

# Practical quantum techniques

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Quantum Algorithm  
Engineering team

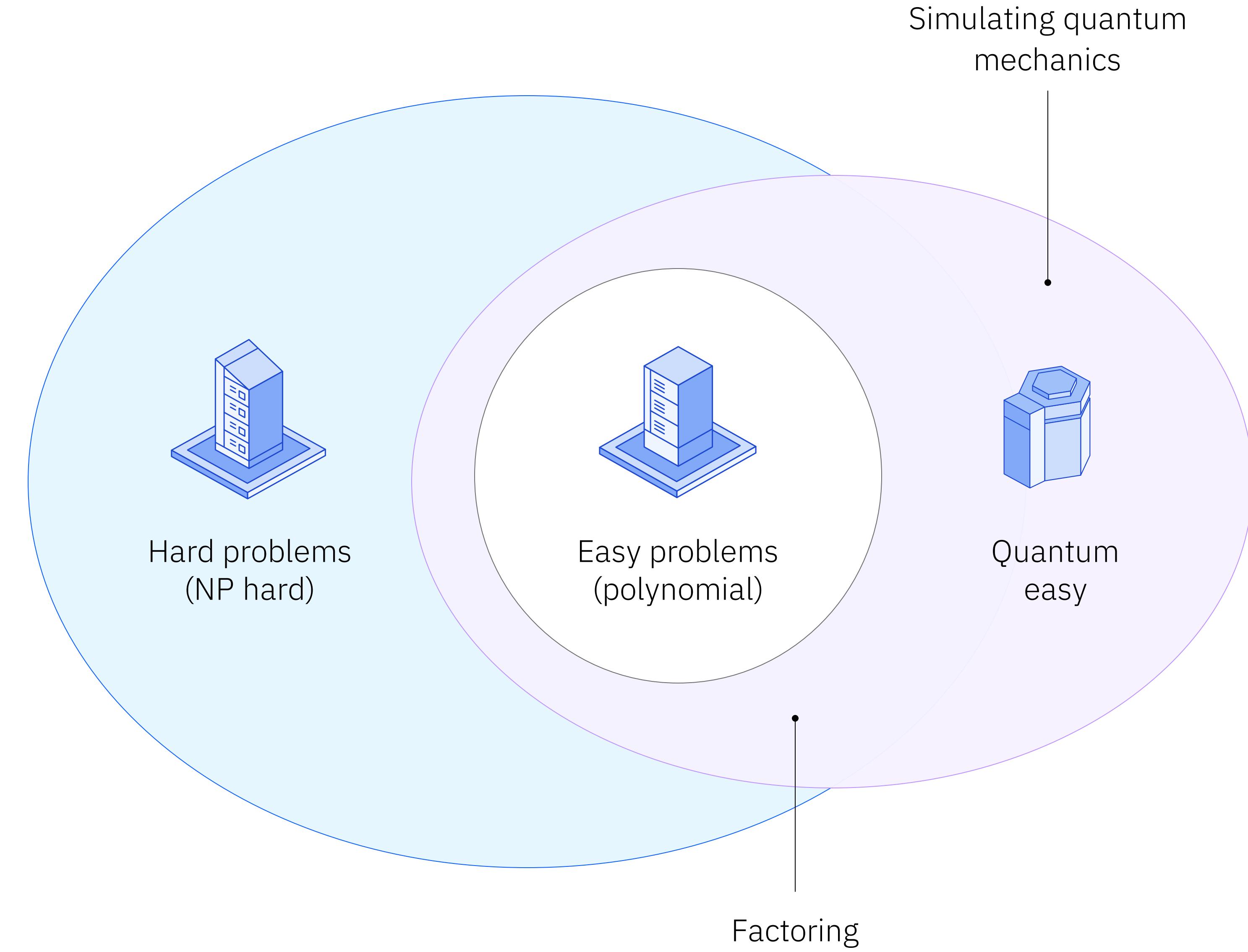
**IBM Quantum**



# Motivation for scaling quantum algorithms

Quantum computing is not just a faster or better version of classical systems—it is an entirely new branch of computing.

Quantum computers might be able to solve problems that cannot be tackled classically.

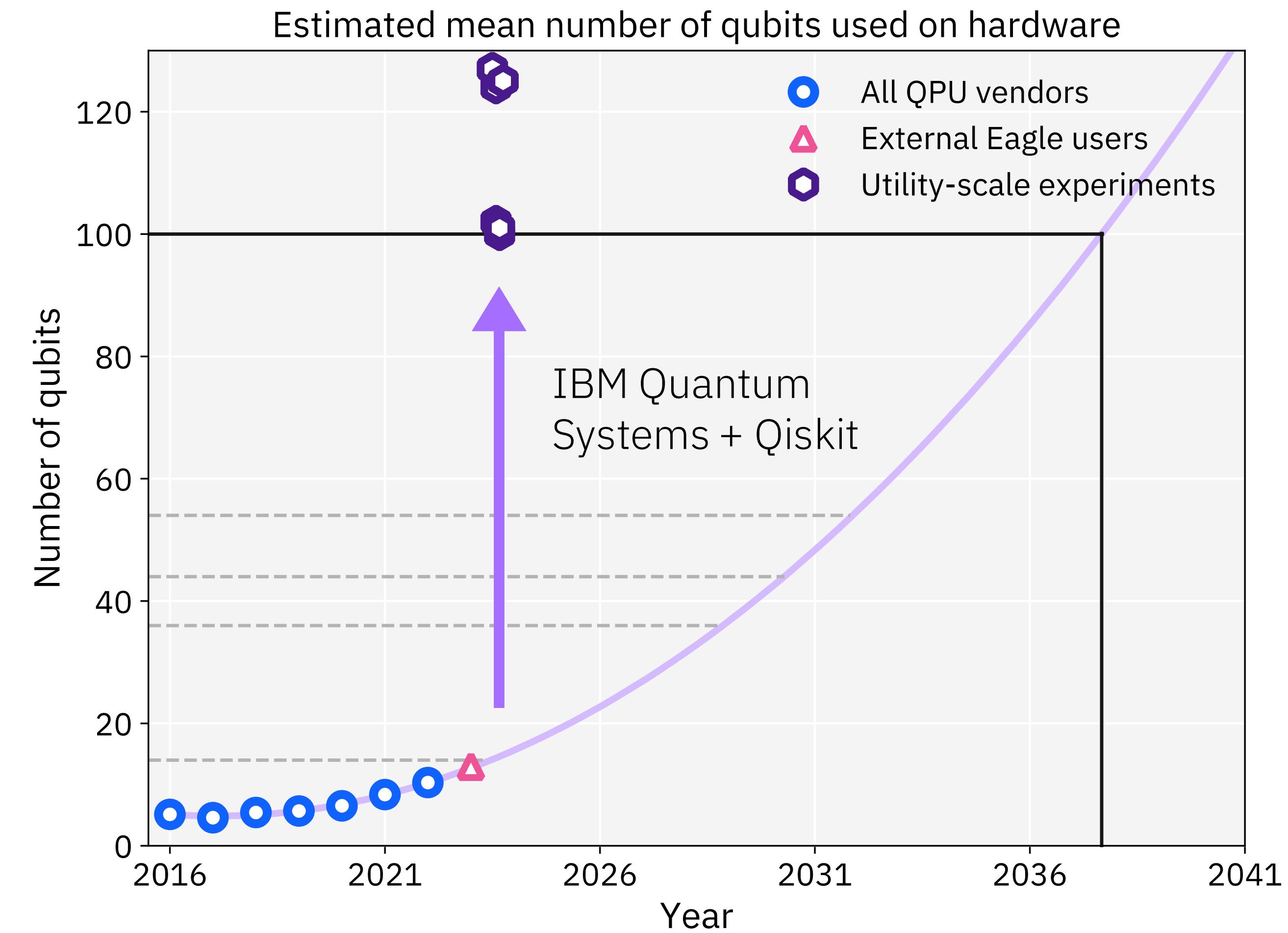


# Motivation for scaling quantum algorithms

We need to move beyond simple experiments that can be simulated classically to demonstrate the **utility** of quantum computing in multiple domains.

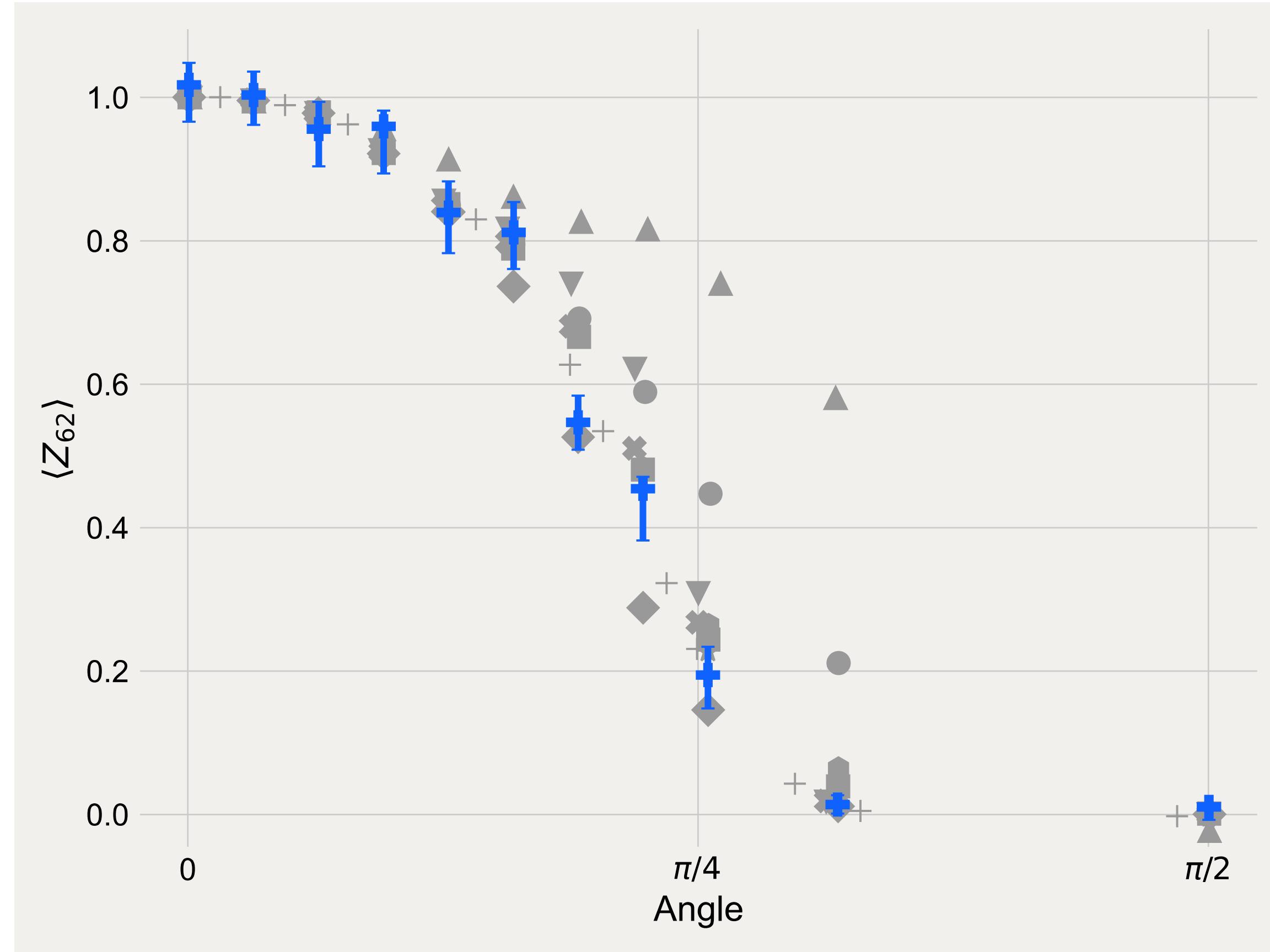
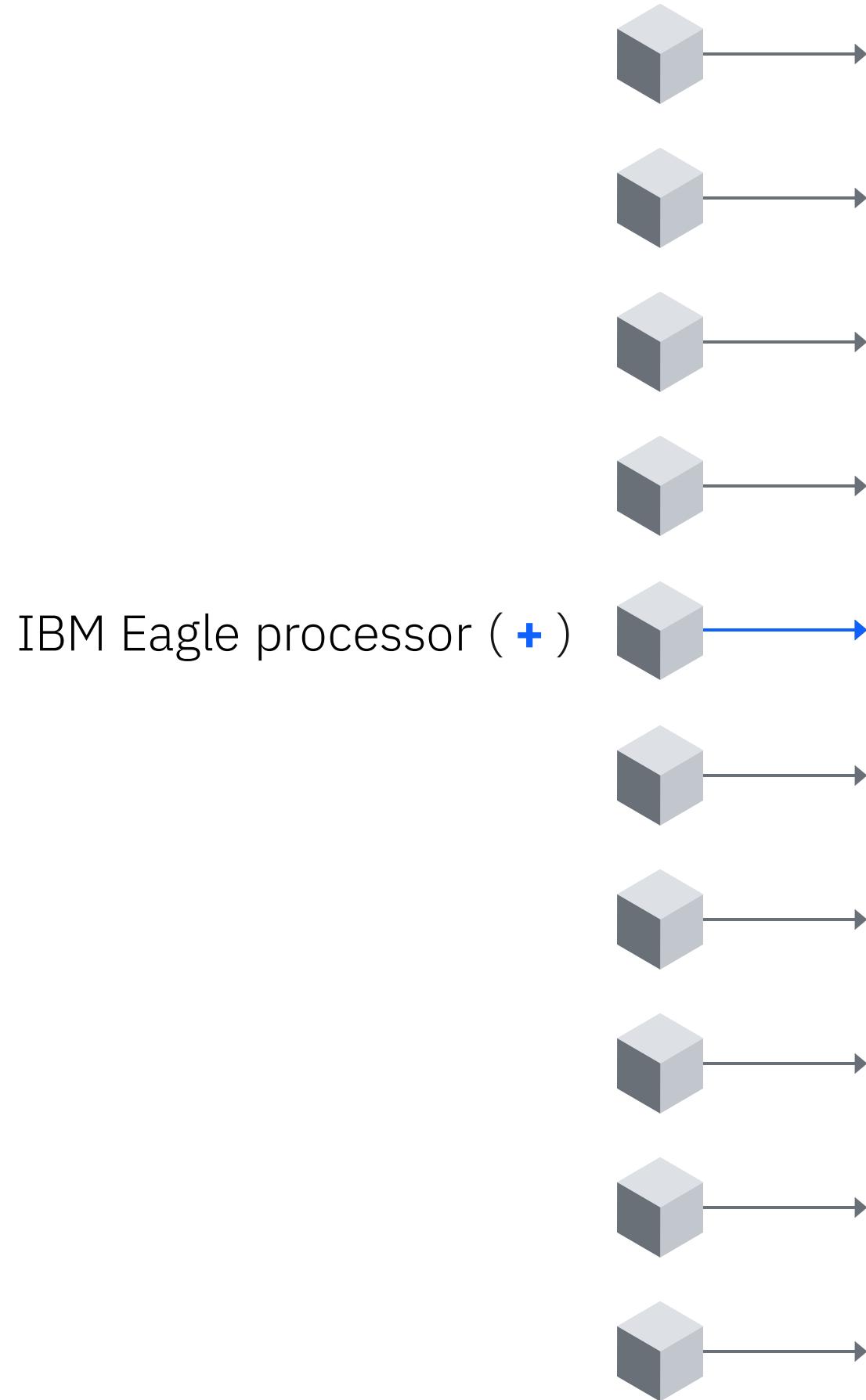


Quantum computers dominate in the high qubit-number regime.

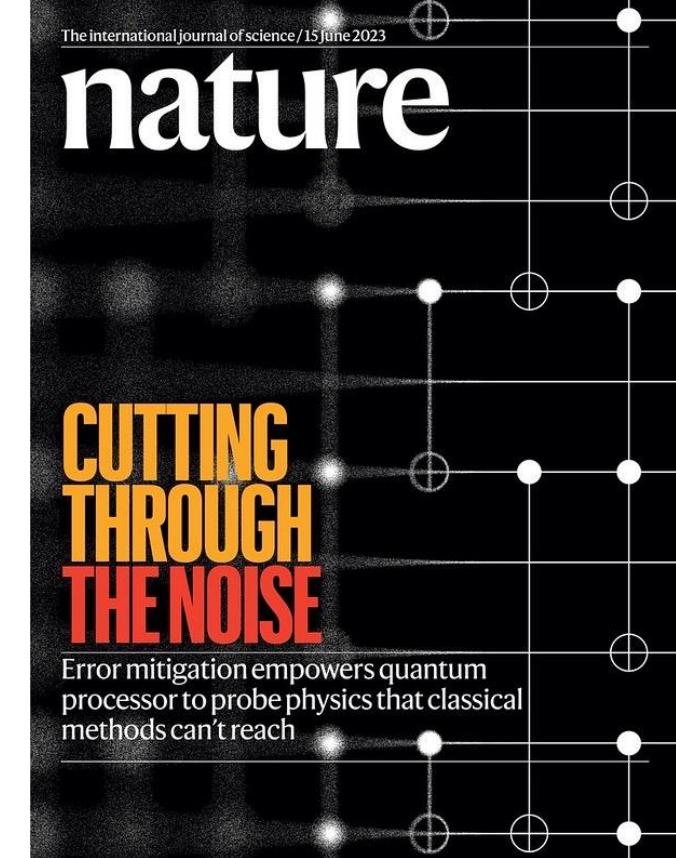


Data for all vendors taken from: arXiv:2307.16130

# Motivation for scaling quantum algorithms

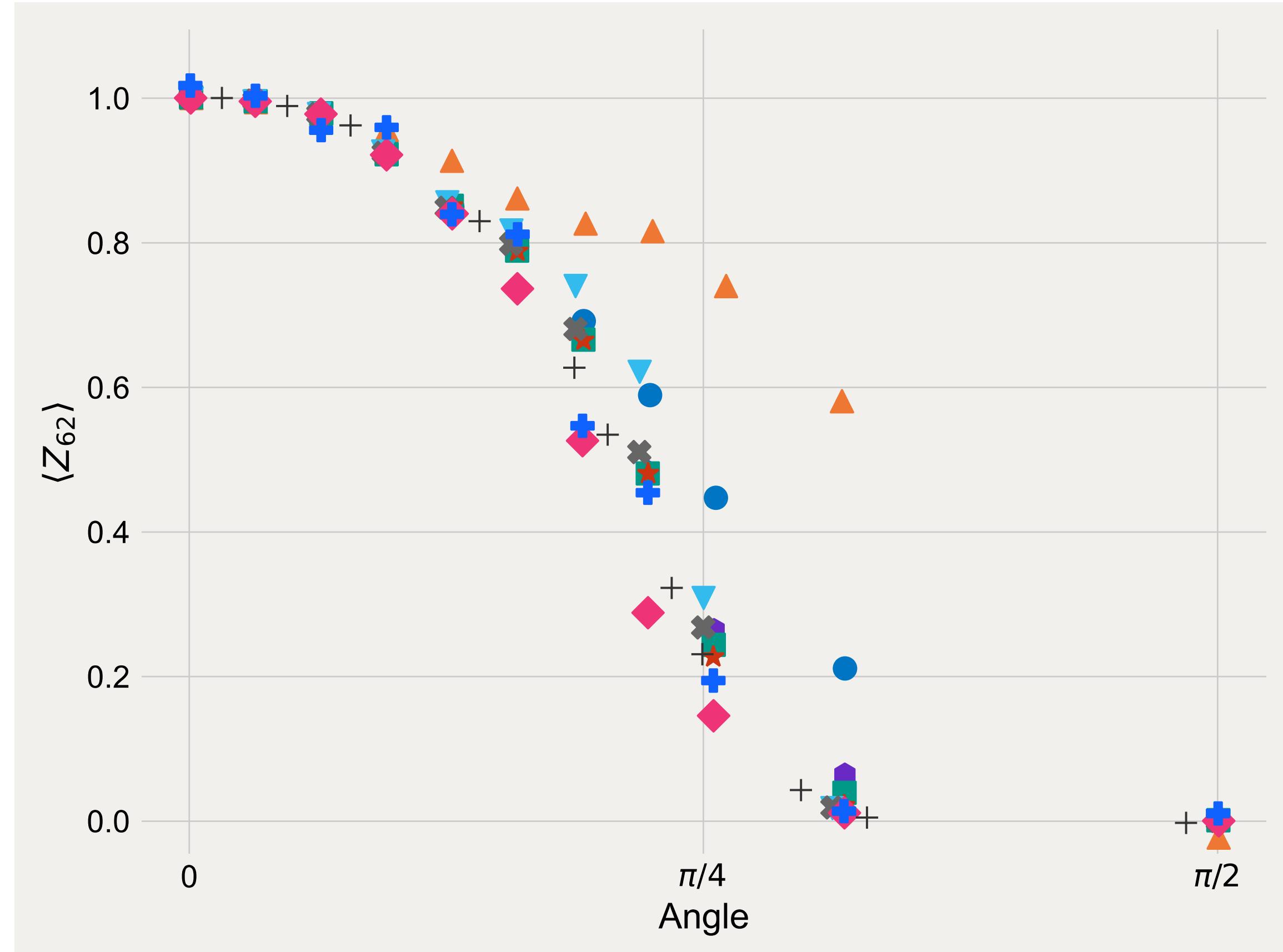


Adapted from PRX Quantum 5, 010308 (2024)



# Motivation for scaling quantum algorithms

MPS 1024 (●)	
isoTNS 12 (▲)	
TNS (BP) 200 (◤)	
TNS (BP) 500 (★)	
IBM Eagle processor (+)	
TNS (BP) ∞ (■)	
TNO SU ∞ (▼)	
Mixed TNS-TNO (✖)	
MP0 500 (◆)	
31-qubit sim. (+)	



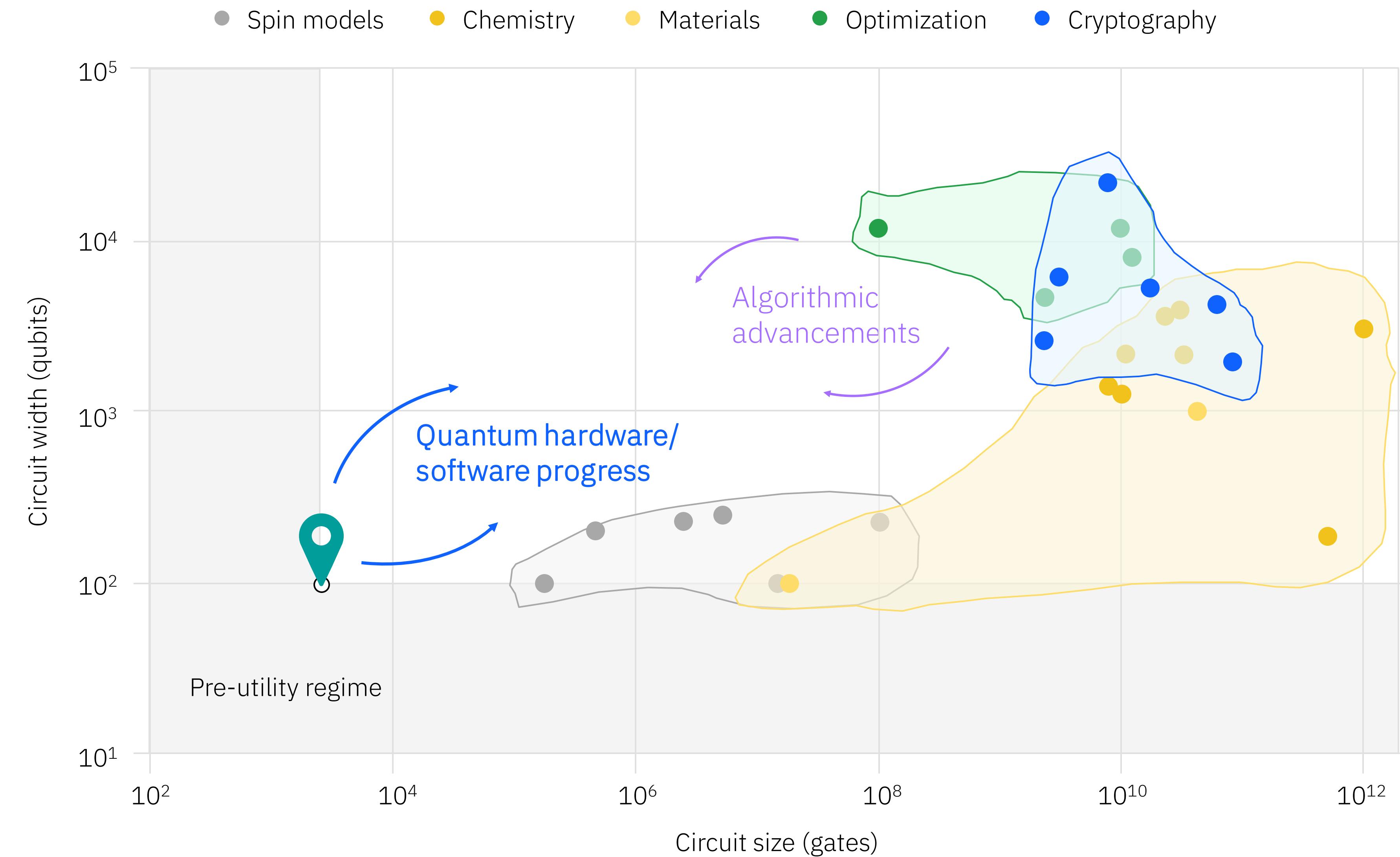
Adapted from PRX Quantum 5, 010308 (2024)

**Goal:** scaling to regimes where quantum hardware demonstrates measurement of accurate expectation values for circuit volumes at a scale beyond brute-force classical computation.

# Motivation for scaling quantum algorithms

Investments in algorithm research should enable known applications to be realized sooner.

Advances in quantum hardware and software enable new applications or use-cases to be discovered, potentially with current or near-future systems.



