

Title: A new approach to Quantum Estimation: Theory and Applications

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Abstract: A new approach to Quantum Estimation Theory will be introduced, based on the novel notions of 'quantum comb' and 'quantum tester', which generalize the customary notions of 'channel' and 'POVM' [PRL 101 060401 (2008)]. The new approach opens completely new possibilities of optimization in Quantum Estimation, beyond the classic approach of Helstrom and Holevo. Using comb theory it is possible to optimize the input-output arrangement of the black boxes for estimation with many uses. In this way it is possible to prove equivalence of arrangements for optimal estimation of unitaries, and the need of memory assisted protocols for for optimal discrimination of memory channels [arXiv:0806.1172]. This also leads to a new notion of distance for channels with memory. Using the theory of quantum testers the optimal tomography schemes are derived--both state and for channel tomography--for arbitrary prior ensemble and arbitrary representation [arXiv:0803.3237]. Finally, using the method of generalized pseudo-inverse for optimal data-processing [PRL. 98 020403 (2007)], we derived two improved data-processing for quantum tomography: Adaptive Bayesian and Frequentist [arXiv:0807.5058].

# A new approach to Quantum Estimation: Theory and Applications

Giacomo Mauro D'Ariano  
QUIT group, University of Pavia

# QIT Group in Pavia



Chiara Macchiavello



Lorenzo Maccone



Massimiliano Sacchi



Paolo Perinotti



Giulio Chiribella



Daniele Magnani



Stefano Facchini



Alessandro Bisio

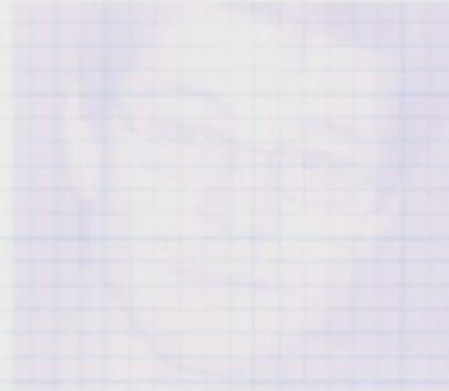
# Theory of Quantum Combs in collaboration with



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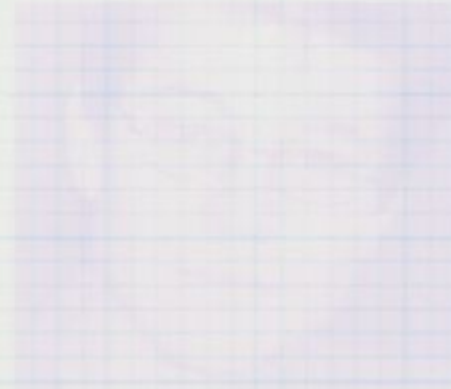
# Application to Optimal Quantum Tomography in collaboration with



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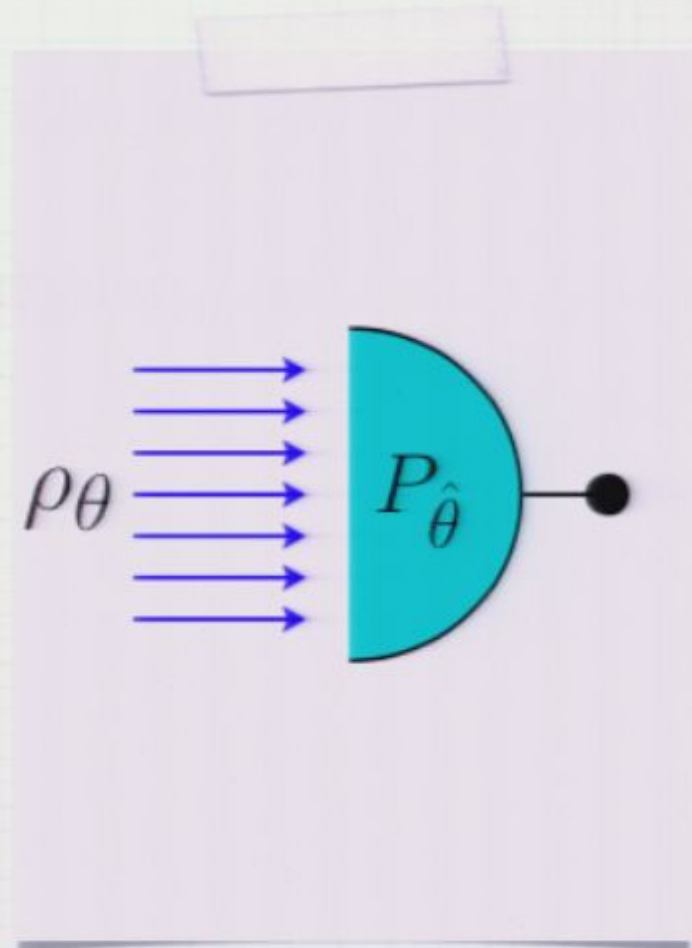
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  - Optimal process tomography
  - Cloning of processes, quantum learning, quantum strategies and algorithms, ...

# Helstrom

## Quantum Estimation Theory

Quantum state  $\rho_\theta$  parameterized by  $\theta$

Problem: estimate  $\theta$  optimally according to the cost function  $C(\theta, \hat{\theta})$



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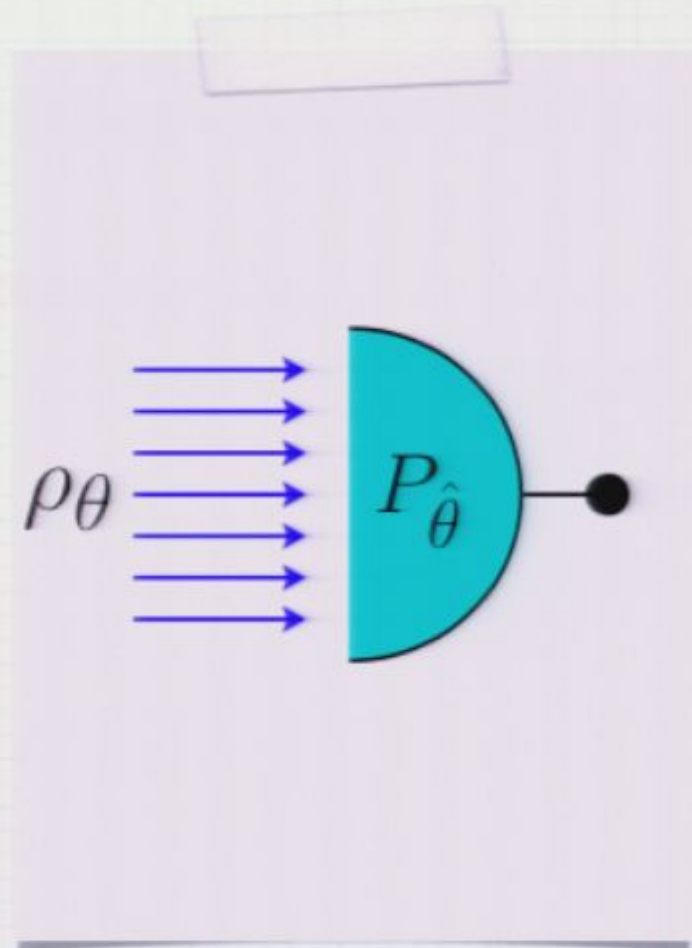
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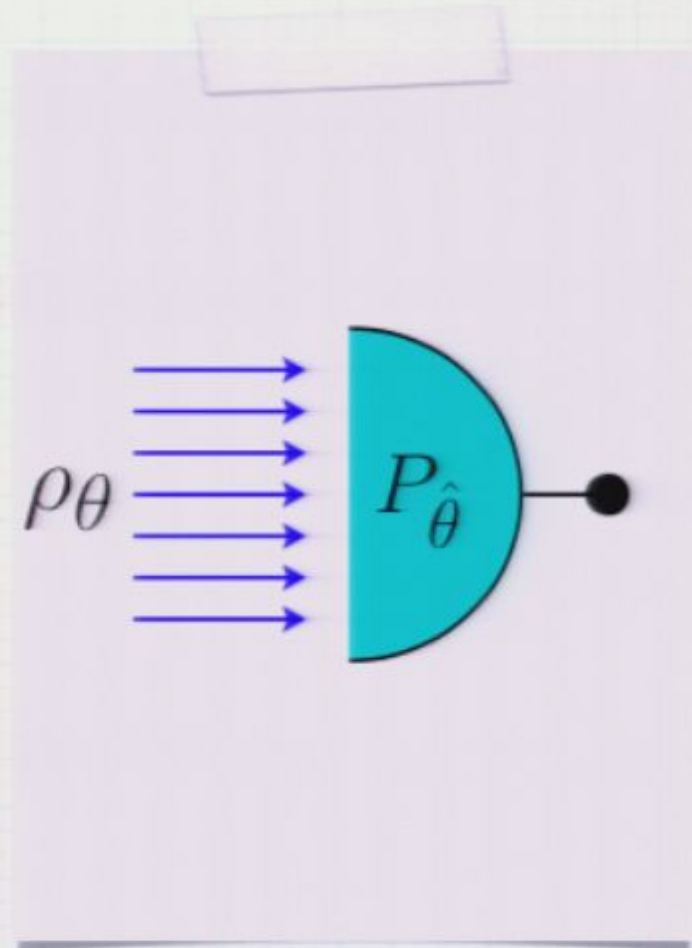
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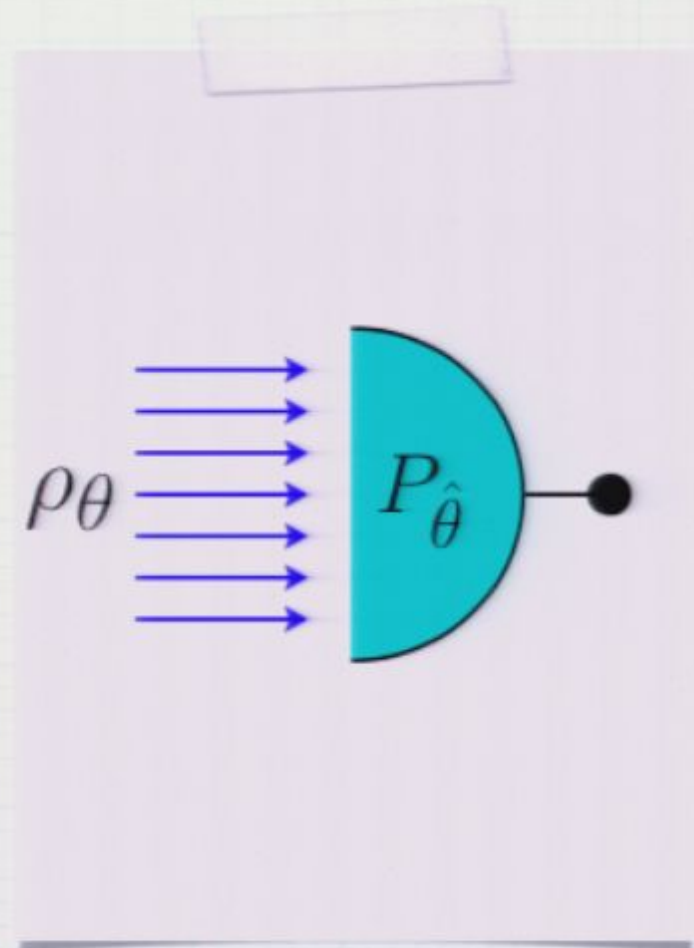


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Practically interesting situation  
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$$\theta \implies \rho_\theta = U_\theta \rho U_\theta^\dagger$$

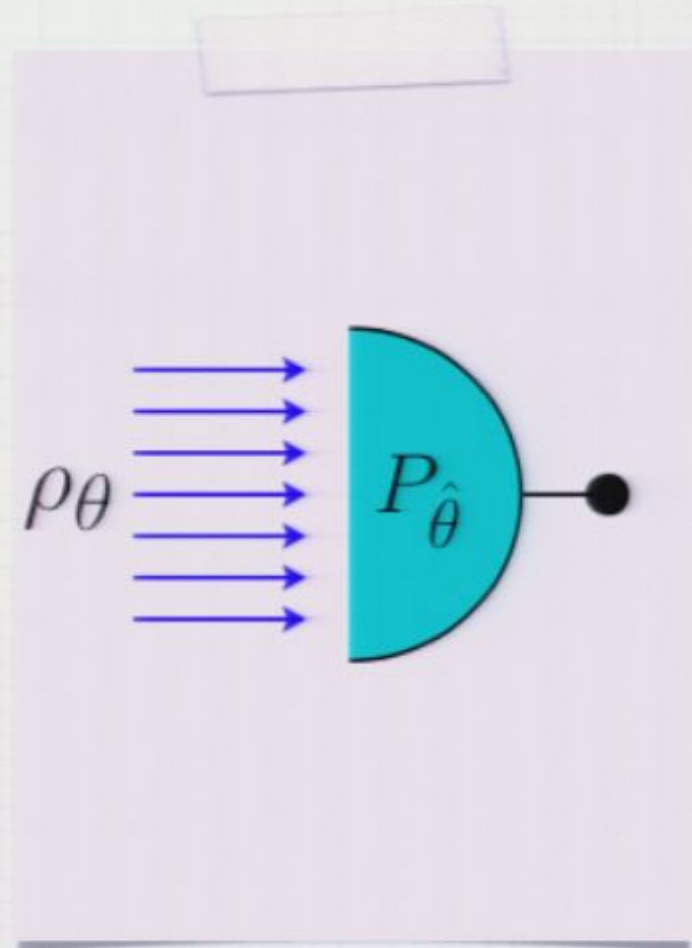


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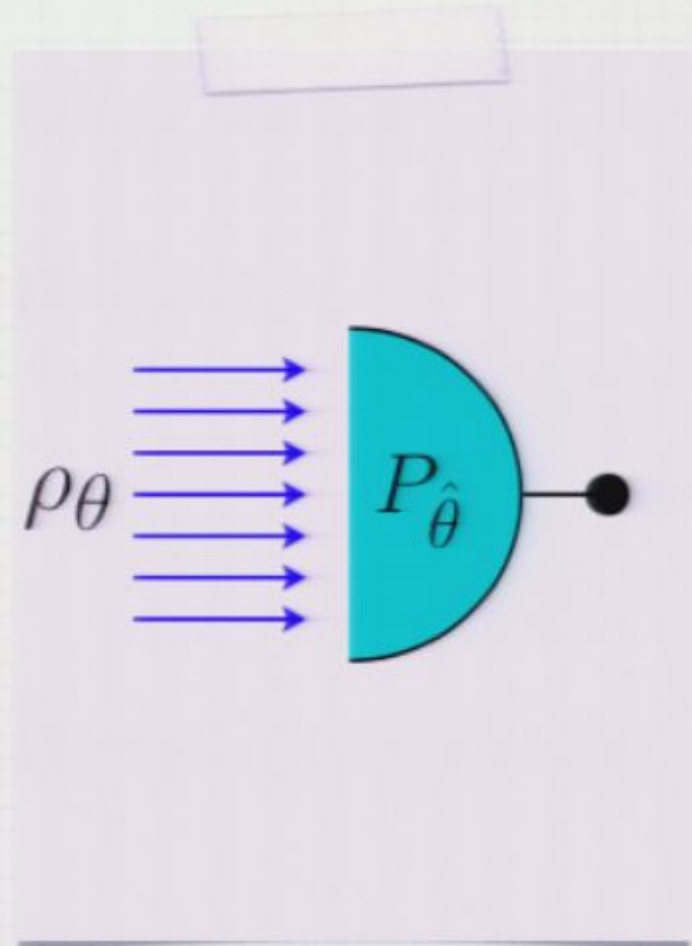
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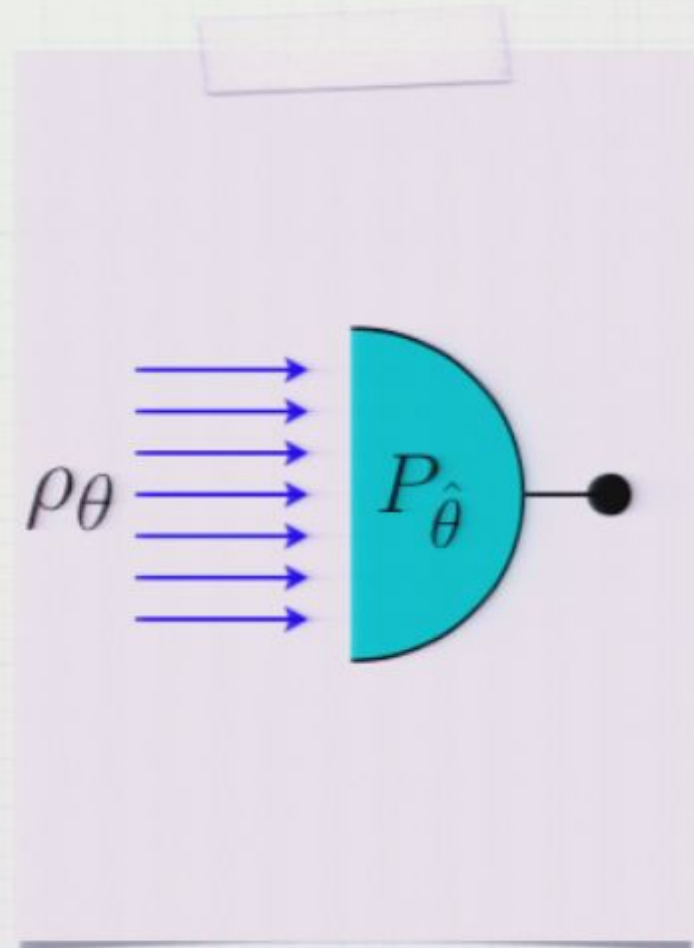


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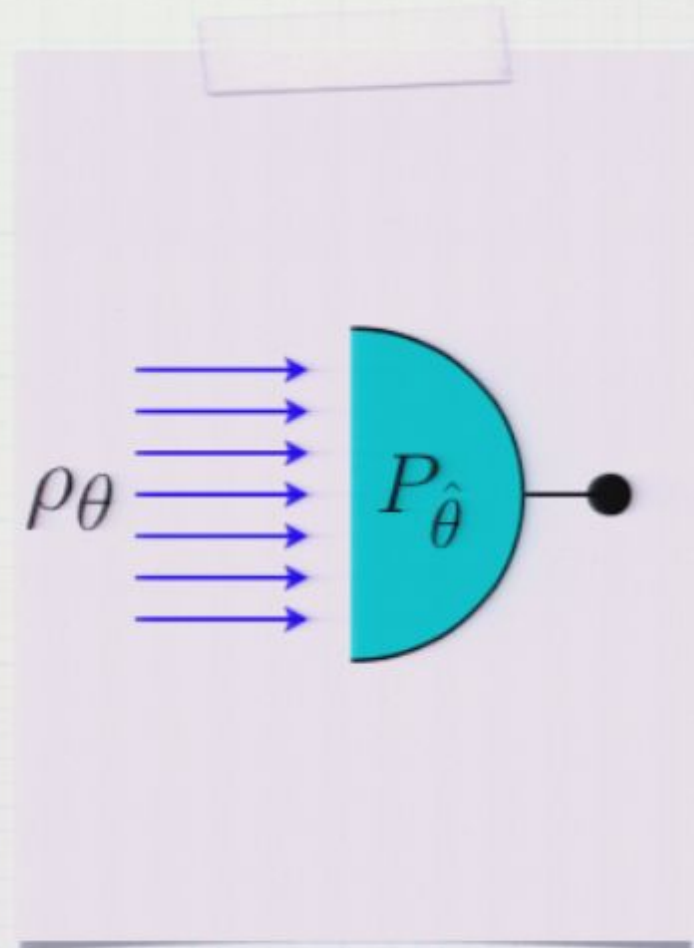
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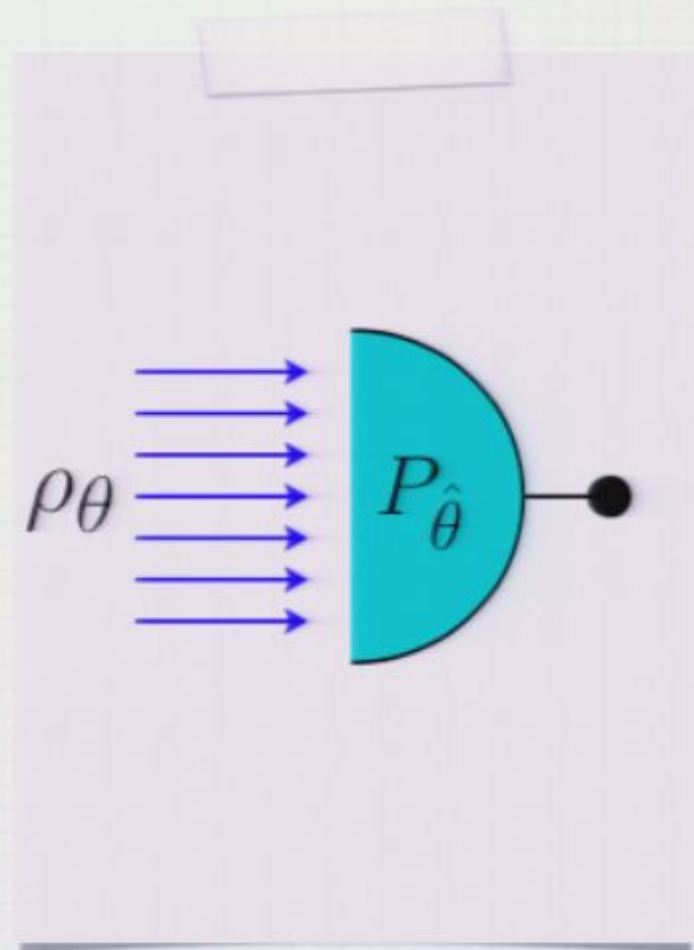
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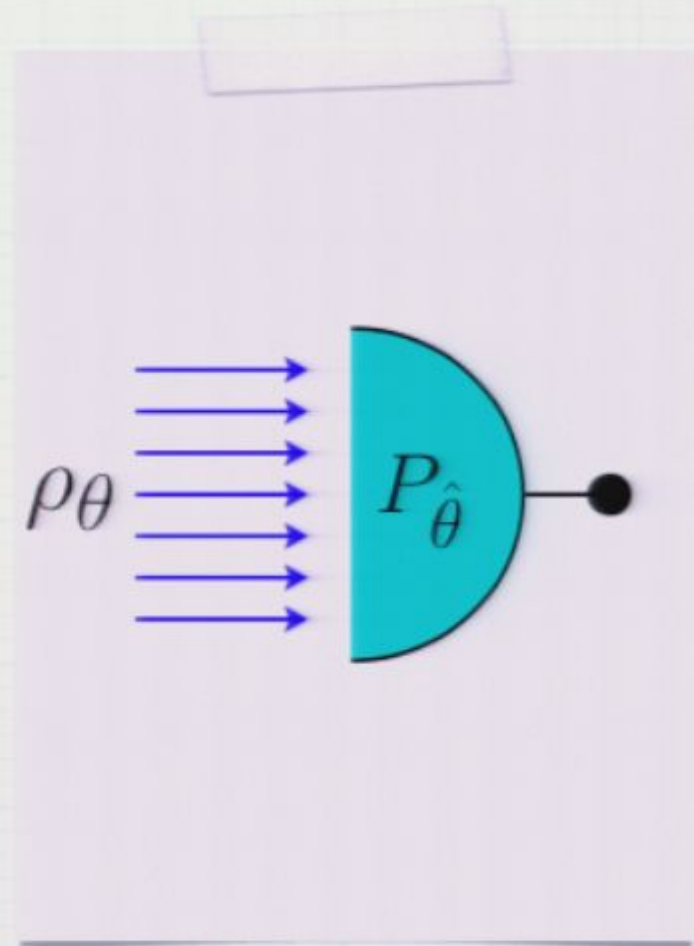
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Interesting situation: **the parameter** to be estimated  
**is encoded on a transformation**---not on the state!

# Quantum Estimation Theory

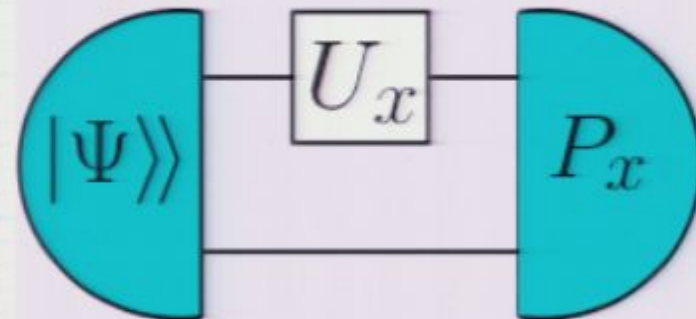
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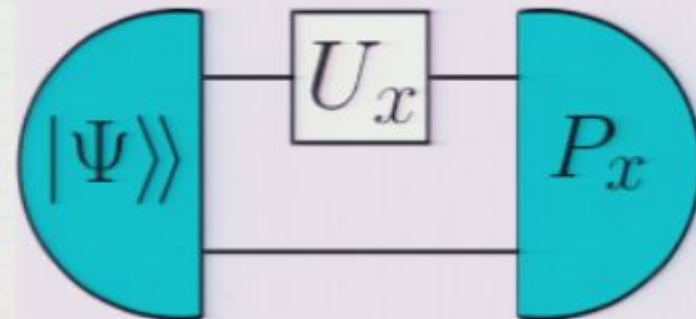


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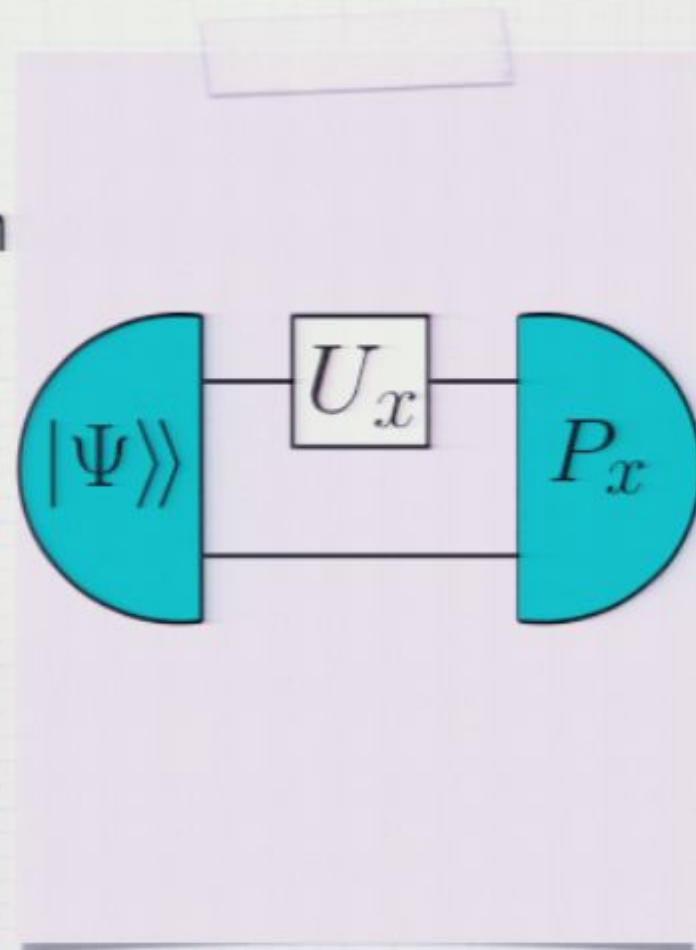
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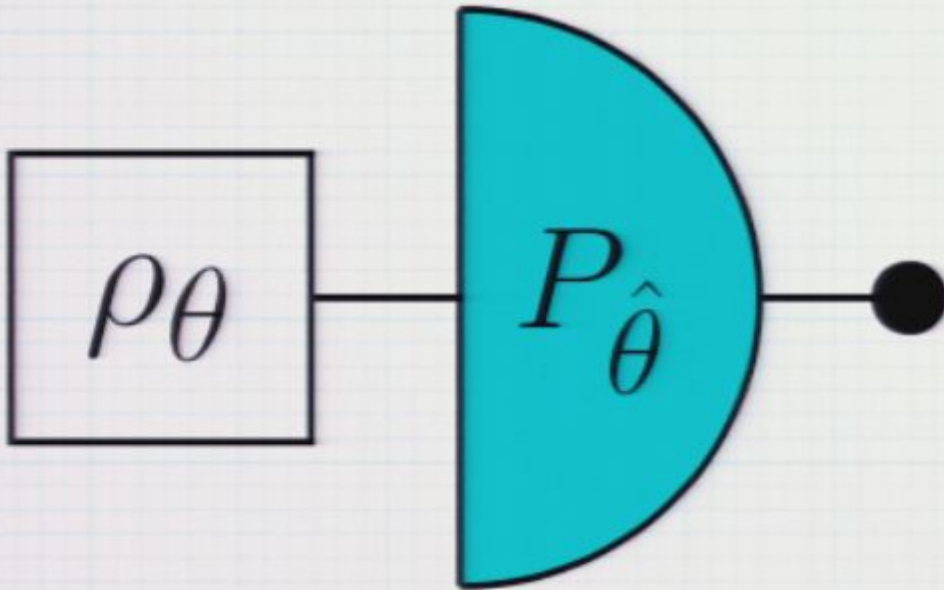
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With the phase we were lucky!



