

# Classical verification of quantum computational advantage

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Gregory D. Kahanamoku-Meyer  
October 8, 2021

arXiv:1912.05547  
arXiv:2104.00687

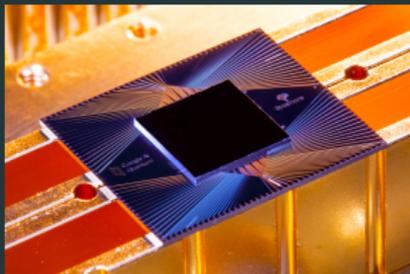
Theory collaborators:

Norman Yao (Berkeley Physics)  
Umesh Vazirani (Berkeley CS)  
Soonwon Choi (MIT Physics)



# Quantum computational advantage

Recent experimental demonstrations:



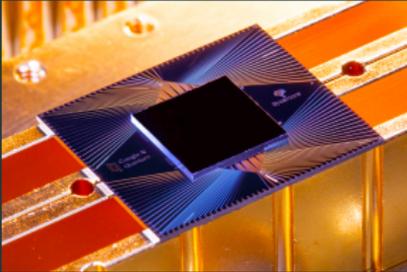
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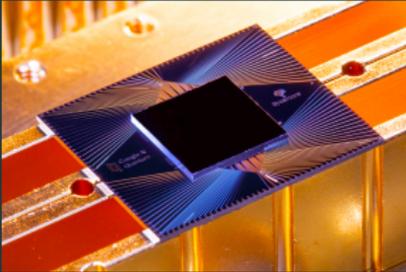


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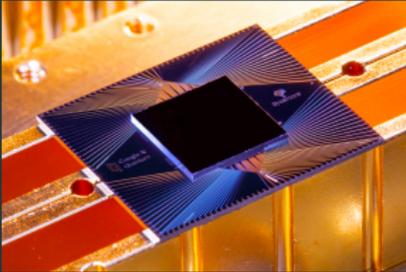
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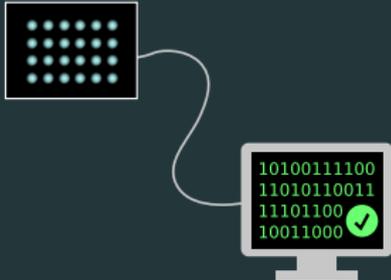
Quantum is the only reasonable explanation for observed behavior

# “Black-box” proofs of quantumness

Stronger: rule out **all** classical hypotheses, even adversarial!

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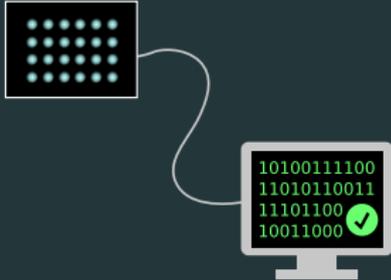
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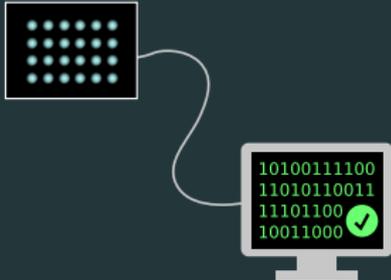
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Proof not specific to quantum mechanics: disprove null hypothesis that output was generated classically.

Need computational assumption—really an “argument”

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Efficiently-verifiable test that only quantum computers can pass.

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For polynomially-bounded classical verifier:



**Completeness**

$\exists$  BQP prover s.t. Verifier accepts w.p.  $> 2/3$



**Soundness**

$\forall$  BPP provers, Verifier accepts w.p.  $< 1/3$

# NISQ verifiable quantum advantage

Trivial solution: integer factorization

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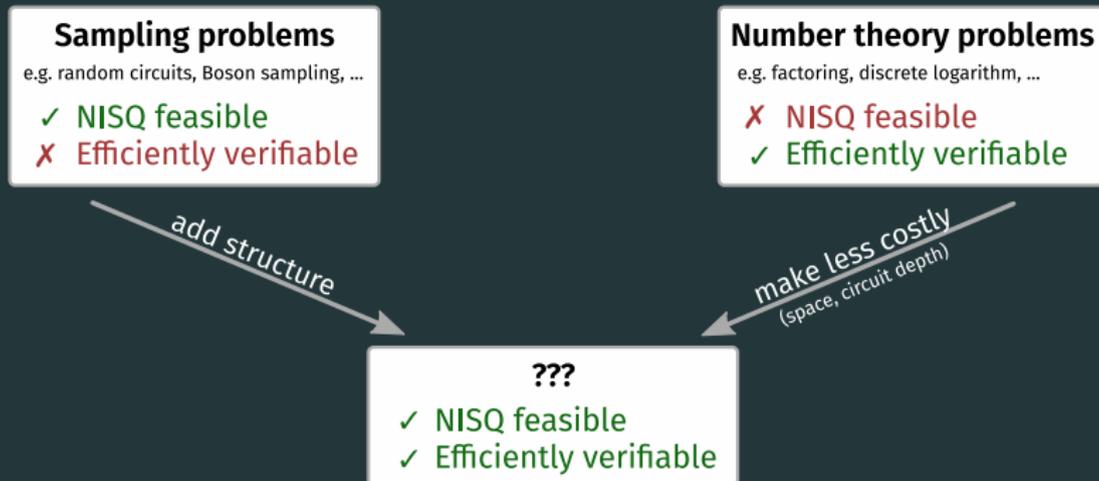
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NISQ: Noisy Intermediate-Scale Quantum devices



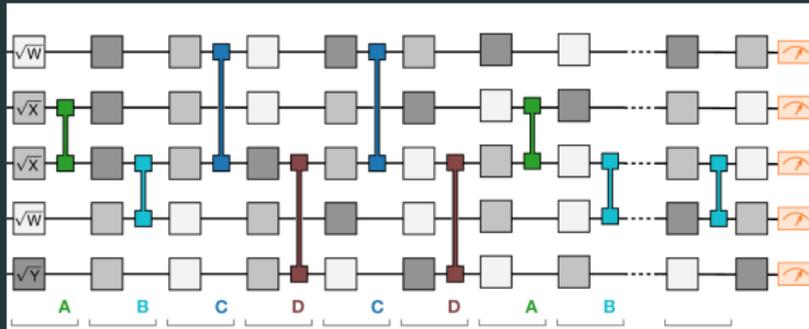
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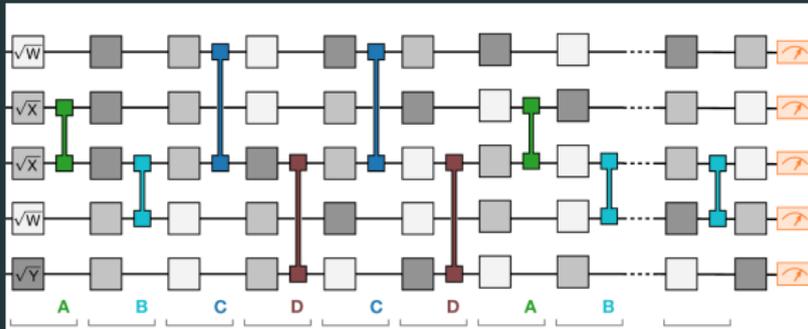
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# Sampling problems

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- Specify distribution via a quantum circuit
- Intuitive classical hardness: no structure  $\rightarrow$  need to simulate quantum, which is hard

## Adding structure to sampling problems

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The point of random circuits is that they **don't** have structure!

IQP circuits [Shepherd and Bremner, '08]:

- Hide a secret string  $\mathbf{s}$  in the quantum circuit
- Set up circuit so it is *biased* to generate samples  $\mathbf{x}$  with  $\mathbf{x}^T \cdot \mathbf{s} = 0$ .

## IQP circuits [Shepherd and Bremner, '08]

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Bremner, Jozsa, Shepherd '11: classically sampling IQP circuits would collapse polynomial hierarchy

Bremner, Montanaro, Shepherd '16: average case is likely hard as well

# IQP proof of quantumness [Shepherd and Bremner, '08]

Let  $\theta = \pi/8$  and  $P$  have the form:

$$P = \left[ \begin{array}{c} G \\ \hline R \end{array} \right]$$

$G^\top$  is generator of Quadratic Residue code,  $R$  random.

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**Conjecture [SB '08]:** Scrambling  $P$  cryptographically hides  $G$  (and equivalently  $s$ )

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Consider choosing random  $d \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \{0, 1\}^n$ , and letting

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QR code codewords are 50% even parity, 50% odd parity.

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$$y \cdot s = (Gd) \cdot (Ge) \pmod{2}$$

Fact:  $(Gd) \cdot (Ge) = 1$  iff  $Gd, Ge$  both have odd parity.

