

# Is quantum computation helpful for approximating partition functions?

Fernando G.S.L. Brandão and Martin B. Plenio

Madrid, 28/05/2008

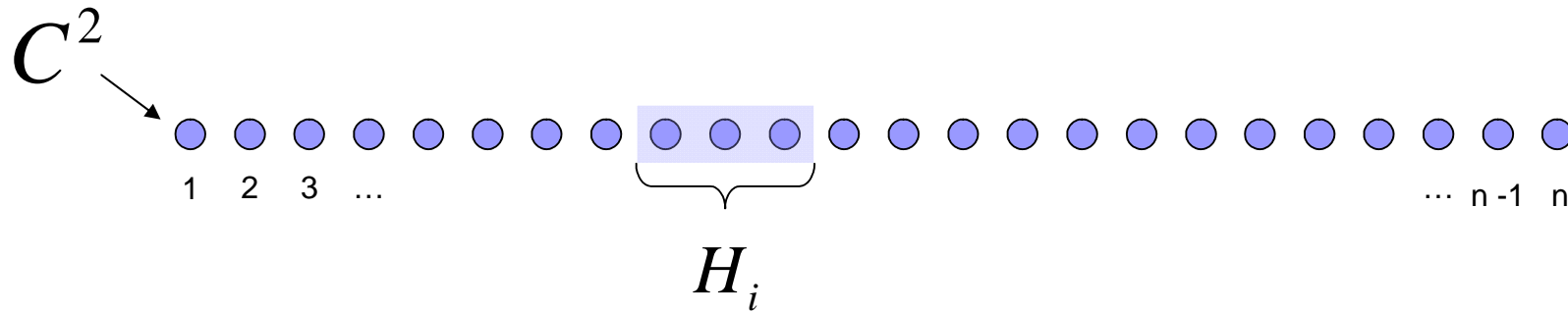
**Imperial College**  
London



Institute for  
**Mathematical Sciences**



# Partition Function

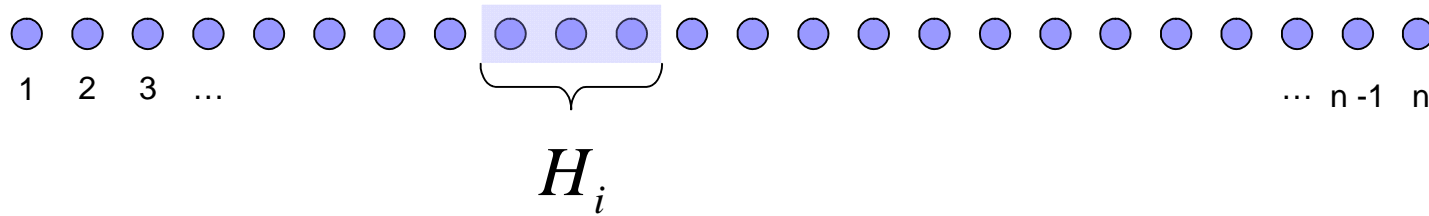


- Local Hamiltonian:  $H = \sum_{k=1}^{POLY(n)} H_i \quad \| H_i \| = O(1)$

- Partition function:  $Z(H, \beta) = \text{tr}(e^{-\beta H}) = \sum_k e^{-\beta \lambda_k(H)}$

# Partition Function

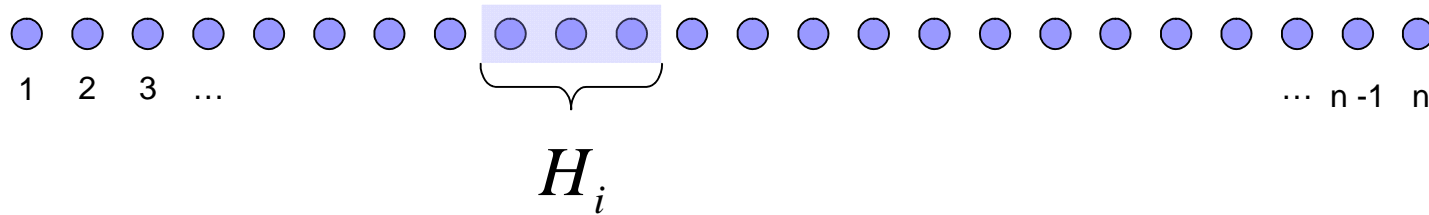
$$H = \sum_{k=1}^{POLY(n)} H_k$$



- How hard it is to calculate partition functions ?

