Tensor Networks for Ab Initio Quantum Systems



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SIMONS FOUNDATION

This talk:

The many-electron problem

Tensor networks

Intro to quantum chemistry

Chemistry approaches for tensor networks

The Many-Electron Problem

Behavior of electrons in matter:

- continuum problem
- three dimensional
- strong interaction (repulsion) between electrons



Credit: MARK GARLICK/SCIENCE PHOTO LIBRARY/Getty Images

Can simplify various ways:

- Born-Oppenheimer approximation (classical nuclei)
- ignore most relativistic effects



Then problem simplifies to

$$i\frac{\partial}{\partial t}|\Psi\rangle=\hat{H}|\Psi\rangle$$

with Hamiltonian

$$\hat{H} = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbf{r}} \hat{\psi}_{\mathbf{r}}^{\dagger} \left[-\nabla^2 + v(\mathbf{r}) \right] \hat{\psi}_{\mathbf{r}} + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbf{rr'}} u(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r'}) \hat{\psi}_{\mathbf{r}}^{\dagger} \hat{\psi}_{\mathbf{r'}}^{\dagger} \hat{\psi}_{\mathbf{r'}} \hat{\psi}_{\mathbf{r}}$$

 $v(\mathbf{r})$ = one-body potential

 $u(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') =$ two-body interaction

The "electronic structure problem"

Form of the one-body potential

$$v(\mathbf{r}) = -\sum_{a} \frac{Z_{a}}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_{a}|}$$





Attraction to classical point nuclei, atomic number Z

Form of the two-body potential



Coulomb repulsion of electrons

Accurate ground state energy of electronic structure problem extremely useful

Example: energy of two atoms, distance **R**



Most techniques require discrete and finite system

To achieve this can:

- integrate out "core" electrons (pseudopotentials)
- treat high energy states with approximations such as perturbation theory

project electron motion to certain orbitals



Regardless of discretization, system becomes a "lattice" with four states per "site"



Four states of a site are $\{0, \uparrow, \downarrow, \uparrow\downarrow\}$

Regardless of discretization, electronic structure Hamiltonian takes following discrete form

$$H = \sum_{ij} t_{ij} \hat{c}_{i\sigma}^{\dagger} \hat{c}_{j\sigma} + \sum_{ijkl} V_{ijkl} \hat{c}_{i\sigma}^{\dagger} \hat{c}_{j\sigma'}^{\dagger} \hat{c}_{k\sigma'} \hat{c}_{l\sigma}$$

E.g. if projecting into orbitals $\{\phi_i(\mathbf{r})\}$, $\hat{c}_{i\sigma} = \int_{\mathbf{r}} \phi_i(\mathbf{r}) \hat{\psi}_{\sigma}(\mathbf{r})$

$$\mathbf{t_{ij}} = \int_{\mathbf{r}} \phi_i(\mathbf{r}) \left[-\frac{1}{2} \nabla^2 + v(\mathbf{r}) \right] \phi_j(\mathbf{r})$$

$$V_{ijkl} = \int_{\mathbf{r}_1,\mathbf{r}_2} \frac{\phi_i(\mathbf{r}_1)\phi_j(\mathbf{r}_2)\phi_k(\mathbf{r}_2)\phi_l(\mathbf{r}_1)}{|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|}$$

Quantum wavefunction assigns an amplitude to each configuration:



Four states per site $\{0, \uparrow, \downarrow, \uparrow\downarrow\}$

So 4^N configurations given N sites

Could try to store all the amplitudes, but

$$N = 10, 4^{10} \sim 10^{6}$$

$$N = 20, 4^{20} \sim 10^{12}$$

$$N = 30, 4^{30} \sim 10^{18}$$

For N > 130, number of amplitudes greater than **number of atoms in the known universe**



But can "nature's computer" really work this way?

Are the amplitudes of a realistic wavefunction all different?

Or is there some relationship between them?



