

# Quantum algorithms implementation on noisy quantum computers

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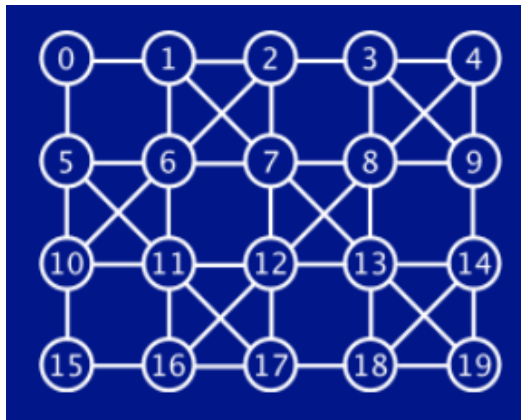


# Outline

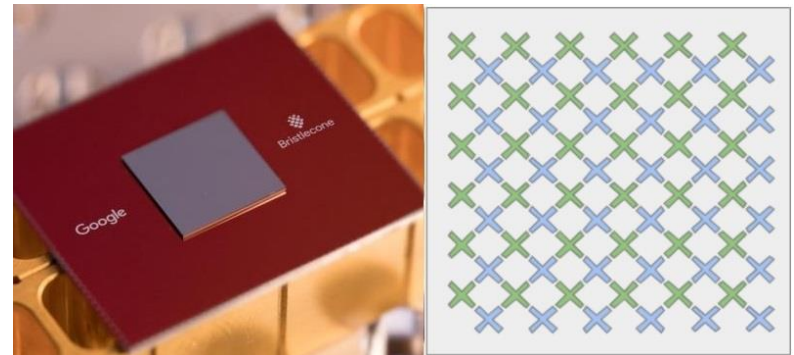
- Introduction / Motivation
- Algorithmic simulation of far-from-equilibrium dynamics
- Quantum communication protocols as a benchmark for programmable quantum computers
- “Quantum machine learning” with noisy quantum devices
- Summary

# State-of-the art superconducting quantum computers

20-qubit IBM device



72-qubit Google device



Nontrivial physics begins with tens of qubits

( $2^{60}$  quantum states is too many to simulate from first principles for most powerful modern supercomputers)

**Are we close to some practical applications?**

# Not evident...

Problems: decoherence and gate errors (**mainly two-qubit gates**).

Possible solutions: error correction codes (overhead of resources); hybrid quantum-classical calculations with relatively shallow quantum circuits; error mitigation or partial correction...

Hope: Heuristic combination of these strategies – “quantum supremacy” in the near-term future (without full error correction).

**New ideas are highly desirable !**

**Recent examples:**

- Variational solvers for simulations of physical quantum systems -- an alternative to the canonical phase estimation algorithms.
- Quantum machine learning, classification, clustering, and detecting hidden patterns in huge amounts of data.

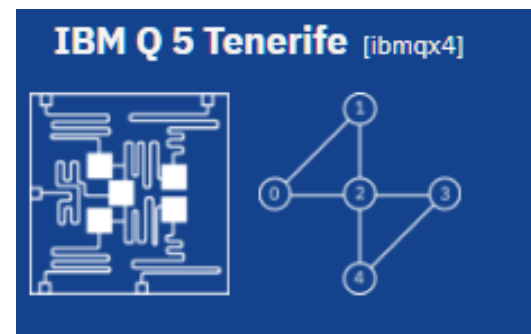
## Aims of our work:

- Ideas on what can be simulated with noisy quantum hardware
- Ideas on benchmarking of capabilities of state-of-the-art machines
- Development of error mitigation schemes (series of case studies)

16-qubit chip (QISKIT)



5-qubit chip (composer)



## II. Algorithmic simulation of far-from-equilibrium dynamics

# Far-from-equilibrium dynamics

Nonequilibrium quantum relaxation in closed many-body systems. Current experimental platform and setup: quenches in trapped cold-atom gases.

## Central issues:

1. Whether the system relaxes to a stationary state (“thermalization”)? What are its characteristics?
2. Dynamical *evolution* of order, correlations, entanglement.
  - **Depends on the integrability of the model**
  - **Depends on the initial state**

# Far-from-equilibrium dynamics

## Our messages:

Algorithmic quantum simulation of *spin* dynamics is prospective.

Back to the unitary evolution, but no phase estimation algorithms, no “chemical accuracy”, no nonlocality (fermionic statistics enforced through Hamiltonian).

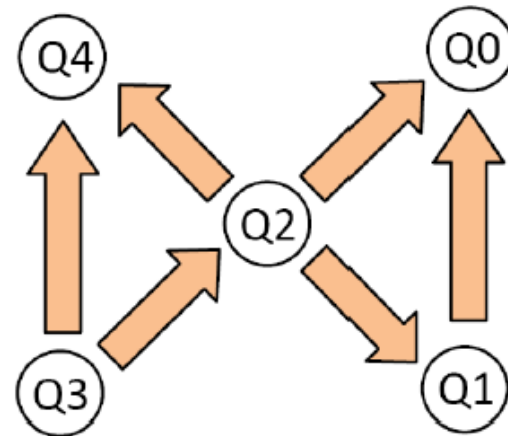
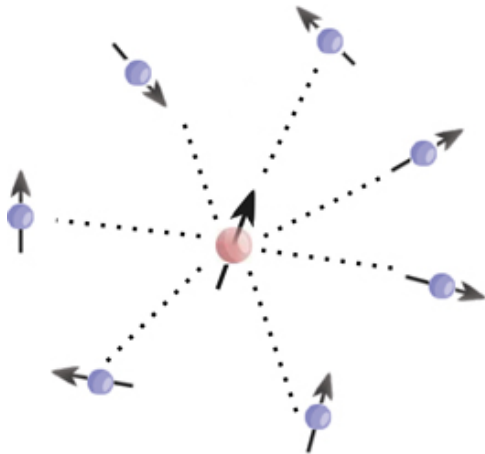
High flexibility: the same chip can be used for dynamics of different spin models starting from different initial conditions.

Experiments with real quantum hardware, which unveil its capabilities. Playground for error mitigation.



# Simplest example: central spin model and 5-qubit device

- Topology matters -- direct mapping between degrees of freedom of a modeled system and degrees of freedom of the physical qubits of the chip



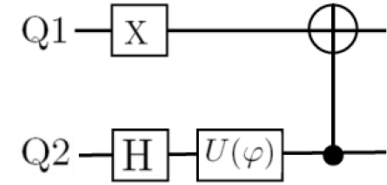
$$H_{cs} = \sum_{j=1}^L \epsilon_j (\sigma_{j,z} + 1/2) + \epsilon_c (\sigma_{c,z} + 1/2) + g \sum_{j=1}^L (\sigma_c^+ \sigma_j^- + \sigma_c^- \sigma_j^+)$$

- Full resonance (in the rotating frame)

$$H = g \sum_{j=1}^L (\sigma_c^+ \sigma_j^- + \sigma_c^- \sigma_j^+) \quad \Rightarrow \quad H = \frac{g}{2} \sum_{j=1}^L (\sigma_c^x \sigma_j^x + \sigma_c^y \sigma_j^y)$$

- Three-particle system: initial state – entangled “bath”**

$$\Psi(0) = |\downarrow\rangle \otimes \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\downarrow\uparrow\rangle + e^{i\varphi} |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle)$$

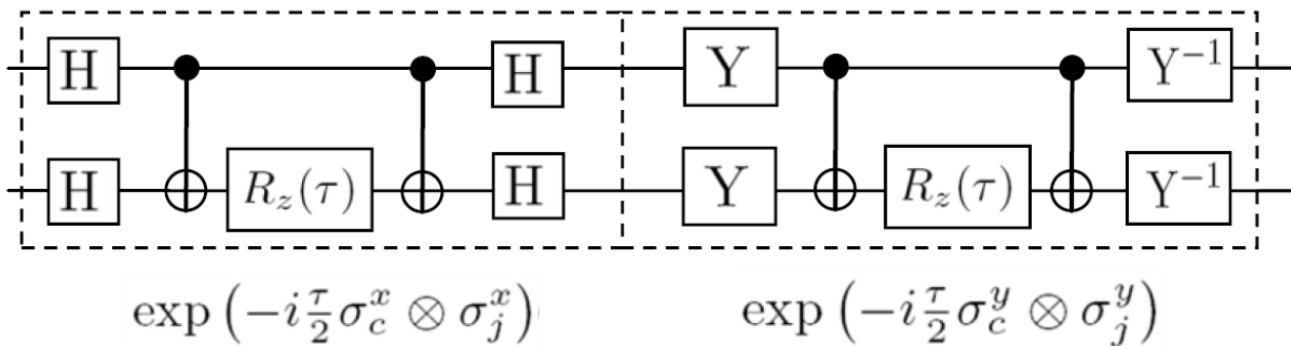


tunable phase parameter. Dynamics of the central spin can be suppressed due to the negative quantum interference of contributions from two qubits

- Cancellation of two contribution coming from two different spins.
- No central spin dynamics. “Dark” state from quantum optics.
- Excitation blockade in the bath due to the quantum interference.

$$\varphi = \pi$$

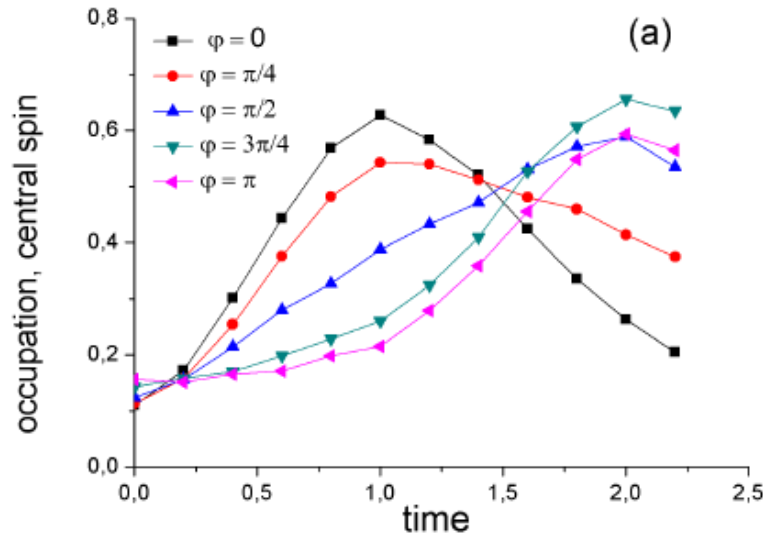
### Building block of Trotterized evolution operator



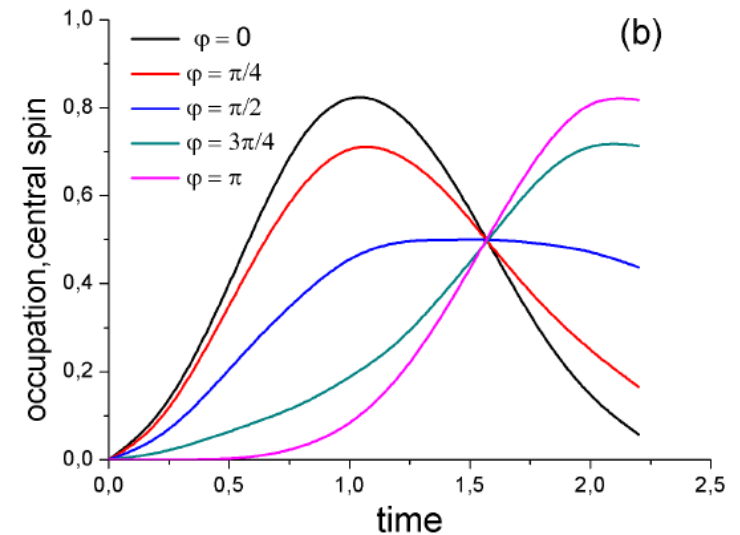
Quantum circuit for  $\exp\left(-i\frac{\tau}{2}\sigma_c^x \otimes \sigma_j^x\right) \exp\left(-i\frac{\tau}{2}\sigma_c^y \otimes \sigma_j^y\right)$

# Two-particle entangled state: Population of the central particle

experiment (8192 runs per point)



theory



Theory is not exact. Approximation of the same level – **single-step Trotter decomposition**

- Dark and bright states known from quantum optics
- Entanglement in the bath and quantum interference effects block excitation transfer to the center

