

The era of quantum utility with IBM Quantum

Voica Radescu, PhD | IBM Quantum Innovation Centers | EMEA Lead

- Why Quantum?
- Path to useful Quantum Computing
- IBM Quantum Development Roadmap
- Utility scale examples
- What's next?

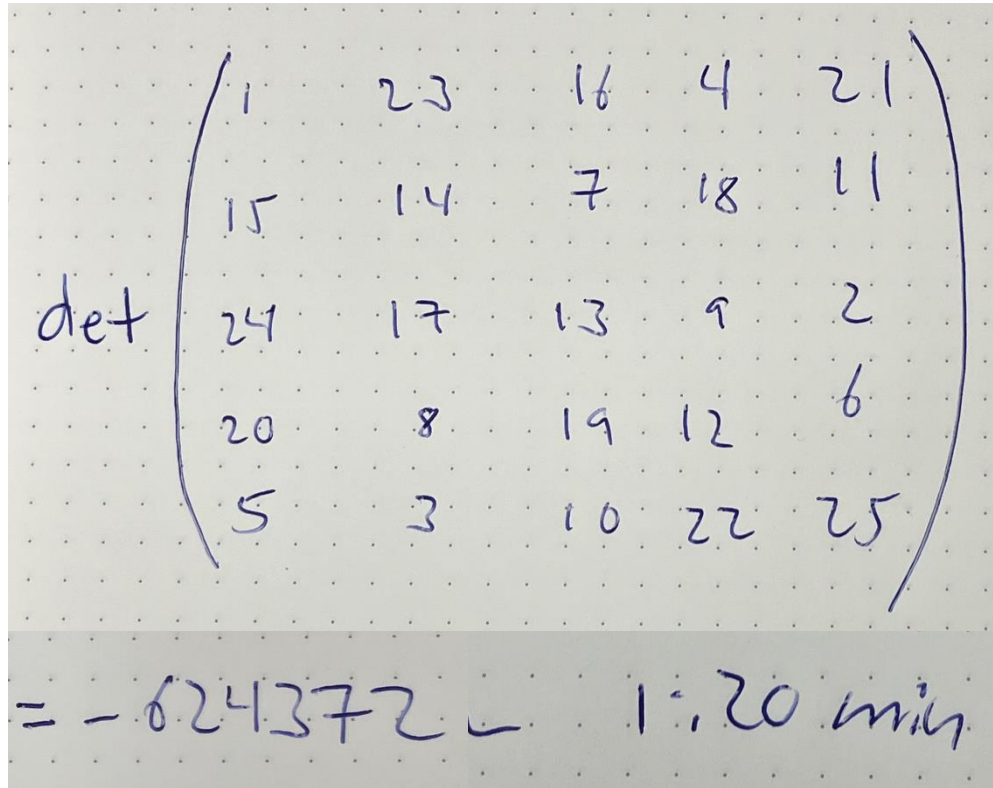


Why do we use computers?

The determinant

A sub-routine for linear-systems solutions, and used extensively in vector calculus

Scientist:


$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 23 & 16 & 4 & 21 \\ 15 & 14 & 7 & 18 & 11 \\ 24 & 17 & 13 & 9 & 2 \\ 20 & 8 & 19 & 12 & 6 \\ 5 & 3 & 10 & 22 & 25 \end{pmatrix}$$

= -624372 ✓ 1.20 min



NumPy:

```
1a.det(np.array([[1, 23, 16, 4, 21],  
                [15, 14, 7, 18, 11],  
                [24, 17, 13, 9, 2],  
                [20, 8, 19, 12, 6],  
                [5, 3, 10, 22, 25]])))
```

Answer: -623999.9999999994

Solution time: 2.17 us (2 billion times faster)

Why do we use computers?

Accuracy Speed Scalability Versatility

We have learned to **trust** that classical computers
can be **accurate** at scale.

Quantum computers are the only novel hardware that changes the game

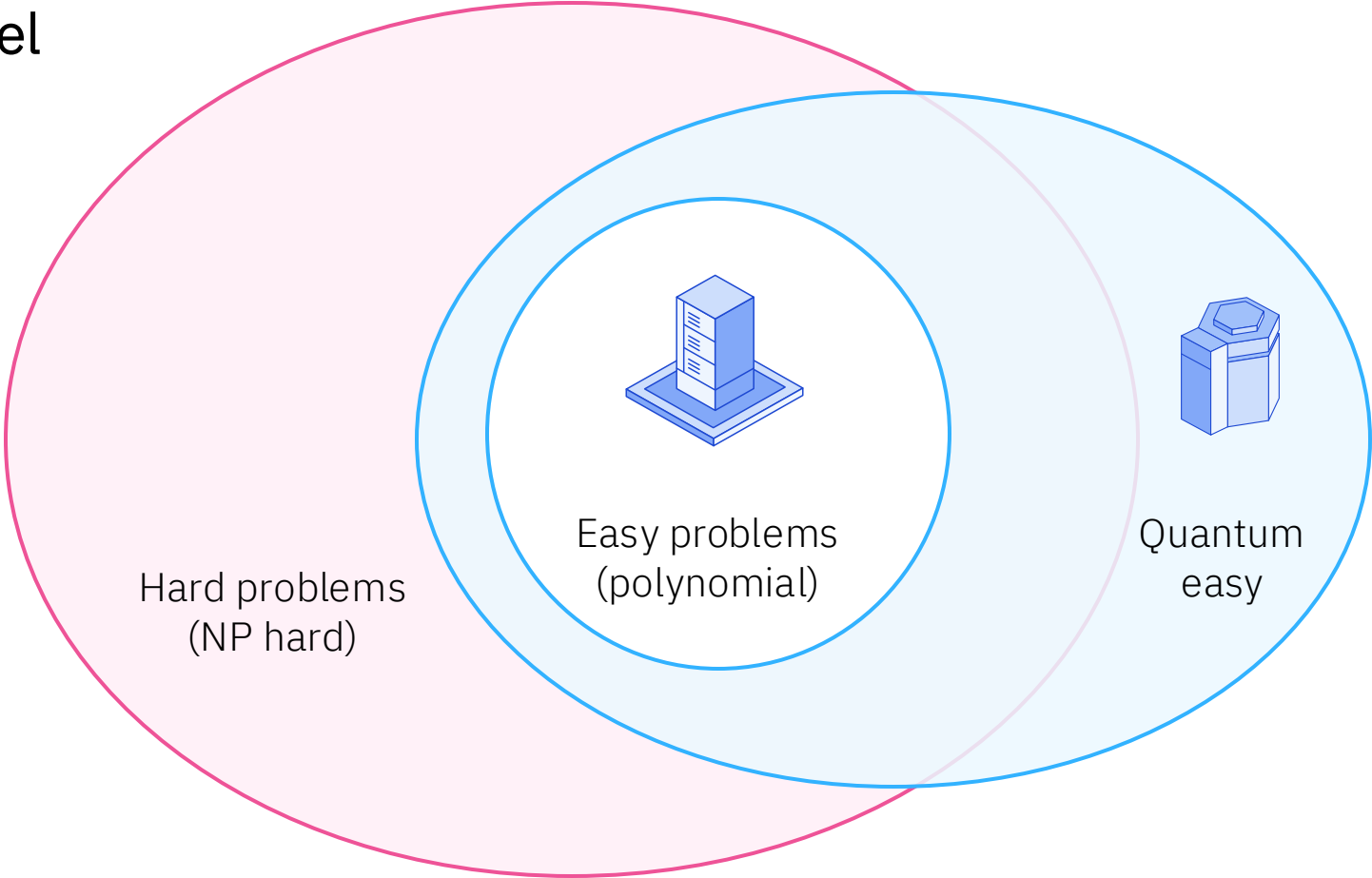
Quantum computing is not just a faster or better version of classical systems.

It is an entirely new branch of computing:

- Applies principles of quantum mechanics
- Qubits can be in more states than 0 and 1

Quantum computing follows the laws of nature to represent data in ways that mimic the randomness and unpredictability of the natural world.

Ultimately, GPUs and classical hardware are not built for this.

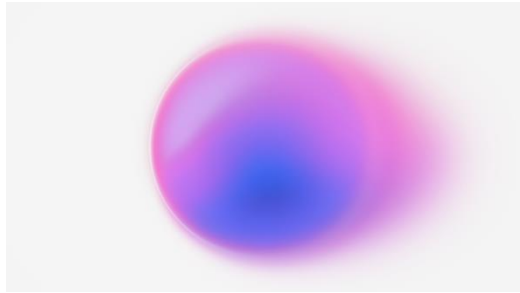


Classical computer
Well suited for many problems.

Quantum computer
Unlock classically intractable problems

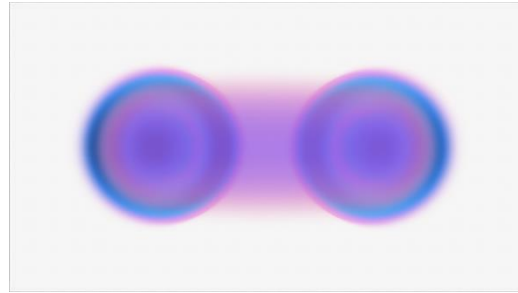
Quantum Computing's basic properties:

N qubits $\rightarrow 2^N$ bits
127 qubits $\rightarrow 2^{127}$ bits = 1.7×10^{38} bits



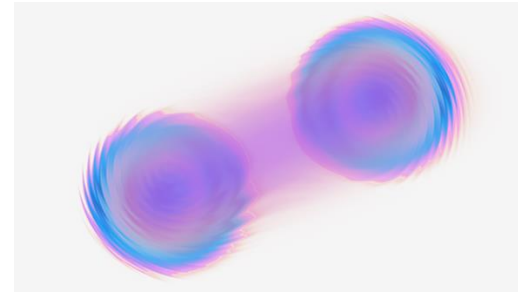
Superposition

A quantum system existing in multiple states simultaneously until it is measured



Entanglement

Information shared jointly between entangled pairs or groups



Interference

Interaction that affects likelihood of solutions

Moore's law: the number of transistors in a classical integrated circuit doubles about every two years ... but we are approaching the end due to physical limitations

[Approaching the physical limit: IBM created the world's first 2 nm node chip in 2021, with transistors as small as 10 silicon atoms](#)

Our IBM mission

Bring useful quantum
computing to the world

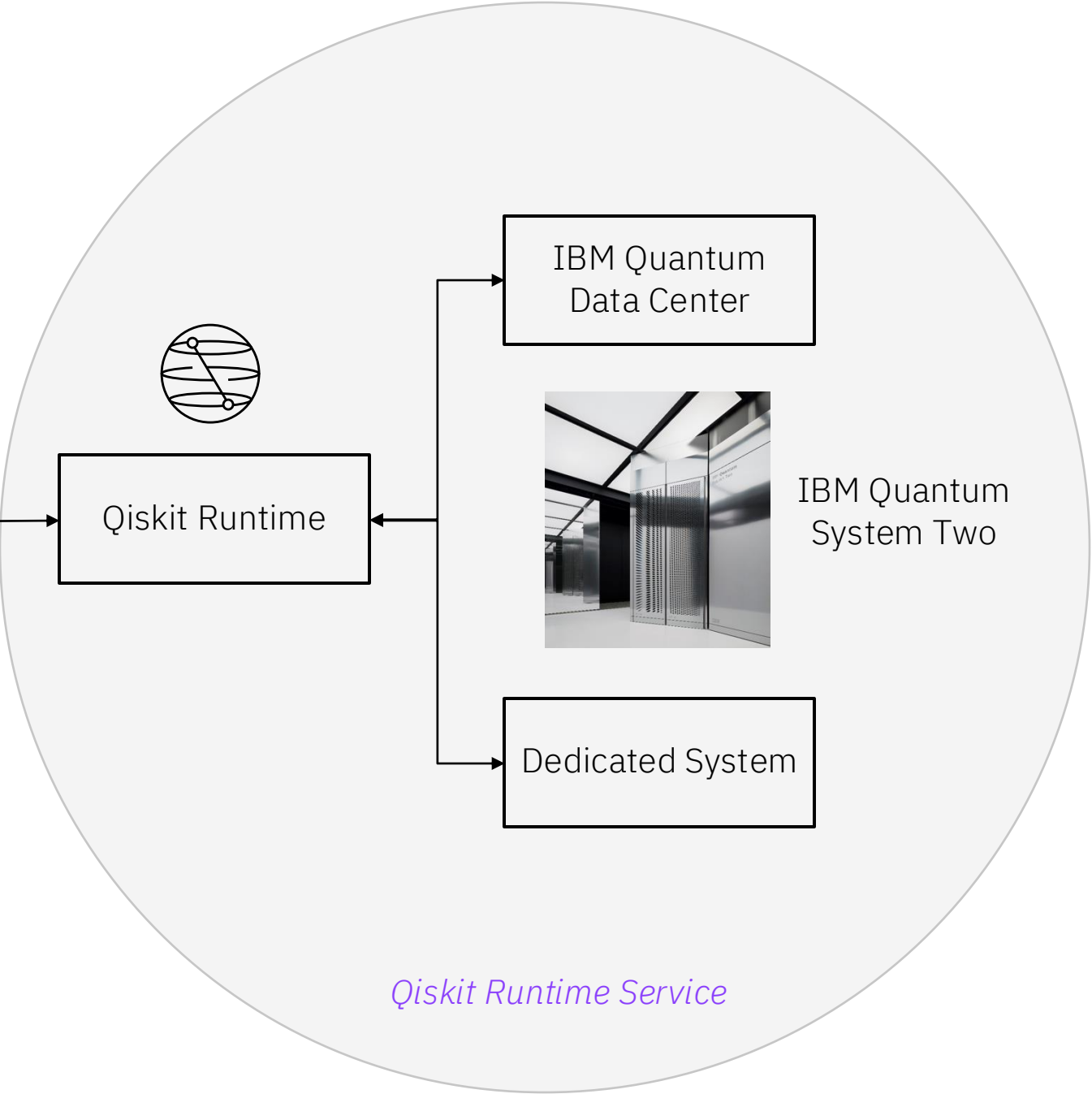
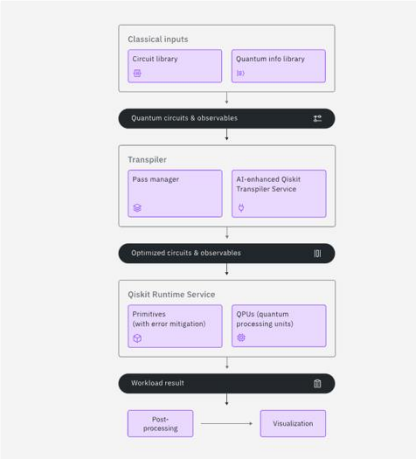
Since 2016, we've made quantum computers available through the cloud

Running quantum workloads requires infrastructure that coordinates quantum resources with near-time and real-time classical resources.



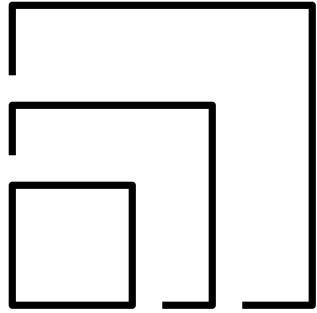
Qiskit offers a simplified quantum workflow

- Start
- Map
- Optimize
- Execute
- Post-process



The IBM Quantum platform unlocks **research with quantum**

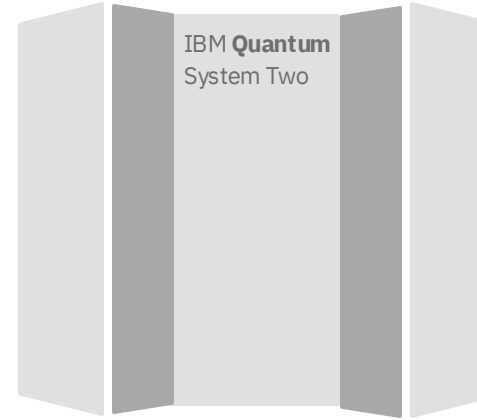
<https://quantum.ibm.com/>



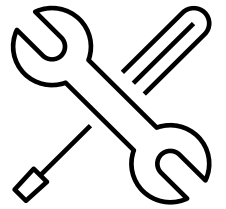
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=



Quantum
Software

(powered by Qiskit add-ons
and Qiskit Functions)

Qiskit

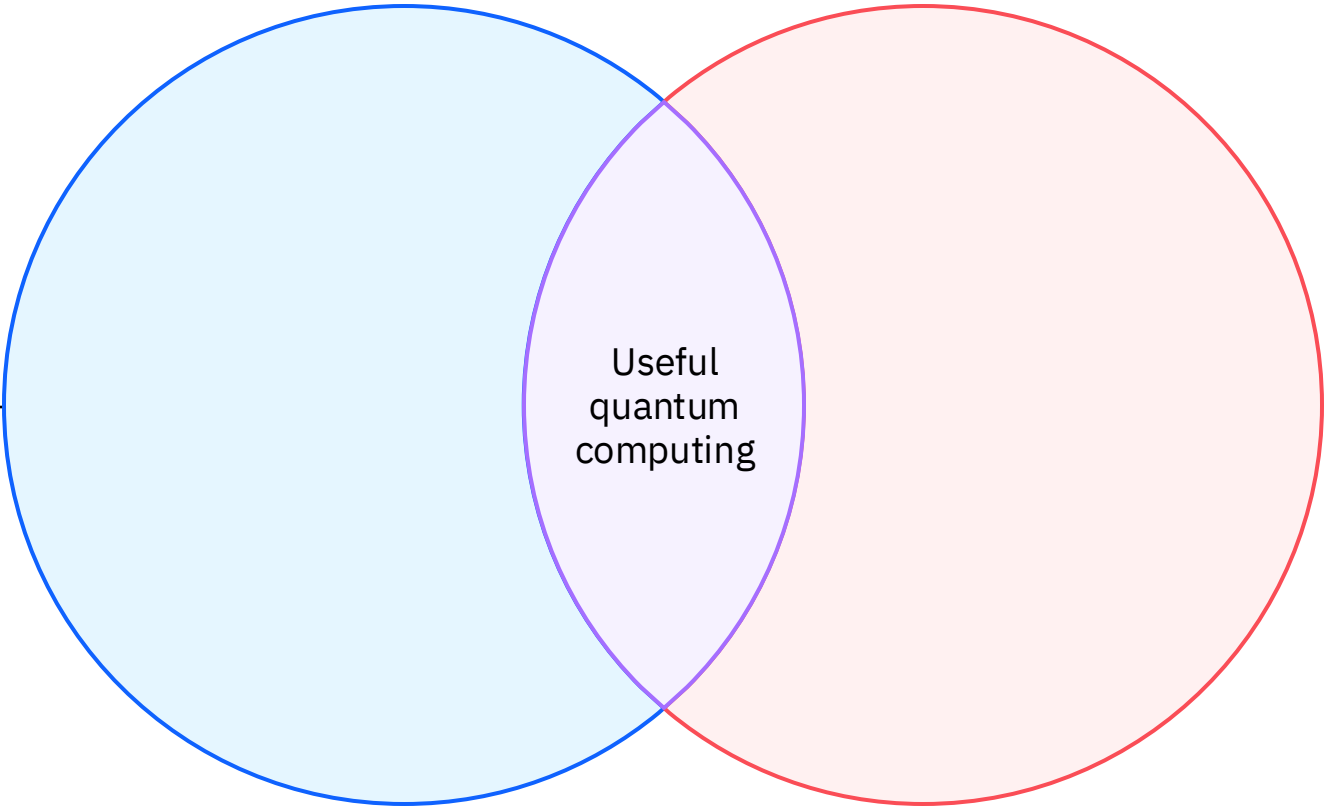
QPUs

Useful Work

The path to useful quantum computing

Run quantum circuits faster on quantum hardware

Chart a path to develop quantum technology (hardware + software) that runs noise-free estimators of quantum circuits faster than can be done using classical hardware alone.