Tensor Network Wavefunctions

 \hat{H} is a 4^N x 4^N matrix

 \Longrightarrow wavefunction $ec{\Psi}$ has 4^N components



Most of these eigenvectors / wavefunctions are indeed exponentially complex



But some have hidden structure that makes them *tractable*



- low-energy states
- equilibrium states
- short-time dynamics

Wavefunction a rule, mapping configurations to numbers



Wavefunction a rule, mapping configurations to numbers



Wavefunction a rule, mapping configurations to numbers



Formally a <u>tensor</u> with N indices



 4^{N} numbers inside



Problem seems hopeless (maximum N ~ 20)

Physical intuition:

weak correlations between distant particles



Neglect correlations

$$\Psi^{s_1 s_2 s_3 s_4 s_5 s_6} \simeq \psi^{s_1} \, \psi^{s_2} \, \psi^{s_3} \, \psi^{s_4} \, \psi^{s_5} \, \psi^{s_6}$$

 \checkmark Expected values of individual sites ok

X Missing correlations

Restore correlations locally

$$\Psi^{s_1 s_2 s_3 s_4 s_5 s_6} \simeq \psi^{s_1}_{i_1} \psi^{s_2}_{i_1 i_2} \psi^{s_3}_{i_2 i_3} \psi^{s_4}_{i_3 i_4} \psi^{s_5}_{i_4 i_5} \psi^{s_6}_{i_5}$$

matrix product state (MPS)

Local expected values accurate
Exponentially decaying correlations

Name matrix product state derives from

$$\Psi^{s_1 s_2 s_3 s_4 s_5 s_6} \simeq \psi^{s_1}_{i_1} \psi^{s_2}_{i_1 i_2} \psi^{s_3}_{i_2 i_3} \psi^{s_4}_{i_3 i_4} \psi^{s_5}_{i_4 i_5} \psi^{s_6}_{i_5}$$

$$\psi_{i_2 i_3}^{s_3=0} = M_{i_2 i_3}^0$$

$$\psi_{i_{2}i_{3}}^{s_{3}=\uparrow} = M_{i_{2}i_{3}}^{\uparrow}$$

$$\psi_{i_2i_3}^{s_3=\downarrow} = M_{i_2i_3}^{\downarrow}$$

$$\psi_{i_2i_3}^{s_3=\uparrow} = M_{i_2i_3}^{\uparrow}$$

Compute wavefunction by multiplying matrices together

$$\Psi^{\uparrow\,\downarrow\,\uparrow\,\uparrow\,\downarrow} \quad pprox \quad M_1^{\uparrow}M_2^{\downarrow}M_3^{\uparrow}M_4^{\uparrow}M_5^{\downarrow}$$

$$\Psi^{\uparrow \uparrow 0 \downarrow \downarrow} \hspace{0.5cm} pprox \hspace{0.5cm} M_{1}^{\uparrow} M_{2}^{\uparrow} M_{3}^{0} \hspace{0.5cm} M_{4}^{\downarrow} M_{5}^{\downarrow}$$

 $\Psi^{\uparrow\downarrow\downarrow\uparrow\uparrow\downarrow} \approx M_1^{\uparrow} M_2^{\downarrow} M_3^{\downarrow} M_4^{\uparrow} M_5^{\downarrow}$

matrix product state compresses a tensor

$$\Psi^{s_1 s_2 s_3 s_4 s_5} = M_1^{s_1} M_2^{s_2} M_3^{s_3} M_4^{s_4} M_5^{s_5}$$

For typical matrix size $m \times m$

$$4^N$$
 parameters $\longrightarrow 4Nm^2$ parameters



Why this rule?

1. Principled

Large enough matrices, represent any wavefunction

Proof (Hastings, 2007) that one-dimensional systems with exponentially decaying correlations* are 'close' to matrix product states

Error decreases rapidly (exponentially in practice) and *error per site* is constant

*(technically: gap between ground state and excited states)

2. Powerful Algorithms

Matrix product ansatz comes with sophisticated optimization techniques



DMRG algorithm

White, PRL 69, 2863 (1992)

Stoudenmire, White, PRB 87, 155137 (2013)

"In one dimension... it is at the moment the closest to an ultimate weapon as one can dream of."

– Thierry Giamarchi

"Quantum Physics in One Dimension"

Very often get exact answer

Only takes as many parameters as needed

3. Extendable

Generalize to **tensor networks**

Apply to two-dimensional systems, infinite systems, ...