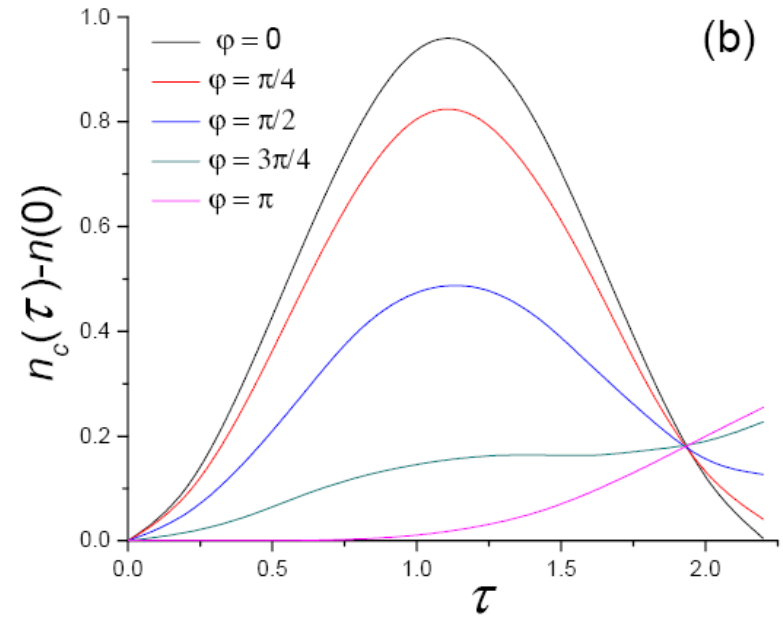
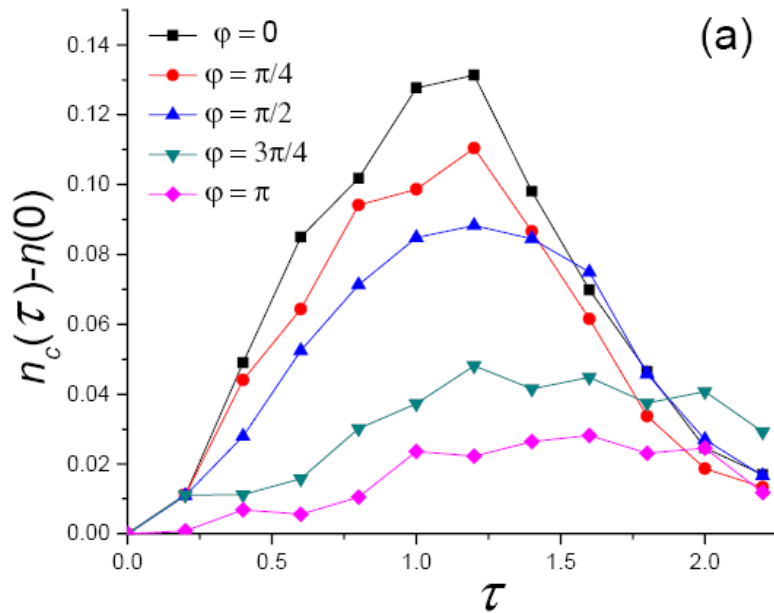
- Noisy “background” is independent on time.

- Many gates – randomization of wrong outputs (averaging of many wrong and uncorrelated distributions). Compatible with the quasiprobability distribution picture.

- Can errors help? Probably, yes, for “intermediate-depth” circuits.

# Error mitigation in the regime of large errors: 3 Trotter steps

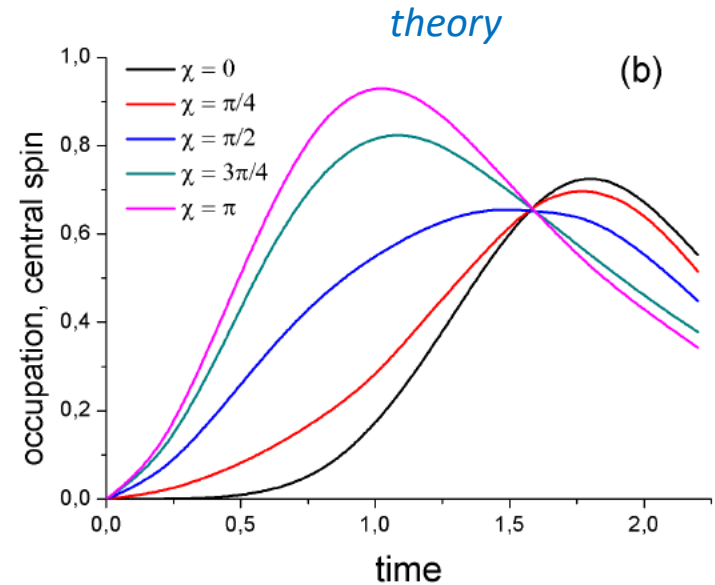
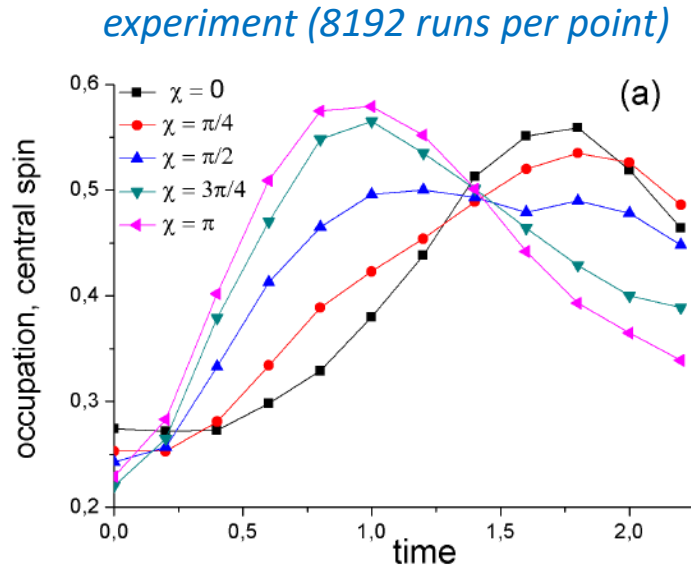
$$\Delta n_c(\tau) = n_c(\tau) - n_c(\tau = 0) \quad \text{- analyzing differences}$$



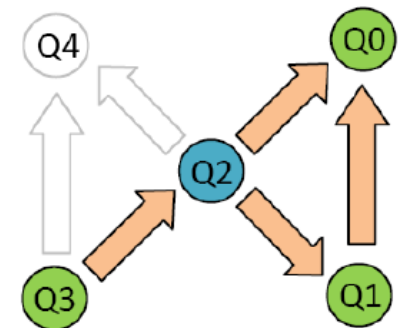
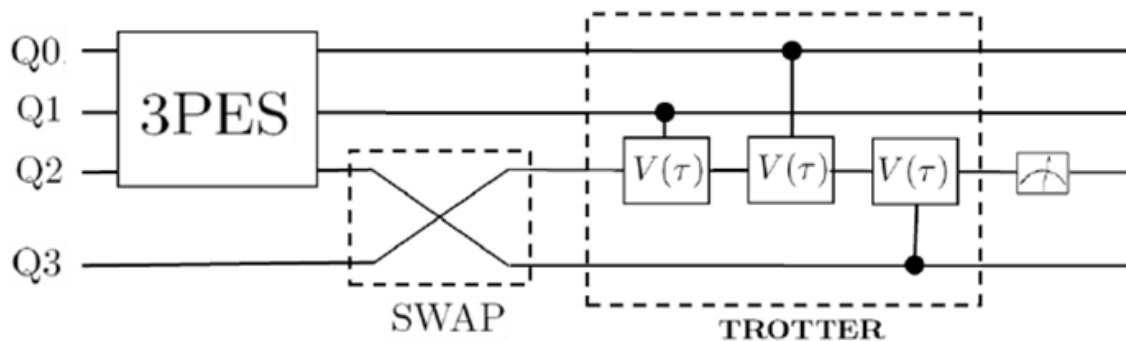
The results of our experiment (a) and theory (b) for  $\Delta n_c(\tau)$  as a function of the dimensionless time  $\tau$  for the Trotter number  $N = 3$ . Different curves correspond to different values of phase parameter  $\varphi$  entering the initial state.

# Three-particle entangled state: Population of central particle

$$\Psi(0) = |\downarrow\rangle \otimes \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} (|\downarrow\downarrow\uparrow\rangle - 2e^{i\chi}|\downarrow\uparrow\downarrow\rangle + |\uparrow\downarrow\downarrow\rangle)$$



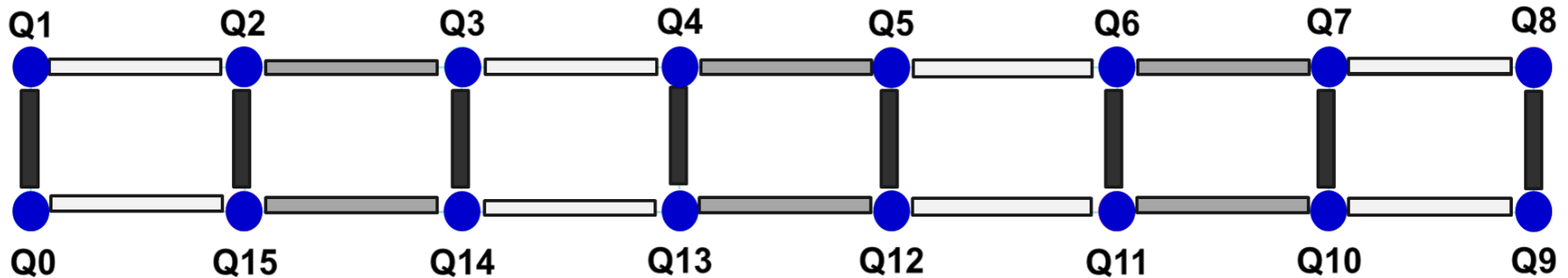
- Dark and bright states: quantum superpositions of two-particle entangled states
- Method to benchmark multiqubit entanglement in noisy hardware



# Transverse-field Ising model and 16-qubit IBM device

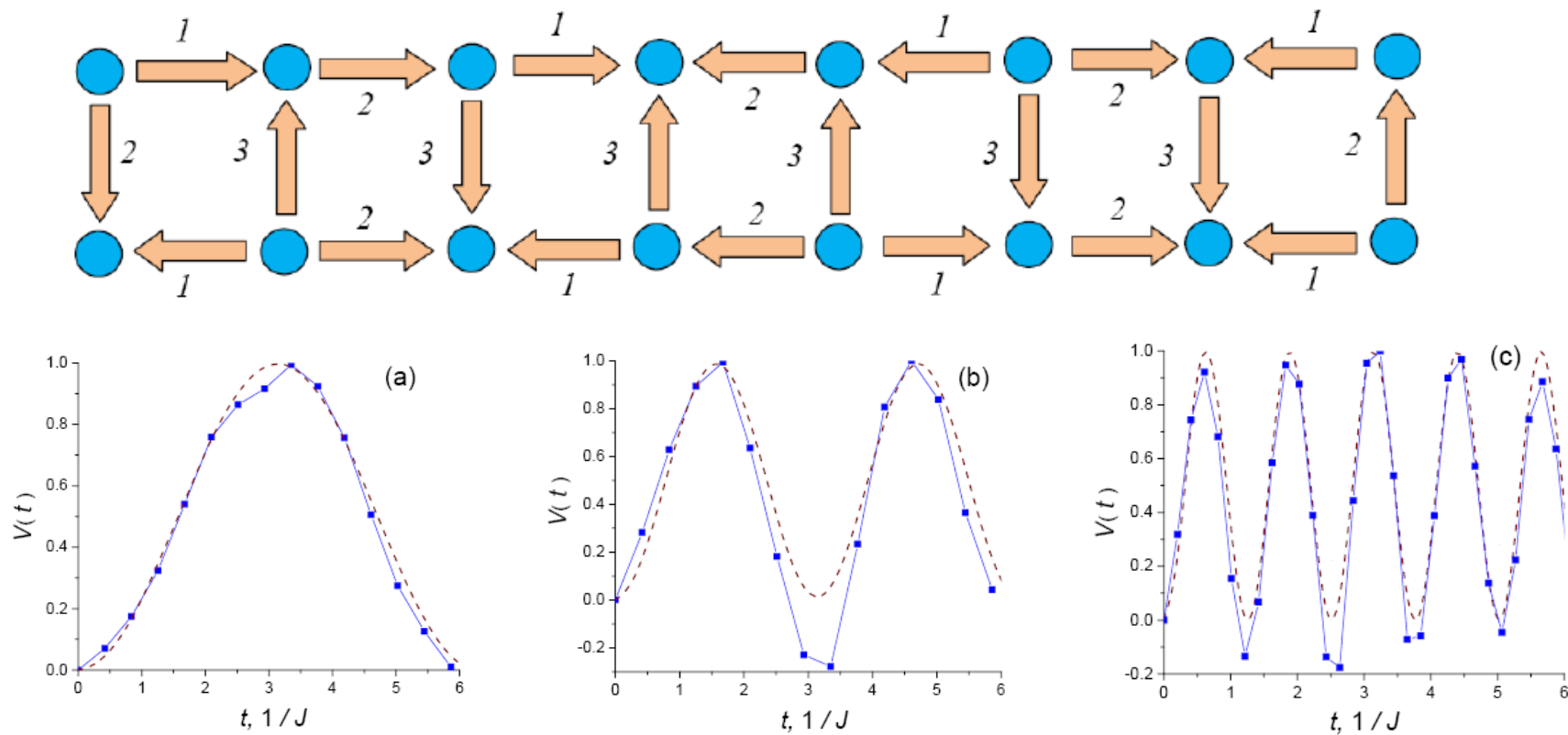
- Ising model in a transverse field – simplest and most popular playground to study far-from-equilibrium dynamics.
- Non-stochastic and nonintegrable model.

$$H = -J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \sigma_z^i \sigma_z^j - \alpha \sum_i \sigma_x^i$$



$|\downarrow \dots \downarrow\rangle$  initial state

## 16-spin Ising ladder after 1 Trotter step: experiment vs theory



**Fig. 18** (Color online) The results of our experiment (solid blue lines) and theory (dashed brown lines) for  $V$  defined in Eq. (10) in the case of the 16-spin transverse Ising ladder at  $\alpha = J$  (a),  $\alpha = 2J$  (b),  $\alpha = 5J$  (c) as a function of the dimensionless time  $\tau$  for the Trotter number  $N = 1$ .

