

Power and limitation of distributed quantum proofs

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This talk

- 2022: Power of distributed quantum Merlin-Arthur proofs
- 2023: More distributed quantum Merlin-Arthur protocols: improvement and extension
- 2024: Power and limitation of distributed quantum proofs

Keywords:

- Quantum (computation)
- Distributed (network)
- Proof verification (or Merlin-Arthur proof system)

Proof verification

- P vs NP
 - P:=problems that can be computed efficiently (in poly-time)
 - NP:=problems that can be verified efficiently with the help of proofs
- Yes-No problem $A = (A_{yes}, A_{no}) \in NP \Leftrightarrow \exists V$: poly-time algorithm
 - (completeness) $x \in A_{yes} \rightarrow \exists w [V(x, w) = 1 \text{ (yes)}]$
 - w is called a **certificate** (**proof**, witness)
 - (soundness) $x \in A_{no} \rightarrow \forall w [V(x, w) = 0 \text{ (no)}]$

Ex: Factoring

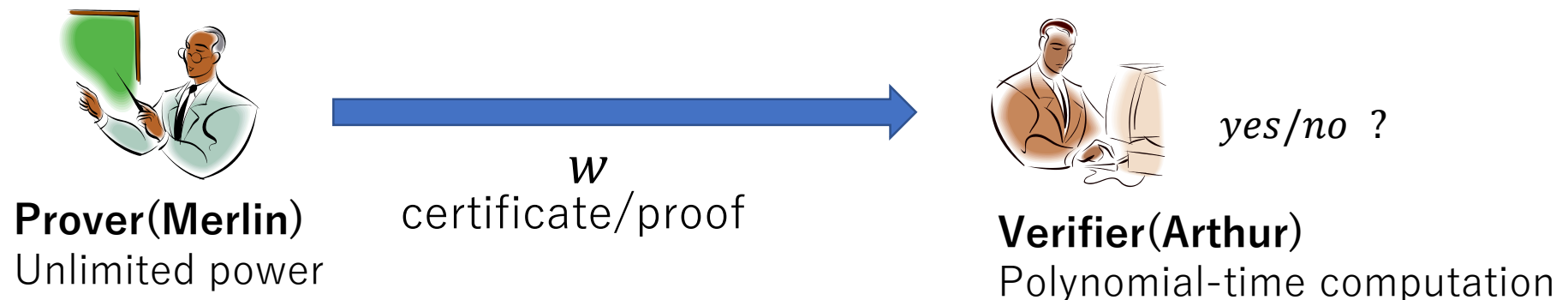
Input: positive integers N & k

Output: Yes $\Leftrightarrow N$ has a non-trivial divisor smaller than k

Certificate: Any non-trivial divisor smaller than k

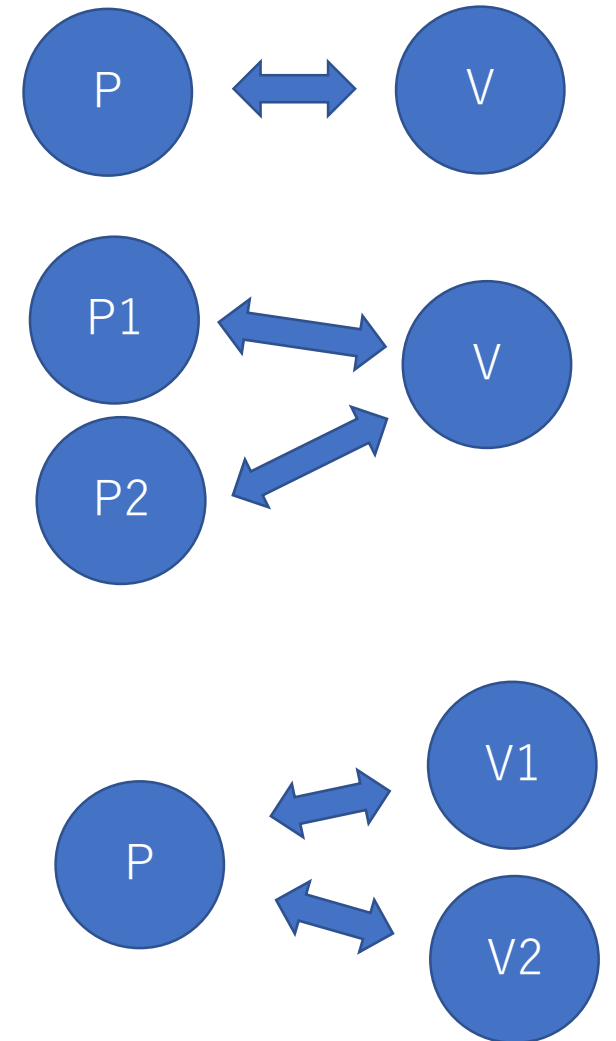
NP as communication systems

- Yes-No problem $A = (A_{yes}, A_{no}) \in \text{NP} \Leftrightarrow \exists V$: poly-time algorithm
 - (completeness) $x \in A_{yes} \rightarrow \exists y [V(x, w) = 1 \text{ (yes)}]$
 - (soundness) $x \in A_{no} \rightarrow \forall y [V(x, w) = 0 \text{ (no)}]$
- Prover (Merlin): computationally unlimited
 - Sends w
- Verifier (Arthur): computationally limited (poly-time)
 - Receives w and verifies whether $V(x, w) = 1$
- **MA:=Randomized version of NP**; poly-time \Rightarrow randomized poly-time



Extensions of NP

- Interactive proof
 - Prover and verifier can interact (two-way communication)
- Multi-prover interactive proof
 - Multiple provers can interact with verifier
 - Provers cannot communicate with each other
- Multi-verifier (interactive) proof
 - Verifier consisting of multiple parties can interact with prover
 - Parties can communicate with each other but the communication is expensive
 - Target in this talk



Distributed Certification

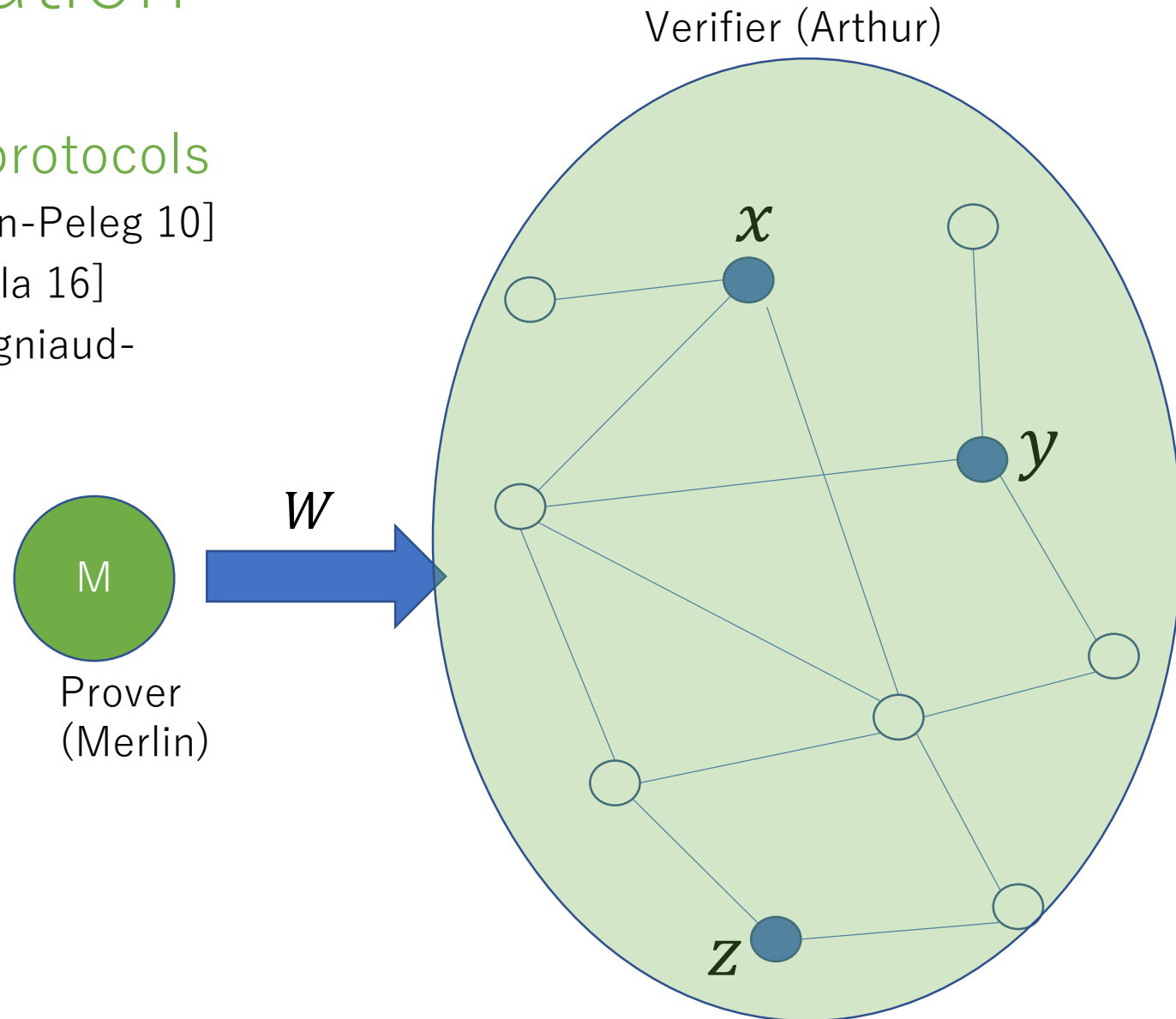
- Distributed Merlin-Arthur (dMA) protocols
 - Proof labeling scheme [Korman-Kutten-Peleg 10]
 - Locally checkable proof [Göös-Suomela 16]
 - Nondeterministic local decision [Fraigniaud-Korman-Peleg 13]

