

# Week 7

## Lecture 13 - Quantum Supremacy

11.1 Boson Sampling

11.2 IQP Problem

11.3 Google's pseudorandom circuits

## Lecture 14 - Errors

12.1 Quantum errors: unitary and stochastic errors

12.2 Randomized Benchmarking

12.3 Purity

## Lab 7

Quantum Supremacy and Errors

# Quantum Supremacy

Physics 90045

Lecture 13

# Determining supremacy?



Gary Kasparov

vs



Deep Blue

On February 10, 1996, Deep Blue beat Kasparov under tournament regulations. In the subsequent 1997 rematch, Deep Blue won the series.

# Quantum supremacy in the news

WIRED

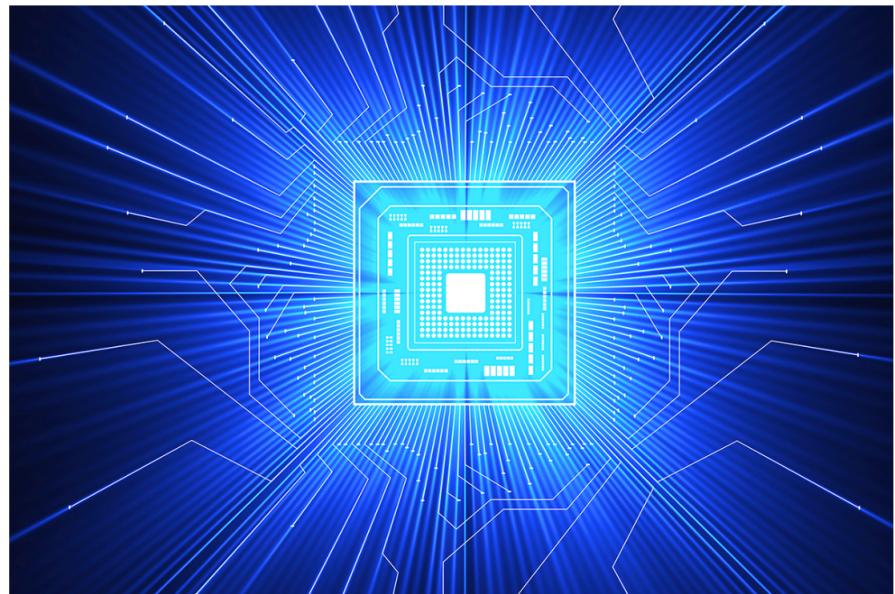
Google, Alibaba Spar Over Timeline for 'Quantu



NewScientist



**Google just made it much harder to build a serious quantum computer**



Is a quantum revolution near?  
ALFRED PASIEKA/SCIENCE PHOTO LIBRARY

By Chelsea Whyte

Google is racing to create the first quantum computer capable of solving a problem ordinary computers cannot – and it has just made that challenge much harder.

Achieving “[quantum supremacy](#)”, as it is known, involves building a device that can solve a problem faster than any non-quantum computer.

<https://www.newscientist.com/article/2176575-google-just-made-it-much-harder-to-build-a-serious-quantum-computer/>

TOM SIMONITE BUSINESS 05.19.18 07:00 AM

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# GOOGLE, ALIBABA SPAR OVER TIMELINE FOR 'QUANTUM SUPREMACY'



<https://www.wired.com/story/google-alibaba-spar-over-timeline-for-quantum-supremacy/>

# What is quantum supremacy?

Quantum supremacy is using a quantum computer to solve a problem which classical computers **practically** cannot.

# Algorithms for quantum supremacy

The race is on to build a quantum computer which will achieve quantum supremacy. Implementing large scale factoring would demonstrate quantum supremacy, but that would require a very large (potentially millions of qubits) quantum computer. In the short term we will only have access to NISQ devices.

Noisy  
Intermediate Scale (50-100 qubits)  
Quantum devices

Three quantum algorithms that might be able to demonstrate quantum supremacy with 50-100 qubits:

- Boson Sampling
- Instantaneous Quantum Polynomial-Time circuits (IQP)
- Pseudorandom circuits

# HOWTO quantum supremacy

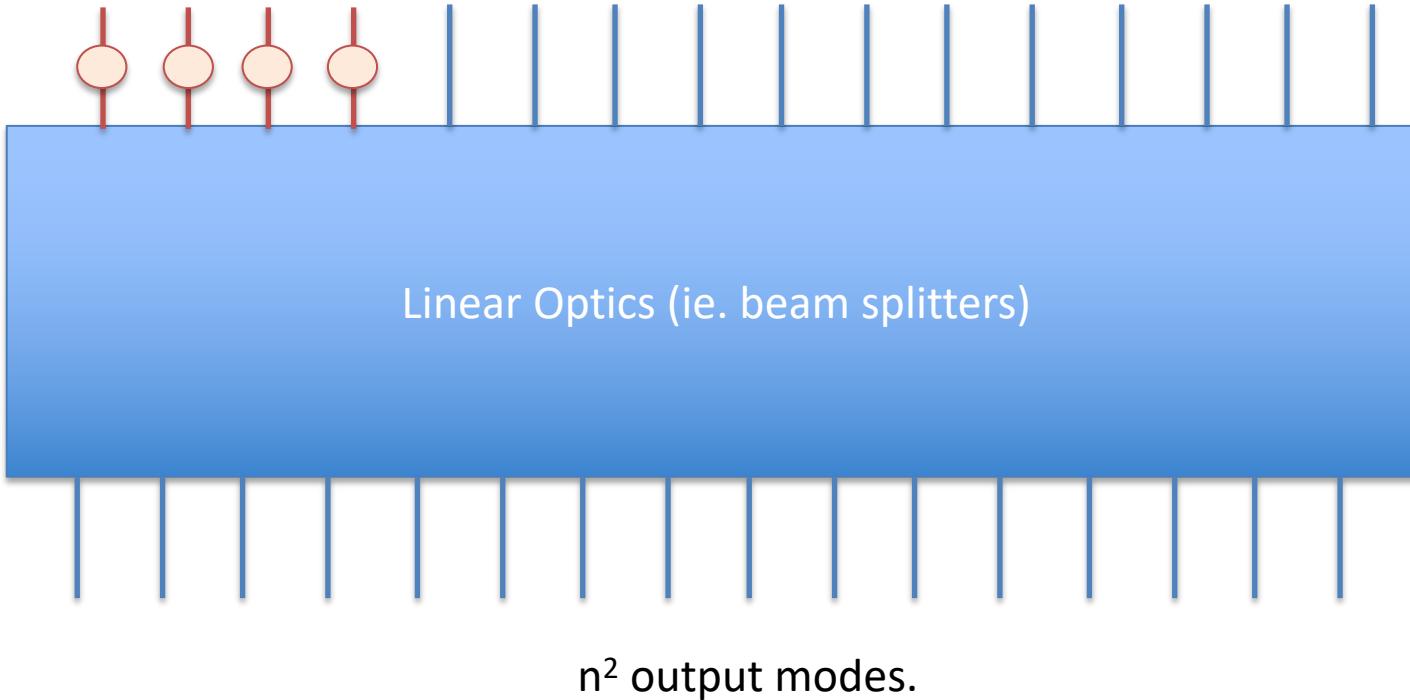
Pick a problem which is:

- As easy as possible for a quantum computer
- As hard as possible for a classical computer to simulate

# Boson Sampling

# A little physics experiment...

$n$  single photon sources

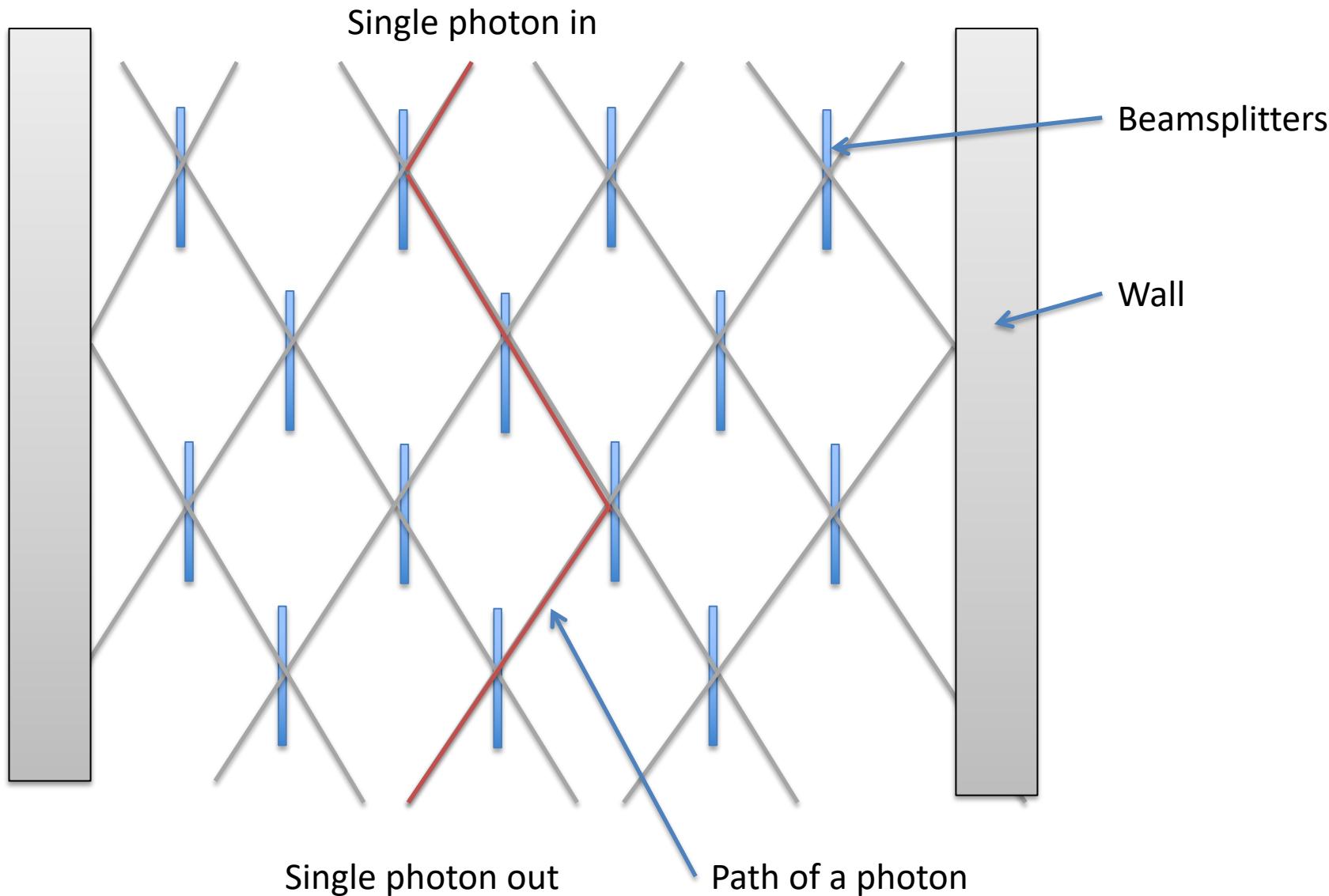


You won't  
need to  
know the  
physics of  
this device.

$n^2$  output modes.

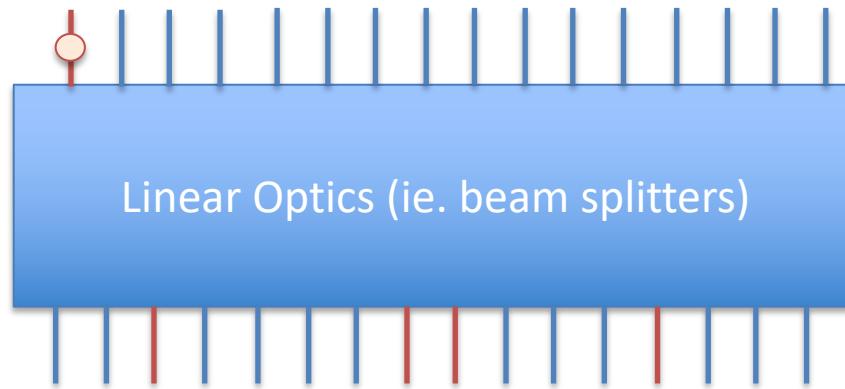
Can a classical computer produce **samples** from the output which mimic the quantum device?

# Quantum Pachinko



# One single path

We can write out a matrix: If a single photon enters in mode x, what is the amplitude it will have at output y?



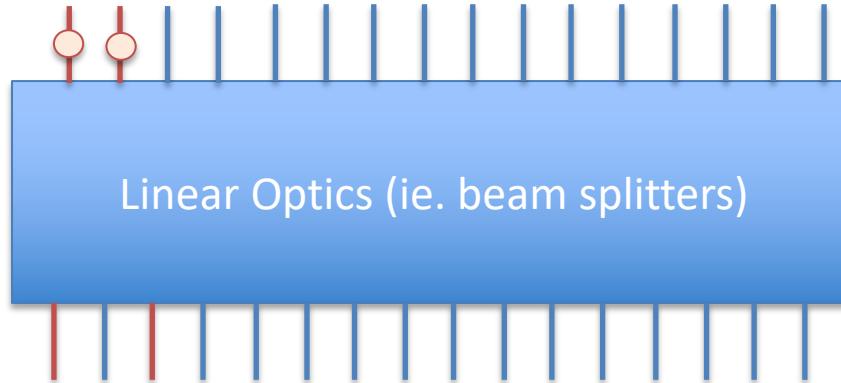
$$U = \begin{bmatrix} & & & \text{Input modes} & \\ a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & \dots & a_{3n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & a_{n3} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} \\ \\ \\ \\ \text{Amplitudes of output modes} \end{array}$$

A blue arrow points upwards from the bottom-left towards the matrix, indicating the direction of the Unitary matrix.

