

Quantum Simulations of Fermionic Hamiltonians with Efficient Encoding and Ansatz Schemes

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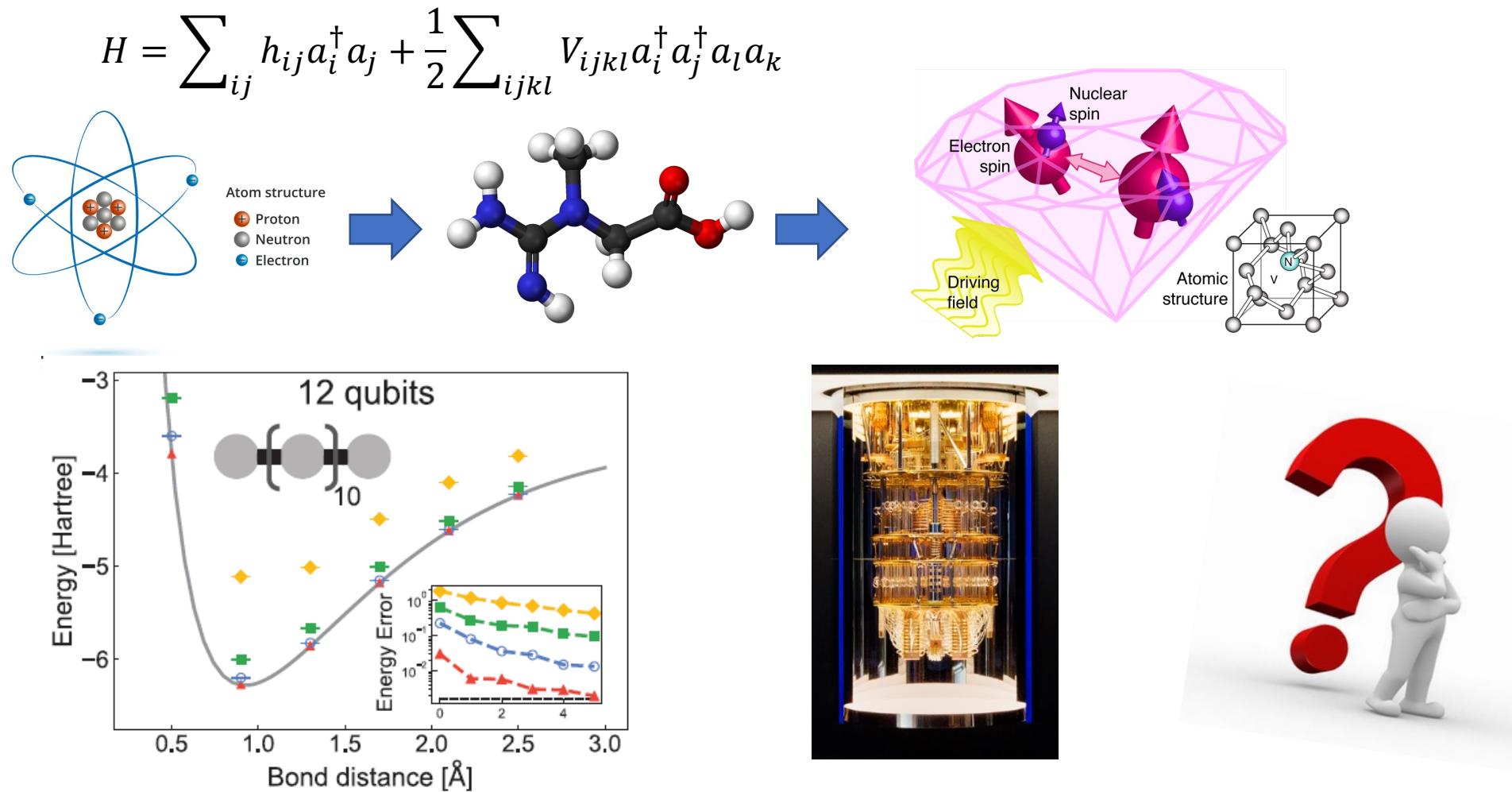
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Motivation

- Solving for eigenstates of Hamiltonians describing physical systems



Outline

- Open challenges in solving the electronic structure problem of spin defects and possible solutions
- Results of quantum simulations
- Conclusions and outlook

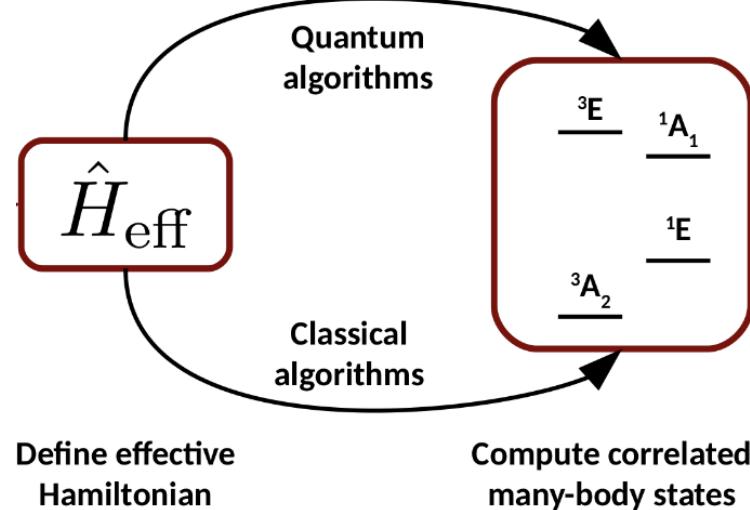
Benchen Huang, Marco Govoni, and Giulia Galli. *PRX Quantum* 3.1 (2022): 010339.

Benchen Huang, Nan Sheng, Marco Govoni, and Giulia Galli, *JCTC* 2023 (accepted) *arXiv:2212.01912* (2022).

Christian Vorwerk*, Nan Sheng*, Marco Govoni, Benchen Huang, and Giulia Galli, *Nat. Comput. Sci.* 2, 424 (2022).