Map interesting problems to quantum circuits

We need applications that can be solved only with quantum circuits that are known to be difficult to simulate. This must be done in partnership with our clients and users.

Development Roadmap

| | 2016–2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2033+ |
|-------------------|---|--|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Run quantum circuits on the IBM Quantum Platform | Release multi-dimensional roadmap publicly with initial aim focused on scaling | Enhancing quantum execution speed by 100x with Qiskit Runtime | Bring dynamic circuits to unlock more computations | Enhancing quantum execution speed by 5x with quantum serverless and Execution modes | Improving quantum circuit quality and speed to allow 5K gates with parametric circuits | Enhancing quantum execution speed and parallelization with partitioning and quantum modularity | Improving quantum circuit quality to allow 7.5K gates | Improving quantum circuit quality to allow 10K gates | Improving quantum circuit quality to allow 15K gates | Improving quantum circuit quality to allow 100M gates | Beyond 2033, quantum-centric supercomputers will include 1000's of logical qubits unlocking the full power of quantum computing |
| Data Scientist | | | | | | Platform | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | Qiskit Code Assistant | Qiskit Functions Service | Mapping Collection | Specific Libraries | | | General purpose QCLibraries |
| Researchers | | | | | Middleware | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | Qiskit Serverless | Qiskit Transpiler Service | Resource Management | Circuit Knitting x P | Intelligent Orchestration | | | Circuit libraries |
| Quantum Physicist | | | Qiskit Runtime Service | | | | | | | | | |
| | IBM Quantum Experience | | QASM3 | Dynamic circuits | Execution Modes | Heron (5K) Error Mitigation 5k gates 133 qubits Classical modular 133x3 = 399 qubits | Flamingo (5K) Error Mitigation 5k gates 156 qubits Quantum modular 156x7 = 1092 qubits | Flamingo (7.5K) Error Mitigation 7.5k gates 156 qubits Quantum modular 156x7 = 1092 qubits | Flamingo (10K) Error Mitigation 10k gates 156 qubits Quantum modular 156x7 = 1092 qubits | Flamingo (15K) Error Mitigation 15k gates 156 qubits Quantum modular 156x7 = 1092 qubits | Starling (100M) Error correction 100M gates 200 qubits Error corrected modularity | Blue Jay (1B) Error correction 1B gates 2000 qubits Error corrected modularity |
| | Early Canary 5 qubits Albatross 16 qubits Penguin 20 qubits Prototype 53 qubits | Falcon Benchmarking 27 qubits | | Eagle Benchmarking 127 qubits | | | | | | | | |

Innovation Roadmap

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|---|---|--|---|---|--|---|--|---|---|---|--|--|
| Software Innovation | IBM Quantum Experience | Qiskit Circuit and operator API with compilation to multiple targets | Application modules Modules for domain specific application and algorithm workflows | Qiskit Runtime Performance and abstract through Primitives | Qiskit Serverless Demonstrate concepts of quantum centric supercomputing | AI enhanced quantum Prototype demonstrations of AI enhanced circuit transpilation | Resource management System partitioning to enable parallel execution | Scalable circuit knitting Circuit partitioning with classical reconstruction at HPC scale | Error correction decoder Demonstration of a quantum system with real-time error correction decoder | | | | |
| Hardware Innovation | Early Canary 5 qubits Albatross 16 qubits Penguin 20 qubits Prototype 53 qubits | Falcon Demonstrate scaling with I/O routing with Bump bonds | Hummingbird Demonstrate scaling with multiplexing readout | Eagle Demonstrate scaling with MLW and TSV | Osprey Enabling scaling with high density signal delivery | Condor Single system scaling and fridge capacity | Flamingo Demonstrate scaling with modular connectors | Kookaburra Demonstrate scaling with nonlocal c-coupler | | Cockatoo Demonstrate path to improved quality with logical communication | Starling Demonstrate path to improved quality with logical gates | | |
| | | | | Egret Tunable coupler demonstration | | Heron Architecture based on tunable-couplers | Crossbill m-coupler | | | | | | |

Executed by IBM
 On target

Hardware

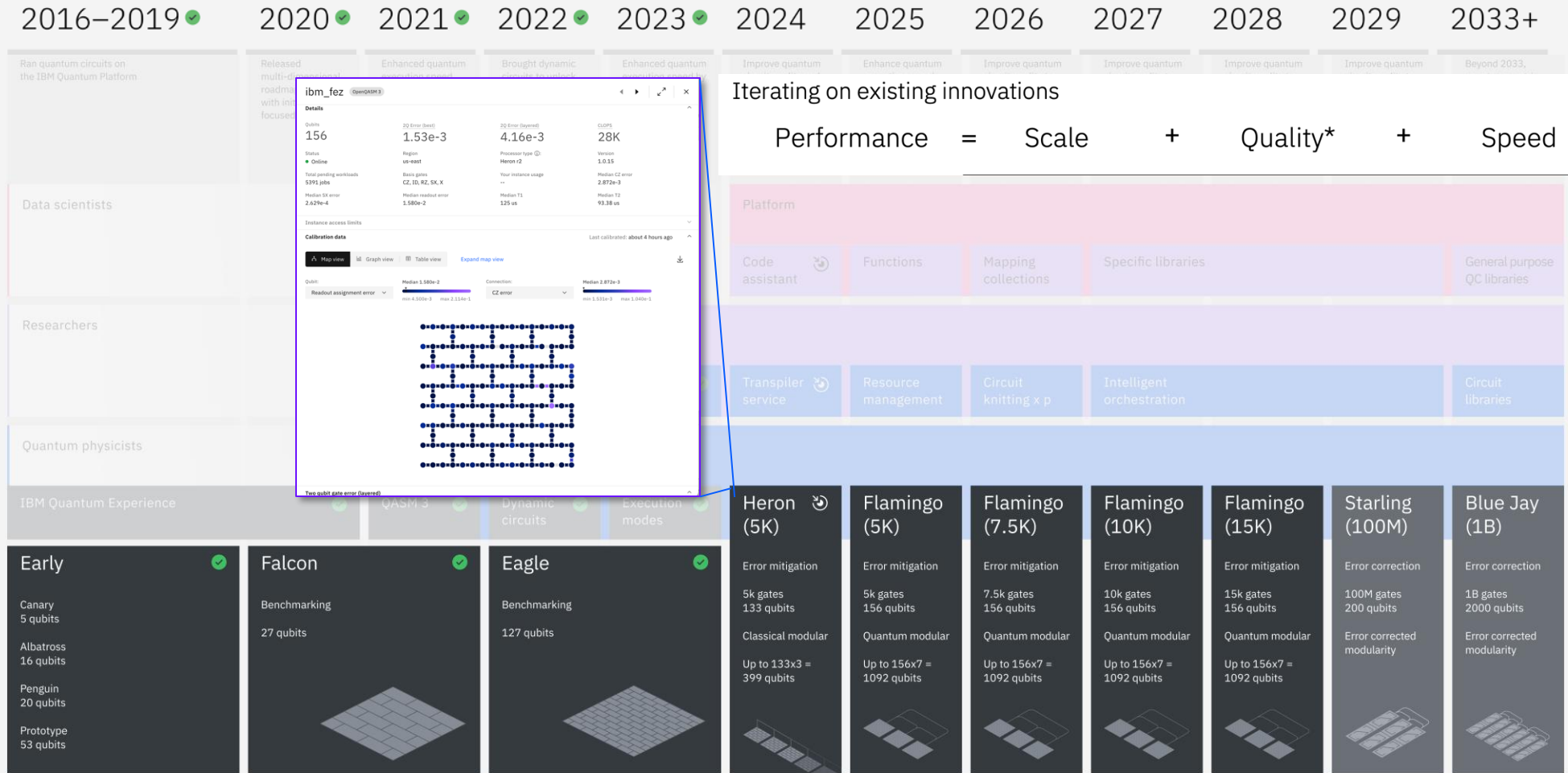
From 2020 to 2023, we focused on solving single-chip scaling with the IBM Quantum Falcon, Hummingbird, Eagle, Osprey, and Condor chips.

In 2023, we debuted the IBM Quantum Heron chip, Heron will serve as the basis for modular scaling of quantum processors.

Through classical and quantum modularity, we plan to achieve an IBM Quantum Flamingo system capable of running 15,000 gates with the help of error mitigation by 2028.

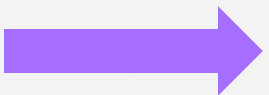
2029: We foresee advances in quantum error correction allowing us to debut IBM Quantum Starling, a system capable of running circuits with 100 million gates on 200 logical qubits

In 2033, we will debut IBM Quantum Blue Jay, a system capable of running circuits with a billion gates on 2,000 logical qubits.



<https://docs.quantum.ibm.com/guides/processor-types>

✓ Executed by IBM
🕒 On target



As we roll out error correction, developers need not change how they write quantum programs. They will simply notice that they can run longer workloads.

Running quantum workloads requires infrastructure that coordinates quantum resources with near-time and real-time classical resources.

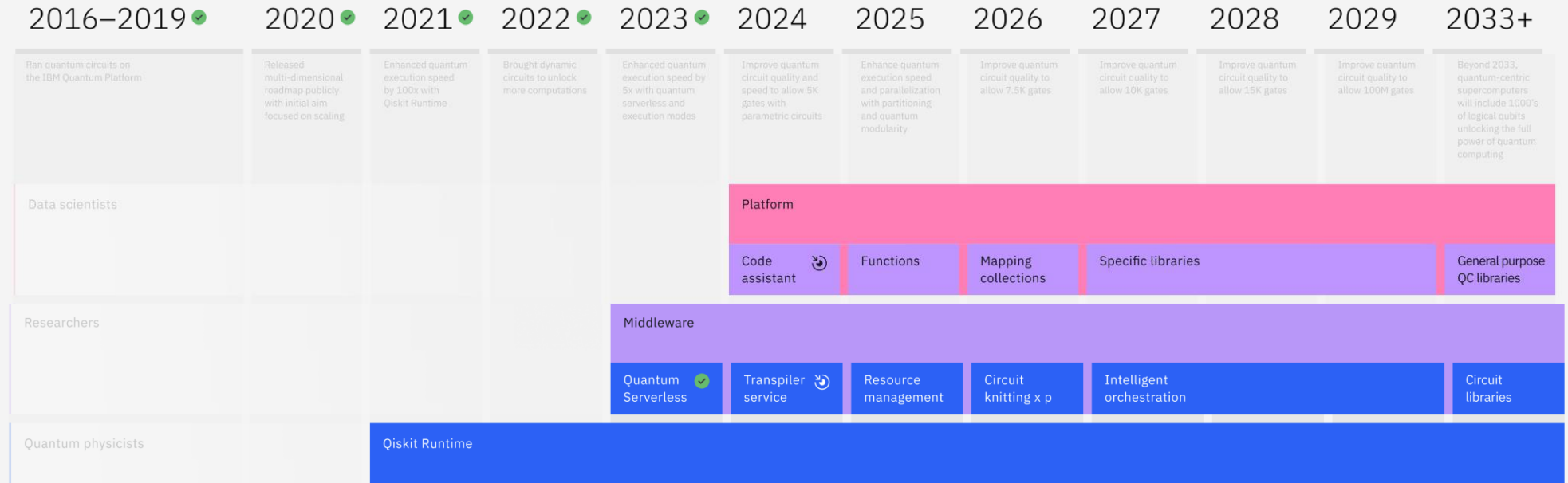
Since 2016, we have worked to create Qiskit and a variety of application libraries.

In 2024 we redefined Qiskit to represent the full-stack software for quantum at IBM, extending the Qiskit SDK with middleware software and services

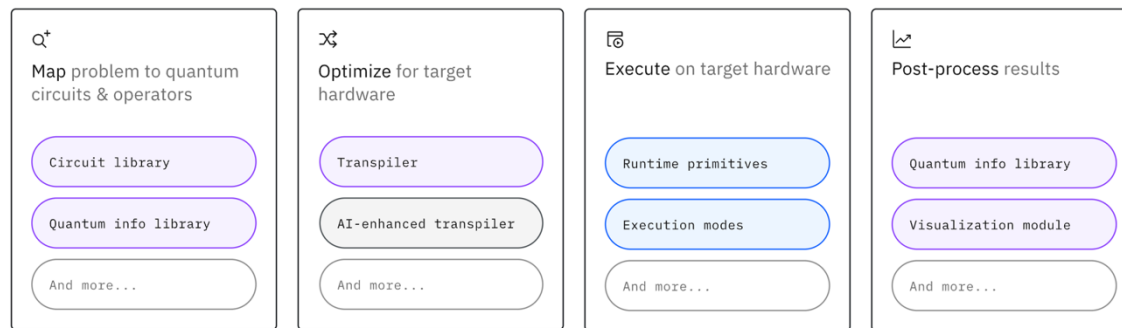
Useful quantum computing requires performant software.

In 2025, we will introduce quantum functions so users can create and share reusable blocks of Qiskit code.

2026 will bring mapping collections so users can start automating the process of mapping their specific use cases to quantum circuits.



<https://www.ibm.com/quantum/qiskit>



Legend: Qiskit SDK (purple), Qiskit Runtime Service (blue), Qiskit Transpiler Service (grey)

| Processor | Flamingo (7.5K) | Flamingo (10K) | Flamingo (15K) | Starling (100M) | Blue Jay (1B) |
|------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Qubit Count | 156 qubits | 156 qubits | 156 qubits | 200 qubits | 2000 qubits |
| Gate Count | 7.5k gates | 10k gates | 15k gates | 100M gates | 1B gates |
| Error Mitigation | Error mitigation | Error mitigation | Error mitigation | Error correction | Error correction |
| Modularity | Quantum modular | Quantum modular | Quantum modular | Error corrected modularity | Error corrected modularity |
| Qubit Expansion | Up to 156x7 = 1092 qubits | Up to 156x7 = 1092 qubits | Up to 156x7 = 1092 qubits | | |

By 2033, we expect to see general-purpose quantum computing libraries that users can incorporate into a wide variety of quantum applications.

IBM Quantum Network

The **largest** quantum ecosystem in the industry

The **IBM Quantum Network** is the core of our global user community and ecosystem — driving innovation and shaping the future of quantum computing.

Universities and research laboratories

Business partners

Startups

Industry leaders

600K

Registered users worldwide

3K+

Research papers using IBM quantum computers

250+

Organizations in the IBM Quantum Network

250+

Member organizations

40+

Quantum Innovation Centers, 8 with Dedicated Service

125+

Members of QICs
Includes research centers and universities

50+

Industry clients
Includes Quantum Accelerator, Premium Plan, and industry QIC members

40+

Startups

10+

Ecosystem Partners
Includes re-sellers, OEs, and ISVs

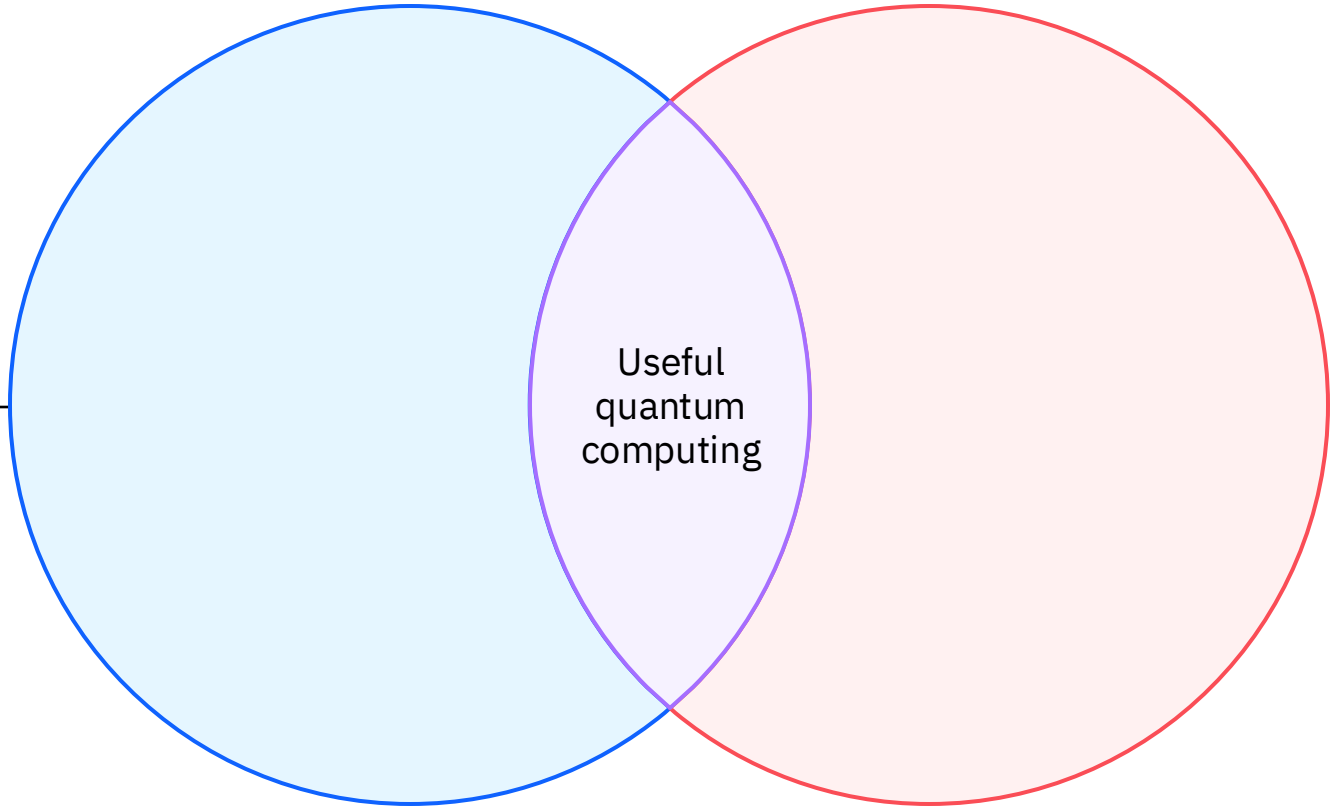
500+

Qiskit Advocates

The path to useful quantum computing

Run quantum circuits faster on quantum hardware

Chart a path to develop quantum technology (hardware + software) that runs noise-free estimators of quantum circuits faster than can be done using classical hardware alone.



