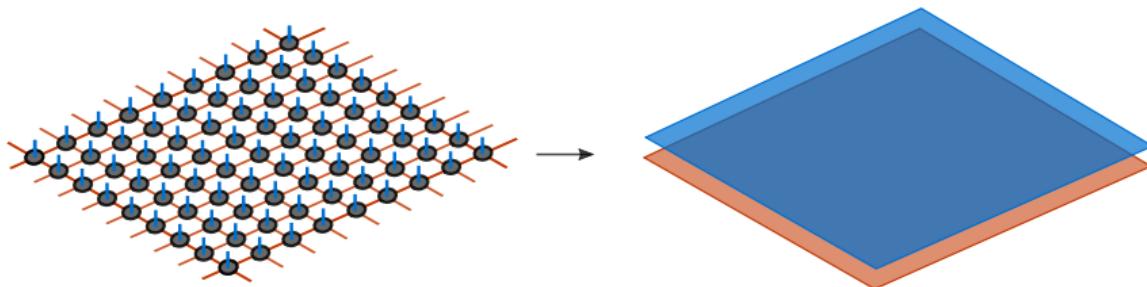


# Continuous quantum measurements and tensor networks

quantum information tools brought to the continuum

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Séminaire

Institut de Physique Théorique, Saclay, France

April 15th, 2019

Alexander von Humboldt  
Stiftung / Foundation



# 3 questions in quantum mechanics

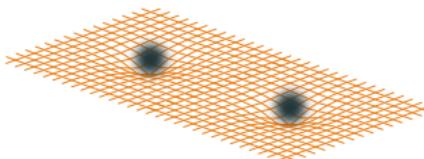
## Continuous measurement

*How to gently measure and control quantum systems?*



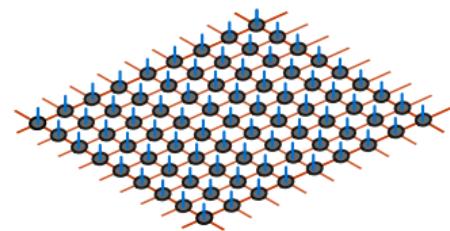
## Gravity and quantum

*Could gravity, in principle, not be quantum?*



## Many-body & QFT

*How to efficiently parameterize many-body and QFT states*



PhD



PhD

Postdoc



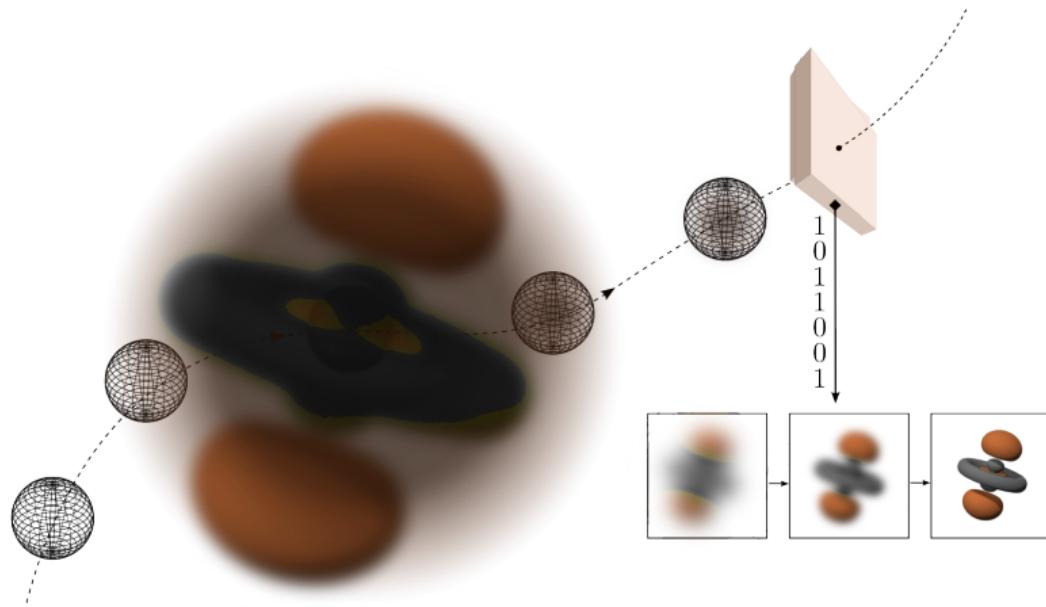
Postdoc

Project



Project

# Observation



# Motivation

“We know that the moon is demonstrably not there when nobody looks”



David Mermin 1981

# Introduction

## Measurement postulate

For a system “described” by  $|\psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$  and a measurement of projectors  $\Pi_i$  such that  $\sum_i \Pi_i = \mathbb{1}$ :

- ♣ **Born rule** : Result  $i$  with probability  $\mathbb{P}[i] = \langle \psi | \Pi_i | \psi \rangle$
- ♣ **Collapse** :  $|\psi\rangle \longrightarrow \frac{\Pi_i |\psi\rangle}{\sqrt{\mathbb{P}[i]}}$



Max Born



John von Neumann

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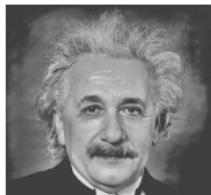
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Albert Einstein



John S. Bell

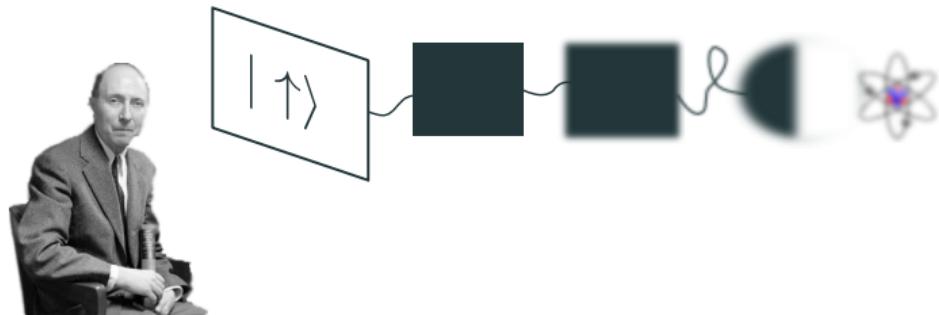
## What is a measurement?

- ▶ When can the postulate be applied?
- ▶ Can measurement be deduced from other postulates?

# Introduction

## Moving the Heisenberg cut

**Limit** between the **system**, obeying the Schrödinger equation and the **observer** who can apply the measurement postulate.

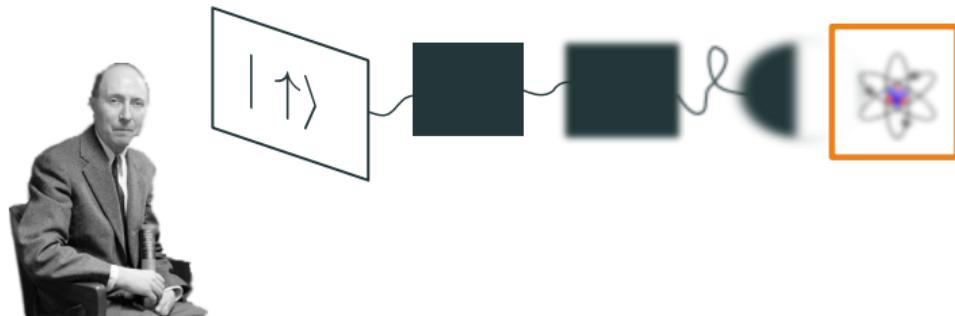


Eugene Wigner

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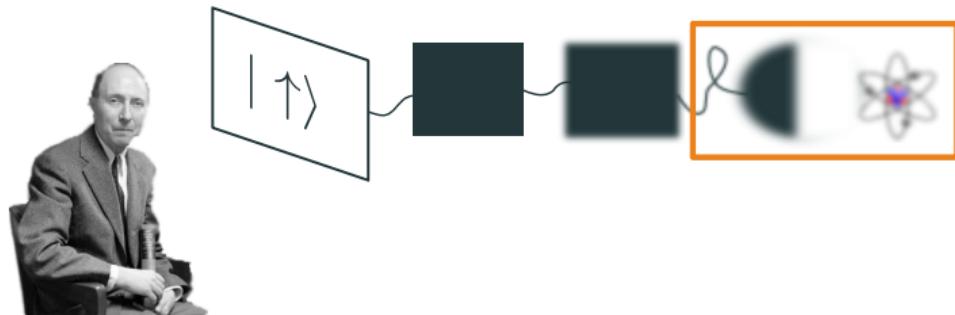


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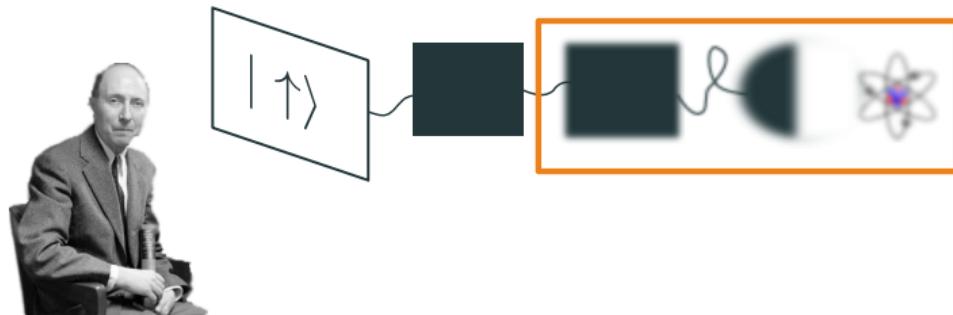


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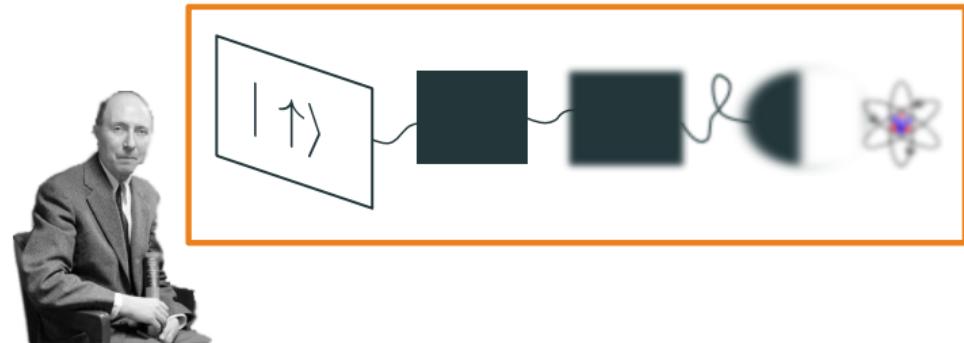


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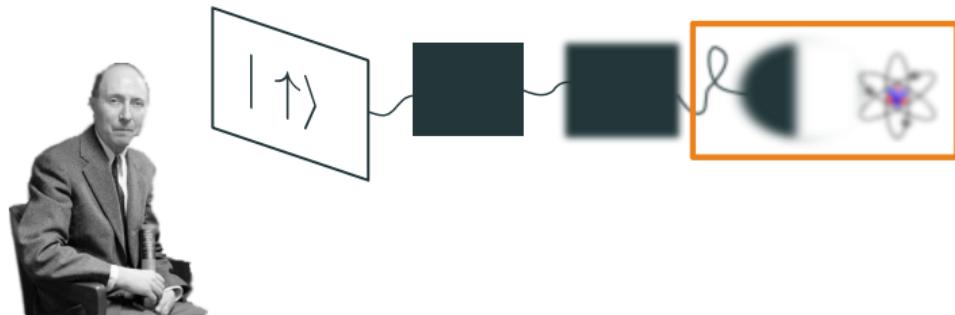


Eugene Wigner

# Introduction

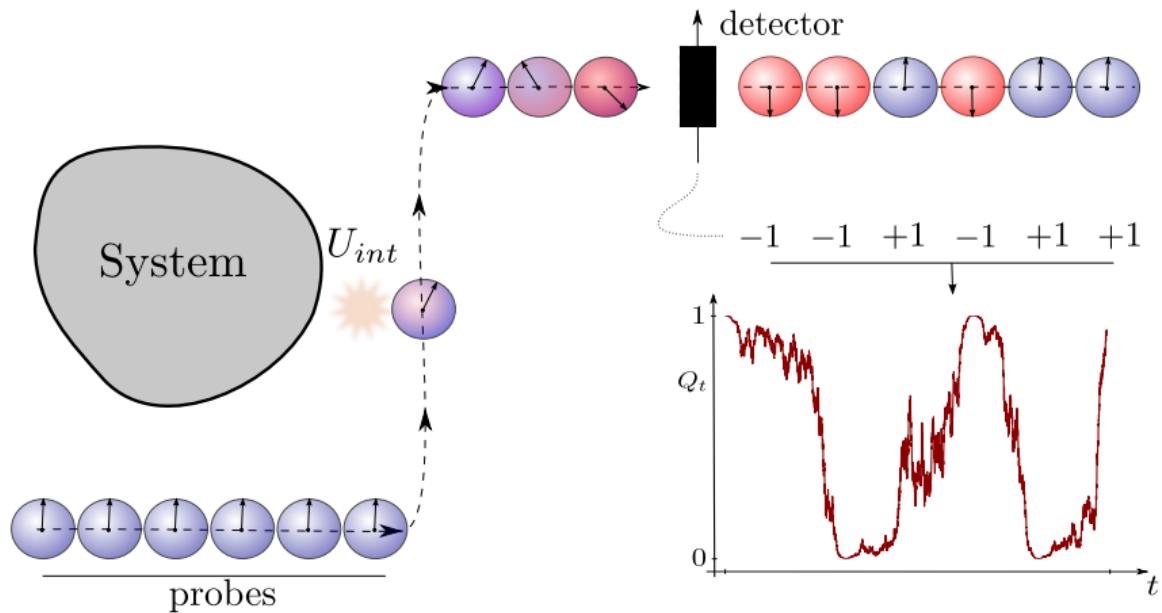
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Eugene Wigner

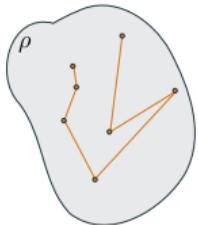
# Continuous observation



# Repeated interactions

## Discrete quantum trajectories

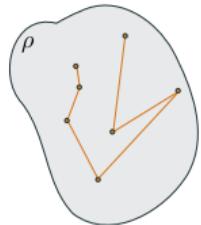
A sequence of  $|\psi_n\rangle$  or  $\rho_n$  (random) and the corresponding measurement results  $\delta_n = \pm 1$ .



# Repeated interactions

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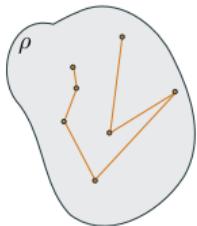


- ▶ Make the interaction between system and probe smoother  $U_{\text{int}} = \mathbb{1} + i\sqrt{\varepsilon} A_{\text{sys}} \otimes B_{\text{probe}}$
- ▶ Increase the frequency at which probes are sent:  $\tau \propto \varepsilon$

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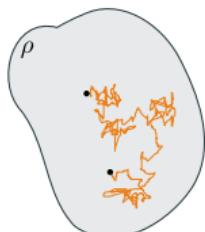
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## Continuous quantum trajectories

A continuous map  $|\Psi_t\rangle$  or  $\rho_t$  (random) and the corresponding continuous measurement signal  $y_t \propto \sqrt{\varepsilon} \sum_k \delta_k$ . Typically:

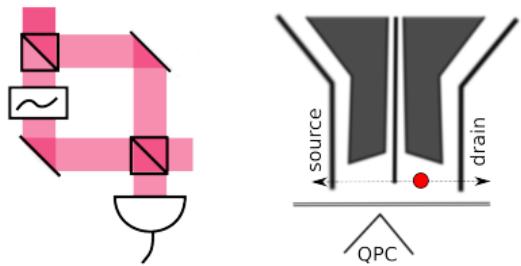
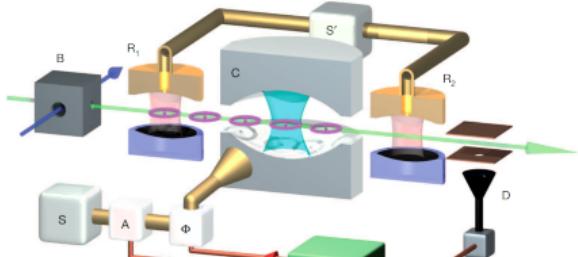
$$d|\Psi_t\rangle = \left[ -iHdt + \sqrt{\gamma}(A - \langle A \rangle)dW_t - \frac{\gamma}{2}(A - \langle A \rangle)^2 dt \right] |\Psi_t\rangle$$

where  $W_t$  Brownian  $\triangleleft$  Essentially a central limit theorem result  $\triangleleft$



# In practice

- ▶ Discrete situations “LKB style”, with **actual** repeated interactions
- ▶ Almost “true” continuous measurement settings (quantum optics, quantum dots)

