

# construction of asymptotically good quantum LDPC codes

Gilles Zémor, joint work with Anthony Leverrier

Bordeaux Mathematics Institute

October 2023, Najac

## Quantum (CSS) codes

$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{H}_X \\ \mathbf{H}_Z \end{bmatrix}$$

Two matrices  $\mathbf{H}_X, \mathbf{H}_Z$  with orthogonal row spaces.

**Dimension** of code is:  $n - \dim \mathbf{H}_X - \dim \mathbf{H}_Z$ .

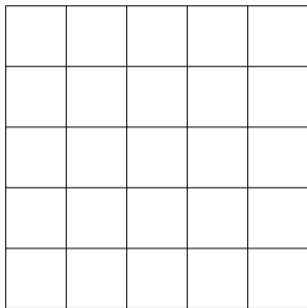
Minimum distance  $d_X$  defined as minimum weight of binary error  $\mathbf{e}_X$  orthogonal to rows of  $\mathbf{H}_X$  and *not in row-space of  $\mathbf{H}_Z$* .

Distance  $d_Z$  defined similarly. Minimum distance of quantum code is:

$$d = \min(d_X, d_Z).$$

We are interested in  $\mathbf{H}_X, \mathbf{H}_Z$  *low-density*. Quantum LDPC codes.

## Example: Kitaev toric code.

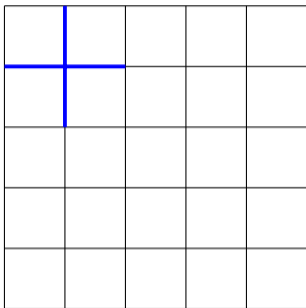


$$\mathbf{H}_X = \left[ \begin{array}{c} \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \end{array} \right]$$
$$\mathbf{H}_Z = \left[ \begin{array}{c} \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \end{array} \right]$$

$\mathbf{H}_X$ : rows consist of elementary cocycles.

$\mathbf{H}_Z$ : rows consist of elementary cycles (faces).

## Example: Kitaev toric code.

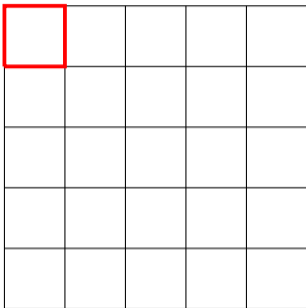


$$\mathbf{H}_X = \begin{bmatrix} 111100 \cdots & \\ & \\ & \\ & \\ & \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\mathbf{H}_Z = \begin{bmatrix} & \\ & \\ & \\ & \\ & \end{bmatrix}$$

$\mathbf{H}_X$ : rows consist of elementary cocycles.

$\mathbf{H}_Z$ : rows consist of elementary cycles (faces).

## Example: Kitaev toric code.

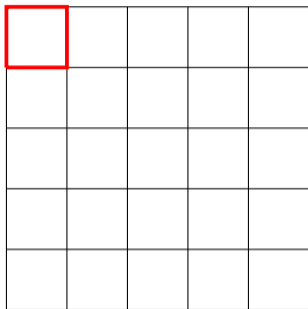


$$\mathbf{H}_X = \begin{bmatrix} 111100 \cdots \\ \vdots \\ 001111 \cdots \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\mathbf{H}_Z = \begin{bmatrix} 111100 \cdots \\ \vdots \\ 001111 \cdots \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

$\mathbf{H}_X$ : rows consist of elementary cocycles.

$\mathbf{H}_Z$ : rows consist of elementary cycles (faces).

## Example: Kitaev toric code.



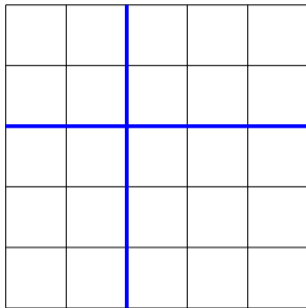
$$\mathbf{H}_X = \begin{bmatrix} 111100 \cdots \\ \vdots \\ 001111 \cdots \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\mathbf{H}_Z = \begin{bmatrix} 111100 \cdots \\ \vdots \\ 001111 \cdots \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

$\mathbf{H}_X$ : rows consist of elementary cocycles.

