

# Quantum simulation and theory for high-energy physics at CERN

*Dorota M. Grabowska*



QUANTUM  
TECHNOLOGY  
INITIATIVE

10.03.2022

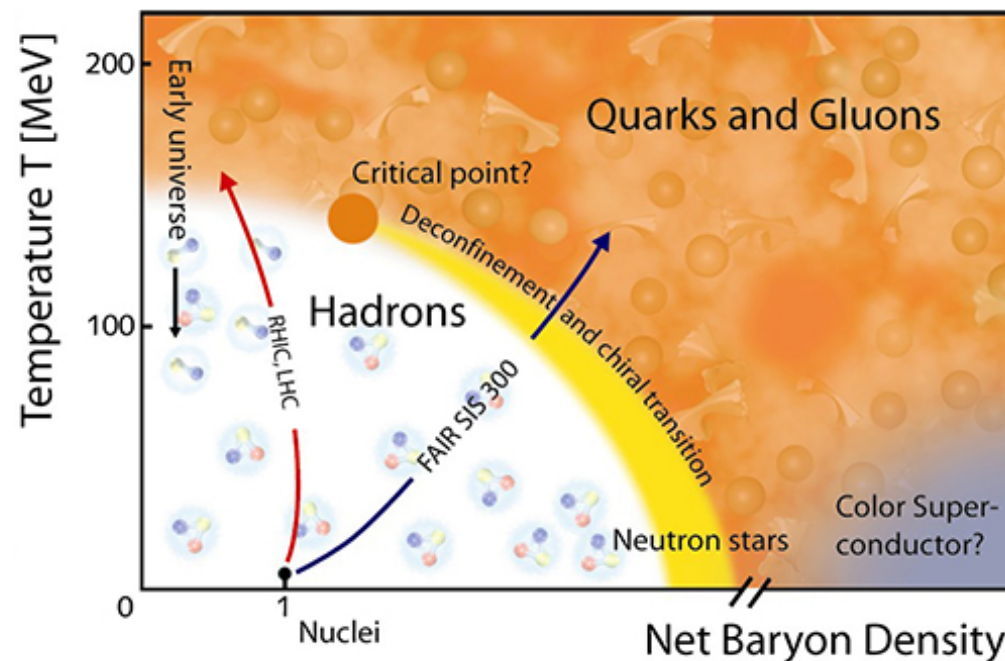
# Non-perturbative Phenomena in Particle Physics

*Rich phenomena of non-perturbative quantum field theories is a profitable place to look for new answers to the big questions*

*Studying the properties of strongly coupled theories from first principles is necessary to fully understand the Standard Model*

## Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD)

- Provides precise and quantitative description of the strong nuclear force over an broad range of energies
- *Ab-initio* calculations crucial for comparing theoretical predictions of the Standard Model to experimental results
- Gives rise to complex array of emergent phenomena that cannot be identified from underlying degrees of freedom



*Proposed QCD Phase Diagram*

# Quantum Simulations of the Standard Model

***Quantum computers have a fundamentally different computational strategy and will provide novel probes of fundamental questions in nuclear and particle physics***

- The last decade has seen the rapid evolution of real-world quantum computers, with increasing size and decreasing noise
- It is imperative to begin exploratory studies of the applicability of this emerging technology

# Quantum Simulations of the Standard Model

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- The last decade has seen the rapid evolution of real-world quantum computers, with increasing size and decreasing noise
- It is imperative to begin exploratory studies of the applicability of this emerging technology

## **Two Complementary Directions**

***Probe theories that are inaccessible through classical computing techniques***

Real-Time Dynamics

Finite-Density Nuclear Matter

***Decrease cost for computationally expensive but feasible calculations***

Augmentation of Monte Carlo Event Generation via Quantum Machine Learning

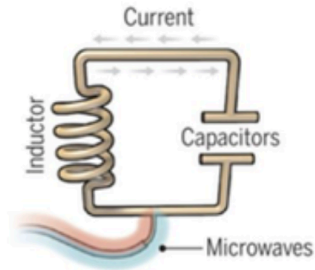
***Different approaches with different timescales***

# Digital Quantum Computing

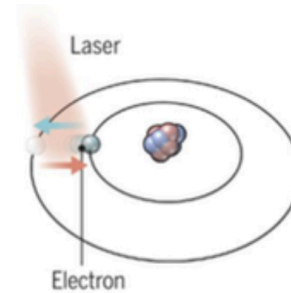
**General Idea:** Utilize collective properties of quantum states (superposition, interference, entanglement) to perform calculations

**Computational Strategy:** Quantum circuit is created by acting on collection of two-state systems (qubits) with unitary operations (gates)

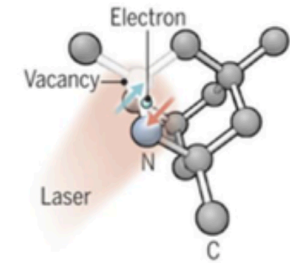
- Superconducting loops



- Trapped ions



- Diamond vacancies



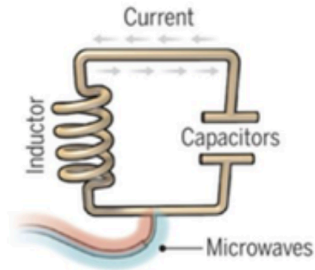
Graphics by C. Bickle, Science  
Data by Gabriel Popkin

