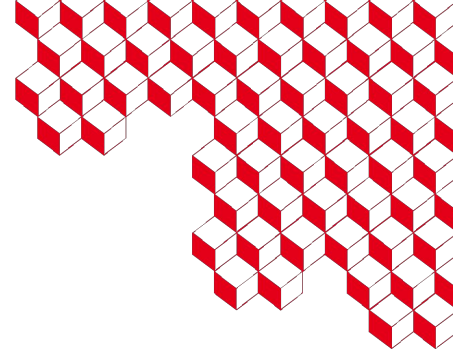




QUANTUM
INTERNET
ALLIANCE



RESOURCE-CONSTRAINED ENTANGLEMENT DISTRIBUTION AND QUANTUM COMPILATION

PhD Thesis

Bastien GRIVET

1st of September, 2026

SUPERVISOR

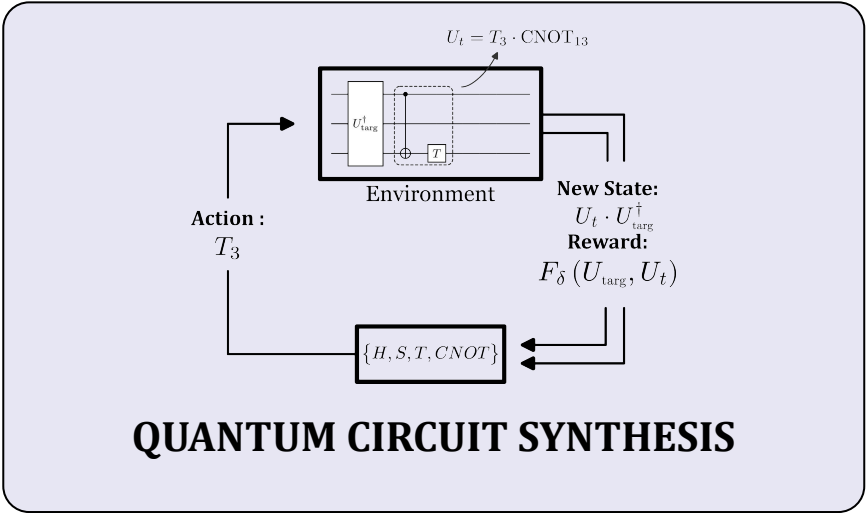
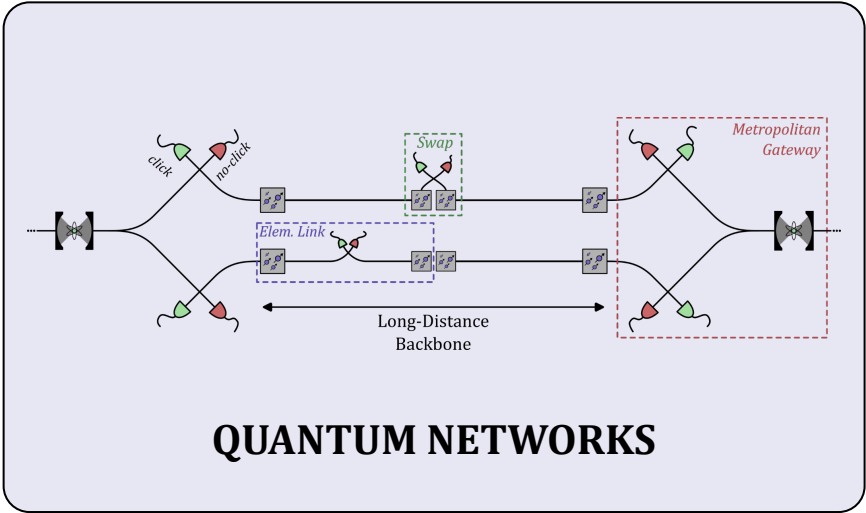
Nicolas Sangouard

JURY MEMBERS

Sébastien Tanzilli (President), Mario Krenn (Referee), Wolfgang Dür (Referee), Hanna Le Jeannic (Examiner)

PhD Thesis:

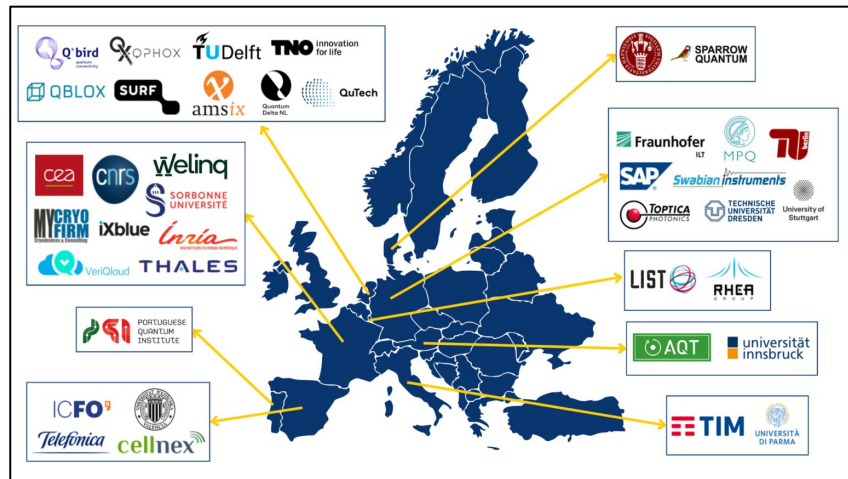
Resource-Constrained Entanglement Distribution and Quantum Compilation



Quantum Network

The QIA project

- **The QIA project**
- Brief introduction
- Study of an elementary link
- Entanglement witness
- Short conclusion



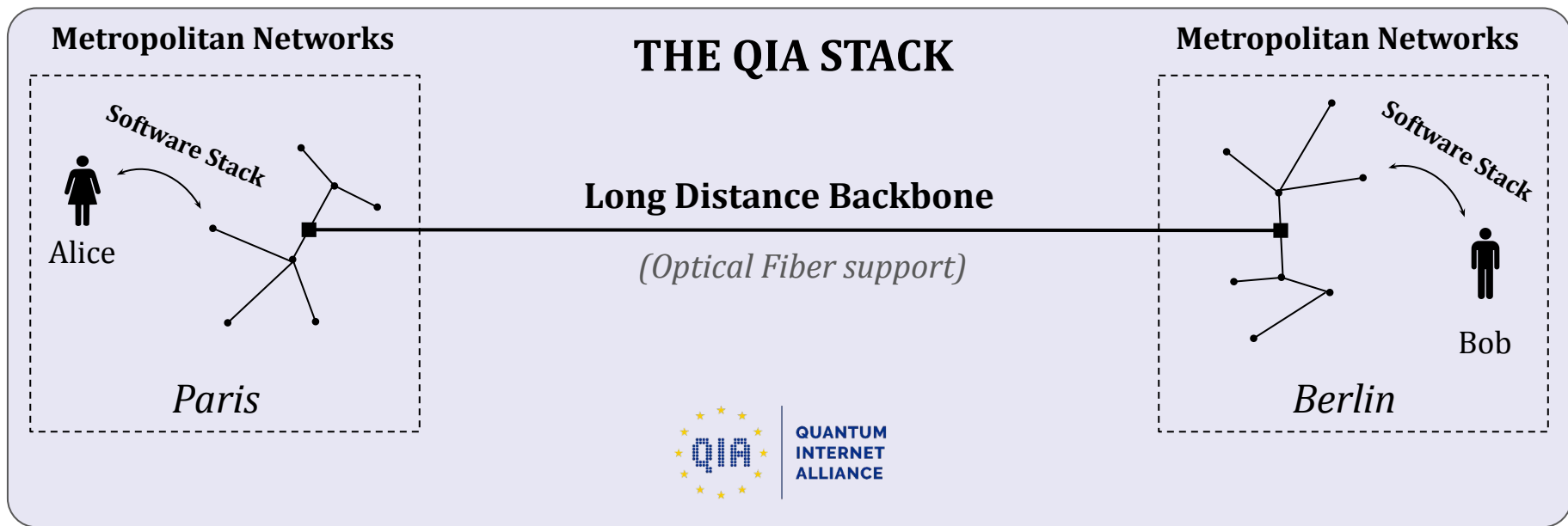
*Born of the desire of **sharing entanglement**
between big cities in Europe*

*Ambition to build a working 1st generation
quantum repeater **by 2030***

PURPOSE

Distribute a Bell pair between Alice and Bob

$$|\Psi^+\rangle = |10\rangle + |01\rangle$$



Quantum Network

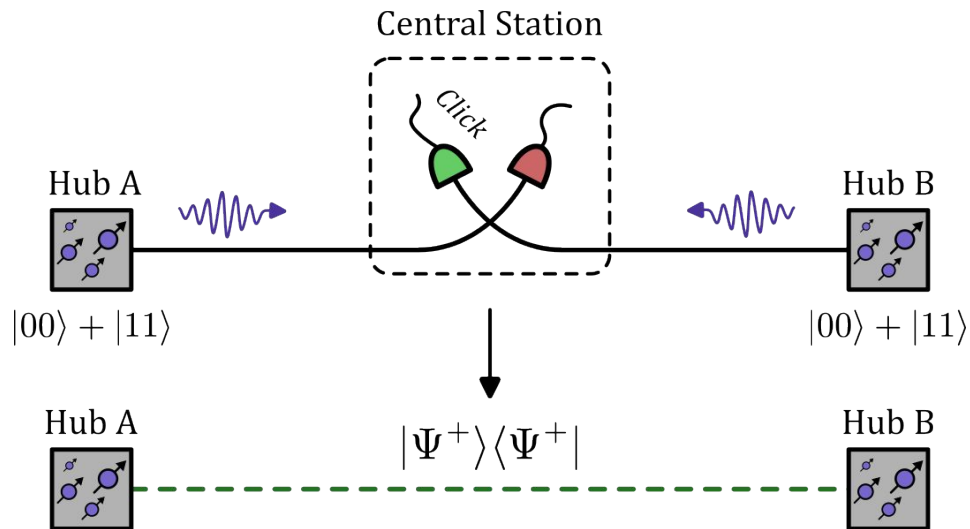
Brief introduction

- The QIA project
- **Brief introduction**
- Study of an elementary link
- Entanglement witness
- Short conclusion

GENERATING LONG-DISTANCE ENTANGLEMENT

Detection-in-mid-point

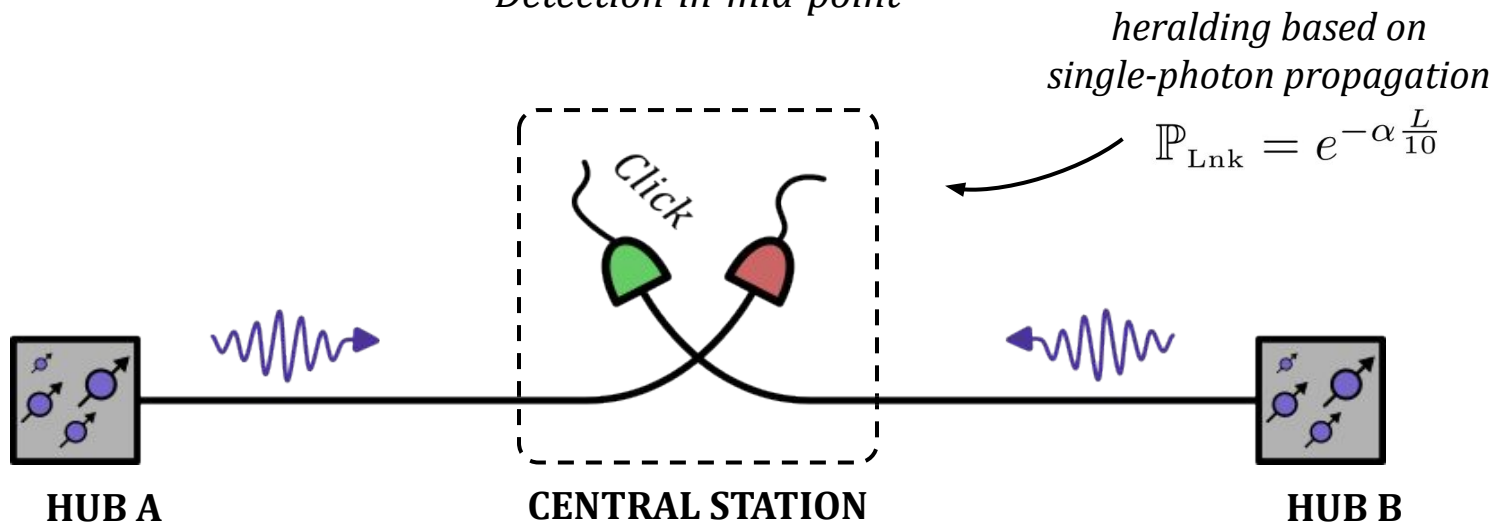
*local Bell pair
prepared in each hub*



The single-click swaps the local entanglement
to the remote hubs

GENERATING LONG-DISTANCE ENTANGLEMENT

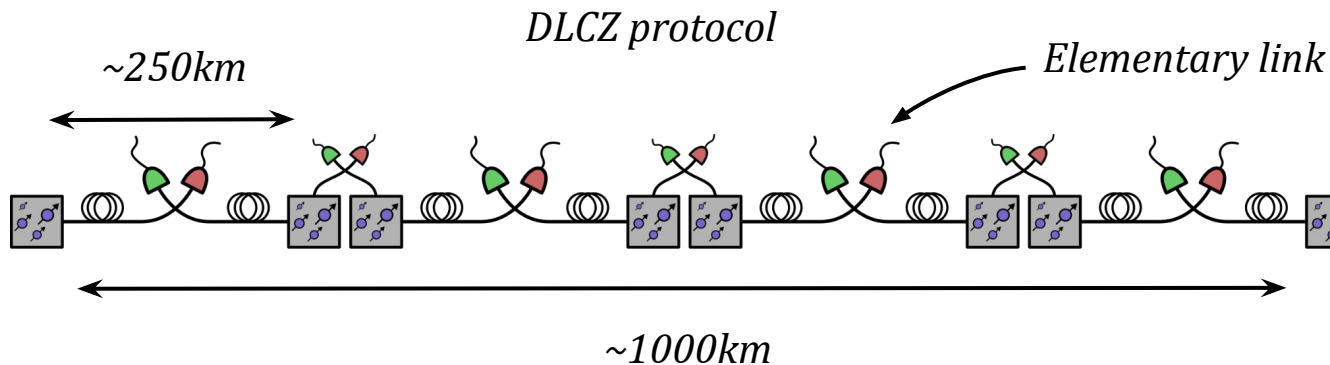
Detection-in-mid-point



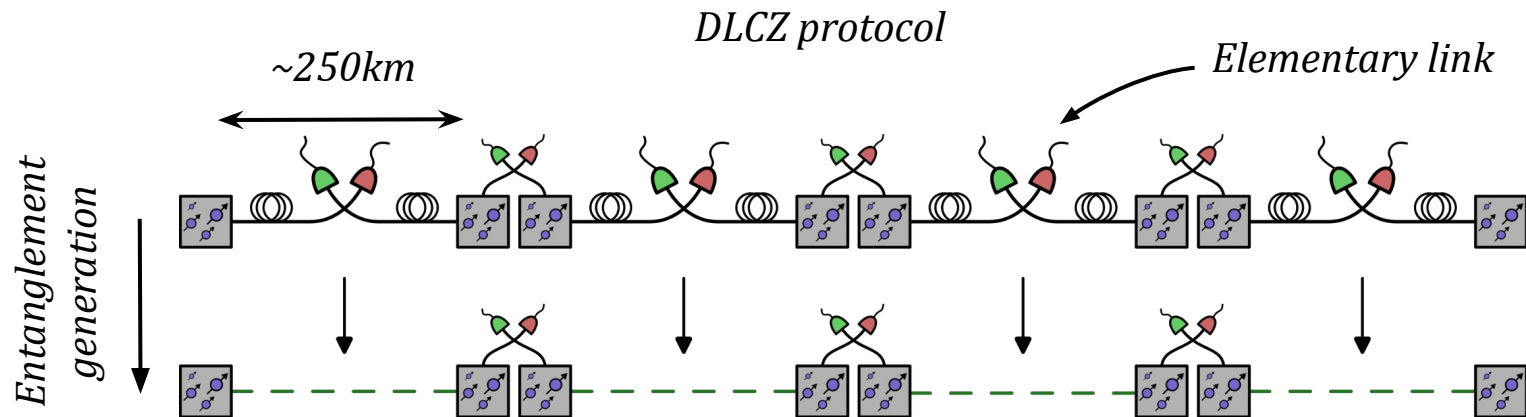
Country-Scale: $\mathbb{P}_{200 \text{ km}} \approx 10^{-4} \rightarrow 1 \text{ GHz} \cdot 10^{-4} \rightarrow 10 \mu\text{s}$

Continent-Scale: $\mathbb{P}_{1000 \text{ km}} \approx 10^{-20} \rightarrow 1 \text{ GHz} \cdot 10^{-20} \rightarrow 10^3 \text{ years}$

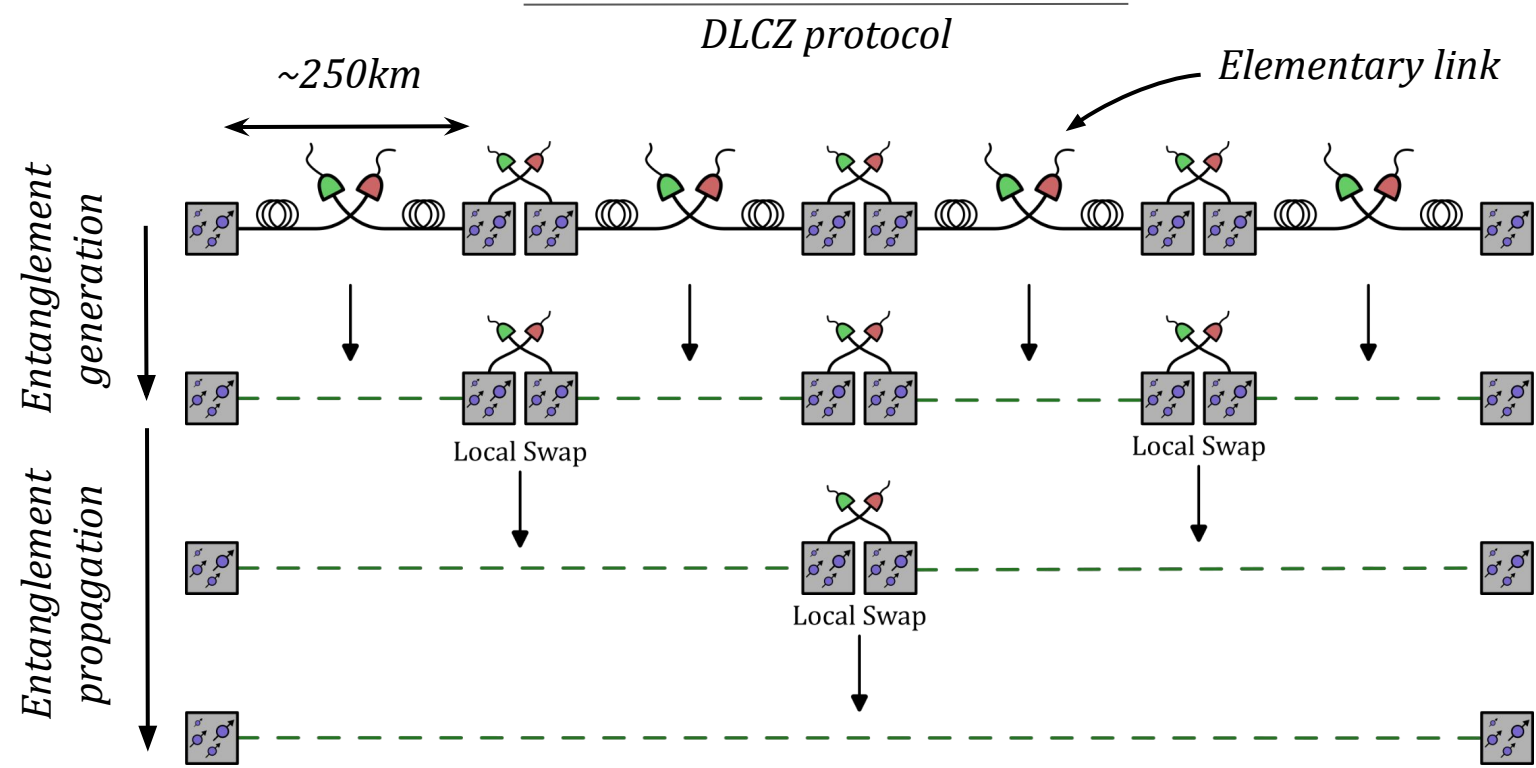
GENERATING LONG-DISTANCE ENTANGLEMENT



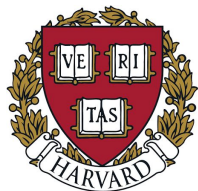
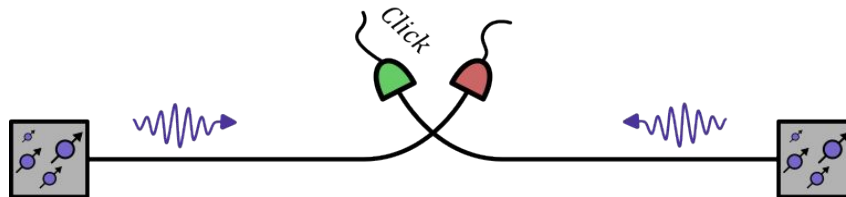
GENERATING LONG-DISTANCE ENTANGLEMENT



GENERATING LONG-DISTANCE ENTANGLEMENT



DIFFERENT PLATFORMS



Colored Defect
Lukin

Knaut et al., Nature 629, 573 (2024)



Atomic Ensemble
De Reidmatten

Hanni et al. PRX 15, 041003 (2025)



Trapped Ion
Northup and Lanyon

Krut'yanskiy et al., PRL 130, 050803 (2023)

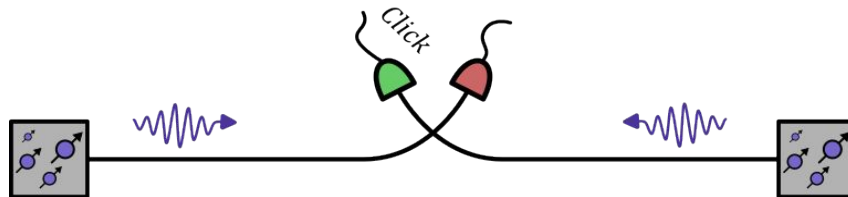


Single atom
Pan and Bao

Lu et al., Science 391, 592 (2026)

THIS TALK

Theoretical Study of an Elementary Link



EXPERIMENTAL COLLABORATION



The Institute of Photonic
Sciences

Barcelona

De Riedmatten's group



CURRENT STATUS

Experimental implementation
of a working elementary link

Hanni, Rodriguez-Moldes, Appas et al.
Physical Review X 15, 041003 (2025)



