# Constraint Satisfaction in the Quantum World

Algebras, CSPs, and Quantum Computing



$$\left\{egin{array}{l} a_{11}x_1+a_{12}x_2+\cdots+a_{1n}x_n=b_1\ a_{21}x_1+a_{22}x_2+\cdots+a_{2n}x_n=b_2\ dots\ a_{m1}x_1+a_{m2}x_2+\cdots+a_{mn}x_n=b_m, \end{array}
ight.$$

System of equations

```
\left\{egin{array}{l} a_{11}x_1+a_{12}x_2+\cdots+a_{1n}x_n=b_1\ a_{21}x_1+a_{22}x_2+\cdots+a_{2n}x_n=b_2\ dots\ a_{m1}x_1+a_{m2}x_2+\cdots+a_{mn}x_n=b_m, \end{array}
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ight.
```





System of equations

Ising model

MaxCut



Ising model

Quantum Ising model



XOR games





Ising model

#### Quantum Ising model (local Hamiltonians)



XOR games (nonlocal games, MIP\*,...)





Classical CSPs (constraint satisfaction problems)

Local Hamiltonians



Nonlocal games





Classical CSPs (constraint satisfaction problems)

A rich extension

Local Hamiltonians









## **Classical CSPs**



$$E = \sum_{i,j} J_{ij} x_i x_j$$

$$x_i \in \{-1, +1\}$$



$$E = \sum_{i,j} J_{ij} x_i x_j = \sum_{i,j} x_i x_j \qquad x_i \in \{-1, +1\}$$





 $x_i \in \{-1, +1\}$ 

Minimize 
$$\sum_{i,j} x_i x_j$$

Minimize 
$$\sum_{i,j} x_i x_j$$



Minimize 
$$\sum_{i,j} x_i x_j$$



#### 2-coloring

Minimize 
$$\sum_{i,j} x_i x_j$$





Minimize 
$$\sum_{i,j} x_i x_j$$



 $\sum_{i,j} x_i x_j$ 

Subject to:  $x_i \in \{-1, +1\}$ 

### Higher-dimensional relaxation

Minimize  $\sum_{i,j} \langle \vec{x}_i, \vec{x}_j \rangle$ <br/>Subject to:  $d \in \mathbb{N}$ <br/> $\vec{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$ <br/> $\|\vec{x}_i\| = 1$ 



 $\sum_{i,j} x_i x_j$ 

Subject to:  $x_i \in \{-1, +1\}$ 

### Higher-dimensional relaxations

| Minimize    | $\sum_{i,j}  \langle \vec{x}_i, \vec{x}_j \rangle$ | Minimize    | $\sum_{i,j}  \langle X_i, X_j \rangle$ |
|-------------|--|-------------|--|
| Subject to: | $d \in \mathbb{N}$                                 | Subject to: | $d \in \mathbb{N}$                     |
|             | $\vec{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$                       |             | $X_i \in \mathbb{C}^{d \times d}$      |
|             | $\ \vec{x}_{i}\  = 1$                              |             |  |



Subject to:  $x_i \in \{-1, +1\}$ 

 $\sum_{i,j} x_i x_j$ 

### Higher-dimensional relaxations

| Minimize    | $\sum_{i,j}  \langle \vec{x}_i,$ | $\vec{x}_j \rangle$ Minimize | $\sum_{i,j}  \langle X_i, X_j \rangle$ |
|-------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Subject to: | $d \in \mathbb{N}$               | Subject to:                  | $d \in \mathbb{N}$                     |
|             | $\vec{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$     |                              | $X_i \in \mathbb{C}^{d \times d}$      |
|             | $\ \vec{x}_i\  = 1$              |                              | ?                                      |



