

# de Finetti theorems and PCP conjectures

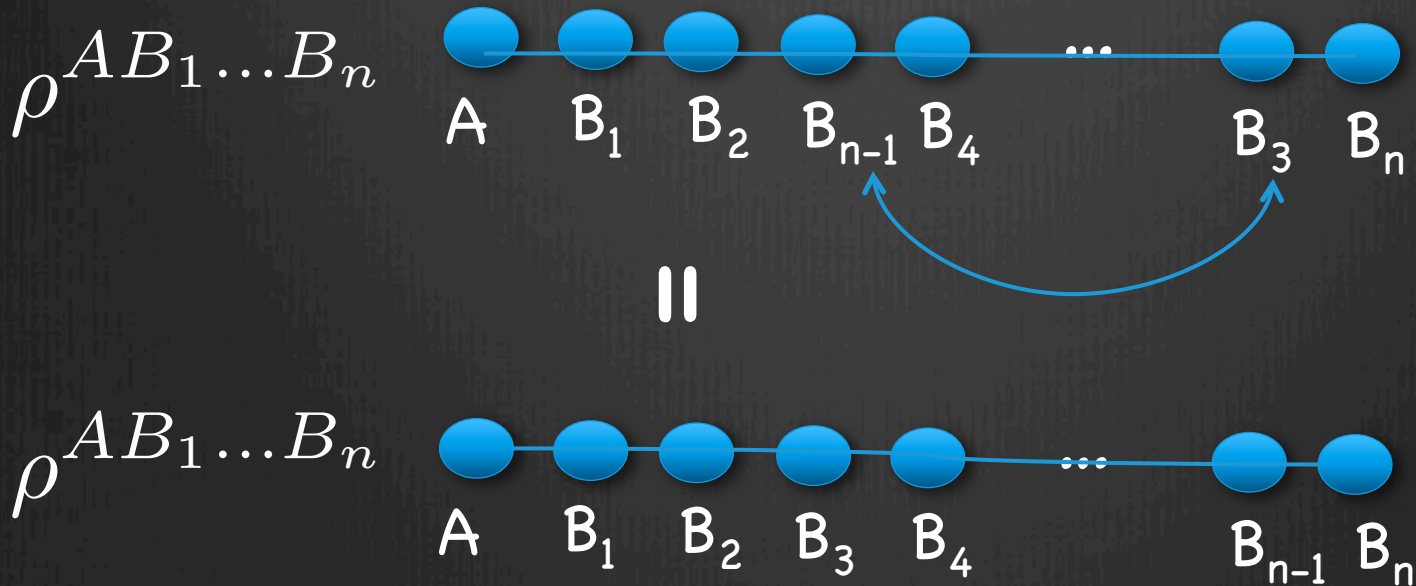
Aram Harrow (MIT)  
DAMTP, 26 Mar 2013

based on [arXiv:1210.6367](#) + [arXiv:13???.????](#)  
joint work with Fernando Brandão (UCL)

# Symmetric States

$\rho^{AB_1 \dots B_n}$  is permutation symmetric in the B subsystems if for every permutation  $\pi$ ,

$$\rho^{AB_1 \dots B_n} = \rho^{AB_{\pi(1)} \dots B_{\pi(n)}}$$



# Quantum de Finetti Theorem

**Theorem** [Christandl, Koenig, Mitchison, Renner '06]

Given a state  $\rho^{AB_1 \dots B_n}$  symmetric under exchange of  $B_1 \dots B_n$ , there exists  $\mu$  such that

$$\left\| \rho^{AB_1 \dots B_k} - \int \mu(d\sigma) \rho_\sigma \otimes \sigma^{\otimes k} \right\|_1 \leq \frac{d^2 k}{n}$$

builds on work by [Størmer '69], [Hudson, Moody '76], [Raggio, Werner '89]  
[Caves, Fuchs, Schack '01], [Koenig, Renner '05]

Proof idea:

Perform an informationally complete measurement of  $n-k$  B systems.

