

Title: SU(2) gauge theory on digital quantum computers

Speakers:

Series: Perimeter Institute Quantum Discussions

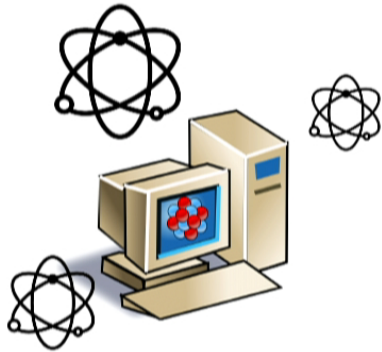
Date: November 14, 2019 - 11:00 AM

URL: <http://pirsa.org/19110115>

Abstract:

Results from the first digital quantum simulation of an SU(2) gauge theory are presented. This was done by analytically constructing gauge-invariant states and implementing a Trotterized time evolution operator for that basis on superconducting hardware. By using error mitigation techniques, electric energy measurements could be reliably extracted following one Trotter-Suzuki time step. This work is a small but important step toward determining what field-theoretic calculations will be possible using near-term devices.

SU(2) gauge theory on digital quantum computers



Jesse Stryker
(stryker@uw.edu)

Work done w/ Natalie Klco (INT)
& Martin Savage (INT)
based on [arXiv:1908.06935](https://arxiv.org/abs/1908.06935)

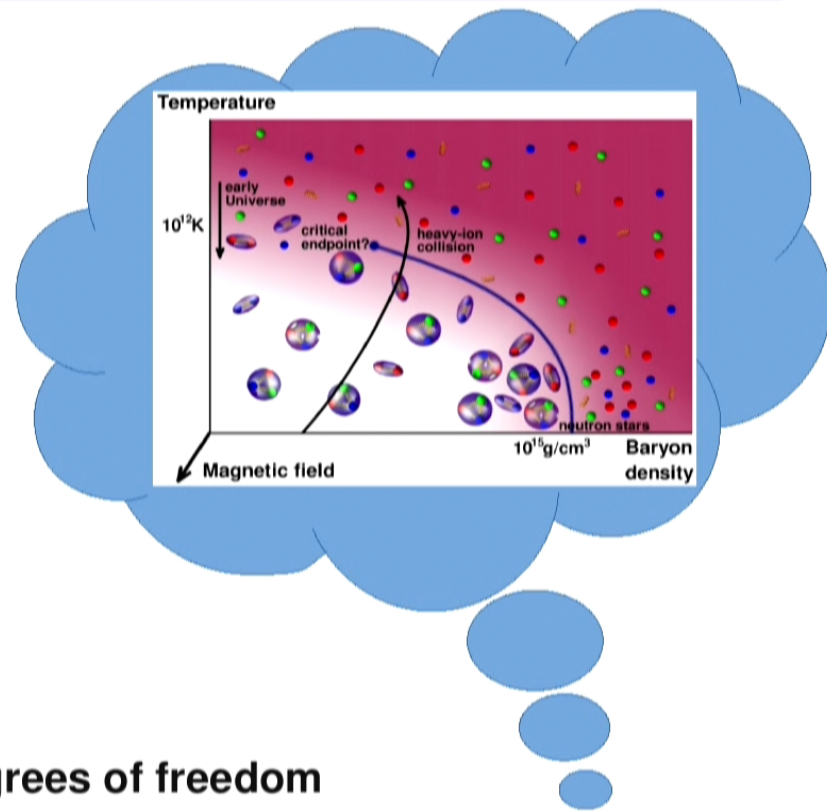
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Big picture

Physics targets:

- **Simulation of quantum chromodynamics (QCD)**
 - Hadronization
 - Microscopic understanding of nuclear interactions
- **Complete phase diagram of QCD**
- **Nuclear equation of state**



How to make these predictions?

