

Improving the Fault Tolerance of Adiabatic Quantum Computers using Error Detecting Codes

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Adiabatic Quantum Computing

Hamiltonian: $H(0) \xrightarrow{\text{smoothly}} H(T)$

ground state: $|000\dots\rangle \longrightarrow |\text{answer}\rangle$

If $\left| \frac{dH}{dt} \right|$ is sufficiently small compared to the eigenvalue gap then the system will track the ground state.

Adiabatic Quantum Computing

- Originally proposed by Farhi *et al.* as a method for solving satisfiability problems (*e.g.* 3-SAT)
- Can be simulated by quantum circuits using standard Trotterization
- Can simulate quantum circuits (Aharonov *et al.*)

Adiabatic Architecture

Might one build an adiabatic quantum computer?

Possible advantages:

- No pulses: essentially DC
- Only endpoints of adiabatic path matter
- Intuition: if $k_b T$ is small compared to eigenvalue gap then system stays in ground state

Eigenvalue Gaps

- Gap usually shrinks with problem size:
e.g. $\sim 1/g^2$ for simulating g gates
- Instead, look at behavior under *local* excitations
 - U is a 1-local operator
 - Does U couple the ground state to eigenstates with low energy compared to $k_b T$?

Local Operations

- Any operator on n qubits can be decomposed as a linear combination of n -fold tensor products of Pauli matrices $\{I, X, Y, Z\}$
- If each of these tensor products has at most k non-identity Pauli matrices then the operator is k -local
- This is not about spatial locality

Noise

- Noise comes from a Hamiltonian coupling the qubits to the environment

$$H = H_S + H_E + \lambda V$$

- H will usually be at most 2-local
- Any term in the Pauli expansion of V will be of the form $\sigma_a \sigma_b$
- Hence the qubits experience 1-local disturbances

Codes

- Can we engineer the adiabatic Hamiltonians so that 1-local operators don't couple the ground state to eigenstates below $k_b T$?
- Yes
 - use quantum error detecting codes
 - make energy penalty against 1-qubit errors
- This insulates against but does not correct errors

Encoded Hamiltonian

- 1) Write out the Pauli expansion of H
- 2) Replace each Pauli matrix by:

$$\begin{array}{ll} I \rightarrow I^{\otimes k} & X \rightarrow X_L \\ Y \rightarrow Y_L & Z \rightarrow Z_L \end{array}$$

The resulting Hamiltonian H_L acts on k times as many qubits.

- 3) Add energy penalty term against leaving the codespace

Locality

- Challenge: encode Hamiltonian without requiring many-body interactions
- Example: Shor code
 - encodes 1 qubit in 9
 - 2-local Hamiltonian becomes 18-local once encoded!
- choose code carefully
- How close can we get to 2-local encoded operations?

4-qubit Code

- Use error detecting code
- Encode 1 qubit into 4:

$$|0_L\rangle = \frac{1}{2}(|0000\rangle + i|0011\rangle + i|1100\rangle + |1111\rangle)$$

$$|1_L\rangle = \frac{1}{2}(-|0101\rangle + i|0110\rangle + i|1001\rangle - |1010\rangle)$$

- This detects 1-local errors:

$$|\psi\rangle \in C \implies \sigma|\psi\rangle \in C^\perp$$

Encoded Operators

The following act as logical Pauli operators

$$X_L = Y \otimes I \otimes Y \otimes I$$

$$Y_L = -I \otimes X \otimes X \otimes I$$

$$Z_L = Z \otimes Z \otimes I \otimes I$$

That is,

$$X_L |0_L\rangle = |1_L\rangle$$

$$X_L |1_L\rangle = |0_L\rangle$$

etc.

These are all 2-local.

Energy Penalty

- We next add an energy penalty against going outside the codespace
- Our code is a stabilizer code

$$g_1 = X \otimes X \otimes X \otimes X$$

$$g_2 = Z \otimes Z \otimes Z \otimes Z$$

$$g_3 = X \otimes Y \otimes Z \otimes I$$

- One term of the form $-\frac{1}{2}E_p(g_1 + g_2 + g_3)$ for each encoded qubit provides the penalty.