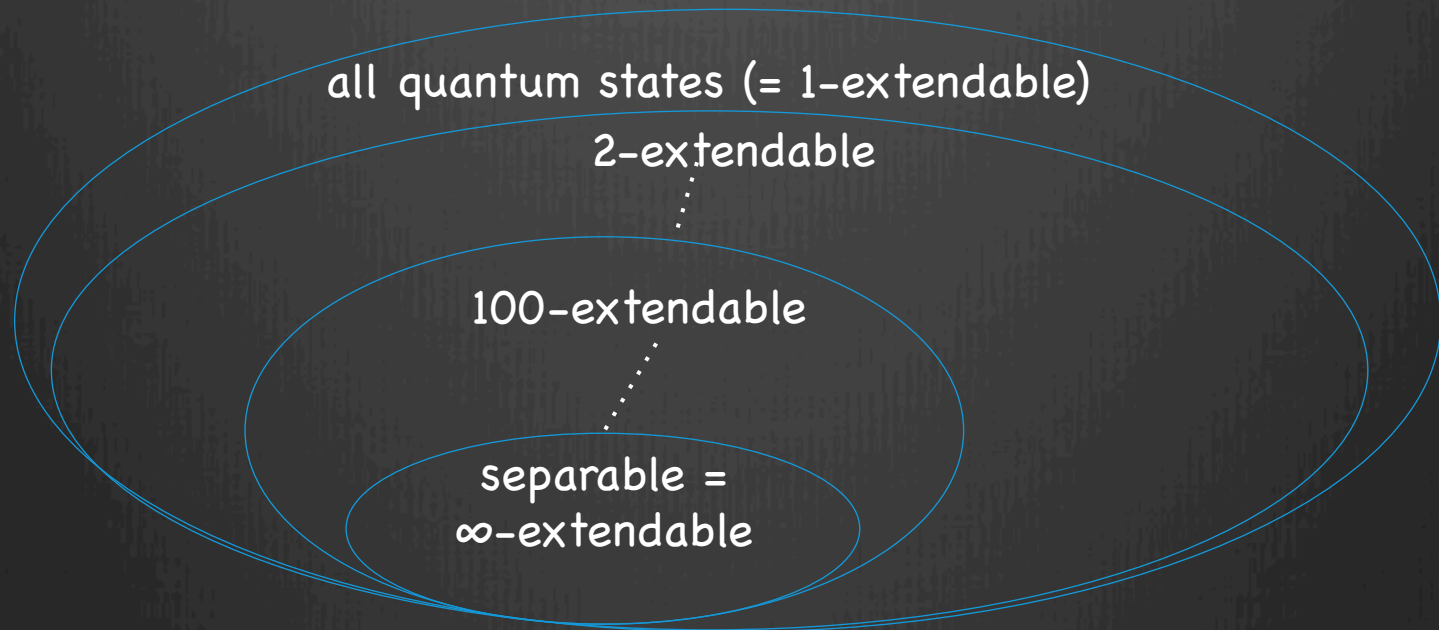
**Applications:**

information theory: tomography, QKD, hypothesis testing

algorithms: approximating separable states, mean-field theory

# Quantum de Finetti Theorem as Monogamy of Entanglement

Definition:  $\rho^{AB}$  is **n-extendable** if there exists an extension  $\rho^{AB_1 \dots B_n}$  with  $\rho^{AB} = \rho^{AB_i}$  for each  $i$ .



Algorithms: Can search/optimize over n-extendable states in time  $d^{O(n)}$ .

Question: How close are n-extendable states to separable states?

# Quantum de Finetti theorem

**Theorem** [Christandl, Koenig, Mitchison, Renner '06]

Given a state  $\rho^{AB_1 \dots B_n}$  symmetric under exchange of  $B_1 \dots B_n$ , there exists  $\mu$  such that

$$\left\| \rho^{AB_1 \dots B_k} - \int \mu(d\sigma) \rho_\sigma \otimes \sigma^{\otimes k} \right\|_1 \leq \frac{d^2 k}{n}$$

Difficulty:

1. Parameters are, in many cases, **too weak**.
2. They are also essentially **tight**.

Way forward:

1. Change definitions (of error or i.i.d.)
2. Obtain better scaling

# relaxed/improved versions

Two examples known:

1. Exponential de Finetti Theorem: [Renner '07]

error term  $\exp(-\Omega(n-k))$ .