$$V(\tau) = \frac{n(\tau) - n(0)}{\max n(\tau) - n(0)}.$$

Error mitigation in the large error regime

# Summary-I

- The dependence of the dynamics on the initial state can be reproduced with the state-of-the-art hardware (correct initial dynamics). However, very few Trotter steps can be implemented mainly due to the gate errors (further dynamics is problematic).
- Interesting problems  $\sim$  ten Trotter steps  $\sim$  order of magnitude decrease of two-qubit gate errors.
- Results of the modeling can be improved to some extent using error mitigation *even in the regime of large errors. Errors sometimes can help (for intermediate-depth circuits)...*

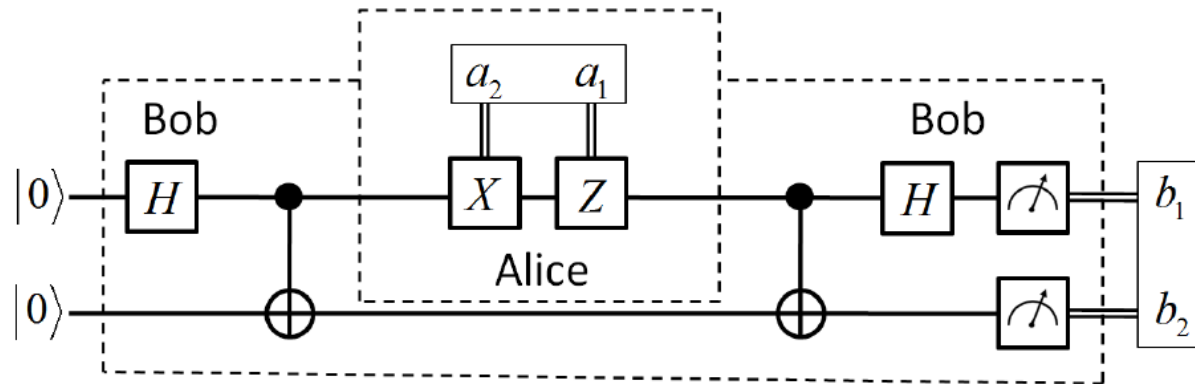


# III. Quantum communication protocols as a benchmark for programmable quantum computers

- Deep benchmarking of capabilities of quantum processors
- “Quantum advantage” with real noisy quantum hardware
- Rigorous quantification: entropy-based quantities
- Playground for error mitigation strategies

# Extended superdense coding

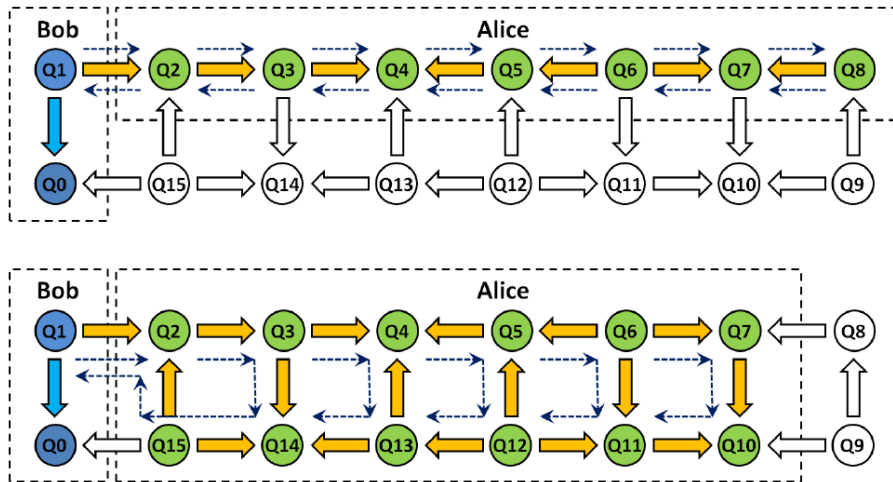
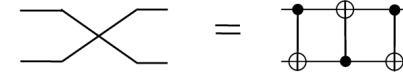
Central idea – two bits of information can be transferred with a single qubit used in quantum communication (thanks to entanglement). “Quantum advantage”.



- Bob prepares two qubits in entangled states and sends one of them to Alice.
- Alice applies a couple of single-qubit gates and sends the qubit back to Bob.  
00, 10, 01, and 11 are encoded into  $II$ ,  $ZI$ ,  $IX$ , and  $ZX$ , respectively.
- Bob performs measurements and extracts two bits of information

# An efficiency of information transfer

- Alice and Bob are placed in distant qubits of the machine.
- Single-qubit states are SWAPed from Bob to Alice and backwards.



## Entropy-based characteristics

Mutual information

$$\mathcal{I}(A, B) = H(B) - H(B|A),$$

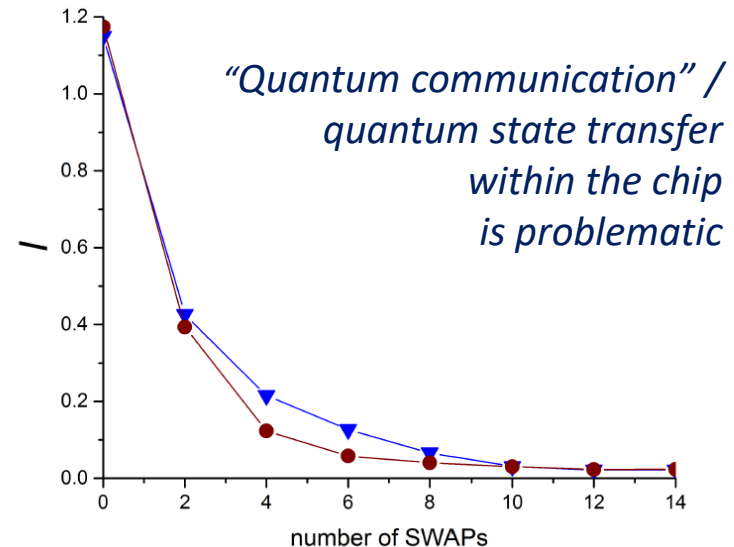
between the Alice's input  $A = (a_1, a_2)$  and Bob's output  $B = (b_1, b_2)$ .

For the ideal system:  $\mathcal{I}(A, B) = 2$

$\mathcal{I}(A, B) > 1$  - "quantum advantage"

Examples of output distributions

SWAPs	$a_1, a_2$	$b_1, b_2$			
		0,0	1,0	0,1	1,1
0	0,0	0.940	0.022	0.031	0.008
	1,0	0.117	0.815	0.029	0.039
	0,1	0.121	0.015	0.840	0.024
	1,1	0.031	0.114	0.115	0.739
2	0,0	0.684	0.078	0.172	0.067
	1,0	0.154	0.551	0.094	0.201
	0,1	0.250	0.063	0.617	0.069
	1,1	0.113	0.265	0.136	0.486



# Entropy-based characteristics

Mutual information

$$\mathcal{I}(A, B) = H(B) - H(B|A),$$

between the Alice's input  $A = (a_1, a_2)$  and Bob's output  $B = (b_1, b_2)$ .

$$H(X) = - \sum_x \Pr(X = x) \log_2 \Pr(X = x)$$

is a Shannon entropy of a random variable  $X$  with possible values  $\{x\}$  and

$$H(X|Y) = - \sum_y \Pr(Y = y) \sum_x \Pr(X = x|Y = y) \log_2 \Pr(X = x|Y = y)$$

is conditional entropy of  $X$  given random variable  $Y$  with possible values  $\{y\}$ .

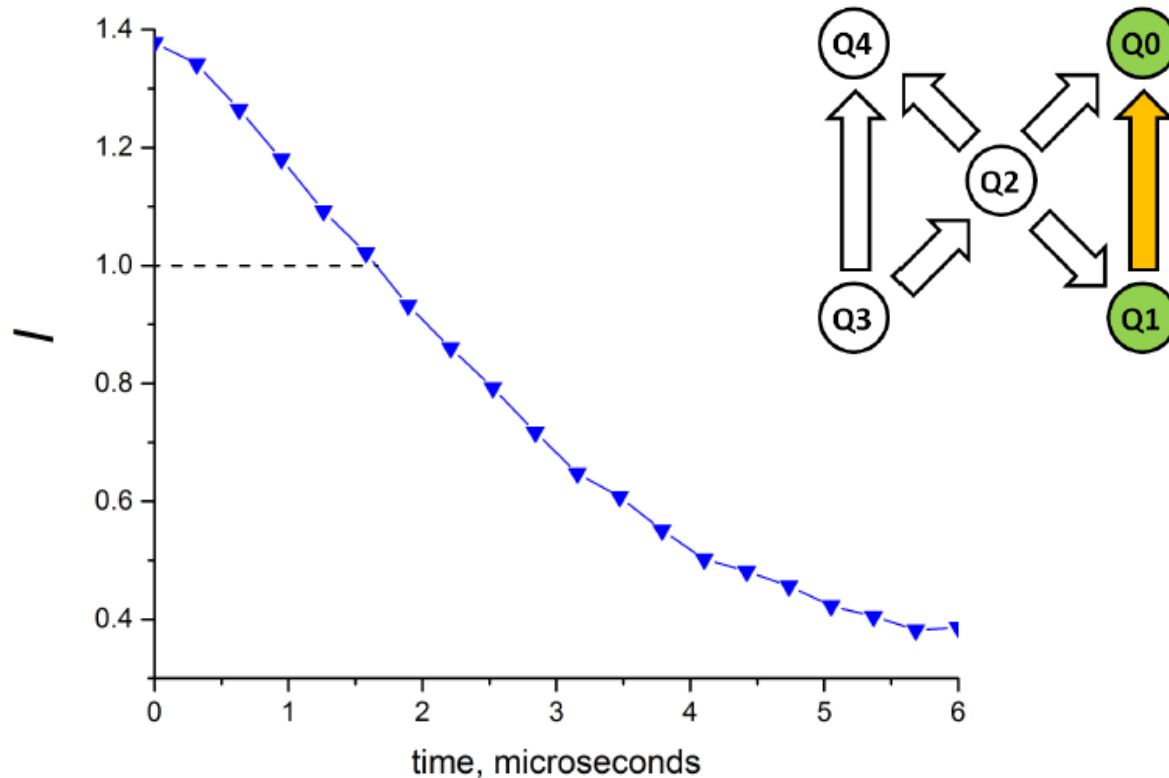
For the ideal system:  $\mathcal{I}(A, B) = 2$

$\mathcal{I}(A, B) > 1$  – "quantum advantage"

Evaluation of mutual information is the most rigorous way to quantify an efficiency of the protocol implementation

# Simulations of quantum memory imperfections

- Time delay is implemented using a train of identity gates before Alice makes encoding.
- Alice and Bob are not separated (Alice now is also at Q0 and Q1).



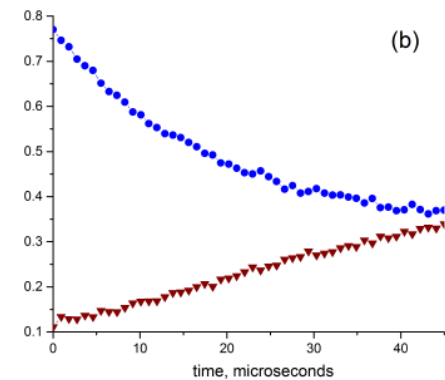
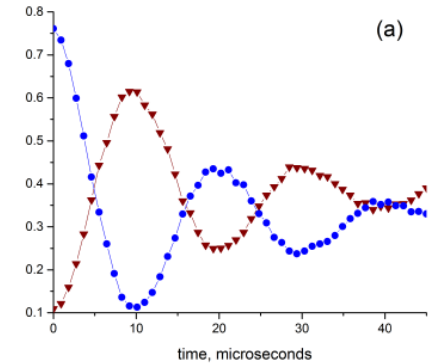
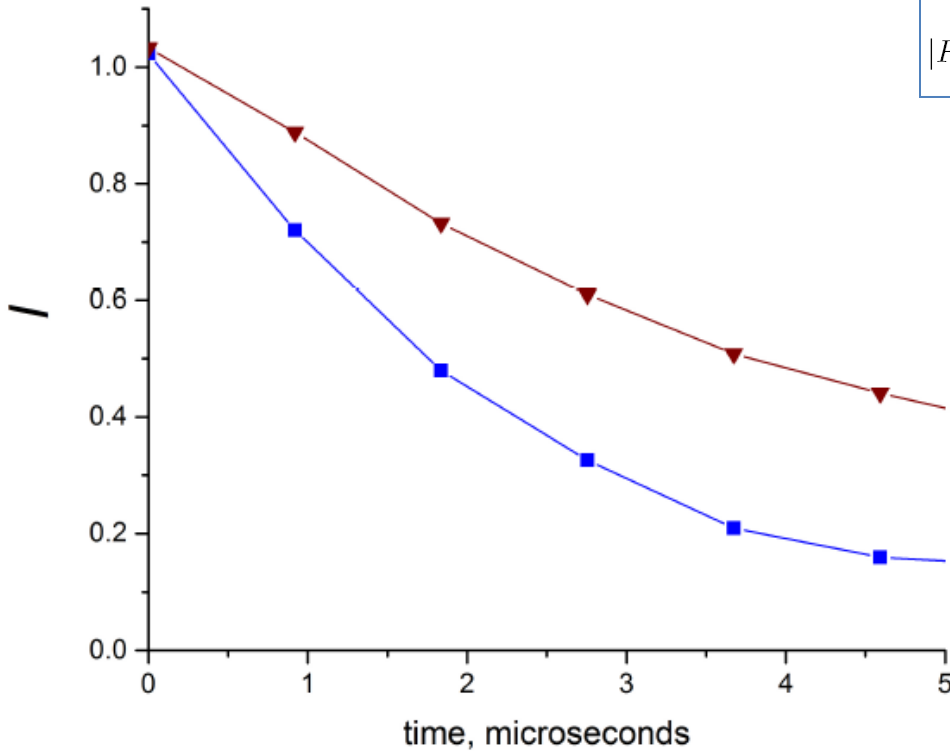
“Decay time” of quantum regime is much shorter than  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ .

# Correction of *coherent* errors in 16-qubit device

Oscillations of Bell states

$$|F_+\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|10\rangle + |01\rangle)$$

$$|F_-\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|10\rangle - |01\rangle)$$



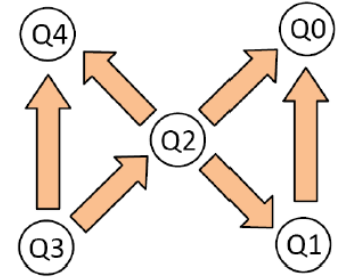
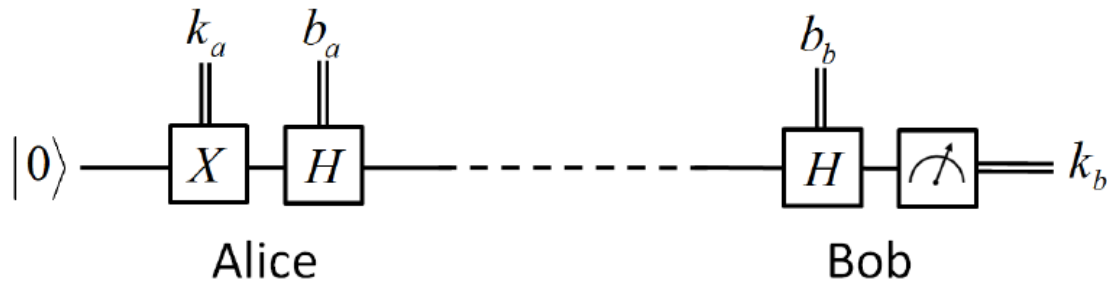
$$t_{\text{osc}} \simeq 10 \text{ microseconds}$$

Correction of coherent errors (phase drift in Bell states) after the train of identity gates.

$$U(\varphi) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\varphi} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\varphi = -\pi t / t_{\text{osc}}$$

# Quantum key distribution BB84



Alice encodes 0 or 1 of a key in the qubit Q1 using single-qubit gates  $I$  or  $X$ , respectively. After that, we choose the basis “+” or “ $\times$ ” by applying single-qubit gates  $I$  or  $H$  respectively. Then, we apply a train of identity gates. Finally, Bob measures this qubit in the same basis “+” or “ $\times$ ” (we analyze a sifted key). A set of single measurements.

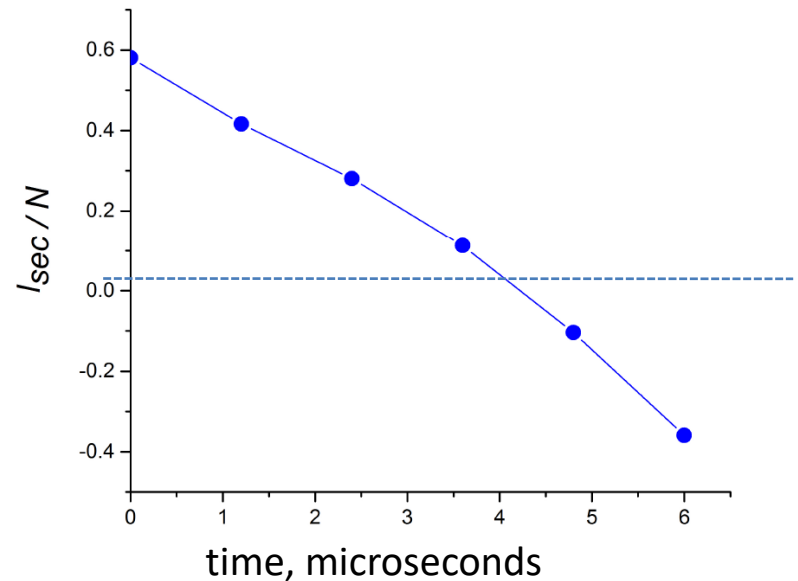
## The length of secure key as a function of the delay time

$$l_{\text{sec}} = N(1 - h(q)) - N f_{\text{ec}} h(q), \quad (9)$$

where  $N$  is length of sifted keys,

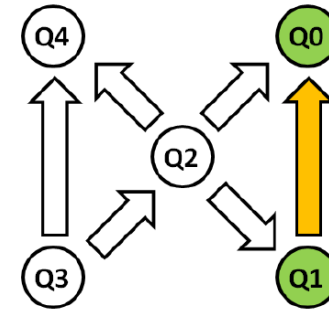
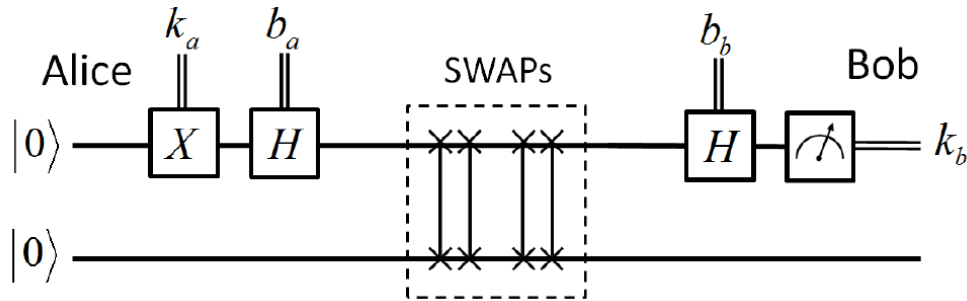
$$h(q) = -q \log_2 q - (1 - q) \log_2 (1 - q) \quad (10)$$

is binary entropy function and  $f_{\text{ec}}$  is “efficiency” of information reconciliation algorithm (in all the further considerations we take  $f_{\text{ec}} = 1.15$ , that correspond to real practise [44]). The expression (9) gives a length to which the reconciled sifted keys should be shortened by employing publicly announced random hash function from universal<sub>2</sub> set at the stage of privacy amplification [45]. Note, that negatives values of  $l_{\text{sec}}$  correspond to the fact of impossibility to distill the provably secure keys.



Vanishes much faster than both  $T_1$  and  $T_2$

# Robustness with respect to the quantum information transfer



Alice and Bob are both at Q0. Multiple SWAPs between Q0 and Q1.

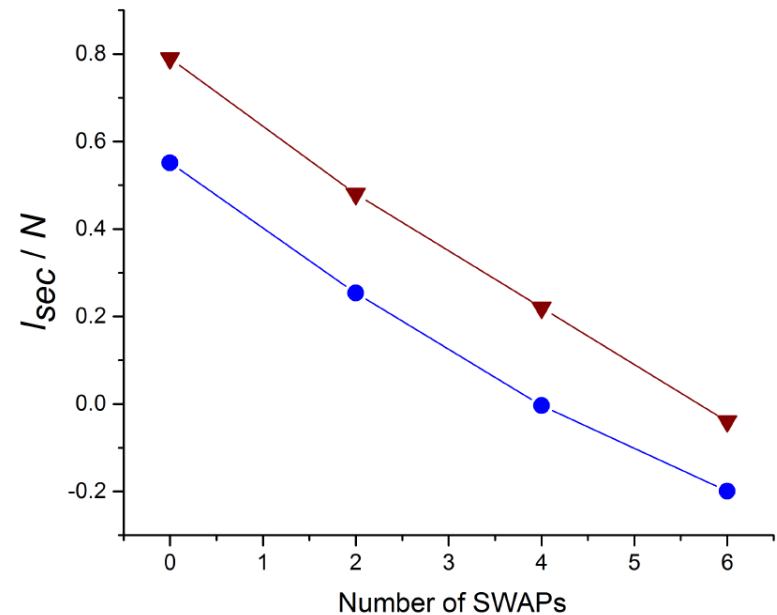
**Error mitigation.** Define new logical qubit:

$$|0\rangle_{\text{logic}} = |10\rangle \text{ and } |1\rangle_{\text{logic}} = |01\rangle$$

Post-selection: discard results of the form

$$|00\rangle \text{ and } |11\rangle$$

Alice and Bob are both at Q0 and Q1 *at once*.  
Even number of SWAPs between Q0 and Q1.



*Results for both approaches*



**Table 5** The error distribution for BB84 protocol for different values of time delay. For each input, 8192 runs of the algorithm on 5-qubit IBMqx4 device have been performed.

Basis, bits	Time, $\mu s$					
	0.0	1.2	2.4	3.6	4.8	6.0
+,0	0.008	0.011	0.009	0.010	0.008	0.005
$\times$ ,0	0.011	0.027	0.052	0.081	0.098	0.120
+,1	0.051	0.076	0.095	0.119	0.177	0.251
$\times$ ,1	0.050	0.071	0.091	0.122	0.176	0.260

**Table 7** The error distribution for BB84 protocol for different number of SWAPs. Each logical qubit has been composed from two physical qubits. Post-selection procedure has been applied. For each input, 8192 runs of the algorithm on 5-qubit IBMqx4 device have been performed. Numbers in brackets indicate fractions of data accepted after the post-selection.

Basis, bits	SWAPs			
	0	2	4	6
+,0	0.003 (90%)	0.028 (85%)	0.048 (79%)	0.076 (75%)
$\times$ ,0	0.024 (86%)	0.053 (84%)	0.081 (81%)	0.111 (78%)
+,1	0.002 (89%)	0.029 (82%)	0.059 (77%)	0.094(71%)
$\times$ ,1	0.021 (83%)	0.05 (76%)	0.089 (70%)	0.139 (63%)

# Summary-II

- Quantum communication protocols as deep benchmarks for programmable quantum computers.
- Transfer of information between distant parts of superconducting quantum chips is currently problematic. Scaling?
- Time scales for the decay of “quantum regime” can be much shorter than  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ .
- Algorithm- and processor-dependent error mitigation schemes.

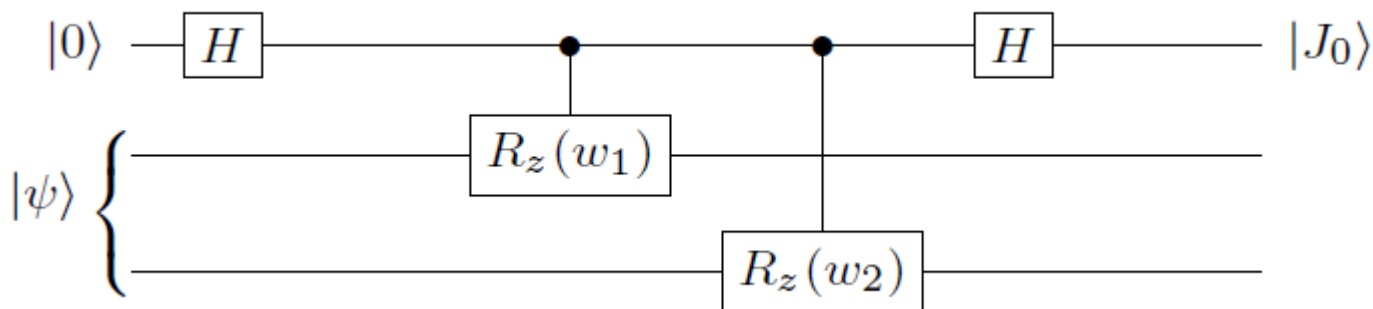
## IV. “Quantum machine learning” with noisy quantum devices

- Classification of “patterns”, which are purely quantum (characteristics of entanglement), and difficult to recognize classically. Quantum sensing.
- Phase estimation as a block in quantum machine learning schemes.

## Hybrid quantum-classical scheme

- Quantum block – phase estimation algorithm with free parameters
- Classical block – training of the circuit by finding optimal values of these parameters (training states, tuning free parameters)
- Deterministic and nondestructive classification of input states

### Toy model



- An ideal quantum machine, after the proper training, must answer in just a single query

what class of states it is.

