

# Hamiltonian simulation with nearly optimal dependence on all parameters

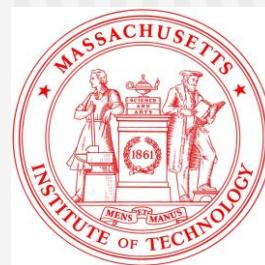
Dominic Berry



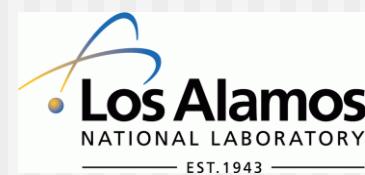
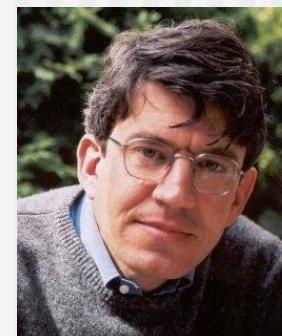
[arXiv:1501.01715](https://arxiv.org/abs/1501.01715)



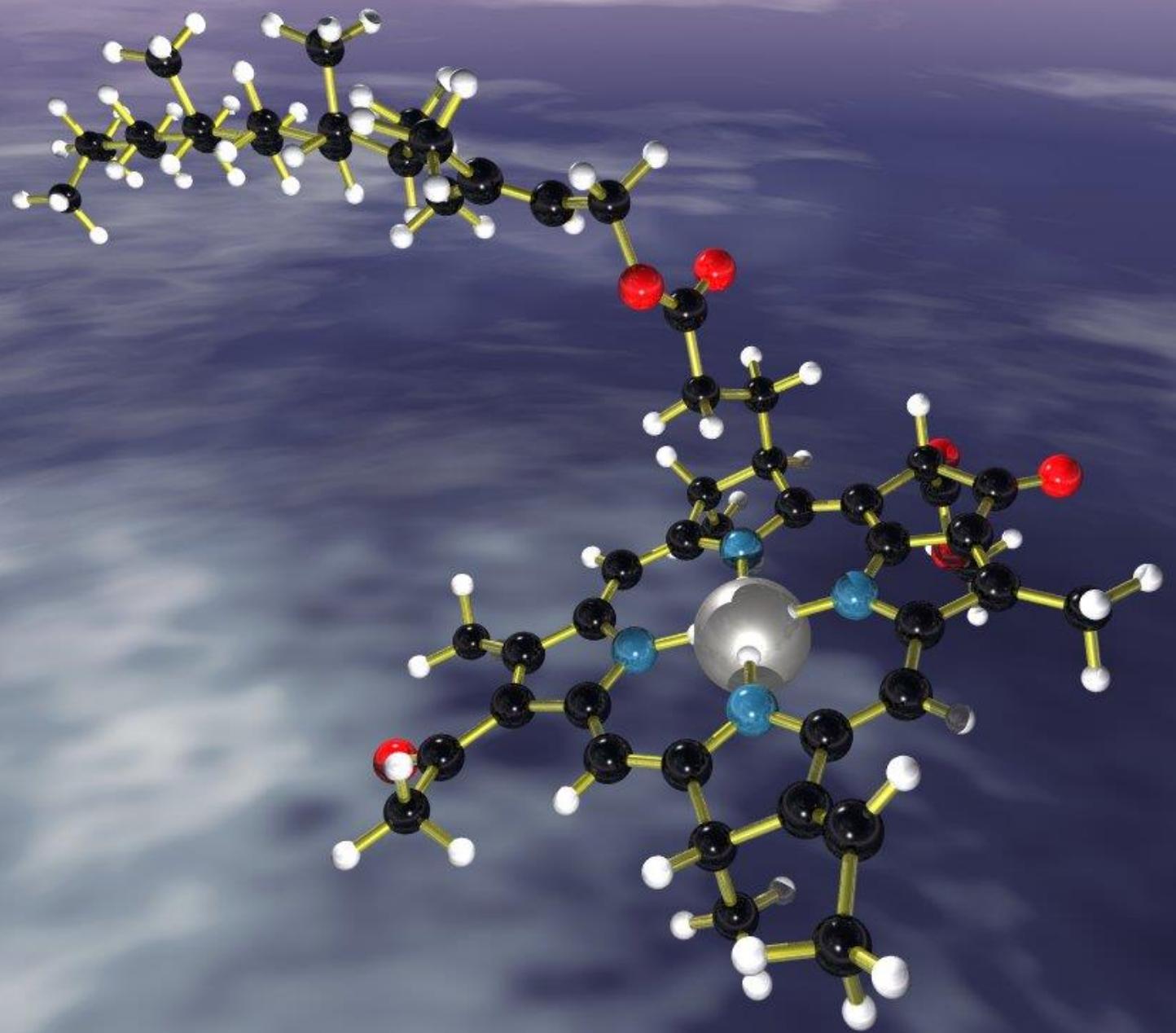
Andrew Childs & Robin Kothari



+ Richard Cleve & Rolando Somma



# Why is this important?

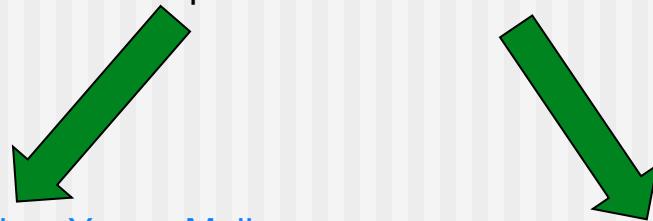


# Why is this important?



Aharonov & Ta-Shma

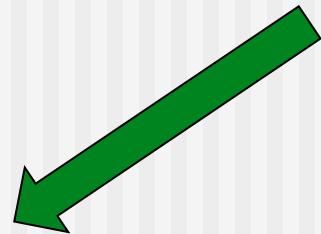
2003: Algorithm to simulate  
sparse Hamiltonians



Childs, Cleve, Jordan, Yonge-Mallo  
2009: Quantum algorithm for  
NAND trees



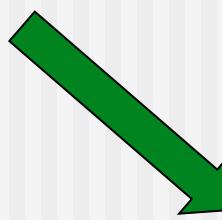
Harrow, Hassidim, Lloyd  
2009: Quantum algorithm to  
solve linear systems



Berry  
2014: Quantum algorithm  
for differential equations



Wang  
2014: Quantum algorithm for  
effective electrical resistance



Clader, Jacobs, Sprouse  
2013: Quantum algorithm for  
scattering problems

# The simulation problem

**Problem:** Given a Hamiltonian  $H$ , simulate

$$\frac{d}{dt'} |\psi(t')\rangle = -iH |\psi(t')\rangle$$

for time  $t$  and error no more than  $\varepsilon$ .

