

Title: Bounding the purification rank of mixed states

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Abstract: A mixed state can be expressed as a sum of  $D$  tensor product matrices, where  $D$  is its operator Schmidt rank, or as the result of a purification with a purifying state of Schmidt rank  $D'$ , where  $D'$  is its purification rank. The question whether  $D'$  can be upper bounded by  $D$  is important theoretically (to establish a description of mixed states with tensor networks), as well as numerically (as the first decomposition is more efficient, but the second one guarantees positive-semidefiniteness after truncation). Here we show that no upper bounds of the purification rank that depend only on operator Schmidt rank exist, but provide upper bounds that also depend on the number of eigenvalues. In addition, we formulate the approximation problem as a Semidefinite Program.  
Joint work with N. Schuch, D. Perez-Garcia, and J. I. Cirac.



# Bounding the purification rank of mixed states

**Gemma De las Cuevas**

Max Planck Institut für Quantenoptik, Garching, Germany

Joint work with Norbert Schuch,  
David Perez-Garcia, and  
Ignacio Cirac

(to appear soon in the arXiv)

# Mixed states

Used to describe

- Thermal states of quantum many-body systems
- Systems out of equilibrium, e.g. experiments
- Dissipative dynamics
- Lack of knowledge of a system

Appear in

- condensed matter
- atomic physics
- chemistry
- high energy physics

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Develop good theoretical description of mixed states

# Tensor networks

Goal: develop an alternative description of quantum many-body systems

establish neat relations between

Physics  
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Mathematical properties  
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# Tensor networks

## Matrix Product States (MPS)

- Canonical form:
  - injective/non-injective
  - parent Hamiltonian
  - symmetries
  - topological order
  - classification of phases
  - link to CP maps
- Numerical algorithms

in 1D

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## Matrix Product Density Operators (MPDOs)

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## Matrix Product Density Operators (MPDOs)

Canonical form ?



- thermal Hamiltonian
- symmetries
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## Matrix Product Density Operators (MPDOs)

Unique decomposition of MPDOs?

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## Matrix Product Density Operators (MPDOs)

Goal of this project

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# Outline

- The setting Can one upper bound the purification rank as a function of the operator Schmidt rank?
- A counterexample No.
- Upper bounds
- Approximate solutions
- Conclusions & Outlook

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- The setting Can one upper bound the purification rank as a function of the operator Schmidt rank?
- A counterexample No.
- Upper bounds We give upper bounds that also depend on the number of eigenvalues.
- Approximate solutions
- Conclusions & Outlook





# The setting

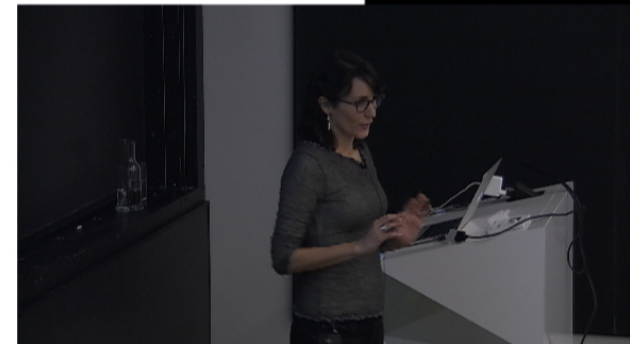
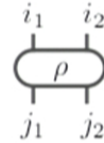
Can one upper bound the purification rank  
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# Prelude

- Mixed state

It is described by a positive semidefinite tensor of trace 1.

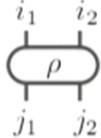
$$\rho = \sum \rho_{i_1 i_2, j_1 j_2} |i_1 i_2\rangle \langle j_1 j_2|$$



# Prelude

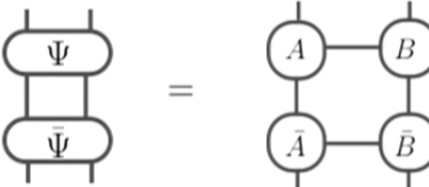
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- Purification

Every mixed state can be seen as a subsystem of a larger pure state.

$$\rho = \text{tr}_{\text{anc}} |\Psi\rangle \langle \Psi| =$$


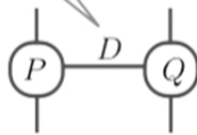
# The setting

Given a positive semidefinite matrix  $\rho$ , consider these 2 decompositions:

Operator Schmidt decomposition

$$\rho = \sum_{\alpha=1}^D P_{\alpha} \otimes Q_{\alpha}$$

operator Schmidt rank

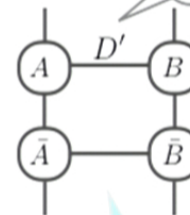


Local Purification

$$\rho = \text{tr}_{\text{anc}} |\Psi\rangle \langle \Psi|$$

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purification rank



Choose the purifying state with minimal bond dimension

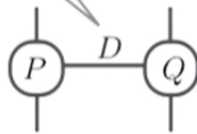
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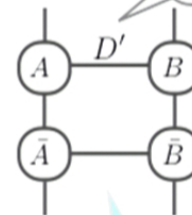


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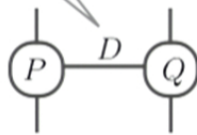
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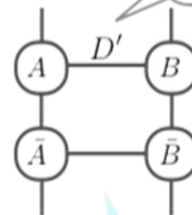


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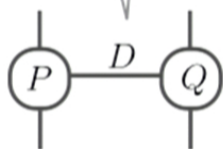


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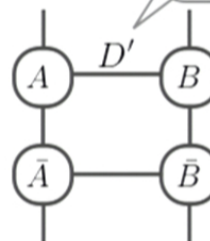
Operator Schmidt decomposition

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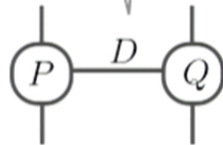
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# The setting

## Operator Schmidt decomposition

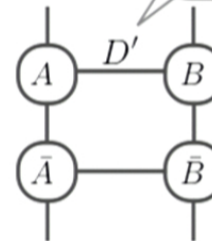
operator Schmidt rank



- ✓ minimal bond dimension
- ✗ not positive semidef. locally

## Local Purification

purification rank



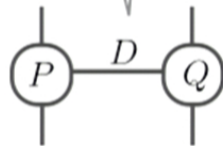
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# The setting

## Operator Schmidt decomposition

operator Schmidt rank



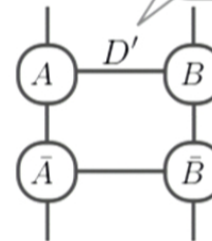
Important numerically

✓ minimal bond dimension

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## Local Purification

purification rank



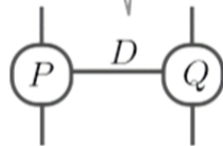
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# The setting