 $\sum_{i,j} x_i x_j$ 

Subject to:  $x_i \in \{-1, +1\}$ 

### Higher-dimensional relaxations

| Minimize    | $\sum_{i,j}  \langle \vec{x}_i, \vec{x}_j \rangle$ | Minimize    | $\sum_{i,j}  \langle X_i, X_j \rangle$ |
|-------------|--|-------------|--|
| Subject to: | $d \in \mathbb{N}$                                 | Subject to: | $d \in \mathbb{N}$                     |
|             | $\vec{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$                       |             | $X_i \in \mathbb{C}^{d \times d}$      |
|             | $\ \vec{x}_{i}\  = 1$                              | $X_{l}$     | is a unitary operator                  |
|             |  | with        | $\{-1, +1\}$ eigenvalues               |



 $\sum_{i,j} x_i x_j$ 

Subject to:  $x_i \in \{-1, +1\}$ 

### **Operator 2-coloring**

Minimize



Subject to:

 $d \in \mathbb{N}$   $X_i \in \mathbb{C}^{d \times d}$   $X_i \text{ is a unitary operator}$ with {-1, +1} eigenvalues





Subject to:  $x_i \in \{-1, +1\}$ 



Minimize  $\sum_{i,j} \langle X_i, X_j \rangle$   $\langle X_i, X_j \rangle = \frac{\operatorname{Tr}(X_i^{\dagger}X_j)}{d} = \operatorname{tr}(X_i^{\dagger}X_j)$ Subject to:  $d \in \mathbb{N}$  $X_i \in \mathbb{C}^{d \times d}$  $X_i$  is a unitary operator

with  $\{-1, +1\}$  eigenvalues



 $\sum_{i,j} x_i x_j$ 

Subject to:  $x_i \in \{-1, +1\}$ 

### **Operator 2-coloring**

Minimize



Subject to:

 $d \in \mathbb{N}$   $X_i \in \mathbb{C}^{d \times d}$   $X_i \text{ is a unitary operator}$ with {-1, +1} eigenvalues



 $\sum_{i,j} x_i x_j$ 

Subject to:  $x_i \in \{-1, +1\}$ 

### **Operator 2-coloring**

| Minimize    | $\sum_{i,j} \operatorname{tr}(X_i X_j)$                      |          |  |
|-------------|--|----------|--|
| Subject to: | $d \in \mathbb{N}$ $X_i \in \mathbb{C}^{d \times d}$         |          |  |
|             | $X_i$ is a unitary operator<br>with $\{-1, +1\}$ eigenvalues | <b>4</b> | Is called a (binary) observable<br>in quantum info |





Subject to:  $x_i \in \{-1, +1\}$ 

### **Operator 2-coloring**

Minimize



Subject to:  $X_i$  is an observable

# Operator assignment

is a generalization of

# random assignment





Deterministic:









**X**<sub>7</sub>



Deterministic:





 $X_7$ 

Operator:

Probabilistic:

 $X_i$  is a unitary with  $\{-1, +1\}$  eigenvalues

 $X_i$  is a unitary with  $\{-1, +1\}$  eigenvalues in  $\mathbb{C}^{d \times d}$ 

 $X_i$  is a binary observable

 $X_i$  is a unitary with  $\{-1, +1\}$  eigenvalues in  $\mathbb{C}^{d \times d}$ 

 $X_i$  is a binary observable

$$\operatorname{tr}(X_i X_j) = \langle \psi \, | \, X_i X_j \otimes I \, | \, \psi \rangle$$

where 
$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{d}} \sum_{t=0}^{d-1} |t\rangle \otimes |t\rangle$$
 is the MES

 $X_i$  is a unitary with  $\{-1, +1\}$  eigenvalues in  $\mathbb{C}^{d \times d}$ 

