

# QVO VADIS

## QUANTVM MACHINE LEARNING

JENS EISERT, FU BERLIN

QTML, MELBOURNE, 2024

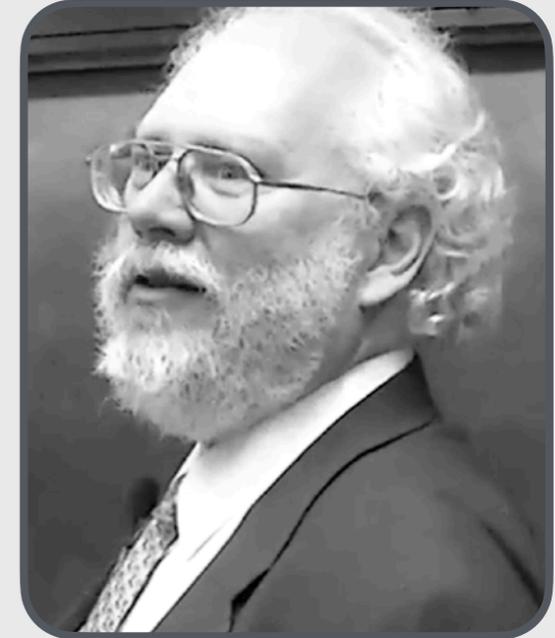
- **Quantum computing** was a purely conceptual idea



Feynman

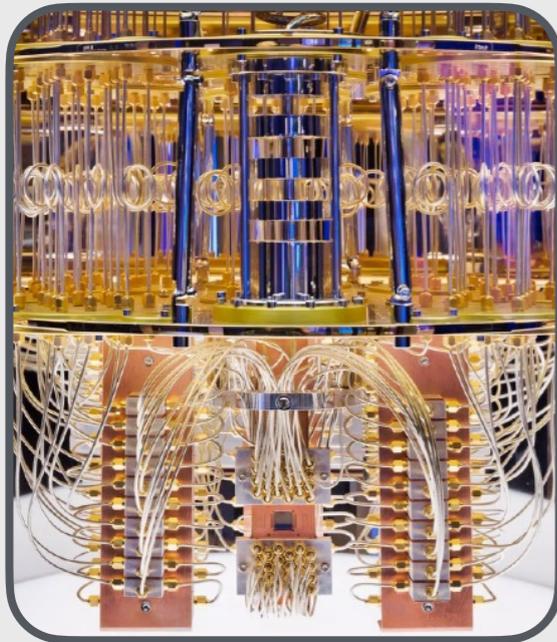


Benioff, Deutsch

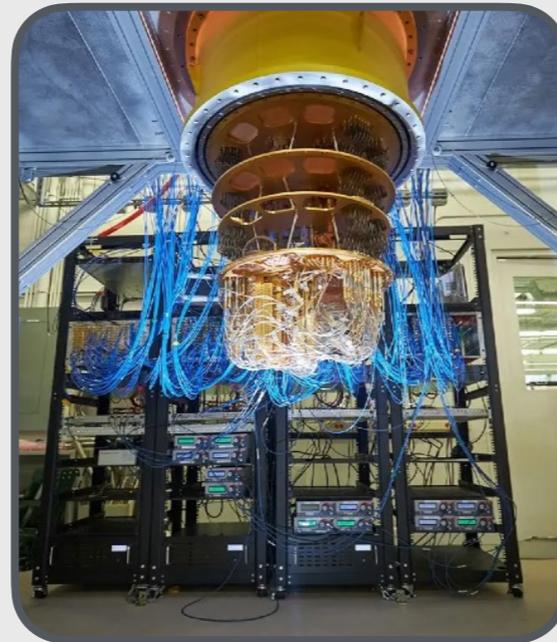


Shor

- Seems to be moving closer to **reality**



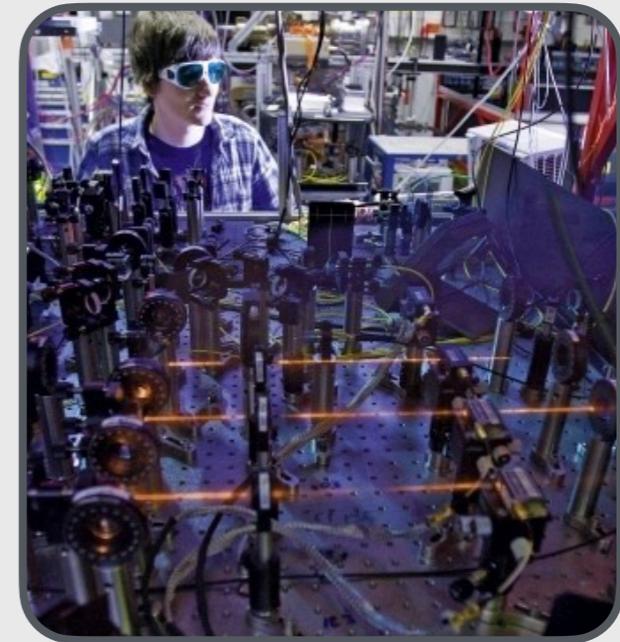
IBM



Google



QuERA



European efforts: BMBF-funded efforts, planqc, Pasqal, etc

- Can we reasonably hope for realistic quantum devices to provide a **speedup over classical computers?**

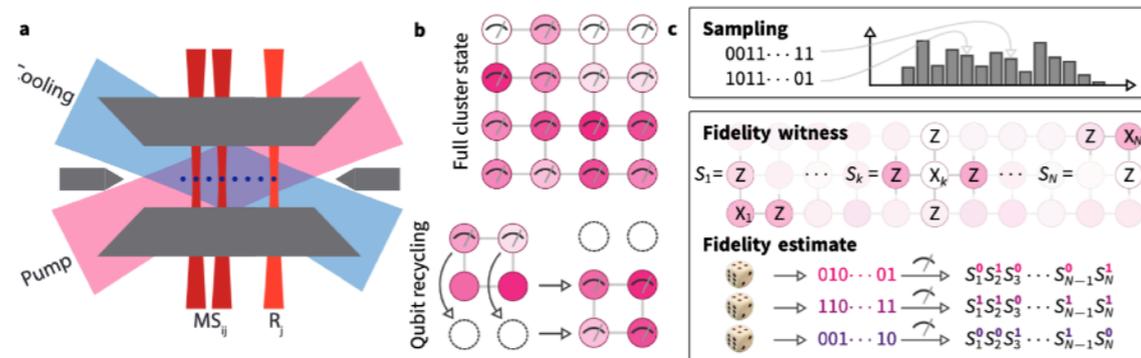


- **Quantum advantage** for paradigmatic sampling problems
- Sampling up to a constant error in  $||\cdot||_{l_1}$  distance is **classically hard**

Aaronson, Arkhipov, Th Comp 9, 143 (2013)

Arute, Arya, ..., Martinis, Nature 574, 505 (2019)

Wang, Qin, Ding, Chen, Chen, You, He, Jiang, Wang, You, Renema, Hoefling, Lu, Pan, Phys Rev Lett 123, 250503 (2019)



- **Efficient verification**

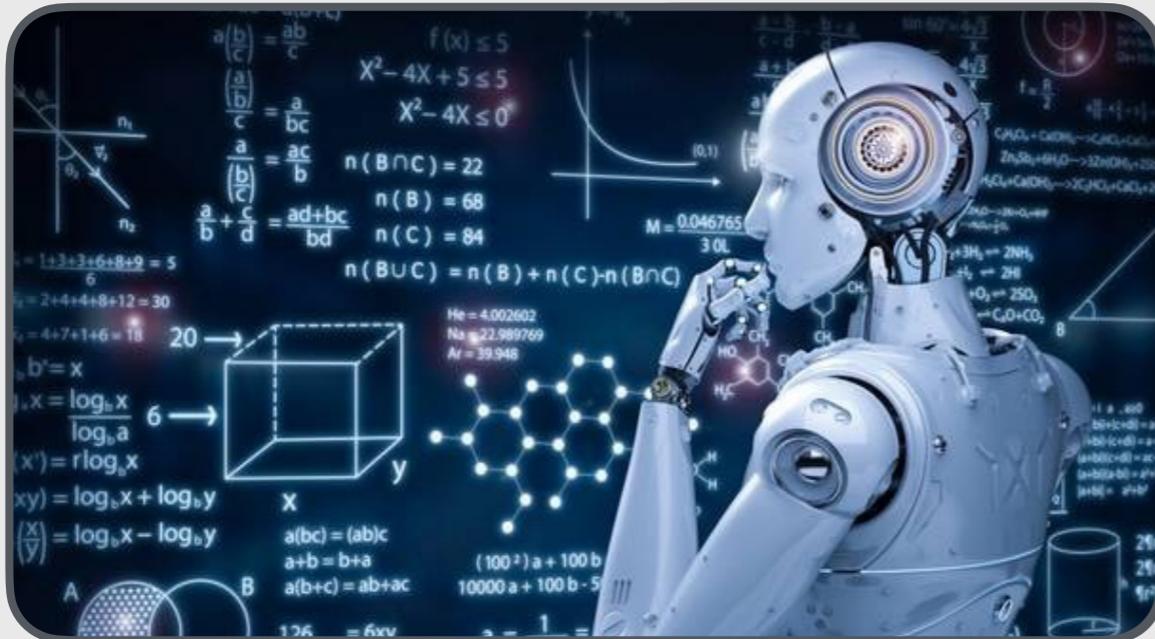
Ringbauer, Hinsche, Feldker, Faehrmann, Bermejo-Vega, Edmunds, Stricker, Marciniak, Meth, Pogorelov, Postler, Blatt, Schindler, Eisert, Monz, Hangleiter, Nature Communications, in press (2024)

ded

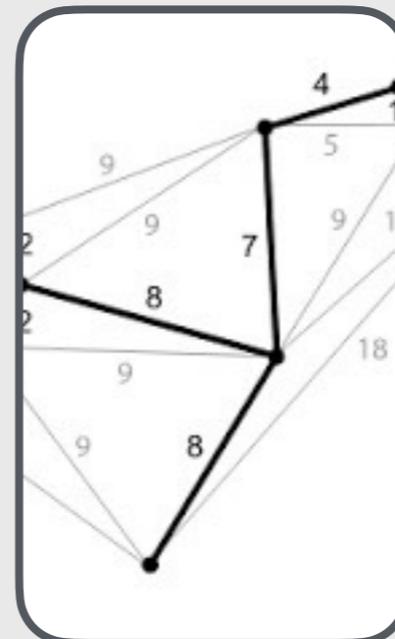
- Can we reasonably hope for realistic quantum devices to provide a **speedup over classical computers?**



- **Practically** minded applications



Machine learning



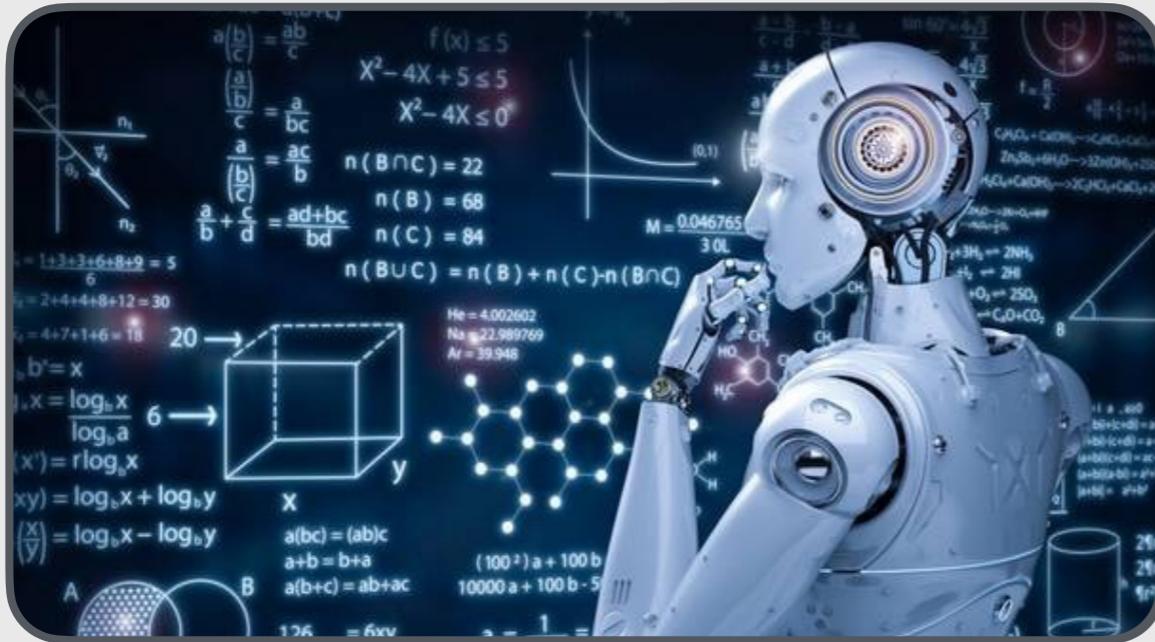
Optimization



Quantum simulation

- Can we reasonably hope for realistic quantum devices to provide a **speedup over classical computers**?

