

# Quantum computing with superconducting qubits – Towards useful applications

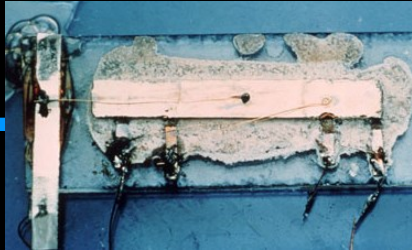
**Stefan Filipp**

IBM Research – Zurich  
Switzerland

Forum Teratec 2018 – June 20, 2018 – Palaiseau, France

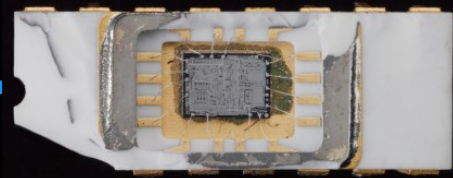
# Why Quantum Computing? Why now?

1958



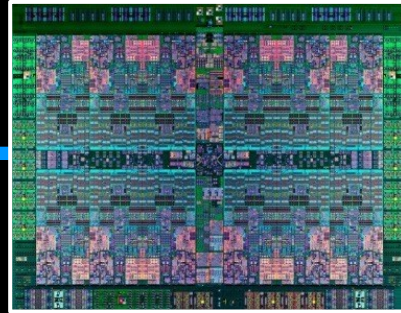
First integrated circuit  
Size  $\sim 1\text{cm}^2$   
2 Transistors

1971



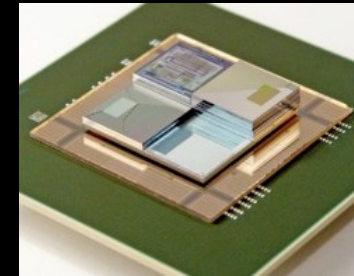
Moore's Law is Born  
Intel 4004  
2,300 transistors

2014



IBM P8 Processor  $\sim 650\text{ mm}^2$   
22 nm feature size, 16 cores  
> 4.2 Billion Transistors

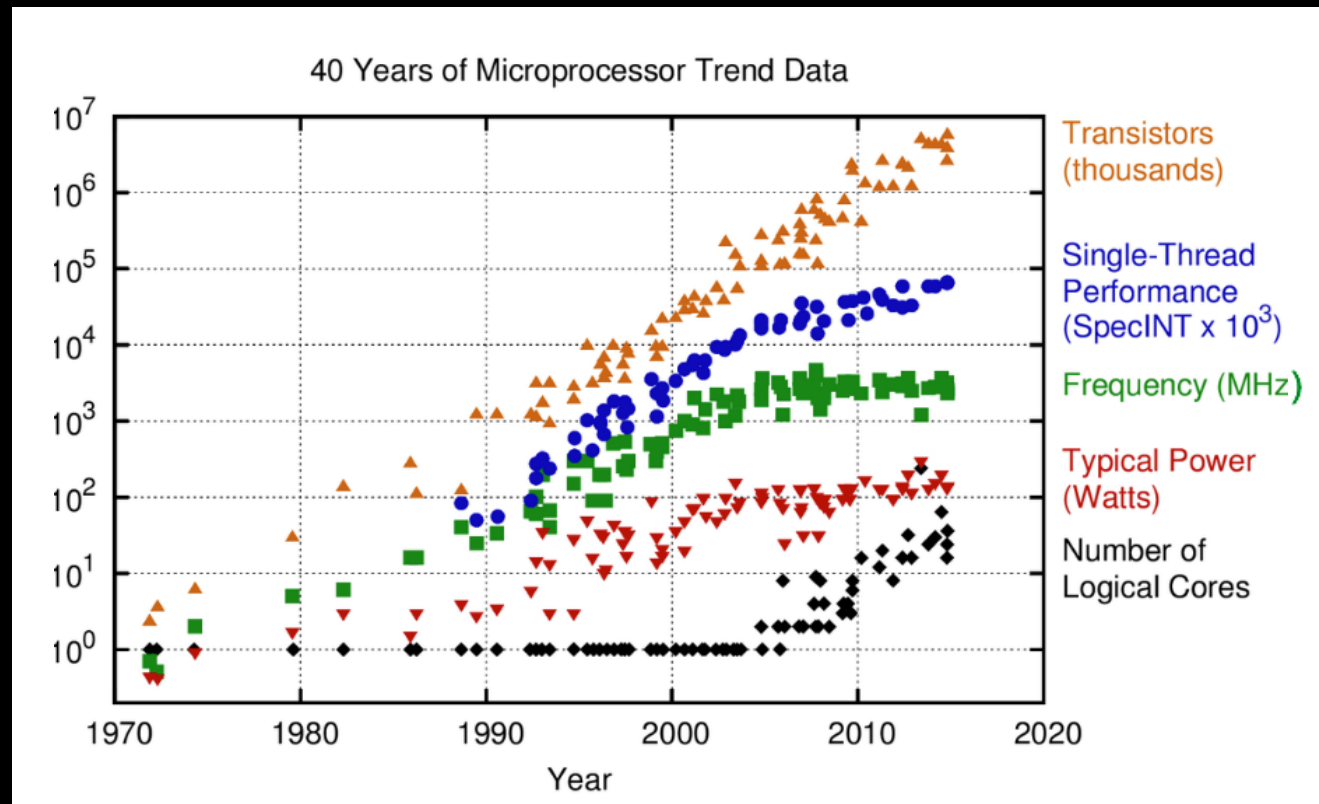
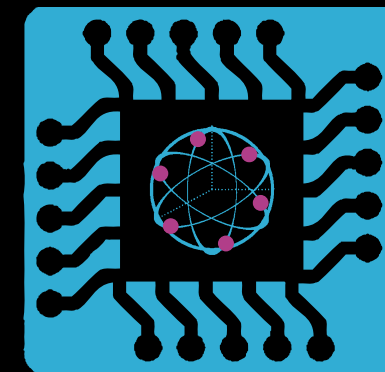
Alternative (co-existing) architectures:  
next generation systems (3D/hybrid)



neuromorphic (cognitive)



quantum computing



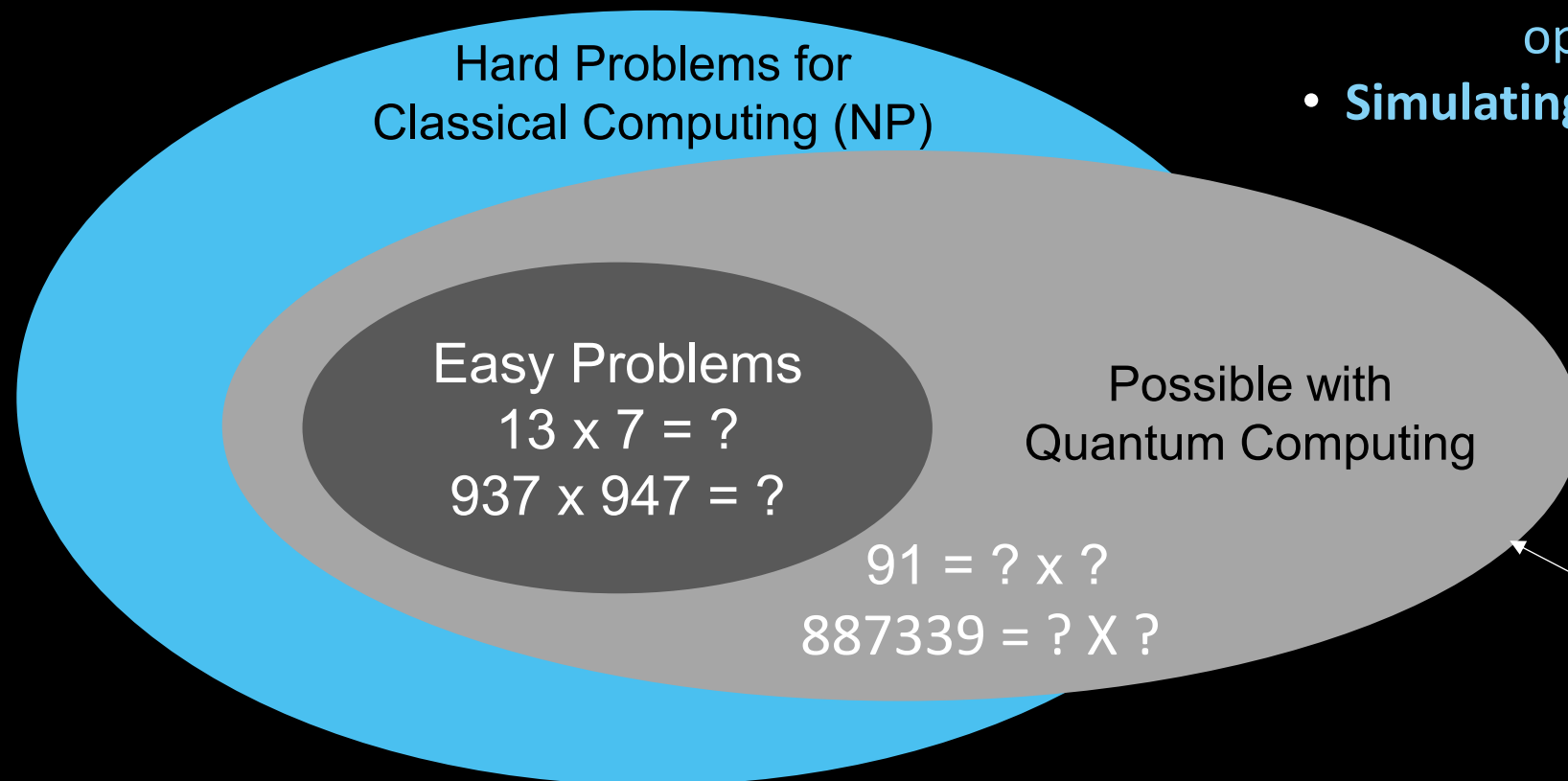
# Quantum Computing as a path to solve intractable problems

*Many problems in business and science are too complex for classical computing systems*

**“hard” / intractable problems:**

**(exponentially increasing resources with problem size)**

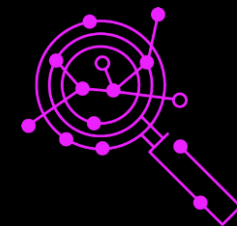
- **Algebraic algorithms** (e.g. factoring, systems of equations) for machine learning, cryptography,...
- **Combinatorial optimization** (traveling salesman, optimizing business processes, risk analysis,...)
- **Simulating quantum mechanics** (chemistry, material science,...)



Material,  
Chemistry



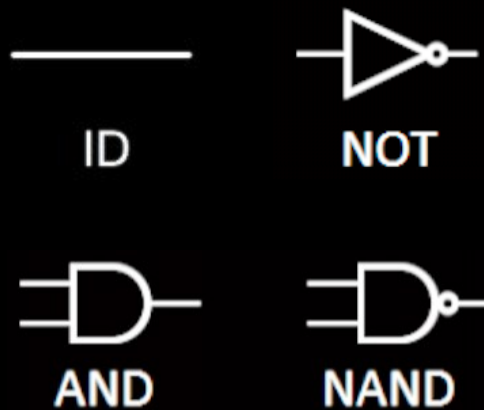
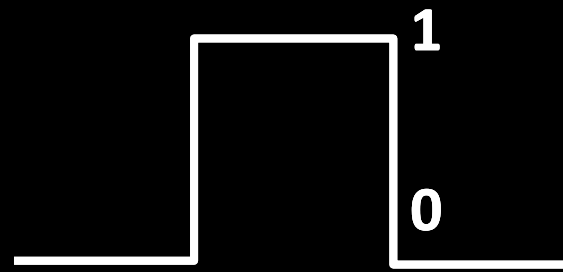
Machine  
Learning



