



National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration



# A Path Towards Quantum Advantage in Training Deep Generative Models with Quantum Annealing



STINGER  
GHAFFARIAN  
TECHNOLOGIES

**KBRwyle**

## How to use quantum annealers to provide quantum advantage on real applications?

- The good:

1. Quantum annealers are competitive with state-of-the-art classical solvers on natively defined problems

[Mandra, Katzgraber, QST 3; King et al, arXiv:1701.04579; Hen et al. PRA 92; Albash and Lidar, PRX 8]

- The bad:

2. Relatively small number of available qubits
3. Quasi two-dimensional (spatially local) connectivities
4. Control and thermal errors

[Troyer, Katzgraber: AQC2019 talks; Albash et al. QST 4]

- The ugly:

1. We still don't know how to exploit the good to solve useful problems

## Two use cases for quantum annealing

### 1. Optimization:

- Quantum annealing developed as a quantum heuristic for optimization
- Well-established suite of tools for benchmarking: time-to-solution(target) measures, planted solutions...
- Divide-and-conquer and embedding algorithms face **large overheads**

### 2. Sampling:

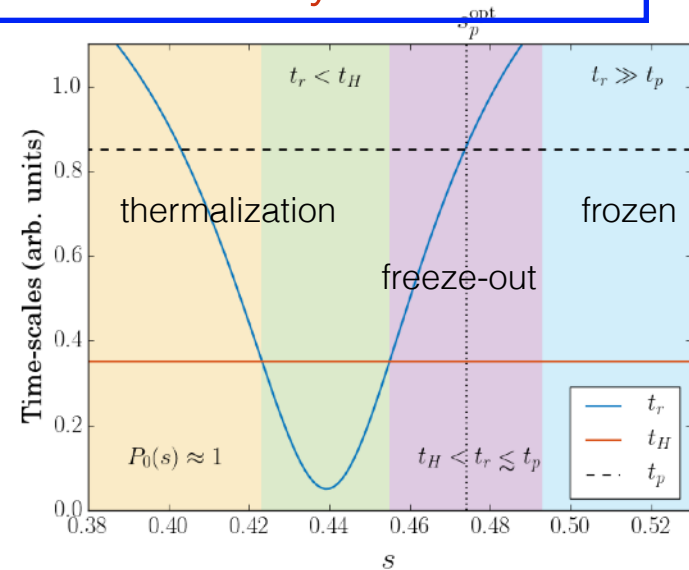
- A more recent application for QA, potential not fully understood
- Benchmarking is more subtle: KL-divergences are expensive to compute, approximate sampling sufficient for practical applications...
- Focus on **machine learning** applications and techniques for 'embeddings'

Quantum annealers are special purpose devices, exploit what they do best:

sampling on native connectivity

- Quantum annealers simulate a transverse field Ising model immersed in a thermal bath

[Amin, PRA 92; Marshall et al., PR Applied 11]



- The required technology is being developed: advanced annealing schedules (pauses, fast quenches, reverse anneals) (D-Wave/QEO)
  - The use of D-Wave quantum annealers as quantum Boltzmann samplers recently demonstrated in material simulations

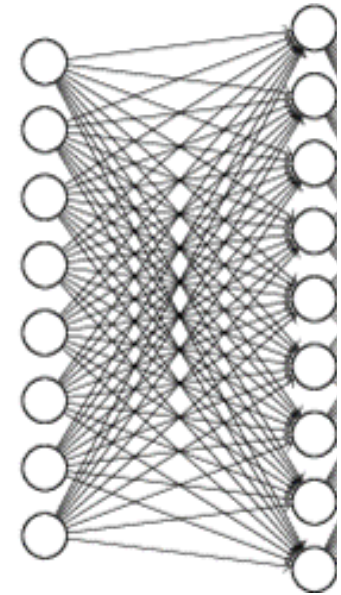
- Boltzmann Machines (BM) approximate data distributions as **thermal states of classical spin-systems**

$$p_{\theta}(\mathbf{z}) \equiv e^{-E_{\theta}(\mathbf{z})} / Z_{\theta}, \quad Z_{\theta} \equiv \sum_{\mathbf{z}} e^{-E_{\theta}(\mathbf{z})}$$

$$E_{\theta}(\mathbf{z}) = \sum_l z_l h_l + \sum_{l < m} W_{lm} z_l z_m, \quad \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{W} \in \{\theta\}$$



= x



visible units  $x$       latent units  $z$

- Boltzmann Machines (BM) and QA: a **perfect match?**

- Training BM requires **Boltzmann sampling**:

- State-of-the-art sampling techniques:  
(Persistent) Contrasting Divergence (P)CD

- Difficult to scale to large, more powerful BM [Hinton, Science 313]

[Smolensky, '86]