Simulating Spin Defects in Solids

$$H = \sum_{ij} h_{ij} a_i^\dagger a_j + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ijkl} V_{ijkl} a_i^\dagger a_j^\dagger a_l a_k$$



<WEST!>



- We adopt a recently developed quantum defect embedding theory (QDET) to simulate many-body correlated states of defects
- Low level of theory (environ.): G_0W_0 ; high Level of theory (H_{eff}): Full Configuration Interaction

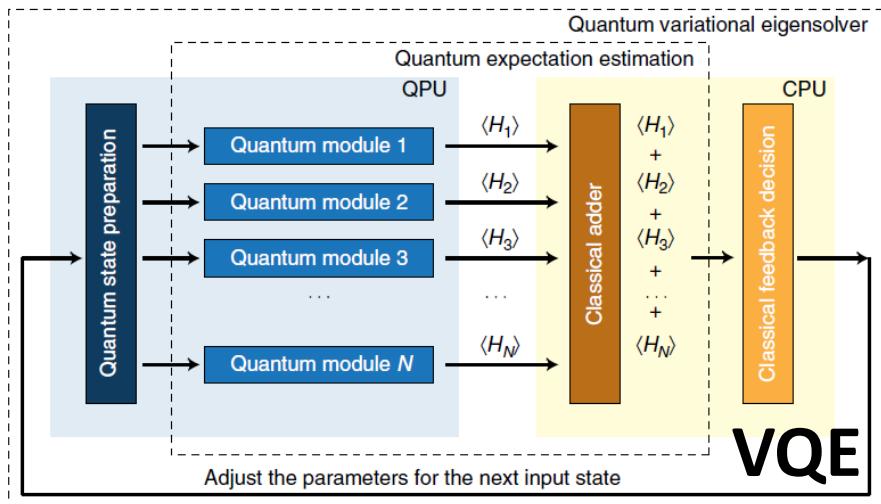
He Ma, Marco Govoni, and Giulia Galli. *npj Computational Materials* 6.1 (2020): 85.

He Ma, Nan Sheng, Marco Govoni, and Giulia Galli. *JCTC* 17.4 (2021): 2116-2125.

Nan Sheng, Christian Vorwerk, Marco Govoni, and Giulia Galli. *JCTC* 18.6 (2022): 3512-3522.

Christian Vorwerk, Nan Sheng, Marco Govoni, Benchen Huang, and Giulia Galli. *Nature Computational Science* 2.7 (2022): 424-432.

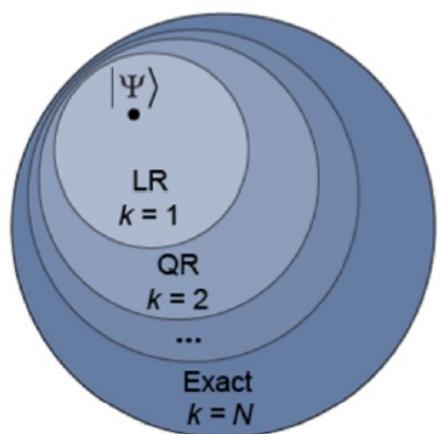
Computational Protocol



Ground State: Variational Quantum Eigensolver (VQE)

- Encode chemical information onto qubits
- Define a parameterized quantum circuit
- Use a classical optimizer to optimize the params

Alberto Peruzzo, et al. Nature communications 5.1 (2014): 1-7.



$$\begin{cases} H_{ij}^{QSE} = \langle \Psi | \hat{O}_i^\dagger \hat{H} \hat{O}_j | \Psi \rangle \\ S_{ij}^{QSE} = \langle \Psi | \hat{O}_i^\dagger \hat{O}_j | \Psi \rangle \end{cases}$$

(\hat{O}_i is the qubit encoded excitation operators)

$$\text{Solve } H^{QSE} C = S^{QSE} C \varepsilon$$

QSE

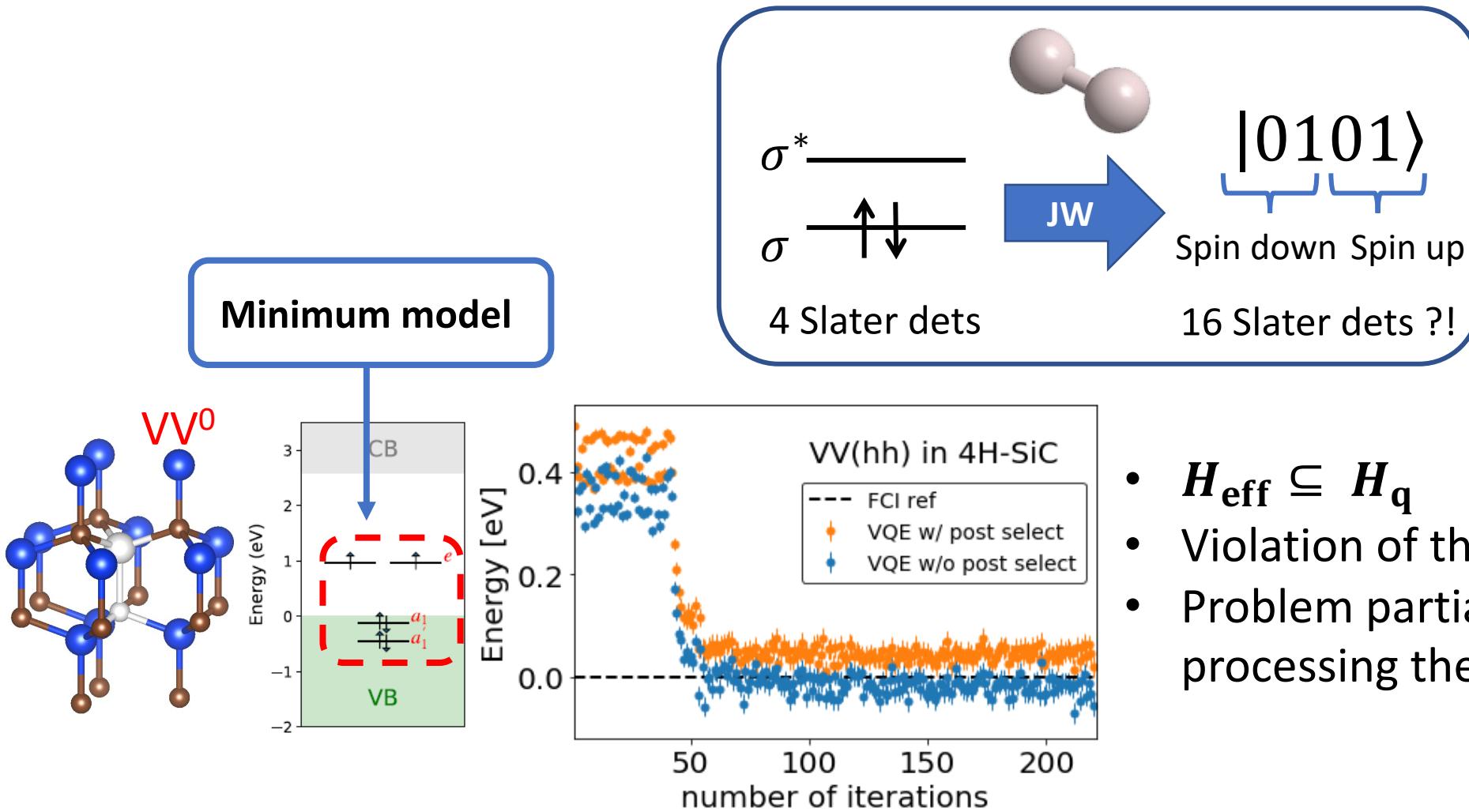
$$\text{Span} \left\{ \sigma_1^{\alpha_1} \sigma_2^{\alpha_2} \dots \sigma_k^{\alpha_k} | \Psi \rangle \mid \alpha \in [I, \sigma_x, \sigma_y, \sigma_z] \right\}$$

