





Quantum simulation of colour in perturbative QCD

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Based on SciPost Phys. 15, 205 (2023) with Mathieu Pellen

and ongoing work with Mathieu Pellen and Simon Williams

Outline

- 1. Introduction/motivation
- 2. Background
- 3. Quantum circuits for colour
 - Overview
 - Details
- 4. Results/validation
- 5. Outlook and summary



Outline

- 1. Introduction/motivation
 - Why perturbative QCD?
 - Why quantum computers?
 - Why now?
 - Proposed applications of quantum computing in high-energy physics
- 2. Background
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Why perturbative QCD? (1) Particle physics and the Standard Model



Image sources: CERN



Image source: CERN / ParticleQuest / André-Pierre Olivier



Standard Model Total Production Cross Section Measurements

Status: October 2023



5

Why perturbative QCD? (2)

Lattice QCD $\sum_{n} \langle n | e^{-H(T-t)} \mathcal{O} e^{-Ht} | n \rangle = \int d[U_{\mu}(n)] e^{-\mathcal{A}[U]} \det(D+m) \mathcal{O}[U](t)$ $\sum_{n} \langle n | e^{-H(T-t)} \mathcal{O} e^{-Ht} | n \rangle = \int d[U_{\mu}(n)] e^{-\mathcal{A}[U]} \det(D+m) \mathcal{O}[U](t)$ • Very large computational
challenge:
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ACAT 2024 - 3/14/2024 (5)



Slide from Norman Christ's talk yesterday (my highlighting)



Why perturbative QCD (3)

- Very rapid increase in difficulty with each order in α_s
 - Each new order typically takes 10-20 years
 - But vital for producing precise theoretical predictions to compare against experimental measurements
- Highly challenging and computationally intense
 - e.g. multi-loop amplitude calculations
 - e.g. Monte-Carlo integration of cross sections
 - So new techniques and technologies are always needed



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What can quantum computers do?

- Prime factorisation
- Unstructured search
 - e.g. searching abstract spaces
 - e.g. Monte-Carlo integration
- Simulating quantum systems
 - Computational chemistry
 - Condensed matter systems
 - Lattice QFT/QCD
- Machine learning













Why now?

- Hardware progress
 - Trapped ions
 - Neutral atoms
 - Photonic systems
 - Superconducting systems
 - •
- Software progress
 - e.g. Error-correcting codes (e.g. "surface codes")
- Commercial interest



Why now?

IBM Quantum Development Roadmap



Why now?

Google's quantum roadmap



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15/03/2024, Quantum simulations of perturbative QCD

Proposed applications in high-energy physics

- Experiments / data analysis
- PDFS [Pérez-Salinas, Cruz-Martinez, Alhajri, Carrazza, '20], [QuNu Collaboration, '21]
- EFTS [Bauer, Freytsis, Nachman, '21]
- Monte Carlo for cross-sections [Agliardi, Grossi, Pellen, Prati, '22]
- Parton showers [Bauer, de Jong, Nachman, Provasoli, '19], [Bepari, Malik, Spannowsky, Williams, '20], [Gustafson, Prestel, Spannowsky, Williams, '22]
- Event generation [Gustafson, Prestel, Spannowsky, Williams, '22], [Bravo-Prieto, Baglio, Cè, Francis, Grabowska, Carrazza, '21], [Kiss, Grossi, Kajomovitz, Vallecorsa, '22]
- Lattice QCD (See reviews [Klco, Roggero, Savage, '21] and [Bauer et al., '22] and references therein)
- More [Cervera-Lierta, Latorre, Rojo, Rottoli, '17], [Ramírez-Uribe, Rentería-Olivo, Rodrigo, Sborlini, Vale Silva, '21], [Fedida, Serafini, '22], [Clemente, Crippa, Jansen, Ramírez-Uribe, Rentería-Olivo, Rodrigo, Sborlini, Vale Silva, '21]



Spotlight: quantum simulation

- Quantum simulation: a flagship application of quantum computers
- Recent years: proposals for quantum simulation of lattice QFTs (e.g. lattice QCD)
- Quantum simulation of perturbative QCD remains largely unexplored
 - Notable exception: several papers on parton showers
- This talk: first steps towards generic perturbative QCD processes
 - Quantum simulation of colour in perturbative QCD
 - Simulation of (more challenging) kinematics left to future work



Motivation for quantum simulation of pQCD

- 1. Perturbative QCD requires quantum-coherent combination of contributions from many unobservable intermediate states
 - natural candidate to exploit superpositions of quantum states in quantum computers
- 2. Processes with high-multiplicity final states, with full interference effects
- 3. Improve speed/precision of perturbative QCD predictions by exploiting speed-ups of known quantum algorithms
 - e.g. quantum amplitude estimation; quantum Monte Carlo