$\mathbf{H}_Z$ : rows consist of elementary cycles (faces).

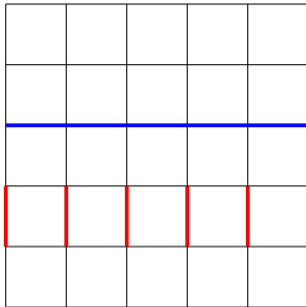
Dimension:  $k = n - \dim \mathbf{H}_X - \dim \mathbf{H}_Z = \dim \ker \sigma_X / \text{Im } \sigma_Z = 2$ .  $\mathbb{F}_2$ -homology of torus.

## Kitaev's toric code, minimum distance



Homologically non-trivial cycles.

## Kitaev's toric code, minimum distance

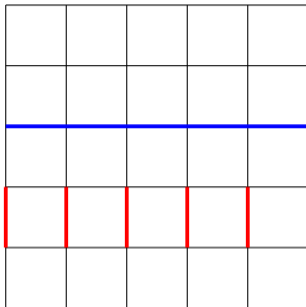


Homologically non-trivial cycles.

and cocycles



## Kitaev's toric code, minimum distance



Homologically non-trivial cycles.

and cocycles

We obtain the quantum code's parameters

$$[[2m^2, 2, m]] \quad d = \sqrt{n/2}.$$

Issues: raise the dimension, raise the minimum distance.

## Context: minimum distance beyond $\sqrt{n}$

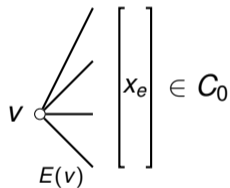
- ▶ Freedman, Luo, Meyer 2002.  $d \geq \sqrt{n} \log^{1/4} n$ .
- ▶ Evra, Kaufman, Z, 2020.  $d \geq \sqrt{n} \log n$ .
- ▶ Kaufman, Tessler, 2020.  $d \geq \sqrt{n} \log^k n$ .
- ▶ Hastings, Haah, O'Donnell, 2020  $d \geq n^{0.6}$ .
- ▶ Panteleev, Kalachev, 2021  $d \geq n/\log n$ .
- ▶ Panteleev, Kalachev, 2022, asymptotically good quantum LDPC codes.
- ▶ Leverrier, Z, 2022. Quantum Tanner codes.

# Classical Tanner code.

Ingredients.

1. A regular graph  $(V, E)$  of degree  $\Delta$ .
2. A code  $C_0$  of length  $\Delta$ .

Code is space of functions  $x : E \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_2$  such that for every vertex  $v \in V$ ,  $x$  restricted to  $E(v)$  is in  $C_0$ .



Sipser-Spielman 1996. *Expander codes*.

*A codeword is a subgraph with minimum degree equal to minimum distance of  $C_0$ . If the graph is an expander then all such subgraphs must be large – by definition of expansion.*

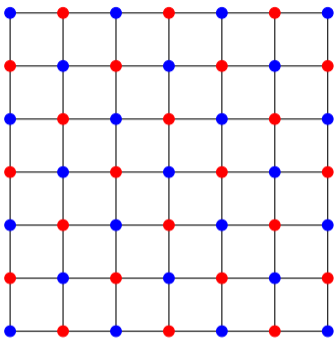
## Tanner codes

Can one do a quantum version of a Tanner code ?

Say bipartite graph: one set of vertices carries  $X$ -checks (generators), the other set the  $Z$ -checks.

Issue. Two neighbouring vertices typically share just one edge: in which case two checks on the two vertices are either disjoint or not orthogonal.