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$$\operatorname{tr}(X_i X_j) = \langle \psi \,|\, X_i X_j \otimes I \,|\, \psi \rangle$$
$$= \langle \psi \,|\, X_i \otimes X_j^T \,|\, \psi \rangle$$

where 
$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{d}} \sum_{t=0}^{d-1} |t\rangle \otimes |t\rangle$$
 is the MES
$X_i$  is a binary observable

$$\operatorname{tr}(X_{i}X_{j}) = \langle \psi | X_{i}X_{j} \otimes I | \psi \rangle$$
$$= \langle \psi | X_{i} \otimes X_{j}^{T} | \psi \rangle$$
$$= \langle \psi | X_{i} \otimes X_{j} | \psi \rangle$$

where 
$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{d}} \sum_{t=0}^{d-1} |t\rangle \otimes |t\rangle$$
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Simultaneously measuring observables  $X_i$  and  $X_j$  on halves of MES

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$$= \langle \psi | X_{i} \otimes X_{j} | \psi \rangle$$

where 
$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{d}} \sum_{t=0}^{d-1} |t\rangle \otimes |t\rangle$$
 is the MES

Simultaneously measuring observables  $X_i$  and  $X_j$  on halves of MES

$$= \Pr(x_i x_j = 1) - \Pr(x_i x_j = -1)$$

and letting 
$$x_i$$
 and  $x_j$  denote the outcome of measurements

 $X_i$  is a unitary with  $\{-1, +1\}$  eigenvalues in  $\mathbb{C}^{d \times d}$ 

 $X_i$  is a binary observable

$$\operatorname{tr}(X_{i}X_{j}) = \langle \psi | X_{i}X_{j} \otimes I | \psi \rangle$$
$$= \langle \psi | X_{i} \otimes X_{j}^{T} | \psi \rangle$$
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 $X_i$  is a unitary with  $\{-1, +1\}$  eigenvalues in  $\mathbb{C}^{d \times d}$ 

 $X_i$  is a binary observable

 $tr(X_iX_j) = Pr(x_ix_j = 1) - Pr(x_ix_j = -1)$ 

 $X_i$  is a unitary with  $\{-1, +1\}$  eigenvalues in  $\mathbb{C}^{d \times d}$ 

 $X_i$  is a binary observable

 $tr(X_iX_j) = Pr(x_ix_j = 1) - Pr(x_ix_j = -1)$ 

# Similarly in probability theory

 $\mathbf{x}_i$  is a random variable with outcomes  $\{-1, +1\}$ 

 $\mathbf{x}_i$  is a binary random variable

 $X_i$  is a unitary with  $\{-1, +1\}$  eigenvalues in  $\mathbb{C}^{d \times d}$ 

 $X_i$  is a binary observable

 $tr(X_iX_j) = Pr(x_ix_j = 1) - Pr(x_ix_j = -1)$ 

# Similarly in probability theory

 $\mathbf{x}_i$  is a random variable with outcomes  $\{-1, +1\}$ 

 $\mathbf{x}_i$  is a binary random variable

 $\mathbb{E}(\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_j) = \Pr(\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_j = +1) - \Pr(\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_j = -1)$ 

 $X_i$  is a unitary with  $\{-1, +1\}$  eigenvalues in  $\mathbb{C}^{d \times d}$ 

 $X_i$  is a binary observable

 $tr(X_iX_j) = Pr(x_ix_j = 1) - Pr(x_ix_j = -1)$ 

# Similarly in probability theory

 $\mathbf{x}_i$  is a random variable with outcomes  $\{-1, +1\}$ 

 $\mathbf{x}_i$  is a binary random variable

 $\mathbb{E}(\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_j) = \Pr(\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_j = +1) - (\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_j = -1)$ 