Map interesting problems to quantum circuits

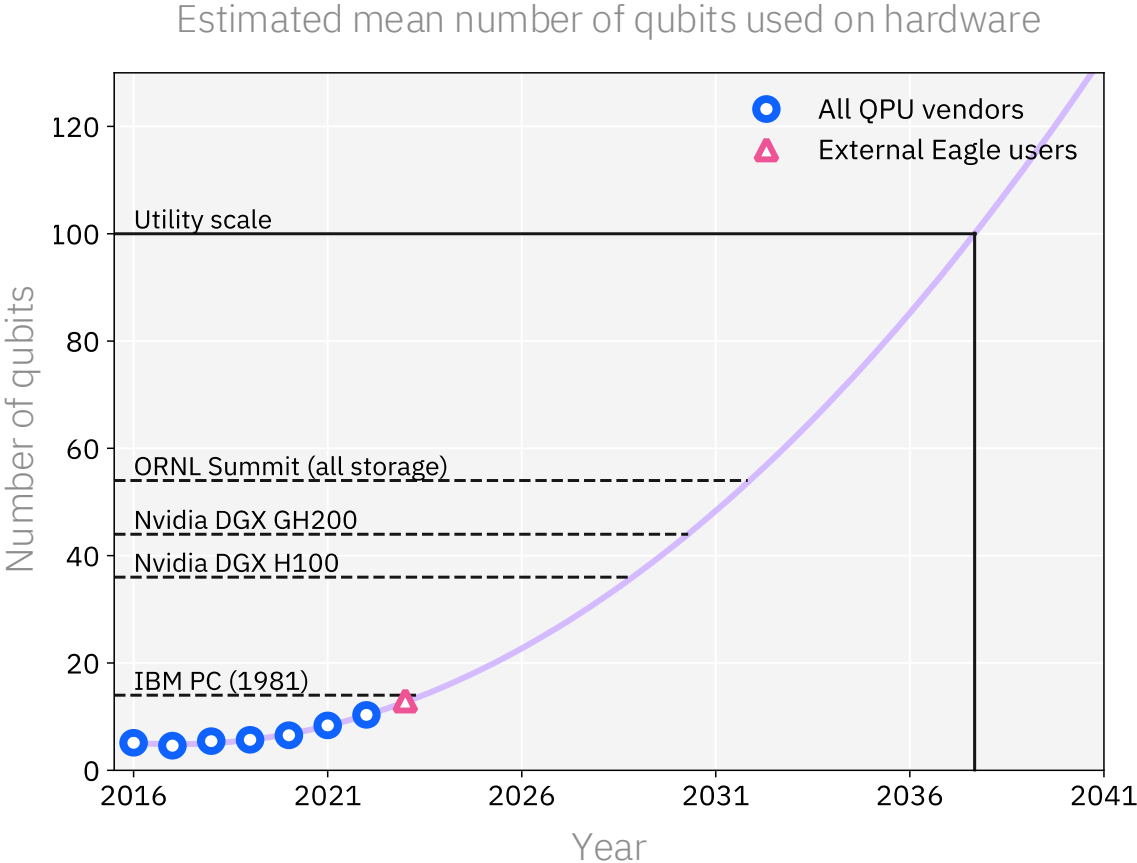
We need applications that can be solved only with quantum circuits that are known to be difficult to simulate. This must be done in partnership with our clients and users.

Quantum state of play

Since we put the first quantum computer on the cloud in 2016, quantum computing has largely been in an **exploratory phase**.

Experiments **validate** the tenets of quantum computation, but do not push the field beyond the reach of classical compute.

To move beyond simple experiments to demonstrate the **utility** of quantum computing in multiple domains,



Data for all vendors taken from: arXiv:2307.16130

We need a disruptive change!


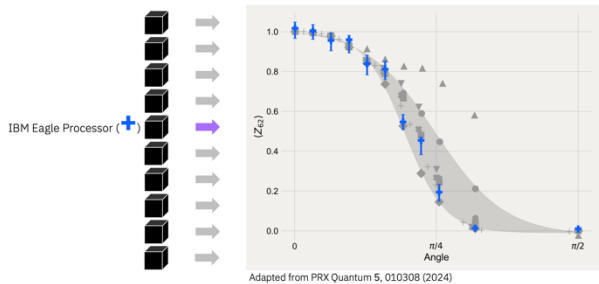
We are already seeing a **disruptive change** in how researchers are doing quantum

With quantum systems composed of 100+ qubits, researchers are beginning to explore algorithms and applications at scales beyond brute-force classical computation **using IBM Quantum systems**.

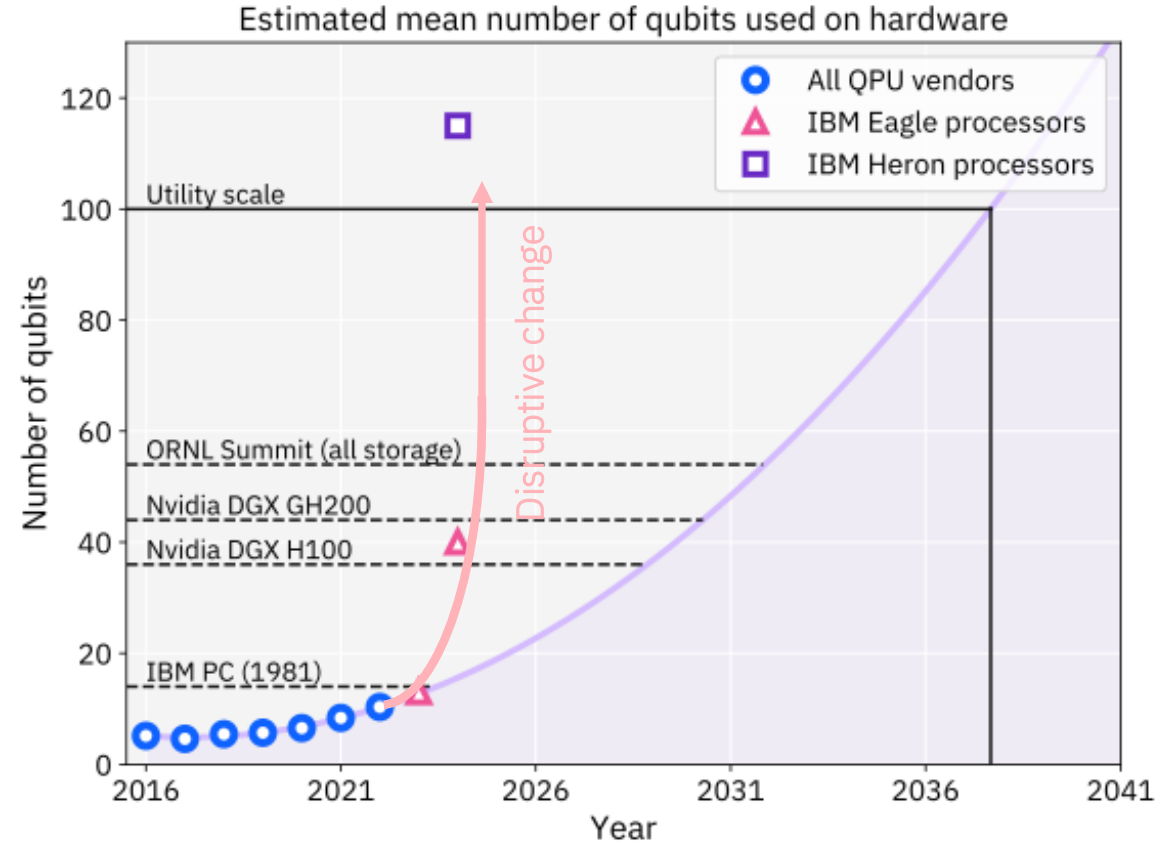
Evidence for the utility of quantum computing before fault tolerance

127 qubits / 2880 CX gates

Nature, 618, 500 (2023)

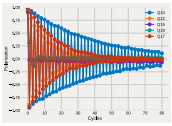



- Comparison of various approaches to simulating the kicked transverse-field Ising model on the 127-qubit Eagle processor with new classical heuristic methods
- Results vary by ~20%, and no one knows which method is the most correct!



Flip the script: using quantum computers to verify the accuracy of classical simulations

Examples of utility-scale problems * (>70qubits, >150 CX /200 ECR gates)



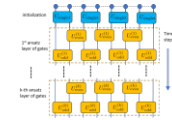
Characterizing quantum processors using discrete time crystals
arXiv:2301.07625
80 qubits / 7900 CX gates

materials



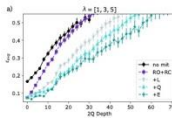
Evidence for the utility of quantum computing before fault tolerance
Nature, 618, 500 (2023)
127 qubits / 2880 CX gates

spin models



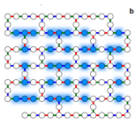
Simulating large-size quantum spin chains on cloud-based superconducting quantum computers
Phys. Rev. Research 5, 013183 (2023)
102 qubits / 3186 CX gates

spin models



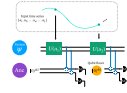
Best practices for quantum error mitigation with digital zero-noise extrapolation
arXiv:2307.05203
104 qubits / 3605 ECR gates

tools



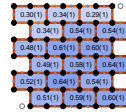
Uncovering Local Integrability in Quantum Many-Body Dynamics
arXiv:2307.07552
124 qubits / 2641 CX gates

materials



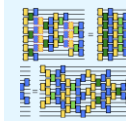
Quantum reservoir computing with repeated Measurements on superconducting devices
arXiv:2310.06706
120 qubits / 49470 gates + meas.

materials



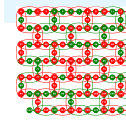
Realizing the Nishimori transition across the error threshold for constant-depth quantum circuits
arXiv:2309.02863
125 qubits / 429 gates + meas.

spin models



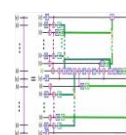
Scalable Circuits for Preparing Ground States on Digital Quantum Computers: The Schwinger Model Vacuum on 100 Qubits
PRX Quantum 5, 020315 (2024)
100 qubits / 788 CX gates

High energy physics



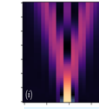
Scaling Whole-Chip QAOA for Higher-Order Ising Spin Glass Models on Heavy-Hex Graphs
arXiv:2312.00997
127 qubits / 420 CX gates

optimization



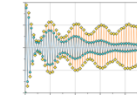
Efficient Long-Range Entanglement using Dynamic Circuits
arXiv:2308.13065
101 qubits / 504 gates + meas

tools



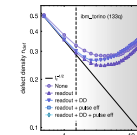
Quantum Simulations of Hadron Dynamics in the Schwinger Model using 112 Qubits
arXiv:2401.08044
112 qubits / 13,858 gates

High energy physics



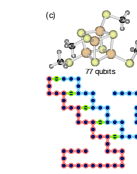
Unveiling clean two-dimensional discrete time quasicrystals on a digital quantum computer
arXiv:2403.16718
133 qubits / 15,000 CZ gates

materials



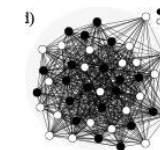
Benchmarking digital quantum simulations and optimization above hundreds of qubits using quantum critical dynamics
arXiv:2404.08053
133 qubits / 1440 CX gates

spin models



Chemistry Beyond Exact Solutions on a Quantum-Centric Supercomputer
arXiv:2405.05068
77 qubits / 3590 CZ gates

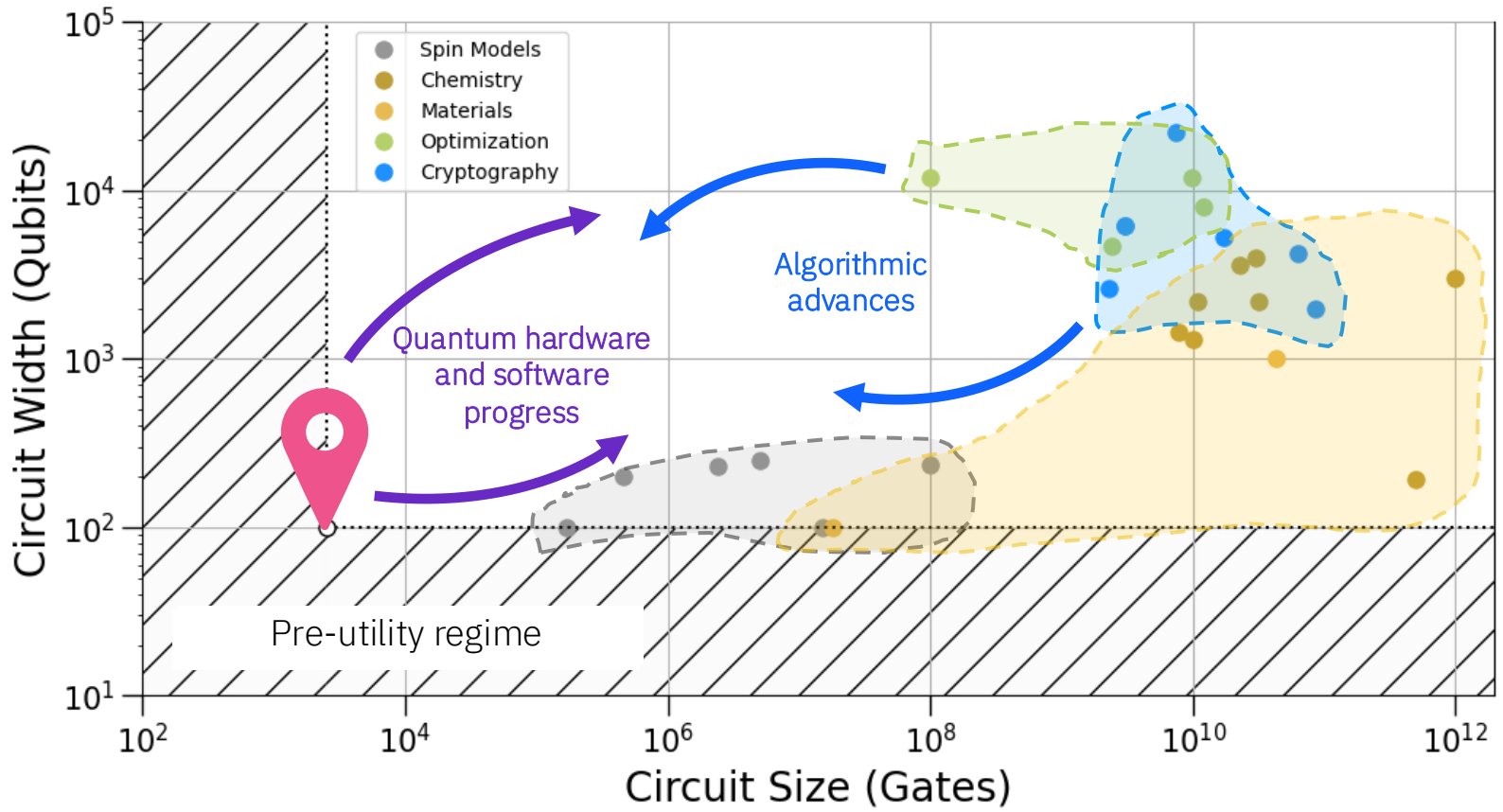
chemistry



Towards a universal QAOA protocol: Evidence of quantum advantage in solving combinatorial optimization problems
arXiv:2405.09169
109 qubits / 21,200 gates

optimization

A landscape of single circuits:



“This variant of my algorithm was undiscovered for 30 years and came out of the blue. There’s still probably lots of other quantum algorithms to be found.”
Peter Shor

Quantum Working Groups

IBM Quantum working groups bring together the best scientists in our field to accelerate our path to achieving Quantum Advantage with near term devices, across domain areas:

High-Energy Physics

Quantum Computing for High-Energy Physics: State of the Art and Challenges. Summary of the QC4HEP Working Group

PRX Quantum 5, 037001

Partners
CERN QTI, DESY CQTA, Oak Ridge National Lab, U. of Washington, U. of Tokyo, and more



Optimization

Quantum Optimization: Potential, Challenges, and the Path Forward

arXiv:2312.02279

Partners
STFC Hartree Centre, E.ON., Fraunhofer, Los Alamos National Lab, University of Amsterdam/QAL, and more



Materials & HPC

Quantum-centric Supercomputing for Materials Science: A Perspective on Challenges and Future Directions

arXiv:2312.09733

Partners
Oak Ridge National Lab, University of Chicago, Argonne National Lab, RIKEN, BasQ, and more



Healthcare & Life Sciences

Towards quantum-enabled cell-centric therapeutics

arXiv:2307.05734

Partners
Cleveland Clinic, U. of Chicago, QuantumBasel, Virginia Tech, Algorithmiq, and more



Sustainability

Collaborative projects in the fields of Materials and Energy leveraging quantum computers.