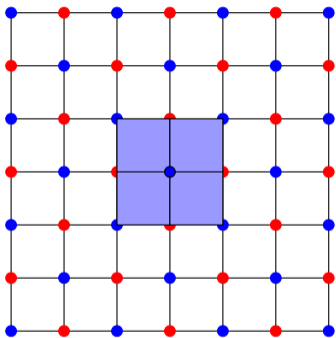
## QLDPC codes, Kitaev toric code. Square complex version



$$\mathbf{H}_X = \left[ \begin{array}{c} \phantom{=} \\ \phantom{=} \\ \phantom{=} \\ \phantom{=} \\ \phantom{=} \\ \phantom{=} \end{array} \right]$$
$$\mathbf{H}_Z = \left[ \begin{array}{c} \phantom{=} \\ \phantom{=} \\ \phantom{=} \\ \phantom{=} \\ \phantom{=} \\ \phantom{=} \end{array} \right]$$

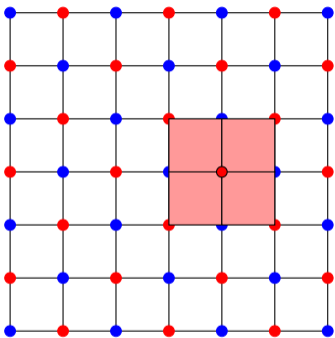
- ▶ Qubits are on **squares** !
- ▶ One set of vertices for **X equations**, one set of vertices for **Z equations**

# QLDPC codes, Kitaev toric code. Square complex version



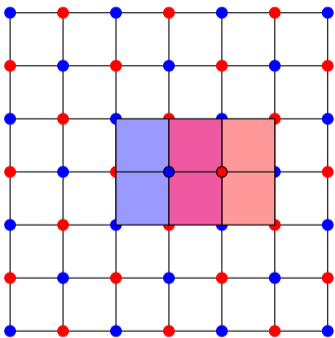
$$\mathbf{H}_X = \begin{bmatrix} 111100 \cdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\mathbf{H}_Z = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

# QLDPC codes, Kitaev toric code. Square complex version



$$\mathbf{H}_X = \begin{bmatrix} 111100 \cdots \\ \vdots \\ 001111 \cdots \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\mathbf{H}_Z = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \vdots \\ 001111 \cdots \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

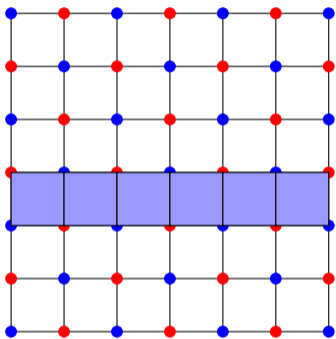
# QLDPC codes, Kitaev toric code. Square complex version



$$\mathbf{H}_X = \begin{bmatrix} 111100 \cdots \\ \vdots \\ 001111 \cdots \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\mathbf{H}_Z = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \vdots \\ 001111 \cdots \end{bmatrix}$$



# QLDPC codes, Kitaev toric code. Square complex version



$$\mathbf{H}_X = \left[ \begin{array}{c} \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \end{array} \right]$$
$$\mathbf{H}_Z = \left[ \begin{array}{c} \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \end{array} \right]$$

$[[N, 2, \sqrt{N}]]$  code

## Generalize to left-right Cayley complex

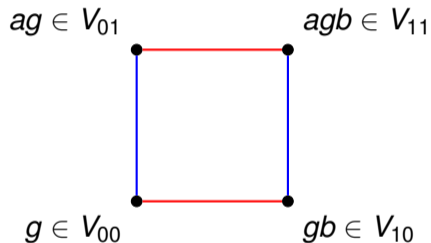
Left-right complex from Dinur, Evra, Livne, Lubotzky, Mozes 2022, used to construct locally testable codes with constant rate, distance, and locality.

Form two Cayley graphs  $\text{Cay}(G, A)$  and  $\text{Cay}(G, B)$  over a group  $G$ .