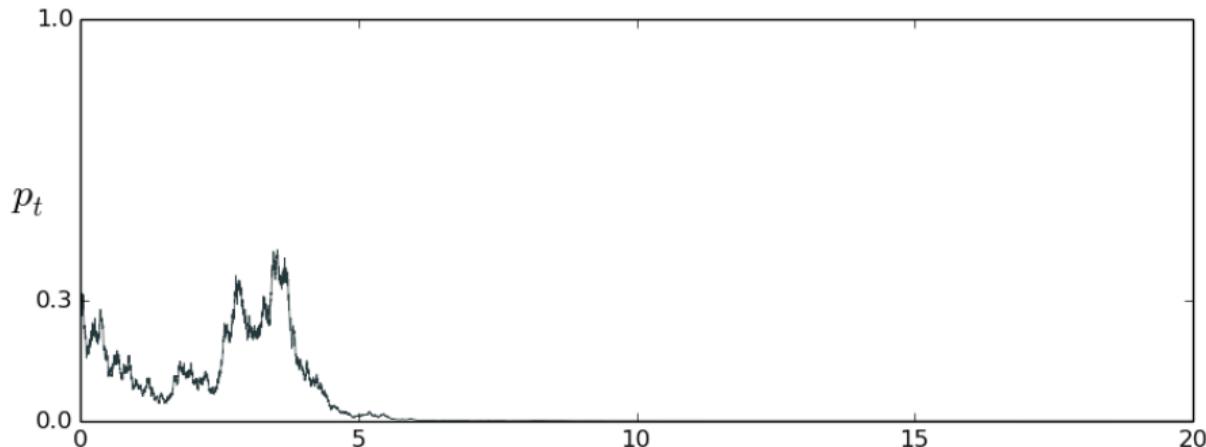
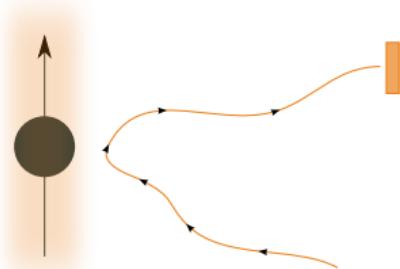


# Example 0

## Situation considered

Pure continuous measurement of a qubit:

- ▶ for the population:  $p_t = |\langle \uparrow | \Psi_t \rangle|^2$
- ▶ one can show:  $dp_t = \sqrt{\gamma} p_t (1 - p_t) dW_t$

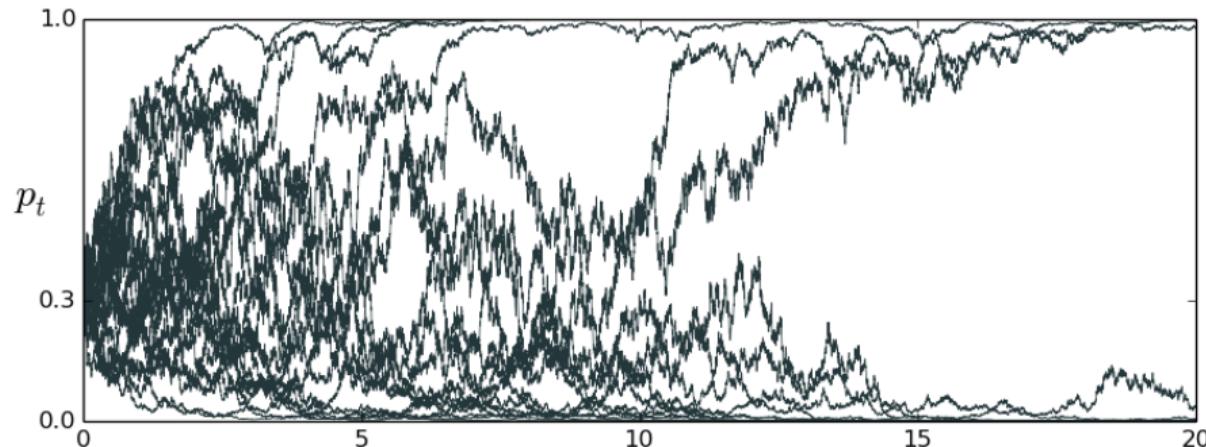


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# Questions

Measurement is now **dynamical** with a time scale  $\gamma^{-1}$ . Hence one can:

- ♣ Optimize it
- ♣ Study its competition with (few-body) unitary dynamics  $\propto \omega$ ;
- ♣ Exploit it for real-time “soft” control

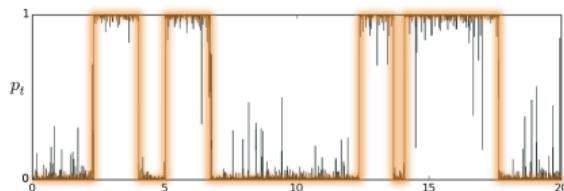
# Questions

Measurement is now **dynamical** with a time scale  $\gamma^{-1}$ . Hence one can:

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**Strong continuous observation**  $\gamma \gg \omega_i$

- ▶ Non-demolition measurement
- ▶ Quantum jumps
- ▶ Quantum spikes



**Weak continuous observation**  $\gamma \sim \omega_i$

- ▶ Optimization
- ▶ Control
- ▶ Continuous quantum error correction

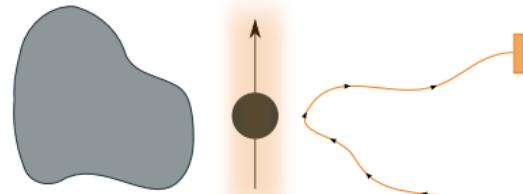


# Strong measurement limit: example 1

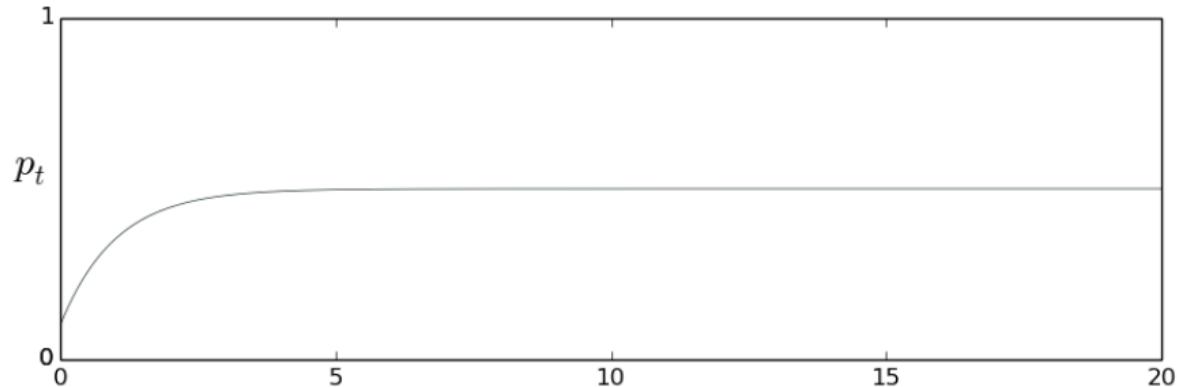
## Situation considered

Qubit coupled to a thermal bath

- ▶  $p_t$  ground state population
- ▶ Thermal bath  $p_t \rightarrow p^{\text{Boltzmann}}$
- ▶ Continuous energy measurement  $p_t \rightarrow 0$  or  $1$



No measurement,  $\gamma = 0\lambda$

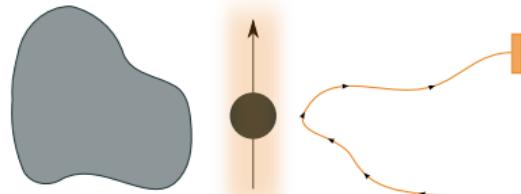


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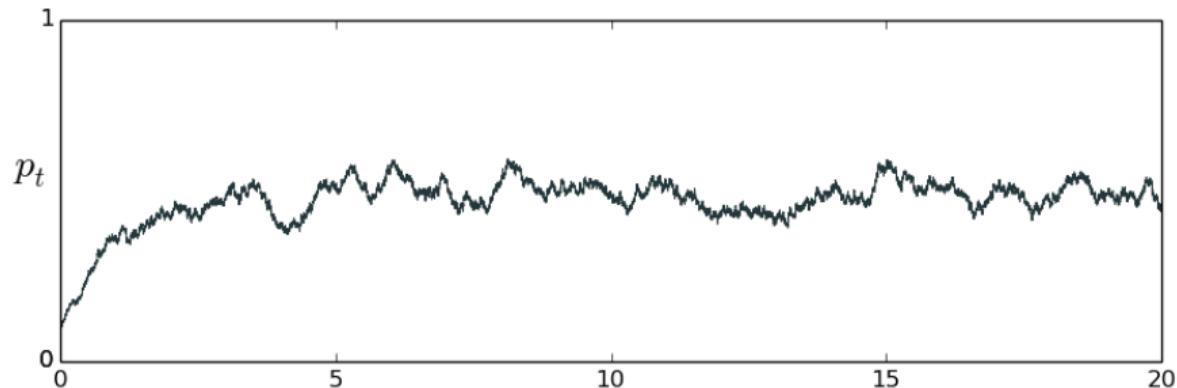
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Weak measurement,  $\gamma = 0.1\lambda$

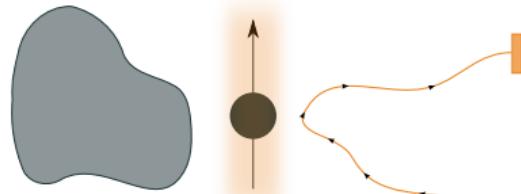


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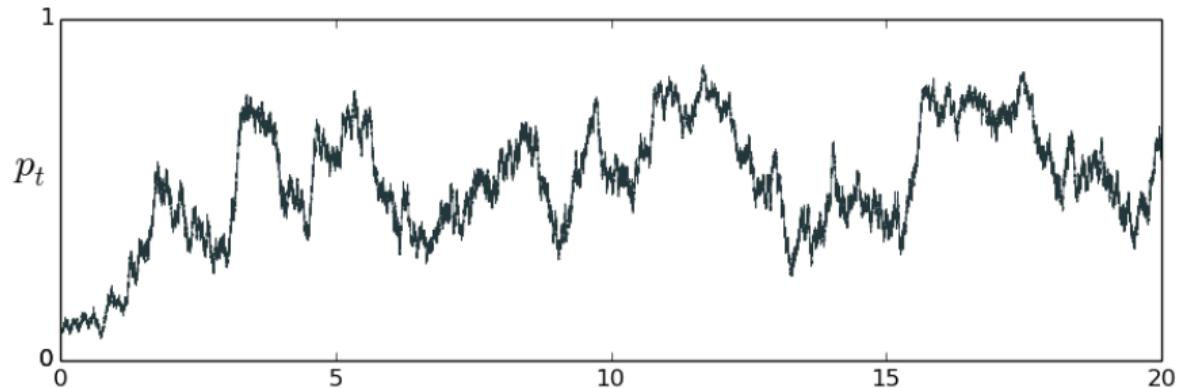
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Decent measurement,  $\gamma = \lambda$

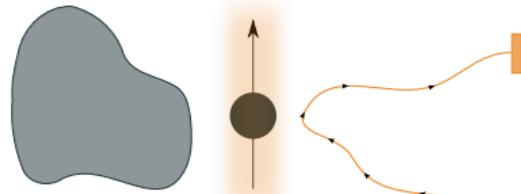


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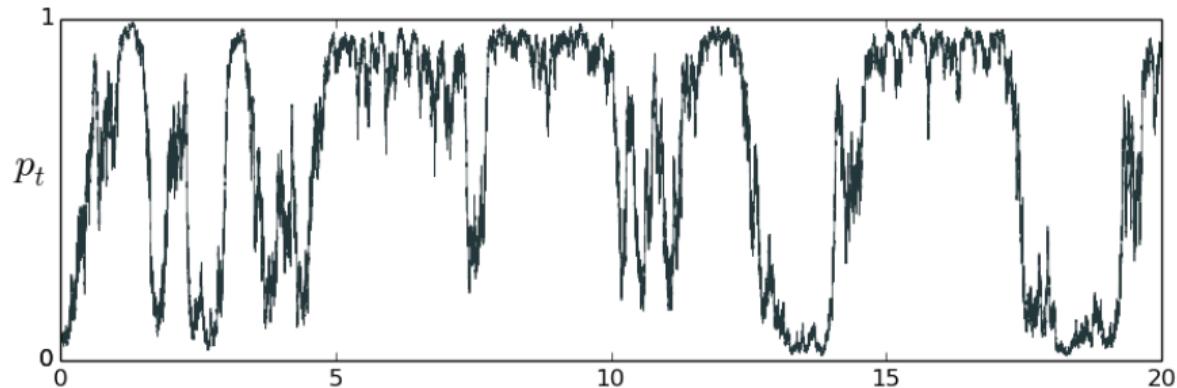
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Getting strong measurement,  $\gamma = 10\lambda$

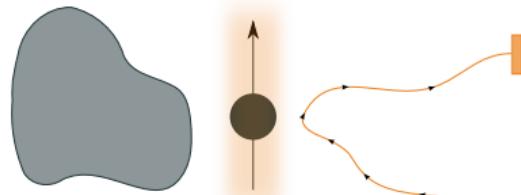


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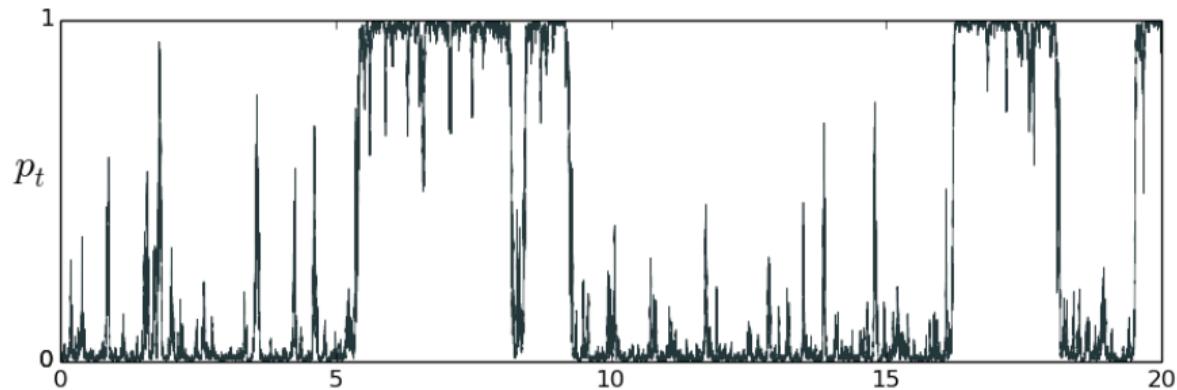
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Pretty strong measurement,  $\gamma = 100\lambda$

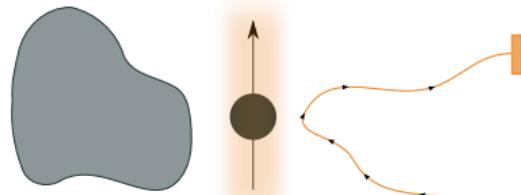


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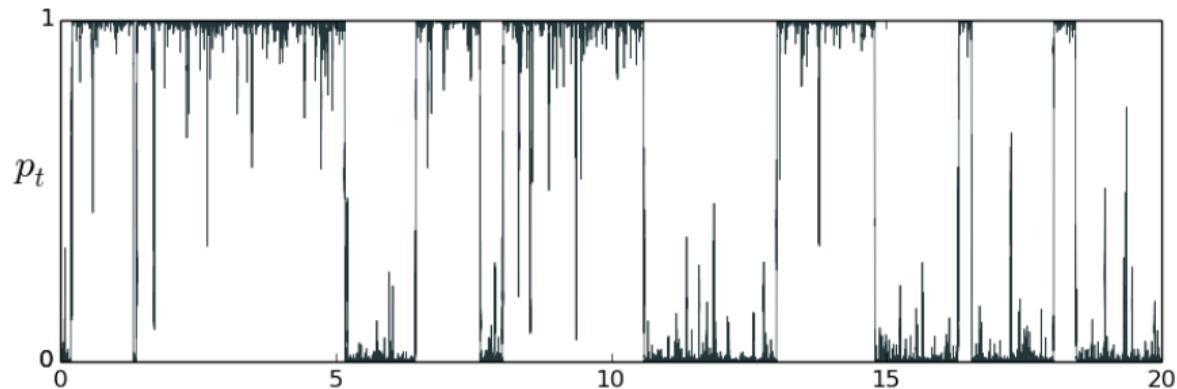
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Strong measurement,  $\gamma = 1000 \lambda$

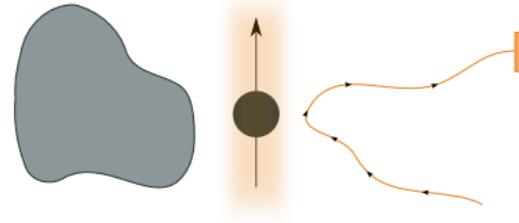


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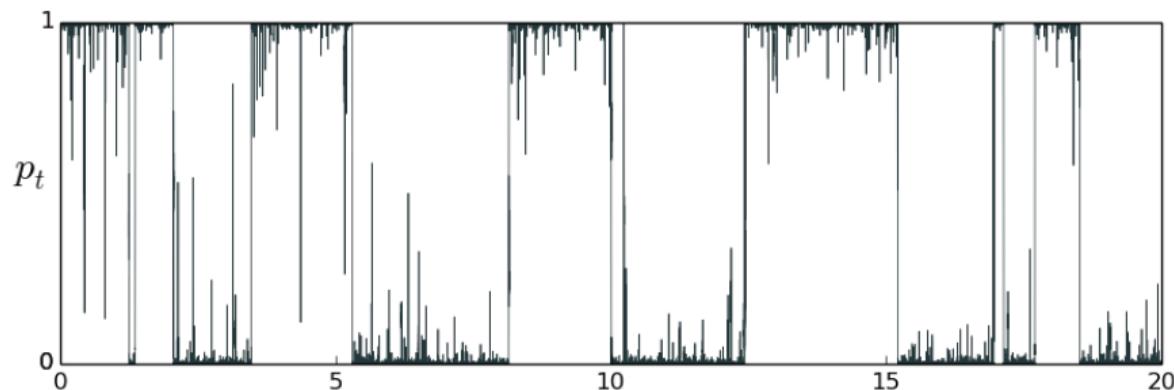
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Very strong measurement,  $\gamma = 10^4 \lambda$

