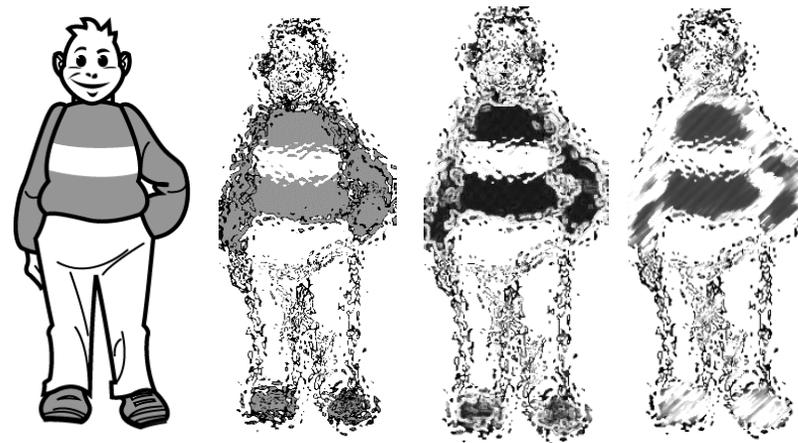
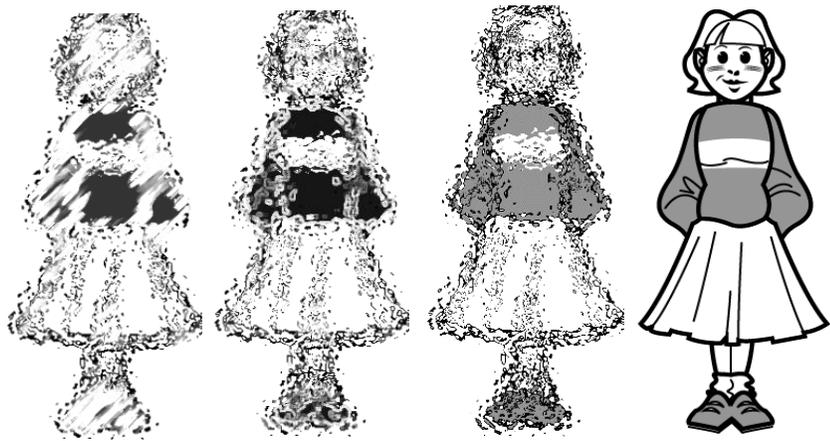
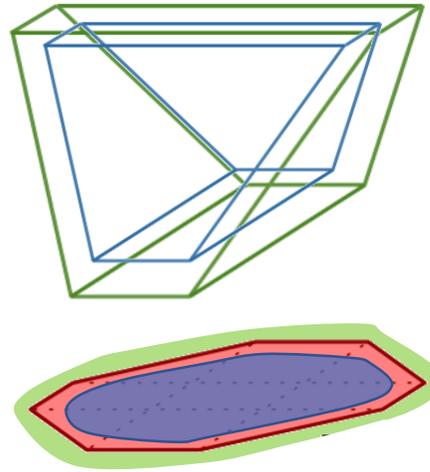
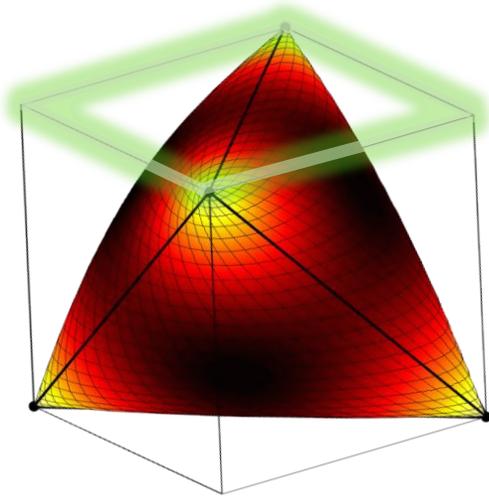


# spectrahedral lifts (SDPs) and quantum learning

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James R. Lee

University of Washington



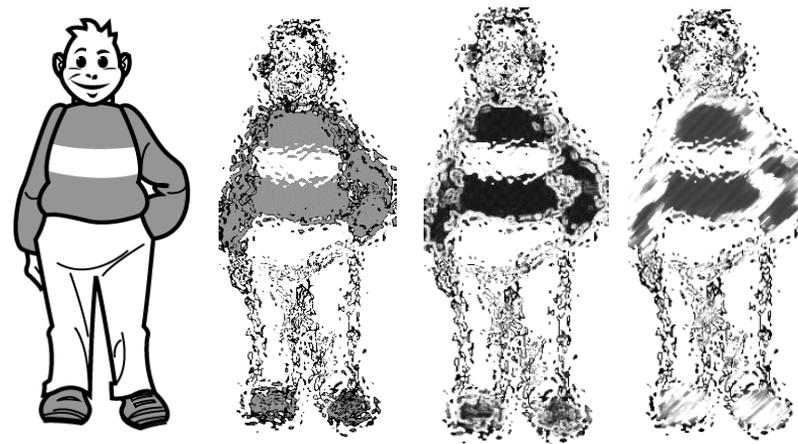
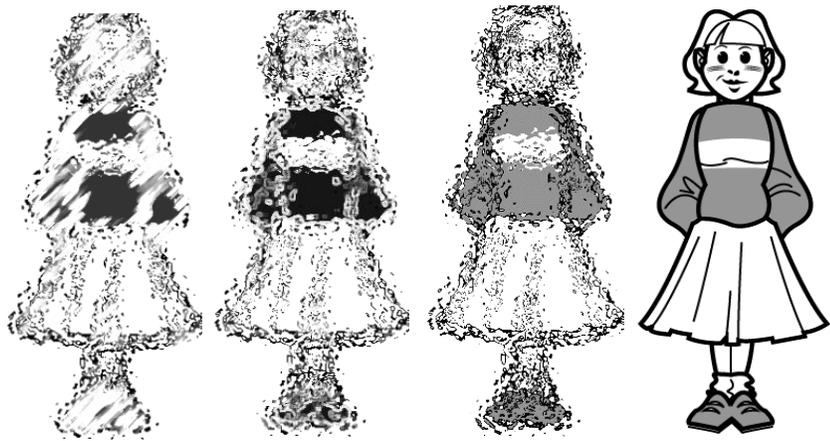
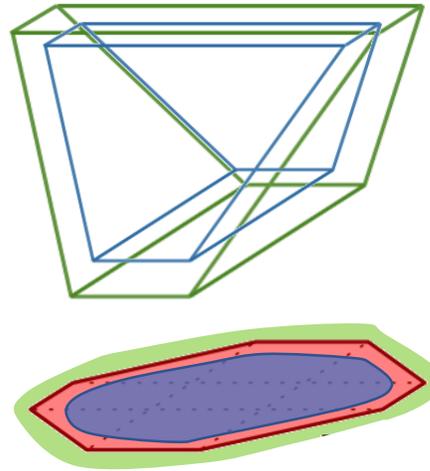
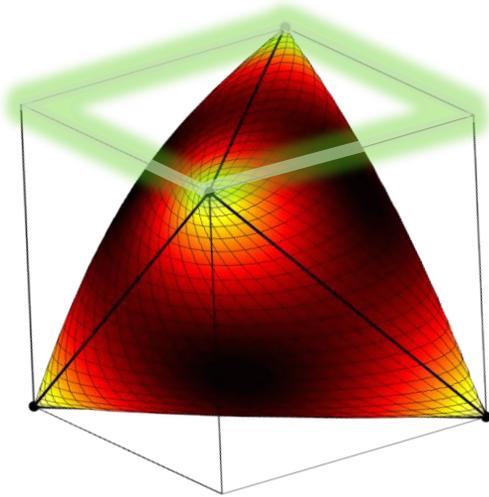
PSPACE 2017

# spectrahedral lifts (SDPs) and quantum learning

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James R. Lee

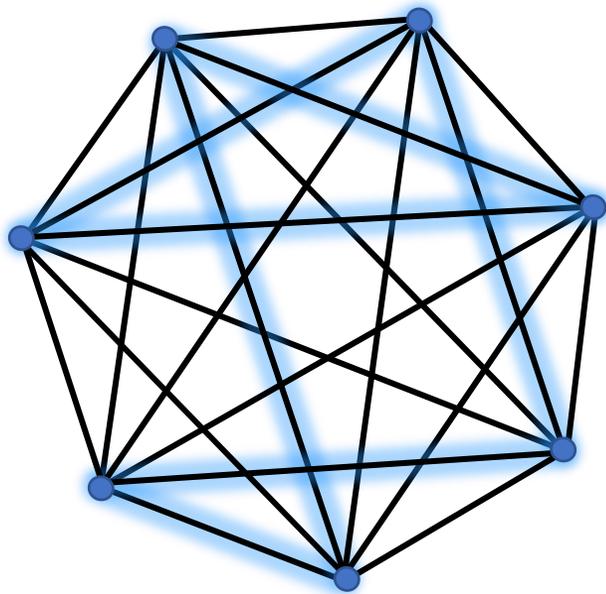
University of Washington



## Traveling Salesman Problem:

Given  $n$  cities  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  and costs  $c_{ij} \geq 0$  for traveling between cities  $i$  and  $j$ , find the permutation  $\pi$  of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  that minimizes

$$c_{\pi(1)\pi(2)} + c_{\pi(2)\pi(3)} + \dots + c_{\pi(n)\pi(1)}$$



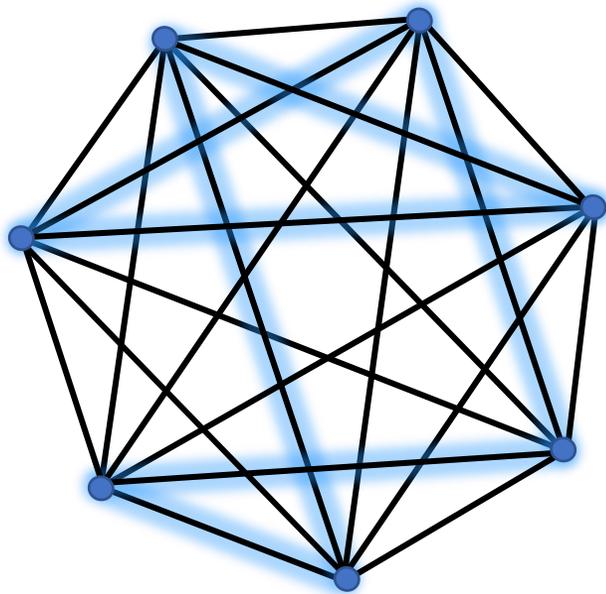
Attempts to solve the traveling salesman problem and related problems of discrete minimization have led to a revival and a great development of the theory of polyhedra in spaces of  $n$  dimensions, which lay practically untouched – except for isolated results – since Archimedes. Recent work has created a field of unsuspected beauty and power, which is far from being exhausted.

