

# Multiprover Protocols

## *Part II*

A lens on complexity,  
cryptography, and beyond


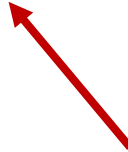
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# Testing for many qubits, redux

- Parameters of  $N$ -fold Magic Square
  - Certifies  $2N$  EPR pairs, and  $X/Z$  Pauli measurements on those EPR pairs
  - Questions/answer length:  $O(N)$  bits
  - Robustness:  $1 - \epsilon$  winning probability  $\Rightarrow O(N^2\sqrt{\epsilon})$ -close to textbook strategy

# State-of-the-art

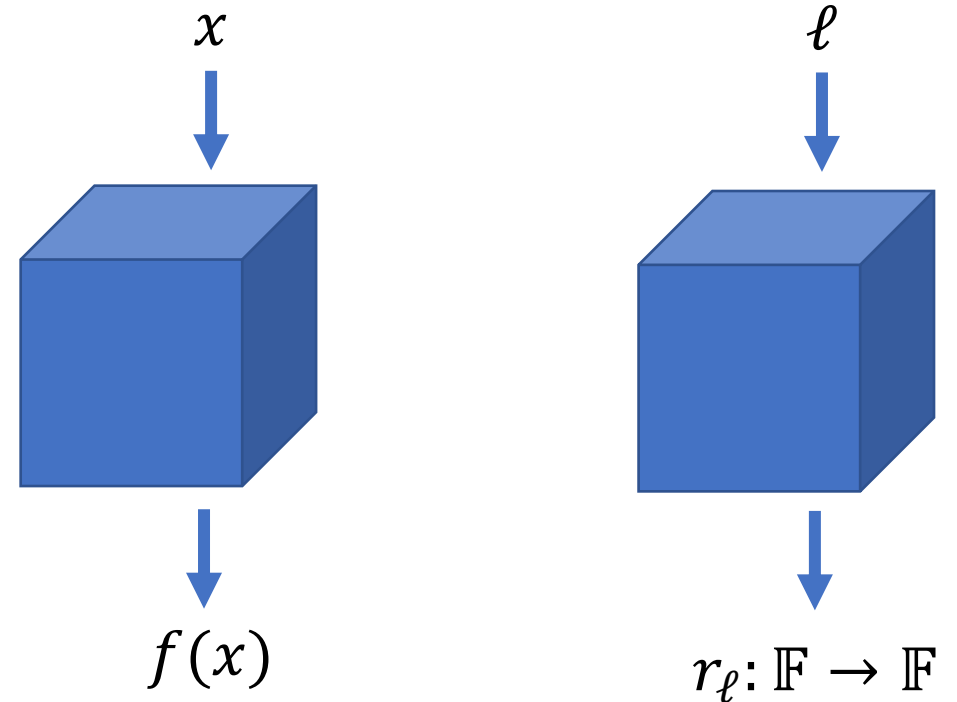
- Quantum low-degree test (Natarajan-Vidick 2018):
  - Certifies  $N$  EPR pairs, and  $X/Z$  Pauli measurements on those EPR pairs
  - Questions/answer length:  $\text{polylog}(N)$  bits  **Exponentially shorter messages**
  - Robustness:  $1 - \epsilon$  winning probability  $\Rightarrow O(\epsilon^\alpha)$ -close to textbook strategy  **Robustness independent of  $N$ !**

# Classical low-degree test

- A protocol with “classical rigidity” properties
- Crucial in *probabilistically checkable proofs*
- Assume provers are deterministic
- **Goal:** test whether their responses are consistent with a  $\mathbb{F}$ -valued degree- $d$  polynomial over  $\mathbb{F}^m$

# Classical low-degree test

- Verifier picks random
  - Point  $x \in \mathbb{F}^m$
  - Line  $\ell = \{u + vt : t \in \mathbb{F}\}$  containing  $x$
- Prover A responds with  $f(x) \in \mathbb{F}$
- Prover B responds with univariate degree- $d$  polynomial  $r_\ell: \mathbb{F} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$
- Provers win if  $f(x) = r_\ell(x)$

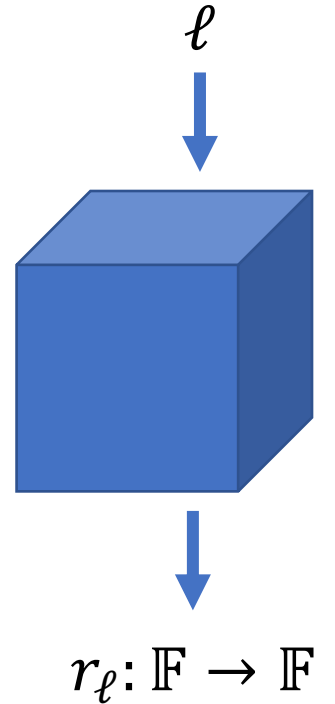
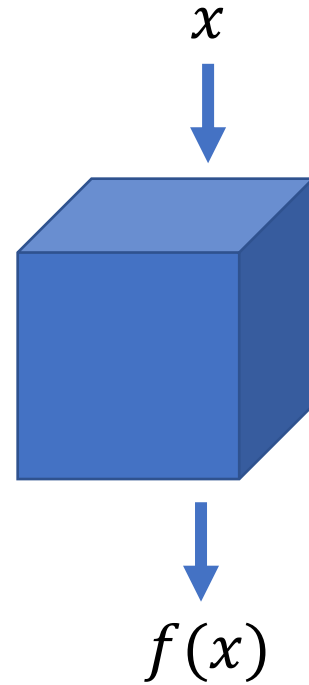


