

Title: On random circuits and their uses in compilation

Speakers: Earl Campbell

Series: Perimeter Institute Quantum Discussions

Date: October 28, 2020 - 11:00 AM

URL: <http://pirsa.org/20100062>

Abstract: I will review work by myself and others in recent years on the use of randomization in quantum circuit optimization. I will present general results showing that any deterministic compiler for an approximate synthesis problem can be lifted to a better random compiler. I will discuss the subtle issue of what "better" means and how it is sensitive to the metric and computation task at hand. I will then review specific randomized algorithms for quantum simulations, including randomized Trotter (Su & Childs) and my group's work on the qDRIFT and SPARSTO algorithms. The qDRIFT algorithm is of particular interest as it gave the first proof that Hamiltonian simulation is possible with a gate complexity that is independent of the number of terms in the Hamiltonian. Since quantum chemistry Hamiltonians have a very large ($\sim N^4$) number of terms, randomization is especially useful in that setting. I will conclude by commenting on a recent Caltech paper with interesting results on the derandomization of random algorithms! Some of the relevant preprints include:

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1910.06255>

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1811.08017>

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1612.02689>



Earl Campbell

On random quantum circuits and their uses in compilation

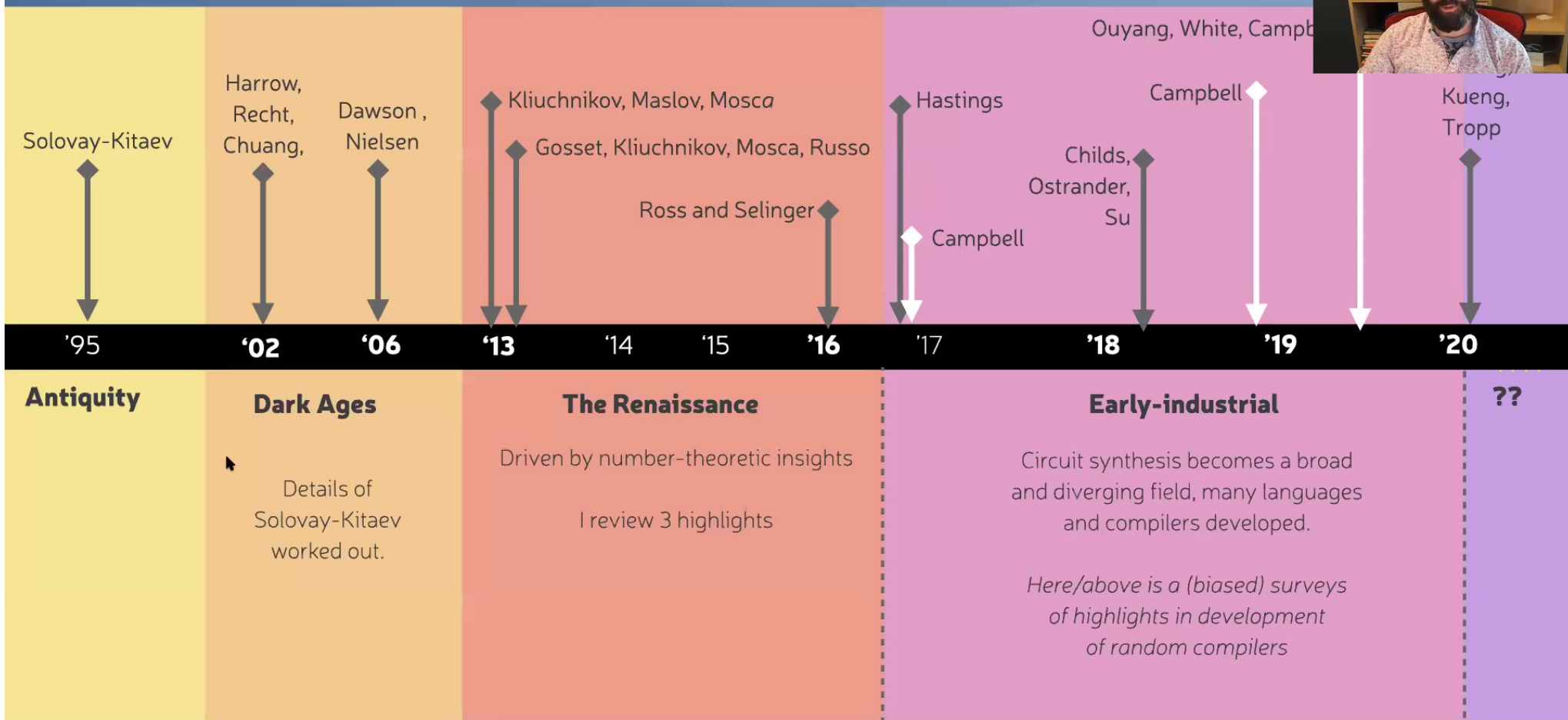
an overview of work by myself and others

All work done at University of Sheffield

talk includes work with collaborators: Yingkai Ouyang and David White

Currently a contractor for AWS Center for Quantum Computing,

TIMELINE



Antiquity

Dark Ages

Details of Solovay-Kitaev worked out.

The Renaissance

Driven by number-theoretic insights
I review 3 highlights

Early-industrial

Circuit synthesis becomes a broad and diverging field, many languages and compilers developed.

Here/above is a (biased) surveys of highlights in development of random compilers

??

IBM launch QISKIT and quantum experience

AWS BraKet for general access



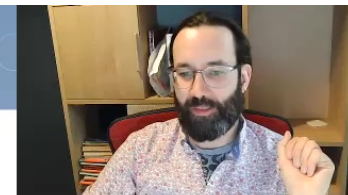
Antiquity & middle ages



Gate set \mathcal{G}

A collection of unitaries used to build circuits

e.g. from $\mathcal{G} = \{A, B, C\}$ we can build $ABC, ABBC, CBC,$ etc



Gate set \mathcal{G}

A collection of unitaries used to build circuits

e.g. from $\mathcal{G} = \{A, B, C\}$ we can build $ABC, ABBC, CBC,$ etc

Universality - Informal statement

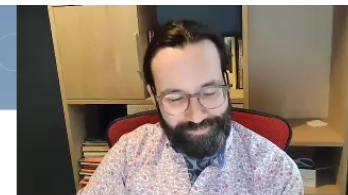
\mathcal{G} is **universal** if it can implement any unitary (upto finite precision)

Universality - Formal statement

\mathcal{G} is **universal** if for any target unitary V and $\epsilon > 0$ there exists a finite circuit $U \in \langle \mathcal{G} \rangle$ such that $d(U, V) \leq \epsilon$

Example

Clifford+T or Clifford+Toffoli



Cost model $\mathfrak{C} : \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$

