

# Applications of machine learning in condensed matter

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Fabien Alet

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Mostly a review + works with  
[Hugo Théveniaut](#) & [Sylvain Capponi](#) (LPT)

GDR MEETICC Conférence plénière 2022  
Jun. 2022, Ax-les-thermes

pdf of the talk &  
list of references



SCAN ME

# *Some* Applications of machine learning in condensed matter

## Disclaimer:

*as seen by an amateur*

- Too many methods / ideas / techniques / attempts ....
- An (already old, not specific) review

REVIEWS OF MODERN PHYSICS

Recent Accepted Authors Referees Search Press About Staff

Machine learning and the physical sciences\*

Giuseppe Carleo, Ignacio Cirac, Kyle Cranmer, Laurent Daudet, Maria Schuld, Naftali Tishby, Leslie Vogt-Maranto, and Lenka Zdeborová

Rev. Mod. Phys. **91**, 045002 – Published 6 December 2019

- More recent (but not entirely specific)

arXiv > quant-ph > arXiv:2204.04198

Quantum Physics

[Submitted on 8 Apr 2022]

**Modern applications of machine learning in quantum sciences**

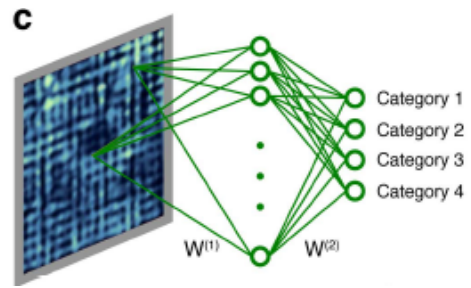
Anna Dawid, Julian Arnold, Borja Requena, Alexander Gresch, Marcin Płodzień, Kaelan Donatella, Kim Nicoli, Paolo Stornati, Rouven Koch, Miriam Büttner, Robert Okuła, Gorka Muñoz-Gil, Rodrigo A. Vargas-Hernández, Alba Cervera-Lierta, Juan Carrasquilla, Vedran Dunjko, Marylou Gabrié, Patrick Huembeli, Evert van Nieuwenburg, Filippo Vicentini, Lei Wang, Sebastian J. Wetzel, Giuseppe Carleo, Eliška Greplová, Roman Krems, Florian Marquardt, Michał Tomza, Maciej Lewenstein, Alexandre Dauphin

In these Lecture Notes, we provide a comprehensive introduction to the most recent advances in the application of machine learning methods in quantum sciences. We cover the use of deep learning and kernel methods in supervised, unsupervised, and reinforcement learning algorithms for phase classification, representation of many-body quantum states, quantum feedback control, and quantum circuits optimization. Moreover, we introduce and discuss more specialized topics such as differentiable programming, generative models, statistical approach to machine learning, and quantum machine learning.

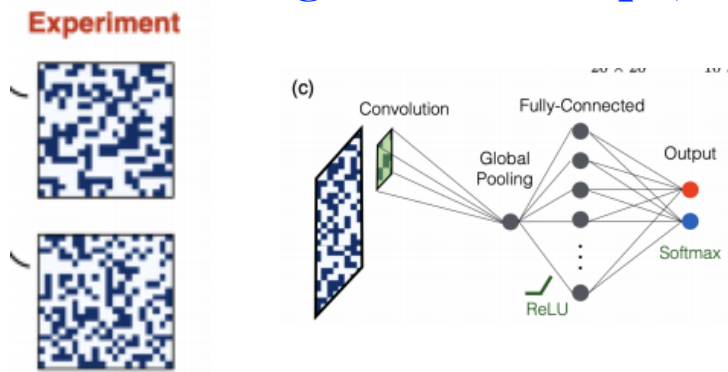
# Some Applications of Machine learning in quantum physics

## Analysis of data generated in condensed matter / AMO

Experimental images (STM, quantum gas microscope)

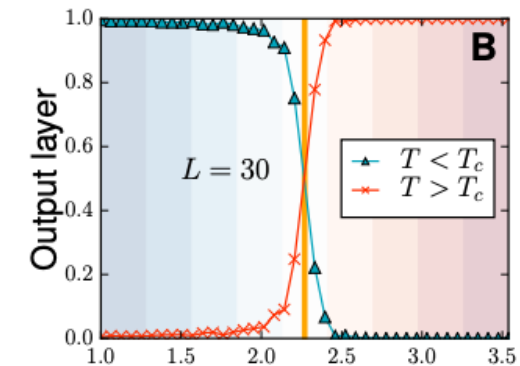


Zhang *et al.*, Nature (2019)



Khatami *et al.*, PRA (2020)

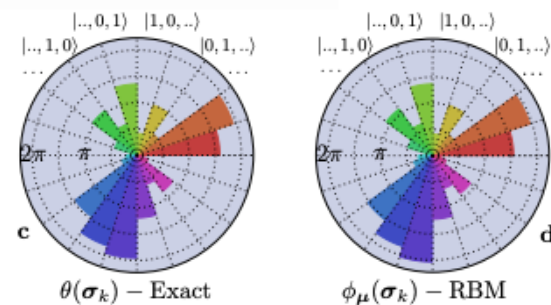
Synthetic data (e.g. Monte Carlo snapshots)



Carrasquilla, Melko., Nat. Phys. (2017)

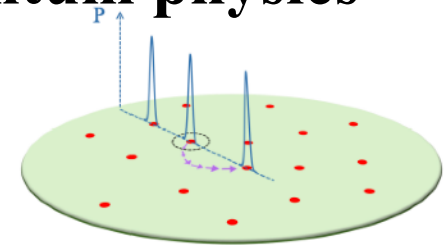
Quantum state tomography

Torlai *et al.*, Nat. Physics (2018)



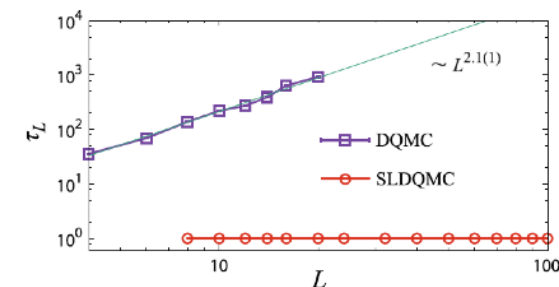
## Computational quantum physics

Supervised/Reinforcement learning to find efficient Monte Carlo moves



Xu *et al.*, PRB (2017)

Zhao *et al.*, PRE (2019)

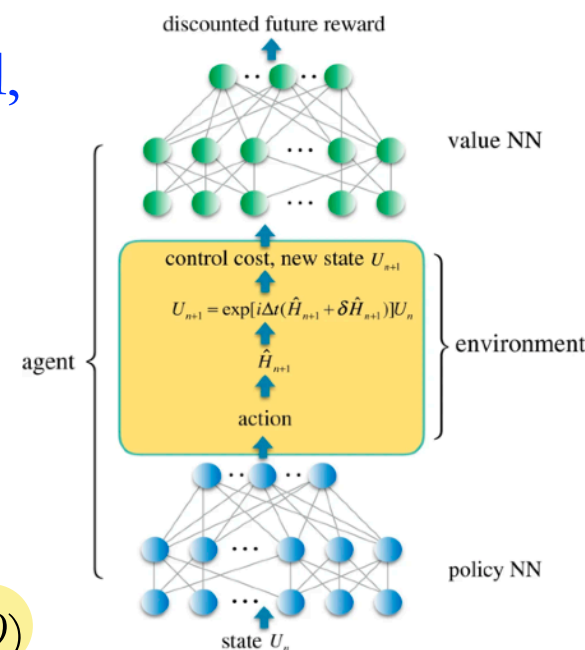


## ML-based control/help of quantum experiments/computations

Open or closed-loop control, in q. experiments

Quantum computing (optimisation of quantum gates, neural-network parameterized quantum circuit, quantum error correction)

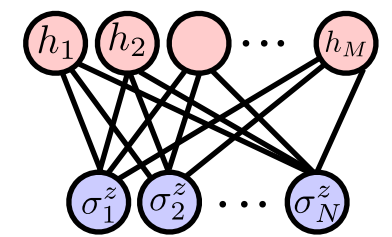
Niu *et al.*, NPJ Qu. Inf. (2019)



Neural Autoregressive Density estimators for perfect sampling

Neural quantum states as a variational ansatz

Sharir *et al.*, PRL (2020)

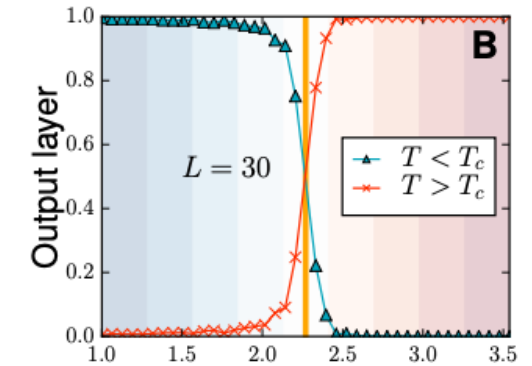
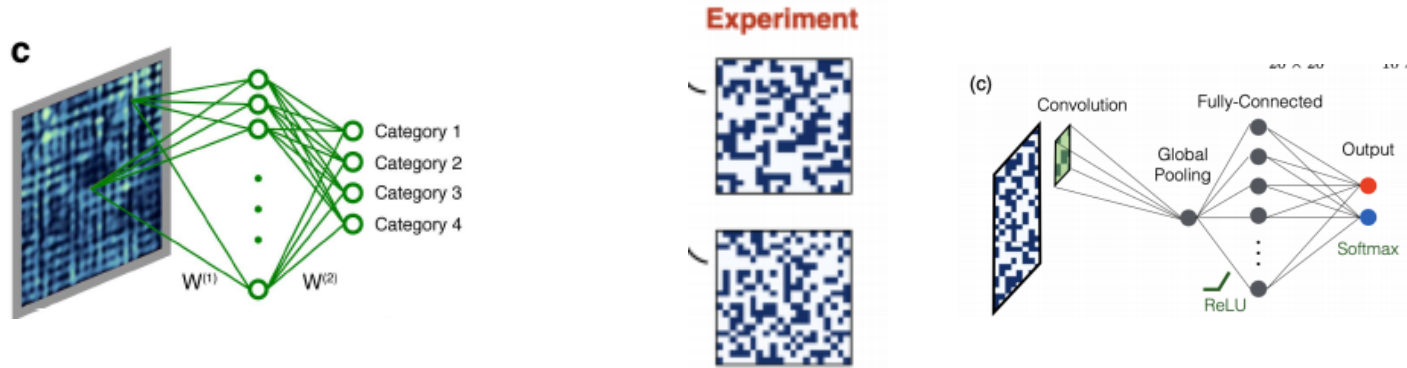


# Some Applications of Machine learning in quantum physics

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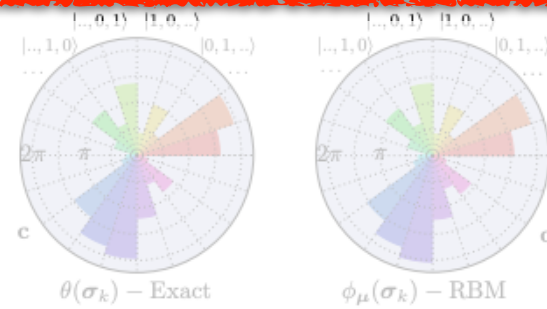
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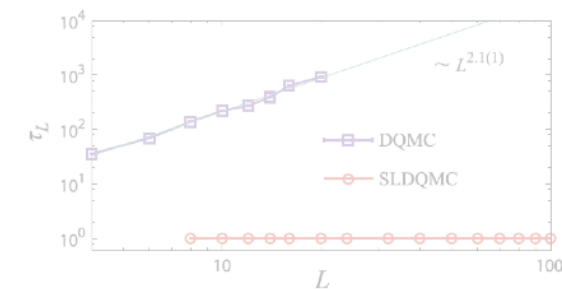
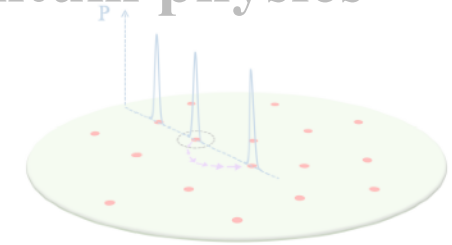
## Part 1. Analysis of experimental / synthetic data

Quantum state tomography



## Computational quantum physics

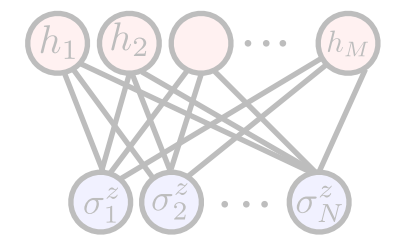
Supervised/Reinforcement learning to find efficient Monte Carlo moves



Neural Autoregressive Density estimators for perfect sampling

$$P(s_1, s_2, \dots, s_N) = \prod_i p_i(s_i | s_{i-1}, \dots, s_1)$$

Neural quantum states as a variational ansatz





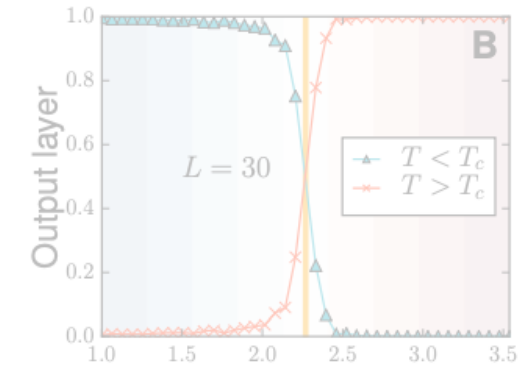
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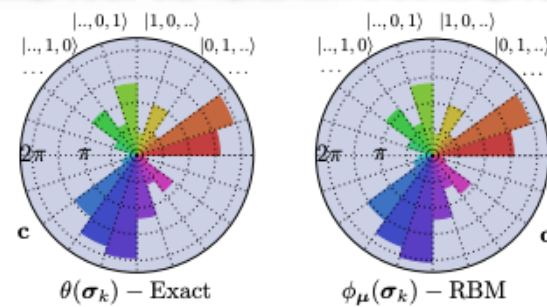
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Synthetic data (e.g. Monte Carlo snapshots)

