



# Quantum Computing & High Energy Physics

Miriam Lucio Martínez



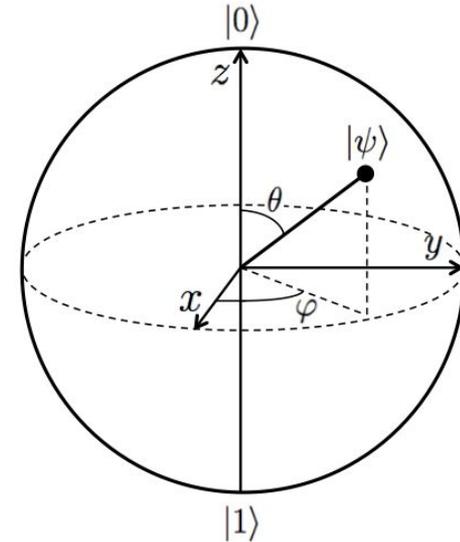
**IBM Research**



# Quantum Computing in a nutshell



- Instead of **bits** we use **qubits**, the fundamental units of quantum information
  - Not 0 or 1, but a two-state quantum system → coherent superposition of both
  - They can be **measured** → probabilistic results
- There are **quantum logic gates** that operate on these qubits
  - Unitary transformations
  - Quantum gates can be **single** or **multiple**

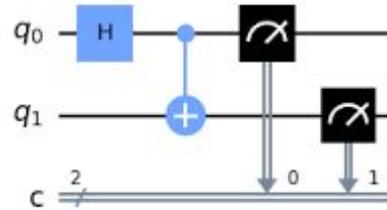


$$|0\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, |1\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$|\psi\rangle = \alpha |0\rangle + \beta |1\rangle$$

# Quantum Computing in a nutshell



A sequence of gates acting on a register of qubits is called a **quantum circuit**



Some computational problems can profit from **Quantum Computing** using the principles of **superposition** and **interference**.

<https://quantumalgorithmzoo.org/>

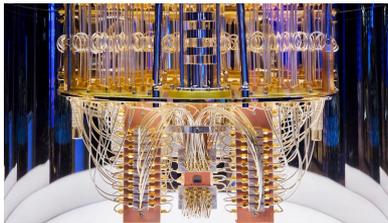
# Quantum Computing - Hardware

Several technologies are being explored as physical qubits:

## Superconducting



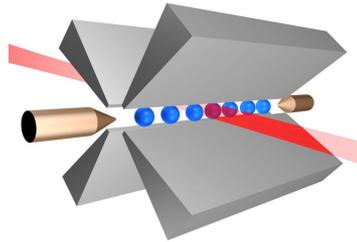
Superconducting electric circuits at 10mK behave as quantum systems with discrete energy levels



## Trapped ions



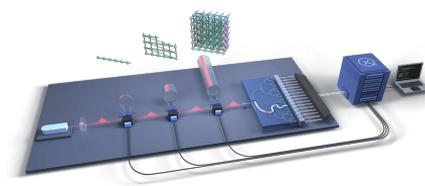
Charged atoms constrained in electromagnetic traps and manipulated with laser



## Optical



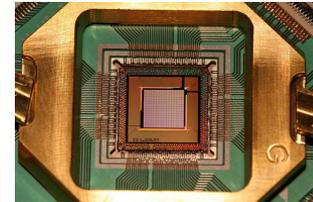
Linear optics devices using photons as information carriers



## Annealing



Ising-chain qubits interacting with a customizable Hamiltonian

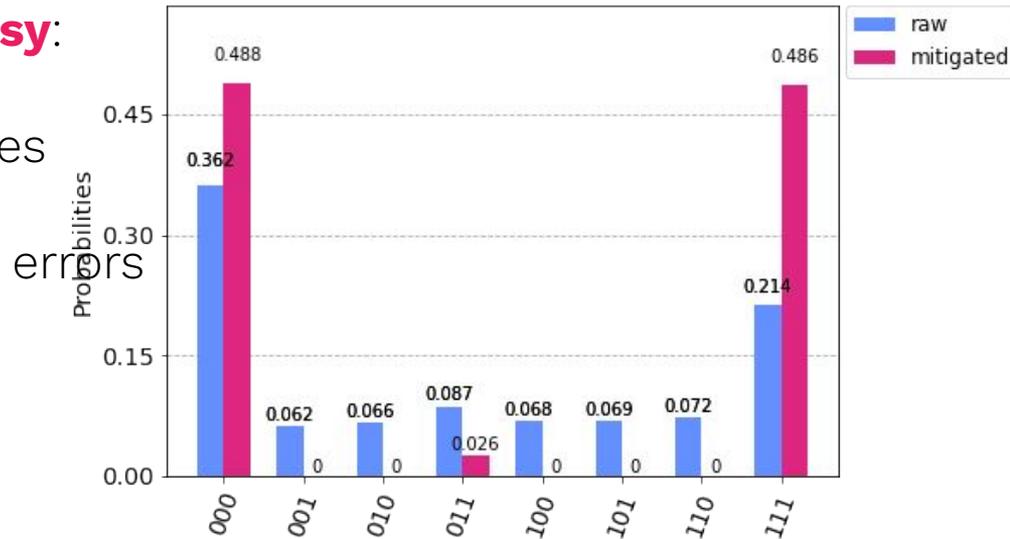


# Quantum Computing - Noise

All the previous technologies are far from being perfect. Current qubits are **noisy**:

- Measurement errors
- 1-qubit and 2-qubit gates fidelities
- T1 and T2 decoherence time
- Calibration

→ *Noise Error Mitigation*

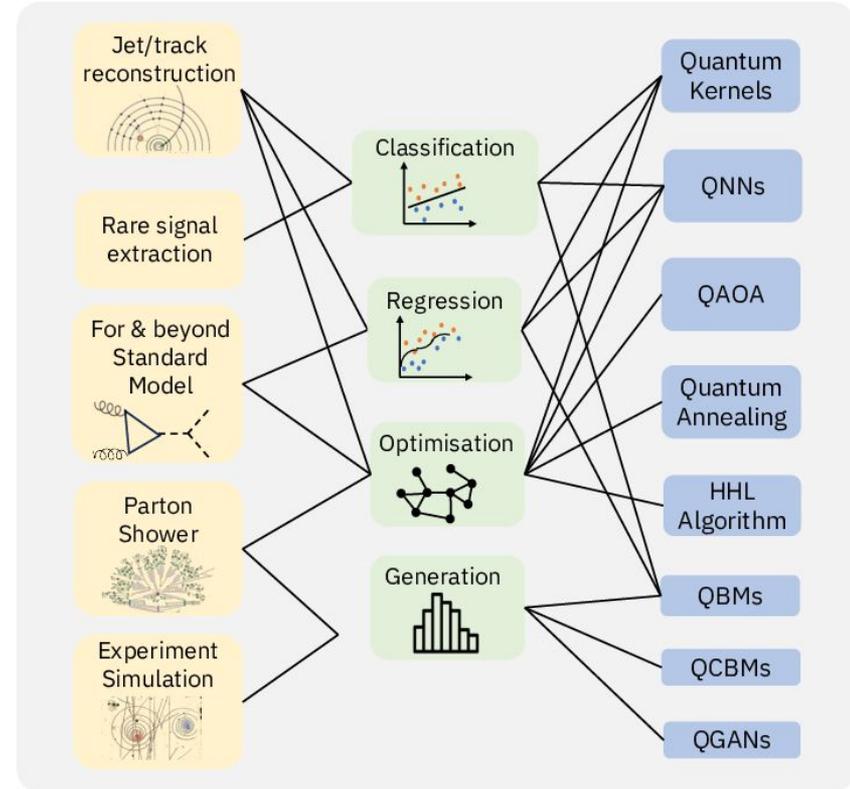


# HEP use-cases

[Summary of the QC4HEP WG]

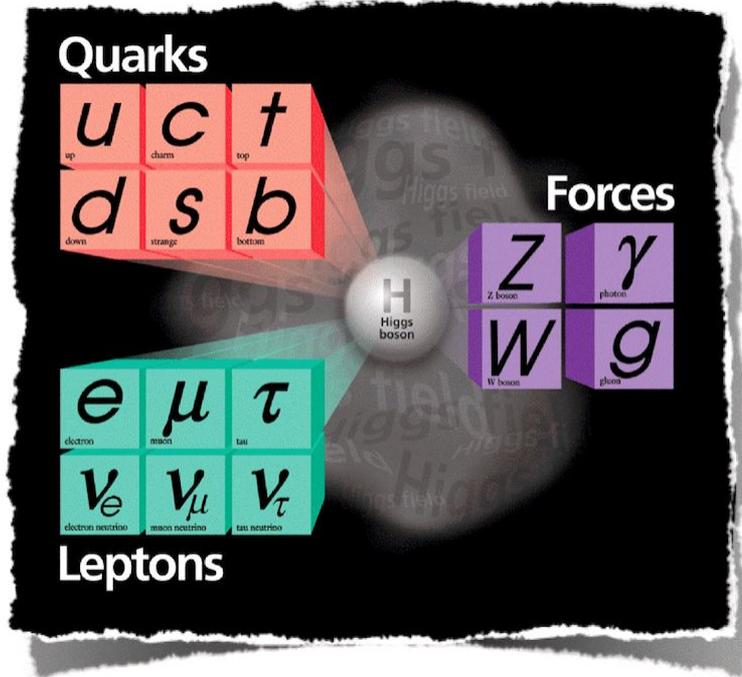
# HEP use-cases

- [Summary of the QC4HEP WG](#)
- Focused mostly in projects concerning experimental particle physics at **LHC** and **LHCb**
- Events are **quantum** in nature, but measurements are **classical**
- Quantum sensing not covered in this talk



# The Standard Model of Particle Physics

A successful theory that describes the interactions among particles ...