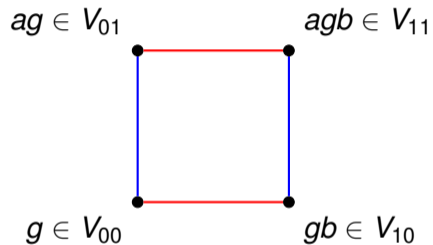
## The left-right Cayley complex

Four copies of  $G$ .  $V_{00}, V_{10}, V_{01}, V_{11}$ .  $A = A^{-1}, B = B^{-1}$ .

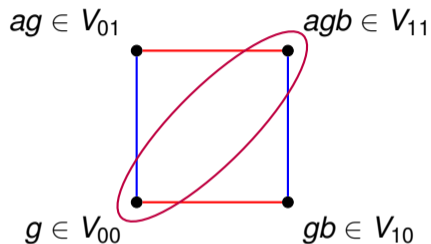


$|A| = |B| = \Delta$ , so every vertex  $v$  incident to  $|Q(v)| = \Delta^2$  squares.

The graphs  $\mathcal{G}_0^\square$  and  $\mathcal{G}_1^\square$

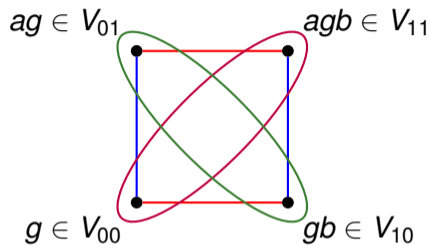


# The graphs $\mathcal{G}_0^\square$ and $\mathcal{G}_1^\square$



Throw away  $V_1 = V_{10} \cup V_{01}$ : squares are downgraded to edges, we have a graph  $\mathcal{G}_0^\square$  over vertex set  $V_0 = V_{00} \cup V_{11}$ .

# The graphs $\mathcal{G}_0^\square$ and $\mathcal{G}_1^\square$



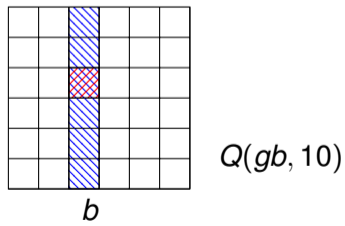
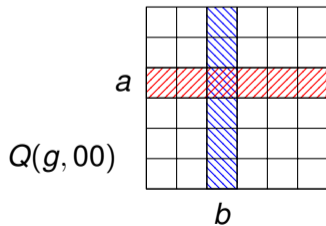
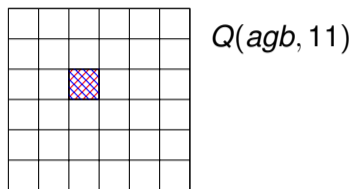
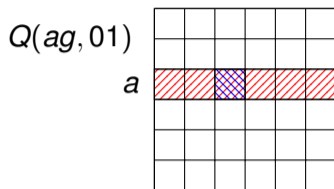
Throw away  $V_1 = V_{10} \cup V_{01}$ : squares are downgraded to edges, we have a graph  $\mathcal{G}_0^\square$  over vertex set  $V_0 = V_{00} \cup V_{11}$ .

Throw away  $V_0$ , we have  $\mathcal{G}_1^\square$ .

Two graphs, **that share the same edge set**. Degree:  $\Delta^2$ .

## Q-neighbourhoods

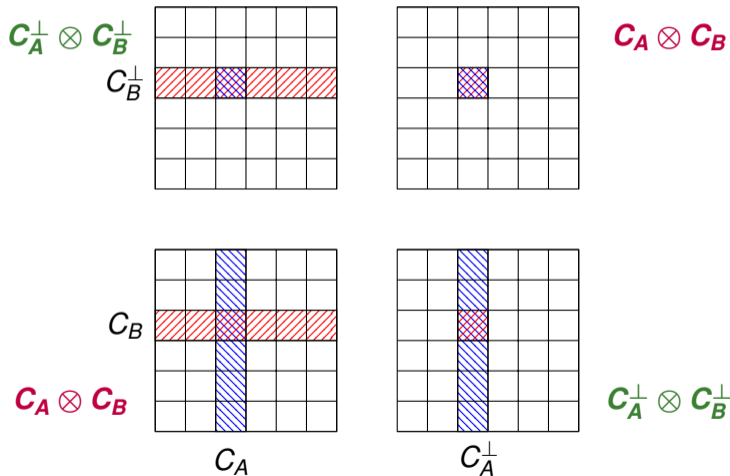
The set  $Q(v)$  of squares  $\{g, ag, gb, agb\}$  incident to  $g$  can be labelled  $A \times B$ .