Gian Carlo Rota, 1969

## Traveling Salesman Problem:

Given  $n$  cities  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  and costs  $c_{ij} \geq 0$  for traveling between cities  $i$  and  $j$ , find the permutation  $\pi$  of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  that minimizes

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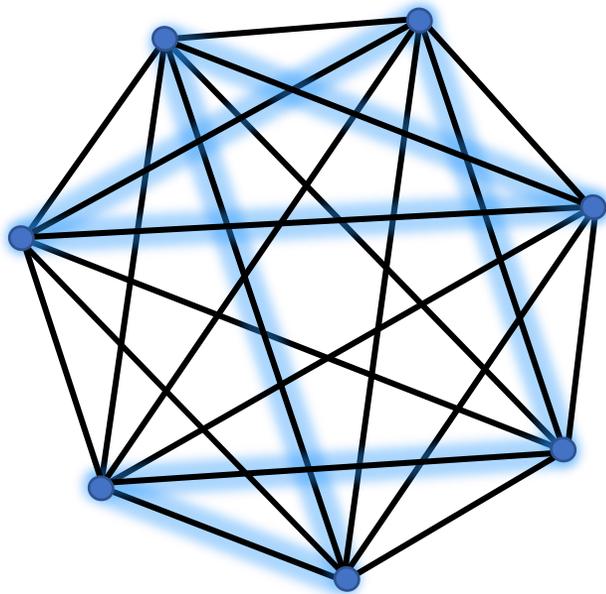
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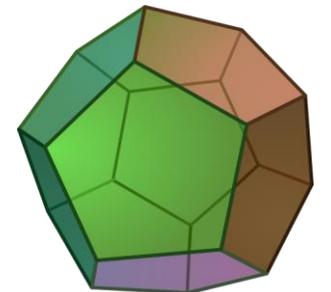
$$c_{\pi(1)\pi(2)} + c_{\pi(2)\pi(3)} + \dots + c_{\pi(n)\pi(1)}$$



$$\text{TSP}_n = \text{conv} \left( \left\{ 1_\tau \in \{0,1\}^{\binom{n}{2}} : \tau \text{ is a tour} \right\} \right) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{\binom{n}{2}}$$

Can find an optimal tour by minimizing a linear function over  $\text{TSP}_n$ :  $\min \{ \langle c, x \rangle : x \in \text{TSP}_n \}$

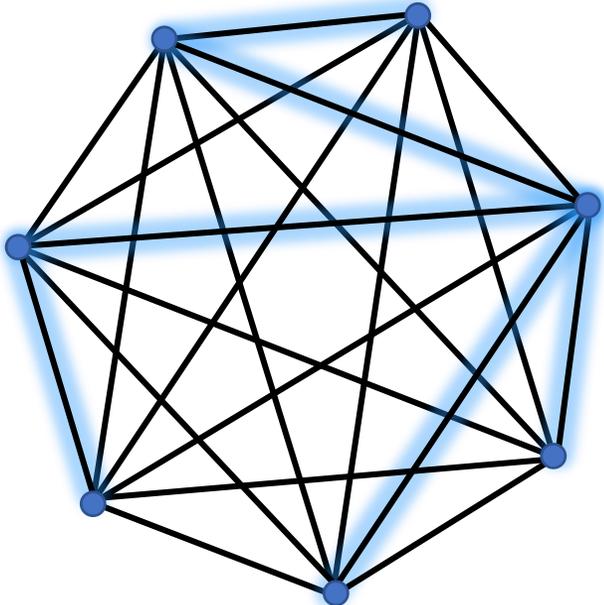
**Problem:  $\text{TSP}_n$  has exponentially many facets!**



One can tell the same (short) story for many polytopes associated to NP-complete problems.

Minimum Spanning Tree:

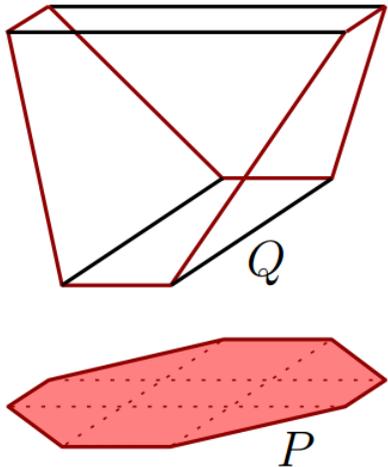
Given  $n$  cities  $\{1,2, \dots, n\}$  and costs  $c_{ij} \geq 0$  between cities  $i$  and  $j$ , find a spanning tree of minimum cost.



$$ST_n = \text{conv} \left( \left\{ 1_\tau \in \{0,1\}^{\binom{n}{2}} : \tau \text{ is a spanning tree} \right\} \right)$$

Again, has exponentially many facets.

There is a **lift** of  $ST_n$  in  $n^3$  dimensions with only  $O(n^3)$  facets. [Martin 1991]



# a general model of (small) linear programs

---

## Lifts of polytopes:

A **lift**  $Q$  of a polytope  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$  is a polytope  $Q \subseteq \mathbb{R}^N$  for  $N \geq d$  such that  $Q$  linearly projects to  $P$ . If we can optimize linear functions over  $Q$ , then we can optimize over  $P$ .

## LP design point of view:

A lift corresponds to introducing (arbitrary) new variables and inequalities.

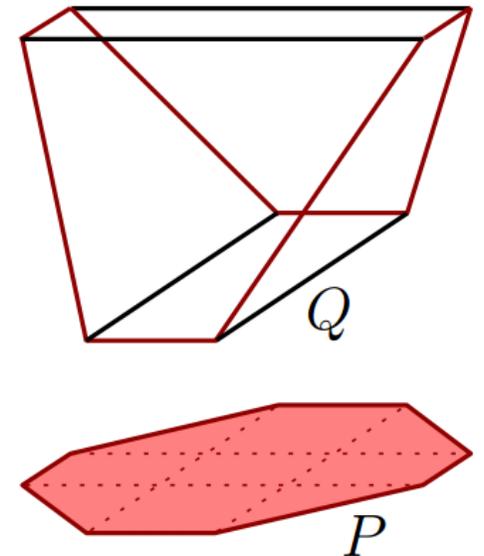
# facets in the lift  $\Leftrightarrow$  # inequality constraints in the LP

## Extension complexity:

The **extension complexity** of  $P$  is the minimal # of facets in a lift of  $P$ .

## Examples with exponential savings:

Spanning trees,  $s$ - $t$  flows, the permutahedron, ...



# a general model of (small) linear programs

---

## Lifts of polytopes:

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## Powerful model of computation.

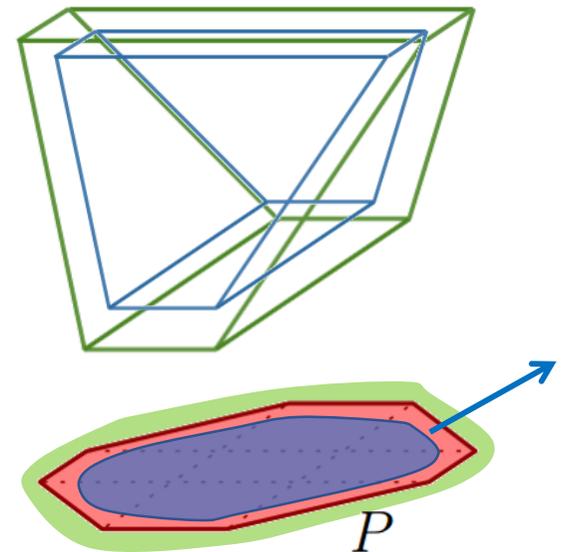
Even more powerful when we allow **approximation**.

## Indication of power:

Dominant technique in the design of approximation algorithms.  
Integrality gaps for LPs often lead to NP-hardness of approximation.

## On the other hand:

Polynomial-size LPs for NP-hard problems would show that  $\text{NP} \subseteq \text{P/poly}$ . [Rothvoss 2013]



# a brief history of extended formulations

---

1980s: Fellow tries to prove that  $P = NP$  by giving a linear program for TSP.

1989: Yannakakis (the referee) shows that every *symmetric* LP for TSP must have exponential size.

...

2011: Different set of fellows try to prove that  $P = NP$  by giving an **asymmetric** LP for TSP

2012: Fiorini, Massar, Pokutta, Tiwary, de Wolf show that *every* LP for TSP must have exponential size.

2013: Chan, L, Raghavendra, Steurer show that no polynomial-size LP can approximate MAX-CUT within a factor better than 2.

[Goemans-Williamson 1998: SDPs can do factor  $\approx 1.139$ .]

2014: Rothvoss shows that every LP for the matching polytope must have exponential size.

**What about semidefinite programs?**

# semidefinite programs aka spectrahedral lifts

---

Let  $\mathcal{S}_k^+$  denote the cone of  $k \times k$  symmetric, positive semidefinite matrices.

A **spectrahedron** is the intersection  $\mathcal{S}_k^+ \cap \mathcal{L}$  for some affine subspace  $\mathcal{L}$ .