Target state convex combination of "almost i.i.d." states.

2. measure error in 1-LOCC norm [Brandão, Christandl, Yard '10]

For error  $\varepsilon$  and  $k=1$ , requires  $n \sim \varepsilon^{-2} \log|A|$ .

This talk

improved de Finetti theorems for local  
measurements

# main idea

## use information theory

$$\log |A| \geq I(A:B_1 \dots B_n) = I(A:B_1) + I(A:B_2|B_1) + \dots + I(A:B_n|B_1 \dots B_{n-1})$$

repeatedly uses chain rule:  $I(A:BC) = I(A:B) + I(A:C|B)$

→  $I(A:B_t|B_1 \dots B_{t-1}) \leq \log(|A|)/n$  for some  $t \leq n$ .

If  $B_1 \dots B_n$  were classical, then we would have

$$\rho^{AB} = \rho^{AB_t} = \sum_i \pi_i \rho_i^{AB} \approx \text{separable}$$

Question:  
How to make  $B_{1 \dots n}$  classical?

distribution  
on  $B_1 \dots B_{t-1}$

≈ product state  
(cf. Pinsker ineq.)

# Answer: measure!

Fix a measurement  $M: B \rightarrow Y$ .

$I(A: B_t | B_1 \dots B_{t-1}) \leq \varepsilon$  for the measured state  $(\text{id} \otimes M^{\otimes n})(\rho)$ .

Then

- $\rho^{AB}$  is hard to distinguish from  $\sigma \in \text{Sep}$  if we first apply  $(\text{id} \otimes M)$
- $\|(\text{id} \otimes M)(\rho - \sigma)\| \leq \text{small}$  for some  $\sigma \in \text{Sep}$ .

## Theorem

Given a state  $\rho^{AB_1 \dots B_n}$  symmetric under exchange of  $B_1 \dots B_n$ ,  
and  $\{\Lambda_r\}$  a collection of operations from  $A \rightarrow X$ ,

$$\min_{\sigma \in \text{Sep}} \max_M \mathbb{E}_r \left\| (\Lambda_r^A \otimes M^B)(\rho^{AB} - \sigma^{AB}) \right\|_1 \leq \sqrt{\frac{2 \ln |X|}{n}}$$

Cor: setting  $\Lambda = \text{id}$  recovers [Brandão, Christandl, Yard '10] 1-LOCC result.



beware:  
X is quantum

# the proof

Friendly advice:

You can find these equations in 1210.6367.

$$\pi^{XY_1 \dots Y_n R} = \mathbb{E}_r (\Lambda_r^{A \rightarrow X} \otimes M_1^{B_1 \rightarrow Y_1} \otimes \dots \otimes M_n^{B_n \rightarrow Y_n}) (\rho^{AB_1 \dots B_n}) \otimes |r\rangle\langle r|^R$$

$$\log |X| \geq \max_{M_1, \dots, M_n} I(X : Y_1 \dots Y_n | R)_\pi$$

$$= \max_{M_1, \dots, M_n} (I(X : Y_1 | R)_\pi + \dots + I(X : Y_n | Y_1 \dots Y_{n-1} R)_\pi)$$

$$= \max_{M_1, \dots, M_{n-1}} (I(X : Y_1 | R)_\pi + \dots + I(X : Y_{n-1} | Y_1 \dots Y_{n-2} R)_\pi$$

$$+ \max_{M_n} I(X : Y_n | Y_1 \dots Y_{n-1} R)_\pi)$$

$$= \max_{M_n} \mathbb{E}_r \mathbb{E}_{\vec{y}=(y_1, \dots, y_{n-1})} I(X : Y_n)_{\pi_{r, \vec{y}}}$$

$$\geq \max_M \mathbb{E}_r \mathbb{E}_{\vec{y}} \frac{1}{2} \left\| (\Lambda_r \otimes M) (\rho^{AB} - \rho_{\vec{y}}^A \otimes \rho_{\vec{y}}^B) \right\|_1^2$$

$$\geq \min_{\sigma \in \text{Sep}} \max_M \mathbb{E}_r \frac{1}{2} \left\| (\Lambda_r \otimes M) (\rho^{AB} - \sigma^{AB}) \right\|_1^2$$

