

# Using AdS/CFT for better Quantum Computing

Cliff Sun



# Introduction



- **3<sup>rd</sup> year undergraduate in physics and math**
- **Fun fact:** I once self-studied Mario Kart to beat everybody in my friend group
- **Fun fact:** I've eaten over 97 pieces of sushi in one sitting



# Where I've been



Theoretical Low-Dimensional  
Superconductivity @ UIUC



Quantum Algorithms  
@ Johns Hopkins APL



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**WARNING**



**THIS TALK IS NOT RIGOROUS**

**I just want to spark interest in this field**



**Grainger College  
of Engineering**

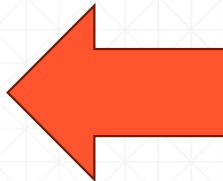
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# An Ambitious Agenda

1. The themes of AdS/CFT
2. What are Tensor Networks?
3. Holographic Tensor Networks
4. Holographic Quantum Algorithms



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1. The themes of AdS/CFT 
2. What are Tensor Networks?
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# A Brief Motivation into AdS/CFT

Entropy  $\sim$  Information of a system

1974: Bekenstein and Hawking derived

Black Hole Entropy  $\propto$  Area



# A Brief Motivation into AdS/CFT

Black Hole Entropy  $\propto$  Area

Information of entire system described by  
“holographic” projection



## A Question

Black holes aren't anything THAT special...

**Q:** Is there a relationship between Bulk Information and Boundary information?

**A:** Yes!



# AdS/CFT

**1997:** Juan Maldacena proposed equivalence between 5 dim Anti-de Sitter spacetime and 4 dim supersymmetric Yangs-Millis Theory (Type IIB String Theory)

- 1.) Anti-de Sitter (AdS) Space: 1 of 3 solutions to GR equations
- 2.) 4-d Yangs-Millis Theory: A conformal field theory (CFT), invariant under rotation but not length preserving transformations



# AdS/CFT

**1997:** Juan Maldacena proposed equivalence between 5 dim Anti-de Sitter spacetime and 4 dim supersymmetric Yangs-Millis Theory (Type IIB String Theory)