This is precisely the feasible region of an SDP.

**Definition:** A polytope  $P$  admits a **PSD lift** of size  $k$  if  $P$  is a linear projection of a spectrahedron  $\mathcal{S}_k^+ \cap \mathcal{L}$ .

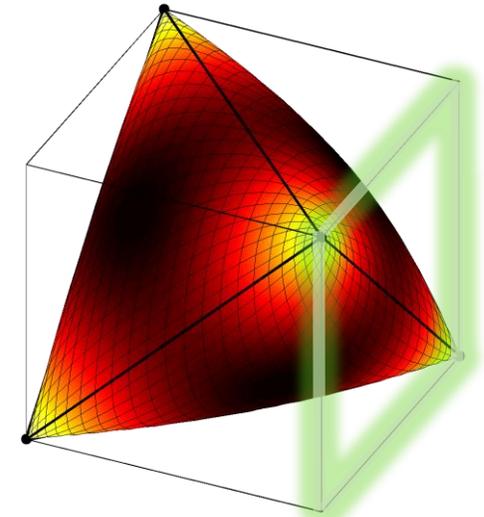
- Easy to see that minimal size of PSD lift is  $\leq$  minimal size of polyhedral lift
- Assuming the Unique Games Conjecture, integrality gaps for SDPs translate mechanically into NP-hardness of approximation results.

[Khot-Kindler-Mossel-O'Donnell 2004, Austrin 2007, Raghavendra 2008]

- Sometimes PSD lifts of polytopes are smaller than any polyhedral lift

Gap of  $O(d \log d)$  vs  $\Omega(d^2)$  [Fawzi-Saunderson-Parrilo 2015]

Exponential gaps known for approximation problems like MAX-CUT [Kothari-Meka-Raghavendra 2017]



# SDP lifts cannot prove that $P = NP$

---

From [L-Raghavendra-Steurer 2015]:

## Lower bounds on PSD lift size

The  $TSP_n$ ,  $CUT_n$ , and  $STAB(G_n)$  polytopes do not admit PSD lifts of size  $c^{n^{2/11}}$   
(for some constant  $c > 1$  and some family  $\{G_n\}$  of  $n$ -vertex graphs)

## Approximation hardness for constraint satisfaction problems

For max-constraint satisfaction problems, SDPs of polynomial size are equivalent in power to those arising from degree- $O(1)$  SoS relaxations.

For instance, no family of polynomial-size SDP relaxations can achieve better than a  $7/8$ -approximation for MAX 3-SAT.

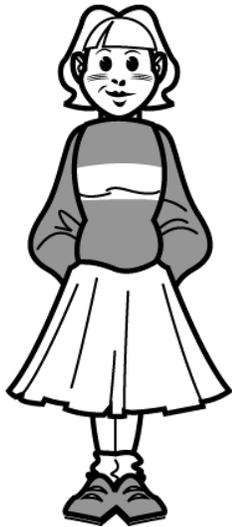
High level: Starting with a small SDP for some problem, we **quantum learn** a roughly equivalent sum-of-squares SDP on a subset of the variables.

# communication (in expectation) model

---

A function  $F: \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$

$a \in \mathcal{A}$



Alice

$M_a$



$b \in \mathcal{B}$



Bob

**Successful protocol:**

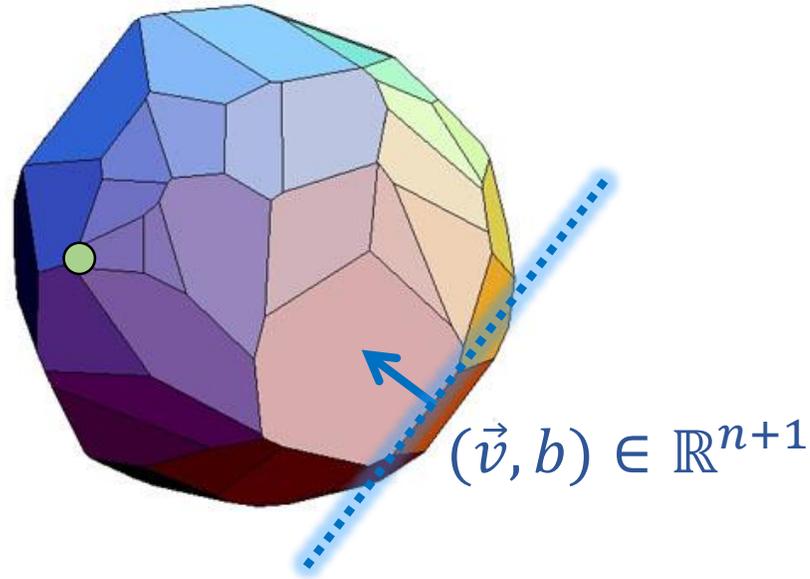
Bob outputs a random number  $B(b, M_a) \geq 0$   
such that for all  $a \in \mathcal{A}, b \in \mathcal{B}$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}[B(b, M_a)] = F(a, b)$$

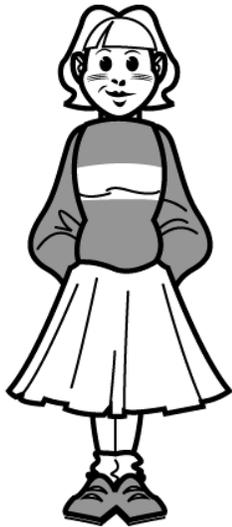
# communication (in expectation) model

Polytope  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$

$x \in V(P)$



$a \in \mathcal{A}$



Alice

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$b \in \mathcal{B}$



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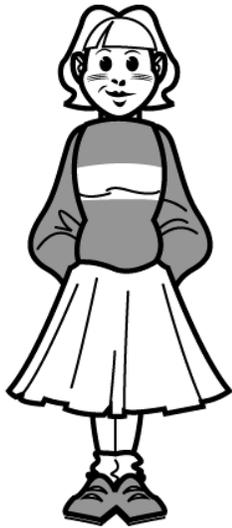
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$(\vec{v}, b) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$

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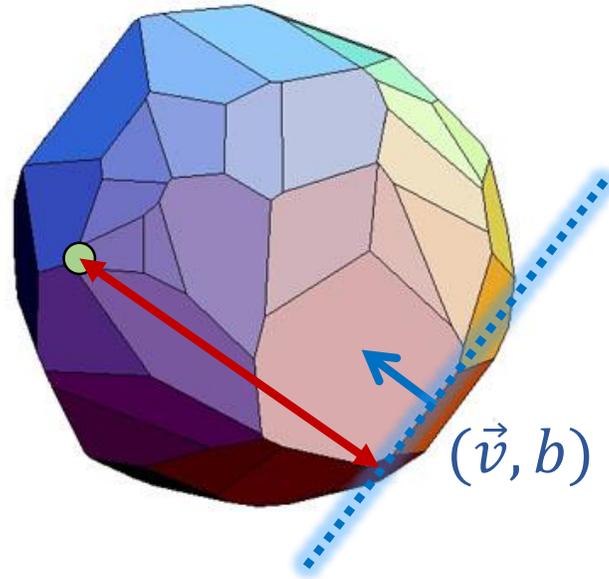
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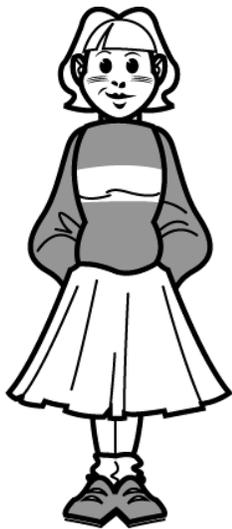
$x \in \{0,1\}^n$

$(\vec{v}, b) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$



$$F((\vec{v}, b), x) = b - \langle \vec{v}, x \rangle$$

$M_a$



Alice

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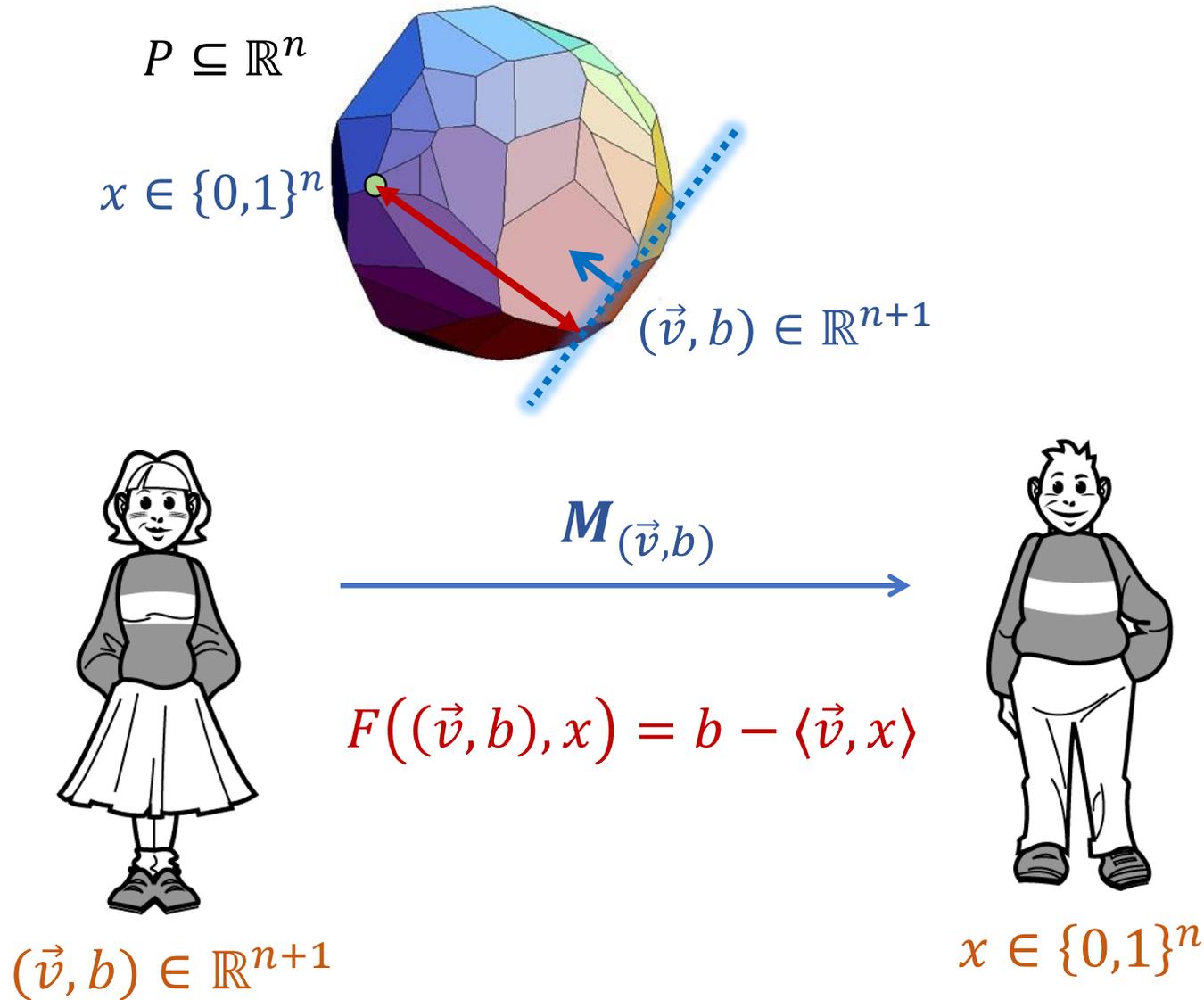
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Bob