Partners
PINQ², Hydro-Quebec, University of Sherbrooke, E.ON., DTU, and more



The QC4HEP community paper

<https://journals.aps.org/prxquantum/abstract/10.1103/PRXQuantum.5.037001>

A study initiated by workshop on high-energy physics (HEP) held in November 2022 at CERN in Geneva to define a Roadmap to outline the current state of quantum computing in HEP that can be pursued with near-term quantum computers

PRX QUANTUM 5, 037001 (2024)

Quantum Computing for High-Energy Physics: State of the Art and Challenges

Alberto Di Meglio^{1,*}, Karl Jansen^{2,3,†}, Ivano Tavernelli^{4,‡}, Constantia Alexandrou^{3,5}, Srinivasan Arunachalam⁶, Christian W. Bauer⁷, Kerstin Borras^{8,9}, Stefano Carrazza^{1,10}, Arianna Crippa^{2,11}, Vincent Croft¹², Roland de Putter⁶, Andrea Delgado¹³, Vedran Dunjko¹², Daniel J. Egger⁴, Elias Fernández-Combarro¹⁴, Elina Fuchs^{1,15,16}, Lena Funcke¹⁷, Daniel González-Cuadra^{18,19}, Michele Grossi¹, Jad C. Halimeh^{20,21}, Zoë Holmes²², Stefan Kühn², Denis Lacroix²³, Randy Lewis²⁴, Donatella Lucchesi^{1,25}, Miriam Lucio Martínez^{26,27}, Federico Meloni⁸, Antonio Mezzacapo⁶, Simone Montangero^{1,25}, Lento Nagano²⁸, Vincent R. Pascuzzi⁶, Voica Radescu²⁹, Enrique Rico Ortega^{30,31,32,33}, Alessandro Roggero^{34,35}, Julian Schuhmacher⁴, Joao Seixas^{36,37,38}, Pietro Silvi^{1,25}, Panagiotis Spentzouris³⁹, Francesco Tacchino⁶, Kristan Temme⁶, Koji Terashi²⁸, Jordi Tura^{12,40}, Cenk Tüysüz^{2,11}, Sofia Vallecora⁴, Uwe-Jens Wiese⁴¹, Shinjae Yoo⁴², and Jinglei Zhang^{43,44}

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- ³ Computation-based Science and Technology Research Center, The Cyprus Institute, 20 Konstantinou Kavafi Street, CY-2121 Nicosia, Cyprus
- ⁴ IBM Research Europe — Zurich, 8803 Rüschlikon, Switzerland
- ⁵ Department of Physics, University of Cyprus, PO Box 20537, CY-1678 Nicosia, Cyprus
- ⁶ IBM Quantum, IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights, NY 10598, USA
- ⁷ Physics Division Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, 1 Cyclotron Road, Mailstop 50A5104, Berkeley, California, USA
- ⁸ Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron (DESY), Notkestraße 85, 22607 Hamburg, Germany
- ⁹ RWTH Aachen University, Templergraben 55, 52062 Aachen, Germany
- ¹⁰ TIF Lab, Dipartimento di Fisica, Università degli Studi di Milano and INFN Sezione di Milano, Milan, Italy
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- ¹⁶ Physikalisches-Technische Bundesanstalt, 38116 Braunschweig, Germany
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- ²¹ Munich Center for Quantum Science and Technology, Munich, Germany
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- ²³ CNRS/IN2P3, ICLab, Paris-Saclay University, 91405 Orsay, France
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- ²⁵ INFN—Sezione di Padova, Via Marzolo 8, 35131 Padua, Italy
- ²⁶ Nikhef—National Institute for Subatomic Physics, Science Park 105, 1098 XG Amsterdam, Netherlands

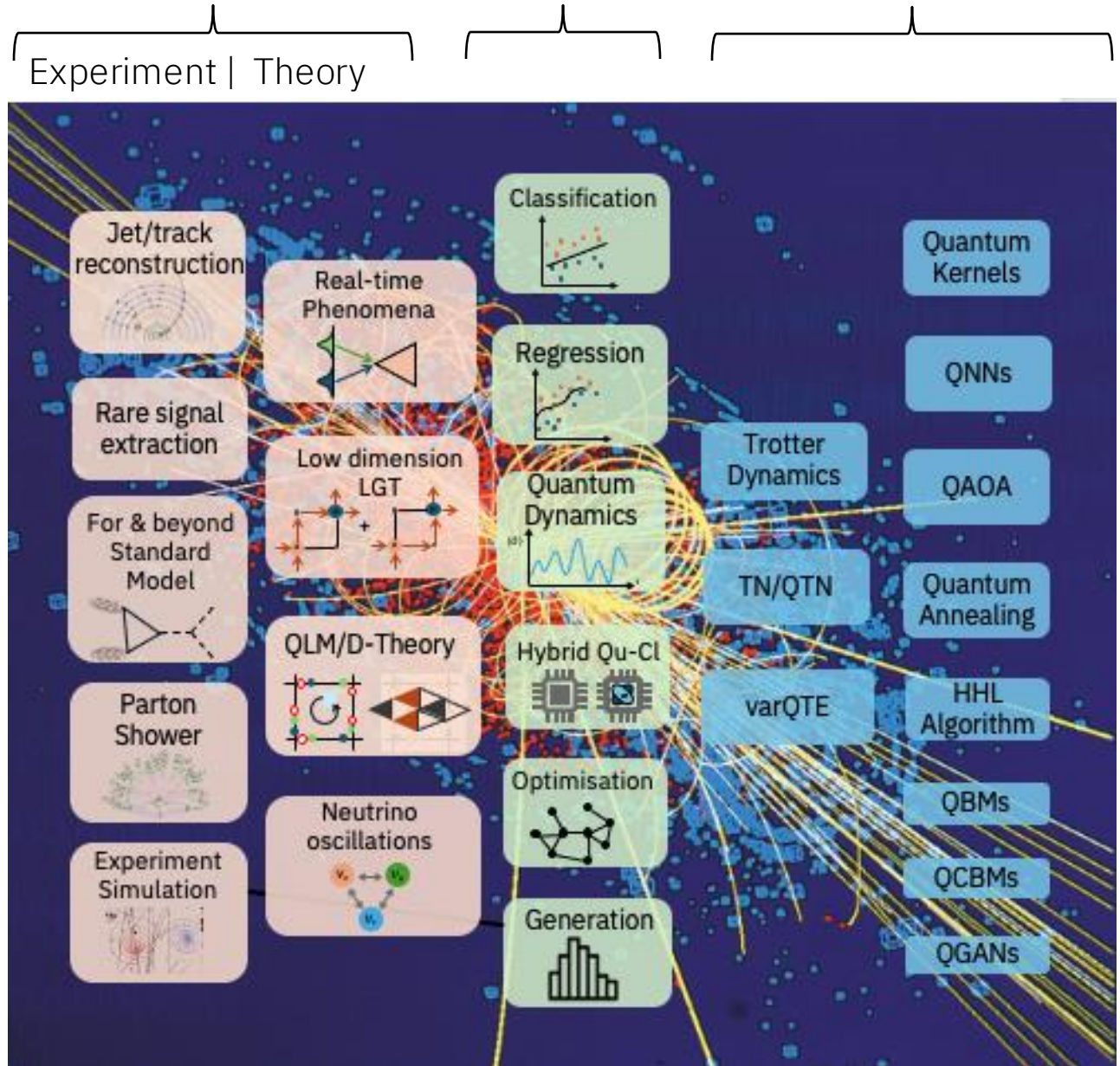
*Contact author: alberto.di.meglio@cern.ch
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 ‡Contact author: ita@zurich.ibm.com

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Proposed applications

Approach

Algorithm



QCD is the theory of the strong force that binds the nuclei of atoms together, and it presents enormous challenges when it comes to observing, modelling, and predicting the behaviour of fundamental particles.

The Schwinger model is quantum electrodynamics in (1+1) space-time dimensions. This model shares many properties with QCD, including confinement (in the massive case) and chiral symmetry breaking.

spin models

Schwinger model used to demonstrate the first essential step in building future simulations of high-energy collisions of matter: preparing a simulation of the quantum vacuum state in which particle collisions would occur:

Scalable Circuits for Preparing Ground States on Digital Quantum Computers: The Schwinger Model Vacuum on 100 Qubits
 PRX Quantum 5, 020315 (2024)
 100 qubits / 788 CX gates

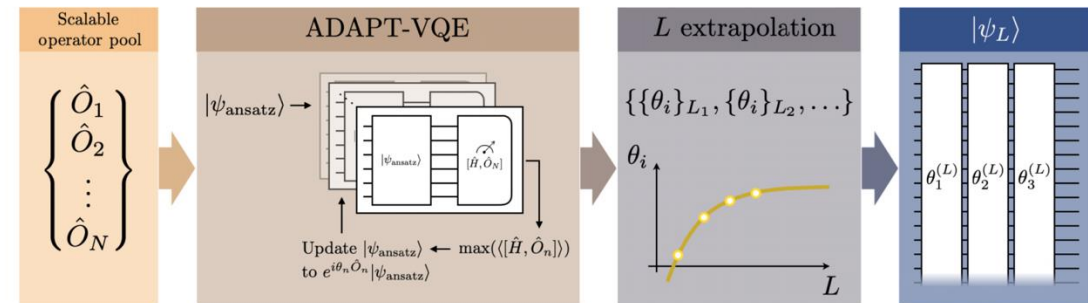


FIG. 1. Pictorial description of the SC-ADAPT-VQE algorithm. Once a pool of scalable operators $\{\hat{O}_i\}$ has been identified, ADAPT-VQE is performed with use of *classical* computers to determine a quantum circuit (parameterized by $\{\theta_i\}$) that prepares the vacuum up to a desired tolerance. ADAPT-VQE is repeated for multiple lattice sizes, $\{L_1, L_2, \dots\}$, and the circuit parameters are extrapolated to the desired L , which can be arbitrarily large. The extrapolated circuits are executed on a quantum computer to prepare the vacuum on a system of size L .

A follow-up to that paper shows techniques preparing a beam of particles time evolving in the quantum vacuum:

Quantum Simulations of Hadron Dynamics in the Schwinger Model using 112 Qubits
 arXiv:2401.08044
 112 qubits / 13,858 gates

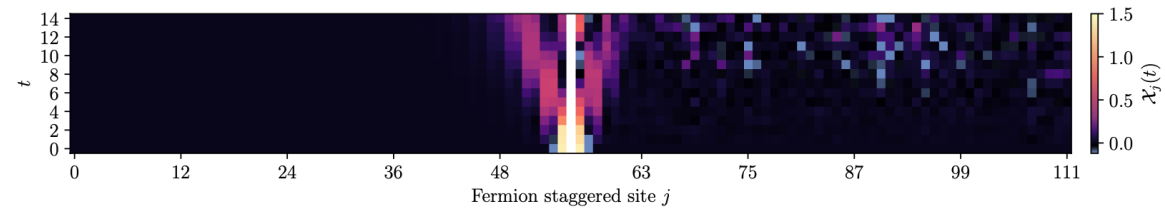


FIG. 10. The time evolution of the vacuum subtracted chiral condensate $\mathcal{X}_j(t)$, defined in Eq. (18), for a $L = 56$ (112 qubits) spatial-site lattice. The initial state is prepared using the 2-step SC-ADAPT-VQE vacuum and wavepacket preparation circuits. Time evolution is implemented using a second-order Trotterization of the Hamiltonian with the $\bar{\lambda} = 1$ truncated electric interaction. The left side shows the results of error-free classical simulations from the cuQuantum MPS simulator, while the right side shows the CP-averaged results obtained using IBM's superconducting-qubit digital quantum computer *ibm_torino* (both sides show the MPS result for $t = 0$). Due to CP symmetry, the right and left halves would be mirror images of each other in the absence of device errors. A more detailed view for each time slice is given in Fig. 11, and discussions of the error-mitigation techniques are presented in the main text and App. G.

<https://www.ibm.com/quantum/blog/hadron-dynamics-simulations>



Our formula for bringing useful quantum computing to the world includes:

Maintaining the industry's largest fleet of **utility-scale quantum systems** on the cloud for our clients and the quantum community to experiment with.

Building and updating a **development and innovation roadmap** that will help us scale quantum computing, from the hardware to the software necessary for quantum advantage.

Nurturing a **community of clients and partners** that includes 250+ Fortune 500 companies, academic institutions, national labs and startups—all working to solve real scientific and business problems with quantum computing.

Developing Qiskit, an open source toolkit and world-class **user experience** that makes quantum computing easy to learn and use by bringing resources together in one place.

Making the world **quantum safe** with technologies that will secure enterprises in the quantum future.

Quantum-centric *supercomputing*

01 Modularity for quantum

02 Communication for quantum

03 Middleware for quantum

Development Roadmap

| 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2033+ |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Improving quantum circuit quality and speed to allow 5K gates with parametric circuits | Enhancing quantum execution speed and parallelization with partitioning and quantum modularity | Improving quantum circuit quality to allow 7.5K gates | Improving quantum circuit quality to allow 10K gates | Improving quantum circuit quality to allow 15K gates | Improving quantum circuit quality to allow 100M gates | Beyond 2033, quantum-centric supercomputers will include 1000's of logical qubits unlocking the full power of quantum computing |
| Platform | | | | | | |
| Code assistant | Functions | Mapping Collection | Specific Libraries | | | General purpose QCLibraries |
| Transpiler Service | | | | | | |
| | Resource Management | Circuit Knitting x P | Intelligent Orchestration | | | Circuit libraries |
| Heron (5K) | | | | | | |
| Error Mitigation 5k gates 133 qubits Classical modular 133x3 = 399 qubits | Flamingo (5K) Error Mitigation 5k gates 156 qubits Quantum modular 156x7 = 1092 qubits | Flamingo (7.5K) Error Mitigation 7.5k gates 156 qubits Quantum modular 156x7 = 1092 qubits | Flamingo (10K) Error Mitigation 10k gates 156 qubits Quantum modular 156x7 = 1092 qubits | Flamingo (15K) Error Mitigation 15k gates 156 qubits Quantum modular 156x7 = 1092 qubits | Starling (100M) Error correction 100M gates 200 qubits Error corrected modularity | Blue Jay (1B) Error correction 1B gates 2000 qubits Error corrected modularity |

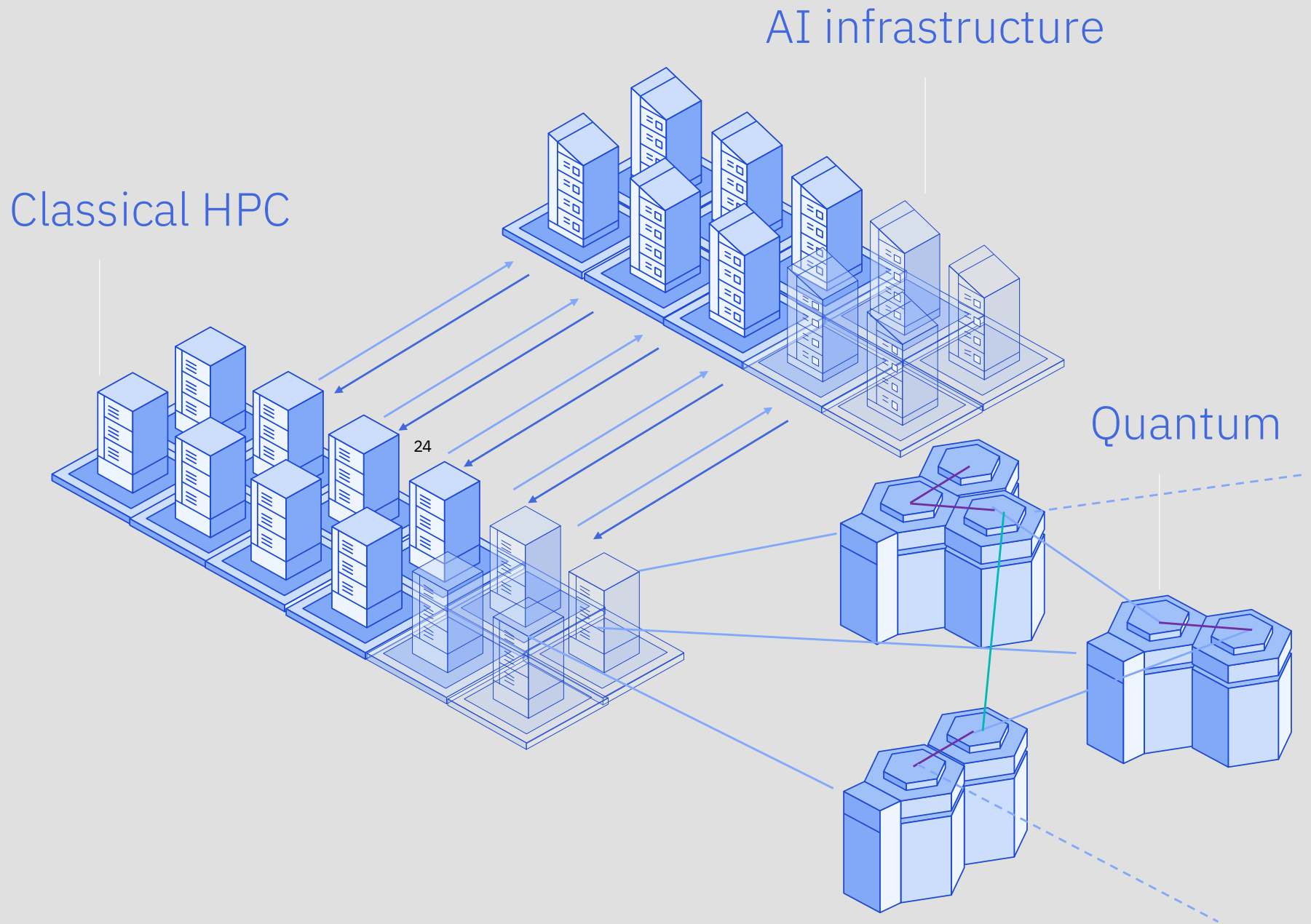
Innovation Roadmap

| | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|---|--|--|
| Resource management System partitioning to enable parallel execution | Scalable circuit knitting Circuit partitioning with classical reconstruction at HPC scale | Error correction decoder Demonstration of a quantum system with real-time error correction decoder | | | | |
| Flamingo Demonstrate scaling with modular connectors | Kookaburra Demonstrate scaling with nonlocal c-coupler | Demonstrate path to improved quality with logical memory | Cockatoo Demonstrate path to improved quality with logical communication | Starling Demonstrate path to improved quality with logical gates | | |
| Crossbill m-coupler | | | | | | |