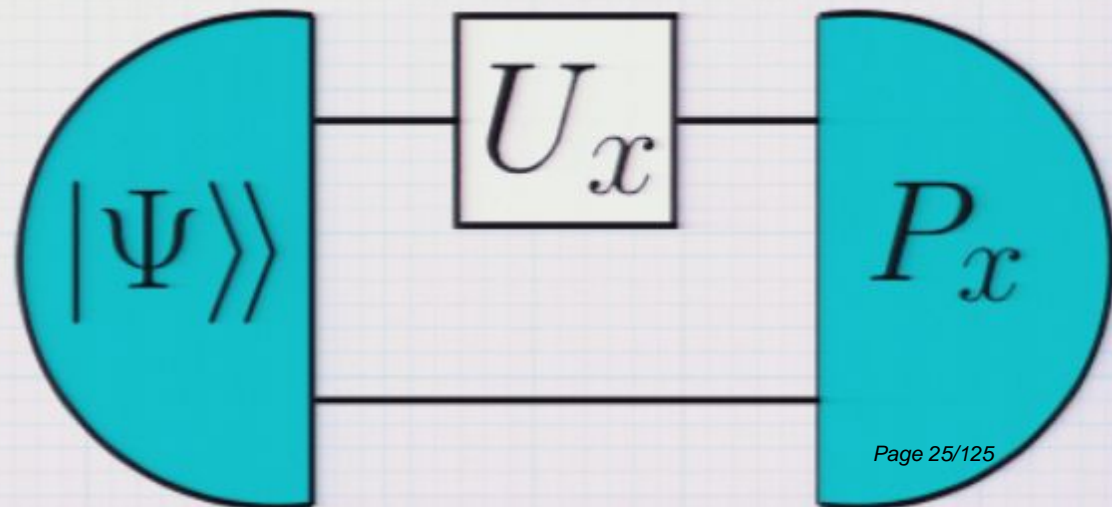
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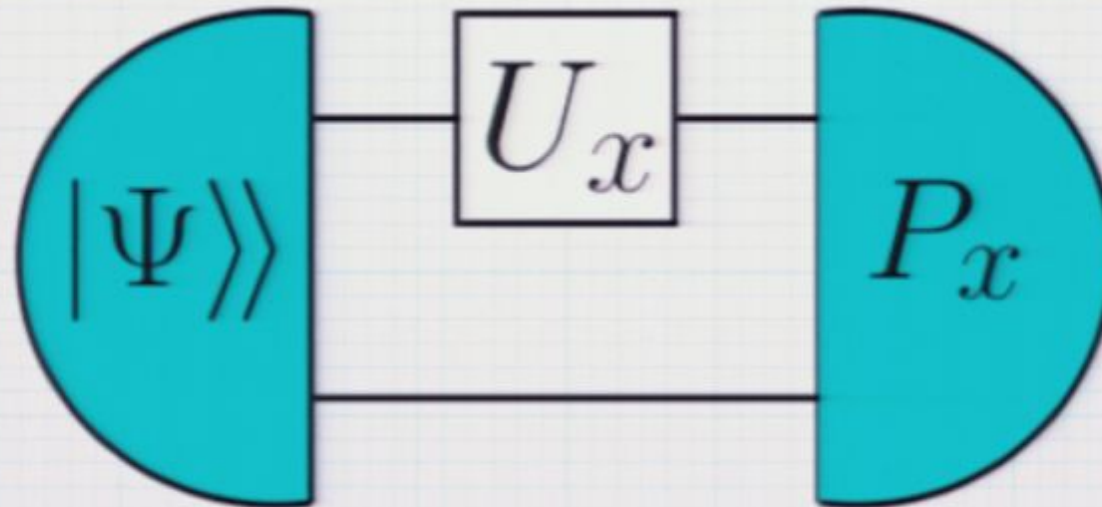
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New scheme

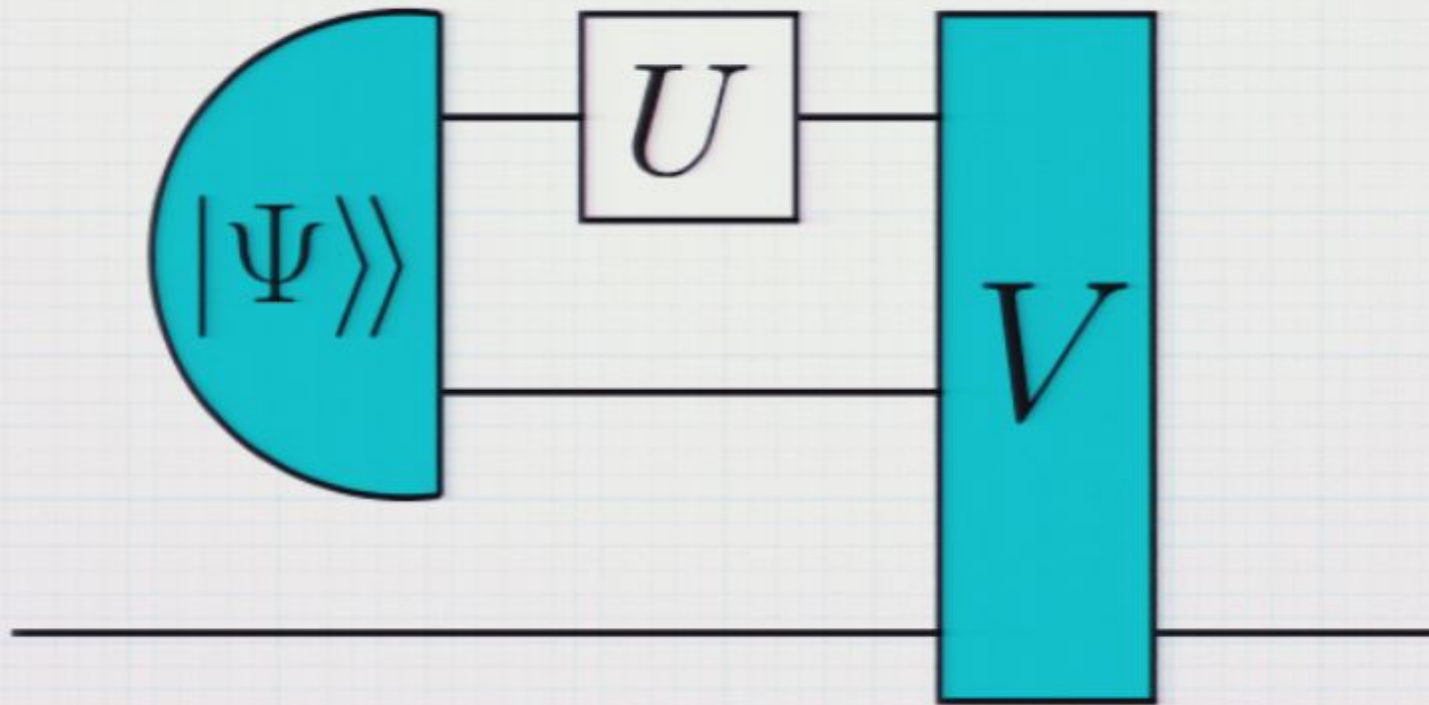


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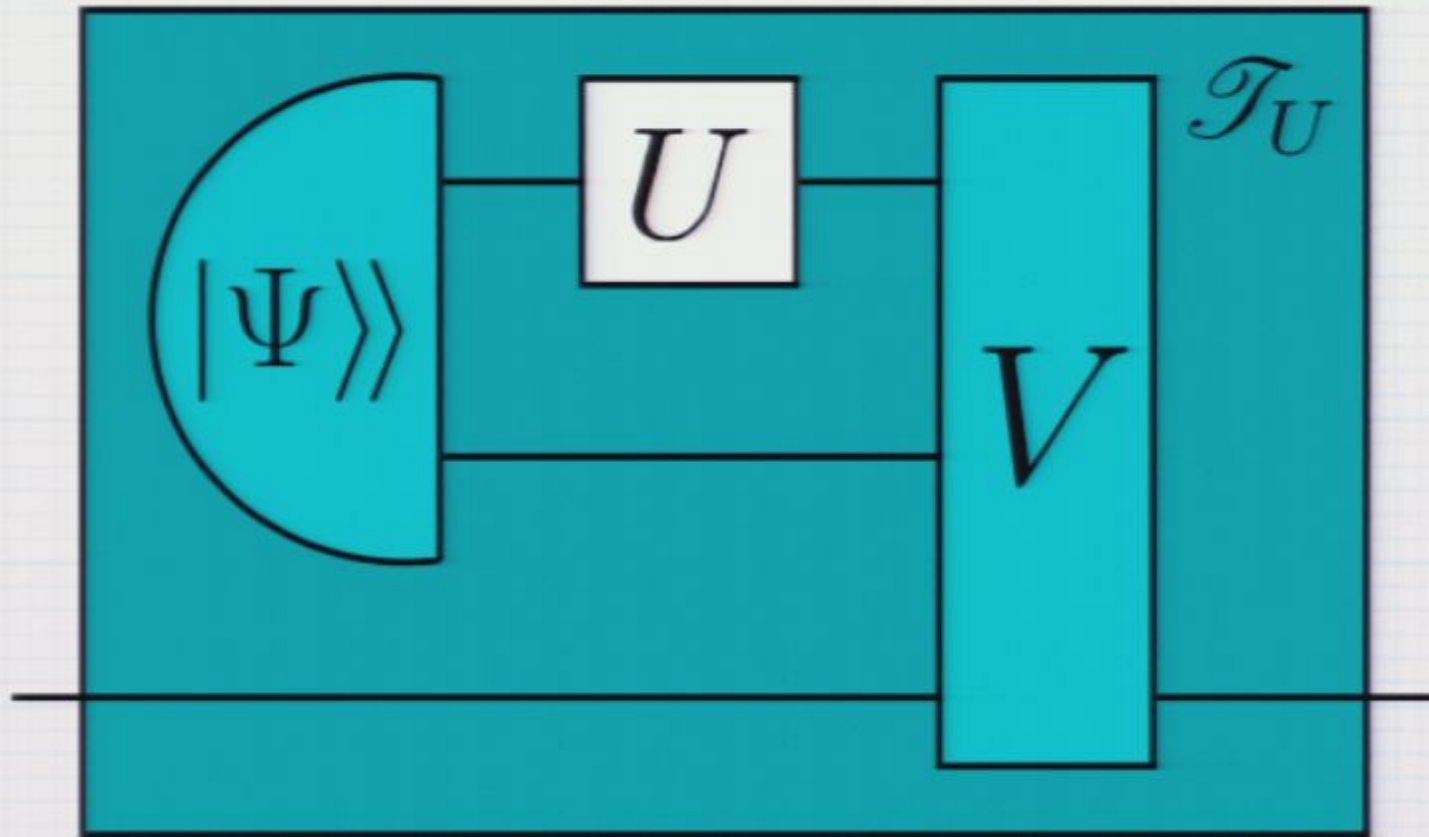


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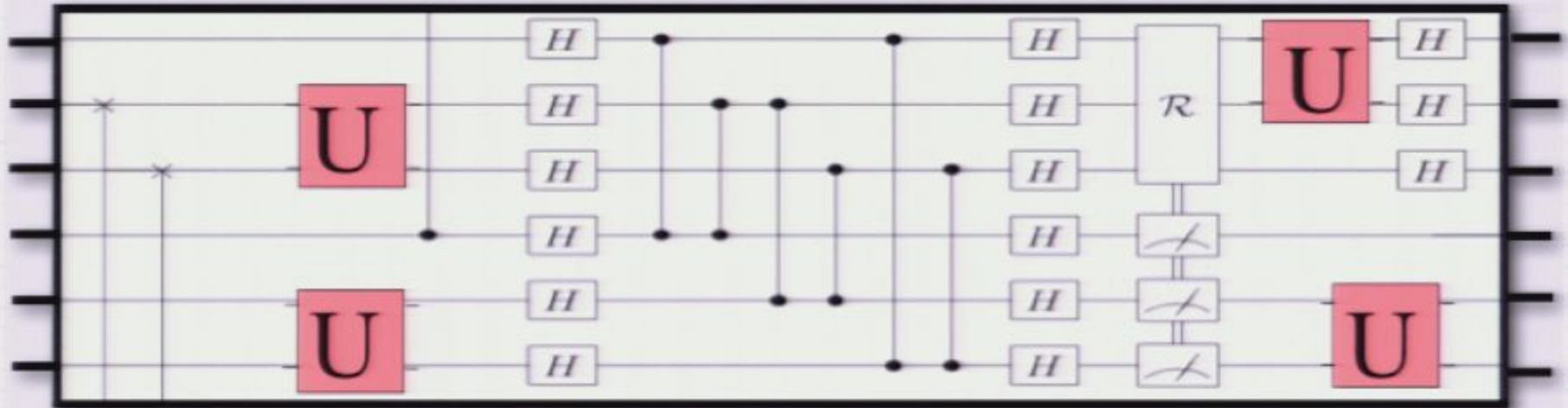
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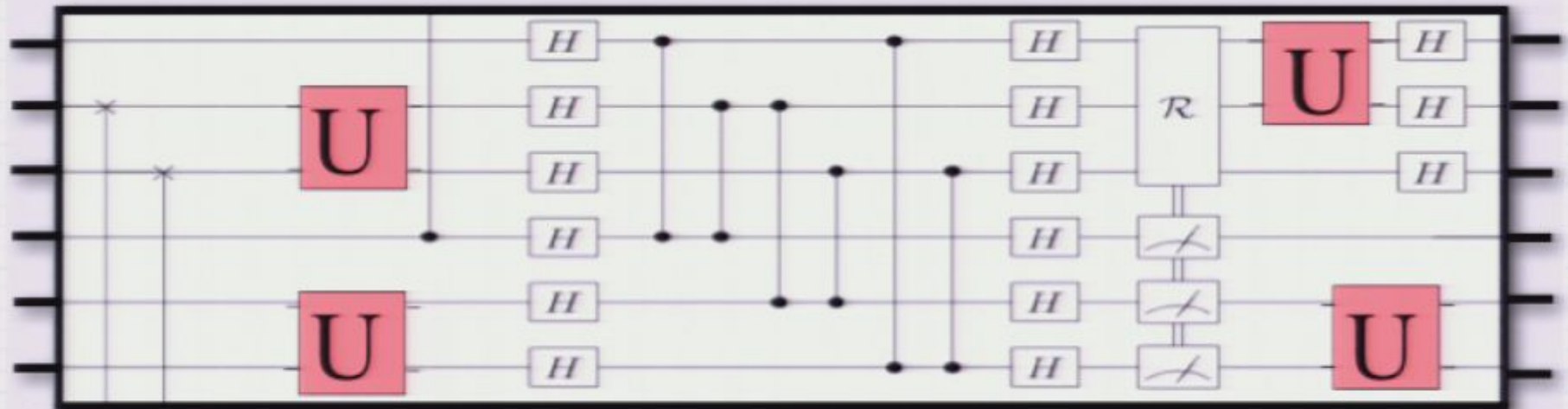
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# Use a Quantum Board!



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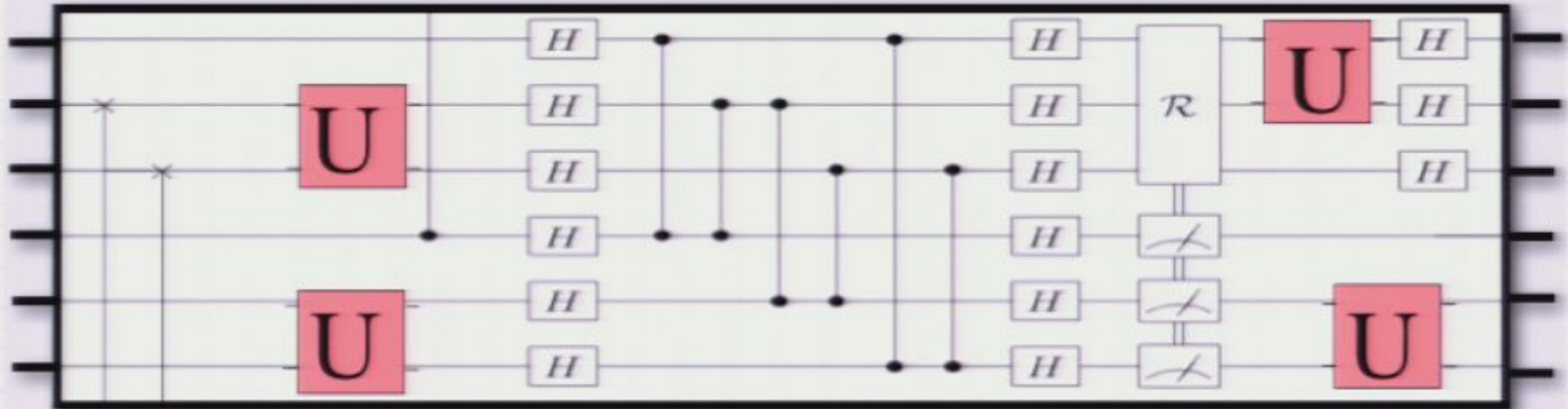
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**Quantum circuit board:** input and output are themselves circuits that are slotted into the board.

# Use a Quantum Board



Formulation of the problem:

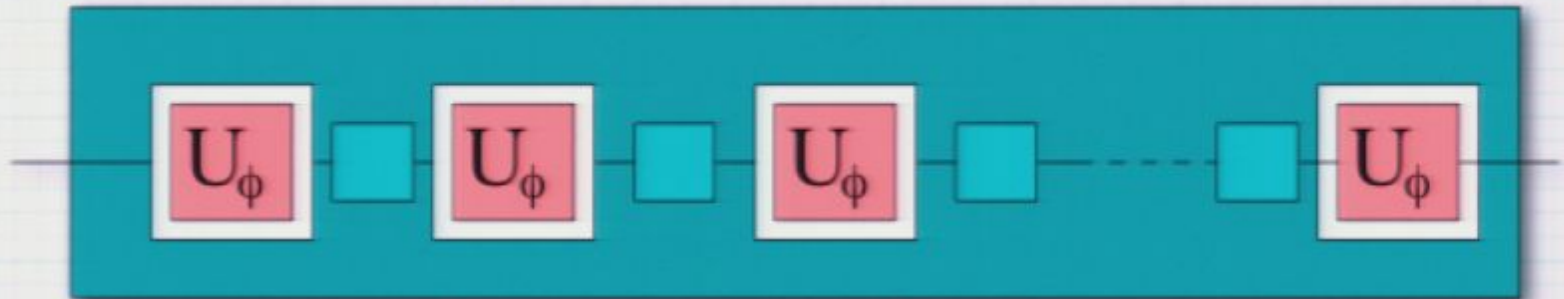
Optimize the quantum circuit board for all possible dispositions of the slots

It looks a difficult  
problem ...

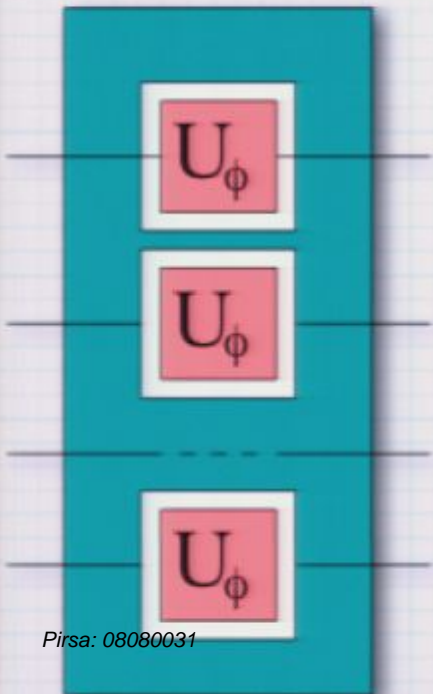
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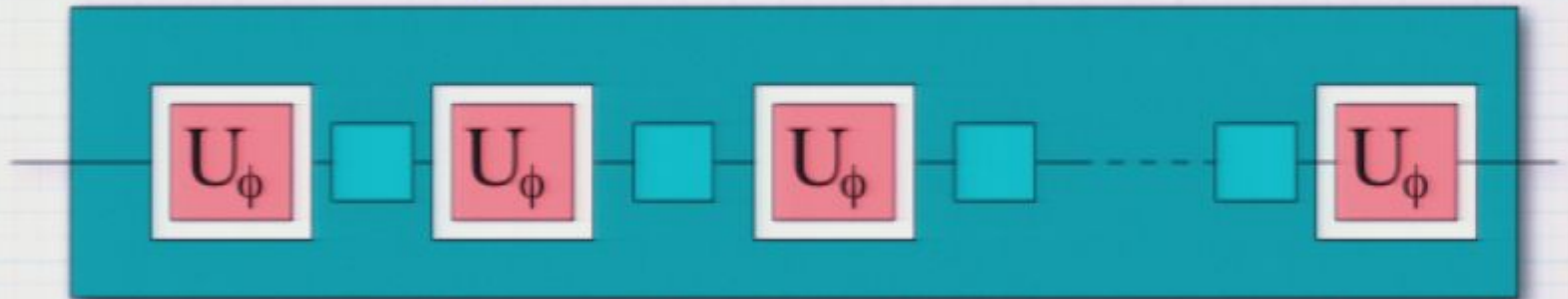


In sequence intercalated by some unitary?

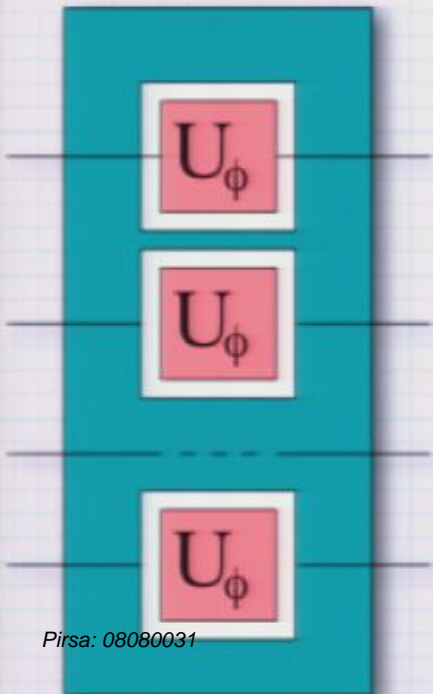


In parallel over a joint entangled state?

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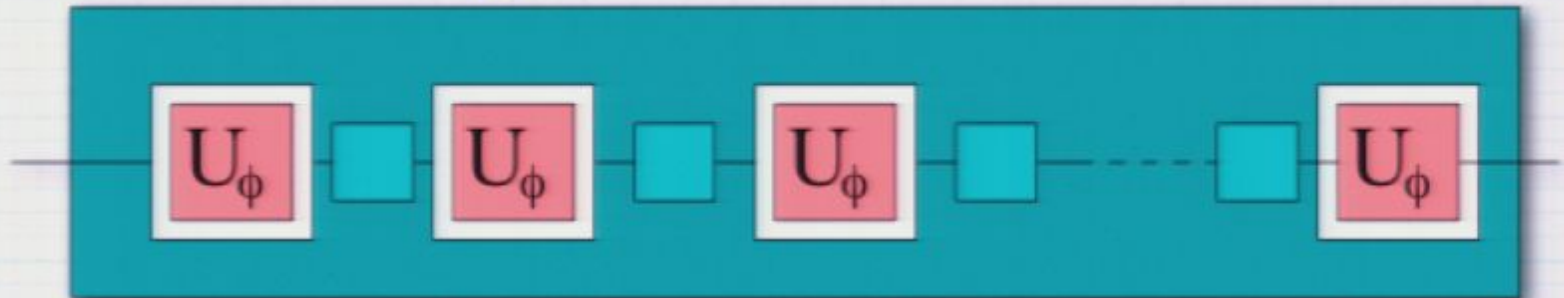
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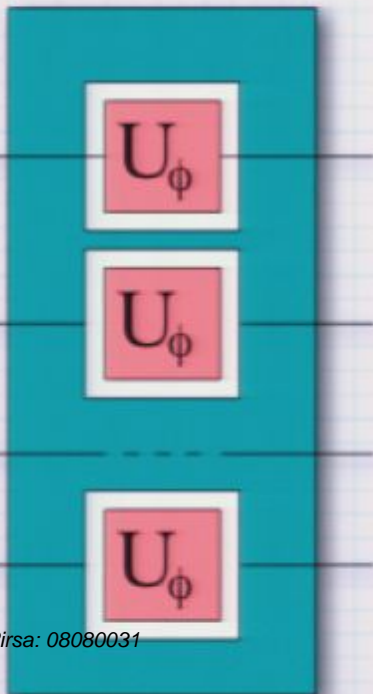
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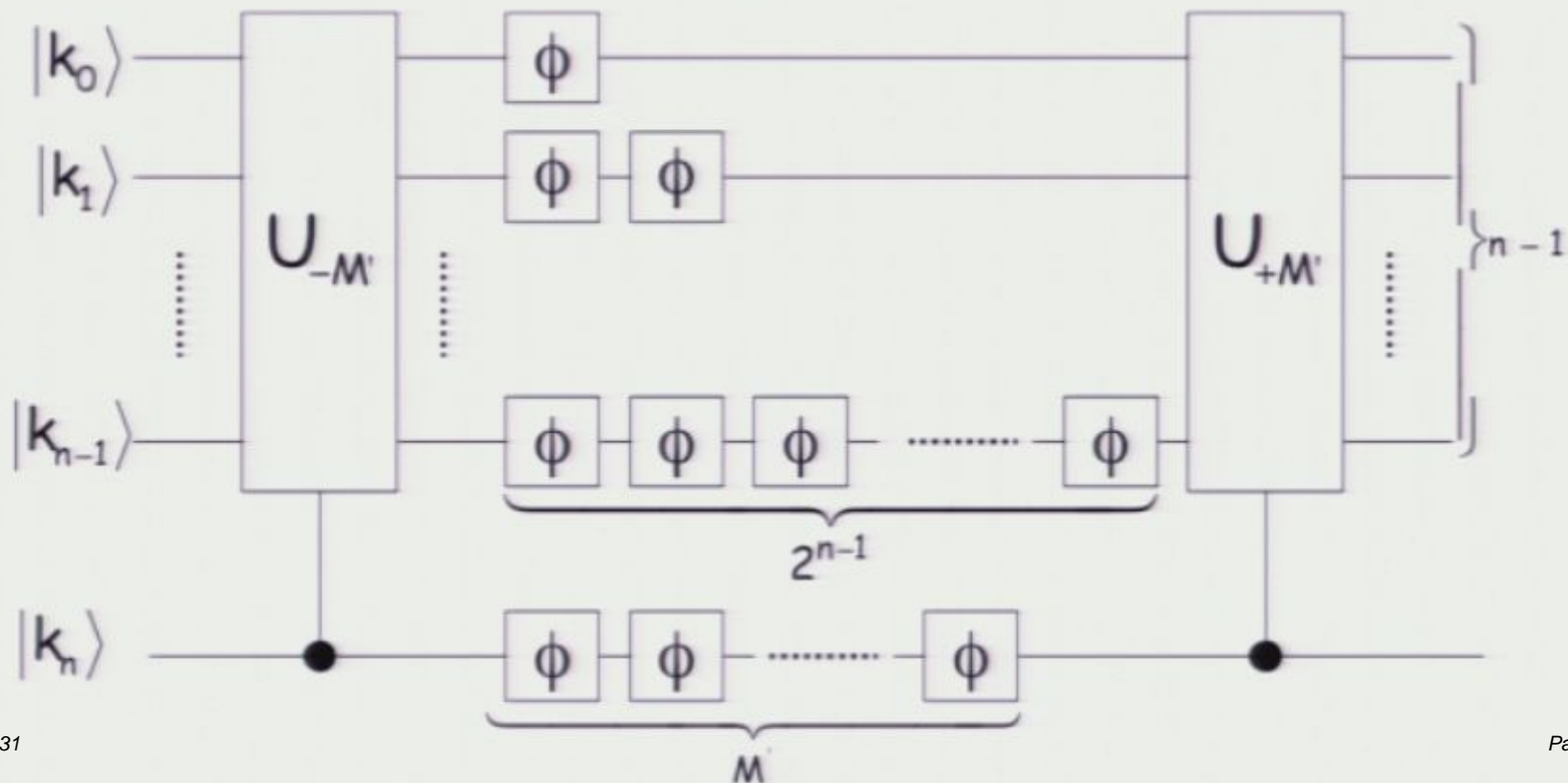
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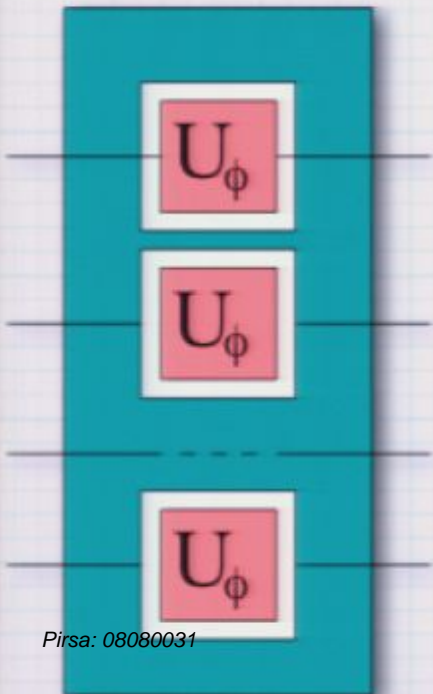
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An optimal board architecture [van Dam, D'Ariano, Ekert, Macchiavello, Mosca, PRL 98, 090501 (2007)]



