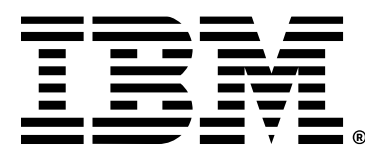


# IBM Quantum Roadmap

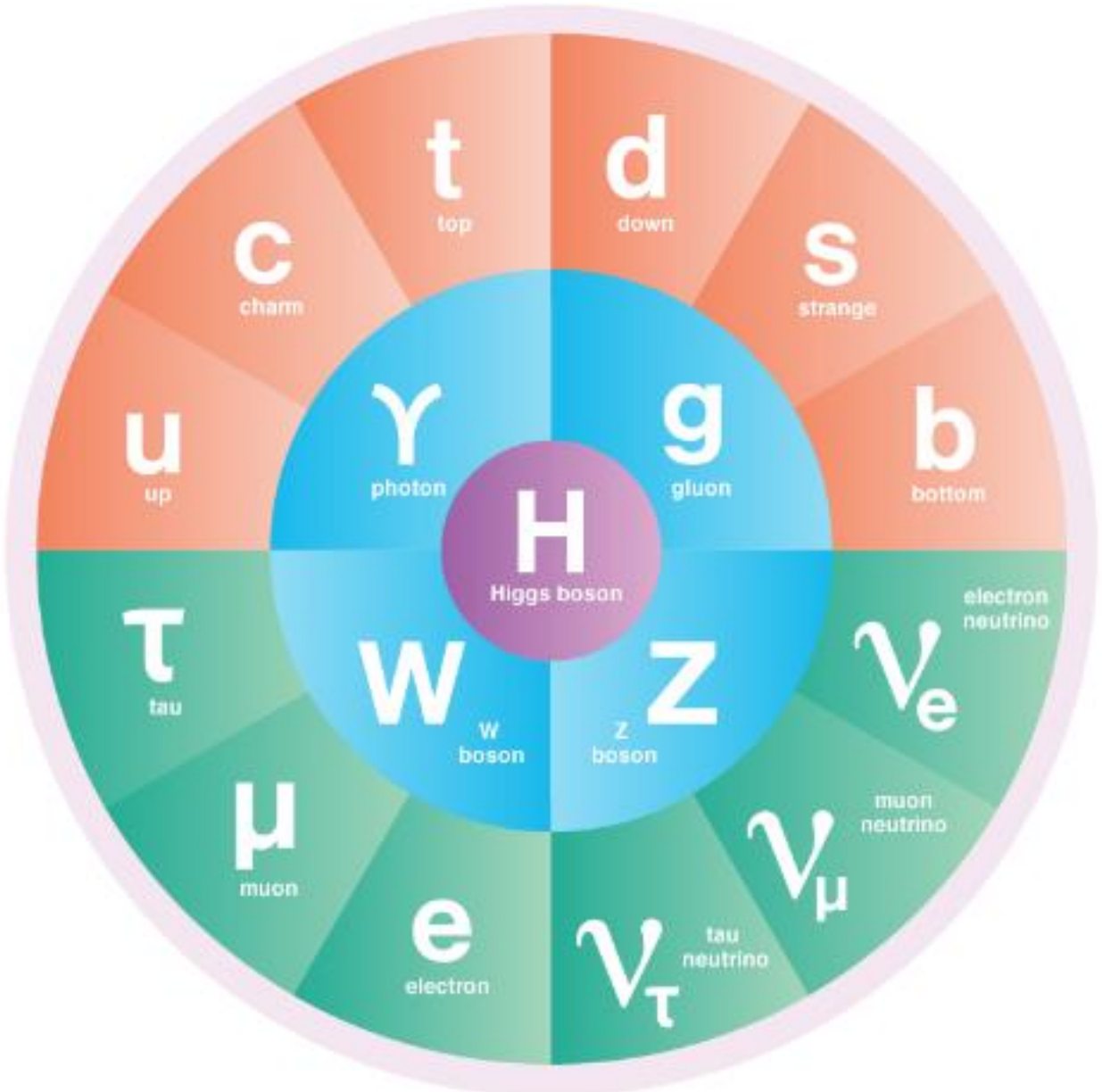
Vincent R. Pascuzzi  
Quantum Algorithm Engineer  
IBM Quantum  
T.J. Watson Research Center  
Yorktown Heights, NY, USA

Quantum Technologies for High Energy Physics  
CERN  
Meyrin, Switzerland  
23 January 2025



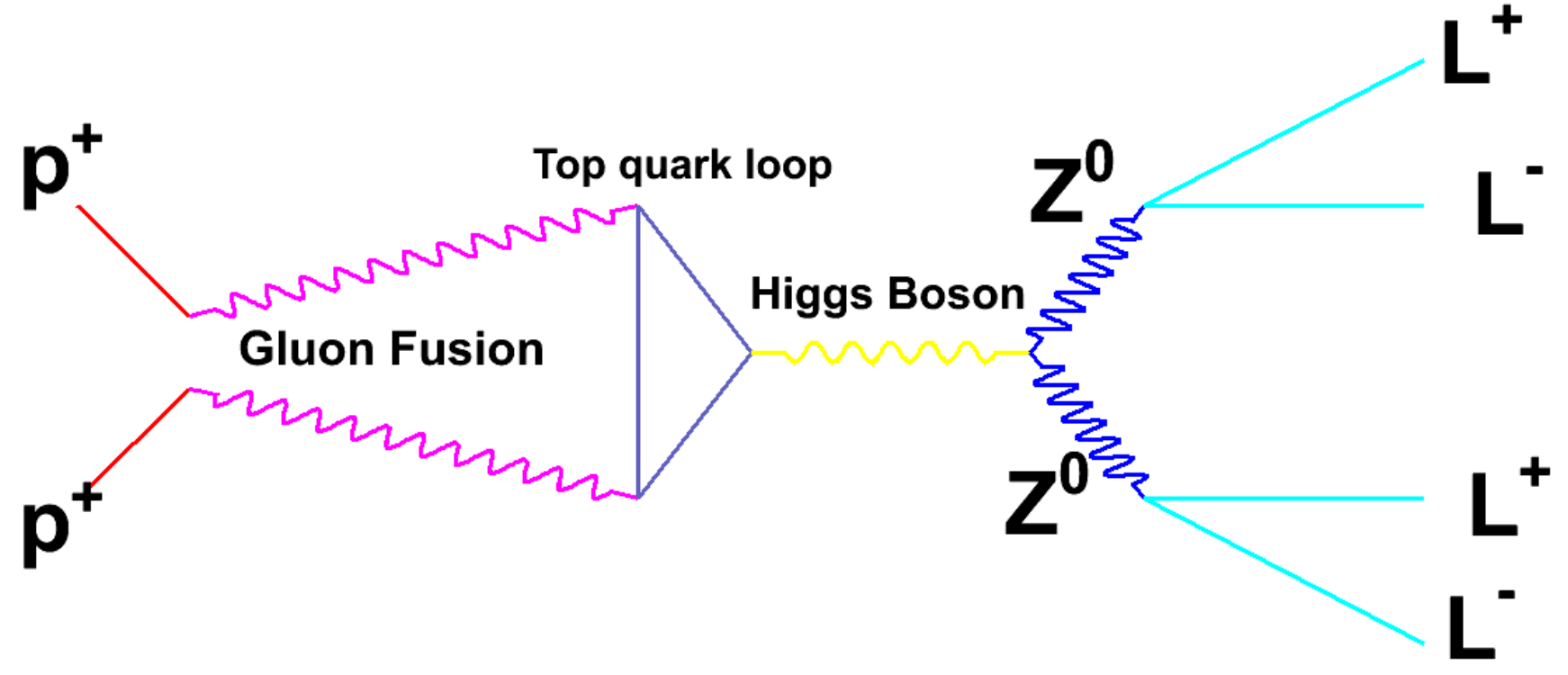


# Physics



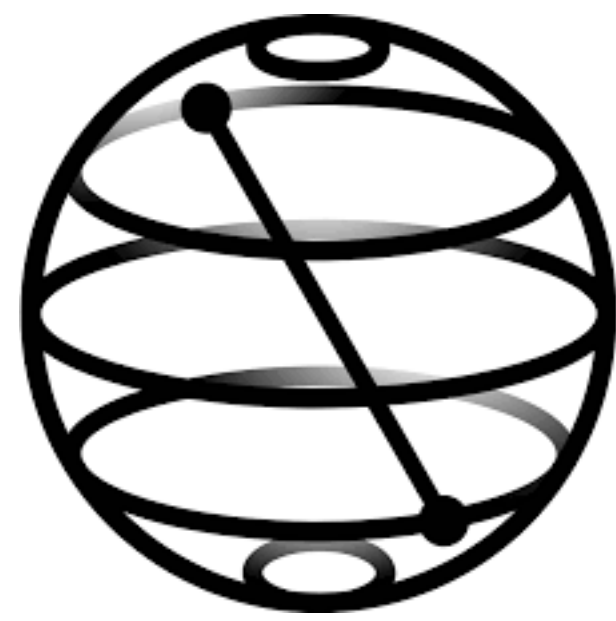
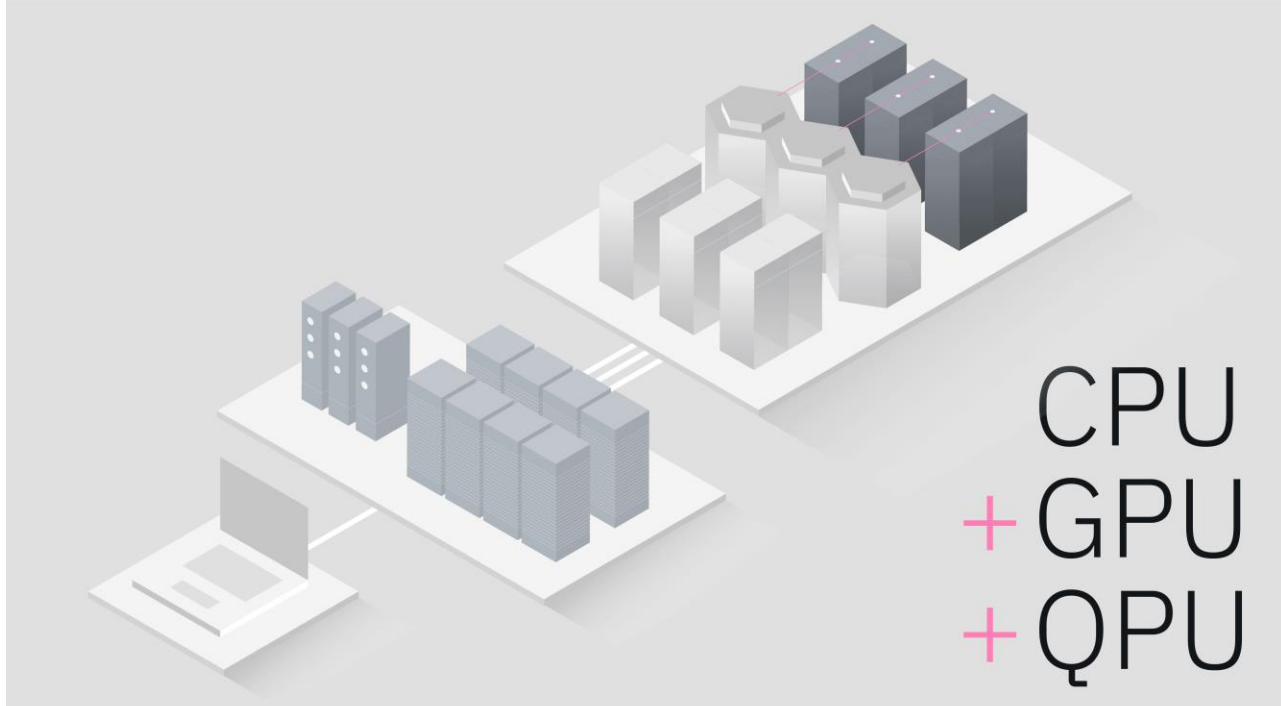
● QUARKS   
 ● LEPTONS   
 ● BOSONS   
 ● HIGGS BOSON

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + i\bar{\psi} \not{D} \psi + \chi_i^\dagger Y_{ij} \chi_j \phi + h.c. + |D_\mu \phi|^2 - V(\phi)$$



# IBM Quantum

Development Roadmap	2016-2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2033+
Quantum physicists	IBM Quantum Experience	Qiskit	Qiskit Runtime	Qiskit Transpiler	Qiskit Optimization	Qiskit Pulse	Qiskit Nature	Qiskit Finance	Qiskit Chemistry	Qiskit ML	Qiskit AI	Qiskit Quantum
Quantum hardware	Early	Falcon	Hummingbird	Eagle	Osprey	Condor	Flamingo	Kookaburra	Denon	Cockatoo	Starling	Blue Jay



# Development Roadmap

	2016–2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2033+
	Ran quantum circuits on the IBM Quantum Platform	Released multi-dimensional roadmap publicly with initial aim focused on scaling	Enhanced quantum execution speed by 100x with Qiskit Runtime	Brought dynamic circuits to unlock more computations	Enhanced quantum execution speed by 5x with Quantum Serverless and execution modes	Improve quantum circuit quality and speed to allow 5K gates with parametric circuits	Enhance quantum execution speed and parallelization with partitioning and quantum modularity	Improve quantum circuit quality to allow 7.5K gates	Improve quantum circuit quality to allow 10K gates	Improve quantum circuit quality to allow 15K gates	Improve 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 scientists						Platform						
						Qiskit Code Assistant	Qiskit Functions Service	Mapping collections	Specific libraries			General purpose QC libraries
Researchers					Middleware							
					Qiskit Serverless	Qiskit Transpiler Service	Resource management	Circuit knitting x p	Intelligent orchestration			Circuit libraries
Quantum physicists	IBM Quantum Experience		Qiskit Runtime Service									
			QASM 3	Dynamic circuits	Execution modes	Heron (5K)	Flamingo (5K)	Flamingo (7.5K)	Flamingo (10K)	Flamingo (15K)	Starling (100M)	Blue Jay (1B)
	Early Canary 5 qubits Albatross 16 qubits Penguin 20 qubits Prototype 53 qubits	Falcon Benchmarking 27 qubits	Eagle Benchmarking 127 qubits			Error mitigation 5k gates 133 qubits Classical modular 133x3 = 399 qubits	Error mitigation 5k gates 156 qubits Quantum modular 156x7 = 1092 qubits	Error mitigation 7.5k gates 156 qubits Quantum modular 156x7 = 1092 qubits	Error mitigation 10k gates 156 qubits Quantum modular 156x7 = 1092 qubits	Error mitigation 15k gates 156 qubits Quantum modular 156x7 = 1092 qubits	Error correction 100M gates 200 qubits Error corrected modularity	Error correction 1B gates 2000 qubits Error corrected modularity

# Innovation Roadmap

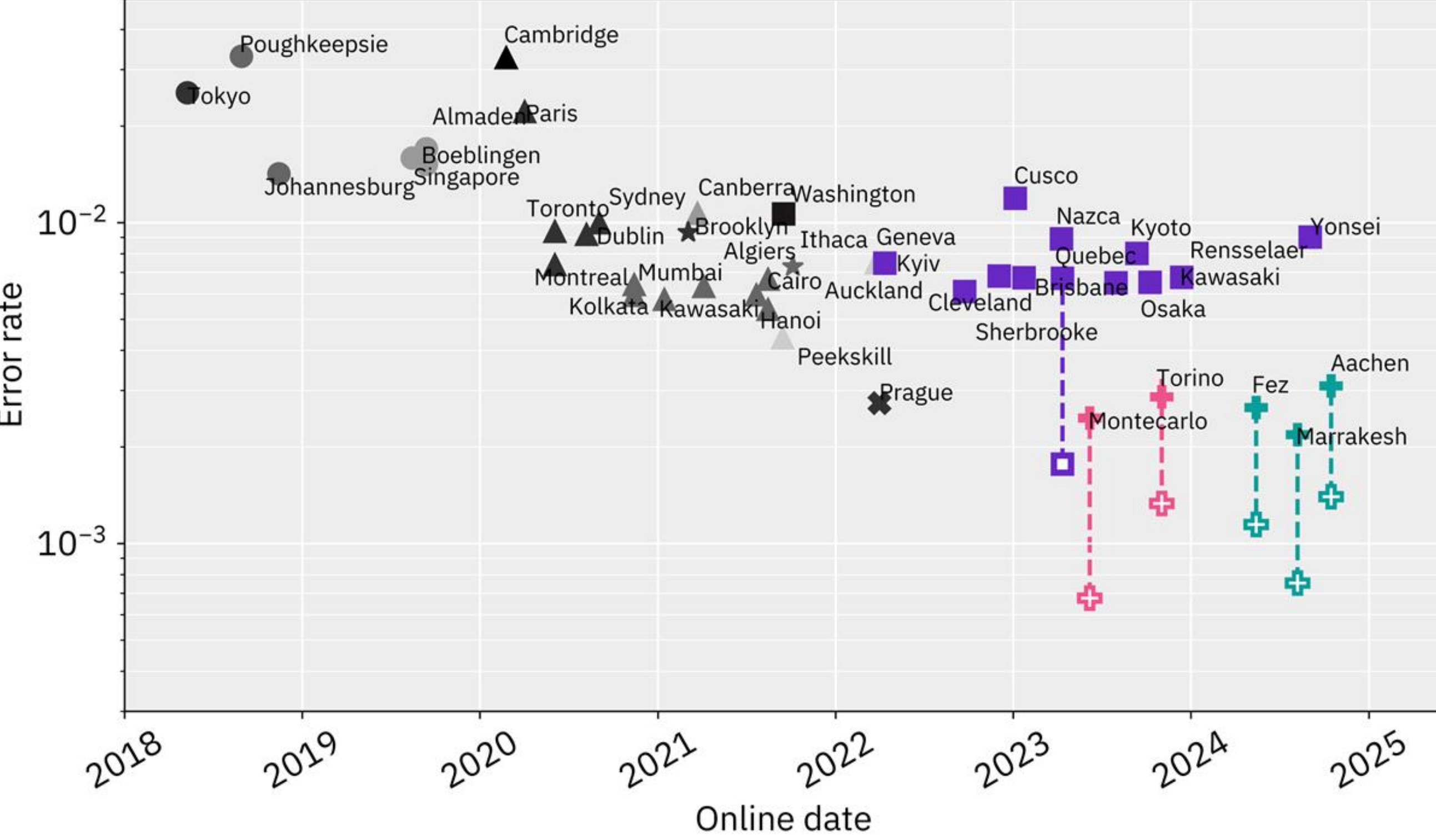
Software innovation	IBM Quantum Experience	Qiskit Circuit and operator API with compilation to multiple targets	Application modules Modules for domain specific application and algorithm workflows	Qiskit Runtime Performance and abstraction through primitives	Quantum Serverless Demonstrate concepts of 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 Penguin 20 qubits Albatross 16 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 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		
			Egret Tunable coupler demonstration		Heron Architecture based on tunable-couplers	Crossbill Demonstrate m-couplers						

- Executed by IBM
- On target

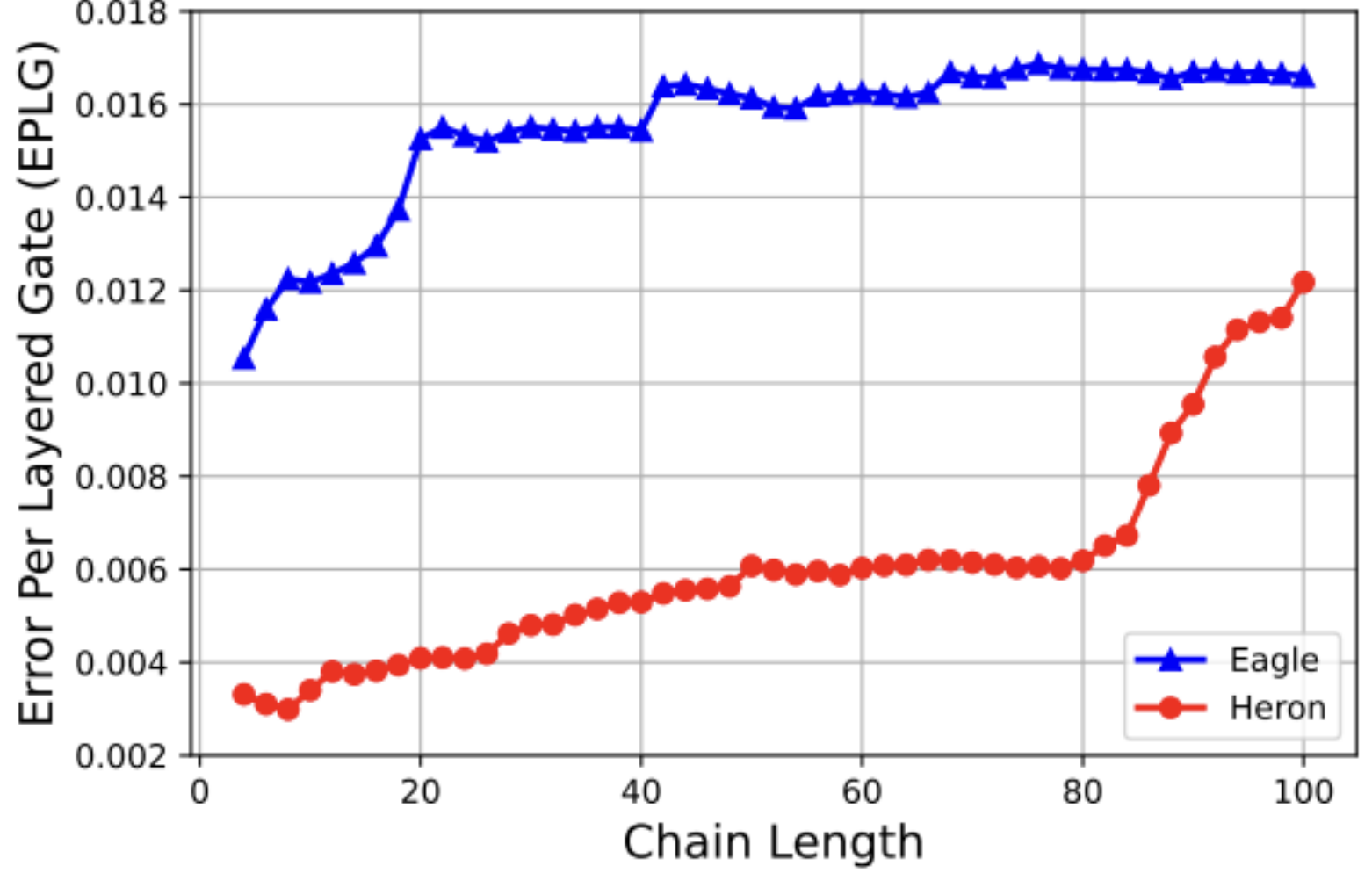
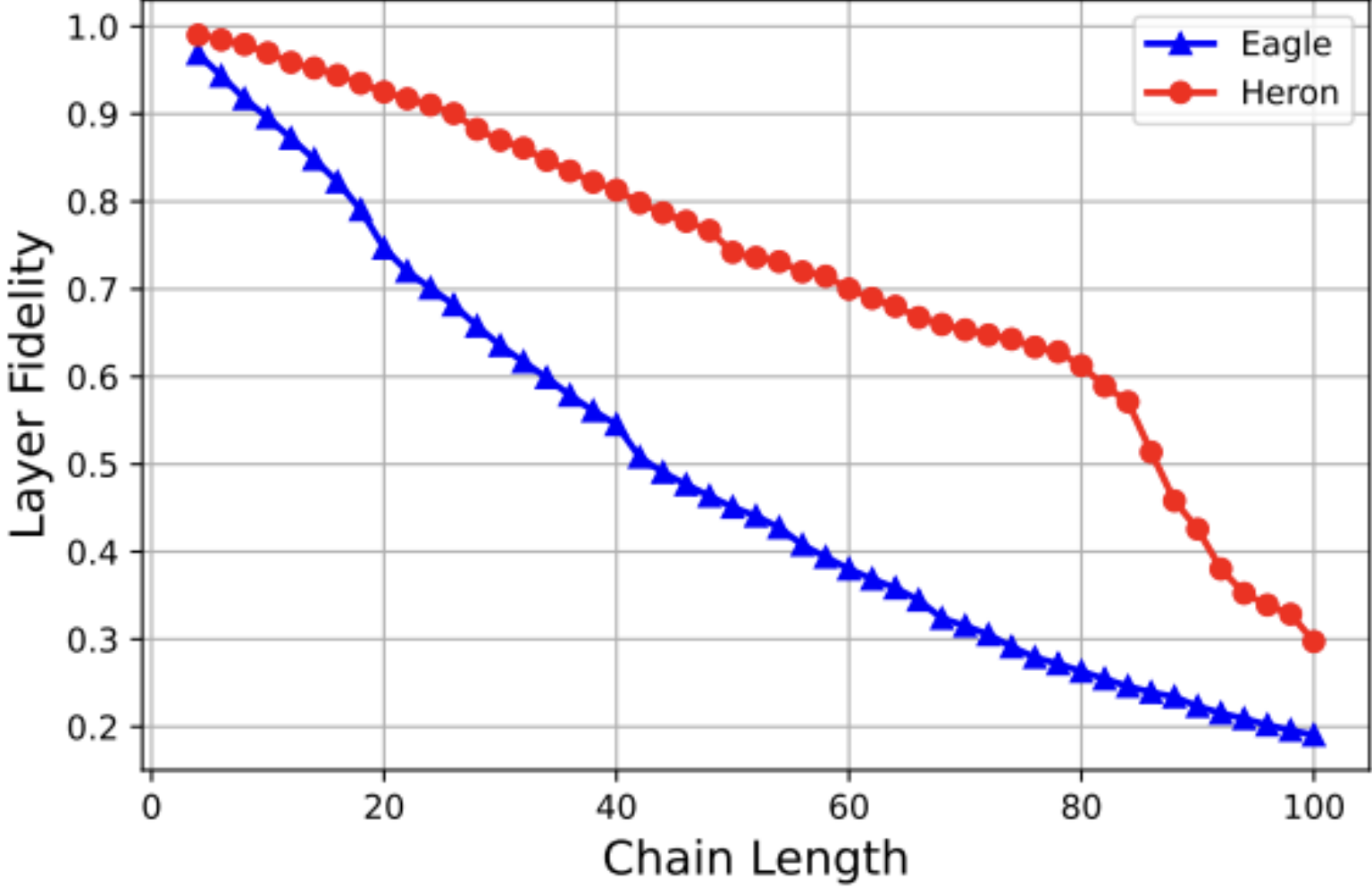