# communication (in expectation) model

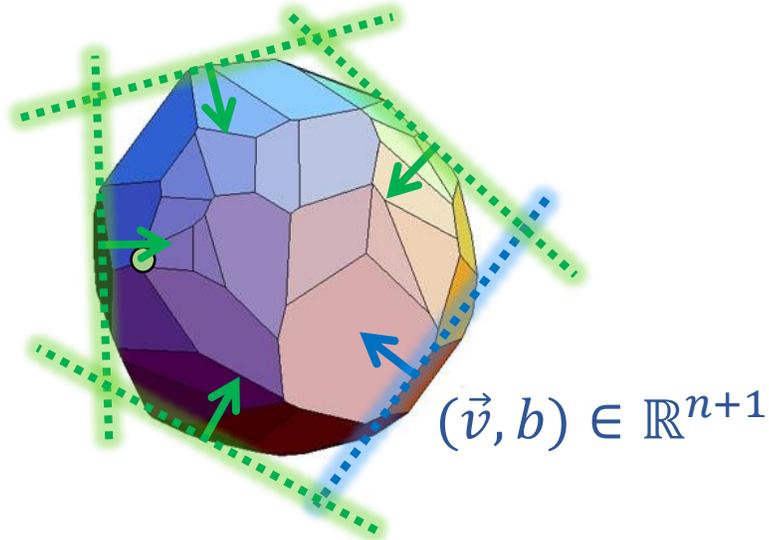


$M$   $m$ -bit classical message  $\Leftrightarrow$   
 $P$  has a polyhedral lift of size  $2^m$

$M$   $m$ -qubit quantum message  $\Leftrightarrow$   
 $P$  has an SDP lift of size  $2^m$

**Yannakakis factorization theorem**  
[+ Fiorini-Massar-Pokutta-Tiwary-de Wolf]

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$(\vec{v}, b) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$

$M_{(\vec{v}, b)}$

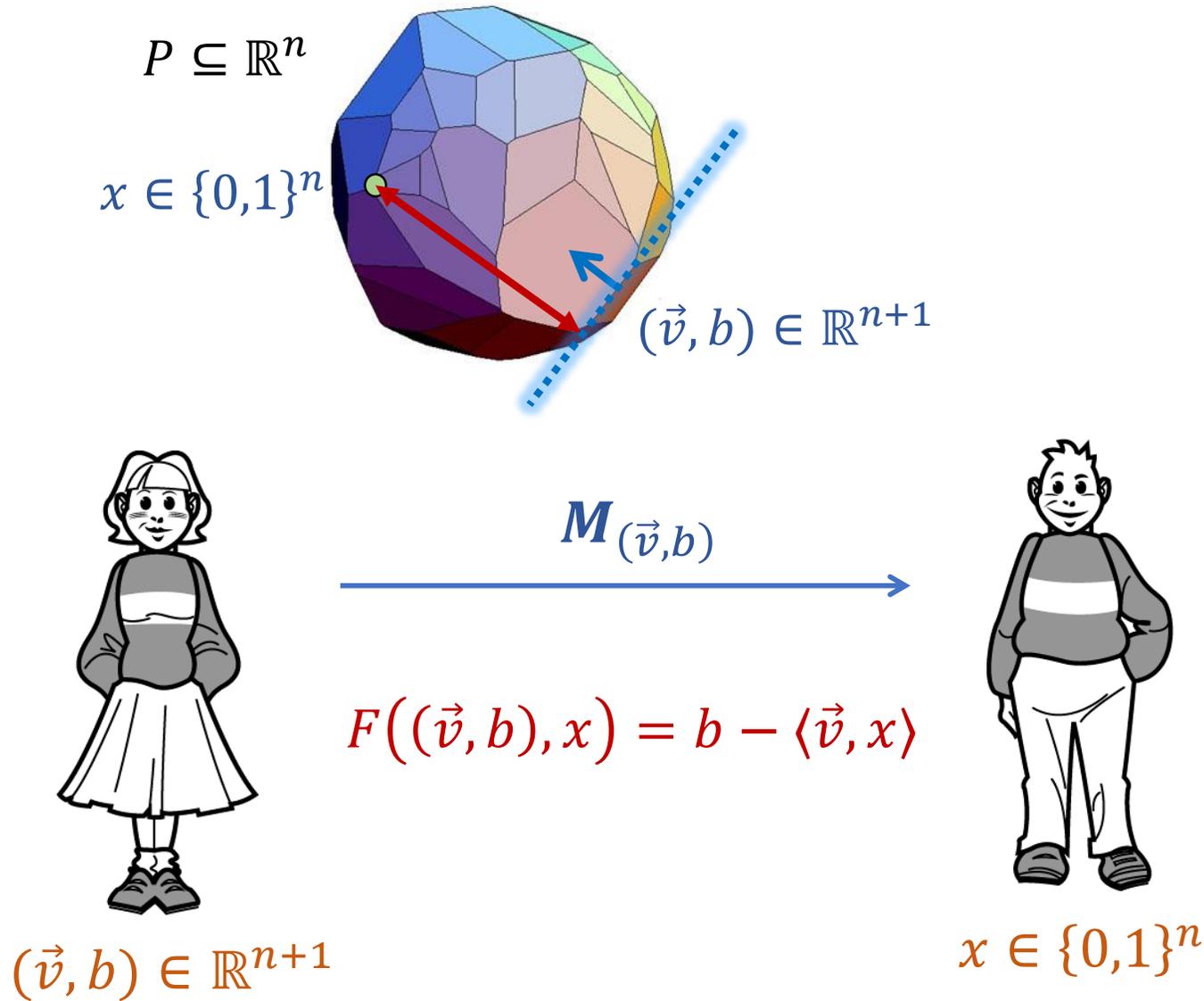


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$x \in \{0, 1\}^n$

# communication (in expectation) model



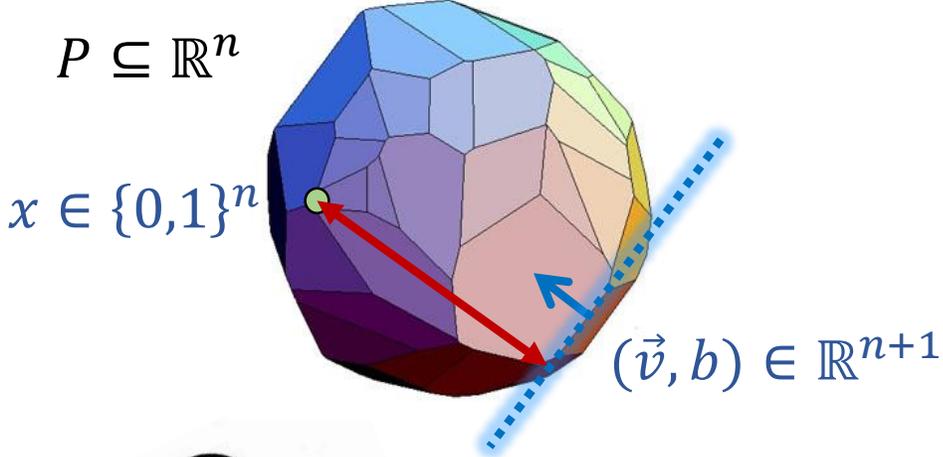
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**Yannakakis factorization theorem**  
[+ Fiorini-Massar-Pokutta-Tiwary-de Wolf]

In this model, one-way communication and arbitrary communication are equivalent.  
[Kaniewski-T. Lee-de Wolf 2014]

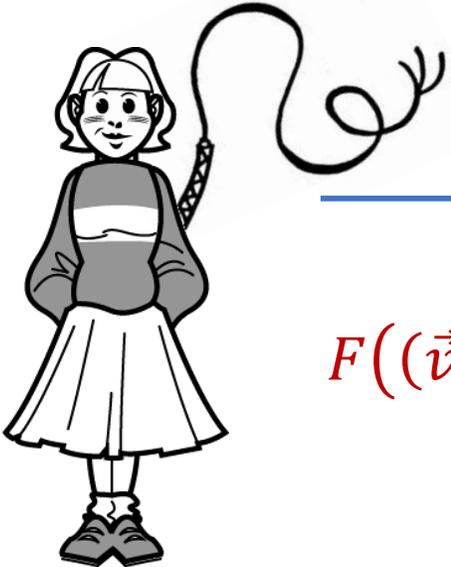
# query protocols ( $k$ -hapless Bob)