# AdS/CFT

**1997:** Juan Maldacena proposed the first instance of

**Bulk Information  $\Leftrightarrow$  Boundary Information**

Called AdS/CFT, or the Holographic Principle



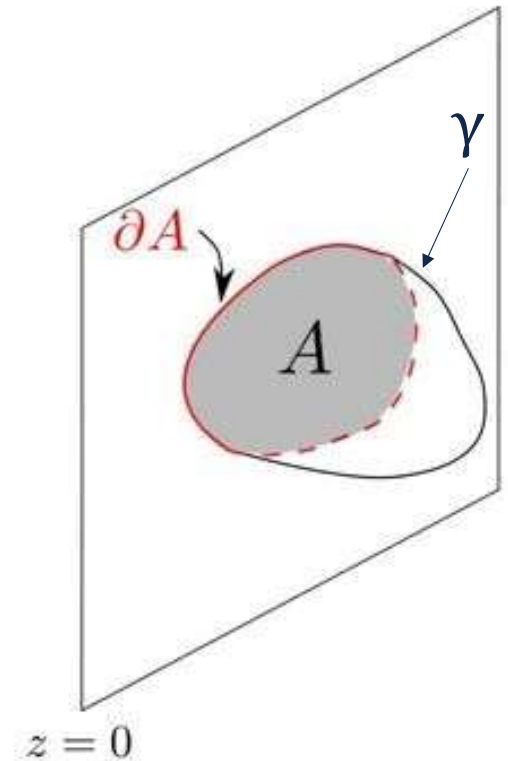
## Connection to Quantum Information

2006: Ryu and Takayanagi proposed

Entanglement Entropy of  $A$  *in CFT*

$\propto$  Area of Curve ( $\gamma$ ) *in AdS*

First time AdS/CFT in quantum info



# An Ambitious Agenda

~~1. The themes of AdS/CFT~~

**2. What are Tensor Networks?** 

3. Holographic Tensor Networks

4. Holographic Quantum Algorithms

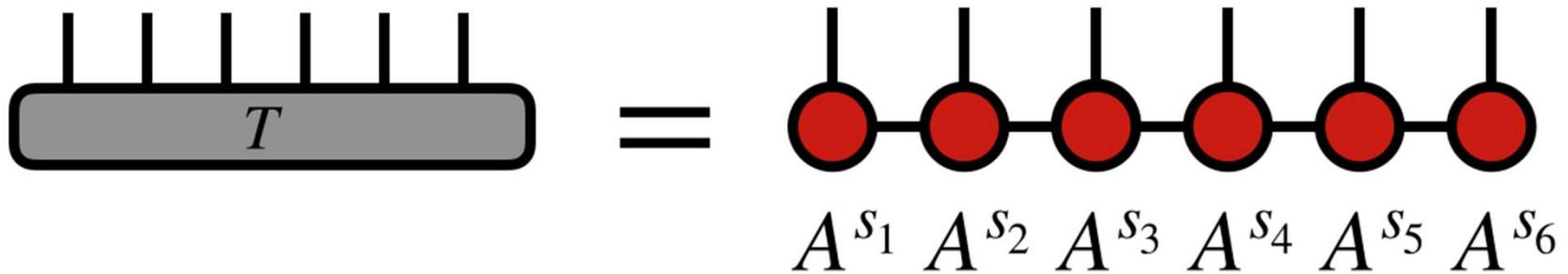


# A Brief Introduction into Tensors

$$T_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n}$$

$$= A_{\alpha_1}^{i_1} A_{\alpha_1, \alpha_2}^{i_2} \dots A_{\alpha_{n-1}, \alpha_n}^{i_n}$$

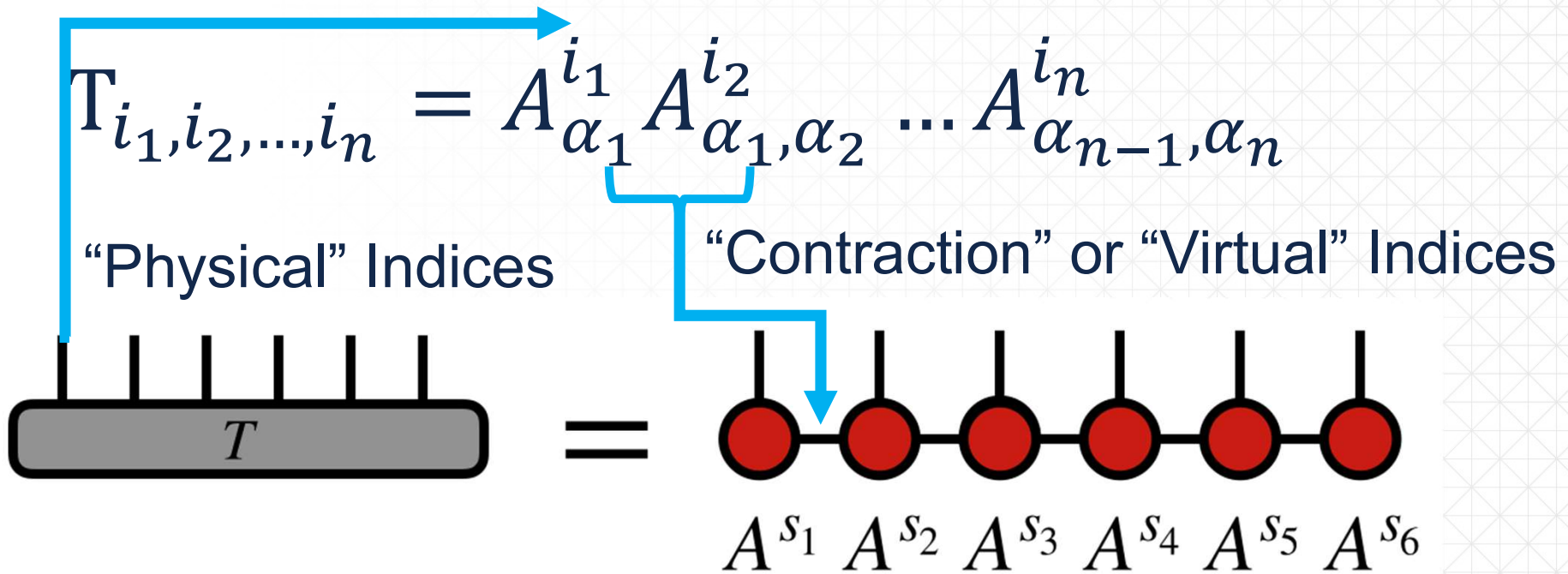
“1-D Tensor Decomposition” or “Matrix Product States”



Also, a graph!

