

23rd International Conference on
Software Engineering and Formal Methods

SEFM 2025

Quantum Software in Action Challenges and Opportunities in Software Engineering

Ricardo Pérez del Castillo



Universidad de
Castilla-La Mancha

10-14 November 2025, Toledo, Spain

Background



Universidad de
Castilla-La Mancha

New degree on
Computer Science
(2019)







Facultad de
**Ciencias Sociales y
Tecnologías de la Información**
Talavera de la Reina. UCLM

Agenda

- Quantum Computing
- Quantum Computing Applications
- Quantum Software & Quantum Software Engineering
- Our Research Journey
- Conclusions

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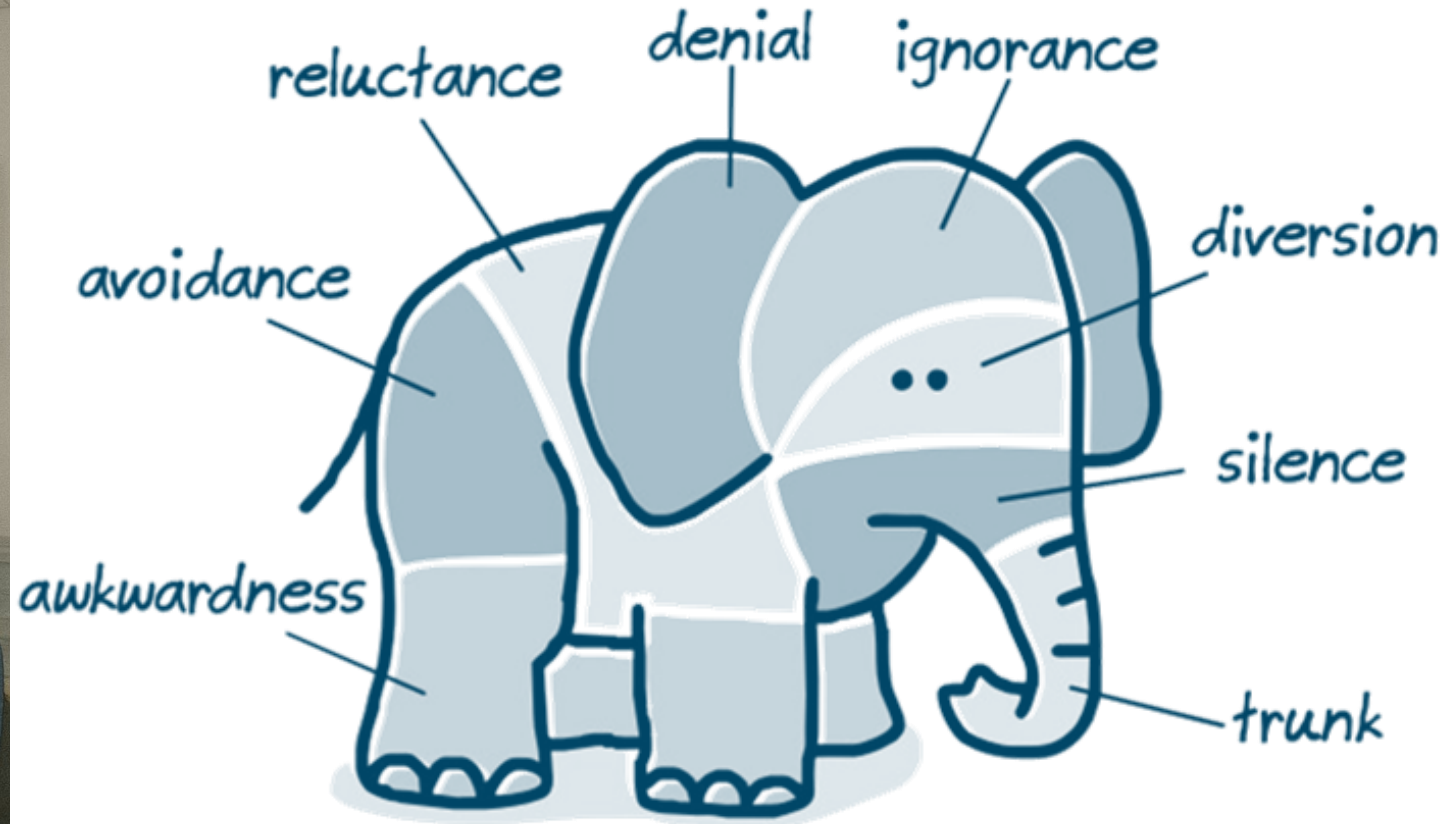
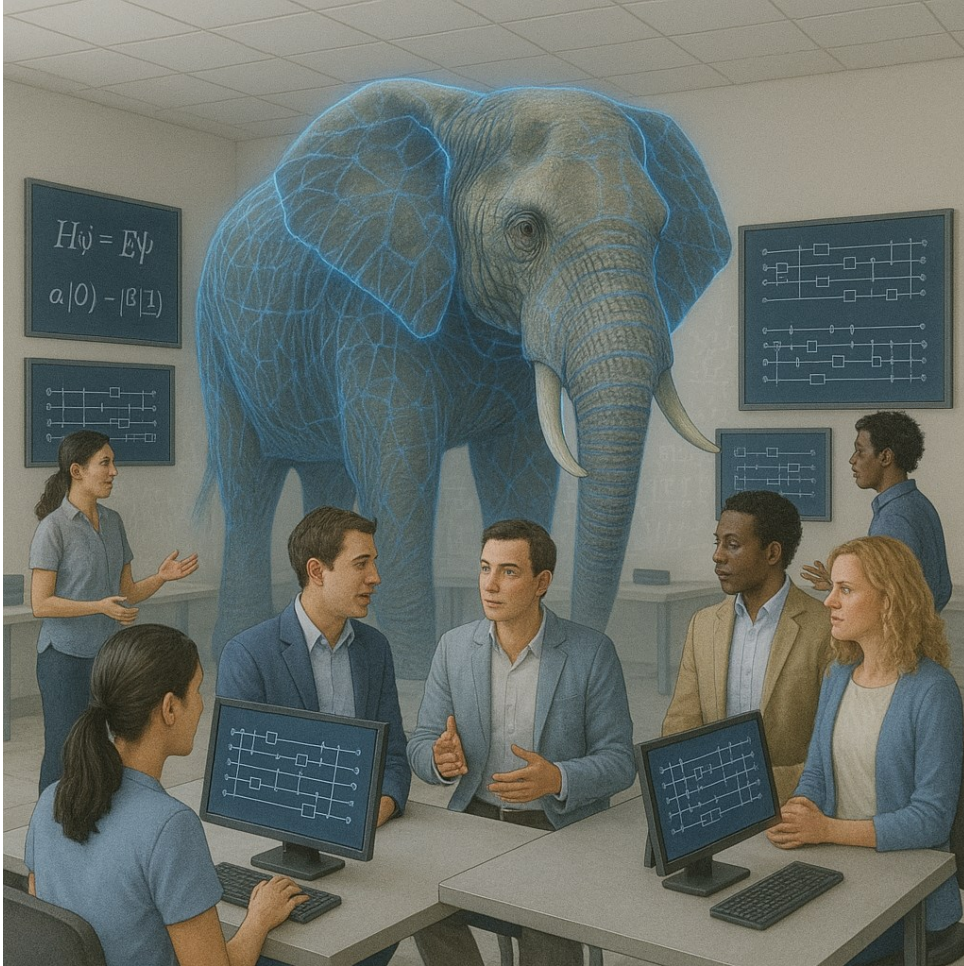
Agenda

- **Quantum Computing**
- Quantum Computing Applications
- Quantum Software & Quantum Software Engineering
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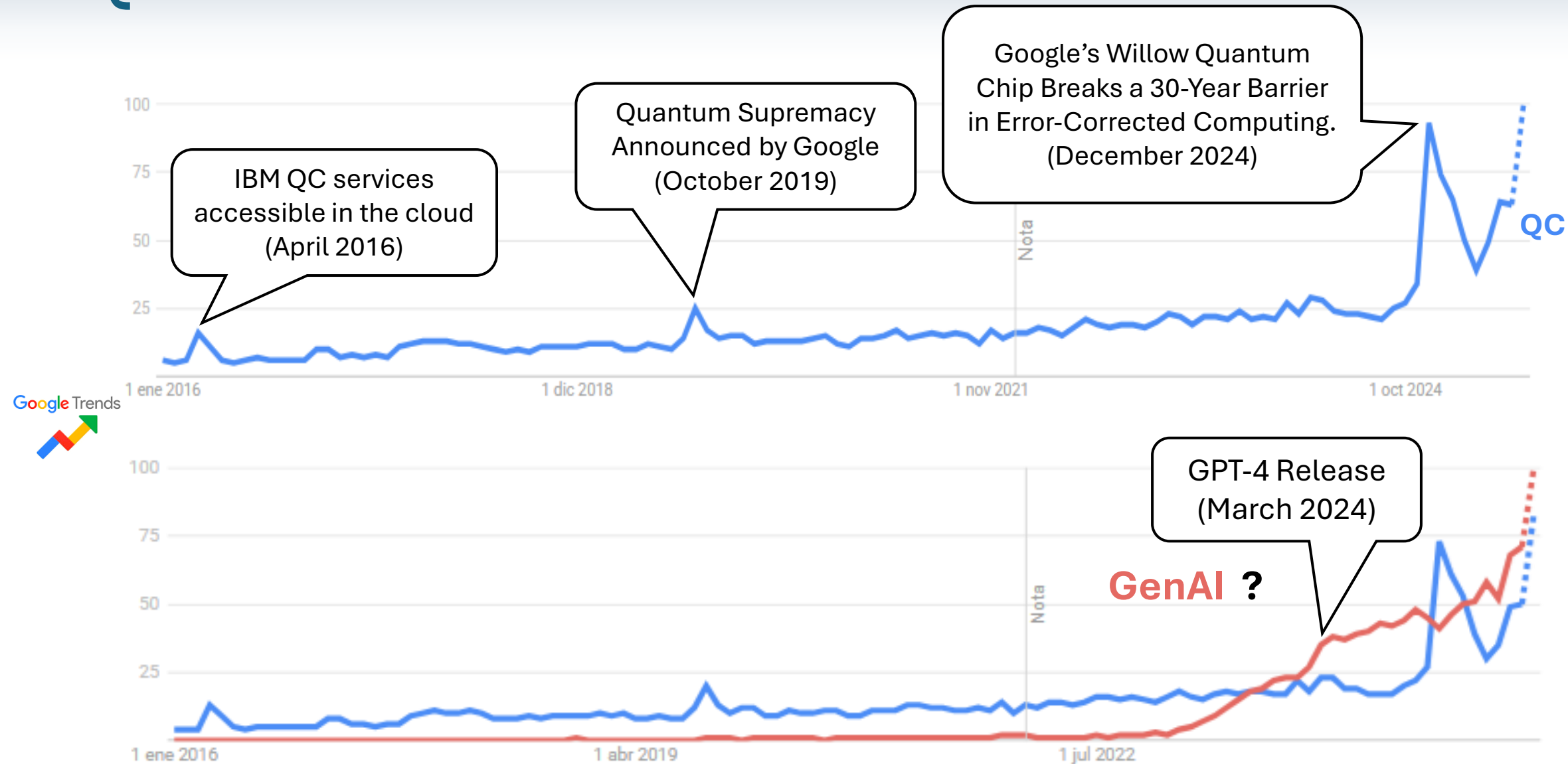


Quantum Computing is in the Room

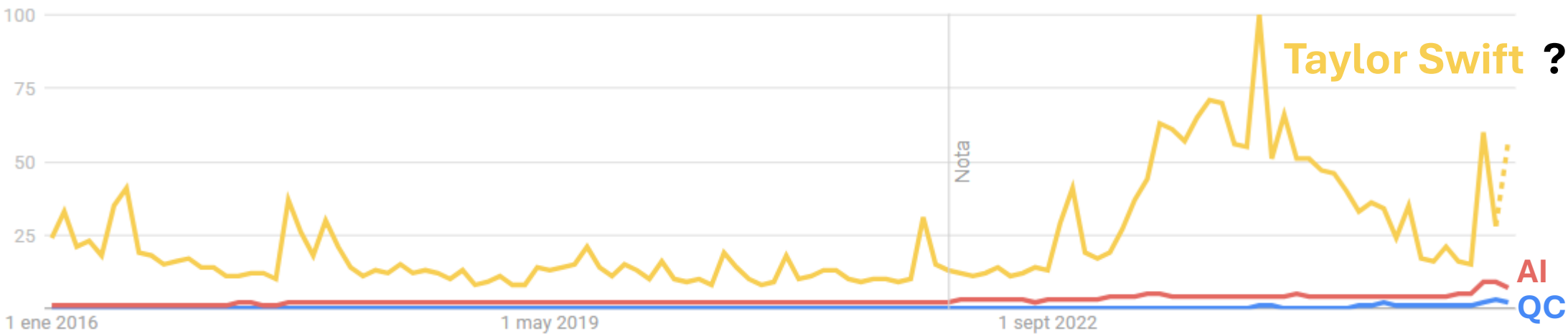
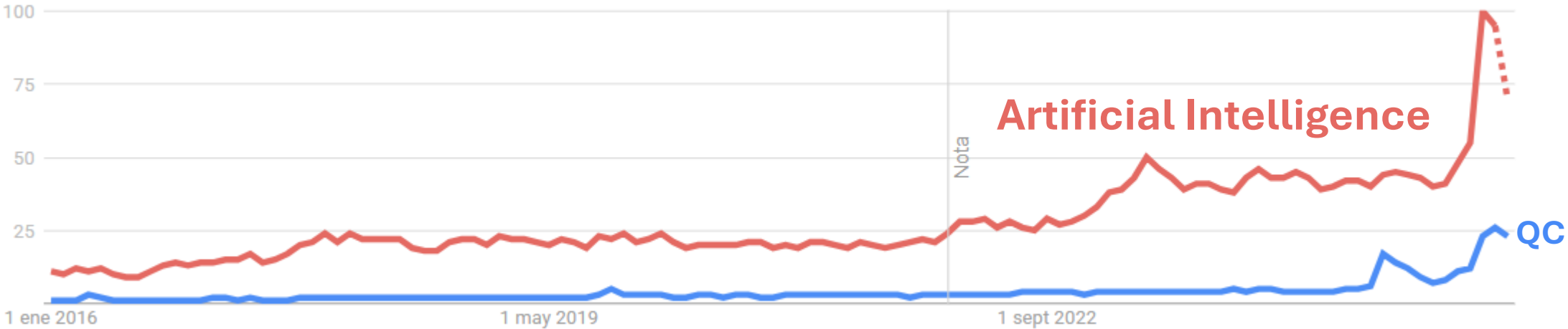


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QC interest



QC interest



Some thoughts



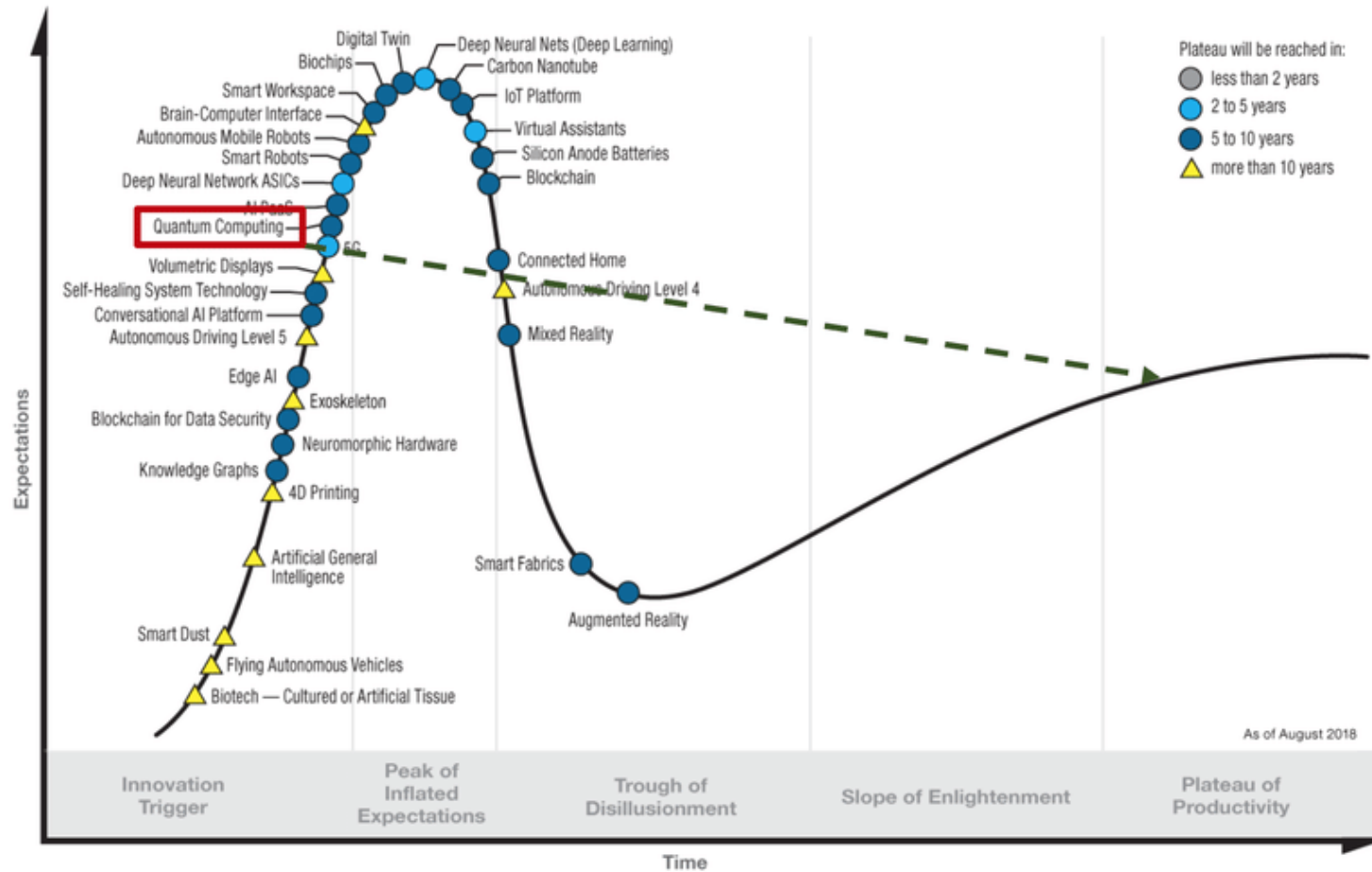
Quantum information is a radical departure in information technology, more fundamentally different from current technology than the digital computer is from the abacus

William Daniel Phillips, 1997



Today (and Tomorrow) Quantum Computing Expectations

Hype Cycle for Emerging Technologies 2018



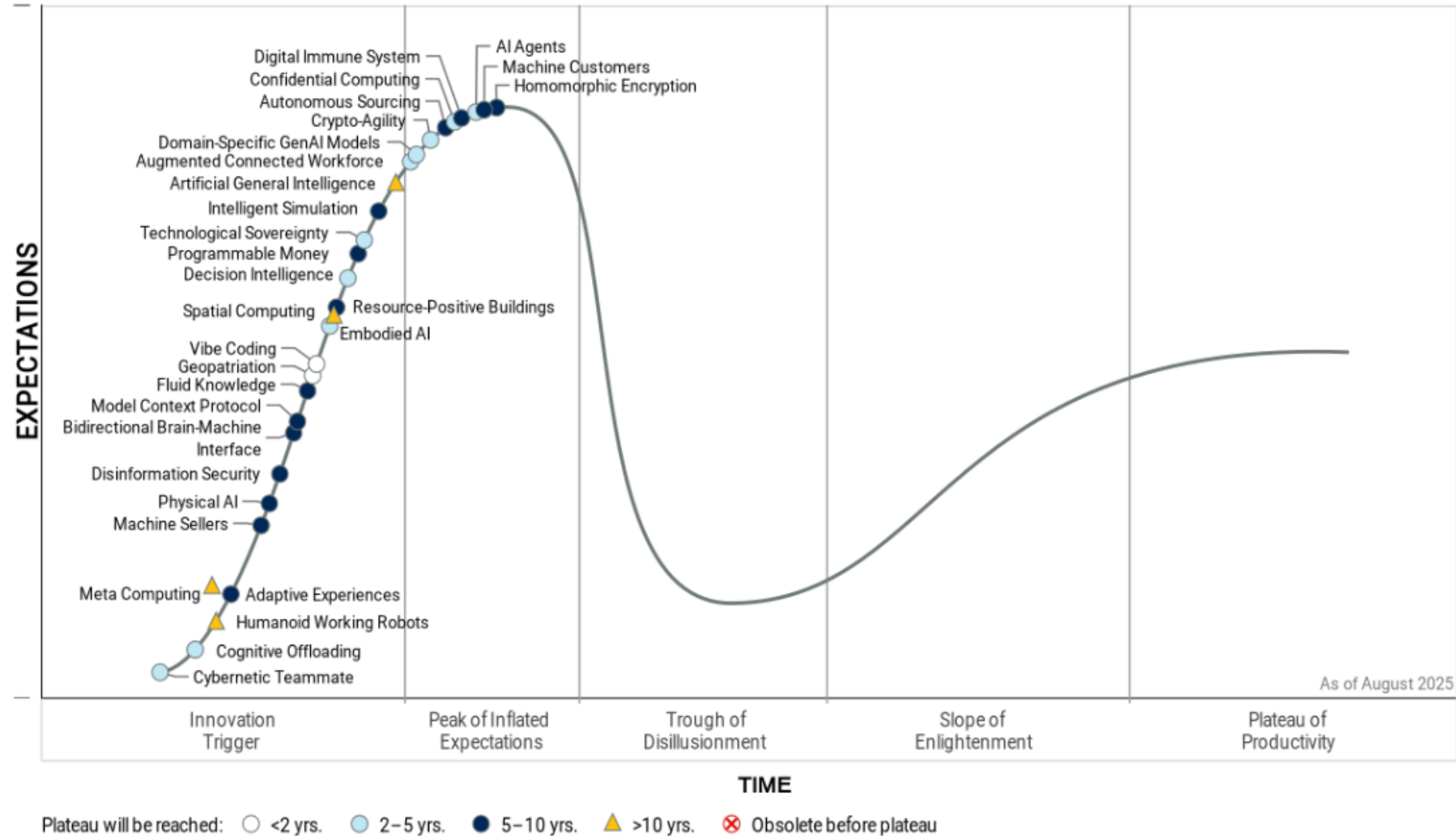
gartner.com/SmarterWithGartner

Source: Gartner (August 2018)
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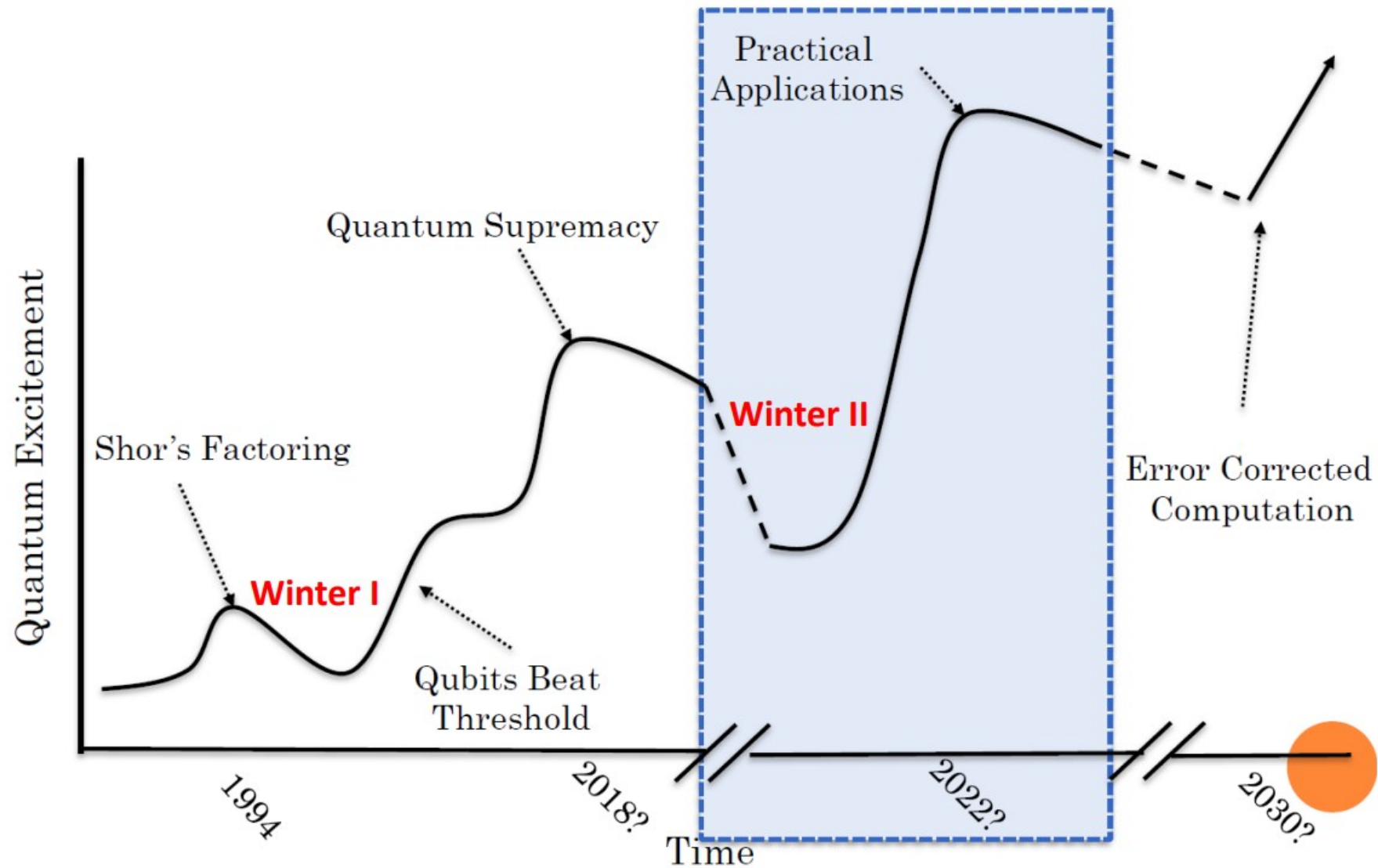
Gartner.

Today (and Tomorrow) Quantum Computing Expectations

Hype Cycle for Emerging Technologies 2025

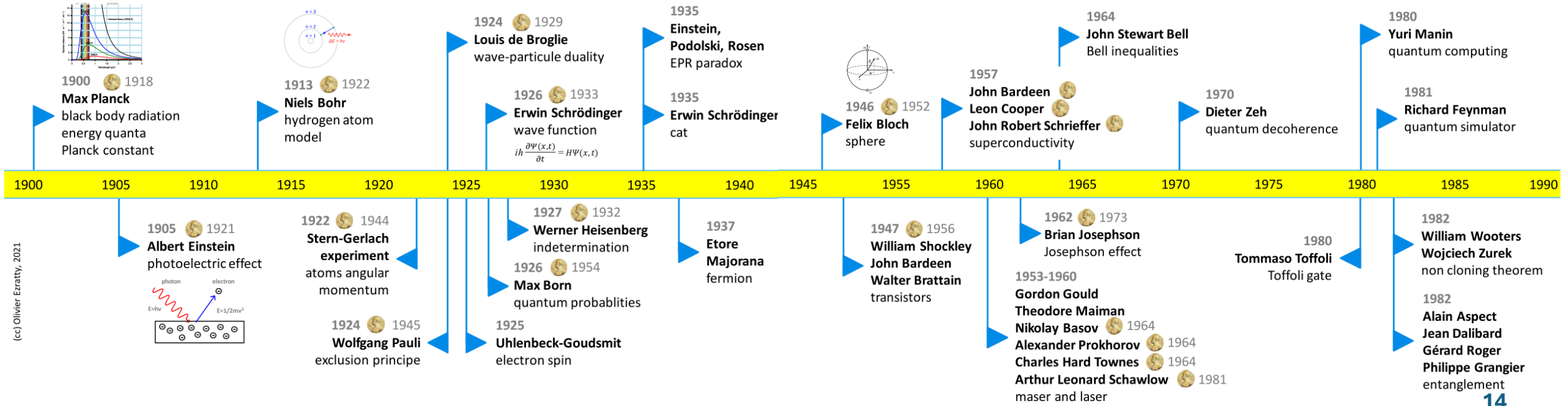
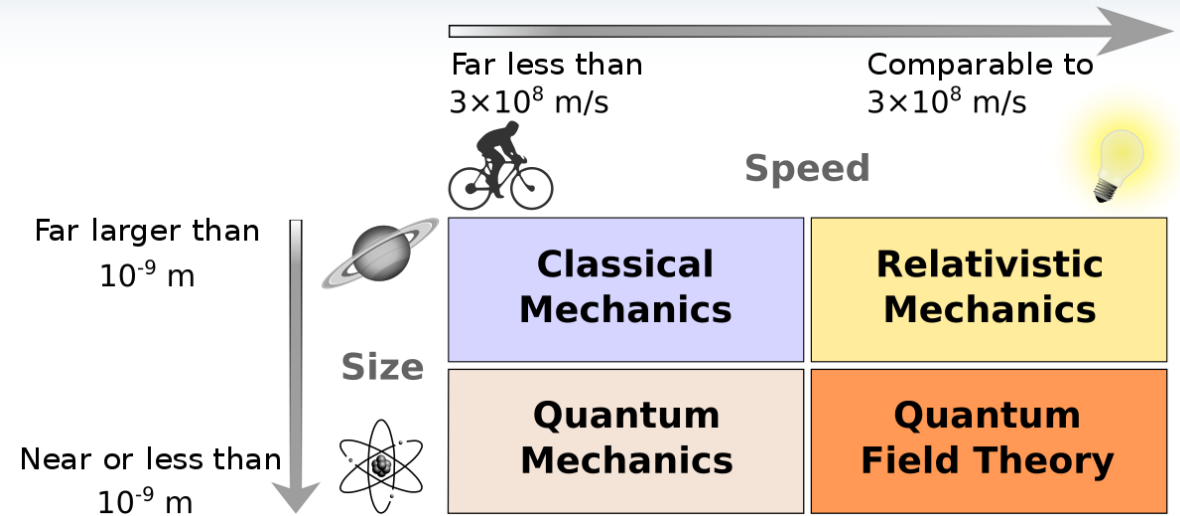
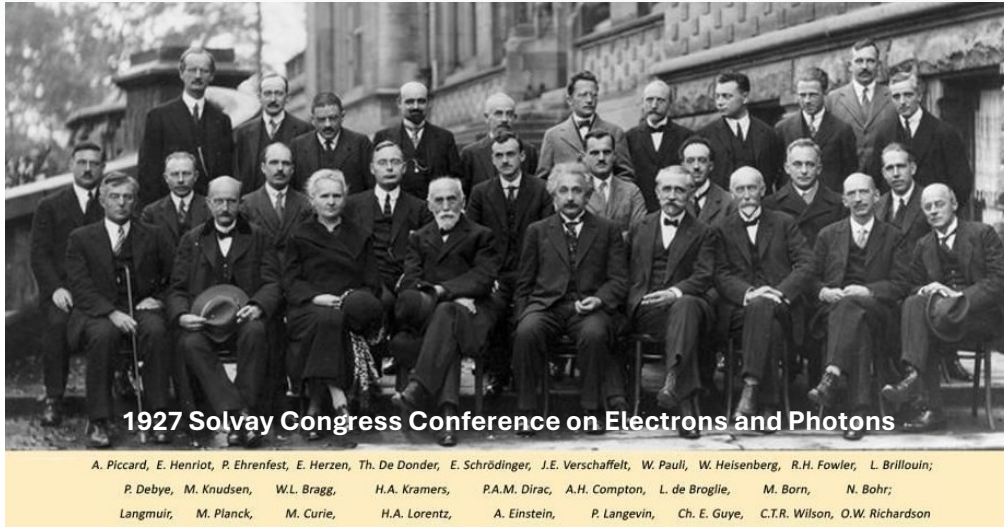


