

Reducing necessary quantum hardware resources with explicitly correlated methods

Werner Dobrautz

Chalmers University of Technology

Algorithmiq, April 22, 2023



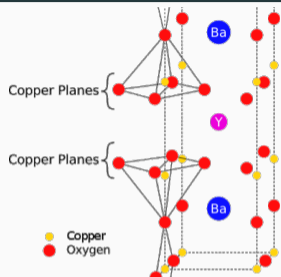
CHALMERS
UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY



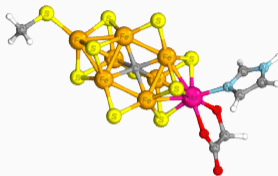
Outline

- Electronic Structure Theory – Quantum Chemistry
- Correlated Ansatz to reduce the computational footprint on quantum hardware
- Intermezzo: Quantum Imaginary Time Evolution – QITE
- Applications: Circuit depth – Hubbard model
- Applications: Circuit width – *Ab initio* problems
- Conclusions and Outlook

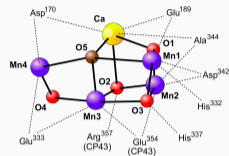
Electronic Structure Theory – Quantum Chemistry



YBCO: Unconventional high- T_c superconductivity



FeMoCo: primary cofactor of nitrogenase \rightarrow nitrogen fixation



Manganese-Cadmium-Oxygen Clusters: Oxygen evolving clusters in photosystem II

Surprisingly small systems responsible for interesting physical/chemical properties!

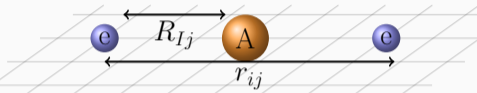
Strongly correlated \Rightarrow challenging systems for computational approaches!

Accurate theoretical understanding at nano-scale for bottom-up materials design!

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)

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



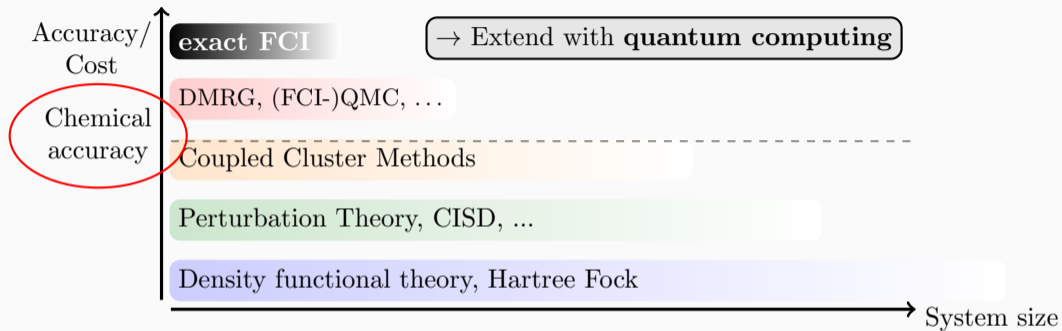
Electronic properties: Ground- and low-lying excited state properties, energy differences, polarization, response functions, ...

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

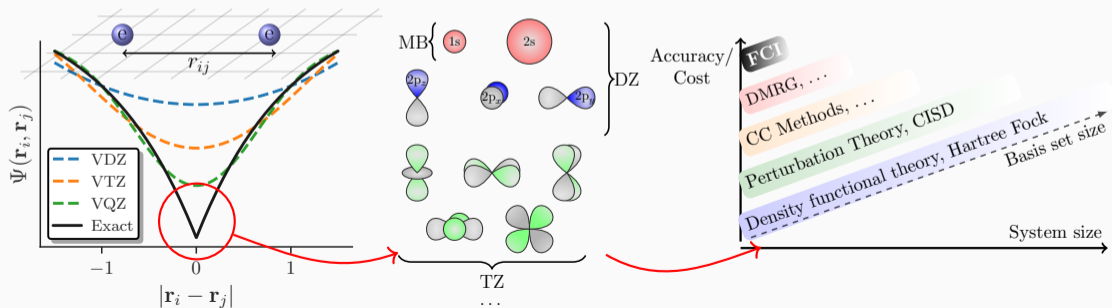


Highly accurate methods only applicable to **very small** system sizes.
Current quantum computing calculations/experiments use small/**minimal basis sets** far from experimental results, due to **limited number of qubits**

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 ($r_{ij} = 0$)

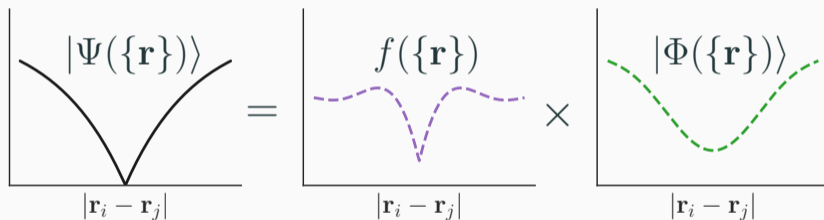
$$\hat{H} = -\sum_i \nabla_{\mathbf{r}_i}^2 - \sum_{I,j} \frac{Z_I}{|\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{r}_j|} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|}, \quad \hat{H} |\Psi(\{\mathbf{r}\})\rangle = E_0 |\Psi(\{\mathbf{r}\})\rangle$$



Correlated Ansatz to reduce the
computational footprint on
quantum hardware

Cusp Condition – Explicitly Correlated Ansatz

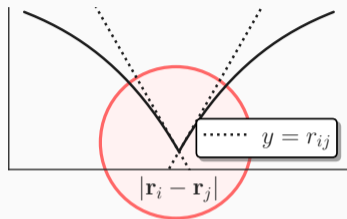
Short range behavior \rightarrow **dynamic correlation**. Important for accurate results
 \rightarrow Necessitates **large basis set expansion**.



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} !

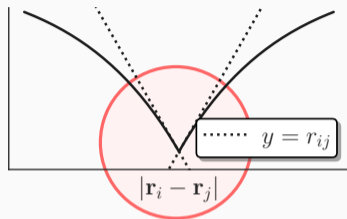
R12 methods*: $|\Psi\rangle = r_{ij} |\Phi\rangle$

F12 methods[†]: $|\Psi\rangle = f(r_{ij}) |\Phi\rangle$, $f(r_{ij}) = \frac{1 - \exp(-\gamma r_{ij})}{\gamma}$

Jastrow Ansatz[‡]: $|\Psi\rangle = e^{\hat{J}} |\Phi\rangle$, $\hat{J} = \sum_{ij} J_{ij} g(\tilde{r}_{ij})$

* Kutzelnigg, Theoretica chimica acta 68, 445 (1985); [†] Ten-no, J. Chem. Phys. 121, 117 (2004); [‡] 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} !

