

# Limitations for Quantum PCPs

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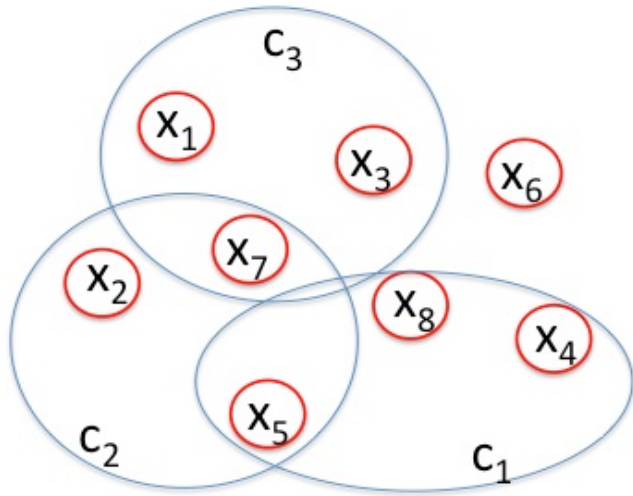
Based on joint work arXiv:1310.0017 with

Aram Harrow

MIT

Simons Institute, Berkeley, February 2014

# Constraint Satisfaction Problems



$(k, \Sigma, n, m)$ -CSP :

$k$ : arity

$\Sigma$ : alphabet

$n$ : number of variables

$m$ : number of constraints

Constraints:  $C_j : \Sigma^k \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$

Assignment:  $\sigma : [n] \rightarrow \Sigma$



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# Quantum Constraint Satisfaction Problems

$(k, d, n, m)$ - $q$ CSP  $H$

$k$ : arity

$d$ : local dimension

$n$ : number of qudits

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Constraints:  $P_j$   $k$ -local projection

Assignment:  $|\psi\rangle$  quantum state

$$\text{unsat}(H) := \min_{|\psi\rangle} \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j=1}^m \langle \psi | P_j | \psi \rangle$$

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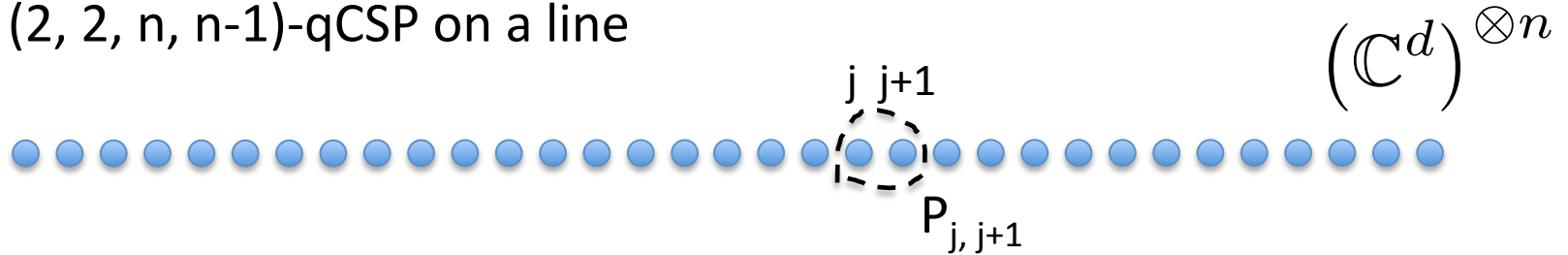
Assignment:  $\sigma : [n] \rightarrow \Sigma$

$$\text{unsat}(H) := \min_{|\psi\rangle} \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j=1}^m \langle \psi | P_j | \psi \rangle = \frac{1}{m} \lambda_{\min} \left( \sum_j P_j \right)$$

min eigenvalue Hamiltonian

# Quantum Constraint Satisfaction Problems

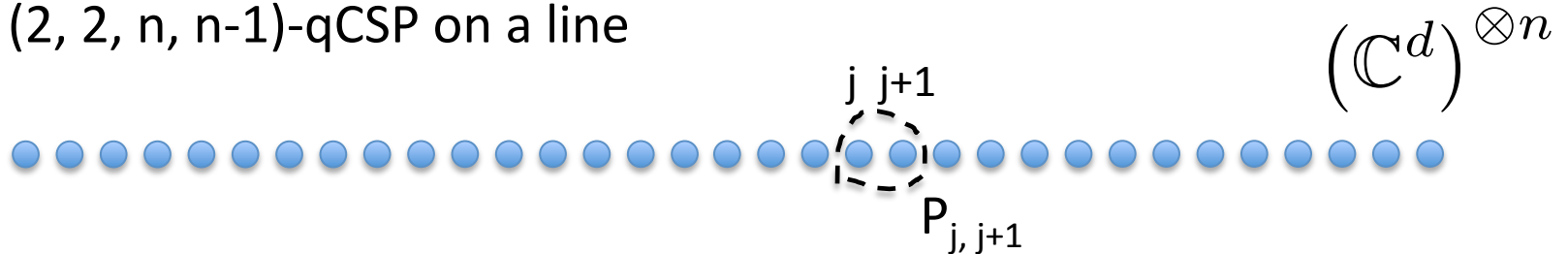
**Ex 1:** (2, 2, n, n-1)-qCSP on a line



$$H = \sum_j P_j = \sum_j \text{id}_{1,\dots,j-1} \otimes P_{j,j+1} \otimes \text{id}_{j+2,\dots,n}$$

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**Ex 2:** (2, 2, n, m)-qCSP with diagonal projectors:

$$P_j = \sum_{x_{j_1}, x_{j_2}} C_j(x_{j_1}, x_{j_2}) |x_{j_1}, x_{j_2}\rangle \langle x_{j_1}, x_{j_2}|$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{unsat} \left( \sum_j P_j \right) &= \min_{\{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \in \{0,1\}^n} \sum_j \langle x_1, \dots, x_n | P_j | x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle / m \\ &= \min_{\{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \in \{0,1\}^n} C_j(x_{j_1}, x_{j_2}) / m \\ &= \text{unsat}(C) \end{aligned}$$

# PCP Theorem

**PCP Theorem** (Arora, Safra; Arora-Lund-Motwani-Sudan-Szegedy '98)

There is a  $\epsilon > 0$  s.t. it's NP-hard to determine whether for a CSP,  
 $\text{unsat} = 0$  or  $\text{unsat} > \epsilon$

- Compare with Cook-Levin thm:  
It's NP-hard to determine whether  $\text{unsat} = 0$  or  $\text{unsat} > 1/m$ .
- Equivalent to the existence of **P**robabilistically **C**heckable **P**roofs for NP.
- (Dinur '07) Combinatorial proof.
- Central tool in the theory of **hardness of approximation**.

