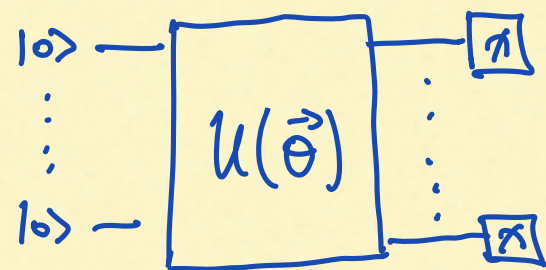


# Circuit depth vs. energy

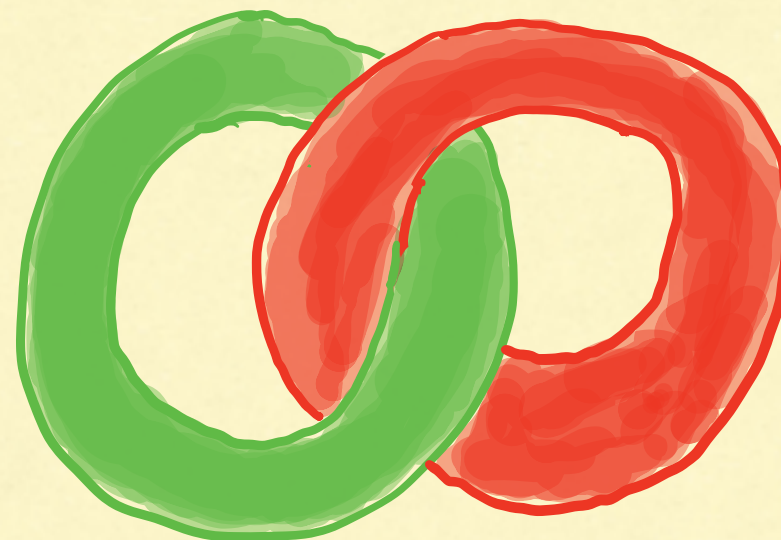
for topological order in 2D

(joint w/ Isaac Kim)



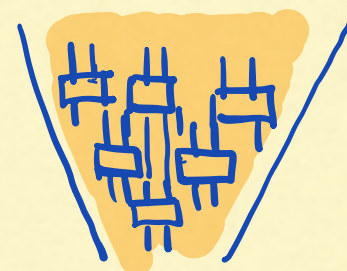
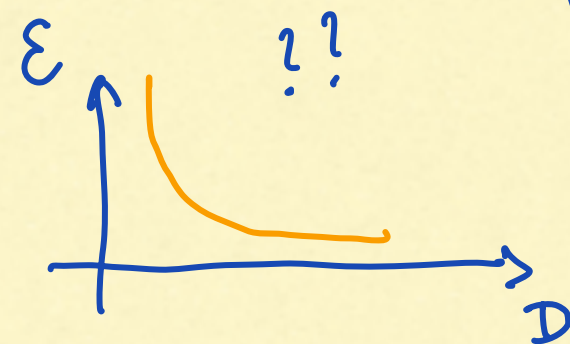
$$\min_{\vec{\theta}} \langle \psi(\vec{\theta}) | H | \psi(\vec{\theta}) \rangle$$

$$H = \sum_{x \in \Lambda} h_x$$



$$\text{Tr}[H_R S_{\Lambda}^e] \leq |R| \epsilon$$

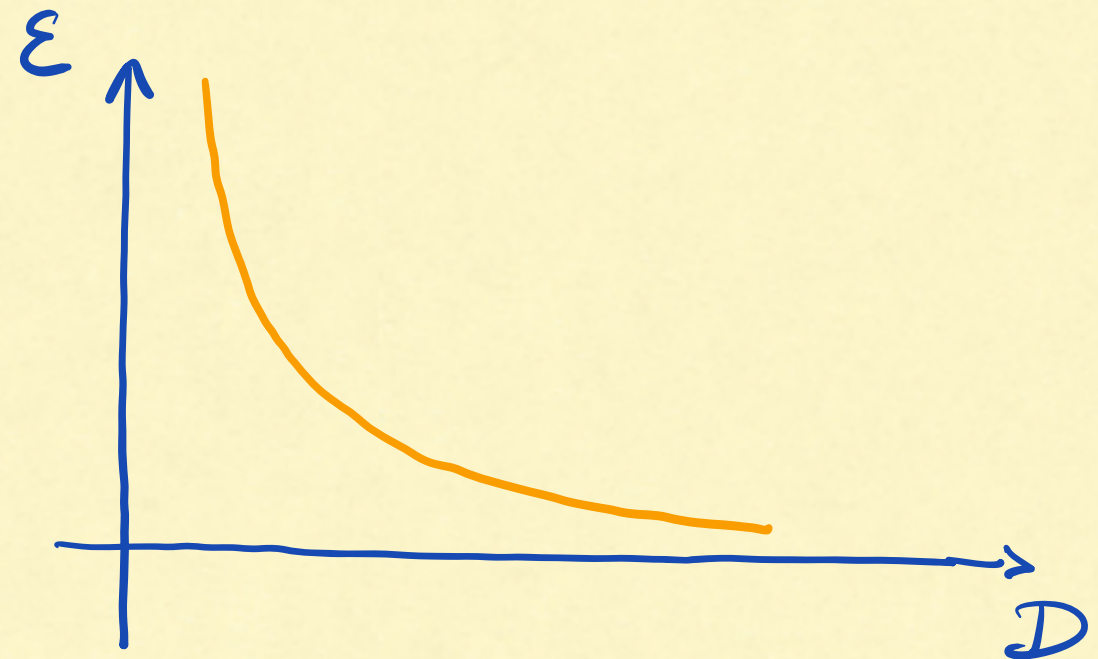
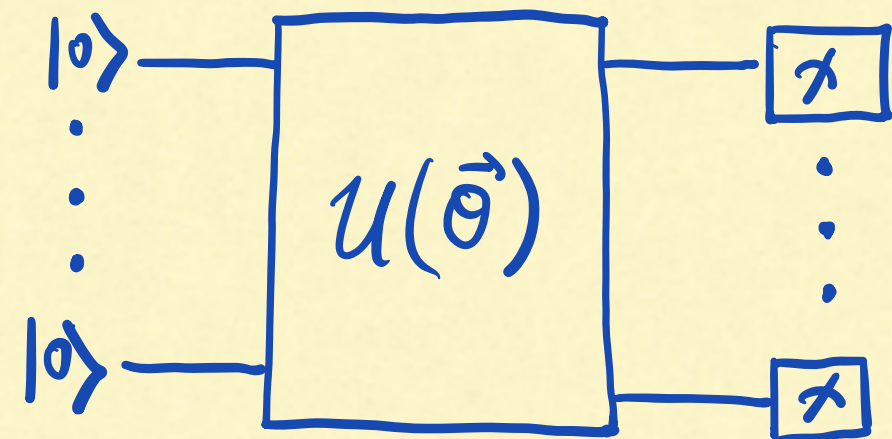
$$\left\| \rho_{\Lambda}^e - \frac{\prod_A^{\text{TC}} \rho_{\Lambda}^e \prod_A^{\text{TC}}}{\text{Tr}[\prod_A^{\text{TC}} \rho_{\Lambda}^e \prod_A^{\text{TC}}]} \right\|_1 \leq O(|R| \epsilon)$$