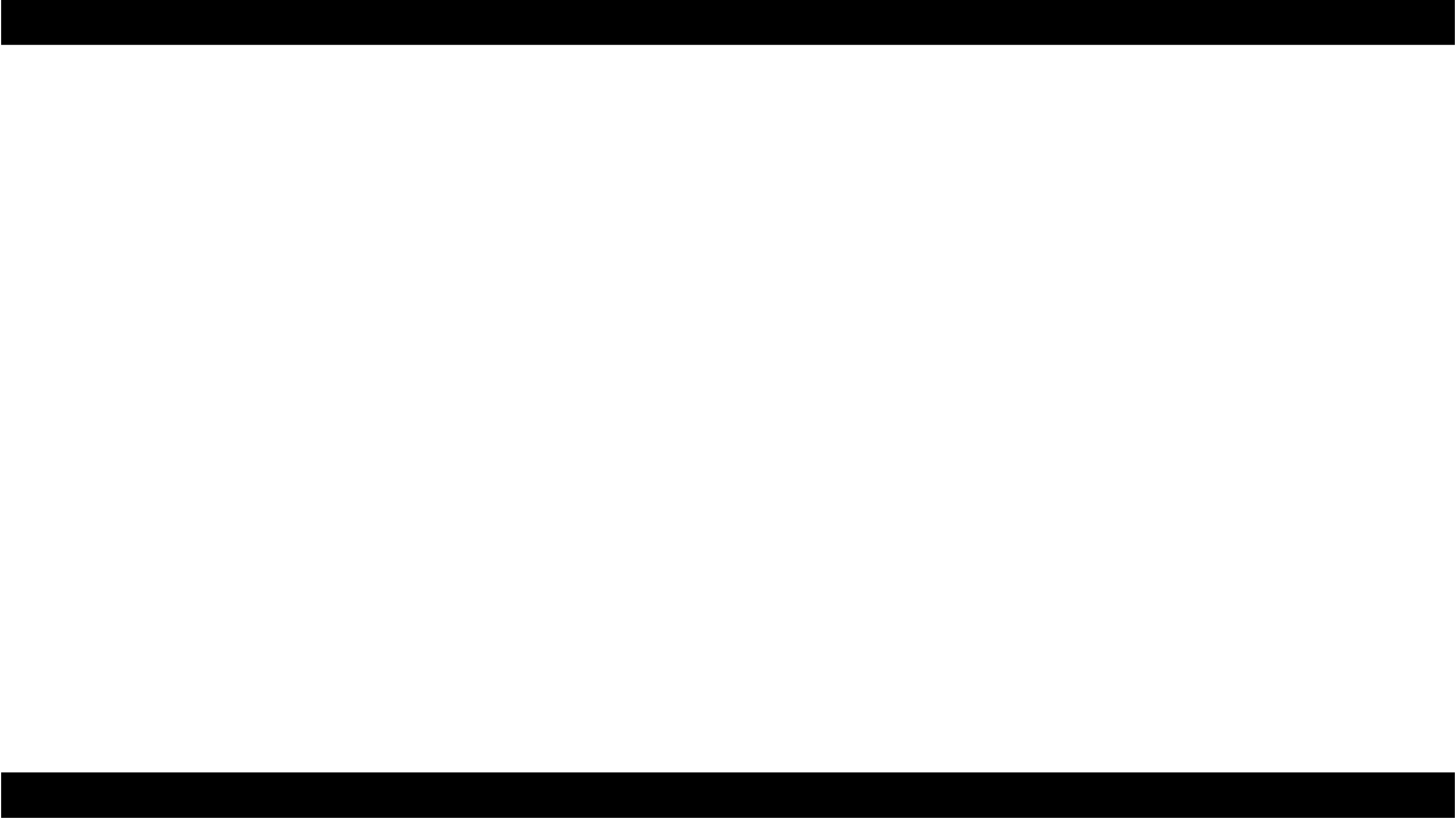
Quantum is a component in the future of advanced computing

In the future, quantum will integrate with other components, including AI, to enhance the overall capability of our computational tools.

Each tool is best suited for certain types of tasks, and all will work together to solve the hardest problems that face society today.



IBM Quantum

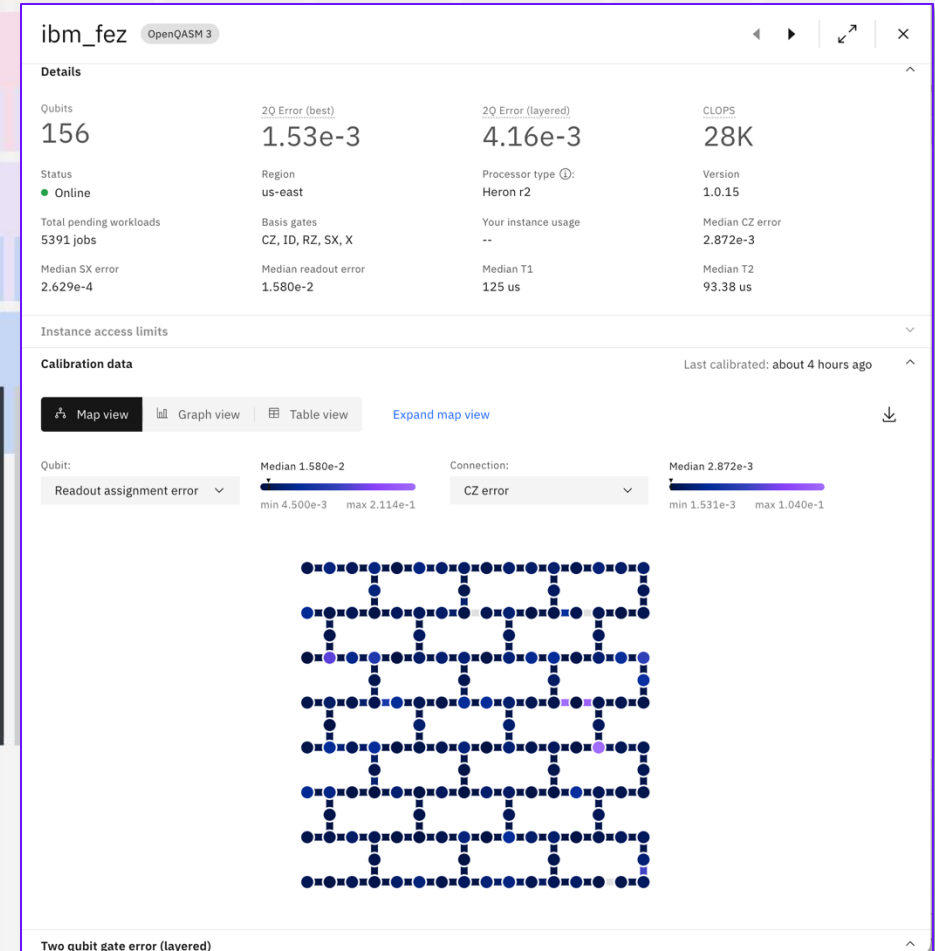
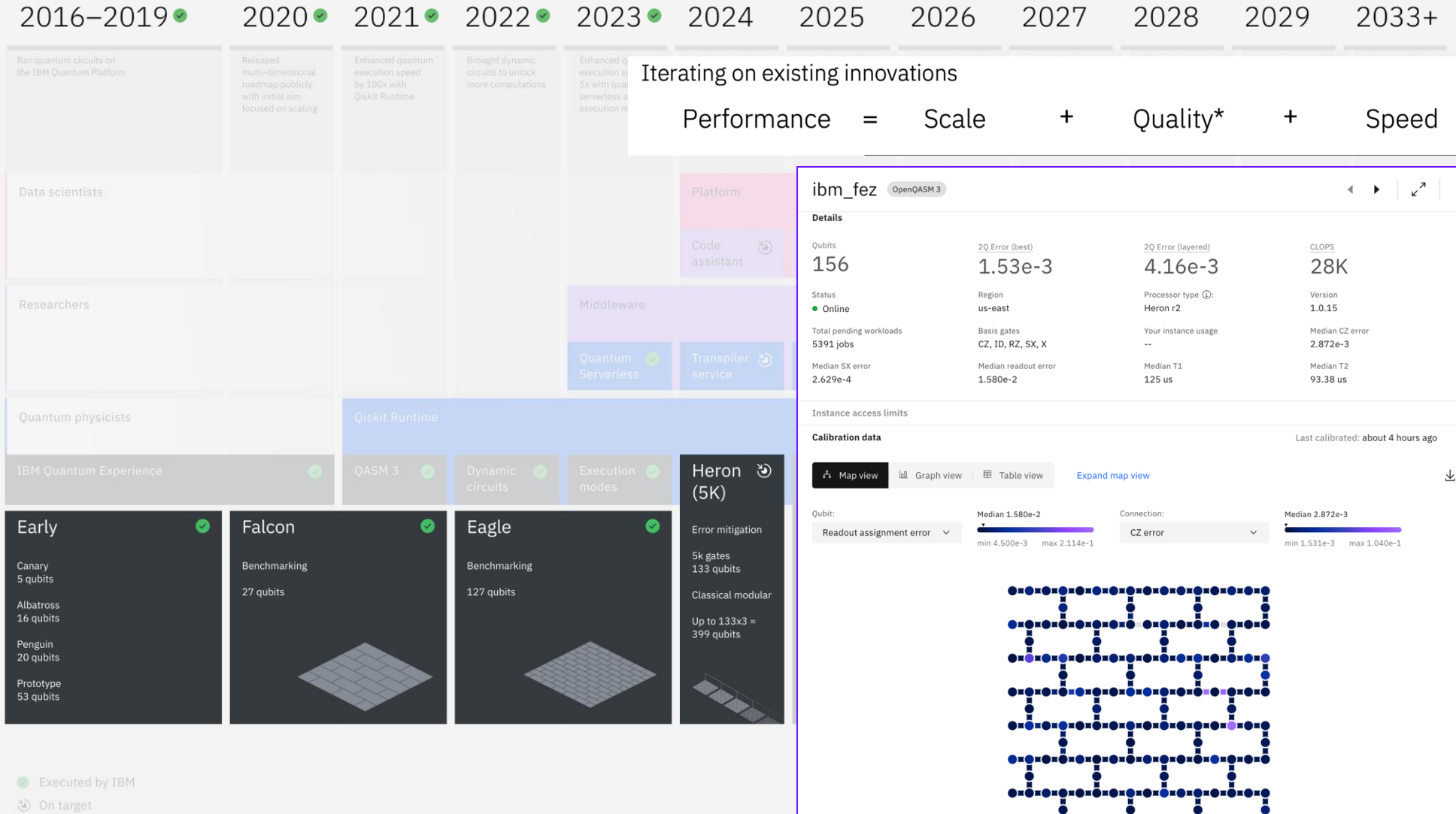


What we have accomplished: Hardware

From 2020 to 2023, we focused on solving single-chip scaling with the IBM Quantum Falcon, Hummingbird, Eagle, Osprey, and Condor chips.

In 2023, we debuted the IBM Quantum Heron chip, which uses tunable couplers to achieve our lowest error rates yet. Heron will serve as the basis for modular scaling of quantum processors.

In 2024, Heron is capable of running 5,000 gates.



<https://docs.quantum.ibm.com/guides/processor-types>

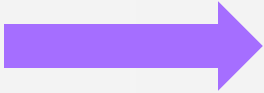
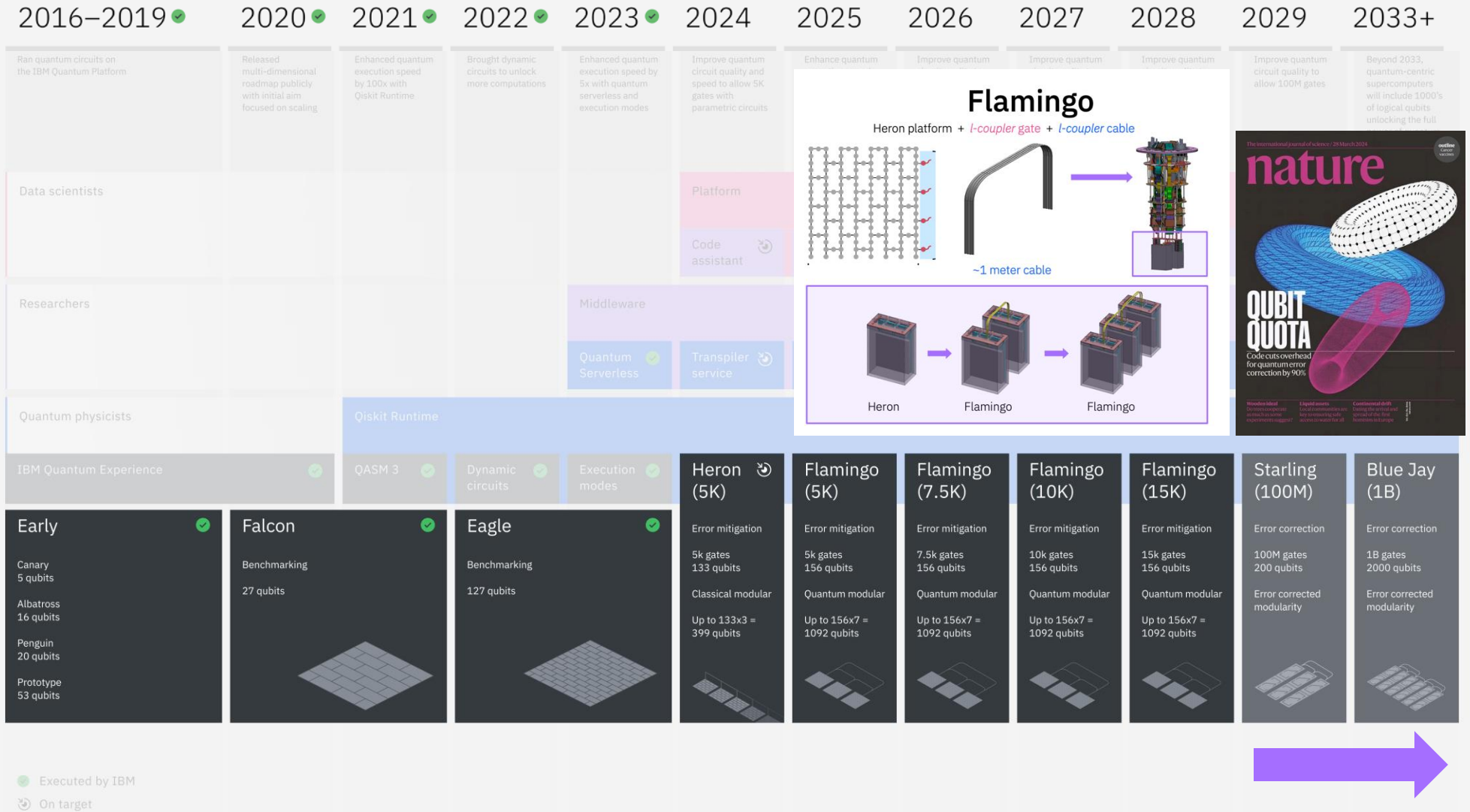
<https://quantum.ibm.com/>

Looking forward:
Hardware

Now, we use **error mitigation and interconnects** to run larger circuits so users can look for quantum advantages in their domains. Through classical and quantum modularity, we plan to achieve an IBM Quantum Flamingo system capable of running 15,000 gates with the help of error mitigation **by 2028**.

2029: We foresee advances in quantum error correction allowing us to debut **IBM Quantum Starling**, a system capable of running circuits with **100 million gates on 200 logical qubits**

In 2033, we will debut **IBM Quantum Blue Jay**, a system capable of running circuits with a **billion gates on 2,000 logical qubits**.



As we roll out error correction, developers need not change how they write quantum programs. They will simply notice that they can run longer workloads.

Looking forward:
Execution and orchestration

In 2021, we released Qiskit Runtime, a service allowing users to orchestrate their programs across IBM Quantum processors and the cloud.

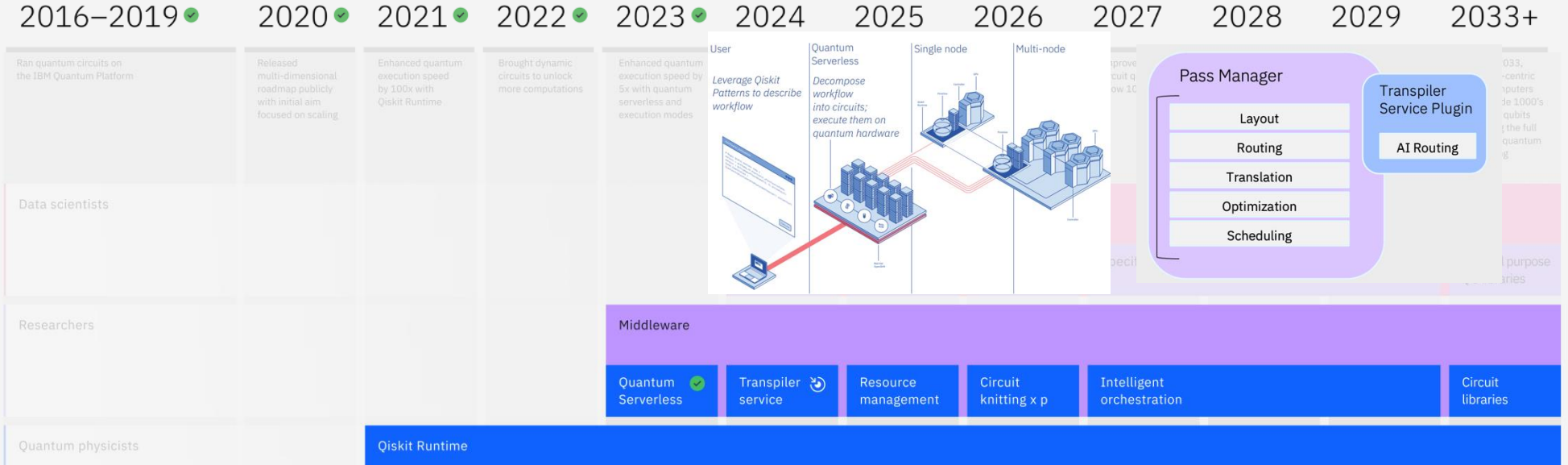
In 2023, we introduced middleware for quantum tools to automate and optimize heterogeneous compute tasks. That included quantum serverless

In 2024, our AI-powered transpiler service will optimize circuits with fewer gates.