Draw N-index tensor as blob with N lines

$$\Psi^{s_1 s_2 s_3 \cdots s_N} = \underbrace{s_1 s_2 s_3 s_4 \cdots s_N}_{s_1 s_2 s_3 \cdots s_N} = \underbrace{s_1 s_2 s_3 s_4 \cdots s_N}_{s_1 s_2 s_3 \cdots s_N}$$

Diagrams for simple tensors


Joining lines means contraction, omit names



Matrix product state in diagram notation

$$\Psi^{s_1 s_2 s_3 s_4 s_5 s_6} = \sum_{\alpha} M^{s_1}_{\alpha_1} M^{s_2}_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2} M^{s_3}_{\alpha_2 \alpha_3} M^{s_4}_{\alpha_3 \alpha_4} M^{s_5}_{\alpha_4 \alpha_5} M^{s_6}_{\alpha_5}$$



Suppress index names, very convenient

Besides matrix product state network, other very interesting networks are PEPS and MERA







MERA

(critical systems)

Evenbly, Vidal, PRB **79**, 144108 (2009)

Verstraete, Cirac, cond-mat/0407066 (2004)

Orus, Ann. Phys. 349, 117 (2014)

In addition to physics, tensor networks useful as an applied math technique



FIG. 12. Plots of dilation m = 4 orthogonal wavelets from (a) depth N = 4 and (b) depth N = 9 quarternary circuits with angles θ_k as given in Tab. VIII. The top three panels of each group denote the (exactly symmetric) scaling sequence h^+ and wavelet sequences h^-, g^+, h^- , which possess the number of vanishing moments (v.m.) as indicated. The bottom three panels of each group depict the scaling functions and wavelets in the continuum limit (windowed to include only the non-vanishingly small part of the functions).



FIG. 13. Depiction of a multi-scale circuit (formed from composition of depth N = 2 binary unitary circuits) with an open boundary on the left, where a double layer of (scale dependent) unitary gates $u(\phi_z)$ and $u(\sigma_z)$ is introduced. Boundary wavelets $g^{\mathbf{B}}$ are given by transforming the unit vector 1 located on a boundary index as indicated. The angles ϕ_z and σ_z are chosen to ensure the boundary wavelets each have two vanishing moments.

	ϕ_z	σ_z
z = 1	0.615479708	0.261157410
z = 2	0.713724378	0.316335000
z = 3	0.752040089	0.339836909
z = 4	0.769266332	0.350823961
z = 5	0.777461322	0.356148400
z = 6	0.781461114	0.358770670
z = 7	0.783437374	0.360072087
z = 8	0.784419689	0.360720398
z = 9	0.784909404	0.361043958
z = 10	0.785153903	0.361205590
z = 11	0.785276063	0.361286369
z = 12	0.785337120	0.361326749

TABLE IX. Angles ϕ_z and σ_z parameterizing the boundary

Evenbly, White,

"Representation and design of wavelets using unitary circuits"





89% accuracy on Fashion MNIST data set

Stoudenmire,

"Learning Relevant Features of Data with Multi-scale Tensor Networks"

Brief Note on Fermions

Typical tensor network approach uses second quantization

This means:

No need to antisymmetrize (or symmetrize) amplitude tensor represented by tensor network

When do the signs enter in?

When using operators:

- applying Hamiltonian
- computing observables

$$\hat{c}_{2} \left[\psi^{s_{1}s_{2}s_{3}s_{4}} (\hat{c}_{1}^{\dagger})^{s_{1}} (\hat{c}_{2}^{\dagger})^{s_{2}} (\hat{c}_{3}^{\dagger})^{s_{3}} (\hat{c}_{4}^{\dagger})^{s_{4}} \right] |0\rangle$$
Sign of result will depend on value of s₁ index

Fermion minus signs & tensor networks

Programming approaches – 3 alternatives:

- map fermionic operators to non-local bosonic operators (Jordan-Wigner transformation); work only with these
- choose canonical, reference ordering of sites and always permute basis states to this order
- anti-commuting tensor indices (newest approach)



Quantum Chemistry





Chemistry an instance of the many-electron problem:

$$\hat{H} = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbf{r}} \hat{\psi}_{\mathbf{r}}^{\dagger} \left[-\nabla^2 + v(\mathbf{r}) \right] \hat{\psi}_{\mathbf{r}} + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbf{r}\mathbf{r}'} u(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \hat{\psi}_{\mathbf{r}}^{\dagger} \hat{\psi}_{\mathbf{r}'}^{\dagger} \hat{\psi}_{\mathbf{r}'} \hat{\psi}_{\mathbf{r}'} \hat{\psi}_{\mathbf{r}'}$$

electronic structure Hamiltonian

Unlike some areas of condensed matter, mostly after **energies & quantitative** properties



But qualitative properties also important: Will two molecules or atoms bind? State of atoms during a reaction? Biggest challenges in quantum chemistry:

- continuum nature of problem
- strong correlation



Tensor network methods don't suffer from strong correlation

Strong correlation is fact that some wavefunctions (e.g. stretched diatomic molecules) are sum of *exponentially many* Slater determinants

Tensor networks do not use sums of Slater determinants 🔽

Continuum is the bigger issue for tensor networks...