**Inputs:**  $H$ ,  $t$ ,  $\varepsilon$

Parameters of  $H$ :

- $d$  – sparseness
- $N$  – dimension
- $\|H\|$  or  $\|H\|_{\max}$  – norms of the Hamiltonian

# Progression of results

Standard method:

Product formula  
 $O(d^4(\|H\|t)^{1+\delta}/\epsilon^\delta)$

Advanced methods:

Quantum walks  
 $O(d\|H\|_{\max}t/\sqrt{\epsilon})$

Compressed product formula  
or Taylor series  
 $O(d^2\|H\|_{\max}t \times \text{polylog})$

New method:

Combined approach  
 $O(d\|H\|_{\max}t \times \text{polylog})$

# Main results

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Complexity:  $O(d\|H\|_{\max}t \times \text{polylog})$

- Near-linear in  $d$ , like quantum walk approach.
- Polylogarithmic in  $\varepsilon$ , like compressed product formulae.

What is the polylog factor?

Queries:  $\text{polylog} \equiv \frac{\log(\tau/\varepsilon)}{\log \log(\tau/\varepsilon)}$

Gates:  $\text{polylog} \equiv \frac{\log^2(\tau/\varepsilon)}{\log \log(\tau/\varepsilon)}$

$$\tau = d\|H\|_{\max}t$$

Lower bound:  $\Omega(d\|H\|_{\max}t + \text{polylog})$

# Model

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## Sparse Hamiltonians

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & \sqrt{2}i & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1/2 & \cdots & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & -\sqrt{3} + i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & e^{i\pi/7} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & e^{-i\pi/7} & 2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ -\sqrt{2}i & 1/2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & -\sqrt{3} - i & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1/10 \end{pmatrix}$$

- **Query:** An efficient algorithm to determine the positions and values of non-zero entries.

# Standard method

- Use decomposition as

$$H = \sum_{k=1}^M H_k$$



- Divide time into  $r$  intervals and use product formula:

$$e^{-iHt} \approx \left( \prod_{k=1}^M e^{-iH_k t/r} \right)^r$$

# Advanced methods

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1. Compressed product formulae
2. Implementing Taylor series
3. Quantum walks
4. Superposition of quantum walk steps

D. W. Berry, A. M. Childs, R. Cleve, R. Kothari, R. D. Somma, STOC '14; arXiv:1312.1414 (2013).  
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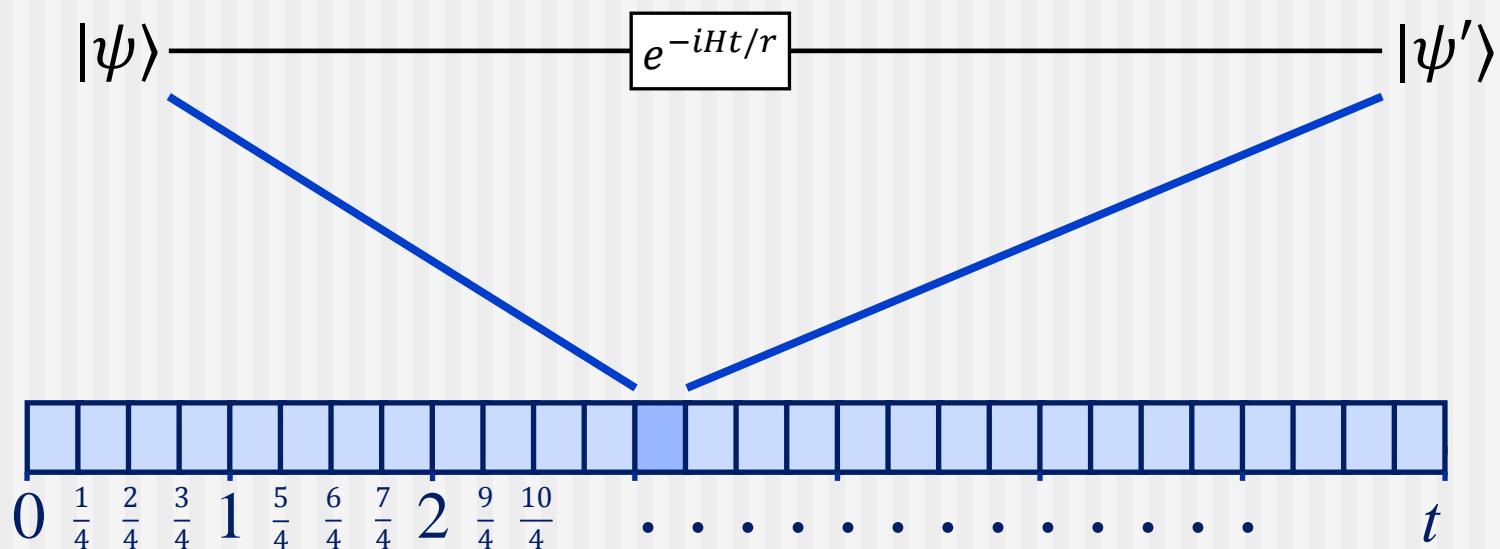
# Compressed product formulae

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Crucial ideas we use in new work:

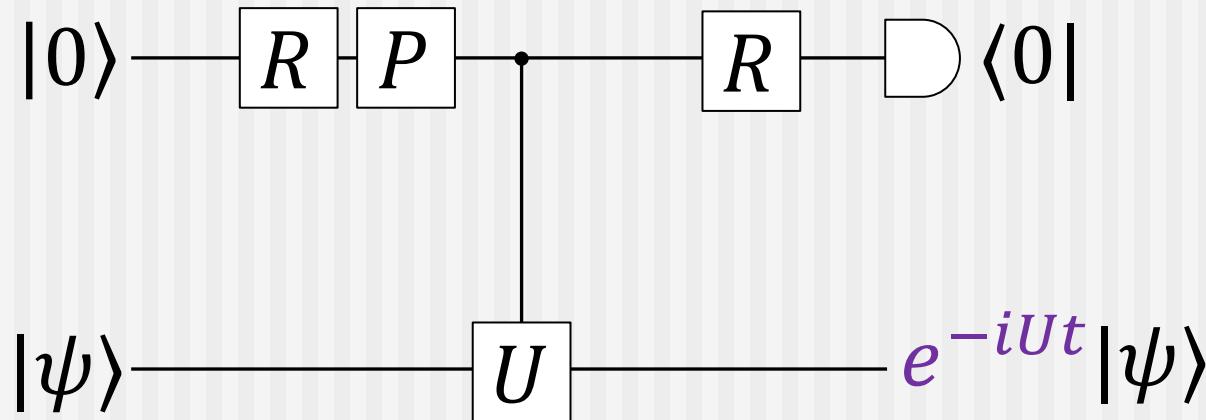
1. Break evolution into segments.
2. In each segment use controlled operations.
3. Apply oblivious amplitude amplification to achieve result deterministically.

