Machine learning quantum phases of matter beyond the fermion sign problem

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Simon Trebst

University of Cologne

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Collaborators



Peter Bröcker

Cologne



Juan Carrasquilla

Perimeter



Roger Melko Waterloo / Perimeter

Machine learning

Machine learning 101

In computer science, machine learning is concerned with algorithms that allow for **data analytics**, most prominently **dimensional reduction** and **feature extraction**.

Examples include **spam filters**, **face** and **voice recognition**.

Implicit knowledge representation in **artificial neural networks**, which are trained in **supervised or unsupervised learning** settings.



Hierarchical neural networks gathered a lot of attention for their **"deep learning"** capabilities, e.g. playing Go.

ARTICLE

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Mastering the game of Go with deep neural networks and tree search

David Silver¹*, Aja Huang¹*, Chris J. Maddison¹, Arthur Guez¹, Laurent Sifre¹, George van den Driessche¹, Julian Schrittwieser¹, Ioannis Antonoglou¹, Veda Panneershelvam¹, Marc Lanctot¹, Sander Dieleman¹, Dominik Grewe¹, John Nham², Nal Kalchbrenner¹, Ilya Sutskever², Timothy Lillicrap¹, Madeleine Leach¹, Koray Kavukcuoglu¹, Thore Graepel¹ & Demis Hassabis¹

artificial neural networks



example – Should I buy the new iPhone?



artificial neural networks

Artificial neural networks are pretty powerful.



Like circuits of NAND gates artificial neural networks can encode arbitrarily complex logic functions, thus allowing for **universal computation**.

But the power of neural networks really comes about by **varying the weights** such that one obtains some desired **functionality**.

How to train a neural network?

0





0

How to train a neural network?



quadratic cost function

$$C(\vec{w}, \vec{b}) = \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{x} ||y(x) - a(x)||^2$$

desired actual
output output



back propagation algorithm

Rumelhart, Hinton & Williams, Nature (1986)

extremely efficient way to calculate *all* partial derivatives

∂C	∂C
$\overline{\partial w}$	$\overline{\partial b}$

needed for a gradient descent optimization.

gradient descent

pattern recognition



Some 60 lines of code (Python/Julia) will do this for you with >95% accuracy.

Much higher accuracy possible for networks with additional convolutional layers.



convolutional neural networks

Convolutional neural networks look for **recurring patterns** using small filters.



convolutional neural networks

Convolutional neural networks look for **recurring patterns** using small filters.









convolutional neural networks

Convolutional neural networks look for **recurring patterns** using small filters.



Slide filters across image and create new image based on how well they fit.

GPUs & open-source codes



Machine learning quantum phases of matter

Supervised learning approach

General setup

Consider some Hamiltonian, which as a function of some parameter λ exhibits a phase transition between two phases.

Supervised learning approach

train convolutional neural network on representative "images" deep within the two phases
apply trained network to "images" sampled elsewhere to predict phases + transition



What are the **right images** to feed into the neural network?

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classical phases of matter

Finite-temperature transition in the Ising model



More interestingly, the convolutional neural network can also be trained to distinguish the high-*T* **paramagnet** from a **Coulomb phase** or **loop gas** ground state, i.e. phases without a local order parameter.



B Ising square ice ground state



Ising lattice gauge theory



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quantum systems

Dirac fermions



Spinless fermions

$$\begin{split} H &= -t \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \left(c_i^{\dagger} c_j + c_j^{\dagger} c_i \right) + V \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} n_i n_j & \text{severe sign} \\ \text{semi-metal} & \text{charge density wave} & V/t \end{split}$$

Supervised learning approach

Supervised learning approach

train convolutional neural network on representative "images" deep within the two phases
apply trained network to "images" sampled elsewhere to predict phases + transition



But what are the **right images** to represent a quantum state?

Monte Carlo for fermions

Determinantal (or auxiliary field) quantum Monte Carlo for unbiased studies of strongly interacting fermions

Path integral representation of partition sum

$$\operatorname{Tr} e^{-\beta \mathcal{H}} = \operatorname{Tr} \left(e^{-\Delta \tau \mathcal{H}} \right)^{L} \qquad \qquad \mathcal{H} = \mathcal{K} + \mathcal{V}$$

Decouple quartic interaction via **Hubbard-Stratonovich** transformation

Now integrate out free fermions moving in background field

$$\mathcal{Z} = \sum_{s} \det U(s)$$

sample Hubbard-Stratonovich field

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Decoupling quartic interaction via Hubbard-Stratonovich transformation introduces an Ising-type **auxiliary field**







The auxiliary field has a natural interpretation has "image".

The auxiliary field has a natural interpretation has "image".

Case 1 – **spinful fermions**

The choice of Hubbard-Stratonovich transformation influences image, i.e. when coupling to ...

magnetization breaks SU(2)





charge preserves SU(2)



coupling to magnetization



coupling to charge



Hubbard-Stratonovich fields might not be ideal objects/images for machine learning based discrimination of quantum phases.

general observations

- supervised learning does not work very well
- sensitive to choice of Hubbard-Stratonovich transformation

on a more technical level

- finite temperatures require adjusting discretization step
- each coupling enlarges dataset

Alternative – Green's functions $G(i,j) = \langle c_i c_j^{\dagger} \rangle$

Supervised learning / Green's functions

Green's functions sampled as **complex valued matrices**.