- **Machine learning** has changed the world



Machine learning



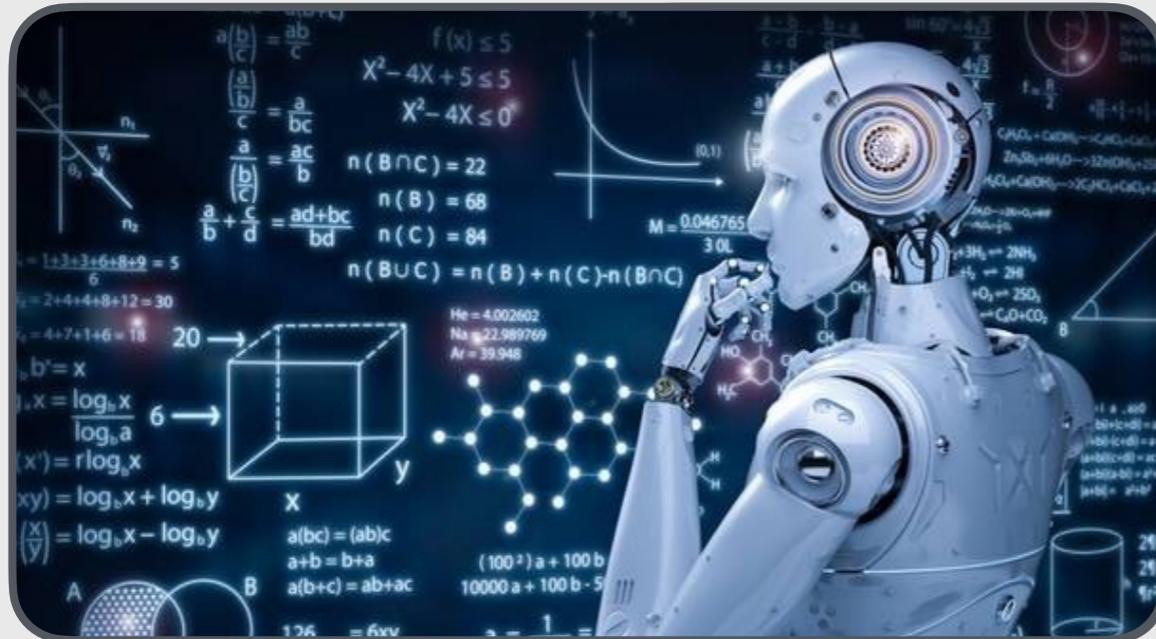
Optimization



Quantum simulation

- Can quantum computers assist in meaningful **machine learning tasks**?

- **Machine learning** has changed the world



Machine learning



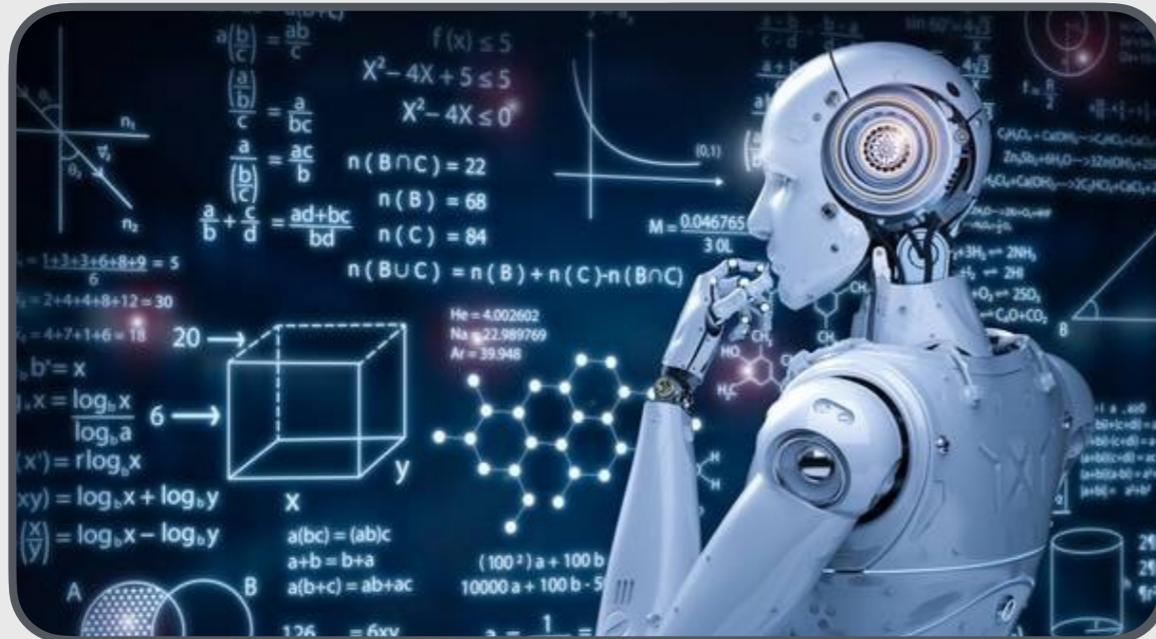
Optimization



Quantum simulation

- **The good:** Steps towards showing quantum advantages in **machine learning tasks**

- **Machine learning** has changed the world



Machine learning



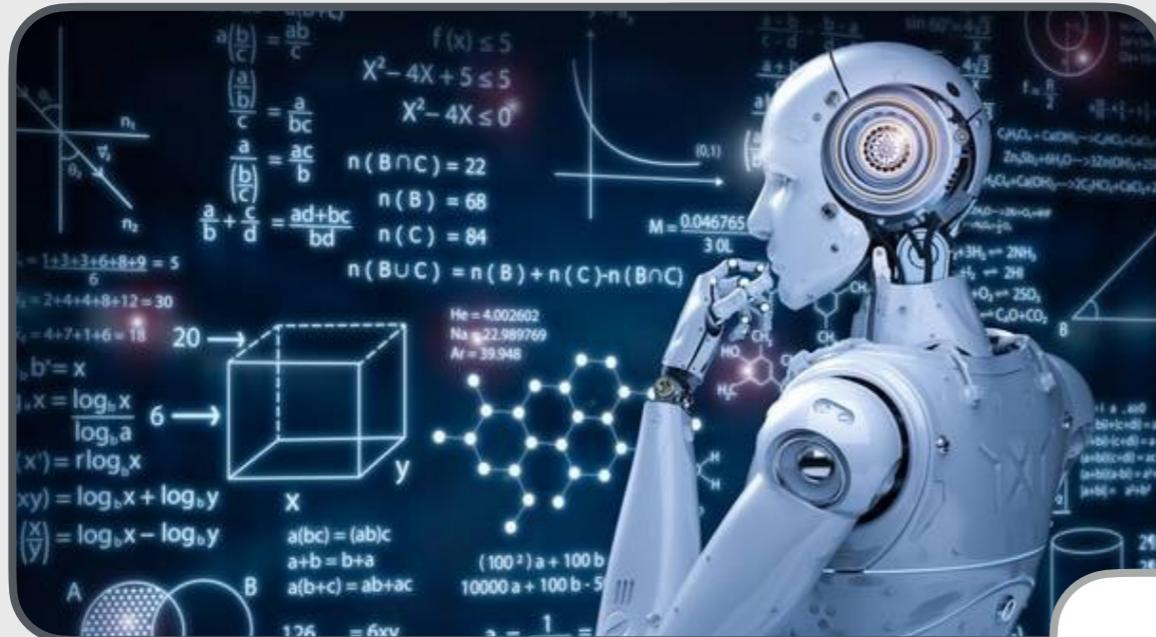
Optimization



Quantum simulation

- **The bad:** What **limitations** do we find?

- **Machine learning** has changed the world



Machine learning

- **The good, the bad, and the ugly:**  
What are **perspectives**?



**THE  
GOOD**

# THE GOOD: QUANTUM ADVANTAGES IN MACHINE LEARNING

Pirnay, Ulitzsch, Wilde, Eisert, Seifert, *Science Advances* 10, eadj5170 (2024)

Liu, Liu, Liu, Ye, Alexeev, Eisert, Liang, *Nature Communications* 15, 434 (2024)

Pirnay, Jerbi, Seifert, Eisert, in preparation (2024)

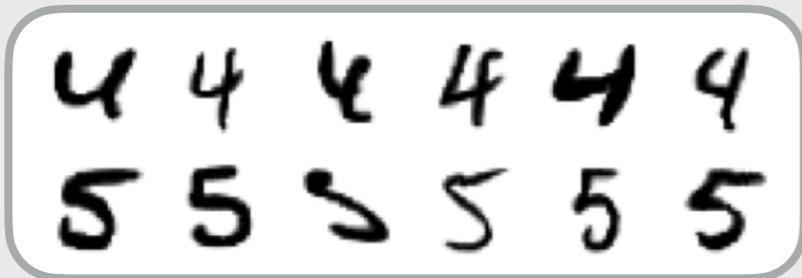
Pirnay, Sweke, Eisert, Seifert, *Phys Rev A* 107, 042416 (2023)

Sweke, Seifert, Hangleiter, Eisert, *Quantum* 5, 417 (2021)





- We would like to have **rigorous guarantees** for **state-of-the-art learning** algorithms applied on **real-world datasets**



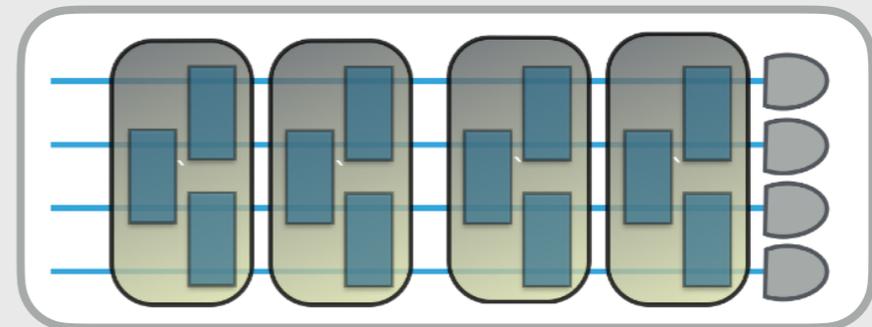
- **Data set**

- Pictures of cats and dogs
- Stock market data
- Protein configurations



- **Algorithm**

- Stochastic gradient descent
- Expectation maximization



- **Model**

- Neural networks
- Parameterised quantum circuits

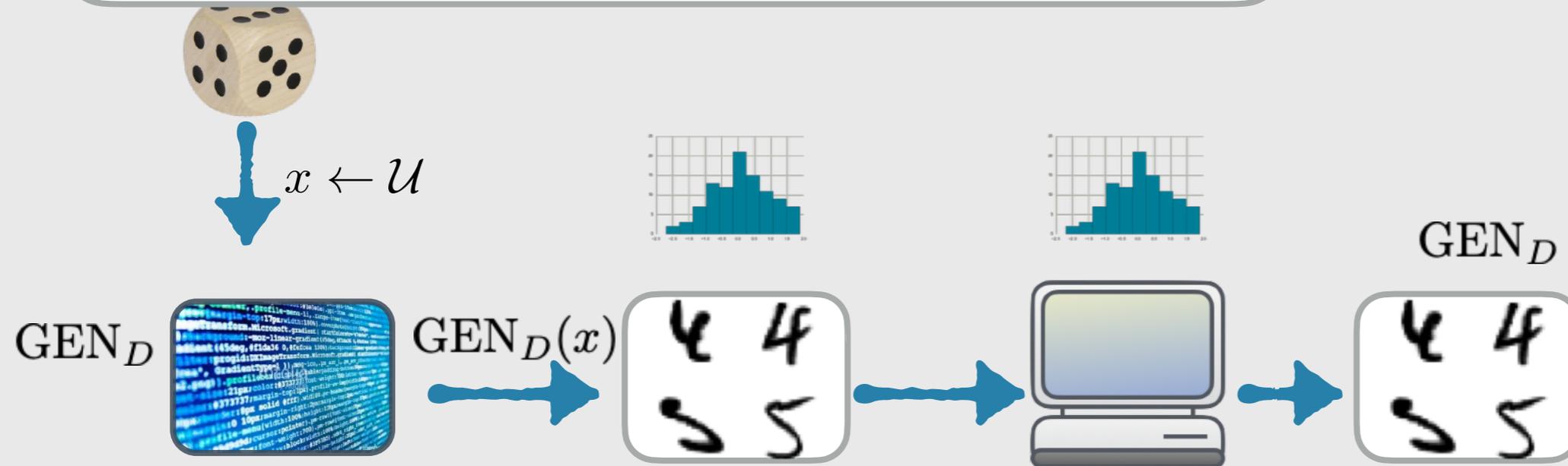
- **Sample complexity, computational complexity, generalisation bounds**

Dunjko, Briegel, Rep Prog Phys 81, 074001 (2018)

Biamonte, Wittek, Pancotti, Rebentrost, Wiebe, Lloyd, Nature 549, 195 (2017)

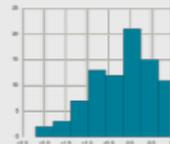
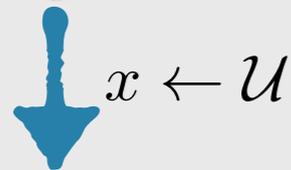
Arunachalam, de Wolf, arXiv:1701.06806 (2017)

- **Theorem 1 (informal):** There is a quantum advantage in **PAC distribution learning**





- **Theorem 1 (informal):** There is a quantum advantage in **PAC distribution learning**



- “Probably approximately correct” learning of distribution classes
- A distribution class  $\mathcal{C}$  is efficiently PAC learnable w.r.t. distance  $d$  if there is an algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$  which for every  $D \in \mathcal{C}$  and every  $\epsilon, \delta > 0$  given access to an oracle  $O(D)$ , outputs in time  $\text{poly}(|D|, 1/\epsilon, 1/\delta)$
- with probability at least  $1 - \delta$  (“probably”) a generator  $GEN_{D'}$
- of a distribution  $D'$  such that

$$d(D, D') < \epsilon$$

(“approximately correct”)

## • Proof techniques

- Hard to learn distributions using pseudorandom functions
- Goldreich-Goldwasser-Micali trees

## • Features

- Superpolynomial advantage for learning task
- Classical but artificial data
- Fault tolerant quantum computer