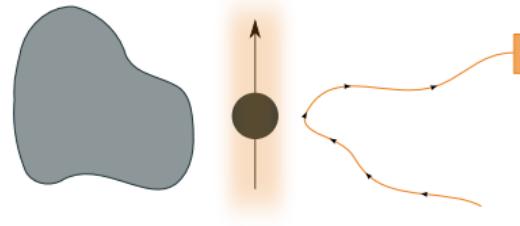


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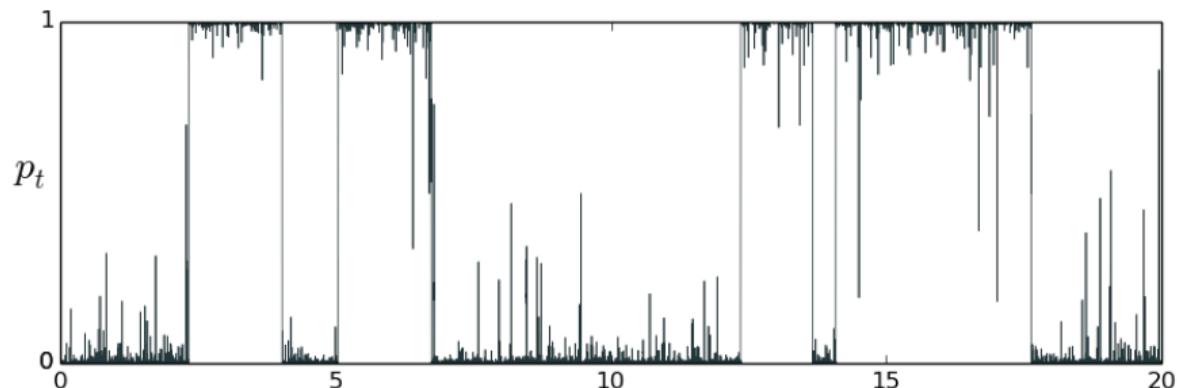
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Über strong measurement,  $\gamma = 10^5 \lambda$

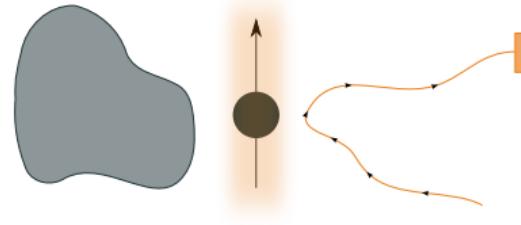


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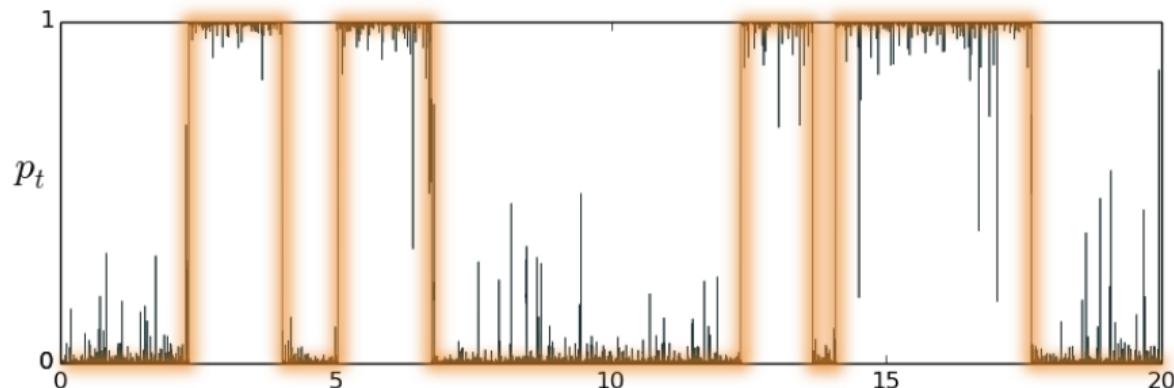
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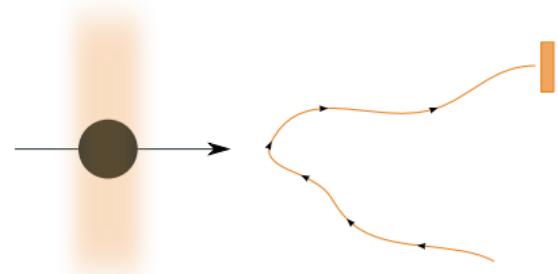


# Strong measurement limit: example 2

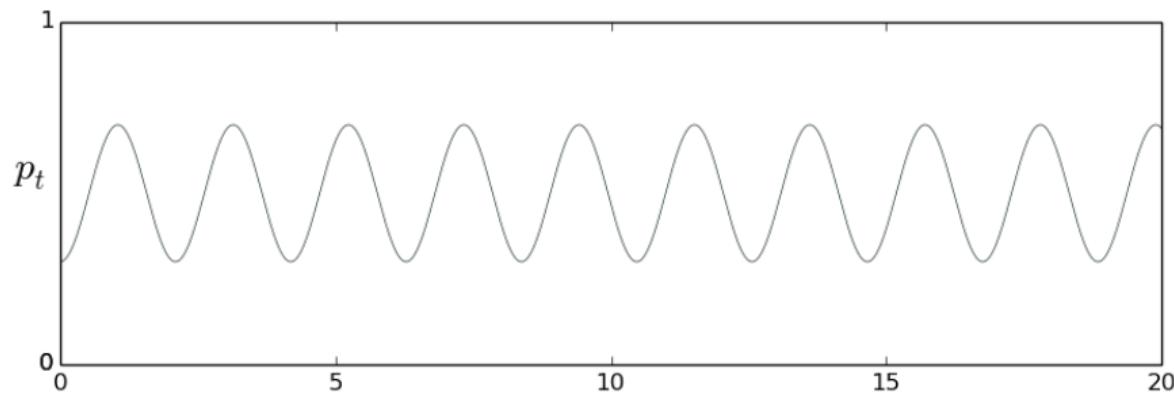
## System considered

Qubit in a magnetic field  $\perp$  measurement basis

- ▶  $p_t = |\langle \Psi_t | \uparrow_z \rangle|^2$
- ▶  $H = \frac{\omega}{2} \sigma_x$ : Rabi oscillations  $p_t \sim \cos(\omega t)$
- ▶ Measurement  $p_t \rightarrow 0$  or 1



No measurement,  $\gamma = 0 \omega$

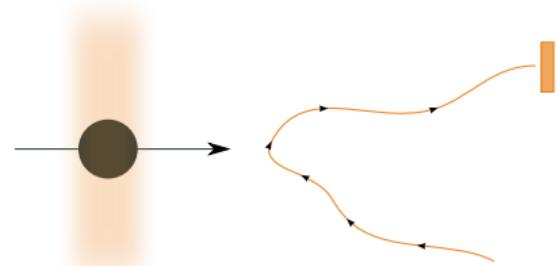


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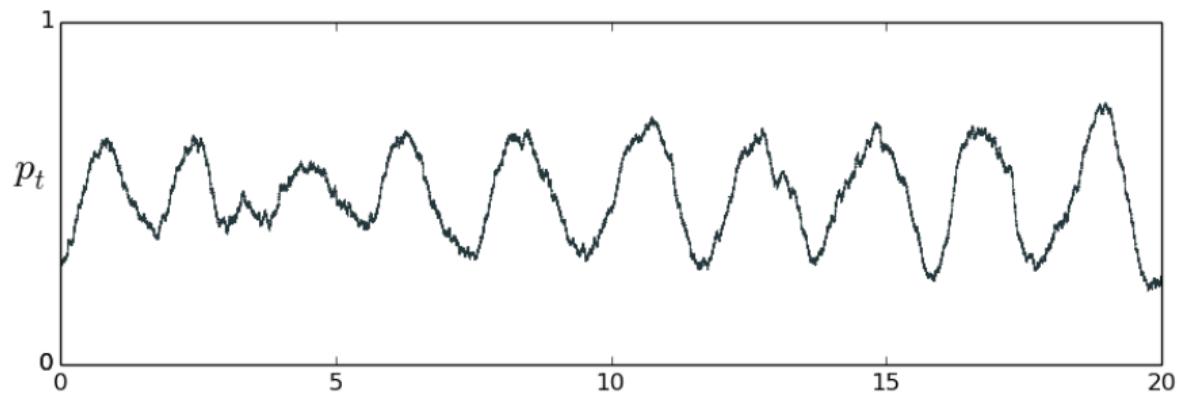
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Weak measurement,  $\gamma = 0.1 \omega$

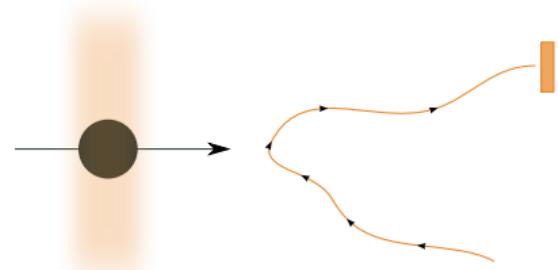


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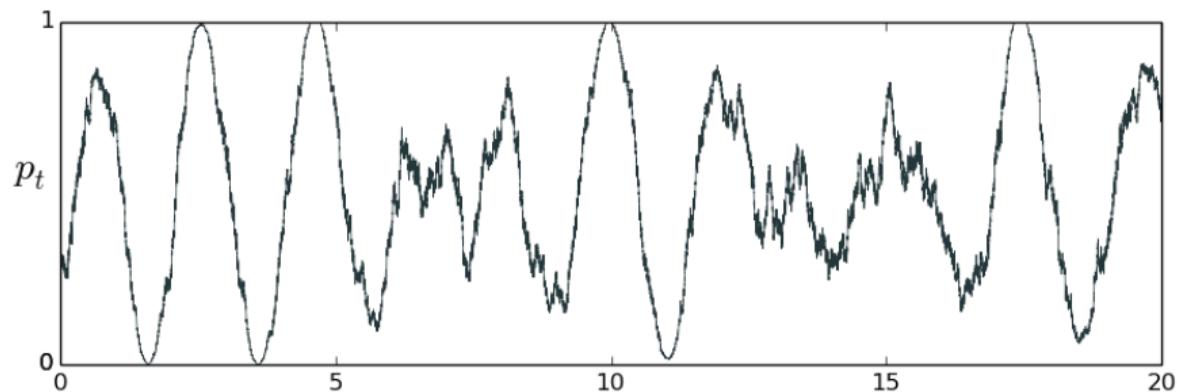
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Decent measurement,  $\gamma = \omega$

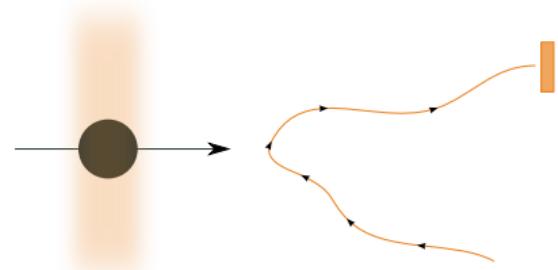


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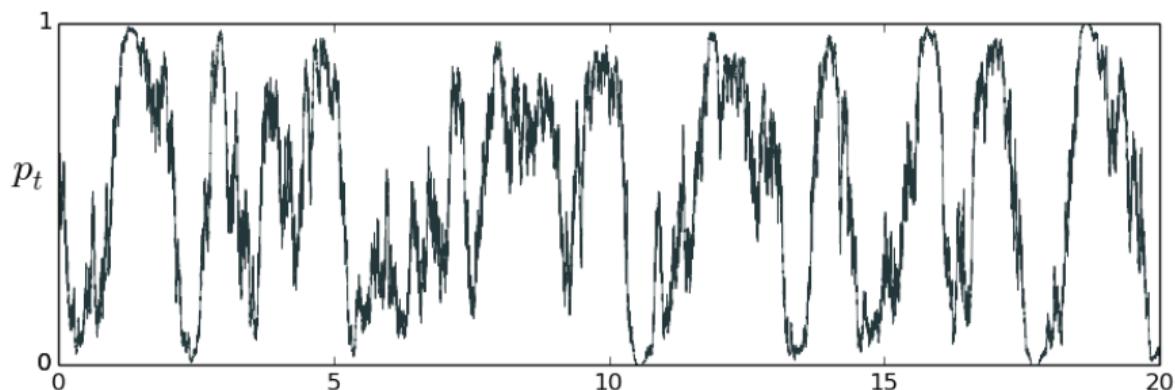
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Getting strong measurement,  $\gamma = 10 \omega$

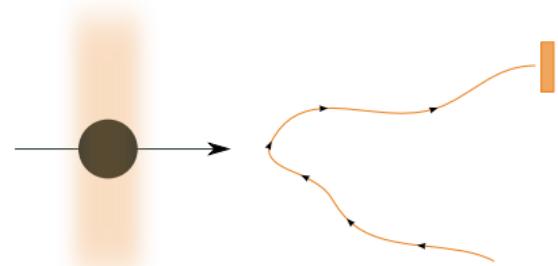


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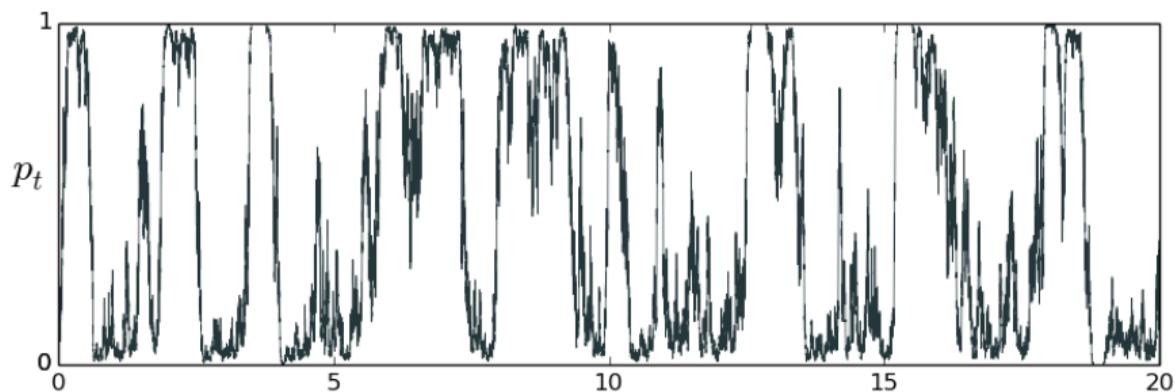
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Pretty strong measurement,  $\gamma = 30 \omega$

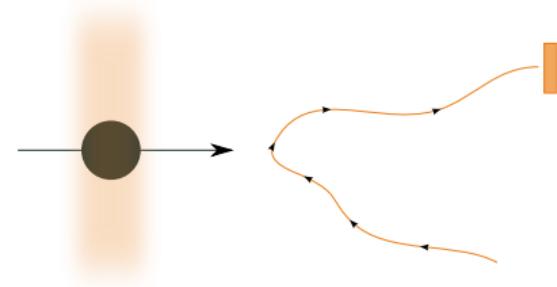


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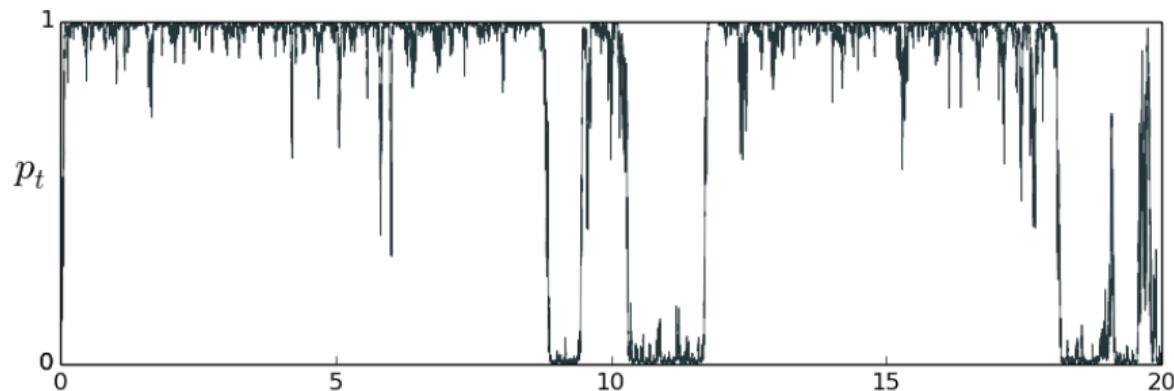
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Strong measurement,  $\gamma = 100 \omega$

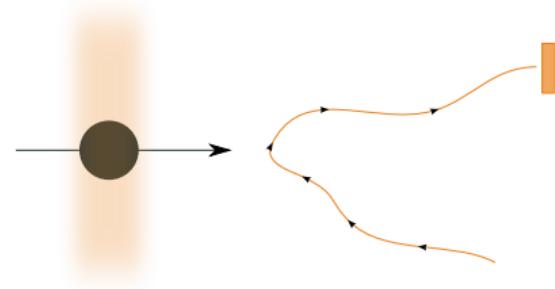


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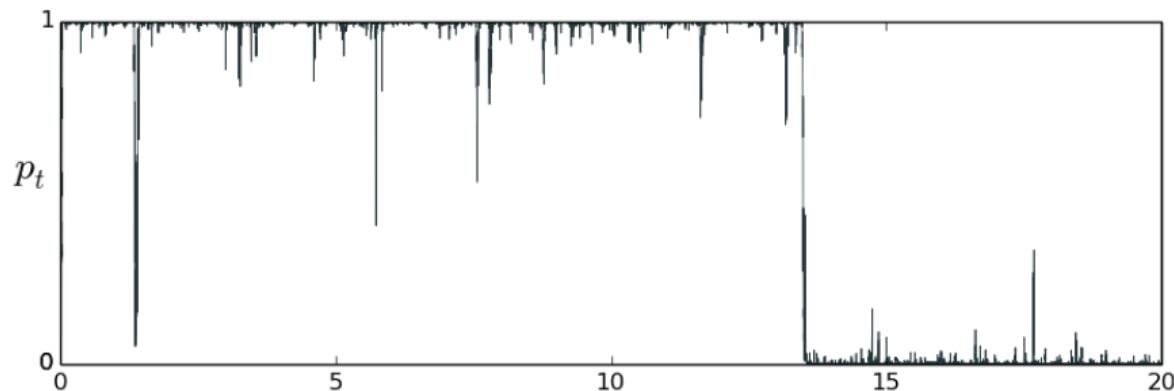
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- ▶ Measurement  $p_t \rightarrow 0$  or 1