$$\langle \psi | P \circ Q | \psi \rangle \neq \langle \psi | P | \psi \rangle \langle \psi | Q | \psi \rangle$$

# ABSTRACT

- HARDNESS RESULT ON PREPARING LOW-ENERGY STATES OF TOPOLOGICALLY ORDERED MODELS IN 2D.
- MOTIVATED BY NUMERICAL WORK ON VARIATIONAL QUANTUM ALGORITHMS



→ In general, no exponential decay of energy density with circuit depth for VQE!



# OUTLINE

- NISQ and the VQE

- Main result

- Proof sketch

LISTEN ! !!

- Low energy states

- A witness for topological order

- Bounds on the witness

SLEEP ! --

- Discussion

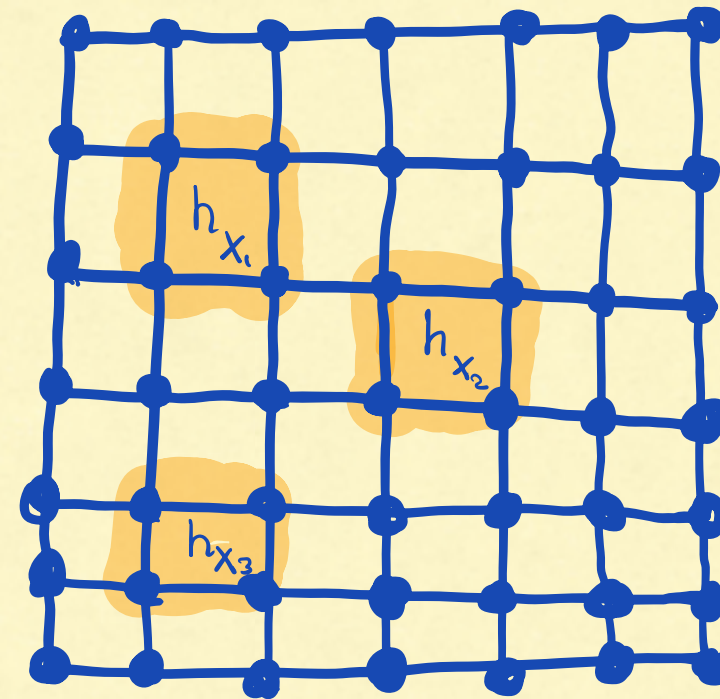
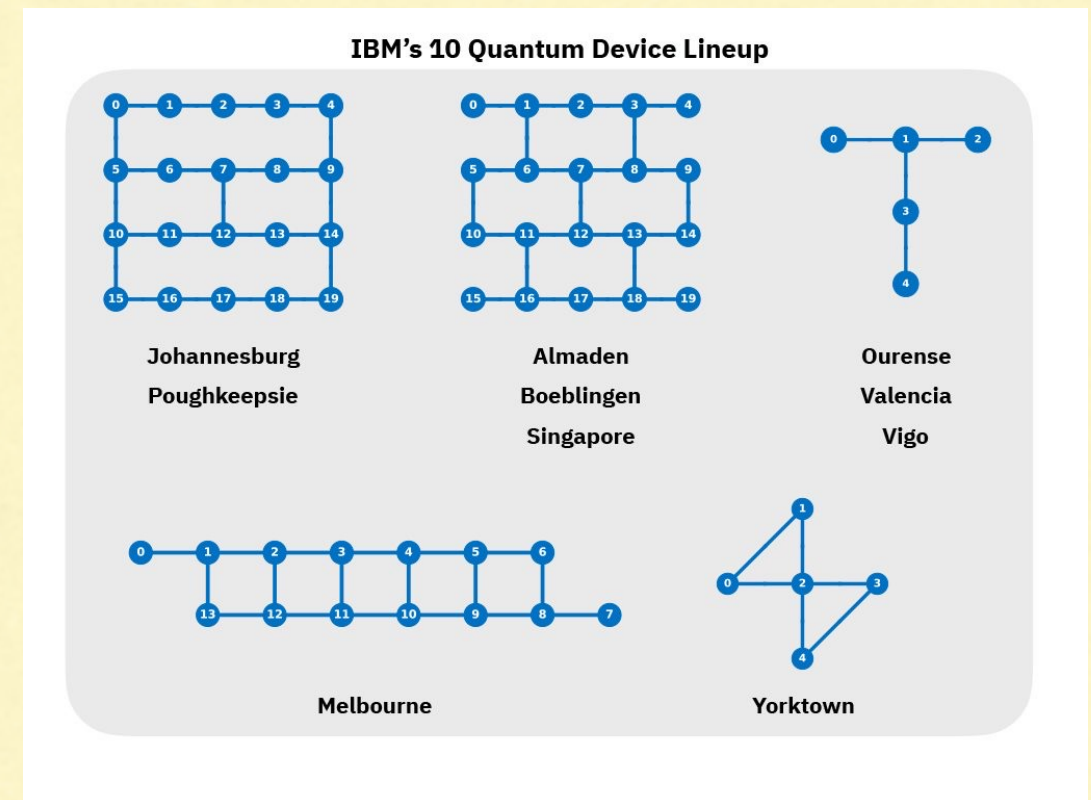
WAKE UP ! ☺

# Estimating ground energies on a near-term device

- Current devices are very limited:
  - few qubits
  - very noisy
  - limited connectivity (2D nearest neighbor)
  - no adaptive circuits (yet!)