- Otherwise – probabilistic classification:

$$|\Phi_{\pm}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|00\rangle \pm |11\rangle)$$

$$|\Psi_{\pm}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|10\rangle \pm |01\rangle)$$

$$P = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} (|\langle\Phi_{+}|\psi\rangle|^2 + |\langle\Phi_{-}|\psi\rangle|^2 - |\langle\Psi_{+}|\psi\rangle|^2 - |\langle\Psi_{-}|\psi\rangle|^2)$$

# Theory

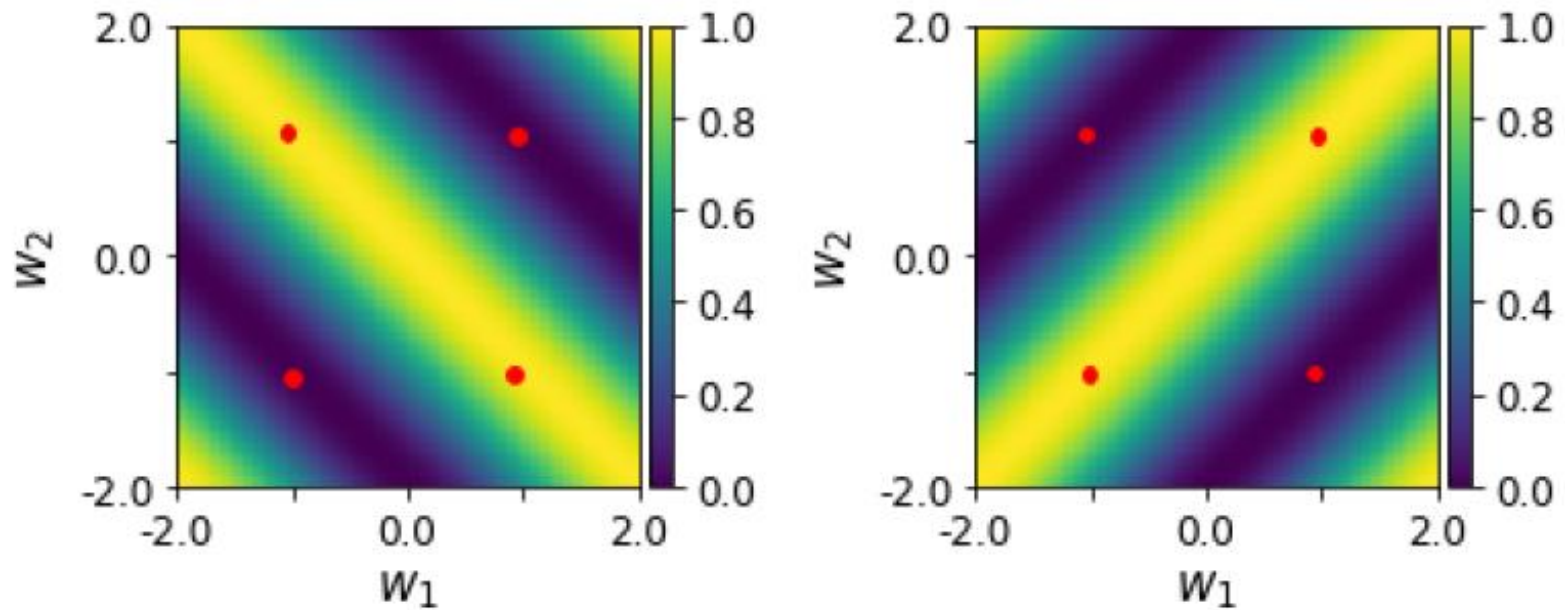
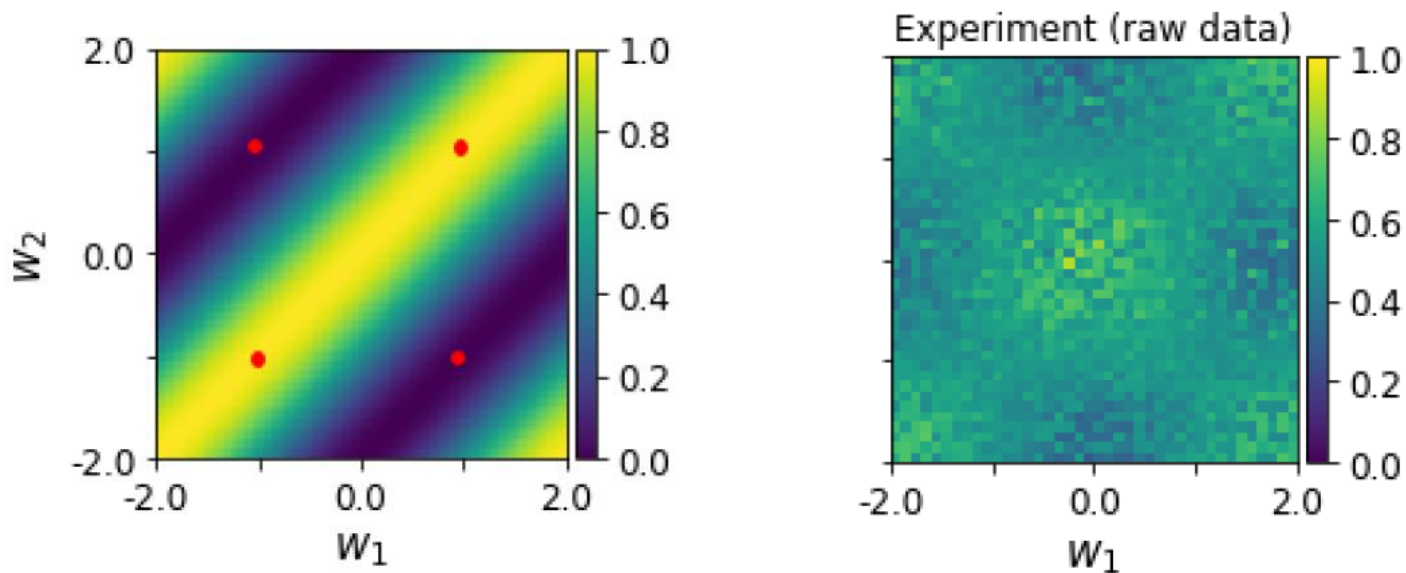


Fig. 2: Probability patterns of measuring qubit  $J_0$  in a state  $|0\rangle$  for the first (a) and for the second (b) Bell pair. Parameter points where a discrimination between two pairs of Bell states is done in one measurement are marked red

# Theory versus experiment

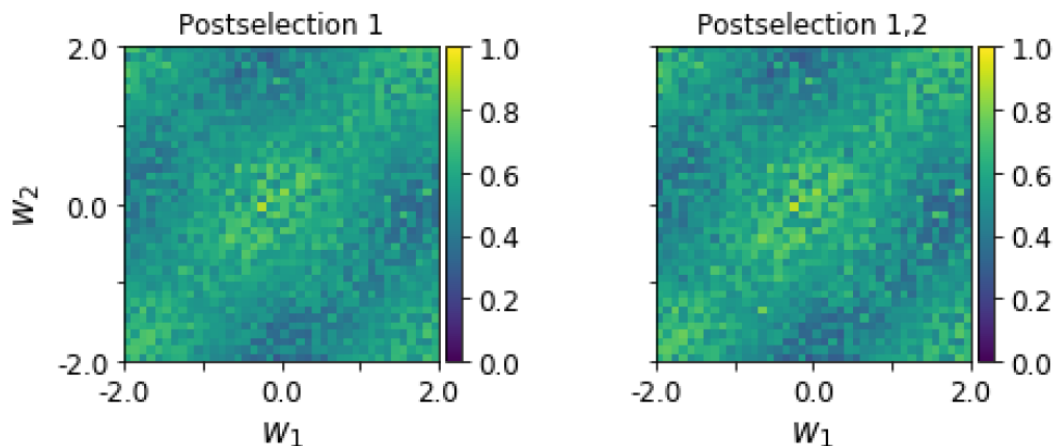
- Probability patterns for measuring ancilla qubit in the state 0



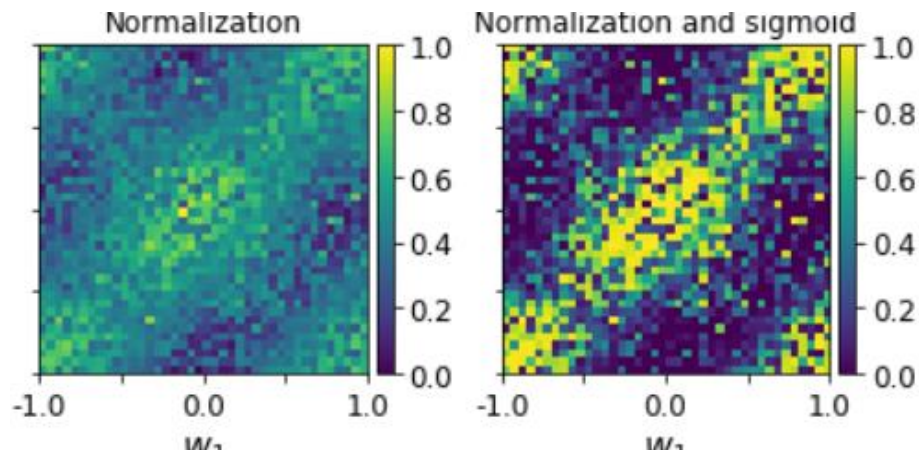
- Red points – deterministic and nondestructive classification from a single measurement

# Playground for error mitigation in hybrid quantum-classical schemes

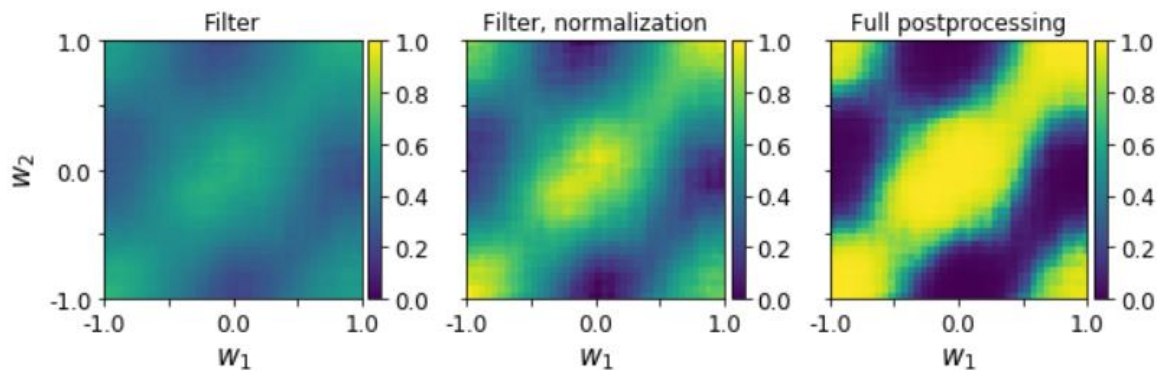
**Step 1: postselection**



**Step 2: normalization  
(no fitting - only information  
on max and min)**



**Step 3: filtering  
(no fitting - only information  
on typical gradients)**



# Summary-III

- It seems possible to work with data from quantum hardware, heavily damaged by noise
- We acknowledge use of the IBM Quantum Experience for this work.
- The viewpoints expressed are those of the authors and do not reflect the official policy or position of IBM or the IBM Quantum Experience team.





# Gate errors

- Single-qubit gates can be implemented with the high fidelity
- Two-qubit gates are problematic

Typical error in superconducting realization is of the order of 1%.

Estimation of total error for spin (!) models

In our simulations, the total error per physical qubit can be estimated as  $2p_{CNOT}N_{neig}N\nu$ , where  $p_{CNOT}$  is the CNOT error,  $N_{neig}$  is the number of spins participating in the interaction with the given spin, and  $\nu$  is a number, which characterizes the complexity of the spin-spin interaction ( $\nu$  ranges from 1 for Ising models, which include only  $zz$  interaction, to 3 for Heisenberg model, which includes interactions of three types,  $xx$ ,  $yy$ , and  $zz$ ).

**To have a error of the order of 1 %  
after 10 Trotter steps, CNOT error must be  $10^{-4}$**

*Increase of Trotter number – decrease of (mathematical)  
Trotterization error, but increase of (physical) errors of the device*

# Discretizing dynamics

- Free evolution (through evolution operator)

$$\Psi(t) = e^{-iHt} \Psi(0)$$

*This representation is needed for quantum computer and not for us!*

## Trotter-Suzuki decomposition

$$e^{-it(H_A+H_B)} = e^{-itH_A} e^{-itH_B} + \frac{(it)^2}{2!} [H_A, H_B] + \dots$$