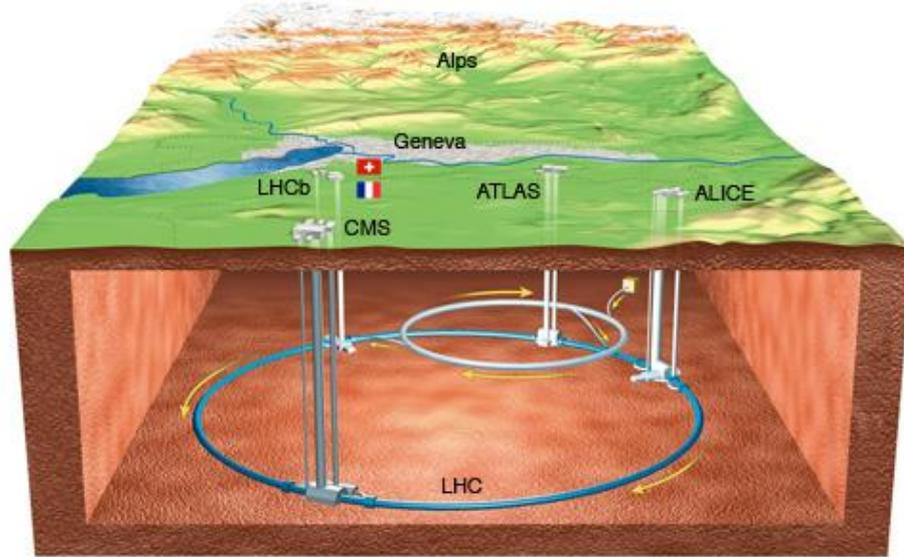
... but fails to explain several phenomena observed in the Universe:

- Neutrinos masses
- Origin of Dark Matter & Dark Energy
- etc

⇒ need of **Beyond the Standard Model physics!!**

# The LHCb detector

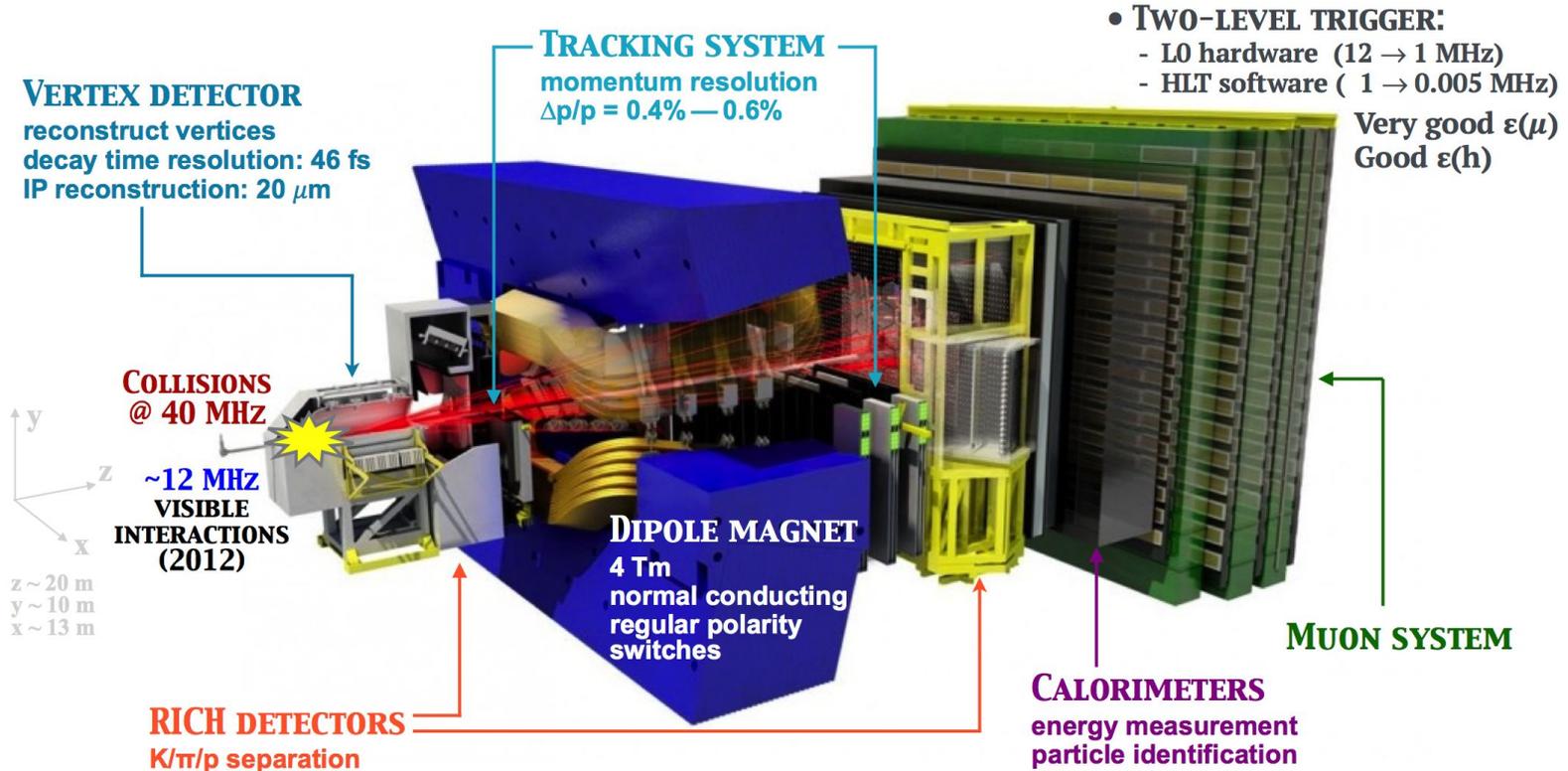
One of the 4 main experiments @ Large Hadron Collider at **CERN**



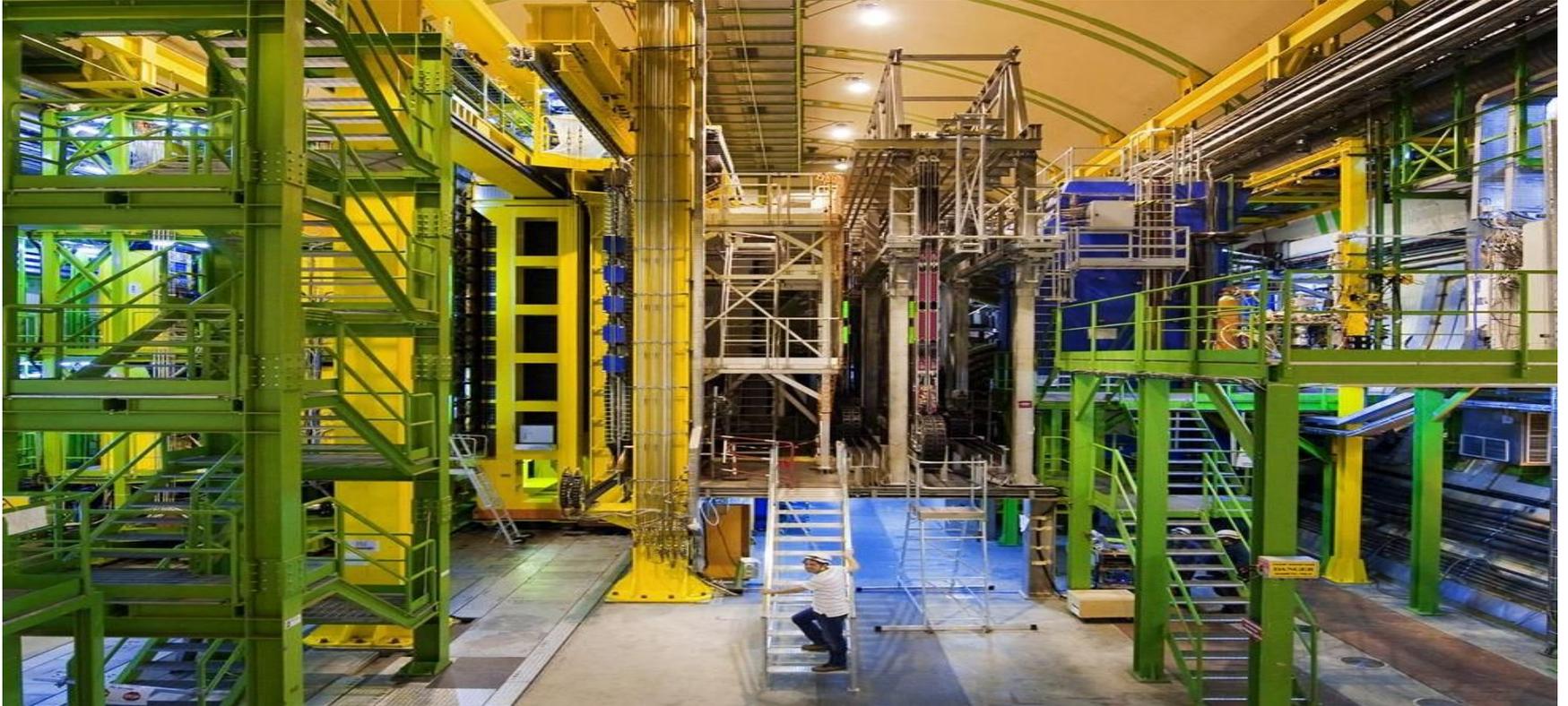
- Initially designed for the study of the **b,c-quarks**
- Now evolved into a general purpose spectrometer in the forward region