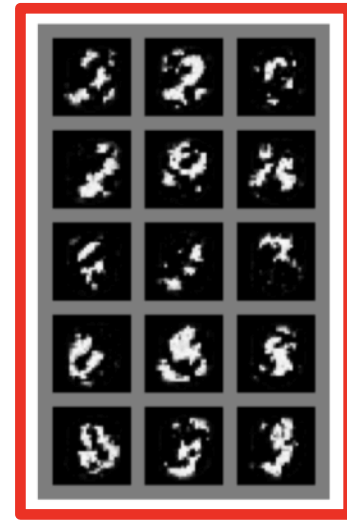
Employ quantum annealers for faster, more scalable sampling

- Connectivity is a very important factor

- Generative performance of BM on Chimera graph: **disappointing**

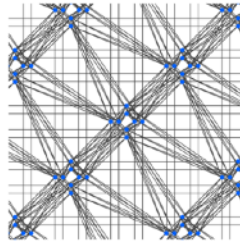
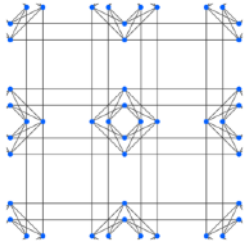
[Dumoulin et al.,  
AAAI Conf, '14]

[MNIST 50k  
handwritten  
digits]



- Rely on technological improvements

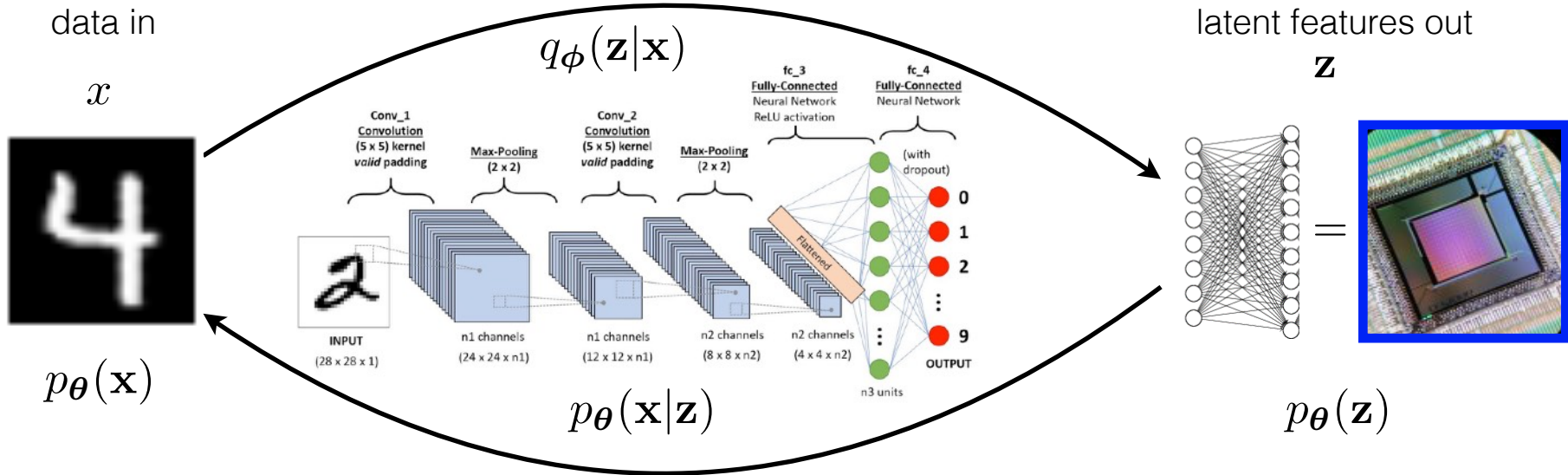
- Chimera (D-Wave) -> Pegasus (D-Wave) -> QEO program



- Only **quasi two-dimensional** connectivities available for the foreseeable future

- Rely on common embedding techniques

- Sampling quality decreases dramatically, likely not scalable



[Benedetti et al., QST 3]

• Quantum/classical **joint training**

- Extract the most suitable features for the quantum device
- Hard-coded specification of the connectivity **not required**

Generative Adversarial Networks (GAN)

[Wilson et al., arXiv:1904.10573]

Variational Autoencoders (VAE)

[Vinci et al., arXiv:1912.02119]

Invertible Flows

[work in progress]

- Implemented a **deep convolutional VAE with discrete latent space**

- 288-dimensional latent space
- Prior is a Chimera-structured (C6) RBM

[Khoshaman, Amin, NIPS 2018]

- Model **trained end-to-end** using only samples obtained from the quantum annealer
- Successful training validated by estimating the log-likelihood of the model

- Showed **improvement from a trivial classical baseline** (Bernoulli)
- Match performance of model trained with Population Annealing (PA)



[Trained on MNIST]

[Samples generated with D-Wave 2000Q]

[state-of-the-art: LL~-79.5]

MNIST (dynamic binarization) <b>LL</b>		
Sampler	Chimera	Bernoulli
DW2000Q	-82.8 ± 0.2	-83.7 ± 0.2
PA	-82.8 ± 0.1	-84.2 ± 0.05





