

# Reducing necessary quantum hardware resources with explicitly correlated methods

QC-4C: Quantum Computers for Chemistry

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**CHALMERS**  
UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY



## Take-home messages

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- Why do we need to use large basis sets?
- What is an explicitly correlated Ansatz?
- What is the transcorrelated method?
- Why do we need quantum imaginary time evolution?
- What are the advantages of the TC method on quantum hardware?

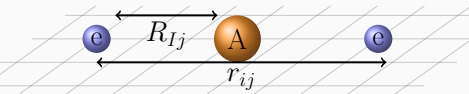
- Recap – Quantum Chemistry
- Correlated Ansatz to reduce the computational footprint on quantum hardware
- Applications: Circuit depth – Hubbard model
- Applications: Circuit width – *Ab initio* problems
- Conclusions and Outlook

# Recap – Quantum Chemistry

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# Ab Initio Quantum Chemistry – Electronic Structure Theory

All necessary information of a quantum system contained in electronic **molecular Hamiltonian** (Born-Oppenheimer approx., atomic units and first quantization)

$$\hat{H} = \underbrace{-\sum_i \nabla_{\mathbf{r}_i}^2}_{\text{kinetic energy of } e^-} - \underbrace{\sum_{I,j} \frac{Z_I}{|\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{r}_j|}}_{\text{Attr. potential}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|}}_{e^- - e^- \text{ repulsion}}$$


**Electronic properties:** Ground- and low-lying excited state properties, energy differences, polarization, response functions, ...

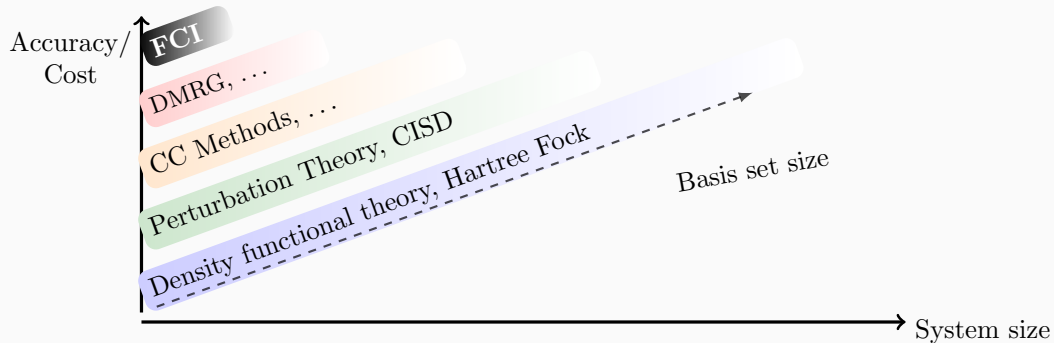
**Task:** Solve the Schrödinger equation derived from first principles

$$\hat{H} |\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_n)\rangle = E |\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_n)\rangle$$

**Target:** High / chemical accuracy to ensure predictability, interpretability and comparison with experimental results.

# Hierarchy of methods

Additional axis of complexity: **Basis set size**

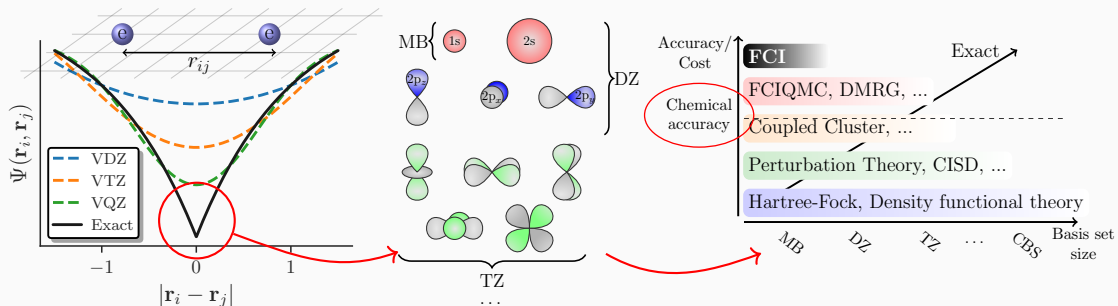


Current quantum computing calculations/experiments use small/**minimal basis sets** far from experimental results, due to **limited number of qubits**

# Problems for accurate description: Cusp condition

**Cusp condition:** Singularity of Coulomb potential,  $\frac{1}{r_{ij}}$ , for  $r_{ij} = 0 \rightarrow$  sharp cusp of exact wavefunction  $\Psi(\{\mathbf{r}\})$  at electron coalescence ( $r_{ij} = 0$ )

$$\hat{H} = -\sum_i \nabla_{\mathbf{r}_i}^2 - \sum_{I,j} \frac{Z_I}{|\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{r}_j|} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|}, \quad \hat{H} |\Psi(\{\mathbf{r}\})\rangle = E_0 |\Psi(\{\mathbf{r}\})\rangle$$



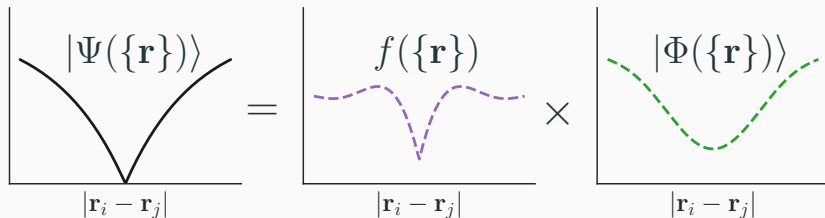


Correlated Ansatz to reduce the  
computational footprint on  
quantum hardware

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## Cusp Condition – Explicitly Correlated Ansatz

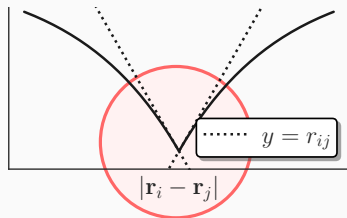
Short range behavior  $\rightarrow$  **dynamic correlation**. Important for accurate results  
 $\rightarrow$  Necessitates **large basis set expansion**.