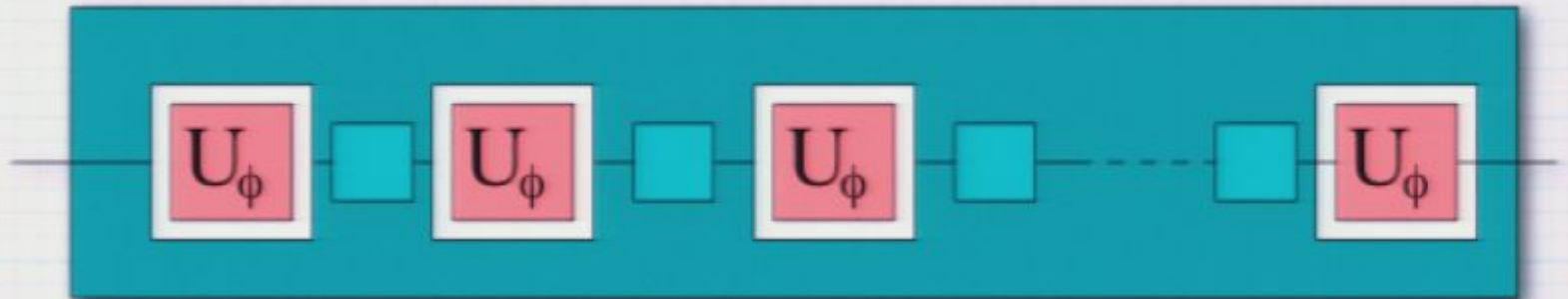
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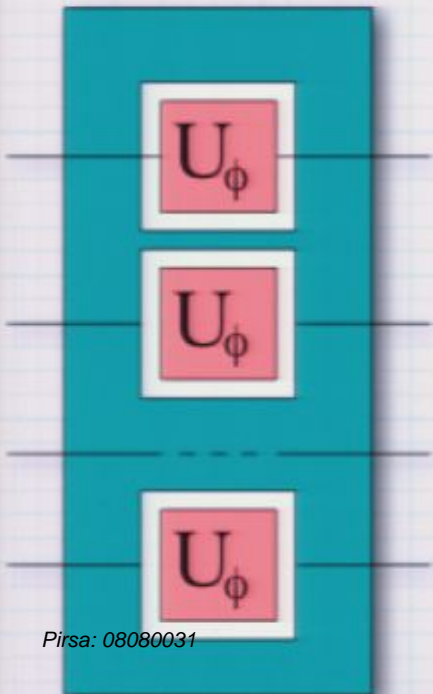


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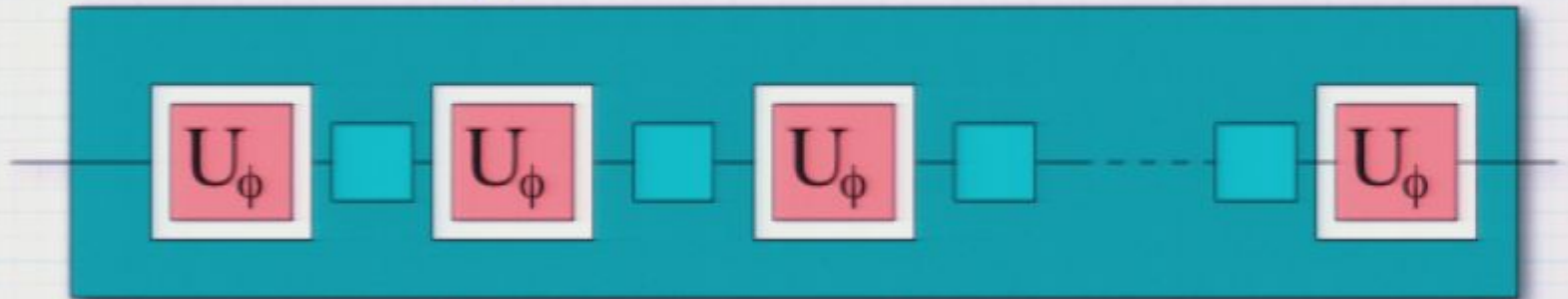
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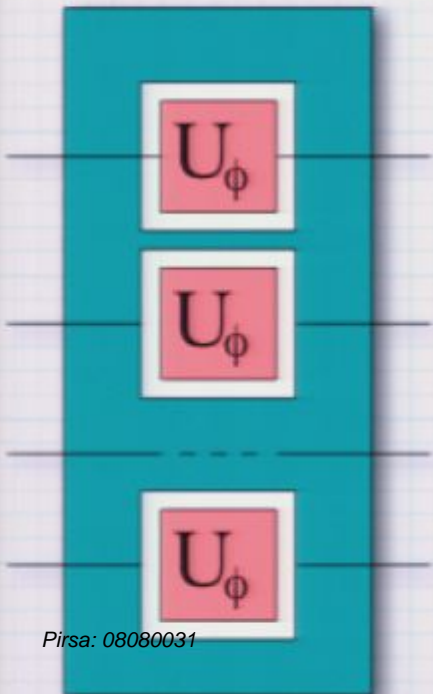
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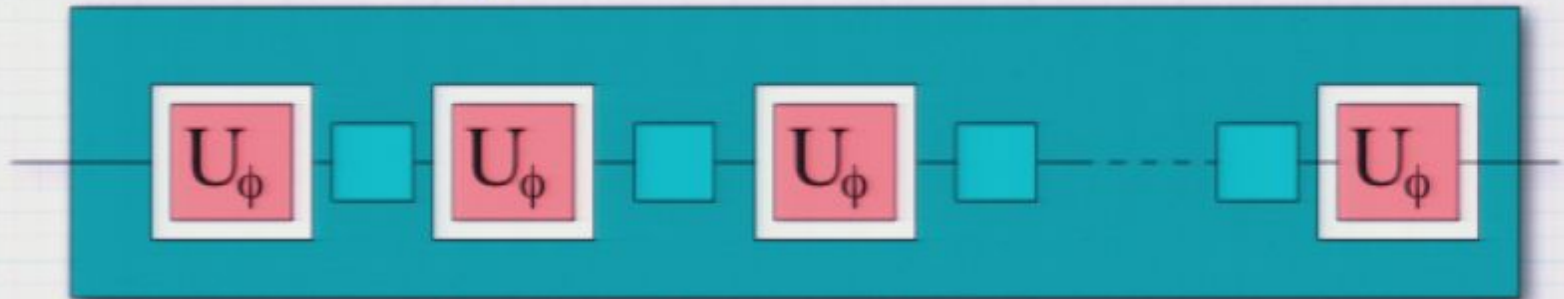


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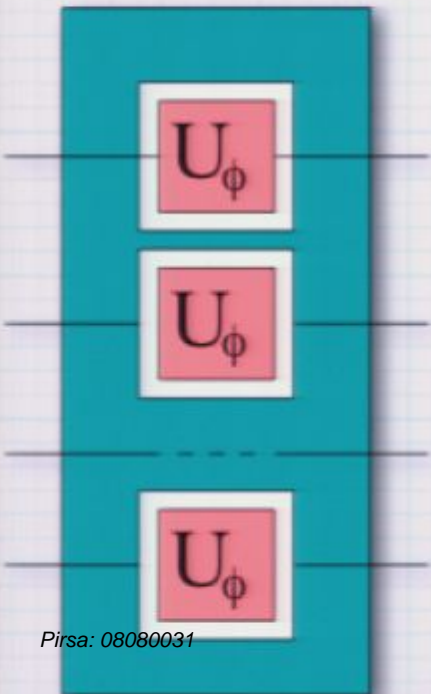
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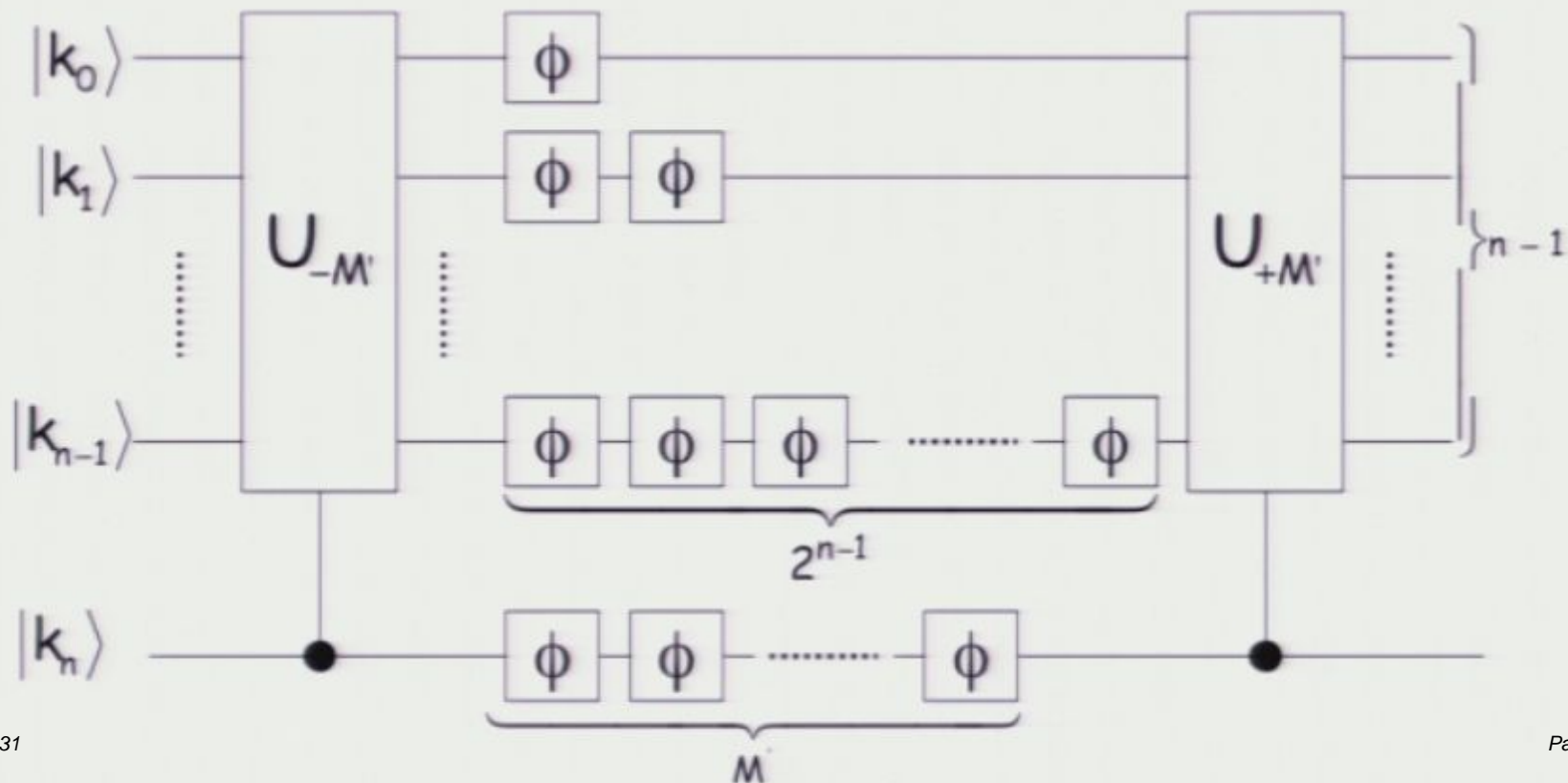
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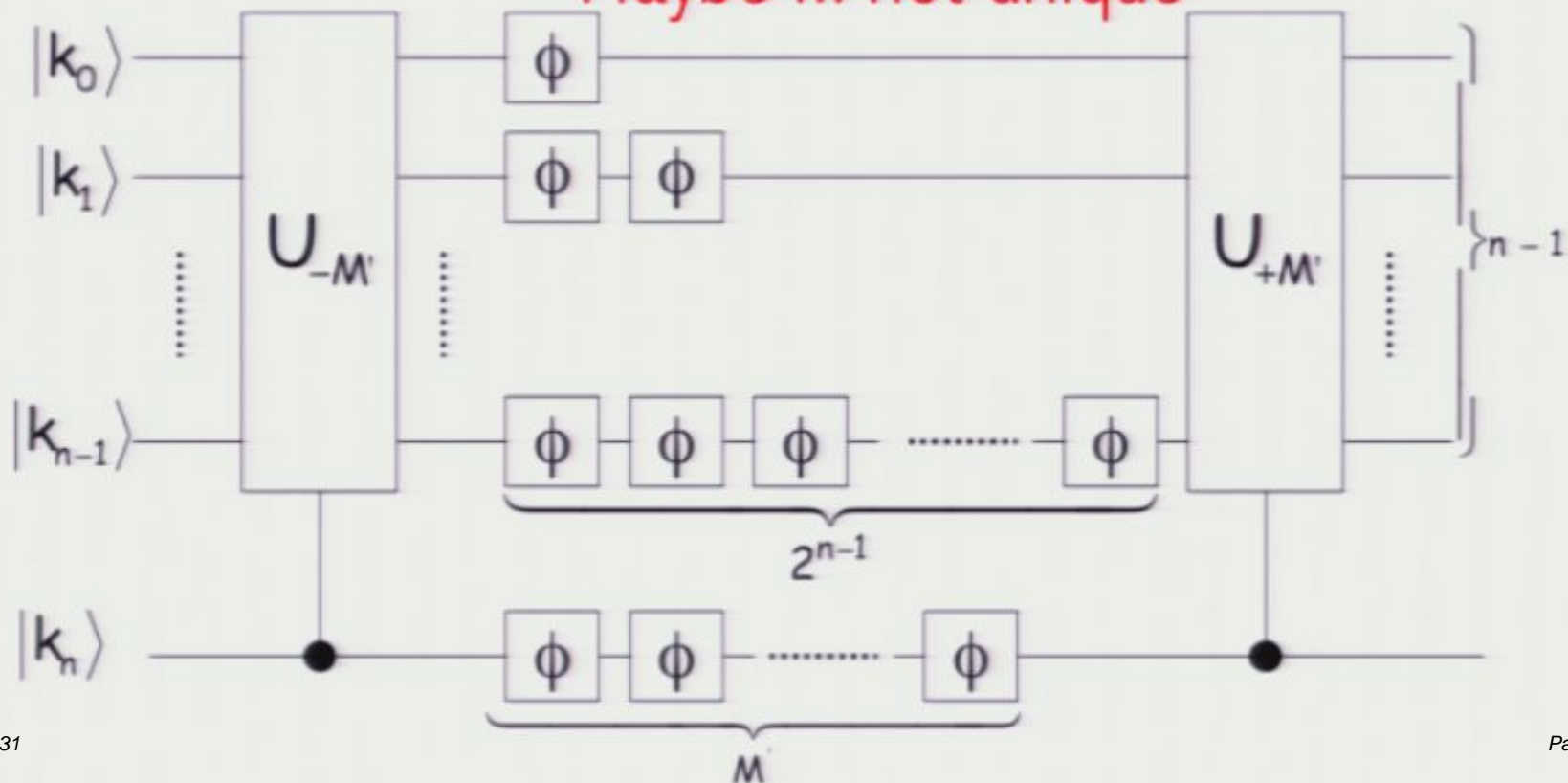
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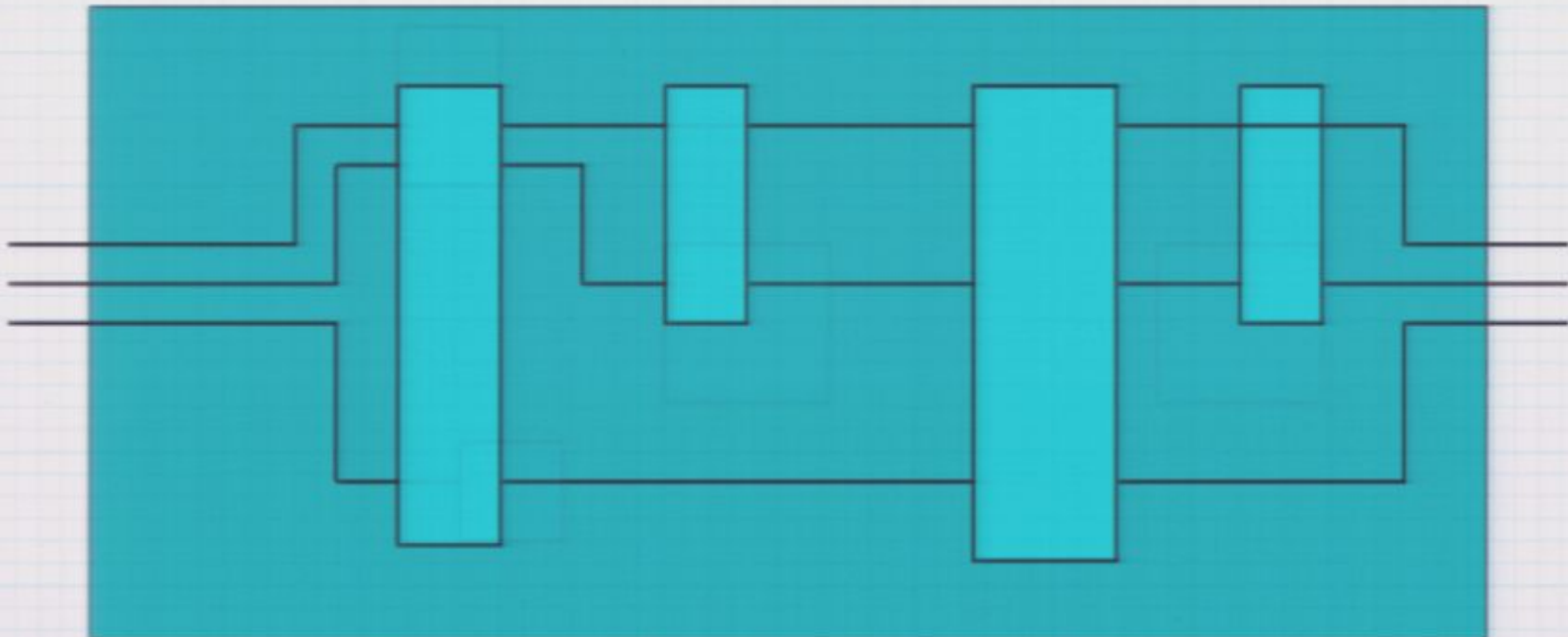
Maybe ... not unique



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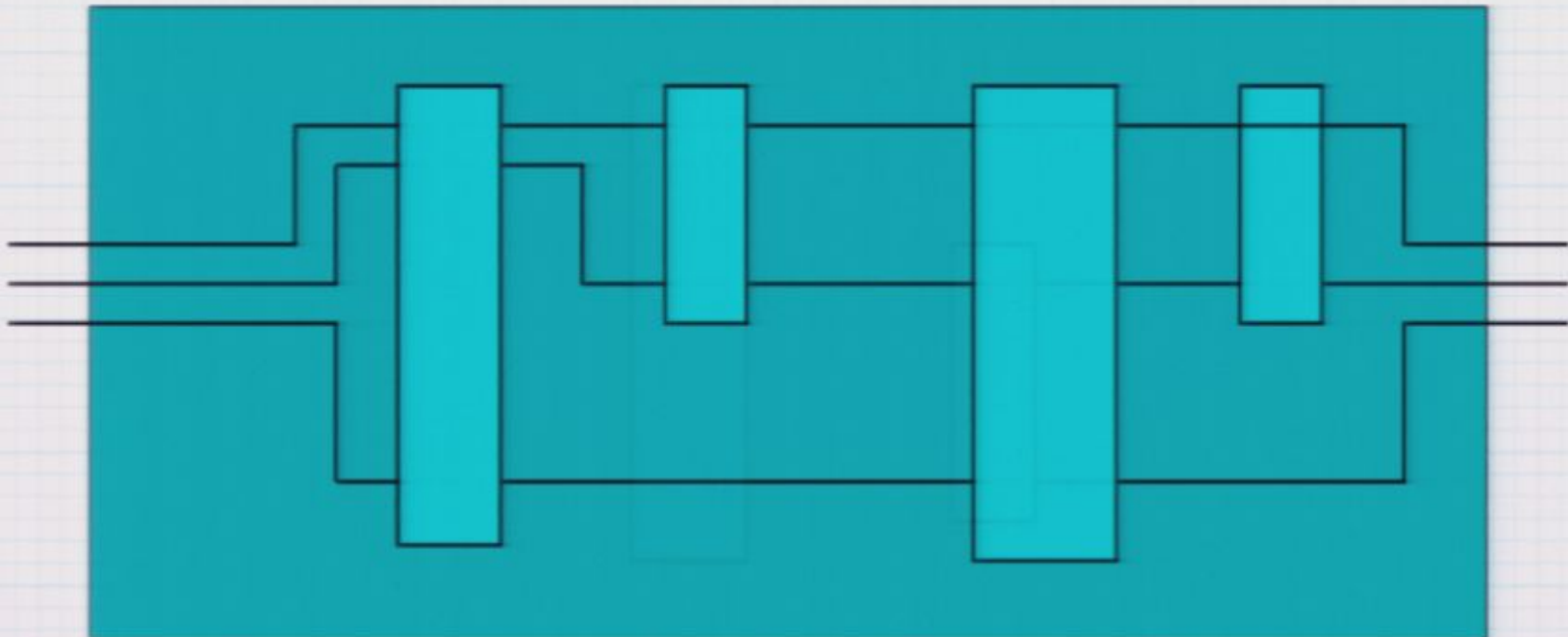
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It can be regarded as an equivalence class of quantum circuits performing the same input-output transformation ...



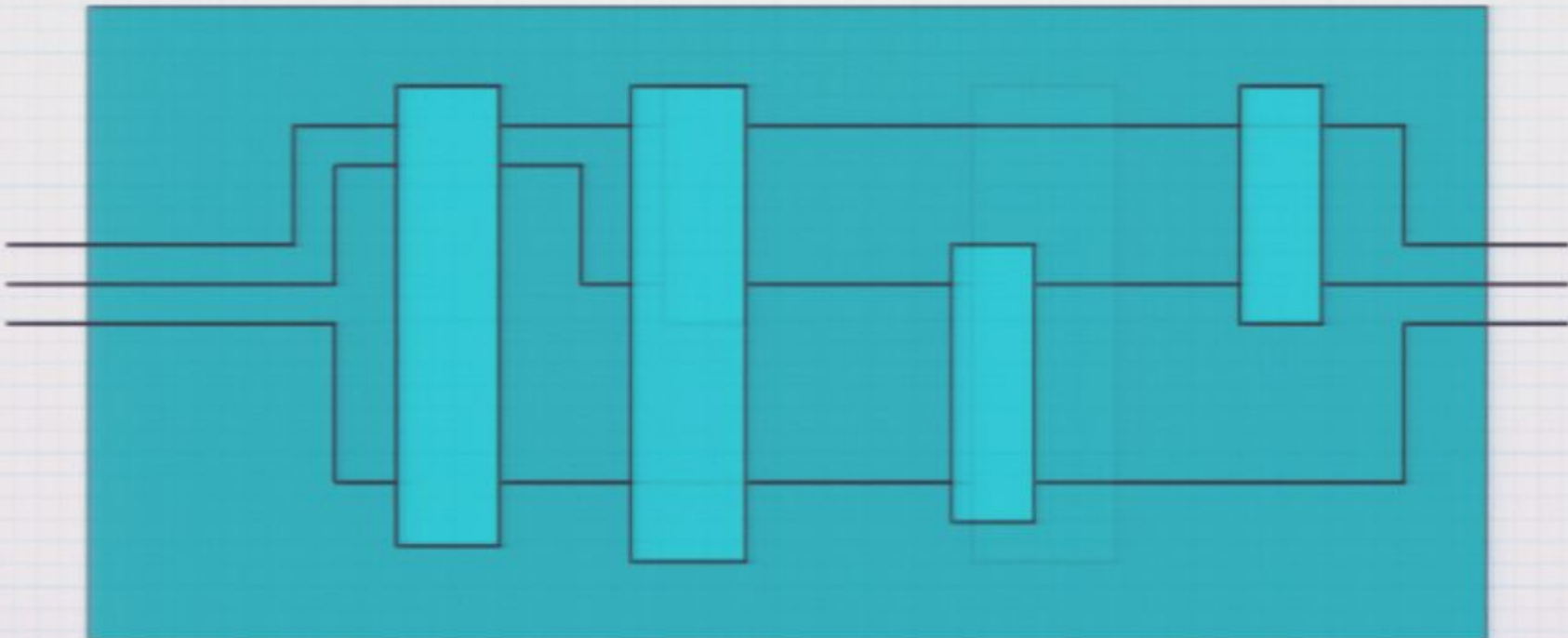
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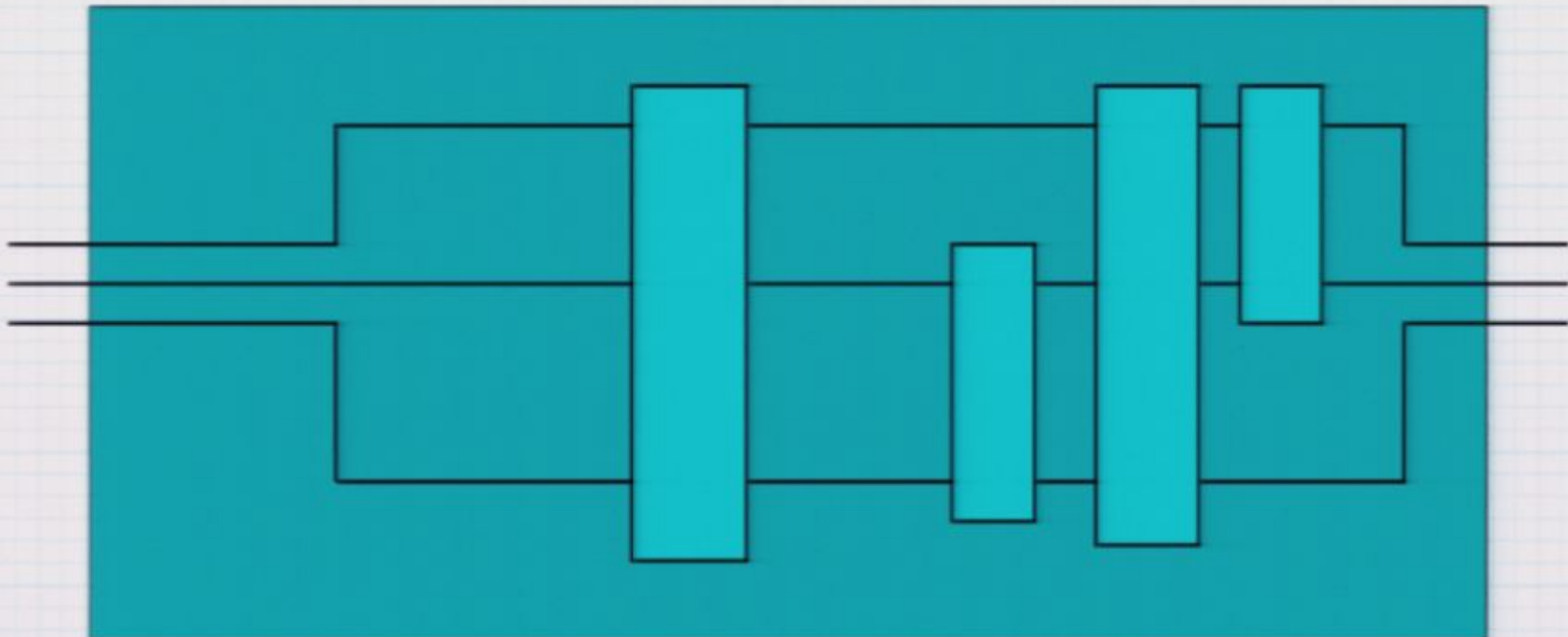
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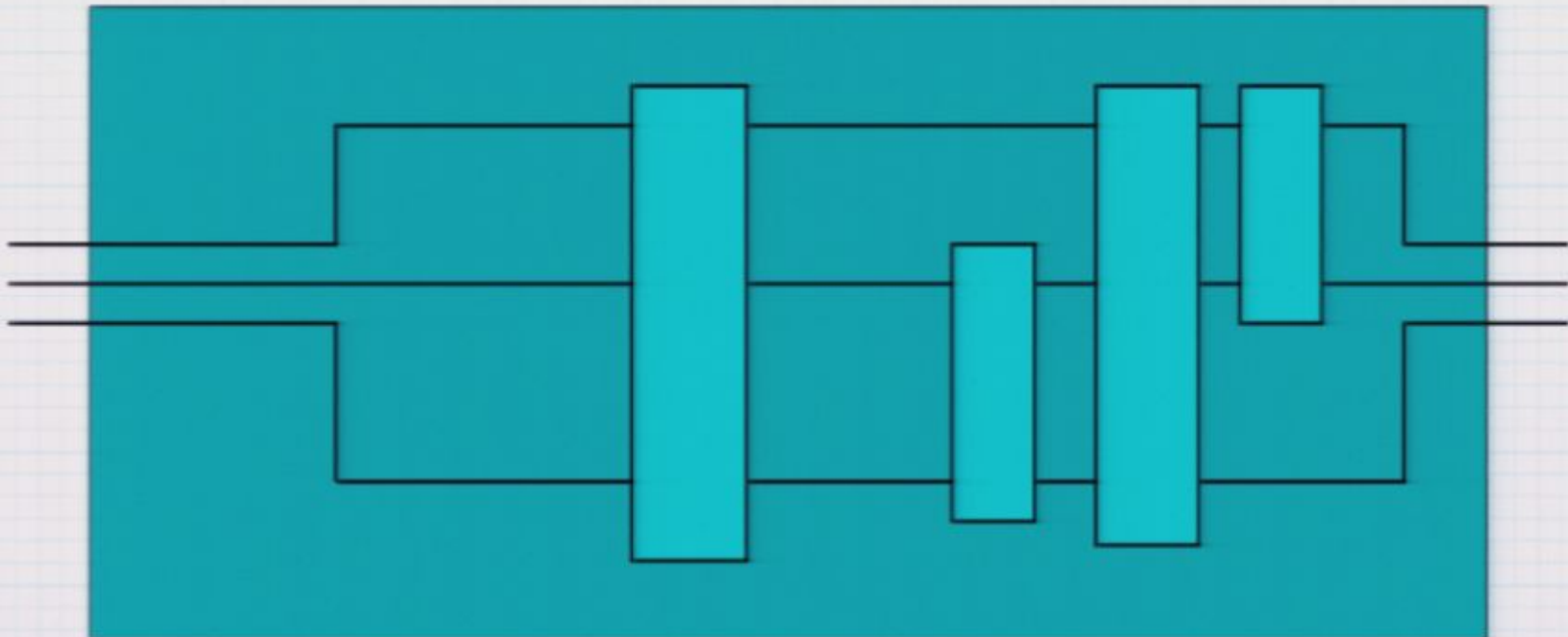