Each elementary gate given a positive valued “cost”

This induces a circuit cost

$$\text{if } U = \prod_i G_i \text{ then } \mathfrak{C}(U) = \sum_i \mathfrak{C}(G_i)$$

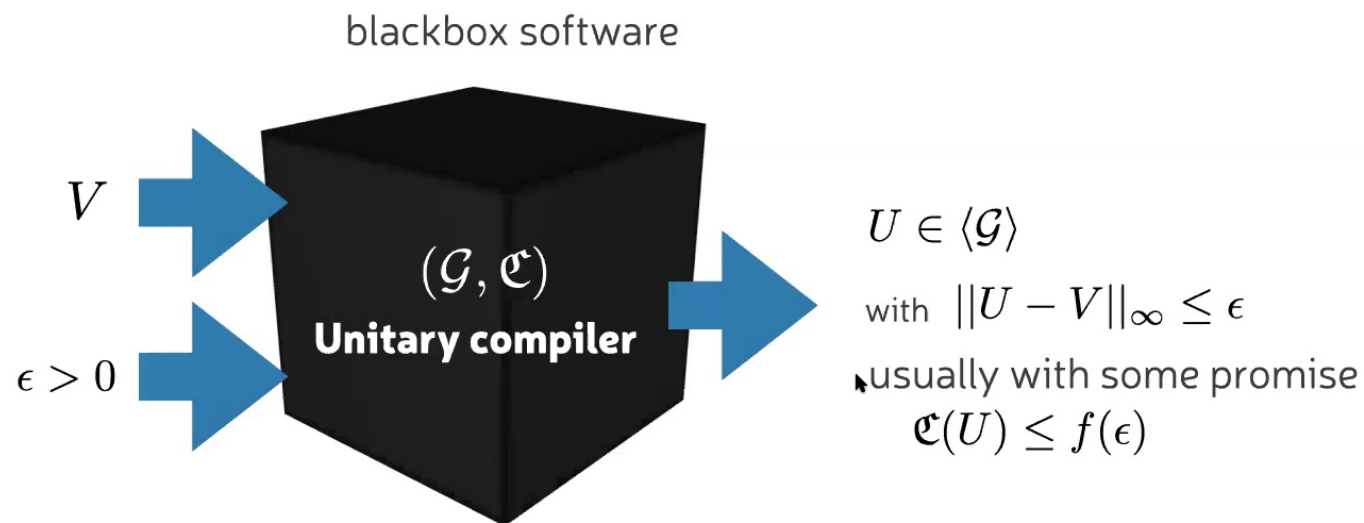
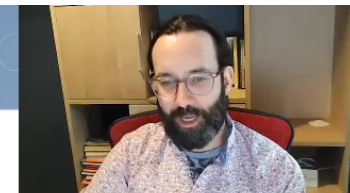
Example

Uniform cost model:

$$\mathfrak{C}(G) = 1 \text{ for all } G \in \mathcal{G}$$

Magic state cost model / T-count:

$$\mathfrak{C}(T) = 1 \text{ and } \mathfrak{C}(C) = 0 \text{ for all } C \text{ in the Clifford group.}$$



For **efficient** compilers The promise function $f(\epsilon)$ is often polylog $f(\epsilon) \leq A \log(1/\epsilon)^{\gamma}$

An **optimal** compiler will have the lowest possible $\mathfrak{C}(U)$ and $f(\epsilon)$

Solovay ('97 email claim)-Kitaev ('97 paper)

Consider any universal gate set \mathcal{G} (generating a group) with uniform cost.

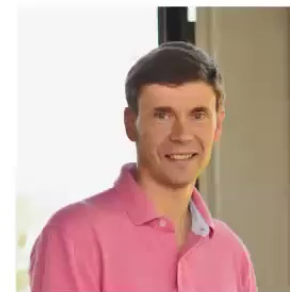
An algorithm to solve the compiling problem using $\mathfrak{C}(U) \leq O(\log(1/\epsilon)^\gamma)$ where γ is between 3 and 4.

Runtime is efficient in Hilbert space dimension and $\log(1/\epsilon)$

But what is the constant γ ?



Robert Solovay (1983)



Alexei Kitaev

GATE SYNTHESIS / COMPILING

Solovay ('97 email claim)-Kitaev ('97 paper)

Consider any universal gate set \mathcal{G} (generating a group) with uniform cost.

An algorithm to solve the compiling problem using $\mathfrak{C}(U) \leq O(\log(1/\epsilon)^\gamma)$ where γ is between 3 and 4.

Runtime is efficient in Hilbert space dimension and $\log(1/\epsilon)$

The Solovay-Kitaev algorithm
Dawson and Nielsen QIC 2006

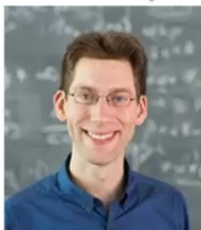


Michael
Nielsen



Christopher
Dawson

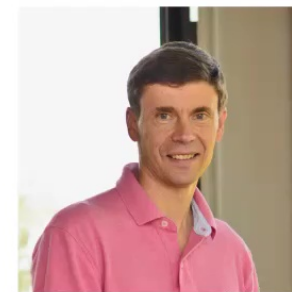
undergrad
thesis



Aram Harrow



Robert Solovay (1983)



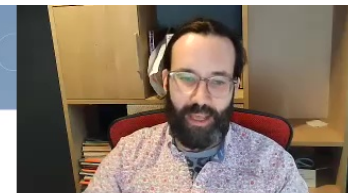
Alexei Kitaev

The exponent constant is

$$\gamma = 3.97$$

The prefactor grows with the Hilbert space dimension

GATE SYNTHESIS / COMPILING



Efficient discrete approximations of quantum gates

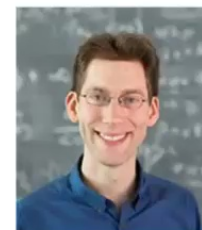
Harrow, Recht, Chuang

Journal of Mathematical Physics (2002)

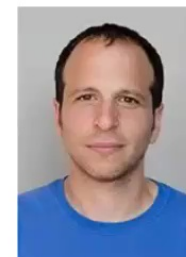
Consider any universal gate set \mathcal{G} (generating a group) with uniform cost.

There exists a solution to the compiling problem with $\mathfrak{C}(U) \leq O(\log(1/\epsilon))$ and this is optimal!