Very strong measurement,  $\gamma = 300 \omega$

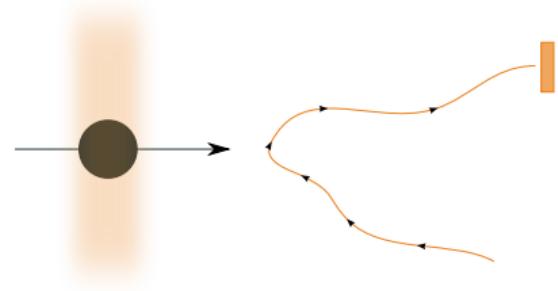


# Strong measurement limit: example 2

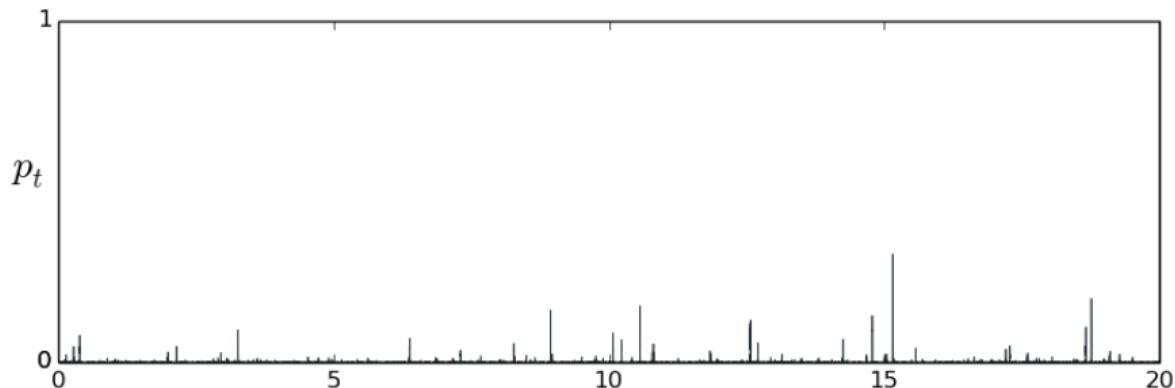
## System considered

Qubit in a magnetic field  $\perp$  measurement basis

- $p_t = |\langle \Psi_t | \uparrow_z |^2$
- $H = \frac{\omega}{2} \sigma_x$ : Rabi oscillations  $p_t \sim \cos(\omega t)$
- Measurement  $p_t \rightarrow 0$  or 1



Über strong measurement,  $\gamma = 1000 \omega$



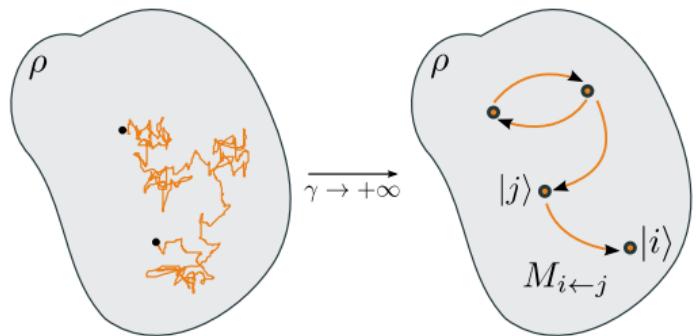
# Theorem: jumps

1. Markovian evolution  $\mathcal{L}(\rho_t) = L(\rho_t) - i[H, \rho_t]$
2. Continuous measurement of  $\mathcal{O} = \sum_k \lambda_k |k\rangle\langle k|$

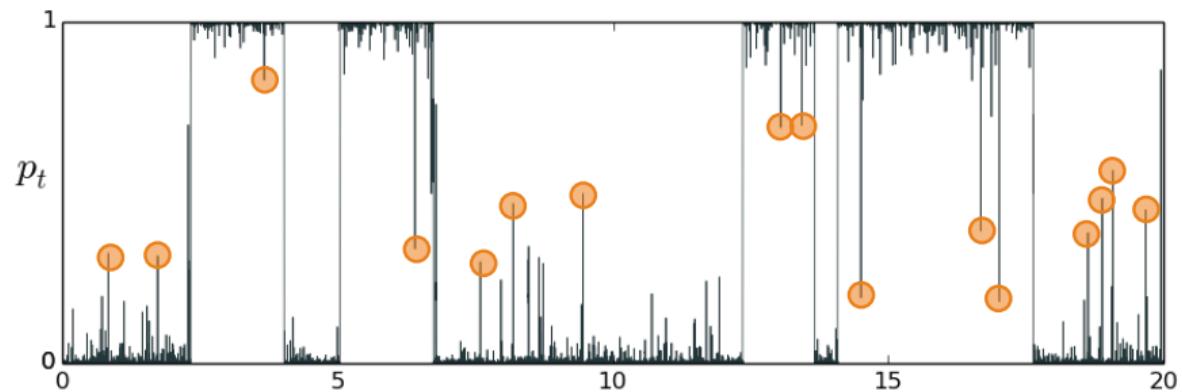
## Quantum jumps

When  $\gamma \rightarrow +\infty$ ,  $\rho_t$  converges to a **Markov chain** with transition matrix  $M$ :

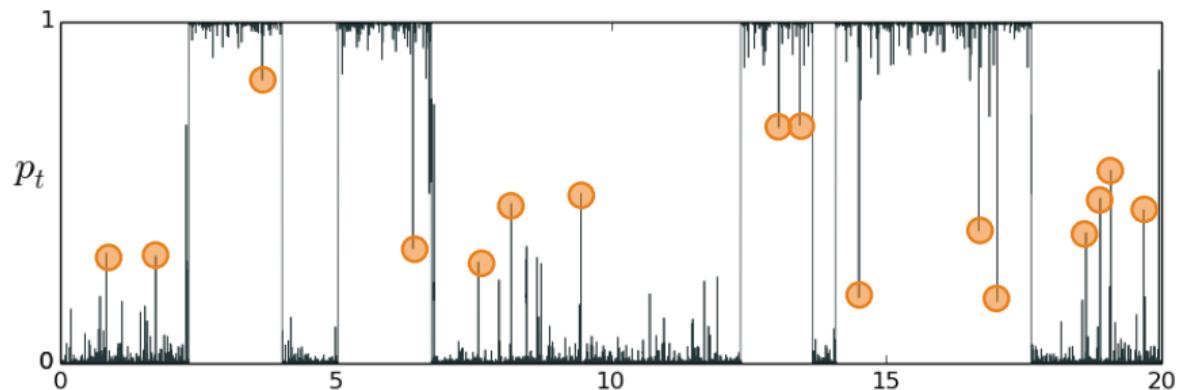
$$M_{i \leftarrow j} = \underbrace{L_{jj}''}_{\text{"incoherent" contribution}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{4\gamma} \left| \frac{H_{ij}}{\lambda_i - \lambda_j} \right|^2}_{\text{"coherent" contribution}}$$



## A subtlety: spikes



## A subtlety: spikes



Spikes:

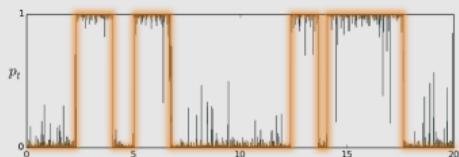
- ▶ Remain in the limit
- ▶ Are Levy distributed
- ▶ Are universal
- ▶ Are experimentally relevant (e.g. for control)

*Carrying computations rigorously, one discovers things people did not expect and thought were experimental mistakes*

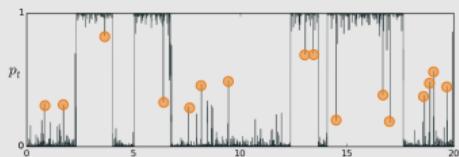
# Some results

## Strong continuous measurement

### 1. Jumps



### 2. Spikes



- ◇ M Bauer, D Bernard, AT JPA 2015
- ◇ AT, M Bauer, D Bernard PRA 2015
- ◇ M Bauer, D Bernard, AT JPA 2016

## Others

### 1. Control

- ◇ A T, M Bauer, D Bernard EPL 2014

### 2. Optimal measurement

- ◇ AT, PRA 2016

### 3. Exact results

- ◇ AT, PRA-Rapid 2018

### 4. Non-Markovian exploration

- ◇ AT, Quantum 2017

### 5. Many-body exploration

- ◇ X Cao, AT, A De Luca, 2018

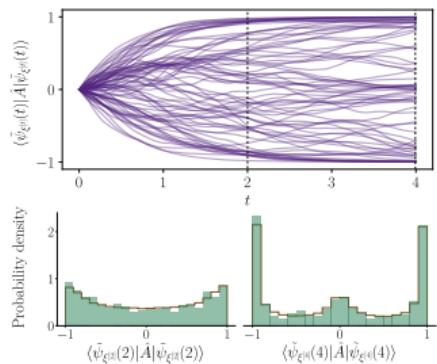
# Future

Fast transition in the field in the last 2 – 3 years: **new questions**

## Non-Markovianity

*How to include it in the theory?*

- ▶ N-M feedback
- ▶ N-M measurement

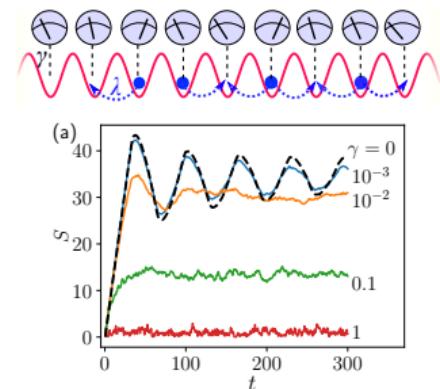


♠ Non-Markovian Monte-Carlo  
AT, Quantum 2017

## Many-body

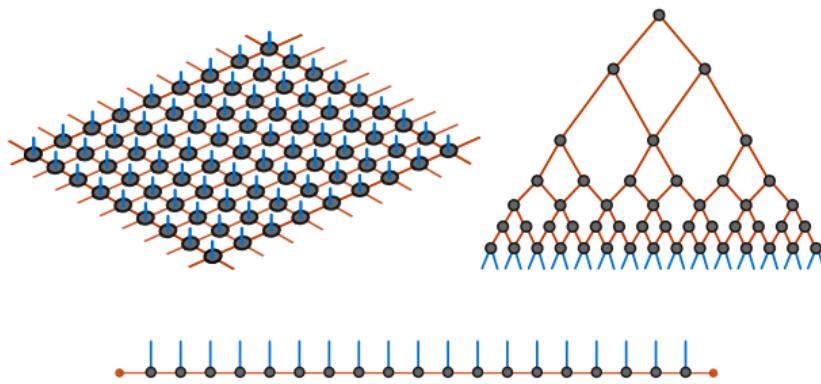
*Joining measurement and MB dynamics*

- ▶ For integrable models
- ▶ KPZ universality class?



♠ arXiv:1804.04638  
X Cao, AT, A De Luca

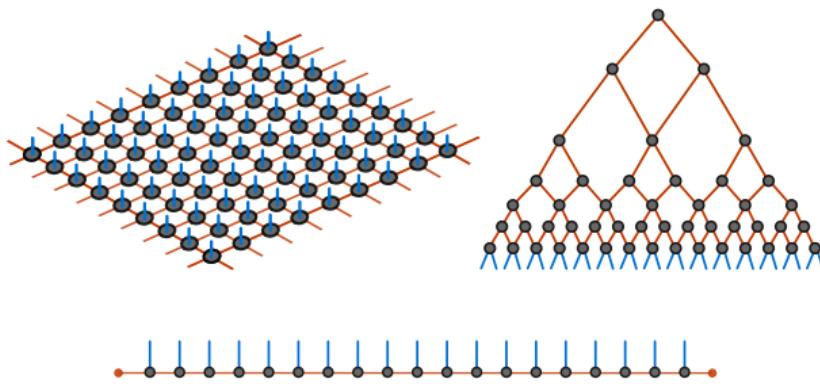
# Tensor network states: a tool



## Applications

- ▶ Quantum information theory
- ▶ Statistical Mechanics
- ▶ Quantum gravity
- ▶ Many-body quantum

# Tensor network states: a tool



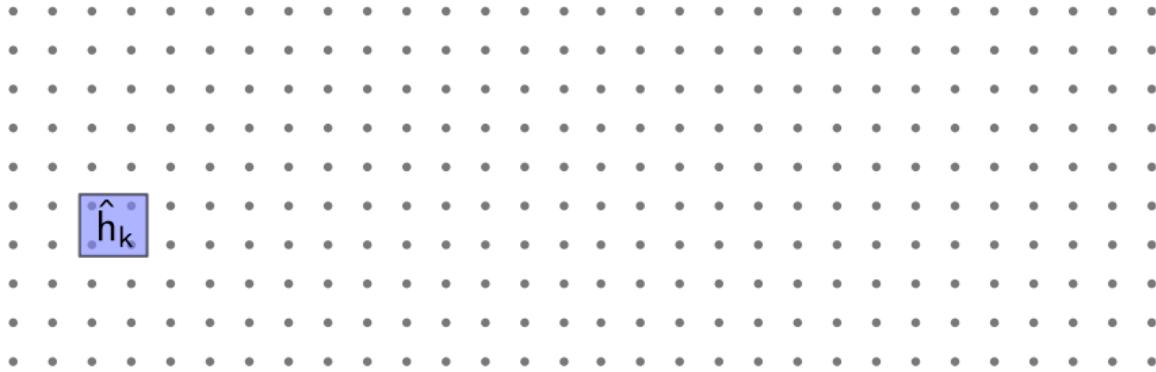
## Applications

- ▶ Quantum information theory
- ▶ Statistical Mechanics
- ▶ Quantum gravity
- ▶ Many-body quantum

## Negative theology

- ▶ **Not** covariant/geometric objects  $g_{\mu\nu}$  or  $R_{\mu\nu\kappa}^{\sigma}$
- ▶ **Not** tensor **models**  
[Rivasseau, Gurau, ...]

# Many-body problem



## Problem

Finding low energy states of

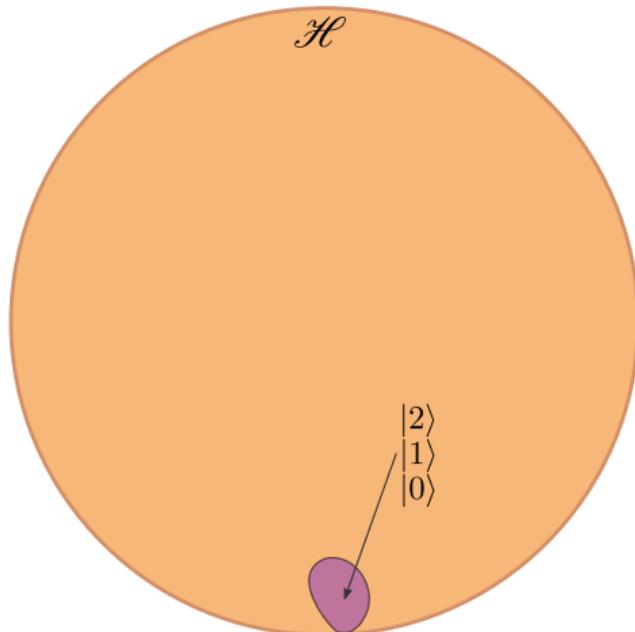
$$\hat{H} = \sum_{k=1}^N \hat{h}_k$$

is **hard** because  $\dim \mathcal{H} \propto D^N$

## Possible solutions

- ▶ Perturbation theory
- ▶ Monte Carlo
- ▶ Bootstrap IR fixed point
- ▶ **Variational optimization** (e.g. Mean Field, TCSA, tensor networks)

# Variational optimization



Generic (spin  $D/2$ ) state  $\in \mathcal{H}$ :

$$|\Psi\rangle = \sum_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n} c_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_N} |i_1, \dots, i_N\rangle$$

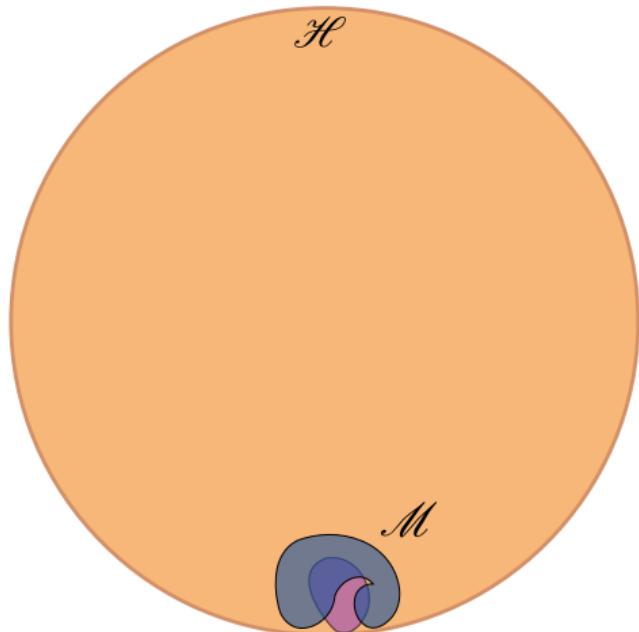
## Exact variational optimization

To find the ground state:

$$|0\rangle = \min_{|\Psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{\langle \Psi | H | \Psi \rangle}{\langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle}$$