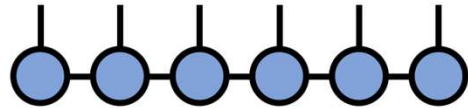


# A Brief Introduction into Tensors

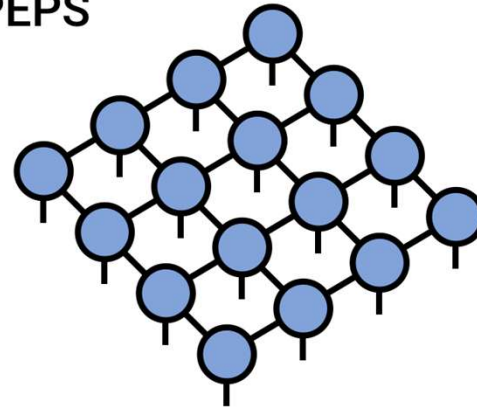


# A Brief Introduction into Tensors

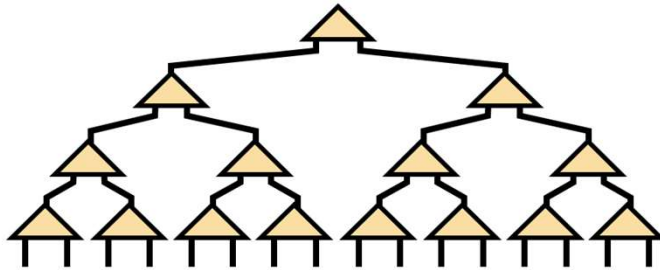
Matrix Product State /  
Tensor Train



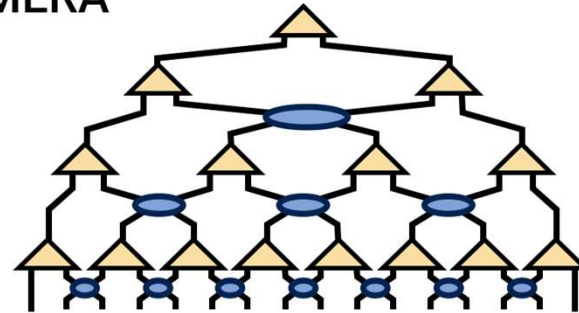
PEPS



Tree Tensor Network /  
Hierarchical Tucker

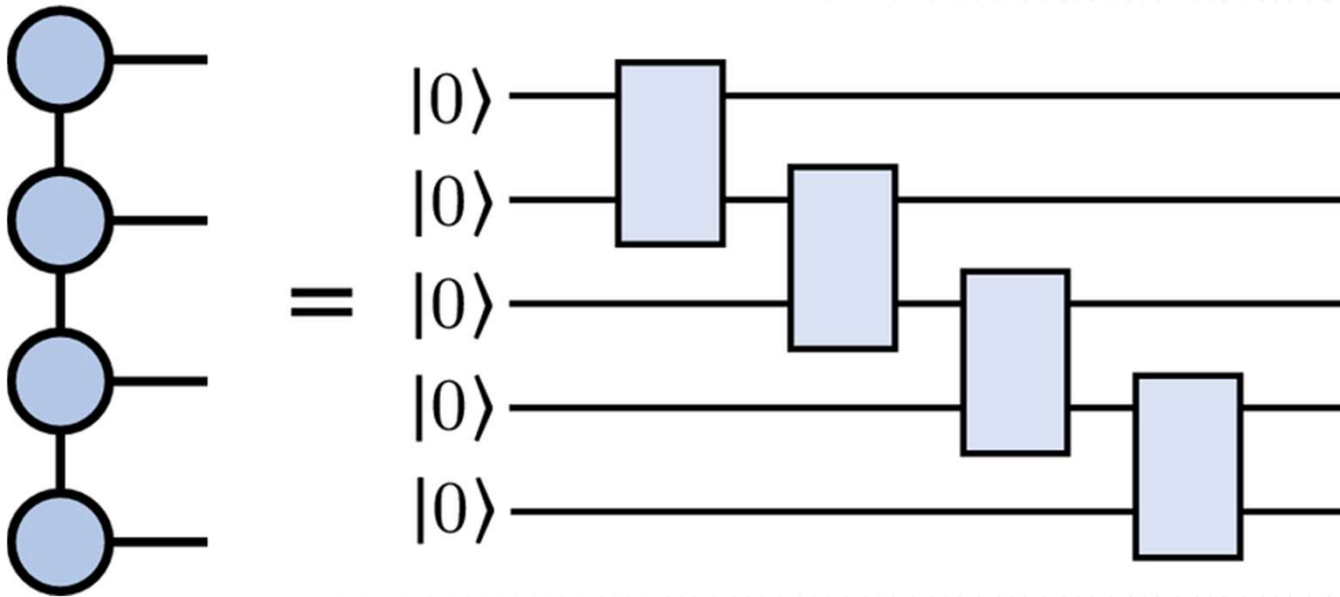


MERA



# A Brief Introduction into Tensors

You can also perform operations:



# A Brief Introduction into Tensors

$$T_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n} = A_{\alpha_1}^{i_1} A_{\alpha_1, \alpha_2}^{i_2} \dots A_{\alpha_{n-1}, \alpha_n}^{i_n}$$