Alice specifies  $k$  bits  
 $\Leftrightarrow P$  has a “Sherali Adams” lift of size  $\binom{n}{k}2^k$

Alice specifies  $k$  bits in **superposition** + Bob measures  
 $\Leftrightarrow P$  has a “sum of squares” lift of degree  $2k$

[Kaniewski-T. Lee-de Wolf 2014]



$M_{(\vec{v}, b)}$



$$F((\vec{v}, b), x) = b - \langle \vec{v}, x \rangle$$

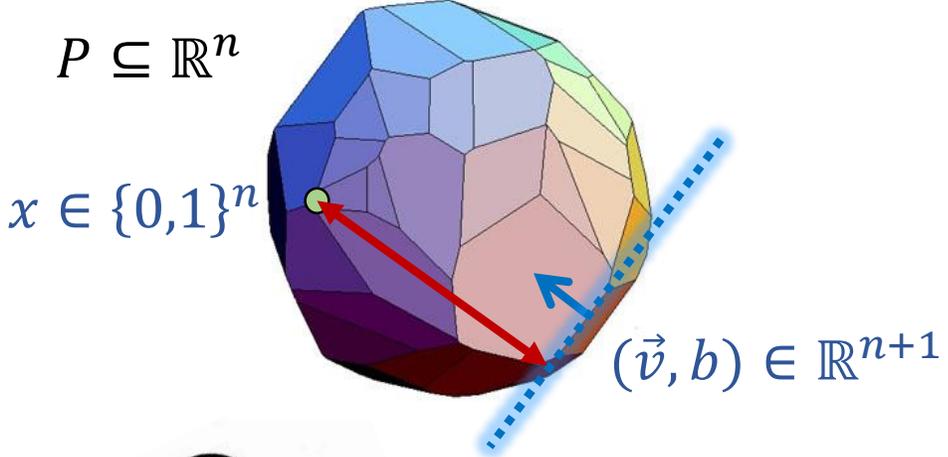
Suppose Alice’s message says:  
 Look at  $k$  bits of your input in positions:  
 $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k$  and output 1 if you see values  
 $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k$

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   | 1 |   | 0 | 0 |   |   | 1 |   |   | 0 |   |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |

$(\vec{v}, b) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$

$x \in \{0,1\}^n$

# query protocols ( $k$ -hapless Bob)



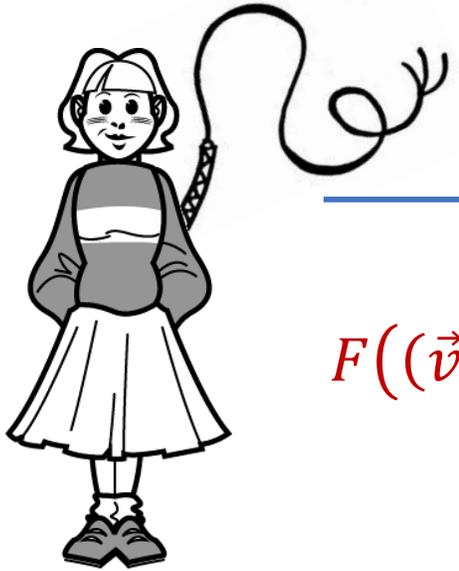
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[Kaniewski-T. Lee-de Wolf 2014]



$M_{(\vec{v}, b)}$



$$F((\vec{v}, b), x) = b - \langle \vec{v}, x \rangle$$

$(\vec{v}, b) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$

$x \in \{0,1\}^n$

Alice sends

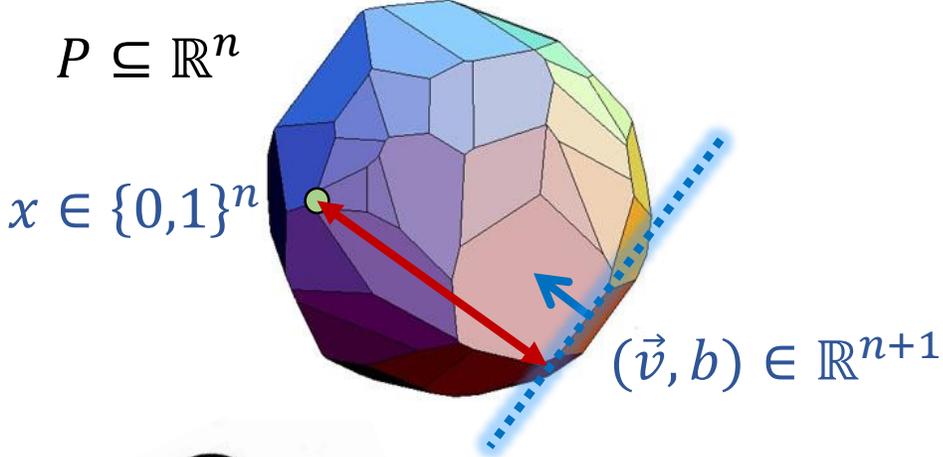
$$\sum_{|S|=k} \sum_{y \in \{0,1\}^k} a_{S,y} |S, y\rangle$$

Bob computes

$$\sum_{|S|=k} \sum_{y \in \{0,1\}^k} a_{S,y} |S, y\rangle |1_{x|_S=y}\rangle$$

and then does a computation + measurement (independent of  $x$ ).

# query protocols ( $k$ -hapless Bob)



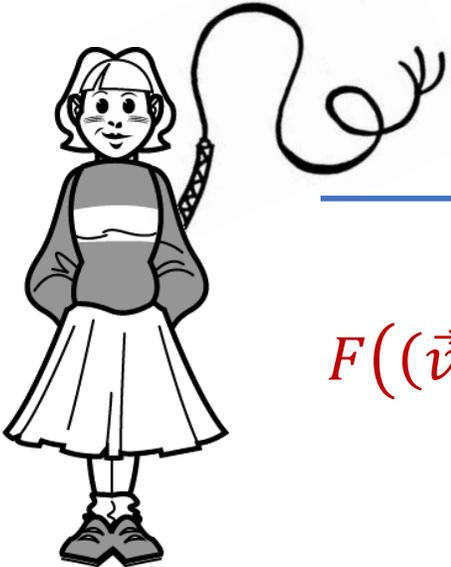
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$M_{(\vec{v}, b)}$



$$F((\vec{v}, b), x) = b - \langle \vec{v}, x \rangle$$

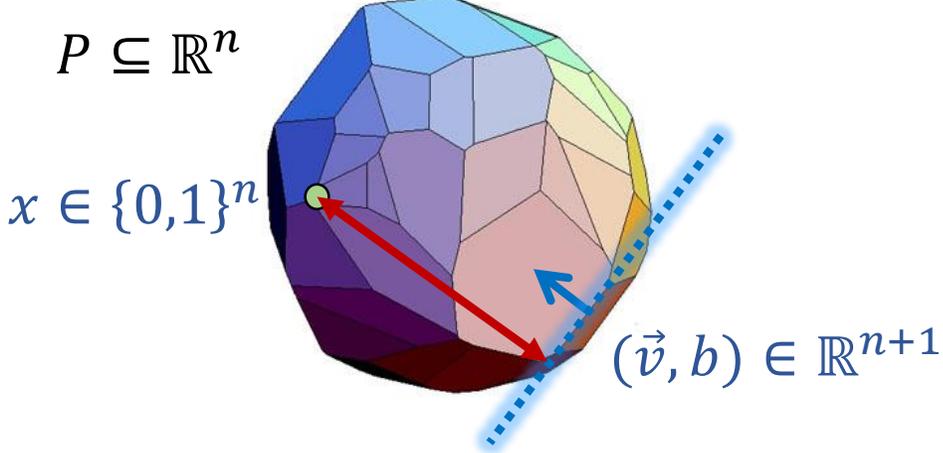
Low-degree sum of squares lifts are well-studied objects in optimization and proof complexity.

**Goal:**  
Relate complexity of arbitrary quantum protocol to complexity of query protocols

$(\vec{v}, b) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$

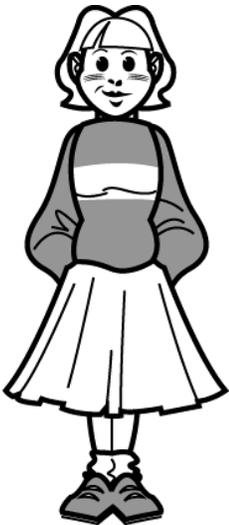
$x \in \{0,1\}^n$

# simulation by a query protocol



Translator converts Alice's message into a "query protocol" message

If a good enough translator exists, then  
 general protocols  $\approx$  query protocols  
 $\Rightarrow$  general PSD lifts  $\approx$  SoS lifts