# The LHCb detector

## Single forward-arm spectrometer

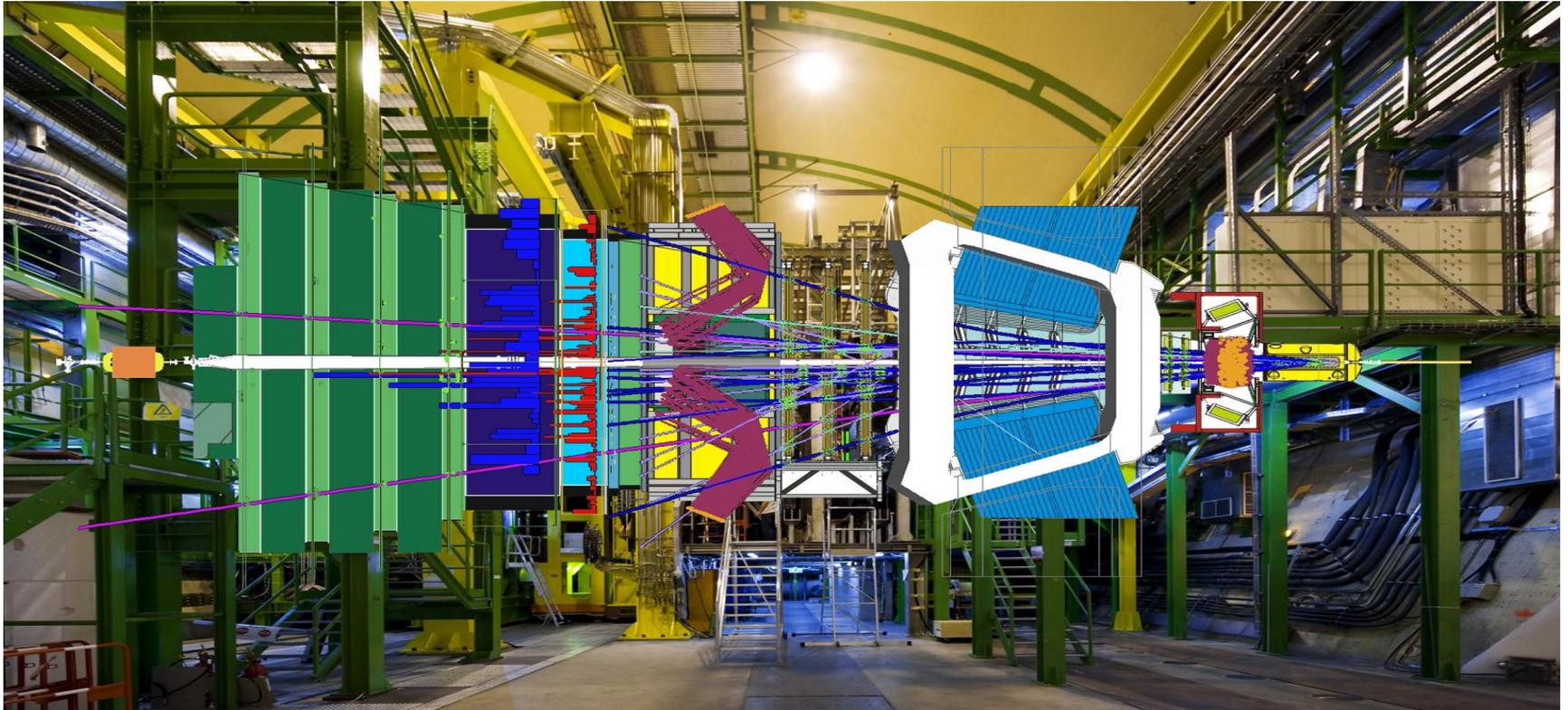


How does an event look like?



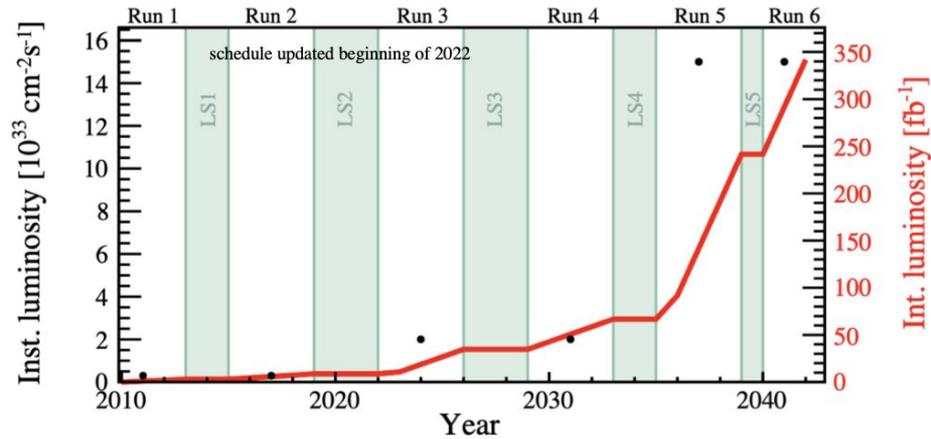
# How does an event look like?

Reconstruct events **40 Million times per second.**

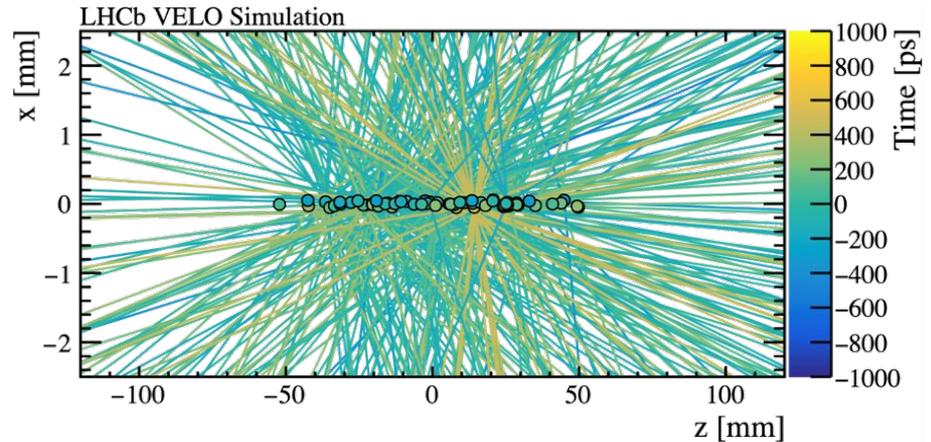


# Motivation for QC

- New algorithms and architectures needed to deal with the increased luminosity & limited bandwidth @ **HL-LHC**



[ECFA](#)



Courtesy of Robbert Geertsema

# QC & Track Reconstruction

# Track reconstruction

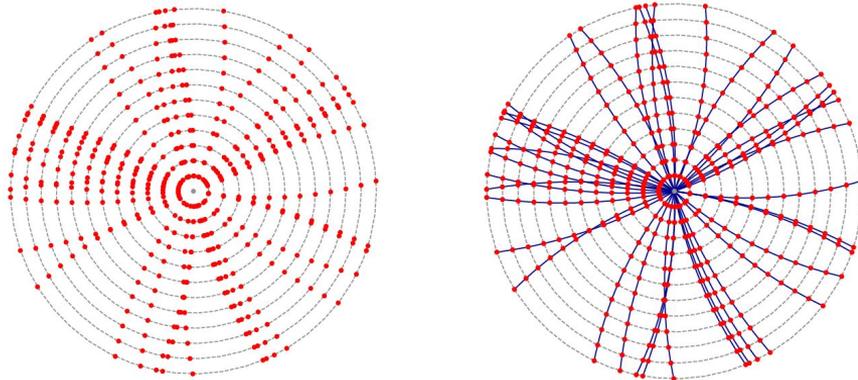
- Recover the original trajectories from signals left by **charged particles**
  - Signals are converted into 3D points called **hits**
  - Need efficient distinction between the combinations of hits that are of interest and those that aren't
- A typical HEP event contains a large number of **tracks**
- Tracks are modelled by a collection of **segments**



# Track Reconstruction

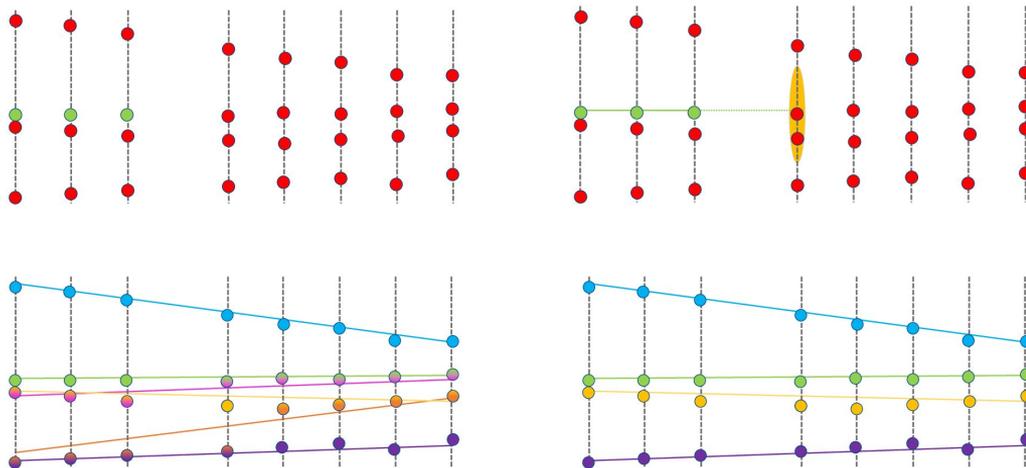
- **Local tracking methods**: steps are performed sequentially. Some studies exist on QC for local tracking methods [[arXiv:2104.11583](https://arxiv.org/abs/2104.11583)]
- **Global tracking methods**: all hits are processed by the algorithm in the same way. Global algorithms are **clustering** algorithms. E.g.: QAOA, quantum annealing, Hopfield Networks, Hough transform

→ Focus of this talk:  
*global* algorithms



# Local tracking methods [[arXiv:2104.11583](https://arxiv.org/abs/2104.11583)]

1. Seeding
2. Track building
3. Cleaning
4. Selection



# QC for Track Reconstruction

- QC has very interesting prospects of improvements in algorithm **complexity/timing**
- This talk: two track reconstruction algorithms
- Define **Ising-like**  $H^{\text{TrackReco}}(\text{hits})$ :

$$H = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij} \omega_{ij} \sigma_z^i \sigma_z^j - \sum_i \omega_i \sigma_z^i$$

→  $H_{\min}^{\text{TrackReco}}$  == solution with the correct reconstructed tracks

# HHL for Track Reconstruction [[arXiv:2308.00619](https://arxiv.org/abs/2308.00619)]

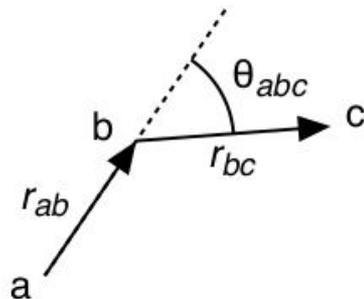
Differentiable Hamiltonian:

$$\nabla \mathcal{H} = 0 \Rightarrow A\mathbf{S} = \mathbf{b}$$

**HHL**: QC algorithm to solve the **system of linear equations**

Segment [ $S_{ab}$ ]: combination of hit  $a$  and hit  $b$   
→ in consecutive layers - for now