Operator Schmidt decomposition

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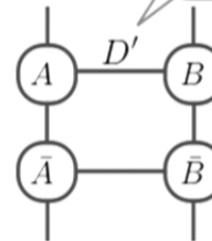
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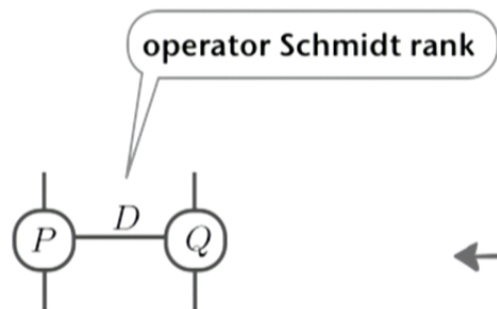


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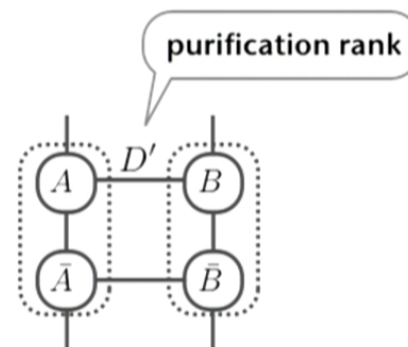
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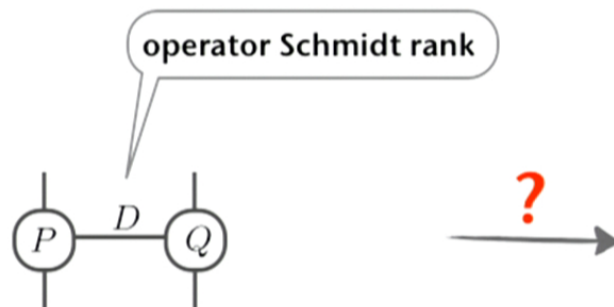


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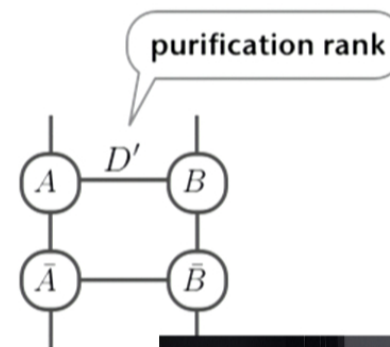


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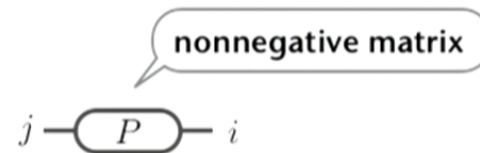


Can  $D'$  be upper bounded by a function of  $D$  ?

# Classical states

- Diagonal in the computational basis:

$$\rho = \sum_{i,j=1}^d p_{ij} |i\rangle\langle i| \otimes |j\rangle\langle j|$$



In how many ways can  $P$  be decomposed?

# Classical states



Arbitrary matrices



**Rank**  
 $\text{rank}(P)$

$\min r$  s.t.  $P$  can be written as a sum of  $r$  rank-1 matrices.

Nonnegative matrices



**Nonnegative rank**  
 $\text{rank}_+(P)$

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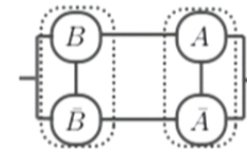


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## Positive semidef. matrices



**Positive semidefinite rank**  
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$\min r$  s.t. there exist positive semidef. matrices  $E_i$  and  $F_j$  of size  $r \times r$  such that  $P_{ij} = \text{tr}(E_i F_j)$

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# Classical states



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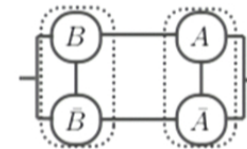


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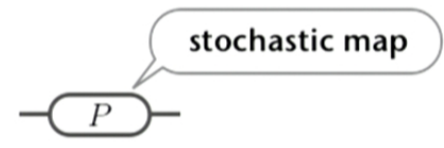
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via the states-  
maps duality

# Classical states



Arbitrary matrices



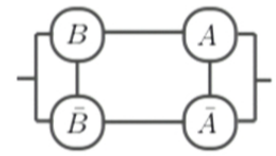
rank of the map

Nonnegative matrices



minimal middle dimension  
needed to decompose  $P$   
as a sequence of two  
stochastic maps

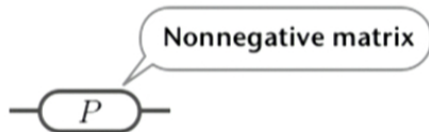
Positive semidef. matrices



minimal middle dimension  
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Link to  
Communication  
complexity

# Classical states



Arbitrary matrices

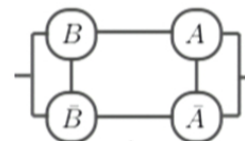


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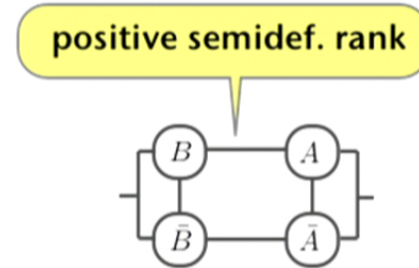
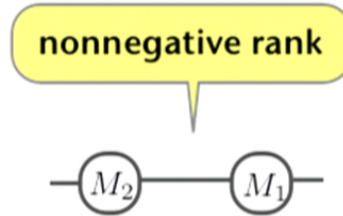
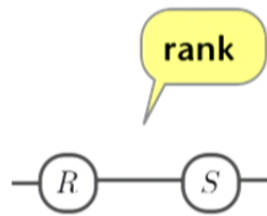
determines the **classical**  
communication complexity  
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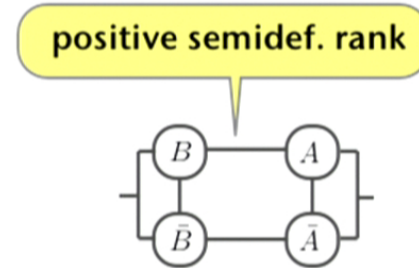
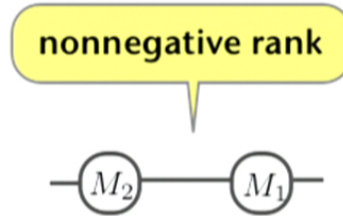
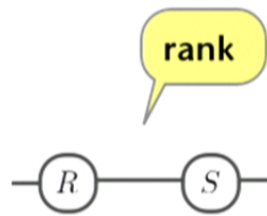
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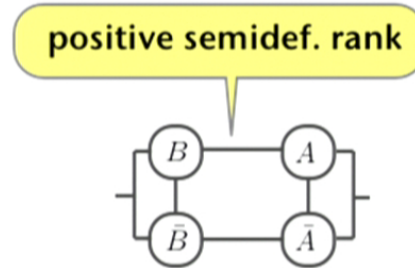
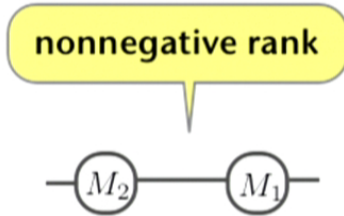
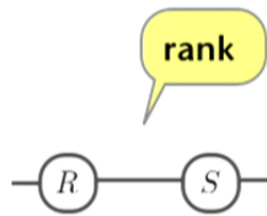