$M_{(\vec{v}, b)}$

$F((\vec{v}, b), x) = b - \langle \vec{v}, x \rangle$

$(\vec{v}, b) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$



$\tilde{M}$

Converts Alice's  $m$ -bit message to an  $\approx m$ -bit query message

Translator Bob

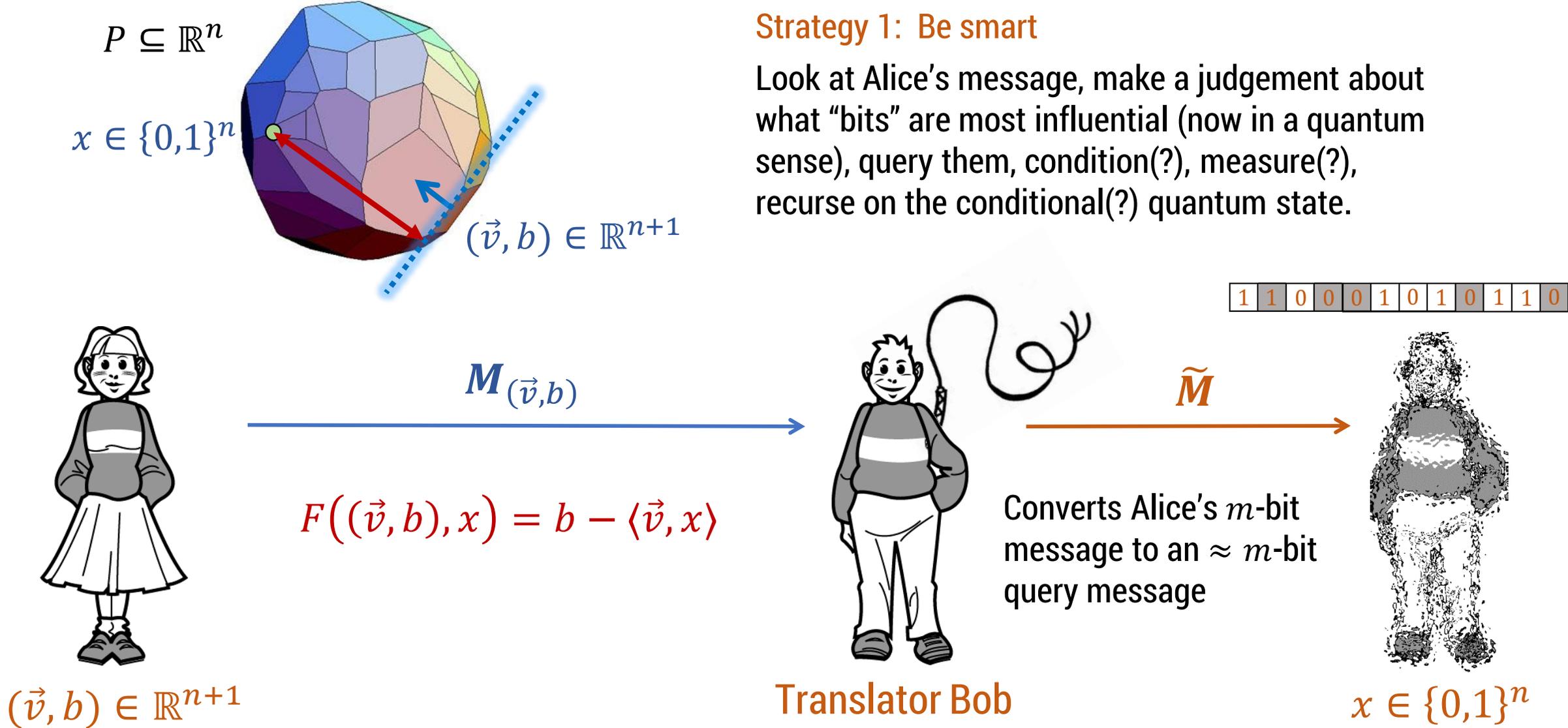


$x \in \{0,1\}^n$

# simulation by a query protocol

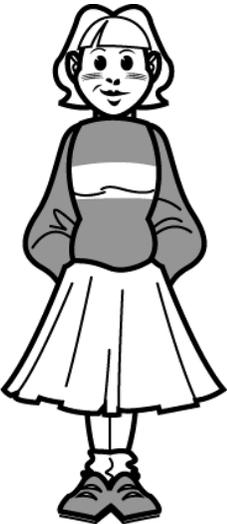
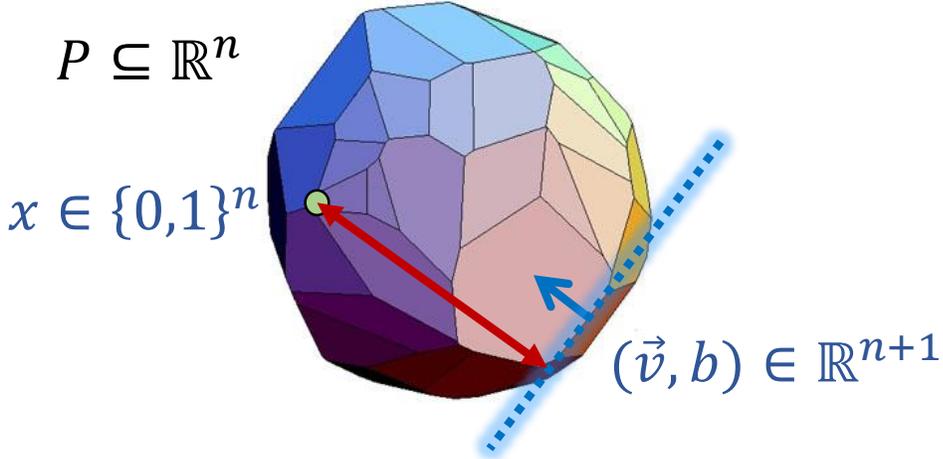
## Strategy 1: Be smart

Look at Alice's message, make a judgement about what "bits" are most influential (now in a quantum sense), query them, condition(?), measure(?), recurse on the conditional(?) quantum state.



# simulation by a query protocol

Strategy 2: Uhh... machine learning?



$M_{(\vec{v}, b)}$



$F((\vec{v}, b), x) = b - \langle \vec{v}, x \rangle$

$(\vec{v}, b) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$



$\tilde{M}$



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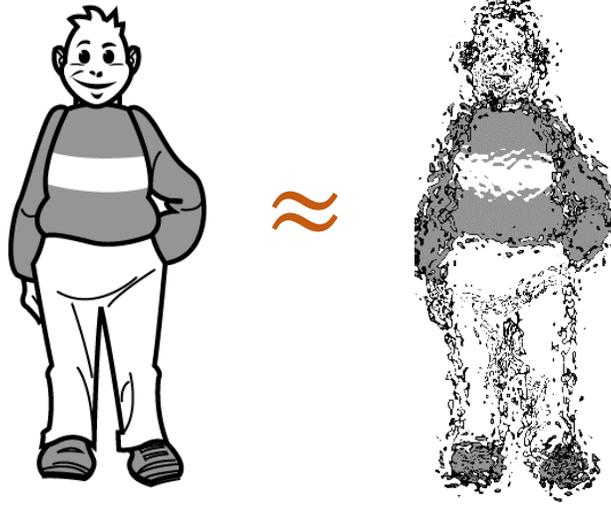
Translator Bob



$x \in \{0,1\}^n$

# the approximation of Blob

---



Represent Bob as a QC state:

$$\Phi_{\text{Bob}} = \sum_{x \in \{0,1\}^n} |x\rangle\langle x| \otimes \rho_B^x$$

Key property:

$$\mathcal{D}(\Phi_{\text{Bob}} \parallel \mathcal{U}) \leq O(m)$$

$\mathcal{D}$  is the relative von Neumann entropy,  
 $\mathcal{U}$  is the maximally mixed state

**Recall:**  $m$  is the # of qubits in Alice's message.

This holds when  $F$  (the function they are computing) is (mildly) reasonable.

# the approximation of Blob

$$\Phi_{\text{Bob}} = \sum_{x \in \{0,1\}^n} |x\rangle\langle x| \otimes \rho_B^x$$

$$\mathcal{D}(\Phi_{\text{Bob}} \parallel \mathcal{U}) \leq O(m)$$

$\mathcal{D}$  is the relative von Neumann entropy,  
 $\mathcal{U}$  is the maximally mixed state

Notion of approximation:

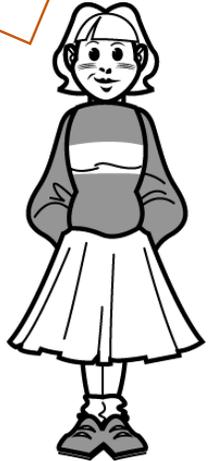
It's enough that Alice cannot distinguish Bob from  $\widetilde{\text{Bob}}$ .



$\approx$



Bob... you look just as good as before the accident!



By the min-max theorem, Alice encodes a set of QC measurements that ensure validity of any potential Bob  $\Phi$ :

$$\text{Tr}(A_1 \Phi) \approx \epsilon_1$$

$$\text{Tr}(A_2 \Phi) \approx \epsilon_2$$

$$\text{Tr}(A_3 \Phi) \approx \epsilon_3$$

...

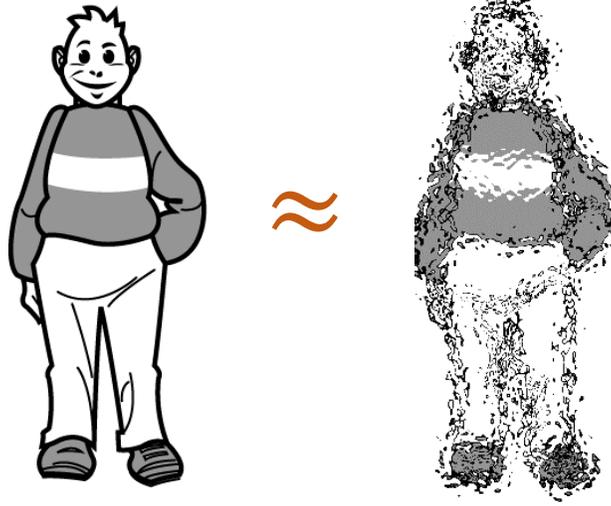
$$A = \sum_{x \in \{0,1\}^n} |x\rangle\langle x| \sum_{(\vec{v}, b)} \alpha_{(\vec{v}, b)}(x) \rho_A^{(\vec{v}, b)}$$

# Jaynes' principle of maximum entropy

$$\Phi_{\text{Bob}} = \sum_{x \in \{0,1\}^n} |x\rangle\langle x| \otimes \rho_B^x$$

$$\mathcal{D}(\Phi_{\text{Bob}} \parallel \mathcal{U}) \leq O(m)$$

$\mathcal{D}$  is the relative von Neumann entropy,  
 $\mathcal{U}$  is the maximally mixed state



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[validity tests for potential Bob  $\Phi$ ]

Find the “simplest” Bob that passes all the tests:

Minimize  $\mathcal{D}(\Phi \parallel \mathcal{U})$

subject to:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr}(A_1 \Phi) &\approx \epsilon_1 & \text{Tr}(\Phi) &= 1 \\ \text{Tr}(A_2 \Phi) &\approx \epsilon_2 & \Phi &\succeq 0 \\ \text{Tr}(A_3 \Phi) &\approx \epsilon_3 & & \end{aligned}$$

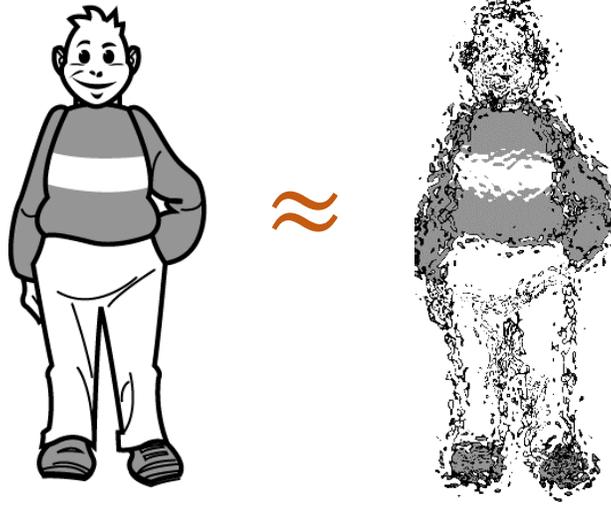
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[validity tests for potential Bob  $\Phi$ ]

Find the "simplest"  $\tilde{\Phi}_{\text{Bob}}$  that passes all the tests:

Minimize  $\mathcal{D}(\Phi \parallel \mathcal{U})$

subject to:

$$\text{Tr}(A_1 \Phi) \approx \text{Tr}(A_1 \Phi_{\text{Bob}})$$

$$\text{Tr}(A_2 \Phi) \approx \text{Tr}(A_2 \Phi_{\text{Bob}})$$

$$\text{Tr}(A_3 \Phi) \approx \text{Tr}(A_3 \Phi_{\text{Bob}})$$

...

$$\text{Tr}(\Phi) = 1$$

$$\Phi \succcurlyeq 0$$

... and just hope?

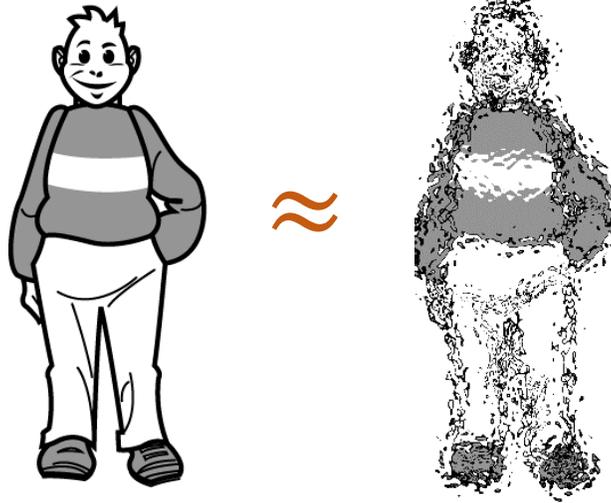


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$$\tilde{A} = \sum_{x \in \{0,1\}^n} |x\rangle\langle x| \sum_{(\vec{v}, b)} \tilde{\alpha}_{(\vec{v}, b)}(x) \rho_A^{(\vec{v}, b)}$$

[validity tests for potential Bob  $\Phi$ ]

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Minimize  $\mathcal{D}(\Phi \parallel \mathcal{U})$

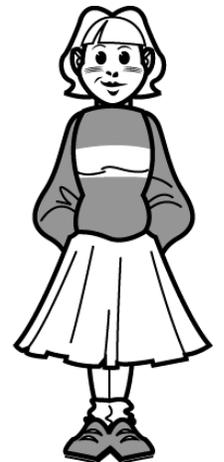
subject to:

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...

... and just hope?

If we hope to learn a  $k$ -hapless Bob,  
 then any such Bob is **orthogonal** to  
 the Fourier expansion of  $\alpha_{(\vec{v}, b)}$   
 above degree  $k$ .

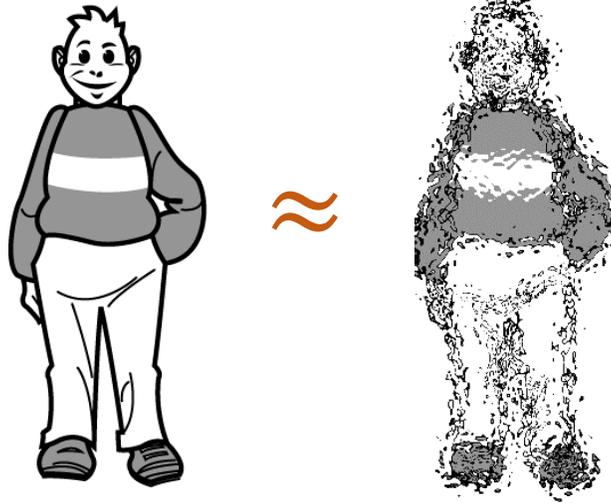


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[validity tests for potential Bob  $\Phi$ ]

Optimal solution:

$$\Phi^* \propto \exp \left( \sum_{j \geq 1} \lambda_j \tilde{A}_j \right)$$

$$= \exp \left( \sum_{j \geq 1} \lambda_j \frac{\tilde{A}_j}{2} \right)^2$$

$$\approx \text{poly} \left( \sum_{j \geq 1} \lambda_j \tilde{A}_j \right)^2$$

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Minimize  $\mathcal{D}(\Phi \parallel \mathcal{U})$

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...

$$\text{Tr}(\Phi) = 1$$

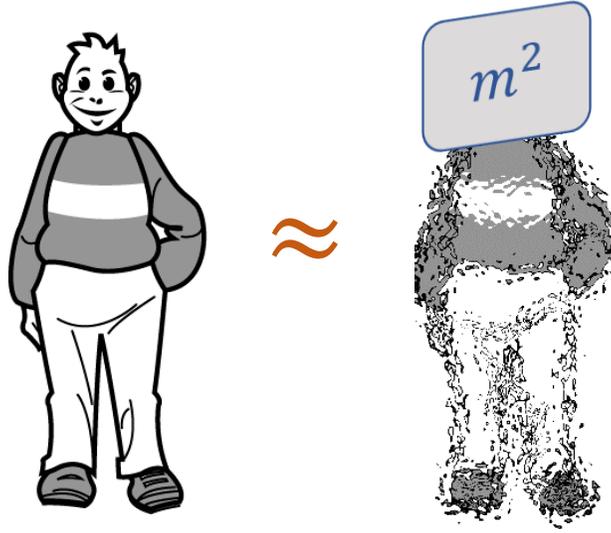
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# Jaynes' principle of maximum entropy

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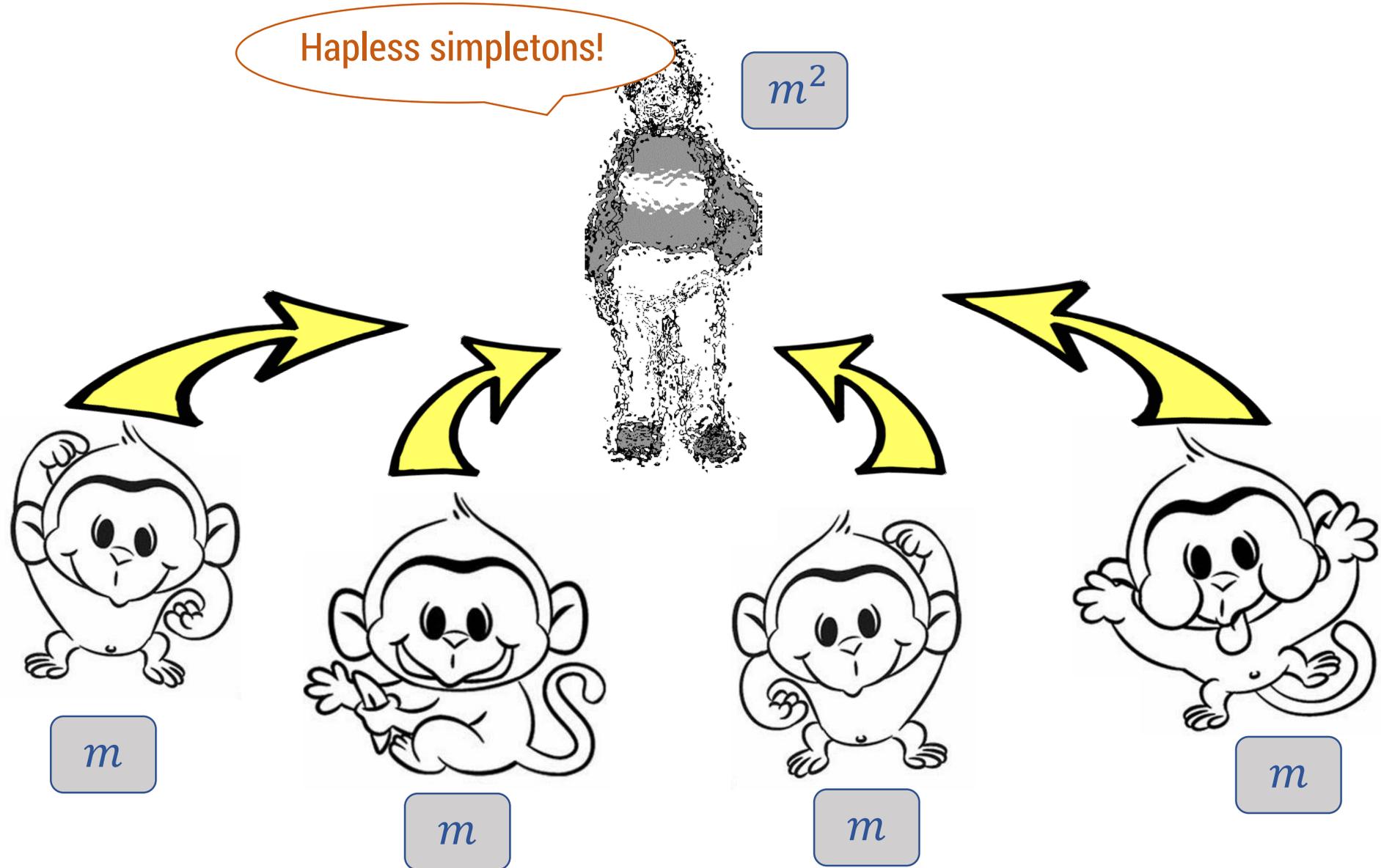
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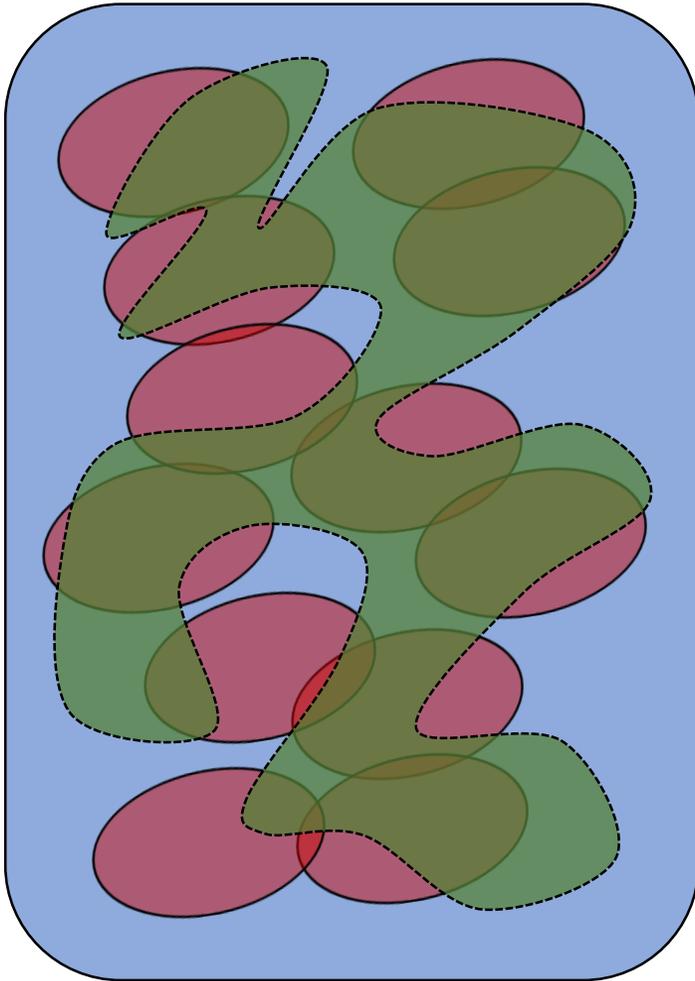
$$\Phi \succcurlyeq 0$$

