

# Towards simulating fundamental physics with near-term quantum computers



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STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

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QIS on the Intersections of Nuclear and AMO Physics



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

Office of  
Science



Stony Brook  
University



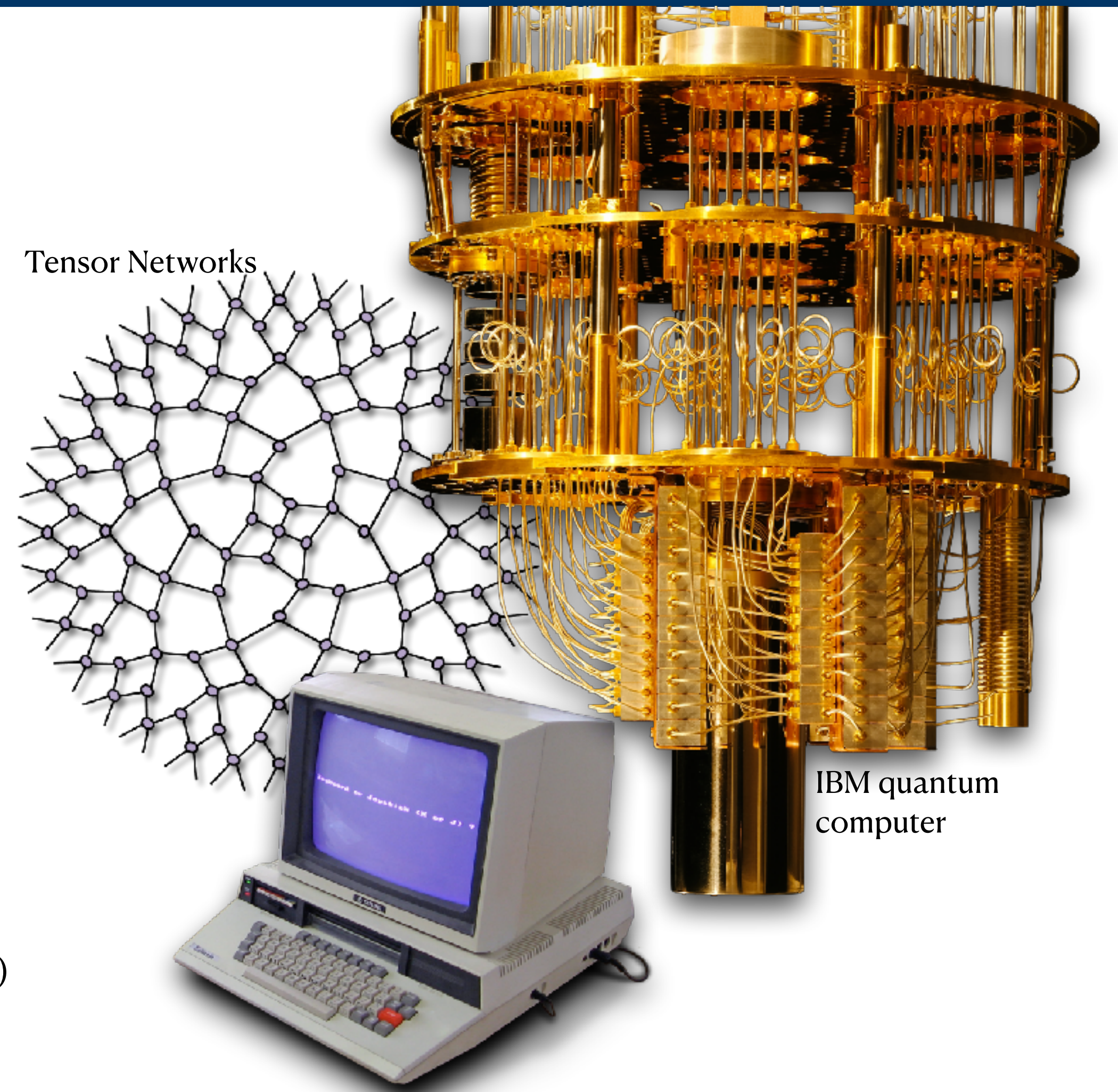
# Outline

Simulating the  
Fundamental Physics

Limitations of  
Quantum Computing

And how to avoid them

(just one of the options for this talk)



# Simulating the Quantum Nature



# Simulating the Quantum Nature

- ❖ Condensed matter & quantum many-body systems
- ❖ Simulating atomic/molecular structure (chemistry)
- ❖ Understanding the structure of proton (nuclear physics)

And many more...

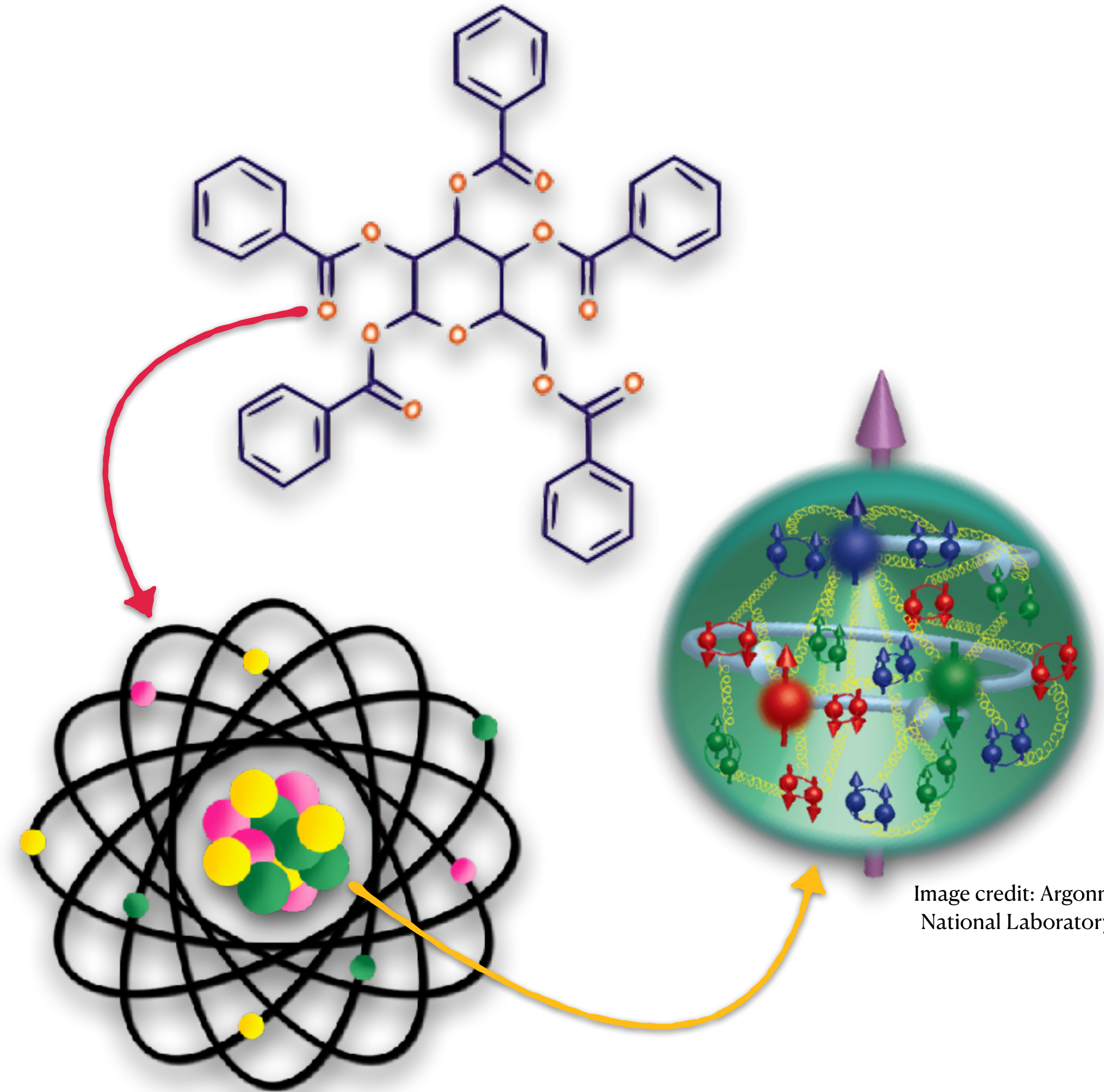


Image credit: Argonne National Laboratory



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- ❖ Condensed matter & quantum many-body systems
- ❖ Simulating atomic/molecular structure (chemistry)
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And many more...

## Classical Methods

- ◆ Exact diagonalisation
- ◆ Monte Carlo
- ◆ Tensor Networks

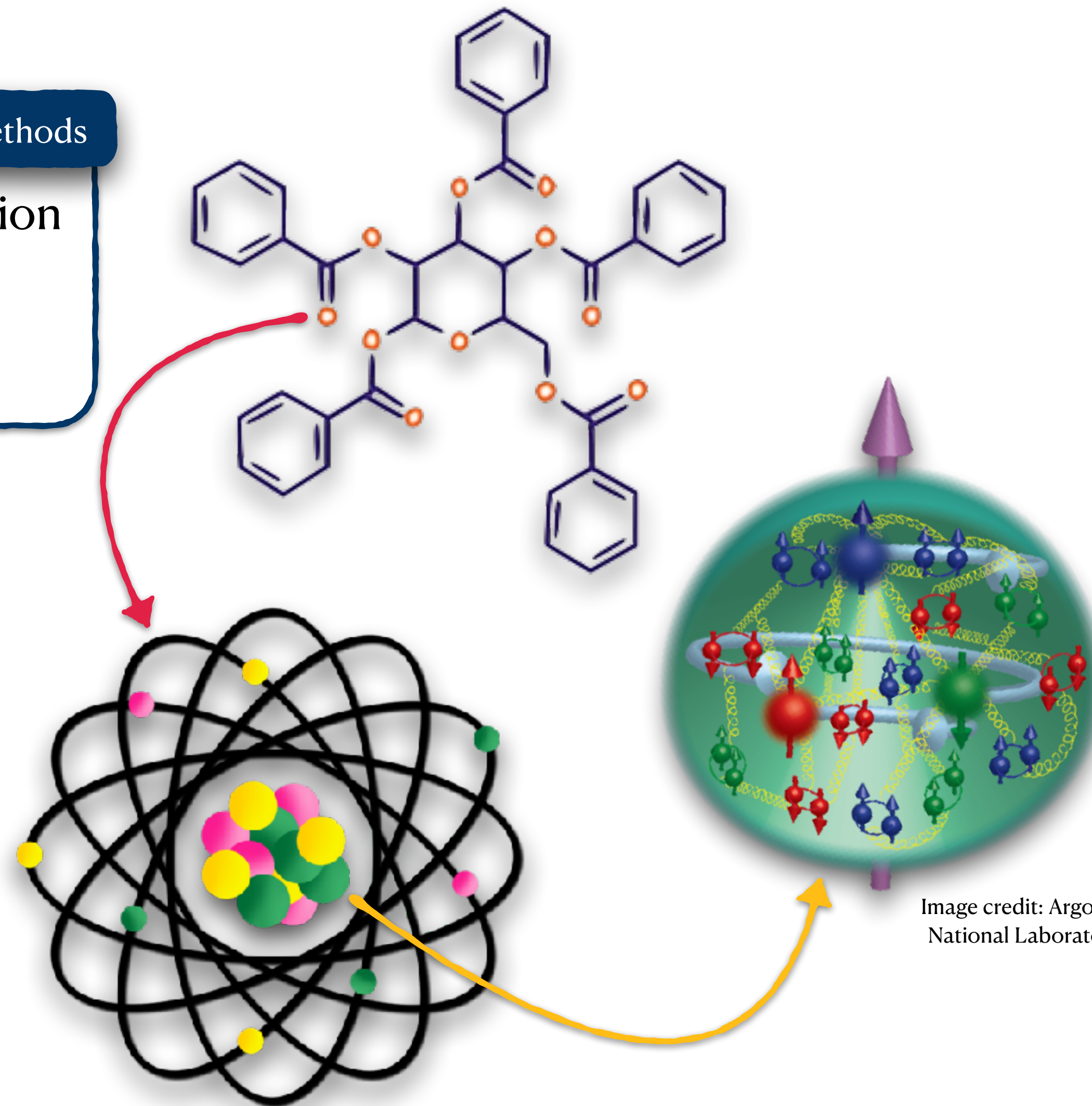


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And many more...

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## Why Quantum?

- ◆ The main goal is to study physics
- ◆ Efficient way of simulating quantum systems

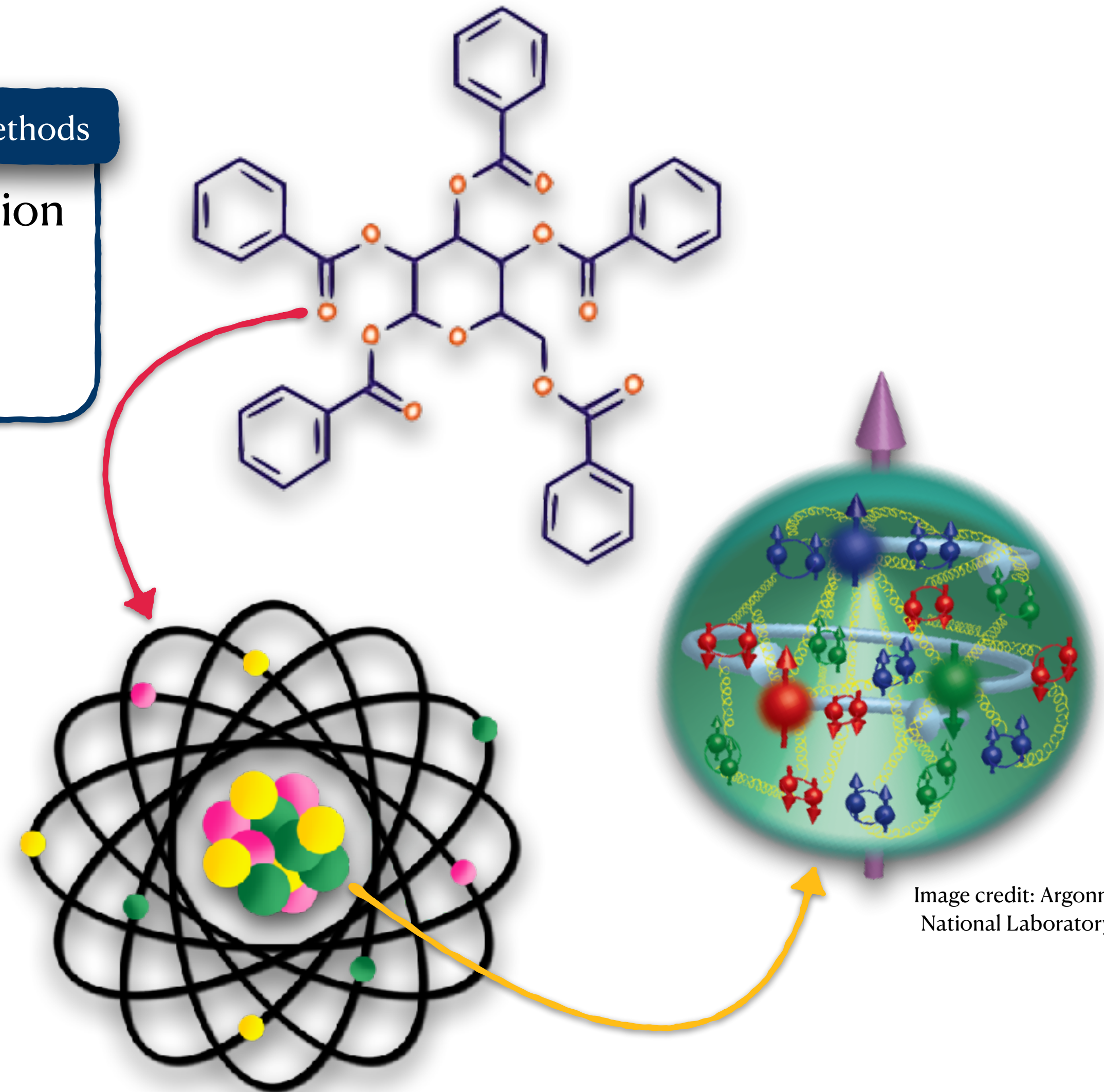
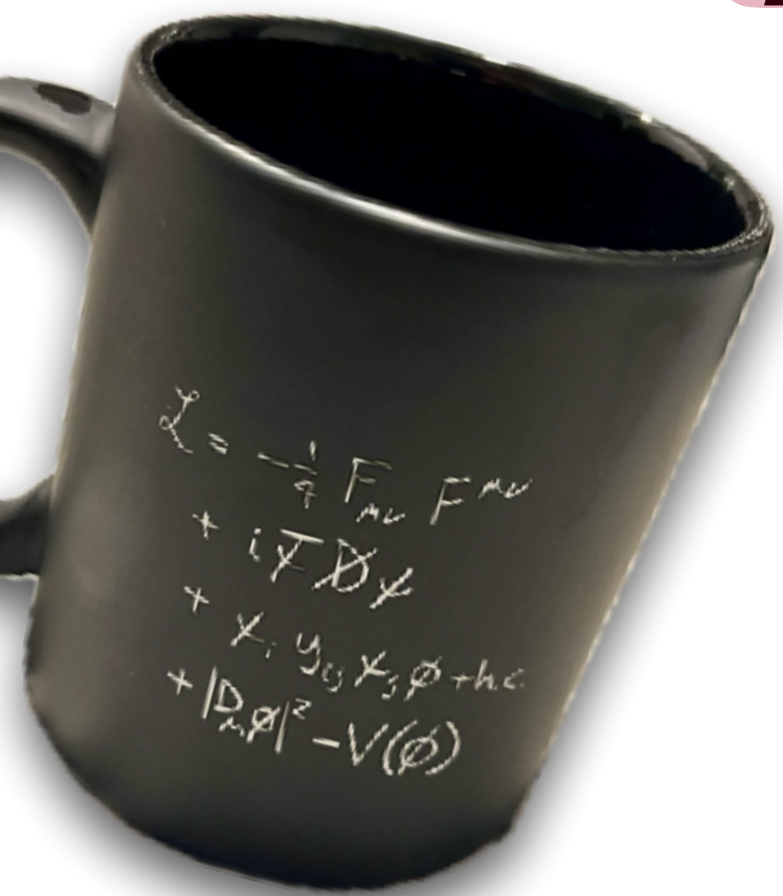


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# Towards simulating the Standard Model

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi}(i\partial^\mu\gamma_\mu - m)\psi$$

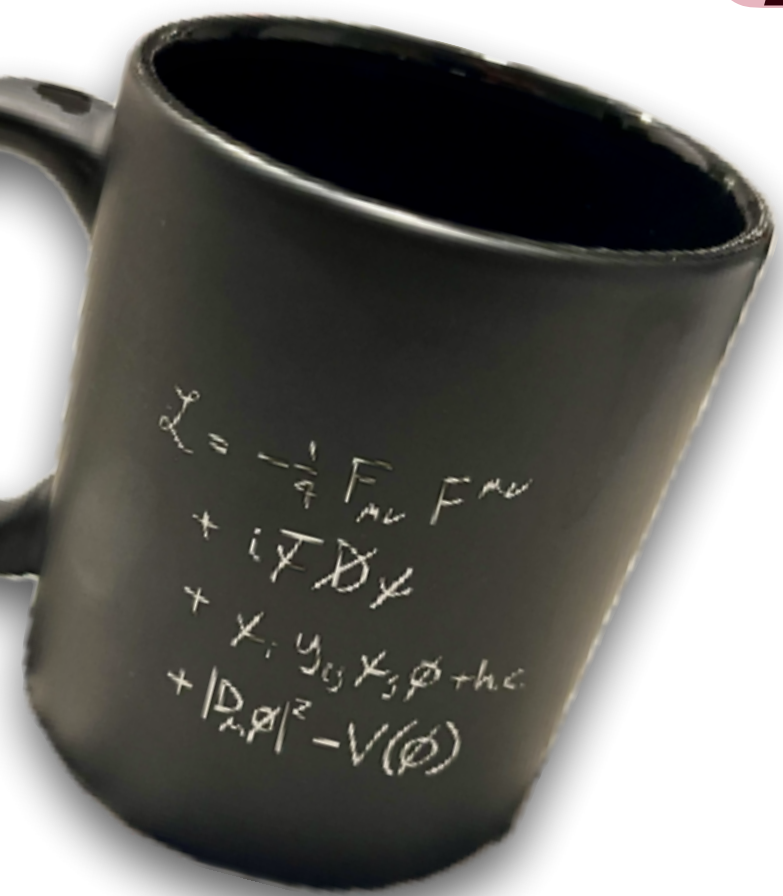


$$-\frac{1}{4}F_a^{\mu\nu}F_{\mu\nu}^a$$

$$+ g\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu T_a\psi A_\mu^a$$

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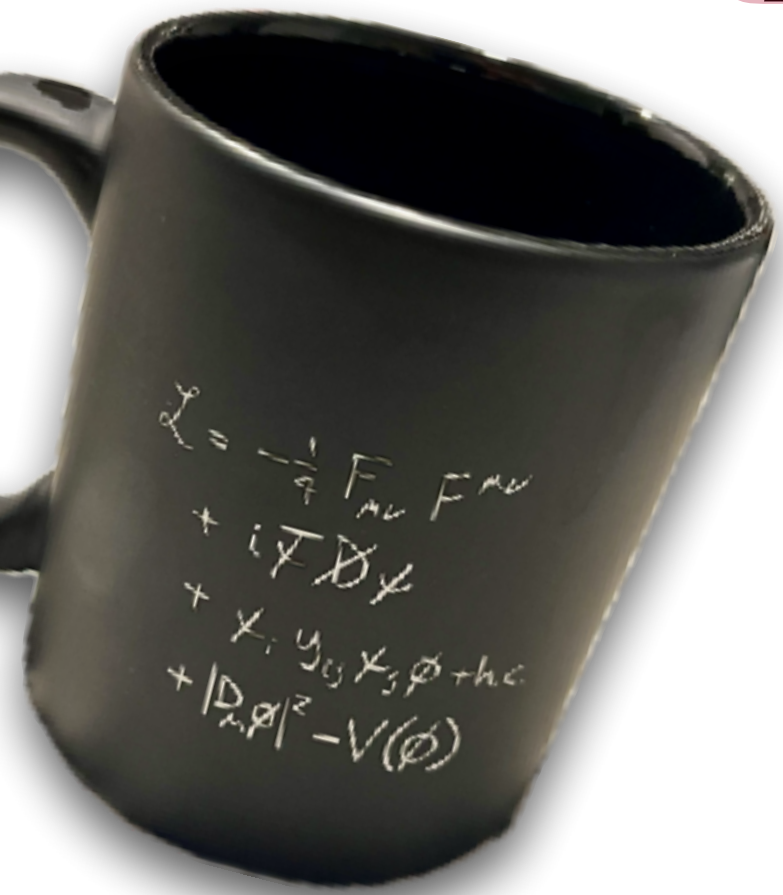
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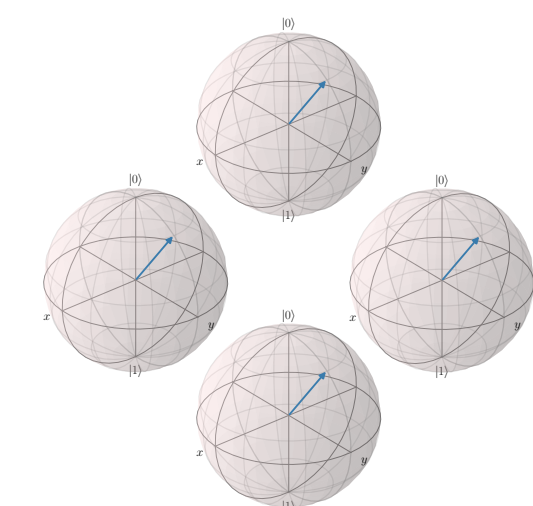
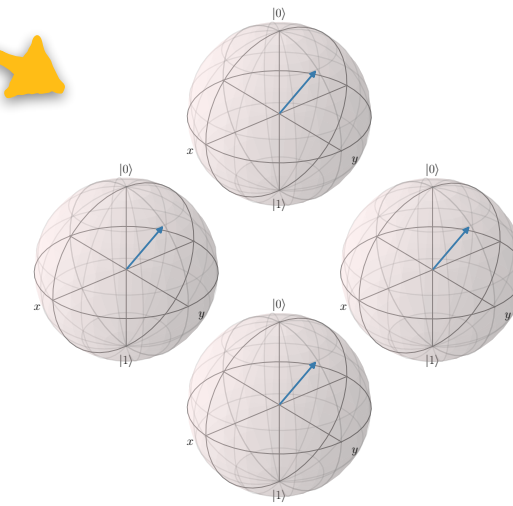
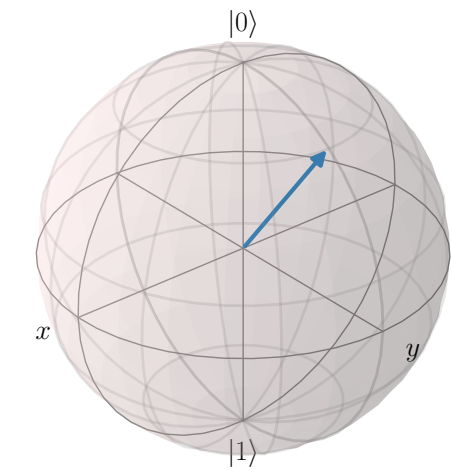
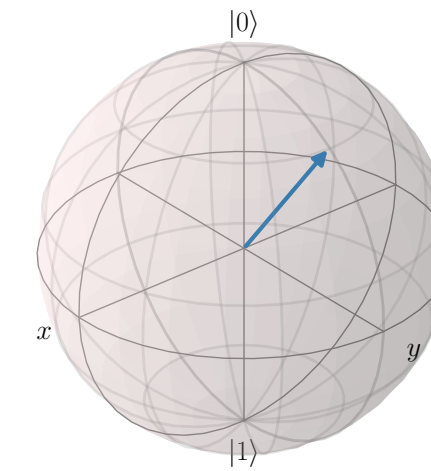
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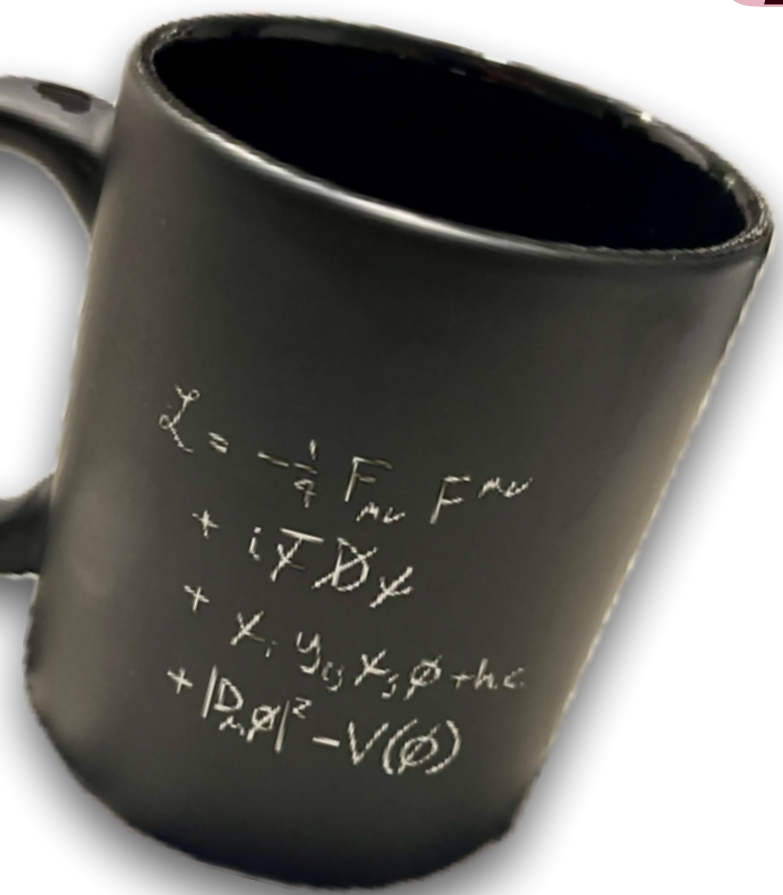
$$+ g\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu T_a\psi A_\mu^a$$