NEXT STEP

Working 2-repeater link

MY WORK: *Bring theoretical support*

→ Beyond perturbative modeling

*high pump regime for high entanglement
distribution rate*

→ Witnessing entanglement

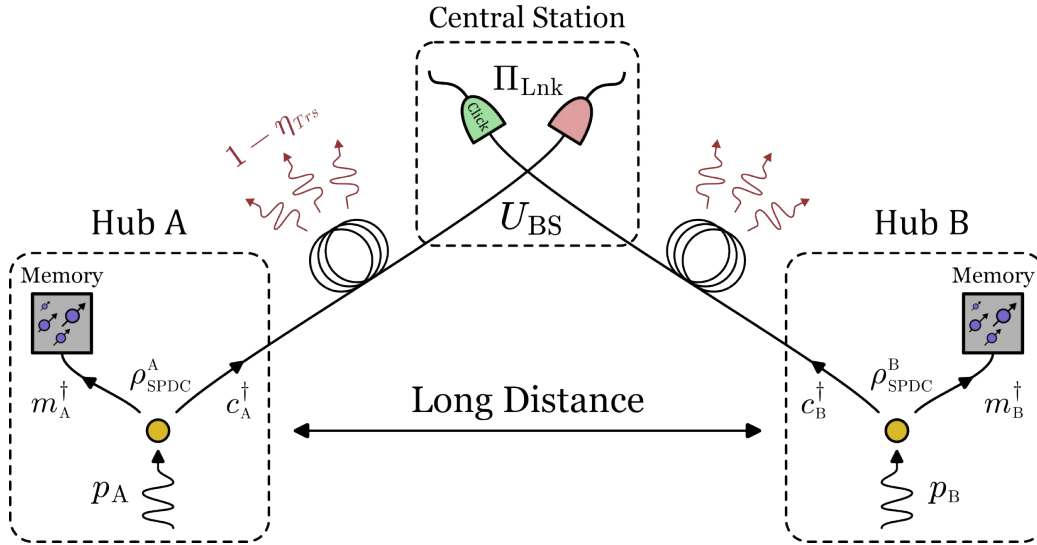
*develop an entanglement witness suited for the
elementary link*

Quantum Network

Study of an Elementary Link

- The QIA project
- Brief introduction
- **Study of an elementary link**
- Entanglement witness
- Short conclusion

CONSIDERED OPTICAL SETUP



$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{Lnk}} : \rho_{\text{SPDC}} \mapsto \text{Tr}_{c_A, c_B} \left[\sqrt{\Pi_{\text{Lnk}}} U_{\text{BS}} \rho_{\text{SPDC}} U_{\text{BS}}^\dagger \sqrt{\Pi_{\text{Lnk}}} \right]$$

HERALDED STATE:

$$\rho_{\text{Lnk}} = \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}} \mathcal{E}_{\text{Lnk}} (\rho_{\text{SPDC}})$$

FIGURES OF MERIT:

→ Fidelity with a Bell-Pair

$$\mathcal{F}_{\text{Lnk}} = \langle \Psi^+ | \rho_{\text{Lnk}} | \Psi^+ \rangle$$

entanglement quality

→ Heralding Probability

$$\mathbb{P}_{\text{Lnk}} = \text{Tr} [\mathcal{E}_{\text{Lnk}} (\rho_{\text{SPDC}})]$$

distribution rate

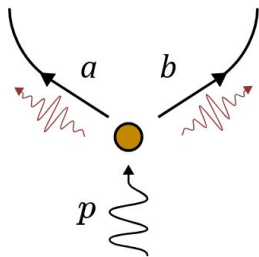
→ **TRADE-OFF**

FOCUS ON THE SPDC SOURCE

$$\rho_{\text{SPDC}} = \sqrt{1-p} \exp \left[\sqrt{p} a^\dagger b^\dagger \right] |00\rangle \xrightarrow{p \ll 1} \sum_{n=0}^N p^{n/2} |nn\rangle + o(N)$$

1st Order Approximation

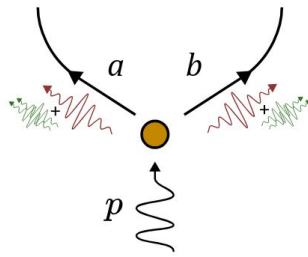
$$|00\rangle + \sqrt{p} |11\rangle$$



Purpose: standard regime
in labs

2nd Order Approximation:

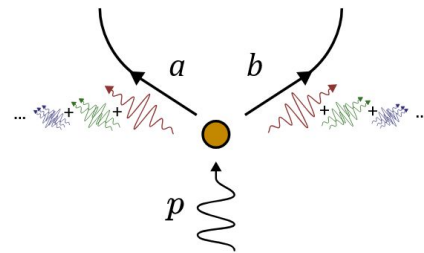
$$|00\rangle + \sqrt{p} |11\rangle + p |22\rangle$$



Purpose: influence of the
two-photons term

Exact Derivation:

$$\sqrt{1-p} \exp \left[\sqrt{p} a^\dagger b^\dagger \right] |00\rangle$$



Purpose: explore high-pump
regime for high-rate distribution

1st ORDER EXPANSION

$$\rho_{\text{SPDC}} = |00\rangle + \sqrt{p} |11\rangle + o(p) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{E}_{\text{Lnk}}} \rho_{\text{Lnk}} = |\Psi^+\rangle \langle \Psi^+| + o(1)$$

HERALDING PROBABILITY (*distribution rate*)

$$\mathbb{P}_{\text{Lnk}} = \eta_{\text{Trs}} \cdot p + o(p)$$

→ Low probability

BELL FIDELITY (*entanglement quality*)

$$\mathcal{F}_{\text{Lnk}} = 1 + o(1)$$

→ Pure Bell state

Get a **fully entangled state** at the cost of **low distribution rate**
rate-quality trade-off

2nd ORDER EXPANSION

1-photon contribution

$$\rho_{\text{Lnk}} = \underbrace{|\Psi_1^+\rangle \langle \Psi_1^+|}_{\text{QUBIT SPACE}} + \underbrace{\left(\alpha \cdot |\Psi_1^+\rangle \langle \Psi_1^+| + \beta \cdot |\Psi_2^+\rangle \langle \Psi_2^+| + \gamma \cdot |\Psi_{12}^+\rangle \langle \Psi_{12}^+| \right) \cdot p}_{\text{MULTI-PHOTONS}} + o(p)$$

2-photon contribution
"noise"

HERALDING PROBABILITY (distribution rate)

1-photon contribution

$$\mathbb{P}_{\text{Lnk}} = \eta_{\text{Trs}} p + \eta_{\text{Trs}} (1 - 2\eta_{\text{Trs}}) p^2 + o(p^2)$$

2-photon contribution

BELL FIDELITY (entanglement quality)

1-photon contribution

$$\mathcal{F}_{\text{Lnk}} = 1 - (3 - 2\eta_{\text{Trs}}) p + o(p)$$

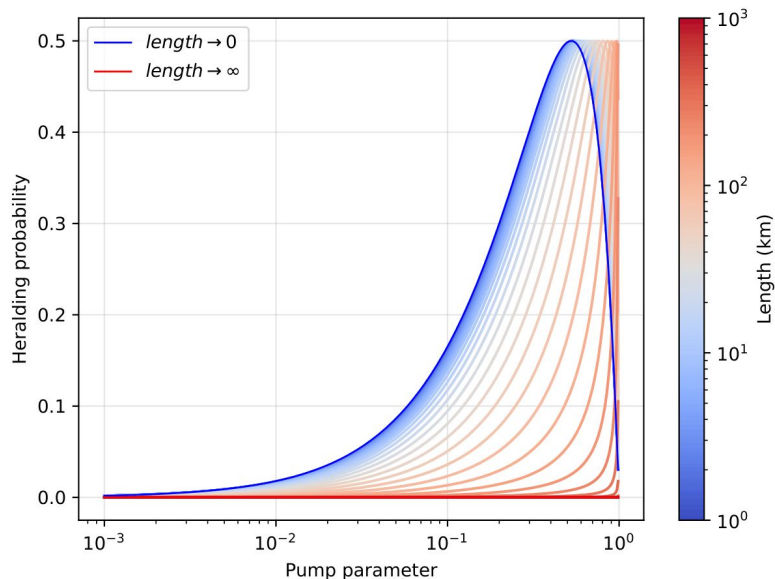
2-photon contribution

*The 2-photon contribution **increases the distribution rate**
at the cost of a lower purity*

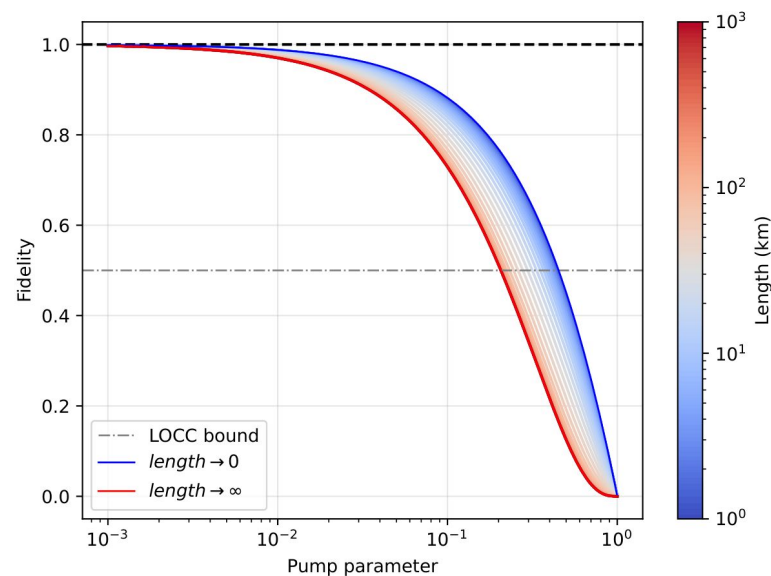
EXACT DERIVATION

$$\rho_{\text{Lnk}} = \frac{1}{1-\xi} \cdot \rho_{\text{Therm}}^{m_{\sigma}^{+}}(\sigma_{+}) \otimes \rho_{\text{Therm}}^{m_{\sigma}^{-}}(\sigma_{-}) - \frac{\xi}{1-\xi} \cdot \rho_{\text{Therm}}^{m_{\omega}^{+}}(\omega_{+}) \otimes \rho_{\text{Therm}}^{m_{\omega}^{-}}(\omega_{-})$$

HERALDING PROBABILITY (*distribution rate*)



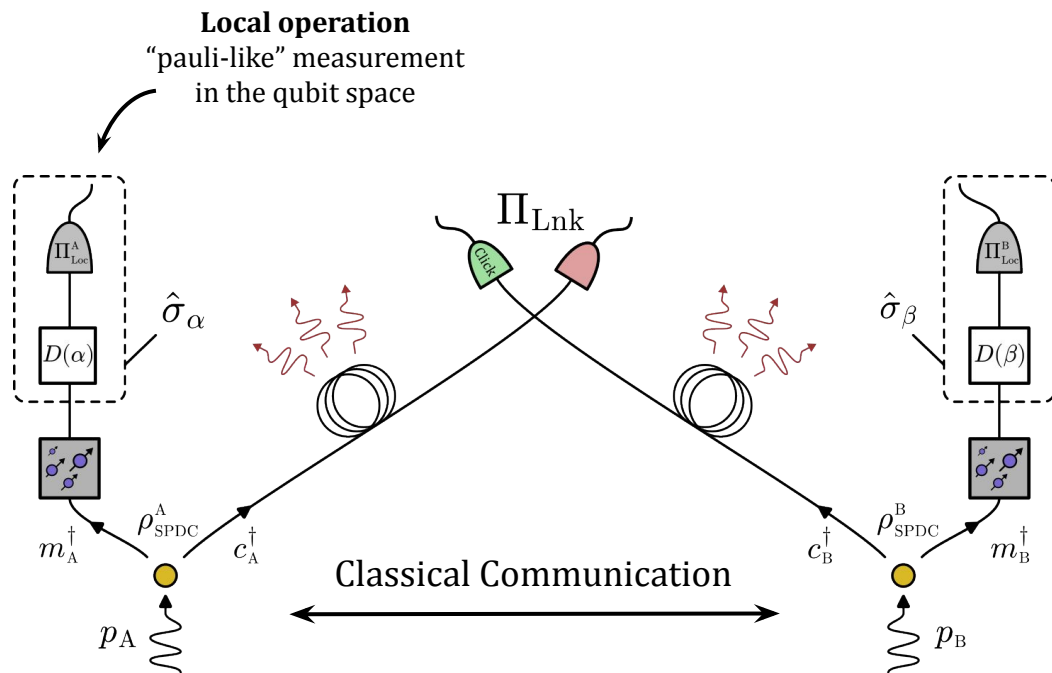
BELL FIDELITY (*entanglement quality*)



Quantum Network

Entanglement witness

- The QIA project
- Brief introduction
- Study of an elementary link
- **Entanglement witness**
- Short conclusion



LOCC-BASED WITNESS

SPECIFICITY

→ **Focus on qubit space**

entanglement lives in the qubit-space

$$\langle \sigma_\alpha \otimes \sigma_\beta \rangle < {}^{\text{In}}w_{\text{PPT}} + {}^{\text{Out}}w_{\text{multi}}$$

Non-local boundary
PPT in the qubit-space

Correction boundary
multi-photon contribution

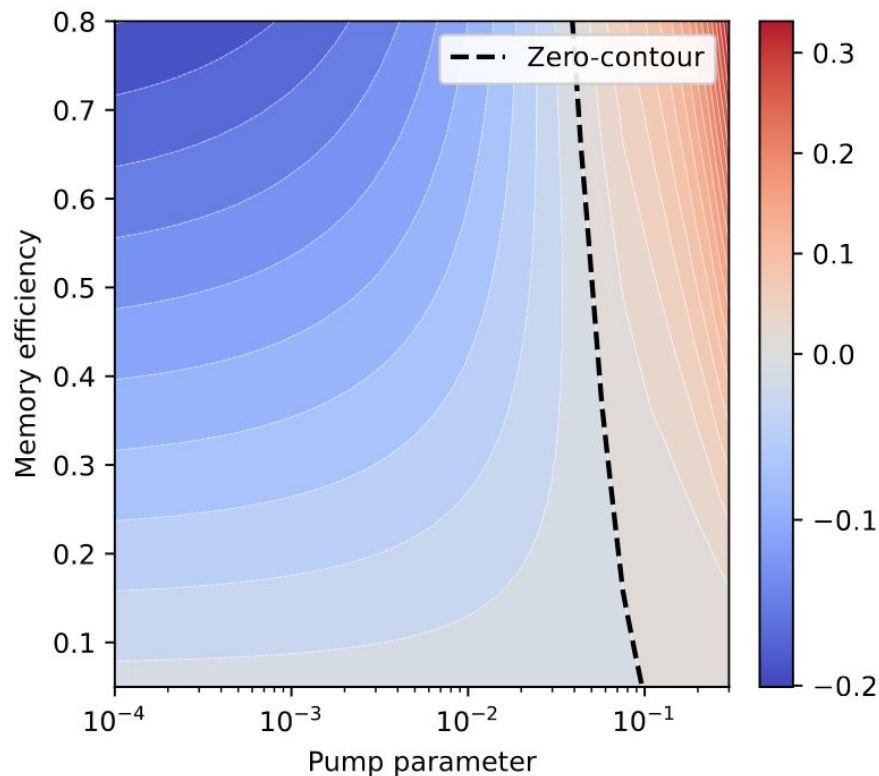
→ **Memory-loss “aware”**

must be robust against memory losses

$$(\rho_{\text{Lnk}})_{i,i} = \mathbb{P}_{\text{Loc}}^{i,i}$$

*Witnesses entanglement for
any memory loss*

$$(\rho_{\text{Lnk}})_{i,i} = \mathbb{P}_{\text{Loc}}^{i,i}$$



*negative means
non-separable*

Witness according to the pump parameter and memories efficiency
(250km link, optimized over displacement)

Quantum Network

Short Conclusion

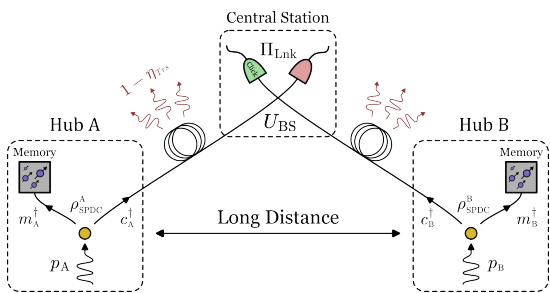
- The QIA project
- Brief introduction
- Study of an elementary Link
- Entanglement witness
- **Short conclusion**

MY CONTRIBUTION

in a nutshell

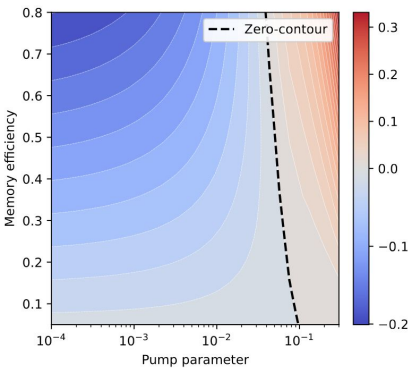
ELEMENTARY LINK

Non-perturbative study of an elementary link for quality-speed trade-off



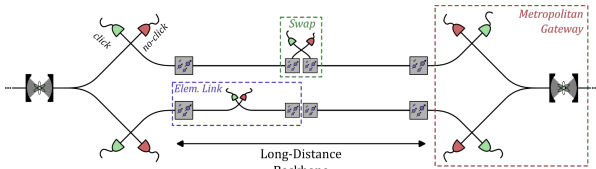
ENTANGLEMENT WITNESS

*Development of a **LOCC** loss-aware witness certifying entanglement in the qubit subspace*



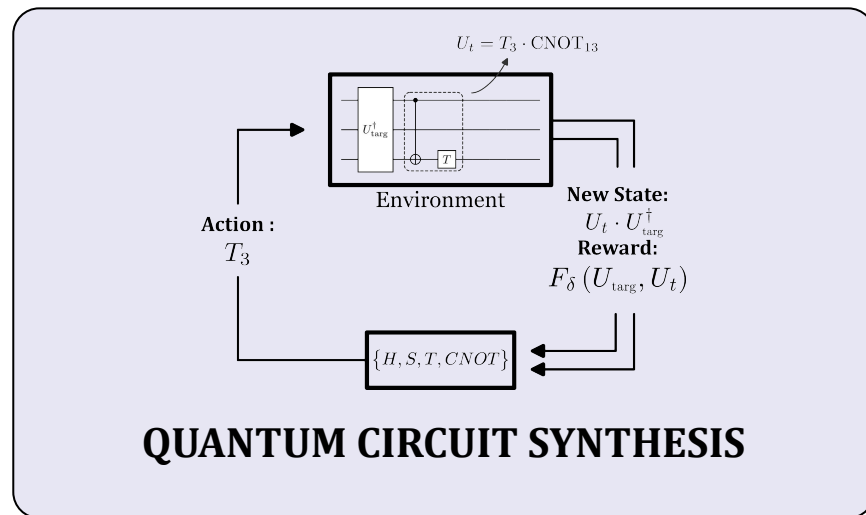
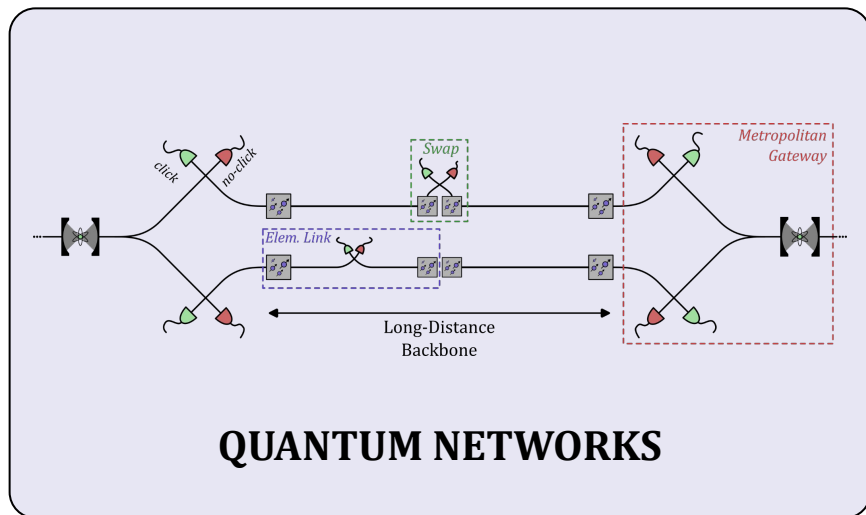
FULL REPEATER

*Full repeater architecture under **realistic conditions** toward a European quantum network*



PhD Thesis:

Resource-Constrained Entanglement Distribution and Quantum Compilation

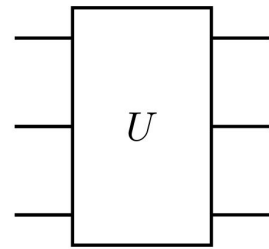


Quantum Circuit Synthesis

Quantum Circuit Synthesis

What is Quantum Circuit Synthesis ?

