

Universal witnesses of vanishing energy gap

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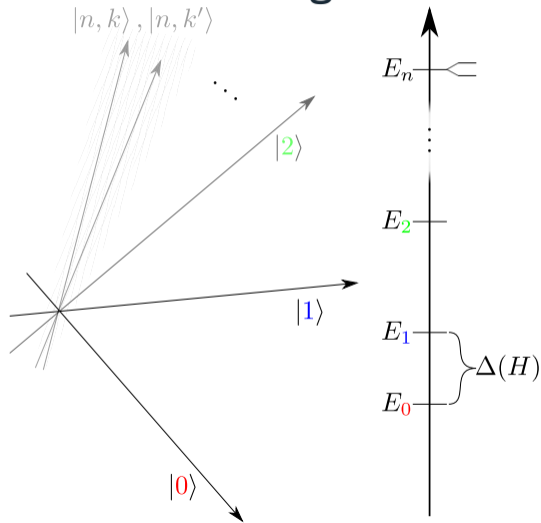
Uniwersytet Jagielloński
June 8, 2020



Plan

- What is spectral gap and what is it useful for?
- Geometric approach: numerical range.
- Detection in XX model.

Spectral gap $\Delta(H)$ is the difference of energies of two lowest eigenstates of H



H – arbitrary Hamiltonian.

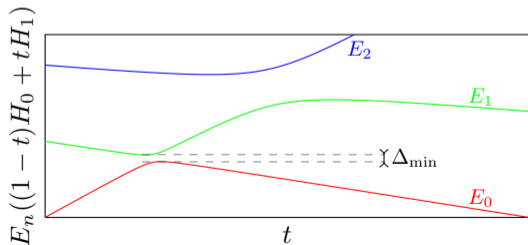
$$H |n, k\rangle = E_n |n, k\rangle$$

Spectral gap is $\Delta(H) = E_1 - E_0$,
excluding degeneracy.

Spectral gap $\Delta(H)$ has critical importance in some fields

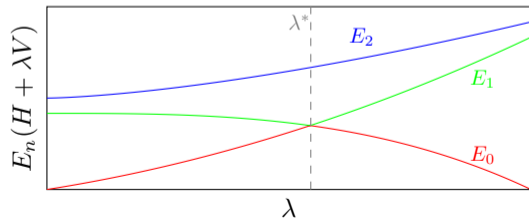
Speed limit of adiabatic quantum computers

To obtain $|0 : H_1\rangle$, start with $|0 : H_0\rangle$, evolve with $H(t) = (1 - \frac{t}{T})H_0 + \frac{t}{T}H_1$. Total time $T \propto \Delta_{\min}^{-3}$.



Indicator of quantum phase transitions

- $\Delta(H) \rightarrow 0$ – change of ground state structure

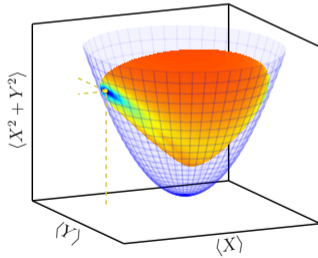


Numerical ranges help in understanding QM

$$W(H_1, \dots, H_k) = \{(\langle \psi | H_1 | \psi \rangle, \dots, \langle \psi | H_k | \psi \rangle) : \|\psi\| = 1\}$$

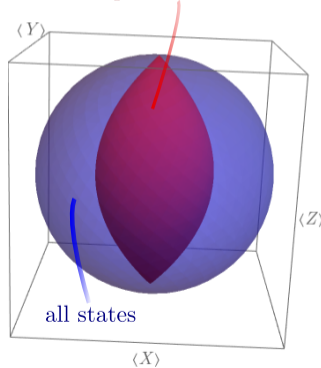
Range of possible expectation values of observables or Hamiltonians.
(sometimes with density operators instead of pure states)