determines the **quantum**  
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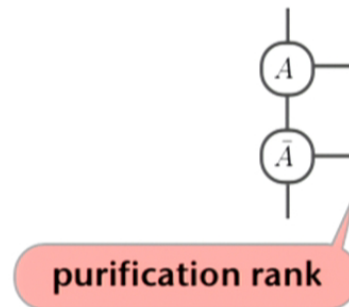
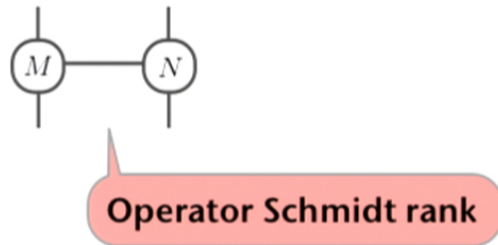
Jain, Shi, Wei & Zhang, arXiv:1203.1153.





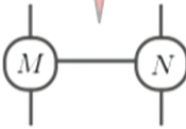


Quantum states

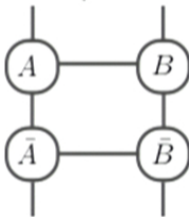


# Quantum states

Operator Schmidt rank



purification rank



via the states-  
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Link to  
Communication  
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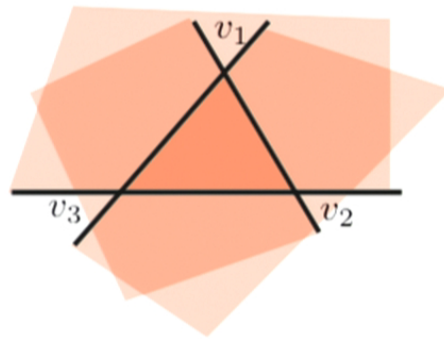
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# The counterexample

- Polytopes:

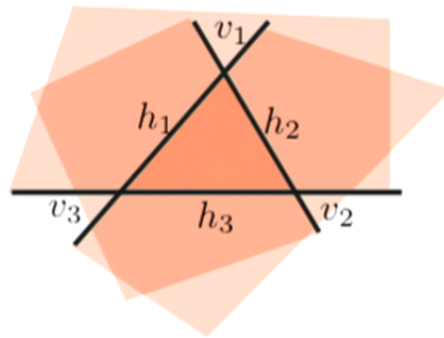


P is the convex hull of its vertices  $v_1, \dots, v_n$



# The counterexample

- Polytopes:



P is the convex hull of its vertices  $v_1, \dots, v_n$

P is the finite intersection of the halfspaces

defined by the facets  $h_1(x) \leq b_1$

$\vdots$

$h_f(x) \leq b_f$

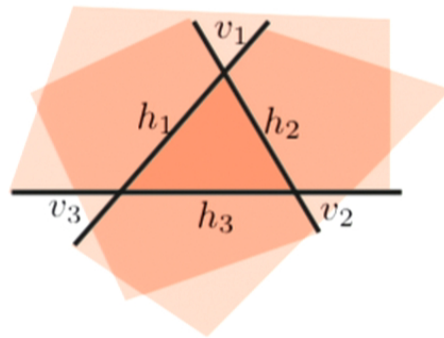
nonnegative matrix

Slack matrix S  $S_{ij} = b_j - h_j(v_i)$



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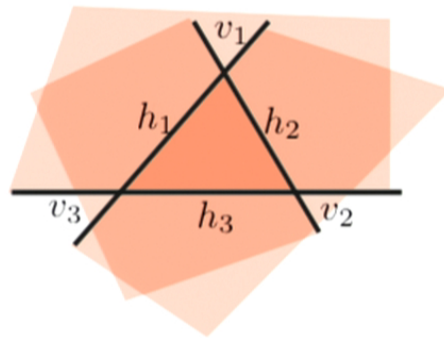
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- Regular  $t$ -gon in 2 dimensions: with slack matrix  $S_t$



$t = 3$



$t = 4$



$t = 5$



$t = 6$



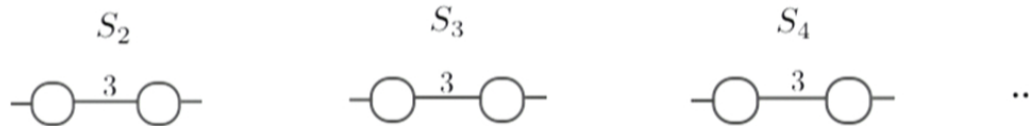
$t = 7$

...

# The counterexample

The **slack matrix** of the regular **t**-gon in 2 dimensions satisfies:

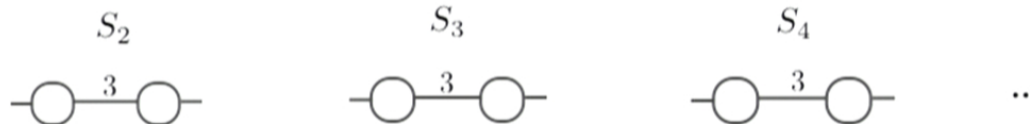
The rank is constant:  $\text{rank}(S_t) = 3$



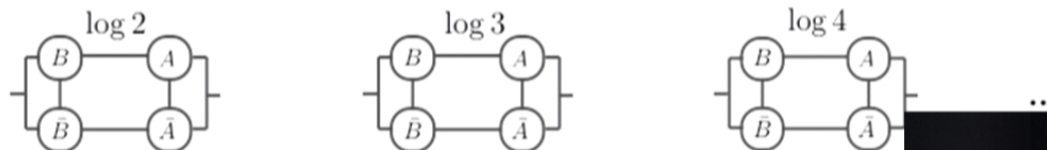
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The rank is constant:  $\text{rank}(S_t) = 3$