# Running algorithms on quantum hardware

## Qiskit patterns & add-ons

Collection of interoperable research capabilities  
for enabling algorithm discovery at the utility  
scale and towards quantum advantage

AQC-Tensor

MPF

Qiskit Circuit Library

OBP

Circuit cutting

Transpiler

SQD

M3

Quantum info/visualization

Input:  
Domain inputs

Output:  
Circuits, observable

$Q^+$   
1. Map

Input:  
Circuits, observable

Output:  
ISA circuit, observable

$\vec{x}$   
2. Optimize

Input:  
ISA circuit, observable

Output:  
Expectation value/samples

$\mathbb{E}$   
3. Execute

Input:  
Expectation value/samples

Output:  
Data objects/visualizations

$\swarrow$   
4. Post-Process

# Running algorithms on quantum hardware

AQC-Tensor

MPF

Qiskit Circuit Library

Input:  
Domain inputs

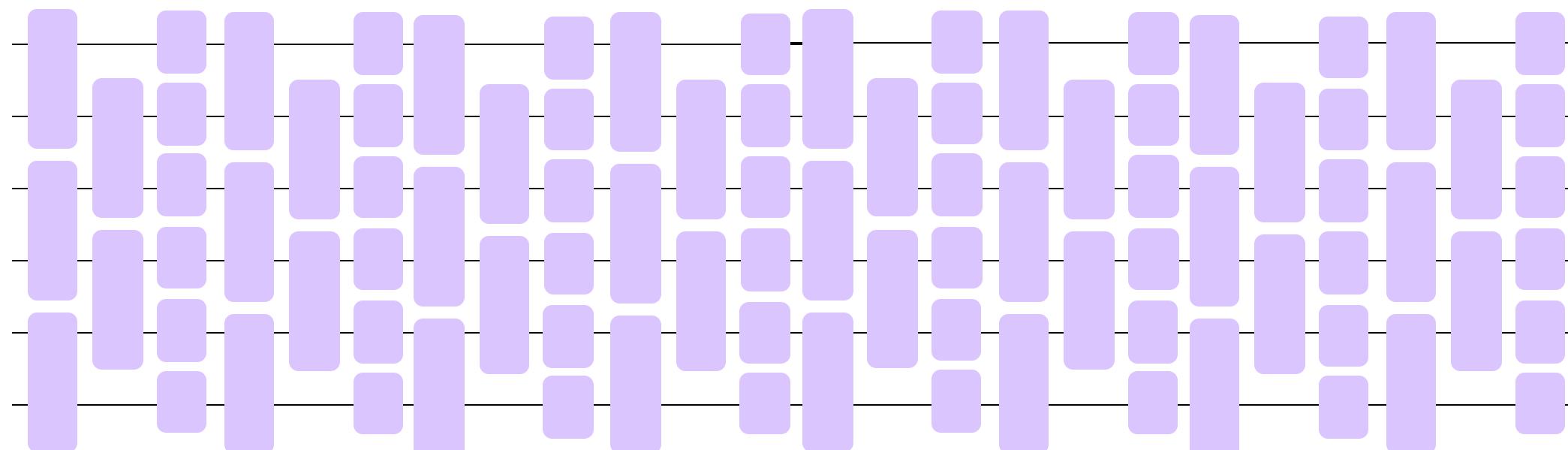
Output:  
Circuits, observable

$Q^+$   
1. Map

qiskit.circuit.library

- Standard gates
- Standard directives
- Standard operations
- Generalized gates
- Arithmetic operations
- Basis changes
- Boolean logic
- Data encoding
- Data preparation
- Particular operations
- N-local circuits
- Oracles
- Template circuits

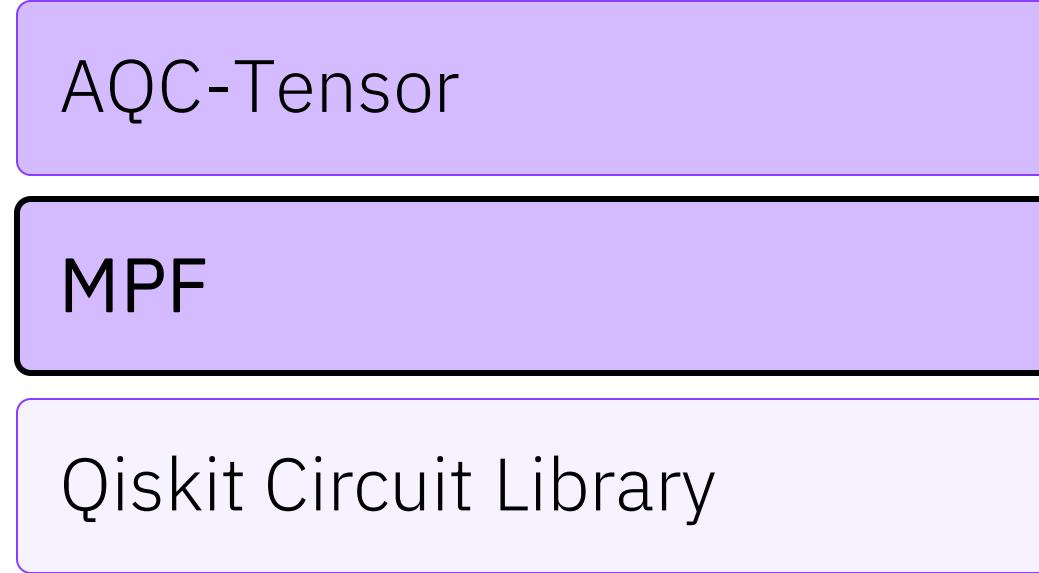
Translate a problem into a **quantum circuit** and a **set of measurements** that can reasonably run on quantum hardware.



*Example: trotter circuit for a given Hamiltonian.*

*Let's see how qiskit add-ons allow us to reduce the depth of the circuit .*

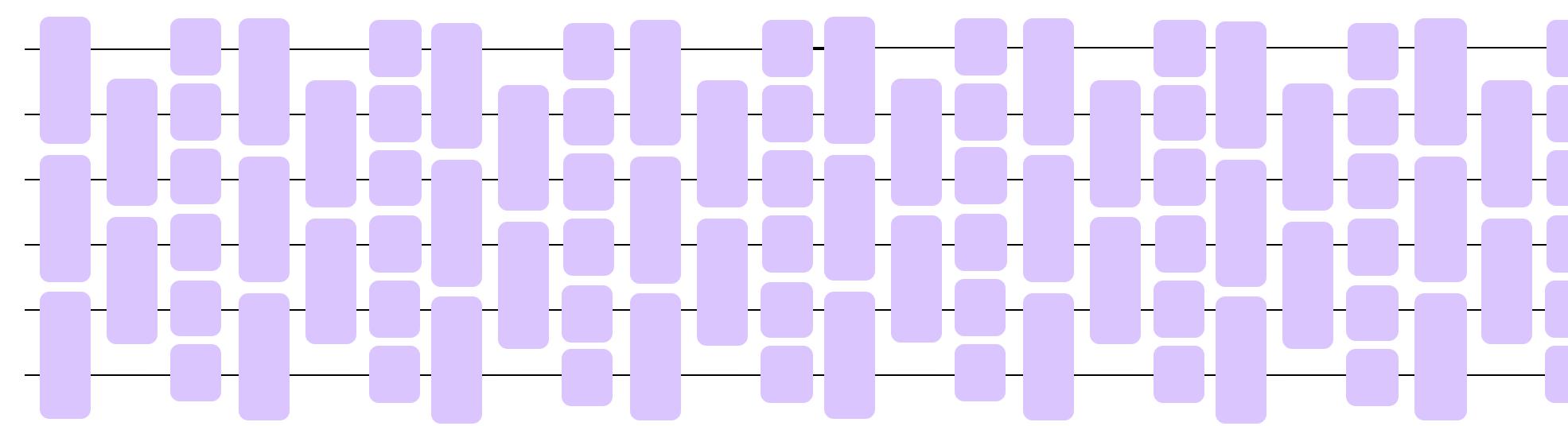
# Running algorithms on quantum hardware



Input:  
Domain inputs

Output:  
Circuits, observable

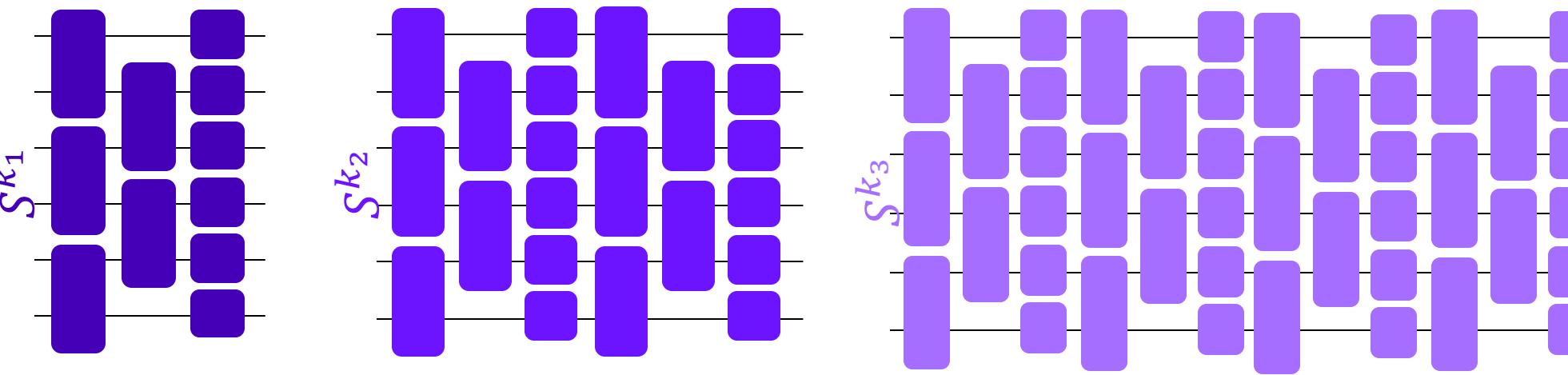
$Q^+$   
1. Map



Product Formula (PF)

$$S^8 \left( \frac{t}{8} \right)$$

Shorter depth + more circuit executions using MultiProduct Formulas (MPF):



$$M(t) = \sum_{j=1}^l a_j S^{k_j} \left( \frac{t}{k_j} \right)$$

1. Choose number of Trotter steps  $k_j = [1,2,4 \dots]$  and time  $t$
2. Compute coefficients  $a_j = [...]$  solving linear system of equations

<https://qiskit.github.io/qiskit-addon-mpf/>

# Running algorithms on quantum hardware

AQC-Tensor

MPF

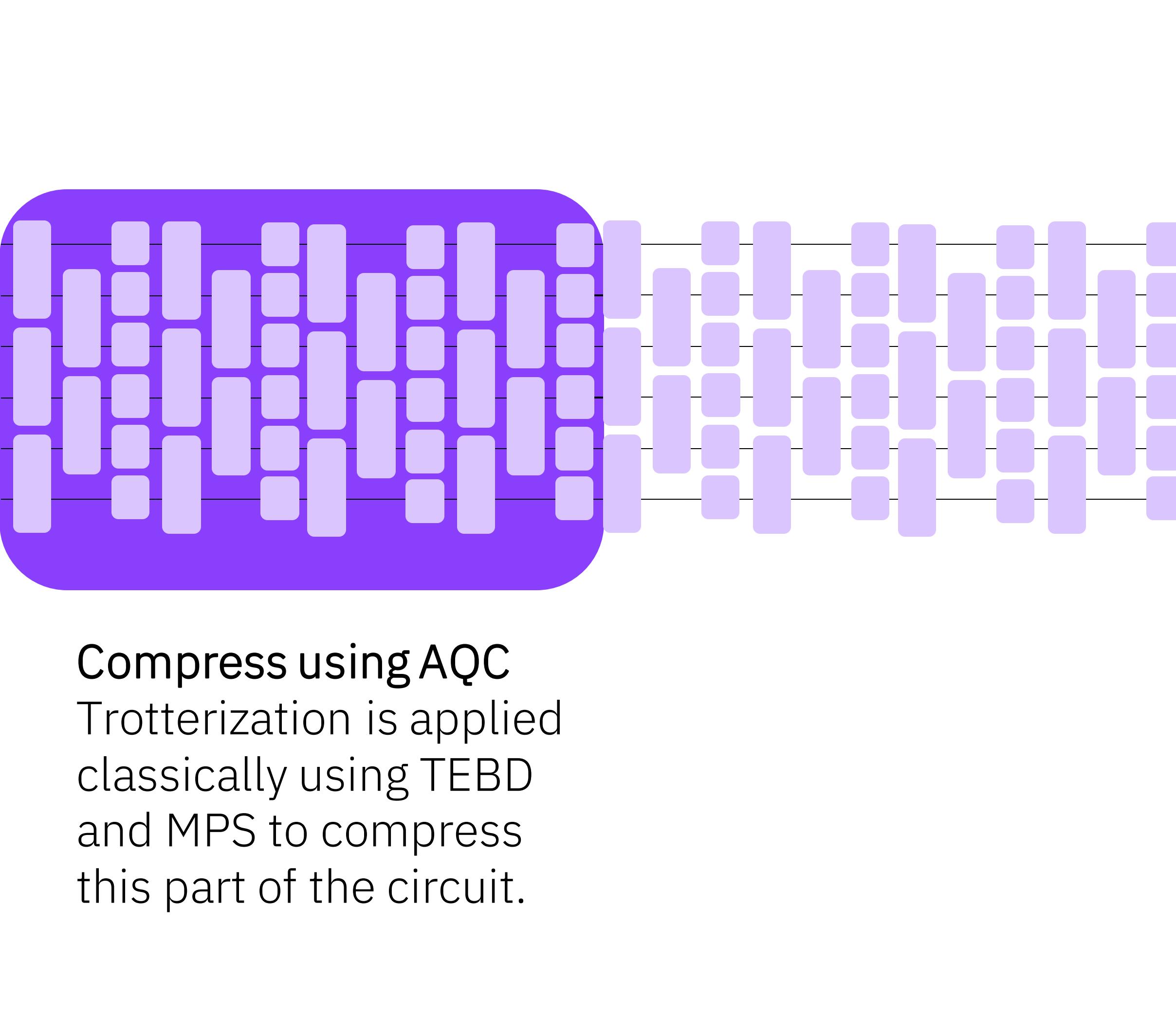
Qiskit Circuit Library

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Domain inputs

Output:  
Circuits, observable

$Q^+$

1. Map



<https://qiskit.github.io/qiskit-addon-aqc-tensor/>

# Running algorithms on quantum hardware

OBP

Circuit cutting

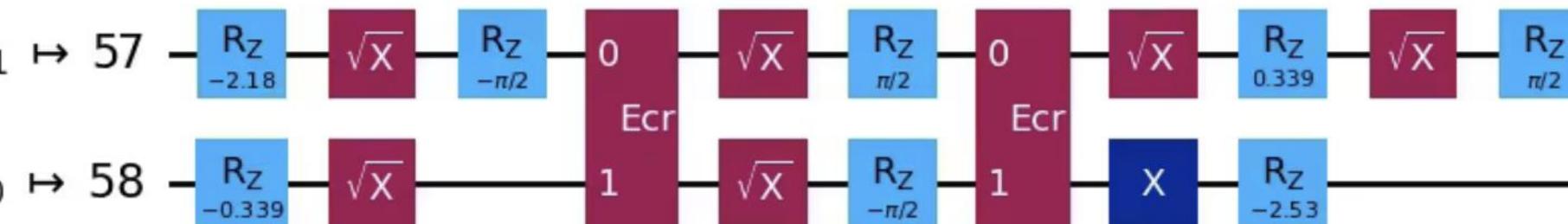
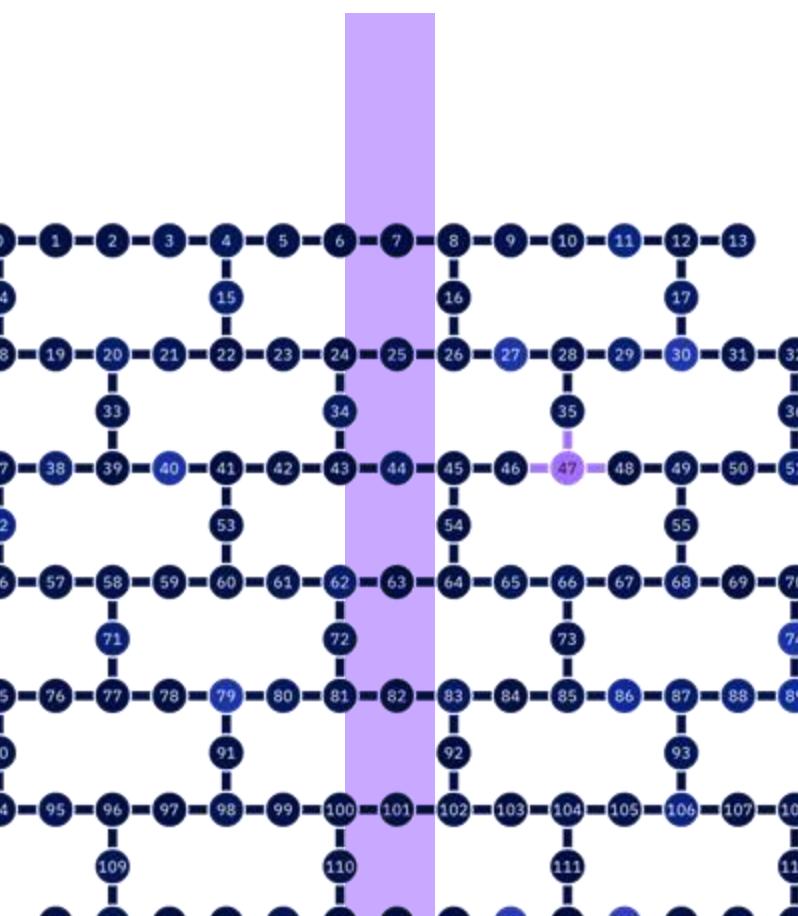
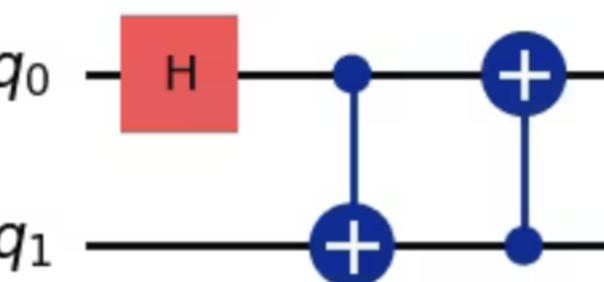
Transpiler

Input:  
Circuits, observable

Output:  
ISA circuit, observable



2. Optimize



- **Init:** Validates the circuit instructions and translates multi-qubit gates into single- and two-qubit gates.
- **Layout:** Mapping the virtual qubits to the physical qubits.
- **Routing:** Inject SWAP gates for connectivity compatibility.
- **Translation:** Translates to QPU's native gates.
- **Optimization:** Optimization loop to find more efficient decompositions.
- **Scheduling:** Scheduling method, idle time...

# Running algorithms on quantum hardware

OBP

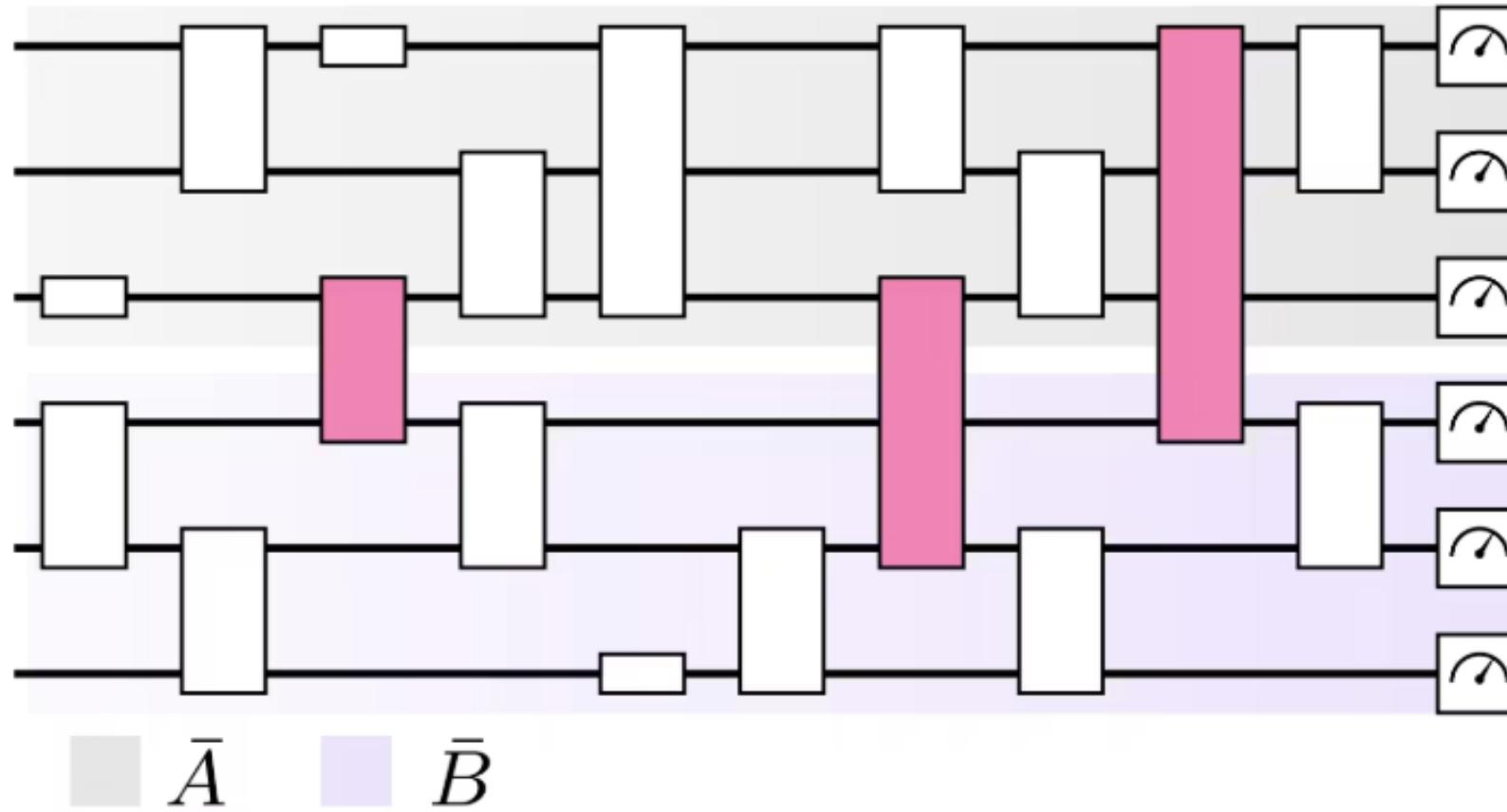
Circuit cutting

Transpiler

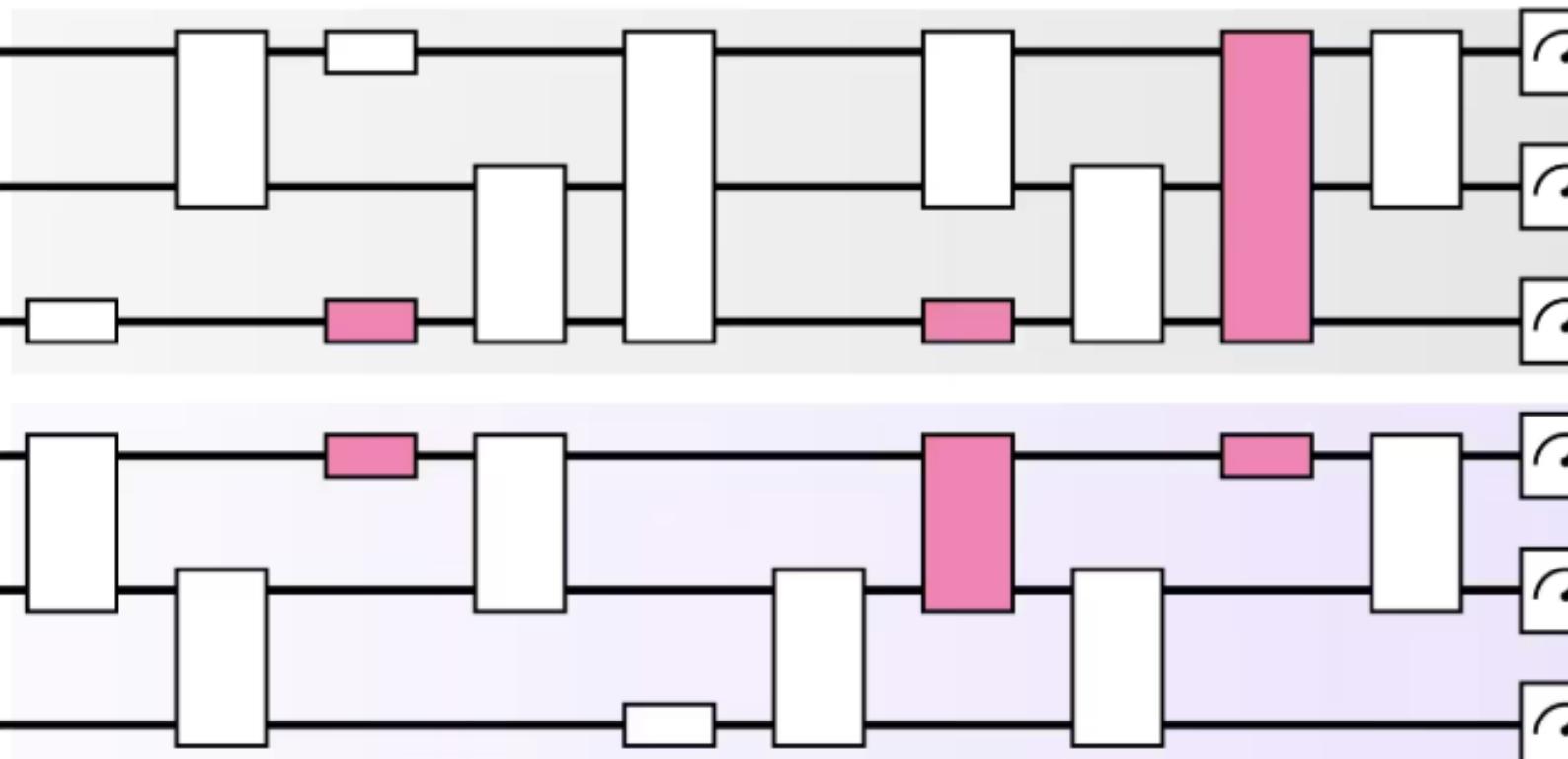
Input:  
Circuits, observable

Output:  
ISA circuit, observable

$\xrightarrow{}$   
2. Optimize



A handful of gates, wires, or both are cut, resulting in smaller circuits that are better suited for execution on hardware.

