Quantum simulators

A new tool to tackle computational quantum many-body problems

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Stockholm "Computational Challenges in Nuclear and Many-Body Physics" ?/10-2014







Computational Challenges in Nuclear and Many-Body Physics

 Scenario 1: A quantum wire described by a Heisenberg XYZ chain in an external field

 $\widehat{H}_{XYZ} = \sum_{i} \left(J_x \widehat{\sigma}^x{}_i \widehat{\sigma}^x{}_{i+1} + J_y \widehat{\sigma}^y{}_i \widehat{\sigma}^y{}_{i+1} + J_z \widehat{\sigma}^z{}_i \widehat{\sigma}^z{}_{i+1} + h \widehat{\sigma}^z{}_i \right).$

Local perturbation/quench. How is entanglement building up?

 DMRG and MPS is doing the job for us... Up till some point! After that....

- Scenario 2: Map out the phase diagram of the 3D Heisenberg
 XYZ model in an external field. Determine the critical exponents!

Exponential growth of memory resources! (Record 2007: N = 36)



 Scenario 3: Ground state of the Fermi-Hubbard model in 2D and 3D. "Sign problem" causes a mess for Monte-Carlo.



Think twice which quantum problem you tell your student to solve/simulate!



"Let the computer itself be built of quantum mechanical elements which obey quantum mechanical laws."

Richard Feynman

[1] R. P. Feynman, Int. J. Theor. Phys. 21, 467 (1982). 7

- "*Quantum simulators*" outrun classical computers (today!).
- We will learn "new physics" thanks to quantum simulators (soon).
- "There's more to the picture than meets the eye". There are not only quantum simulators that will result from this story...

Outline

- 1. Quantum computers.
- 2. Quantum simulators.
- 3. Realizations State-of-the-art.
- 4. Proposal for simulating spin models.

Quantum computers

The idea

Digital quantum computer

Bits "0" and "1" → qubits |0⟩ and |1⟩.
"01001100101110 ..." → |ψ⟩ = ∑_{{i}=0,1} c_i |i₁i₂ ... i_N⟩
Logic gates → quantum logic gate operations

 $|\psi_{out}\rangle = \prod_i \widehat{U}^{(i)} |\psi_{in}\rangle.$

Analog (continuous) quantum computer

 $\psi_{out}(\{\boldsymbol{x}\},t_f) = \widehat{U}(\{\boldsymbol{x}\},\{\boldsymbol{p}\},t_f)\psi_{in}(\{\boldsymbol{x}\},0) = e^{-i\widehat{H}t_f}\psi_{in}(\{\boldsymbol{x}\},0).$

Adiabatic quantum computer

 $\psi_0(t);$ $\hat{H}(t)\psi_0(t) = E_0(t)\psi_0(t), \qquad \hat{H}(t) = t\hat{H}_1 + (1-t)\hat{H}_2.$

What we need

Loss-DiVencezo criteria

- i. Well-defined qubits,
 - ii. State preparation,
- iii. Low decoherence/scaleability,
 - iv. Gate operations,
 - v. Measurement protocols.

When does it become practical?

Factorizing (Shor)	Classical computer (laptop)	Quantum computer
193 digits	few months.	0.1 second
500 digits	10 ¹² years	2 minutes
2048 digits	Supercomputer; size of Sweden, 10 ⁶ trillion \$, consumes world's supply of fossil fuels in on day. 10 years.	16 hours (10 ⁶ qubits, 10 ⁸ \$)

What we need

Loss-DiVencezo criteria

- *i.* Well-defined qubits = Quantum dots, ions,...
 - *ii.* State preparation questionable.
- *iii. Low decoherence/scaleability* No! Ions: 8-14 qubits (Blatt), Qdots: 5 qubits (Martinis).
 - *iv.* Gate operations (to some degree).
 - *v.* Measurement protocols questionable.
- Quantum error correction. Encode the qubit in collective states of many "phyical" qubits. → Increasing number of qubits.
- Fault tolerance. How much errors do we afford and still achieve the goal? (> 99% gate fidelities).

Never say never

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 Topological quantum computing.

 Circuit QED. Fault tolerance single gates.



Quantum Computer

 Topological quantum computing.