The positive semidef. rank grows unboundedly with **t**:  $\text{rank}_{\text{psd}}(S_t) \sim \log t$



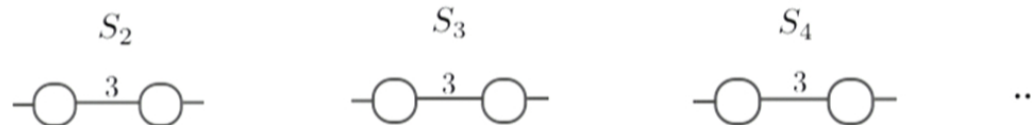
Gouveia, Parrilo, Thomas, arXiv:1111.3164



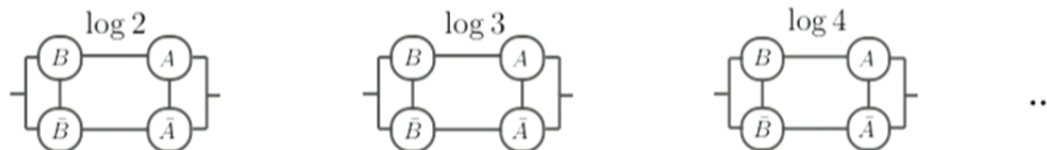
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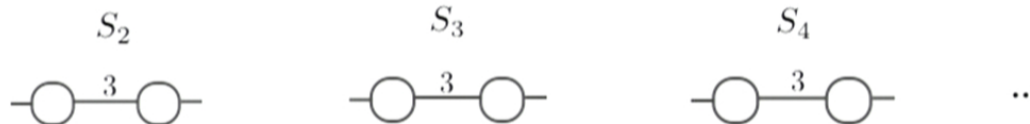
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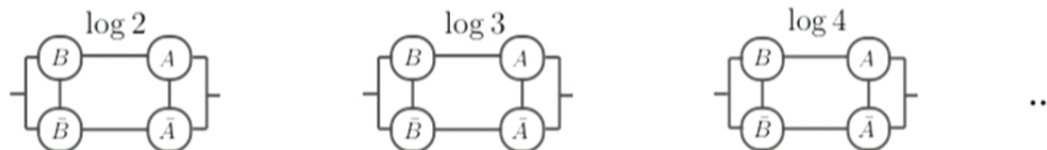
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for classical states

Gouveia, Parrilo, Thomas, arXiv:1111.3164

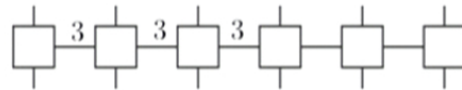
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# A multipartite counterexample

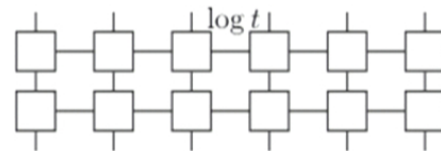
The **slack matrix** of regular  $t$ -gons in 2 dimensions such that  $t = 2^m$

$$\rho_t = \sum_{x,y=1}^t S_t(x,y) |x,y\rangle \langle x,y|$$

Small Operator Schmidt rank across every cut



Unbounded purification rank across every cut





# Upper bounds

The purification rank is upper bounded by

1. the OSR times the number of eigenvalues
2. the OSR to the power of the number of different eigenvalues

# Upper bound 1

Let  $\rho$  denote a density matrix with  $n$  eigenvalues. Then  
purification rank  $(\rho) \leq \text{Operator Schmidt rank}(\rho) \times n$

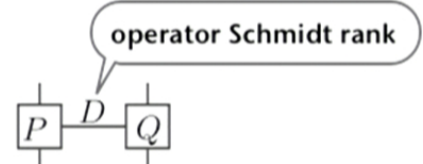

Proof (informal, 1):

1. Operator Schmidt decomposition:  $\rho =$  

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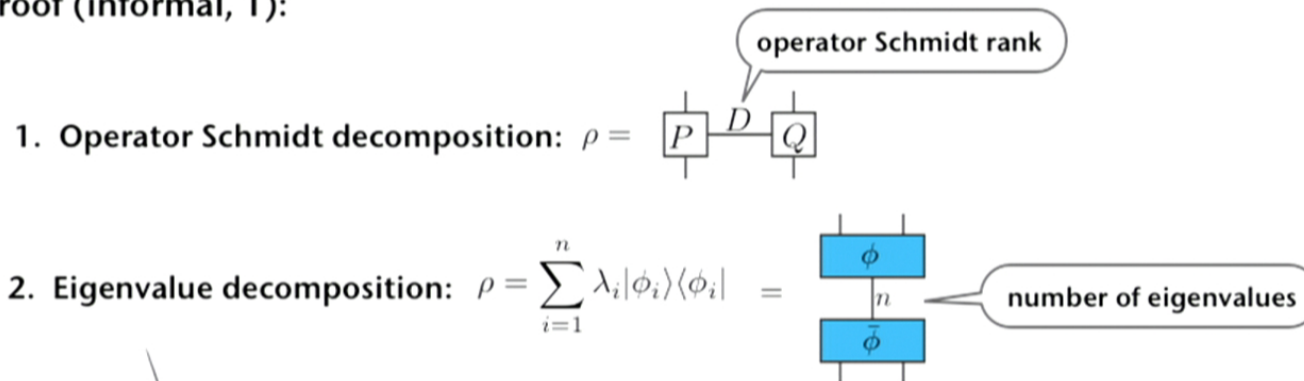
Proof (informal, 1):

1. Operator Schmidt decomposition:  $\rho = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline P \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline D \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline Q \\ \hline \end{array}$  
2. Eigenvalue decomposition:  $\rho = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i |\phi_i\rangle\langle\phi_i| = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \phi \\ \hline n \\ \hline \phi \\ \hline \end{array}$  

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Let  $\rho$  denote a density matrix with  $n$  eigenvalues. Then  
 purification rank  $(\rho) \leq$  Operator Schmidt rank  $(\rho) \times n$

Proof (informal, 1):



This already provides a purification:  
 purification rank  $(\rho) \leq$  rank  $(|\phi_i\rangle)$

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Proof (informal, 2):

- Project  $\rho$  onto a product state:

$$\rho(|\mu_\gamma\rangle \otimes |\nu_\gamma\rangle) = \begin{array}{c} | \\ | \\ \boxed{\chi} \\ | \\ \gamma \end{array}$$