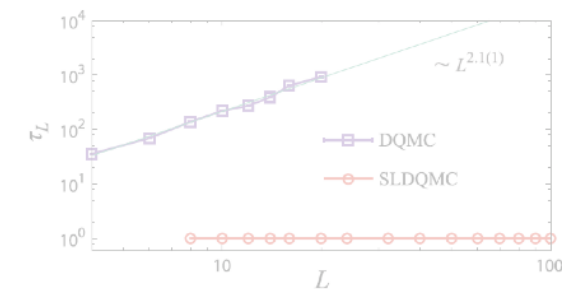
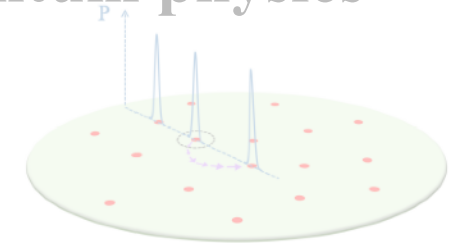


## Quantum state tomography



## Computational quantum physics

Supervised/Reinforcement learning to find efficient Monte Carlo moves

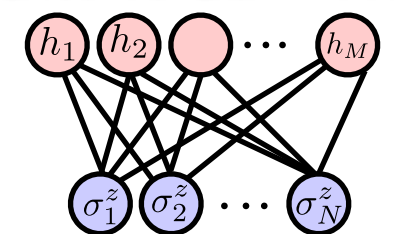


Neural Autoregressive Density estimators for perfect sampling

$$P(s_1, s_2, \dots, s_N) = \prod_i p_i(s_i | s_{i-1}, \dots, s_1)$$

## Part 2. Neural quantum states

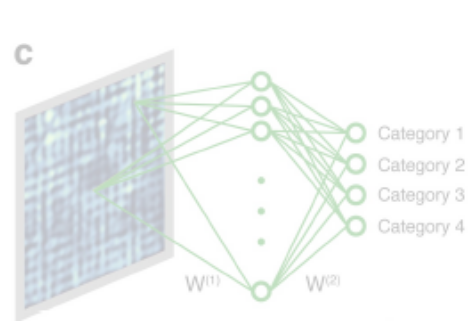
Neural quantum states as a variational ansatz



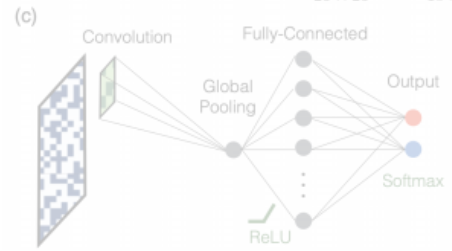
# Some Applications of Machine learning in quantum physics

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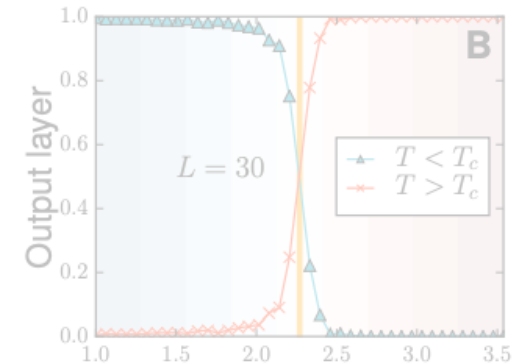
Experimental images (STM, quantum gas microscope)



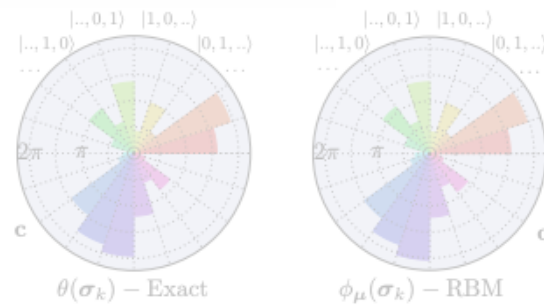
Experiment



Synthetic data (e.g. Monte Carlo snapshots)

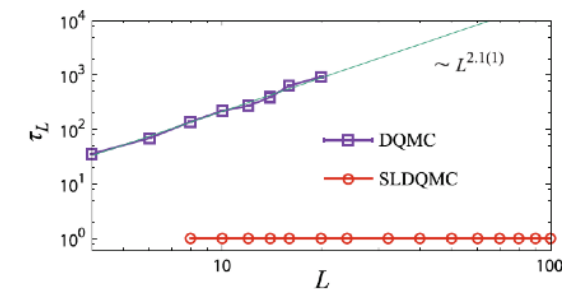
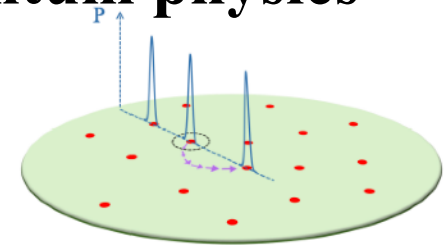


Quantum state tomography



## Computational quantum physics

Supervised/Reinforcement learning to find efficient Monte Carlo moves

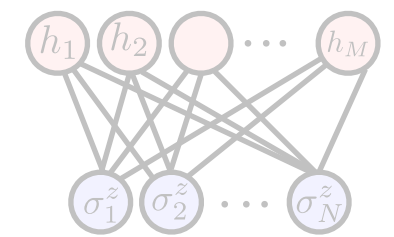


Neural Autoregressive Density estimators for perfect sampling

$$P(s_1, s_2, \dots, s_N) = \prod_i p_i(s_i | s_{i-1}, \dots, s_1)$$

## Part 3. Creation of improved algorithms

Neural quantum states as a variational ansatz



# 1. Analysis of experimental / synthetic data

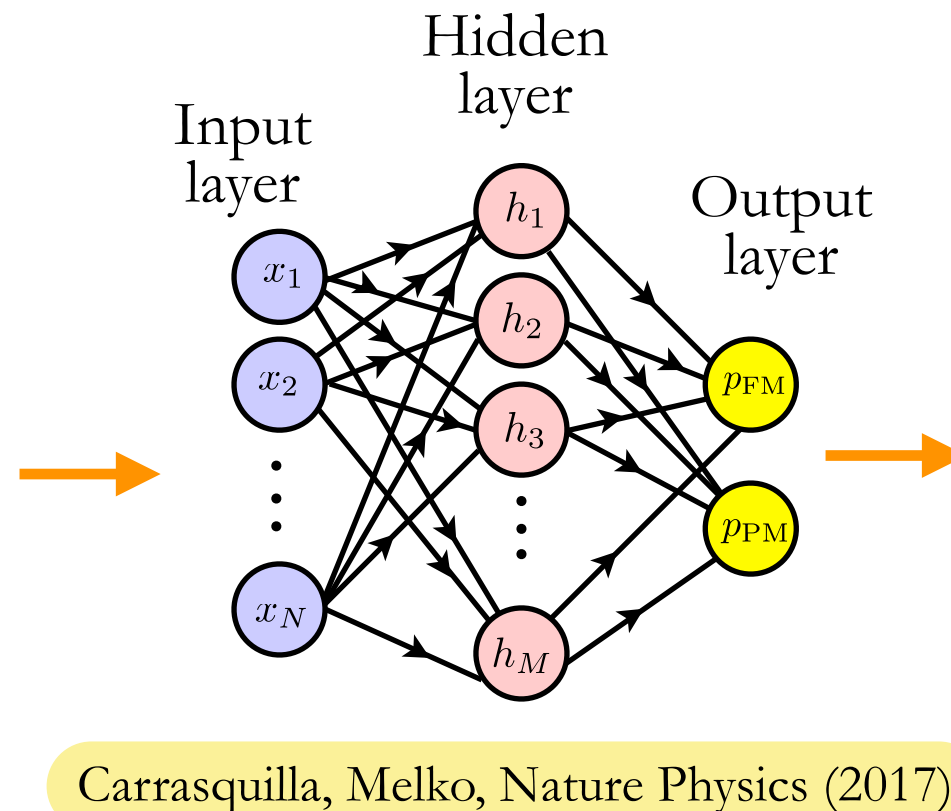
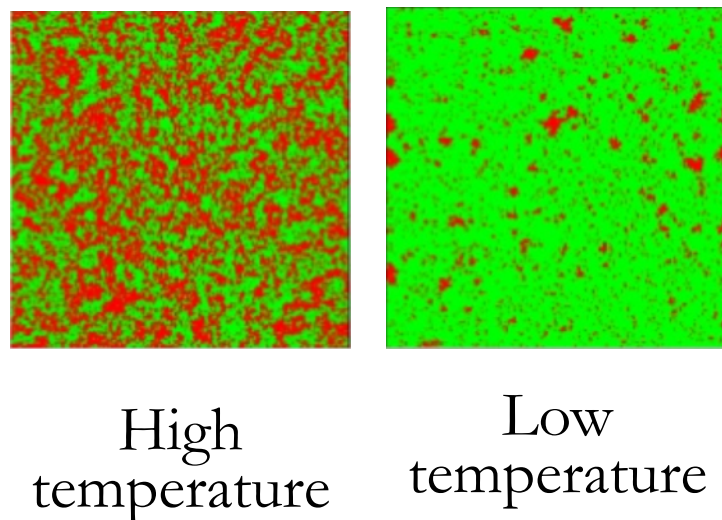
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# Automatic detection of phases and phase transitions

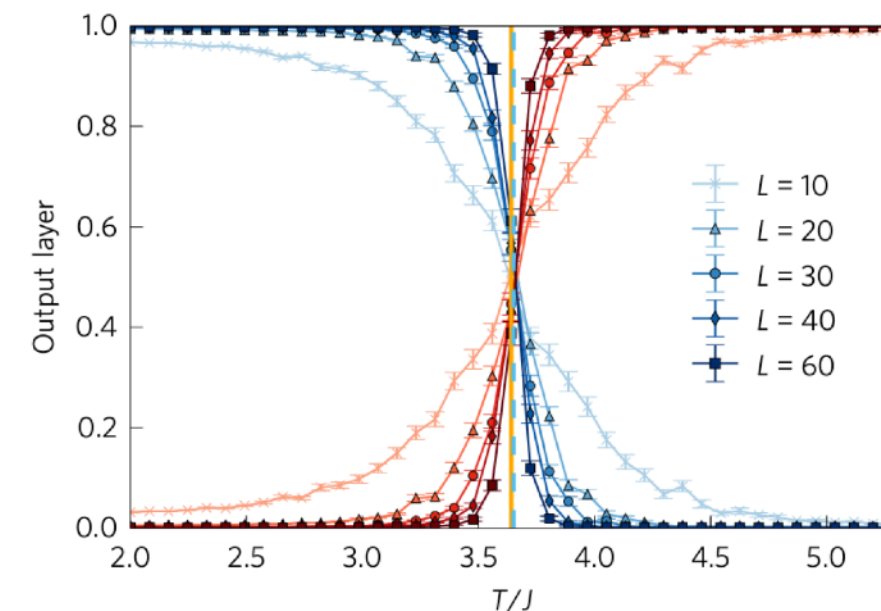
- **Idea** : Machine learning is good at classifying images. Let's try to classify **different phases of matter**, given some input (ideally « pictures »)

## Example 1 (synthetic data) : Snapshots of Monte Carlo samples of 2d Ising model

Training at extremal regions of phase space



Prediction over the whole phase space



- **Conclusion** : Very simple networks pick the critical temperature (& critical exponents) with good accuracy (even if trained only at low / high T)
- More sophisticated networks & architectures can be used
- More complex phases have been detected (topological phases, disordered localized phases) albeit often with feature-engineered data (physics based)



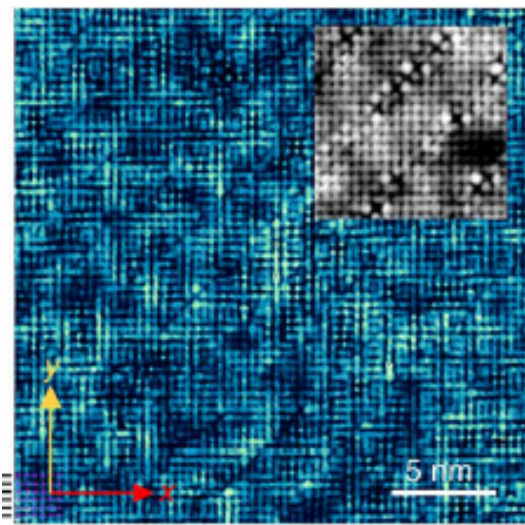
# Automatic detection of phases and phase transitions

- **Idea** : Local probes in physics generate a large amount of data/images that ML can exploit

## Example 2 (experimental data) : STM images on high-temperature superconductors

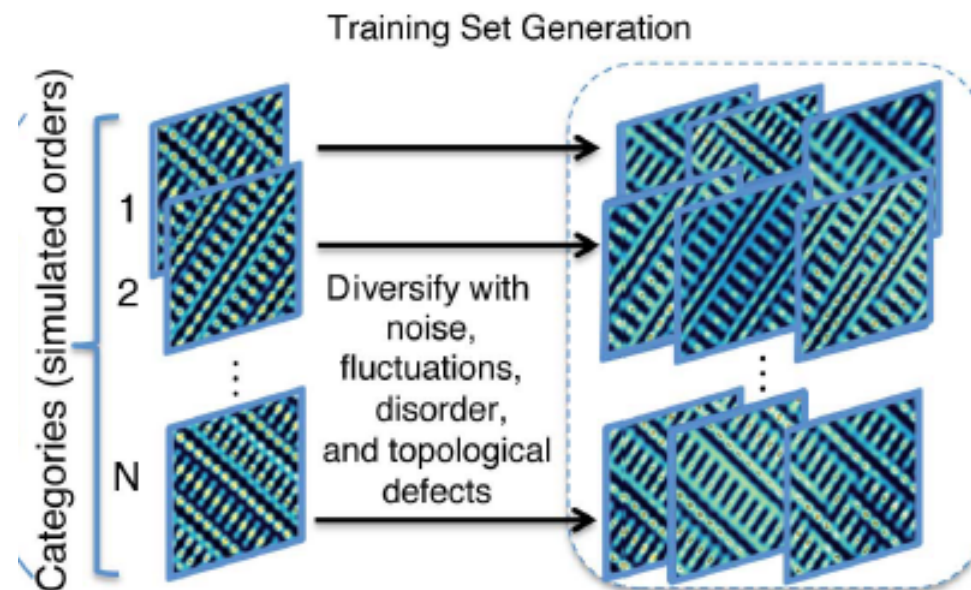
- **Physics question**: is electronic density showing a modulation? Important to discriminate theories
- Fourier analysis is not precise enough

Zhang *et al.*, Nature (2019)