No construction algorithm given (except an inefficient brute force search)



Aram Harrow



Ben Recht



Issac Chuang



Theoretically possible

(Harrow, Recht, Chuang)

$$\gamma = 1$$

Practically feasible for modest Hilbert space dimension

(Solovay, Kitaev) see also (Harrow and Nielsen, Dawson)

$$\gamma = 3.97$$



The Renaissance

FOCUS ON SPECIFIC GATE SETS



Progress driven by focusing on a specific gate set important in fault-tolerant quantum computing

Gate set generated by $\mathcal{G} = \{T, CNOT, S, H\}$

Clifford group

$$\{CNOT, S, H\}$$

$$H = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & i \end{pmatrix}$$

$CNOT$ 2-qubit control-X

non-Clifford element

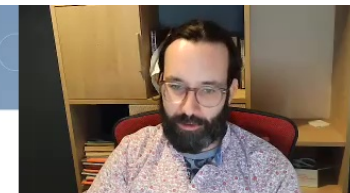
$$T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{i} \end{pmatrix}$$

Also called pi over 8 phase gate

$$\mathfrak{C}(C) = 0$$

$$\mathfrak{C}(T) = 1$$

THE RENAISSANCE



Fast and efficient exact synthesis of single qubit unitaries generated by Clifford and T gates

Kliuchnikov, Maslov, Mosca,
QIC 13 607 (2013) — arXiv:1206.5236

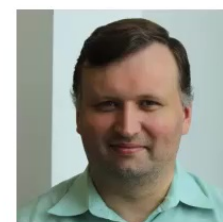


Vadym Kliuchnikov

Let \mathcal{G} be single qubit Clifford+T and $U \in \langle \mathcal{G} \rangle$
then we can efficiently compute a circuit achieving the optimal T-count. $\mathfrak{C}(U)$

•

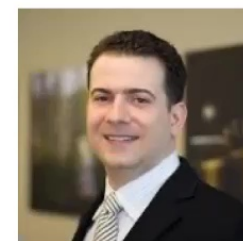
Proof uses the ring $\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, i]$



Dmitri Maslov

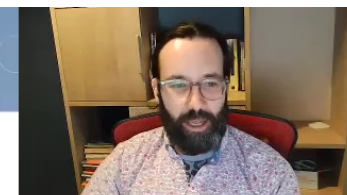
In bullet points:

- Only **single qubit** gates
- Only **exact** synthesis & not all unitaries (no epsilon)
- **Efficient**
- **Optimal**



Mike Mosca

THE RENAISSANCE



An algorithm for the T-count

Gosset, Kliuchnikov, Mosca, Russo

preprint arXiv:1308.4134

- Let \mathcal{G} be n -qubit Clifford+T and $U \in \langle \mathcal{G} \rangle$
then we can compute a circuit achieving the optimal T-count $\mathfrak{C}(U)$
in time $\mathcal{O}(2^{n\mathfrak{C}(U)} \text{poly}(n, \mathfrak{C}(U)))$

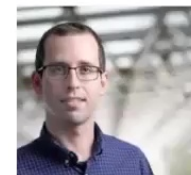
Proof uses the ring $\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, i]$

In bullet points:

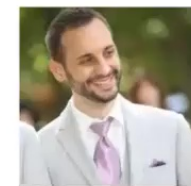
- Any number of qubits!
- Only **exact** synthesis & not all unitaries (no epsilon)
- **Inefficient!**
- **Optimal**



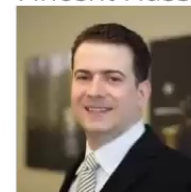
Vadym Kliuchnikov



David Gosset

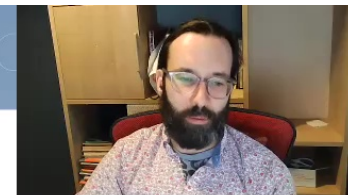


Vincent Russo



Mike Mosca

THE RENAISSANCE



Optimal ancilla-free Clifford+T approximation of z-rotations

Ross and Selinger

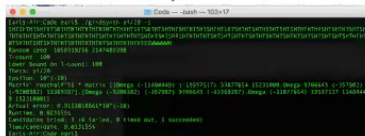
QIC **16** 901 (2016) – arXiv:1403.2975

- Let \mathcal{G} be single qubit Clifford+T and $U = \exp(-i\theta Z)$
then for any $\epsilon > 0$ we can find approximation V with $d(U, V) \leq \epsilon$
and optimal T-count. $\mathfrak{C}(V) \leq 4 \log(1/\epsilon) + O(\log \log(1/\epsilon))$

In bullet points:

- Only single-qubit Z-axis rotations
 - Inexact synthesis
 - Efficient!**
 - Optimal** (under mild assumptions)
 - Practically means 100s of gates rather than 10,000s of gates for Solovay-Kitaev
- $\gamma = 1$

$$\gamma = 1$$



Convenient command line tool



Neil "Julien" Ross



Peter Selinger



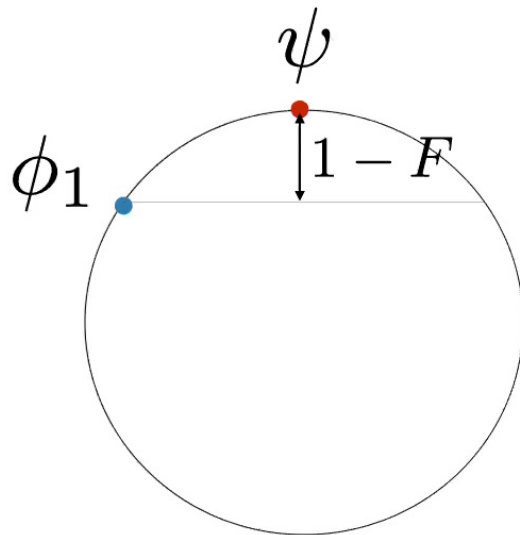
Still leaves open:

- Heuristics for many-qubit synthesis
 - *too hard to hope for practical, optimal solutions*
- Approaches for specific tasks
 - *e.g. Hamiltonian simulation - more on this later*
- Benefits of ancilla and measurements
 - *Many nice/partial results but little known regarding optimality.*
- **Benefits of randomness - remainder of this talk**

The background of the slide features a close-up photograph of a hand dropping a white die. Several other white dice are scattered on a wooden surface below. A semi-transparent light blue circle is overlaid on the image, containing the title text. A solid blue circle is positioned at the top of this semi-transparent circle.

