

Sample-efficient learning of quantum many-body systems

Mehdi Soleimanifar (MIT)

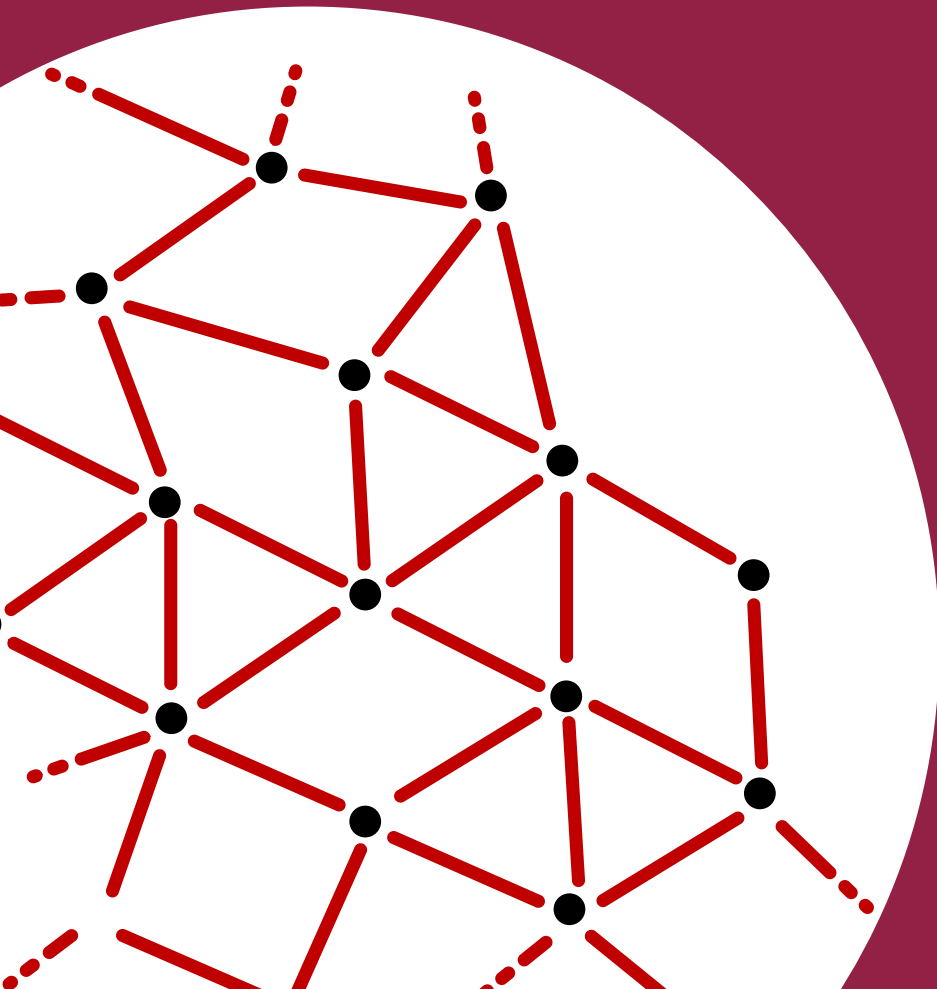
(arxiv: 2004.07266, FOCS'20)

Joint work with

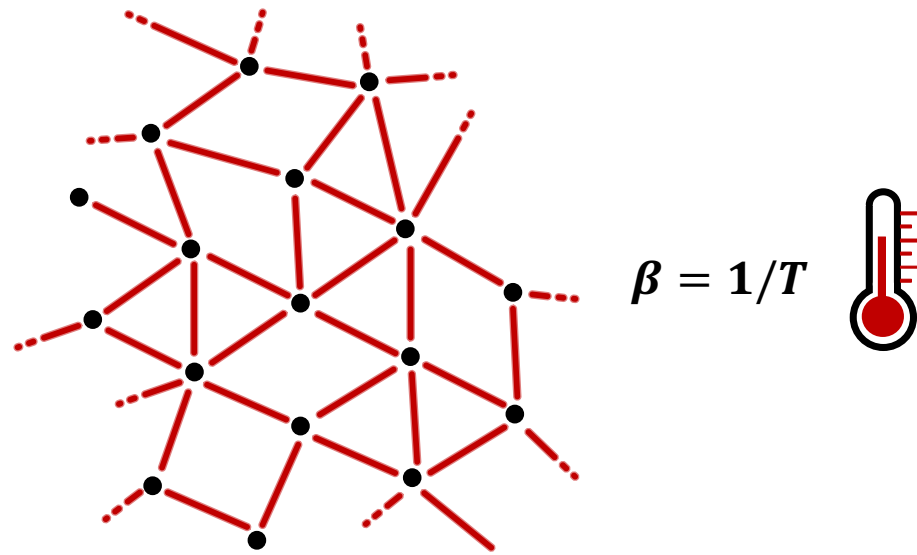
Anurag Anshu (UC Berkeley)