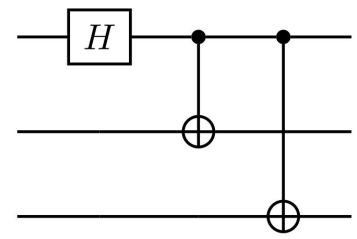
- **What is Quantum Circuit Synthesis ?**
- How hard is it ?
- Synthesis as a RL single player game
- Results
- Short conclusion



Circuit implementation

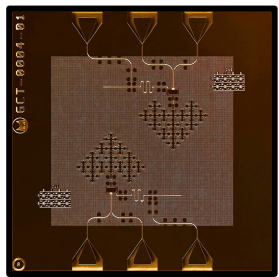


Saving 50% Toffoli on Addition
(Gidney - Quantum 2, 74 - 2018)
Ancilla for subroutine T-count optimization
(Khattar, Gidney - arXiv:2407.17966 - 2024)



Magic state cultivation
(Gidney - arXiv:2409.17595 - 2024)
Space-Time trade-off on surface code
(Litinski - Quantum 3, 128 - 2019)

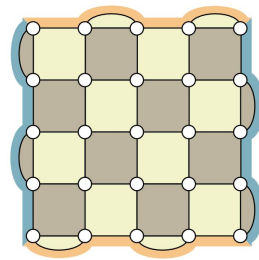
QEC implementation



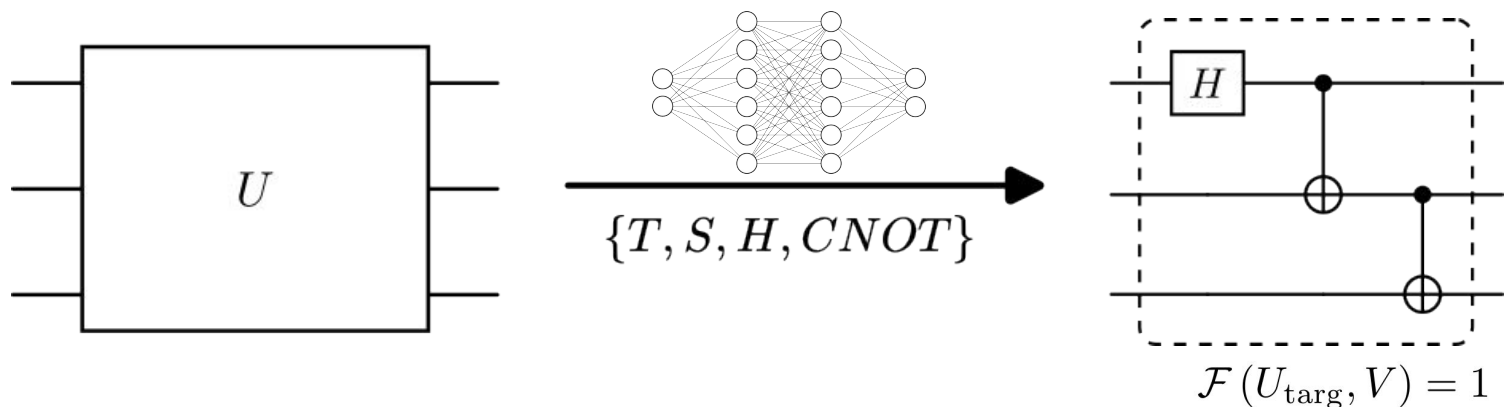
Physical Implementation



Hardware below the threshold
(Google Quantum AI Nature 638, 920 2025)
(Amazon: Putterman et al. Nature 638, 927 2025)



EXACT DISCRETE SYNTHESIS MACHINE LEARNING



*Find the the exact decomposition of a unitary U
for a given universal gate-set*

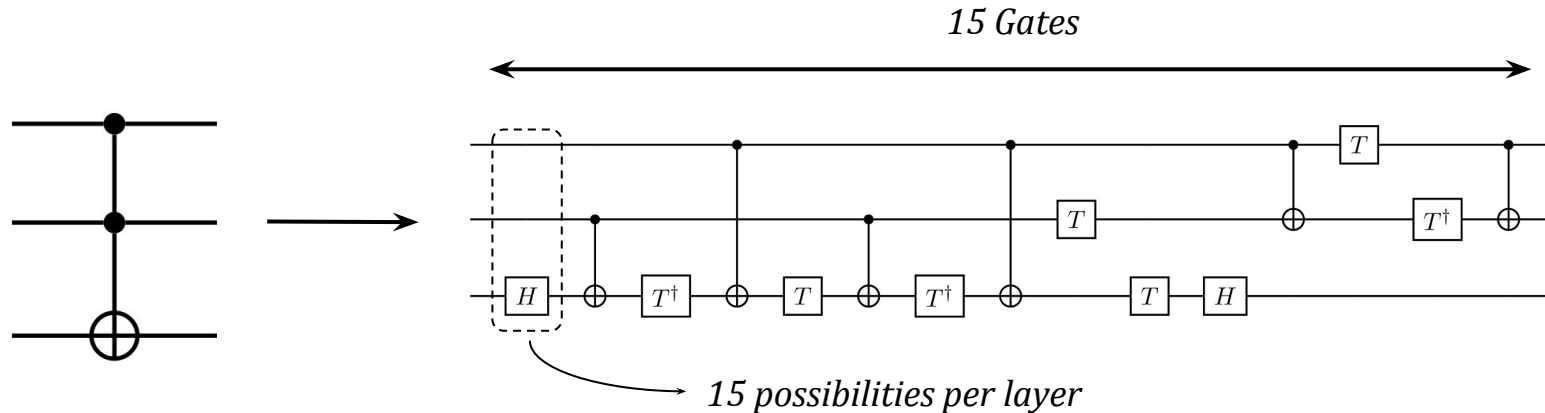
IA-empowered Quantum circuit synthesis and compilation optimization: Overview and prospects

Yan et al., IEEE Trans. Pattern Anal. Mach. Intell, 2026

Quantum Circuit Synthesis

How hard is it ?

- What is Quantum Circuit Synthesis ?
- **How hard is it ?**
- Synthesis as a RL single player game
- Results
- Short conclusion



GATE SET

$$\mathcal{G} = \{H, S, T, CNOT\}$$

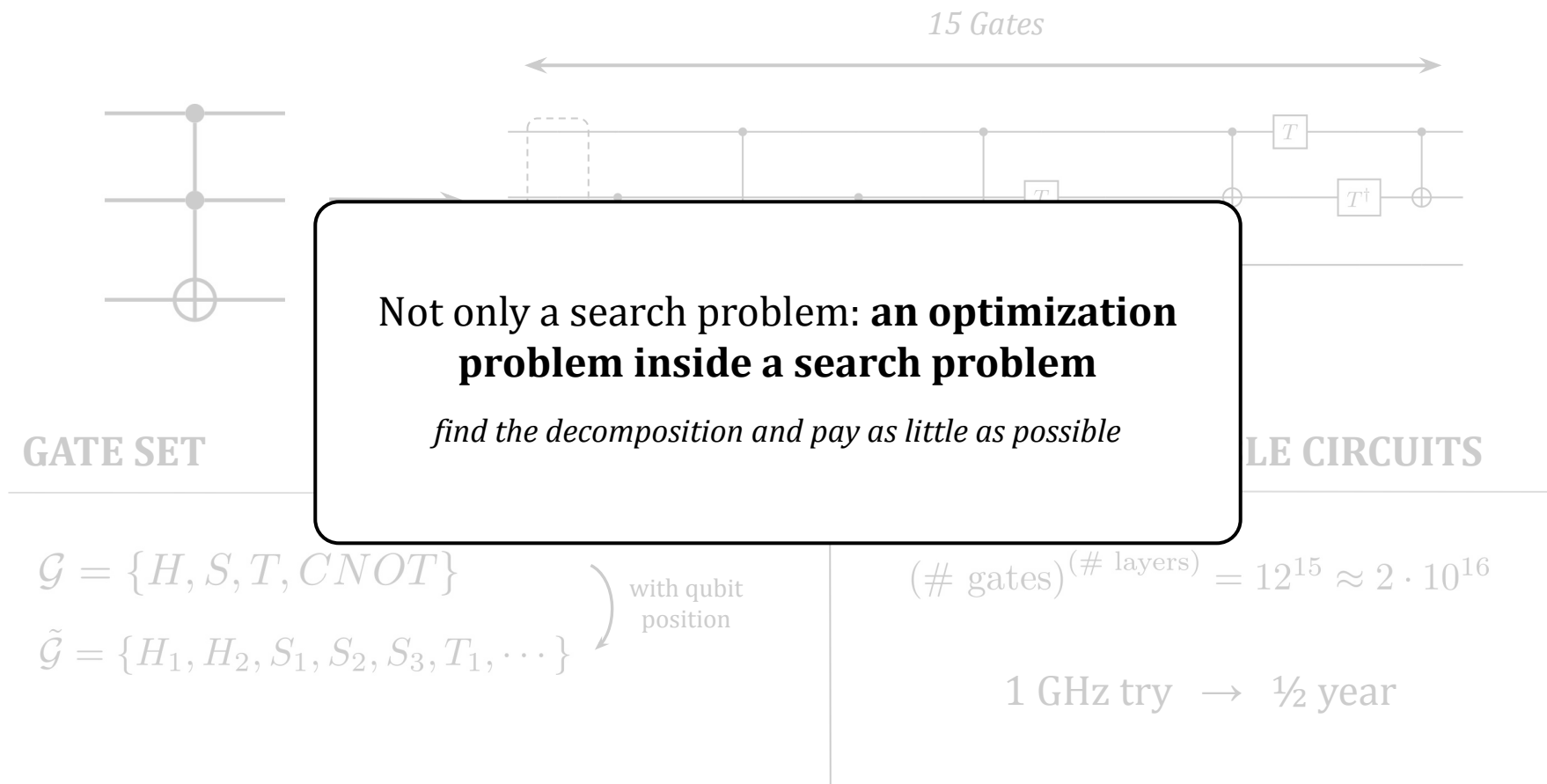
$$\tilde{\mathcal{G}} = \{H_1, H_2, S_1, S_2, S_3, T_1, \dots\}$$

with qubit position

NUMBER OF POSSIBLE CIRCUITS

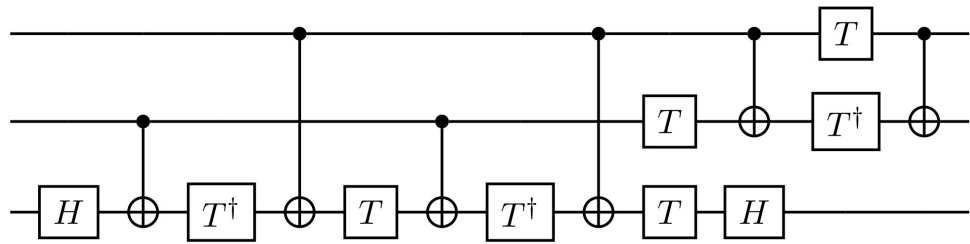
$$(\# \text{ gates})^{(\# \text{ layers})} = 15^{15} \approx 2 \cdot 10^{16}$$

$$1 \text{ GHz try} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \text{ year}$$



T -count: 7
 T -depth: 5

GATE RESOURCE CONSTRAINT

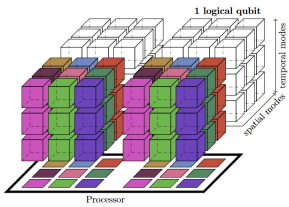


GATE-COUNT: number of gates

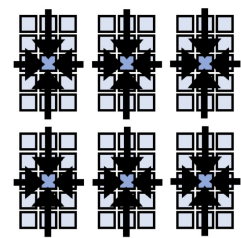
GATE-DEPTH: number of “gate-layers”

non-parallelizable QPU architecture

parallelizable QPU capabilities



Example:
Memory-based QPU
(Gouzien, Sangouard arXiv:2103.06159)

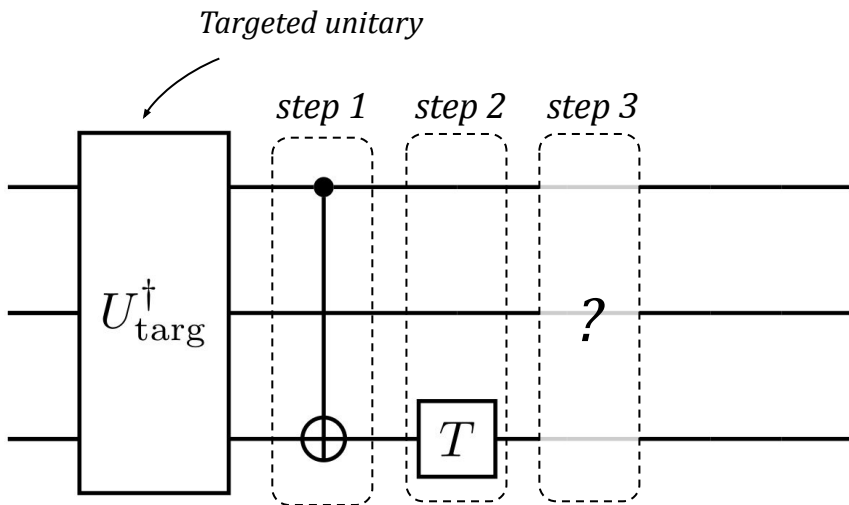


Example:
Multiple T-factories QPU
(Beverland et al. arXiv:2211.07629)

Quantum Circuit Synthesis

Synthesis as a RL single player game

- What is Quantum Circuit Synthesis ?
- How hard is it ?
- **Synthesis as a RL single player game**
- Results
- Short conclusion



Starting from $U_{\text{targ}}^\dagger$
every step the player adds **one gate**
aiming to **reach identity**

STATE OF THE GAME

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{U}_0 &= \mathbb{1} \cdot U_{\text{targ}}^\dagger \\ \hat{U}_1 &= \text{CNOT}_{13} \cdot U_{\text{targ}}^\dagger \\ \hat{U}_2 &= \boxed{T_3 \text{CNOT}_{13}} \cdot U_{\text{targ}}^\dagger\end{aligned}$$

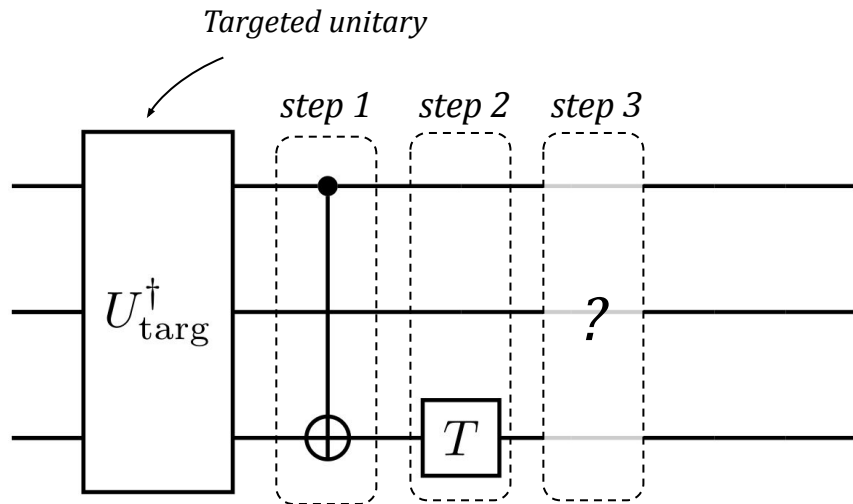
$g_1 = \text{CNOT}_{13}$
 $g_2 = T_3$

Circuit synthesis in progress

Same target for every unitary

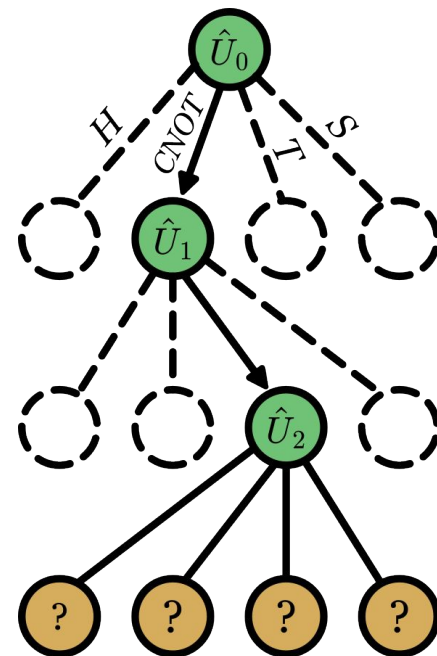
END GAME

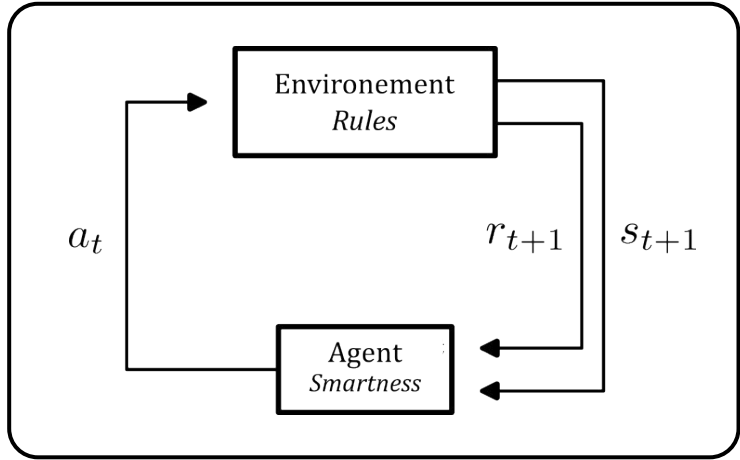
$$\begin{aligned}\text{Success} &\rightarrow \hat{U}_t = \mathbb{1} \\ \text{Failure} &\rightarrow t \geq d_{\text{max}}\end{aligned}$$



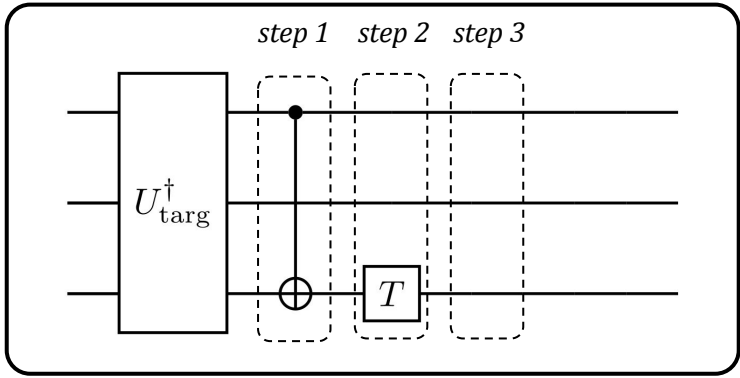
Starting from $U_{\text{targ}}^\dagger$
every step the player adds **one gate**
 aiming to **reach identity**

DECISION TREE REPRESENTATION

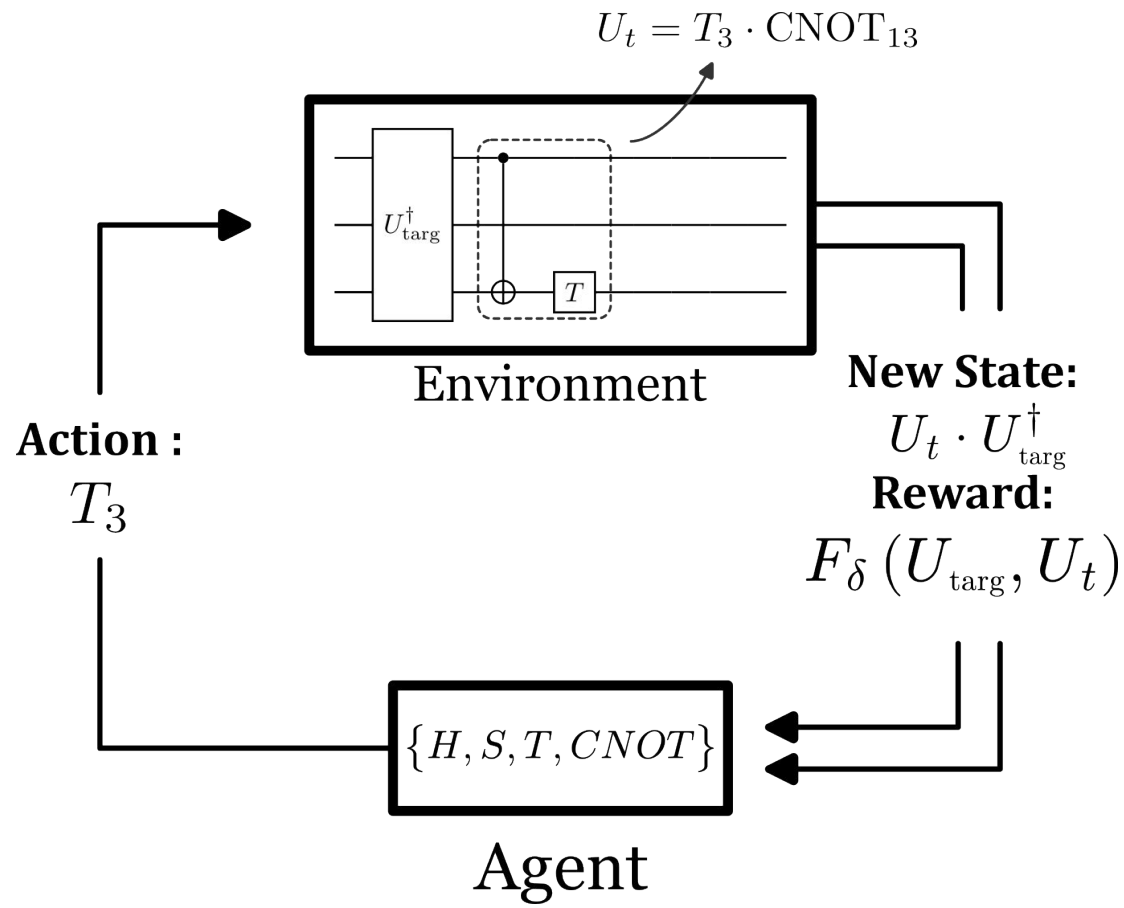




Reinforcement Learning



Single player
Quantum Circuit Synthesis

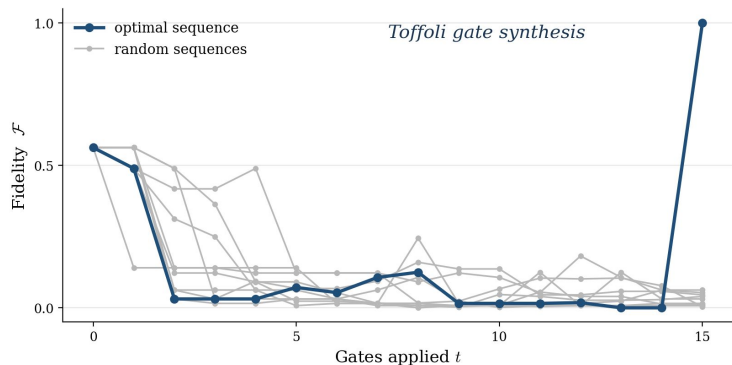


A SUITED REWARD FOR THE AGENT

Fidelity



$$r_t = \mathcal{F}(U_t, U_{\text{targ}}) = \frac{|\text{Tr}(U_t \cdot U_{\text{targ}}^\dagger)|}{2^n}$$

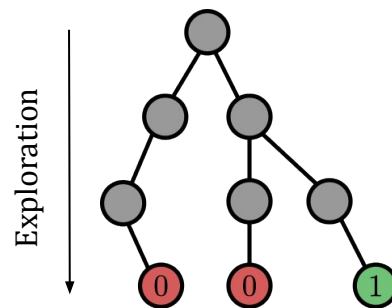


Fidelity does not provide a suitable score for intermediate states

Binary Fidelity



$$r_t = \mathcal{F}_\delta(U_t, U_{\text{targ}}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } U_t = U_{\text{targ}} \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

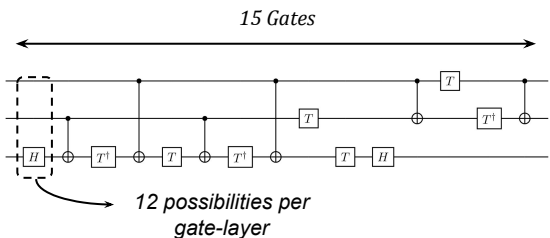


Binary Fidelity provides a strong signal to the agent at the end of the game

A SUITED AGENT FOR THE PROBLEM

handles

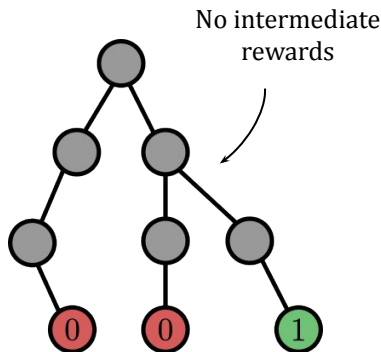
LARGE SPACE



$$(\# \text{ gates})^{(\# \text{ layers})} = 12^{15} \approx 2 \cdot 10^{16}$$

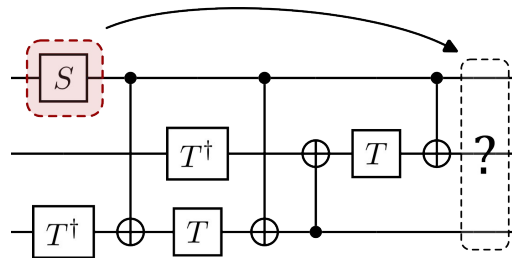
robust to ↓

SPARSE REWARD



requires

LONG-HORIZON PLANNING



wrong early gate may impact the overall synthesis

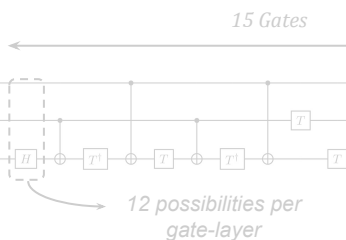
Matsuno, Amano - arXiv:0806.3834

A SUITED AGENT FOR THE PROBLEM

COMPUTER SCIENCE

A general reinforcement learning algorithm that masters chess, shogi, and Go through self-play