**If  $f$  is degree- $d$ :  $r_\ell$  should be  $f|_\ell$**

# Classical low-degree test

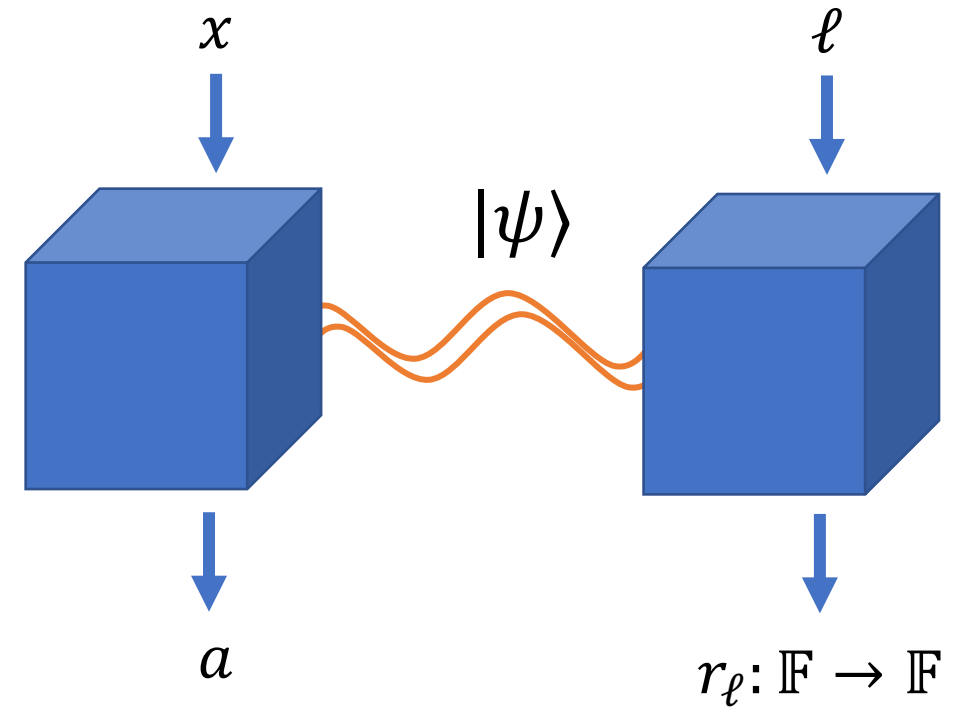
**Theorem** (AS, ALMSS, RS, ...): If provers win w.p.  $\geq 1 - \epsilon$ , then  $f$  is  $O(\epsilon)$ -close to degree- $d$ .

- Extremely efficient test for structure!
- Description of degree- $d$  function:  $\binom{m+d}{d}$
- Questions/answers in CLD:  $O(m \log |\mathbb{F}|)$



# Classical low-degree test, entangled provers

**Theorem (NV18):** If provers win w.p.  $\geq 1 - \epsilon$ , then provers' measurements are  $O(\epsilon^\alpha)$ -consistent with degree- $d$  polynomial.



**“Classical rigidity” phenomenon persists even in presence of entangled provers!**

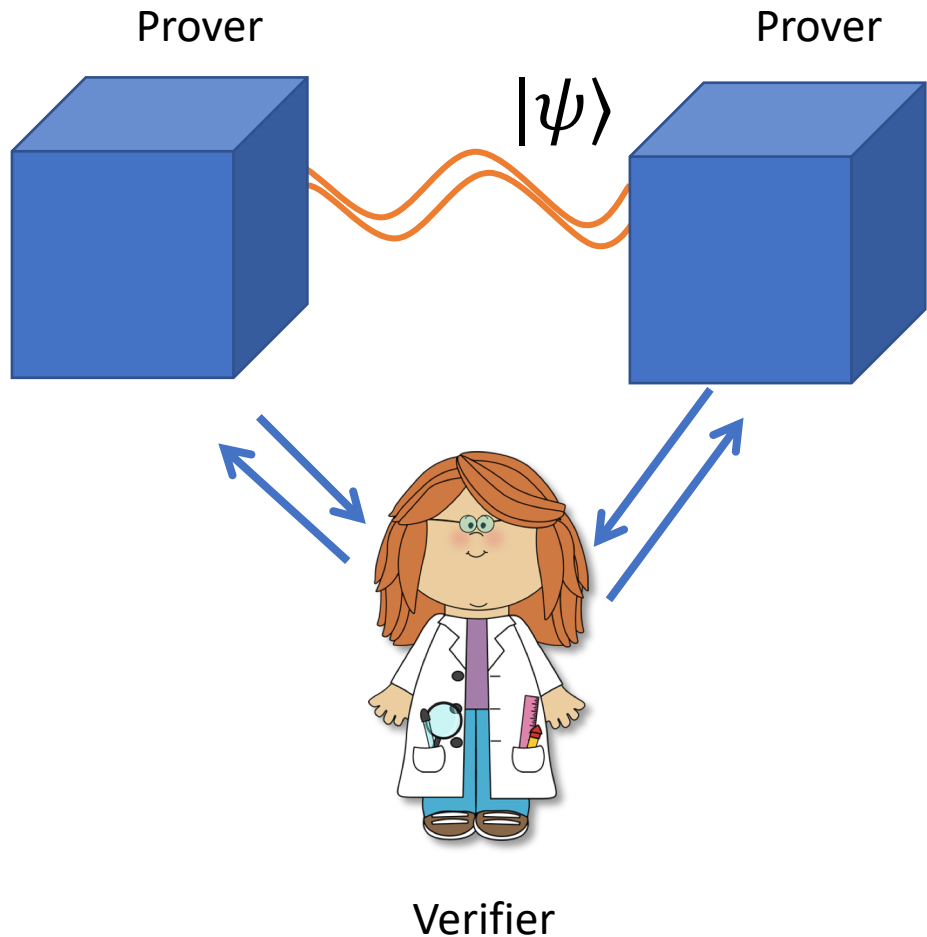
# From classical to quantum low-degree testing

Very roughly:

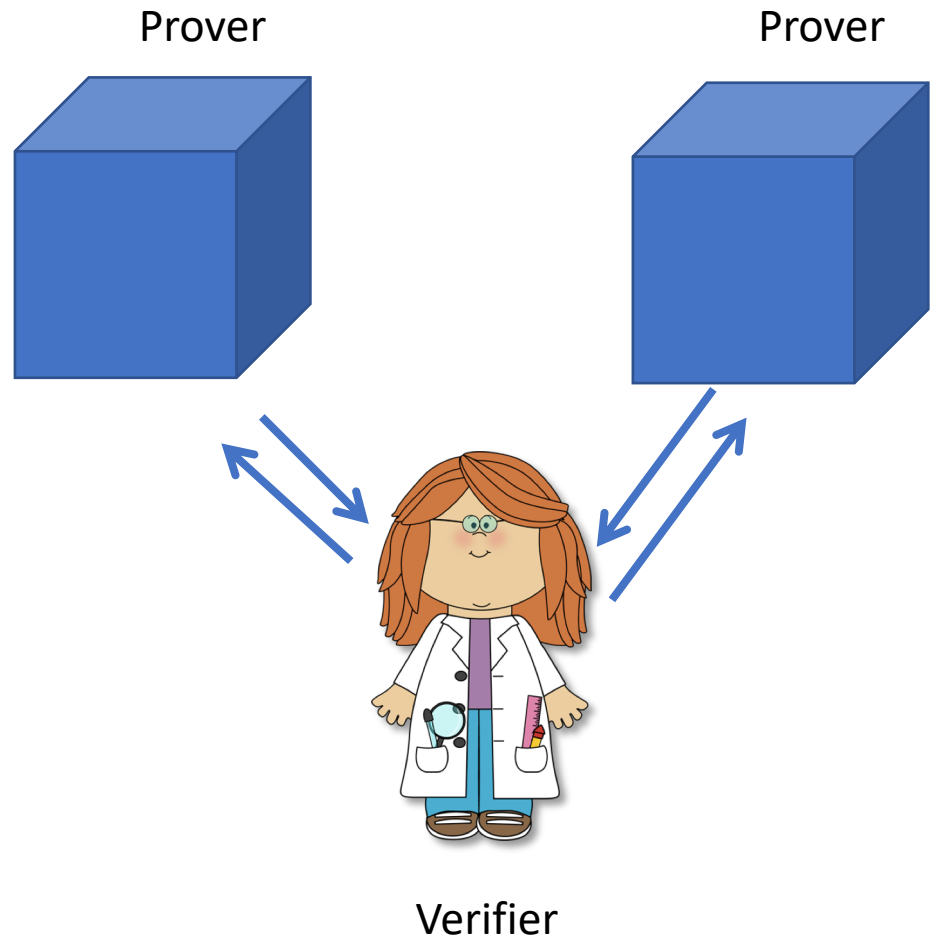
- Perform classical low-degree testing in  $X$  and  $Z$  bases separately
- Relate the two bases using Magic Square game.



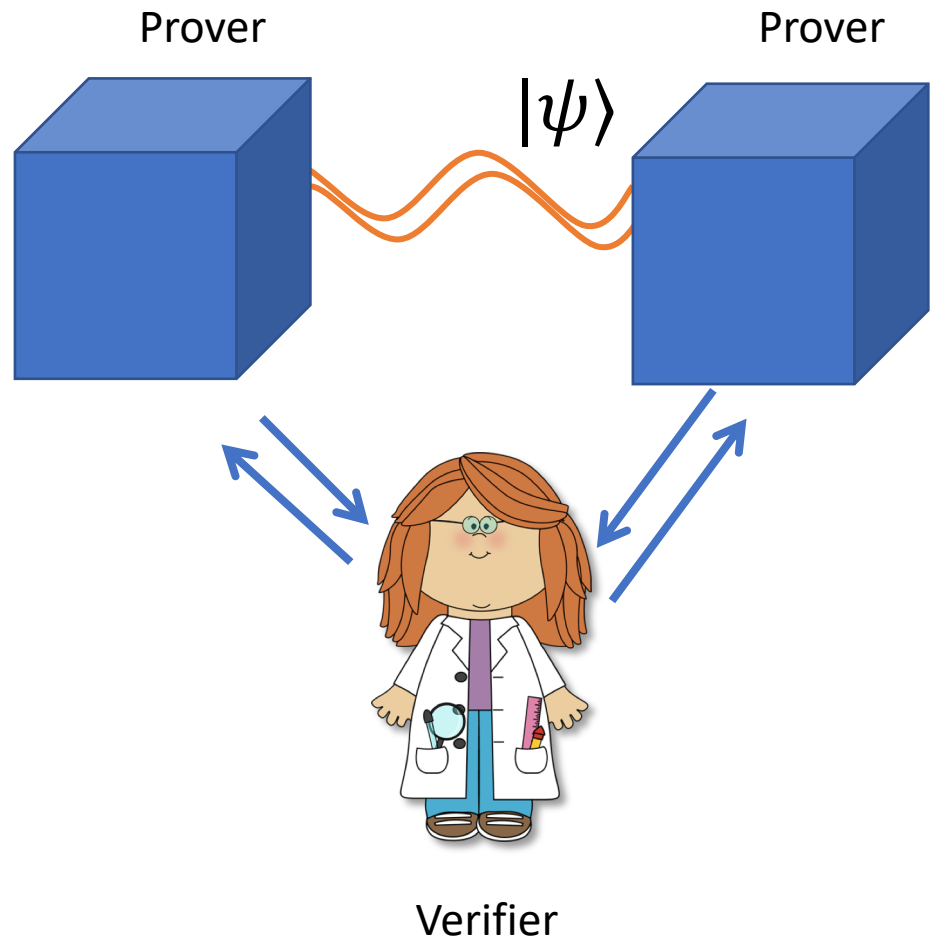
# Complexity of interactive proofs with entangled provers



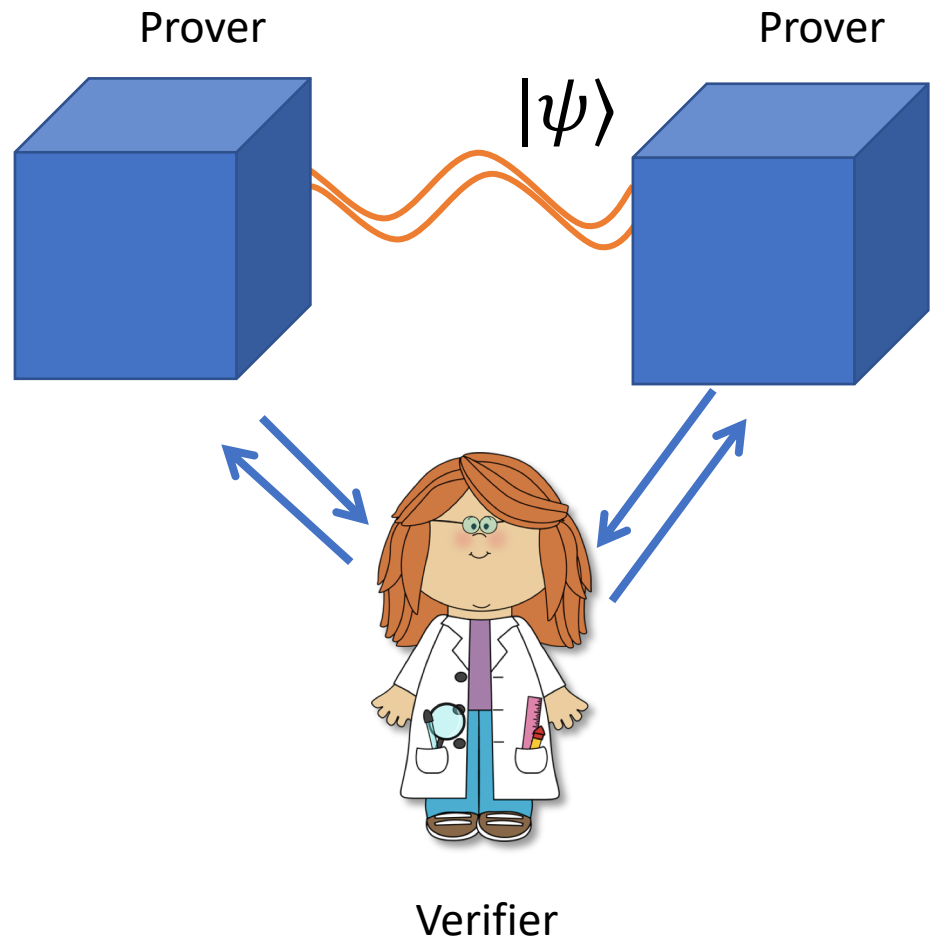
- Recall: provers want to convince verifier of statement  $X$ , e.g.,
  - “ $N$  is product of two primes”
  - “quantum circuit  $C$  accepts whp”
  - “graphs  $G, H$  are isomorphic”
- What statements can be verified using multiprover protocols with entangled provers?
- No assumptions on complexity of provers
- Protocol must be **complete** and **sound**