# Quantum Cook-Levin Thm

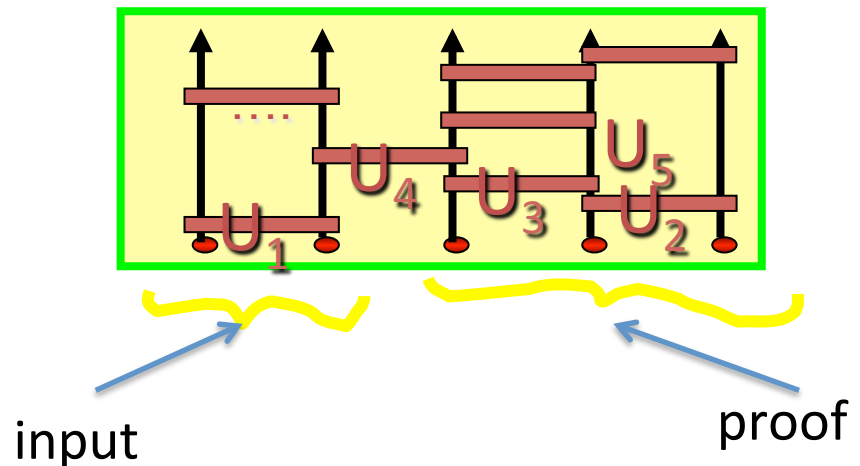
## Local Hamiltonian Problem

locality  $\swarrow$   $\nwarrow$  local dim

Given a  $(k, d, n, m)$ -qcsp  $H$  with constant  $k, d$  and  $m = \text{poly}(n)$ ,  
decide if  $\text{unsat}(H)=0$  or  $\text{unsat}(H)>\Delta$

**Thm** (Kitaev '99) The local Hamiltonian problem is QMA-complete for  $\Delta = 1/\text{poly}(n)$

**QMA** is the quantum analogue of NP, where the proof and the computation are quantum.





# Quantum PCP?

**The Quantum PCP conjecture:** There is  $\varepsilon > 0$  s.t. the following problem is QMA-complete: Given  $(2, 2, n, m)$ -qcsp  $H$  determine whether

locality                      local dim

(i)  $\text{unsat}(H)=0$     or    (ii)  $\text{unsat}(H) > \varepsilon$ .

- (Bravyi, DiVincenzo, Loss, Terhal '08) Equivalent to conjecture for  $(k, d, n, m)$ -qcsp for any constant  $k, d$ .
- At least **NP-hard** (by PCP Thm) and **inside QMA**
- Open *even* for commuting qCSP ( $[P_i, P_j] = 0$ )

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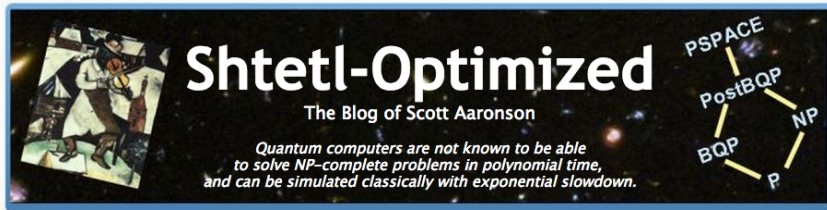
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- Sophisticated form of quantum error correction?
- For more motivation see review ([Aharonov, Arad, Vidick '13](#))  
and Thomas recorded talk on bootcamp week

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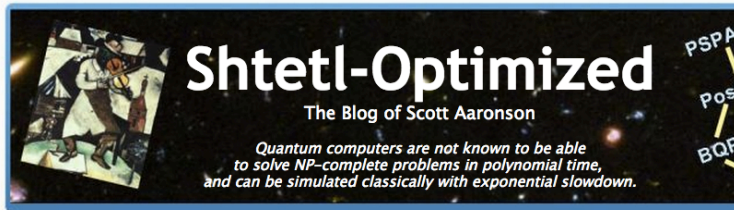


« Quantum Computing Since Democritus Lecture 4: Minds and Machines

The Quantum PCP Still fiddling on the roof »  
Manifesto

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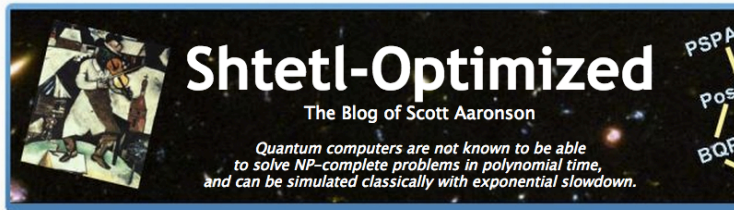
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I'm 99% sure that this theorem (alright, conjecture) or something close to it is true. I'm 95% sure that the proof will require a difficult adaptation of classical PCP machinery (whether **Iritean** or **pre-Iritean**), in much the same way that the **Quantum Fault-Tolerance Theorem** required a difficult adaptation of classical fault-tolerance machinery. I'm 85% sure that the proof is achievable in a year or so, should enough people make it a priority. I'm 75% sure that the proof, once achieved, will open up heretofore undreamt-of vistas of understanding and insight. I'm 0.01% sure that I can prove it. And that is why I hereby bequeath the actual proving part to you, my readers.