In 2025, we will introduce resource management tools to facilitate system partitioning and enable parallel execution.

2026 will bring us circuit knitting across parallel quantum processors

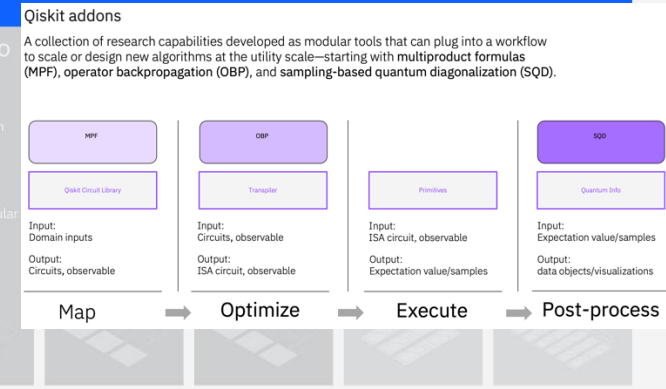
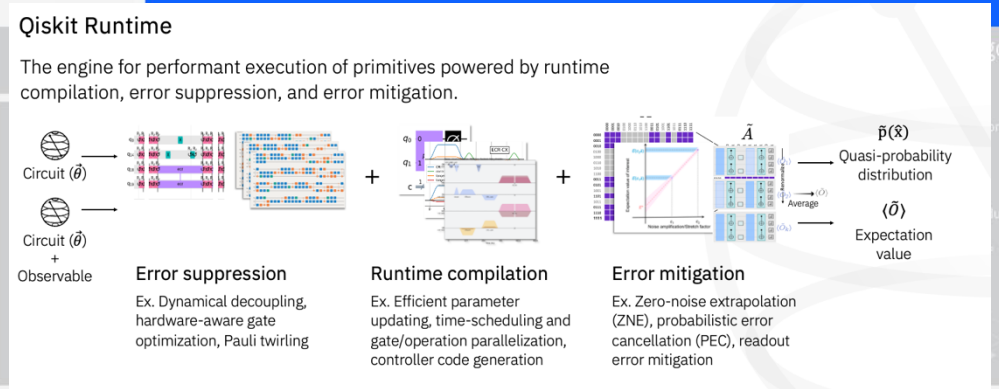
From 2027 we will focus on intelligent orchestration: optimizing workflows to combine classical and quantum efficiently, thus improving performance.



IBM Quantum Experience

Early

| | |
|-----------|-----------|
| Canary | 5 qubits |
| Albatross | 16 qubits |
| Penguin | 20 qubits |
| Prototype | 53 qubits |



Executed by IBM
On target

What we have accomplished: Software

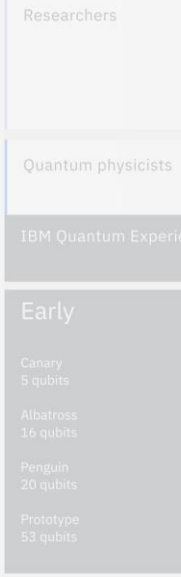
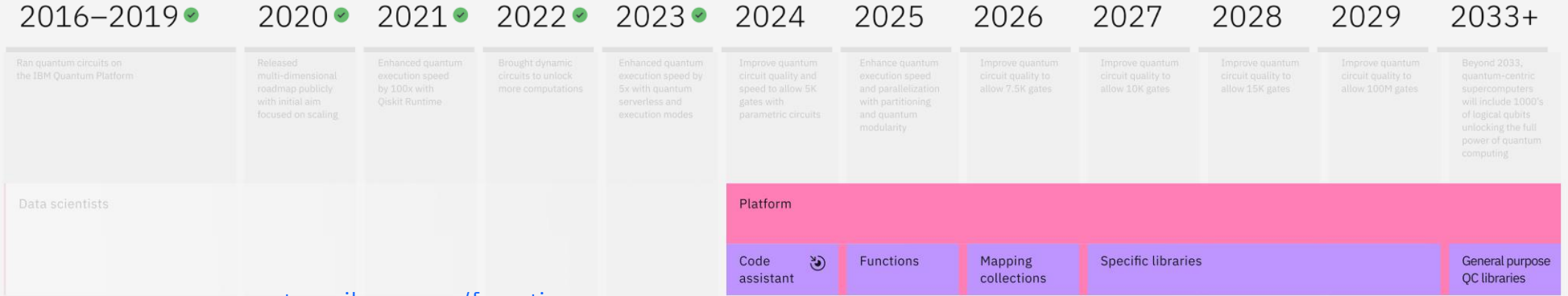
Useful quantum computing requires performant software.

In **2024** we redefined Qiskit to represent the full-stack software for quantum at IBM, **extending the Qiskit SDK with middleware software and services** to write, optimize, and execute programs on IBM Quantum systems.

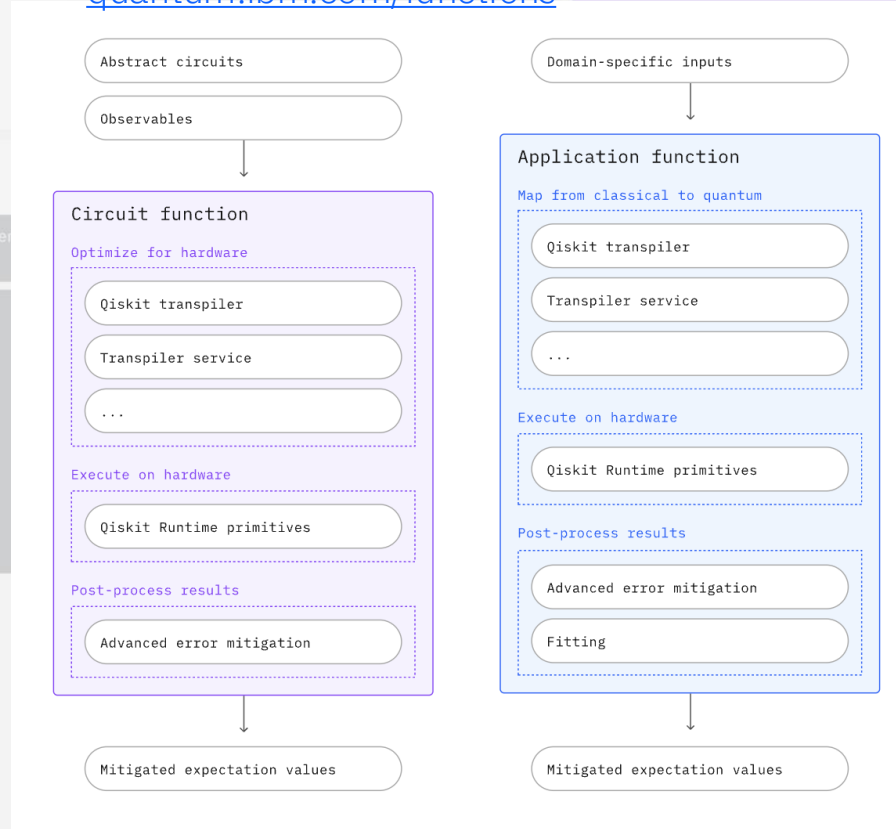
In **2025**, we will introduce **quantum functions** so users can create and share reusable blocks of Qiskit code.

2026 will bring mapping collections so users can start **automating** the process of **mapping their specific use cases** to quantum circuits.

From 2027 onward, we will work alongside clients to build use-case-specific libraries as quantum advantages emerge for a variety of use cases.



quantum.ibm.com/functions



```

qiskit_code_assistant.py x
1 from qiskit import QuantumCircuit
2 from qiskit.primitives import Sampler
3 from quantum_serverless import save_result
4
5 # Define a Bell circuit, run it using the Qiskit Sampler primitive (not the Runtime one)
6 # take the quasi_dists result from Sampler and save it using save_result from quantum_serverless

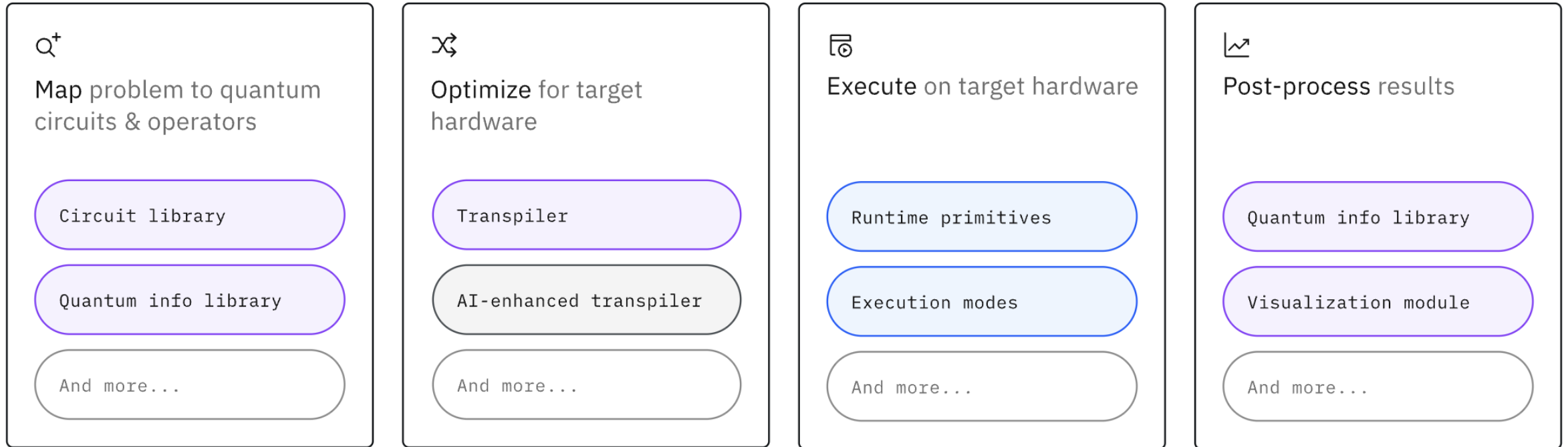
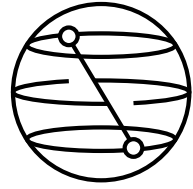
circuit = QuantumCircuit(2)
circuit.h(0)
circuit.cx(0, 1)
circuit.measure_all()




sampler = Sampler()
quasi_dists = sampler.run(circuit).result().quasi_dists

save_result(quasi_dists)
7
  
```

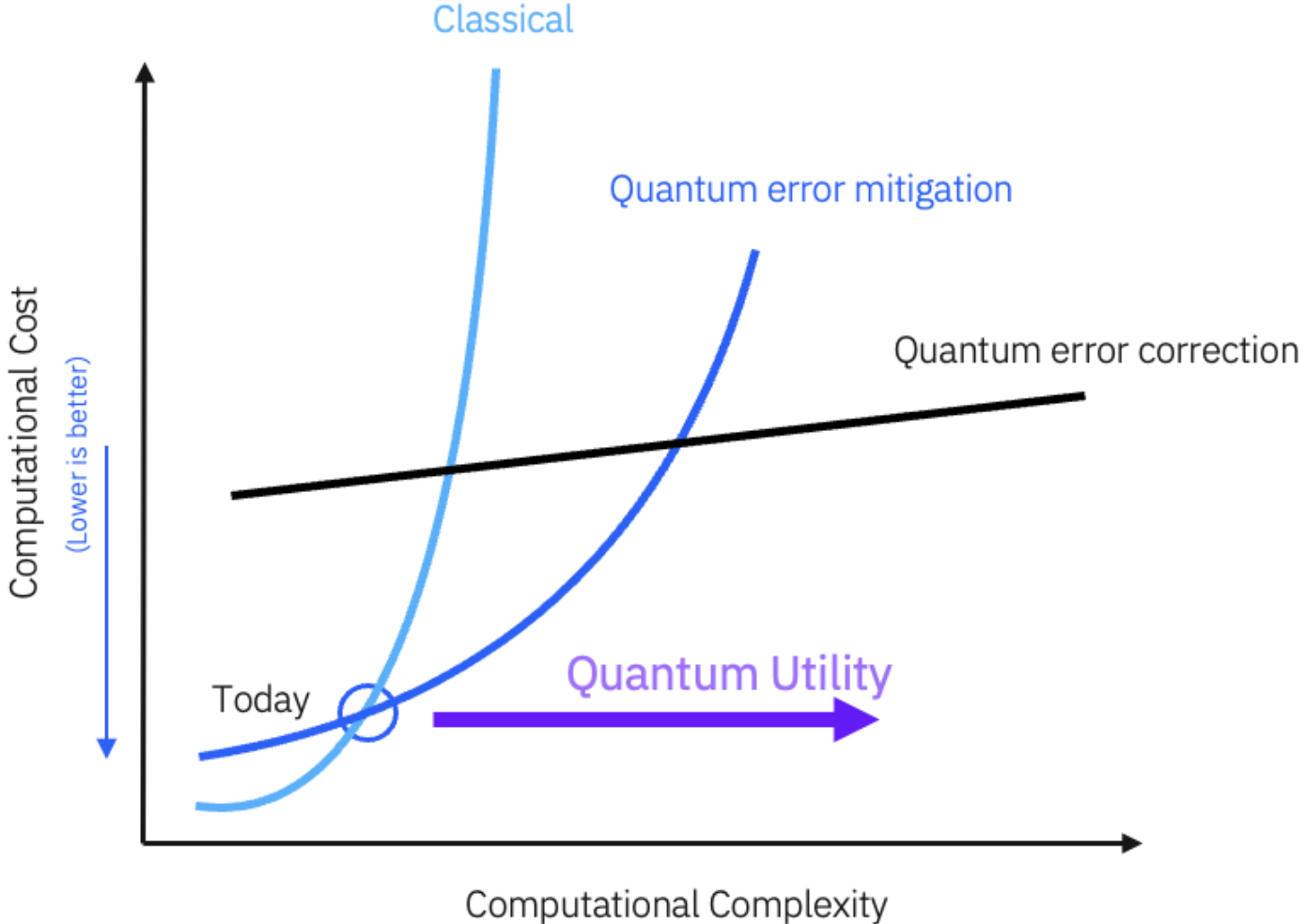
By **2033**, we expect to see general-purpose quantum computing libraries that users can incorporate into a wide variety of quantum applications.

Qiskit



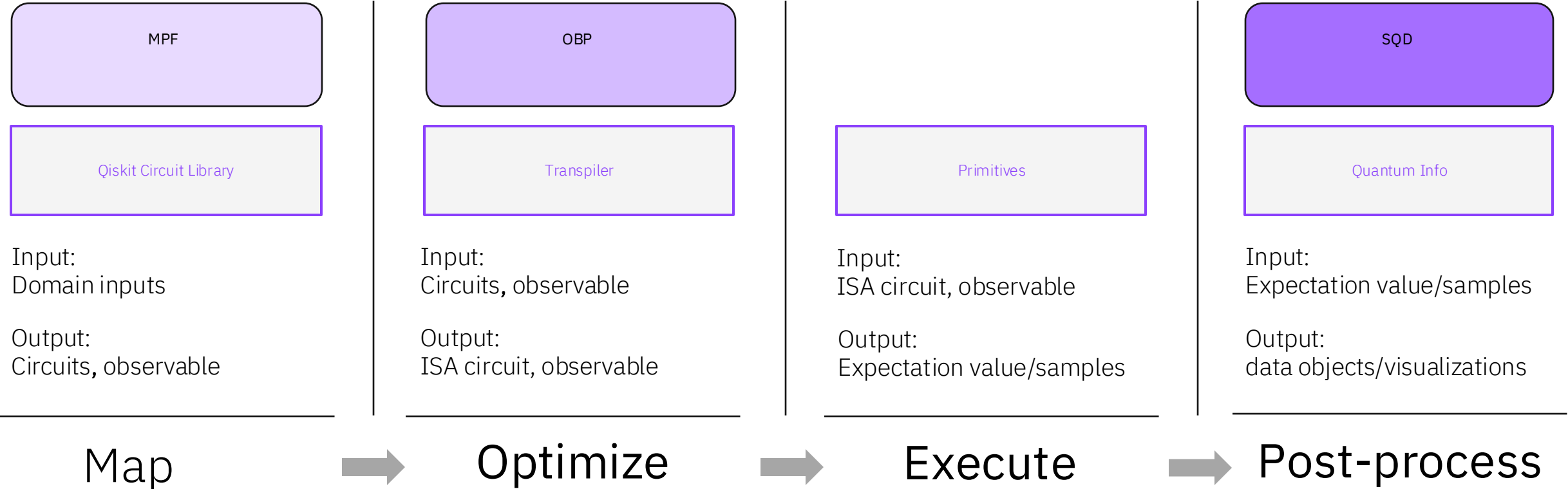
 Qiskit SDK  Qiskit Runtime Service  Qiskit Transpiler Service

Quantum state of play



Qiskit addons

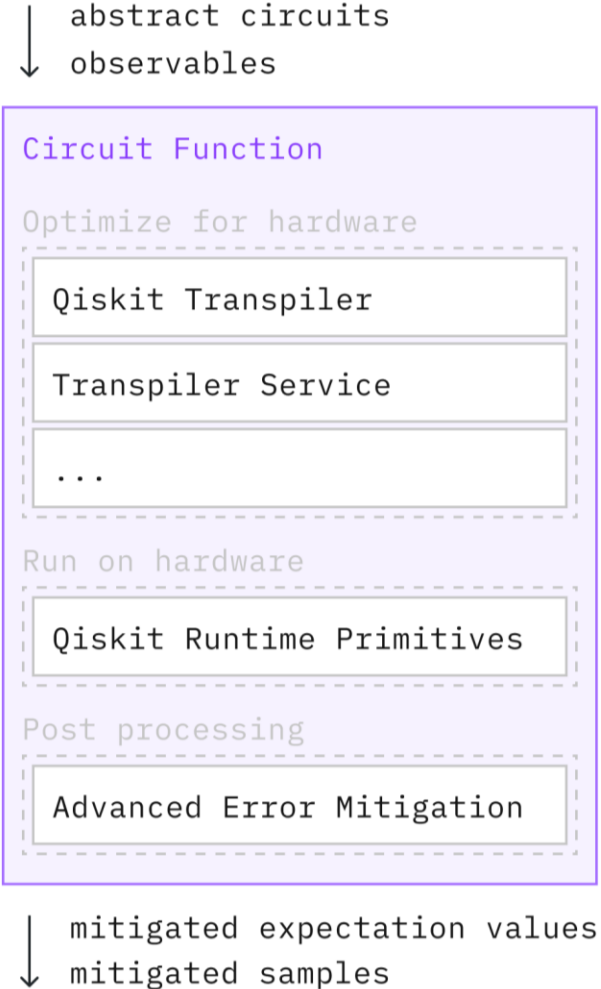
A collection of research capabilities developed as modular tools that can plug into a workflow to scale or design new algorithms at the utility scale—starting with **multiproduct formulas (MPF)**, **operator backpropagation (OBP)**, and **sampling-based quantum diagonalization (SQD)**.