Srinivasan Arunachalam (IBM)

Tomotaka Kuwahara (RIKEN)



Setup and problem statement



Hamiltonian $H(\mu) = \sum_{k=1}^m \mu_k E_k$, E_k **local basis**, $[E_k, E_\ell] \neq 0$
 e.g., \otimes of *Pauli operators*

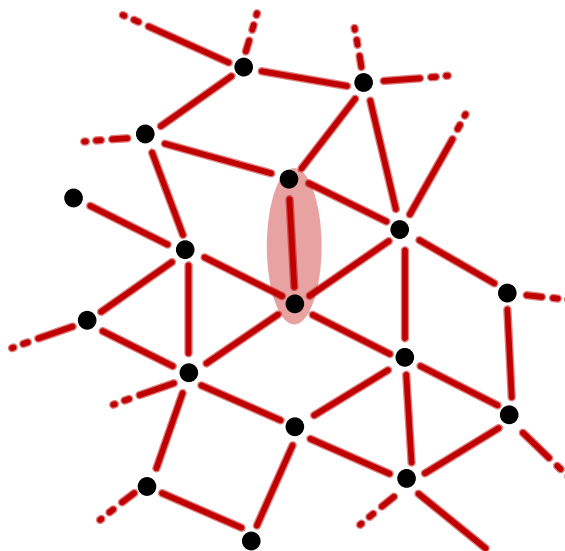
Interaction coefficients $\mu = (\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_m)$, $|\mu_k| \leq 1$, $m = O(n)$

Gibbs state $\rho_\mu = \frac{1}{Z(\mu)} \exp(-\beta H(\mu))$

Partition function $Z(\mu) = \text{Tr}[e^{-\beta H(\mu)}]$

This talk:

**Learn Hamiltonian $H(\mu)$
from local measurements**



$$\beta = 1/T$$



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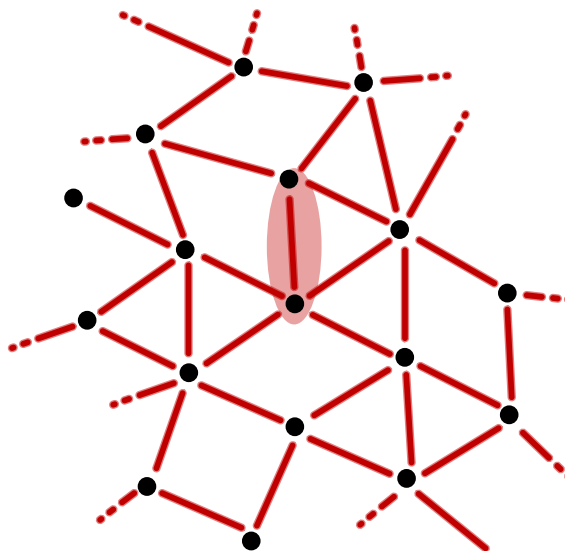
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**Learn $(\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_m)$
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Why care about **Quantum Hamiltonian learning**?

Many previous results, but no rigorous performance guarantee
[BAL19, BGP+20, WGFC14, EHF19, WPS+17, ...]

Verification of quantum devices:

How to verify quantum algorithms involving Gibbs states?

e.g., quantum **SDP solvers**, quantum **annealing**, finite T **simulations**

Many-body physics:

Can we test our theories for interacting quantum systems?

e.g., interactions in newly synthesized materials or cold atom setups

Quantum Machine Learning:

Can ML techniques help learn quantum data?