- Non-perturbative problems
- Numerically simulate **QCD** degrees of freedom

Conjectured phase diagram credit: G. Endrödi J.Phys.Conf.Ser. 503 (2014) 012009



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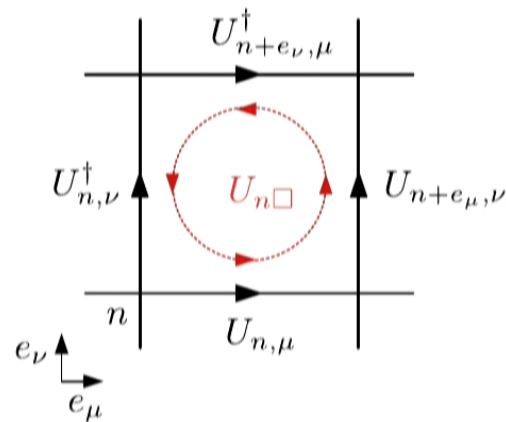
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Traditional lattice ingredients

$$x^\mu \rightarrow an^\mu$$



$$Z = \int \prod_{n,\mu} [\mathcal{D}U_{n,\mu}] e^{-S[U]}$$

Monte Carlo on this

Wilson gauge action

"link operators" $U_{n,\mu}$ in gauge group G

$$S_W = -\beta \sum_{n,\mu} \text{tr} \left(\underbrace{U_{n,\mu} U_{n+e_\mu,\nu} U_{n+e_\nu,\mu}^\dagger U_{n,\nu}^\dagger}_{U_{\Box} \text{ "plaquette" operator}} + U_{\Box}^\dagger \right)$$

for non-Abelian

Relation to continuum gauge fields:

$$U_{n,\mu} = e^{iaA_\mu(x)} \quad S_W = a^4 \sum_n F_{\mu\nu}^\alpha F_\alpha^{\mu\nu} + \dots$$

Fermionic matter:

- Grassmann integrals done analytically $\rightarrow$ "Fermion determinant"

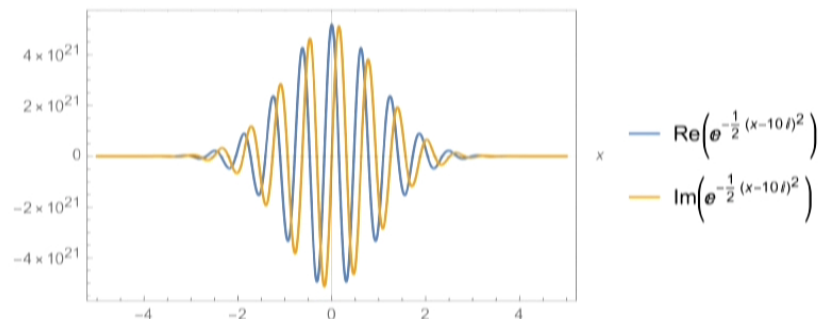
Traditional lattice

Euclidean path integral Monte Carlo

- Great for static, equilibrium properties
- Real-time dynamics? Nonzero density? Topological term?

$-S[U]$ generically complex-valued
→ “Sign problems”

Oscillations of a Gaussian: $S = \frac{1}{2} (x - 10i)^2$



Exponentially hard to
sample oscillating path
integral

$$\int dx e^{-\frac{1}{2} (x-10i)^2} = \sqrt{2\pi} \ll 10^{21}$$
$$\langle e^{i\theta} \rangle = e^{-50}$$

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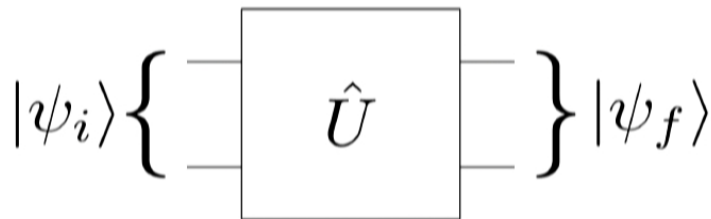
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Classical problems.. quantum solutions?

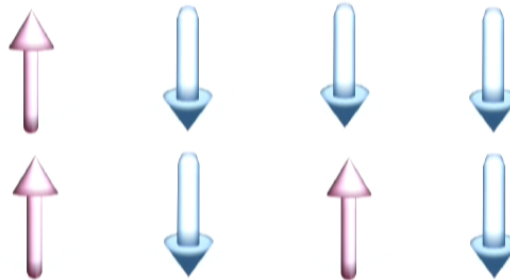
Digital quantum computers:



Unitary gates: $e^{-it\hat{H}}$ with your favorite Hamiltonian

- Want to simulate non-perturbative gauge theory
 - Gauge theory on the lattice
 - Hamiltonian lattice gauge theory

General problem:
How to map the Hilbert space $\mathcal{H}$ and $\hat{H}$ on to the qubits & gates?