David Silver^{1,2*,†}, Thomas Hubert^{1*}, Julian Schrittwieser^{1*}, Ioannis Antonoglou¹, Matthew Lai¹, Arthur Guez¹, Marc Lanctot¹, Laurent Sifre¹, Dhharshan Kumaran¹, Thore Graepel¹, Timothy Lillicrap¹, Karen Simonyan¹, Demis Hassabis^{1†}

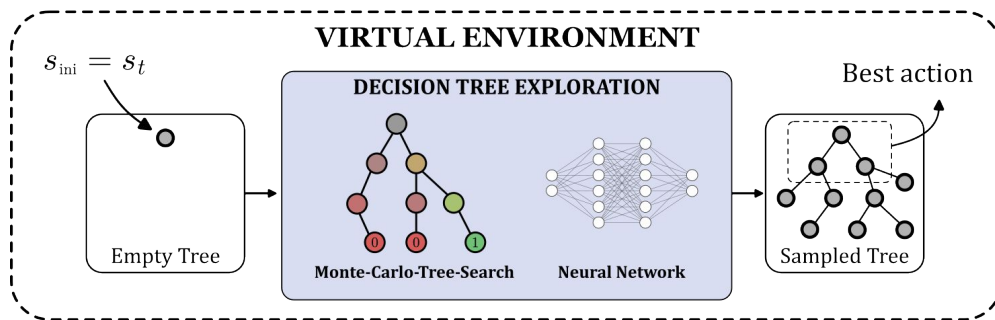
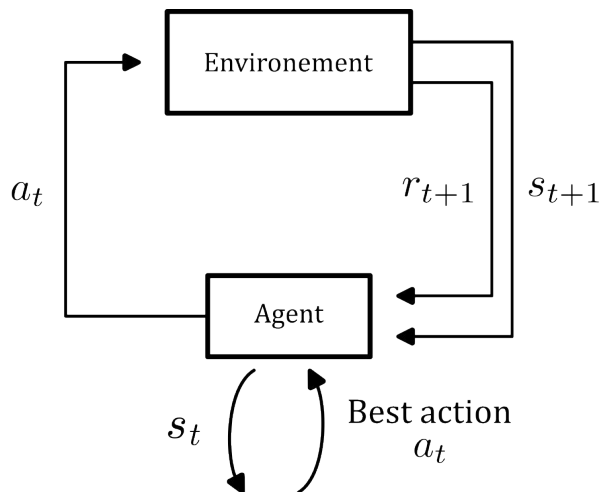


$$(\# \text{ gates})^{(\# \text{ layers})} = 12^{15} \approx 2 \cdot 10^{16}$$



wrong early gate may impact the overall synthesis

Matsuno, Amano - arXiv:0806.3834

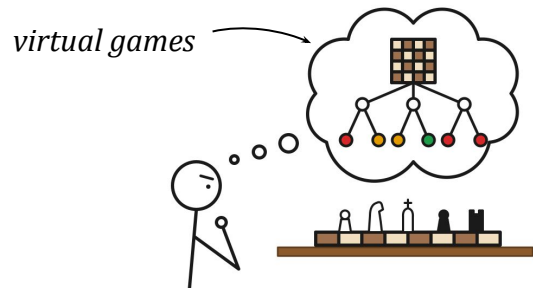


MODEL-BASED AGENT

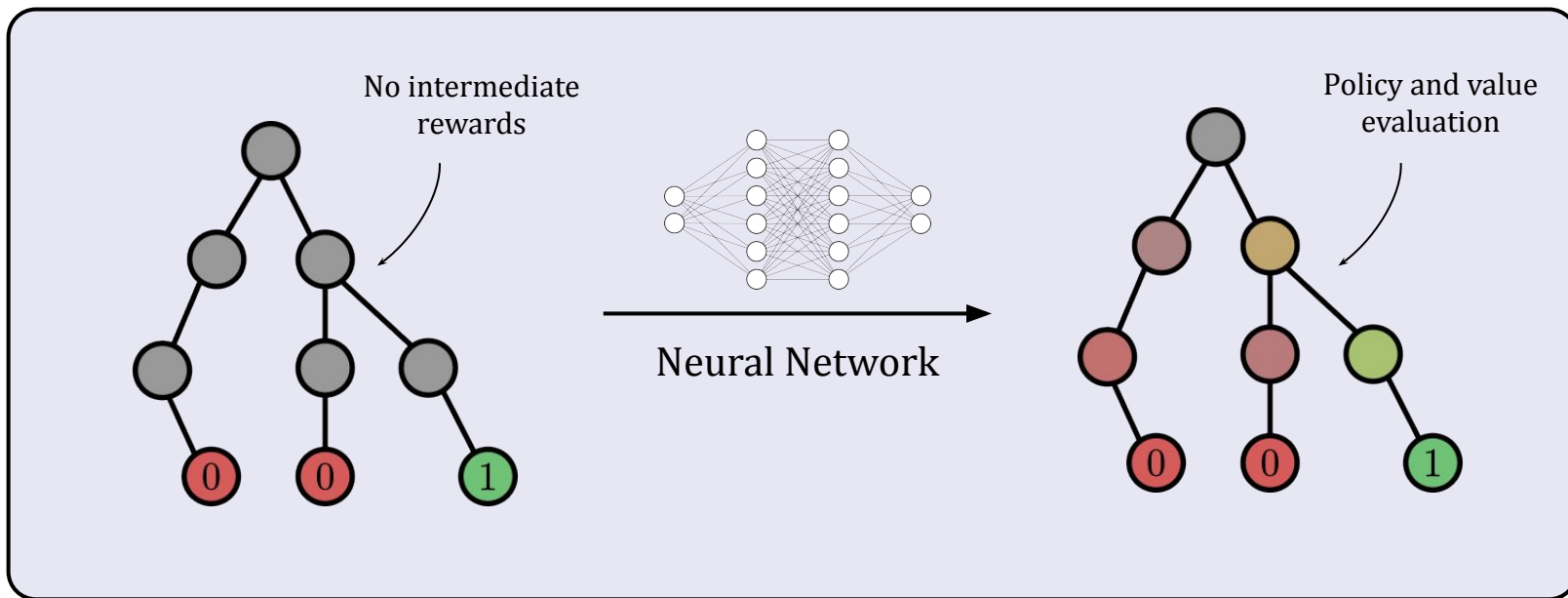
Every step the agent:

- Open a virtual environment
- Plays virtual games
- Evaluates moves ahead
- Picks the best action

ANALOGY



Chess player thinking of potential next strategies
before committing the move



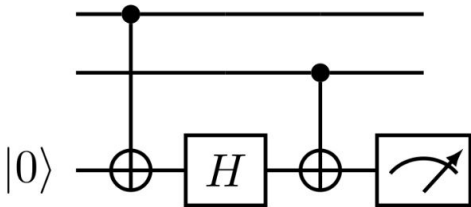
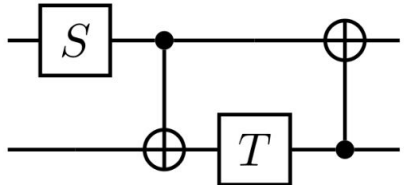
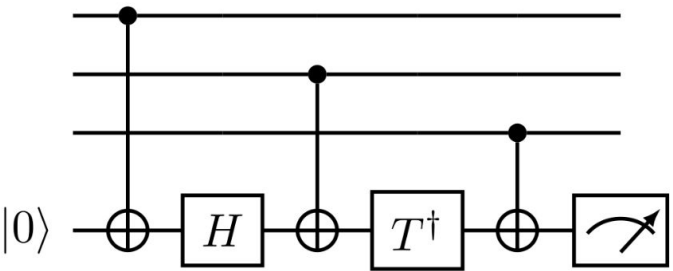
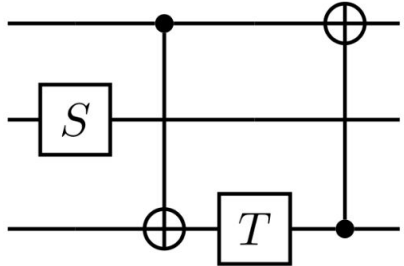
*The neural network helps the tree search with
intermediate evaluation of the states*

Quantum Circuit Synthesis

Results

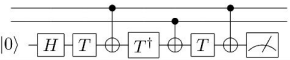
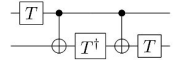
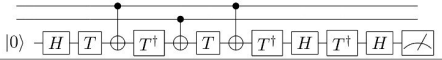
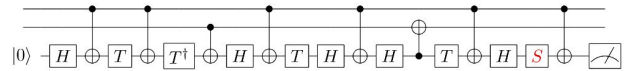
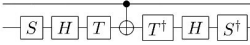
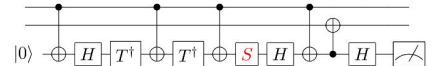
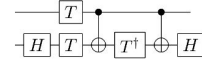
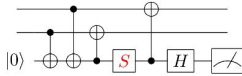
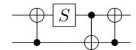
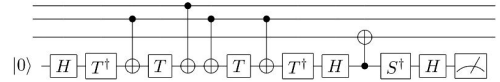
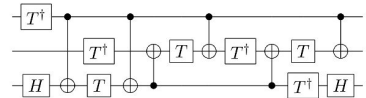
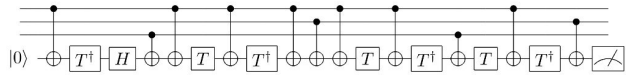
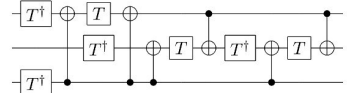
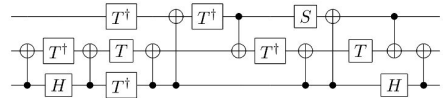
- What is Quantum Circuit Synthesis ?
- How hard is it ?
- Synthesis as a RL single player game
- **Results**
- Short conclusion

QUBIT CONNECTIVITIES

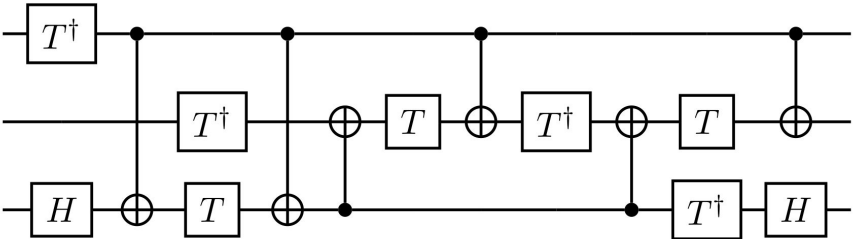
# QUBITS		$n+1, \{H, T, CNOT\}$	all-to-all, $\{H, S, T, CNOT\}$
	2		
	3		

→ 4 agents trained: 2 settings × 2 circuit sizes

QUALITATIVE BENCHMARK

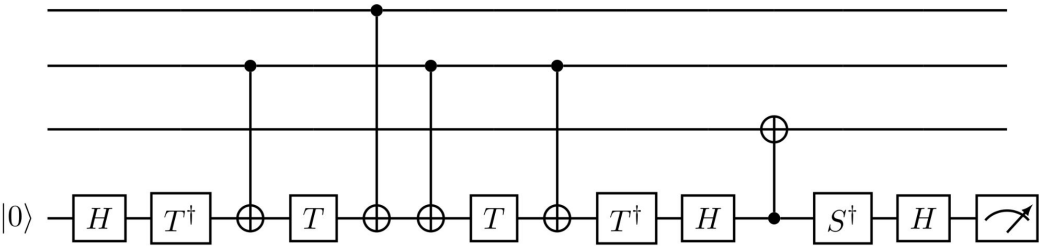
Qubits	Unitary	$n+1, \{H, T, \text{CNOT}\}$	all-to-all, $\{H, S, T, \text{CNOT}\}$
2	CS		
	CT		No circuit found
	CH		
	CV		
	iSWAP		
3	Toffoli		
	CCZ		
	Fredkin	No circuit found	

TOFFOLI - All-to-All



→ Optimal T-count (*without ancilla*)

TOFFOLI - $n+1$



→ Optimal T-count (*with ancilla*)

Quantum Circuit Synthesis

Short Conclusion

- What is Quantum Circuit Synthesis ?
- How hard is it ?
- Synthesis as a RL single player game
- Results
- **Short conclusion**

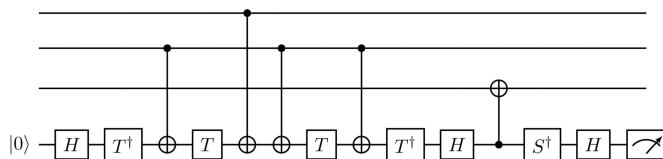
RESULTS

→ Proof of concept

Ability of RL technique for quantum circuit synthesis for different qubit connectivities

→ Subroutines synthesis

Toffoli, CCZ, Fredkin, etc. in **few seconds**
Optimal decomposition requires **few days**
(e.g. Gouzien, Sangouard arXiv:2103.06159)

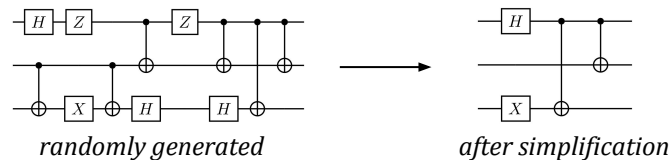


Optimal T count

PERSPECTIVE

→ Training set improvement

Non-trivial circuits generation of the training set



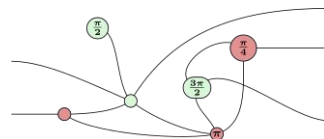
→ Clifford-awareness

Add non-clifford information in the state (e.g. SDE)

$$\text{sde}(z) = \min \left\{ k \in \mathbb{N} : \sqrt{2}^k z \in \mathbb{Z}[\omega] \right\}$$

→ Scaling

State use encoded as unitary $\rightarrow 2^{2n}$ matrix size



Thank you!

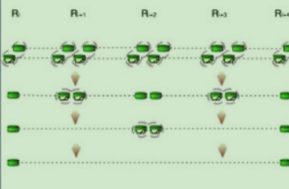
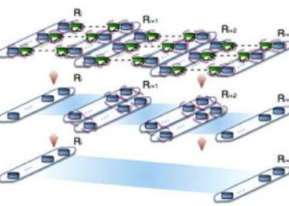
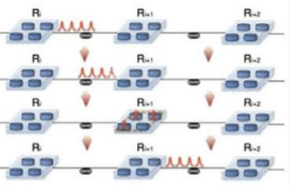
RESSOURCES

RESSOURCES

Study of an Elementary Link

Muralidharan Nomenclature

Muralidharan et al. Nature Sci Rep 6, 20463 (2016)

	First Generation QR	Second Generation QR	Third Generation QR
Schematic Architecture Notations: - Physical qubit - Qubit in encoded blocks - Flying qubit (photon) - CNOT gate - QEC - Measurement			
Loss Error	HEG (two-way signaling)	HEG (two-way signaling)	QEC (one-way signaling)
Operation Error	HEP (two-way signaling)	QEC (one-way signaling)	QEC (one-way signaling)
Procedure	- Create entangled pairs over L_0 between adjacent stations - At k-th level, connect two pairs over L_k and extend to $L_{k+1}=2L_k$, followed by HEP. - After n nesting levels, obtain high-fidelity pair over $L_{tot}=2^n \times L_0$	- Prepare encoded states $0\rangle_L$ and $+\rangle_L$ - Use teleportation-based non-local CNOT gates to create encoded Bell pairs between adjacent stations. - Connect intermediate stations to create long distance encoded Bell pair	- Encode information with a block of qubits that are sent through a lossy channel - Use QEC to correct both loss and operation errors - Relay the encoded information to the next station; and repeat steps 2 & 3.
Characteristic time scale	$\text{Max}(L_{tot}/c, t_0)$	$\text{Max}(L_0/c, t_0)$	t_0
Cost Coefficient (c')	$\text{Poly}(L_{tot})$	$\text{PolyLog}(L_{tot})$	$\text{PolyLog}(L_{tot})$

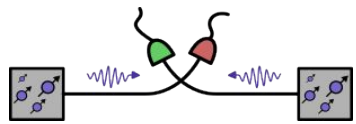
Beukers Nomenclature

Beukers et al. PRX QUANTUM 5, 010202 (2024)

Layer 1

Network Topology

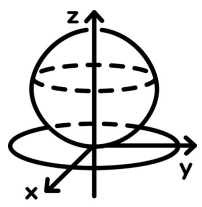
Detection-in-mid-point



Layer 2

Encoding

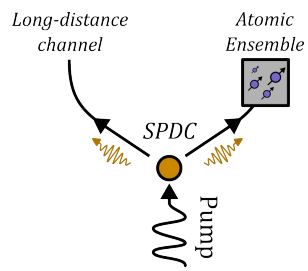
Photon Number
(qubit space)



Layer 3

Source

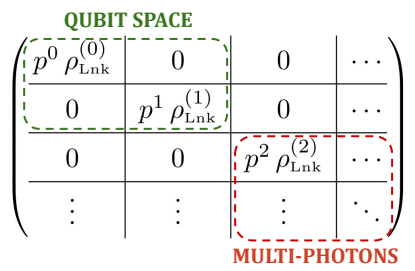
Photon-pair
Atomic ensemble



Layer 4

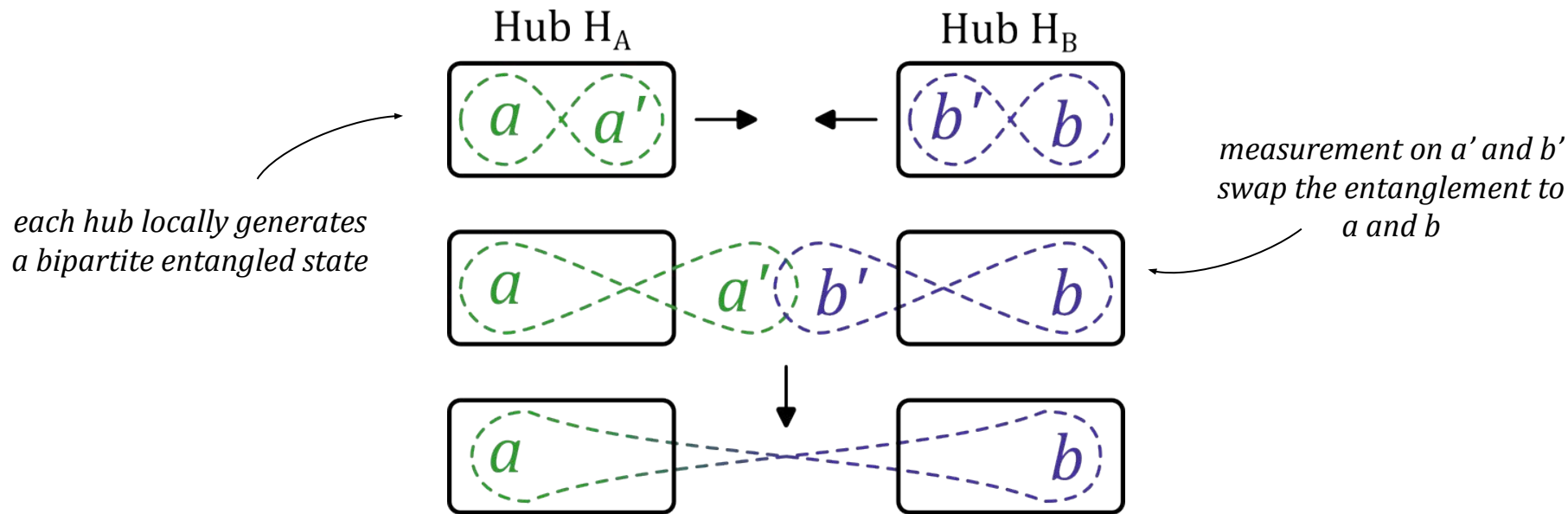
Modeling

Full Fock space

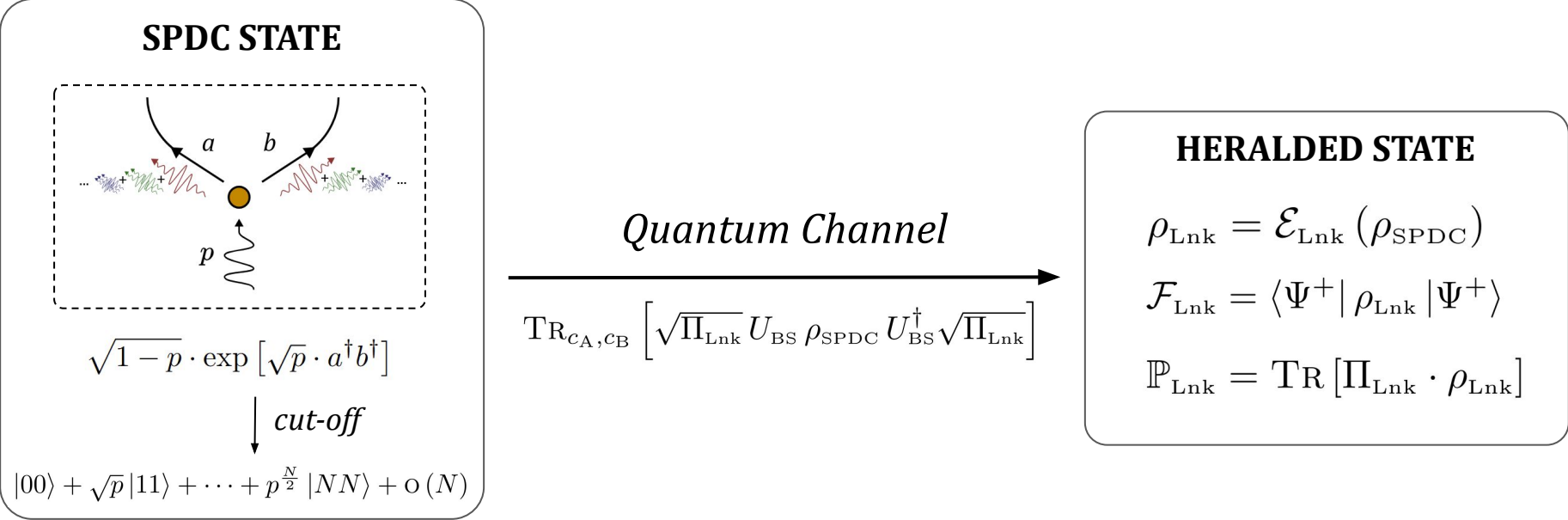


ENTANGLEMENT SWAPPING

General Mechanics



Entanglement swapping allows to **generate entanglement** between **two distant hubs** that have never interacted