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Quantum:  $\Pr[X^\top \cdot \mathbf{s} = 0] \approx 0.85$

Classical:  $\Pr[Y^\top \cdot \mathbf{s} = 0] = 0.75$

Consider choosing random  $\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{e} \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \{0, 1\}^n$ , and letting

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Fact:  $(G\mathbf{d}) \cdot (G\mathbf{e}) = 1$  iff  $G\mathbf{d}, G\mathbf{e}$  both have odd parity.

Thus  $\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{s} = 0$  with probability  $3/4$ !

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Can solve for  $s!$  ... If  $M$  has high rank.

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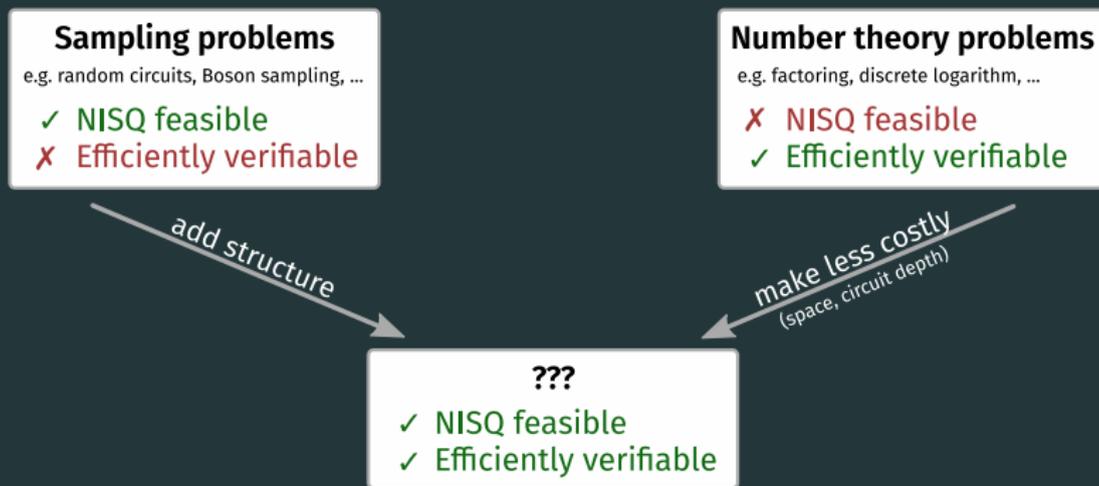
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- Could pick a different  $G$  for which this attack would not succeed?
- Ultimately, would like to rely on standard cryptographic assumptions...

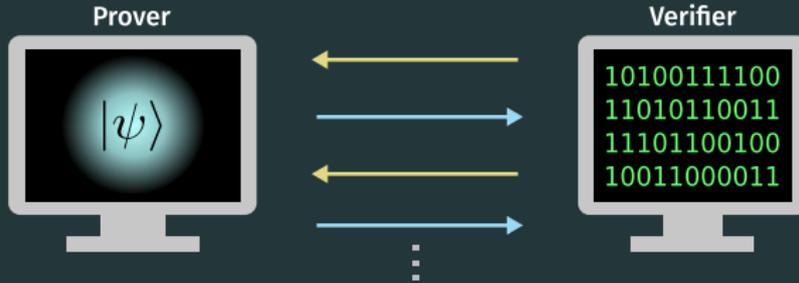
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# Interactive proofs of quantumness

Multiple rounds of interaction between the prover and verifier

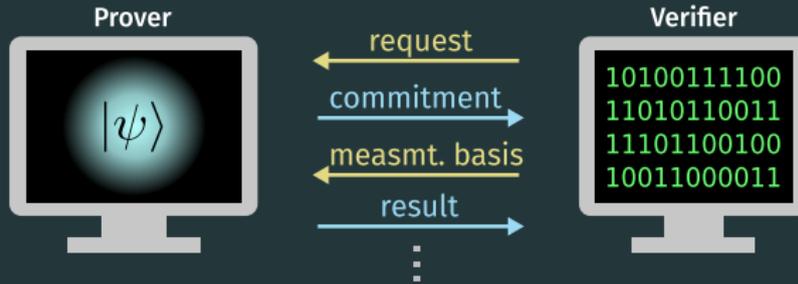


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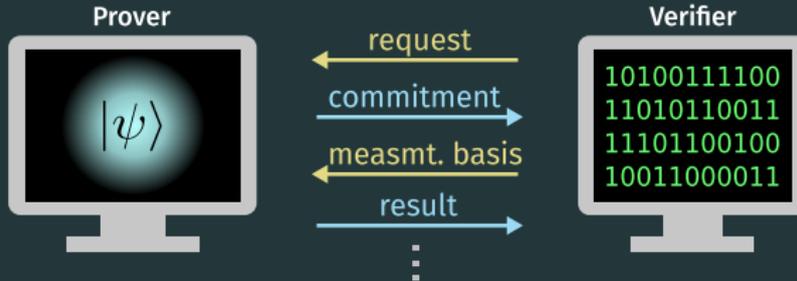
Round 2+: Verifier asks for measurement in specific **basis**