# Partition Function

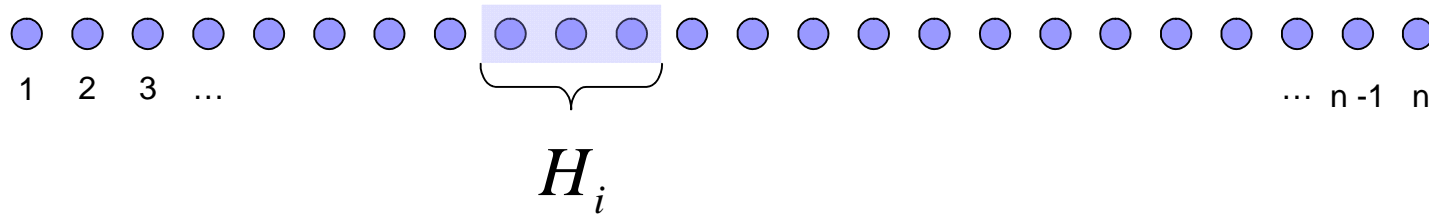
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- How hard it is to calculate partition functions ?
- Local classical Hamiltonians: #P-hard
- How about approximations?

# Partition Function

$$H = \sum_{k=1}^{POLY(n)} H_k$$



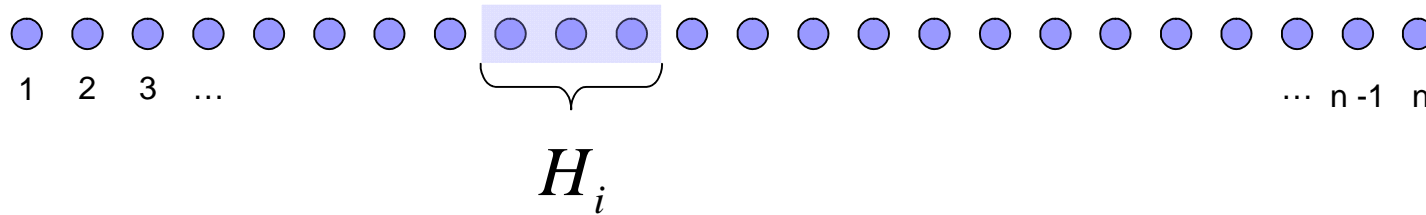
- Multiplicative approximation: Find a  $\chi$  such that with high probability

$$|Z(H, \beta) - \chi| \leq Z(H, \beta) \varepsilon$$

- Efficiency: should be polynomial in  $n$  and  $\varepsilon$

# Partition Function

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- Multiplicative approximation: Find a  $\chi$  such that with high probability

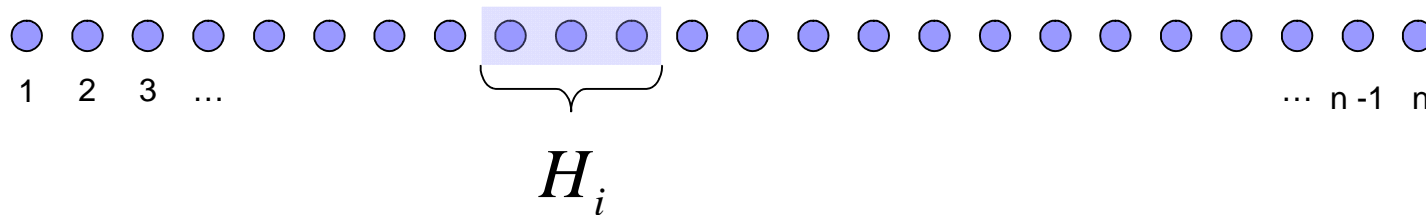
$$|Z(H, \beta) - \chi| \leq Z(H, \beta)\epsilon$$

- NP-hard even for classical local Hamiltonians...
- Intractable both for classical and quantum computation

Unless  $NP \subseteq BQP$

# Partition Function

$$H = \sum_{k=1}^{POLY(n)} H_i$$



- *Additive approximation*: Find a  $\chi$  such that with high probability

$$|Z(H, \beta) - \chi| \leq \Delta \varepsilon$$

- $\Delta(n)$  : additive window of the approximation
- For  $\Delta$  too large the approximation is trivial...



# Partition Function

Is a quantum computer helpful for approximating partition functions?