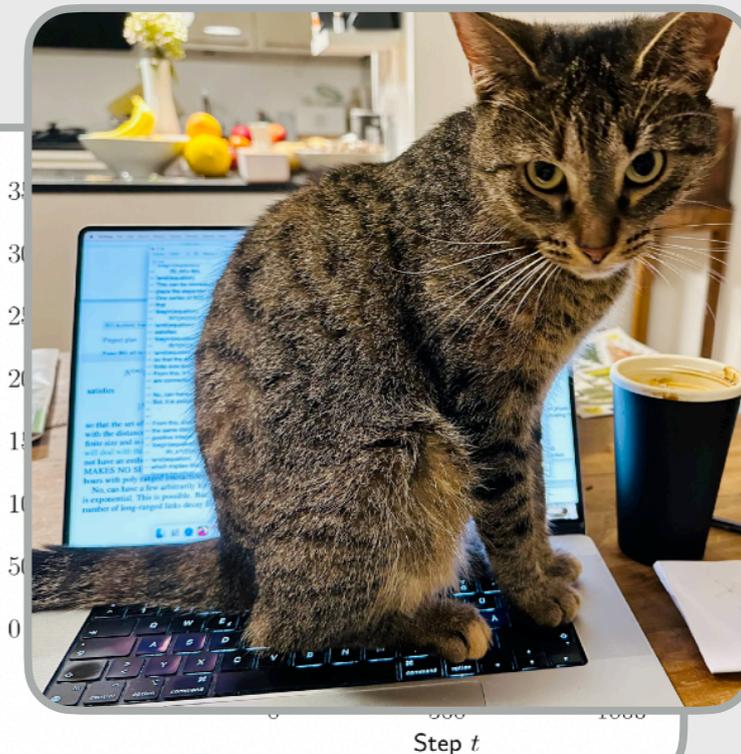
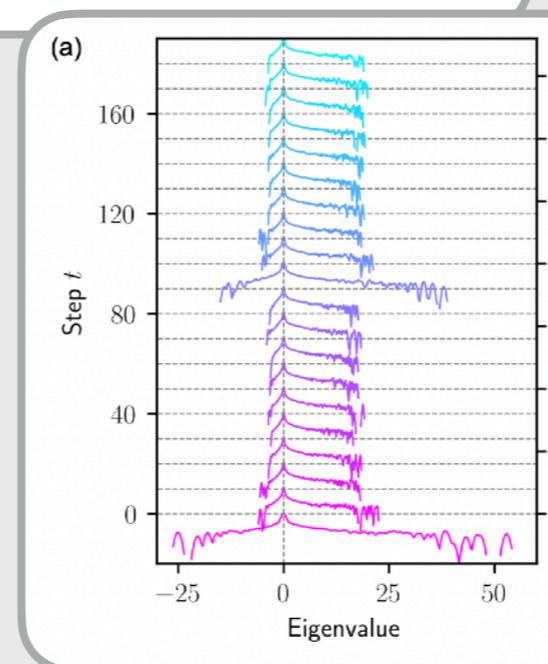
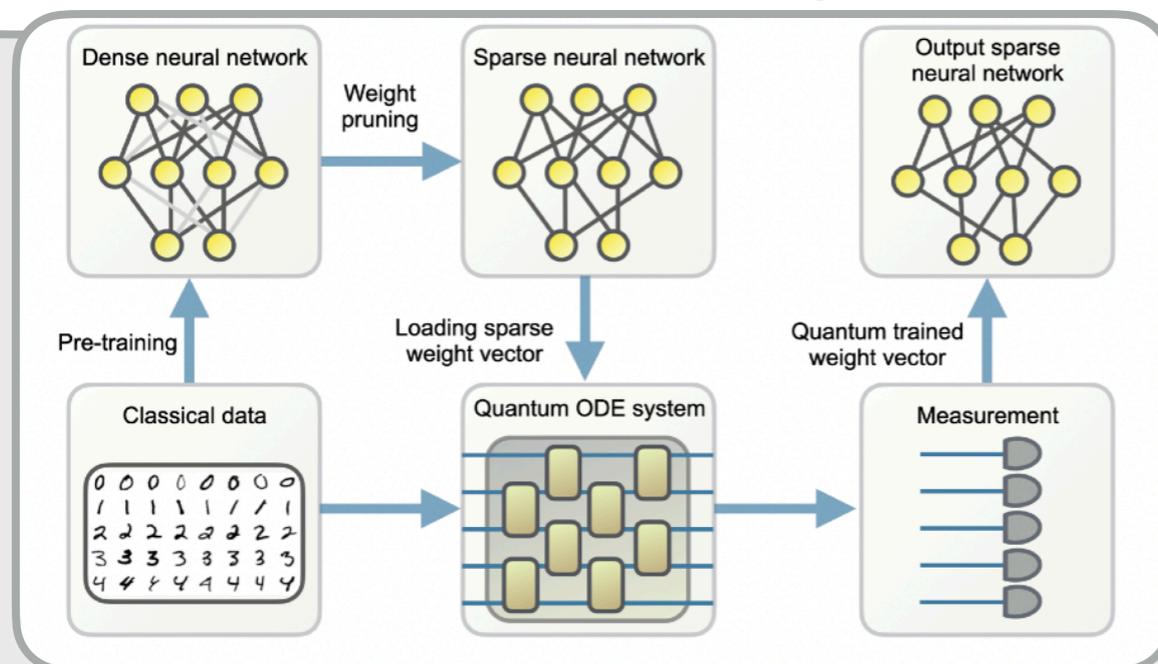
Sweke, Seifert, Hangleiter, Eisert, Quantum 5, 417 (2021)

Pirnay, Sweke, Eisert, Seifert, Phys Rev A 107, 042416 (2023)

Kearns, Mansour, Sellie, STOC (1994)

Compare Liu, Arunachalam, Temme, Nature Phys 17, 1013 (2021)

- **Theorem 2 (informal):** There is a quantum advantage in **training** pruned classical networks



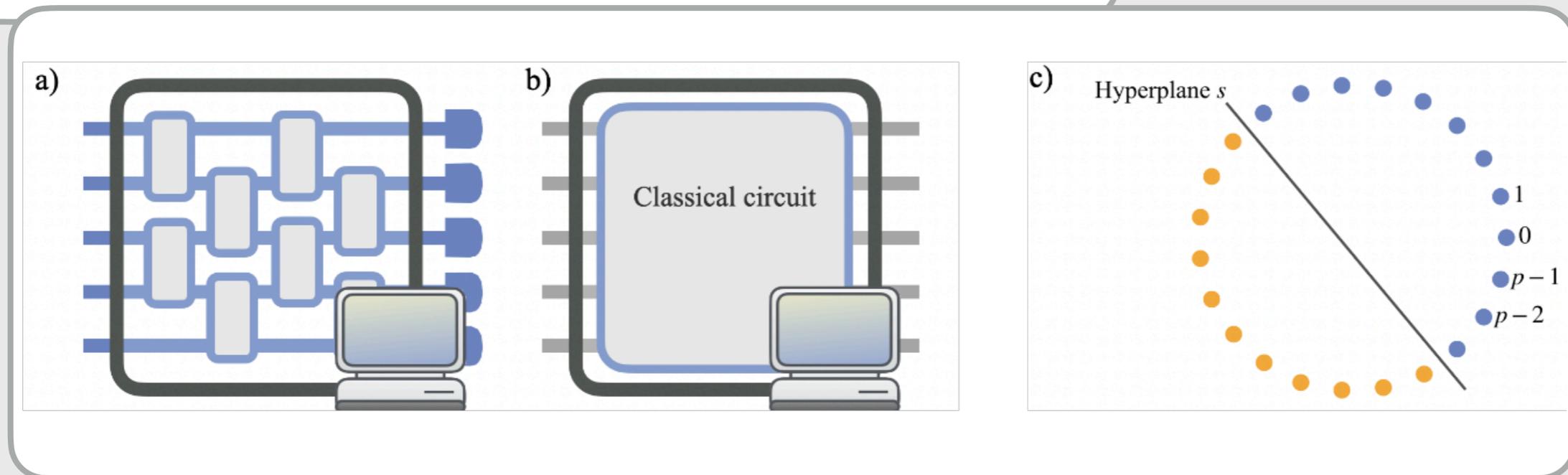
## • Proof techniques

- New variant of HHL algorithm for training pruned sparse classical networks

## • Features

- Superpolynomial advantage in training over gradient descent
- Classical and natural data
- Fault tolerant quantum computer

- **Theorem 3 (informal):** There is a quantum advantage for **shallow quantum circuits**



- **Proof techniques**

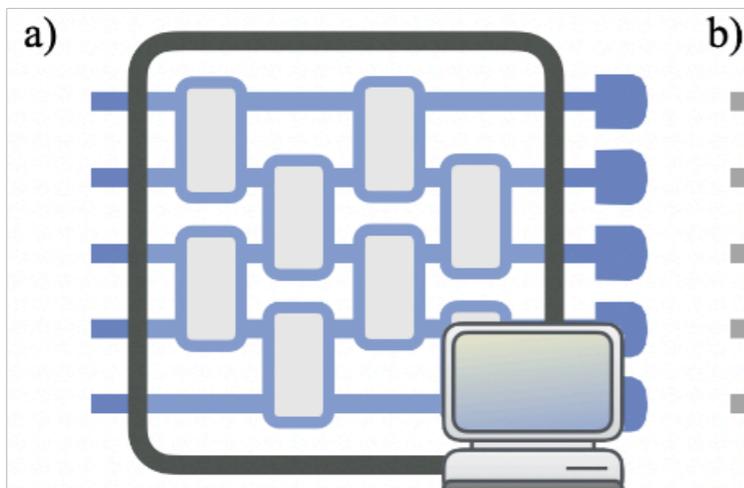
- Construct concept classes from quantum advantages from shallow circuits

- **Features**

- Constant-depth quantum vs  $\omega(\log \log(n))$  ( $\text{NC}^0$ ) circuits
- Classical and artificial data
- Near-term quantum computer

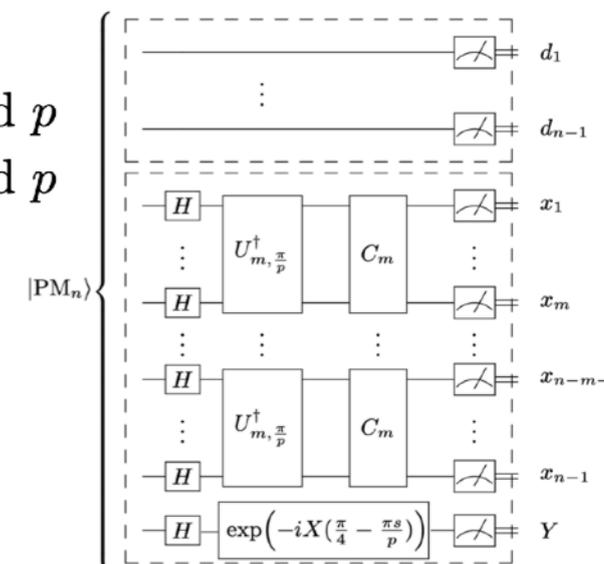


- **Theorem 3 (informal):**  $\text{TC}^0 \not\subseteq \text{NC}^0$  with a constant depth advantage for shallow circuits



- **Core idea:** Devise a PAC generator learning advantage from an unconditional sampling advantage of  $\text{QNC}^0$  over  $\text{NC}^0$
- Encode hyperplane learning problem into the "majority mod  $p$ " function

$$\text{majmod}_{p,s}(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } |x| + s < p/2 \pmod{p} \\ 1, & \text{if } |x| + s > p/2 \pmod{p} \end{cases}$$

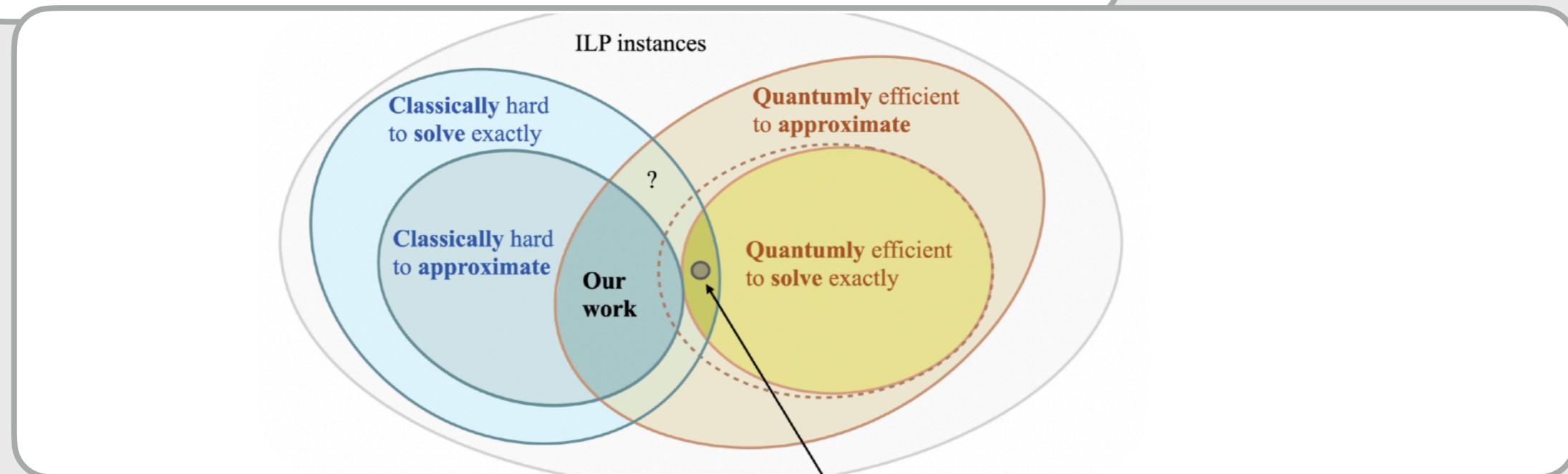


Building on Bene Watts, Parham, arXiv:2301.00995 (2013)  
Bravyi, Gosset, König, Science 362, 308 (2018)

## • Proof techniques

- Construct concept classes from quantum advantages from shallow circuits
- Constant-depth quantum vs  $\omega(\log \log(n))$  ( $\text{NC}^0$ ) circuits
- Classical and artificial data
- Near-term quantum computer

- **Theorem 4 (informal):** There is a quantum advantage in **integer programming**



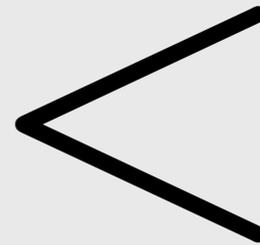
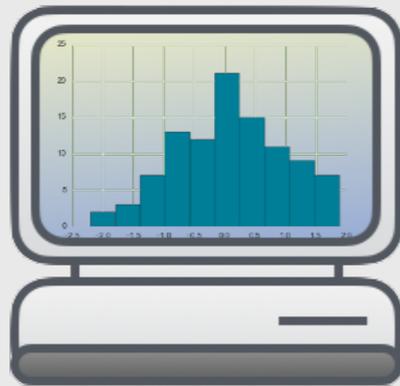
- **Proof techniques**