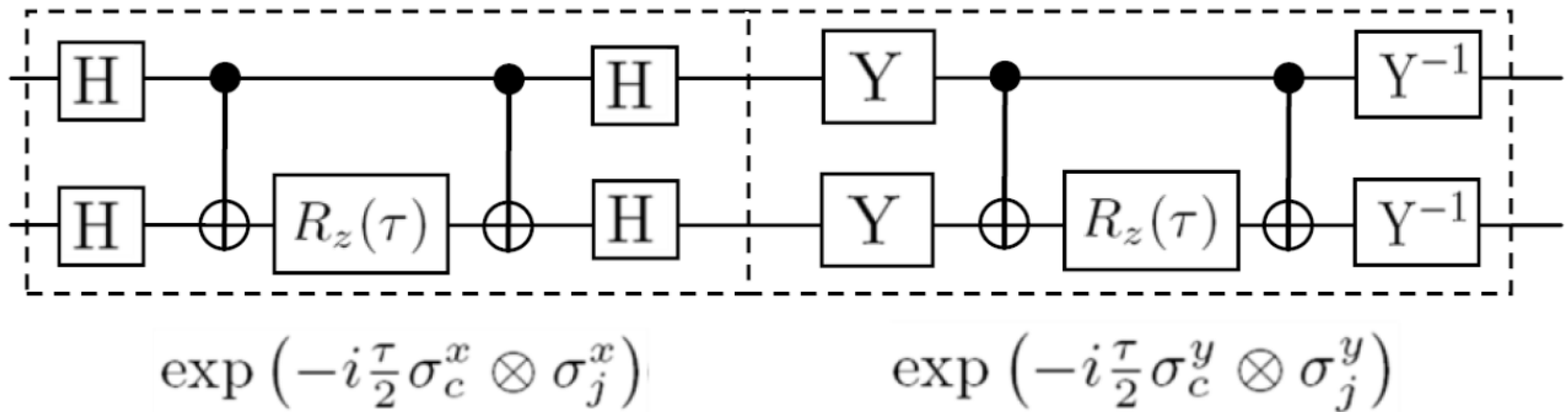
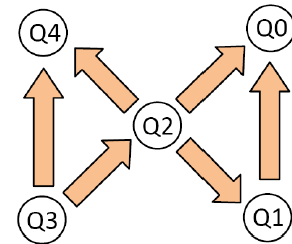
$$e^{-it(H_A+H_B)} \simeq \left( e^{-iH_A t/n} e^{-iH_B t/n} \right)^n$$

exact in the limit  $n \rightarrow \infty$

**The larger number of Trotter steps,  
the smaller (mathematical) Trotterization error**

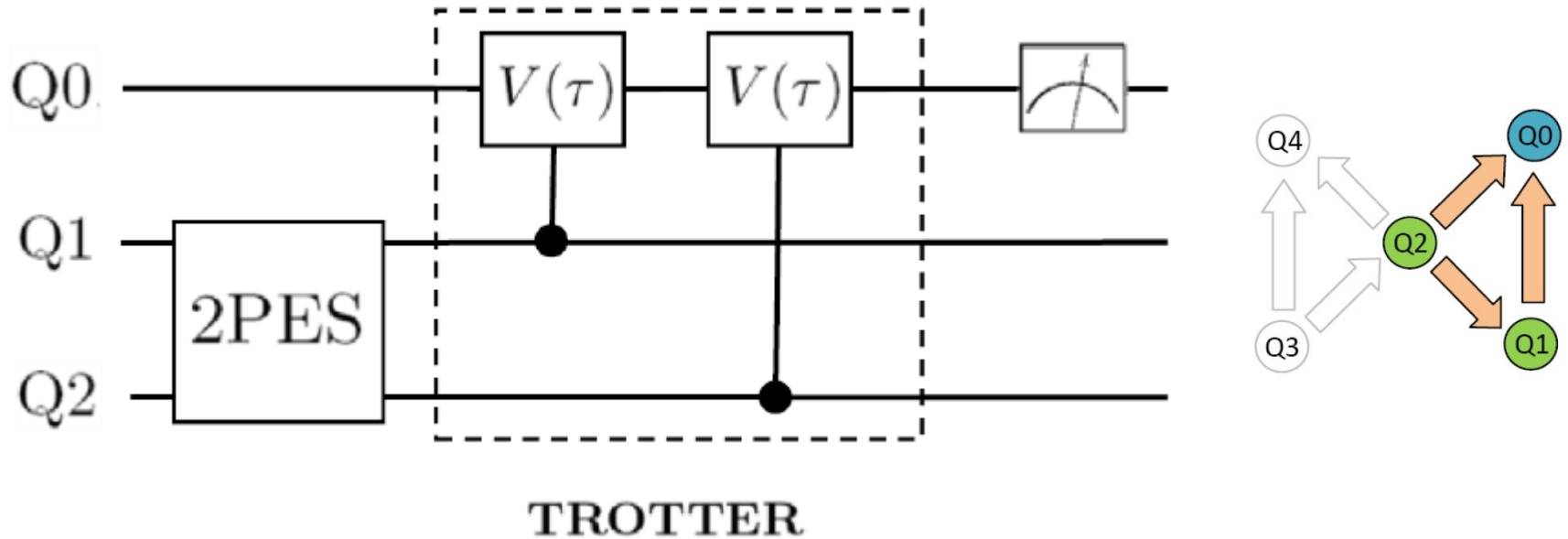
- Main building block for modeling the interaction

$$H = \frac{g}{2} \sum_{j=1}^L (\sigma_c^x \sigma_j^x + \sigma_c^y \sigma_j^y)$$



Quantum circuit for  $\exp\left(-i\frac{\tau}{2}\sigma_c^x \otimes \sigma_j^x\right) \exp\left(-i\frac{\tau}{2}\sigma_c^y \otimes \sigma_j^y\right)$

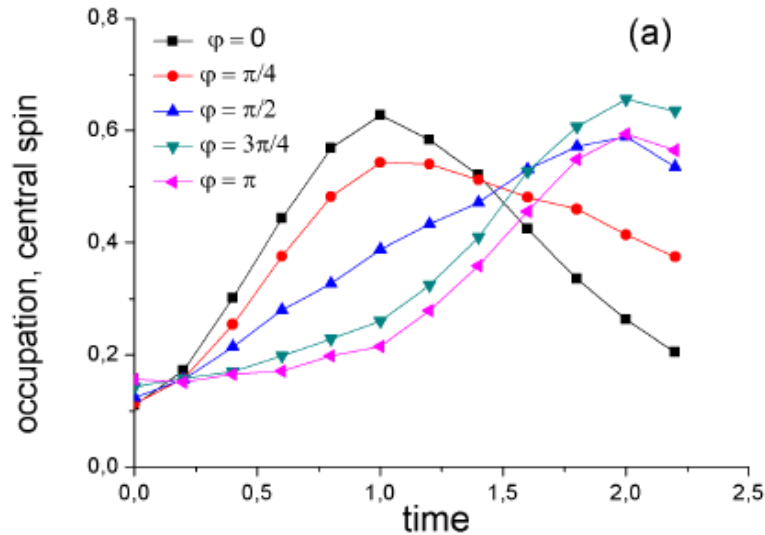
# Full quantum circuit



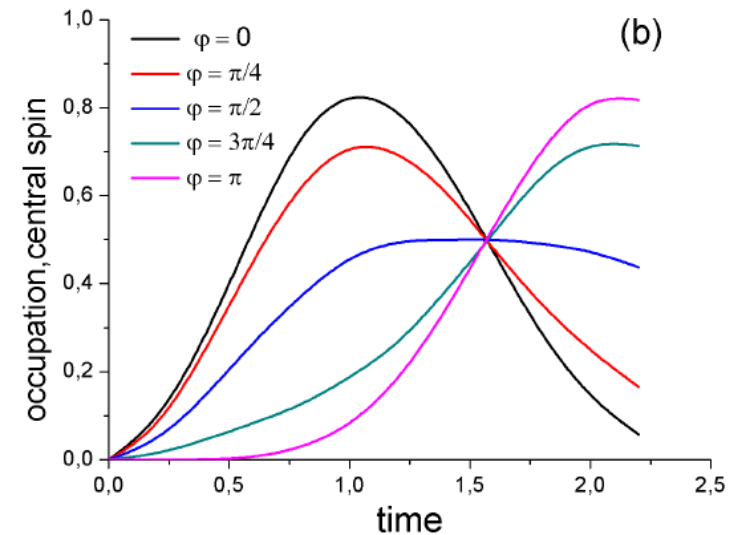
Quantum circuit for the evolution of the system starting from the initial state of two-particle entangled state of the bath and unexcited central spin at the Trotter number  $N = 1$ .

# Two-particle entangled state: Population of the central particle

experiment (8000 runs per point)



theory



Attention! Theory is not exact. Approximation of the same level – **one-step Trotter decomposition**

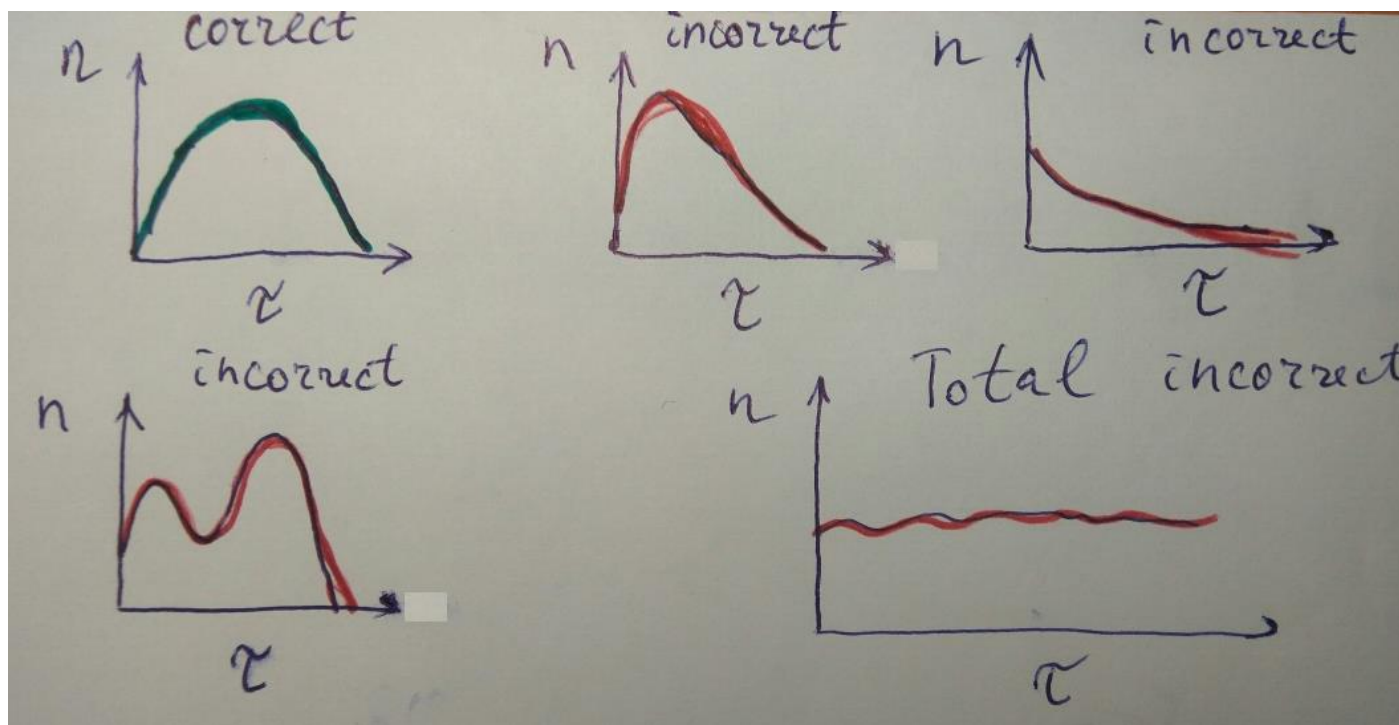
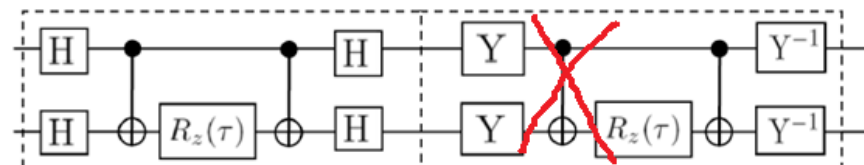
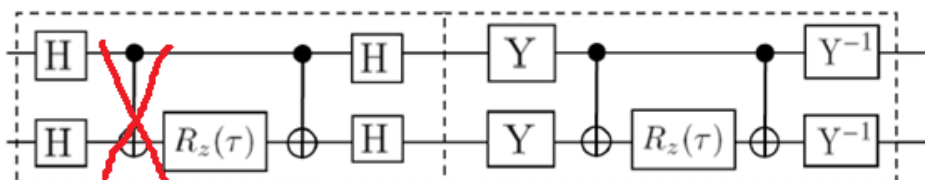
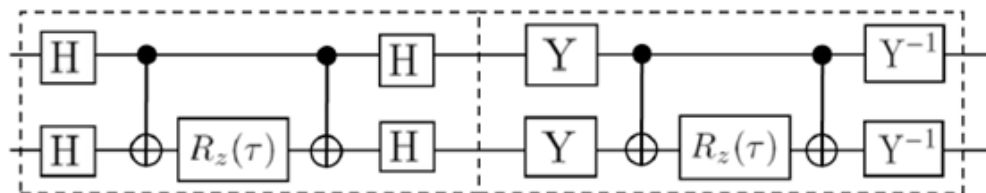
- Dark and bright states known from quantum optics
- Entanglement in the bath and quantum interference effects block excitation transfer to the center

- Noisy “background” is independent on time!

- Many gates – randomization of wrong outputs.

- Can errors help?? Probably, yes, in some “intermediate” regimes.