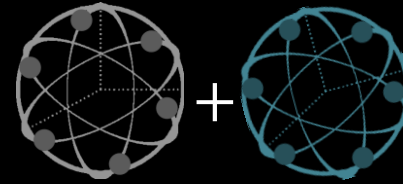
Optimization

# Quantum computation

Computer science:  
two logical states  
+ gates

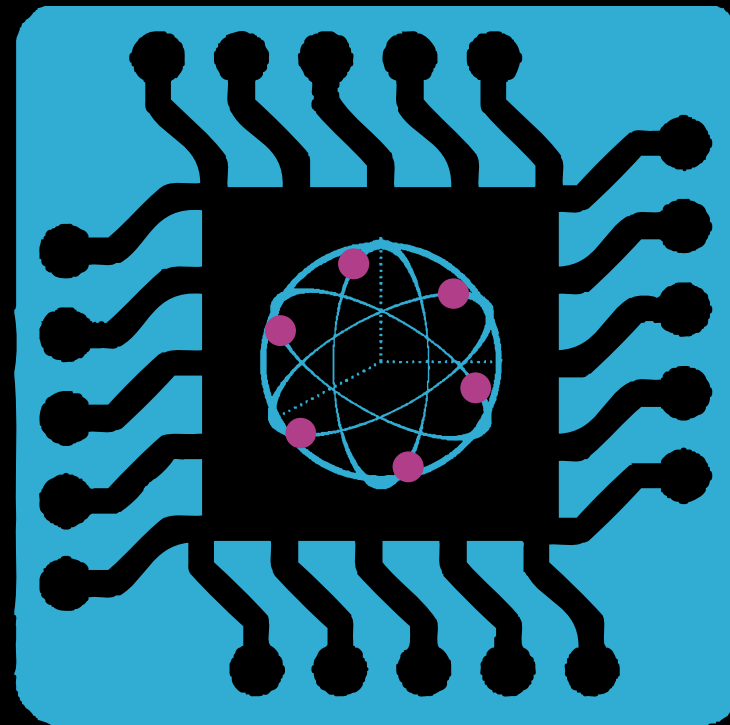
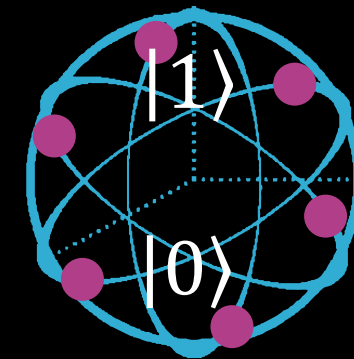


$$\alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle$$

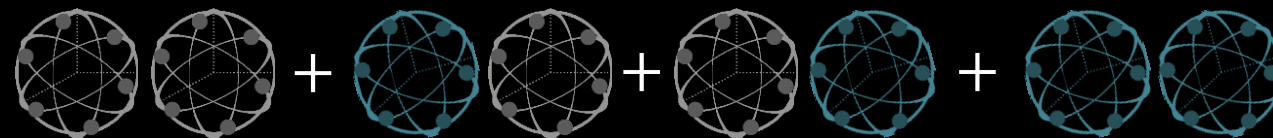


superposition

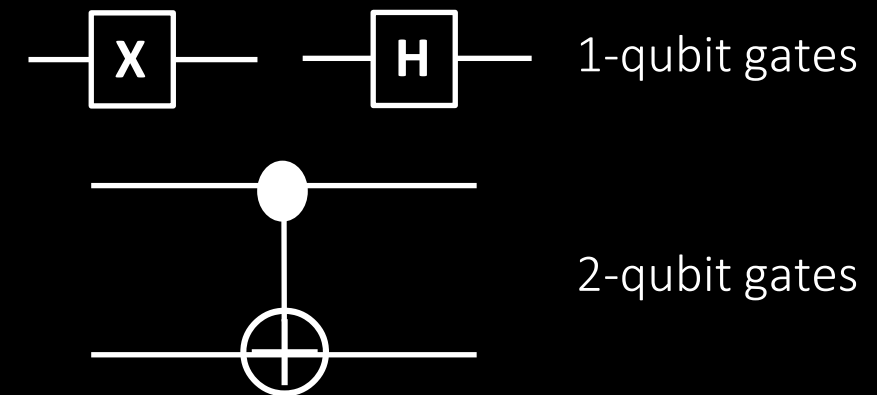
quantum physics:  
discrete quantum states (qubits)  
+ unitary evolution



entanglement



$$\alpha|00\rangle + \beta|10\rangle + \gamma|01\rangle + \delta|11\rangle$$



# The Quantum Advantage – Simulation of physical systems

How much **memory** is needed to store a quantum state?

How much **time** does it take to calculate dynamics of a quantum system?

# qubits	quantum state	coefficients	# bytes	timescale
1	$a 0\rangle + b 1\rangle$	$2^1 = 2$	16 Bytes	
2	$a 00\rangle + b 01\rangle + c 10\rangle + d 11\rangle$	$2^2 = 4$	32 Bytes	Nanoseconds
8		$2^8 = 256$	2kB	Microseconds on watch
16	...	$2^{16} = 65'536$	512 kB	Milliseconds on smartphone
32	...	~4 billion	32 GB	Seconds on laptop
64	...	~ information in internet	128 EB (134 million GB)	Years on supercomputer
256	...	~ # of atoms in universe	...	never

classical

quantum

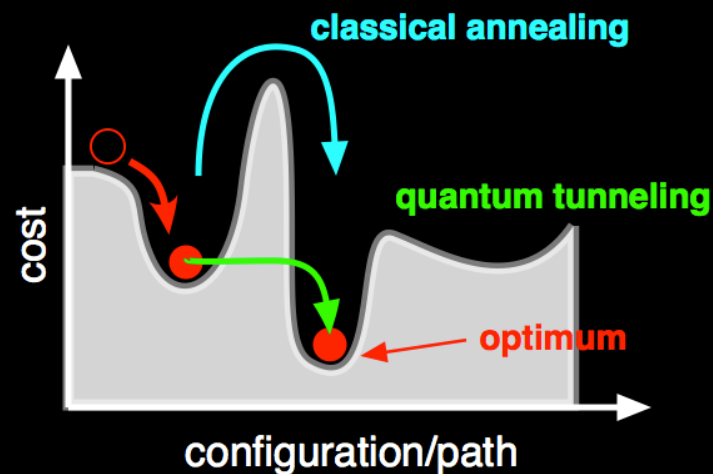


# Types of Quantum Computing

## Quantum Annealing

### Optimization Problems

- Machine learning
- Fault analysis
- Resource optimization
- etc...

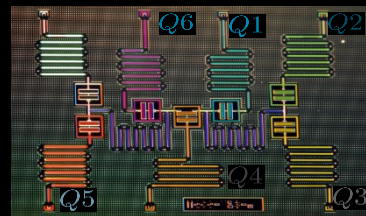
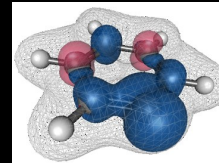


Many 'noisy' qubits can be built; large problem class in optimization; amount of quantum speedup unclear

## Approximate Q-Comp.

### Simulation of Quantum Systems, Optimization

- Material discovery
- Quantum chemistry
- Optimization (logistics, time scheduling,...)
- Machine Learning

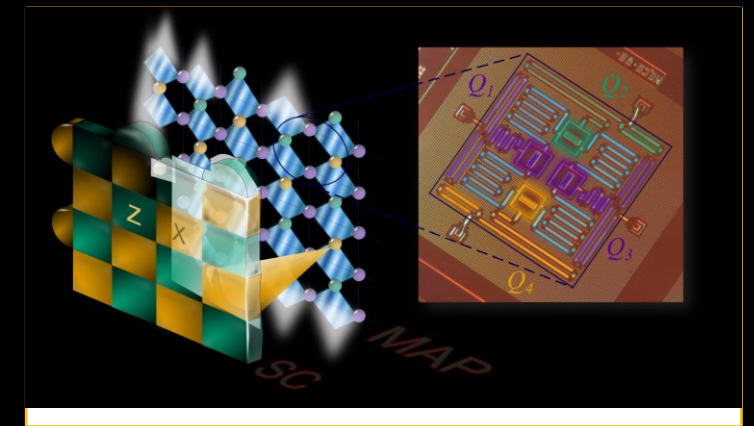


Hybrid quantum-classical approach; already 50-100 "good" physical qubits could provide quantum speedup.

## Fault-tolerant Universal Q-Comp.

### Execution of Arbitrary Quantum Algorithms

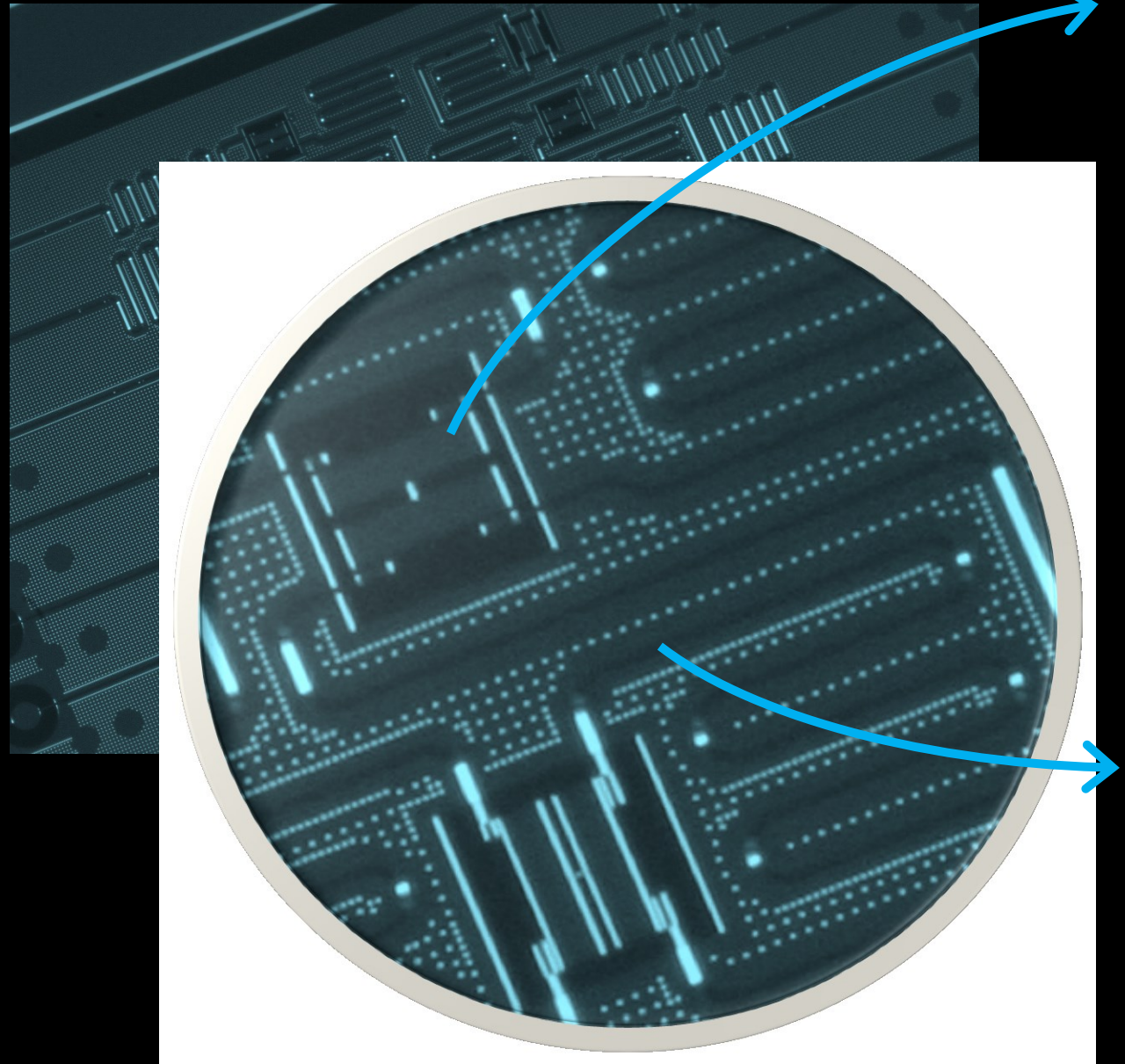
- Algebraic algorithms (machine learning, cryptography,...)
- Combinatorial optimization
- Digital simulation of quantum systems



Surface Code: Error correction in a Quantum Computer

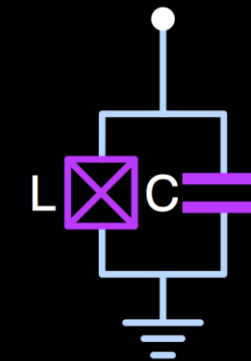
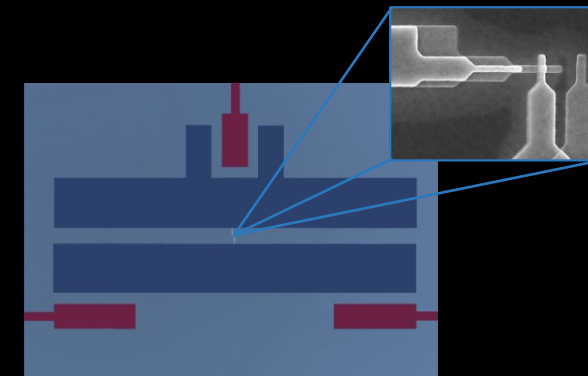
Proven quantum speedup; error correction requires significant qubit overhead.