- Old question, no substantial progress for a long time

Lidar&Biham, PRE 97      Lidar NJP 04



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- Recently, intriguing polynomial quantum algorithms for additive approx. of classical partition functions:

Aharonov, Arad, Eban, Landau 07  
Arad&Landau 08

Bravyi&Raussendorf PRA 2007  
Van den Nest, Dür, Briegel PRL 07, PRL 08  
Bombin&Martin-Delgado 07

} Implicit  
quantum  
algorithms

Van den Nest, Dür, Raussendorf, Briegel 08

# Partition Function

Is a quantum computer helpful for approximating partition functions?

- Are these algorithms non-trivial? Can we compute the same approximation on a classical computer?

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Is a quantum computer helpful for approximating partition functions?

- Are these algorithms non-trivial? Can we compute the same approximation on a classical computer?
  - For Hamiltonians with *complex* couplings:  
**BQP-complete** approximations!

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# Partition Function

Is a quantum computer helpful for approximating partition functions?

- Are these algorithms non-trivial? I.e. can we compute the same approximation on a classical computer?
- For classical Hamiltonians with *complex* couplings:  
**BQP-complete** approximations!
- How about for physical parameters?

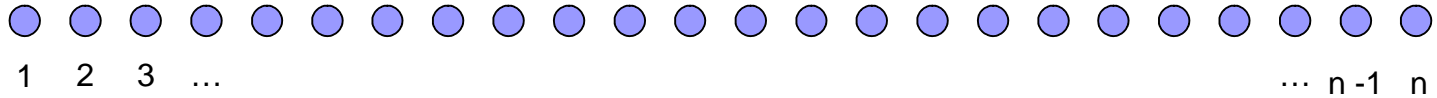


## Next 10 Minutes

1. Quantum algorithm for additive approximations of *quantum* local Hamiltonians
2. Non-triviality proof: problem solved is *complete* for the one-clean-qubit model of quantum computation (DQC1)
3. DQC1-complete algorithms for estimating the *spectrum density* of local quantum Hamiltonians (time permitting)

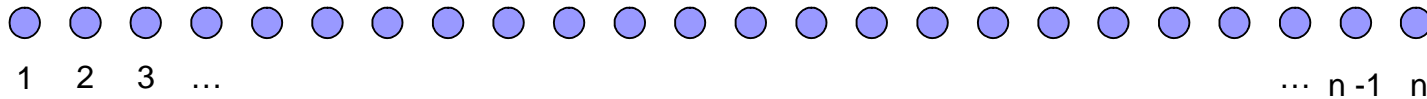


## Classical Algorithm for additive approximation of classical Hamiltonian partition functions



- For classical Hamiltonians it is easy to sample from  $\{\lambda_k(H)\}$  with uniform probability

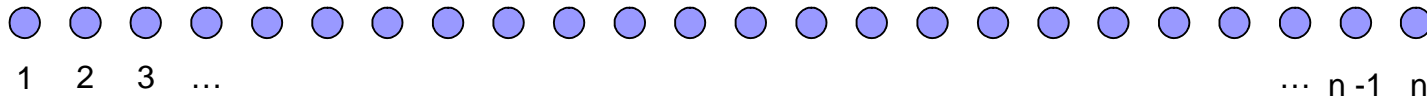
## Classical Algorithm for additive approximation of classical Hamiltonian partition functions



- For classical Hamiltonians it is easy to sample from  $\{\lambda_k(H)\}$  with uniform probability
- Pick  $\lambda^1, \lambda^2, \dots, \lambda^r$  at random from  $\{\lambda_k(H)\}$  and compute

$$\chi_r = \frac{1}{r} \sum_{k=1}^r e^{-\beta \lambda^k}$$

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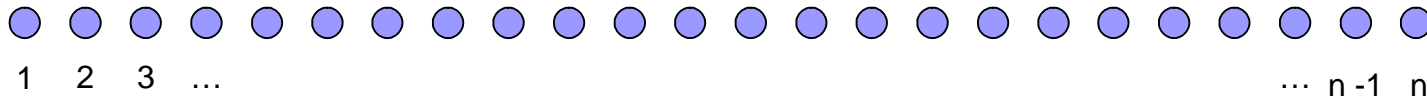
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$$\overline{\chi_r} = \frac{1}{2^n} \sum_{k=1}^{2^n} e^{-\beta \lambda_k(H)} = \frac{Z(H, \beta)}{Z(H, \infty)}$$