Standard approach pioneered by John Pople is to use *Gaussian basis functions* to approximate the continuum



Figure credit: iqmol.org

Consider H_2 molecule

Cartoon of Gaussian basis set:



Basis sets also include linear combinations of Gaussians:

$$b_n(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_n} c_{n,i} e^{-\zeta_{n,i}(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_A)^2}$$

And multiplicative factors: $x^p y^q z^s$

Orbital basis Hamiltonian (*i,j,k,l* label orbital 'sites'):

$$H = \sum_{ij} t_{ij} c_{i\sigma}^{\dagger} c_{j\sigma} + \sum_{ijkl} V_{ijkl} c_{i\sigma}^{\dagger} c_{j\sigma'}^{\dagger} c_{k\sigma'} c_{l\sigma}$$

Basis functions, or "orbitals"

$$t_{ij} = \int_{\mathbf{r}} \phi_i(\mathbf{r}) \left[-\frac{1}{2} \nabla^2 + v(\mathbf{r}) \right] \phi_j(\mathbf{r})$$
$$V_{ijkl} = \int_{\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2} \frac{\phi_i(\mathbf{r}_1) \phi_j(\mathbf{r}_2) \phi_k(\mathbf{r}_2) \phi_l(\mathbf{r}_1)}{|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|}$$
Coulomb "integrals"

The coefficients V_{ijkl} are called Coulomb integrals

For N orbitals, there are N⁴ of these....

Say N=100, then $N^4 = one hundred million!$

Just constructing the Hamiltonian is a serious business...

Point of Gaussians is computing integrals quickly! (Especially on 1990's computers...)

DMRG & MPS for Quantum Chemistry



DMRG and MPS require system to be discrete*

Finite basis is needed

Let's briefly discuss 3 types:

- 1. Gaussian basis sets [standard]
- 2. sliced basis sets [new]
- 3. gausslet basis [new]

* exception are continuous MPS, but still new topic

- 1. Gaussian basis DMRG (MPS tensor network)
- a. choose a Gaussian basis set, orthogonalize basis,
 & compute integrals t_{ij}, V_{ijkl}



1. Gaussian basis DMRG (MPS tensor network)

b. treat orbitals as "sites" of a pseudo-1D system

$$H = \sum_{ij} t_{ij} c_{i\sigma}^{\dagger} c_{j\sigma} + \sum_{ijkl} V_{ijkl} c_{i\sigma}^{\dagger} c_{j\sigma'}^{\dagger} c_{k\sigma'} c_{l\sigma}$$



- 1. Gaussian basis DMRG (MPS tensor network)
- c. if converged, obtain state of the art results!



Kurashige, Chan, Yanai, *Nat. Chem.* (2013) Study of photosystem-II



Chan, Sharma, Ann. Rev. Phys. Chem. (2011) Review: DMRG in Quantum Chemistry 1. Gaussian basis DMRG (MPS tensor network)

Drawbacks of this approach?

Gaussian basis functions overlap significantly (especially after orthogonalization)

Must keep all N⁴ Coulomb integrals (can't truncate)

Hamiltonian non-local; DMRG scales poorly (large MPS bond dimension required)

Alternatives to Gaussian basis set approach?

Consider 1D particles in a box:

Approach 1: basis set
$$c_n = \int_x \phi_n(x)\hat{\psi}(x)$$
 $n=3$
 $n=2$
 $n=1$

$$H = -\frac{1}{2} \int_{x} \hat{\psi}^{\dagger}(x) \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x^{2}} \hat{\psi}(x) \quad \rightarrow \quad H = \sum_{nm} t_{nm} c_{n}^{\dagger} c_{m}$$

- Loss of locality
- Must compute integrals
- + Variational

Consider 1D particles in a box:

Approach 2: grid approximation $c_j = \sqrt{a} \hat{\psi}(x_j)$

$$\begin{split} H &= -\frac{1}{2} \int_{x} \hat{\psi}^{\dagger}(x) \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x^{2}} \hat{\psi}(x) \\ H &\approx -\frac{1}{2a^{2}} \sum_{j} (c_{j}^{\dagger}c_{j+1} - 2n_{j} + c_{j+1}^{\dagger}c_{j}) \\ &+ \mathcal{O}(a^{2}) \end{split}$$

- + Local / short range
- + No integrals to compute!
- Not variational

Possible to mix basis set and grid approaches?