Uncertainty relations

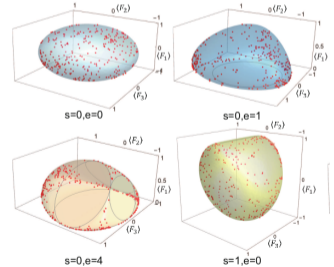


Entanglement structure

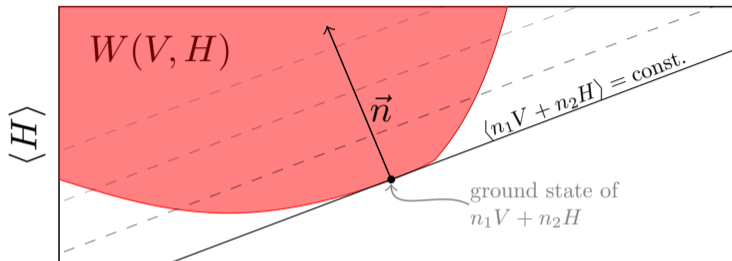
product states



Phase transitions



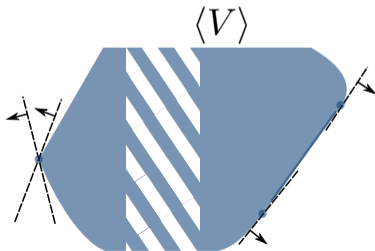
Features of $\partial W(V, H)$ determine properties of H, V



Entire dynamics of $H + \lambda V$ is encoded in the boundary $\partial W(V, H)$.

Cusp

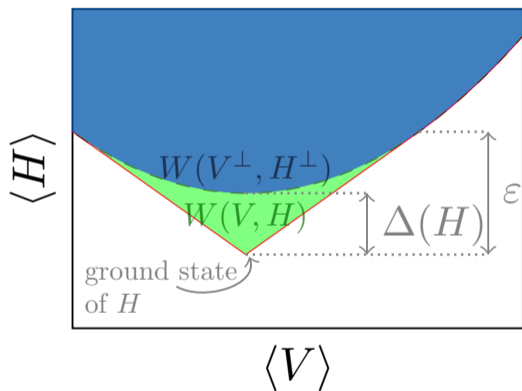
ground state for many \vec{n}
 \implies eigenstate of H and V .



Segment

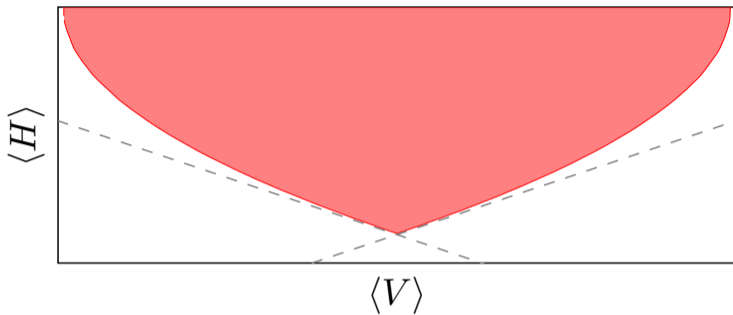
discontinuous change of ground state of $H + \lambda V$.

A certain kind of cusp in $\partial W(V, H)$ proves $\Delta(H) = 0$



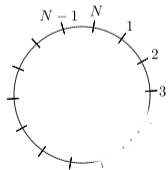
- Cusp \implies ground state of H is an eigenstate of V .
- $H = H_{(0)} \oplus H^\perp, V = V_{(0)} \oplus V^\perp$.
- $W(V, H) = \text{conv } W(V^\perp, H^\perp) \cup \text{cusp}$
- Convex hull of separated sets \implies segments of height $\epsilon \geq \Delta(H)$.
- $\epsilon = 0 \implies$ sets not separated, $E_1 \rightarrow E_0$.