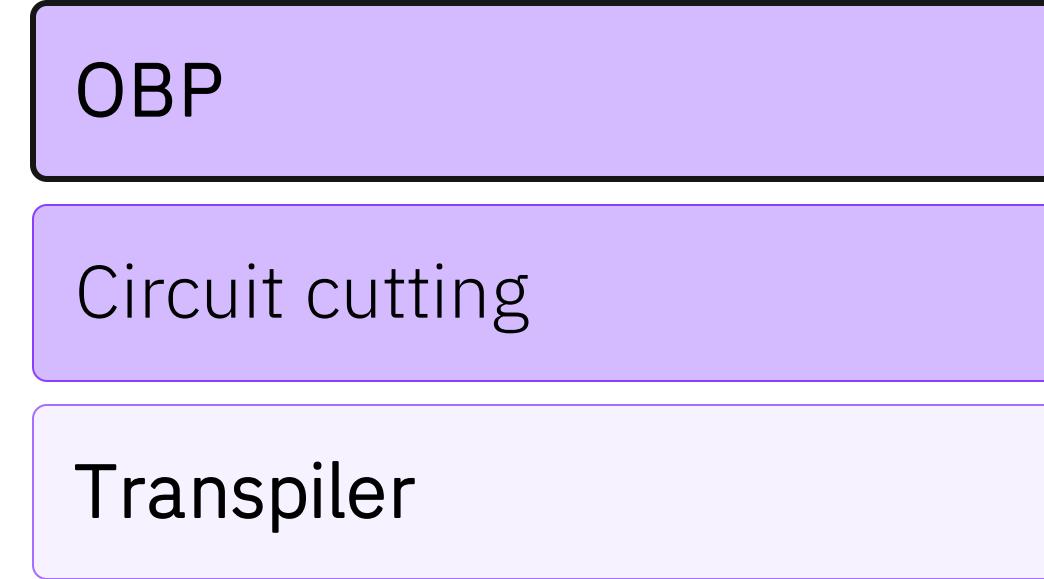


Resulting circuits are executed, and the results are reconstructed through classical post-processing at the cost of increasing the number of shots.

This technique is also used to engineer long-range gates without increasing the 2Q depth.

<https://qiskit.github.io/qiskit-addon-cutting/>

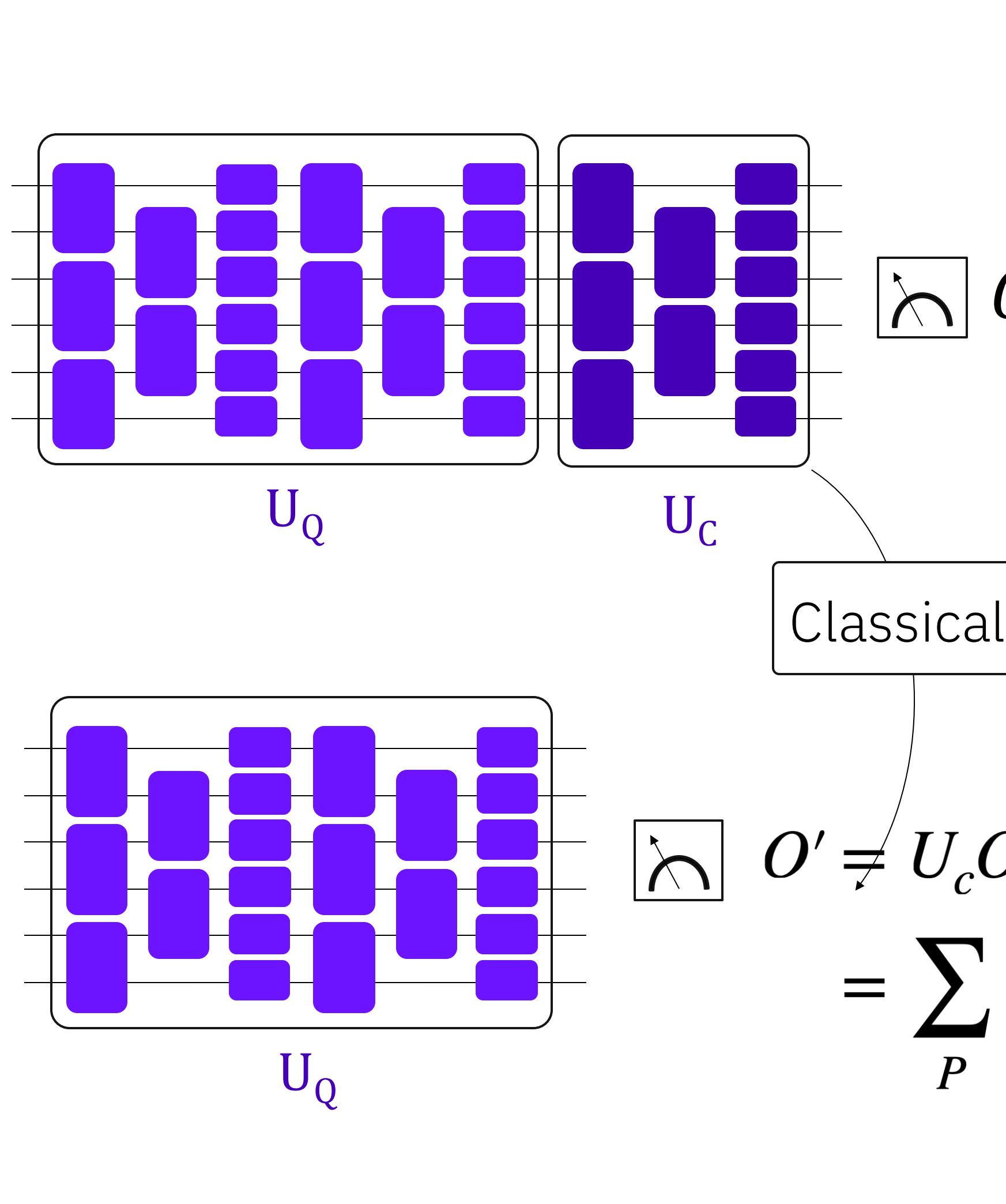
# Running algorithms on quantum hardware



Input:  
Circuits, observable

Output:  
ISA circuit, observable

$\vec{x}$   
2. Optimize



$$\langle \psi | U_Q^\dagger U_C^\dagger O U_C U_Q | \psi \rangle$$

$$\langle \psi | U_Q^\dagger O' U_Q | \psi \rangle$$

Trading reduced circuit depth for  
more observables to measure and  
more classical processing.

[https://qiskit.github.io/  
qiskit-addon-obp/](https://qiskit.github.io/qiskit-addon-obp/)

# Running algorithms on quantum hardware

ES and EM

Primitives

Input:  
ISA circuit, observable

Output:  
Expectation value/samples

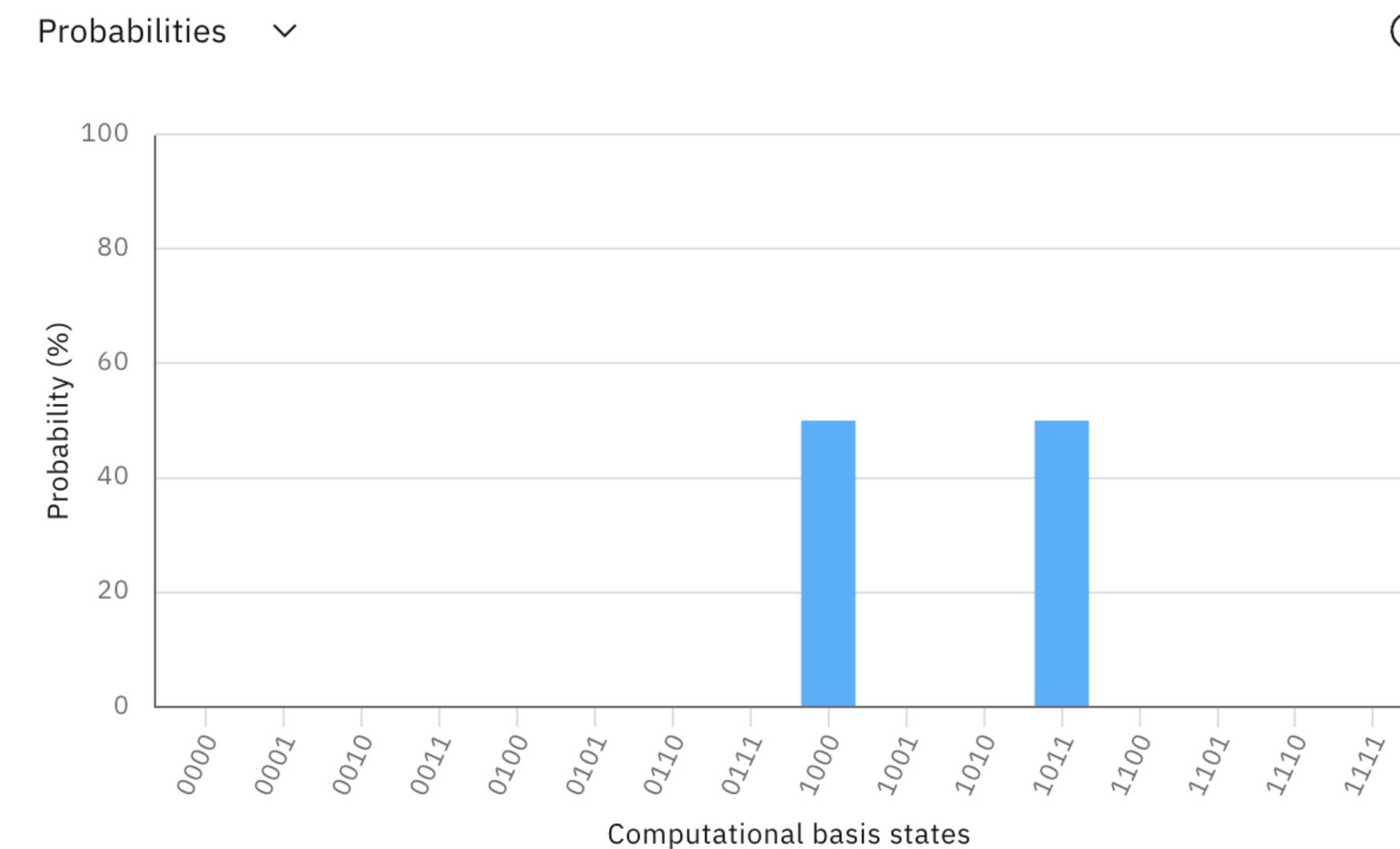
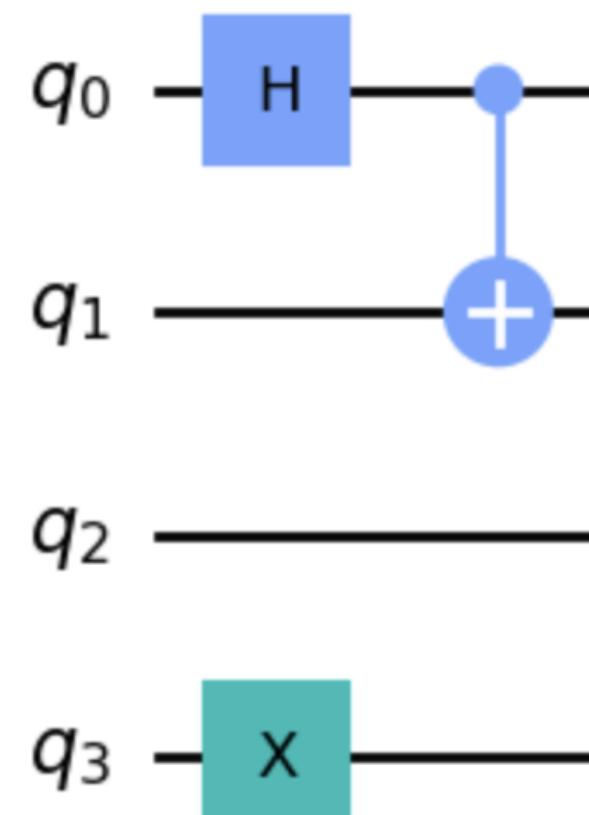


3. Execute

Accessing the output of the quantum circuit

Sampler

Probability of obtaining each basis state by measuring the output of the circuit multiple times.



# Running algorithms on quantum hardware

ES and EM

Primitives

Input:  
ISA circuit, observable

Output:  
Expectation value/samples



3. Execute

Accessing the output of the quantum circuit

Estimator

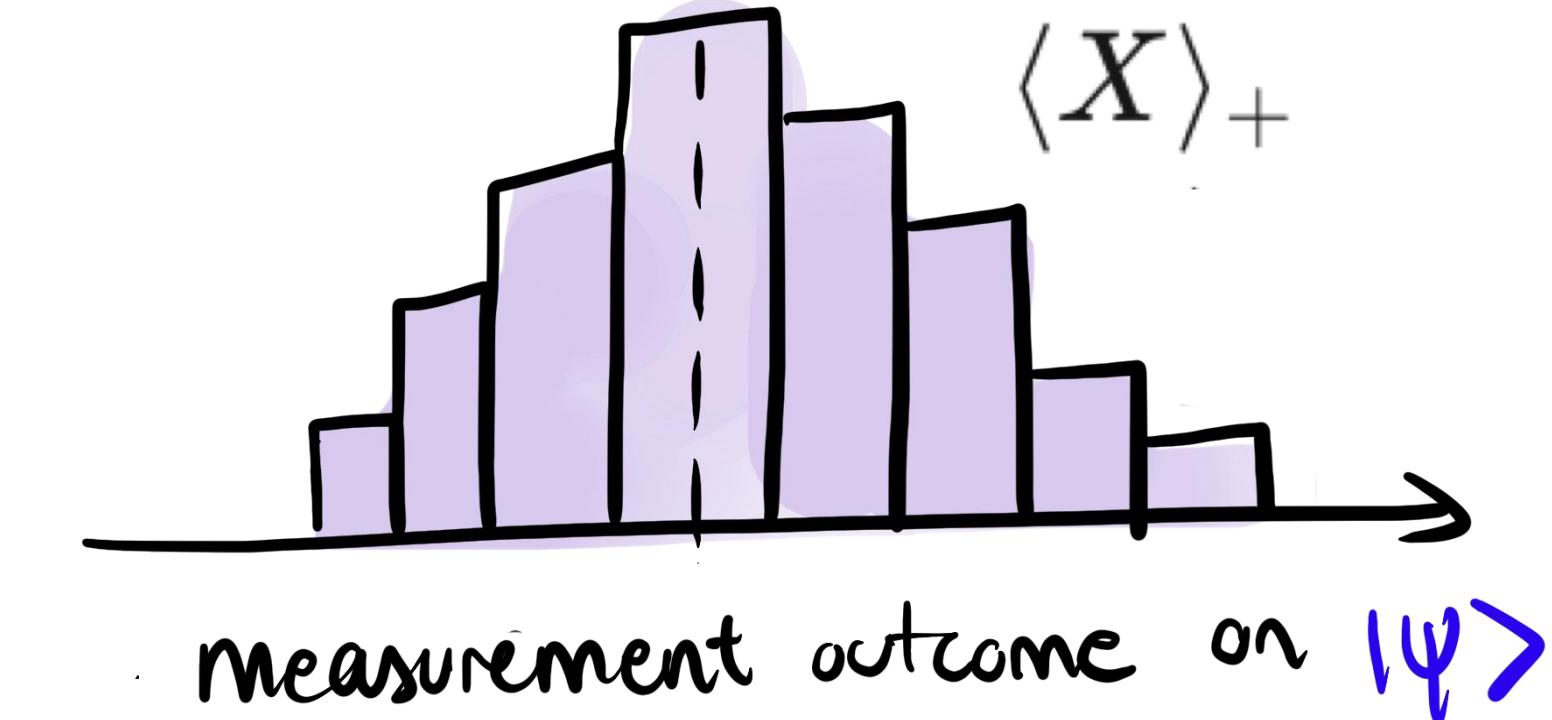
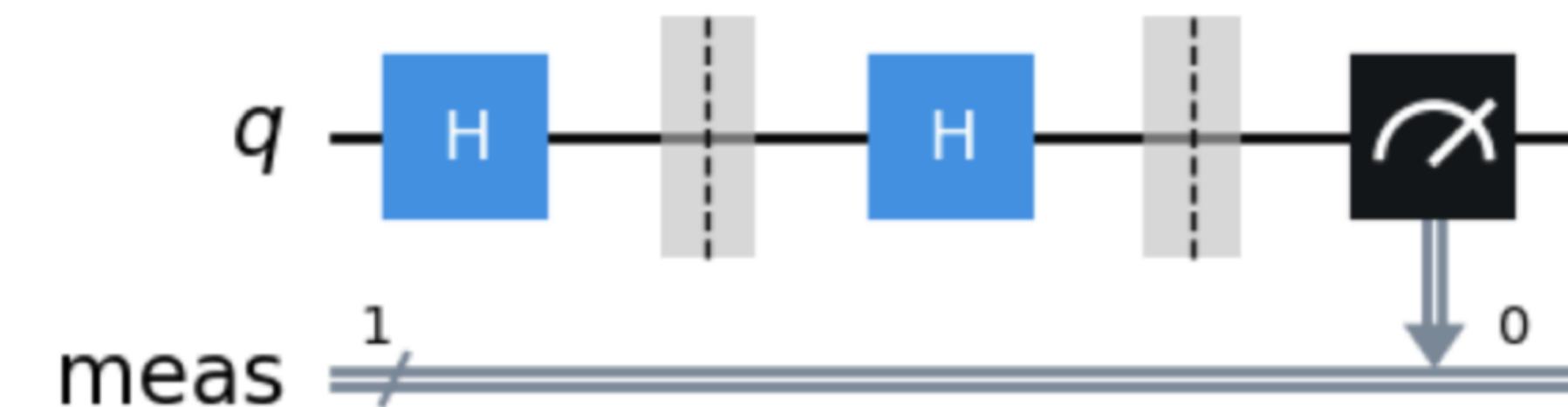
Expectation value of an observable on a real **quantum state** by decomposing the observable into operators with known eigenbases.

$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle + |1\rangle)$$

Quantum state

$$\hat{X} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Observable



# Running algorithms on quantum hardware

ES and EM

Primitives

Input:  
ISA circuit, observable

Output:  
Expectation value/samples



3. Execute

Quantum computers are noisy!

We need ways to recover a better signal:

1. Limit the amount of noise
2. Clean the signal by filtering the noise out

This is accomplished by:

- Run modified noisy quantum computations
- Process collected outputs on a classical computer

The primitives include options to implement **error suppression** and **error mitigation**.

# Running algorithms on quantum hardware

SQD

M3

Quantum info/visualization

Input:

Expectation value/samples

Output:

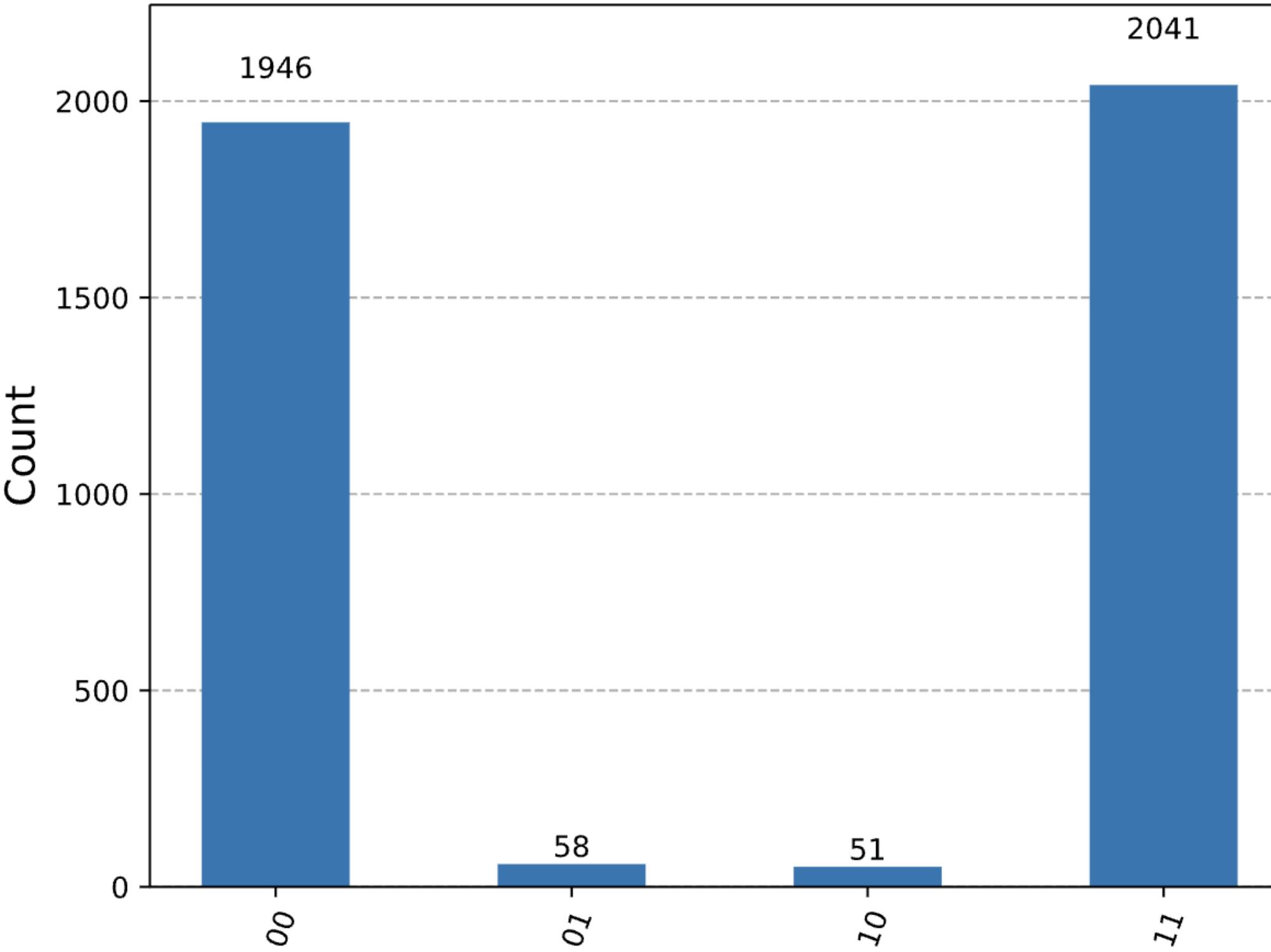
Data objects/visualizations



4. Post-Process

```
plot_histogram(result[0].data.meas.get_counts())
```

Output:



# Running algorithms on quantum hardware

SQD

M3

Quantum info/visualization

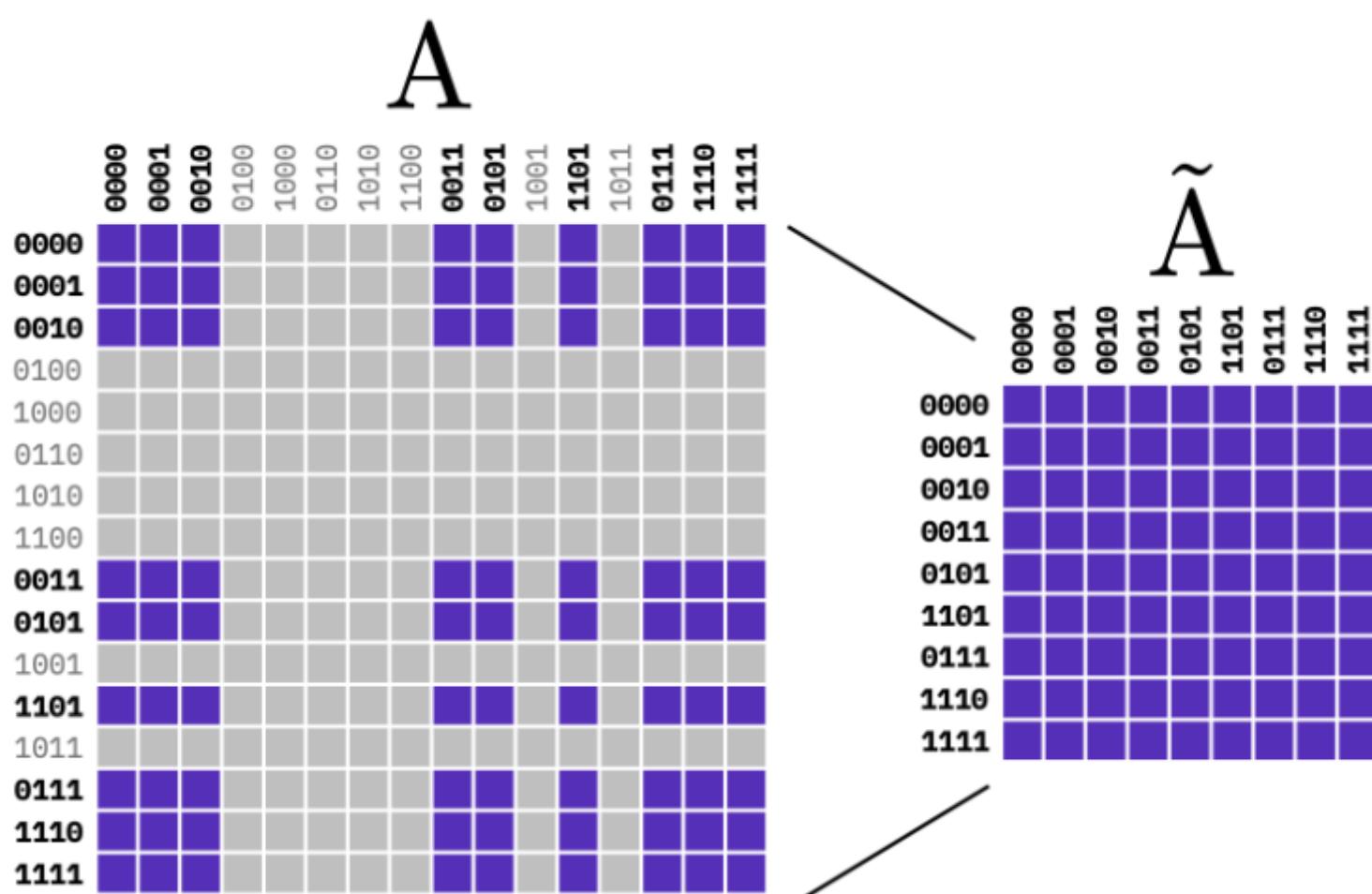
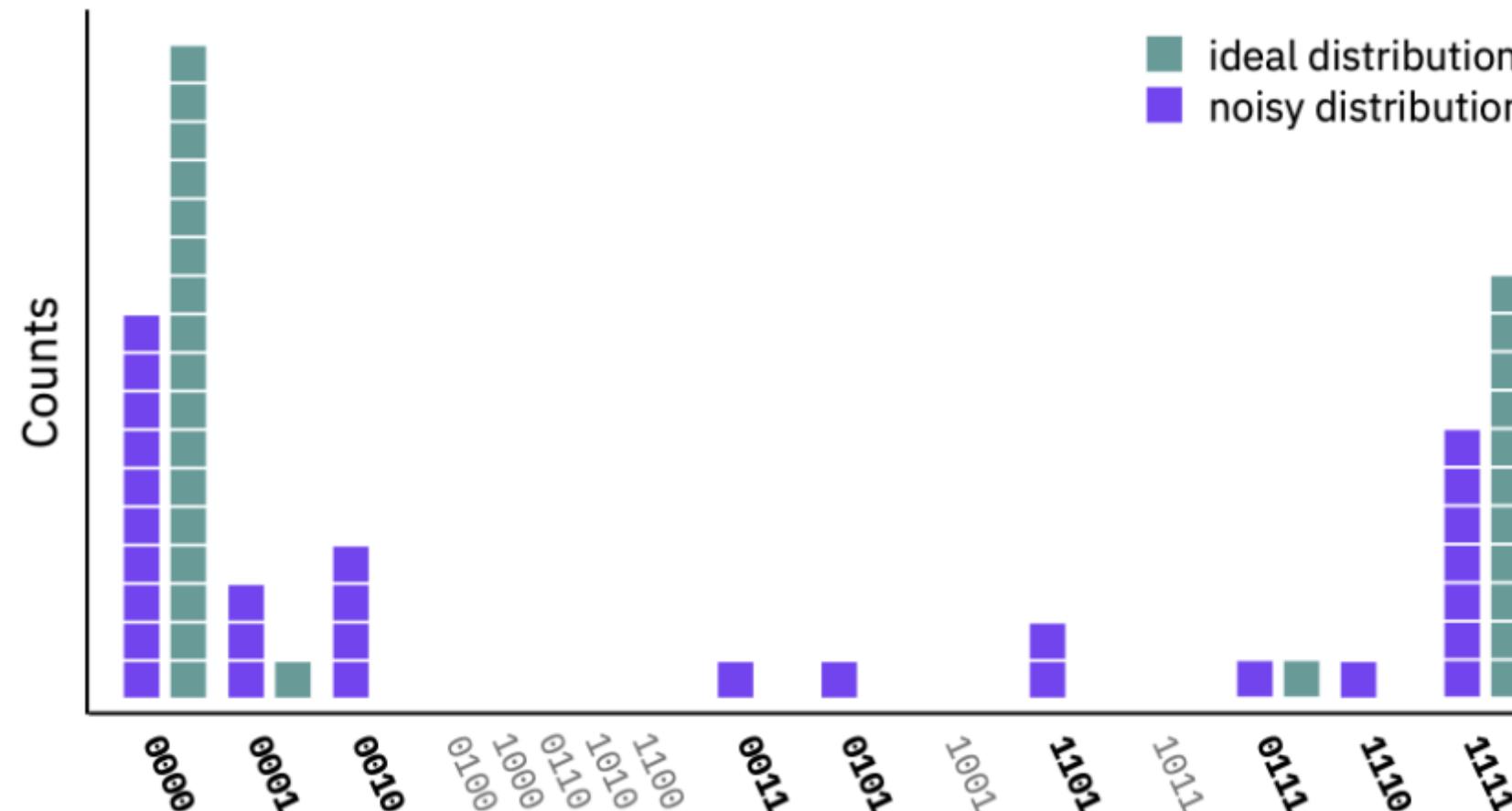
Input:  
Expectation value/samples

