

# Thermal State Preparation via Rounding Promises

IBM Quantum  
arXiv:2210.01670

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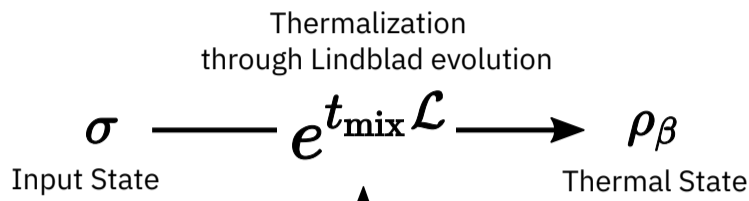


Main Result: A quantum algorithm for preparing thermal states by simulating thermalization

## I. Overview

Given a Hamiltonian  $H$ , prepare its thermal state  $\rho_\beta$ .

Main Idea: If Nature can thermalize it, so can we!



### Lindblad simulation algorithm

Cleve, Wang arXiv:1612.09512, ICALP 2017  
Li, Wang arXiv:2111.03240

$$\mathcal{L}(\sigma) = \sum_{\omega} \left[ L_{\omega} \sigma L_{\omega}^{\dagger} - \frac{1}{2} (L_{\omega}^{\dagger} L_{\omega} \sigma + \sigma L_{\omega}^{\dagger} L_{\omega}) \right]$$

Jump operators

Input: Lindblad Oracle that specifies jump operators

$$|0\rangle \otimes |\psi\rangle \xrightarrow{\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{L}}} \sum_{\omega} |\omega\rangle \otimes L_{\omega} |\psi\rangle$$

### Davies Generator: Thermalizing Dynamics

$$L_{\omega} = \sqrt{G(\omega)} \sum_{i,j} \Pi_i S \Pi_j$$

Filter function      Coupling operator      Energy projectors

$\lambda_i - \lambda_j = \omega$

Objective: build Lindblad oracle for Davies generator.

## III. Is a "Promised" Thermal State Good?

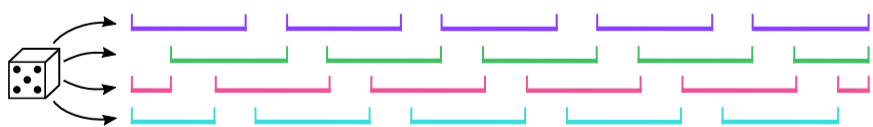
Original Hamiltonian  $H$  (no promise)  $\rightarrow$

"Promised" Hamiltonian  $\hat{H}$  (bad energies removed)

$$\left| \rho_{\beta}^H - \rho_{\beta}^{\hat{H}} \right|_1 \approx 1$$

Missing energies: not a good approximation!

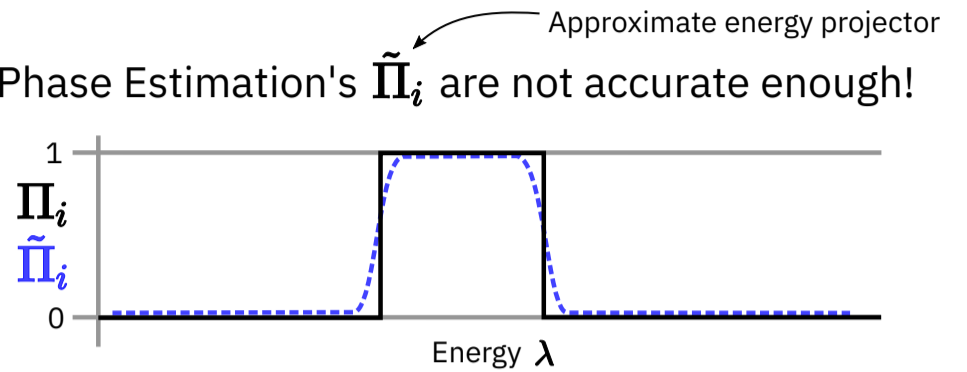
Solution: pick a **random promise**.



$$\text{Each } \lambda \text{ unlikely to be missing} \rightarrow \left| \rho_{\beta}^H - \mathbb{E}_{\hat{H}}[\rho_{\beta}^{\hat{H}}] \right|_1 \leq \delta$$