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I'm quite certain that a Quantum PCP Theorem will require significant new ideas. Recently I spent a day or two studying Irit's proof of the classical PCP theorem (which I hadn't done before), and I found about 20 violations of the No-Cloning Theorem on every page. 😊

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- (B. Harrow '13) Approx. in NP for 2-local non-commuting qCSP

← this talk

# “Blowing up” maps

**prop** For every  $t \geq 1$  there is an efficient mapping from  $(2, \Sigma, n, m)$ -csp  $C$  to  $(2, \Sigma_t, n_t, m_t)$ -csp  $C_t$  s.t.

(i)  $n_t \leq n^{O(t)}, m_t \leq m^{O(t)}$

(ii)  $\deg(C_t) \geq \deg(C)^t$

(iii)  $|\Sigma_t| = |\Sigma|^t$

(iv)  $\text{unsat}(C_t) \geq \text{unsat}(C)$

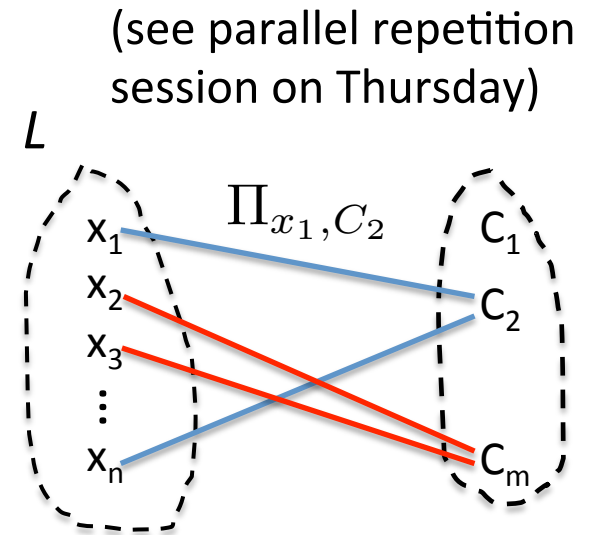
(v)  $\text{unsat}(C_t) = 0$  if  $\text{unsat}(C) = 0$

# Example: Parallel Repetition (for kids)

1. write  $C$  as a *cover label instance*

$L$  on  $G(V, W, E)$  with function  $\Pi_{v,w} : [N] \rightarrow [M]$

Labeling  $l : V \rightarrow [N], W \rightarrow [M]$  covers  
edge  $(v, w)$  if  $\Pi_{v,w}(l(w)) = l(v)$



2. Define  $L_t$  on graph  $G'(V', W', E')$  with  
 $V' = V^t, W' = W^t, [N'] = [N]^t, [M'] = [M]^t$

Edge set:  $(v' = \{v_{i_1}, \dots, v_{i_t}\}, w' = \{w_{i_1}, \dots, w_{i_t}\}) \in E$   
iff  $(v_{i_j}, w_{i_j}) \in E, \forall i \in [n], 0 \leq j \leq t$

Function:  $\Pi_{v',w'}(b_1, \dots, b_t) = \{\Pi_{v_1,w_1}, \dots, \Pi_{v_t,w_t}\}$



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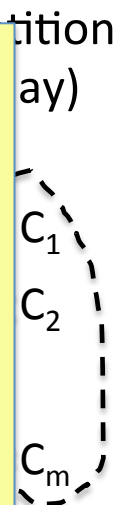
## Easy to see:

1. write  $C$  on  $G$ 
  - (i)  $n_t \leq n^{O(t)}, m^{O(t)}$
  - (ii)  $\text{Deg}(L_t) \geq \text{deg}(C)^t$ ,
  - (iii)  $\text{unsat}(L_t) \geq \text{unsat}(C)$ ,
  - (iv)  $|\Sigma_t| = |\Sigma|^t$ ,
  - (v)  $\text{unsat}(L_t) = 0$  if  $\text{unsat}(C) = 0$
  - (vi)  $\text{unsat}(L_t) \geq \text{unsat}(C)$

**In fact:** (Raz '95) If  $\text{unsat}(C) \geq \delta$ ,  $\text{unsat}(L_t) \geq 1 - \exp(-\Omega(\delta^3 t))$

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then the quantum PCP conjecture is *false*.

Formalizes difficulty of “quantizing” proofs of the PCP theorem  
(e.g. Dinur’s proof; see (Aharonov, Arad, Landau, Vazirani ‘08))

**Obs:** Apparently *not* related to parallel repetition for quantum games  
(see session on Thursday)

# Entanglement Monogamy...

...is the main idea behind the result.

Entanglement cannot be freely shared

**Ex. 1**  $\rho_{AB} = |\phi^+\rangle\langle\phi^+|_{AB}$ ,  $|\phi^+\rangle = (|0,0\rangle + |1,1\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$ ,  $\rho_{ABC} = \rho_{AB} \otimes \rho_C$

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**Ex. 2**  $|\text{CAT}\rangle_{A_1, \dots, A_n} = (|0, \dots, 0\rangle + |1, \dots, 1\rangle) / \sqrt{2}$

$$\rho_{A_i A_j} := \text{tr}_{\setminus A_i A_j} (|\text{CAT}\rangle\langle\text{CAT}|) = (|0,0\rangle\langle 0,0| + |1,1\rangle\langle 1,1|)/2$$