Excited States: Quantum Subspace Expansion (QSE)

- Compute matrix elements through quantum measurements
- Diagonalize the generalized eigenvalue problem on a classical computer

Challenges for Conventional Approaches

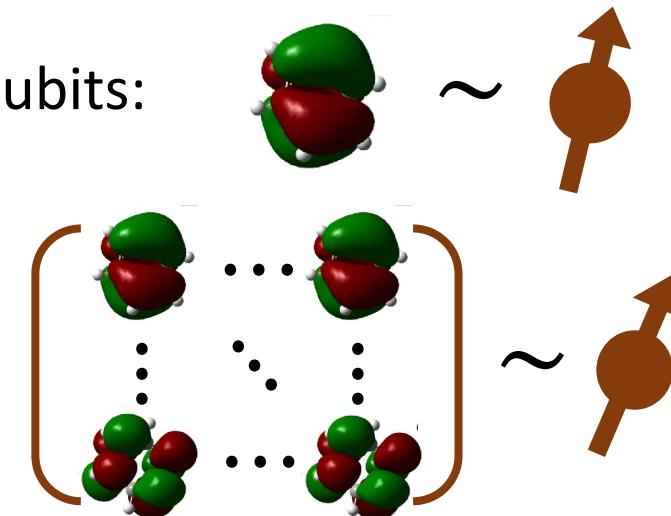
Challenge I: unphysical state problem from conventional encoding



- $H_{\text{eff}} \subseteq H_q$
- Violation of the variational principle
- Problem partially mitigated by post-processing the measure outcomes

Possible Solution: Qubit-Efficient Encoding

- Conventional scheme encodes spin orbitals into qubits:
- **Solution:** We encode Slater determinants (SD) into qubits, **qubit-efficient encoding (QEE)**:



Example: for a given active space, where we have 8 SDs, by adopting QEE we can use 3 qubits instead of 8. All excitations

$ g\rangle$	\equiv	$ 000\rangle_q$
$ e_1\rangle$	\equiv	$ 001\rangle_q$
⋮		
$ e_7\rangle$	\equiv	$ 111\rangle_q$

1. **QEE** by construction spans a space that is identical to the physical Hilbert space → eliminates the unphysical state problem
2. **QEE** requires $N_q = \lceil \log_2 Q \rceil$ qubits, where Q is the number of Slater determinants.

Challenges in the Construction of Ansatz

Challenge II: Choosing a good ansatz for NISQ (noisy) devices

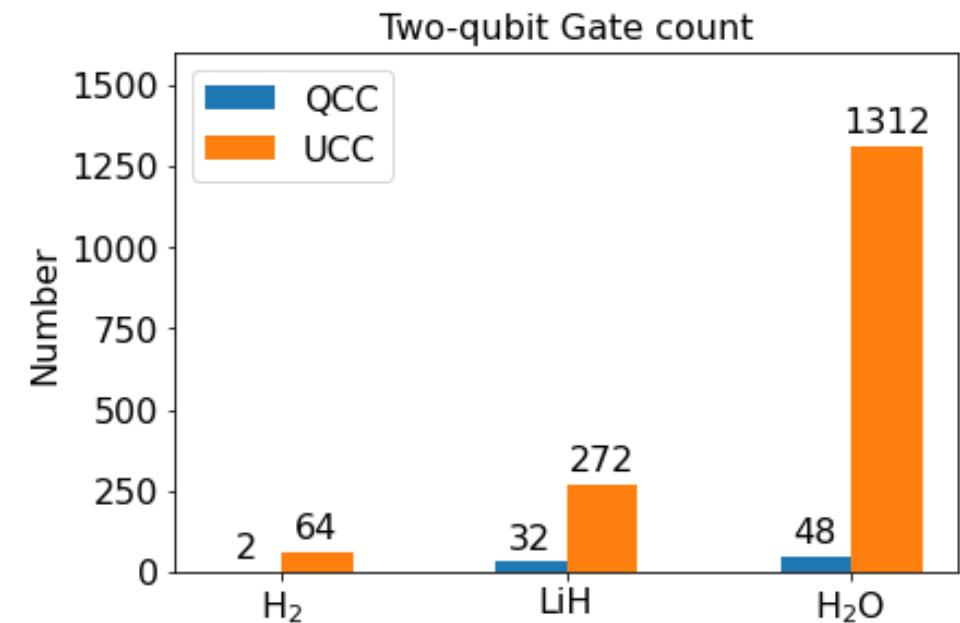
- **Unitary Coupled-Cluster (UCC) ansatz**

$$|\Psi\rangle = e^{T-T^\dagger} |\Psi_{\text{HF}}\rangle,$$
$$e^{T-T^\dagger} \approx \prod_k e^{-\frac{i\theta_k \hat{P}_k}{2}} = e^{\frac{i}{2}\theta_0 Y_2 Z_1 X_0} \times \dots, \hat{P}_k = \{I, X, Y, Z\}^{\otimes N}$$

The CNOT gate complexity¹ is: $\sim O(N^{3\sim 5})$

Kühn, Michael, et al. *JCTC* 15.9 (2019): 4764-4780.