Definitions:

$$\chi = \max(\alpha_i)$$

“**Bond Dimension**”, encodes correlations



# Applications

Tensor Networks have applications in:

1. Quantum Many-Body Simulations
2. Machine Learning
3. Quantum Algorithms (QML, Tomography, etc.)

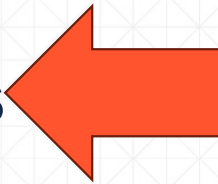


# An Ambitious Agenda

~~1. The themes of AdS/CFT~~

~~2. What are Tensor Networks?~~

**3. Holographic Tensor Networks**



4. Holographic Quantum Algorithms



# Tensor Networks and Holography

Tensor Networks have an Entanglement Entropy

Bound:

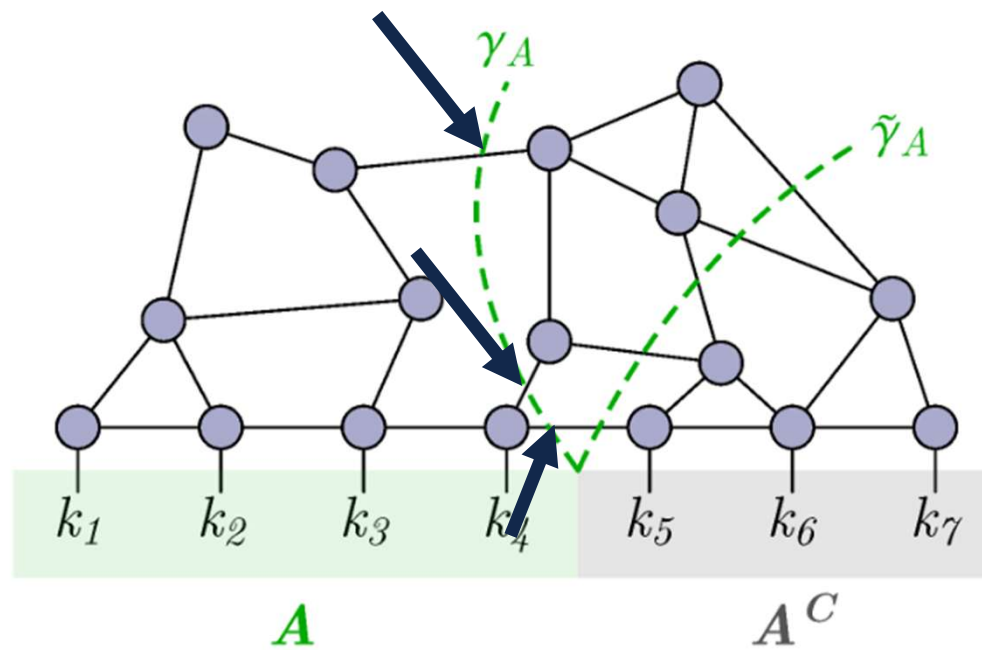
$$S(A) \leq (\# \text{ bonds cut}) \sum \chi$$

What does this mean?



# Tensor Networks and Holography

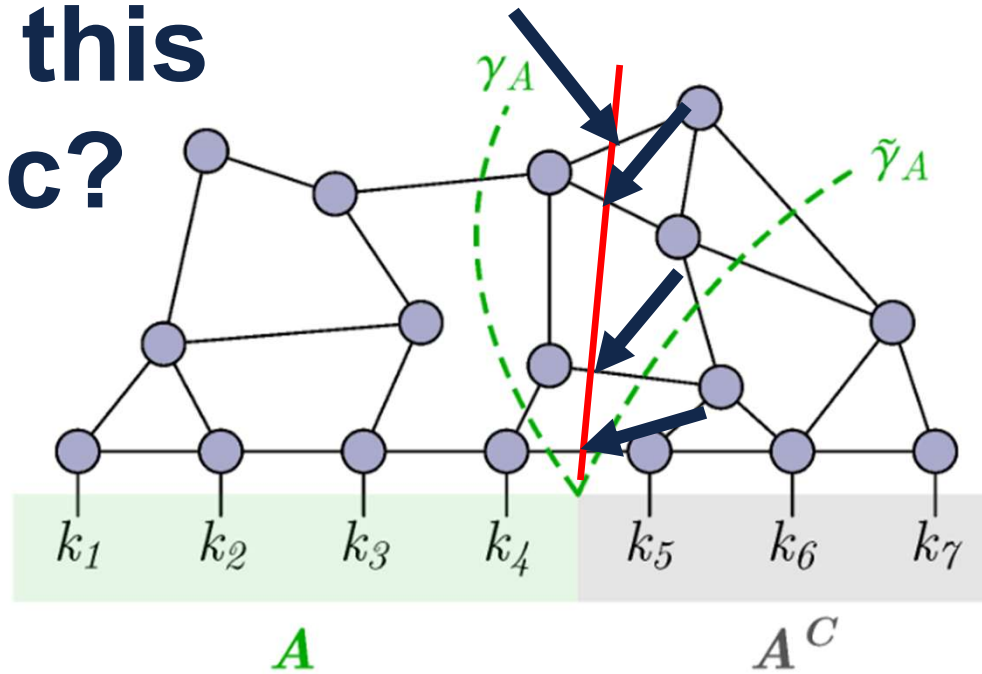
$$S(A) \leq (\# \text{ bonds cut}) \sum \chi$$