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

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

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

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

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

Variational Quantum Monte Carlo to optimize Jastrow factors

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

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

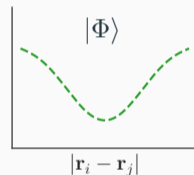
- The choice of trial wavefunction is critical in VMC calculations \rightarrow accuracy limited by $|\Phi_T\rangle = e^{\hat{J}} |\Phi_0\rangle!$
- Hartree-Fock state usually first starting point for $|\Phi_0\rangle$, but more elaborate/accurate states possible...
- Polynomial scaling $\sim N^3$
- Such 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

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



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

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

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

The Similarity Transformed TC Hamiltonian

Consequences:

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

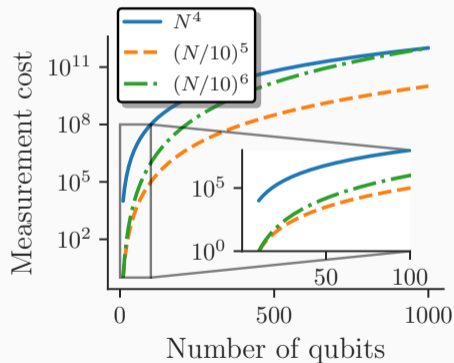
$$\begin{aligned}\bar{H} &= \hat{H} - \sum_i \left(\frac{1}{2} \nabla_i^2 \hat{J} + (\nabla_i \hat{J}) \nabla_i + \frac{1}{2} (\nabla_i \hat{J})^2 \right) \\ &= \hat{H} - \sum_{i < j} \hat{K}(\mathbf{r}_i, \mathbf{r}_j) - \sum_{i < j < k} \hat{L}(\mathbf{r}_i, \mathbf{r}_j, \mathbf{r}_k)\end{aligned}$$

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

Scaling of TC – Measurement Cost

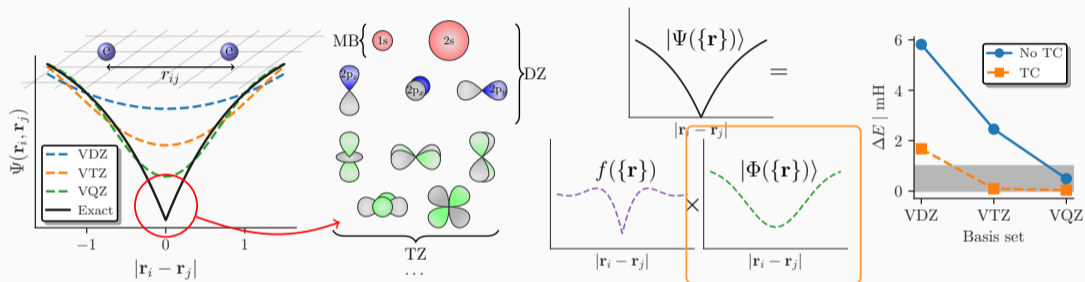
$$\bar{H} = \sum_{pq,\sigma} h_q^p a_{p,\sigma}^\dagger a_{q,\sigma} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{pqrs,\sigma\tau} \bar{V}_{rs}^{pq} a_{p,\sigma}^\dagger a_{q,\tau}^\dagger a_{s,\tau} a_{r,\sigma} - \frac{1}{6} \sum_{pqrst,\sigma\tau\lambda} L_{st\lambda}^{pqr} a_{p,\sigma}^\dagger a_{q,\tau}^\dagger a_{r,\lambda}^\dagger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

- 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**

Intermezzo: Quantum Imaginary Time Evolution – QITE

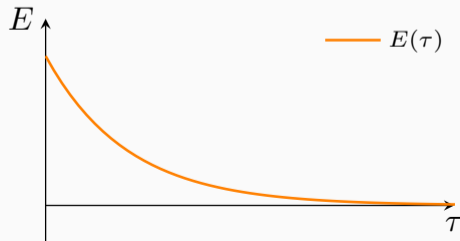
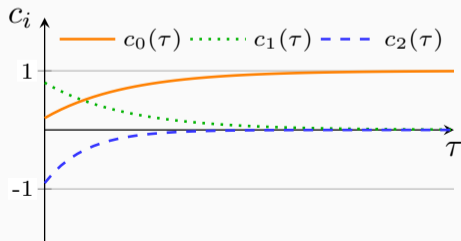
Since the TC Hamiltonian is non Hermitian, variational algorithms like VQE are not applicable!

Quantum Imaginary Time Evolution – QITE

→ Solve for the **right** eigenvector of non-Hermitian \bar{H} by (quantum) imaginary-time evolution (QITE)

$$i \frac{\partial |\Psi\rangle}{\partial t} = \hat{H} |\Psi\rangle \quad \tau \xrightarrow{=it} \quad \frac{\partial |\Psi\rangle}{\partial \tau} = -\hat{H} |\Psi\rangle \quad \rightarrow \quad |\Psi(\tau)\rangle = N(\tau) e^{-\hat{H}\tau} |\Psi(0)\rangle$$

$$|\Psi(0)\rangle = \sum_i c_i(0) |\psi_i\rangle \quad \rightarrow \quad |\Psi(\tau)\rangle = e^{-\tau(\hat{H}-S\tau)} \sum_i c_i(0) |\psi_i\rangle = \sum_i c_i(0) e^{-\tau(E_i-S\tau)} |\psi_i\rangle$$



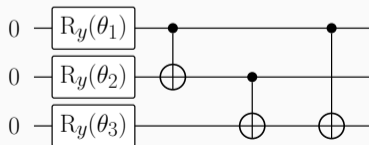
Ansatz-based QITE

$e^{-\hat{H}\tau}$ is **not unitary!** However, **Ansatz-based QITE*** allows to formulate non-unitary time evolution, as a minimization:

$$\frac{\partial |\Psi(\tau)\rangle}{\partial \tau} = -(\hat{H} - E(\tau)) |\Psi(\tau)\rangle, \quad \text{with} \quad E(\tau) = \langle \Psi(\tau) | \hat{H} | \Psi(\tau) \rangle,$$

(1) Use an Ansatz to approximate $|\Psi(\tau)\rangle$:

$$|\Psi(\tau)\rangle \approx |\Phi(\boldsymbol{\theta}(\tau))\rangle, \quad \text{with} \quad |\Phi(\boldsymbol{\theta}(\tau))\rangle = \hat{U}_n(\theta_n(\tau)) \cdots \hat{U}_1(\theta_1(\tau)) |\mathbf{0}\rangle = \hat{U}(\boldsymbol{\theta}(\tau)) |\mathbf{0}\rangle$$



State preparation $|\Psi(\boldsymbol{\theta})\rangle = \hat{U}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) |\mathbf{0}\rangle$