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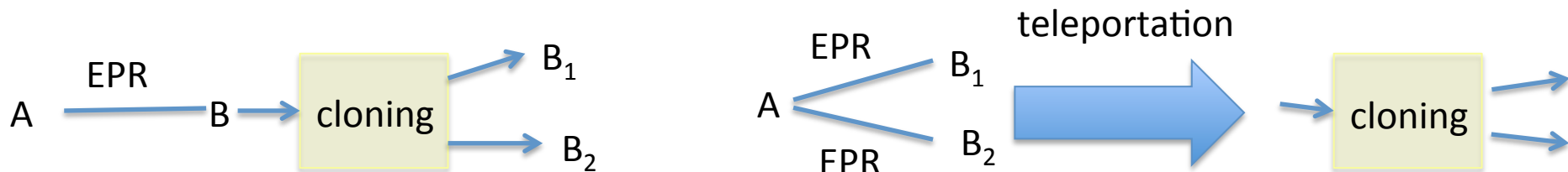
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**Monogamy vs cloning:**

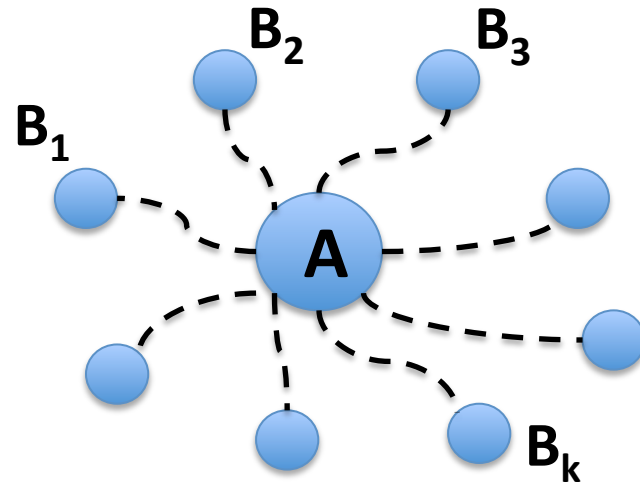
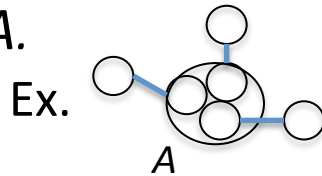


A maximally entangled with B<sub>1</sub> and B<sub>2</sub>

# Entanglement Monogamy...

## ...intuition:

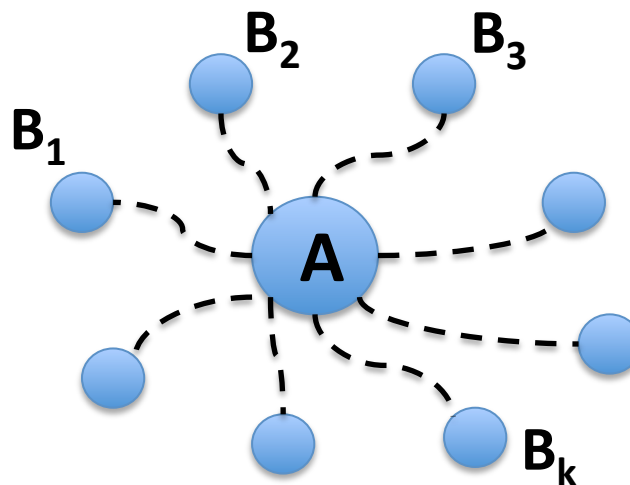
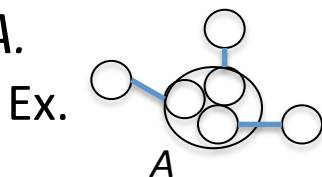
- $A$  can only be substantially entangled with a few of the  $B$ s
- How entangled it can be depends on the *size* of  $A$ .



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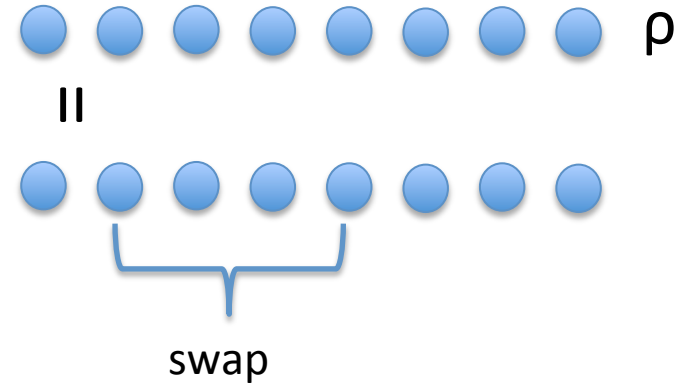
## How to make it quantitative?

1. Study behavior of entanglement measures (distillable entanglement, squashed entanglement, ...) (see Patrick's talk)
2. Study specific tasks (QKD, MIP\*, ...) (see sessions on MIP and device independent crypto)
3. Quantum de Finetti Theorems (see also Aram's talk)



# Quantum de Finetti Theorems

Let  $\rho_{1,\dots,n}$  be permutation-symmetric, i.e.



## Quantum de Finetti Thm:

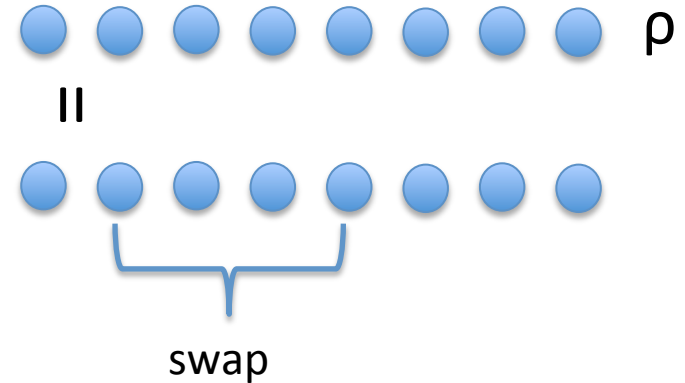
$$\rho_{1,\dots,l} \approx \sum_k p_k \rho_k^{\otimes l}$$

$\frac{d^{2l}}{n}$  (Christandl, Koenig, Mitchson, Renner '05)

- In complete analogy with de Finetti thm for symmetric probability distributions
- But much more remarkable: *entanglement* is destroyed

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- Final installment in a long sequence of works: (Hudson, Moody '76), (Stormer '69), (Raggio, Werner '89), (Caves, Fuchs, Schack '01), (Koenig, Renner '05), ...
- Can we improve on the error? (see Aram's and Patrick's talk)

- Can we find a more general result, beyond permutation-invariant states?

