

Classical machine learning for quantum many-body problems

Laura Lewis

Caltech → Cambridge → University of Edinburgh

Motivation

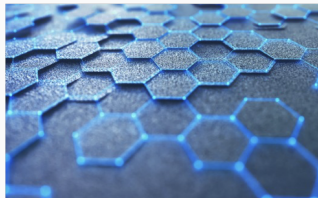
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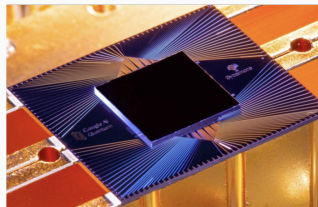
Chemistry



Materials Science



Physics



Quantum Devices

Sources: "Chemistry beakers and molecular structure" by Kwanchai Lerttanapunyaporn / EyeEm / Getty, <https://www.nature.com/collections/ecjehiebc>, <https://www.slac.stanford.edu/media/dwarf-galaxy-discover-large.jpg>, <https://www.nature.com/articles/541588-019-03213-z>

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Meanwhile, how can we leverage our powerful classical computers?

Classical Shadows

Classical ML for Ground States

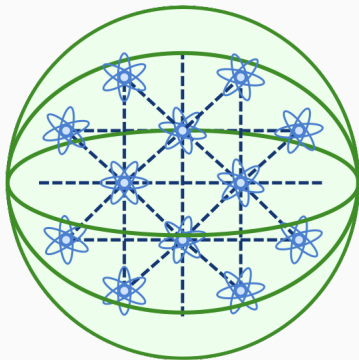
Proof Ideas

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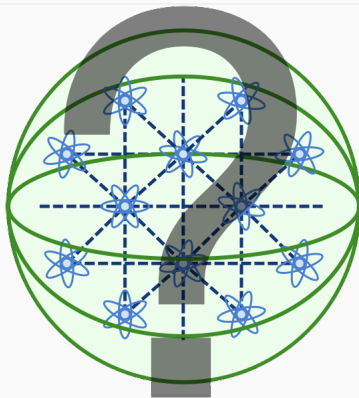
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Quantum State Tomography



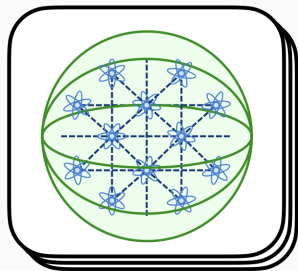
Quantum system

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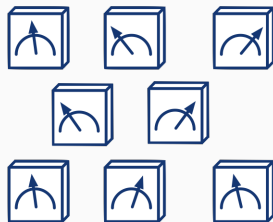


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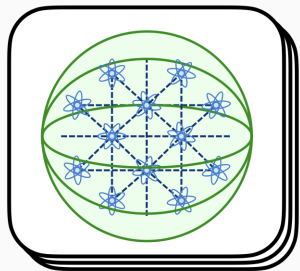


Copies of quantum system

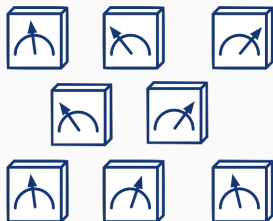


Measurement

Quantum State Tomography



Copies of quantum system



Measurement

Given N samples of an n -qubit quantum state ρ , learn $\hat{\rho}$ such that

$$d_{\text{tr}}(\hat{\rho}, \rho) = \frac{1}{2} \|\hat{\rho} - \rho\|_1 < \epsilon.$$

Measures of Complexity

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We can also consider the computational complexity, i.e., the runtime of an algorithm.

Known Results

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Can we just learn enough to be useful? i.e., to predict properties?
[Aaronson, 2018]

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Shadow Tomography

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Later improved by [Badescu and O'Donnell, STOC 2021] to

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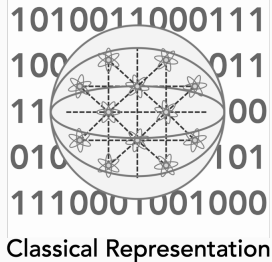
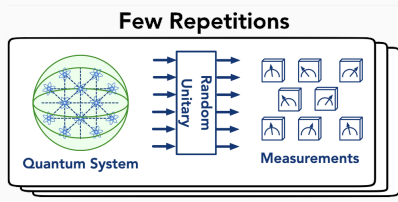
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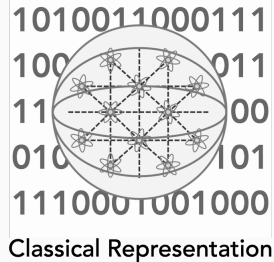
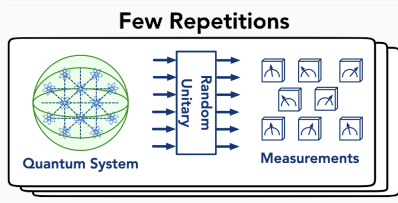
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2. Sample complexity is independent of system size for broad classes of observables.
3. One can prepare a classical representation of the unknown quantum state, from which properties can be predicted.