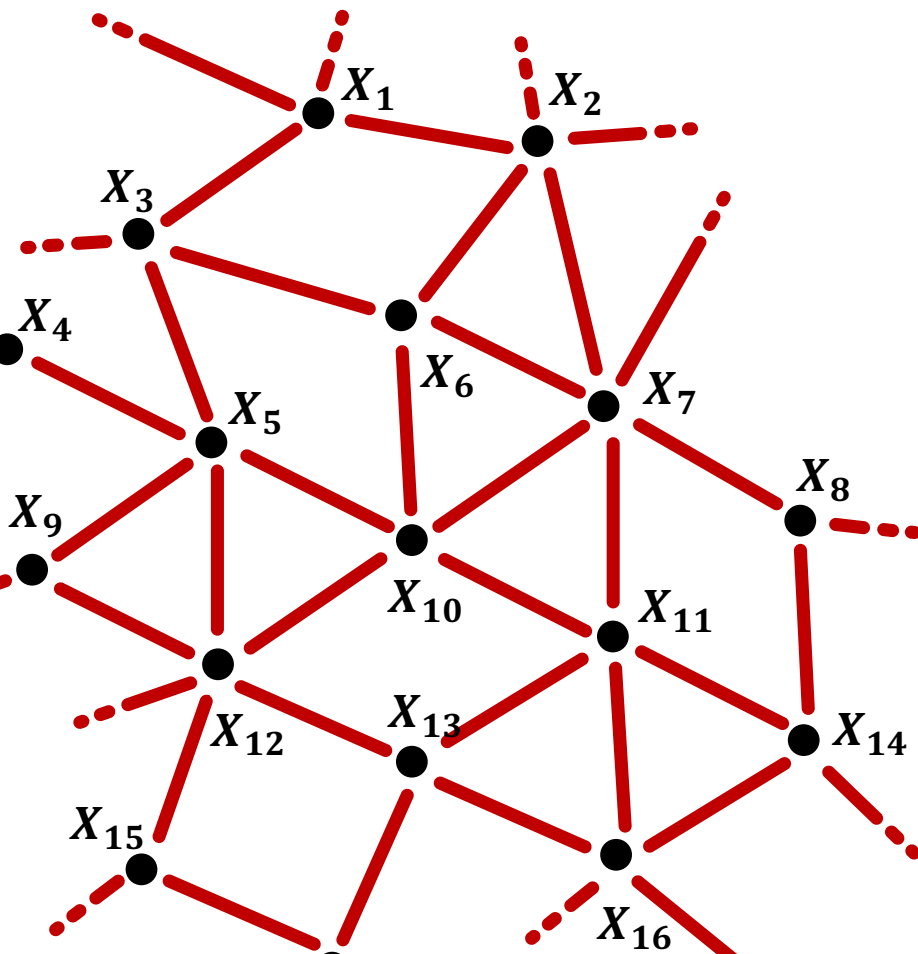
Connection to Machine Learning

$$X = (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) \in \{+1, -1\}^n$$

Vertices of a **bounded degree graph**

$$X \sim p_\theta$$

Learn θ from *i.i.d.* samples of p_θ



Ising Model
Boltzmann Machine

$X = (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) \in \{+1, -1\}^n$
Vertices of a **bounded degree graph**

Gibbs Distribution

$$p_{\theta}(X = x) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp(\sum_{k \sim \ell} \theta_{k\ell} x_k x_{\ell})$$

