

# Variational quantum algorithms implemented on a general-purpose single-photon-based quantum computing platform

Alexia Salavrakos

QTML - 22 November 2023





# About Quandela

Founded in 2017  
 Spin off from Pascale Senellart's group at C2N  
 (CNRS & Paris-Saclay University)

Today:  
 80 people, with >50 scientists and engineers  
 New funding round announced on November 7

## Quandela Scientific Advisory Board



### R&D Centers



C2N - Palaiseau



Massy




### Production Centers



IPVF - Palaiseau



Massy

-  Paris-Saclay
-  Munich
-  Barcelona
-  Cambridge



# Collaboration between many teams

## A general-purpose single-photon-based quantum computing platform

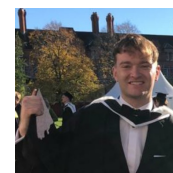
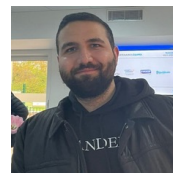
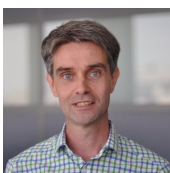
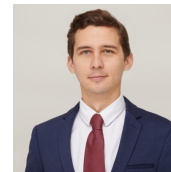
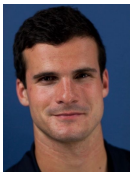
Nicolas Maring,<sup>1</sup> Andreas Fyrrillas,<sup>1,\*</sup> Mathias Pont,<sup>1,2,\*</sup> Edouard Ivanov,<sup>1,\*</sup> Petr Stepanov,<sup>1</sup> Nico Margaria,<sup>1</sup> William Hease,<sup>1</sup> Anton Pishchagin,<sup>1</sup> Thi Huong Au,<sup>1</sup> Sébastien Boissier,<sup>1</sup> Eric Bertasi,<sup>1</sup> Aurélien Baert,<sup>1</sup> Mario Valdivia,<sup>1</sup> Marie Billard,<sup>1</sup> Ozan Acar,<sup>1</sup> Alexandre Brieuessel,<sup>1</sup> Rawad Mezher,<sup>1</sup> Stephen C. Wein,<sup>1</sup> Alexia Salavrakos,<sup>1</sup> Patrick Sinnott,<sup>1</sup> Dario A. Fioretto,<sup>2</sup> Pierre-Emmanuel Emeriau,<sup>1</sup> Nadia Belabas,<sup>2</sup> Shane Mansfield,<sup>1</sup> Pascale Senellart,<sup>2</sup> Jean Senellart,<sup>1</sup> and Niccolo Somaschi<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Quandela, 7 Rue Léonard de Vinci, 91300 Massy, France

<sup>2</sup>Centre for Nanosciences and Nanotechnologies, CNRS, Université Paris-Saclay, UMR 9001, 10 Boulevard Thomas Gobert, 91120, Palaiseau, France

(Dated: June 2, 2023)

arXiv:2306.00874



Many of us are used to working with kets  $|\psi\rangle$  and matrices  $U$ ...

How do we implement protocols in practice?

What are the challenges that can arise?



