Introduction to Tensor Networks Part 2

Laurens Vanderstraeten University of Ghent

The MPS manifold and its tangent space

Variational optimization

Time-dependent variational principle

Quasiparticle excitations

Outlook: PEPS

The MPS manifold and its tangent space

MPS/PEPS constitute a (non-linear) variational manifold $\,\mathcal{M}_{\rm MPS}$







We can interpret a tangent vector as a local perturbation on a strongly-correlated background state

this perturbation is non-extensive

carries the notion of a quasiparticle

tangent space parametrizes the low-energy subspace on a given reference state

General idea: In order to capture low-energy dynamics, we have to leave the **MPS/PEPS** manifold

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Variational optimization of MPS

Variational optimization of MPS tensor amounts to

 $\min_{A} \frac{\langle \Psi(A) | H | \Psi(A) \rangle}{\langle \Psi(A) | \Psi(A) \rangle}.$

find a path through the manifold towards the variational optimum



is provided by the energy gradient

Variational optimization of MPS

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> find a path through the manifold towards the variational optimum

The correct direction on the tangent space is provided by the energy gradient



$$A_{i+1} = A_i - \alpha g$$

conjugate gradient, quasi-newton, hessian-based methods

numerical optimization on the manifold





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Time-dependent variational principle

The ground state of a given model Hamiltonian is only the starting point



What about time evolution?



Straightforward option is using TEBD

Time-dependent variational principle

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make MPS tensor time-dependent |\Psi(A(t))\rangle
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How do we arrive at a flow equation that is optimal in a variational way?



project time evolution onto the tangent space

$$i\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\left|\Psi(A(t))\right\rangle = P_{\left|\Psi(A(t))\right\rangle}H\left|\Psi(A(t))\right\rangle$$

The linear Schrödinger equation in full Hilbert space is transformed into a highly non-linear differential equation for the MPS tensor

 $\dot{A}(t) = f(A(t))$

integrate flow equation numerically (Euler, Runge-Kutta, ...)



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Quasiparticle excitations

We want to target isolated branches in the excitation spectrum of generic spin chains

we can think of these excitations as quasiparticles on a strongly-correlated background state



Tangent space ansatz for elementary excitations with momentum



Optimize for tensor B

Quasiparticle excitations

example: spin-1 Heisenberg chain

We want to target isolated branches in the excitation spectrum of generic spin chains





example: spin-1/2 ladder



Quasiparticle excitations

Confinement of spinons in quasi-1D Heisenberg magnet $(SrCo_2V_2O_8)$











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Outlook: PEPS

MPS construction is easily generalized to two dimensions



What about algorithms for PEPS?

Problem 1: Computing the norm of a PEPS is a hard problem



Problem 2: There are no canonical forms for PEPS



there is no easy algorithm for truncating the bond in a PEPS



fixed-point algorithms are a lot more complicated

Full-update optimization: variation of iTEBD algorithm

Variational optimization ~ tangent-space method



BUT: PEPS are a lot richer than MPS



PEPS can represent critical states

PEPS have topological properties





PEPS can host anyonic excitations



PEPS simulations are competitive with other state-of-the-art numerical methods on challenging problems in two-dimensions





P. Corboz (2016)