# Evolution of IBM Quantum backends

Median entangling gate error rate



- Penguin R2
- Penguin R3
- Penguin R4
- ▲ Falcon R1
- ▲ Falcon R4
- ▲ Falcon R5
- ▲ Falcon R6
- ▲ Falcon R8
- ★ Hummingbird R2
- ★ Hummingbird R3
- Eagle R1
- Eagle R3
- ✕ Egret R1
- ✚ Heron R1
- ✚ Heron R2





# Scaling

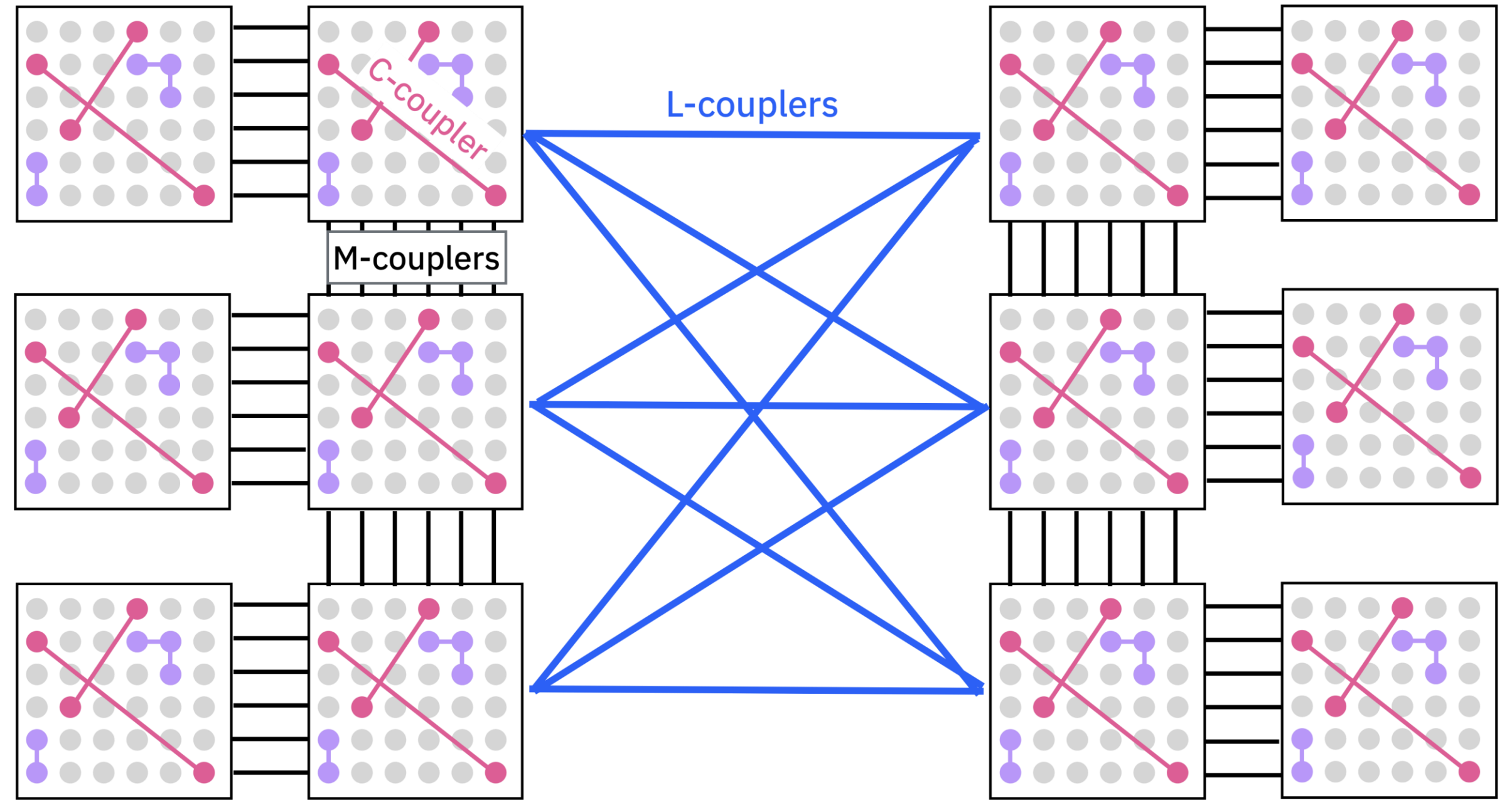
**Cockatoo**  
 Demonstrate path to improved quality with logical communication



**Starling**  
 Demonstrate path to improved quality with logical gates

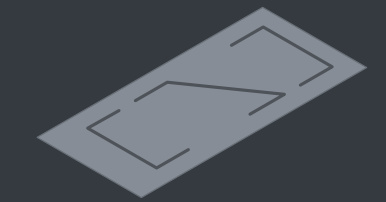


New innovations required **C-couplers**, which are non-local connections, and 6-way connectivity



## C-coupler

**Kookaburra**  
 Demonstrate scaling with non-local c-coupler




Demonstrate path to improved quality with logical memory

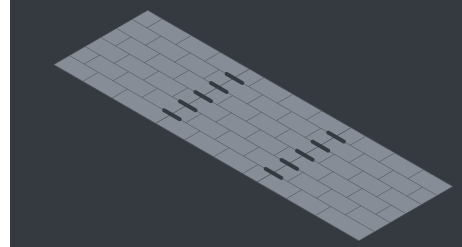
## L-coupler

**Flamingo**   
 Demonstrate scaling with modular connectors



## M-coupler

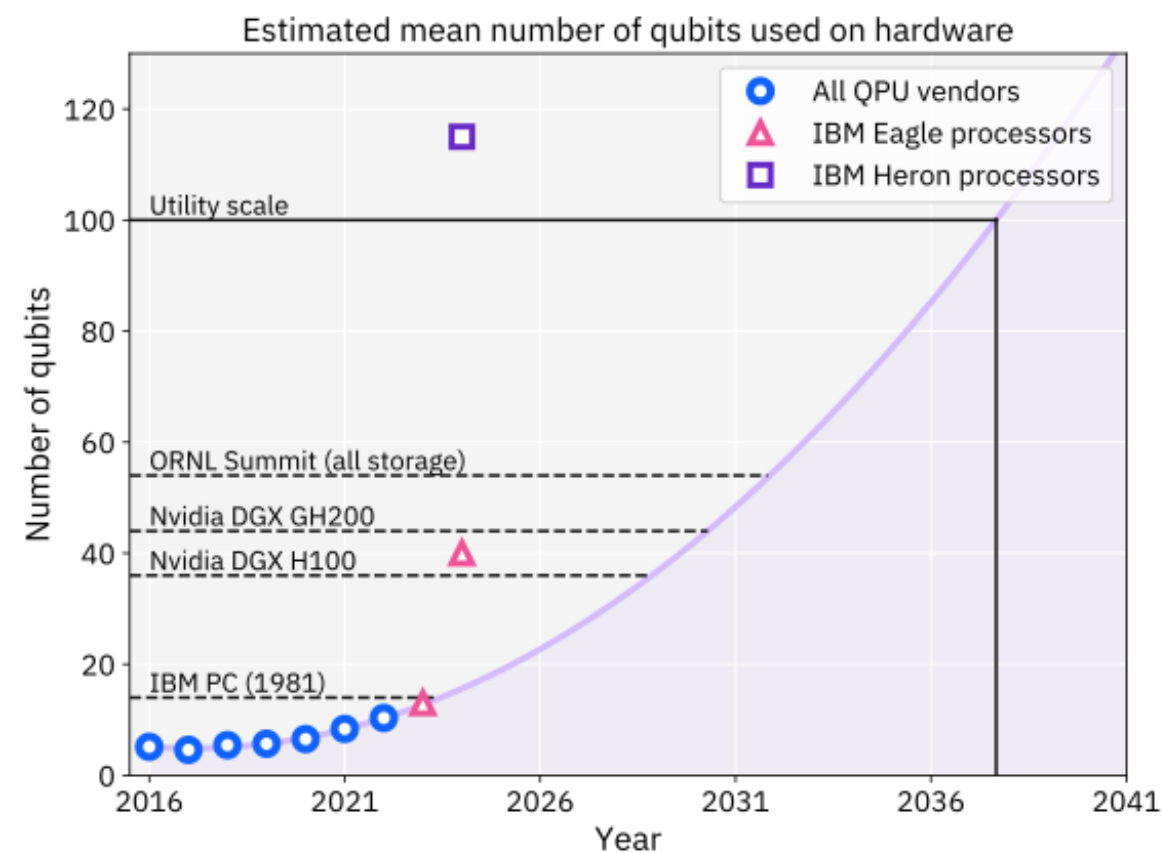
**Crossbill**   
 m-coupler





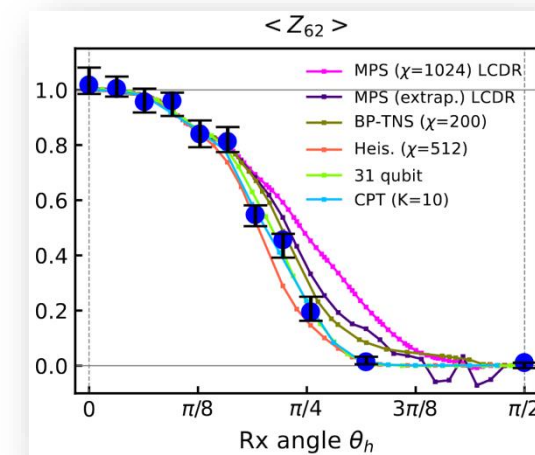
# The era of quantum utility (c. 2022)

Quantum simulation beyond classical brute-force.



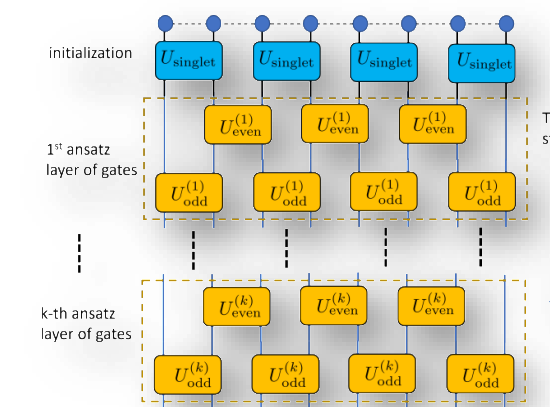
Evidence for the utility of quantum computing before fault tolerance [Nature, 618, 500 (2023)]

127 qubits / 2880 CX gates



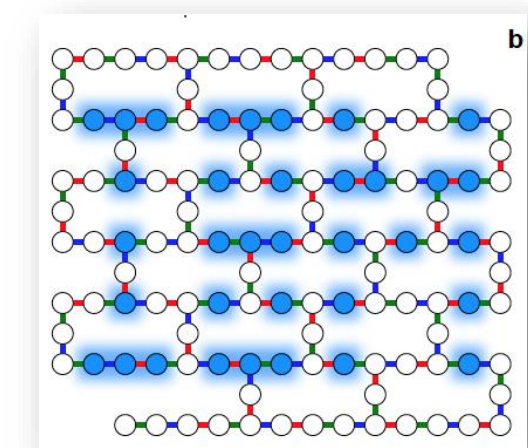
Simulating large-size quantum spin chains on cloud-based superconducting quantum computers [arXiv:2207.09994]

102 qubits / 3186 CX gates



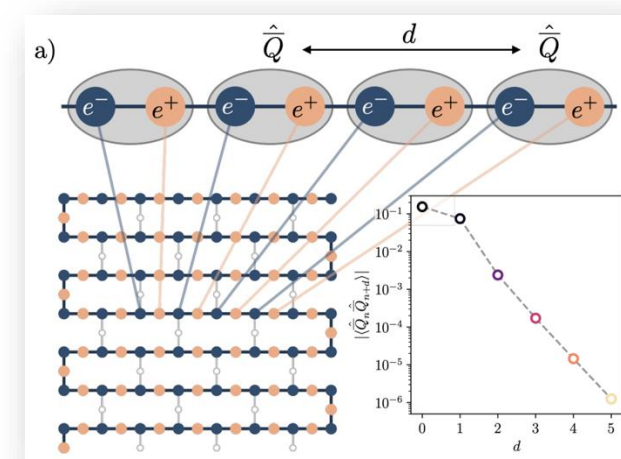
Uncovering local integrability in quantum many-body dynamics [arXiv:2307.07552]

124 qubits / 2641 CX gates



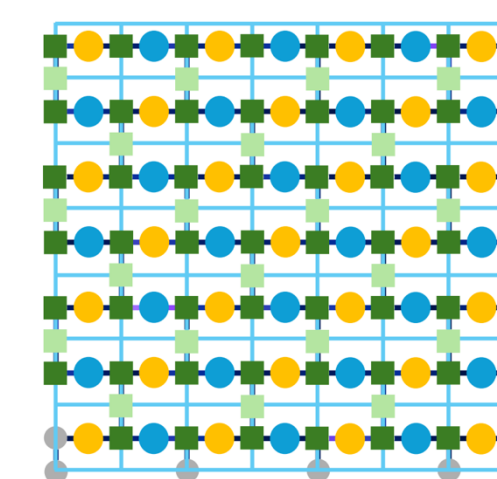
Quantum simulations of hadron dynamics in the Schwinger model using 112 qubits [arXiv:2401.08044]

112 qubits / 13858 CX gates



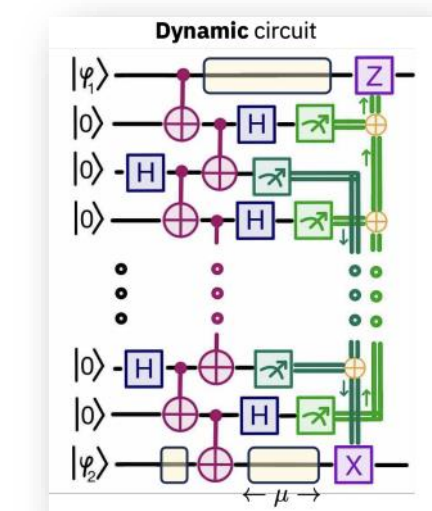
Quantum Simulation of SU(3) Lattice Yang Mills Theory at Leading Order in Large N [arXiv:2402.10265]

127 qubits / 113 CX layers



Efficient long-range entanglement using dynamic circuits [arXiv:2308.13065]

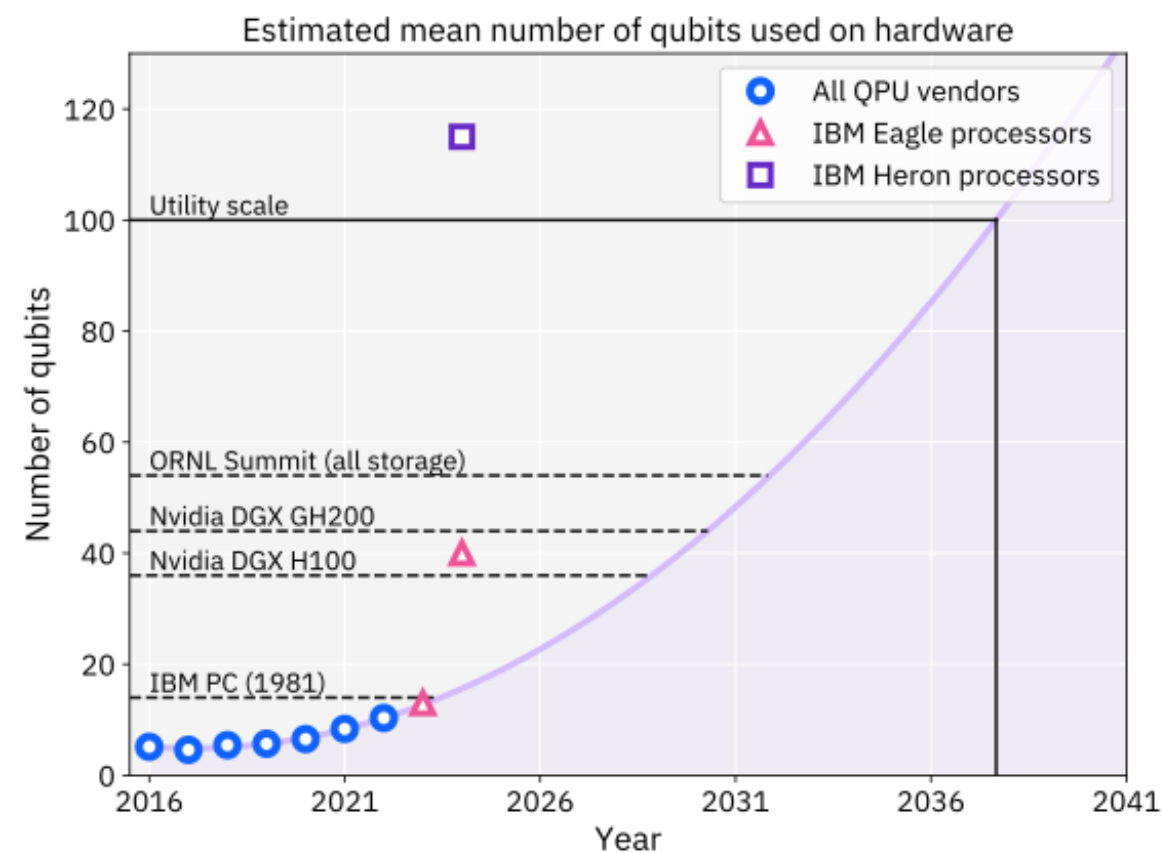
101 qubits / 504 gates + meas.