Unitary matrix

# Many paths

If we have two input photons:



What is the amplitude associated with being detected in output modes 1 and 3?

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} & \text{Input modes} \\ \begin{matrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & \dots & a_{3n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & a_{n3} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{matrix} & \text{Amplitudes of output modes} \end{bmatrix}$$

Amplitude of photons in locations 1,3:

$$a_{11}a_{32} + a_{12}a_{31}$$

# Many paths

In general take the submatrix corresponding to a particular input and output, and find its **permanent**:

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & \dots & a_{3n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & a_{n3} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

Submatrix defined by the input modes and output modes

The resulting amplitude is the **permanent** of the submatrix:

$$\text{perm}(A) = \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} \prod_{i=1}^n a_{i,\sigma(i)}$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\text{perm}(A) = ad + bc$$

Same as determinant, but with no subtraction, all addition.

# Complexity of finding permanent

Unlike determinants, finding a permanent of a matrix is a *surprisingly difficult* computational problem.

Finding the permanent is a #P complete problem.

#P is the set of counting problems associated with decision problems in NP.

**NP:** Is there as a satisfying assignment of variables to this 3SAT problem?

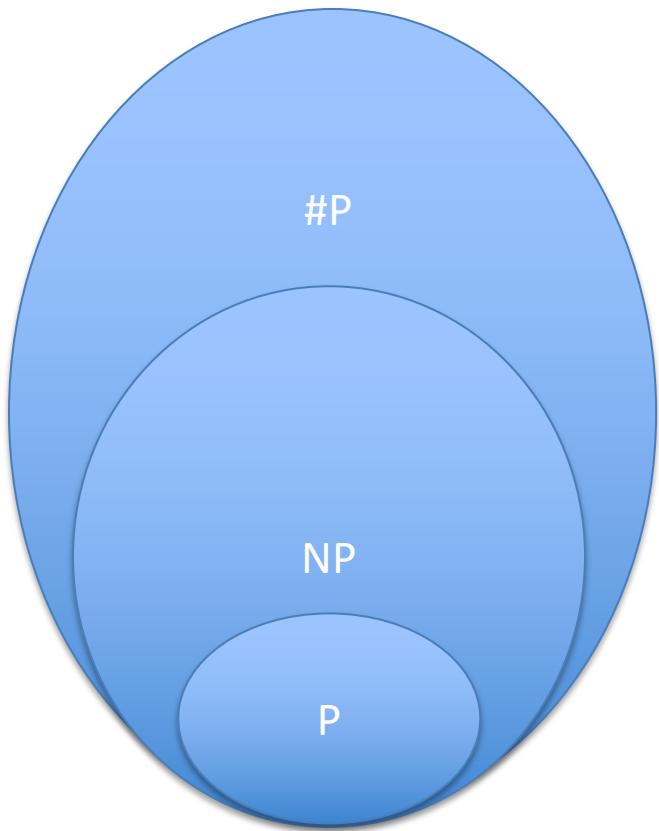
**#P:** How many satisfying assignments of variables are there to this 3SAT problem?

**NP:** Is there a travelling salesman path with distance less than  $d$ ?

**#P:** How many travelling salesman paths are there with a distance less than  $d$ .

Calculating amplitudes and probabilities for Boson sampling is a hard classical problem!

# Some classical complexity classes



Informally:

**P:** Problems which can be solved in polynomial time

**NP:** Problems which can be checked in polynomial time  
(ie. they have an efficiently verifiable proof)

**#P:** Problems which count the number of solutions in  
NP

# The polynomial hierarchy

Very quick introduction: Given an **oracle** in some complexity class which evaluates instantly, what problems can we now evaluate in polynomial time?

$$P^P = P$$

Polynomial time algorithm

With access to an oracle which can instantaneously evaluate functions in P

$$NP^P = NP$$

But a polynomial time algorithm with an NP oracle appears to be more powerful than both P and NP:

$$P^{NP}$$

We can recursively define complexity classes this way, with oracles which increase in strength at each level. This whole hierarchy is known as the Polynomial Hierarchy, **PH**.

If, at some level, providing the oracle didn't lead to a superset of problems, the polynomial hierarchy would "collapse". Computer scientists don't think this happens.

# Sampling is also hard to simulate

Calculating amplitudes and probabilities for Boson sampling is a hard classical problem!

Calculate the **permanent** of the submatrix:

$$\text{perm}(A) = \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} \prod_{i=1}^n a_{i,\sigma(i)}$$
$$\text{perm} \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = ad + bc$$

We don't technically have to calculate the probabilities explicitly. Maybe we can *sample* from the probability distribution?

**No** – this would result in a collapse of the Polynomial Hierarchy.

Not proven, but like P=NP, computer scientists generally don't expect the polynomial hierarchy collapses.