Classical Shadows Algorithm [HKP20]

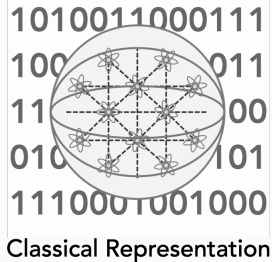
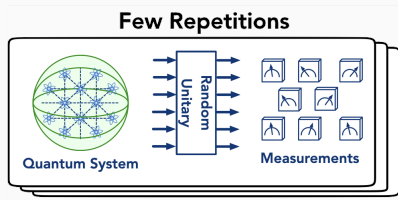


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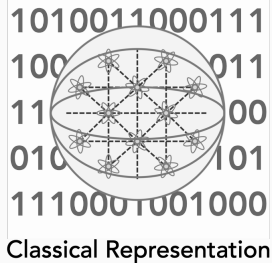
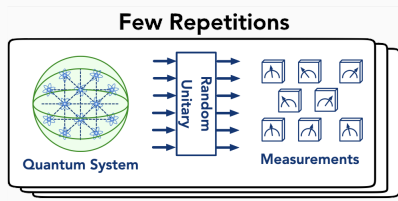
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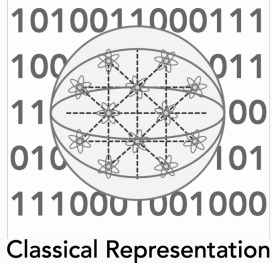
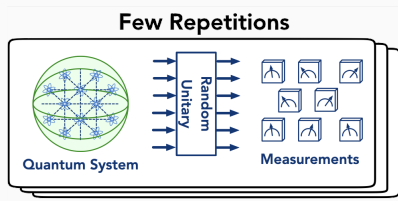
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4. Repeating this, we obtain the classical shadow of ρ

$$S_N(\rho) = \{\hat{\rho}_1, \dots, \hat{\rho}_N\}.$$

Classical Shadows Algorithm [HKP20]

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2. Predict

$$\hat{\sigma} = \text{median} \left(\frac{1}{N/K} \sum_{i=1}^{N/K} Z_i, \dots, \frac{1}{N/K} \sum_{i=N-N/K+1}^N Z_i \right).$$

Classical Shadows Guarantee

Theorem ([Huang, Kueng, Preskill, Nat. Phys. 2020])

Let O_1, \dots, O_M be observables with $\text{tr}(O_i^2) \leq B$ for all i . Then, we can estimate expectation values up to ϵ -error using

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Another important example is to predicting local observables.

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Proof Ideas

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Can classical ML efficiently predict ground states after learning from training data?

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Goal: Want to learn some unknown function $c : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$.

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The amount of training data N is called the sample complexity.

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e.g., $H(x) = x_1 Z_1 + x_2 Z_2$.

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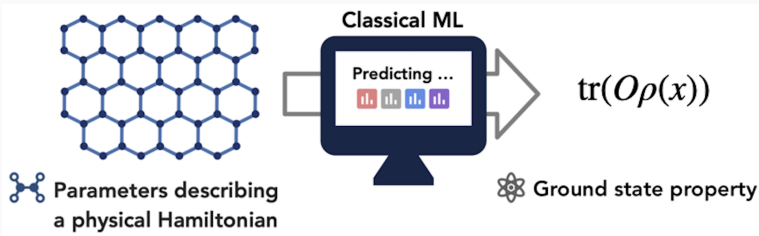
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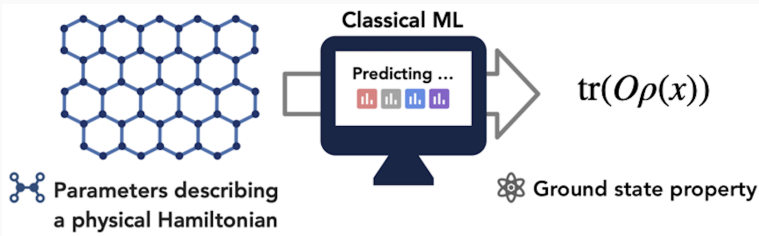
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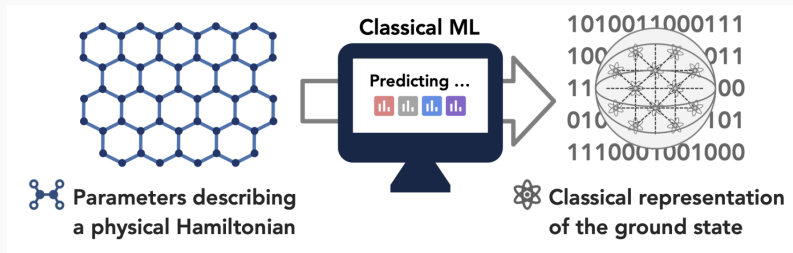


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Learning Ground State Properties

Goal: Want to predict ground state representations.