# Outline

1. Experimental setup
2. Photonic quantum computing
3. Demonstrations of variational quantum algorithms



# Ascella Quantum Computing Platform

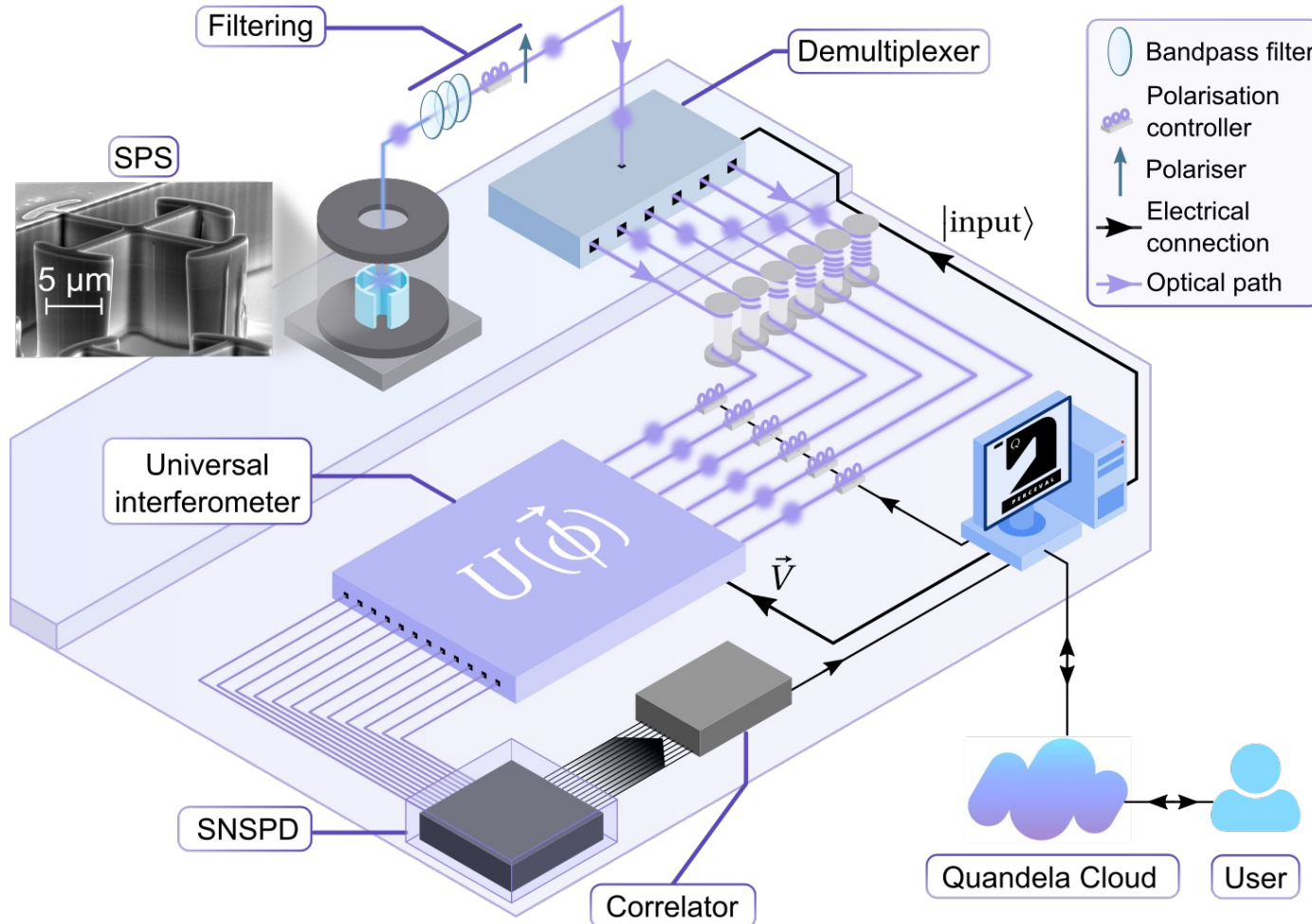


# Ascella Quantum Computing Platform

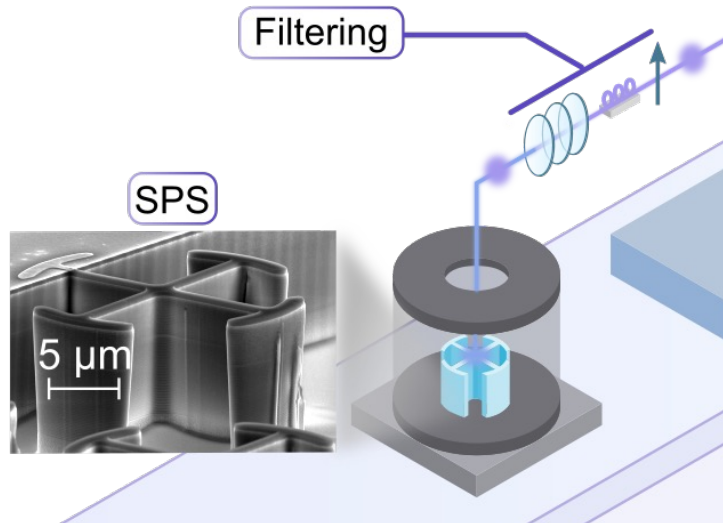




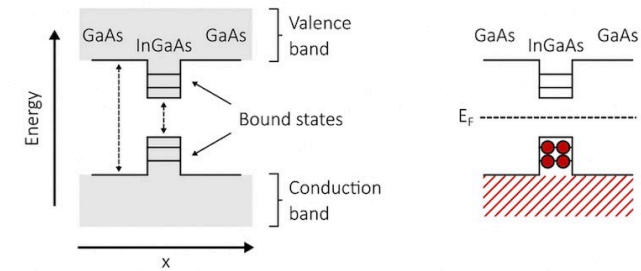
# Ascella Quantum Computing Platform



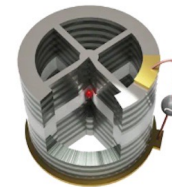
# Photon source



## Quantum dot

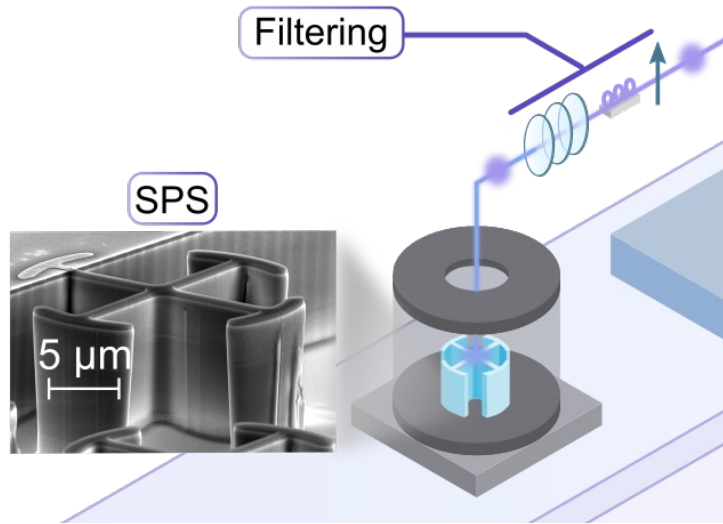


## In micropillar cavity

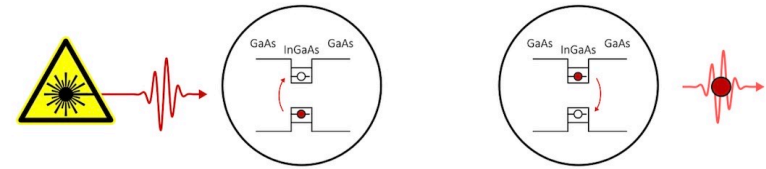




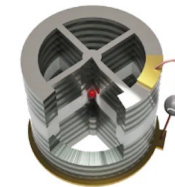
# Photon source



## Quantum dot



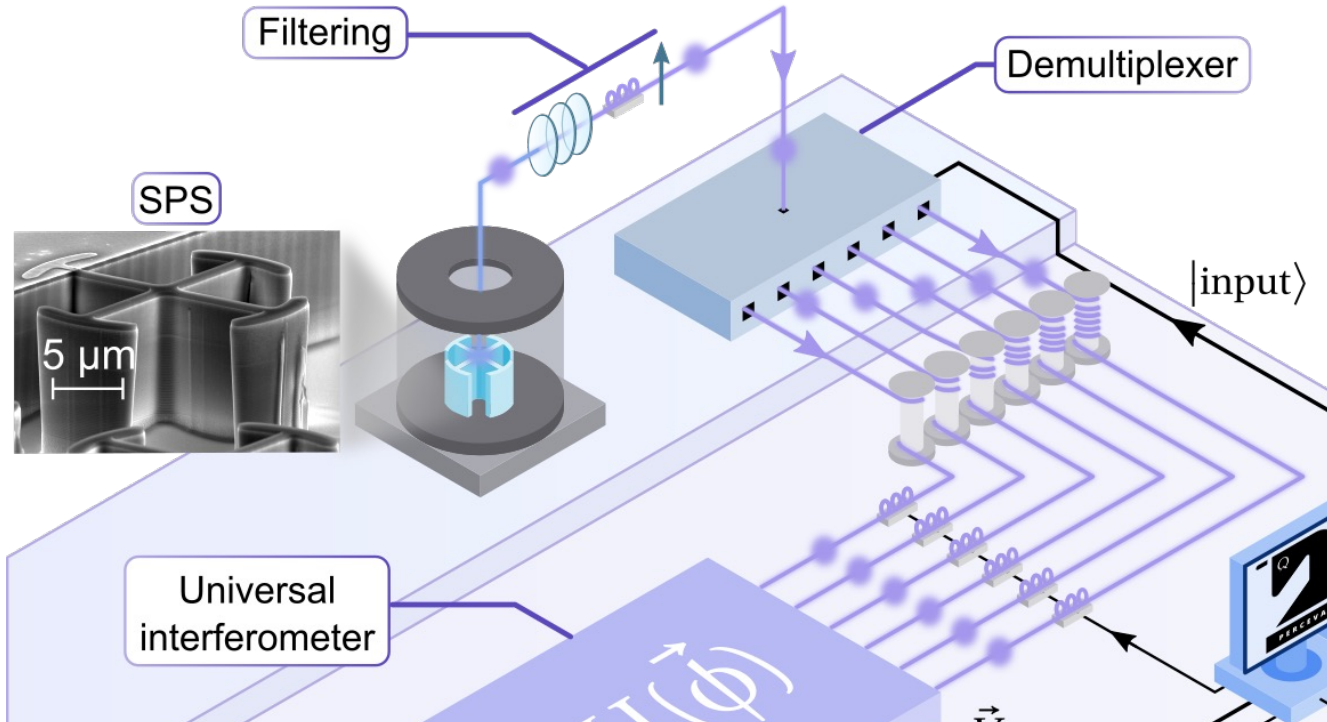
## In micropillar cavity



# Demultiplexer

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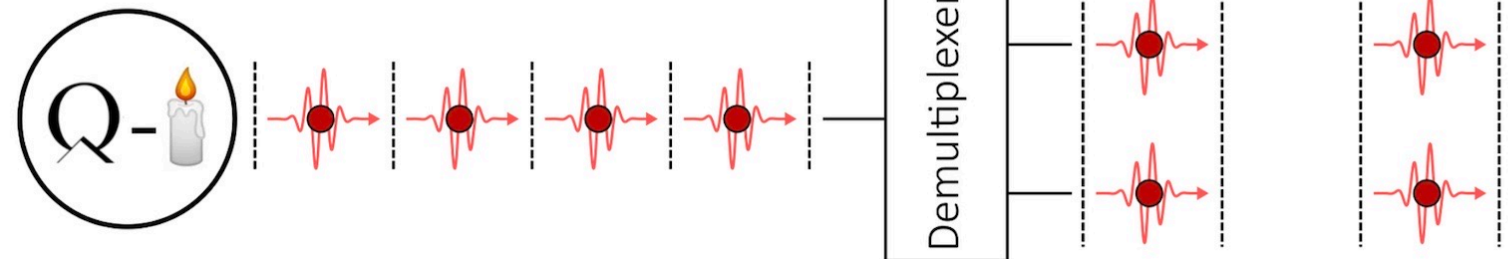
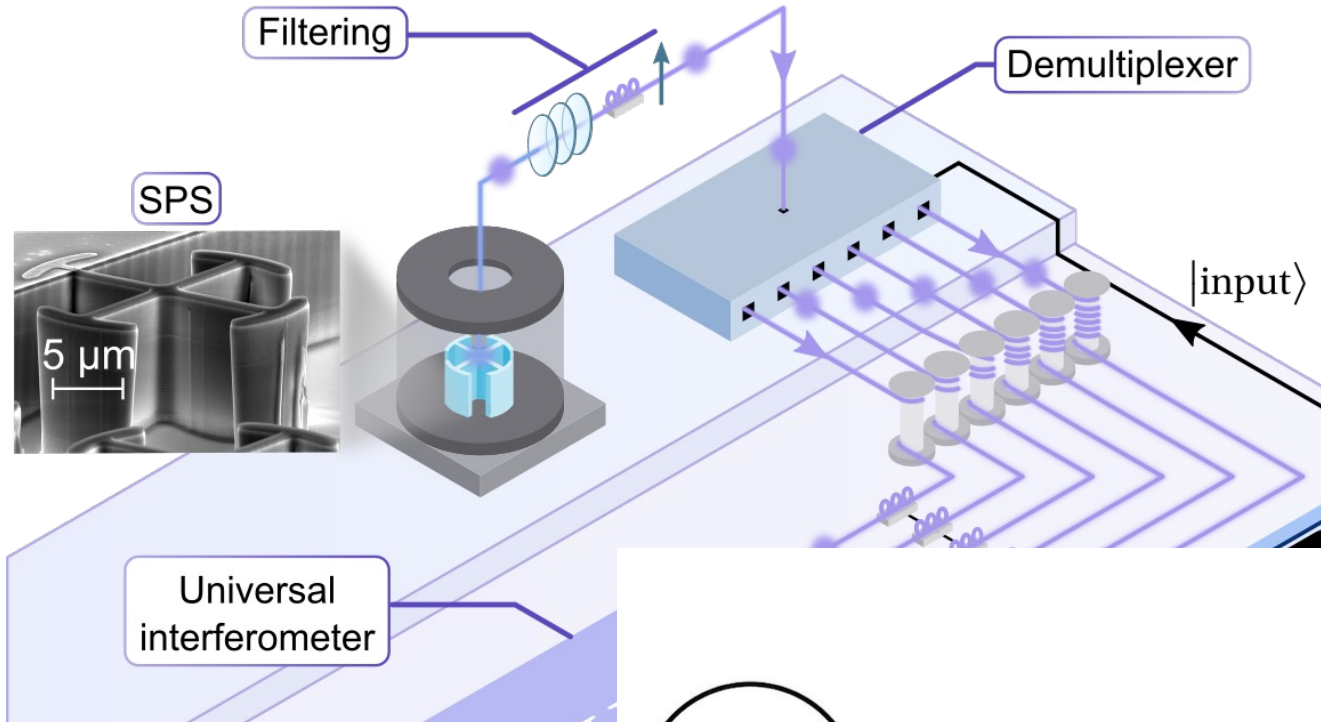




# Demultiplexer

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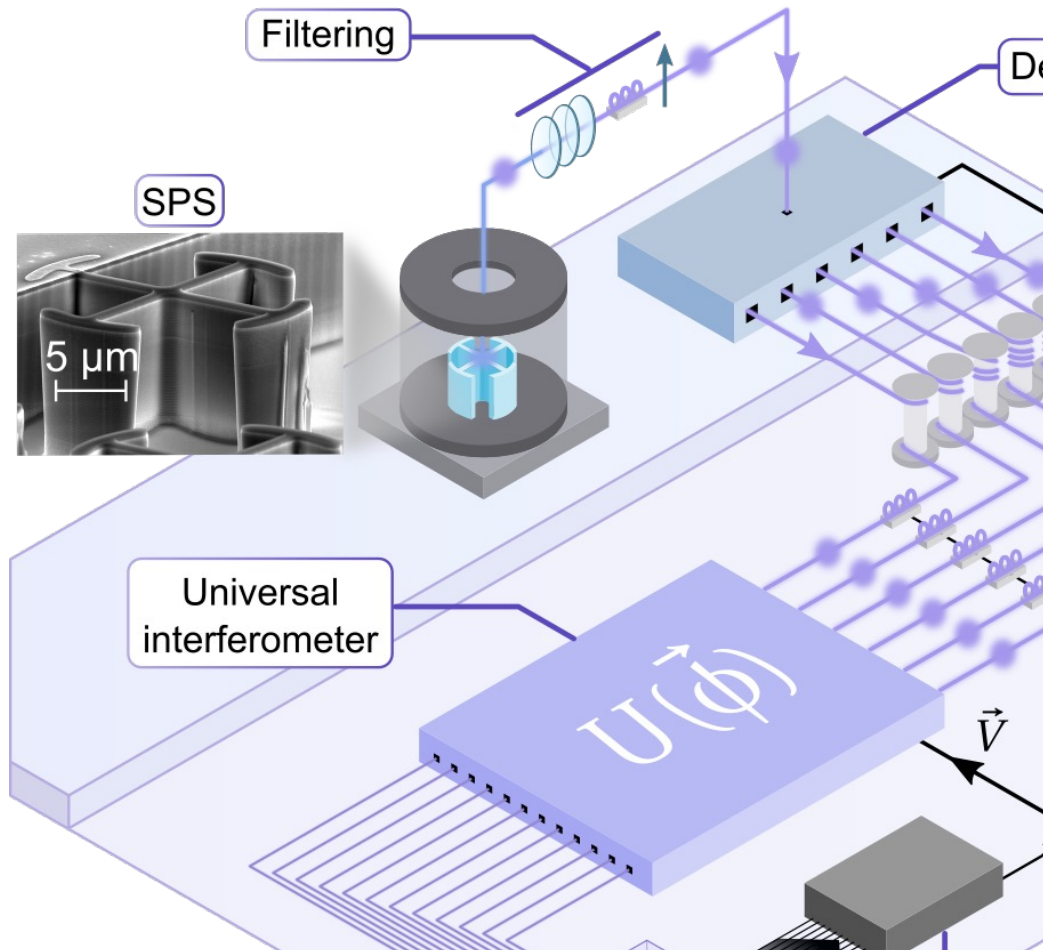
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# Photonic circuit

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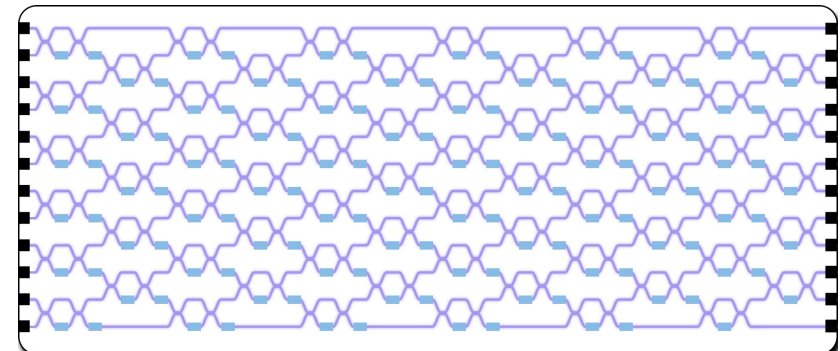
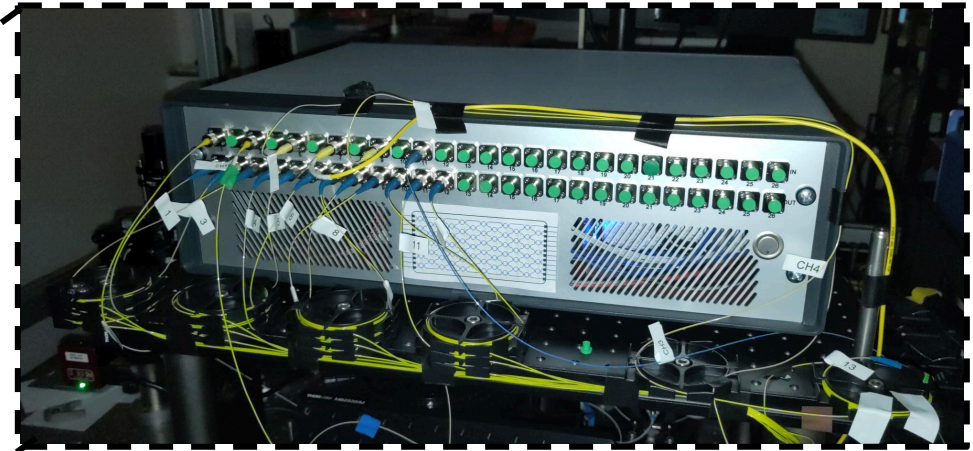
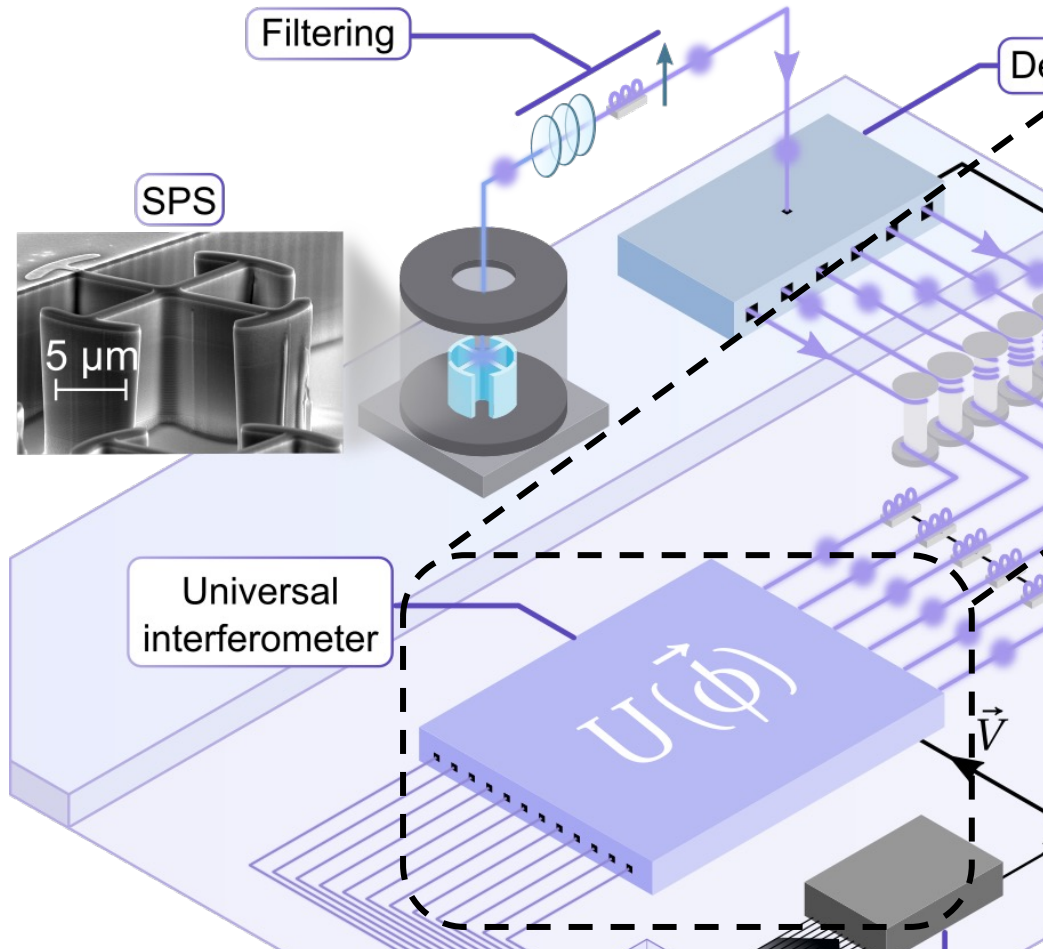




