# Algorithms for simulating quantum mechanics

Bryan Clark CSE Seminar

### Why care about algorithms for quantum mechanics?

Accurate and efficient quantum mechanical simulations would have revolutionary changes to industrial applications, what we know about our universe and the way physics is done.



Just need to figure out how to solve them.



From a talk by S. Aaronson from a talk by A. Aspuru-Guzik.

15.0000000

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5.000.000

41%

25.000.030

20.003.000

The underlying physical laws necessary for the mathematical theory of a large part of physics and the whole of chemistry are thus completely known, and the difficulty is only that the exact application of these laws leads to equations much too complicated to be soluble. – Paul Dirac (1929) It's lucky for us that they solved this problem a long time ago...

#### Equation of State Calculations by Fast Computing Machines

THE purpose of this paper is to describe a general method, suitable for fast electronic computing machines, of calculating the properties of any substance which may be considered as composed of interacting individual molecules. Classical statistics is assumed,

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AND

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Unfortunately almost everything is a fermion.

Markov Chain Monte Carlo techniques still amongst the best and most used techniques.

## Even water is hard...







### Since that time, we've seen that there appears to be an exponential wall to simulating quantum systems



#### Why should that be?

#### 2<sup>n</sup> possible electron configurations

Quantum mechanics tells us we are simultaneously in a superposition of electronic configurations.

Superconductor: electrons like to be on top of each other.

Our goal: Find out where the electrons want to be.

Minimal eigenstate of  $H = -t \sum c_i^{\dagger} c_j + U \sum c_{i\uparrow}^{\dagger} c_{i\uparrow} c_{i\downarrow} c_{i\downarrow}$ 



2<sup>n</sup> x 2<sup>n</sup> matrix



## Aside: What's a Spin Liquid

Insulator

Topological: degeneracy that depends on manifold

**Anyonic Excitations** 





## Guess a Wave-function

The true  $\Psi$  has the property that  $E = \Psi^T H \Psi$  is minimal over all  $\Psi$ .

We need a compact representation of a 2<sup>n</sup> state vector. (Important open question)

In some cases, this needs to be an antisymmetric function on the electron positions

Venerable history: BCS Superconductivity Quantum Hall Effect Model Wave-functions

People such as Bardeen and Laughlin guessed these wave-functions without a computer by sheer genius (and were rewarded nobel prizes for it). We want to replace nobel prize winner with computers

**HILBERT SPACE IS A BIG PLACE** 

**Protoypical Wave-functions:** 

$$\Psi(\uparrow,\downarrow,\uparrow,\uparrow) = 0.3 \quad V_{\uparrow,\downarrow,\uparrow,\uparrow} \qquad 2^{n}$$
Huse-Elser/CPS/EPS
$$V_{\uparrow,\downarrow,\uparrow,\uparrow} \qquad 2^{n}$$

$$v_{12}^{a}v_{13}^{b}v_{23}^{c}v_{14}^{d}v_{24}^{e} \qquad 4n^{2}$$

$$v_{\uparrow\downarrow}^{a}v_{\uparrow\uparrow}^{b}v_{\downarrow\uparrow}^{c}v_{\uparrow\uparrow}^{d}v_{\downarrow\uparrow}^{e}$$

 $\begin{array}{c|c} \text{MPS} & M_1^a M_2^b M_3^c M_4^d \\ & M_{\uparrow}^a M_{\downarrow}^b M_{\uparrow}^c M_{\uparrow}^d \end{array}$ 



$$\begin{split} |\Psi\rangle &= \exp[-J(R)] \sum_{k} \alpha_k \det M_{\uparrow,k} \det M_{\downarrow,k} \\ J(R) &= \sum_{ij} j(r_i - r_j) \\ M_{ij} &= \phi_i(r_j) \\ 3d \text{ function} \quad R &\equiv \{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n\} \end{split}$$



 $nD^2$ 



v : scalar M : matrix

Unfortunately, these wave-functions are not compact enough. For the most interesting physical systems you need an exponential number of parameters (turn up the matrix size, the number of determinants, etc.) to ge converged energies.



Beyond compactness, even for a small number of parameters (1000) we have a hard optimization problem:

Given a parameterization for  $\phi_i(r_j)$ or  $v_{ij}^A$  how do you find (even local) minima.

You only have *stochastic* access to the energy and each energy evaluation is slow!

Essentially an online learning problem.

(Important open question)

Currently: Stochastic Gradient Descent  $\vec{\alpha} \rightarrow \vec{\alpha} + \delta \nabla_{\vec{\alpha}} E$ 

'Time Evolution'

Stochastic Reconfiguration  $\alpha_i \rightarrow \alpha_i + \delta \operatorname{sign}(\partial E / \partial \alpha)$  $\Psi = P(1 - \tau H)\Psi$ 

# Striped Spin Liquid Crystal





**Herbertsmithite** 



**Volborthite** 



\* Zn-Paratacamite





Topological + Nematic!