Quantum Computing Hype Cycles

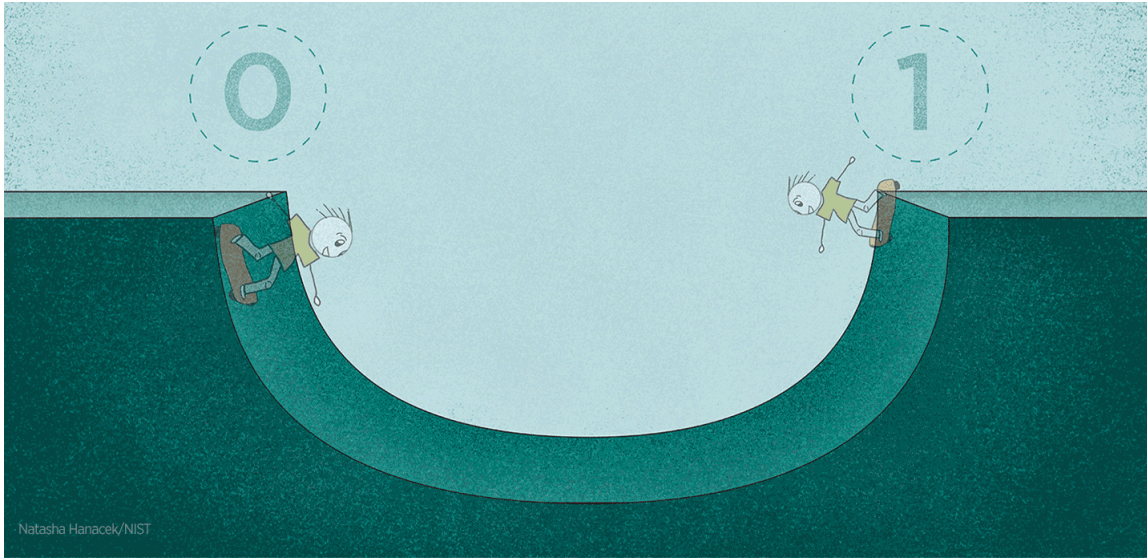


Credit: Jarrod McClean

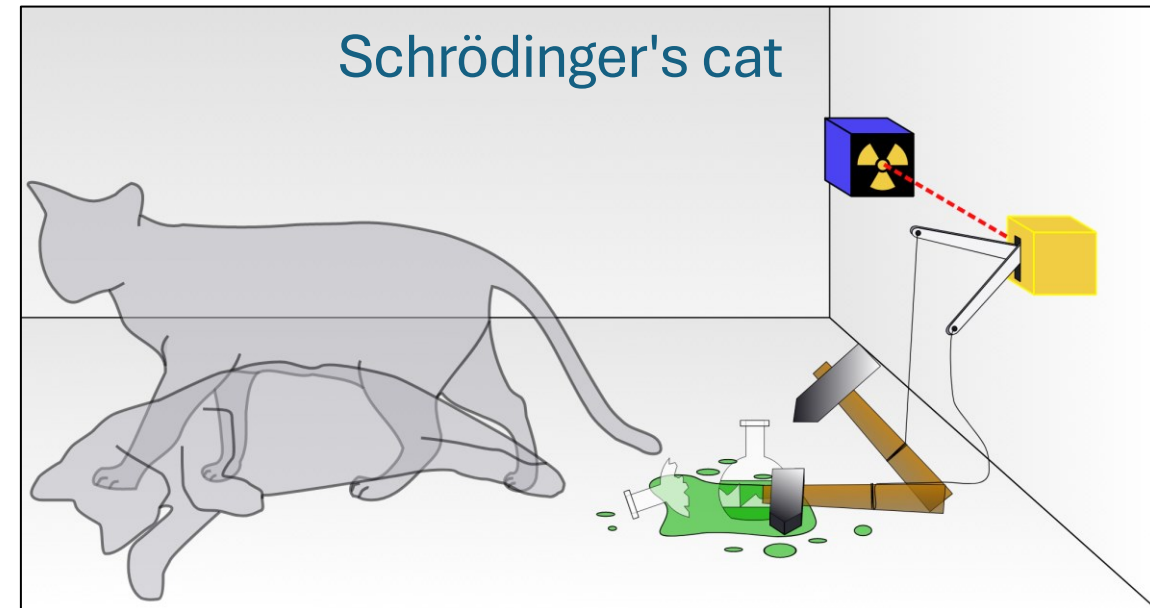
Quantum Mechanics Foundations



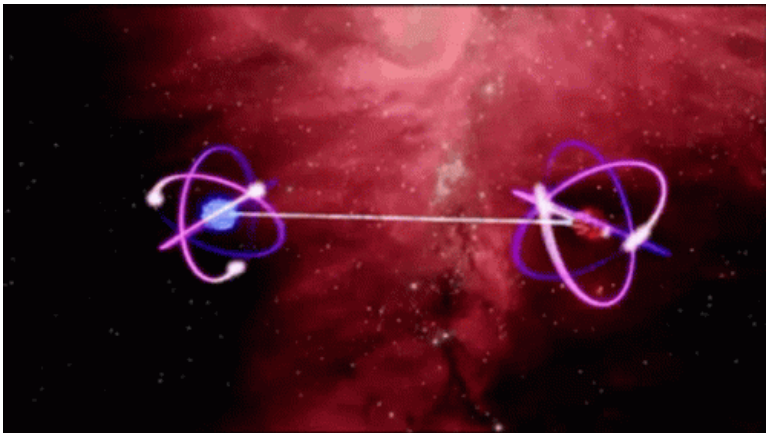
Foundations: Superposition



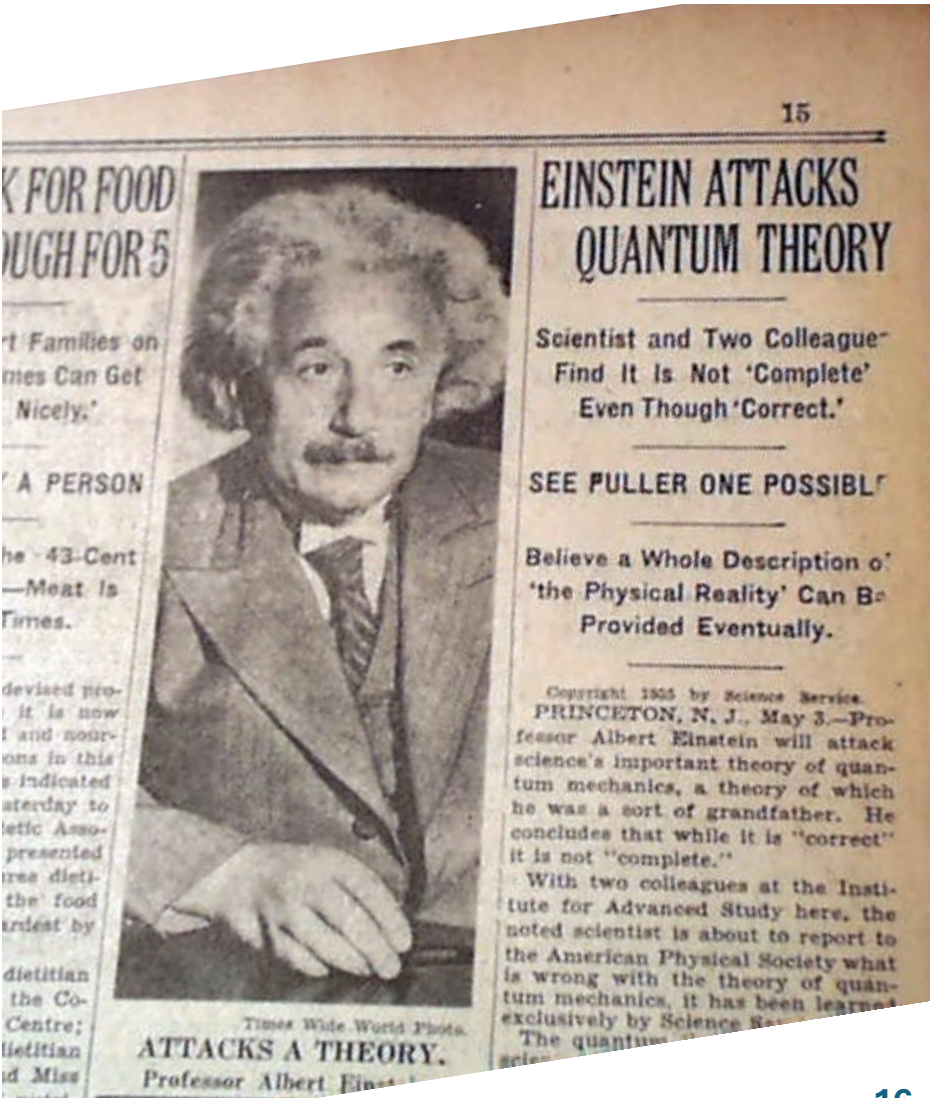
$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\text{cat up}\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\text{cat down}\rangle$$



Foundations: Entanglement



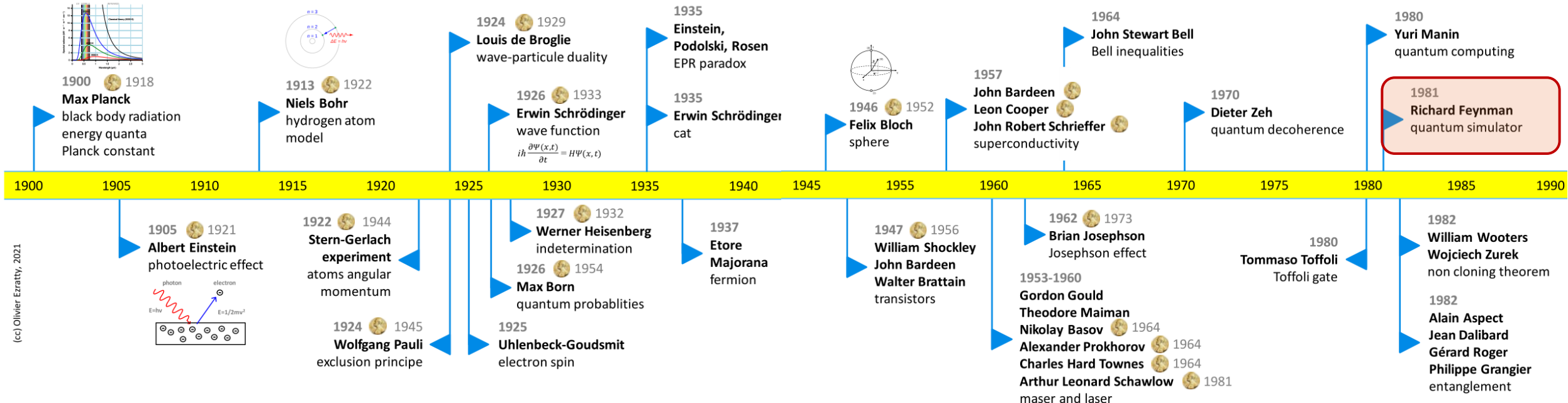
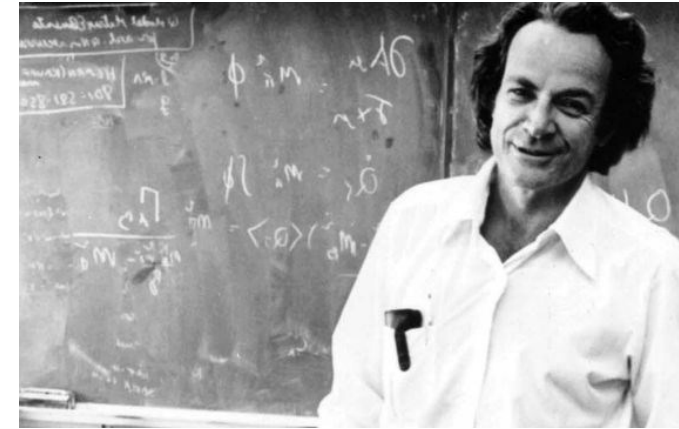
$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\{|\text{cat cat}\rangle + |\text{dog dog}\rangle\}$$



Quantum Computing Foundations

“What kind of computer are we going to use to simulate physics?”

Richard Feynman, 1982



Quantum Computing Foundations

VOLUME 74, NUMBER 20

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

15 MAY 1995

Quantum Computations with Cold Trapped Ions

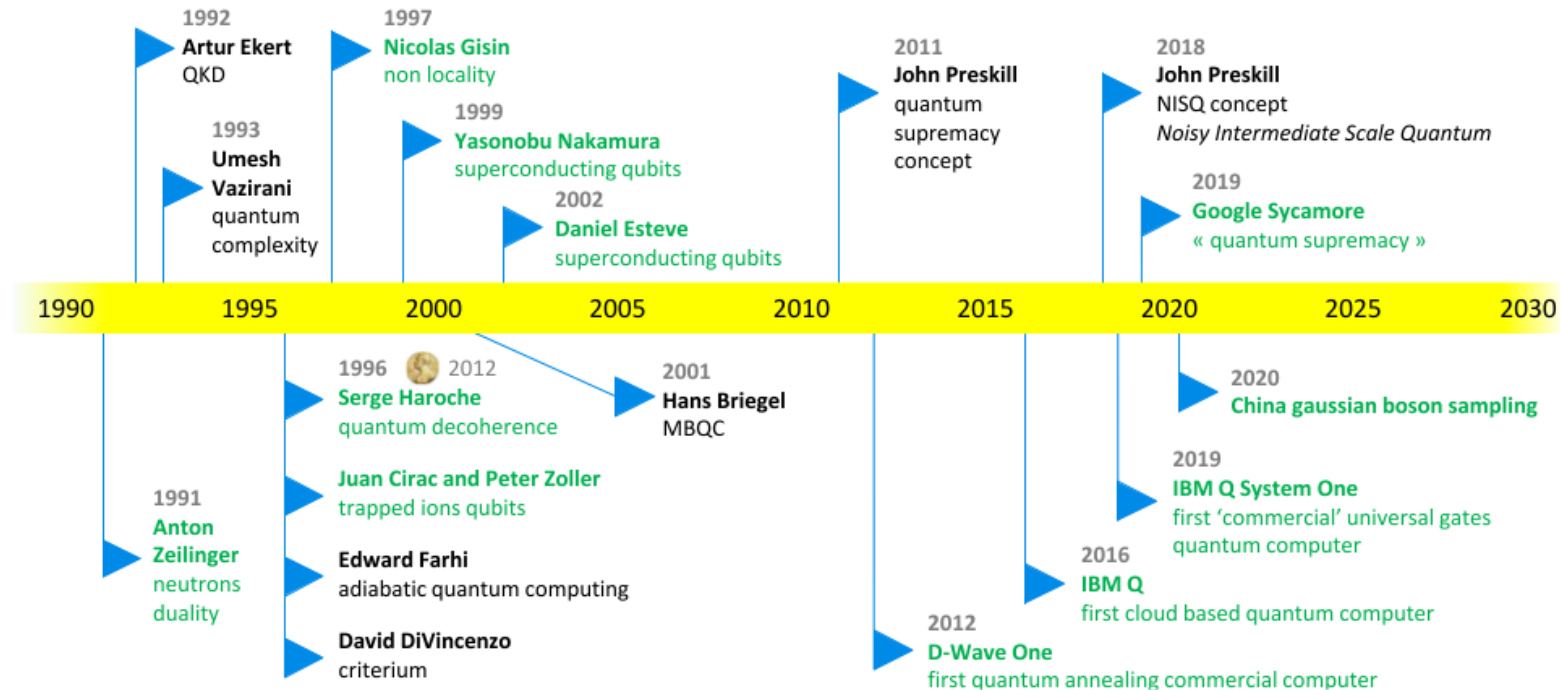
J. I. Cirac and P. Zoller*

Institut für Theoretische Physik, Universität Innsbruck, Technikerstrasse 25, A-6020 Innsbruck, Austria
(Received 30 November 1994)

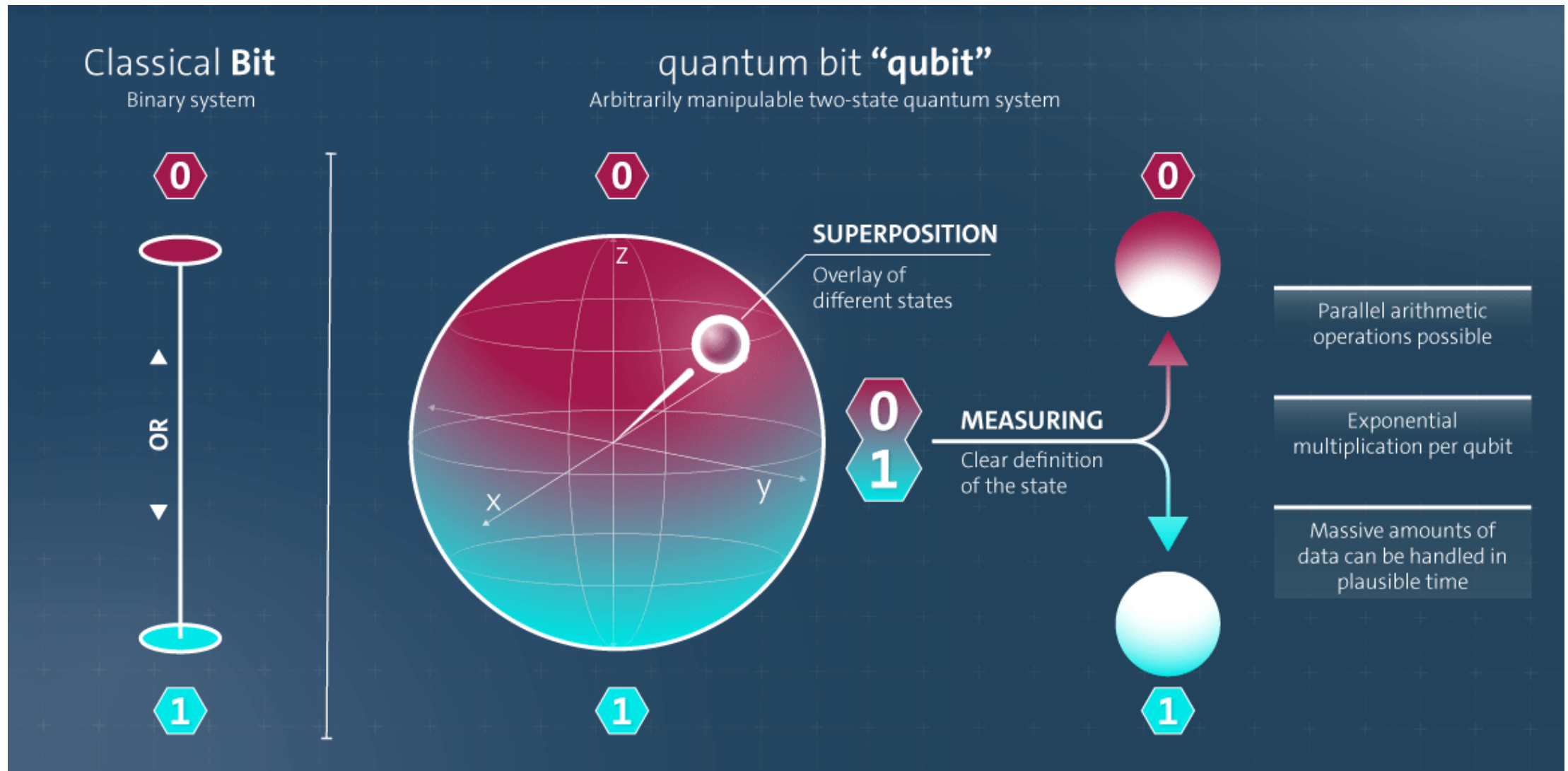
A quantum computer can be implemented with cold ions confined in a linear trap and interacting with laser beams. Quantum gates involving any pair, triplet, or subset of ions can be realized by coupling the ions through the collective quantized motion. In this system decoherence is negligible, and the measurement (readout of the quantum register) can be carried out with a high efficiency.



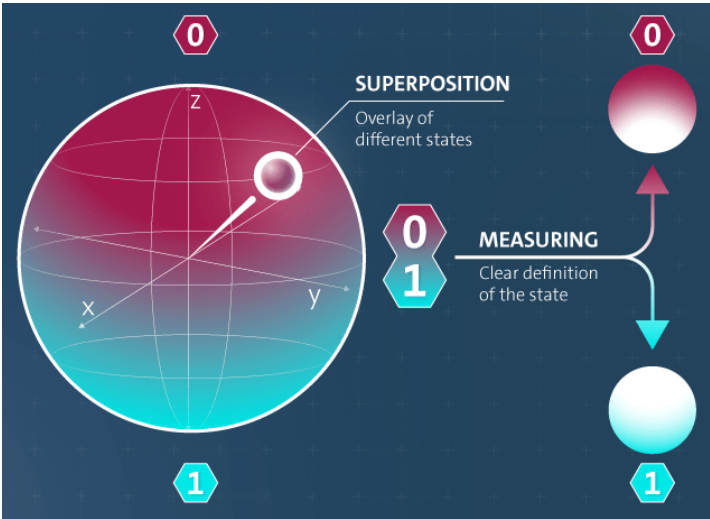
Juan Ignacio Cirac



Qubits



Quantum Speedups



n bits register		n qubits register	
101	2^n possible states once at a time	n=3 example	2^n possible states simultaneously
	evaluable		partially evaluable
	independent copies		no copy
	individually erasable		non individually erasable
	non destructive readout		value changed after readout
	deterministic		probabilistic
			aka register pure states

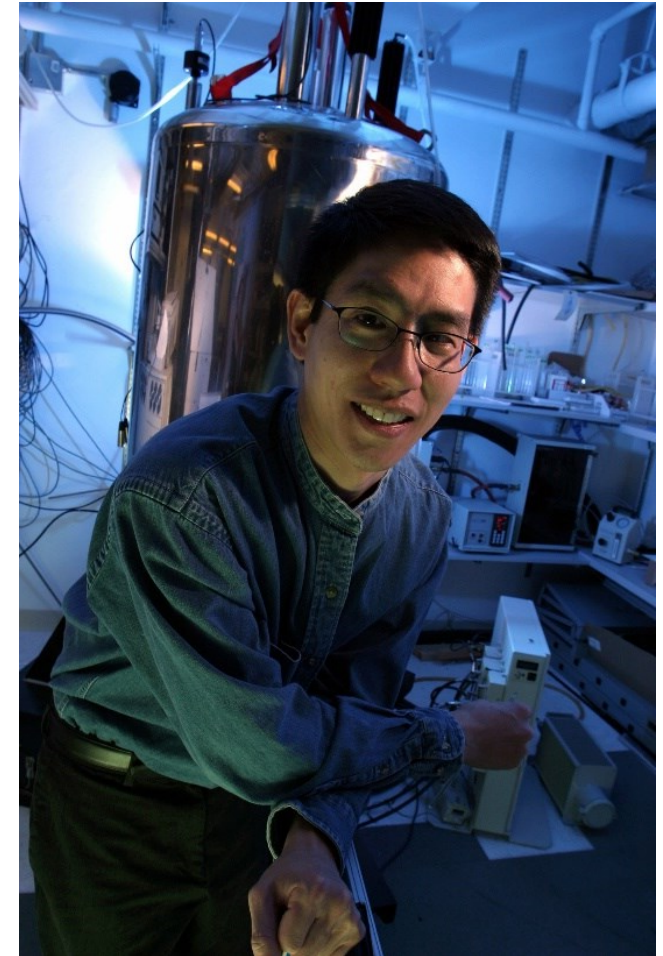


QC is not a tomorrow's technology, it is real



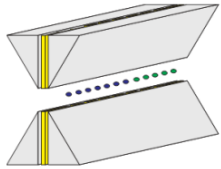
*The thing driving the hype is the realization that quantum computing is actually real. It is no longer a physicist's dream — **it is an engineer's nightmare.***

Isaac Chuang, 2018

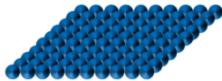


Physical Realization of Qubits

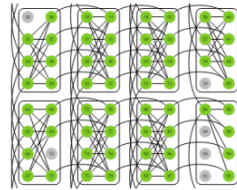
atoms



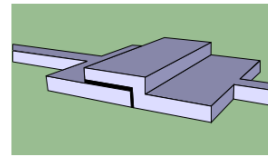
trapped ions



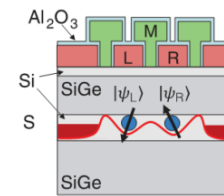
cold atoms



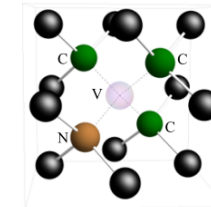
annealing



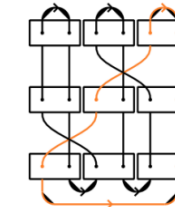
superconducting



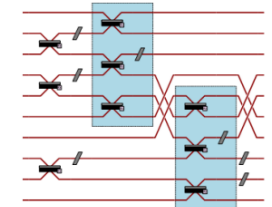
silicon



vacancies



topological



photons



1



2



3



4



5



6



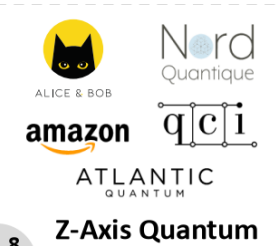
The Quantum Computing Company™

QUANTUM TECH

NEC



7



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10



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13



14



15



16

Quantum Computing Hardware



Superconducting



Photonics

Physical Realization of Qubits

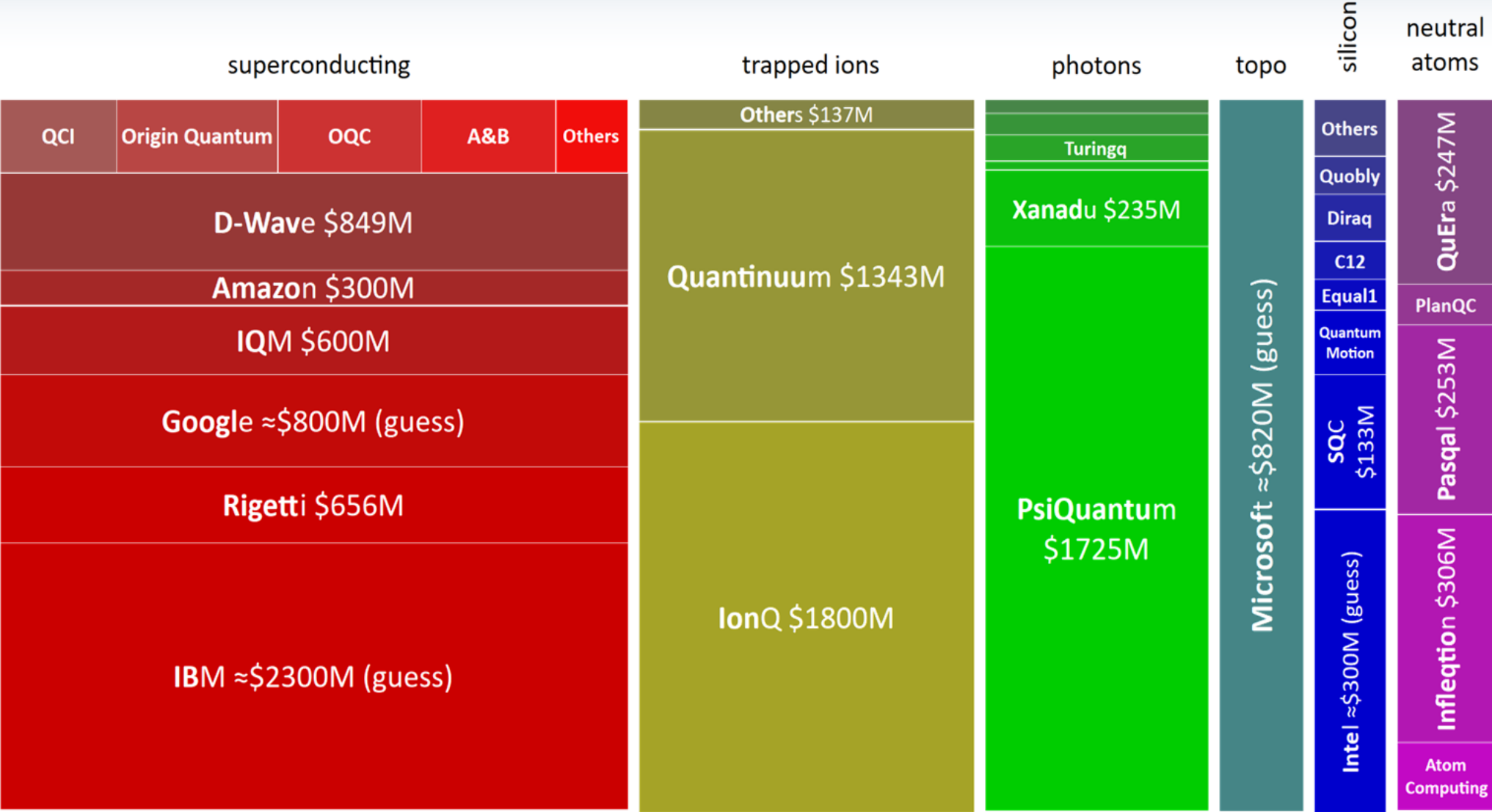
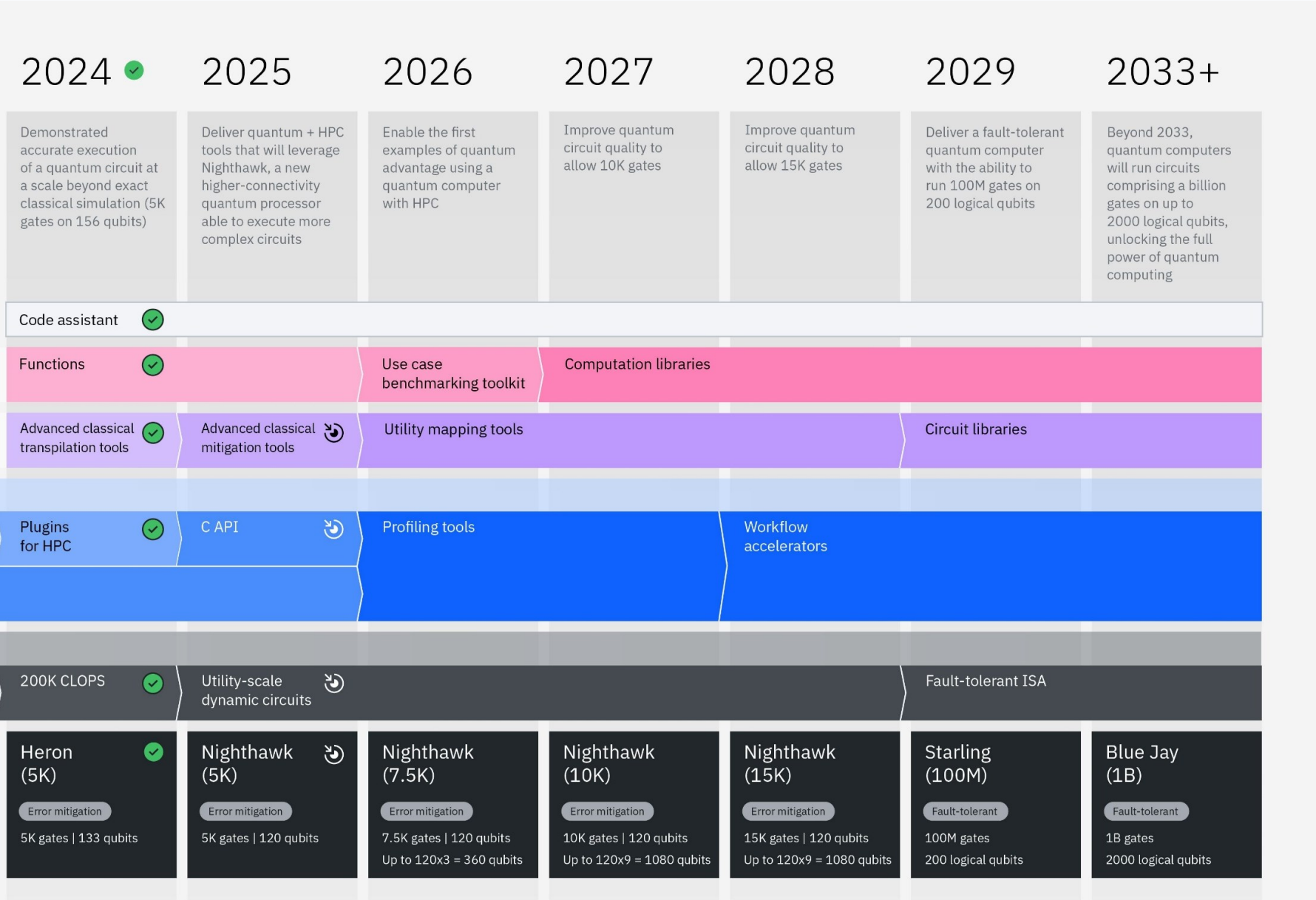


Figure 300: Fuzzy logic assessment of industry investments per qubit type mixing capital investment for startups and internal investments for legacy companies is “life to date” (LTD). (cc) Olivier Ezratty, September 2025.

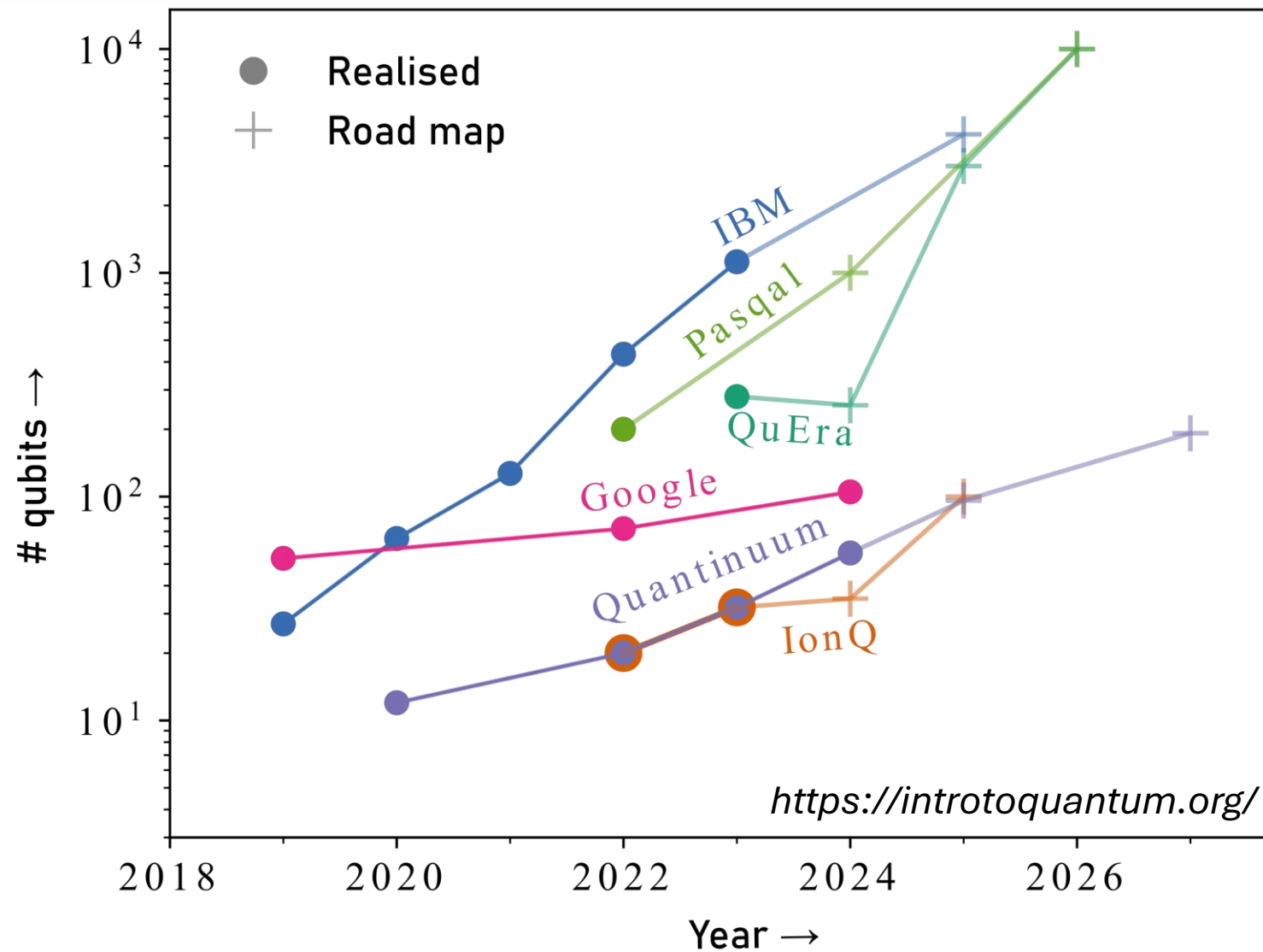
IBM Roadmap



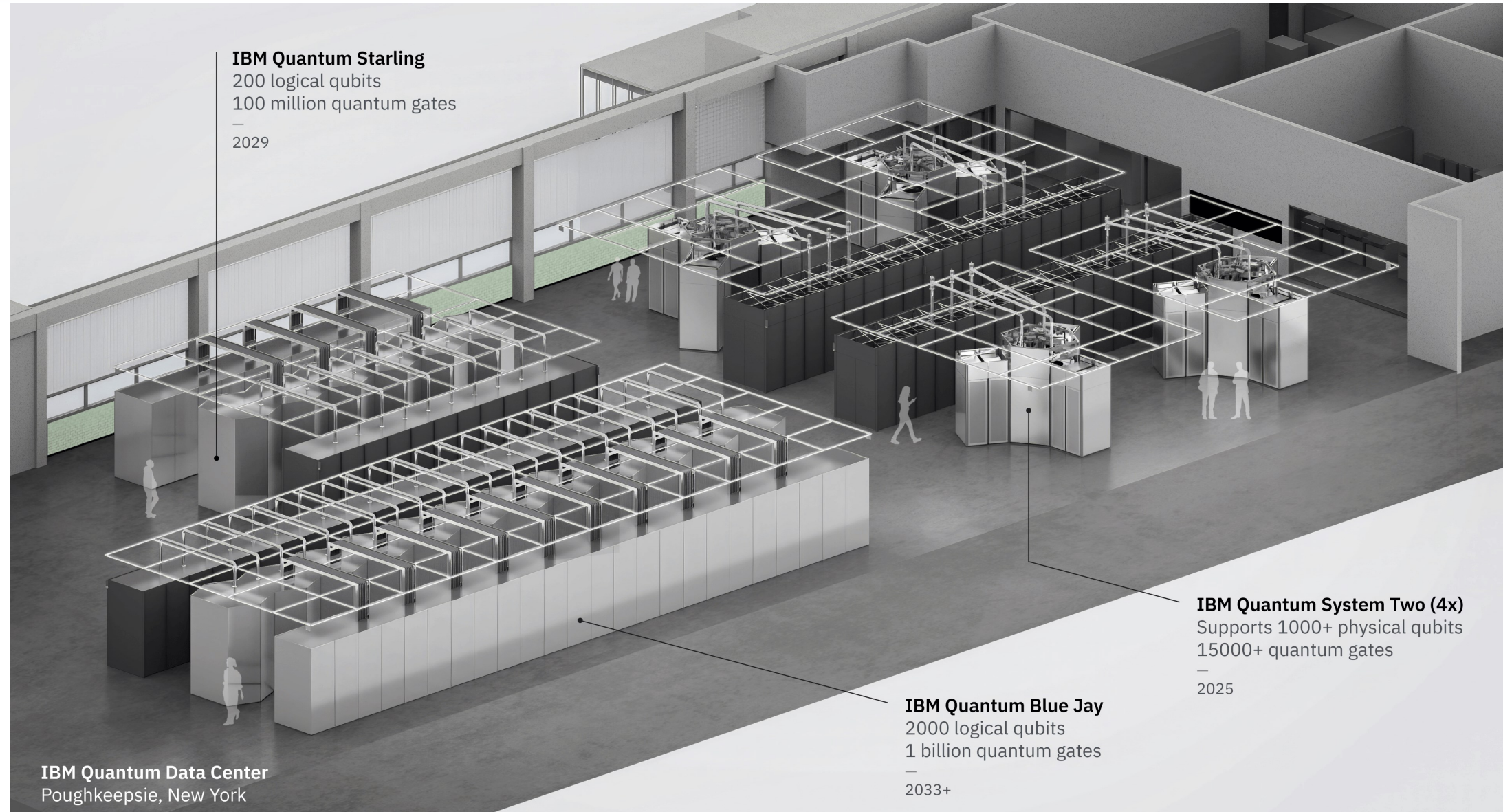
IBM Roadmap



Evolution of Number of Qubits

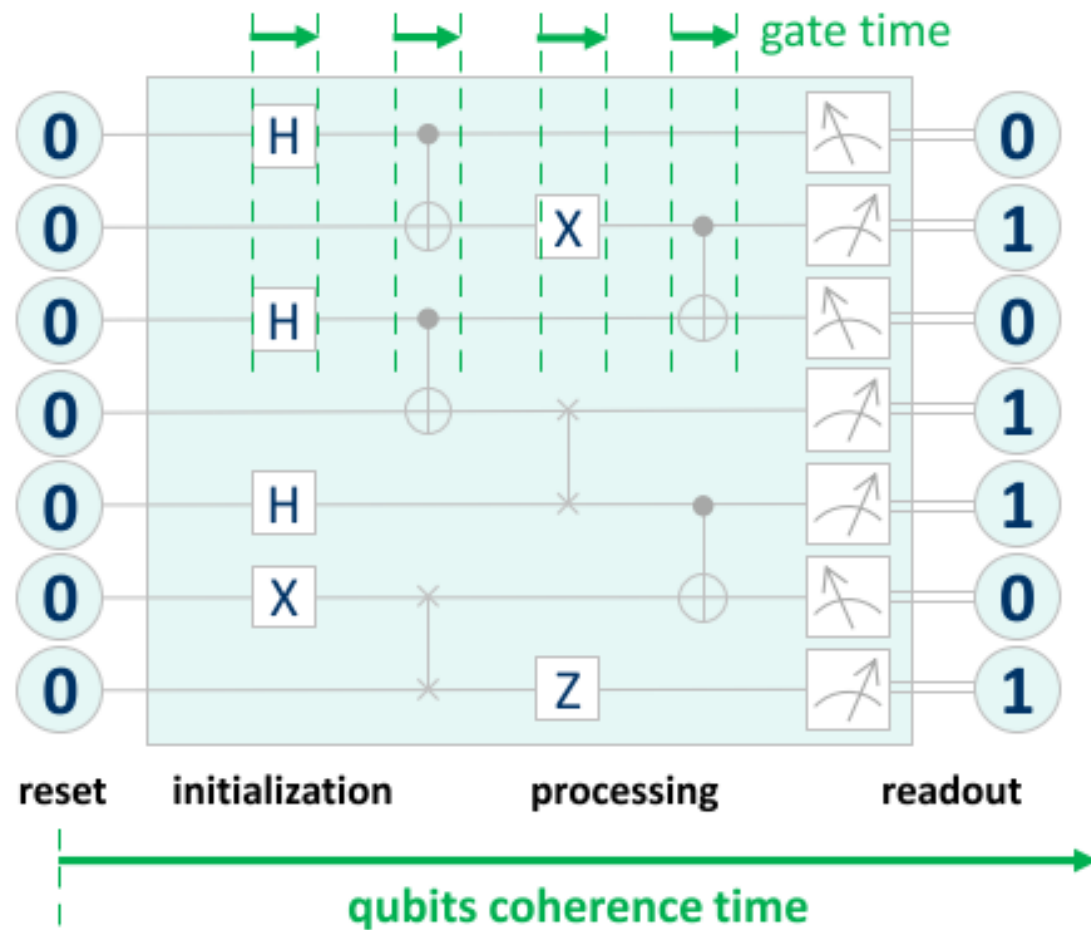


QC in HPC (High Performance Computing)