Hamiltonian accounts for **all** possible segments



# HHL for Track Reconstruction [[arXiv:2308.00619](https://arxiv.org/abs/2308.00619)]

$$\mathcal{H}(\mathbf{S}) = -\frac{1}{2} \left[ \sum_{abc} f(\theta_{abc}, \varepsilon) S_{ab} S_{bc} + \gamma \sum_{ab} S_{ab}^2 + \delta \sum_{ab} (1 - 2S_{ab})^2 \right]$$

angular term

(a)

(b)

$$f(\theta_{abc}, \varepsilon) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \cos \theta_{abc} \geq 1 - \varepsilon \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

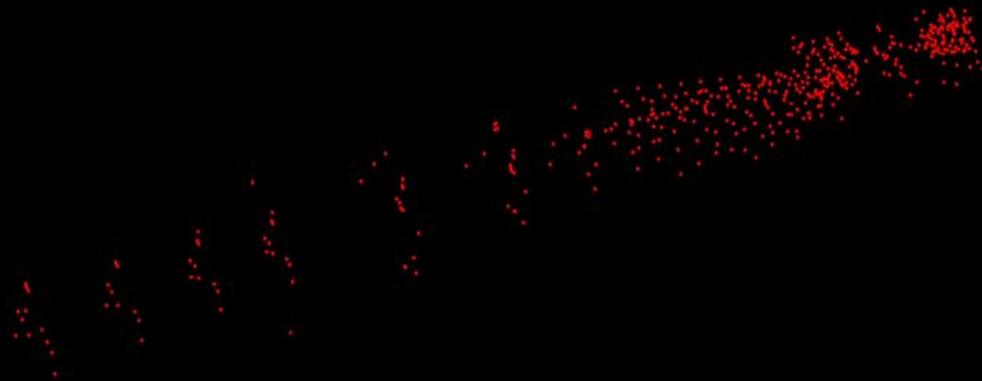
- **(a) regularization term**: makes the spectrum of A positive
- **(b) gap term**: ensures gap in the solution spectrum

# Validation with a classical linear solver

LHCb MC event  $B_s \rightarrow \phi\phi$

1 collision event

Half of the VELO

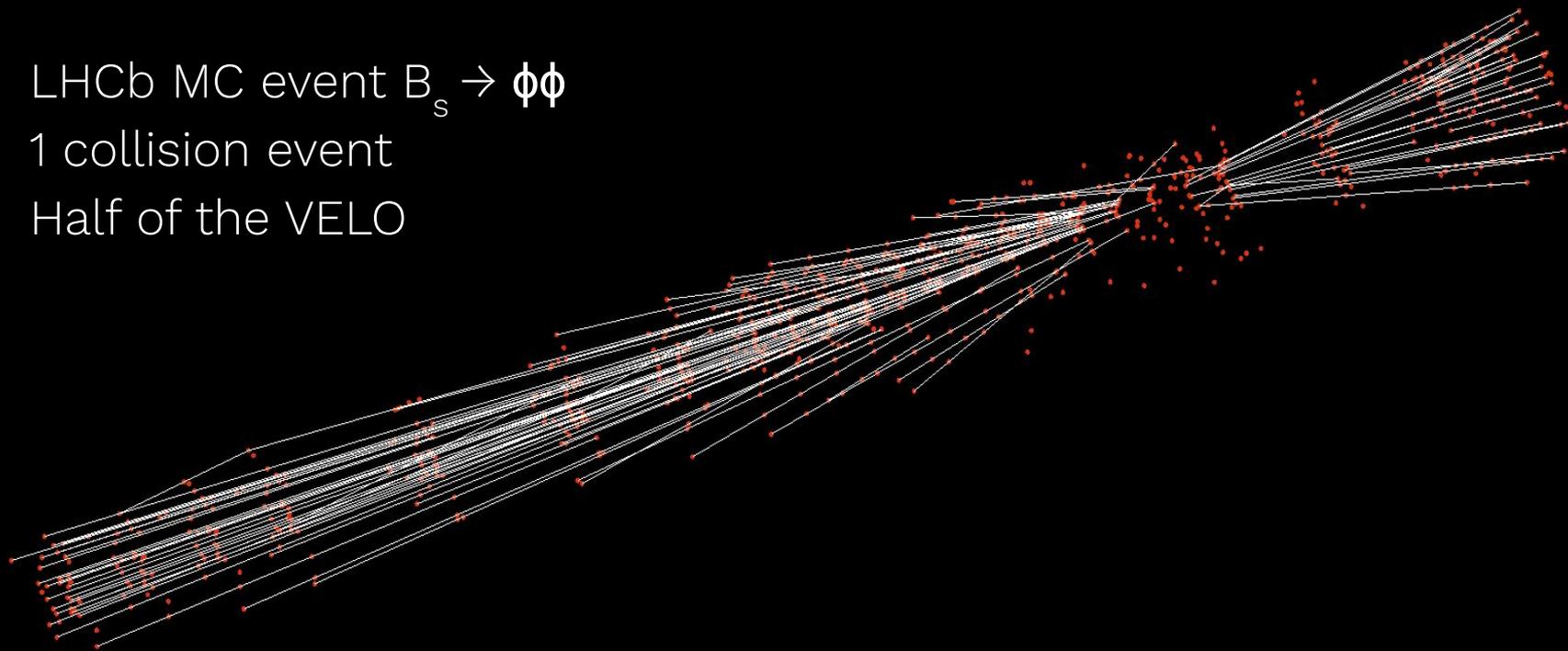


# Validation with a classical linear solver

LHCb MC event  $B_s \rightarrow \phi\phi$

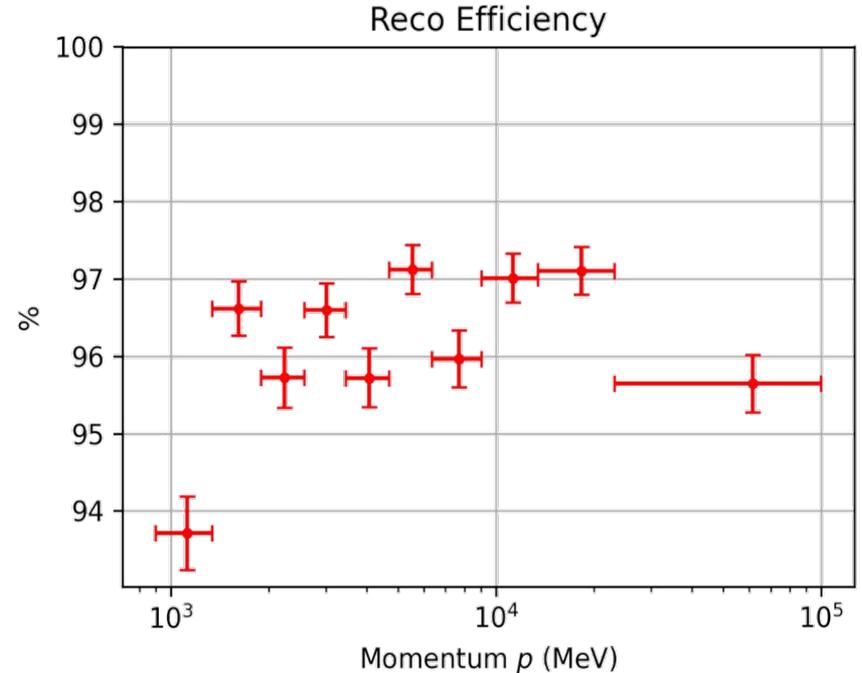
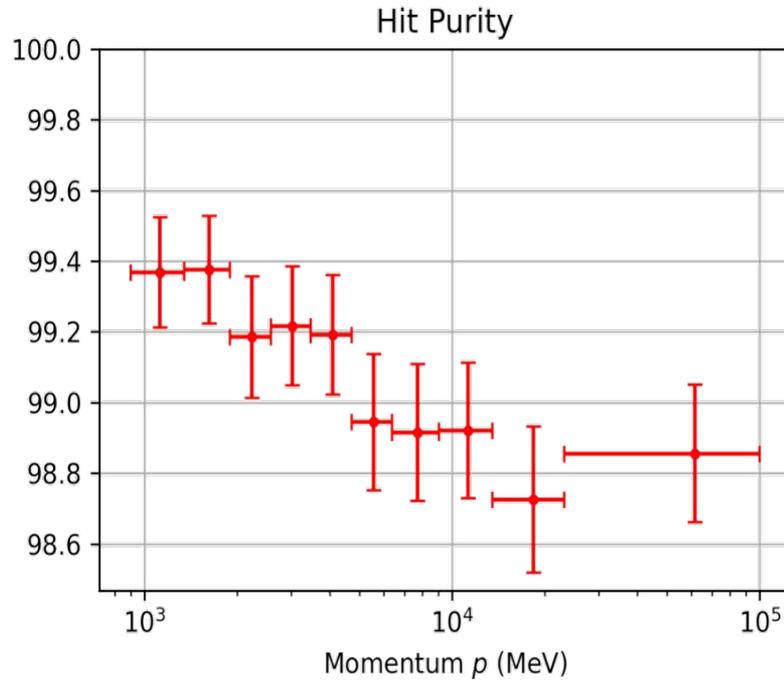
1 collision event

Half of the VELO



# Tracking performances with classical solver

- Very good performance **with LHCb MC**. Integrated fake rate: 4.3%
- Results being currently summarized to a paper.