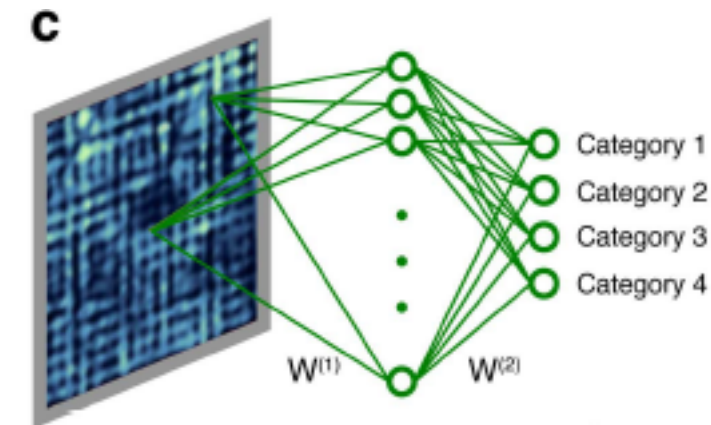


Typical STM image

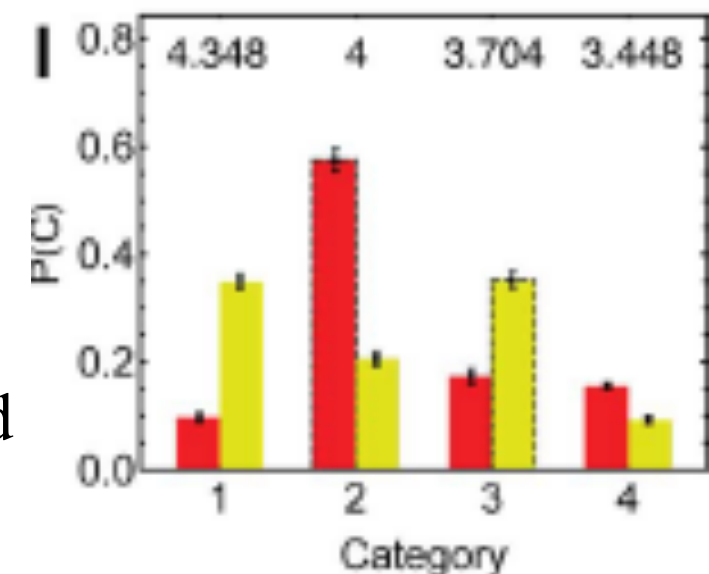
Bi<sub>2</sub>Sr<sub>2</sub>CaCu<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub>



Train with different test modulations (« categories »)



Prediction: Category output



- **Physics conclusion 1**: **Fixed commensurate modulation at 4a** in the pseudo-gap phase for a large parameter regime.
- Moreover, different output probabilities depending on images presented in x or y direction. **Physics conclusion 2** : **electronic nematic state**

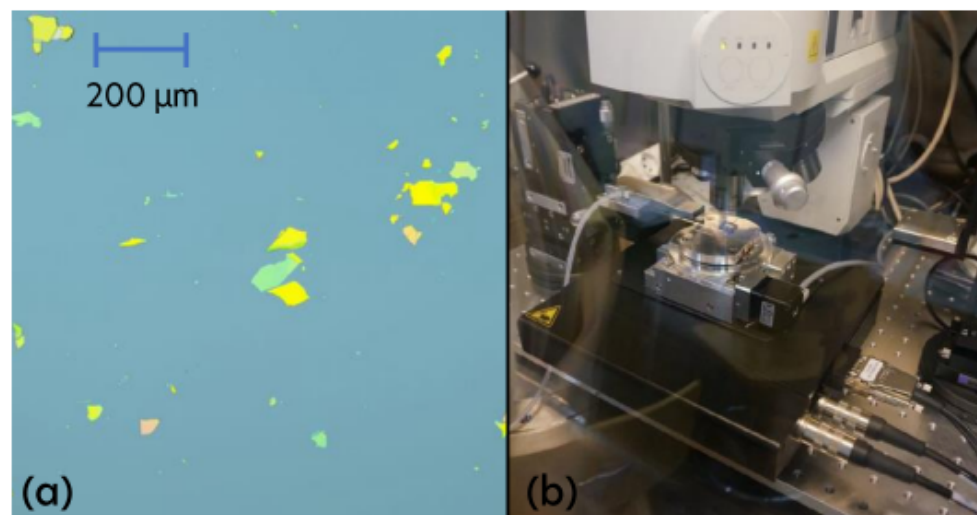
# Automatic detection of « good samples »

**Idea :** Some laborious part of experiments can be easily automated

## **Example 3 (experimental data) :** Detection of flakes in 2d material physics

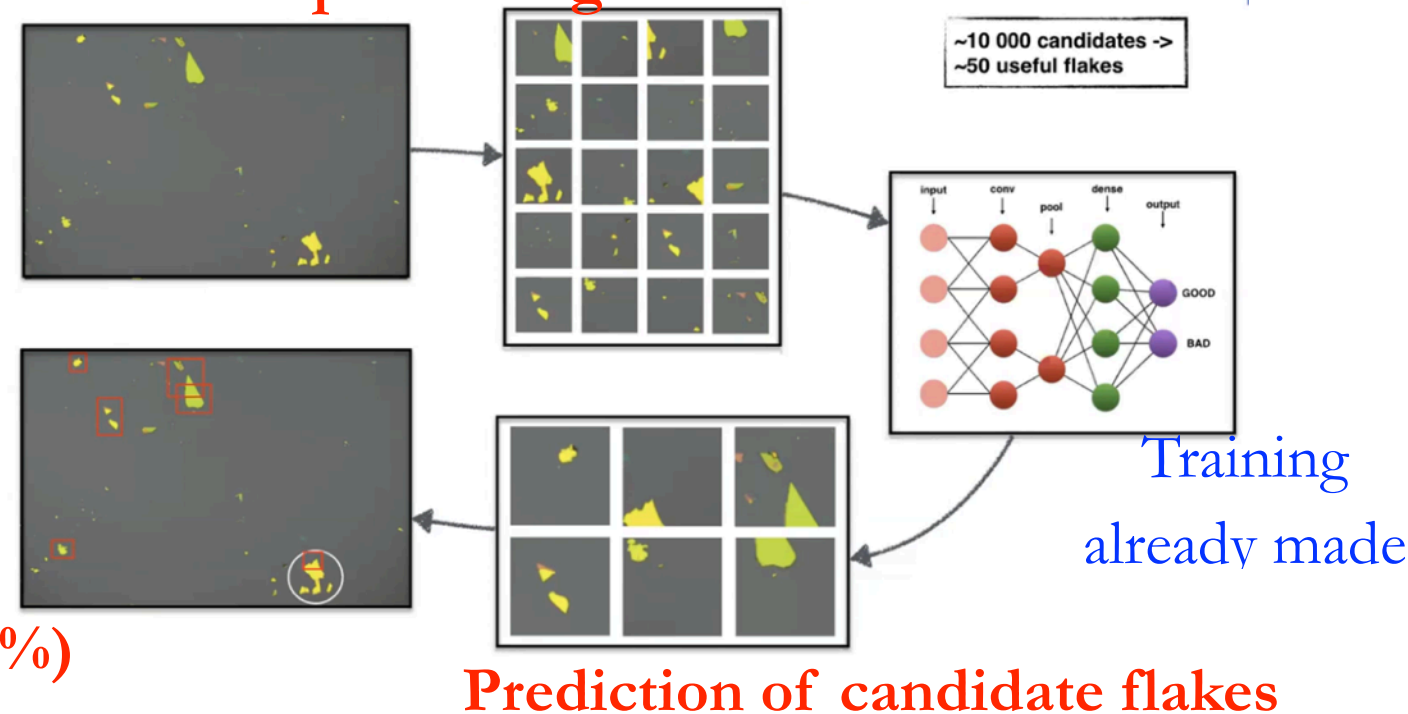
Greplova *et al.*,  
PR Applied (2020)

- **Problem:** Prepare 2d materials by selecting flakes in exfoliated hbN on a silicon wafer
- Difficult and lengthy task because of the diversity of the data and the sparsity of « good » flakes



**Validation by user**  
(acceptance rate = 50%)

### Pre-processing



- **Rk:** The sparsity ( $< 1\%$ ) of good flakes requires a careful training
- **Robustness:** against changes in the microscopy conditions (illumination, color balance etc)
- **Transfer learning:** good transferability to other systems to speed up training

# Our work: Characterize the many-body localization transition

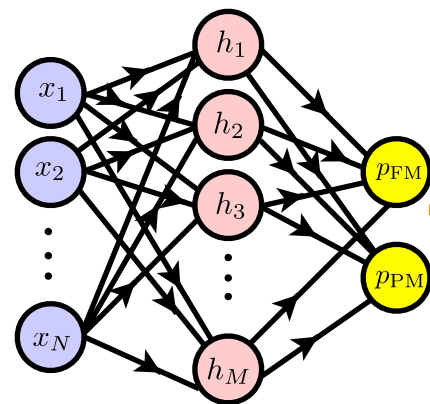
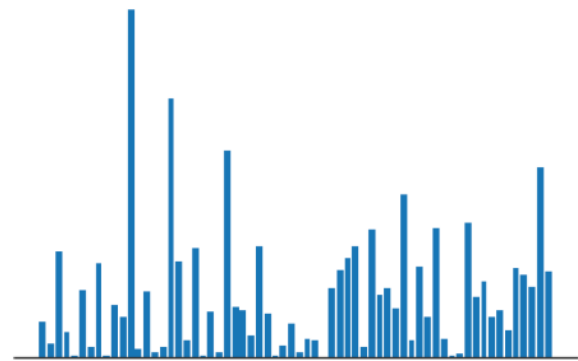
- **Many-body localization:** due to strong disorder, a metallic system can become insulating (even at very high energies!)

Model = Quantum spin chain + random magnetic field of strength  $h$



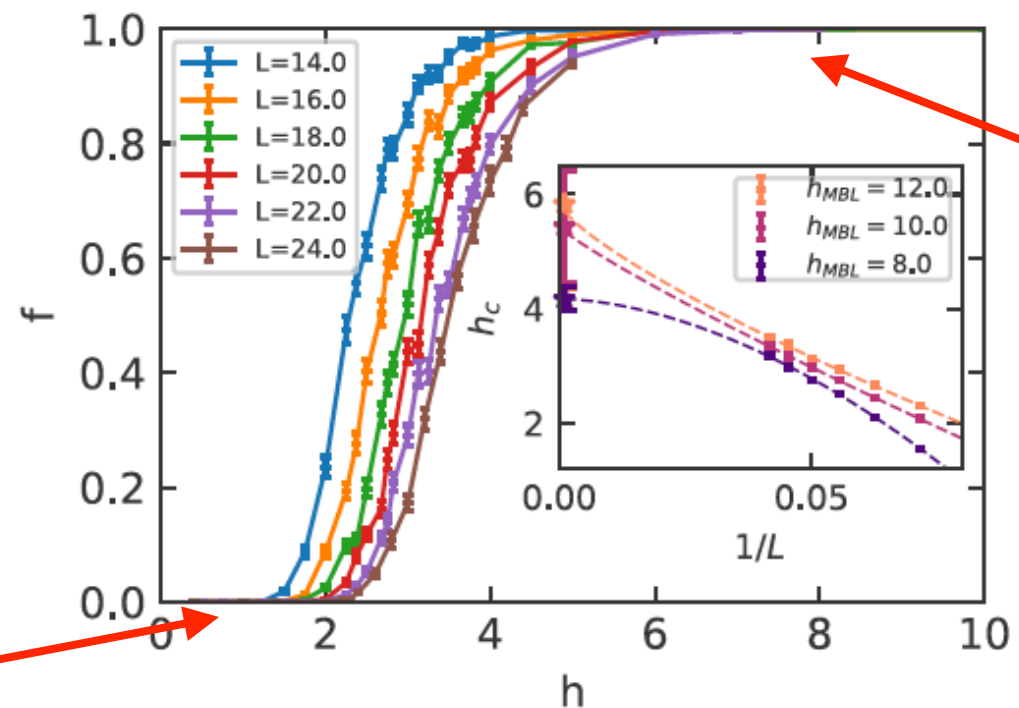
- **Motivation:** Reasonable estimate (but not precise) of the transition point from physics analysis. Universality class unknown (reasons: Simulations only on small samples + No known order parameter)
- **Guidelines for ML analysis:** Least possible human bias (we include no physics). Scalability with system size, interpretability if possible

Input:  
Eigenstate amplitudes



Théveniaut, FA, PRB (2019)

Metal prediction



Insulating prediction

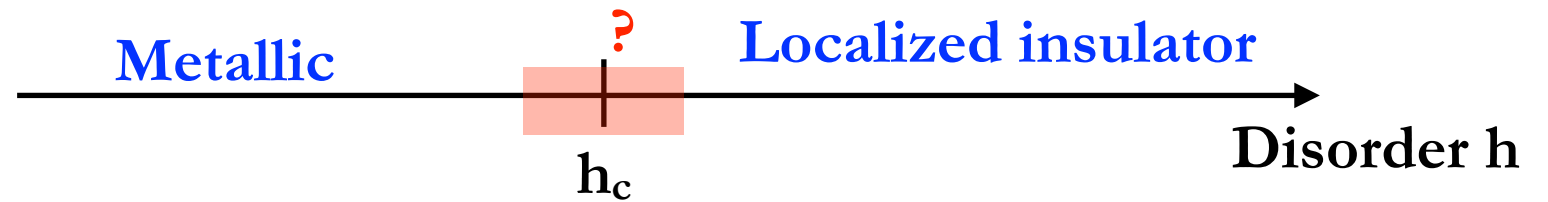
Overall phase diagram relatively well recognized (with strongly metallic and insulating phases)