Is there an optimal way to determine which \hat{P}_k s contribute the most to the ground state energy?

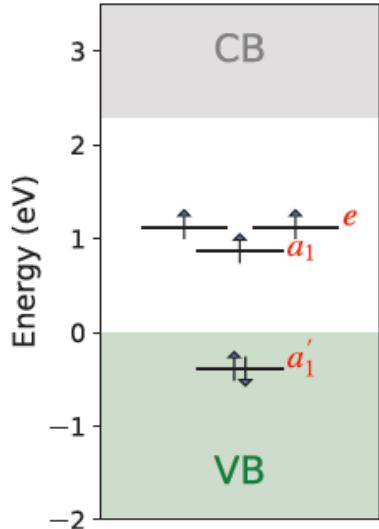
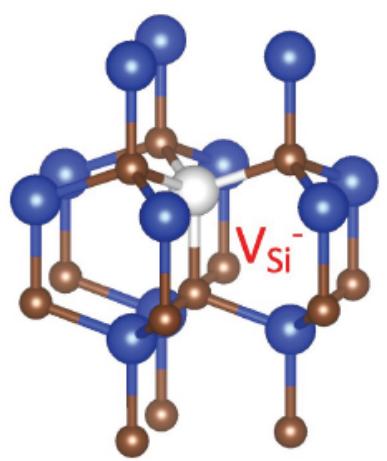


Solution: Qubit Coupled-Cluster (QCC) ansatz

- Pre-screening process proposed in Ref 1 to select \hat{P}_k s
- All Pauli operators \hat{P}_k s are **ranked** to construct ansatz circuit \hat{U}
- The ranking procedure dramatically reduces the two-qubit gate count

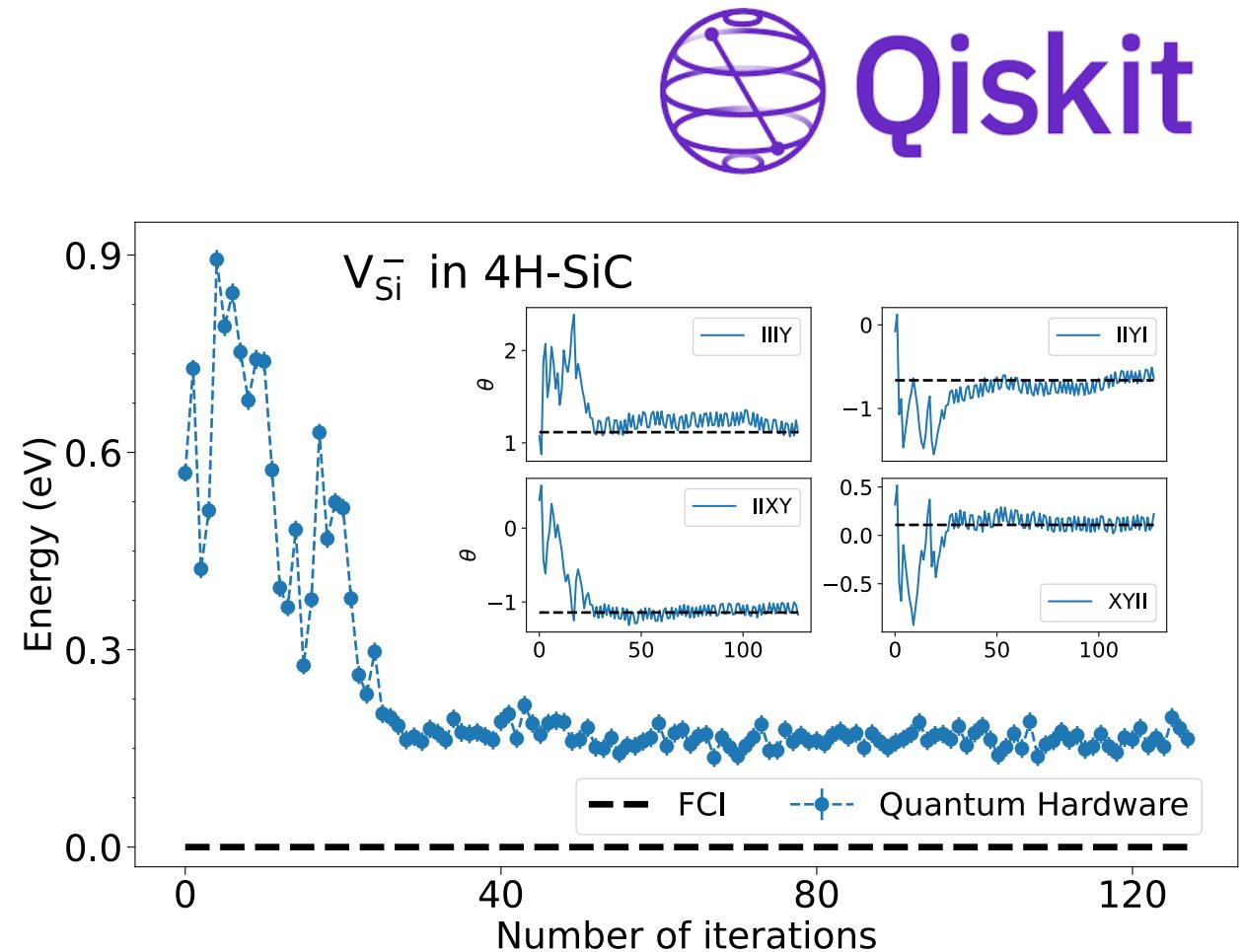
¹Ilya G. Ryabinkin, Tzu-Ching Yen, Scott N. Genin, and Artur F. Izmaylov. *JCTC* 14.12 (2018): 6317-6326.