Quantum computing challenges: Decoherence

- Limited timeframe where qubits are useful



$\approx 20\text{-}300\text{ ns}$ by 2 qubit gate (*)



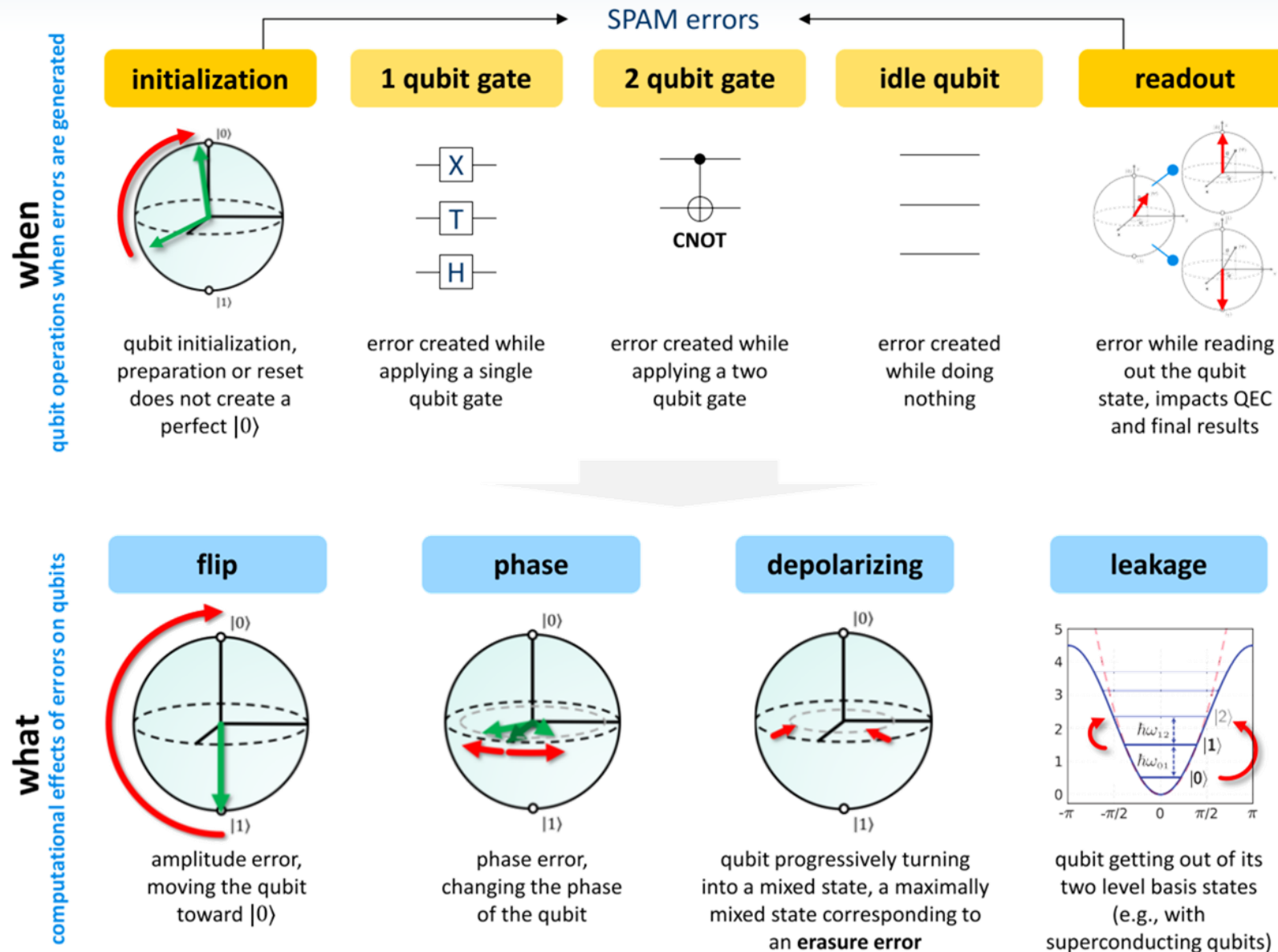
>500 gate cycles
including some two
qubit gates
without QEC (*)



$\approx 200\text{ }\mu\text{s}$ (*)

(*) on IBM or Google superconducting qubits computers, best case, and without quantum error correction

Quantum computing challenges: Error Correction



Causes:

- Control
- Calibration
- Material defects
- Cosmic rays
- Multiple interactions
- Thermal noise
- Electromagnetic noise
- Photon loss
- ...

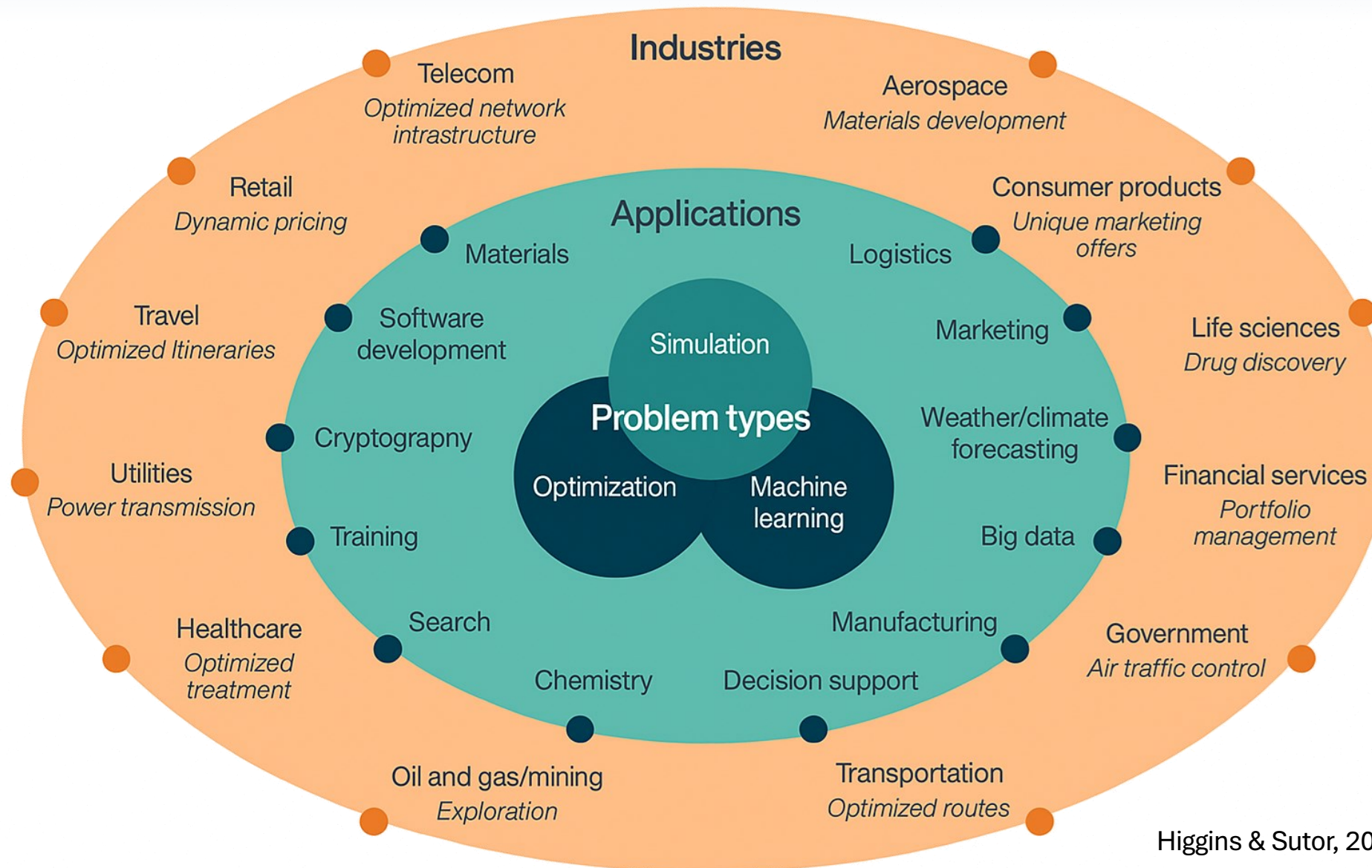
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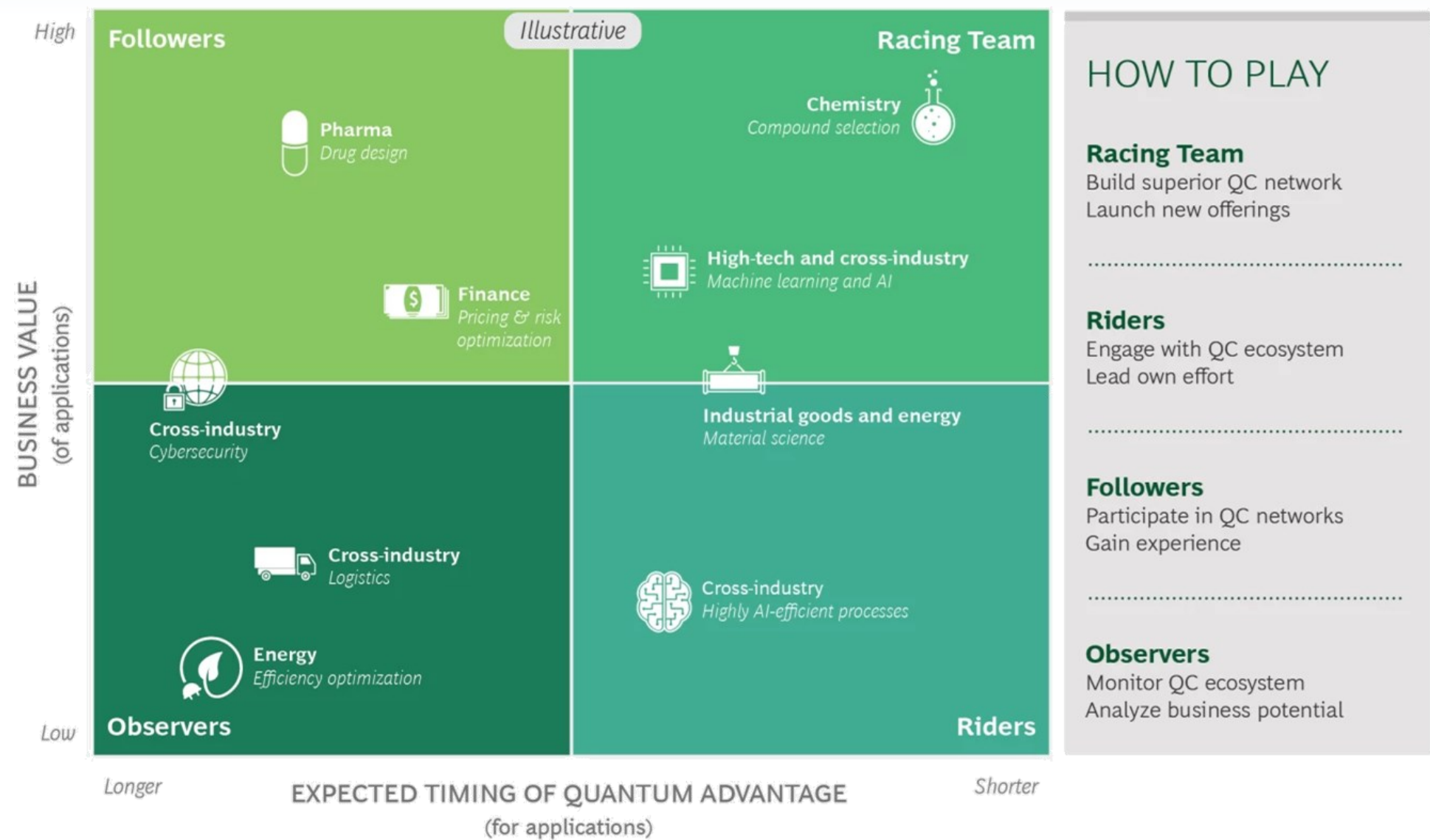


Expected QC Applications



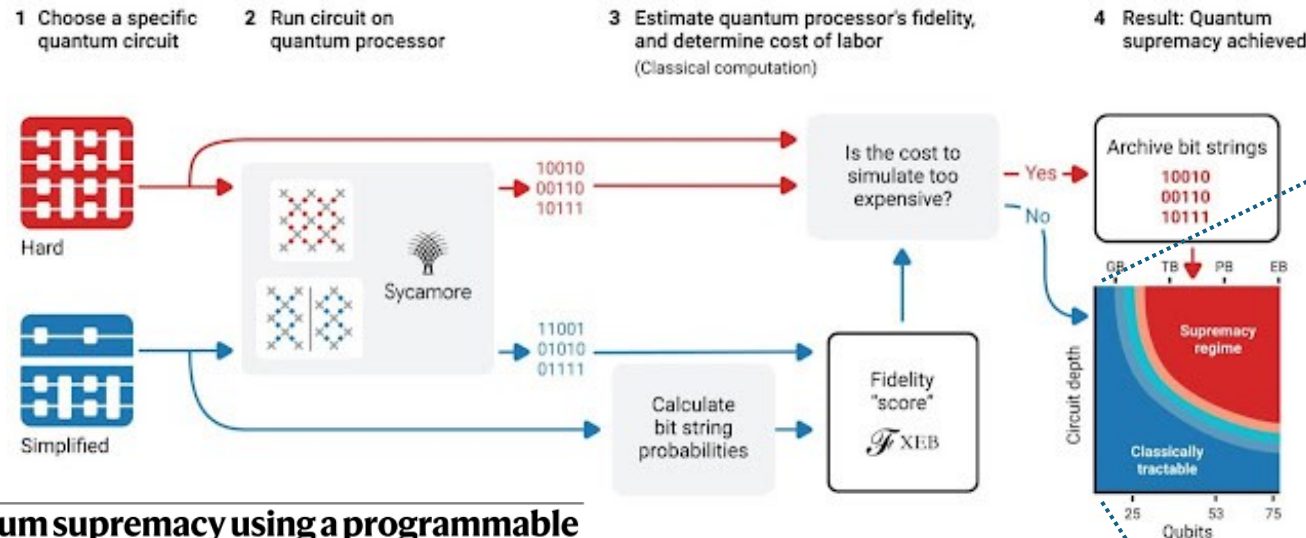
Higgins & Sutor, 2018

Expected QC Applications



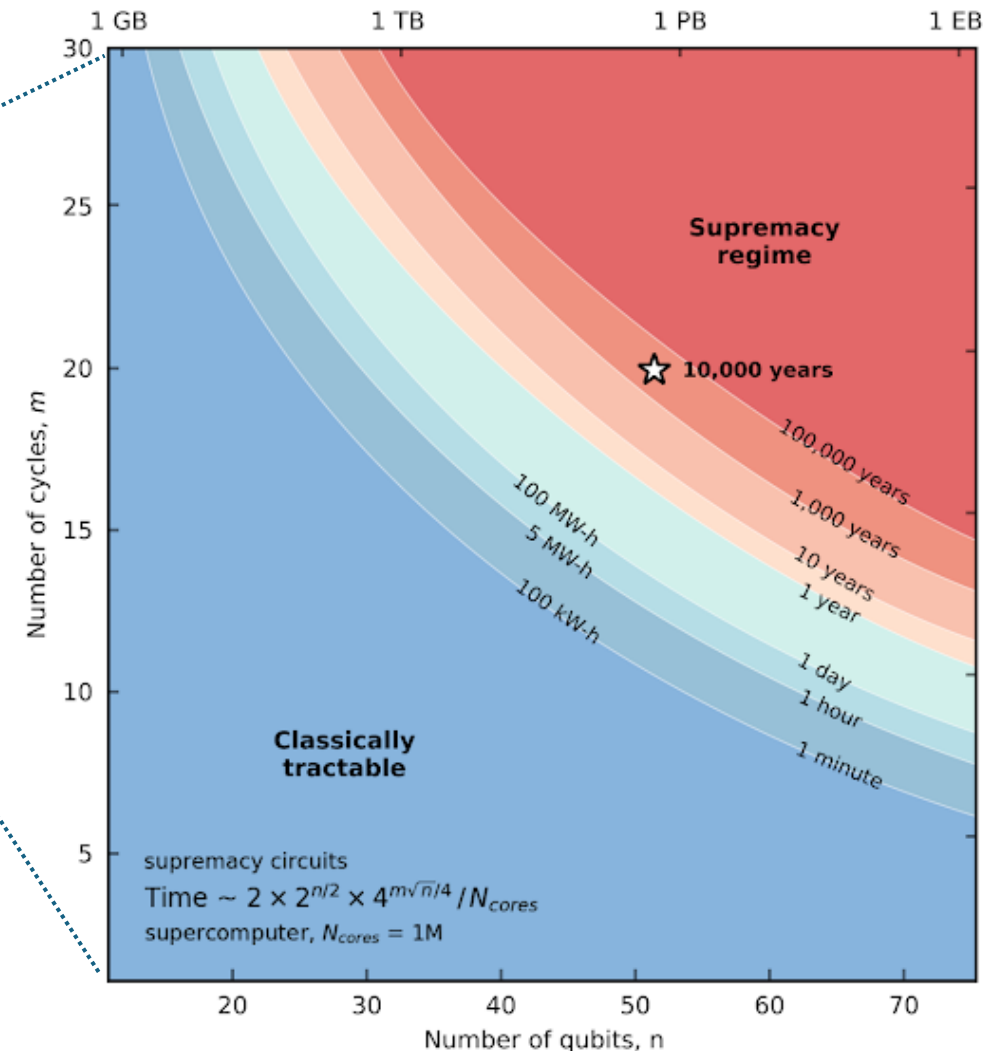
Sources: BCG analysis.

Quantum Supremacy?



Schrödinger-Feynman Algorithm

Memory requirement



Article

Quantum supremacy using a programmable superconducting processor

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-019-1666-5>

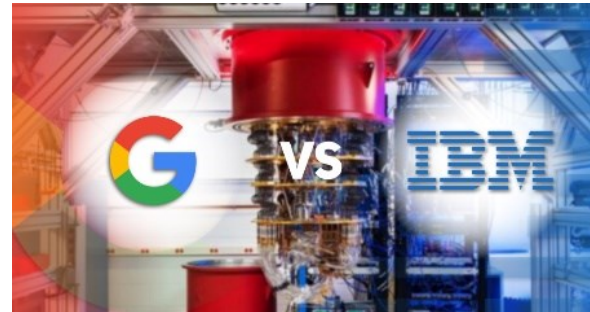
Received: 22 July 2019

Accepted: 20 September 2019

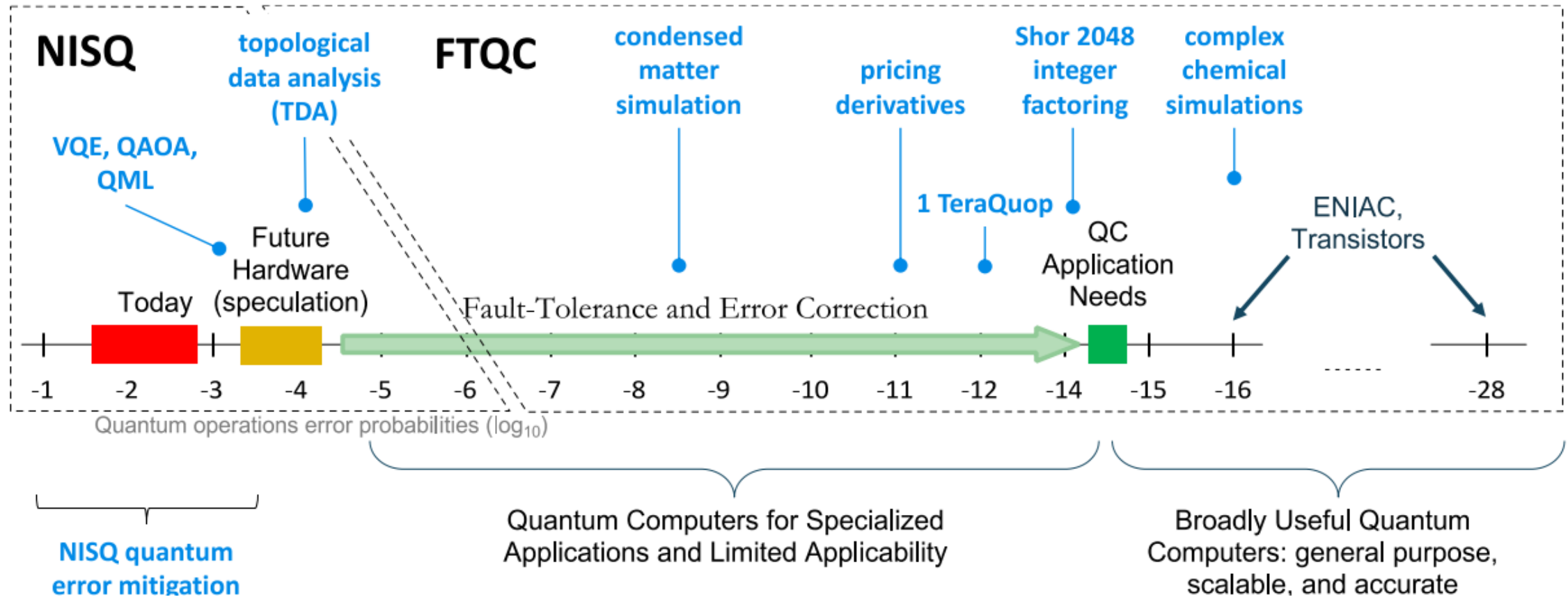
Published online: 23 October 2019

Frank Arute¹, Kunal Arya¹, Ryan Babbush¹, Dave Bacon¹, Joseph C. Bardin^{1,2}, Rami Barends¹, Rupak Biswas¹, Sergio Boixo¹, Fernando G. S. L. Brandao^{1,3}, David A. Buell¹, Brian Burkett¹, Yu Chen¹, Zijun Chen¹, Ben Chiaro¹, Roberto Collins¹, William Courtney¹, Andrew Dunsworth¹, Edward Farhi¹, Brooks Foxen¹, Austin Fowler¹, Craig Gidney¹, Marissa Giustina¹, Rob Graff¹, Keith Guerin¹, Steve Habegger¹, Matthew P. Harrigan¹, Michael J. Hartmann^{1,4}, Alan Ho¹, Markus Hoffmann¹, Trent Huang¹, Travis S. Humble¹, Sergei V. Isakov¹, Evan Jeffrey¹, Zhang Jiang¹, Dvir Kafri¹, Kostyantyn Kechedzhii¹, Julian Kelly¹, Paul V. Klimov¹, Sergey Knysh¹, Alexander Korotkov^{1,5}, Fedor Kostritsa¹, David Landhuis¹, Mike Lindmark¹, Erik Lucero¹, Dmitry Lyakh¹, Salvatore Mandrà^{1,6}, Jarrod R. McClean¹, Matthew McEwen¹, Anthony Megrant¹, Xiao Mi¹, Kristel Michielsen^{1,7}, Masoud Mohseni¹, Josh Mutus¹, Ofer Nisaman¹, Matthew Neeley¹, Charles Neill¹, Murphy Yuezhen Niu¹, Eric Ostby¹, Andre Petukhov¹, John C. Platt¹, Chris Quintana¹, Eleanor G. Rieffel¹, Pedram Roushan¹, Nicholas C. Rubin¹, Daniel Sank¹, Kevin J. Satzinger¹, Vadim Smelyanskiy¹, Kevin J. Sung^{1,8}, Matthew D. Trevithick¹, Amit Vainsencher¹, Benjamin Villalonga^{1,9}, Theodore White¹, Z. Jamie Yao¹, Ping Yeh¹, Adam Zalcman¹, Hartmut Neven¹ & John M. Martinis^{1,10}

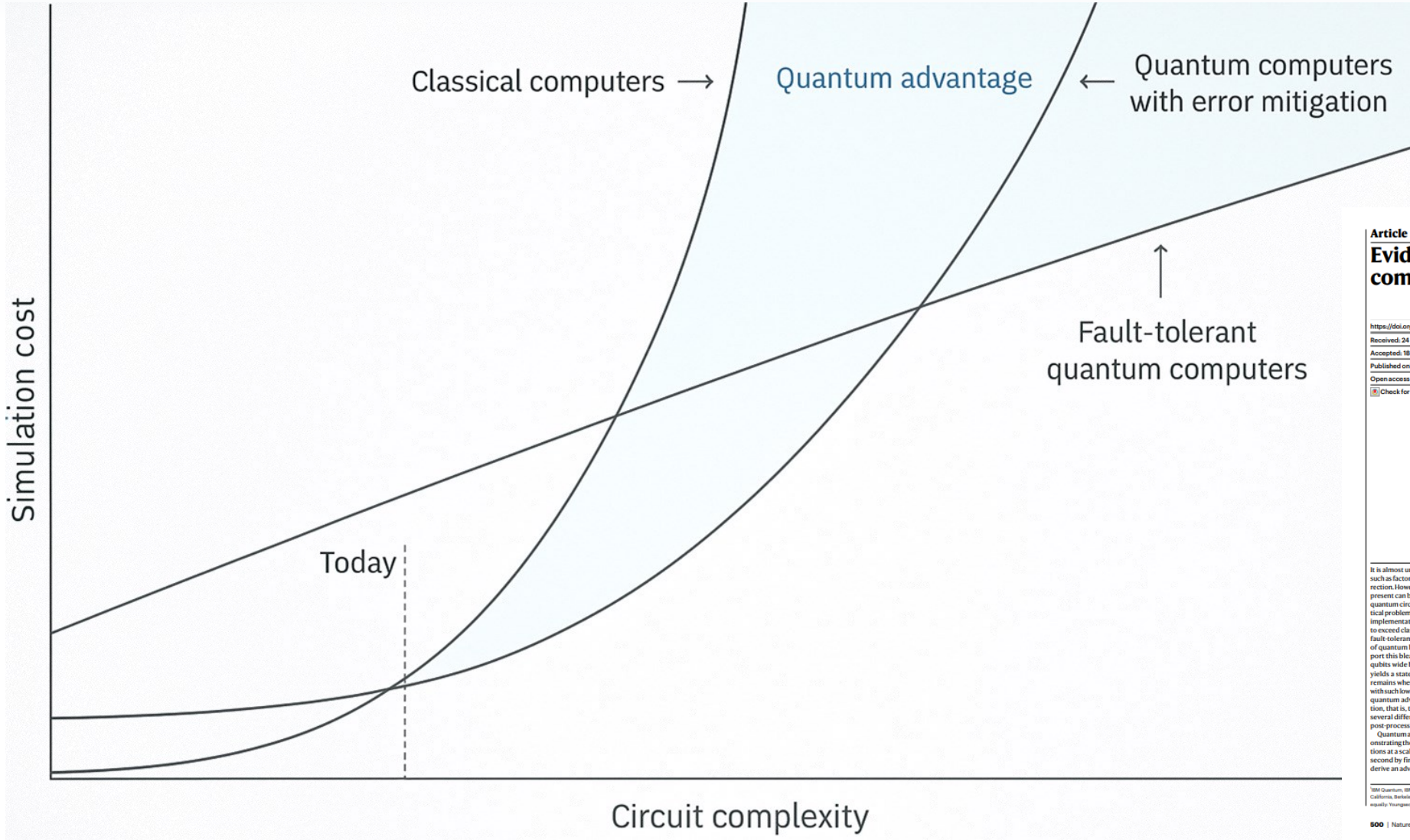
The promise of quantum computers is that certain computational tasks might be executed exponentially faster on a quantum processor than on a classical processor¹. A fundamental challenge is to build a high-fidelity processor capable of running quantum algorithms in an exponentially large computational space. Here we report the use of a processor with programmable superconducting qubits^{2–7} to create quantum states on 53 qubits, corresponding to a computational state-space of dimension 2^{53} (about 10^{16}). Measurements from repeated experiments sample the resulting probability distribution, which we verify using classical simulations. Our Sycamore processor takes about 200 seconds to sample one instance of a quantum circuit a million times—our benchmarks currently indicate that the equivalent task for a state-of-the-art classical supercomputer would take approximately 10,000 years. This dramatic increase in speed compared to all known classical algorithms is an experimental realization of quantum supremacy^{8–10} for this specific computational task, heralding a much-anticipated computing paradigm.



NISQ (Noisy Intermediate-Scale Quantum) vs. FTQC (Fault-Tolerant Quantum Computing)



Quantum Advantage (expected by 2026?)



Article

Evidence for the utility of quantum computing before fault tolerance

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-023-06096-3>
Received: 24 February 2023
Accepted: 18 April 2023
Published online: 14 June 2023
Open access
Check for updates

Youngeek Kim^{1,2,3,4}, Andrew Eddins^{3,4,5}, Seajant Anand⁶, Ken Xuan Wu⁶, Ewout van den Berg⁷, Sami Rosenblatt⁷, Hasan Nayfeh⁷, Yantao Wu⁸, Michael Zaletel⁹, Kristan Temme⁶ & Abhinav Kandala^{1,2}

Quantum computing promises to offer substantial speed-ups over its classical counterpart for certain problems. However, the greatest impediment to realizing its full potential is noise that is inherent to these systems. The widely accepted solution to this challenge is the implementation of fault-tolerant quantum circuits, which is out of reach for current processors. Here we report experiments on a noisy 127-qubit processor and demonstrate the measurement of accurate expectation values for circuit volumes at a scale beyond brute-force classical computation. We argue that this represents evidence for the utility of quantum computing in a pre-fault-tolerant era. These experimental results are enabled by advances in the coherence and calibration of a superconducting processor at this scale and the ability to characterize and controllably manipulate noise across such a large device. We establish the accuracy of the measured expectation values by comparing them with the output of exactly verifiable circuits. In the regime of strong entanglement, the quantum computer provides correct results for which leading classical approximations such as pure-state-based 1D (matrix product states, MPS) and 2D (isometric tensor network states, iotNS) tensor network methods¹⁰ break down. These experiments demonstrate a foundational tool for the realization of near-term quantum applications¹¹.

It is almost universally accepted that advanced quantum algorithms such as factoring¹² or phase estimation¹³ will require quantum error correction. However, it is acutely debated whether processors available at present can be made sufficiently reliable to run other, shorter-depth quantum circuits at a scale that could provide an advantage for practical problems. At this point, the conventional expectation is that the implementation of even simple quantum circuits with the potential to exceed classical capabilities will have to wait until more advanced, fault-tolerant processors arrive. Despite the tremendous progress of quantum hardware in recent years, simple fidelity bounds¹⁴ support this bleak forecast: one estimates that a quantum circuit 100 qubits wide by 100 gate-layers deep executed with 0.1% gate error yields a state fidelity less than 5×10^{-7} . Nonetheless, the question remains whether properties of the ideal state can be accessed even with such low fidelities. The error-mitigation¹⁵ approach to near-term quantum advantage on noisy devices exactly addresses this question, that is, that one can produce accurate expectation values from several different runs of the noisy quantum circuit using classical post-processing.

Quantum advantage can be approached in two steps: first, by demonstrating the ability of existing devices to perform accurate computations at a scale that lies beyond brute-force classical simulation, and second by finding problems with associated quantum circuits that derive an advantage from these devices. Here we focus on taking the first step and do not aim to implement quantum circuits for problems with proven speed-ups.

We use a superconducting quantum processor with 127 qubits to run quantum circuits with up to 60 layers of two-qubit gates, a total of 2,880 CNOT gates. General quantum circuits of this size lie beyond what is feasible with brute-force classical methods. We thus first focus on specific test cases of the circuits permitting exact classical verification of the measured expectation values. We then turn to circuit regimes and observables in which classical simulation becomes challenging and compare with results from state-of-the-art approximate classical methods.