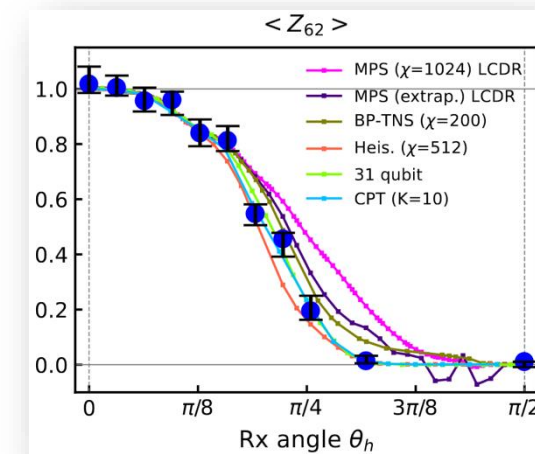
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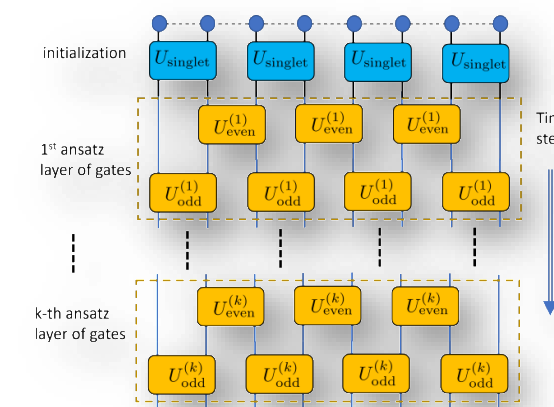
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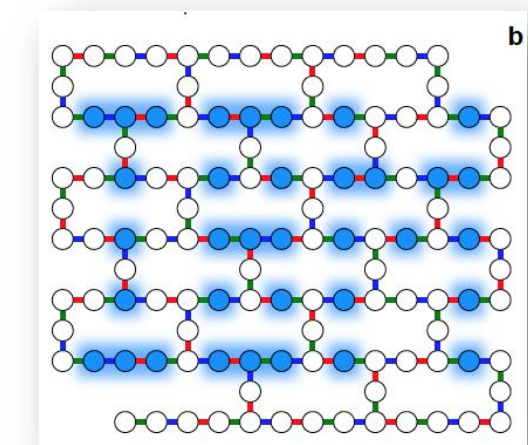
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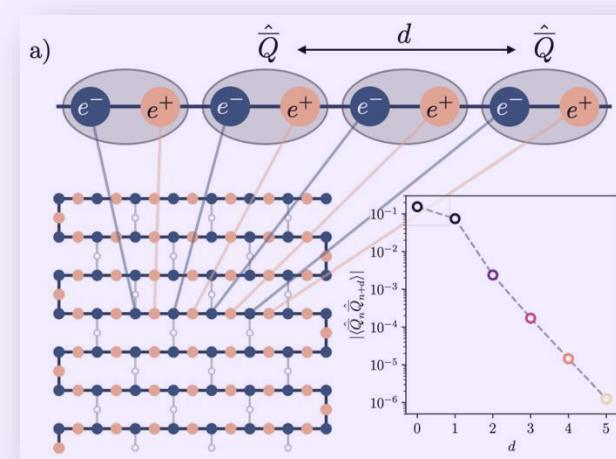
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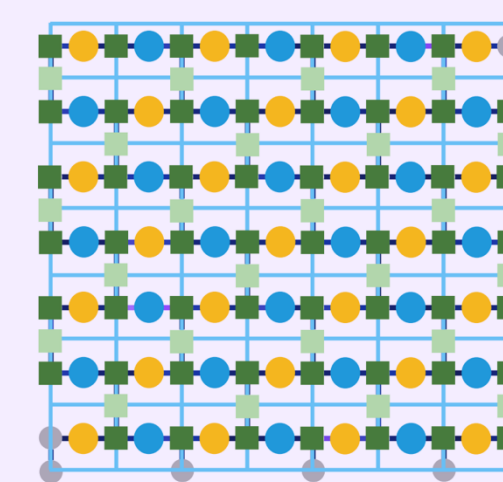
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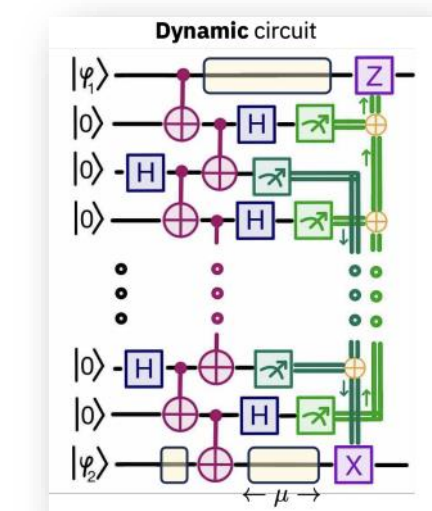
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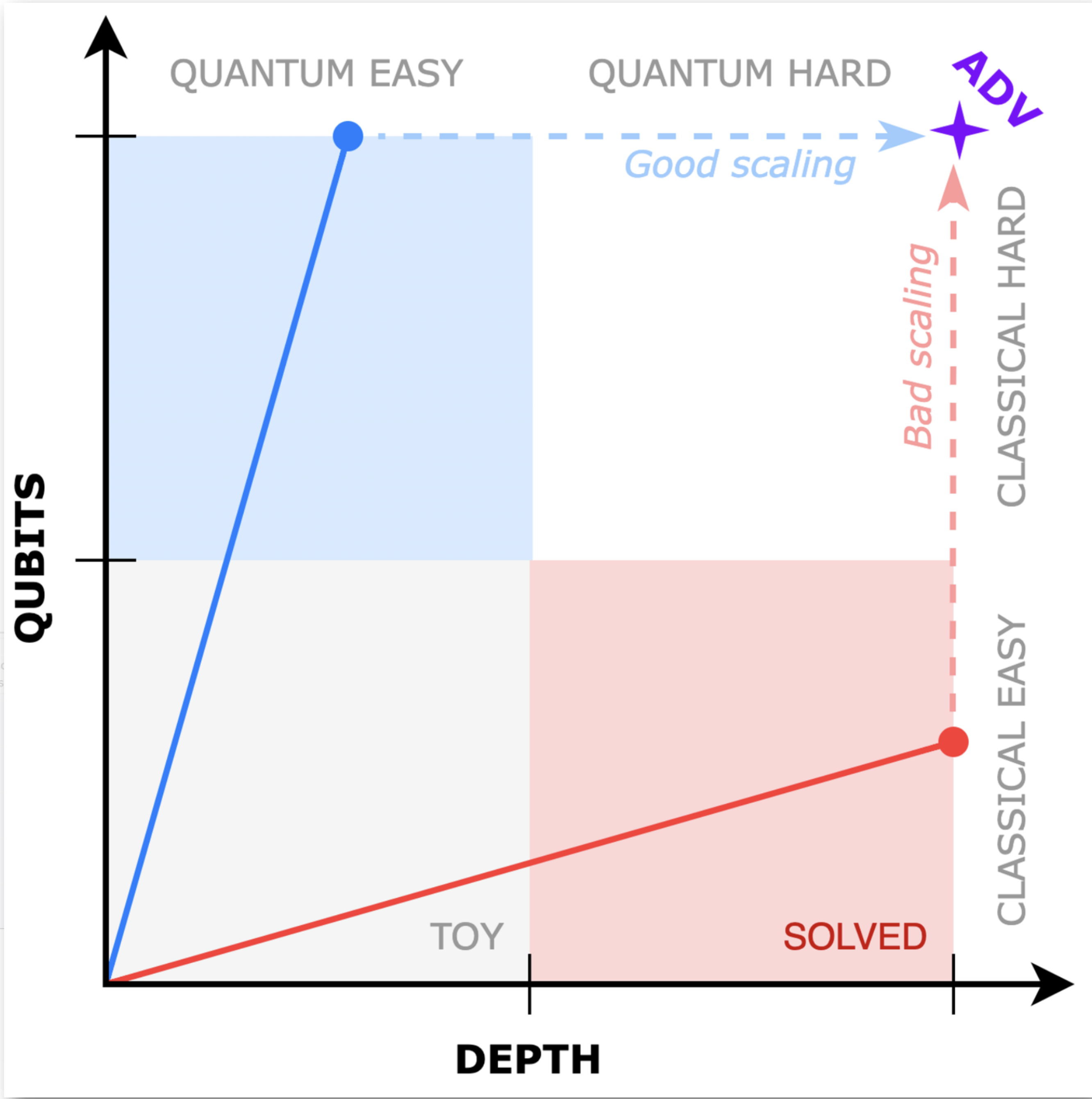
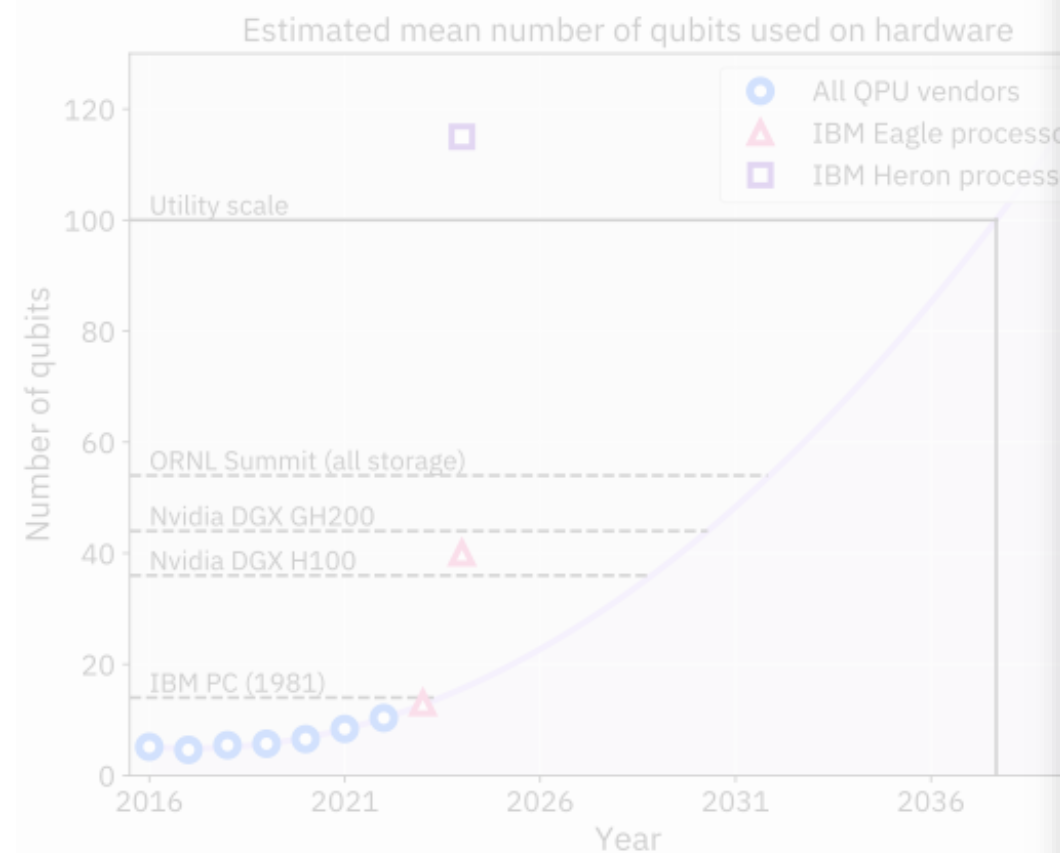
101 qubits / 504 gates + meas.





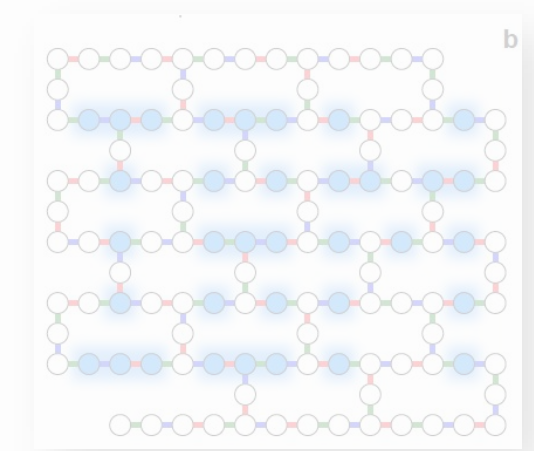
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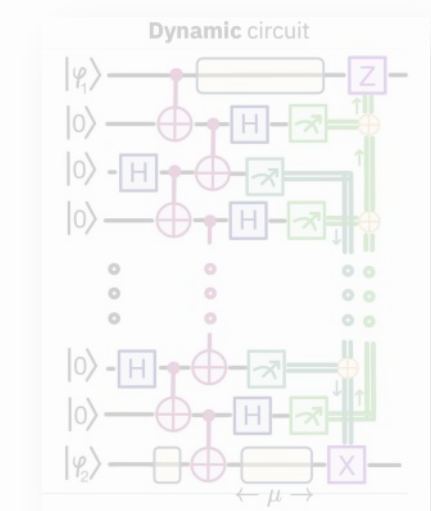
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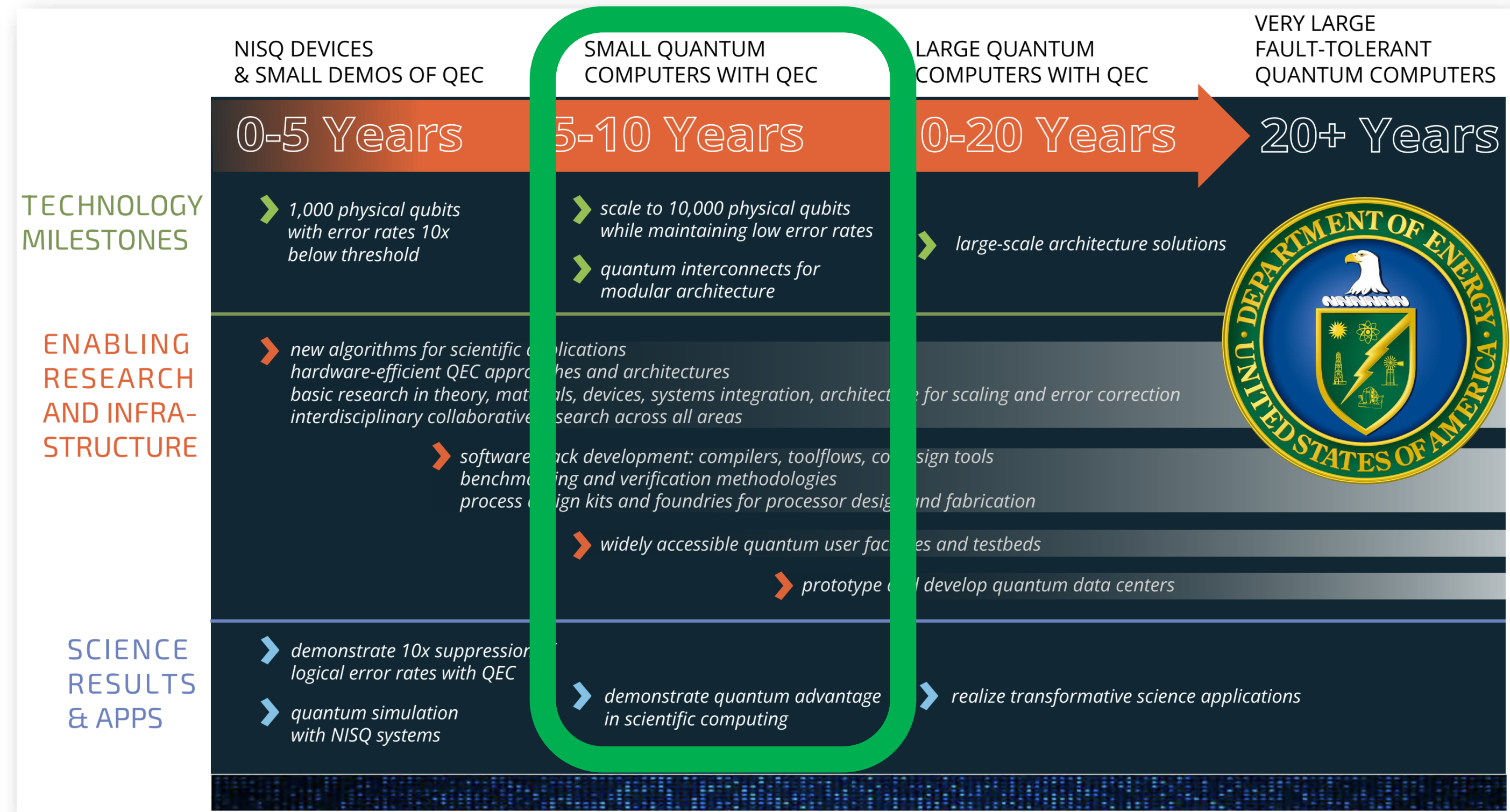


“Getting ‘very useful quantum computers’  
to market could take 15 to 30 years.”



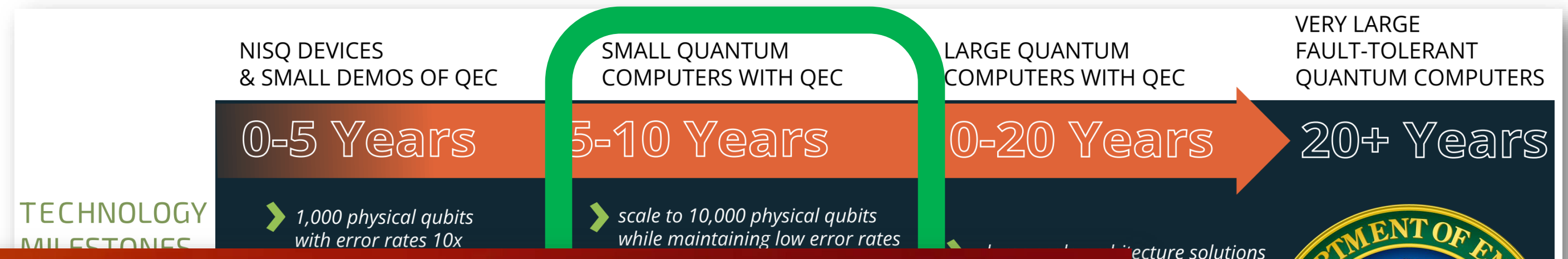
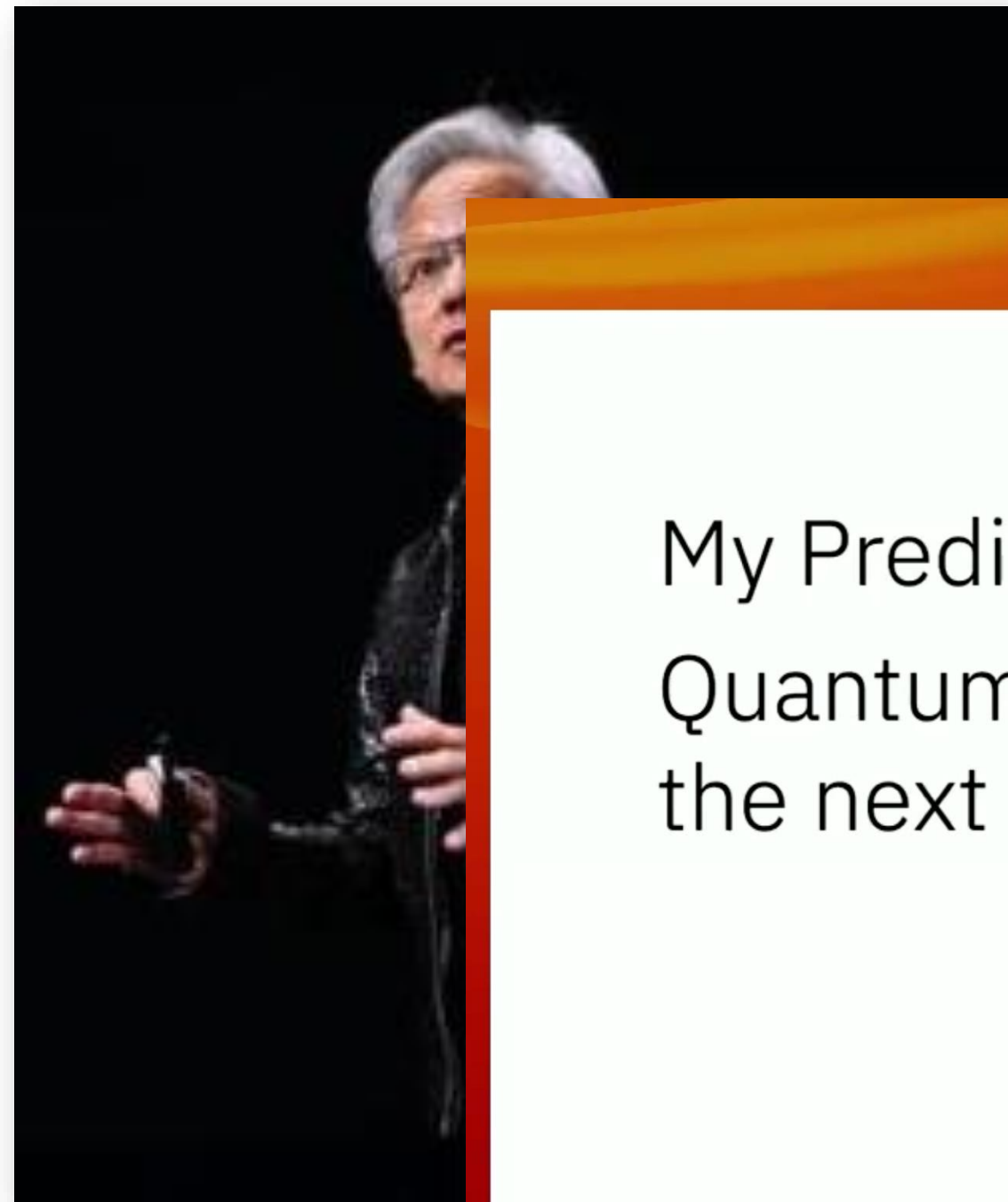
[https://science.osti.gov/-/media/QIS/pdf/DOE\\_QIS\\_Roadmap\\_Final.pdf](https://science.osti.gov/-/media/QIS/pdf/DOE_QIS_Roadmap_Final.pdf)

“Getting ‘very useful quantum computers’ to market could take 15 to 30 years.”





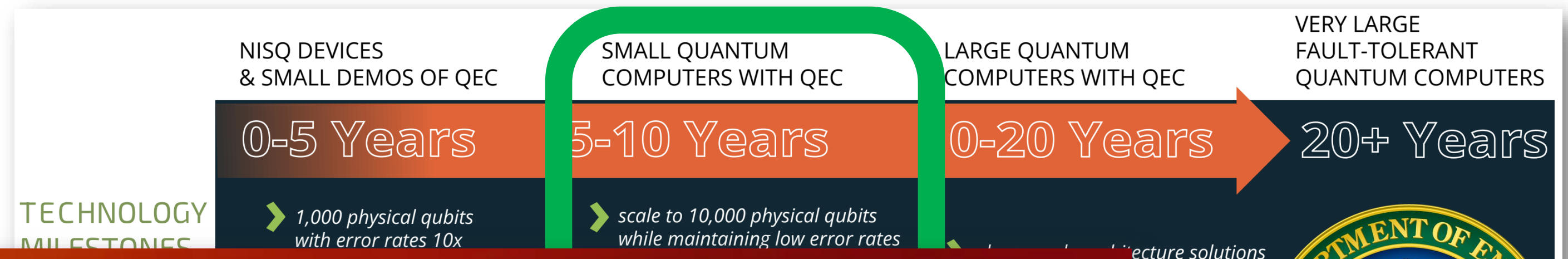
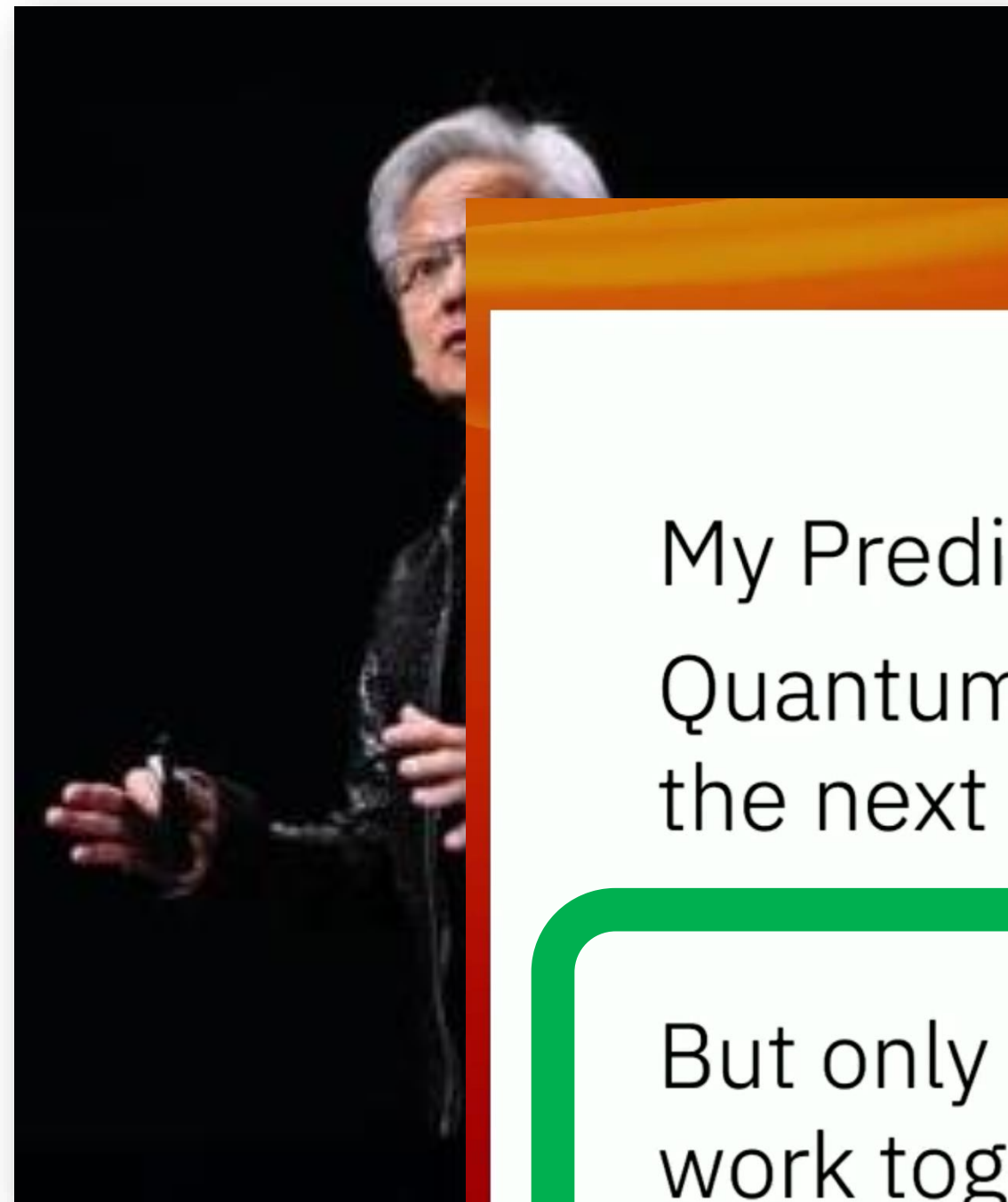
“Getting ‘very useful quantum computers’ to market could take 15 to 30 years.”



My Prediction:  
Quantum Advantage will happen within  
the next 2 years.