- Occam's razor, computational learning theory applied to formula coloring problem
- Hardness of inverting RSA encryption

- **Features**

- Approximating hard classically hard instances
- Artificial instances
- Fault tolerant quantum computer

- Proven **quantum advantages** in interesting learning (and some optimization) problems





**THE  
BAD**

# THE BAD: LIMITATIONS ALREADY FOR SHALLOW CIRCUITS

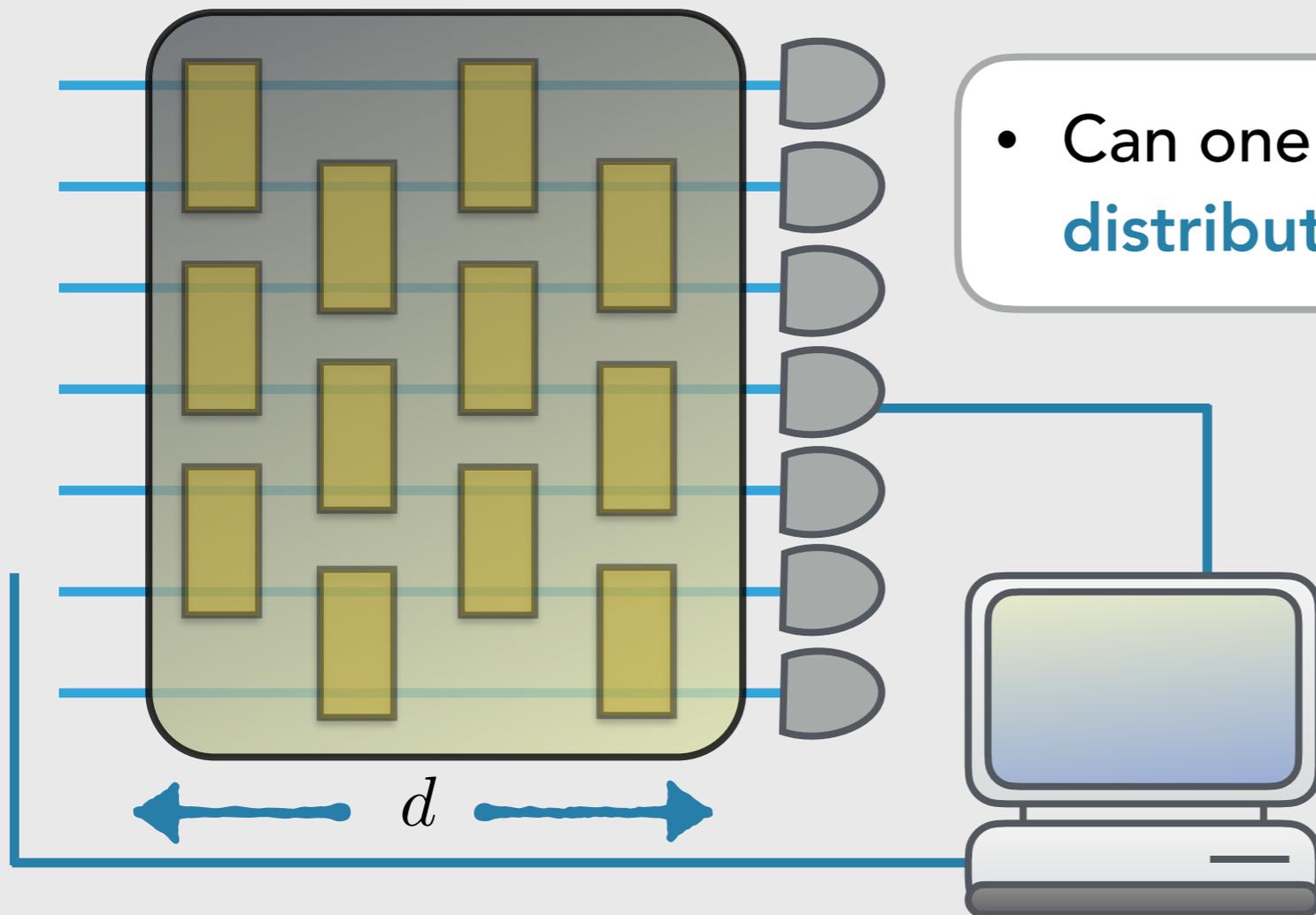
Quek, Stilck França, Khatri, Meyer, Eisert, Nature Physics 20, 1648 (2024)

Mele, Angrisani, Ghosh, Khatri, Eisert, Stilck Franca, Quek, arXiv:2403.13927 (2024)

Hinsche, Ioannou, Nietner, Haferkamp, Quek, Hangleiter, Seifert, Eisert, Sweke, Phys Rev Lett 130, 240602 (2023)

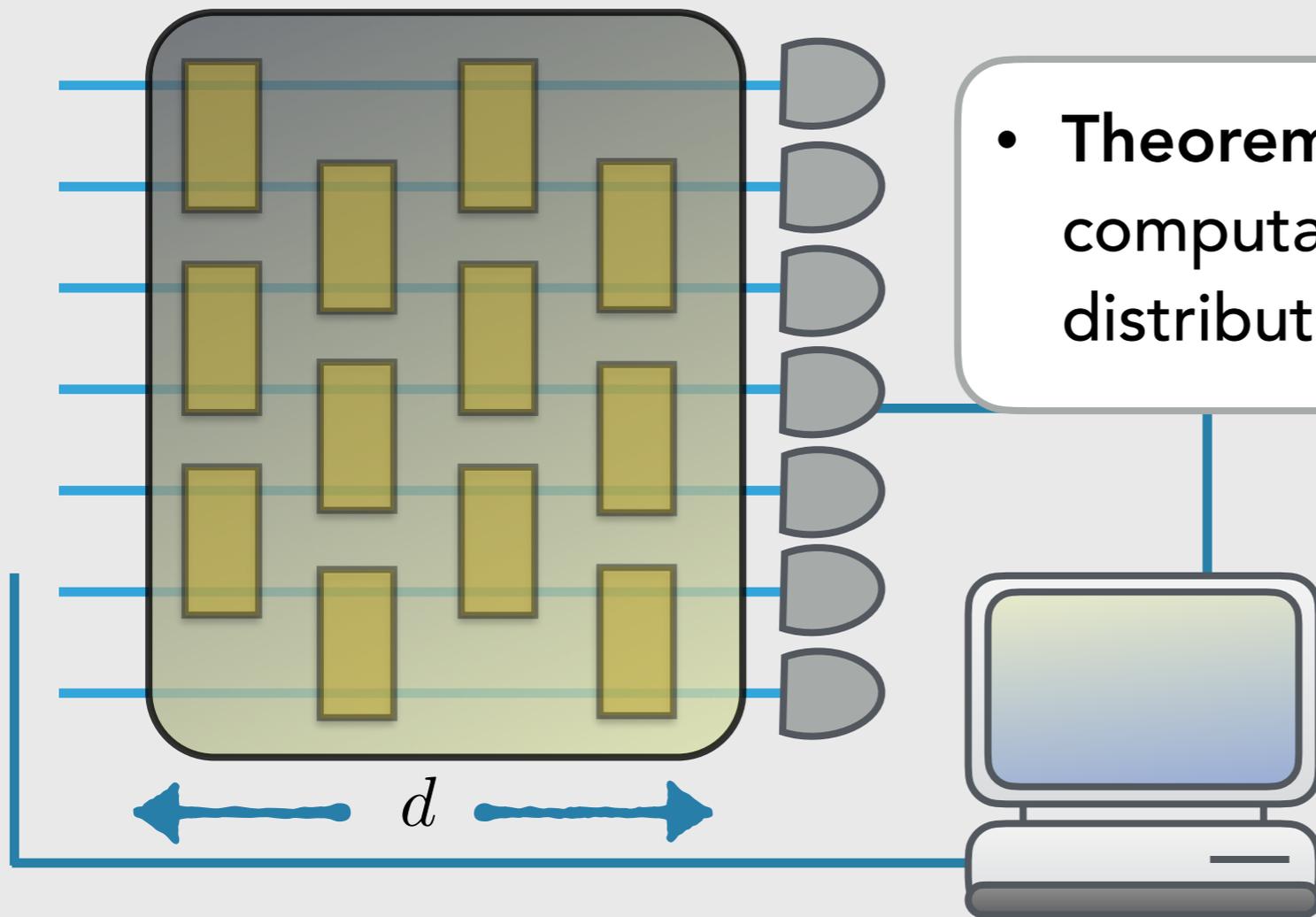


- Question: What **limitations** do we find?



- Can one (PAC) learn the **output distribution** of quantum circuits?

- Question: What **limitations** do we find?

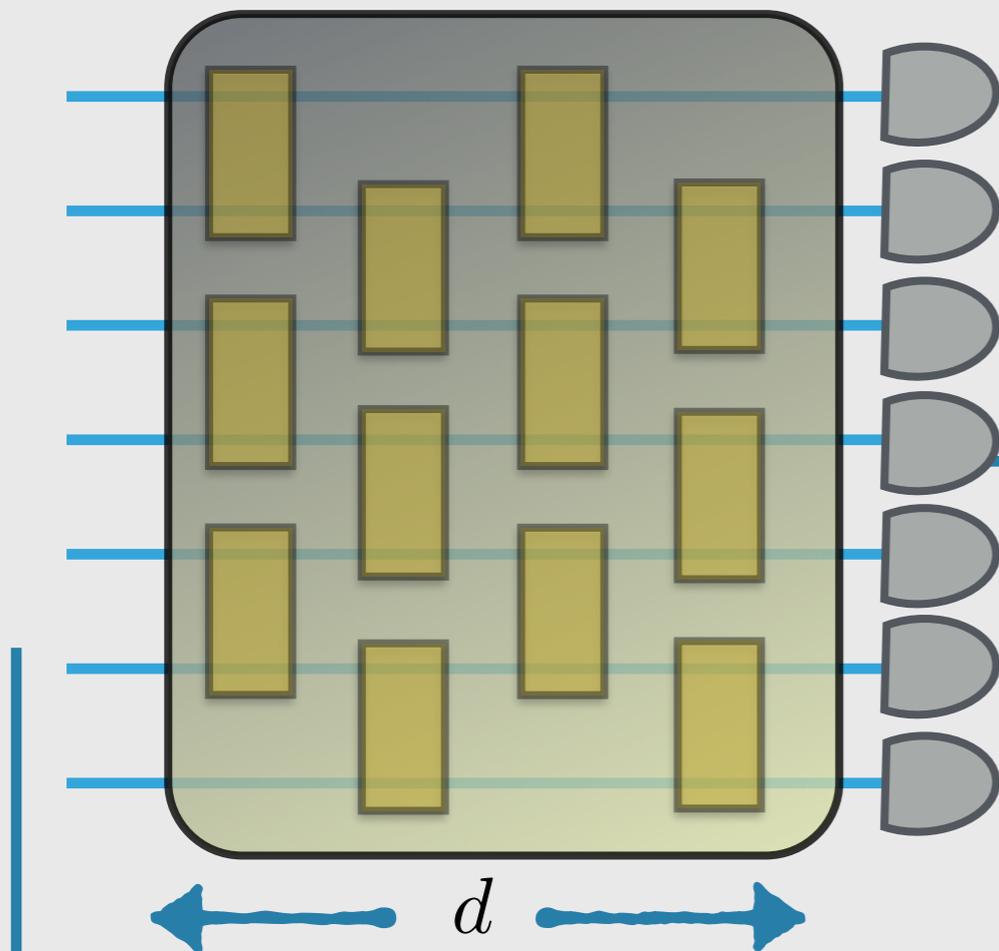


- **Theorem 5:** Can efficiently (sample and computationally) learn the output distribution of Clifford circuits

- **Proof technique**
- Clifford-circuit output distributions uniform over affine subspaces of finite-dimensional vector space  $\mathbb{F}_2^n$



- Question: What **limitations** do we find?



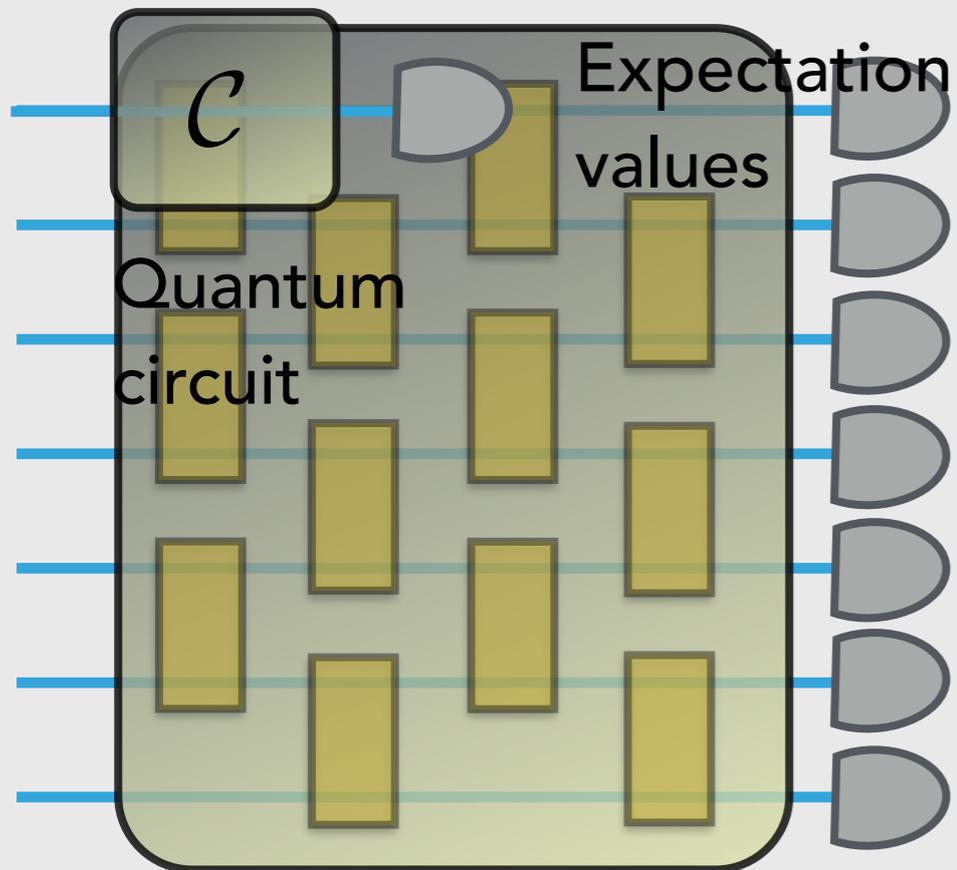
- **Theorem 5:** Can efficiently (sample and computationally) learn the output distribution of Clifford circuits
- Yet, a single T-gate renders learning hard