2) Use McLachlan's variational principle with Ansatz: $|\Psi(\tau)\rangle \approx |\Phi(\boldsymbol{\theta}(\tau))\rangle$

$$\delta \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} + \hat{H} - E(\tau) \right\| |\Phi(\boldsymbol{\theta}(\tau))\rangle \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

to express imaginary-time evolution of $|\Psi(\tau)\rangle$ as the change of the parameters $\frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}(\tau)}{\partial \tau}$ wrt. to imaginary time τ :

$$\sum_j A_{ij} \dot{\theta}_j = C_i, \quad \implies \dot{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{C}$$

with the **metric** \mathbf{A} and **gradient** \mathbf{C} :

$$A_{ij} = \frac{\partial \langle \Phi(\tau) |}{\partial \theta_i} \frac{\partial | \Phi(\tau) \rangle}{\partial \theta_j} \quad \text{and} \quad C_i = - \frac{\partial \langle \Phi(\tau) |}{\partial \theta_i} \hat{H} | \Phi(\tau) \rangle$$

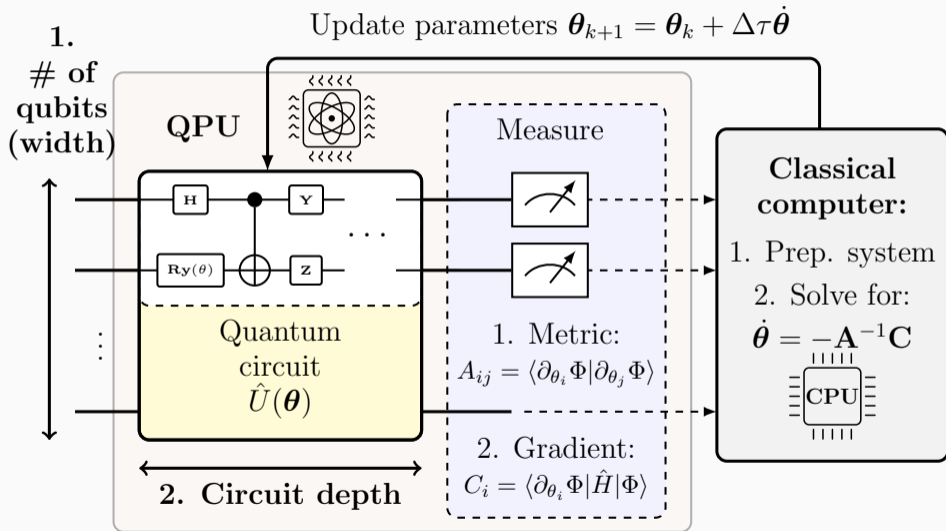
Update in parameters

- No need for optimization \rightarrow solution to linear system of equations
- Change in parameters with e.g. Euler method with timestep $\Delta\tau$

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}(\tau + \Delta\tau) \approx \boldsymbol{\theta}(\tau) + \dot{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\Delta\tau = \boldsymbol{\theta}(\tau) + \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{C}\Delta\tau$$

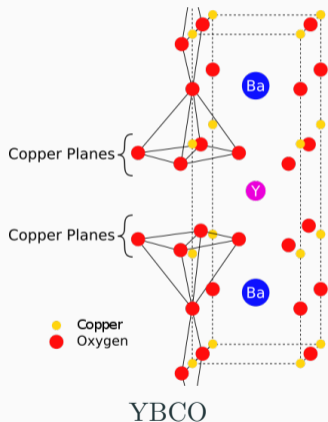
- Repeating this $N_\tau = \frac{\tau_{tot}}{\Delta\tau}$ times, allows to simulate imaginary time evolution for a total time τ_{tot} .
- To perform VarQITE \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{C} must be measured on a quantum computer \rightarrow need to **measure derivatives** w.r.t. θ_i :
Numerical differentiation, parameter-shift rule, linear combination of unitaries*

QITE Workflow

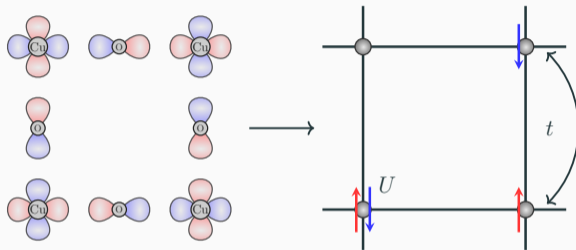


Applications: Circuit depth – Hubbard model

High- T_C Superconductors and the Hubbard Model



Mapping to an effective lattice model:



The Hubbard Hamiltonian

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

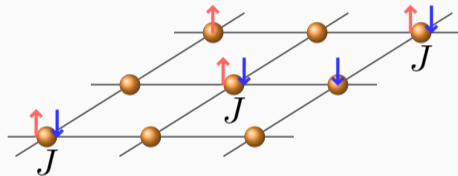
Strong interaction \Rightarrow highly multiconfigurational

Similarity Transformation based on the Gutzwiller Ansatz

Reduce circuit depth with transcorrelated Ansatz

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

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

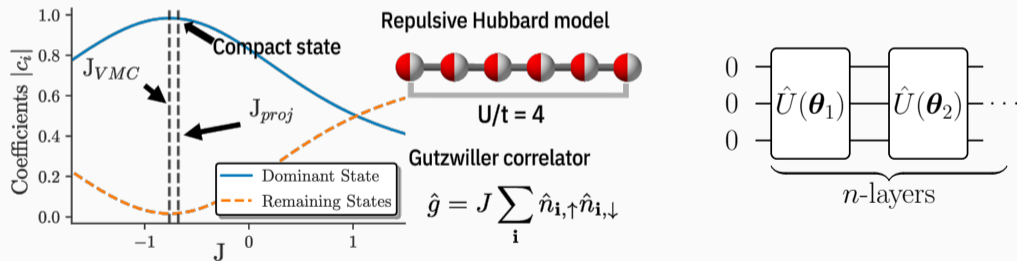


- Perform an exact *similarity transformation* (ST) of the Hubbard Hamiltonian \hat{H} :

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

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

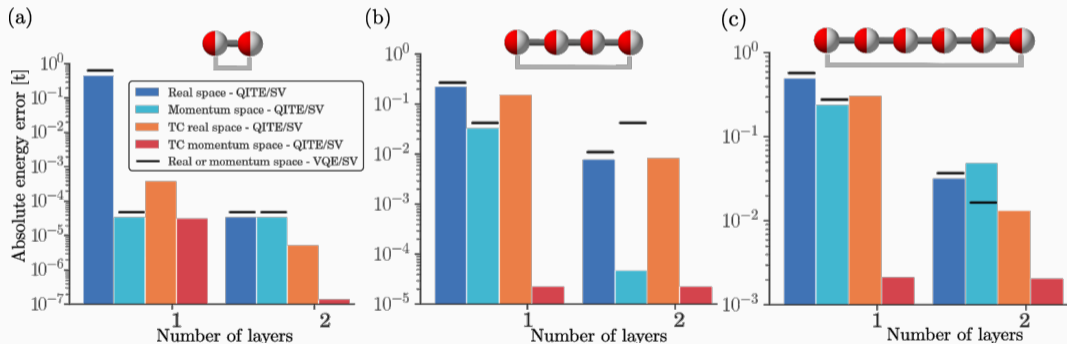


⇒ Does the increased compactness/more single reference character have an impact on the necessary Ansatz (depth)?