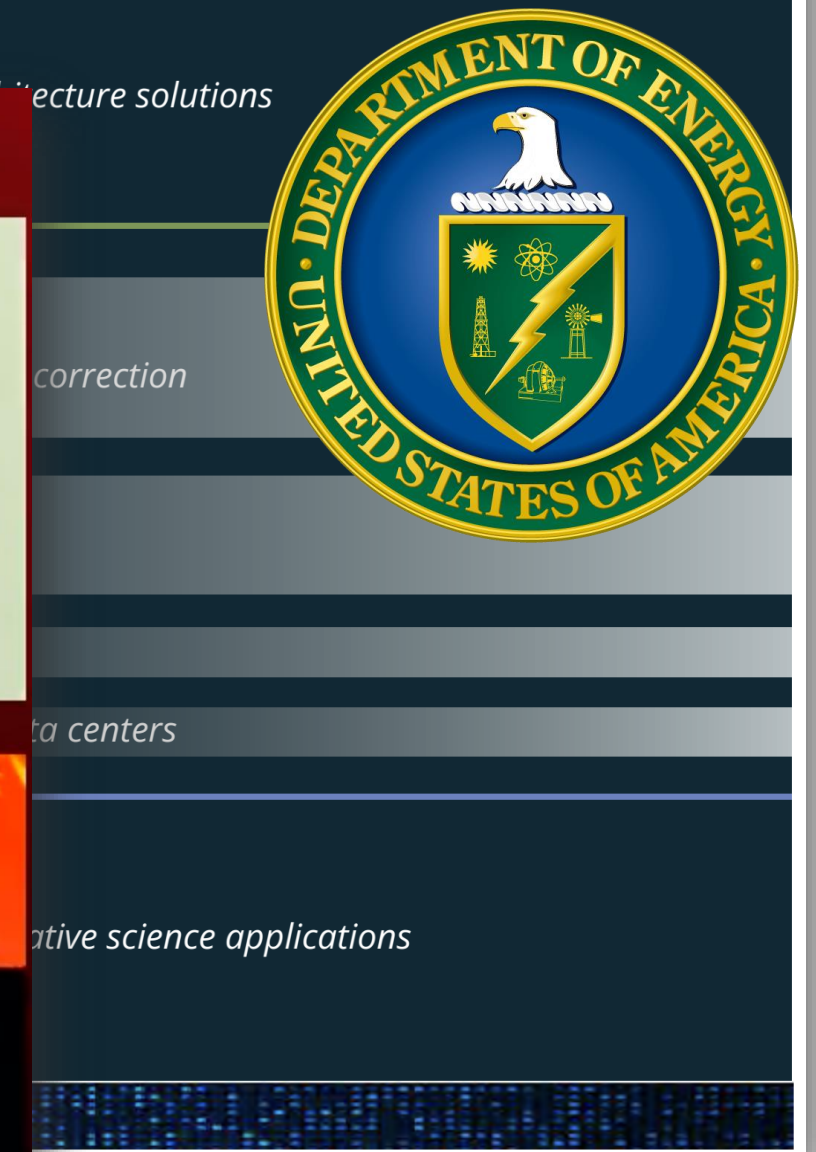


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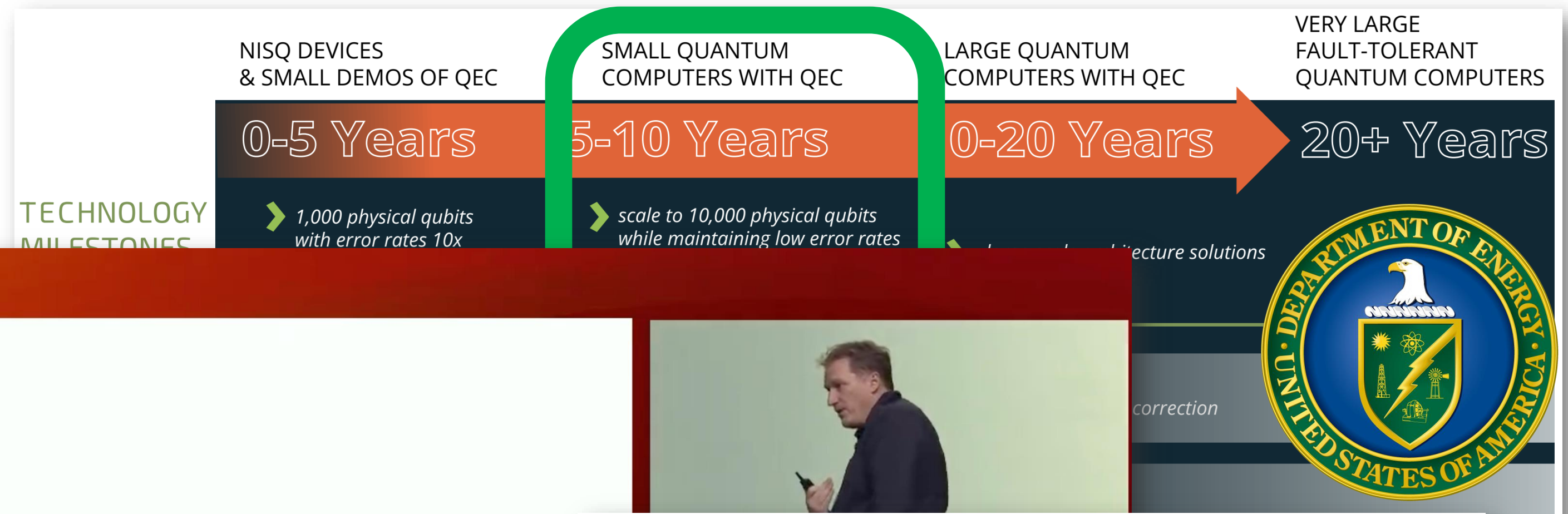
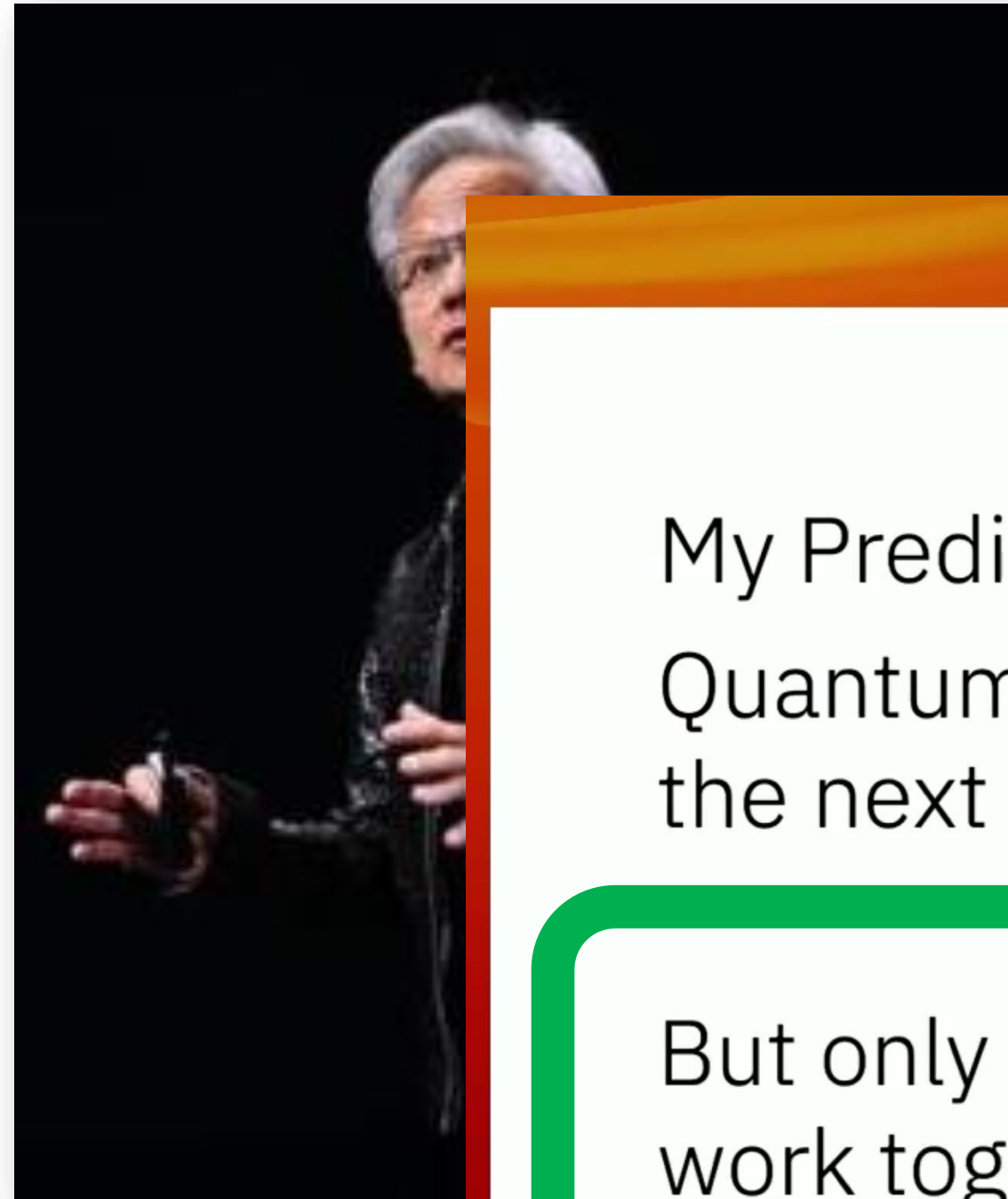
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the next 2 years.

But only if HPC and Quantum community  
work together





“Getting ‘very useful quantum computers’ to market could take 15 to 30 years.”



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Quantum Advantage will happen within  
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work together

**Pasqal**  
37,320 followers  
1w

At Pasqal, we are proud to lead the charge in advancing quantum computing with real-world impact. Today, we're sharing insights from [Georges-Olivier REYMOND](#), Co-CEO and Co-founder, and [Loïc Henriet](#), Co-CEO, as they address the predictions from [NVIDIA](#)'s CEO around 'useful quantum computers'.

Read on for their full statements and join us in the conversation about the future of quantum innovation.

At Pasqal, we appreciate Jensen Huang's remarks on the timeline for fault-tolerant quantum computing ([#FTQC](#)). As he rightly acknowledges, FTQC remains an area of intense academic exploration and is still far from practical applications, however we remain more optimistic about the short-term potential of quantum computing.

Firstly, the predictions concern the very last generation of general-purpose fully fault tolerant quantum computers, while our latest advancements make us believe that we will be able to deliver value on specific use cases much sooner.

Secondly, during the next ten years new applications will emerge as error correction techniques improve. At Pasqal, we have an ambitious roadmap toward early fault-tolerant quantum computing addressing quantum error correction, partnering with renowned organizations to advance hardware design and refine algorithms.

Equally important is that we're seeing tangible results already today with a complementary approach to fault tolerant digital quantum computing, analog quantum computing, that holds immense promise for achieving quantum advantage well before the readiness of FTQC. We foresee analog quantum computing demonstrate quantum advantage within the next **two years** in multiple industrial use cases.

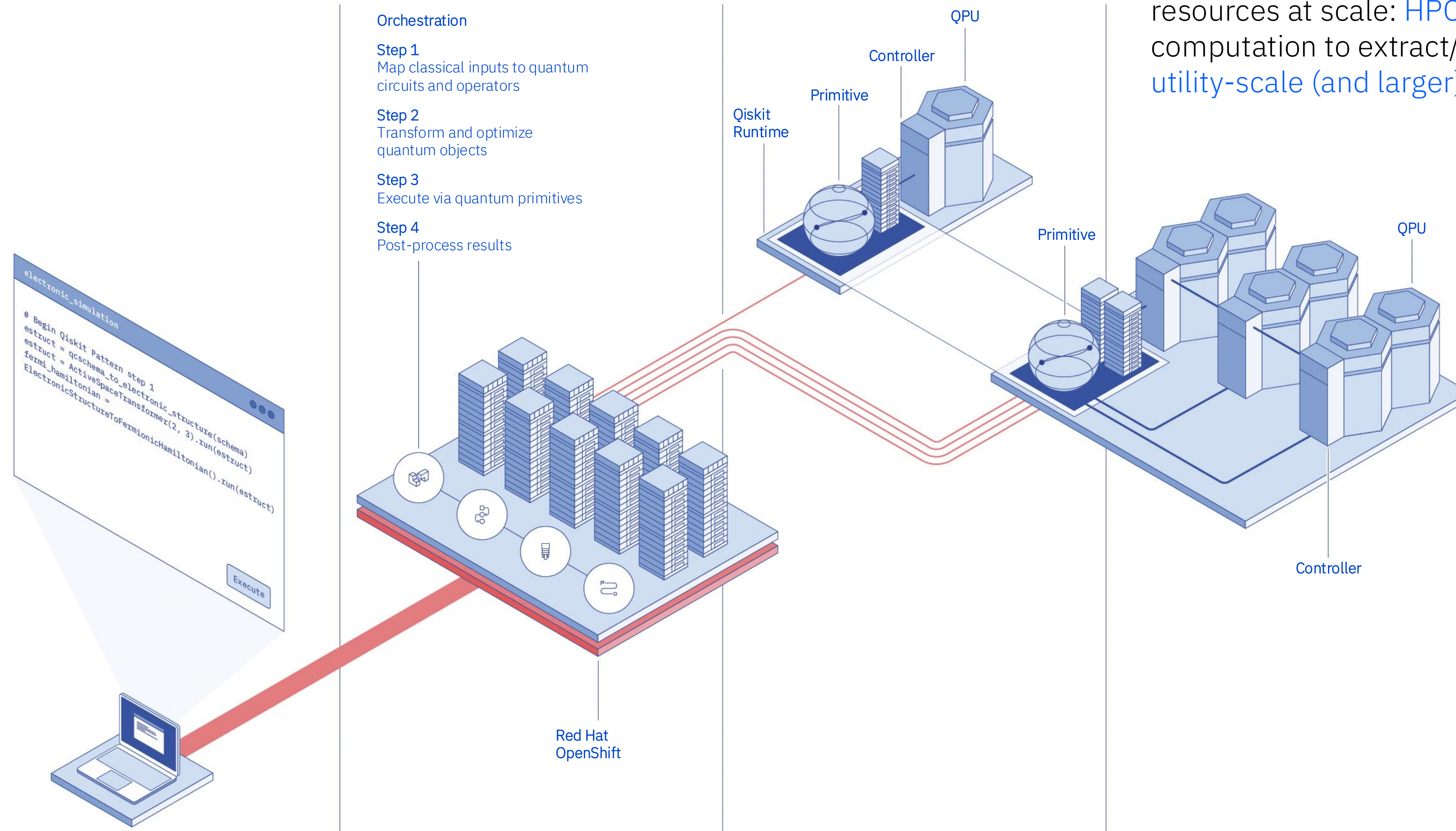
<https://science.osti.gov/-/media/QIS/pdf/DOE>



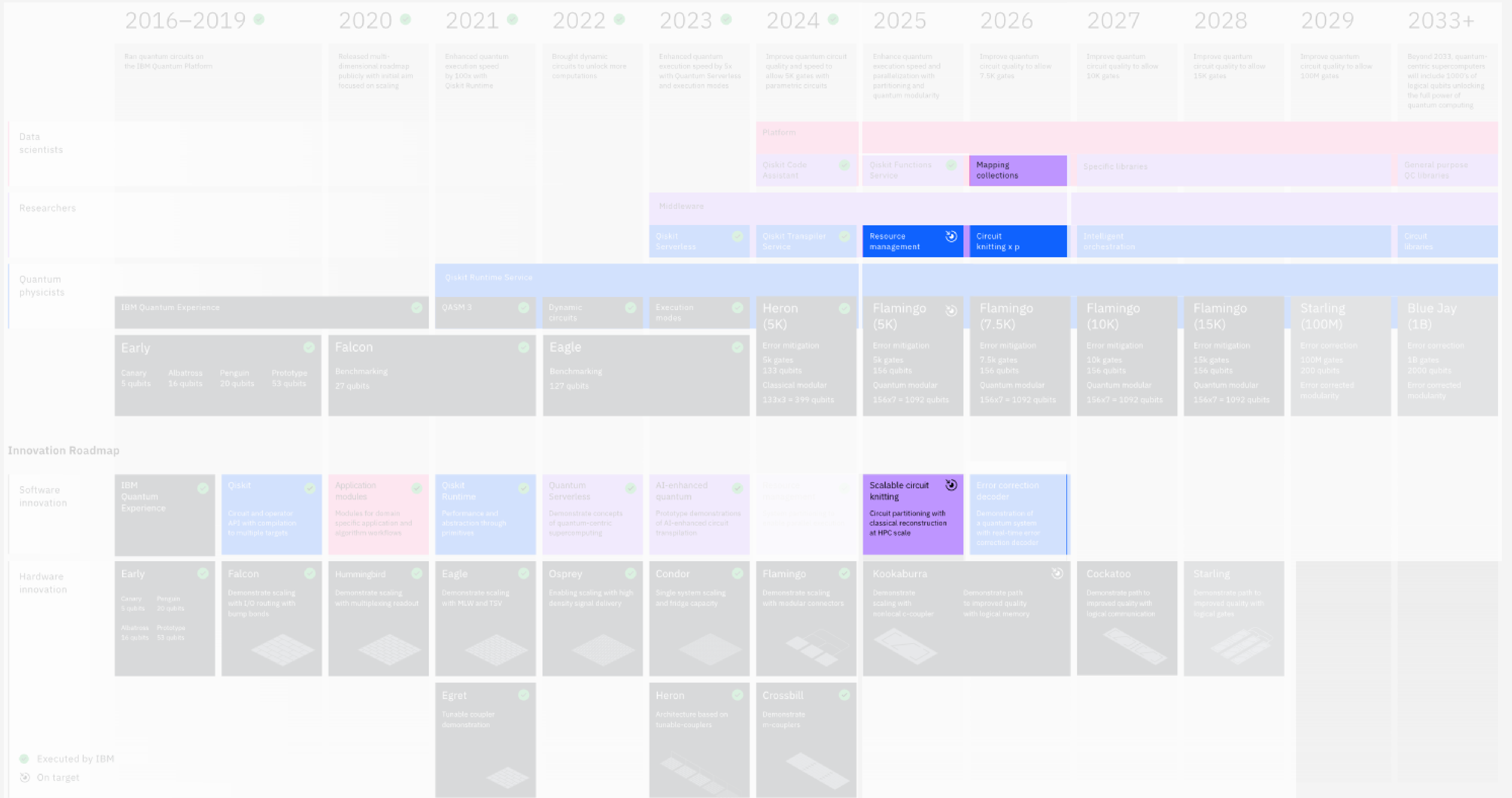
# Quantum-centric Supercomputing (QCSC)

arXiv:2405.05068  
arXiv:2501.09702

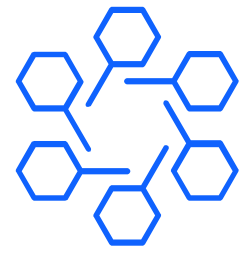
Delivering impactful quantum computing requires the interplay of quantum and classical resources at scale: **HPC-assisted** quantum computation to extract/boost useful signals in **utility-scale (and larger) experiments**.





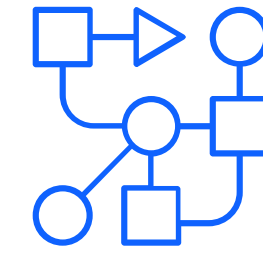
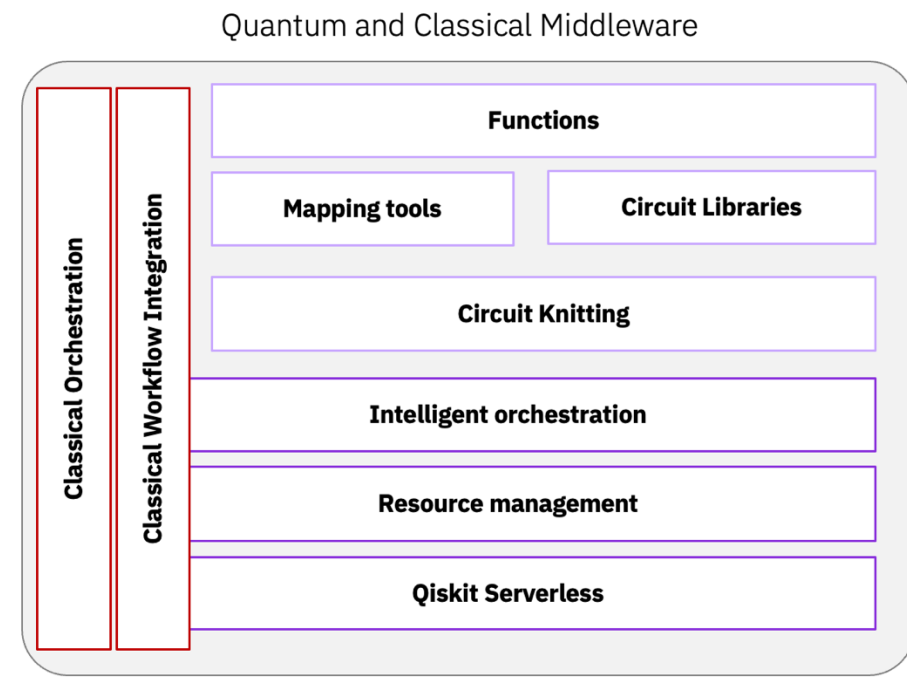
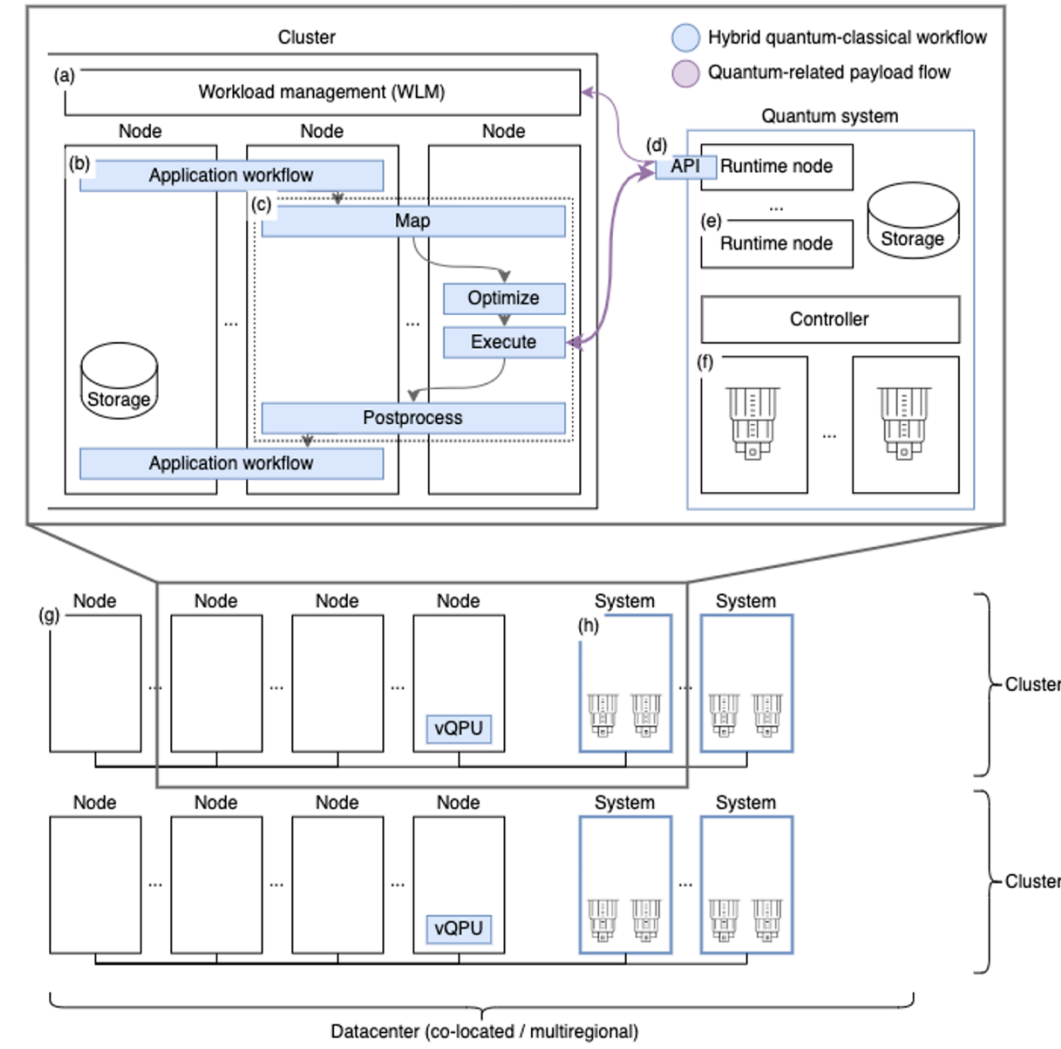


● Executed by IBM  
🎯 On target

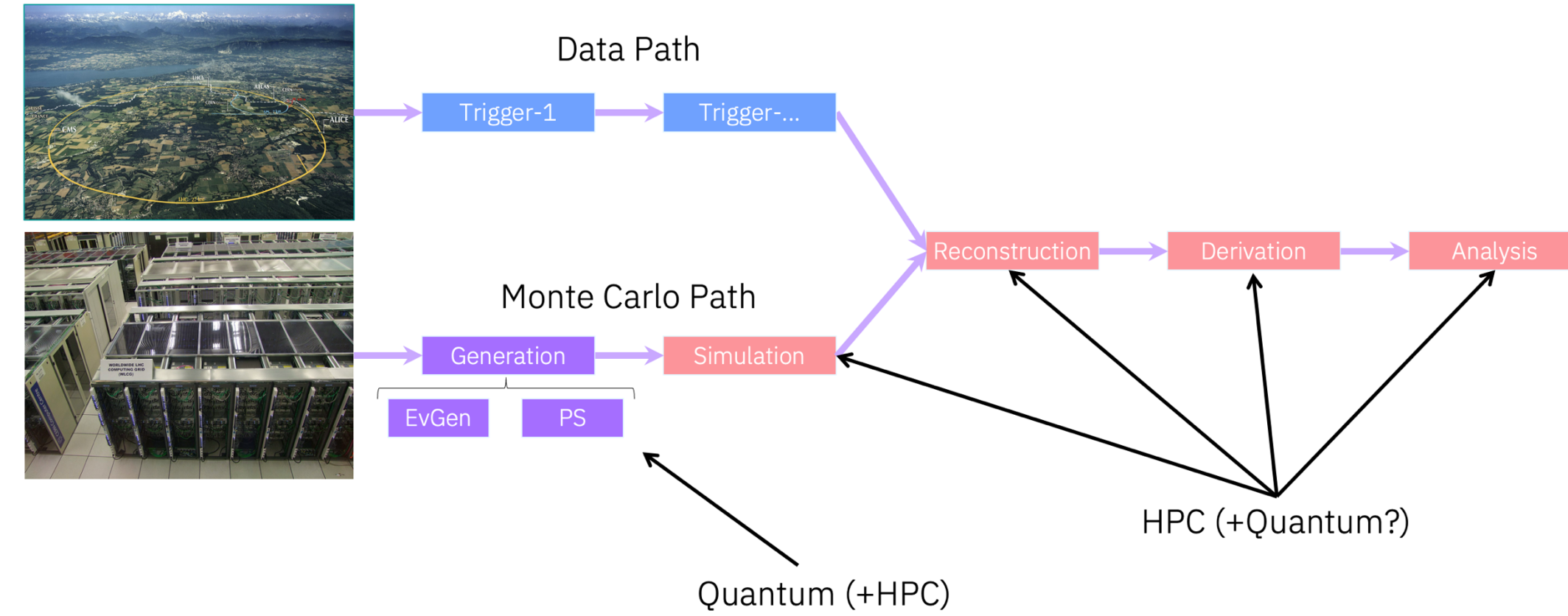


# Workload Management

- (a) - WLM
- (b) - Application workflow
- (c) - Qiskit Pattern
- (d) - Direct API endpoint
- (e) - Classical system node
- (f) - QPU
- (g) - Classical node
- (h) - Quantum system



# Hybrid classical—quantum workflows



# Programmability

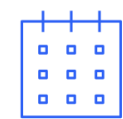


## Near-term

“Loosely-coupled” regime

Trivially separable classical and quantum executables, functions, etc.; latencies insignificant

Language-agnostic: “bag of tasks” to be executed on available resources; e.g., C/C++, Python (Qiskit) for quantum and AI/ML



## Far-term

“Tightly-coupled” regime

Desire is to offload quantum-accelerated kernels while classical task(s) execute in parallel and/or asynchronously

Single-source application(s) part of a larger workflow that pervade all available resources; compiled language (C/C++), potentially with bindings

How will these systems be programmed?