Qiskit Functions are abstracted services, designed to accelerate development

In late September, we're previewing a catalog of managed, utility-scale services to unlock new users:

- **Circuit Functions:** Enabling quantum computational scientists to discover new algorithms and applications, without needing to manage transpilation, error suppression, or error mitigation
- **Application Functions:** Enabling data scientists and enterprise developers to integrate quantum into industry workflows, while leveraging familiar domain abstractions



Qiskit Code Assistant Preview

Transforming the Quantum developer experience

Intelligent Code Completion

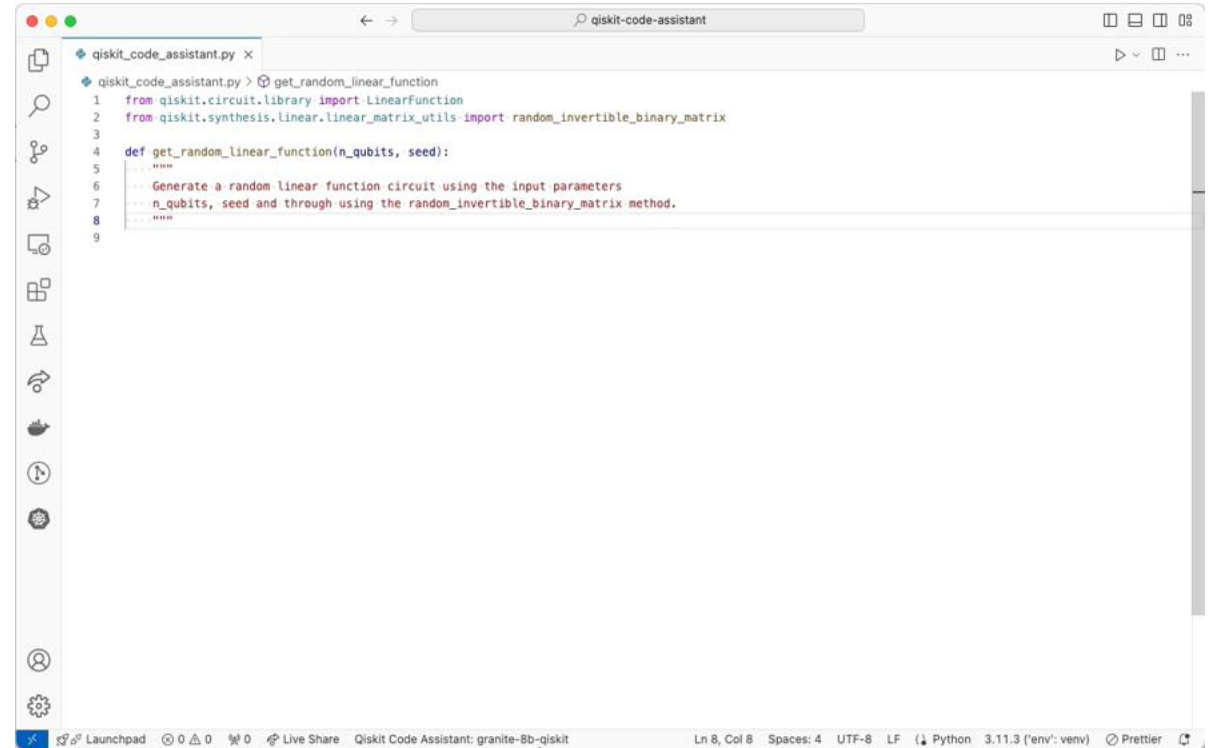
- Context-aware suggestions for Qiskit SDK
- Auto-completion for complex quantum gates and algorithms

Quantum Specific Features

- Helps identify and resolve common quantum programming pitfalls
- Assists in implementing quantum algorithms (e.g., *VQE*)

Integration and Workflow

- Seamless integration with popular IDEs and Jupyter Lab
- Version-aware: adapts to your Qiskit SDK version



```
qiskit_code_assistant.py x
qiskit_code_assistant.py > get_random_linear_function
1 from qiskit.circuit.library import LinearFunction
2 from qiskit.synthesis.linear.linear_matrix_utils import random_invertible_binary_matrix
3
4 def get_random_linear_function(n_qubits, seed):
5     """
6     ... Generate a random linear function circuit using the input parameters
7     ... n_qubits, seed and through using the random_invertible_binary_matrix method.
8     ... """
9
```

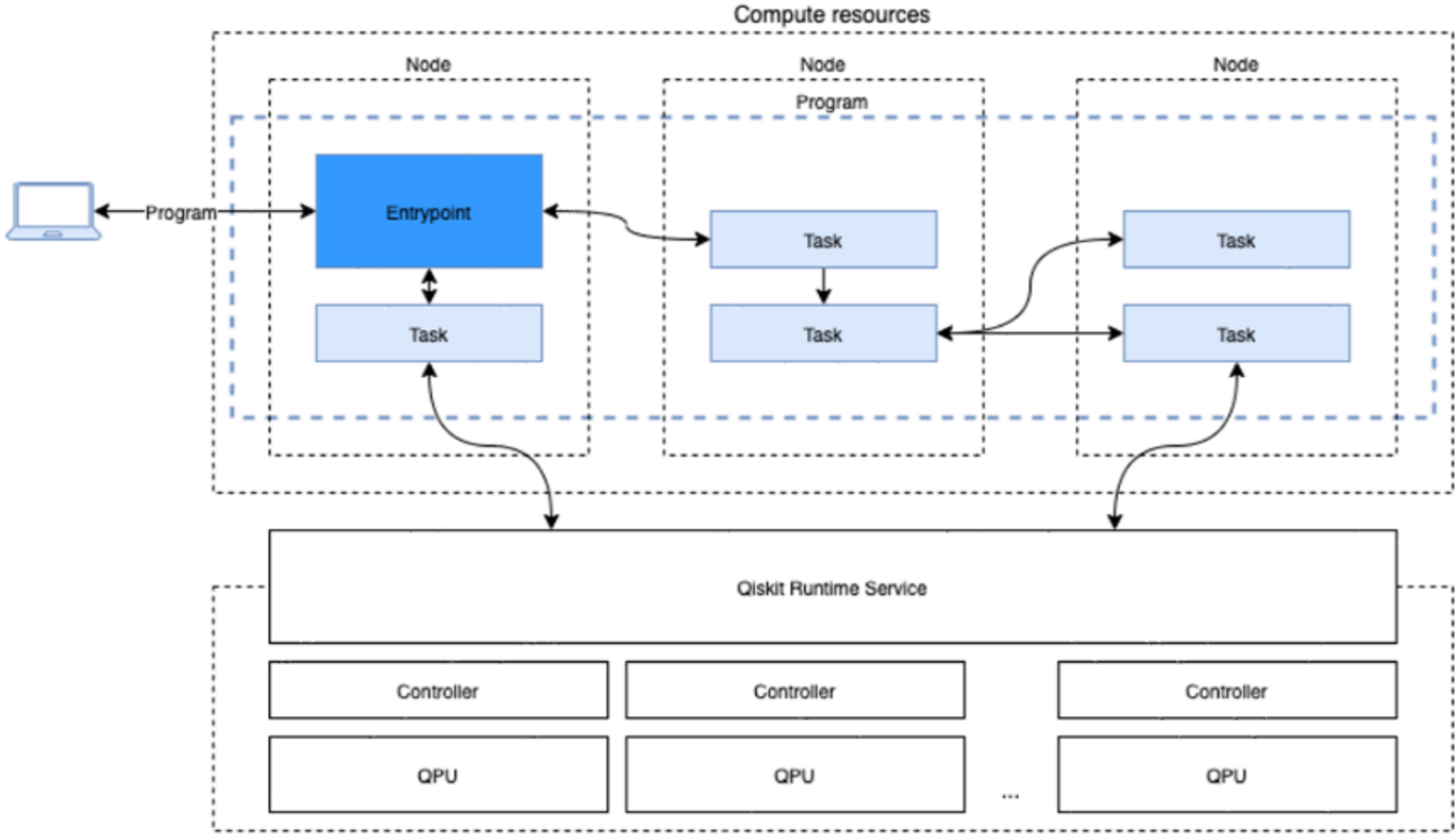
<https://docs.quantum.ibm.com/guides/qiskit-code-assistant>

Qiskit Serverless

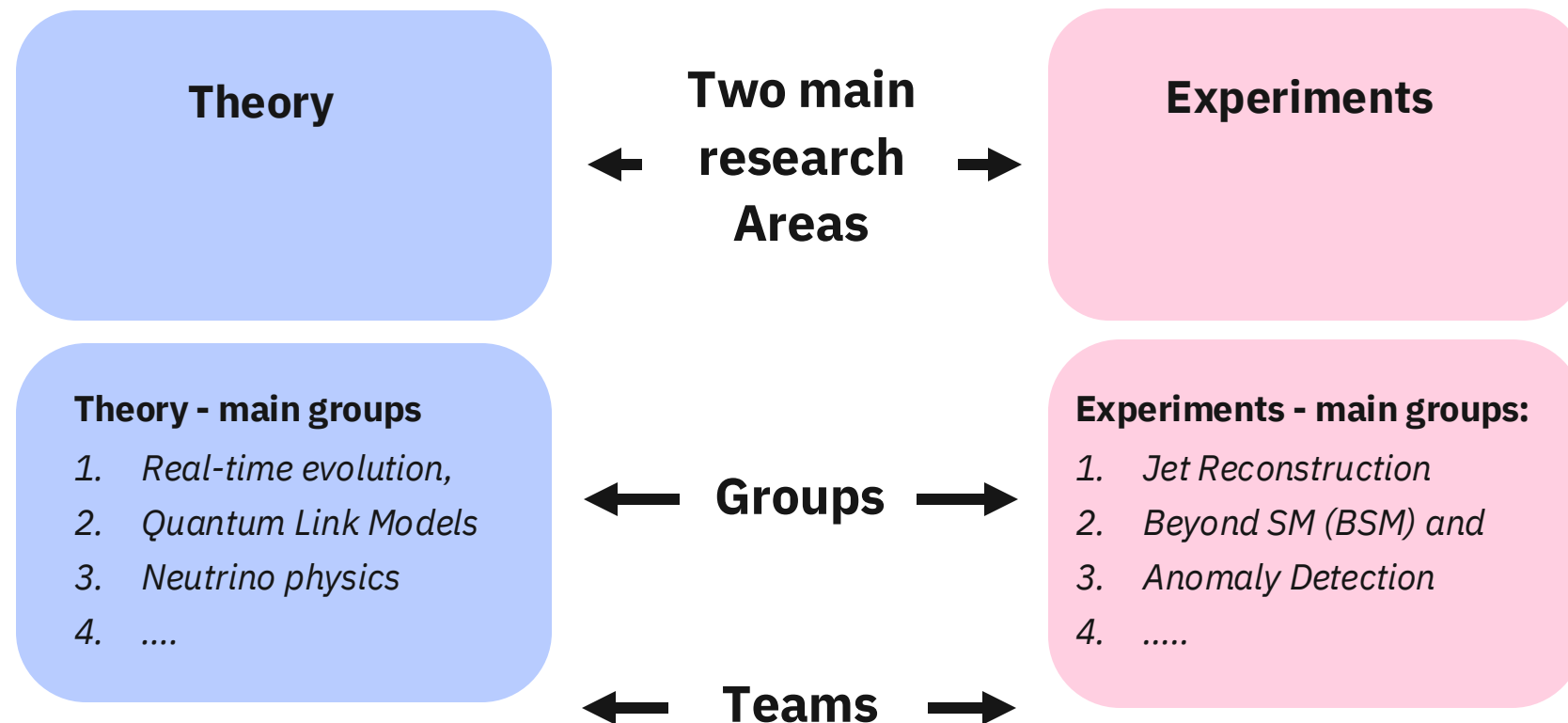
With **Qiskit Serverless** users can build, deploy, and run workloads remotely using the compute resources of the IBM Quantum platform.

Qiskit Serverless is available as a hosted service for IBM Premium clients or as an open-source tool that you can deploy on your own infrastructure.

docs.quantum.ibm.com/guides/serverless
github.com/Qiskit/qiskit-serverless

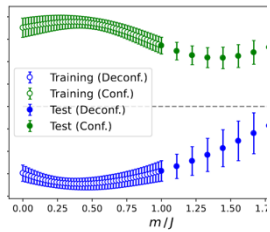


Organization of the QC4HEP WG



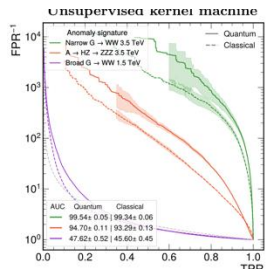
Researchers working together on a specific topic defined in the groups

Teams **include students**



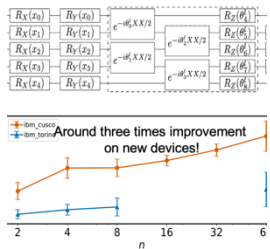
Quantum data learning for quantum simulations in high-energy physics
 Phys. Rev. Research 5, 043250

Explores quantum machine learning (QML) applications for quantum data, extending the Quantum Data Learning (QDL) framework to high-energy physics. In particular, by applying quantum convolutional neural networks to quantum data sets generated from quantum simulations of LGT and QFT models. Multiparticle State Analysis with QCNN effectively extracted fermion flavors and coupling constants from simulated parton showers, outperforming conventional methods in certain scenarios.



Quantum anomaly detection in the latent space of proton collision events at the LHC
 Commun Phys 7, 334 (2024)

Study presents a realistic study of QML models for anomaly detection in proton collisions at the LHC. A proposed combination of an autoencoder that compresses raw HEP jet features to a tractable size, with quantum anomaly detection models proved to be a viable strategy for data-driven searches for new physics at the LHC.



Symmetry Breaking in Geometric Quantum Machine Learning in the Presence of Noise
 PRX Quantum 5, 030314

Geometric QML incorporates inductive biases to ansatz design. This can lead to: Less parameters / shorter circuits (no BPs). This work enhances understanding of how hardware noise interacts with GQML models and proposes strategies to improve resilience. The findings pave the way for future research aimed at developing robust and scalable GQML applications on quantum hardware.

Preliminary Resource Estimation for Lattice QED and for neutrino oscillations

TABLE I.

For (2+1)D QED, we consider a minimum linear lattice size L of 4 and a maximum of 8; this leads to 8–16 qubits to describe the fermionic degrees of freedom and 10/15 gauge links, which leads —with truncation of the gauge fields $l = 2, 3$ —to 20/100 and 30/150 qubits, respectively. The final number of resources is reported in the table. For (1+1)D QED dynamics, we give a suitable number of lattice points that allows us to study the time evolution of scattering particles. For two flavor neutrinos we consider a direct mapping to qubits, where the cost is based on a first-order PF. For the largest system, with 40 neutrinos, the `CNOT` gate count would still be 2340 with depth 120 (for more details, see Ref. [148]). VQITE, variational quantum imaginary time evolution; VQTE, variational quantum time evolution.

| Systems | Physical size (minimum/maximum) | No. of qubits (minimum/maximum) | Algorithm | No. of <code>CNOT</code> gate layers |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| (2+1)D QED static | $4 \times 4/8 \times 8$ sites | 30/160 | VQE/VQITE | $\sim 10/100$ |
| (1+1)D QED dynamics | 12/20 sites | 30/100 | VQTE/Trotter | 20/100 |
| Collective neutrino oscillations | 10/40 neutrinos | 10/40 | VTE/PF | 30/120 |

Tested QML applications

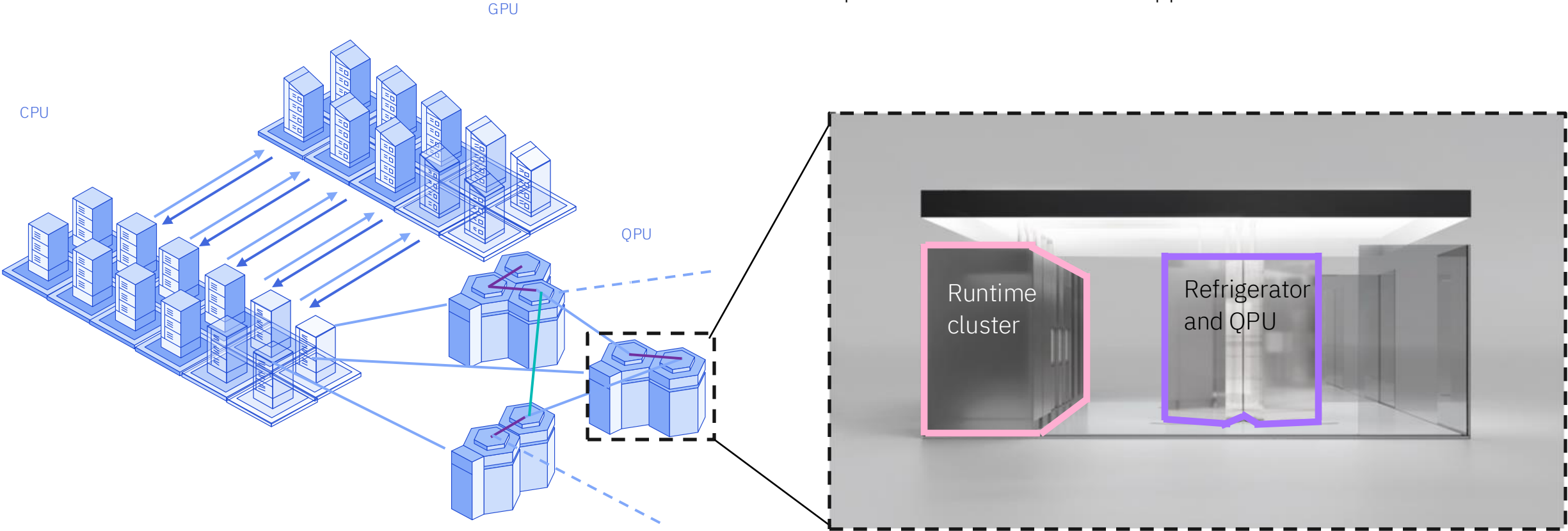
TABLE II.