Describe the cusp exactly and capture part of correlation with a **correlated wavefunction Ansatz**

$$|\Psi(\{\mathbf{r}\})\rangle = f(\{\mathbf{r}\}) |\Phi(\{\mathbf{r}\})\rangle$$

# Explicitly Correlated methods



Linear behavior in electron-electron distance  $r_{ij} = |\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|$  for small  $r_{ij}$ !

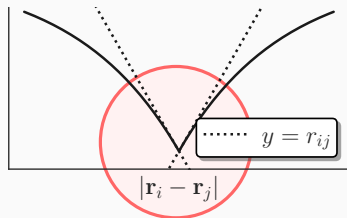
**R12** methods\*:  $|\Psi\rangle = r_{ij} |\Phi\rangle$

**F12** methods<sup>†</sup>:  $|\Psi\rangle = f(r_{ij}) |\Phi\rangle$ ,  $f(r_{ij}) = \frac{1 - \exp(-\gamma r_{ij})}{\gamma}$

**Jastrow Ansatz**<sup>‡</sup>:  $|\Psi\rangle = e^{\hat{\tau}} |\Phi\rangle$ ,  $\hat{\tau} = \sum_{ij} J_{ij} g(\tilde{r}_{ij})$

\* Kutzelnigg, Theoretica chimica acta 68, 445 (1985); <sup>†</sup> Ten-no, J. Chem. Phys. 121, 117 (2004); <sup>‡</sup> Jastrow, Phys. Rev. **98**, 1479 (1955);

# Explicitly Correlated methods



Linear behavior in electron-electron distance  $r_{ij} = |\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|$  for small  $r_{ij}$ !

$$\mathbf{R12} \text{ methods}^*: \quad |\Psi\rangle = r_{ij} |\Phi\rangle$$

$$\mathbf{F12} \text{ methods}^\dagger: \quad |\Psi\rangle = f(r_{ij}) |\Phi\rangle, \quad f(r_{ij}) = \frac{1 - \exp(-\gamma r_{ij})}{\gamma}$$

$$\mathbf{Jastrow} \text{ Ansatz}^\ddagger: \quad |\Psi\rangle = e^{\hat{\tau}} |\Phi\rangle, \quad \hat{\tau} = \sum_{ij} J_{ij} g(\tilde{r}_{ij})$$

$$\exp(-x) \approx 1 - x + \mathcal{O}(x^2), \quad \tilde{r}_{ij} = \frac{r_{ij}}{1 + r_{ij}}, \quad \lim_{r_{ij} \rightarrow 0} \tilde{r}_{ij} \rightarrow 0, \quad \lim_{r_{ij} \rightarrow \infty} \tilde{r}_{ij} \rightarrow 1$$

\* Kutzelnigg, *Theoretica chimica acta* 68, 445 (1985);  $^\dagger$  Ten-no, *J. Chem. Phys.* 121, 117 (2004);  $^\ddagger$  Jastrow, *Phys. Rev.* **98**, 1479 (1955);

# Variational Quantum Monte Carlo to optimize Jastrow factors

Minimize variational energy, by optimizing trial wavefunction parameters  $J_{ij}$ :

$$E_{VMC} = \min_{\hat{\tau}(J_{ij})} \frac{\langle \Phi_0 | e^{\hat{\tau}} \hat{H} e^{\hat{\tau}} | \Phi_0 \rangle}{\langle \Phi_0 | e^{2\hat{\tau}} | \Phi_0 \rangle}, \quad |\Phi_T\rangle = e^{\hat{\tau}} |\Phi_0\rangle$$

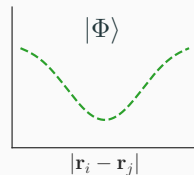
- The choice of trial wavefunction is critical in VMC calculations  $\rightarrow$  accuracy limited by  $|\Phi_T\rangle = e^{\hat{\tau}} |\Phi_0\rangle!$
- Hartree-Fock state usually first starting point for  $|\Phi_0\rangle$ , but more elaborate/accurate states possible...
- Polynomial scaling  $\sim N^3$
- Such a VMC calculations to optimize  $J_{ij}$  with a HF state  $|\Phi_0\rangle = |\Phi_{HF}\rangle$  our **starting point for the transcorrelated method**

# Similarity Transformation – Transcorrelated (TC) Method

Describe the cusp condition and/or capture part of correlation with a correlated wavefunction Ansatz  $\rightarrow$  incorporate into Hamiltonian!

Instead of  $\hat{H} |\Psi\rangle = E |\Psi\rangle$  solve the similarity transformed (ST) problem

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{H} |\Psi\rangle &= E |\Psi\rangle, \quad \text{with} \quad |\Psi\rangle = e^{\hat{\tau}} |\Phi\rangle \\ e^{-\hat{\tau}} \rightarrow | \quad \hat{H} e^{\hat{\tau}} |\Phi\rangle &= E e^{\hat{\tau}} |\Phi\rangle, \quad (\hat{\tau}^\dagger = \hat{\tau}) \\ (e^{-\hat{\tau}} \hat{H} e^{\hat{\tau}}) |\Phi\rangle &= E e^{-\hat{\tau}} e^{\hat{\tau}} |\Phi\rangle = E |\Phi\rangle \end{aligned}$$



Baker-Campbell-Hausdorff (BCH) exp. to obtain TC Hamiltonian:

$$\bar{H} = e^{-\hat{\tau}} \hat{H} e^{\hat{\tau}} = \hat{H} + [\hat{H}, \hat{\tau}] + \frac{1}{2} [[\hat{H}, \hat{\tau}], \hat{\tau}] + \dots$$

For the molecular Hamiltonian the BCH exp. terminates at 2nd order, as only kinetic energy operators in  $\hat{H}$  do not commute with  $\hat{\tau}$ !