etc

- Input

- Graph (structure of the network)
- Strings for nodes (terminals)

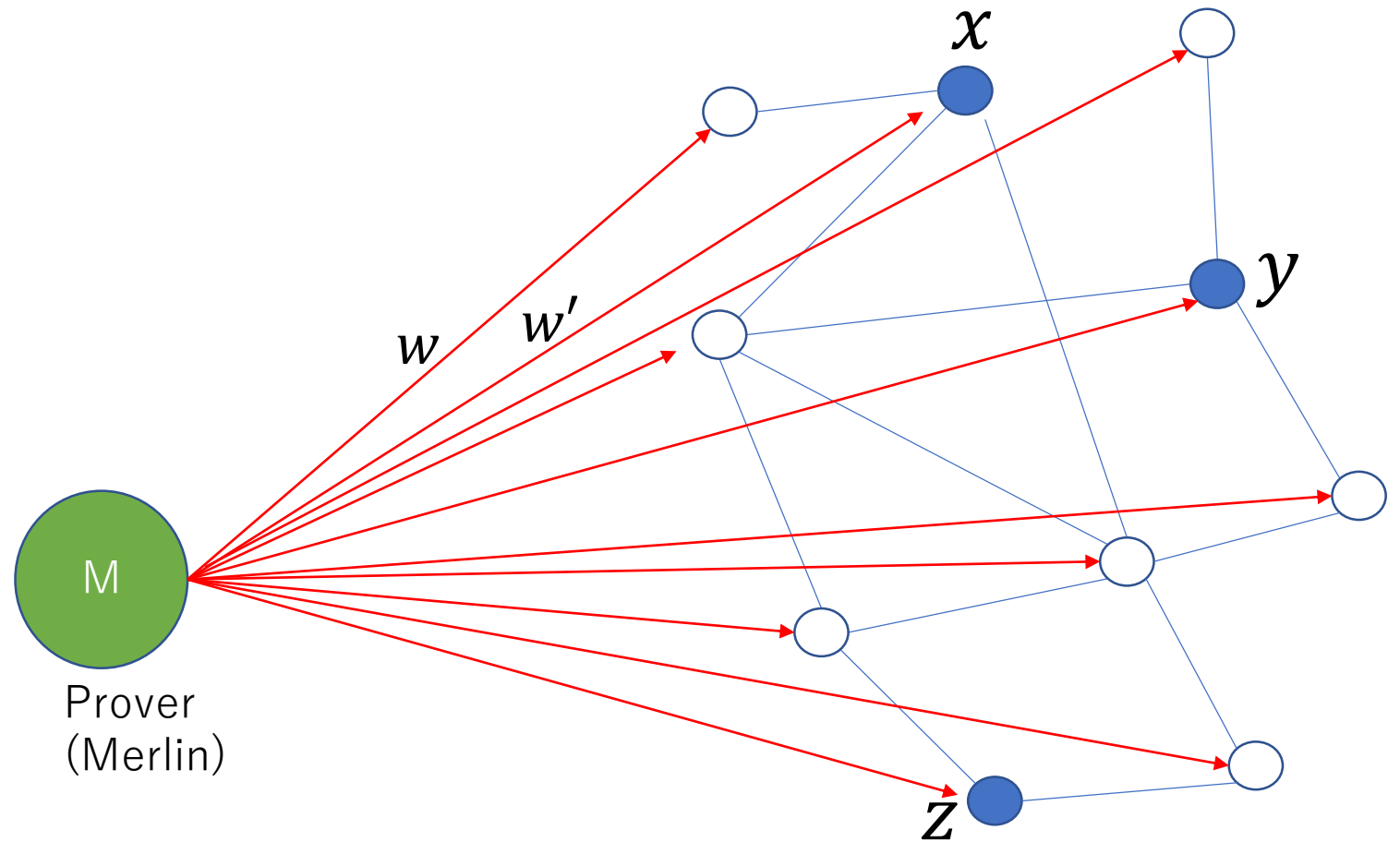
● terminals (nodes who have data)



Distributed Merlin-Arthur (dMA) protocol

Two phases:

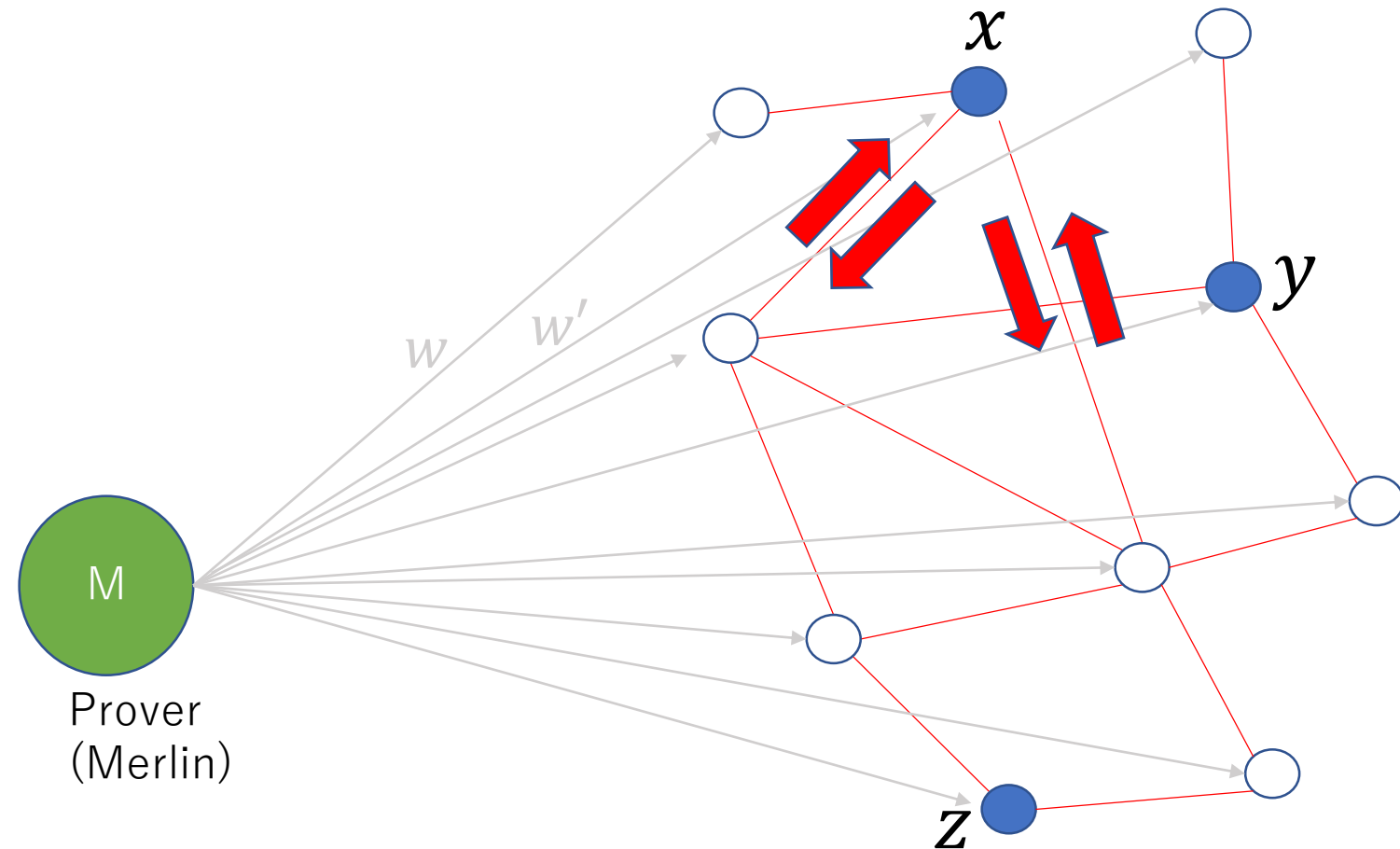
1. (Prover phase) Prover sends certificates to each node