# HOWTO quantum supremacy

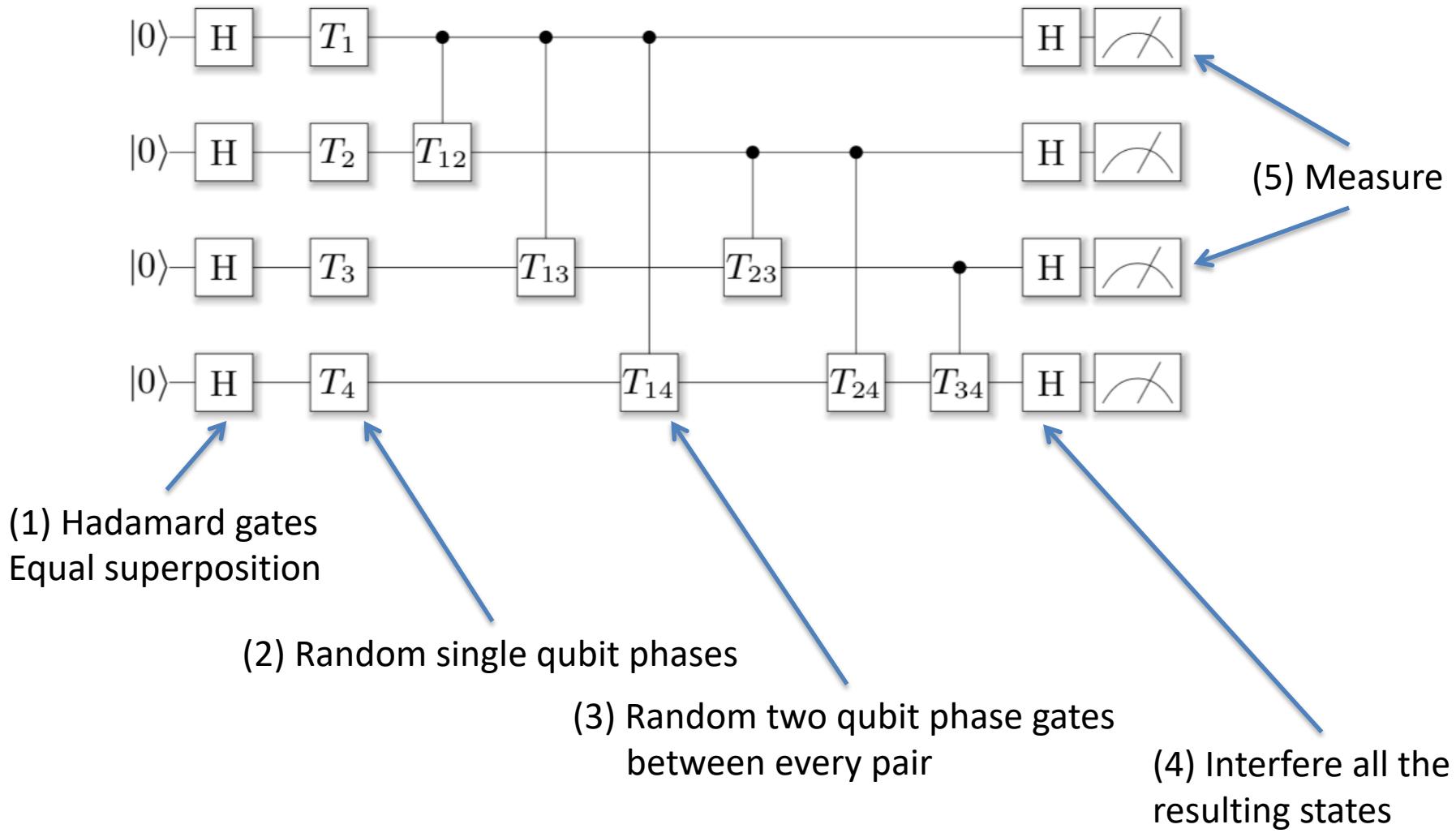
Boson Sampling is a problem which:

- “Easy” to implement using linear optics
- Hard for a classical computer to simulate –  
Polynomial Hierarchy would collapse

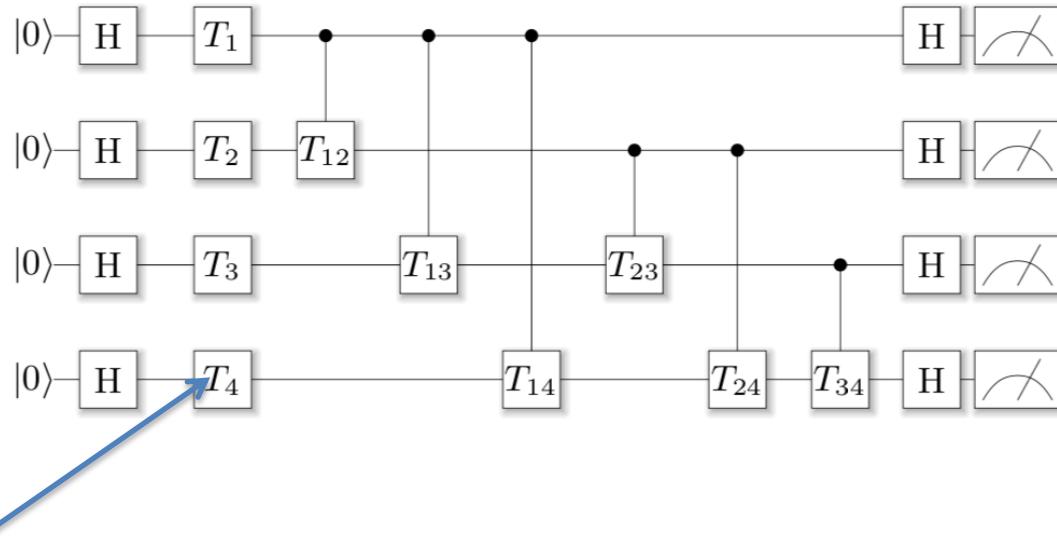
# IQP Circuits

## Instantaneous Quantum Polynomial-Time

# IQP Circuits



# Random Phases



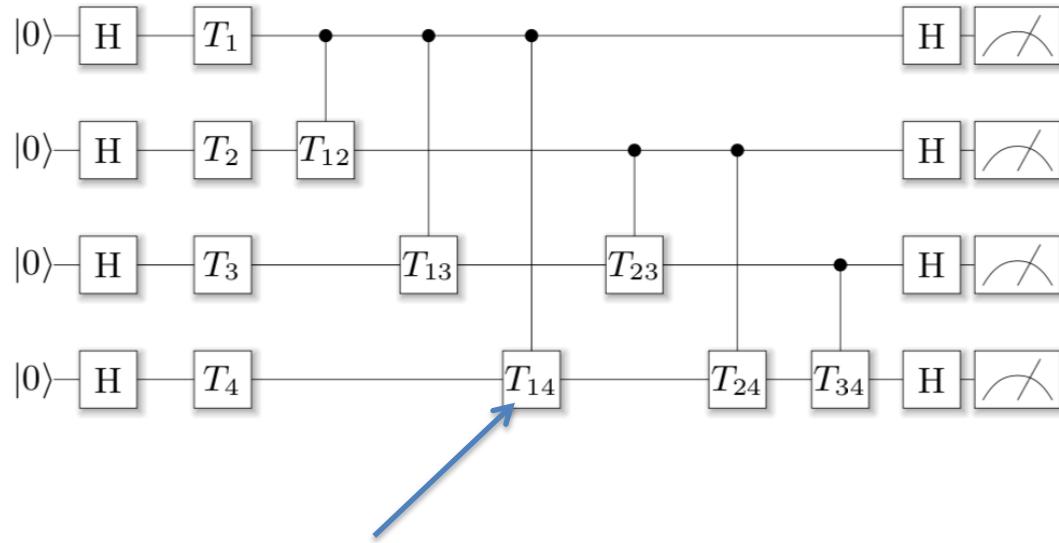
Each of these  $T_m$  gates is a rotation (around z) by a multiple of  $\pi/4$ :

$$T_m = \cos\left(\frac{k_m \pi}{8}\right) I + i \sin\left(\frac{k_m \pi}{8}\right) Z_m$$

$$T_m = R_z\left(-\frac{k_m \pi}{4}\right) \quad \text{on the } m^{\text{th}} \text{ qubit}$$

Where  $k_m$  is an integer chosen uniformly at random between 0 and 7. This is equivalent (up to a global phase) of applying a T gate  $k_m$  times.