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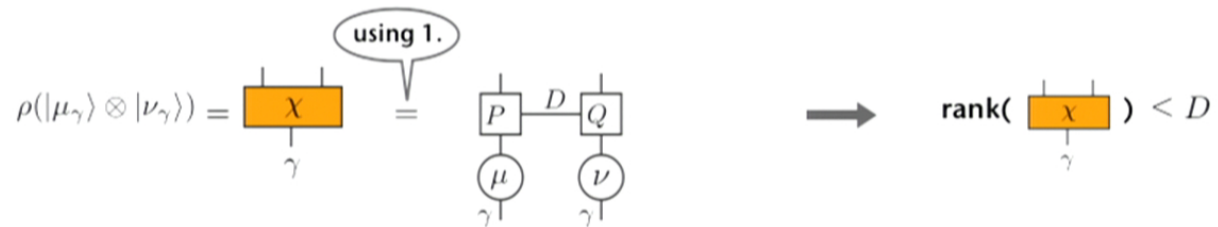
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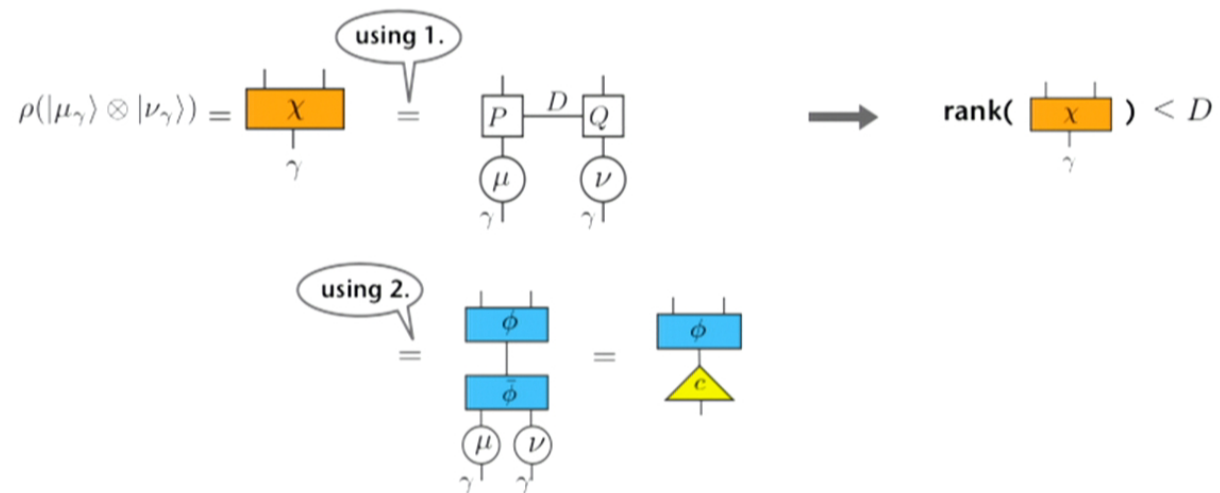


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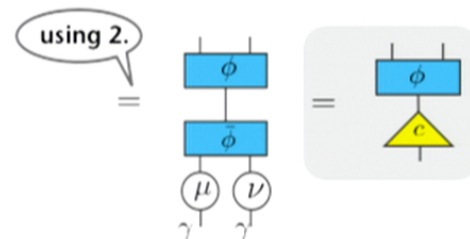
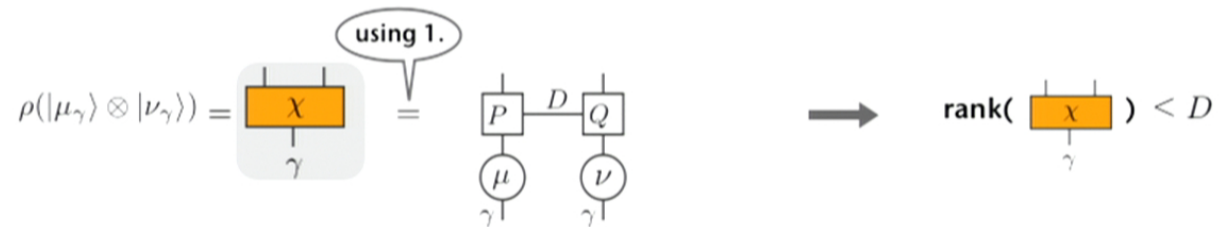


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 purification rank  $(\rho) \leq \text{Operator Schmidt rank}(\rho) \times n$

Proof (informal, 2):

- Project  $\rho$  onto a product state:



$|\chi_\gamma\rangle$  is expressed as a linear combination of eigenvectors  $|\phi_i\rangle$ : we only need to invert this relation...

# Upper bound 2

Let  $\rho$  denote a density matrix with  $n$  eigenvalues,  $\tilde{n}$  of which are different.

$$\text{purification rank}(\rho) \leq (\text{Operator Schmidt rank}(\rho))^{\tilde{n}-1}$$

Proof (informal, 1):

- Consider the purifying state

$$|\Psi\rangle = \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \rho^0 \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ a_0 \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right] + \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \rho^1 \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ a_1 \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right] + \dots + \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \rho^{\tilde{n}-1} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ a_{\tilde{n}-1} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right]$$

powers of rho    ancillas

$$\rho' = \text{tr}_{\text{anc}} |\Psi\rangle\langle\Psi|$$



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$$\rho' = \text{tr}_{\text{anc}} |\Psi\rangle\langle\Psi|$$

$$\text{purif. rank}(\rho') \leq \text{rank}(|\Psi\rangle) \leq O(D^{\tilde{n}-1})$$



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Proof (informal, 2):

- $\rho'$  has the same eigenvectors as  $\rho$ , and its eigenvalues are a **polynomial** of those of  $\rho$ .

$$\rho' = \sum_{i=1}^n p(\lambda_i) |\phi_i\rangle\langle\phi_i|$$

$$p(\lambda_i) = \sum_{k=0}^{2(\tilde{n}-1)} c_k \lambda_i^k$$



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The coefficients are the sums of the antidiagonals of a pos. semidef. matrix.

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} R_{00} & R_{01} & R_{02} \\ R_{10} & R_{11} & R_{12} \\ R_{20} & R_{21} & R_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

$\xrightarrow{c_0}$        $\xrightarrow{c_1}$        $\xrightarrow{c_2}$



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The coefficients are the sums of the antidiagonals of a pos. semidef. matrix.