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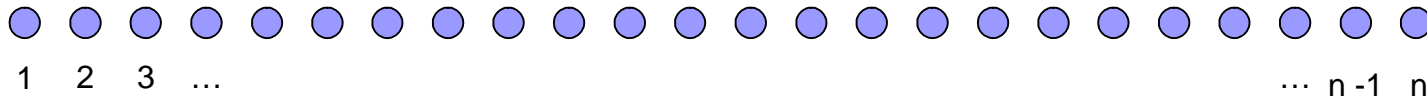
$$\chi_r = \frac{1}{r} \sum_{k=1}^r e^{-\beta \lambda^k} \quad \overline{\chi_r} = \frac{1}{2^n} \sum_{k=1}^{2^n} e^{-\beta \lambda_k(H)} = \frac{Z(H, \beta)}{Z(H, \infty)}$$

- By Hoeffding's inequality

$$\Pr \left( \left| \chi_r - \frac{Z(H, \beta)}{Z(H, \infty)} \right| \geq \varepsilon \right) \leq e^{-r\varepsilon^2}$$



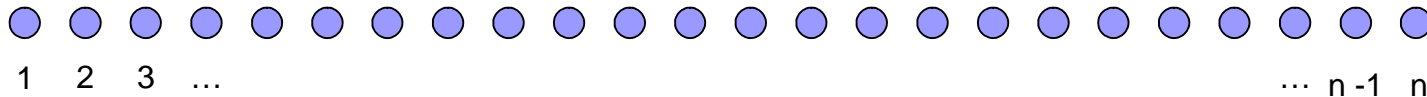
## Quantum Algorithm for additive approximation of quantum Hamiltonian partition functions



- For quantum Hamiltonians it is **not** easy to sample from  $\{\lambda_k(H)\}$  with uniform probability *in a classical computer*
- But in a quantum computer we can do it. **Phase estimation algorithm:**  
(*Input*) unitary  $U$  with polynomially many one- and two-qubit gates and a  $|u\rangle$  s.t.  $U|u\rangle = e^{i\pi\theta}|u\rangle$   
(*Output*) an approximation to  $\theta$  with accuracy  $1/\text{POLY}(n)$

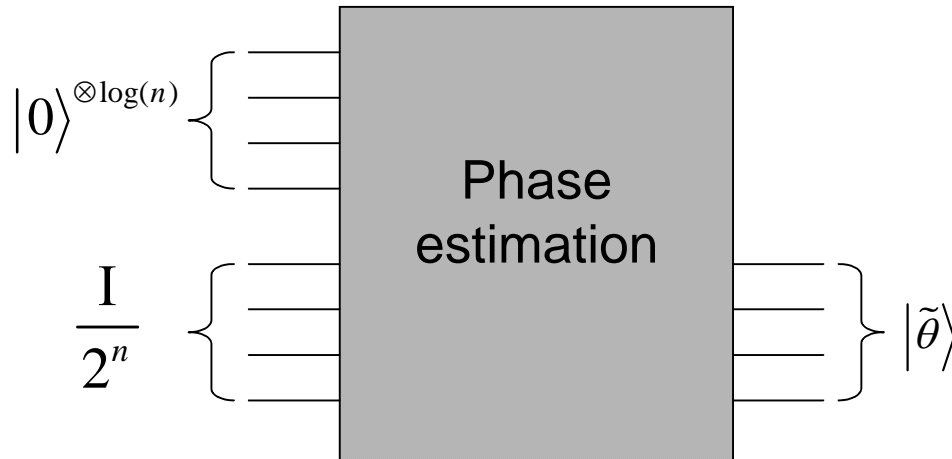


# Quantum Algorithm for additive approximation of quantum Hamiltonian partition functions



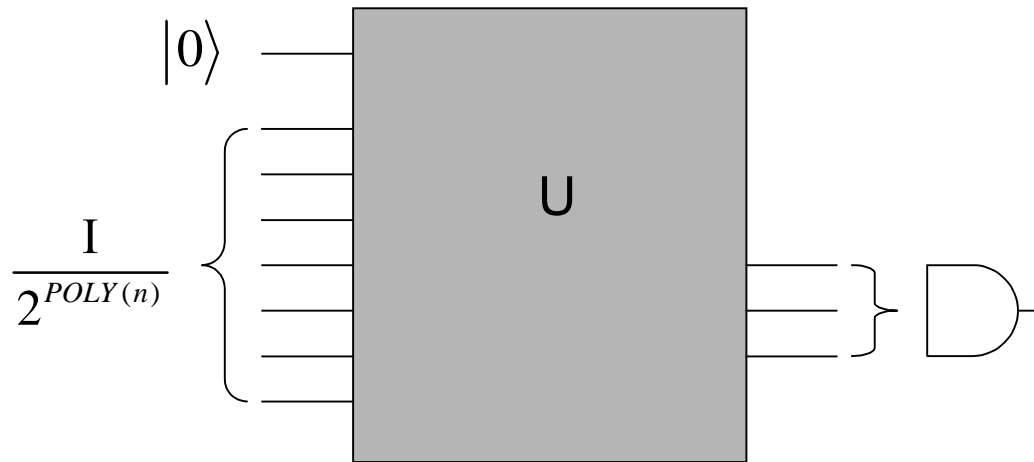
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- Choose  $U = e^{iH}$  and input  $\frac{I}{2^n}$  instead of  $|u\rangle$