FRICTION: SPDC Gaussian VS POVM Fock-diagonal

FIX: expand in $p \rightarrow$ Fock-compatible + valide with $p < 1$

INITIAL STATE

$$\rho_{\text{ini}} = \sum_{i=0}^N p^i \rho_{\text{ini}}^{(i)} + \rho_{\text{ini}}^*(p) + o(p^N)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \boxed{\begin{matrix} p^0 \rho_{\text{ini}}^{(0)} & \star & \star & \dots \\ \star & p \rho_{\text{ini}}^{(1)} & \star & \dots \\ \star & \star & p^2 \rho_{\text{ini}}^{(2)} & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{matrix}} & \text{MULTI-PHOTONS} \end{pmatrix}$$

crossed terms

HERALDED STATE

$$\rho_{\text{Lnk}} = \sum_{i=0}^N p^i \mathcal{E}_{\text{Lnk}} \left(\rho_{\text{ini}}^{(i)} \right) + \mathcal{E}_{\text{Lnk}} \left(\rho_{\text{ini}}^* (p) \right) + o(p^N)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \boxed{\begin{matrix} p^0 \mathcal{E}_{\text{Lnk}} \left(\rho_{\text{ini}}^{(0)} \right) & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & p \mathcal{E}_{\text{Lnk}} \left(\rho_{\text{ini}}^{(1)} \right) & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & p^2 \mathcal{E}_{\text{Lnk}} \left(\rho_{\text{ini}}^{(2)} \right) & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{matrix}} & \text{MULTI-PHOTONS} \end{pmatrix}$$

crossed terms does not contribute
 $\mathcal{E}_{\text{Lnk}} \left(\rho_{\text{ini}}^* (p) \right) = 0$

Each diagonal block carries n photons within the subspace:

$$\tilde{\mathcal{H}}(n) = \text{Span} \{ |ij\rangle \text{ s.t. } i + j = n \}$$

Nth ORDER EXPANSION

$$\rho_{\text{Lnk}} = \underbrace{\tilde{\rho}_{\text{Lnk}}^{(0)} + p \cdot \tilde{\rho}_{\text{Lnk}}^{(1)}}_{\text{QUBIT SPACE}} + \underbrace{\sum_{i=0}^N p^i \tilde{\rho}_{\text{Lnk}}^{(i)}}_{\text{MULTI-PHOTONS}} + o(p^N)$$

← dilutes the Bell pair

HERALDING PROBABILITY (distribution rate)

$$\mathbb{P}_{\text{Lnk}} = \underbrace{\tilde{\mathbb{P}}_{\text{Lnk}}}_{\text{Qubit Space}} \cdot p + \sum_{i=2}^N p^i \underbrace{\tilde{\mathbb{P}}_{\text{Lnk}}^{(i)}}_{\text{Multi Photon}} + o(p^N)$$

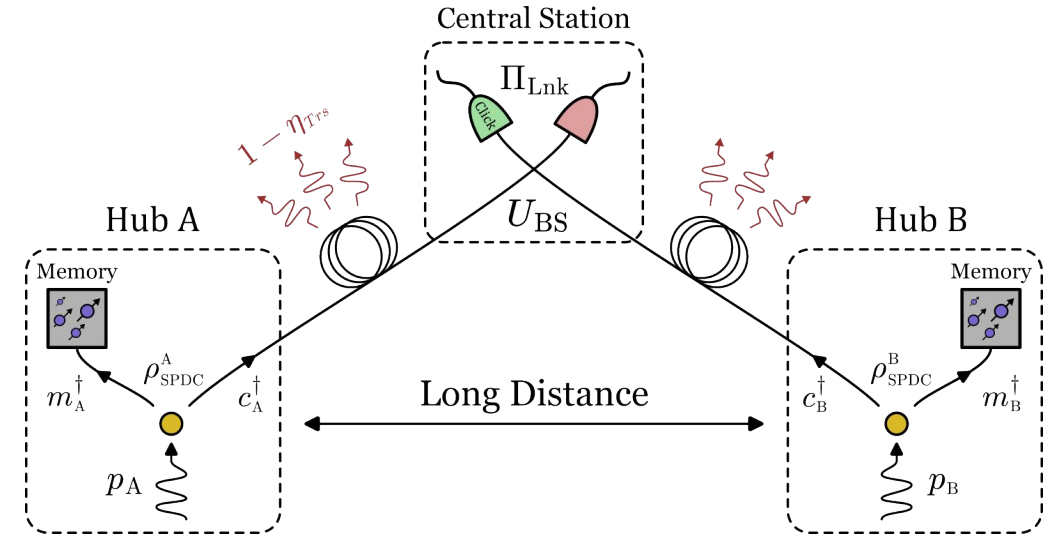
BELL FIDELITY (entanglement quality)

$$\mathcal{F}_{\text{Lnk}} = 1 - \sum_{i=1}^N p^i \underbrace{\tilde{\mathcal{F}}_{\text{Lnk}}^{(i)}}_{\text{Multi Photons}} + o(p^N)$$

The multi-photons contribution dilutes the desired Bell pair

RESSOURCES

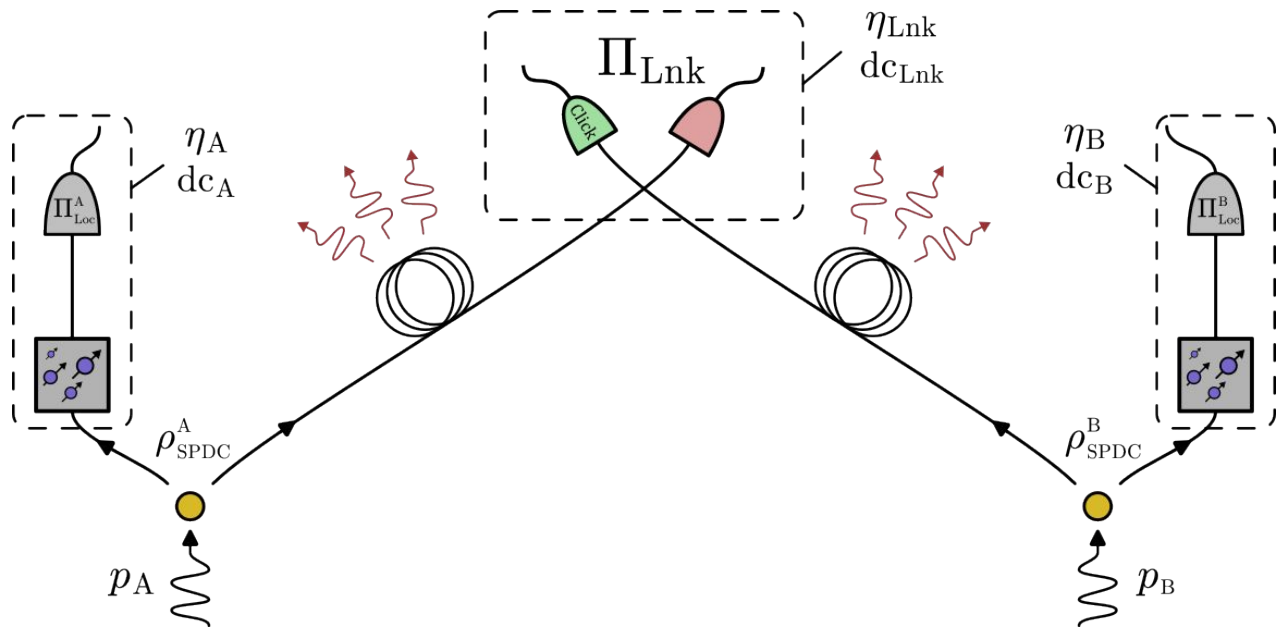
Experimental Fit



NUMERICAL VALUES

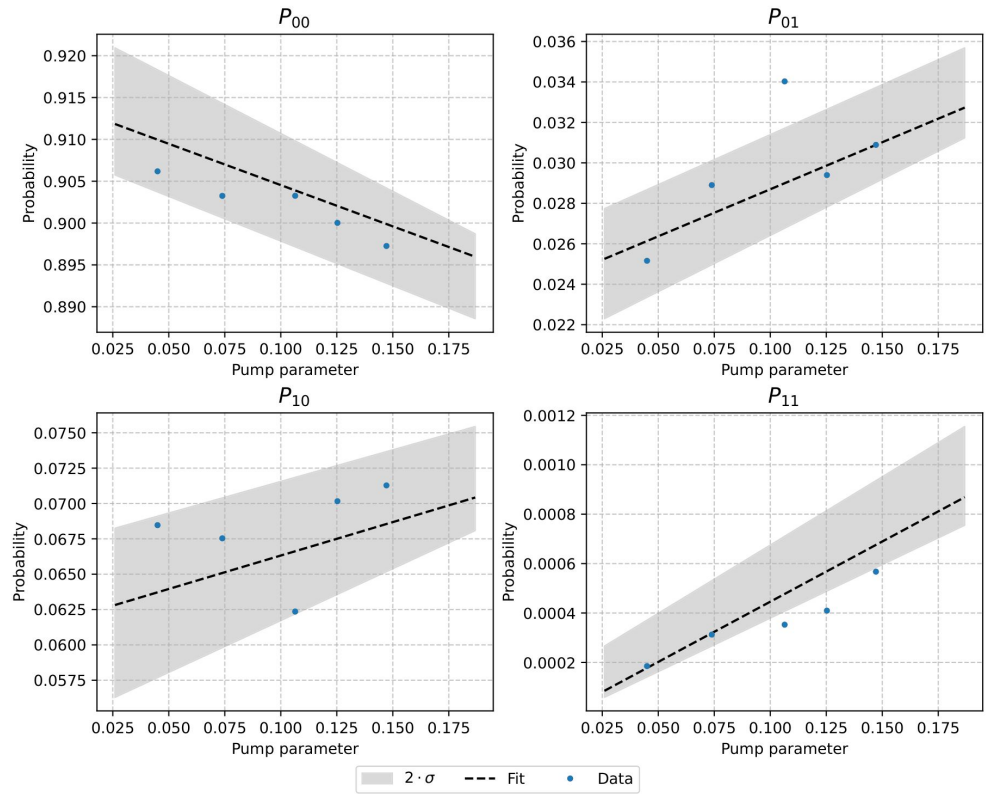
Pump parameter	0.05
Link length	250 km
Detector efficiency	0.9

	$\mathcal{F}_{\text{Lnk}}$		$\mathbb{P}_{\text{Lnk}}$	
	value	err.	value	err.
Pert. $N=1$	1.0	+17%	2.7×10^{-4}	9%
Pert. $N=2$	0.95	+11%	2.8×10^{-4}	5%
Exact	0.86	—	3.0×10^{-4}	—



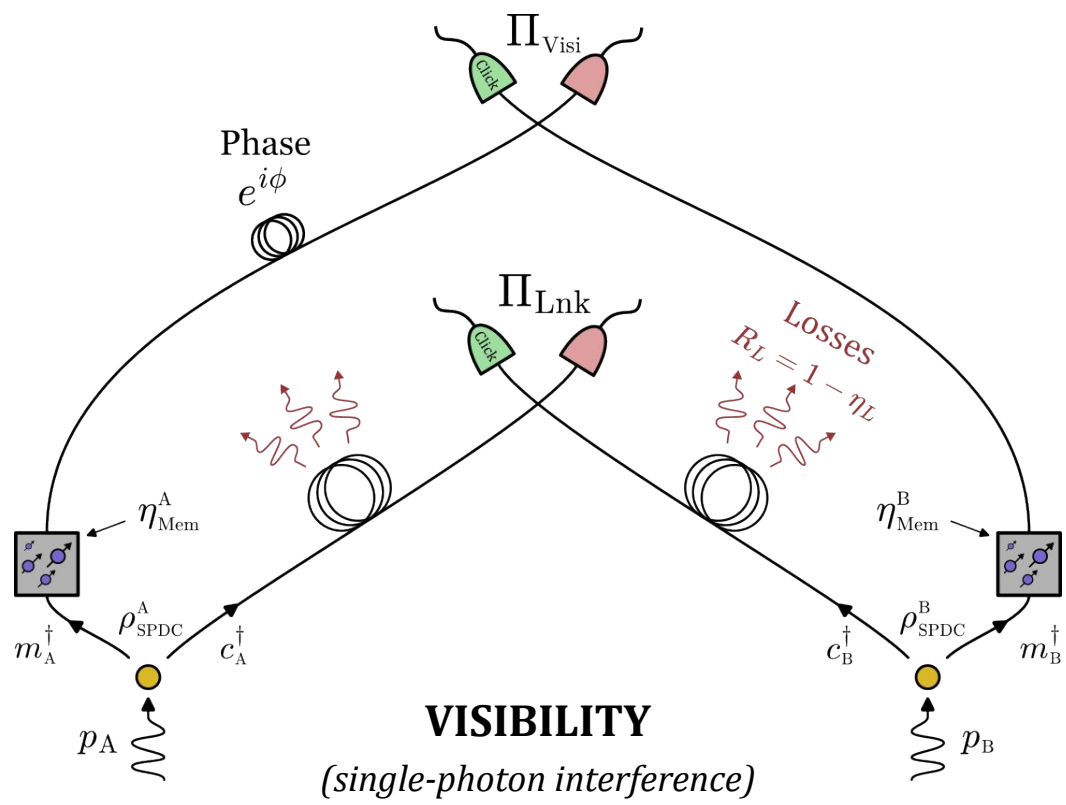
LOCAL PROBABILITIES
(local click/no-click)

Fitted Local Probabilities

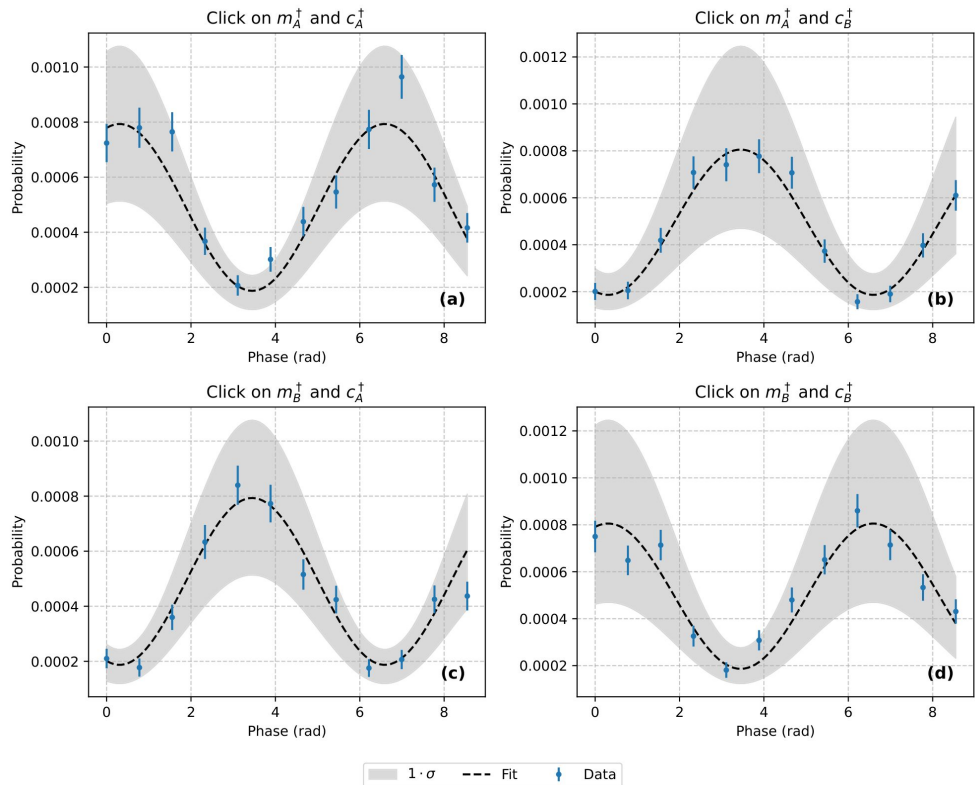


FIT - LOCAL PROBABILITIES

	Sym.	Asym.
Efficiency		
η_{Lnk}	0.8 ± 0.15	0.86 ± 0.04
η_A	0.062 ± 0.003	0.138 ± 0.002
η_B		0.045 ± 0.001
Dark counts		
d_{CLnk}	$2.0 \cdot 10^{-7} \pm 0.8$	$3.6 \cdot 10^{-4} \pm 0.5$
d_{CA}	$3.2 \cdot 10^{-4} \pm 0.4$	$1.8 \cdot 10^{-4} \pm 0.5$
d_{CB}		$1.1 \cdot 10^{-4} \pm 0.4$
MSE	1.0 ± 0.03	$3.4 \cdot 10^{-2} \pm 0.4$



Fitted interference fringes



FIT - VISIBILITY

Fit

Hanni et al. 2015

Efficiency

η_{Lnk}	0.099 ± 0.050	0.20
η_A	0.13 ± 0.067	$4.4 \cdot 10^{-3}$
η_B	0.12 ± 0.066	$6.1 \cdot 10^{-3}$

Dark counts

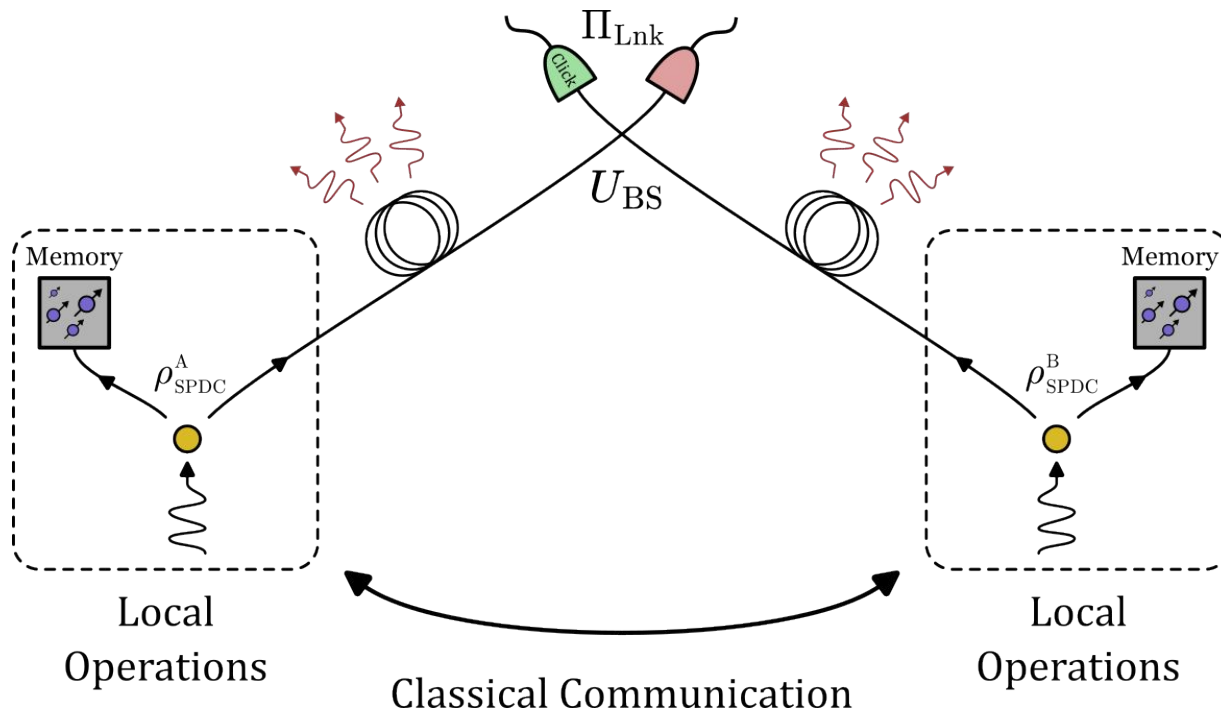
DC_{Lnk}	$6.2 \cdot 10^{-3} \pm 0.3$	n.p.
DC_A	$9.0 \cdot 10^{-3} \pm 0.3$	n.p.
DC_B	$9.4 \cdot 10^{-3} \pm 0.3$	n.p.

