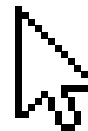




# Quantinuum Challenge: InsertPresentationName



InsertTeamName

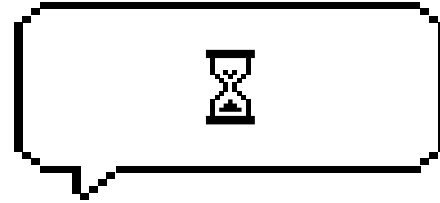
Grace J. Grace T. Jake M. Misheel O. Theo L.



“AAAAAAAAAA”



–InsertSomeoneFamous



# 01

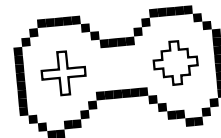
## Optimization

**Improving** Quantum Approximate Optimization Algorithm



# Approaches

1. Understanding physical problem  
→ generally successful
2. Proof of concept by FDSA or gradient descent  
→ successful, got higher result
3. Used gradient descent and SPSA Optimization  
→ generally successful, still improving understanding
4. Wrote our own SPSA implementation  
→ successful, got substantially higher results





# Quantum Approximate Optimization Algorithm (QAOA)

- Several layers of alternating cost and mixer Hamiltonians
- Layers are determined by the parameters  
 $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_p, \beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_p$ , where  $2p$  is the # of layers
- Certain combinations of parameters give good expected energy
- Maximize

Farhi, Edward, et al. "A Quantum Approximate Optimization Algorithm."  
ArXiv.org, 14 Nov. 2014, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1411.4028>.



# Original Quantinuum Code

- Random number guess for angles from uniform distribution between 0 and 1
- Keeps choice of angles if it beats all previous choices

```
for i in range(iterations):

    guess_mixer_angles = rng.uniform(0, 1, n)
    guess_cost_angles = rng.uniform(0, 1, n)

    qaoa_energy = qaoa_instance(backend,
                                compiler_pass,
                                guess_mixer_angles,
                                guess_cost_angles,
                                seed=seed,
                                shots=shots)

    if(qaoa_energy > highest_energy):

        print("new highest energy found: ", qaoa_energy)

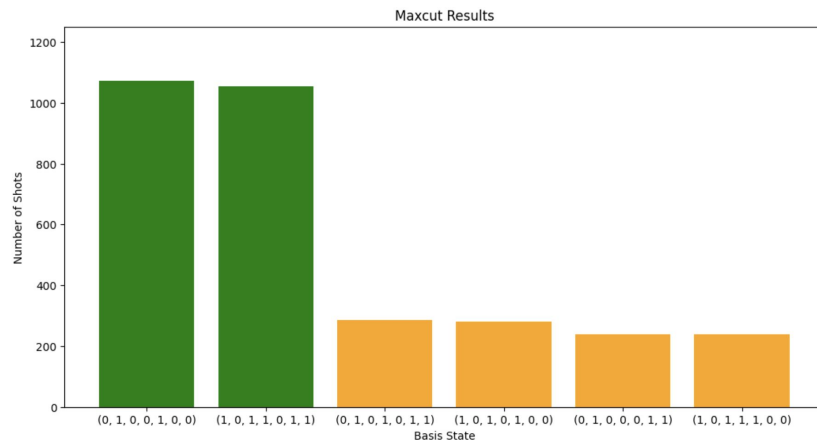
    best_guess_mixer_angles = np.round(guess_mixer_angles, 3)
    best_guess_cost_angles = np.round(guess_cost_angles, 3)
    highest_energy = qaoa_energy
```