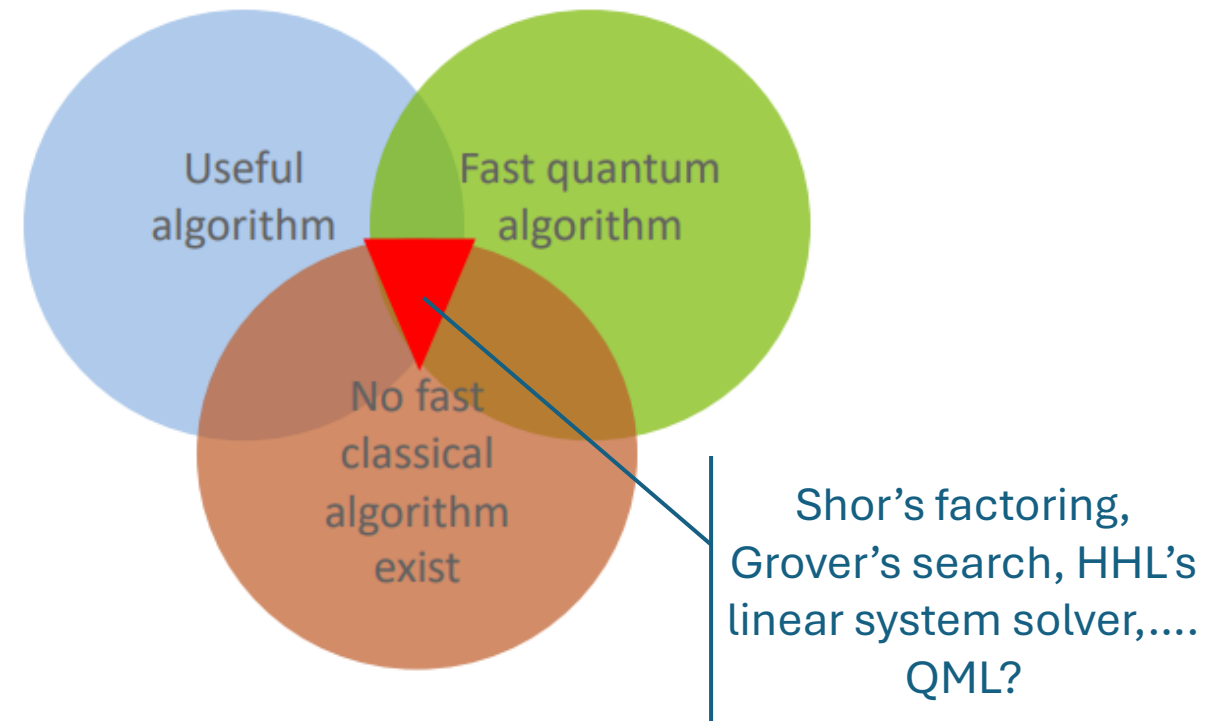
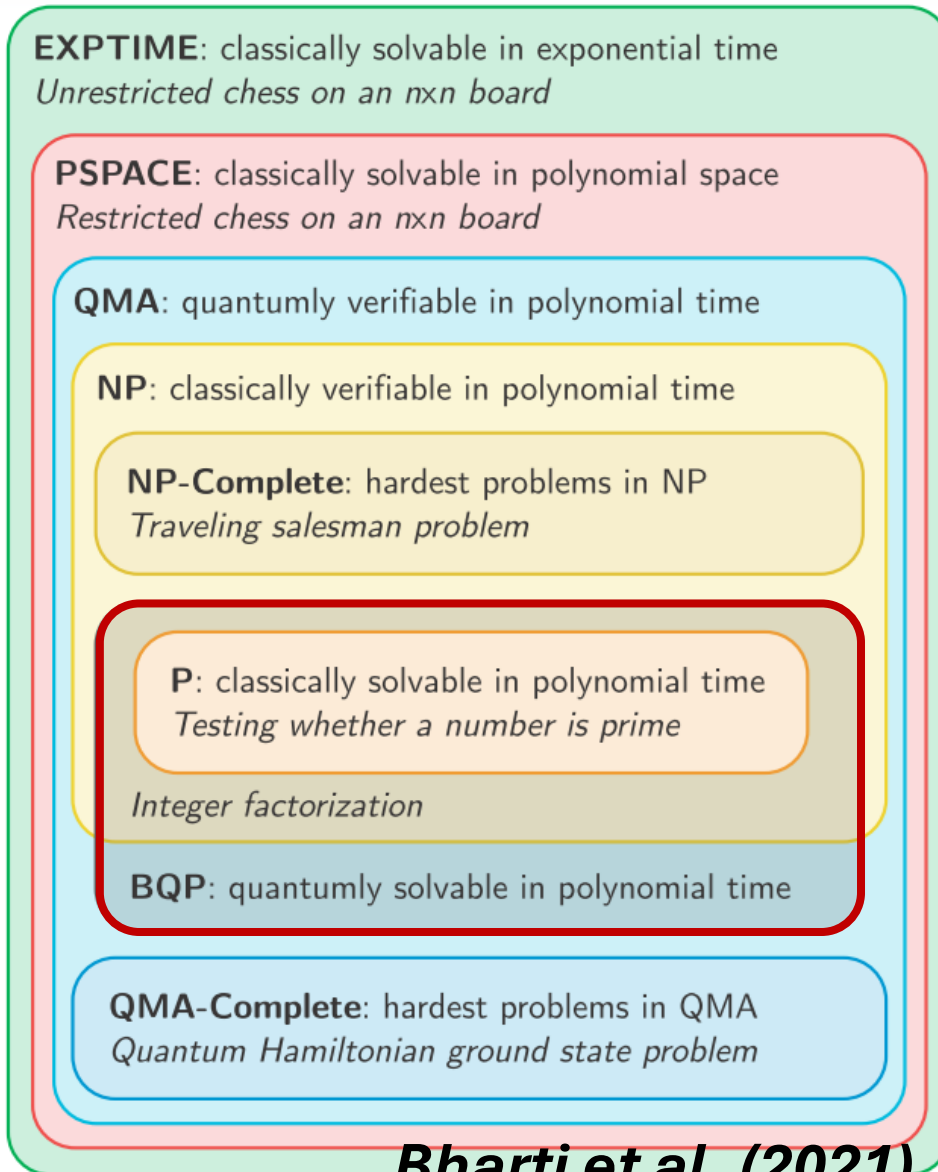
Our benchmark circuit is the Trotterized time evolution of a 2D transverse-field Ising model, sharing the topology of the qubit processor (Fig. 1a). The Ising model appears extensively across several areas in physics and has found creative extensions in recent simulations exploring quantum many-body phenomena, such as time crystals¹⁶, ‘quantum scars’¹⁷ and Majorana edge modes¹⁸. As a test of utility of quantum computation, however, the time evolution of the 2D transverse-field Ising model is most relevant in the limit of large entanglement growth in which scalable classical approximations struggle.

In particular, we consider time dynamics of the Hamiltonian,

$$H = -J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} Z_i Z_j + h \sum_i X_i \quad (1)$$

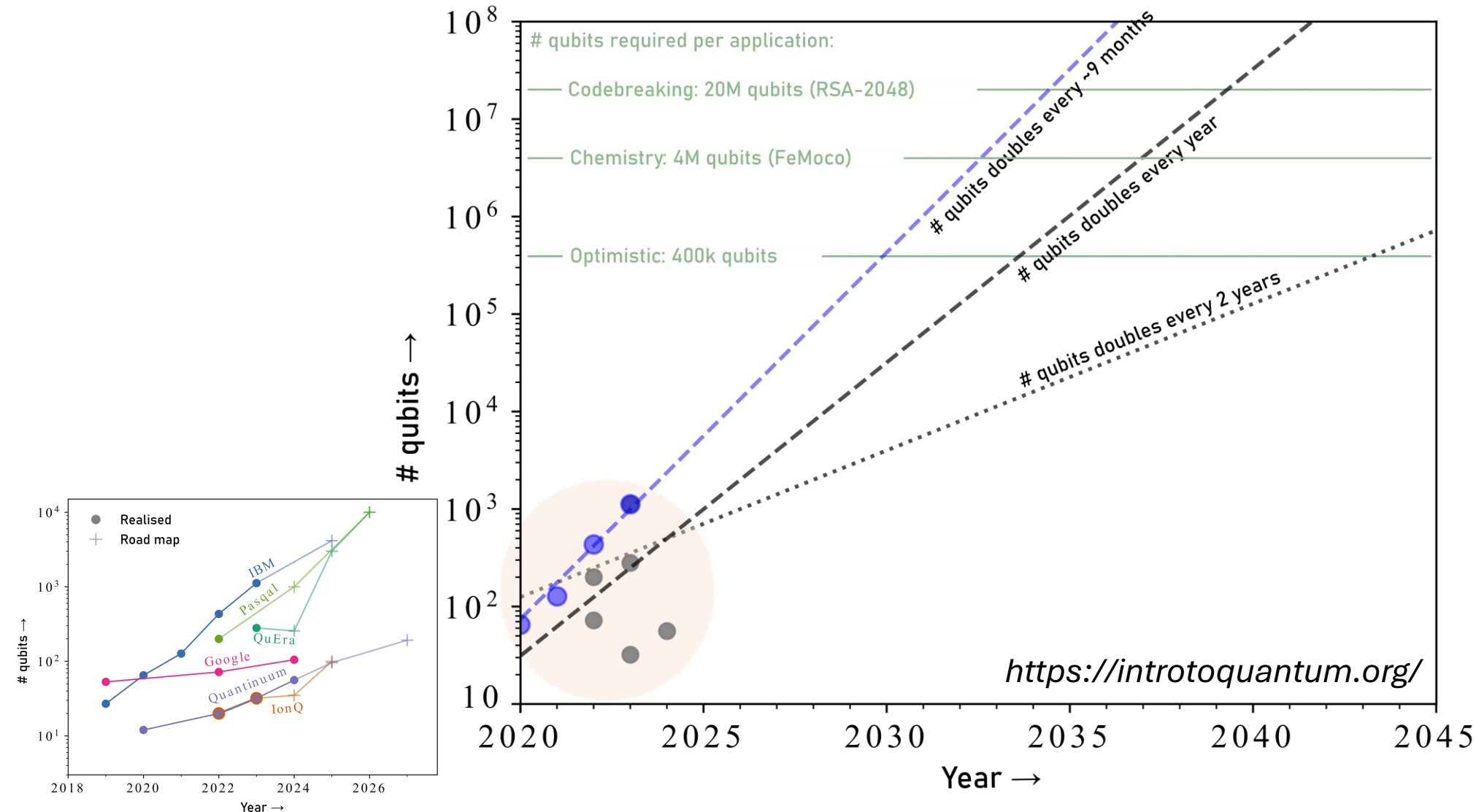
¹IBM Quantum, IBM Thomas J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights, NY, USA. ²IBM Quantum, IBM Research – Cambridge, Cambridge, MA, USA. ³Department of Physics, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA, USA. ⁴NIST/ITQM, Gaithersburg, MD, USA. ⁵Quantum Science Division, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, CA, USA. ⁶These authors contributed equally: Youngeek Kim, Andrew Eddins. *e-mail: youngeek.kim@ibm.com; aed@alum.mit.edu; seajant@alum.mit.edu; kenwu@alum.mit.edu; ewout@alum.mit.edu; samir@alum.mit.edu; hasan@alum.mit.edu; yantao@alum.mit.edu; michael@alum.mit.edu; kristan@alum.mit.edu; abhinav@alum.mit.edu

Target Problems for QC

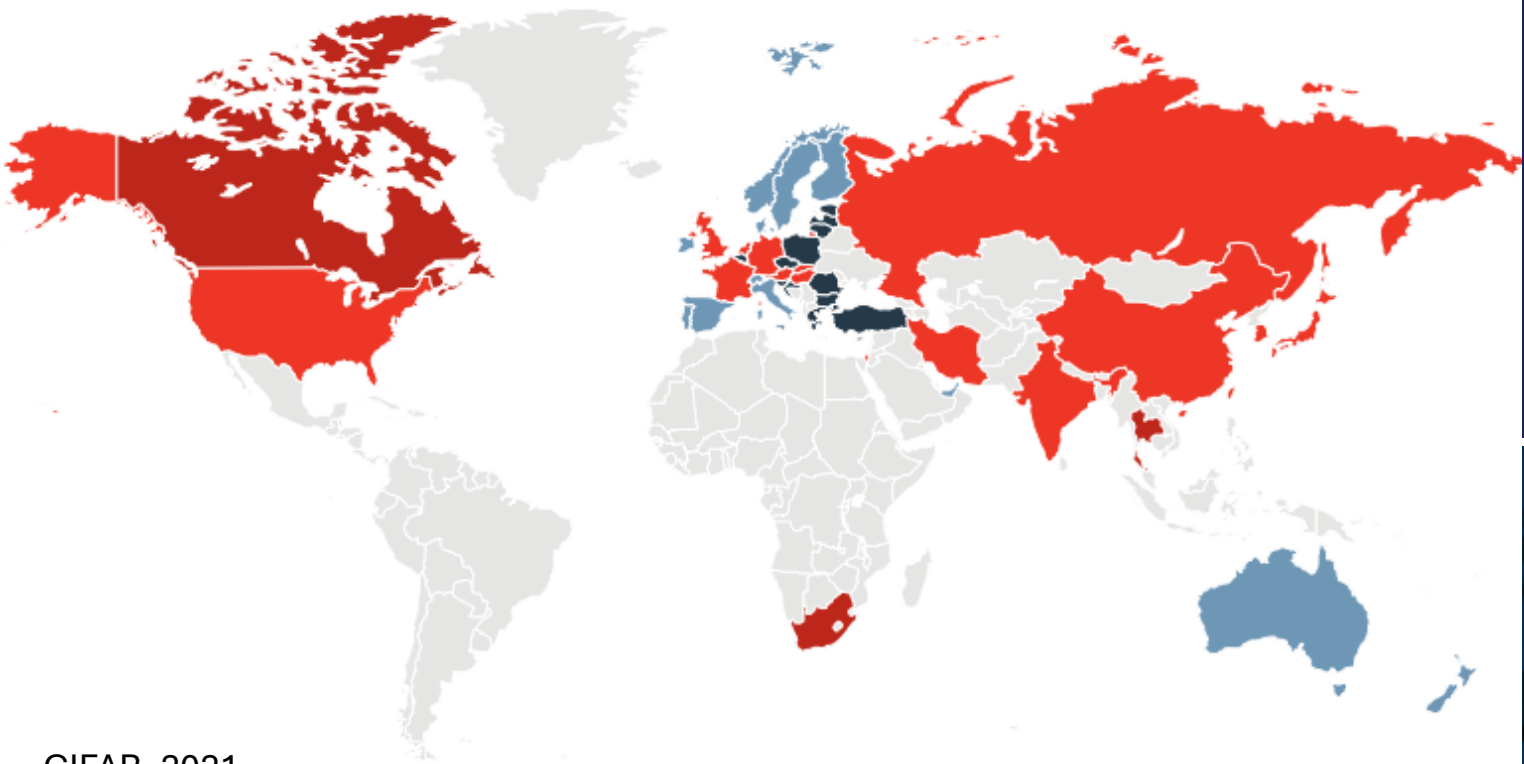


Predicted #Qubits for Quantum Advantage

Qubit growth estimates, according to Moore's Law

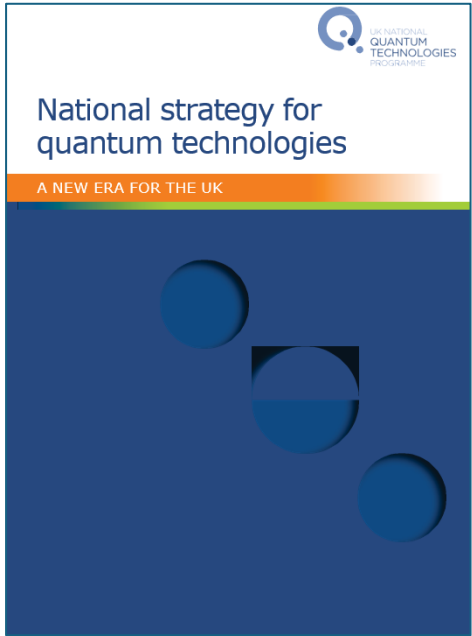
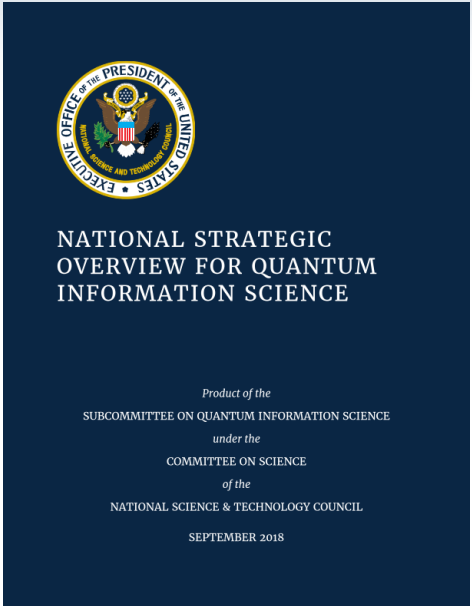


R&D Policies

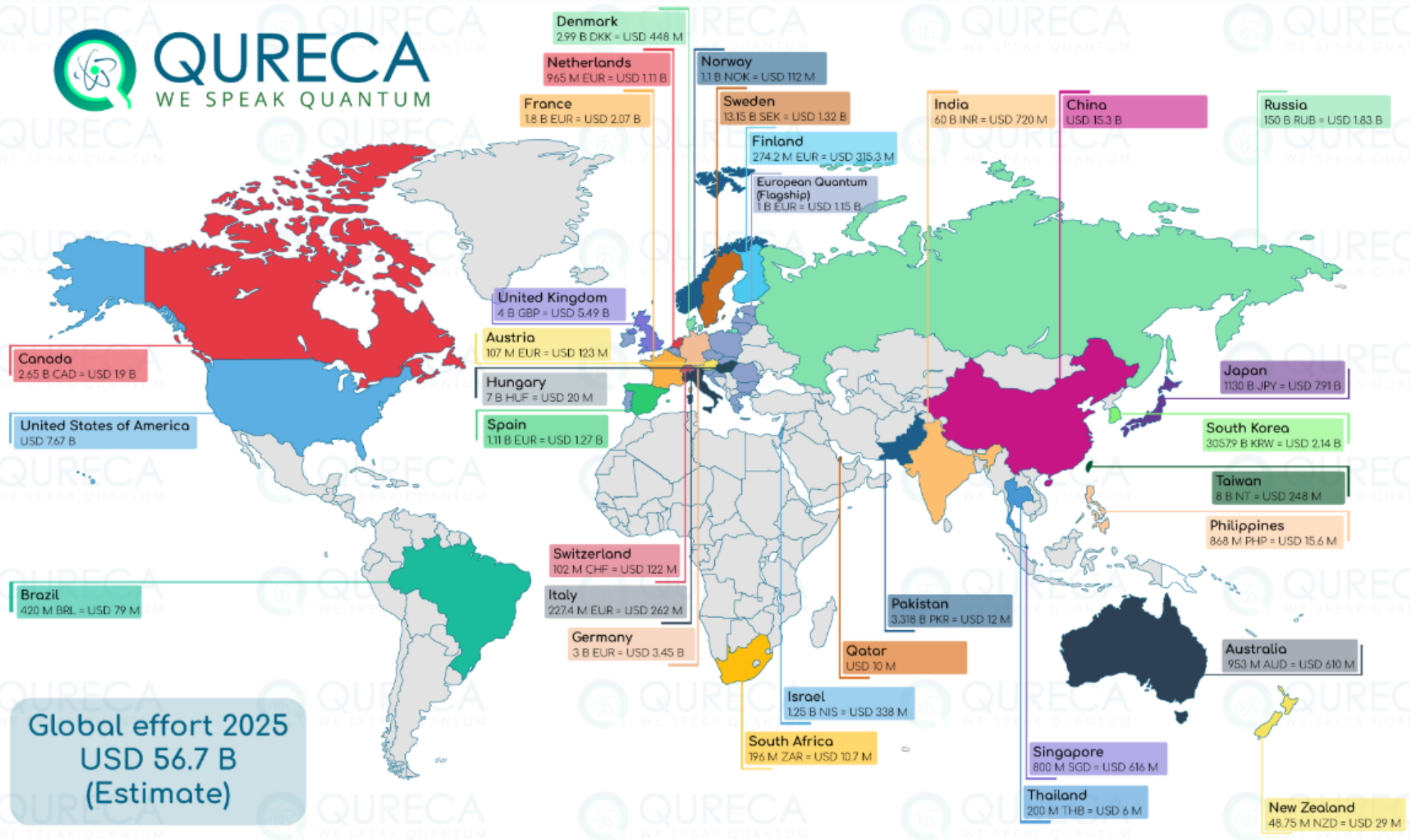


CIFAR, 2021

- Countries with coordinated national quantum strategy
- Quantum strategy in development
- Countries without national strategy, but with significant government or government-endorsed initiatives
- Countries without significant initiatives but are participants in international quantum partnerships



Public Investment



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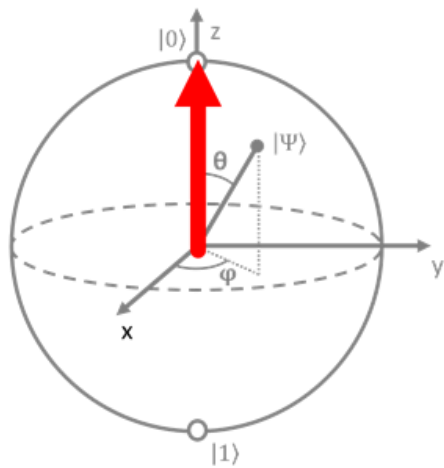


Quantum Software works with Probability and Uncertainty



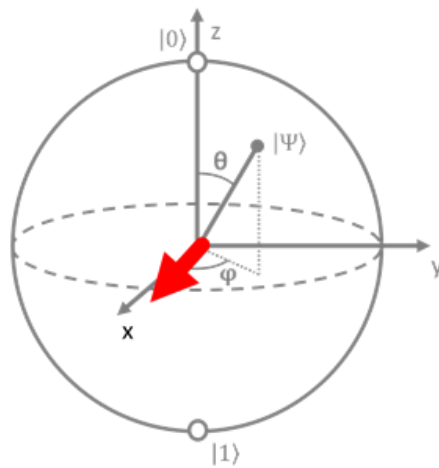
How to work with qubits?

initialization



$|0\rangle$

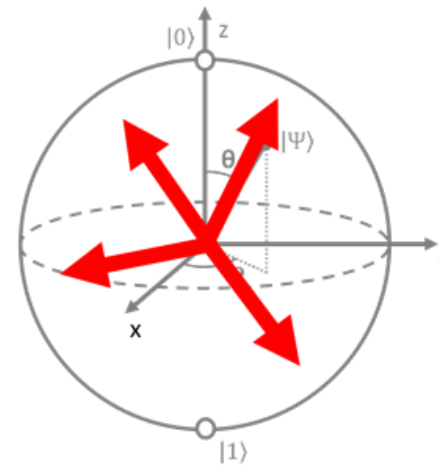
Hadamard gate



$$\frac{|0\rangle + |1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$$

superposition of 0 and 1

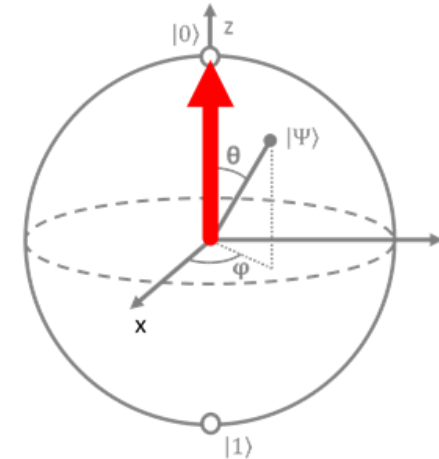
other gates



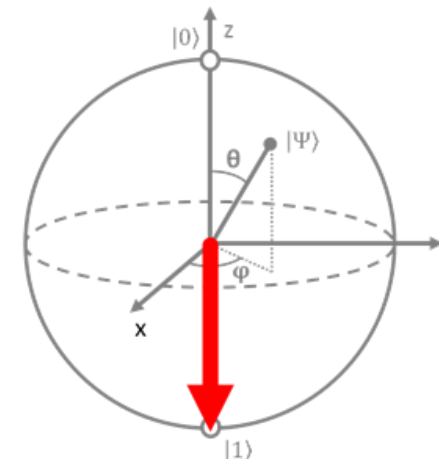
qubit vector turning around
in Bloch sphere

2 and 3 qubit gates will
conditionally link qubits

measurement



measurement returns
 $|0\rangle$ with a probability
 α^2 depending on the
qubit state, then qubit
state becomes $|0\rangle$



measurement returns
 $|1\rangle$ with a probability
 β^2 depending on the
qubit state, then qubit
state becomes $|1\rangle$

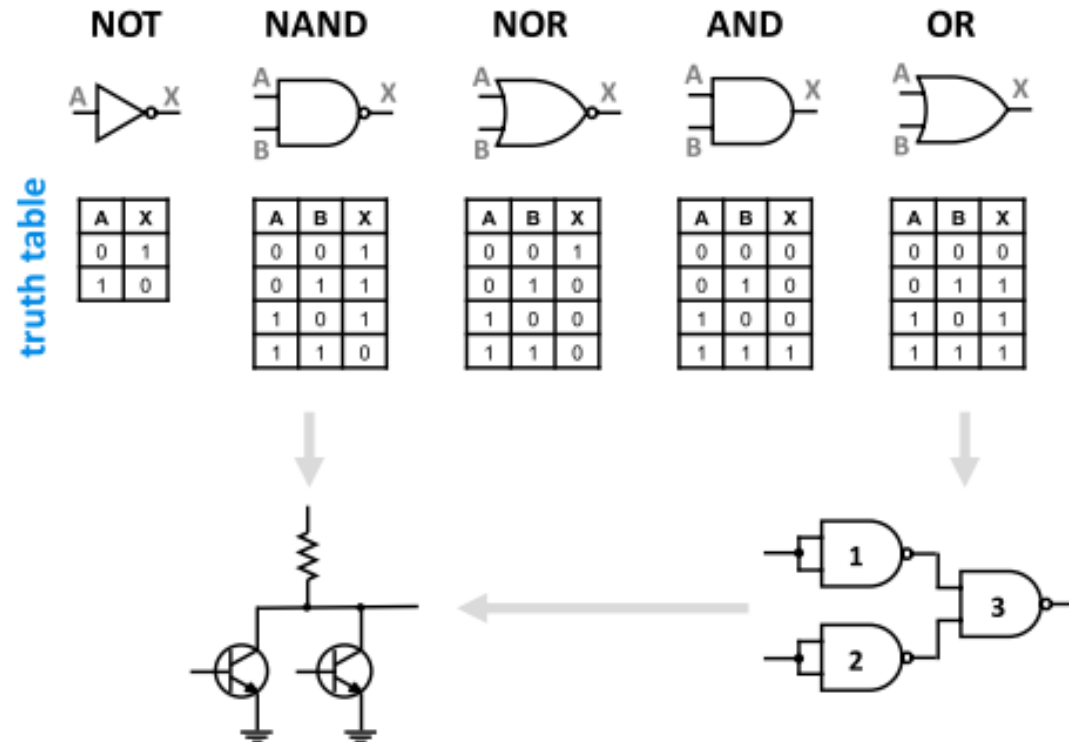
during computing, the process is rather analog

(cc) Olivier Ezratty, 2021

How to work with qubits?

classical logic gates

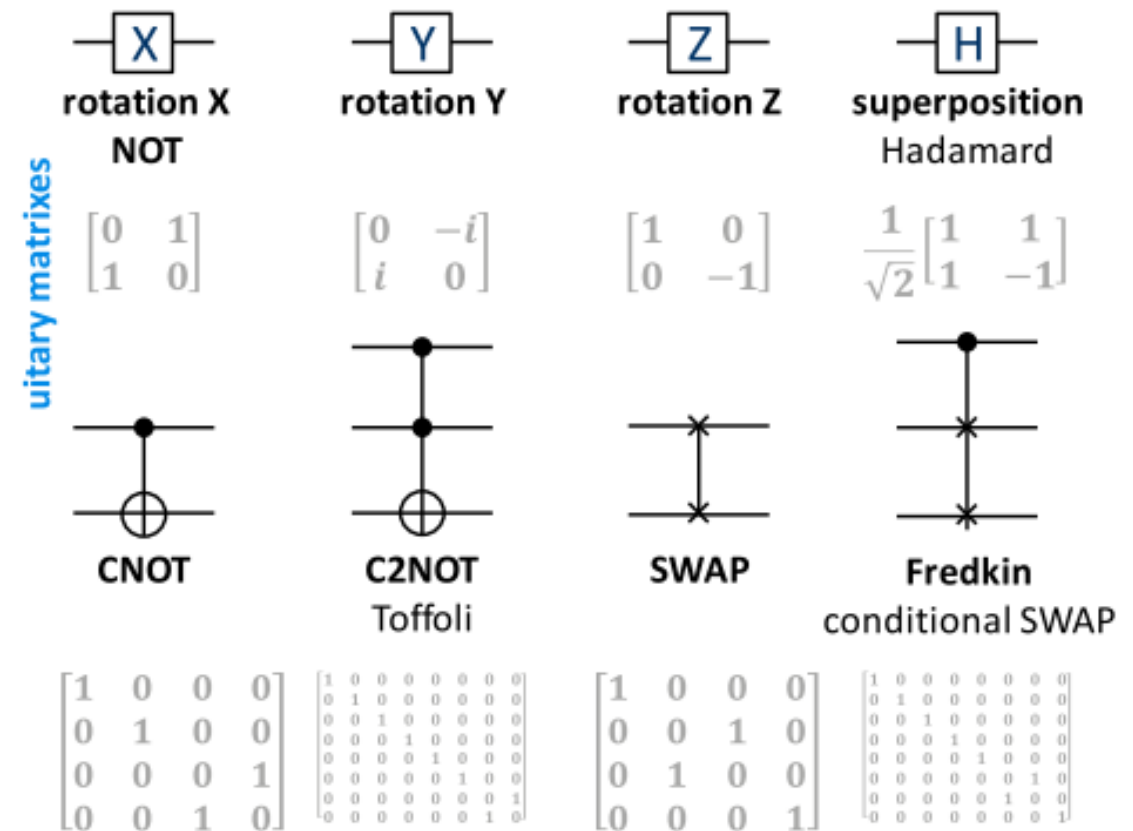
boolean algebra on 1 or 2 bits



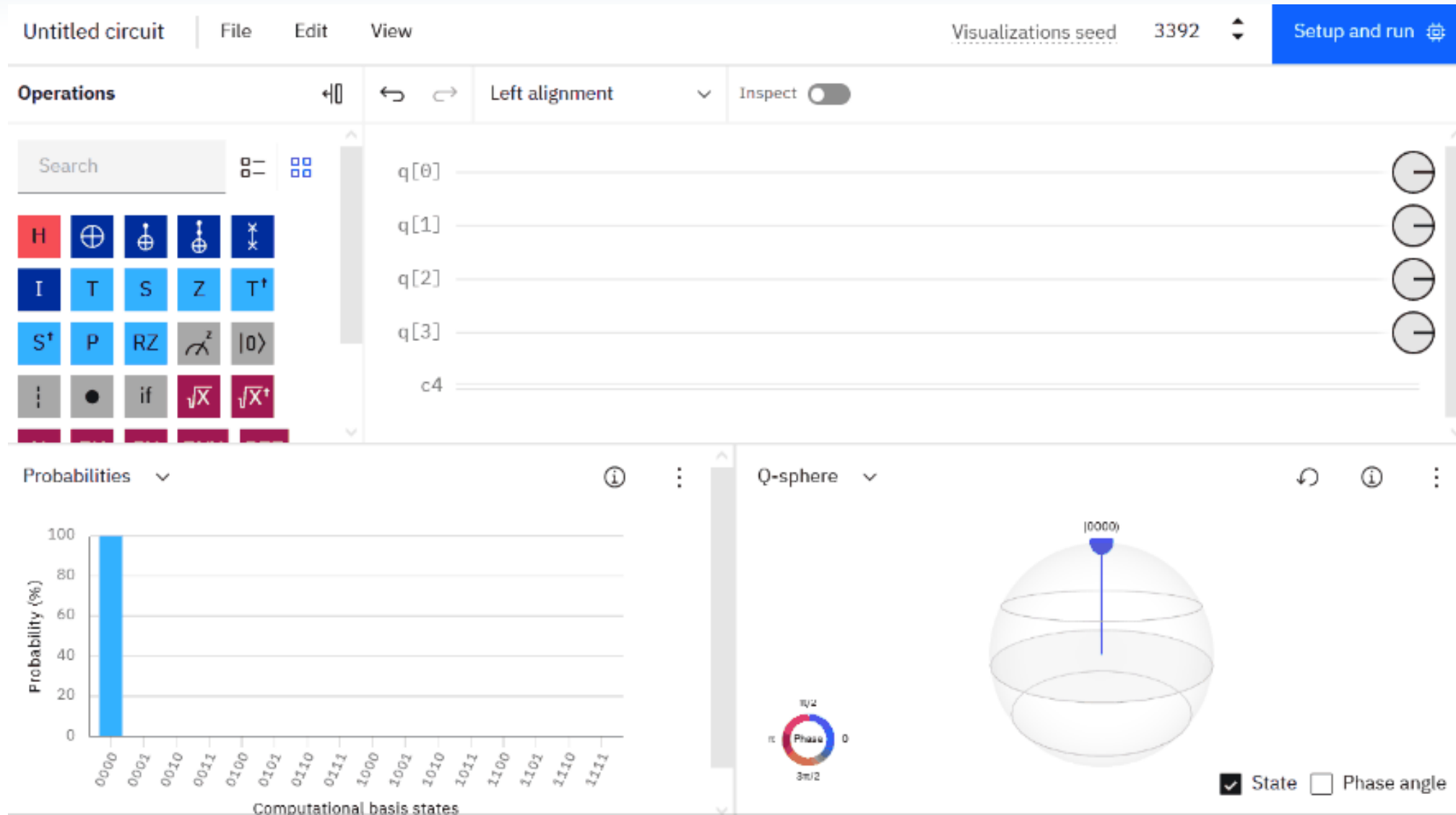
(cc) Olivier Ezratty, february 2021

quantum gates

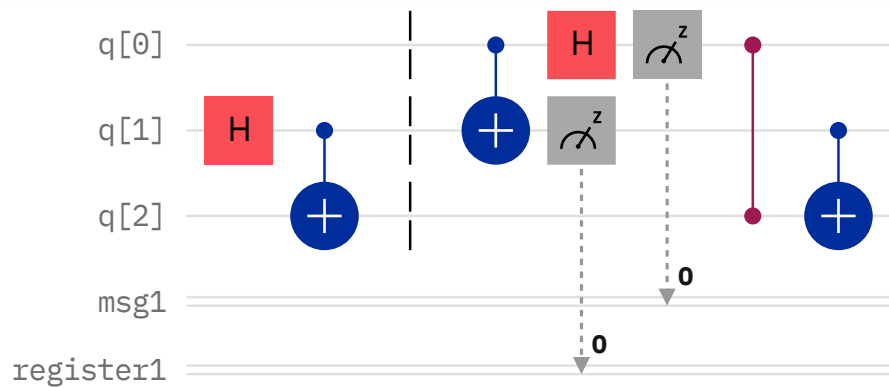
matrix based unitary transformations



How to work with qubits?