Reliably sample from large RBM, representing complex multi-modal probability distributions

- Larger RBM
  - Model building to improve use of physical connectivities
  - Develop denser physical connectivities
  - More complex datasets
- Multi-modality
  - Latent-space RBM must develop multi-modal distributions
- Sampling reliability
  - Reduce control errors for more reliable training

Latent-space exploitation with VAEs

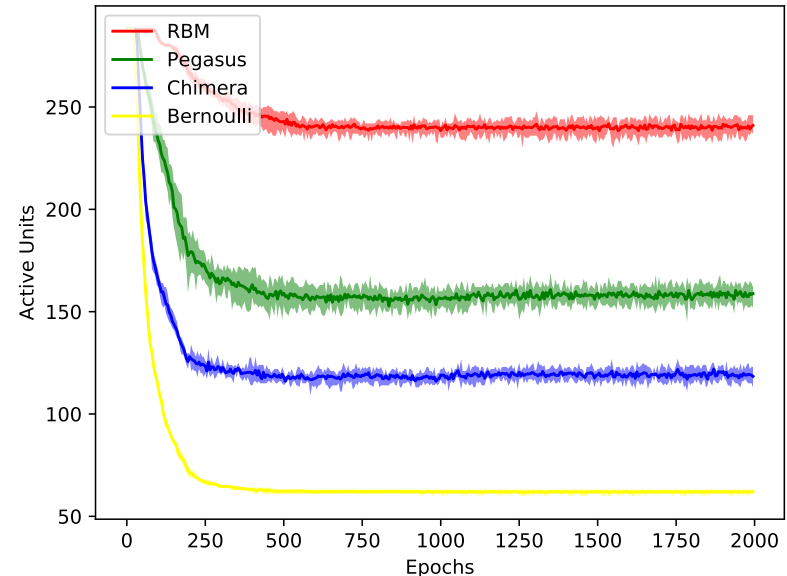
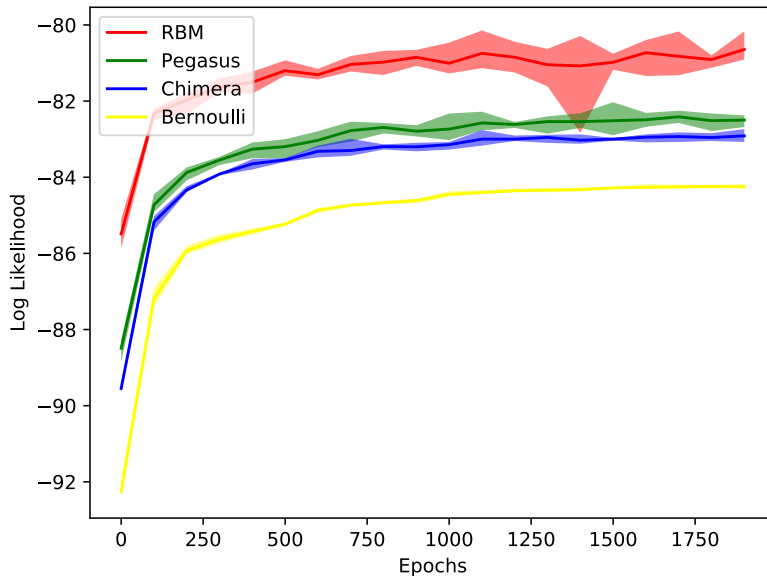
$$\text{ELBO} = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim p_{\text{data}}} \left[ \mathbb{E}_{\zeta \sim q_{\phi}(\zeta|\mathbf{x})} \left[ \log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}|\zeta) - \frac{\log q_{\phi}(\zeta|\mathbf{x})}{\log p_{\theta}(\zeta)} \right] \right]$$

reconstruction
KI-regularization

Efficient compression: latent units are not used if not necessary

Optimization problem: local minima with sub-optimal number of active units

Denser connectivities = exploit more latent units to achieve better LL



Multimodality in the latent space is not necessary for generative modeling

- RBM can model multimodal distribution, but will they?
  - Block Gibbs sampling from trained RBM:

Bernoulli

Chimera

Pegasus

RBM



Sampling from latent space BM is potentially challenging for classical sampling algorithms



- Summary
  - Demonstrated the use of QA as **native samplers** in training state-of-the-art deep generative models
  - Provided evidence for the possibility of **obtaining quantum advantage** within this framework
- Future Directions for QEO
  - Develop **meaningful metrics** for hybrid generative modeling: understand the limits of classical samplers and performance of quantum annealers as physical samplers.
  - Develop machine learning models for better exploiting quantum annealers
  - Improving sampling and stabilize effective temperatures with advanced anneal controls.
  - Representational power of **non-stoquastic** Boltzmann machines
  - Ground-state sampling with **coherent** quantum annealing