

# Computational Advantage from Quantum Superposition of Multiple Temporal Orders of Gates

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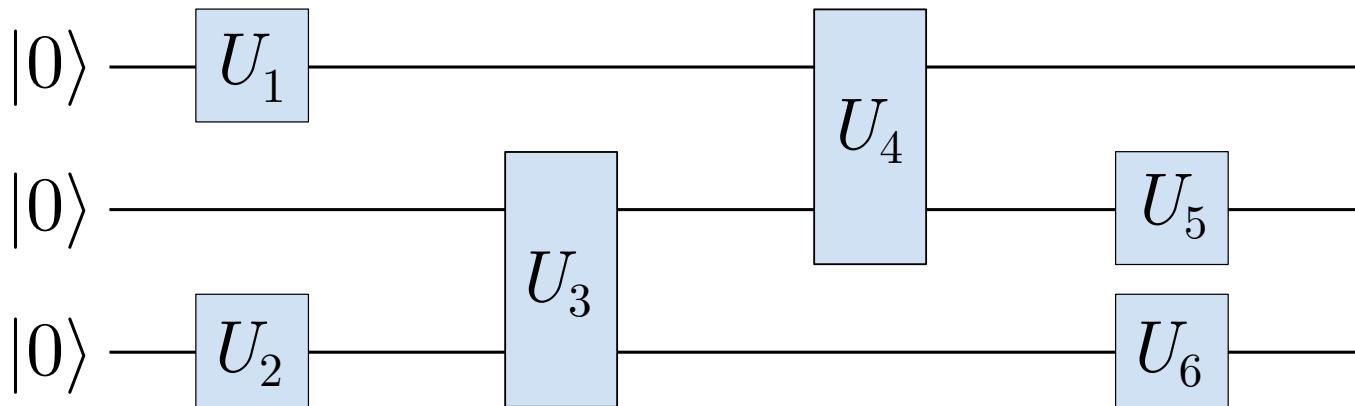
GDR IQFA 2020, 2-4 Dec 2020, Virtually in Grenoble

**arXiv:2002.07817**

with M. Taddei, J. Cariñe, D. Martínez, T. García, N. Guerrero,  
M. Araújo, C. Branciard, E. Gómez, S. Walborn, L. Aolita, G. Lima

# Motivation

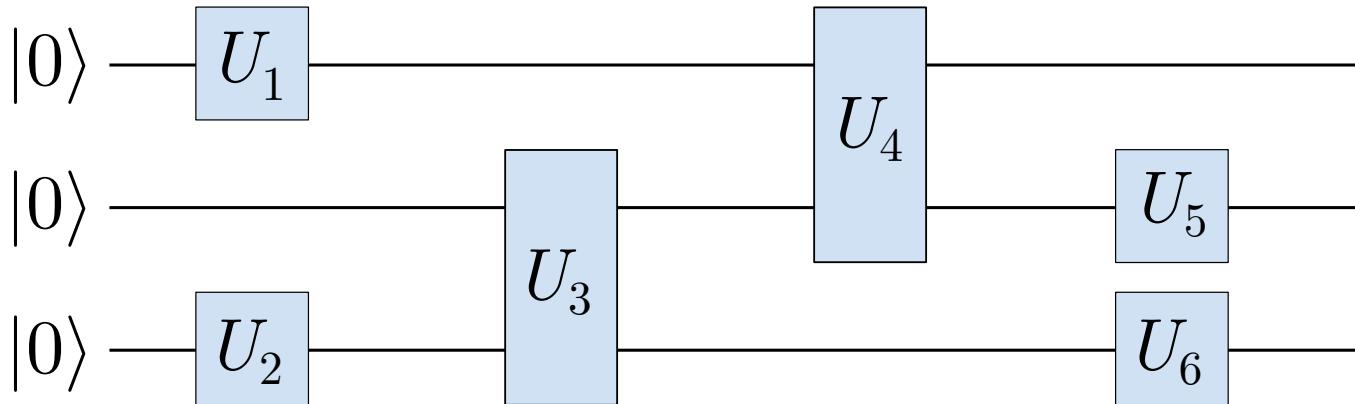
- Standard quantum circuit



➤ Can we go further?

# Motivation

- Standard quantum circuit



➤ Can we go further?

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( | - \boxed{U_1} - \boxed{U_2} - \rangle + | - \boxed{U_2} - \boxed{U_1} - \rangle \right)$$

# Outline

## 1. Higher-order quantum computation

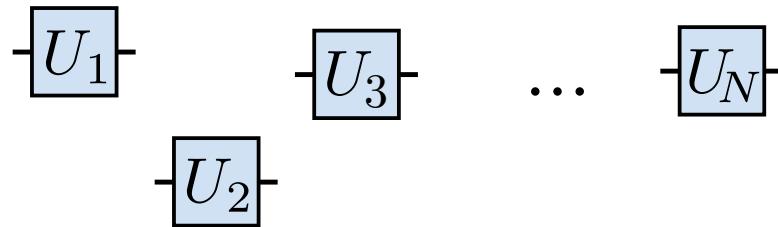
- The “quantum switch” – coherently controlling gate order

## 2. Hadamard Promise Problem

## 3. Experimental 4-switch

# Quantum Computing with Black Boxes

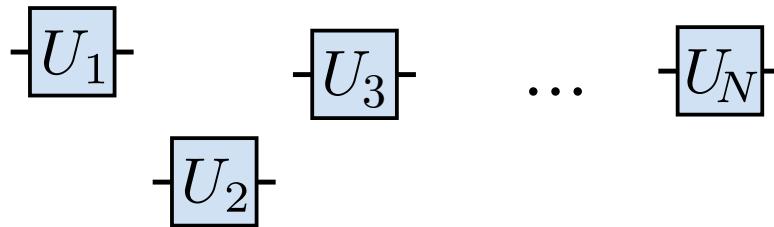
- Black box access to unknown unitaries (oracles)



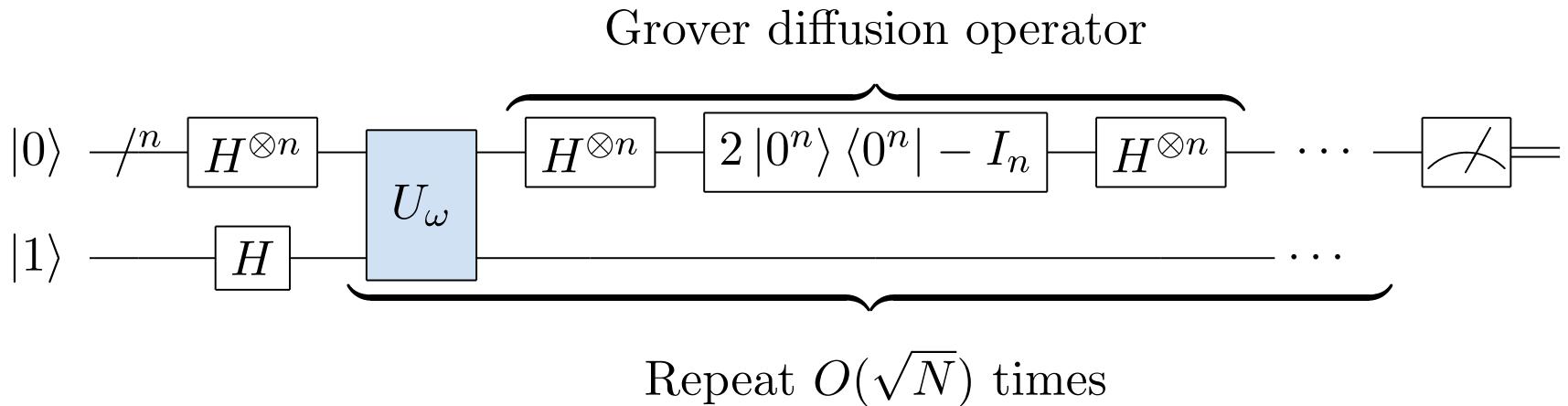
- Property to determine:  $f(U_1, \dots, U_N)$