# Our work: Characterize the many-body localization transition

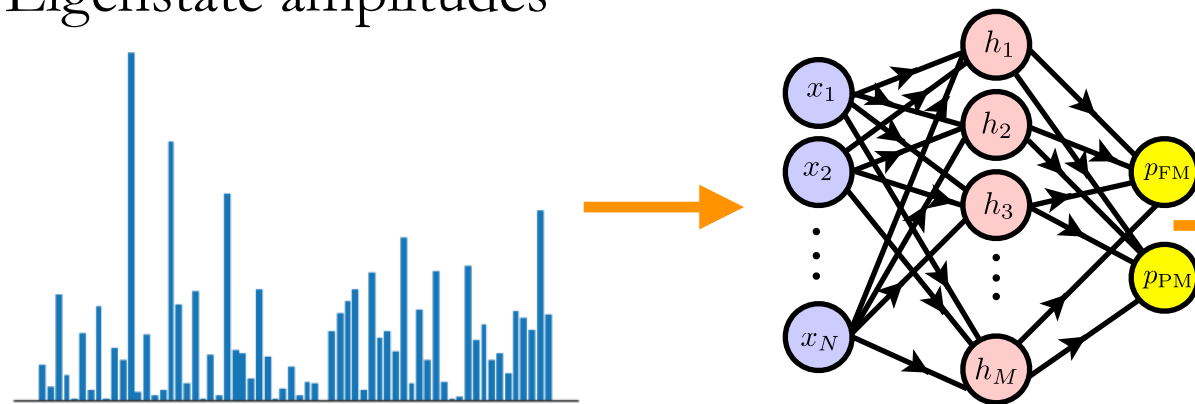
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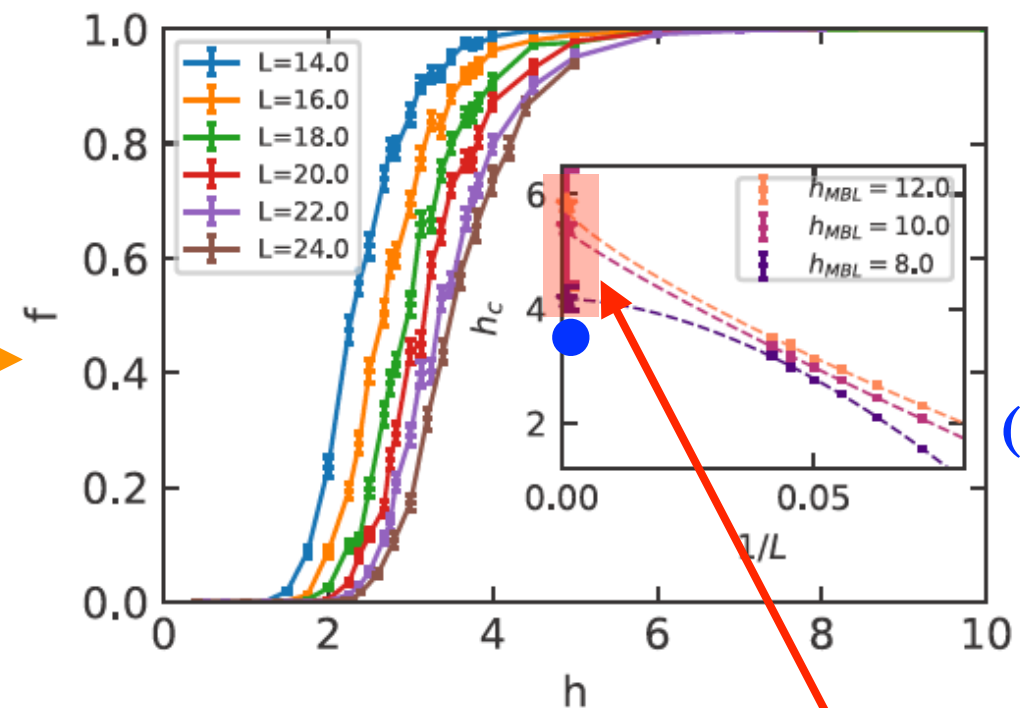


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Théveniaut, FA, PRB (2019)



Estimate of critical point (physics-based)

Large error bars on critical point

- **Conclusions (for this problem):** 1. Difficult to obtain precise results without bias (e.g. input data)  
2. ML does not free from finite-size effects



## 2. Neural quantum states

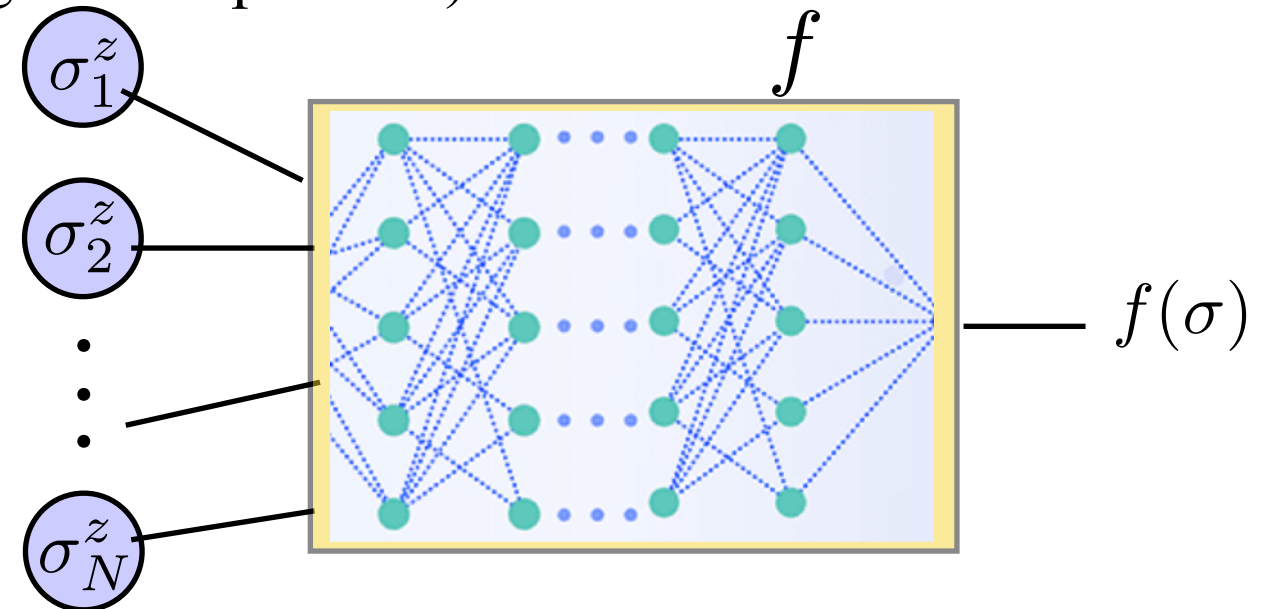
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Learning  $|\Psi\rangle$

- Parametrization of a quantum wave-function (e.g. for N spins 1/2) with a neural network

$$|\Psi\rangle = \sum_{\sigma} f(\sigma) |\sigma\rangle$$

$$\sigma = \{\sigma_1^z, \dots, \sigma_N^z\}$$



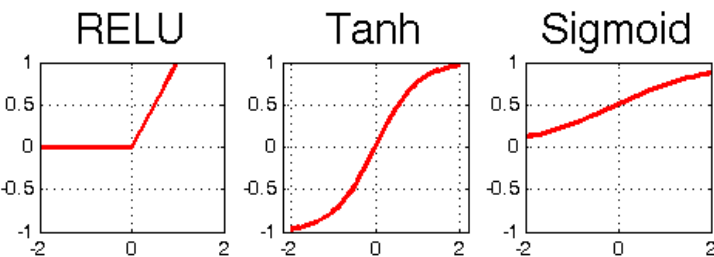
$$f_{\text{NN}}(|\sigma\rangle) = g_L \circ \mathbf{W}_L g_{L-1} \circ \dots \circ \mathbf{W}_2 g_1 \circ \mathbf{W}_1 |\sigma\rangle$$

- g non-linear function**

Element-wise

- W = Matrices of “weights”**

In general complex



$$g|\sigma\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} g(\sigma_1^z) + b_1 \\ g(\sigma_2^z) + b_2 \\ \vdots \\ g(\sigma_N^z) + b_N \end{bmatrix}$$

$$W|\sigma\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} W_{11} & W_{12} & \dots & W_{1N} \\ W_{21} & W_{22} & \dots & W_{2N} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ W_{r1} & W_{r2} & \dots & W_{rN} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^z \\ \sigma_2^z \\ \vdots \\ \sigma_N^z \end{bmatrix}$$

- The architecture of the network (number & size of layers, choice of non-linear function) is free

In general fixed

- The weights  $\mathbf{W}$  and bias  $\mathbf{b}$  are variational parameters to optimise upon

# Some examples

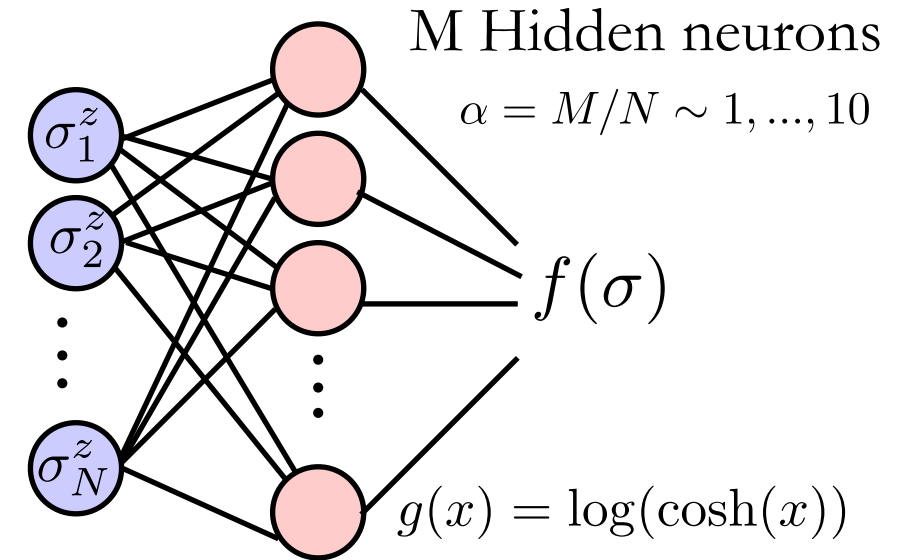
## Simplest example: Restricted Boltzmann Machine (RBM)

$$\Psi(\sigma) = \sum_{h_i} \exp\left[\sum_j a_j \sigma_j^z + \sum_i b_i h_i + \sum_{i,j} W_{ij} h_i \sigma_j^z\right]$$

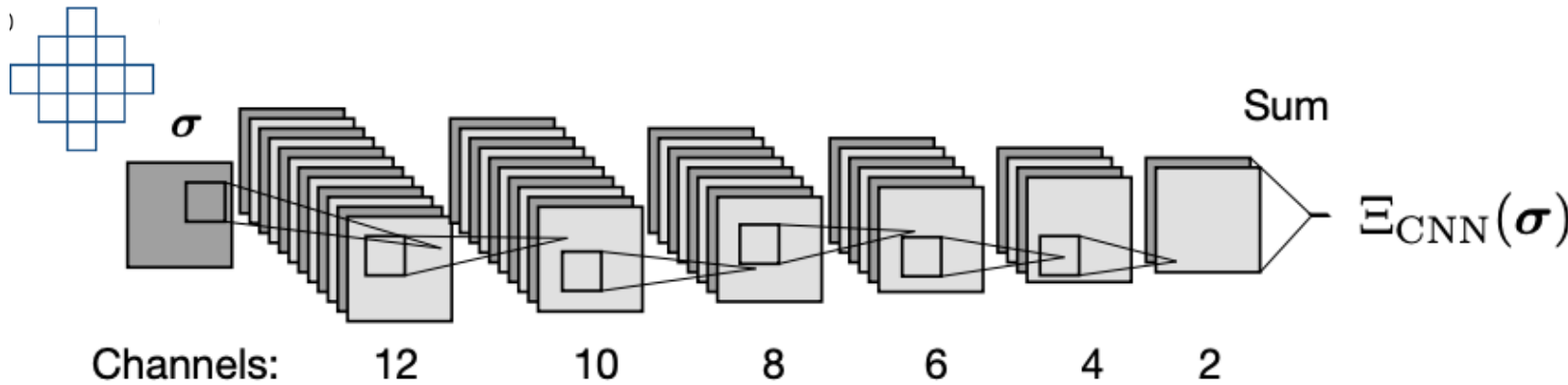
$$= \prod_i \left[ \cosh\left(\sum_j W_{ij} \sigma_j^z + b_i\right) \right] \exp\left(\sum_j a_j \sigma_j\right)$$

$$\sigma_i^z = \pm 1$$

Carleo & Troyer, Science (2017)



## Convolutional neural network (CNN)



$$h_{i,j,k}^{(q)} = F\left(\sum_{l,m_y,m_x} h_{l,j+m_y,k+m_x}^{(q-1)} K_{i,l,m_y,m_x}^{(q)}\right)$$

$$:= F\left(K^{(q)} * h^{(q-1)}\right)$$

Choo *et al.*, 2019

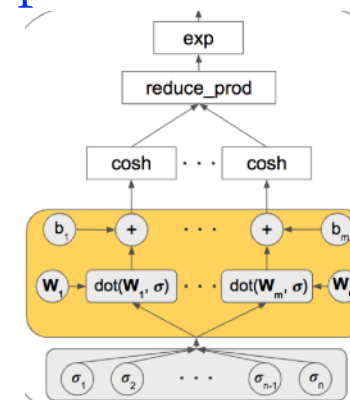
Takes explicit advantage of locality through **filters**  
 Calculations are lighter-weight

## Computational graph states

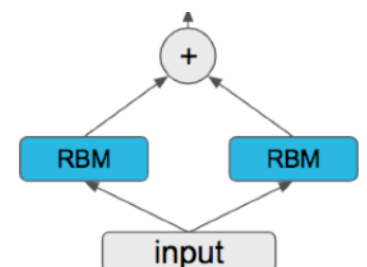
Useful to define neural network as computational graphs states : allows to combined and modify architectures efficiently

Kochkov & Clark, arXiv:1811.12423

## RBM as a computational graph state



## Combining 2 RBM



# Why quantum neural states?

- Universal representation theorems for multi-layer networks

Does not necessarily help in building this network in practice

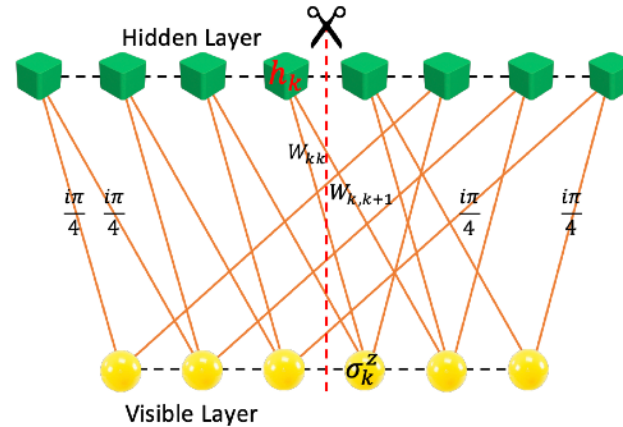
Cautions about too shallow networks

...

- Physical arguments: (Deep) neural networks can have volume-law entanglement

Levine et al., PRL (2019)

Deng, Li, Das Sarma., PRX (2017)



With order  $N$  parameters

- Relation to other approaches:

Many of your favorite variational wave-functions can be combined with/translate into NQS

Relation between NQS and tensor-network states

Efficient contractible TNS can be constructed as NN (with polynomial size)

Sharir et al., arXiv:2103.10293

RBM (and deep BM) can be represented as 2d TNS

Li et al., arXiv:2105.04130

- Computational advantage: Harness all advances by ML community

- **Algorithms** (automatic differentiation, backpropagation, optimisers...)