Quantum Circuits & Quantum Programming Languages



```
OPENQASM 2.0;
include "qelib1.inc";

qreg q[3];
creg msg[1];
creg register[1];

h q[1];
cx q[1],q[2];
barrier q[1],q[0],q[2];
cx q[0],q[1];
h q[0];
measure q[0] -> msg[0];
cz q[0],q[2];
measure q[1] -> register[0];
cx q[1],q[2];
```

```
from qiskit import QuantumRegister, ClassicalRegister,
                    QuantumCircuit
from numpy import pi

qreg_q = QuantumRegister(3, 'q')
creg_msg = ClassicalRegister(1, 'msg')
creg_register = ClassicalRegister(1, 'register')
circuit = QuantumCircuit(qreg_q, creg_msg, creg_register)

circuit.h(qreg_q[1])
circuit.cx(qreg_q[1], qreg_q[2])
circuit.barrier(qreg_q[1], qreg_q[0], qreg_q[2])
circuit.cx(qreg_q[0], qreg_q[1])
circuit.h(qreg_q[0])
circuit.measure(qreg_q[0], creg_msg[0])
circuit.cz(qreg_q[0], qreg_q[2])
circuit.measure(qreg_q[1], creg_register[0])
circuit.cx(qreg_q[1], qreg_q[2])
```

Quantum Programming Languages

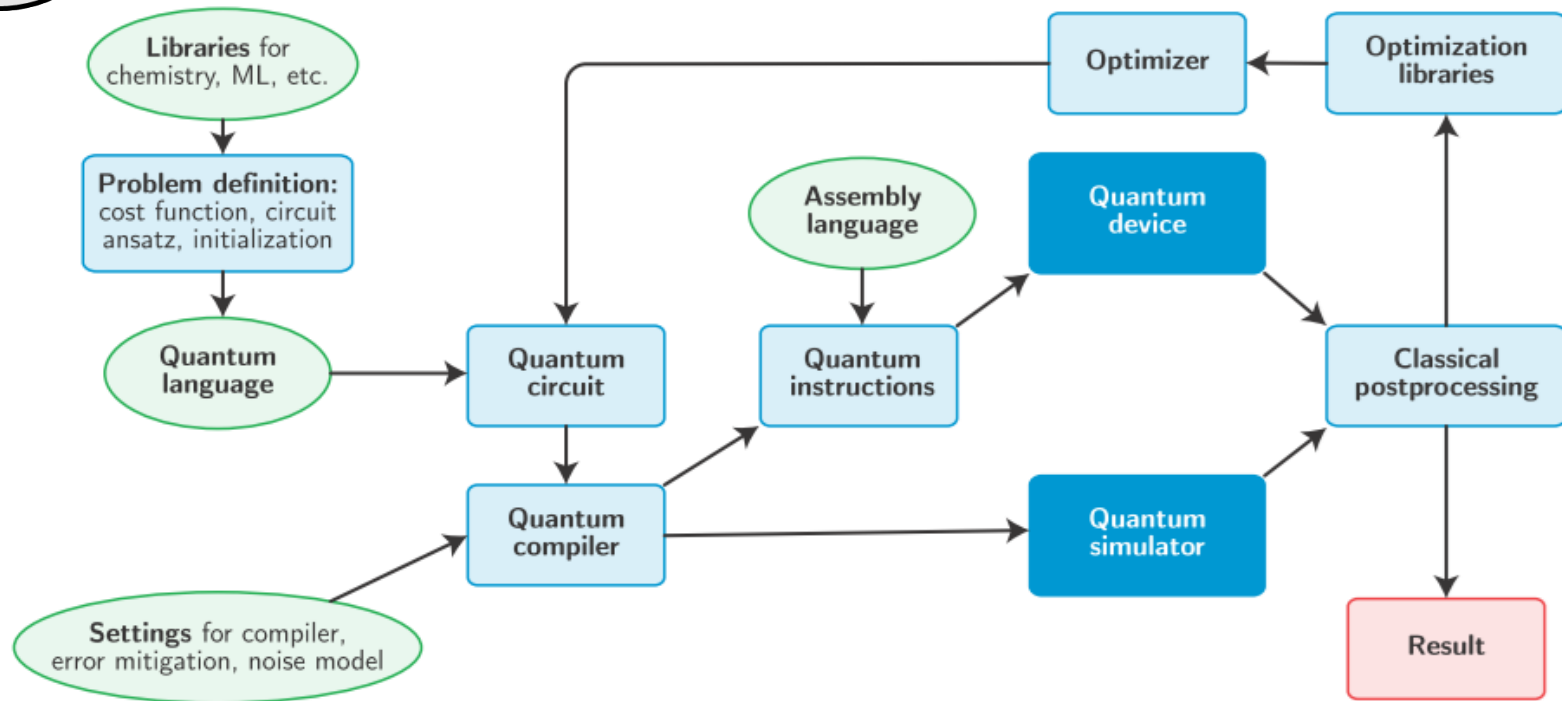
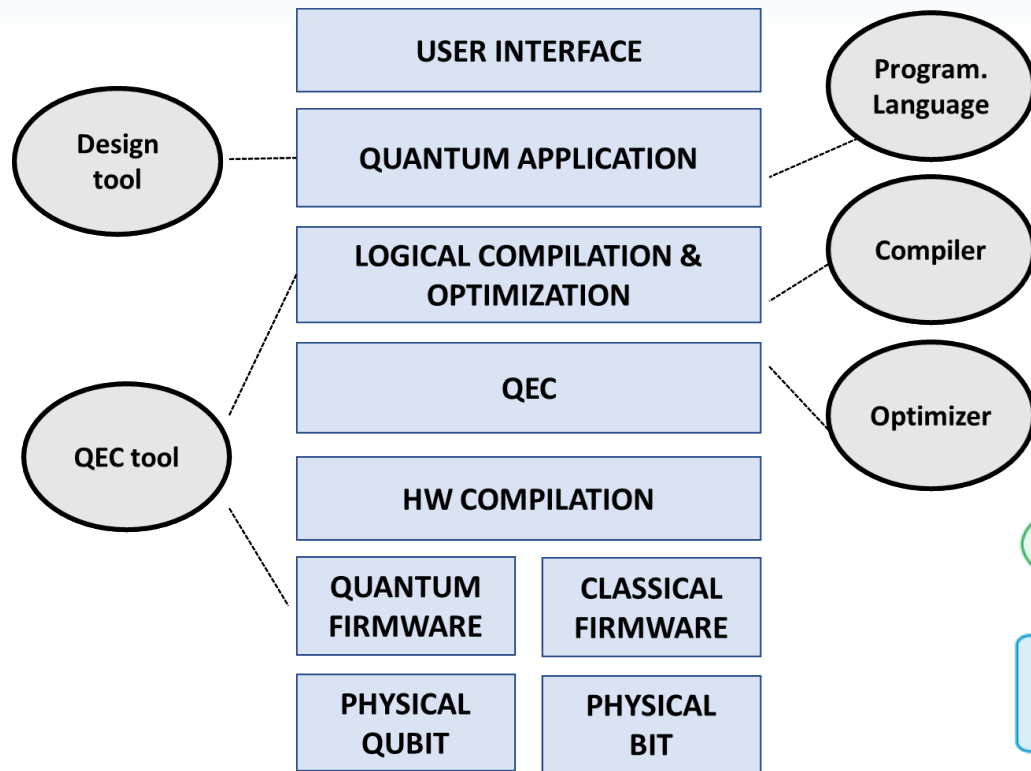
Year	Programming Language	Base Language	Abstraction Level	Paradigm
1956	Quantum Lambda Calculi	Lambda calculus	High	Functional
1996	QCL	C	Low	Imperative
2000	qGGL	Pascal	High	Imperative
	A ₄	Lambda calculus	High	Functional
2003	Q language	C++	High	Imperative
2004	QEC (QPL)	Flowchart	High	Functional
	CQP	Process calculus	High	Other
2005	QML	Similar to Haskell	High	Functional
	qQPL	Denotational	High	Functional
	QPAIq	Process calculus	High	Other
	LanQ	C	Low	Imperative
2008	NDQJava	Java	High	Imperative
2009	Cove	C#	High	Imperative
2011	QuECT	Java	High	Other
2012	Scaffold	C (C++)	Low/High	Imperative
2013	Chisel-Q	Scala	High	Multiparadigm
	QuaFL	Haskell	High	Functional
	Quipper	Haskell	High	Functional
2014	LIQ I >	F#	High	Functional
2015	Proto-Quipper	Haskell	High	Functional
2016	QASM	Assembly language	Low	Imperative
	FJQuantum	Feather-weight Java	High	Imperative
	ProjectQ	Python	High	Multiparadigm
	qPCF	Lambda calculus	High	Functional
	pyQuil (Quil)	Python	High	Functional
2017	OpenQASM	Assembly language	Low	Imperative
	GASM	Assembly language	Low	Imperative
	Python	Python	High	Multiparadigm
	FOREST	Haskell	High	Other
	OWtRE	Coq proof assistant	High	Other
2018	IQu	Idealized Algol	High	Imperative
	Strawberry Fields	Python	High	Multiparadigm
	Blackbird	Python	High	Multiparadigm
	QuantumOptics jl	Python	High	Imperative
	C#	C#	High	Multiparadigm
2020	Q S >	.Net language	High	Imperative
	Silq	Python	High	Imperative
	Jaquill	Assembly language	High	Imperative



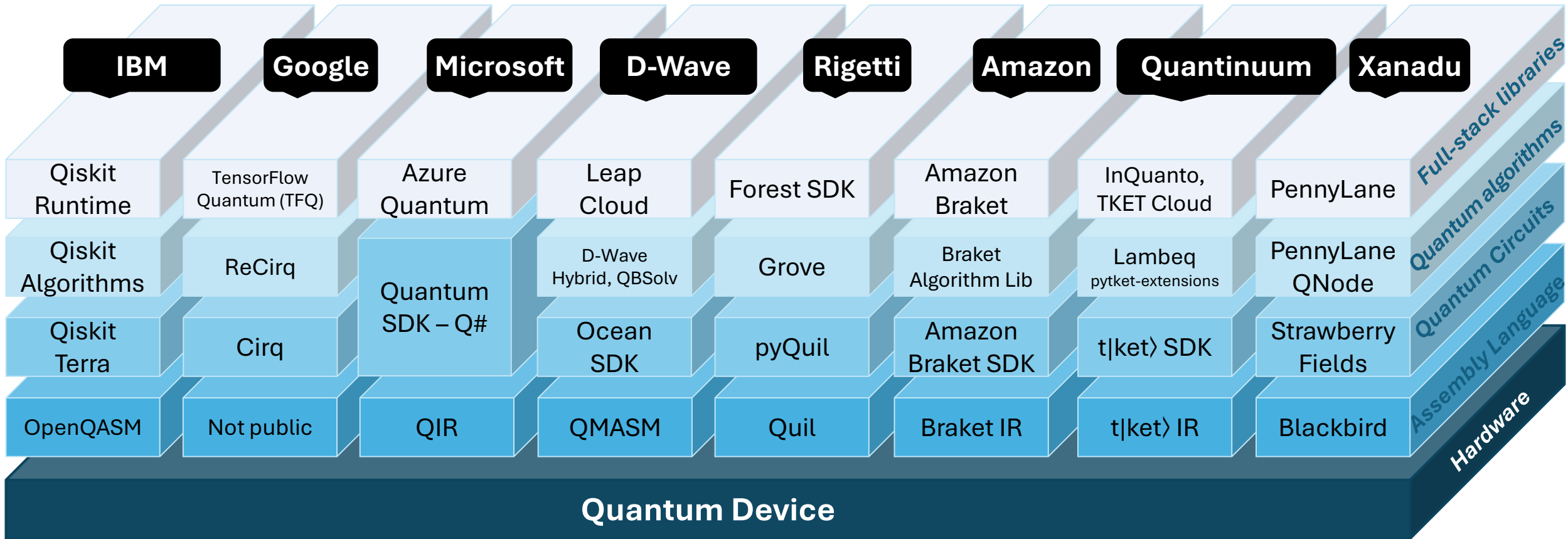
Manuel A. Serrano, José A. Cruz-Lemus, Ricardo Pérez-Castillo, Mario Piattini:
Quantum Software Components and Platforms: Overview and Quality Assessment. ACM Comput. Surv. 55(8): 164:1-164:31 (2023)



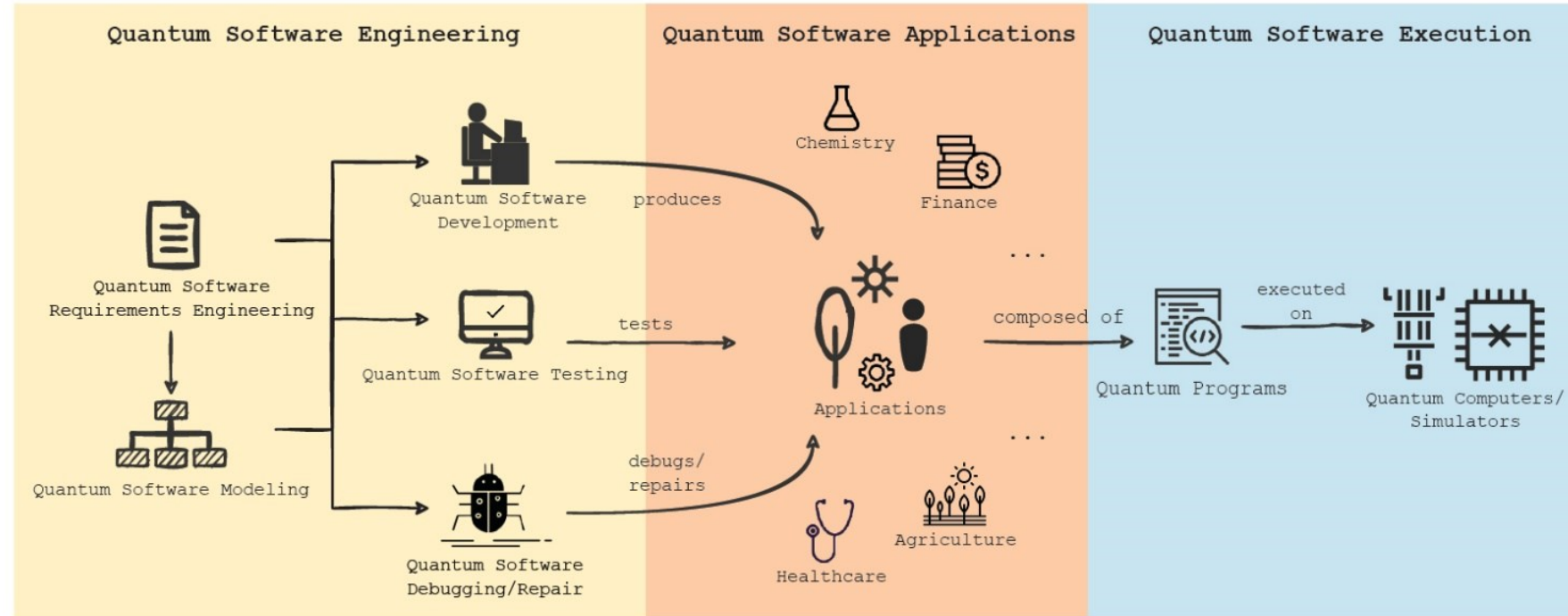
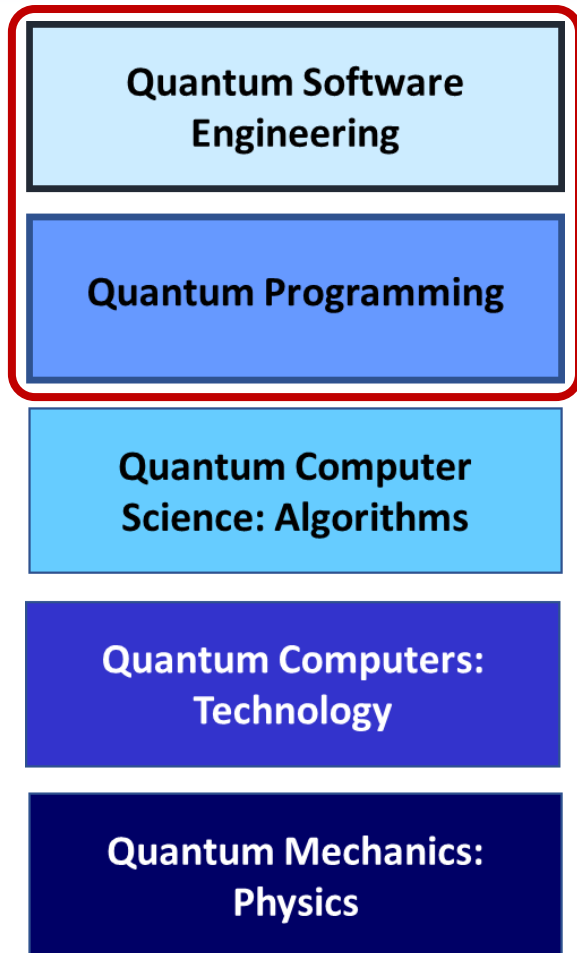
Quantum Software Development Stacks



Quantum Software Development Stacks



Quantum Software Engineering (QSE)



- Understanding both low and high-level algorithms
- Know-how about the way these algorithms can be assembled and coupled with classical algorithms
- How to find the ways to translate “business problems” into these algorithms.

The Talavera Manifesto for Quantum Soft. Eng. and Programming (2020)



<https://www.aquantum.es/manifesto/>

The Talavera Manifesto for Quantum Soft. Eng. and Programming (2020)

Principles

1. QSE is **agnostic** regarding quantum prog. languages and technologies
2. QSE embraces the **coexistence** of classical and quantum computing
3. QSE allows the management of quantum software development **projects**
4. QSE deals with the **evolution** of quantum software
5. QSE attempts to deliver quantum programs with desirable **zero defects**
6. QSE is concerned about the **quality** of quantum software
7. QSE is in favour of quantum software **reuse**
8. QSE is aware of the need for security and **privacy by design**
9. QSE covers the **governance and management** of software

QSE Roadmap and Challenges



Quantum Software Engineering: Roadmap and Challenges Ahead

JUAN MANUEL MURILLO, JOSE GARCIA-ALONSO, and ENRIQUE MOGUEL, University of Extremadura, Cáceres, Spain

JOHANNA BARZEN and FRANK LEYMANN, University of Stuttgart, Stuttgart, Germany

SHAUKAT ALI, Simula Research Laboratory, Oslo, Norway and Computer Science, Oslo Metropolitan University, Oslo, Norway

TAO YUE, Computer Science and Engineering, Beihang University, Beijing, China

PAOLO ARCAINI, National Institute of Informatics, Chiyoda-ku, Japan

RICARDO PÉREZ-CASTILLO, Faculty of Social Sciences and Information Technologies, University of Castilla-La Mancha, Talavera de la Reina, Spain

IGNACIO GARCÍA-RODRÍGUEZ DE GUZMÁN, Institute of Technologies and Information Systems, University of Castilla-La Mancha, Ciudad Real, Spain

MARIO PIATTINI, University of Castilla-La Mancha, Ciudad Real, Spain

ANTONIO RUIZ-CORTÉS, Computer Languages and Systems, University of Seville, Seville, Spain

ANTONIO BROGI, Department of Computer Science, University of Pisa, Pisa, Italy

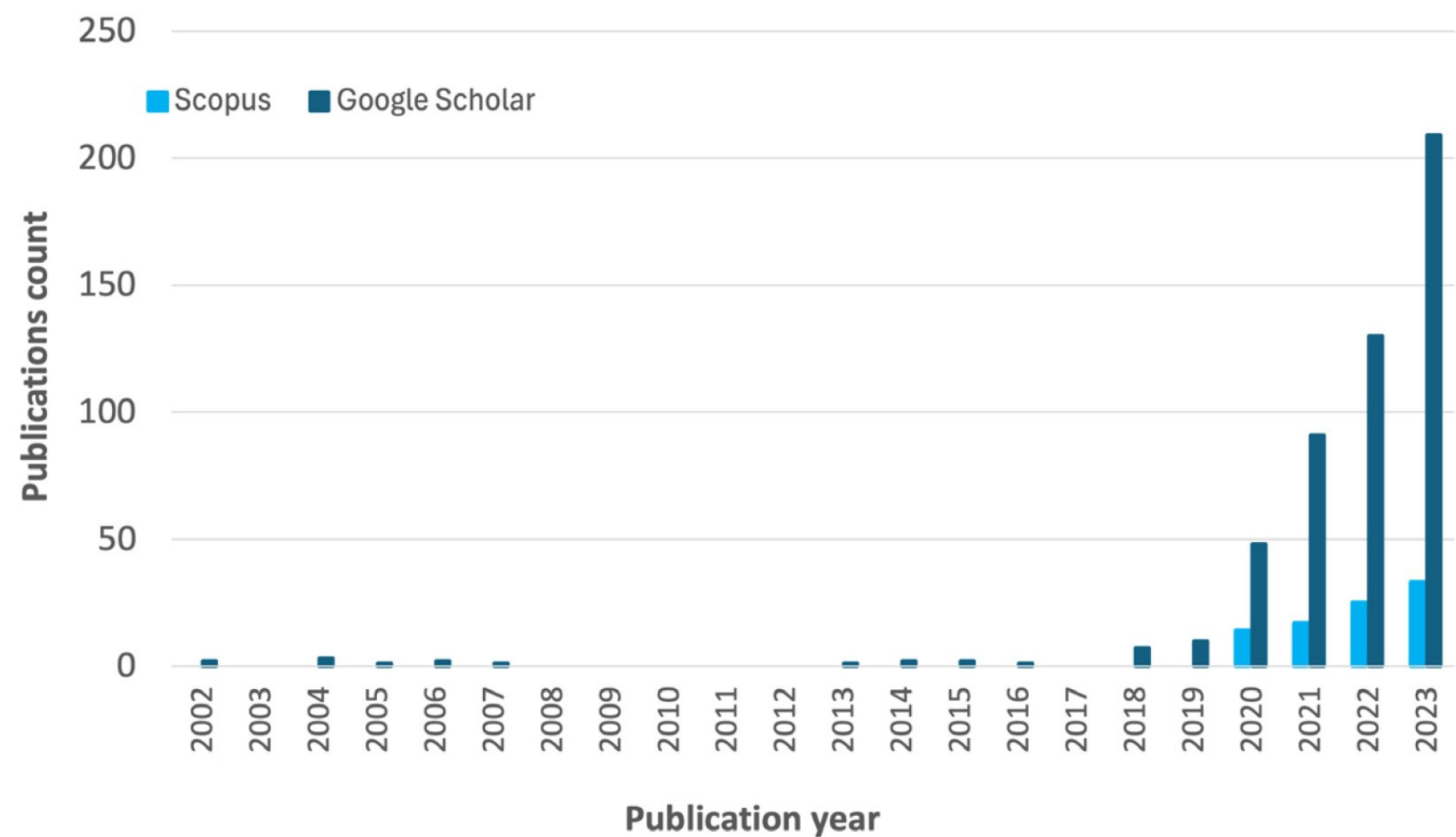
JIANJUN ZHAO, Faculty of Information Science and Electrical Engineering, Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan

ANDRIY MIRANSKY, Toronto Metropolitan University, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

MANUEL WIMMER, Johannes Kepler University Linz, Linz, Austria



Research Interest on QSE



Challenges on QSE

■ Quantum Software Testing

- Ch-ST-1. Efficient test oracles.
- Ch-ST-2. Test scalability.
- Ch-ST-3. From simulators to real quantum computers.
- Ch-ST-4. (Quantum) AI and (quantum) software testing.

■ Quantum Service Oriented Computing

- Ch-SoC-1. Interoperability.
- Ch-SoC-2. Platform independence.
- Ch-SoC-3. Demand and capacity management.
- Ch-SoC-4. Workforce training.

■ Quantum MDE

- Ch-MDE-1. Modeling quantum-specific constructs.
- Ch-MDE-2. Development of high-level design methodologies.
- Ch-MDE-3. Scalable quantum software maintenance and evolution.
- Ch-MDE-4. Intelligent code generation and orchestration.

■ Quantum Programming Paradigms

- Ch-PP-1. Complexity of circuits.
- Ch-PP-2. Composable and reusable quantum software.
- Ch-PP-3. Abstractions for quantum software.

■ Quantum Software Architectures

- Ch-SA-1. Architectural decisions in quantum software.
- Ch-SA-2. Design patterns for hybrid software systems.
- Ch-SA-3. Empirical evidence for the application of design patterns.
- Ch-SA-4. Evolution of hybrid software architectures.

■ Quantum Software Development Processes

- Ch-DP-1. Iterative development of hybrid software.
- Ch-DP-2. Risk management.
- Ch-DP-3. Project management.

■ Quantum Artificial Intelligence

- Ch-AI-1. Quantum circuit optimization.
- Ch-AI-2. Developing hybrid AI-quantum workflows.
- Ch-AI-3. Error mitigation and correction.
- Ch-AI-4. Scalability of AI-assisted quantum software development.

Challenges on QSE



Alarcos
Research Group



aQuantum[®]
Software Engineering

■ Quantum Software Testing

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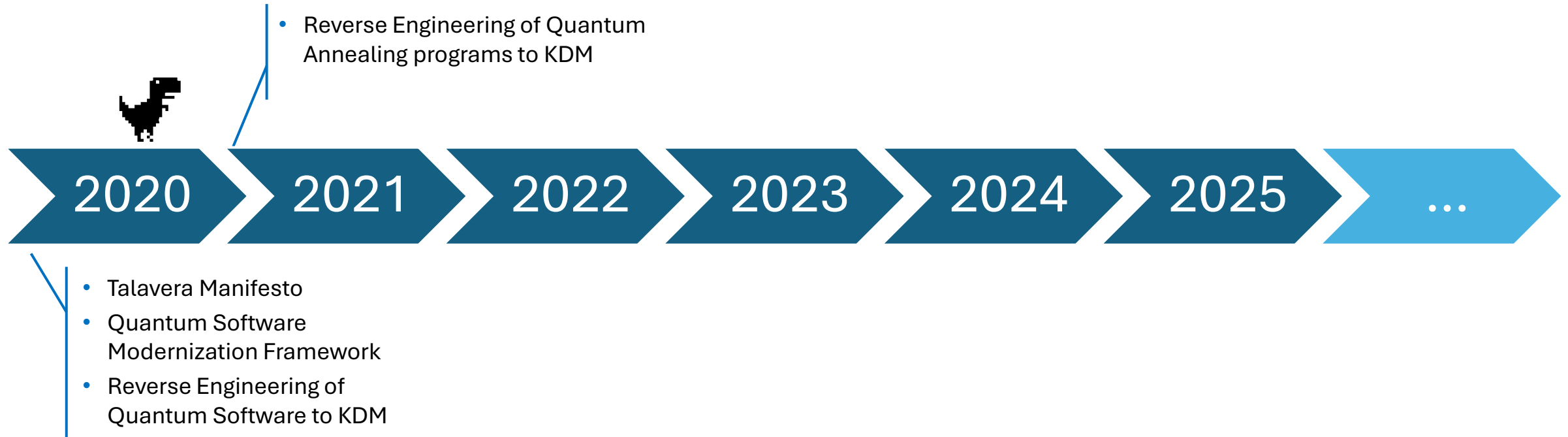
Agenda

- Quantum Computing
- Quantum Computing Applications
- Quantum Software & Quantum Software Engineering
- **Our Research Journey**
- Conclusions

Scan for slides



Our Research Journey



Classical vs Quantum Software Systems

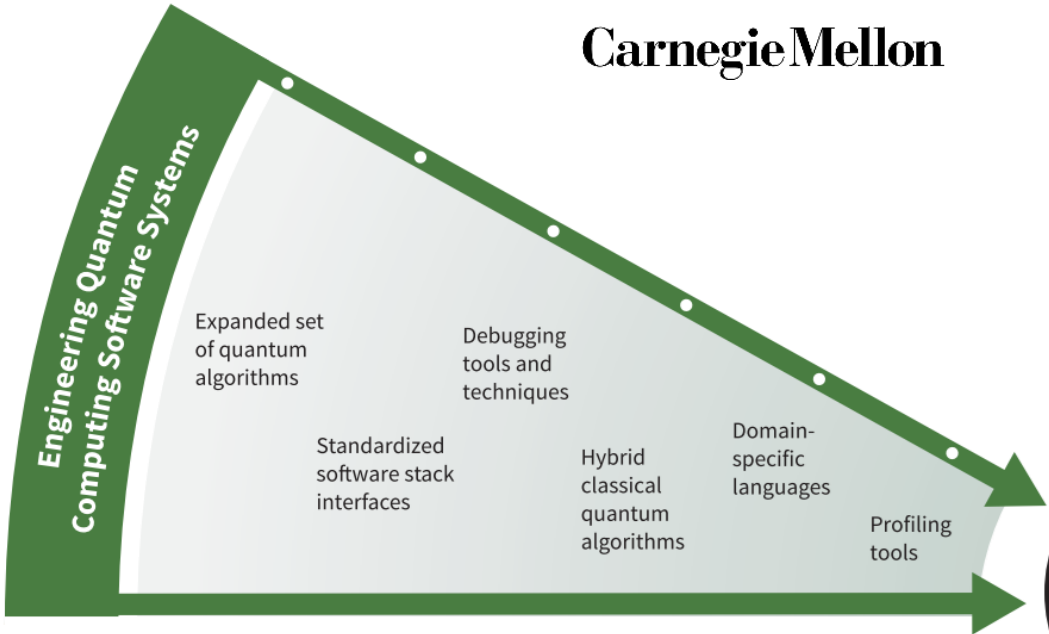


- Classic Information Systems **are still useful** for companies
 - Those who have embedded a lot of mission-critical knowledge
- ***Quantumfy*** every business operation, ~~perhaps~~ **for sure, does not make sense.**
 - High cost and no computational gain for simple operations
 - Both computing paradigms must will operate together.

Quantum Software by SEI



Software Engineering Institute
Carnegie Mellon

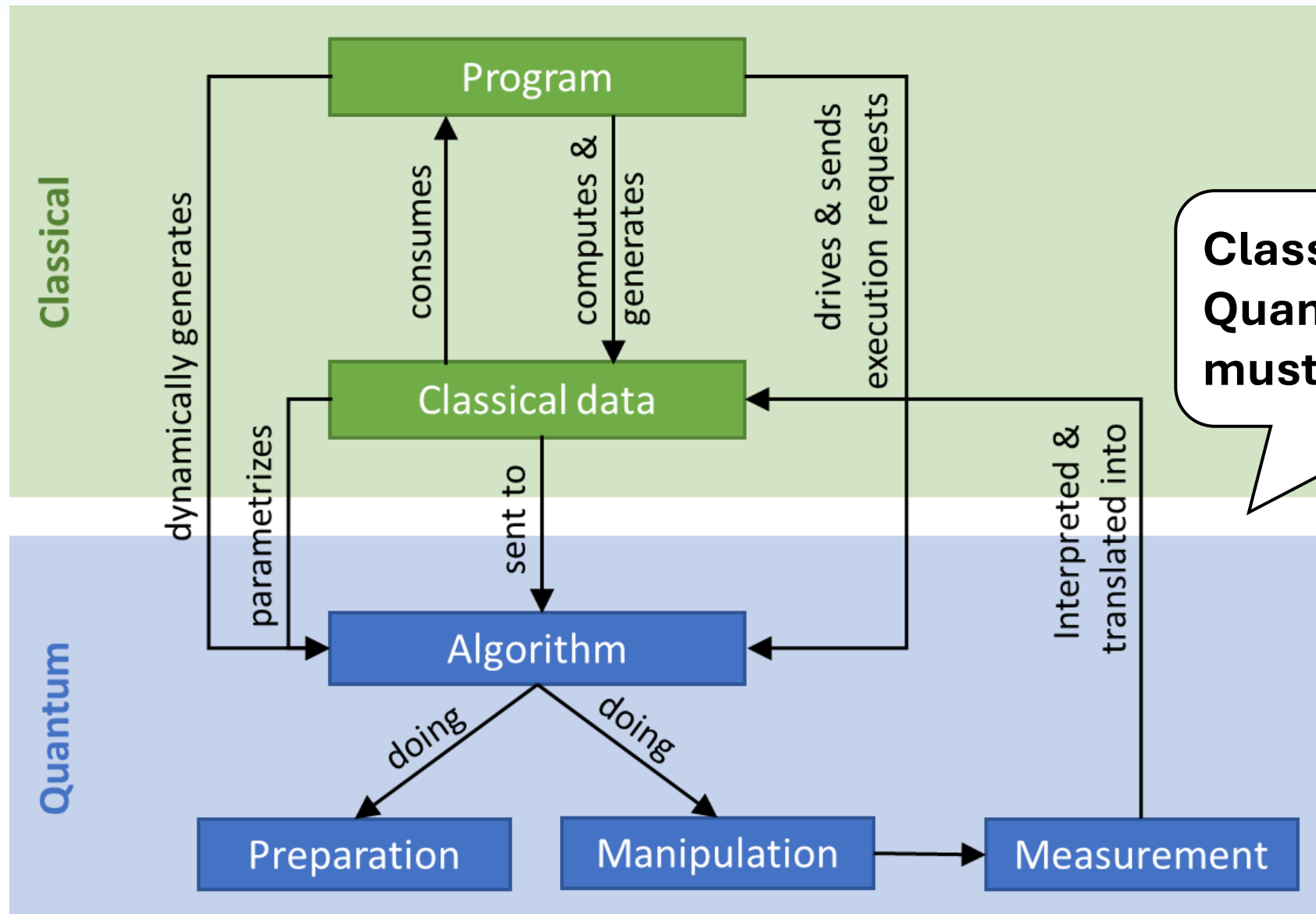


VISION
Humans and AI are trustworthy collaborators that rapidly evolve systems based on programmer intent

Research Direction	Short Term	Mid-term	Long-term
Benchmarks for quantum computing	X		
Large-scale simulation techniques	X		
Expanded set of quantum algorithms	X	X	
Quantum algorithm insights leveraged for classical algorithms	X	X	
Standardized software stack interfaces	X	X	
Intermediate comparisons: QC and simulators	X	X	
Debugging tools and techniques		X	X
Hybrid classical-quantum algorithms		X	X
Proven correct libraries		X	X
Domain-specific languages with greater abstraction		X	X
Target architecture mapping techniques		X	X
Tools for continuous integration		X	X
Profiling tools		X	X

5.9 Engineering Quantum Computing Software Systems
Research Focus Area

Integration in Hybrid Software Systems

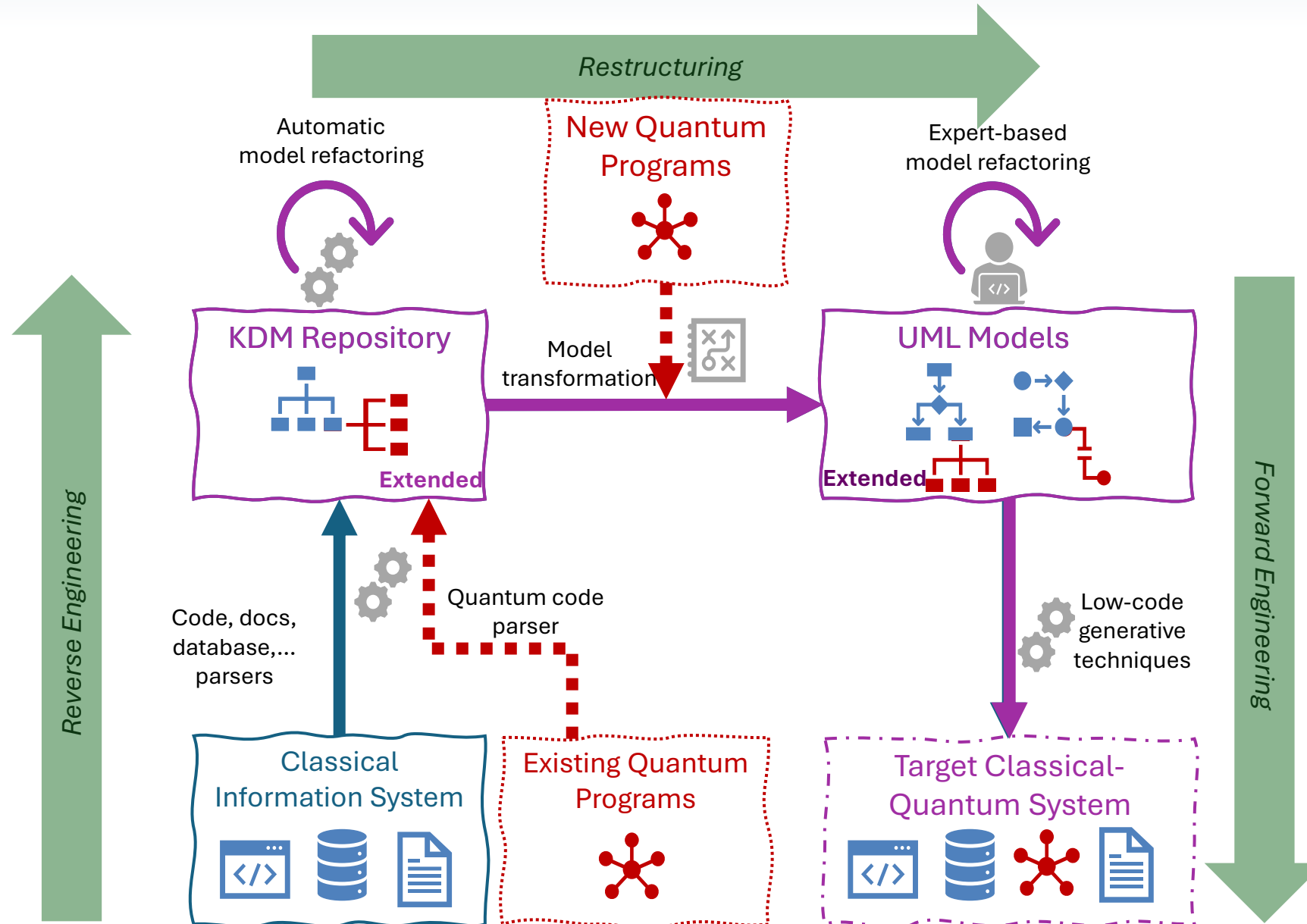


Classical and Quantum Software must operate together

Software Modernization from/to Hybrid Software Systems



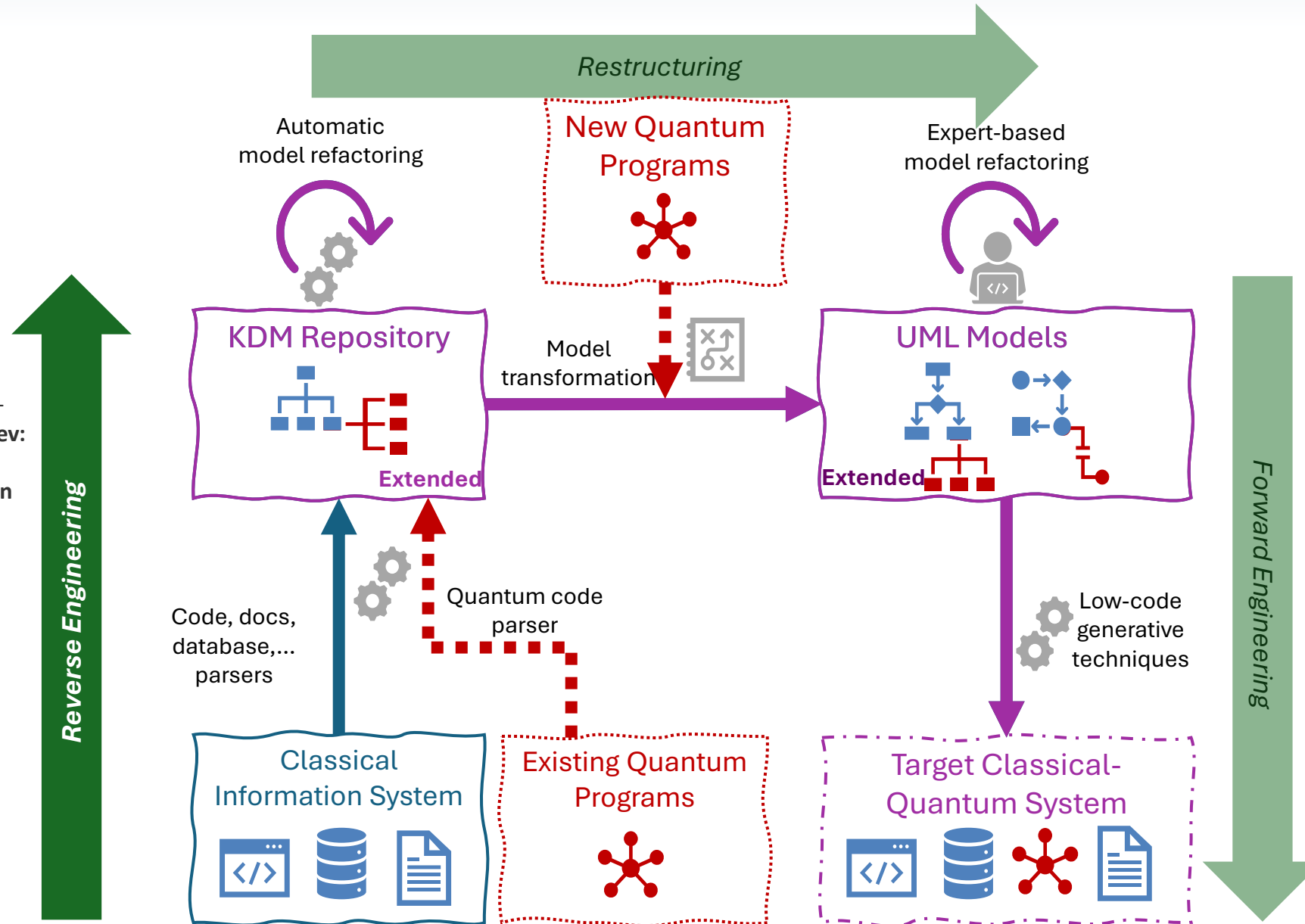
Pérez-Castillo, R., M.A. Serrano, and M. Piattini, **Software modernization to embrace quantum technology**. *Advances in Engineering Software*, 2021. 151: p. 102933.