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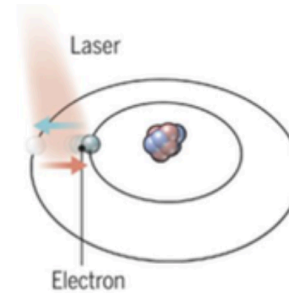
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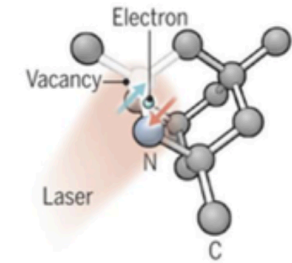
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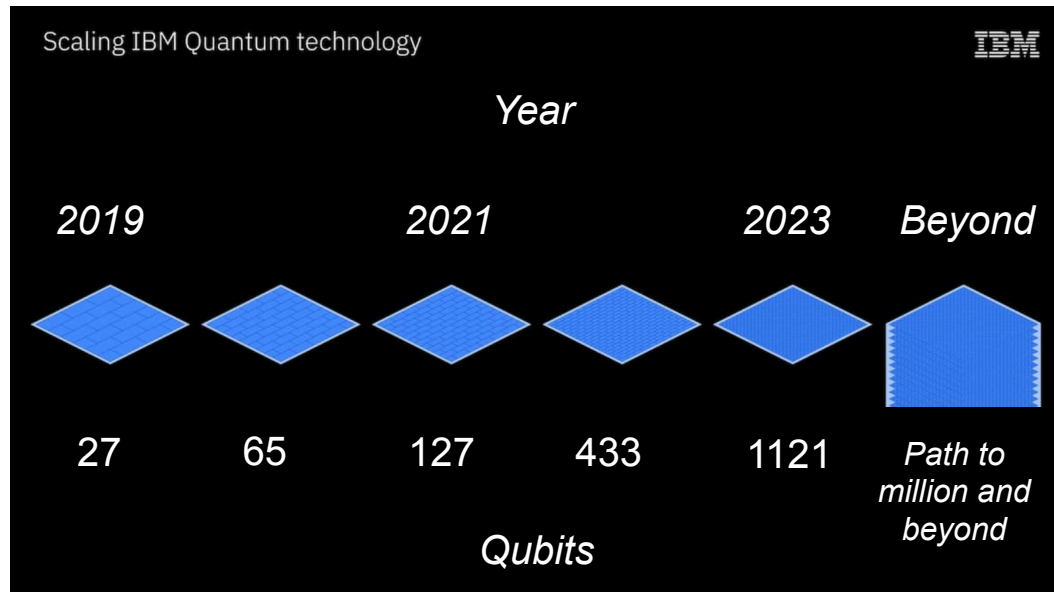
Currently in **Noisy Intermediate-Scale Quantum (NISQ)**-era

- Machines contain  $\mathcal{O}(100)$  noisy qubits without error corrections
- Sensitive to various sources of noise, including decoherence and dephasing

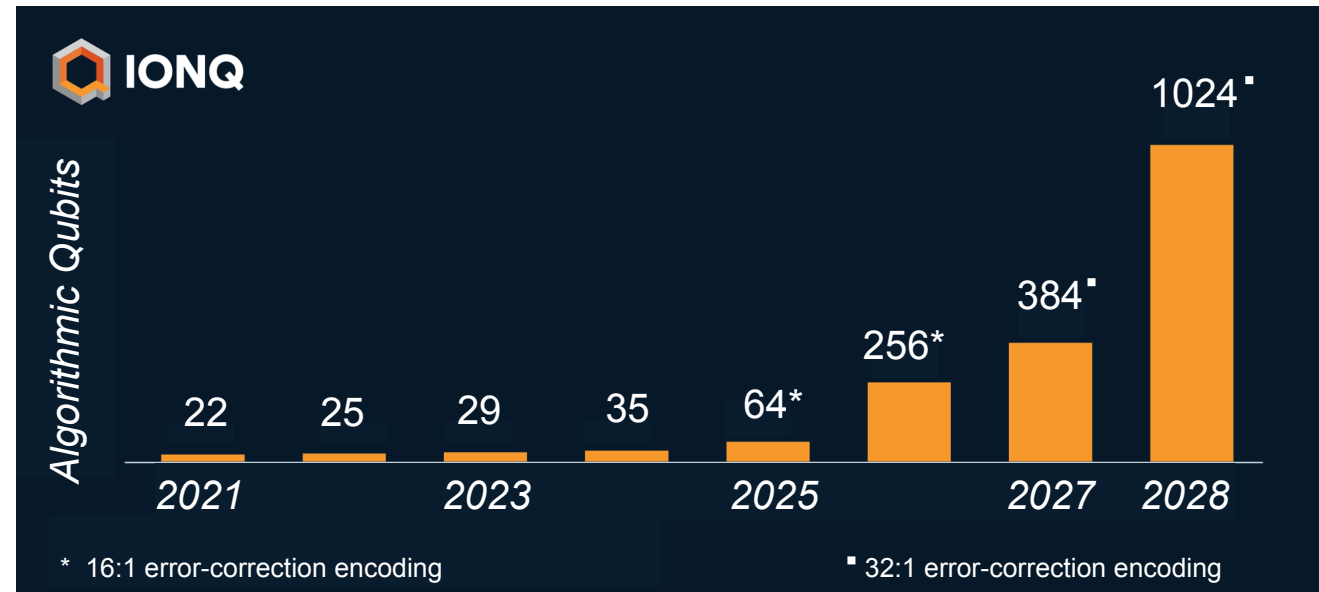
**Hope to see exponential improvement in run-time scaling for physically-relevant calculations**

# Projection for Near-Future Digital Quantum Computers

**Increasing Qubit Count:** Many companies projecting 1k+ qubit quantum machines on this timescale



IBM Quantum Roadmap, 2020  
*Superconducting Qubits*



IonQ Roadmap, 2020  
*Trapped Ion*

**Gate Noise:** Expect decreasing noise which will allow for longer circuits

# Quantum Technology Initiative (QTI)

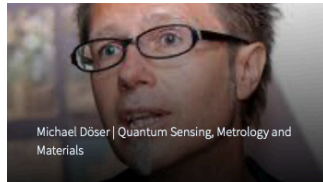
*Hub for Collaborative Developments in Quantum Information Science and Technology*

## **Main Branches and Coordinators**

**Michael Doser**

*Sensing, Metrology and Materials  
EP Department*

*talked  
yesterday*



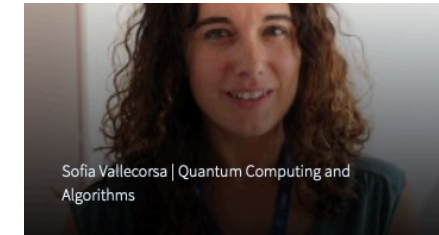
**Alberto Di Meglio**

*HEAD COORDINATOR  
CERN OpenLab Head  
IT Department*



**Sofia Vallecorsa**

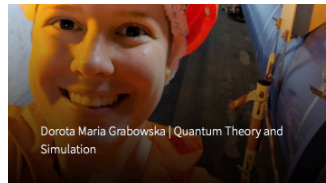
*Computing and Algorithms  
IT Department*



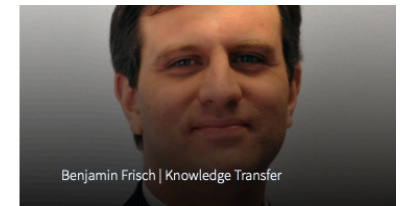
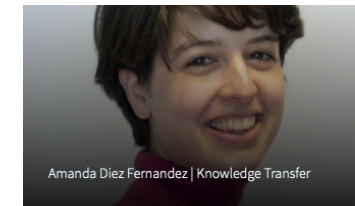
*talking  
today*

**Dorota Grabowska**

*Theory and Simulation  
TH Department*



**Amanda Diez Fernandez  
Benjamin Frisch**  
*Knowledge Transfer  
IPT Department*





# High Level Goals of QTI

*Guiding CERN's involvement in many rapidly advancing fields of quantum technology*

QTI has developed a roadmap document to define and guide the activities of the initiative during the first three years and lay the foundations for a continuing program

This Strategy is based on four top-level objectives

1. Scientific and Technical Development and Capacity Building
2. Co-Development
3. Community Building
4. Integration with National and International Initiatives and Programs

***Roadmap Document has now been approved and released to the public!***  
***<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5553774>***

# Theory + Simulation Branch

## *Four Top-Level Objects in the Roadmap Document*

Identify possible applications of quantum simulations and support worldwide experimental efforts to probe and measure both Standard Model and beyond the Standard Model physics.