# Graphs

Original graph

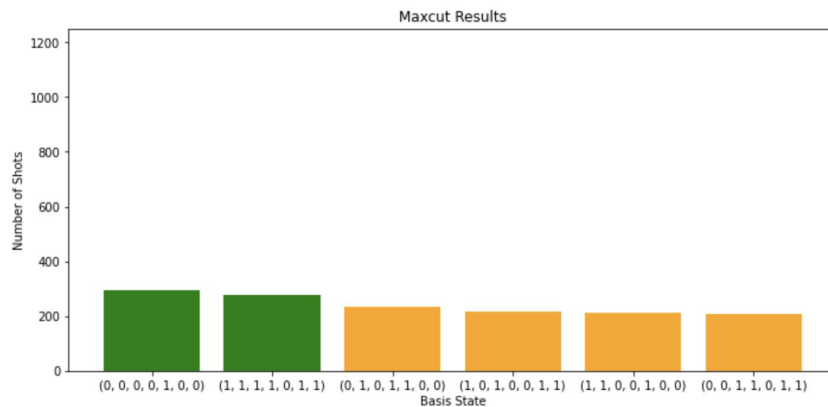
Success ratio 0.4252



Highest Expected Energy: 4.94

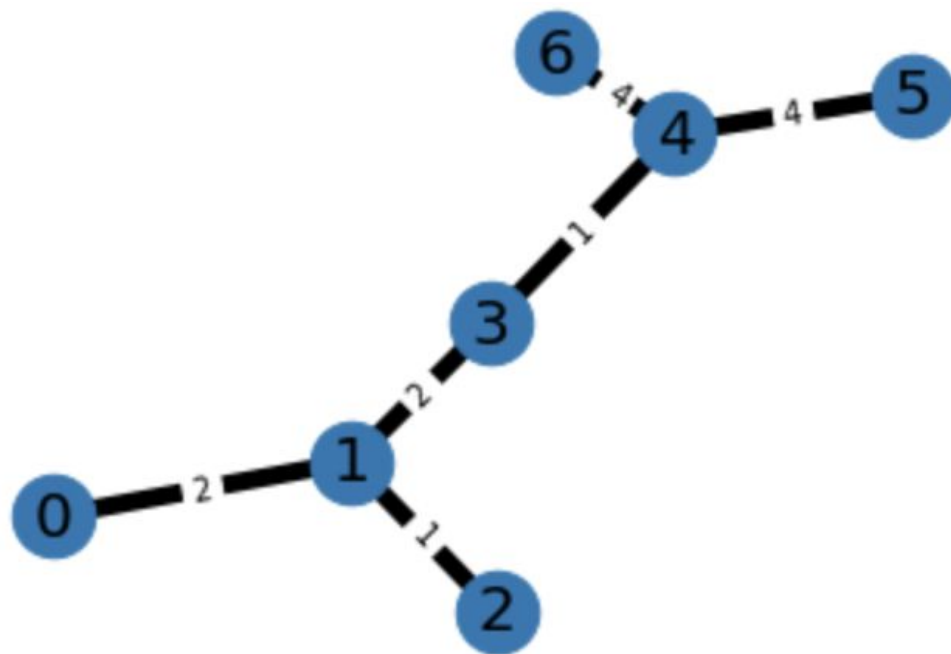
A weighted graph

Success ratio 0.1142



(Kind of wrong)

Highest Expected Energy: 9.4







# Gradient Descent

- Estimate the gradient of the objective function by partial derivative in each variable
- Make jumps proportional to the estimated gradient

Pro:

- Gets better results than random guesses

Cons:

- Complexity increases with number of variables



# The Math

For Objective function  $J(u)$ , find

$$u^* = \arg \min_{u \in U} J(u).$$

Iterate by moving with gradient,

$$u_{n+1} = u_n - a_n \hat{g}_n(u_n),$$

Estimate gradient by,

$$(\hat{g}_n(u_n))_i = \frac{J(u_n + c_n e_i) - J(u_n - c_n e_i)}{2c_n}.$$



## Simultaneous Perturbation Stochastic Approximation (SPSA)

- Instead of testing each variable direction, tests a random direction twice.
- Estimates gradient
- Provable that gradient error approaches 0 over iterations

Pro:

- Complexity stays the same for more layers
- Usually does better than previous approaches
- Easy to implement a simple version

Cons:

- The pre-existing implementation was confusing and unpredictable



# SPSA Math

We estimate the gradient by,

$$(\hat{g}_n(u_n))_i = \frac{J(u_n + c_n \Delta_n) - J(u_n - c_n \Delta_n)}{2c_n (\Delta_n)_i}$$

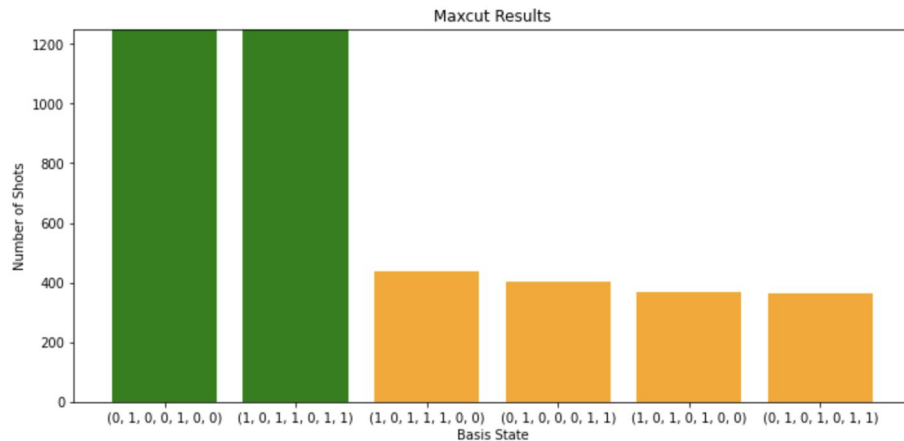
with the  $\Delta_n$  drawn from a Rademacher distribution:  
uniform discrete from  $\{-1, +1\}$