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

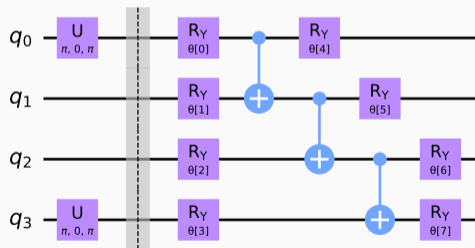
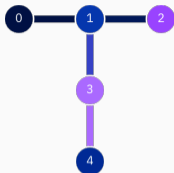
Statevector simulation – n -layer UCCSD Ansatz – $U/t = 4$



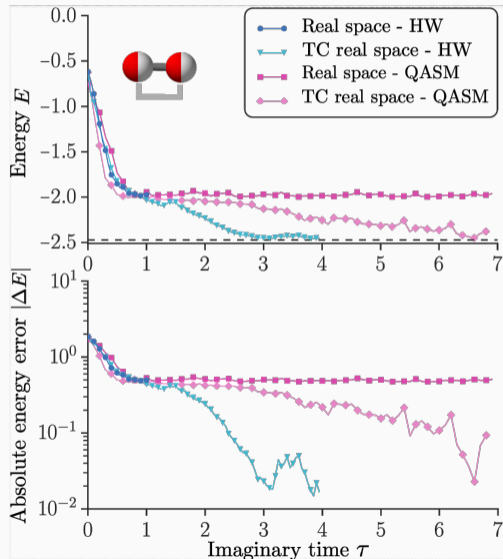
Black bars indicate VQE results

Actual experimental results for the Hubbard model on ibmq_lima

- 2-site Hubbard model



Hardware-efficient RY Ansatz



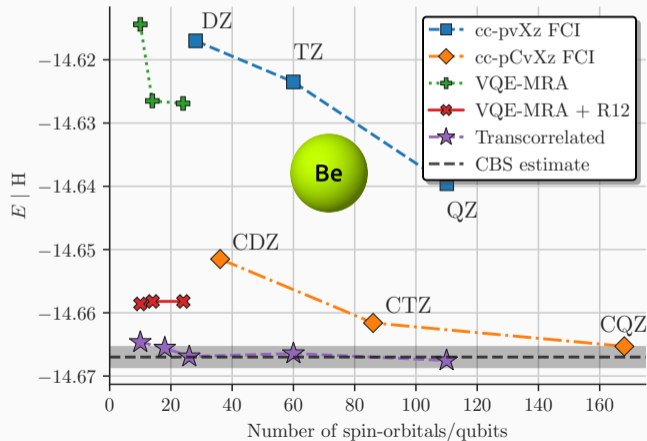
Applications: Circuit width – *Ab initio* problems

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.**



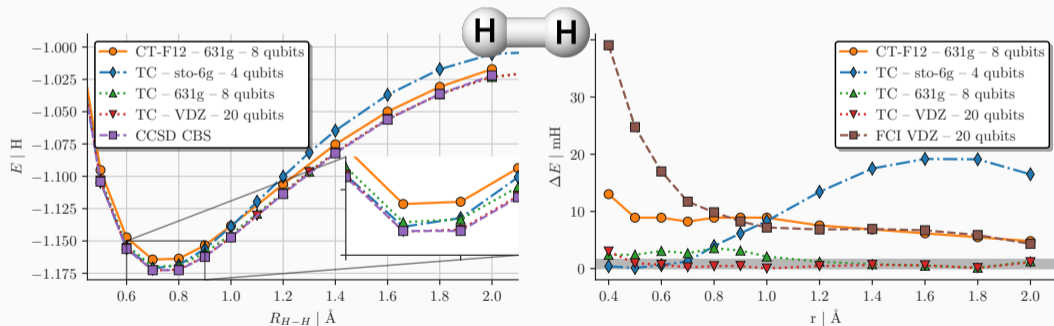
*VQE/MRA+[2]R12: Schleich *et al.*, Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys., 2022, 24, 13550 (2022)

Hydrogen molecule

Favorite quantum chemistry test case: Hydrogen molecule – H_2

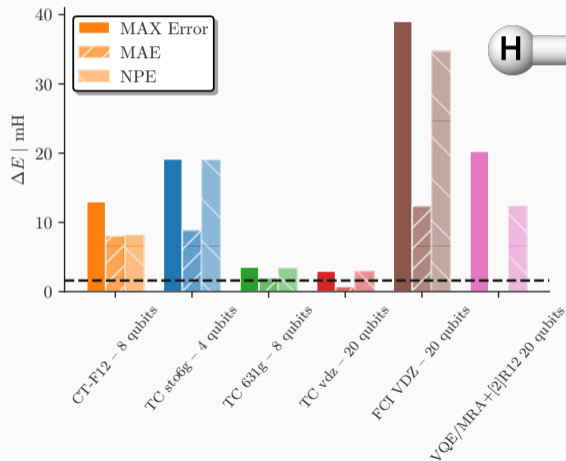
CT-F12 approximated explicitly correlated method, by Motta *et al.**

Exact statevector simulation – UCCSD Ansatz

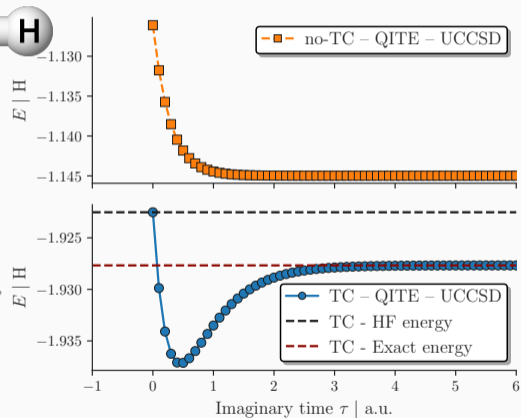


*CT-F12: Motta *et al.*, Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys. **22**, 24270, 2020

H₂ cont

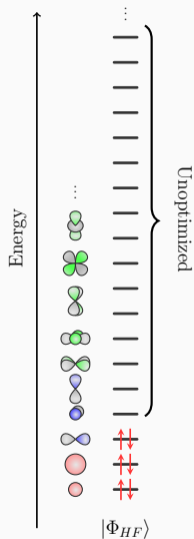


Error statistics

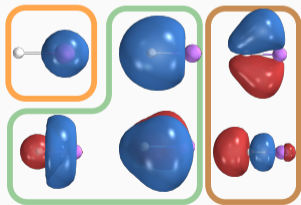
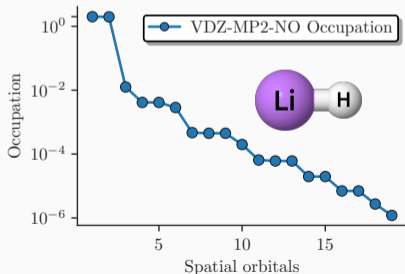