Distributed Merlin-Arthur (dMA) protocol

Two phases:

1. (Prover phase) Prover sends certificates to each node
2. (Verification phase) Each node exchanges messages with the neighbors



Properties of dMA

Properties:

(YES case: Completeness)

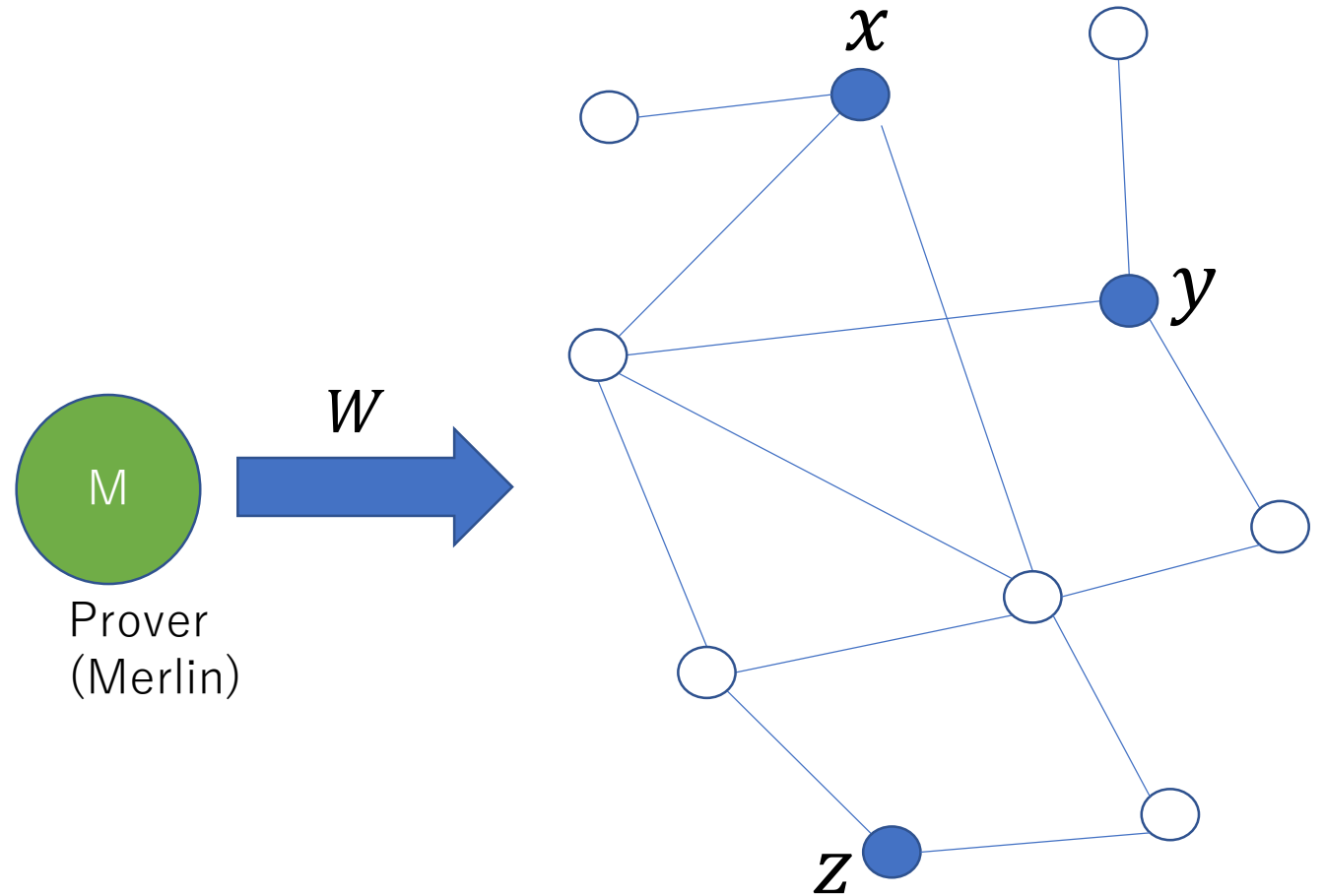
$\exists W$ [all nodes accept]

(w.h.p.)

(NO case: Soundness)

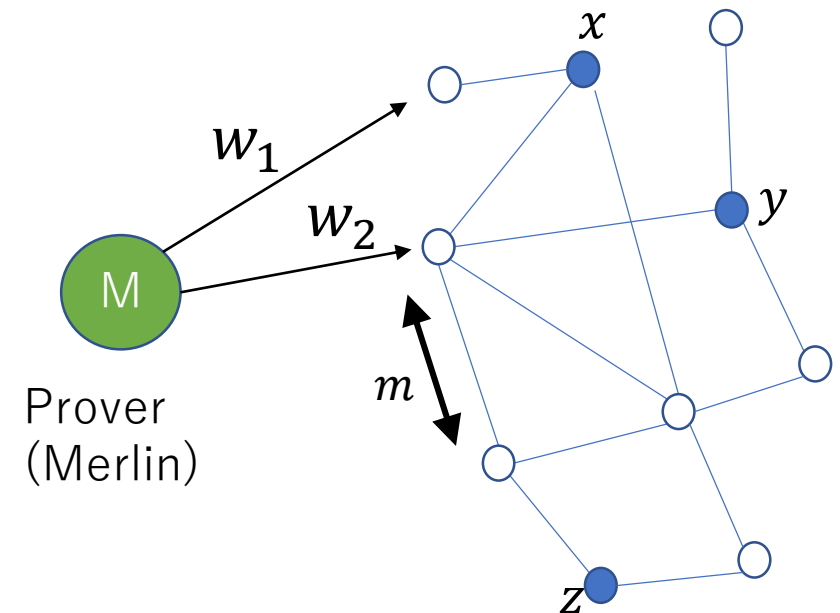
$\forall W$ [some node rejects]

(w.h.p.)



Complexity of dMA

- Efficiency of NP
 - Time (polynomial-time)
- Efficiency of dMA
 - **Communication**
 - Unlimited prover knows all information (network & terminals' inputs)
 - Verifier knows only local information
 - Prover phase: **proof** (or certificate)
 - Verification phase: **messages among neighbors**
 - **Local proof (message) size**: = maximum of the number of bits of proofs (messages) sent to nodes (sent between neighbors)
 - **Total proof (message) size**: = sum of the number of bits of proofs (messages) sent to nodes (sent between neighbors)

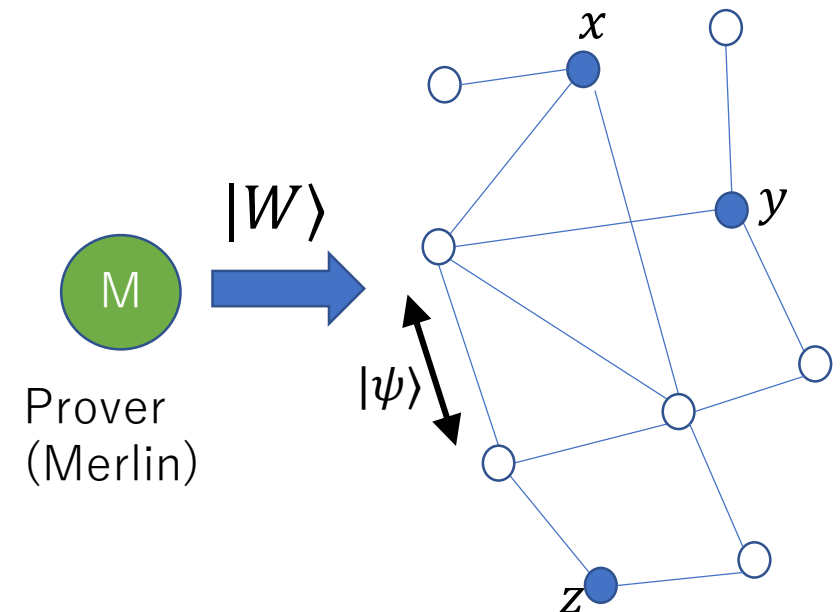


Distributed Quantum Merlin-Arthur (dQMA)