Energy Penalty

Any 1-local operator anticommutes with at least one of the generators

$$g_1 = X \otimes X \otimes X \otimes X$$

$$g_2 = Z \otimes Z \otimes Z \otimes Z$$

$$g_3 = X \otimes Y \otimes Z \otimes I$$

hence 1-local operators couple the ground state only to eigenstates above E_p

Eigenstates

- If we write down the eigenstates of H (on n qubits) and encode them according to

$$|0\rangle \rightarrow |0_L\rangle \quad |1\rangle \rightarrow |1_L\rangle$$

we get eigenstates of the encoded Hamiltonian

H_L on $4n$ qubits

- The penalty terms ensure that the ground state of the encoded Hamiltonian is the encoded ground state

2-local Noise

- The standard 5-qubit stabilizer code:

$$g_1 = X \otimes Z \otimes Z \otimes X \otimes I$$

$$g_2 = I \otimes X \otimes Z \otimes Z \otimes X$$

$$g_3 = X \otimes I \otimes X \otimes Z \otimes Z$$

$$g_4 = Z \otimes X \otimes I \otimes X \otimes Z$$

- Can have 3-local encoded Pauli operations:

$$X_L = -X \otimes I \otimes Y \otimes Y \otimes I$$

$$Y_L = -Z \otimes Z \otimes I \otimes Y \otimes I$$

$$Z_L = -Y \otimes Z \otimes Y \otimes I \otimes I$$

Noise Model

The qubits are spins weakly coupled to a bath of photons

$$V = \sum_i \int_0^\infty d\omega \left[g(\omega) a_\omega \sigma_+^{(i)} + g^*(\omega) a_\omega^\dagger \sigma_-^{(i)} \right]$$

Resulting Davies master equation has noise terms like

$$\frac{\langle 0 | \sigma_-^{(i)} | b \rangle \langle b | \sigma_+^{(i)} | 0 \rangle}{\exp[\beta(E_b - E_0)] - 1}$$

Noise Model

- $\langle 0 | \sigma_{\pm}^{(i)} | b \rangle$ is zero unless $|b\rangle \in C^{\perp}$
- Hence $E_b - E_0 \geq E_p$
- So the terms

$$\frac{\langle 0 | \sigma_{-}^{(i)} | b \rangle \langle b | \sigma_{+}^{(i)} | 0 \rangle}{\exp[\beta(E_b - E_0)] - 1}$$

scale roughly as $\exp[-\beta E_p]$

- By choosing $T \sim E_p / \log(\epsilon)$ we can make noise terms $\sim \epsilon$

Limitations of Noise Model

- derived only to 2nd order in λ
- slightly arbitrary, e.g. σ_{\pm} in z-direction
- however, in general expect lowest order noise terms to have $e^{-\beta E_p}$ scaling in any similar model
- current work: larger distance codes to protect against higher order errors