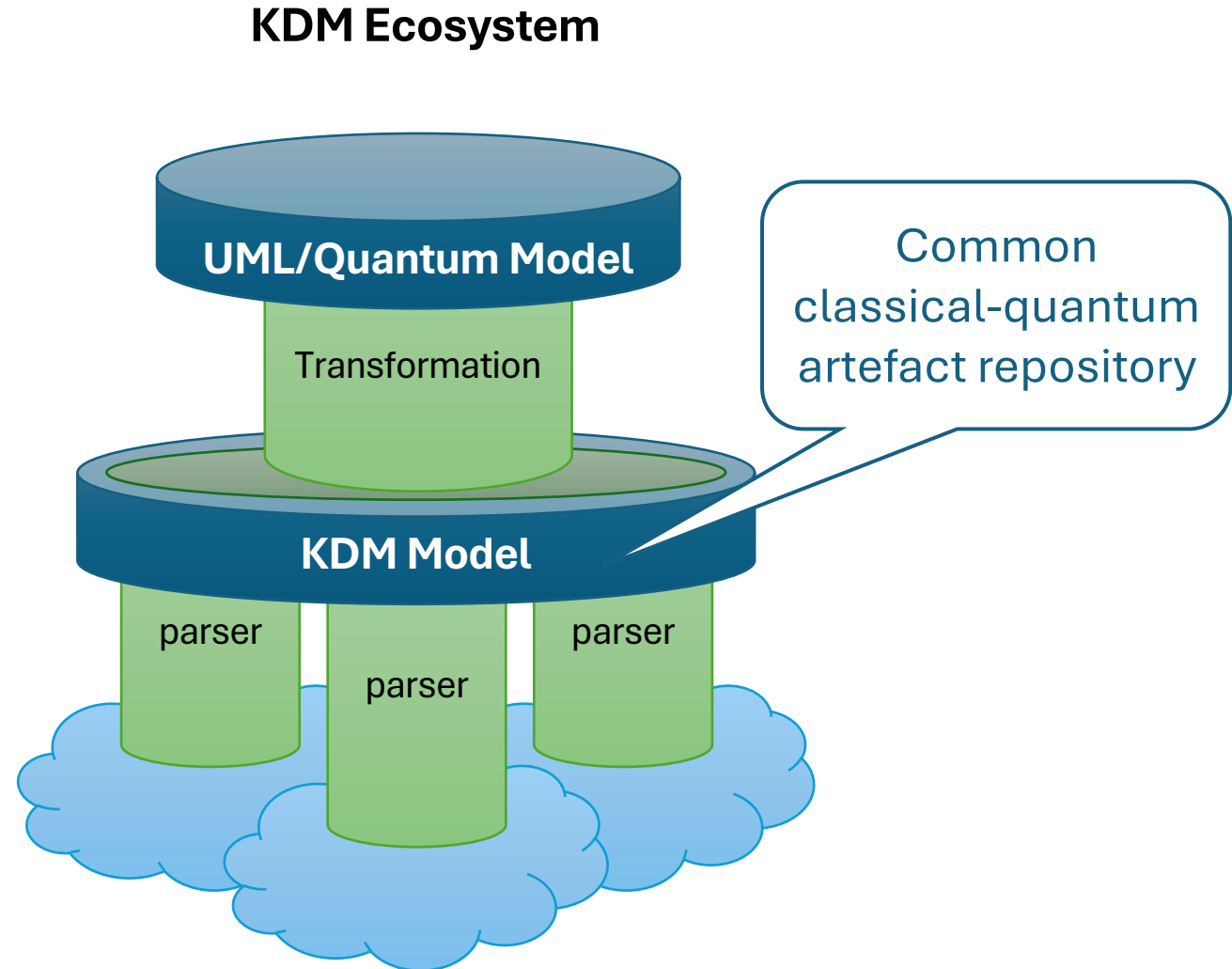
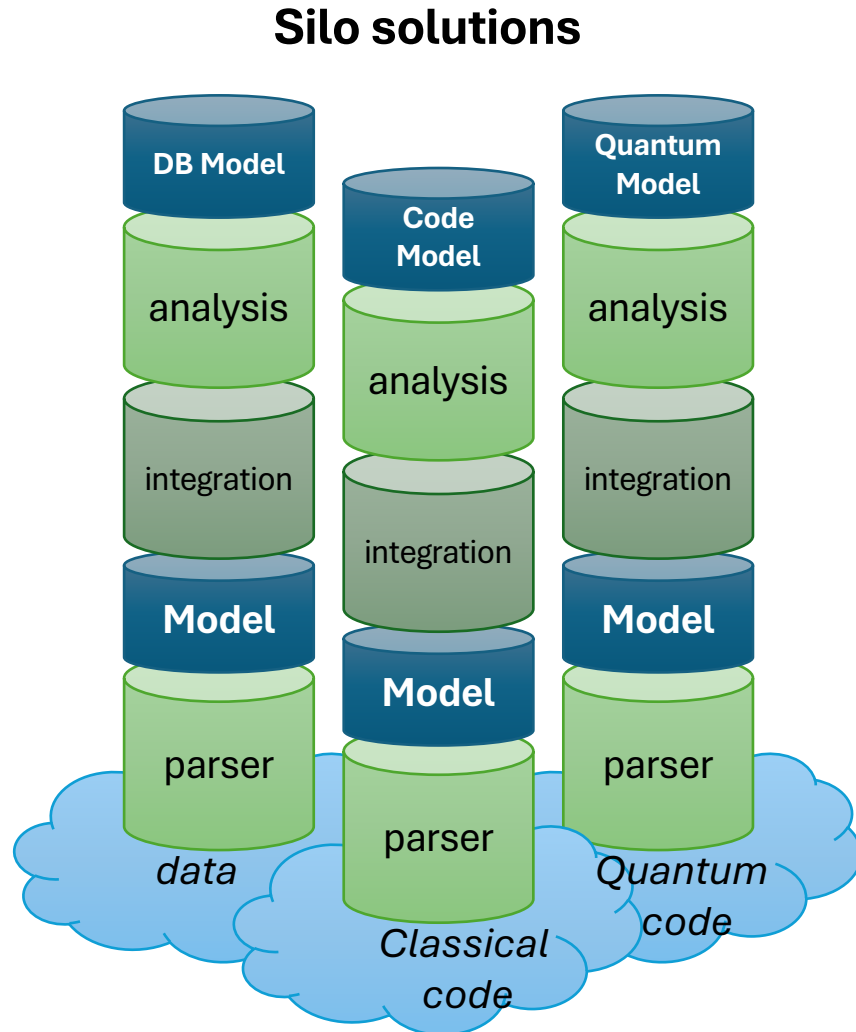
Software Modernization from/to Hybrid Software Systems



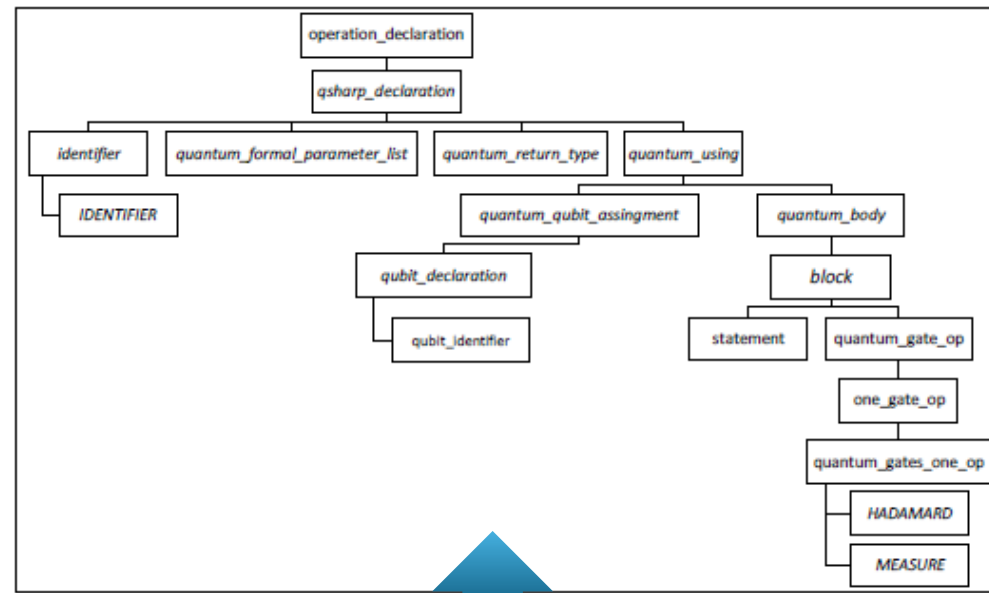
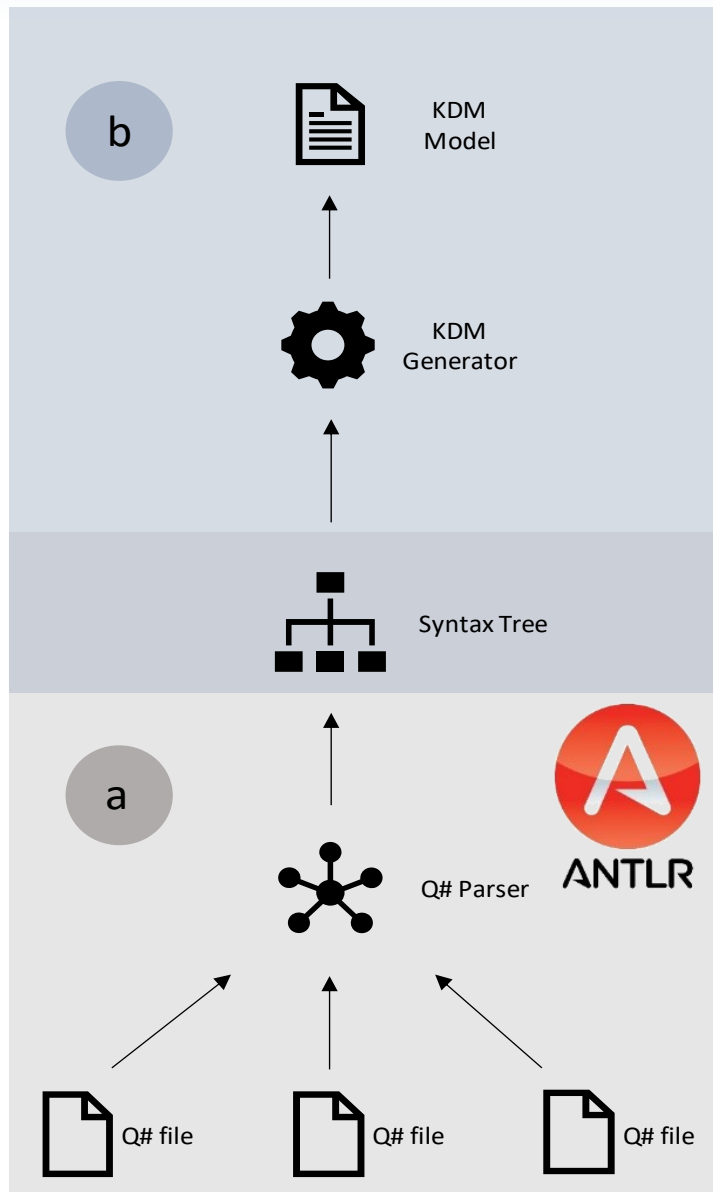
Pérez-Castillo, R., Jiménez-Navajas, L. & Piattini, M. **QRev: migrating quantum code towards hybrid information systems.** *Software Qual J* (2021)



Advantage of KDM Ecosystem

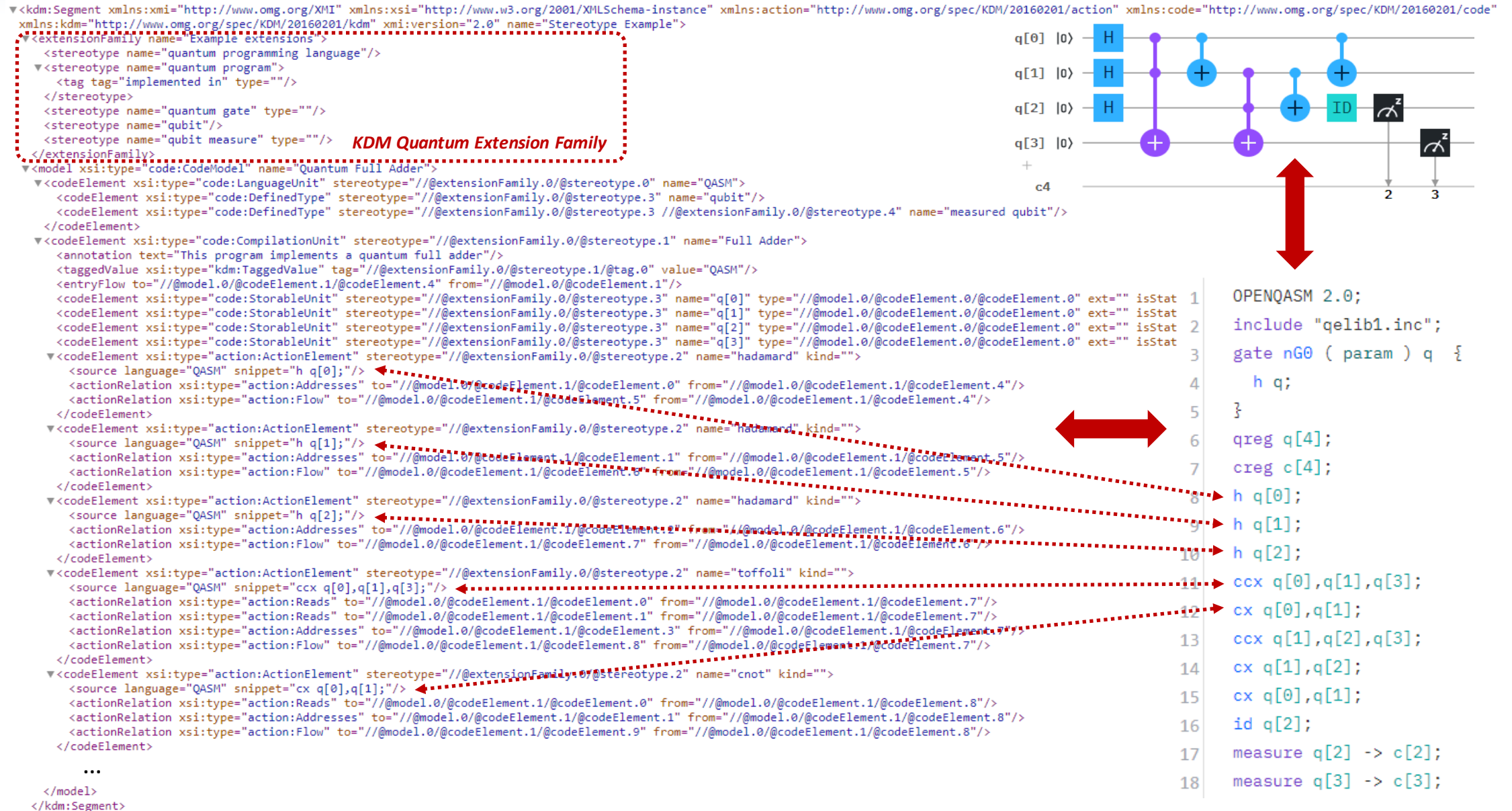


Reverse Engineering: Q# to KDM

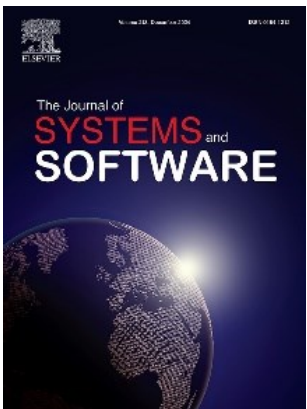
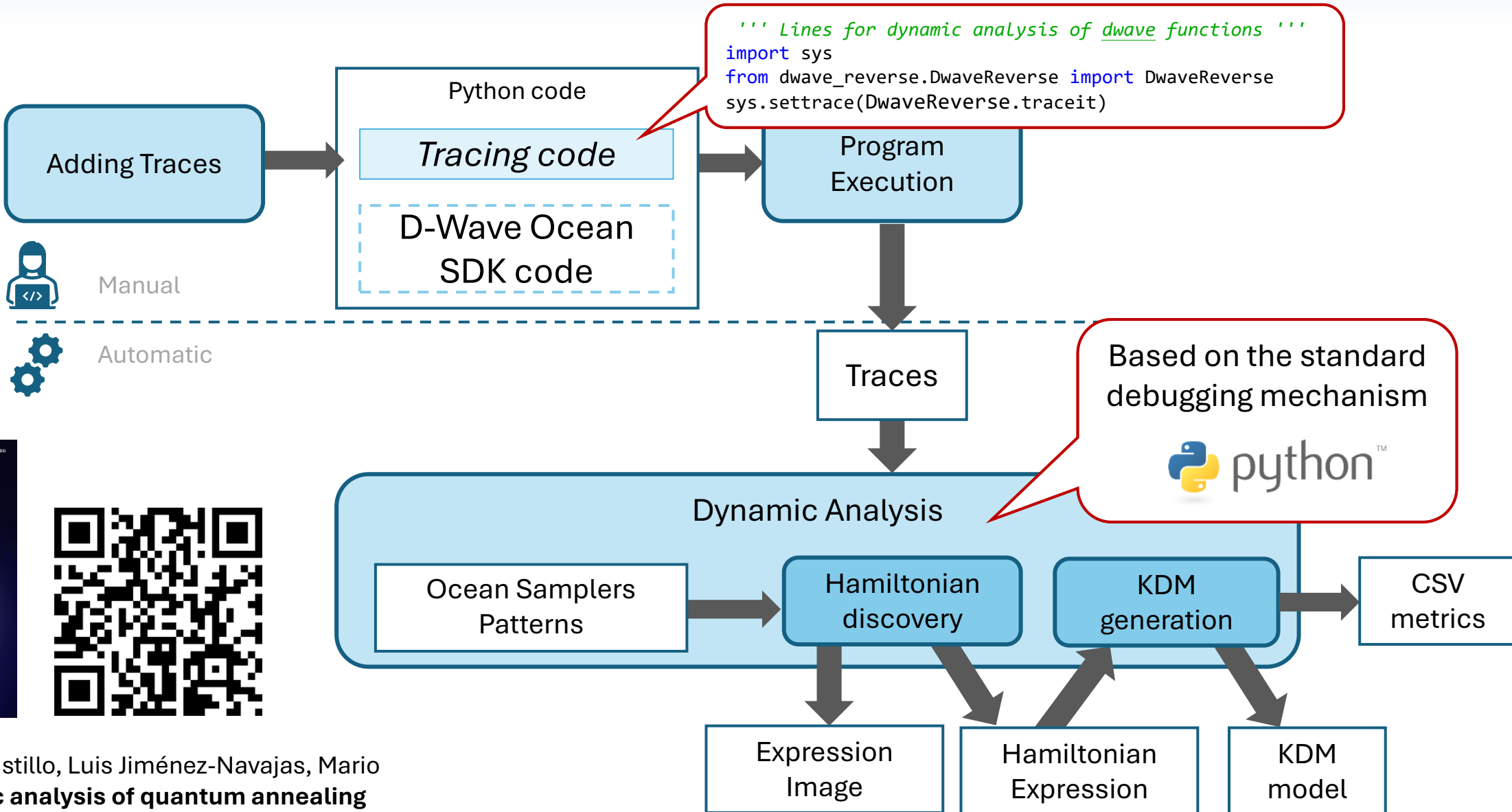


```
1 namespace Quantum.QSharpApplication1 {
2   open Microsoft.Quantum.Canon;
3   open Microsoft.Quantum.Intrinsic;
4
5   operation HelloQ () : (Result) {
6     using (var qubit = Qubit()){ // Allocate a qubit.
7       H(qubit);
8       let r = M(qubit);
9       Message("Welcome to the quantum world!");
10      return r;
11    }
12  }
13 }
```

Reverse Engineering: Q# to KDM

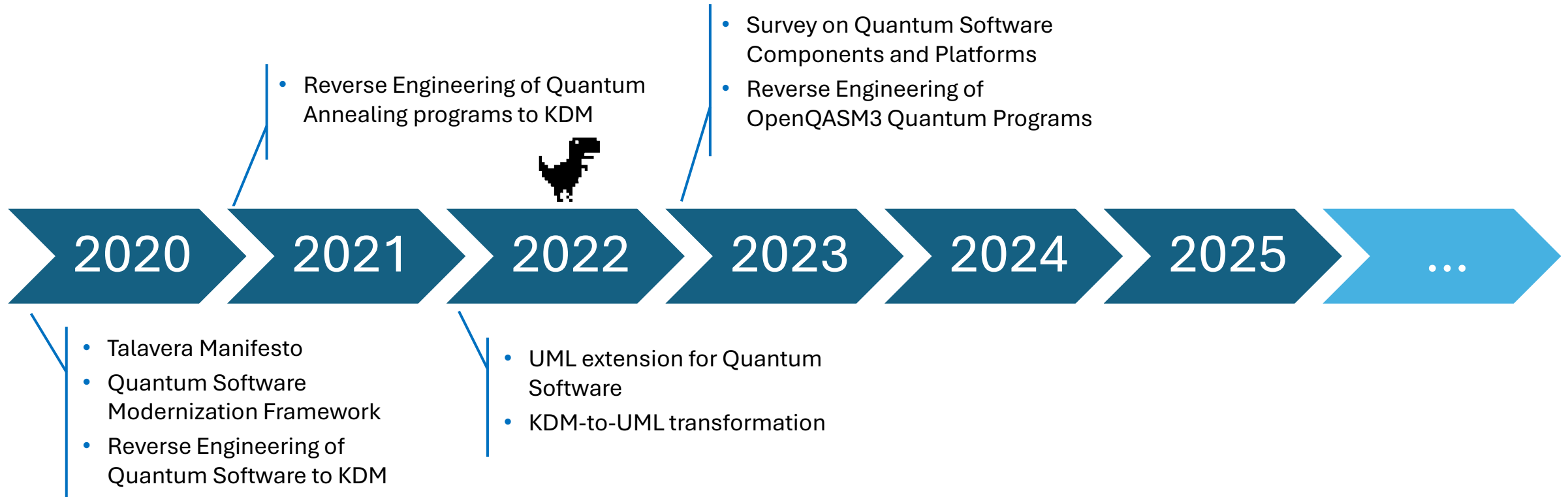


Dynamic Analysis for reversing Quantum Annealing Programs

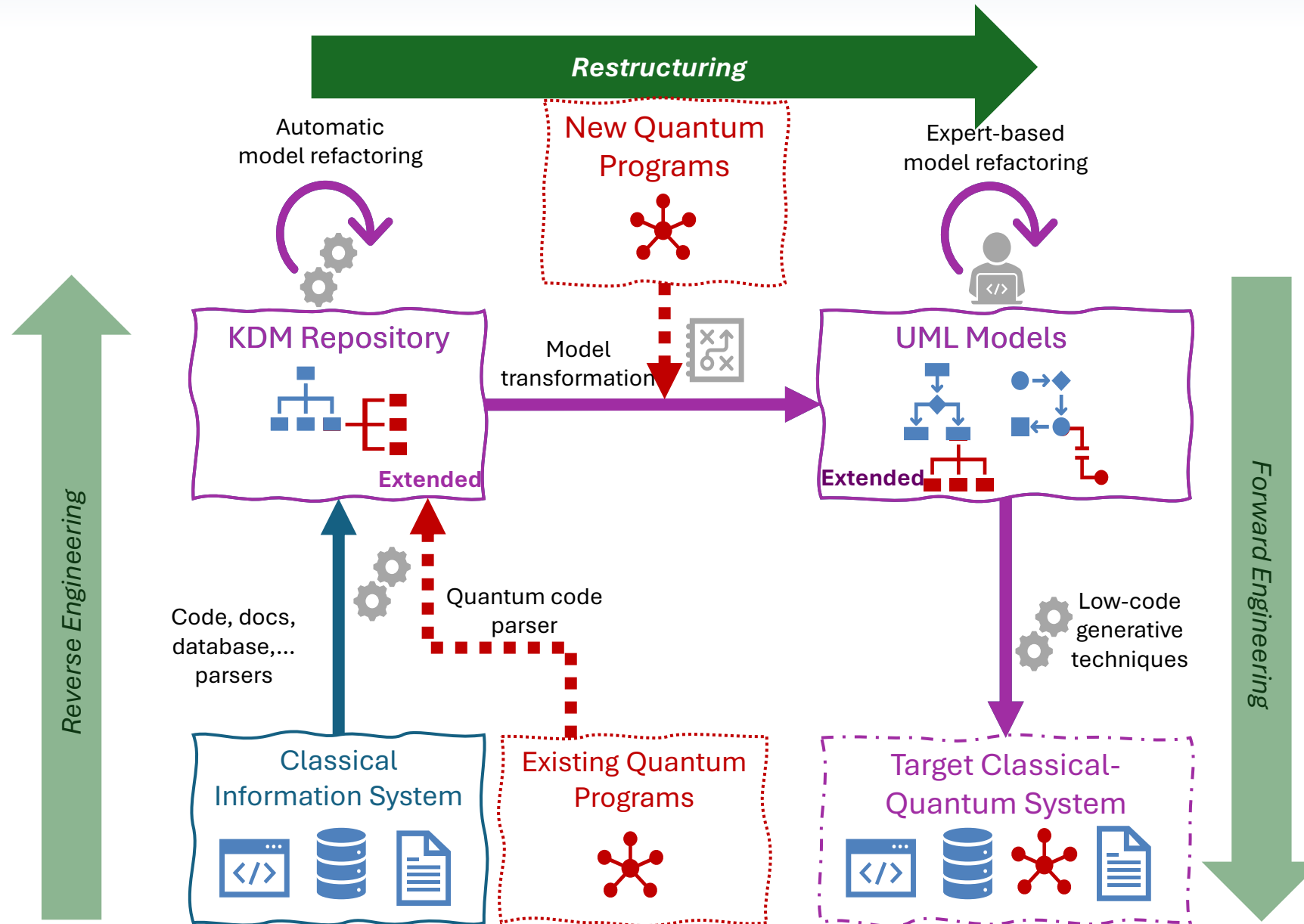


Ricardo Pérez-Castillo, Luis Jiménez-Navajas, Mario Piattini: **Dynamic analysis of quantum annealing programs.** J. Syst. Softw. 201: 111683 (2023)