Convert into color-coded image using HSV color scheme.



Supervised learning / Green's functions

Green's functions for **spinful fermion** model

semi-metal







 $L = 2 \times 9 \times 9$



SDW









Spinful fermions

Green's functions are ideal objects/images for machine learning based discrimination of quantum phases.



Some intermediate conclusions

QMC + machine learning approach can be used to distinguish phases of interacting many-fermion systems.

Green's functions are ideal "images" for machine learning.

The ensemble of sampled Green's functions contains sufficient information to discriminate fermionic phases.

sign problem

Algorithmic power of Monte Carlo

Sample configurations in high-dimensional space

$$c_1 \rightarrow c_2 \rightarrow \ldots c_i \rightarrow c_{i+1} \rightarrow \ldots$$

Metropolis (1953): accept new configuration with probability

$$p_{\text{acc}} = \min\left(1, \frac{w(c_j)}{w(c_i)}\right)$$

Simultaneously measured observables converge in **polynomial time**.

Tremendous impact across many different fields.

In hard condensed matter

- percolation
- phase transitions
- quantum magnetism
- ultracold bosons



Quantum Monte Carlo

classical Monte Carlo

$$\langle \mathcal{O} \rangle = \frac{\sum_{\mathcal{C}} \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{C}) e^{-\beta E(\mathcal{C})}}{\sum_{\mathcal{C}} e^{-\beta E(\mathcal{C})}}$$

quantum Monte Carlo

$$\langle \mathcal{O} \rangle = \frac{\operatorname{Tr} \mathcal{O} e^{-\beta \mathcal{H}}}{\operatorname{Tr} e^{-\beta \mathcal{H}}}$$

Map quantum to classical system

Map to "world lines" of the trajectories of the particles

Monte Carlo sampling of these world lines



The sign problem

Expectation value for observables

$$\langle \mathcal{O} \rangle = \frac{\sum \mathcal{O}(C)p(\mathcal{C})}{\sum p(\mathcal{C})}$$

when we **ignore the sign** of the configuration weights.

... but the average sign decreases exponentially

$$\langle \sigma \rangle_{\rm abs} = \frac{\sum \sigma(C)|p(\mathcal{C})|}{\sum |p(\mathcal{C})|} = \frac{Z}{Z_{\rm abs}} = \exp\left(-\beta N\Delta f\right)$$

... resulting in an **exponentially slow convergence** of the statistical error

$$\frac{\Delta\sigma}{\langle\sigma\rangle} = \frac{\sqrt{\langle\sigma^2\rangle - \langle\sigma\rangle^2}}{\sqrt{M}\langle\sigma\rangle} \approx \frac{e^{\beta N\Delta f}}{\sqrt{M}}$$

It's a real problem ...

classic example: superconductivity in doped Hubbard model

Loh, Gubernatis, Scalettar, White, Scalapino and Sugar, PRB 1990



It's a real problem ...

classic example: superconductivity in doped Hubbard model

Loh, Gubernatis, Scalettar, White, Scalapino and Sugar, PRB 1990



correlation functions come out wrong!

Is there a way out?

The sign problem is **basis dependent** simulation basis energy eigenbasis exponentially hard Successful basis changes meron cluster Wiese et al., PRL (1995) fermion bag Chandrasekharan, PRD (2009) Majorana fermion basis Yao et al., PRB (2015) the sign problem is **NP-hard** Troyer and Wiese, PRL (2005) no general solution

Change of perspective

effective, sign-problem free actions

entanglement entropies

Berg, Metlitski, and Sachdev, Science (2012) Schattner, Gerlach, Trebst and Berg, PRL (2016) Broecker and Trebst, PRB (2016)

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sign problem - machine learning

Can we bypass the sign problem?

QMC sampling + statistical analysis

$$\langle \mathcal{O} \rangle = \frac{\sum \mathcal{O}(C)p(\mathcal{C})}{\sum p(\mathcal{C})} = \frac{\sum \mathcal{O}(C)\sigma(\mathcal{C})|p(\mathcal{C})|}{\sum \sigma(\mathcal{C})|p(\mathcal{C})|} = \frac{\langle \mathcal{O} \cdot \sigma \rangle_{\text{abs}}}{\langle \sigma \rangle_{\text{abs}}}$$

QMC sampling + machine learning

Assume there exists a "state function"

$$\left\langle \mathcal{F} \right\rangle_{\text{abs}} = \frac{\sum \mathcal{F}(C) |p(\mathcal{C})|}{\sum |p(\mathcal{C})|}$$

that is 0 deep in phase A and 1 deep in phase B.

Spinless fermions

QMC + machine learning approach gives useful results even for systems with a severe sign problem.



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Spinless fermions @ 1/3 filling



Transfer learning

Training on spinful, sign-problem free fermion model, application to spinless, sign-problematic fermion model.



Summary

Summary

QMC + machine learning approach can be used to distinguish phases of interacting many-fermion systems even in the presence of a severe sign problem..

The ensemble of sampled Green's functions contains sufficient information to discriminate quantum phases. Accessible in most quantum Monte Carlo flavors.

The future: QMC + machine learning will become a robust tool for quickly and semi-automatically mapping out phase diagrams of quantum many-body systems.

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