►  $\dim \mathcal{H} = D^N$

# Variational optimization



Generic (spin  $D/2$ ) state  $\in \mathcal{H}$ :

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## Approx. variational optimization

To find the ground state:

$$|0\rangle = \min_{|\psi\rangle \in \mathcal{M}} \frac{\langle \psi | H | \psi \rangle}{\langle \psi | \psi \rangle}$$

►  $\dim \mathcal{M} \propto \text{Poly}(N)$  or fixed

# An idea popular in many fields

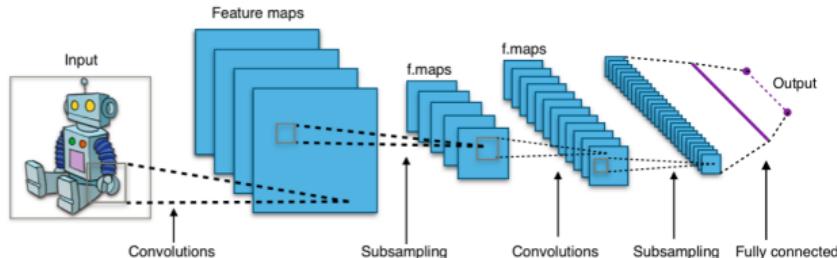
- ▶ Mean field approximation (of which TNS are an extension)

$$\psi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \psi_1(x_1) \psi_2(x_2) \dots \psi_n(x_n)$$

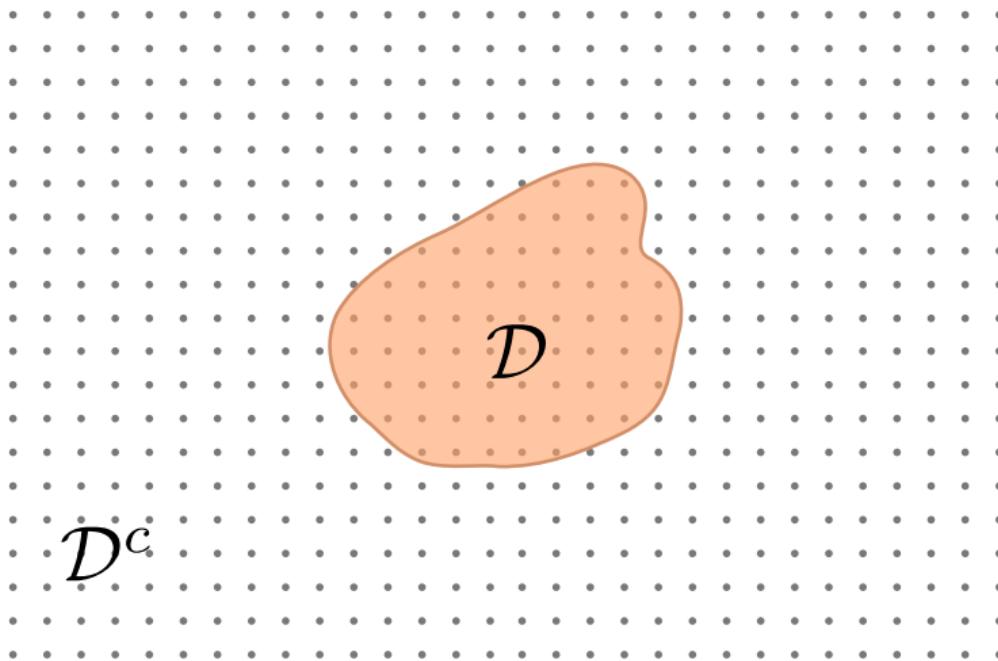
- ▶ Special variational wave functions in **Quantum chemistry** (whole industry of ansatz)
- ▶ **Moore-Read wavefunctions** in the study of the quantum Hall effect

$$\psi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \left\langle \hat{\phi}(x_1) \hat{\phi}(x_2) \dots \hat{\phi}(x_n) \right\rangle_{\text{CFT}}$$

- ▶ Fully connected and convolutional **neural networks** used in machine learning



# Interesting states are weakly entangled



Low energy state

$$|\Psi\rangle = |0\rangle \text{ or } |1\rangle \dots$$

Reduced density matrix

$$\rho = \text{tr}_{\mathcal{D}^c} [|\Psi\rangle\langle\Psi|]$$

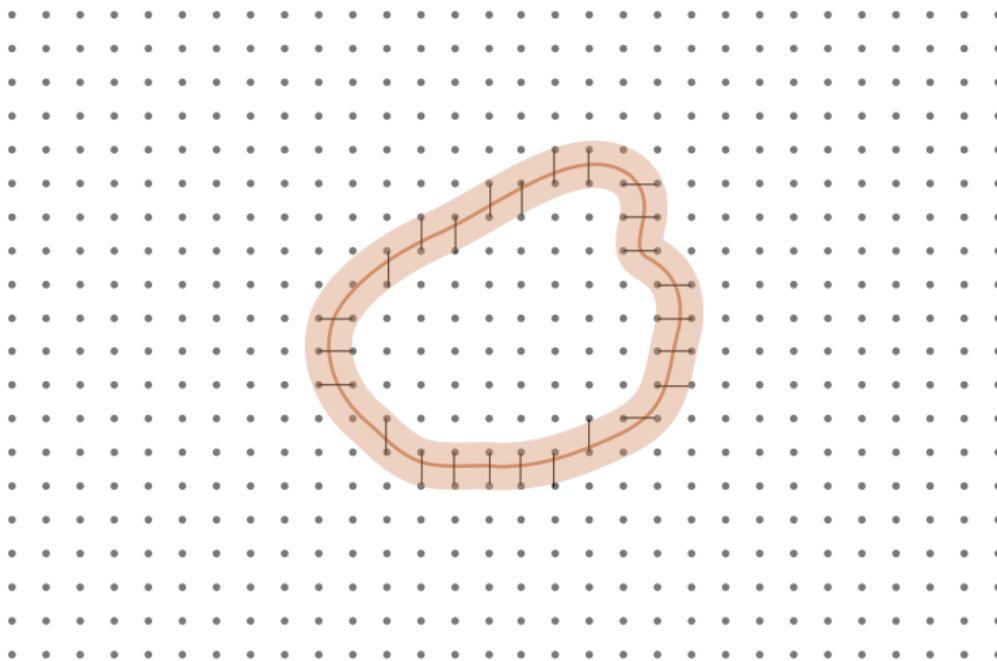
Entanglement entropy

$$S = -\text{tr}[\rho \log \rho]$$

Area law

$$S \propto |\partial \mathcal{D}|$$

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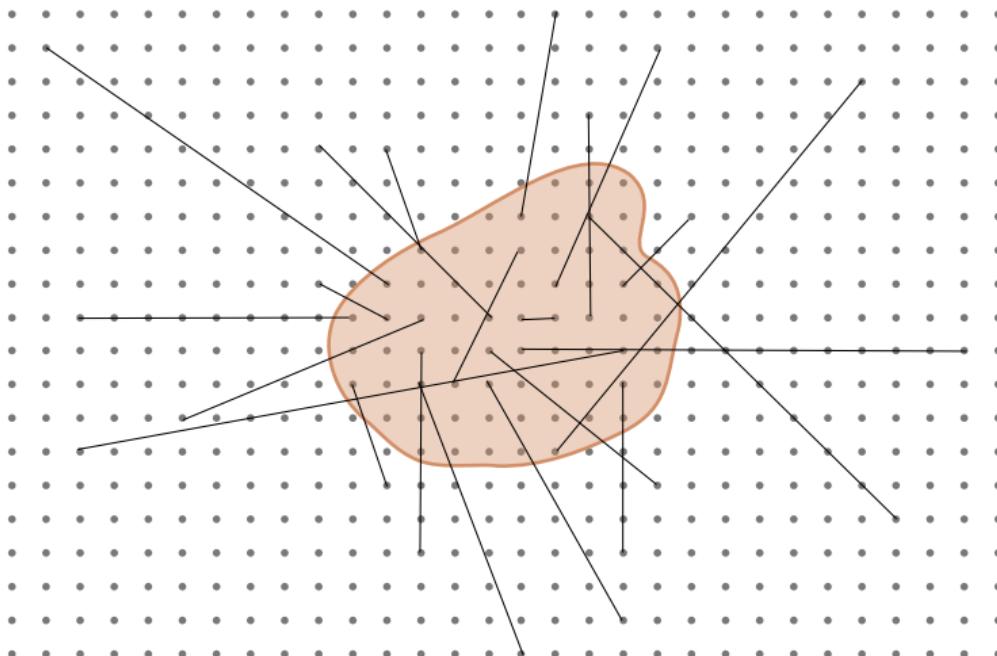
Entanglement entropy

$$S = -\text{tr}[\rho \log \rho]$$

Area law

$$S \propto |\partial \mathcal{D}|$$

# Typical states are strongly entangled



**Random state**

$$|\Psi\rangle = U_{\text{Haar}}|\text{trivial}\rangle$$

Reduced density matrix

$$\rho = \text{tr}_{\mathcal{D}^c} [|\Psi\rangle\langle\Psi|]$$

Entanglement entropy

$$S = -\text{tr}[\rho \log \rho]$$

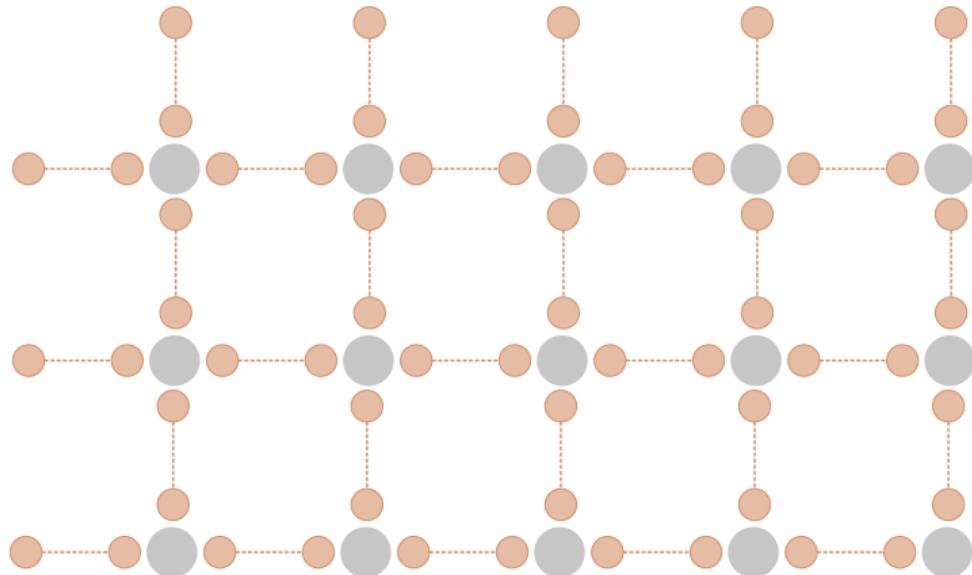
**Volume law**

$$S \propto |\mathcal{D}|$$

# Constructing weakly entangled states



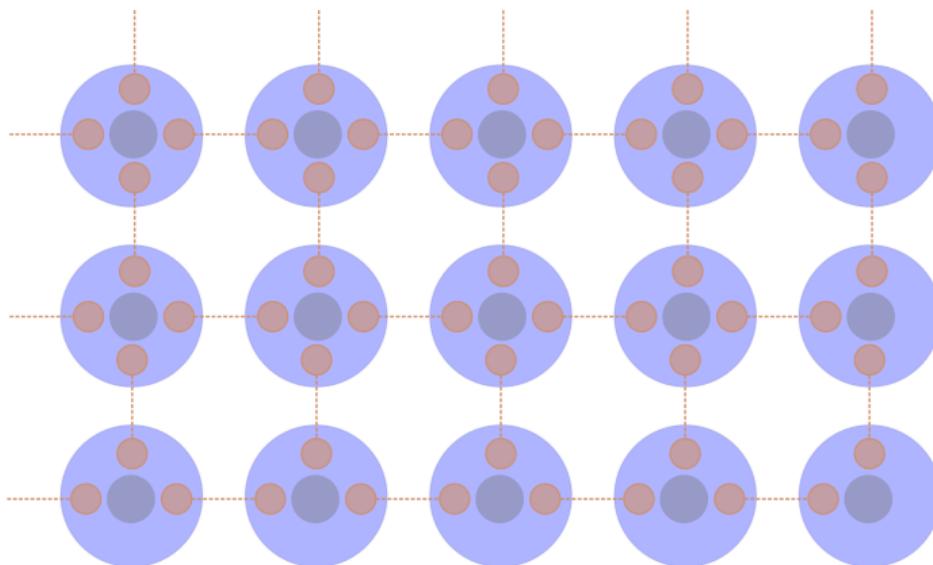
# Constructing weakly entangled states



1. Put auxiliary maximally entangled states between sites

$$\text{---} = \sum_{j=1}^x |j\rangle\langle j|$$

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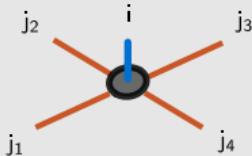
$$\bullet \cdots \bullet = \sum_{j=1}^x |j\rangle |j\rangle$$

2. Map to initial Hilbert space on each site

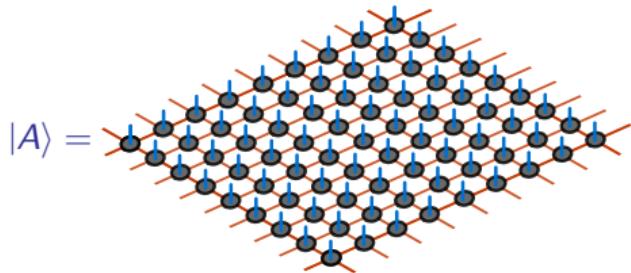
$$= A : \mathbb{C}^{4x} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^D$$

# Tensor network states: definition

Why “tensor” network?



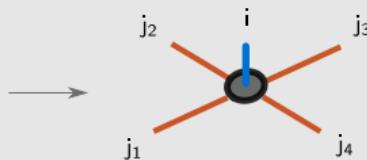
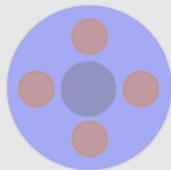
$$A : \mathbb{C}^{4x} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^d \quad \rightarrow \quad A_{j_1, j_2, j_3, j_4}^i$$



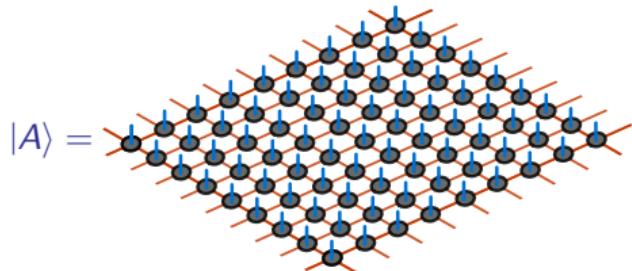
with tensor contractions on links

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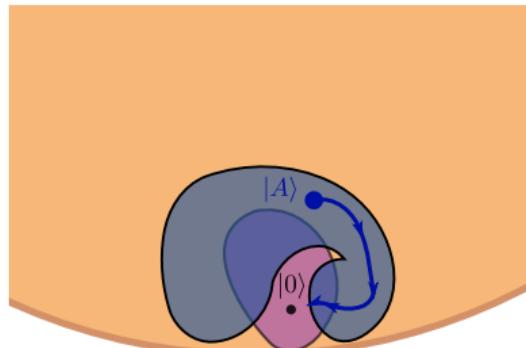
with tensor contractions on links

## Optimization

Find best  $A$  for fixed  $x$  ( $D \times x^4$  coeff.)