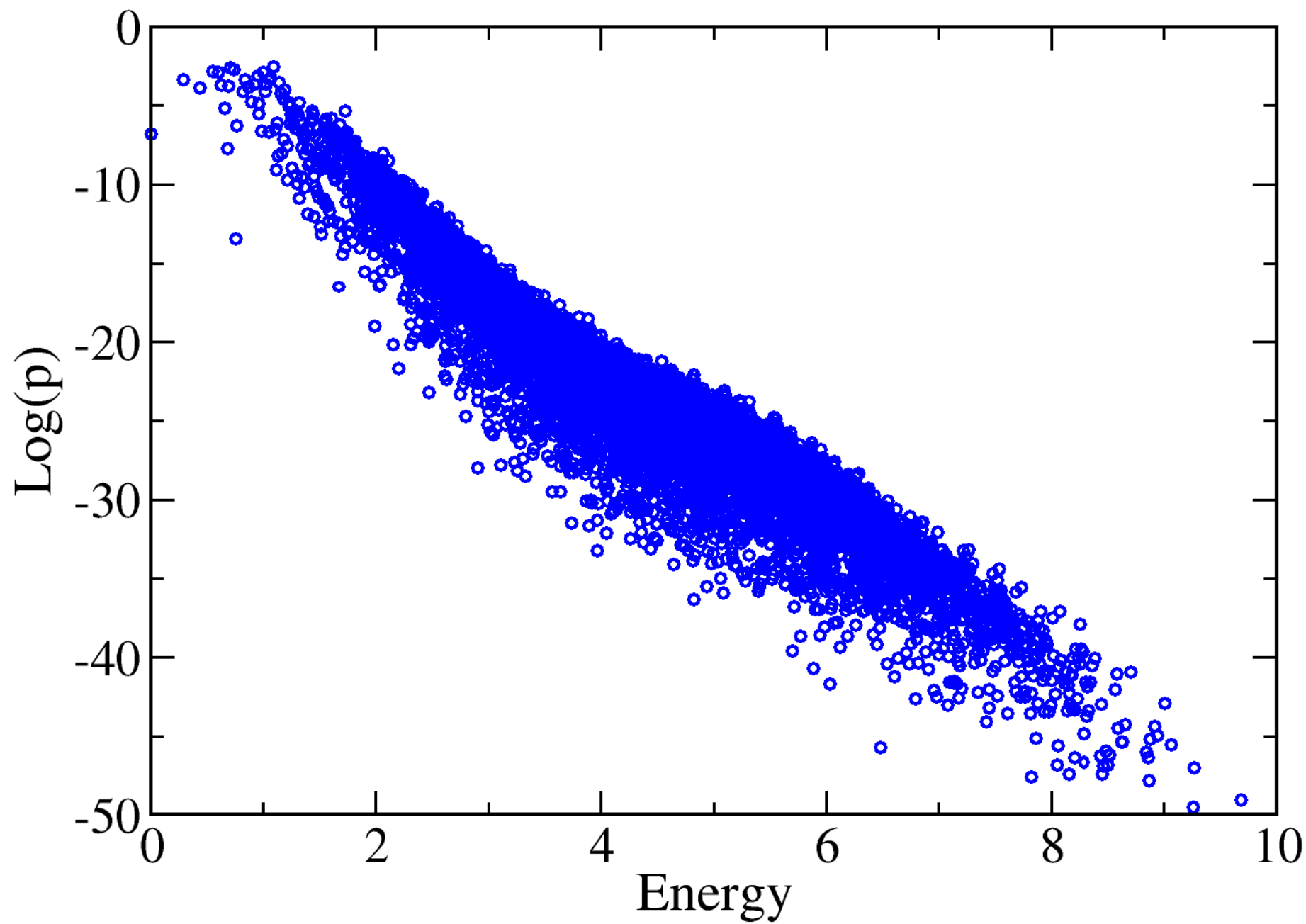
Unencoded Hamiltonians

- Codes ensure that 1-local operators have zero matrix elements coupling the ground state to eigenstates below E_p
- This allows exponential in T suppression of noise terms in master equation
- But what about unencoded Hamiltonians? Might these matrix elements be small anyway?

Numerics

- 2-local Hamiltonian H
- Compute corresponding ground state
$$H|\psi_0\rangle = E_0|\psi_0\rangle$$
- Apply a π -rotation about a random axis
$$|\phi\rangle = U|\psi_0\rangle$$
- Compute the overlaps with the eigenstates of H :

$$|\langle\phi|\psi_n\rangle|^2$$



Optimality

- Quantum singleton bound:

$$n - k \geq 2(d - 1)$$

- 3-qubit error detecting stabilizer code is impossible

$$g_1 = \sigma_{11} \otimes \sigma_{12} \otimes \sigma_{13}$$

$$g_2 = \sigma_{21} \otimes \sigma_{22} \otimes \sigma_{23}$$

- 3-qubit distance two quantum code is impossible in general

Locality

- Each encoded Pauli operator is 2-local
- A 2-local universal Hamiltonian becomes 4-local once encoded
- It is impossible to make an error detecting code for 1-local errors which has 1-local encoded operators

Perturbative Gadgets

- Use perturbation theory to simulate 3-local Hamiltonians using 2-local Hamiltonians

J. Kempe, A. Kitaev, O. Regev

The complexity of the local Hamiltonian Problem

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- Can be generalized to simulate 4-local Hamiltonians with 3-local Hamiltonians

Perturbative Gadgets

- Problem: computational Hamiltonian is perturbation and gets scaled down to constant norm
- scaling undoes constant energy gap E_p !
- Solution: apply energy penalty against leaving the codespace in the non-perturbative part

Perturbative Gadgets

- our original energy penalty was expressed as $-\frac{1}{2}E_p(g_1 + g_2 + g_3)$ with:

$$g_1 = X \otimes X \otimes X \otimes X$$

$$g_2 = Z \otimes Z \otimes Z \otimes Z$$

$$g_3 = X \otimes Y \otimes Z \otimes I$$

- we can choose equivalent 3-local generators:

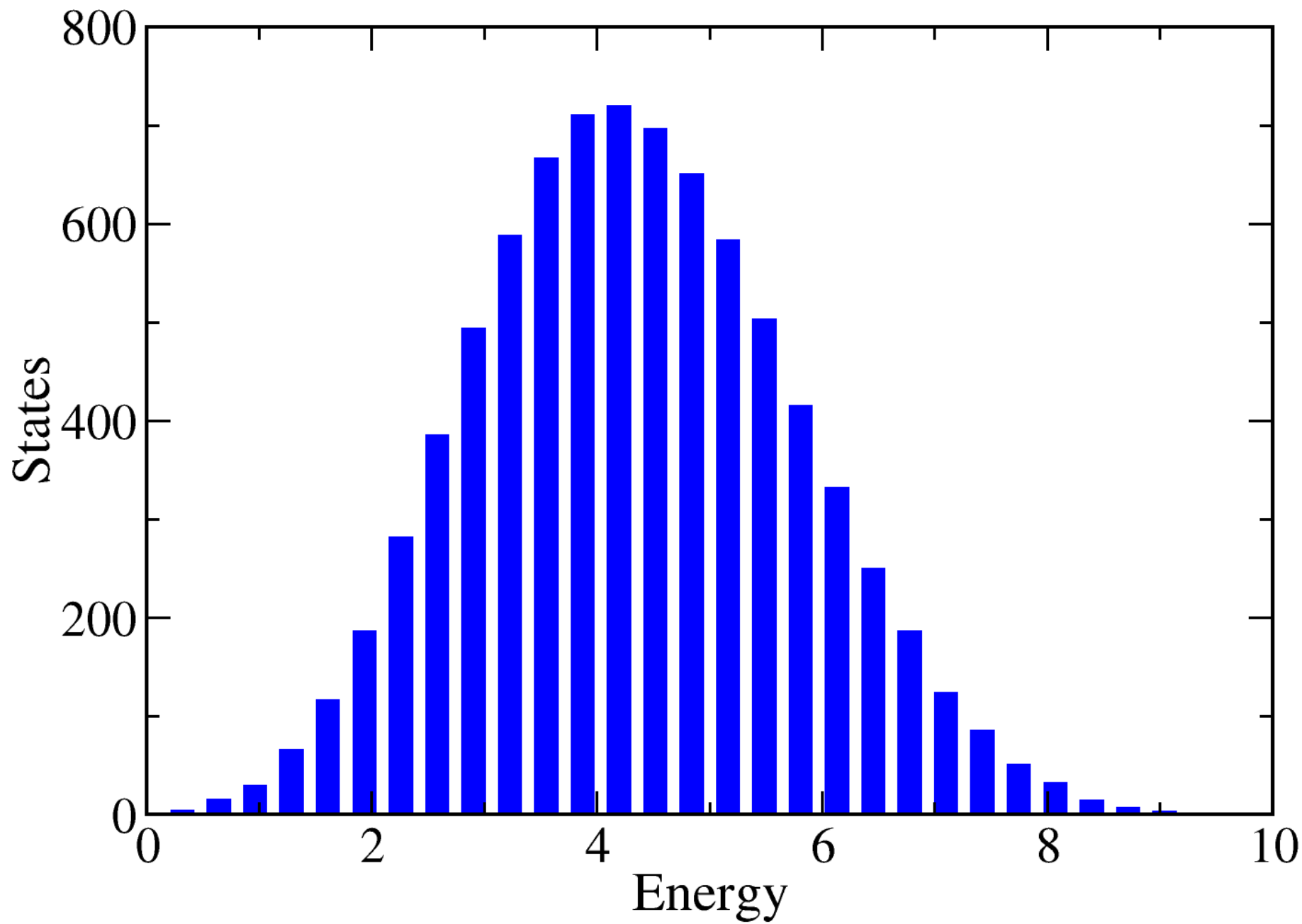
$$g_1 = X \otimes Y \otimes Z \otimes I$$