# IBM: Superconducting Qubit Processor



## Superconducting qubit

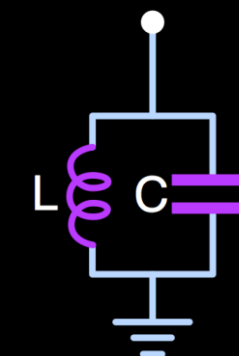
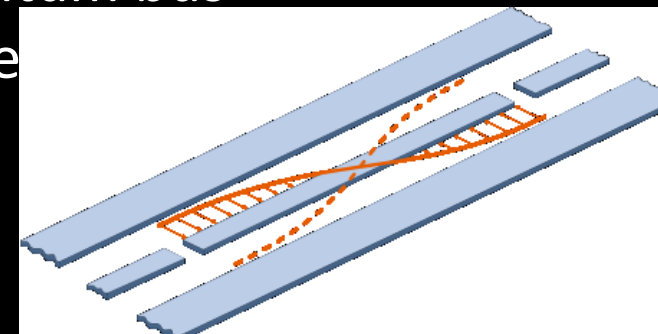
- quantum information carrier



$$E_{01} \approx 5 \text{ GHz} \approx 240 \text{ mK}$$

## Microwave resonator:

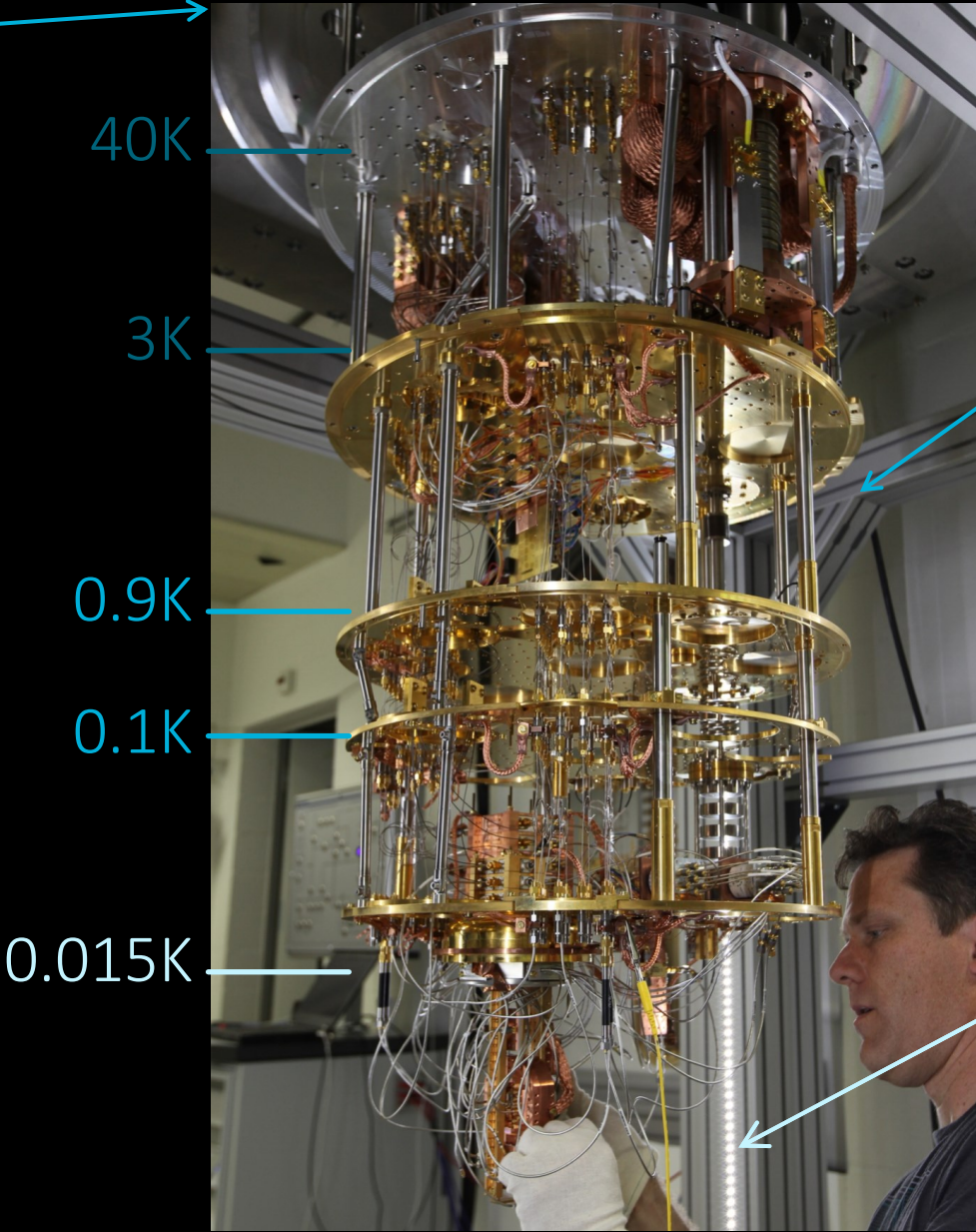
- read-out of qubit states
- quantum bus
- noise



# IBM Q quantum computing systems

Cosmic Microwave Background 2.7K

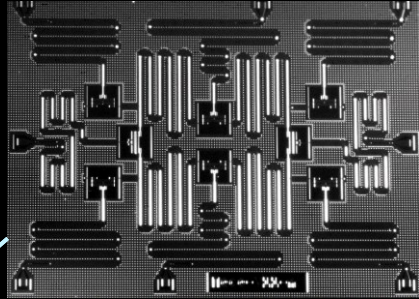
Room Temperature



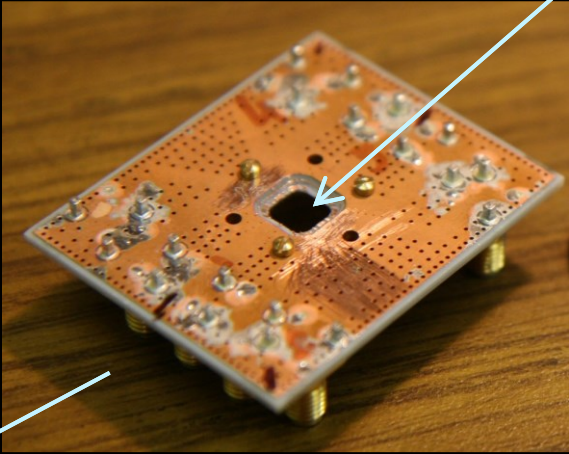
Microwave electronics

0.015K

Refrigerator to cool qubits to 15 mK with a mixture of  $^3\text{He}$  and  $^4\text{He}$



Chip with superconducting qubits and resonators



PCB with the qubit chip at 15 mK Protected from the environment by multiple shields

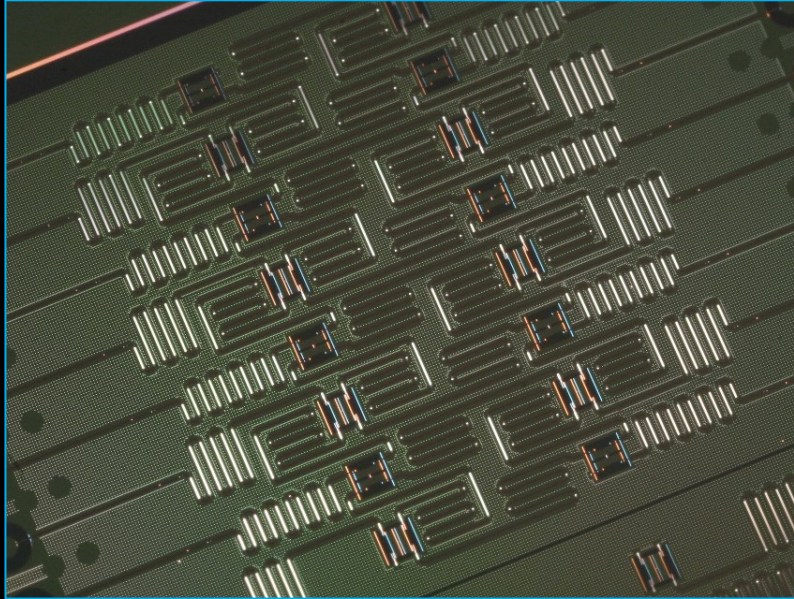




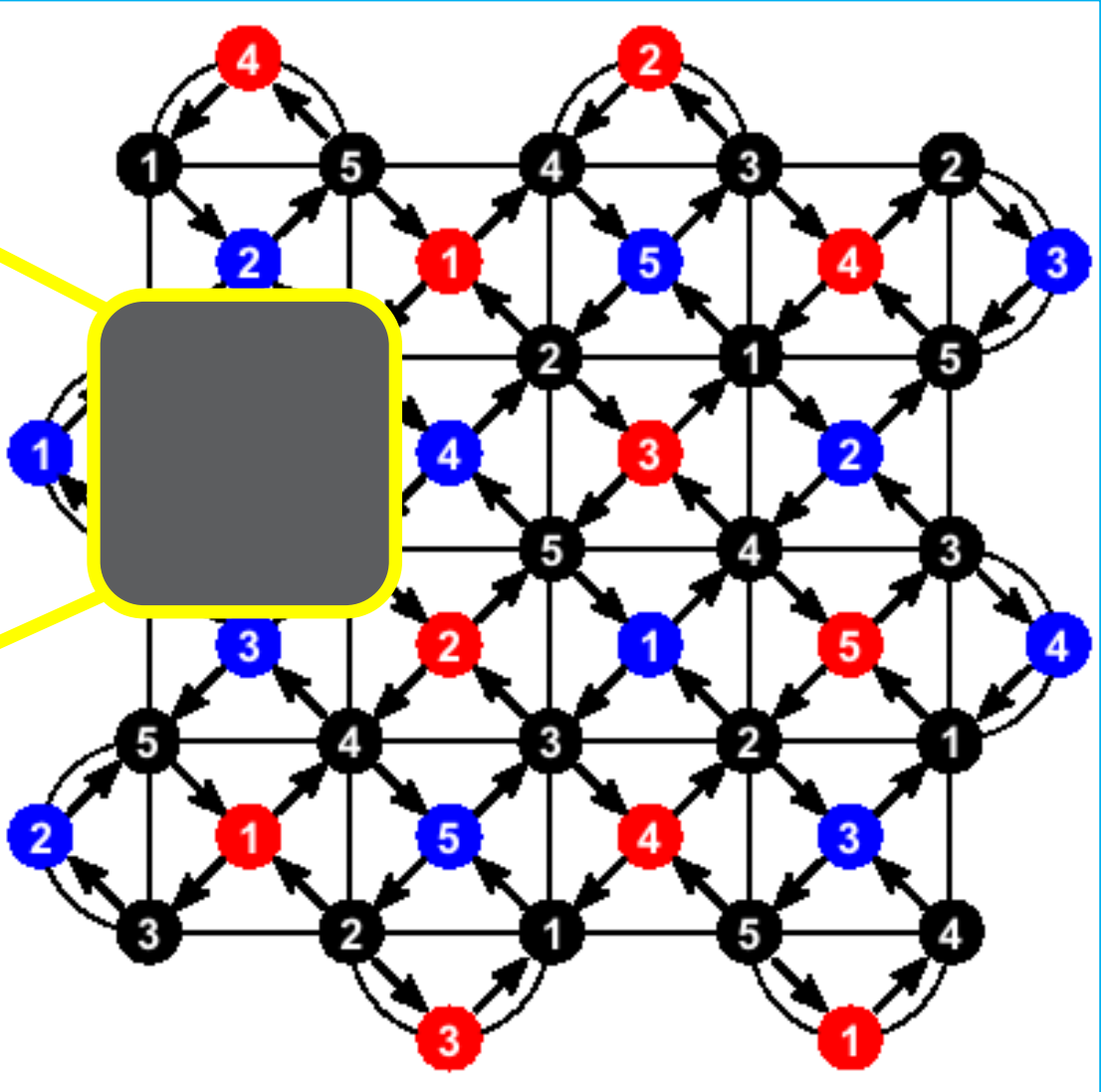
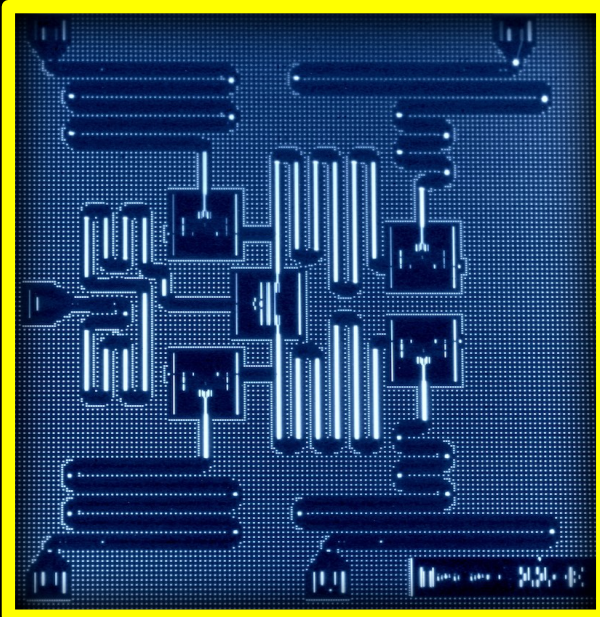
# IBM qubit processor architectures