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Quantum circuit model

- Qubits
- Gates
 - Unitary, reversable
 - Can be controlled by other qubits



Figure from: Feynman, R.P. Quantum mechanical computers. Found Phys **16**, 507–531 (1986)



Operator	Gate(s)		Matrix
Pauli-X (X)	- x -		$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$
Pauli-Y (Y)	- Y -		$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{bmatrix}$
Pauli-Z (Z)	- Z -		$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$
Hadamard (H)	$-\mathbf{H}$		$rac{1}{\sqrt{2}} egin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$
Phase (S, P)	- S -		$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & i \end{bmatrix}$
$\pi/8~(\mathrm{T})$	—T —		$egin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \ 0 & e^{i\pi/4} \end{bmatrix}$
Controlled Not (CNOT, CX)			$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$
Controlled Z (CZ)			$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$
SWAP		-*- -*-	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$
Toffoli (CCNOT, CCX, TOFF)			$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$



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Crash course: colour in QCD calculations

- SU(3) structure function f^{abc} at each triple-gluon vertex
 - (4-gluon vertex can be written as linear combination of 3-gluon vertices)
- SU(3) generator T^a_{ij} at each quark-gluon vertex
- Trace over unmeasured (unmeasurable) colours
- e.g.



• Note: the large- N_c expansion is <u>not</u> used in this work



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Idea: can Gell-Mann matrices become gates?

$$\lambda^{1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \lambda^{2} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i & 0 \\ i & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \lambda^{3} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$
$$T_{ij}^{a} = \frac{1}{2}\lambda_{ij}^{a} \qquad \qquad \lambda^{4} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \lambda^{5} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & -i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ i & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \lambda^{6} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$
$$\lambda^{7} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -i \\ 0 & i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \lambda^{8} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- Short answer: yes, but there are complications:
 - Not 2ⁿ x 2ⁿ
 - Not unitary



Key results of this work

• Two quantum gates (G and Q) to simulate colour parts of the interactions of quarks and gluons



• Explicit construction of these gates: see later



Methods

- Quark colours: represented by 2 qubits (2² = 4 basis states, of which 1 is unused)
- Gluon colours: represented by 3 qubits (2³ = 8 basis states)
- Quark-gluon interaction gate is designed such that $Q |a\rangle_g |k\rangle_q |\Omega\rangle_{\mathcal{U}} = \sum_{j=1}^3 T_{jk}^a |a\rangle_g |j\rangle_q |\Omega\rangle_{\mathcal{U}} + (\text{terms orthogonal to } |\Omega\rangle_{\mathcal{U}})$
- Triple-gluon interaction gate is designed such that

 $G |a\rangle_{g_1} |b\rangle_{g_2} |c\rangle_{g_3} |\Omega\rangle_{\mathcal{U}} = f^{abc} |a\rangle_{g_1} |b\rangle_{g_2} |c\rangle_{g_3} |\Omega\rangle_{\mathcal{U}} + (\text{terms orthogonal to } |\Omega\rangle_{\mathcal{U}})$

• Note: $|\Omega\rangle_{\mathcal{U}}$ is a reference state of a "Unitarisation register", which we introduce because in SU(3), T^a_{ik} and f^{abc} are non-unitary.

(See later slides for more complicated examples)





(See later slides for more complicated examples)





(See later slides for more complicated examples)













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 - Constructing the Q and G gates
 - General algorithm for calculating colour factors for arbitrary Feynman diagrams
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Construction of the Q gate

• Start by defining matrices $\overline{\lambda}_a$

$$\overline{\lambda}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \overline{\lambda}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i & 0 \\ i & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \overline{\lambda}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\overline{\lambda}_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \overline{\lambda}_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & -i \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ i & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \overline{\lambda}_6 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\overline{\lambda}_7 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -i \\ 0 & i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \overline{\lambda}_8 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$



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 $g \equiv q \equiv Q$

 $Q |a\rangle_{g} |k\rangle_{q} |\Omega\rangle_{\mathcal{U}} = \sum T_{jk}^{a} |a\rangle_{g} |j\rangle_{q} |\Omega\rangle_{\mathcal{U}} + (\text{terms orthogonal to } |\Omega\rangle_{\mathcal{U}})$

 $\overline{j=1}$

Construction of the Q gate

• Next, define a gate Λ







Construction of the Q gate

• Finally, define the gate Q

M







Recall: $\langle \Omega |_{\mathcal{U}} B(\alpha) A | \Omega \rangle_{\mathcal{U}} = \alpha$



where μ is defined such that $\mu(a,i)\overline{\lambda}_a \ket{i} = \frac{1}{2}\lambda_a \ket{i}$