Output:  
Data objects/visualizations



4. Post-Process

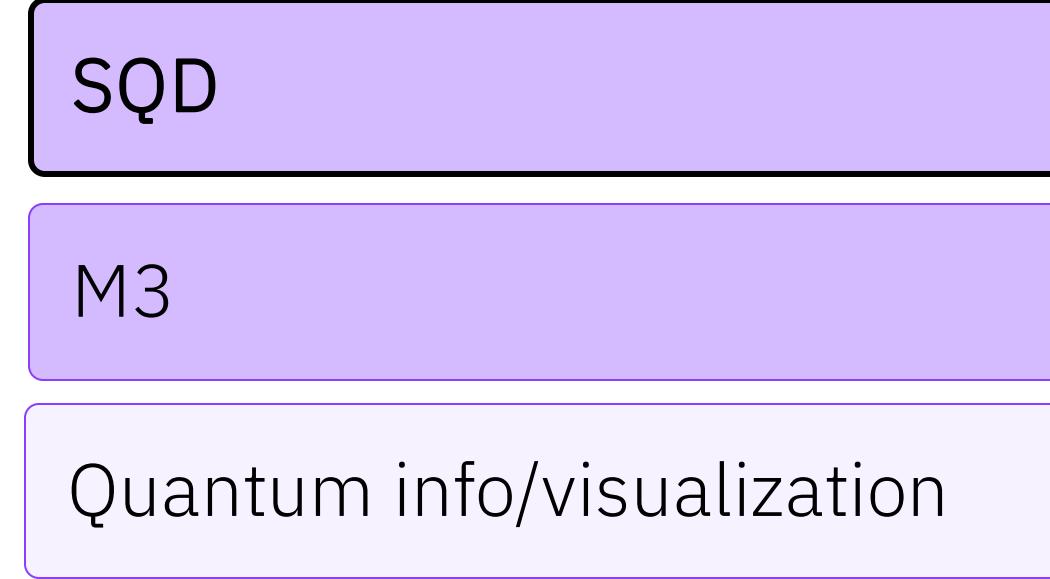
## Matrix-free Measurement Mitigation (M3)



M3 works in a reduced subspace defined by the noisy input bitstrings that are to be corrected. Because the number of unique bitstrings can be much smaller than the dimensionality of the full multi-qubit Hilbert space, the resulting linear system of equations is nominally much easier to solve.

<https://qiskit.github.io/qiskit-addon-mthree/>

# Running algorithms on quantum hardware



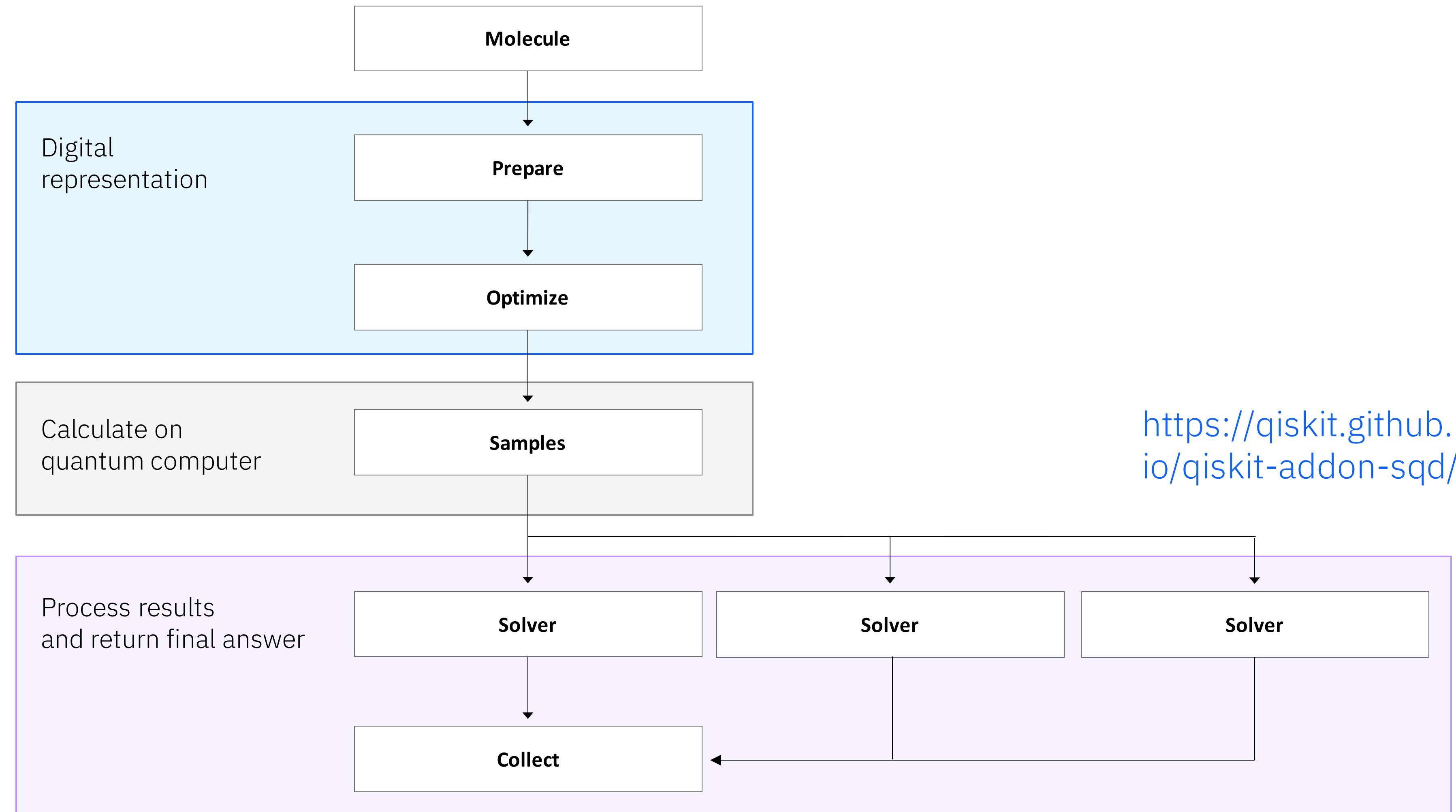
Input:  
Expectation value/samples

Output:  
Data objects/visualizations

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↗  
4. Post-Process

Flow chart of SQD algorithm:

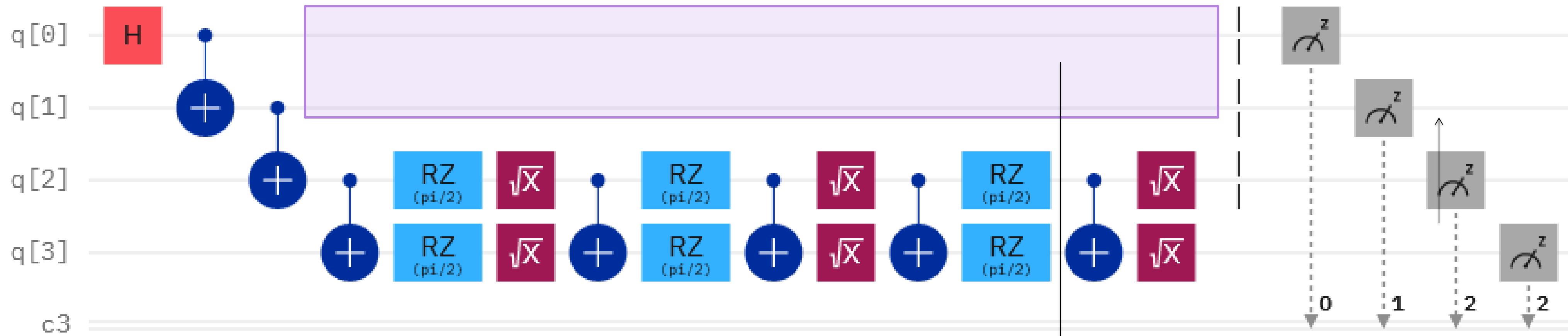


~~Executing on quantum hardware~~



Executing on noisy quantum hardware

# Execution on noisy quantum hardware



ibm\_torino

OpenQASM 3

## Details

133

Qubits

0.8%

EPLG

3.8K

CLOPS

Status: ● Online

Total pending jobs: 43 jobs

Processor type ⓘ: Heron r1

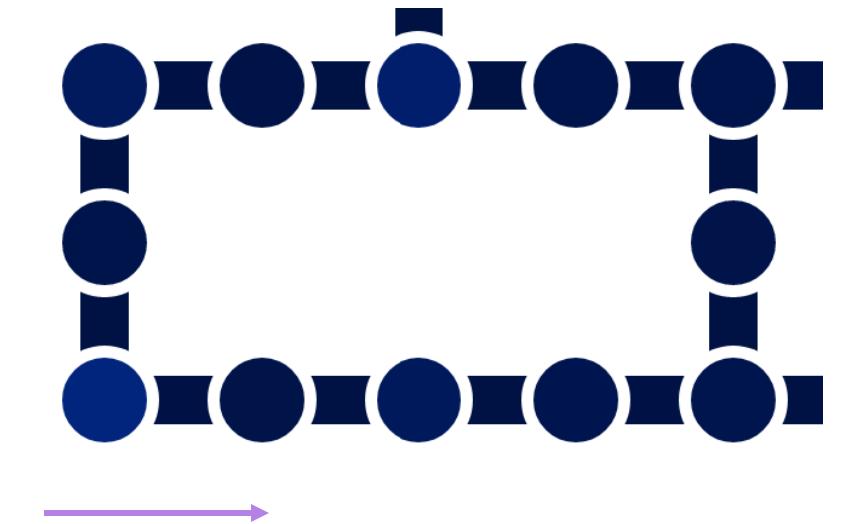
Version: 1.0.16

Basis gates: CZ, ID, RZ, SX, X

Your instance usage: 0 jobs

## Bath/system coupling

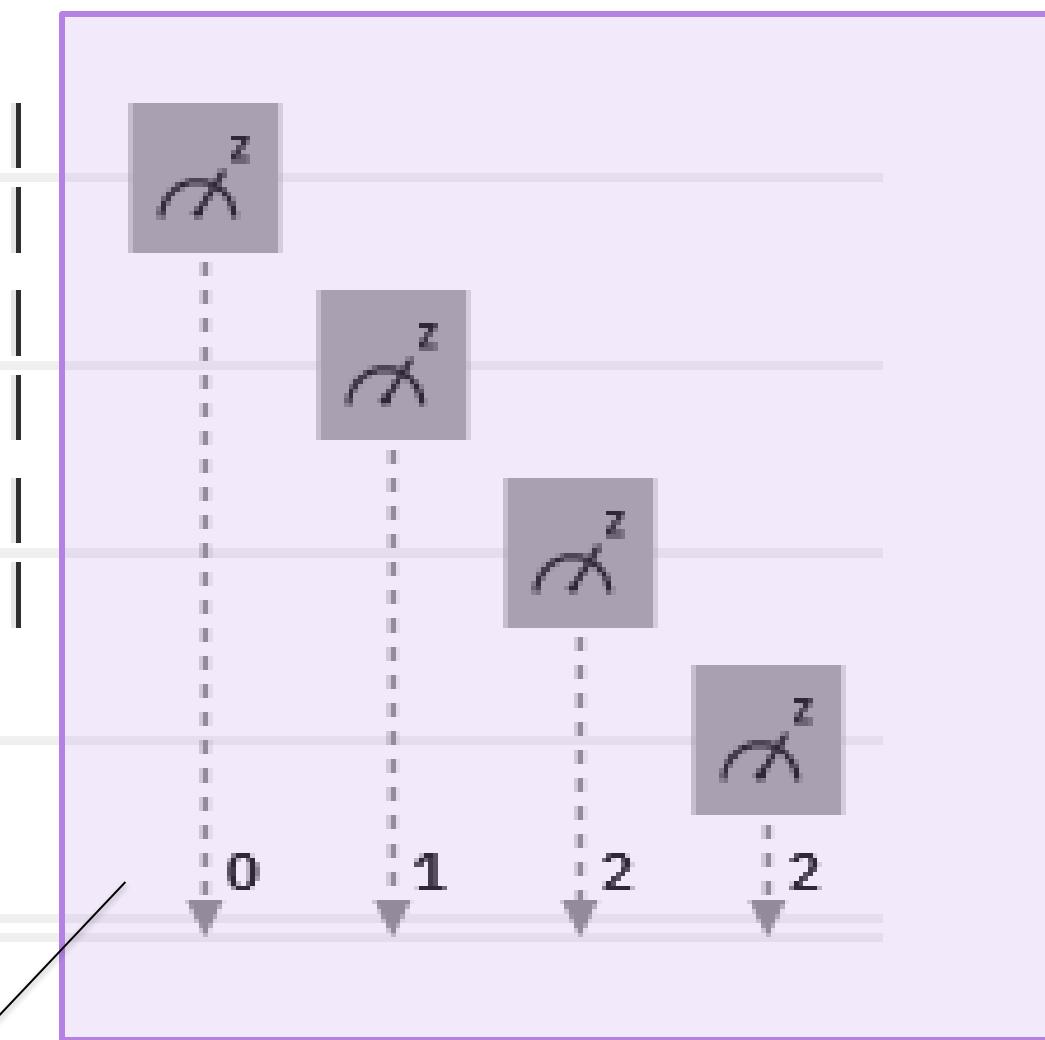
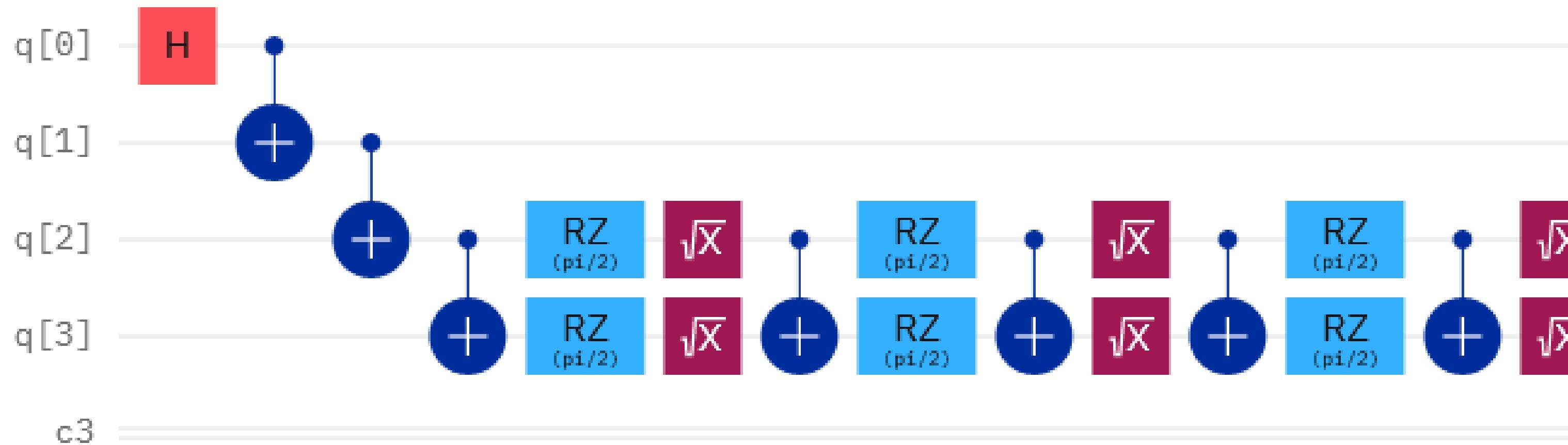
Environmental noise:  
relevant for deep  
sparse circuits



**Decoherence**  
Information  
loss over time.

**Crosstalk**  
Idle qubits interact with their  
neighbors. (Difficult to predict but less  
severe in heron devices!)

# Extracting Accurate Results from Noisy Quantum Hardware



ibm\_torino OpenQASM 3

## Details

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Qubits

0.8%

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Status: ● Online

Total pending jobs: 43 jobs

Processor type ⓘ: Heron r1

Version: 1.0.16

Basis gates: CZ, ID, RZ, SX, X

Your instance usage: 0 jobs

Median CZ error: 4.384e-3

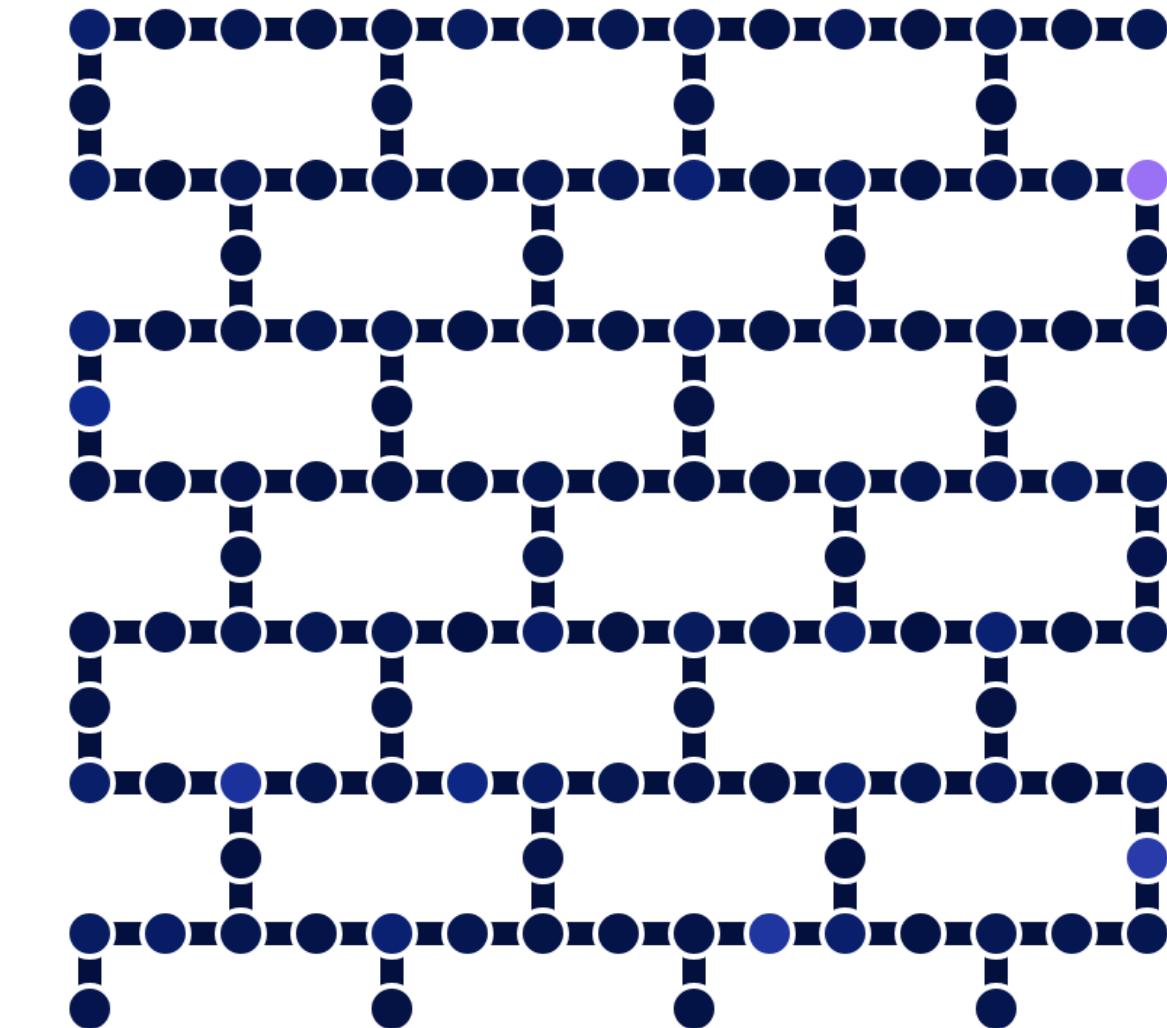
Median SX error: 3.161e-4

Median readout error: 1.770e-2

Median T1: 175.89 us

Median T2: 134.83 us

**Readout errors**  
because of imperfect  
measurements.  
Most important in  
shallow circuits.



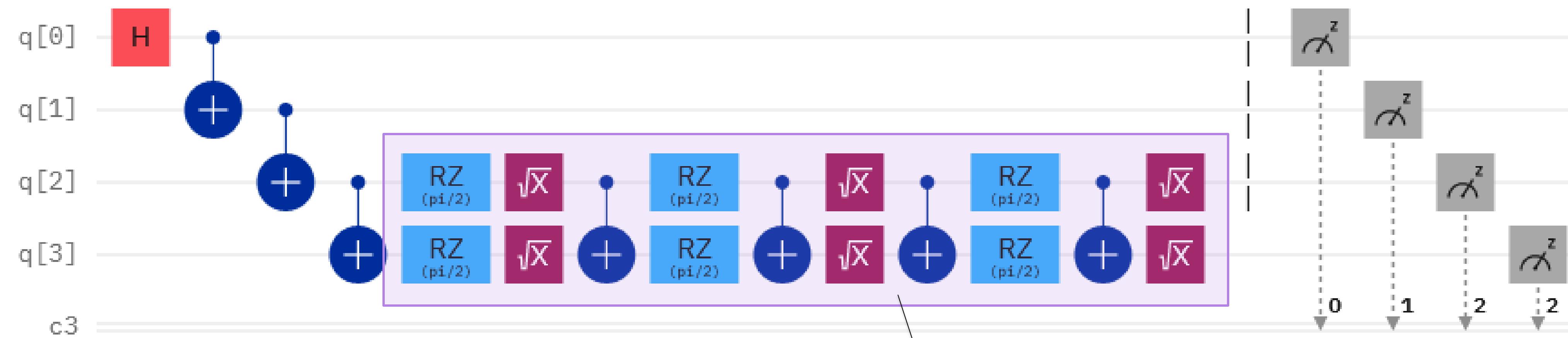
Qubit:

Readout assignment error ▾

Median 1.940e-2

min 3.333e-3 max 4.333e-1

# Extracting Accurate Results from Noisy Quantum Hardware

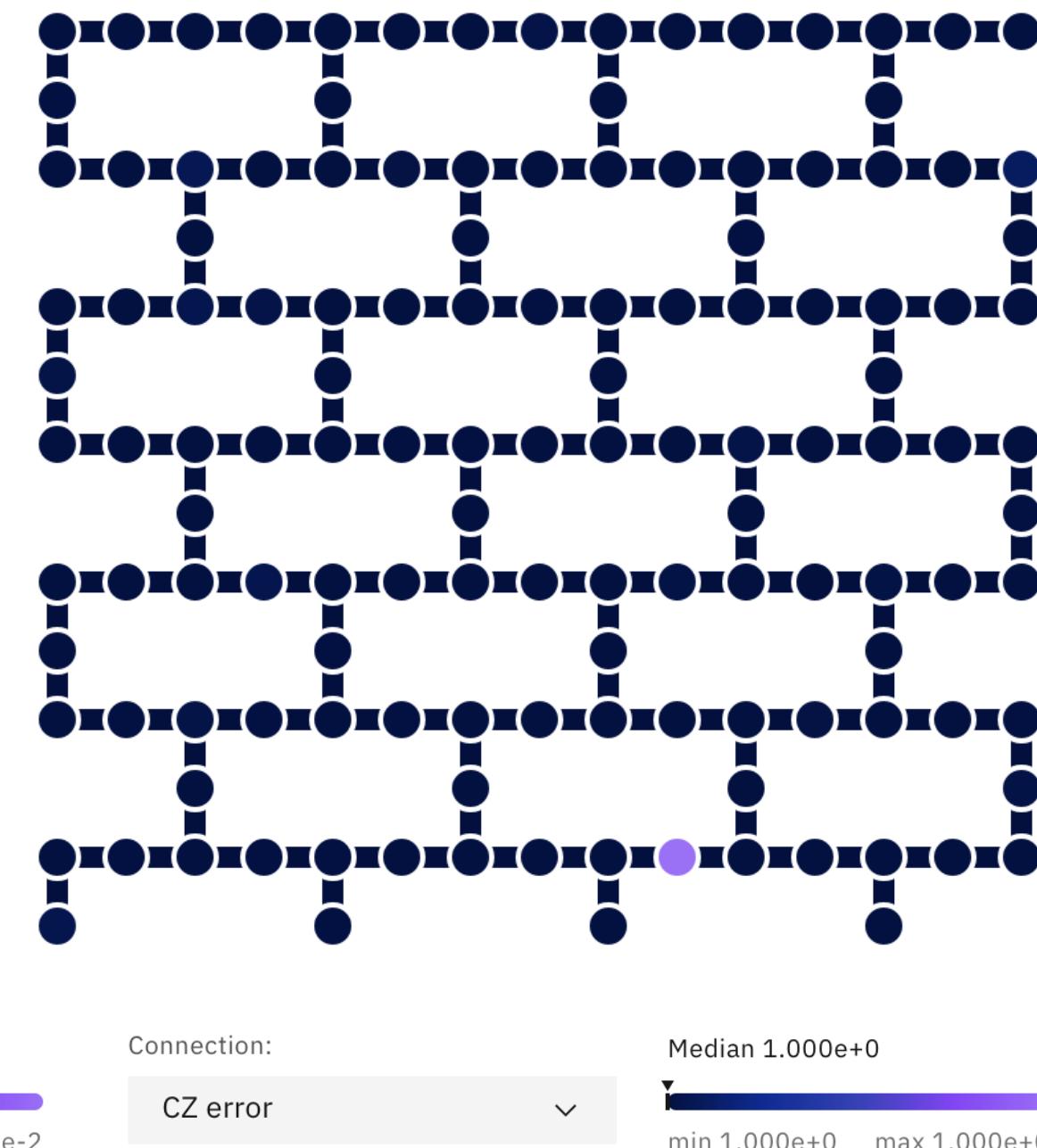
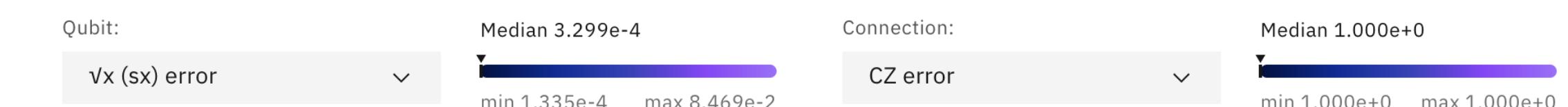


ibm\_torino OpenQASM 3

Details	
133	Status: <span style="color: green;">Online</span>
Qubits	Total pending jobs: 43 jobs
0.8%	Processor type ⓘ: Heron r1
EPLG	Version: 1.0.16
3.8K	Basis gates: CZ, ID, RZ, SX, X
CLOPS	Your instance usage: 0 jobs

## Gate errors

Because of imperfect operations on qubits.  
(Higher for deep dense circuits with many two-qubit gates).