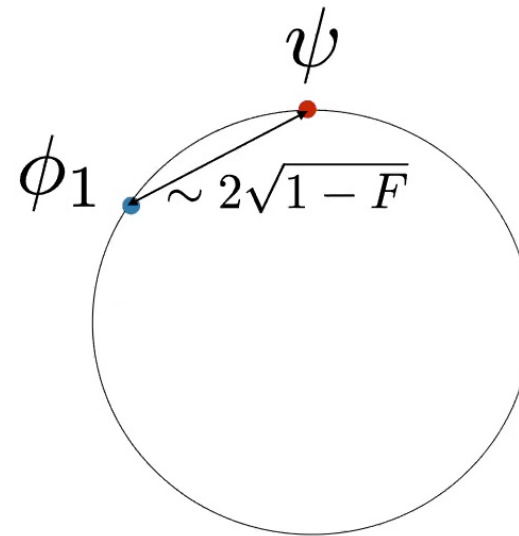
Random compilers: Measuring noise

MEASURING ERRORS



Fidelity

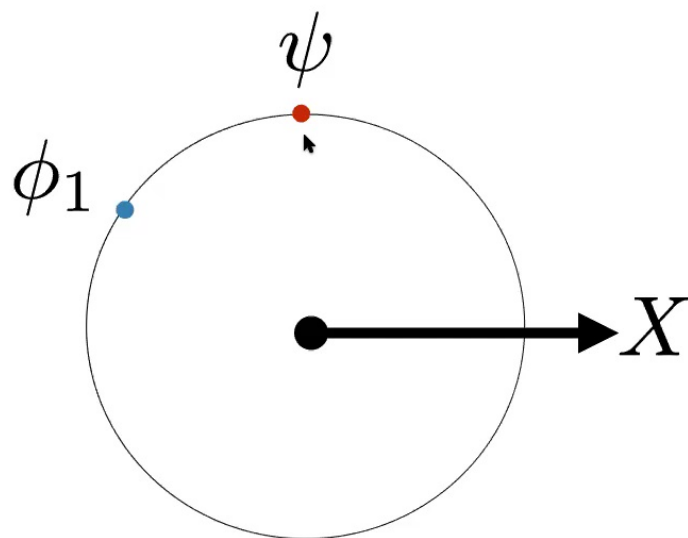
$$F(\phi_1, \psi) = \langle \phi_1 | \psi \rangle \langle \psi | \phi_1 \rangle$$



1-norm error $\|M\|_1 = \text{Tr}[\sqrt{MM^\dagger}]$

where $M = |\phi_1\rangle\langle\phi_1| - |\psi\rangle\langle\psi|$

MEASURING ERRORS



Measure some observable X , then

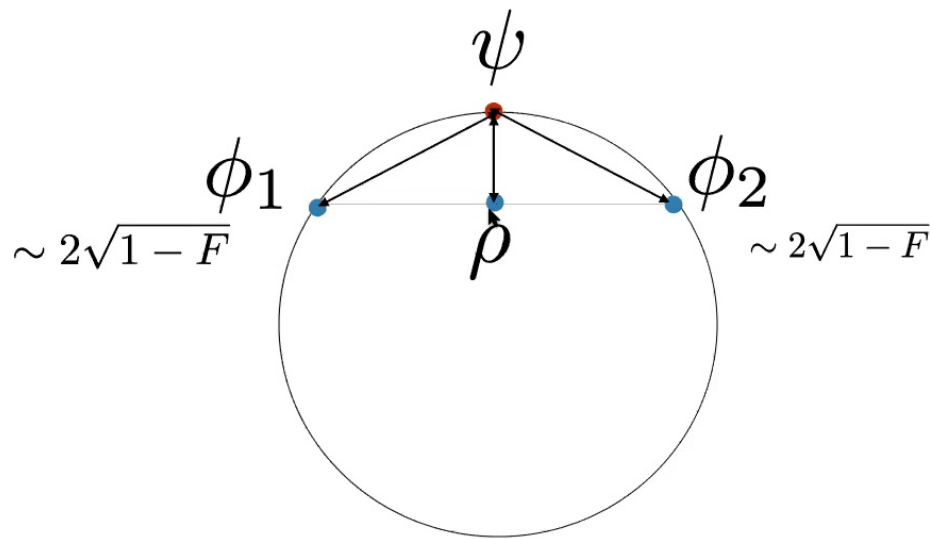
Error in probability
of measurement outcomes \leq 1-norm error

Not fidelity!!!

1-norm error $\|M\|_1 = \text{Tr}[\sqrt{MM^\dagger}]$

where $M = |\phi_1\rangle\langle\phi_1| - |\psi\rangle\langle\psi|$

MEASURING ERRORS



$$\rho = \begin{array}{l} \text{50\% probability } \phi_1 \\ \text{50\% probability } \phi_2 \end{array}$$

Randomness quadratically reduced
1-norm error!

Although (average) fidelity is unchanged



Random compiling problem

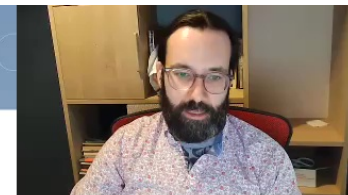
Given a \mathcal{V} and $\epsilon > 0$ output a probability distribution of circuits, realising

$$\mathcal{E}(\rho) = \sum_i p_i U_i \rho U_i^\dagger$$

such that $d(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{V}) \leq \epsilon$ and minimise $\mathfrak{C}(\mathcal{E})$

Def:

$$\mathcal{U}(\cdot) := U \cdot U^\dagger$$



Random compiling problem

Given a \mathcal{V} and $\epsilon > 0$ output a probability distribution of circuits, realising

$$\mathcal{E}(\rho) = \sum_i p_i U_i \rho U_i^\dagger$$

Def:

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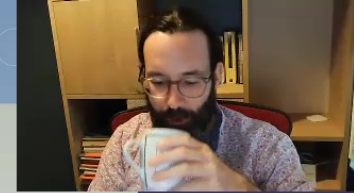
such that $d(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{V}) \leq \epsilon$ and minimise $\mathfrak{C}(\mathcal{E})$

What distance we use matters!

Diamond norm distance

$$d_\diamond(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{U}) := \frac{1}{2} \|\mathcal{E} - \mathcal{U}\|_\diamond = \frac{1}{2} \max_\rho \frac{\|(\mathcal{E} \otimes \mathbb{I})(\rho) - (\mathcal{U} \otimes \mathbb{I})(\rho)\|_1}{\|\rho\|_1}$$

where $\|X\|_1 := \text{Tr}[\sqrt{X^\dagger X}]$ is the Schatten 1-norm



Random compilers:

Campbell '17
posted same
week as
Hastings '17



Shorter gate sequences for quantum computing by mixing unitaries

Earl Campbell

Phys. Rev. A 95, 042306 (2017) — arXiv:1612.02689

Turning Gate Synthesis Errors into Incoherent Errors

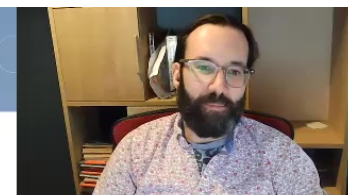
Matthew B. Hastings^{1,2}

¹*Station Q, Microsoft Research, Santa Barbara, CA 93106-6105, USA*

²*Quantum Architectures and Computation Group, Microsoft Research, Redmond, WA 98052, USA*