 $B(\mu(a,i)$





with

Construction of the G gate





• Define G gate:







Calculating the colour factor of arbitrary Feynman diagrams

- Build a quantum circuit with:
 - For each gluon, 1 gluon register, with 3 qubits per register
 - For each quark line, a pair of quark registers: q and \tilde{q} , with 2 qubits per register
 - A unitarisation register with $N_{\mathcal{U}} = \lceil \log_2(N_V + 1) \rceil$ qubits
- Initialise each register $\mathcal r$ into the state $|\Omega\rangle_r$
- For each gluon, apply R_g
- For each quark, apply R_q
- For each quark-gluon vertex, apply Q gate to the corresponding g and q registers (not \tilde{q})
- For each triple-gluon vertex, apply G gate to the corresponding g registers
- For each gluon, apply $(R_g)^{-1}$
- For each quark, apply $(R_q)^{-1}$
- Colour factor C is found encoded in the final state of the quantum computer, which is:



 $\frac{1}{\mathcal{N}}\mathcal{C}\left|\Omega\right\rangle_{all} + (\text{terms orthogonal to}\left|\Omega\right\rangle_{all})$



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Recall the illustrative example:



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Validation

- Implemented using Qiskit (IBM)
- Simulated various diagrams
 - Simulated noiseless quantum computer
 - These examples use up to 30 qubits
 - Ran each diagram 10⁸ times
 - Measured output to infer colour factor $\frac{1}{N} C |\Omega\rangle_{all} + (\text{terms orthogonal to } |\Omega\rangle_{all})$
 - Full agreement with analytic expectation
- Follow-up work (in progress)
 - Improved algorithm (quadratically faster)
 - Enables interferences of multiple diagrams





Directions for future work

- Interference of multiple diagrams (work in progress)
 - Natural application for a quantum computer
 - Can try with/without quantum simulation of kinematic parts
- Kinematic parts
 - Unitarisation register could be useful here too
 - Much larger Hilbert space since kinematic variables are continuous
- High-multiplicity processes
- Monte-Carlo integration of cross-sections
 - quadratic speed-up



Summary and outlook



- Designed quantum circuits to simulate colour part of perturbative QCD
 - Example application: colour factors for arbitrary Feynman diagrams
 - First step towards a full quantum simulation of generic perturbative QCD processes
- Natural avenues for follow-up work:
 - Interference of multiple Feynman diagrams (work now in progress)
 - Kinematic parts of Feynman diagrams
 - Use in a quantum-accelerated Monte Carlo calculation of cross-sections
 - Quadratic speed-up over classical Monte Carlo





Backup slides





What quantum computers can and cannot do

• Formally, anything that can be computed on a quantum computer can also be computed on a classical Turing machine



Figure from: opengenus.org

• But quantum computers are potentially (much) faster than classical computers for certain problems



Example: the increment circuit

 $|k\rangle \rightarrow \left|k+1 \pmod{2^N}\right\rangle$

- Examples:
 - $\bullet \left| 00000 \right\rangle \rightarrow \left| 00001 \right\rangle$
 - $\bullet \left| 01011 \right\rangle \rightarrow \left| 01100 \right\rangle$
 - $|11111\rangle \rightarrow |00000\rangle$ (overflow)
 - $\stackrel{\bullet}{\xrightarrow[|\alpha|^2+|\beta|^2} \rightarrow \frac{\alpha|0000\rangle + \beta|0110\rangle}{|\alpha|^2+|\beta|^2} \rightarrow \frac{\alpha|00001\rangle + \beta|01100\rangle}{|\alpha|^2+|\beta|^2}$



Figure adapted from: algassert.com/circuits/2015/06/12/Constructing-Large-Increment-Gates.html



Example: the increment circuit

 $|k\rangle \rightarrow \left|k+1 \pmod{2^N}\right\rangle$

- Examples:
 - $\bullet \left| 00000 \right\rangle \rightarrow \left| 00001 \right\rangle$
 - $|01011\rangle \rightarrow |01100\rangle$
 - $|11111\rangle \rightarrow |00000\rangle$ (overflow)
 - $\stackrel{\bullet}{\xrightarrow[|\alpha|^2+|\beta|^2} \rightarrow \frac{\alpha|00001\rangle + \beta|01100\rangle}{|\alpha|^2+|\beta|^2}$



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Figure adapted from: algassert.com/circuits/2015/06/12/Constructing-Large-Increment-Gates.html