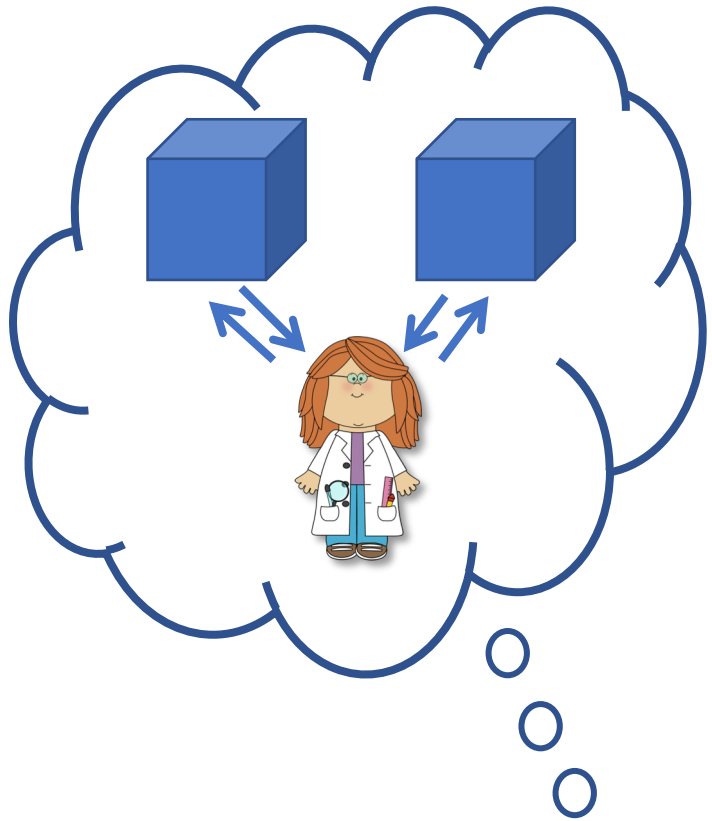
- **MIP** denotes complexity class of problems that can be verified with classical multiprover protocols
- Classical provers = deterministic
- Babai, Fortnow, Lund '91: **MIP = NEXP**
- Polynomial-time verifier can check statements like *"Turing machine  $M$  outputs 42 after exponentially many steps"*.
- Crucial component: classical low-degree test



- **MIP\*** denotes complexity class of problems that can be verified with *entangled-prover* protocols
- **MIP** vs **MIP\***? Consider classical **MIP** protocol to verify statement  $X$ .
  - If  $X$  true, then quantum provers can also prove  $X$  to verifier.
  - If  $X$  false, then verifier rejects all classical provers, but *entangled provers* may be able to cause verifier to accept!
- **Soundness of classical MIP protocols may no longer hold against entangled provers!**



- [Ito-Vidick 2012]  **$\text{NEXP} \subseteq \text{MIP}^*$**
- Showed classical protocol of Babai, Fortnow, Lund still safe against entangled provers.
  - Classical low-degree test still guarantees structure even with entangled provers.
- Entanglement cannot *reduce* complexity of multiprover protocols.
- ...can entanglement *expand* their complexity?



$X$  true?



- Algorithmic upper bounds on **MIP\***?
- Compare: **MIP**  $\subseteq$  **DOUBLY-EXP**
- Proof: Suppose  $X$  can be verified by classical **MIP** protocol  $P$ . Then implies doubly exponential time procedure to compute whether  $X$  is true:

Enumerate over all possible deterministic provers for  $P$ , and calculate acceptance probability of verifier.

- Why doesn't this work for **MIP\***?
- Space of provers is infinite; no upper bound on amount of entanglement needed.

- Best upper bound known:  $\mathbf{MIP}^* \subseteq \mathbf{RE}$
- [Ji-Natarajan-Vidick-Wright-Y.]  $\mathbf{MIP}^* = \mathbf{RE}$
- Complexity-theoretic implications
  - Classical, polynomial-time verifier with entangled provers can verify  $X = \text{“Turing machine } M \text{ eventually halts”}$
  - There is no computable upper bound on amount of entanglement needed in general  $\mathbf{MIP}^*$  protocols.
  - No computable upper bound on  $\mathbf{MIP}^*$

# Using entanglement in $\text{MIP}^*$

- [Natarajan-Wright]  $\text{NEEXP} \subseteq \text{MIP}^*$  shows how verifier can use entangled provers to its advantage.
- **Key idea:** using rigidity, force provers to simulate exponentially large verification protocol.



# Using entanglement in **MIP\***

- Goal: verify  $X = \text{“Turing machine } M \text{ accepts after } 2^N \text{ steps”}$
- $X$  is **NEXP** statement, so there exists **MIP\*** protocol with
  - 1 round
  - Verifier runs in  $\text{poly}(N)$  time.
  - Based on classical low-degree test.

# Using entanglement in MIP\*

- Goal: verify  $X = \text{“Turing machine } M \text{ accepts after } 2^{2^N} \text{ steps”}$
- There exists protocol  $P_{Big}$  where:
  - 1 round
  - Verifier runs in  $2^N$  time.
  - Based on classical low-degree test.
- Want a protocol  $P_{Small}$  that verifies  $X$  using  $poly(N)$ -time verifier.