# The Similarity Transformed TC Hamiltonian

Consequences:

- Sim. transf.  $\bar{H}$  is non-Hermitian ( $[\hat{H}, \hat{\tau}], \dots$ )  
→ loss of variational principle
- 3-body interactions (and possibly higher order)

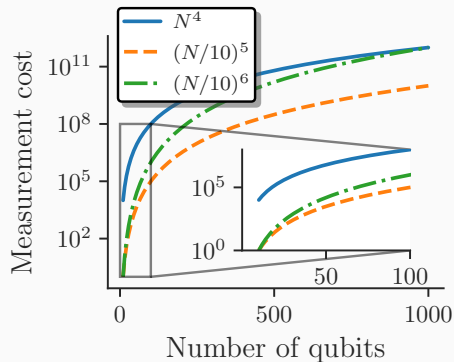
$$\begin{aligned}\bar{H} &= \hat{H} - \sum_i \left( \frac{1}{2} \nabla_i^2 \hat{\tau} + (\nabla_i \hat{\tau}) \nabla_i + \frac{1}{2} (\nabla_i \hat{\tau})^2 \right) \\ &= \hat{H} - \sum_{i < j} \hat{K}(\mathbf{r}_i, \mathbf{r}_j) - \sum_{i < j < k} \hat{L}(\mathbf{r}_i, \mathbf{r}_j, \mathbf{r}_k)\end{aligned}$$

**Rapid basis set convergence and more compact (right) eigenvector!**

# Scaling of TC – Measurement Cost

$$\bar{H} = \sum_{pq,\sigma} h_q^p a_{p,\sigma}^\dagger a_{q,\sigma} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{pqrs,\sigma\tau} \bar{V}_{rs}^{pq} a_{p,\sigma}^\dagger a_{q,\tau}^\dagger a_{s,\tau} a_{r,\sigma} - \frac{1}{6} \sum_{pqrst,\sigma\tau\lambda} L_{st\lambda}^{pqr} a_{p,\sigma}^\dagger a_{q,\tau}^\dagger a_{r,\lambda}^\dagger a_{u,\lambda} a_{t,\tau} a_{s,\sigma}$$

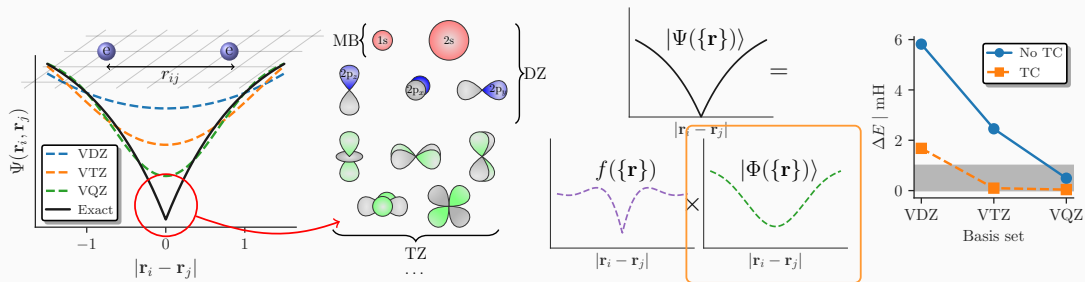
- Measurement formally scaling as  $N^6$ , with  $N$  being the number of orbitals
- Recently shown that  $N^6$ -scaling terms can be neglected to good accuracy\*
- Current work on  $N^4$ -scaling approximation
- Order of magnitude less orbitals: since also no core functions needed in basis set†
- Shorter circuit depth, due to more compact ground state!





# TC Motivation for quantum computing

Sharp cusp  $\rightarrow$  necessitates **large basis set expansion**



**Every spin-orbital needs a qubit  $\rightarrow$  Minimal basis far from CBS results!**

Transcorrelation (TC) enables **more accurate results with less spin-orbitals/qubits**

## Non-Hermitian Hamiltonian – Problem for VQE

Since TC Hamiltonian is **non Hermitian**, variational algorithms like VQE not applicable

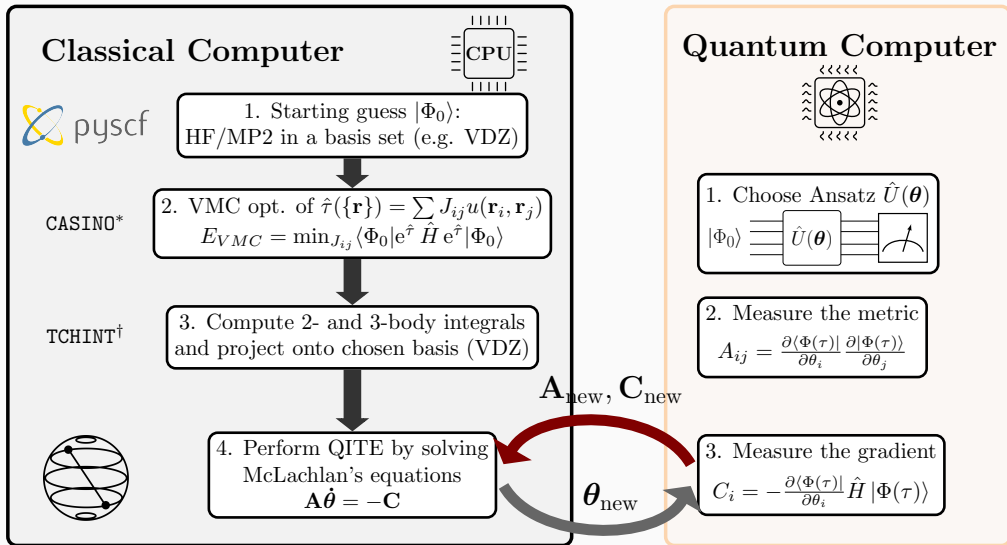
$$E_{\text{VQE}} = \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \langle \Psi(\boldsymbol{\theta}) | \hat{H} | \Psi(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \rangle$$