What can we do with them ???

↳ Try to prepare groundstates of gapped lattice models !!

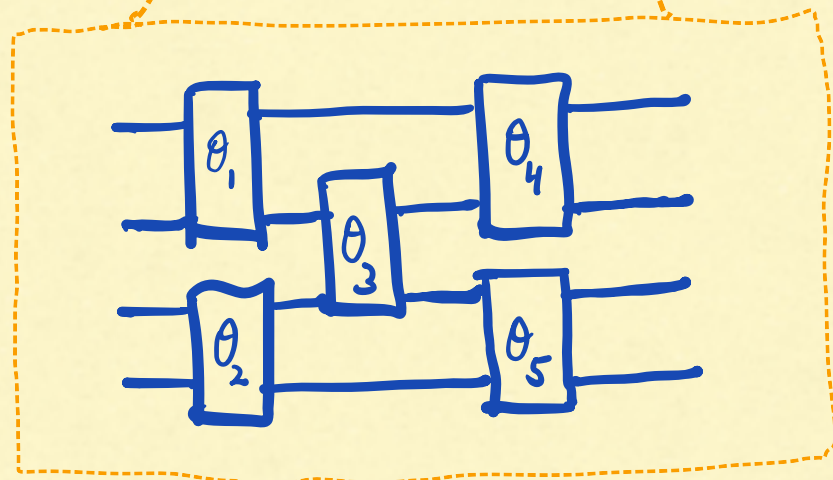
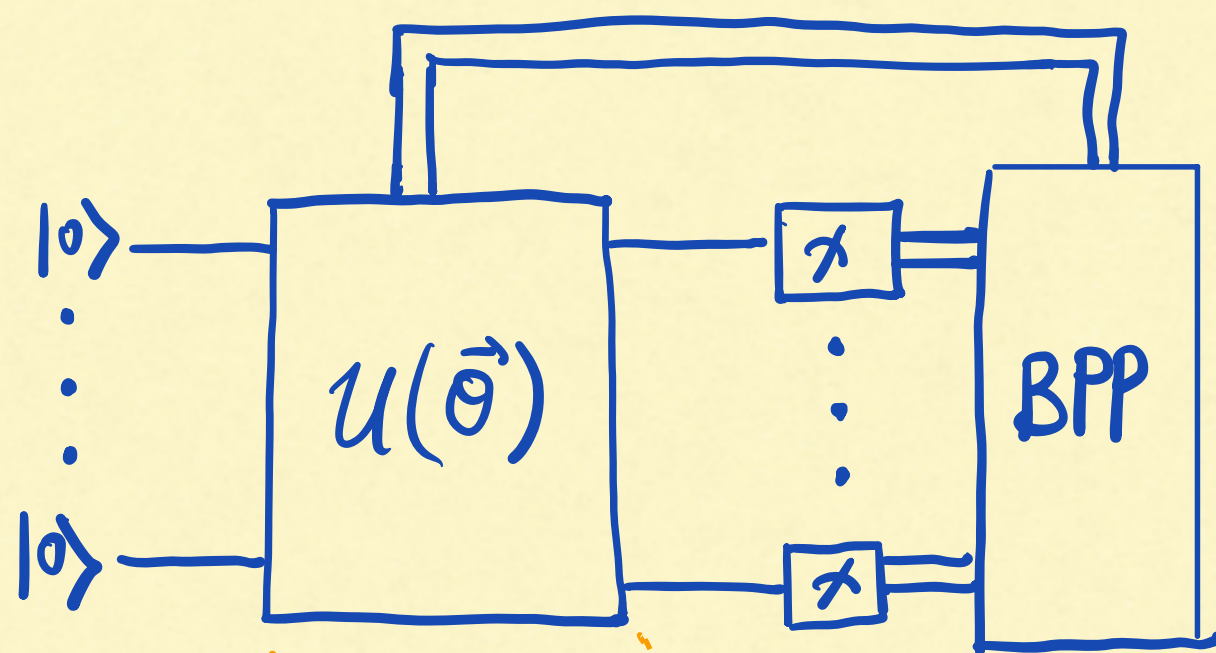


$$H_{\Lambda} = \sum_{x \in \Lambda} h_x$$



# Estimating ground energies on a near-term device

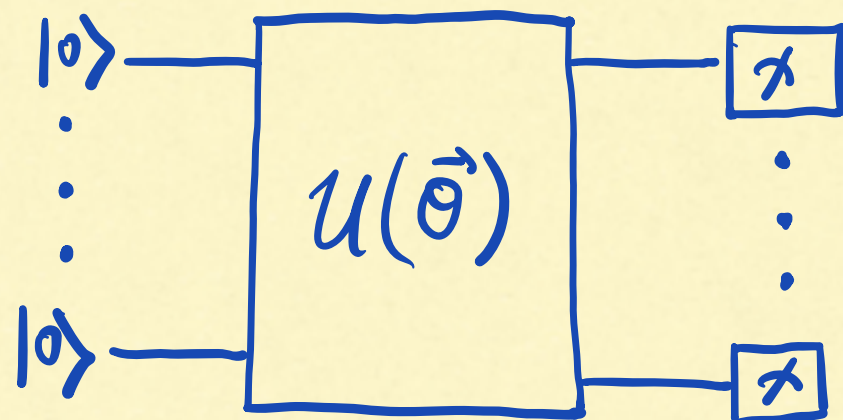
Popular paradigm: Variational quantum eigensolver (VQE)