# HHL on a quantum simulator

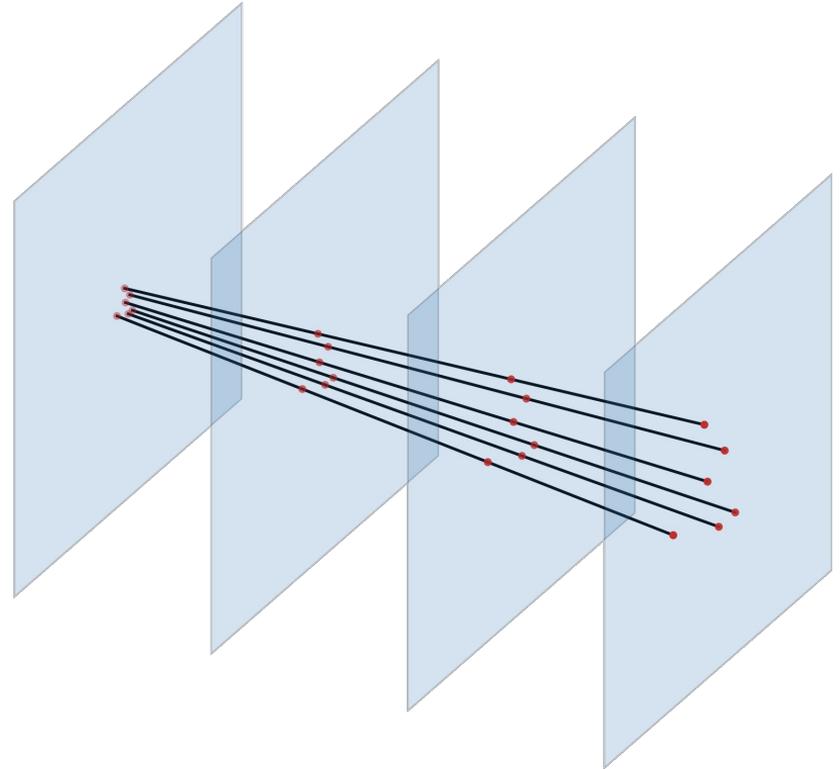


6 particles, 4 detector layers

→ very complex, deep circuit

→ 2 days to complete

- Validate with classical baseline ✓
- Toy simulation on qiskit ✓
- Integrate within Allen **ongoing**
- Scalability & Hamiltonian simulation 🚧



# Track reconstruction with QAOA

- Quantum Approximate Optimization Algorithm [[arXiv:1411.4028](https://arxiv.org/abs/1411.4028), [tutorial](#)]

$$\mathcal{H} = -\frac{1}{2} \left[ \underbrace{\left( \sum_{a,b,c} \frac{\cos^\lambda(\theta_{abc})}{r_{ab} + r_{bc}} s_{ab} s_{bc} \right)}_{(1)} - \alpha \underbrace{\left( \sum_{b \neq c} s_{ab} s_{ac} + \sum_{a \neq c} s_{ab} s_{cb} \right)}_{(2)} - \beta \underbrace{\left( \sum_{a,b} s_{ab} - N \right)^2}_{(3)} \right]$$

- (1) main term: favours aligned, short segments
- (2) 1st penalty term: forbids segments that share head/tail from belonging to the same track
- (3) 2nd penalty term: keeps the number of active segments equal to #hits

# QAOA for Track Reconstruction

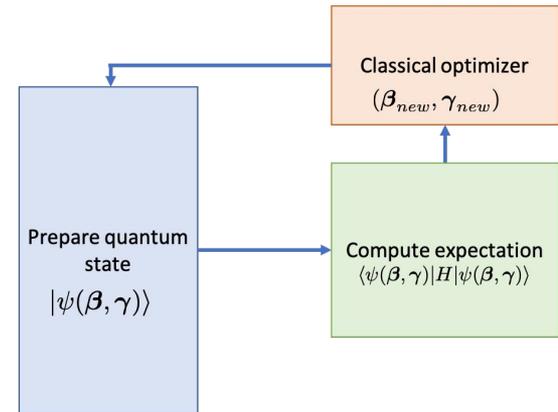
A **variational** algorithm ideal to solve combinatorial optimization problems, e.g. [Max-Cut problem](#)

- 'Finding an optimal object out of a finite set of objects'

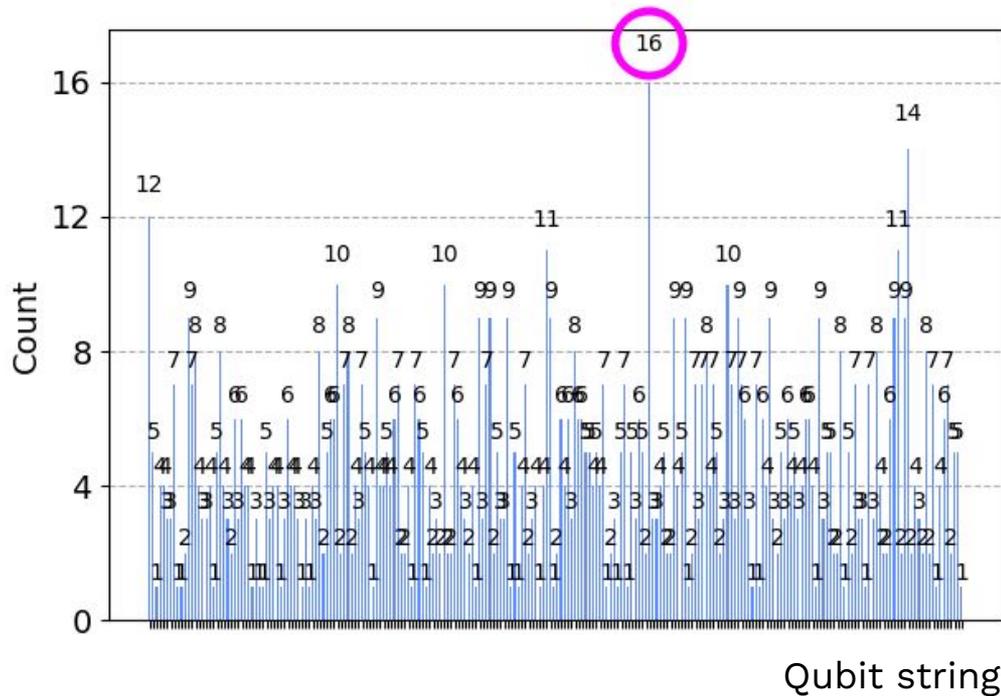
$$|\psi(\beta, \gamma)\rangle = U(\beta)U(\gamma)\dots U(\beta)U(\gamma) |\psi_0\rangle$$

$$U(\beta) = e^{-i\beta H_B}, \quad U(\gamma) = e^{-i\gamma H_P}$$

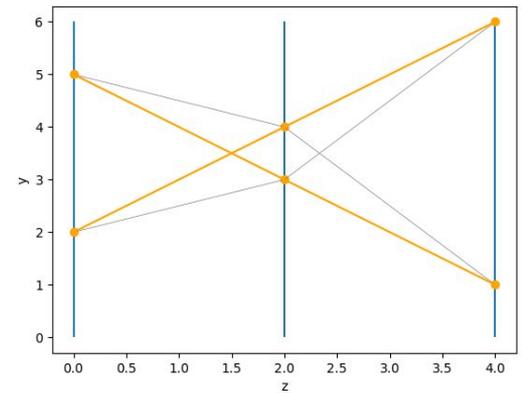
- $H_B$ : mixing Hamiltonian,  $H_P$ : **problem** Hamiltonian
- **Goal:** find optimal parameters  $(\beta_{\text{opt}}, \gamma_{\text{opt}})$  such that the quantum state encodes the solution to the problem



# Initial results

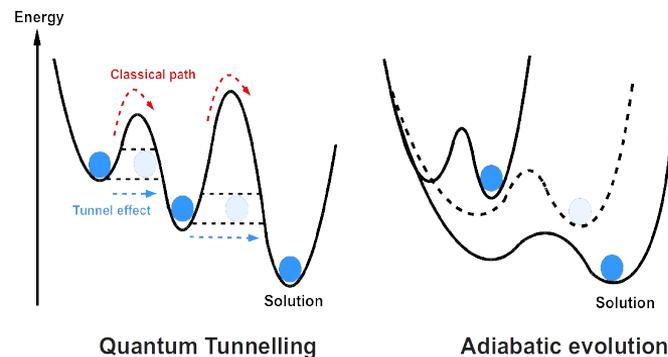


- Study with simulated straight tracks: 2 tracks, 3 detector layers
- Working on the generalized case



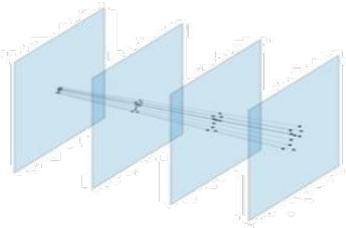
# Quantum Annealers

- Different hardware, not gate-based
- Optimal for minimizing Ising-like Hamiltonians



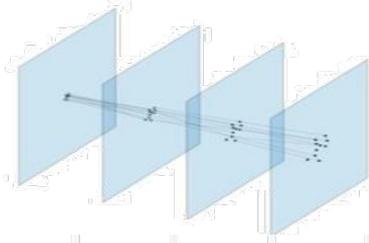
## **SIMULATED ANNEALING**

- Low energy state: -40
- Time: 1.5 hours



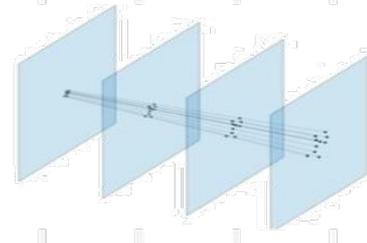
## **QUANTUM ANNEALING**

- Low energy state: 2
- Time: few minutes



## **LEAP HYBRID SOLVER**

- Low energy state: -40
- QPU access time: 38.993 milliseconds,
- Run time: 3000.198 milliseconds.