Quantum simulators

Digital quantum computers → quantum simulators

• Seth Lloyd:

Any (local) Hamiltonian many-body evolution can be effectively simulated on a digital quantum computer via Trotter-decomposition.

- A digital quantum computer with a universal set of gates → <u>Universal</u> digital quantum simulator (unitary Hamiltonian evolution).
- Quantum error correction possible but costly (number of gate operations increases and simulations become slow, state-of-the art systems can imply time-scales of years!).
- Non-local interactions problematic.
- Generalizations to non-universal digital and open quantum simulators. Error corrections?

Definition - quantum simulators

Relevance – Simulated systems/models should have physical applications. Address open questions.

Controllability – System parameters tunable, contol of preparation/initialization, evolution/manipulation and detection.

Reliability – Measured results should be trustworthy.

Efficiency – The solved problem should be difficult to solve on a classical computer.

Analog quantum simulators

- Simulate time-evolution: $\hat{\rho}(0) \rightarrow \hat{\rho}(t)$.
- Closed quantum system, engineer \hat{H} such that $|\psi(t)\rangle = e^{-i\hat{H}t}|\psi(0)\rangle$.
- Continuous time-evolution, no Trotter-decomposition but also no error correction.
- Note, we imagine also ground-state simulations $t \rightarrow -it$.

Realizations – State-of-the-art

Singled trapped ion, dressed with a laser

$$\widehat{H}_{Ion} = \omega \widehat{a}^{+} \widehat{a} + \frac{\Delta}{2} \widehat{\sigma}_{z} + g \left(\widehat{\sigma}^{+} e^{-i\eta(\widehat{a}^{+} + \widehat{a})} + \widehat{\sigma}^{-} e^{i\eta(\widehat{a}^{+} + \widehat{a})} \right)$$

• Single out certain transions (*Lamb-Dicke regime*, $\eta \ll 1$)

i.
$$\hat{H}_{JC} = \omega \hat{a}^{+} \hat{a} + \frac{\Delta}{2} \hat{\sigma}_{z} + g(\hat{\sigma}^{+} \hat{a} + \hat{a}^{+} \hat{\sigma}^{-}),$$
 Red sideband
ii. $\hat{H}_{aJC} = \omega \hat{a}^{+} \hat{a} + \frac{\Delta}{2} \hat{\sigma}_{z} + g(\hat{\sigma}^{+} \hat{a}^{+} + \hat{\sigma}^{-} \hat{a}),$ Blue sideband
iii. $\hat{H}_{car} = \omega \hat{a}^{+} \hat{a} + \frac{\Delta}{2} \hat{\sigma}_{z} + g(\hat{\sigma}^{+} + \hat{\sigma}^{-}),$ Carrier.

Enormous control! Gate fidelities of 99.9%.

- Quantum simulators \rightarrow many ions.
- Paul trapps \rightarrow linear ion chains.



 Blatt's *Insbruck-group*. Controlled entanglement generation of up to 14 qubits! Full state tomography of 8 qubits (600 000 experimental repetitions!).



- Coloumb interaction \rightarrow collective vibrational modes.
- Eliminate vibrational modes:

$$\widehat{H}_{eff} = \sum_{\alpha,i,j} J^{\alpha}{}_{ij} \widehat{\sigma}^{\alpha}{}_{i} \widehat{\sigma}^{\alpha}{}_{j}, \qquad \qquad J^{\alpha}{}_{ij} \propto \frac{1}{\left|q_{i} - q_{j}\right|^{\gamma}}$$

- The power $0 \le \gamma \le 3$ is in general controlable.
- Monroe group: Frustration and signatures of phase transitions in 3-16 ion chains ($\gamma = 1$).

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Relevance – Probably.Controllability – Not fully.Reliability – Yes.Efficiency – No.
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• NIST group: ~300 ions in a Penning trap, $0 \le \gamma \le 1.4$.





• Coherent evolution by measuring $M = \sum_i \langle \hat{\sigma}^z_i \rangle$.

Relevance – Probably. Controllability – No. Reliability – Yes. Efficiency – No.

Cold atoms in optical lattices

- **Optical lattices:**
 - Ultracold atoms, bosons, fermions or mixtures. а.
 - b. Standing wave laser fields \rightarrow dipole coupling \rightarrow periodic Stark shift potentials.
 - Single-band approximation: atoms populate one energy band. С.
 - *Tight-binding approximation*: tunneling to nearest neighbour. d.
 - Onsite atom-atom interaction. e.