- **Proof technique**

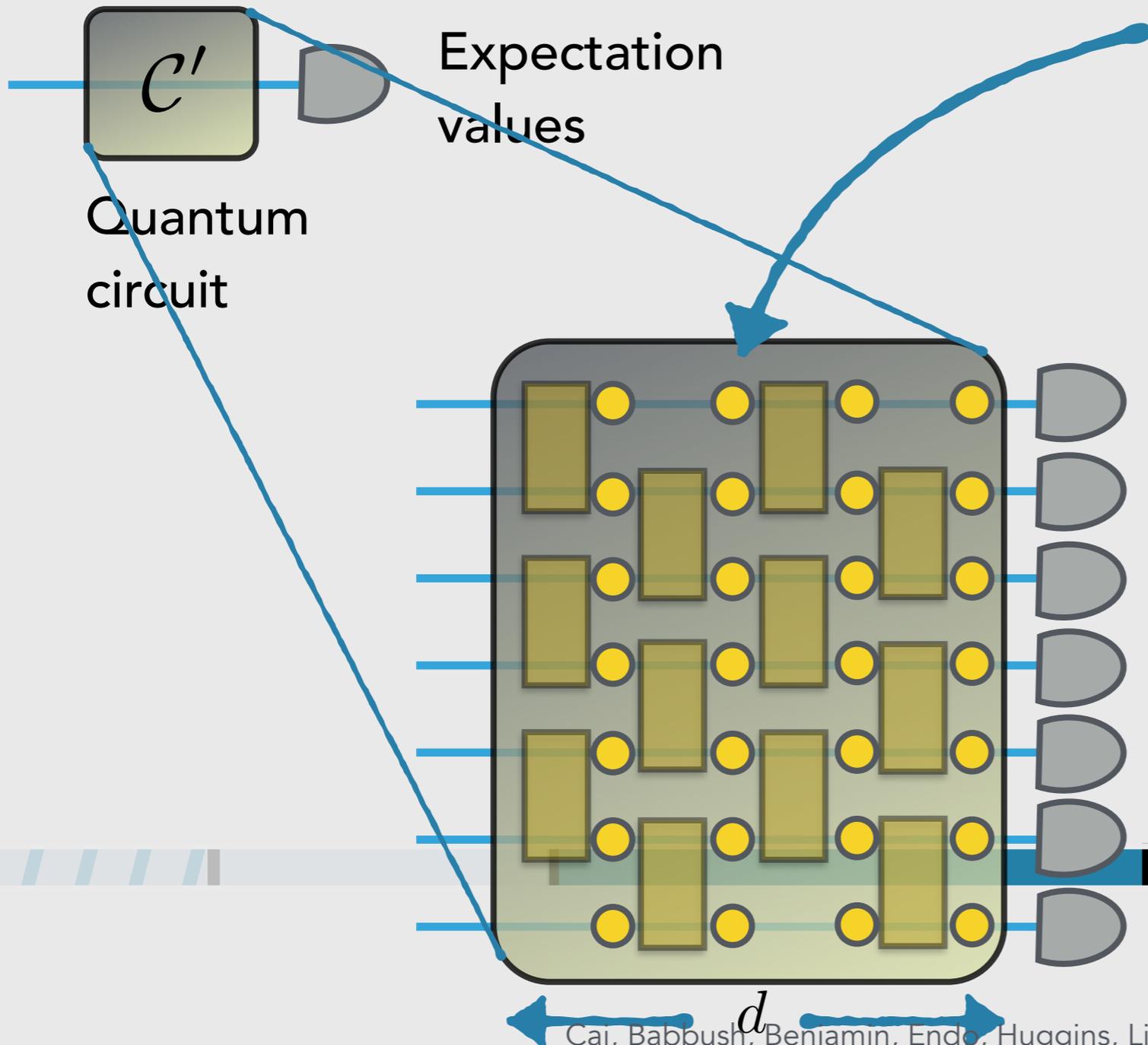
- Learning parity with noise
- Remains **average-case hard**

Nietner, Ioannou, Sweke, Kueng, Eisert, Hinsche, Haferkamp, arXiv:2305.05765 (2023)

- Actual circuits are **noisy**



- Actual circuits are **noisy**



- Noise and decoherence, for now **depolarizing**

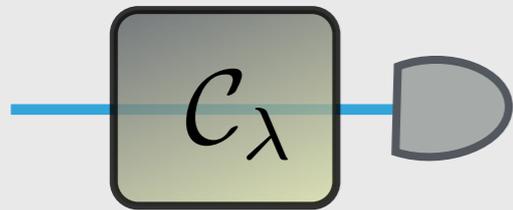
$$\mathcal{D}_p(M) = pM + (1 - p)\text{tr}(M)\frac{\mathbb{I}}{2}$$

but can also be non-unital

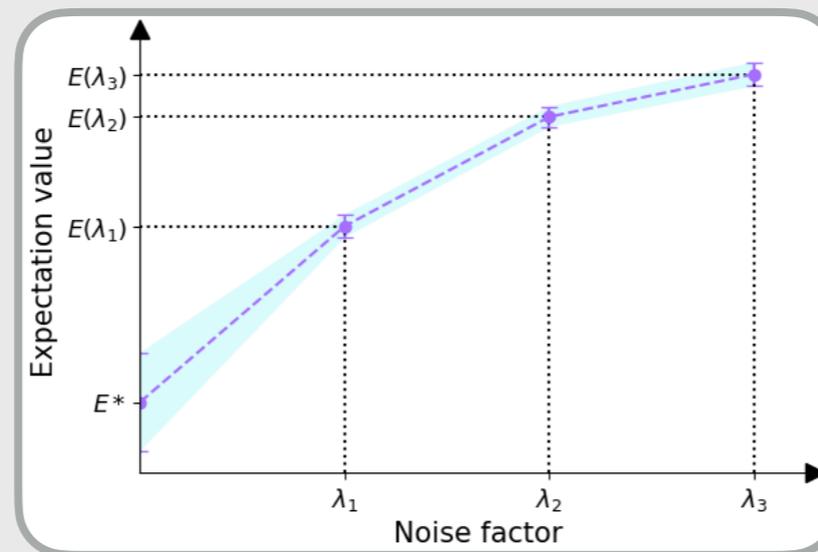
Temme, Bravyi, Gambetta, Phys Rev Lett 119, 180509 (2017)  
 Cai, Babbush, Benjamin, Endo, Huggins, Li, McClean, O'Brien, Cai et al, Rev Mod Phys 95, 045005 (2022)



- Zero-noise extrapolation



- Add noise levels to  $C_\lambda$
- Measure  $E(\lambda) = \text{tr}(C_\lambda(\rho_{\text{in}})O)$
- Extrapolate to  $\lambda = 0$



Majumdar, Rivero, Metz, Hasan, Wang, 2023 IEEE Int Conf Quant Comp Eng (2023)

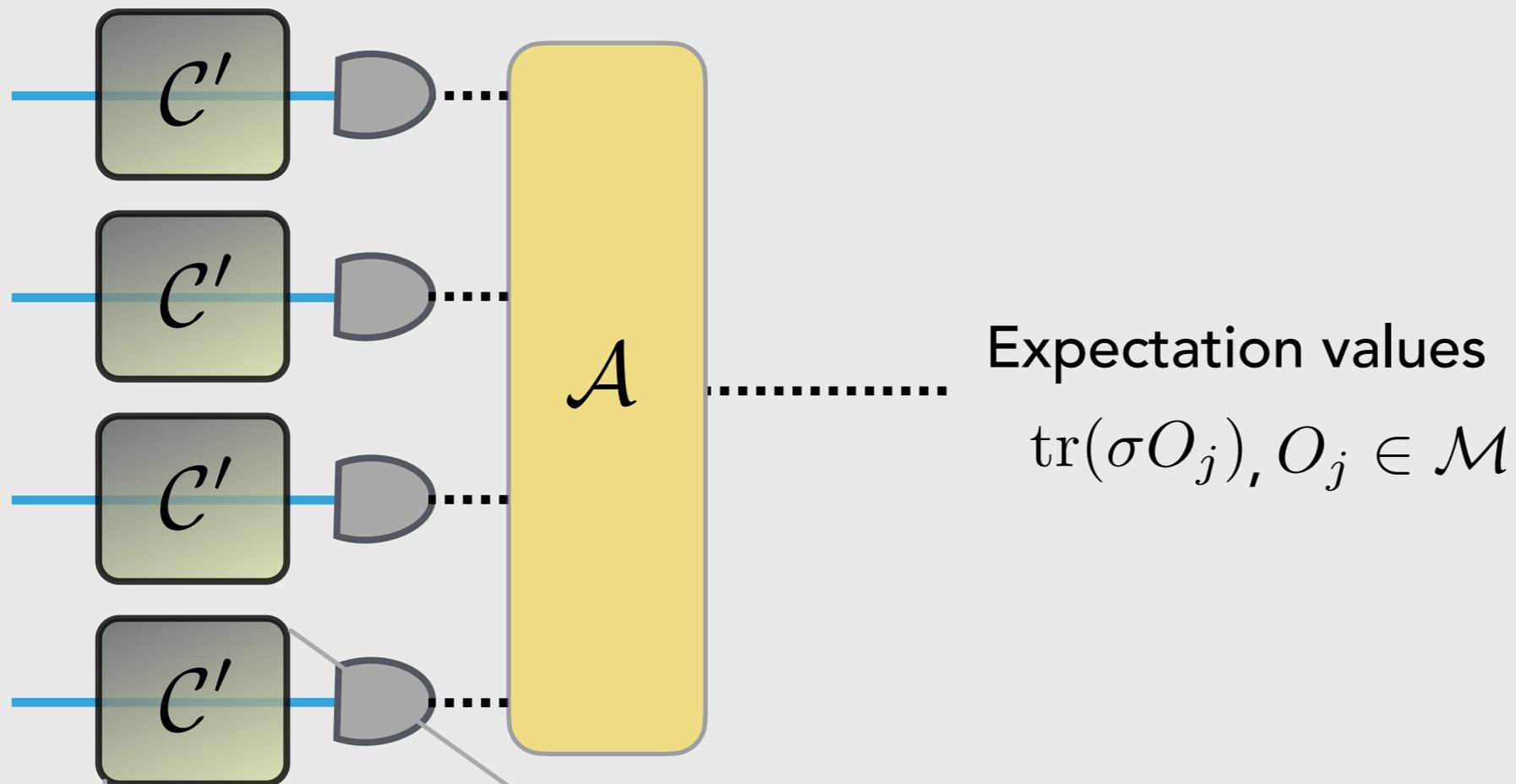
- Or, probabilistic error cancellation



Temme, Bravyi, Gambetta, Phys Rev Lett 119, 180509 (2017)

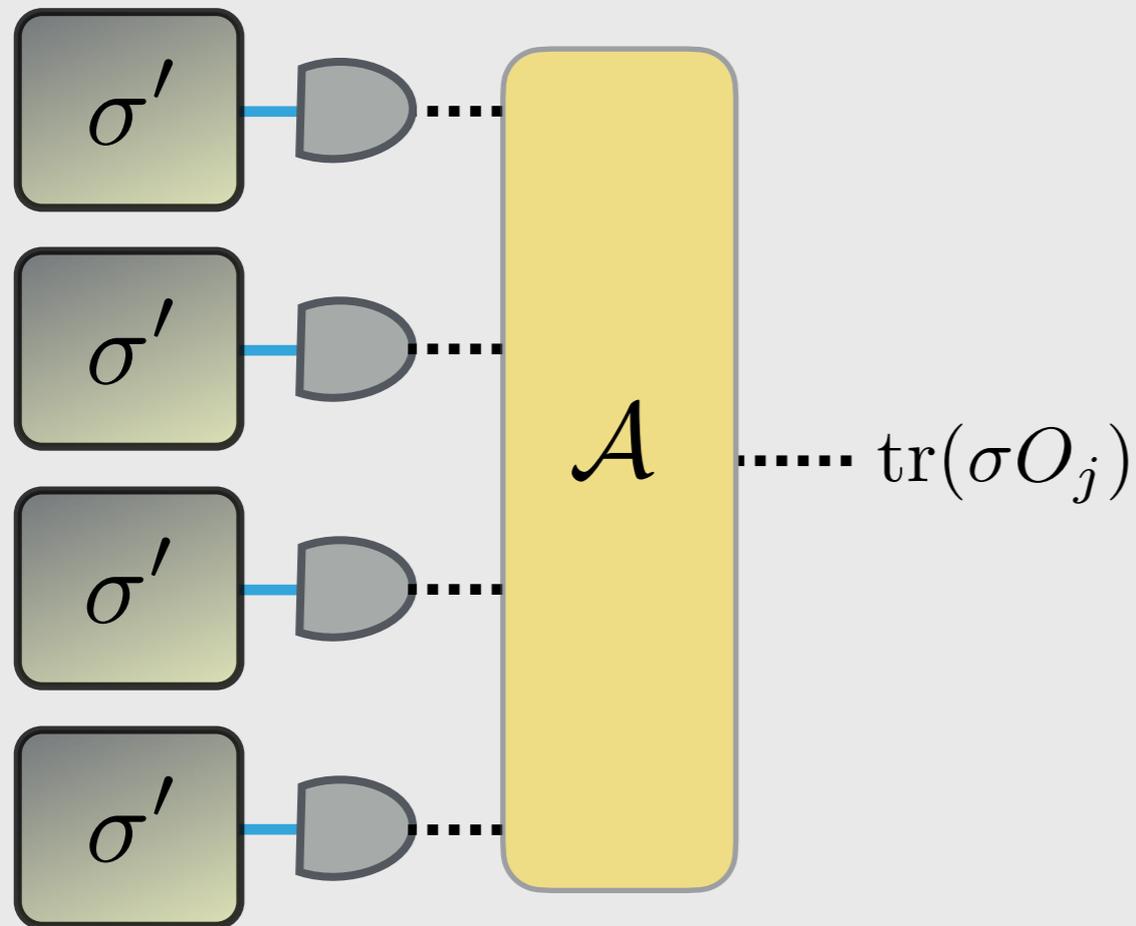
Cai, Babbush, Benjamin, Endo, Huggins, Li, McClean, O'Brien, Cai et al, Rev Mod Phys 95, 045005 (2022)

- Captures large classes of protocols





- How many copies of  $\sigma'$  are needed to estimate  $\text{tr}(\sigma O_j)$  for  $O_j \in \mathcal{M}$  to precision  $\varepsilon$  and probability  $1 - \delta$ ?