Tested QML applications. The last column shows the size of the problem that could be implemented with 100 qubits, assuming linear circuit depth scaling for the encoding circuit (as in the case of angle or dense angle encoding). QAG, quantum angle generator; QCBM, quantum circuit Born machine; QGNN, quantum-classical hybrid graph neural network.

| Application | Algorithm | Features | No. of qubits | Circuit depth | F_{100} (projected) |
|---------------------|-----------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Anomaly detection | QSVM | 16 (latent features) | 16 | 30 | 300 |
| Detector simulation | QAG | 8 (pixels) | 8 | 16 | 100 |
| Event generation | QCBM | 16 (output features) | 4 | 4 | 100 |
| Event generation | QGAN | 3 (output features) | 3 | 1 | 100 |
| Tracking | QGNN | 2 (input space points) | 8 | 9 | 200 |

Quantum-centric supercomputing

Delivering impactful quantum computing requires the interplay of quantum and classical resources at scales; quantum-centric supercomputing is the path toward industrial scale applications

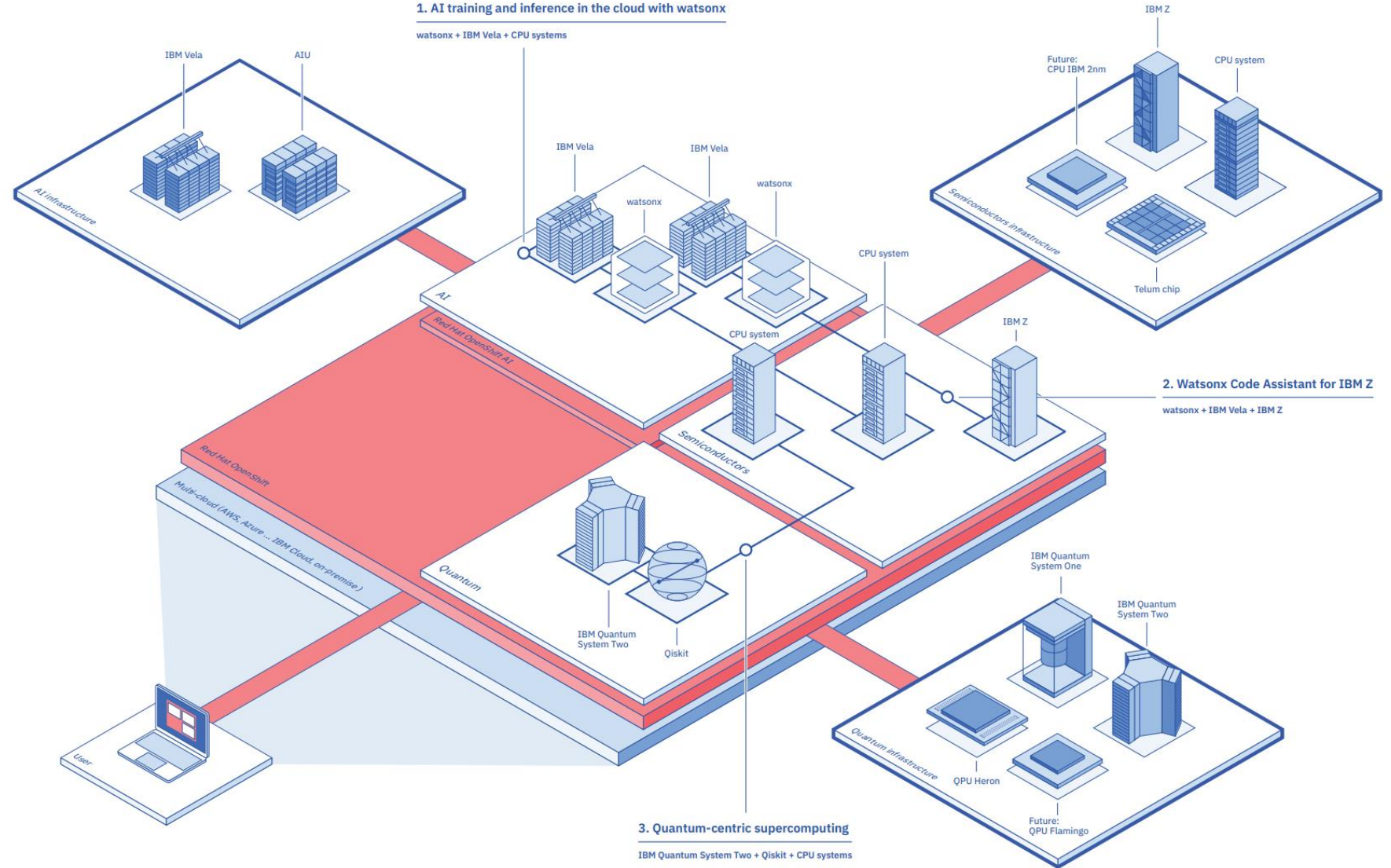


IBM offers all the needed components

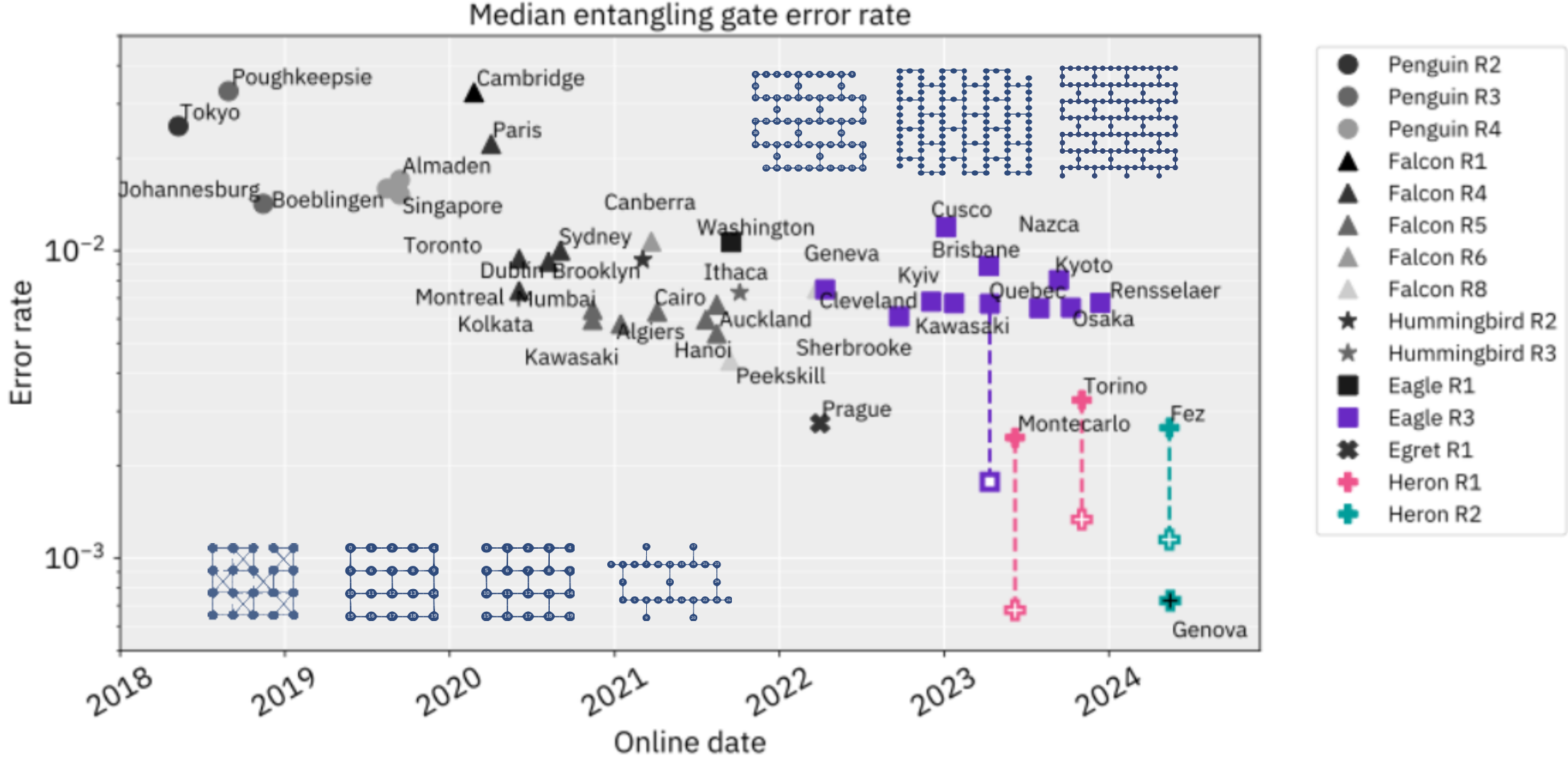
1. Hybrid cloud
(i.e., classical compute)
2. watsonx
(artificial intelligence)
3. Quantum
4. IT consulting

Integrations are still evolving between quantum and classical compute.

IBM is already partnering with other institutions to help define the future of quantum-centric supercomputing (QCSC).



The road to improved 2Q gate errors

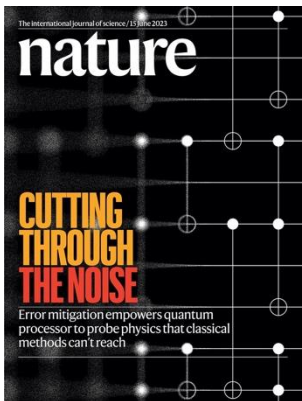


Quantum Utility (2023)



Demonstration that a quantum computer can run quantum circuits beyond the ability of a classical computer simulating a quantum computer

Confirmation via research, papers, & theory



IBM's 2023 research paper ("Evidence for the utility of quantum computing before fault tolerance") provided evidence and methods to move the industry into the Utility era

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-023-06096-3>

Quantum Advantage (TBD)



Demonstration that a quantum computer can run quantum circuits beyond the ability of all known classical methods

Confirmation via real-world usage



Advantage will come at different times in different domains and depends on the continued advancement of quantum algorithm implementations across industries

Quantum computing is expected to have impact across industries

Simulating nature

Mathematics and processing data with complex structure

Search and optimization

Aerospace & Automotive

Customer Experience
Materials Design
Structural Design Optimization
And more

Financial Services

Fraud Detection
Derivatives/options pricing
Portfolio optimization
Risk analysis
And more

High Tech

Seismic Imaging
Catalysts
Supply chain planning
Manufacturing scheduling
And more

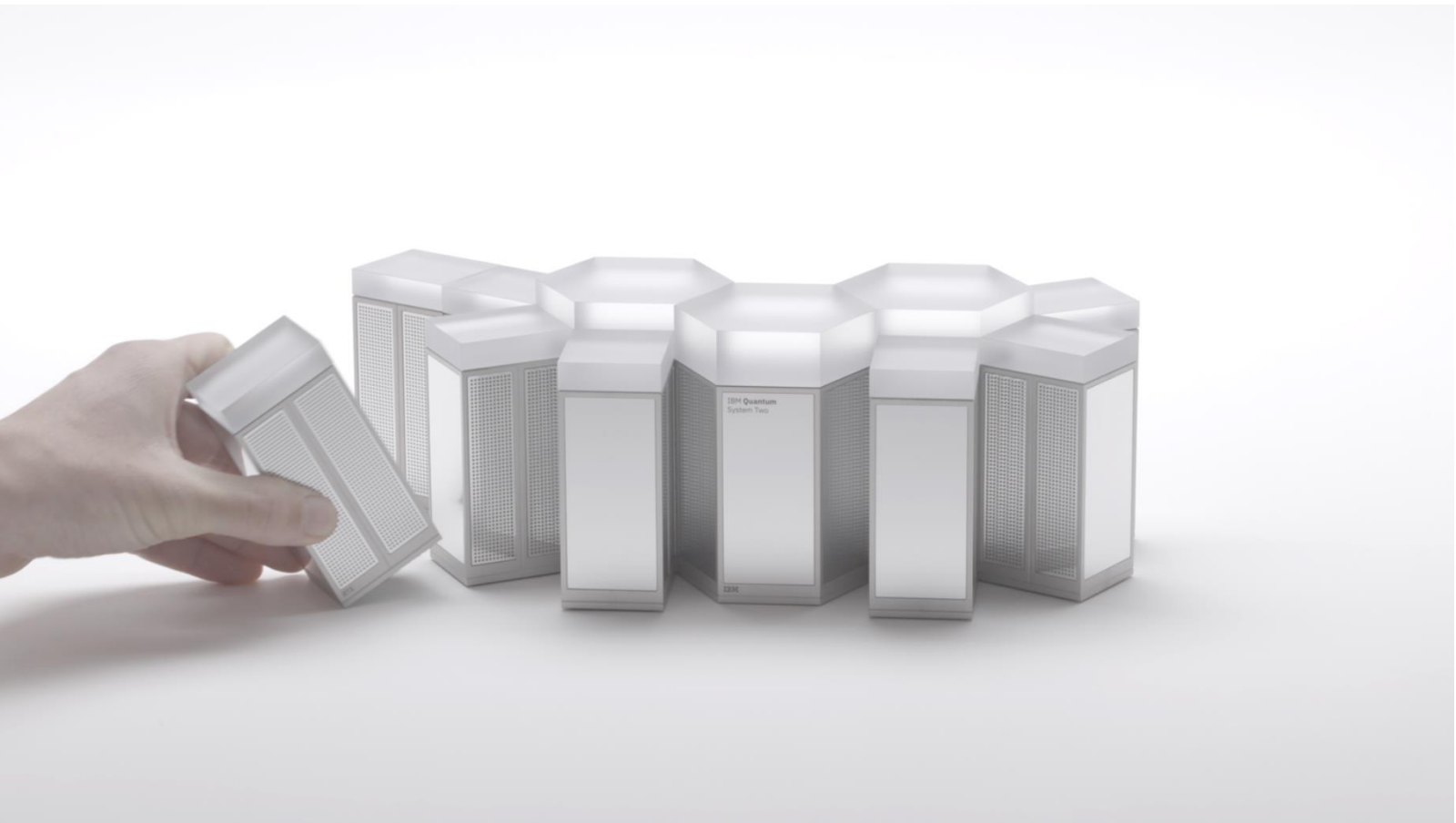
Energy, Environment, Utilities

Portfolio optimization
Grid optimization
Risk Analysis and Options Pricing
Battery Design
And more

Health Care & Life Sciences

Disease risk prediction
Drug discovery and design
Protein folding predictions
And more

Upskilling your teams in quantum computing



IBM Quantum Learning Mission:

Empower people
around the world to
use and advance
quantum

Documentation

Getting started with Qiskit is easy.

The Documentation can help walk you through the following steps:

Start: Setup and Install

Build: Quantum Circuits

Transpile: Optimize Circuits

Verify: Evaluate your circuits

Run: Execute on hardware

🌐 This is the new home for all Qiskit and IBM Quantum service documentation. [Learn more](#)

Documentation

Whether you are ready to code your first circuit or execute a large research workload, you can find documentation for using Qiskit and IBM Quantum hardware at the links below.

Get started with Qiskit
Run the Hello World

Start
Set up and install to use Qiskit

Build
Design and develop quantum circuits

Transpile
Optimize circuits to efficiently run on hardware

Verify
Validate and evaluate your quantum circuits

Run
Execute jobs on quantum hardware

IBM Quantum Learning

Learn the basics of quantum computing and how to solve real-world problems with IBM Quantum services and systems

- Access courses, tutorials, and other learning resources created by leading quantum experts like John Watrous
- Log in to track course progress
- Earn badges for selected courses

Get started today



The screenshot shows the IBM Quantum Learning website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Catalog, Network, Composer, and Lab. The main heading is "IBM Quantum Learning". Below this, a sub-heading reads: "Learn the basics of quantum computing, and how to use IBM Quantum services and systems to solve real-world problems." A large banner image features a colorful grid of dots in shades of blue, purple, and black, with two stylized figures standing in front of it. To the right of the banner, a course card for "Fundamentals of quantum algorithms" is displayed, showing it is new, has 4 lessons, and the user's progress is 0%. A "Start course" button is visible. Below the banner, there are sections for "Courses" and "Tutorials". The "Courses" section includes three cards: "Basics of quantum information" (4 lessons), "Variational algorithm design" (7 lessons), and "Quantum Business Foundations" (6 lessons). The "Tutorials" section includes three cards: "Variational quantum eigensolver" (28 mins), "Grover's algorithm" (1 min), and "CHSH inequality" (4 mins). Each course and tutorial card includes a "Start course" or "Scheduling" button.

Composer

Prototype visually with the Quantum Composer

Interactively build circuits with the the **Composer** drag and drop interface. You can also visualize amplitude and probabilities within the tool.