## IBM Q experience (publicly accessible)

16 Qubits (2017)

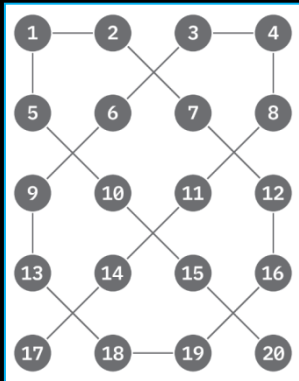


5 Qubits (2016)

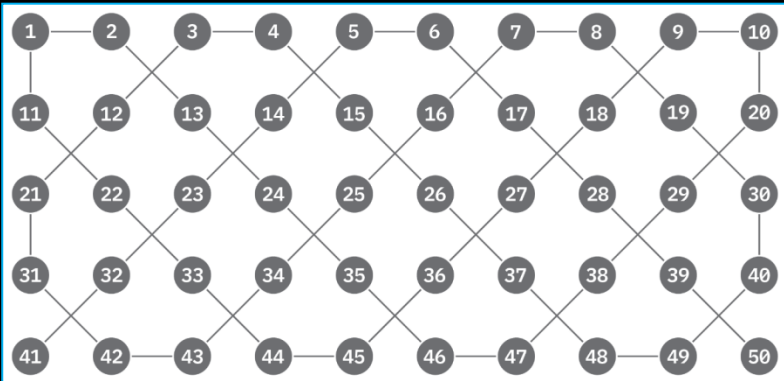


## IBM Q commercial

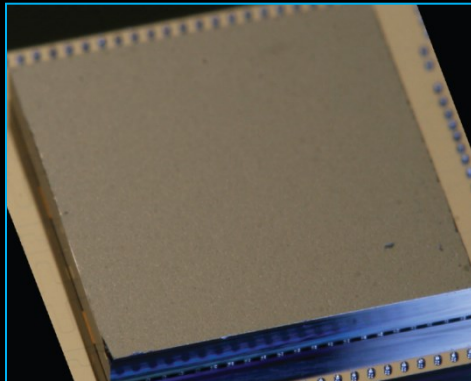
20 Qubits



50 Qubit architecture (2017)



Package



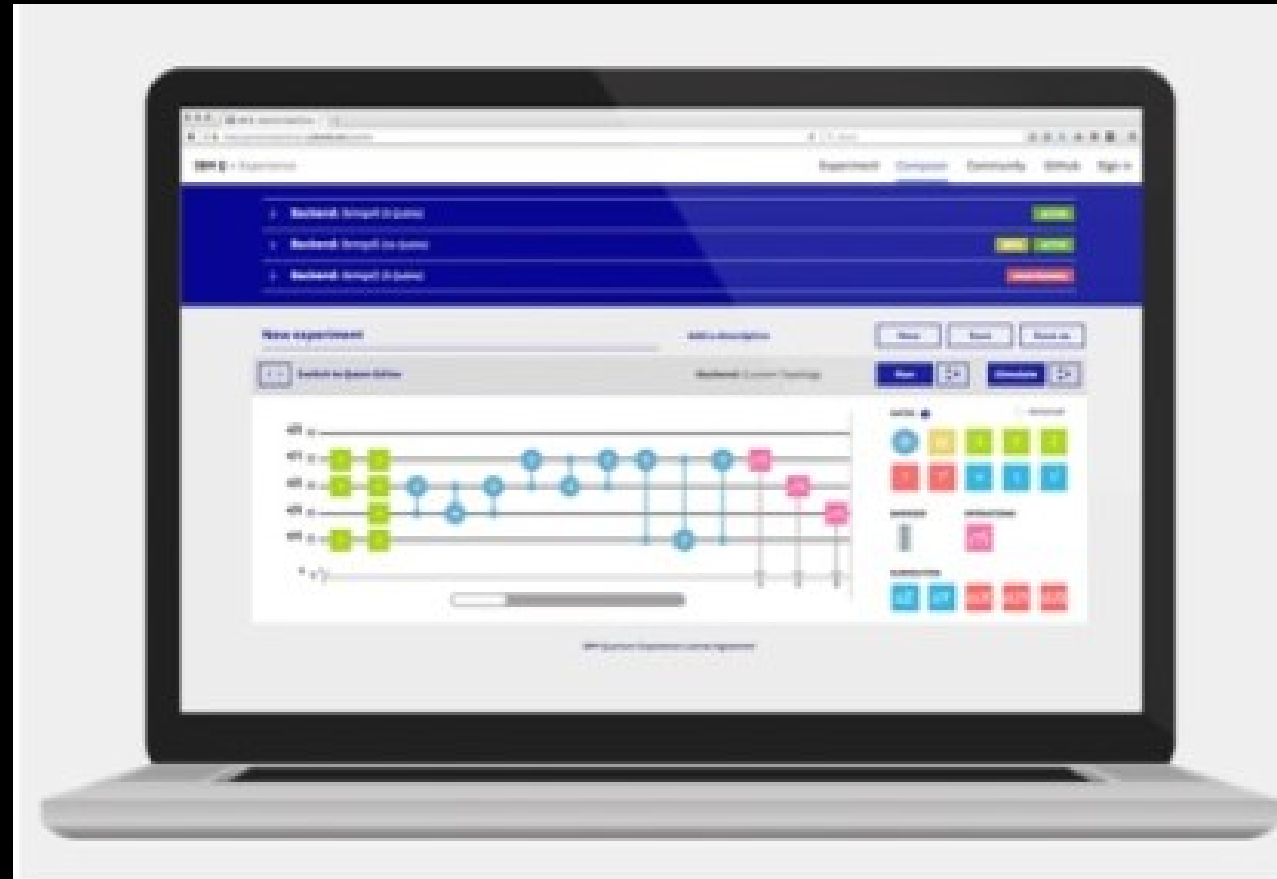
Latticed arrangement for scaling

# IBM Quantum Experience

Public quantum computer (up to 16 qubits) and developer ecosystem

## IBM QX Features

- Tutorial
- Simulation
- Graphical programming
- QASM language
- API & SDK
- Active user community



## Since launch

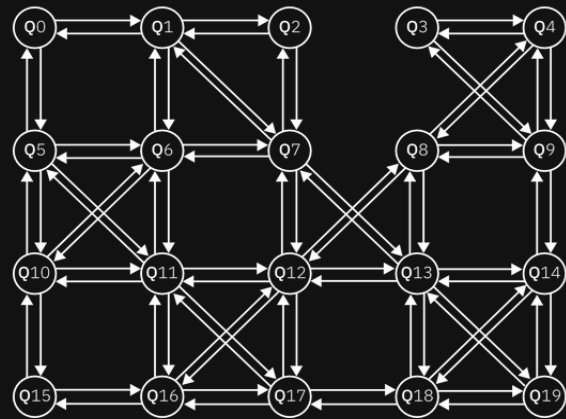
- > 80,000 users
- > 3,000,000 experiments
- > 60 research papers
- used by 1,500+ colleges and universities, 300 high schools, 300 private institutions

Experience quantum computing here:

[research.ibm.com/ibm-qx](https://research.ibm.com/ibm-qx)

Backend: QS1\_1 (20 Qubits)

ACTIVE AVAILABLE TO HUBS, PARTNERS, AND MEMBERS OF THE IBM Q NETWORK

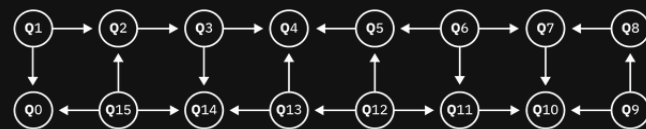
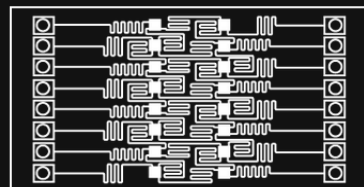


Date Calibration: 2018-01-11 15:08:57

	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10	Q11	Q12
<b>Frequency (GHz)</b>	4.89	4.50	4.80	5.05	4.99	5.06	4.86
<b>T1 (μs)</b>	72.70	173.53	68.23	61.05	84.10	55.20	85.8
<b>T2 (μs)</b>	38.11	60.35	36.62	39.80	15.60	37.48	46.1
<b>Gate error (10<sup>-3</sup>)</b>	7.97	-	2.23	3.36	0.63	1.01	0.76
<b>Readout error (10<sup>-2</sup>)</b>	17.20	15.55	15.30	18.15	8.15	14.35	9.70
<b>MultiQubit gate error (10<sup>-2</sup>)</b>	<b>CX6_1</b>	<b>CX7_1</b>	<b>CX8_4</b>	<b>CX9_3</b>	<b>CX10_5</b>	<b>CX11_5</b>	<b>CX12_1</b>
	4.17	5.40	4.16	6.65	10.77	1.86	3.65
	<b>CX6_2</b>	<b>CX7_2</b>	<b>CX8_9</b>	<b>CX9_4</b>	<b>CX10_6</b>	<b>CX11_6</b>	<b>CX12_2</b>
	4.41	8.03	4.29	3.02	2.23	3.97	1.38
	<b>CX6_5</b>	<b>CX7_6</b>	<b>CX8_12</b>	<b>CX9_8</b>	<b>CX10_11</b>	<b>CX11_10</b>	<b>CX12_3</b>
	4.14	4.46	4.35	4.81	1.55	1.16	3.20
	<b>CX6_7</b>	<b>CX7_12</b>	<b>CX8_13</b>	<b>CX9_14</b>	<b>CX10_15</b>	<b>CX11_12</b>	<b>CX12_4</b>
5.82	2.41	3.96	2.93	1.47	2.07	3.74	
<b>CX6_10</b>	<b>CX7_13</b>					<b>CX11_16</b>	<b>CX12_5</b>
5.81	4.36					3.78	2.08
<b>CX6_11</b>						<b>CX11_17</b>	<b>CX12_6</b>
7.75						1.51	2.43

Backend: ibmqx5 (16 Qubits)

ACTIVE AVAILABLE ON QISKIT



Date Calibration: 2018-01-29 13:39:30

Fridge Temperature: 0.0134089 K

[More details](#)

	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10	Q11	Q12
<b>Frequency (GHz)</b>	31	5.25	5.12	5.16	5.04	5.11	4.95
<b>T1 (μs)</b>	3.00	29.90	58.10	58.10	52.30	38.40	52.70
<b>T2 (μs)</b>	3.30	24.40	100.10	110.90	86.70	13.20	74.30
<b>Gate error (10<sup>-3</sup>)</b>	43	2.78	1.45	1.15	1.82	2.96	1.13
<b>Readout error (10<sup>-2</sup>)</b>	02	4.46	3.51	6.01	6.73	6.09	11.95
<b>MultiQubit gate error (10<sup>-2</sup>)</b>	<b>C6_5</b>	<b>CX7_10</b>	<b>CX8_7</b>	<b>CX9_8</b>		<b>CX11_10</b>	<b>CX12_5</b>
	45	4.84	4.96	3.18		3.83	4.68
	<b>C6_7</b>			<b>CX9_10</b>			<b>CX12_11</b>
86			4.32				6.77

# Quantum Volume: How powerful is “my” Quantum Computer

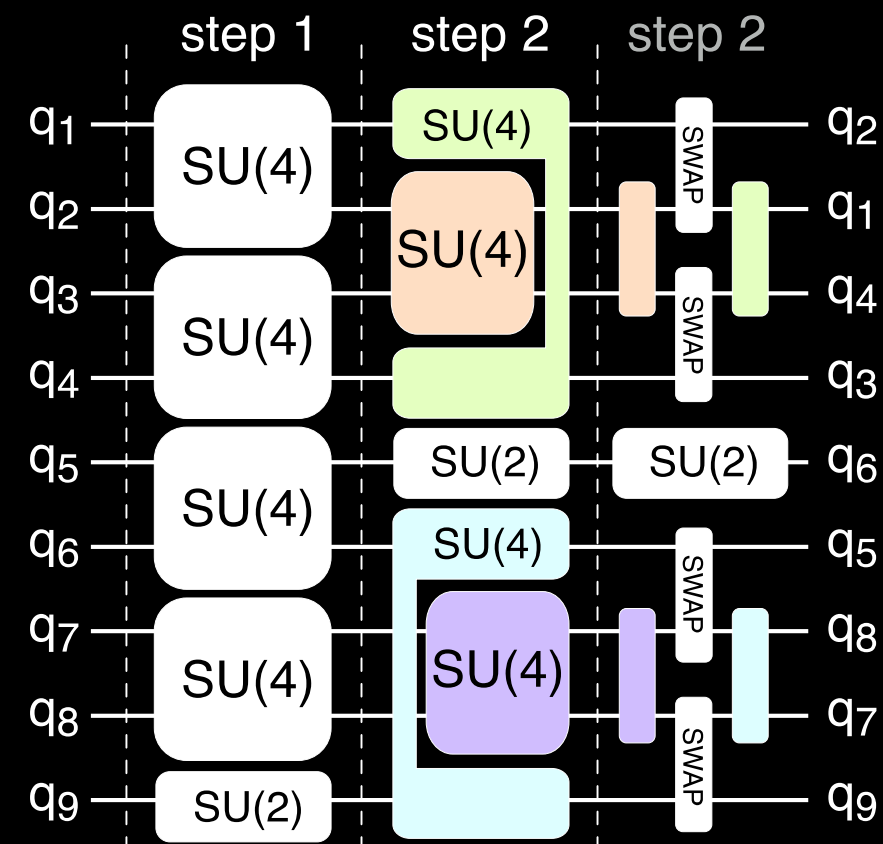
$$(qubit \#) \times (circuit \text{ depth}) \Rightarrow \tilde{V}_Q = \min [N, d(N)]^2 \Rightarrow V_Q = \max_{n < N} \left( \min \left[ n, \frac{1}{n \epsilon_{\text{eff}}(n)} \right]^2 \right)$$