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Talk outline

- Hamiltonian $SU(2)$ lattice gauge theory
- Plaquette ladder
- Mapping to qubits
- Hardware results from IBM Tokyo
- Summary & future directions

Hamiltonian lattice gauge theory

Canonical quantization, temporal gauge

$$U_{n,i} \rightarrow \hat{U}_{n,i} \quad \text{link variables: matrices of operators}$$

Gauge transformations: $\hat{U}_{n,i} \rightarrow \Omega_n \hat{U}_{n,i} \Omega_{n+e_i}^\dagger$

$$[E_{L/R}^a, E_{L/R}^b] = i f^{abc} E_{L/R}^c$$

$$[E_R^a, U] = +UT^a$$

$$[E_L^a, U] = -T^a U$$

Left, right electric fields to generate left, right rotations.

$$\hat{H}_E = \frac{g^2}{2} \sum_{n,i} \hat{E}_{n,i}^a \hat{E}_{n,i}^a \quad \hat{H}_B = - \sum_n \frac{1}{2g^2} (\hat{\square}_n + \hat{\square}_n^\dagger)$$

↑
gauge invariant Casimir

$$\hat{\square}_n \equiv \text{tr}(\hat{U}_{n,\square})$$

Hilbert space

coordinate-like basis

$$\hat{U}_{ij} |g\rangle = D_{ij}(g) |g\rangle \quad g \in G$$

momentum-like basis

$$E_L^3 |j, m, m'\rangle = -m |j, m, m'\rangle$$

$$E_R^3 |j, m, m'\rangle = m' |j, m, m'\rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} E_L^a E_L^a |j, m, m'\rangle &= E_R^a E_R^a |j, m, m'\rangle \\ &= j(j+1) |j, m, m'\rangle \end{aligned}$$

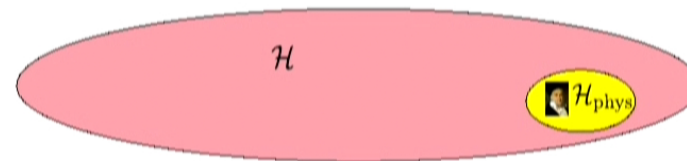
More info: Zohar & Burrello, [PRD 91, 054506 \(2015\)](#)

$$\langle g | j, m, m' \rangle = \sqrt{\frac{d_j}{|G|}} D_{m, m'}^{(j)}(g)$$

group element
state

irrep state

Plus Gauss law constraints



Hilbert space

coordinate-like basis

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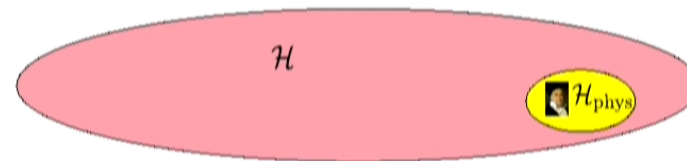
group element
state

irrep state

Plus Gauss law constraints

$$\hat{\mathcal{G}}^a = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}^a - \rho^a = 0$$

lattice discrete
"divergence"



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$|j\ m\ m'\rangle$ in practice

- Truncation not ideal for qubit registers

$$|j, m, m'\rangle, \quad 0 \leq j \leq J \quad d_j = (2j + 1)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \dim(\mathcal{H}) = (8/3)(J + 1/2)(J + 3/4)(J + 1) \neq 2^n$$

- Non-commuting constraints on superpositions

$$[\mathcal{G}^a, \mathcal{G}^b] \neq 0 \quad (\mathcal{G}^a \equiv \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}^a - \rho^a)$$