Algorithm: For  $H = \sum_e \alpha_e P_e$   
compute  $\min_{\vec{\theta}} \langle \psi(\vec{\theta}) | H | \psi(\vec{\theta}) \rangle$

- 1) Initialize  $|0\rangle^{\otimes N}$
- 2) Apply variational ansatz  $U(\vec{\theta})$
- 3) Measure trial state  $|\psi(\vec{\theta})\rangle$
- 4) Evaluate  $\langle \psi(\vec{\theta}) | H | \psi(\vec{\theta}) \rangle$
- 5) Update  $\vec{\theta}$
- 6) Repeat

## Estimating ground energies on a near-term device



to go below target energy density  $\mathcal{E}$   
how deep must our ansatz circuit be ?

polynomial decay

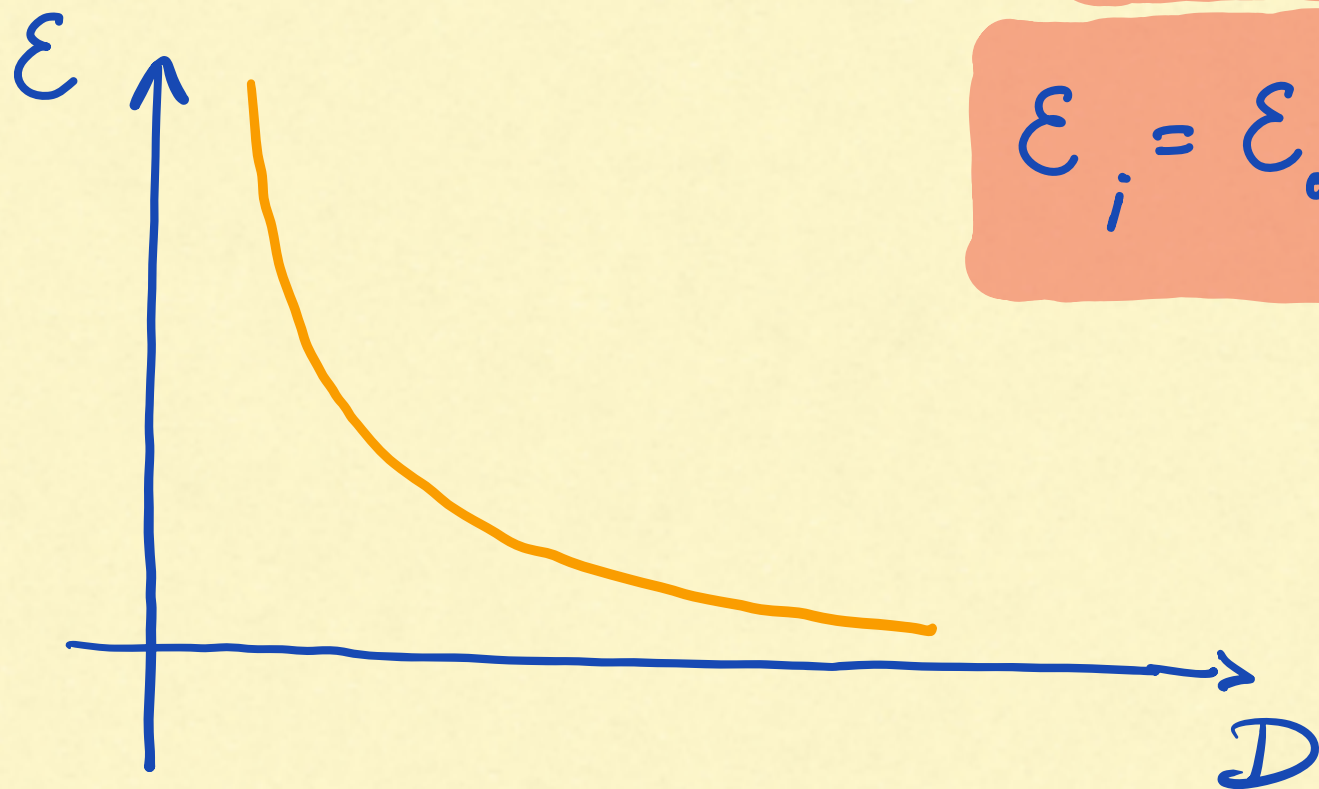
vs.

exponential decay

$$\mathcal{E}_i = \mathcal{E}_0 + \frac{1}{\text{poly}(D_i)}$$

vs.

$$\mathcal{E}_i = \mathcal{E}_0 + \frac{1}{\exp(D_i)}$$



Which one can we expect for  
interesting lattice models ?



## Problem statement

Assume: . Topologically ordered, frustration-free 2D lattice Hamiltonian  $H_\Lambda = \sum_{x \in \Lambda} h_x$   
 . geometrically local gates in 2D (no adaptive gates!)