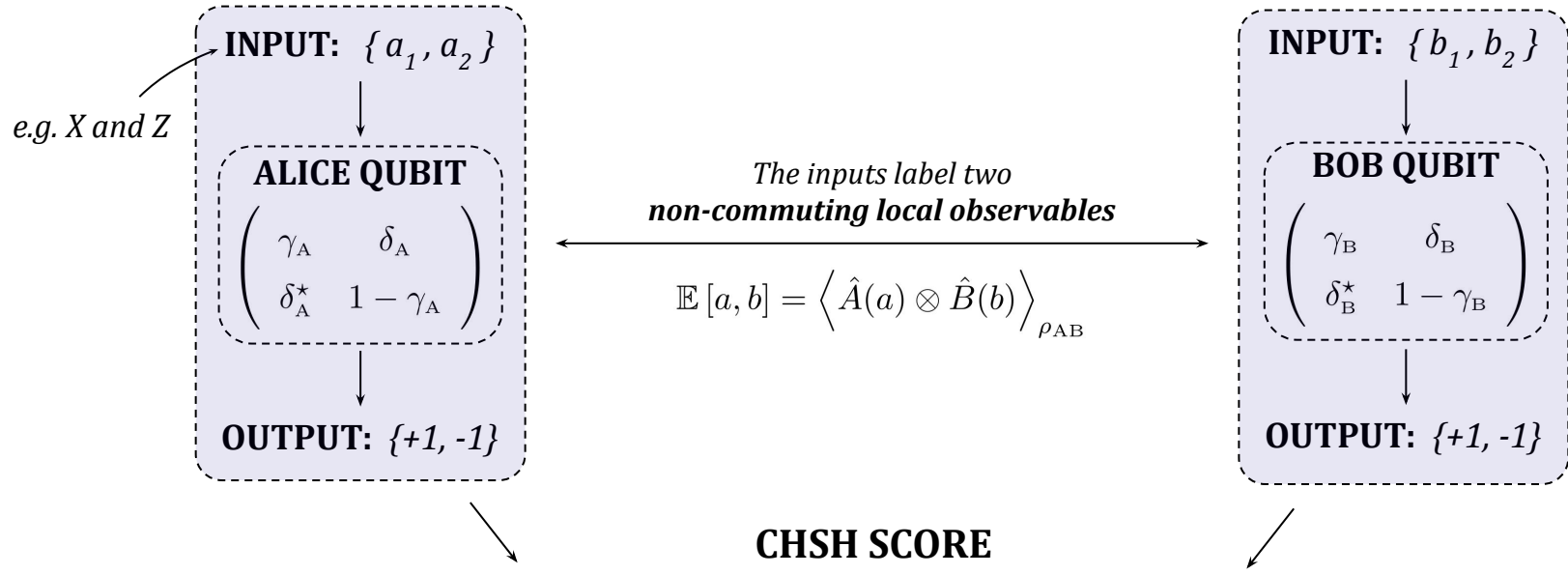
RESSOURCES

Entanglement Witness

GOAL

Develop a LOCC-based witness suitable for the elementary link





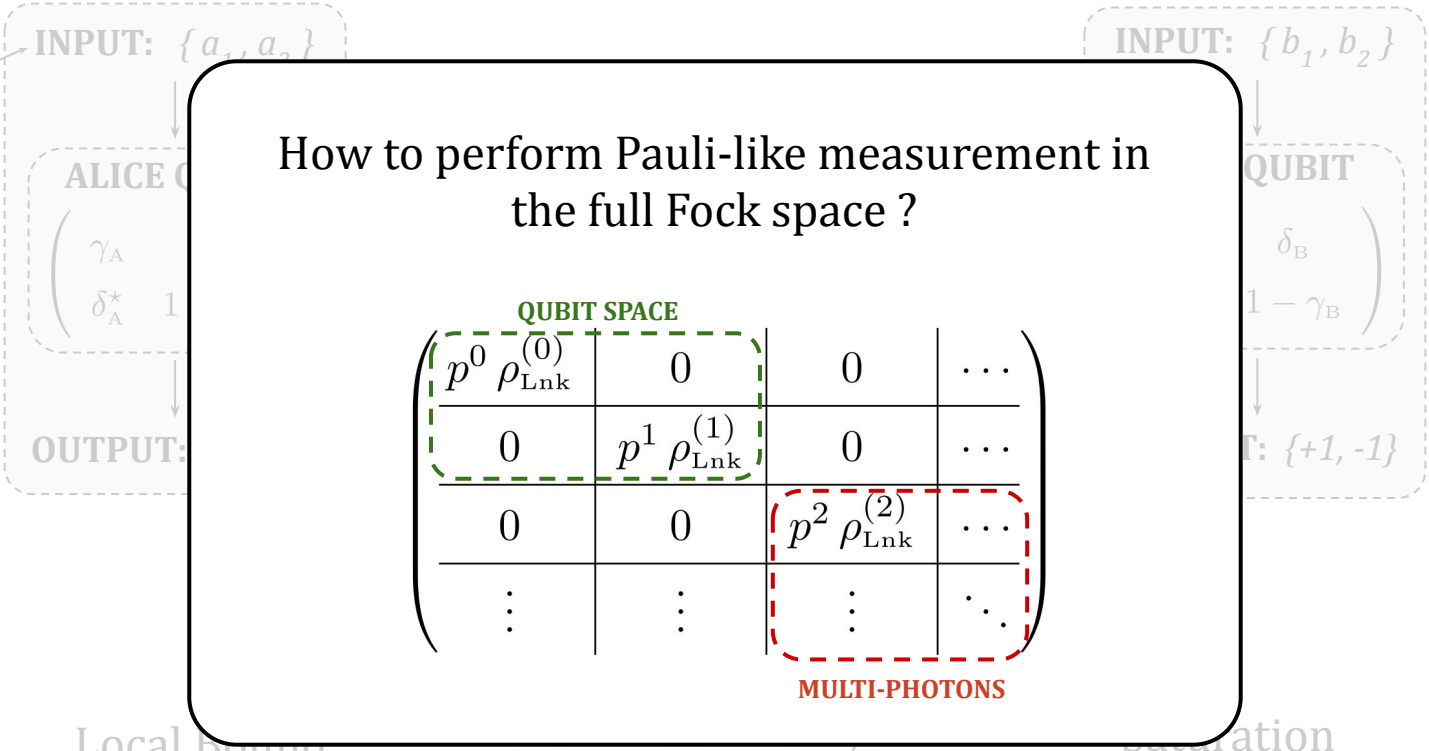
$$S = |\mathbb{E}[a_1, b_1] + \mathbb{E}[a_1, b_2] + \mathbb{E}[a_2, b_1] - \mathbb{E}[a_2, b_2]|$$

Local Bound
 $|0\rangle\langle 0| + |1\rangle\langle 1|$

$$2 < S \leq 2\sqrt{2}$$

Saturation
 $|\Psi^+\rangle\langle\Psi^+|$

e.g. X and Z



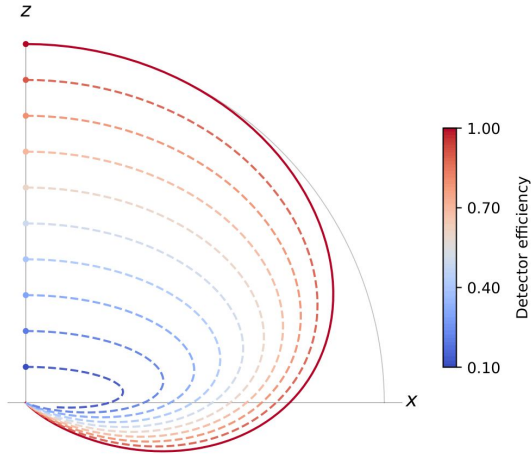
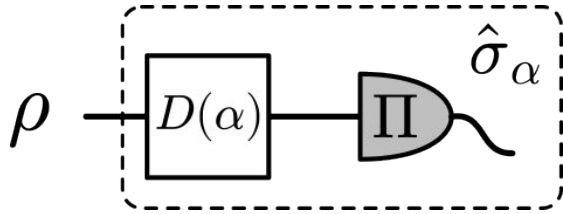
Local Bound

$$|0\rangle\langle 0| + |1\rangle\langle 1|$$

$$2 < S \leq 2\sqrt{2}$$

Calculation

$$|\Psi^+\rangle\langle\Psi^+|$$



Bloch-Sphere representation of $\vec{n}$ as a function of α

The displacement allow to perform a **projected measurement in the Bloch** along the vector:

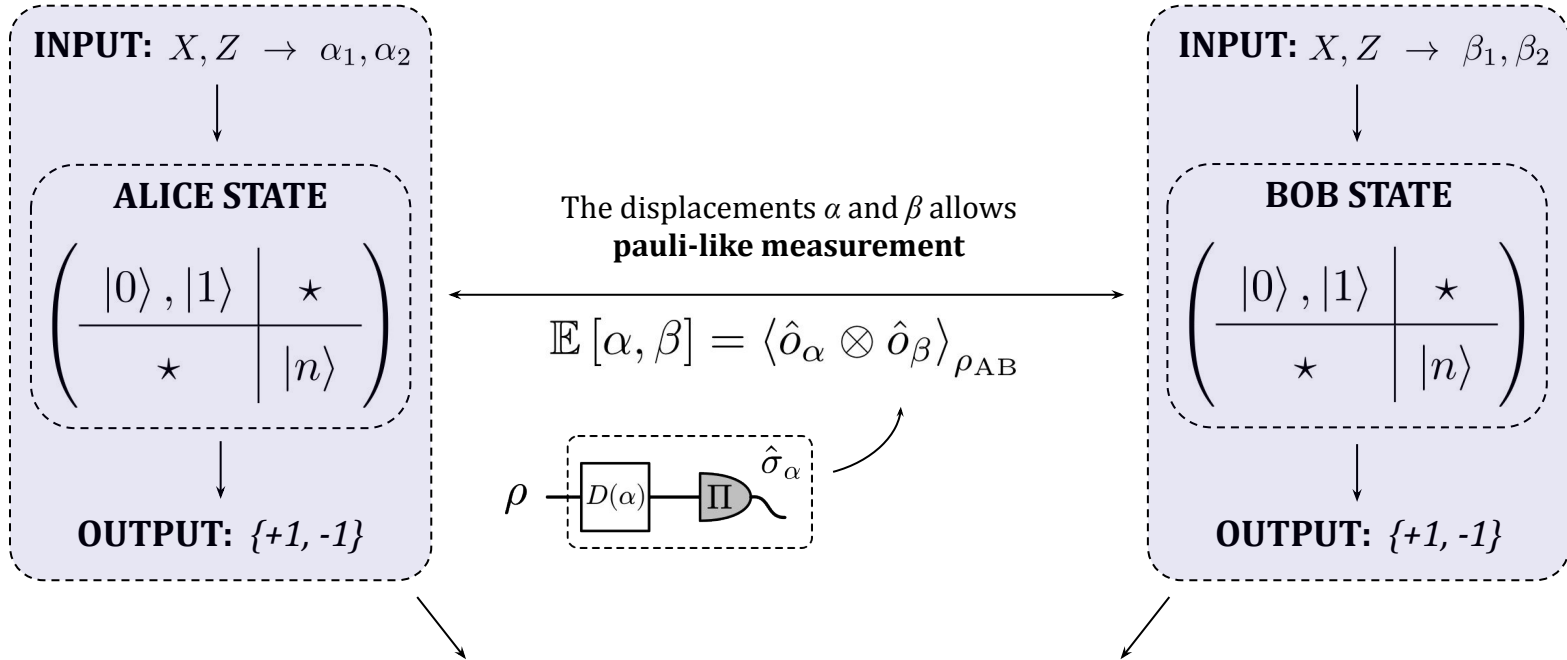
$$\vec{n} \propto \begin{pmatrix} -e^{-\eta|\alpha|^2} |\alpha| \eta \cos(\delta) \\ e^{-\eta|\alpha|^2} |\alpha| \eta \sin(\delta) \\ \frac{1}{2}e^{-\eta|\alpha|^2} \eta (1 - |\alpha|^2 \eta) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\alpha = 0$$

Z measurement

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\eta}}$$

X measurement



$$S = |\mathbb{E}[\alpha_1, \beta_1] + \mathbb{E}[\alpha_1, \beta_2] + \mathbb{E}[\alpha_2, \beta_1] - \mathbb{E}[\alpha_2, \beta_2]|$$

In practice α and β are optimized to reach a maximum

TWO ISSUES

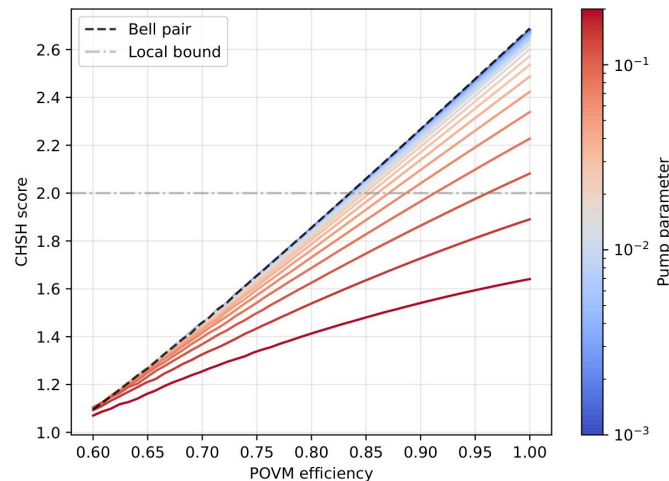
→ “General” witness

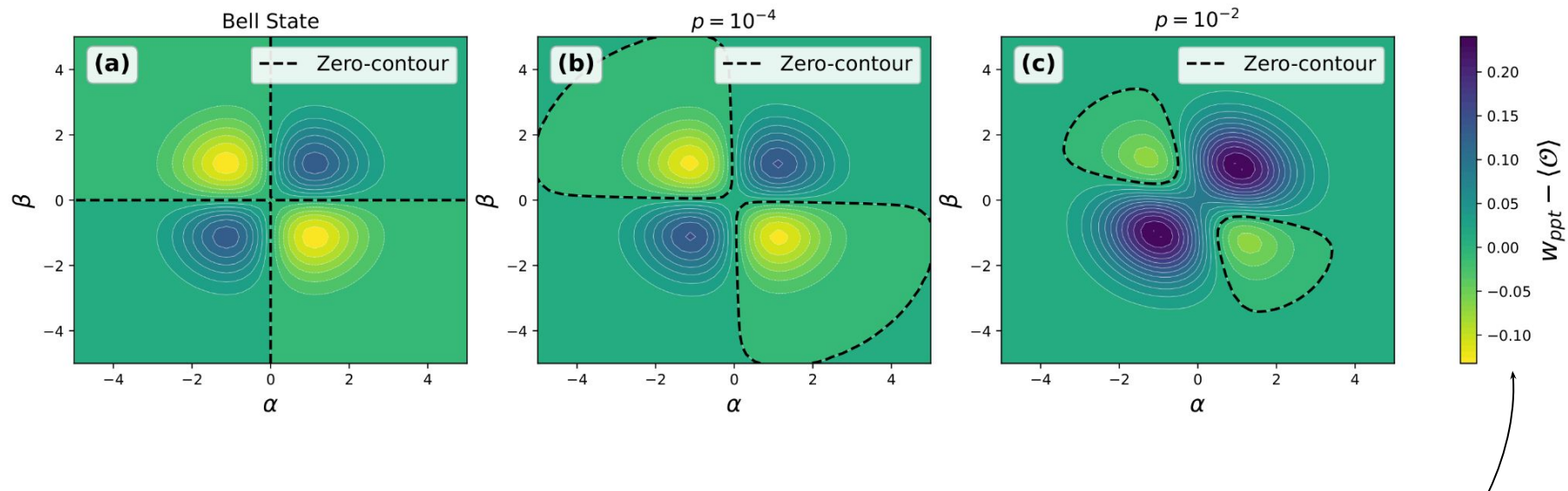
CHSH: witness non-locality of the state

WANTED: non-separability in the qubit subspace

→ Losses

The witness is **sensitive to memory-loss**: must reach a **0.8 efficiency** while optimistic value is around **0.5 efficiency**





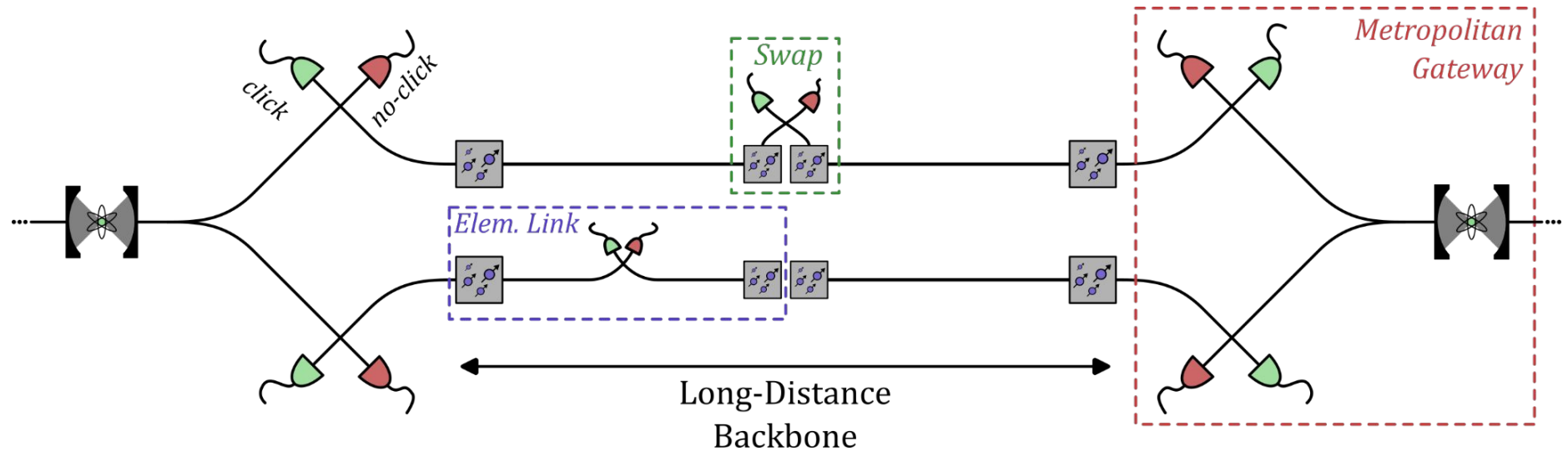
Witness according to the **displacements**
for different values of the pump parameter

(250km link, no dark-count)

negative $\rightarrow$ non-separable

RESSOURCES

Full Repeater Link



ACTUAL STUDIED REPEATER

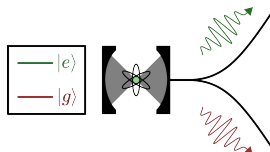
*Dual-rail multi-elementary-link chain with
a heterogeneous interface*

Vacuum component growing linearly with the number of swaps:

$$\left(1 - \frac{2}{2^n \cdot (2 - \eta_S) + \eta_S}\right) |00\rangle \langle 00| + \frac{2}{2^n \cdot (2 - \eta_S) + \eta_S} |\Psi^+\rangle \langle \Psi^+|$$