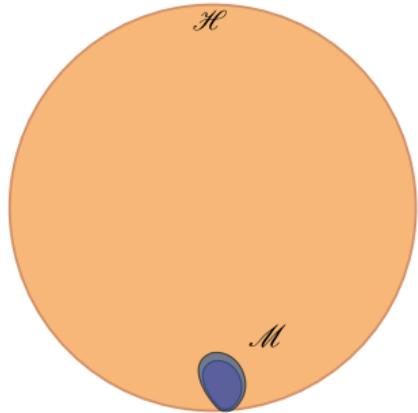
$$E_0 \simeq \min_A \frac{\langle A | \hat{H} | A \rangle}{\langle A | A \rangle}$$

for example go down  $\frac{\partial E}{\partial A_{j_1, j_2, j_3, j_4}^i}$



# Some facts

$d = 1$  spatial dimension

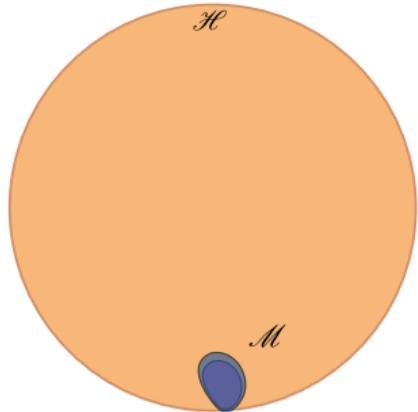


## Theorems (colloquially)

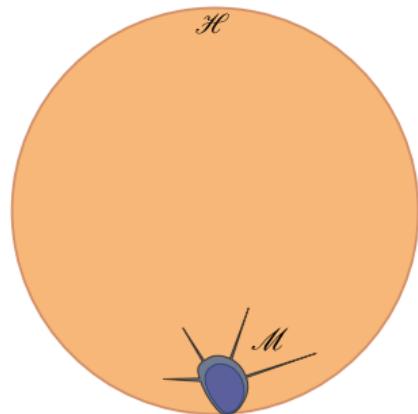
1. For gapped  $H$ , tensor network states  $|A\rangle$  approximate well  $|0\rangle$  with  $\chi$  fixed
2. All  $|A\rangle$  are ground states of gapped  $H$

# Some facts

$d = 1$  spatial dimension



$d \geq 2$  spatial dimension



## Theorems (colloquially)

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## Folklore

1. For gapped  $H$ , tensor network states  $|A\rangle$  approximate well  $|0\rangle$  with  $x$  fixed
2. **Most**  $|A\rangle$  are ground states of gapped  $H$

# Limitations

## Hard to contract in $d \geq 2$

In  $d \geq 2$  one can have:

- ▶  $|A\rangle$  known
- ▶  $\langle A|\hat{\Theta}_i\hat{\Theta}_j|A\rangle$  hard to compute exactly

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Generally hard to interpret

- ▶ Tensor carries IR-irrelevant information
- ▶ Hard to constrain long distance behavior

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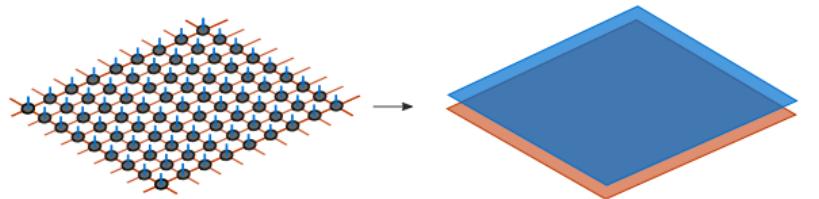
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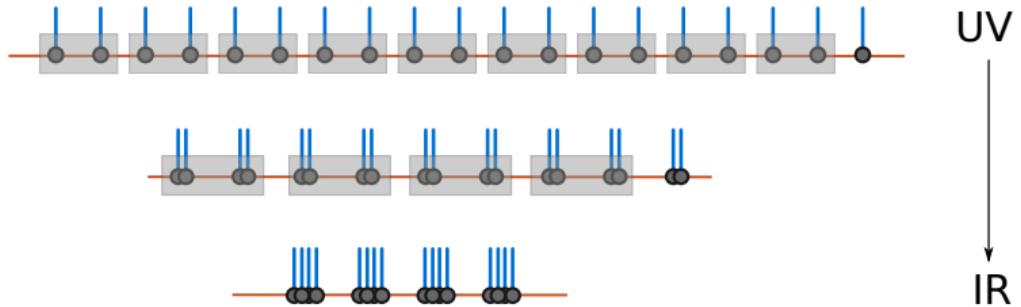
- ▶ Tensor carries IR-irrelevant information
- ▶ Hard to constrain long distance behavior

⇒ Go to the continuum and **QFT**: Major objective and challenge



# Continuous Matrix Product states

[Verstraete & Cirac 2010]: continuum limit of Matrix Product States ( $d = 1$  tensor networks)

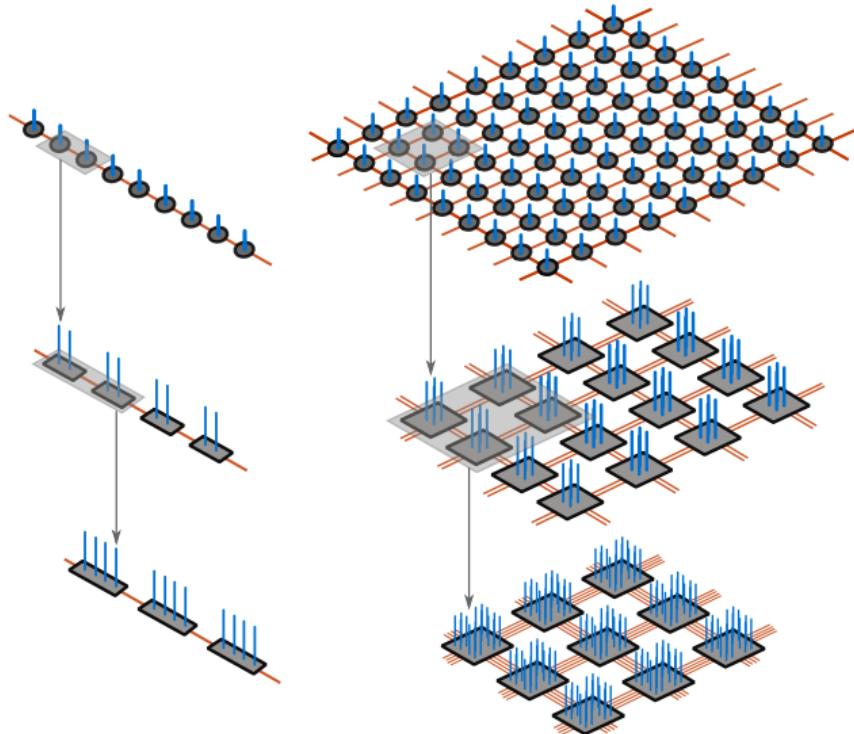


Works for Lieb-Liniger model (boson with contact interactions),  $\phi^4$ , etc.

**Best method on the market** for  $1+1$  QFT

But no version for  $d+1$  QFT, even “no-go” theorems

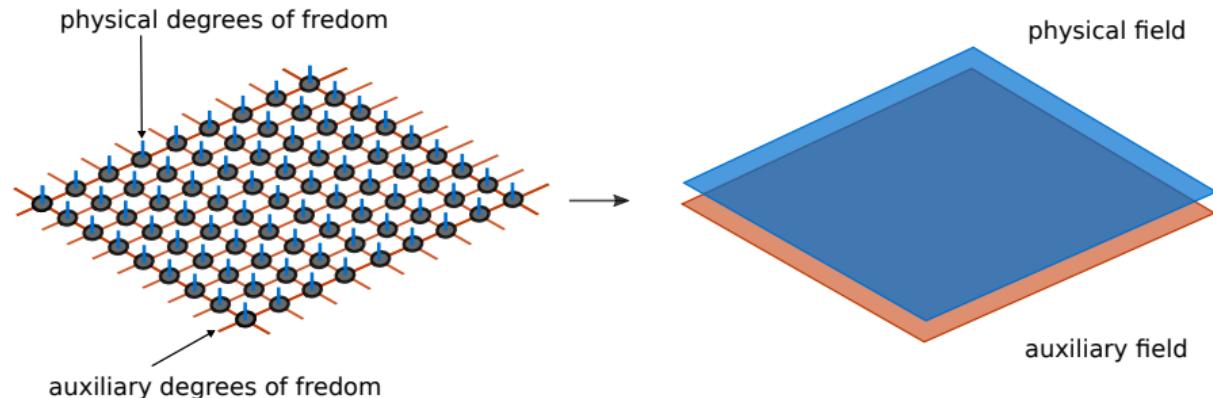
# Continuous Tensor Networks: blocking



Upon **blocking**:

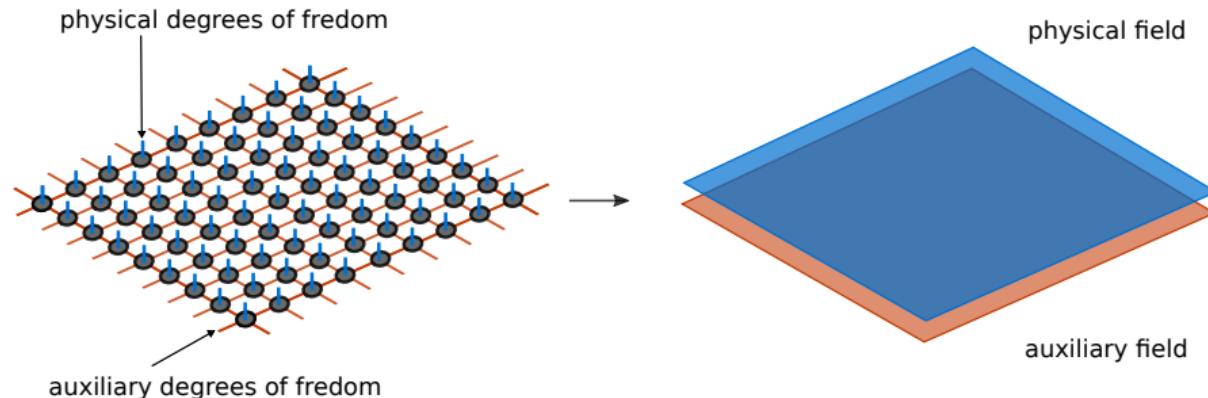
- ◊ The **physical** Hilbert space dimension  $D$  increases
- ◊ The **bond** (auxiliary space) dimension  $x$  increases too

# Result



AT, J. I. Cirac, *Phys. Rev. X* 2019 (in print)

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AT, J. I. Cirac, *Phys. Rev. X* 2019 (in print)

## Continuous tensor network state (heuristically)

State  $|\alpha\rangle$  of  $d+1$  QFT from an auxiliary  $d$  dimensional theory of random fields  $\phi$ :

$$|\alpha\rangle = \int \mathcal{D}\phi \exp \left\{ - \int d^d x \mathcal{L}[\phi(x)] - \alpha[\phi(x)] \hat{\psi}^\dagger(x) \right\} |\Omega\rangle$$

1. Genuine continuum limit of discrete tensor networks
2. The toolbox is translated to the continuum

# Future

**Reopens** the field after 8 years of only  $d = 1$

So far, success **expected** from success in the discrete and continuous  $d = 1$

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New **non-perturbative** method, how will it fare?

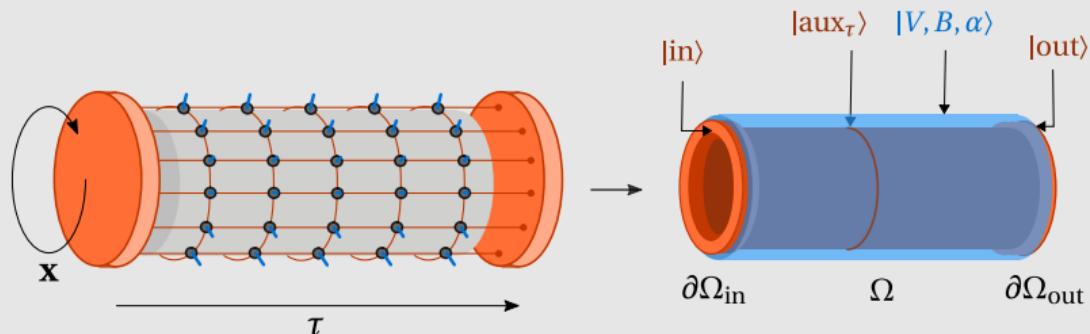
# Future

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## Continuous tensor network states (cTNS) for dimensional reduction

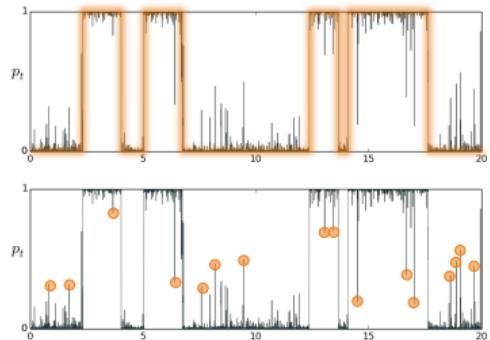


Contracting a cTNS in  $2d$  = Solving  $\chi$  field theories in  $1d$  = Optimizing  $\chi$  cTNS in  $1d$

*One can trade a dimension for a variational optimization*

# Summary: 2 fields, 2 main results

## Continuous quantum measurement

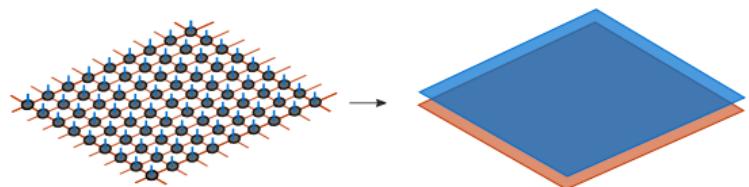


Mathematical understanding of stochastic dynamics to help control quantum systems in the lab

### Main results:

- ▶ Quantum jumps
- ▶ Spikes

## Tensor networks for QFT



Extend a powerful **variational method** from the lattice to the continuum

### Main results:

- ▶ An ansatz of continuous tensor network state
- ▶ Promising non-perturbative methods for QFT

## Bonus slides

-

# Matrix product states

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n} c_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n} |i_1, \dots, i_n\rangle$$

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## Matrix Product States (MPS)

$$|A, L, R\rangle = \sum_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n} \langle L | A_{i_1}(1) A_{i_2}(2) \cdots A_{i_n}(n) | R \rangle |i_1, \dots, i_n\rangle$$

- $A_i$  are  $D \times D$  complex matrices
- $A$  is a  $2 \times D \times D$  tensor  $[A_i]_{k,l}$
- $|L\rangle$  and  $|R\rangle$  are  $D$ -vectors.

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**Remark:** actually equivalent with the density matrix renormalization group (DMRG)

- ◊  $n \times 2 \times D^2$  parameters instead of  $2^n$
- ◊  $D$  is the **bond dimension** and encodes the size of the variational class

## Graphical notation

$$|A, L, R\rangle = \sum_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n} \langle L | A_{i_1}(1) A_{i_2}(2) \cdots A_{i_n}(n) | R \rangle |i_1, \dots, i_n\rangle$$

Notation:  $[A_i]_{k,l} = \text{---} \bullet \text{---}$  and  $k \text{---} l = \sum \delta_{k,l}$  gives:

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## Example: computation of correlations

$$\langle A | \mathcal{O}(i_k) \mathcal{O}(i_\ell) | A \rangle =$$

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$$\langle A | \mathcal{O}(i_k) \mathcal{O}(i_\ell) | A \rangle = \text{Diagram showing two pink diamond operators on a 2D grid of nodes. The grid has two horizontal rows of nodes, each with 10 nodes. The top row is connected by a red horizontal line, and the bottom row by a blue horizontal line. Vertical lines connect corresponding nodes in the two rows. Two pink diamond-shaped operators are placed on the grid: one at the 5th node of the top row and one at the 10th node of the bottom row. The grid is bounded by red lines on the left and right sides. The text '⟨ A | O(i_k) O(i_ℓ) | A ⟩ =' is written to the left of the grid.}$$

can be done efficiently by iterating 2 maps:

$$\Phi = \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ | \\ \text{---} \end{array} \quad \text{and} \quad \Phi_{\mathcal{O}} = \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ | \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array}$$

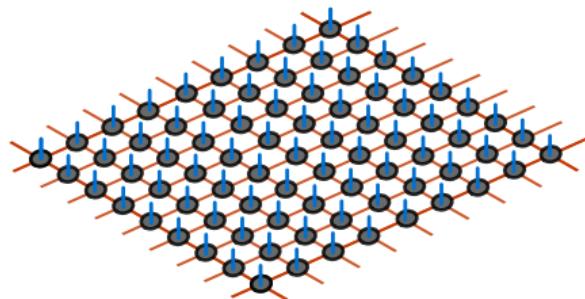
The contraction for a  $d = 1$  system, can be seen as an open-system dynamics in  $d = 0$ .

# Generalizations: different tensor networks

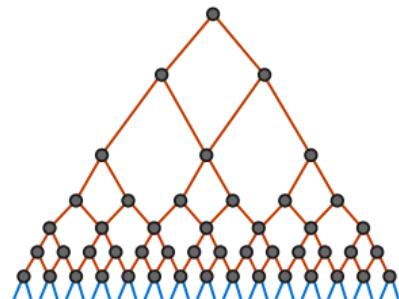
Matrix Product States (MPS)



Projected Entangled Pair States  
(PEPS)



Multi-scale Entanglement  
Renormalization Ansatz (MERA)



## Some facts

A list of theorems [very colloquially]:

- ▶ **Expressiveness** [trivial] Tensor Network States cover  $\mathcal{H}$  when  $D \propto 2^n$
- ▶ **Area law** The entanglement of a subregion of space scales as its area for a TNS
- ▶ **Efficiency** [gapped] Matrix Product States approximate well the ground states of gapped systems in 1 spatial dimension
- ▶ **Efficiency** [critical] Multi-scale Entanglement Renormalization Ansatz (MERA) approximate well the ground states of critical systems in 1 spatial dimension.
- ▶ **Symmetries** Physical symmetries can be implemented locally on the bond space
- ▶ **Inverse problem** TNS are the ground state of a local parent Hamiltonian

# Successes and limits

## Successes

- ♡ Arbitrary precision for  $1d$  quantum systems
- ♡ Classification of topological phases in  $1d$  and  $2d$
- ♡ Progress on non-Abelian lattice Gauge theories
- ♡ AdS/CFT toy models

## Limits

- ♠ Hard to contract in  $d \geq 2$
- ♠ No continuum limit in  $d \geq 2$
- ♠ Lack of analytic techniques

# Successes and limits

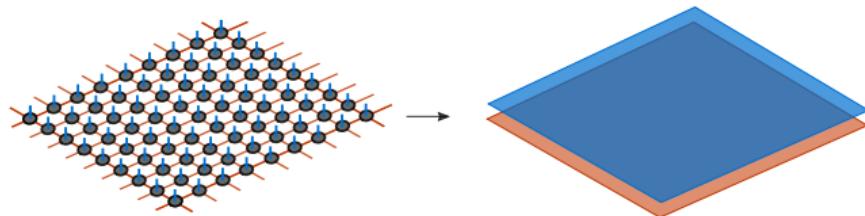
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*Can one apply tensor network techniques directly in the continuum, to QFT?*



# Lots of “Continuous tensor network” concepts

Tensor networks for quantum states  $|\psi\rangle$



MPS  $\rightarrow$  cMPS

[Verstraete & Cirac 2010]