# Photonic circuit

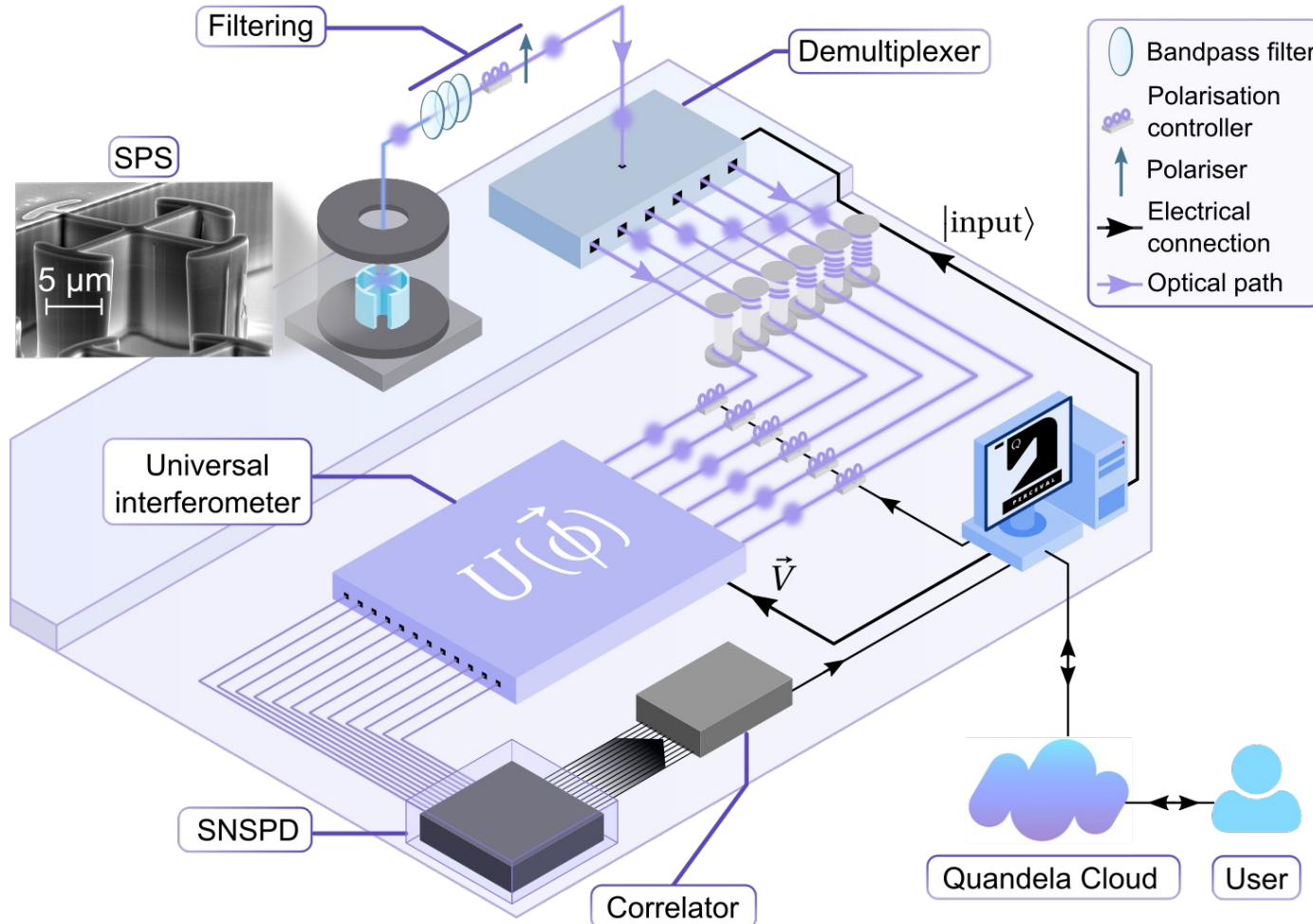
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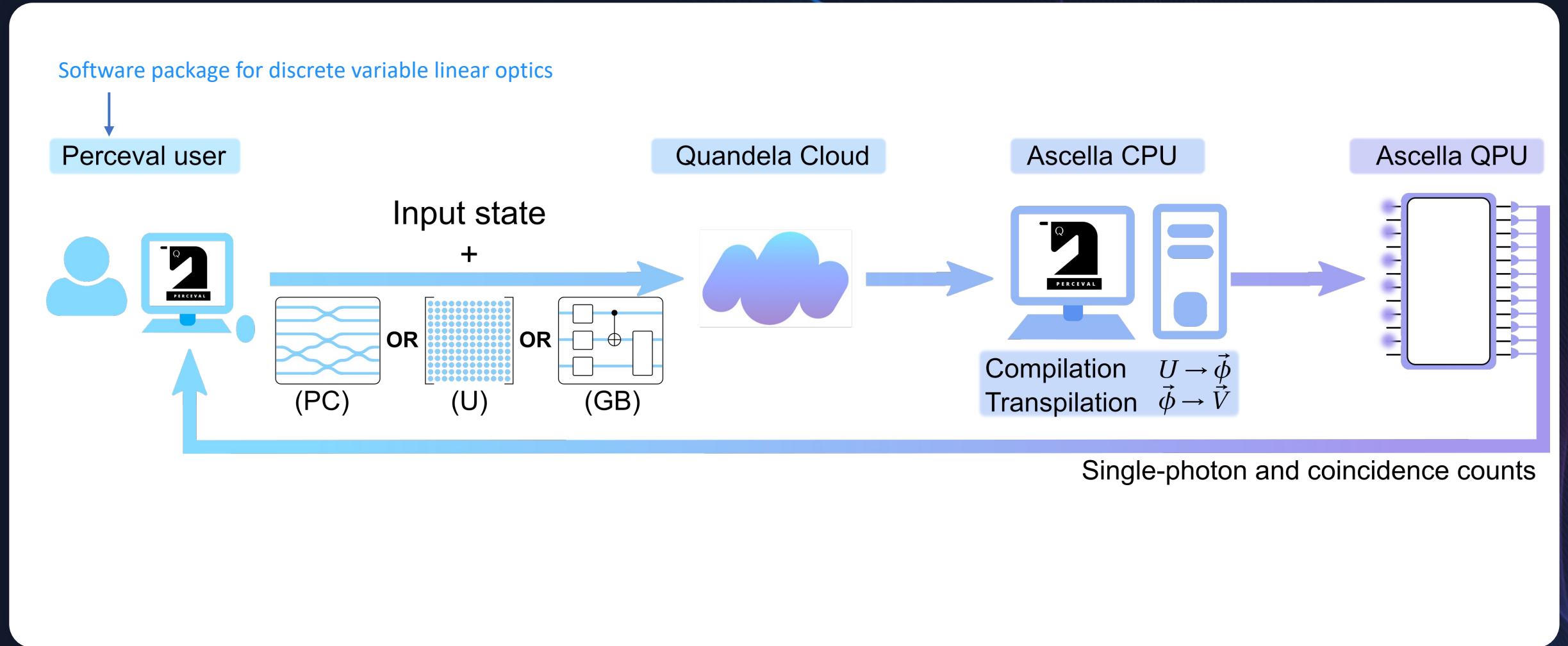
12 x 12 fully reconfigurable universal interferometer

# Ascella Quantum Computing Platform

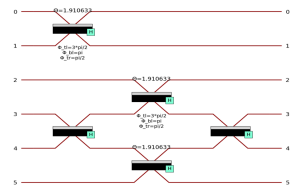




# Computation process



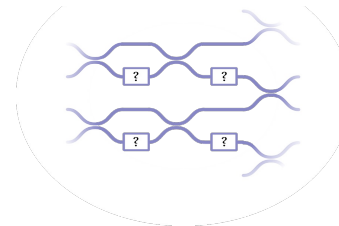
# Compilation and transpilation



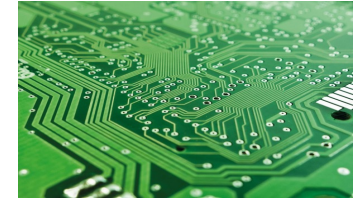
Circuit



Unitary matrix



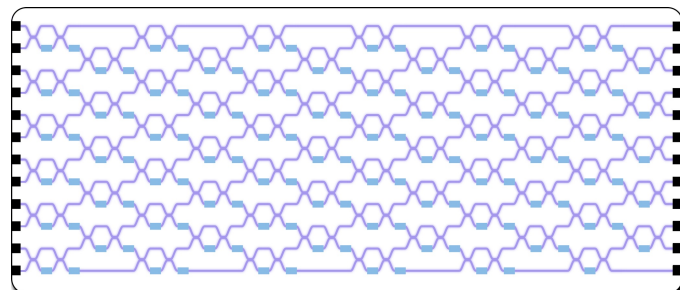
Phases



Voltages

Compilation

Transpilation



## Scalable machine learning-assisted clear-box characterization for optimally controlled photonic circuits

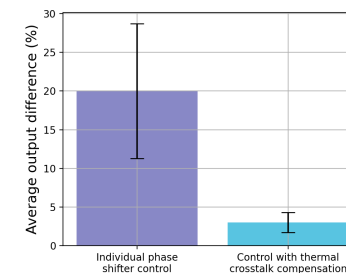
Andreas Fyrrillas,<sup>1,2</sup> Olivier Faure,<sup>1</sup> Nicolas Maring,<sup>1</sup> Jean Senellart,<sup>1</sup> and Nadia Belabas<sup>2</sup>

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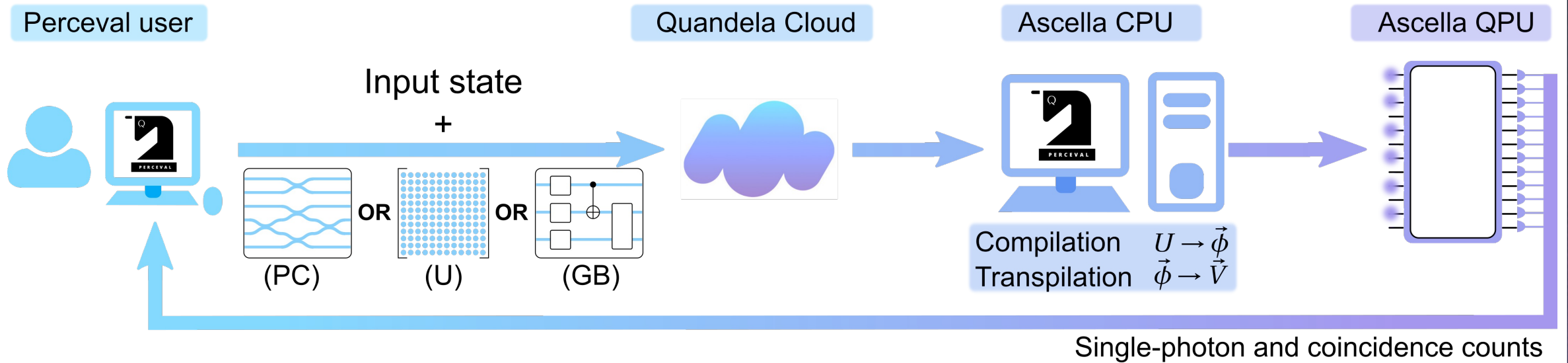
arXiv:2310.15349

“ML for Q”





# Computation process

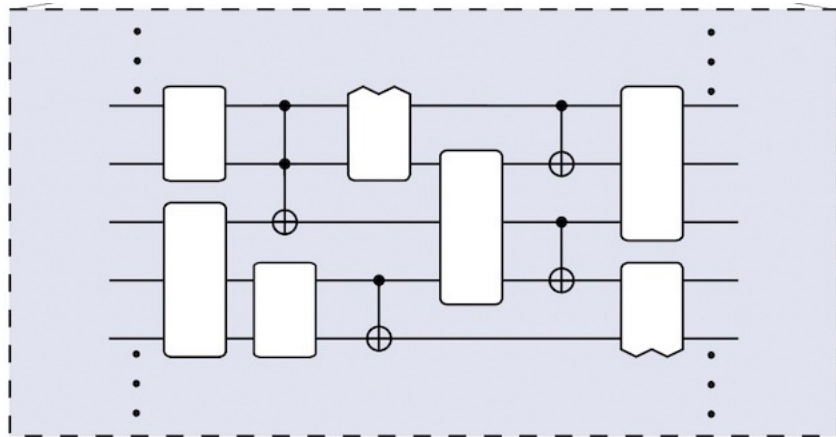


# Photonic quantum computing



# Computation models

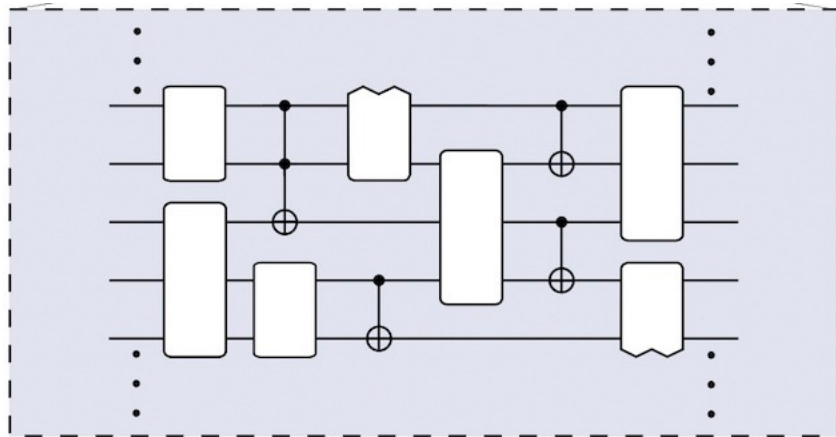
We are used to the qubit quantum circuit model, especially in QML