# Graphs

Original graph

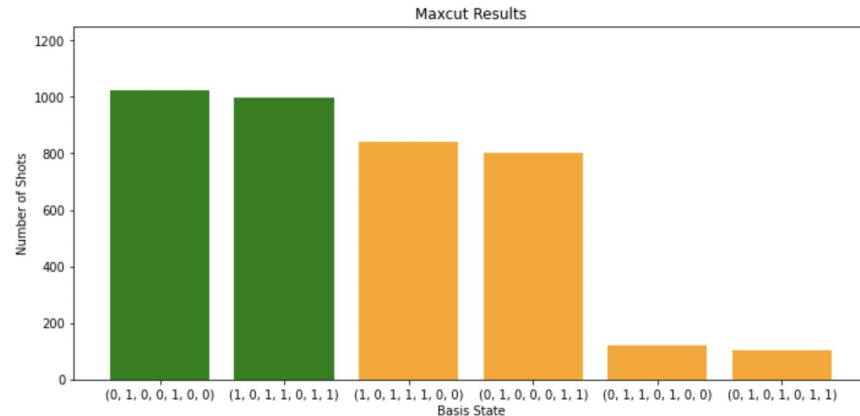
Success ratio 0.5962



Highest Expected Energy: 5.46

A weighted graph

Success ratio 0.4044



Highest Expected Energy: 12.77



# 02

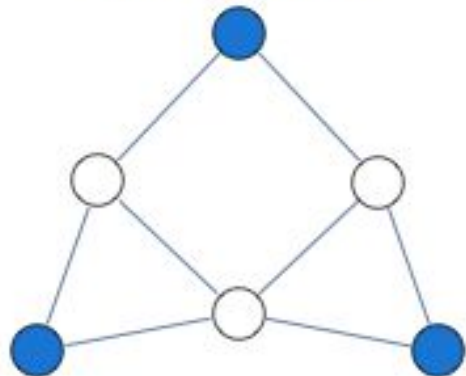
## Further Applications



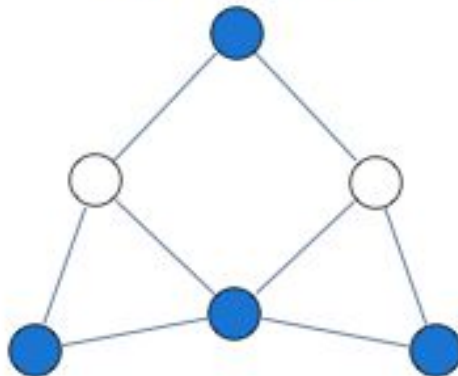


# Max Independent Set

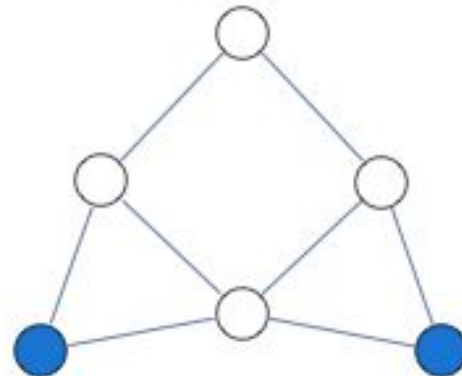
largest independent set



not independent set



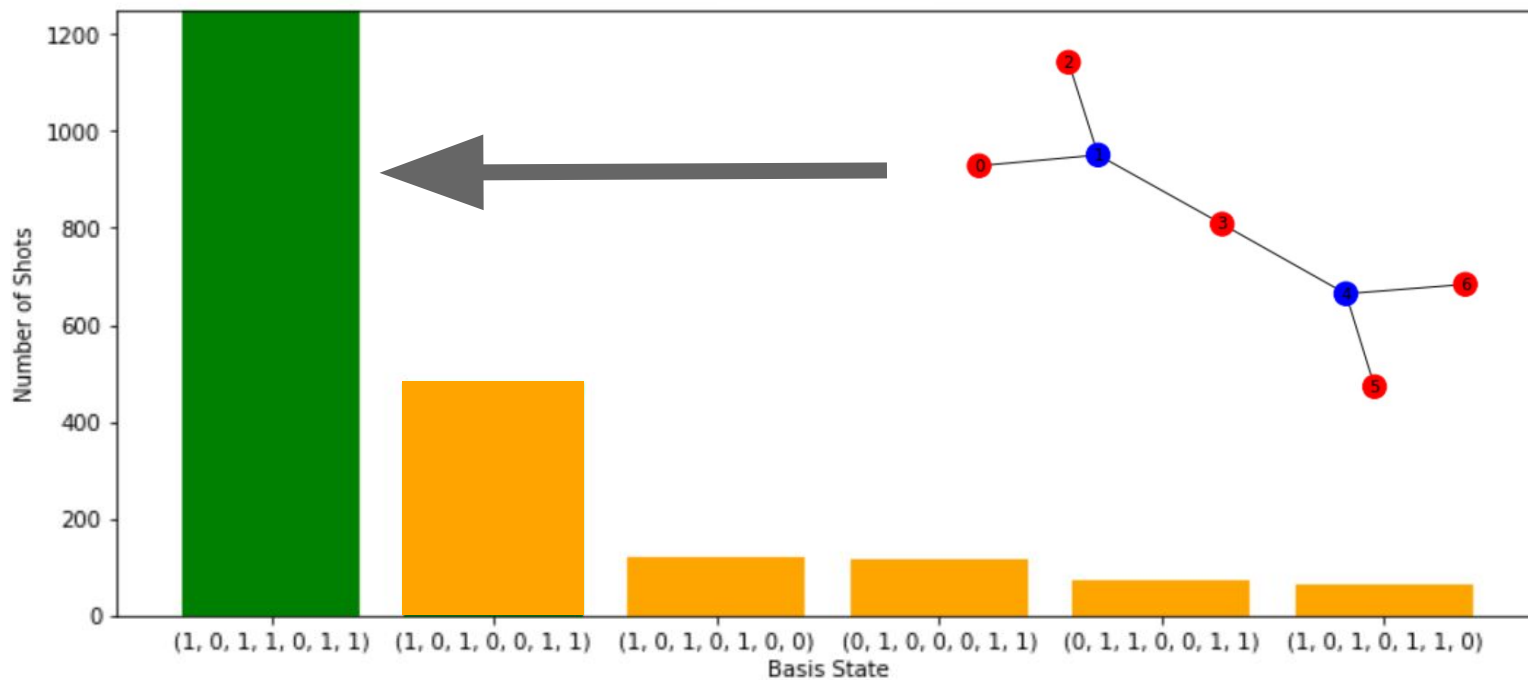