[FLNP21]

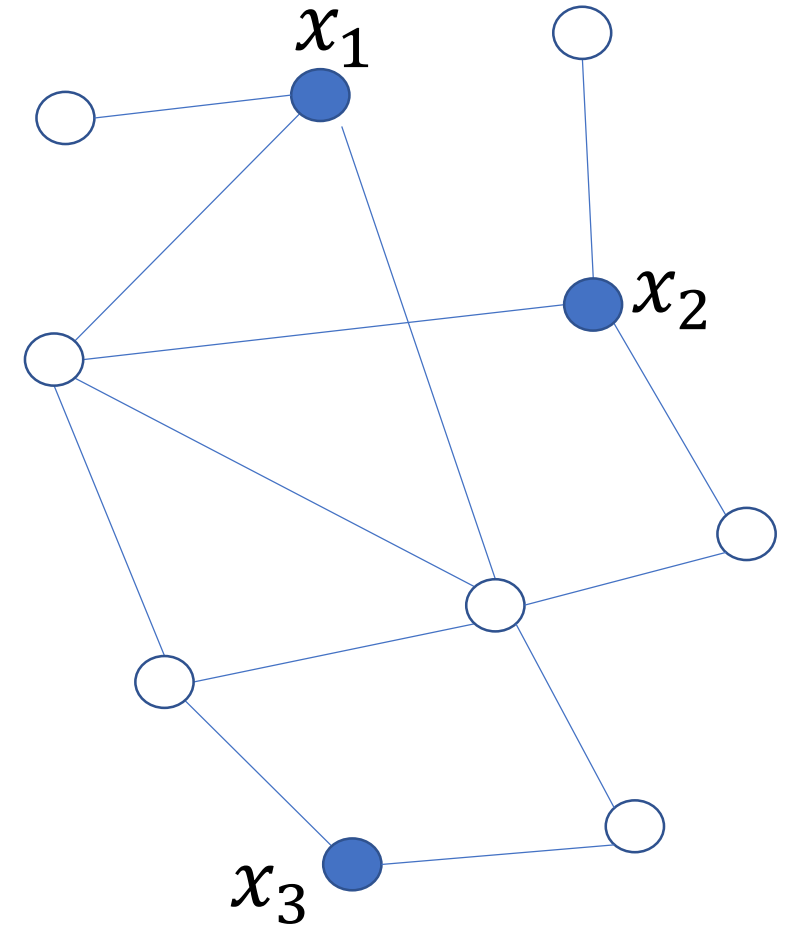
- Distributed Quantum Merlin-Arthur (dQMA) protocols on the network
 - Quantum certificates from the prover
 - Quantum messages among nodes

Q. Which problems are efficient for dQMA protocols?



EQ: Equality of Data

- Replicated data on a network
- Are all data identical?
- $EQ(x_1, \dots, x_t) = 1 \Leftrightarrow x_1 = \dots = x_t$
 - j th terminal has $x_j \in \{0,1\}^n$



● terminals (nodes who have data)

dMA Protocol for EQ

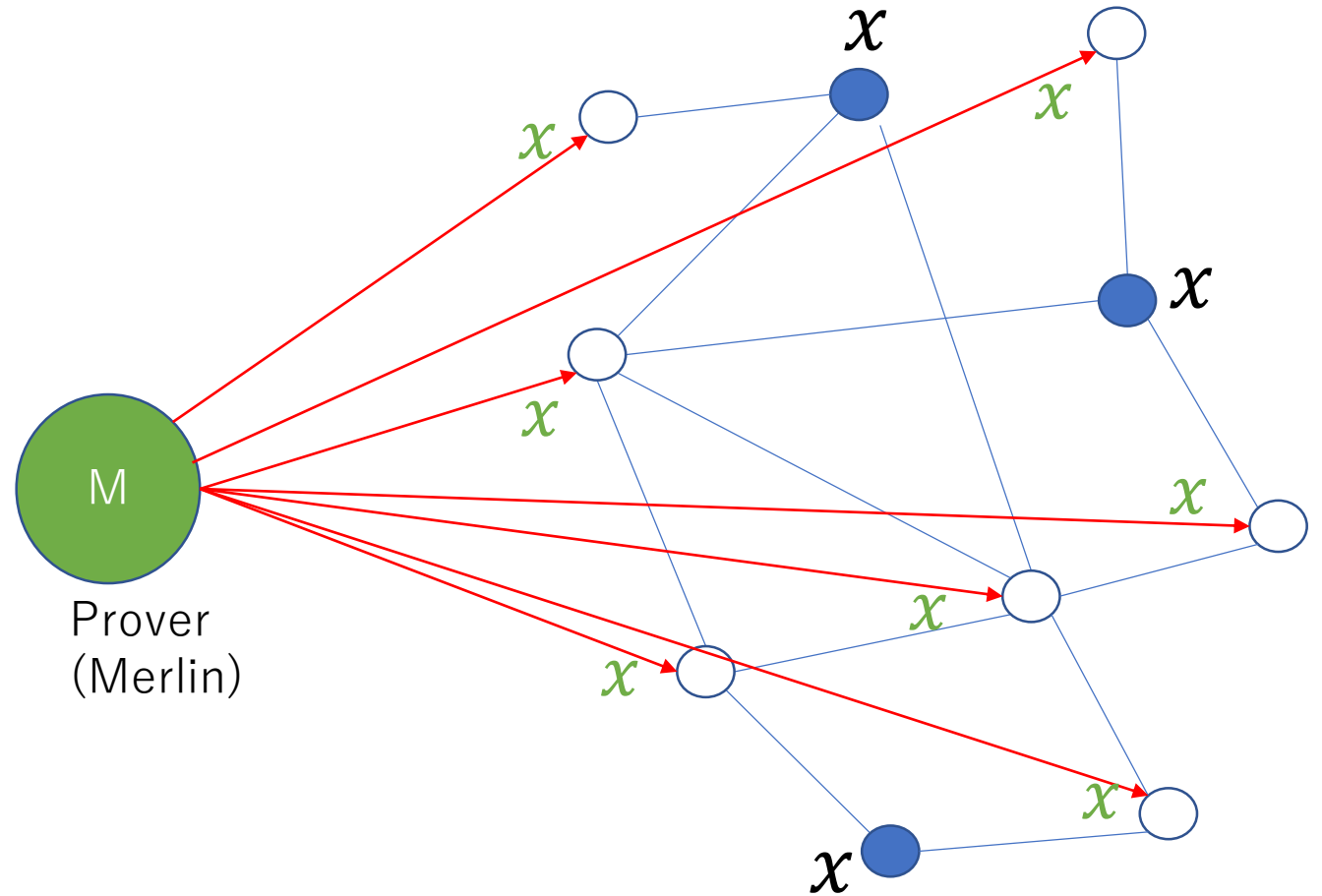
Trivial protocol:

(P) Prover M sends x to intermediate nodes when all data are x

(V) Each node checks if it is same as the neighbor's ones

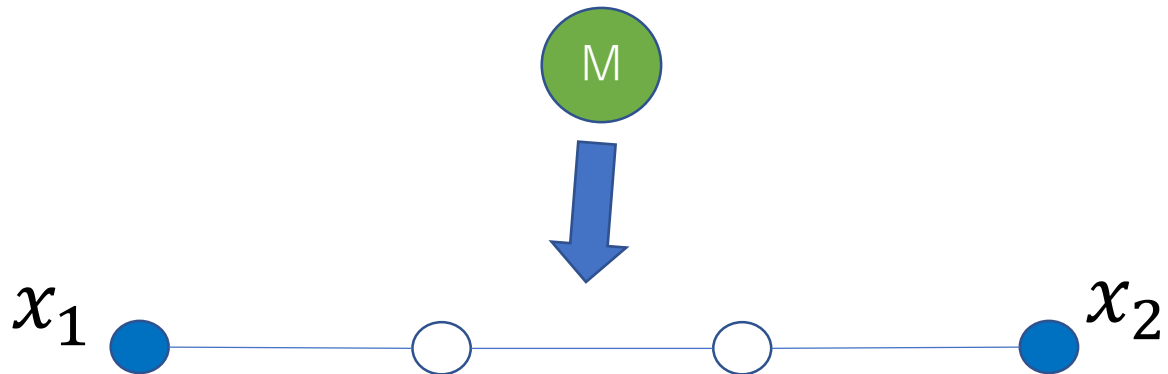
(YES case: Completeness)