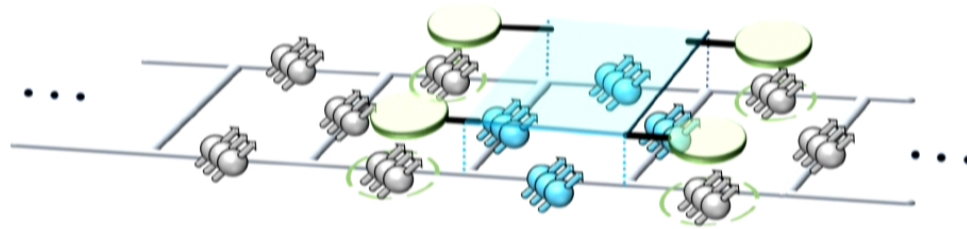
- Far too many d.o.f.s carried around



actual photograph of quantum programmer reacting to $|jmm'\rangle$



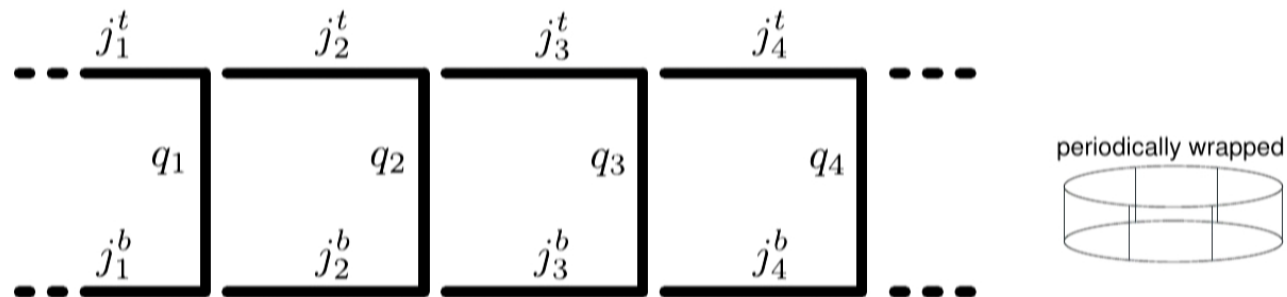
System choice



We consider a periodic **string of plaquettes** or “ladder”

- ✓ “1d,” but has H_B
- ✓ 3-pt vertices $\leftrightarrow$ unique singlet combination per triplet of j 's
- ✓ Arbitrary length

Gauge singlet basis



Fully gauge invariant state of lattice with definite link angular momenta:

$$|\chi\rangle = \mathcal{N} \sum_{\{m\}} \prod_{i=1}^L \langle j_i^t, m_{i,R}^t, j_{i+1}^t, m_{i+1,L}^t | q_i, m_{q_i}^t \rangle \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{CG's to form singlets at} \\ \text{"top" vertices} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\langle j_i^b, m_{i,R}^b, j_{i+1}^b, m_{i+1,L}^b | q_i, m_{q_i}^b \rangle \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{CG's to form singlets at} \\ \text{"bottom" vertices} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$|j_i^t, m_{i,L}^t, m_{i,R}^t\rangle \otimes |j_i^b, m_{i,L}^b, m_{i,R}^b\rangle \otimes |q_i, m_{q_i}^t, m_{q_i}^b\rangle \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Kets going} \\ \text{around each} \\ \text{"staple"} \end{array} \right\}$$

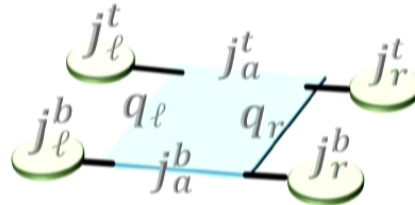
- Just using angular momentum addition (Clebsch-Gordan coefficients) to form singlets

Matrix elements of H

- Non-diagonal elements derive from link operators in H_B : *

$$\hat{U}_{\alpha\beta}|j, a, b\rangle = \sum_{\oplus J} \sqrt{\frac{\dim(j)}{\dim(J)}} |J, a + \alpha, b + \beta\rangle$$