# Break into segments

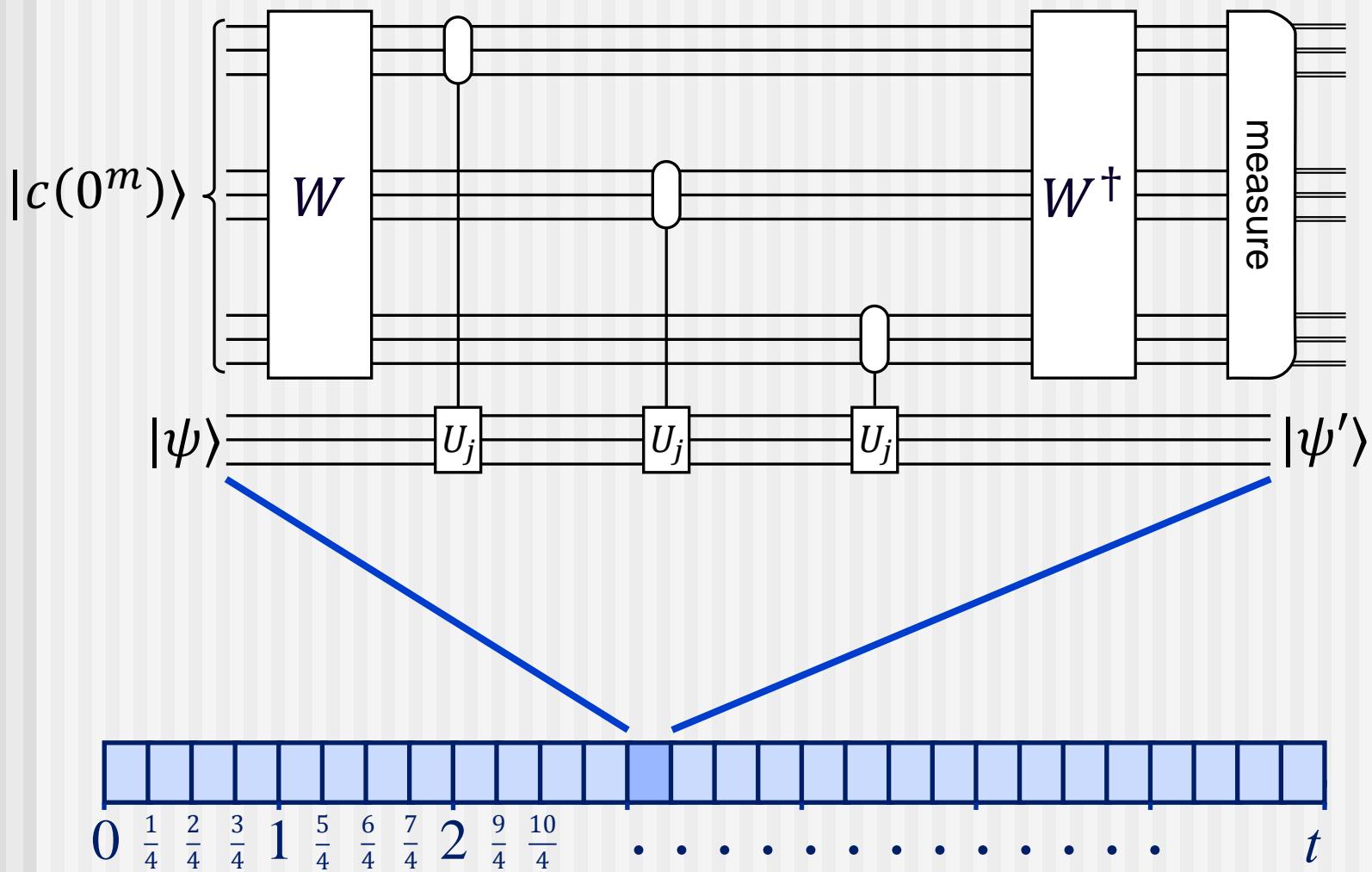


# Evolution using control qubits

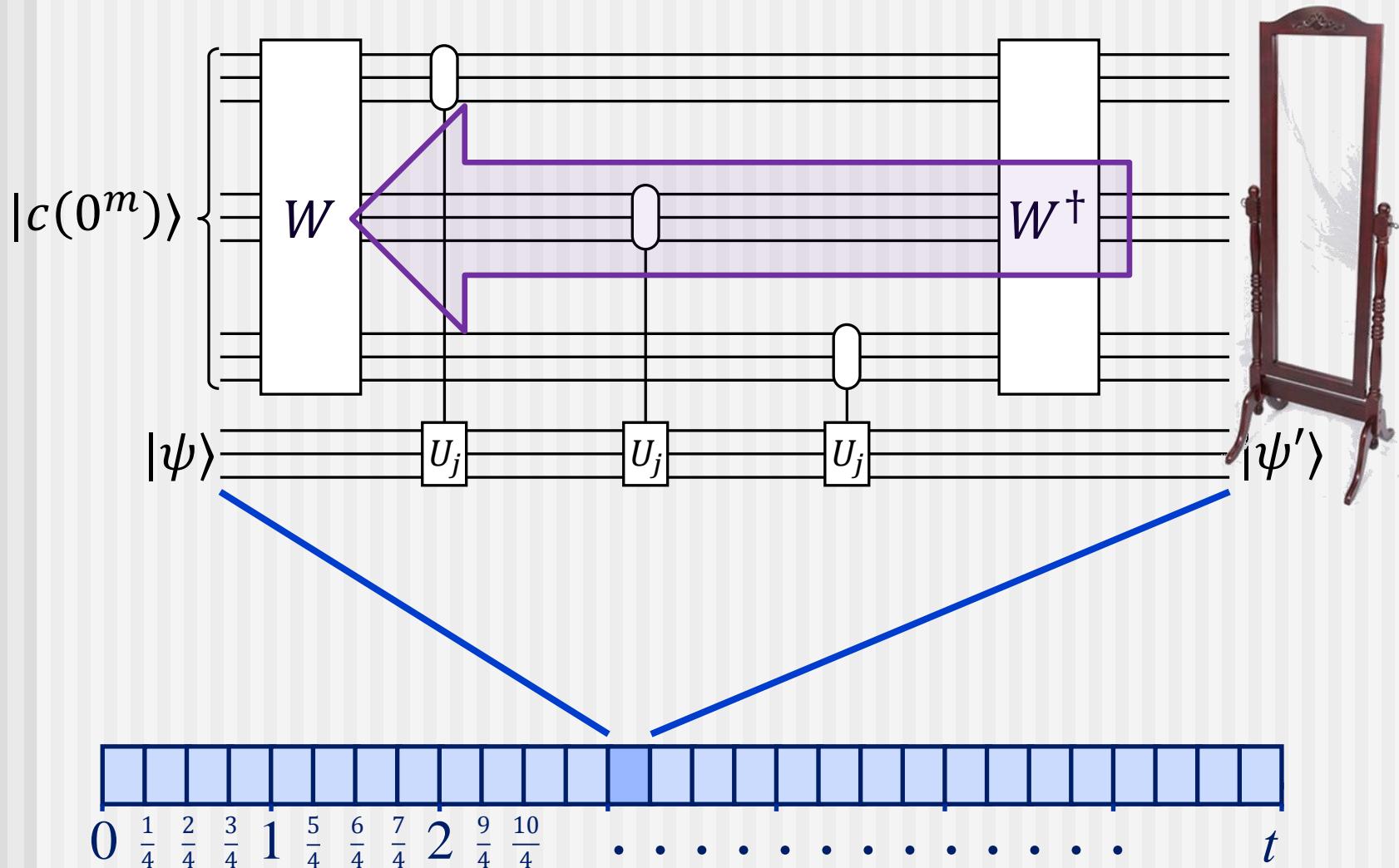
$U$  is self-inverse



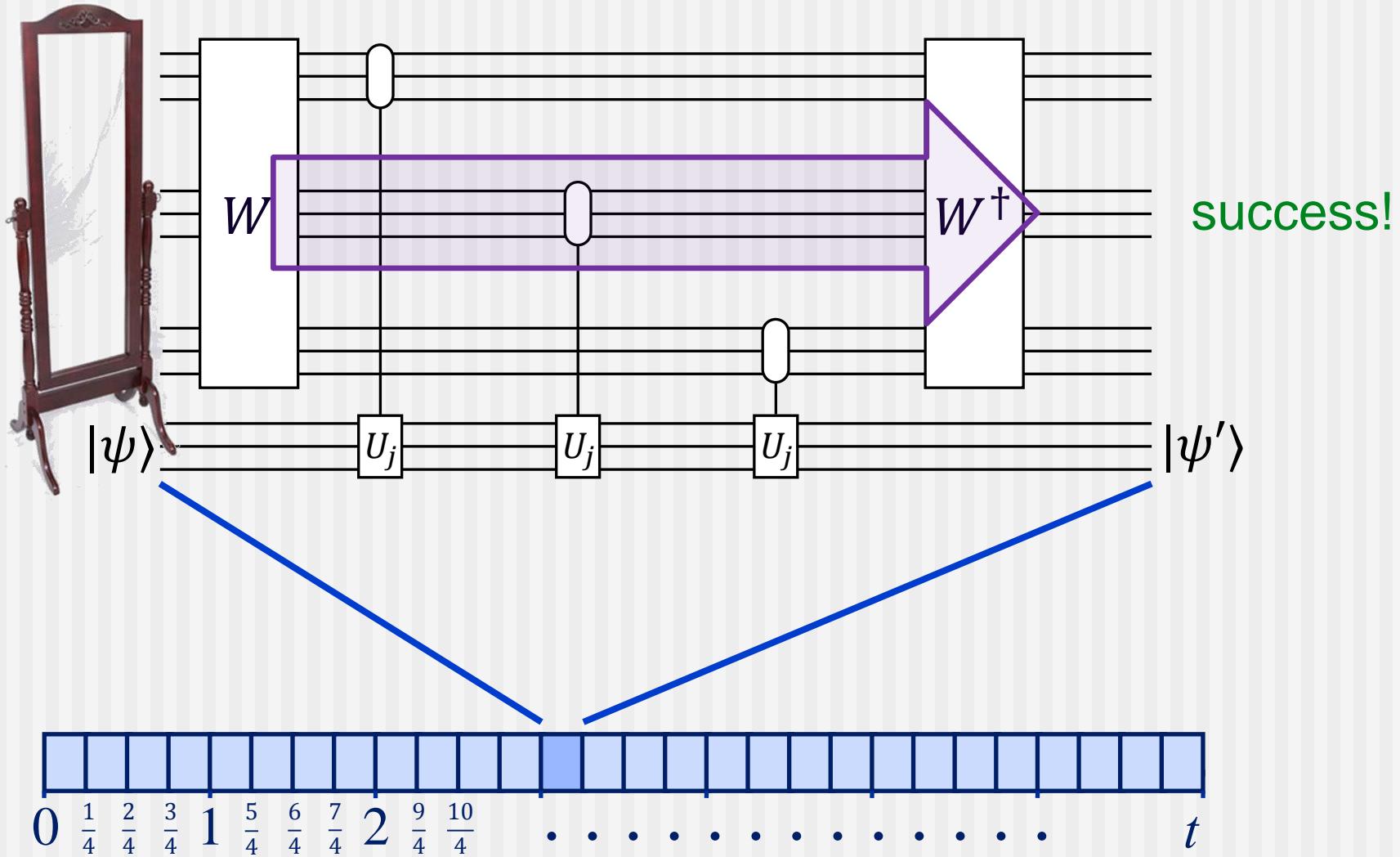
# Oblivious amplitude amplification



# Oblivious amplitude amplification



# Oblivious amplitude amplification



# Advanced methods

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1. Compressed product formulae ✓