# General Quantum de Finetti

**thm** (B., Harrow '13) Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a  $D$ -regular graph with  $n = |V|$ . Let  $\rho_{1,\dots,n}$  be a  $n$ -qudit state. Then there exists a *globally separable* state  $\sigma_{1,\dots,n}$  such that

$$\mathbb{E}_{(i,j) \in E} \|\rho_{i,j} - \sigma_{i,j}\|_1 \leq 12 \left( \frac{d^2 \ln(d)}{D} \right)^{1/3}$$

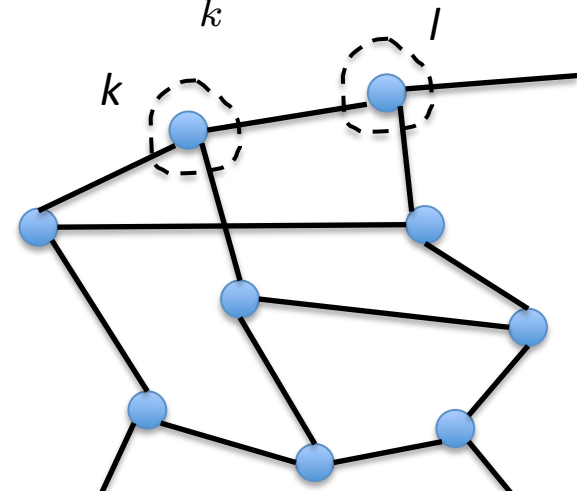
**Globally separable** (unentangled):

$$\sigma = \sum_k p_k \sigma_{k_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \sigma_{k_n}$$

probability  
distribution

local states

$$\rho_{ij} \approx \sigma_{ij} = \sum_k p_k \sigma_{k_i} \otimes \sigma_{k_j}$$



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**Ex 1.** “Local entanglement”:

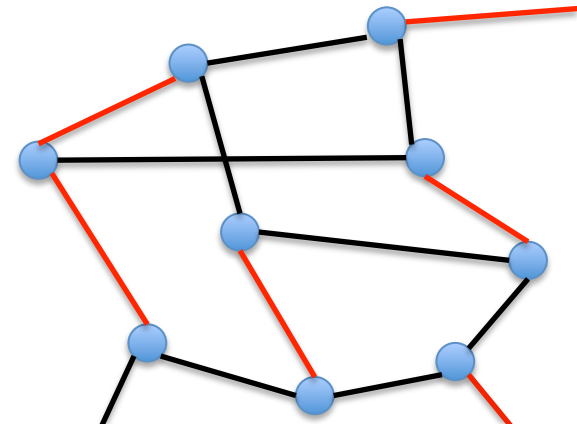
For  $(i, j)$  red:  $\|\rho_{i,j} - \sigma_{i,j}\|_1 \geq 1/4$

  
EPR                      Separable

But for all other  $(i, j)$ :  $\rho_{i,j} = \rho_i \otimes \rho_j$

$\sigma = \rho_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \rho_n$  gives good approx.

Red edge: EPR pair



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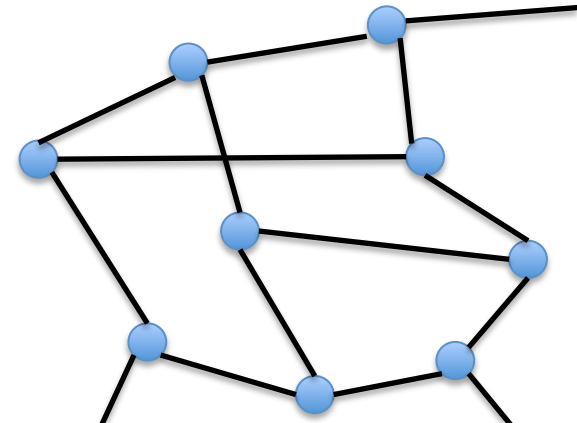
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**Ex 2.** “Global entanglement”:

Let  $\rho = |\varphi\rangle\langle\varphi|$  be a Haar random state

$|\varphi\rangle$  has a lot of entanglement (e.g. for every region  $X$ ,  $S(X) \approx$  number qubits in  $X$ )

But:  $\rho_{i,j} \approx \frac{\text{id} \otimes \text{id}}{d^2}$



# General Quantum de Finetti

**thm** (B., Harrow '13) Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a  $D$ -regular graph with  $n = |V|$ . Let  $\rho_{1,\dots,n}$  be a  $n$ -qudit state. Then there exists a *globally separable* state  $\sigma_{1,\dots,n}$  such that

$$\mathbb{E}_{(i,j) \in E} \|\rho_{i,j} - \sigma_{i,j}\|_1 \leq 12 \left( \frac{d^2 \ln(d)}{D} \right)^{1/3}$$

## Ex 3.

Let  $\rho = |\text{CAT}\rangle\langle\text{CAT}|$  with  $|\text{CAT}\rangle = (|0, \dots, 0\rangle + |1, \dots, 1\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$

$$\rho_{i,j} = \frac{1}{2} |0, 0\rangle\langle 0, 0| + \frac{1}{2} |1, 1\rangle\langle 1, 1|$$

$$\sigma = \frac{1}{2} |0, \dots, 0\rangle\langle 0, \dots, 0| + \frac{1}{2} |1, \dots, 1\rangle\langle 1, \dots, 1|$$

gives a good approximation

# Product-State Approximation

**cor** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a  $D$ -regular graph with  $n = |V|$ . Let

$$H = \sum_{(i,j) \in E} P_{i,j}$$

Then there exists  $|\phi\rangle = |\phi_1\rangle \otimes \dots \otimes |\phi_n\rangle$  such that

$$\frac{2}{nD} \langle \phi | H | \phi \rangle \leq \text{unsat}(H) + 12 \left( \frac{d^2 \log(d)}{D} \right)^{1/3}$$