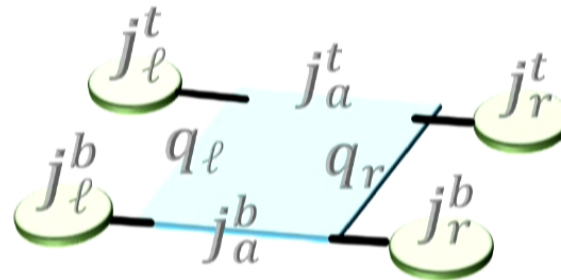
$$\times \langle j, a, \frac{1}{2}, \alpha | J, a + \alpha \rangle \langle j, b, \frac{1}{2}, \beta | J, b + \beta \rangle$$



each link op going
round a plaquette
“adds” $\frac{1}{2}$ -unit of
angular momentum:
 $J = j \pm \frac{1}{2}$

- This is all the info needed to compute matrix $||H||$ w.r.t. singlet states

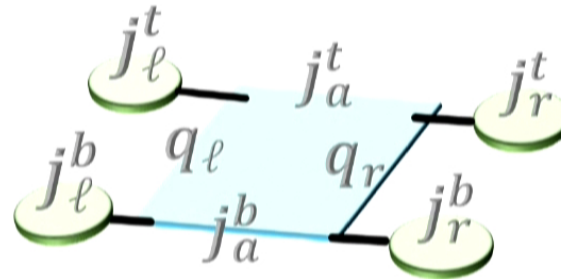
Plaquette operator & gauge-variant completion



- With singlet basis, matrix elements of $\hat{\square}$ depend on plaquette's j 's, as well as adjacent j 's
- Still have disallowed states
 - Action of plaquette op on disallowed space is arbitrary
 - “Gauge-variant completion” (GVC): Only worry about getting correct matrix elements between allowed states

Specific truncation

$$\Lambda_j = 1/2$$



$\langle j_{\ell f} q_{\ell f} j_{af} q_{rf} j_{rf} \hat{\square}^{(1/2)} j_{\ell i} q_{\ell i} j_{ai} q_{ri} j_{ri} \rangle$	
$\langle 00000 \hat{\square}^{(1/2)} 0 \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} 0 \rangle, \langle 0 \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} 0 \hat{\square}^{(1/2)} 00000 \rangle$	1
$\langle 000 \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \hat{\square}^{(1/2)} 0 \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} 0 \frac{1}{2} \rangle, \langle 0 \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} 0 \frac{1}{2} \hat{\square}^{(1/2)} 000 \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \rangle$	$\frac{1}{2}$
$\langle \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} 000 \hat{\square}^{(1/2)} \frac{1}{2} 0 \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} 0 \rangle, \langle \frac{1}{2} 0 \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} 0 \hat{\square}^{(1/2)} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} 000 \rangle$	$\frac{1}{2}$
$\langle \frac{1}{2} 0 \frac{1}{2} 0 \frac{1}{2} \hat{\square}^{(1/2)} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} 0 \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \rangle, \langle \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} 0 \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \hat{\square}^{(1/2)} \frac{1}{2} 0 \frac{1}{2} 0 \frac{1}{2} \rangle$	$\frac{1}{4}$

Relevant, nonzero matrix elements of the $\Lambda_j = 1/2$ truncated plaquette operator with $j_\ell^t = j_\ell^b \equiv j_\ell$

$$\hat{\square}^{(1/2)} = \Pi_0 X X X \Pi_0 + \frac{1}{2} \Pi_0 X X X \Pi_1 + \frac{1}{2} \Pi_1 X X X \Pi_0 + \frac{1}{4} \Pi_1 X X X \Pi_1$$

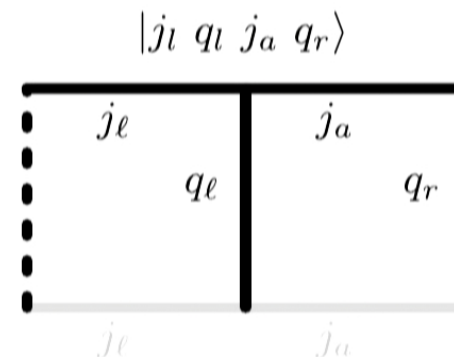
$$|j = 0\rangle \rightarrow |0\rangle, \quad |j = 1/2\rangle \rightarrow |1\rangle$$

Specific truncation and volume

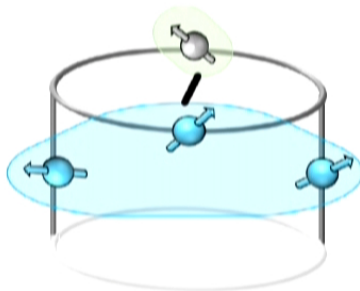
For our simulation:

- Cutoff $\Lambda_j = 1/2$
- Length $L=2$

+ Simplifications
= Four 'active' links



Four qubits represent state



$$\hat{\square}^{(1/2)} = \Pi_0 X X X \Pi_0 + \frac{1}{2} \Pi_0 X X X \Pi_1 + \frac{1}{2} \Pi_1 X X X \Pi_0 + \frac{1}{4} \Pi_1 X X X \Pi_1$$

→ GVC of plaquette operator:

$$\hat{\square}^{(1/2)} = \Pi_0 X X X + \frac{1}{4} \Pi_1 X X X$$



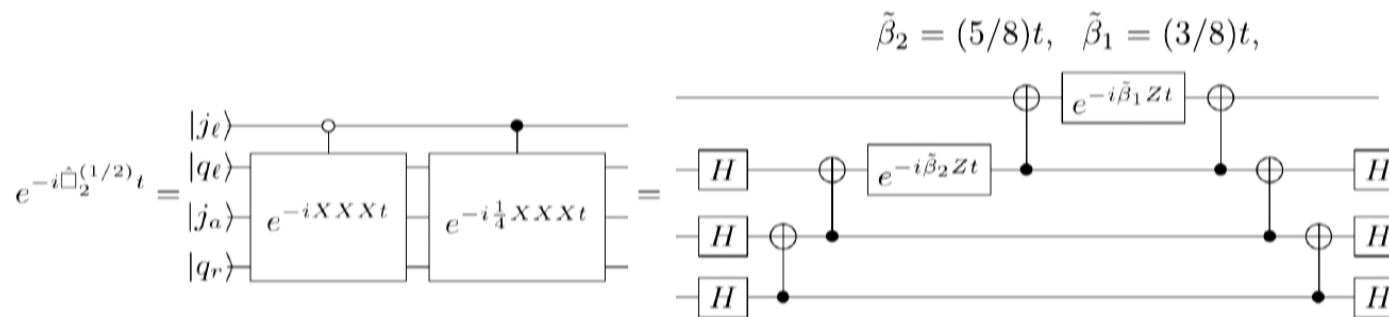
Trotter-Suzuki time evolution

Time evolution operator replaced by Trotter-Suzuki approximation

$$e^{-i \Delta t (H_E + H_B)} \simeq e^{-i \Delta t H_E} e^{-i \Delta t \square_1 / (2g^2)} e^{-i \Delta t \square_2 / (2g^2)}$$

Try: t spread over one Trotter step, two Trotter steps, ...
starting from strong-coupling vacuum (all $j=0$)

Circuit for a plaquette evolution



In this case:

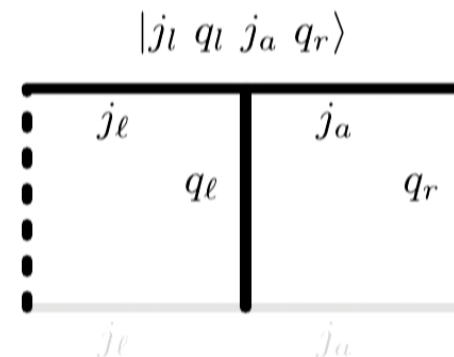
- Circuit doesn't introduce further systematics
- Trotterization respects gauge constraints