I. Bloch et al., Rev. Mod. Phys. 2008.24

Cold atoms in optical lattices

• *"Mott-superfluid phase transition".* Ground state:

 $U \gg t \rightarrow |\psi_0(\mu)\rangle \approx |n, n, ..., n\rangle$ "Mott-insulator state"

 $t \gg U \rightarrow |\psi_0(\mu)\rangle \propto (\hat{a}^+_{k=0})^N |0\rangle$

• *"Time-of-flight*" measurements.

Relevance – Maybe.

Controllability – Yes.

Reliability – Yes.

Efficiency – No.

"Mott-insulator state" "Superfluid state"





Example 2

Cold atoms in optical lattices

Initialize



$$|\psi(0)\rangle = |1,0,1,0,1,\dots\rangle$$

- Single-site-addressing population of every even site.
- *DMRG* calculations, no fitting parameters!



A. Flesch et al., Nature 2012. 26

Proposal for simulating spin models

- Spin models \rightarrow we need quasi degenerate (atomic) levels.
 - 1) Internal Zeeman levels (L.-M. Duan *et al.*, PRL 2003). Typically *XXZ*–models.
 - 2) Tilted lattices. Transverse *Ising*-model (J. Simon *et al.*, Nature 2011). One dimension.
 - 3) Polar molecules in optical lattices (A. Micheli *et al.*, Nature 2006). Inherently "long-range".
- Use the quasi degenerate states of excited bands, *p*-bands.



- Two dimensional square <u>isotropic</u> lattice, <u>bosons</u>.
- *p*-band: Two degenerate atomic orbitals, p_x -orbital and p_y -orbital.



Tunneling anisotropic due to orbital shape.

Kinetic part

$$\widehat{H}_{kin} = -\sum_{\alpha,\beta} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} t_{\alpha\beta} \widehat{a}^{+}{}_{\alpha i} \widehat{a}_{\alpha j}.$$

Interaction parts

$$\widehat{H}_{dens} = \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{i} \frac{U_{\alpha\alpha}}{2} \widehat{n}_{\alpha i} (\widehat{n}_{\alpha i} - 1) + \sum_{\alpha \neq \beta} \sum_{i} U_{\alpha\beta} \widehat{n}_{\alpha i} \widehat{n}_{\beta i},$$

$$\widehat{H}_{oc} = \sum_{\alpha \neq \beta} \sum_{i} \frac{U_{\alpha\beta}}{4} \left(\widehat{a}^{+}{}_{\alpha i} \widehat{a}^{+}{}_{\alpha i} \widehat{a}_{\beta i} \widehat{a}_{\beta i} + h.c. \right).$$

• \hat{H}_{oc} - "orbital changing term" (Two α -orbital atoms scatter into two β -orbital atoms).

- Recepie:
 - 1) Mott-insulator ($n_i = 1$).
 - 2) Perturbation theory in $t/_U$.
 - *3)* Schwinger spin-boson mapping.
- Result: Heisenberg XYZ-model

 $\widehat{H}_{XYZ} = J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \left[(1+\gamma) \widehat{\sigma}^{x}{}_{i} \widehat{\sigma}^{x}{}_{j} + (1-\gamma) \widehat{\sigma}^{y}{}_{i} \widehat{\sigma}^{y}{}_{j} \right] + \Delta \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \widehat{\sigma}^{z}{}_{i} \widehat{\sigma}^{z}{}_{j} + h \sum_{i} \widehat{\sigma}^{z}{}_{i}.$

• Non-integrable in the general case \rightarrow promising quantum simulator.

- Comments:
 - 1. Phase diagram in 1D fairly known.
 - Beyond tight-binding → Dzyaloshinskii-Morya terms.
 - 3. Different lattice configurations → *Dzyaloshinskii-Morya* terms.
 - 4. Three dimensions $\rightarrow SU(3)$ models.
 - 5. Spinor atoms $\rightarrow SU(n) \times SU(m)$ models.
 - 6. d-band \rightarrow spin-1 models (also for n = 2 Mott on the *p*-band).
 - 7. Including s-band atoms \rightarrow disordered models (*many-body localization*).



Thanks!