Imaginary time evolution – STO-6G – 0.7Å

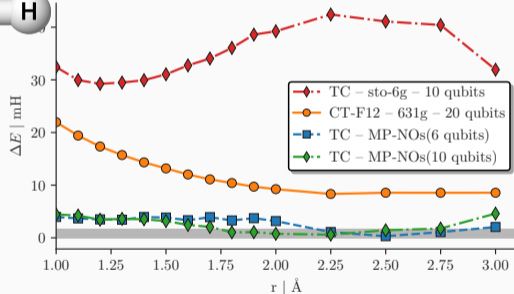
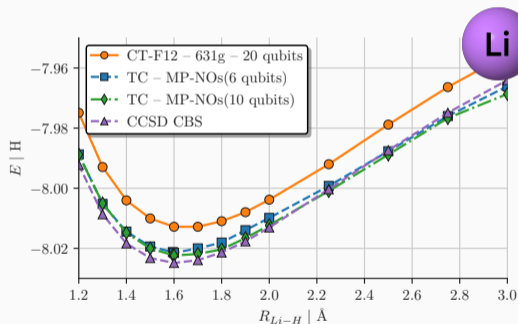
(Virtual) orbital optimization



- “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

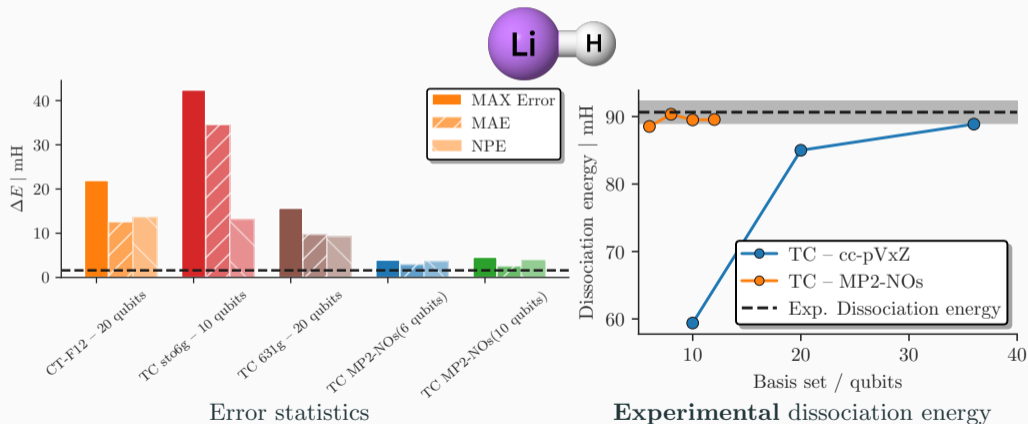


Lithium hydride – exact statevector simulation – UCCSD Ansatz – Li 1s frozen



LiH – Dissociation energy

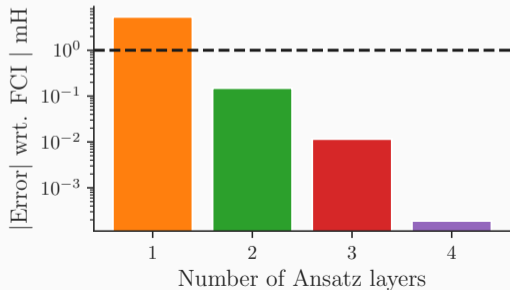
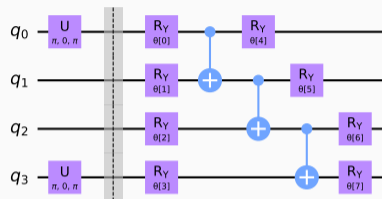
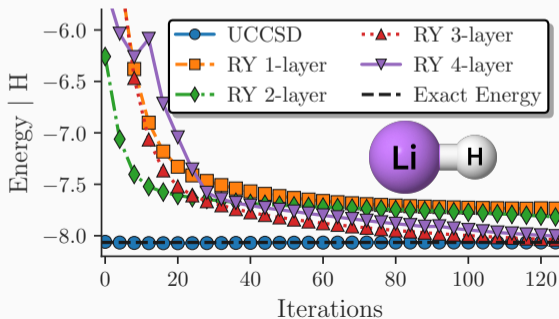
Error statistics and comparison to **experimental*** dissociation energy



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

LiH – Hardware-efficient Ansatz

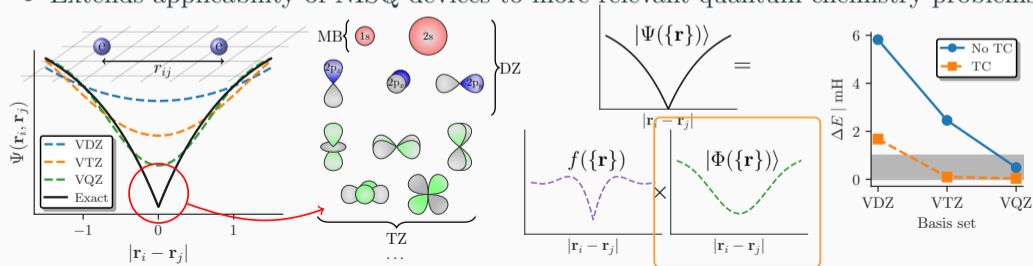
- LiH at equilibrium bond distance with 3 MP2 NOs.
- Hardware efficient RY Ansatz with linear entangling layer and parity encoding.
- Statevector simulation



Conclusions and Outlook

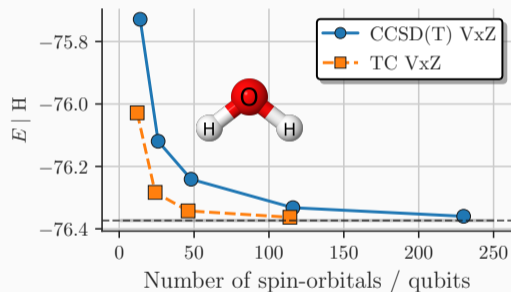
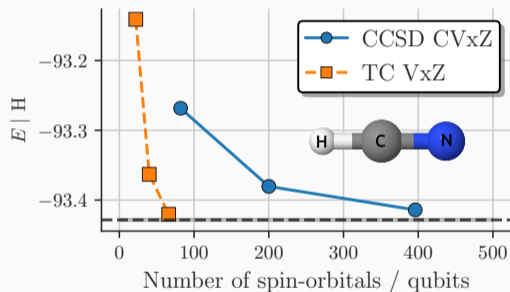
Conclusion – Transcorrelated Approach on Quantum Hardware

- The TC method partially transfers 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



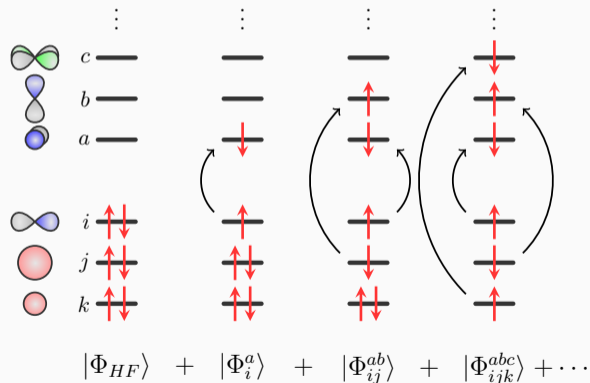
Open questions: **Noise**, approximations to metric \mathbf{A} , which Ansatz to use? ...