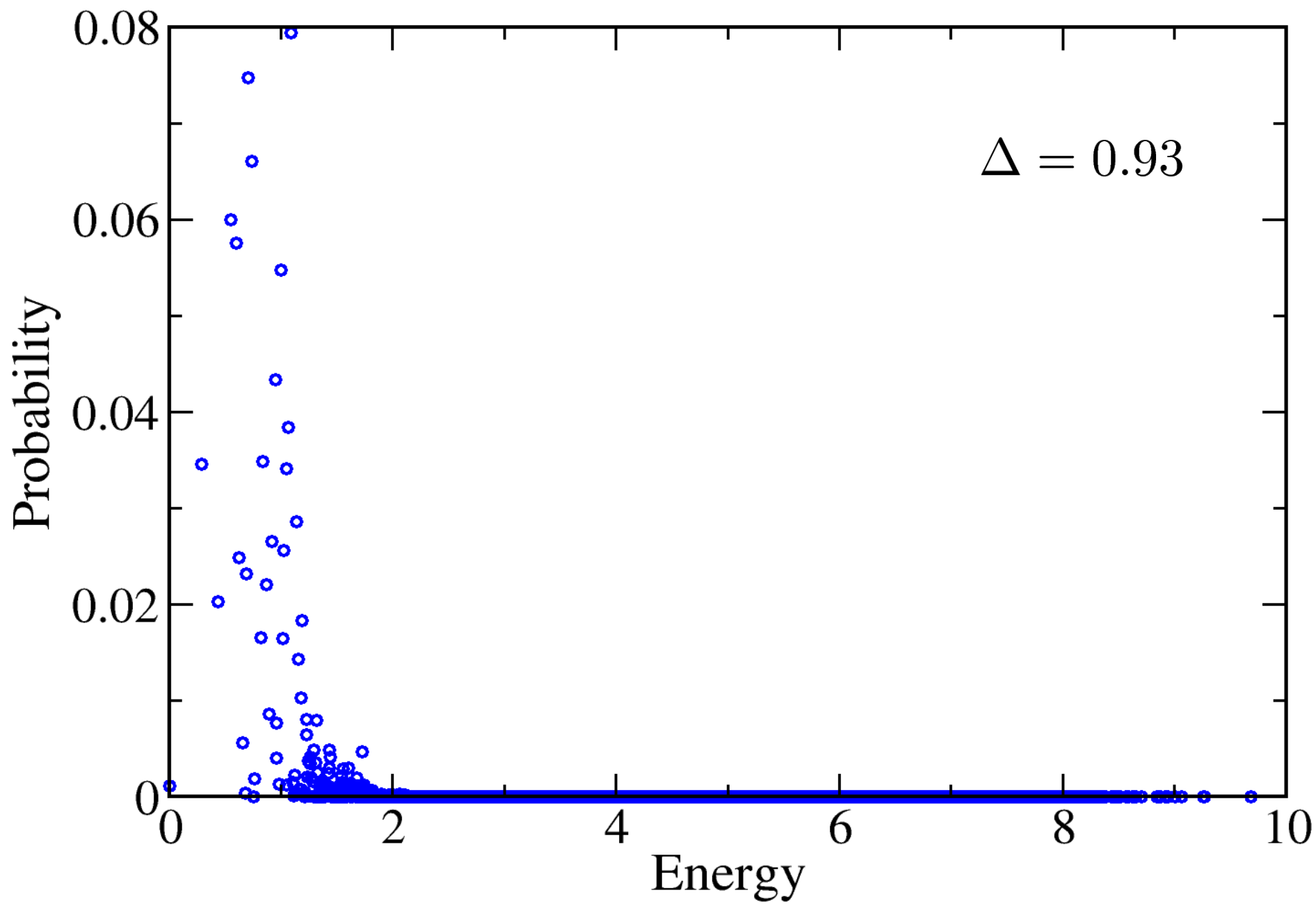
$$g_2 = I \otimes Z \otimes Y \otimes X$$