# Tensor Networks and Holography

$$S(A) \leq (\# \text{ bonds cut}) \sum \chi$$

But how is this  
holographic?

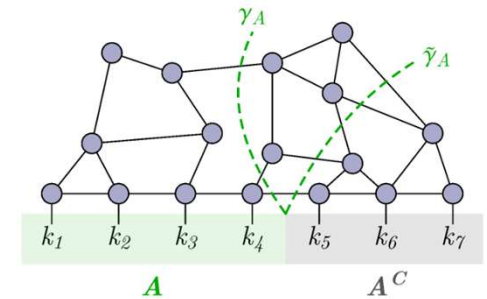


# What if?

Lives in  
physical  
indices

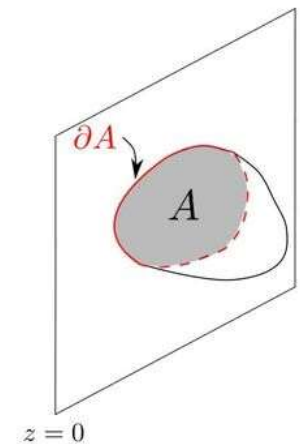
Lives in  
virtual  
indices

$$S(A) \propto (\# \text{ bonds cut}) \sum \chi$$



Then it looks like:

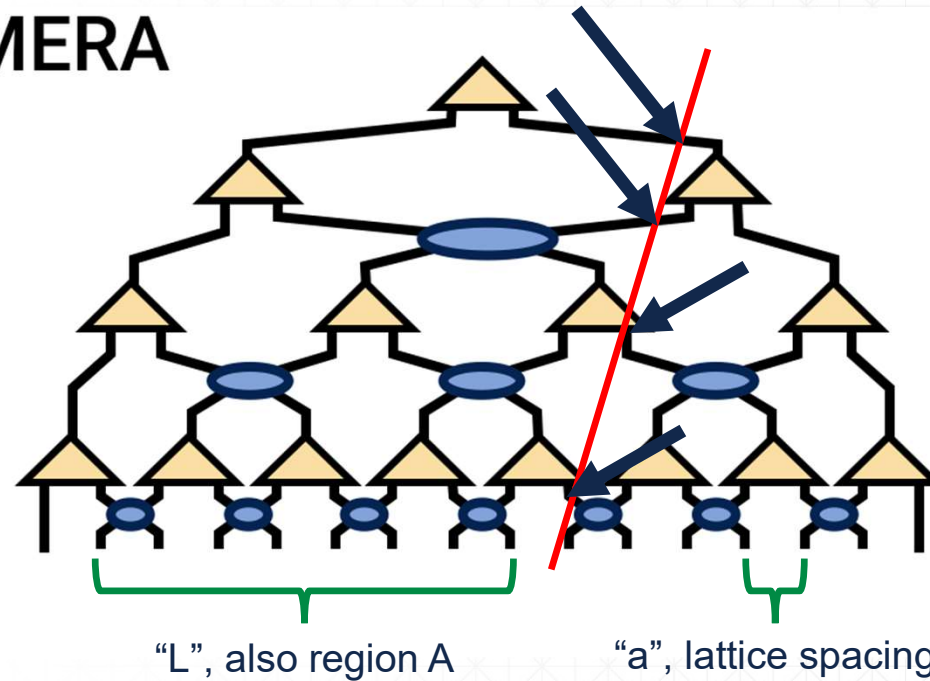
Entanglement Entropy of  $A$  *in CFT*  
 $\propto$  Area of Curve ( $\gamma$ ) *in AdS*