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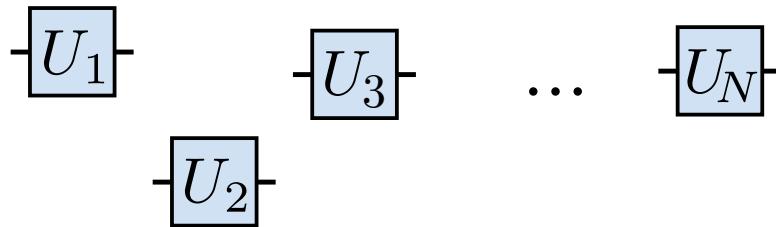


- Property to determine:  $f(U_1, \dots, U_N)$
- Example: Grover's problem



# Higher-Order Quantum Computation

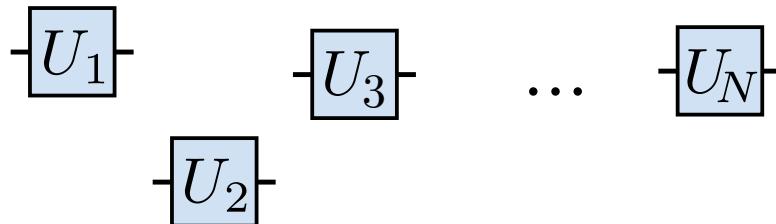
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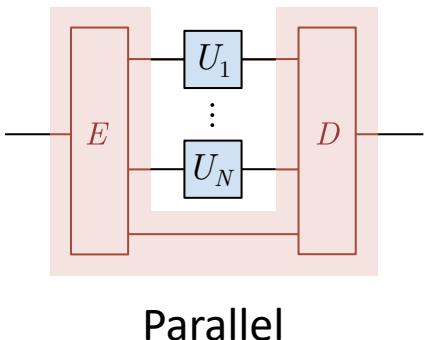
- Higher-order computation: how can the operations be composed?

# Higher-Order Quantum Computation

- Black box access to unknown unitaries (oracles)

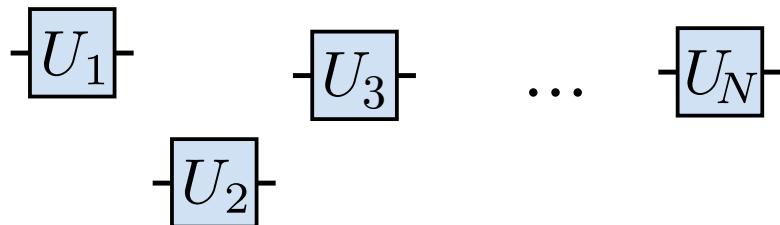


- Higher-order computation: how can the operations be composed?

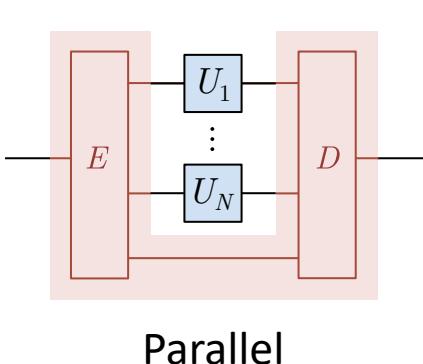


# Higher-Order Quantum Computation

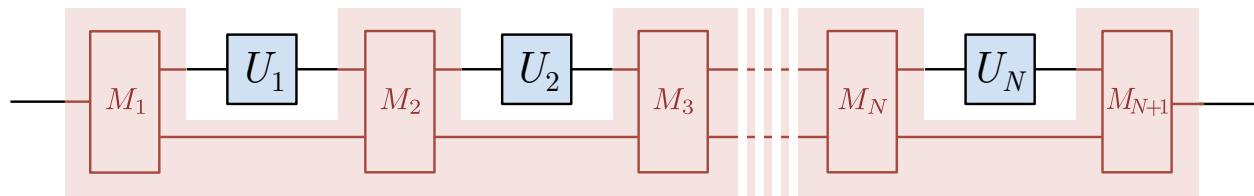
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Parallel

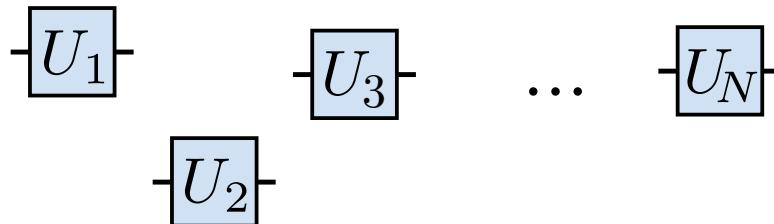


Quantum circuit (quantum comb)

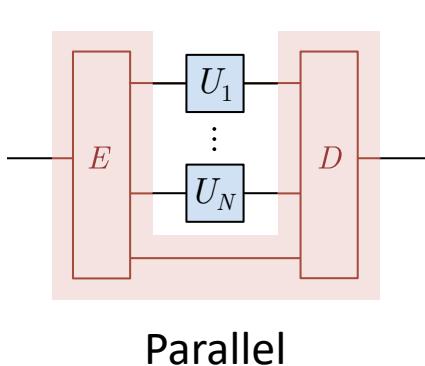
[Chiribella, D'Ariano, Perinotti, PRL (2008)]

# Higher-Order Quantum Computation

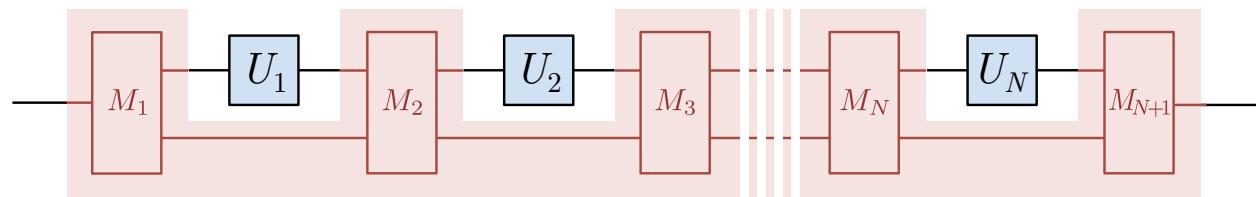
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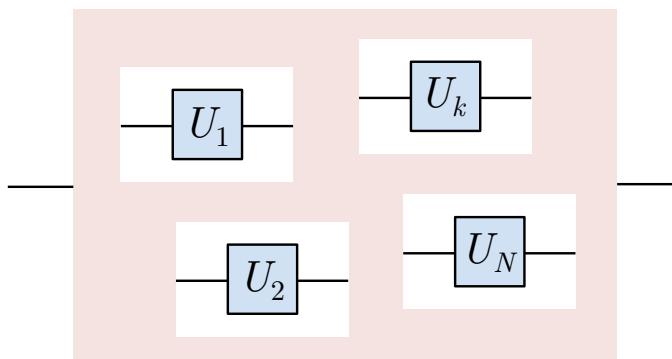


