delta_0\rangle$ . Go next step.
- ▶ Sim can finish the last round as the honest prover.

## Extending to G3C—Idealized Com Model (1/3)

- ▶ The graph-3-coloring (G3C) problem is NP-complete
- ▶ Start point: the G3C classical ZK proof from [GMW86]

Caveats:

- ▶  $\Pr[\text{Guess correctly}] = \frac{1}{m}$ , where  $m = \# \text{ edges}$ .
- ▶  $\Pr[\text{Guess correctly}] \perp |\psi\rangle?$ 
  - ▶ 1st msg using perfect-binding (PB) Com
  - ▶ What about binding? — Collapse-binding suffices [Unr16]
  - ▶ We assume an ideal Com for simplicity: perfect-hiding and perfectly-binding
  - ▶ Extends to comp.-hiding Com later

## Extending to G3C—Idealized Com Model (2/3)

Key ingredients for the GI simulator:

- ▶ Define an operator:  $\Delta_0^\dagger \mathbf{T}^\dagger \mathbf{V}^\dagger \Pi_0 \mathbf{V} \mathbf{T} \Delta_0$  ( $=: \mathbf{M}$ )
- ▶ An technical Lemma 1:  $\lambda = \frac{1}{2}$  ( $\perp \quad |\psi\rangle$ )
- ▶ Invoke Marriot-Watrous Lemma 2 with  $\lambda = \frac{1}{2}$ :
  - ▶ Voilà 😊! We can get  $|\delta_0\rangle$  within  $\leq 2$  steps

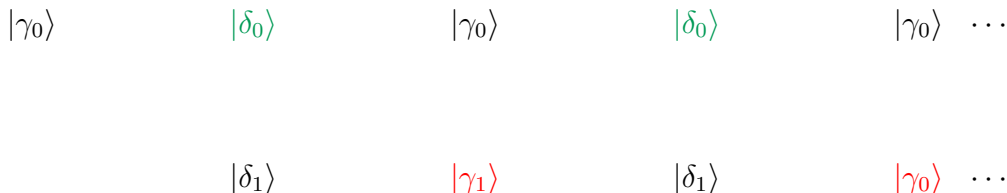
What will change for the G3C protocol?

- ▶  $\mathbf{M}$  defined as before ( $\mathbf{T}$  modified in the natural way)
- ▶ Lemma 1:  $\lambda = \frac{1}{m}$  ( $\perp \quad |\psi\rangle$ )
- ▶ Invoke Marriot-Watrous Lemma 2 with  $\lambda = \frac{1}{m}$ :
  - ▶ 😬! no guarantee for  $|\delta_0\rangle$  within  $\leq 2$  steps
- ▶ Solution: use the full power of Matriott-Watrous analysis (next slide).



# Extending to G3C—Idealized Com Model (3/3)

(draw the evolution diagram in the current setting)



The main take-away:

- ▶  $\mathbf{U} |\gamma_0\rangle = \sqrt{\lambda} |\delta_0\rangle + \sqrt{1-\lambda} |\delta_1\rangle$      $\mathbf{U}^\dagger |\delta_0\rangle = \sqrt{\lambda} |\gamma_0\rangle + \sqrt{1-\lambda} |\gamma_1\rangle$   
 $\mathbf{U} |\gamma_1\rangle = \sqrt{1-\lambda} |\delta_0\rangle - \sqrt{\lambda} |\delta_1\rangle$      $\mathbf{U}^\dagger |\delta_1\rangle = \sqrt{1-\lambda} |\gamma_0\rangle - \sqrt{\lambda} |\gamma_1\rangle$ , where  $\lambda = 1/m$ .
- ▶ Measure  $\{\Pi_0, \Pi_1\}$  at each  $|\delta\rangle$ , if results in  $|\delta_1\rangle$ :
  - ▶  $\mathbf{U}(2\Delta_0 - \mathbb{1})\mathbf{U}^\dagger |\delta_1\rangle = 2\sqrt{p(1-p)} |\delta_0\rangle + (1-2p) |\delta_1\rangle$
- ▶ Measure  $\{\Pi_0, \Pi_1\}$ . Go to  $|\delta_1\rangle$  w.p.  $(1-2p)$ .
- ▶ Keep failing after  $t$  iteration:  $(1-p)(1-2p)^t$ . Can be negligible by setting  $t$  properly.

# The General Quantum Rewinding Lemma (Exact)

## LEMMA 3: EXACT QUANTUM REWINDING [Wat09]

$\mathbf{Q}$  is a QC works on  $|\psi\rangle$  and with  $\Pr[\text{success}] = p \ (\perp \ |\psi\rangle)$  outputs  $|\delta_0\rangle$ . Then, for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists another QC  $\mathbf{R}$  of size

$$O\left(\frac{\log(1/\varepsilon)}{p(1-p)} \cdot \text{size}(\mathbf{Q})\right)$$

such that for every input  $|\psi\rangle$ , the output  $\rho$  of  $\mathbf{R}$  satisfies  $\text{Tr}(\rho|\delta_0\rangle\langle\delta_0|) \geq 1 - \varepsilon$ .