# **Operator CSPs**

can be formulated as

# entangled nonlocal games













$$\Pr_{i,j}(a,b) = \operatorname{tr}(\frac{I + aX_i}{2} \frac{I + bX_j}{2})$$







J ↓ b



*J* ↓ *b* 



) ↓ b

# for the rest of the talk all we care is ...

#### CSP: polynomial optimization over $\mathbb{C}$



#### CSP: polynomial optimization over $\mathbb{C}$



#### **OP-CSP:** polynomial optimization over matrix algebras $\mathbb{C}^{d \times d}$

Minimize 
$$\sum_{i,j} \operatorname{tr}(X_i X_j)$$
  
Subject to:  $X_i^2 = X_i^* X_i = 1$   
 $X_i \in \mathbb{C}^{d \times d}$   
 $d \in \mathbb{N}$ 

#### **Approximation algorithms for constraint satisfaction problems**



Constraint satisfaction

A rich extension

Operator constraint satisfaction



# The algebraic nature of our tools

fits

# the algebraic nature of CSPs and OP-CSPs

# The algebraic nature of our tools

# fits

# the algebraic nature of CSPs and OP-CSPs

(sum-check protocol, low-degree testing, Fourier analysis on the hypercube)

A classical theorem involving NP-hard and CSP

# A classical theorem involving NP-hard and CSP

becomes

# A theorem that involves RE-hard and OP-CSP

#### **CSPs in classical and quantum worlds**



# Other Quantum CSPs

Local Hamiltonians

# **Operator Ising model**

Minimize  $\sum_{i,j} \operatorname{tr}(X_i X_j)$ 

Subject to:  $X_i$  is an observable

# Operator Ising model — A feasible solution

Minimize 
$$\sum_{i,j} \operatorname{tr}(X_i X_j)$$

$$X_i = \overbrace{I \otimes I \otimes \cdots \otimes \sigma^x}^{i} \otimes \cdots \otimes I = \sigma_i^x$$

Subject to:  $X_i$  is an observable

# Operator Ising model — A feasible solution

Minimize  $\sum_{i,j} \operatorname{tr}(X_i X_j)$ 

$$X_i = \overbrace{I \otimes I \otimes \cdots \otimes \sigma^x}^i \otimes \cdots \otimes I = \sigma_i^x$$







# Operator Ising model — A feasible solution



$$X_i = \overbrace{I \otimes I \otimes \cdots \otimes \sigma^x}^i \otimes \cdots \otimes I = \sigma_i^x$$



# Optimize over all states — Value of this solution

Minimize 
$$\sum_{i,j} \langle \psi | \sigma_i^x \sigma_j^x | \psi \rangle$$

 $\sum_{i,j} \operatorname{tr}(\sigma_i^x \sigma_j^x)$ 

# **Operator Ising model**

Minimize  $\sum_{i,j} \operatorname{tr}(X_i X_j)$ 

Subject to:  $X_i$  is an observable

## **Optimize over all states**

Minimize

$$\sum_{i,j} \langle \psi \, | \, \sigma_i^x \sigma_j^x | \, \psi \rangle$$

# **Operator Ising (optimize over operators)**

Minimize 
$$\sum_{i,j} \operatorname{tr}(X_i X_j)$$

Subject to:  $X_i$  is an observable

# **Optimize over all states**

Minimize  $\sum_{i=1}^{n}$ 

$$\sum_{i,j} \langle \psi \, | \, \sigma^x_i \sigma^x_j | \psi 
angle$$

# **Operator Ising (optimize over operators)**

Minimize 
$$\sum_{i,j} \operatorname{tr}(X_i X_j)$$

Subject to:  $X_i$  is an observable

# Optimize over all states equivalent to classical Ising

Minimize 
$$\sum_{i,j} \langle \psi | \sigma_i^x \sigma_j^x | \psi \rangle$$

Subject to:  $|\psi\rangle$  is a state

Minimize  $\sum_{i,j} x_i x_j$ 

Subject to:  $x_i^2 = 1$ 

# **Classical Ising model**

Minimize  $\sum_{i,j} \langle \psi | \sigma_i^x \sigma_j^x | \psi \rangle$ 

# **Classical Ising model**

Minimize  $\sum_{i,j} \langle \psi | \sigma_i^x \sigma_j^x | \psi \rangle$ 

Subject to:  $|\psi\rangle$  is a state

# Quantum Heisenberg model

Minimize 
$$\sum_{i,j} \langle \psi | \sigma_i^x \sigma_j^x + \sigma_i^y \sigma_j^y + \sigma_i^z \sigma_j^z | \psi \rangle$$

