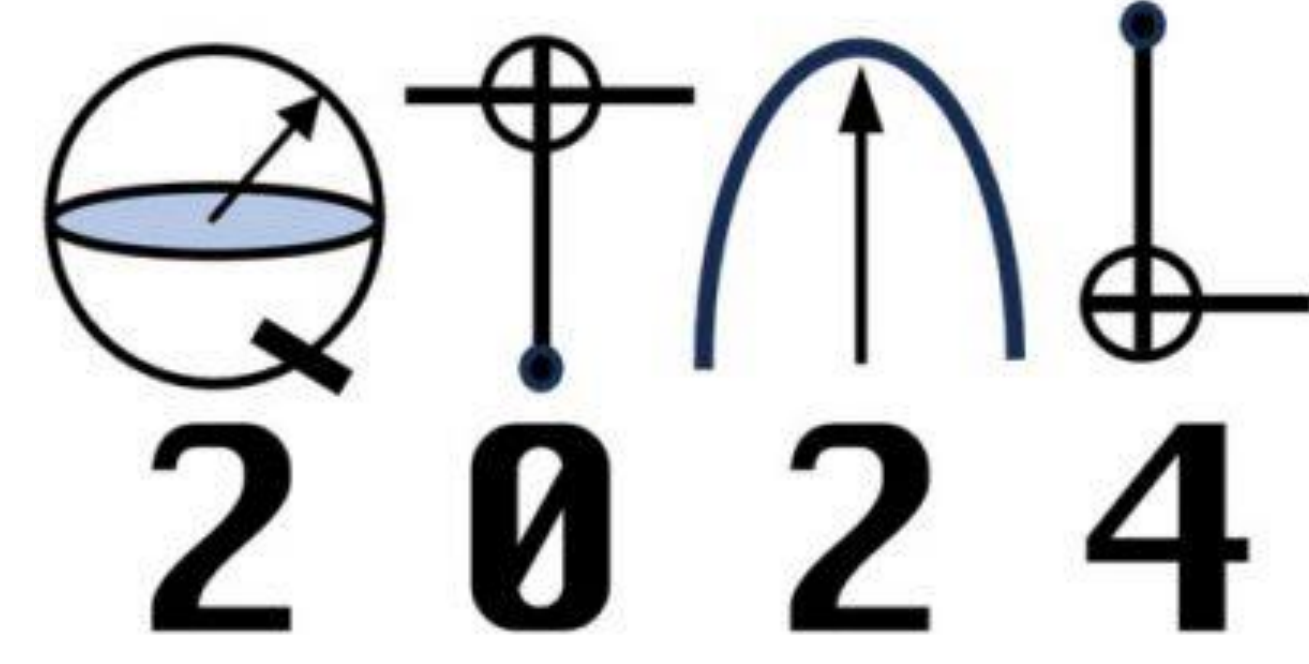


# Nonlinear Activation using Variational Quantum Splines in Quantum Physics Informed Neural Networks

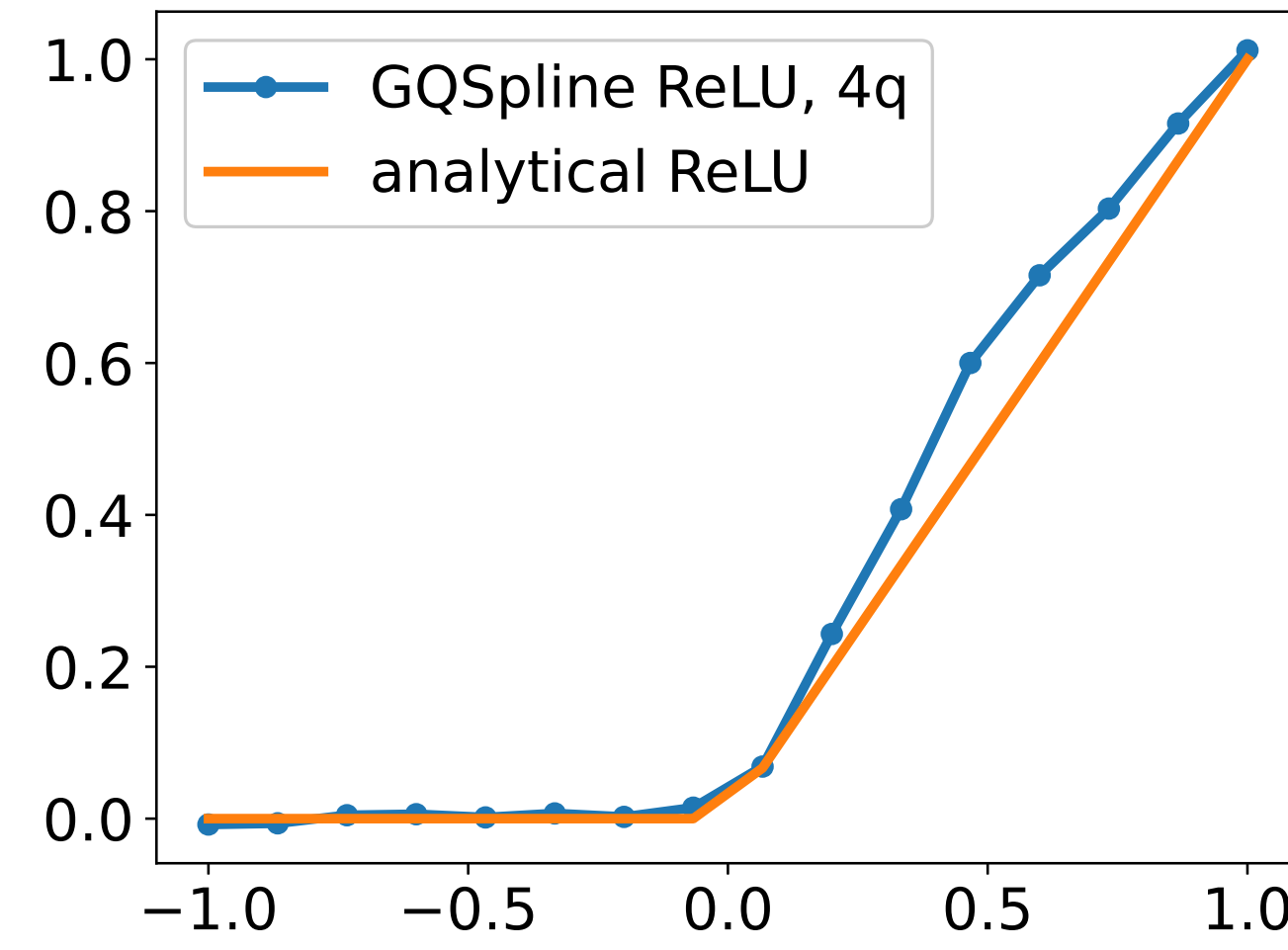
Apurva Tiwari Jay Pathak  
Ansys Inc., India/U.S.A.



## Motivation

- Physical phenomena are often modeled as partial differential equations. Applications: electromagnetics, fluid dynamics, heat conduction, mechanics etc.
- Besides traditional numerical methods used to solve PDEs, an emerging strategy in QML, is to use a parameterized quantum circuit as a physics informed neural network (**QPINN**).
- Except that classical layers are used in literature for nonlinear activation functions.  
⇒ hybrid classical/quantum PINNs
- Objective:** Combine a QPINN, with an ansatz pre-trained to compute nonlinear activation functions.
- How?** Represent activation function with a B-spline, use a variational quantum linear solver to compute coefficients. Query trained ansatz in QPINN training.