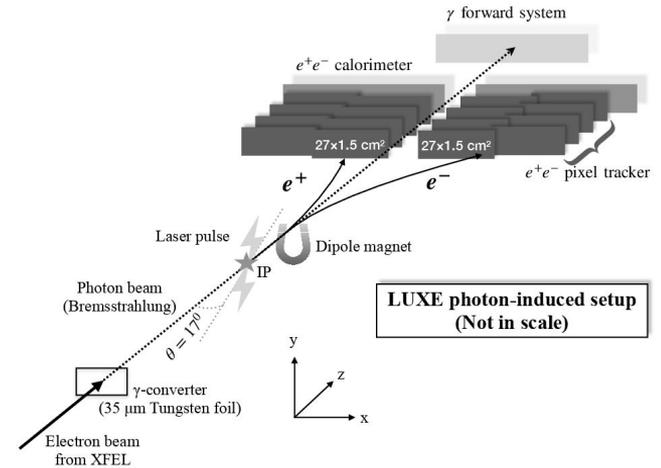


# Related work [[arXiv:2210.13021](https://arxiv.org/abs/2210.13021)]



- **LUXE** experiment @ **DESY** to study QED in the strong-field regime
- Tracking of positrons traversing 4 layers of tracking detectors
- Classical methods:
  - Combinatorial Kalman Filter using triplets of hits
  - GNN where each hit is a node

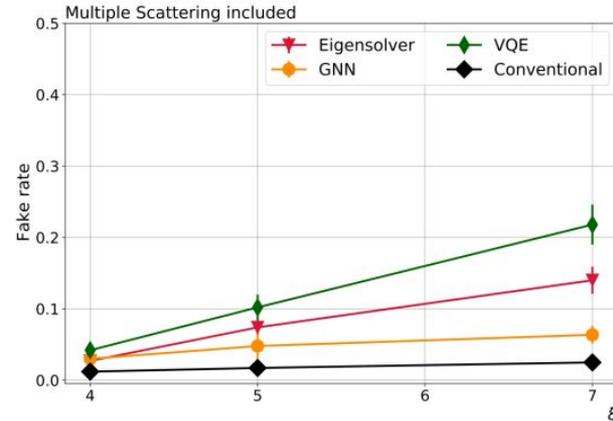
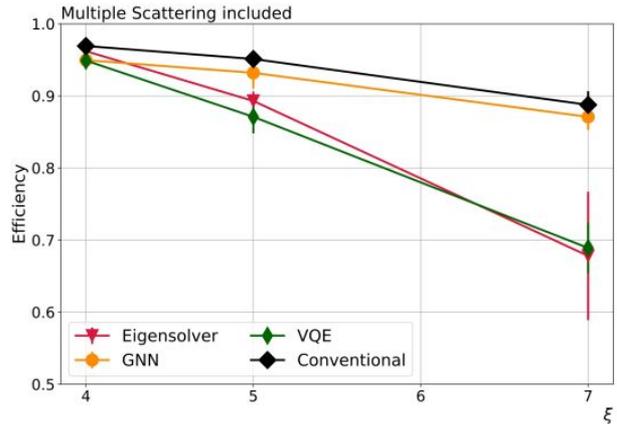
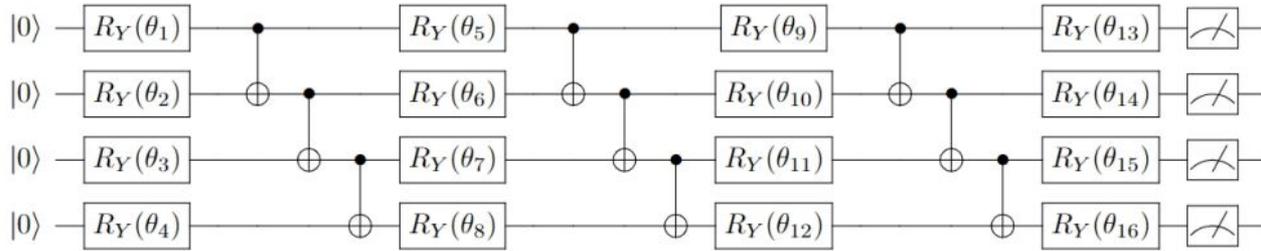
$$O = \sum_i^N \sum_{j<i} b_{ij} T_i T_j + \sum_{i=1}^N a_i T_i \quad T_i, T_j \in \{0, 1\}$$



Related work [[arXiv:2210.13021](https://arxiv.org/abs/2210.13021)]



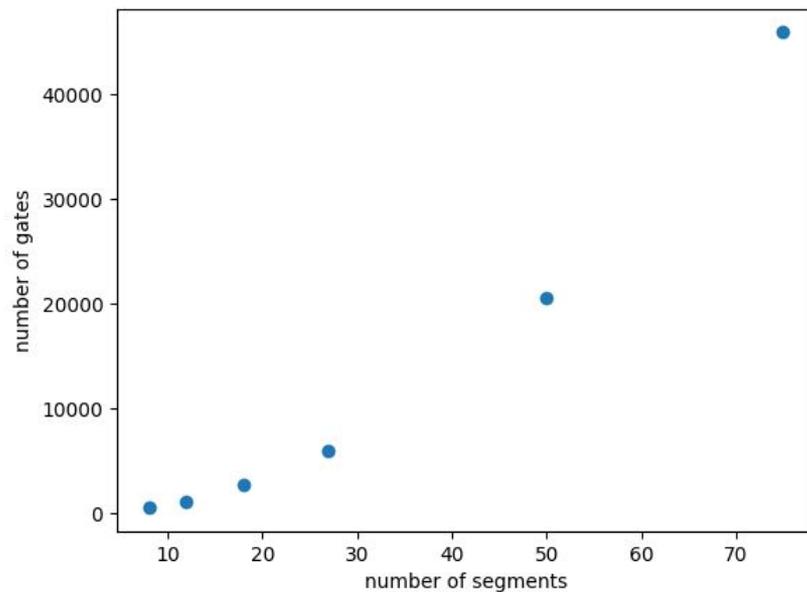
**Variational Quantum Eigensolver**: hybrid quantum-classical algorithm



# Challenges

Several caveats affect virtually all the approaches:

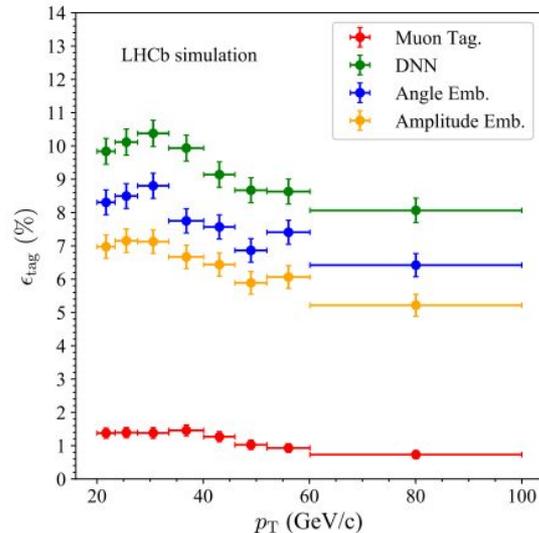
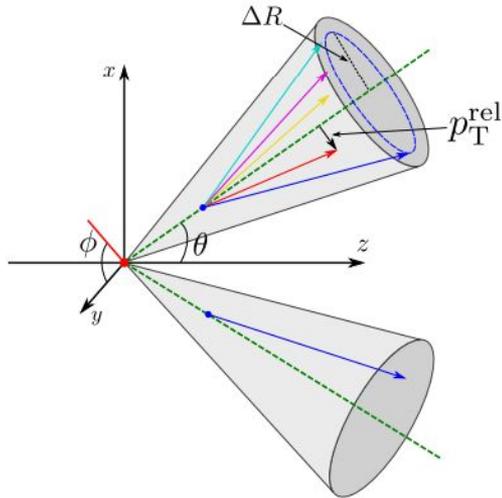
- Scalability of input in number of qubits
- Circuit depth to cope with #tracks
- Output retrieval without losing advantage



# QML for b-jet flavour tagging

# b-jet flavour tagging [[JHEP 08 \(2022\) 014](#)]

- Identify if a jet contains a hadron formed by a **b** or **anti-b** quark at the moment of production
  - (Q)ML algorithm that uses variables from the particles of the jets to do so
- Deep Neural Network vs 16-qubit **Variational Quantum Classifier**



# Porting to hardware

IBM **Quantum**

ibm\_perth

OpenQASM 3

## Details

7

Qubits

32

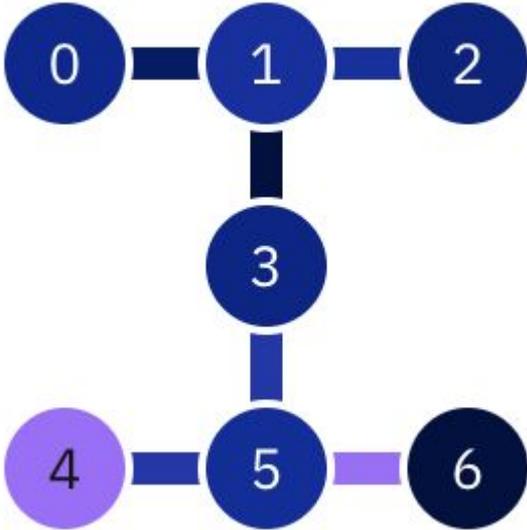
QV

2.9K

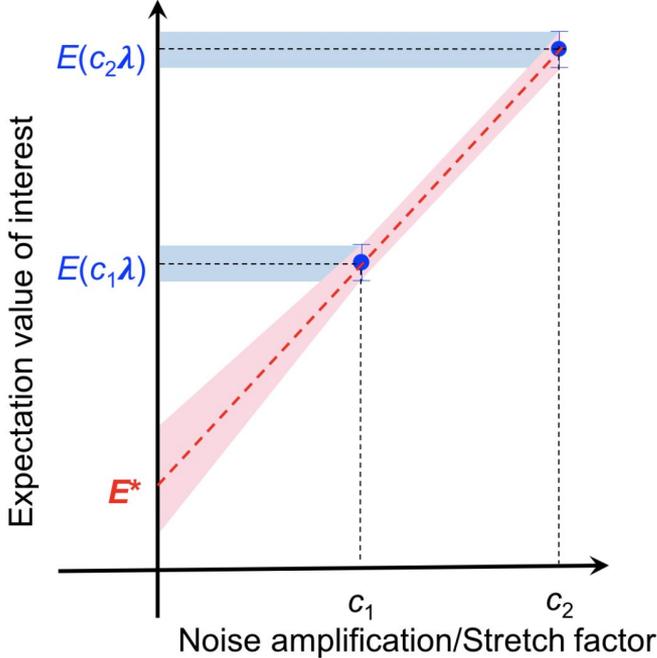
CLOPS

Status:	● Online	Median CNOT error:	8.593e-3
Total pending jobs:	1028 jobs	Median SX error:	3.052e-4
Processor type ⓘ:	Falcon r5.11H	Median readout error:	2.510e-2
Version:	1.2.8	Median T1:	110.66 us
Basis gates:	CX, ID, RZ, SX, X	Median T2:	105.71 us
Your usage:	0 jobs	Instances with access:	<a href="#">1 Instances</a> ↓