# Sample-based Quantum Diagonalization (aka, “HPC Estimator”)

arXiv:2405.05068

Input is a set of noisy samples,  $\tilde{\mathcal{X}} = \{\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{x} \sim \tilde{P}_\psi(\mathbf{x})\}$ , generated by a quantum processor.

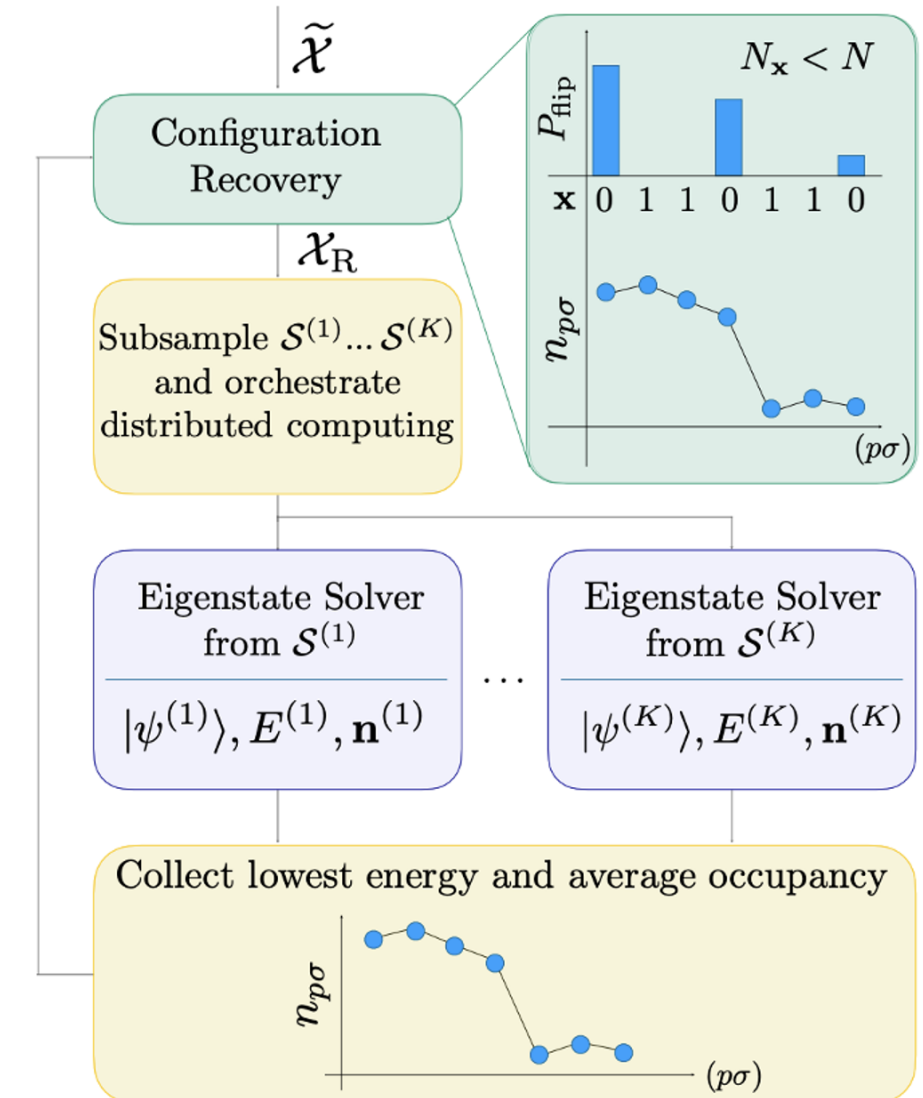
If particle number is not conserved, i.e.,  $N_x \neq N$ , bits are flipped probabilistically to generate a new set  $\tilde{\mathcal{X}}_R$  of “recovered configurations.”

Build  $K$  batches of  $d$  configurations,  $\mathcal{S}^{(1)} \dots, \mathcal{S}^{(K)}$ , from  $\tilde{\mathcal{X}}_R$ , distributed according to the frequencies of  $\mathbf{x} \in \tilde{\mathcal{X}}_R$ .

The Hamiltonian is projected and diagonalized over sub-samples from  $\tilde{\mathcal{X}}_R$ . In the largest experiments, using 6400 nodes, diagonalization took about 1.5 hrs.

Ground states and energies are computed from  $\hat{H}_{\mathcal{S}^{(k)}}$  and averaged over, which are used to calculate updated occupancies,  $\mathbf{n}$ .

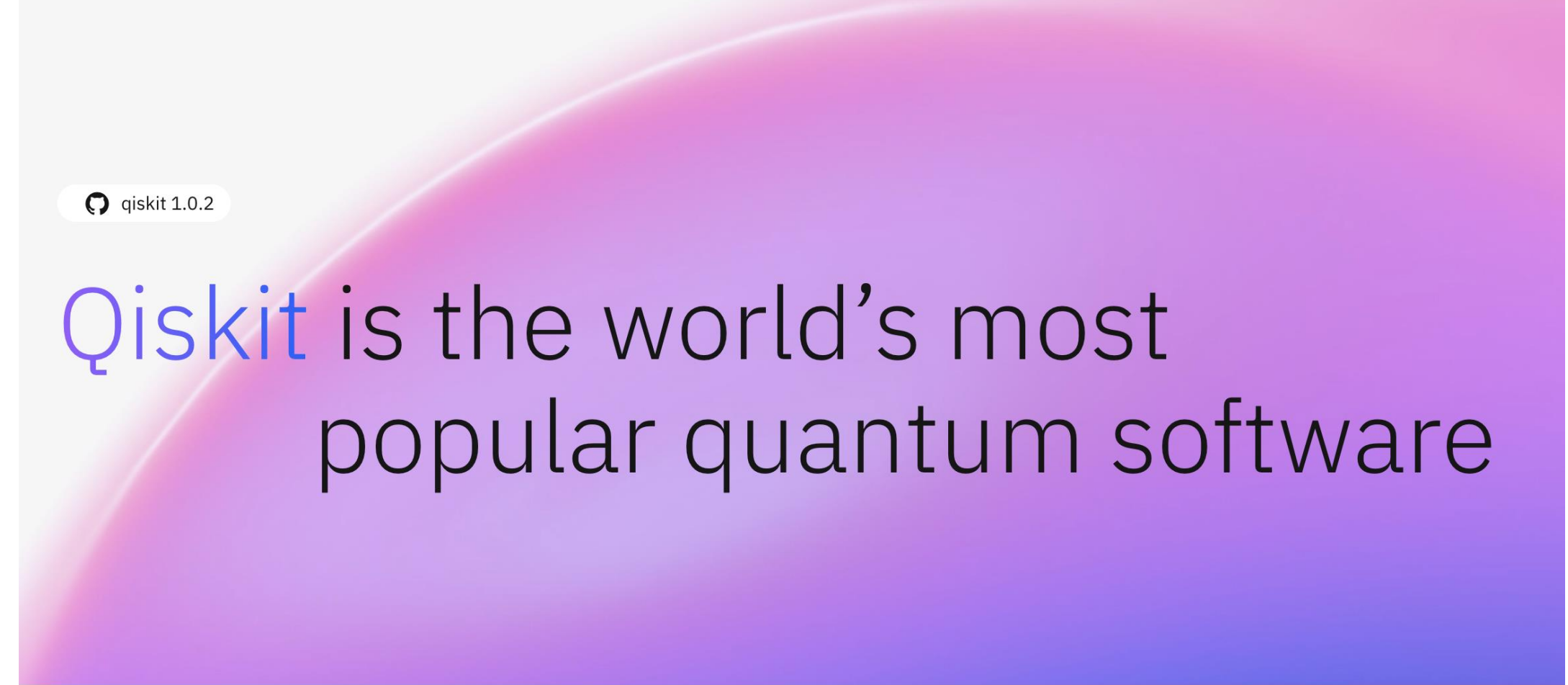
Repeat until some stopping criteria is met.





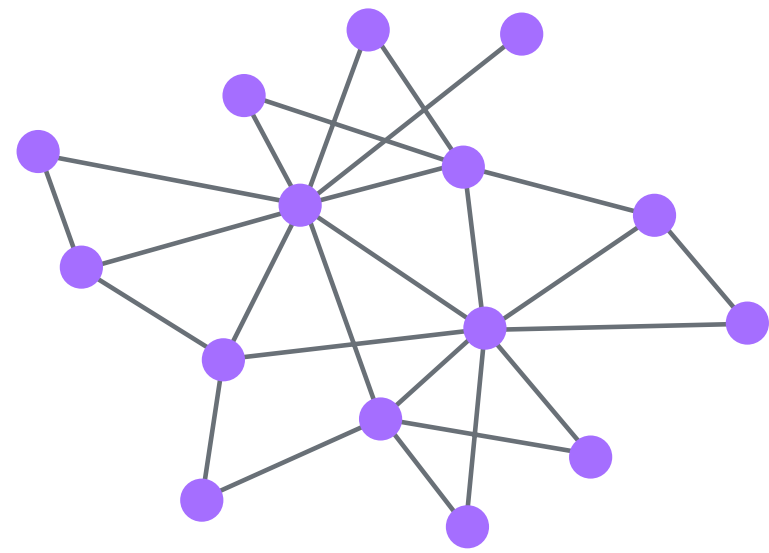
# Qiskit

pip install qiskit  
pip install qiskit-ibm-runtime



## Step 1

Map classical inputs to a quantum problem.

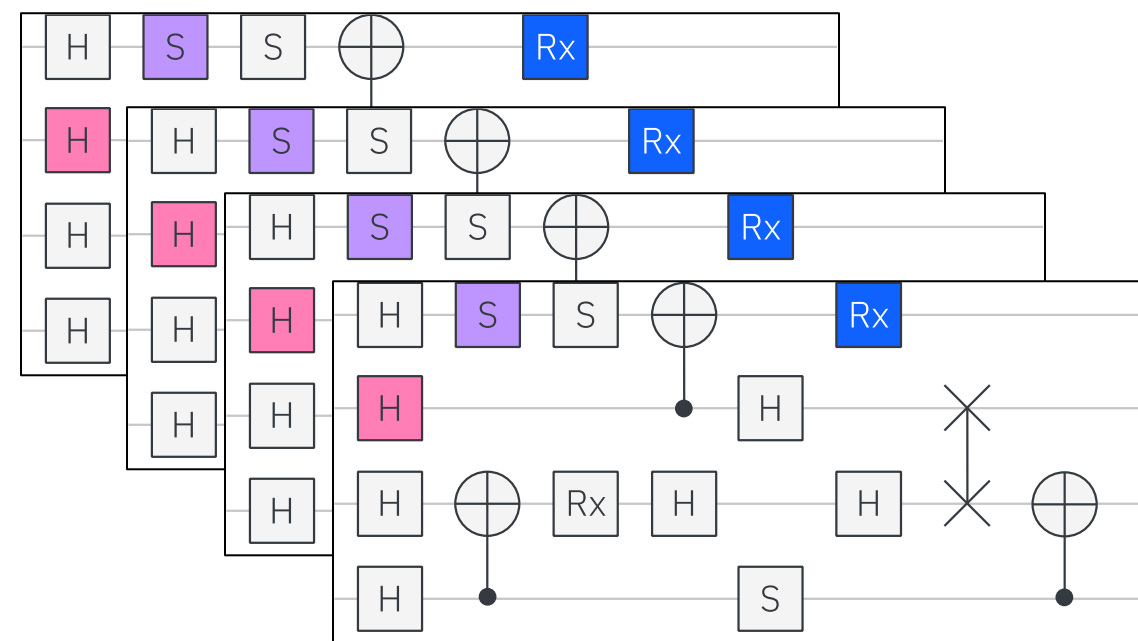


Circuit library

Quantum info library

## Step 2

Translate problem for optimized quantum execution.

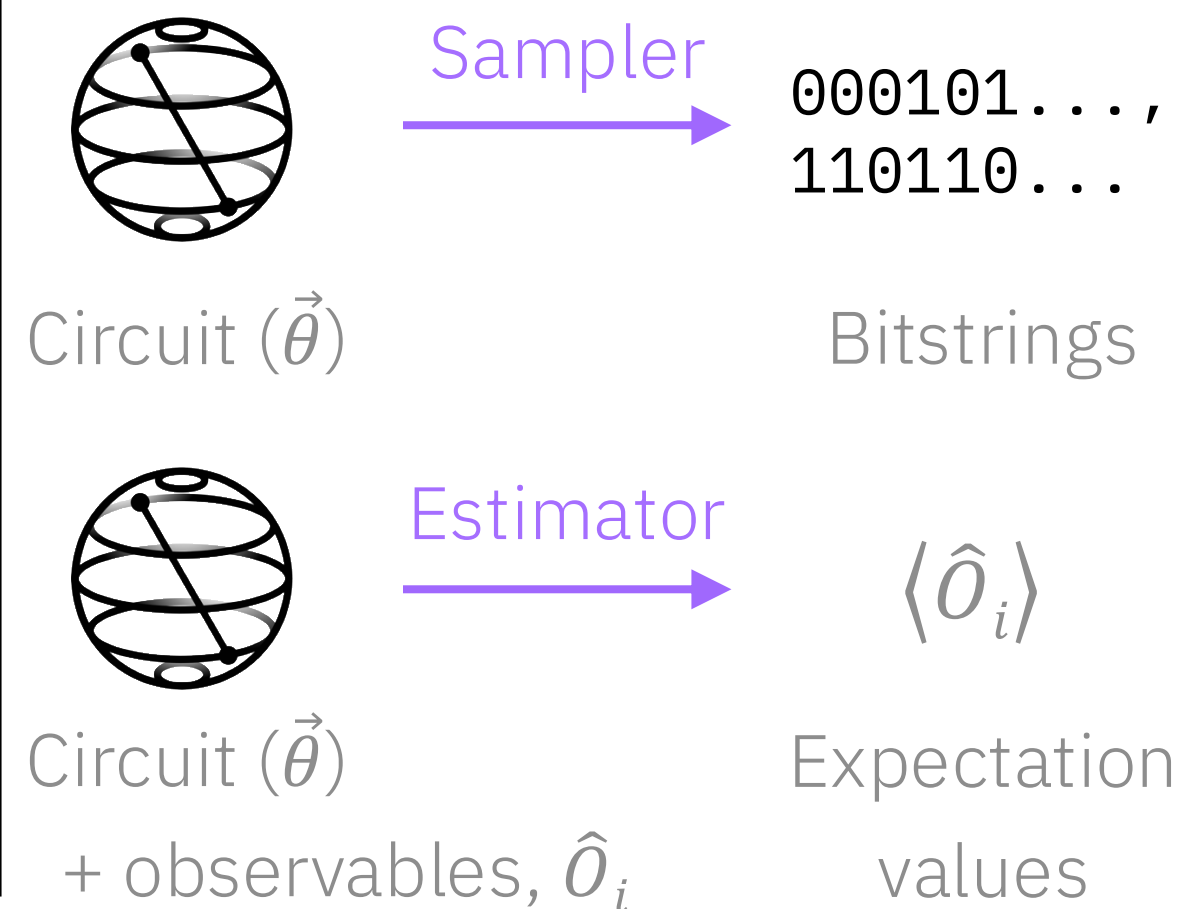


Transpiler

AI-enhanced transpiler

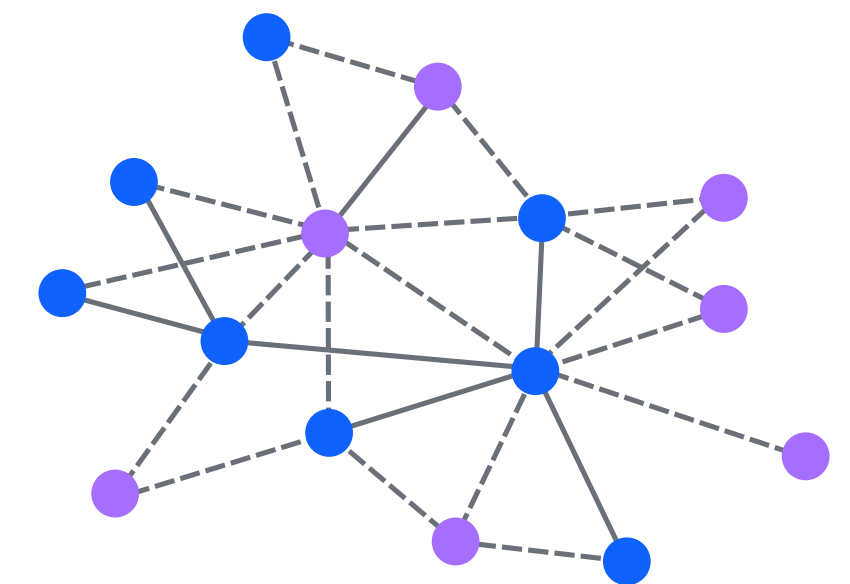
## Step 3

Execute using Qiskit Runtime Primitives.



## Step 4

Post-process, return results in classical format.



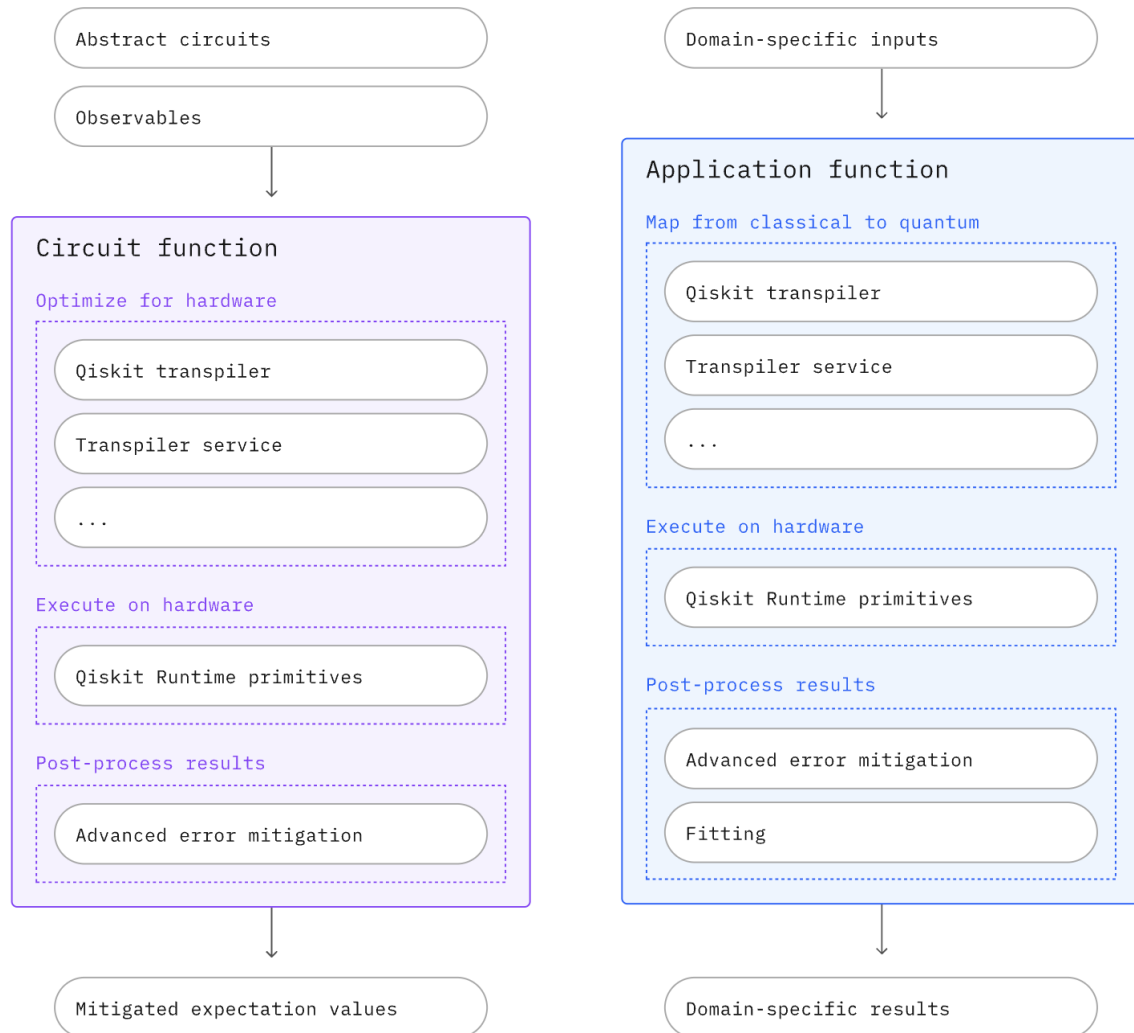
Quantum info library

Visualization module



# Qiskit Functions

Simplify and accelerate utility-scale algorithm discovery and application development abstracting away parts of the quantum software development workflow.