# Nature of "randomization"



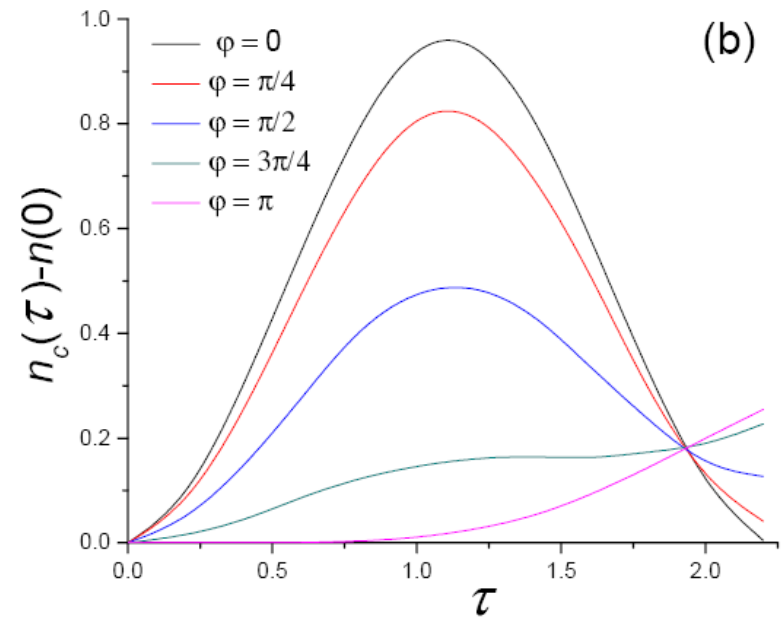
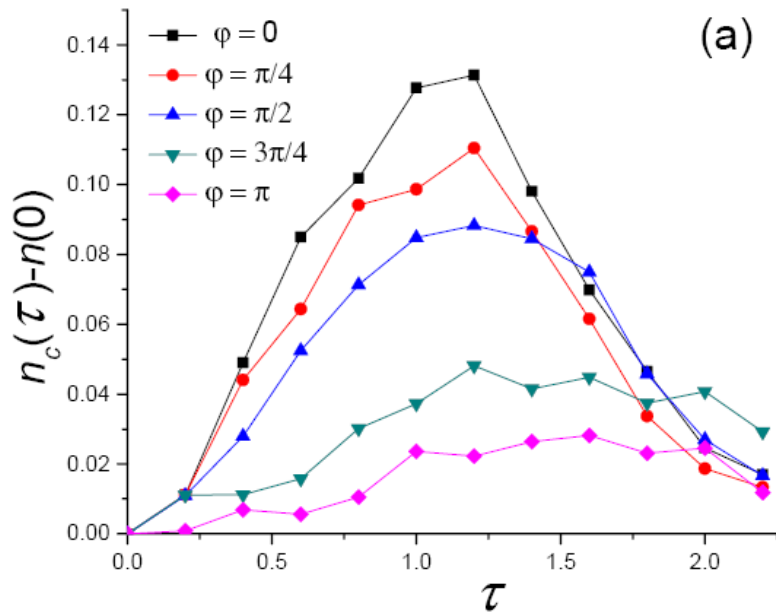
# Errors can play a positive role

- For shallow circuits errors are always bad
- For deep circuits they are also bad  
(exponential decay of information vs number of gates)
- For intermediate-depth circuits, they can be positive (in some sense)



# Error mitigation in the regime of large errors: 3 Trotter steps

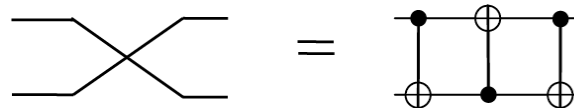
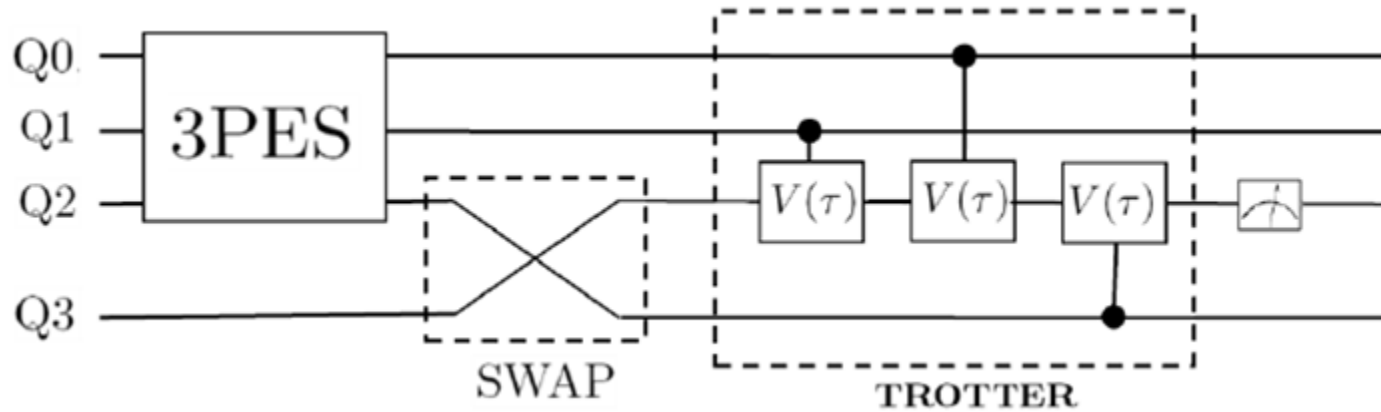
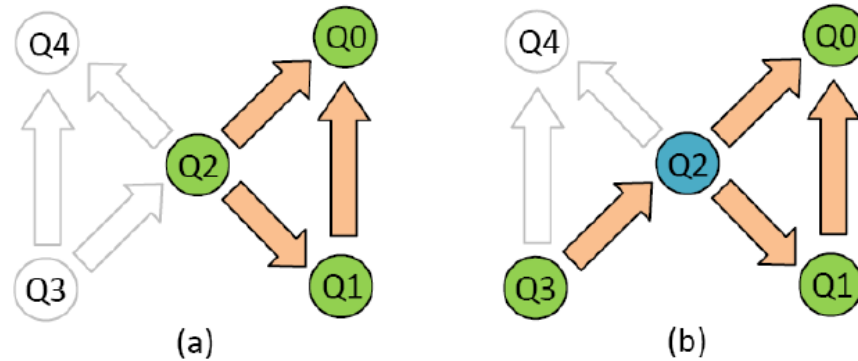
$$\Delta n_c(\tau) = n_c(\tau) - n_c(\tau = 0) \quad \text{- analyzing differences}$$



The results of our experiment (a) and theory (b) for  $\Delta n_c(\tau)$  as a function of the dimensionless time  $\tau$  for the Trotter number  $N = 3$ . Different curves correspond to different values of phase parameter  $\varphi$  entering the initial state.

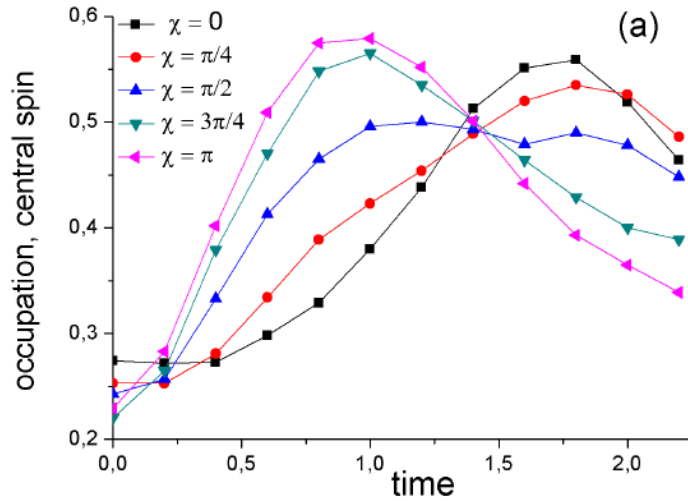
- Initial state of the system – entangled “bath”

$$\Psi(0) = |\downarrow\rangle \otimes \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} (|\downarrow\downarrow\uparrow\rangle - 2e^{i\chi}|\downarrow\uparrow\downarrow\rangle + |\uparrow\downarrow\downarrow\rangle)$$

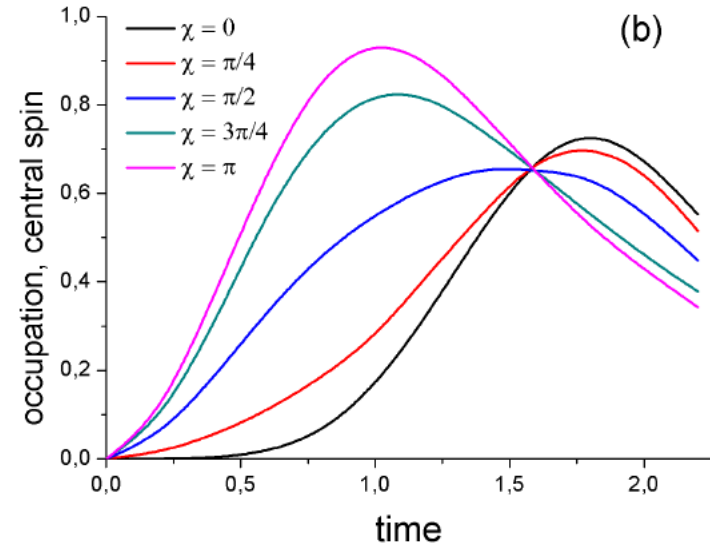


# Three-particle entangled state: Population of central particle

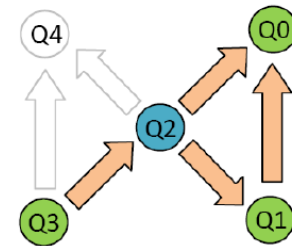
experiment



theory



$$\Psi(0) = |\downarrow\rangle \otimes \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} (|\downarrow\downarrow\uparrow\rangle - 2e^{i\chi}|\downarrow\uparrow\downarrow\rangle + |\uparrow\downarrow\downarrow\rangle)$$

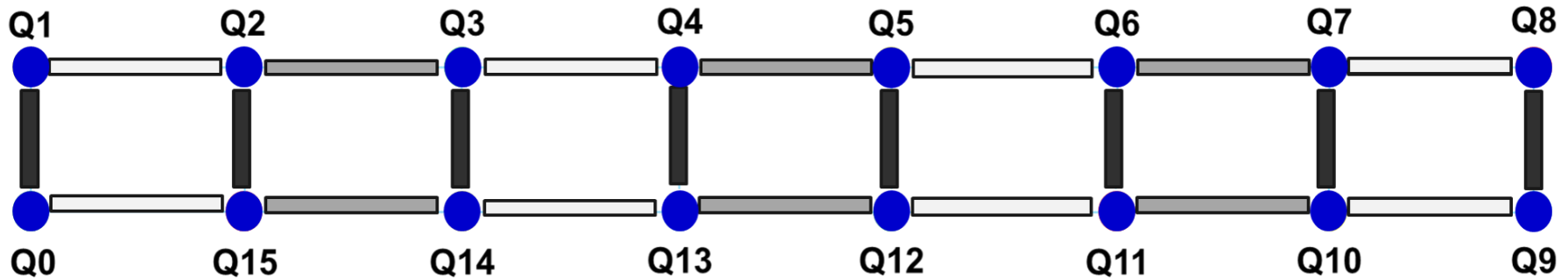


- Dark and bright states: quantum superpositions of two-particle entangled states
- Entanglement in the bath and quantum interference effects block excitation transfer to the center

# Transverse-field Ising model and 16-qubit IBM device

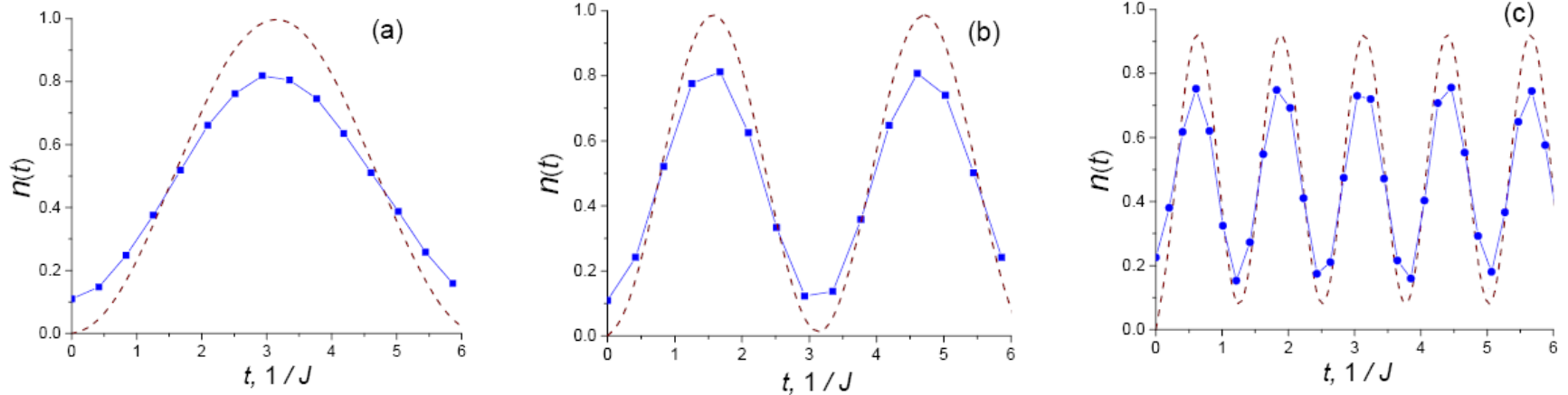
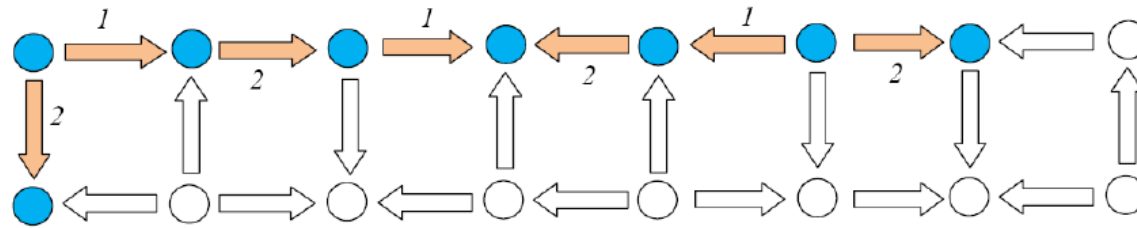
- Ising model in a transverse field – simplest and most popular Playground to study far-from-equilibrium dynamics and thermalization.
- Non-stochastic and nonintegrable model.