# Extracting Accurate Results from Noisy Quantum Hardware

## Fault tolerance

Error correction builds up redundancies that allow us to detect and correct errors when they occur, leading to essentially error-free logical qubits!

## Before fault tolerance...

Error suppression techniques transform a circuit during compilation to minimize noise.

- Dynamical decoupling (DD)
- Pauli Twirling (PT)

Before or during execution (typically)  
Additional classical resources dominate

Error mitigation techniques reduce circuit errors by modeling the device noise that was present at the time of execution.

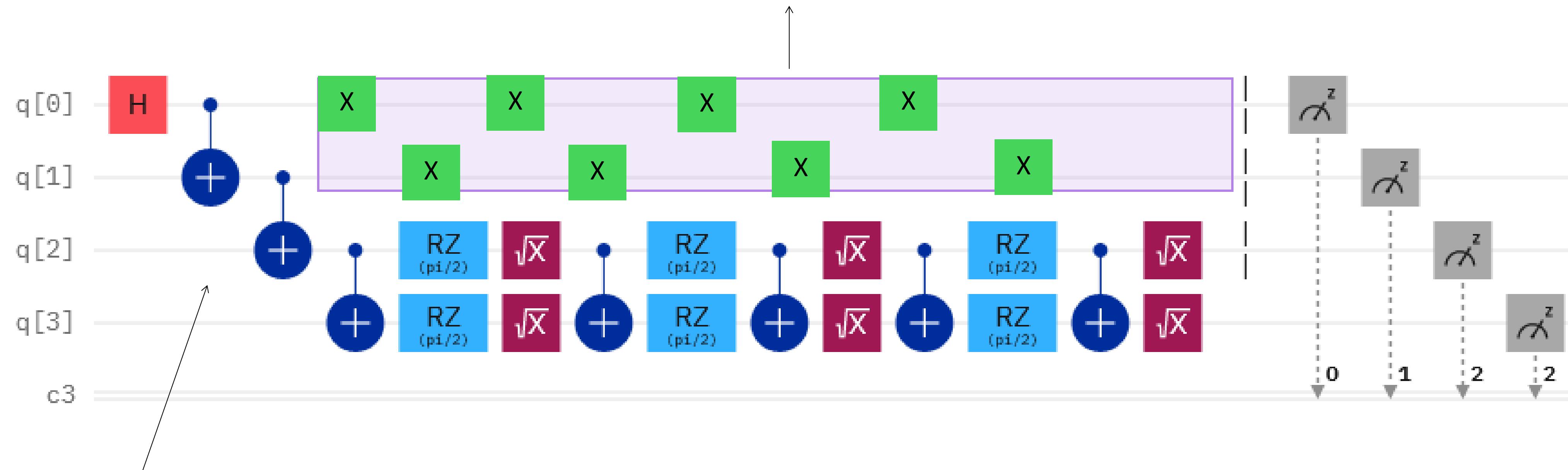
- Twirled Readout Error eXtinction (TREX)
- Zero Noise Extrapolation (ZNE)

After or during execution (typically)  
Additional quantum resources dominate

# Hardware level error suppression

Dynamical decoupling (DD)

Cross talk



No need to apply gates  
to qubits which are not  
initialized.

# Hardware level error suppression – how to implement it?

Choose a backend!

```
from qiskit_ibm_runtime import QiskitRuntimeService  
  
service = QiskitRuntimeService()  
backend = service.least_busy()  
✓ 40.8s
```

Define an object to tweak the options

```
from qiskit_ibm_runtime import SamplerOptions, EstimatorOptions  
  
sampler_options = SamplerOptions(default_shots=1024) #or  
estimator_options = EstimatorOptions(default_shots=1024, optimization_level=0, resilience_level=0)  
✓ 0.0s
```

We will use Sampler or Estimator V2

```
from qiskit_ibm_runtime import SamplerV2, EstimatorV2  
  
sampler = SamplerV2(backend, options=sampler_options)  
estimator = EstimatorV2(backend, options=estimator_options)  
✓ 0.0s
```

Sampler options: [https://docs.quantum.ibm.com/api/qiskit-ibm-runtime/qiskit\\_ibm\\_runtime.options.SamplerOptions](https://docs.quantum.ibm.com/api/qiskit-ibm-runtime/qiskit_ibm_runtime.options.SamplerOptions)

Estimator options: [https://docs.quantum.ibm.com/api/qiskit-ibm-runtime/qiskit\\_ibm\\_runtime.options.EstimatorOptions](https://docs.quantum.ibm.com/api/qiskit-ibm-runtime/qiskit_ibm_runtime.options.EstimatorOptions)

# Hardware level error suppression – Dynamical decoupling

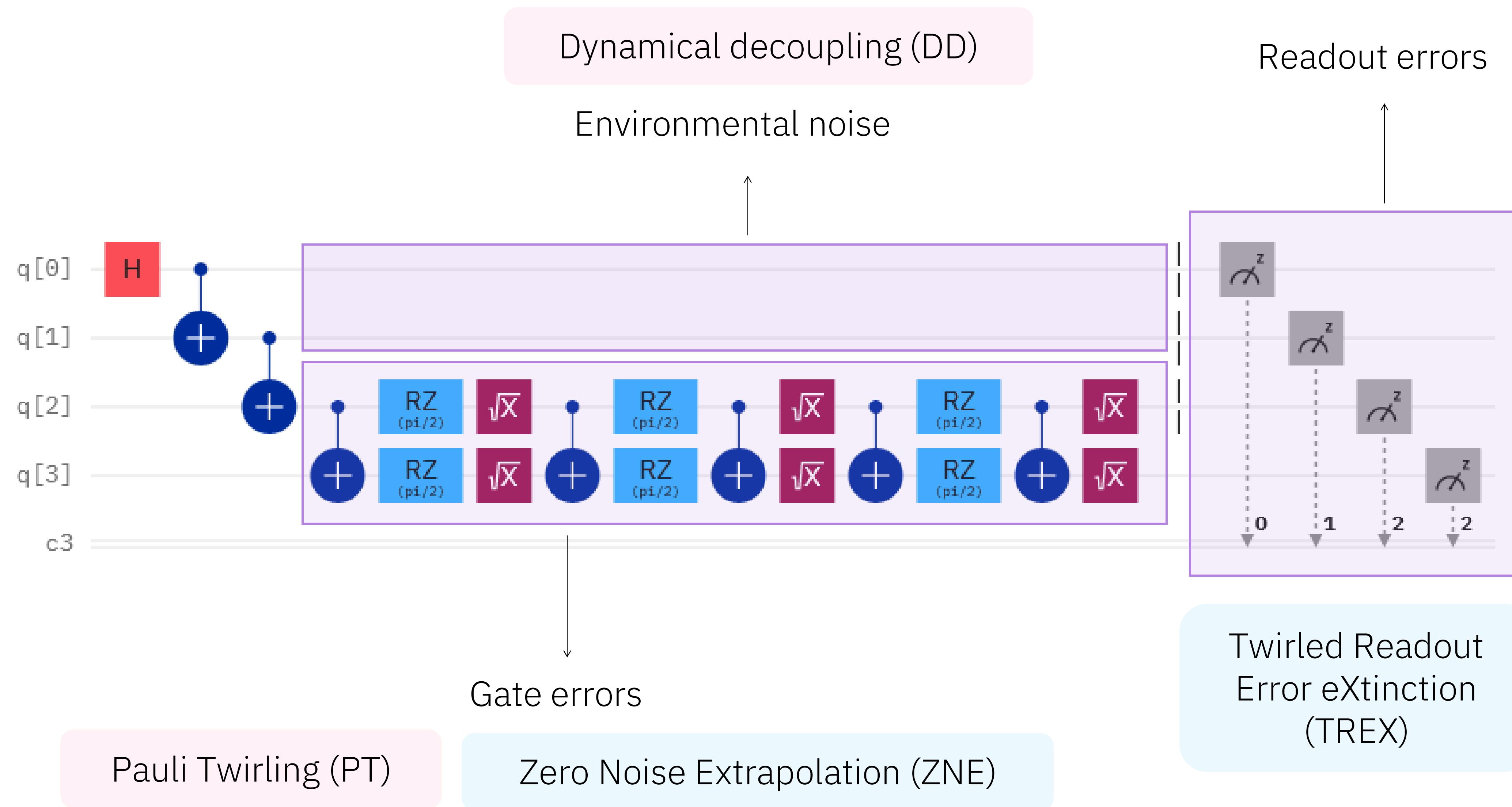
Options	Sub-options	Sub-sub-options	Choices	Default
dynamical_decoupling	enable		True / False	False
	sequence_type		'XX' / 'XpXm' / 'XY4'	'XX'
	extra_slack_distribution		'middle' / 'edges'	'middle'
	scheduling_method		'asap' / 'alap'	'alap'

```
from qiskit_ibm_runtime import SamplerOptions, EstimatorOptions

options = SamplerOptions(default_shots=1024) # or...
options = EstimatorOptions(default_shots=1024, optimization_level=0, resilience_level=0)

## Configure Dynamical Decoupling
options.dynamical_decoupling.enable = True
options.dynamical_decoupling.sequence_type = 'XX'
options.dynamical_decoupling.extra_slack_distribution = 'middle'
options.dynamical_decoupling.scheduling_method = 'alap'
```

# Extracting Accurate Results from Noisy Quantum Hardware



~~Executing on quantum hardware~~



Executing on noisy quantum hardware

Noise manipulation and characterization:

- Pauli Twirling
- Noise learner

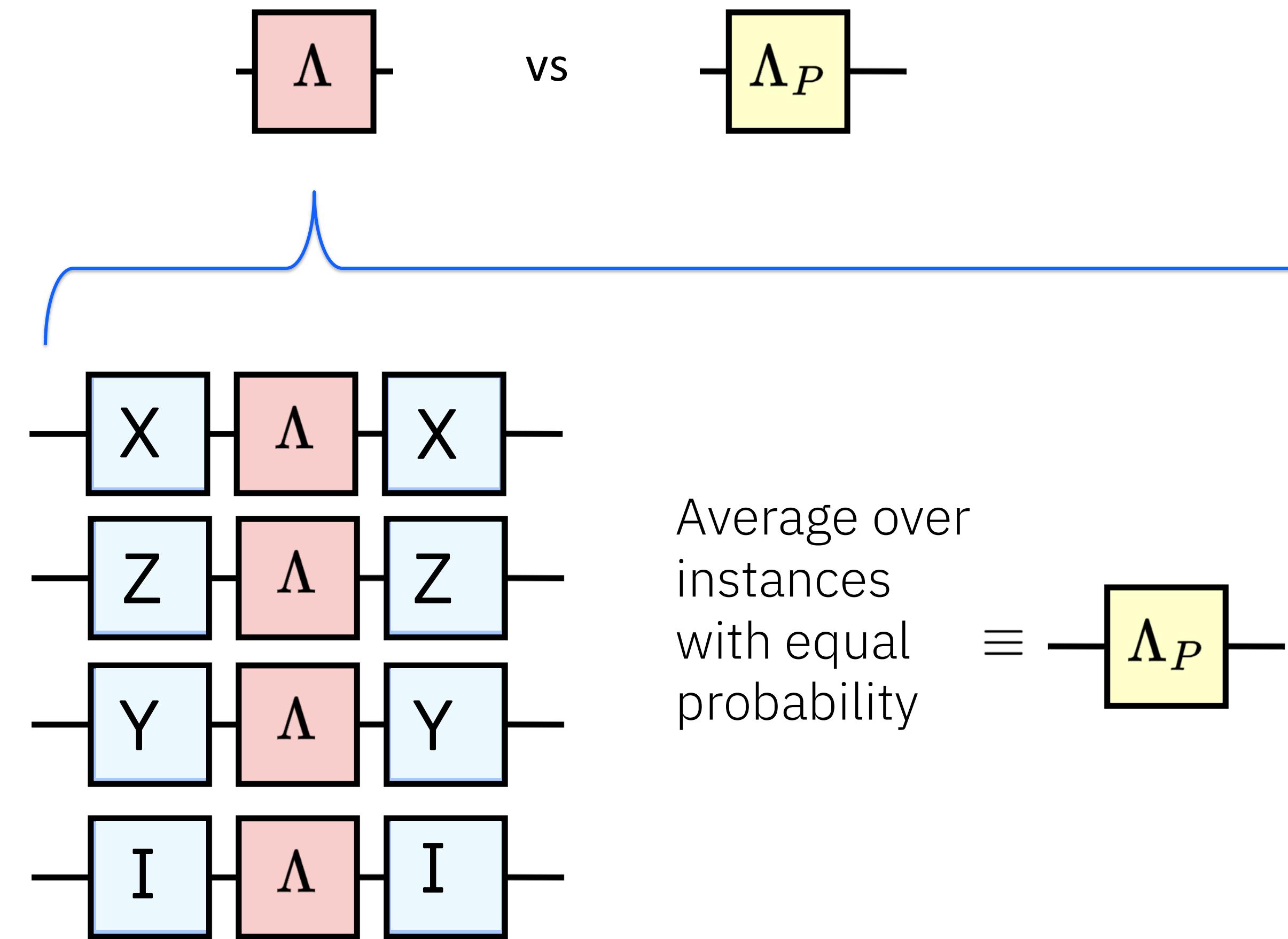
+ benchmarking and calibration

# Noise characterization and manipulation

## Pauli Twirling

Arbitrary noise channels  
can be converted into  
Pauli noise.

Pauli noise accumulates  
linearly, in contrast to coherent  
noise, which accumulates  
quadratically!

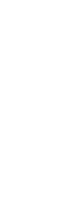
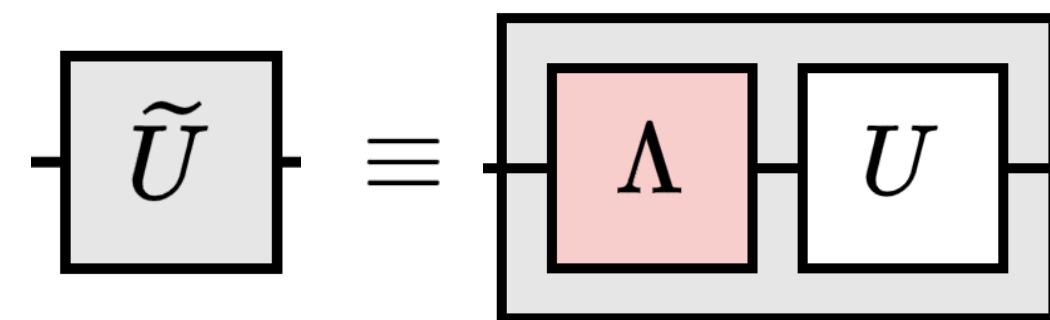


# Noise characterization and manipulation

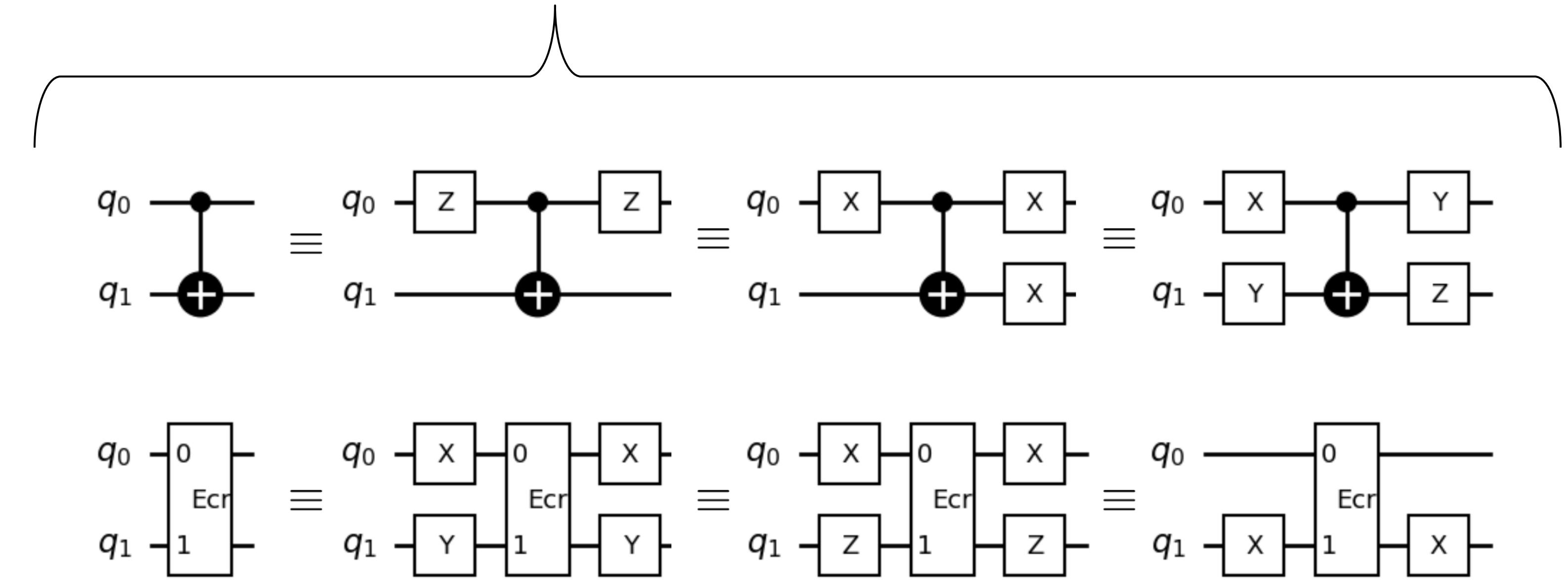
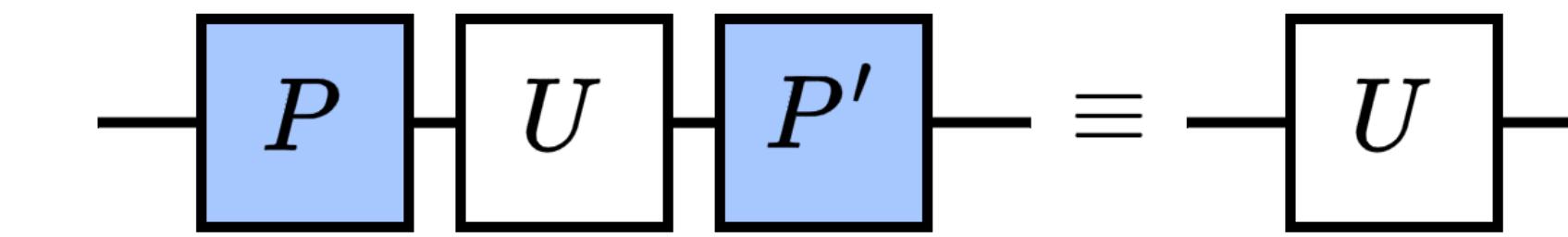
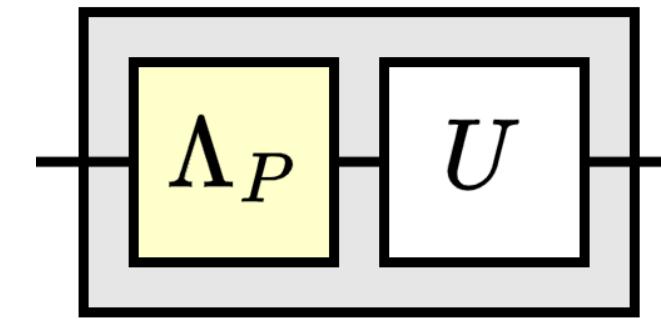
## Pauli Twirling

We can consider **noisy gates** to be associated to a noisy channel  $\Lambda$ .

Arbitrary quantum channel



Pauli channel



# Noise characterization and manipulation

## Pauli Twirling

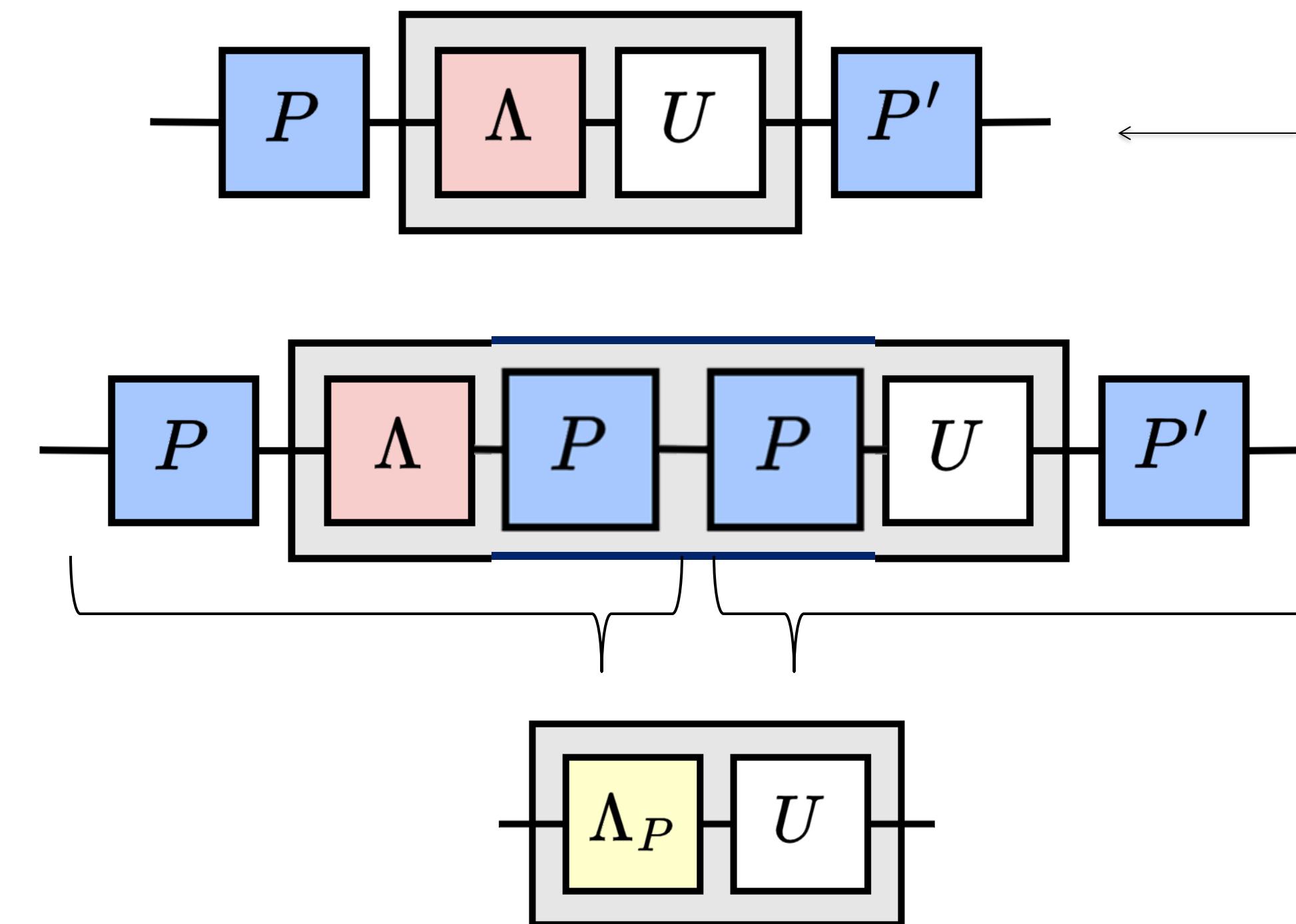
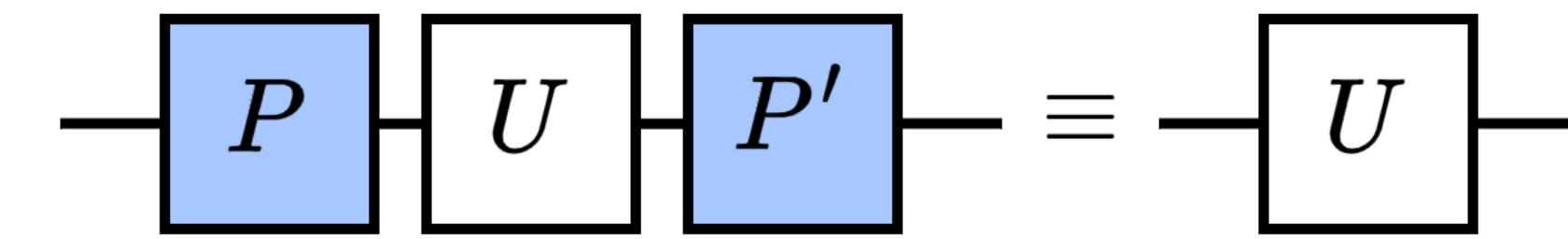
We can consider **noisy gates** to be associated to a noisy channel  $\Lambda$ .