- **Software** (TensorFlow, Pytorch, Keras, Jax etc)

- **Hardware** (TPUs, GPUs )



- **Starting in practice:**

How To Use Neural Networks To Investigate Quantum Many-Body Physics

Tutorial

Juan Carrasquilla and Giacomo Torlai  
PRX Quantum 2, 040201 – Published 12 November 2021



Carleo et al.,  
Software X (2019)

Efficient Python library (spins models)



## 2. Neural quantum states

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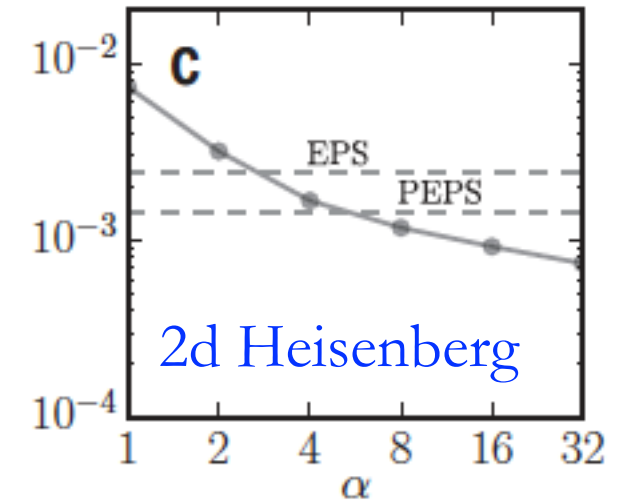
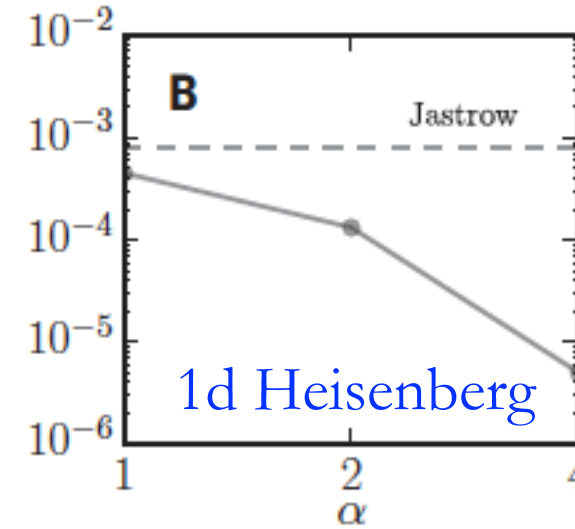
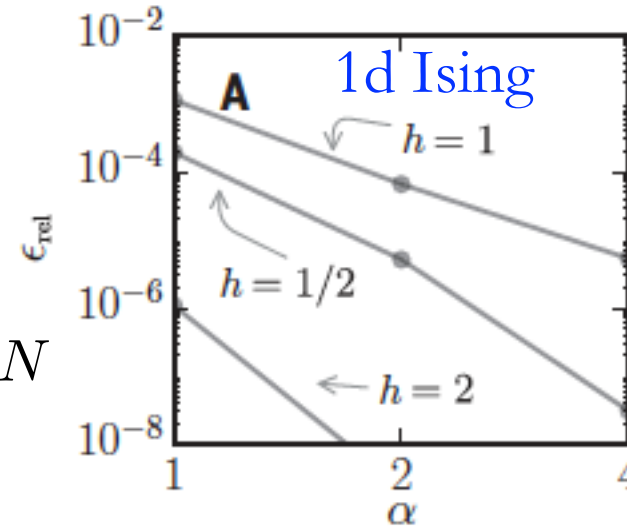
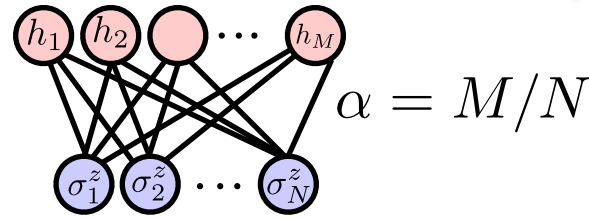
**Application 1** : Variational ansatz for ground-states of strongly correlated systems

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# Variational efficiency of neural quantum states in practice

## First simulations on quantum magnets (RBM)

Carleo & Troyer, Science (2017)



## RBM + Pair Projected

## Frustrated magnets: Convolutional neural networks

Choo *et al.*, 2019

$$\Psi(\sigma) = \phi_{\text{RBM}}(\sigma)\psi_{\text{PP}}(\sigma)$$

$$|\psi_{\text{PP}}\rangle = P_G \left( \sum_{i,j} f_{ij}^{\uparrow\downarrow} c_{i\uparrow}^\dagger c_{j\downarrow}^\dagger \right)^{N_{\text{site}}/2} |0\rangle$$

## 2d $J_1$ - $J_2$ model

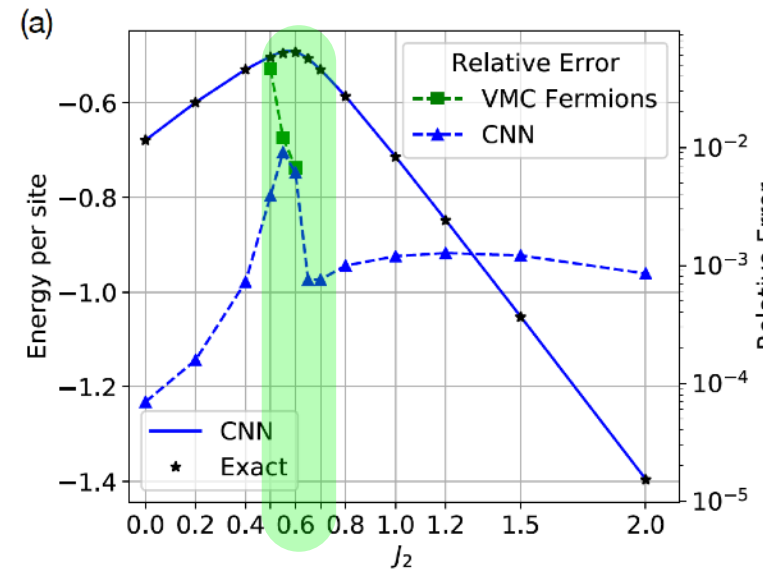
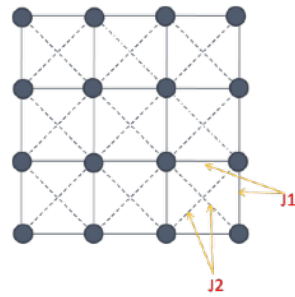


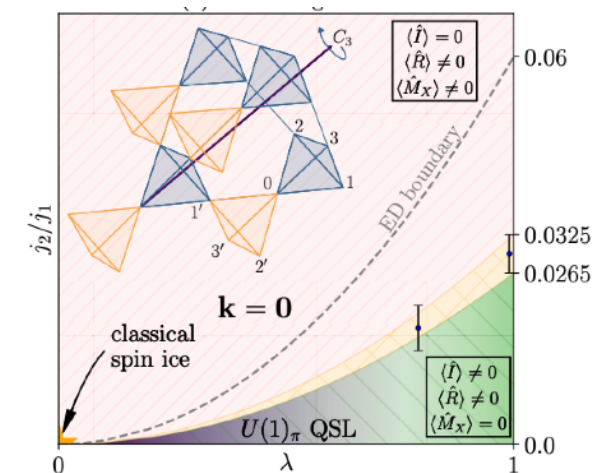
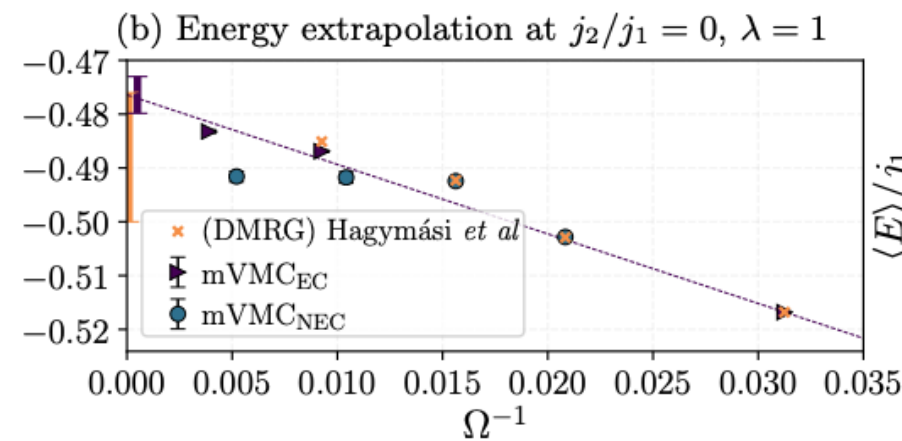
TABLE II. Comparison of ground-state energy for the  $10 \times 10$  lattice at  $J_2 = 0.5$  among different wave functions. The wave functions in bold font use neural networks. In Ref. [18],  $p$ -th order Lanczos steps are applied to the VMC wave function.

Energy per site	Wave function	Reference
-0.494757(12)	<b>Neural quantum state</b>	65
-0.49516(1)	<b>CNN</b>	60
-0.49521(1)	VMC( $p=0$ )	18
-0.495530	DMRG	22
-0.49575(3)	<b>RBM-fermionic w.f.</b>	63
-0.497549(2)	VMC( $p=2$ )	18
<b>-0.497629(1)</b>	<b>RBM+PP</b>	presen

Nomura, Imada (2021)

## 3d Pyrochlore

Astrakhantsev *et al.* PRX (2021)



## 2. Neural quantum states

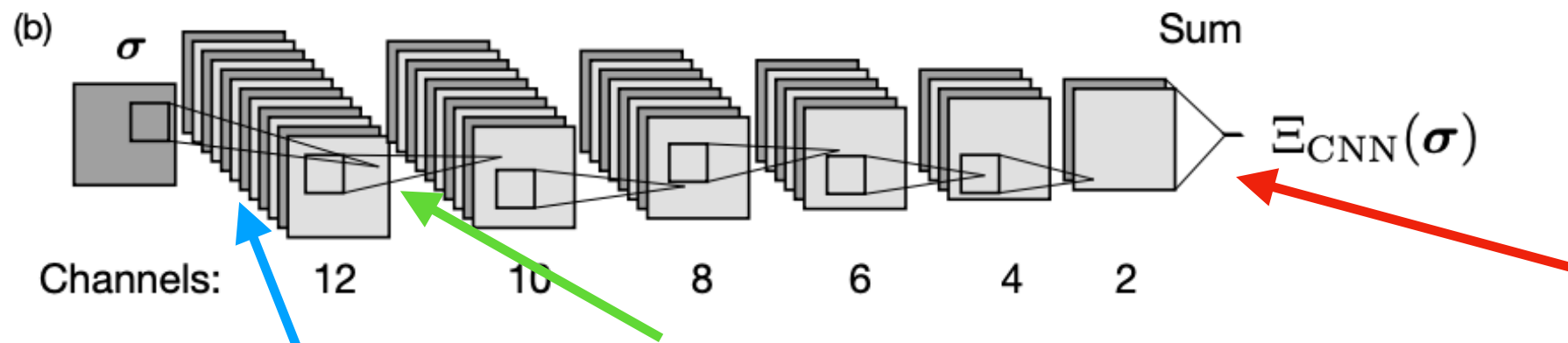
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**Intermezzo 1 : Symmetries**

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# Implementing symmetries

## Convolutional Neural networks (CNN) for translation invariance



Last pulling layer averages over all channels

Ensure translation invariance

Different channels = Various positions of the filters

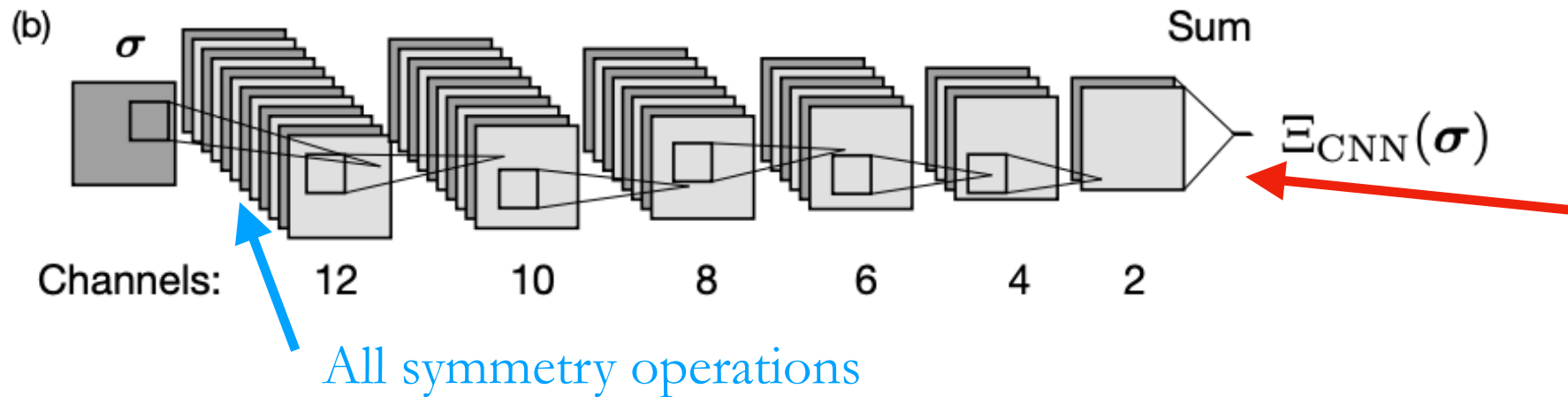
Less weights = less parameters = computations faster

$$h_{i,j,k}^{(q)} = F \left( \sum_{l,m_y,m_x} h_{l,j+m_y,k+m_x}^{(q-1)} K_{i,l,m_y,m_x}^{(q)} \right)$$
$$:= F \left( K^{(q)} * h^{(q-1)} \right)$$