Approximation is an  $O(m^2)$ -hapless Bob.

# model is more complex than the training data



$n$  variables

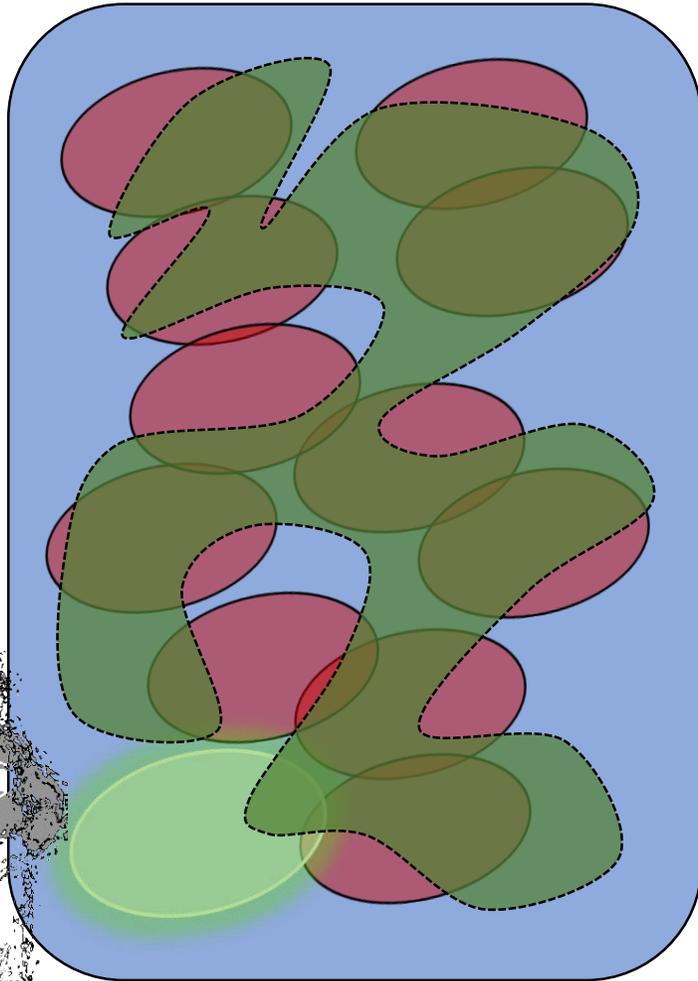


$O(m^2) \ll n$  queries



# the use of symmetry

$n$  variables



$O(m^2) \ll n$  queries



Application from yesterday:

“Small SDPs are bad at recognizing separable states”

[Harrow, Natarajan, Wu 2016]

**Open problem:** Are there small SDP lifts of the perfect matching polytope?  
Exponential lower bounds for approximating CSPs?

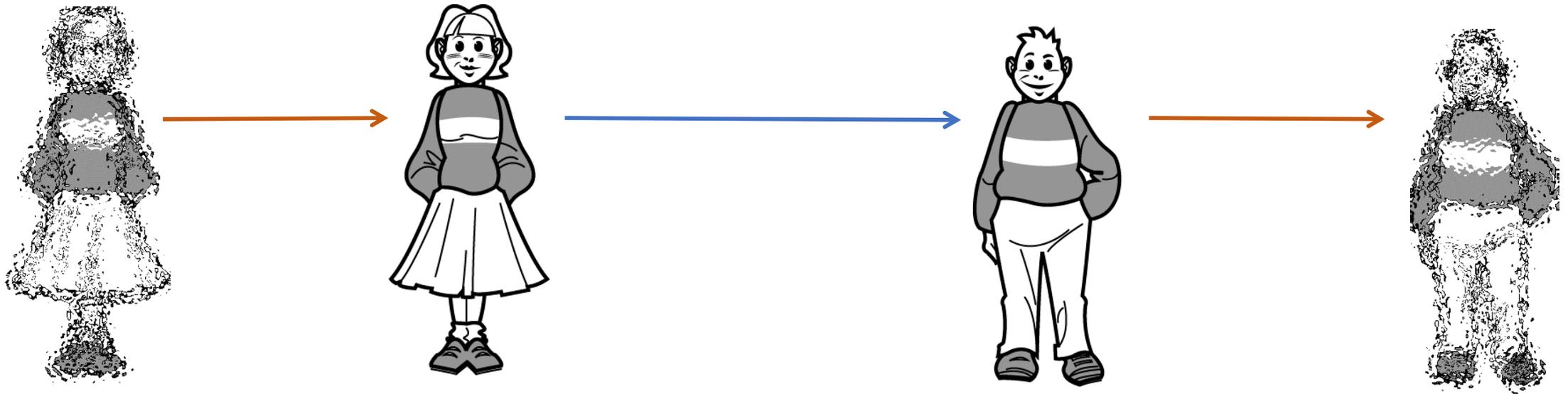


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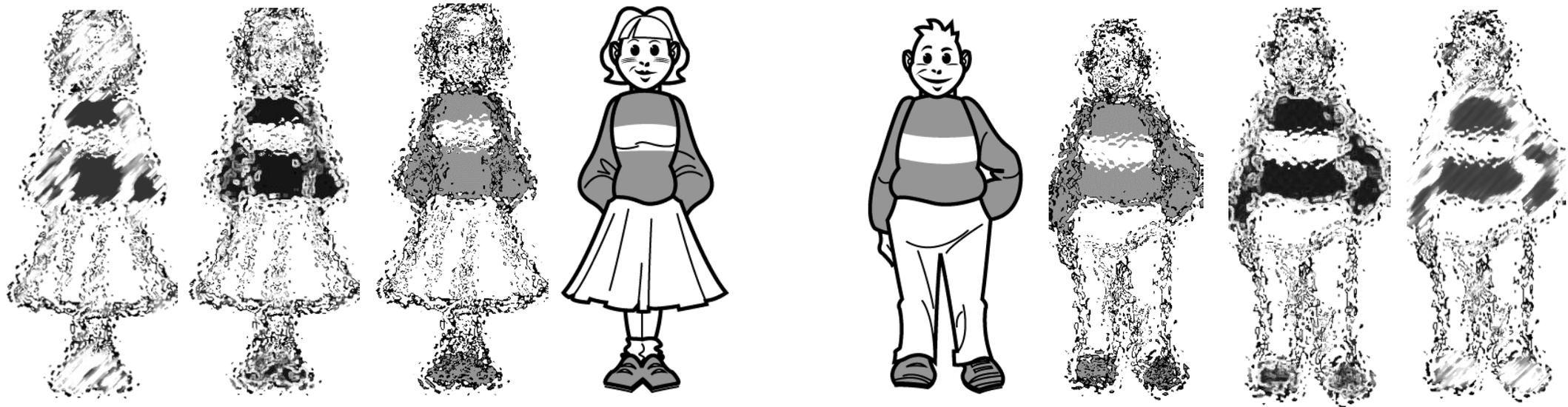
[Kothari-Meka-Raghavendra 2017] do this in the LP setting.

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**Log rank conjecture:**

[FMPTW'12] observed that for **Boolean** communication problems, this is equivalent to classical-quantum simulation with polynomial overhead.