Arbitrary quantum channel

$$\tilde{U} = \begin{array}{c} \boxed{\Lambda} \\ \hline \boxed{U} \end{array}$$

↓  
Pauli channel

$$\begin{array}{c} \boxed{\Lambda_P} \\ \hline \boxed{U} \end{array}$$



Average over random instances from the set of possible combinations

# Noise characterization and manipulation

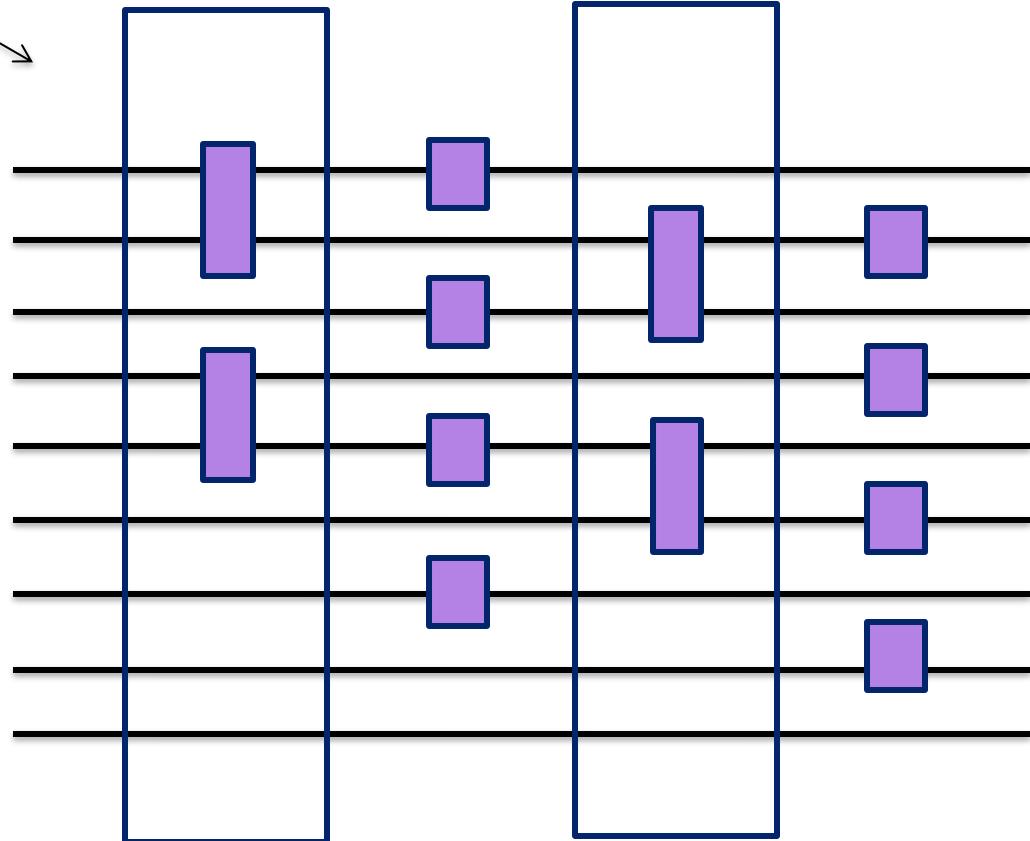
## Pauli Twirling

Options	Sub-options	Sub-sub-options	Choices	Default
twirling	enable_gates		True/False	False
	enable_measure		True/False	True
	num_randomizations			'auto'
	shots_per_randomization			'auto'
	strategy		'active'/ 'active-circuit'/ 'active-accum'/ 'all'	'active-accum'

```
from qiskit_ibm_runtime import SamplerOptions, EstimatorOptions

options = SamplerOptions(default_shots=1024) # or...
options = EstimatorOptions(default_shots=1024, optimization_level=0, resilience_level=0)

## Configure Twirling
options.twirling.enable_gates = True
options.twirling.enable_measure = False
options.twirling.num_randomizations = 'auto'
options.twirling.shots_per_randomization = 'auto'
options.twirling.strategy = 'active-accum'
```



[https://docs.quantum.ibm.com/api/qiskit-ibm-runtime/qiskit\\_ibm\\_runtime.options.TwirlingOptions](https://docs.quantum.ibm.com/api/qiskit-ibm-runtime/qiskit_ibm_runtime.options.TwirlingOptions)

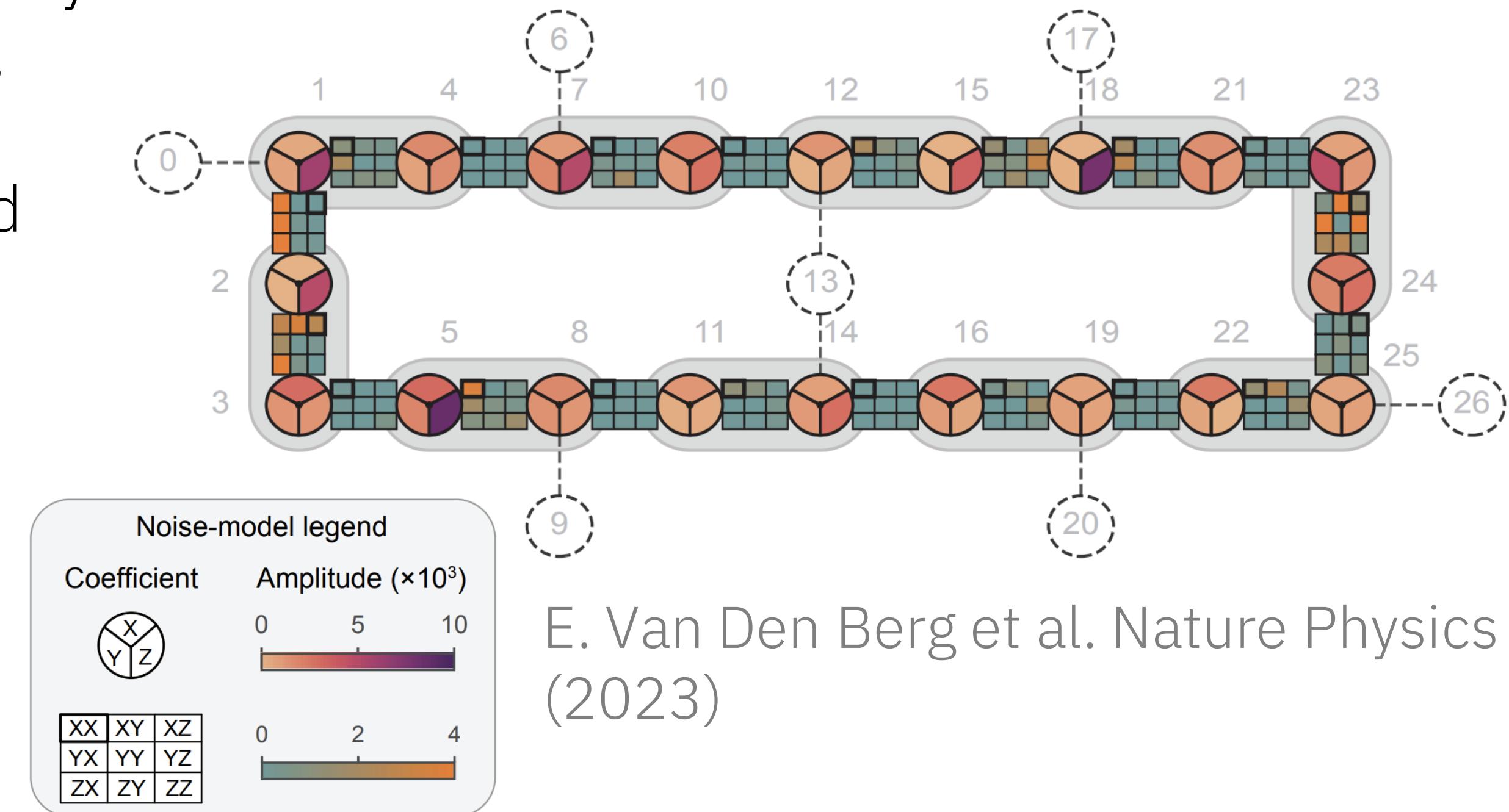
# Noise characterization and manipulation

## Noise learner

- We can use the [noise learner](#) to characterize the noise affecting the 2Q gate layers in a given circuit.
- It learns the noise assuming a sparse Pauli-Lindblad noise model.

The parameters of the resulting model scale linearly with the number of qubits, therefore the model is efficiently represented and easy to learn.

**Caveat:** The learning requires more circuit executions and therefore adds overhead!



E. Van Den Berg et al. Nature Physics (2023)

# Noise characterization and manipulation

## Noise learner

```
from qiskit_ibm_runtime.noise_learner import NoiseLearner
from qiskit_ibm_runtime.options import NoiseLearnerOptions

# set the options
options = NoiseLearnerOptions()
options.layer_pair_depths = [0, 1, 2, 4, 16, 32]
options.max_layers_to_learn = 4
options.num_randomizations = 32
options.shots_per_randomization = 128
options.twirling_strategy = "active-accum"

# run the noise learner job
learner = NoiseLearner(backend, options)
job = learner.run(circuits)
```

~~Executing on quantum hardware~~



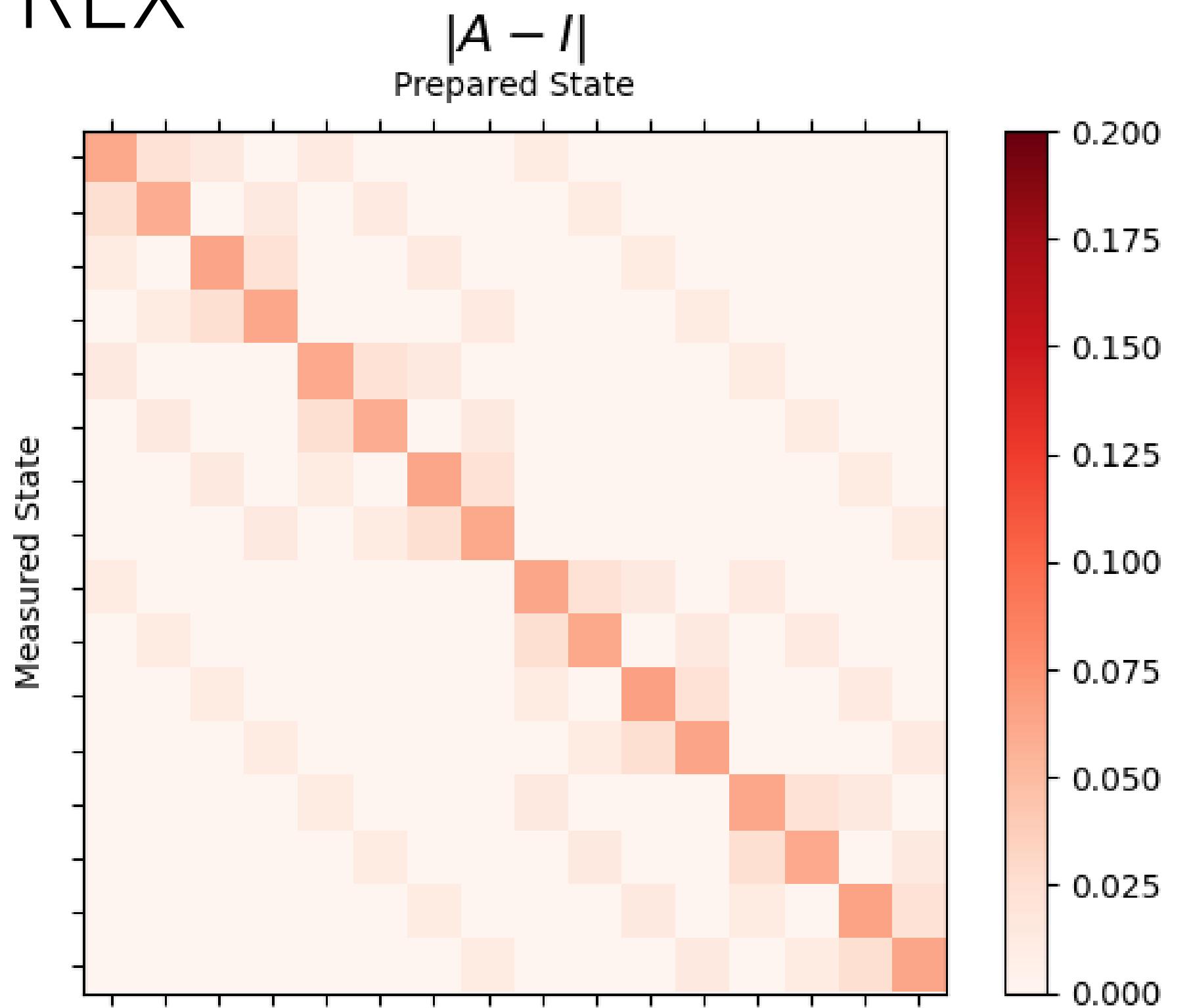
Executing on noisy quantum hardware

Undoing the effect of noise:

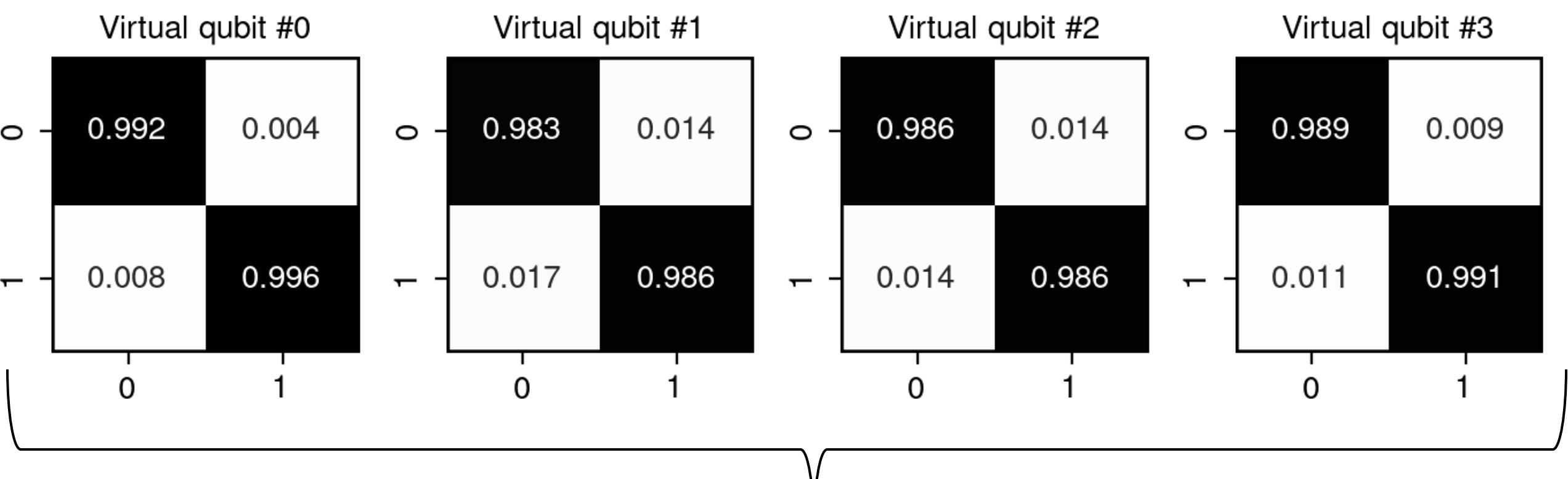
- TREX
- Zero Noise Extrapolation (ZNE/PEA)
- Probabilistic Error Cancellation (PEC)

# Undoing the effect of noise

TREX



In scenarios when the noise is not correlated between qubits, measurement errors can be measured per qubit and the full transfer matrix is then reconstructed as a tensor product.



$2^N \times 2^N$

**Readouts errors** cause the wrong states to be measured. This is depicted in the readout-error transfer matrix.

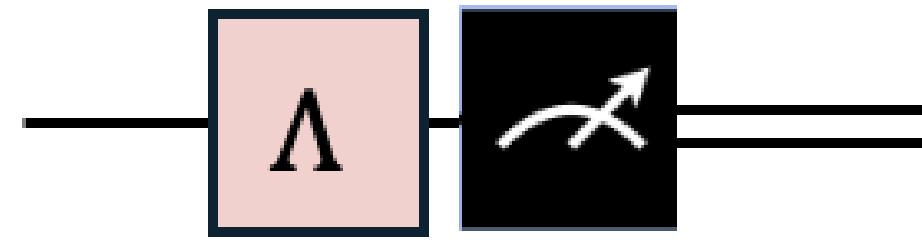
The inverse of the transfer matrix can be used for error mitigation, but it cannot be obtained efficiently in general!

# Undoing the effect of noise

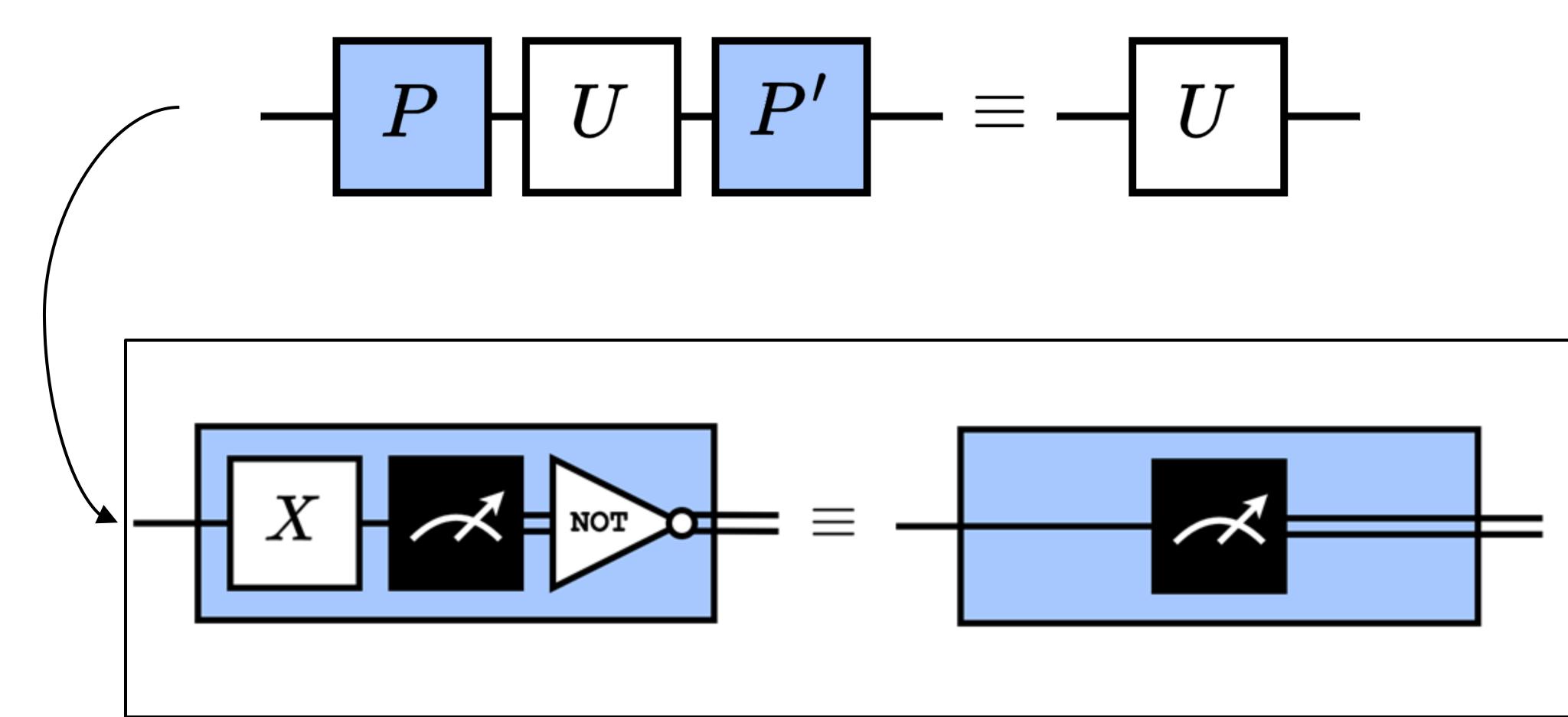
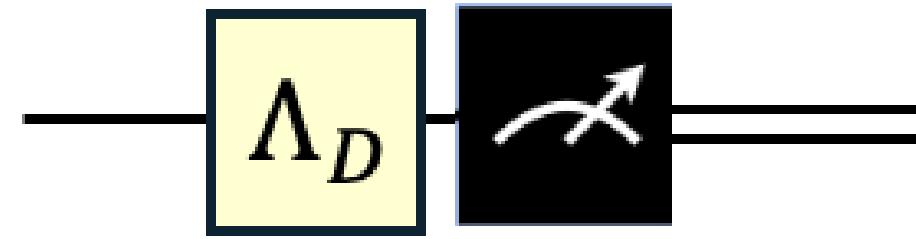
TREX

Via measurement twirling  
we can diagonalize the  
readout-error transfer  
matrix.

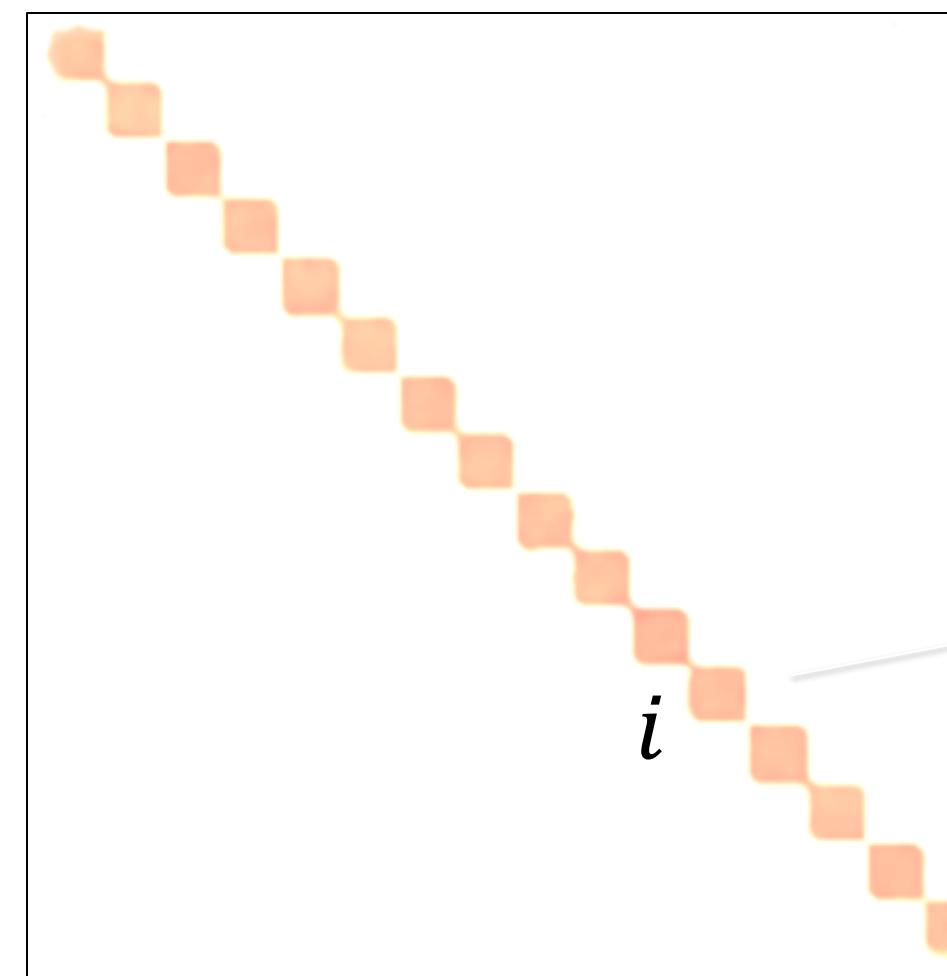
Arbitrary transfer matrix



Diagonal transfer matrix



Average over random  
bitflips that are undone  
in classical  
postprocessing.



Then, we need to run  
calibration circuits to  
get the inverse of the  
(diagonal) readout  
error transfer matrix.

$$\langle o_i \rangle = \frac{\langle \tilde{o}_i \rangle}{E_i}$$

Only valid for  
expectation values!