DoF  $\rightarrow$   $\infty$



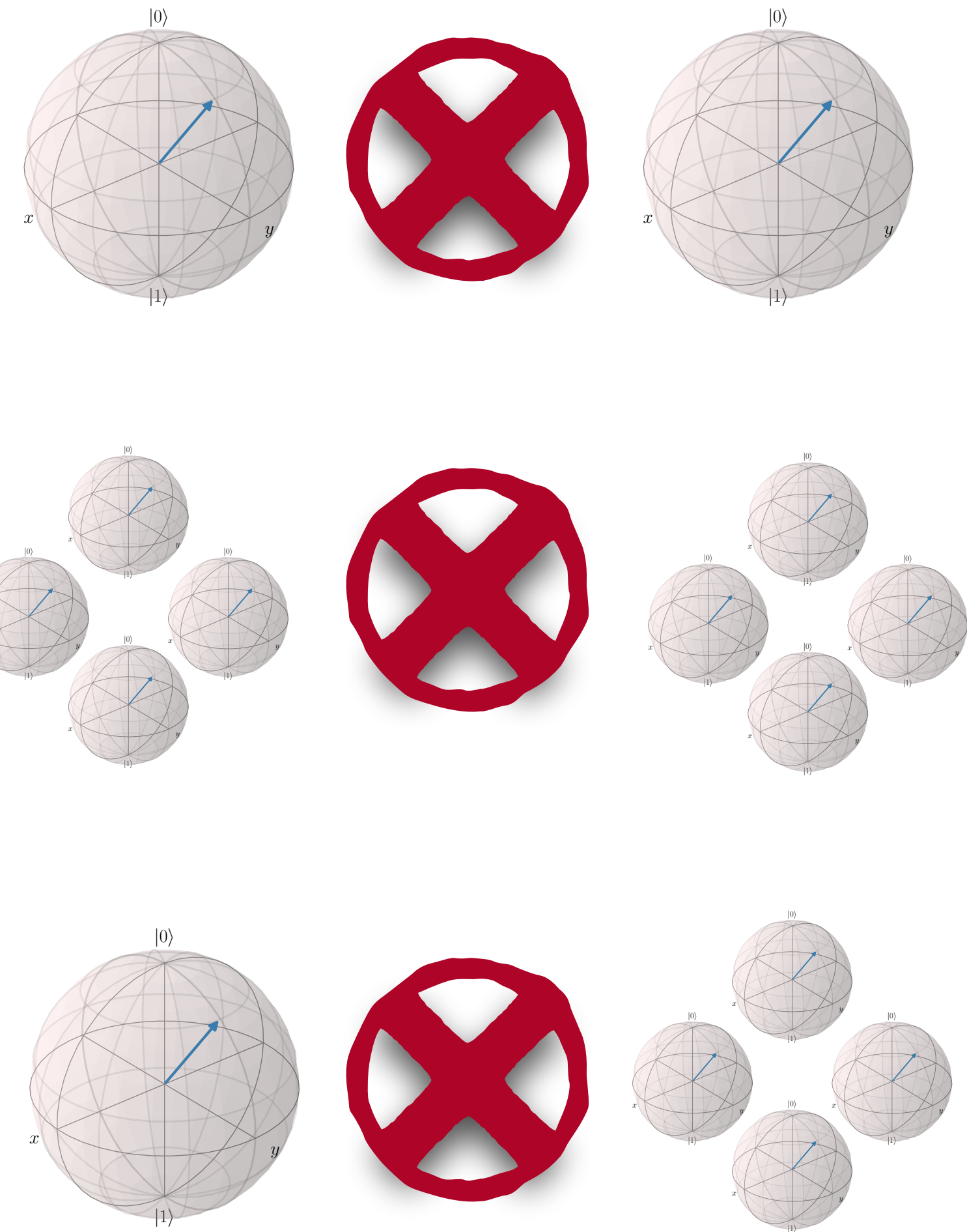
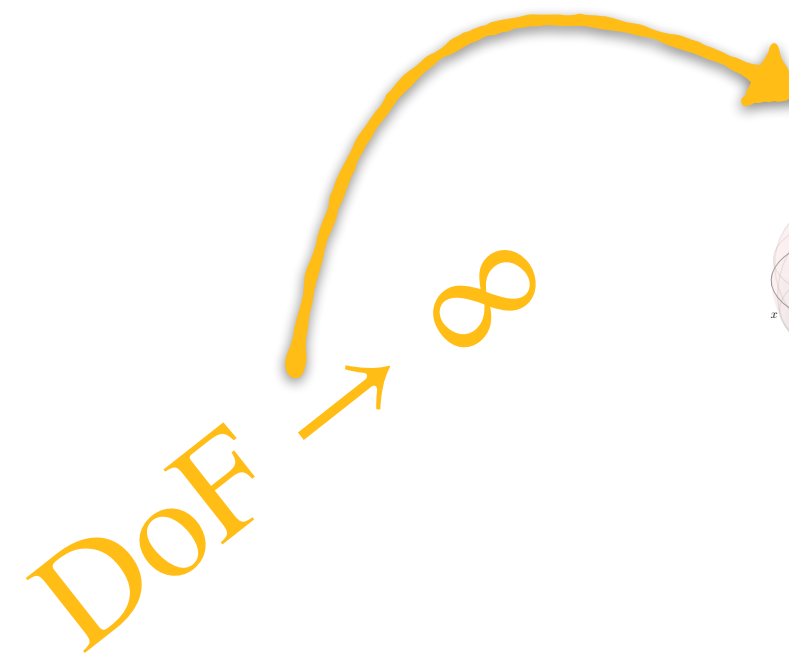
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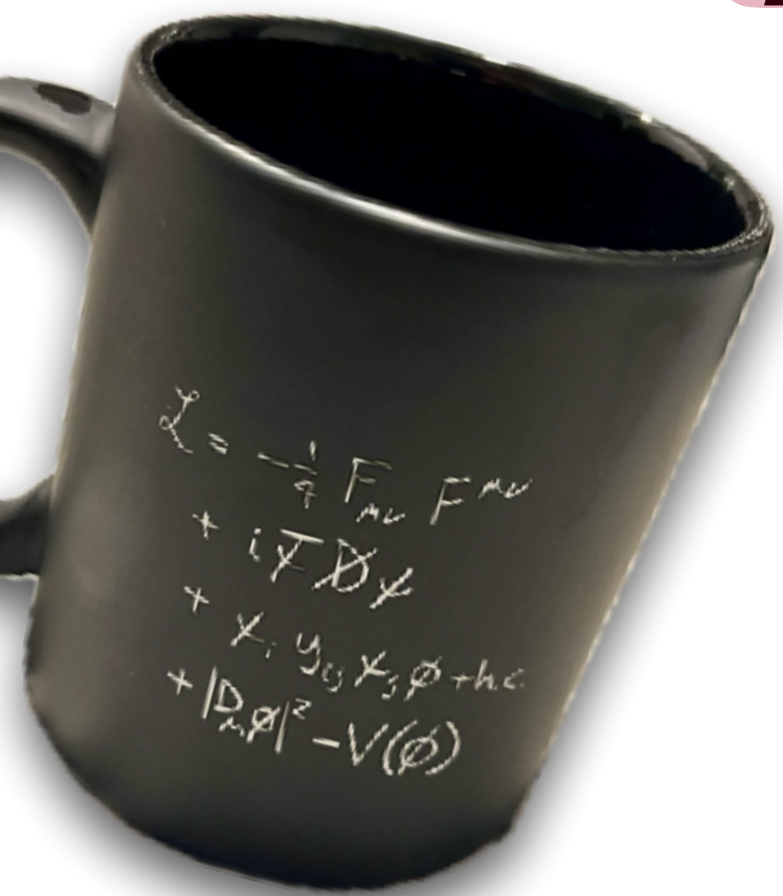
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See Kenneth's talk today & Felix's talk tomorrow



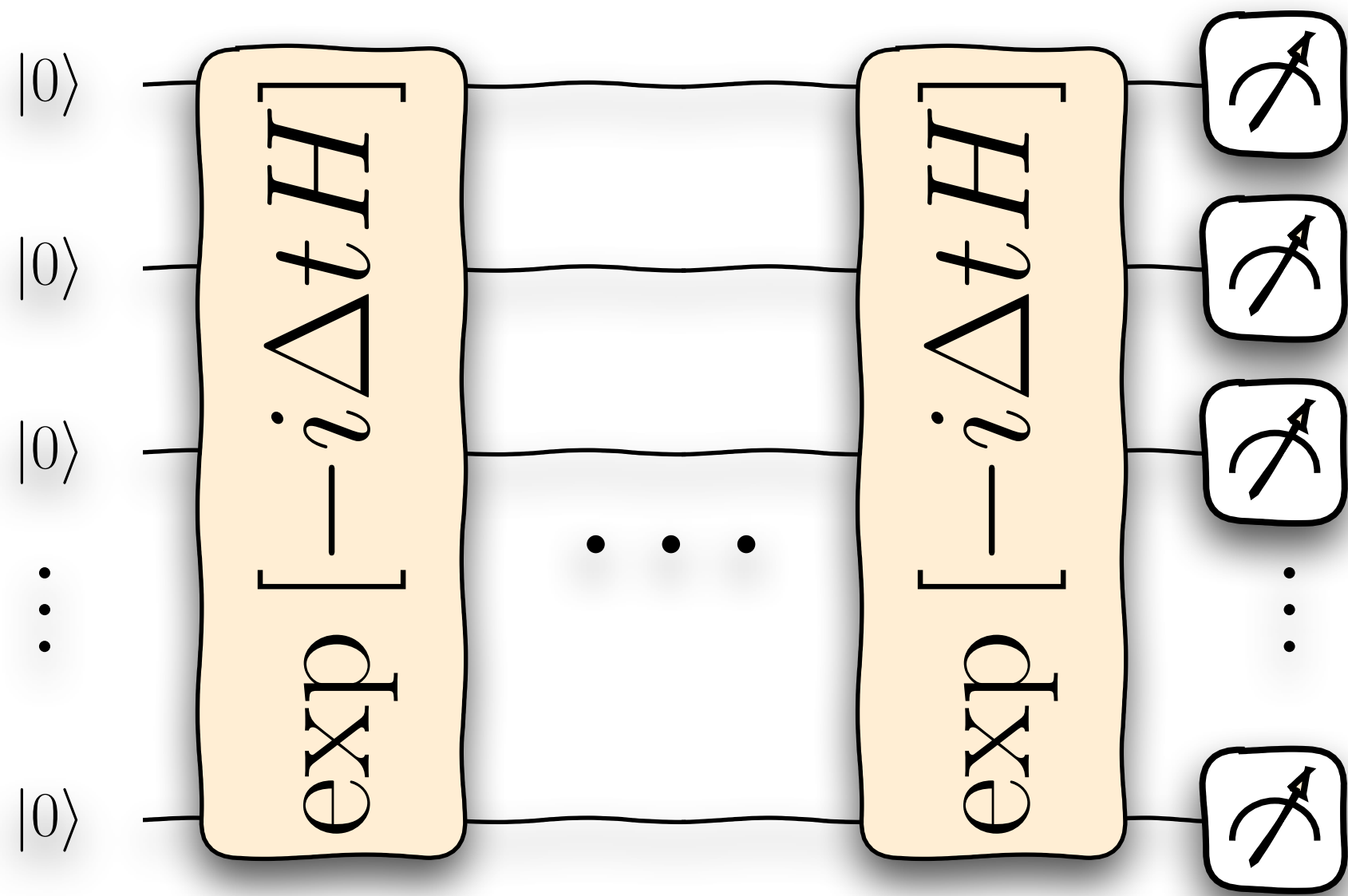
Qumodes or CV Quantum Computers



Qubit-Qumode Coupling

# Quantum Computing for Fundamental Physics

## Time Evolution or Adiabatic State Preparation

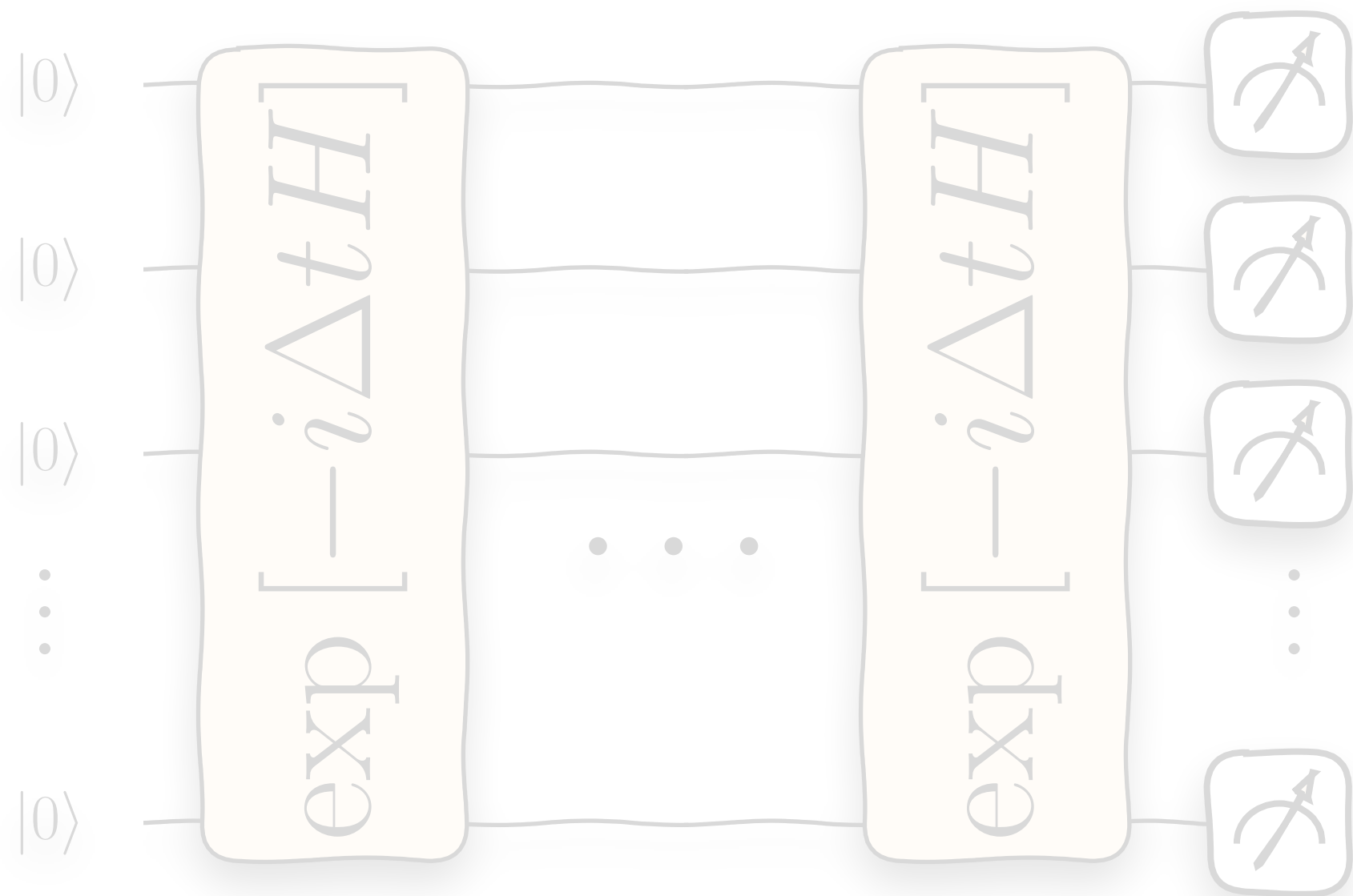


$$e^{-iTH} \approx \prod^N e^{-i\Delta t H}$$



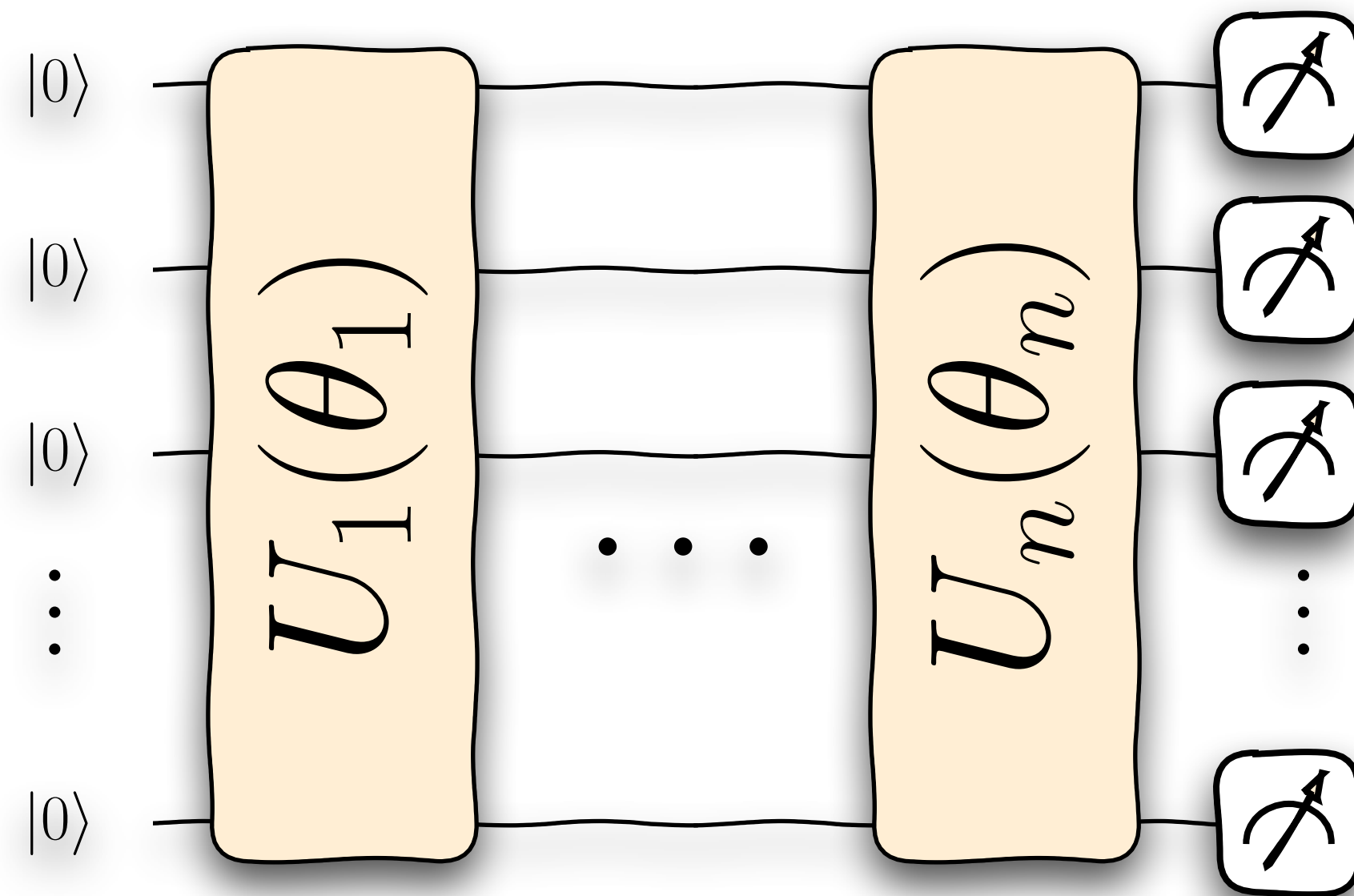
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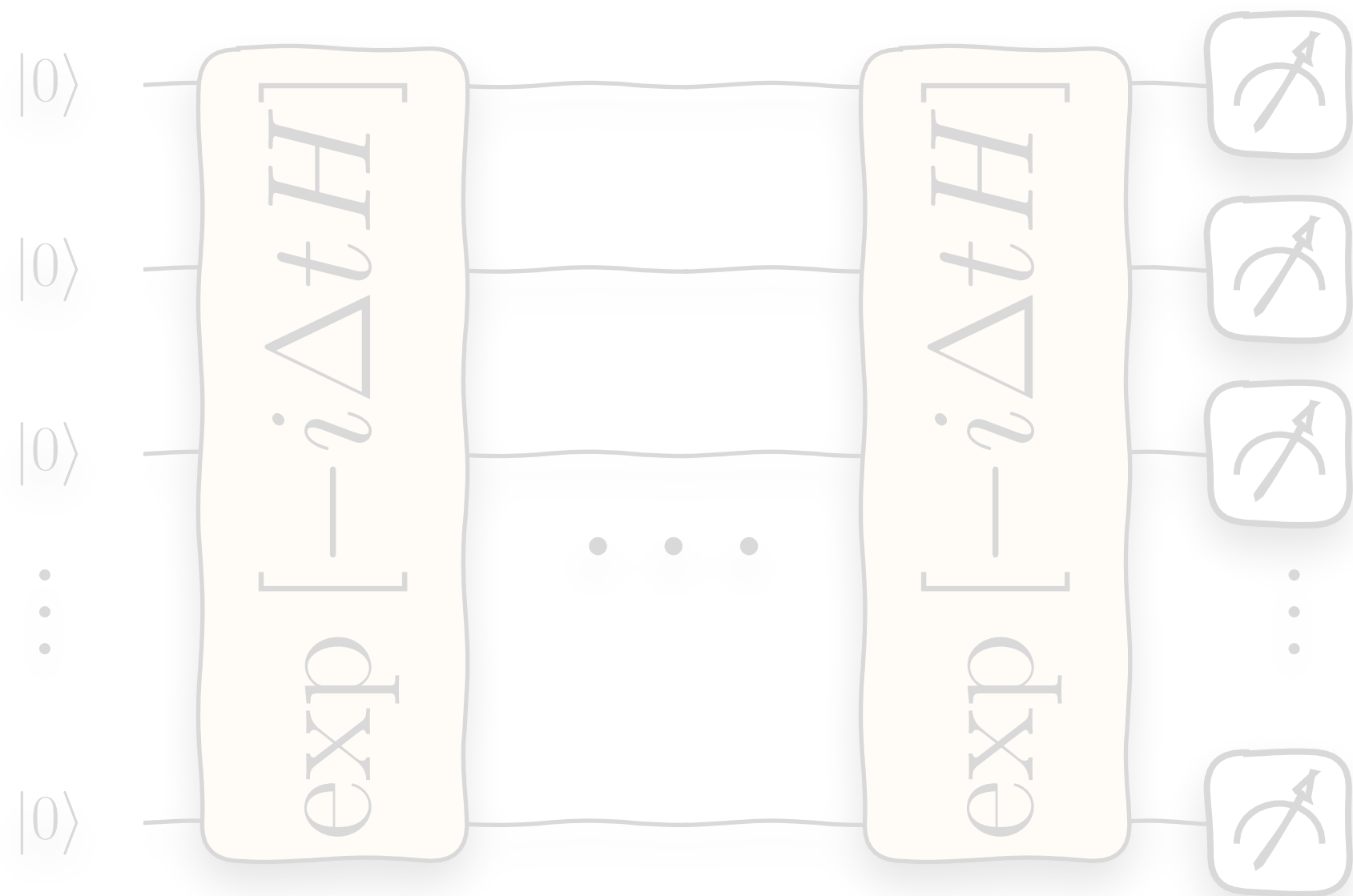
State Preparation with VQE



$$\langle 0 | U(\theta) H U^\dagger(\theta) | 0 \rangle \geq E_{gs}$$

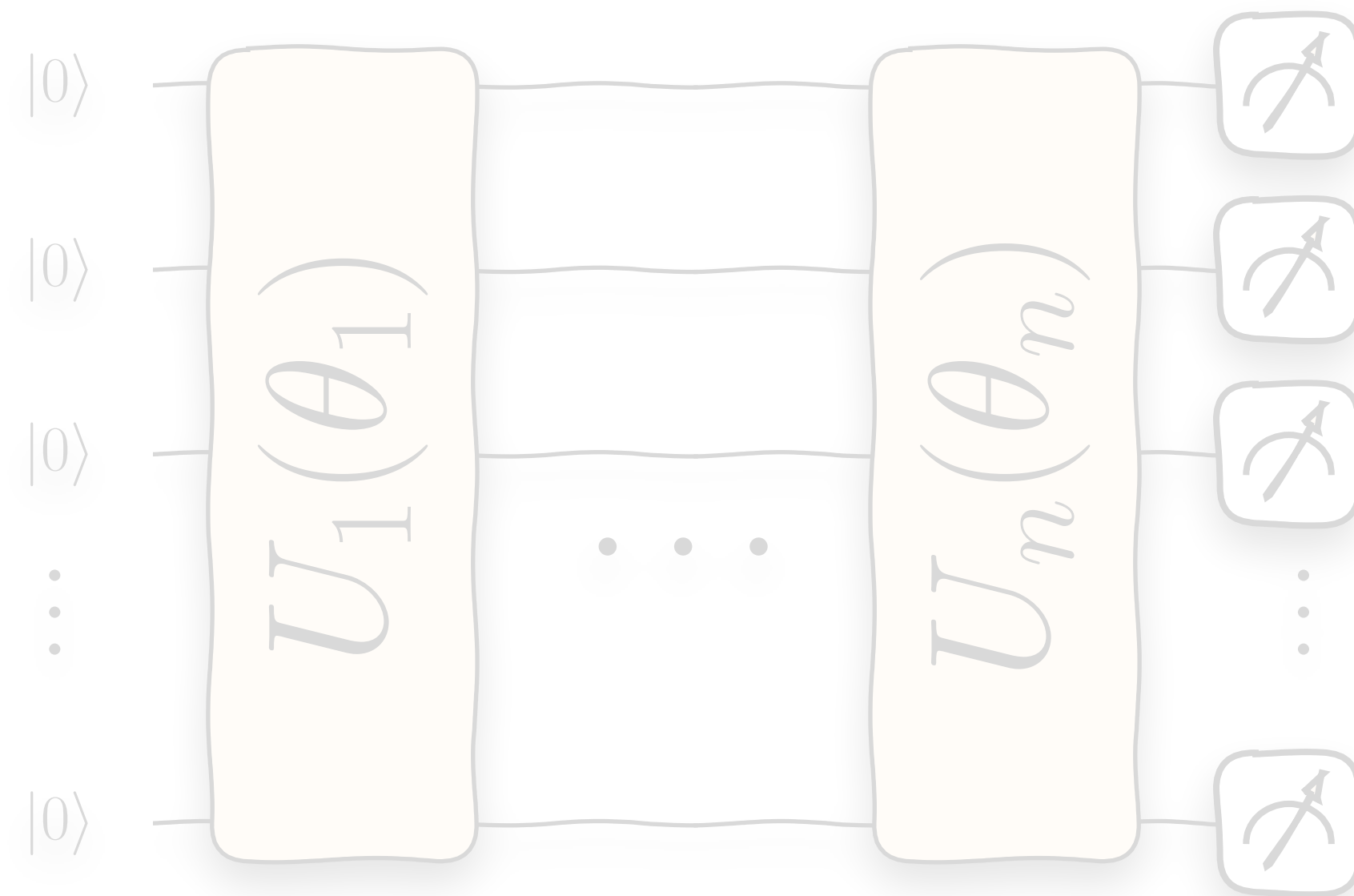
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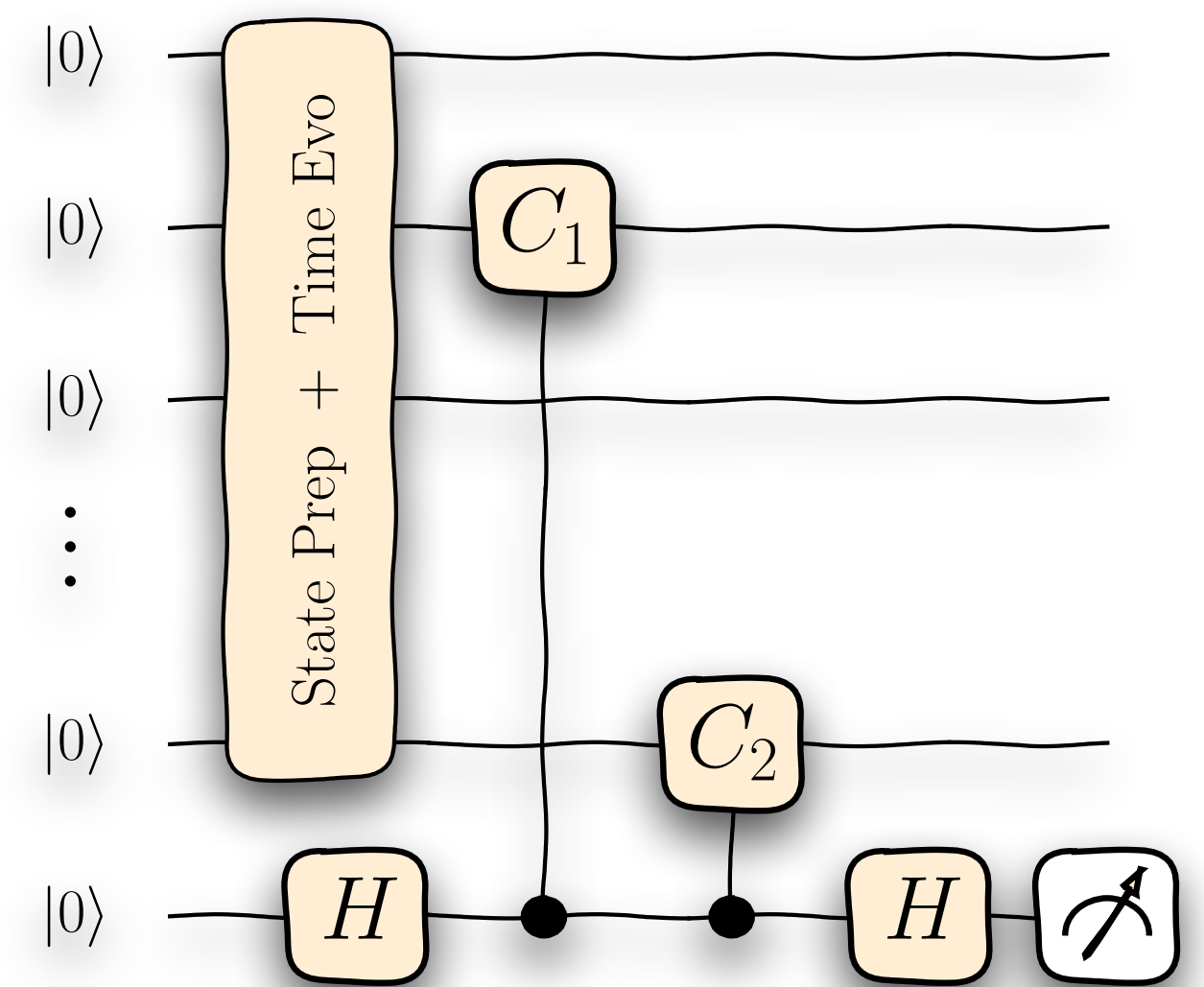
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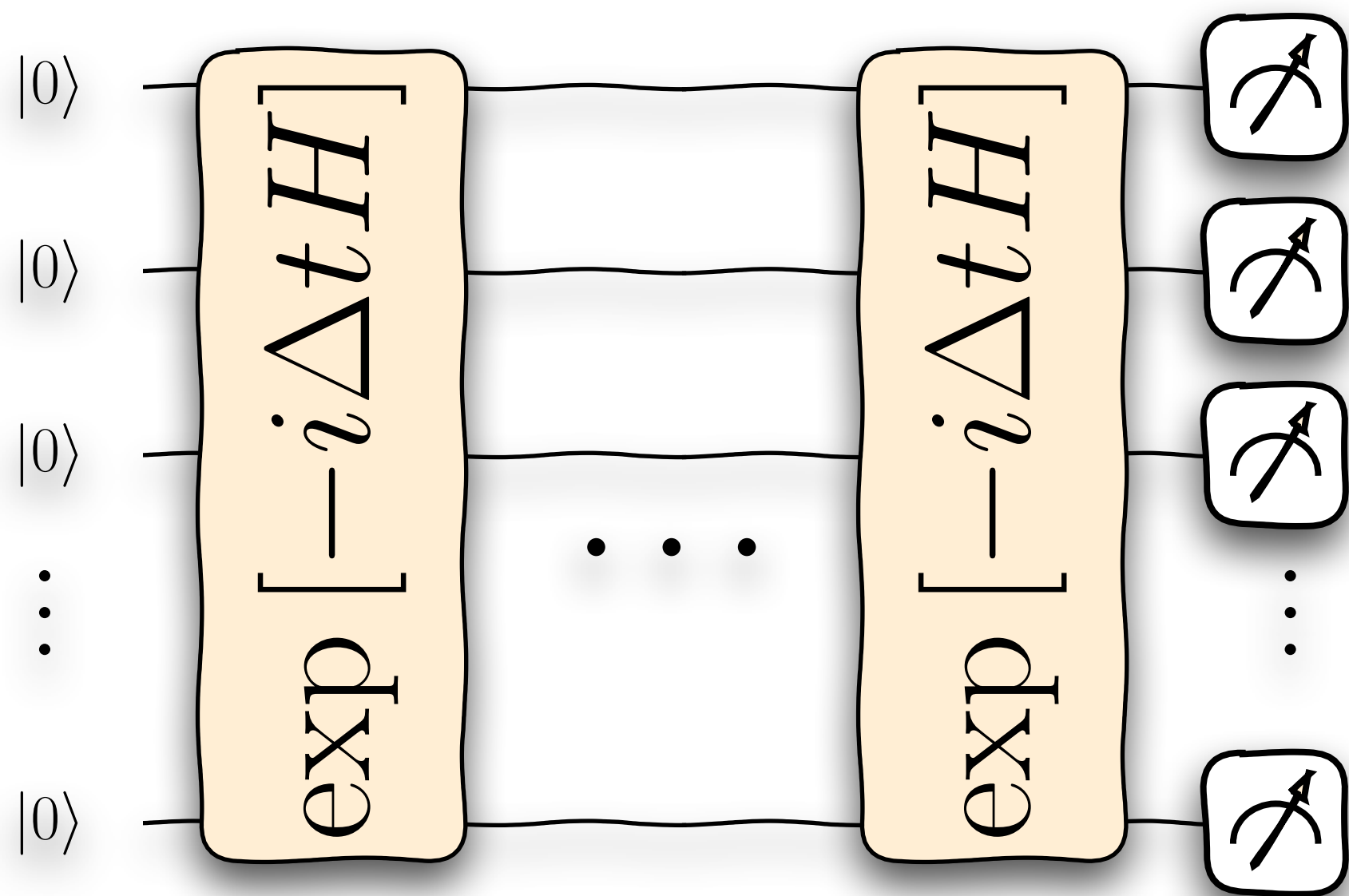
Computing interesting observables