# advantages/extensions

## Theorem

Given a state  $\rho^{AB_1 \dots B_n}$  symmetric under exchange of  $B_1 \dots B_n$ ,  
and  $\{\Lambda_r\}$  a collection of operations from  $A \rightarrow X$ ,

$$\min_{\sigma \in \text{Sep}} \max_M \mathbb{E}_r \left\| (\Lambda_r^A \otimes M^B) (\rho^{AB} - \sigma^{AB}) \right\|_1 \leq \sqrt{\frac{2 \ln |X|}{n}}$$

1. Simpler proof and better constants
2. Bound depends on  $|X|$  instead of  $|A|$  ( $A$  can be  $\infty$ -dim)
3. Applies to general non-signalling distributions
4. There is a multipartite version (multiply error by  $k$ )
5. Efficient "rounding" (i.e.  $\sigma$  is explicit)
6. Symmetry isn't required

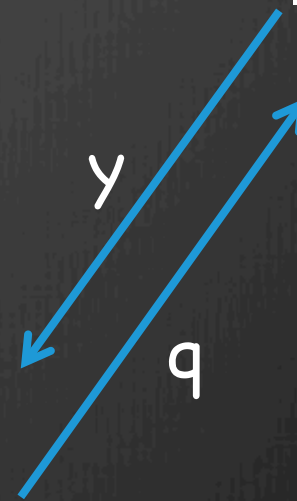
# applications

- **nonlocal games**  
Adding symmetric provers “immunizes” against entanglement / non-signalling boxes. (Caveat: needs uncorrelated questions.)  
Conjectured improvement would yield NP-hardness for 4 players.
- **BellQMA(poly) = QMA**  
Proves Chen-Drucker  $\text{SAT} \in \text{BellQMA}_{\log(n)}(\sqrt{n})$  protocol is optimal.
- **pretty good tomography** [Aaronson '06]  
on permutation-symmetric states (instead of product states)
- **convergence of Lasserre hierarchy** for polynomial optimization  
see also 1205.4484 for connections to small-set expansion

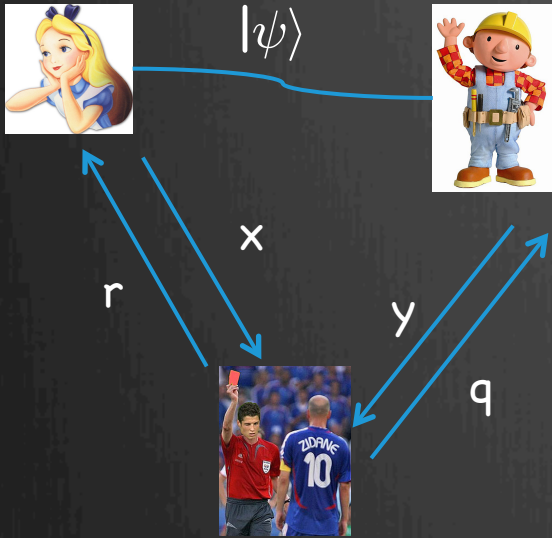
# non-local games



$|\psi\rangle$



# non-local games



Non-Local Game  $G(\pi, V)$ :

$\pi(r, q)$ : distribution on  $R \times Q$

$V(x, y|r, q)$ : predicate on  $X \times Y \times R \times Q$

Classical value:

$$\omega_c(G) = \max_{x, y} \mathbb{E}_{(r, q) \sim \pi} V(x(r), y(q)|r, q)$$

Quantum value:

$$\omega_e(G) = \sup_{(r, q) \sim \pi} \mathbb{E}_{x, y} \sum_{x, y} V(x(r), y(q)|r, q) \langle \psi | L_x^r \otimes M_y^q | \psi \rangle$$