## Measured HW parameters :

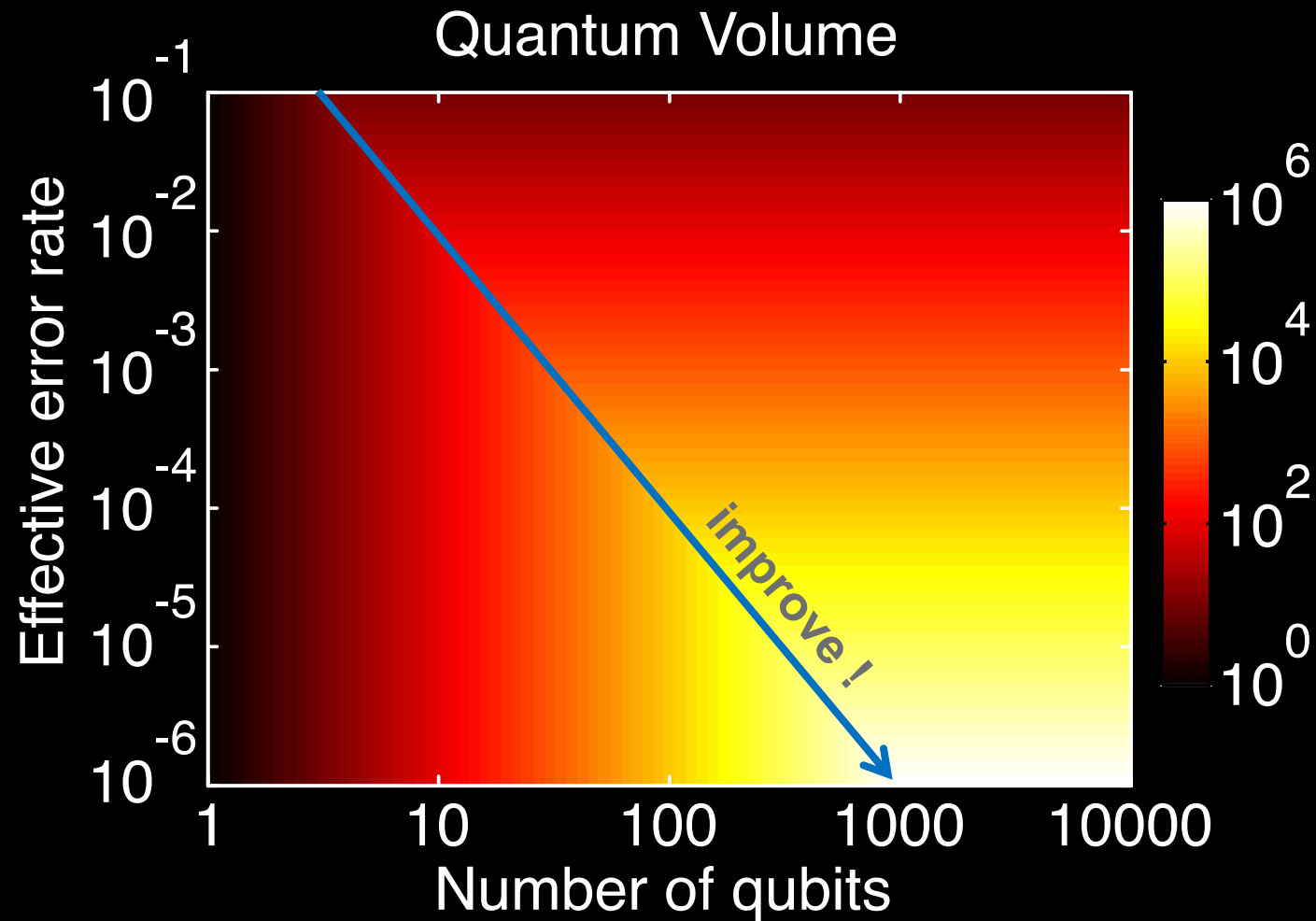
- Number of physical qubits N
- Connectivity between qubits
- Number of gates before errors mask result
- Available hardware gate set
- Number of operations that can be run in parallel

Measures the useful amount of quantum computing that can be done with a near-term device before errors mask the result.

depth 1 circuit:



# Quantum Volume: How powerful is “my” Quantum Computer



## Challenges ahead:

- In order to increase the quantum volume we need to improve **both** effective error rate **and** qubit number
- It is the scaling of the effective error rate that limits the usefulness of a quantum computer with superconducting qubits
- Need to improve **connectivity, gate speed and coherence**
- Requires better **designs, materials and two qubit interactions**

# The Universal Quantum Computing System

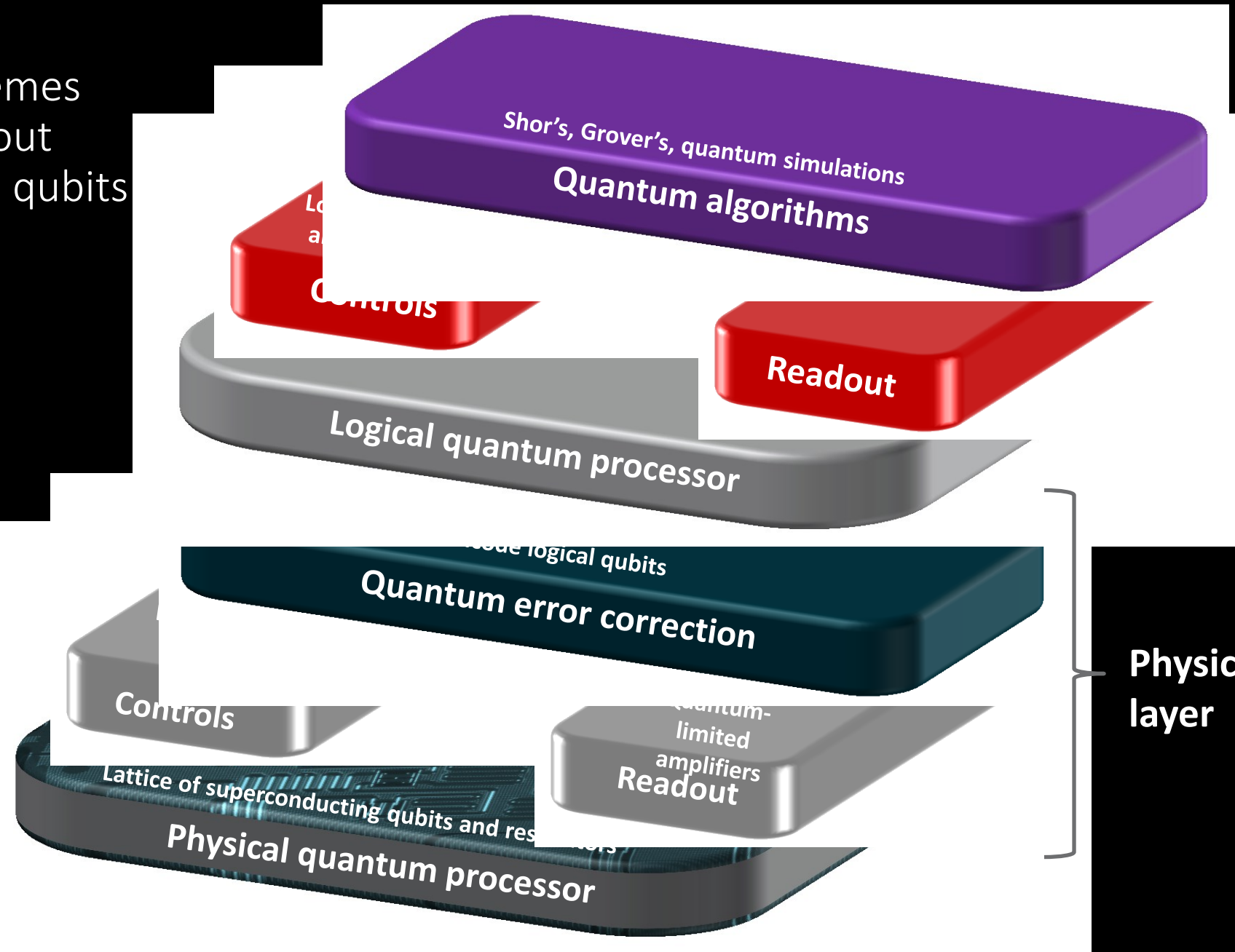
## Idea:

use error correction schemes to make a 'logical' qubit out of several 'good' physical qubits

$$|0\rangle \rightarrow |00 \dots 0\rangle$$

$$|1\rangle \rightarrow |11 \dots 1\rangle$$

100-1000 x



Logical layer

Physical layer

## Status:

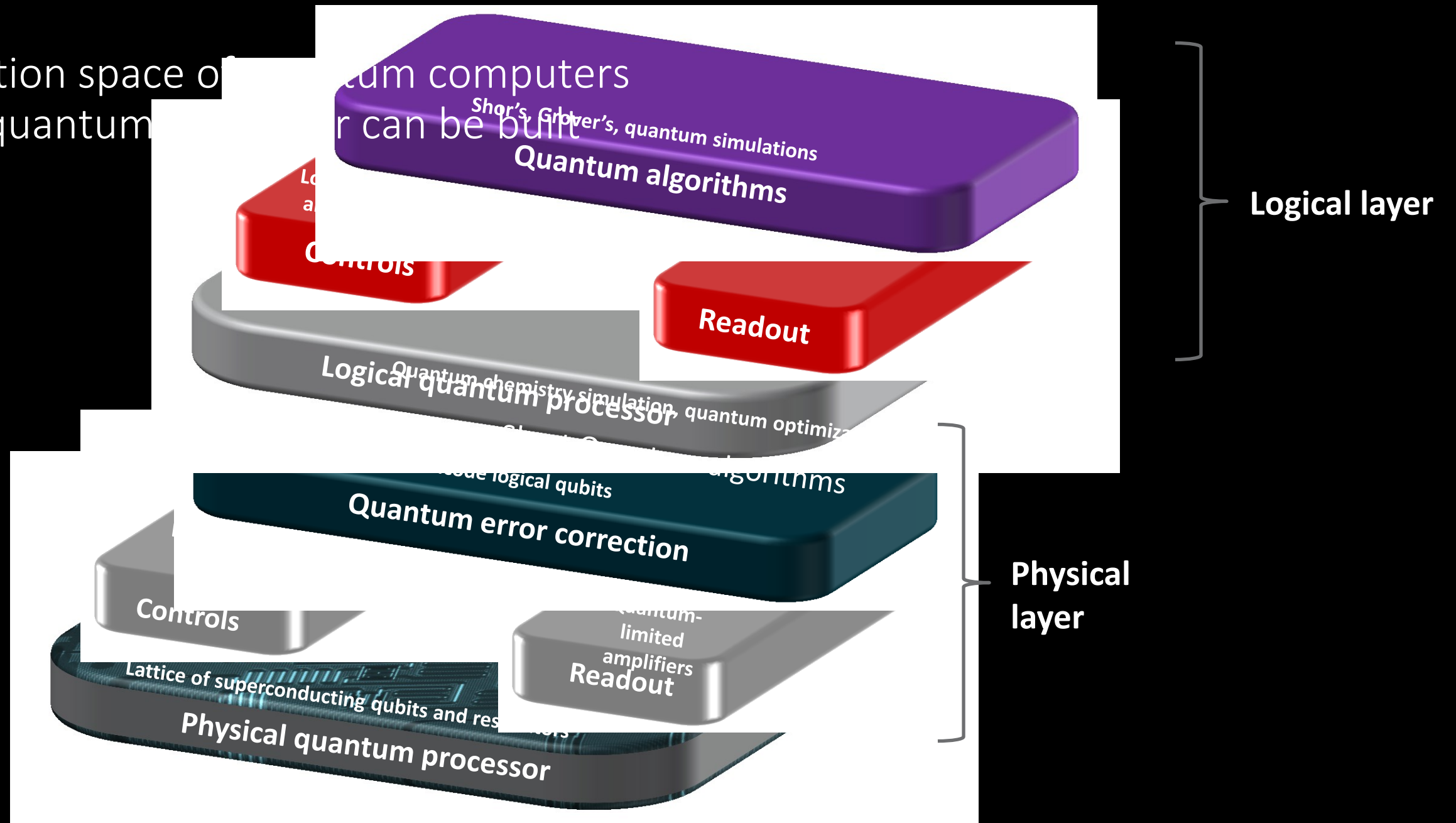
physical qubits almost good enough, first demonstrations of logical qubits expected soon

[Gambetta, Chow, Steffen, npj Quantum Information 3, 2 (2017)]



# Approximate Quantum Computing

Explore the application space of approximate quantum computing before a universal quantum computer can be built



[Gambetta, Chow, Steffen, npj Quantum Information 3, 2 (2017)]



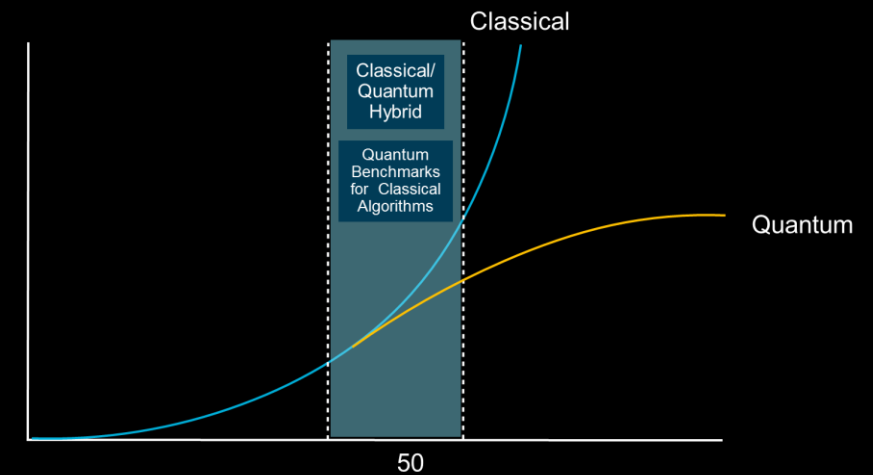
# Steps towards Universal Quantum Computing

time / complexity

## Demonstration of Quantum Advantage & Learning

Demonstrate an advantage to using quantum computing for real problems of interest. Create software layer, quantum algorithms and education tools.