# Random Joint Phases



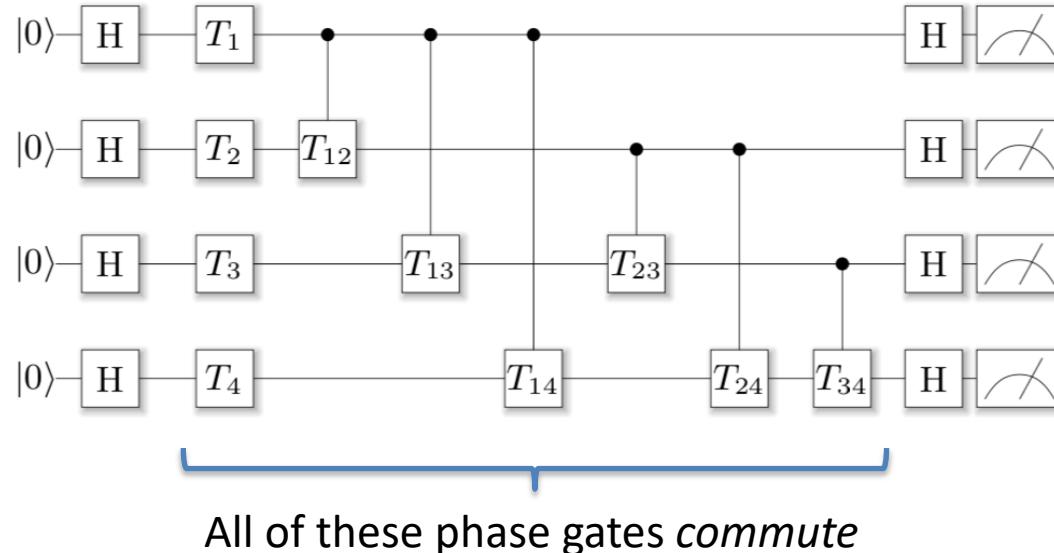
Each of these  $T_{mn}$  gates is a joint phase rotation by a multiple of  $\pi/8$ :

$$T_{mn} = \cos\left(\frac{k_{mn}\pi}{8}\right) I + i \sin\left(\frac{k_{mn}\pi}{8}\right) Z_m Z_n$$

Where  $k_m$  is an integer chosen uniformly at random between 0 and 7.

In the lab we can implement a similar algorithm with controlled  $T_{mn}$  gates.

# “Instantaneous”



The order which you apply the single and two qubit phase gates doesn't matter. They commute with each other, so can be applied in any order.

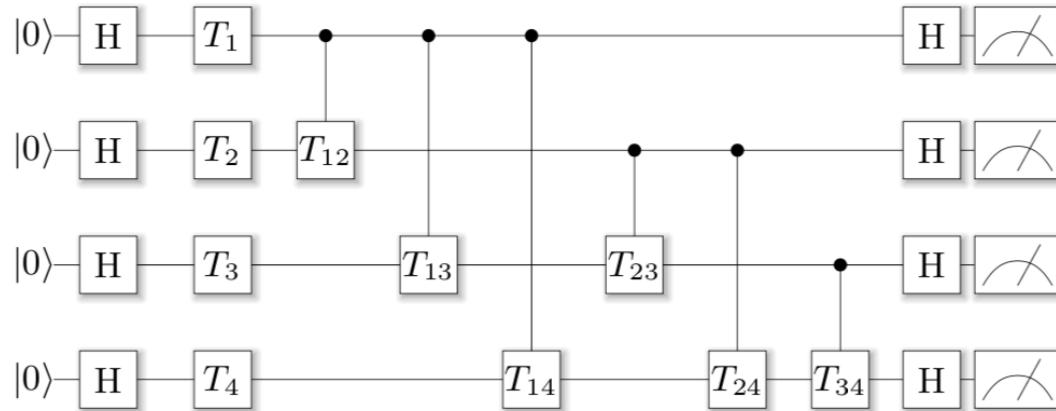
Eg.

$$ZT_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & i \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -i \end{bmatrix}$$

$$T_2Z = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & i \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -i \end{bmatrix}$$

Diagonal gates commute

# Collapse of the polynomial hierarchy



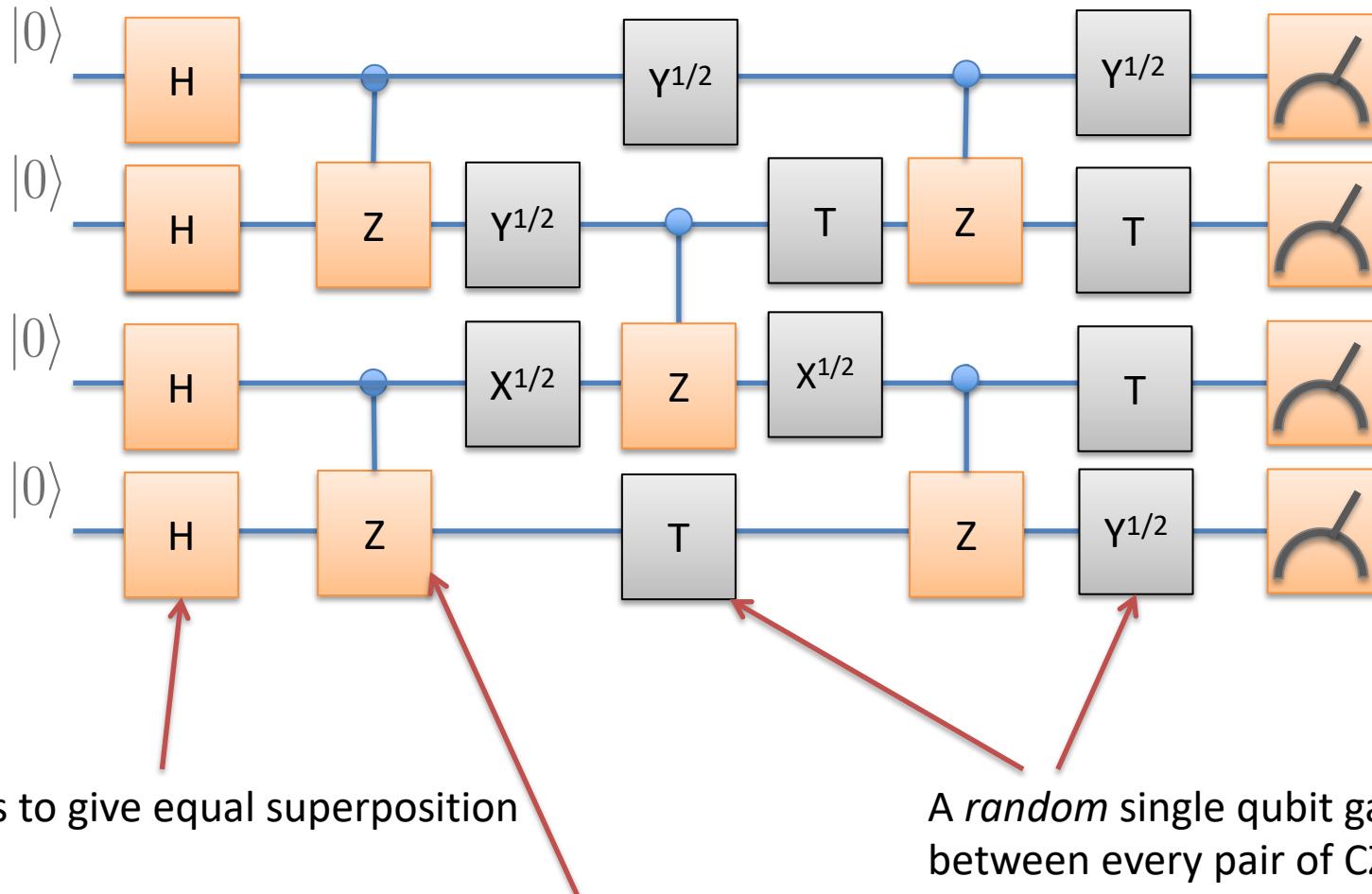
Aim: To sample from the output of this circuit. Easy for a quantum computer.