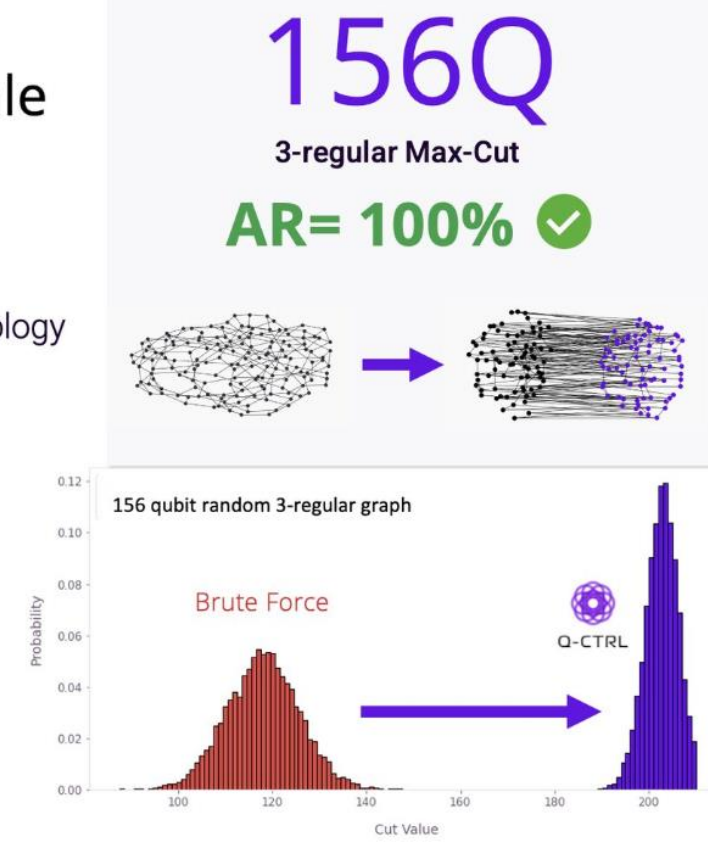
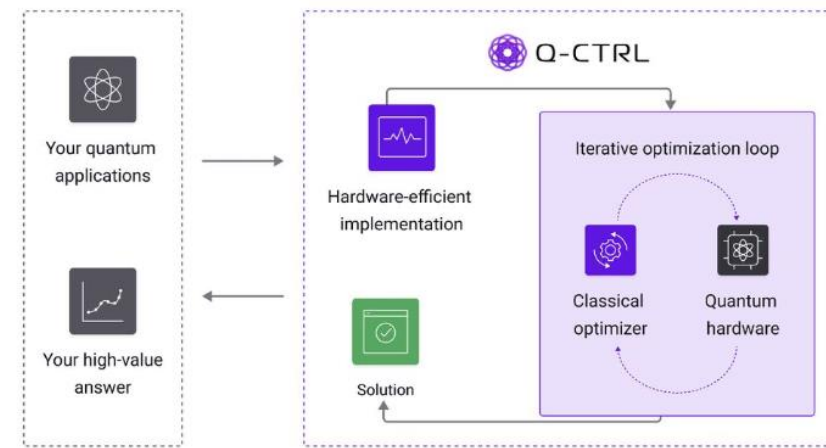


# Q-CTRL

## Optimization Solver

Successfully and correctly solve tough optimization problems at full device scale

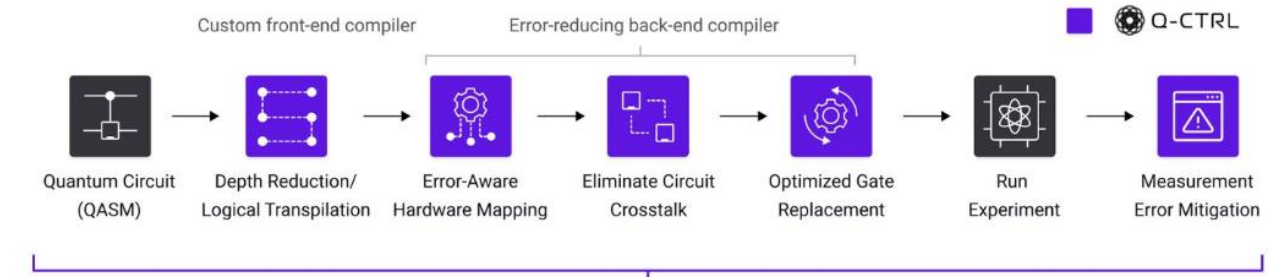
- Turnkey, fully packaged hybrid quantum-classical solver
- User-defined cost function or prepackaged graph problems
- Supports arbitrary graph connectivity, not linked to device topology



## Performance Management

Reduce errors without overhead and achieve record-setting results at utility-scale

- AI-driven error suppression increases performance for any algorithm
- Fully automated and interoperable with no coding or configuration
- No error mitigation overhead, compute time reductions of >10X



Automated error suppression with Fire Opal, from Q-CTRL

7242

2Q gates  
Input circuit successfully run after Q-CTRL efficient compilation

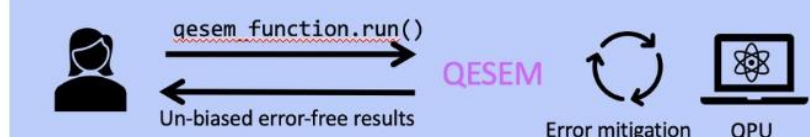
5X

more qubits  
Correct results exceeding previous 6Q record demo

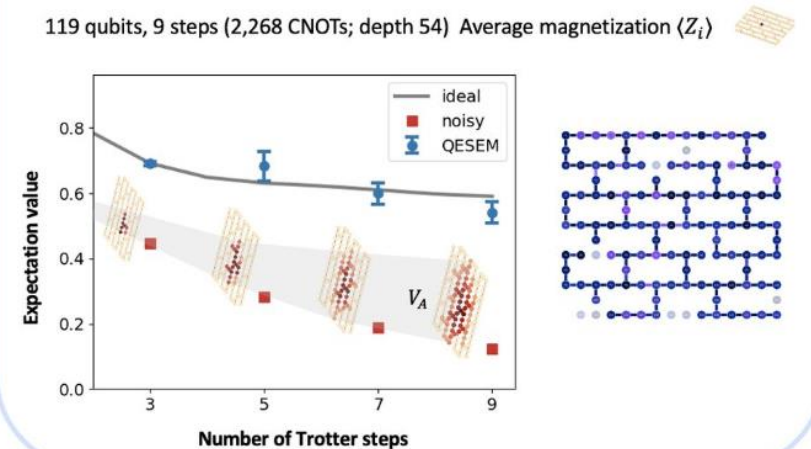
\*Tensor-based quantum phase difference estimation for large-scale demonstration arXiv:2408.04946v1 Mitsubishi Chemical Corporation

## Quantum Error Suppression & Error Mitigation (QESEM, Qedma)

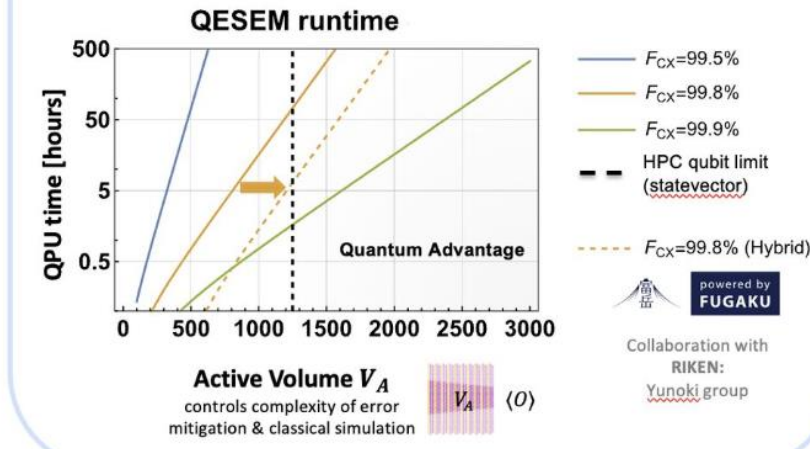
- **Guaranteed accuracy:** outputs unbiased expectation values of observables
- **Unlocks circuits up to x1000 larger** than bare execution, without losing accuracy
- **Application-agnostic:** works for any quantum algorithm
- **Scalability to large QPUs:** demonstrated on IBM's 100+ Eagle & Heron devices
- **Extended gate-set:** run 2x deeper circuits with optimized fractional-angle gates
- **Multibase observables:** mitigate sums of many non-commuting Pauli strings



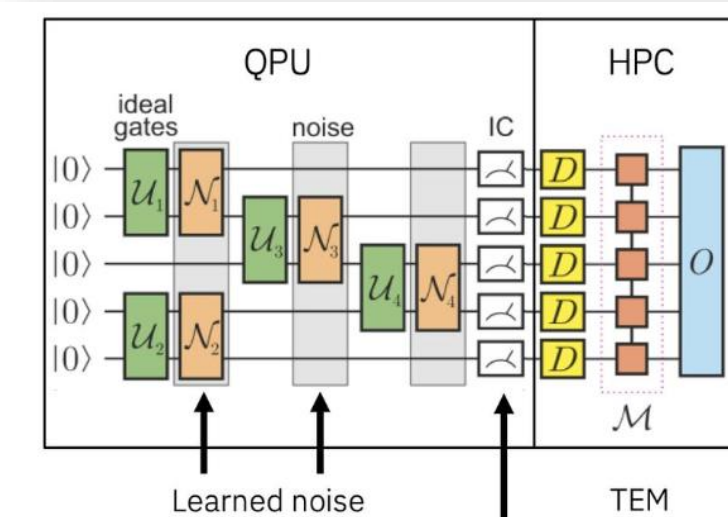
Achieving large active circuit volumes\* in utility-scale algorithms



Quantum advantage for algorithm design on near-term hardware



## Tensor-network error mitigation (TEM)

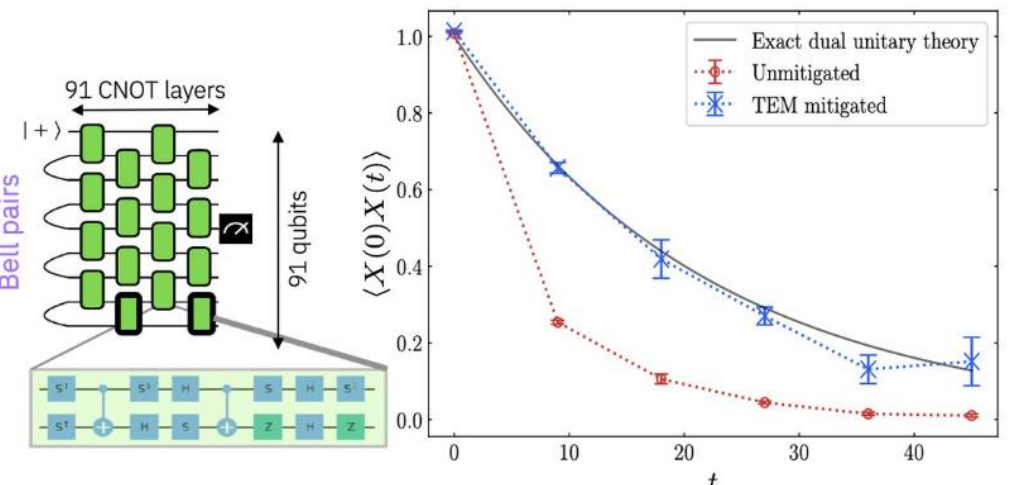


Mitigates learned noise in software post-processing.

Has optimal sampling overhead on quantum hardware

Experimentally demonstrated on Eagle devices, with 91 qubits and 4095 entangling gates to investigate chaotic quantum dynamics in many-body physics.

Signal amplified 14x times via TEM 100x less shots than ZNE required





## Qiskit add-ons

**Approximate quantum compilation with tensor networks (aqc-tensor)** Enables users to compile the initial portion of a circuit into a nearly equivalent approximation of that circuit, but with much fewer layers.

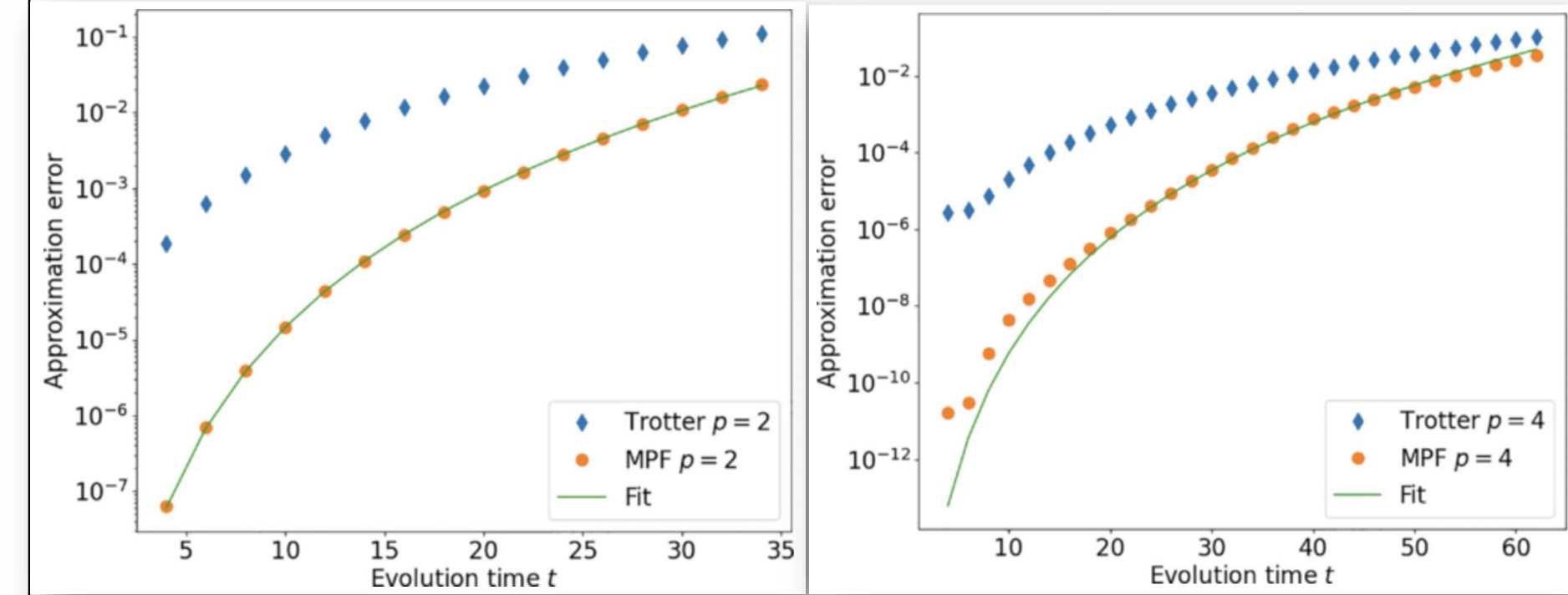
### Multi-product formulas (MPF)

Can be used to reduce the Trotter error of Hamiltonian dynamics. [Quantum 7, 1067 (2023), Phys. Rev. Research 6, 033309 (2024)]

## aqc-tensor



## MPF

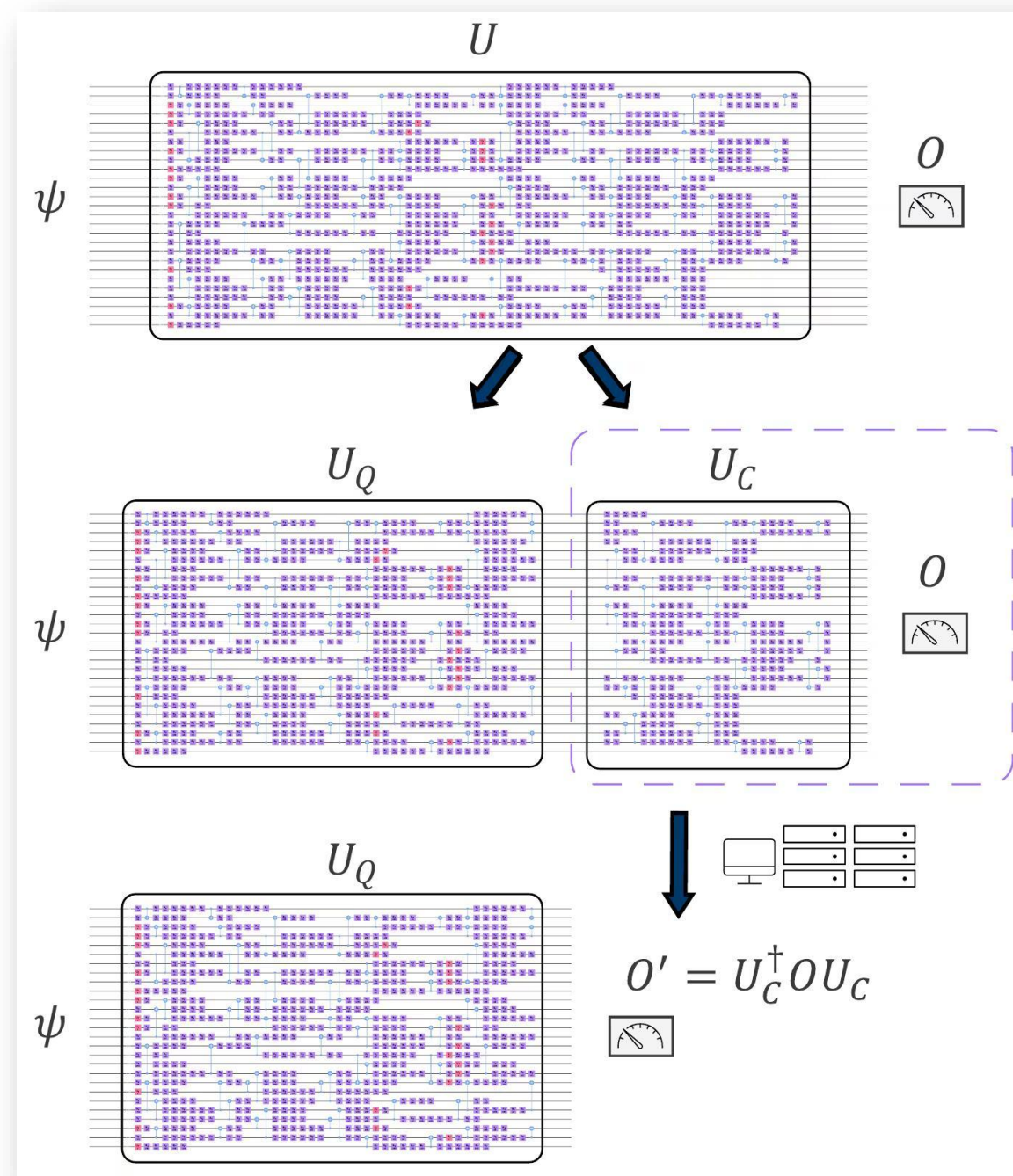


**Circuit cutting (CC)** Gates and/or wires are cut, resulting in smaller circuits. The original circuit can then be reconstructed at the cost of an exponential number of shots in the number of cuts.

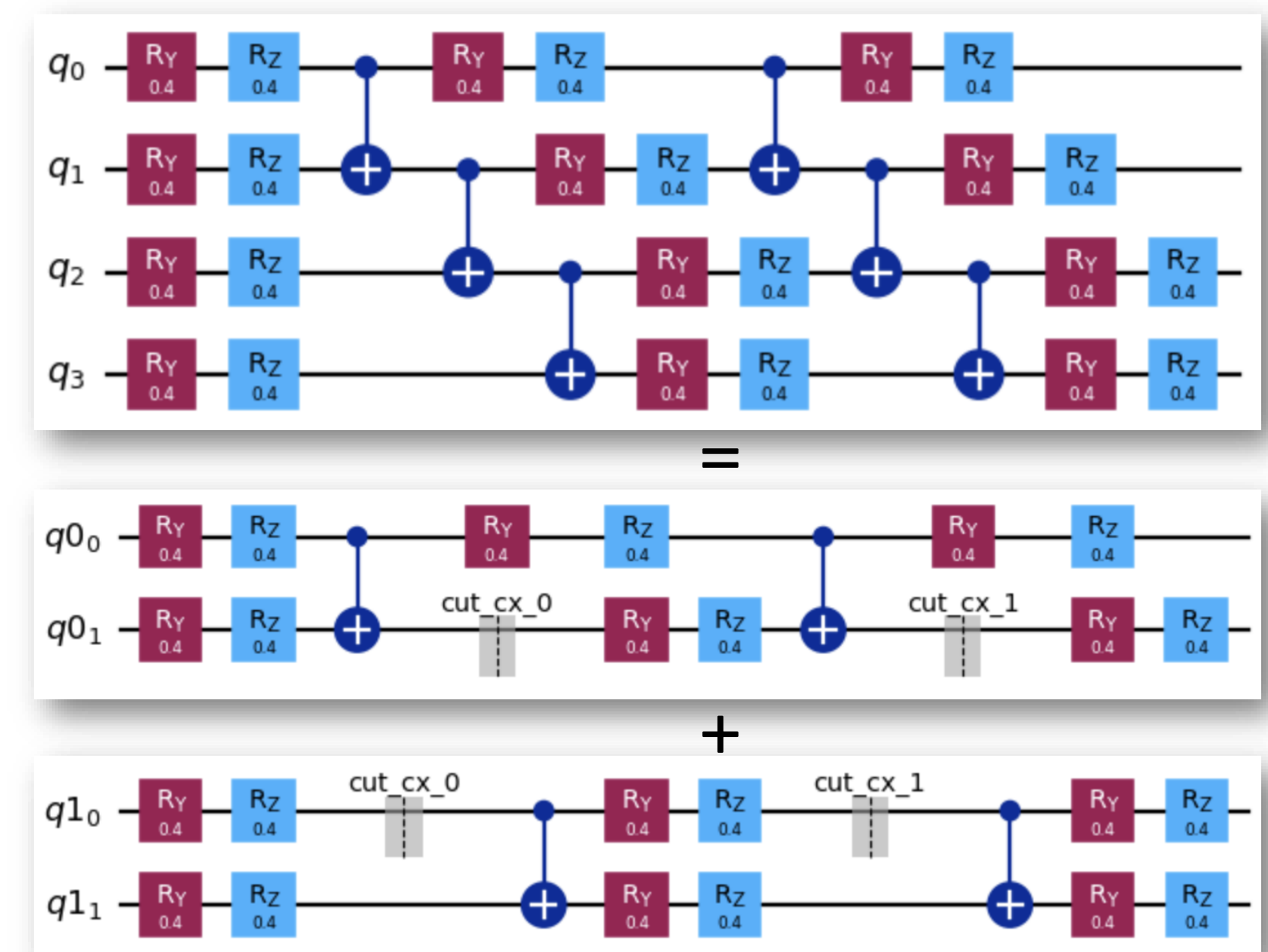
### Operator backpropagation (OBP)

Reduce circuit depth by absorbing/trimming operators at the end of a circuit at the cost of more terms in the observable.