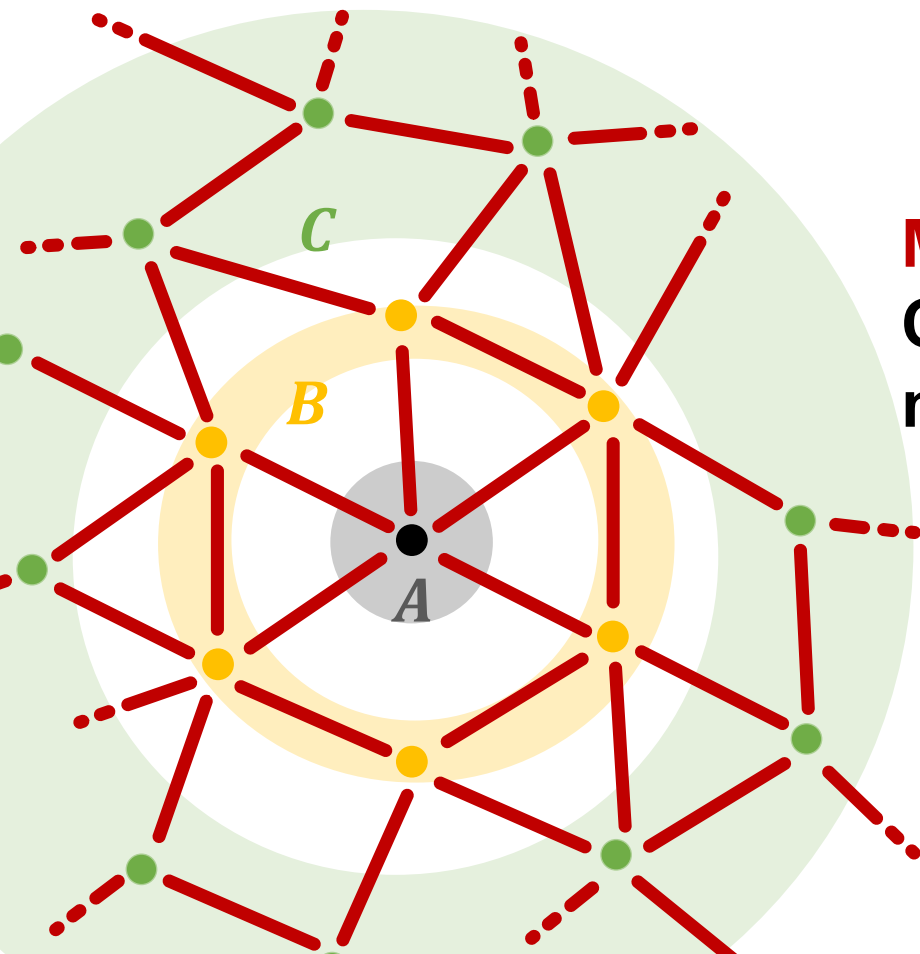
Hammersley-Clifford
Theorem

Markov Property

Correlations mediated through
neighboring variables

$$I(A: C | B) = 0$$

Learning algorithms
for these models with
efficient time/sample complexity
[Bresler15, KM17, VMLC16,...]