Task: Prepare state  $\rho_\Lambda^\epsilon$  with global energy density at most  $\epsilon$ , i.e.

$$\text{Tr} [H_\Lambda \rho_\Lambda^\epsilon] \leq |\Lambda| \epsilon$$

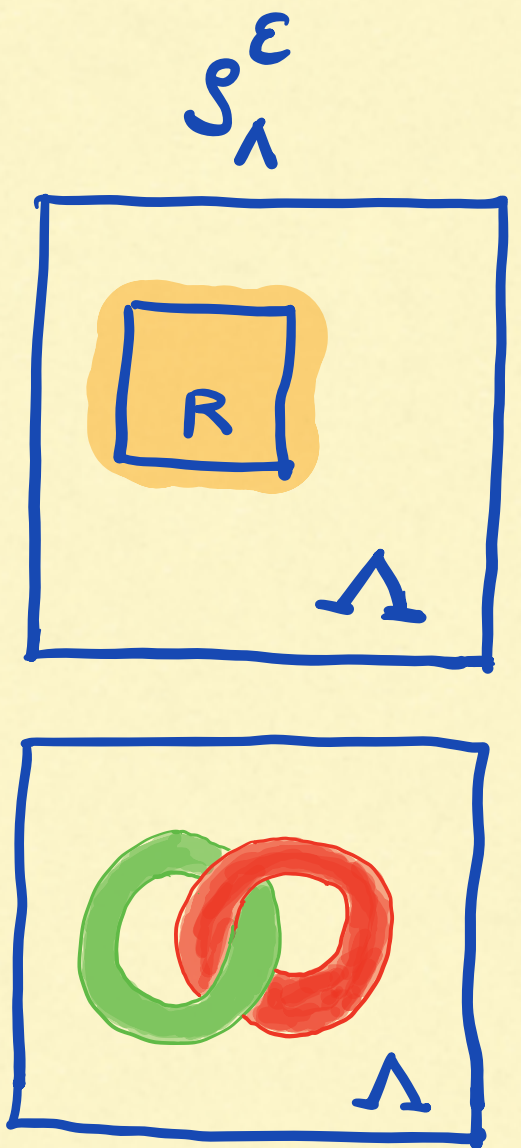
## Main result

Worst case: circuit depth  $D = \Omega(\text{poly}(1/\epsilon))$

(for mixed  $\rho_\Lambda^\epsilon$ , prepare purification  $|\psi^\epsilon\rangle_\Lambda$  in depth  $D$ )

## Proof sketch (high-level)

- 1) Show existence of "good" patch  $R : S_R^\epsilon$  close to ground space of  $H_R$  ( $H_\Lambda$  restricted to  $R$ )
- 2) Generalize witness function  $C(P, Q)_{|\psi\rangle}$  for topological order related to anyon braiding (see Haah (2013))
- 3) Put bounds on  $C(P, Q)_{|\psi\rangle}$  on patch  $R$  for  $|\psi^\epsilon\rangle_\Lambda$ .



$$f(1/\epsilon) \leq C(P, Q)_{|\psi^\epsilon\rangle} \leq g(D)$$

$\rightarrow$

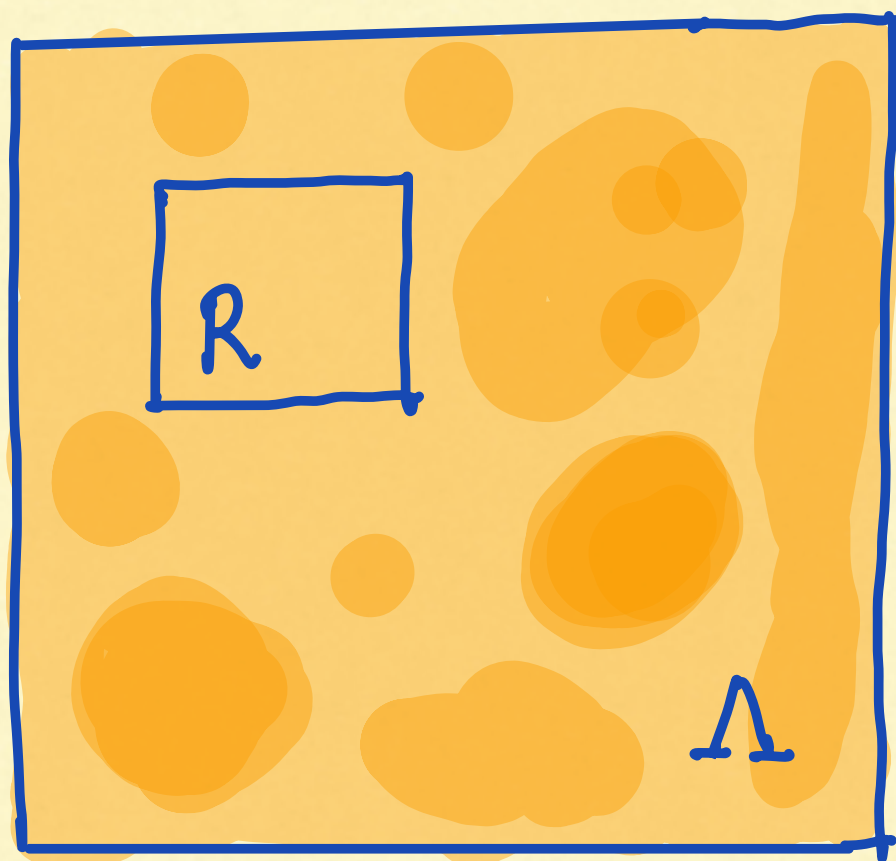
$$D = \Omega(\sqrt{1/\epsilon})$$

Main result !!



## Low-energy states have $\epsilon$ -good subsystems

We show: There always exists subsystem with high overlap with ground state.



$\epsilon$ -good subsystem  $R$ :