$$\sum_x L_x^r = I \quad \sum_y M_y^q = I$$

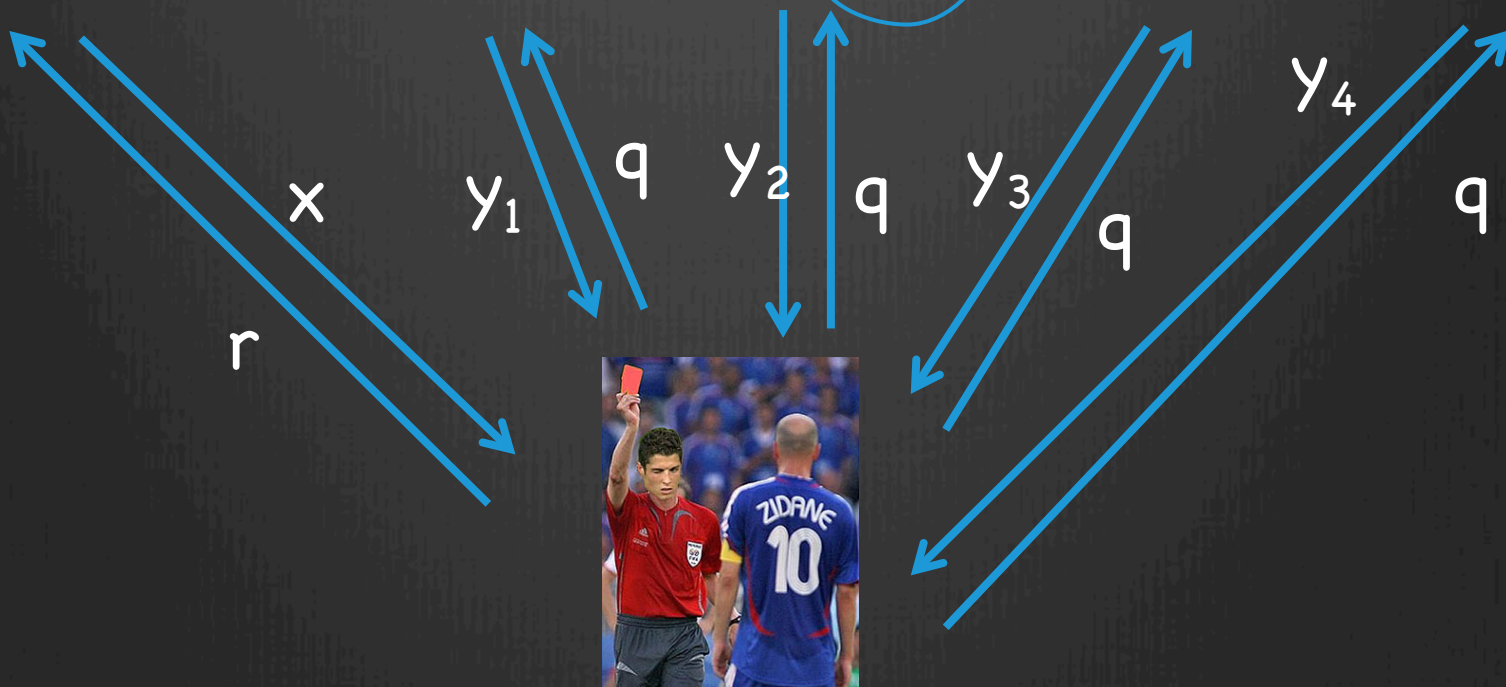
sup over measurements and  $|\psi\rangle$  of unbounded dim

# previous results

- [Bell '64]  
There exist  $G$  with  $\omega_e(G) > \omega_c(G)$
- PCP theorem [Arora et al '98 and Raz '98]  
For any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , it is NP-complete to determine whether  $\omega_c < \varepsilon$  or  $\omega_c > 1 - \varepsilon$  (even for XOR games).
- [Cleve, Høyer, Toner, Watrous '04]  
Poly-time algorithm to compute  $\omega_e$  for two-player XOR games.
- [Kempe, Kobayashi, Matsumoto, Toner, Vidick '07]  
NP-hard to distinguish  $\omega_e(G) = 1$  from  $\omega_e(G) < 1 - 1/\text{poly}(|G|)$
- [Ito-Vidick '12 and Vidick '13]  
NP-hard to distinguish  $\omega_e(G) > 1 - \varepsilon$  from  $\omega_e(G) < \frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon$   
for three-player XOR games