Learning Quantum Interactions

Quantum state

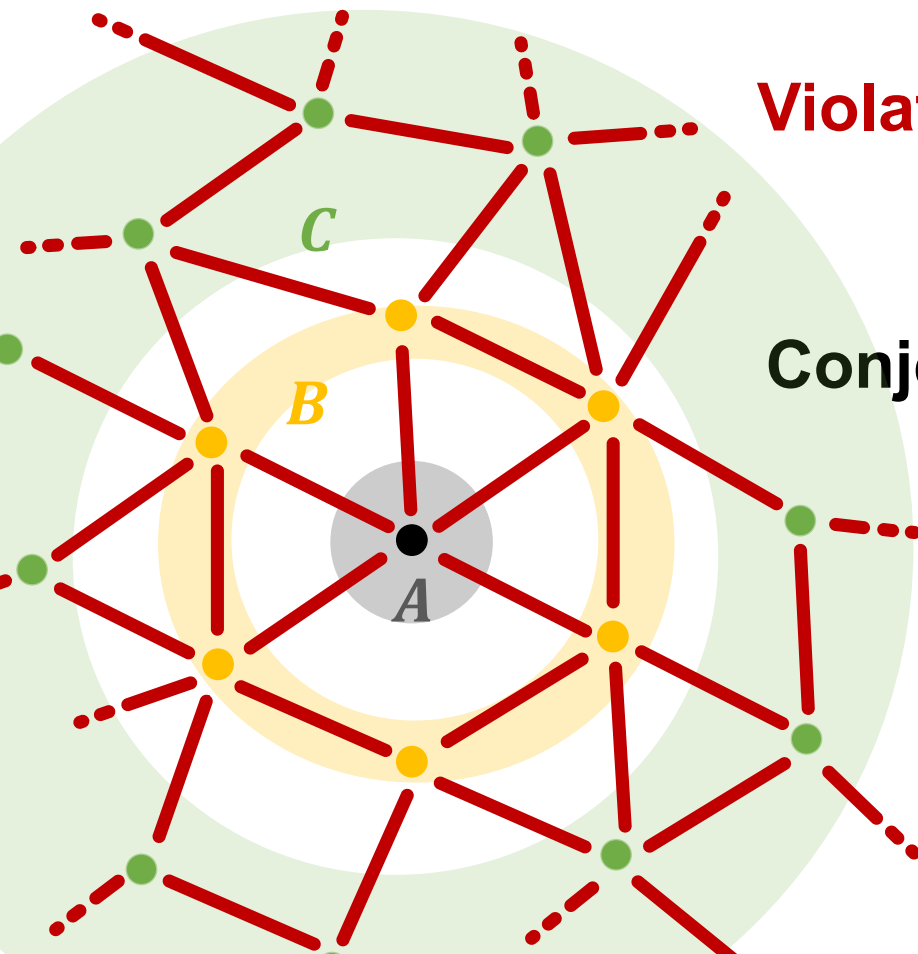
$$\rho \geq 0, \text{Tr}[\rho] = 1$$

Quantum Gibbs state

$$\rho_{\mu} = \frac{1}{Z(\mu)} \exp(-\beta \sum_k \mu_k E_k)$$

Spatially Local Hamiltonian

$$H(\mu) = \sum_{k=1}^m \mu_k E_k$$



Violates exact Markov property

$$I(A: C | B) \neq 0 \quad [\text{LP08}]$$

Conjectured to obey [KB19, KKB19]

$$I(A: C | B) \leq e^{-o(\text{dist}(A, C))}$$

Can we obtain **unconditional** algorithms for learning quantum **Hamiltonians**?

Efficient Sample Complexity

Our main result:

$\tilde{O}\left(\frac{e^{\text{poly}(\beta)} m^3}{\text{poly}(\beta) \varepsilon^2}\right)$ *i.i.d.* copies of ρ_μ suffices to

obtain estimate $\hat{\mu} = (\hat{\mu}_1, \dots, \hat{\mu}_m)$ s.t. $\|\hat{\mu} - \mu\|_2 \leq \varepsilon$

$$\text{Hamiltonian } H(\mu) = \sum_{k=1}^m \mu_k E_k \quad \sqrt{\sum_{k=1}^m (\hat{\mu}_k - \mu_k)^2}$$

We also show a **lower bound** of $\tilde{\Omega}(\sqrt{m}/\varepsilon)$ for the # of samples

Main ideas in our proof

Sufficient statistics

A function of the input data that contains all the information about the unknown parameters

e.g., sample mean and variance in Gaussian distributions

(Thermal averages)

Local expectations $e_k = \text{Tr}[\rho_\mu E_k], \quad k \in [m]$

uniquely determine $\rho_\mu = \frac{1}{Z(\mu)} \exp(-\beta \sum_k \mu_k E_k)$

[Jaynes57, KS14, BKL+17]

Maximum entropy optimization

$\rho_\mu = \underset{\text{states } \sigma}{\text{argmax}} \quad S(\sigma) = -\text{Tr}[\sigma \log \sigma]$ von Neumann entropy

s. t. $\text{Tr}[\sigma E_k] = e_k, \quad k \in [m]$

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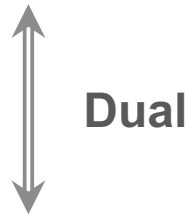
s. t. $\text{Tr}[\sigma E_k] = \hat{e}_k, \quad k \in [m]$

↑ Empirical Values

Dual program

$$\max_{\text{states } \sigma} S(\sigma)$$

$$\text{s. t. } \text{Tr}[\sigma E_k] = e_k, \quad k \in [m]$$



$$\mu = \text{argmin}_{(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m)}$$