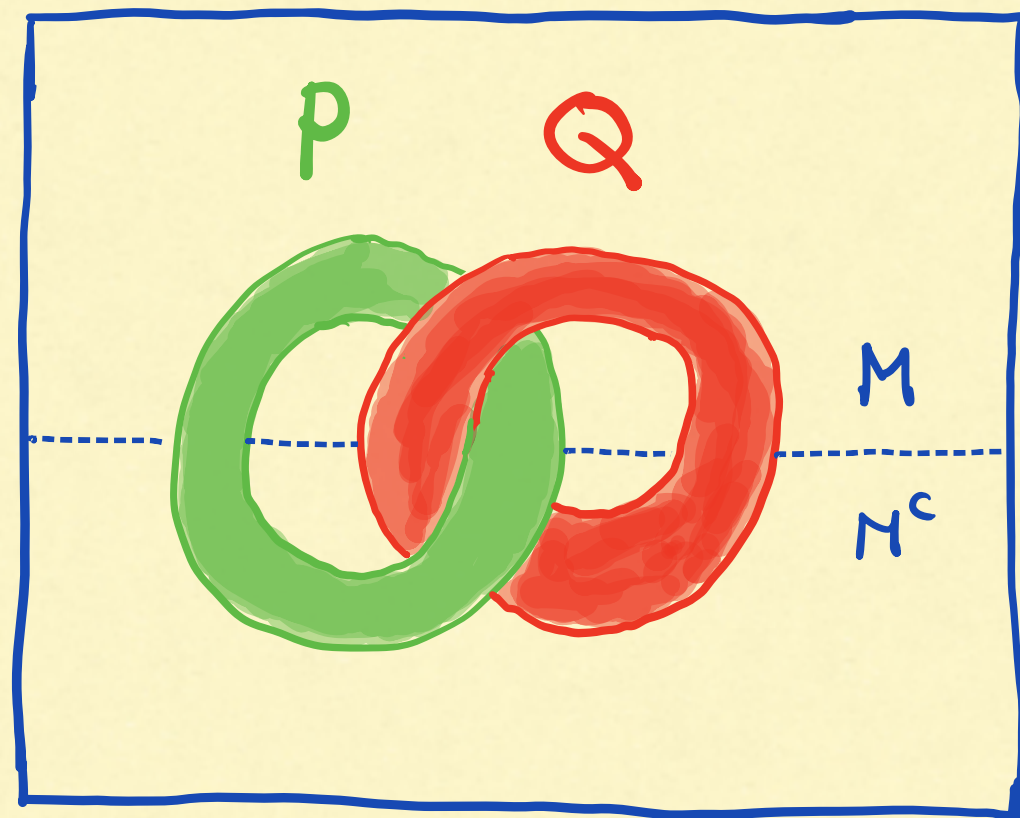
$$\text{Tr}[H_R \rho_R^\epsilon] \leq |R| \epsilon$$

Lemma: For  $\epsilon$ -good subsystem  $R$ :

$$\left\| \rho_\Lambda^\epsilon - \Pi_R^\circ \rho_\Lambda^\epsilon \Pi_R^\circ \right\|_1 \leq \sqrt{|R| \epsilon}$$

# A witness for topological order

Twist product



$$P \otimes Q := \sum_{j,k} P_N^j Q_N^k \otimes Q_{N^c}^k P_{N^c}^j$$

$$\text{w/ } P = \sum_j P_N^j \otimes P_{N^c}^j$$

$$Q = \sum_k Q_N^k \otimes Q_{N^c}^k$$

Example: Toric code stabilizers

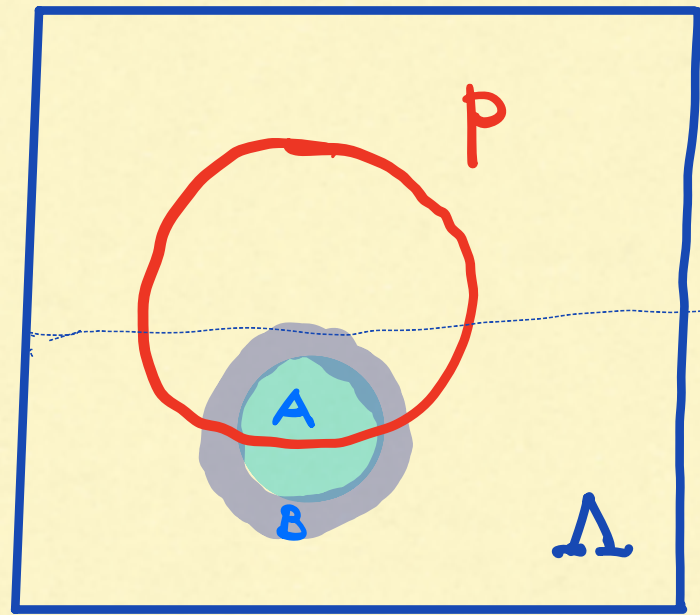
$$S^X \otimes S^Z = X_N Z_N \otimes Z_{N^c} X_{N^c} = -S^X S^Z$$



# A witness for topological order

Local invisibility:

(motivated by Wilson loop operators)



$P$  acts trivially on small enough regions  $A$

i.e. 
$$\mathcal{S}_A = \text{Tr}_{A^c} [P \mathcal{S}_\Lambda P]$$

Lemma (informal) [Haah (2013)]:

If locally invisible operators exist w.r.t  $|\psi\rangle$  such that

Witness  $\rightarrow \langle \psi | P \circ Q | \psi \rangle \neq \langle \psi | P | \psi \rangle \langle \psi | Q | \psi \rangle$

then  $|\psi\rangle$  can not be prepared with a constant depth circuit.

# A witness for topological order

We define robust witness function ("twist correlator")

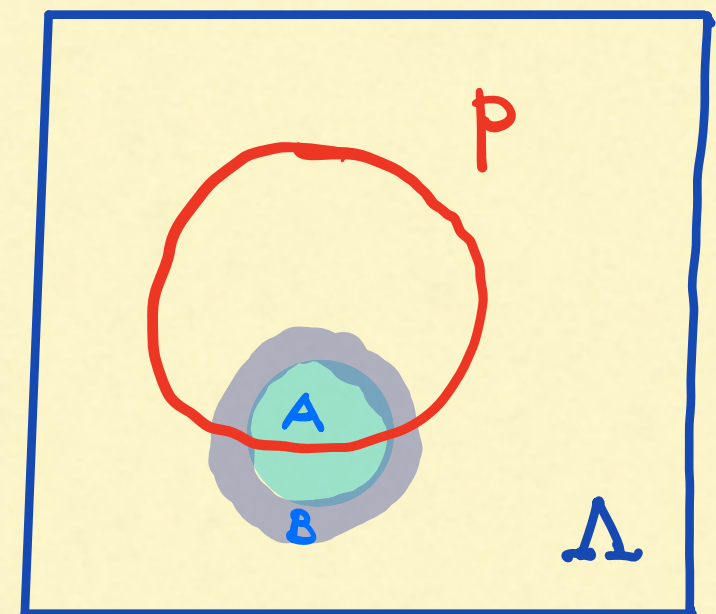
$$C(P, Q)_{|\psi\rangle} := |\langle \psi | P \circ Q | \psi \rangle - \langle \psi | P | \psi \rangle \langle \psi | Q | \psi \rangle|$$

→ can use this if  $P$  and  $Q$  are only approximately locally invisible!