M. Cerezo et al. Nature Reviews Physics 3, 625-644 (2021)

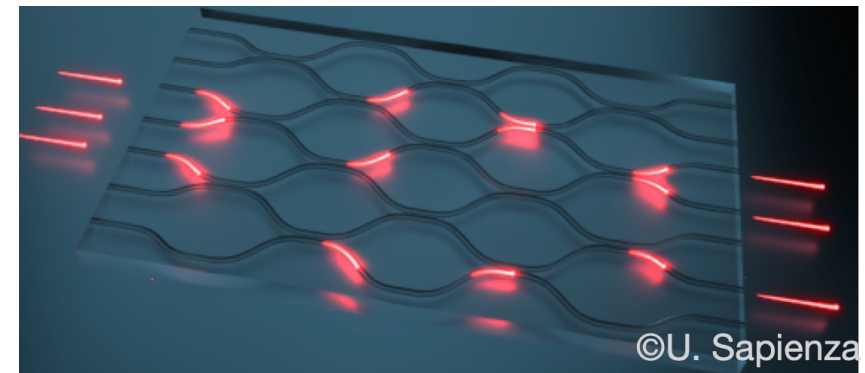
# Computation models

We are used to the qubit quantum circuit model, especially in QML



M. Cerezo et al. Nature Reviews Physics 3, 625-644 (2021)

How do we proceed with photonic hardware?



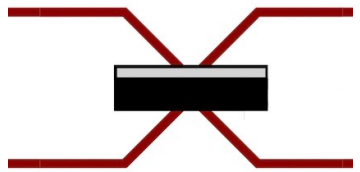
©U. Sapienza



# Linear optics framework

$|n_1, n_2, \dots, n_i, \dots, n_m\rangle$  Fock state with  $n_i$  photons in mode  $i$

Beamsplitter



$$\begin{bmatrix} e^{i(\phi_{tl} + \phi_{tr})} \cos\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) & ie^{i(\phi_{bl} + \phi_{tr})} \sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) \\ ie^{i(\phi_{tl} + \phi_{br})} \sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) & e^{i(\phi_{bl} + \phi_{br})} \cos\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) \end{bmatrix}$$

Phase shifter



$$\begin{bmatrix} e^{i\phi} \end{bmatrix}$$

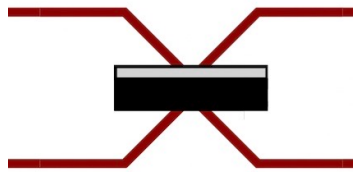
+ source and detectors

Recall: used in Boson Sampling (Aaronson and Arkhipov, #P hard)

# Linear optics framework

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$$\begin{bmatrix} e^{i(\phi_{tl} + \phi_{tr})} \cos\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) & ie^{i(\phi_{bl} + \phi_{tr})} \sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) \\ ie^{i(\phi_{tl} + \phi_{br})} \sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) & e^{i(\phi_{bl} + \phi_{br})} \cos\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) \end{bmatrix}$$

Phase shifter

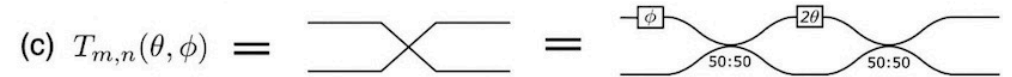
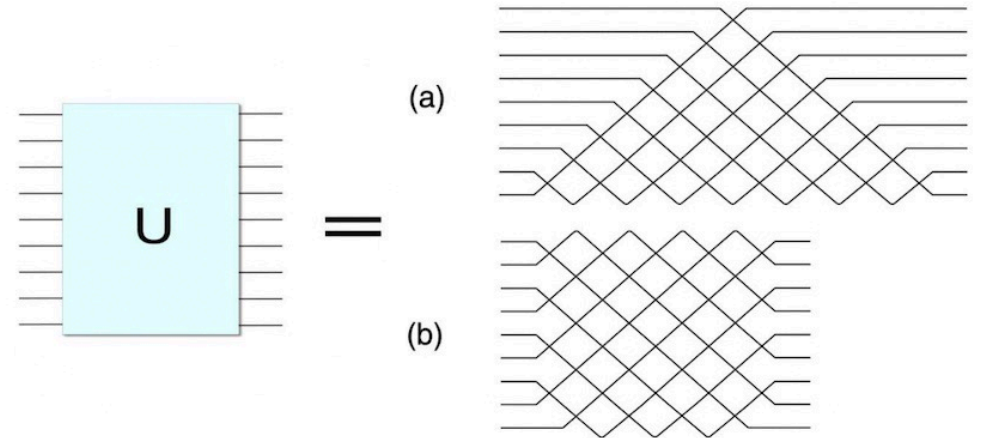


$$\begin{bmatrix} e^{i\phi} \end{bmatrix}$$

+ source and detectors

Recall: used in Boson Sampling (Aaronson and Arkhipov, #P hard)

Scattering  $m \times m$  unitary matrix implemented with  $m(m-1)/2$  beam splitters

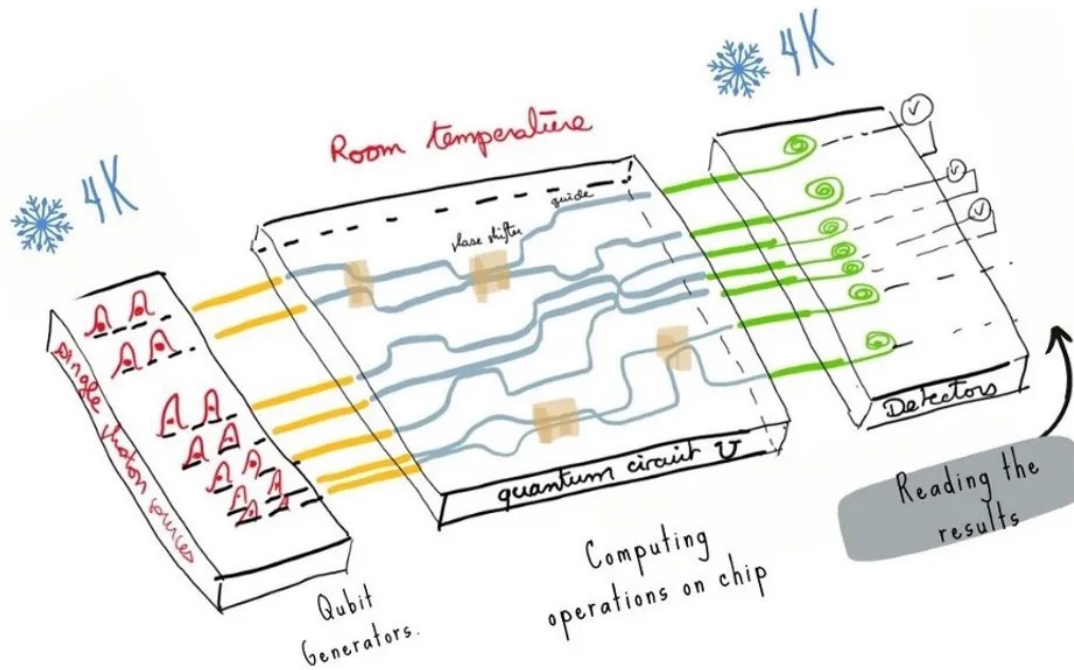


W. R. Clements et al. *Optica* 3, 12 (2016)

M. Reck et al. *Physical Review Letters* 73, 58 (1994)



# Photon number resolution



Detectors: ideally photon number resolving

Output states such as  $|0210301\rangle$

Current technology: threshold detectors

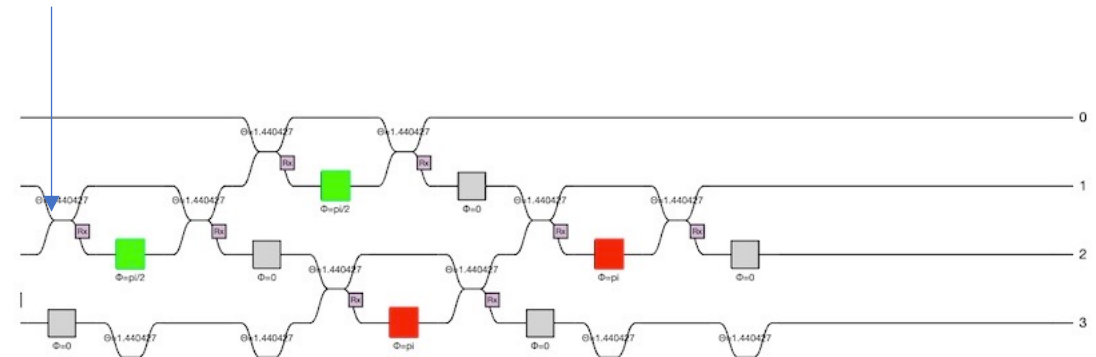
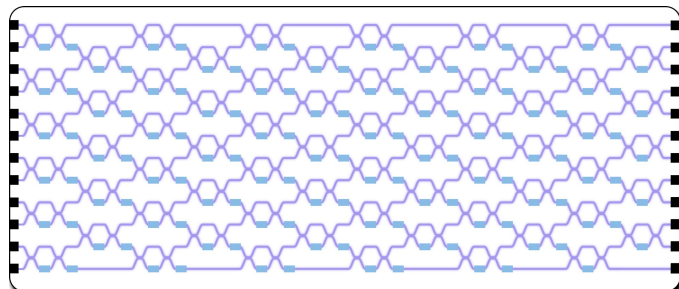
Indicates click or no click

Output states such as  $|0110101\rangle$

# Pseudo photon number resolution

As a temporary solution we can use **pseudo PNR**

PPNR: use additional modes and detectors and redirect photons through beamsplitters



Define mapping

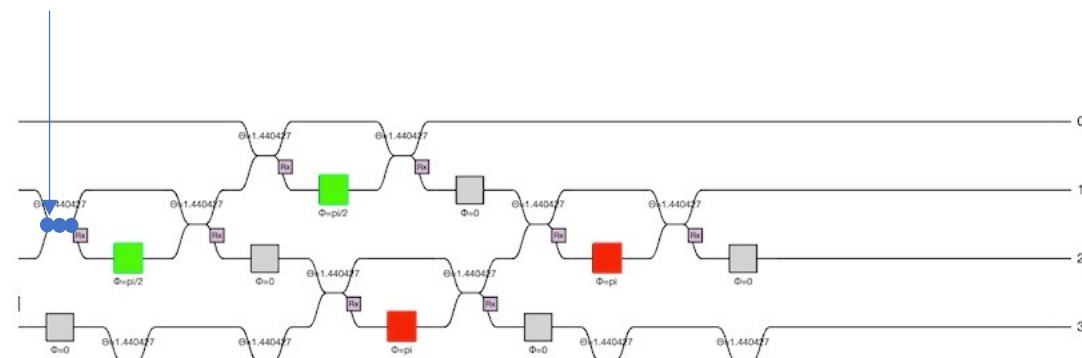
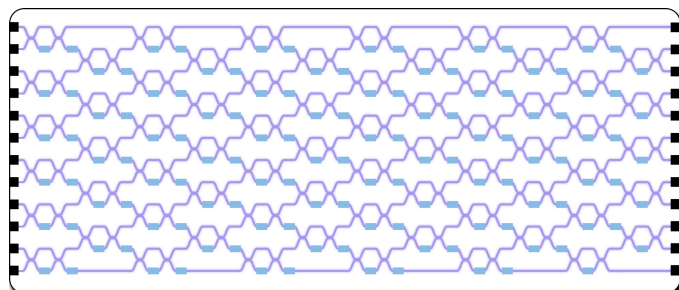
|              |   |              |
|--------------|---|--------------|
| 111000000000 | → | 003000000000 |
| 101001000000 | → | 002001000000 |
| 100011000000 | → | 001011000000 |
|              |   | ...          |