# Quantum Tanner codes, Leverrier-Z 2022

Bits on squares.

Two sets of constraints,  $C_A \otimes C_B$  on  $V_0$  and  $C_A^\perp \otimes C_B^\perp$  on  $V_1$ .





## Generalises Kitaev Code

Kitaev case:  $|A| = |B| = 2$ .

$$C_A = C_B = C_A^\perp = C_B^\perp = \{[00], [11]\}.$$

Every check equation has the form:

1	1
1	1

## Tanner code view

$\mathcal{C}_0$  is Tanner code on  $\mathcal{G}_0^\square$  and  $\mathcal{C}_1$  is Tanner code on  $\mathcal{G}_1^\square$  with inner codes

$$(\mathcal{C}_A \otimes \mathcal{C}_B)^\perp = \mathcal{C}_A^\perp \otimes \mathbb{F}_2^B + \mathbb{F}_2^A \otimes \mathcal{C}_B^\perp$$

$$(\mathcal{C}_A^\perp \otimes \mathcal{C}_B^\perp)^\perp = \mathcal{C}_A \otimes \mathbb{F}_2^B + \mathbb{F}_2^A \otimes \mathcal{C}_B.$$

Rate of quantum code: if  $\mathcal{C}_A$  and  $\mathcal{C}_B$  have rates  $\rho$  and  $1 - \rho$ , then quantum code has rate  $(1 - 2\rho)^2$ .

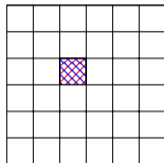
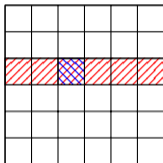
Minimum distance: minimum weight of word of  $\mathcal{C}_1$  that is not in  $\mathcal{C}_0^\perp$ .

*Proved to be linear in length  $n$  if Cayley graphs  $\text{Cay}(G, A)$  and  $\text{Cay}(G, B)$  are sufficiently expanding.*

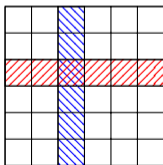
# Minimum distance

**Tanner codeword** that is not sum of **generators**.

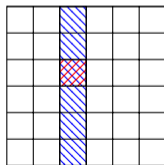
$$C_A \otimes \mathbb{F}_2^B + \mathbb{F}_2^A \otimes C_B$$



$$C_A \otimes C_B$$



$$C_A \otimes C_B$$

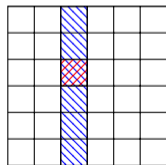
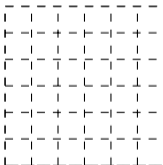
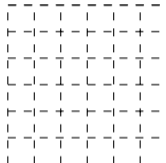
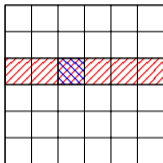


$$C_A \otimes \mathbb{F}_2^B + \mathbb{F}_2^A \otimes C_B$$

## Minimum distance argument for quantum code

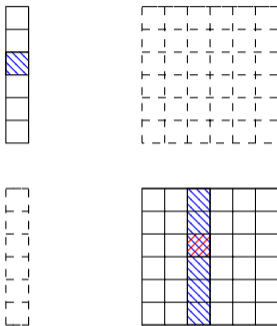
Expansion in  $\mathcal{G}_1^\square$  implies that most local views have small weight. (Almost) single columns or rows.