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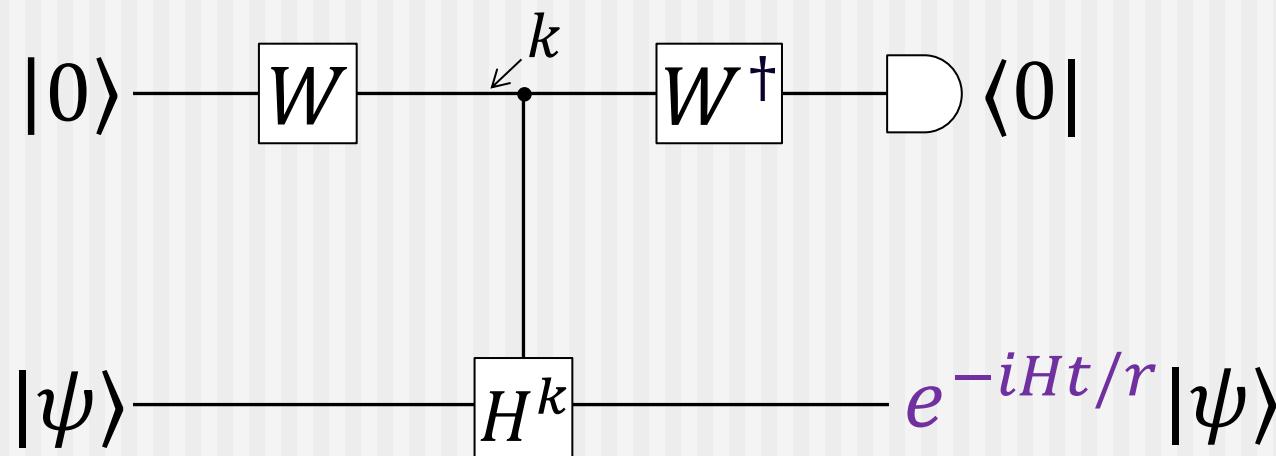
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# Implementing Taylor series

- Break Hamiltonian evolution into  $r$  segments and use

$$e^{-iHt/r} \approx \sum_{k=0}^K \frac{1}{k!} (-iHt/r)^k$$

- Aim to perform using controlled operations.