# Question and answer reduction

$P_{Big}$

Questions:  $\exp(N)$ -bits  
Answers:  $\exp(N)$ -bits



$P_{int}$

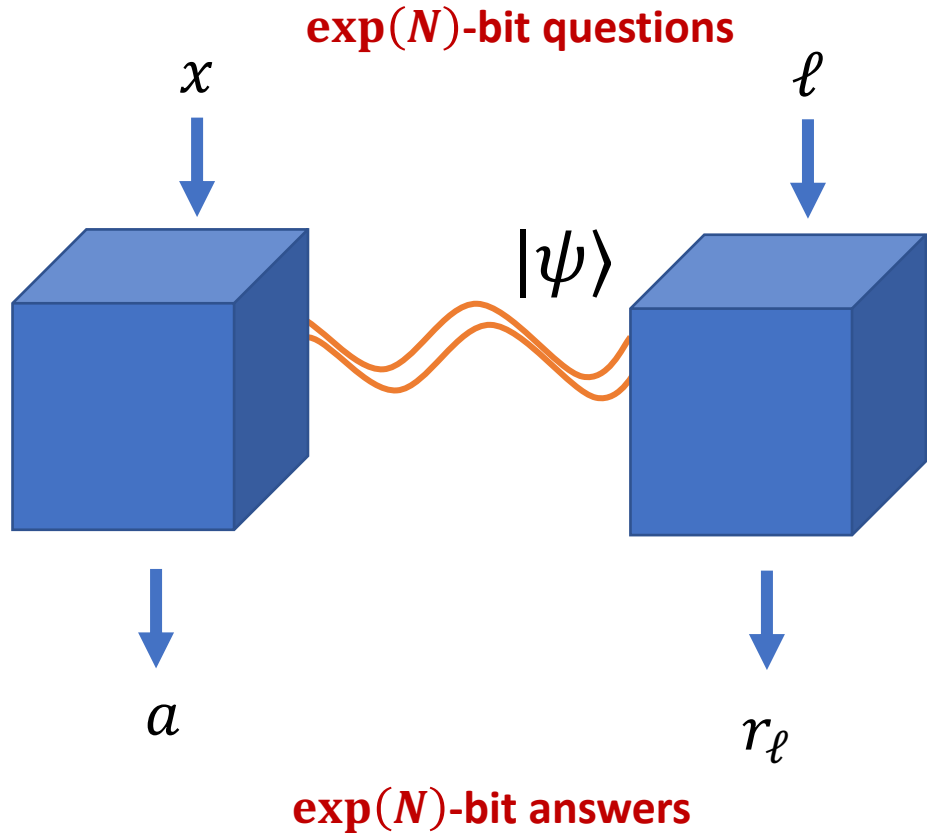
Questions:  $\text{poly}(N)$ -bits  
Answers:  $\exp(N)$ -bits



$P_{Small}$

Questions:  $\text{poly}(N)$ -bits  
Answers:  $\text{poly}(N)$ -bits

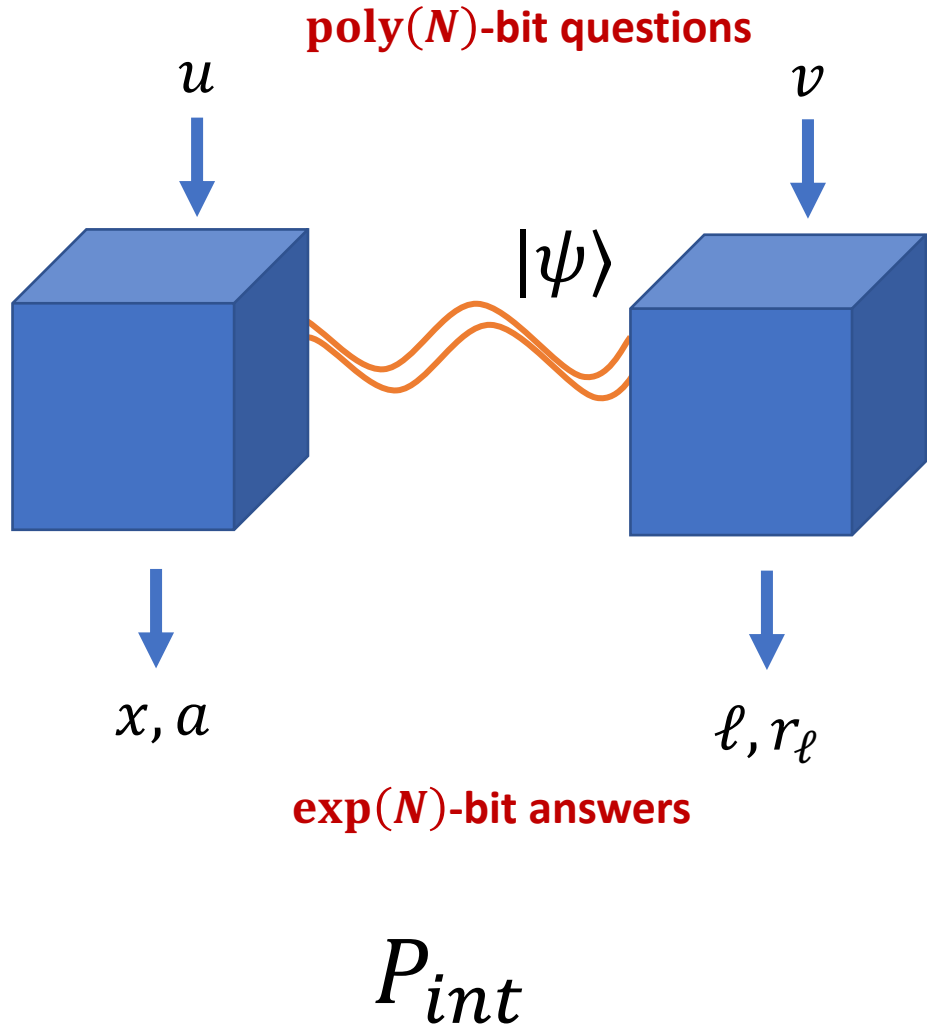
# Reducing question size



- In  $P_{Big}$ , point/line questions are exponential length
  - E.g.,  $x \in \mathbb{F}^m$  where  $m = \exp(N)$