$\exists W$ [all nodes accept]



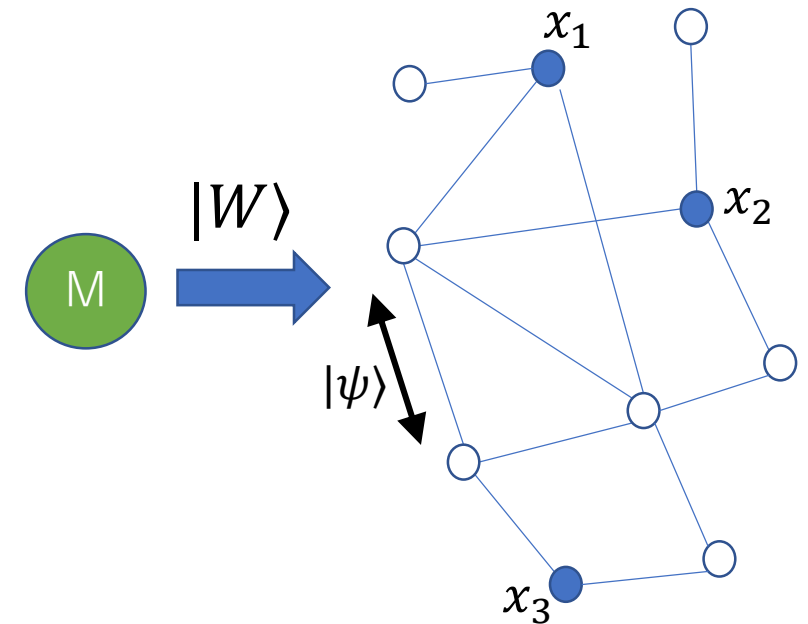
Results for EQ [FLNP21]

- Distributed Quantum Merlin-Arthur (dQMA) protocols on the network
 - Quantum certificates from the prover
 - Quantum messages among nodes
- Classical lower bound for EQ
 - Any dMA protocol requires local proof size $\Omega(n)$ (i.e., $\Omega(n)$ -bit certificates to some node) when the error probability is reasonably small (say, $1/4$)



Results for EQ [FLNP21]

- Distributed Quantum Merlin-Arthur (dQMA) protocols on the network
 - Quantum certificates from the prover
 - Quantum messages among nodes
- Classical lower bound for EQ
 - Any dMA protocol requires local proof size $\Omega(n)$ when the error probability is reasonably small (say, $1/4$)
- Quantum upper bound for EQ
 - \exists dQMA protocol for EQ with local proof size & message size $O(tr^2 \log n)$
 - $t :=$ number of the terminals (= nodes who have data)
 - $r :=$ diameter of the network
 - **t and r are typically much smaller than n**



Results for EQ [FLNP21]

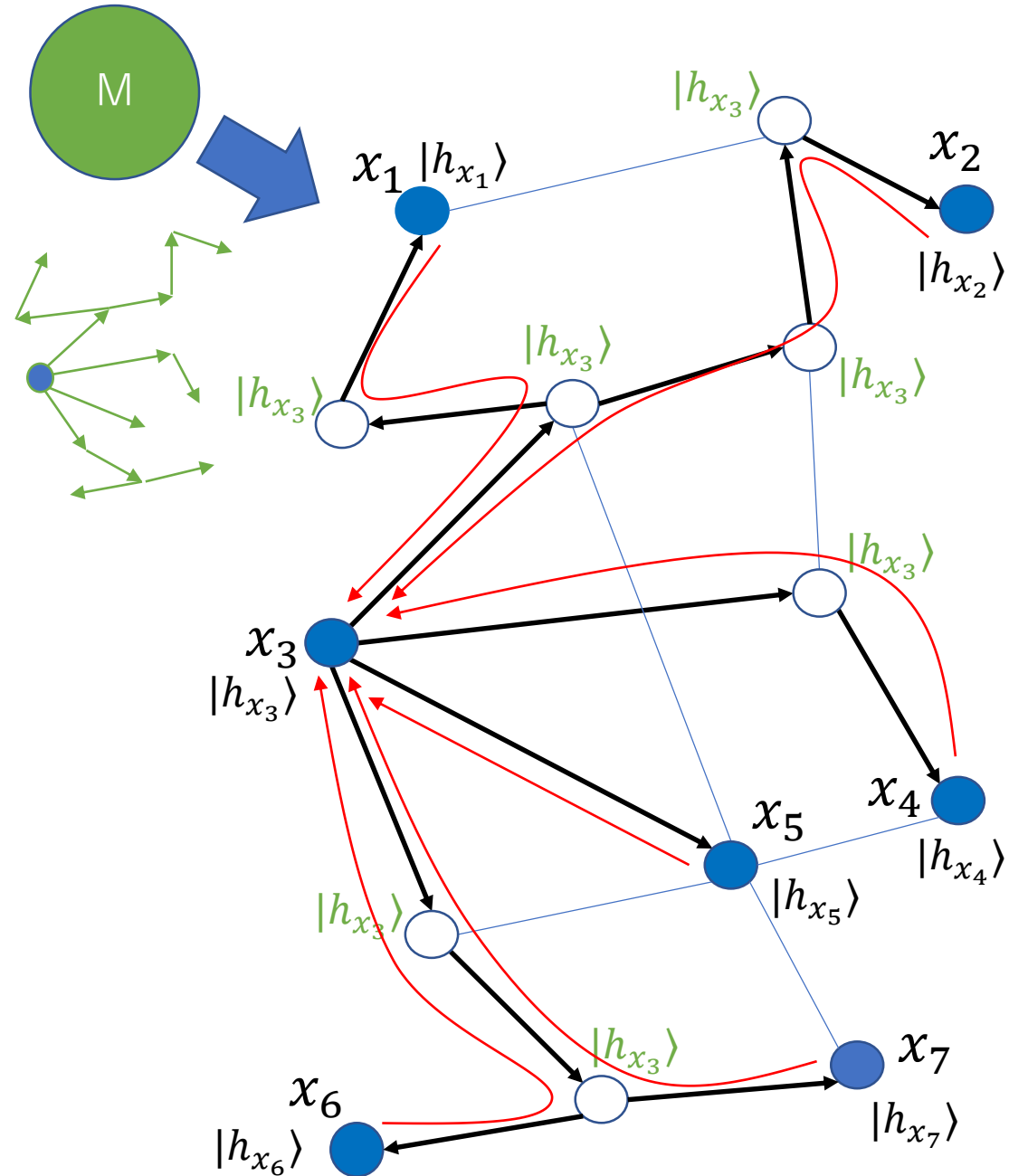
- Quantum upper bound for EQ

- \exists dQMA protocol for EQ with local proof size & message size $O(tr^2 \log n)$

- $t :=$ number of the terminals (= nodes who have data)
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- t and r are typically much smaller than n**

- Proof strategy

- Prover sends quantum fingerprint of the data to intermediate nodes
- Verifier does quantum fingerprint check (by SWAP test) in the line network (sound for entangled proofs)
- Verifier checks a spanning tree sent from the prover [Korman-Kutten-Peleg 10]



Follow-up work

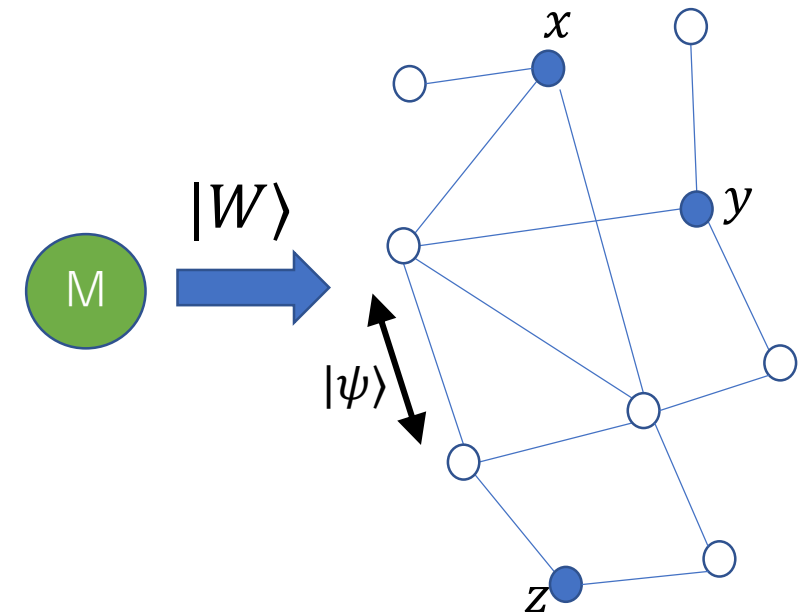
- Distributed quantum interactive proofs [LMN23-1]
 - Verifier (network) can interact with prover (Merlin)
- Distributed quantum state synthesis [LMN23-2]
 - Yes-No problems \Rightarrow generation of quantum states
 - Application: dQMA proof systems for Set-Equality