By randomizing choice of basis and repeating interaction, can ensure prover would respond correctly in *any* basis

Brakerski, Christiano, Mahadev, Vidick, Vazirani '18 (arXiv:1804.00640).

Can be extended to verify arbitrary quantum computations! (arXiv:1804.01082)

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“Rewinding” proof of hardness doesn't go through for quantum prover—can use post-quantum cryptography!

## State commitment (round 1): trapdoor claw-free functions

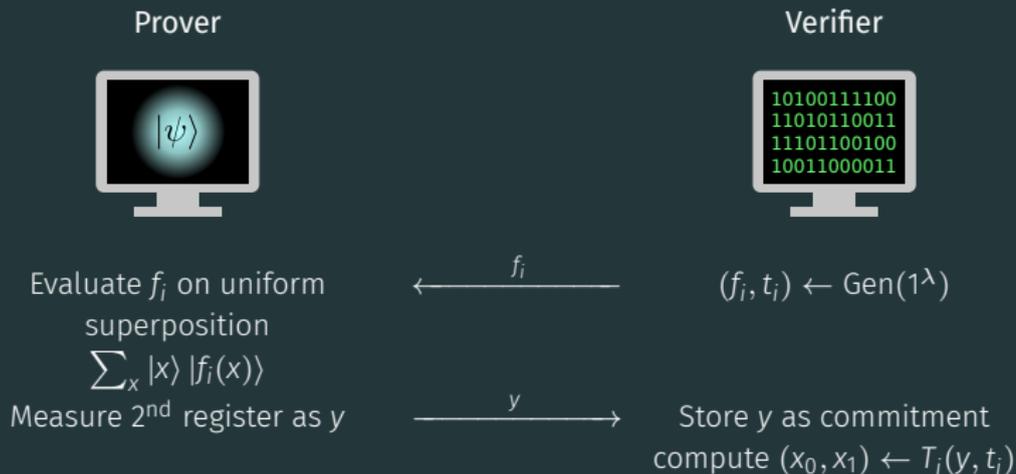
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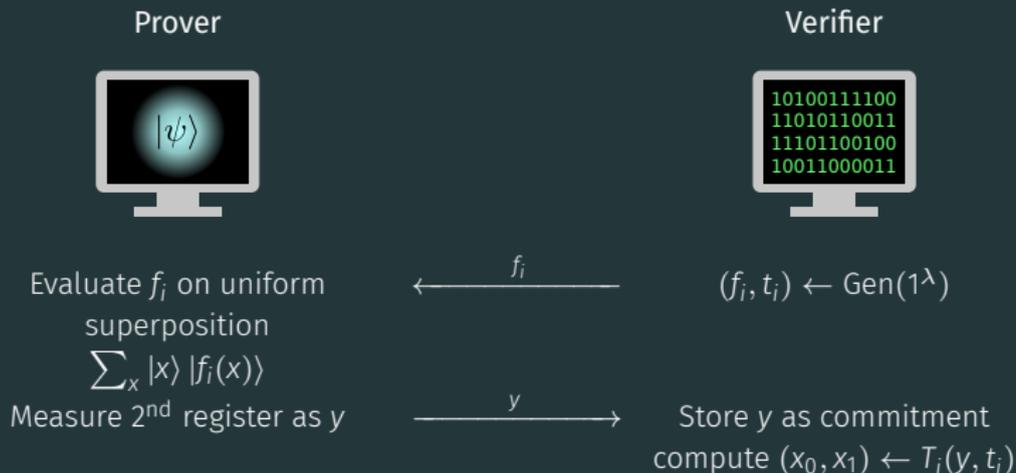
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# State commitment (round 1): trapdoor claw-free functions

How does the prover commit to a state?

Consider a trapdoor claw-free function family (TCF)  $(\text{Gen}, \{(f_i, T_i)\})$ .