## OBP



## CC





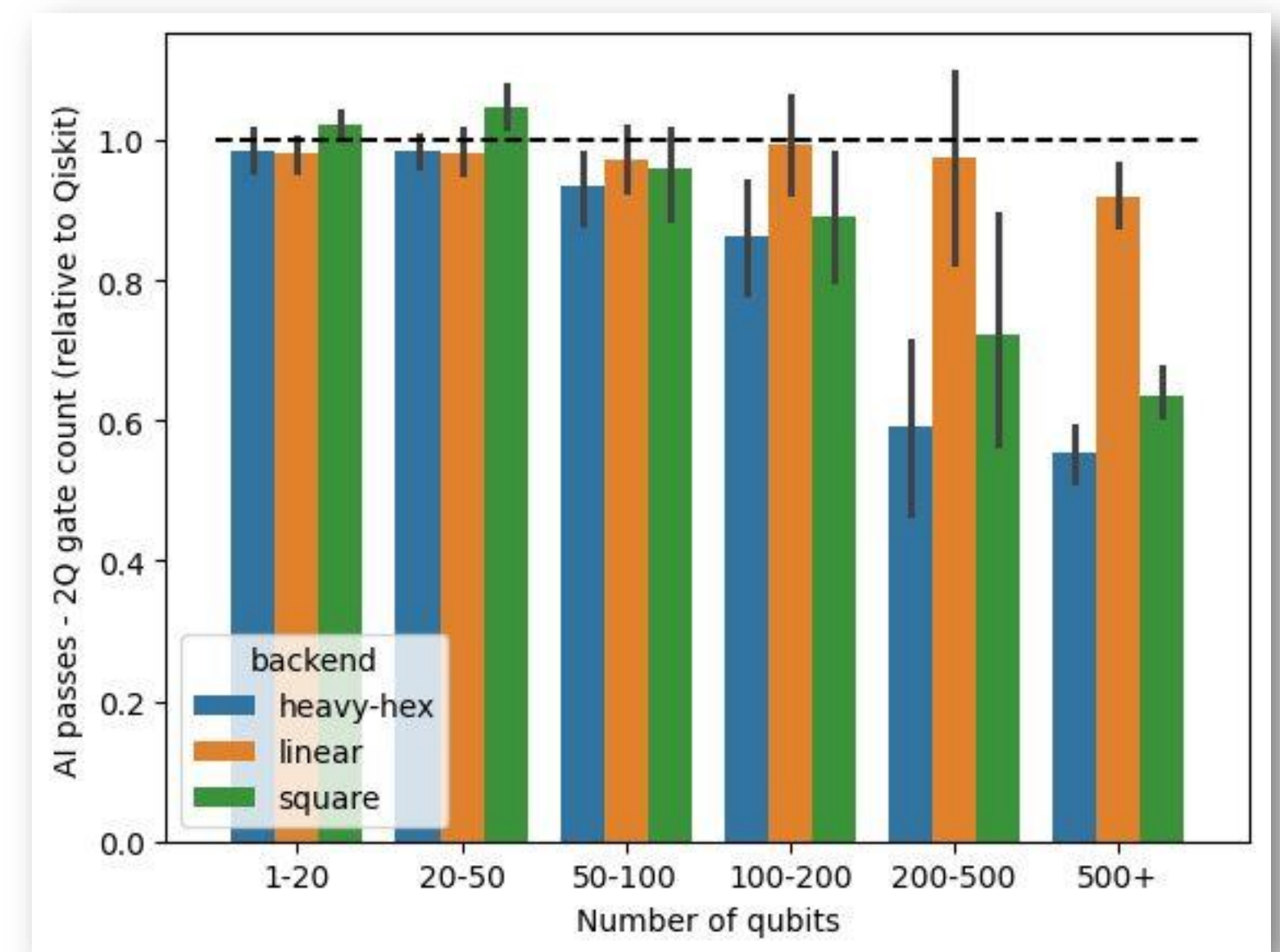
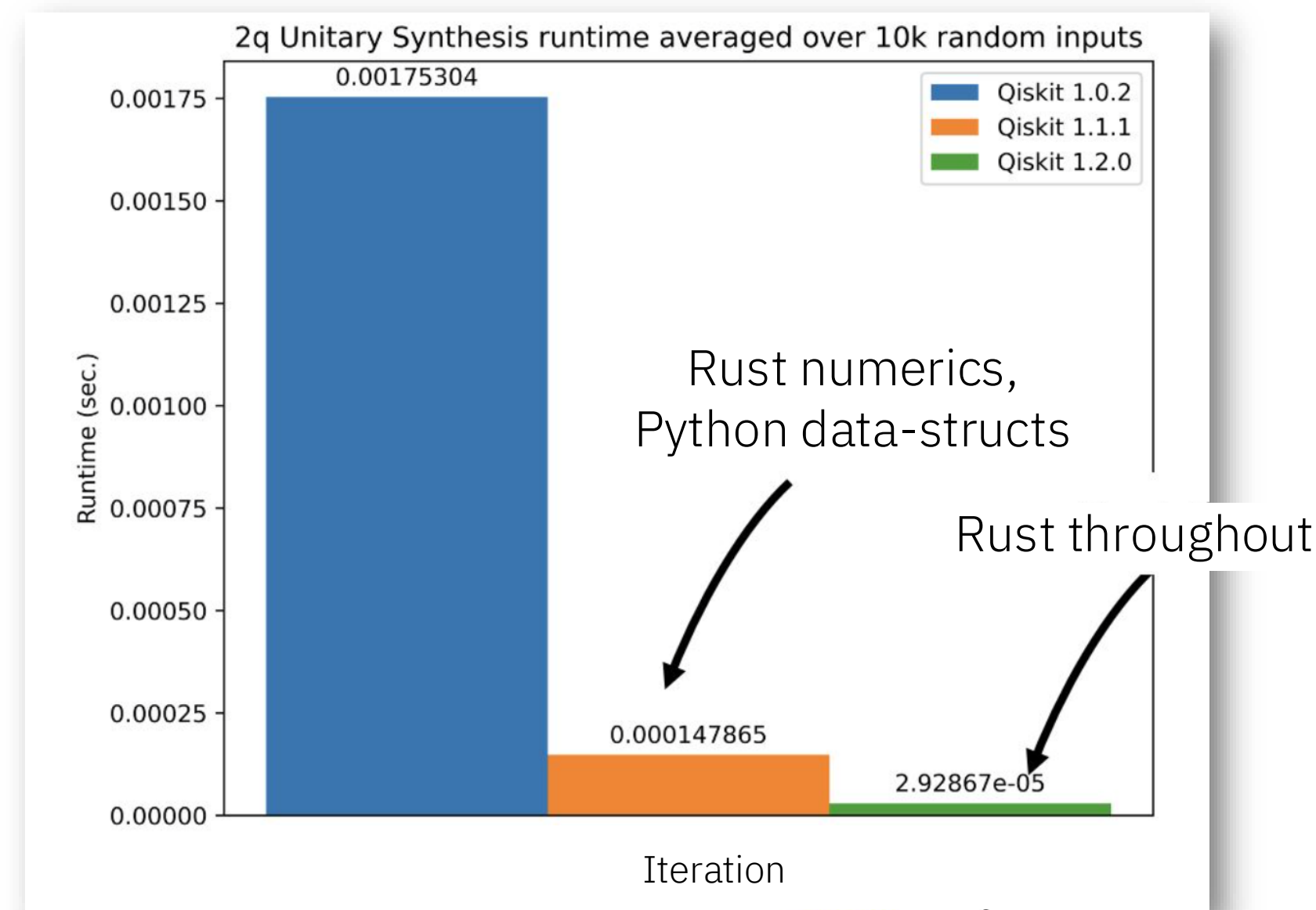
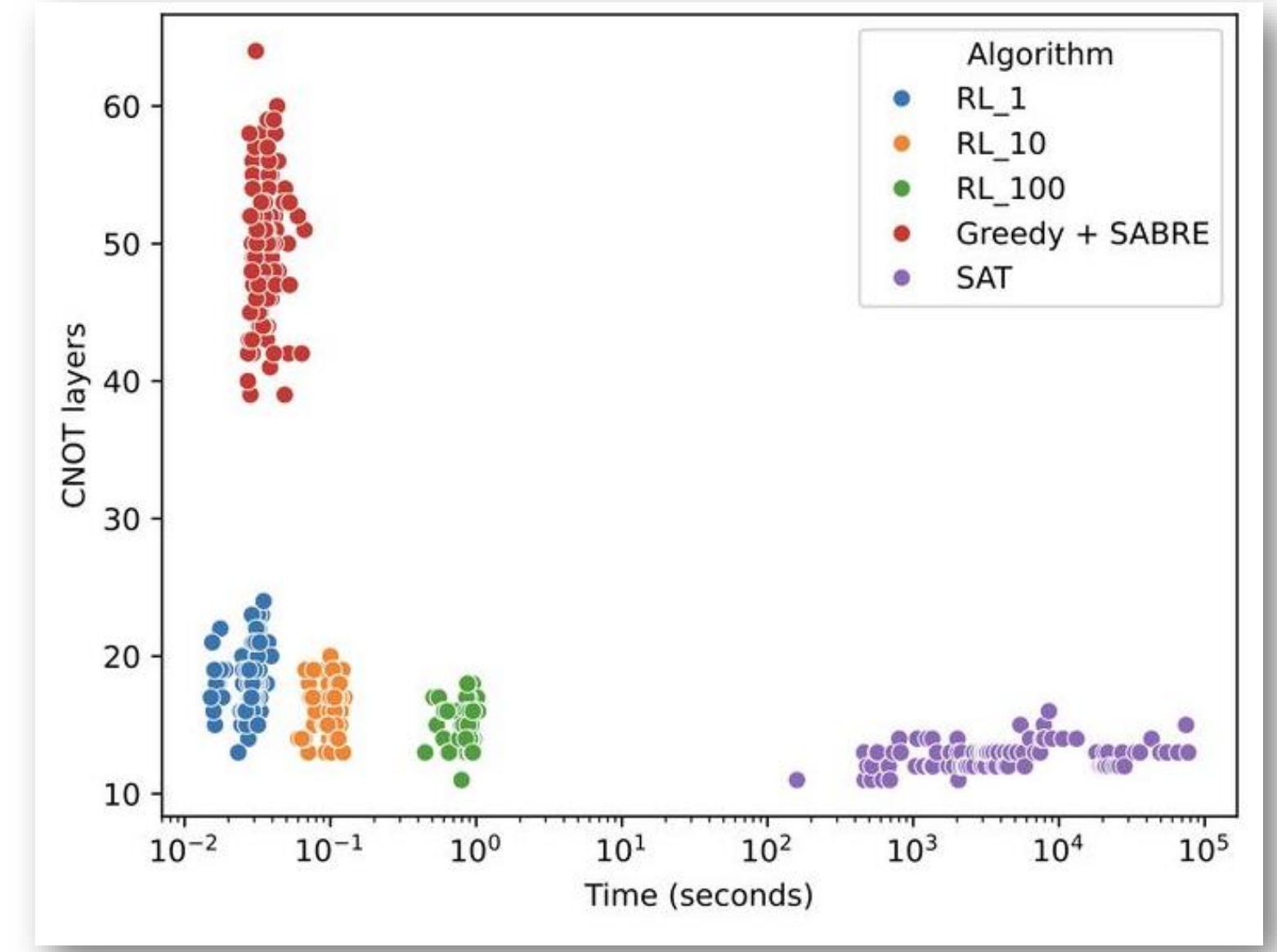
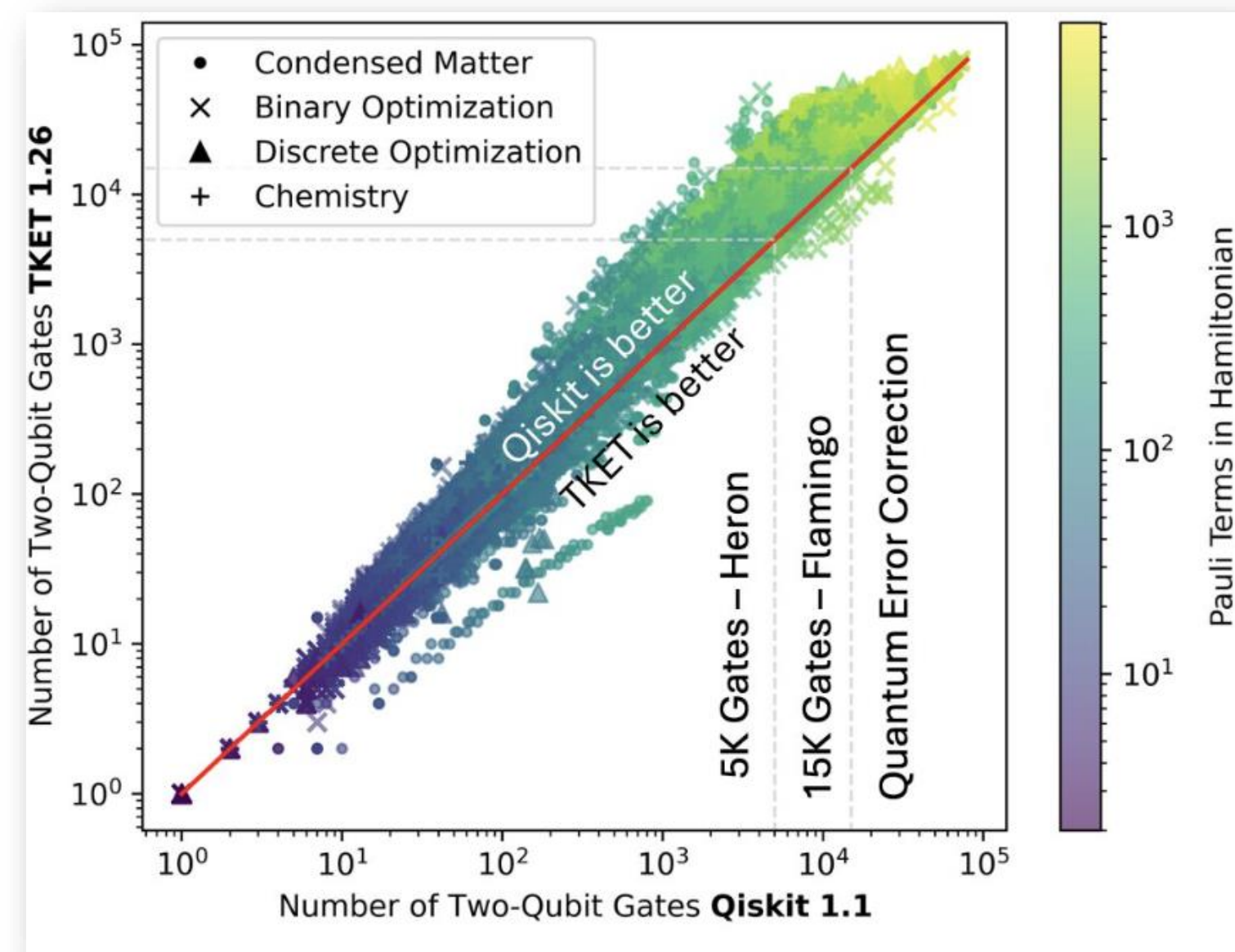
## Qiskit performance

Based on Hamlib's [arXiv:2306.13126] roughly 860k circuits, **Qiskit outperforms** next best transpiler >86% of the time.

**AI-enhanced** (synthesis+routing) transpilation achieves a good balance between optimality and runtime, 24(36)% 2-qubit gate count(depth). [arXiv:2405.13196]

**Oxidization** of Qiskit improves overall performance by two orders of magnitude.

\* **Core Qiskit components** also interfacing with C/C++ for HPC applications (let's talk!).





Coming together to  
solve domain-  
specific problems.

# Quantum Working Groups

## From utility to advantage

IBM Quantum helps facilitate working groups to bring together the best scientists across domains to accelerate our path to achieving Quantum Advantage by 2026.

### Optimization

Quantum Optimization: Potential, Challenges, and the Path Forward

arXiv:2312.02279



### Materials & HPC

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

arXiv:2312.09733



### High Energy Physics

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

arXiv:2307.03236



### Healthcare & Life Sciences

Towards quantum-enabled cell-centric therapeutics.

arXiv:2307.05734



### Sustainability

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





# Quantum Algorithm Engineering (QAE)

Guidance, best practices, benchmarking, and collaboration

## 1. Project design and mapping

1. Strategic positioning
2. Scaling tactics and evaluation
3. Qiskit patterns
4. Approx. resource estimation
5. Algorithm design (e.g., subspace methods)

## 2. Workload optimization

1. Circuit transpilation
2. Circuit cutting and LOCC
3. Operator backpropagation (OBP)
4. Multiproduct formulas (MPF)
5. Dynamic circuits (DC)

## 3. Error suppression and mitigation

1. Error suppression:
  - Dynamical decoupling
  - Twirling
2. Error mitigation:
  - TREX
  - ZNE (Folding and PEA)

## 4. Validation and benchmarking

1. Result validation:
  - Circuit cliffordization
  - Statistical emulation
2. Benchmarking:
  - RB, EPG and EPLG
  - Pauli-Lindblad noise

## 5. Quantum-centric supercomputing (QCSC)

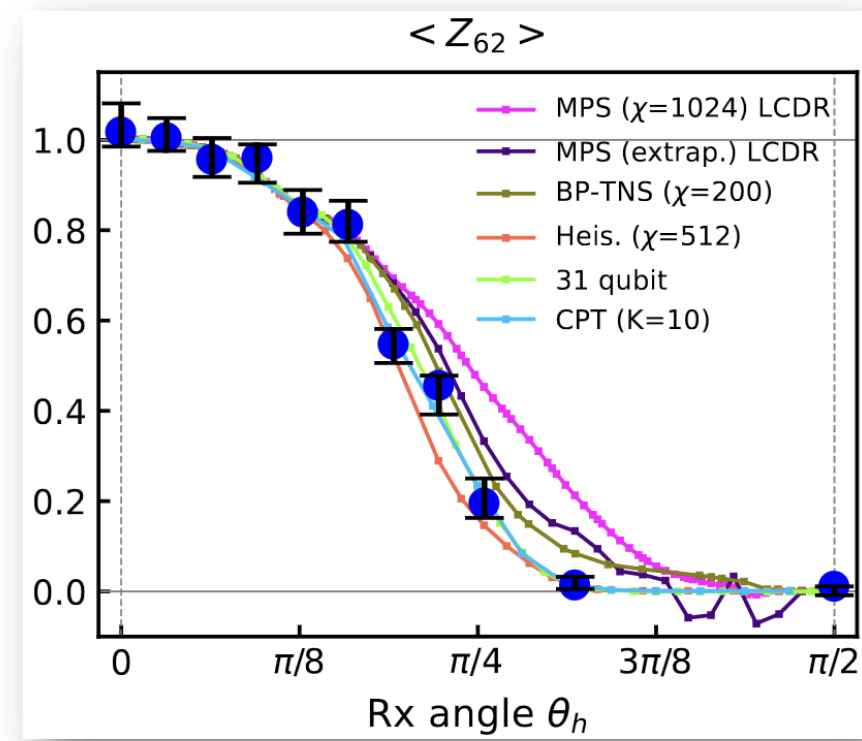
1. Middleware and building blocks
2. Quantum serverless and high-performance computing integration (HPC)
3. Large throughput post-selection and configuration recovery

## 6. Frontiers of quantum computing

1. Latest methods in quantum computing research
2. New technologies and software product capabilities
3. Strategic alignment with most recent advancements in the field

# Era of Utility

Using today's quantum computers serve as tools to explore calculations beyond brute-force classical simulation.



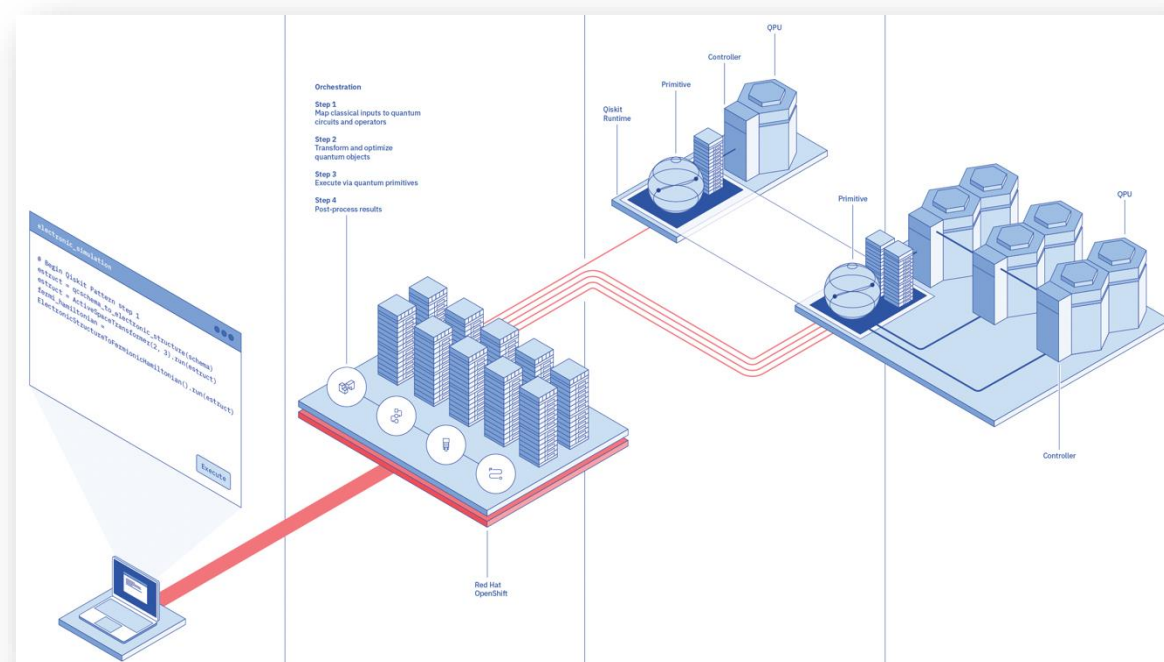
# Pushing the limits of quantum

Continual developments and innovations will drive quantum computing forward. Cross-cutting expertise from industry and academia aim to find and solve difficult problems.



# Quantum-centric Supercomputing

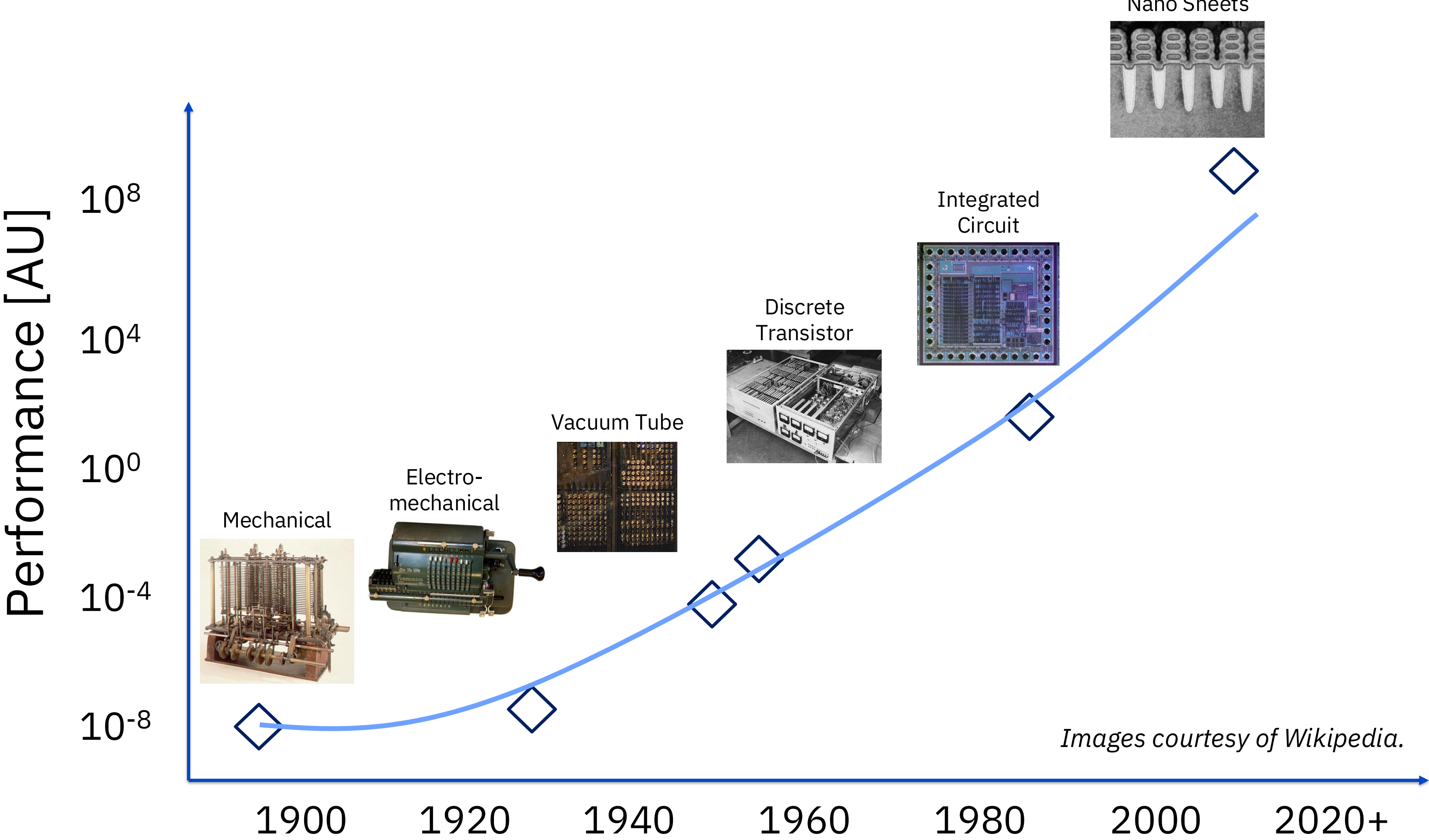
Architectures that can provide computational capabilities to address problems too difficult for isolated machines.