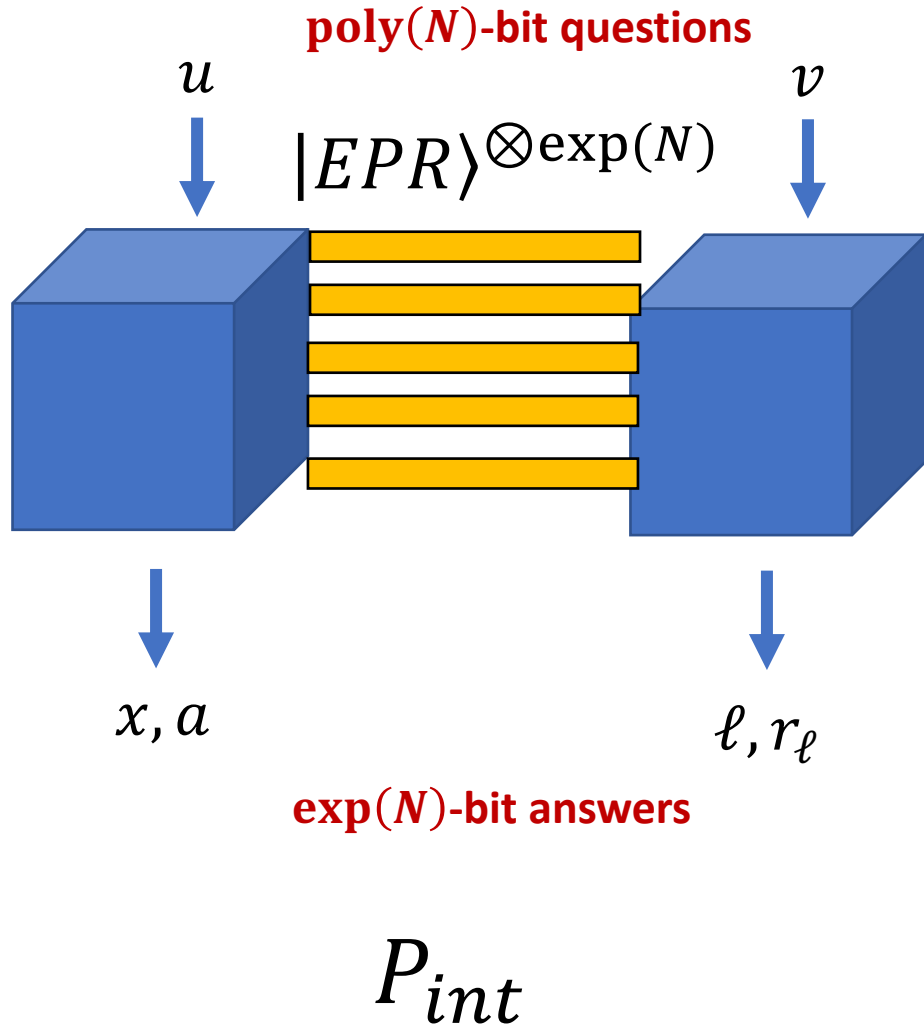
$P_{Big}$

# Reducing question size



- In  $P_{Big}$ , point/line questions are exponential length
  - E.g.,  $x \in \mathbb{F}^m$  where  $m = \exp(N)$
- Intermediate protocol  $P_{int}$ : forces provers to sample questions  $(x, \ell)$  themselves, and then generate answers  $(a, r_\ell)$  to their own questions ("**introspection**")
- Verifier in  $P_{int}$  uses questions  $(u, v)$  of length  $poly(N)$ .

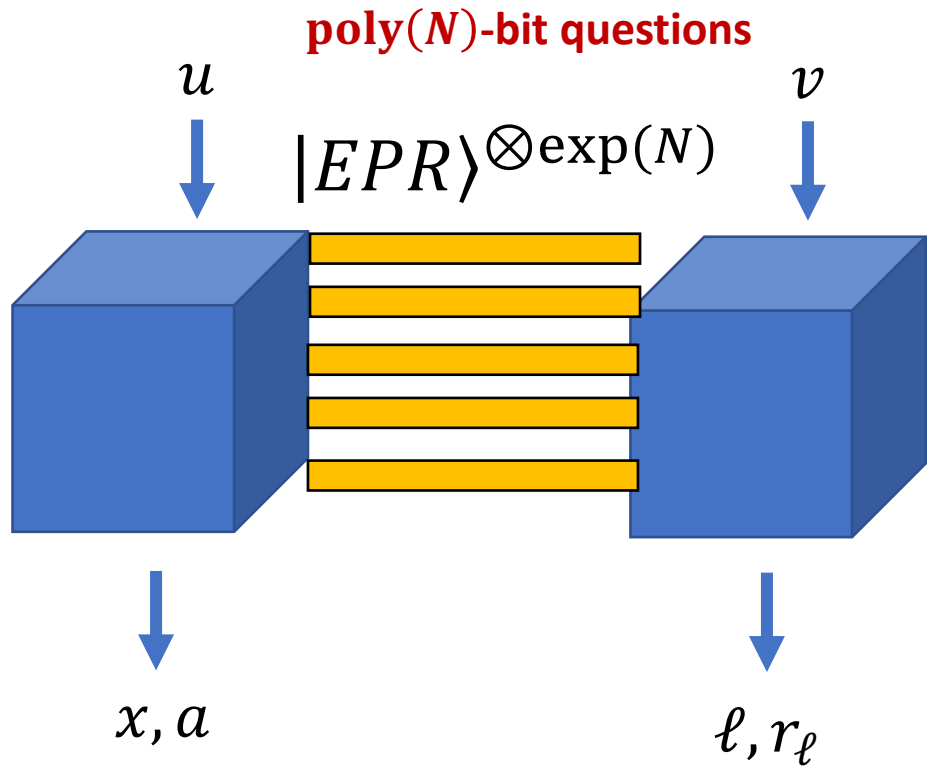
# Reducing question size



- $P_{int}$  protocol

- With prob.  $\frac{1}{2}$ , run Quantum Low-Degree Test to certify  $\exp(N)$  EPR pairs
- With prob.  $\frac{1}{2}$ , run Introspection protocol to certify:
  - Provers sample point/line distribution  $(x, \ell)$  as in  $P_{Big}$ .
  - Provers' answers  $(a, r_\ell)$  to introspected questions  $(x, \ell)$  satisfy verifier in  $P_{Big}$