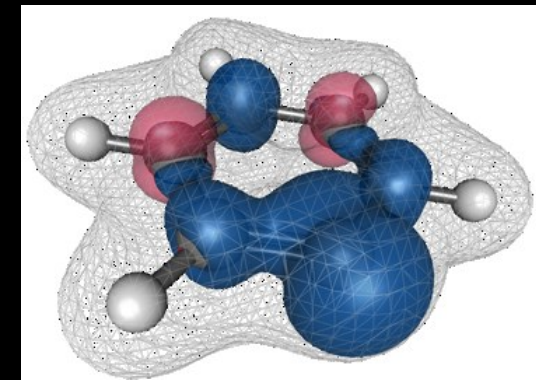
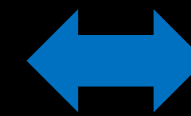
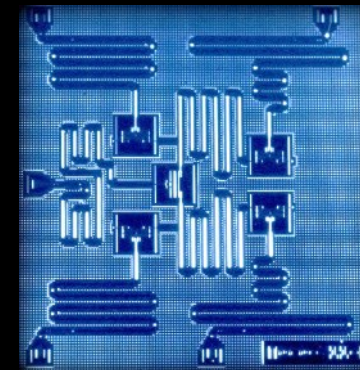
50-100 qubits



## Commercialization of Approximate Quantum Computer

Have commercial impact with useful applications on a quantum computer which does not need full fault tolerance, potentially assisting conventional computers (hybrid quantum computer)

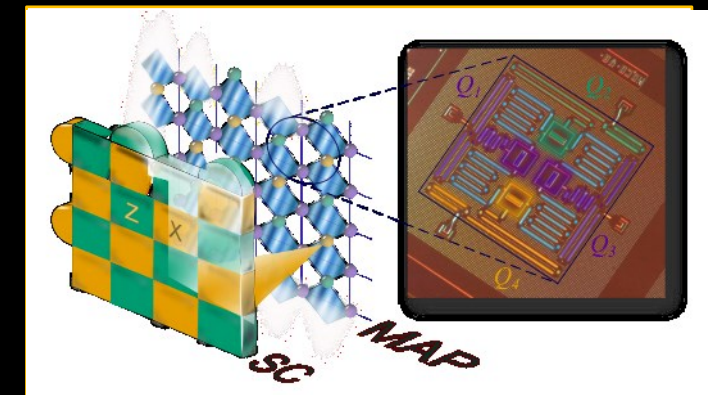
100-1000+ qubits



## Universal Fault-Tolerant Quantum Computer

Run useful quantum algorithms with exponential speed up over their classical counterparts. Requires error correction.

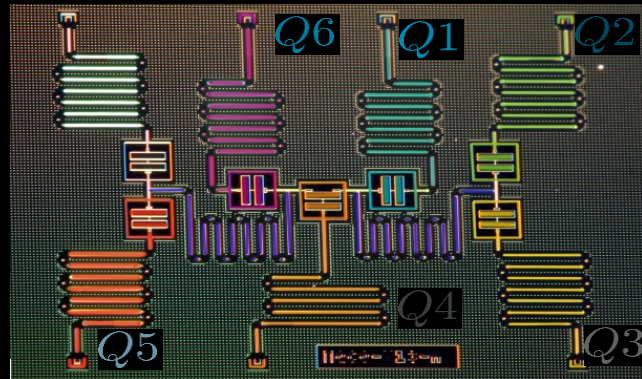
1M-10M qubits



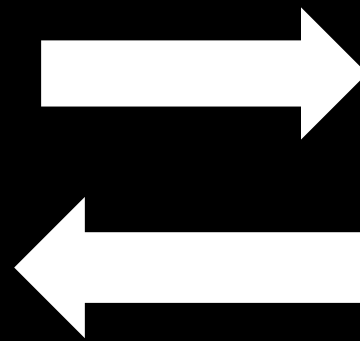


# Variational Quantum Eigensolver (VQE): A hybrid quantum-classical (HPC) algorithm

Solve problems where the goal is to minimize the energy of a system,  
e.g.  $E_{min} = \langle \psi(\theta_{min}) | H_e | \psi(\theta_{min}) \rangle$



**Prepare a quantum state  $|\psi(\theta)\rangle$   
and compute its energy  $E(\theta)$**



**Evaluate  $E(\theta)$ ; use classical optimizer  
to choose new value of  $\theta$  until  $E_{min}$  is found**

## Advantages:

Use short circuits which fit into our coherence time

Improve on best classical estimates by using non-classical trial states



# Quantum chemistry

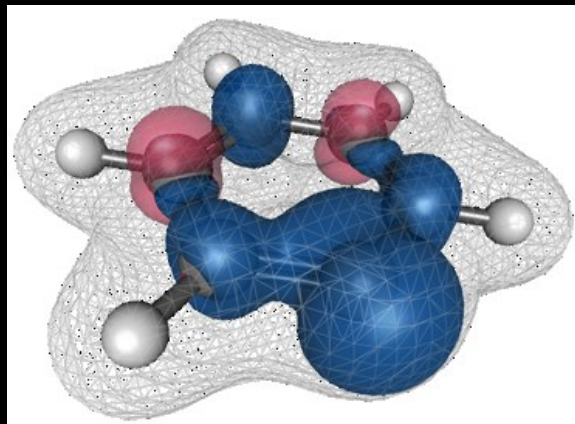
Solving interacting fermionic problems is at the core of most challenges in computational physics and high-performance computing:

$$H_e = - \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{2} \nabla_i^2 - \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{A=1}^M \frac{Z_A}{r_{iA}} + \sum_{i=1, j, i>1} \frac{1}{r_{ij}}$$

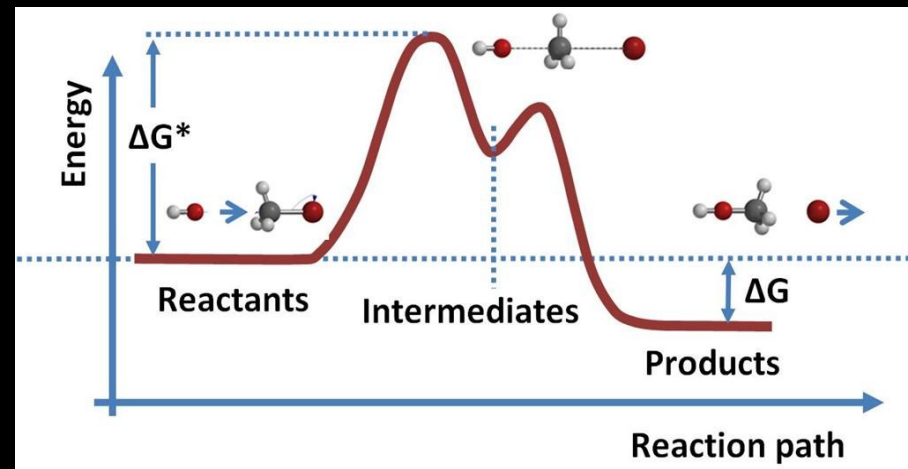
What can quantum computers do?

Map fermions (electrons) to qubits and compute

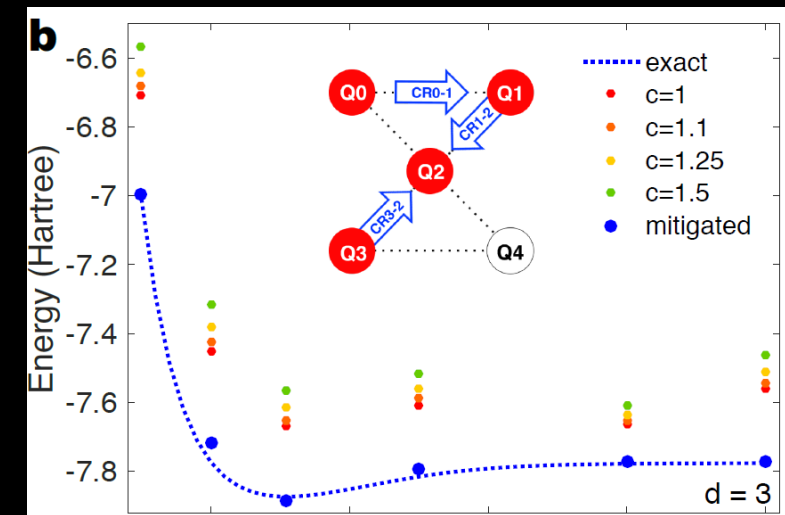
molecular structure



reaction rates



First Demonstrations:

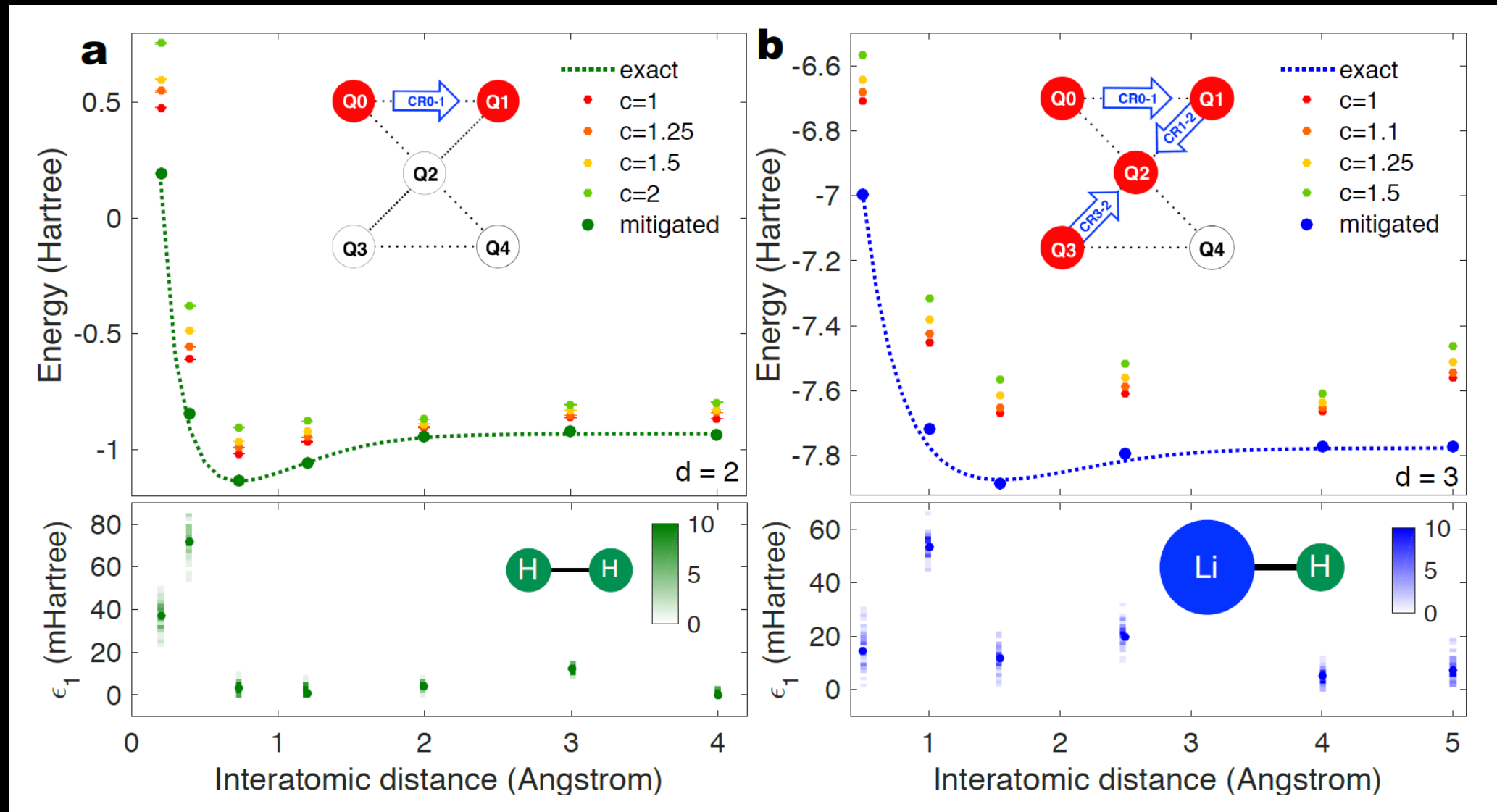


LiH – Molecule (error mitigated)

Sign problem: Monte-Carlo simulations of fermions are NP-hard [Troyer & Wiese, PRL 170201 (2015)]