# Implementing symmetries

## Group Convolutional Neural networks (GCNN) for all symmetry operations



Add characters of the irrep  
at the final computation

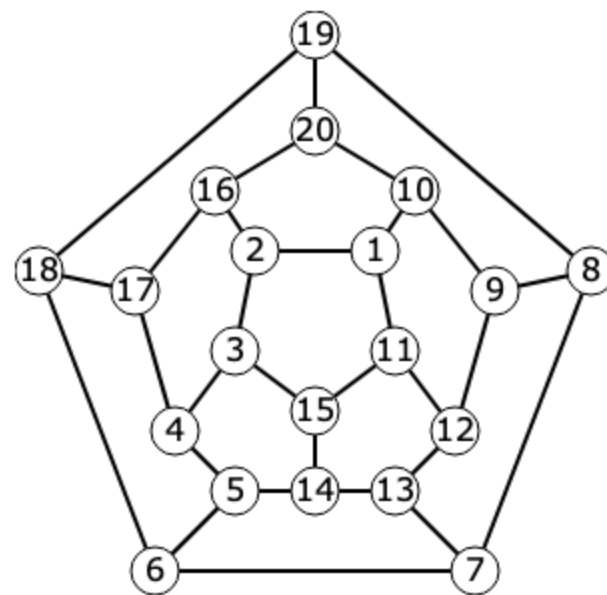
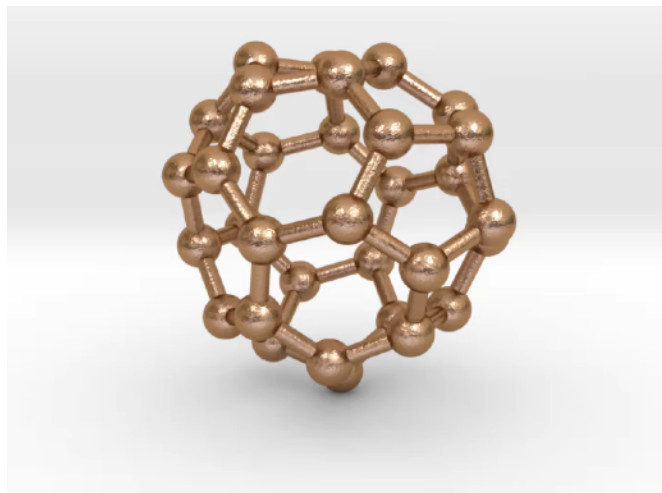
Roth, McDonald

## Variational computations for ground-states in all irreps



<https://netket.org>

### Ex. Heisenberg spin 1/2 model on fullerene molecules



$C_{32}$

**D3h symmetry**

	$E$	mult.	irrep.	$S$
-15.93(1)	<u>-15.93723</u>	1	$A''_{1,s}$	0
-15.78(2)	<u>-15.81192</u>	2	$E'_s$	0
-15.74(2)	<u>-15.77366</u>	1	$A'_{2,a}$	1
-15.71(2)	<u>-15.73368</u>	1	$A'_{1,s}$	0
-15.58(2)	<u>-15.63730</u>	2	$E'_a$	1
	-15.60167	2	$E'_a$	1
-15.51(2)	<u>-15.57485</u>	2	$E''_s$	0
-15.51(3)	<u>-15.56589</u>	2	$E''_a$	1
	-15.54070	2	$E''_a$	1
-15.48(1)	<u>-15.50045</u>	1	$A''_{2,a}$	1
	-15.49288	1	$A''_{1,s}$	0
	-15.46219	1	$A''_{1,s}$	0
	-15.45437	1	$A'_{2,a}$	1
-15.44(1)	<u>-15.45317</u>	1	$A'_{1,a}$	1
	-15.42185	2	$E''_s$	0
	-15.39363	1	$A''_{2,a}$	1
	-15.38231	1	$A''_{2,a}$	1
	-15.38020	2	$E''_a$	1

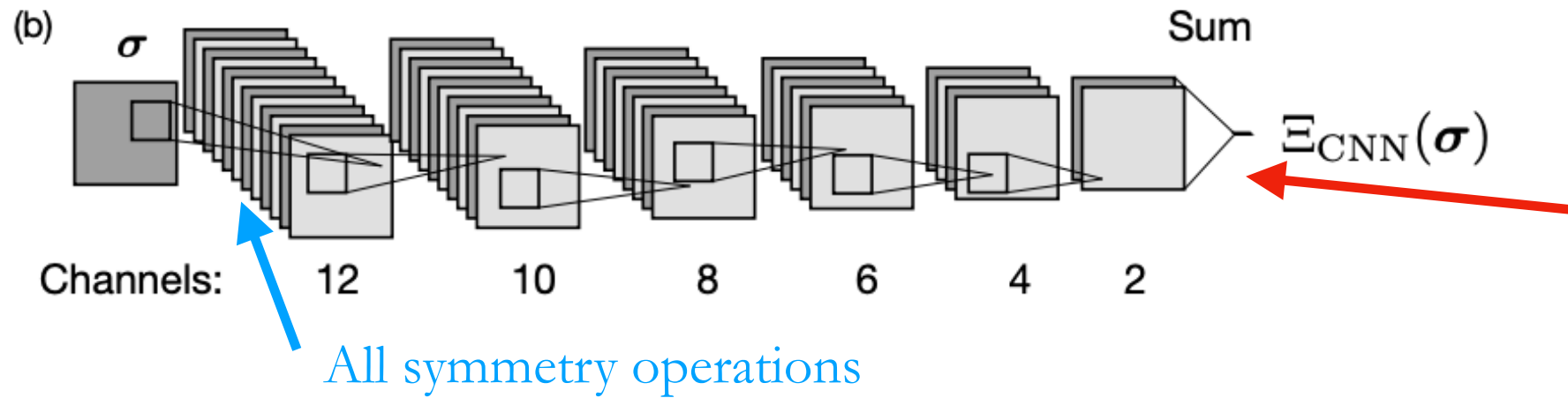
Relative error

$\sim 2 \cdot 10^{-3}$

Work in progress

# Implementing symmetries

## Group Convolutional Neural networks (GCNN) for all symmetry operations



Add characters of the irrep  
at the final computation

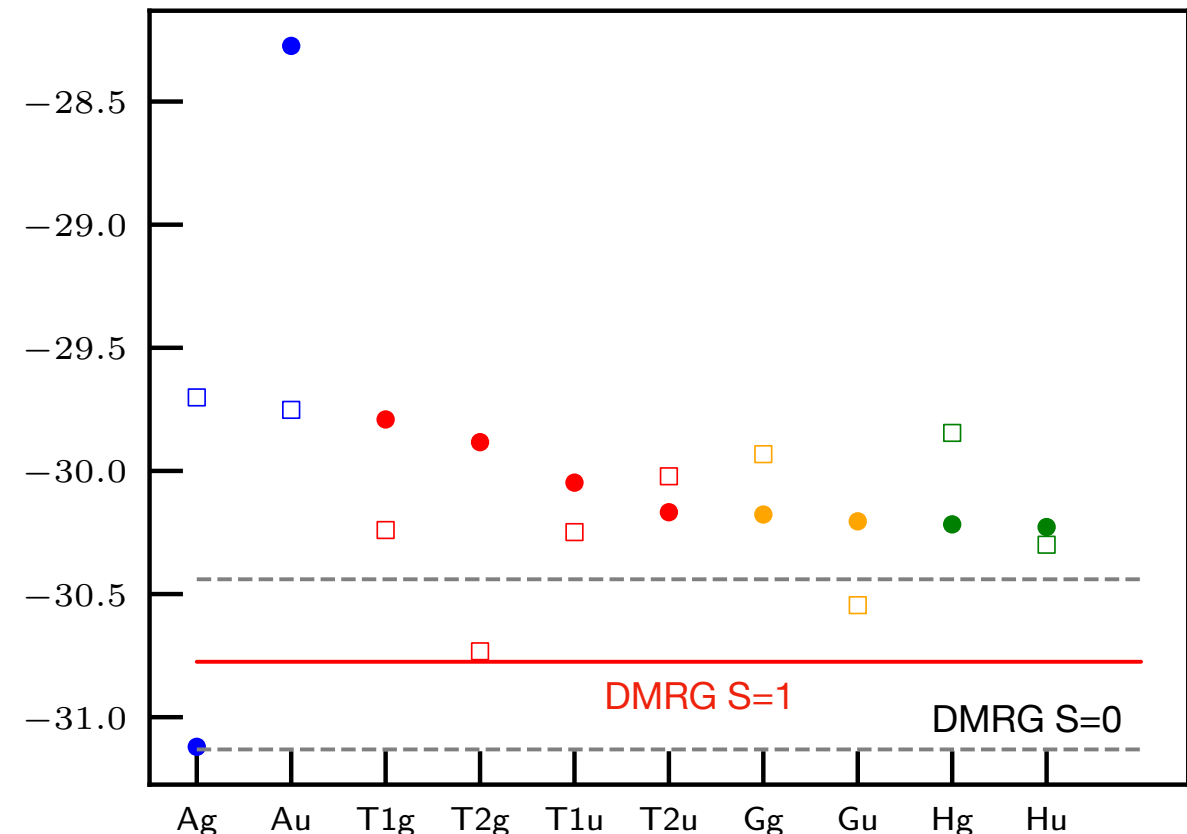
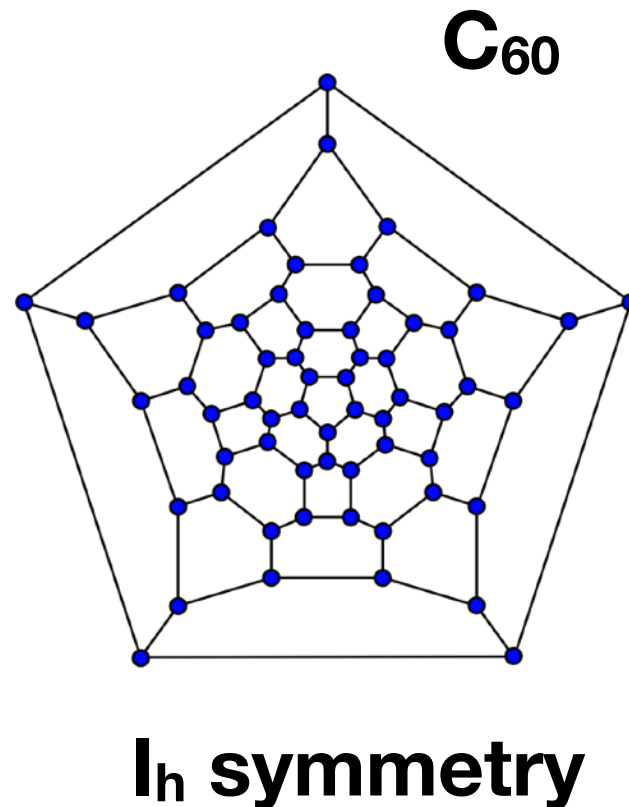
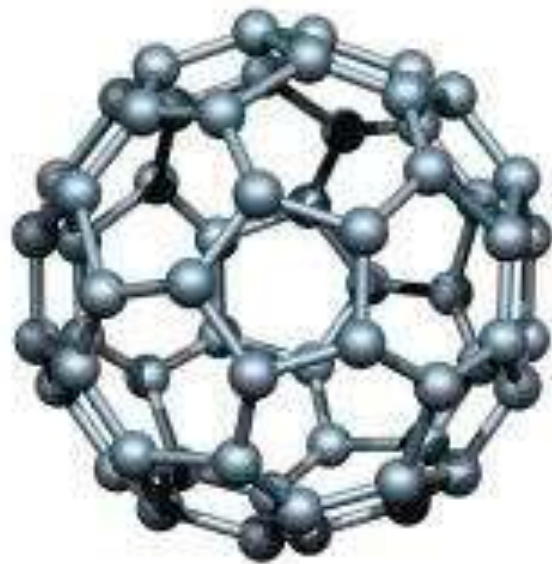
Roth, McDonald

## Variational computations for ground-states in all irreps



<https://netket.org>

## Ex. Heisenberg spin 1/2 model on fullerene molecules



S. Capponi, FA

Work in progress

## 2. Neural quantum states

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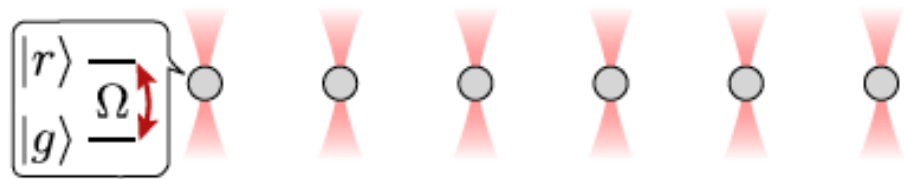
**Application 2 : Tomography / Reconstruction of quantum states**

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# Applications of neural quantum states

## Application 2 : Tomography / Reconstruction of quantum states

- Physical context:** Model a programmable quantum simulator (array of  $\sim 10$  Rydberg atoms) including **known experimental errors**.



Torlai *et al.*, (2019)

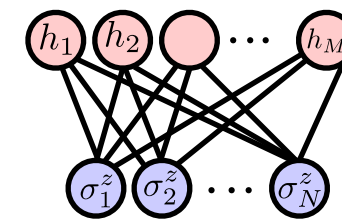
$$\hat{H}(\Omega, \Delta) = -\Delta \sum_{i=1}^N \hat{n}_i - \frac{\Omega}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \hat{\sigma}_i^x + \sum_{i < j} \frac{V_{nn}}{|i-j|^6} \hat{n}_i \hat{n}_j,$$

Detuning
Rabi freq.
vdW interactions

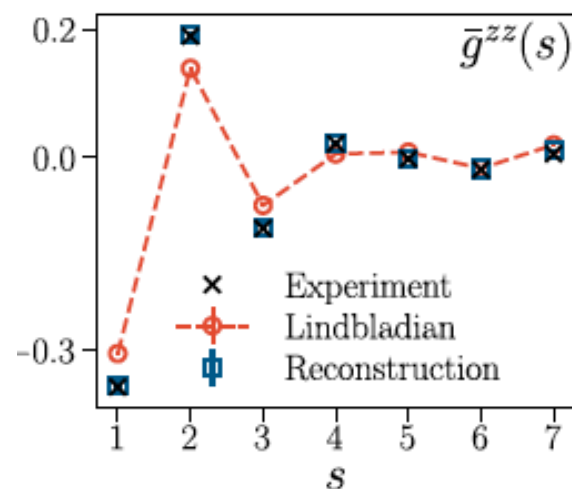
**+ Decoherence (single-atom decay, dephasing)**

- Steps:** **1. Experimental Measurement** of  $n_i$  = projector in Rydberg state for atom  $i$