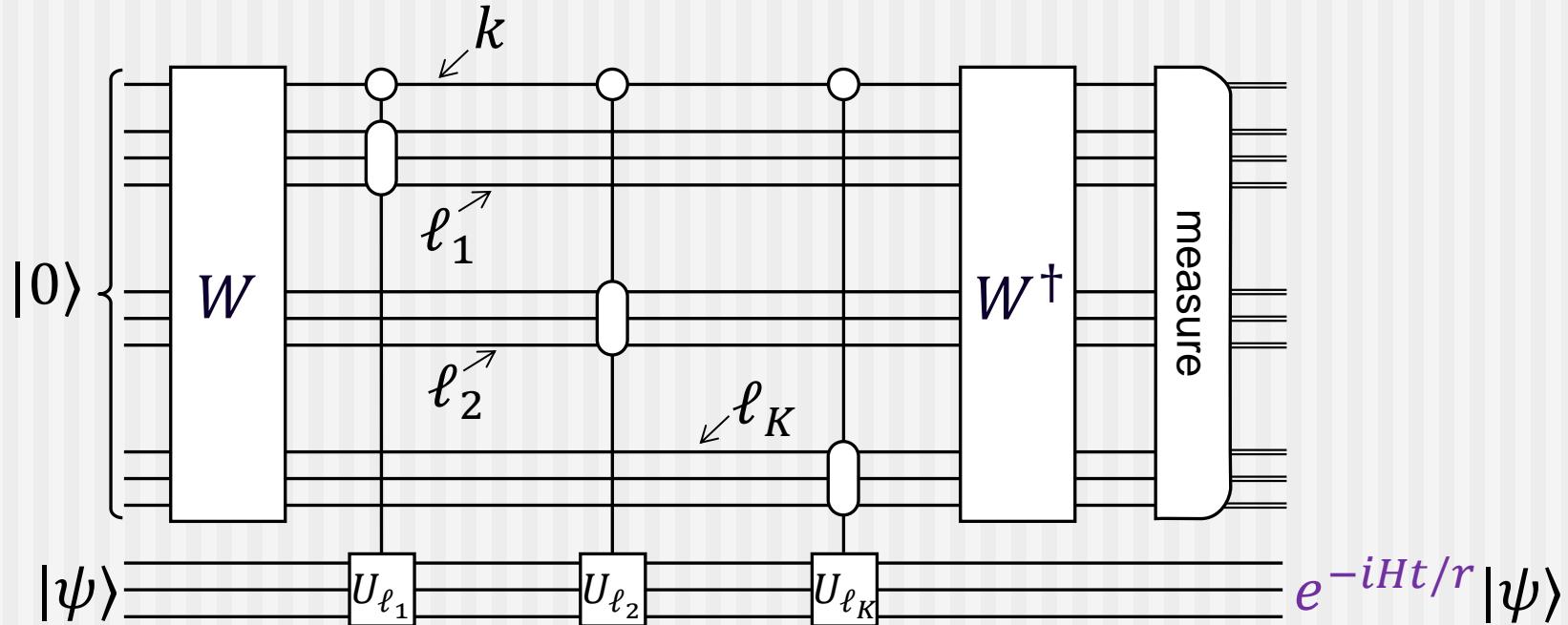
# Implementing Taylor series

- Expand  $H$  as sum of unitaries

$$H \approx \gamma \sum_{\ell=1}^M U_\ell$$

- Exponential is then

$$e^{-iHt/r} \approx \sum_{k=0}^K \sum_{\ell_1=1}^M \sum_{\ell_2=1}^M \dots \sum_{\ell_k=1}^M \frac{(-it/r)^k}{k!} U_{\ell_1} U_{\ell_2} \dots U_{\ell_k}$$



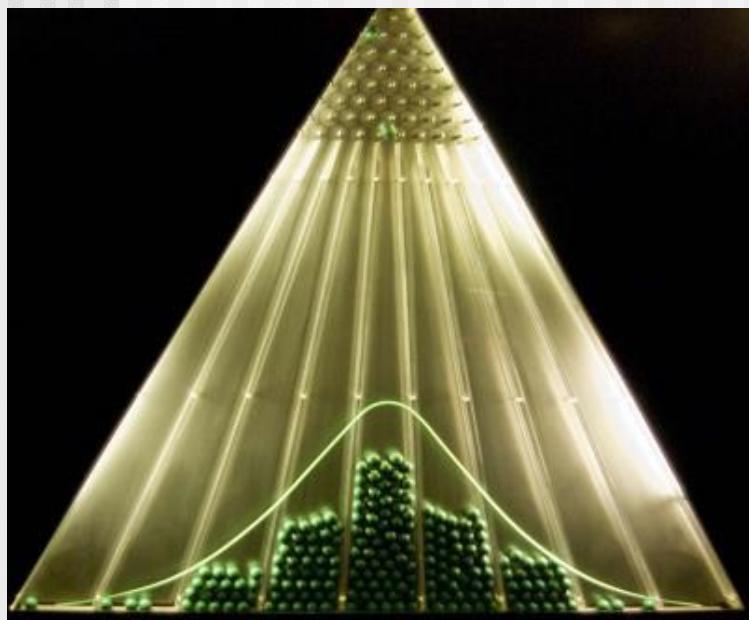
# Advanced methods

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1. Compressed product formulae ✓
2. Implementing Taylor series ✓
3. Quantum walks
4. Superposition of quantum walk steps

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[D. W. Berry, A. M. Childs, R. Kothari, arXiv:1501.01715 \(2015\).](#)

# Quantum walks



## Classical walk

- Position is integer  $x$ .
- Step is map  $x \rightarrow x \pm 1$  with equal probability.

## Standard quantum walk

- Quantum position and coin registers  $|x, c\rangle$ .
- Alternates coin and step operators,  
 $C|x, \pm 1\rangle = (|x, -1\rangle \pm |x, 1\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$   
 $S|x, c\rangle = |x + c, c\rangle$

## Szegedy quantum walk

- Two subsystems with arbitrary dimension.
- Step is controlled reflection.