# Pseudo photon number resolution

As a temporary solution we can use **pseudo PNR**

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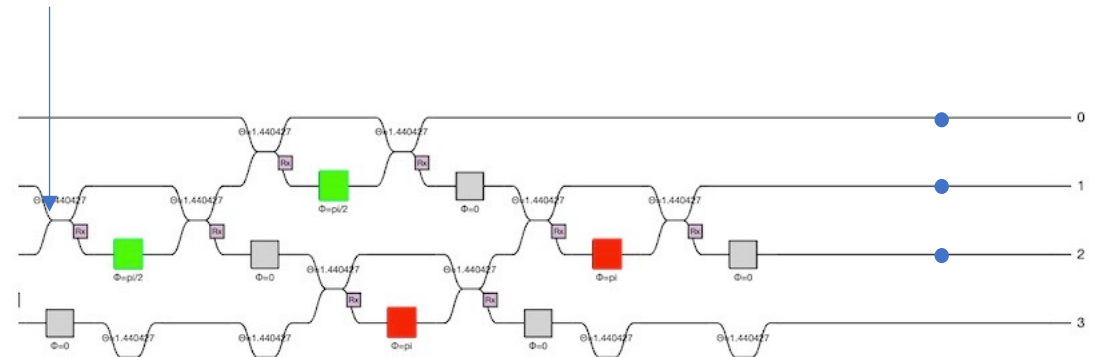
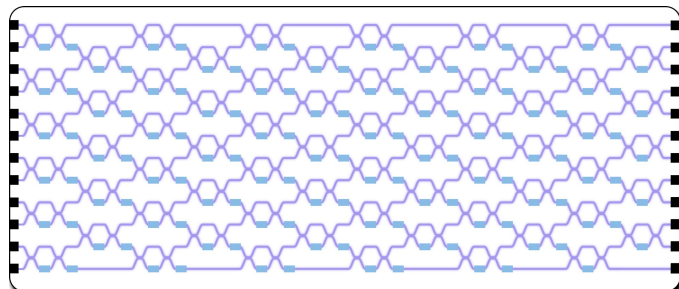
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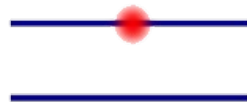
# Qubits and logical gates with linear optics

Choose an encoding

$$|0\rangle_{qubit} := |1, 0\rangle$$

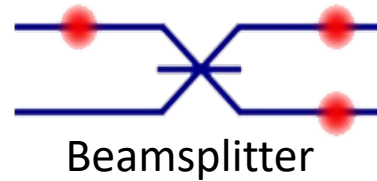
$$|1\rangle_{qubit} := |0, 1\rangle$$

Dual rail



One qubit gates

$$|0\rangle \rightarrow |0\rangle + |1\rangle$$



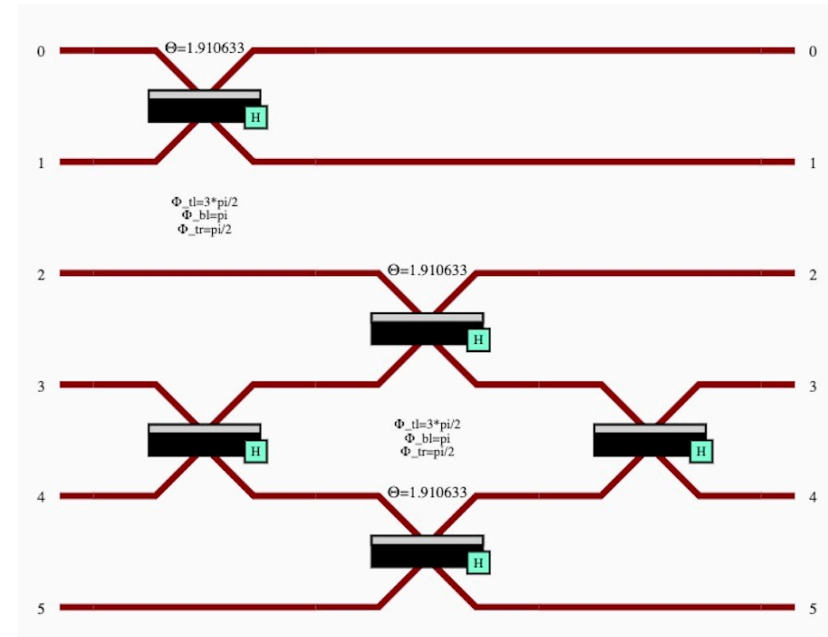
# Qubits and logical gates with linear optics

**However**, some two-qubit gates cannot be achieved deterministically with passive linear optics

Options:

- Nonlinearities (materials unavailable)
- Post-selection (probabilistic)
- Heralding (probabilistic)
- Feedforward

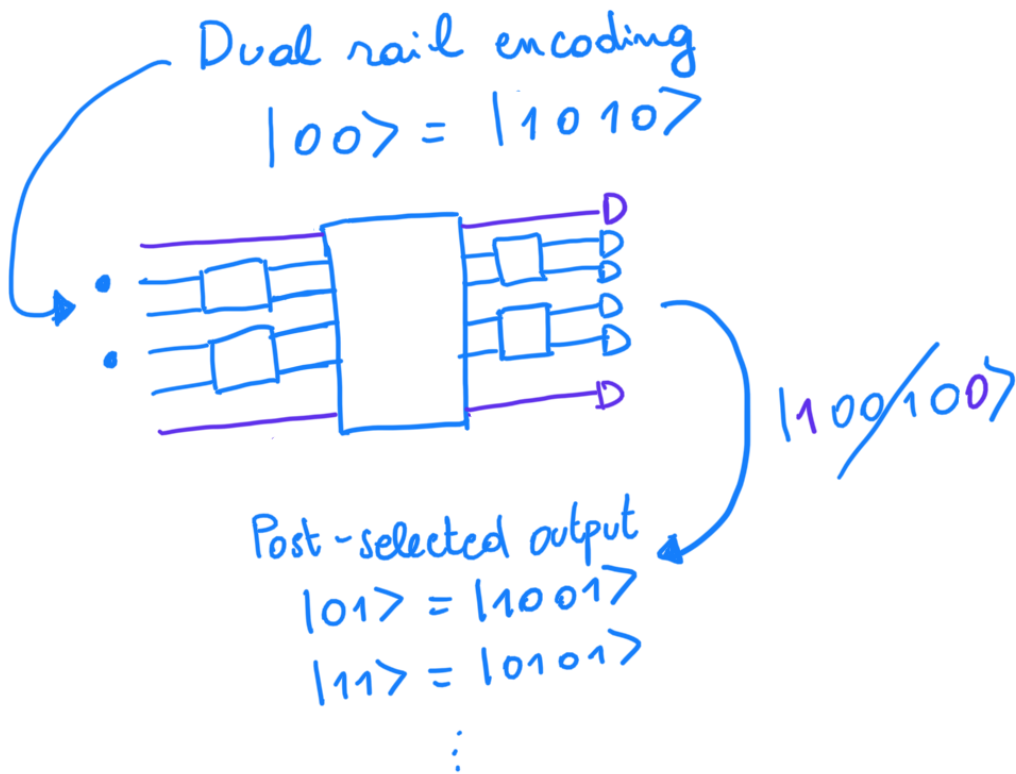
## Example: post-selected CNOT gate



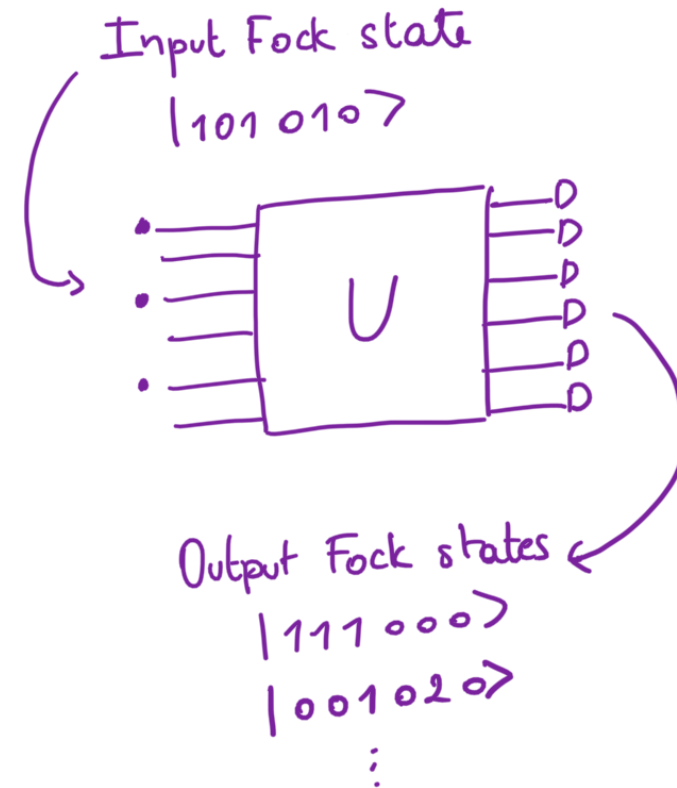


# Approaches on our device

## Qubit circuit based



## Photonic native



# Challenges - algorithms

Post-selected gates: non-deterministic computation

PNR detectors not yet available: reduced output space

Optimization in QML: little research in parameter shift rules for linear optics

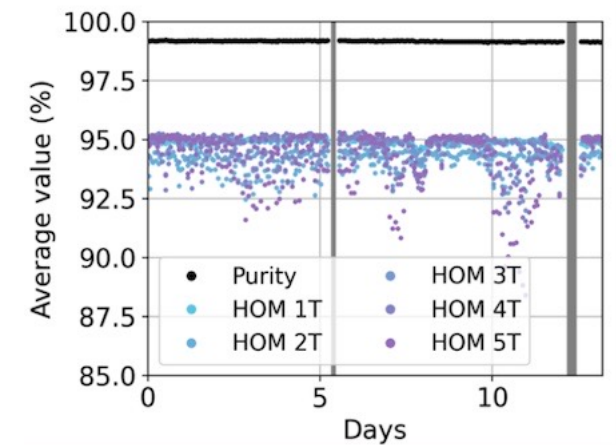
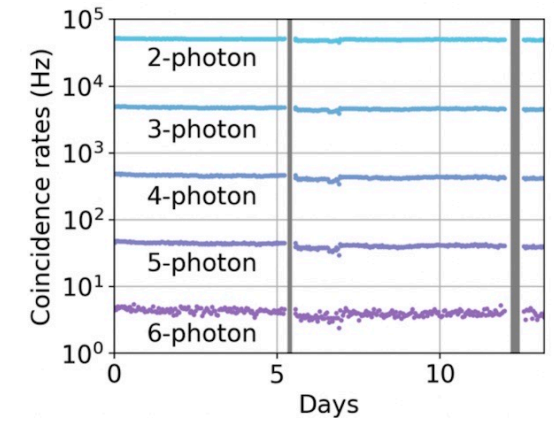


# Challenges - hardware

Photon loss is main source of noise: total efficiency 8%

Indistinguishability of the photons: ~ 94%

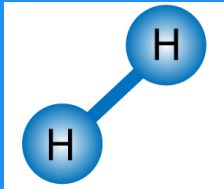
Single-photon purity: > 99%



# Approaches on our device

## Qubit circuit based

Variational quantum eigensolver



## Photonic native

Variational quantum classifier



# VQE experiment



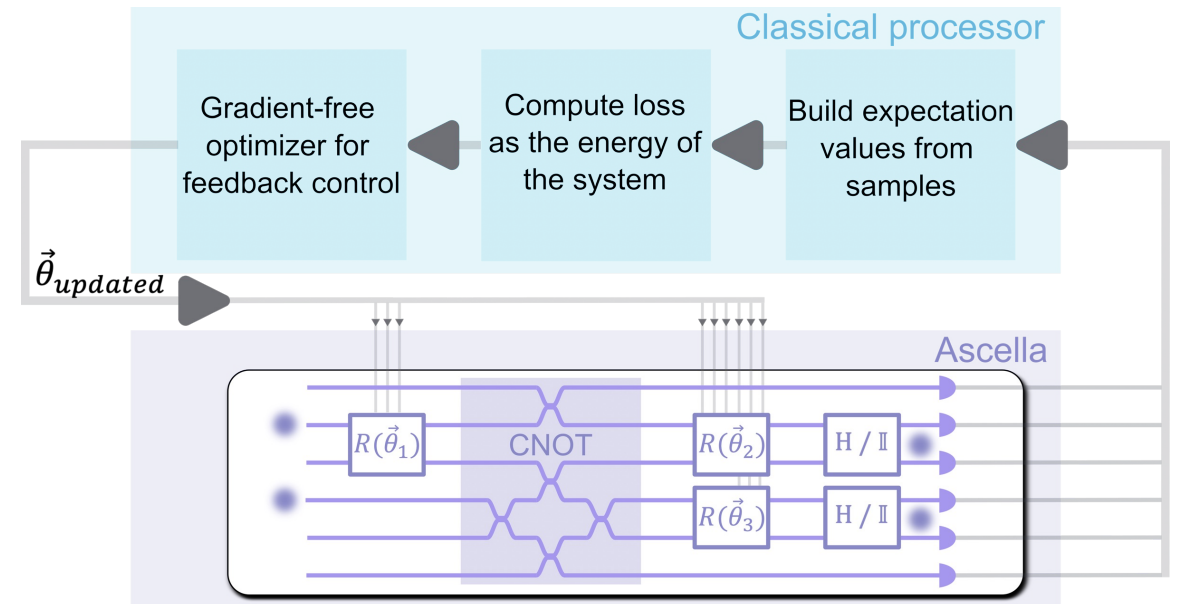
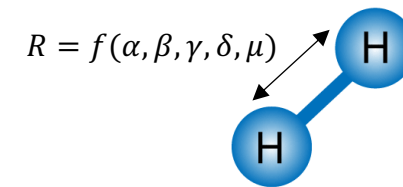
# VQE results