# **Classical Ising model**

Minimize  $\sum_{i,j} \langle \psi | \sigma_i^x \sigma_j^x | \psi \rangle$ 

Subject to:  $|\psi\rangle$  is a state

# Quantum Heisenberg model

Minimize 
$$\sum_{i,j} \langle \psi | \sigma_i^x \sigma_j^x + \sigma_i^y \sigma_j^y + \sigma_i^z \sigma_j^z | \psi \rangle$$

Local Hamiltonian terms:  $\sigma_i^x \sigma_j^x + \sigma_i^y \sigma_j^y + \sigma_i^z \sigma_j^z$ 

A special case of the local Hamiltonian problem



Variables:

Objective function:

-1, +1

 $x_1x_2 + x_2x_3 + \cdots$


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-1, +1

Objective function:

 $x_1x_2 + x_2x_3 + \cdots$ 



 $X_3$ 

Observables

 $\operatorname{tr}\left(X_1X_2 + X_2X_3 + \cdots\right)$ 



 $X_3$  $X_2$  $X_4$  $X_4$  $X_5$  $X_8$  $X_6$  $X_7$ 



Variables:

-1, +1

Objective function:

 $x_1x_2 + x_2x_3 + \cdots$ 

Observables

 $\operatorname{tr}\left(X_1X_2 + X_2X_3 + \cdots\right)$ 

Qubits

 $\langle \psi | \sigma_1^x \sigma_2^x + \sigma_1^y \sigma_2^y + \sigma_1^z \sigma_2^z | \psi \rangle + \cdots$ 

Not algebraic

#### **Approximation algorithms for constraint satisfaction problems**



# CSPs: commutative algebras 🙃

# **OP-CSPs: matrix algebras**

# CSPs: commutative algebras 🙃

# **OP-CSPs: matrix algebras**

# Local Hamiltonians: not algebraic

# Algorithms for OP-CSPs



#### MaxCut



s.t.  $x_i$  is  $\pm 1$ 

#### **OP-MaxCut**

| max | $\sum J_{ij} tr(X_i X_j)$ |
|-----|---------------------------|
|-----|---------------------------|

s.t.  $X_i$  is an observable



#### MaxCut



#### **OP-MaxCut**

| max | $\sum J_{ij} tr(X_i X_j)$ |
|-----|---------------------------|
|-----|---------------------------|

s.t.  $X_i$  is an observable

• Karp 1972: MaxCut is NP-Complete (is hard)





#### **OP-MaxCut**

| nax | $\sum J_{ij} tr(X_i X_j)$ |  |
|-----|---------------------------|--|
|     |                           |  |

s.t.  $X_i$  is an observable

- Karp 1972: MaxCut is NP-Complete (is hard)
- Tsirelson 1980: OP-MaxCut is in P (is efficiently solvable)





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- The best algorithm for MaxCut is SDP rounding by Goemans and Williamson







- Karp 1972: MaxCut is NP-Complete (is hard)
- Tsirelson 1980: OP-MaxCut is in P (is efficiently solvable)
- The best algorithm for MaxCut is SDP rounding by Goemans and Williamson
- Tsirelson's algorithm is an operator generalization of Goemans and Willamson

#### Max-3-Cut



(a) Example of a partition of vertices into three subsets



(b) Max-3-Cut as a polynomial optimization

#### Max-3-Cut



(a) Example of a partition of vertices into three subsets



(b) Max-3-Cut as a polynomial optimization

#### **OP-Max-3-Cut**

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{maximize:} & \sum_{(i,j)\in E} \frac{2-\left\langle X_i,X_j\right\rangle-\left\langle X_j,X_i\right\rangle}{3} \\ \text{subject to:} & X_i \text{ unitary with eigenvalues } 1,\omega,\omega^2. \end{array}$$