## Diffusion Monte Carlo

(Stochastic Power Series)

$$\lim_{M \to \infty} (1 - \tau H)^M \Psi = \Psi_0$$
  
$$\lim_{M \to \infty} G^M \Psi = \Psi_0$$
  
$$\sum_{ijklmn} G_{ij} G_{jk} G_{kl} \dots G_{mn} \Psi_n = (\Psi_0)_i$$
  
$$P(i \to j) = \frac{|G_{ij}|}{\sum_j |G_{ij}|} \quad w(i \to j) = \sum_j |G_{ij}| \operatorname{sign}(G_{ij})$$

Optimization: Walk w /  $(1 - \tau H)$  on manifold of parameterized states. DMC: Walk w /  $(1 - \tau H)$ 







### The Exciton Bose Liquid



High Tc superconductors have a bad metal.

Can we find a bad metal in a simple Hamiltonian.

![](_page_16_Figure_4.jpeg)

## Parallelization

Unlike DMRG, diffusion Monte Carlo parallelizes extremely well.

![](_page_17_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Figure_0.jpeg)

# A Sign Problem

The "only" problem in physics

![](_page_19_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_19_Figure_3.jpeg)

Your errors on this are good

but your errors on this are horrible.

![](_page_19_Figure_6.jpeg)

#### **Exponential Relative Variance**

![](_page_19_Picture_8.jpeg)

# Annihilation

Without

![](_page_20_Figure_2.jpeg)

- Annihilation helps because paths of different signs cancel.
- Annihilation fails because you can't keep enough walkers to get cancellation of all paths.

With but too few walkers

![](_page_20_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_20_Figure_7.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Figure_0.jpeg)

Quantum Computing Will quantum computers solve our problems? Maybe... Quantum simulations are quar

<u>Modified Church-Turing Thesis</u> All computers (physical systems) are essentially equivalent to your laptop.

Quantum Mechanics broke this Quantum simulations are quantum computers kill application, not factoring!

Quantum computers can (probably) compute g.s. in poly-time.

![](_page_22_Figure_5.jpeg)

### Two (minor) problems:

- No quantum computers (16 qubits)
- 100 qubit simulation -> 10<sup>16</sup> gates

![](_page_22_Picture_9.jpeg)

"A method is more important than a discovery, since the right method will lead to new and even more important discoveries."

-Lev Landau

# Conclusions

- Quantum simulations are important:
  - and you've seen some exciting physics we've already discovered
- There are many beautiful algorithms
  - some of which we've developed.
- But we have a long way to go.
- Deep and interesting questions...
  - algorithms: FOCS/STOCS/ICML style-questions
  - More traditional CSE focus on parallelization
- (Also interested in quantum computing!)
- Interested in collaboration; come find me!

#### Striped Spin Liquid

![](_page_25_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Figure_4.jpeg)

## (Modified) Church-Turing Thesis Quantum computers can compute g.s. in polytime

![](_page_26_Figure_1.jpeg)

 $|0\rangle|\Psi\rangle + |1\rangle(e^{iE_0t}|\Psi_0\rangle + e^{iE_1t}|\Psi_1\rangle + e^{iE_2t}|\Psi_2\rangle)$ 

### Minor Problems:

No quantum computers (16 qubits)

100 qubit simulation -> 1016 gates

**Everything is quantum mechanics** Accurate and efficient quantum mechanical 'Condensed Matter Physics' Sumulations would have revolutionary changes to hat we know about our what we know about our what we know about our industrial applications, what we is done 'Chemistry' universe and the way physics is done. 'Materials' 'Nuclear Physics' 'Water' 'Biology'

We know the rules.

Just need to figure out how to solve them.

![](_page_27_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_27_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_27_Picture_5.jpeg)

41%

From a talk by S. Aaronson from a talk by A. Aspuru-Guzik.

## Variational Monte Carlo

Variational Principle:  $E_0 = \langle \Psi_0 | H | \Psi_0 \rangle \leq \langle \Psi_T | H | \Psi_T \rangle$ 

![](_page_28_Figure_2.jpeg)

Highly *nonlinear* optimization with an objective function  $\langle E[\Psi[\vec{\alpha}]] \rangle$  and derivatives  $\partial \langle E \rangle / \partial \alpha_i$  which can only be evaluated *noisily* and *slowly*.

Aside: Analogous to online learning.

## Church-Turing Thesis

All computers (physical systems) are essentially equivalent to your laptop.

### Quantum Mechanics broke this

![](_page_29_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_29_Picture_4.jpeg)

Simulating quantum mechanics is hard Computing

Quantum information has started to play an important role in condensed matter.

![](_page_30_Figure_0.jpeg)

### Some wave-functions

$$M(i_1,i_2,..,i_n)$$

$$A(i_1, i_2, i_3, i_4)B(i_3, i_4, i_5, i_6)C(i_5, i_6, \dots)$$

![](_page_31_Picture_3.jpeg)

$$M(i_1)M(i_2)M(i_3)M(i_4)$$

Optimization by alternating least squares Very hard to parallelize. Thinking about stochastic SVD

![](_page_31_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_31_Figure_7.jpeg)

Our group works on simulating strongly correlated systems. We are currently attacking the Hubbard model as a stepping stone toward more sophisticated models.