### *Applications of Quantum Technology To Particle and Nuclear Physics*

Assist the computing and sensing activities in identifying theoretically promising regions of parameter space in which quantum technology could provide an advantage over classical methods.

Benchmark the current and potential performance of quantum simulations against state-of-the-art classical computations.

Host workshops, summer institutes and visitors, establishing global collaborations with other institutes, national labs and companies.



# Simulation of Lattice Gauge Theories



# Sign Problems in Lattice Gauge Theories

**Lattice Simulations:** Numerically estimation of lattice-regulated quantum path integral via Monte Carlo importance sampling requires the existence of a positive probability measure

$$\mathcal{Z} = \int [DU] \det D_F(U) e^{-S[U]} \quad \text{Must be real and positive}$$

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“**Sign Problem**” prohibits first-principles study of phenomenologically-relevant theories

## Real-Time Dynamics

Early Universe Phase Transitions  
Requires Minkowski space simulations

## Chiral Gauge Theories

Fully defined Standard Model  
Complex fermion determinant

## Finite-Density Nuclear Matter

Neutron stars and QCD phase diagram  
Complex fermion determinant

*Can quantum computing help?*

# Hamiltonian Formulations of Lattice Gauge Theories

**Lattice Hamiltonian:** Requires basis of states, set of operators and commutation relations

## Two Key Considerations

### **Gauge Invariance and Redundancies**

- **Problem:** Gauss' Law is not automatically satisfied in Hamiltonian formulations
  - Allows for charge-violating transitions
- **Problem:** Naive basis of states is over-complete
  - Requires more quantum resources than strictly necessary

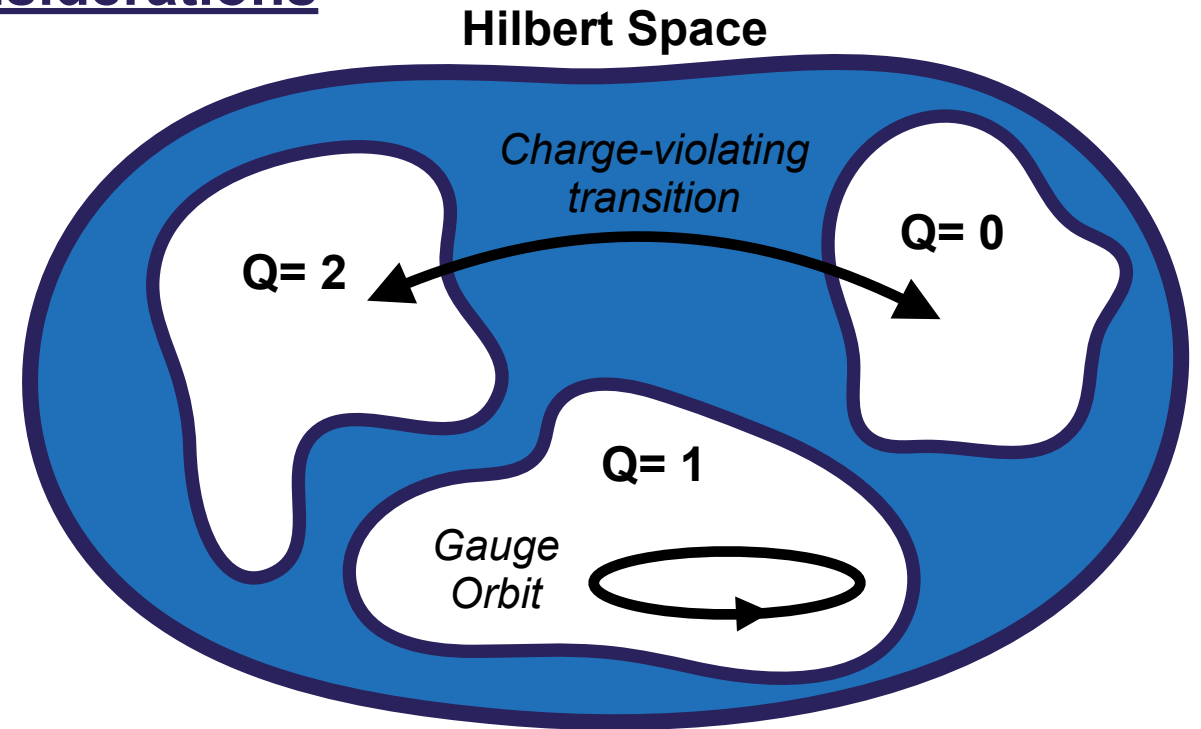
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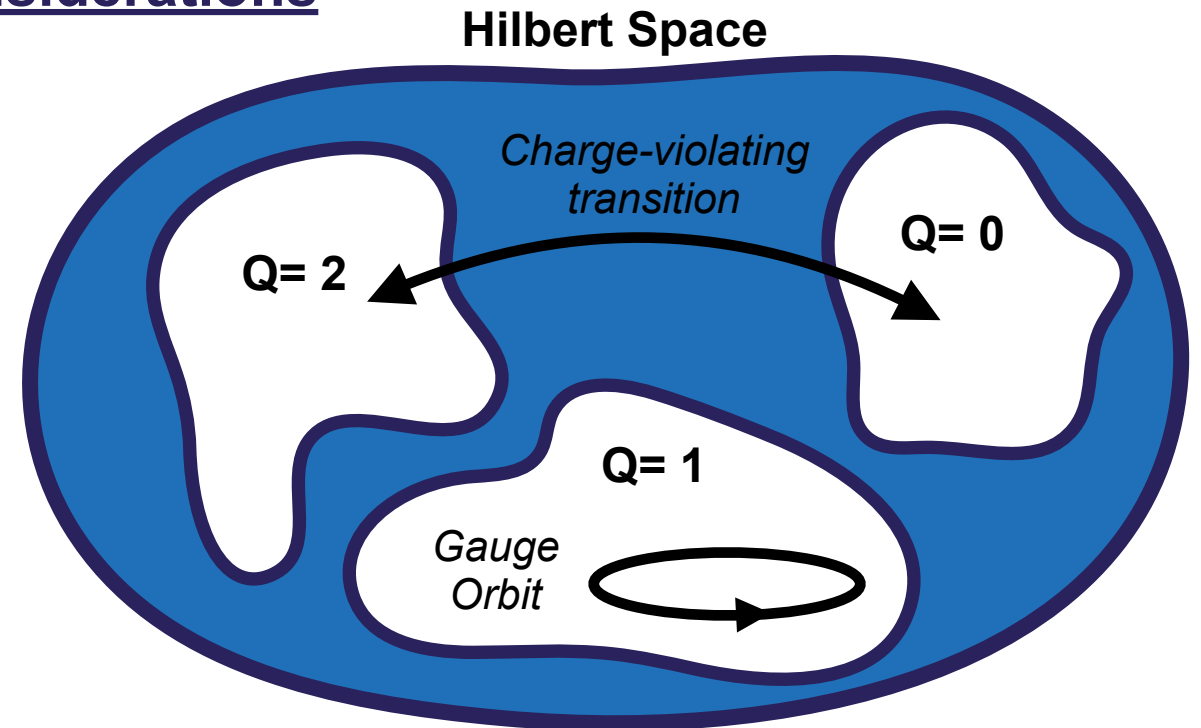
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### **Truncation and Digitization**