# Quantum Algorithm for additive approximation of quantum Hamiltonian partition functions



Only require  $\log(n)$  *clean* qubits: The problem is in **DQC1** (one-clean-qubit model of quantum computation)

## DQC1 (one-clean-qubit model)



- DQC1 is believed to lie in between P and BQP
- Complete problems:

Additive approximation for the trace of quantum circuits

Knill & Laflamme PRL 98

Additive approximation for (some) quadratically signed weight enumerators

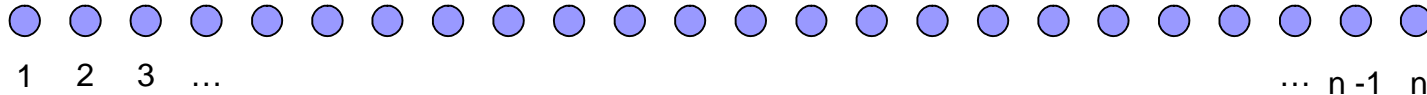
Knill & Laflamme PRL 99

Additive approximation for the Jones polynomial of the plat closure of a braid

Aharonov, Jones, Landau STOC 06

Shor & Jordan QIC 08

## DQC1-completeness

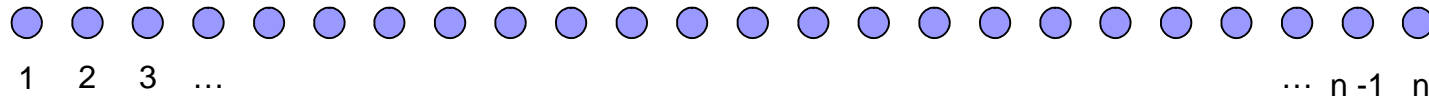


**Teo:** To calculate additive approximations of partition functions of local quantum Hamiltonians with an approx. window  $\Delta = Z(H, \infty)$  is a complete problem for DQC1

- Therefore, unless  $DQC1 \subseteq P$ , quantum computation is helpful for approximating quantum partition functions!

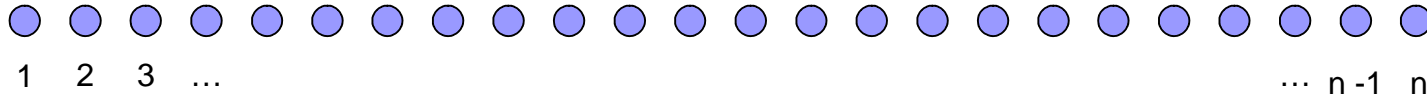


## DQC1-hardness



**Proof main idea:** encode solution of a DQC1-problem into the low-lying spectrum of a local Hamiltonian, using Kitaev's construction of mapping the solution of a quantum circuit into properties of local quantum Hamiltonians

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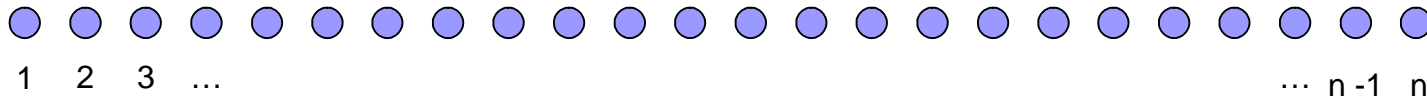
QMA : ground state energy Kitaev 00

BQP : local observable of adiabatically connected Hamiltonian Aharonov et al FOCS 04

$NP \cap co-NP$  : ground state energy of poly-gapped Hamiltonian with a MPS ground state Schuch, Cirac, Verstraete 08