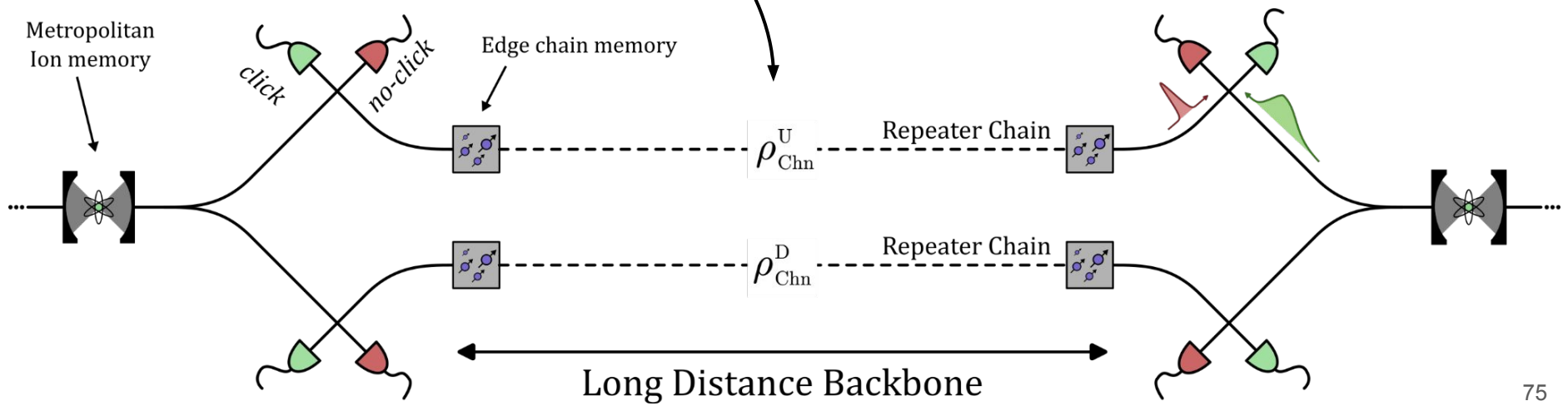
4 Clicks

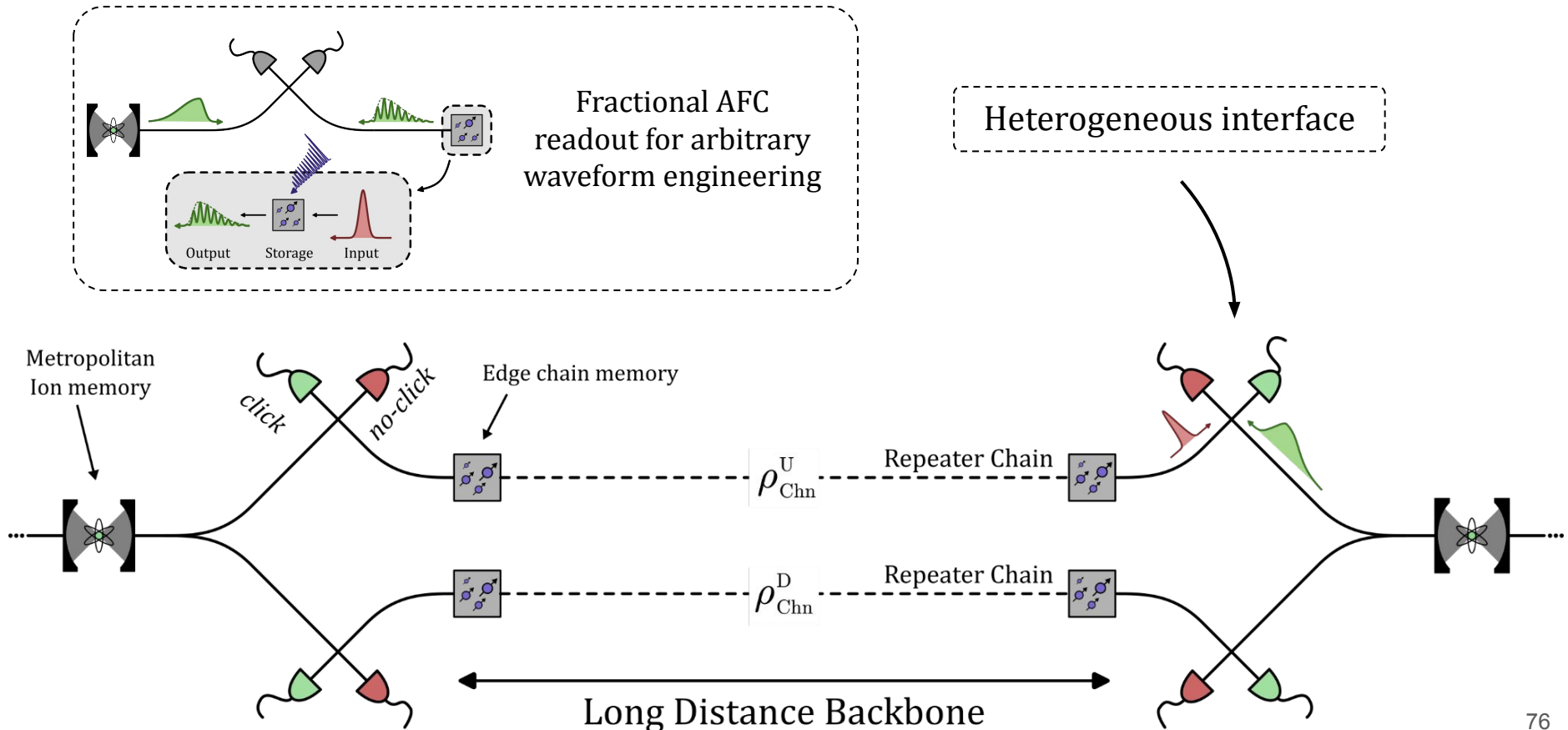
1-click per ion



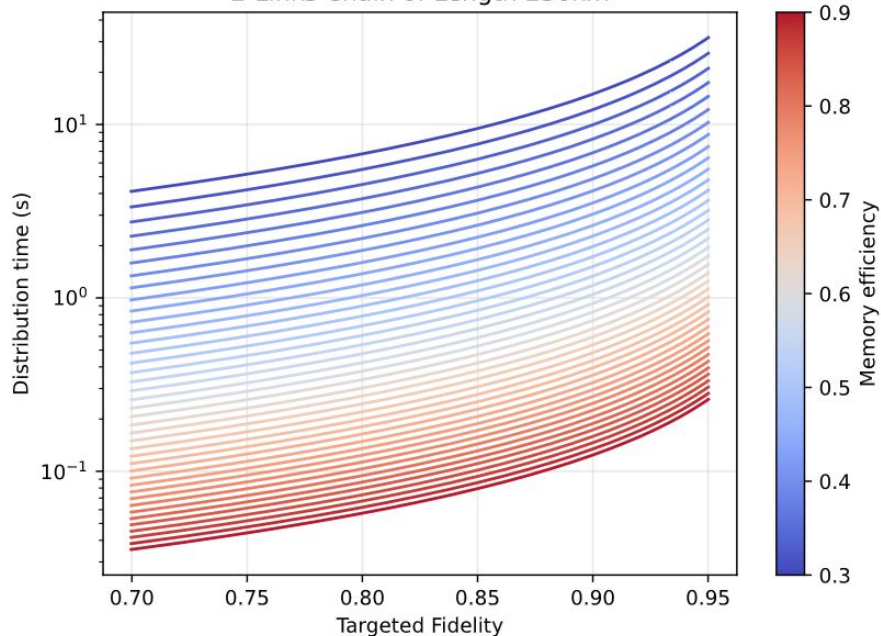
1-click per chain

$$\alpha |00\rangle \langle 00| + \beta |\Psi^+\rangle \langle \Psi^+|$$



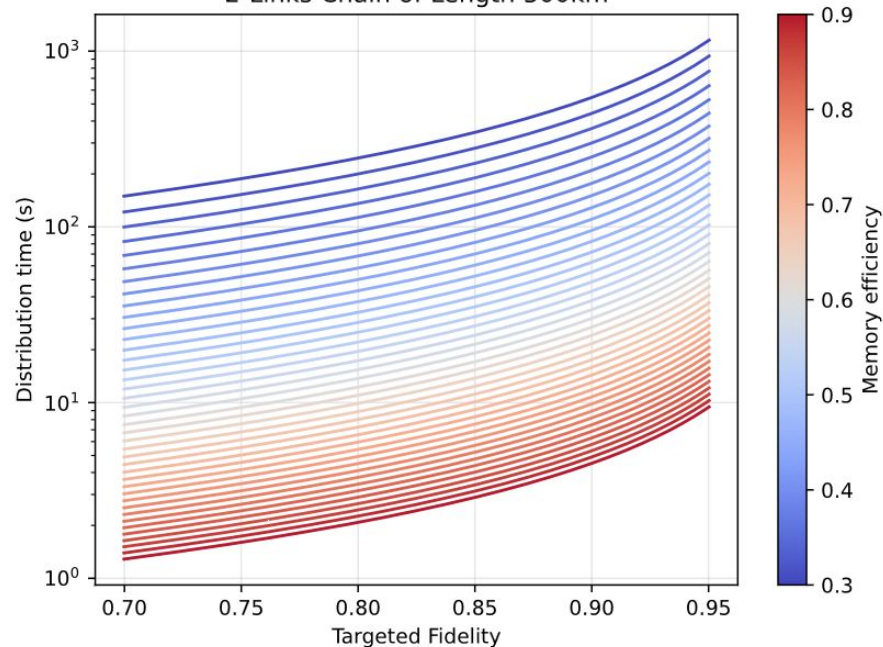


2-Links Chain of Length 250km

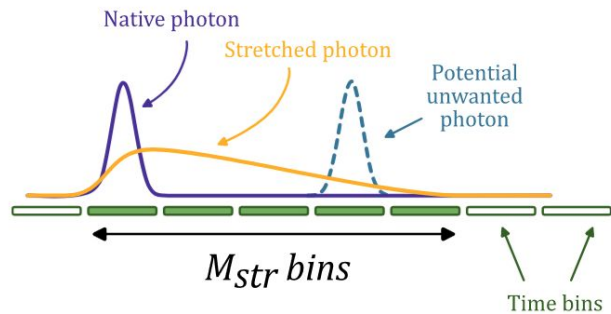


Entanglement distributed in **~ 0.5 s**
over **250 km**, with **0.5 efficient**
memories and a **0.9 target fidelity**

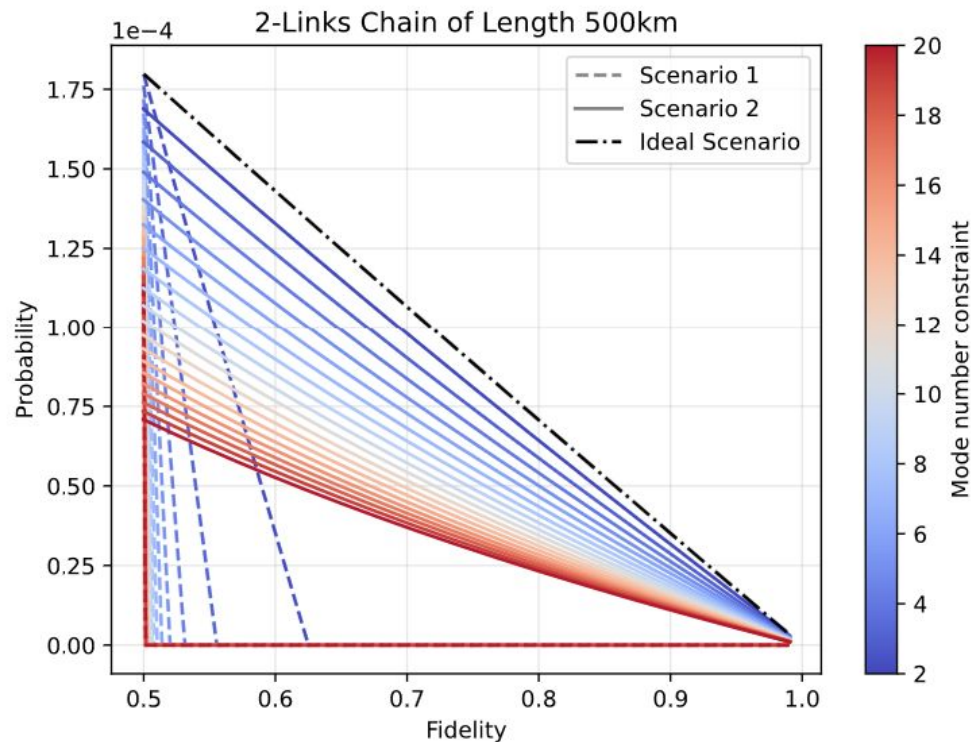
2-Links Chain of Length 500km



Entanglement distributed in **~ 10 s** over
500 km, with **0.5 efficient memories**
and a **0.9 target fidelity**



*Impact of the photon shaping on the **temporal multimode capabilities** of the repeater*

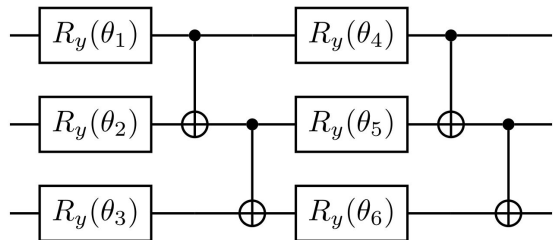


RESSOURCES

Quantum Circuit Synthesis

SYNTHESIS

CONTINUOUS

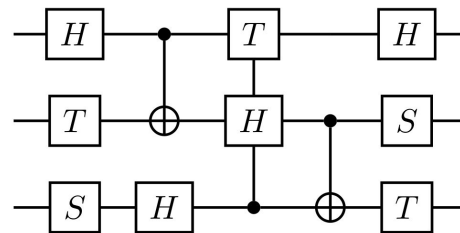


*Optimizing continuous parameters on
a given ansatz*

NOTES:

- Continuous optimisation problem
- Difficulty: *Barren Plateau*
- NISQ paradigm

DISCRETE



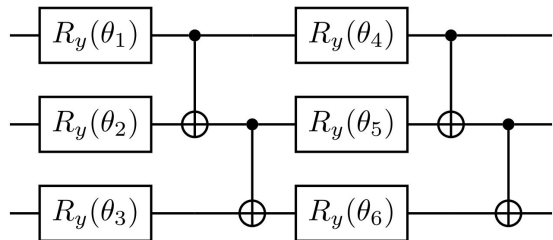
*Finding a gate-combinaison from
a given gate set*

NOTES:

- Combinatorial problem
- Difficulty: *Large Space*
- FTQC paradigm

SYNTHESIS

CONTINUOUS

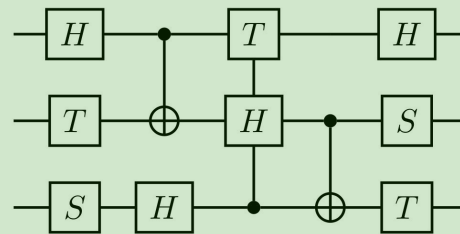


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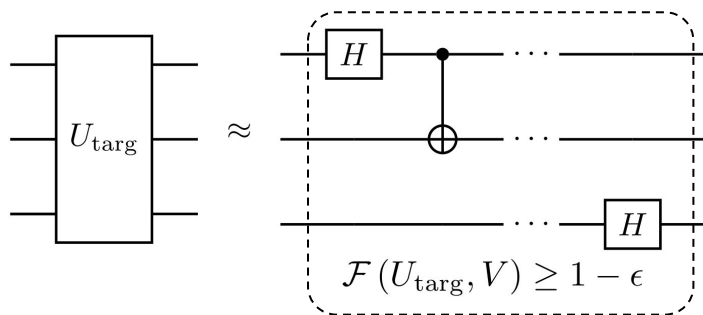
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DISCRETE SYNTHESIS

APPROXIMATE



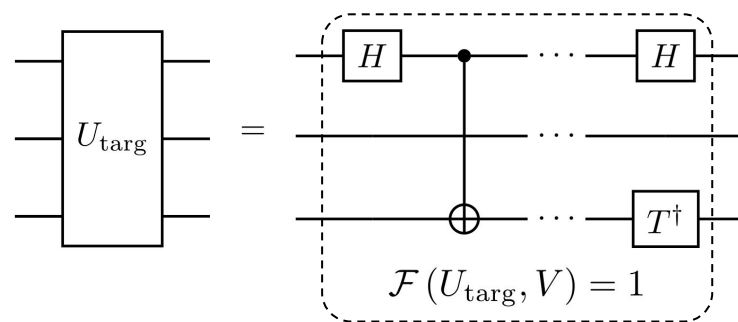
Finding a decomposition **up to ϵ**

NOTES:

- Always exist (Solovay-Kitaev)
- FTQC parametrized gates (e.g. θ -rotation)
- Historical quantum compilation

$$U(2^n) = \overline{\mathcal{G}_n}$$

EXACT



Finding an **exact** decomposition

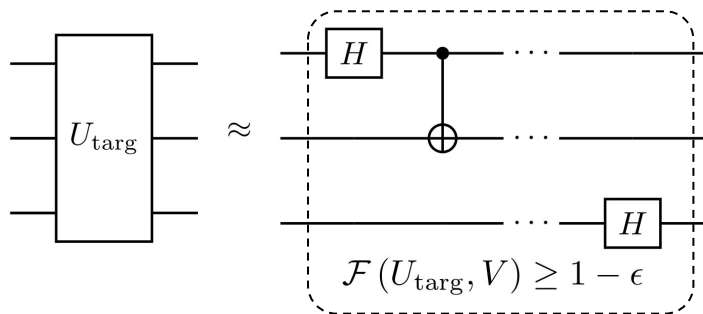
NOTES:

- May not exist (Giles-Selinger)
- FTQC algebraic subroutine (e.g. addition)
- Modern quantum compilation

$$\mathbb{Z}\left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, i\right]$$

DISCRETE SYNTHESIS

APPROXIMATE



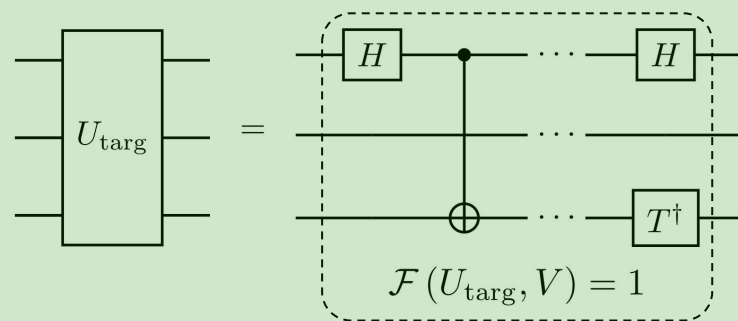
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WHICH METHOD ?

OPTIMAL

$$\left[\bigvee_j x_{i,j} \right] \wedge \left[\bigwedge_{j_1, j_2} \neg x_{i,j_1} \vee \neg x_{i,j_2} \right]$$

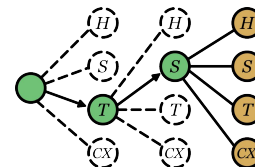
*Finding decomposition under constraint
with **optimality***

- ✓ *optimality*
- ✗ *heavy computation requirement*

EXAMPLES:

- Meet-in-the-middle
- SAT Solver

HEURISTIC



*Finding decomposition under constraint
with **satisfied criterion***

- ✓ *light computation requirement*
- ✗ *no optimality*

EXAMPLES:

- Greedy technique
- Stochastic methods
- Machine Learning

WHICH METHOD ?

OPTIMAL

$$\left[\bigvee_j x_{i,j} \right] \wedge \left[\bigwedge_{j_1, j_2} \neg x_{i,j_1} \vee \neg x_{i,j_2} \right]$$

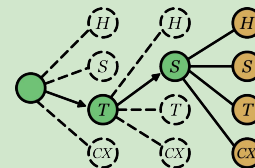
*Finding decomposition under constraint
with **optimality***

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EXAMPLES:

- Meet-in-the-middle
- SAT Solver

HEURISTIC



*Finding decomposition under constraint
with **no optimality guarantee***

- ✓ *light computation requirement*
- ✗ *no optimality*

EXAMPLES:

- Greedy technique
- Stochastic methods
- Machine Learning

RESSOURCES

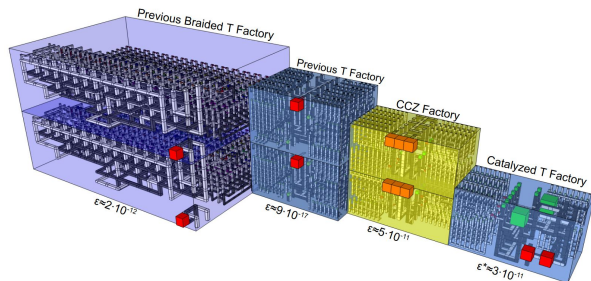
Resource Optimization

GATES COST

Some gates are more expensive than others

Examples:

- 2D QEC: T-gate and Toffoli-gate
- 3D QEC: H-gate

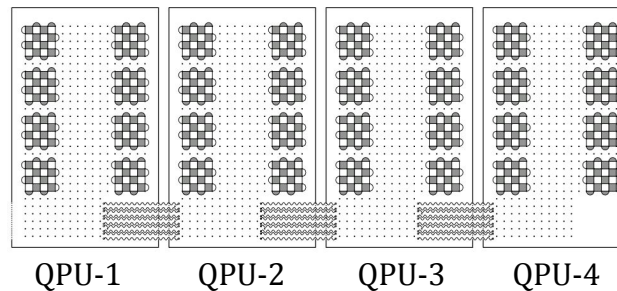


QUBIT CONNECTIVITY

Hardware constrains the available qubit connectivity

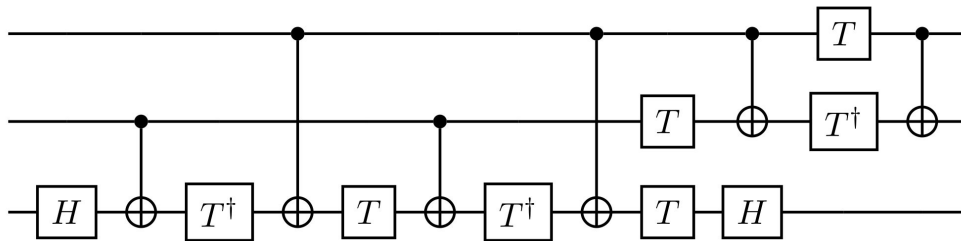
Examples:

- All-to-all: *Trapped ions*
- Neighbors: *Transmon*
- Star-topology: *NV-center*



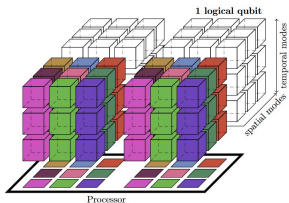
GATE RESOURCE CONSTRAINT

T -count: 7
 T -depth: 5



GATE-COUNT: number of gates

non-parallelizable QPU architecture



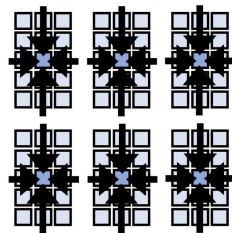
Example:

Memory-based QPU

(Gouzien, Sangouard *arXiv:2103.06159*)

GATE-DEPTH: number of “gate-layers”

parallelizable QPU capabilities

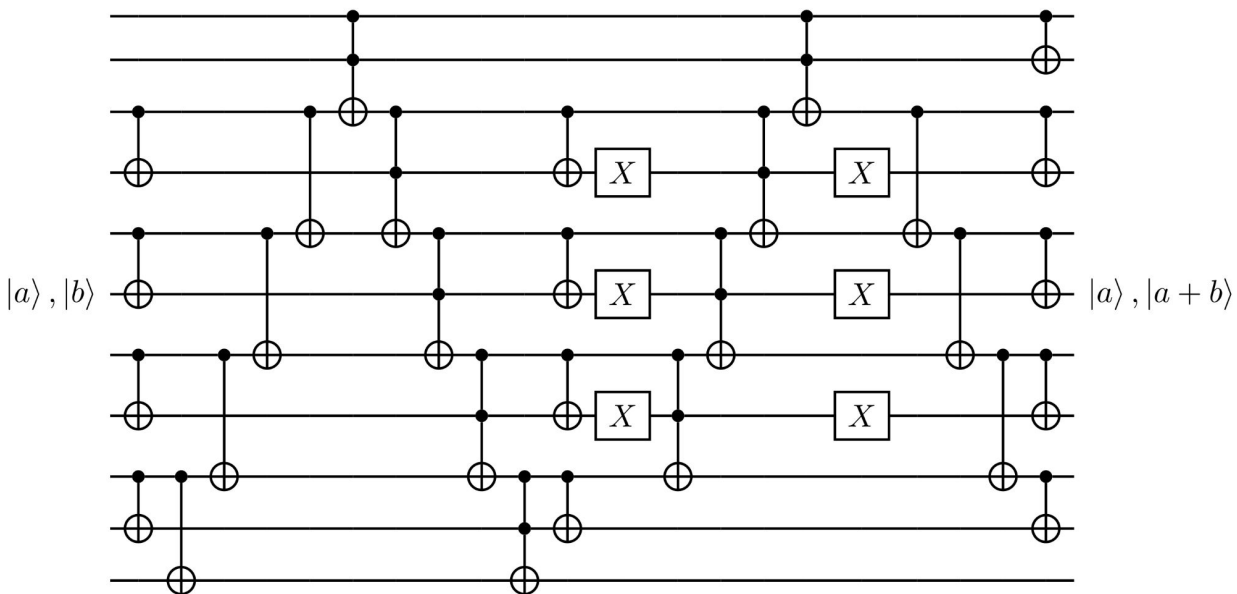


Example:

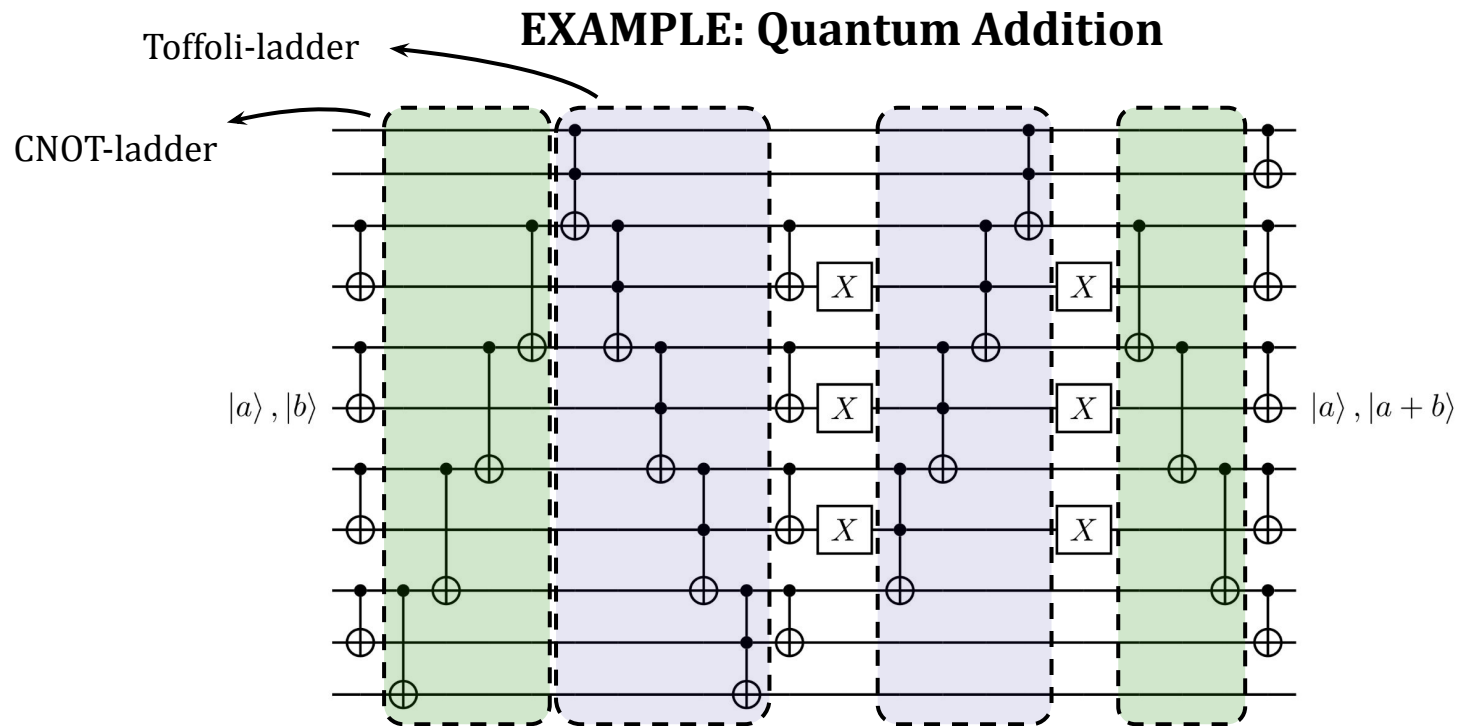
Multiple T-factories QPU

(Beverland et al. *arXiv:2211.07629*)

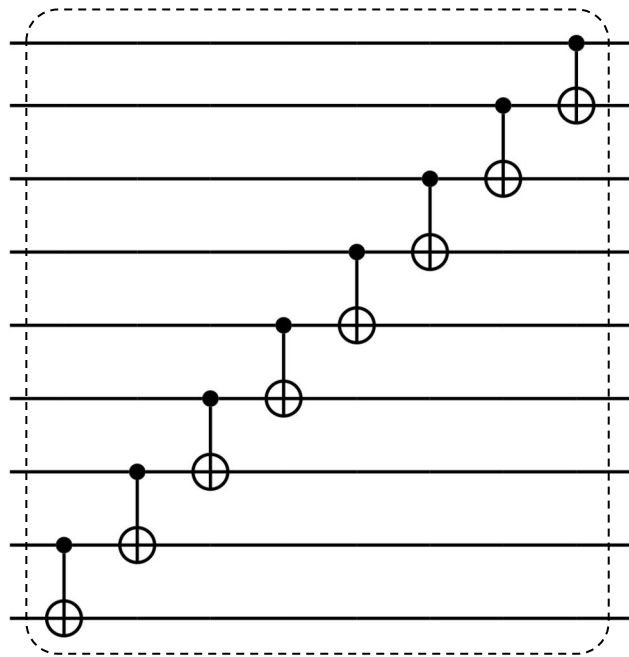
EXAMPLE: Quantum Addition



General Quantum Addition Structure from Remaud et al.