- ▶ “Exact” refers to the fact that  $p \perp |\psi\rangle$ .
- ▶ The  $\frac{\log(1/\varepsilon)}{p(1-p)}$ : because we need to set a proper  $t$  to get negligible failing error.
- ▶ Only need poly-size for a negligible  $\varepsilon$ .
- ▶ For the trace, the closer to 1, the better.

# G3C ZK with Comp.-Hiding Com

- ▶ Sim's 1st msg.  $\stackrel{c}{\approx}$  Prover's 1st msg.
- ▶  $V^*$ 's challenge  $a \not\perp$  the 1st msg.
- ▶ In Lemma 3,  $\Pr[\text{success}] = p(|\psi\rangle)$ .
  - ▶  $p(|\psi\rangle)$  jiggles within an negl. small interval.
- ▶ Need a version of Lemma 3 allowing small perturbations

# The Version Allowing Small Perturbations

## LEMMA 4: QUANTUM REWINDING WITH SMALL PERTURBATIONS [Wat09, Sec. 4.2]

Let  $\mathbf{Q}$ ,  $|\psi\rangle$ , and  $|\delta_0\rangle$  as before. But  $\Pr[\text{success}] = p(|\psi\rangle)$  now depends on  $|\psi\rangle$ . Let  $p_0, q \in (0, 1)$  and  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1/2)$  be real numbers such that

$$(1). |p(\psi) - q| < \varepsilon \quad (2). p_0 \leq p(\psi) \quad (3). p_0(1 - p_0) \leq q(1 - q)$$

Then, for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists another QC  $\mathbf{R}$  of size  $O\left(\frac{\log(1/\varepsilon)}{p_0(1-p_0)} \cdot \text{size}(\mathbf{Q})\right)$  such that for every input  $|\psi\rangle$ , the output  $\rho$  of  $\mathbf{R}$  satisfies:

$$\text{Tr}(\rho|\delta_0\rangle\langle\delta_0|) \geq 1 - 16\varepsilon \frac{\log^2(1/\varepsilon)}{p_0^2(1 - p_0)^2}.$$

Proof at a high-level:

- ▶ Consider each eigen-space separately (next slide).
- ▶ For detailed calculation, see [Wat09, Sec. 4.2].

# Proof Sketch for Lemma 4

Proof Sketch:

- ▶ In Lemma 1,  $|\gamma_0\rangle = |\psi\rangle_{\mathcal{W}} |0\rangle_{\mathcal{X}}$  is no longer an evec. of  $\mathbf{M}$ 
  - ▶ The reason:  $|\psi\rangle_{\mathcal{W}}$  is not an evec. of  $\mathbf{Q}$
- ▶ (mental exper.) Thus, decomp.  $|\psi\rangle$  in the evecs  $\{|\psi_i\rangle\}_{i \in [\text{dim}]}$  of  $\mathbf{Q}$
- ▶ (mental exper.) For each  $i$ , we obtain Lemmas 1 and 2
- ▶ (mental exper.) In the Marriot-Watrous procedure, in each egein space:
$$\mathbf{V}\mathbf{T} |\psi_i\rangle_{\mathcal{W}} |0\rangle_{\mathcal{X}} = \sqrt{p(|\psi_i\rangle)} |\delta_0(|\psi_i\rangle)\rangle + \sqrt{1 - p(|\psi_i\rangle)} |\delta_1(|\psi_i\rangle)\rangle$$
- ▶ (mental exper.) Define a unitary  $\mathbf{N}$  such that for all  $i \in [\text{dim}]$ :
$$\sqrt{p(|\psi_i\rangle)} |\delta_0(|\psi_i\rangle)\rangle + \sqrt{1 - p(|\psi_i\rangle)} |\delta_1(|\psi_i\rangle)\rangle \rightarrow \sqrt{q} |\delta_0(|\psi_i\rangle)\rangle + \sqrt{1 - q} |\delta_1(|\psi_i\rangle)\rangle$$
- ▶ (mental exper.) Ready to apply the Exact Rewinding Lemma 3 (w/  $p_0$  as we don't know  $p$ .) (Need  $p_0(1 - p_0) \leq q(1 - q)$ .)

In summary, this is a Sim w/ an imaginary operator  $\mathbf{N}$ , giving the same trace bound as in Lemma 3. But for the real Sim, there is no  $\mathbf{N}$ .

- ▶ Doesn't matter.  $\mathbf{N}$  only affects the trace bound negligibly.
- ▶ By tedious-yet-elementary linear algebra (see [Wat09, Sec. 4.2]).

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