Quantum circuit (quantum comb)

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Quantum supermap  
(process matrix)

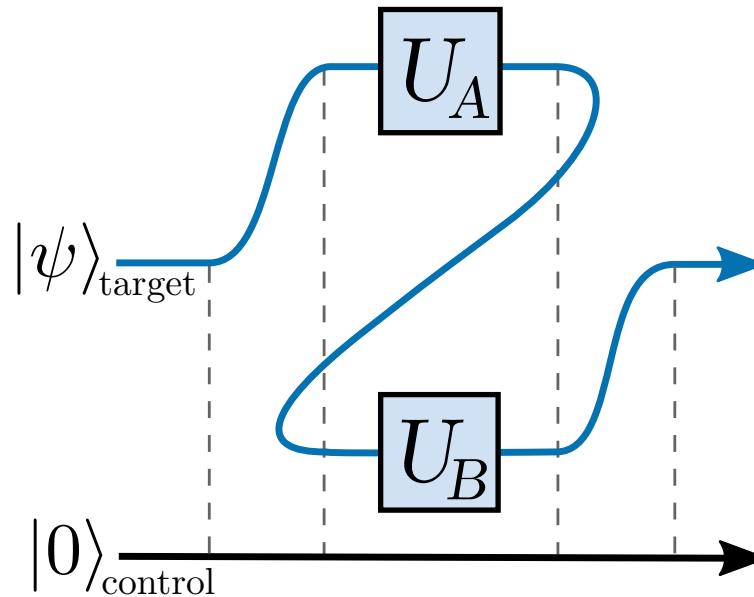
[Oreshkov, Costa, Brukner, Nat. Commun (2012)]  
[Wechs, AA, Branciard, NJP (2019)]



# The Quantum Switch

- First example of a “causally indefinite” supermap

[Chiribella, D’Ariano, Perinotti and Valiron, PRA 88 (2013); arXiv:0912.0195]



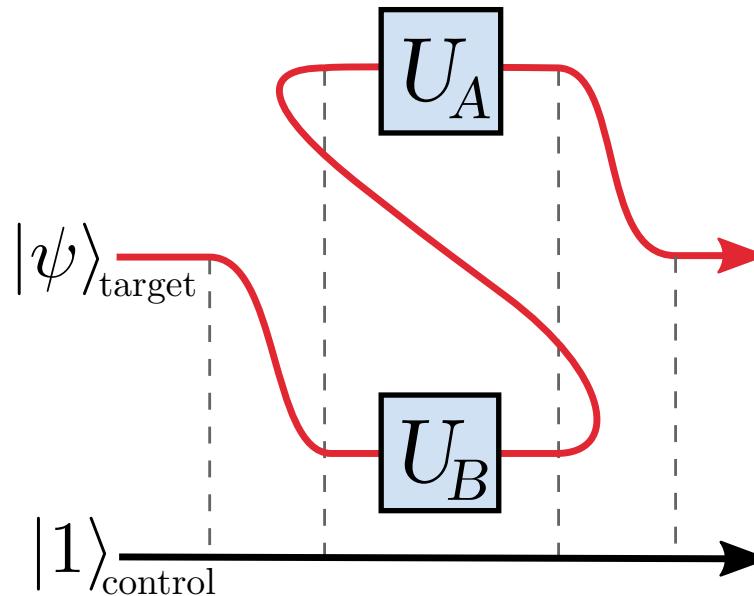
$$S_2(U_A, U_B) = |0\rangle\langle 0|^c \otimes U_B U_A + |1\rangle\langle 1|^c \otimes U_A U_B$$

- Cannot be represented in quantum circuit model
  - Would need to query one box twice

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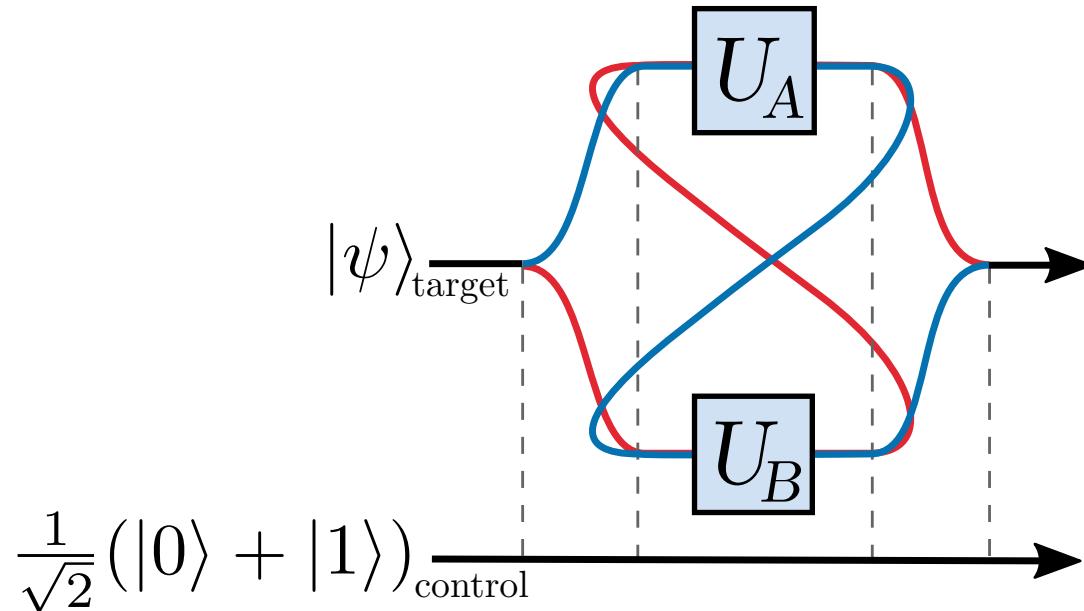
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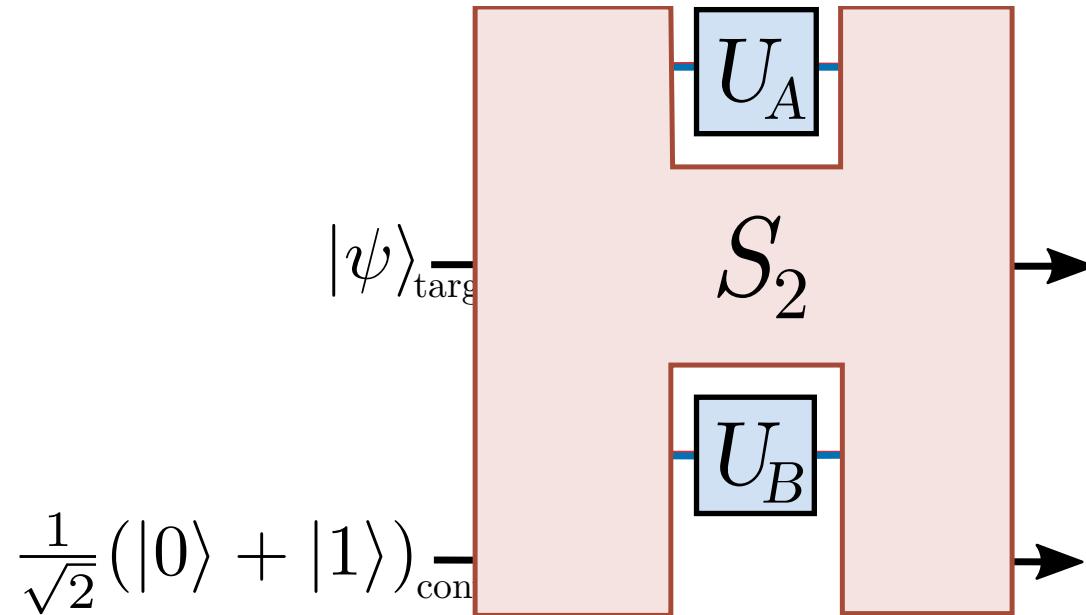
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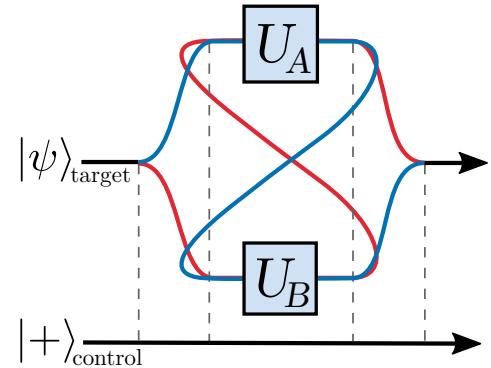