![](_page_32_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Picture_0.jpeg)

There's an exponential wall to simulating quantum systems.

Better Exact Methods

Approximations

Ouantun,

A (only slightly) biased view on the state of the art to attenuate it.

With a few new algorithms

- Partial Node FCIQMC
- Release FCIQMC
- Release + FN MPS
- Efficient Multi-MPS
- SEMPS

### Approach I: Just write down the wave-function

Exponential number of terms

riational

![](_page_35_Figure_2.jpeg)

No sign problem but "bond-dimension" problem.

 PEPS or Huse-Elser or MERA
 Multi-non-orthogonal SD + symmetry

projection

#### • MPS

Optimize without quantum numbers and project afterwards gains non-trivial energy. On triangular lattice, ~10%

#### Multi-MPS

exponential in width

![](_page_36_Figure_1.jpeg)

Exact:  $\{|\Psi_{MPS}\rangle, H|\Psi_{MPS}\rangle, H^2|\Psi_{MPS}\rangle, \dots\}$ Approx:  $\{|\Psi_{MPS}\rangle, PH|\Psi_{MPS}\rangle, PHPH|\Psi_{MPS}\rangle, \dots\}$ Better: Let  $H=h_1+h_2+h_3+h_4+h_5$   $\{|\Psi_{MPS}\rangle, h_i|\Psi_{MPS}\rangle, h_ih_j|\Psi_{MPS}\rangle, \dots\}$ Ax8 Hubbard Model: 5 MPO's of size 6 1 MPO of size 18

For n=3, factor of 2000x faster!

![](_page_36_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_37_Picture_0.jpeg)

### • Fixed Node: A (stochastic) sample of the w.f.

#### Two recent `improvements':

-50

15

10

20

Bond Dimension

25

30

35

![](_page_37_Figure_3.jpeg)

#### • Constrained Path:

Shiwei: Determinants

Garnet: MPS

**Approach II: Sample** Sign Problem - Efficiency as  $\exp[-\beta \Delta E]$ 

![](_page_38_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### • PQMC + Annihilation

Brings up Delta E

Kalos

+ initiator: Ali Alavi

#### • AFQMC Free projection

![](_page_39_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_39_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_40_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_40_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_40_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_41_Picture_0.jpeg)

### DMRG: A bond dimension problem.

Our goal is to write down an algorithm that has both a sign problem and a bond dimension problem.

![](_page_41_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_41_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_42_Figure_0.jpeg)

We'd really like perfect annihilation through all these paths.

How can we do this?

![](_page_43_Picture_1.jpeg)

We'd really like effectively higher bond dimension.

![](_page_43_Figure_3.jpeg)

#### Venerable history: BCS Superconductivity Quantum Hall Effect Model Wave-functions

Particularly valuable if the wave-function is conceptually simple and connects to analytical theory

Replace nobel prize winner with computers

![](_page_44_Picture_3.jpeg)

**HILBERT SPACE IS A BIG PLACE** 

![](_page_45_Figure_0.jpeg)

Unfortunately, these wave-functions are not compact enough. For the most interesting physical systems you need an exponential number of parameters (turn up the matrix size, the number of determinants, etc.) to ge converged energies.

![](_page_45_Picture_2.jpeg)

We'd really like perfect annihilation through all these paths.

 $|MPS_1\rangle \approx |D_1\rangle + |D_3\rangle + |D_{20}\rangle + \dots |\langle MPS_1|C\rangle|^2$ 

$$\exp[-\tau H]|D_1\rangle + \exp[-\tau H]|D_3\rangle + \exp[-\tau H]|D_{20}\rangle + \dots$$

Sample

Represented 'exactly' by MPS of small bond-dimension.

You run out of bond-dimension much slower.

You're already starting at the best MPS you can get for your bond dimension. You're guaranteed to be better.

Massively Parallel

You do have a bond-dimension problem.

If  $\operatorname{Sign}(\langle MPS_1|C \rangle) \neq \operatorname{Sign}(\langle \Psi_0|C \rangle)$ , you have a weak sign problem.

![](_page_46_Figure_9.jpeg)

 $\beta = 0.08$ 

TO

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![](_page_47_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_47_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_47_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_47_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_47_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_48_Figure_0.jpeg)

### 4 x 32 hubbard model

![](_page_49_Figure_0.jpeg)

A much smaller sign problem.

## The best (or worst) of both worlds: SEMPS

![](_page_50_Figure_1.jpeg)

DRMG+QMC gives us powerful new algorithms including Multi-MPS SEMPS Fixed-Node w/ MPS Release w/ MPS

Pareto-Optimal: Multi-MPS SEMPS

> Partial Node FCIQMC on Multi-MPS or Multi-Slater Jastrow

Release of CP AFQMC + SEMPS