Anticipated behavior is visible in 1-D XX model



Cyclic
boundary
conditions:

$$\sigma_{N+1} = \sigma_1.$$

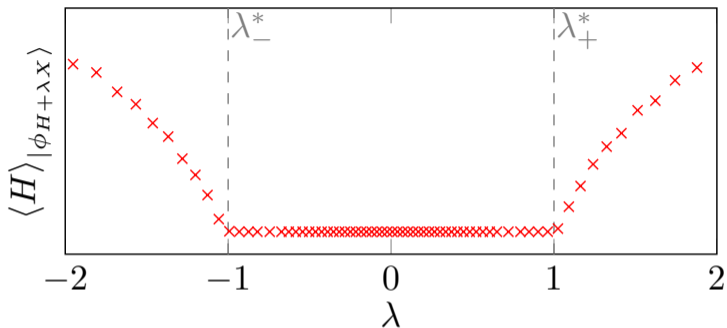


$$H = \sum_{n=1}^N \sigma_n^{(x)} \sigma_{n+1}^{(x)} + \sigma_n^{(y)} \sigma_{n+1}^{(y)},$$

$$V = \sum_{n=1}^N \sigma_{n-1}^{(x)} \sigma_n^{(z)} \sigma_{n+1}^{(y)} - \sigma_{n-1}^{(y)} \sigma_n^{(z)} \sigma_{n+1}^{(x)}.$$

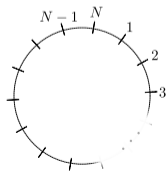
Numerical
results (MPS):
 $N \approx 150$.

Anticipated behavior is visible in 1-D XX model



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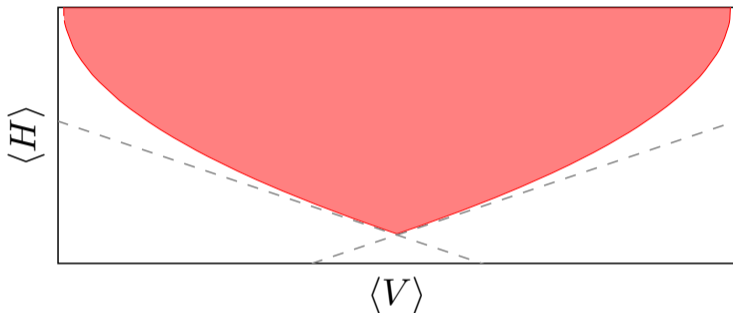


$$H = \sum_{n=1}^N \sigma_n^{(x)} \sigma_{n+1}^{(x)} + \sigma_n^{(y)} \sigma_{n+1}^{(y)},$$

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Main result: It is possible to verify $\Delta(H) = 0$ in XX model.



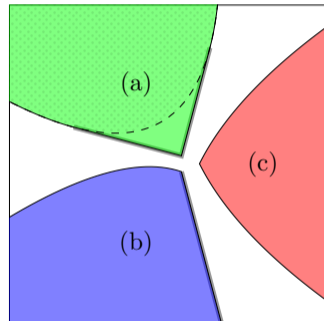
The cusp has no connecting segments $\implies \Delta(H) = 0!$

$$H = \sum_{n=1}^N \sigma_n^{(x)} \sigma_{n+1}^{(x)} + \sigma_n^{(y)} \sigma_{n+1}^{(y)},$$

$$V = \sum_{n=1}^N \sigma_{n-1}^{(x)} \sigma_n^{(z)} \sigma_{n+1}^{(y)} - \sigma_{n-1}^{(y)} \sigma_n^{(z)} \sigma_{n+1}^{(x)}.$$

Conclusions

- Geometry of quantum states aids in understanding of phase transitions and related phenomena.
- In particular, it is possible to prove that a certain hamiltonian H has vanishing energy gap $\Delta(H) = 0$.
- "Geometric proof" is not a completely theoretical construct: it works for XX model!



Bibliography

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3. Jie Xie et al. "*Observing geometry of quantum states in a three-level system.*" arXiv preprint arXiv:1909.05463 (2019).
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