Our Approach:

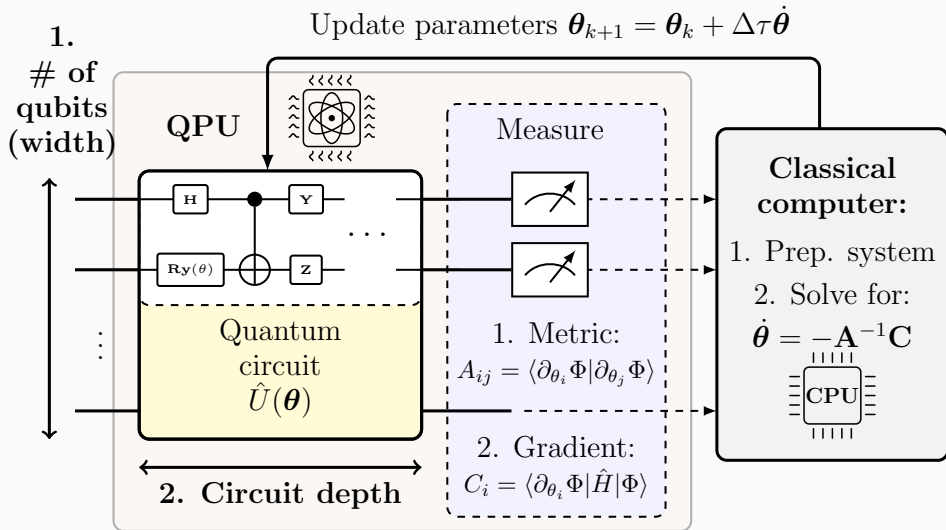
Solve for the **right** eigenvector of non-Hermitian  $\bar{H}$  by **projection** with QITE:

$$|\Phi_0^R\rangle \propto \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e^{-t\bar{H}} |\phi^R\rangle, \quad \text{with} \quad \bar{H} |\Phi_0^R\rangle = E |\Phi_0^R\rangle,$$

where  $|\Phi^R\rangle$  is a full expansion in SDs  $|\Phi^R\rangle = \sum_i c_i |D_i\rangle$



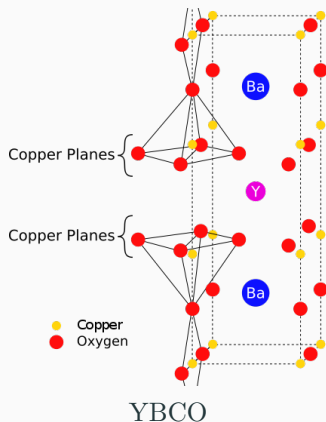
# QITE Workflow



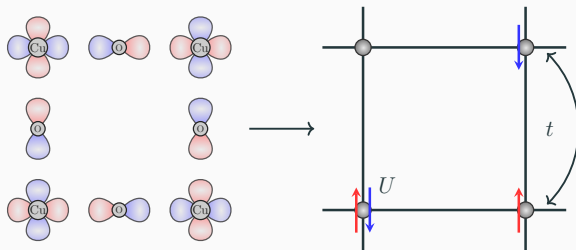
# Applications: Circuit depth – Hubbard model

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# High- $T_C$ Superconductors and the Hubbard Model



Mapping to an effective lattice model:



The Hubbard Hamiltonian

$$\hat{H} = -t \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle, \sigma} (c_{i,\sigma}^\dagger c_{j,\sigma} + h.c.) + U \sum_i n_{i,\uparrow} n_{i,\downarrow}$$

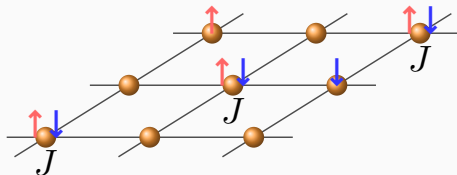
Strong interaction  $\Rightarrow$  highly multiconfigurational

# Similarity Transformation based on the Gutzwiller Ansatz

## Reduce circuit depth with transcorrelated Ansatz

- Suppress energetically unfavourable double occupancies via the *Gutzwiller Ansatz*:

$$|\Psi\rangle = e^{\hat{\tau}} |\Phi\rangle, \quad \hat{\tau} = J \sum_i n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow}$$

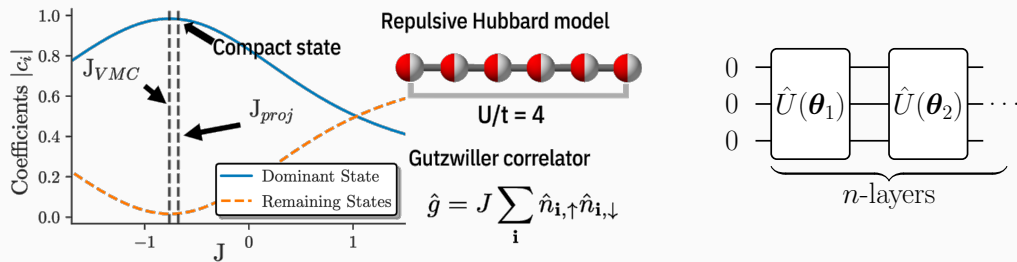


- Perform an exact *similarity transformation* (ST) of the Hubbard Hamiltonian  $\hat{H}$ :

$$e^{-\hat{\tau}} \hat{H} e^{\hat{\tau}} = \bar{H} |\Phi\rangle = \left( -t \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle, \sigma} e^{-\hat{\tau}} a_{i\sigma}^\dagger a_{j\sigma} e^{\hat{\tau}} + U \sum_i n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow} \right) |\Phi\rangle = E |\Phi\rangle$$

# Increased compactness of right eigenvector

- Leads to a **non-Hermitian** operator with **3-body interactions** in a momentum space representation
- **Increased compactness** of the right EV, due to downfolding of correlations into Hamiltonian