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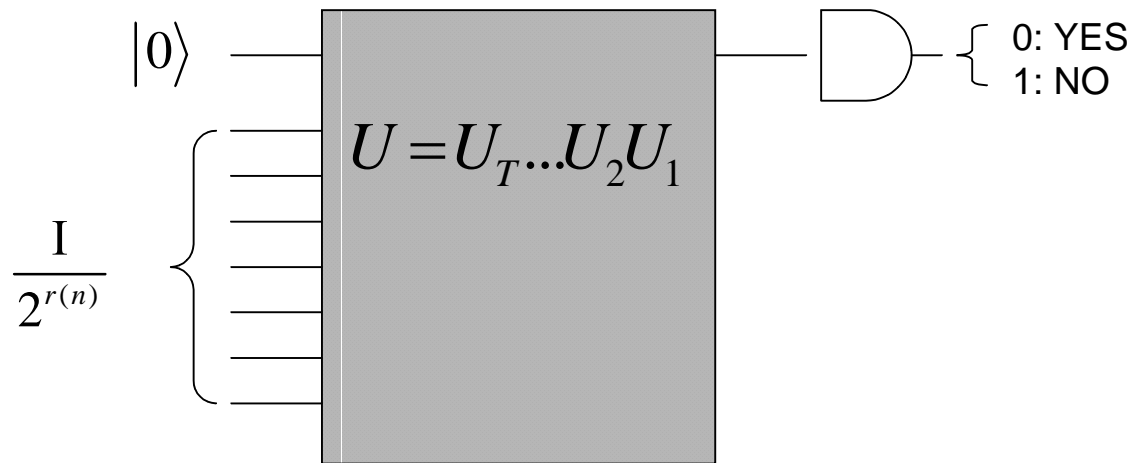
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$NP \cap co-NP$  : ground state energy of poly-gapped Hamiltonian with a MPS ground state Schuch, Cirac, Verstraete 08

DQC1: average energy of the low-lying energy spectrum of a poly-gapped Hamiltonian (degeneracy of the ground space)

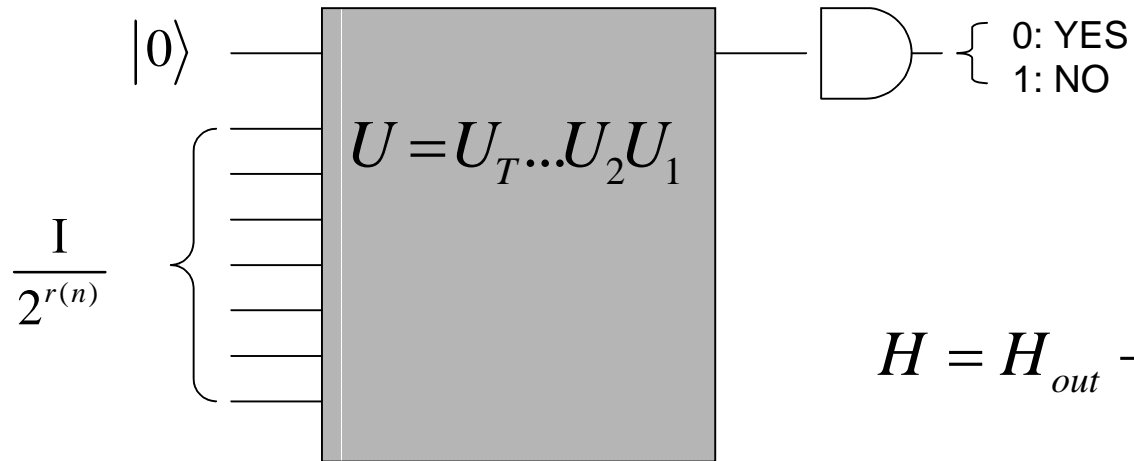
## DQC1-hardness



$$r(n) = \text{POLY}(n)$$

$$T(n) = \text{POLY}(n)$$

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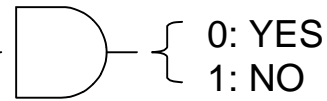
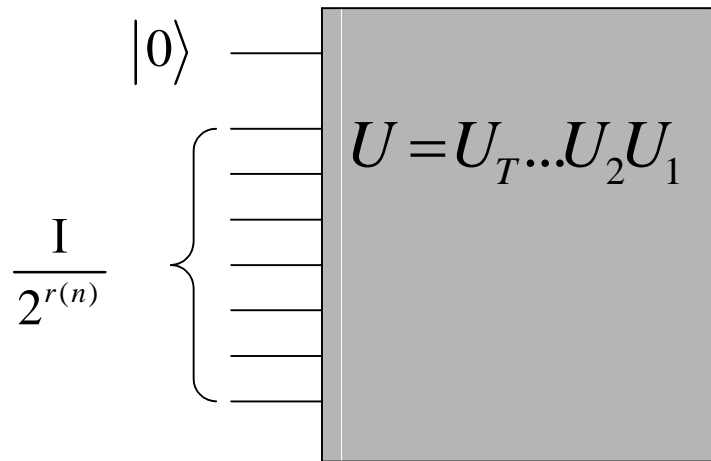