If this could be done efficiently using a classical computer, it would imply the collapse of the polynomial hierarchy (and so isn't expected to be possible).

Practically, classical simulations are limited to <50-70 qubits (for low error rates).

# Pseudorandom Circuits

# The circuit



# Square Root X and Y

In the previous slide, we simply have that

$$X^{1/2} = R_x \left( \frac{\pi}{2} \right)$$

and similarly,

$$Y^{1/2} = R_y \left( \frac{\pi}{2} \right)$$

# Schedule of CZ

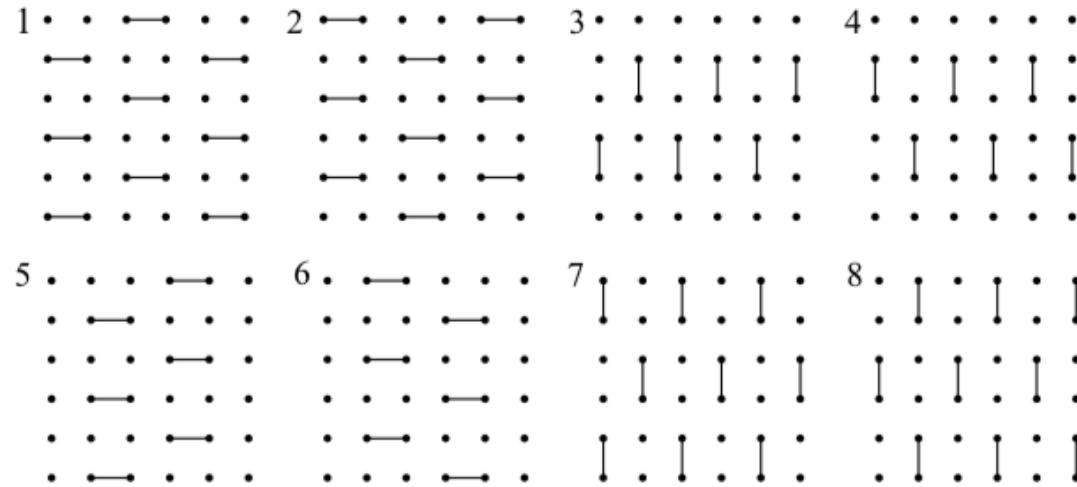
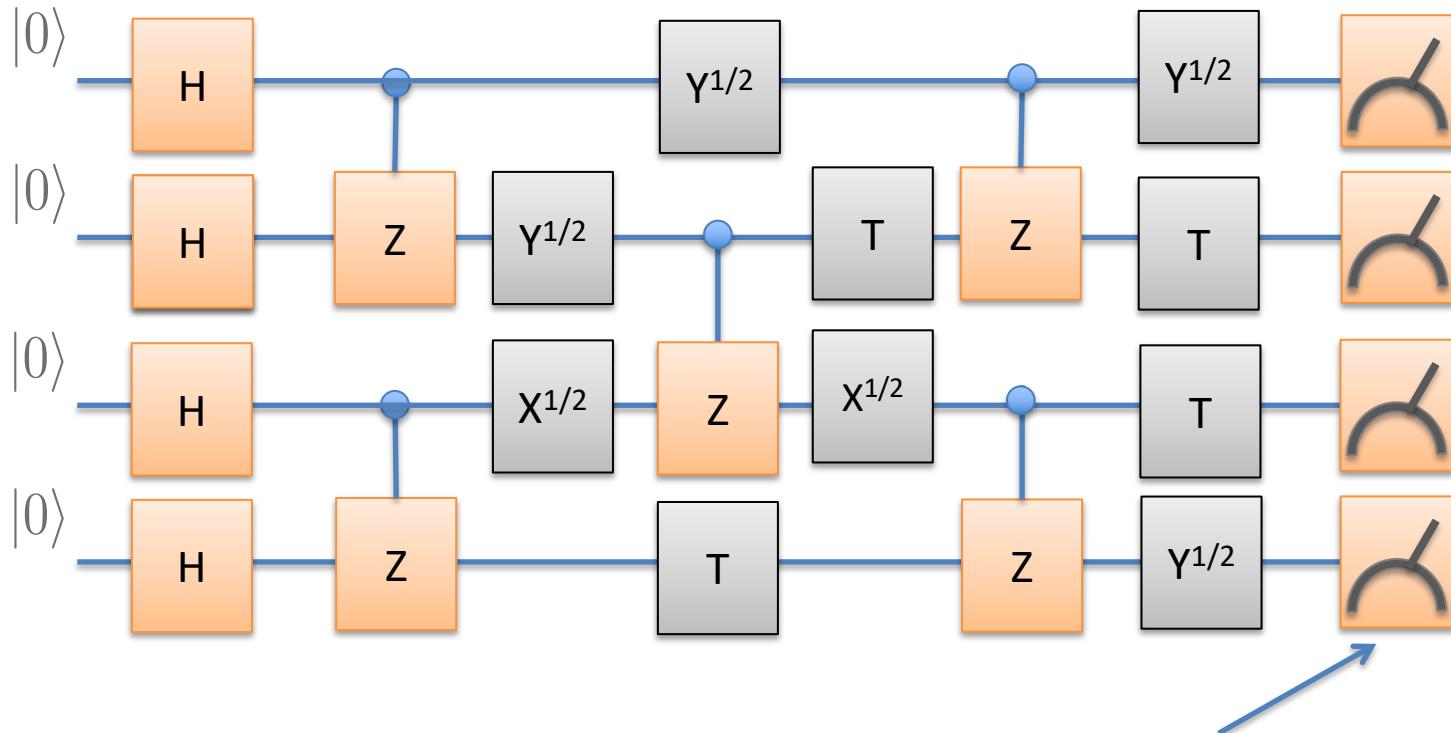