- **Statistical inference problem**
  - in terms of circuit depth  $d$
  - circuit width  $n$
  - (depolarizing) noise strength  $p$

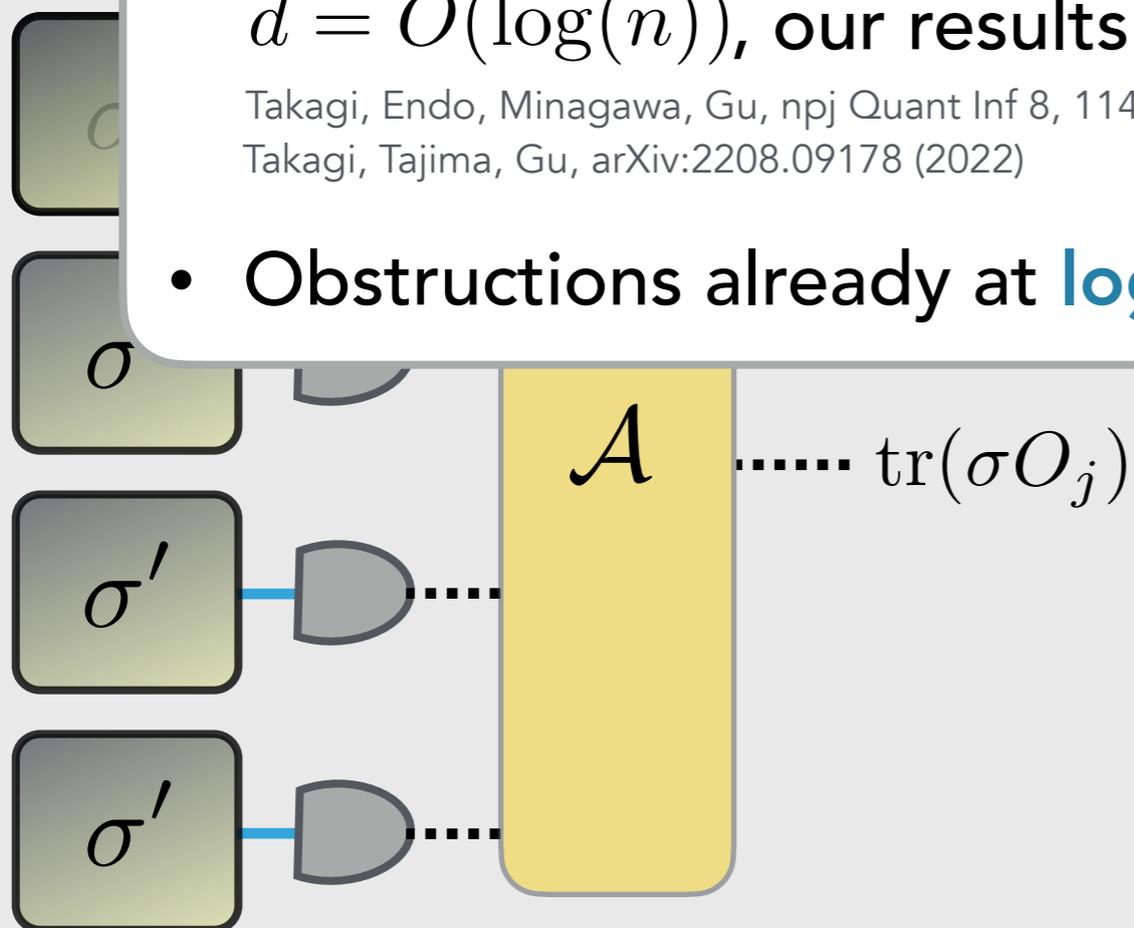


- **Theorem 6 (informal):** One needs  $\exp(\Omega(nd))$  **many samples**
- **Previously thought:**  $\exp(\Omega(d))$ , and since in NISQ regime  $d = O(\log(n))$ , our results are **exponentially** stronger

Takagi, Endo, Minagawa, Gu, npj Quant Inf 8, 114 (2022)

Takagi, Tajima, Gu, arXiv:2208.09178 (2022)

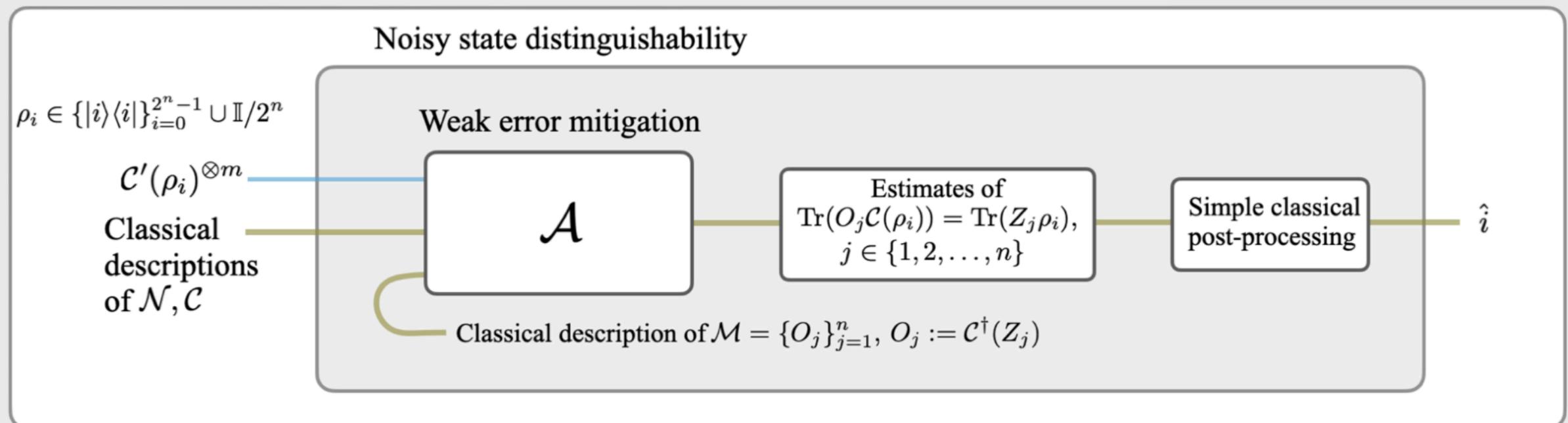
- **Obstructions already at log-log depth**



- Both for depolarizing
- and general local, including non-unital, noise



- Set up a **learning problem** that can be solved by error mitigation



- Discriminate outputs of noisy circuits of computational **basis states** from **maximally mixed** state,  $D(\mathcal{C}'(|i\rangle\langle i|) || \mathcal{C}'(\mathbb{I}/2))$

# THREE PROOF IDEAS



- Set up a **learning problem** that can be solved by error mitigation
- Lower bound the **sample complexity**

- Use **Fano's Lemma**: Any single-sample test distinguishing  $N + 1$  distributions  $P_0, \dots, P_N$  must fail with probability at least  $1 - \alpha$ ,

$$\frac{1}{\log(N)} \frac{1}{N + 1} \sum_{k=0}^N D(P_k || P_N) \leq \alpha$$

- Apply this to **noisy state distinguisher** for computational basis state or maximally mixed inputs

Gives right scaling

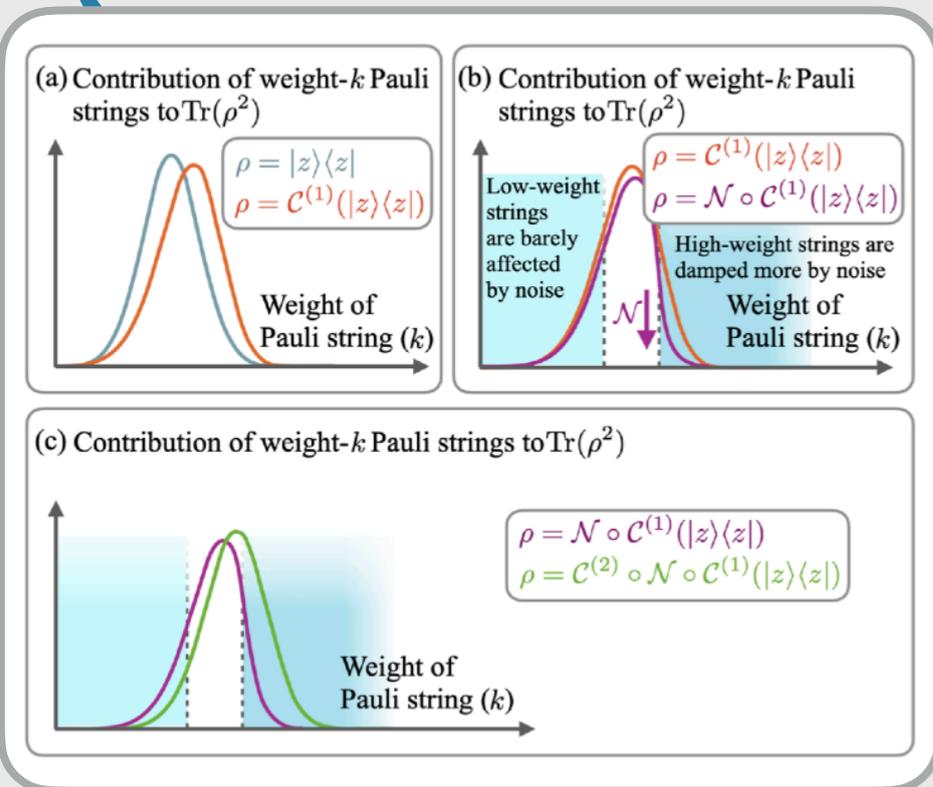
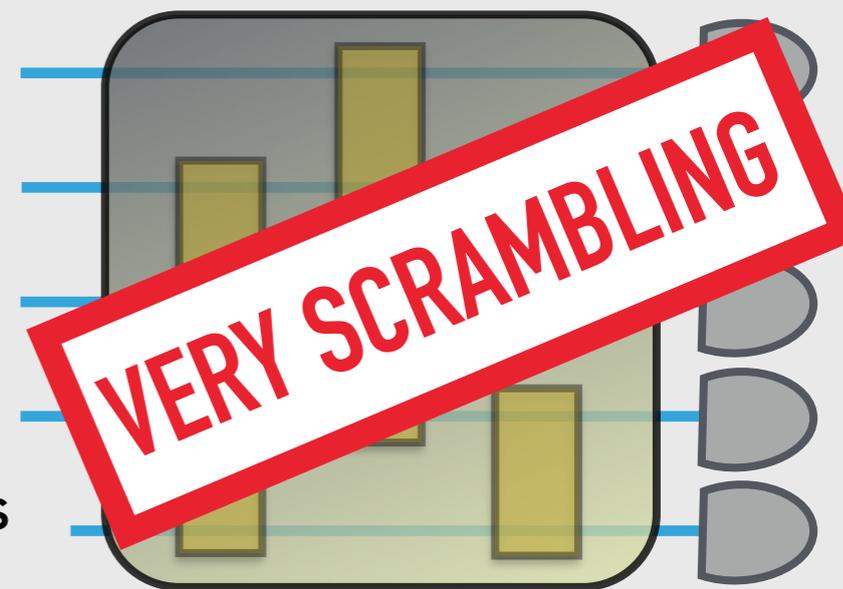


# THREE PROOF IDEAS



- Set up a **learning problem** that can be solved by error mitigation
- Lower bound the **sample complexity**
- **Construct circuits** for which bound  $D(\mathcal{C}'(|i\rangle\langle i|) || \mathcal{C}'(\mathbb{I}/2))$  is huge
  - Good enough to make the purity  $\text{tr}(\mathcal{C}'(|i\rangle\langle i|)^2)$  small
  - Clifford circuits for **2-designs** in depth  $\log^2(n)$

Cleve, Leung, Liu, Wang, Quant Inf Comp 16, 0721 (2016)



- Random circuits **shift** 'purity contribution' to larger weight Pauli words

Quek, Stilck França, Khatri, Meyer, Eisert, Nature Phys 20, 1648 (2024)



- There are **strong obstructions against error mitigation** already at log-log depth



- Does not constrain **quantum error correction**

- New **intermediate** schemes?