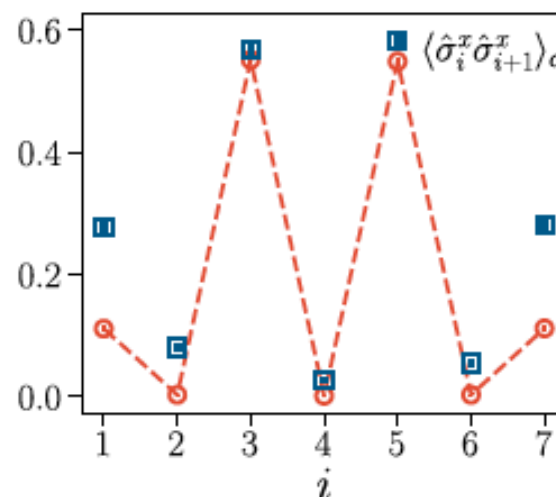
**2. Optimize RBM** to reproduce the measurement



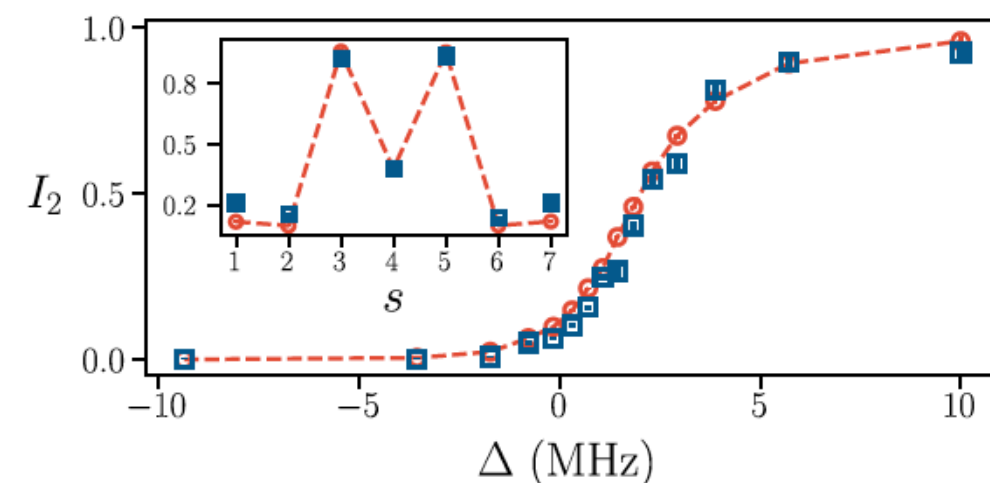
**3. Sample the RBM to compute observables that can't be measured** experimentally



Diagonal correlations  
(can be measured)



Off-Diagonal correlations and Entanglement entropy  
(can't be measured)





## 2. Neural quantum states

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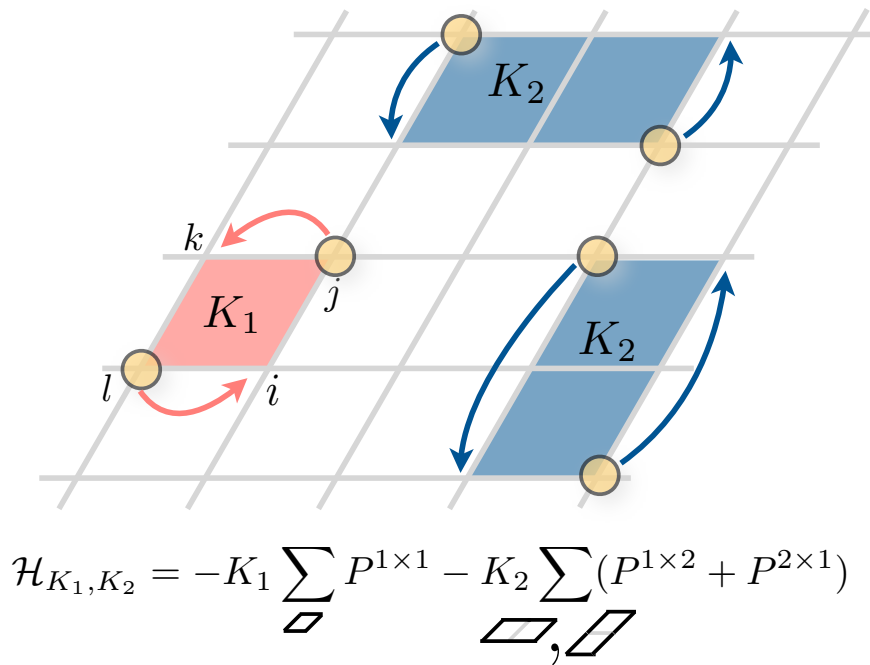
**Intermezzo 2 : Combining with other methods**

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# Our work: Exotic liquid state and Diffusion Monte Carlo

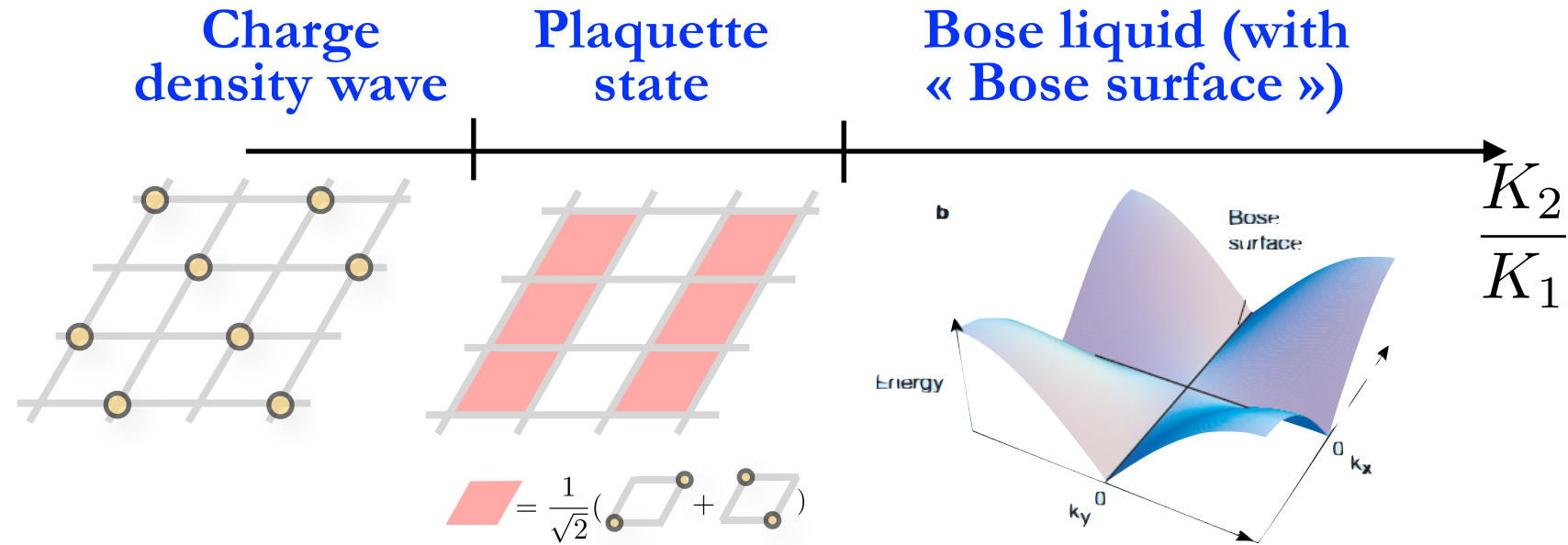
- **Goal:** Study a 2d bosonic model which hosts an exotic liquid phase. Can RBM capture this ?

## Bosons with competing ring exchanges

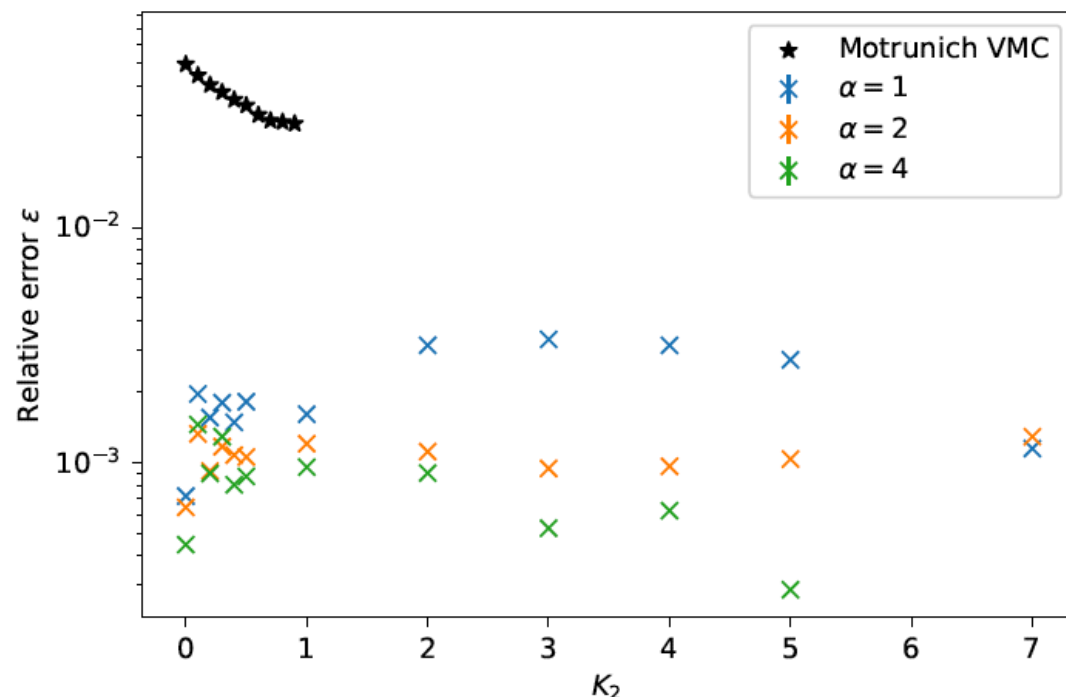


$$\mathcal{H}_{K_1, K_2} = -K_1 \sum_{\square} P^{1 \times 1} - K_2 \sum_{\parallel, \backslash} (P^{1 \times 2} + P^{2 \times 1})$$

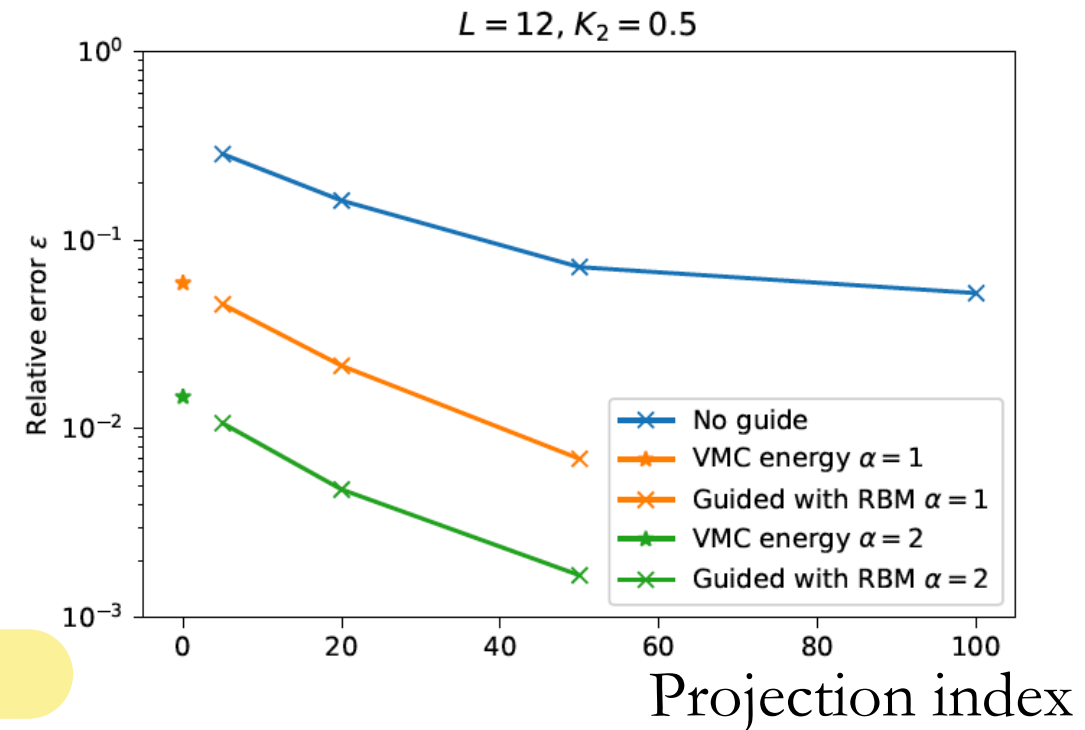
## Suggested Ground-state



- **Result 1:** RBM outperforms other variational methods



- **New Idea :** Can use **RBM as guiding wave-function for Quantum Monte Carlo**



### 3. Creation of improved algorithms

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# Improving Monte Carlo simulations

• **Monte Carlo simulations** ubiquitous in physical sciences. However, sometimes ...