Using error correcting codes and fault tolerant techniques, it is possible, at least in theory, to produce logical qubits with significantly lower error rates than the underlying physical qubits. Suppose, however, that the gates that act on these logical qubits are only approximation of the desired gate. This can arise, for example, in synthesizing a single qubit unitary from a set of Clifford and T gates; for a generic such unitary, any finite sequence of gates only approximates the desired target. In this case, errors in the gate can add coherently so that, roughly, the error ϵ in the unitary of each gate must scale as $\epsilon \lesssim 1/N$, where N is the number of gates. If, however, one has the option of synthesizing one of several unitaries near the desired target, and if an average of these options is closer to the target, we give some elementary bounds showing cases in which the errors can be made to add incoherently by averaging over random choices, so that, roughly, one needs $\epsilon \lesssim 1/\sqrt{N}$. We remark on one particular application to distilling magic states where this effect happens automatically in the usual circuits.

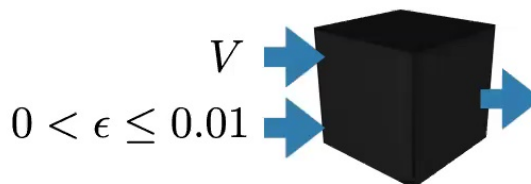
THE RESULT



Preamble

Let \mathcal{G} be a universal gate set with cost measure \mathfrak{C}

assume some blackbox
unitary compiler



equipped with promise
 $\mathfrak{C}(U) \leq f(\epsilon)$

Theorem

...then there exists a random sequence $\mathcal{E}(\rho) = \sum_j p_j U_j \rho U_j^\dagger$

with $d_\diamond(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E}) \leq 10\epsilon^2$ and cost $\mathfrak{C}(\mathcal{E}) \leq f(\epsilon)$

2nd Theorem (paraphrased)

For single qubit axial rotations: the assumptions can be relaxed and inequalities tightened slightly.

THE RESULT



“same cost gets you better error suppression”

Theorem

...then there exists a random sequence $\mathcal{E}(\rho) = \sum_j p_j U_j \rho U_j^\dagger$
with $d_\diamond(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E}) \leq 10\epsilon^2$ and cost $\mathfrak{C}(\mathcal{E}) \leq f(\epsilon)$

“same error suppression for lower cost?”

Corollary

if the unitary cost is polylog $\mathfrak{C}(U) \leq f(\epsilon) = A \log_2(1/\epsilon)^\gamma$

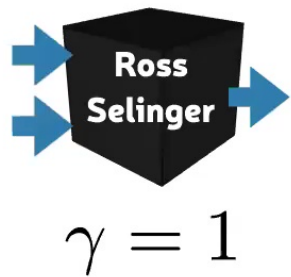
...then there exists a random circuit $\mathcal{E}(\rho) = \sum_j p_j U_j \rho U_j^\dagger$

with $d_\diamond(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E}) \leq \epsilon$ and cost $\mathfrak{C}(\mathcal{E}) \leq C^\gamma f(\epsilon) \sim (1/2)^\gamma f(\epsilon)$

$$C = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \left(1 + \frac{\log(A)}{\log(1/\epsilon)}\right) \rightarrow_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$



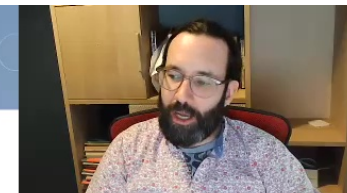
WE SAVE $\sim 2^\gamma$



For single qubit Clifford+T gate set
and T-count cost metric

Resource saving 2X

	optimal unitary	random compiling
$\epsilon = 10^{-20}$	600	314 or less
$\epsilon = 10^{-10}$	300	165 or less
$\epsilon = 10^{-5}$	150	90 or less



WE SAVE $\sim 2^\gamma$



$$\gamma = 1$$

For single qubit Clifford+T gate set
and T-count cost metric

Resource saving 2X

	optimal unitary	random compiling
$\epsilon = 10^{-20}$	600	314 or less
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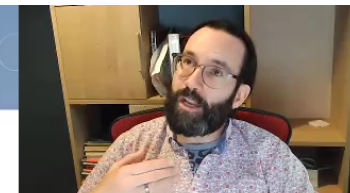
$$\gamma \sim 3.97$$

For any gate-set / cost metric

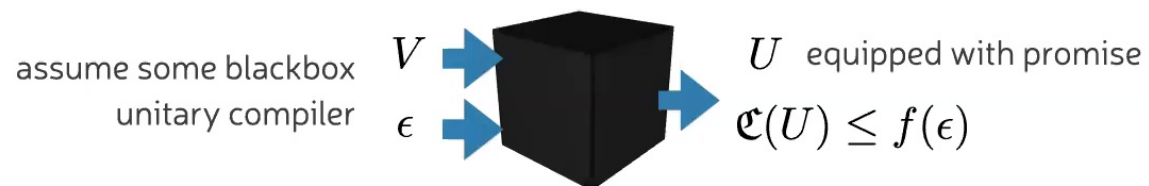
Resource saving $2^{3.97} \sim 15.7$

Still a good option for T-gate synthesis
over a modest number of qubits (more than 1, less than ~10)

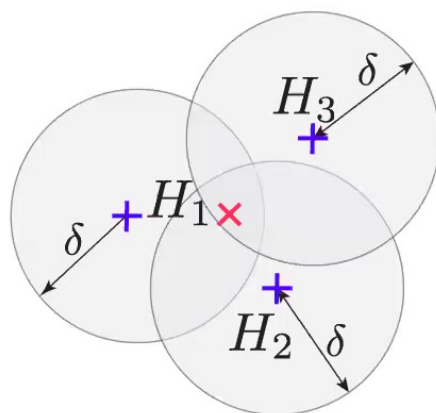
SKETCH



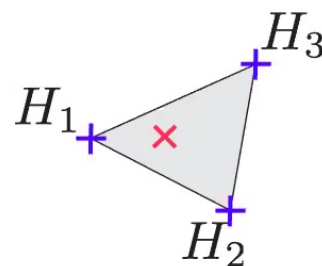
ALGORITHM SKETCH



1) Use black-box to find a net of solutions “nearby” to target



2) Lift to find “nearby” Hamiltonian generators



3) Solve to find probability weights assigned to each circuit

$$\sum_j p_j H_j = H_{\text{target}}$$

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Random compilers:

Childs,
Ostrander,
Su

RANDOM PERMUTATIONS



Faster Quantum simulation by randomisation

Childs, Ostrander, Su

Quantum 3, 182 (2019). — arXiv:1805.08385

Task: Hamiltonian simulation

Given Hamiltonian with fixed decomposition

$$H = \sum_{j=1}^L c_j H_j \quad \text{with} \quad \|H_j\| = 1$$

Approximate $U = \exp(iHt)$ for some t

Using gate set $\mathcal{G} = \{\exp(iH_j\tau)\}$ and cost model is number of such gates

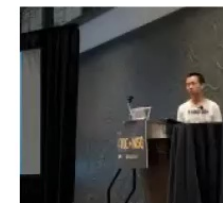
When H_j are Pauli operators further synthesis possible by Ross-Selinger



Andrew Childs

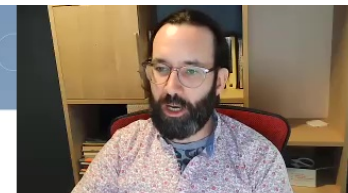


Aaron Ostrander



Yuan Su

RANDOM PERMUTATIONS



Old (deterministic) solution

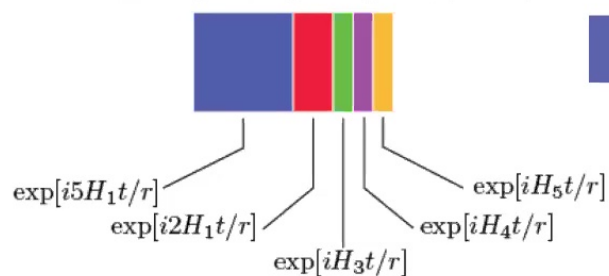
Trotter-Suzuki Product Formulae

1st order

$$\exp(iHt) \approx \left(\prod_{j=1}^L \exp(iH_j t/r) \right)^r$$

e.g. One 1st order step

$$H = 5H_1 + 2H_2 + H_3 + H_4 + H_5$$



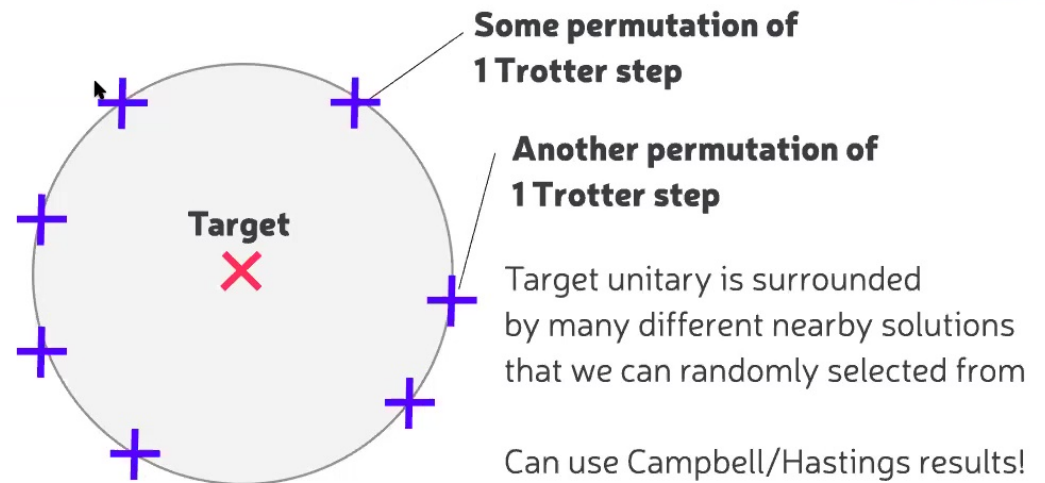
e.g. Ten first order steps



RANDOM PERMUTATIONS



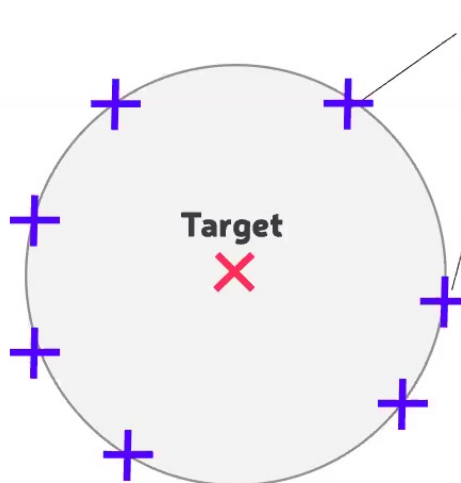
Each permutation
has same error bound.



RANDOM PERMUTATIONS



Each permutation
has same error bound.



Some permutation of
1 Trotter step

Another permutation of
1 Trotter step

Target unitary is surrounded
by many different nearby solutions
that we can randomly selected from

Can use Campbell/Hastings results!

Ten deterministic first order steps



Ten randomised first order steps (each choice must be i.i.d)