- The problem is in NP for  $\epsilon = O(d^2 \log(d)/D)^{1/3}$  ( $\varphi$  is a classical witness)
- Limits the range of parameters for which quantum PCPs can exist
- For any constants  $c, \alpha, \beta > 0$  it's NP-hard to tell whether  
 $\text{unsat} = 0$  or  $\text{unsat} \geq c |\Sigma|^\alpha / D^\beta$

# Product-State Approximation

From **thm** to **cor**:

Let  $\rho$  be optimal assignment (aka groundstate) for  $H = \sum_{(i,j) \in E} P_{i,j}$

By **thm**:

$$\exists \sigma = \sum_k p_k \sigma_{k_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \sigma_{k_n} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \mathbb{E}_{(i,j) \in E} \|\rho_{i,j} - \sigma_{i,j}\|_1 \leq 12 \left( \frac{d^2 \ln(d)}{D} \right)^{1/3}$$

Then

$$\frac{2}{nD} \text{tr}(\sigma H) - \underbrace{\frac{2}{nD} \text{tr}(\rho H)}_{\text{unsat}(H)} = \mathbb{E}_{(i,j) \in E} \text{tr}(P_{i,j}(\sigma - \rho)) \leq \mathbb{E}_{(i,j) \in E} \|\rho_{i,j} - \sigma_{i,j}\|_1$$



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# Coming back to quantum “blowing up” maps + qPCP

**thm** If for every  $t \geq 1$  there is an efficient mapping from  $(2, d, n)$ -qcsp  $H$  to  $(2, d_t, n_t)$ -qcsp  $H_t$  s.t.

(i)  $n_t \leq n^{O(t)}$

(ii)  $\text{Deg}(H_t) \geq \text{deg}(H)^t$

(iii)  $|d_t| = |d|^t$

(iv)  $\text{unsat}(H_t) \geq \text{unsat}(H)$

(v)  $\text{unsat}(H_t) = 0$  if  $\text{unsat}(H) = 0$

then the quantum PCP conjecture is *false*.

Suppose w.l.o.g.  $d^2 \log(d)/D < 1/2$  for  $C$ . Then there is a product state  $\varphi$  s.t.

$$\frac{2}{n_t D_t} \langle \phi | H_t | \phi \rangle \leq \text{unsat}(H_t) + 12 \left( \frac{d_t^2 \log(d_t)}{D_t} \right)^{1/3} \leq \text{unsat}(H_t) + 12 \left( \frac{d^2 \log(d)}{D} \right)^{t/3}$$

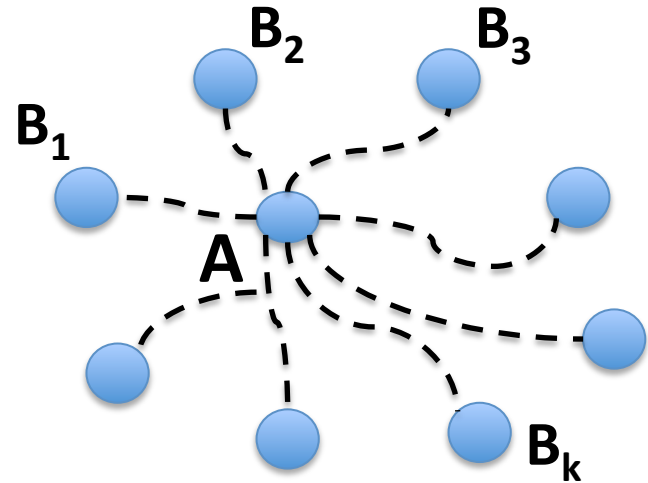
# Proving de Finetti Approximation

For simplicity let's consider a *star* graph

**Want to show:** there is a state

$$\sigma_{AB_1, \dots, B_D} = \sum_k p_k \sigma_{A,k} \otimes \sigma_{B_1,k} \otimes \dots \otimes \sigma_{B_D,k}$$

$$\text{s.t. } \mathbb{E}_i \|\rho_{AB_i} - \sigma_{AB_i}\|_1 \leq 12 \left( \frac{d^2 \ln(d)}{D} \right)^{1/3}$$



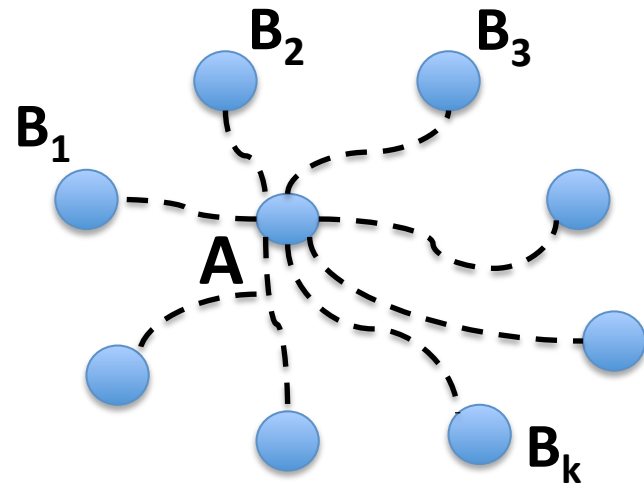
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**Idea:** Use *information theory*. Consider  $\mathbb{E}_{i_1, \dots, i_D} I(A : B_{i_1}, \dots, B_{i_D})$