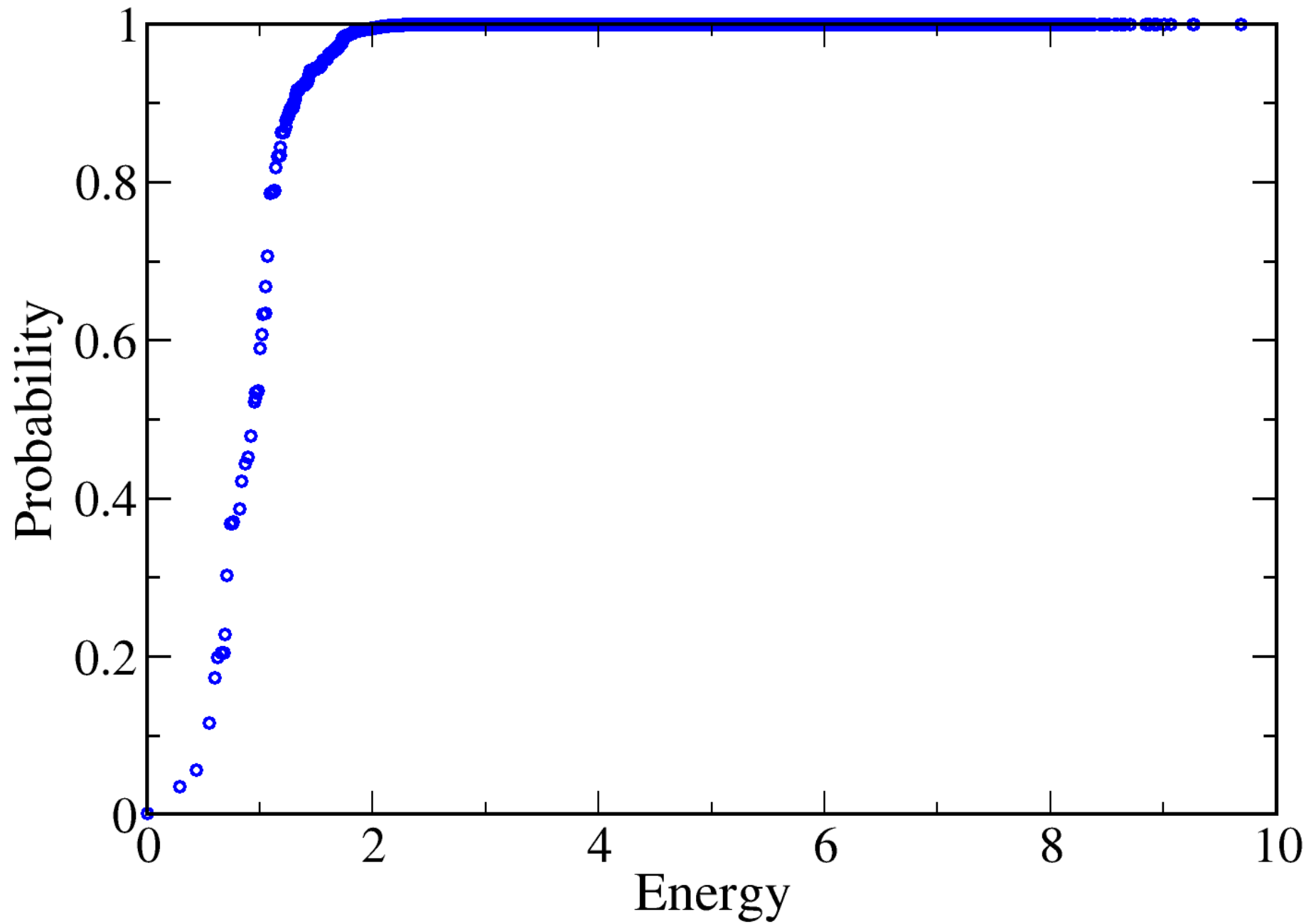
$$g_3 = Y \otimes X \otimes I \otimes Z$$

Conclusion

- Energy gap against local excitations can protect adiabatic quantum computers against noise
- Such gaps can be engineered into the Hamiltonians using error detecting codes
- The resulting universal Hamiltonians are 4-local
- Future work:
 - improve locality noise-resistant Hamiltonians
 - protect against higher weight errors
 - investigate control error
 - fault-tolerance threshold?







Adiabatic Theorem

- Ambainis and Regev:

$$T \geq \frac{10^5}{\delta^2} \cdot \max \left\{ \frac{\|H'\|^3}{\gamma^4}, \frac{\|H'\| \|H''\|}{\gamma^3} \right\}$$

- Teufel:

$$T \geq \frac{4}{\epsilon} \left[\frac{\left\| \frac{dH}{ds}(0) \right\|}{\gamma(0)^2} + \frac{\left\| \frac{dH}{ds}(1) \right\|}{\gamma(1)^2} + \int_0^1 ds \left(10 \frac{\left\| \frac{dH}{ds} \right\|^2}{\gamma^3} + \frac{\left\| \frac{d^2H}{ds^2} \right\|}{\gamma} \right) \right]$$