## II. Why Rounding Promises?

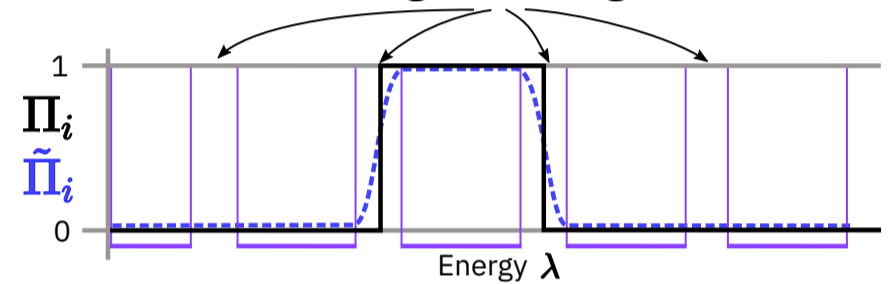
Phase Estimation's  $\tilde{\Pi}_i$  are not accurate enough!



$$|\Pi_i - \tilde{\Pi}_i| = \frac{1}{2}, \text{ no matter how accurately you estimate}$$

Solution approach: **Rounding Promises**

= Certain energies  $\lambda$  are guaranteed to not exist



$$|\Pi_i - \tilde{\Pi}_i| \leq \delta, \text{ accurate for energies "in the promise".}$$

Rounding Promise  $\rightarrow$  Accurate energy projectors  $\tilde{\Pi}_i$

$\rightarrow$  Accurate Lindblad oracle  $\mathcal{O}_{\tilde{\mathcal{L}}}$

$\rightarrow$  Accurate thermalization  $e^{t\tilde{\mathcal{L}}}$

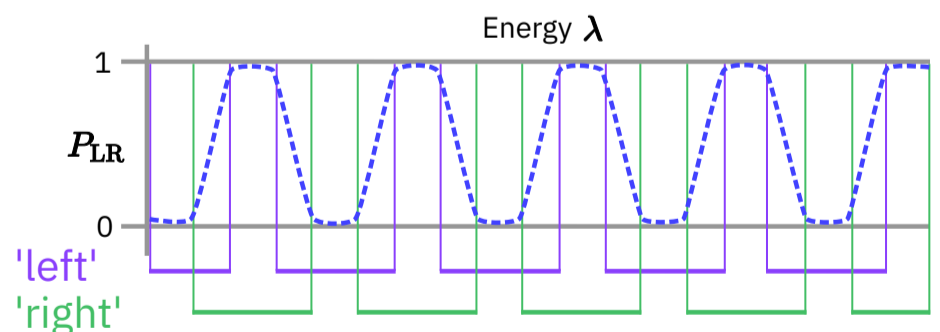
## IV. Obtaining a Rounding Promise

$\hat{H}$  has no "bad" energies



$\sigma$  has no support on "bad" eigenvectors

Idea: perform a **measurement** that forces a promise



Measure POVM  $P_{LR}, I - P_{LR}$  on input state  $\sigma \rightarrow$  post measurement state satisfies left or right promise

## V. Maintaining a Rounding Promise

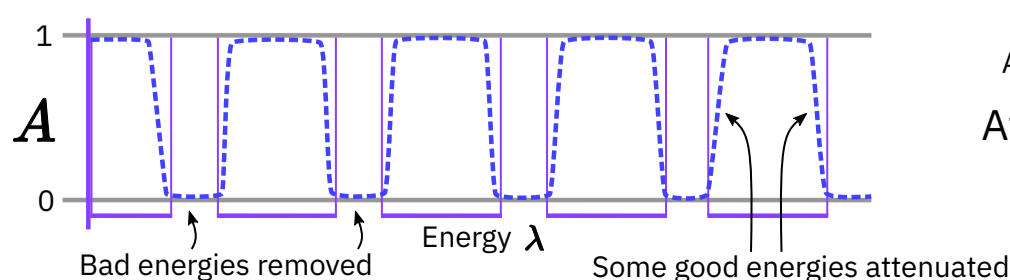
Purpose of coupling operator  $S \rightarrow$  'scramble' energy eigenstates

Problem: even if  $\sigma$  satisfies promise, scrambled state  $S\sigma S^{\dagger}$  might not.

Solution: 'Attenuate'  $S$ :

$$\hat{S} := ASA$$

$\hat{S}\sigma\hat{S}^{\dagger}$  satisfies promise.



## VI. Performance

$$\tilde{O} (\tilde{t}_{\text{mix}} \cdot \gamma^{-1} \cdot \beta^3 / \epsilon^7)$$

Attenuated mixing time      Attenuation strength

Attenuation slows scrambling rate.

Can attenuate less using a more expensive  $A$ .