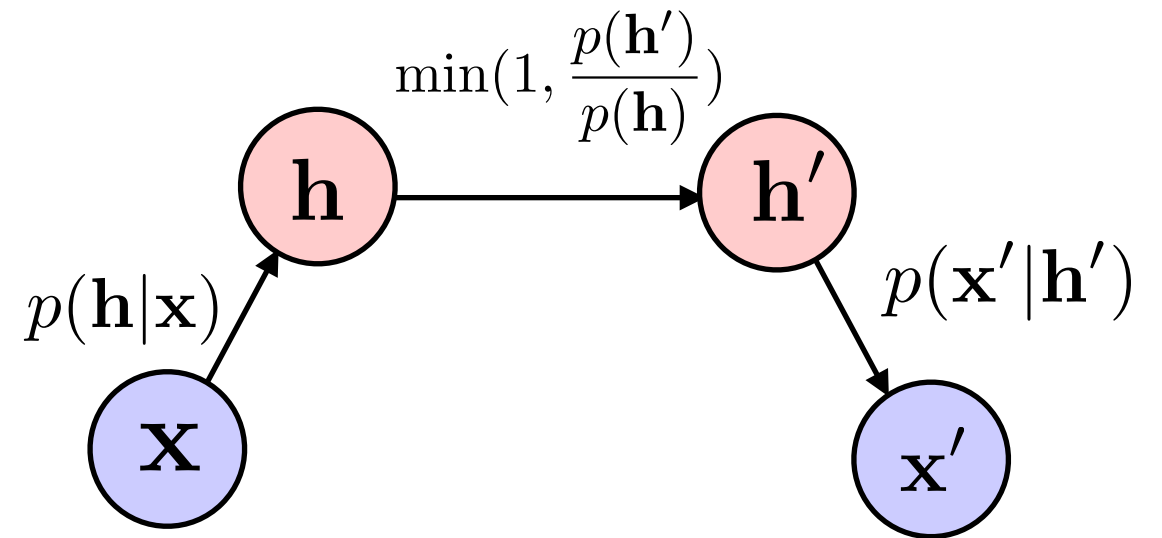
• A single Monte Carlo step is **costly** (and may not be accepted)

e.g. Fermionic determinant quantum MC : one step  $N^3$

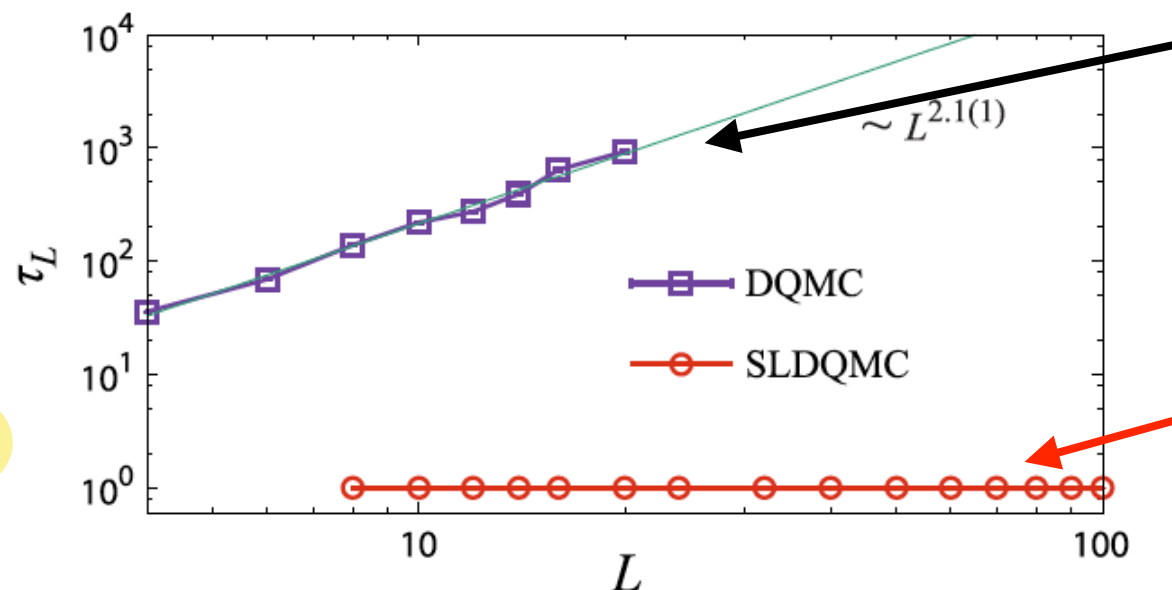
leads to **strong autocorrelations**

e.g. near phase transition

• **Idea:** Couple the physical system to an hidden one (e.g. through a RBM ) easier to sample and which can propose large moves in phase space. Coupling parameters are machine learned.



Fermions coupled to transverse field Ising model in 2d



Standard QMC: Large autocorrelations, max. size  $20^2$

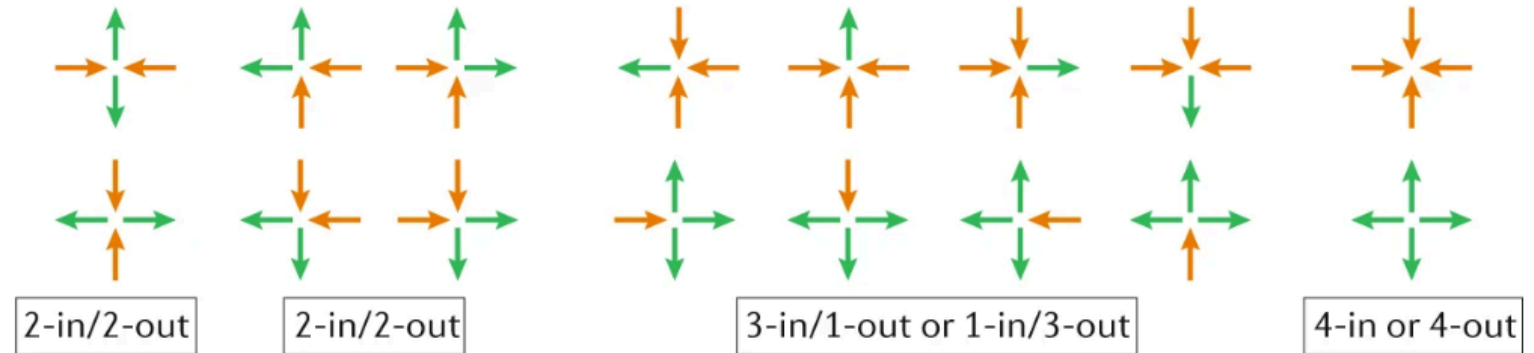
Machine-learning guided QMC: No autocorrelations, max. size  $100^2$

Xu et al., PRB (2017)

# Improving Monte Carlo simulations : Challenges

## Reinforcement learning to help finding complex MC moves

- **Physical context:** Some magnets obey the (spin) ice rules at low temperature

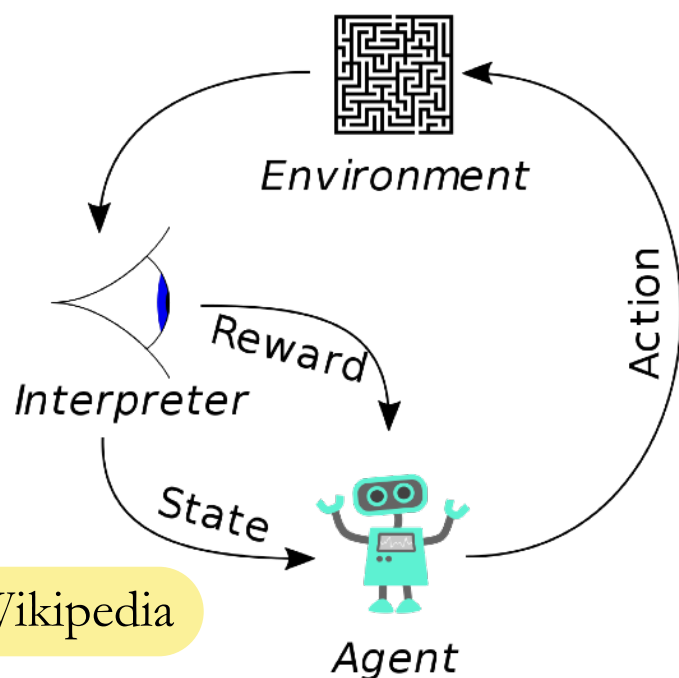


**Only configurations with 2in-2out everywhere are allowed**

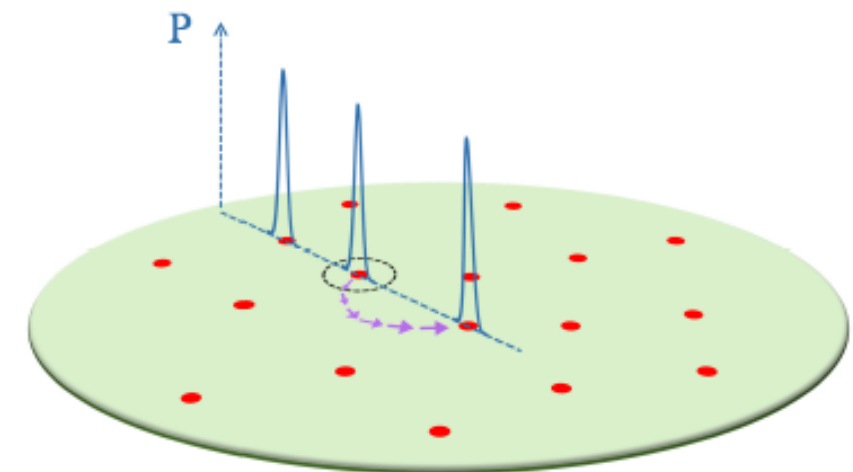
- **Computational problem:** How to sample this 2-in 2-out manifold efficiently ?

- **Reinforcement learning**

Balance between exploration (of phase space) and exploitation (of knowledge of valid configurations through penalty/reward).



Wikipedia



The agent learns by itself the rules of this manifold and finds complex MC moves to navigate through it

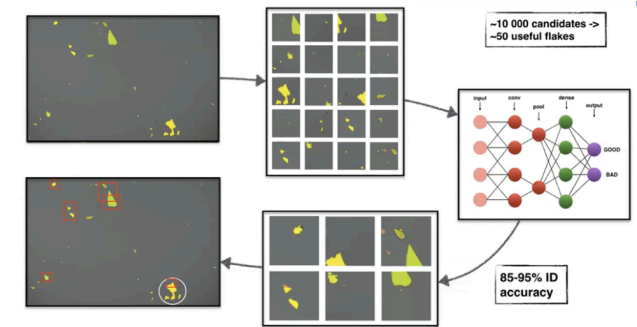
Zhao *et al.*, 2019



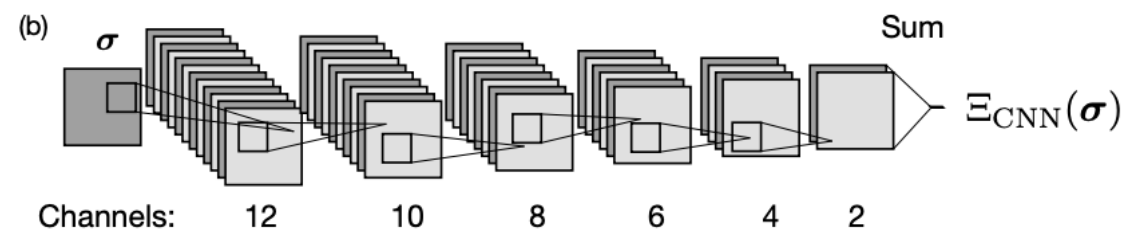
# Summary

## A new tool in the box of experimental and computational physicists

- Many recent applications of ML in quantum physics / condensed matter
- Some works go beyond the hype and obtain first non-trivial results
- Some straight-forward applications in data mining / image processing, some less straight-forward



- **Neural quantum states** : efficient (benefit from ML advances), albeit not fully understood



- My take: **Once you know what you want to do (method)**, entering the field is easy : many tutorials, examples, lectures, open source codes online

pdf of the talk &  
list of references



# Perspectives

- **Outlook 1** : Most of the ML techniques used so far are quite basic (from the AI point of view). Room for using state-of-the-art ML (GAN, VAE, Deep RL ...) and improve performances

E.g. Autoregressive density samplers could strongly reduce the computational cost of sampling neural quantum states

Sharir *et al.*, PRL (2020)

Hibat Allah *et al.*, PRR (2020)

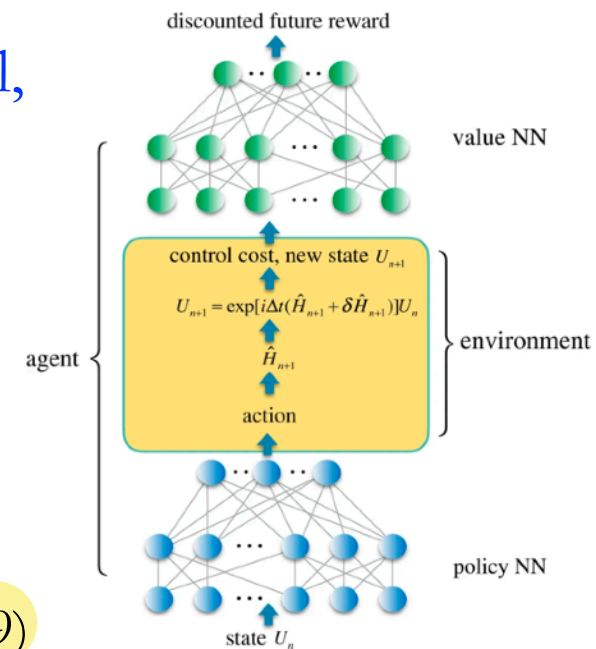
- **Outlook 2** : ML inside truly quantum mechanical setups: **Quantum computing + ML marriage**

## ML-based control/help of quantum experiments/ computations

Open or closed-loop control,  
in q. experiments

Quantum computing  
(optimisation of quantum  
gates, neural-network  
parameterized quantum  
circuit, quantum error  
correction)

Niu *et al.*, NPJ Qu. Inf. (2019)



# Perspectives

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Sharir *et al.*, PRL (2020)

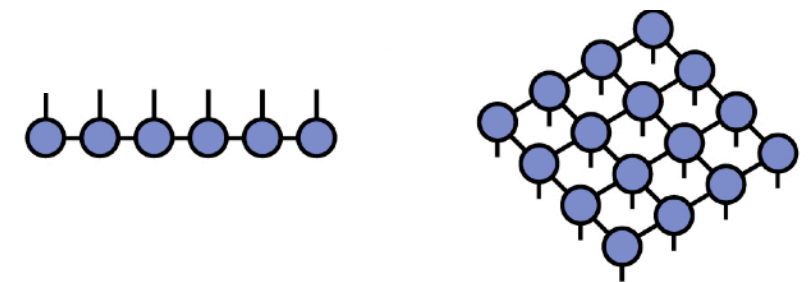
Hibat Allah *et al.*, PRR (2020)

- **Outlook 2** : ML inside truly quantum mechanical setups: **Quantum computing + ML marriage**

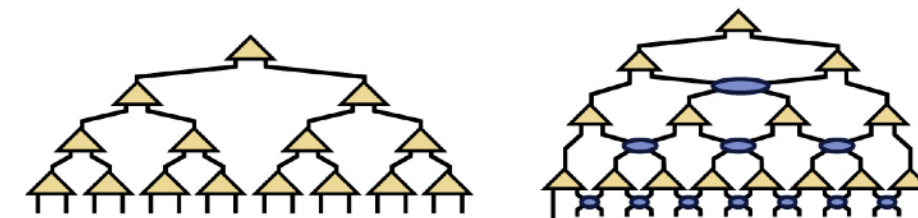
- **Outlook 3: Can quantum physics help (classical) ML ?**

- 1. Typical quantum methods (Matrix-Product States, DMRG) have been repurposed to perform ML tasks (classification, time-series modeling)

Stoudenmire *et al.*, ...



- We know how to **improve these quantum methods** (e.g. tensor networks) and when they work / fail ? (few / a lot of quantum entanglement). **Can this help characterize or design new ML methods and architectures ?**



- 2. Construct quantum version of networks (e.g. quantum Boltzmann machine).

$$H = \sum_j a_j \sigma_j^z + \sum_i b_h h_i^z + \sum_{ij} W_{ij} h_i^z \sigma_i^z + \Gamma_h \sum_i h_i^x + \Gamma_s \sum_i \sigma_i^x$$