# Szegedy quantum walk

- Controlled reflections:

$$\sum_j |j\rangle\langle j| \otimes (2|c_j\rangle\langle c_j| - \mathbb{I})$$

controlled on  $j$                               reflect about  $|c_j\rangle$

- After doing this we swap the two systems.
- Step operation is  
$$U = i \times \text{SWAP} \times \text{controlled reflection}$$
- Controlled reflection can be achieved with controlled preparation:

$$T = \sum_j |j\rangle\langle j| \otimes |c_j\rangle$$

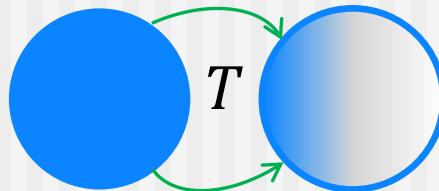


# Szegedy walk for Hamiltonians

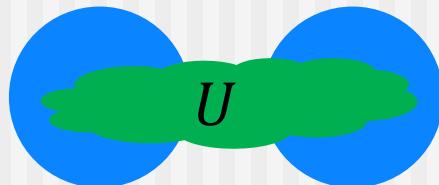


Three part process:

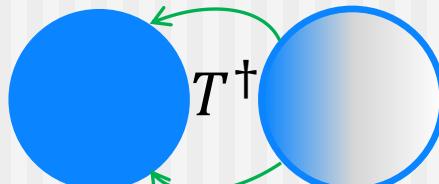
1. Start with state in one of the subsystems, and perform controlled state preparation  $T$ .



2. Perform steps of quantum walk  $U$  to approximate Hamiltonian evolution.



3. Invert controlled state preparation, so final state is in one of the subsystems.



Each  $U$  or  $T$  uses  $O(1)$  calls to  $H$ .

# Eigenvalues of walk

- Hamiltonian  $H$  has eigenvalues  $\lambda$ .
- Step  $U$  has eigenvalues

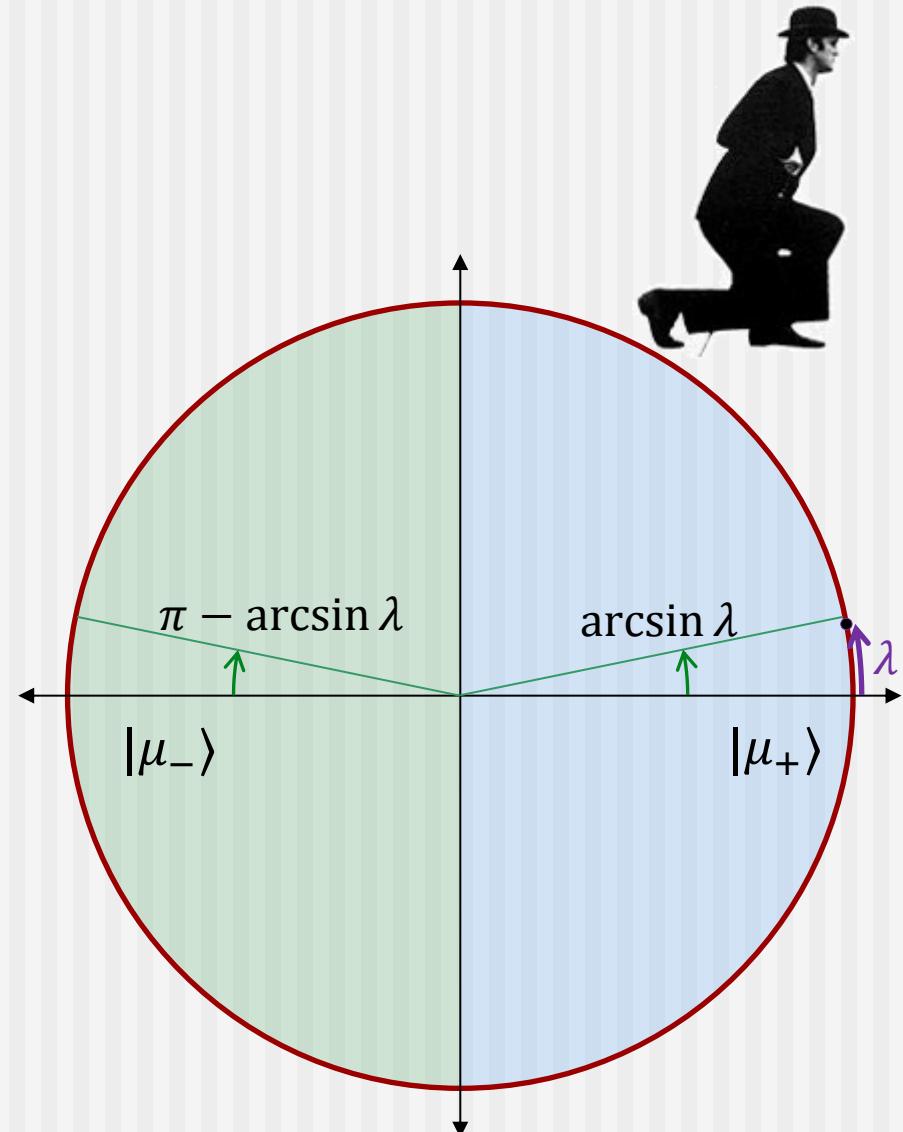
$$\mu_{\pm} = \pm e^{\pm i \arcsin \lambda}$$