[LMN23-1] F. Le Gall, M. Miyamoto, HN, Proc. STACS23, arXiv: 2210.01390

[LMN23-2] F. Le Gall, M. Miyamoto, HN, Proc. MFCS23, arXiv: 2210.01389

Questions

- More problems
 - EQ
 - Set Equality
 - ???
- Quantum lower bound
 - Proof size
 - Message size



Our results [HKN24]

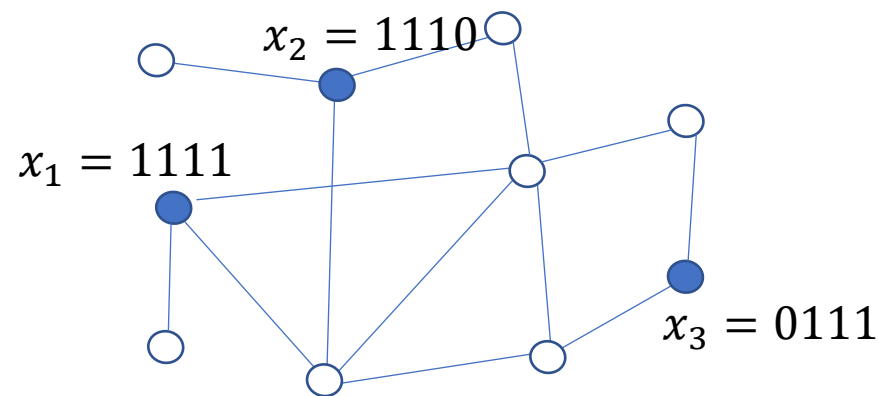
- More problems can be verified in dQMA proof systems
 - Hamming distance
 - Ranking verification
- First quantum lower bounds
 - Proof size + message size

Hamming distance

$$\begin{aligned}HAM_1(x_1, x_2, x_3) &= 0 \\HAM_2(x_1, x_2, x_3) &= 1\end{aligned}$$

- Natural extension of EQ
- $EQ(x_1, \dots, x_t) = 1 \Leftrightarrow x_1 = \dots = x_t$
- $HAM_d(x_1, \dots, x_t) = 1 \Leftrightarrow \forall i, j [HD(x_i, x_j) \leq d]$
 - $HD(x, y) :=$ Hamming distance between x and y

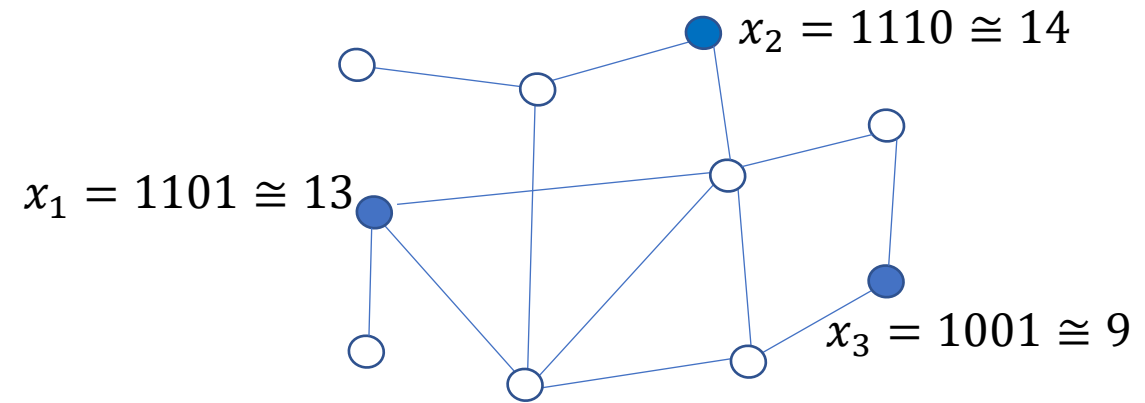
[FLNP21] Efficient dQMA protocol in the line network for constant d



[Theorem] There is a dQMA protocol for HAM_d for constant d such that local proof (message) size is $\tilde{O}(t^2 r^2 (\log n)^2)$ in general networks

- $t :=$ number of the terminals (= nodes who have data)
- $r :=$ diameter of the network

Ranking verification



- Ranking: Generalization of maximum
 - $\text{Rank}_t^j(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_t) := j$ -th largest value in the list x_1, x_2, \dots, x_t
 - $x_j \in \{0,1\}^n \cong \{0,1, \dots, 2^n - 1\}$: n -bit integer
- Ranking verification
 - $RV_t^{i,j}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_t) := 1 \Leftrightarrow x_i$ is the j -th largest value in the list
 - $RV_t^{i,1}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_t) = 1 \Leftrightarrow x_i$ is the largest value in the list

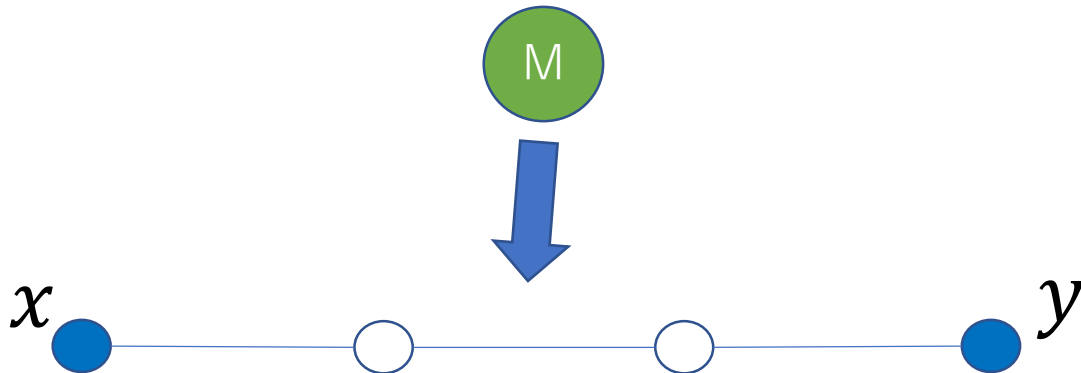
[Theorem] There is a dQMA protocol for $RV_t^{i,j}$ such that local proof (message) size is $O(tr^2 \log n)$ in a general network

Quantum lower bound

- We show lower bounds on the **total** proof & message size in the line network (where the both end nodes are the terminals)

[Theorem] The total proof & message size of any dQMA protocol for EQ is $\Omega((\log n)^{\frac{1}{4}-\varepsilon})$ where $\varepsilon > 0$ is any small constant (for any length r of the line network)

- $\Omega((\log n)^{\frac{1}{2}-\varepsilon})$ when the length of the line is a constant
- $O(r^3 \log n)$ [FLNP21]: Upper bound on **total** proof & message size



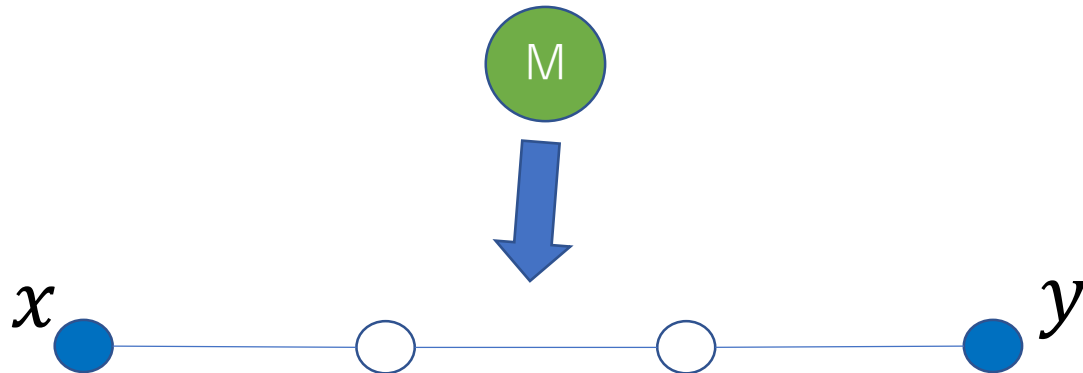
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[Theorem] The total proof & message size of any dQMA protocol for DISJ is $\Omega(n^{1/3})$