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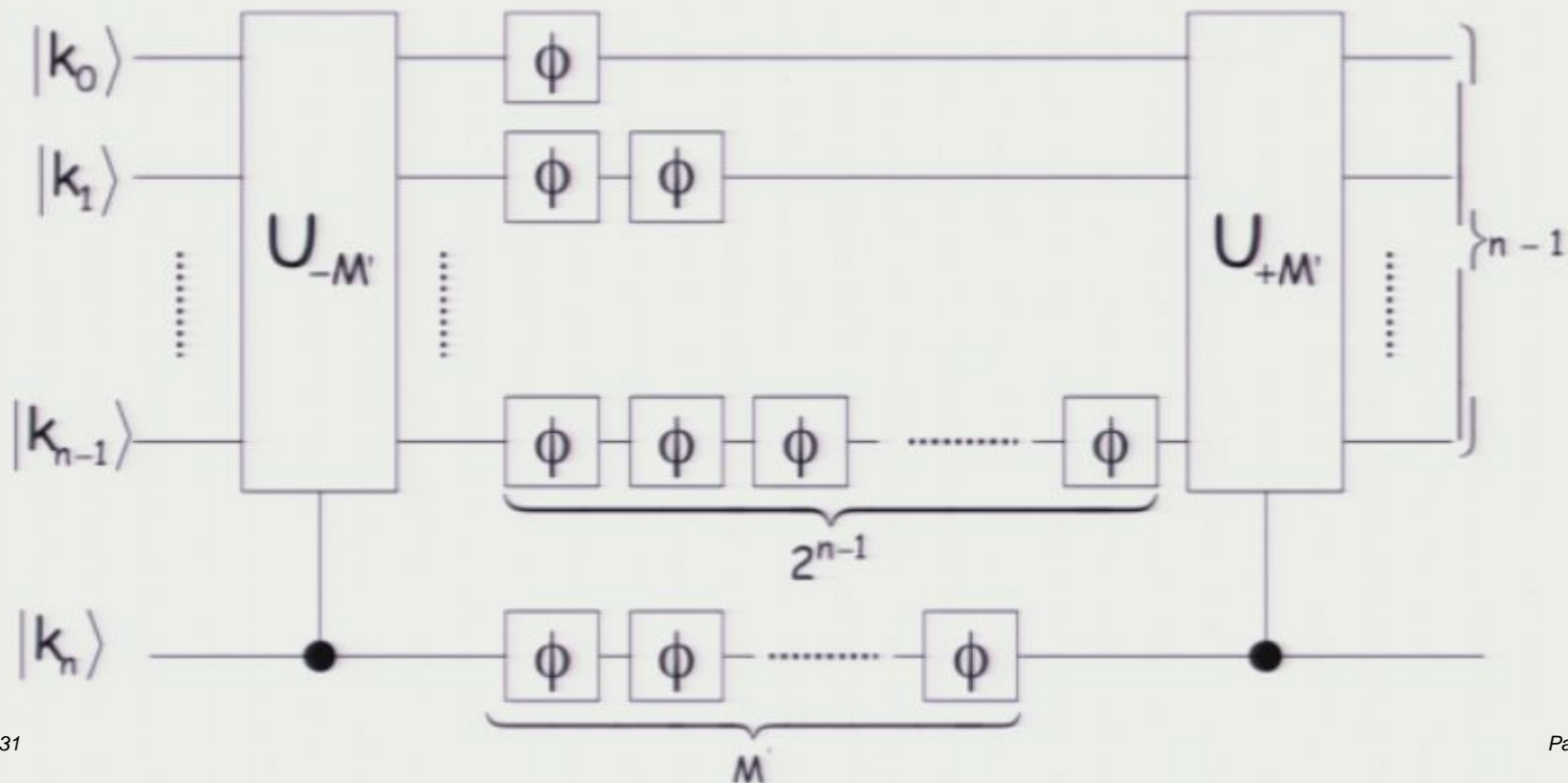
For a channel the input and the output are **states**



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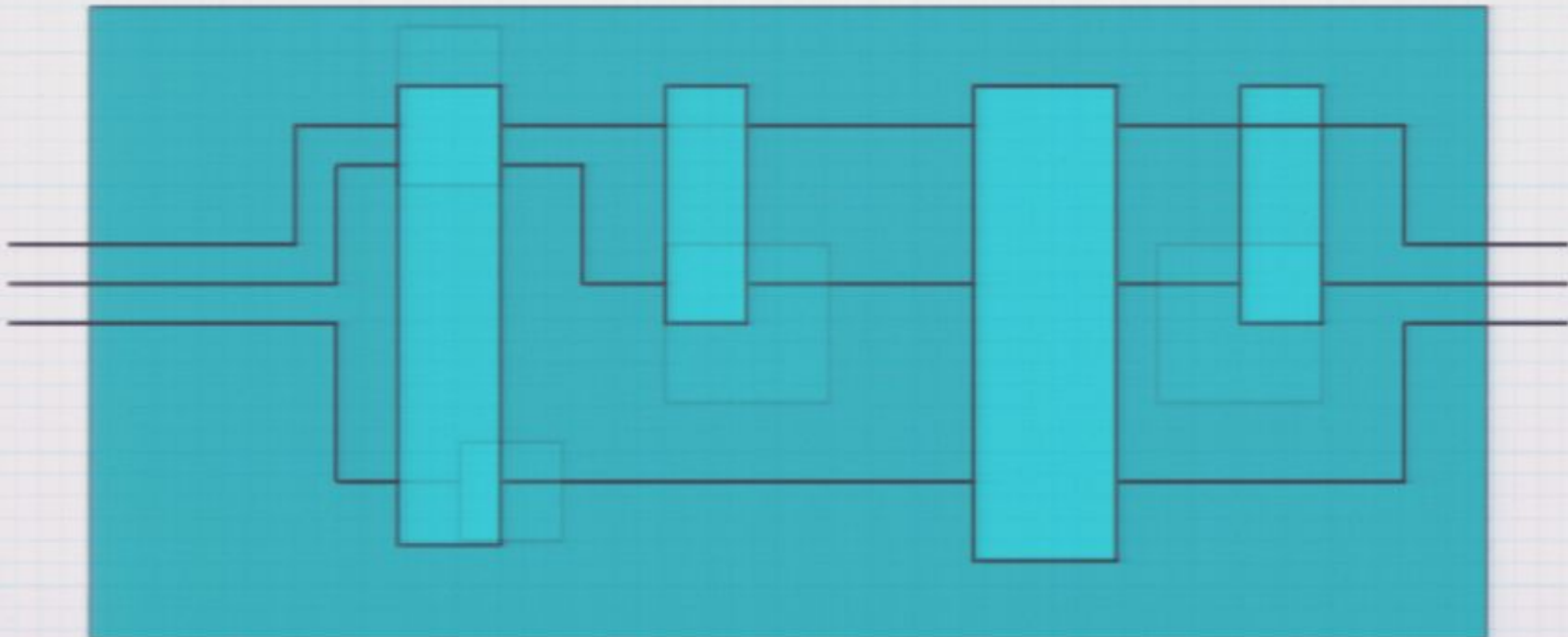
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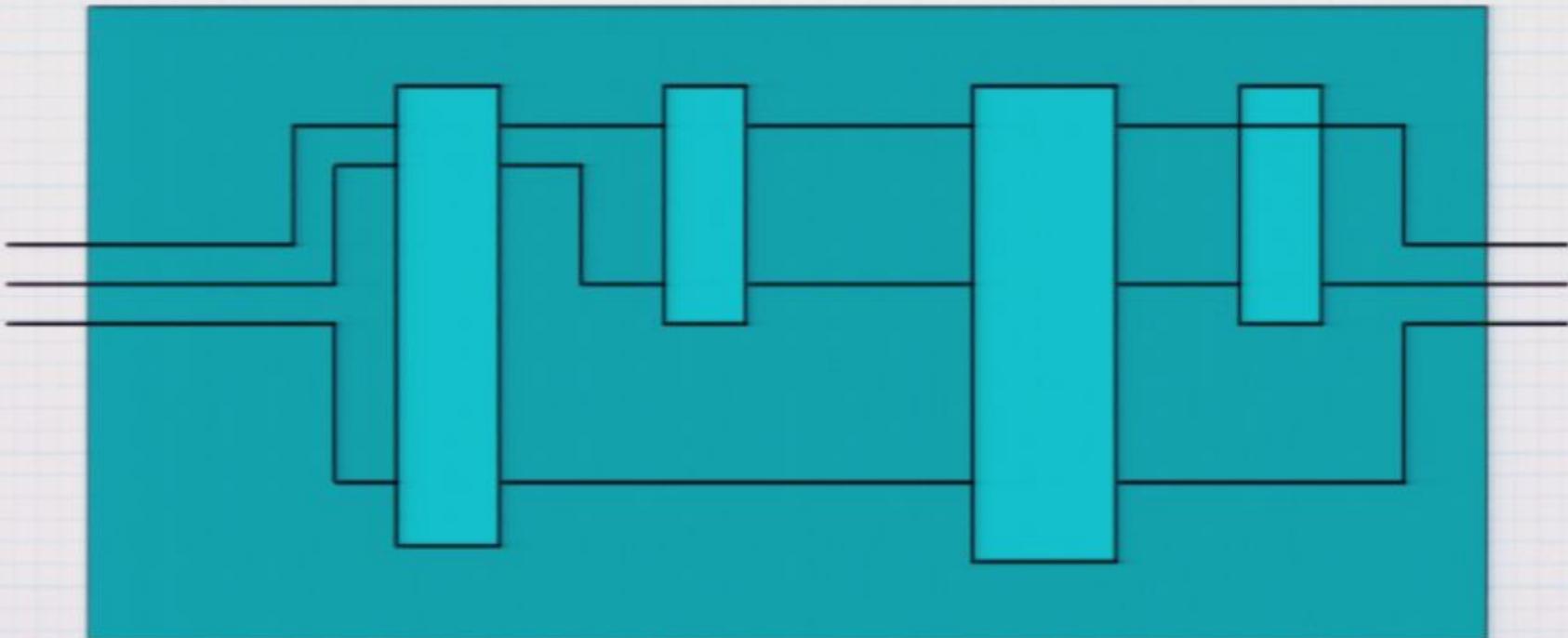
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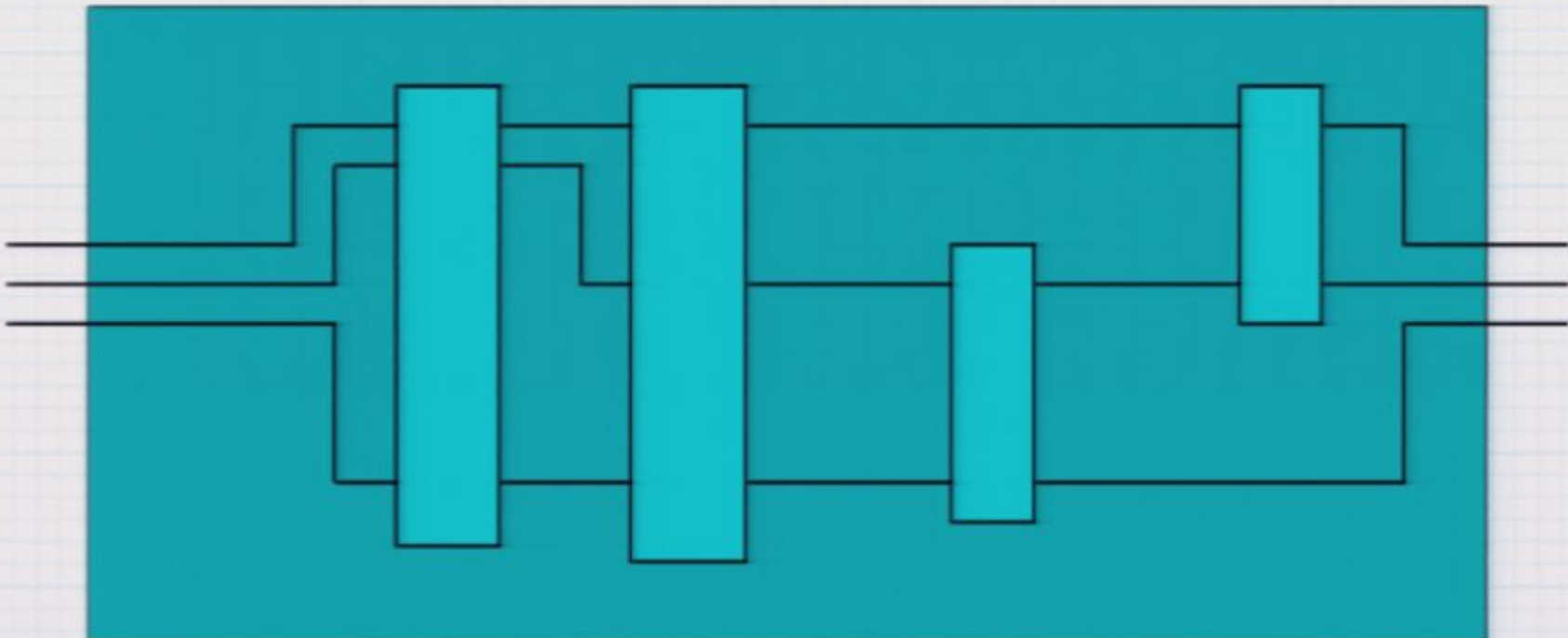
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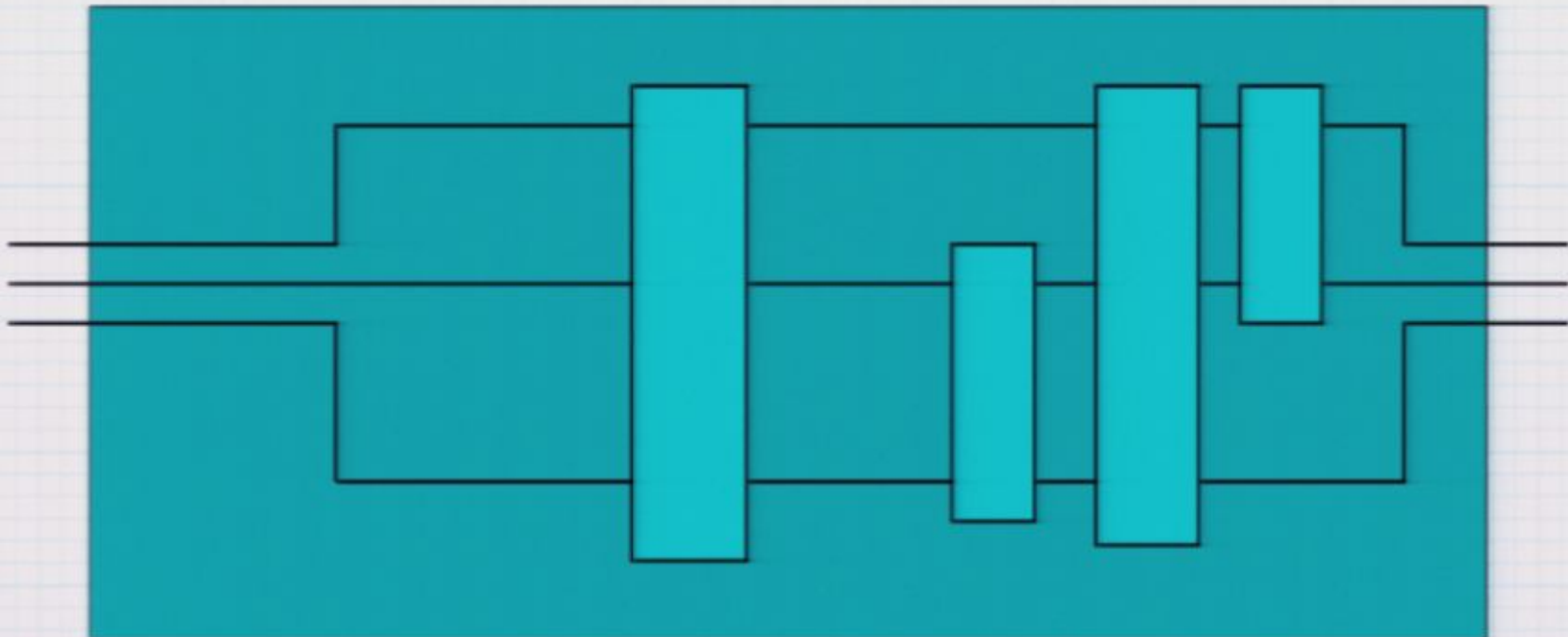
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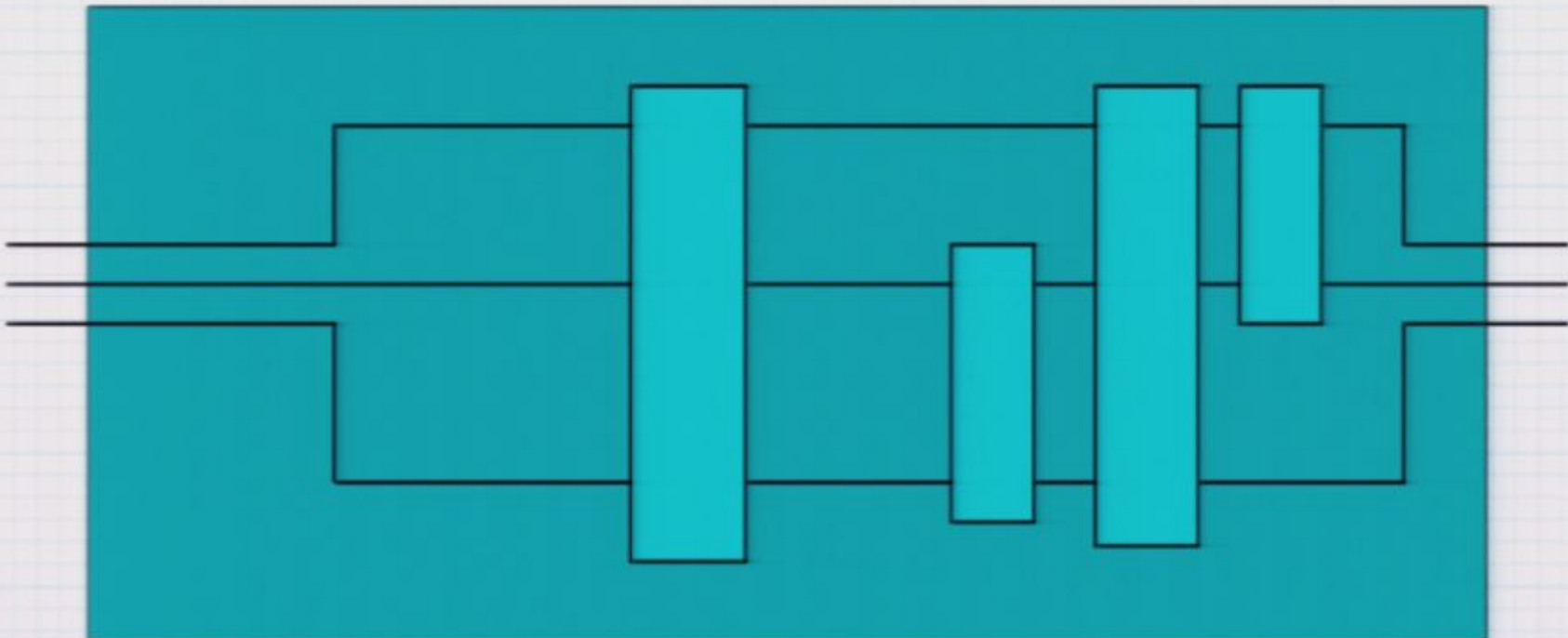




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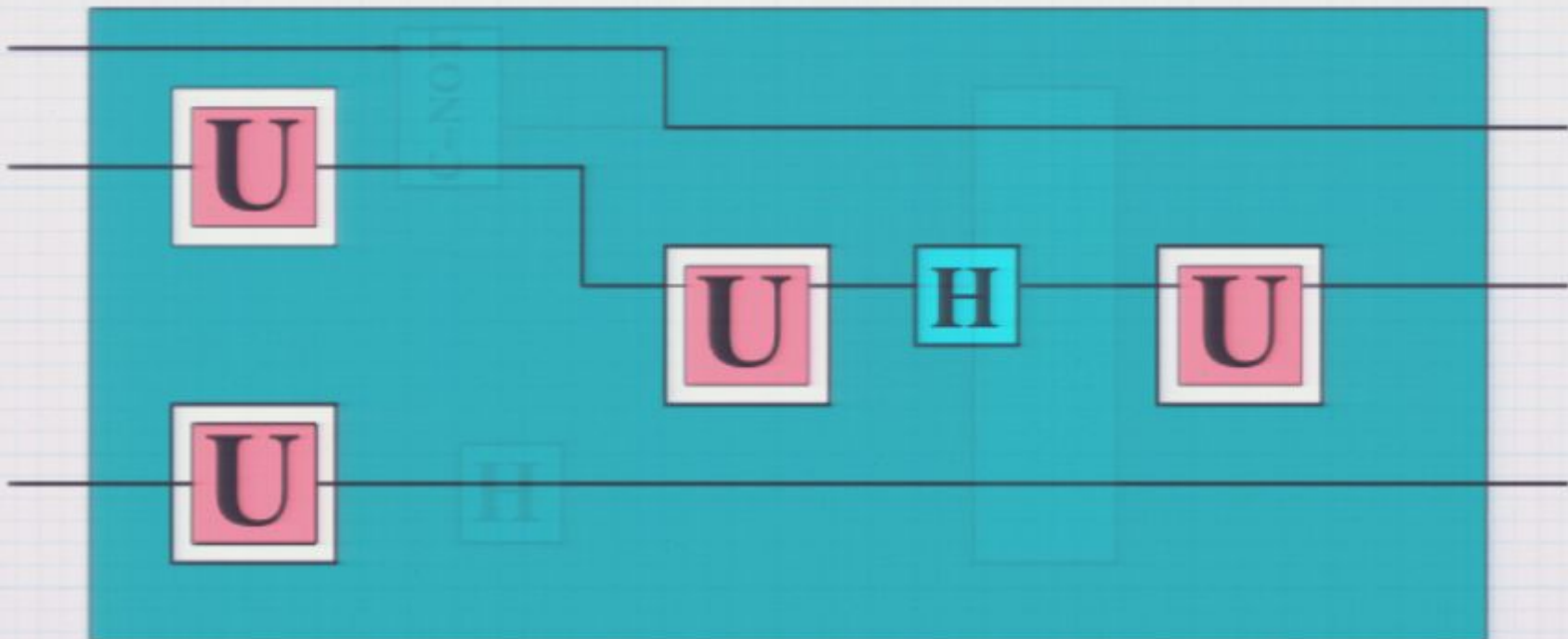
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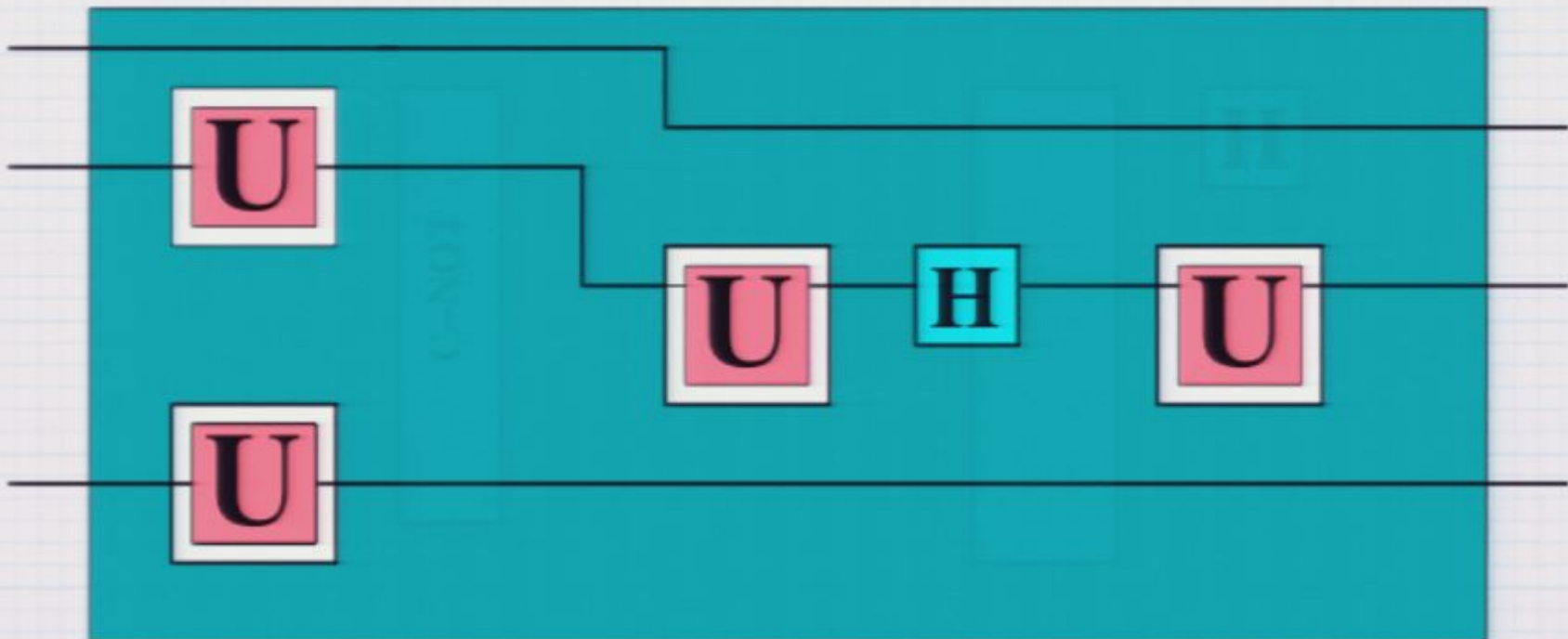
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Equivalence class of quantum circuits boards performing the same overall input-output transformation ...