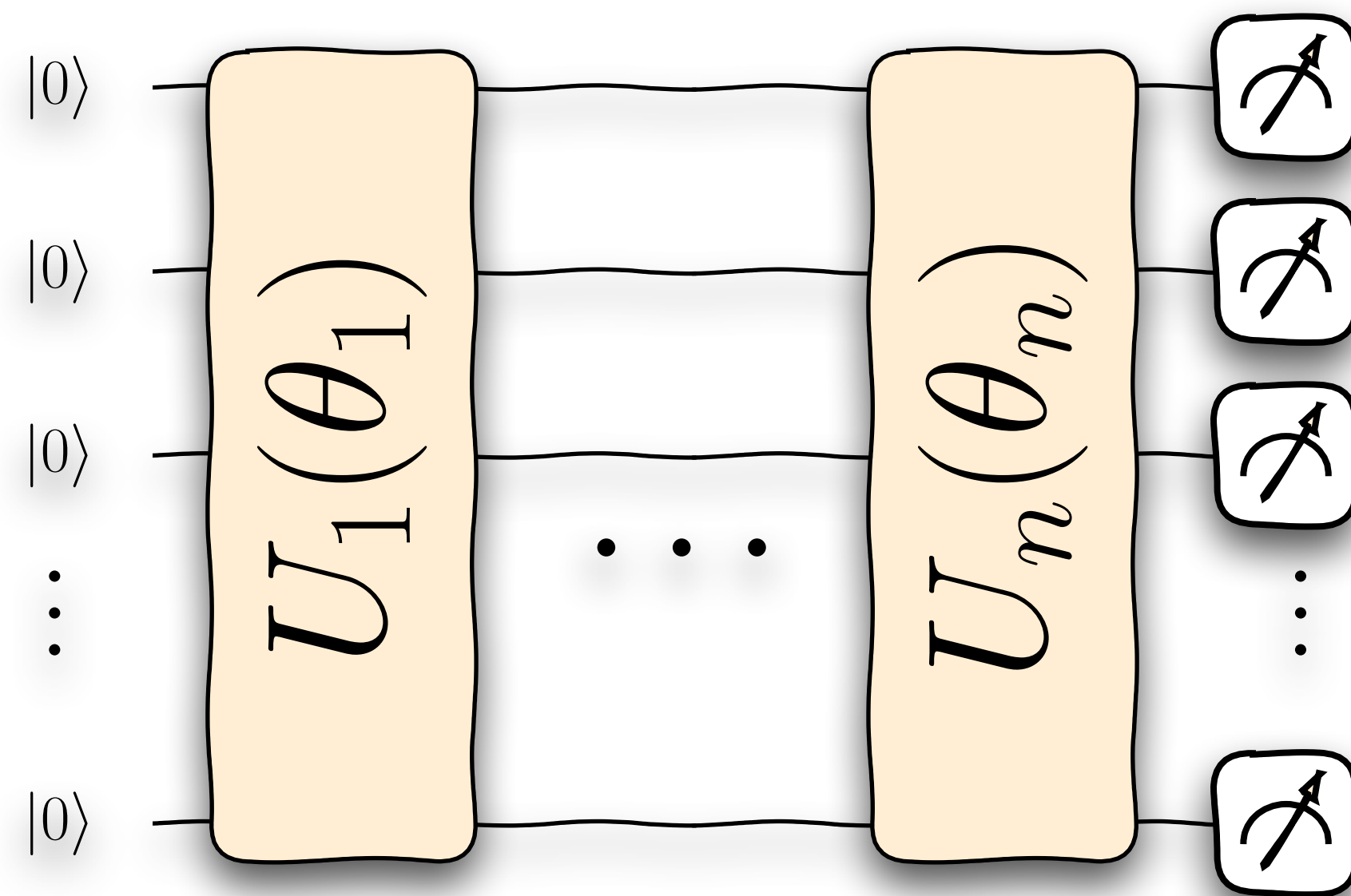
# Quantum Computing for Fundamental Physics

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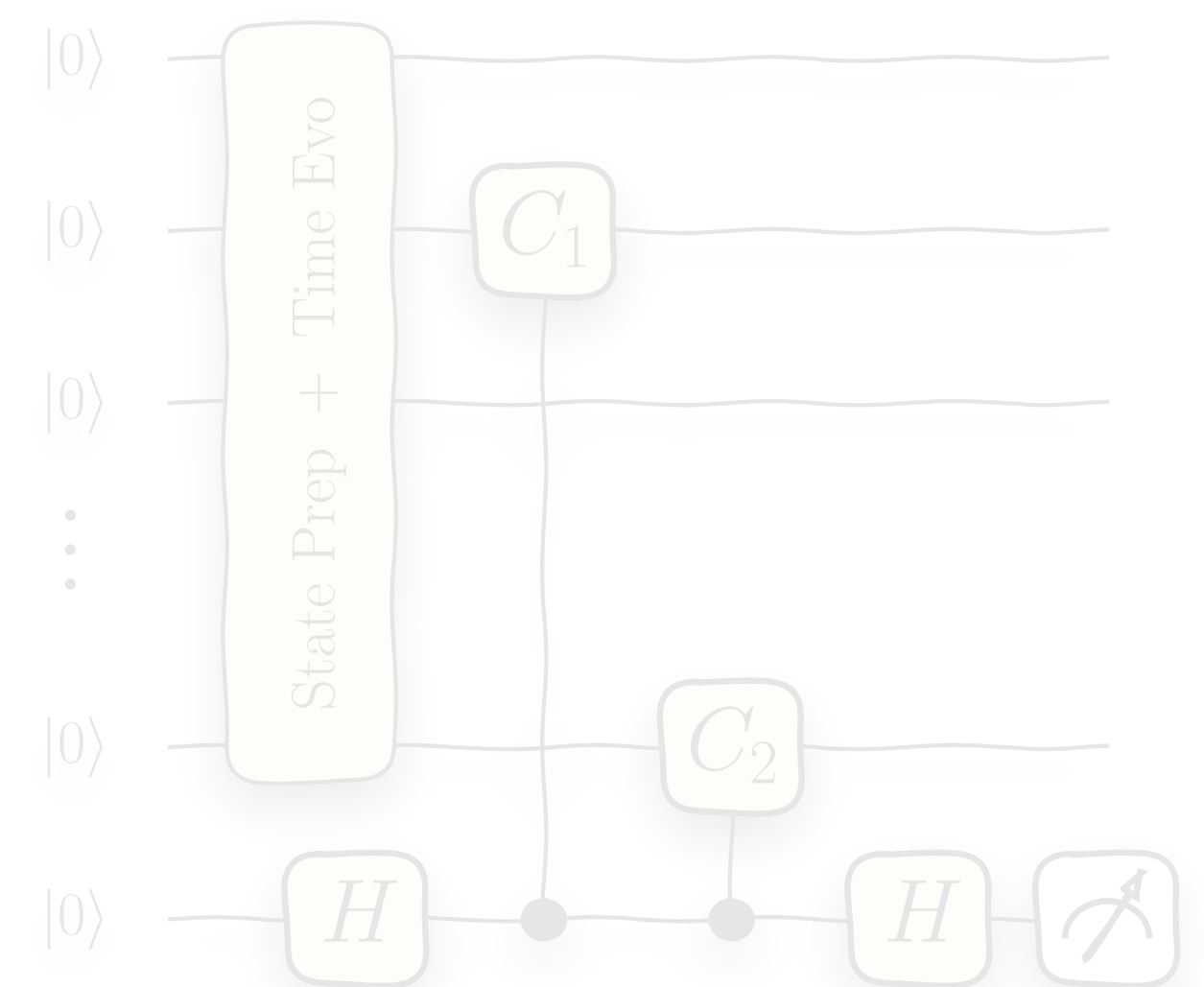
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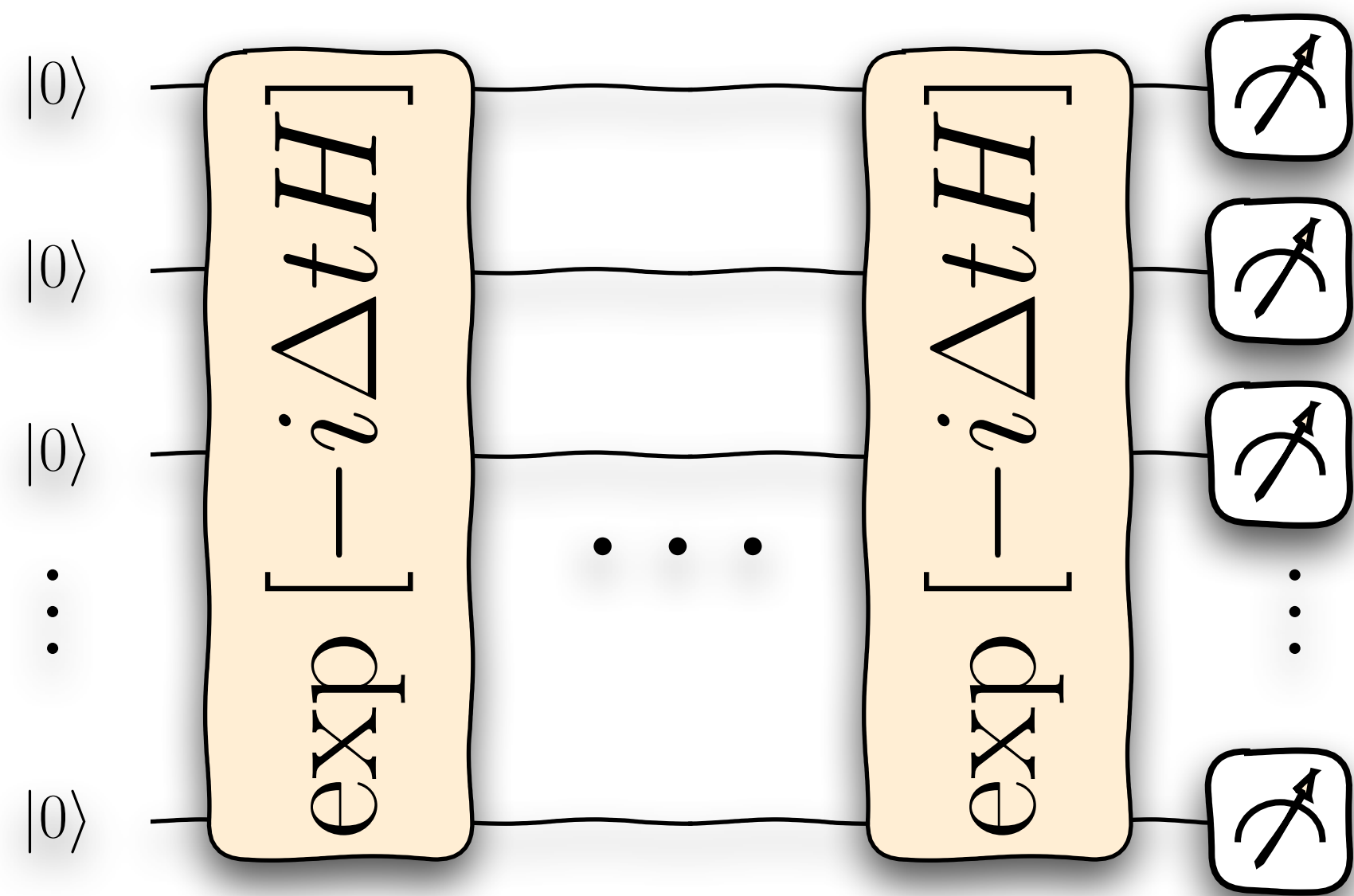
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Computing interesting observables



# But, there is no free lunch...

## Time Evolution or Adiabatic State Preparation

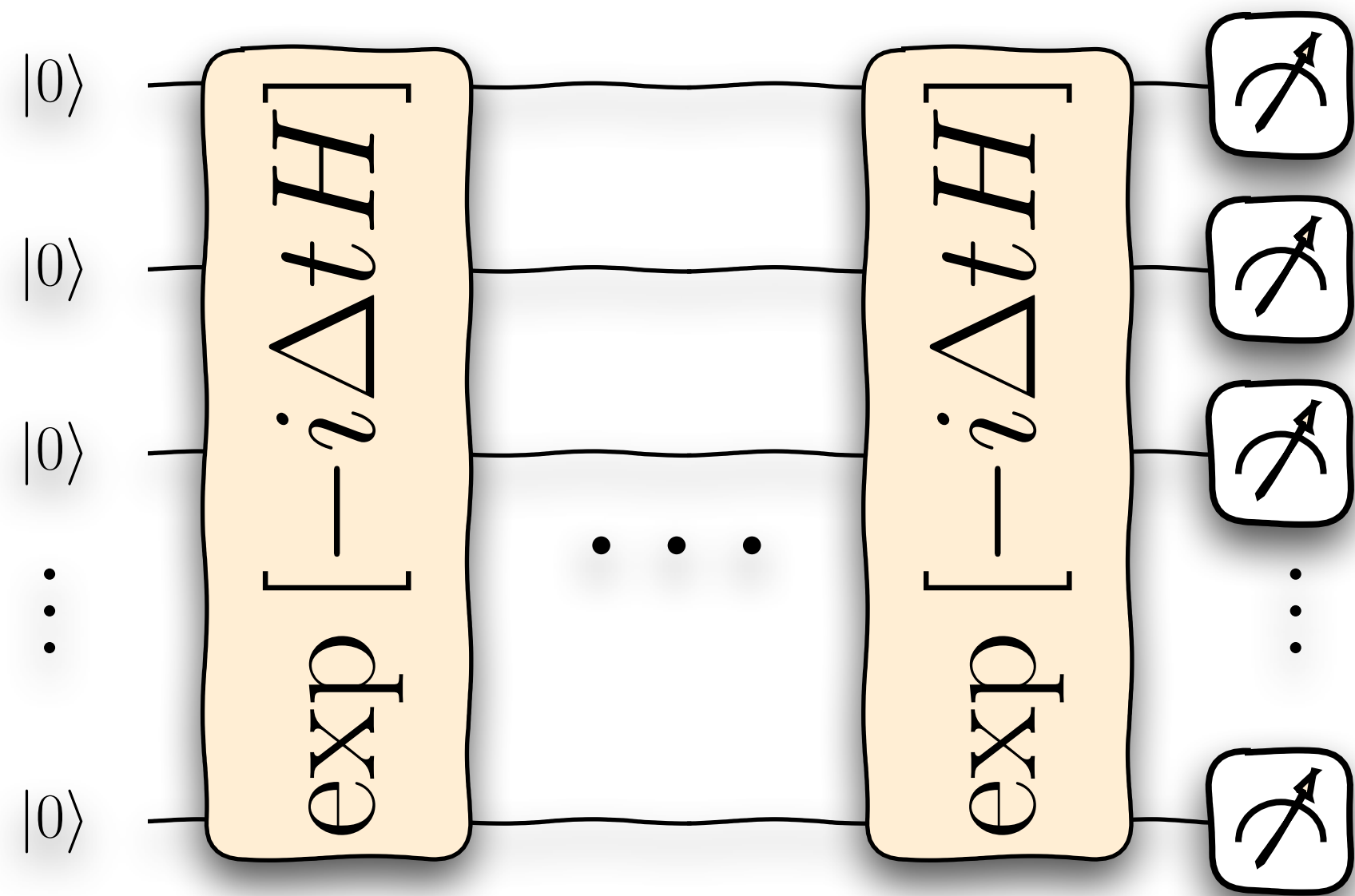


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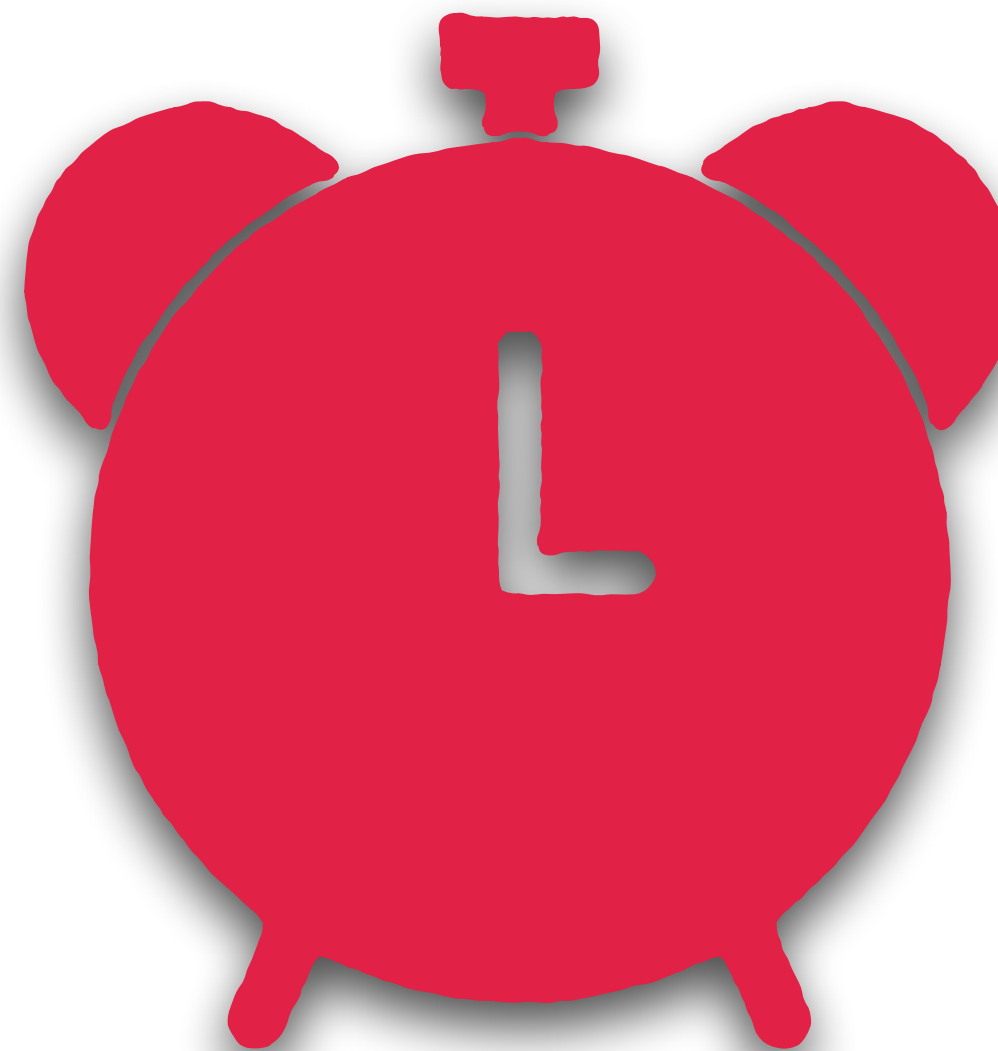
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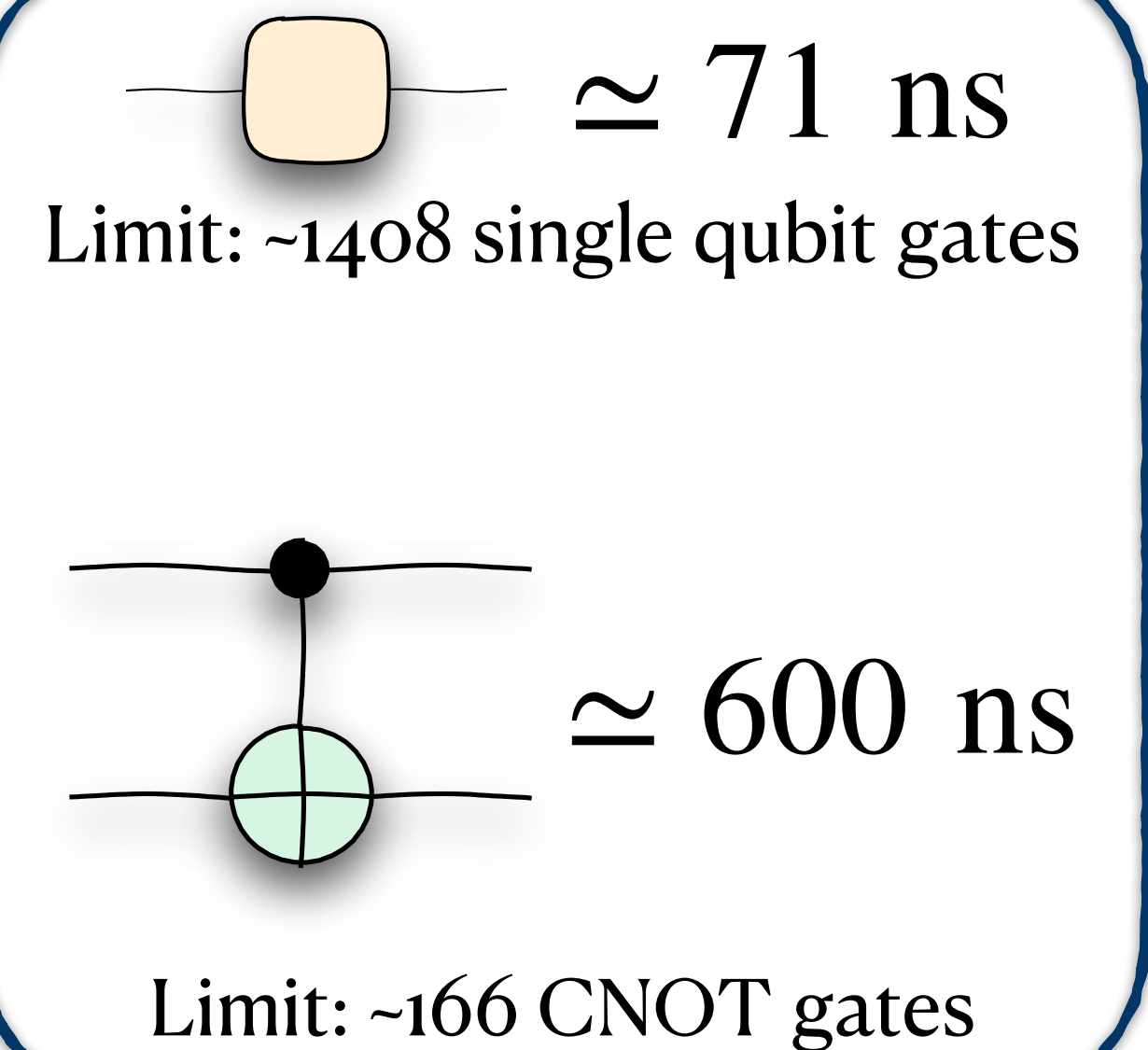