# Undoing the effect of noise

## TREX

Options	Sub-options	Sub-sub-options	Choices	Default
resilience	measure_mitigation		True/False	True
	measure_noise_learning	num_randomizations		32
		shots_per_randomization		'auto'

```
from qiskit_ibm_runtime import EstimatorOptions

options = EstimatorOptions(default_shots=1024, optimization_level=0, resilience_level=0)

## Configure TREX
options.resilience.measure_mitigation = True
options.resilience.measure_noise_learning.num_randomizations = 32
options.resilience.measure_noise_learning.shots_per_randomization = 'auto'

options.twirling.enable_measure = True # Automatically set by TREX
```

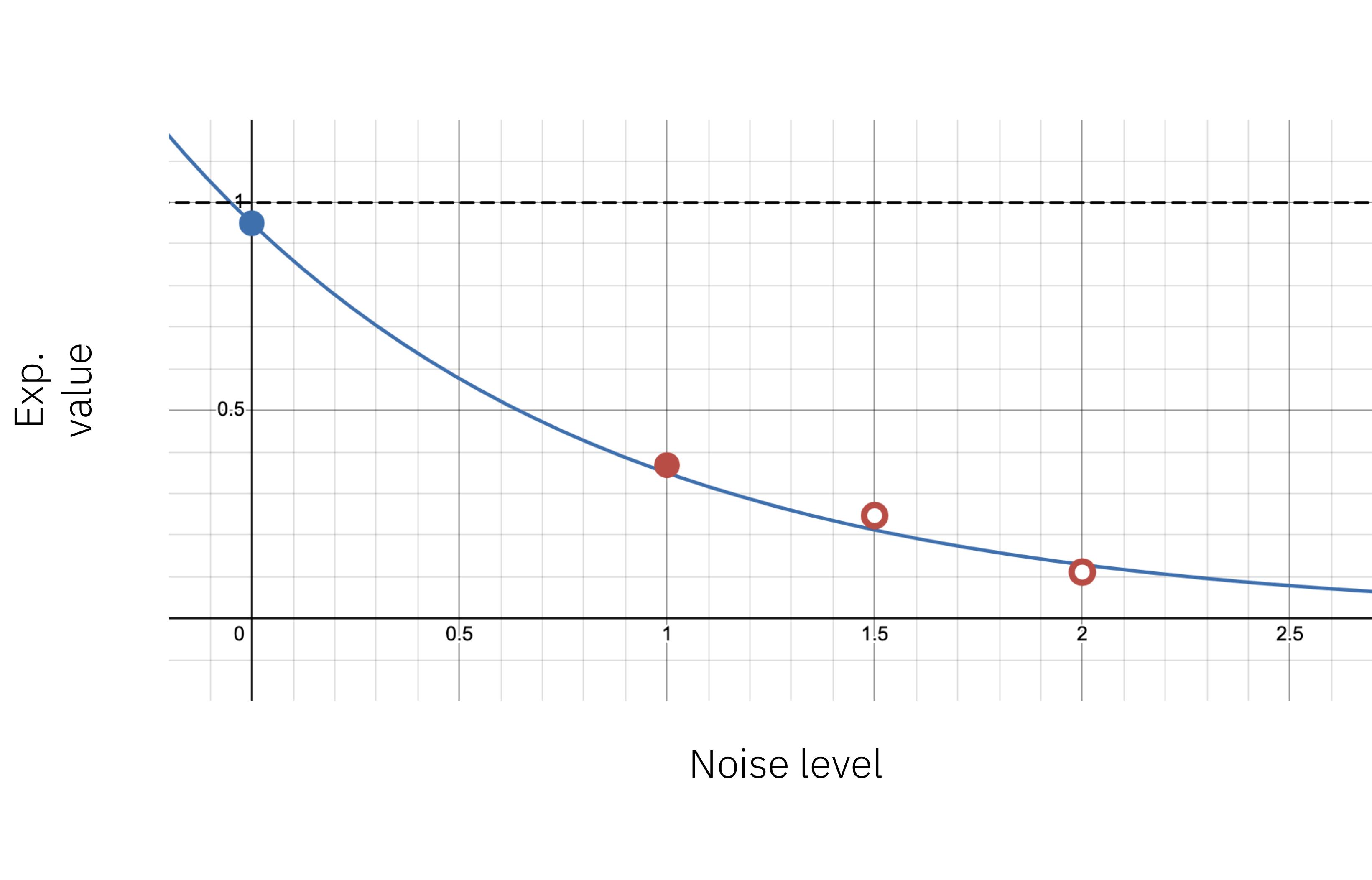
# Undoing the effect of noise

ZNE

Measures the effects of amplified noise to infer what the results would look like in the absence of noise.

1. **Noise amplification:**  
the original circuit unitary is executed at different levels of noise.

2. **Extrapolation:**  
the zero-noise limit is inferred from the noisy expectation-value results.



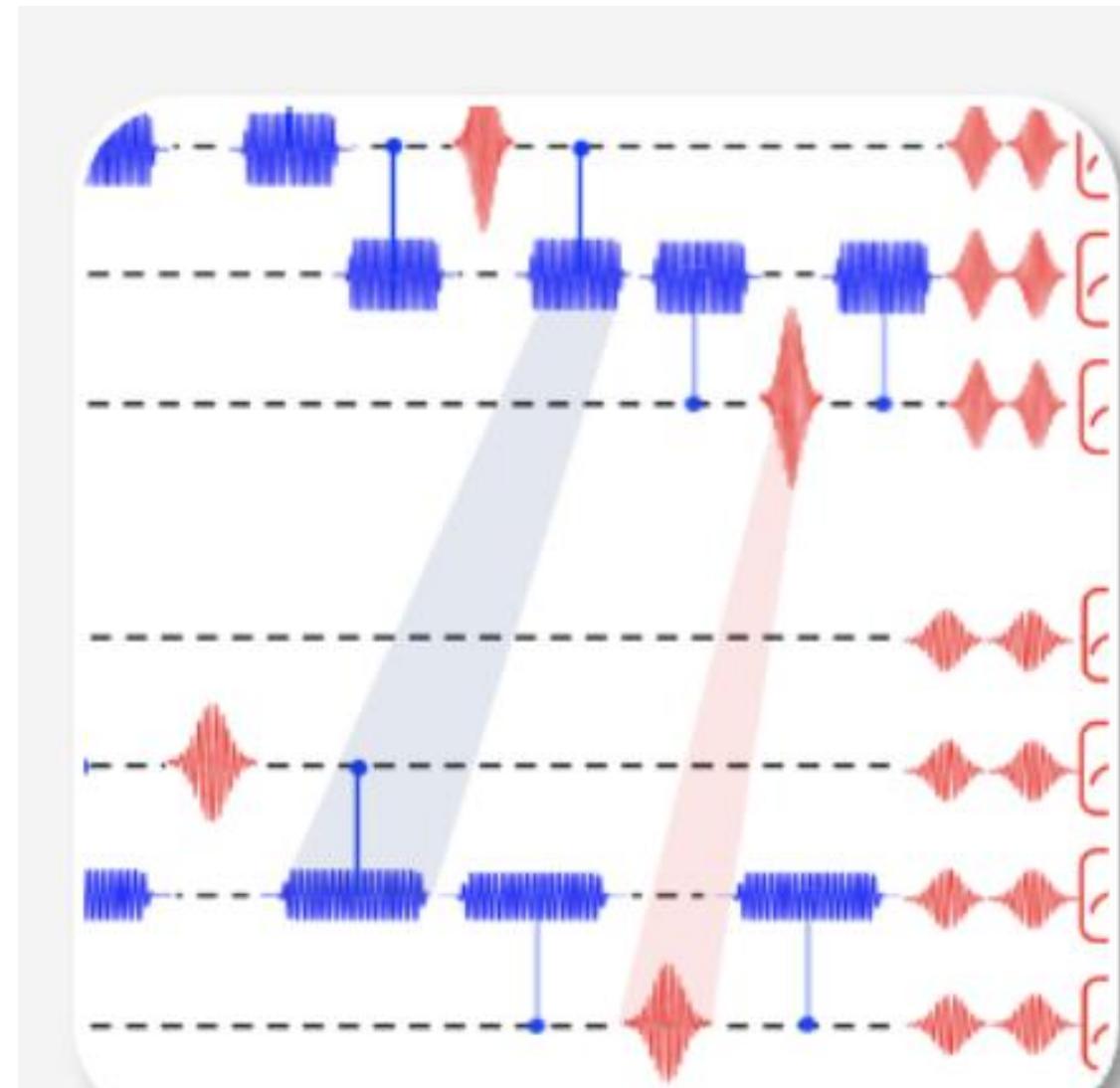
# Undoing the effect of noise

ZNE

## Step 1: Noise amplification

Pulse stretching	Gate folding	Probabilistic error amplification
Scale pulse duration via calibration	Repeat gates in identity cycles $U \mapsto U(U^{-1}U)^{\lambda-1}/2$	Add noise via sampling Pauli channels

A blue bracket groups the first two columns under the heading "Step 1: Noise amplification".



It's an analogue technique.  
It assumes noise is proportional to pulse duration.  
It requires costly pulse level calibration of the hardware.

Kandala et al. Nature (2019)

# Undoing the effect of noise

ZNE

Step 1: Noise amplification

Pulse stretching	Gate folding	Probabilistic error amplification
Scale pulse duration via calibration	Repeat gates in identity cycles $U \mapsto U(U^{-1}U)^{\lambda-1}/2$	Add noise via sampling Pauli channels

It is a heuristic approach but offers a good trade-off between result quality and resource requirements.

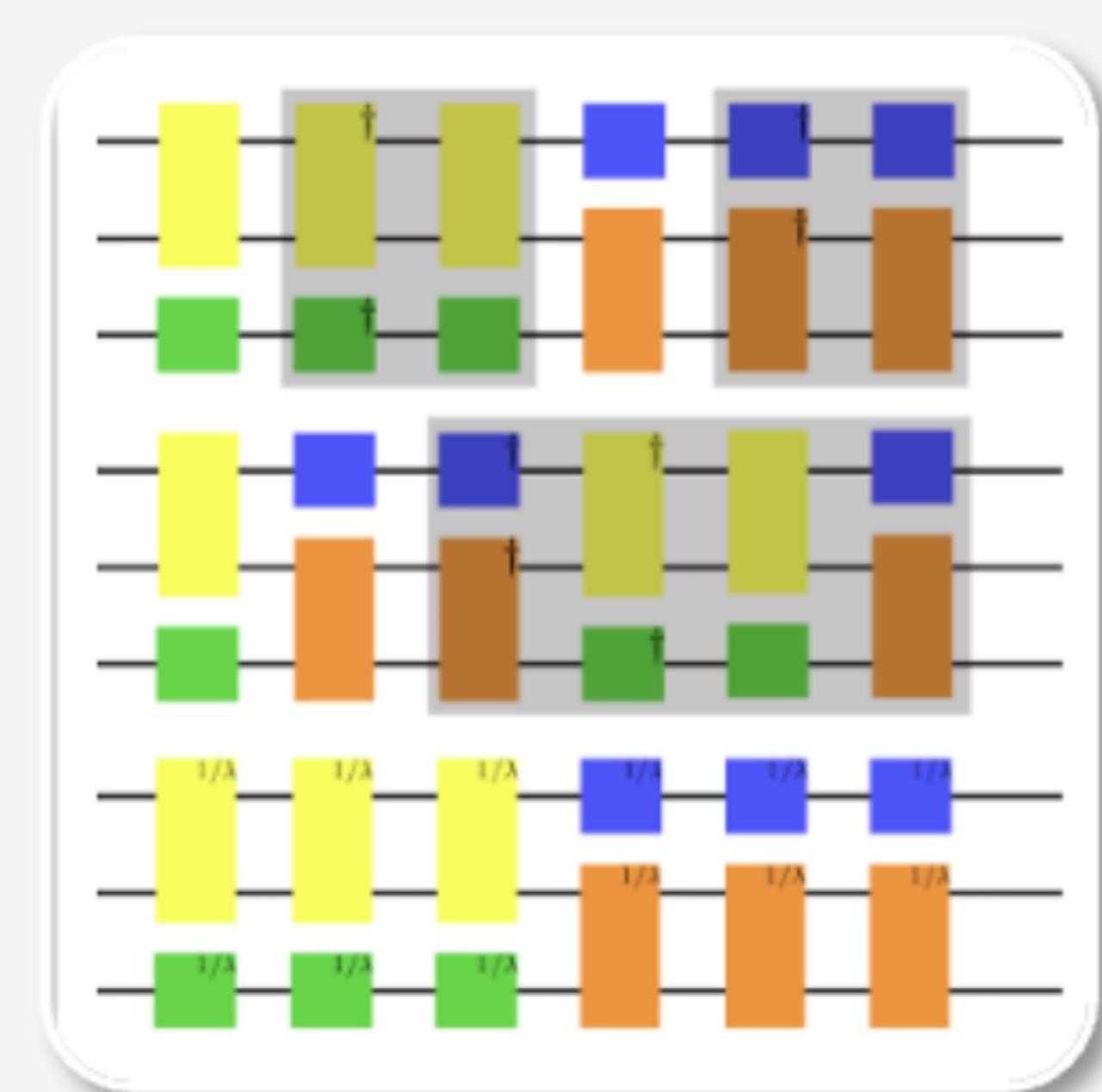
$\equiv$

$U$        $(\times 3)$        $U - U^\dagger - U$

$\equiv$        $(\times 5)$        $U - U^\dagger - U - U^\dagger - U$

But it is limited by circuit depth!

especially powerful when  $U \equiv U^\dagger$



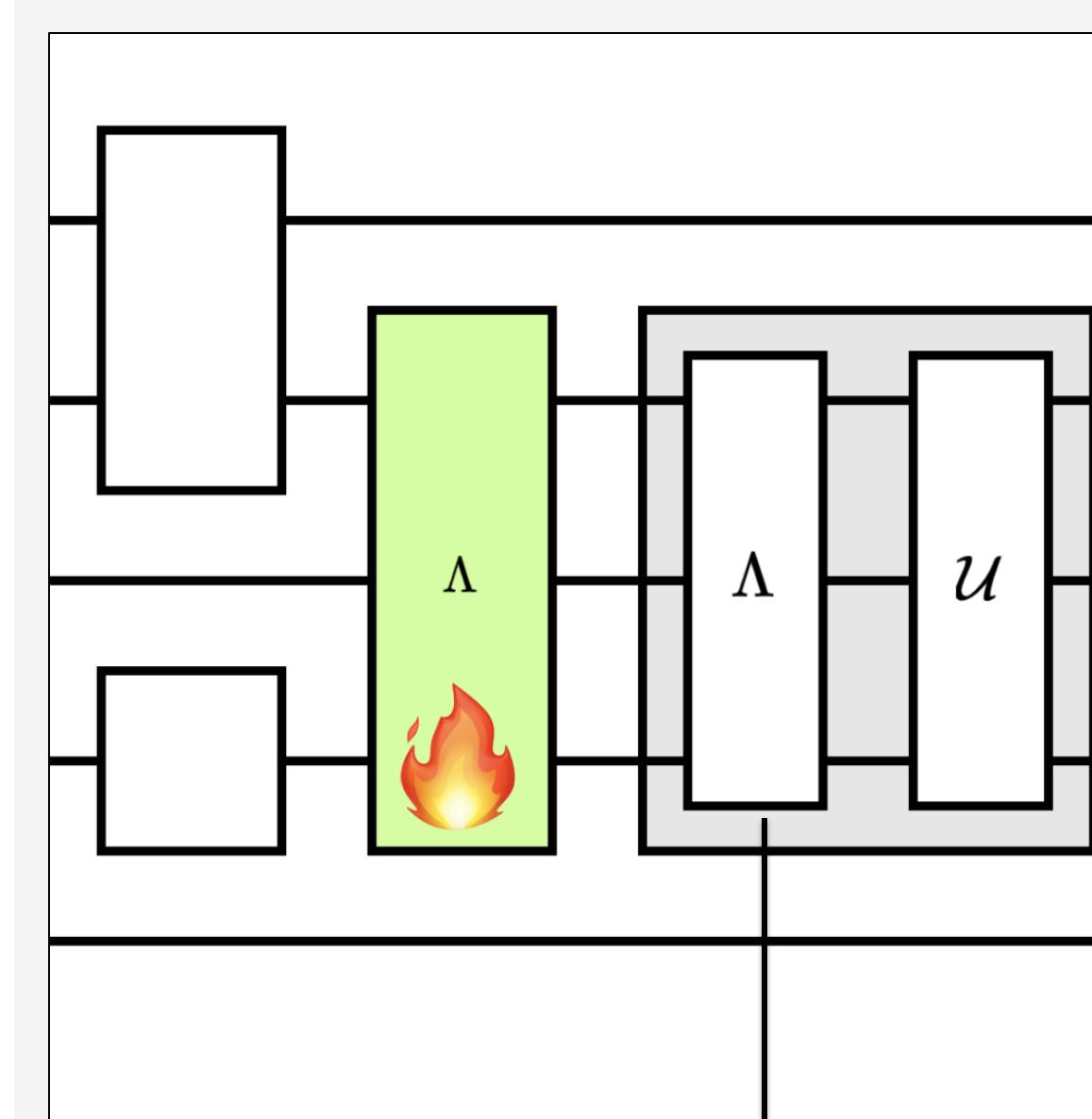
Shultz et al. PRA (2022)

# Undoing the effect of noise

ZNE

Step 1: Noise amplification

Pulse stretching	Gate folding	Probabilistic error amplification
Scale pulse duration via calibration	Repeat gates in identity cycles $U \mapsto U(U^{-1}U)^{\lambda-1}/2$	Add noise via sampling Pauli channels



Li & Benjamin PRX (2017)

It has general applicability and strong theoretical backing.

Used in the utility paper  
Y. Kim et al. Nature (2023).

But it requires learning circuit-specific noise.

Idea: we want to learn the noise channel of certain layers of gates and reproduce it.

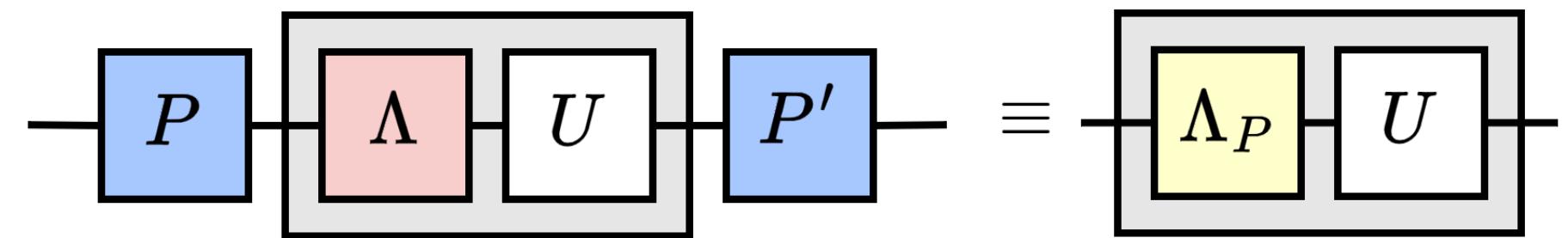
# Undoing the effect of noise

ZNE

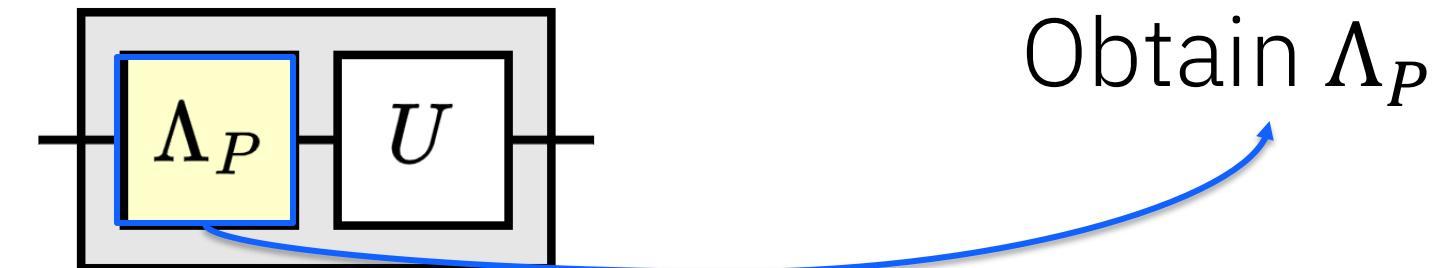
## Step 1: Noise amplification

Pulse stretching	Gate folding	Probabilistic error amplification
Scale pulse duration via calibration	Repeat gates in identity cycles $U \mapsto U(U^{-1}U)^{\lambda-1}/2$	Add noise via sampling Pauli channels

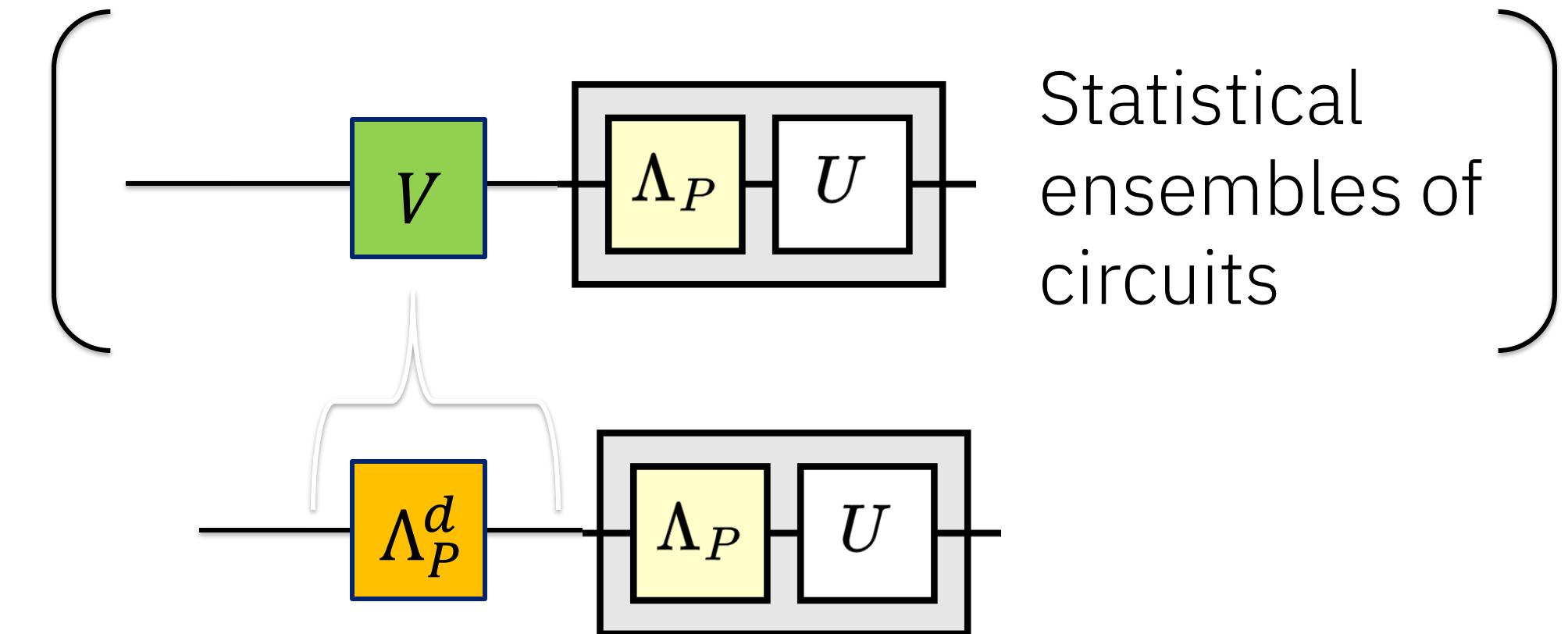
**Step 1.** Use Pauli Twirling to transform the noise channels to Pauli noise, which is easier to learn.



**Step 2.** Noise learning.



**Step 3.** Noise injection using random unitaries.



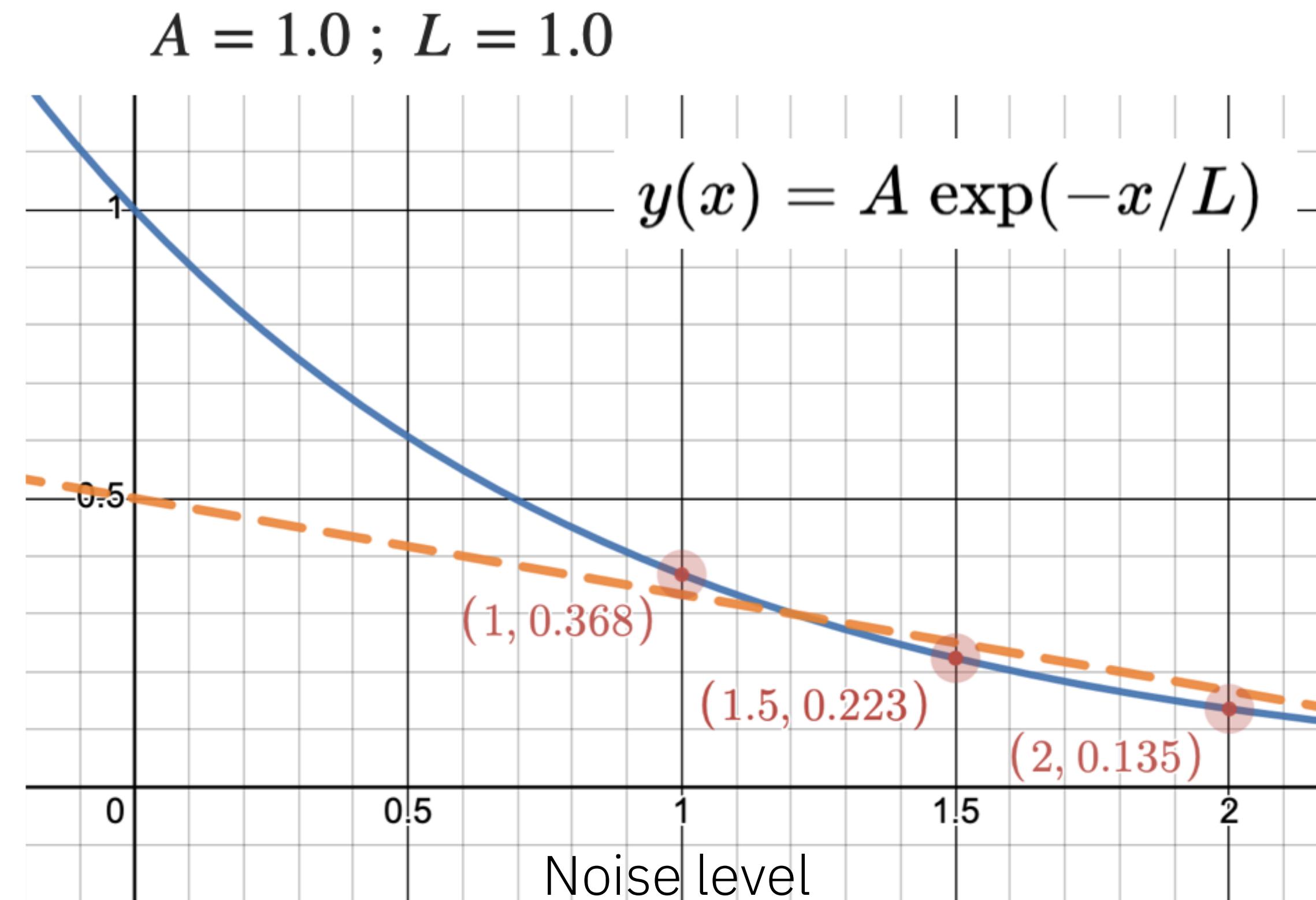
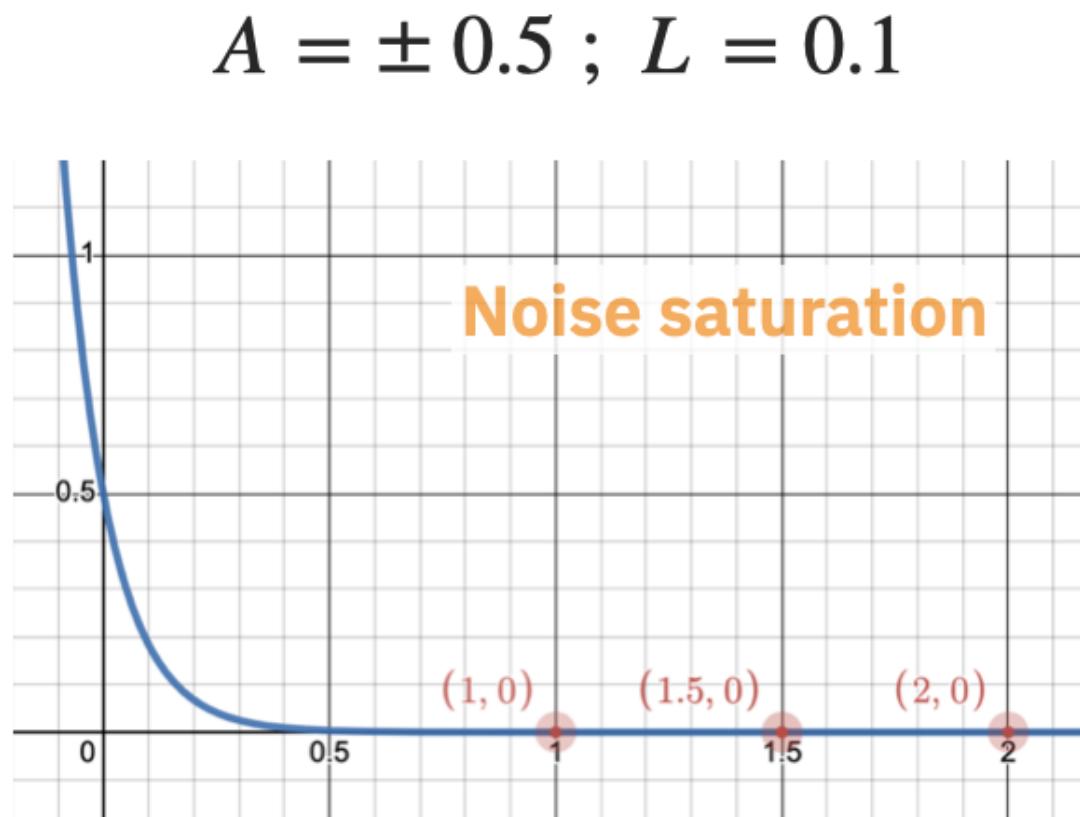
# Undoing the effect of noise

ZNE

## Step 2. Extrapolation

Theoretical/experimental results predict exponential decay in observed expectation values

Exponential extrapolation mitigates aggressively but is unstable because we don't know the scale.