# Porting to hardware



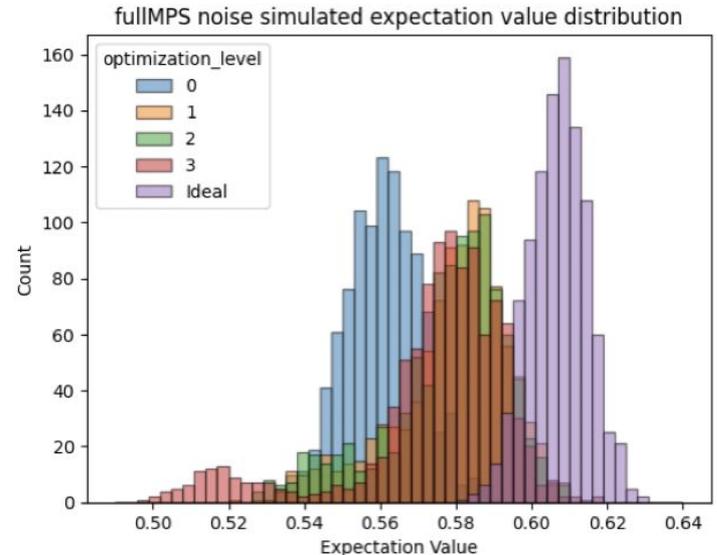
## IBM Quantum



# Noise Error Mitigation

- Study of transpilation optimisation levels (4000 transpilations)
- Tried Zero Noise Extrapolation, Probabilistic Error Correction:
- Need to further investigate

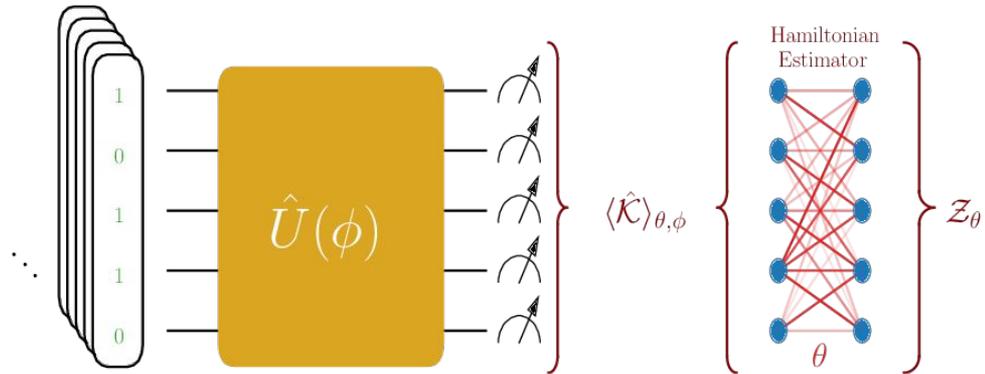
Model	No Mitigation	With ZNE	Obtained by Spiro [4]	
			No Mitigation	Ideal Simulated
MuSEL	0.75	-	0.72	0.749
FullSEL	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.671
FullMPS	0.66	0.66	0.59	0.656
FullTTN	0.61	0.59	0.54	0.632



# A possible idea

‘Quantum-probabilistic Hamiltonian learning for generative modelling & anomaly detection’ [[arXiv:2211.003803v2](https://arxiv.org/abs/2211.003803v2)]

- Using LHC data & following a Quantum Hamiltonian-Based Models (QHBM) approach
- Generative modelling
- Anomaly detection



# Much more in the pipeline

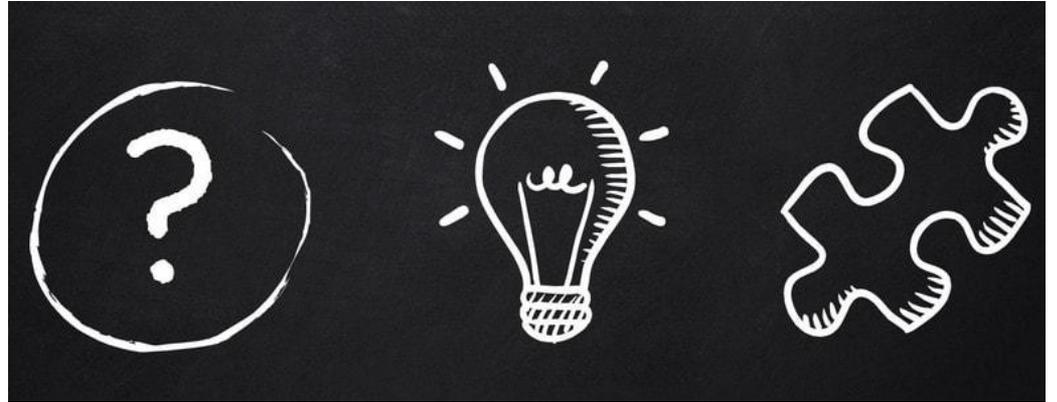
Lattice QCD

Quantum anomaly detection

QC for beam steering

Detector simulation

...



# Conclusions

- Quantum Computing has great potential in solving HEP most common challenges
- Careful thinking is required on how to deal with data encoding and data retrieval
- Considerable progress has been made towards building blocks for the future of quantum computers

Munches gracias!

# QC & Gravitational Waves

Next generation of GW detectors: increased **bandwidth** and **sensitivity**.

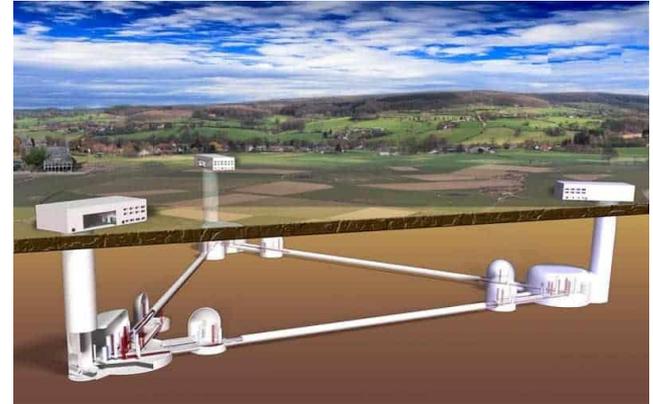
→ new techniques are needed on top classical template matching

**Grover search:** for template matching.

Theoretical studies ongoing on the feasibility of this for GW detection.

## **Solving Einstein Field Equations:**

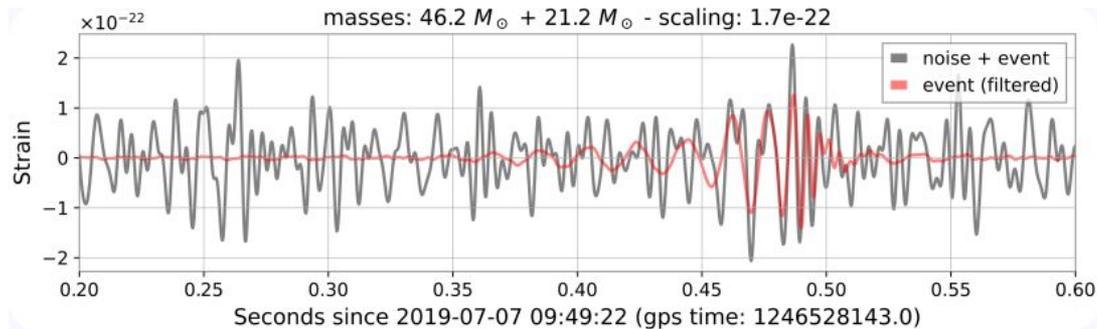
- The GW signals need to be calculated by solving the set of non-linear equations of the EFE.
- A proof of principle using the algorithms proposed by [[2011.10395](#)] to solve a simplified model has been implemented.



# QC & Gravitational Waves

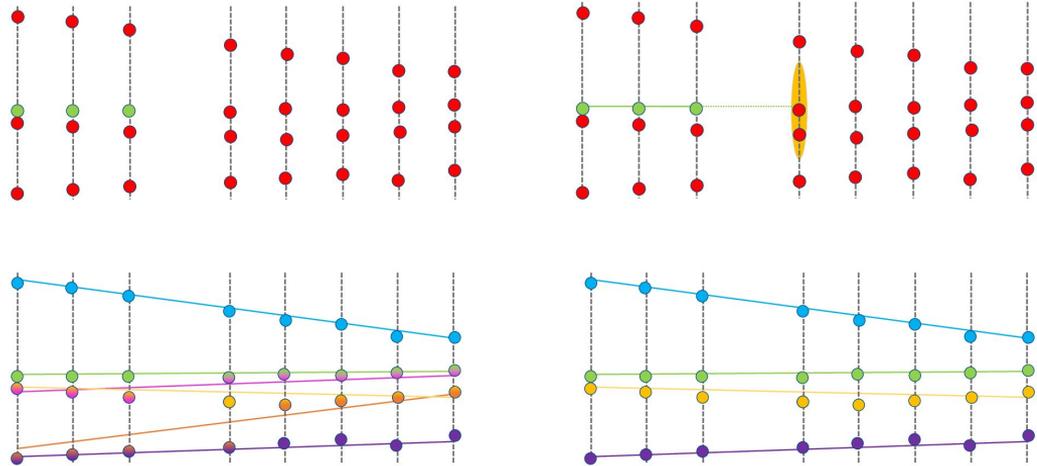
## Quantum-enhanced Feature Spaces:

- Data is too noisy and large to be used directly by a QML algorithm.
- The number of events is too small for proper training.
- Real noise samples and a simulated event signal are used as a *signal database* → a set of time-series features is extracted to create the training dataset.
- **Detection:** kernel method. **Characterisation:** support vector machine.