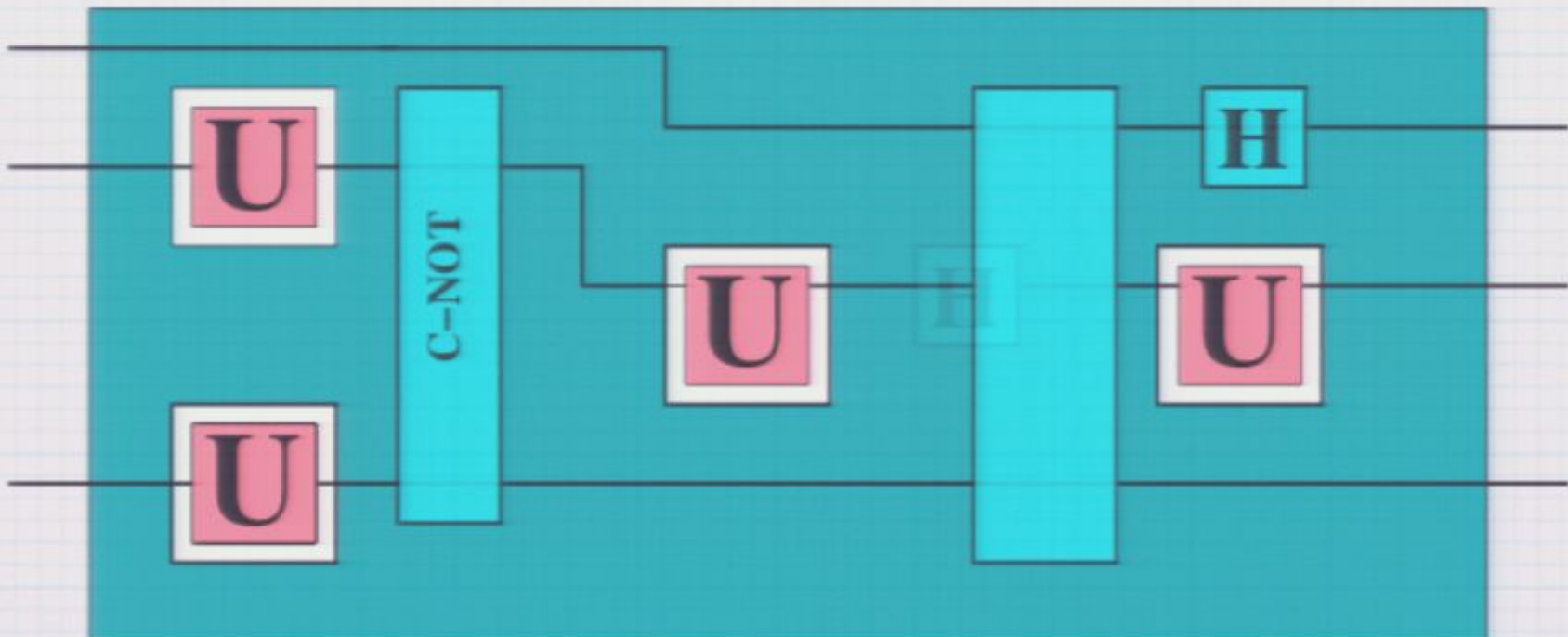
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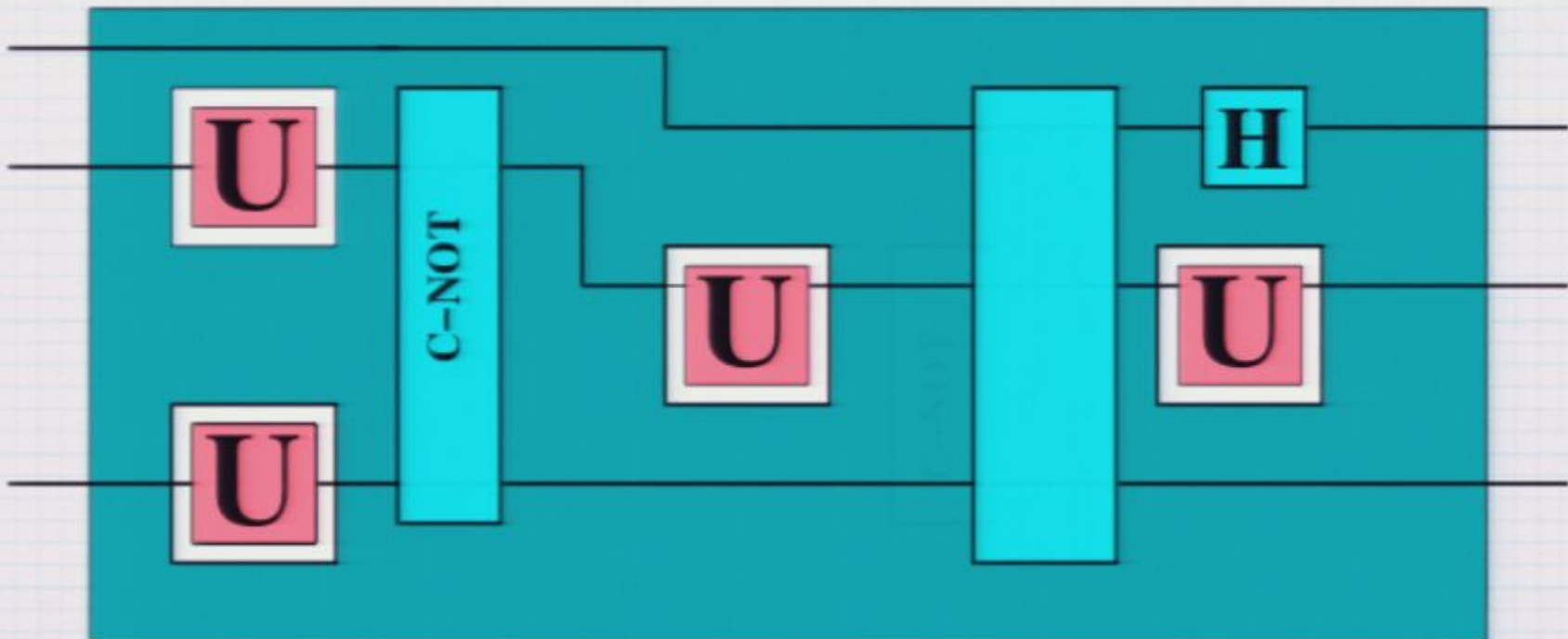
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# Quantum Board

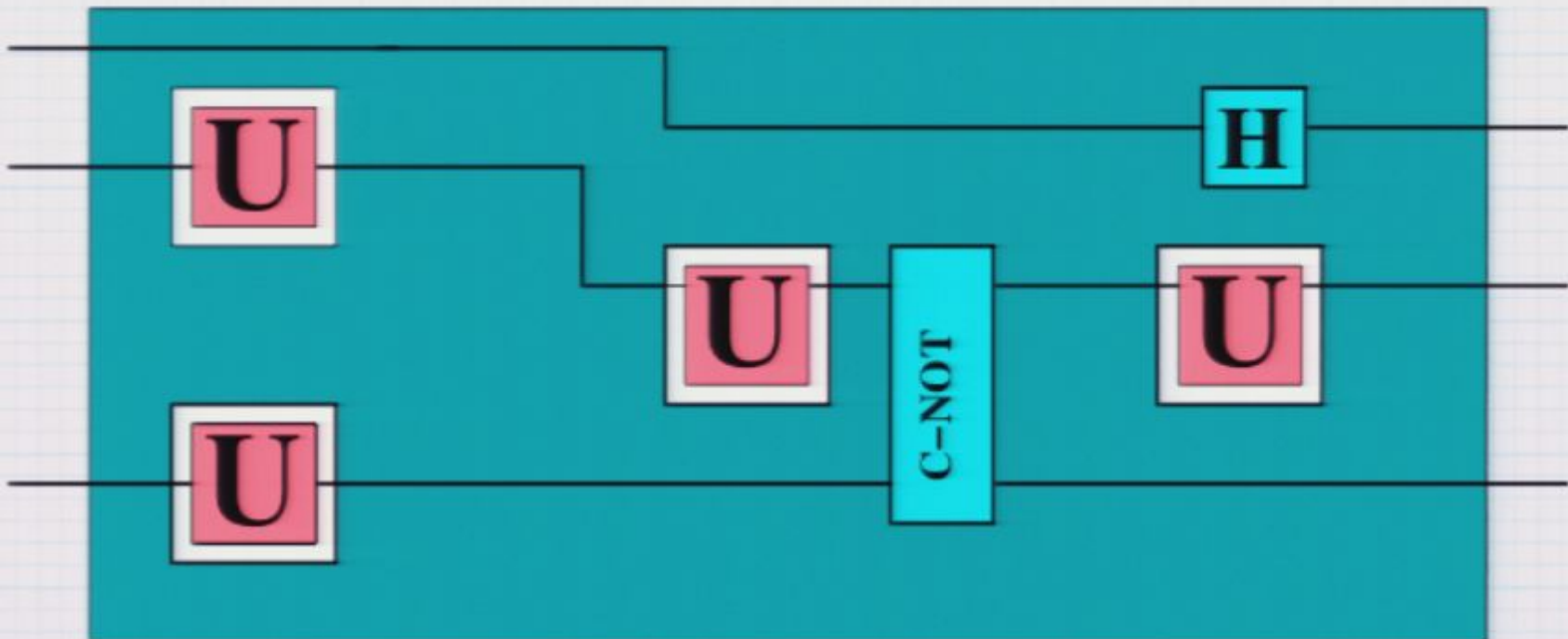
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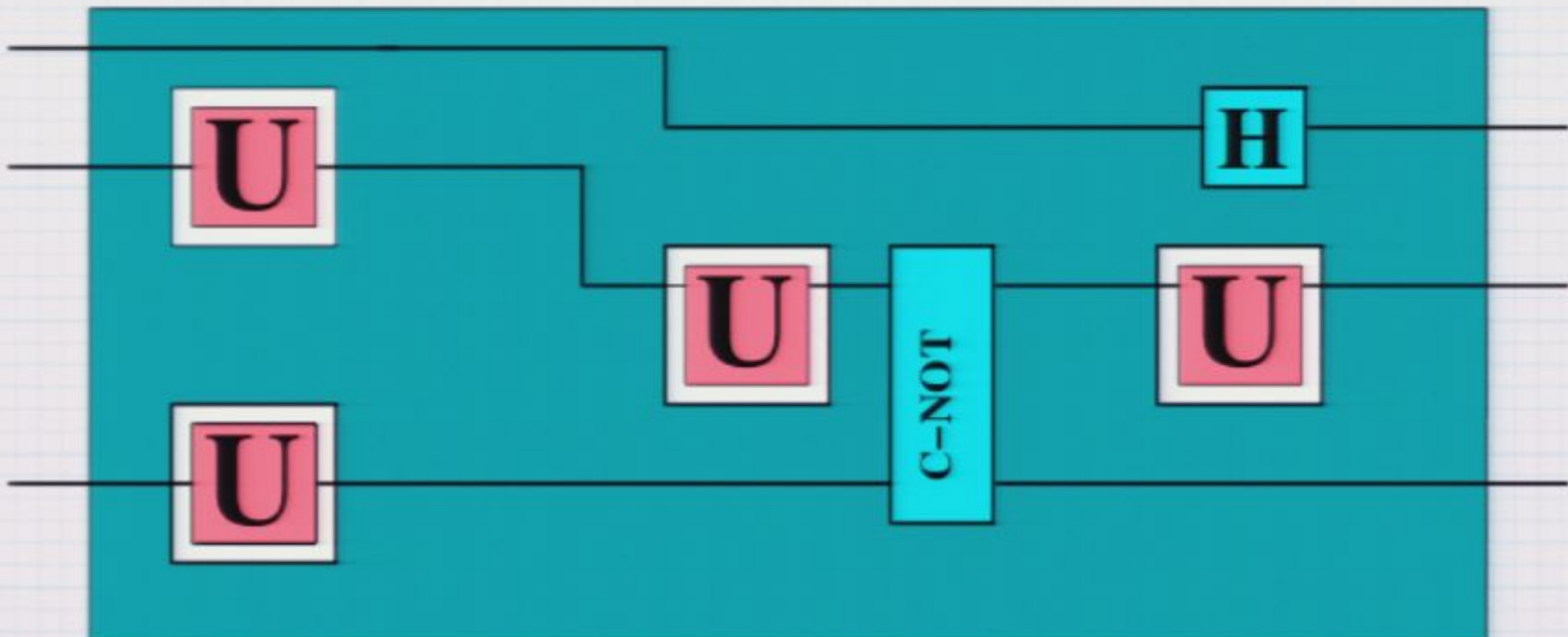
But now, the input and the output are **transformations**



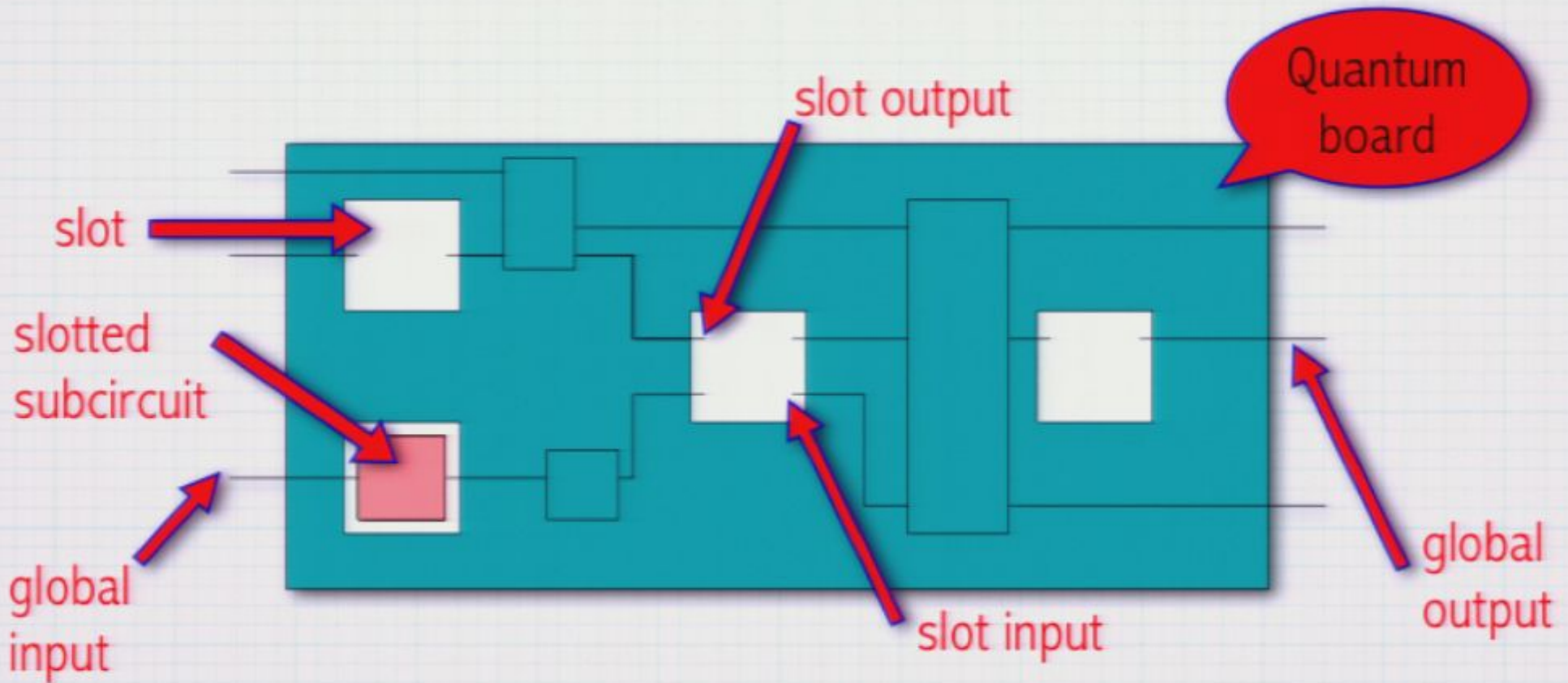
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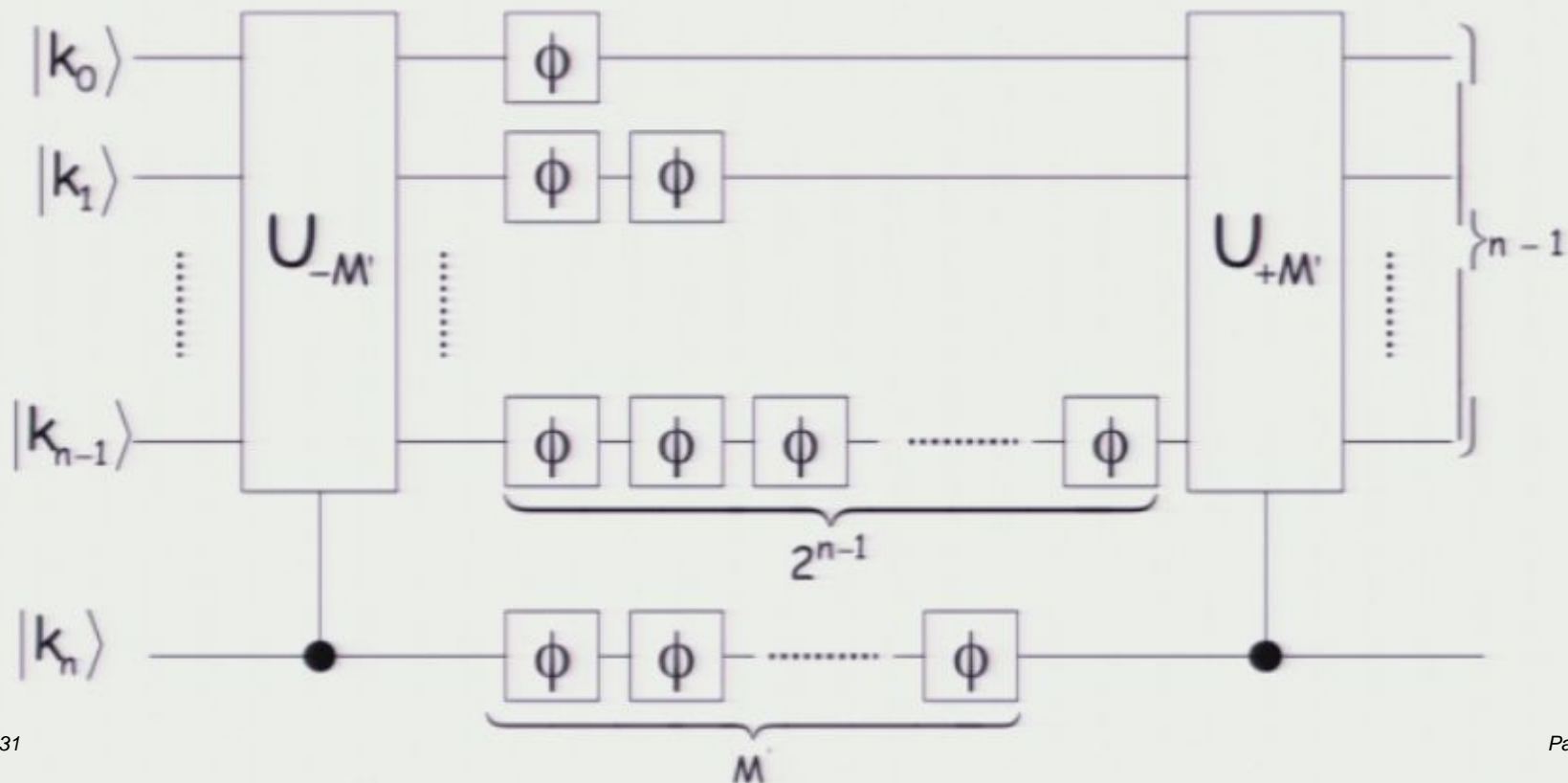


**Problem:** what is the optimal board for given slots achieving a global input/output transformation optimally according to a given cost function?



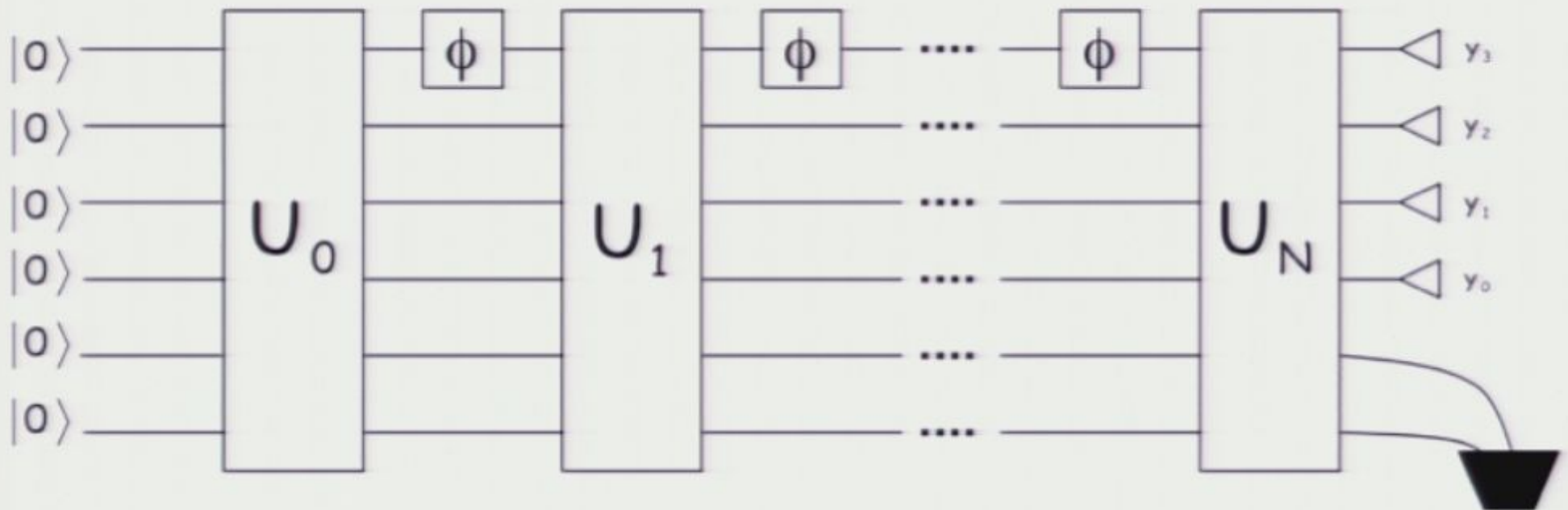
# Quantum Board

[van Dam, D'Ariano, Ekert, Macchiavello,  
Mosca, PRL 98, 090501 (2007)]



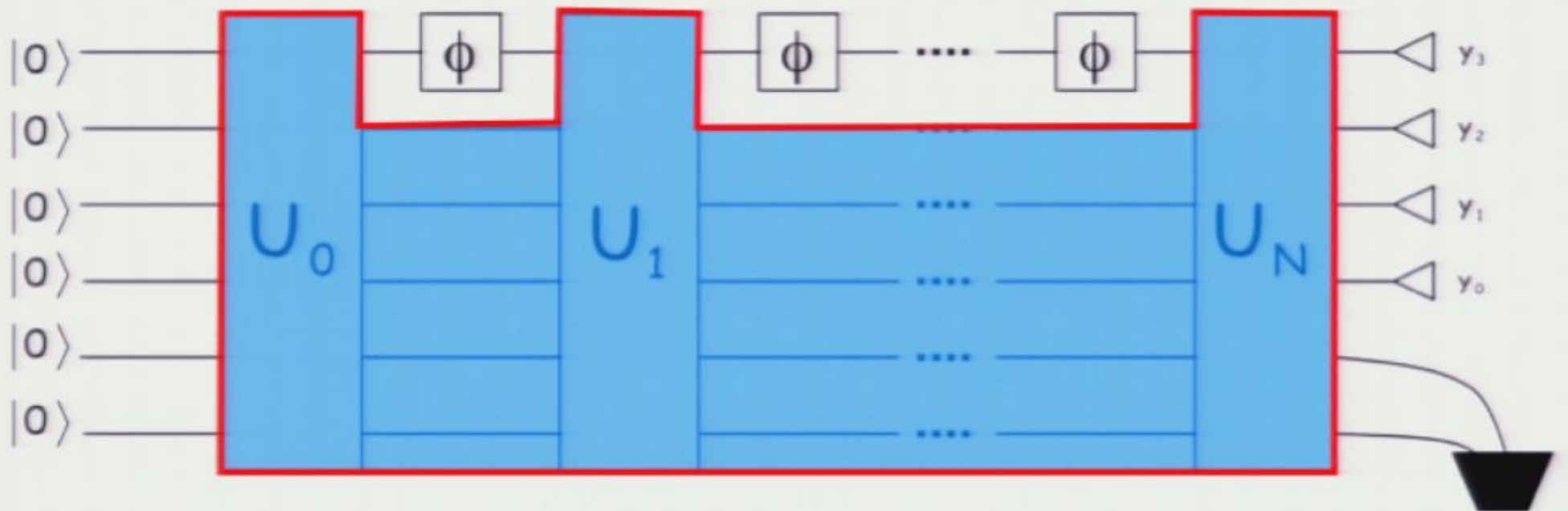
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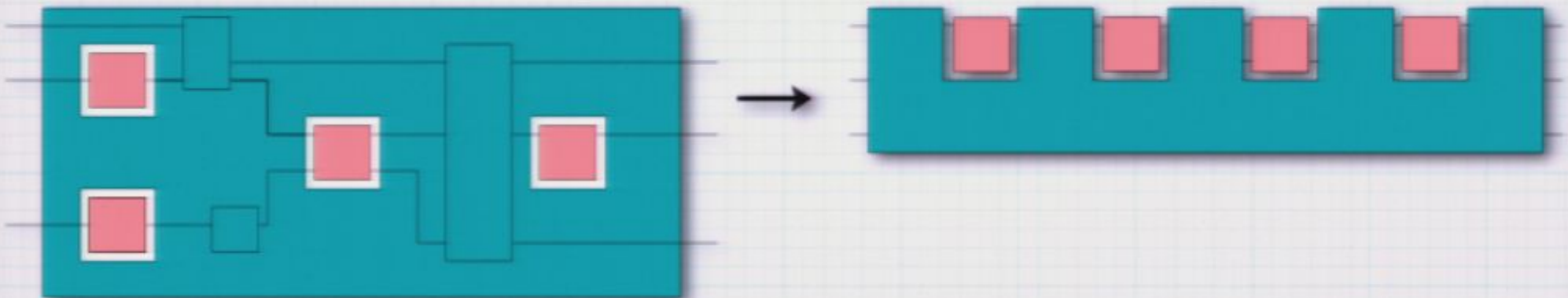
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# Quantum Combs