- **Problem:** Must choose maximum field value and how many field values included
  - Incorrectly chosen values lead to poor representation of desired theory





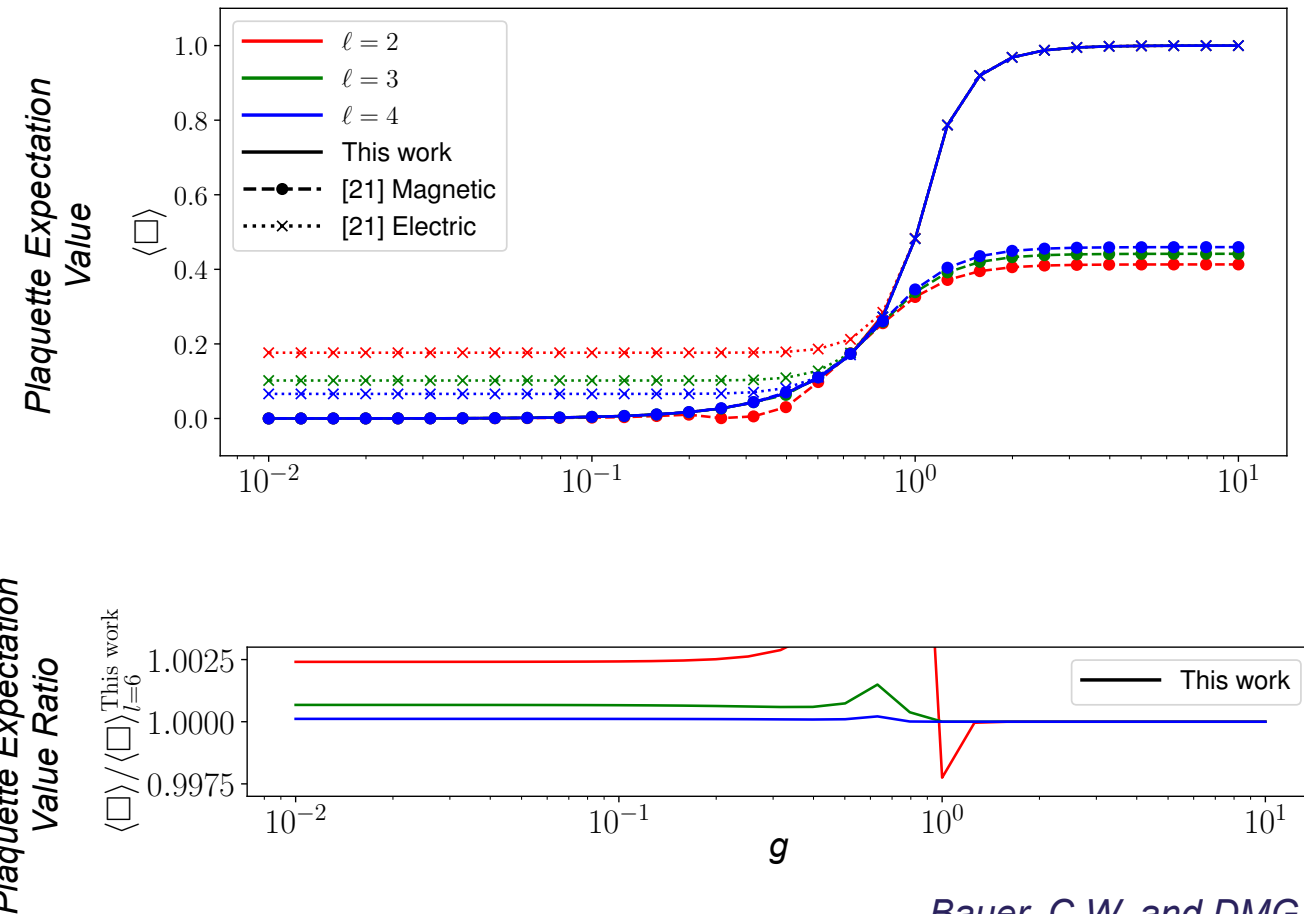
# U(1) Gauge Theories in 2+1 Dimensions

**General Idea:** Combine “gauge-redundancy free” dual representation with digitization method that strives to minimize violation of commutation relations

- Hamiltonian defined in terms of plaquette variables: rotors and magnetic loops

$$[B_p, R_{p'}] = i\delta_{pp'}$$

- Gauss’ law automatically satisfied
- No redundant degrees of freedom
- Formulations works well for all values of the gauge coupling