$$r(n) = \text{POLY}(n)$$

$$T(n) = \text{POLY}(n)$$

$$H = H_{out} + J_{in} H_{in} + J_{ptop} H_{prop}$$

## DQC1-hardness



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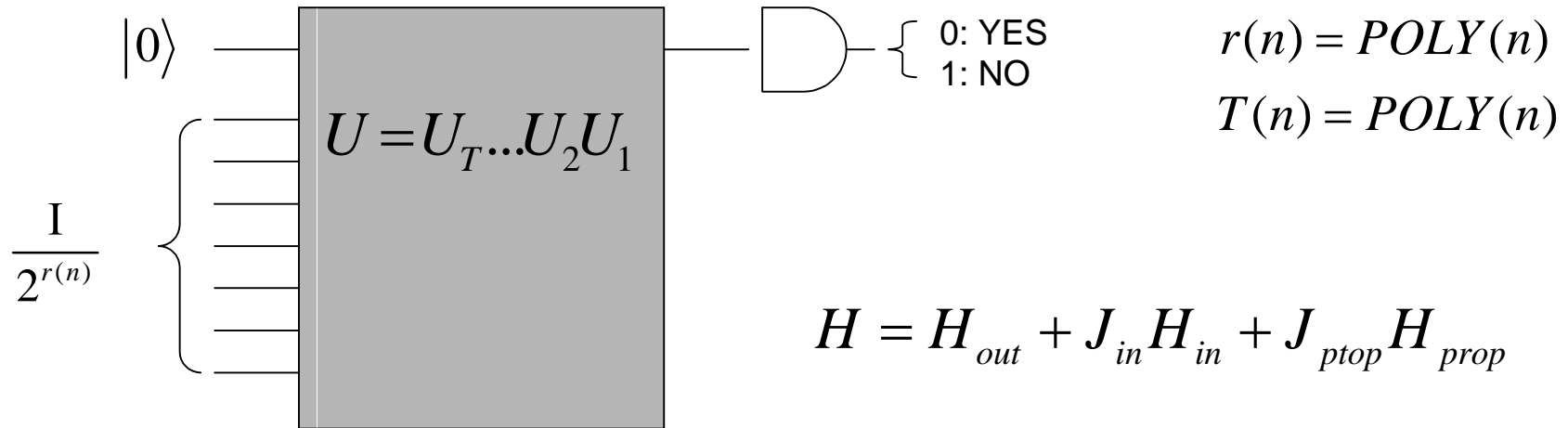
$$T(n) = \text{POLY}(n)$$

$$H = H_{out} + J_{in} H_{in} + J_{ptop} H_{prop}$$

$$H_{in} = |1\rangle\langle 1|_1 \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0|_{clock}$$

$$H_{out} = |0\rangle\langle 0|_1 \otimes |T\rangle\langle T|_{clock}$$

## DQC1-hardness



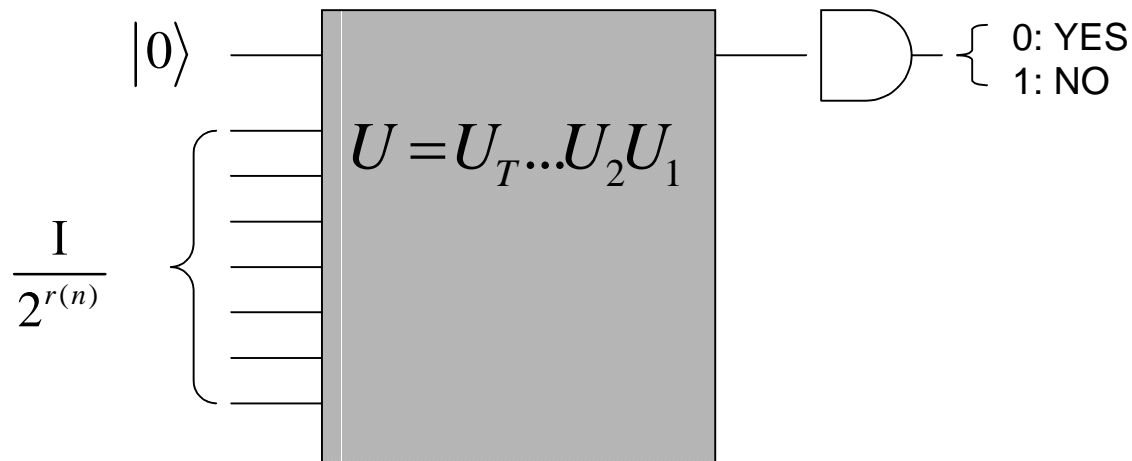
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$$H_{out} = |0\rangle\langle 0|_1 \otimes |T\rangle\langle T|_{clock}$$