- Evolution under the Hamiltonian has eigenvalues

$$e^{-i\lambda t}$$

- Given knowledge of + or - we can correct to  $U_c$  with eigenvalues

$$\mu = e^{-i \arcsin \lambda}$$



# Eigenvalues of walk

- Step  $U_c$  has eigenvalues

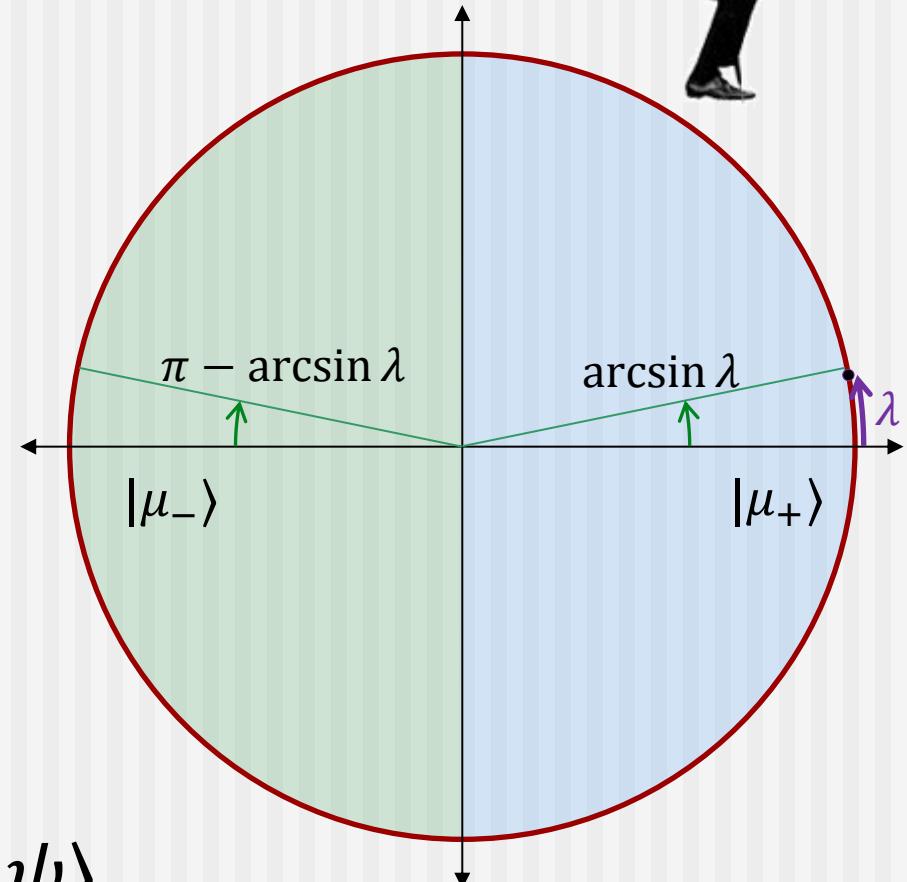
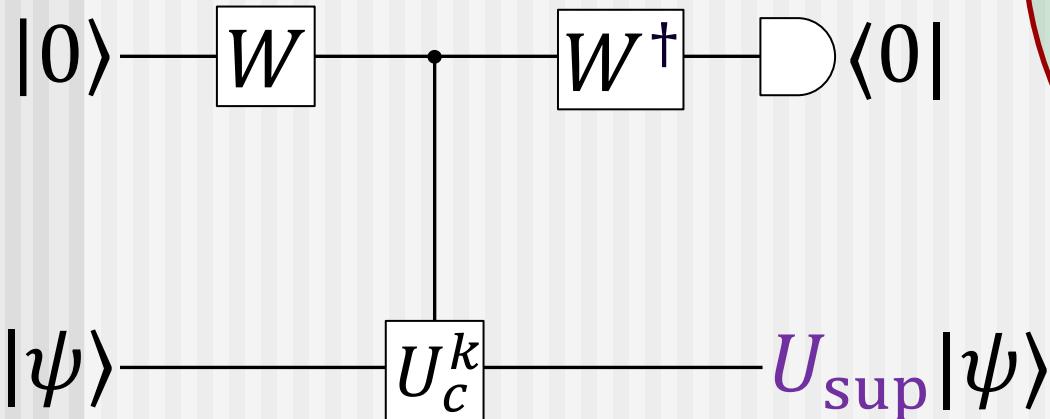
$$\mu = e^{-i \arcsin \lambda}$$

- We aim for

$$e^{-i\lambda t}$$

- Try superposition of operations

$$U_{\text{sup}} = \sum_{k=-K}^K \alpha_k U_c^k$$



# Choosing values for $\alpha_k$

- We aim to find  $\alpha_k$  such that

$$\sum_{k=-K}^K \alpha_k \mu^k \approx e^{-i\lambda t}$$



- The formula for  $\mu$  gives

$$e^{-i\lambda t} = \exp \left[ \frac{t}{2} \left( \mu - \frac{1}{\mu} \right) \right]$$

- But this is the generating function for Bessel functions!

$$\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} J_k(t) \mu^k = \exp \left[ \frac{t}{2} \left( \mu - \frac{1}{\mu} \right) \right]$$

- We can choose  $\alpha_k$  just from Bessel functions.

# Without correcting the step

- We aim to find  $\alpha_k$  such that

$$\sum_{k=-K}^K \alpha_k \mu_{\pm}^k \approx e^{-i\lambda t}$$



- The formula for  $\mu_{\pm}$  gives

$$e^{-i\lambda t} = \exp \left[ -\frac{t}{2} \left( \mu_{\pm} - \frac{1}{\mu_{\pm}} \right) \right]$$

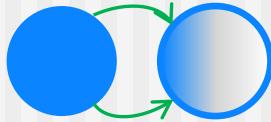
- But this is the generating function for Bessel functions!

$$\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} J_k(-t) \mu_{\pm}^k = \exp \left[ -\frac{t}{2} \left( \mu_{\pm} - \frac{1}{\mu_{\pm}} \right) \right]$$

- We can choose  $\alpha_k$  just from Bessel functions.
- We don't need to distinguish + from – or correct the step!

# The complete algorithm

- Map into doubled Hilbert space.

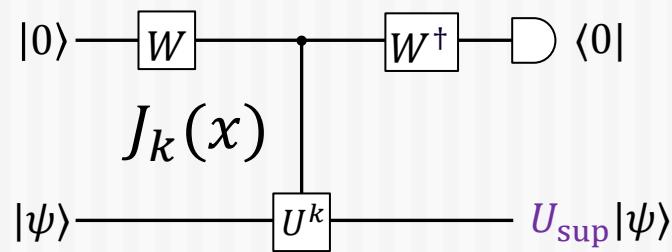


- Divide the time into  $r = d\|H\|_{\max}t$  segments.



- For each segment:

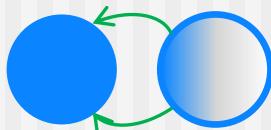
1. Perform the superposition.



2. Use amplitude amplification to obtain success deterministically.



- Map back to original Hilbert space.



Total complexity:  $d\|H\|_{\max}t \times K$



# Choosing the value of $K$

- Bessel function may be bounded as

$$J_k(x) \leq \frac{1}{k!} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^k$$

- Scaling is the same as for Taylor series!