Prover has committed to the state  $(|x_0\rangle + |x_1\rangle) |y\rangle$

# BCM<sup>2</sup>V '18 protocol

Prover



Evaluate  $f$  on uniform  
superposition:  $\sum_x |x\rangle |f(x)\rangle$   
Measure  $2^{\text{nd}}$  register as  $y$

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Pick trapdoor claw-free  
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Compute  $x_0, x_1$  from  $y$  using  
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←  $f$

→  $y$

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→ result

Subtlety: claw-free does *not* imply hardness of  
generating measurement outcomes!

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Learning-with-Errors TCF has **adaptive hardcore bit**

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## Adaptive hardcore bit:

Computationally hard to generate a tuple  $(y, x_0, d, b)$  such that:

$$d \cdot (x_0 + x_1) = b$$

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**Note:** AHCB can be post-quantum secure and protocol still works!

# Trapdoor claw-free functions

TCF	Trapdoor	Claw-free	Adaptive hard-core bit
LWE [1]	✓	✓	✓
Ring-LWE [2]	✓	✓	✗
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$$d \cdot (x_0 \oplus x_1) = H(x_0) \oplus H(x_1)$$

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Can we remove AHCB in the standard model?

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# The CHSH game (Bell test)

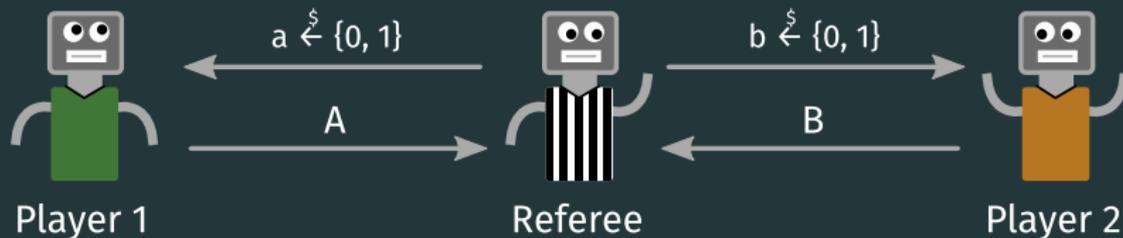
Two-player cooperative game.



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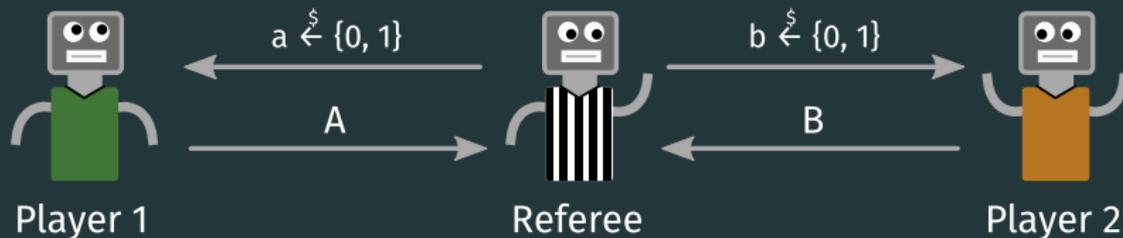
---

**Classical optimal strategy:** return equal values, hope  $a \cdot b = 0$ .

75% success rate.

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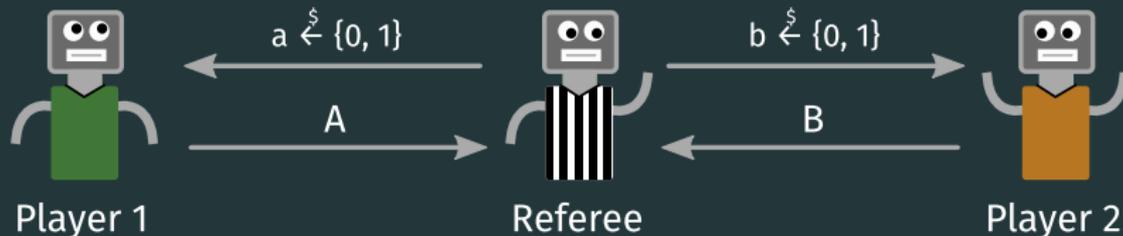
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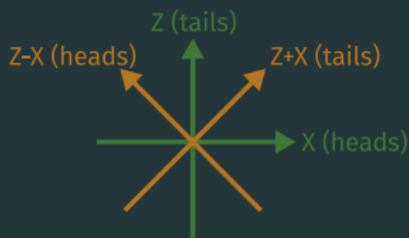