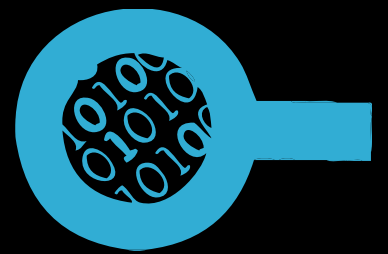
A. Kandala, et al. Nature 549 (2017); arxiv 1805.04492 (2018)

# Groundstate-energy of simple molecules



A. Kandala, et al. arXiv:1805.04492 (2018)

# Optimization

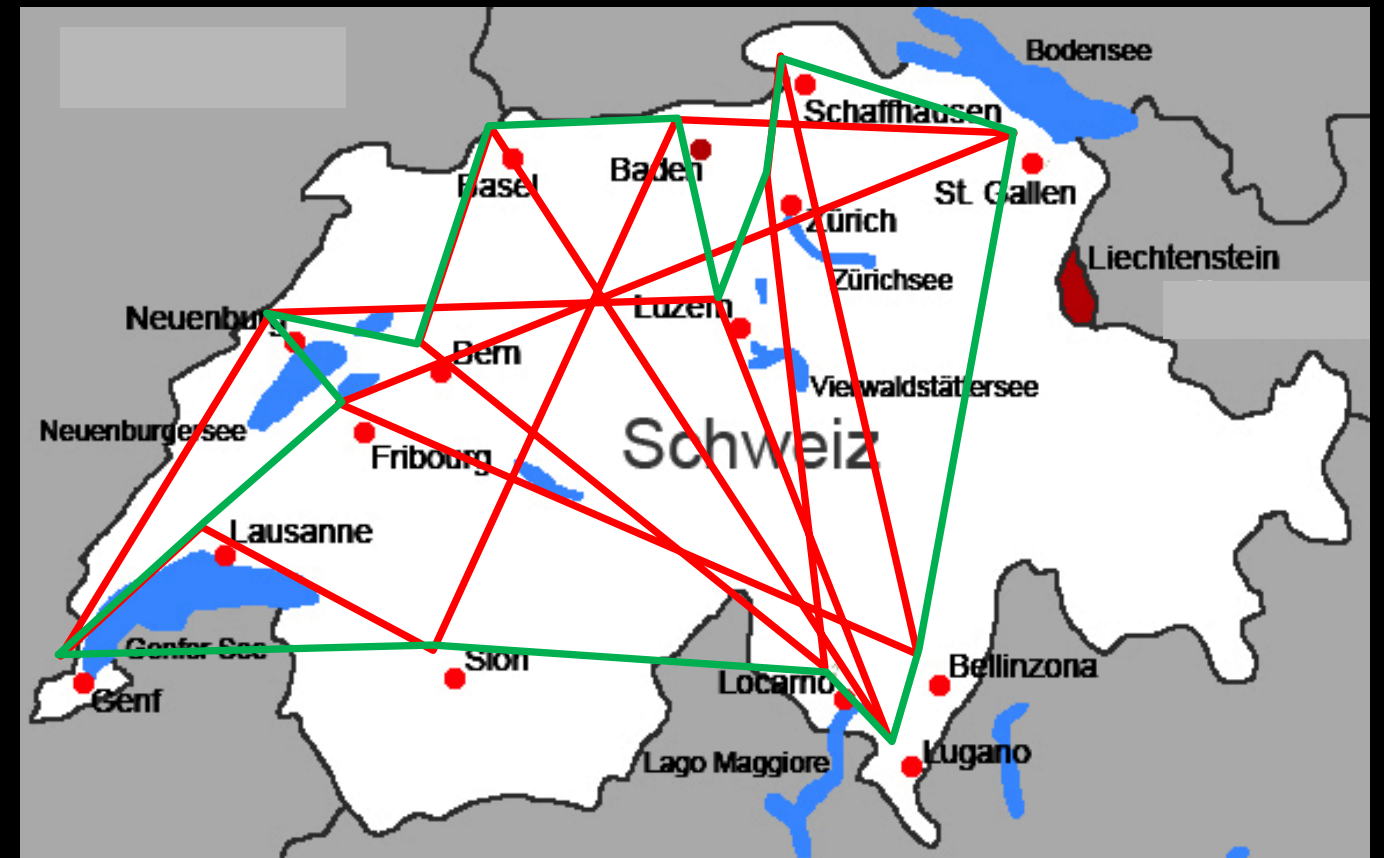


## Traveling Salesman Problem:

- Visit all cities just once
- Choose the shortest path
- Come back to starting point

$17 \times \dots \times 5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 17! =$   
 $355'687'428'096'000$  possible paths

can be encoded into a quantum physics problem:  
find the **ground-state of a spin (Ising) system**,  
which encodes the optimal path

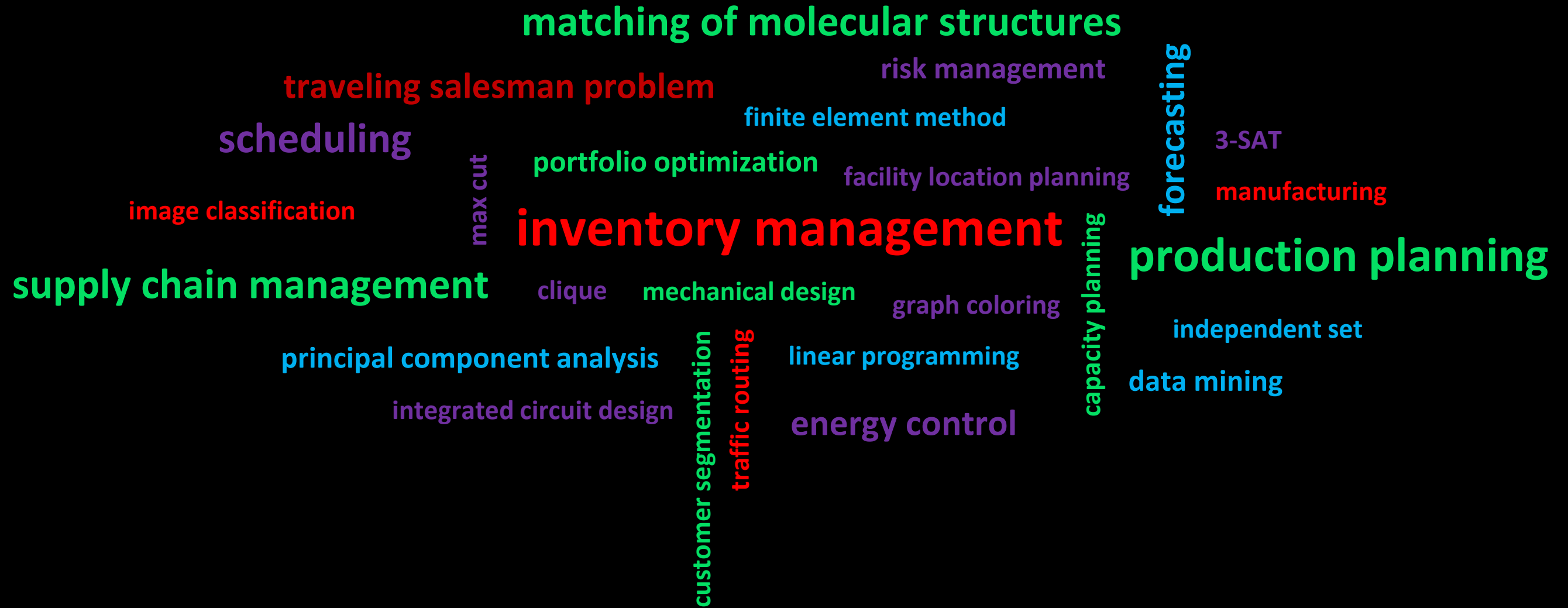


● 18 selected cities in Switzerland

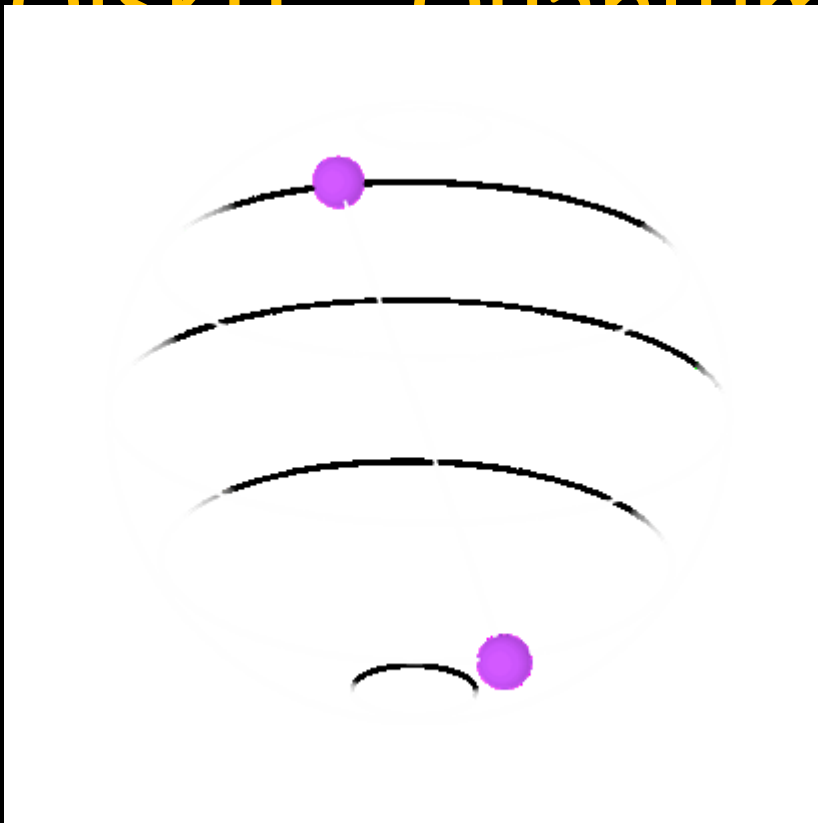
$$H_{Ising} = \sum_{k=1}^N h_k \sigma_Z^k + \sum_{k < l}^N \alpha_{kl} \sigma_Z^k \otimes \sigma_Z^l$$



# Optimization Problems & Applications



# QISKit - Quantum Information Software Kit



Open Source: [www.qiskit.org](http://www.qiskit.org)

## Latest version pypi **v0.3.8**

The Quantum Information Software Kit (QISKit for short) is a software development kit (SDK) for working with OpenQASM and the IBM Q experience (QX).

[GitHub](#)

[Road map](#)

## Learn

Use QISKit to create quantum computing programs, compile them, and execute them on one of several backends (online Real quantum processors, and simulators).

[Tutorials](#)

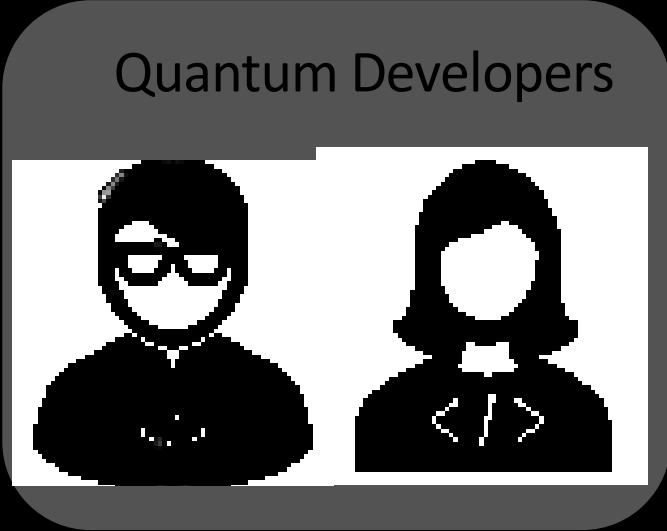
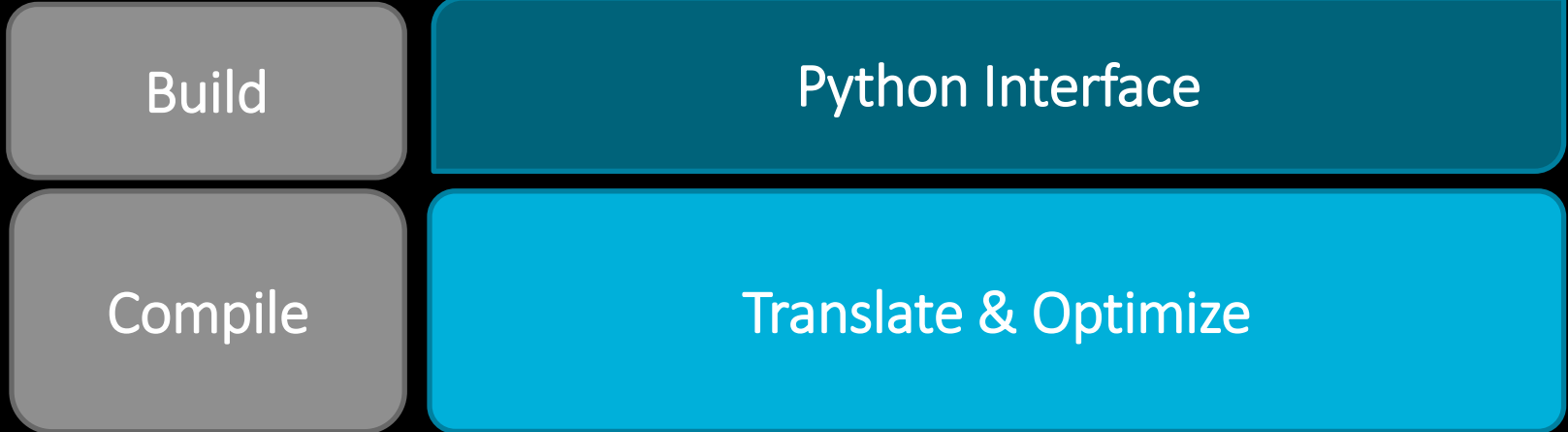
[Documentation](#)