# Local tracking methods [[arXiv:2104.11583](https://arxiv.org/abs/2104.11583)]

1. Seeding
2. Track building
3. Cleaning
4. Selection



Tracking stages	Input size	Output size	Classical complexity	Quantum complexity
<b>Seeding</b>	$O(n)$	$k_{\text{seed}}$	$O(n^c)$ (Theorem 2)	$\tilde{O}(\sqrt{k_{\text{seed}} \cdot n^c})$ (Theorem 3)
<b>Track Building</b>	$k_{\text{seed}} + O(n)$	$k_{\text{cand}}$	$O(k_{\text{seed}} \cdot n)$ (Theorem 4)	$\tilde{O}(k_{\text{seed}} \cdot \sqrt{n})$ (Theorem 5)
<b>Cleaning (original)</b>	$k_{\text{cand}}$	$O(k_{\text{cand}})$	$O(k_{\text{cand}}^2)$ (Theorem 6)	–
<b>Cleaning (improved)</b>	$k_{\text{cand}}$	$O(k_{\text{cand}})$	$\tilde{O}(k_{\text{cand}})$ (Theorem 7)	–
<b>Selection</b>	$O(k_{\text{cand}})$	$O(k_{\text{cand}})$	$O(k_{\text{cand}})$ (Theorem 8)	–
<b>Full Reconstruction</b>	$n$	$O(n^c)$	$O(n^{c+1})$ (Theorems 2, 4, 7, 8)	$\tilde{O}(n^{c+0.5})$ (Theorems 3, 5, 7, 8)
<b>Full Reconstruction with <math>O(n)</math> reconstructed tracks</b>	$n$	$O(n)$	$O(n^{c+1})$ (Theorems 2, 4, 7, 8)	$\tilde{O}(n^{(c+3)/2})$ (Theorem 9)

$n$ : number of particles,  $c$ : number of hits,  $k_{\text{seed}}$ : total number of generated seeds,  $k_{\text{cand}}$ : number of track candidates

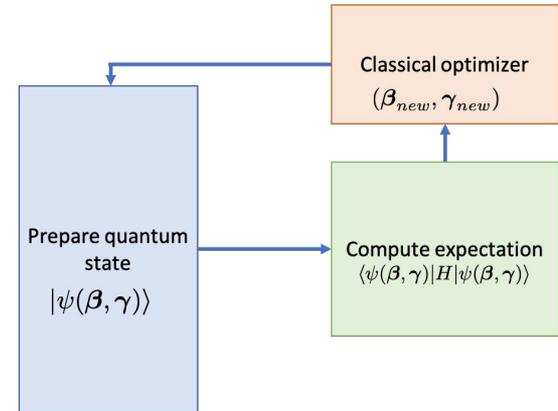
# QAOA for Track Reconstruction

- Quantum Approximate Optimization Algorithm [[arXiv:1411.4028](#), [tutorial](#)]
- A **variational algorithm** ideal to solve combinatorial optimization problems, e.g. [Max-Cut problem](#)
  - ‘Finding an optimal object out of a finite set of objects’

$$|\psi(\beta, \gamma)\rangle = U(\beta)U(\gamma)\dots U(\beta)U(\gamma) |\psi_0\rangle$$

$$U(\beta) = e^{-i\beta H_B}, \quad U(\gamma) = e^{-i\gamma H_P}$$

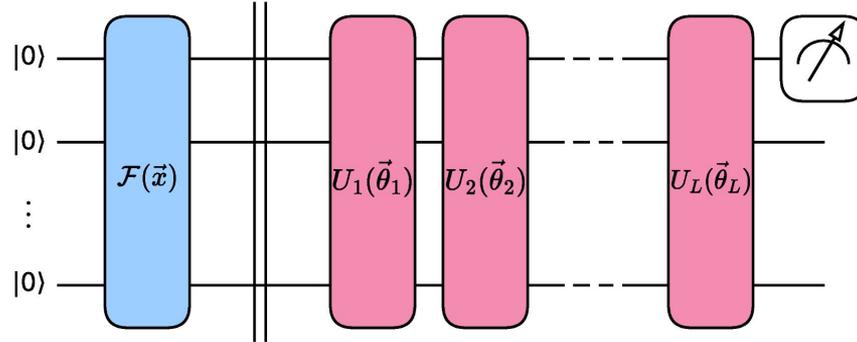
- $H_B$ : mixing Hamiltonian,  $H_P$ : **problem** Hamiltonian
- **Goal:** find optimal parameters  $(\beta_{\text{opt}}, \gamma_{\text{opt}})$  such that the quantum state encodes the solution to the problem



# Entropy studies

Study of the Entropy production within a Variational Quantum Circuit during its training phase:

**Goal:** Use the information of the entropy values to enhance the training performance for the task of jet-tagging (b vs c)

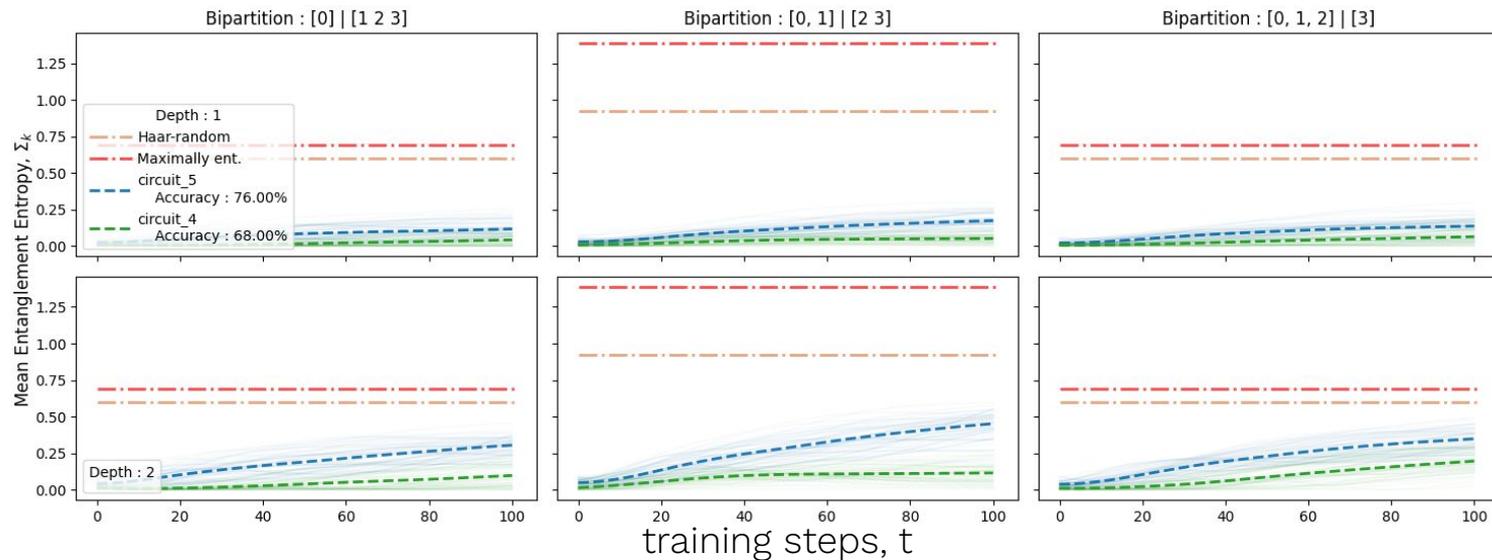


Values of Entropy were inspected

- For each training step “t”
  - At each “depth” of the circuit:
    - depth 0 :  $\mathcal{F}(\vec{x}) |0^{\otimes N}\rangle$
    - depth 1 :  $U_1(\vec{\theta}_1)\mathcal{F}(\vec{x}) |0^{\otimes N}\rangle$
    - depth L :  $U_L(\vec{\theta}_L)\dots U_1(\vec{\theta}_1)\mathcal{F}(\vec{x}) |0^{\otimes N}\rangle$

(output state)

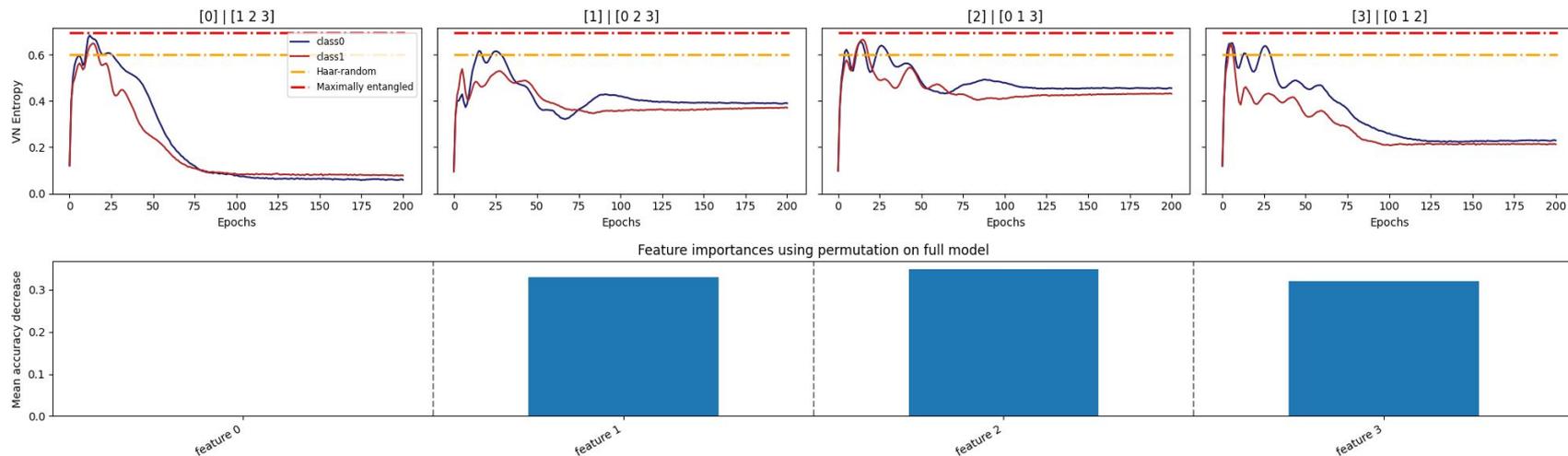
# Study of the Entropy production within a Variational Quantum Circuit



- different circuits
- different parameters initializations
- different datasets (b vs c jet-tagging and IRIS)
- (Gaussian vs Uniform)
- different loss functions

# Study of the Entropy production within a Variational Quantum Circuit

Feature importance from Entropy values



More results coming soon!

# Optimization for hardware

IBM Quantum

- Ported from quantum simulations to *real* quantum computers ✓
- Tested and optimised several architectures ✓
  - Different advantages in terms of robustness against **noise** from hardware imperfections
- Currently trying *noise error mitigation* techniques 🚧

quantum simulator  
quantum hardware