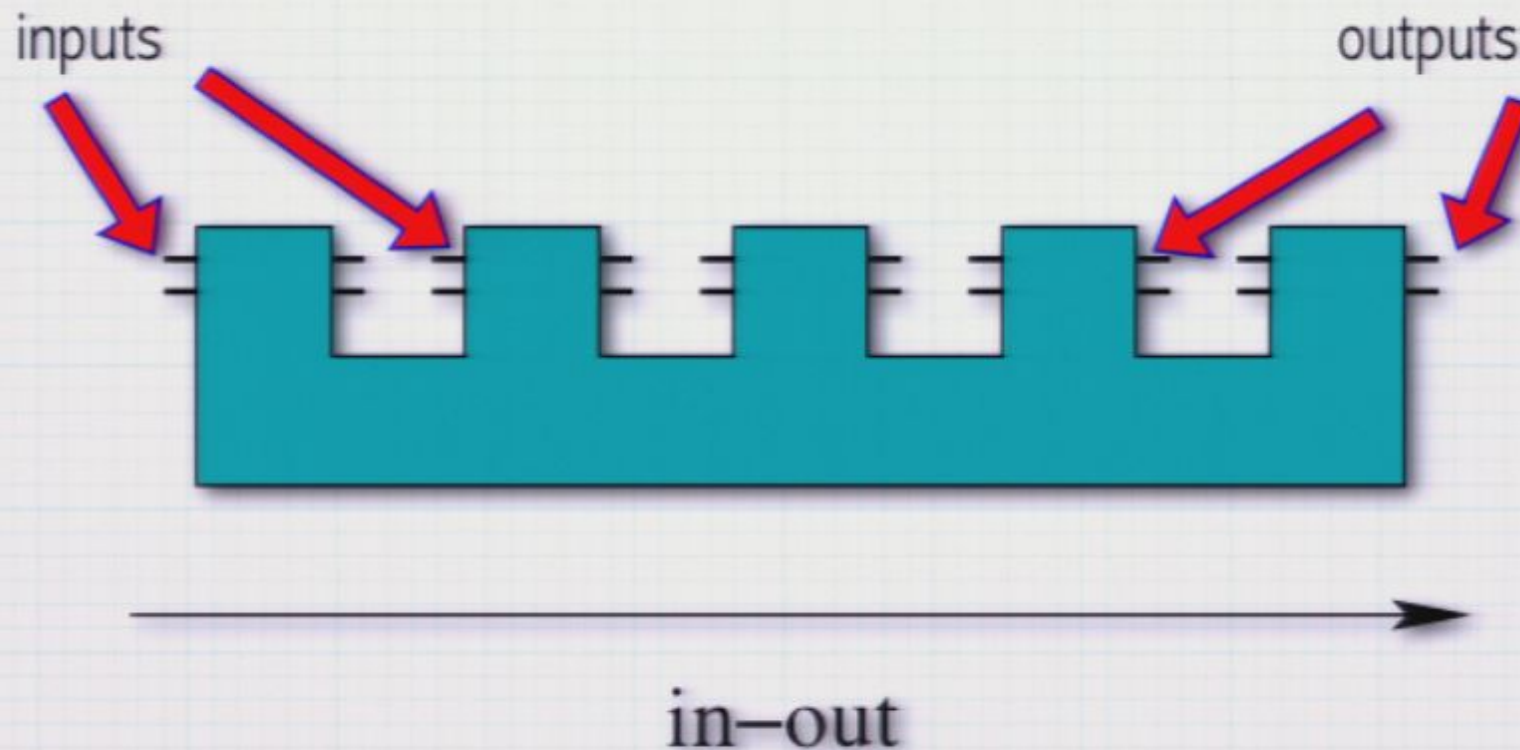
G.Chiribella, G.M.D'Ariano, P.Perinotti, PRL 101 060401 (2008)

All circuits-boards can be reshaped in form of "combs", with an ordered sequence of slots, each between two successive teeth



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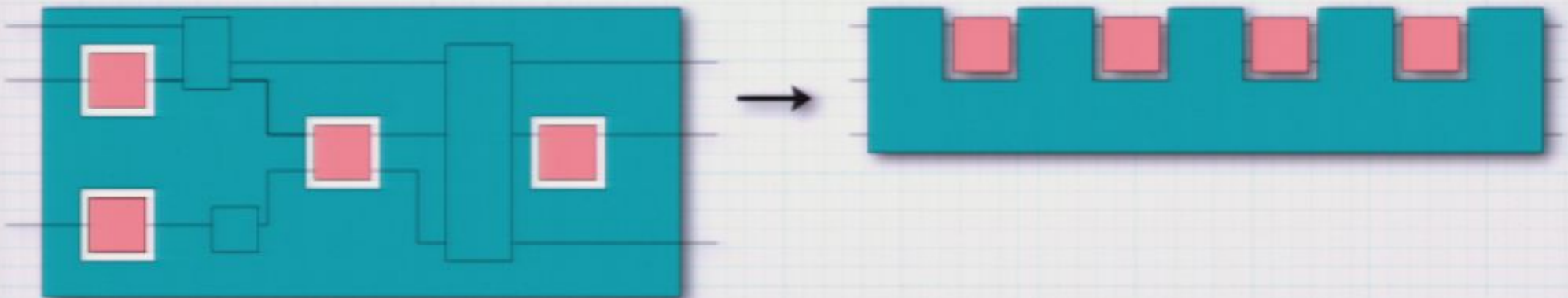


Pins = quantum systems with generally variable dimensions

# Quantum Combs

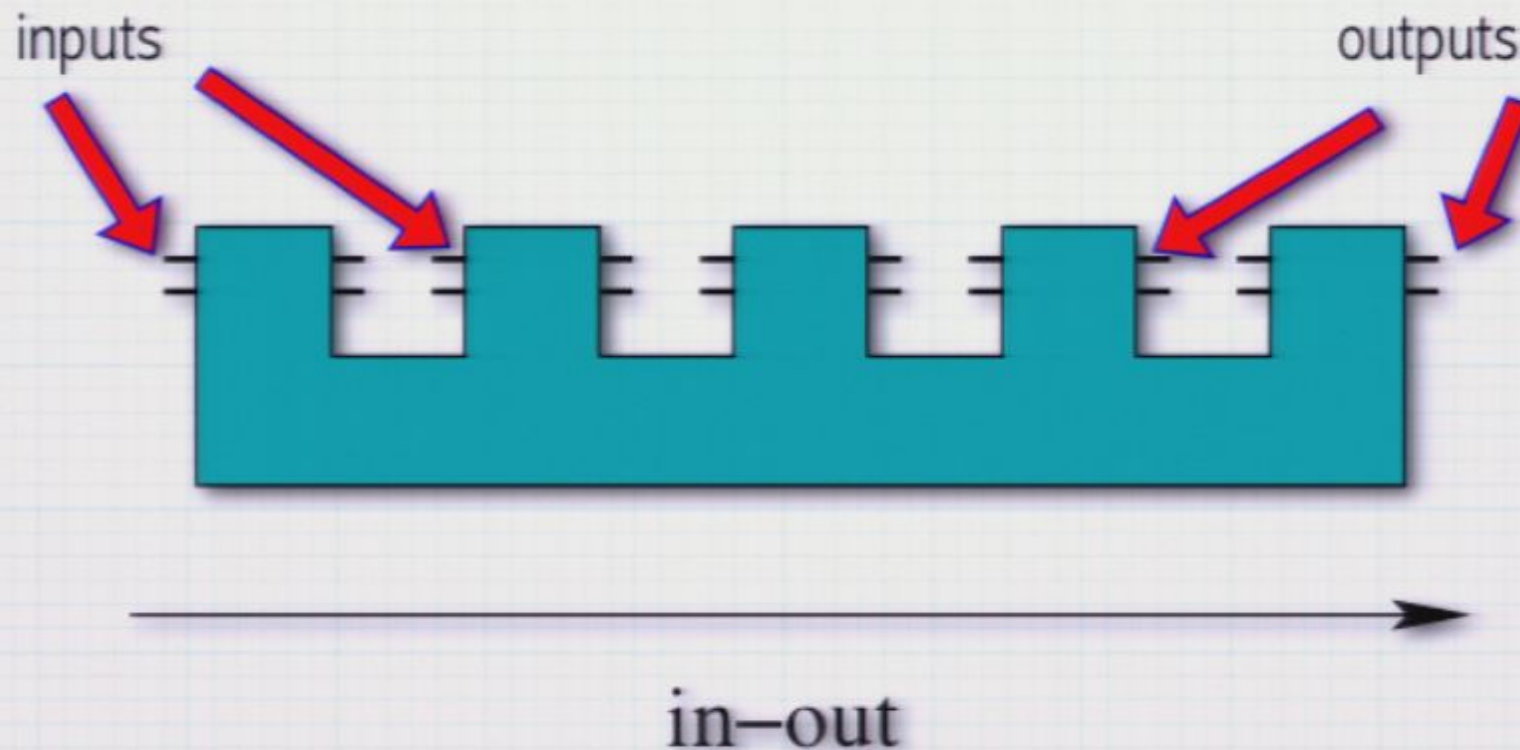
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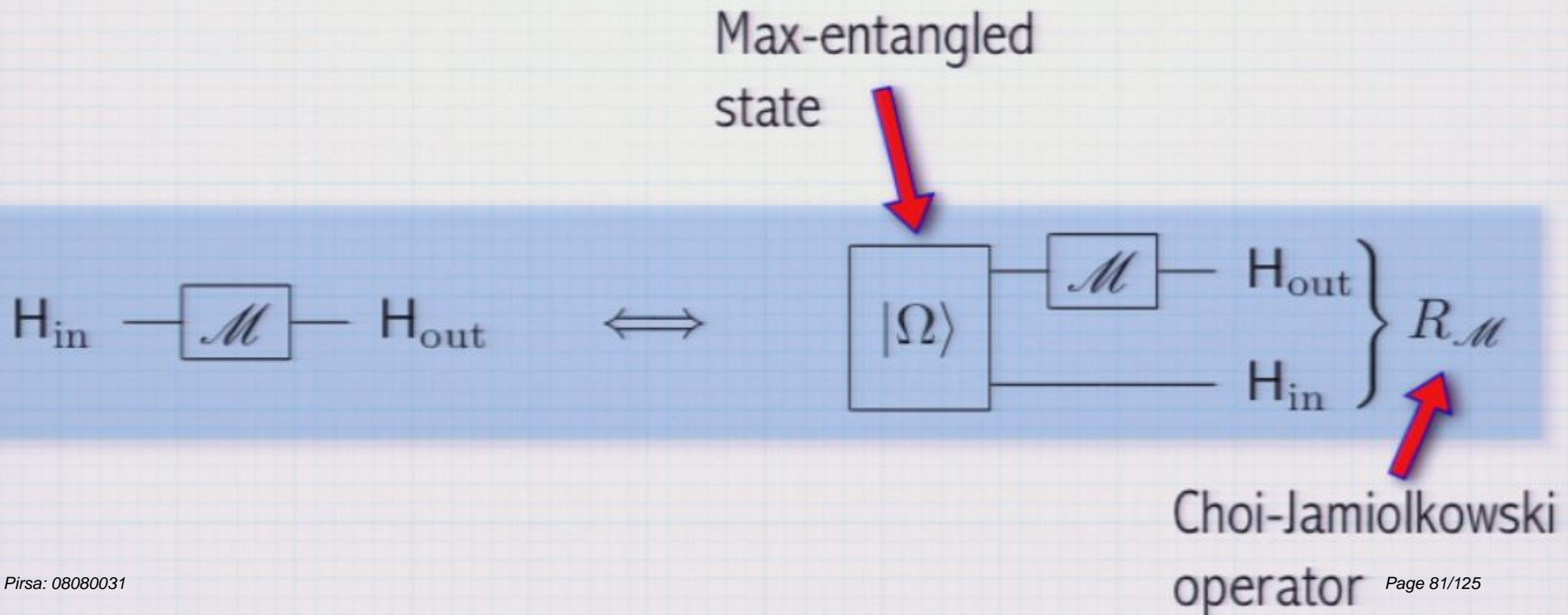
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How do we describe a  
quantum comb  
mathematically?



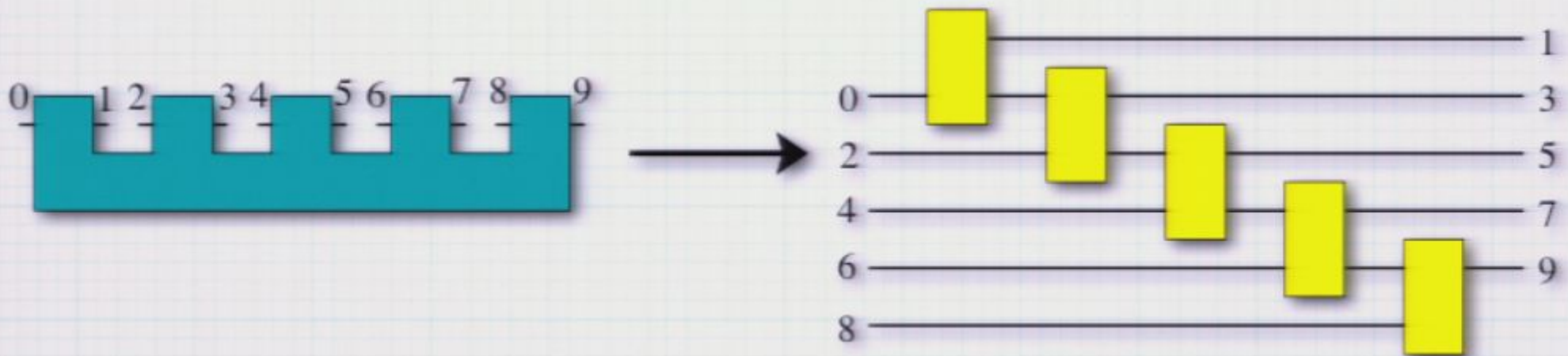
# Channel: Choi representation

Mathematically the input-output transformation operated by a quantum circuit is a **CP map**, and is **in one-to-one correspondence with a positive operator** called "Choi-Jamiolkowski operator", which is nothing but the output state of the map applied locally to a maximally entangled state.



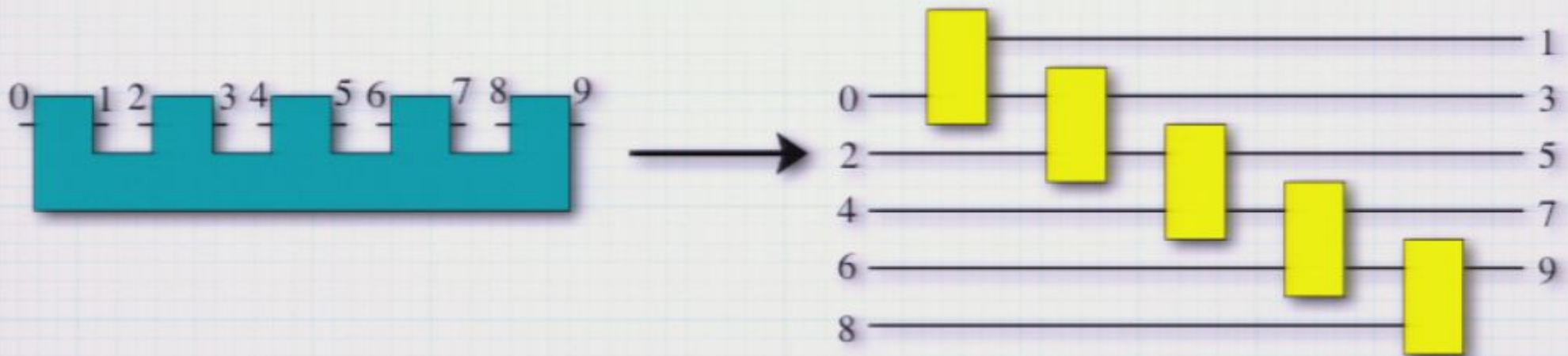
# Causal networks

The quantum comb is equivalent to a causal network with all inputs on the left and all outputs on the right

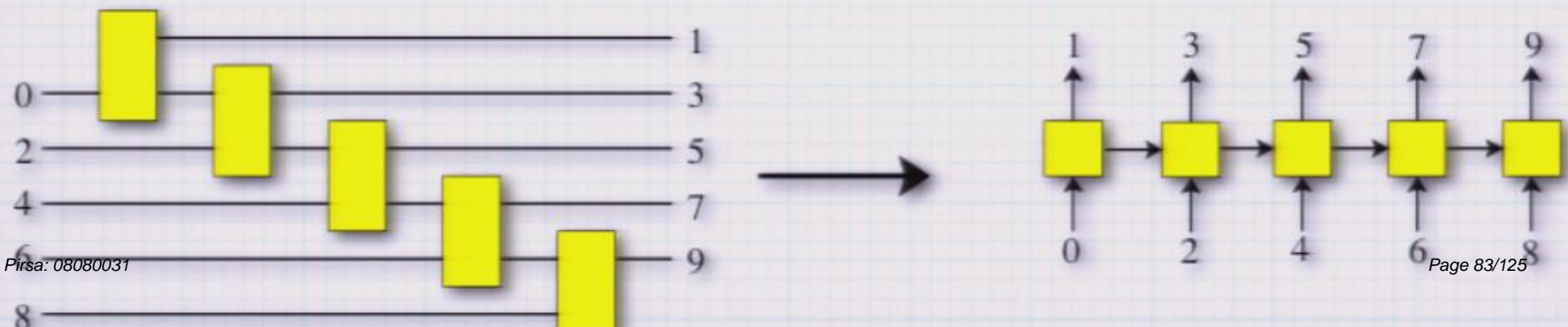


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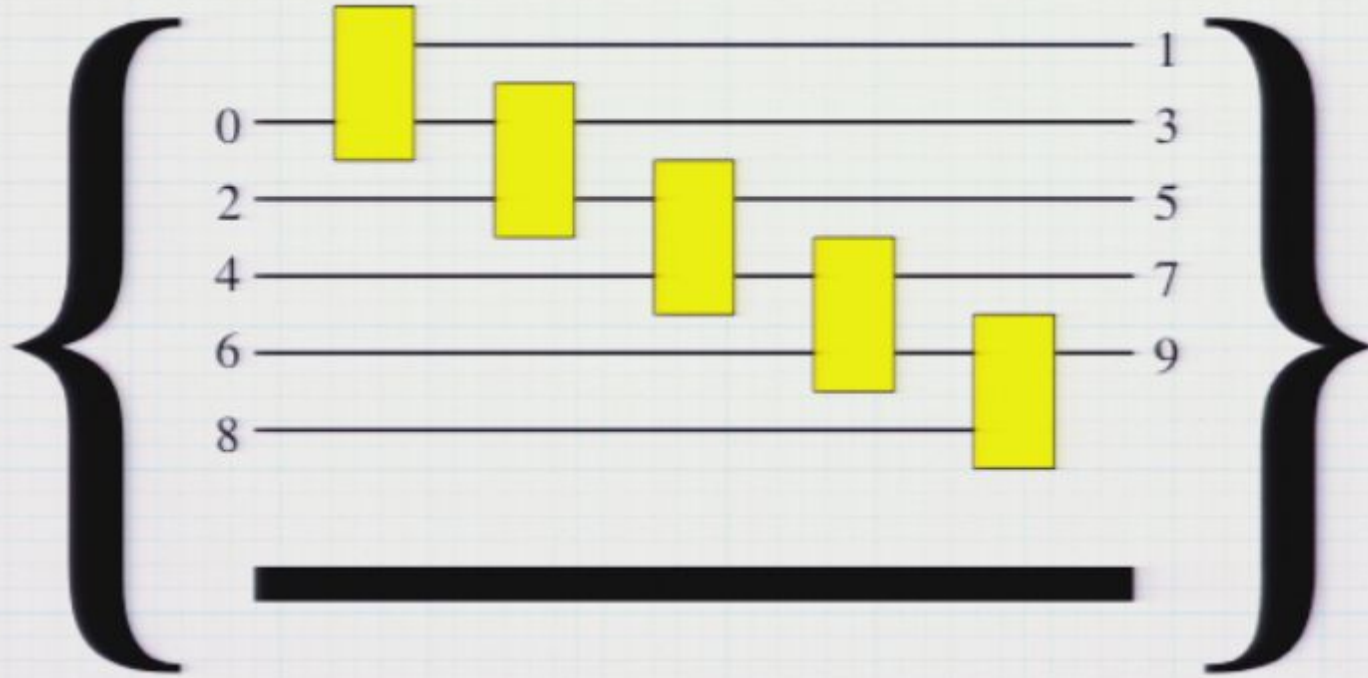


The causal network is also equivalent to the stack of memory channels



# Choi representation

max entangled state

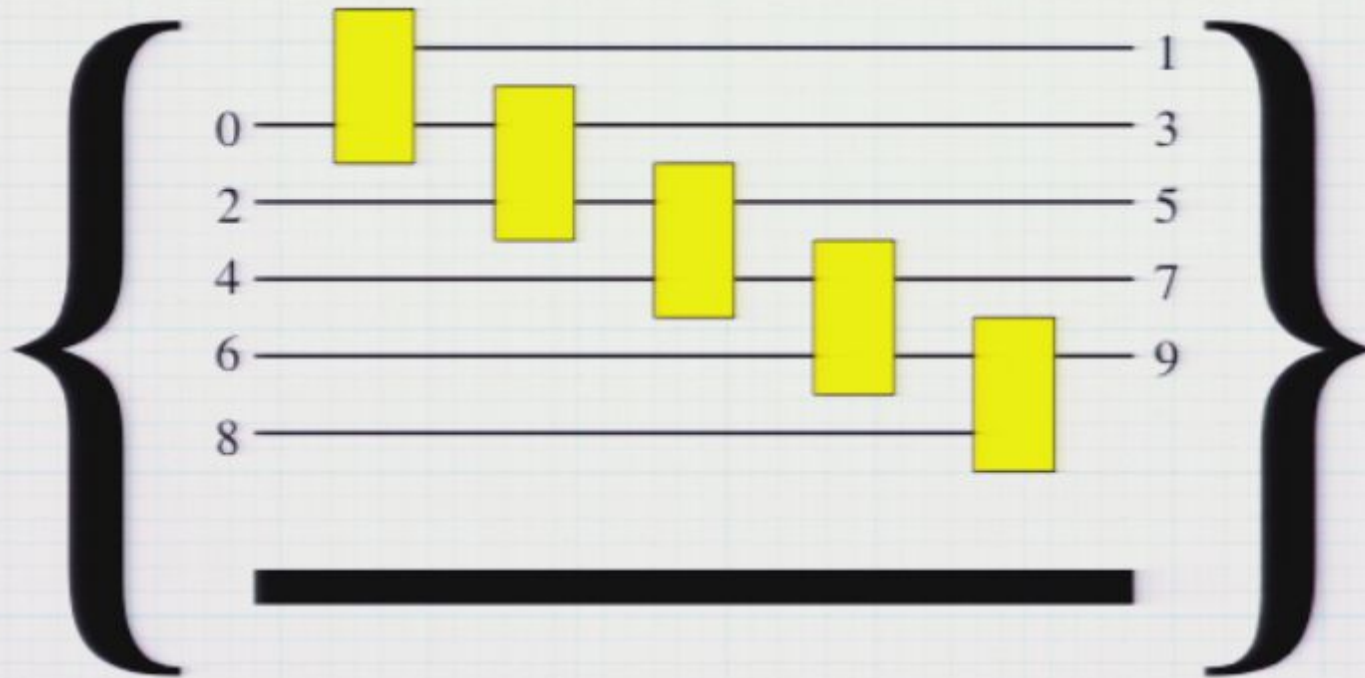


Choi-Jamiołkowski operator

$R$

# Choi representation

max entangled state



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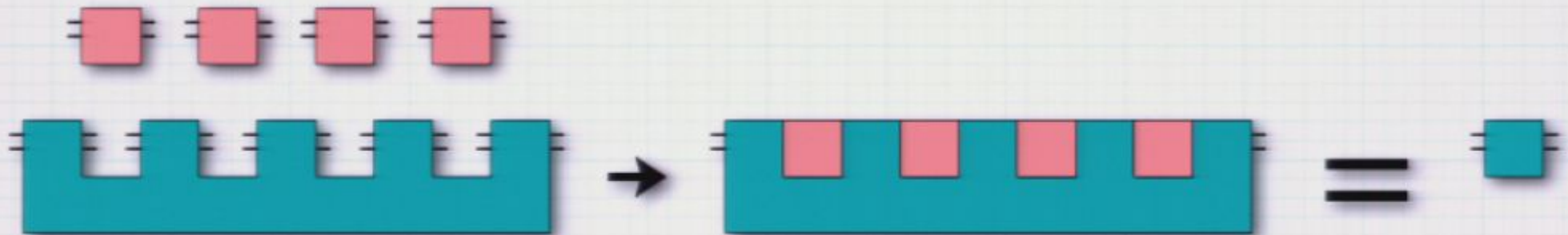
Causality constraints: ( $N+1$  inputs/outputs)

$$\text{Tr}_{2n+1} \left[ R^{(n)} \right] = I_{2n} \otimes R^{(n-1)}, \quad n = 0, 1, N,$$

$$R^{(N)} \equiv R, \quad R^{(-1)} = 1$$

# Supermaps

A quantum comb performs a transformation that is a generalization of the quantum operation: the so called "supermap"

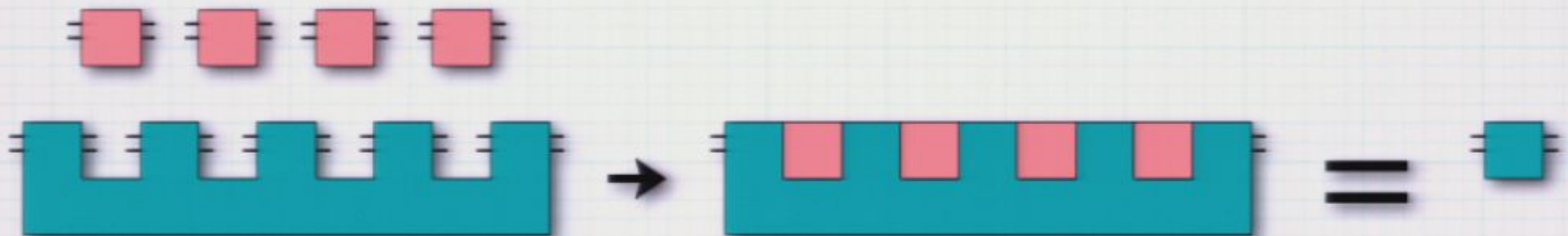


A supermap sends a series of  $N$  channels to one channel.

Mathematically it is represented by a CP  $N$ -linear map which sends  $N$  Choi operators to one Choi operator, and with his own Choi operator satisfying the causality constraints.

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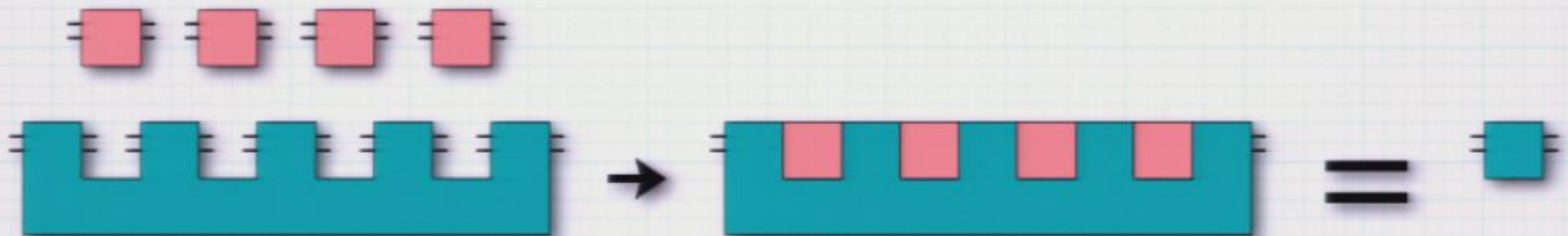


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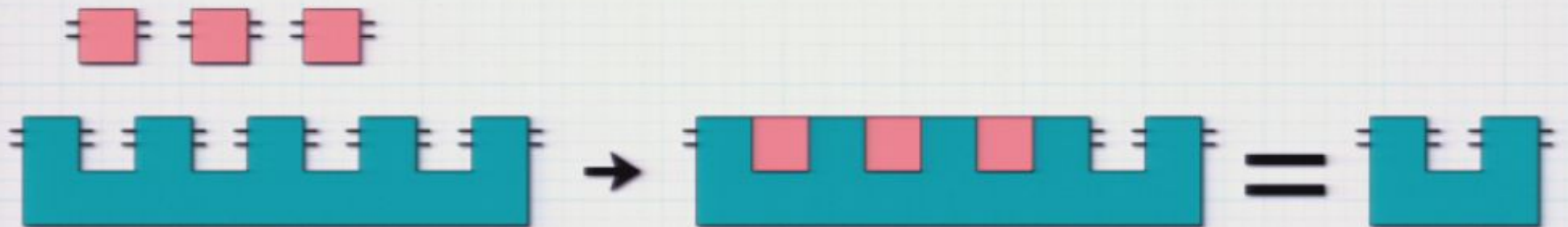
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(we can likewise consider probabilistic supermaps).