$$e^{-iTH} \approx \prod^N e^{-i\Delta t H}$$

## Short Coherence Time

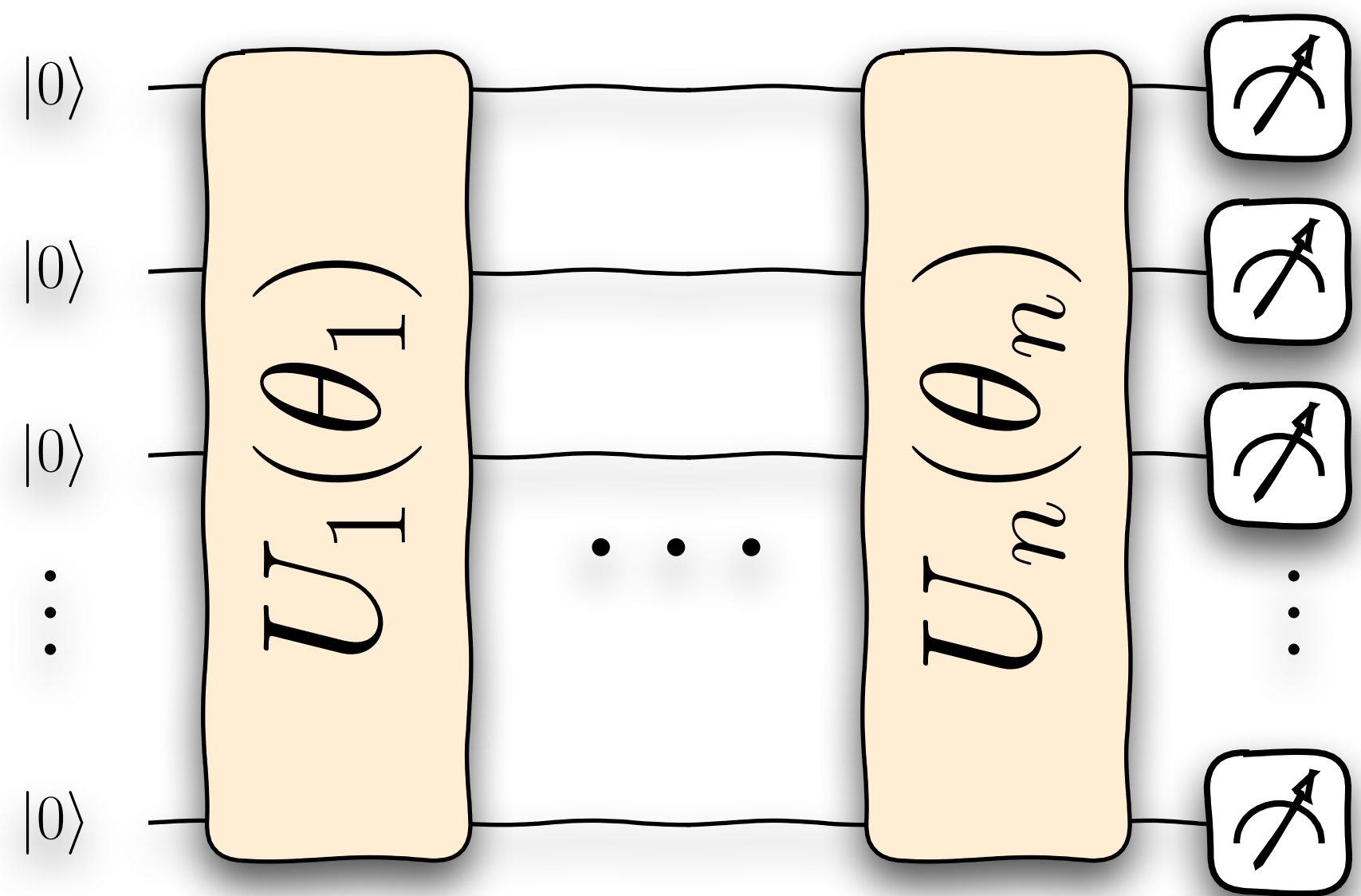


Typical coherence time for an IBM superconducting qubit is 50 to 100 microsecond



# But, there is no free lunch...

## State Preparation with VQE

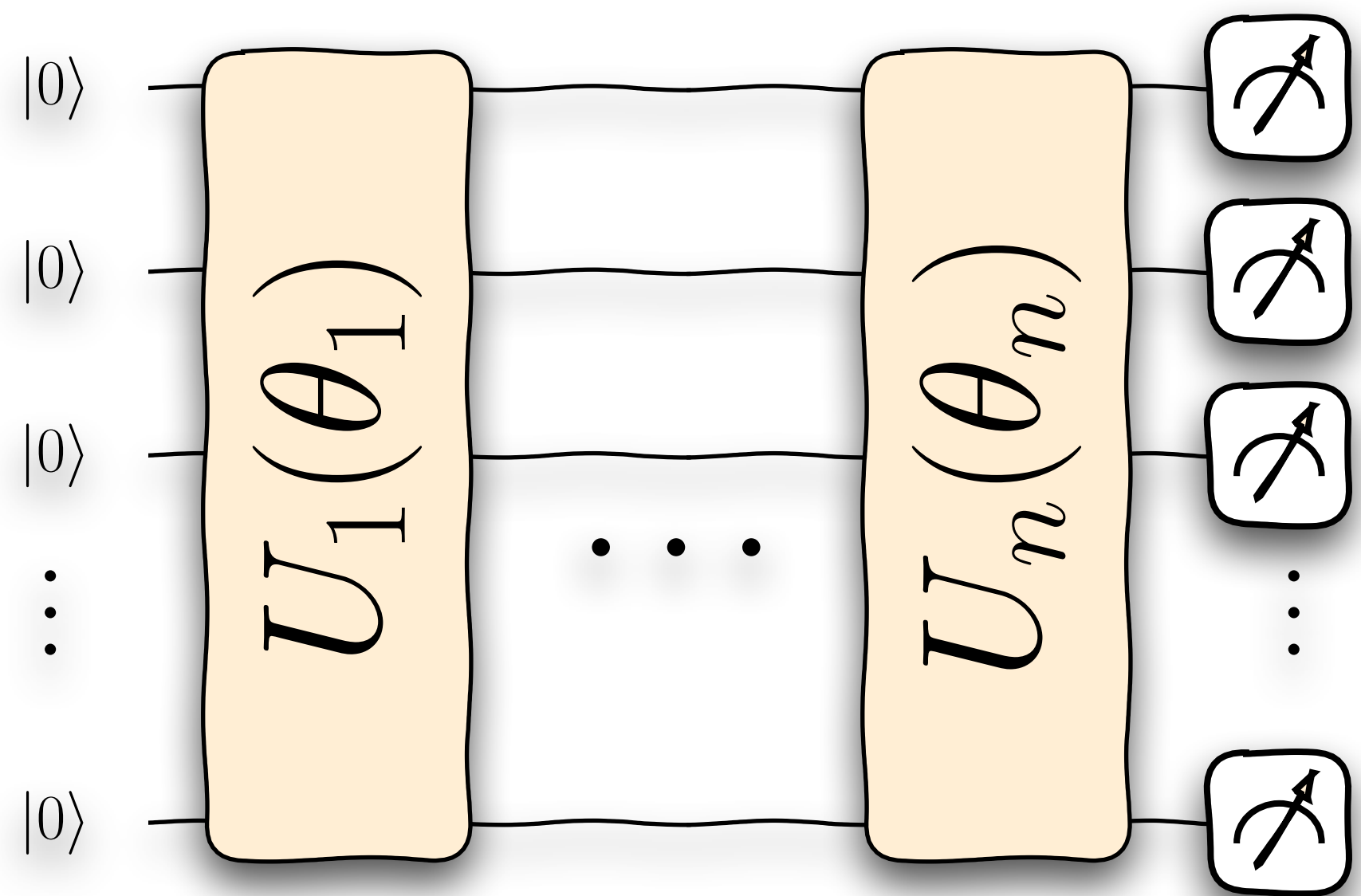


$$\langle 0 | U(\theta) H U^\dagger(\theta) | 0 \rangle \geq E_{gs}$$



# But, there is no free lunch...

## State Preparation with VQE



$$\langle 0 | U(\theta) H U^\dagger(\theta) | 0 \rangle \geq E_{gs}$$

## Barren Plateaus

Landscape with no barren plateaus



Cairngorms, Scotland

August 2021, taken after getting lost for 4h

Landscape with barren plateaus

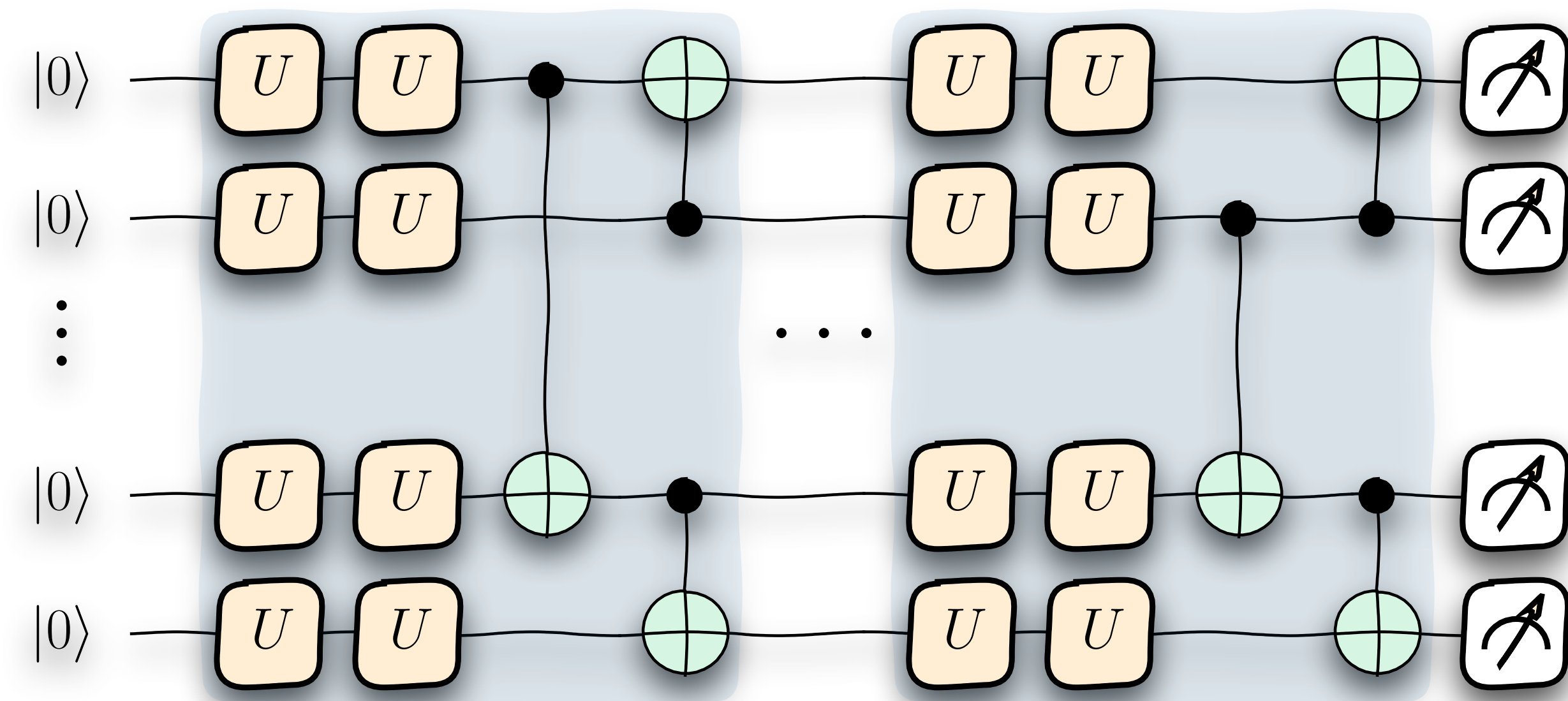


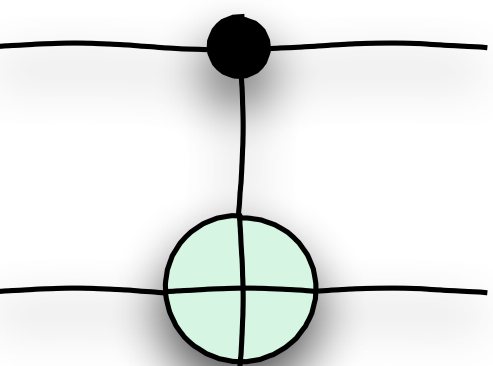
# How can we go beyond the limitations?



# I'll build my own gates, thank you very much!


  $\approx 71 \text{ ns}$       Limit:  $\sim 1408$  single qubit gates

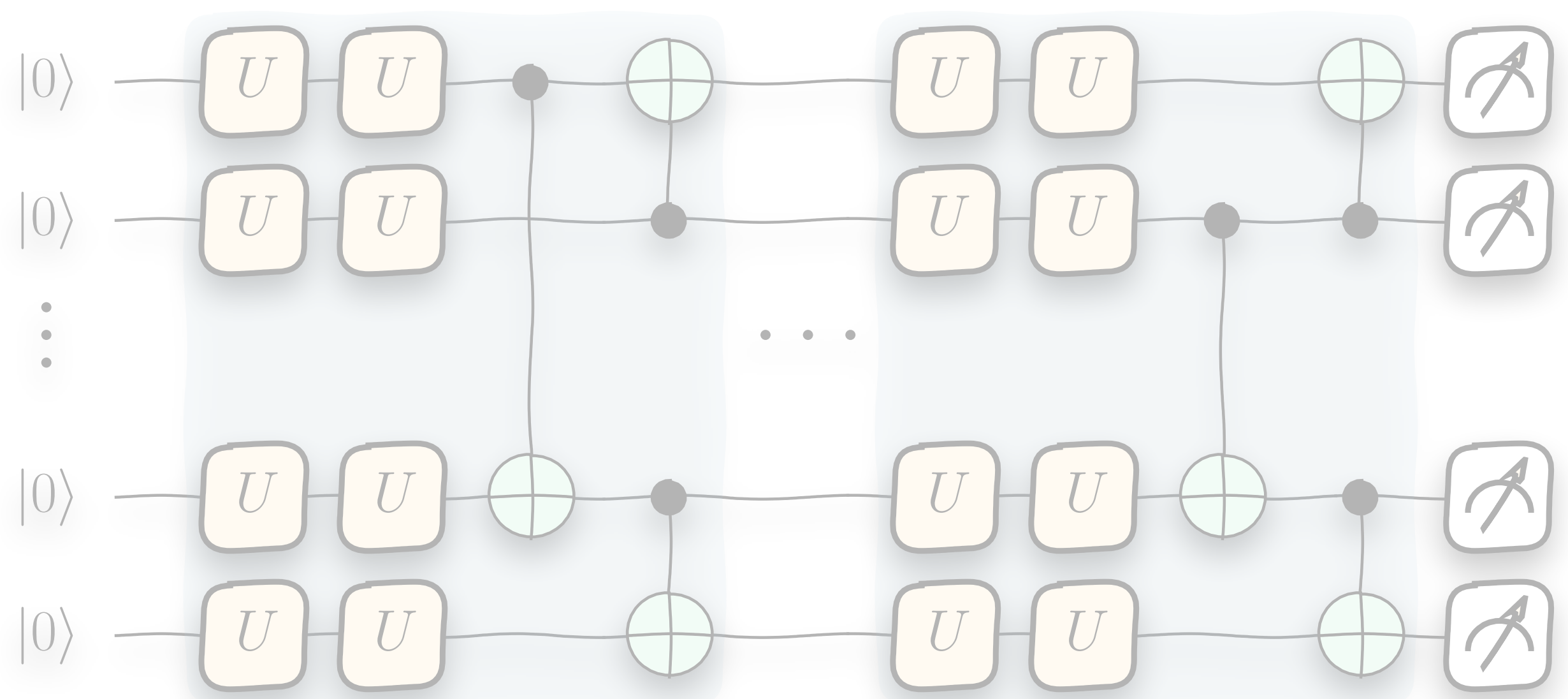


  $\approx 600 \text{ ns}$       Limit:  $\sim 166$  CNOT gates

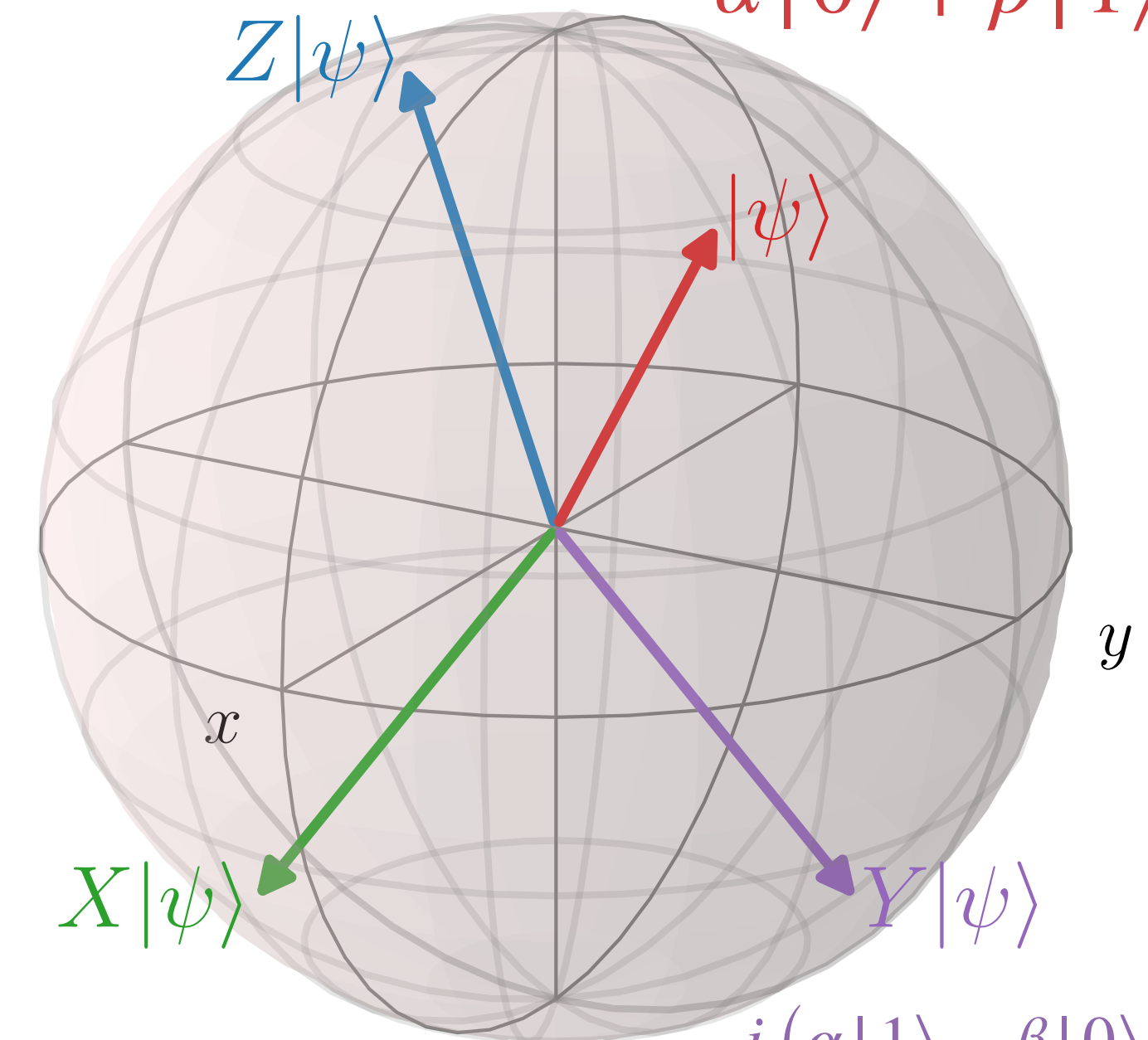
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  $Z$




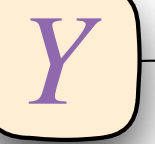
$\alpha|0\rangle - \beta|1\rangle$   $|0\rangle$   $\alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle$



$\alpha|1\rangle + \beta|0\rangle$   $|1\rangle$   $i(\alpha|1\rangle - \beta|0\rangle)$

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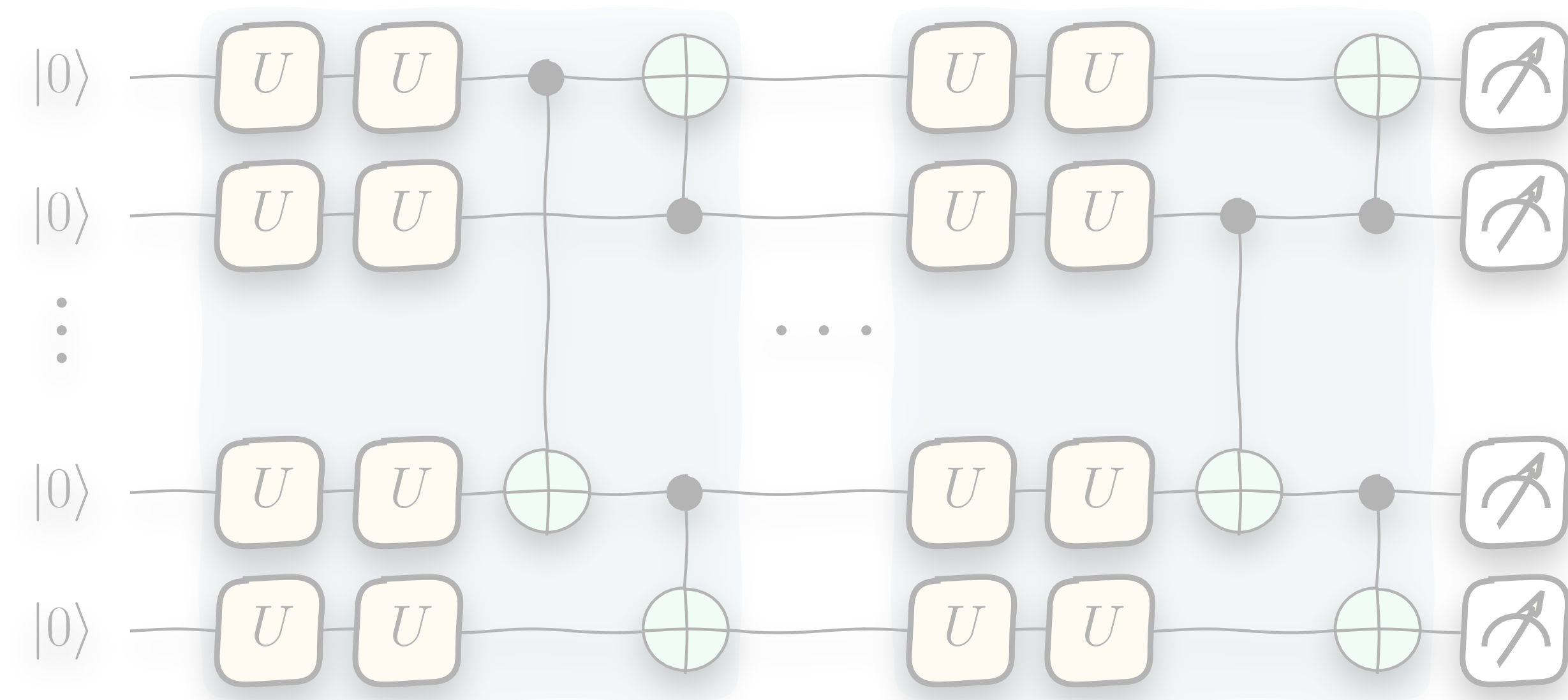
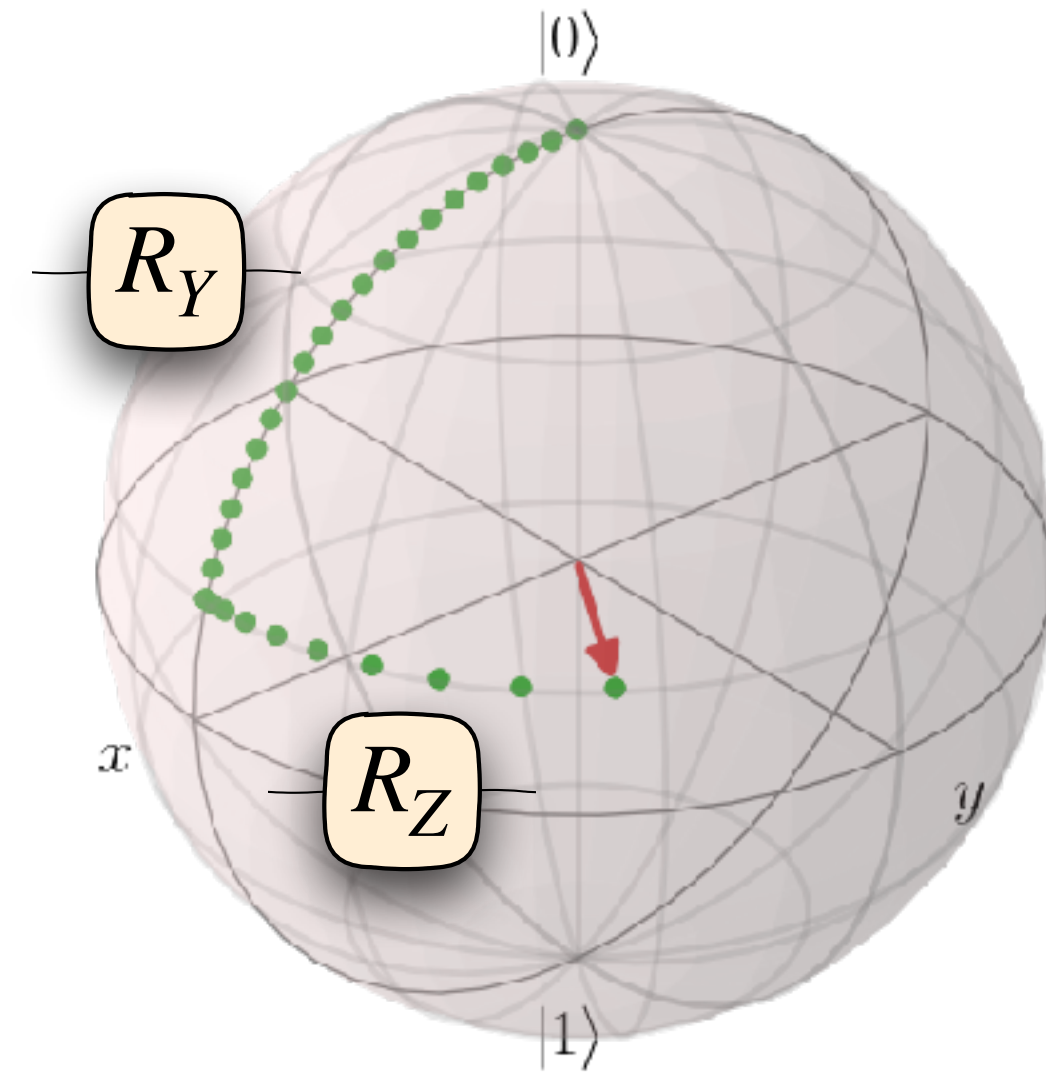
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  $Y$