# Reducing question size

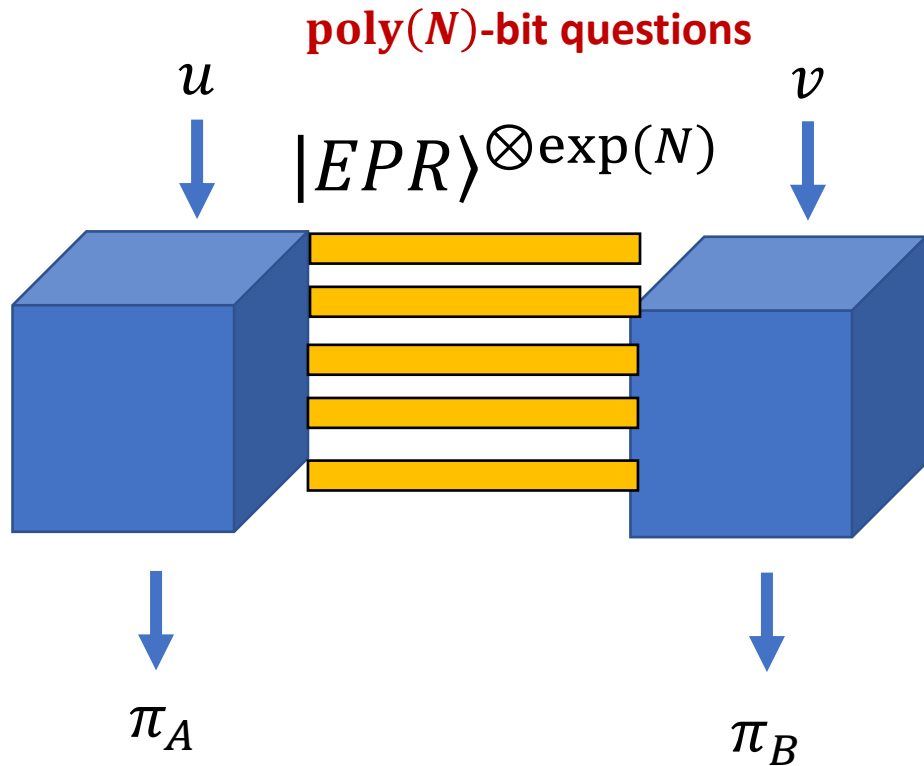


**$\exp(N)$ -bit answers**

$P_{int}$

- $P_{int}$  protocol
  - $\exp(N)$  EPR pairs are used as a source of randomness to generate  $(x, \ell)$
  - **Challenge:** needs to certify that prover A only samples point  $x$ , prover B only samples line  $\ell$ , and there is no leakage of information!
  - Solution crucially relies on special structure of point-line distribution!

# Reducing answer size



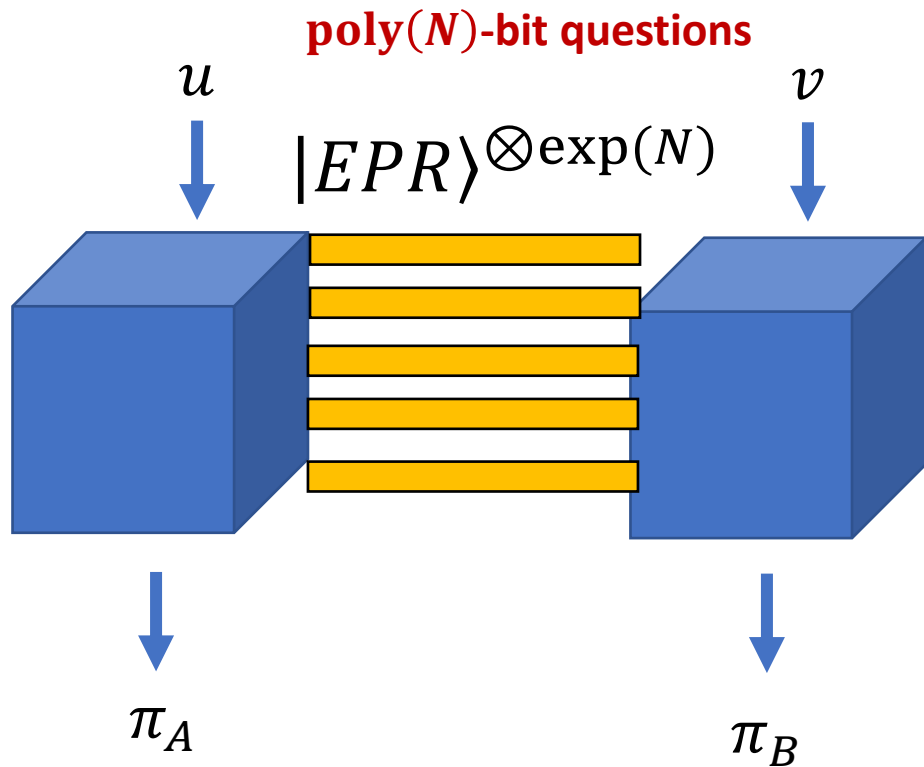
$\text{poly}(N)$ -bit answers

$P_{Small}$

- $P_{Small}$  protocol
  - Provers give succinct proofs  $(\pi_A, \pi_B)$  that they would've given accepting answers in  $P_{int}$
  - Based on probabilistically checkable proofs (PCPs)
  - Proofs are  $\text{poly}(N)$  bits long