mutual info:  
 $I(X:Y) = H(X) + H(Y) - H(XY)$

**(i)**  $I(A : B_{i_1}, \dots, B_{i_D}) \leq 2 \log(d)$

**(ii)**  $I(A : B_{i_1}, \dots, B_{i_D}) = I(A : B_{i_1}) + \dots + I(A : B_{i_D} : B_{i_1} \dots B_{i_{D-1}})$

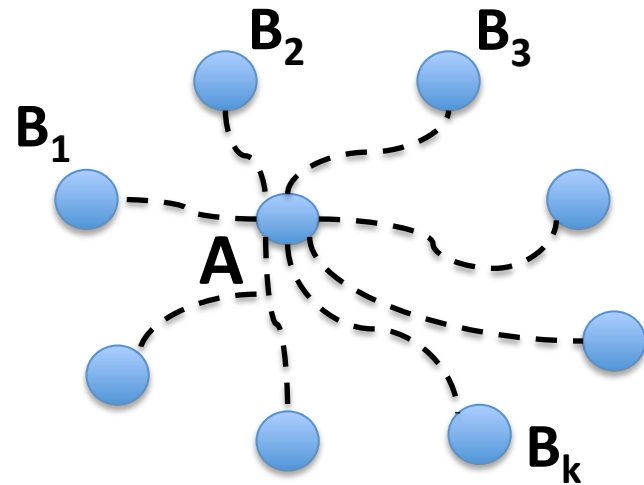
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$$\exists s \leq D : \mathbb{E}_{i_1, \dots, i_{s-1}} \mathbb{E}_{i_s} I(A : B_{i_s} | B_{i_1} \dots B_{i_{s-1}}) \leq \frac{2 \log(d)}{D}$$

# What small conditional mutual info implies?

$$\exists s \leq D : \mathbb{E}_{i_1, \dots, i_{s-1}} \mathbb{E}_{i_s} I(A : B_{i_s} | B_{i_1} \dots B_{i_{s-1}}) \leq \frac{2 \log(d)}{D}$$

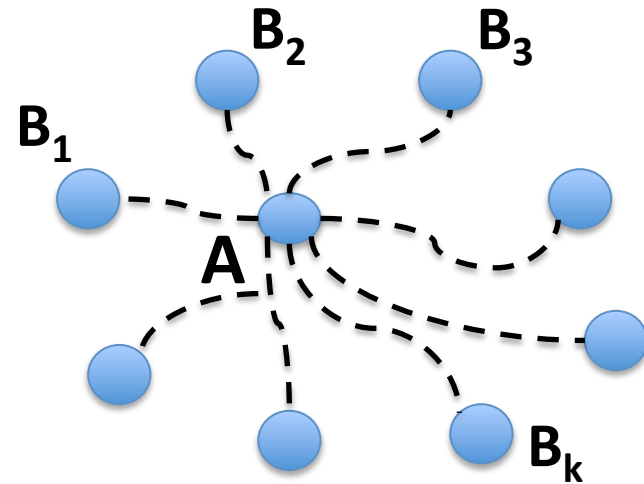
For  $X, Y, Z$  random variables

$$I(X : Y | Z)_p = \mathbb{E}_z I(X : Y)_{p_z}$$

$$p_z(x, y) = p(x, y, z) / p(z)$$


No similar interpretation is known for  $I(X:Y|Z)$  with *quantum*  $Z$

**Solution:** Measure sites  $i_1, \dots, i_{s-1}$



# Proof Sktech


Consider a measurement  $\Lambda(X) := \sum_k \text{tr}(M_k X) |k\rangle\langle k|$   
and  $\pi = \text{id}_A \otimes \Lambda^{\otimes D}(\rho)$



POVM

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POVM

There exists  $s \leq D$  s.t.  $\mathbb{E}_{i_1, \dots, i_{s-1}} \mathbb{E}_{i_s} I(A : B_{i_s} | B_{i_1} \dots B_{i_{s-1}})_{\pi_r} \leq \frac{2 \log(d)}{D}$

So  $\mathbb{E}_{i_1, \dots, i_{s-1}} \mathbb{E}_{r_1, \dots, r_{s-1}} \mathbb{E}_{i_s} I(A : B_{i_s})_{\pi_r} \leq \frac{2 \log(d)}{D}$

with  $\pi_r$  the postselected state conditioned on outcomes  $(r_1, \dots, r_{s-1})$ .



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with  $\pi_r$  the postselected state conditioned on outcomes  $(r_1, \dots, r_{s-1})$ . Thus:

$$\mathbb{E}_{i_1, \dots, i_{s-1}} \mathbb{E}_{r_1, \dots, r_{s-1}} \mathbb{E}_{i_s} \|(\pi_r)_{AB_{i_s}} - (\pi_r)_A \otimes (\pi_r)_{B_{i_s}}\|_1 \leq \left( \frac{4 \ln(2) \log(d)}{D} \right)^{1/2}$$

(by Pinsker inequality)

# Proof Sktech

Again:

$$\mathbb{E}_{i_1, \dots, i_{s-1}} \mathbb{E}_{r_1, \dots, r_{s-1}} \mathbb{E}_{i_s} \|(\pi_r)_{AB_{i_s}} - (\pi_r)_A \otimes (\pi_r)_{B_{i_s}}\|_1 \leq \left( \frac{4 \ln(2) \log(d)}{D} \right)^{1/2}$$

But  $(\pi_r)_{A, B_i} = \text{id}_A \otimes \Lambda_{B_i}(\rho_r)$ . Choosing  $\Lambda$  an

**informationally-complete** measurement:

$$\mathbb{E}_{i_1, \dots, i_{s-1}} \mathbb{E}_{r_1, \dots, r_{s-1}} \mathbb{E}_{i_s} \|(\rho_r)_{AB_{i_s}} - (\rho_r)_A \otimes (\rho_r)_{B_{i_s}}\|_1 \leq 12 \left( \frac{d^2 \log(d)}{D} \right)^{1/2}$$

Conversion factor from info-complete meas.

# Proof Sktech

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Conversion factor from info-complete meas.