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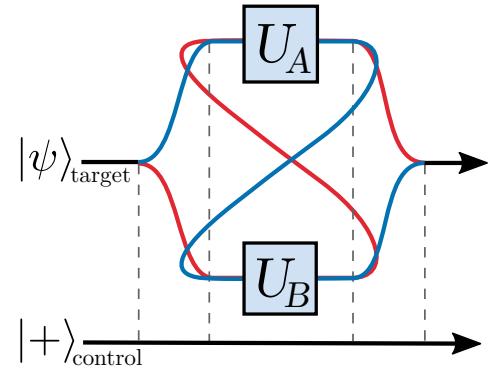
# Quantum Switch: A Tool for Quantum Info?

- Quantum switch provides advantages in several settings
  - Query complexity
  - Communication complexity
  - Metrology
  - Communication through noisy channels



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## Discriminating commuting vs anticommuting $U_A, U_B$

[G. Chiribella, PRA (2012)]

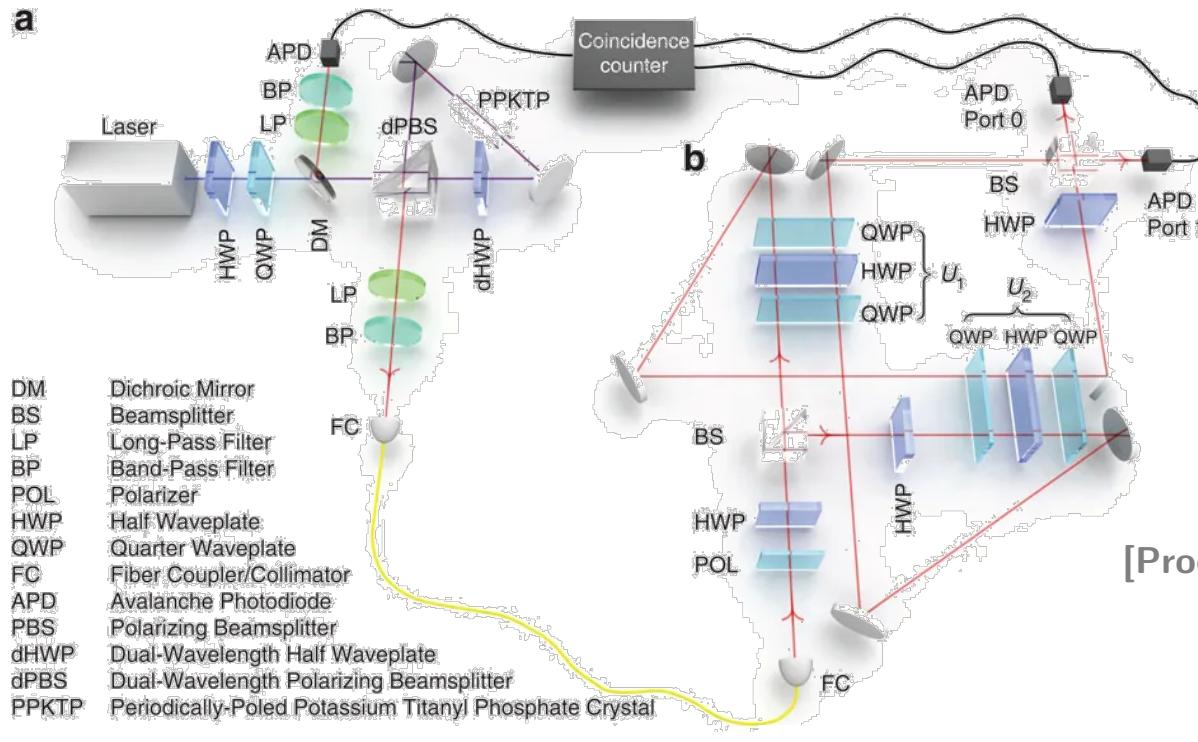
$$[U_A, U_B] = 0 \text{ or } \{U_A, U_B\} = 0$$

- In a quantum circuit must use  $U_A$  or  $U_B$  twice
- With the quantum switch, one query to each is enough

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle^c + |1\rangle^c) \otimes |\psi\rangle^t &\rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle^c \otimes U_B U_A |\psi\rangle^t + |1\rangle^c \otimes U_A U_B |\psi\rangle^t) \\ &= |+\rangle^c \otimes \frac{1}{2}\{U_A, U_B\}|\psi\rangle^t + |-\rangle^c \otimes \frac{1}{2}[U_A, U_B]|\psi\rangle^t \end{aligned}$$

# Experimentally Achieving Causal Indefiniteness

- Optical-table experiments based on conceptually simple interferometers



*One d.o.f. of photon acts  
as control, another as the  
target system*

[Procopio et al., Nat. Commun (2015)]

[Rubino et al., Sci. Adv. (2017)]

[Goswami et al., PRL (2018)]

[Wei et al., PRL (2019)]

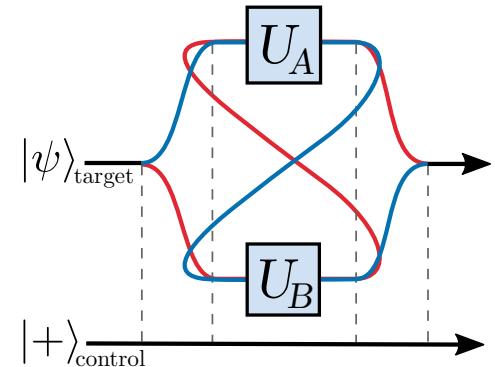
[Guo et al., PRL (2020)]

How to go beyond the 2-operation quantum switch?