## Run a quantum program

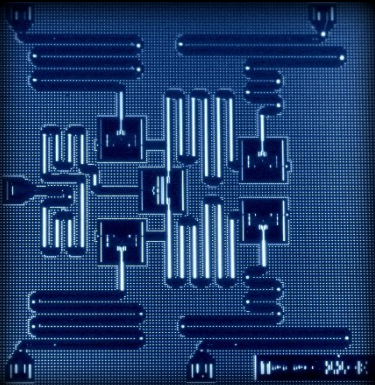
```
[python3] $ pip install qiskit
```

```
from qiskit import QuantumProgram
qp = QuantumProgram()
qr = qp.create_quantum_register('qr',2)
cr = qp.create_classical_register('cr',2)
qc = qp.create_circuit('Bell', [qr], [cr])
qc.h(qr[0])
qc.cx(qr[0], qr[1])
qc.measure(qr[0], cr[0])
qc.measure(qr[1], cr[1])
result = qp.execute('Bell')print(result.get_counts('Bell'))
```

# From Quantum Experience to Quantum Programs



Real Devices



Simulators



Laboratory

# QISKit demos for quantum chemistry and optimization

QISKit / qiskit-tutorial

Watch 38

Unstar 193

Fork 83



## VQE algorithm: Application to quantum chemistry

The latest version of this notebook is available on <https://github.com/QISKit/qiskit-tutorial>.

For more information about how to use the IBM Q experience (QX), consult the [tutorials](#), or check out the [community](#).

### Contributors

Antonio Mezzacapo, Jay Gambetta

### Introduction

One of the most compelling possibilities of quantum computation is the simulation of other quantum systems. The simulation of quantum systems encompasses a wide range of tasks, including most significantly:

1. Simulation of the time evolution of quantum systems.
2. Computation of ground state properties.

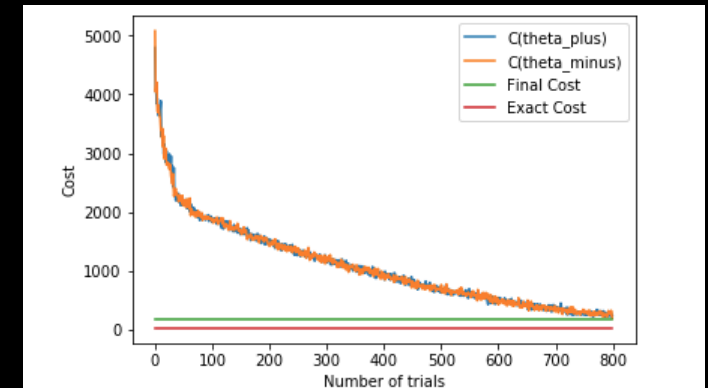
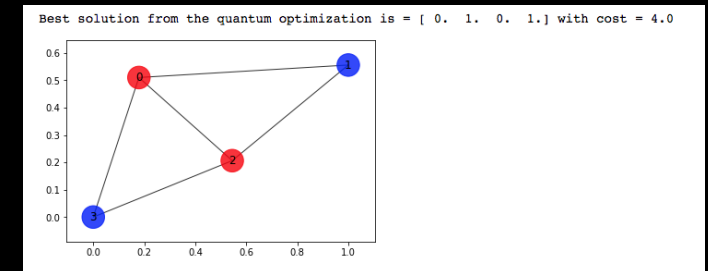
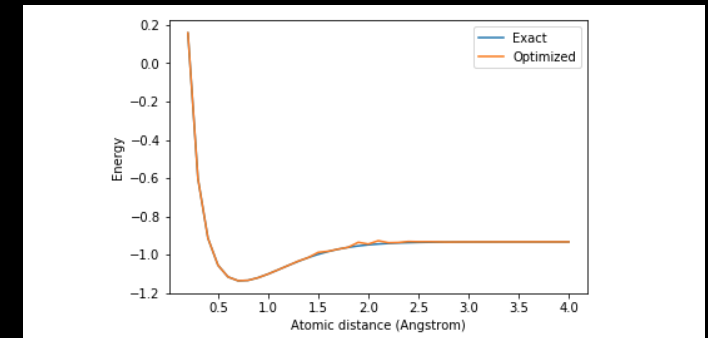
These applications are especially useful when considering systems of interacting fermions, such as molecules and correlated materials. The computation of ground state properties of fermionic systems is the starting point for mapping out the

- Step by step **Jupiter notebooks** on how to run quantum chemistry and combinatorial problems using quantum computers

- **Variational quantum eigensolver** approach with short-depth trial wavefunctions

- Chemistry tutorial includes **H2 and LiH molecules** to be run on 2 and 4 qubits. Explicit run of one interatomic distance and full potential energy surface

- Toy optimization problems include **Max-Cut** and **travelling salesman** instances



## VQE algorithm: application to optimization problems

The latest version of this notebook is available on <https://github.com/QISKit/qiskit-tutorial>.

For more information about how to use the IBM Q experience (QX), consult the [tutorials](#), or check out the [community](#).

### Contributors

Antonio Mezzacapo, Jay Gambetta, Kristan Temme, Ramis Movassagh

### Introduction

Many problems in quantitative fields such as finance and engineering are optimization problems. Optimization problems are at the core of complex decision-making and definition of strategies.

Optimization (or combinatorial optimization) means searching for an optimal solution in a finite or countably infinite set of solutions. Optimality is defined with respect to some criterion function, which is to be minimized or maximized. This is typically a cost function or objective function.

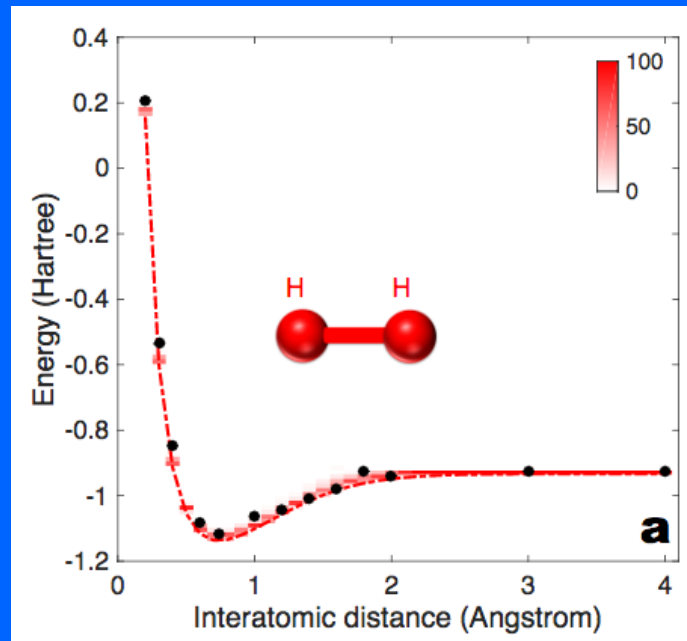
### Typical optimization problems



# QISKit ACQUA

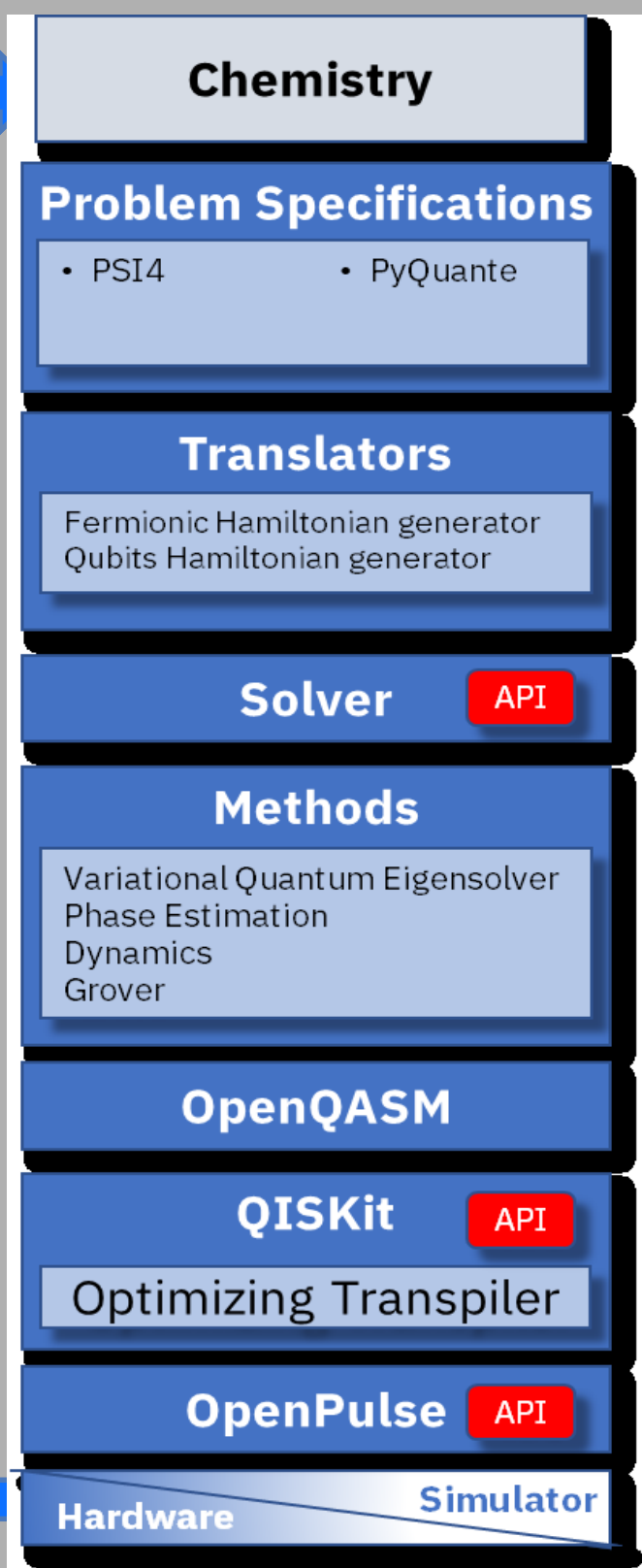
## End Users and Domain Experts:

- Seamlessly integrate Quantum capabilities in the existing workflow
- Enjoy Quantum performance and accuracy gains without having to know Quantum
- Easily get high quality results



```
[ -1.70505133  5.08016856
  6.13194571  4.12524575
 -0.26812628  3.90229532
  5.60418357 -3.50842279
 -3.92937001  6.17154054
  5.55945014  5.89555566
 -4.83748112 -5.56210097
  5.58561689 -5.99641163
  1.65834199 -1.49309666
 -2.47010646  0.4242964
  0.39126571  0.46051075
  4.28488151 -5.30498883]
```

**-1.875 Hartree**



# Grand Challenge: Quantum Computing

## Goal:

Build computers based on quantum physics to solve problems that are otherwise intractable

## Roadmap:

### Small-scale (Demonstration of Quantum advantage)

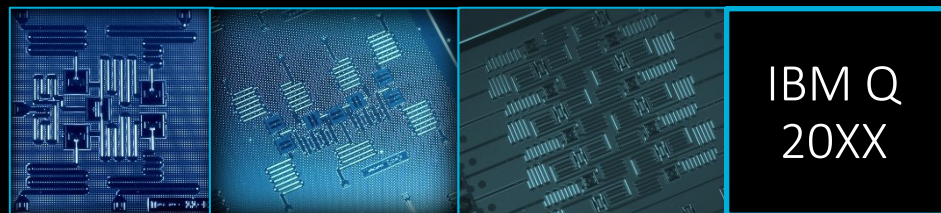
- Research level demonstrations
- Verify chemistry and error correction principles
- Infrastructure & community building
- Demonstrate 'Quantum advantage'

### Medium-scale (Commercializing approximate QC)

- Develop "Hardware-efficient" apps
  - Chemical configurations
  - Optimization
  - Hybrid quantum-classical computers
- No full error correction available

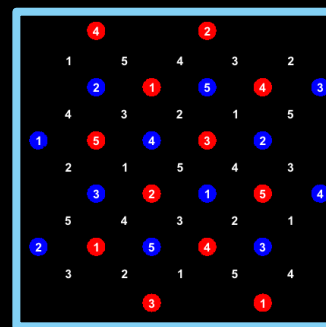
### Large-scale (Fault-tolerant Universal QC)

- Known and proven speed-up:
- Factoring
  - quantum molecular simulations
  - Speed-up machine learning
- Enable secure cloud computing



5-8 qubits

16 qubits 50+100 qubits



100-1000+ qubits



$10^6$ - $10^7$  qubits