#### **Best algorithms for Max-3-Cut**



Frieze and Jerrum

Culf, M., Spirig

# A classical theorem involving NP-hard and CSP

becomes

# A theorem that involves RE-hard and OP-CSP

# Hardness of Approximation for OP-CSPs

#### Hardness front: PCP theorem

• PCP theorem: Approximating Label-Cover is NP-hard (Arora, Safra, Lund, Motwani, Sudan, Szegedy, Raz, Håstad)

 NC-PCP theorem (MIP\*=RE): Approximating OP-Label-Cover is RE-hard (Ji, Natarajan, Vidick, Wright, Yuen 2020)

#### Hardness front: PCP theorem

• PCP theorem: Approximating Label-Cover is NP-hard (Arora, Safra, Lund, Motwani, Sudan, Szegedy, Raz, Håstad)

 NC-PCP theorem (MIP\*=RE): Approximating OP-Label-Cover is RE-hard (Ji, Natarajan, Vidick, Wright, Yuen 2020)

• Compare this with the situation for the Local Hamiltonian problem (LH):

Quantum PCP conjecture: Approximating Local Hamiltonian is QMA-hard

#### Hardness front: Unique games conjecture (UGC)

• Similarly UGC has an operator analogue

 Assuming UGC, approximating MaxCut to better than 0.878 is NP-hard (Khot, Kindler, Mossel, O'Donnell)

 Assuming Q-UGC, approximating Q-MaxCut to better than 0.878 is RE-hard (M., Spirig)

\*Q-MaxCut is a version of OP-MaxCut we did not discuss in the talk!

#### **OP-CSPs and complexity classes**







#### They also capture all the nondeterministic classes





#### They also capture all the nondeterministic classes



#### But they skip on quantum complexity classes!



#### But they skip on quantum complexity classes



#### Local-Hamiltonian fills the gap







- Restricting the dimension of observable => nondeterministic classes
- Requiring that the observables are efficiently implementable



 $\max \sum tr(X_i X_j)$ 

s.t.  $X_i$  is an observable with an efficient circuit



#### **Set of correlations**



#### **Efficiently generated correlations**



# Summary

- Two generalization of CSPs in quantum information
  - Local Hamiltonians
  - OP-CSPs
- OP-CSPs share the algebraicity of classical CSPs
- We have been able to reach almost the same maturity in OP-CSPs
- Many of the CS tools applicable to CSPs are algebraic in nature
- For Local Hamiltonian we need to invent new tools
- But we may be able to understand QMA better
  - if we find an OP-CSP that captures it!

# But why in Computer Science?

#### Magic Square
### **Perfect Operator Solution**

Mermin 1990 and Peres 1990

| $I \otimes X$ | $X \otimes I$ | $X \otimes X$    | +I |
|---------------|---------------|------------------|----|
| $Z \otimes I$ | $I \otimes Z$ | $Z \otimes Z$    | +I |
| $Z \otimes X$ | $X \otimes Z$ | $Y \bigotimes Y$ | +I |
| +I            | +I            | -I               |    |

| <i>x</i> <sub>11</sub> | <i>x</i> <sub>12</sub> | <i>x</i> <sub>13</sub> | +1 |                   |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----|-------------------|
| <i>x</i> <sub>21</sub> | <i>x</i> <sub>22</sub> | <i>x</i> <sub>23</sub> | +1 | $\longrightarrow$ |
| <i>x</i> <sub>31</sub> | <i>x</i> <sub>32</sub> | <i>x</i> <sub>33</sub> | +1 |                   |

| $I \otimes X$ | $X \otimes I$ | $X \otimes X$ | +I |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|----|
| $Z \otimes I$ | $I \otimes Z$ | $Z \otimes Z$ | +I |
| $Z \otimes X$ | $X \otimes Z$ | $Y \otimes Y$ | +I |