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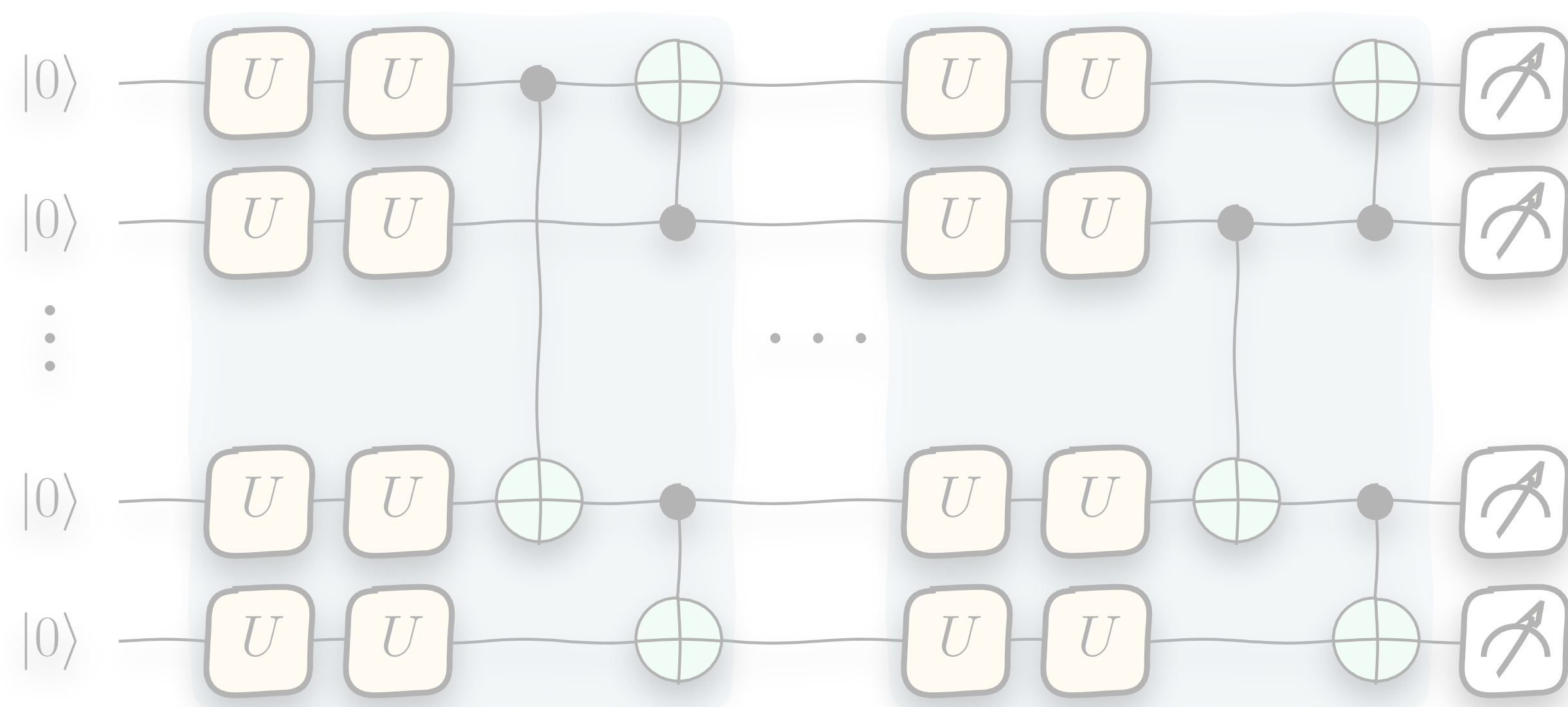
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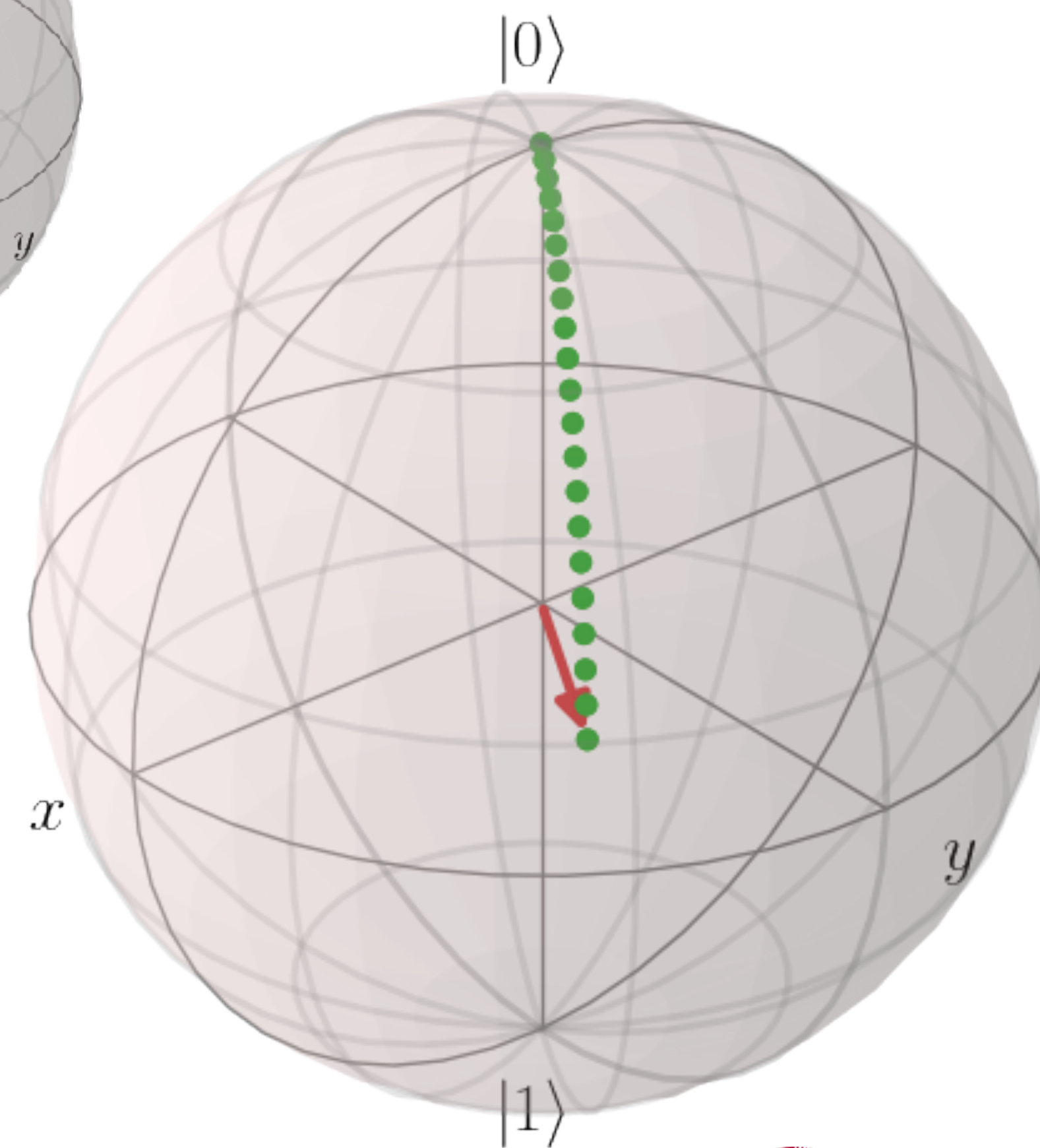
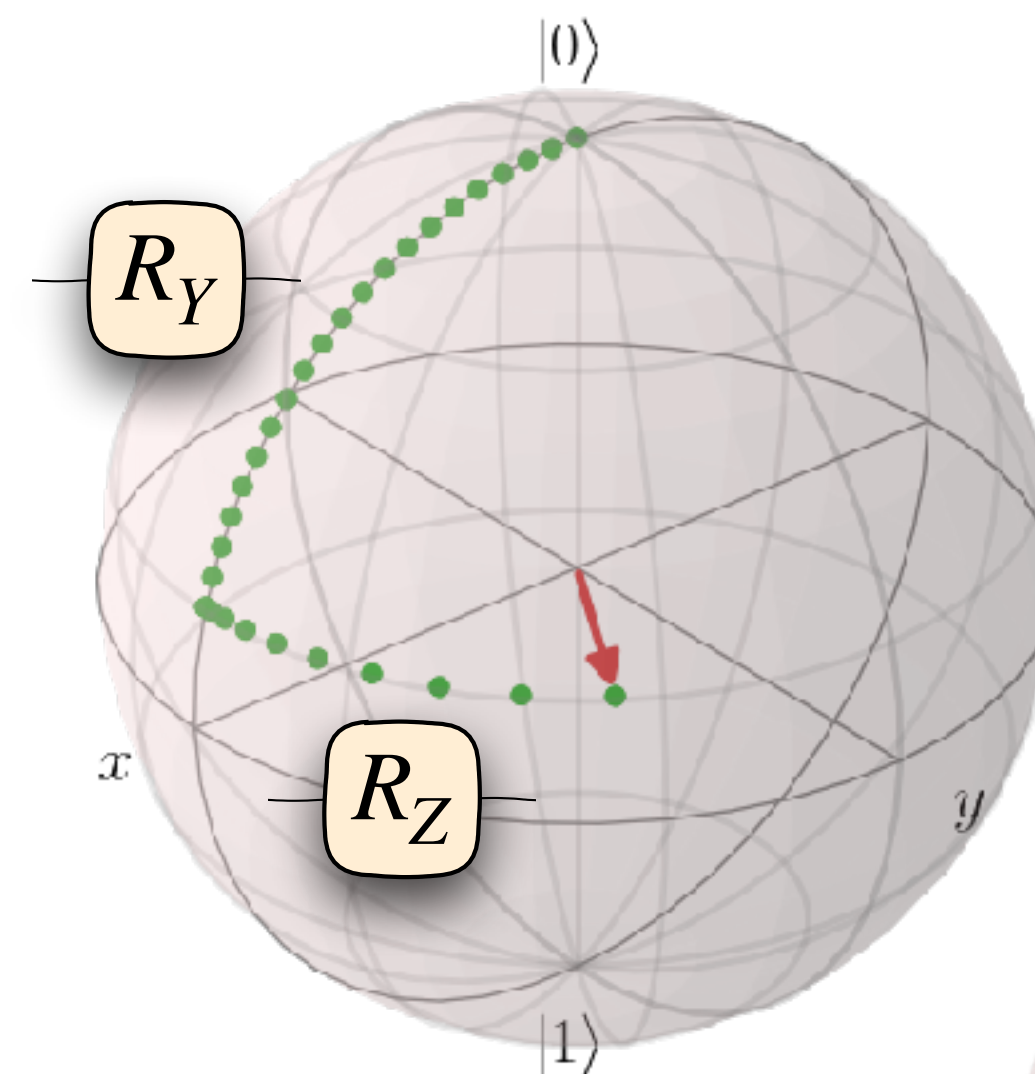
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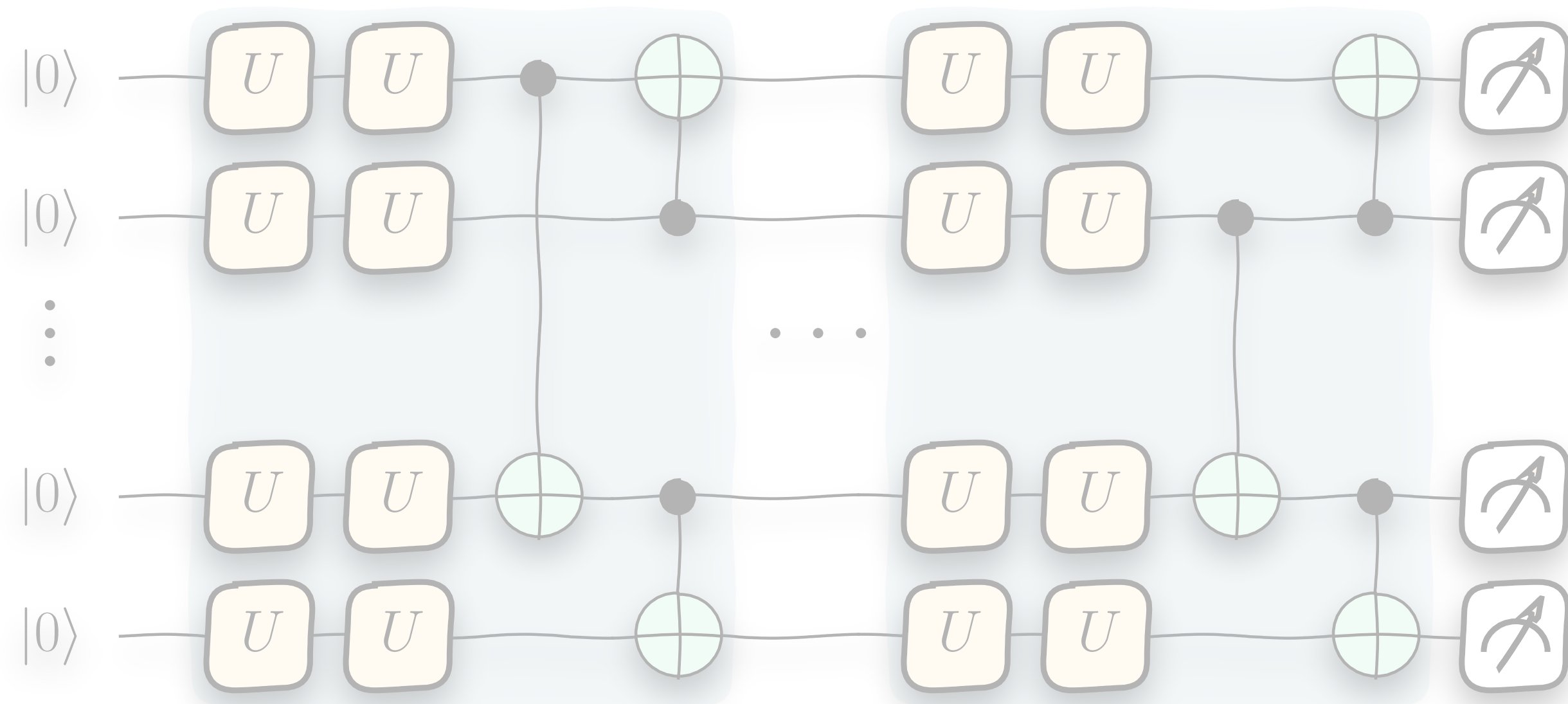
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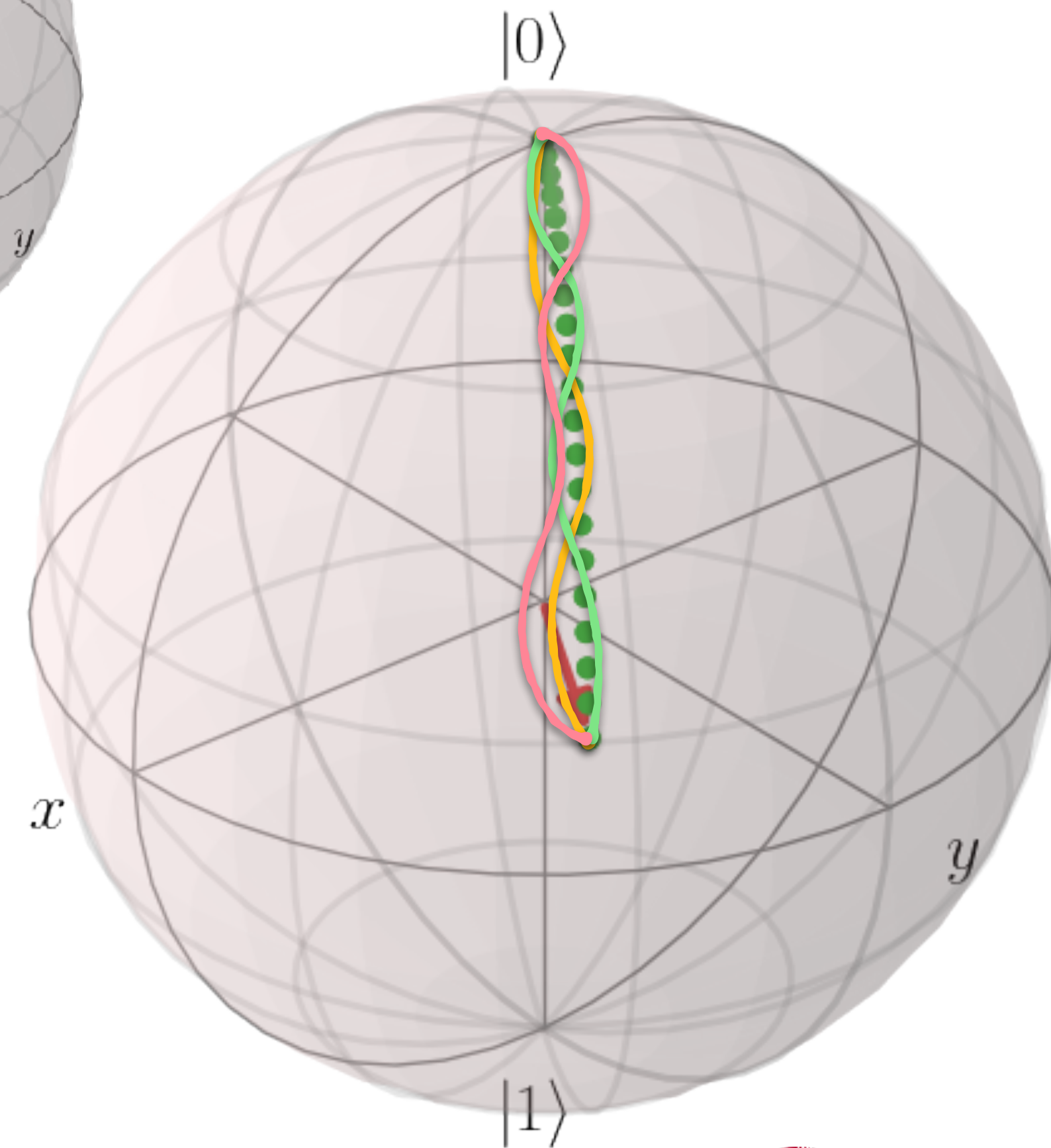
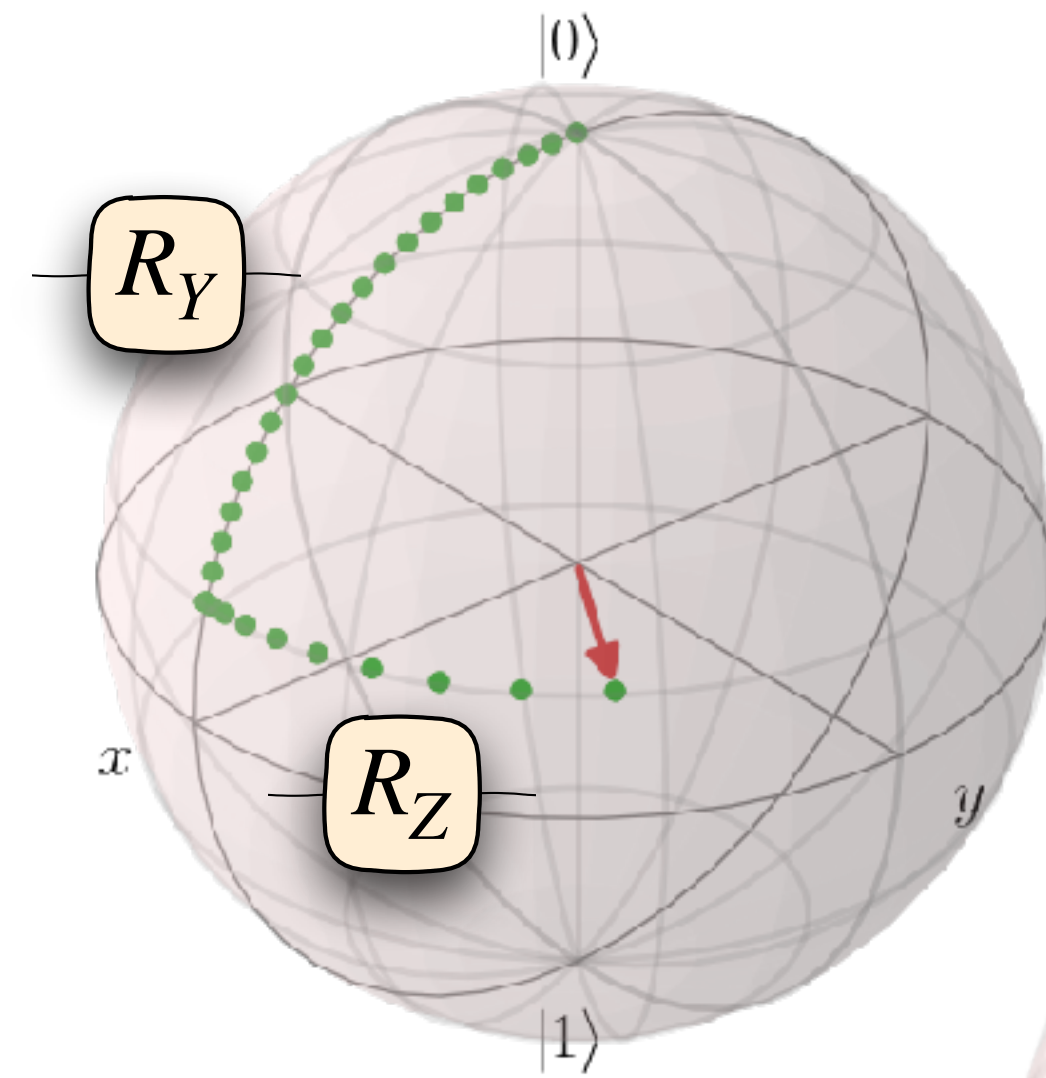


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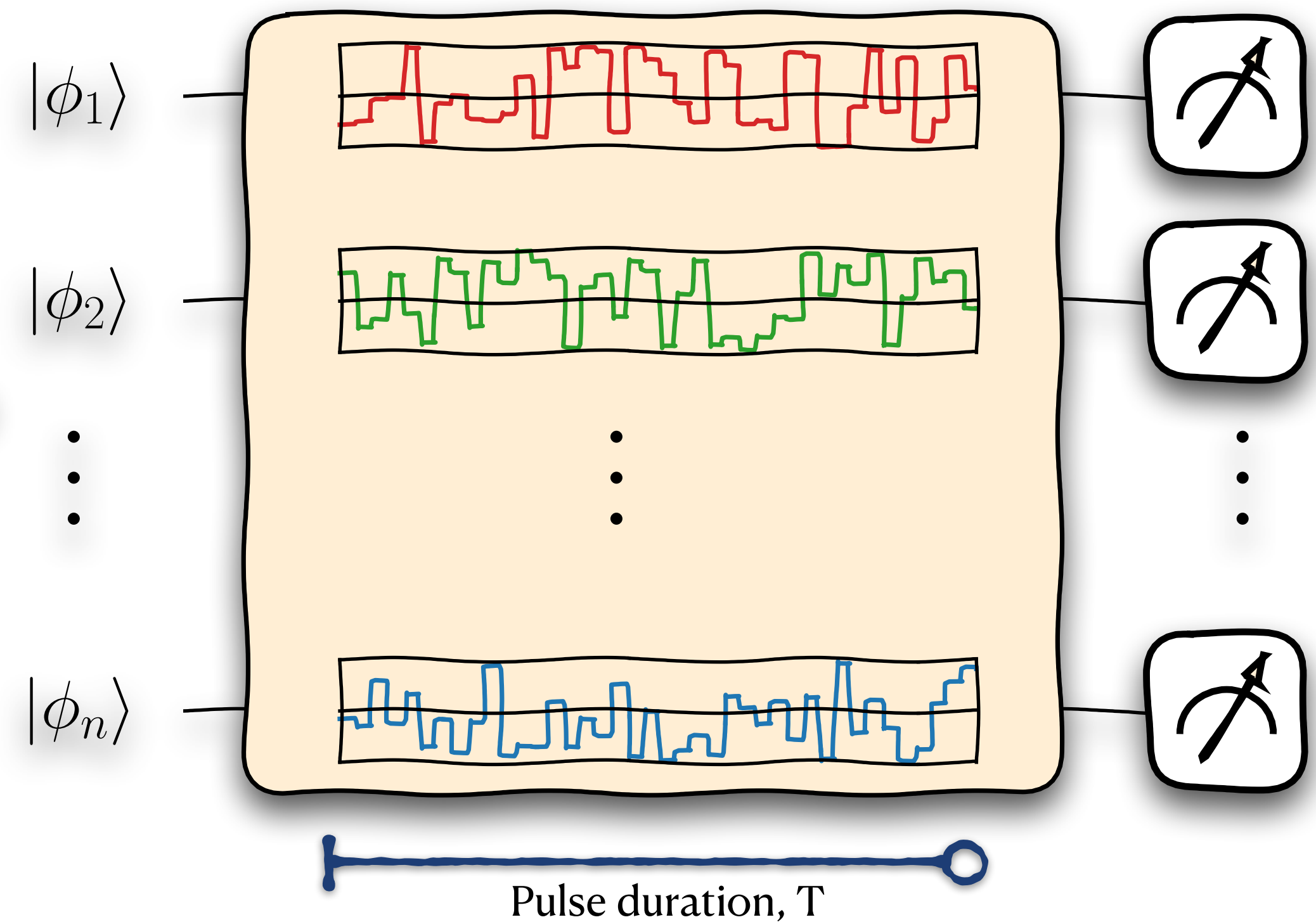
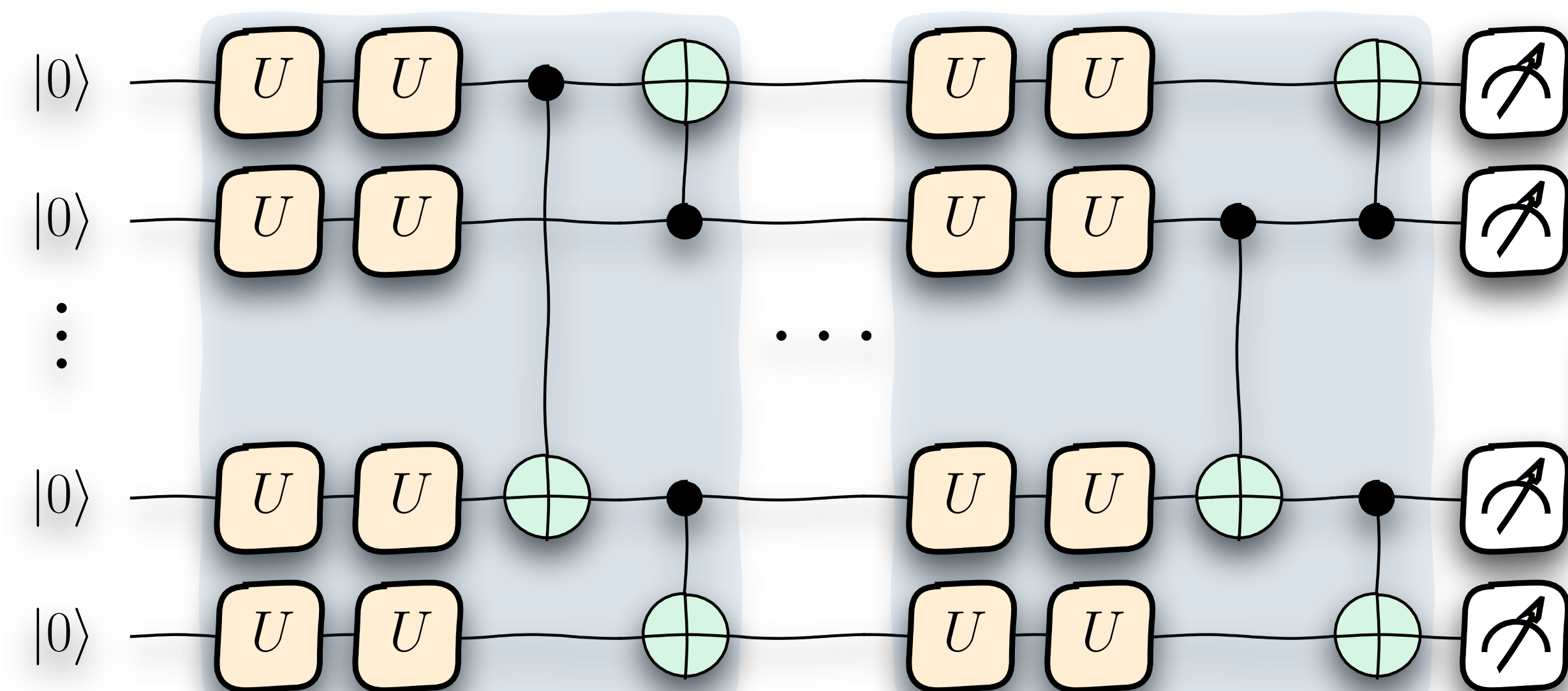
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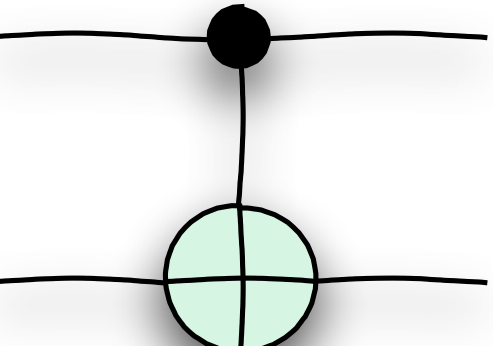


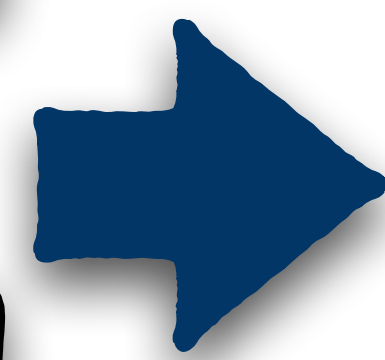
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$$\exp \left[ -i \int_0^T H(t) dt \right] |\phi_{\text{init}}\rangle$$



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# Quantum Optimal Control: Transmon Hamiltonian

## Drive Hamiltonian

$$H_D = \underbrace{\sum_i \omega_i a_i^\dagger a_i}_{|0\rangle \leftrightarrow |1\rangle} - \underbrace{\sum_i \frac{\delta_i}{2} a_i^\dagger a_i^\dagger a_i a_i}_{\text{Separate higher-order states, i.e. } |n > 1\rangle} + \underbrace{\sum_{i,j} g_{ij} a_i^\dagger a_j}_{\text{Qubit architecture}}$$

$\omega$  : Transition frequency,  $\mathcal{O}(4.5)$  GHz/ $2\pi$   
 $\delta$  : Anharmonicity,  $\mathcal{O}(0.3)$  GHz/ $2\pi$   
 $g$  : two-qubit coupling,  $\mathcal{O}(0.02)$  GHz/ $2\pi$

Limits from IBM,  
 machine dependent

Asthana et. al. arXiv:2203.06818

Meitei et. al. arXiv:2008.04302

And more...