[Theorem] The total proof & message size of any dQMA protocol for IP is $\Omega(n^{1/2})$



Our results [HKN24]

- More problems can be verified in dQMA proof systems
 - Hamming distance
 - Ranking verification
- First quantum lower bounds
 - Proof size + message size (EQ, DISJ, IP)
- Improvement over [FLNP21]
 - Local proof (message) size for EQ: $O(tr^2 \log n) \Rightarrow O(r^2 \log n)$
 - $t :=$ number of the terminals (= nodes who have data)
 - $r :=$ diameter of the network
 - Permutation test & rigidity
- Quantum advantage for EQ on the line network even if the length is large compared to input length of EQ
 - Total proof size: classical $\Omega(rn)$; quantum $\tilde{O}(rn^{2/3})$
 - $r :=$ length of the line (=diameter of the line)

Proof ideas

- Ranking verification
- Lower bound for EQ

Ranking verification

- Ranking verification
 - $RV_t^{i,j}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_t) := 1 \Leftrightarrow x_i$ is the j -th largest value in the list
 - $RV_t^{i,1}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_t) = 1 \Leftrightarrow x_i$ is the largest value in the list

[Theorem] There is a dQMA protocol for $RV_t^{i,j}$ such that local proof (message) size is $O(tr^2 \log n)$

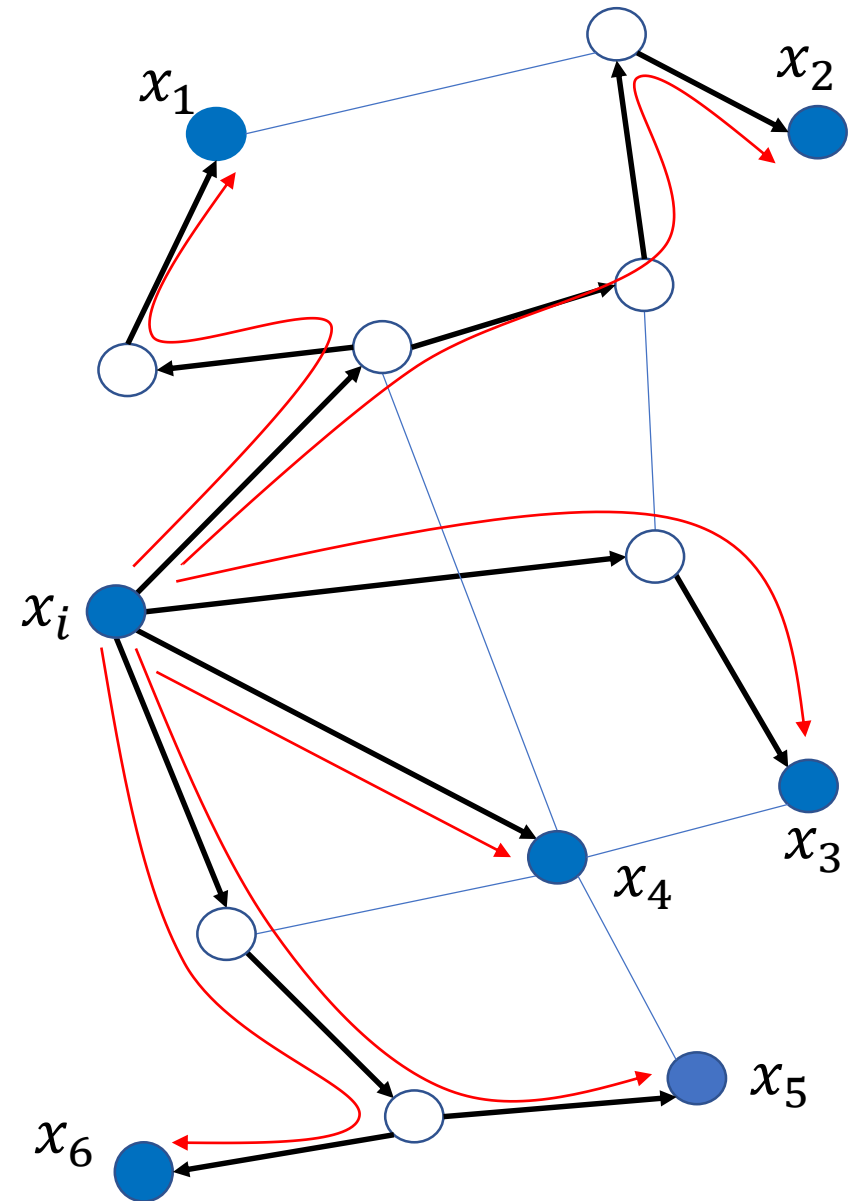
- Proof strategy:
 1. Creates a dQMA protocol for the **Greater-Than (GT) function** in the line network
- $GT(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1 & (x > y) \\ 0 & (x \leq y) \end{cases}$
- Reduces GT to EQ
 - $GT(x, y) = 1 \Leftrightarrow \exists j [x_j = 1 \ \& \ y_j = 0 \ \& \ x_1 \cdots x_{j-1} = y_1 \cdots y_{j-1}]$
Ex: $x = 101011, y = 101001$
 $GT(x, y) = 1$ since $x_5 = 1 \ \& \ y_5 = 0 \ \& \ x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4 = y_1 y_2 y_3 y_4$

Ranking verification

- Ranking verification
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[Theorem] There is a dQMA protocol for $RV_t^{i,j}$ such that local proof (message) size is $O(tr^2 \log n)$

- Proof strategy:
 1. Creates dQMA protocol for the Greater-Than (GT) function in the line network
 2. **Run the dQMA protocol for GT between node i and each of the other terminals**

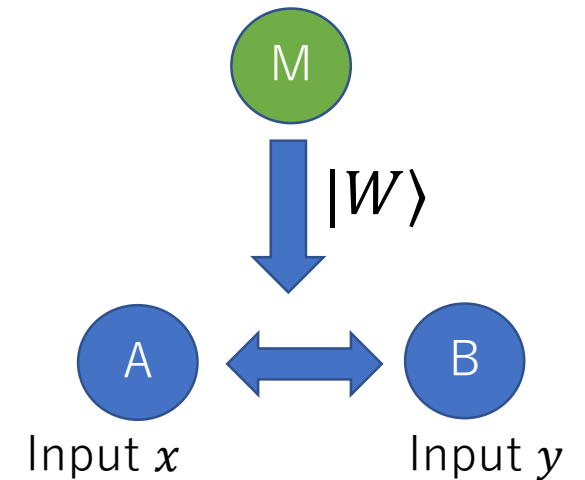


Proof ideas

- Ranking verification
- Lower bound for EQ

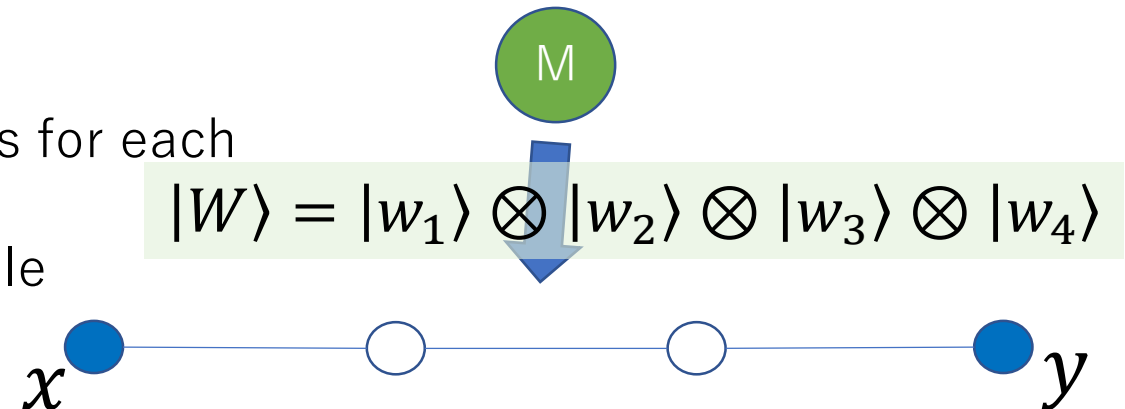
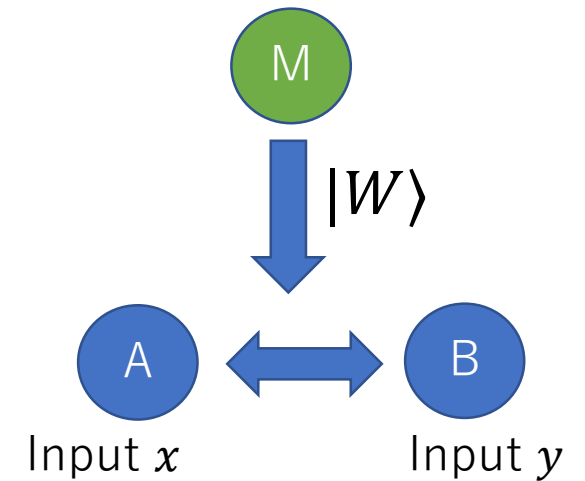
Proof sketch for EQ lower bound

