### Quantum Computing on Classical Machines with Tensor Networks



E.M. Stoudenmire

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SIMONS FOUNDATION



Great excitement for prospects of near-term **quantum computing** 

#### Often making headlines:

*Quantum computers could crack the cryptography that underpins financial stability* 

**Disease control** – Even though the novel coronavirus pandemic has not been curbed, quantum computing can help scientists and researchers discover vaccines in the future and address health

**Cloud computing** – Google plans to offer commercial cloud computing on its quantum computer process complicated problems and provide results to individual users.

**Cryptography** – Quantum cryptography can potentially change data security, creating tamper-proceeding cybersecurity measures.

in healthcare. Quantum computers have the potential to resolve problems of

this complexity and magnitude across many different industries and

applications, including finance, transportation, chemicals, and cybersecurity.

# Quantum hardware reaching impressive milestones



Yet not clear what problems quantum computers can practically solve better than classical computers

Some candidates:

factoring (Shor's algorithm) or inverse problems (Grover's)
how robust to decoherence?
1000's of qubits needed? time to solution?

chemistry & physics simulation
 can it scale? how accurate? sampling overhead?

Amazing devices are being built... we should research what they are best for

Simulating quantum computers clarifies line between easy and hard

Tensor networks are the most powerful simulators

Sometimes tensor networks are so powerful, we can flip the script: quantum algorithms become new "quantum inspired" classical algorithms



Today's Talk

- Motivation: Quantum Computing
- Classical Methods and Tensor Networks for Quantum Systems
- Entanglement of Quantum Algorithms: the Quantum Fourier Transform (QFT)
- Assessing Quantum Utility Claims



How 'quantum' are classical computers?

How hard is quantum mechanics?

Consider n quantum spins or qubits



#### What's going on at Flatiron Institute Center for Computational Quantum Physics (CCQ)?



Developing ways to break through the  $2^n$  exponential quantum wall

quantum Monte Carlo high-order perturbation theory embedding (DMFT) GW method tensor networks neural quantum states density functional theory numerical renormalization group

Developing ways to break through the  $2^n$  exponential quantum wall

Quantum Monte Carlo 🧊

breaks exponential by sampling important configurations



Developing ways to break through the  $2^n$  exponential quantum wall

Embedding / DMFT @\*

treats small piece of system inside solvable "bath" with mirrored properties



Last but not least: tensor networks

Tensor networks:

- work directly with wavefunction
- use compression to store wavefunction
- closely mimic a quantum computer

Let's unpack these...

General wavefunction of n qubits



What is a tensor?

vector 
$$v = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$
  $v_2 = 3$   
matrix  $M = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 7 \\ 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$   $M_{12} = 7$   
order-3  
tensor  $T = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 4 \\ 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix} 5$   $T_{112} = 5$ 

N-index tensor = shape with N lines

$$T^{s_1 s_2 s_3 \cdots s_N} = \underbrace{s_1 s_2 s_3 s_4 \cdots s_N}_{s_1 s_2 s_3 \cdots s_N} = \underbrace{s_1 s_2 s_3 s_4 \cdots s_N}_{s_1 s_2 s_3 \cdots s_N}$$

Low-order examples:



Joining wires means contraction:

 $\sum_{j} M_{ij} v_j = w_i$ 

N-index tensor exponential to store

$$T^{s_1 s_2 s_3 \cdots s_N} = \underbrace{s_1 s_2 s_3 s_4 \cdots s_N}_{s_1 s_2 s_3 \cdots s_N} = \underbrace{s_1 s_2 s_3 s_4 \cdots s_N}_{s_1 s_2 s_3 \cdots s_N}$$

Tensor version of "many-body problem"

$$|\Psi\rangle =$$

Just as factorizing a matrix reduces cost (memory and compute)



 $\chi$  is matrix rank













Can recursively factor (compress) a tensor as well



Advantage if internal indices small, yet accuracy is good (small "bond dimension" or "rank" $\chi$ )

Optimize by e.g. applying quantum gates (imaginary or real time evolution)

Efficient – only touch three small tensors per gate



How do tensor networks mimic quantum computers?

## 

Quantum Computer	Tensor Network
	Quantum         Computer



	Quantum Computer	Tensor Network
prepare simple initial states		
efficiently apply gates		

How do tensor networks mimic quantum computers?



	Quantum Computer	Tensor Network
prepare simple initial states		
efficiently apply gates		
sample from wavefunction		

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Quantum Computer	Tensor Network
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non-unitary gates, post-selection, counting problems,		
handle <u>high entanglement</u>	? or ??	

Thought experiment:

If we put a quantum computer and a tensor network in a box, for what problems could we tell them apart?





#### Application #1: The Quantum Fourier Transform

How 'quantum' are quantum algorithms?

Analogy between quantum and classical so precise, some quantum algorithms have been classical all along

Quantum Fourier transform (QFT):





Equal to network of small tensors ("MPO" tensor network)

Chen, Stoudenmire, White, PRX Quantum, arxiv:2210.08468

#### What does the QFT do?

- Consider function discretized on grid of spacing  $\frac{1}{2^n}$
- Encode as tensor network state of n qubits



"amplitude encoding"
Performs a discrete Fourier transform on a quantum state (viewed as a large vector)



Circuit for QFT can be interpreted as a tensor network



Treat each column as an MPO tensor network and multiply these together:















Treat each column as an MPO and multiply together



Result is MPO of internal dimension  $\chi = 8$  ! (When working to double precision)\*



Jielun Chen

Chen, Stoudenmire, White, PRX Quantum, arxiv:2210.08468

#### **Classical Methods for Quantum Systems**

Compressed quantum Fourier transform beats "fast Fourier transform" (FFT)



Chen, Stoudenmire, White, PRX Quantum, arxiv:2210.08468

 $(n, \chi_{99})$   $(\gamma, \chi_{99})$   $(\gamma, \chi_{99})$ 

#### Classical Methods for Quantum Systems

## Rapidly developing topic of "quantum-inspired classical algorithms"



Application #2: Physics Simulation (Ising Dynamics on Heavy-Hex Lattice)

Have quantum computers demonstrated utility?