$$C_A \otimes \mathbb{F}_2^B + \mathbb{F}_2^A \otimes C_B$$



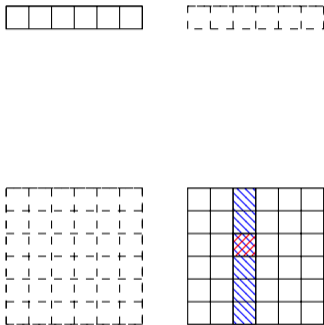
$$C_A \otimes \mathbb{F}_2^B + \mathbb{F}_2^A \otimes C_B$$

## Minimum distance argument



Collapse local views to single column: recover Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(G, A)$ .

## Minimum distance argument

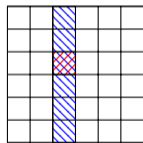
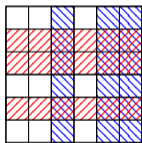
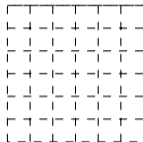
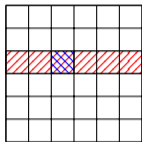


Collapse local views to single column: recover Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(G, A)$ .

And Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(G, B)$ .

# Minimum distance argument

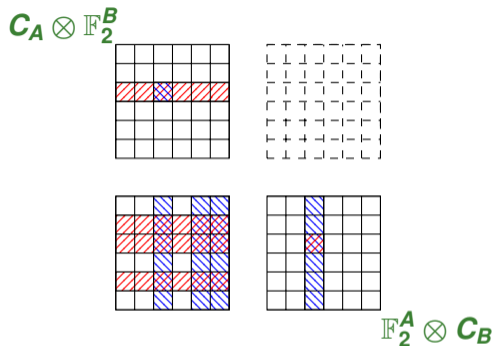
$$C_A \otimes \mathbb{F}_2^B$$



$$\mathbb{F}_2^A \otimes C_B$$

Single row (column) codewords from local views on  $v \in V_1$  *cluster* on local views of  $V_0$ . Because of expansion in  $\text{Cay}(G, A)$ ,  $\text{Cay}(G, B)$ .

# Minimum distance argument



Such a local view of  $x$  is close to  $\mathbb{F}_2^A \otimes C_B$  and to  $C_A \otimes \mathbb{F}_2^B$ .

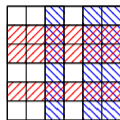
Therefore close to codeword of  $C_A \otimes C_B$ .

Add it to  $x$  and decrease its weight.

Iterate and obtain that  $x$  is sum of generators.



# Robustness



Close to  $\mathbb{F}_2^A \otimes C_B$  and close to  $C_A \otimes \mathbb{F}_2^B$  implies close to  $C_A \otimes C_B$ .

**Robustness** of tensor code.

Equivalently, for dual tensor codeword  $x = c + r$ ,  $c \in C_A \otimes \mathbb{F}_2^B$ ,  $r \in \mathbb{F}_2^A \otimes C_B$ ,

$$|x| \geq \kappa \Delta(\|c\| + \|r\|) \quad \|\| \text{ number of columns/rows}$$

## Robustness is equivalent to local testability of tensor code

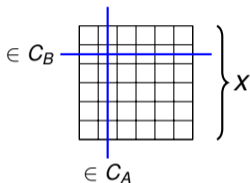
Test whether  $y$  is close to  $C_A \otimes C_B$  by testing closeness to  $C_A$  and  $C_B$  on a few random rows/columns.

gives answer 'close' only when  $y$  close to  $c \in C_A \otimes \mathbb{F}_2^B$  and close to  $r \in \mathbb{F}_2^A \otimes C_B$ .  
But then  $r + c$  has small weight so by robustness equals  $r' + c'$  with  $\|c\|$  and  $\|r\|$  small.

So  $y$  close to  $c + c' = r + r' \in C_A \otimes C_B$ .