Specific truncation and volume

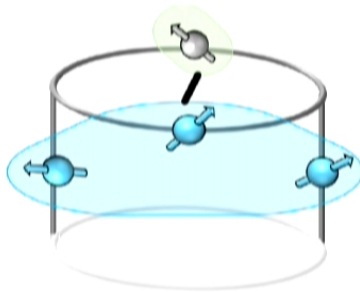
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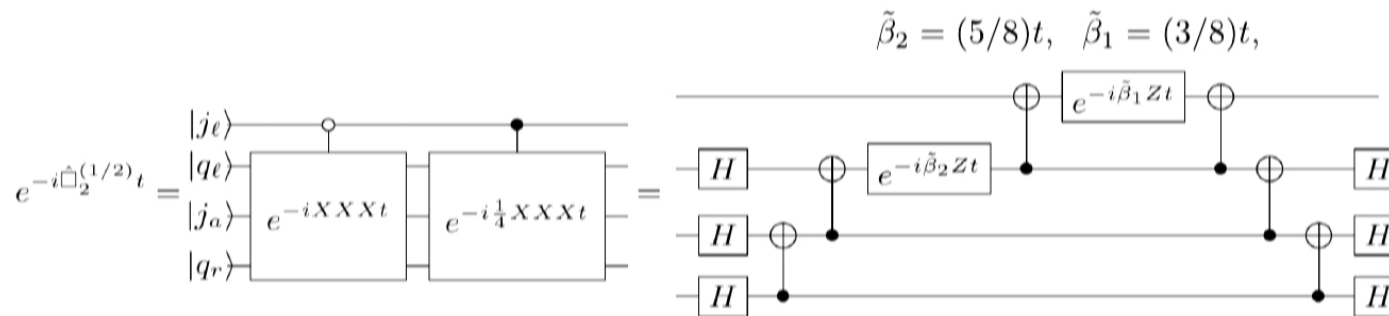


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→ GVC of plaquette operator:

$$\hat{\square}^{(1/2)} = \Pi_0 X X X + \frac{1}{4} \Pi_1 X X X$$

Circuit for a plaquette evolution



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Data processing

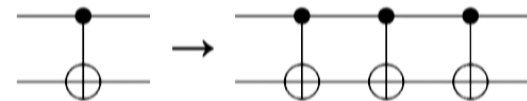
From IBM: Probabilities measured in computational basis

1) Constrained inversion → pre-measurement probabilities

- Needed because of measurement errors

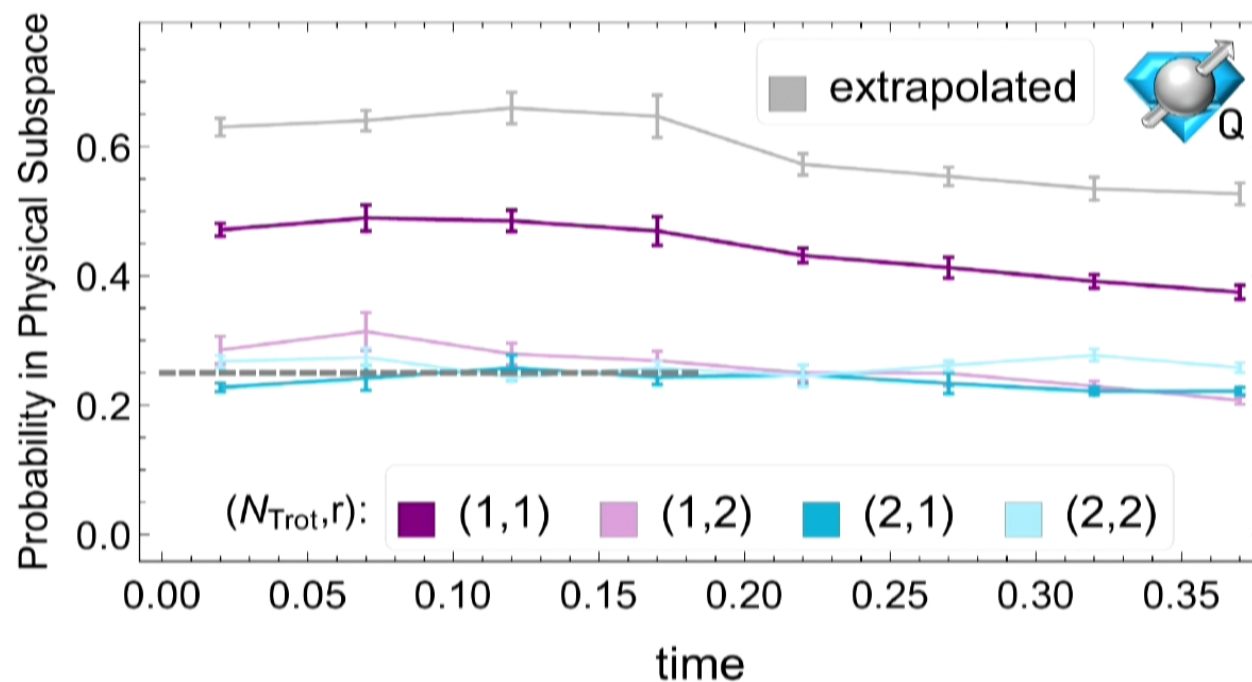
2) Run simulation with superfluous CNOT pairs inserted