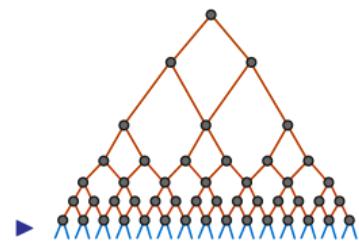
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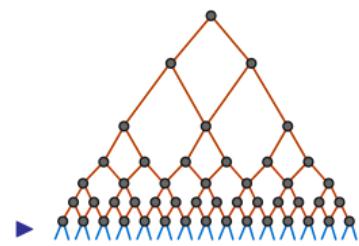
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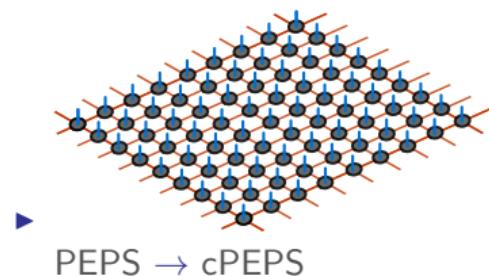
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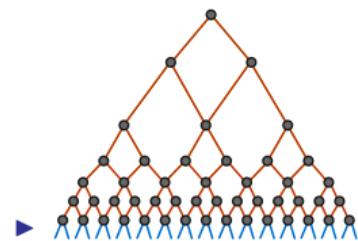
# Lots of “Continuous tensor network” concepts

## Tensor networks for quantum states $|\psi\rangle$



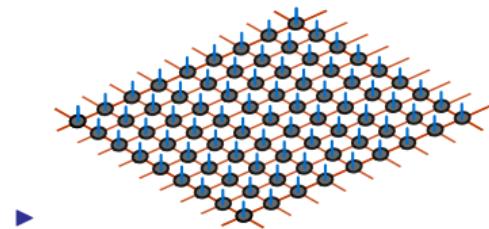
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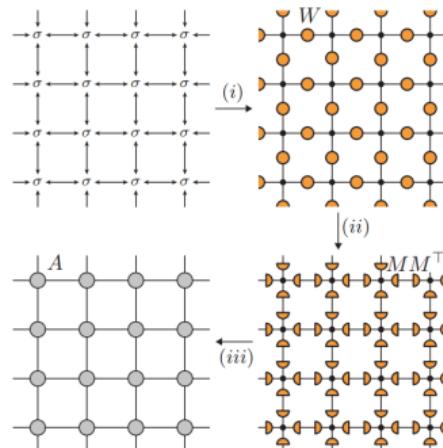


PEPS  $\rightarrow$  cPEPS

## Tensor networks for partition functions $Z(\beta)$

► StatMech in  $d$

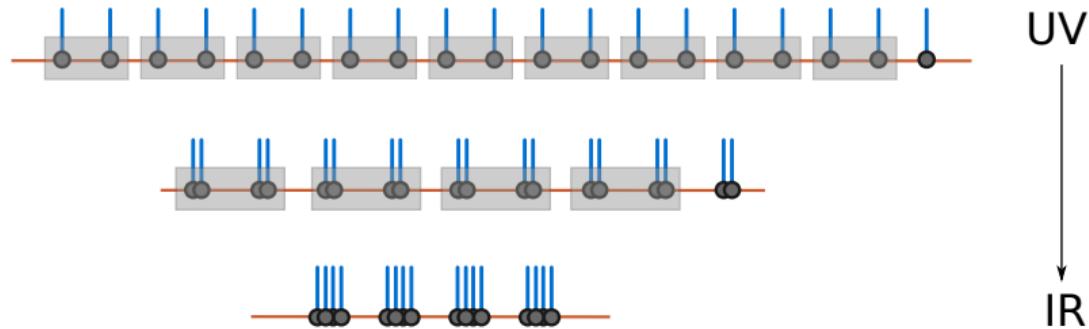
► Euclidean quantum in  $d + 1$



[Qi Hu et al. 2018]

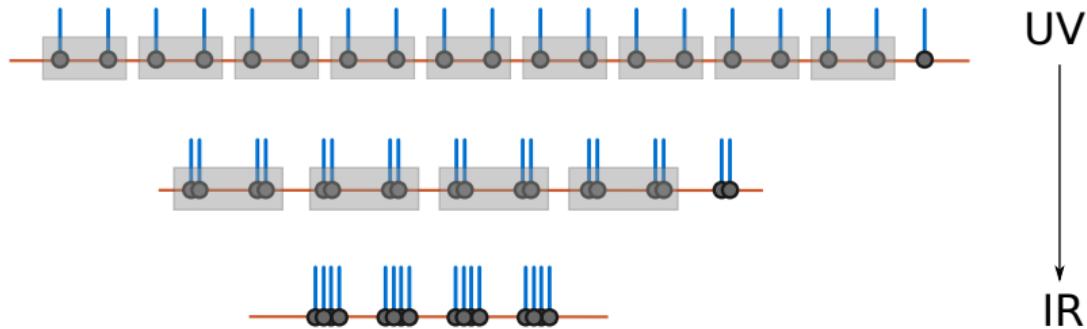
# Continuous Matrix Product States (cMPS)

Taking the continuum limit of a MPS



# Continuous Matrix Product States (cMPS)

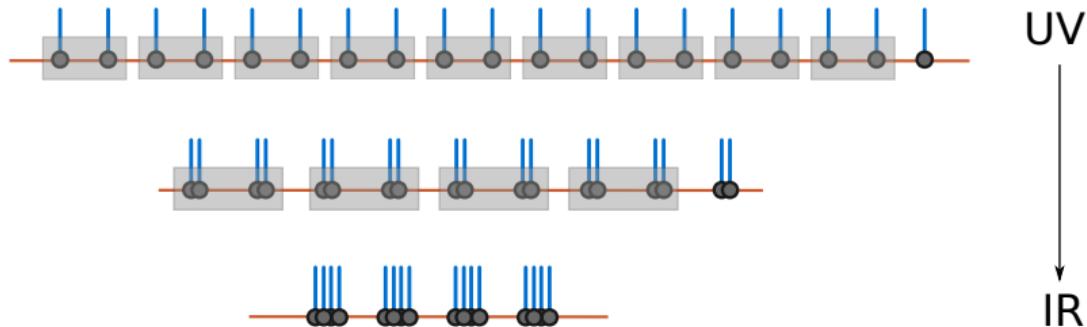
Taking the continuum limit of a MPS



- ▶ the bond dimension  $D$  stays fixed

# Continuous Matrix Product States (cMPS)

Taking the continuum limit of a MPS



- ▶ the bond dimension  $D$  stays fixed
- ▶ the local physical dimension explodes  $\mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \dots \otimes \mathbb{C}^2 \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}(L^2([x, x + dx]))$ .  
     $\implies$  Spins become fields – ( $\simeq$  central limit theorem  $\simeq$ )

# Continuous Matrix Product States

Type of ansatz for bosons on a fine grained  $d = 1$  lattice

- Matrices  $A_{i_k}(x)$  where the index  $i_k$  corresponds to  $\psi^{\dagger i_k}(x)|0\rangle$  in physical space.

## Informal cMPS definition

$$A_0 = \mathbb{1} + \varepsilon Q$$

$$A_1 = \varepsilon R$$

$$A_2 = \frac{(\varepsilon R)^2}{\sqrt{2}}$$

...

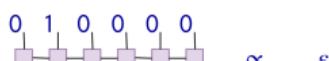
$$A_n = \frac{(\varepsilon R)^n}{\sqrt{n}}$$

...

so we go from  $\infty$  to 2 matrices

Fixed by:

- Finite particle number



- Consistency



# Continuous Matrix Product States

## Definition

$$|Q, R, \omega\rangle = \langle \omega_L | \mathcal{P} \exp \left\{ \int_0^L dx \ Q \otimes \mathbb{1} + R \otimes \psi^\dagger(x) \right\} | \omega_R \rangle |0\rangle$$

- $Q, R$  are  $D \times D$  matrices,
- $|\omega_L\rangle$  and  $|\omega_R\rangle$  are boundary vectors  $\in \mathbb{C}^D$ , for p.b.c.  $\langle \omega_L | \cdot | \omega_R \rangle \rightarrow \text{tr}[\cdot]$
- $[\psi(x), \psi^\dagger(y)] = \delta(x - y)$

Idea:

# Continuous Matrix Product States

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Idea:

$$\begin{aligned} A(x) &\simeq A_0 \mathbb{1} + A_1 \psi^\dagger(x) \\ &\simeq \mathbb{1} \otimes \mathbb{1} + \varepsilon Q \otimes \mathbb{1} + \varepsilon R \otimes \psi^\dagger(x) \\ &\simeq \exp [\varepsilon (Q \otimes \mathbb{1} + R \otimes \psi^\dagger(x))] \end{aligned}$$

# Computations

Some correlation functions

$$\langle \hat{\psi}(x)^\dagger \hat{\psi}(x) \rangle = \text{Tr} [e^{TL} (R \otimes \bar{R})]$$

$$\langle \hat{\psi}(x)^\dagger \hat{\psi}(0)^\dagger \hat{\psi}(0) \hat{\psi}(x) \rangle = \text{Tr} [e^{T(L-x)} (R \otimes \bar{R}) e^{Tx} (R \otimes \bar{R})]$$

$$\langle \hat{\psi}(x)^\dagger \left[ -\frac{d^2}{dx^2} \right] \hat{\psi}(x) \rangle = \text{Tr} [e^{TL} ([Q, R] \otimes [\bar{Q}, \bar{R}])]$$

with  $T = Q \otimes \mathbb{1} + \mathbb{1} \otimes \bar{Q} + R \otimes \bar{R}$

## Example

Lieb-Liniger Hamiltonian

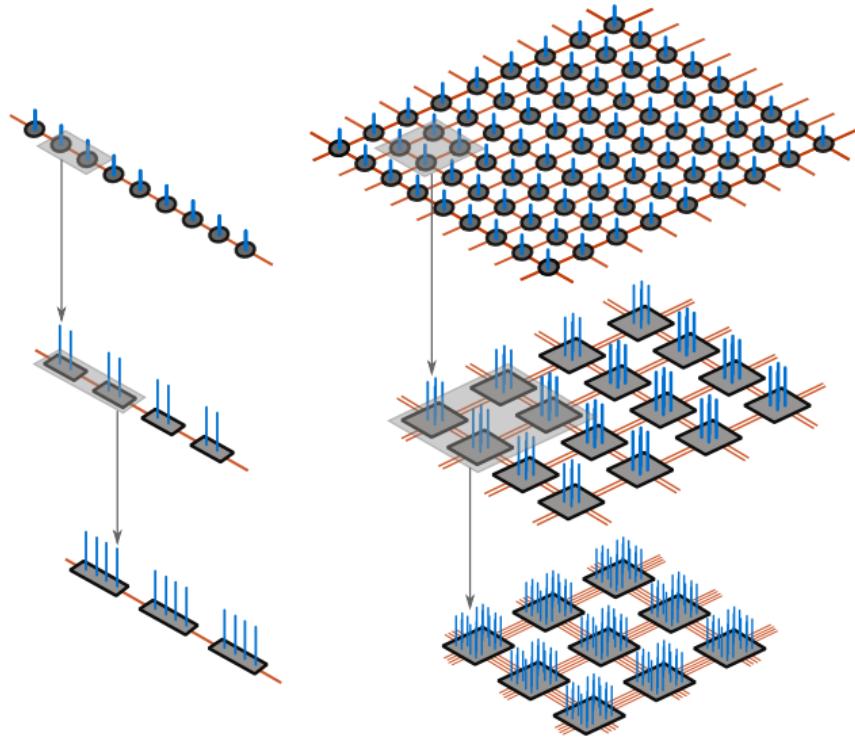
$$\mathcal{H} = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dx \left[ \frac{d\hat{\psi}^\dagger(x)}{dx} \frac{d\hat{\psi}(x)}{dx} + c \hat{\psi}^\dagger(x) \hat{\psi}^\dagger(x) \hat{\psi}(x) \hat{\psi}(x) \right]$$

Solve by **minimizing**:

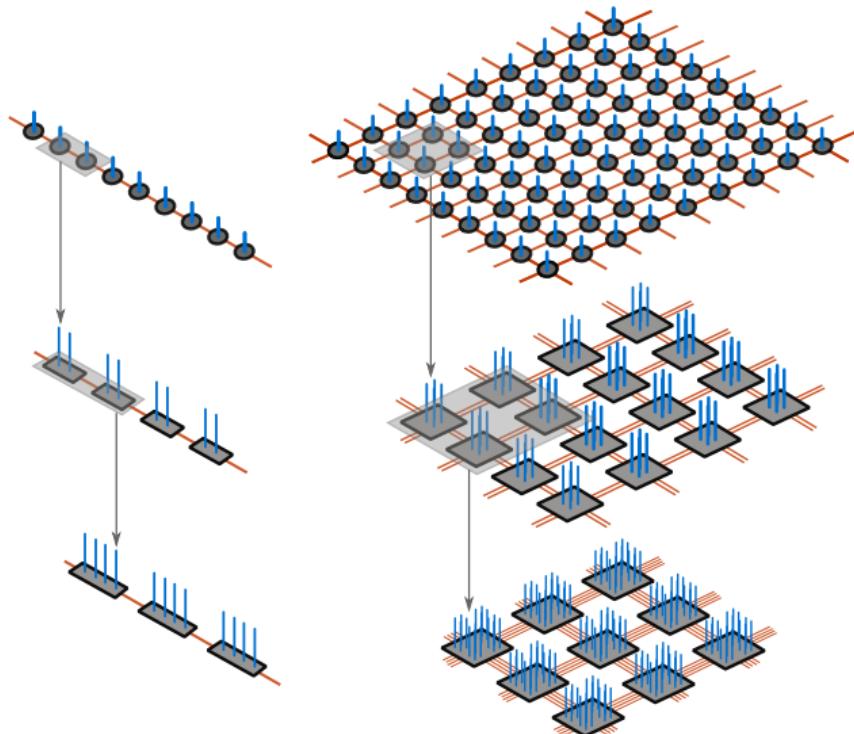
$$\langle Q, R | \mathcal{H} | Q, R \rangle = f(Q, R)$$

with fixed particle density  $\langle Q, R | \psi^\dagger(x) \psi(x) | Q, R \rangle$ .

# Continuous Tensor Networks: blocking



# Continuous Tensor Networks: blocking



Upon blocking:

- ♣ The **physical** Hilbert space dimension  $d$  increases (idem cMPS  $\implies$  physical field)
- ♣ The **bond** dimension  $D$  increases too

## Choice of trivial tensor

For **MPS**, not much choice:


$$\begin{aligned} \text{---} \bullet \text{---} &= \text{---} + \varepsilon \dots \\ &= \mathbb{1} \otimes |0\rangle + \varepsilon Q \otimes |0\rangle + \varepsilon R \otimes \psi^\dagger(x) |0\rangle \end{aligned}$$

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For **TNS** in  $d \geq 2$ , many options:

1. Take a  $\delta$  between all legs  $\sim$  GHZ state  $T^{(0)} = \cancel{\text{---}}$   
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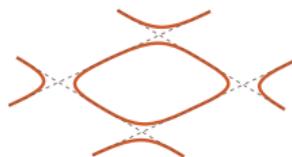
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3. Take the sum of pairs of identities in both directions  $T^{(0)} = \cancel{\text{---}} + \cancel{\text{---}}$



# Ansatz

1 – Take a “Trivial” tensor:

$$T_{\phi(1), \phi(2), \phi(3), \phi(4)}^{(0)} = \begin{array}{c} \phi(2) \quad \phi(3) \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \phi(1) \quad \phi(4) \end{array}$$
$$\sim \exp \left\{ \frac{-1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^D [\phi_k(1) - \phi_k(2)]^2 + [\phi_k(2) - \phi_k(3)]^2 \right. \\ \left. + [\phi_k(3) - \phi_k(4)]^2 + [\phi_k(4) - \phi_k(1)]^2 \right\}$$

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2 – And add a “correction”:

$$\exp \left\{ -\varepsilon^2 V [\phi(1), \dots, \phi(4)] + \varepsilon^2 \alpha [\phi(1), \dots, \phi(4)] \Psi^\dagger(x) \right\}$$

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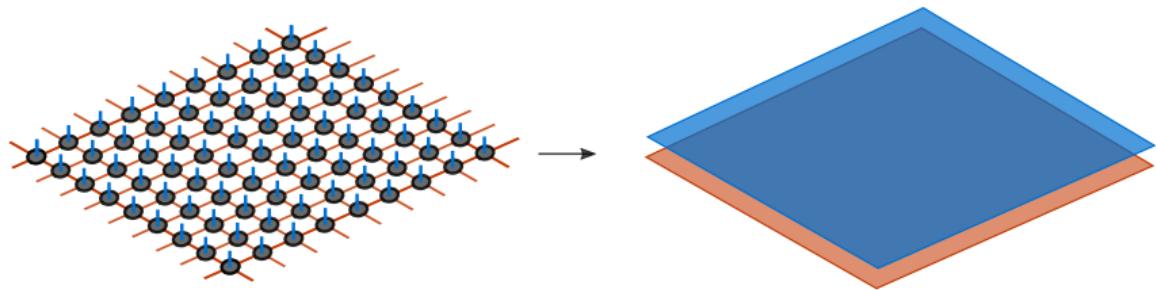
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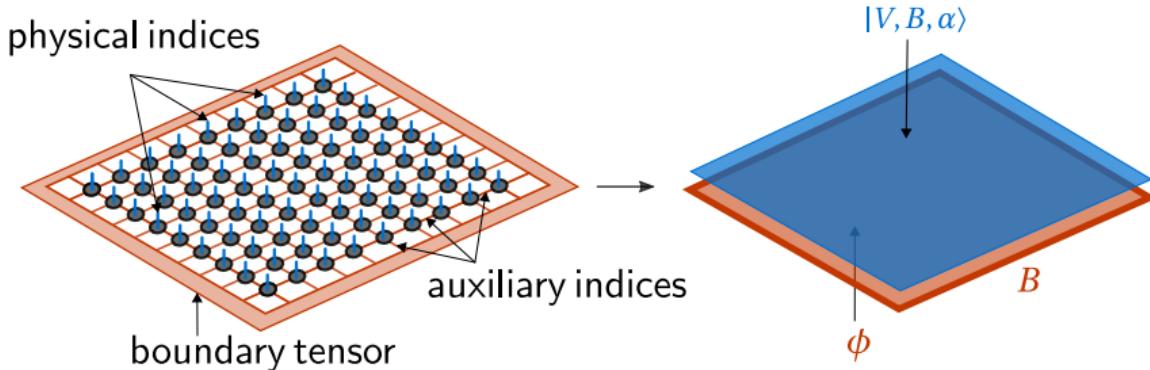
3 – Realize tensor contraction = functional integral and trivial tensor gives free field measure.