Results: V_{Si}^- in 4H-SiC



Active space: (5e, 4o)

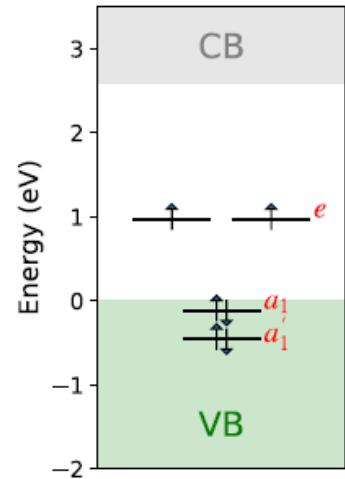
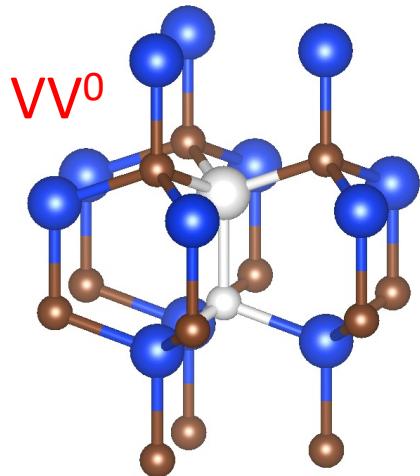
Hamiltonian H_{eff} is derived from quantum defect embedding theory¹.



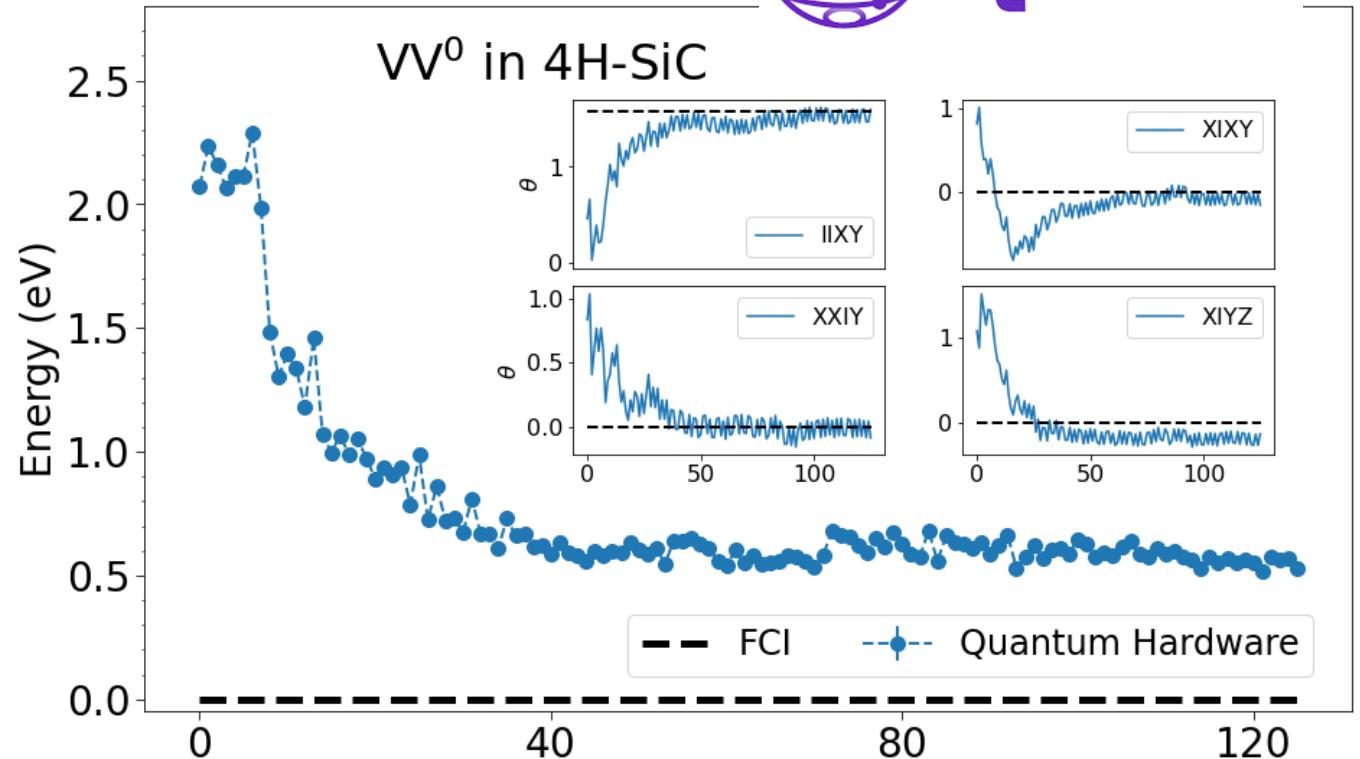
¹Nan Sheng, Christian Vorwerk, Marco Govoni, and Giulia Galli. *JCTC* 18.6 (2022): 3512-3522.

Benchen Huang, Nan Sheng, Marco Govoni, and Giulia Galli. *JCTC* 2023 (accepted) *arXiv:2212.01912* (2022).

Results: VV⁰ in 4H-SiC



Active space: (14e, 8o)
(beyond the minimum model)



How can we mitigate the error?