# Quantum $N$ -Switch

- Recall the quantum 2-switch

$$S_2(U_A, U_B) = |0\rangle\langle 0|^c \otimes U_B U_A + |1\rangle\langle 1|^c \otimes U_A U_B$$



- $N$ -switch quantum supermap

$$S_N(U_1, \dots, U_N) = \sum_{x \in [N!]} |x\rangle\langle x|^c \otimes \Pi_x$$

$\uparrow$   
 $[N!] := \{0, 1, \dots, N! - 1\}$

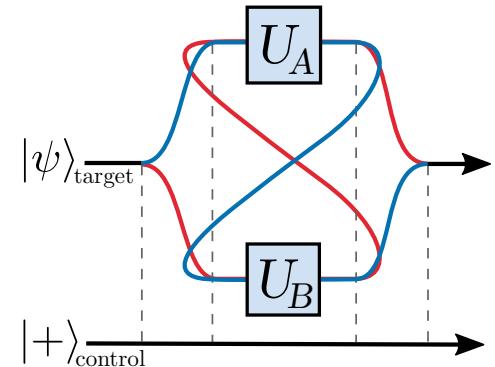
$$\Pi_x := U_{\sigma_x(N)} \cdots U_{\sigma_x(1)}$$

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 $x^{\text{th}} \text{ permutation of } \{1, \dots, N\}$

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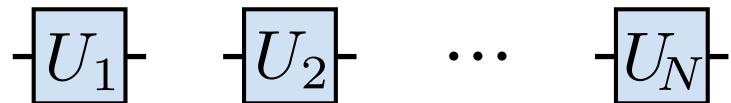
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$d_c := \dim(\mathcal{H}^c) \geq N!$        $d_t := \dim(\mathcal{H}^t)$   
 $\uparrow$   
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$\Pi_x := U_{\sigma_x(N)} \cdots U_{\sigma_x(1)}$   
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 $x\text{th permutation of } \{1, \dots, N\}$

# Fourier Promise Problem

**Setting:** Oracle access to  $N$  unitary quantum gates  $U_1, U_2, \dots, U_N$



**Promise:** The unitaries obey, for some  $y$ , the property

$$\mathbb{P}_y : \forall x \ \Pi_x = \omega^{xy} \Pi_0, \text{ with } \omega = e^{i \frac{2\pi}{N!}}$$

**Goal:** Find  $y$

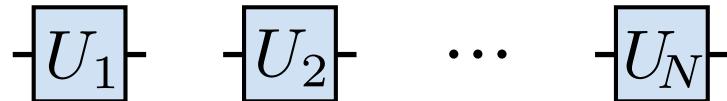
[Araújo, Costa, Brukner, PRL (2014)]

- $N$ -switch can solve with  $N$  queries (quadratic advantage)



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[Araújo, Costa, Brukner, PRL (2014)]

- $N$ -switch can solve with  $N$  queries (quadratic advantage) 😊
- Promise can only be satisfied when  $d_t \geq N!$  😭
  - (Take determinant of both sides of promise statement)

$$\det \Pi_x = \omega^{xd_t} \det \Pi_0 \implies e^{i \frac{2\pi}{N!} xd_t} = 1$$

# Outline

## 1. Higher-order quantum computation

- The “quantum switch” – coherently controlling gate order

## 2. Hadamard Promise Problem

## 3. Experimental 4-switch

# Towards the Hadamard Promise Problem

- Now:  $P \leq N!$  permutations  $\Pi'_x$ ,  $x = 0, \dots, P - 1$

**Promise:** The unitaries obey, for some  $y$ , the property

$$\mathbb{P}_y : \forall x \quad \Pi'_x = m_{x,y} \Pi'_0, \quad \text{with } m_{x,y} = \pm 1 \text{ the elements of a } P \times P \text{ matrix } M$$

**Goal:** Find  $y$

- Determinant condition:  $\det(\Pi'_x) = m_{x,y}^{d_t} \det(\Pi'_0)$ 
  - $d_t$  must be even  $\longrightarrow$  qubits ok!

- What kind of matrix should  $M$  be?

# Hadamard Promise Problem

**Promise:** The unitaries obey, for some  $y$ , the property

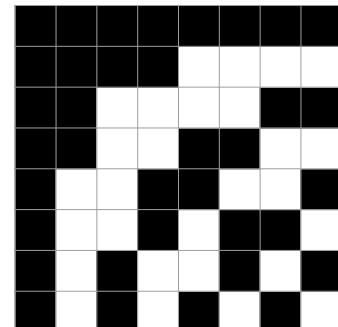
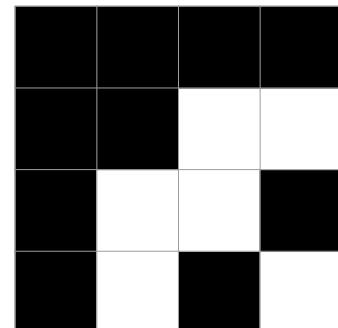
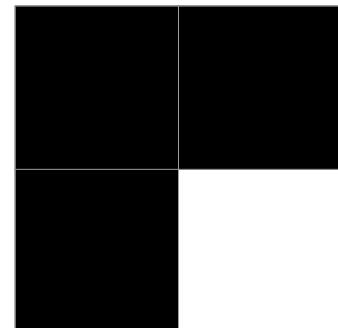
$$\mathbb{P}_y : \forall x \ \Pi'_x = m_{x,y} \Pi'_0,$$

with  $m_{x,y} = \pm 1$  the elements  
of a  $P \times P$  **Hadamard** matrix  $M$

**Goal:** Find  $y$

■ Answer: A Hadamard matrix!

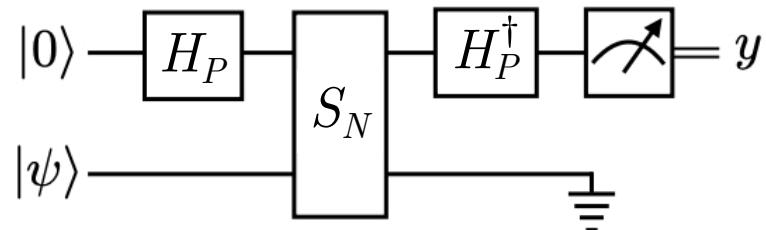
- $\pm 1$ -valued matrices with orthogonal rows and columns
- Half of values in each row/column are  $+1$ , half  $-1$
- Satisfies  $\frac{1}{P} M \cdot M^T = \mathbb{1}$
- Only possible for  $P = 1, 2$  or a multiple of 4
- Conjectured to exist for all multiples of 4