$$H_{prop} = \sum_{i=1}^T H_{prop,i}$$

$$H_{prop,t} = I \otimes |t\rangle\langle t|_{clock} + I \otimes |t-1\rangle\langle t-1|_{clock} - U_t^\dagger \otimes |t-1\rangle\langle t|_{clock} - U_t \otimes |t\rangle\langle t-1|_{clock}$$

## DQC1-hardness



$$r(n) = \text{POLY}(n)$$

$$T(n) = \text{POLY}(n)$$

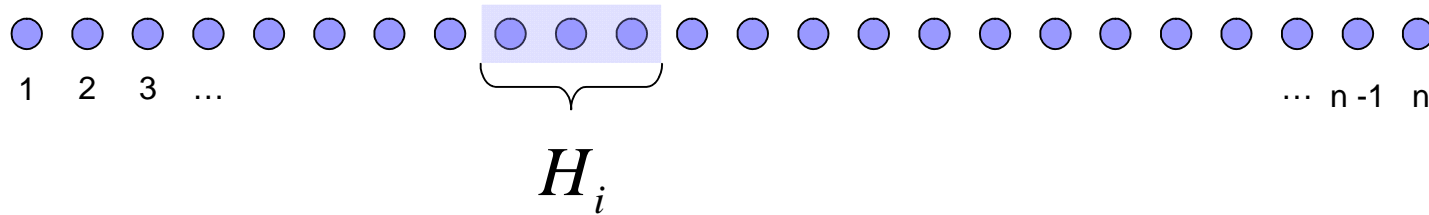
If YES:  $2^{r(n)}$  eigenvalues are almost zero

If NO: at most  $\varepsilon 2^{r(n)}$  eigenvalues are smaller than  $\delta$

$$\frac{Z(H, \beta)}{Z(H, \infty)} = \frac{1}{2^{r(n)+\log(T(n))+1}} \sum_k e^{-\beta \lambda_k(H)}$$

# Spectrum Density

$$H = \sum_{k=1}^{POLY(n)} H_k$$



Eigenvalue density

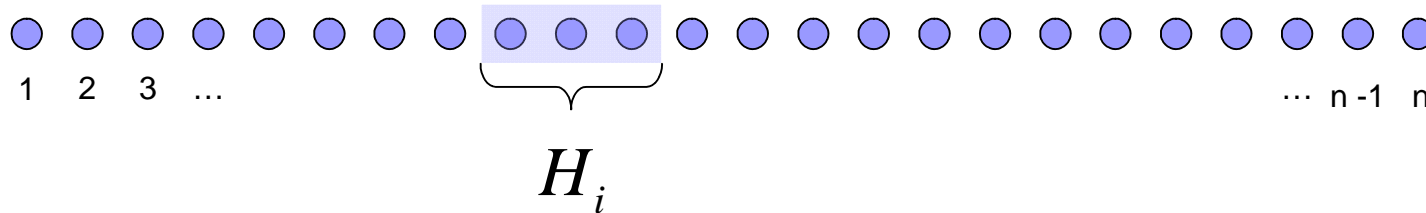
$$\mu_H(x) = \frac{1}{2^n} \sum_{j=1}^{2^n} \delta(\lambda_j(H) - x)$$

Counting function

$$N_H(a, b) = \int_a^b \mu_H(x) dx$$

# Spectrum Density

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Eigenvalue density

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Counting function

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To approximate the counting function of local quantum Hamiltonians to accuracy  $\varepsilon = 1/POLY(n)$  is a DQC1-complete problem

Interestingly, there is classical algorithm for the problem polynomial in  $n$  but exponential in  $\varepsilon$





Thank you!