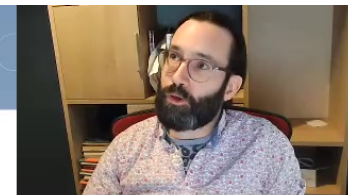


Gate complexity
to obtain ϵ error

$$G_{\text{det}} = O(L^4 t^2 / \epsilon)$$

$$G_{\text{rand}} = O(L^{2.5} t^{1.5} / \epsilon^{0.5})$$

RANDOM PERMUTATIONS



Paper contains theorem statements & proofs showing improvement

Numerical results for 1D Heisenberg Spin chain with a random magnetic field

r = Number of Trotter steps, so lower is better

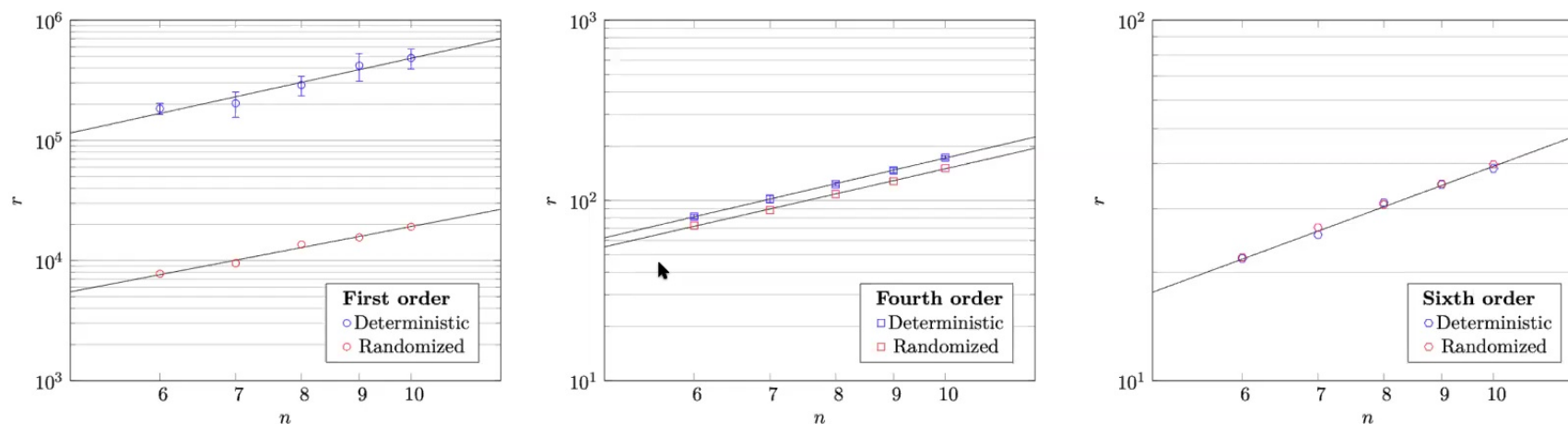


Figure 1: Comparison of the values of r between deterministic and randomized product formulas. Error bars are omitted when they are negligibly small on the plot. Straight lines show power-law fits to the data.

The background of the slide features a close-up photograph of a hand dropping several white dice onto a wooden surface. The dice are in motion, with some showing different faces. A large, semi-transparent light blue circle is overlaid on the image, containing the title text. A smaller solid blue circle is positioned at the top of this larger circle.

Random compilers:

qDRIFT &
SPARSTO



Task: Hamiltonian simulation

Given Hamiltonian with fixed decomposition

$$H = \sum_{j=1}^L c_j H_j \quad \text{with} \quad \|H_j\| = 1$$

Approximate $U = \exp(iHt)$ for some t

Using gate set $\mathcal{G} = \{\exp(iH_j\tau)\}$ and cost model is number of such gates

When H_j are Pauli operators further synthesis possible by Ross-Selinger

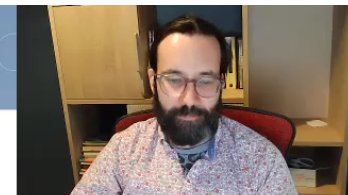
BUT, what if L is very large (e.g. quantum chemistry $L = O(N^4)$)
then standard Trotter approaches have large complexity

QDRIFT

A random compiler for fast Hamiltonian simulation

Earl Campbell

Phys. Rev. Lett. **123** 070503 (2019)



Hamiltonian & assumptions

$$H = \sum_{j=1}^L c_j H_j$$

w.l.o.g

$$\|H_j\| = 1$$

$$c_j \geq 0$$

letting

$$\lambda = \sum_j c_j$$

qDRIFT = quantum drift

With probability

$$p_j = c_j / \lambda$$

Do $\exp(i\lambda t H_j / G)$

and repeat G times

so sequence looks visually like



rather than



Results

Gate complexity

$$G_{qDRIFT} = 2\lambda^2 t^2 / \epsilon$$

No L dependence

PROOF SKETCH



Given $H = \sum_{j=1}^L c_j H_j$ and $\mathcal{L}(\rho) = i[H, \rho]$

Want the unitary “channel” $\exp(\mathcal{L}t) = \mathbb{I} + t\mathcal{L} + O(t^2)$ [*]

Define $\mathcal{L}_j(\rho) = i[H_j, \rho]$ so that $\mathcal{L} = \sum_j c_j \mathcal{L}_j$

Randomly selecting 1 gate (and forgetting) gives the channel $\mathcal{E} = \sum_j p_j \exp(\tau \mathcal{L}_j)$

Setting $p_j = \frac{c_j}{\lambda}$ we have $\mathcal{E} = \frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_j c_j \exp(\tau \mathcal{L}_j) = \mathbb{I} + \sum_j \frac{c_j \tau}{\lambda} \mathcal{L}_j + \dots$ [**]

Setting $\tau = \lambda t$ then [*] and [**] match to 1st order

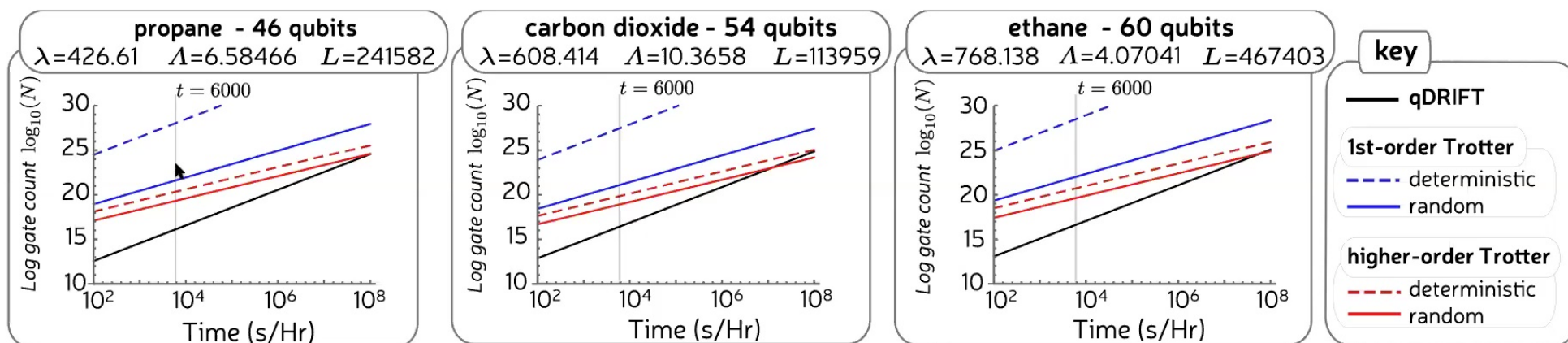
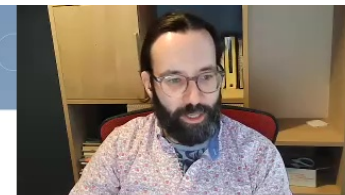
One 1 gate per “step” so no L dependence. Do some carefully bounding of higher order effects and done.