not largest





# Results

Max Independent Set Results

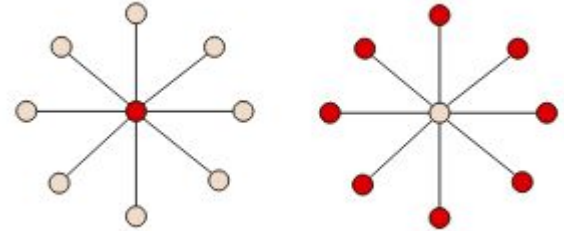




# Real-World Applications

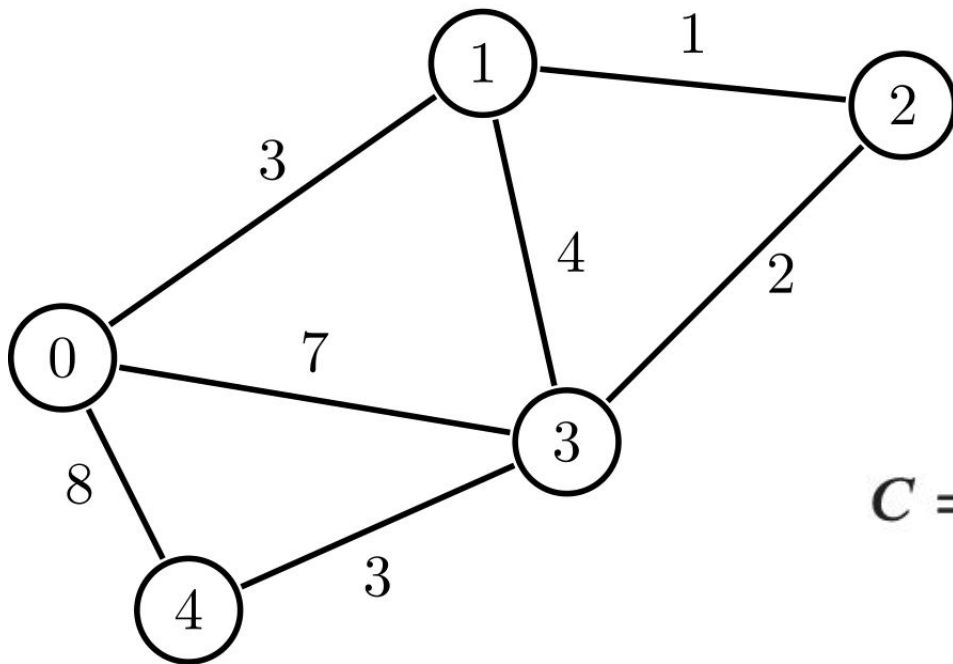
## Max Independent Set

- Corresponds to maximum clique problem on complement graph
- Corresponds to minimum vertex cover problem





# Max Cut for Weighted Graphs



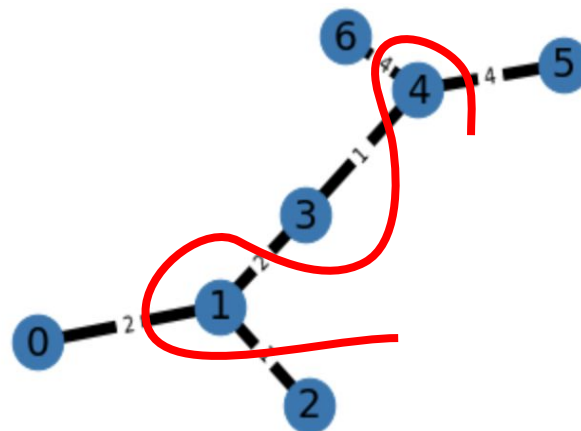
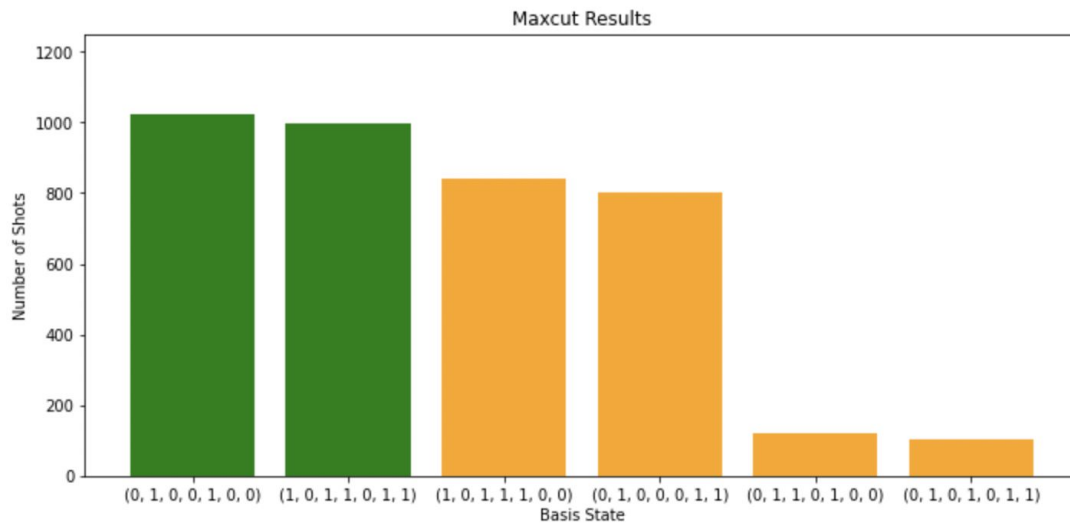
- Graph with edges that have weight
- Cut across an edge is now worth the edge's weight, not a default 1

$$C = \sum_{(i,j)} x_i(1 - x_j) \cdot w(x_i, x_j)$$



# Results

Success ratio 0.4044



# Real-World Applications

## Max Cut for Weighted Graphs

- Grouping friends together, grouping those who don't know each other well together
- Meal planning from foods in fridge (maximize nutrition)

	Seal	Monk	Liane
Seal	1	0.4	0.7
Monk	0.4	1	0.9
Liane	0.7	0.9	1