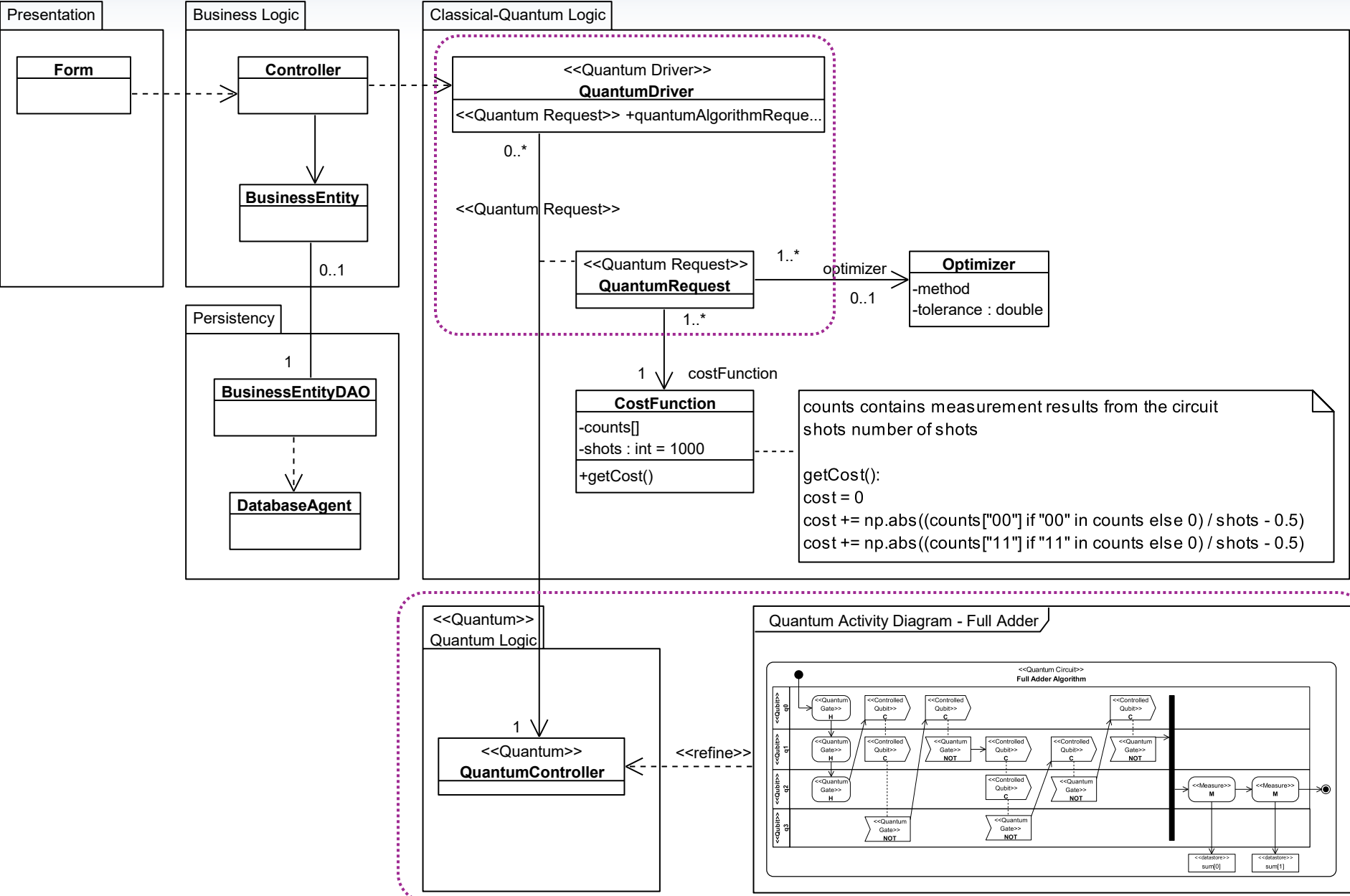
Our Research Journey



Software Modernization from/to Hybrid Software Systems



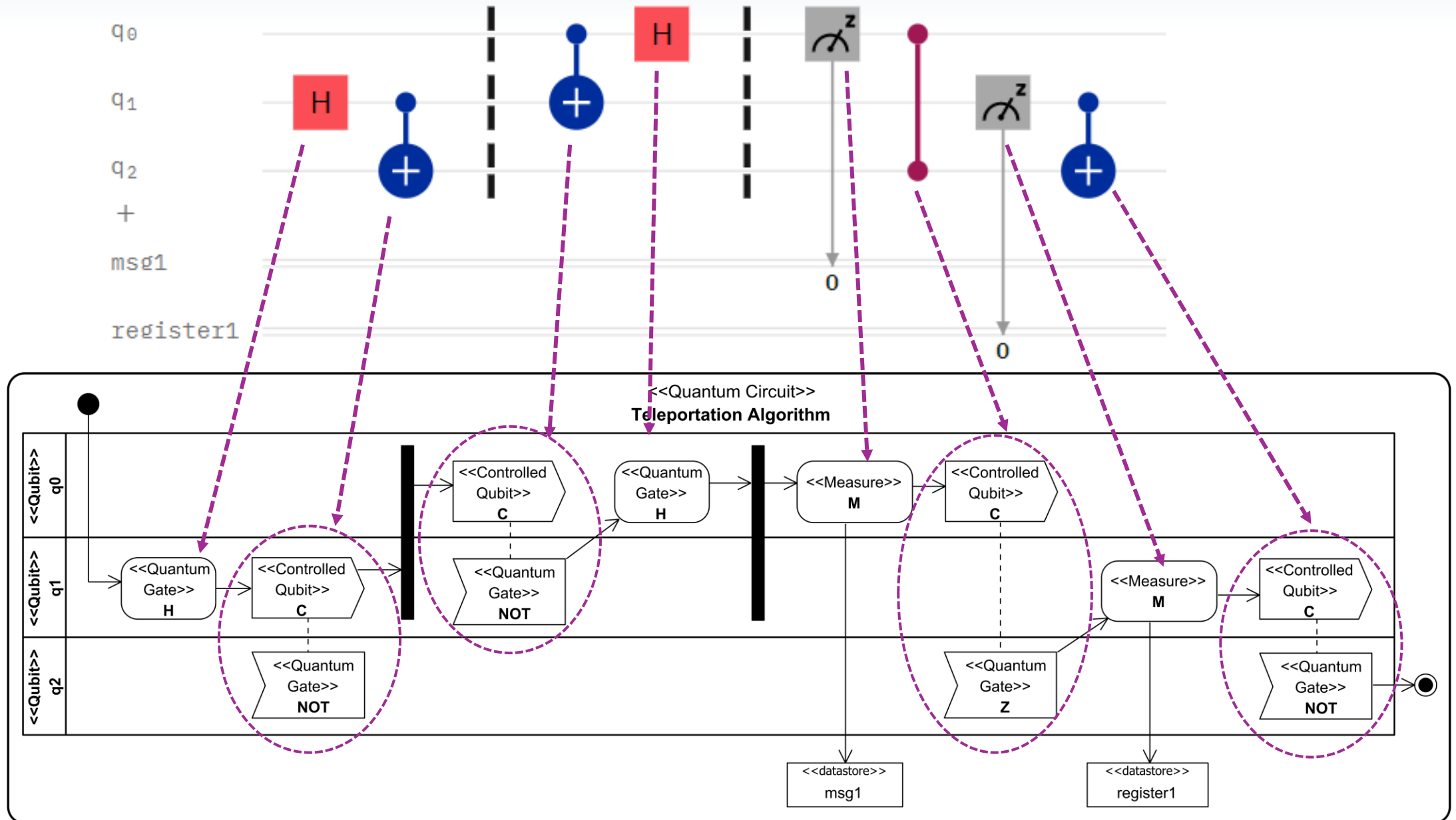
Quantum UML Profile



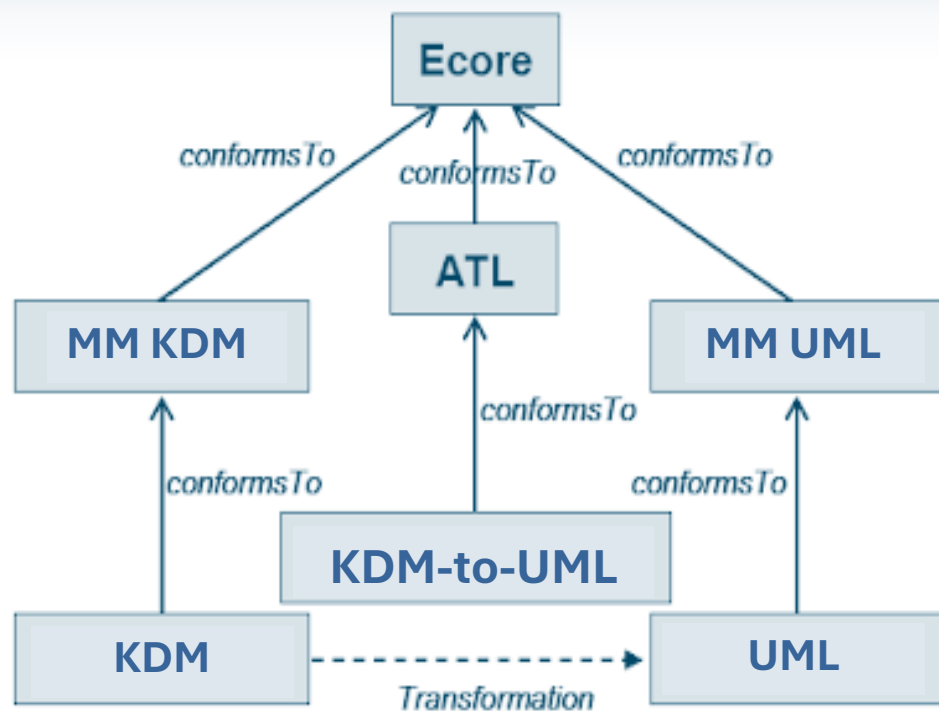
Ricardo Pérez-Castillo, Mario Piattini: **Design of classical-quantum systems with UML. Computing 104(11): 2375-2403 (2022)**



Restructuring: Quantum UML profile

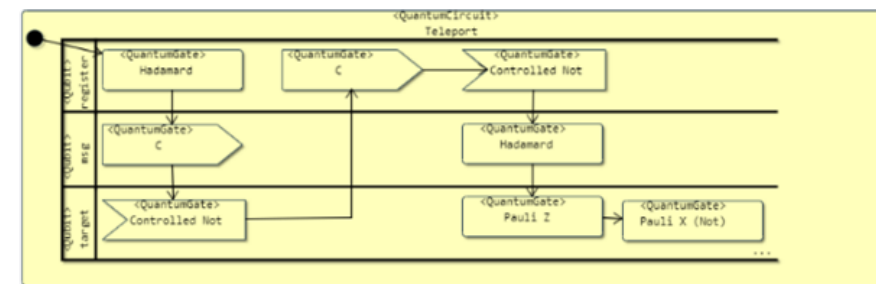


Restructuring: Transformación KDM a UML

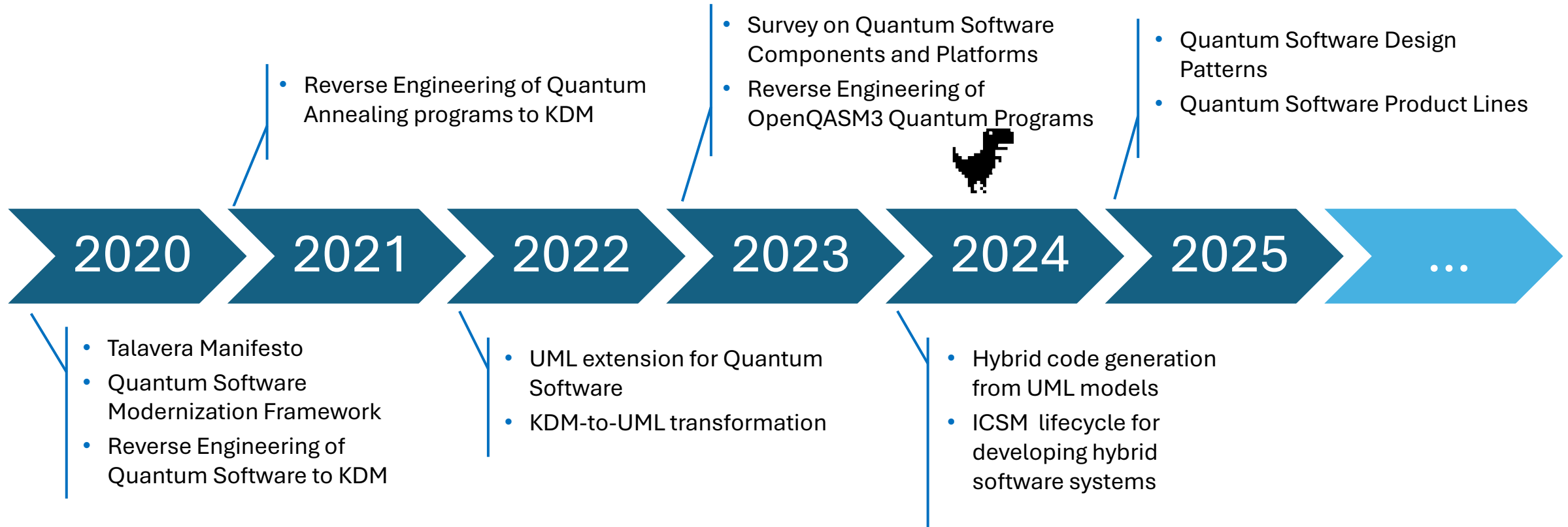


Q# element	Input KDM	Output UML
Quantum program	CompilationUnit	Interaction
Quantum operation	CallableUnit	Activity
Qubit declaration	StorableUnit	ActivityPartition
Quantum gate	ActionElement	CallOperationAction/ AcceptEventAction/ SendSignalAction
Data flow between gates	Flow	ControlFlow

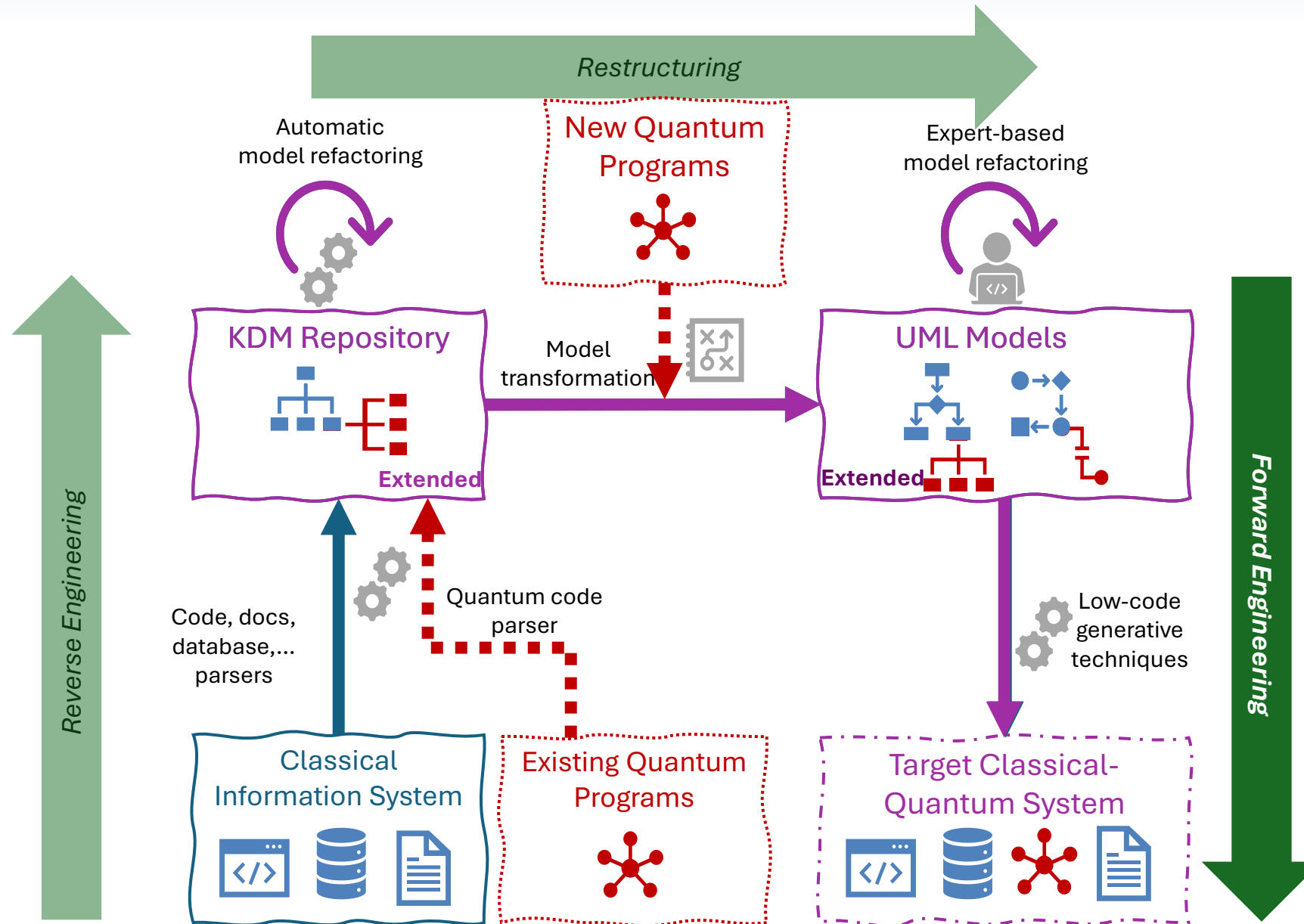
- Segment TeleportationSample_1609842604000.xml
 - Extension Family quantum extension
 - Stereotype quantum programming language
 - Stereotype quantum program
 - Stereotype quantum operation
 - Stereotype quantum gate
 - Stereotype qubit
 - Stereotype qubit measure
 - Stereotype control qubit
 - Stereotype qubit array
- Model TeleportationSample_1609842604000.xml
 - Compilation Unit TeleportationSample.qs
 - Language Unit Q# Common definitions
 - Callable Unit Teleport
 - Signature Teleport_signature
 - Storable Unit register
 - Element Hadamard
 - Element Controlled Not
 - Element Hadamard
 - Element Pauli Z
 - Element Pauli X (Not)
 - Callable Unit TeleportClassicalMessage
 - Signature TeleportClassicalMessage_signature
 - Storable Unit msg
 - Storable Unit target
 - Element Pauli X (Not)
 - Callable Unit TeleportRandomMessage



Our Research Journey

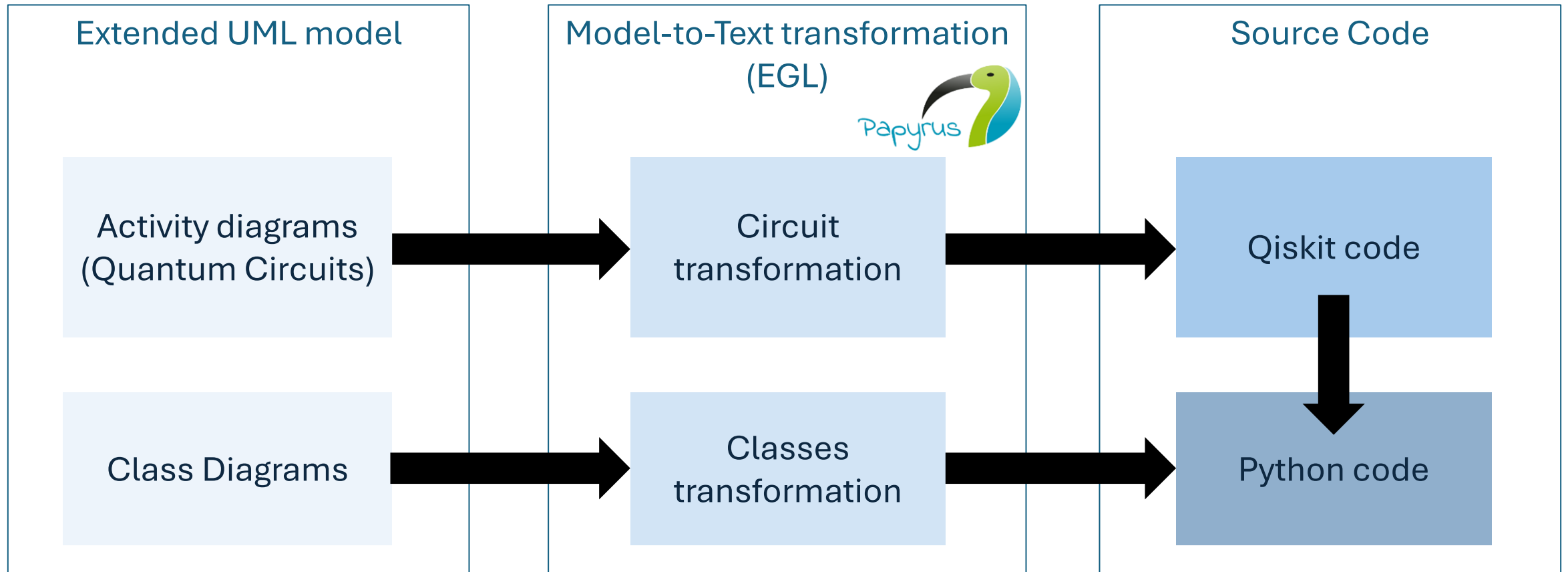


Software Modernization from/to Hybrid Software Systems



Hybrid code generation from UML

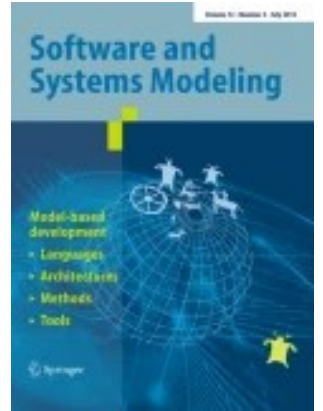
- Model-to-Text transformation with EGL (Eclipse Generation Language)



Hybrid code generation from UML

- Excerpt of EGL transformation for quantum gates generation in Qiskit

```
1  [*QUANTUM GATES*]
2  [% var initial = getInitialNode();
3     if(initial == null){
4         "There is no InitialNode".println();
5     } else{
6         var actual = initial.outgoings.target.get(0);
7         var type = actual.toString().split(' ').get(0).split('@').get(0);
8         while(not (type == "org.eclipse.uml2.uml.internal.impl.ActivityFinalNodeImpl")) {
9             var gate = checkGateType(actual);
10             if (not (gate == "pass")){[%]
11                 [%=circuitName%].[%=gate%]
12                 [%]
13                 actual = nextNode(actual);
14                 type = actual.toString().split(' ').get(0).split('@').get(0);
15             }
16         }%]
```

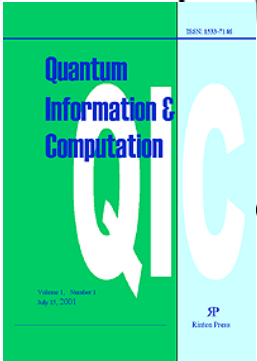
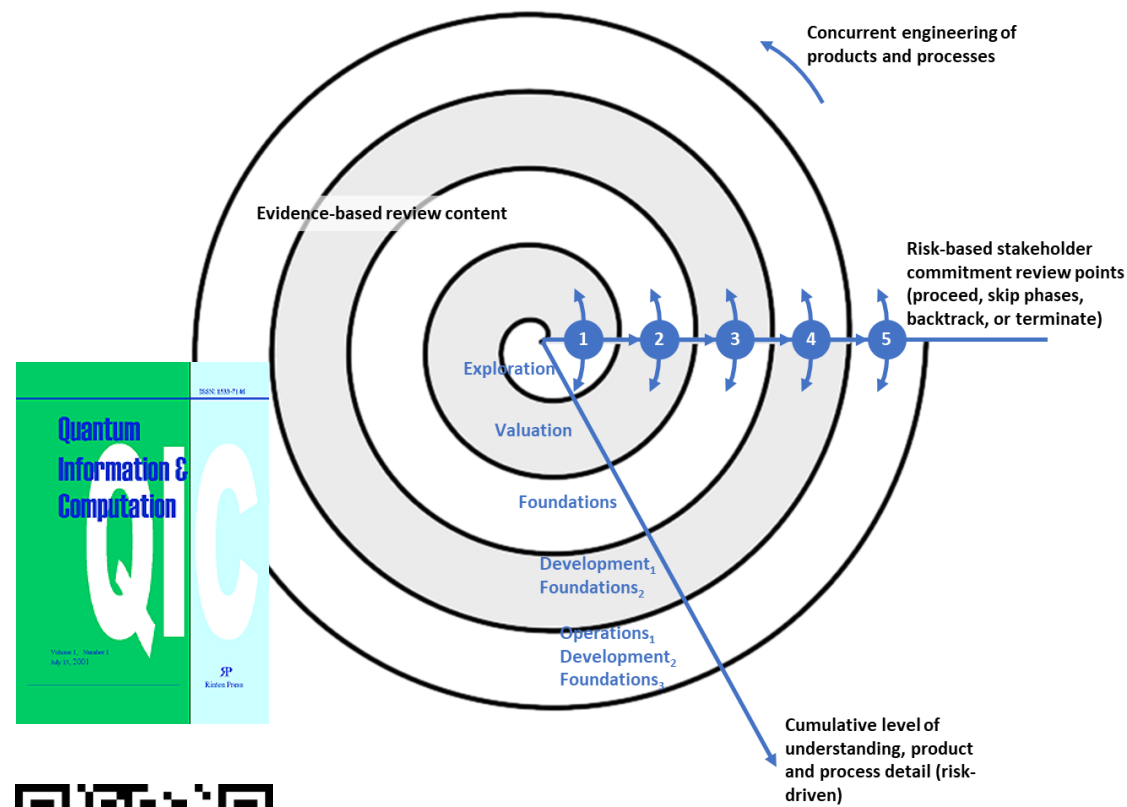


Luis Jiménez-Navajas, Ricardo Pérez-Castillo, Mario Piattini.
Code generation for classical-quantum software systems modeled in UML. *Softw. Syst. Model.* 24(3): 795-821 (2025)



ICSM Life Cycle for Hybrid Software

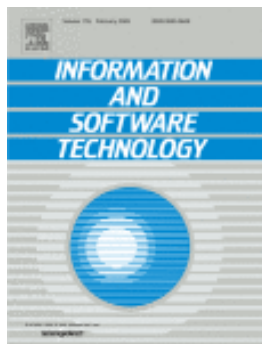
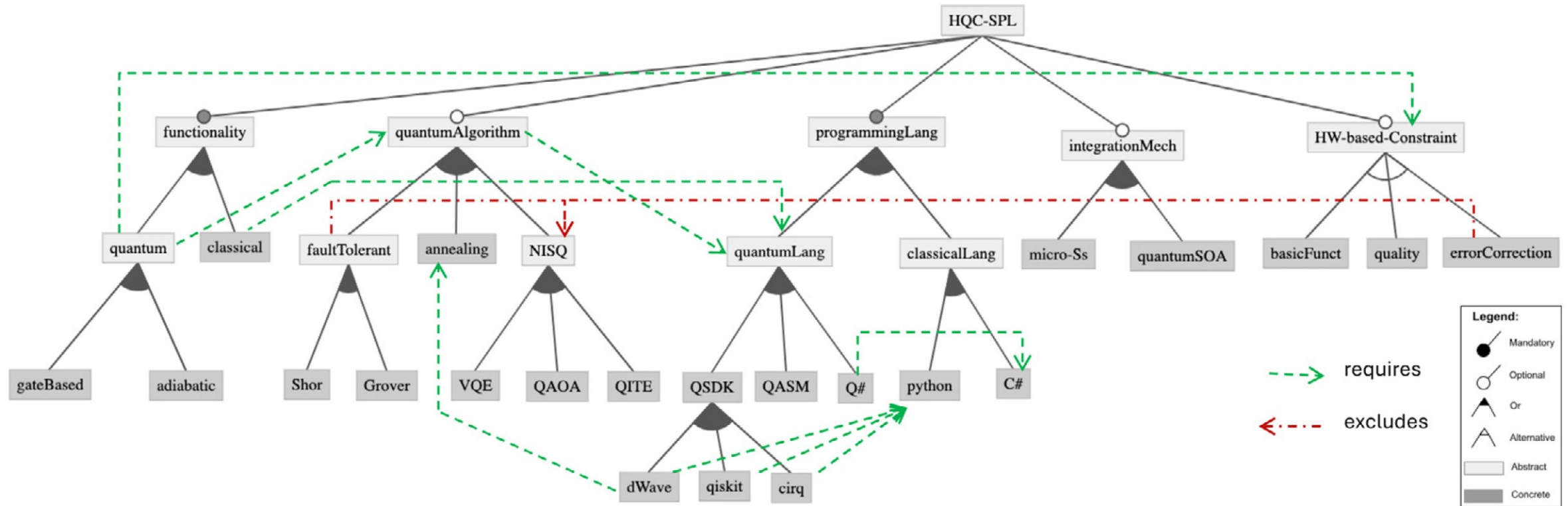
■ ICSM (Incremental Commitment Spiral Model) as a Lifecycle



Ricardo Pérez-Castillo, Manuel Ángel Serrano, José A. Cruz-Lemus, Mario Piattini: **Guidelines to use the ICSM for developing quantum-classical systems.** Quantum Inf. Comput. 24(1&2): 71-88 (2024)

	Exploration Commitment Review 1	Valuation Commitment Review 2	Foundations Commitment Review 3	Development Commitment Review 4	Operations Commitment Review 5	...
Example A Simple, new classic information system	High, but addressable → Risk?	Acceptable → Negligible → Risk?	Negligible → Risk?	Acceptable → Risk?	Acceptable → Risk?	Acceptable → ...
Example B Integration of a new gate- based quantum module into a hybrid information system	High, but addressable → Risk?	Acceptable → High, but addressable → Risk?	Acceptable → High, but addressable → Risk?	Acceptable → Risk?	Acceptable → Risk?	Acceptable → ...
Example C Development of a quantum annealing application	High, but addressable → Risk?	Acceptable → High, but addressable → Risk?	Negligible → Risk?	Negligible → Risk?	Acceptable → Risk?	Acceptable → ...
Example D A superior quantum computing or software platform service enters the market	Acceptable → Risk?	Acceptable → Risk?	Acceptable → Too high, unaddressable → Discontinue			

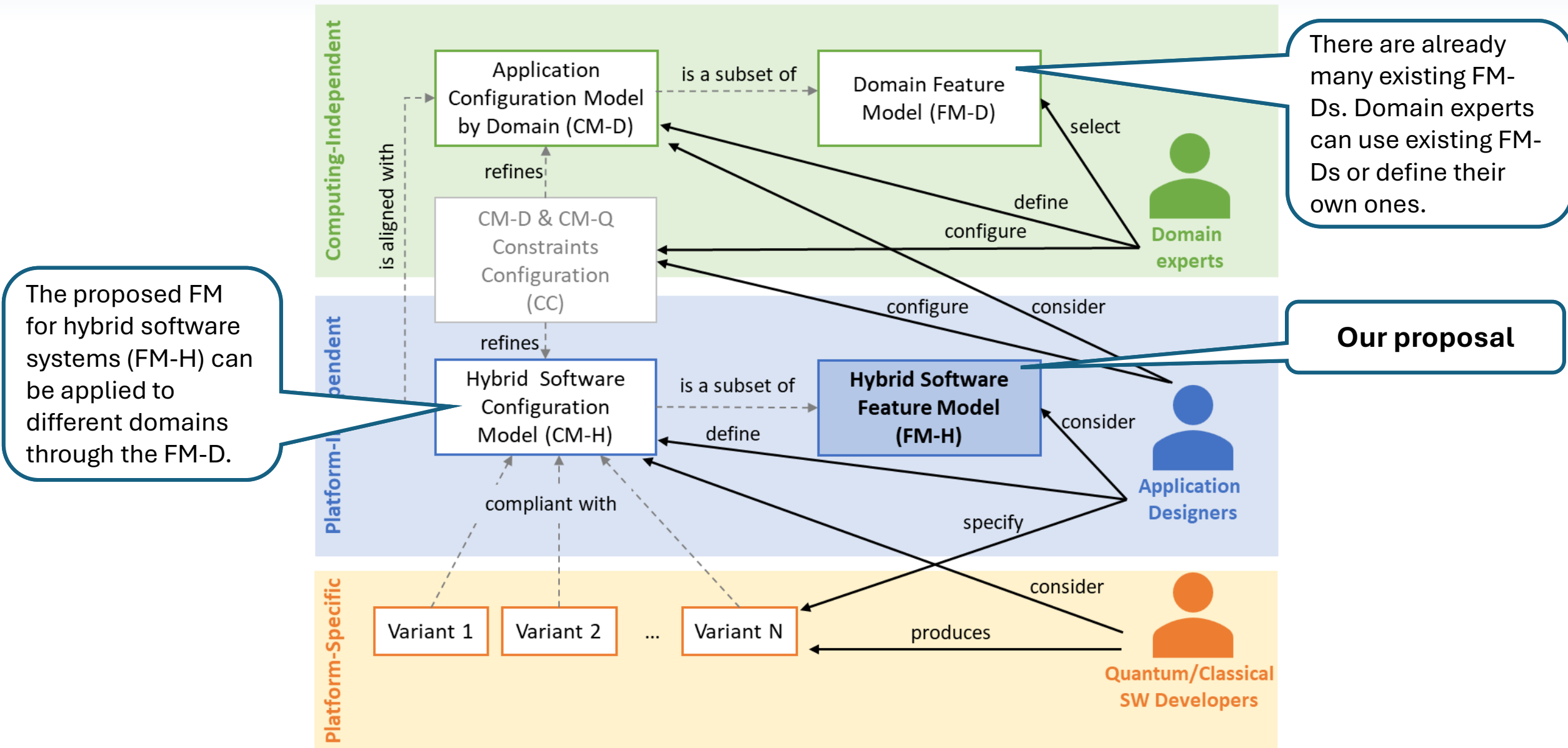
Software Product Lines for Hybrid Software



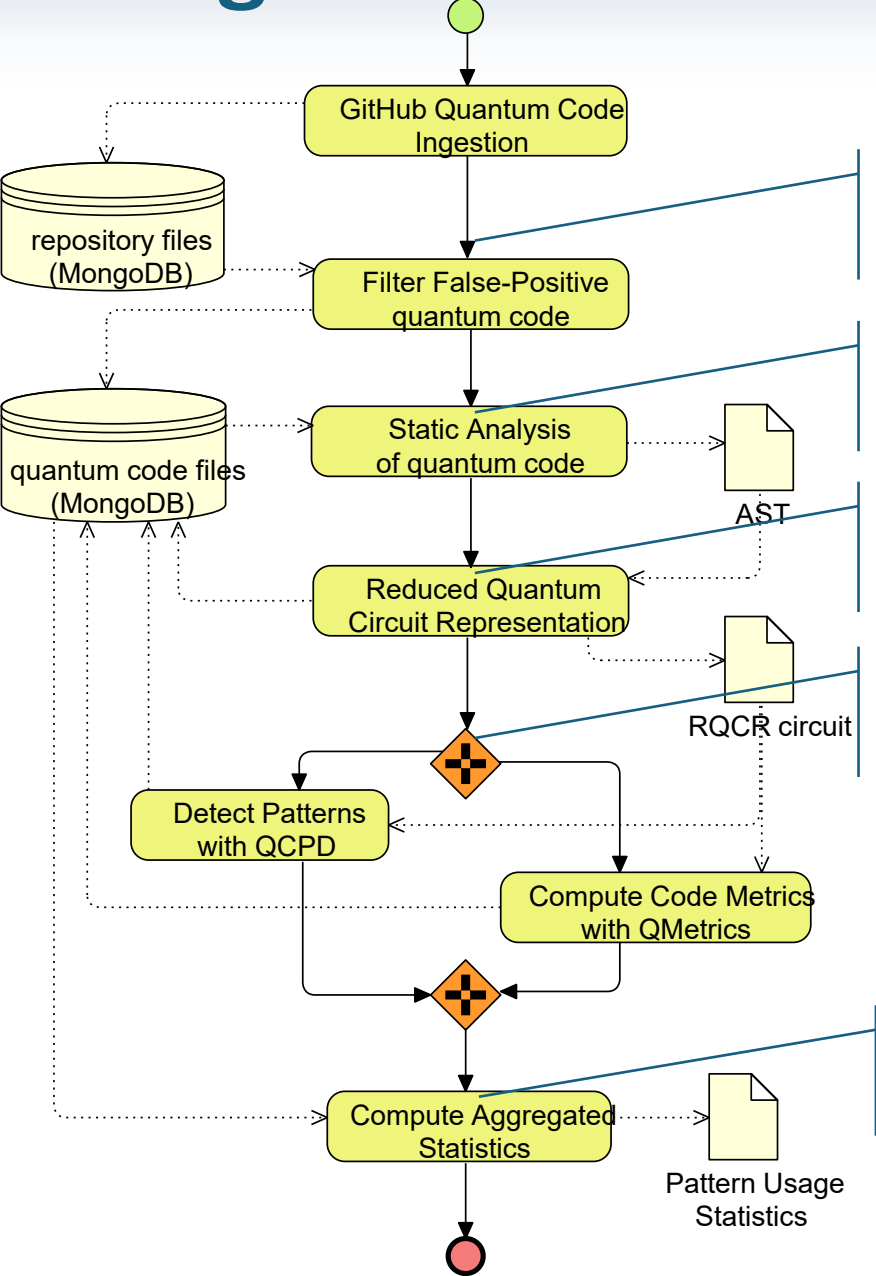
Samuel Sepúlveda,
 Ricardo Pérez-Castillo,
 Mario Piattini. **A software
 product line approach
 for developing hybrid
 software systems.** Inf.
 Softw. Technol. 178:
 107625 (2025)