Given training data $\{(x_\ell, y_\ell)\}_{\ell=1}^N$, where $x_\ell \sim \mathcal{D}([-1, 1]^m)$ and y_ℓ approximates the ground state.



Can classical ML do this efficiently?

Rigorous Guarantees

Theorem ([Huang et al. Science 2022]²)

There exists an efficient classical ML model $g^(x)$ that achieves*

$$\mathbb{E}_{x \sim U([-1,1]^m)} |g^*(x) - \text{tr}(O\rho(x))|^2 \leq \epsilon.$$

using $N = n^{\mathcal{O}(1/\epsilon)}$ training data.

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Proposition (Computational Hardness)

Assuming $RP \neq NP$, then for 2D Hamiltonians, no randomized classical algorithm predicting 1-body observables can achieve an average prediction error $\leq 1/4$ within $\text{poly}(n, m)$ time.

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Key Additional Assumption:

$$H(x) = \sum_j h_j(\vec{x}_j)$$

³[[Lewis](#), Huang, Tran, Lehner, Kueng, Preskill, Nat. Commun. 2024]

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using $N = \log(n)2^{\text{poly}(\log(1/\epsilon))}$ training data sampled from an arbitrary distribution.

³[Lewis, Huang, Tran, Lehner, Kueng, Preskill, Nat. Commun. 2024]

Related Works

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Proof Ideas

Key Idea: Simple Form for Ground State Property

Theorem ([LHT⁺24])

The ground state property we wish to predict can be approximated by a sum of smooth local functions:

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It suffices to show that

$$\text{tr}(P\rho(x)) \approx f_P(x),$$

for f_P a local function.

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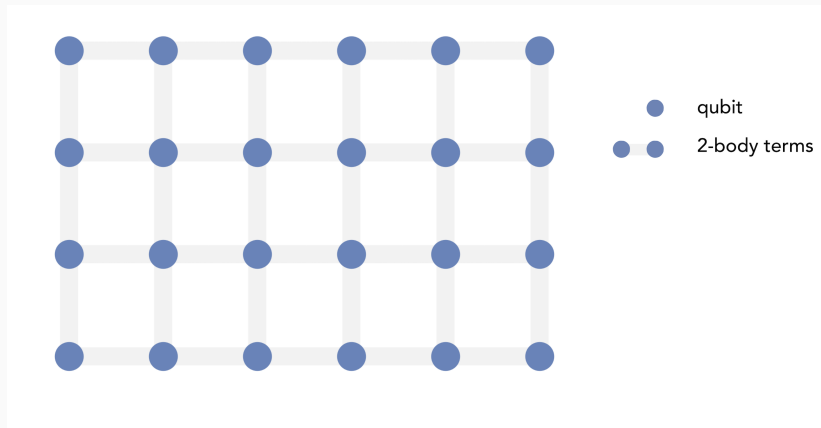
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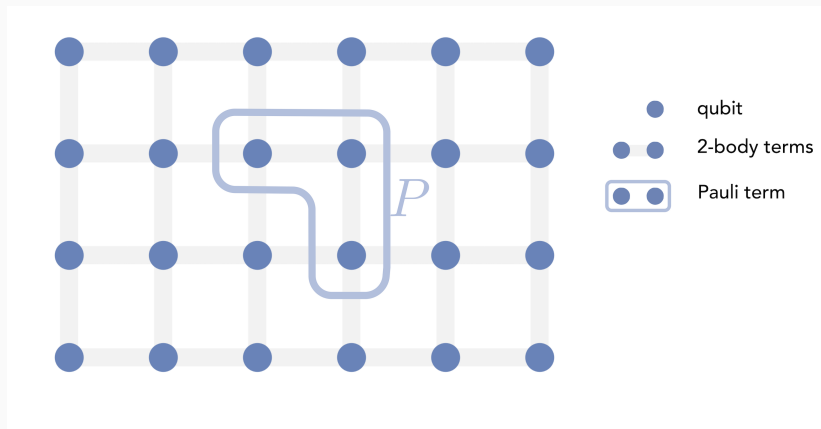
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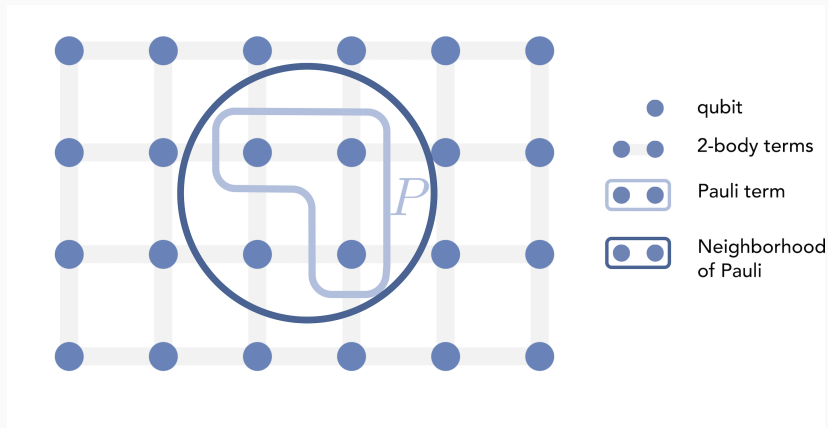
For each Pauli P , we define a map $\chi_P(x)$ that sets parameters in x that are “far from P ” set to 0.