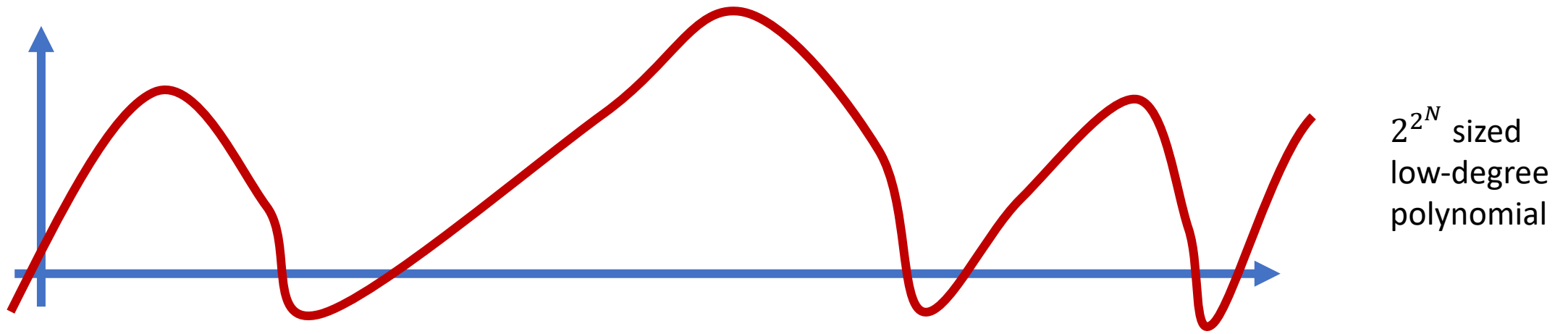


# Final protocol

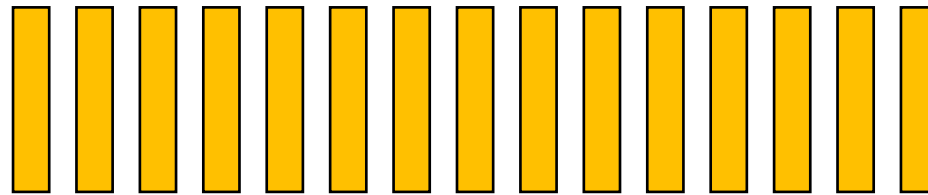


- $poly(N)$ -time verifier can verify  $X = \text{“Turing machine } M \text{ accepts after } 2^{2^N} \text{ steps”}$
- Uses Quantum Low-Degree test to certify  $\exp(N)$  EPR pairs using  $poly(N)$  question length
- Uses Introspection to certify sampling from exponentially large *classical* low-degree test questions from EPR pairs
- Use PCPs to reduce answer size to  $poly(N)$ .

$P_{Small}$



Classical low-degree test



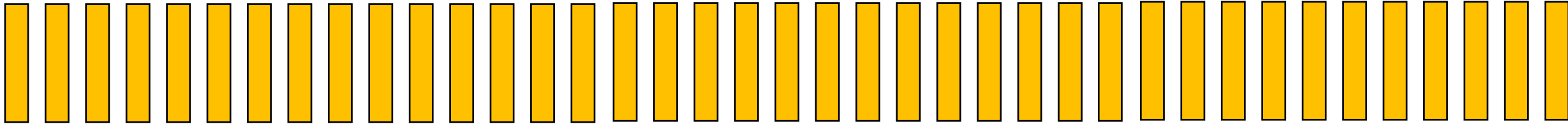
$\exp(N)$  EPR pairs

Quantum low-degree test

Schematic of  $\mathbf{NEEXP} \subseteq \mathbf{MIP}^*$

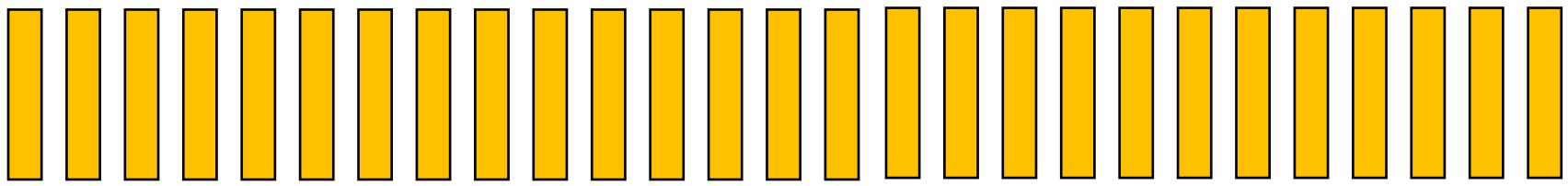


$\text{poly}(N)$ -time verifier



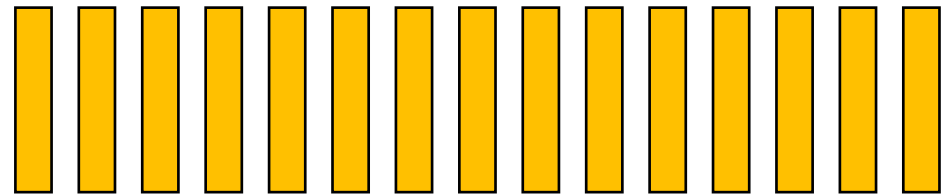
Quantum low-degree test

⋮



$2^{2^N}$  EPR pairs

Quantum low-degree test

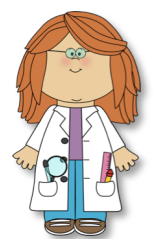


$\exp(N)$  EPR pairs

Quantum low-degree  
test

$\text{poly}(N)$ -time verifier

Why not iterate...?



# Consequences

- Recursively iterating the Introspection technique from Natarajan-Wright yields **MIP\*** protocol for verifying the Halting Problem.
- No computable upper bound on **MIP\***
- Resolves questions in three different areas:
  - Complexity of **MIP\*** (Computer science)
  - Tsirelson's Problem (Mathematical physics)
  - Connes' Embedding Problem (Pure mathematics)

# Unexpected connections

Connes' Embedding Problem  
(1974)

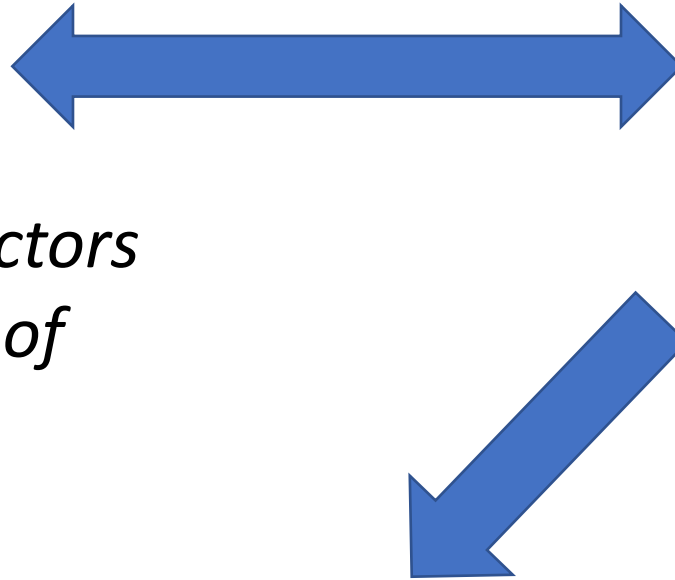
*Do all separable type  $II_1$  factors embed into an ultrapower of the hyperfinite  $II_1$  factor?*

Tsirelson's Problem (2006)

*Are all quantum correlations in the commuting operator model approximable in finite dimensions?*

Complexity of  $MIP^*$  (2004)

*Is there an algorithmic upper bound on  $MIP^*$ ?*



Thanks!

# The multiprover lens

- Cryptography
    - Delegated quantum computation
    - Randomness expansion
    - Device independent cryptography
    - Zero knowledge
  - Foundations of quantum mechanics
    - Rigidity of quantum correlations
    - Finite vs infinite dimensional quantum
  - Complexity theory
    - Complexity of MIP\*
    - Hamiltonian complexity
  - Representation theory
    - Algebra
    - Noncommutative optimization
- Central tool:**  
Rigidity of quantum correlations