FIG. 6. Layouts of CZ gates in a  $6 \times 6$  qubit lattice. It is currently not possible to perform two CZ gates simultaneously in two neighboring superconducting qubits [33, 34, 49, 52]. We iterate over these arrangements sequentially, from 1 to 8.

From Boixo et al, <https://arxiv.org/pdf/1608.00263.pdf>, 2016.

# Sampling is hard



Once again, the aim of the algorithm is to sample from the measured values.

If this were possible to do efficiently classically, it would imply a collapse of the polynomial hierarchy.

In practice, simulating  $\sim 45$  qubits for this problem is hard (note: need high depth circuit)

# What do you need for quantum supremacy?

- Many qubits ( $>\sim 50$ )
- Large depth circuit ( $>\sim 100$ )
- Entanglement, high T gate count
- Low error rates ( $<1\%$ )

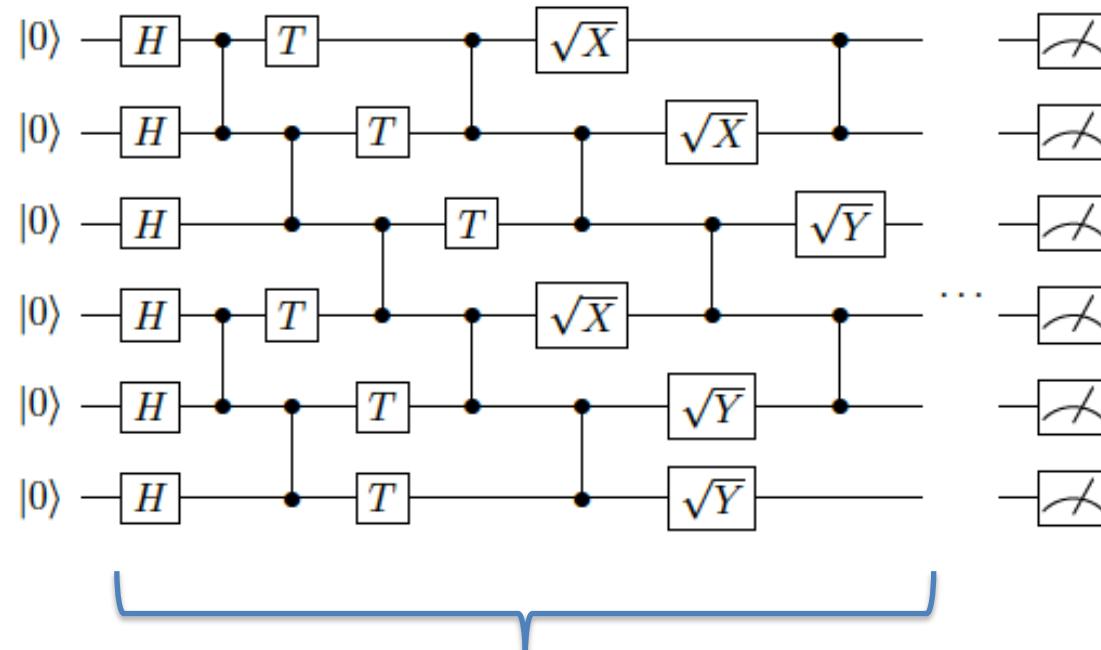
# 60 Qubit Simulations of Shor's algorithm

Using MPS, Aidan Dang wrote parallel code were able to do large scale simulations of Shor's algorithm.

$l$	$r$	$\alpha$	$\beta$	$n_{\text{node}}$	$t_U$	$t_{\text{meas}}$	$t_{\text{QFT}}$	$t_{\text{total}}$
16	28140	2	7035	2	1538	353	4290	6181
17	57516	2	14379	24	1694	406	4544	6644
20	479568	4	29973	216	4271	1496	20236	26003

Table 3.2: Further QCMPs benchmarks, this time across multiple nodes of a supercomputer. Each node has 24 cores and 64 GB of RAM. With  $n_{\text{node}}$  nodes, we simulated the three cases  $l = 16$ ,  $N = 56759$ ,  $a = 2$ ;  $l = 17$ ,  $N = 124631$ ,  $a = 2$ ; and also  $l = 20$ ,  $N = 961307$ ,  $a = 5$ .