- [Theorem] The total proof & message size of any dQMA protocol for EQ is $\Omega((\log n)^{\frac{1}{4}-\varepsilon})$ where $\varepsilon > 0$ is any small constant
- Reduction to 2-party communication complexity
 - QMA communication complexity [Raz-Shpilka 04]
 - Special case that the network is the line with 2 nodes
 - $QMAcc(f) :=$ total proof & message size for verifying $f(x, y) = 1$



Proof sketch for EQ lower bound

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- Reduction to 2-party communication complexity
 - QMA communication complexity [Raz-Shpilka 04]
 - Special case that the network is the line with 2 nodes
 - $QMAcc(f) :=$ total proof & message size for verifying $f(x, y) = 1$
- Separable dQMA protocol
 - Quantum proof must be a product of states for each party
 - Protocols in [FLNP21, HKN24] are separable

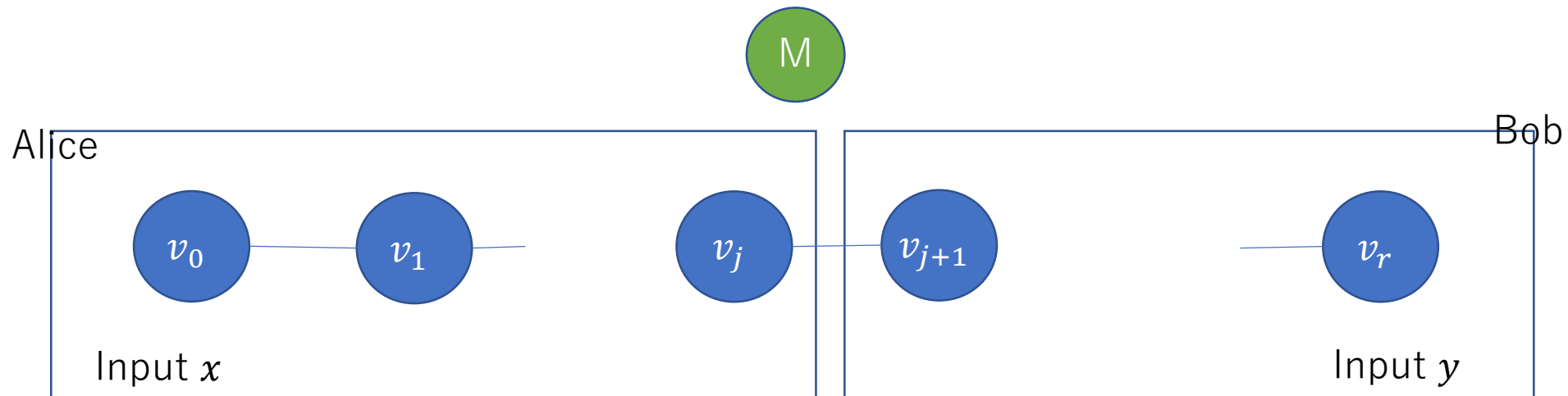


Proof sketch for EQ lower bound

[Lemma1 (dQMA \Rightarrow separable dQMA)]

If any function $f: \{0,1\}^n \times \{0,1\}^n \rightarrow \{0,1\}$ has a dQMA protocol with total proof + min message size C in the line of length r , then there is a **separable** dQMA protocol for f with total proof size $O(r^3 C^2)$

- Reduces to a 2-party QMA communication complexity (CC) protocol

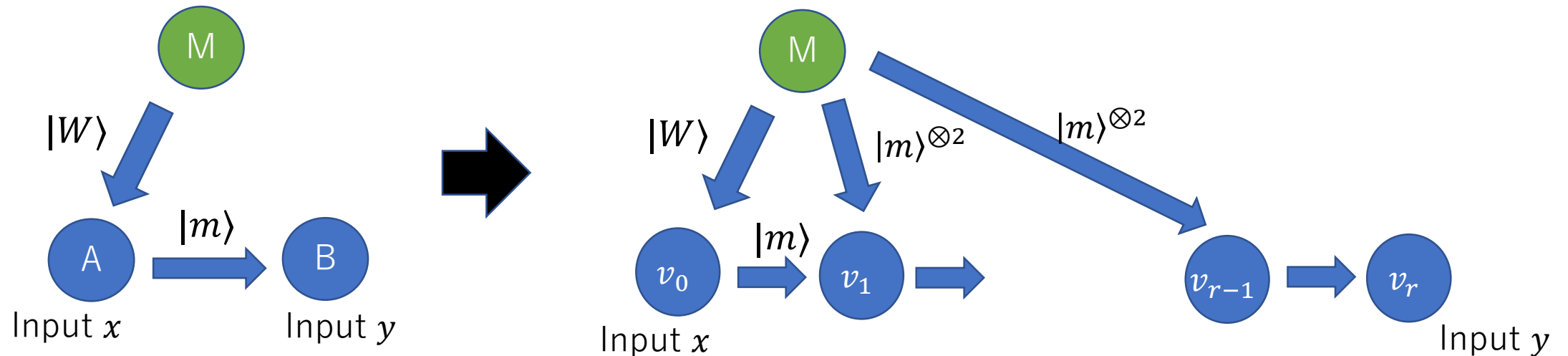


Proof sketch for EQ lower bound

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- Reduces to a 2-party QMA communication complexity (CC) protocol
- Creates a separable dQMA protocol (based on [FLNP21]) for the CC protocol



Proof sketch for EQ lower bound

- Gives a lower bound on **separable** dQMA protocols for EQ
 - Total proof size $\Omega(r \log n)$
 - Classical LB for EQ [FLNP21] + Size lower bound of quantum fingerprints
- Lemma1 implies
 - Total proof & min message size $\Omega((\log n)^{\frac{1}{2}-\varepsilon} / r^{1+\delta})$ for any constant $\varepsilon, \delta > 0$ on (entangled) dQMA protocols for EQ

[Lemma1 (dQMA \Rightarrow separable dQMA)]

If any function $f: \{0,1\}^n \times \{0,1\}^n \rightarrow \{0,1\}$ has a dQMA protocol with total proof + min message size C on the line of length r , then there is a **separable** dQMA protocol for f with total proof size $O(r^3 C^2)$

Proof sketch for EQ lower bound

- Gives a lower bound on separable dQMA protocols for EQ
 - Total proof size $\Omega(r \log n)$
 - Classical LB for EQ [FLNP21] + Size lower bound of quantum fingerprints
- Lemma1 implies
 - Total proof & min message size $\Omega((\log n)^{\frac{1}{2}-\varepsilon}/r^{1+\delta})$ for any constant $\varepsilon, \delta > 0$ on (entangled) dQMA protocols for EQ
- Gives another lower bound on dQMA protocols for EQ
 - $\Omega(r)$

⇒

[Theorem] The total proof & min message size of any dQMA protocol for EQ is $\Omega((\log n)^{\frac{1}{4}-\varepsilon})$ where $\varepsilon > 0$ is any small constant

Summary & Future work

- Our results [HKN24]

- More problems can be verified in dQMA proof systems
 - Hamming distance & Ranking verification
- First quantum lower bound
 - Total proof size + message size: $\Omega((\log n)^{\frac{1}{4}-\epsilon})$ (for EQ in the line network)
- Improvement over [FLNP21]
 - Total proof size for EQ: $O(tr^3 \log n) \Rightarrow O(r^3 \log n)$
- Quantum advantage for EQ on the line network even if the length is large compared to input length of EQ: classical $\Omega(rn)$ vs quantum $\tilde{O}(rn^{\frac{2}{3}})$

- Future work

- Lower bounds on proof size (only)
- Quantum advantage for natural problems when the network size is large