## Robustness of tensor/dual-tensor codes

$$|x| \geq \kappa \Delta (\|c\| + \|r\|) \quad \| \| \text{ number of columns/rows}$$



First known to hold when  $|x| \ll \Delta^{3/2}$  for randomly chosen codes  $C_A, C_B$ . Now without any condition on  $|x|$ .

Gives minimum distance linear in length  $n$ , and also decoding in linear time.

Extended to parallel decoding.

## Robustness vs decoding

- ▶ Gu, Pattison, Tang, 2022: improved robustness and decoding of LZ codes
- ▶ Dinur, Hsieh, Lin, Vidick, 2022: complete robustness and decoding of dual construction of PK codes
- ▶ Leverrier, Z, 2022: decoding LZ codes with reduced robustness
- ▶ Kalachev, Panteleev 2022: complete robustness

Problem: obtain robust tensor codes  $C_A \otimes C_B$  for  $\dim C_A + \dim C_B \geq \Delta$ .

Replace random choice by constructions ??

For  $\dim C_A + \dim C_B \leq \Delta$ , Reed-Solomon codes (Polishchuk, Spielman, 1994).  
(Not robust for higher rates).

## Connection to (classical) locally testable codes

If a code is LDPC then the syndrome  $\sigma(\mathbf{e})$  of a low-weight vector  $\mathbf{e}$  is low-weight

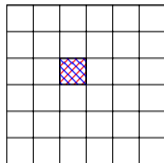
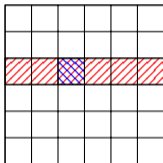
Converse ?

*Locally testable* means that a syndrome  $\sigma(\mathbf{x})$  is low-weight *iff* it is the syndrome of a low-weight vector  $\sigma(\mathbf{x}) = \sigma(\mathbf{e})$ .

# The Dinur et al code.

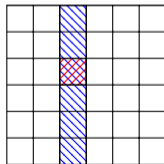
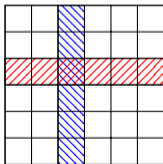
Tanner code on  $\mathcal{G}_1^{\square}$  with inner code  $C_A \otimes C_B$ . Note: also Tanner code on  $\mathcal{G}_0^{\square}$ , so *redundant checks* !

$C_A \otimes C_B$



$C_A \otimes C_B$

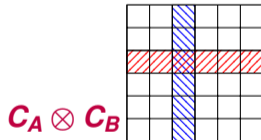
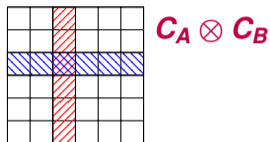
$C_A \otimes C_B$



$C_A \otimes C_B$

# Test

To test vector  $x$ , sample some local views and test whether belong to  $C_A \otimes C_B$ .

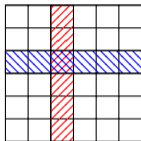
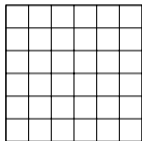


Suppose few local views of  $x$  not in  $C_A \otimes C_B$ . Choose the closest local view in  $C_A \otimes C_B$  and sum them all: *mismatch vector*  $Z$ .

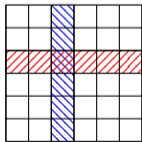
# Mismatch vector $Z$ is sum of generators

(if the quantum code has large distance).  
So there is a Tanner codeword close to  $x$ .

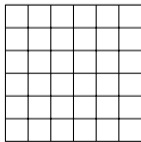
$$C_A \otimes \mathbb{F}_2^B + \mathbb{F}_2^A \otimes C_B$$



$$C_A \otimes C_B$$



$$C_A \otimes C_B$$



$$C_A \otimes \mathbb{F}_2^B + \mathbb{F}_2^A \otimes C_B$$



## Other developments and open problems

- ▶ Hopkins, Lin 2022. Application to sum of squares approximation
- ▶ Anshu, Breukmann, Nirkhe, 2022. Proof of NLTS conjecture.

Open problems:

Alternatives to the left-right Cayley complex ?

locally testable quantum LDPC code ?