Onorati, Kitzinger, Helsen, Ioannou, Werner, Roth, Eisert, arXiv:2403.04751 (2024)

Seif, Cian, Zhou, Chen, Jiang, arXiv:2203.07309 (2022)

Koczor, Phys Rev X 11, 031057 (2021)

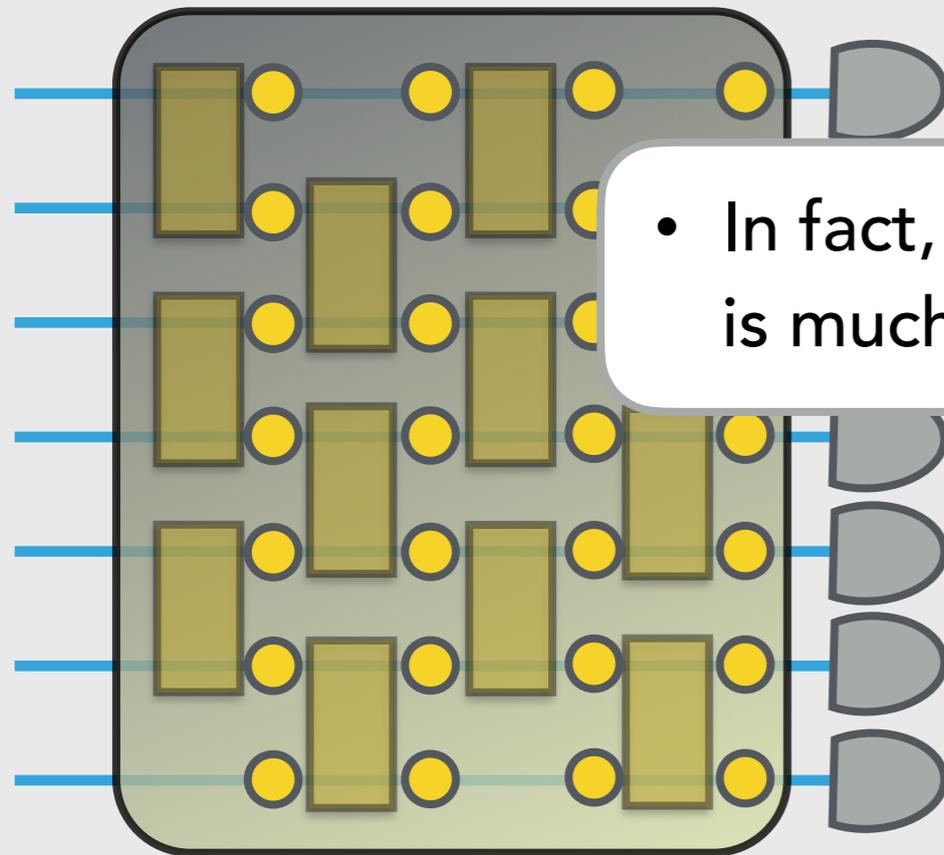
Huggins et al Phys Rev X 11, 041036 (2021)

- Does not **scale** and not work well **for all circuits**

Compare also Gonzales-Garcia, Trivedi, Cirac, arXiv:2203.15632 (2022)

Quek, Stilck França, Khatri, Meyer, Eisert, Nature Phys 20, 1648 (2024)

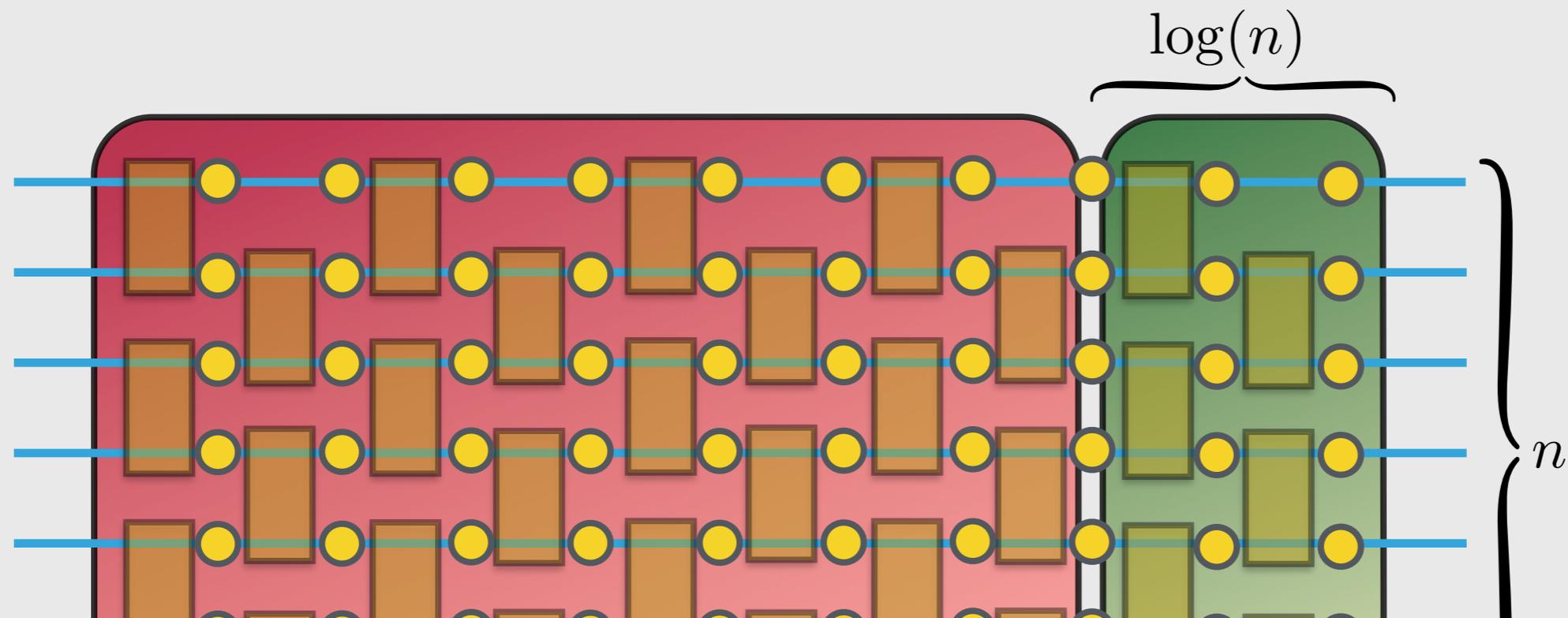
Compare also Nietner, arXiv:2310.17716 (2023)



- In fact, the impact of **non-unital noise** is much more drastic than anticipated

Ben-Or, Gottesman, Hassidim, arXiv:1301.1995

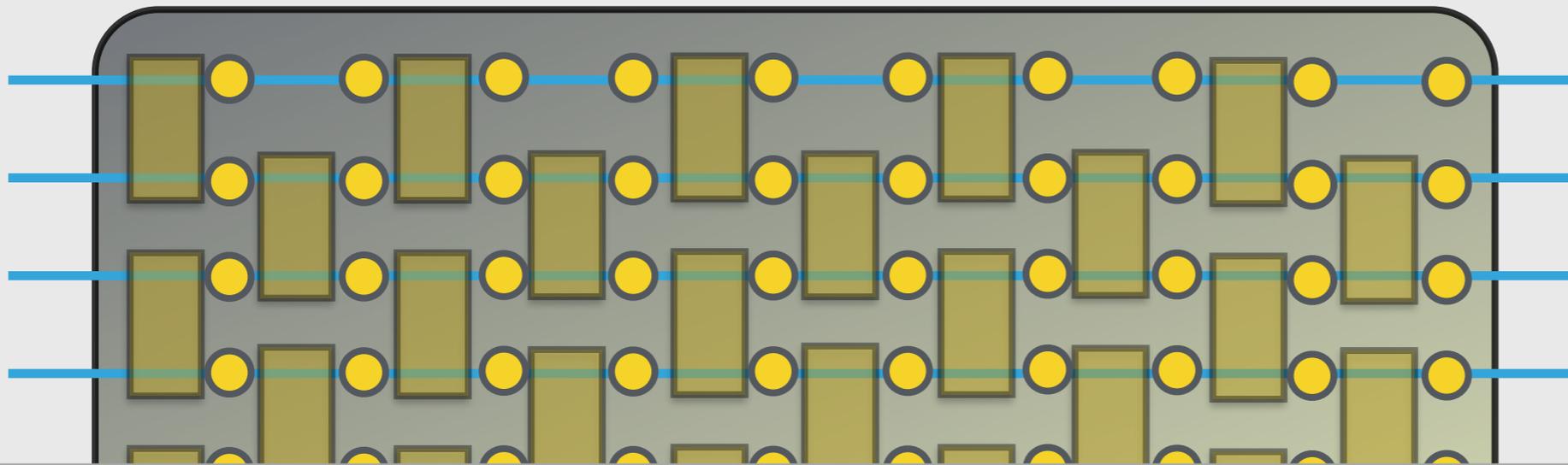
Mele, Angrisani, Ghosh, Khatri, Eisert, Stilck França, Quek, arXiv:2403.13927 (2024)  
Compare Fefferman, Ghosh, Gullans, Kuroiwa, Sharma, arXiv:2306.16659 (2023)



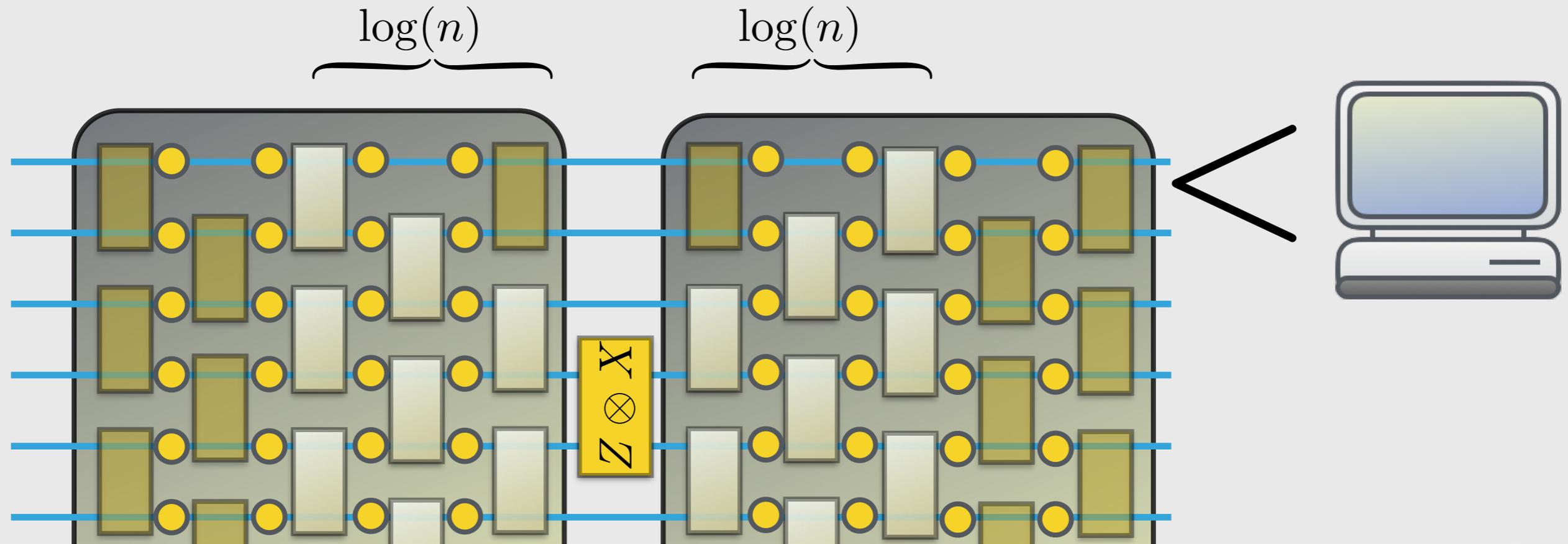
- **Theorem 7:** Deep random quantum circuits, under any uncorrected, possibly non-unital, noise, **effectively get "truncated"**



$$\min_{U_j} \text{tr}(H \rho(U_1, \dots, U_m))$$
$$\text{var}_{U_1, \dots, U_m}(C) = O(\exp(-n))$$

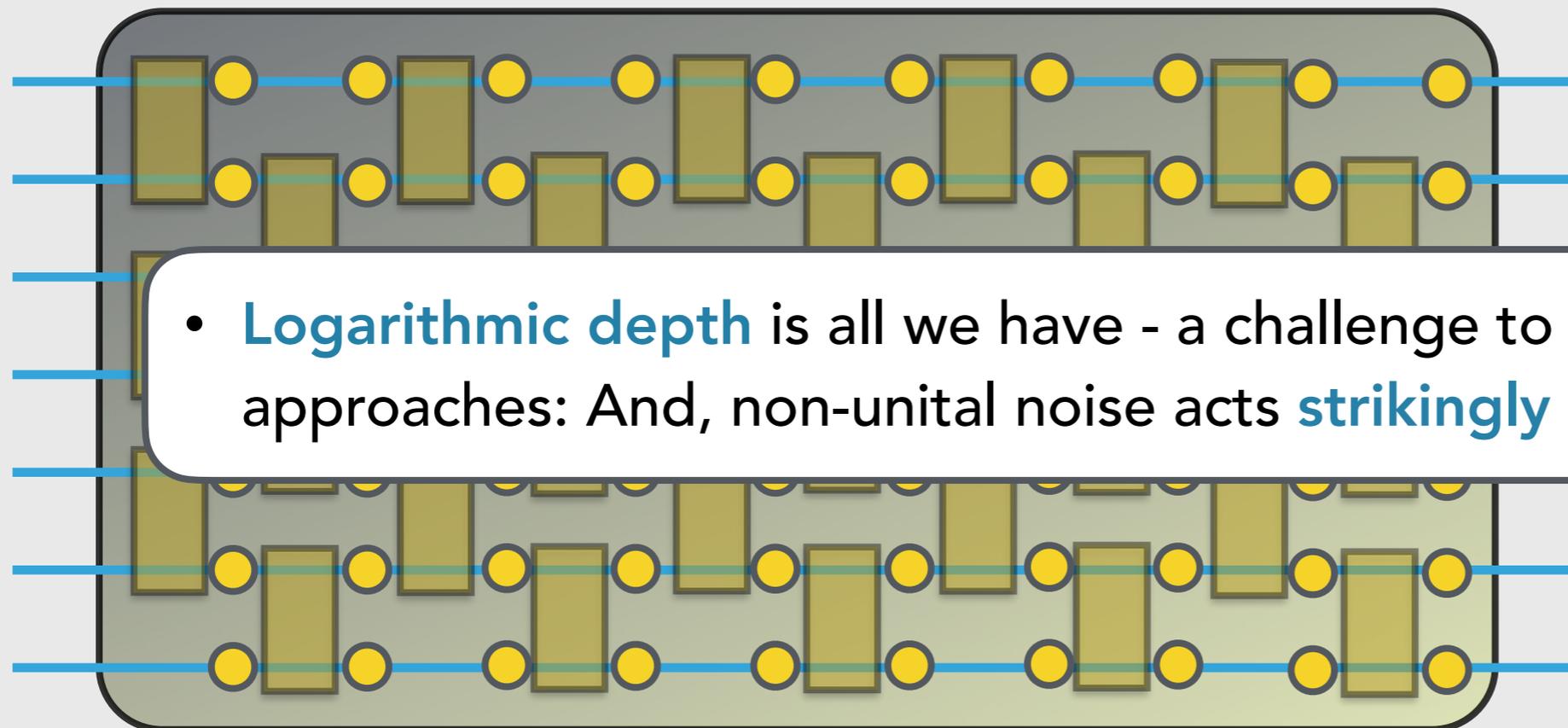


- **Theorem 8: Lack of barren plateaus** for local cost functions—cost landscape is never flat and the gradient never vanishes—under non-unital noise



- **Theorem 9:** We can **classically simulate** on average expectation values of any observable to additive precision, with probability  $1 - \delta$ , at any depth, with

$$O(\exp(\log^D(\delta^{-1}\epsilon^{-2})))$$



- **Logarithmic depth** is all we have - a challenge to variational QML approaches: And, non-unital noise acts **strikingly differently**



**THE  
GOOD**



**THE  
BAD and THE  
UGLY**

# THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY

Gil-Fuster, Eisert, Bravo-Prieto, Nature Comm 15,1 (2024)

Hangleiter, Roth, Fuksa, Eisert, Roushan, Nature Comm 15, 9595 (2024)

Recio-Armengol, Eisert, Meyer, arXiv:2406.13812 (2024)

Schreiber, Eisert, Meyer, Phys Rev Lett 131, 100803 (2023)

Sweke, Recio, Jerbi, Gil-Fuster, Fuller, Eisert, Meyer, Quantum (2024)

And others



# THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY



- Can quantum computers do more than classical computers? Can they solve meaningful **machine learning** problems?