# Evolution of computer architectures

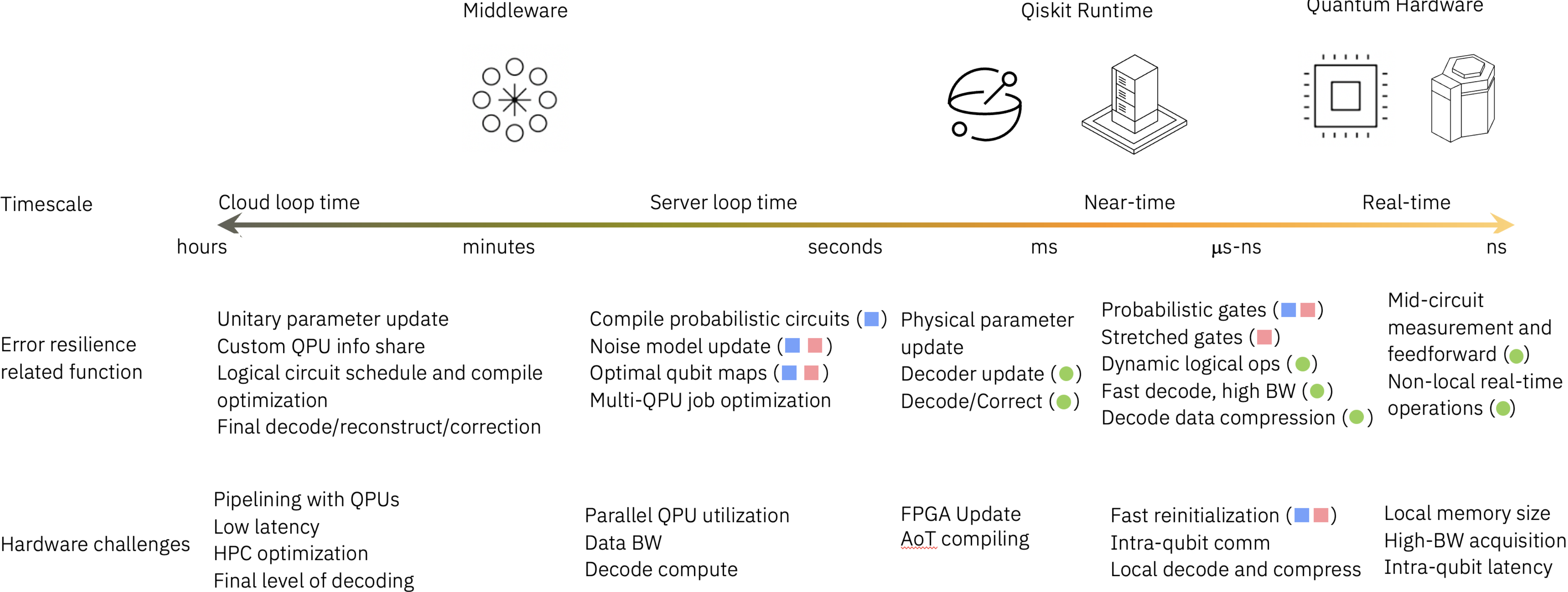


Images courtesy of Wikipedia.

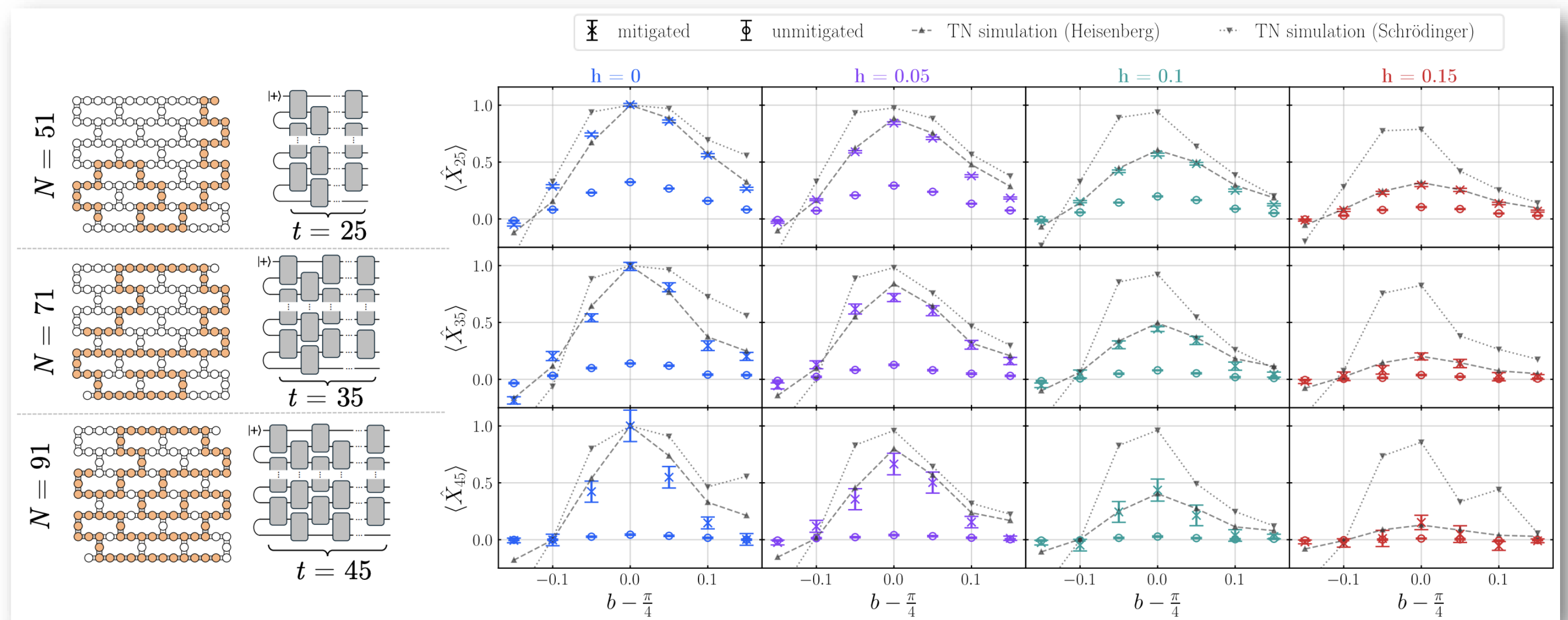
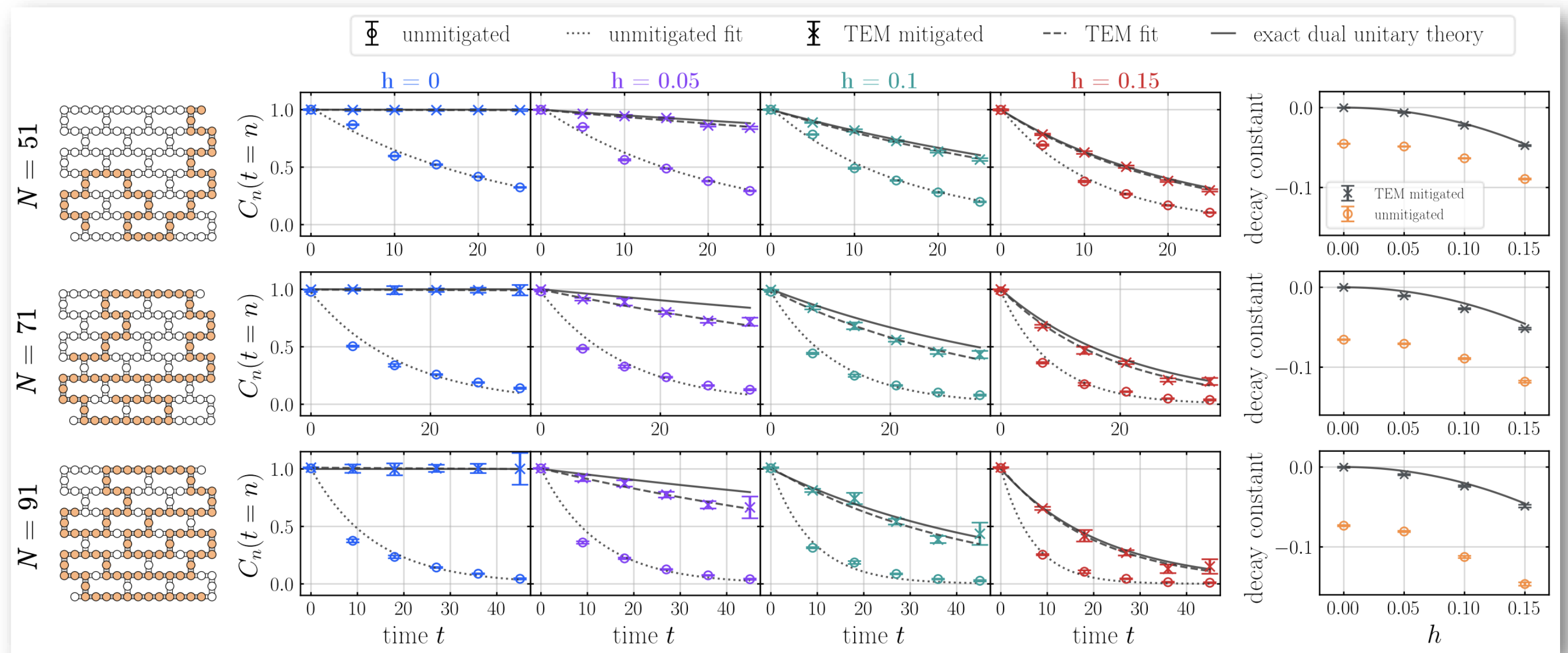
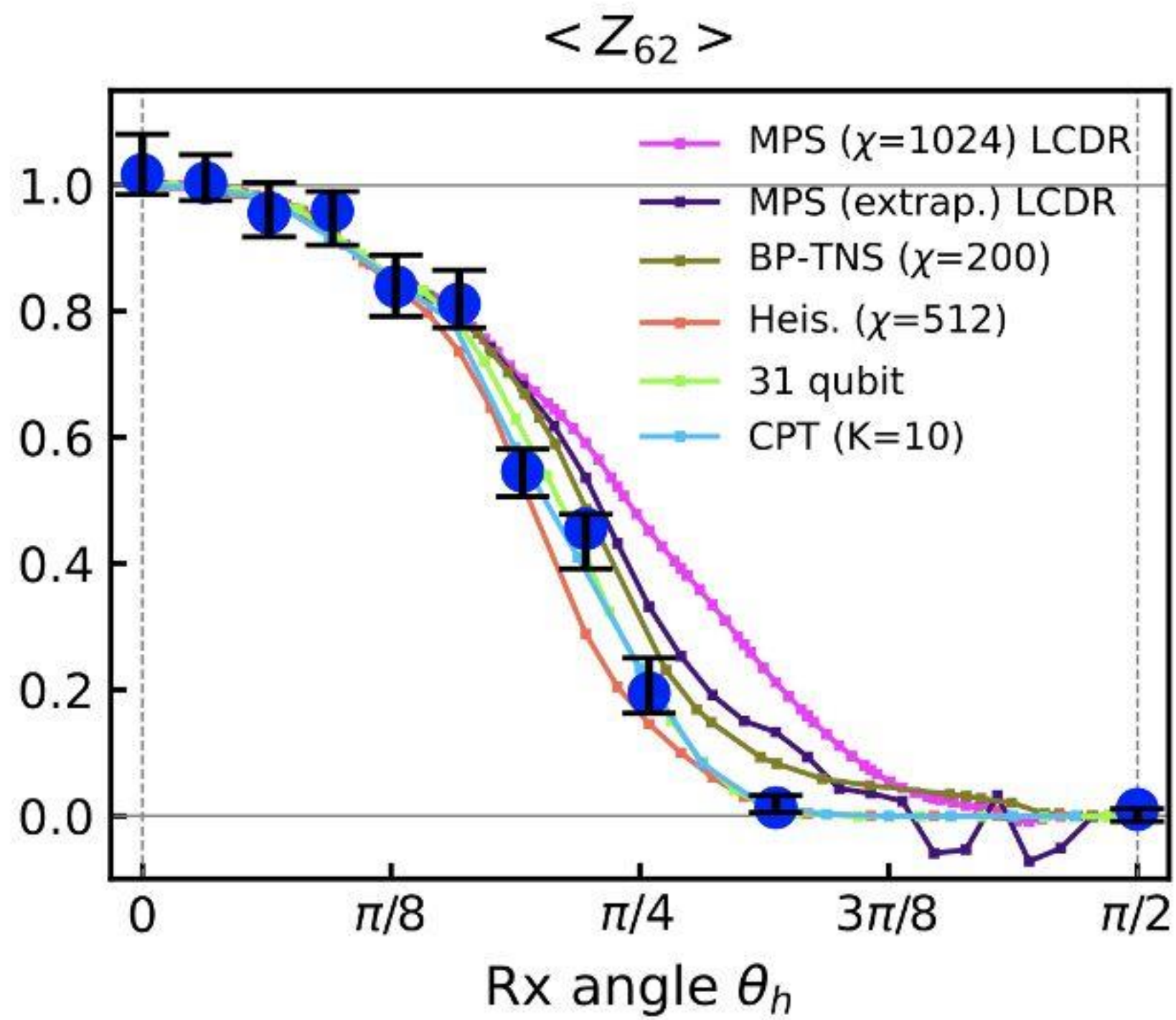


# Error resilience time scales on QCSC architectures

- QEC
- QEM Unbiased
- QEM Biased



# The era of quantum utility





# Different Types of Users

## Quantum Physicist

### Who they are

Quantum physics experts with practical experience testing and tuning quantum hardware

### Skills

System capability discovery for using quantum systems at larger scales and complexities

### Pain points

Access to powerful tools for configuring capabilities

## Quantum Computational Scientist

### Who they are

Research Scientists that started with quantum early and have experience designing quantum algorithm for domain problems

### Skills

Focus on algorithms that generate circuits, not on optimizing the quantum execution for our hardware

### Pain points

Keeping up with new relevant capabilities for improving result quality on quantum hardware

## Data Scientist

### Who they are

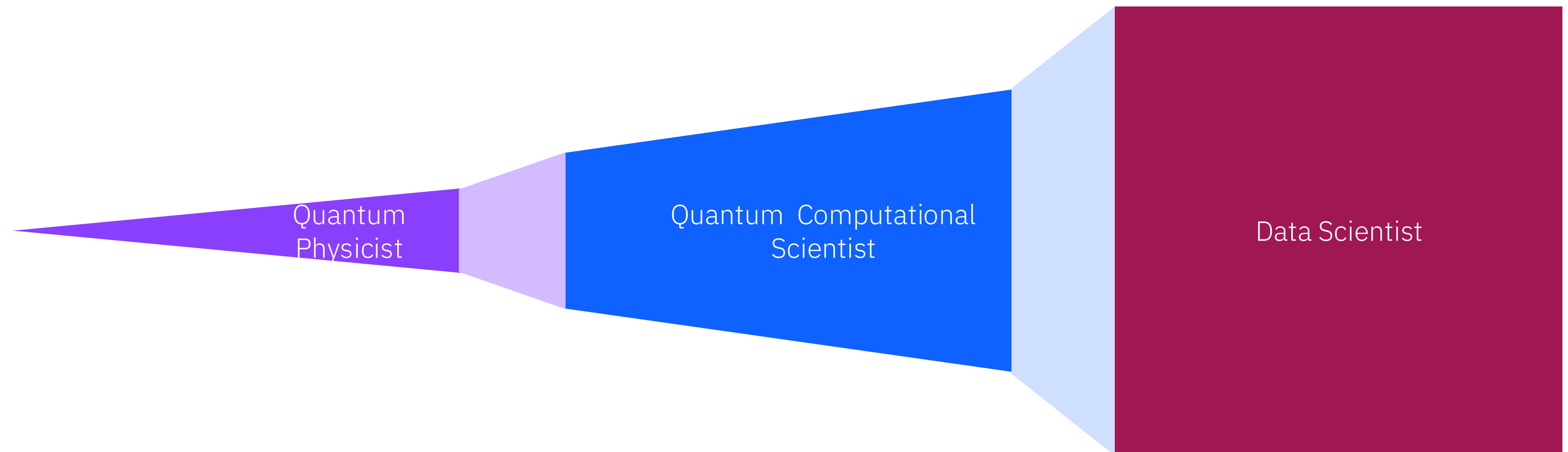
Industry research scientists that understand the limits of current state of the art solutions for key application areas

### Skills

Focus on problem domain, not on circuits

### Pain points

Knowing how/which quantum approach to incorporate into application use case

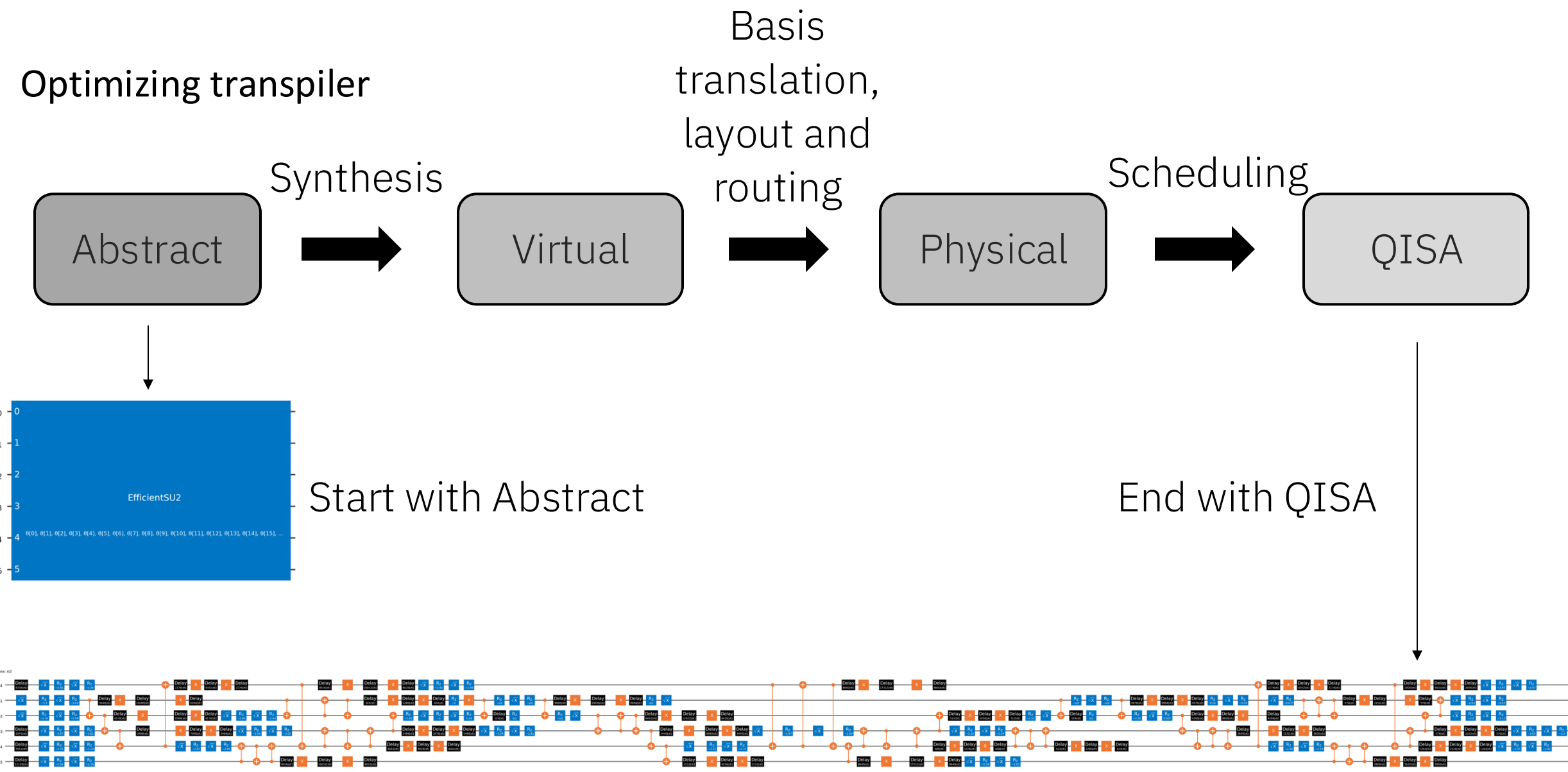


# Two main components of Qiskit

Circuit and operator building APIs

```
with circuit.if_test((c0, 0b1)) as else_:
    circuit.x(q0)
with else_:
    circuit.z(q0)
```

```
Z = SparsePauliOp('Z')
X = SparsePauliOp('X')
Id = SparsePauliOp('I')
ZZ = Id ^ Id ^ Id ^ Z ^ Z
XX = Id ^ Id ^ Id ^ X ^ X
```

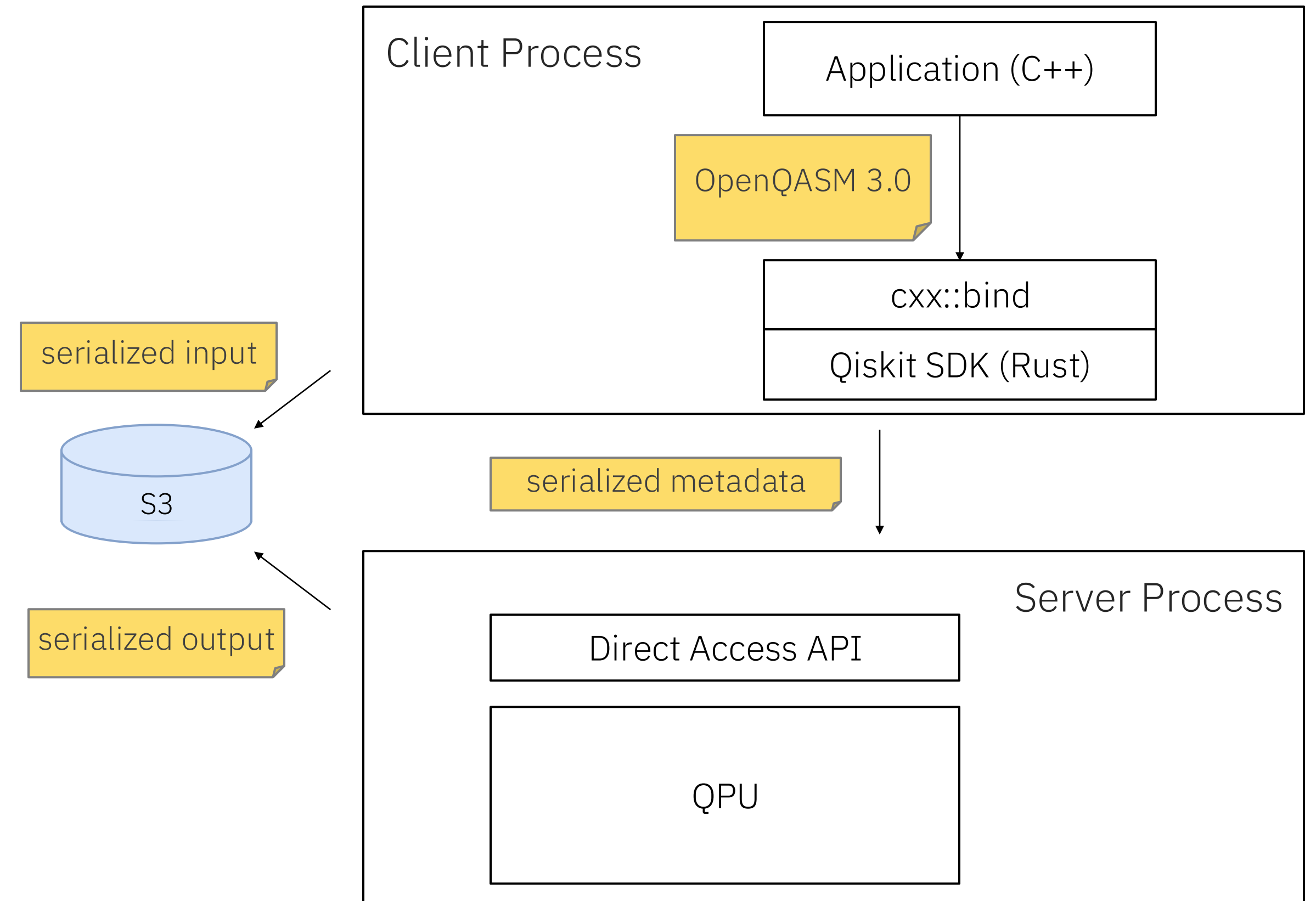


# Qiskit SDK for high performance

1. Continued “oxidation” (conversion to Rust) of Qiskit SDK’s core

100+ transpiler passes in Qiskit  
~10% converted to Rust

2. High performance application compiling





# [4Fe-4S] circuit structure

LUCJ circuit used to simulate the ground state of the [4Fe-4S] cluster, compiled into single-qubit (red, purple blocks) and CNOT (light blue symbols) gates.

Magnified views (left to right) of gates from the first orbital rotation, density-density interaction, and second orbital rotation.

3590 2-qubit gates (10,570 gates total)