- $(\text{CNOT})^2 = 1$, but introduces extra noise



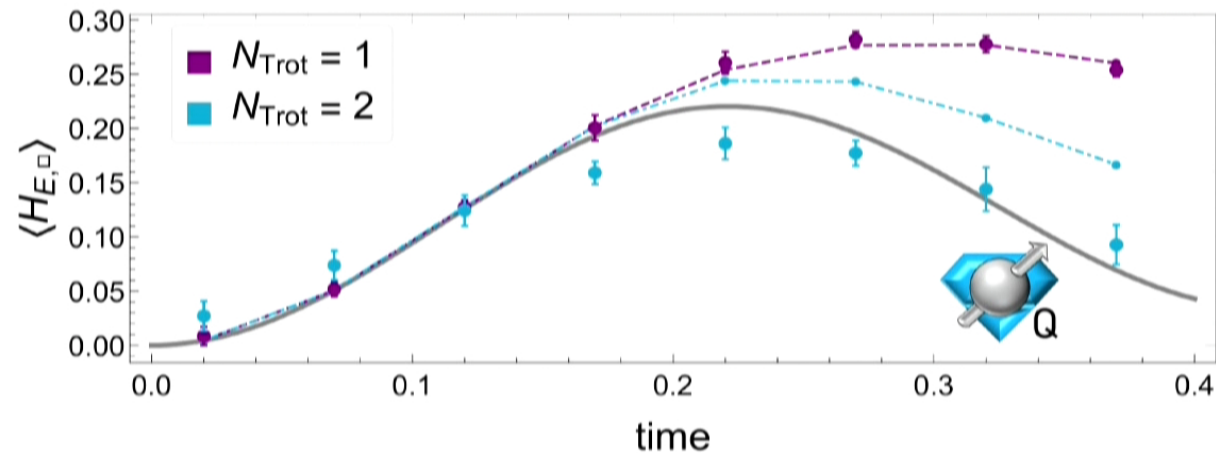
3) Extrapolate pre-measurement probabilities to zero CNOT noise

Probability extrapolation



- Errors into disallowed space mitigated for $N_{\text{Trot}} = 1$
- Coherence is lost for $N_{\text{Trot}} > 1$

Test observable: Plaquette electric energy



- Measure: Electric energy encircling one plaquette
 - Using extrapolated probability densities
- Compare to ideal Trotterized simulation outcome
- $N_{\text{Trot}} = 1$ gets it right within uncertainties!

Generalizations, future directions

- **Higher cutoff**
 - All links now active
 - More interesting GVC
- **Higher dimensions**
 - 3-point vertices important
 - More qubits, more gates, more noise
 - Maybe not today, but soon?
- **SU(3)**
 - Schwinger bosons (I. Raychowdhury et al.) may be helpful for computing reduced matrix elements

FIN

Thank you for your attention!

Questions?



Helpful conversations with: D. Kaplan, I. Raychowdhury, E. Zohar

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Summary of hardware results

- First simulation of a truncated $SU(2)$ system done on existing IBM hardware
- Used gauge theory constraints + NISQ-era tricks to mitigate subset of errors
- Low enough circuit depth $\rightarrow$ Can extract an observable

IBM Tokyo Q20 specs

Qubit Count	Qubit Connectivity			T1 (μsec)			T2 (μsec)		
	Min	Max	Ave	Min	Max	Ave	Min	Max	Ave
20	2	6	3.9	42.2	148.5	84.3	24.3	78.4	49.6

1-Qubit Gate Fidelity			2-Qubit Gate Fidelity			Readout Fidelity		
Min	Max	Ave	Min	Max	Ave	Min	Max	Ave
99.39%	99.94%	99.80%	92.88%	98.53%	97.16%	N/A	N/A	91.72%



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