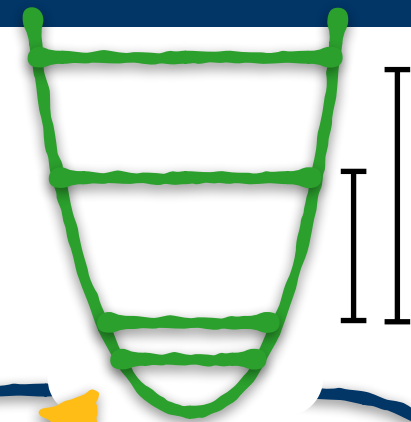
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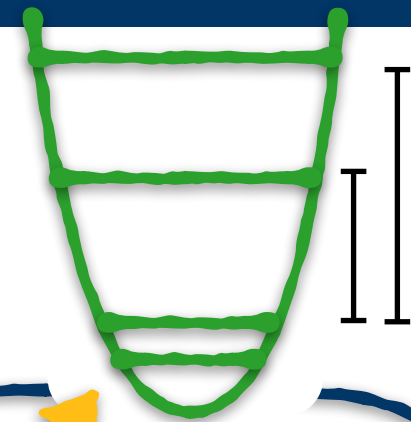
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Limits from IBM,  
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## Control Hamiltonian

$$H_C(t) = \sum_i \Omega_i(t) \left( e^{iv_i t} a_i + e^{-iv_i t} a_i^\dagger \right)$$

$\Omega(t)$  : Pulse amplitude,  $-20 \leq \Omega(t) \leq 20$  MHz

$v$  : Phase,  $|v_i - \omega_i| \leq 1$  GHz

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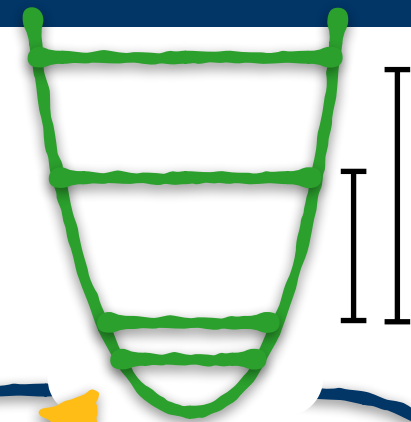
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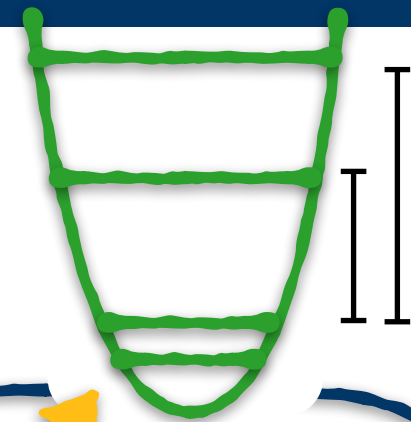
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$$H(t) = H_D + H_C(t)$$

$$|\Psi(T)\rangle = \underbrace{\mathcal{T} e^{-i \int_0^T H(t) dt}}_{\text{Our new ansatz}} |\psi(0)\rangle$$

Our new ansatz

Asthana et. al. arXiv:2203.06818

Meitei et. al. arXiv:2008.04302

And more...

# Quantum Optimal Control: Transmon Hamiltonian

## Why bother?

- ❖ Short execution time is needed to avoid decoherence. This will allow more time to play with the state!
- ❖ If enough time is given, this method is free from the local minima. [Russel et al. arXiv:1608.06198](#) ?
- ❖ Lack of barren plateaus (coming up)

## Control Hamiltonian

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$v$  : Phase,  $|v_i - \omega_i| \leq 1$  GHz

$$H(t) = H_D + H_C(t)$$

$$|\Psi(T)\rangle = \underbrace{\mathcal{T} e^{-i \int_0^T H(t) dt}}_{\text{Our new ansatz}} |\psi(0)\rangle$$

Our new ansatz

[Asthana et. al. arXiv:2203.06818](#)

[Meitei et. al. arXiv:2008.04302](#)



# Schwinger Model

# Schwinger Model with topological term

Simple QED

1+1 dimensional  $U(1)$  gauge theory coupled to a Dirac fermion

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} + i\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu(\partial_\mu + igA_\mu)\psi - m\underbrace{\bar{\psi}e^{i\theta\gamma^5}\psi}_{\text{Chiral rotation}}$$

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Use the staggered fermion discretisation of the electron field and apply JW transformation with open boundaries!

$$H_{\pm} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i^{N-1} \left( \frac{1}{2a} - (-1)^i \frac{m}{2} \sin \theta \right) [X_i X_{i+1} + Y_i Y_{i+1}]$$

$$H_Z = \frac{m \cos \theta}{2} \sum_i^N (-1)^n Z_n - \frac{g^2 a}{2} \sum_i^{N-1} (i \bmod 2) \sum_l^i Z_l$$

$$H_{ZZ} = \frac{g^2 a}{4} \sum_{i=2}^{N-1} \sum_{1 \leq k < l \leq i} Z_k Z_l$$

$a$  : lattice spacing     $g$  : gauge coupling  
 $m$  : fermion mass     $\theta$  : topological angle

Chakraborty et al. arXiv: 2001.00485

Without  $\theta$  : Farrell et al. arXiv: 2308.04481

# Schwinger Model with topological term

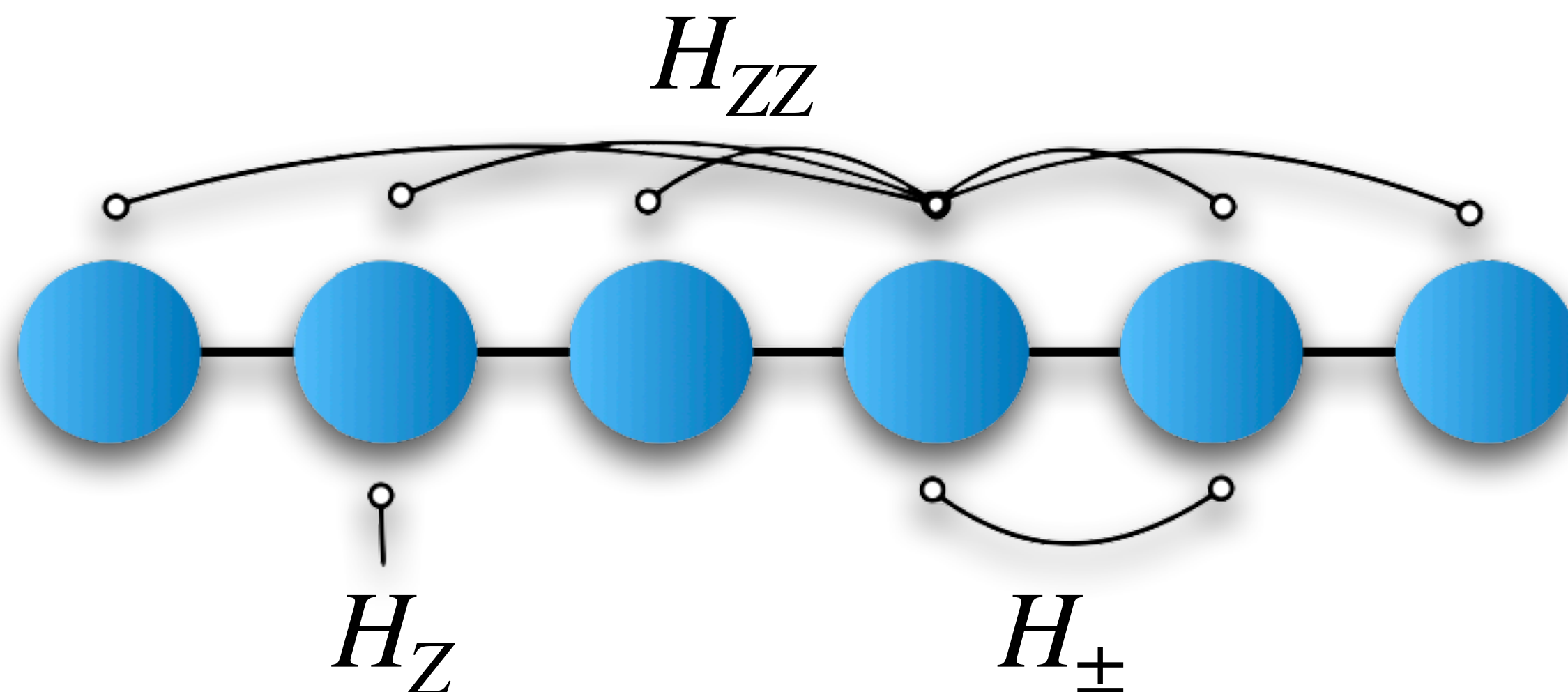
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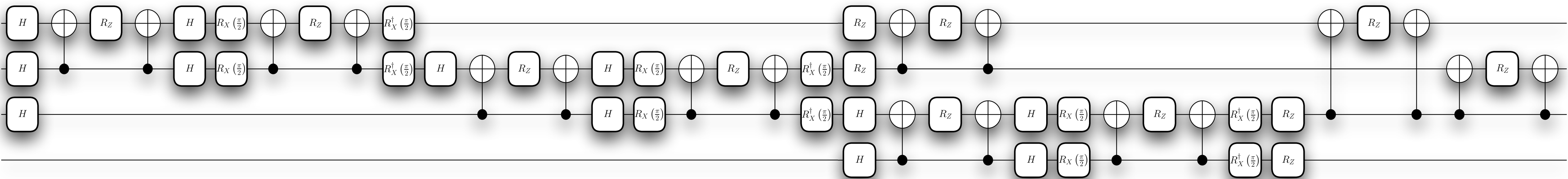
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# Trotterised Schwinger Hamiltonian: $e^{-i\Delta t H}$



~ 11  $\mu S$

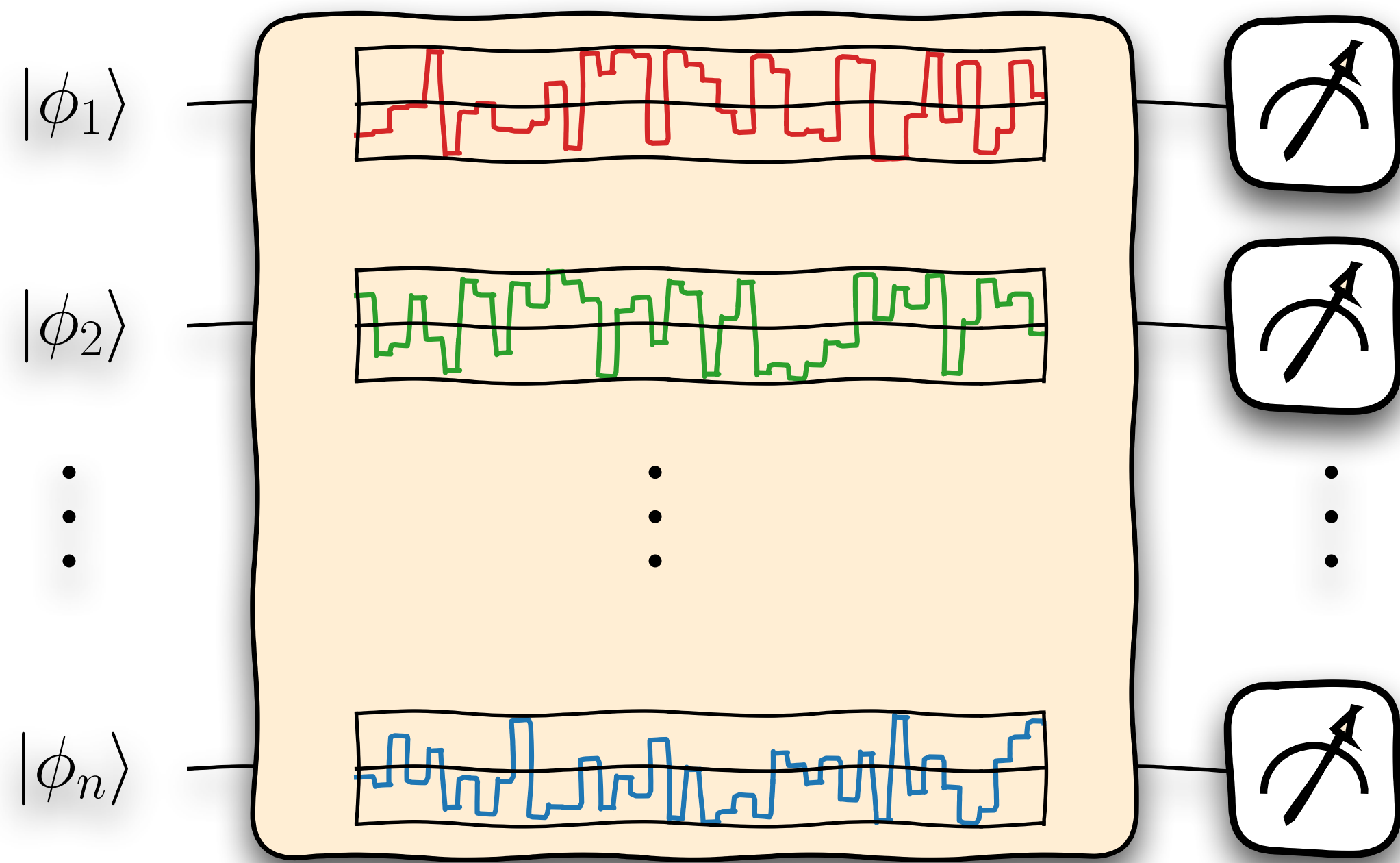
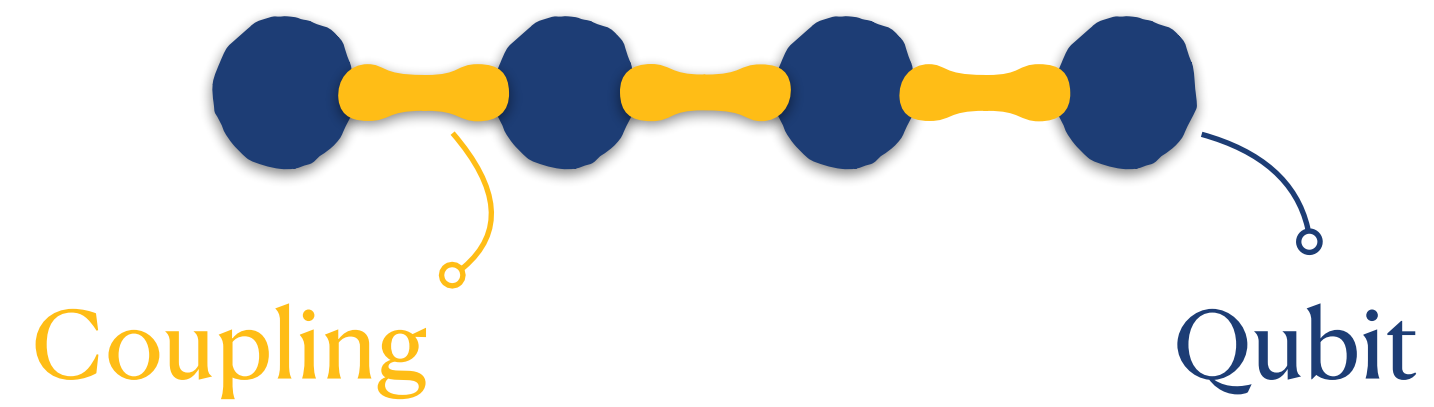
Limit: ~9 trotter steps

JYA, Bhowmick, Grau,  
McEntire, Ringer; 2406.15545

# The Schwinger Gate!

JYA, Bhowmick, Grau,  
McEntire, Ringer; 2406.15545

Quantum Computer:

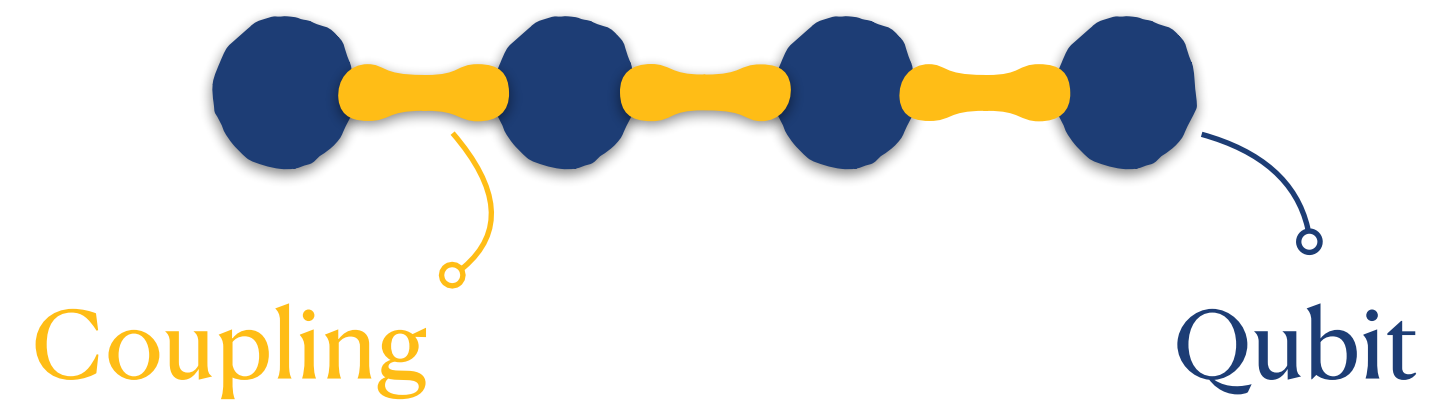




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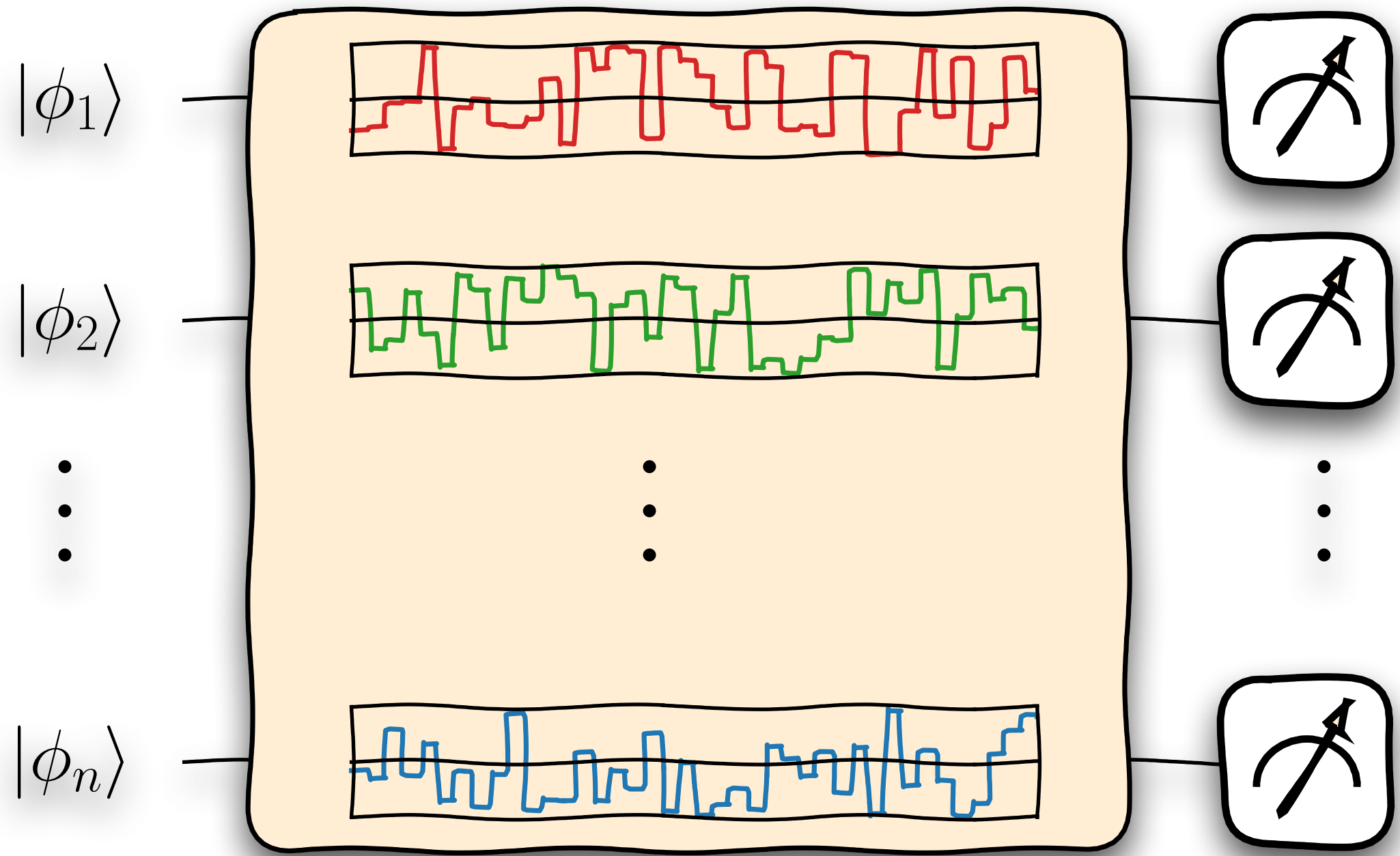
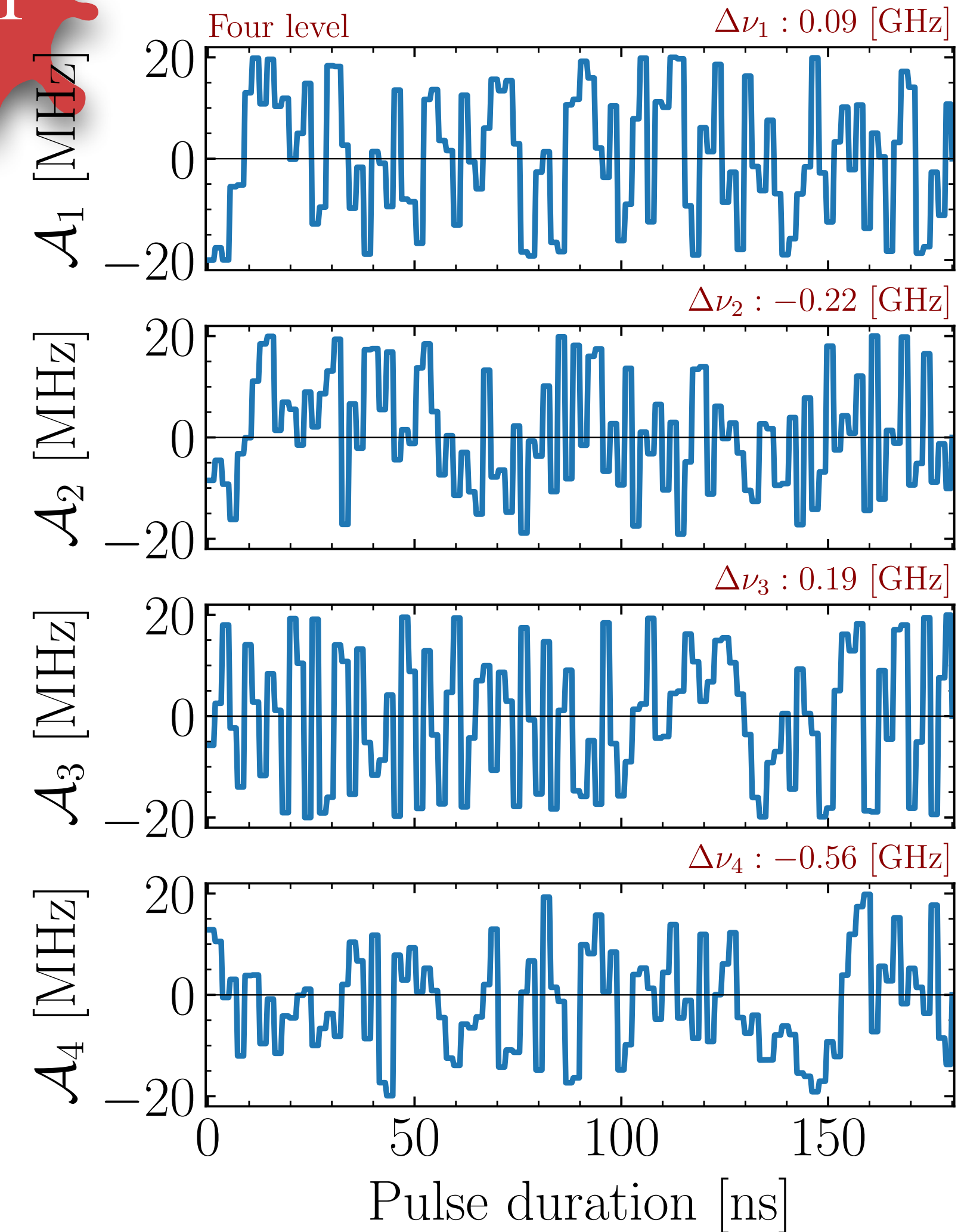
JYA, Bhowmick, Grau,  
McEntire, Ringer; 2406.15545

Quantum Computer:



$180 \text{ ns}$   
 $\Delta E \sim 5 \times 10^{-3}$

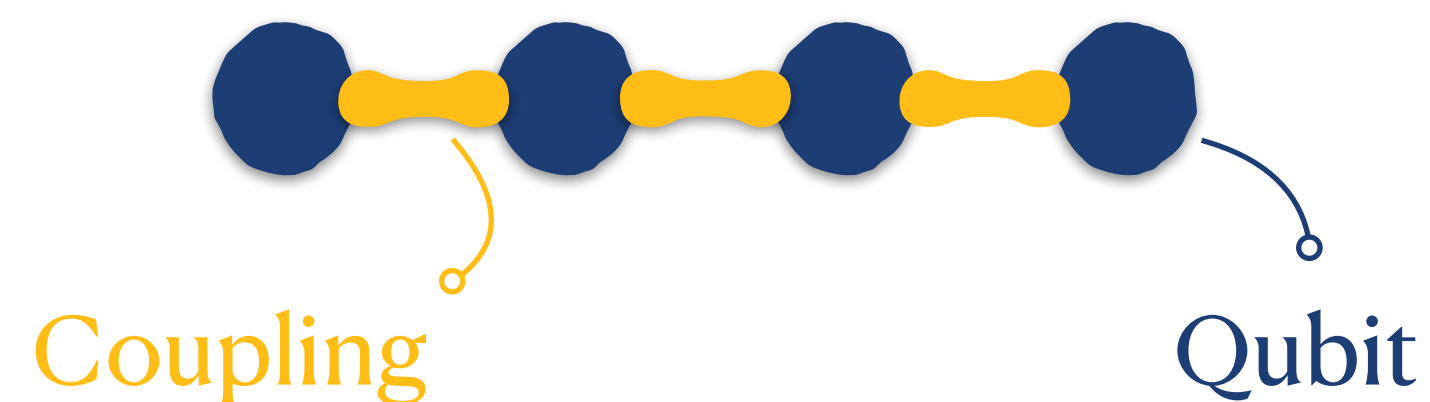
$\times 61$



# The Schwinger Gate!

JYA, Bhowmick, Grau,  
McEntire, Ringer; 2406.15545

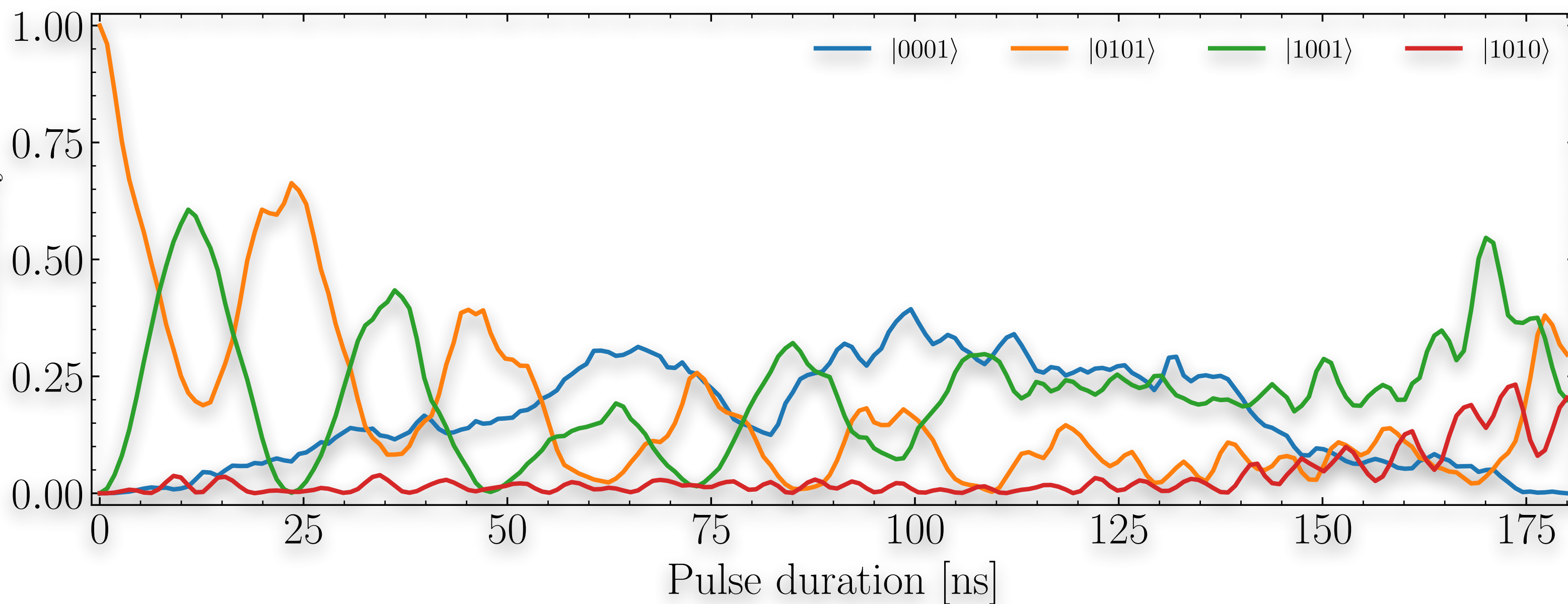
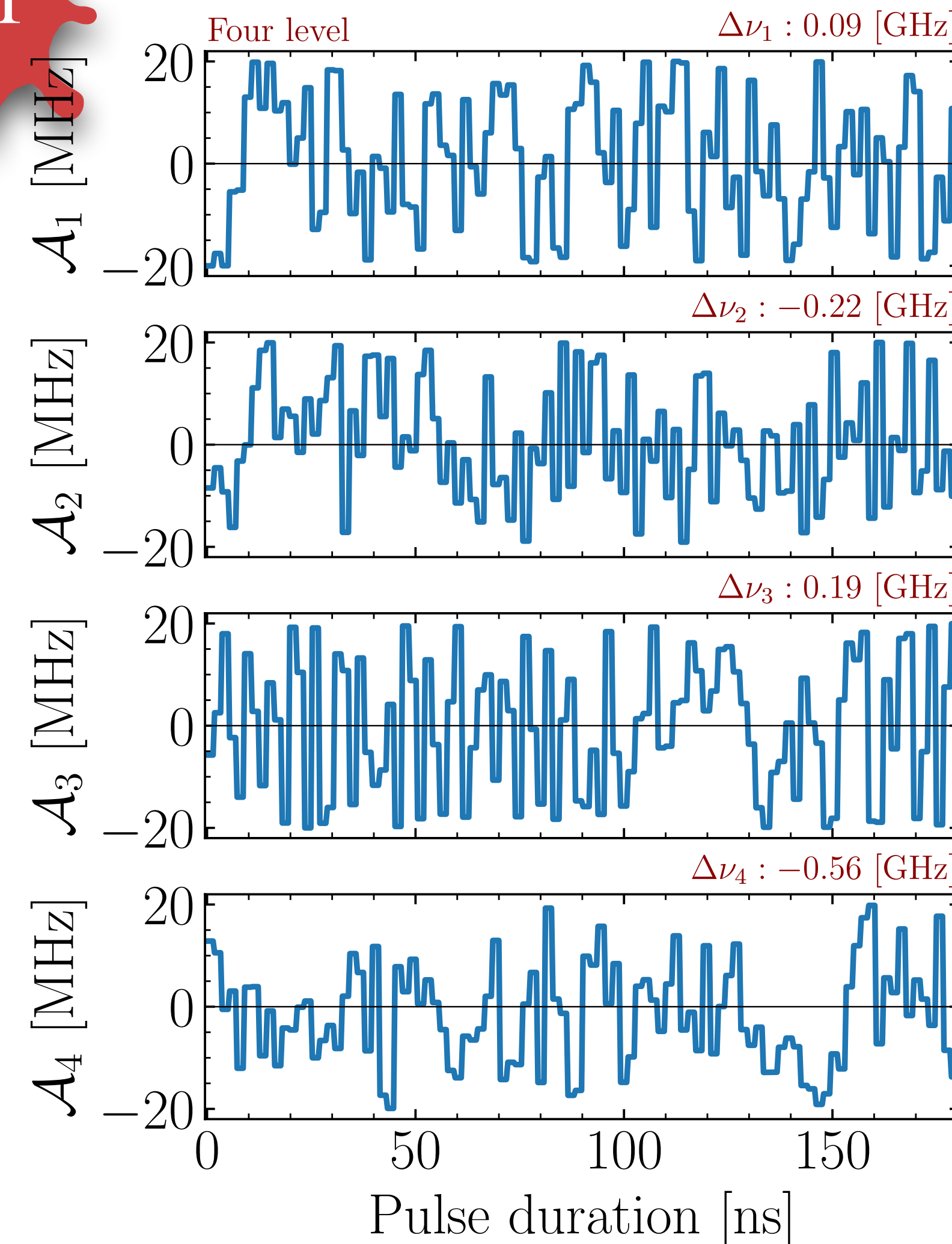
Quantum Computer:



**180 ns**

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**× 61**

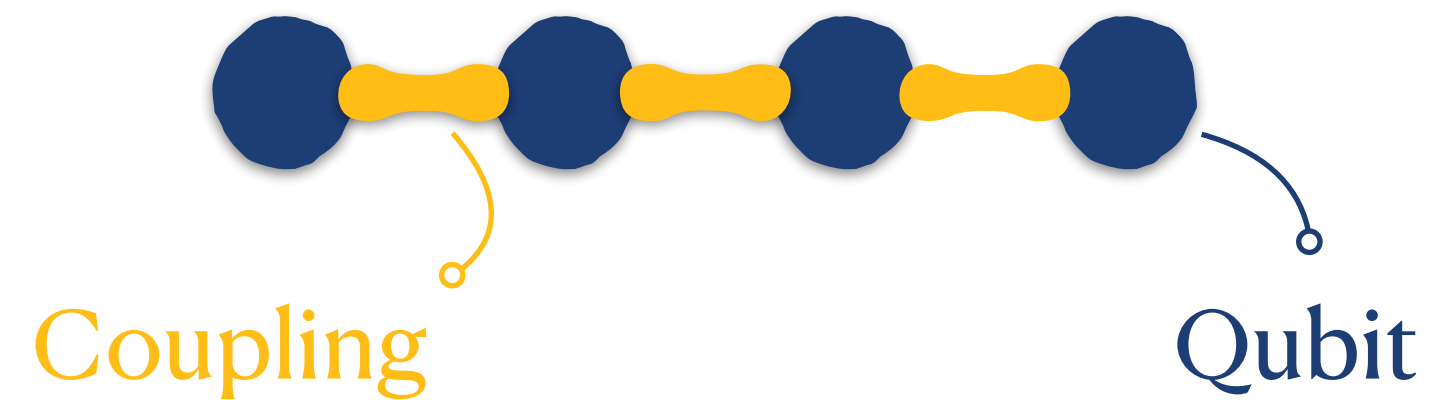




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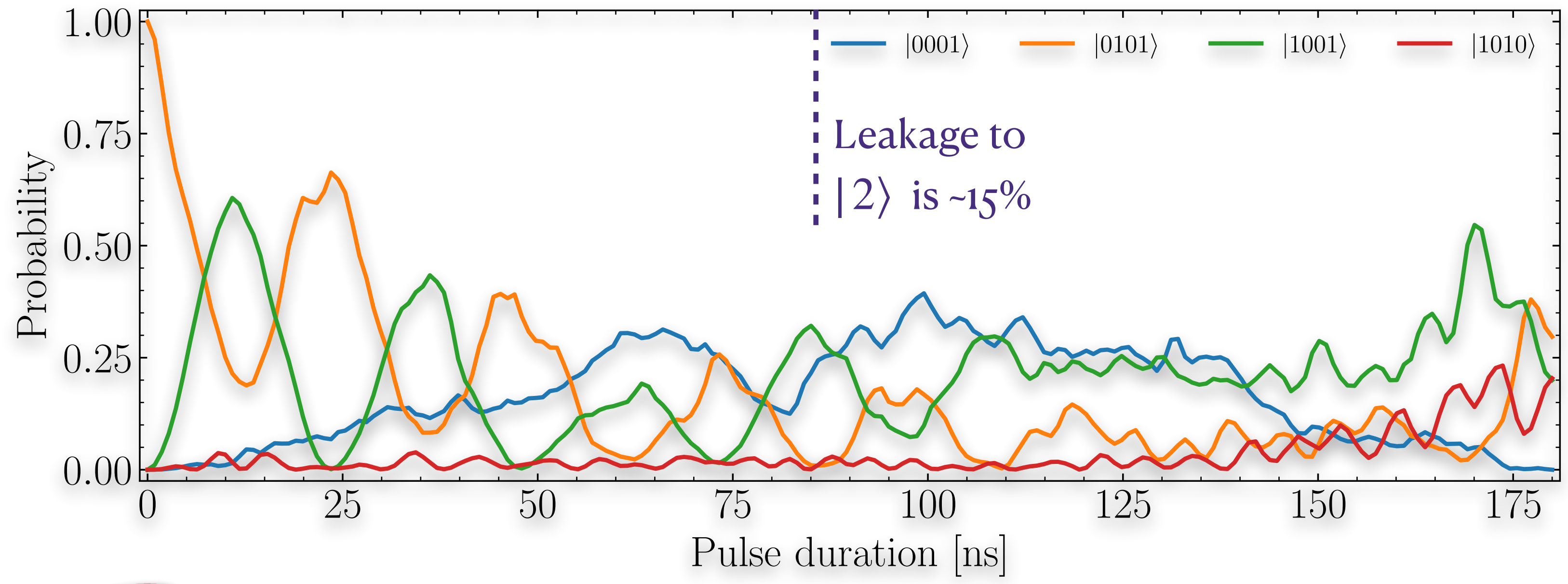
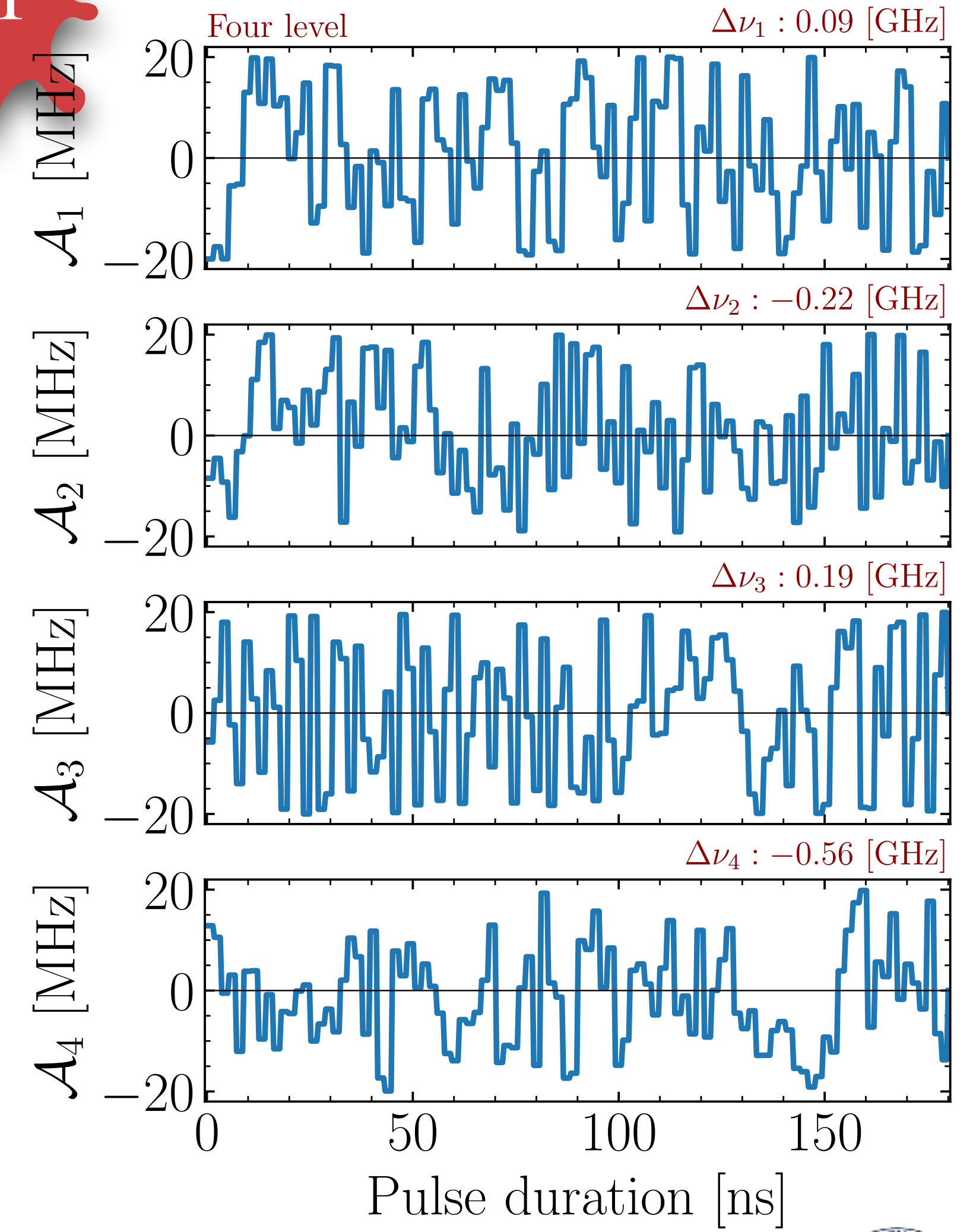
JYA, Bhowmick, Grau,  
McEntire, Ringer; 2406.15545

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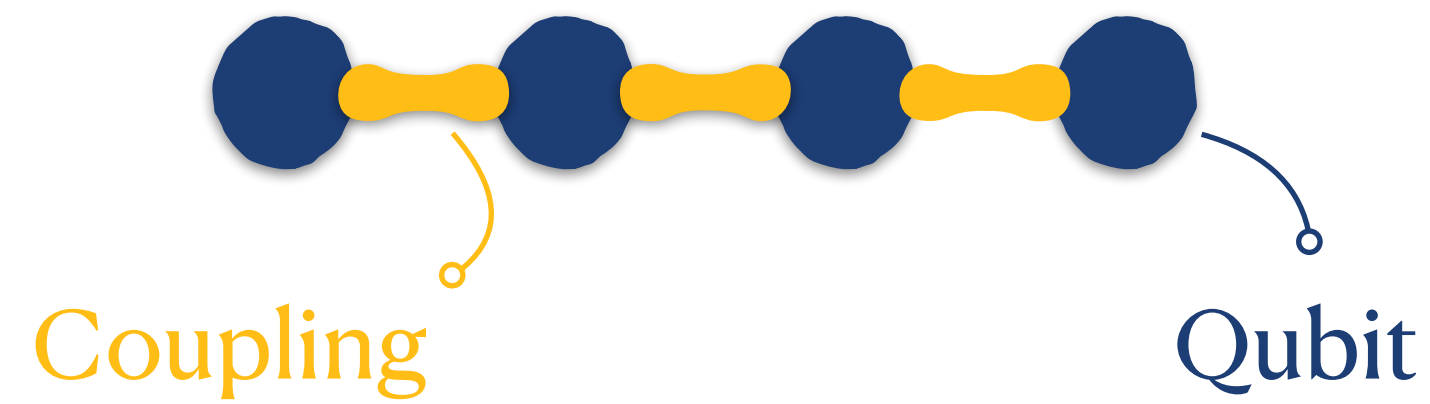
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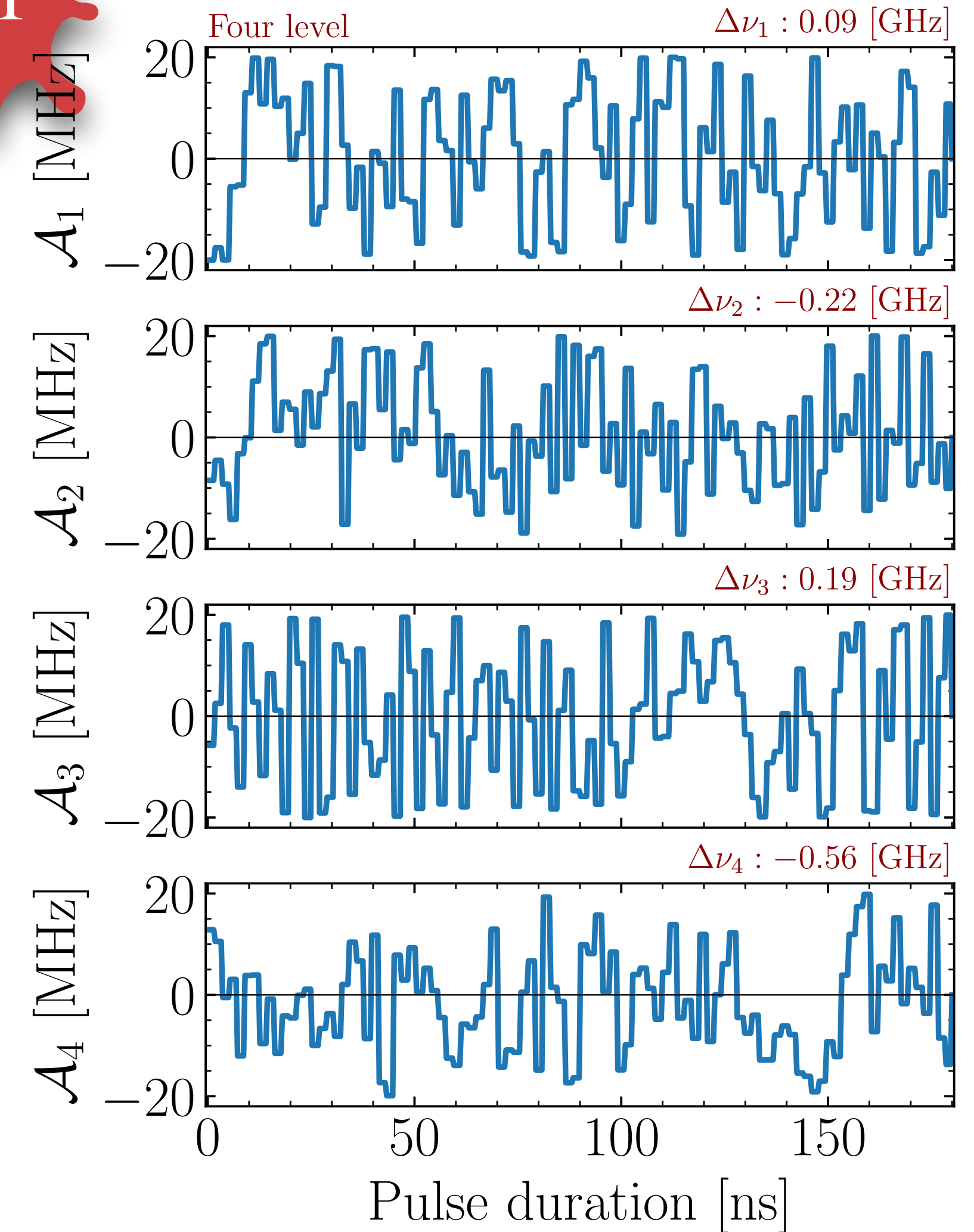
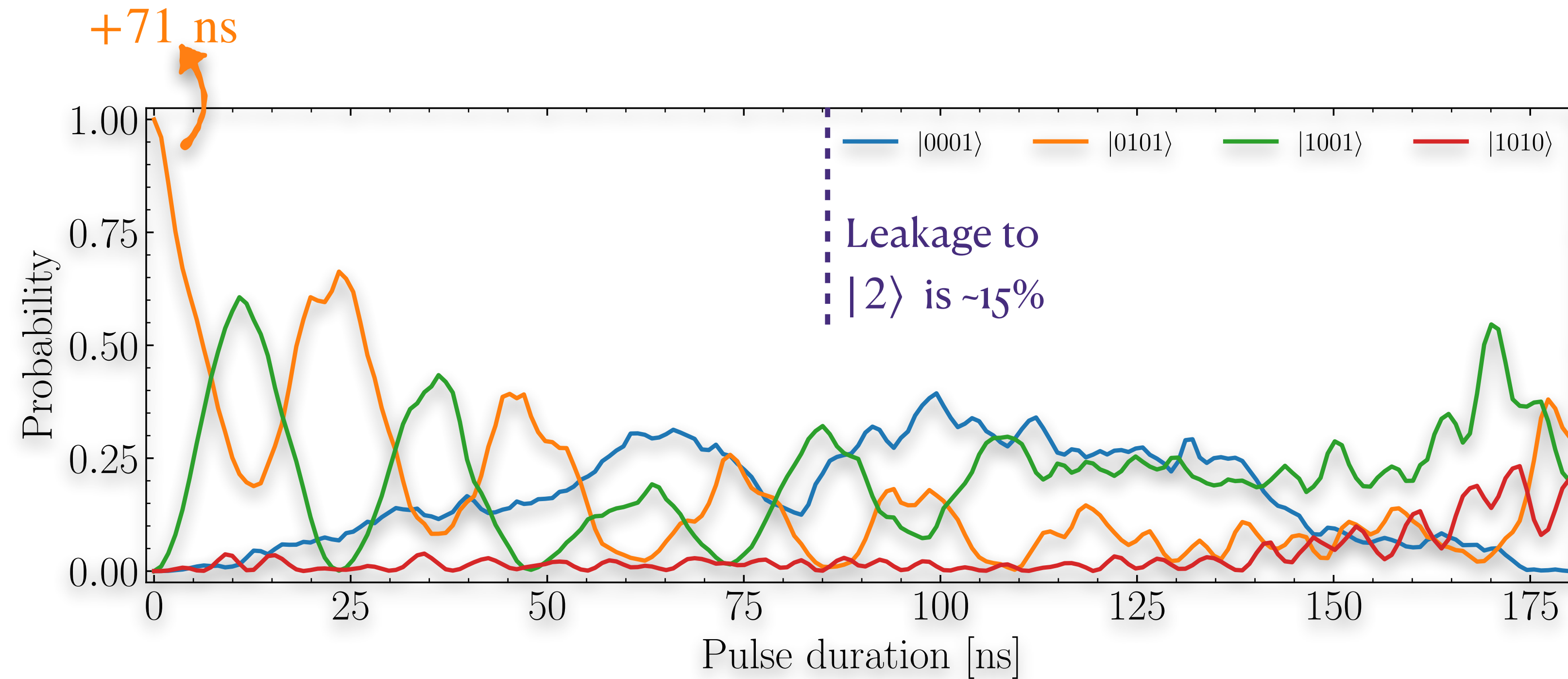
JYA, Bhowmick, Grau,  
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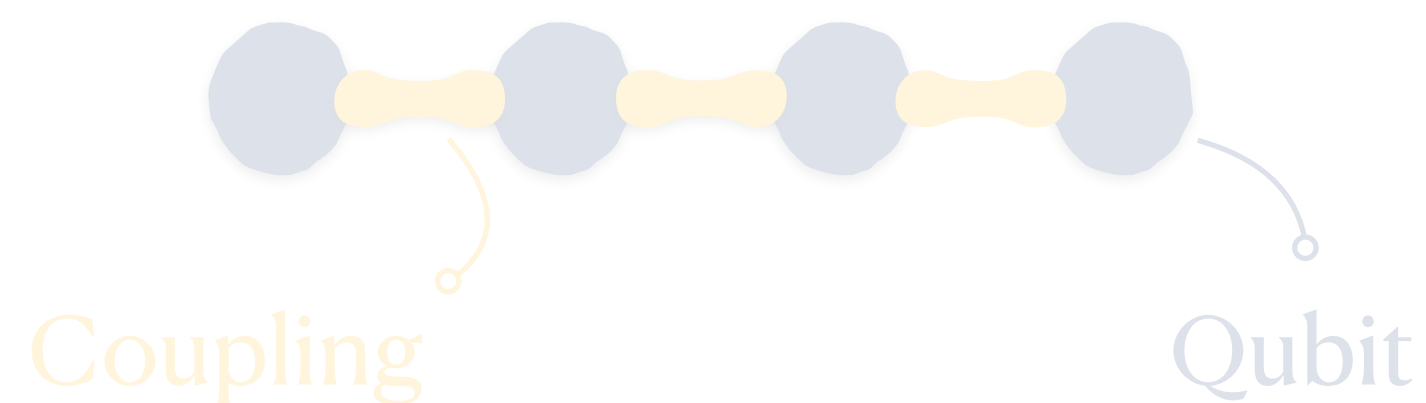




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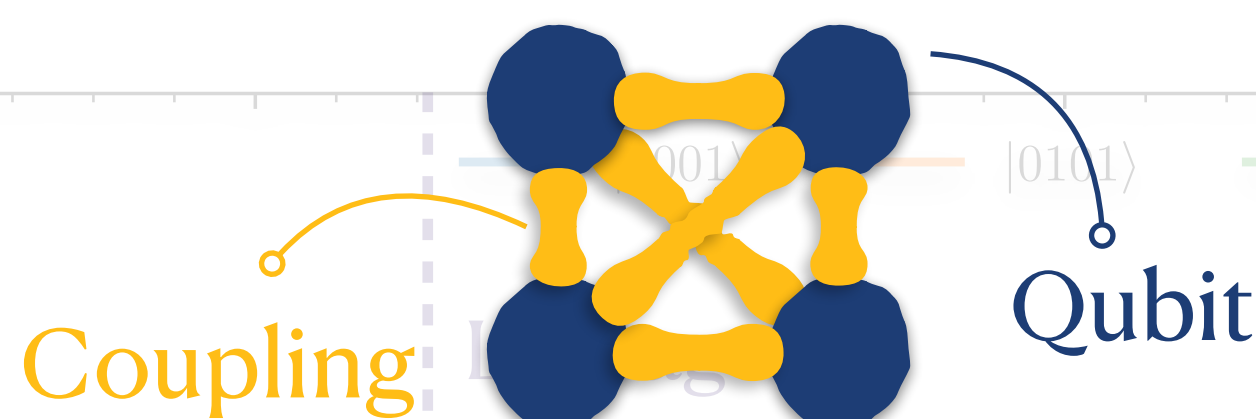
JYA, Bhowmick, Grau,  
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Quantum Computer:

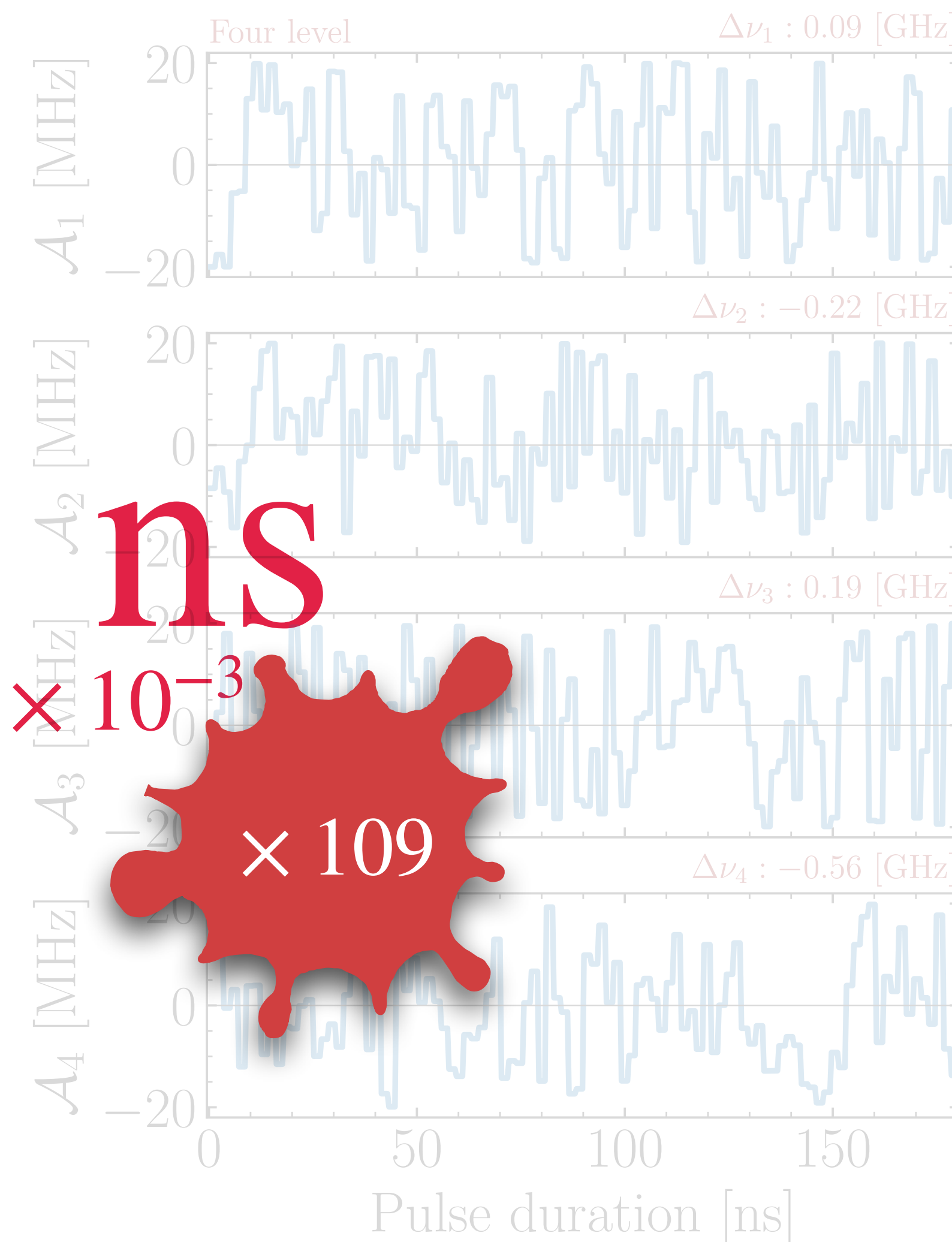
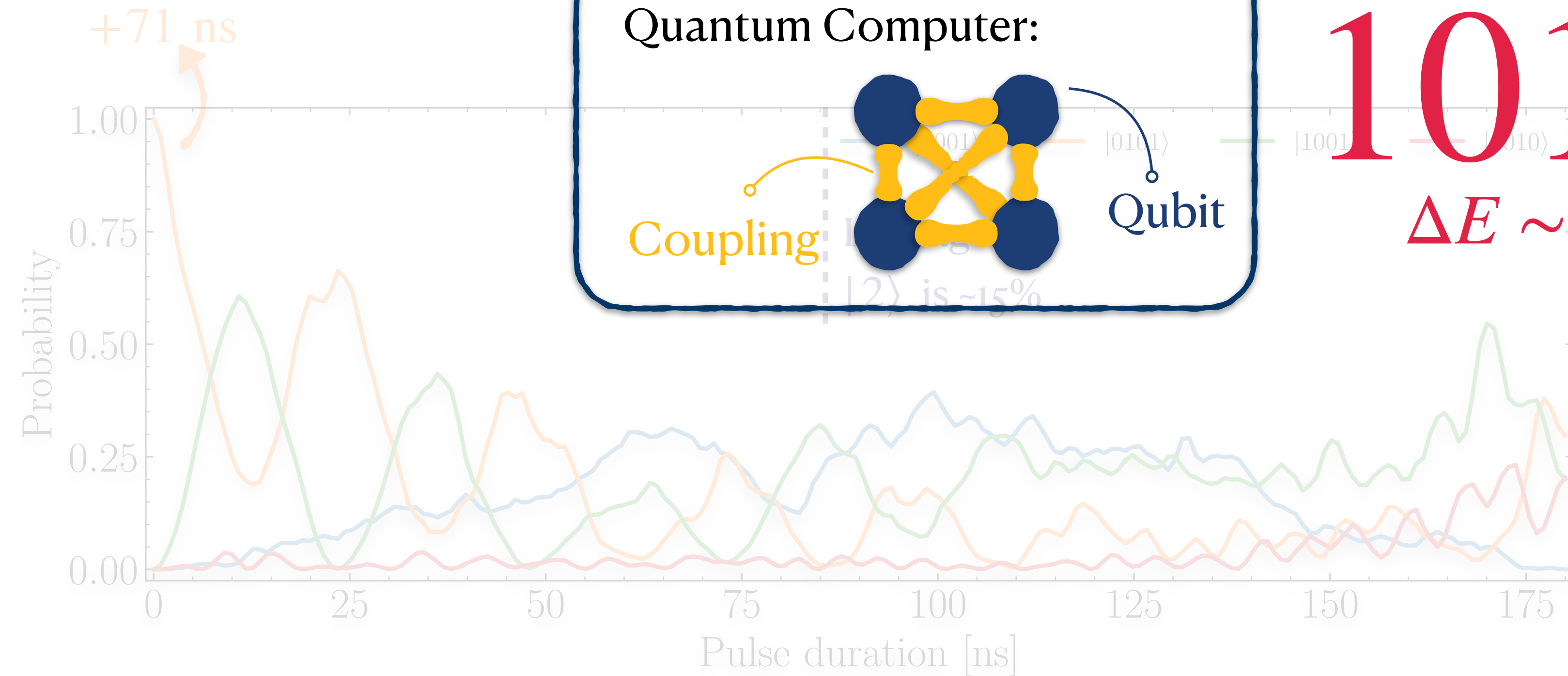