- Yes, there are proven **separations** in learning and training



**THE GOOD**



- How much better?

Property	Problems studied in quantum computing	Problems solved by machine learning
classical performance	<b>low</b> – problems are carefully selected to be provably difficult for classical computers	<b>high</b> – machine learning is applied on an industrial scale and many algorithms run in linear time in practice
size of inputs	<b>small</b> – near-term algorithms are limited by small qubit numbers, while fault-tolerant algorithms usually take short bit strings	<b>very large</b> – may be millions of tensors with millions of entries each
problem structure	<b>very structured</b> – often exhibiting a periodic structure that can be exploited by interference	<b>“messy”</b> – problems are derived from the human or “real-world” domain and naturally complex to state and analyse
theoretical accessibility	<b>high</b> – there is a large bias towards problems about which we can theoretically reason	<b>shifting</b> – theory is currently being re-built around the empirical success of deep learning
evaluating performance	<b>computational complexity</b> – the dominant measure to assess the performance of an algorithm is asymptotic runtime scaling	<b>practical benchmarks</b> – machine learning research puts a strong emphasis on empirical comparisons between methods

Schuld, Killoran, arXiv:2203.01340 (2022)

- Is **quantum advantage** the right aim?

- But there are **constant depth** advantages

# THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY



- Can quantum computers assist in meaningful **machine learning tasks**?

- **Outside the box** considerations
- Maturing from perspective of classical AI



**THE  
GOOD**



**THE  
BAD** and **THE  
UGLY**

# THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY

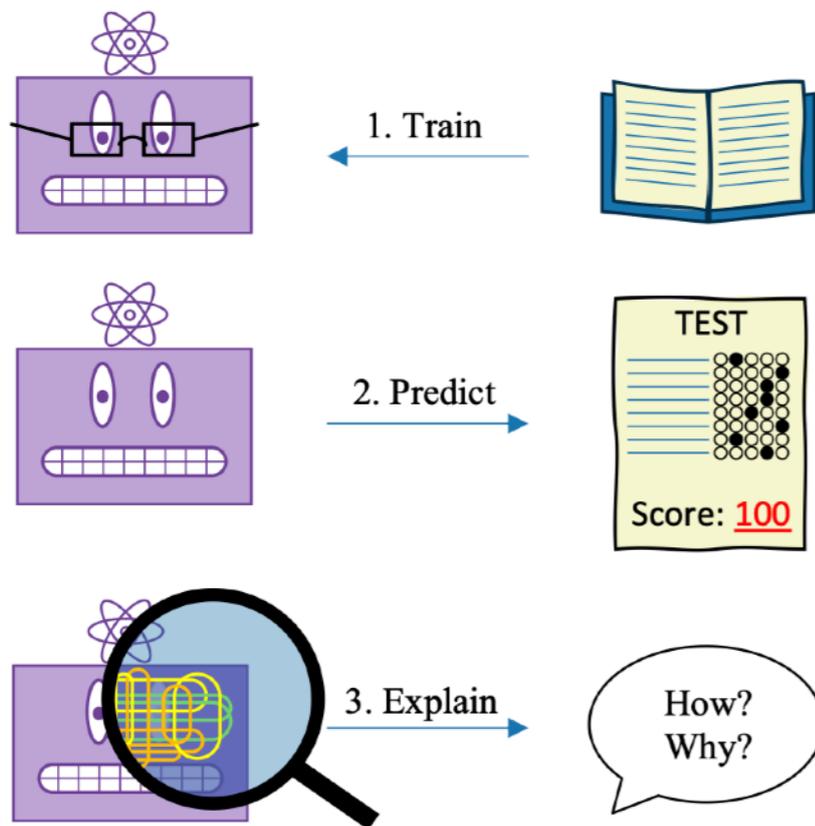


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- **Explainable quantum AI:** "What is the role of each of the parameters in the model for classification?"



→ Jonas' talk

Gil-Fuster, Naujoks, Montavon, Wiegand, Samek, Eisert, next week (2024)

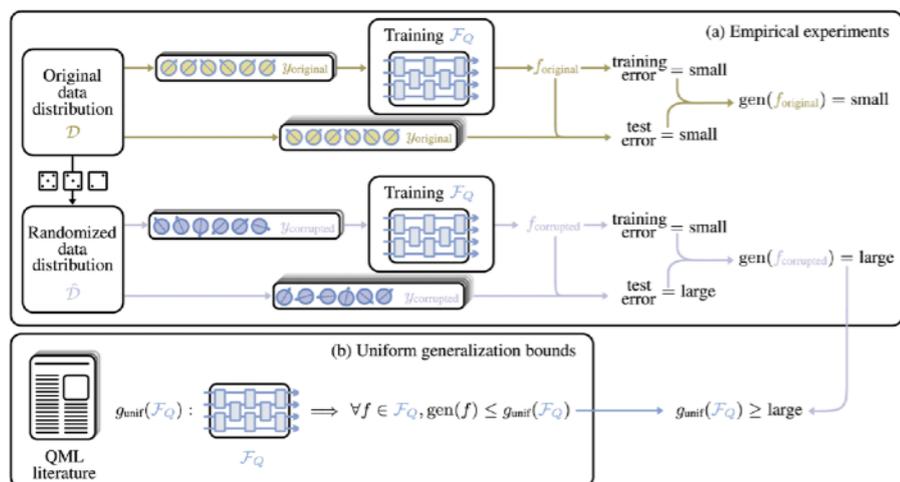
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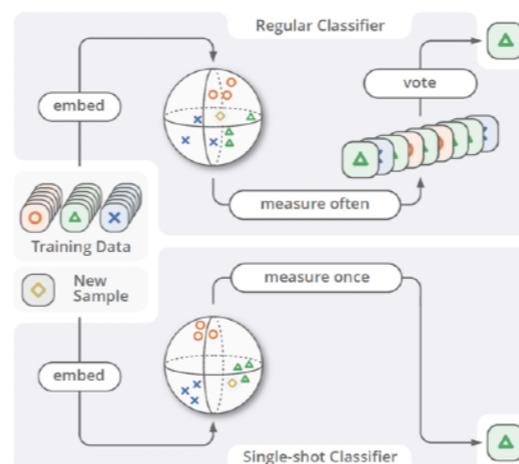
- **Outside the box** considerations
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- **Generalization:** Traditional approaches to generalization fail to explain the behavior QML models



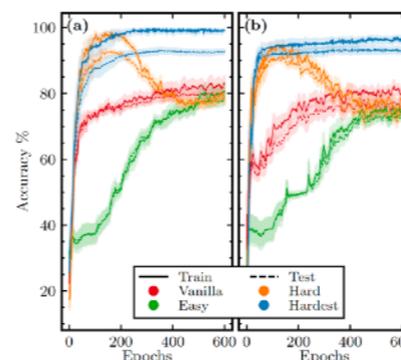
Gil-Fuster, Eisert, Bravo-Prieto, Nature Comm 15,1 (2024)

- **Single-shot QML**



Recio-Armengol, Eisert, Meyer, arXiv:2406.13812 (2024)

- Learning complexity **gradually:** Favorable inductive bias through curriculum learning and hard example mining



Recio-Armengol, Schreiber, Eisert, Bravo-Prieto, arXiv:2411.11954 (2024)



THE BAD and THE UGLY

# THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY



**THE  
GOOD**

- Can quantum computers assist in meaningful **machine learning tasks**?



**THE  
BAD** and **THE  
UGLY**

- **Log depth** is all we have



# THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY



- Highly fruitful: **Learning theory/property testing**

- Chen, Eisert, Phys Rev Lett 132, 220201 (2024)
- Bertoni, Haferkamp, Hinsche, Ioannou, Eisert, Pashayan, Phys Rev Lett 133, 020602 (2024)
- Denzler, Mele, Derbyshire, Guaita, Eisert, Phys Rev Lett 133 (2024)
- Raza, Caro, Eisert, Khatri, arXiv:2406.04250 (2024)
- Bittel, Mele, Eisert, Leone, arXiv:2409.17953 (2024)
- Mele, Mele, Bittel, Eisert, Giovannetti, Lami, Leone, Oliviero, arXiv:2404.03585 (2024)
- Bittel, Mele, Eisert, Leone, arXiv:2405.01431 (2024)
- Teng, Samajdar, Van Kirk, Wilde, Sachdev, Eisert, Sweke, Najafi, arXiv:2406.00193 (2024)
- Caro, Eisert, Hinsche, Ioannou, Nietner, Sweke, arXiv:2410.23969 (2024)



→ Sumeet's and Alex' talks



THE BAD and THE UGLY

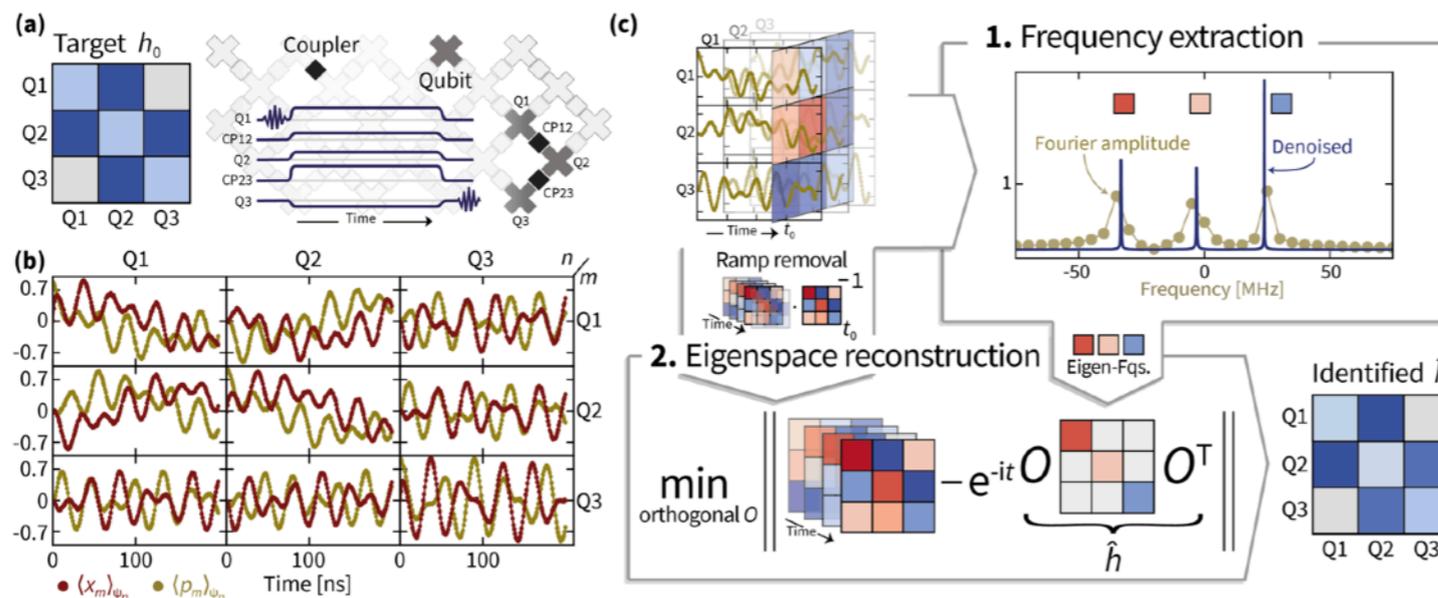
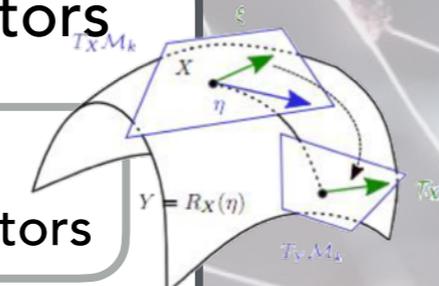
- Hamiltonian learning** for analog quantum simulators

- New superresolution method tensorESPRIT for eigenvalues

- Manifold optimization over  $O(n)$  for eigenvectors

$$\text{Hk}_K(y) = Q \Phi^K \Phi^{L-K} Q^T$$

$\begin{matrix} m & k & l & n \\ \hline \end{matrix}$



Hangleiter, Roth, Fuksa, Eisert, Roushan, Nature Comm 15, 9595 (2024)

# THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY



THE GOOD

- Can quantum computers assist in meaningful **machine learning tasks**?



THE BAD and THE UGLY

*Definitely Maybe*

# THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION



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