Exponential Decay of Correlations Implies Area Law

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Arxiv:1206.2947

QIP 2013, Beijing

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Frowny Cubitt: Handwaving



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Outline

- The Problem
 Exponential Decay of Correlations
 Entanglement Area Law
- Results
 Decay of Correlations Implies Area Law
 Decay of Correlations and Quantum Computation
- The Proof
 Decoupling and State Merging
 Single-Shot Quantum Information Theory



Correlation Function:

$$Cor(X:Z) := \max_{\|M\|, \|N\| \in 1} \left| tr((M \stackrel{:}{A} N)(\Gamma_{XZ} - \Gamma_X \stackrel{:}{A} \Gamma_Z)) \right|$$



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$$= \max_{\|M\|, \|N\| \in 1} \left\langle M_X N_Z \right\rangle_{\mathcal{Y}} - \left\langle M_X \right\rangle_{\mathcal{Y}} \left\langle N_Z \right\rangle_{\mathcal{Y}}$$



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Which states exhibit exponential decay of correlations?

Example: |0, 0, ..., 0> has **0**-exponential decay of cor.

Local Hamiltonians



Local Hamiltonian: $H = \mathop{a}\limits_{k} H_{k,k+1}$ **Groundstate**: $|\mathcal{Y}_0\rangle : H|\mathcal{Y}_0\rangle = E_0|\mathcal{Y}_0\rangle$

Spectral Gap: $D(H) := E_1 - E_0$

Thermal state:

$$\Gamma_b := e^{-bH} / Z$$

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(Araronov, Arad, Landau, Vazirani '10) Groundstates of gapped frustration-free local Hamiltonians Combinatorial Proof: Detectability Lemma

... intuitively suggests the state is *simple*, in a sense similar to a product state.

Can we make this rigorous?

But first, are there *other ways* to impose simplicity in quantum states?

Area Law in 1D



Entanglement Entropy:
$$E(|\mathcal{Y}_{XY}\rangle) := S(\mathcal{F}_X)$$

Area Law: For all partitions of the chain (X, Y)

$$S(\Gamma_X) \in const$$

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For the majority of quantum states: $S(\Gamma_V) \gg size(X) = r$

Area Law puts severe constraints on the amount of entanglement of the state

Quantifying Entanglement

Sometimes entanglement entropy is not the most convenient measure:

Max-entropy:
$$S_{\max}(\Gamma) := \log rank(\Gamma)$$

Smooth max-entropy:

$$S_{\max}^{e}(\varGamma) := \min_{\Gamma_{e} \mid B_{e}(\varGamma)} S_{\max}(\varGamma_{e})$$
$$B_{e}(\varGamma) := \{ S : \|\varGamma - S\|_{1} \in e \}$$

Smooth max-entropy gives the minimum number of qubits needed to store an ϵ -approx. of ρ

Intuition - based on concrete examples (XY model, harmomic systems, etc.) and general non-rigorous arguments:

Model	Spectral Gap	Area Law
Non-critical 4	🔶 Gapped 🗖	S(X) ≤ O(Area(X))
Critical 🔶	Non-gapped	S(X) ≤ O(Area(X)log(n))

(Aharonov et al '07; Irani '09, Irani, Gottesman '09)Groundstates 1D Ham. with volume law $S(X) \ge \Omega(vol(X))$ Connection to QMA-hardness

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 $S(X) \leq 2^{O(1/\Delta)}$

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 $S(X) \leq O(1/\Delta)$

Area Law and MPS

Matrix Product State (MPS):

D: bond dimension

- Only **nD**² parameters.
- Local expectation values computed in poly(D, n) time
- Variational class of states for powerful **DMRG**

In 1D: Area Law State has an efficient classical description MPS with D = poly(n) (Vidal 03, Verstraete, Cirac '05, Schuch, Wolf, Verstraete, Cirac '07, Hastings '07)

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ξ-EDC implies

 $\Gamma_{XZ} \gg_{2^{-l/x}} \Gamma_X \ddot{A} \Gamma_Z$

Exponential Decay of Correlations suggests Area Law:



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Exponential Decay of Correlations suggests Area Law: (Verstraete, Cirac '05) $I = O(\xi)$ 7 ξ-EDC implies $\Gamma_{XZ} \gg_{2^{-l/x}} \Gamma_X \ddot{A} \Gamma_Z$ which implies $|Y\rangle_{XYZ} \approx_{2^{-l/x}} \left(U_{Y_1Y_2 \to Y} \otimes I_{XZ} \right) |P\rangle_{XY_1} |U\rangle_{Y_2Z}$ (by Uhlmann's theorem)

X is only entangled with Y! Alas, the argument is wrong...