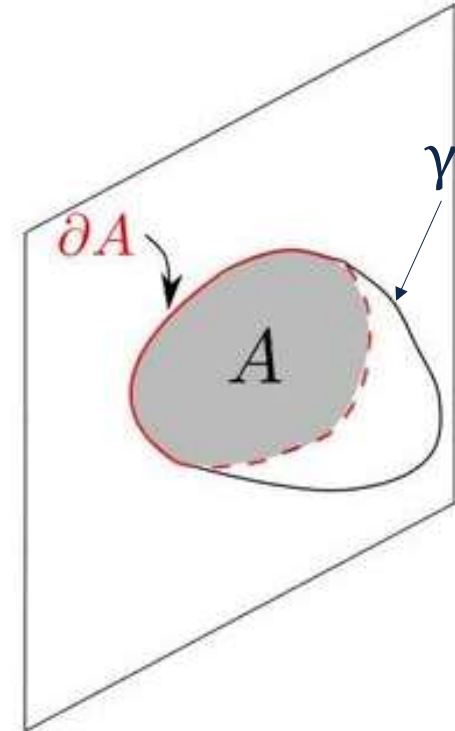
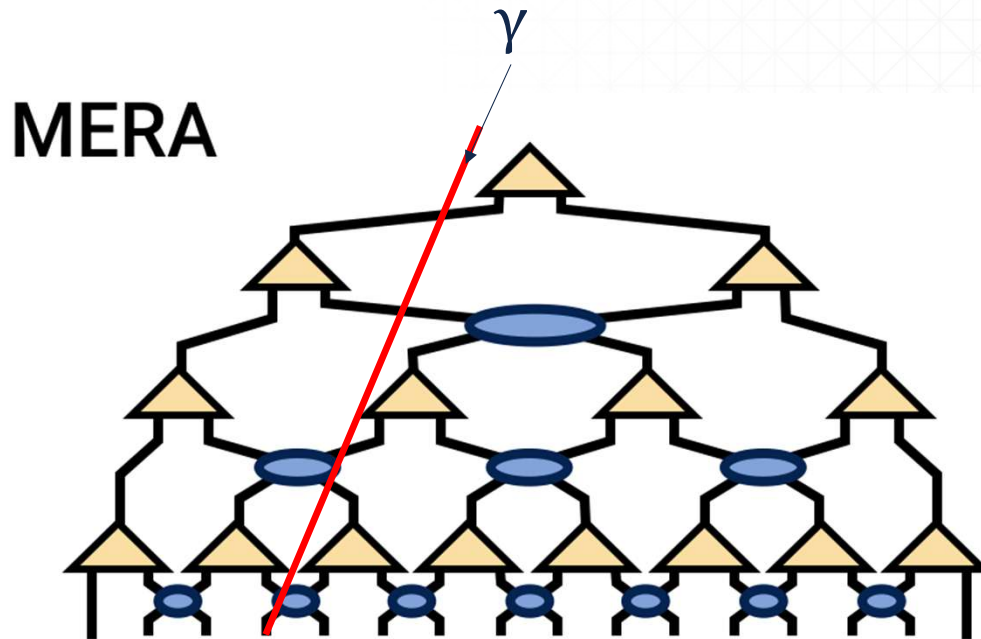
# Introducing MERA

$$S(A) \propto \log(L/a) \text{ "Area Scaling Law"}$$

MERA



# Connection between MERA and AdS/CFT



Both  $\gamma$  curves live in the “Virtual Degrees of Freedom” space

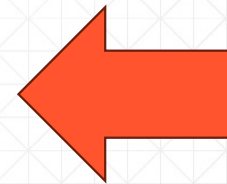
# An Ambitious Agenda

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~~3. Holographic Tensor Networks~~