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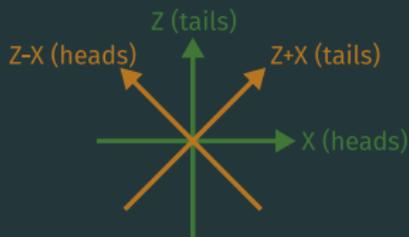


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Quantum:  $\cos^2(\pi/8) \approx 85\%$   
Classical: 75%

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Validate result against  $x_0, x_1$

$\longleftarrow f$

$\longrightarrow y$

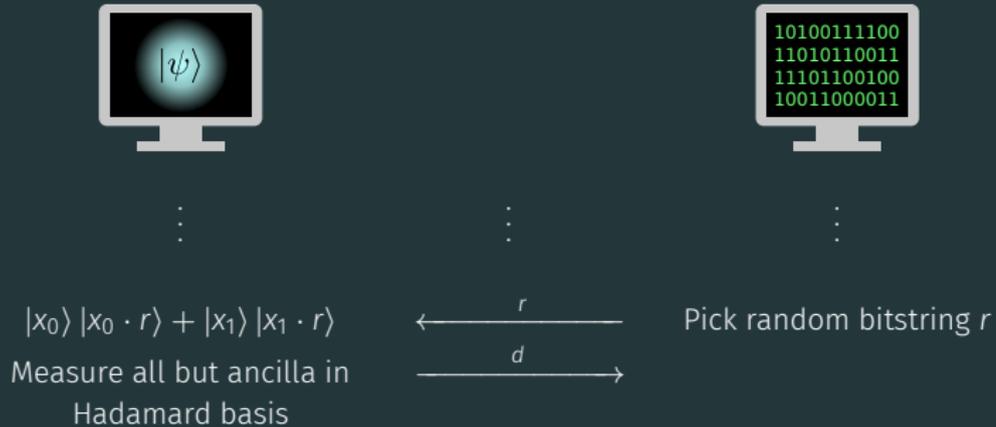
$\longleftarrow \text{basis}$

$\longrightarrow \text{result}$

Replace Hadamard basis measurement with “1-player CHSH”

# Interactive measurement: computational Bell test

Replace Hadamard basis measurement with two-step process:  
“condense”  $x_0, x_1$  into a single qubit, and then do a “Bell test.”



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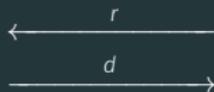
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⋮

$|x_0\rangle |x_0 \cdot r\rangle + |x_1\rangle |x_1 \cdot r\rangle$   
Measure all but ancilla in  
Hadamard basis

⋮



⋮

Pick random bitstring  $r$

Single-qubit state:  $|x_0 \cdot r\rangle + |x_1 \cdot r\rangle$

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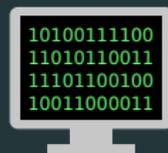
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Polarization hidden via:

**Cryptographic secret (here)  $\Leftrightarrow$  Non-communication (Bell test)**

GDKM, Choi, Vazirani, Yao '21 (arXiv:2104.00687)

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Measure qubit in basis

⋮

$\xleftarrow{r}$   
 $\xrightarrow{d}$

$\xleftarrow{\text{basis}}$   
 $\xrightarrow{\text{result}}$



⋮

Pick random bitstring  $r$

Pick  $(Z + X)$  or  $(Z - X)$  basis

Validate against  $r, x_0, x_1, d$

## Computational Bell test: classical bound

Run protocol many times, collect statistics.

$p_S$ : Success rate for standard basis measurement.

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**Note:** Let  $p_s = 1$ . Then for  $p_{\text{CHSH}}$ :

Classical bound 75%, ideal quantum  $\sim$  85%. Same as regular CHSH!

GDKM, Choi, Vazirani, Yao '21 (arXiv:2104.00687)

# Challenges for implementation

- Partial measurement

See [arXiv:2104.00687](https://arxiv.org/abs/2104.00687) for details

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  - Need to implement public-key crypto. on a superposition
  - Measurement scheme removes need for *reversibility* in quantum circuits—significant efficiency gains

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# TCF constructions

TCF	A.H.C.B.	Gate count	$n$ for hardness
LWE [1]	✓	$\mathcal{O}(n^2 \log^2 n)$	$10^4$
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Q. advantage in  $10^6$  Toffoli gates

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Trapdoor functions from DDH [1, 2]: linear algebra in the exponent

$\text{Gen}(1^\lambda)$

1. Choose group  $\mathbb{G}$  of order  $q \sim \mathcal{O}(2^\lambda)$ , and generator  $g$

[1] Peikert, Waters. “Lossy trapdoor functions and their applications” (2008)

[2] Freeman, Goldreich, Klitz, Rosen, Segev. “More constructions of lossy and correlation-secure trapdoor functions” (2010)

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Trapdoor functions from DDH [1, 2]: linear algebra in the exponent

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**Security proof:** Given  $g^M$ , DDH hides rank of  $M$ . Inversion would imply algorithm to determine if  $M$  is full rank.