Partition Function

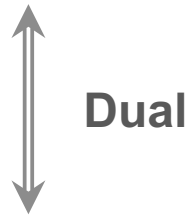
$$Z(\lambda) = \text{Tr}[e^{-\beta \sum_k \lambda_k E_k}]$$

$$\log Z(\lambda) + \beta \sum_k \lambda_k e_k \longrightarrow \text{Tr}[\rho_\mu E_k]$$

Dual program

$$\max_{\text{states } \sigma} S(\sigma)$$

$$\text{s. t. } \text{Tr}[\sigma E_k] = \hat{e}_k, \quad k \in [m]$$



Empirical Values

$$\hat{\mu} = \underset{(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m)}{\text{argmin}} \log Z(\lambda) + \beta \sum_k \lambda_k \hat{e}_k$$

Error in **interactions** vs Error in **local expectations**

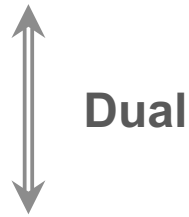
$$\|\hat{\mu} - \mu\|_2$$

$$\|\hat{e} - e\|_2$$

Dual program

$$\max_{\text{states } \sigma} S(\sigma)$$

$$\text{s. t. } \text{Tr}[\sigma E_k] = \hat{e}_k, \quad k \in [m]$$



$$\hat{\mu} = \underset{(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m)}{\text{argmin}} \log Z(\lambda) + \beta \sum_k \lambda_k \hat{e}_k$$

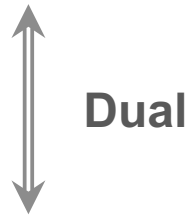
Toy model

$$-\frac{b}{2a} = \underset{x}{\text{argmin}} \quad ax^2 + bx + c \quad a > 0$$

Dual program

$$\max_{\text{states } \sigma} S(\sigma)$$

$$\text{s. t. } \text{Tr}[\sigma E_k] = \hat{e}_k, \quad k \in [m]$$



$$\hat{\mu} = \operatorname{argmin}_{(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m)} \log Z(\lambda) + \beta \sum_k \lambda_k \hat{e}_k$$

Toy model

$$-\frac{\hat{b}}{2a} = \operatorname{argmin} \quad ax^2 + \hat{b}x + c \quad a > 0$$