**4. Holographic Quantum Algorithms**



# A Tour of Holographic Algorithms

Split up discussion into

1. MERA Applications
2. Holographic Error Correction
3. My Experience



## MERA Applications

### 1. “Scale-invariant” Quantum Systems

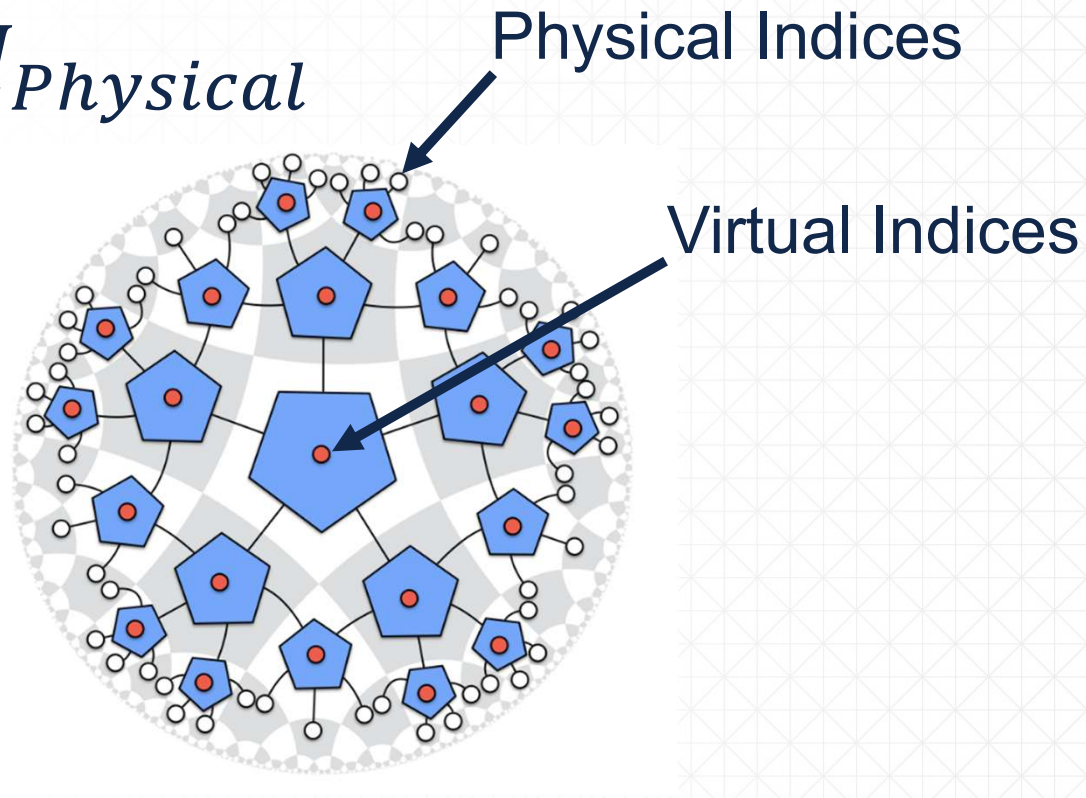
$$S(A) \propto \log(L/a)$$

2. Extracting CFT information in quantum systems in the middle of a phase transition (critical)
3. Inspired ML architectures that process local and long range correlations (NLP, image processing)



# Holographic Error Correction (HaPPY Code)

$$V: H_{virtual} \rightarrow H_{Physical}$$

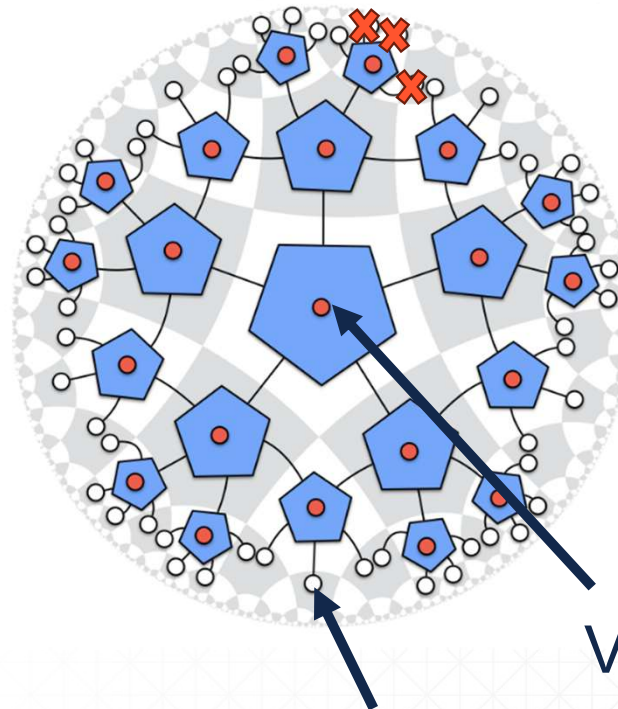


# Holographic Error Correction (HaPPY Code)

$$V: H_{virtual} \rightarrow H_{Physical}$$

Remove some  
physical indices

Can we  
still find a  
 $O_P$ ?