Thank you for your attention!

Exponential scaling of Full Configuration Interaction

FCI \Rightarrow exact solution in a given basis: linear combination of determinants

$$|\Psi\rangle = |\Phi_{HF}\rangle + \sum_i c_i |\Phi_i\rangle$$



All possible excitations from HF determinant

Number of possible states for given number of electrons, N , and orbitals, n , $\sim \binom{N}{n}$

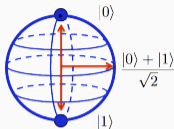
Mol.	#orbitals	#electrons	#states
H ₂	2	2	4
LiH	4	4	36
Be ₂	8	8	4900
H ₂ O	12	12	$\sim 8 \cdot 10^5$
C ₂ H ₄	16	16	$\sim 16 \cdot 10^6$
F₂	18	18	$\sim 2 \cdot 10^9$

The case for quantum computing

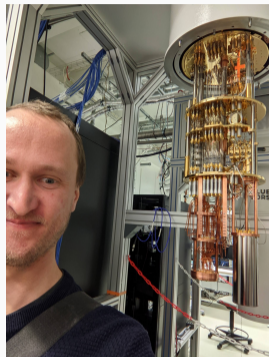
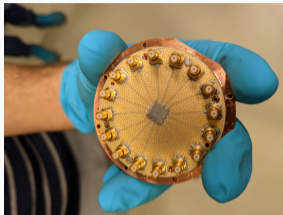
● 0

● 1

Classical Bit



Qubit



@ Chalmers



n qubits can encode $\sim 2^n$ states. Quantum algorithms use **entanglement**, **superposition** and **interference** to find solution



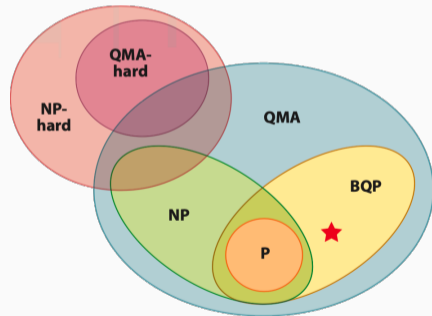
$$\begin{aligned} & \overbrace{(|0\rangle_1 + |1\rangle_1)}^{\text{qubit1}} \otimes \overbrace{(|0\rangle_2 + |1\rangle_2)}^{\text{qubit2}} \\ &= |00\rangle + |01\rangle + |10\rangle + |11\rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & |q_1\rangle \otimes |q_2\rangle \otimes |q_3\rangle = \\ &= |000\rangle + |001\rangle + |010\rangle + |100\rangle \\ &+ |011\rangle + |101\rangle + |110\rangle + |111\rangle \end{aligned}$$

The case for quantum computing

Quantum chemistry potential use-case / killer-application of noisy intermediate-scale quantum (NISQ) devices and “quantum advantage” for relevant systems

- Efficient encoding of exponentially scaling wavefunction
- Effective measurement of Hamiltonian expectation values
- A system with > 60 qubits cannot be simulated with a classical computer
- A moderately-sized quantum processor (≈ 100 qubits) could outperform supercomputers for accurate solutions
- But how do we represent and solve the problem on quantum hardware? **Ansätze** and **algorithms**



Jastrow s.t. Hamiltonian in 2nd quantised form

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

with

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

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 ≈ 80 orbitals

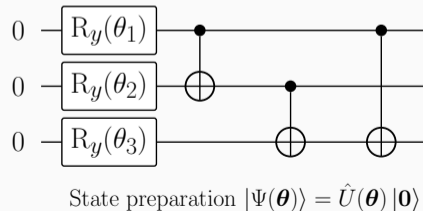
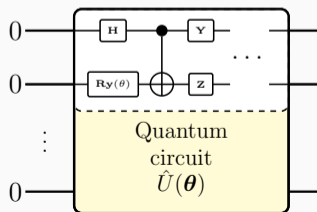
Variational Ansatz-based QITE – VarQITE

(Normalized) imaginary-time Schrödinger equation:

$$\frac{\partial |\Psi(\tau)\rangle}{\partial \tau} = -(\hat{H} - S_\tau) |\Psi(\tau)\rangle \quad \rightarrow \quad |\Psi(\tau)\rangle = e^{-\tau(\hat{H} - S_\tau)} |\Psi(0)\rangle$$

would yield the ground state, but **non-unitary** $e^{-\tau(\hat{H} - S_\tau)}$ not possible on a quantum computer! Approximate $|\Psi(\tau)\rangle$ with an Ansatz with parametrized unitary gates:

$$|\Psi(\tau)\rangle \approx |\Phi(\boldsymbol{\theta}(\tau))\rangle, \quad \text{with} \quad |\Phi(\boldsymbol{\theta}(\tau))\rangle = \hat{U}_n(\theta_n(\tau)) \cdots \hat{U}_1(\theta_1(\tau)) |\mathbf{0}\rangle = \hat{U}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) |\mathbf{0}\rangle$$



Three ingredients:

1. Evolution of $|\Phi(\boldsymbol{\theta}(\tau))\rangle$ according to imaginary time Schrödinger equation, $|\Psi(\tau)\rangle = e^{-\tau(\hat{H}-S_\tau)} |\Psi(0)\rangle$ for small $\delta\tau$: $e^{-\delta\tau(\hat{H}-S_\tau)} \approx (1 - \delta\tau(\hat{H} - S_\tau))$

$$|\Phi(\boldsymbol{\theta}(\tau + \delta\tau))\rangle \approx \left[1 - \delta\tau(\hat{H} - S_\tau)\right] |\Phi(\boldsymbol{\theta}(\tau))\rangle \quad (1)$$