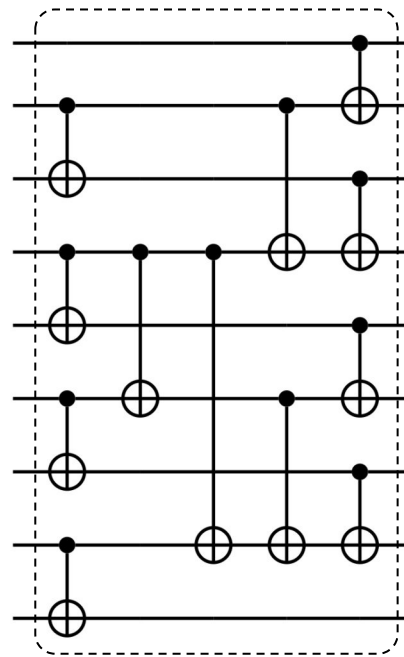
General Quantum Addition Structure from Remaud et al.
(arXiv:2510.00840)



CX-depth: 8
CX-count: 8

CNOT-COUNT OPTIMIZATION

=

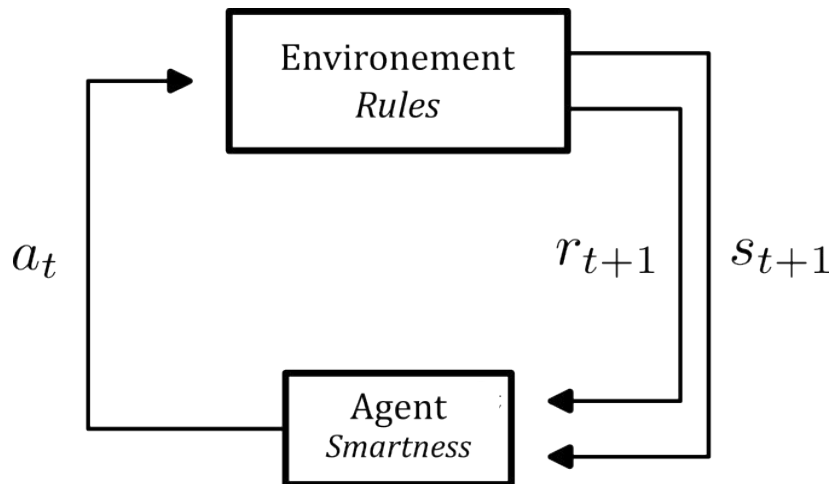


CX-depth: 5
CX-count: 12

CNOT-DEPTH OPTIMIZATION

RESSOURCES

Reinforcement Learning



POLICY - *smartness*

$$\pi(a|s_t) = \mathbb{P}(a|s_t)$$

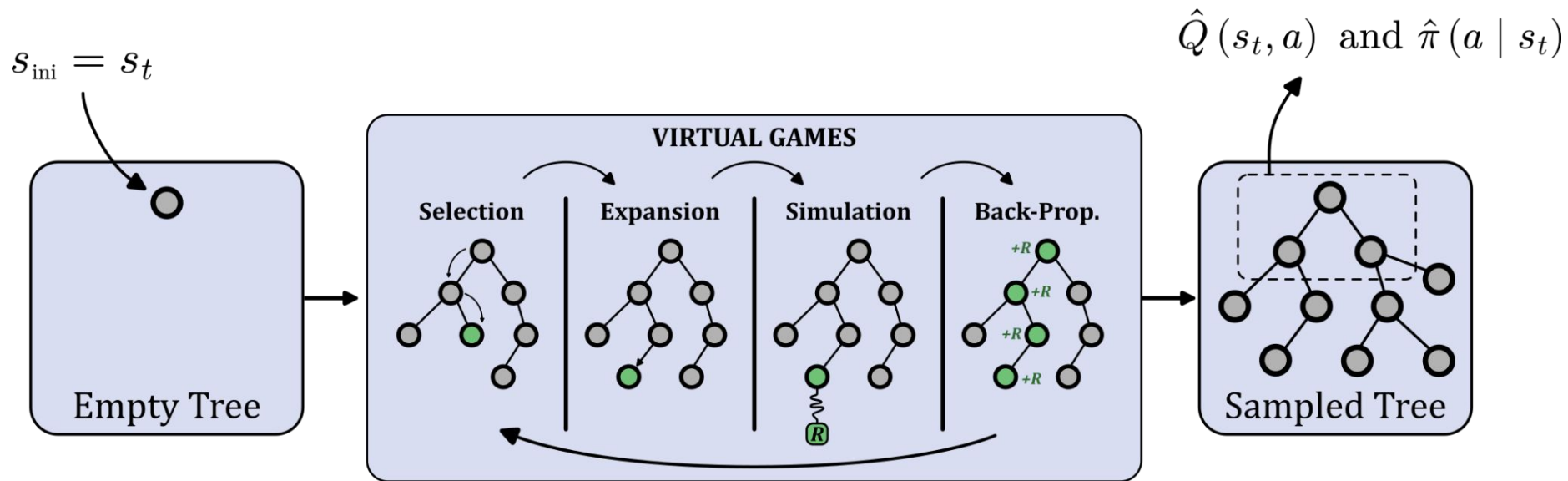
VALUE FUNCTION - *purpose*

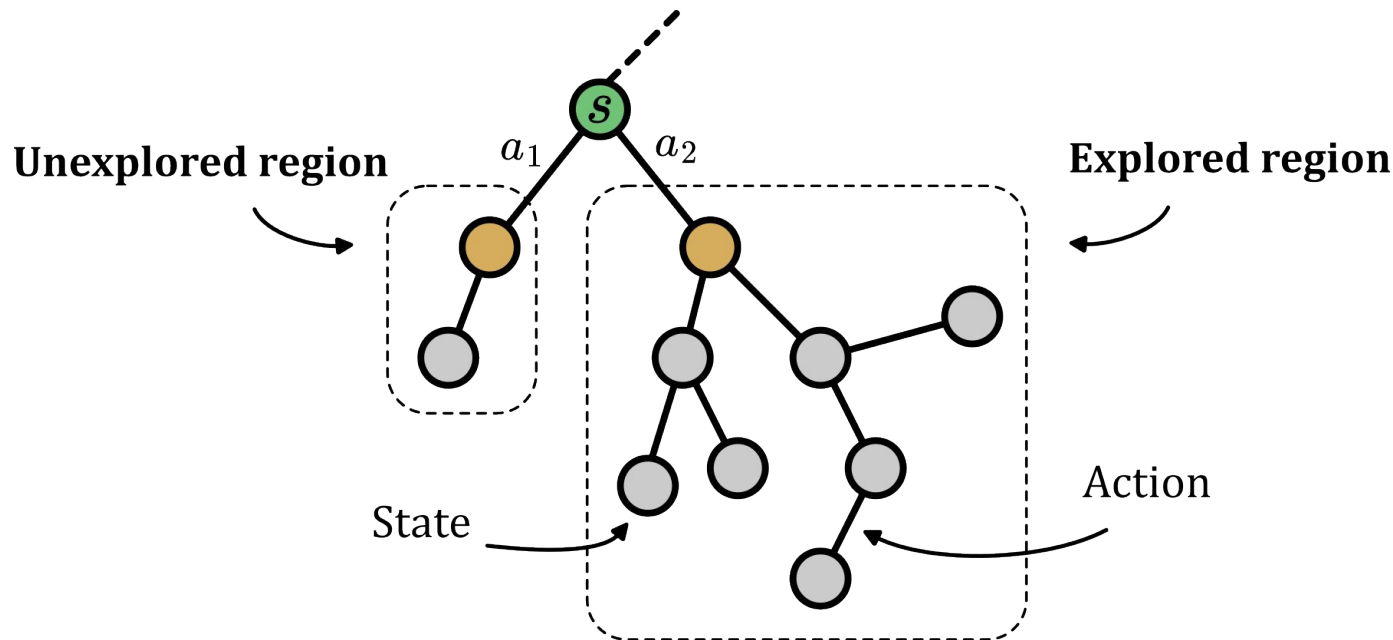
$$V^\pi(s) = \mathbb{E}_\pi \left[\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \gamma^k \cdot r_{k+1} \mid s_0 = s \right]$$

BEST POLICY - *optimization*

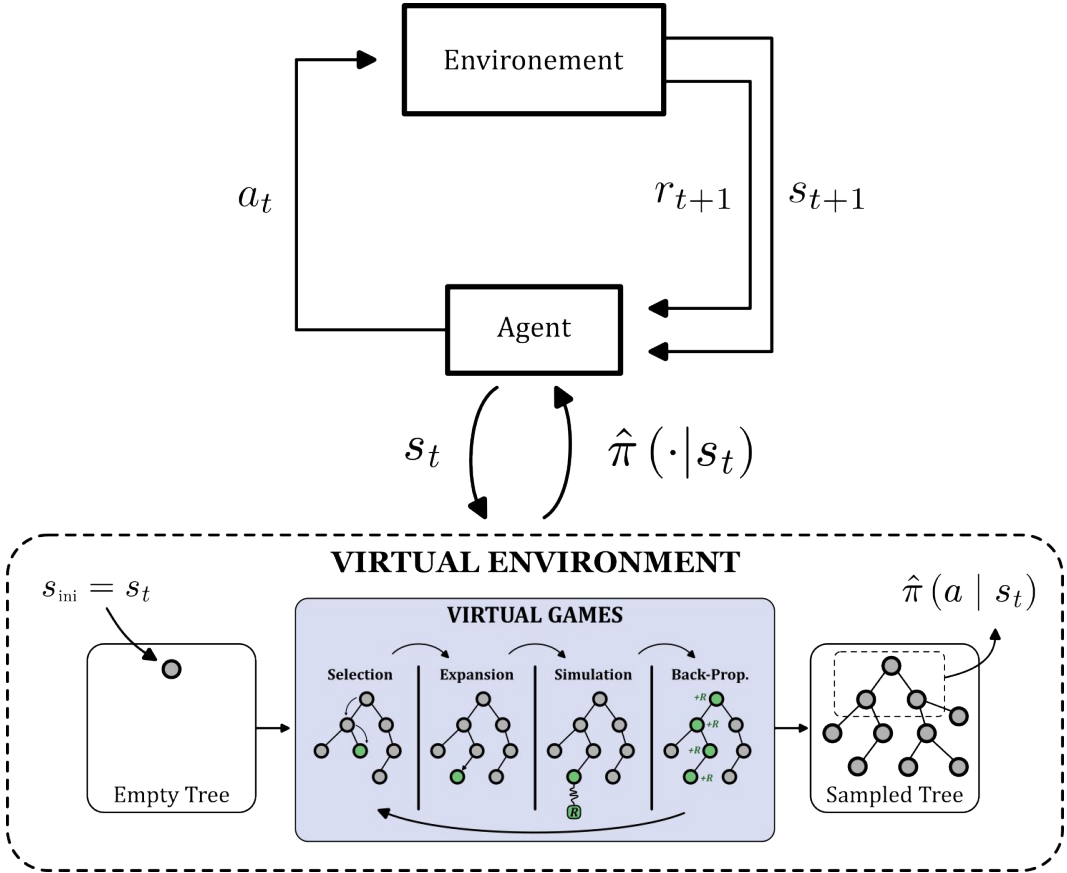
$$\pi^* \in \arg \max_{\pi} V^\pi(s), \quad \forall s \in \mathcal{S}$$

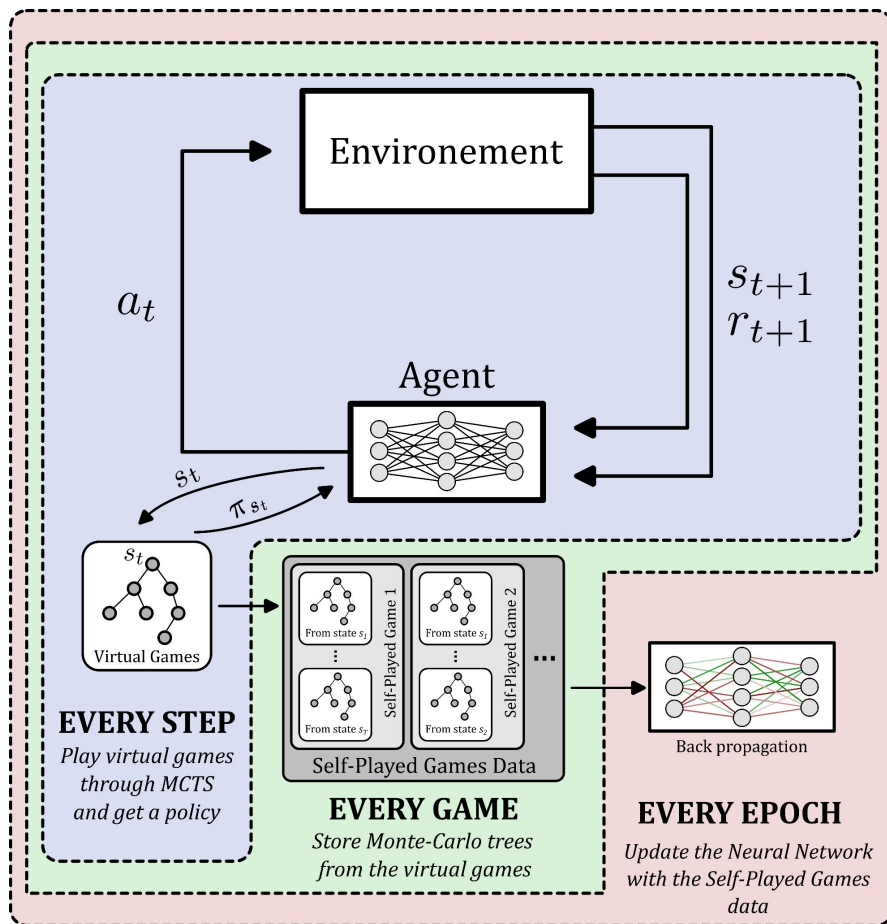
We call **agent** the **algorithm** that **approximates** the **best policy**





$$PUCT(s, a) = \hat{Q}(s, a) + C_{PUCT} \tilde{\pi}(a | s) \cdot \frac{\sqrt{N(s)}}{N(s, a) + 1}$$





MAIN IDEA

- reinforcement loop
- Self-played game (*training unitary*)
 - Store decision tree statistics
 - Update the neural network

PRACTICAL NUMBERS

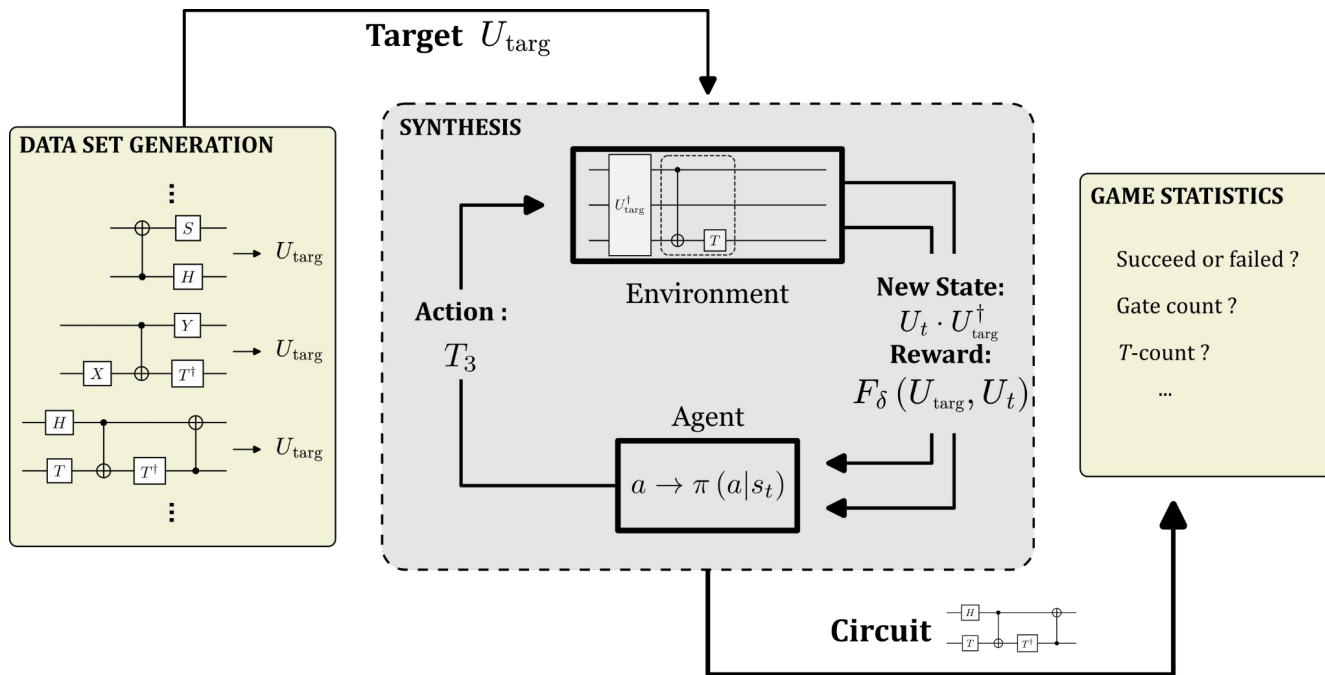
- 2x NVIDIA Titan XP
(no Tensor Cores and FP16)
- ~4 days of training
- 10^5 self-played game

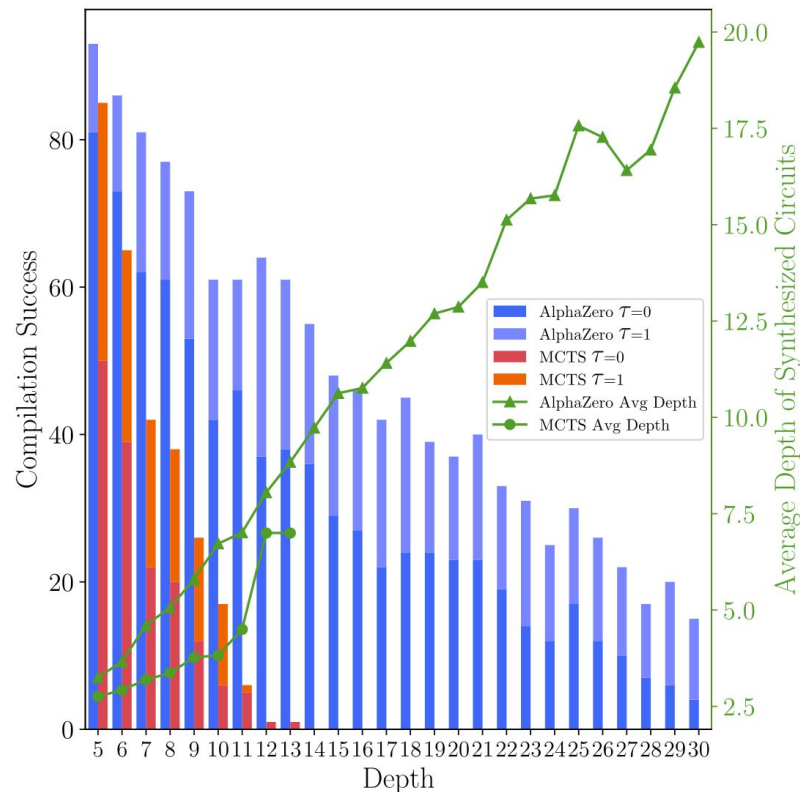
RESSOURCES

Results

QUANTITATIVE BENCHMARK

random circuit $\rightarrow$ target unitary $\rightarrow$ can the agent find a circuit?





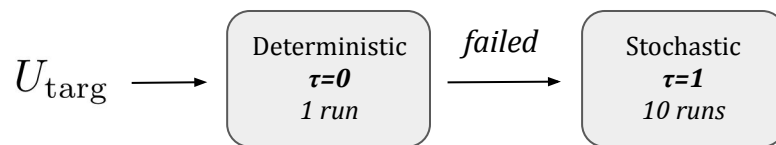
2+1 architecture

PROTOCOL

Success:

$$U_{\text{targ}}^\dagger \cdot U_t = \mathbb{1} \quad \text{and} \quad t \leq d_{\text{targ}}$$

Search-Protocol:



100 circuits per depth

BRIEF ANALYSIS

- **MCTS alone:** dies for depth-12 unitaries
- **MCTS + NN:** up to depth-30 unitaries
- **Stochasticity:** helps the synthesis

Experimental and Theoretical progress

HARDWARE - Below threshold

Transmon-based QPU (2025)

- Surface code ($d=7$)
- 101 physical qubits

Google Quantum AI Nature 638, 920 (2025)



Cat-state-based QPU (2025)

- Repetition code ($d=5$)
- Cat state with 1.5 photons

Puterman et al. Nature 638, 927 (2025)



Amazon BraKet

SOFTWARE - Reducing the cost

Circuit-Implementation Side

- Saving 50% Toffoli on Addition
(Gidney - Quantum 2, 74 - 2018)
- Ancilla for subroutine T-count optimization
(Khattar, Gidney - arXiv:2407.17966 - 2024)
- Formal synthesis methods
(Gouzien, Sangouard - arXiv:2503.15452 - 2025)

QEC-Implementation Side

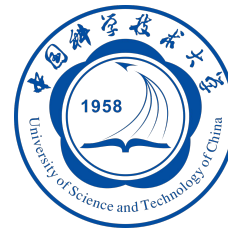
- Space-Time trade-off on surface code
(Litinski - Quantum 3, 128 - 2019)
- Magic state cultivation: making T-gates cheaper
(Gidney - arXiv:2409.17595 - 2024)
- Resource Estimation on Neutral Atom QPU
(Cain, Xu - arXiv:2603.28627 - 2026)

STATE OF THE RESEARCH

Lu et al., Science 391, 592 (2026) - Bao/Pan, USTC

Focus on long-distance capabilities:

- Practical **DI-QKD at 11km** (distant hubs, 3.6 bits/min)
 - Asymptotic key distribution **up to 100km** (in laboratory)
-



Hanni et al. Physical Review X 15, 041003 (2025) - De Riedmatten, ICFO

Focus on scalability capabilities:

- **Multimode** capabilities (15 modes)
 - “Feed-forward” **real-time control** (on-which-detector correction)
-



Stas et al. Nature 651, 326 (2026) - Lukin, Harvard

Toward non-cryptographic applications:

- Non-local **optical interferometry** for astronomy (Gottesman/Jennewein/Croke 2012)
- **Quantum Internet** for real-world application (Kimble 2008)