# immunizing against entanglement

$|\psi\rangle$



# complexity of non-local games

**Cor:** Let  $G(\pi, V)$  be a 2-player free game with questions in  $R \times Q$  and answers in  $X \times Y$ , where  $\pi = \pi^R \otimes \pi^Q$ . Then there exists an  $(n+1)$ -player game  $G'(\pi', V')$  with questions in  $R \times (Q_1 \times \dots \times Q_n)$  and answers in  $X \times (Y_1 \times \dots \times Y_n)$ , such that

$$\omega_c(G) \leq \omega_e(G') \leq \omega_c(G) + \sqrt{\frac{\ln |X|}{2n}}$$

Implies:

1. an  $\exp(\log(|X|) \log(|Y|))$  algo for approximating  $\omega_c$
2.  $\omega_e$  is hard to approximate for free games.



# why free games?

## Theorem

Given a state  $\rho^{AB_1 \dots B_n}$  symmetric under exchange of  $B_1 \dots B_n$ , and  $\{\Lambda_r\}$  a collection of operations from  $A \rightarrow X$ ,

$$\min_{\sigma \in \text{Sep}} \max_M \mathbb{E}_r \left\| (\Lambda_r^A \otimes M^B)(\rho^{AB} - \sigma^{AB}) \right\|_1 \leq \sqrt{\frac{2 \ln |X|}{n}}$$

$\exists \sigma$     $\forall q$  for most  $r$     $\rho$  and  $\sigma$  give similar answers

## Conjecture

Given a state  $\rho^{AB_1 \dots B_n}$  symmetric under exchange of  $B_1 \dots B_n$ , and  $\{\Lambda_r\}$  a collection of operations from  $A \rightarrow X$ ,

$$\min_{\sigma \in \text{Sep}} \mathbb{E}_r \max_M \left\| (\Lambda_r^A \otimes M^B)(\rho^{AB} - \sigma^{AB}) \right\|_1 \leq \sqrt{\frac{2 \ln |X|}{n}}$$

- Would give alternate proof of Vidick result.
- FALSE for non-signalling distributions.

# QCC...C de Finetti

## Theorem

If  $\rho^{A_1, \dots, A_n}$  is permutation symmetric then for every  $k$  there exists  $\mu$  s.t.

$$\max_{M_2, \dots, M_k} \left\| (\text{id} \otimes M_2 \otimes \dots \otimes M_k) (\rho^{A_1 \dots A_k} - \int \mu(\sigma) \sigma^{\otimes k}) \right\|_1 \leq \sqrt{\frac{2k^2 \ln |A|}{n - k}}$$

## Applications

- QMA = QMA with multiple provers and Bell measurements
- convergence of sum-of-squares hierarchy for polynomial optimization
- Aaronson's pretty-good tomography with symmetric states

# de Finetti without symmetry

Theorem [Christandl, Koenig, Mitchison, Renner '05]

Given a state  $\rho^{AB_1 \dots B_n}$ , there exists  $\mu$  such that

$$\left\| \mathbb{E}_{i_1, \dots, i_k} \rho^{AB_{i_1} \dots B_{i_k}} - \int \mu(d\sigma) \rho_\sigma \otimes \sigma^{\otimes k} \right\|_1 \leq \frac{d^2 k}{n}$$

Theorem

For  $\rho$  a state on  $A_1 A_2 \dots A_n$  and any  $t \leq n-k$ , there exists  $m \leq t$  such that

$$\mathbb{E}_{i_1, \dots, i_k} \mathbb{E}_{\substack{j_1, \dots, j_m \\ a_1, \dots, a_m}} \left\| \sigma^{A_{i_1} \dots A_{i_k}} - \sigma^{A_{i_1}} \otimes \dots \otimes \sigma^{A_{i_k}} \right\|_1 \lesssim \frac{d^k}{n-k}$$

where  $\sigma$  is the state resulting from measuring  $j_1, \dots, j_m$  and obtaining outcomes  $a_1, \dots, a_m$ .