180 ns  
 $\Delta E \sim 5 \times 10^{-3}$

Quantum Computer:



101 ns  
 $\Delta E \sim 5 \times 10^{-3}$



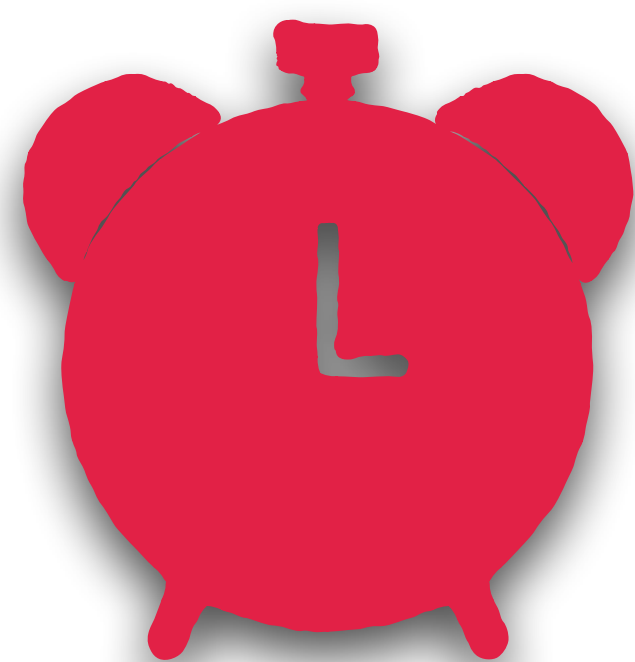
# Towards simulating the Standard Model

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi}(i\partial^\mu \gamma_\mu - m)\psi$$



Qubits

Short Coherence Time



Typical coherence time for an IBM superconducting qubit is 50 to 100 microsecond

Barren Plateaus



Jack Y. Araz



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# No more barren plateaus!

JYA, Bhowmick, Grau,  
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The behaviour of the  
loss function with  
gradient descent

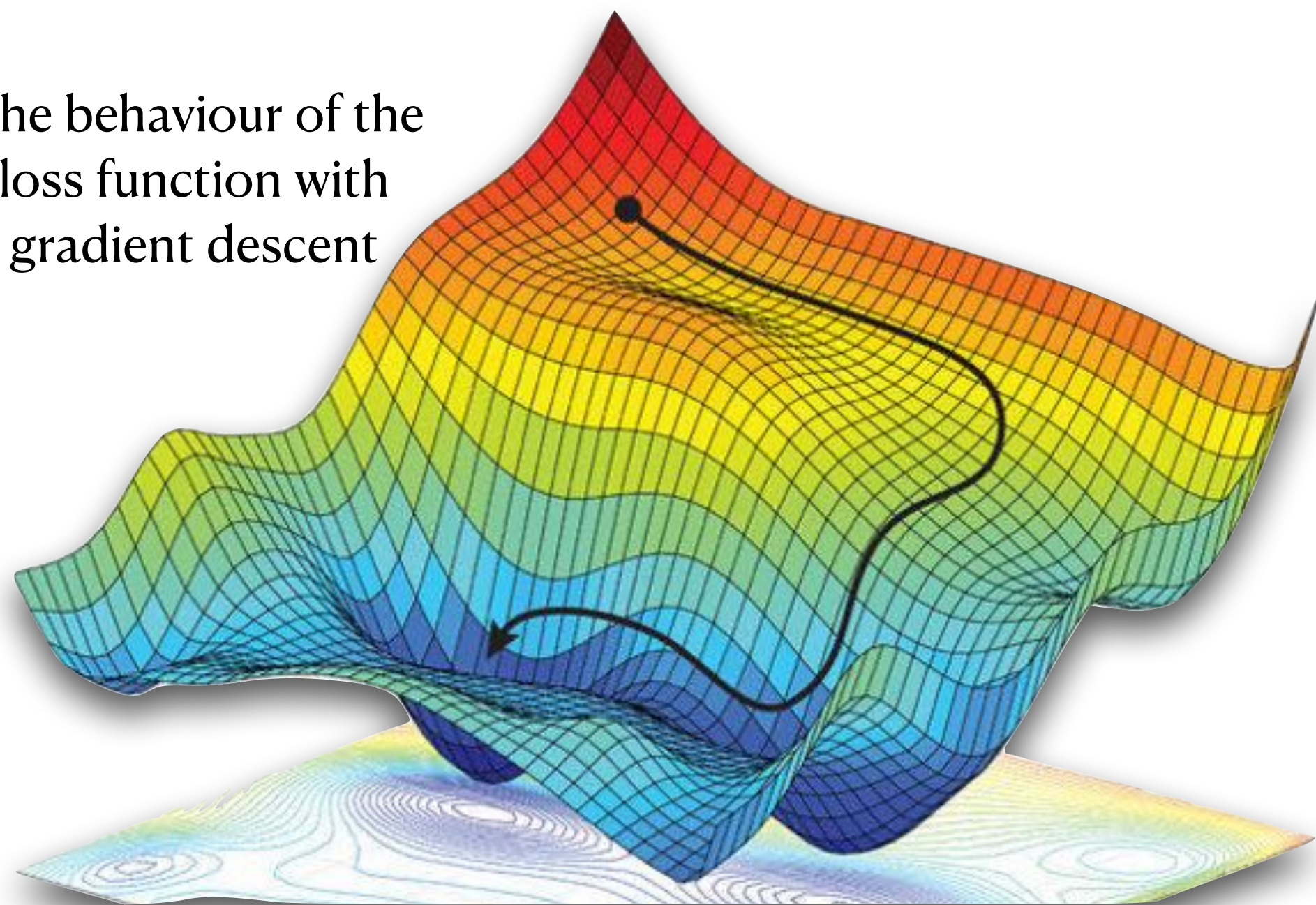


Image credit: Francisco Lima



# No more barren plateaus!

JYA, Bhowmick, Grau,  
McEntire, Ringer; 2406.15545

Larger duration per pulse improves  
the variance of the loss!

The behaviour of the  
loss function with  
gradient descent

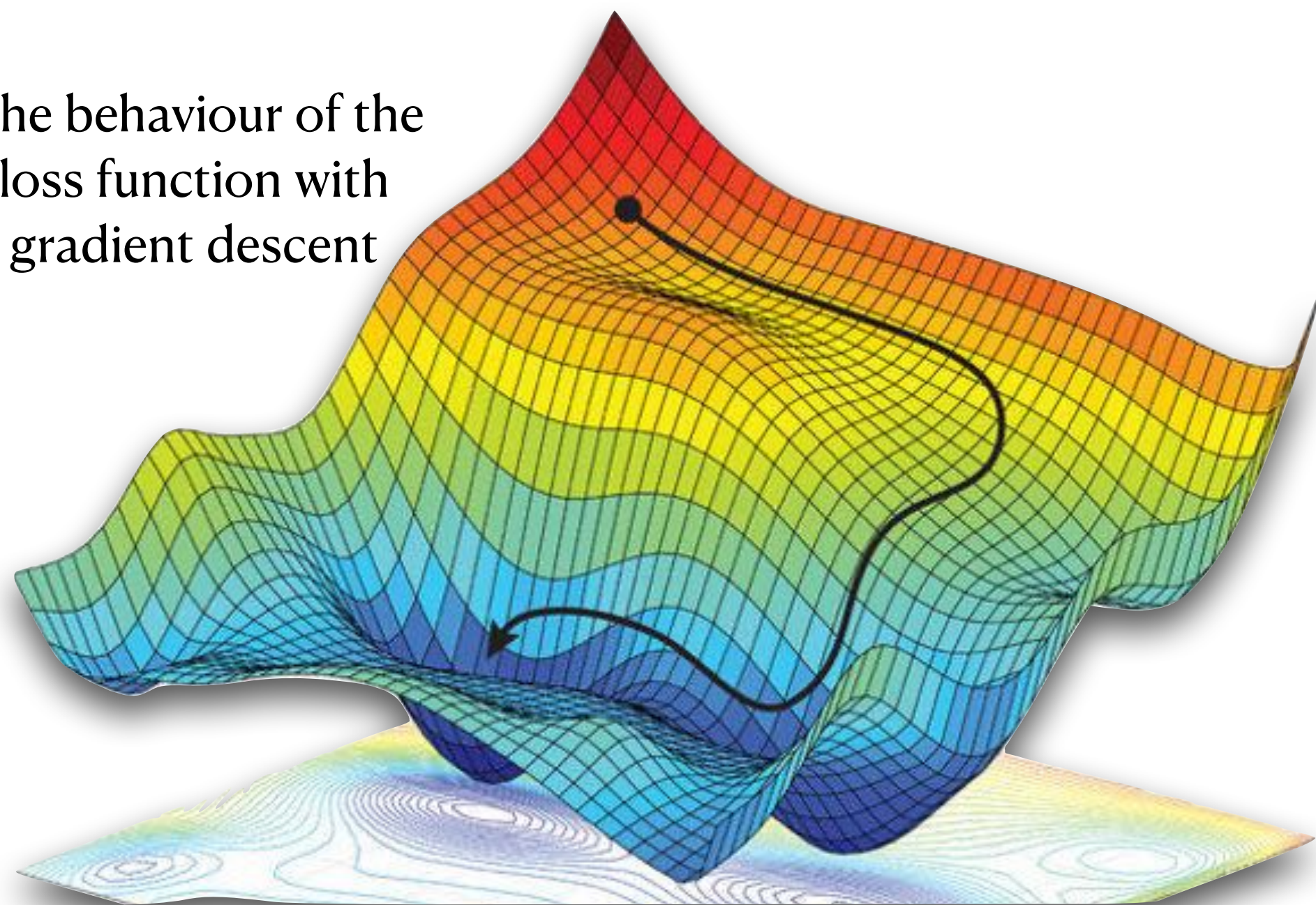
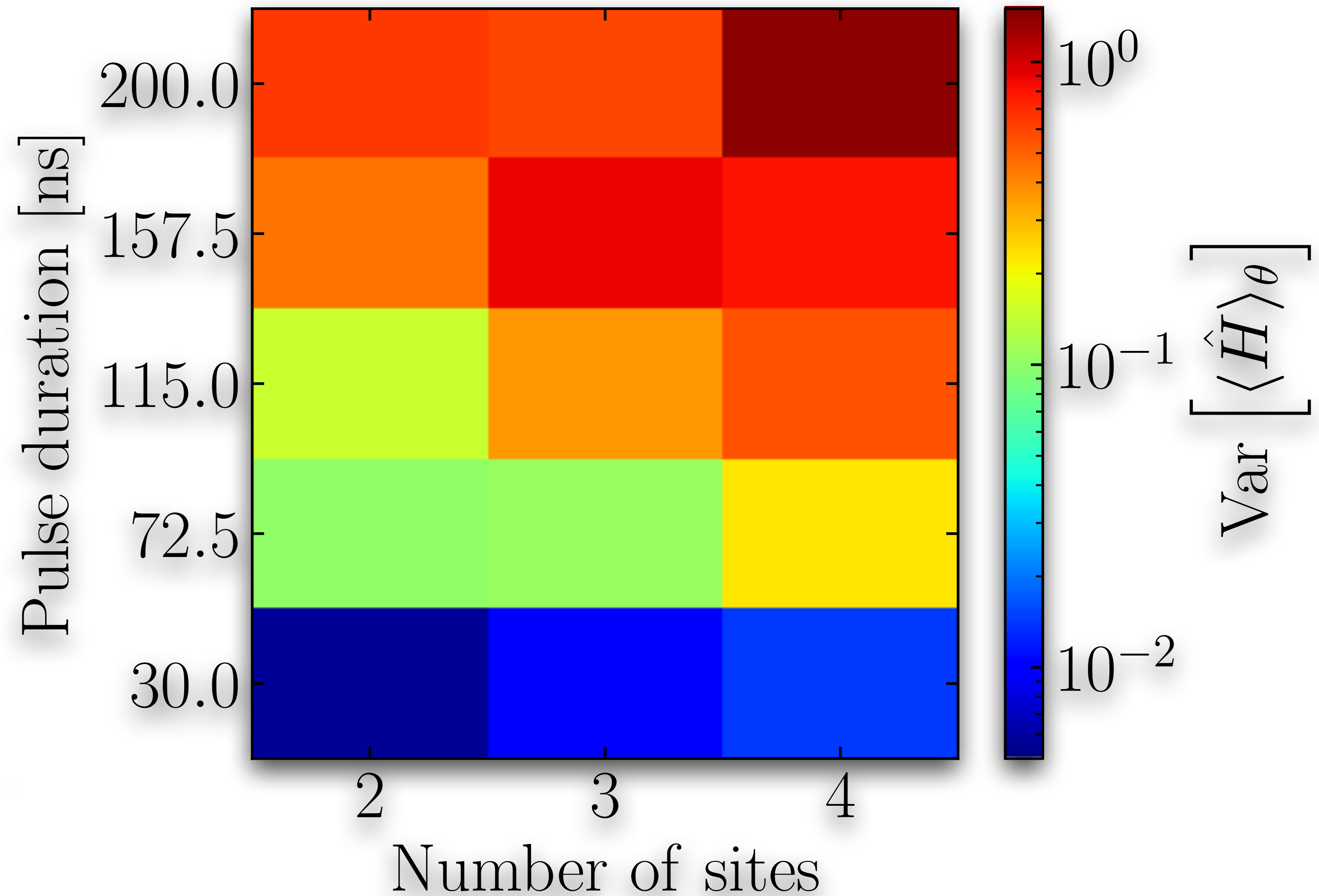


Image credit: Francisco Lima



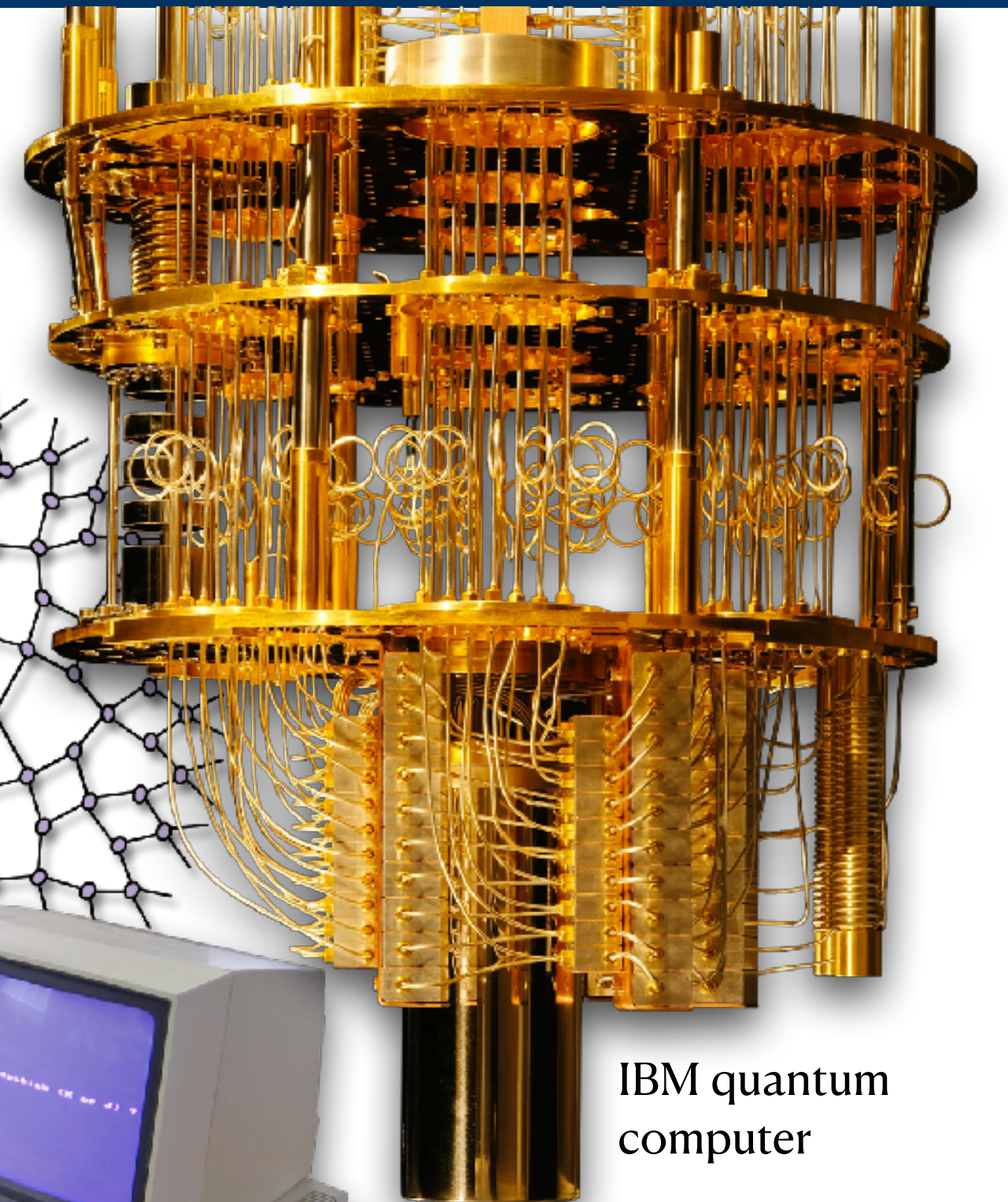
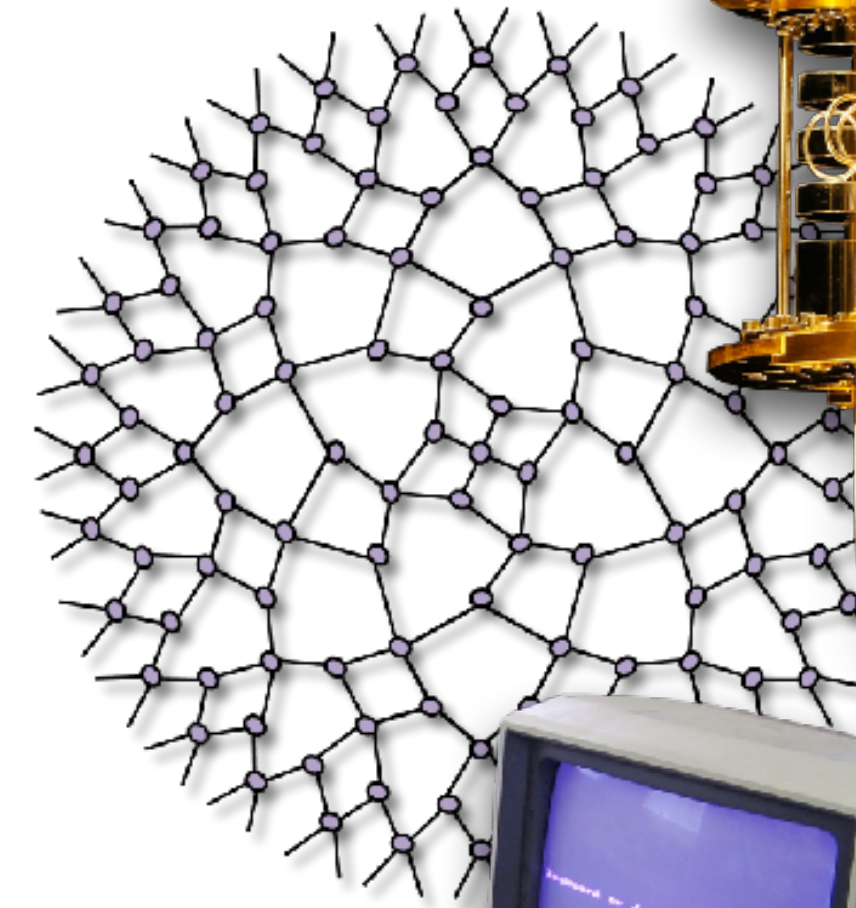
# Conclusion



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- ❖ QOC can assist in creating more efficient algorithms.
- ❖ Allows to avoid decoherence.
- ❖ No barren plateaus.

Tensor Networks



IBM quantum computer





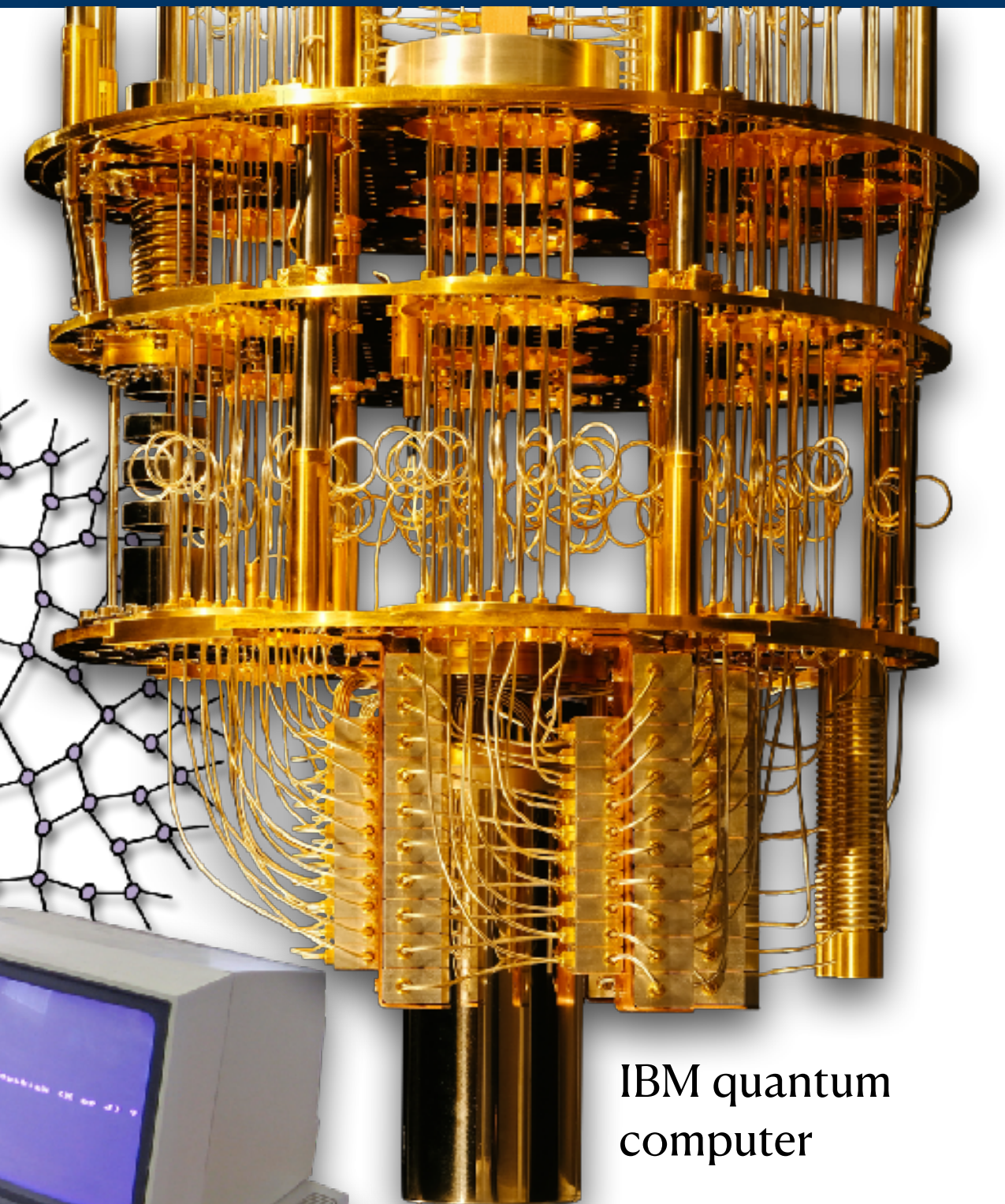
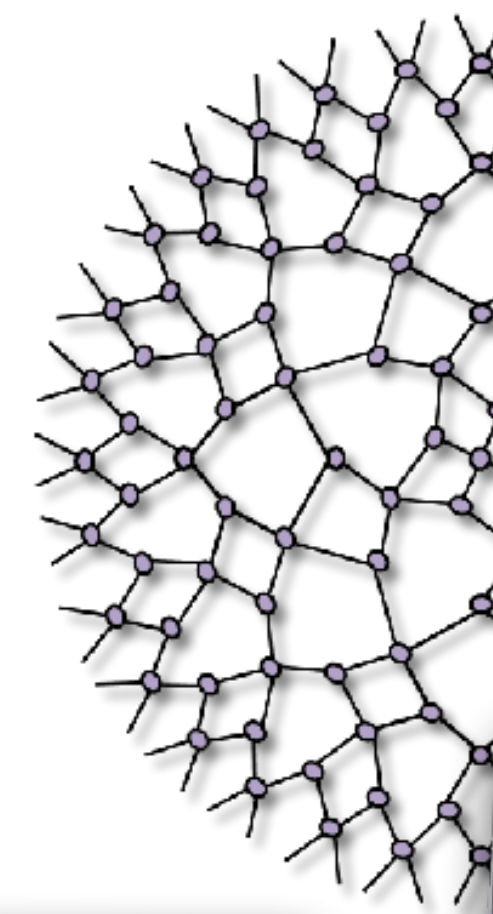
# Conclusion

- ❖ QOC can assist in creating more efficient algorithms.
- ❖ Allows to avoid decoherence.
- ❖ No barren plateaus.

- ❖ QOC is very sensitive to device config.
- ❖ It is classically hard to scale.
- ❖ Can we use it as a foundation model?
- ❖ How to do error mitigation?

Where is the quantum advantage then?

Tensor Networks



IBM quantum computer