# Solving the Hadamard Promise Problem

- Can solve perfectly with the  $N$ -switch
  - $N$ -switch now coherently controls the permutations  $\Pi'_x$

$$\begin{aligned}
 |0\rangle^c |\psi\rangle^t &\xrightarrow{H_P} \frac{1}{\sqrt{P}} \sum_{x \in [P]} |x\rangle^c |\psi\rangle^t \\
 &\xrightarrow{S_N} \frac{1}{\sqrt{P}} \sum_{x \in [P]} |x\rangle^c \Pi'_x |\psi\rangle^t \\
 &= \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{P}} \sum_{x \in [P]} m_{x,y} |x\rangle^c \right) \Pi'_0 |\psi\rangle^t \\
 &\xrightarrow{H_P^\dagger} |y\rangle^c \Pi'_0 |\psi\rangle^t
 \end{aligned}$$

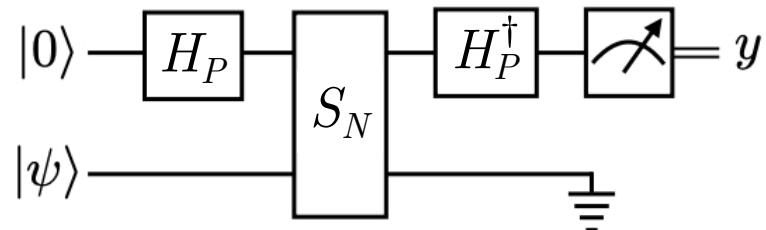


where  $H_P = \frac{1}{\sqrt{P}} M$

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where  $H_P = \frac{1}{\sqrt{P}} M$

- Solves the problem using exactly  $N$  total queries
  - Asymptotic  $O(N^2)$  advantage over best known quantum circuits
- $P$ -dimensional control, qubit target system

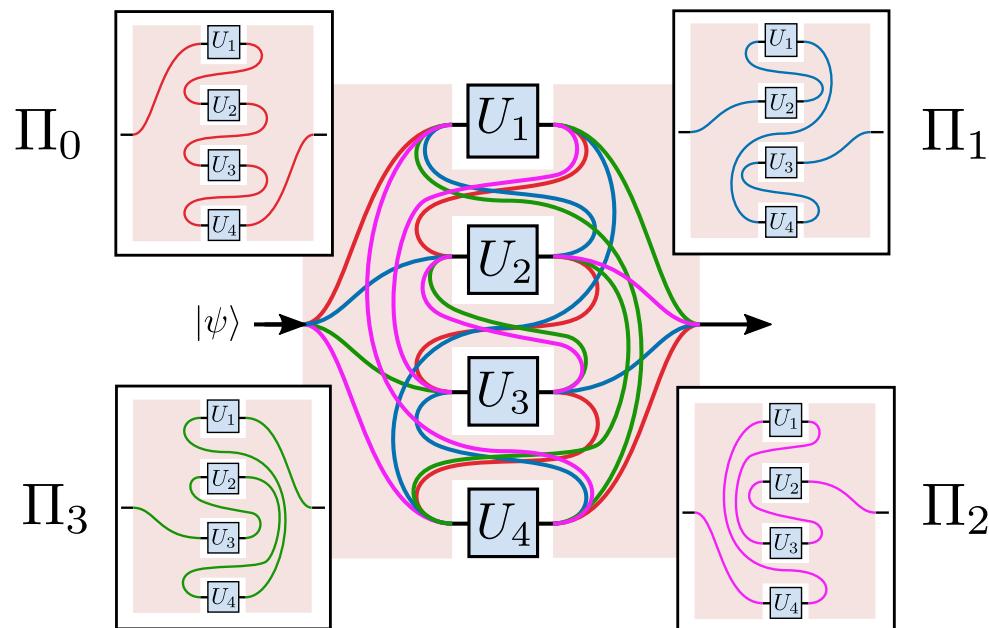
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  - The “quantum switch” – coherently controlling gate order
2. Hadamard Promise Problem
3. Experimentally solving the HPP with a 4-switch

# Example: $N=P=4$

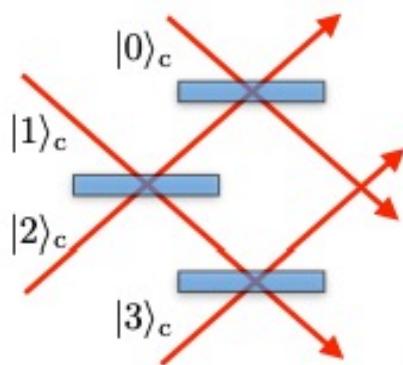
- Fix 4 permutations and a Hadamard matrix  $M$

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{ll} \Pi_0 = U_4 U_3 U_2 U_1 & \Pi_1 = U_3 U_4 U_1 U_2 \\ \Pi_2 = U_1 U_4 U_2 U_3 & \Pi_3 = U_2 U_3 U_1 U_4 \end{array}$$



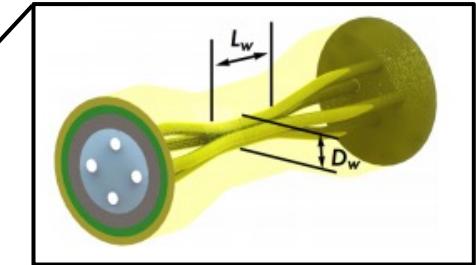
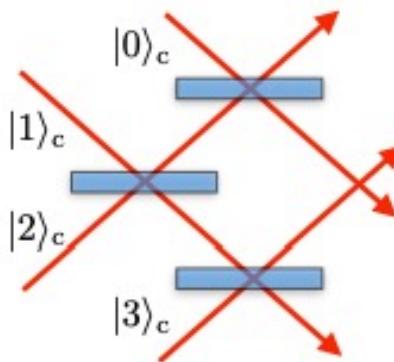
# Experimental High-Dimensional Hadamards