Zero Noise Extrapolation

1. Write the measured expectation value as:

$$\langle H \rangle(\lambda) = \langle H \rangle(0) + \sum_k^n c_k \lambda^k + O(\lambda^{n+1})$$

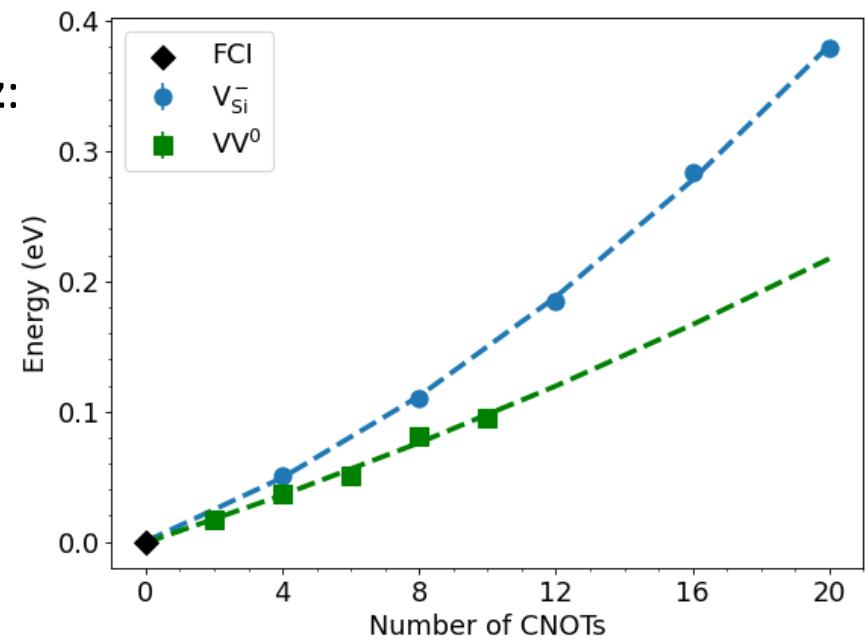
2. Boost the noise in a controllable fashion and then extrapolate to get the zero-noise limit.

- Exponential Block replication* for all Coupled Cluster type ansatz:

$$\text{QCC (UCC): } \hat{U}(\vec{\theta}) = \prod_k e^{-\frac{i\theta_k \hat{P}_k}{2}}, \quad \hat{P}_k \in \{I, X, Y, Z\}^{\otimes N}$$

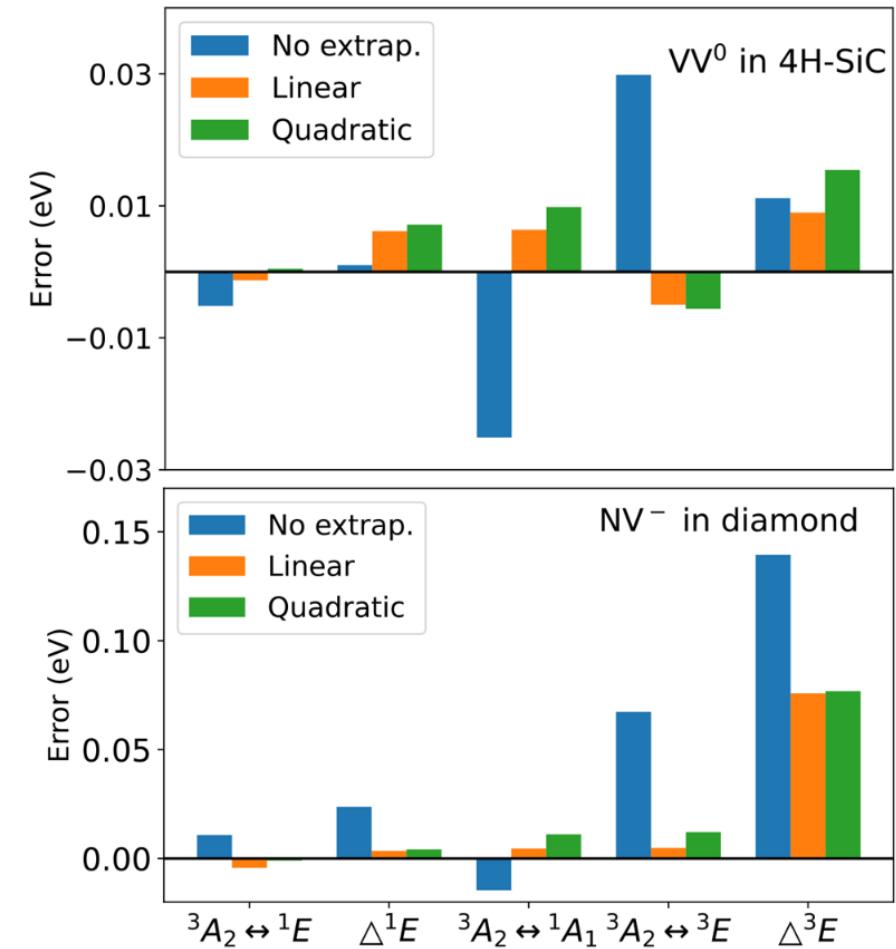
$$\hat{U}(\vec{\theta}) = \prod_k \left(\prod_n e^{-\frac{i\theta_k \hat{P}_k}{2n}} \right)$$

*Splitting the exponential does **not affect** the Trotter error.



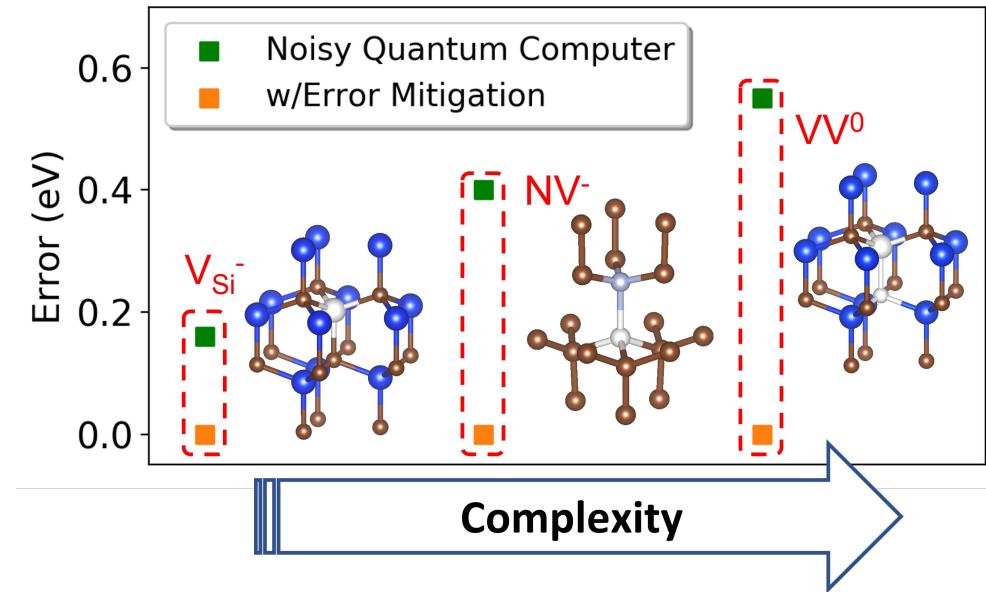
Computed Electronic Excitations of Spin Defects

- In addition to ground state optimized energy with VQE, we computed **electronic excitations** of spin defects using the Quantum Subspace Expansion algorithm.
- Use of noise extrapolation greatly improves the accuracy of calculated transitions on quantum hardware in most cases.
- All the results were obtained using 4 qubits on the *IBM Guadalupe* quantum computer.