**Goal: Given operator  $O_V$**   
(1) Acting on virtual indices,  
but we want  
(2) Act on physical indices

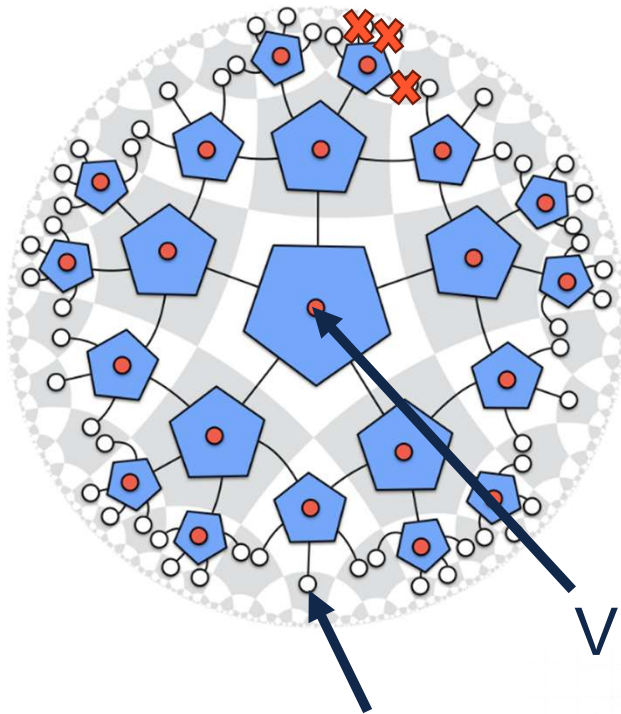
That is, find  $O_P$  (**not  
unique**) such that

$$O_P = V^\dagger O_V V$$

Physical Indices



# Holographic Error Correction (HaPPY Code)



**Goal: Given operator  $O_V$**   
(1) Acting on virtual indices, but we want  
(2) Act on physical indices

That is, find  $O_P$  (**not unique**) such that  
$$O_P = V^\dagger O_V V$$

Virtual Indices

Physical Indices

**Solution: Combinatorics Algorithm**

**Idea: equivalent boundary and bulk description!**

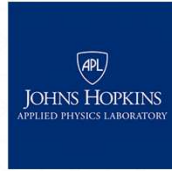
*Pastawski et al., "Holographic quantum error-correcting codes: Toy models for the bulk/boundary Correspondence"*



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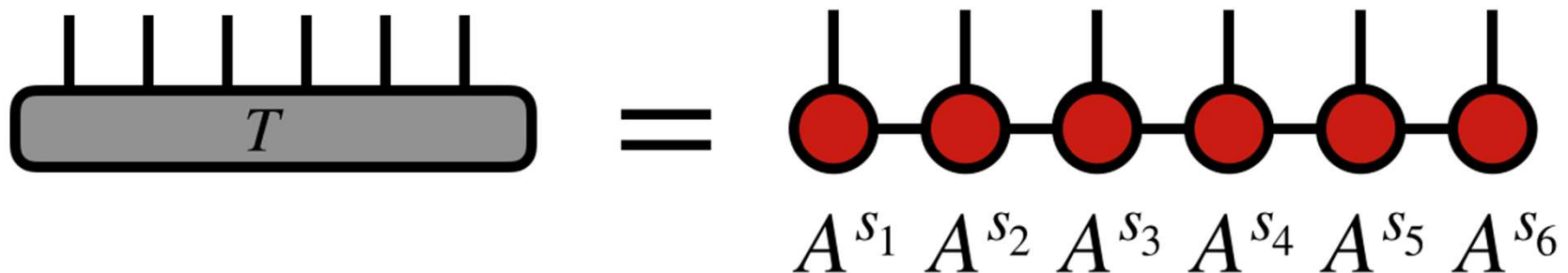
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# My experience @



**Goal: Develop “holographic” generative QML algorithm**

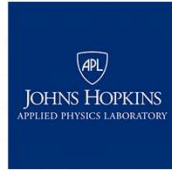
1.) Defined mapping  $V: H_{n \text{ qubits}} \rightarrow H_{2 \text{ qubits}}$  for Matrix Product States



**Only needed two qubits to “sequentially”  
prepare a n dimensional MPS**

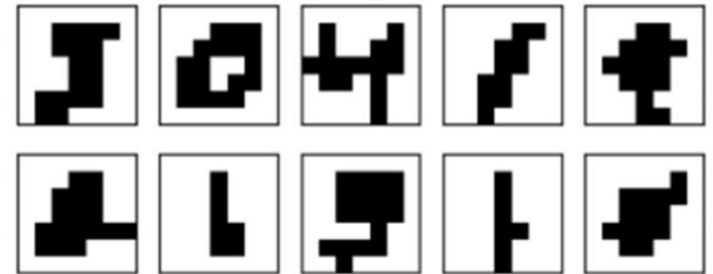


# My experience @



2.) Derived sequential back propagation algorithm for 2 qubits

3.) Developed “holographic” generative QML algorithm & trained on NIST handwritten data



Now, I’ve pivoted to studying phase transitions in transformers for quantum compilation...



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## Closing remarks

1. Clearly new and emerging field
2. The connection between Tensor networks and AdS/CFT is still being strengthened
3. AdS/CFT is a surprisingly versatile idea



# Using AdS/CFT for better Quantum Computing

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