2. Variation of $|\Phi(\boldsymbol{\theta}(\tau))\rangle$ w.r.t. to parameters $\partial\theta$:

$$|\Phi(\boldsymbol{\theta}(\tau + \delta\tau))\rangle \approx |\Phi(\boldsymbol{\theta}(\tau))\rangle + \sum_j \frac{\partial |\Phi(\boldsymbol{\theta}(\tau))\rangle}{\partial \theta_j} \frac{\partial \theta_j}{\partial \tau} \delta\tau \quad (2)$$

Equate r.h.s. of Eqs. (1) and (2) \Rightarrow

McLachlan's variational principle

$$\implies \sum_j \frac{\partial |\Phi(\boldsymbol{\theta}(\tau))\rangle}{\partial \theta_j} \dot{\theta}_j \approx -(\hat{H} - S_\tau) |\Phi(\boldsymbol{\theta}(\tau))\rangle, \quad \text{with} \quad \dot{\theta}_j = \frac{\partial \theta_j}{\partial \tau} \quad (3)$$

3. McLachlan's variational principle to minimize the distance between l.h.s and r.h.s. of (3)

$$\delta \left\| \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} + \hat{H} - S_\tau \right) |\Phi(\boldsymbol{\theta}(\tau))\rangle \right\| = 0, \quad \text{with} \quad \| |\Phi\rangle \| = \sqrt{\langle \Phi | \Phi \rangle}.$$

After some calculations we find a formula to update the parameters $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ to emulate imaginary time evolution on quantum computers

Connection to natural gradient

Equation for change in parameters θ due to McLachlan's variational principle to enable Ansatz-based quantum imaginary time evolution:

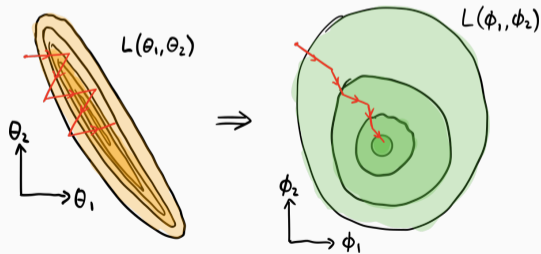
$$\sum_j A_{ij} \dot{\theta}_j = C_i, \quad \implies \dot{\theta} = \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{C}$$

with the metric:

$$A_{ij} = \frac{\partial \langle \Phi |}{\partial \theta_i} \frac{\partial | \Phi \rangle}{\partial \theta_j}$$

and energy gradient:

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



Imaginary Time Evolution (ITE) – Normalization

$E_0 - S_\tau = 0$ would require knowledge of ground state. Alternative, and also to ensure proper normalization:

For small time-steps $\Delta\tau$ approximate exponential by first-order Taylor approximation* and obtain iterative solution:

$$e^{-\Delta\tau(\hat{H}-S_\tau)} \approx 1 - \Delta\tau(\hat{H} - S_\tau) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta\tau^2) \quad \rightarrow \quad |\Psi(\tau + \Delta\tau)\rangle = \left[1 - \Delta\tau(\hat{H} - S_\tau)\right] |\Psi(\tau)\rangle \quad (4)$$

Assuming $\langle\Psi(\tau)|\Psi(\tau)\rangle = 1$:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle\Psi(\tau + \Delta\tau)|\Psi(\tau + \Delta\tau)\rangle &= \langle\Psi(\tau)|\left[1 - \Delta\tau(\hat{H} - S_\tau)\right]^2|\Psi(\tau)\rangle \stackrel{!}{=} 1 \\ &= \underbrace{\langle\Psi(\tau)|\Psi(\tau)\rangle}_{=1} - 2\Delta\tau \underbrace{\left(\langle\Psi(\tau)|\hat{H}|\Psi(\tau)\rangle - S_\tau\right)}_{\stackrel{!}{=}0} + \mathcal{O}(\Delta\tau^2) \end{aligned}$$

$\implies S_\tau = \langle\Psi(\tau)|\hat{H}|\Psi(\tau)\rangle$ ensures normalization of $|\Psi(\tau)\rangle$ and allows ITE to converge to the groundstate

* for $\Delta\tau < 1/E_W$, with $E_W = E_{max} - E_0$ being the many-body spectral width, Trivedi and Ceperley, Phys. Rev. B, 41, 4552 (1990)

$$\langle \Phi | \left(\partial / \partial \tau + \hat{H} - S_\tau \right)^\dagger \left(\partial / \partial \tau + \hat{H} - S_\tau \right) | \Phi \rangle = \sum_{ij} \frac{\partial \langle \Phi |}{\partial \theta_i} \frac{\partial | \Phi \rangle}{\partial \theta_j} \dot{\theta}_i \dot{\theta}_j + \sum_i \frac{\partial \langle \Phi |}{\partial \theta_i} (\hat{H} - S_\tau) | \Phi \rangle \dot{\theta}_i \quad (5)$$

$$+ \sum_i \langle \Phi | (\hat{H} - S_\tau) \frac{\partial | \Phi \rangle}{\partial \theta_i} \dot{\theta}_i + \langle \Phi | (\hat{H} - S_\tau)^2 | \Phi \rangle$$

Variations in $\dot{\theta}_i \implies$ and focusing on one term in $\dot{\theta}_i$:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \| (\partial / \partial \tau + \hat{H} - S_\tau) | \Phi \rangle \|}{\partial \dot{\theta}_i} &= \sum_j \left(\frac{\partial \langle \Phi |}{\partial \theta_i} \frac{\partial | \Phi \rangle}{\partial \theta_j} + \frac{\partial \langle \Phi |}{\partial \theta_j} \frac{\partial | \Phi \rangle}{\partial \theta_i} \right) \dot{\theta}_j \\ &+ \frac{\partial \langle \Phi |}{\partial \theta_i} \hat{H} | \Phi \rangle + \langle \Phi | \hat{H} \frac{\partial | \Phi \rangle}{\partial \theta_i} - S_\tau \left(\frac{\partial \langle \Phi |}{\partial \theta_i} | \Phi \rangle + \langle \Phi | \frac{\partial | \Phi \rangle}{\partial \theta_i} \right) \end{aligned}$$

with

$$\langle \Phi | \Phi \rangle = 1, \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{\partial \langle \Phi | \Phi \rangle}{\partial \theta_i} = \frac{\partial \langle \Phi |}{\partial \theta_i} | \Phi \rangle + \langle \Phi | \frac{\partial | \Phi \rangle}{\partial \theta_i} = 0$$

$$\implies \frac{\partial \| (\partial / \partial \tau + \hat{H} - S_\tau) | \Phi \rangle \|}{\partial \dot{\theta}_i} = \sum_j A_{ij} \dot{\theta}_j - C_i \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