Reason: Quantum Data Hiding states: For random ρ_{xz} w.h.p.

$$Cor(X:Z) \le 2^{-W(l)}, \quad \left\| \varUpsilon_{XZ} - \varUpsilon_X \otimes \varUpsilon_Z \right\|_1 = W(1)$$

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- 3. Cop out: data hiding states are unnatural; "physical" states are well behaved.
- 4. We fixed a partition; EDC gives us more...
- It's an interesting quantum information problem: How strong is data hiding in quantum states?

Exponential Decaying Correlations Imply Area Law



Thm 1 (B., Horodecki '12) If $|Y\rangle_{1,...,n}$ has ξ -EDC then for every X and m,

$$S_{\max}^{2^{-W(m)}}(X) \le l_0 2^{O(x \log(x))} + m$$

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Obs1: Implies $S(X) \neq l_0 2^{O(x \log(x))}$

Obs2: Only valid in 1D...

Obs3: Reproduces bound of Hastings for GS 1D gapped Ham., using EDC in such states

Efficient Classical Description



(Cor. Thm 1) If $|Y\rangle_{1,...,n}$ has ξ -EDC then for every ε >0 there is MPS $|Y_e\rangle$ with poly(n, 1/ ε) bound dim. s.t. $|\langle Y|Y_e\rangle|^3 1 - e$

States with exponential decaying correlations are *simple* in a precise sense

Correlations in Q. Computation

What kind of correlations are necessary for exponential speed-ups?



1. (Vidal '03) Must exist *t* and X = [1,r] s.t. $S_{\max}^{e}(\Gamma_{t,X}) \stackrel{3}{=} n^{d}$

Correlations in Q. Computation

What kind of correlations are necessary for exponential speed-ups?



- 1. (Vidal '03) Must exist *t* and X = [1,r] s.t. $S_{\max}^{e}(\Gamma_{t,X}) \stackrel{3}{=} n^{a}$
- 2. (Cor. Thm 1) At some time step state must have long range correlations (at least algebraically decaying)
 - Quantum Computing happens in "critical phase"
 - Cannot hide information everywhere



Small correlations in a *fixed* partition do not imply area law.



Small correlations in a *fixed* partition do not imply area law.

But we can move the partition freely...



X is **decoupled** from Y.

Random States Have Big Correl. $I = |Y\rangle_{XYZ}$: Drawn from Haar measure **x y z** Let size(XY) < size(Z). W.h.p. $\|\Gamma_{XY} - t_X \otimes t_Y\|_1 \le 2^{-W(n)}$, $t_X := \frac{I}{|X|}$

X is **decoupled** from Y.

Extensive entropy, but also *large* correlations:

$$U_{Z \to Z_1 Z_2} | \mathcal{Y} \rangle_{XYZ} \approx | \mathsf{F} \rangle_{XZ_1} \otimes | \mathsf{F} \rangle_{YZ_2}$$

(Uhlmann's theorem)

 $|\mathsf{F}\rangle_{XZ_1}$: Maximally entangled state between XZ_1 .

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 $Cor(X:Z) \ge Cor(X:Z_1) = \Omega(1) >> 2^{-\Omega(n)}$: long-range correlations!

Random States Have Big Correl.

It was thought random states were counterexamples to area law from EDC.