- We can choose  $K$  to be polylog

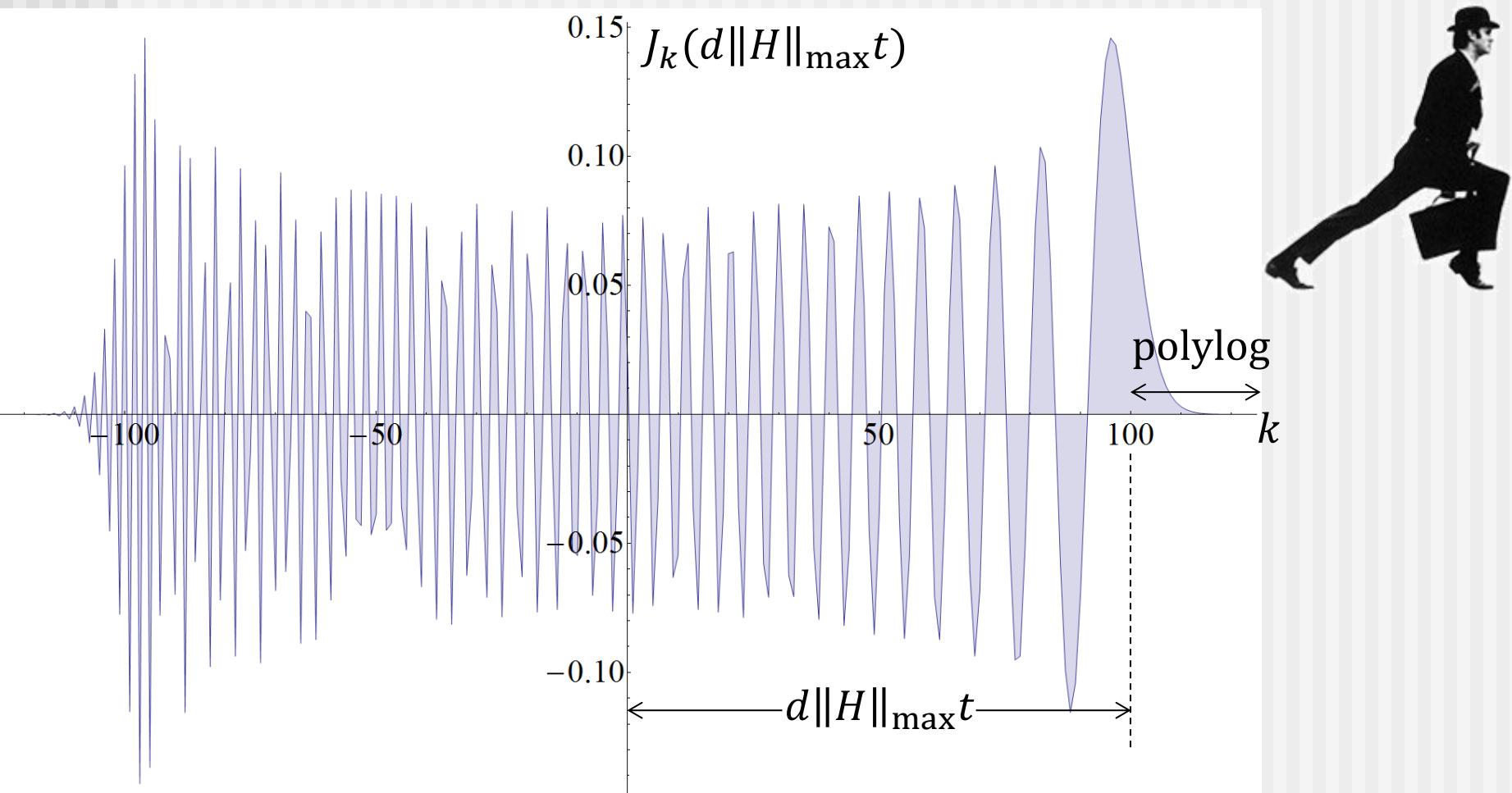
$$K \sim \frac{\log(\tau/\varepsilon)}{\log \log(\tau/\varepsilon)}$$

- Overall scaling is

$$O(d\|H\|_{\max} t \times \text{polylog})$$



# Single-segment approach

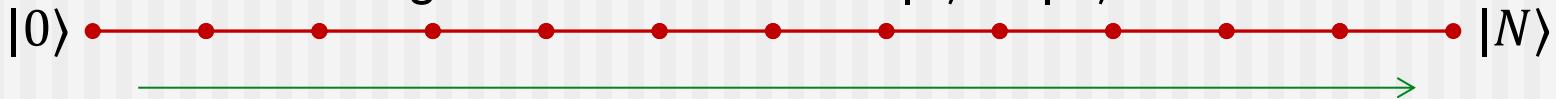


Choosing segment sizes  $\tau^\alpha$  gives complexity

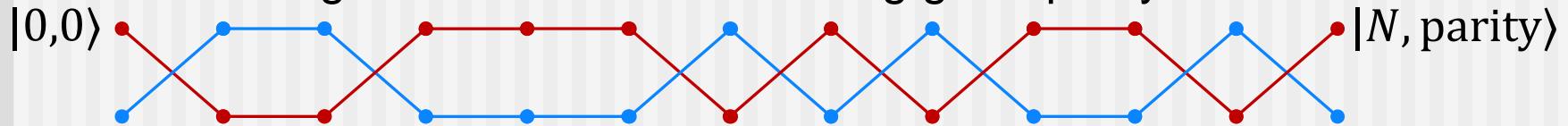
$$\tau^{1+\alpha/2} + \tau^{1-\alpha/2} \log(1/\varepsilon)$$

# Lower bound

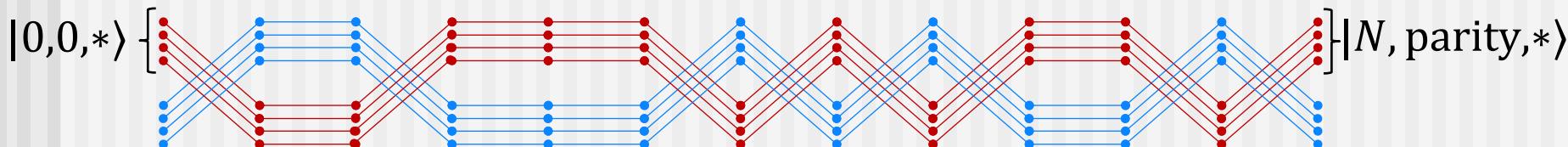
- Computing parity of a bit string  $x_1, \dots, x_N$  has complexity  $\Omega(N)$ .
- Can define a Hamiltonian such that evolving under the Hamiltonian gives transition from  $|0\rangle$  to  $|N\rangle$ .



- Can define a Hamiltonian such that the states are connected according to values of bits. Evolving gives parity.



- $N \propto \|H\|_{\max} t$  gives  $\Omega(\|H\|_{\max} t)$  lower bound.
- Take  $d$  copies of each node, and use superposition.



- $N \propto d \|H\|_{\max} t$  gives  $\Omega(d \|H\|_{\max} t)$  lower bound.

# Conclusions

- We have complexity of sparse Hamiltonian simulation scaling as

$$O(d\|H\|_{\max} t \times \text{polylog})$$

- The lower bound is scaling as

$$\Omega(d\|H\|_{\max} t + \text{polylog})$$

- The method combines the quantum walk and compressed product formula approaches.

arXiv:1501.01715