Approximate local invisibility:

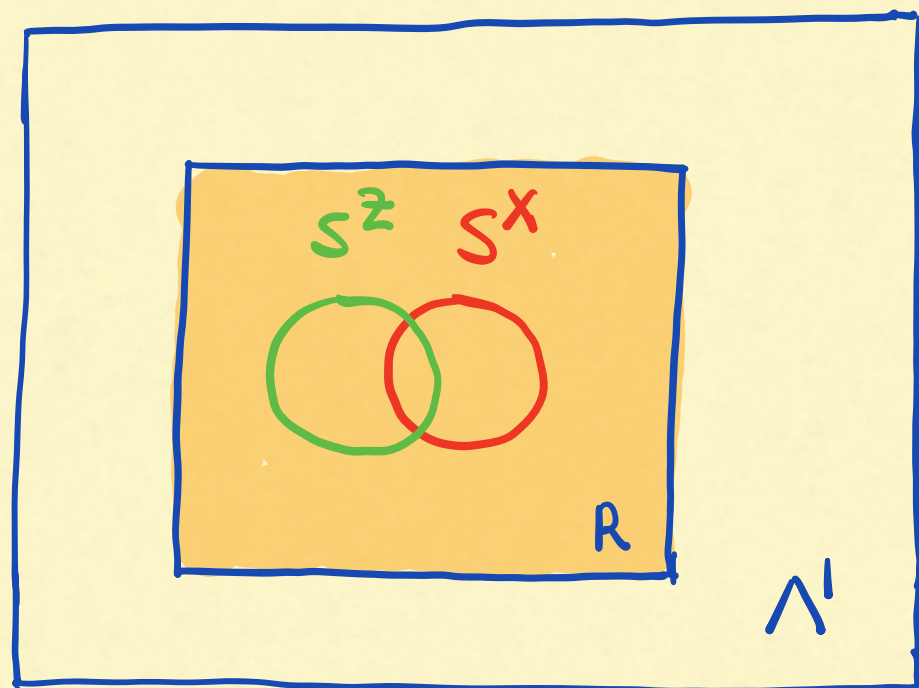
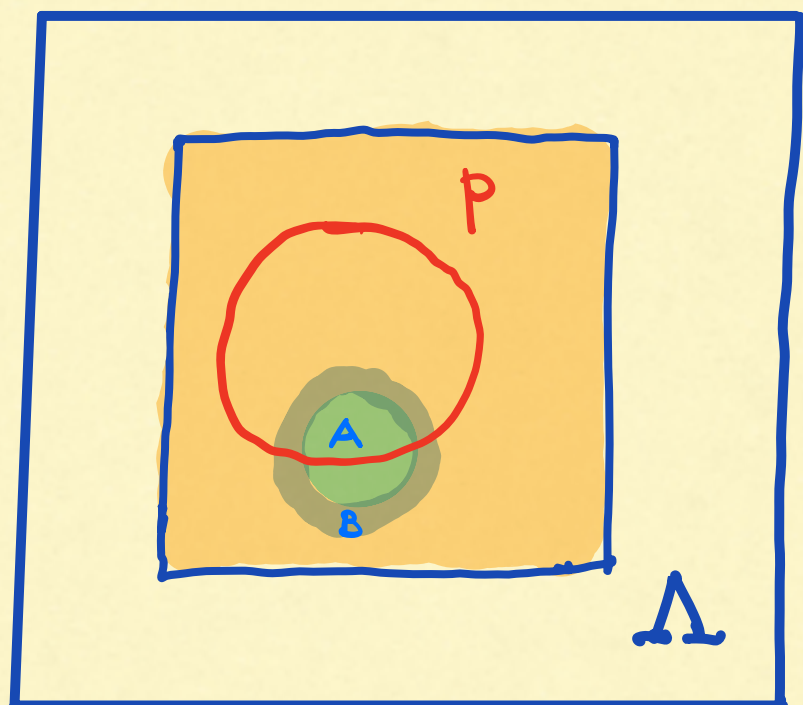
$$\| \rho_A - \text{Tr}_{A^c}[P \rho_A P] \|_1 \leq \delta$$

$P$  acts approximately like the identity on small enough patch  $A$





# Proving the bound



We show that:

Toric code stabilizers supported on  $\varepsilon$ -good subsystems are approximately locally invisible!

$$\| \rho_A^\varepsilon - \text{Tr}_{A^c} [S_R \rho_\Lambda^\varepsilon S_R] \|_1 \leq 2\sqrt{|R|\varepsilon}$$

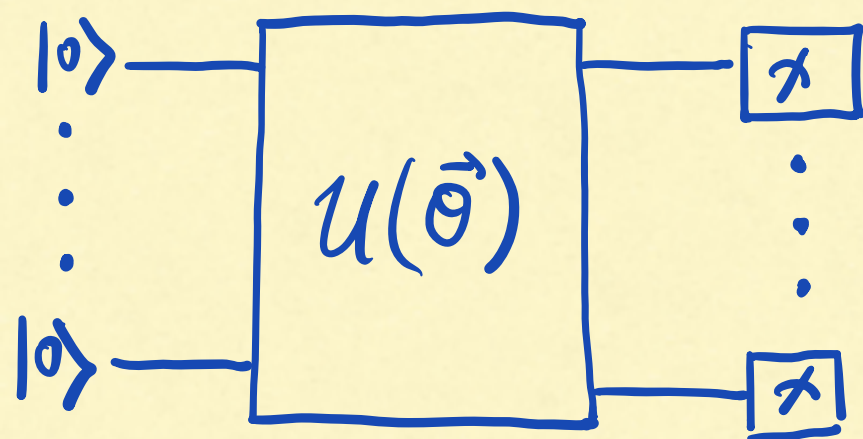
Use our robust witness function on  $\rho_\Lambda^\varepsilon$ .