# PCP theorem

## Classical k-CSPs:

Given constraints  $C=\{C_i\}$ , choose an assignment  $\sigma$  mapping  $n$  variables to an alphabet  $\Sigma$  to minimize the fraction of unsatisfied constraints.

$$\text{UNSAT}(C) = \min_{\sigma} \Pr_i [\sigma \text{ fails to satisfy } C_i]$$

## Example: 3-SAT:

NP-hard to determine if  $\text{UNSAT}(C)=0$  or  $\text{UNSAT}(C) \geq 1/n^3$

## PCP (probabilistically checkable proof) theorem:

NP-hard to determine if  $\text{UNSAT}(C)=0$  or  $\text{UNSAT}(C) \geq 0.1$

# Local Hamiltonian problem

LOCAL-HAM: k-local Hamiltonian ground-state energy estimation

Let  $H = \sum_i H_i$ , with each  $H_i$  acting on  $k$  qubits, and  $\|H_i\| \leq 1$

i.e.  $H_i = H_{i,1} \otimes H_{i,2} \otimes \dots \otimes H_{i,n}$ , with  $\#\{j : H_{i,j} \neq I\} \leq k$

Goal:

Estimate  $E_0 = \min_{\psi} \langle \psi | H | \psi \rangle = \min_{\rho} \text{tr } H \rho$

Hardness

- Includes k-CSPs, so  $\pm 0.1$  error is NP-hard by PCP theorem.
- QMA-complete with  $1/\text{poly}(n)$  error [Kitaev '99]  
QMA = quantum proof, bounded-error polytime quantum verifier

Quantum PCP conjecture

LOCAL-HAM is QMA-hard for some constant error  $\epsilon > 0$ .

Can assume  $k=2$  WLOG [Bravyi, DiVincenzo, Terhal, Loss '08]

# high-degree in NP

## Theorem

It is **NP-complete** to estimate  $E_0$  for  $n$  qudits on a  $D$ -regular graph to additive error  $\sim d / D^{1/8}$ .

## Idea: use product states

$$E_0 \approx \min \operatorname{tr} H(\psi_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \psi_n) - O(d/D^{1/8})$$

## By contrast

2-CSPs are NP-hard to approximate to error  $|\Sigma|^\alpha / D^\beta$  for any  $\alpha, \beta > 0$

# intuition: mean-field theory

1-D 

2-D 

3-D 

$\infty$ -D 

# Proof of PCP no-go theorem

1. Measure  $\epsilon n$  qudits and condition on outcomes.  
Incur error  $\epsilon$ .
2. Most pairs of other qudits would have mutual information  $\leq \log(d) / \epsilon D$  if measured.
3. Thus their state is within distance  $d^3(\log(d) / \epsilon D)^{1/2}$  of product.
4. Witness is a global product state. Total error is  $\epsilon + d^3(\log(d) / \epsilon D)^{1/2}$ .  
Choose  $\epsilon$  to balance these terms.



# other applications

## PTAS for Dense k-local Hamiltonians

improves on  $1/d^{k-1} + \epsilon$  approximation from [Gharibian-Kempe '11]

## PTAS for planar graphs

Builds on [Bansal, Bravyi, Terhal '07] PTAS for bounded-degree planar graphs

## Algorithms for graphs with low threshold rank

Extends result of [Barak, Raghavendra, Steurer '11].

run-time for  $\epsilon$ -approximation is

$\exp(\log(n) \text{poly}(d/\epsilon)) \cdot \#\{\text{eigs of adj. matrix} \geq \text{poly}(\epsilon/d)\}$

# open questions

- Is  $\text{QMA}(2) = \text{QMA}$ ? Is  $\text{SAT} \in \text{QMA}_{\sqrt{n}}(2)_{1,1/2}$  optimal? (Would follow from replacing 1-LOCC with SEP-YES.)
- Can we reorder our quantifiers to get a dimension-independent bound for correlated local measurements?
- (Especially if your name is Graeme Mitchison)  
Representation theory results  $\rightarrow$  de Finetti theorems  
What about the other direction?
- The usual de Finetti questions:
  - better counter-examples
  - how much does it help to add PPT constraints?
- The unique games conjecture is  $\approx$ equivalent to determining whether  $\max \{\text{tr } M \rho : \rho \in \text{Sep}\}$  is  $\geq c_1/d$  or  $\leq c_2/d$  for  $c_1 \gg c_2 \gg 1$  and  $M$  a LO measurement. Can we get an algorithm for this using de Finetti?
- Weak additivity? The Quantum PCP conjecture?