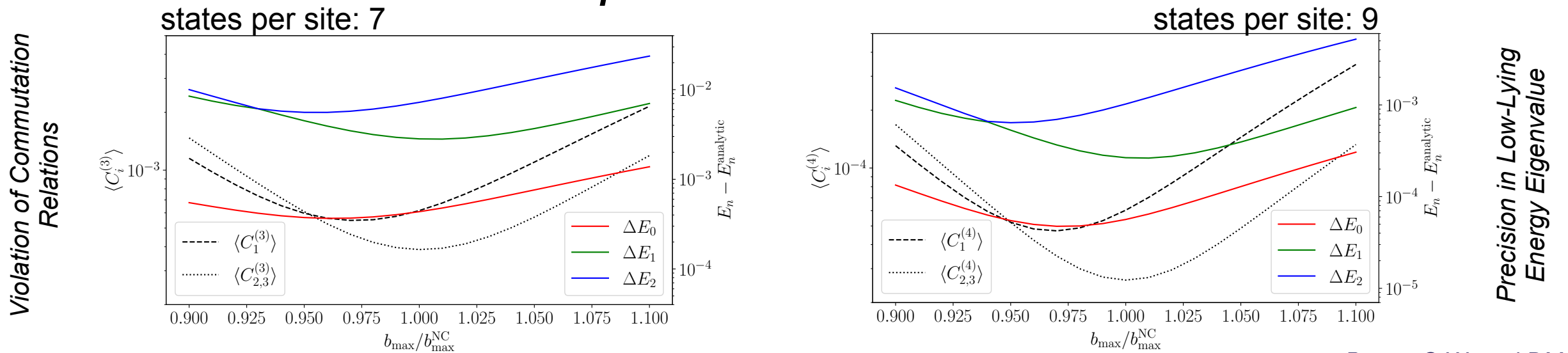
Bauer, C.W. and DMG  
arXiv: 2111.08015

# U(1) Gauge Theories in 2+1 Dimensions

**General Idea:** Combine “gauge-redundancy free” dual representation with digitization method that strives to minimize violation of commutation relations

- Gauss’ law is automatically satisfied and there are no redundant degrees of freedom
- Truncation scale and digitization scale are not independent and there is an optimal choice
- Canonical commutation relations are minimally violated for that optimal choice

## Comparison to exact solution



Scanning through truncation scale, compared to optimal truncation scale

Bauer, C.W. and DMG  
arXiv: 2111.08015

# Circuit Implementation and Gate Cost

**Complication:** Imposing magnetic Gauss' law without any gauge redundancy seems to be exponentially expensive in circuit length

**Cause:** Total magnetic flux conservation results in non-local term

$$H_B \propto \sum_{p=1}^{N_P} \cos(B_p) + \cos\left(\sum_{p=1}^{N_P} B_p\right)$$

$$N_P \sim (\text{Lattice Sites})^2$$

$$\text{Naive Cost: } \sim (2^{N_P}) N_P$$

Work in Progress

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**Approach One:** Rotate to different operator basis to minimize cost

$$\text{Rotated Cost} : \frac{N_P^2}{4 \log_2 N_P} \left( \log_2 \left( \frac{N_P}{\log_2 N_P} \right) + \frac{2 \log_2^2 N_P}{N_P} + 1 \right)$$