Conclusions and Outlook

- We combined a qubit-efficient encoding and a qubit coupled-cluster ansatz to go beyond the minimum model in simulations of the electronic properties of spin defects in solids.
- Our strategy led to a substantial improvement in the scaling of circuit gate counts and in the number of required qubits, and to a decrease in the number of required variational parameters, thus increasing the resilience to noise.
- Use of noise extrapolation greatly improves the accuracy of ground state energy and calculated transitions on quantum hardware.



Acknowledgements



Backup I: Qubit-Efficient Encoding

	JW, BK, parity	QEE
# qubits	$N_q = N$	$N_q = \lceil \log Q \rceil \leq N$
# size of H_q	$O(N_q^4) \sim O(N^4)$	$O(2^{2N_q}) \sim O(Q^2) \sim O(N^{2c})$

N is the number of spin orbitals;

m is the number of electrons;

c is the number of holes;

N_q is the number of qubits;

Q is the total number of Slater determinants.

$$Q = \frac{N!}{m! (N - m)!}$$

Possible solutions: Qubit Coupled-Cluster Ansatz

Trotterized UCC: $\hat{U}(\vec{\theta}) = e^{T-T^\dagger} \approx \prod_k e^{-\frac{i\theta_k \hat{P}_k}{2}}, \quad \hat{P}_k \in \{I, X, Y, Z\}^{\otimes N}$

Can we work directly on the Pauli strings \hat{P}_k that make up the exponentials, instead of finding those by transforming the creation and annihilation operators?

- Find those \hat{P}_k s that contribute most to the energy minimization: $E = \langle \Psi_0 | \hat{U}^\dagger H \hat{U} | \Psi_0 \rangle$.
- For operators satisfying $\hat{P}_k^2 = 1$,

$$e^{i\theta \hat{P}_k/2} H e^{-i\theta \hat{P}_k/2} = H - i \frac{\sin \theta}{2} [H, \hat{P}_k] + \frac{1 - \cos \theta}{2} \hat{P}_k [H, \hat{P}_k]$$

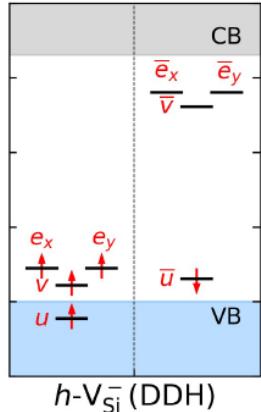
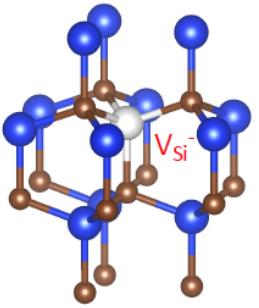
- A pre-screening process is proposed¹, where the derivative of \hat{P}_k w.r.t. $E[\theta; \hat{P}_k] = \langle \Psi_0 | e^{i\theta \hat{P}_k/2} H e^{-i\theta \hat{P}_k/2} | \Psi_0 \rangle$ is:

$$\left. \frac{dE[\theta; \hat{P}_k]}{d\theta} \right|_{\theta=0} = \left\langle \Psi_0 \left| -\frac{i}{2} [\hat{H}, \hat{P}_k] \right| \Psi_0 \right\rangle$$