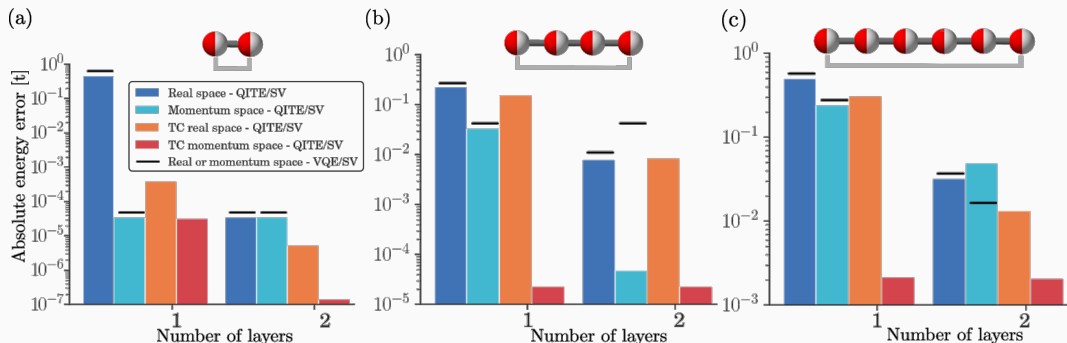
⇒ Does the increased compactness/more single reference character have an impact on the necessary Ansatz (depth)?



# Results – Hubbard model

Increased compactness  $\Rightarrow$  less expressive Ansatz on quantum hardware necessary  $\Rightarrow$  **shorter quantum circuit**/less layers  $\Rightarrow$  cheaper and more resilient to noise

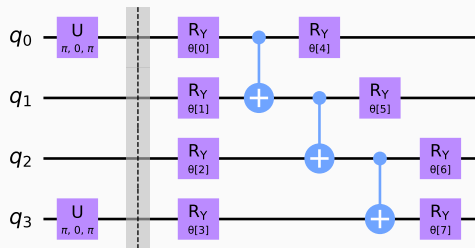
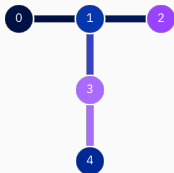
Statevector simulation –  $n$ -layer UCCSD Ansatz –  $U/t = 4$



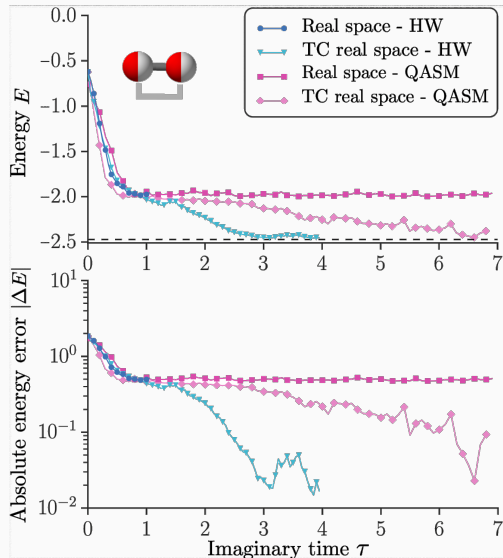
Black bars indicate VQE results

# Actual experimental results for the Hubbard model on ibmq\_lima

- 2-site Hubbard model



Hardware-efficient RY Ansatz



Applications: Circuit width – *Ab initio* problems

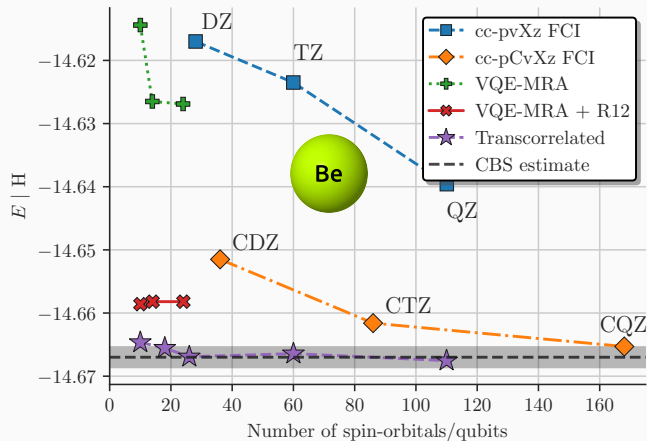
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Can we reduce the number of necessary qubits (width)?

# Beryllium atom

Beryllium atom – exact statevector simulations

VQE+MRA (+R12): (approx.) explicitly correlated method by Schleich *et al.*\*



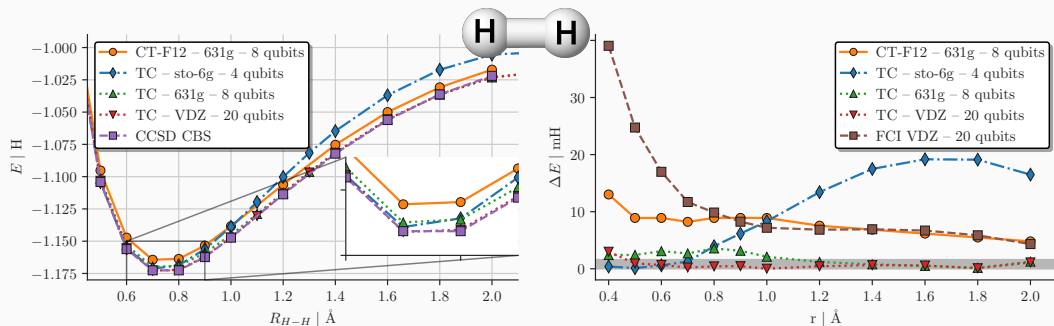
\*VQE/MRA+[2]R12: Schleich *et al.*, Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys., 2022, 24, 13550 (2022)