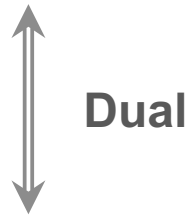
$$|\hat{b} - b| \ll 2a$$

Convexity determines allowed **statistical error**

Dual program

$$\max_{\text{states } \sigma} S(\sigma)$$

$$\text{s. t. } \text{Tr}[\sigma E_k] = \hat{e}_k, \quad k \in [m]$$



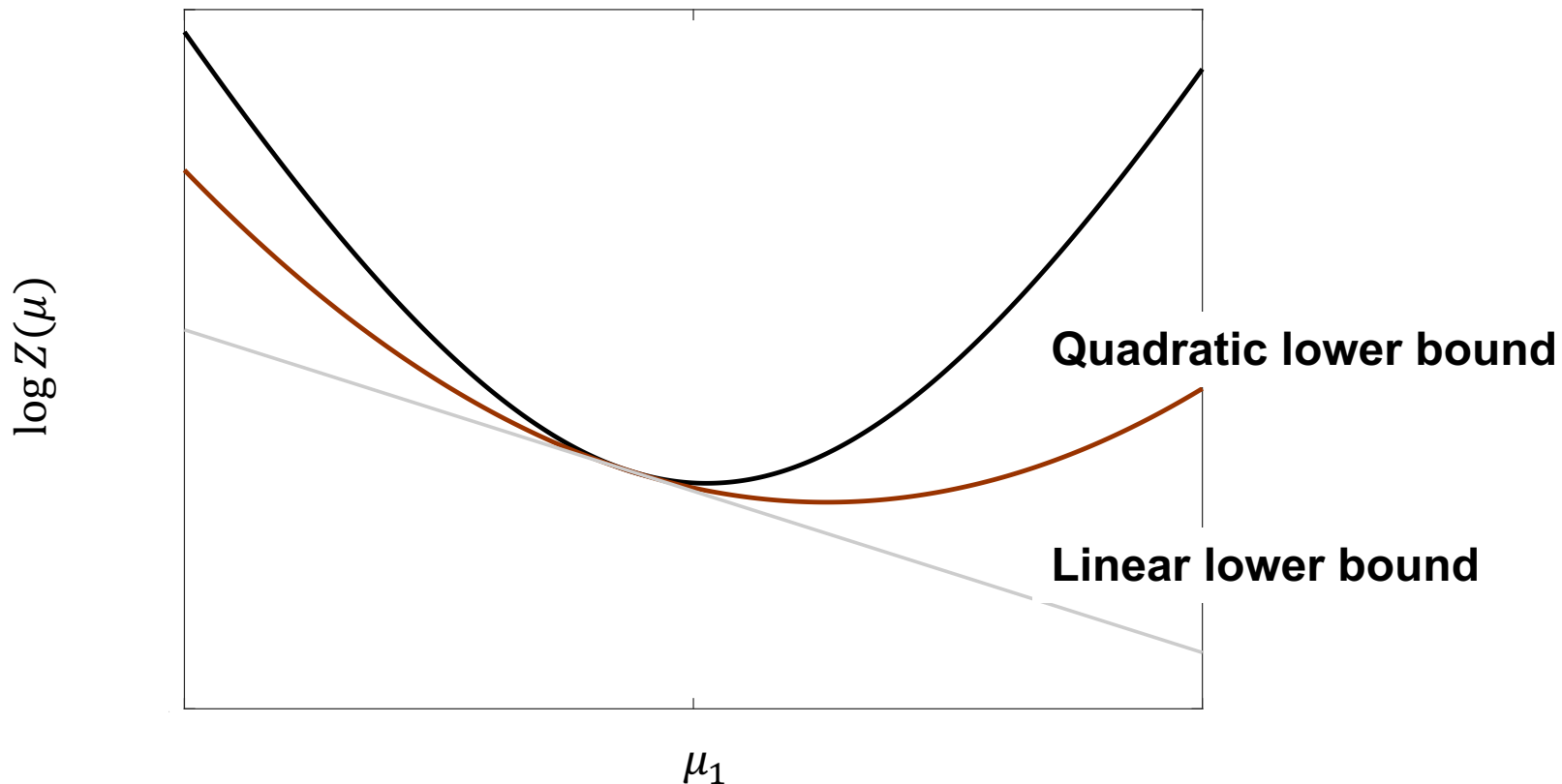
$$\hat{\mu} = \operatorname{argmin}_{(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m)} \boxed{\log Z(\lambda)} + \beta \sum_k \lambda_k \hat{e}_k$$

Stochastic Convex Optimization

$f(x)$ is α -strongly convex if

$$f(x) \geq f(x_0) + \nabla f(x_0)(x - x_0) + \frac{1}{2} \alpha \|x - x_0\|_2^2$$

Strong Convexity



Our main contribution: $\lambda_{\min}(\nabla^2 \log Z) \geq \Omega(1/m)$

This implies: $\|\hat{\mu} - \mu\|_2 \leq O(m) \|\hat{e} - e\|_2 \rightarrow N = \tilde{O}(m^3/\varepsilon^2)$

Error in **interactions**

Error in **local expectations**

Strong convexity of $\log Z$ (classical case)