We consider the H2 molecule with effective Hamiltonian  $\hat{H} = \alpha \mathbb{I}\mathbb{I} + \beta Z\mathbb{I} + \gamma \mathbb{I}Z + \delta ZZ + \mu XX$

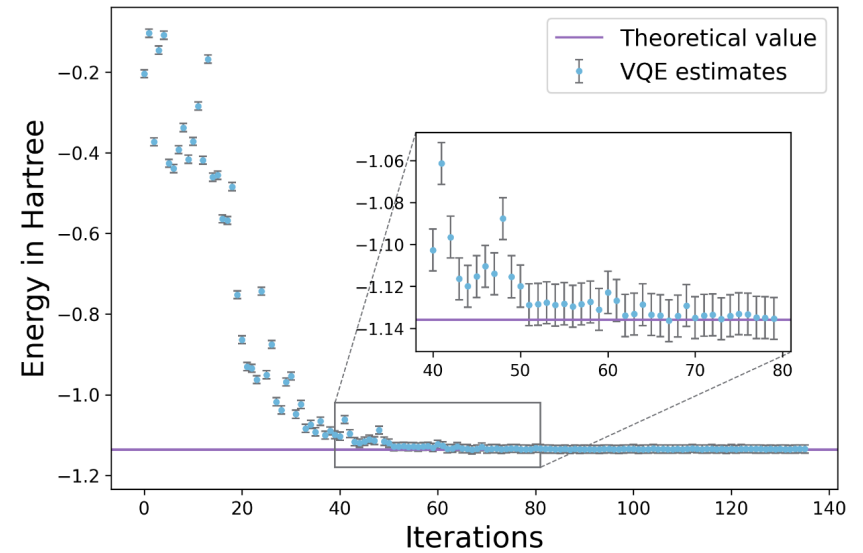
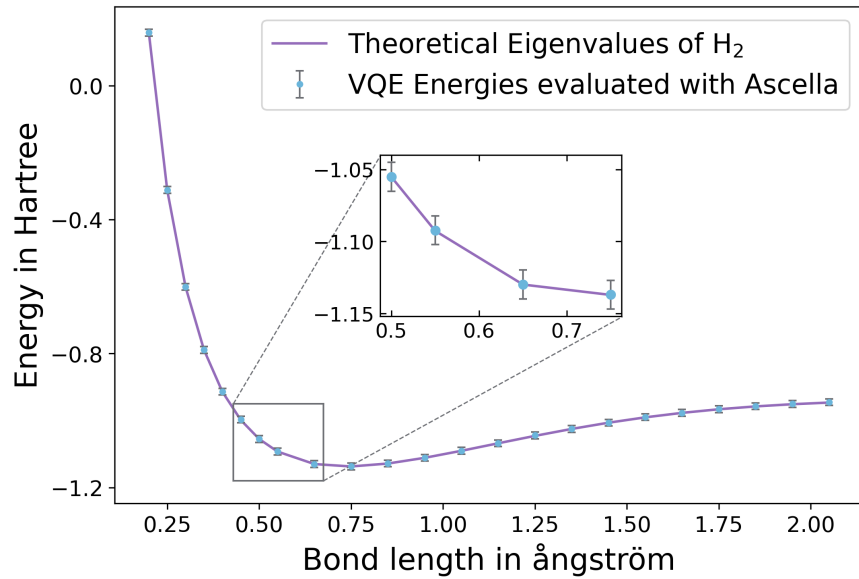
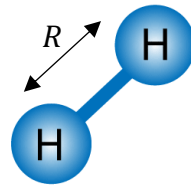
Circuit prepares an ansatz state of two qubits:

- dual rail encoding
- post-selected CNOT gate

Error mitigation scheme inspired from D. Lee et al. *Optica* 9, 88-95 (2022)



# VQE results

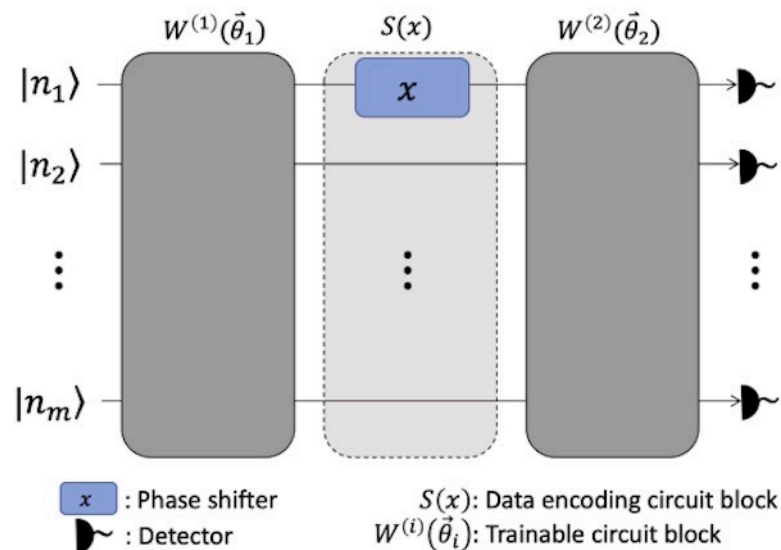


# Variational quantum classifier



# Variational quantum classification algorithm

Fock-space based classifier proposed in [1]



Resulting model:

$$f^{(n)}(x, \Theta, \lambda) = \langle \mathbf{n}^{(i)} | \mathcal{U}^\dagger(x, \Theta) \mathcal{M}(\lambda) \mathcal{U}(x, \Theta) | \mathbf{n}^{(i)} \rangle$$

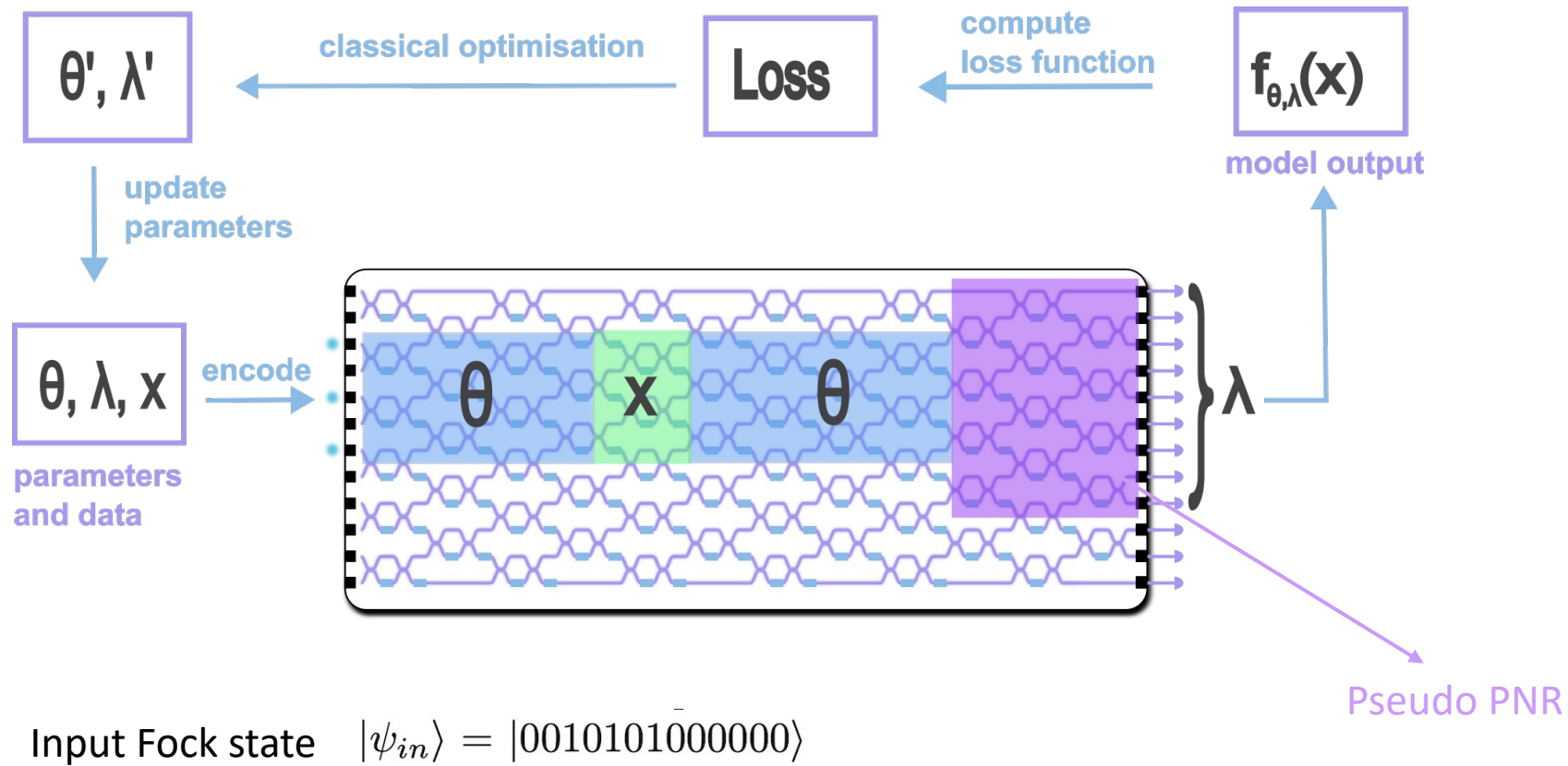
Unitary from the circuit
Observable

Defined in Fock space:

$$| \mathbf{n}^{(i)} \rangle = | n_1^{(i)}, n_2^{(i)}, \dots, n_m^{(i)} \rangle$$

[1] B. Y. Gan, D. Leykam, and D. G. Angelakis. *EPJ Quantum Technol.* 9, 16 (2022)

# Variational quantum classification algorithm

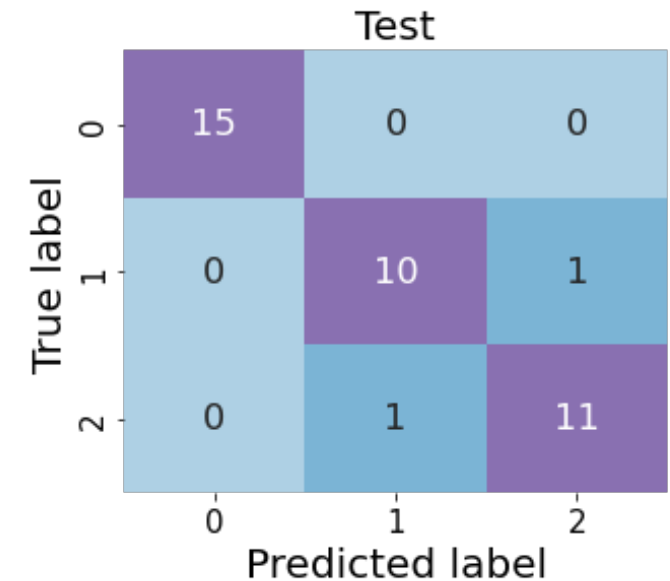
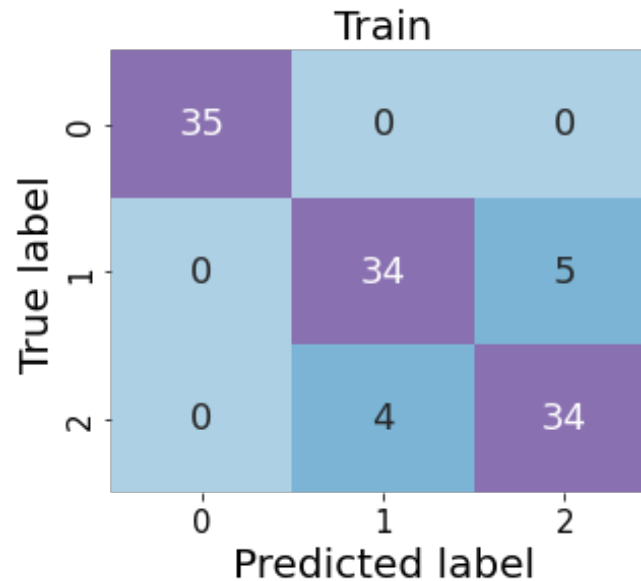


# Variational quantum classifier: results



Classifying Fisher's iris dataset:

- 150 data points
- 4 dimensions
- 3 classes



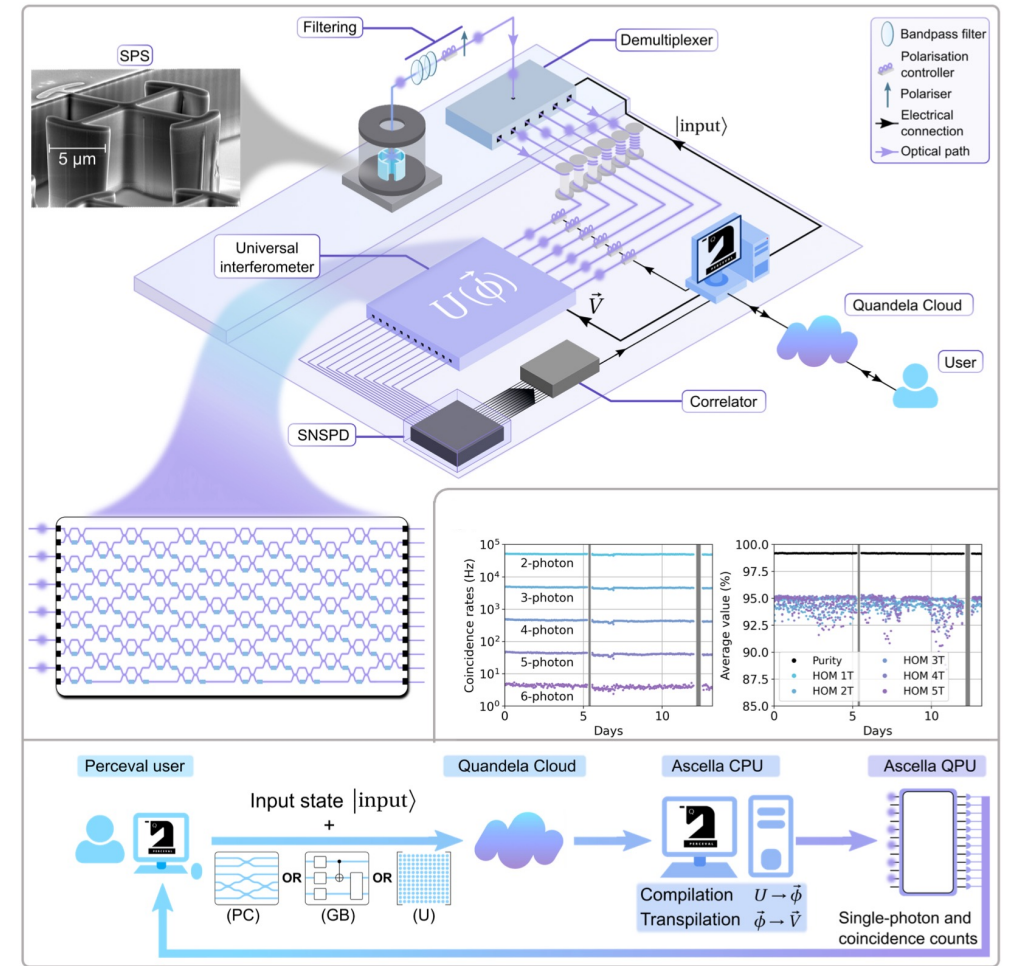


# Conclusions

# Highlights

- First device of its kind based on single photons
- Available online on the cloud
- Versatility:
  - VQA demonstration
  - Benchmarking
  - Other protocols

arXiv:2306.00874



# Open questions and future work

## Experimental directions:

- Near term optimization of each component in setup
- PNR detectors
- Towards measurement based QC
  - GHZ state generation
  - Linear cluster states directly from the source [1]

| Module                            | Transmission/Efficiency   | Near-term targets         |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| First lens brightness             | 55 %                      | 80% [69]                  |
| Single-mode fiber coupling        | 70 %                      | 85% [70]                  |
| Spectral Filtering module         | 75 %                      | >82%[*]                   |
| Demultiplexer                     | 70 %                      | >80%[*]                   |
| PIC insertion and transmission    | 45 %                      | 70% [71]                  |
| SNSPDs                            | 92 %                      | >95%[**]                  |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>8.4 ± 0.2 %</b>        | <b>27%</b>                |
| <b>Pump laser repetition rate</b> | <b>80 MHz</b>             | <b>320 MHz [72]</b>       |
| <b>6-photon countrate</b>         | <b>4 Hz</b>               | <b>~35 kHz (computed)</b> |
| <b>12-photon countrate</b>        | <b>200 nHz (computed)</b> | <b>~10 Hz (computed)</b>  |

[1] N. Coste, D.A. Fioretto, N. Belabas, et al. *Nat. Photon.* **17**, 582–587 (2023)



# Open questions and future work

## Experimental directions:

- Near term optimization of each component in setup
- PNR detectors
- Towards measurement based QC
  - GHZ state generation
  - Linear cluster states directly from the source [1]

## Variational algorithms:

- Optimization and gradient evaluation
- Compilation of qubit circuits to photonic circuits
- Inductive bias of linear optics?

| Module                            | Transmission/Efficiency   | Near-term targets         |
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[1] N. Coste, D.A. Fioretto, N. Belabas, et al. *Nat. Photon.* **17**, 582–587 (2023)

# Open positions and access to cloud



## Research Scientist (Theory of Quantum Devices)

Paris, Île-de-France, France · R&D - Quantum Theory & Algorithms · Full time

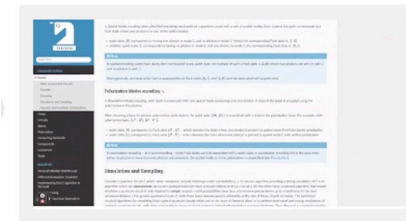
## Research Internship - Theory

Massy, Île-de-France, France · R&D - Quantum Theory & Algorithms · Temporary

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# Appendix



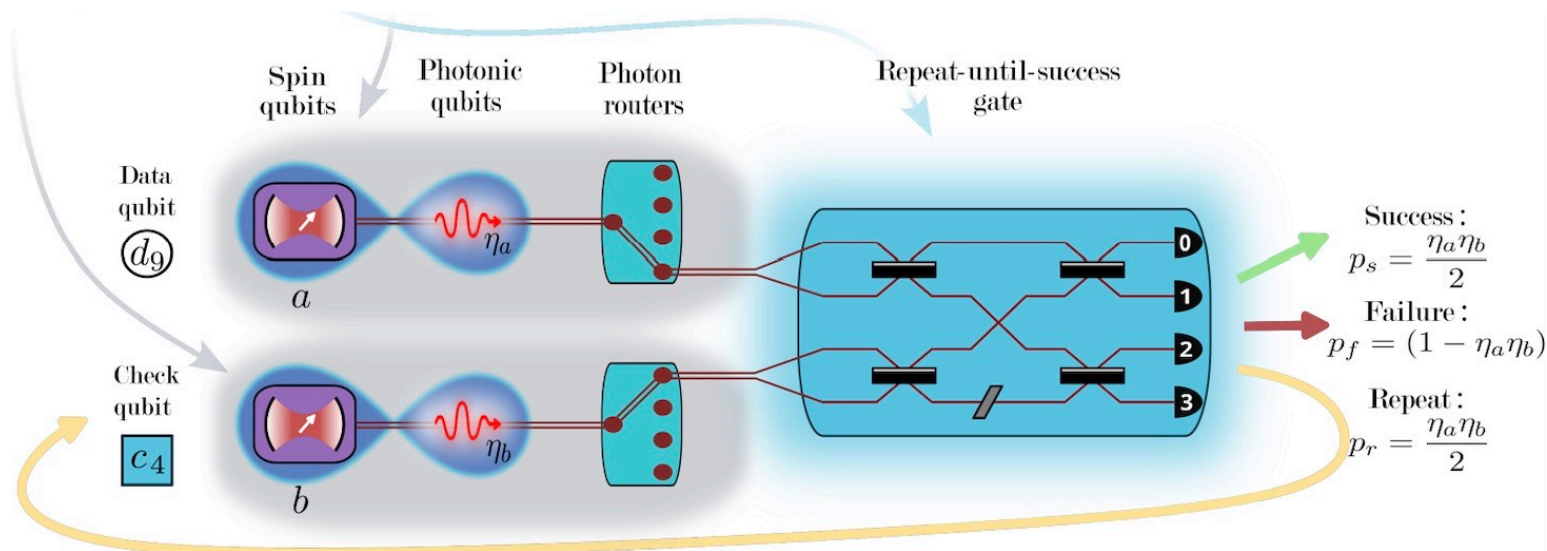
# Hybrid architecture proposal: SPOQC

## A Spin-Optical Quantum Computing Architecture

Grégoire de Gliniasty,<sup>1,2,\*</sup> Paul Hilaire,<sup>1,\*</sup> Pierre-Emmanuel Emeriau,<sup>1</sup>  
 Stephen C. Wein,<sup>1</sup> Alexia Salavrakos,<sup>1</sup> and Shane Mansfield<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Quandela, 7 Rue Léonard de Vinci, 91300 Massy, France

<sup>2</sup>Sorbonne Université, CNRS, LIP6, F-75005 Paris, France



# VQE error mitigation scheme

Error mitigation scheme inspired from [1]

State preparation and measurement (SPAM) errors

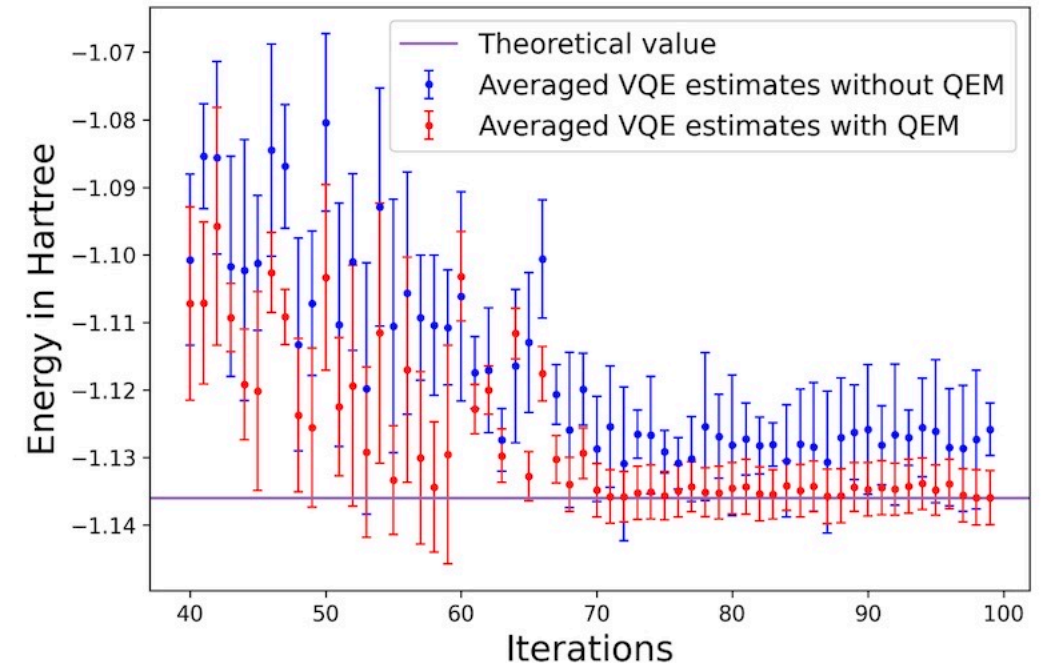
Correct probability distribution  $q = \Gamma_b p$

Evaluate right before experiment  $(\Gamma_b)_{ij} = |\langle \psi |_i^b b | \psi \rangle_j^b|^2$

$$\Gamma_{ZZ} = \begin{bmatrix} 9.99999952e-01 & 3.09568451e-02 & 3.09568451e-02 & 1.54929555e-09 \\ 2.34741773e-08 & 9.38086308e-01 & 1.45337301e-09 & 2.34741773e-08 \\ 2.34741773e-08 & 1.45337301e-09 & 9.38086308e-01 & 2.34741773e-08 \\ 1.54929555e-09 & 3.09568451e-02 & 3.09568451e-02 & 9.99999952e-01 \end{bmatrix}$$

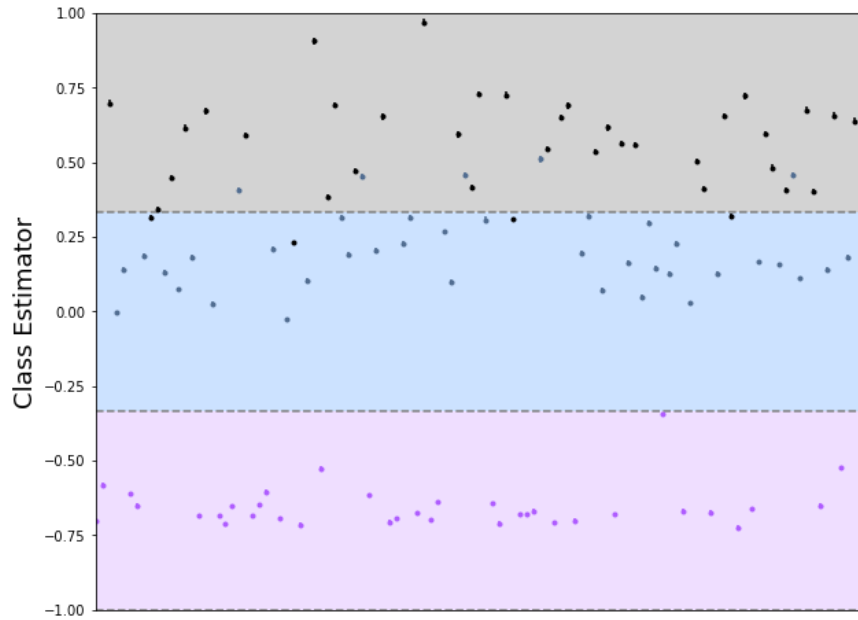
$$\Gamma_{XX} = \begin{bmatrix} 9.99999951e-01 & 2.47148265e-02 & 2.47148265e-02 & 1.24580719e-09 \\ 2.39578331e-08 & 9.50570344e-01 & 1.18422748e-09 & 2.39578331e-08 \\ 2.39578331e-08 & 1.18422748e-09 & 9.50570344e-01 & 2.39578331e-08 \\ 1.24580731e-09 & 2.47148287e-02 & 2.47148287e-02 & 9.99999951e-01 \end{bmatrix}$$