Software Product Lines for Hybrid Software



Design Pattern Detection on Quantum Programs



Qiskit QASM

13462 75800

5004 15320

1616 101

806 101

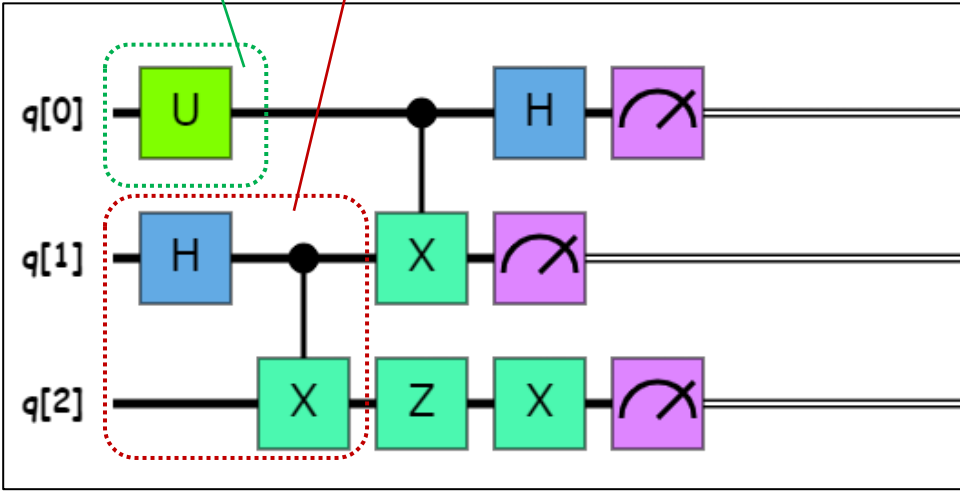
30 50



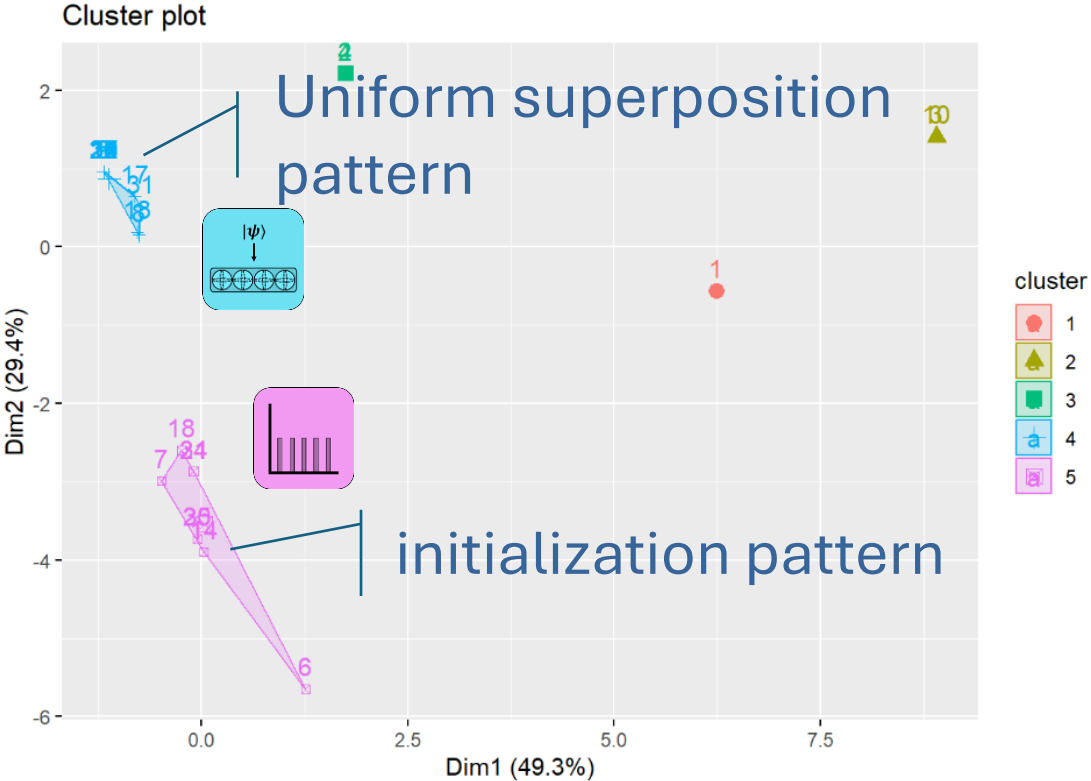
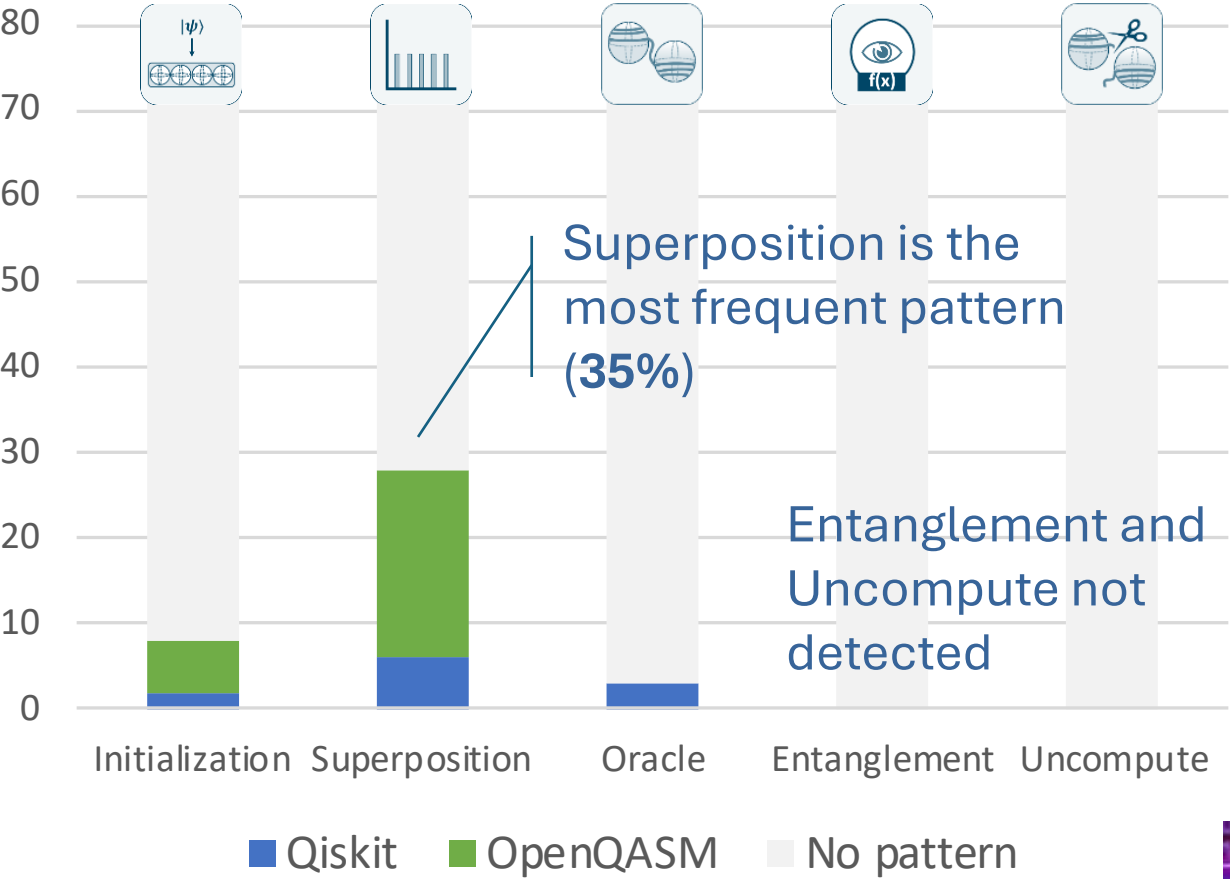
Qiskit

Oracle pattern detected

Entanglement pattern not detected



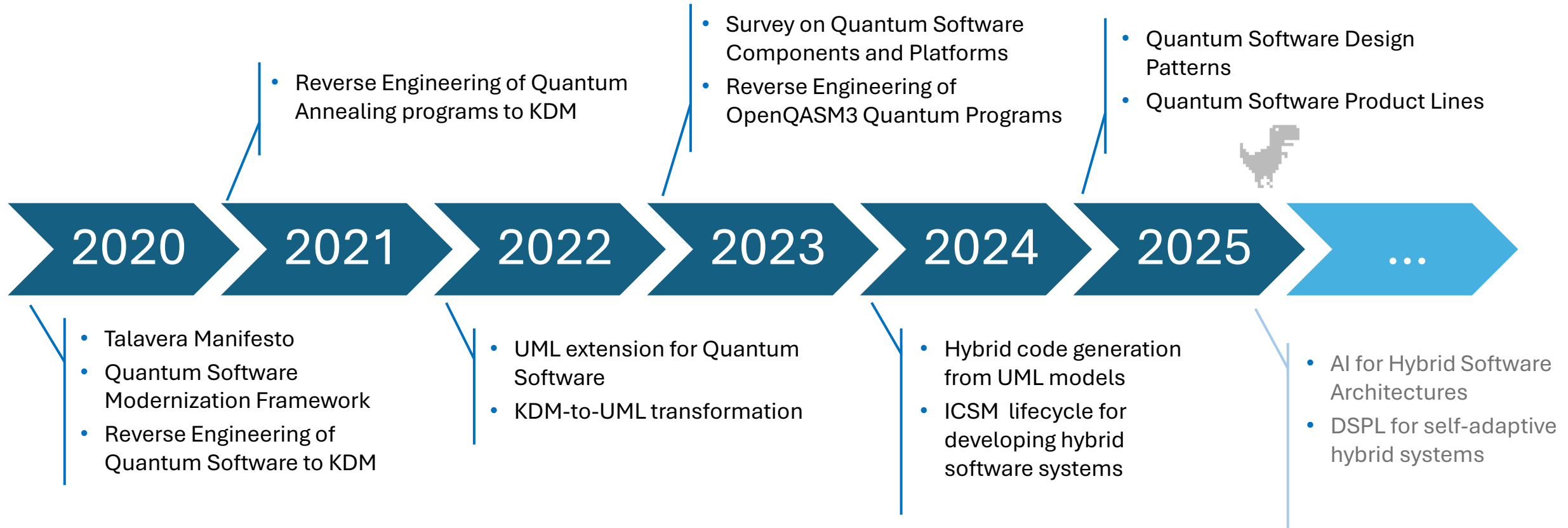
Design Pattern Detection on Quantum Programs



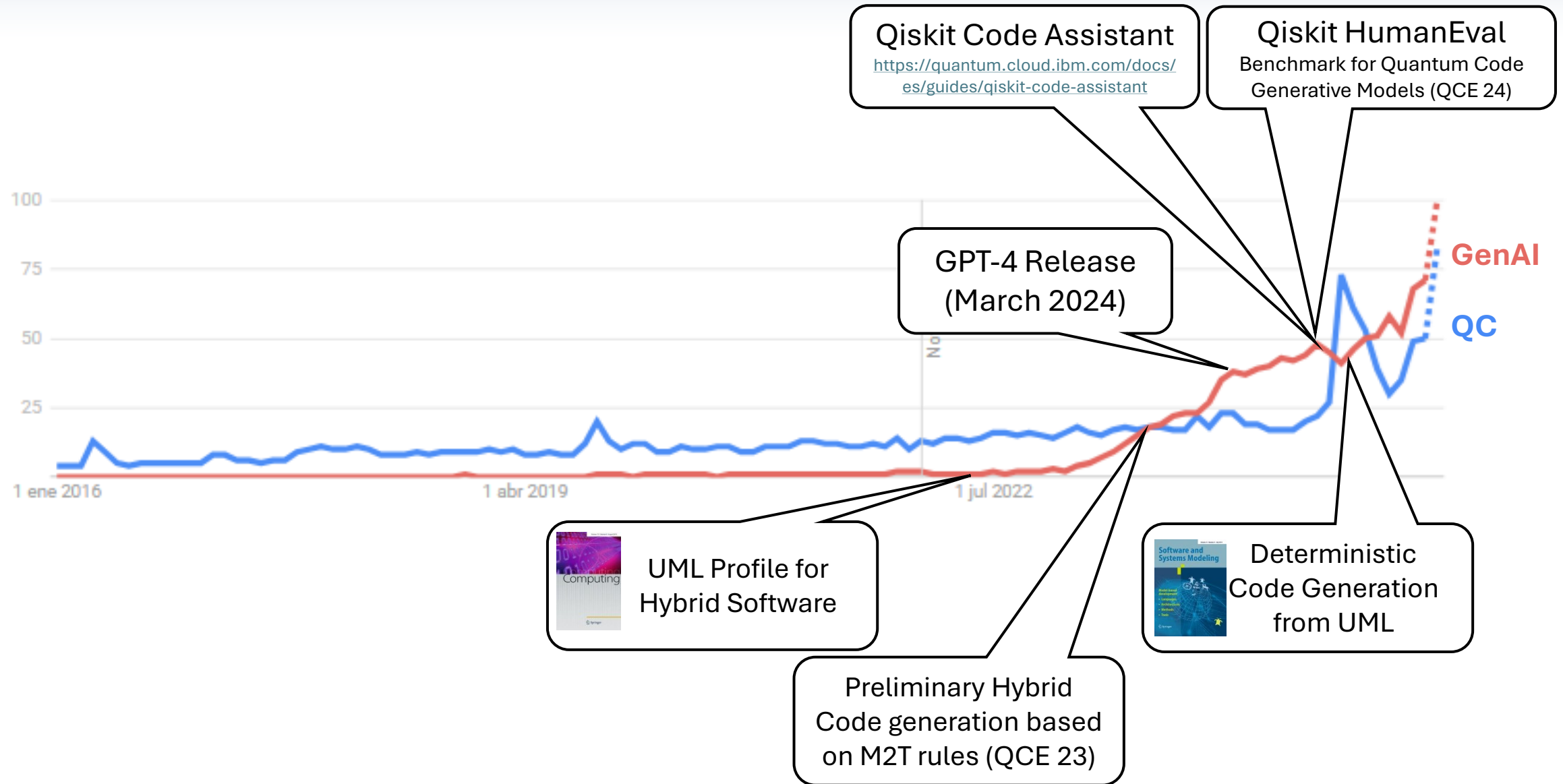
Miriam Fernández-Osuna,
Ricardo Pérez-Castillo, José A.
Cruz-Lemus, Michal Baczyk,
Mario Piattini. **Exploring
design patterns in quantum
software: a case study.**
Computing 107(5): 111 (2025)



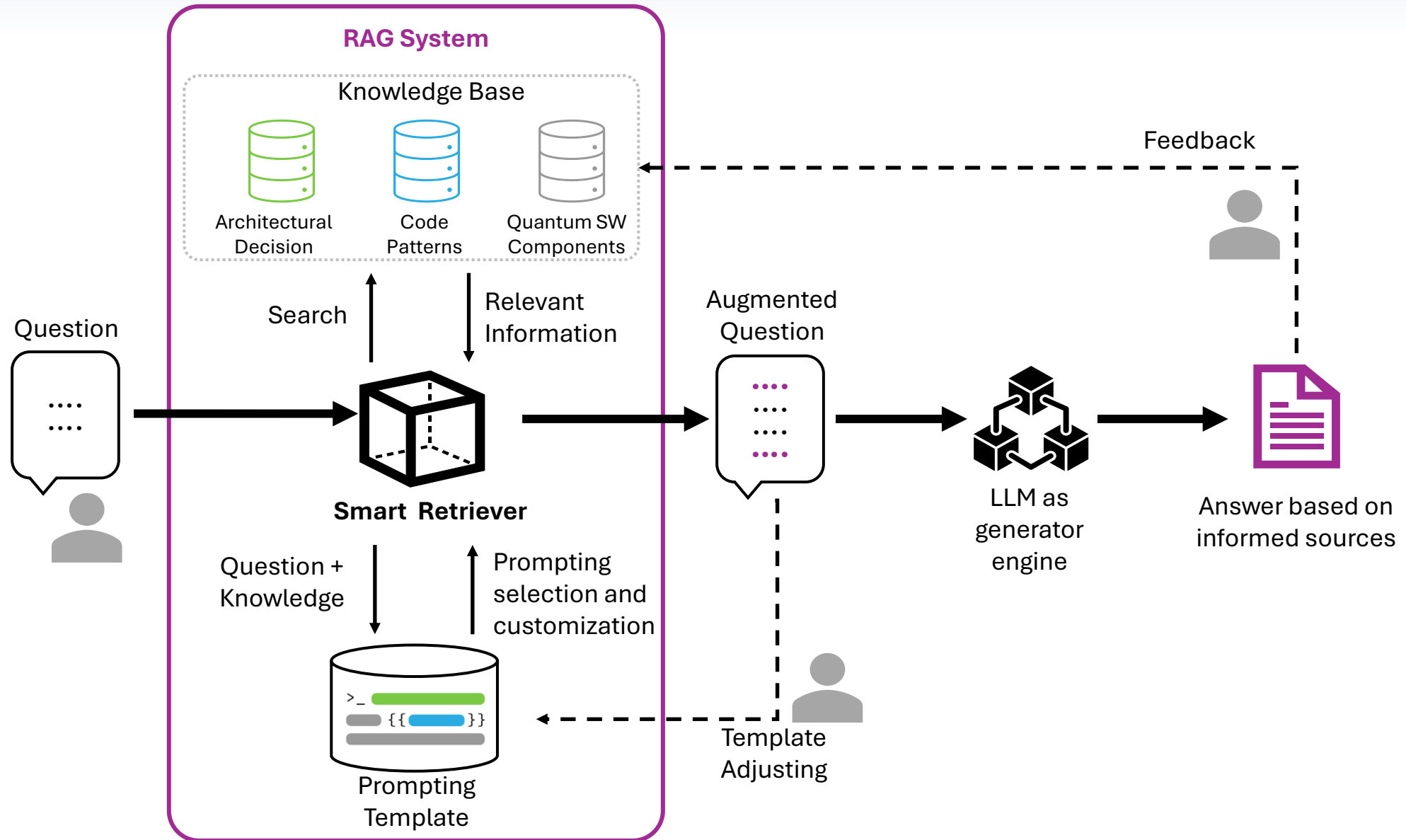
Our Research Journey



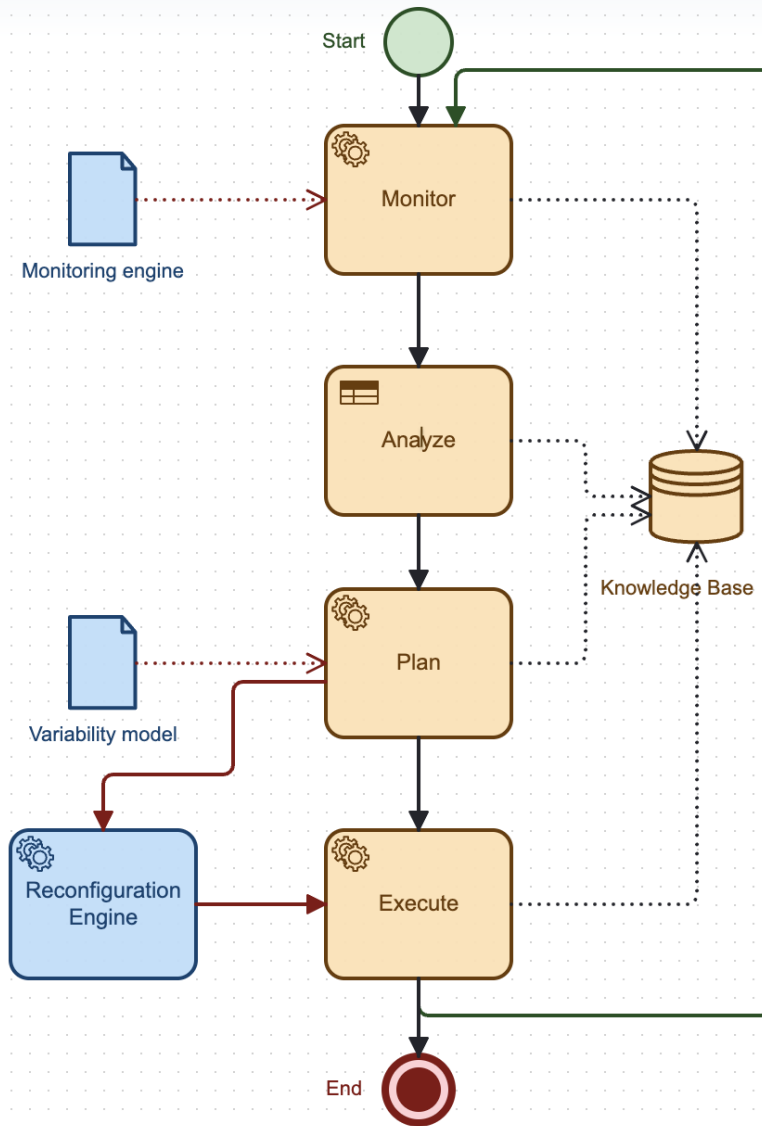
GenAI is a game changer?



RAG for hybrid software architecting



Dynamic SPL for Self-Adaptation



■ DSPL Integration with MAPE-K

- Integration of Dynamic Software Product Lines (DSPL) with the MAPE-K feedback loop to support self-adaptation.

■ Run-time Variability Model

- Explicit representation of variability at run-time to enable context-aware reconfiguration.

■ Monitoring Engine

- Collects data from the running system and its environment to detect changes and trigger adaptations.

■ Reconfiguration Engine

- Applies adaptation decisions by enacting the selected system configuration.

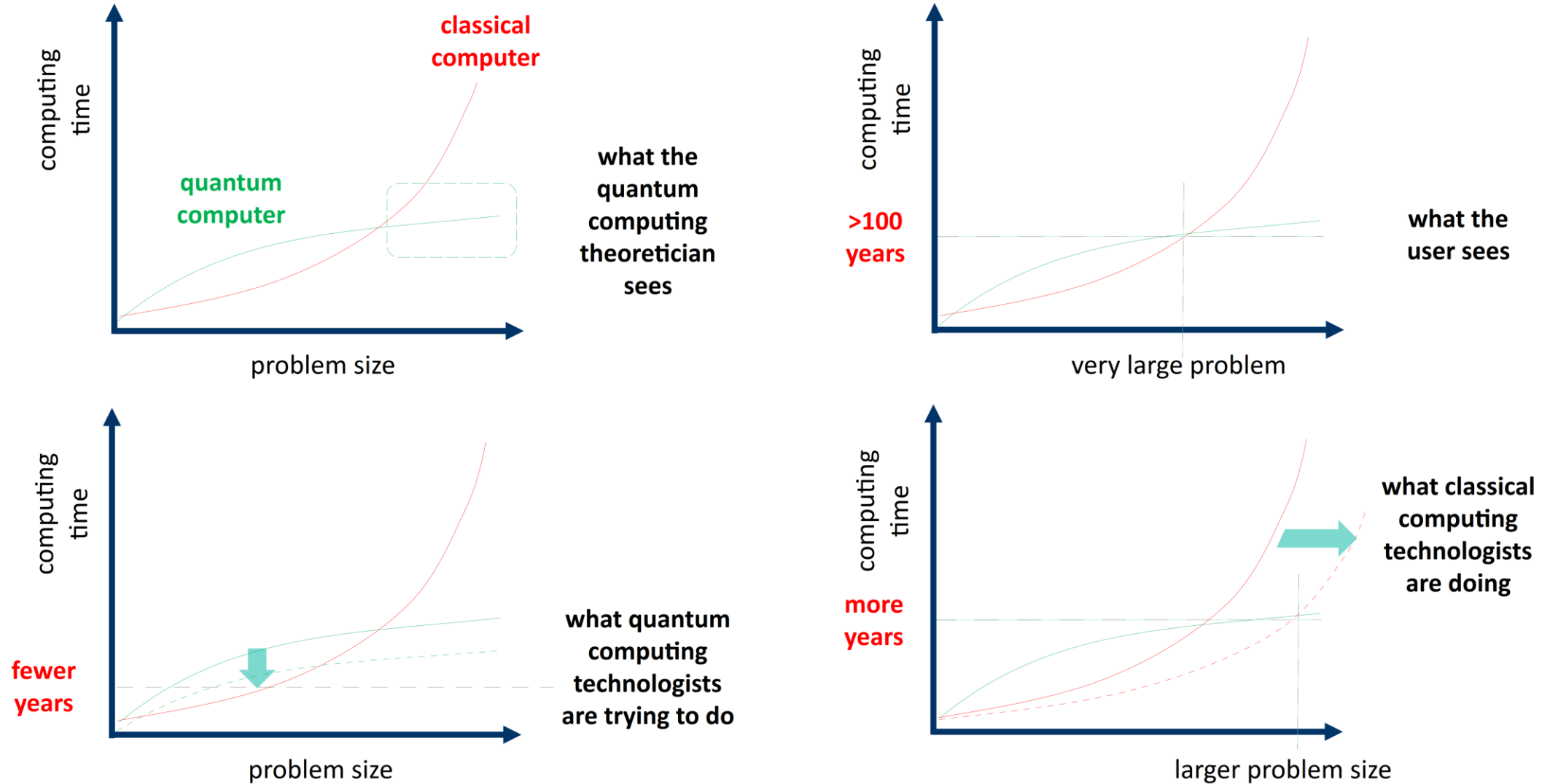
Agenda

- Quantum Computing
- Quantum Computing Applications
- Quantum Software & Quantum Software Engineering
- Our Research Journey
- **Conclusions**

Scan for slides

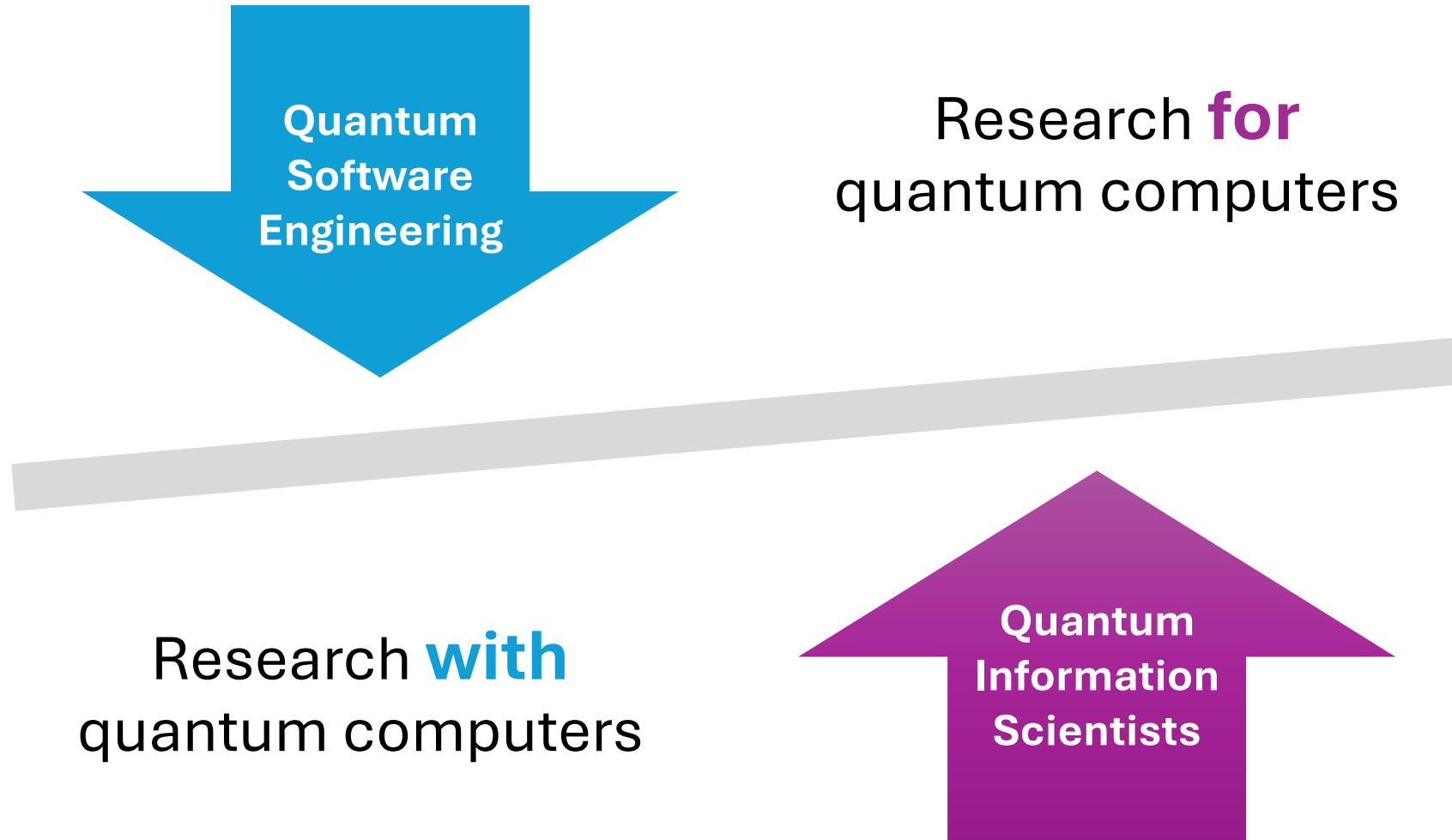


The 'funny' discussion



Olivier Ezratty, September 2025.

Quantum Software Engineering Matters

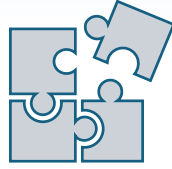


The Road Ahead for QSE?



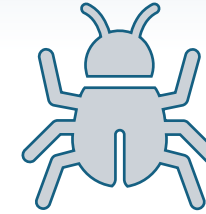
Service-Oriented Computing (SOC)

- **Challenges:**
Platform independence and interoperability, demand/capacity management.
- **Future Directions:**
Standards and APIs, and tools for quantum and classical services integration



Model-Driven Engineering (MDE)

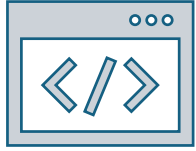
- **Challenges:**
Design of high-level methodologies for hybrid systems, scalability in quantum software maintenance, and code generation.
- **Future Directions:**
Improvement of code generation and orchestration of hybrid systems.



Testing and Debugging

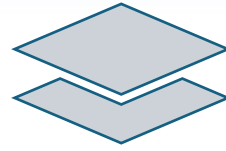
- **Challenges:**
Test scalability, optimization of test oracles, and transition from simulators to real.
- **Future Directions:**
Noise reduction techniques, efficient oracles, specialized debugging tools, and mutation and metamorphic testing?

The Road Ahead for QSE?



Programming Paradigms

- **Challenges:** Complexity of quantum circuits and reuse of quantum software.
- **Future Directions:** Abstractions and composition of quantum programs.



Software Architecture

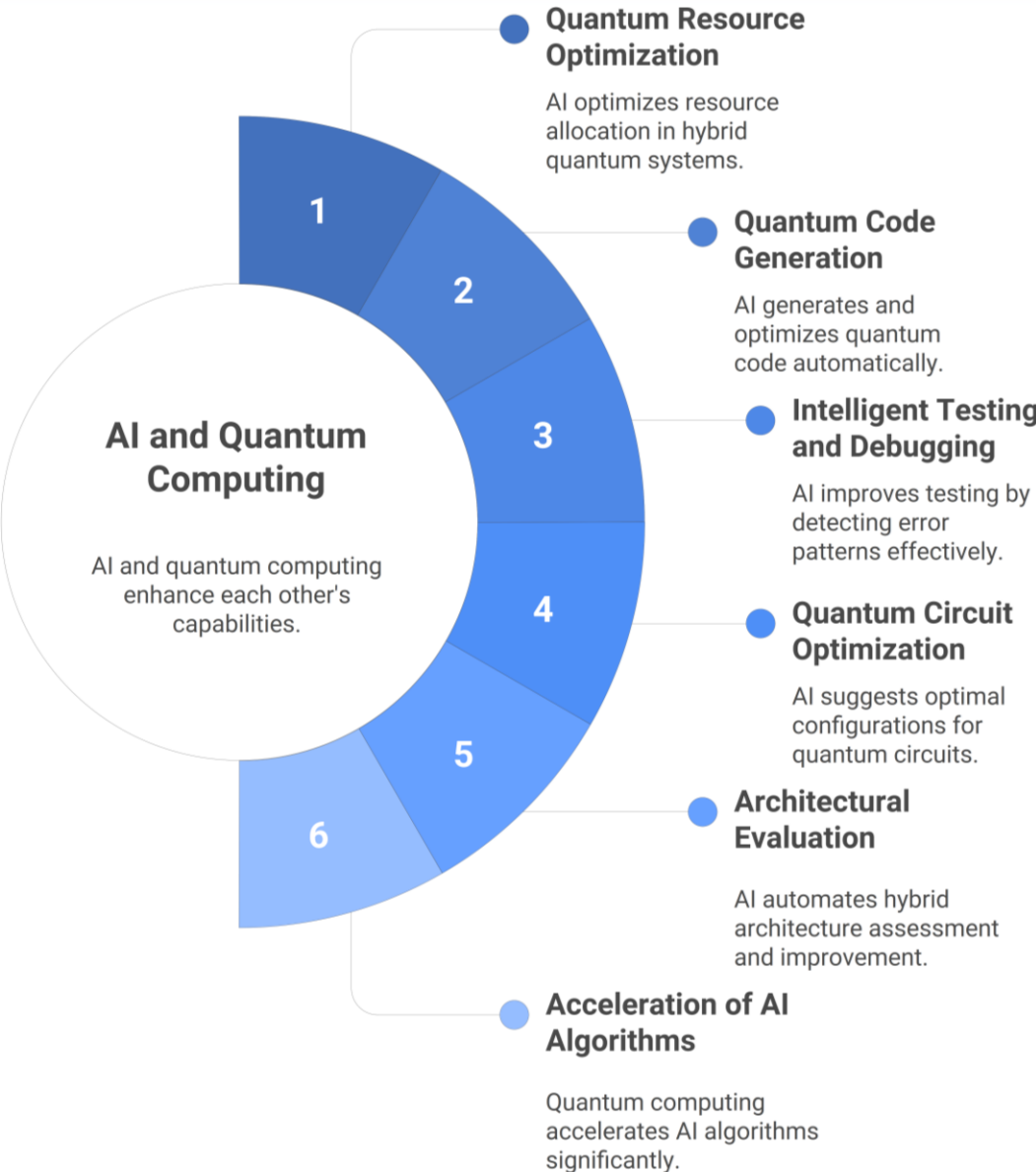
- **Challenges:** Architectural decisions for integrating quantum and classical systems.
- **Future Directions:** Empirical studies on design patterns and architectural evolutions.



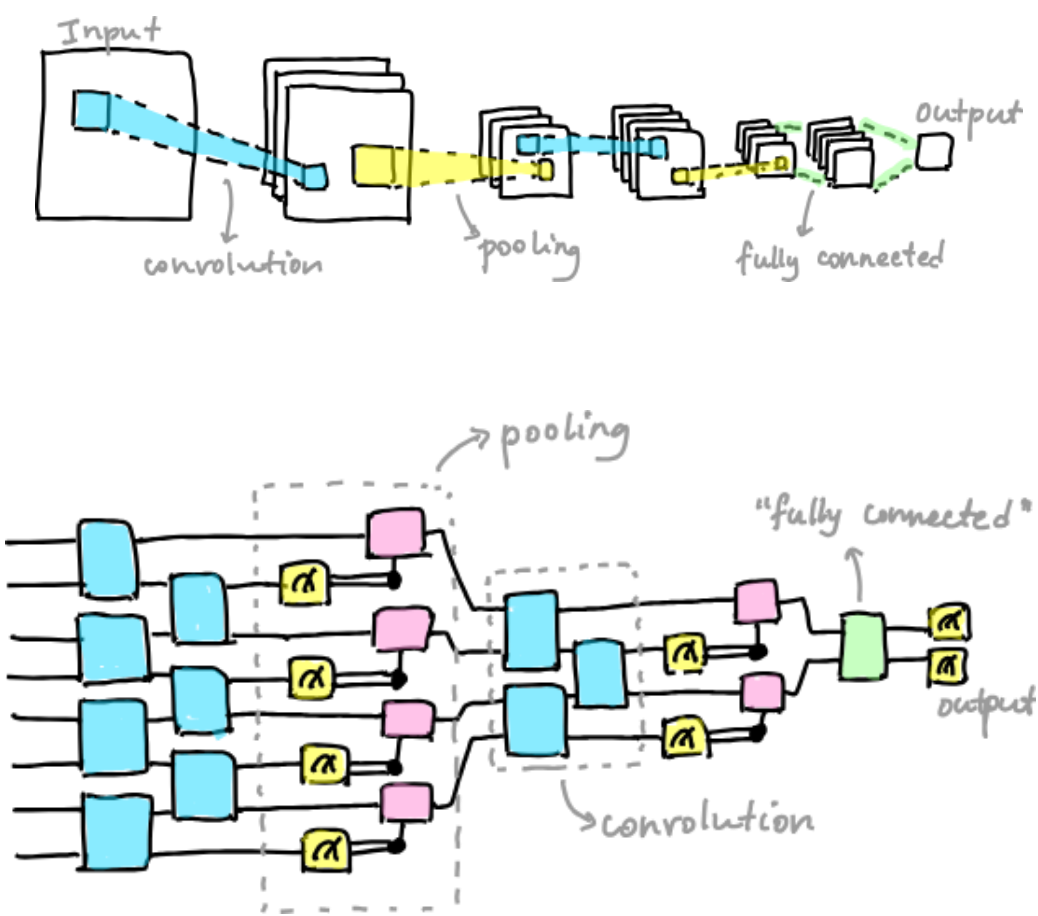
Software Development Processes

- **Challenges:** Iterative development models and risk management in hybrid software.
- **Future Directions:** Agile methodologies and DevOps tools to quantum environments.

Unveiling the synergy of AI and QC



Quantum Convolutional Neural Network



Takeaway #1

Quantum Computing is **here and now**

This is a today technology more than a tomorrow one

Still, some technical milestones are expected for boosting its adoption

Skepticism is a normal and healthy attitude in science

Takeaway #2

Quantum Software is crucial to get the
quantum advantage

Takeaway #3

**The business information systems will
combine classical and quantum software**

Software modernization is needed

Takeaway #4

The Quantum Workforce is key

Be ready

Get the elephant out of the room!



Please, ask me

THE
AGE
OF
QUANTUM
COMPUTING
HAS
NOW
ARRIVED



**Universidad de
Castilla-La Mancha**

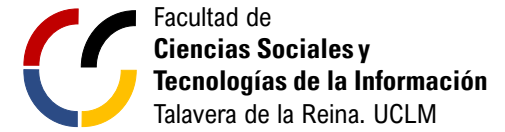


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Ricardo Pérez del Castillo



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