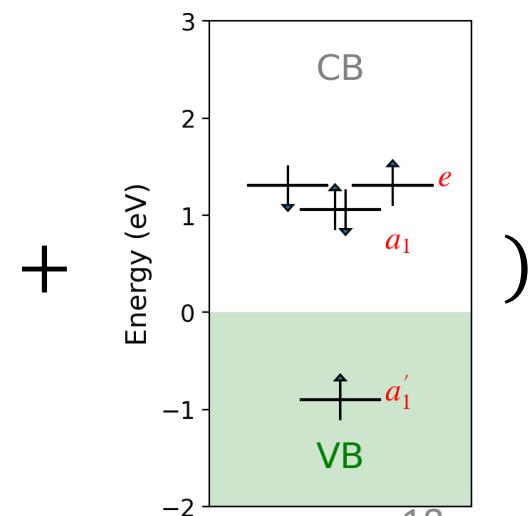
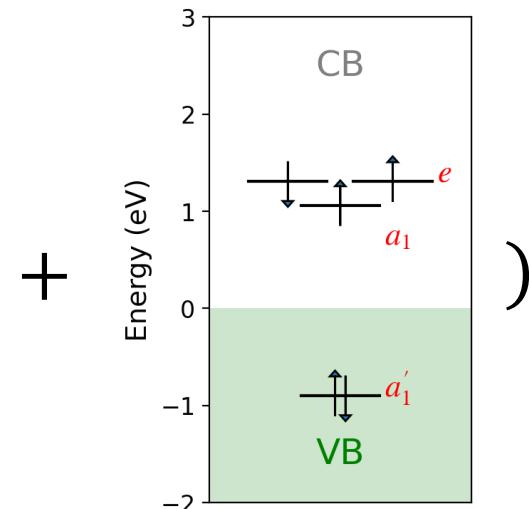
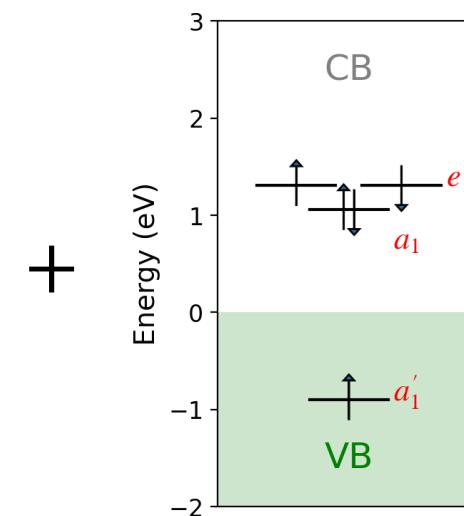
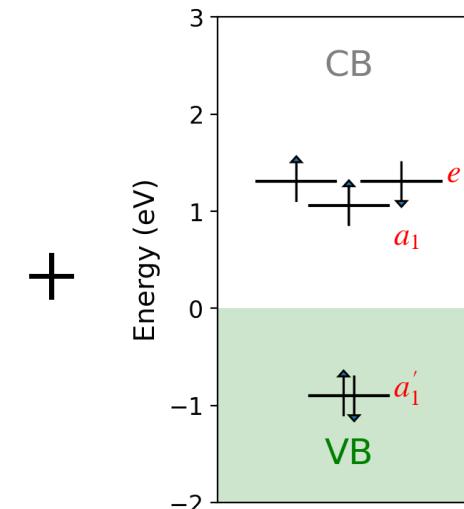
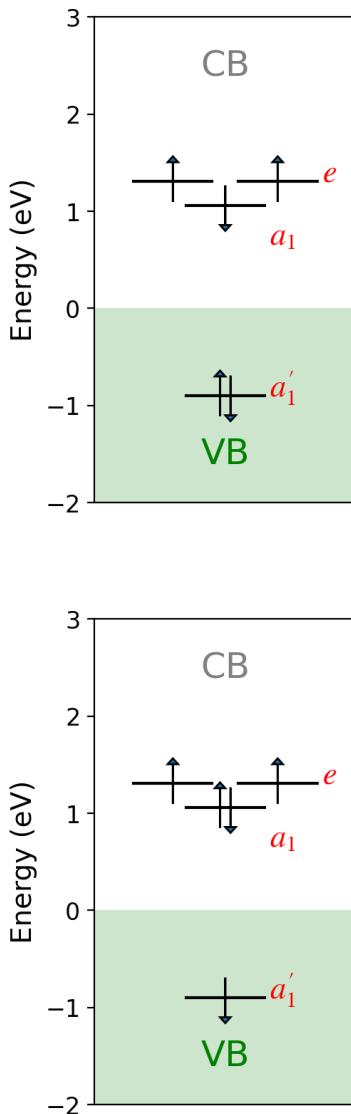
- Pre-screening process: all \hat{P}_k s are ranked according to the computed derivatives to construct \hat{U} .

¹Ryabinkin, Ilya G., et al. JCTC 14.12 (2018): 6317-6326.

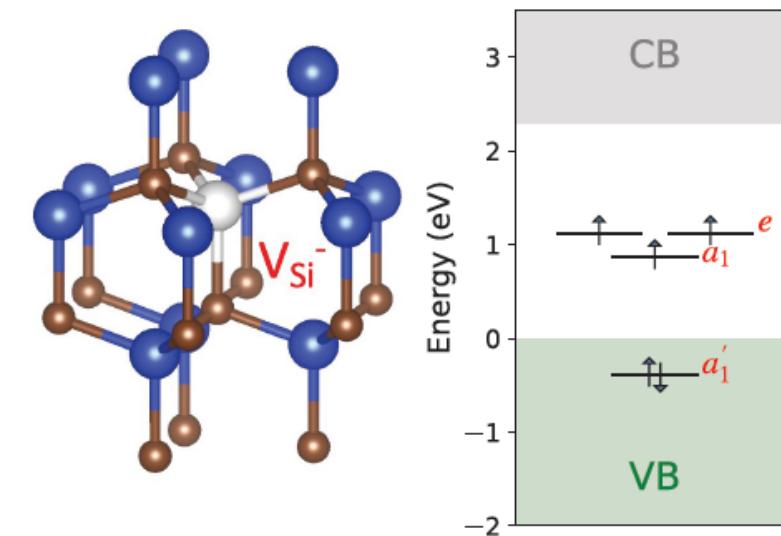
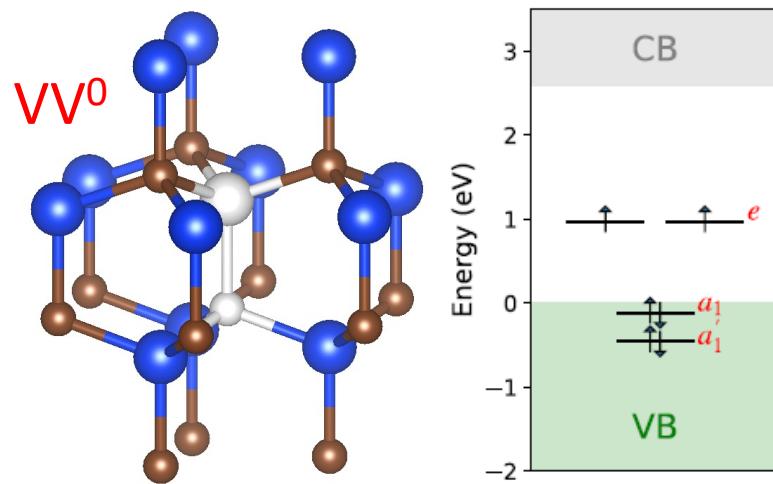
Results: V_{Si^-} from FCI



$$\left| {}^4A_2, m_s = \frac{1}{2} \right\rangle = \alpha ([1] \text{ Intersystem Crossing}) + \beta (\lambda_1(l_j s_j)_\perp + \lambda_1(l_j s_j)_\parallel)$$



Results: VV^0 and V_{Si^-} pre-screening



Rank	VV^0		
	entangler	Noiseless (10^{-3})	Noisy (10^{-3})
1	IIXY	9.243	9.170
2	XIYZ	8.177	8.100
3	XXIY	8.165	8.065
4	XIXY	6.587	6.529

Rank	V_{Si^-}		
	entangler	Noiseless (10^{-3})	noisy (10^{-3})
1	XYII	6.969	6.754
2	IIYI	6.693	6.601
3	IYII	4.352	4.357
4	IIXY	4.350	4.350

Zero Noise Extrapolation