Non-unitary operators in perturbative QCD

• Would like quantum gates for the 8 linear operators

$$|j\rangle_q \rightarrow \sum_i T^a_{ij} \, |i\rangle_q$$

and also for the (diagonal) operator

$$a\rangle_{g_1}|b\rangle_{g_2}|c\rangle_{g_3} \to f^{abc}\,|a\rangle_{g_1}|b\rangle_{g_2}|c\rangle_{g_3}$$

- An operator is unitary iff the rows of its matrix representation are orthonormal
 - In matrices T^a_{ij} and f^{abc}, rows are orthogonal
 - But not necessarily of unit norm
- Need a unitary way to alter a state's norm

 $\begin{aligned} \text{Recall:} \\ \lambda^{1} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \lambda^{2} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i & 0 \\ i & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \lambda^{3} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \lambda^{4} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \lambda^{5} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & -i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ i & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \lambda^{6} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \lambda^{7} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -i \\ 0 & i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \lambda^{8} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$



Unitarisation register: expanding the space

- Let L be an operator acting on a Hilbert space \mathcal{H}_1
- If L is non-unitary, it cannot be directly implemented as a circuit
- But it may be possible to define a new unitary operator \hat{L} acting on a larger space $\mathcal{H}_1\otimes\mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{U}}$ such that

 $\langle \Omega |_{\mathcal{U}} \langle \chi_2 | \hat{L} | \chi_1 \rangle | \Omega \rangle_{\mathcal{U}} = \langle \chi_2 | L | \chi_1 \rangle$

for some state $|\Omega_{\mathcal{U}}\rangle \in \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{U}}$ for all states $|\chi_1\rangle, |\chi_2\rangle \in \mathcal{H}_1$

In this work, we introduce a single additional register U, whose size is small: N_U = ⌈log₂(N_V + 1)⌉



Unitarisation register: gates A and B

- Let A denote the increment circuit described earlier
- Define a gate $B(\alpha)$:



where:

$$B_1(\alpha) = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{1 - |\alpha|^2} & \alpha \\ -\alpha & \sqrt{1 - |\alpha|^2} \end{pmatrix}$$



Unitarisation register: key properties

• Together, gates A and $B(\alpha)$ act on \mathcal{U} in the following way:

$$B(\alpha)A|k\rangle = \begin{cases} \alpha |0\rangle + \sqrt{1 - |\alpha|^2} |1\rangle & \text{if } k = 0 \\ |k+1\rangle & \text{if } 0 < k < 2^{N_{\mathcal{U}}} - 1 \\ \sqrt{1 - |\alpha|^2} |0\rangle - \alpha |1\rangle & \text{if } k = 2^{N_{\mathcal{U}}} - 1. \end{cases} \qquad |0\rangle_{\mathcal{U}} \equiv |\Omega\rangle_{\mathcal{U}}$$

which means we can apply B(α)A repeatedly up to $2^{N_u} - 1$ times and satisfy

$$\langle \Omega |_{\mathcal{U}} \prod_{i=1} \{ B(\alpha_i) A \} | \Omega \rangle_{\mathcal{U}} = \prod_{i=1} \alpha_i$$



R_g and R_q gates for tracing



$$R_g^{-1}\sum_{a=1}^8 c_a \left|a\right\rangle_g = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{8}}\sum_{a=1}^8 c_a\right)\left|\Omega\right\rangle_g + \left(\text{terms orthogonal to }\left|\Omega\right\rangle_g\right)$$

$$\begin{split} R_q \left| \Omega \right\rangle_q \left| \Omega \right\rangle_{\tilde{q}} &= \sum_{k=1}^3 \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \left| k \right\rangle_q \left| k \right\rangle_{\tilde{q}} \\ q \\ q \\ \tilde{q} \\ R_q \\ \tilde{q} \\ R \\ = \underbrace{\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} & \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} & \sqrt{\frac{1}{6}} & 0 \\ \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} & -\sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} & \sqrt{\frac{1}{6}} & 0 \\ \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} & -\sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} & \sqrt{\frac{1}{6}} & 0 \\ \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} & 0 & \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \end{array} \right]} \\ R_q^{-1} \sum_{i,k \in \{1,2,3\}} c_{ik} \left| i \right\rangle_q \left| k \right\rangle_{\tilde{q}} = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \sum_{i=1}^3 c_{ii} \right) \left| \Omega \right\rangle_q \left| \Omega \right\rangle_{\tilde{q}} + \left(\text{terms orthogonal to } \left| \Omega \right\rangle_q \left| \Omega \right\rangle_{\tilde{q}} \right) \end{split}$$