[1] D. Lee et al. *Optica* 9, 88-95 (2022)

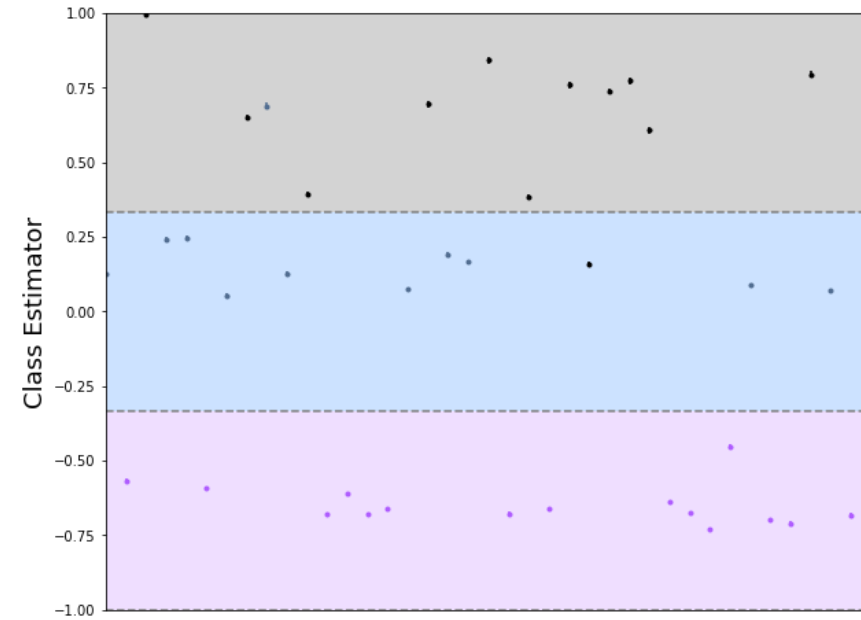


# Variational quantum classifier: results

Train set

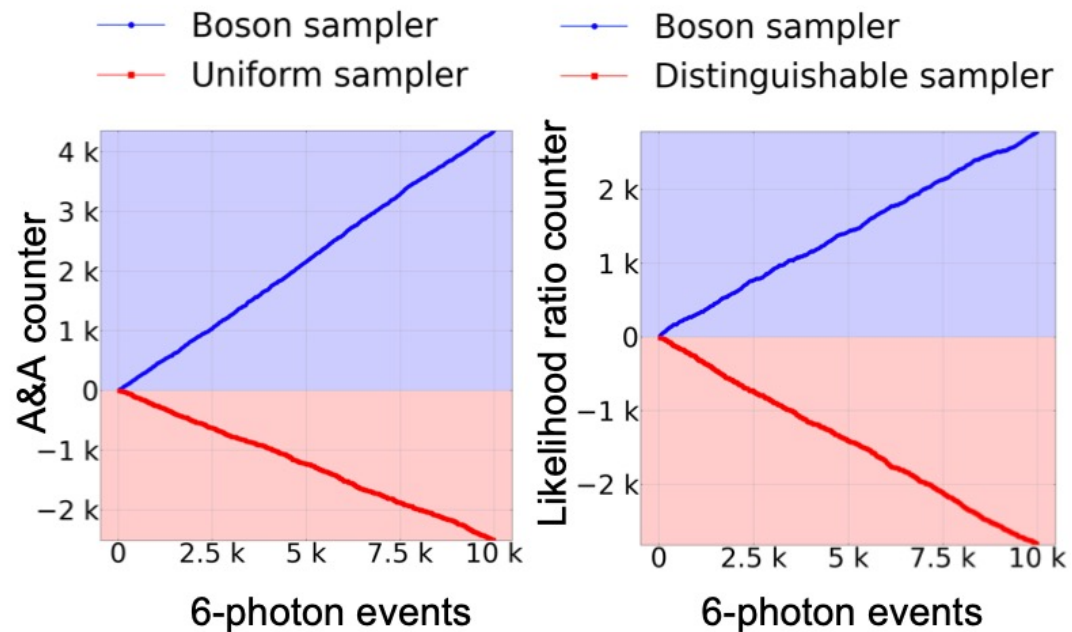
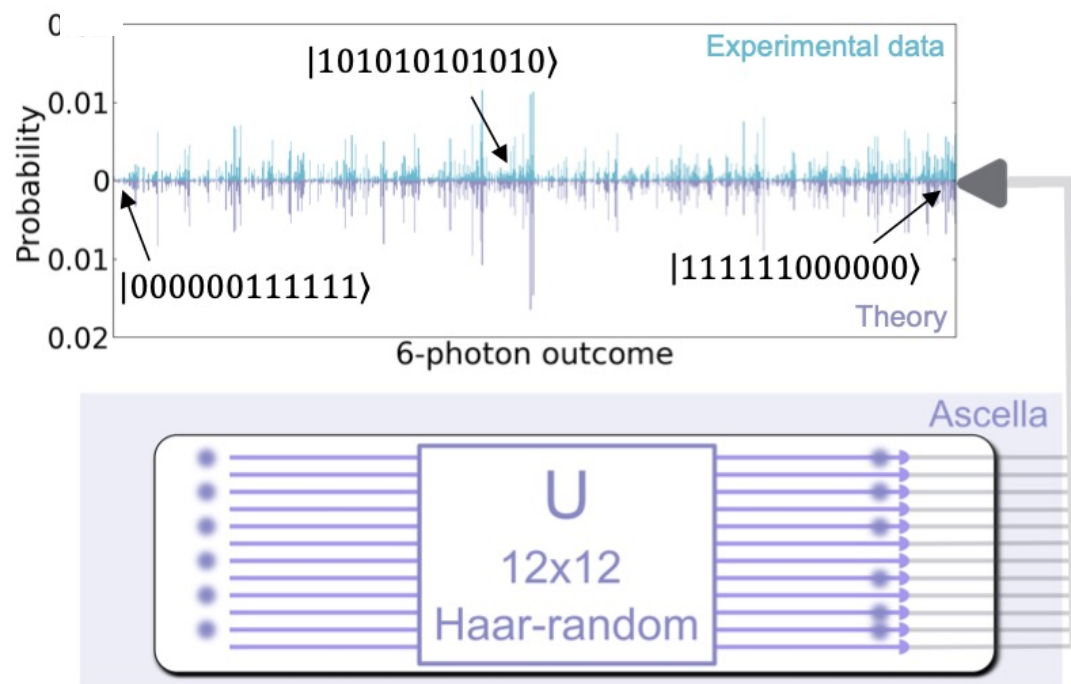


Test set





# Boson Sampling: on-chip implementation



- Aaronson & Arkhipov counter
- Likelihood ratio counter

Distinguishers between uniform and observed output distributions which validate the experiment

# Benchmarking: average gate fidelities

Initial pure state  $|\psi\rangle \rightarrow$  Target state  $U|\psi\rangle$   
 Final state  $\rho$

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\frac{\pi}{4}} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{CNOT} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Toffoli} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

State fidelity:  $\mathcal{F}_\psi(U) = \langle \psi | U^\dagger \rho U | \psi \rangle$

$F_{\text{avg}}$  is state fidelity averaged over the Haar measure

| Platform (device)  | Gate    | Number of Qubits | $F_{\text{avg}}$ (%) |
|--------------------|---------|------------------|----------------------|
| Quandela (Ascella) | T-gate  | 1                | 99.6±0.1             |
|                    | CNOT    | 2                | 93.8±0.6             |
|                    | Toffoli | 3                | 86±1.2               |

|                            |         |   |          |
|----------------------------|---------|---|----------|
| IonQ (ionq.qpu)            | T-Gate  | 1 | 99.6±1   |
|                            | CNOT    | 2 | 91.7±1.7 |
|                            | Toffoli | 3 | 90±3.1   |
| Rigetti (rigetti.aspen-11) | T-Gate  | 1 | 88.7±1   |
|                            | CNOT    | 2 | 71.2±1.5 |
| IBM (Quito or Belem)       | T-Gate  | 1 | 96±1.5   |
|                            | CNOT    | 2 | 86.4±1.5 |

# Generating GHZ states: towards MBQC

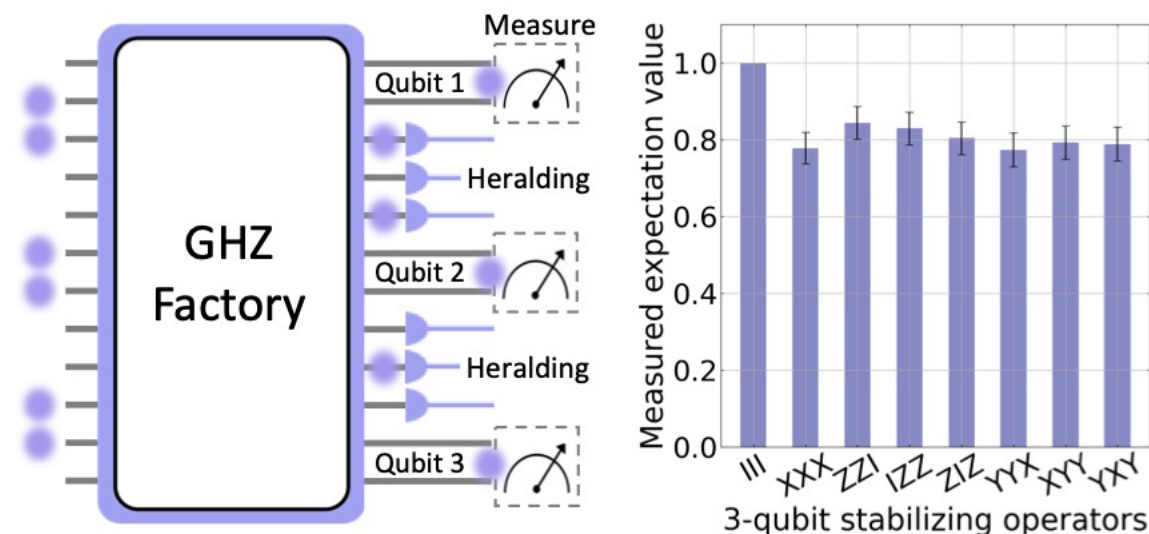
Not scalable to work with probabilistic 2-qubit gates

**Solution:** MBQC

Requires, e.g., construction of graph states, which can be built up of:

- Small entangled states such as GHZ states
- Fusion operations such as Bell measurements

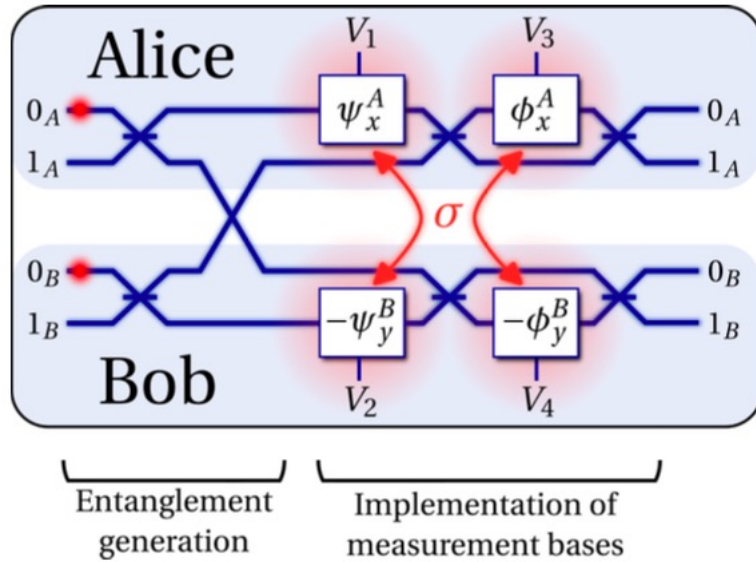
In principle MBQC can be achieved with small constant depth of probabilistic operations



**Heralded generation of 3-photon GHZ states.** Measured expectation values of the stabilizing operators of the heralded 3-photon GHZ state  $|\text{GHZ}_3^+\rangle$  yielding a fidelity of  $F_{\text{GHZ}_3^+} = 0.82 \pm 0.04$ .



# A CHSH Bell test



| in\out     | (0,0) | (0,1) | (1,0) | (1,1) |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| $(a, b)$   | 0.418 | 0.083 | 0.084 | 0.415 |
| $(a, b')$  | 0.090 | 0.416 | 0.410 | 0.084 |
| $(a', b)$  | 0.085 | 0.418 | 0.418 | 0.079 |
| $(a', b')$ | 0.077 | 0.429 | 0.423 | 0.071 |

- CF  $\approx 0.34$
- Tsirelson bound: CF  $\approx 0.41$
- Observed signalling:  $\sigma^{emp} < 0.05$
- Estimated unsharpness:  $\eta^{emp} < 0.001$
  
- For randomness certification, sharpness and determinism are irrelevant
- Crucial only to establish CF  $> \sigma$
  
- This is the starting point for a protocol to certify the generation of private unpredictable randomness