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- Need to perform as many group operations as Shor's algorithm!
- Reversible Euclidean algorithm is hard, maybe irreversible optimization can help?

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Way outside the box?

Backup!

# Full protocol



**Prover (quantum)**



**Verifier (classical)**

**Round 1**

2. Generate state  $\sum_{x=0}^{N/2} |x\rangle_x |f_i(x)\rangle_y$
3. Measure y register, yielding bitstring  $y$   
State is now  $(|x_0\rangle + |x_1\rangle)_x |y\rangle_y$ ;  
y register can be discarded

**If preimage requested:**

- 6a. Projectively measure x register, yielding  $x$

**Otherwise, continue:**

**Round 2**

- 7b. Add one ancilla  $b$ ; use CNOTs to compute  $|r \cdot x_0\rangle_b |x_0\rangle_x + |r \cdot x_1\rangle_b |x_1\rangle_x$ , where  $r \cdot x$  is bitwise inner product
- 8b. Measure x register in Hadamard basis, yielding a string  $d$ . Discard  $x$ , state is now  $|\psi\rangle_b \in \{|0\rangle, |1\rangle, |+\rangle, |-\rangle\}$

**Round 3**

- 11b. Measure ancilla  $b$  in the rotated basis  $\left\{ \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) |0\rangle + \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) |1\rangle, \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) |1\rangle - \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) |0\rangle \right\}$ , yielding a bit  $b$

$f_i$  ←

$y$  →

choice ←

$x$  →

$r$  ←

$d$  →

$m$  ←

$b$  →

1. Sample  $(f_i, t) \leftarrow \text{Gen}(1^n)$

4. Using trapdoor  $t$  compute  $x_0$  and  $x_1$

5. Randomly choose to request a preimage or continue

- 7a. If  $x \in \{x_0, x_1\}$  return Accept

- 6b. Choose random bitstring  $r$

- 9b. Using  $r, x_0, x_1, d$ , determine  $|\psi\rangle_b$

- 10b. Choose random  $m \in \{\frac{\pi}{4}, -\frac{\pi}{4}\}$

- 11b. If  $b$  was likely given  $|\psi\rangle_b$  return Accept

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How to deal with high fidelity requirement? Need  $\sim 83\%$  fidelity in general to pass.

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Can show: a prover holding  $(|x_0\rangle + |x_1\rangle) |y\rangle$  with  $\epsilon$  phase coherence passes!

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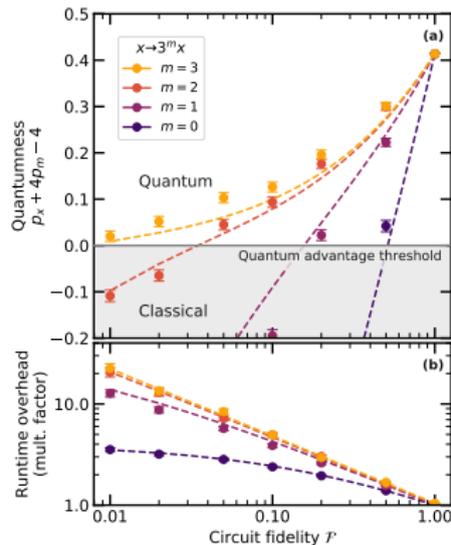
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When we generate  $\sum_x |x\rangle |f(x)\rangle$ , **add redundancy to  $f(x)$ , for bit flip error detection!**

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Numerical results for  $x^2 \bmod N$  with  $\log N = 512$  bits.

Here: make transformation  $x^2 \bmod N \Rightarrow (kx)^2 \bmod k^2N$

# Partial measurements in the lab



Trapped Ion Quantum Information lab at U. Maryland

Working on demonstration of protocols in trapped ions!



Prof. Christopher Monroe



Dr. Daiwei Zhu



Dr. Crystal Noel

and others!