- A sequence of  $2^k$  balanced beamsplitters gives a Hadamard matrix



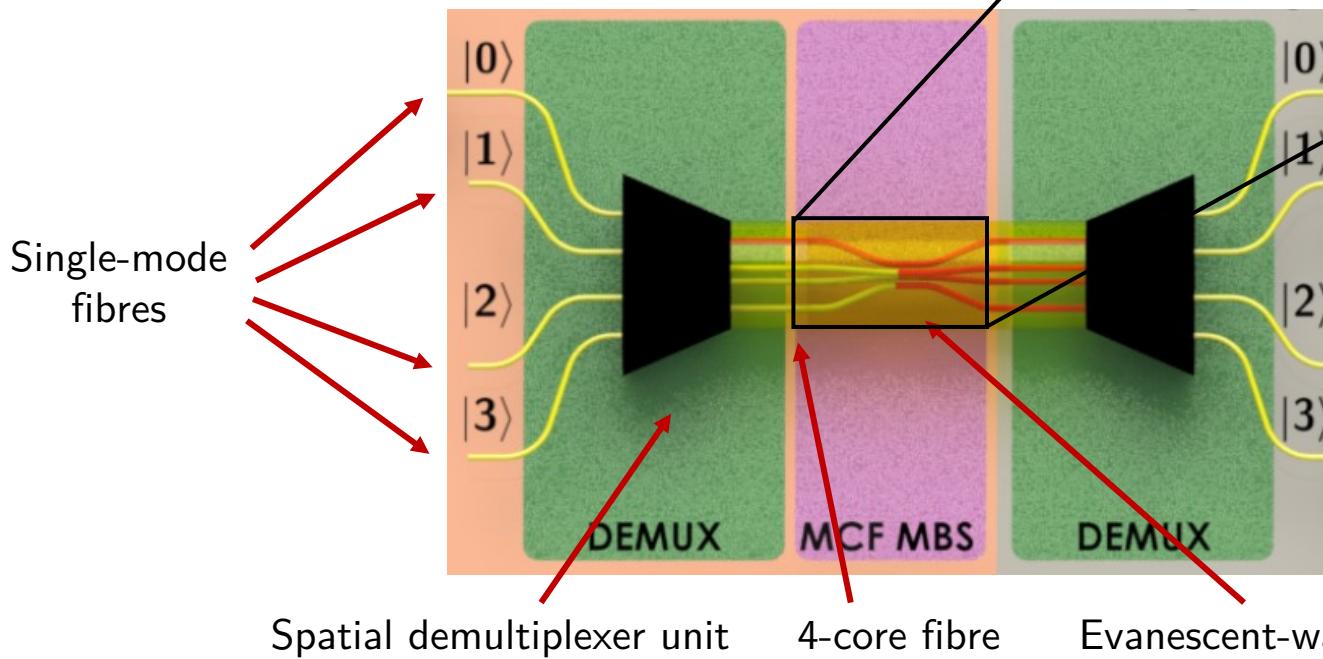
# Experimental High-Dimensional Hadamards

- A sequence of  $2^k$  balanced beamsplitters gives a Hadamard matrix



- More compactly: **multicore fibre 4-port beamsplitter**

[J. Cariñe *et al.*, Optica (2020)]

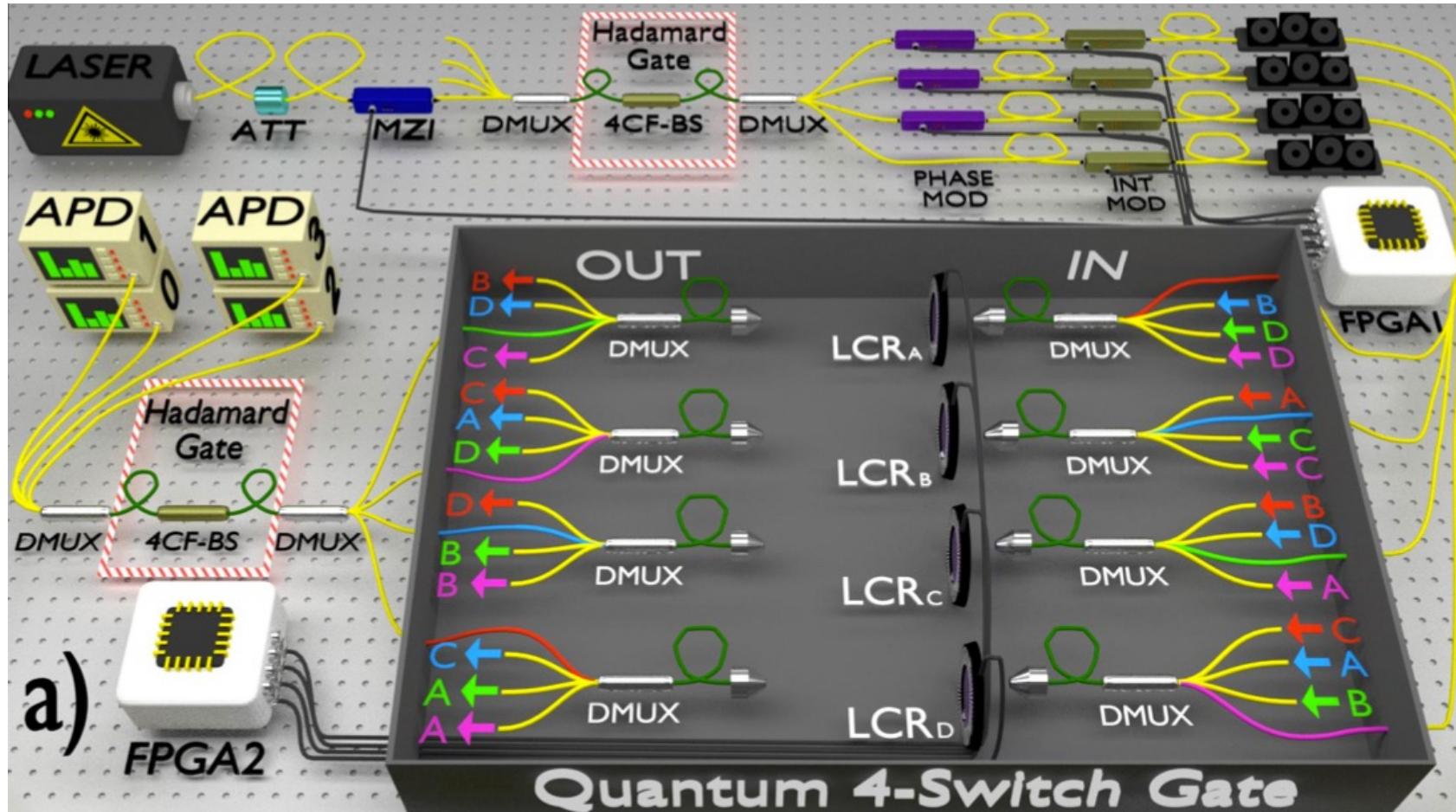


Implements

$$H_P = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Photonic 4-switch Implementation

- Control system = path ququart; target system = polarisation

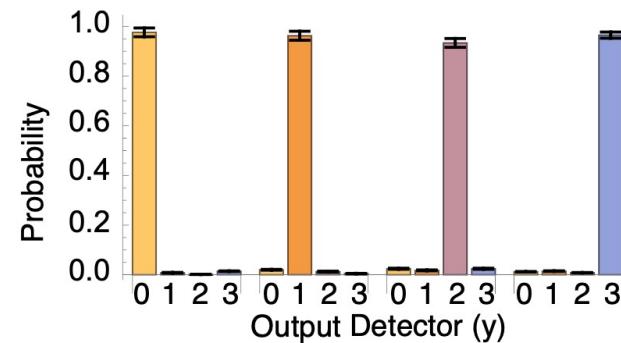
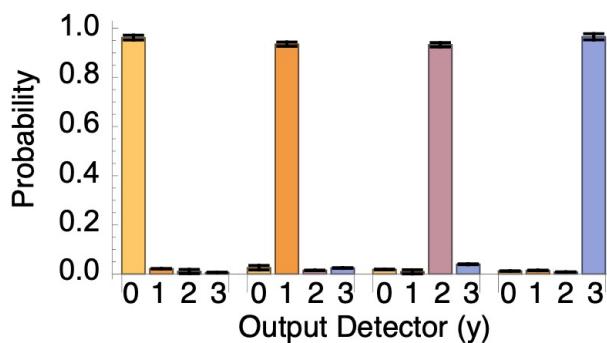