Yes...

2. sliced-basis DMRG [new]

Slice 3D basis sets along z-direction:



2. sliced-basis DMRG [new]



- Leverage ability of DMRG to scale to long systems
- Can reach high (chemical) accuracy for $a \lesssim 0.1$
- Scalable to 1000's of atoms

Slices roughly equivalent to using basis set of "functions":

$$\phi_{nj}(\mathbf{r}) = \delta^{\frac{1}{2}}(z - n \cdot a) \varphi_{nj}(x, y)$$



Stoudenmire, White, arxiv:1702.03650

2. sliced-basis DMRG [new]

$$\phi_{nj}(\mathbf{r}) = \delta^{\frac{1}{2}}(z - n \cdot a) \varphi_{nj}(x, y)$$

Interaction Energy:

Normally must deal with N^4 interaction terms

$$V_{ijkl} = \int_{\mathbf{r}_1,\mathbf{r}_2} \frac{\phi_i(\mathbf{r}_1)\phi_j(\mathbf{r}_2)\phi_k(\mathbf{r}_2)\phi_l(\mathbf{r}_1)}{|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|}$$

But treat slices as orthogonal. Then V_{ijkl} non-zero only if i, l on same slice and j, k on same slice

Number of terms: $N^4 \rightarrow N_z^2 N_{\rm orb}^4$ Better Scaling

Stoudenmire, White, arxiv:1702.03650

2. sliced-basis DMRG [new]

[Technical Slides] – Important for Practitioners



Sliced Coulomb integrals have upper-triangular-lowrank property (SVD of upper triangles compresses well)

> Lin, Tong, arxiv:1909.02206 Stoudenmire, White, arxiv:1702.03650

2. sliced-basis DMRG [new]

[Technical Slides] – Important for Practitioners



From SVD's of all upper triangle blocks, construct efficient matrix product operator (MPO) of Coulomb Hamiltonian terms

Lowers scaling all the way to *linear* in number of z slices (number of atoms)

Lin, Tong, arxiv:1909.02206 Stoudenmire, White, arxiv:1702.03650 Possible to do better?

3. multi-sliced gausslet basis [new]

Drawback of sliced bases include:

- require very many slices to resolve z-direction
- problems with Gaussians in x,y directions



3. multi-sliced gausslet basis [new]

Seek functions which are local (compact), orthogonal, and sums of them can represent any smooth function

Can find such functions using theory of wavelets




Results of sliced-basis and multi-sliced gausslets

Hydrogen chains make good benchmark systems

• continuum limit

+z

- strong correlation
- many-atom (thermodynamic) limit
- treatable by most methods

Density crosssection of H₁₀ hydrogen chain:



Sliced-basis results for H₁₀:



Fig. 2: Ground-state energies of H_{10} chains as a function of inter-atomic spacing R calculated using DMRG within standard Gaussian basis sets (dashed curves) and sliced basis sets (solid curves and points) using a uniform grid spacing of a = 0.1 atomic units [26].

Sliced-basis results for H₁₀₀₀:



Fig. 3: Scaling with number of atoms of sliced-basis calculations up to 1000 hydrogen atoms. The inter-atomic spacing is fixed to R = 3.6 and a sliced basis derived from the STO-6G Gaussian basis was used. The outer plot shows the ground state energy from DMRG using the standard STO-6G basis and the sliced version (SB-STO-6G). The inset shows the average time per DMRG sweep, taking a bond dimension of m = 100.



Future Directions & Conclusions

A lot of creativity is possible in going beyond standard Gaussian approach to quantum chemistry

Sliced-basis and gausslet basis are just two of many ideas to be tried







Tensor networks are real-space oriented, don't use Slater determinants

Require re-thinking conventional choices to get best performance

Recent work by Lin and Tong for compressing Coulomb interactions into "PEPO" tensor networks





Combined with recent progress in optimizing PEPS*, could soon see PEPS quantum chemistry!

In principle scalable to huge 2D planes of atoms, controlled & accurate, handling strong correlation

* Liao, Liu, Wang, Zhang, arxiv:1903.09650
Zaletel, Pollmann, 1902.05100
Haghshenas, O'Rourke, Chan, 1903.03843
Liu, Huang, Gong, Gu, 1908.09359
Hyatt, Stoudenmire, 1908.08833