Key Idea: Simple Form for Ground State Property

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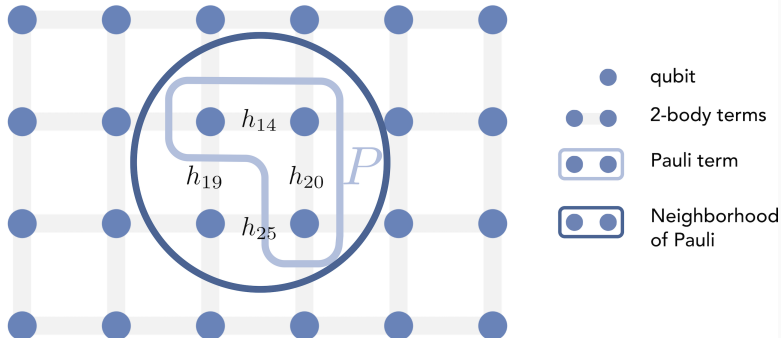
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χ_P depends only on $\vec{x}_{14}, \vec{x}_{19}, \vec{x}_{20}, \vec{x}_{25}$

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In other words, only parameters “close to P ” affect the ground state property.

Algorithm of [LHT⁺24]

So we get

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Algorithm:

1. Apply feature mapping ϕ .
2. Learn $h^*(x) = \mathbf{w}^* \cdot \phi(x)$ using ℓ_1 -regularized regression (LASSO) over the feature space.

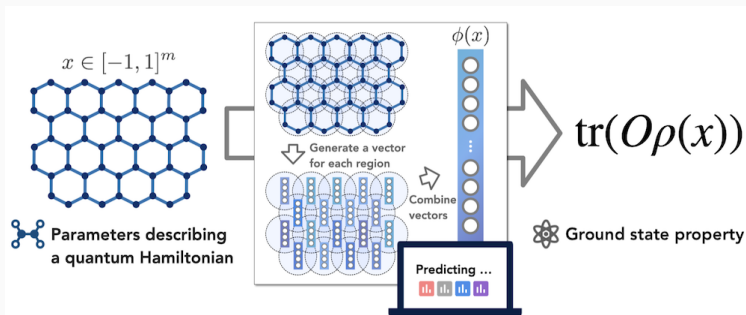
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Spins placed on a 2D lattice with Hamiltonian

$$H = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} J_{ij}(X_i X_j + Y_i Y_j + Z_i Z_j).$$

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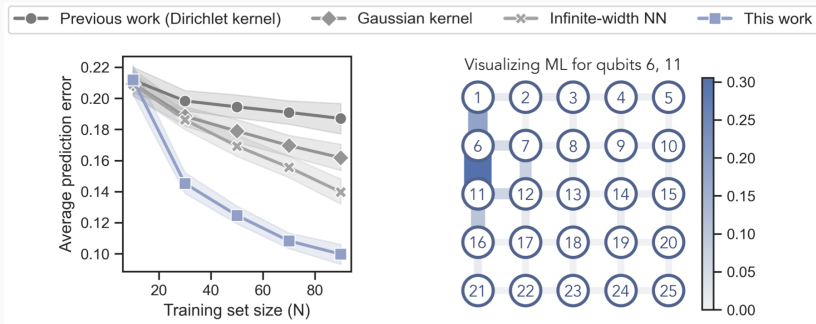
We want to predict two-body correlation functions, i.e., the expectation value of

$$C_{ij} = \frac{1}{3}(X_i X_j + Y_i Y_j + Z_i Z_j).$$

Numerical Experiments [LHT⁺24]

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This raises the hope that ML algorithms can address practical problems by learning from the small amount of data available from physical experiments.

Open Questions

- Can quantum ML algorithms predict ground state properties even better?

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- Can quantum ML algorithms predict ground state properties even better?
- Can ML learn to predict other physical properties (e.g., low-energy excited state properties)?