# Experimentally Solving the HPP

- Implemented two different sets of unitaries

| Table 1 |              |     |              |              |
|---------|--------------|-----|--------------|--------------|
| $y$     | 0            | 1   | 2            | 3            |
| $U_A$   | $\mathbb{1}$ | $Z$ | $\mathbb{1}$ | $Z$          |
| $U_B$   | $X$          | $X$ | $X$          | $X$          |
| $U_C$   | $\mathbb{1}$ | $Z$ | $Z$          | $\mathbb{1}$ |
| $U_D$   | $X$          | $X$ | $X$          | $X$          |

| Table 2 |                        |              |              |              |
|---------|------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| $y$     | 0                      | 1            | 2            | 3            |
| $U_A$   | $\frac{Z+X}{\sqrt{2}}$ | $\mathbb{1}$ | $Z$          | $Z$          |
| $U_B$   | $\frac{Z+X}{\sqrt{2}}$ | $X$          | $X$          | $X$          |
| $U_C$   | $\mathbb{1}$           | $Z$          | $\mathbb{1}$ | $\mathbb{1}$ |
| $U_D$   | $\mathbb{1}$           | $\mathbb{1}$ | $\mathbb{1}$ | $X$          |

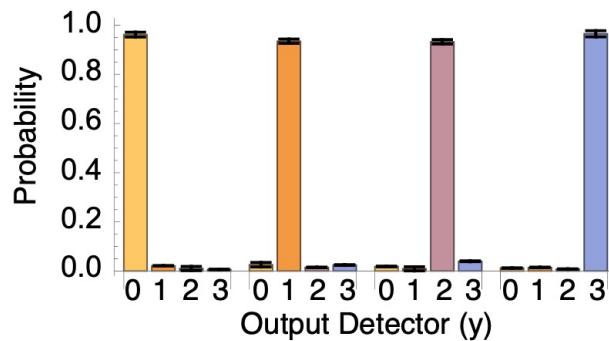


- Solved the problem with 4 total queries with  $P_{\text{succ}} \approx 0.95$

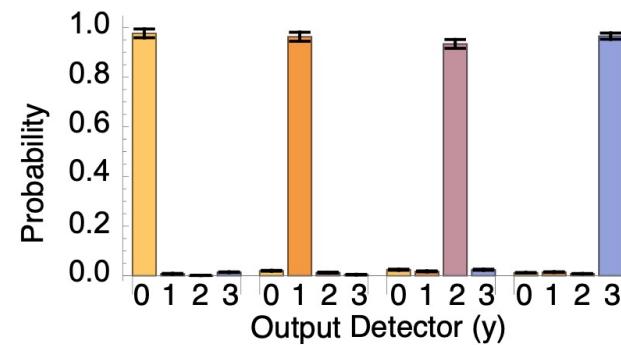
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| $U_B$   | $X$          | $X$ | $X$          | $X$          |
| $U_C$   | $\mathbb{1}$ | $Z$ | $Z$          | $\mathbb{1}$ |
| $U_D$   | $X$          | $X$ | $X$          | $X$          |



| Table 2 |                        |              |              |              |
|---------|------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| $y$     | 0                      | 1            | 2            | 3            |
| $U_A$   | $\frac{Z+X}{\sqrt{2}}$ | $\mathbb{1}$ | $Z$          | $Z$          |
| $U_B$   | $\frac{Z+X}{\sqrt{2}}$ | $X$          | $X$          | $X$          |
| $U_C$   | $\mathbb{1}$           | $Z$          | $\mathbb{1}$ | $\mathbb{1}$ |
| $U_D$   | $\mathbb{1}$           | $\mathbb{1}$ | $\mathbb{1}$ | $X$          |



- Solved the problem with 4 total queries with  $P_{\text{succ}} \approx 0.95$
- Is there an advantage over causally definite computations?

# Bounding Causal Strategies

- Best  $P_{\text{succ}}$  with 4 queries in well-defined order (e.g., circuit):

Given unitaries  $\{U_1^{y,i}, \dots, U_N^{y,i}\}_i$  for each  $y$ , and prior distribution  $q_{y,i}$

$$\max P_{\text{succ}} = \sum_{y,i} q_{y,i} \text{Tr}[W \cdot (|y\rangle\langle y|^c \otimes \mathfrak{C}(U_1^{y,i}, \dots, U_N^{y,i}))]$$

s.t.  $W \in \mathcal{W}^{\text{causal}}$

Process matrix

Class of computations with well defined query order

- Finding “causal bound” is a semidefinite program!

[Araújo *et al.*, NJP (2015); Wechs, AA, Branciard, NJP (2019)]

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- For the sets of unitaries experimentally implemented, can have  $P_{\text{succ}}=1$  with a quantum circuit!

➤ Untrusted regime

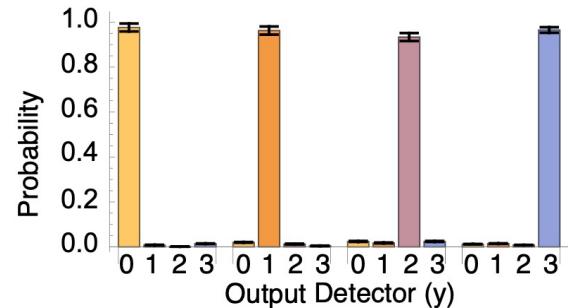
| Table 1 |              |     |              |              |
|---------|--------------|-----|--------------|--------------|
| $y$     | 0            | 1   | 2            | 3            |
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# Bounding Causal Strategies

- 60 sets of unitaries taken from

$$\mathcal{G} = \{\mathbb{1}, Z, X, Y, \frac{Z+X}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{Z+Y}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{X+Y}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{\mathbb{1}+iZ}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{\mathbb{1}+iX}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{\mathbb{1}+iY}{\sqrt{2}}\}$$

- Bound:  $P_{\text{succ}} \lesssim 0.92$



- If unitaries given in a random basis:

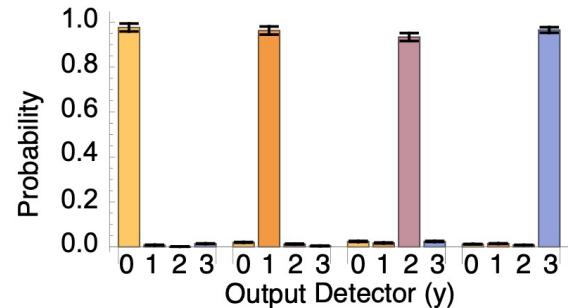
$$P_{\text{succ}} \lesssim 0.84$$

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$$P_{\text{succ}} \lesssim 0.84$$

- Violation of bounds assuming “fair” implementation
  - No prior knowledge of sets of unitaries
- Experimentally implementing full set time-consuming, possible

# Conclusions

- Query complexity advantage from superposition of query order in a problem with softer dimension constraints
- First implementation for  $N > 2$  gate orders
  - (modulo philosophical discussions)
- Outlook:
  - Need more choices of unitaries to properly violate causal witness
  - More applications: communication complexity, ...
  - **Coherent control of gate order beyond the  $N$ -switch**

[J. Wechs, H. Dourdent, **AA**, C. Branciard, *in preparation*]

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**arXiv:2002.07817**

**Experimental computational advantage from superposition  
of multiple temporal orders of quantum gates**