**R is the Gram matrix of the ancillary states!**

$$R_{ij} = \langle a_i | a_j \rangle$$

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$\begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{c_0} & \xrightarrow{c_1} & \xrightarrow{c_2} \\ \xrightarrow{c_3} & & \xrightarrow{c_4} \end{matrix}$

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Proof (informal, 3):

- The polynomial can be written as  $p(\lambda_i) = [\lambda_i^0 \lambda_i^1 \dots \lambda_i^{\tilde{n}-1}] R \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_i^0 \\ \lambda_i^1 \\ \vdots \\ \lambda_i^{\tilde{n}-1} \end{bmatrix} = \langle v_i | R | v_i \rangle$



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Hence there exists a biorthogonal basis  $\{|w_1\rangle, \dots, |w_{\tilde{n}}\rangle\}$  such that  $\langle v_i | w_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$
- Choose  $R = \sum_{j=1}^{\tilde{n}} \lambda_j |w_j\rangle \langle w_j|$   
This satisfies  $p(\lambda_i) = \lambda_i$
- Hence,  $\rho' = \rho$ . Thus,  $\text{purif. rank}(\rho) \leq O(D^{\tilde{n}-1})$  ■

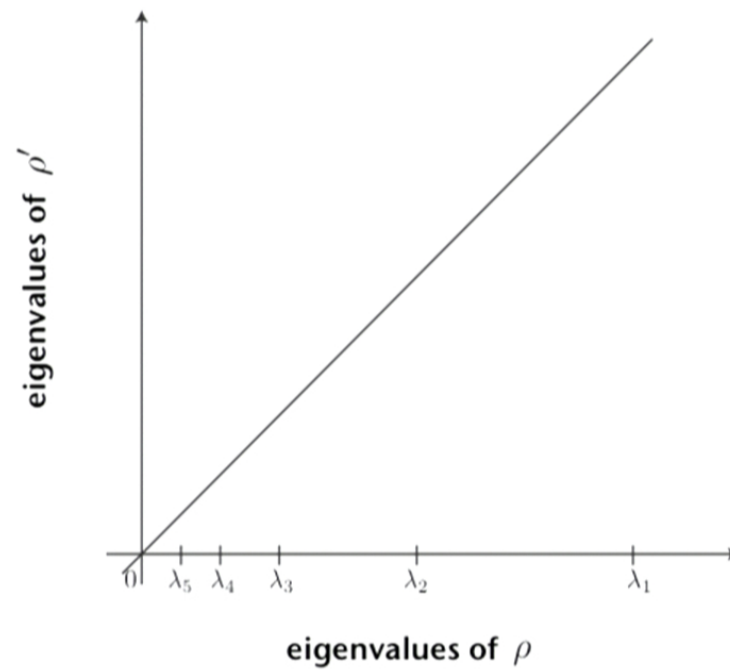
# Approximate solutions

Finding the closest density matrix with a maximum purification rank  
is formulated as a **Semidefinite Program**.

# Exact solution

$$p(\lambda_i) = \lambda_i \text{ for all } i.$$

Constructive proof  
of upper bound 2



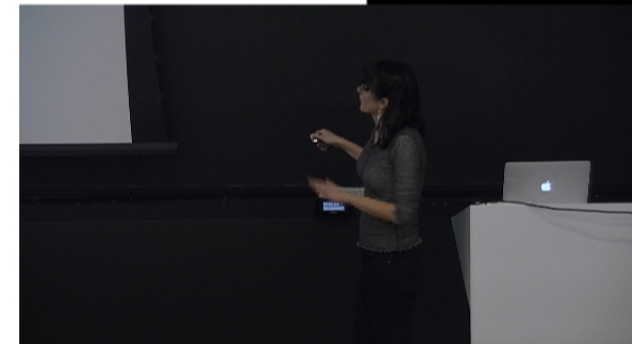
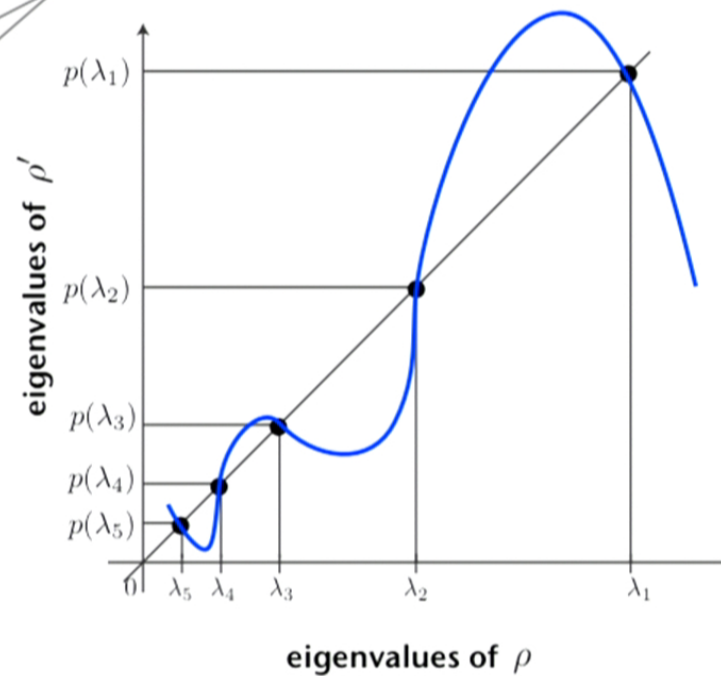
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Constructive proof  
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$$p(\lambda_i) = \lambda_i \text{ for all } i.$$

There's always a polynomial of degree  $2(\tilde{n} - 1)$  that passes through  $\tilde{n}$  points.

whose coefficients  
are the sums of the  
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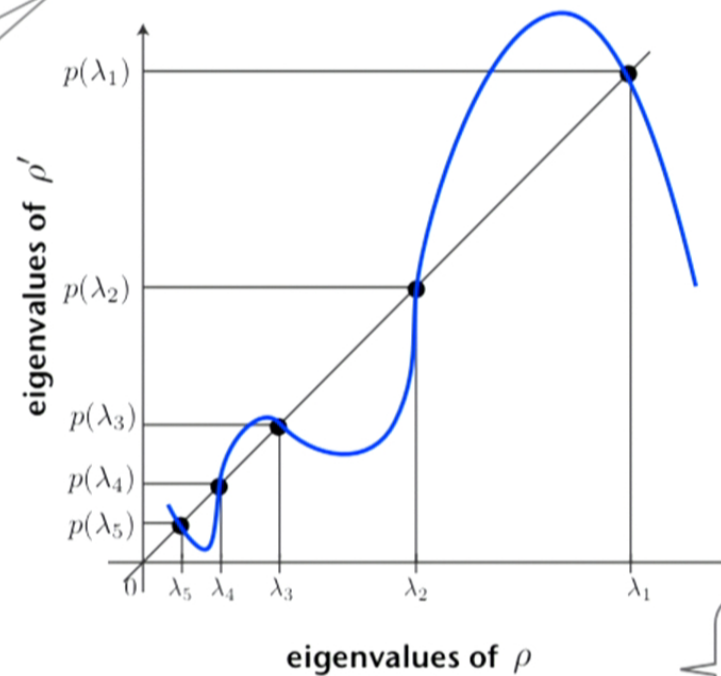
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Only different eigenvalues  
matter ( $\tilde{n}$ )