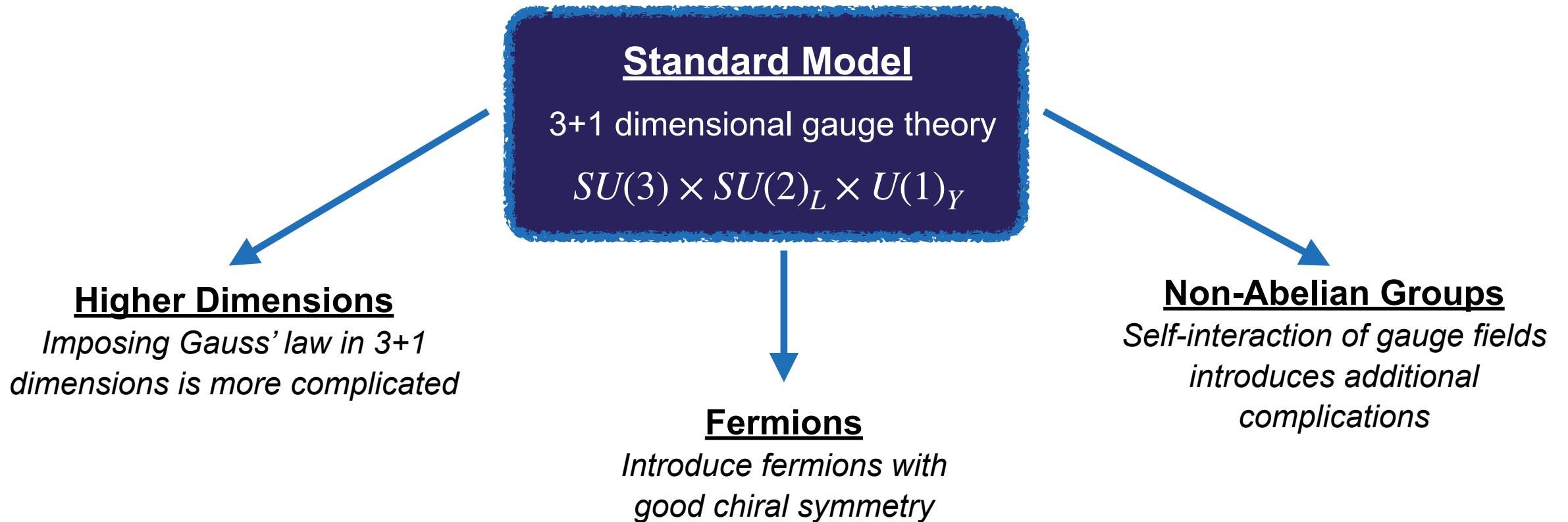
*Quadratic vs Exponential!*

**Approach Two:** Allow gauge redundancy in time evolution and correct for later

Work in Progress

# Generalizations and Applications

**Next Steps:** Generalize formulation to more physically-relevant theories



Works in Progress



# Quantum Machine Learning\* For Monte Carlo Event Generation

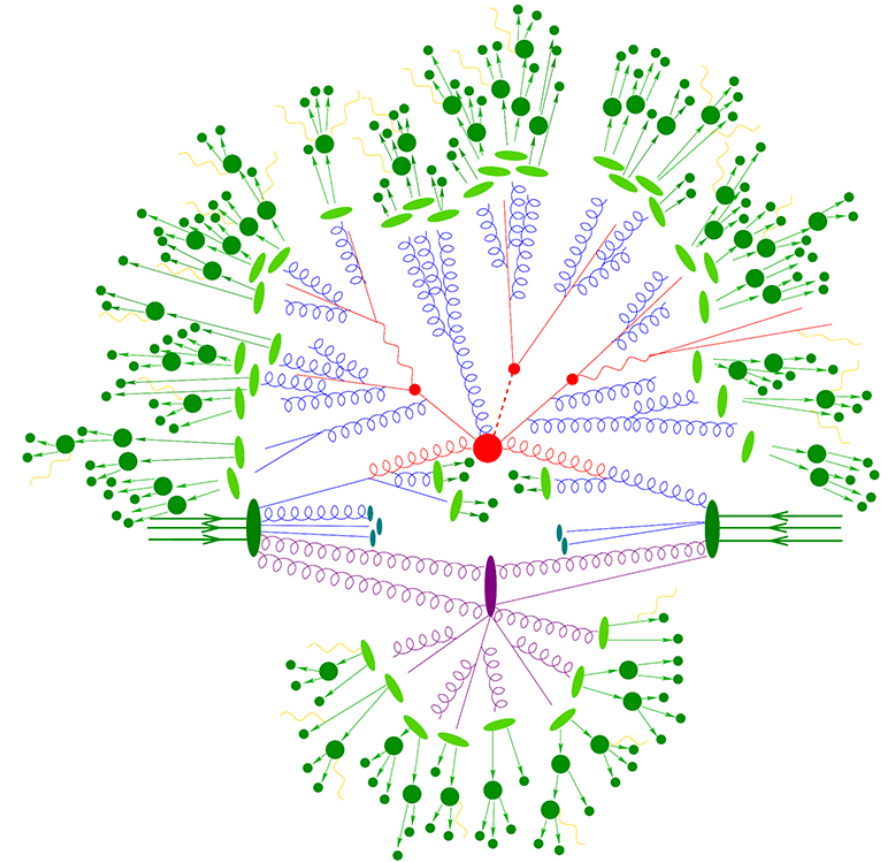


\*QML

# High-Energy Collisions at the Large Hadron Collider

**LHC Collisions:** Extremely complex events that span many different energy scales, further complicated by detector construction and experimental configuration

- No simple one-to-one mapping between Standard Model parameters and experimental measurements
- Monte Carlo event generation is necessary to compare theoretical expectation to experimental reality



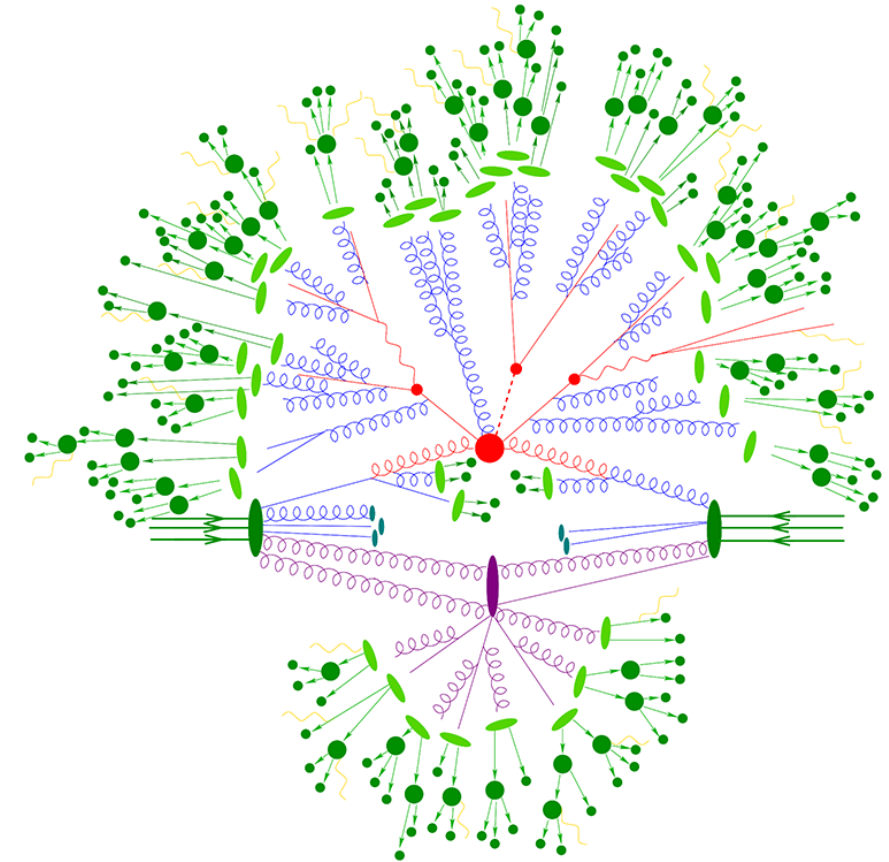
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**Monte Carlo Event Generation:** Pipeline that transforms Standard Model parameters into event distributions

- Feasible on classical machines, but computationally expensive



**Can quantum machine learning help?**

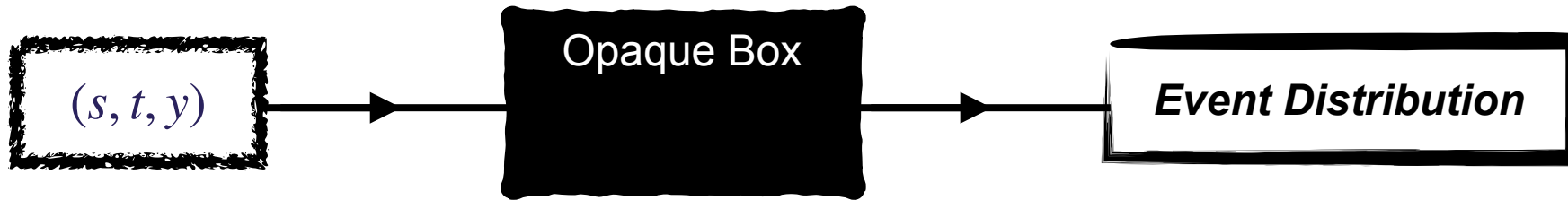


# (Quantum) Machine Learning

**Machine Learning:** Computer algorithm that improves automatically through experience and use of data

**Intuitive Definition:** Algorithm creates improvable opaque box that transforms input variables to output distributions