+1 +1 -1

+I +I -I

 $x_{ij} \in \{+1, -1\}$ 

|                         |                        |                        | 7  |                   |               |               |               | _  |
|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----|-------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----|
| <i>x</i> <sub>11</sub>  | <i>x</i> <sub>12</sub> | <i>x</i> <sub>13</sub> | +1 |                   | $I \otimes X$ | $X \otimes I$ | $X \otimes X$ | +I |
| <i>x</i> <sub>21</sub>  | <i>x</i> <sub>22</sub> | <i>x</i> <sub>23</sub> | +1 | $\longrightarrow$ | $Z \otimes I$ | $I \otimes Z$ | $Z \otimes Z$ | +I |
| <i>x</i> <sub>31</sub>  | <i>x</i> <sub>32</sub> | <i>x</i> <sub>33</sub> | +1 |                   | $Z \otimes X$ | $X \otimes Z$ | $Y \otimes Y$ | +I |
| +1                      | +1                     | -1                     | ]  |                   | +I            | +I            | - <i>I</i>    | I  |
| $x_{ij} \in \{+1, -1\}$ |                        |                        |    |                   |               |               |               |    |

Binary alphabet  $\{+1, -1\}$  in the classical case  $\longrightarrow$  Binary observables

|                         |                        |                        | -  |                   |               |               |               |    |
|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----|-------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----|
| <i>x</i> <sub>11</sub>  | <i>x</i> <sub>12</sub> | <i>x</i> <sub>13</sub> | +1 |                   | $I \otimes X$ | $X \otimes I$ | $X \otimes X$ | +I |
| <i>x</i> <sub>21</sub>  | <i>x</i> <sub>22</sub> | <i>x</i> <sub>23</sub> | +1 | $\longrightarrow$ | $Z \otimes I$ | $I \otimes Z$ | $Z \otimes Z$ | +I |
| <i>x</i> <sub>31</sub>  | <i>x</i> <sub>32</sub> | <i>x</i> <sub>33</sub> | +1 |                   | $Z \otimes X$ | $X \otimes Z$ | $Y \otimes Y$ | +I |
| +1                      | +1                     | -1                     | _  |                   | +I            | +I            | -I            |    |
| $x_{ij} \in \{+1, -1\}$ |                        |                        |    |                   |               |               |               |    |

Binary alphabet  $\{+1, -1\}$  in the classical case  $\longrightarrow$  Binary observables

Binary observables: Unitary operators with  $\{+1, -1\}$  eigenvalues  $O^*O = O^2 = I$ 

## An operator CSP

$$X_{ij}^* X_{ij} = I$$

$$X_{ij}^* X_{ij} = I$$

$$X_{21}^2 = I$$

$$X_{31}^2 = I$$

$$X_{31} = X_{32} = X_{33} + I$$

$$+I = +I = -I$$

# **An operator CSP**



When restricting to one dimension we recover the classical CSP

Because  $\pm 1$  are the only binary observables is one dimension

#### **Perfect Operator Solution: algebraic structure**

Mermin 1990 and Peres 1990

| $I \otimes X$ | $X \otimes I$ | $X \otimes X$    | +I |
|---------------|---------------|------------------|----|
| $Z \otimes I$ | $I \otimes Z$ | $Z \otimes Z$    | +I |
| $Z \otimes X$ | $X \otimes Z$ | $Y \bigotimes Y$ | +I |
| +I            | +I            | -I               |    |

### **Uniqueness of the perfect solution**

$$X_{11}X_{12} = X_{12}X_{11}, \quad X_{12}X_{21} = -X_{21}X_{12}, \quad \bullet \bullet \bullet$$