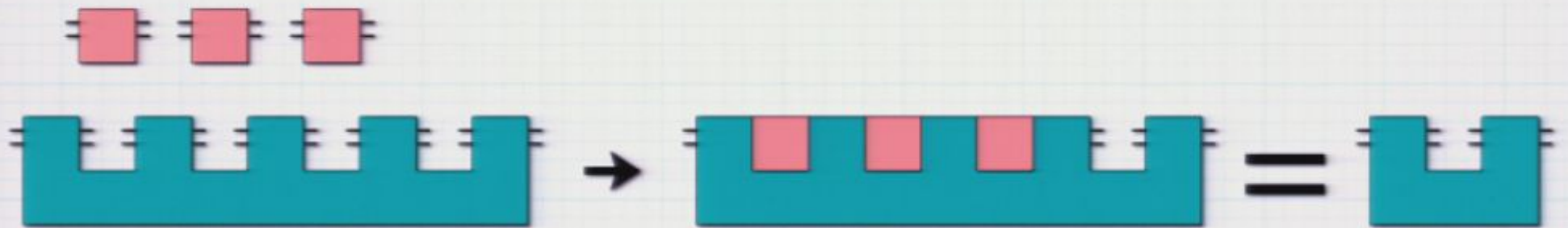
# Supermaps

More generally, a quantum comb maps a series of channels into a comb

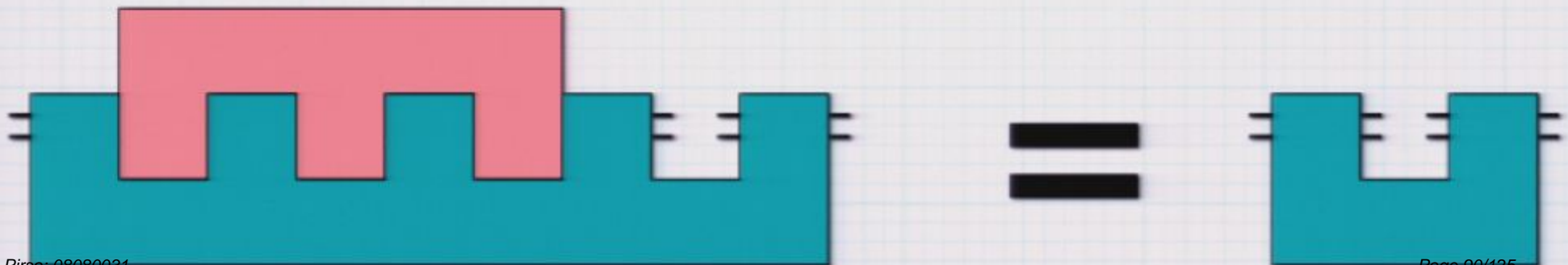


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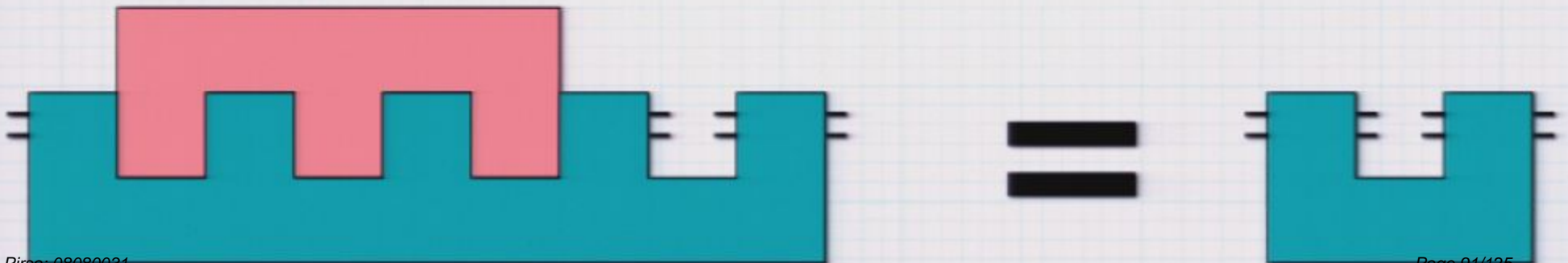


or, even more generally, a comb to a comb

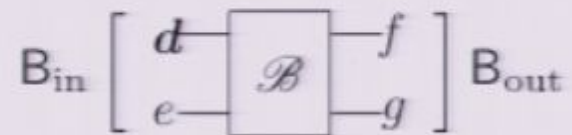
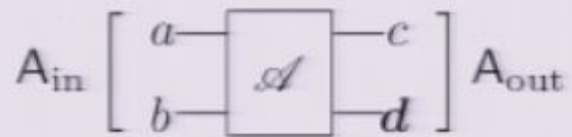


# Supermaps

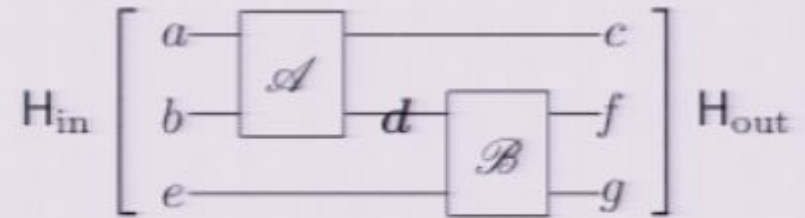
The notion of supermap is the last level of generalization, i.e. “super-supermaps” (mapping supermaps to supermaps) are still supermaps = quantum combs.



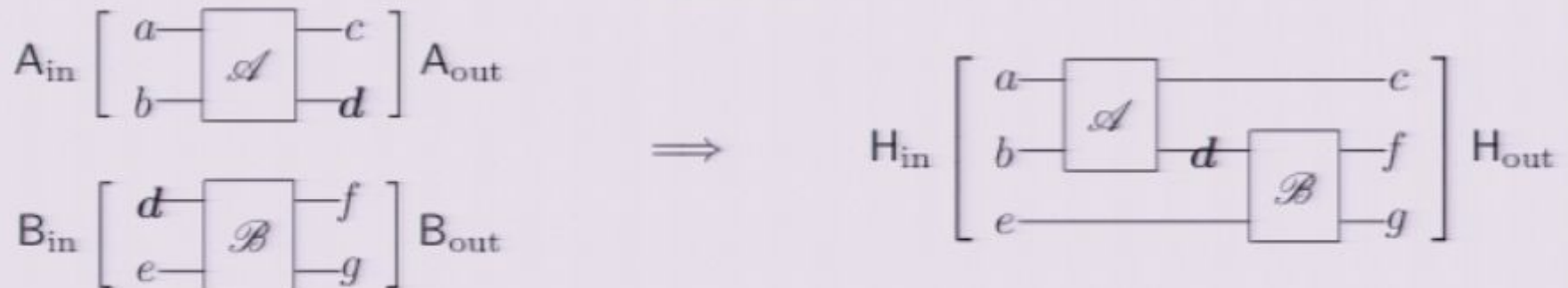
# Link product



$\Rightarrow$



# Link product

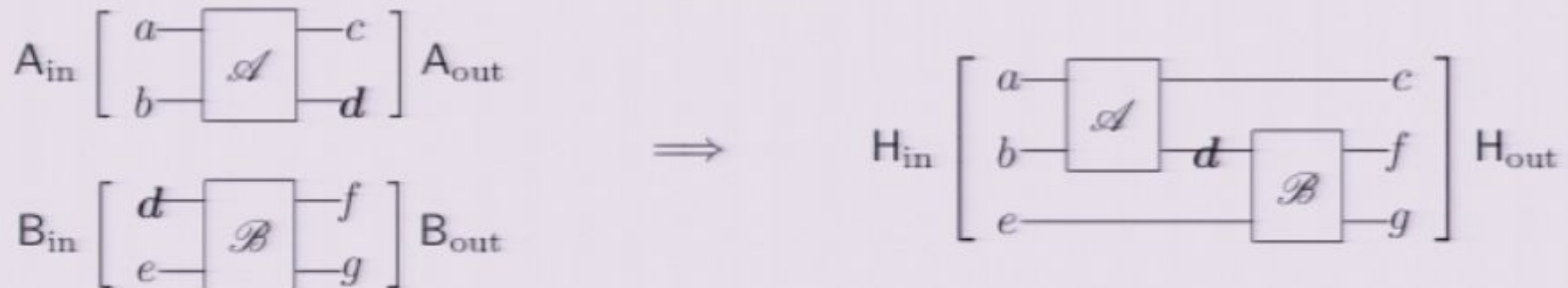


## Choi-operator calculus

$$A \in \mathcal{B}(A_{\text{out}} \otimes A_{\text{in}}) = \mathcal{B}(H_a \otimes H_b \otimes H_c \otimes H_d), \quad J \equiv H_d$$

$$B \in \mathcal{B}(B_{\text{out}} \otimes B_{\text{in}}) = \mathcal{B}(H_d \otimes H_e \otimes H_f \otimes H_g)$$

# Link product



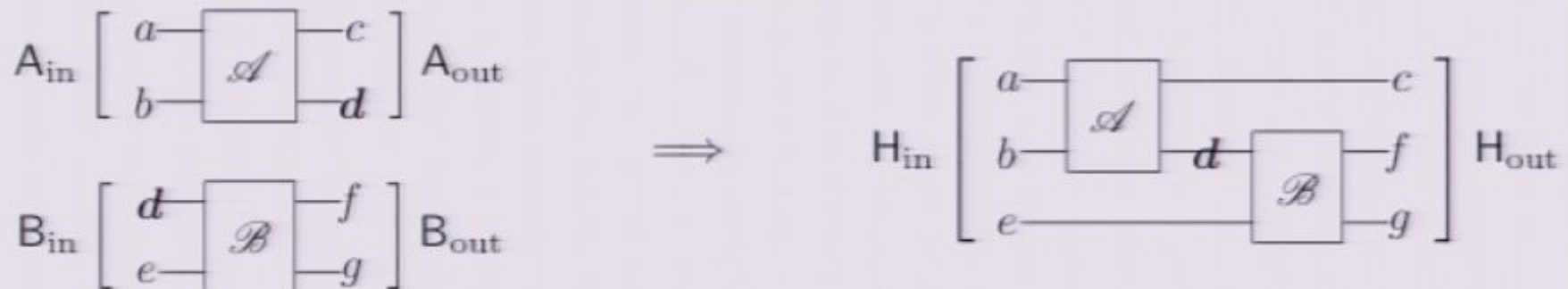
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$$AB := (A \otimes I_{e,f,g})(I_{a,b,c} \otimes B)$$

# Link product



Choi-operator calculus

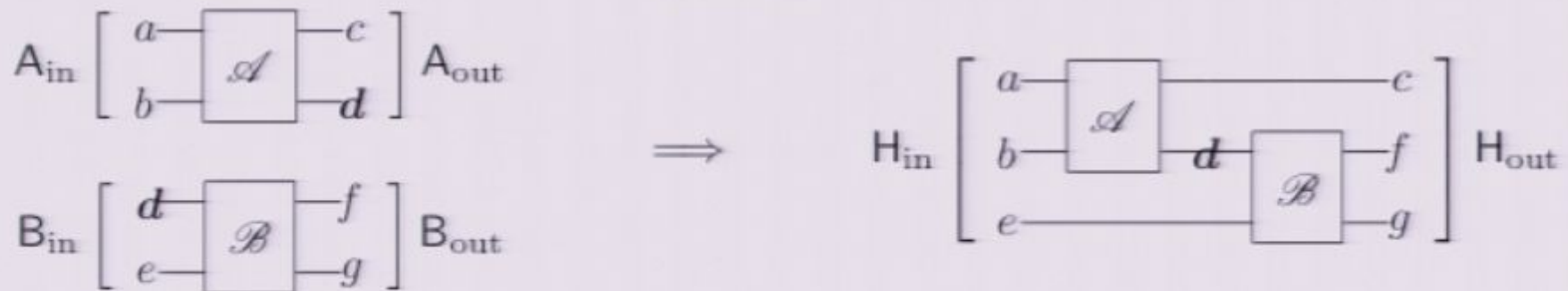
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# Link product



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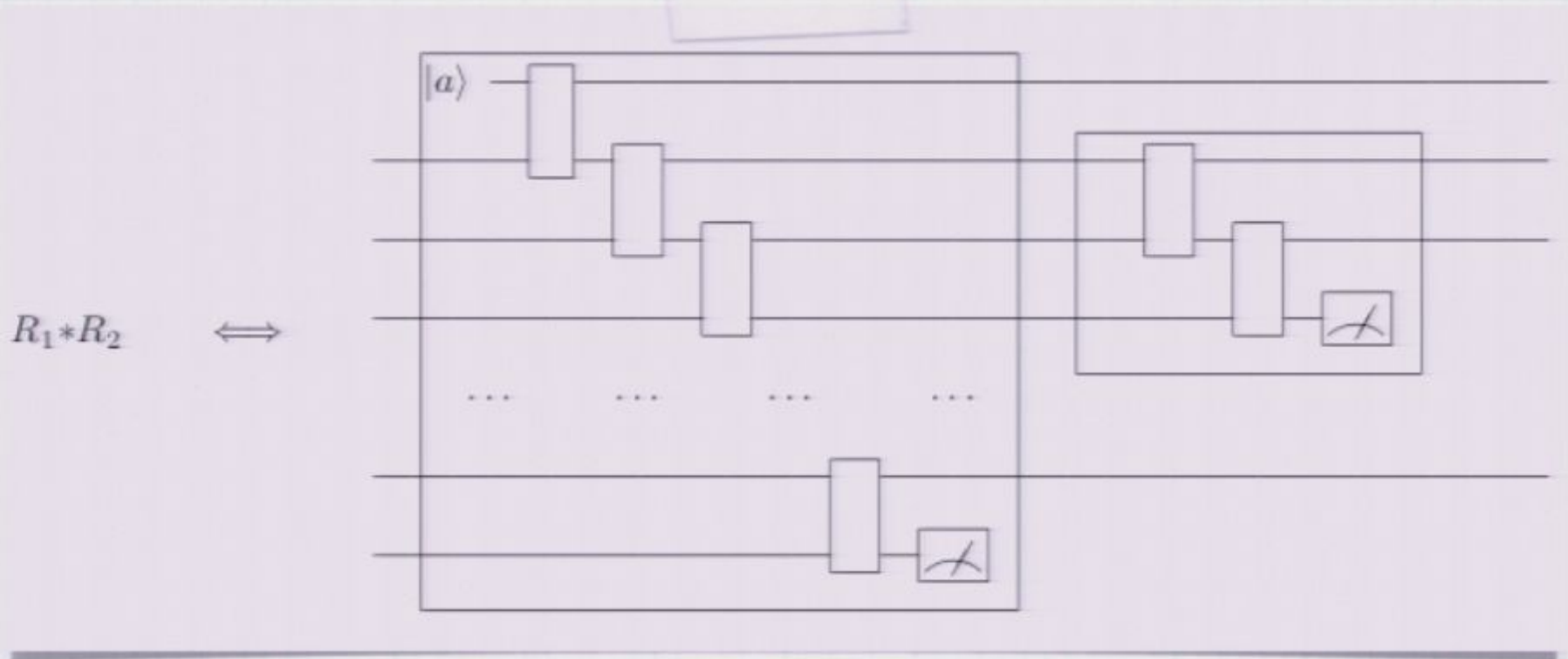
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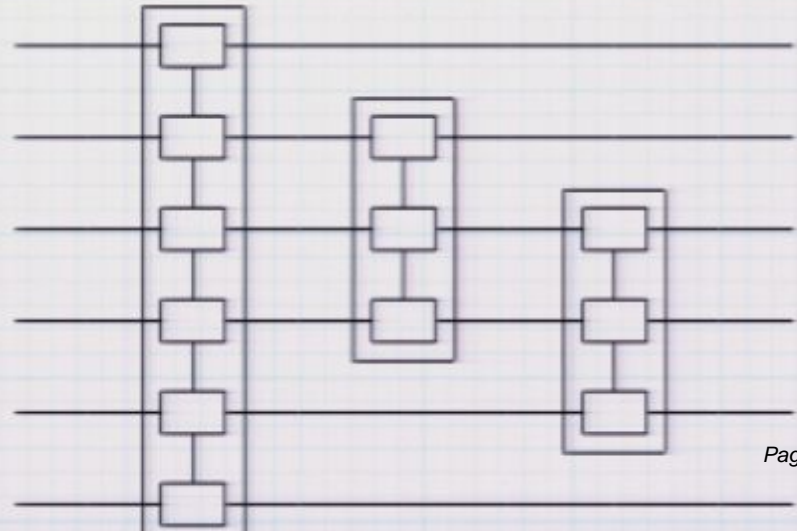
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# Link product



$R_1 * R_2 * R_3 \iff$



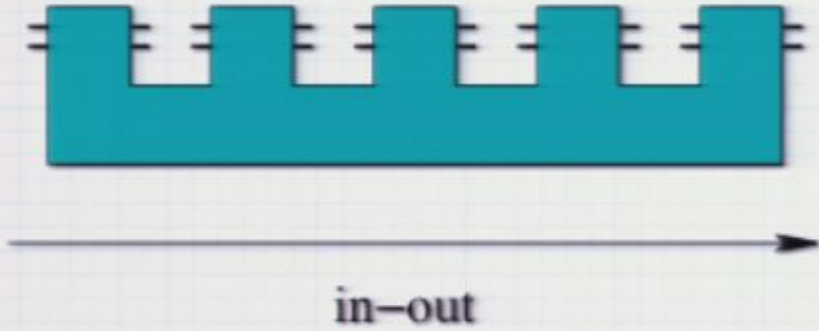
# Link product

Special cases:

$$\mathcal{M}(\rho) = R_{\mathcal{M}} * \rho \quad \text{quantum operation}$$

$$\text{Tr}[P^* \rho] = P * \rho \quad \text{POVM}$$

# Circuits Architecture Optimization

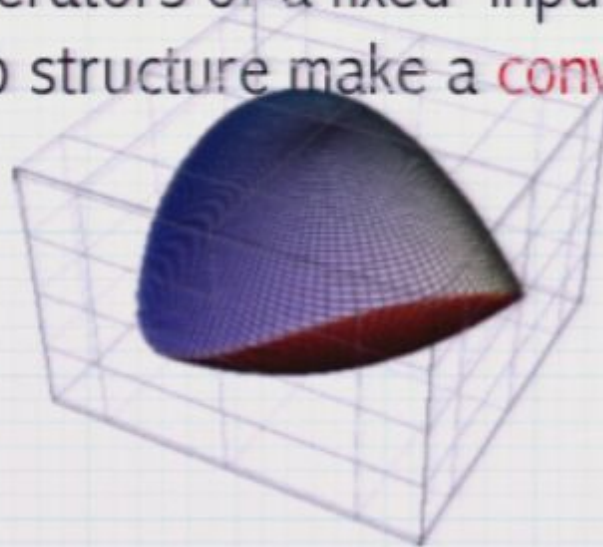


# Circuits Architecture Optimization

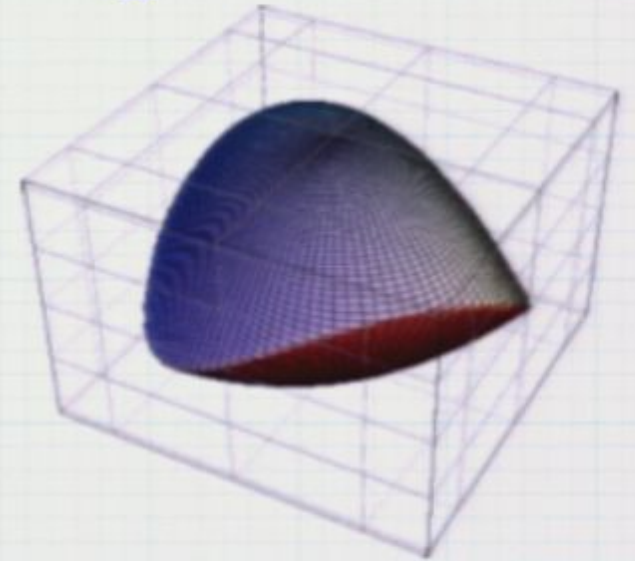
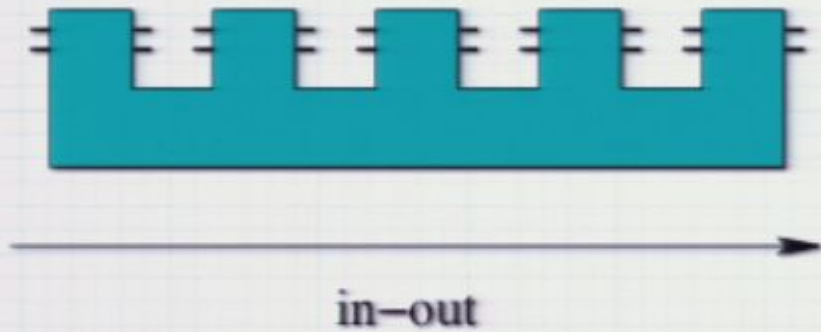


in-out

- The Choi operators of a fixed input-output comb structure make a **convex set**

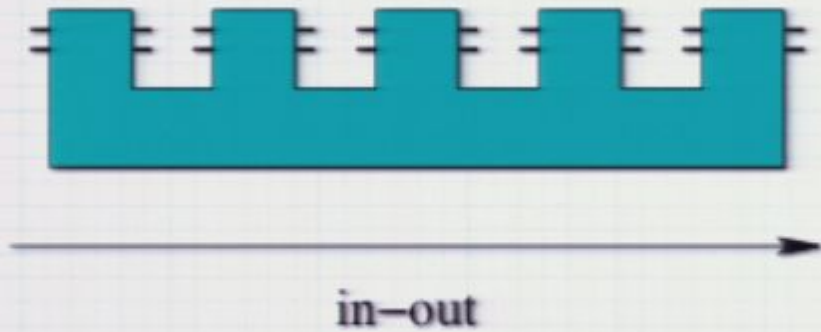


# Circuits Architecture Optimization

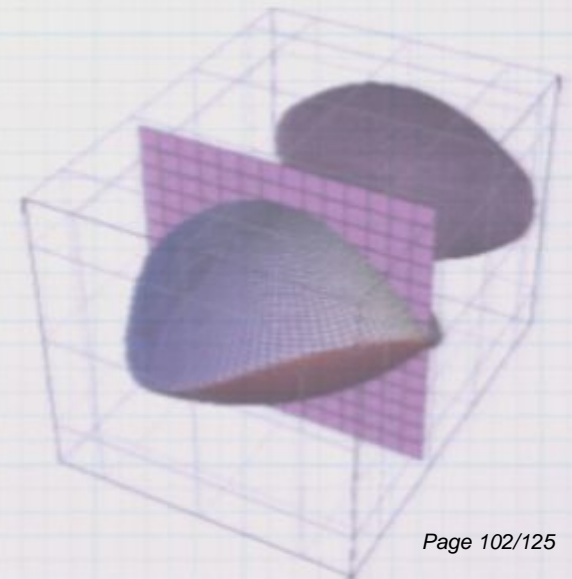
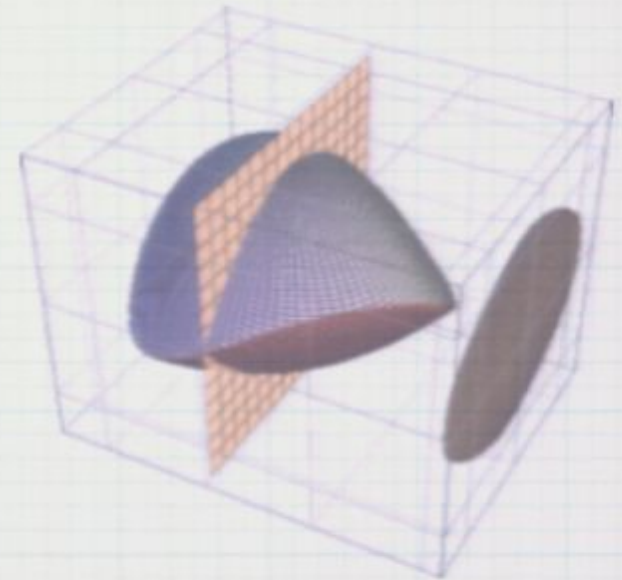


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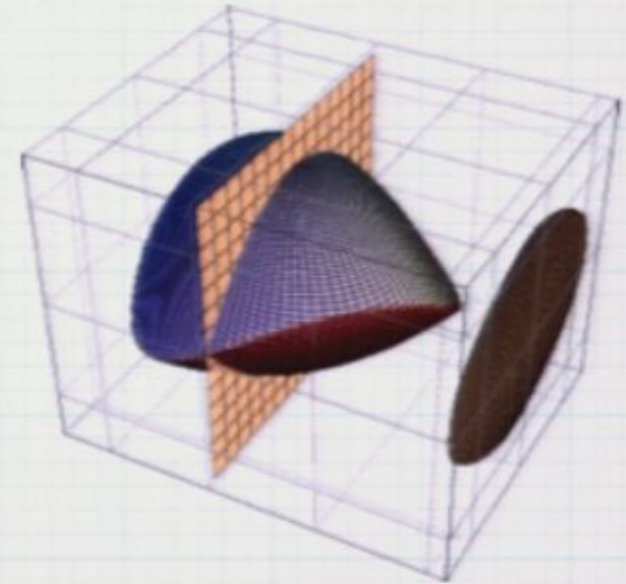
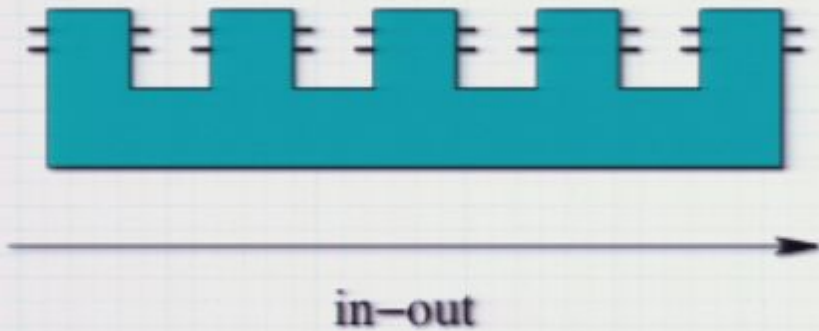
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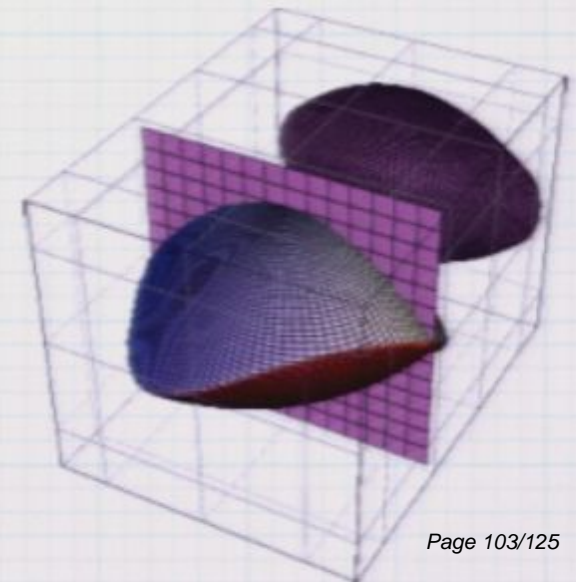
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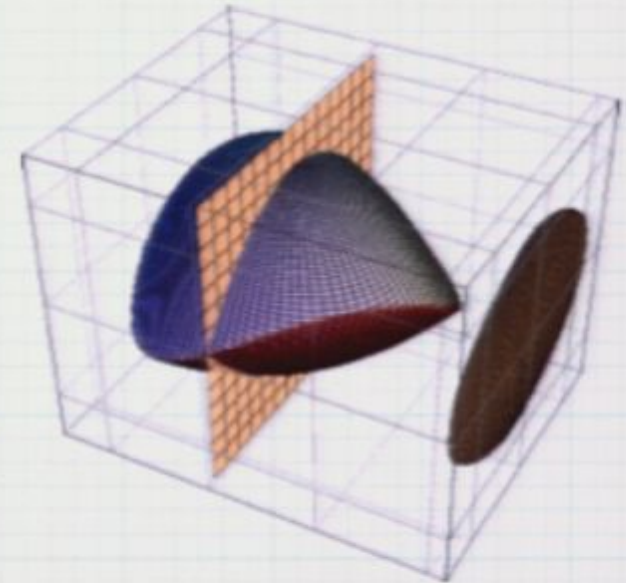
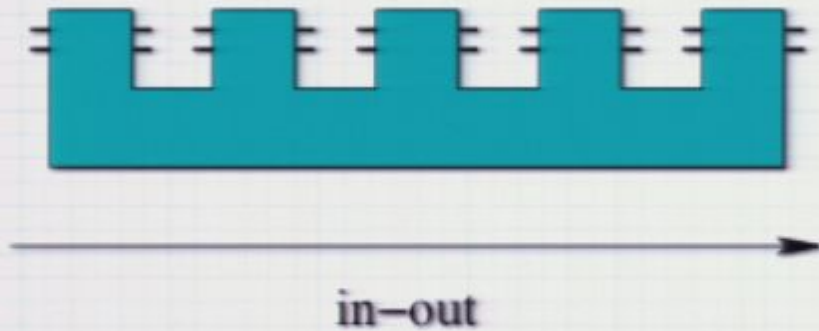
# Circuits Architecture Optimization



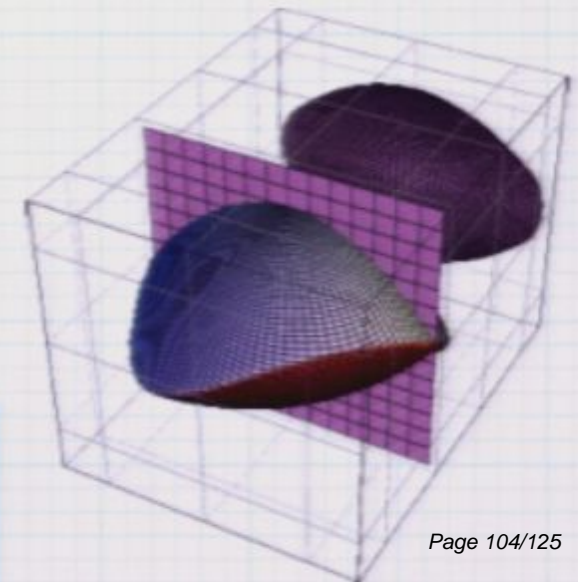
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# Circuits Architecture Optimization



- The Choi operators of a fixed input-output comb structure make a **convex set**
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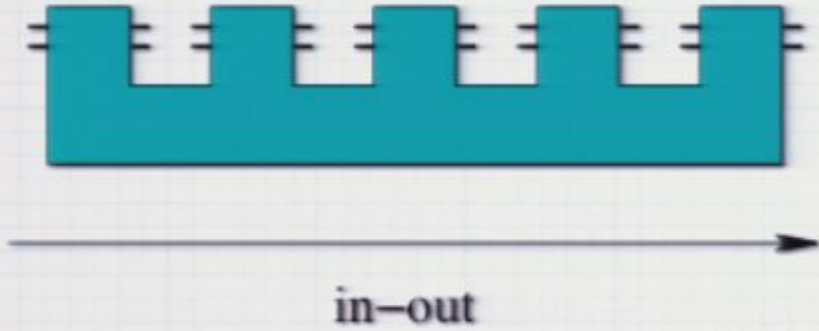


$$[R, V_g] = 0 \implies R = \bigoplus_j R_j \otimes \mathbb{1}_{m_j}$$

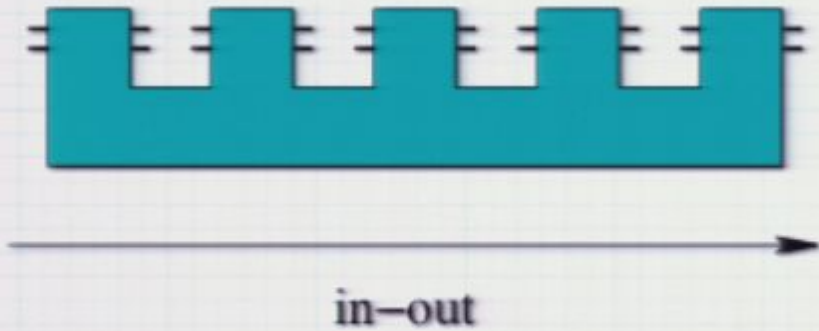


The mathematical  
formulation is reduced to  
a convex problem!