## Q-Splines for Activation Functions



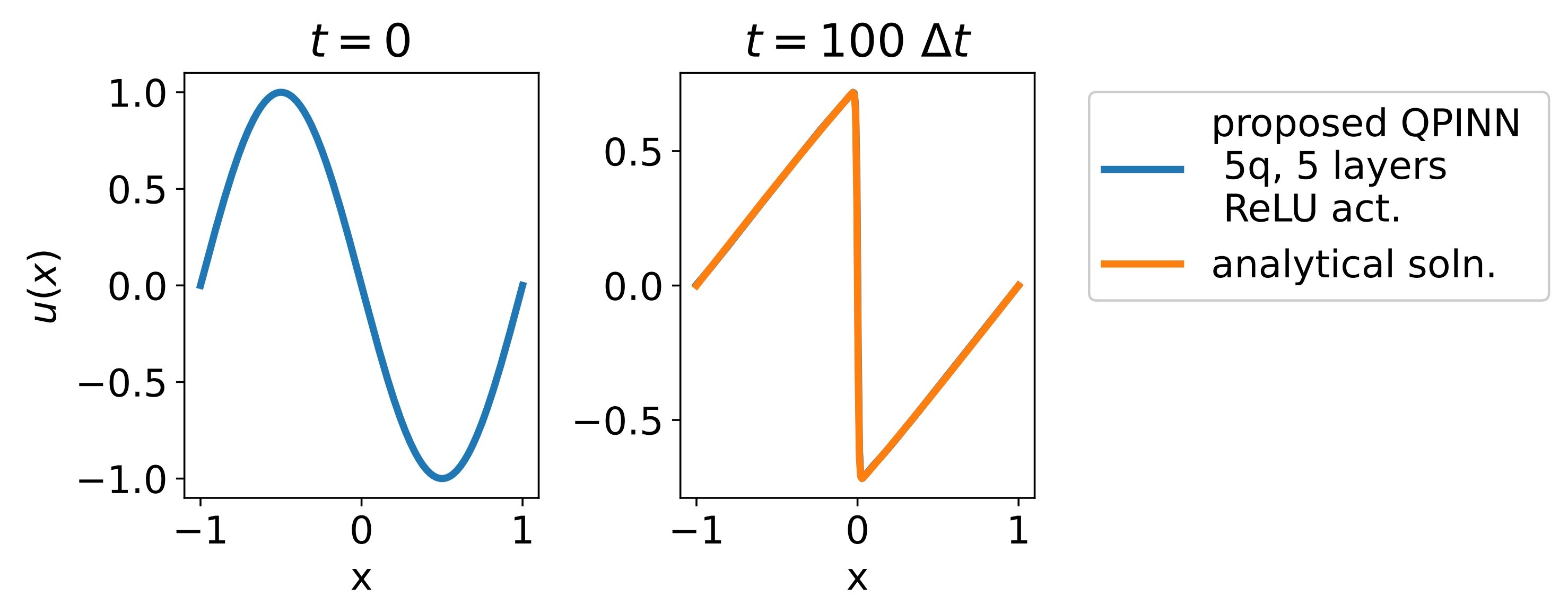
Activation functions approximated as piecewise linear B-splines [2].