$$f(\varepsilon) \leq |\langle \psi^\varepsilon | S^Z_\infty S^X | \psi^\varepsilon \rangle - \langle \psi^\varepsilon | S^Z | \psi^\varepsilon \rangle \langle \psi^\varepsilon | S^X | \psi^\varepsilon \rangle| \leq g(D)$$

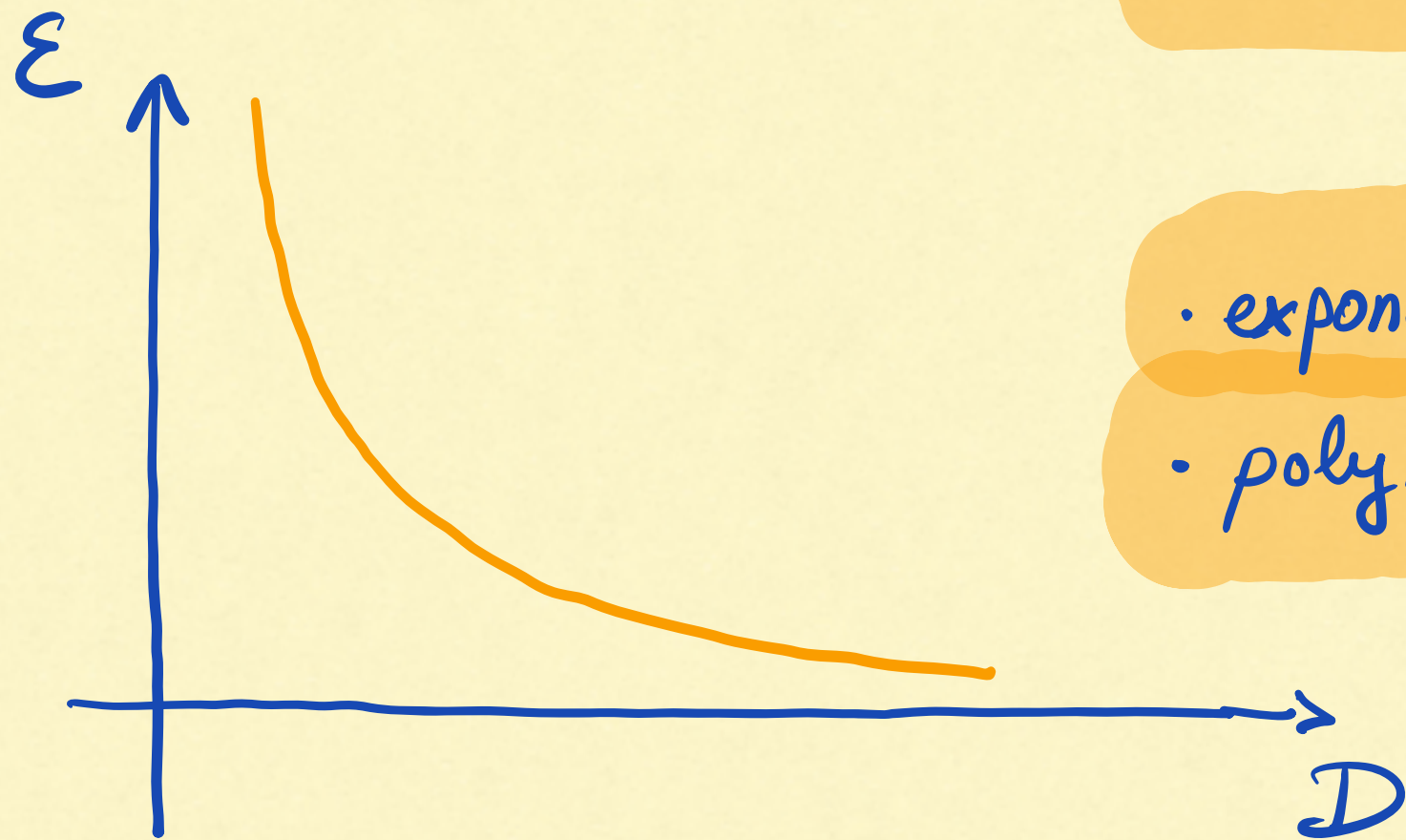
Main result follows:

$$D = \Omega(\sqrt{1/\varepsilon})$$

## Summary and discussion



No-go result for preparing approximate groundstates in log-depth for topologically ordered models in 2D.



• exponential decay

$\times$

• polynomial decay

$\checkmark$



# Summary and Discussion

## Quantum Physics

[Submitted on 6 Oct 2022 (v1), last revised 8 Oct 2022 (this version, v2)]

### NLTS Hamiltonians from classical LTCs

Zhiyang He, Chinmay Nirkhe

We provide a completely self-contained construction of a family of NLTS Hamiltonians [Freedman and Hastings, 2014] based on ideas from [Anshu, Breuckmann, and Nirkhe, 2022], [Cross, He, Natarajan, Szegedy, and Zhu, 2022] and [Eldar and Harrow, 2017]. Crucially, it does not require optimal-parameter quantum LDPC codes and can be built from simple classical LTCs such as the repetition code on an expander graph. Furthermore, it removes the constant-rate requirement from the construction of Anshu, Breuckmann, and Nirkhe.

Comments: This note is withdrawn due to an uncorrectable error. A detailed explanation on the withdrawal is hosted on my website at [this https URL](https://www.zhiyanghe.com/withdrawal)

On the technical side :

Proof technique for circuit depth lower bounds that is independent of groundspace degeneracy of Hamiltonian



Generalize our formalism to lift assumptions on NLTS theorem ?