Not true; reason hints at the idea of the general proof:

Le We'll show large entropy leads to large correlations by choosing a random measurement that decouples A and B X

Extensive encoded also large constants: $U_{Z \rightarrow}$

$$U_{Z \to Z_1 Z_2} | y \rangle_{XYZ} \approx | \mathsf{F} \rangle_{XZ_1} \otimes | \mathsf{F} \rangle_{YZ_2}$$

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State Merging

We apply the state merging protocol to show large entropy implies large correlations



State merging protocol: Given $|Y\rangle_{ABC}$ Alice can distill -S(A|B) = S(B) - S(AB) EPR pairs with Bob by making a random measurement with N $\approx 2^{I(A:E)}$ elements, with I(A:E) := S(A) + S(E) - S(AE), and communicating the outcome to Bob. (Horodecki, Oppenheim, Winter '05)

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State Merging by Decoupling

State merging protocol works by applying a random measurement $\{P_k\}$ to A in order to *decouple* it from E:

$$|y\rangle_{ABE} \mapsto |j\rangle_{\overline{ABE}} \mid (P_k \stackrel{H}{\wedge} id_{BE}) |y\rangle_{ABE} \qquad ||j|_{\overline{XZ}} - t_{\overline{X}} \stackrel{H}{\wedge} j_{Z}||_1 \gg 0$$

 $\log(\# \text{ of } \mathsf{P}_{\mathsf{k}}' \mathsf{s}) \qquad \qquad \gg I(A:E)$



What does state merging imply for correlations?



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$$S(Z) \leq S(Y) \iff Cor(X:Z) < O(2^{-I(A:B)})$$

Suppose **S(Y) < I/(4ξ)** ("subvolume law") Since **I(X:Y) < 2S(Y) < I/(2ξ)**, **ξ**-EDC implies **Cor(X:Z) < 2**-^{I/ξ} **< 2**-^{I(X:Y)}

Thus: **S(Z) < S(Y)** : Area Law for Z!



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It suffices to prove that nearby the boundary of Z there is a region of size $< I_0 2^{O(\xi)}$ with entropy $< I/(4\xi)$

Saturation Mutual Information

Lemma (Saturation Mutual Info.) Given a site *s*, for all $I_{0,\epsilon} > 0$ there is a region $Y_{2I} := Y_{L,I/2} Y_{C,I} Y_{R,I/2}$ of size 2I with $1 < I/I_0 < 2^{O(1/\epsilon)}$ at a distance $< I_0 2^{O(1/\epsilon)}$ from *s* s.t.

$$I(Y_{C,I}:Y_{L,I/2}Y_{R,I/2}) < \varepsilon I$$



Proof: Easy adaptation of result used by Hastings in his area law proof for gapped Hamiltonians (based on successive applications of subadditivity)

Getting subvolume law

"It suffices to prove that nearby the boundary of Z there is a region of size $< I_0 2^{O(\xi)}$ with entropy $< I/(4\xi)$ "



Getting subvolume law





i. From state merging bound:

If $Cor(Y_C:R) \neq 2^{-I(Y_C:Y_LY_R)}$ then $S(R) \neq S(Y_LY_R)$



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- i. From saturation lemma with $\varepsilon = 1/(4\xi)$,

 $Cor(Y_C: R) \in 2^{-l/2x} \in 2^{-l(Y_C: Y_L Y_R)}$



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iii. $S(R) \stackrel{f}{=} S(Y_L Y_R)$ implies $S(Y_C) \le S(Y_C) + S(Y_L Y_R) - S(R) = I(Y_C : Y_L Y_R)$ $\le I/(4\xi)$ (by saturation lemma)

Y_c gives the region of subvolume entropy!

Making it Work

So far we have cheated, since merging only works for many copies of the state. To make the argument rigorous, we use **single-shot information theory** (Renner *et al* '03, ...)





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- Condensed Matter (CM) community always knew EDC implies area law
- Quantum information (QI) community gave a counterexample (hiding states)
- QI community sorted out the trouble they gave themselves (this talk)
- CM community didn't notice either of these *minor* perturbations

"EDC implies Area Law" stays true!

Conclusions and Open problems

- EDC implies Area Law and MPS parametrization in 1D.
- States with EDC are simple MPS efficient parametrization.
- Proof uses state merging protocol and single-shot information theory: Tools from QIT useful to address problem in quantum many-body physics.

- 1. Can we improve the **dependency of entropy with correlation length**?
- 2. Can we prove area law for 2D systems? HARD!
- 3. Can we decide if **EDC** alone is **enough** for **2D** area law?
- 4. See **arxiv:1206.2947** for more open questions

Thanks!