# Hydrogen molecule

Favorite quantum chemistry test case: Hydrogen molecule –  $H_2$

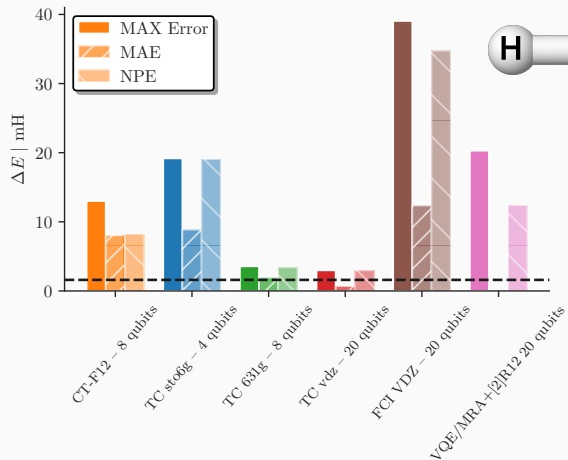
CT-F12 approximated explicitly correlated method, by Motta *et al.*\*

Exact statevector simulation – UCCSD Ansatz

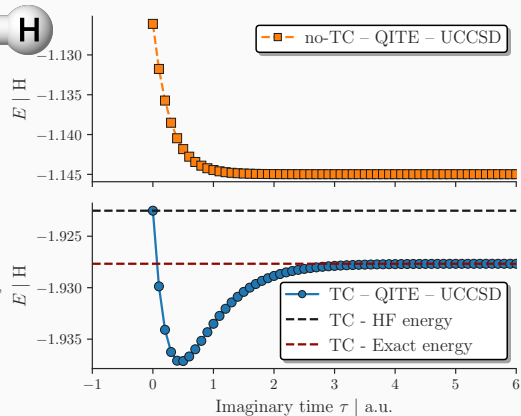


\*CT-F12: Motta *et al.*, Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys. **22**, 24270, 2020

# H<sub>2</sub> cont

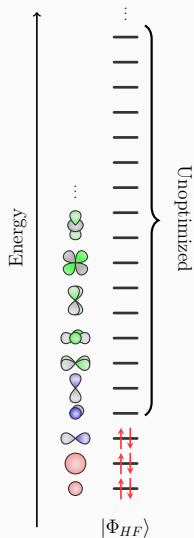


Error statistics

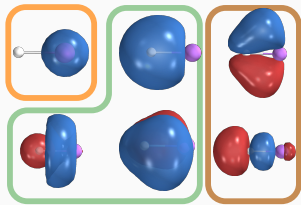
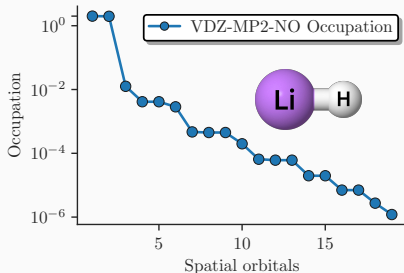


Imaginary time evolution – STO-6G – 0.7Å

# (Virtual) orbital optimization

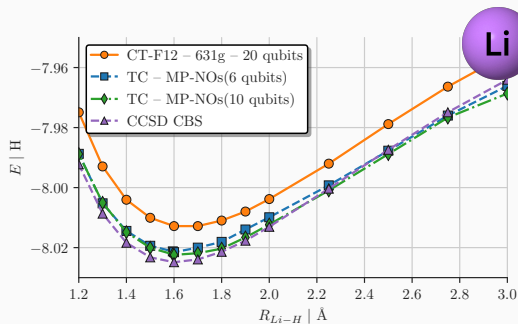


- “Standard basis sets” not optimized for the TC method
- include effect of virtuals through orbital optimization / downfolding
- e.g. natural orbitals (NO) from a “cheap” perturbation theory (MP2) calculation