**Ex:** Transform set of Mandelstam variables plus rapidity into underlying event distribution of these variables

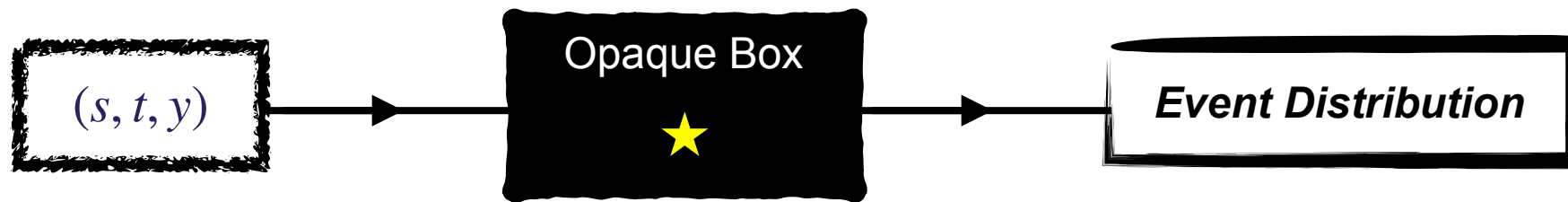


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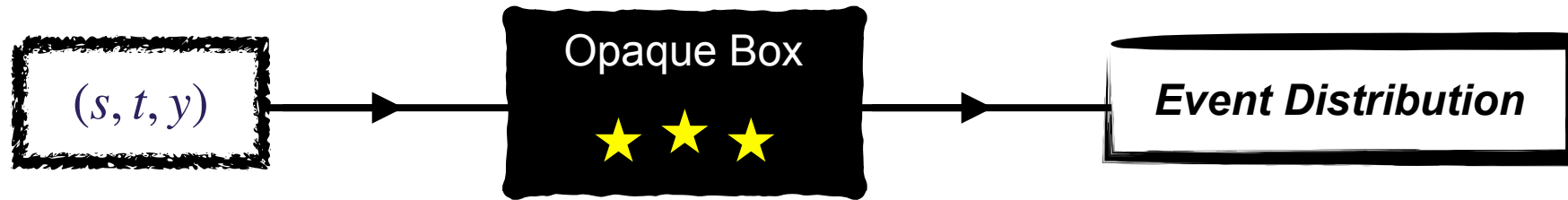
*Training improves how well the opaque box replicates the underlying distribution*

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*Training improves how well the opaque box replicates the underlying distribution*

***Opaque box is reproducible and can generate same distributions in the future***

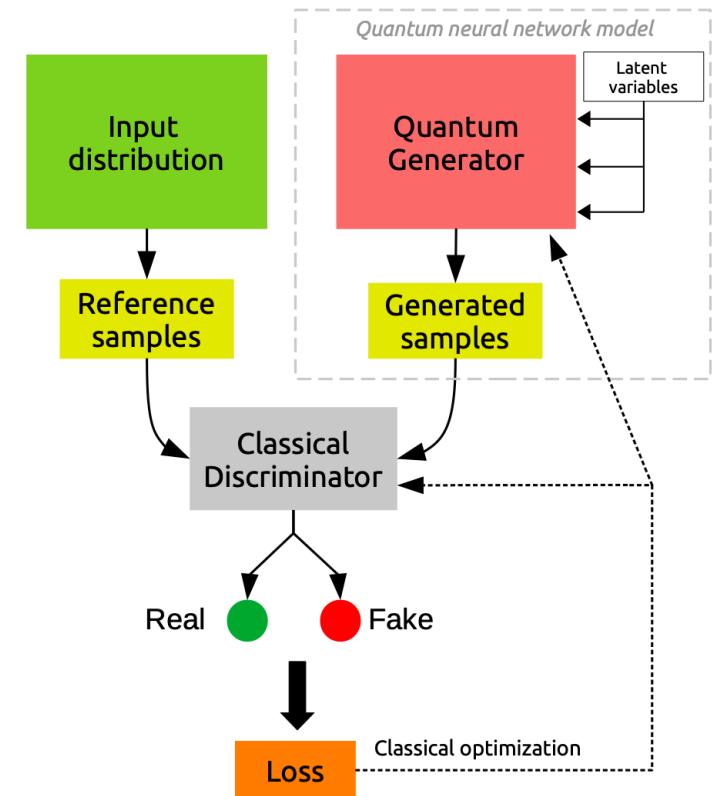
# Quantum Machine Learning Strategy

**General Idea:** Use a trained neural network to augment data produced by classical Monte Carlo event generation

- Data augmentation decreases classical computational cost due to “filling in” the distribution without having to rerun entire pipeline
- Quantum approach may be beneficial due to small number of highly correlated input variables

**Generative Adversarial Network (GAN):** Two networks compete against one another and through this competition, one network learns the underlying distribution

- Hybrid approach as no viable quantum training algorithm



*Bravo-Prieto, C., Baglio, J., Cè, M., Francis, A., DMG and Carrazza, S.; arXiv: 2110.06933*

# Real Quantum Machine, Real Monte Carlo Data

**Key Result:** Create new qGAN architecture that learns underlying distribution for LHC scattering process

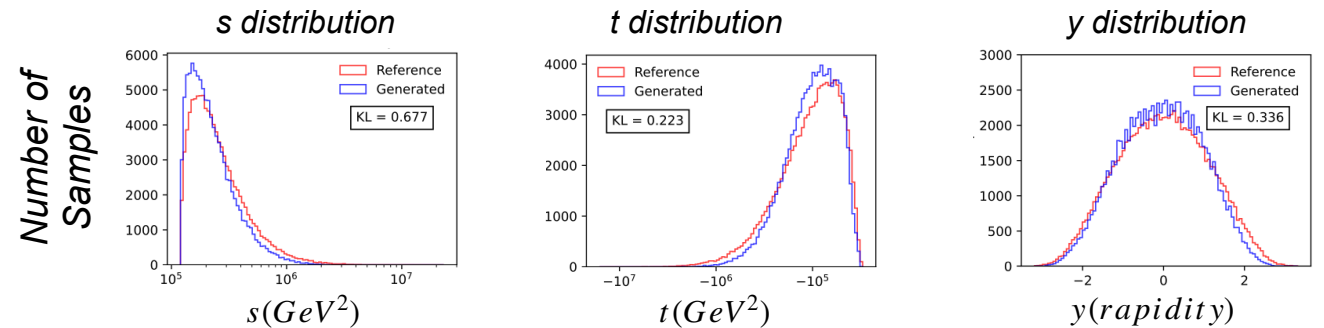
**Key Result:** See successful data augmentation on noisy machine

- Non-trivial proof-of-principles test as data is non-gaussian and highly correlated
- Significantly simpler algorithm than corresponding classical neural network
- See similar results on different classes of quantum hardware