# Simulating Google's Pseudo-Random Circuits



**Depth** of the circuit is equivalent to the  
number of timesteps

# Importance of Depth

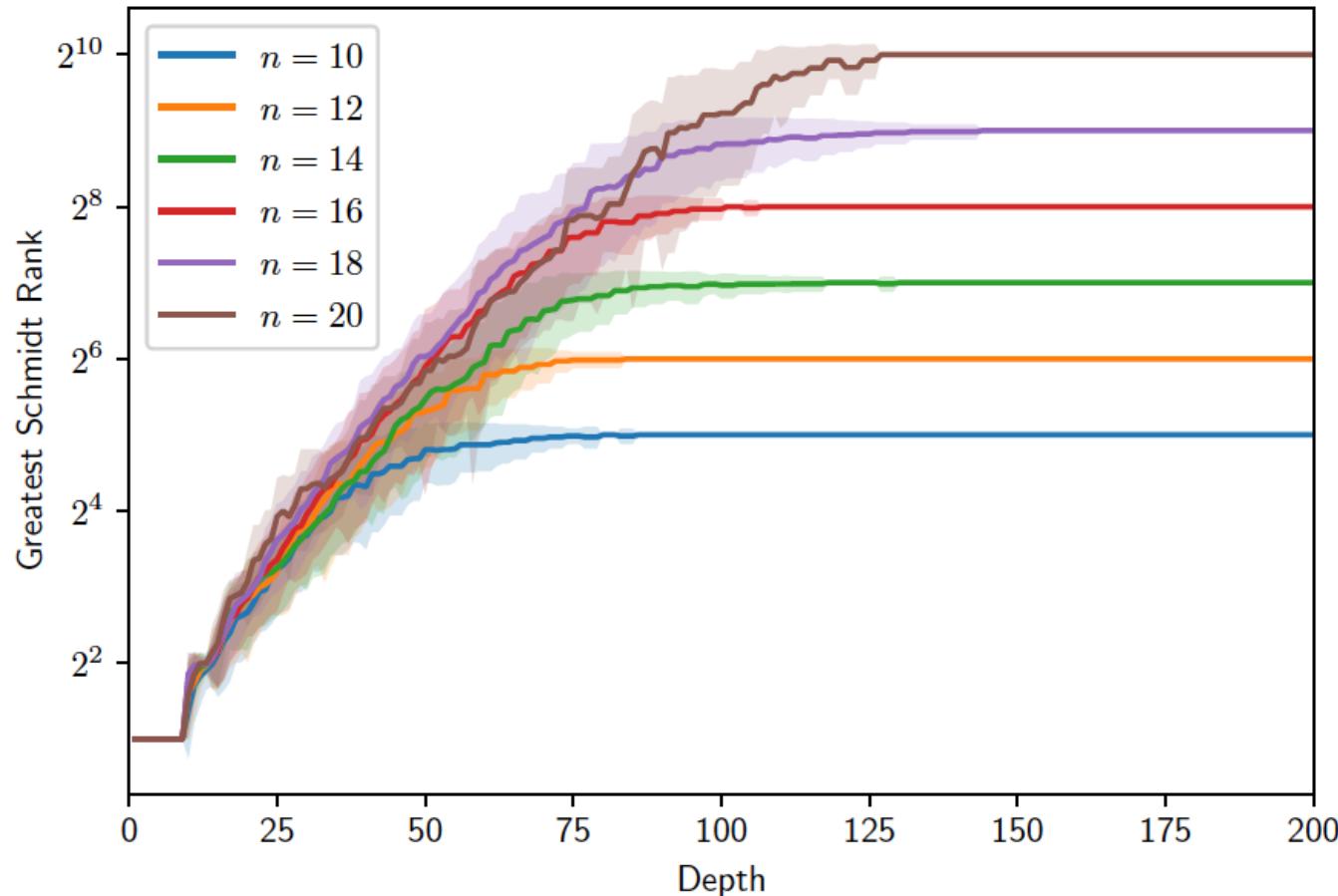
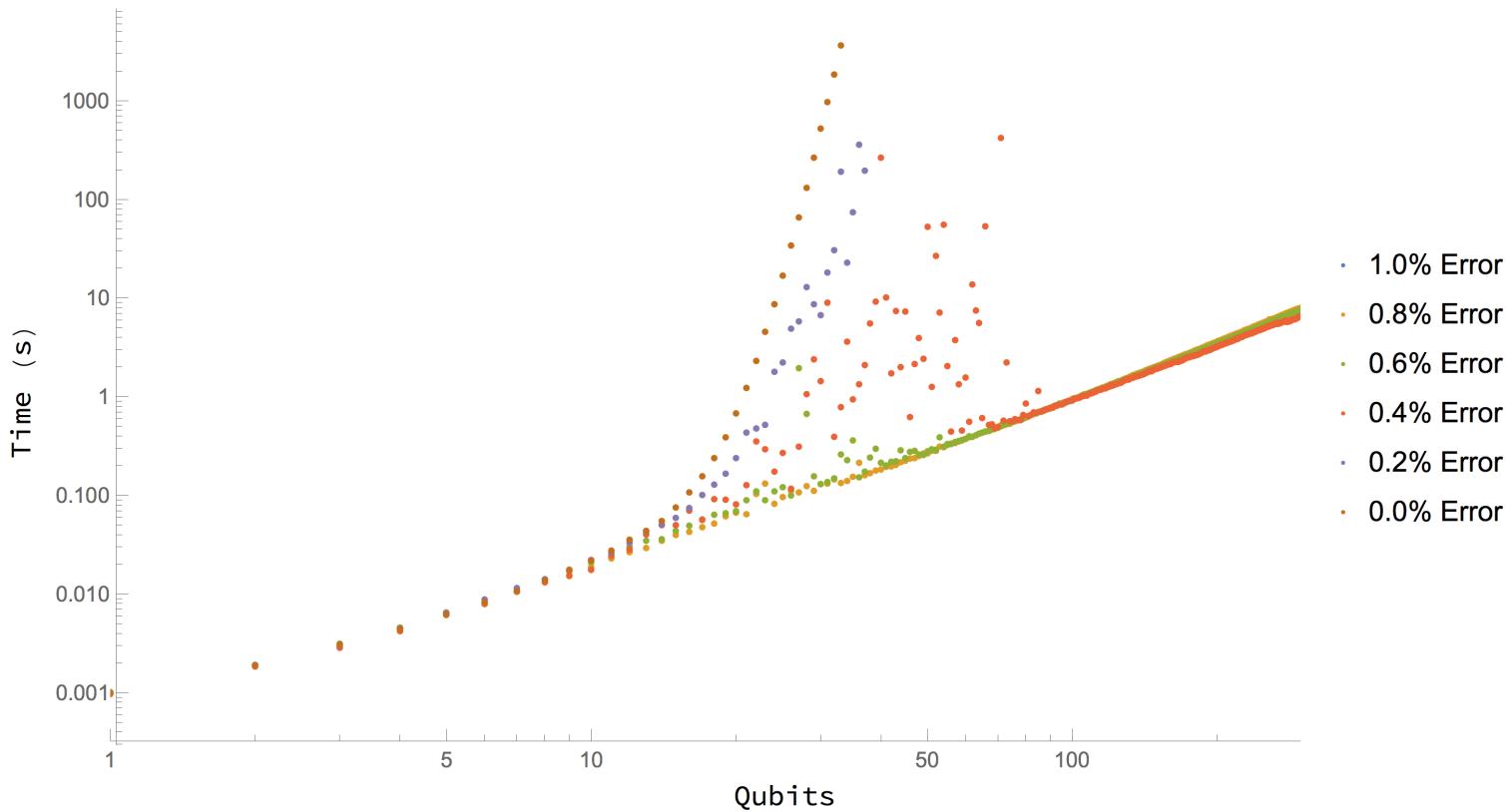


Figure 4.3: Mean maximum Schmidt ranks in the MPS as a function of depth. Sampled over 100 instances, the shading represents one standard deviation.

Source: Dang, thesis, 2017

# Effects of Errors on IQP simulation runtime



# What do you need for quantum supremacy?

- Many qubits ( $>\sim 50$ )
- Large depth circuit ( $>\sim 100$ )
- Entanglement, high T gate count
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12.2 Randomized Benchmarking

12.3 Tomography

## Lab 7

Quantum Supremacy and Errors