$$H = -J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \sigma_z^i \sigma_z^j - \alpha \sum_i \sigma_x^i$$



$|\downarrow \dots \downarrow\rangle$  initial state

# 8-spin Ising chain after 1 Trotter step: experiment vs theory

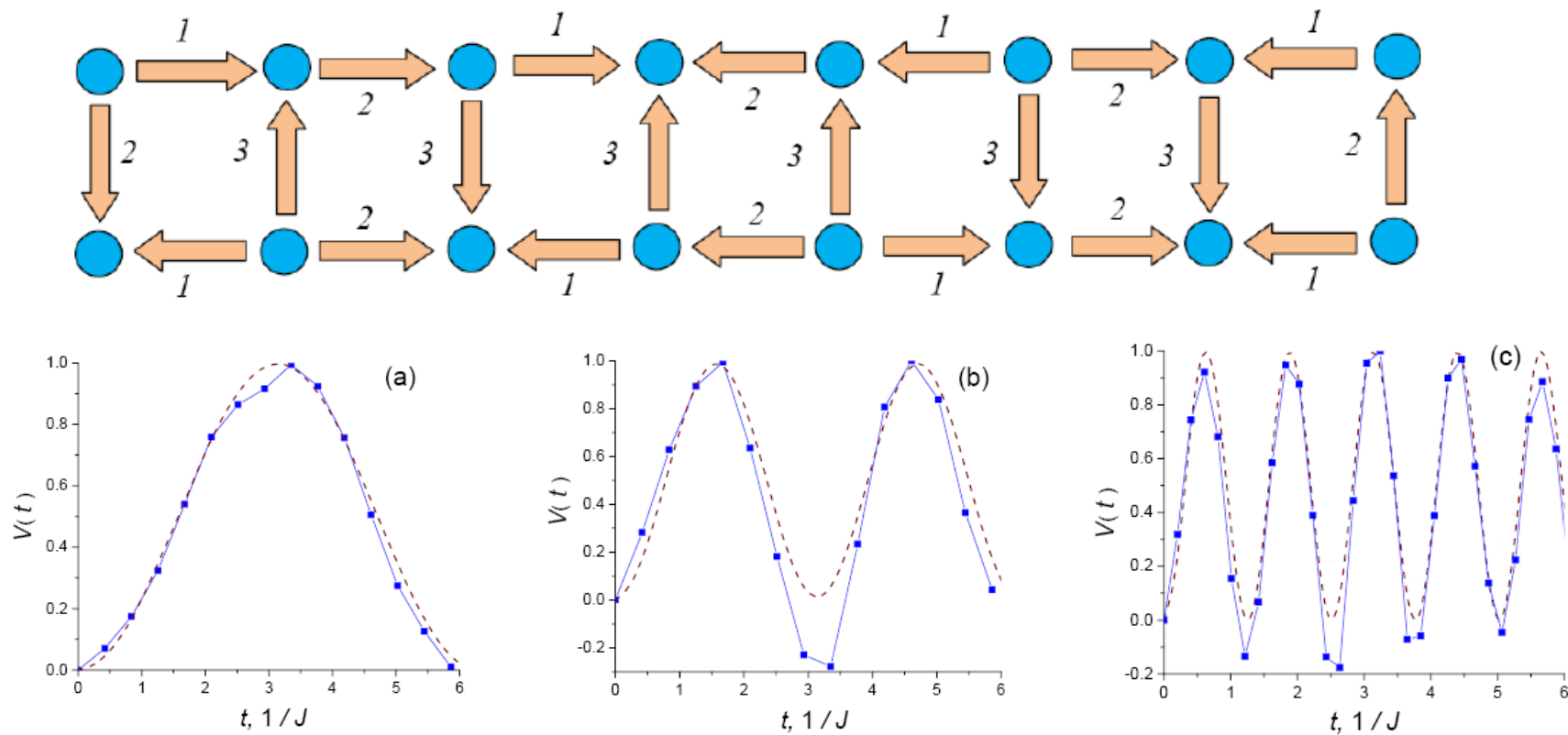


**Fig. 15** (Color online) The results of our experiment (solid blue lines) and theory (dashed brown lines) for the mean occupation  $n$  of the upper levels of the 8-spin transverse Ising chain at  $\alpha = J$  (a),  $\alpha = 2J$  (b),  $\alpha = 5J$  (c) as a function of the time  $t$  for the Trotter number  $N = 1$ .

$$V(\tau) = \frac{n(\tau) - n(0)}{\max n(\tau) - n(0)}.$$

Error mitigation in the large error regime

## 16-spin Ising ladder after 1 Trotter step: experiment vs theory



**Fig. 18** (Color online) The results of our experiment (solid blue lines) and theory (dashed brown lines) for  $V$  defined in Eq. (10) in the case of the 16-spin transverse Ising ladder at  $\alpha = J$  (a),  $\alpha = 2J$  (b),  $\alpha = 5J$  (c) as a function of the dimensionless time  $\tau$  for the Trotter number  $N = 1$ .

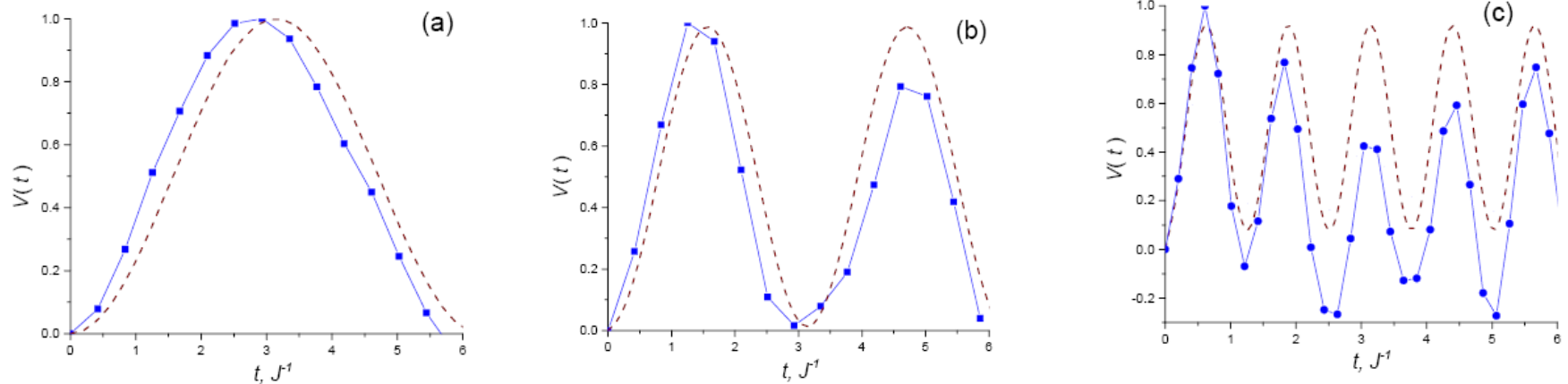
$$V(\tau) = \frac{n(\tau) - n(0)}{\max n(\tau) - n(0)}.$$

Error mitigation in the large error regime

# Error mitigation: 2 Trotter steps for 8-spin chain

$$V(\tau) = \frac{n(\tau) - n(0)}{\max n(\tau) - n(0)}.$$

*Analysis of variations (properly normalized)*



**Fig. 16** (Color online) The results of our experiment (solid blue lines) and theory (dashed brown lines) for  $V$  defined in Eq. (10) in the case of the 8-spin transverse Ising chain at  $\alpha = J$  (a),  $\alpha = 2J$  (b),  $\alpha = 5J$  (c) as a function of the dimensionless time  $\tau$  for the Trotter number  $N = 2$ .

# Entropy-based characteristics

Mutual information

$$\mathcal{I}(A, B) = H(B) - H(B|A),$$

between the Alice's input  $A = (a_1, a_2)$  and Bob's output  $B = (b_1, b_2)$ .

$$H(X) = - \sum_x \Pr(X = x) \log_2 \Pr(X = x)$$

is a Shannon entropy of a random variable  $X$  with possible values  $\{x\}$  and

$$H(X|Y) = - \sum_y \Pr(Y = y) \sum_x \Pr(X = x|Y = y) \log_2 \Pr(X = x|Y = y)$$

is conditional entropy of  $X$  given random variable  $Y$  with possible values  $\{y\}$ .

For the ideal system:  $\mathcal{I}(A, B) = 2$

$\mathcal{I}(A, B) > 1$  – "quantum advantage"

Evaluation of mutual information is the most rigorous way to quantify an efficiency of the protocol implementation



# Quantum key distribution BB84

The length of final (identical and secure) keys  $K_A^{\text{sift}}$  and  $K_B^{\text{sift}}$  is given by

$$l_{\text{sec}} = N(1 - h(q)) - N f_{\text{ec}} h(q),$$

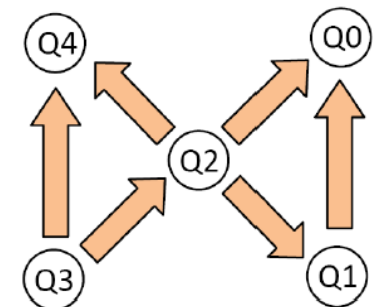
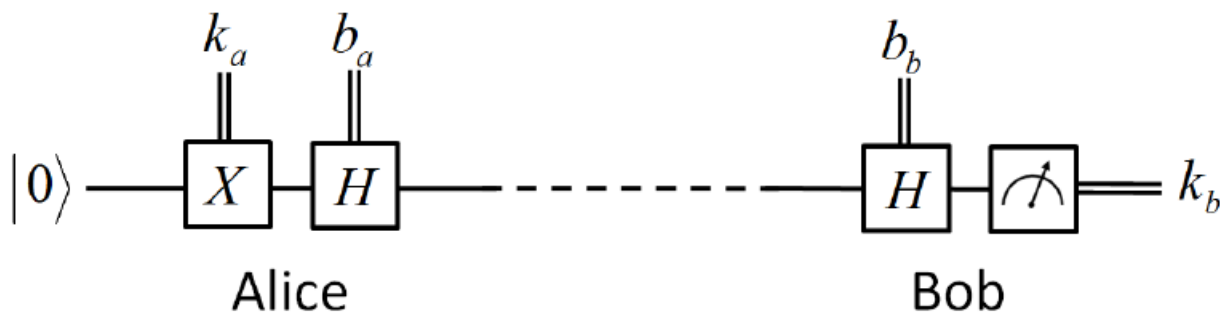
where  $N$  is length of sifted keys,  $q$  is an error between  $K_A^{\text{sift}}$  and  $K_B^{\text{sift}}$

$$h(q) = -q \log_2 q - (1 - q) \log_2 (1 - q)$$

is binary entropy function and  $f_{\text{ec}}$  is “efficiency” of information reconciliation algorithm (in all the further considerations we take  $f_{\text{ec}} = 1.15$ , that correspond to real practise [44]). The expression (9) gives a length to which the reconciled sifted keys should be shortened by employing publicly announced random hash function from universal<sub>2</sub> set at the stage of privacy amplification [45]. Note, that negatives values of  $l_{\text{sec}}$  correspond to the fact of impossibility to distill the provably secure keys.

Alice encodes 0 or 1 of a key in the qubit Q1 using single-qubit gates  $I$  or  $X$ , respectively. After that, we choose the basis “+” or “×” by applying single-qubit gates  $I$  or  $H$  respectively. Then, we apply a train of identity gates. Finally, Bob measures this qubit in the same basis “+” or “×” (we analyze a sifted key). A set of single measurements.

Alice and Bob are now at the same site (qubit Q1)



**Table 5** The error distribution for BB84 protocol for different values of time delay. For each input, 8192 runs of the algorithm on 5-qubit IBMqx4 device have been performed.

Basis, bits	Time, $\mu s$					
	0.0	1.2	2.4	3.6	4.8	6.0
+,0	0.008	0.011	0.009	0.010	0.008	0.005
$\times$ ,0	0.011	0.027	0.052	0.081	0.098	0.120
+,1	0.051	0.076	0.095	0.119	0.177	0.251
$\times$ ,1	0.050	0.071	0.091	0.122	0.176	0.260

**Table 7** The error distribution for BB84 protocol for different number of SWAPs. Each logical qubit has been composed from two physical qubits. Post-selection procedure has been applied. For each input, 8192 runs of the algorithm on 5-qubit IBMqx4 device have been performed. Numbers in brackets indicate fractions of data accepted after the post-selection.

Basis, bits	SWAPs			
	0	2	4	6
+,0	0.003 (90%)	0.028 (85%)	0.048 (79%)	0.076 (75%)
$\times$ ,0	0.024 (86%)	0.053 (84%)	0.081 (81%)	0.111 (78%)
+,1	0.002 (89%)	0.029 (82%)	0.059 (77%)	0.094(71%)
$\times$ ,1	0.021 (83%)	0.05 (76%)	0.089 (70%)	0.139 (63%)