Monotonic energy convergence

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dE(\tau)}{d\tau} &= \langle \Phi(\tau) | \hat{H} \frac{d|\Phi(\tau)\rangle}{d\tau} \rangle = \sum_i \langle \Phi(\tau) | \hat{H} \frac{\partial |\Phi(\tau)\rangle}{\partial \theta_i} \rangle \dot{\theta}_i \\ &= - \sum_i C_i \dot{\theta}_i = - \sum_i C_i A_{ij}^{-1} C_j \leq 0,\end{aligned}\tag{6}$$

if \mathbf{A}^{-1} is positive. For arbitrary $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N)^T$:

$$\mathbf{x}^\dagger \cdot \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{x} = \sum_{ij} x_i^* A_{ij} x_j = \sum_{ij} x_i^* \left(\frac{\partial \langle \Phi(\tau) |}{\partial \theta_i} \frac{\partial |\Phi(\tau)\rangle}{\partial \theta_j} \right) x_j$$

with a general $|\zeta\rangle = \sum_i x_i \frac{\partial |\Phi(\tau)\rangle}{\partial \theta_i}$:

$$\sum_{ij} x_i^* \left(\frac{\partial \langle \Phi(\tau) |}{\partial \theta_i} \frac{\partial |\Phi(\tau)\rangle}{\partial \theta_j} \right) x_j = \langle \zeta | \zeta \rangle \geq 0.$$

And we only consider non-zero eigenvalues in case \mathbf{A}^{-1} is singular

Linear combination of unitaries

Assuming: each unitary gate depends only on one parameter θ_i and each U_i is a rotation or controlled rotation gate.

$$\frac{\partial U_i(\theta_i)}{\partial \theta_i} = \sum_k f_{k,i} U_i(\theta_i) u_{k,i}, \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{\partial |\Phi(\tau)\rangle}{\partial \theta_i} = \sum_k f_{k,i} V'_{k,i} |\mathbf{0}\rangle \quad (7)$$

with a unitary operator $u_{k,i}$, scalar parameter $f_{k,i}$ and:

$$V'_{k,i} = U_n(\theta_n) \dots U_i(\theta_i) u_{k,i} \dots U_1(\theta_1)$$

Evaluation \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{C} with Quantum Circuits

How do we measure the metric, \mathbf{A} , and the gradient, \mathbf{C} on quantum hardware.

$$A_{ij} = \frac{\partial \langle \Phi |}{\partial \theta_i} \frac{\partial | \Phi \rangle}{\partial \theta_j}, \quad C_i = -\frac{\partial \langle \Phi |}{\partial \theta_i} \hat{H} | \Phi \rangle$$

$|\Phi(\boldsymbol{\theta}(\tau))\rangle$ encoded by unitary gates acting on initial state: Ansatz $\hat{U}(\boldsymbol{\theta}(\tau))$

$$|\Phi(\boldsymbol{\theta}(\tau))\rangle = \hat{U}_n(\theta_n(\tau)) \cdots \hat{U}_i(\theta_i(\tau)) \cdots \hat{U}_1(\theta_1(\tau)) |0\rangle = \hat{U}(\boldsymbol{\theta}(\tau)) |0\rangle$$

- Numerical differentiation/approximation: $\frac{\partial \hat{U}_i(\theta_i)}{\partial \theta_i} \approx \frac{\hat{U}_i(\theta_i + \Delta\theta_i) - \hat{U}_i(\theta_i)}{\Delta\theta_i}$
- Parameter-shift rule* (for single qubit gates):
 $R_z(\theta_i) = e^{-i\theta_i\sigma_z} \rightarrow \frac{\partial U_i(\theta_i)}{\partial \theta_i} = -i\sigma_z R_z(\theta_i)$
- Linear combination of unitaries* (for general gates), see (7)ff for details

*Schuld *et al.*, Phys. Rev. A 99, 032331 (2019); Romero *et al.*, Quantum Science and Technology, 4, 1 (2019); Li and Benjamin, Phys. Rev. X 7, 021050 (2017);

Derivative Example

- $U_i(\theta_i)$ is a single qubit rotation: $R_Z(\theta_i) = e^{-i\theta_i\sigma_z}$:

$$\frac{\partial U_i(\theta_i)}{\partial \theta_i} = -\frac{i}{2}\sigma_z R_Z(\theta_i)$$

→ add an extra σ_z gate with factor $-i/2$

- $U_i(\theta_i)$ a controlled rotation: $|0\rangle\langle 0| \otimes I + |1\rangle\langle 1| \otimes R_Z(\theta_i)$:

$$\frac{\partial U_i(\theta_i)}{\partial \theta_i} = |1\rangle\langle 1| \otimes \partial R_Z(\theta_i)/\partial \theta_i = -\frac{i}{2}|1\rangle\langle 1| \otimes \sigma_z R_Z(\theta_i)$$

→ realized with

$$u_{1,i} = I \otimes \sigma_z, f_{1,i} = -i/4,$$

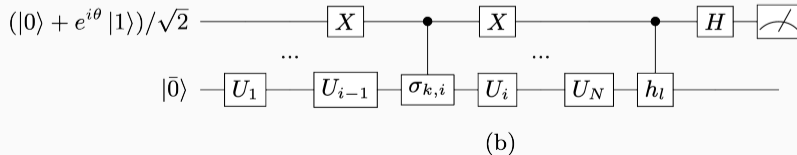
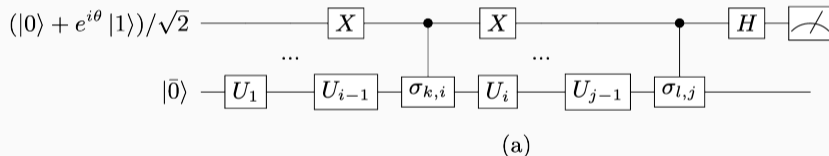
$$u_{2,i} = \sigma_z \otimes \sigma_z, f_{2,i} = i/4$$

in $\sum_k f_{k,i} U_i(\theta_i) u_{k,i}$ from previous slide

Evaluation A and C with Quantum Circuits – cont.

$$A_{ij} = \sum_{k,l} f_{k,i}^* f_{l,j} \langle \mathbf{0} | V_{k,i}'^\dagger V_{l,j}' | \mathbf{0} \rangle, \quad C_i = \sum_{k,l} f_{k,l}^* \lambda_l \langle \mathbf{0} | V'^\dagger h_l \hat{V} | \mathbf{0} \rangle \quad (8)$$

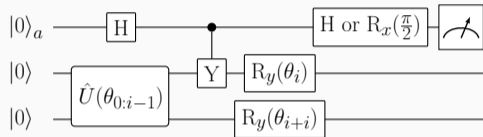
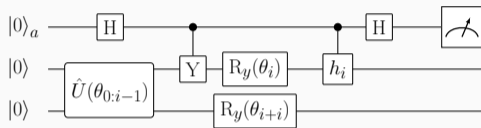
with $\hat{H} = \sum_l \lambda_l h_l$. Both **A** and **C** are of the form $a \cdot e^{i\phi} \langle \mathbf{0} | \hat{U} | \mathbf{0} \rangle$ and can be evaluated on a quantum circuit.



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:

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

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

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