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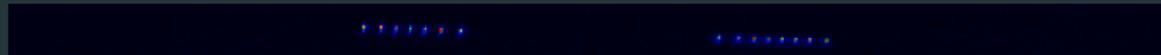
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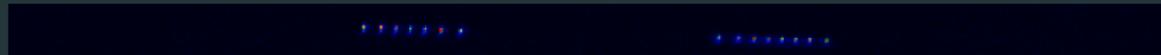
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## Improving circuit sizes

Most demanding step in all these protocols: evaluating TCF

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Protocol allows us to make circuits irreversible!

# Technique: taking out the garbage

$$\text{Goal: } \mathcal{U}_f |x\rangle |0^{\otimes n}\rangle = |x\rangle |f(x)\rangle$$

When converting classical circuits to quantum:

**Garbage bits:** extra entangled outputs due to unitarity



Classical AND



Quantum AND (Toffoli)

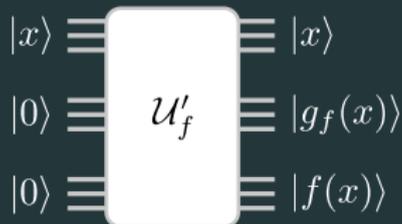
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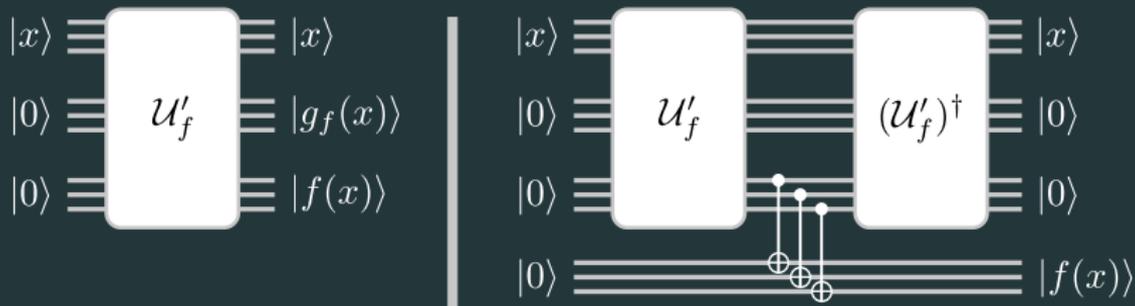
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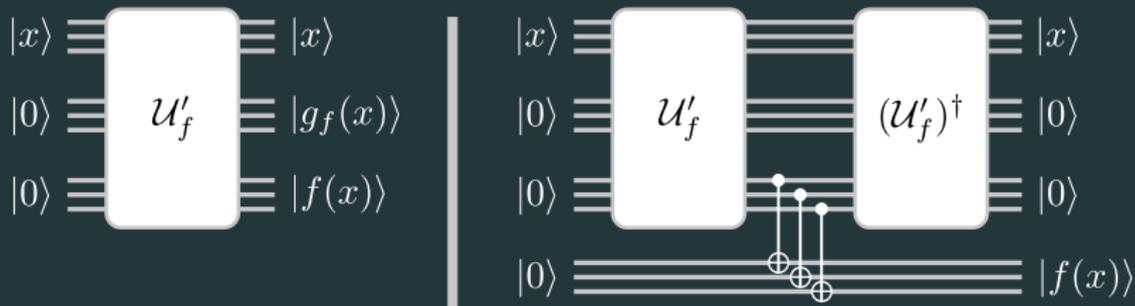
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Lots of time and space overhead!

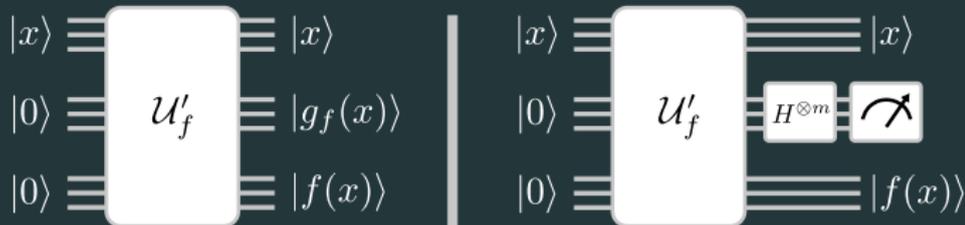
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Can we “measure them away” instead?

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Measure garbage bits  $g_f(x)$  in Hadamard basis, get some string  $h$ .  
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$$\sum_x (-1)^{h \cdot g_f(x)} |x\rangle |f(x)\rangle$$

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1024-bit  $x^2 \bmod N$  costs only  $10^6$  Toffoli gates.