QDRIFT

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Caveats:

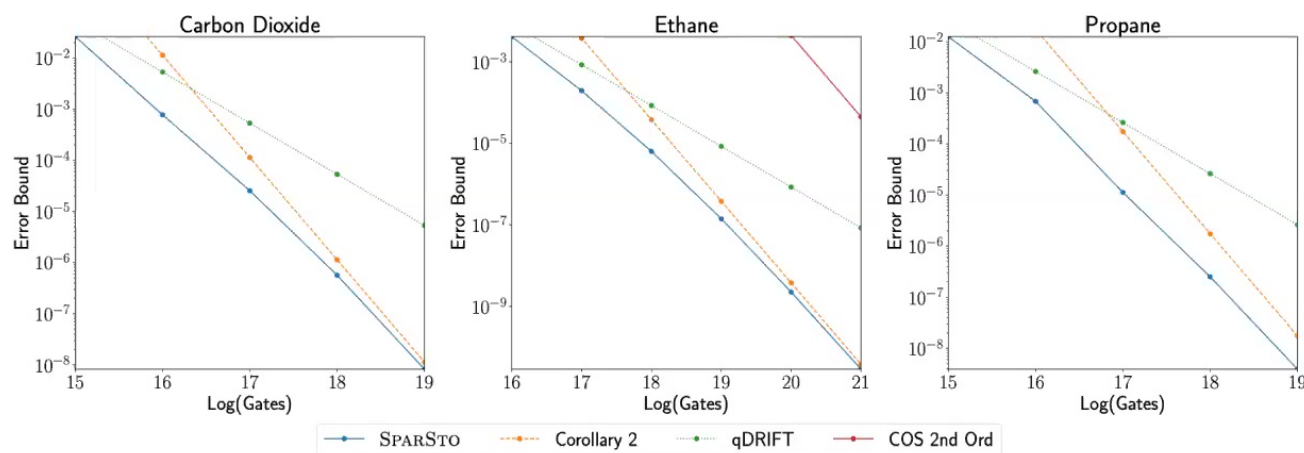
- bound in terms of $\Lambda = \max(c_j)$ would be nice to redo in terms of tighter “commutator” bounds;
- Works well for chemistry, but not spin chain Hamiltonians;
- Error in terms of diamond norm

SPARSTO

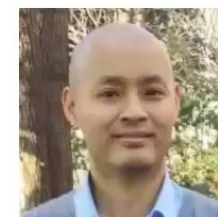
Compilation by stochastic Hamiltonian sparsification

Ouyang, White, Campbell

Quantum 4 235 (2020)



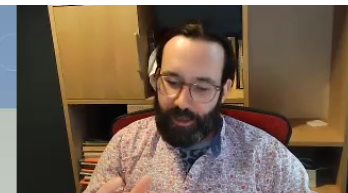
SPARSTO: Sparsify the Hamiltonian to reduce effective L
interpolating between qDRIFT and 2nd order Trotter with some
improvements in-between



Yingkai Ouyang



David White

A large image showing a hand dropping several white dice onto a wooden surface. A semi-transparent blue circle is overlaid on the image, containing the text 'Derandomizing!'.

Derandomizing!

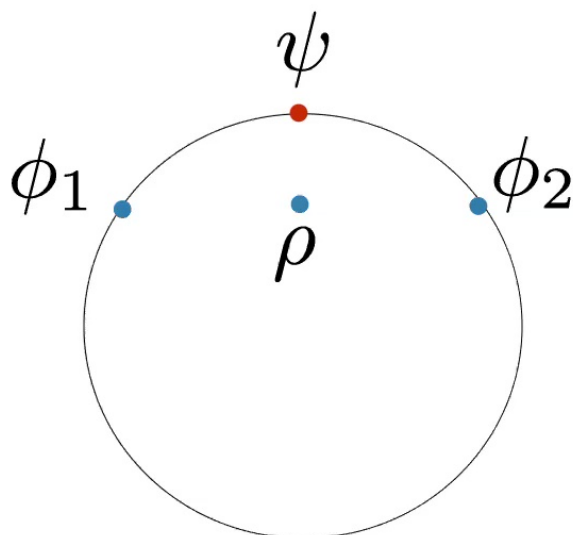
DERANDOMIZED

Quantum simulation via randomized product formulas:

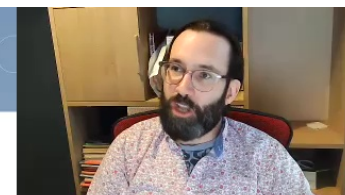
Low gate complexity with accuracy guarantees

Chen, (Robert) Huang, Kueng and Tropp

arXiv:2008.11751



Given a randomised algorithm
(e.g. qDRIFT or SPARSTO)
with some mixed state/channel,
how good are the individual samples?

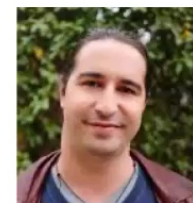


?

Chi-Fang Chen



(Robert) Huang



Richard Kueng



Joel Tropp

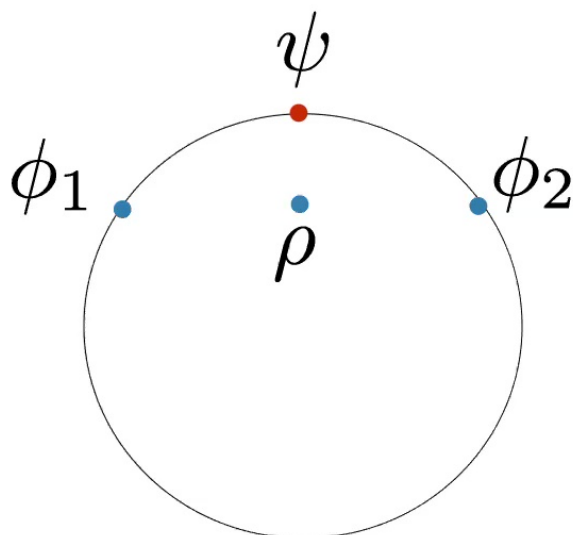
DERANDOMIZED

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Given a randomised algorithm
(e.g. qDRIFT or SPARSTO)
with some mixed state/channel,
how good are the individual samples?

Derandomized qDRIFT: with prob δ the sampled
 n -qubit circuit has diamond norm error less than ϵ
when we use G gates:

$$G = O(nt^2\lambda^2/\epsilon^2) + O(\log(1/\delta)t^2\lambda^2/\epsilon^2)$$

Compare $G_{qDRIFT} = 2\lambda^2t^2/\epsilon$

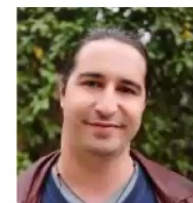


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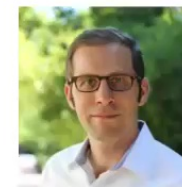
Chi-Fang Chen



(Robert) Huang



Richard Kueng



Joel Tropp

OUTLOOK



- Not much in terms of software implementation & experimentation of random protocols, especially w.r.t multi-qubit circuits
- Improved randomised algorithms using convex optimisation.
- Understanding roles of randomness in some cases like phase estimation where we are interested in energy error and not unitary error!
- Randomness in post-Trotter (e.g. LCU) circuits?
- Beyond i.i.d probability distributions?



THANK YOU!