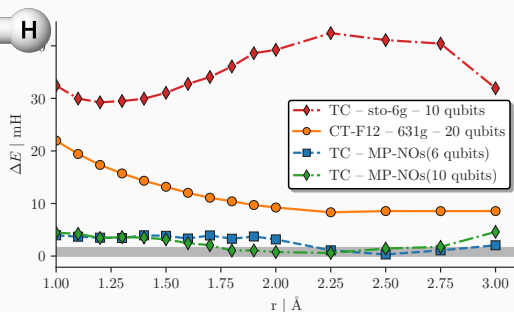




Lithium hydride – exact statevector simulation – UCCSD Ansatz – Li 1s frozen



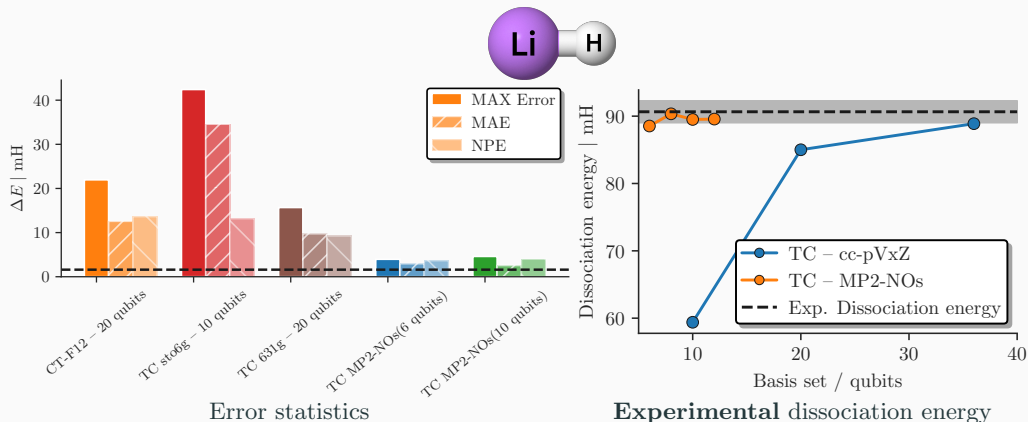
Energy vs bond distance



Error wrt. CBS result vs bond distance

# LiH – Dissociation energy

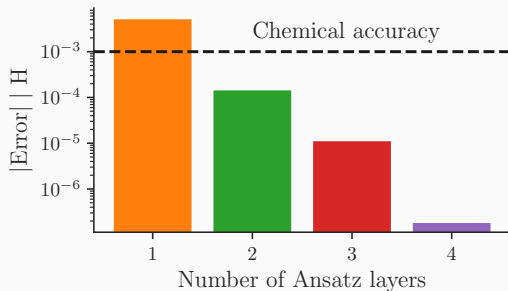
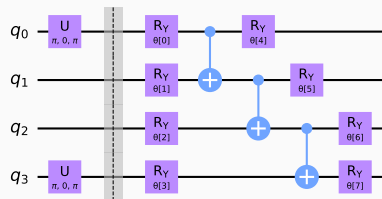
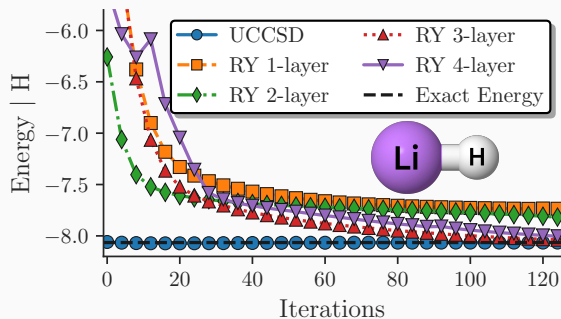
Error statistics and comparison to **experimental\*** dissociation energy



\*Haeffler *et al.*, Phys. Rev. A, 1996, 53, 6, 4127 (1996)

# LiH – Hardware-efficient Ansatz

- LiH at equilibrium bond distance with 3 MP2 NOs.
- Hardware efficient RY Ansatz with linear entangling layer and parity encoding.
- Statevector simulation

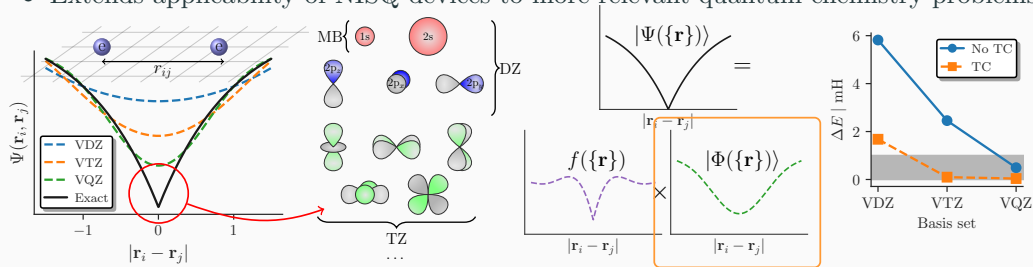


## Conclusions and Outlook

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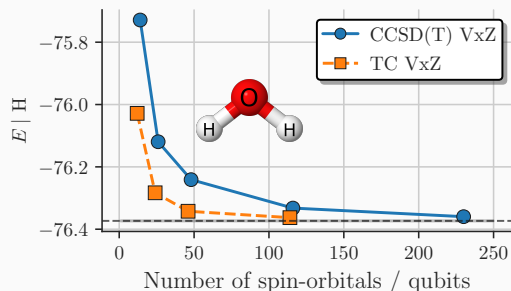
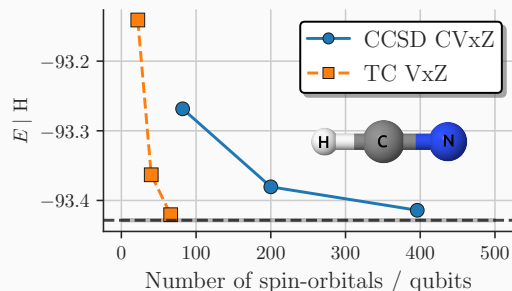
# Conclusion – Transcorrelated Approach on Quantum Hardware

- Partially transferring electronic correlations from the wavefunction into the Hamiltonian, exactly capturing the cusp condition.
- Non-Hermitian Hamiltonian requires quantum imaginary time evolution, instead of standard VQE.
- Reduce qubit requirements and circuit depth, due to accurate results with a small basis sets.
- Extends applicability of NISQ devices to more relevant quantum chemistry problems.



# Outlook: Transcorrelated Approach on Quantum Hardware

## Scaling to larger systems



Open questions: **Noise**, approximations to metric **A**, which Ansatz to use? ...



## Postdoc in Chemical Bonding Analysis on Quantum Computers

[Link](#). Supervisor: Martin Rahm, [rahmlab.com](http://rahmlab.com)



Thank you for your attention!



## Jastrow s.t. Hamiltonian in 2nd quantised form

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{H} = & \sum_{pq,\sigma} h_q^p a_{p,\sigma}^\dagger a_{q,\sigma} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{pqrs} (V_{rs}^{pq} - K_{rs}^{pq}) \sum_{\sigma,\tau} a_{p,\sigma}^\dagger a_{q,\tau}^\dagger a_{s,\tau} a_{r,\sigma} \\ & - \frac{1}{6} \sum_{pqrst} L_{st}^{pqr} \sum_{\sigma\tau\lambda} a_{p,\sigma}^\dagger a_{q,\tau}^\dagger a_{r,\lambda}^\dagger a_{u,\lambda} a_{t,\tau} a_{s,\sigma}\end{aligned}$$

with

$$\begin{aligned}K_{rs}^{pq} &= \langle \phi_p \phi_q | \hat{K} | \phi_r \phi_s \rangle \\ L_{st}^{pqr} &= \langle \phi_p \phi_q \phi_r | \hat{L} | \phi_s \phi_t \phi_u \rangle \quad (48\text{-fold symmetry in } L \text{ for real orbitals})\end{aligned}$$

Both integrals  $K$  and  $L$  are computed numerically using standard DFT grids over gaussian orbitals. The main problem is the storage of  $L$ . Current limit  $\approx 80$  orbitals

