Quantum Computing for Nuclear Physics Alessandro Roggero





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The need for ab-initio many-body dynamics in NP

- ν scattering for supernovae explosion and NS cooling
- capture reactions for crust heating and nucleosynthesis

- cross sections for dark-matter discovery and neutrino physics
- transport properties of neutron star matter for X-ray emission



Quantum Computing for NP

Inclusive cross section and the response function

- e c c
- cross section determined by the response function

$$R_O(\omega) = \sum_f \left| \langle f | \hat{O} | \Psi_0 \rangle \right|^2 \delta \left(\omega - E_f + E_0 \right)$$

 $\bullet\,$ excitation operator \hat{O} specifies the vertex

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Extremely challenging classically for strongly correlated quantum systems



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Same structure not only in NP but also condensed matter, chemistry,...



Motta et al. PRA(2016) QMC+Laplace

• neutron scattering of liquid ⁴He



Vitali et al. PRB(2010) QMC+Laplace

Many body dynamics with Integral Transforms

A possible way out with integral transform techniques

Efros (1989), Carlson & Schiavilla (1992), Efros, Leidemann & Orlandini (1994)

$$T(\sigma) = \int d\omega K(\sigma, \omega) R_O(\omega) = \langle 0 | \hat{O}^{\dagger} K \left(\sigma, \hat{H} - E_0 \right) \hat{O} | 0 \rangle$$



PROBLEM: the inversion procedure is often ill-posed, difficult to assign error bars on the reconstructed response function

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Many body dynamics with Integral Transforms II

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The transformation is unitary so the inversion is "easy"

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ADVANTAGE: if we did, we could do more than linear response!

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Quantum Computing and Quantum Simulations

R.Feynman(1982) we can use a controllable quantum system to simulate the behaviour of another quantum system



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First programmable quantum devices are here



Real time dynamics on current generation devices

AR, Li, Carlson, Gupta, Perdue PRD(2020)



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Real time correlators on current generation devices

• First steps toward nuclear response: real-time correlators

$$R(\omega) = \int dt e^{i\omega t} C(t) \quad \text{with} \quad C(t) = \langle \Psi_0 | O(t) O(0) | \Psi_0 \rangle$$

• Can be done "easily" using one additional qubit (Somma, Ortiz et al. (2001))



Baroni, Carlson, Gupta, Li, Perdue, AR PRD(2022)

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expensive to control some systematic errors

 $\langle \widetilde{\Psi_0} | Oe^{-it(H-E_0)}O | \widetilde{\Psi_0} \rangle \neq \langle \widetilde{\Psi_0} | O(t)O(0) | \widetilde{\Psi_0} \rangle \quad \text{if} \quad | \widetilde{\Psi_0} \rangle \neq | \Psi_0 \rangle$

Fourier moments on (more) current generation devices

$$R(\omega) \approx \sum\nolimits_k c_k(\omega) M(t_k) \quad \text{with} \quad M(t) = \langle \Psi_0 | Oe^{-iHt} O | \Psi_0 \rangle$$

Both devices and error mitigation have come a long way in last few years



Kiss, Grossi, AR arXiv:2401.13048 (2024)

Exclusive cross sections in neutrino oscillation experiments





$$P(\nu_{\alpha} \to \nu_{\alpha}) = 1 - \sin^2(2\theta) \sin^2\left(\frac{\Delta m^2 L}{4E_{\nu}}\right)$$

 \bullet need to use measured reaction products to constrain E_{ν} of the event

DUNE, MiniBooNE, T2K, Miner ν a, NO ν A,...





Towards exclusive scattering using quantum computing



- $\bullet\,$ response $R(\omega) \Leftrightarrow$ probability for events at fixed ω
- $\bullet\,$ exclusive x-sec $\rightarrow\,$ events with specific final states

IDEA: prepare the following state on QC $|\Phi
angle = \sum_{\omega} \sqrt{R(\omega)} |\omega
angle \otimes |\psi_{\omega}
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Towards exclusive scattering using quantum computing



 $\bullet~\mbox{exclusive x-sec} \rightarrow \mbox{events}$ with specific final states



- measurement of first register returns ω with probability $R(\omega)!$
- after measurement, the second register contains final states at $\omega!$





AR & Carlson PRC(2019)

q.ω

Towards exclusive scattering using quantum computing



- response $R(\omega) \Leftrightarrow$ probability for events at fixed ω
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IDEA: prepare the following state on QC $|\Phi\rangle = \sum_{\omega} \sqrt{R(\omega)} |\omega\rangle \otimes |\psi_{\omega}\rangle$

- measurement of first register returns ω with probability $R(\omega)!$
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Difficult to prepare $|\Phi\rangle$ but we can prepare instead the following state

$$\left|\Phi_{\Delta}\right\rangle = \sum_{\omega} \sqrt{R_{\Delta}(\omega)} \left|\omega\right\rangle \otimes \left|\psi_{\omega}\right\rangle$$

with R_{Δ} an integral transform of the response with energy resolution Δ



AR & Carlson PRC(2019), AR PRA(2020)



Minimal setup

- 10^3 lattice with spacing $a\approx 1-2fm$
- 4 spin-isospin states for each particle

 \longrightarrow we need at least 4000 orbitals

- for energy resolution $\Delta\omega$ we need total evolution time $T\approx 1/\Delta\omega$
- $10^{11} 10^{12}$ operations and ≈ 4000 qubits [AR et al. PRD (2020)] • $10^9 - 10^{11}$ operations and ≈ 6000 qubits [J.Watson et al. arXiv:2312.05344]



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• $10^7 - 10^9$ operations and pprox 150 - 300 qubits [AR, Spagnoli, Lissoni (in prep.)]

Cost estimates for realistic response in medium mass nuclei

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We need $\approx 10^2-10^4$ qubits and push the gate buttons $\approx 10^7-10^{12}$ times



- Still possible to optimize further (bounds are loose)
- Insights for classical methods could come before we have a large QC!

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Nuclear dynamics with quantum (inspired) computing?

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We can approximate expectation values like

 $\langle \Phi_0 | P_n(H) | \Phi_0 \rangle$

using classical many-body methods like Coupled Cluster



Sobczyk, AR PRE(2022)

Spin response of bulk neutron matter



Dynamic spin structure factor
$$S_{\sigma}(\vec{q},\omega) = \int dt e^{i\omega t} \langle \vec{s}(t,\vec{q}) \cdot \vec{s}(0,\vec{q})
angle$$

 νN scattering and ν pair-production emissivity dominated by $S_{\sigma}(\vec{q},\omega)$ for small wave-lenghts $|\vec{q}| \to 0$

Ab-initio calculation of $|\vec{q}| = 0$ response with up to N = 114 neutrons and realistic nuclear interactions Sobczyk, Jiang, AR arXiv:2407.20986



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Summary & Conclusions

- Advances in theory and computing are opening the way to ab-initio calculation of equilibrium properties in the medium-mass region
- New ideas are needed to study nuclear dynamics in large open-shell nuclei, exclusive processes and out-of-equilibrium dynamic
- Quantum Computing has the potential to bridge this gap and increasingly better experimental test-beds are being built
- Error mitigation techniques will be critical to make the best use of these noisy near-term devices
- Early impact of QC on nuclear physics might come as insights into classical many-body methods









image from Chandra collab.

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- Weiguang Jiang (Mainz)
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- Chiara Lissoni (Trento)
- Michele Grossi (CERN)
- Oriel Kiss (CERN)









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