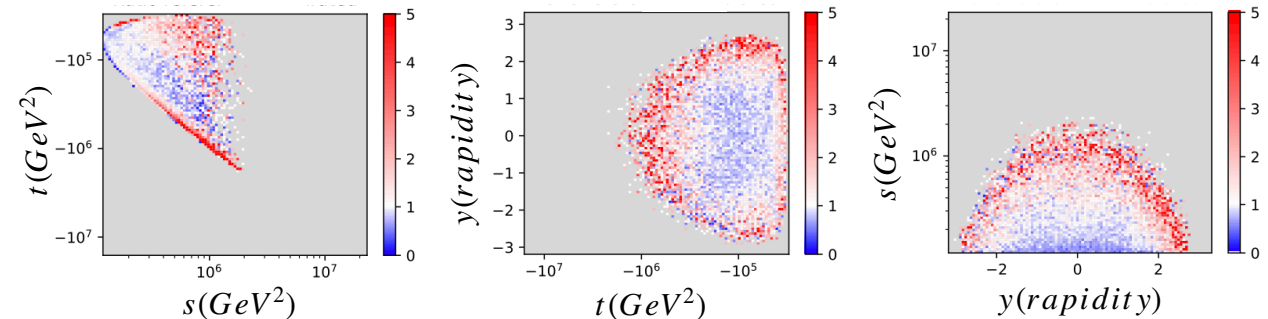
$$pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}$$

Distributions:  $10^5$  samples

ibmq\_santiago



Ratio: Reference to Generated

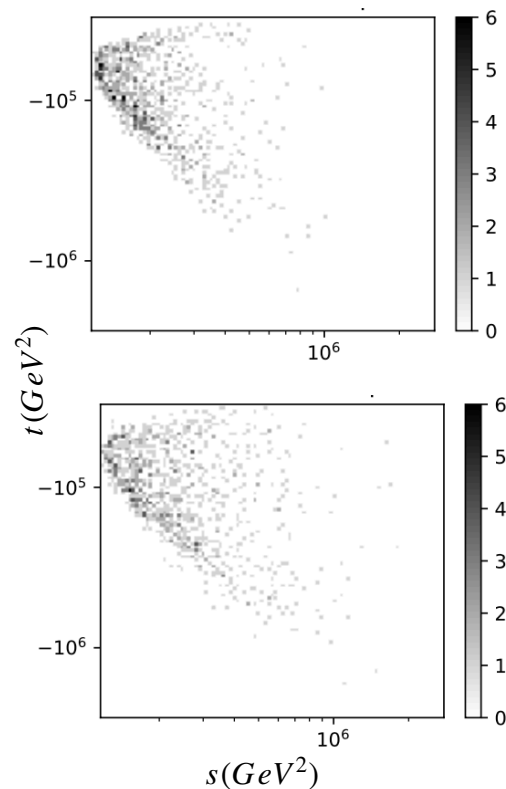


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# Different Quantum Architectures

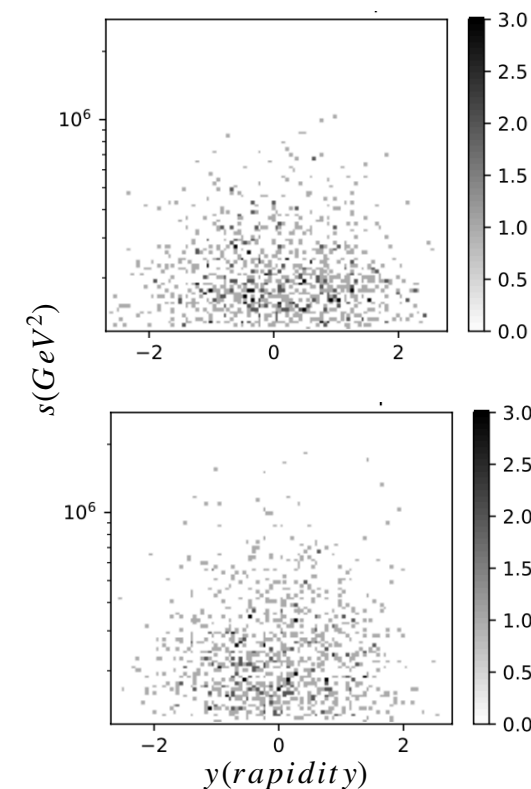
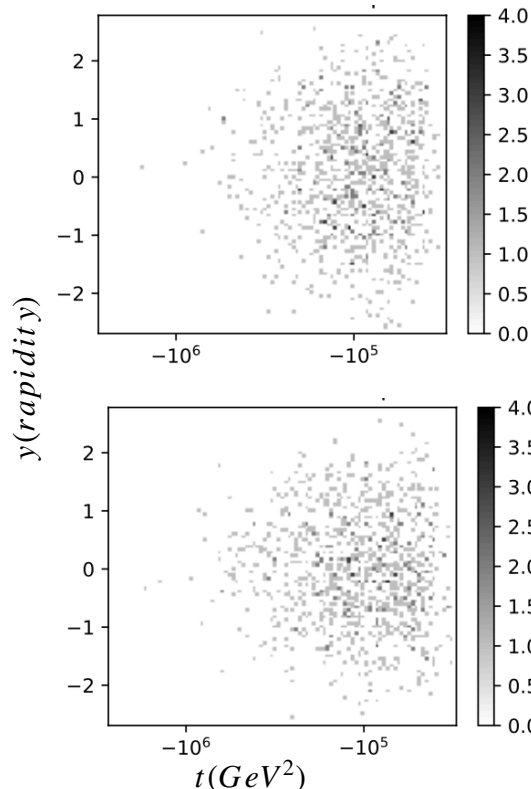
Comparison between (superconducting) transmon and trapped ion machines

**Transmon**  
*ibmq\_santiago*



**Trapped Ion**  
*IonQ*

*Ratio: Reference to Generated*



**10<sup>3</sup> Samples**

*Bravo-Prieto, C., Baglio, J., Cè, M., Francis, A., DMG and Carrazza, S.; arXiv: 2110.06933*

# Benchmarking, Transfer Learning and Future Directions

**Recall:** For calculations that are feasible but expensive on classical hardware, performing comparison studies is imperative

*Does QML data augmentation improve total run-time?*

*Are there other processes that could be similarly augmented via QML?*

*How does QML compare to ML, especially in number of hidden parameters?*

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*Can we recycle neural net trained on one scattering process and use it for other processes*



*Work in Progress*



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## Fully Quantum Approach

*Can we create a fully quantum approach to machine learning that benefits from quantum speed-up?*

### MAJOR ROADBLOCK

No good quantum training algorithms





# Concluding Remarks



# Conclusions

***Quantum computers have a fundamentally different computational strategy and will provide novel probes of fundamental questions in nuclear and particle physics***

***Important to think carefully about what particle and nuclear physics problems would be most amenable to this novel computational strategy***

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