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**Quantum simulation of electronic structure with a transcorrelated Hamiltonian: improved accuracy with a smaller footprint on the quantum computer**

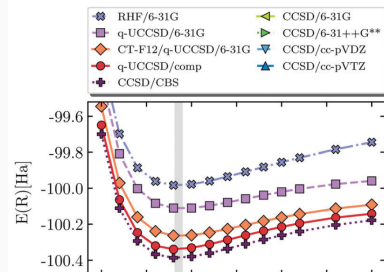
Mario Motta,<sup>†\*a</sup> Tanvi P. Gujarati,<sup>†\*a</sup> Julia E. Rice,<sup>†\*a</sup> Ashutosh Kumar,<sup>b</sup> Conner Masteran,<sup>b</sup> Joseph A. Latone,<sup>a</sup> Eunseok Lee,<sup>c</sup> Edward F. Valeev<sup>b</sup> and Tyler Y. Takeshita<sup>†\*c</sup>

## 2 Methods

### 2.1 Canonical transcorrelated F12 Hamiltonian

In the CT-F12 method, two main approximations are employed in addition to the approximate BCH expansion of eqn (2): (a) the expansion is truncated to only include up to double commutators and (b) in the double commutator term, the full Hamiltonian  $\hat{H}$  is replaced by its effective 1-body constituent, the Fock operator  $\hat{F}$ ,

$$\hat{H}' \approx \hat{H} + [\hat{H}, \hat{A}]_{1,2} + \frac{1}{2} [[\hat{F}, \hat{A}]_{1,2}, \hat{A}]_{1,2}. \quad (3)$$



Hydrogen Fluoride

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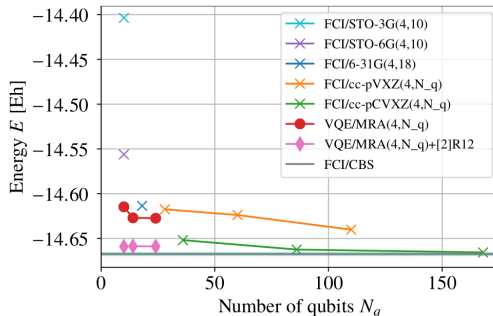
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Cite this: *Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.*, 2022, 24, 13550

## Improving the accuracy of the variational quantum eigensolver for molecular systems by the explicitly-correlated perturbative $[2]_{R12}$ -correction

Philipp Schleich, <sup>ib</sup> \*<sup>abc</sup> Jakob S. Kottmann <sup>ib</sup> <sup>ad</sup> and Alán Aspuru-Guzik <sup>acde</sup>

On the contrary, we opt to use an *a posteriori* correction based on a perturbative *explicitly correlated* method, namely the spin-free variant of  $[2]_{R12}$  [18–20]. This approach is to be contrasted with other post-corrections in form of the family of quantum subspace expansion techniques [8, 9, 21]; and an application of VQE together with the transcorrelated approach,  $[2]_{R12}$  or a so called “CABS singles” correction [22] has yet been suggested in [23]. Brief comments on the distinction of our approach with this one will follow.



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Article

## Quantum Simulation of Molecular Electronic States with a Transcorrelated Hamiltonian: Higher Accuracy with Fewer Qubits

Ashutosh Kumar,\* Ayush Asthana, Conner Masteran, Edward F. Valeev,\* Yu Zhang,\* Lukasz Cincio, Sergei Tretiak, and Pavel A. Dub\*

## Improving the accuracy of quantum computational chemistry using the transcorrelated method

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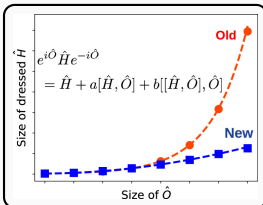
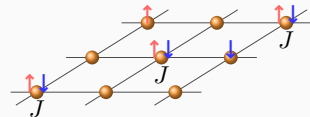
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Article

## Unitary Transformation of the Electronic Hamiltonian with an Exact Quadratic Truncation of the Baker-Campbell-Hausdorff Expansion

Robert A. Lang, Ilya G. Ryabinkin, and Artur F. Izmaylov\*

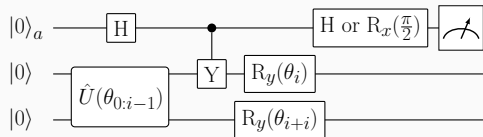
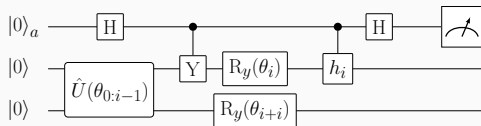
$$\hat{H} \approx \hat{H} + [\hat{H}, \hat{A}]_{1,2} + \frac{1}{2} [[\hat{F}, \hat{A}]_{1,2}, \hat{A}]_{1,2}$$



# QITE with non-Hermitian $\hat{H}$

Gradient in the Hermitian case:

$$C_i = \frac{\partial \langle \Phi | \hat{H} | \Phi \rangle}{\partial \theta_i}$$



In the TC case: split non-Hermitian Hamiltonian in Hermitian and anti-Hermitian part:

$$\hat{H}_{TC}^+ = \hat{H}_{TC} + \hat{H}_{TC}^\dagger, \quad \hat{H}_{TC}^- = \hat{H}_{TC} - \hat{H}_{TC}^\dagger$$

$$C_i = \frac{1}{2} \left( \langle \partial_{\theta_i} \Phi | \hat{H}_{TC} | \Phi \rangle + \langle \Phi | \hat{H}_{TC}^\dagger | \partial_{\theta_i} \Phi \rangle \right) = \frac{C_i^+ + C_i^-}{4}$$

$$C_i^+ = 2 \langle \partial_{\theta_i} \Phi | \hat{H}_{TC}^+ | \Phi \rangle, \quad C_i^- = 2 \langle \partial_{\theta_i} \Phi | \hat{H}_{TC}^- | \Phi \rangle$$