## Functional integral definition



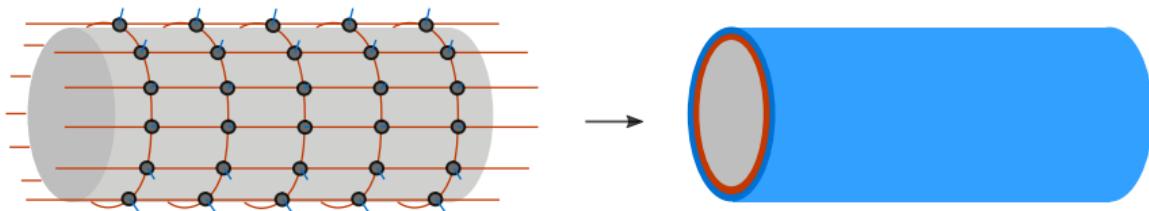
$$|V, \alpha\rangle = \int \mathcal{D}\phi \exp \left\{ - \int_{\Omega} d^d x \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^D [\nabla \phi_k(x)]^2 + V[\phi(x)] - \alpha[\phi(x)] \hat{\psi}^\dagger(x) \right\} |0\rangle$$

# Functional integral definition



$$|V, B, \alpha\rangle = \int \mathcal{D}\phi \, B(\phi|_{\partial\Omega}) \exp \left\{ - \int_{\Omega} d^d x \, \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^D [\nabla \phi_k(x)]^2 + V[\phi(x)] - \alpha[\phi(x)] \psi^\dagger(x) \right\} |0\rangle$$

# Operator definition



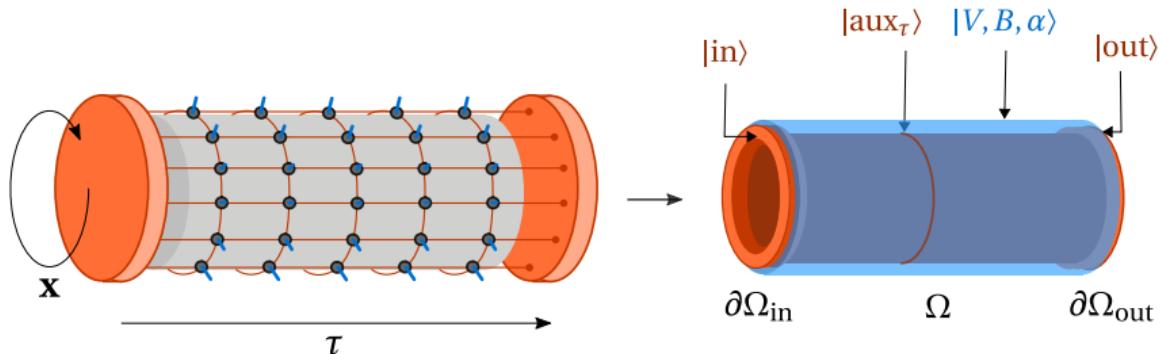
$|V, \alpha\rangle =$

$$\text{tr} \left[ \mathcal{T} \exp \left( - \int_0^T d\tau \int_S dx \frac{\hat{\pi}_k(x) \hat{\pi}_k(x)}{2} + \frac{\nabla \hat{\phi}_k(x) \nabla \hat{\phi}_k(x)}{2} + V[\hat{\phi}(x)] - \alpha[\hat{\phi}(x)] \psi^\dagger(\tau, x) \right) \right] |0\rangle$$

where:

- $\hat{\phi}_k(x)$  and  $\hat{\pi}_k(x)$  are  $k$  independent canonically conjugated pairs of (auxiliary) field operators:  $[\hat{\phi}_k(x), \hat{\phi}_l(y)] = 0$ ,  $[\hat{\pi}(x)_k, \hat{\pi}_l(y)] = 0$ , and  $[\hat{\phi}_k(x), \hat{\pi}_l(y)] = i\delta_{k,l} \delta(x - y)$  acting on a space of  $d - 1$  dimensions.

# Operator definition



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# Wave-function definition

A generic state  $|\Psi\rangle$  in Fock space can be written:

$$|\Psi\rangle = \sum_{n=0}^{+\infty} \int_{\Omega^n} \frac{\varphi_n(x_1, \dots, x_n)}{n!} \psi^\dagger(x_1) \dots \psi^\dagger(x_n) |0\rangle$$

where  $\varphi_n$  is a symmetric  $n$ -particle wave-function

## Functional integral representation

$$\varphi_n(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \langle \alpha[\phi(x_1)] \dots \alpha[\phi(x_n)] \rangle_{\text{aux}}$$

with:

$$\langle \cdot \rangle_{\text{aux}} = \int \mathcal{D}\phi \cdot B(\phi|_{\partial\Omega}) \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} d^d x [\nabla \phi_k(x)]^2 + V[\phi(x)] \right]$$

- ~ Moore-Read wave-function for Quantum Hall, but generic QFT

# Expressivity and stability

How big are cTNS?

## Stability

The sum of two cTNS of bond field dimension  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  is a cTNS with bond field dimension  $D \leq D_1 + D_2 + 1$ :

$$|V_1, \alpha_1\rangle + |V_2, \alpha_2\rangle = |W, \beta\rangle$$

## Expressiveness

All states in the Fock space can be approximated by cTNS:

- ▶ A field coherent state is a cTNS with  $D = 0$
- ▶ Stability allows to get all sums of field coherent states

**Note:** expressiveness can also be obtained with  $D = 1$  but it is less natural. Flexibility in  $D$  makes the expressivity higher for restricted classes of  $V$  and  $\alpha$ .

# Computations

Define generating functional for normal ordered correlation functions

$$Z_{j',j} = \frac{1}{\langle V, \alpha | V, \alpha \rangle} \langle V, \alpha | \exp \left( \int dx j'(x) \psi^\dagger(x) \right) \exp \left( \int dx j(x) \psi(x) \right) | V, \alpha \rangle$$

## Operator representation

$$Z_{j',j} = \text{tr} \left[ B \otimes B^* \mathcal{T} \exp \left\{ \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} \left( T_{j'j} - \int_S j \cdot j' \right) \right\} \right]$$

with **transfer matrix**:

$$T_{j'j} = \int_S dx \mathcal{H}(x) \otimes \mathbb{1} + \mathbb{1} \otimes \mathcal{H}^*(x) + \left( \alpha[\hat{\phi}(x)] + j'(x) \right) \otimes \left( \alpha[\hat{\phi}(x)]^* + j(x) \right)$$

and

$$\mathcal{H}(x) = \sum_{k=1}^D \frac{[\hat{\pi}_k(x)]^2 + [\nabla \hat{\phi}_k(x)]^2}{2} + V[\hat{\phi}(x)]$$

⇒ cMPS brought us from 1 to 0, cTNS bring us from  $d$  to  $d-1$ .

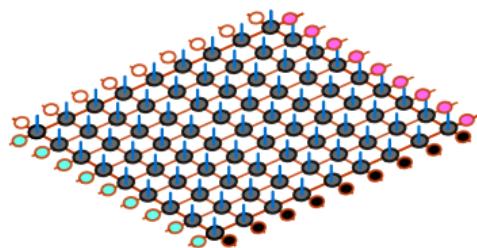
# Redundancies

## Discrete redundancy

Different elementary tensors are **equivalent**,  
they give the same state:

The diagram illustrates the equivalence of different tensor configurations. At the top, two tensor nodes are shown: one with three orange lines and one with four lines (one blue, one orange, one pink, one black). A blue tilde symbol ( $\sim$ ) indicates they are equivalent. Below this, two simplification rules are given: a tensor node with two lines (one orange with a dot, one pink) is equivalent to a single orange line, and a tensor node with one line (orange with a dot) and one line (black with a dot) is equivalent to a single blue line.

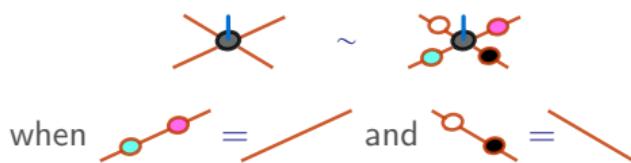
up to **boundary** terms:



# Redundancies

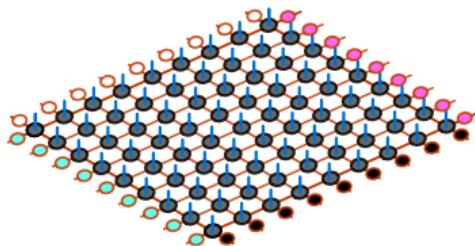
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when  =  and  = 

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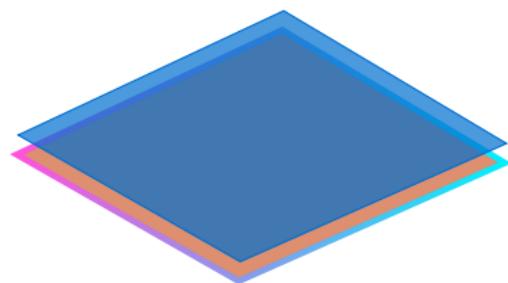


## Continuum redundancy

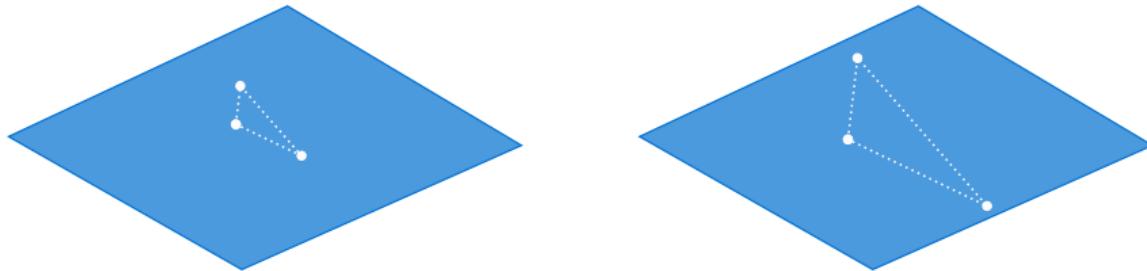
$$V(\phi) \rightarrow V(\phi) + \nabla \cdot \mathcal{F}[x, \phi(x)]$$

Just Stokes' theorem. If  $\Omega$  has a boundary  $\partial\Omega$ :

$$\mathcal{D}[\phi] \rightarrow \mathcal{D}[\phi] \exp \left\{ \oint_{\partial\Omega} d^{d-1}x \mathcal{F}[x, \phi(x)] \cdot \mathbf{n}(x) \right\}$$



# Rescaling

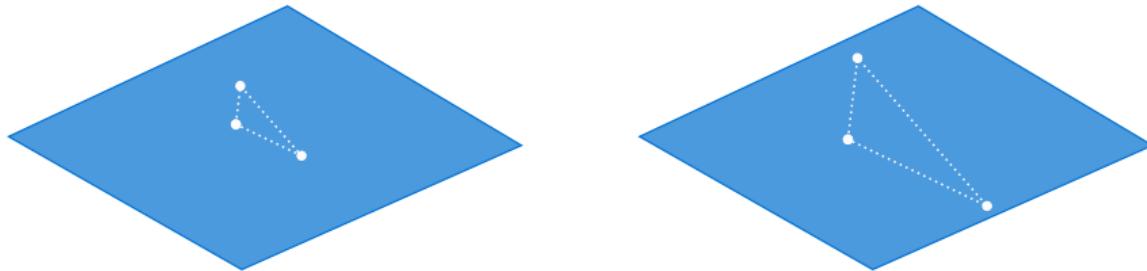


$$C(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \langle T(1) | \mathcal{O}(x_1) \dots \mathcal{O}(x_n) | T(1) \rangle,$$

the objective is to find a tensor  $T(\lambda)$  of new parameters such that:

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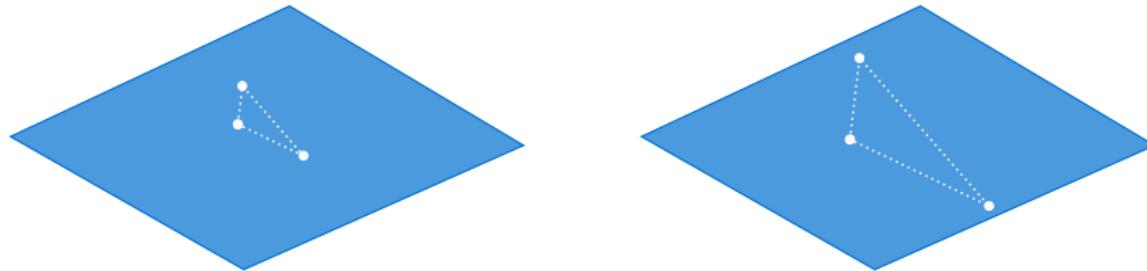
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Doable exactly:

$$V \rightarrow \lambda^d V \circ \lambda^{\frac{2-d}{2}} \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha \rightarrow \lambda^{\frac{d}{2}} \alpha \circ \lambda^{\frac{2-d}{2}}$$

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- $d = 2$ , All powers of the field in  $V$  and  $\alpha$  yield relevant couplings
- $d = 3$ , The powers  $p = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$  of the field in  $V$  yield relevant  $\Delta > 0$  couplings.  $p = 6$  is marginal in  $V$ . For  $\alpha$ ,  $p = 1, 2$  are relevant and  $p = 3$  is marginal. All other  $p$  are irrelevant.

# Renormalization

## Scaling

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For finite bond field dimension in  $d = 3$ , finite number of parameters for **renormalized** cTNS:

$$V(\phi) = A\phi + B\phi\phi + C\phi\phi\phi + D\phi\phi\phi\phi + E\phi\phi\phi\phi\phi + F\phi\phi\phi\phi\phi\phi$$

$$\alpha(\phi) = X\phi + Y\phi\phi + Z\phi\phi\phi$$

Proper renormalization procedure not checked yet

# Getting back cMPS

One can get back cMPS with finite bond dimension by:

1. **Compactification** Take  $d - 1$  dimensions out of  $d$  to be very small



$$|V, B, \alpha\rangle \simeq \text{tr} \left[ \hat{B} \mathcal{T} \exp \left( - \int_0^T d\tau \sum_{k=1}^D \frac{\hat{P}_k^2}{2} + V[\hat{X}] - \alpha[\hat{X}] \psi^\dagger(\tau) \right) \right] |0\rangle$$

⇒ Hilbert space of a quantum particle in  $D$  space dimensions.

2. **Quantization** Take  $V$  with  $D$  deep minima to force the auxiliary field to take only  $D$  possibilities

## Generalization

For a general Riemannian manifold  $\mathcal{M}$  with boundary  $\partial\mathcal{M}$ , define:

$$|V, B, \alpha\rangle = \int \mathcal{D}\phi B(\phi|_{\partial\mathcal{M}}) \exp \left\{ - \int_{\mathcal{M}} d^d x \sqrt{g} \left( \frac{g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi_k \partial_\nu \phi_k}{2} + V[\phi, \nabla \phi] - \alpha[\phi, \nabla \phi] \psi^\dagger \right) \right\} |0\rangle$$

i.e. add curvature and possible anisotropies in  $V$  and  $\alpha$

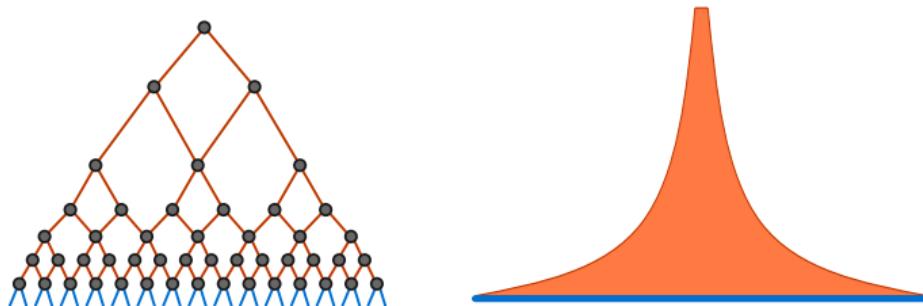
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**Example:**  $\alpha[x, \phi, \nabla \phi]$  localized on the boundary and hyperbolic metric  $g$ :



→ cMERA-like in  $d - 1$  dimensions

# Future

## Limitations and work for the future

- ▶ Quite formal out of the Gaussian regime
- ▶ Computation through dimensional reduction not trivial
- ▶ Limited to bosonic field theories (so far)
- ▶ Gauge invariant states
- ▶ Can one say anything about topology?

# Summary

$$|V, B, \alpha\rangle = \int \mathcal{D}\phi \, B(\phi|_{\partial\Omega}) \exp \left\{ - \int_{\Omega} d^d x \, \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^D [\nabla \phi_k(x)]^2 + V[\phi(x)] - \alpha[\phi(x)] \psi^\dagger(x) \right\} |0\rangle$$

Continuous tensor network states are natural continuum limits of tensor network states and natural higher  $d$  extensions of continuous matrix product states.

1. Obtained from discrete tensor networks
2. Can be made Euclidean invariant
3. **Motto of tensor networks:** trade a dimension for a variational optimization
4. Still need to be properly renormalized (in perturbative and RG sense)
5. Still needs to be used to approximate non-trivial non-Gaussian ground states