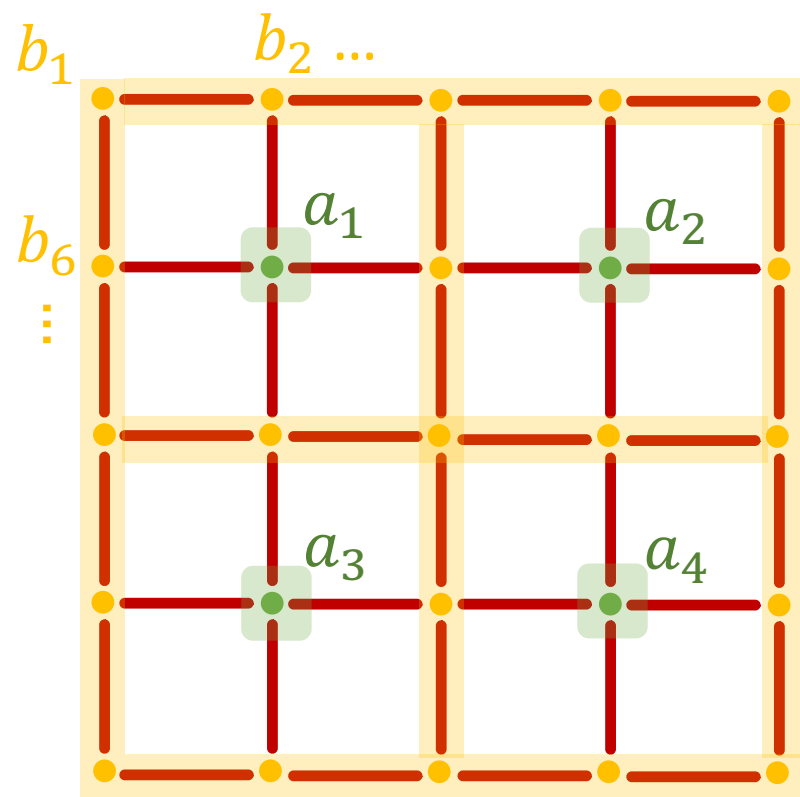
$$\mathbf{v}^T \cdot \nabla^2 \log Z \cdot \mathbf{v} \geq \Omega(1) \cdot \|\mathbf{v}\|_2^2$$

Proof

$$\sum_{k,\ell} \mathbf{v}_k \mathbf{v}_\ell \underbrace{\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \mu_k \partial \mu_\ell} \log Z}_{= \text{Cov}[E_k, E_\ell]} = \text{Var}[\sum_k \mathbf{v}_k E_k]$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Var}[\sum_k \mathbf{v}_k E_k] \\ & \geq \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{B}} [\text{Var}[\sum_k \mathbf{v}_k E_k | \mathbf{B}]] \\ & \geq \sum_{a \in A} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{B}} [\underbrace{\text{Var}[\sum_{k \sim a} \mathbf{v}_k E_k | \mathbf{B}]}_{\text{Local terms}}] \\ & \geq \Omega(1) \|\mathbf{v}\|_2^2 \end{aligned}$$

Relies on Markov property
and $[E_k, E_\ell] = 0$



Proof of strong convexity of $\log Z$ (quantum case)

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k,\ell} v_k v_\ell \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \mu_k \partial \mu_\ell} \log Z &\geq \text{Var}[\sum_{k=1}^m v_k \tilde{E}_k] \\ &\gtrsim \max_k (v_k^2) \cdot \text{Var}[\tilde{W}_{k_0}]^{O(1)} \\ &\geq \Omega(1/m) \|\mathbf{v}\|_2^2 \end{aligned}$$

$\tilde{W}_{k_0}, \tilde{E}_k$ quasi-local operator

Relies on

Quantum belief propagation [Hastings'07]

Connecting global and local properties
of Quantum systems [AKL'16]

Results:

Sample complexity of quantum Hamiltonian learning $O\left(\frac{m^3}{\varepsilon^2}\right)$

We also show a lower bound of $\Omega(\sqrt{m}/\varepsilon)$

Time complexity

Maximum entropy optimization

$$\rho_{\mu} = \underset{\text{states } \sigma}{\operatorname{argmax}} \quad S(\sigma)$$
$$\text{s. t. } \operatorname{Tr}[\sigma E_k] = e_k, \quad k \in [m]$$

NP-hard in the worst case

Requires computing **$\log Z(\mu)$** [Montanari15]

Approximate versions exist via
mean field approximation, or pseudo-likelihood

Efficient algorithms at **high temperatures** $T > T_c$

[Harrow, Mehraban, **Soleimanifar**'19], [KKB'19], [MH'20]

Open questions

- 1) Close the **upper** and **lower** bound for sample complexity?
- 2) Can we learn μ in ℓ_∞ distance with **polylog(n) samples**?
- 3) Can we obtain **time-efficient** algorithms?
(possible for commuting Hamiltonians in ℓ_∞ distance)
- 4) Practical implementations

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