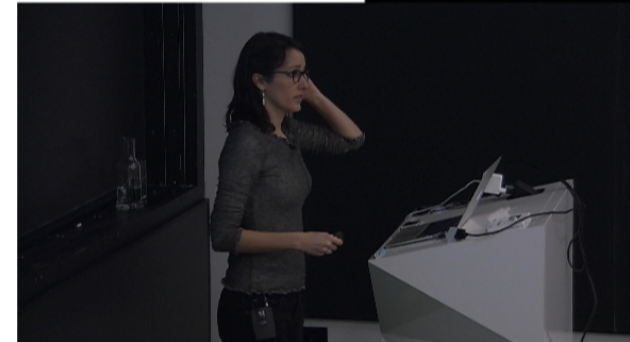
# Approximate solution

Given  $\rho$  with OSR  $D$ ,  
provide  $\rho'$  that is closest (in 1-norm) to  $\rho$   
and such that  $\text{purif. rank}(\rho') \leq D^{k-1}$

# Approximate solution

We have formulated it as a Semidefinite Program.

Given  $\rho$  with OSR  $D$ ,  
provide  $\rho'$  that is closest (in 1-norm) to  $\rho$   
and such that  $\text{purif. rank}(\rho') \leq D^{k-1}$





# Approximate solution

purification  $\text{rank}(\rho') \leq D^{k-1} \rightarrow$  polynomial of degree  $2(k-1)$

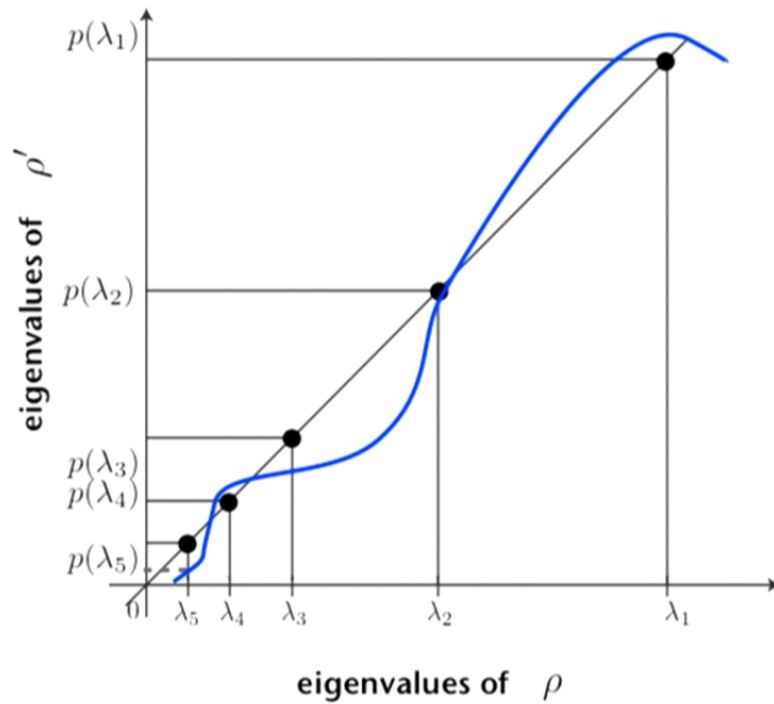
A polynomial of degree  $2(k-1)$  can only cross the line  $2(k-1)$  times.

Find the polynomial of degree  $2(k-1)$   
that minimizes the distance (in 1-norm)  
to the  $\tilde{n}$  points.

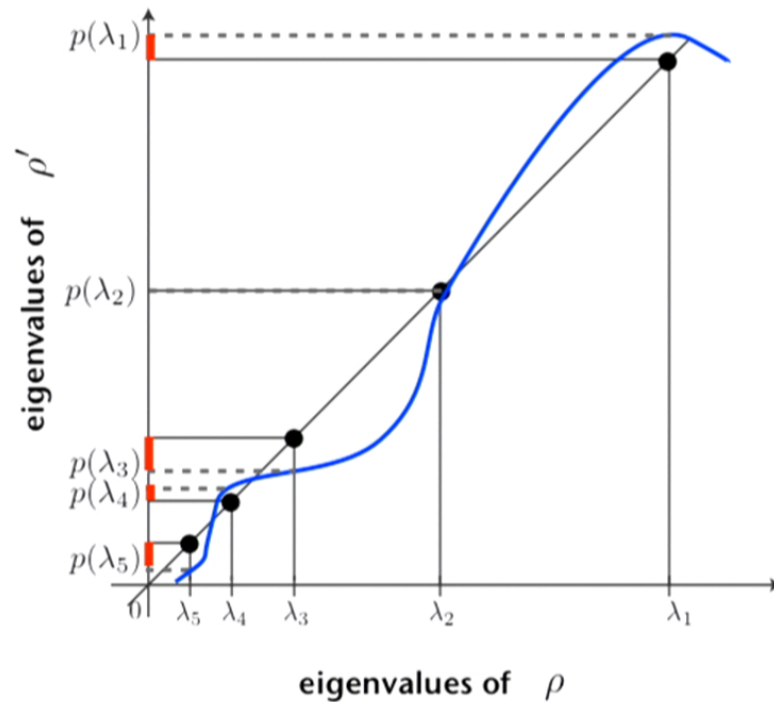
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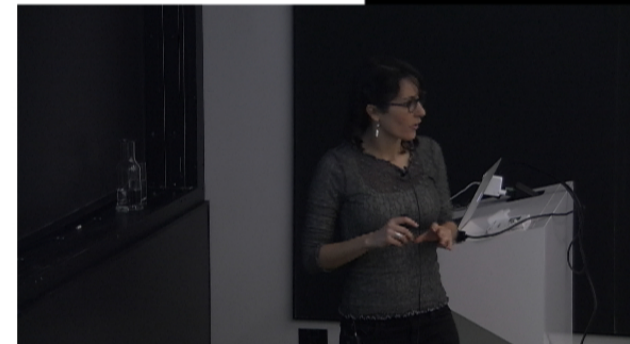
# Approximate solution