# Circuits Architecture Optimization



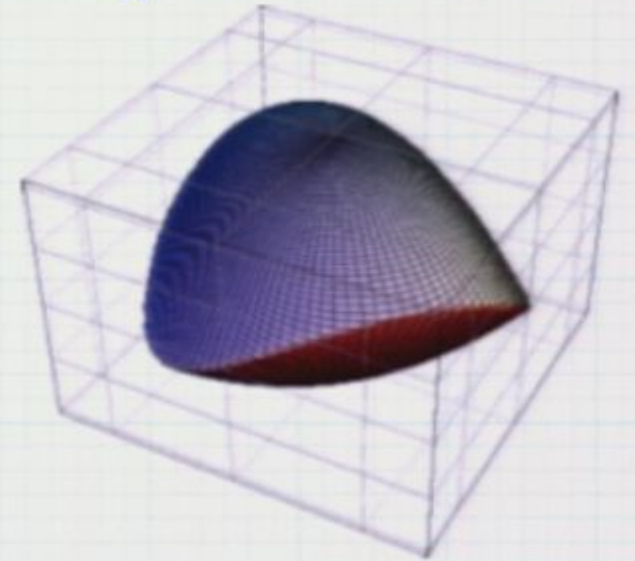
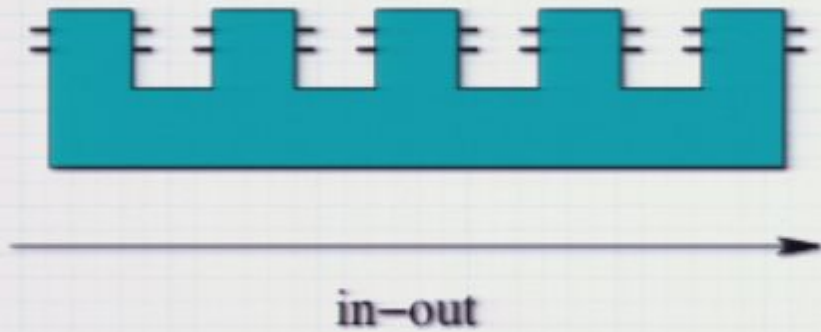
# Circuits Architecture Optimization



The Choi operators of a fixed input-output comb structure make up a convex set

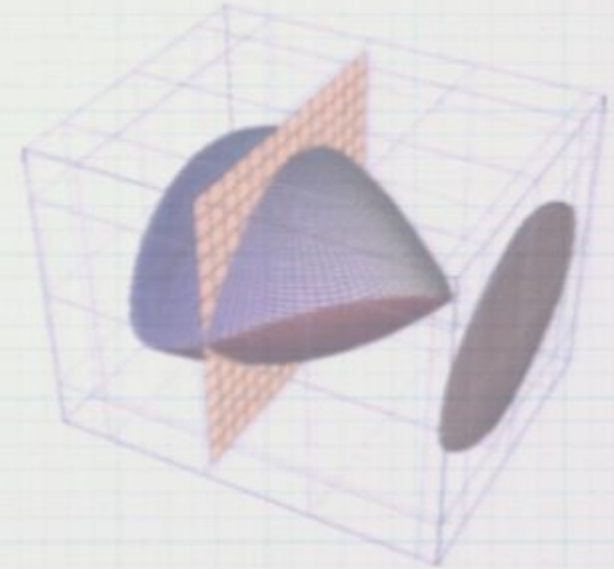
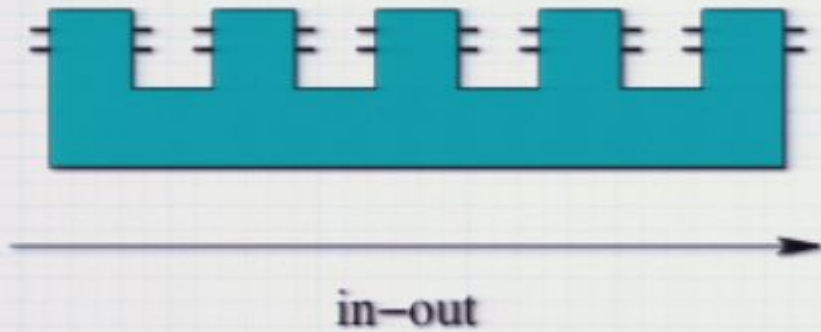
A 3D plot showing a convex set within a wireframe cube. The set is a dome-like shape with a red base and a blue top, representing the space of Choi operators for a fixed input-output comb structure.

# Circuits Architecture Optimization

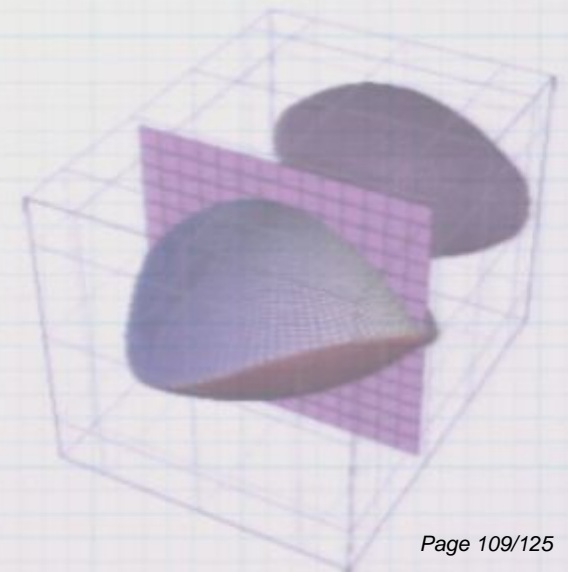


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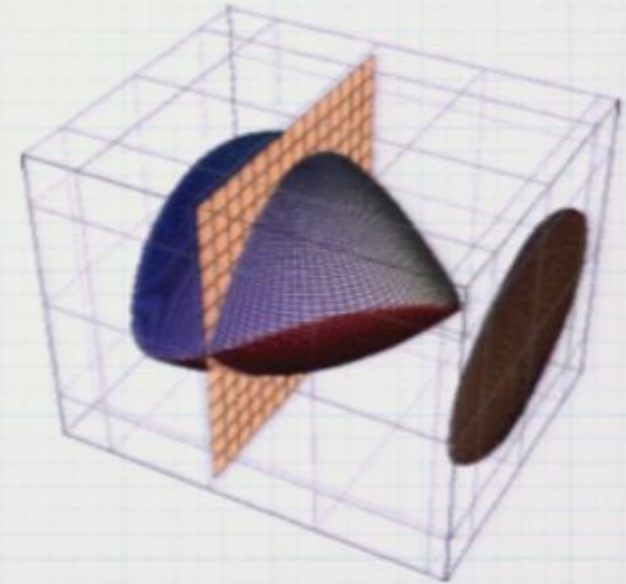
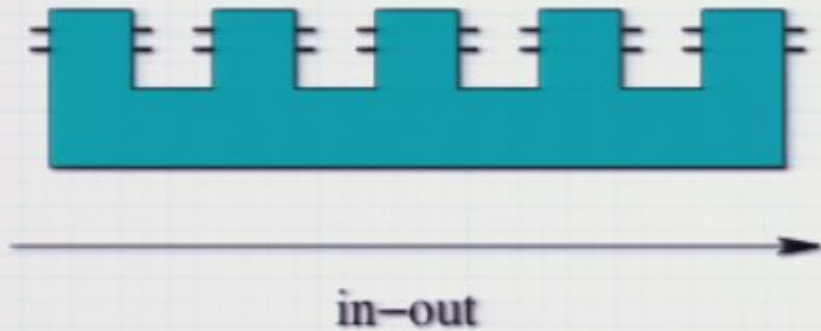
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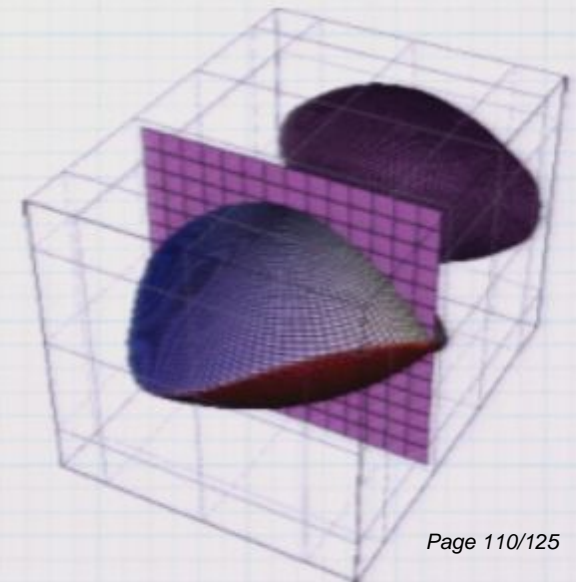
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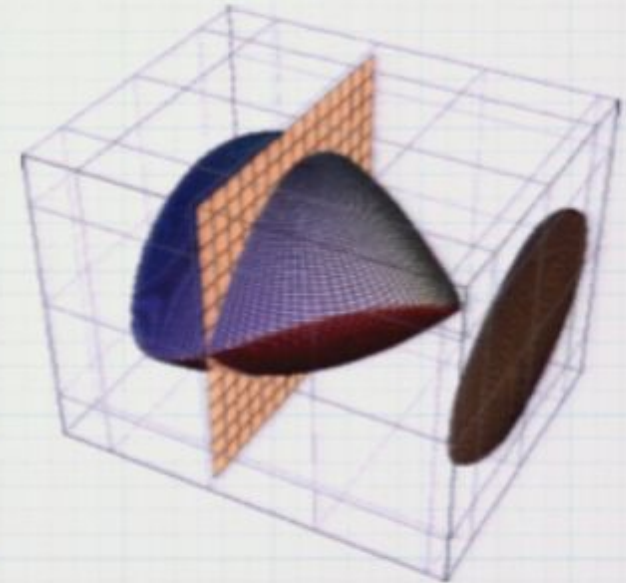
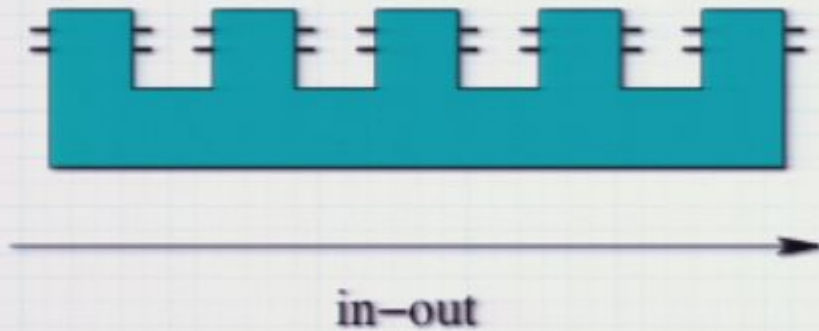
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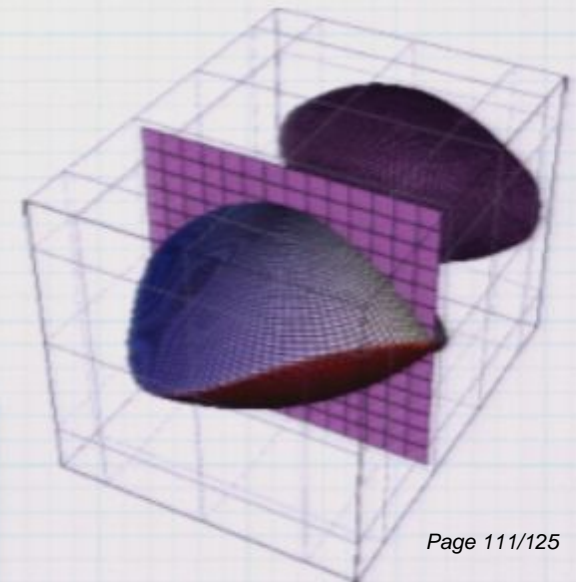
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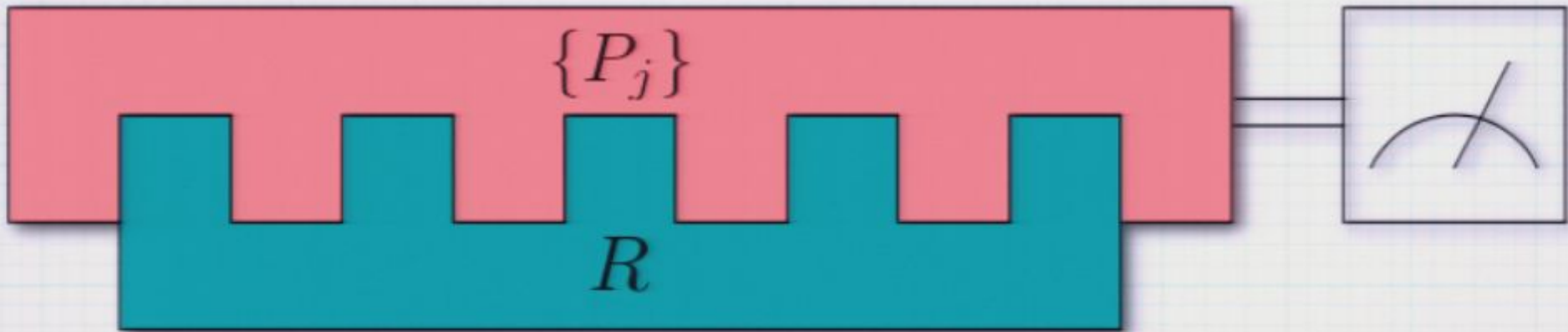


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The mathematical  
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# Quantum board testers



Tester

Born rule:

$$\text{Tr}[P_j R] = p_j, \quad \sum_j P_j = \Xi$$

causality constraints:

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# Estimating tester



Tester

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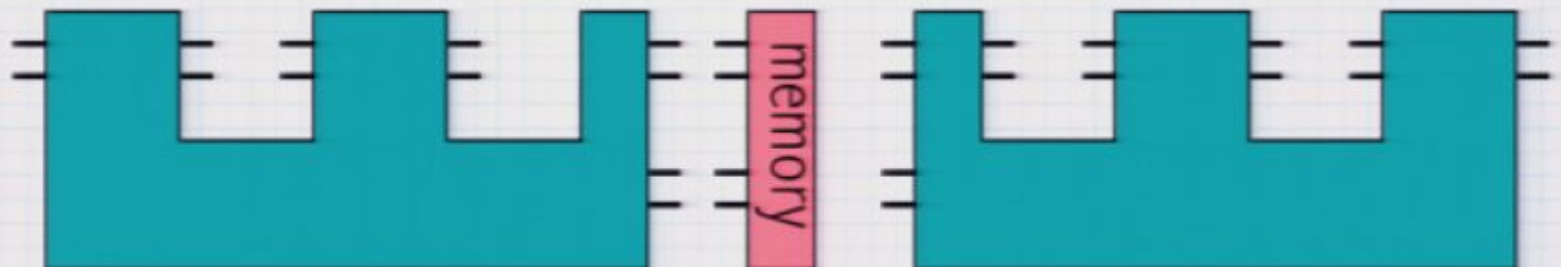
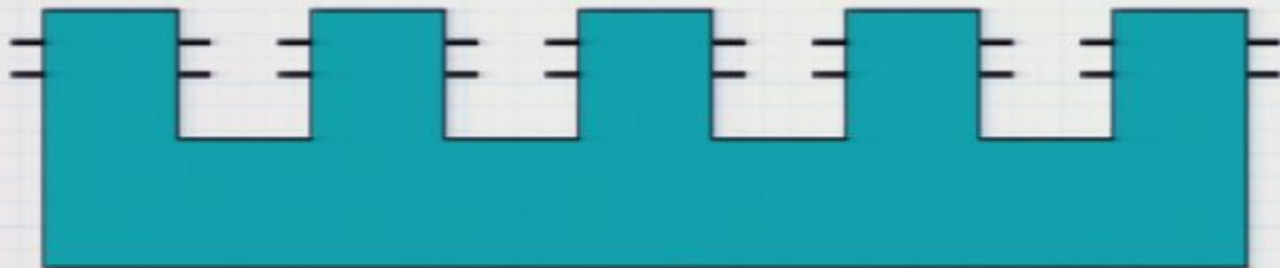
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$$\Xi^{(N)} \equiv \Xi, \quad \text{Tr}_1[\Xi^{(0)}] = 1$$

# Using quantum memory

delay the use of subcircuits by breaking the comb into subcombs + quantum memory



# Applications

## Discrimination of unitaries

Discrimination between two possible unitary operators

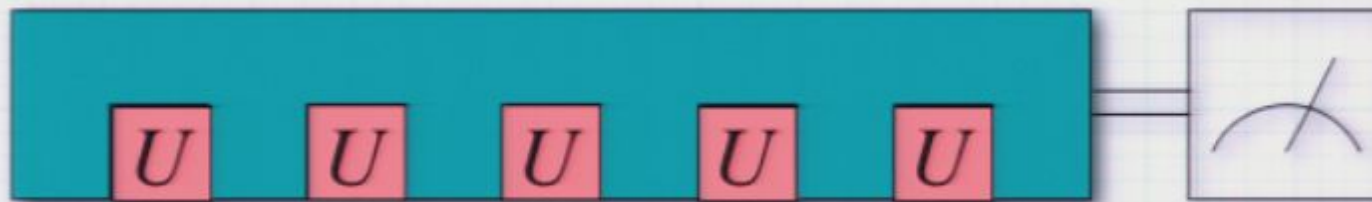


G. Chiribella, G.M. D'Ariano, P. Perinotti

Quantum Information Theory

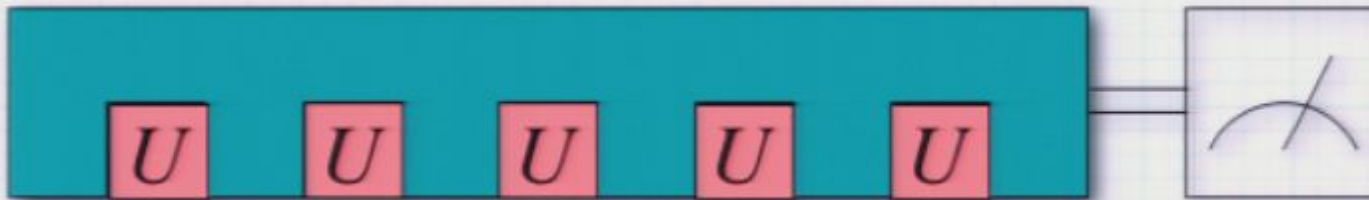
# Discrimination of unitaries

Optimal discrimination between two possible unitary operators  $U_1$   $U_2$



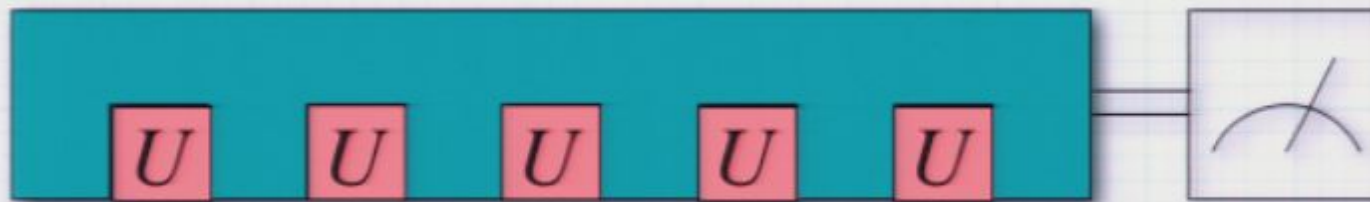
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The parallel strategy is already optimal!

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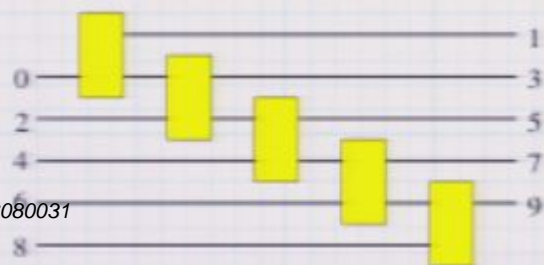
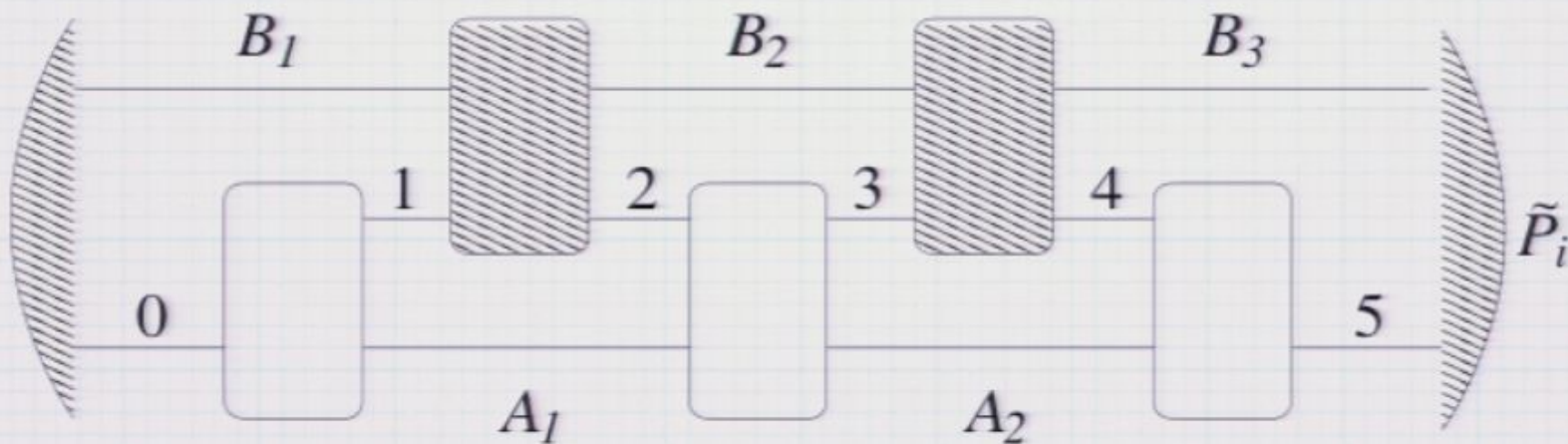
Optimal discrimination of channels

Optimal estimation of unitaries

STILL OPEN PROBLEMS

# Discrimination of memory channels

There are memory channels that can be discriminated perfectly with a single use by a quantum tester, and not conventionally





# Optimal tomographers



( $d^4$  outcomes)

Informationally  
complete tester

# Optimal tomographers



( $d^4$  outcomes)

Informationally  
complete tester



multiple uses

# Optimal tomographers



( $d^4$  outcomes)

Informationally  
complete tester



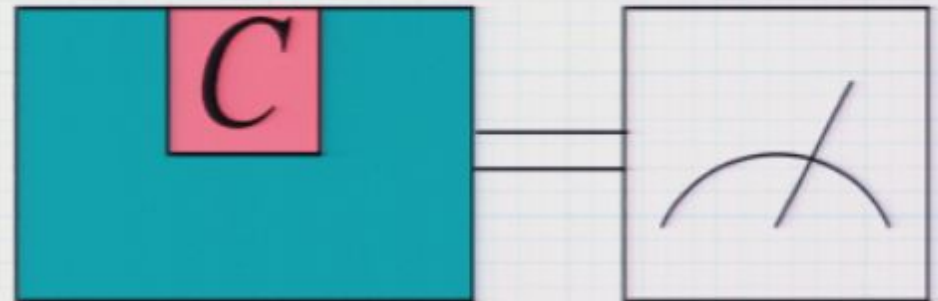
multiple uses



circuit board tomographer

# Optimal tomography

Use **different in and out dimensions** to unify: states, channels, and POVMs



A. Bisio, G. Chiribella, G. M. D'Ariano, S. Facchini, P. Perinotti [arXiv: 0806.1172](https://arxiv.org/abs/0806.1172)

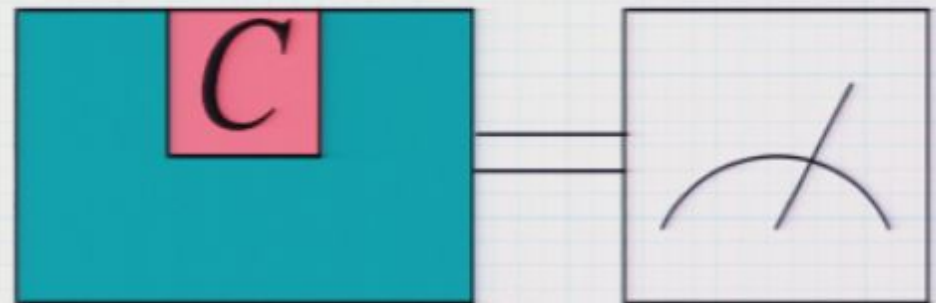
# Optimal tomography

• **Prior distribution** of channels corresponding to the depolarizing average channel

• **Cost function** = representation, (equally weighted orthonormal set of operators)

• Further selection:  
 1) quantum operations,  
 2) channels,  
 3) unital channels

Use **different in and out dimensions** to unify: states, channels, and POVMs



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