Polynomial extrapolation is stable but mitigates worse, since it retains the scale of the noisy data.

# Undoing the effect of noise - ZNE

Options	Sub-options	Sub-sub-options	Choices	Default
resilience	zne_mitigation		True / False	False
	zne	noise_factors		(1, 1.5, 2) for PEA, and (1, 3, 5) otherwise
		amplifier	'gate_folding' / 'gate_folding_front' / 'gate_folding_back' / 'pea'	gate_folding
		extrapolator	'exponential' / 'linear' / 'double_exponential' / 'polynomial_degree_(1 =< k <= 7)'	('exponential', 'linear')

```
from qiskit_ibm_runtime import EstimatorOptions

options = EstimatorOptions(default_shots=1024, optimization_level=0, resilience_level=0)

## Configure ZNE
options.resilience.zne_mitigation = True
options.resilience.zne.noise_factors = (1, 3, 5) [Can have fractional noise factors, e.g. (1, 1.5, 2)]
options.resilience.zne.amplifier = 'gate_folding'
options.resilience.zne.extrapolator = ('exponential', 'linear')
```

Choosing the right noise factors and extrapolator is tricky!

# Undoing the effect of noise

PEC

The effect of an ideal target circuit can be expressed as a linear combination of noisy circuits that are implementable in practice:

$$\mathcal{O}_{\text{ideal}} = \sum_i \eta_i \mathcal{O}_{\text{noisy},i}$$

Unlike ZNE, it produces bias free expectation values at the cost of increased variance. To account for this, we must take  $\gamma^2$  times more shots, where:

$$\gamma = \sum_i |\eta_i| \geq 1.$$

Caveat:  $\gamma$  scales exponentially with the depth of the circuit

# Main error Mitigation techniques - PEC

Options	Sub-options	Sub-sub-options	Choices	Default
	pec_mitigation		True / False	False
	pec	max_overhead		None/ integer >1
		noise_gain		auto/ float in the range [0, 1] auto

```
from qiskit_ibm_runtime import EstimatorOptions

options = EstimatorOptions(default_shots=1024, optimization_level=0, resilience_level=0)

## Configure PEC
options.resilience.pec_mitigation = True
options.resilience.pec.max_overhead = 100
```

## ~~Executing on quantum hardware~~

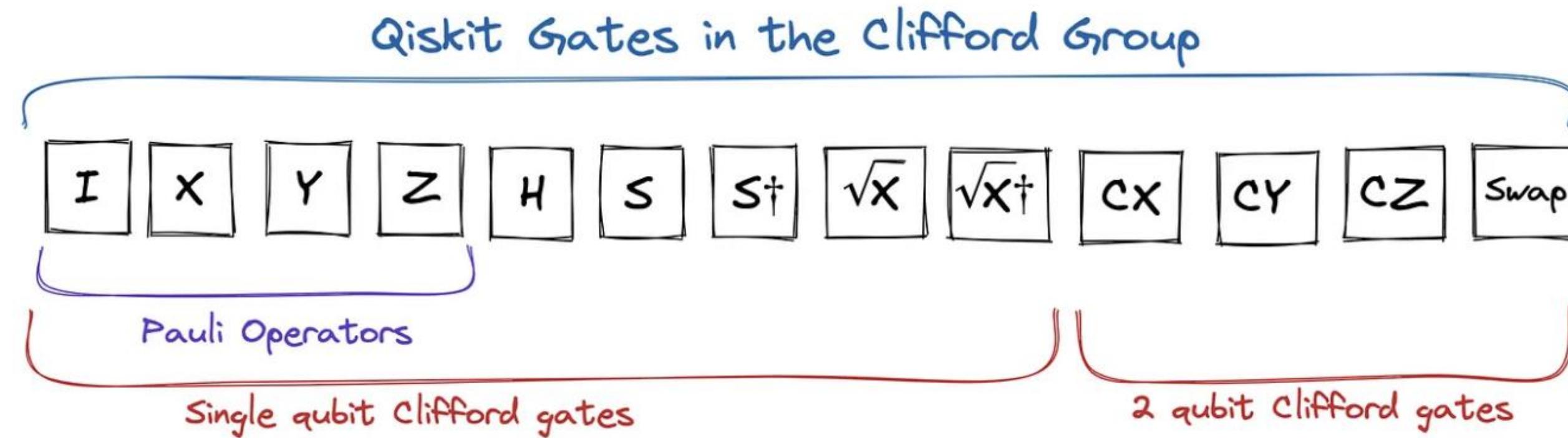


### Executing on noisy quantum hardware

Other strategies to address noise:

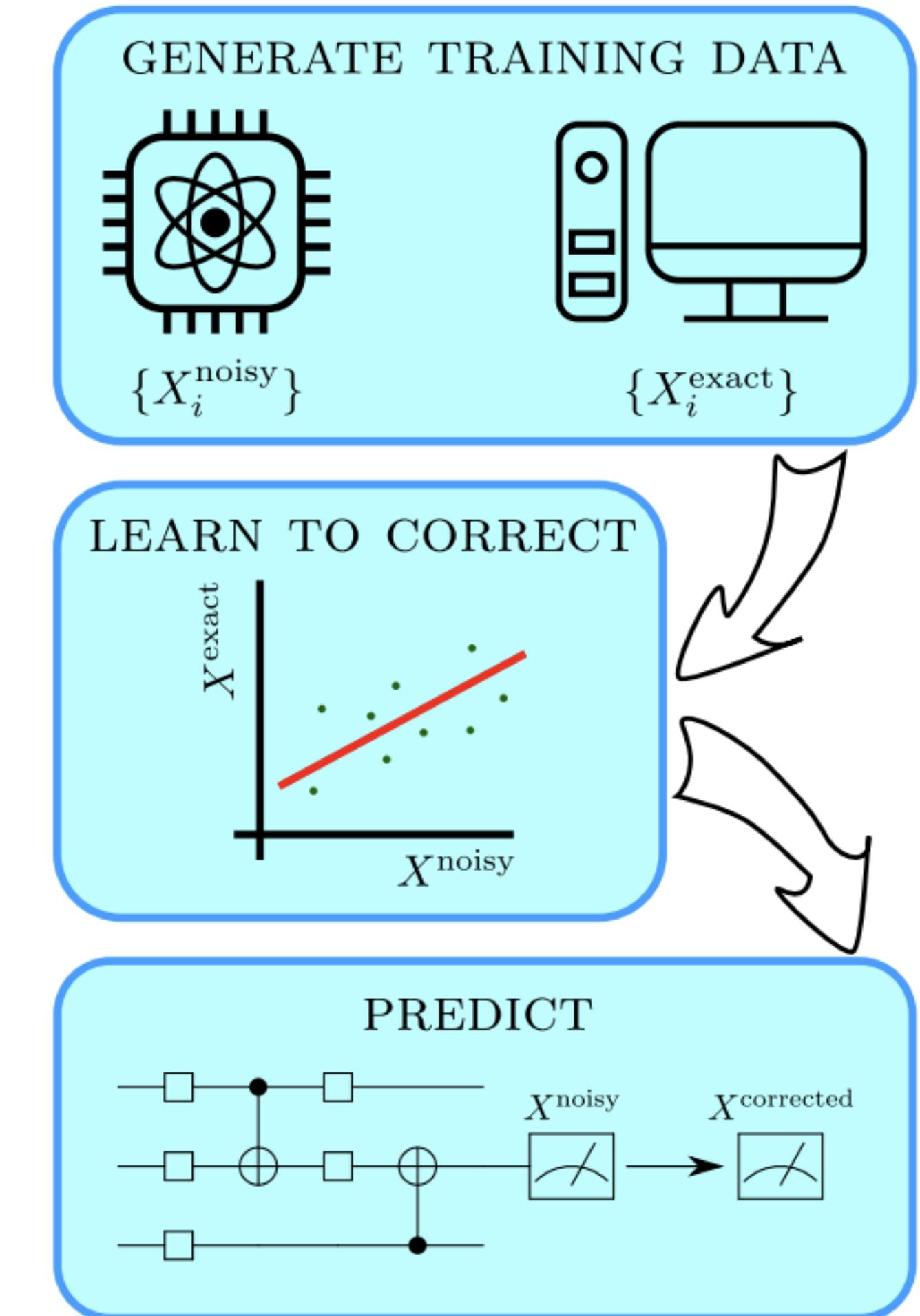
- Validation strategies
- Post-selection and configuration recovery:  
stepping stones toward error correction

# Other strategies to address noise



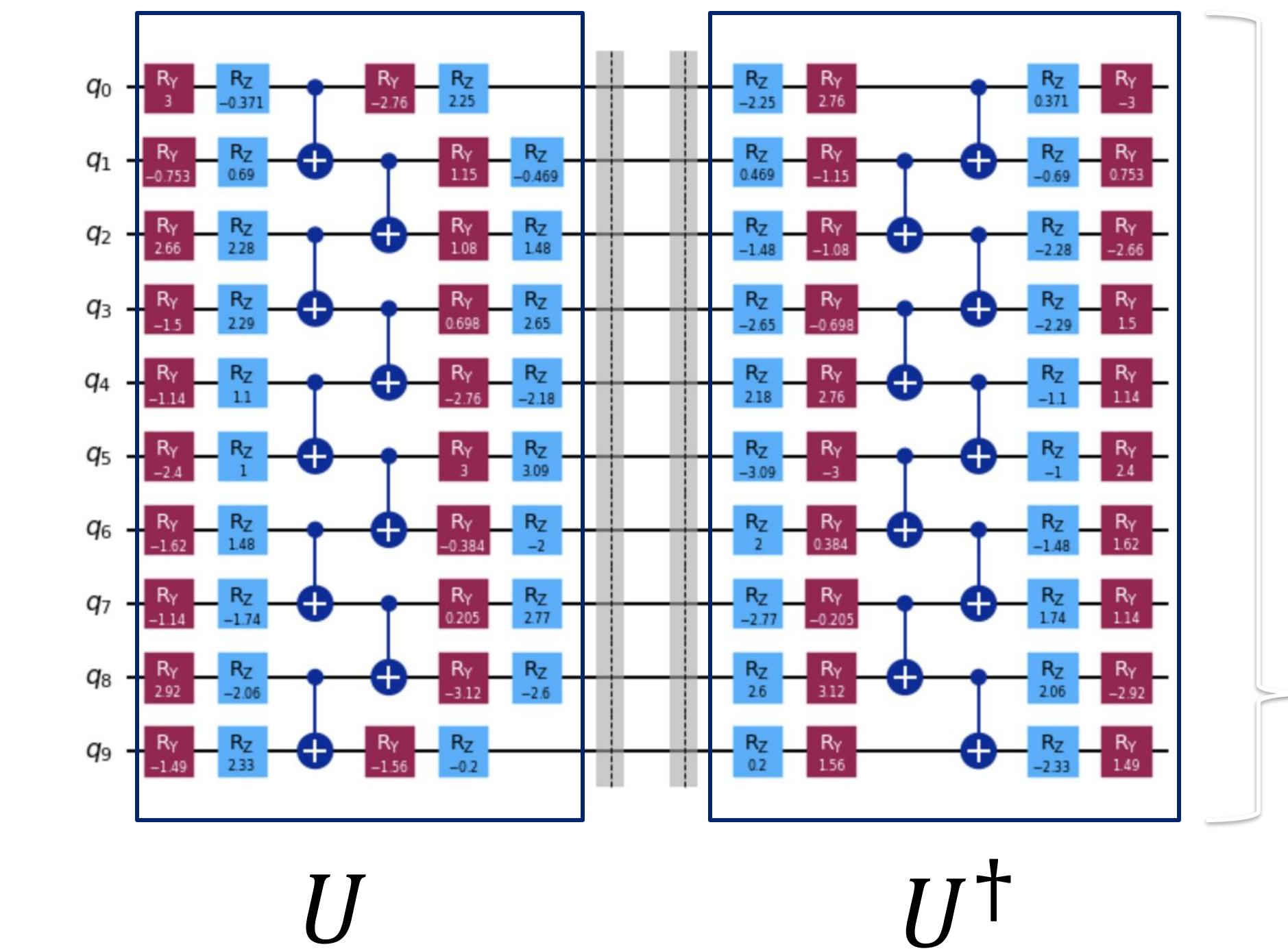
Clifford circuits are composed of Clifford gates. They can be efficiently simulated on a classical computer but they are not universal.

Clifford Data Regression uses cliffordized circuits to generate training data for an error mitigation model.



# Other strategies to address noise

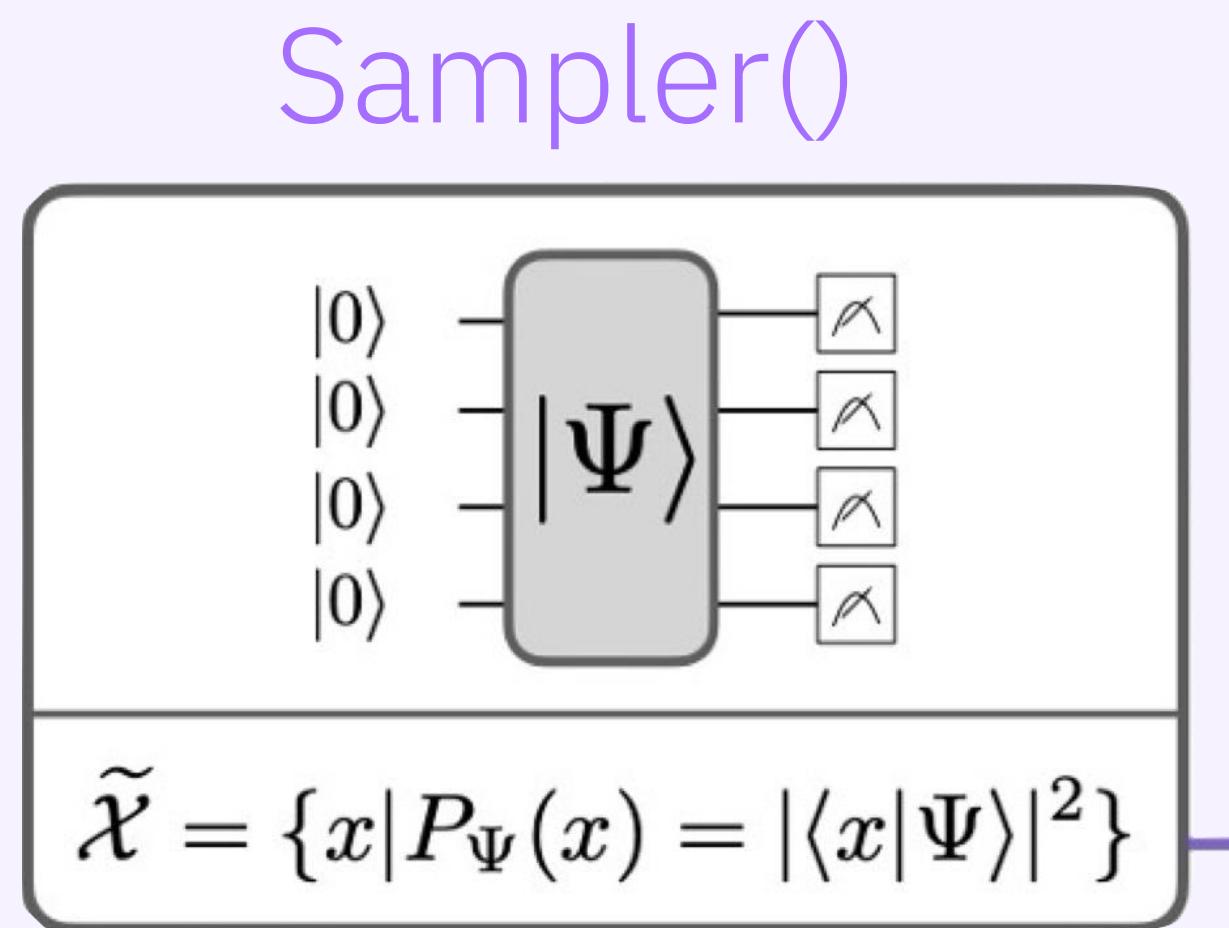
Mirror circuits offer a way to replace a circuit with unknown outcome with another circuit which preserves the overall internal structure and richness, but whose final answer is trivially known.



$$\langle \hat{O} \rangle_{\text{meas}} = (1 - \eta_O) \langle \hat{O} \rangle_{\text{pred.}}$$

Operator Decoherence Renormalization  
Uses a calibration mirror circuit to mitigate the noise in the real circuit.

# Post-selection and configuration recovery



We sample from a circuit in the computational basis.

$$\tilde{\mathcal{X}} = \left\{ \mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{x} \sim \tilde{P}_{\Psi}(\mathbf{x}) \right\}$$

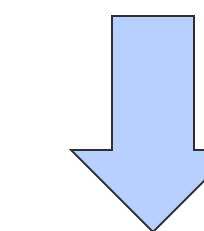
1001, 1111  
1000, 0111

The bitstrings  $\mathbf{x} \in \{0, 1\}^M$  represent solutions to our problem.

In some cases, they must fulfill certain symmetries imposed by the problem we want to solve. For example:

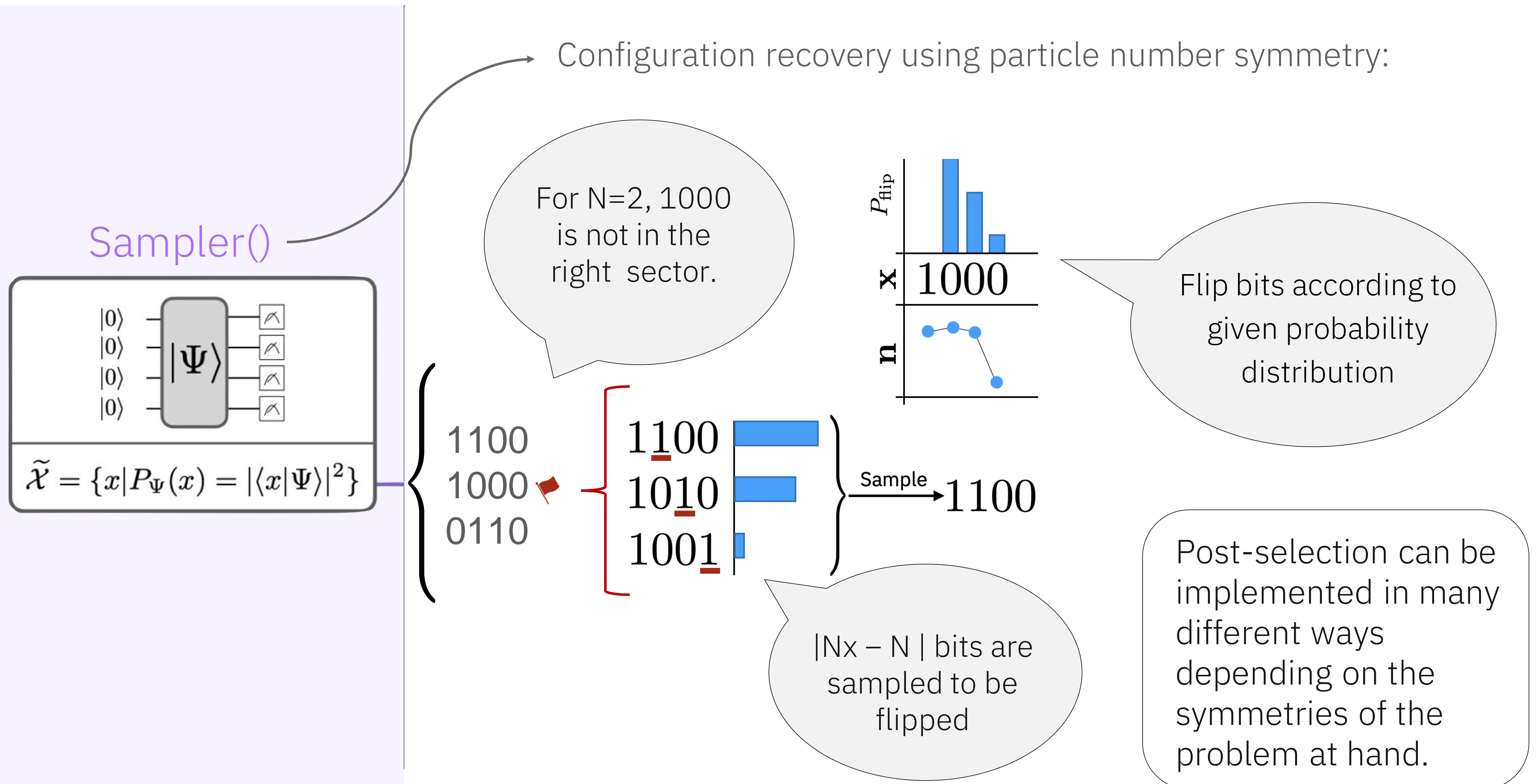
- electronic configurations with fixed number of particles

Noise alters the distribution from its ideal form and generates the noisy set of configurations.

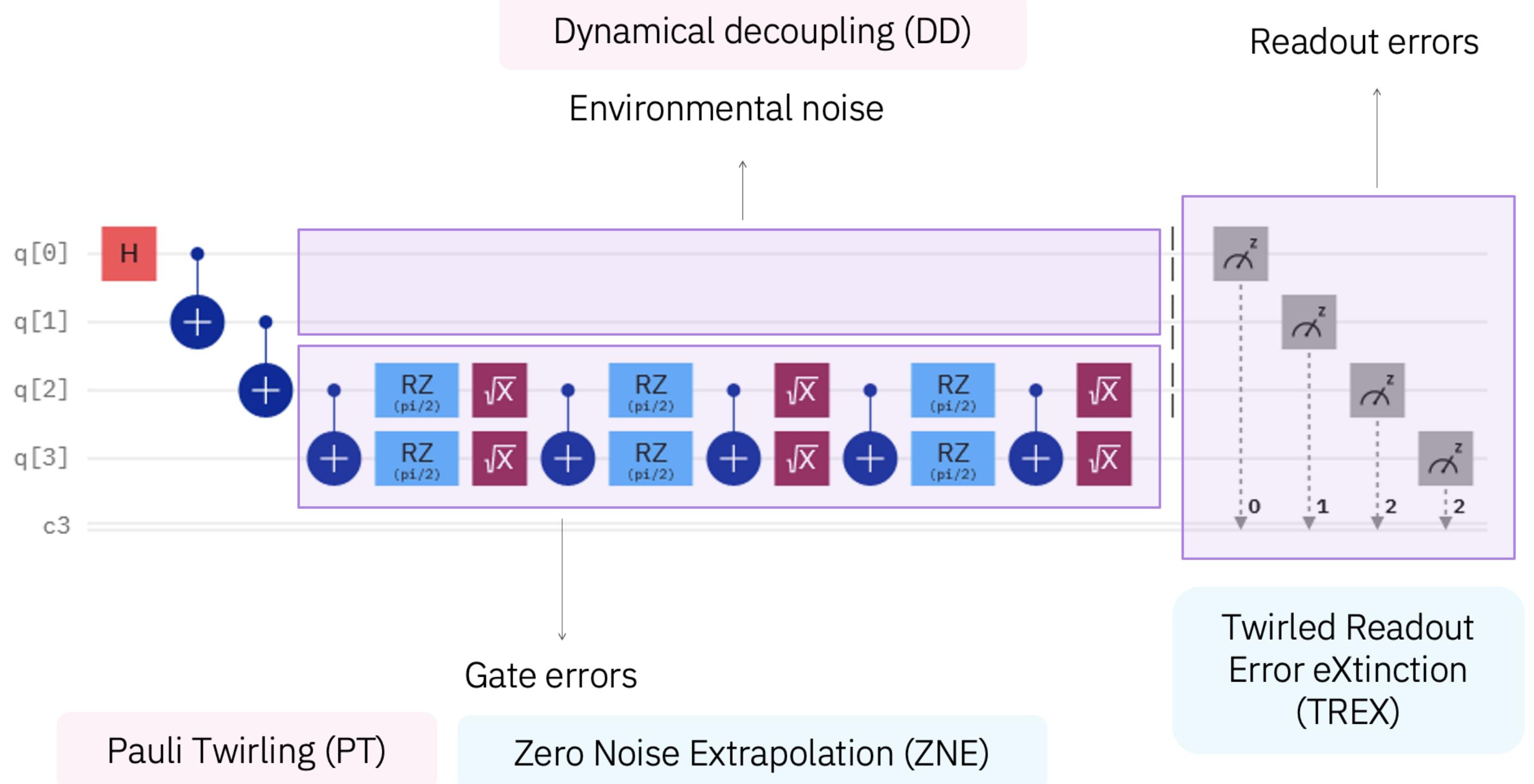


Configuration Recovery

# Post-selection and configuration recovery



# Summary & conclusions



- Learning the noise of the device
- Probabilistic Error Cancellation
- Alternative validation strategies
  - Mirror circuits
  - Clifford circuits
- Post-selection and configuration recovery: stepping stones toward error correction

+ benchmarking and calibration

# Practical quantum techniques

Joana Fraxanet  
Quantum Algorithm  
Engineering team

**IBM Quantum**