$$\text{actf}_i = S * \text{coeff}_i$$

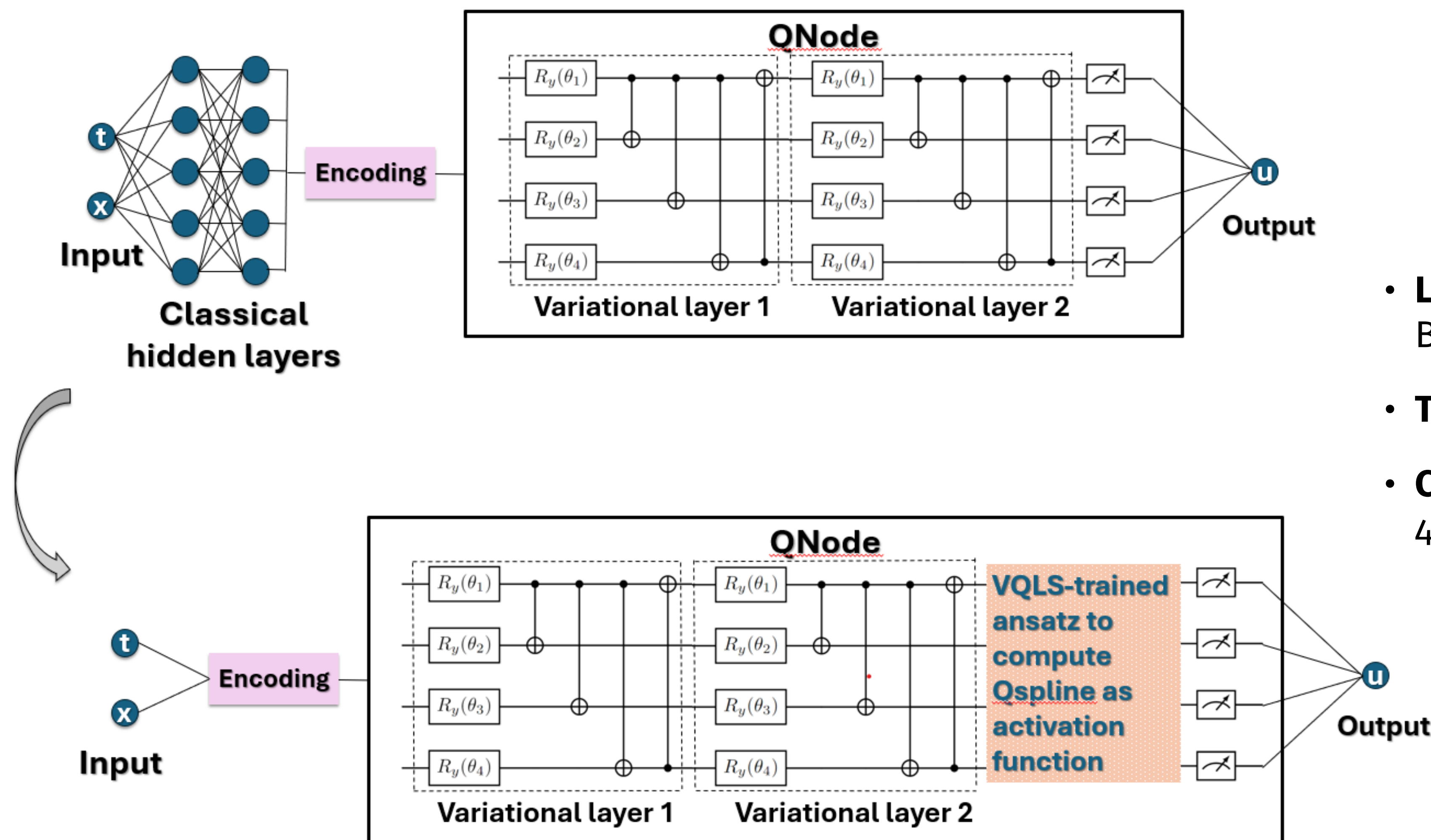
$S$  : matrix of basis expansions  
 $\text{actf}_i$  : activation func. evaluations

- $\text{coeff}_i = VQLS(S, \text{actf}_i)$
- Output optimal weights of trained ansatz.

## 1D Burger's eqn.



## Hybrid QPINNs



Governing eqn.

$$u_t + uu_x = \frac{0.01}{\pi} u_{xx}$$

initial cond.

$$u(x, 0) = -\sin(\pi x)$$

boundary cond.

$$u(-1, t) = u(1, t) = 0$$

- Losses** Physics loss: 10,000 collocation points. BC/IC loss: 50 points for initial data, 25 each at boundaries.
- Training** Adam optimizer, 2000 epochs.
- Compare** Hybrid QPINN [1] v. QSpline activated QPINN. 46% fewer tunable params required for similar accuracy.

## References

- Trahan C, Loveland M, Dent S. **Quantum Physics-Informed Neural Networks**. *Entropy*. 2024; 26(8):649. <https://doi.org/10.3390/e26080649>
- Inajetovic, M.A., Orazi, F., Macaluso, A., Lodi, S., Sartori, C. **Enabling Non-linear Quantum Operations Through Variational Quantum Splines**. ICCS 2023. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-36030-5\\_14](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-36030-5_14)