- runtime scales polynomially with inverse gap

Control Error

- Suppose final Hamiltonian is slightly off:

$$H(T) = H_0(T) + \lambda V$$

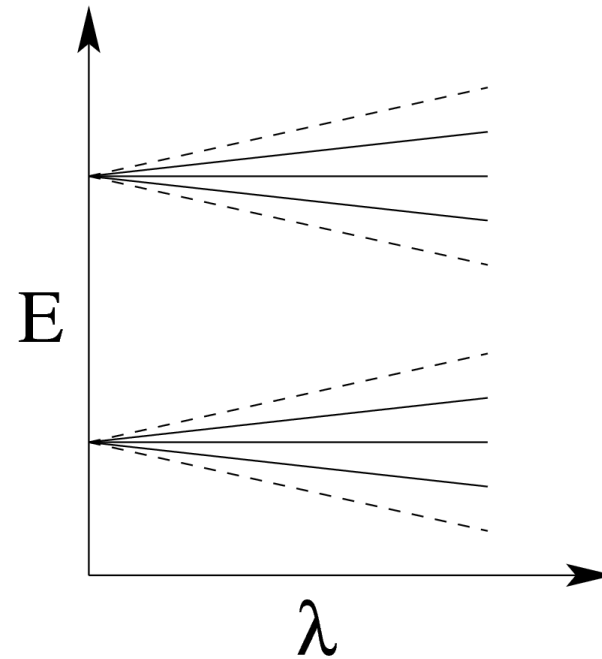
- Resulting ground state is:

$$|\tilde{\psi}_0\rangle = |\psi_0\rangle + \lambda \sum_{k \neq 0} |\psi_k\rangle \frac{\langle \psi_k | V | \psi_0 \rangle}{E_0 - E_k} + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^2)$$

- Gap against local operators ensures denominator $\geq E_p$

Degenerate Perturbation Theory

$$H = H_0 + \lambda V$$



$$H_{\text{eff}}(\lambda) \equiv \sum_{j=1}^d E_j(\lambda) |\psi_j(\lambda)\rangle \langle \psi_j(\lambda)|$$

Perturbation to All Orders

$$H_{\text{eff}} = E_0^{(0)} I + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \lambda^m H_{\text{eff}}^{(m)}$$

$$H_{\text{eff}}^{(m)} = (-1)^{m-1} \sum_{k_1 \dots k_{m+1}} S^{k_1} V S^{k_2} V \dots V S^{k_{m+1}}$$

$$S^k = \begin{cases} \sum_{j \neq 0} \frac{P_j}{(E_j^{(0)} - E_0^{(0)})^k} & \text{if } k > 0 \\ -P_0 & \text{if } k = 0 \end{cases}$$

converges if $\|\lambda V\| < \frac{\gamma}{2}$

2nd Order Gadget

- To simulate $Z \otimes Z \otimes Z \otimes Z$ add an ancilla qubit and choose $H_0 = -E_p|0\rangle\langle 0|$
- choose $V = Z \otimes Z \otimes I \otimes I \otimes X$
 $+ I \otimes I \otimes Z \otimes Z \otimes X$

$$H_{\text{eff}}^{(1)} = S^0 V S^0 = P_0 V P_0$$

$$H_{\text{eff}}^{(2)} = S^0 V S^0 V S^1 + S^0 V S^1 V S^0 + S^1 V S^0 V S^0$$

$$S^k = \begin{cases} \sum_{j \neq 0} \frac{P_j}{(E_j^{(0)} - E_0^{(0)})^k} & \text{if } k > 0 \\ -P_0 & \text{if } k = 0 \end{cases}$$

2nd Order Gadget

$$V = Z \otimes Z \otimes I \otimes I \otimes X + I \otimes I \otimes Z \otimes Z \otimes X$$

$$H_{\text{eff}}^{(2)} = P_0 V \frac{P_1}{E_1^{(0)} - E_0^{(0)}} V P_0 = \frac{1}{E_p} P_0 V^2 P_0$$

$$= \frac{1}{E_p} (2Z \otimes Z \otimes Z \otimes Z \otimes I + 2I)$$

In general, simulates 2k-local Hamiltonian
with (k+1)-local Hamiltonian

eigen-energies

Penalty term breaks
this degeneracy