#### This work – collaboration with:



Joey Tindall Flatiron CCQ



Matt Fishman Flatiron CCQ



Dries Sels Flatiron CCQ New York University

J. Tindall, M. Fishman, EMS, D. Sels, PRX Quantum, arxiv:2306.14887 J. Tindall, M. Fishman, SciPost Phys. 15, 222 (2023)

#### Motivation

# Last June, sudden coverage of a new quantum experiment:

#### Article Open Access Published: 14 June 2023

## Evidence for the utility of quantum computing before fault tolerance

Youngseok Kim ⊠, Andrew Eddins ⊠, Sajant Anand, Ken Xuan Wei, Ewout van den Berg, Sami Rosenblatt, Hasan Nayfeh, Yantao Wu, Michael Zaletel, Kristan Temme & Abhinav Kandala ⊠

Nature 618, 500–505 (2023) Cite this article

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The New York Times

Quantum Computing Advance Begins New Era, IBM Says A quantum computer came up with better answers to a physics problem than a conventional supercomputer.



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Error mitigation empowers quantum processor to probe physics that classical

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#### Technology

#### IBM quantum computer beat a supercomputer in a head-to-head test

Researchers at IBM pitted their 127-qubit Eagle quantum computer against a conventional supercomputer in a challenge to perform a complex calculation – and the quantum computer won

By Karmela Padavic-Callaghan

💾 14 June 2023

"beat a supercomputer" "classical methods can't reach"

#### What did the experiment compute?



"Kicked" quantum Ising Floquet dynamics

$$U(\theta_h) = \left(\prod_{\langle v, v' \rangle} \exp\left(\mathrm{i}\frac{\pi}{4}Z_v Z_{v'}\right)\right) \left(\prod_v \exp\left(-\mathrm{i}\frac{\theta_h}{2}X_v\right)\right)$$

Repeatedly apply 
$$U(\theta_h)$$

Qubits as quantum Ising "spins":



Kim, Youngseok, et al. "Evidence for the utility of quantum computing before fault tolerance." Nature 618.7965 (2023): 500-505

#### Zero-noise extrapolation to mitigate hardware errors



Figure from: Kim, Youngseok, et al. "Evidence for the utility of quantum computing before fault tolerance." *Nature* 618.7965 (2023): 500-505

#### Measure expected values of Pauli operators



#### Short times: exact results available

Certain tensor network methods already struggling

#### Longer times (deeper circuits) with quantum processor



These tensor methods cannot keep up

Figure from: Kim, Youngseok, et al. "Evidence for the utility of quantum computing before fault tolerance." *Nature* 618.7965 (2023): 500-505

Challenges for 2D tensor networks

 Can use 1D tensor networks (MPS), however cost grows exponentially



Challenges for 2D tensor networks

• There are 2D tensor networks ("PEPS" or "TNS")



but most algorithms expensive to reach high accuracy

However, we were able to simulate the same 2D lattice to high accuracy – how?



Start from tensor network state (TNS) with same topology as experiment



Ideally, for computing properties, want to fully contract "bra & ket" copies of network



Top-down view



Ideally would get "full environment" (contraction with tensor to optimize removed)





We will make a seemingly drastic approximation



Use "belief propagation" to converge the messages until self-consistency



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Use "belief propagation" to converge the messages until self-consistency



After messages converged, apply gates to evolve one step in time



Belief propagation method aspects:

- if lattice has no loops, fully controlled
- can run on any lattice
- cheap: use *huge* internal bond dimensions  $\chi$
- similar to mean-field theory, but likely much more accurate
- can do dynamics on top



Sahu, Swingle, arxiv:2206.04701 Guo, Poletti, Arad, arxiv:2301.05844 Tindall, Fishman, arxiv:2306.17837

#### Test on verifiable, small systems



Larger lattices help!

#### Nearly exact for verifiable regime (5 time steps)



Only minutes running on M1 Macbook Pro

## Remains highly accurate for larger depths



Larger  $\chi$  requires ~day on cluster node

Use trick involving extra evolution to get 3-Pauli operators

Many other simulations have come out!

Kechedzhi et al., arxiv:2306.15970 finite-size & lightcone extrapolations

Begušić, Chan, arxiv:2306.16372

Anand et al. arxiv:2306.17839

Begušić, Gray, Chan, arxiv:2308.05077

Liao et al., arxiv:2308.03082

Clifford perturbation theory

tensor networks

tensor networks

tensor networks

All agree with our results, some very closely

Based on more detailed per-time-step analysis & MPS comparison, we believe ours are highly accurate Summary: Ising on Heavy-Hex

Apparently Ising on 2D heavy-hex lattice has "tree-like" correlations (as if loops played no role)

Belief propagation tensor network method very effective for dynamics in this case

Can study large 2D quantum systems evolving in time




## **Thoughts & Future Directions**

Tensor networks defining boundary between hard vs. easy quantum problems

Helping to quantum computing to focus on problems with greatest opportunity

On classical side, how many quantum algorithms can be brought into classical world, becoming "quantum-inspired classical"

Can get benefits of certain quantum algorithms today, on existing computers