Separable state:  $\sigma = \mathbb{E}_{i_1, \dots, i_{s-1}} \mathbb{E}_{r_1, \dots, r_{s-1}} (\rho_{\vec{r}, \vec{i}})_A \otimes \left( \bigotimes_{k \in [D]} (\rho_{\vec{r}, \vec{i}})_{B_k} \right)$

Finally:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}_i \|\rho_{AB_i} - \sigma_{AB_i}\|_1 &\leq \mathbb{E}_{i_1, \dots, i_{s-1}} \mathbb{E}_{r_1, \dots, r_{s-1}} \mathbb{E}_{i_s} \|(\rho_s)_{AB_{i_s}} - (\rho_r)_A \otimes (\rho_r)_{B_{i_s}}\|_1 \\ &\leq 12 \left( \frac{d^2 \log(d)}{D} \right) \end{aligned}$$

# Product-State Approximation: General Theorem

**thm** Let  $H$  be a 2-local Hamiltonian on qudits with  $D$ -regular interaction graph  $G(V, E)$  and  $|E|$  local terms.

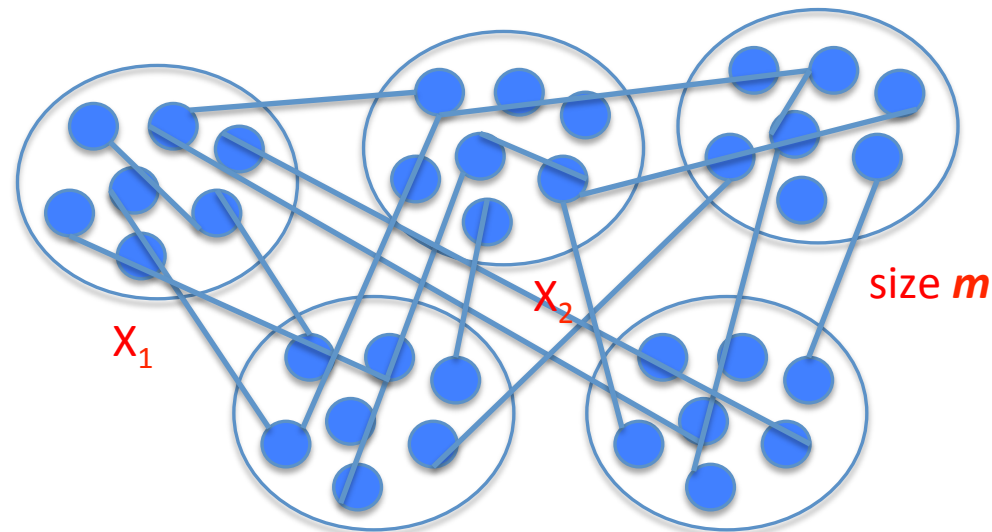
Let  $\{X_i\}$  be a partition of the sites with each  $X_i$  having  $m$  sites.

Then there are states  $\varphi_i$  in  $X_i$  s.t.

$$\frac{2}{nD} \langle \phi_1, \dots, \phi_{n/m} | H | \phi_1, \dots, \phi_{n/m} \rangle \leq \text{unsat}(H) + 9 \left( \frac{d^2 \ln(d) \Phi_G}{D} \frac{\mathbb{E}_i S(X_i)}{m} \right)^{1/6}$$

$\Phi_G$  : average expansion

$S(X_i)$  : entropy of  
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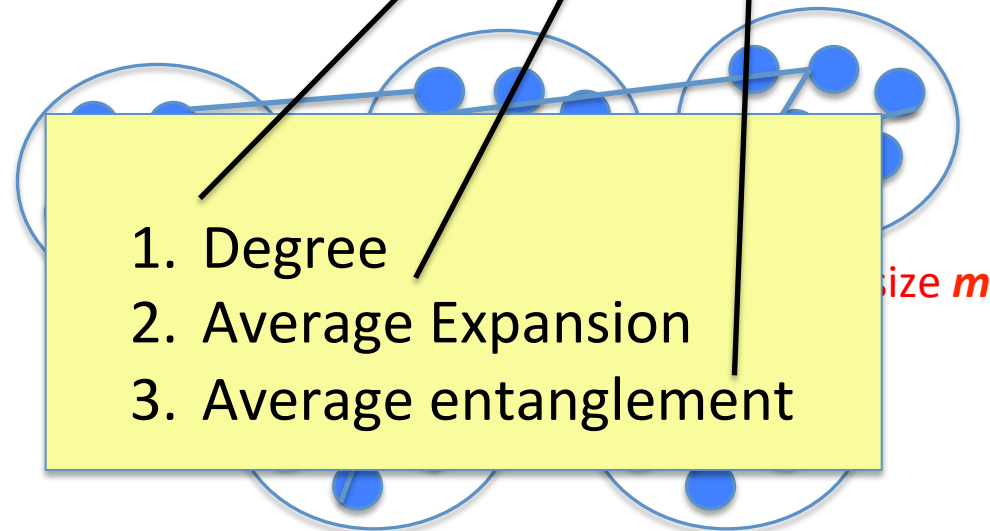
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$\Phi_G$  : average expansion  
 $S(X_i)$  : entropy of  
 groundstate in  $X_i$

1. Degree
2. Average Expansion
3. Average entanglement



# Summary and Open Questions

## Summary:

Entanglement monogamy puts limitations on quantum PCPs  
*and* on approaches for proving them.

## Open questions:

- Can we combine (BH '13) with (Aharonov, Eldar '13)? I.e. approximation for highly expanding non-commuting  $k$ -local models?  
(Needs to go beyond both product-state approximations and Bravyi-Vyalyi)
- Relate quantum “blowing up” maps to quantum games?
- Improved clock-constructions for better gap? (Daniel’s talk)
- Understand better power of tensor network states (product states 1<sup>st</sup> level)
- (dis)prove quantum PCP conjecture!

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**Thanks!**