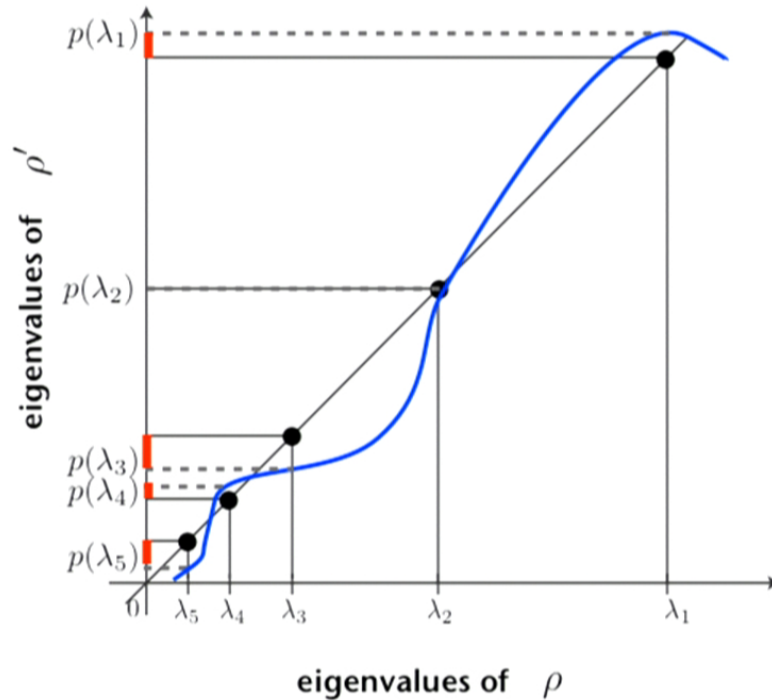
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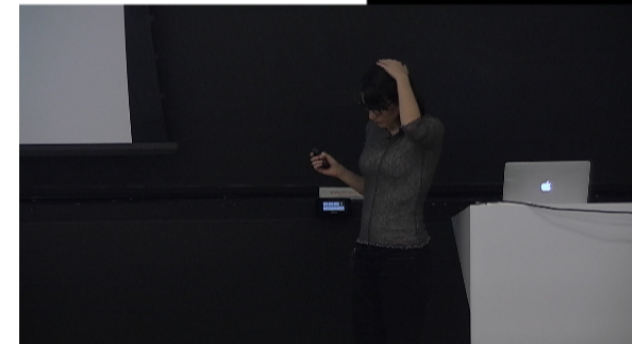
- Easy distributions:  
eig. cluster around some points.
- Hardest distribution:  
all eigenvalues equally separated.



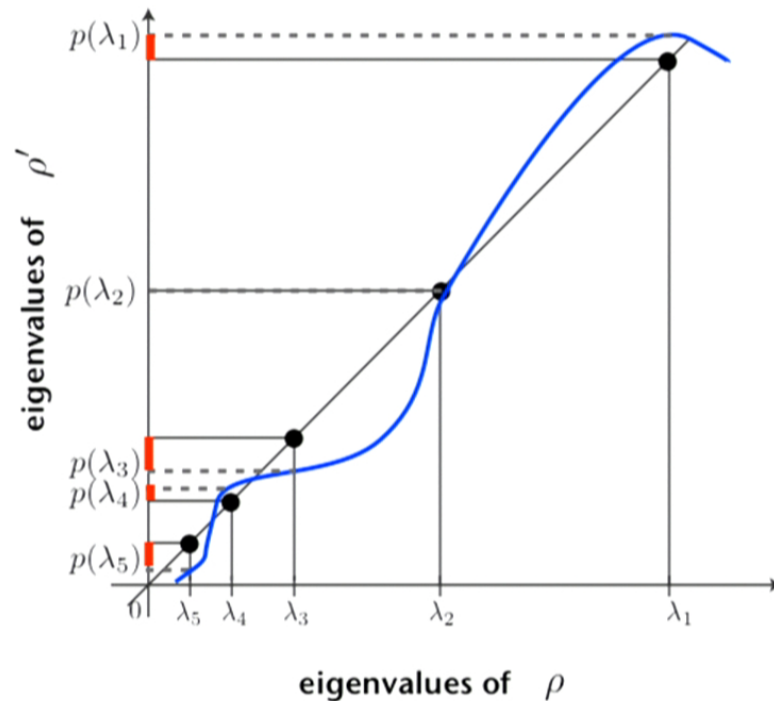
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all eigenvalues equally separated.



# Approximate solution



- Easy distributions:  
eig. cluster around some points.
- Hardest distribution:  
all eigenvalues equally separated.

Towards: Given  $\rho$ , provide  $\rho'$  such that  $\|\rho - \rho'\|_1 \leq \epsilon$  and  $\text{purif. rank}(\rho') \leq f(\epsilon)$

# Conclusions

Develop a good theoretical description of mixed states with tensor networks



Find a canonical form for Matrix Product Density Operators



Relate the two decompositions of Matrix Product Density Operators

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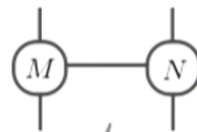


Find a canonical form for Matrix Product Density Operators



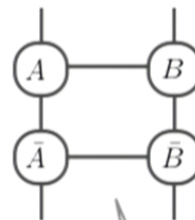
Relate the two decompositions of Matrix Product Density Operators

Operator Schmidt decomposition



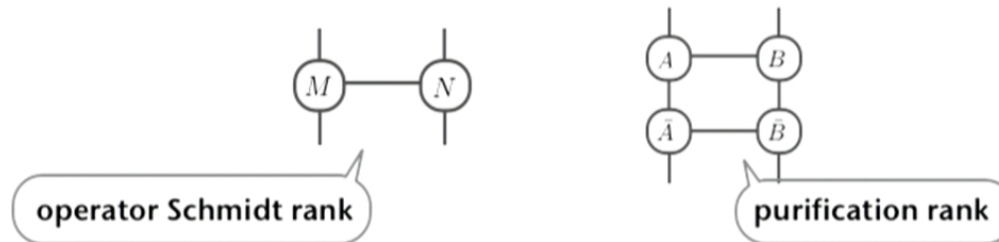
operator Schmidt rank

Local purification



purification rank

# Conclusions (2)



The purification rank cannot be upper bounded by a function of the OSR only.

The purification rank is upper bounded by:

1. the OSR times the number of eigenvalues
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# Outlook

- Potential applications
  - canonical form for MPDOs ?
  - thermal Hamiltonians
  - symmetries
  - numerical algorithms
  - ...

# Outlook

- Potential applications

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- thermal Hamiltonians
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- numerical algorithms
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- Collateral implications

- Divisibility of CP maps
- Communication complexity
- ...



# Thank you!

