

# Cryptographic protocols for classically-verifiable quantum advantage and more

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Gregory D. Kahanamoku-Meyer

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**Berkeley**  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

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high-performance  
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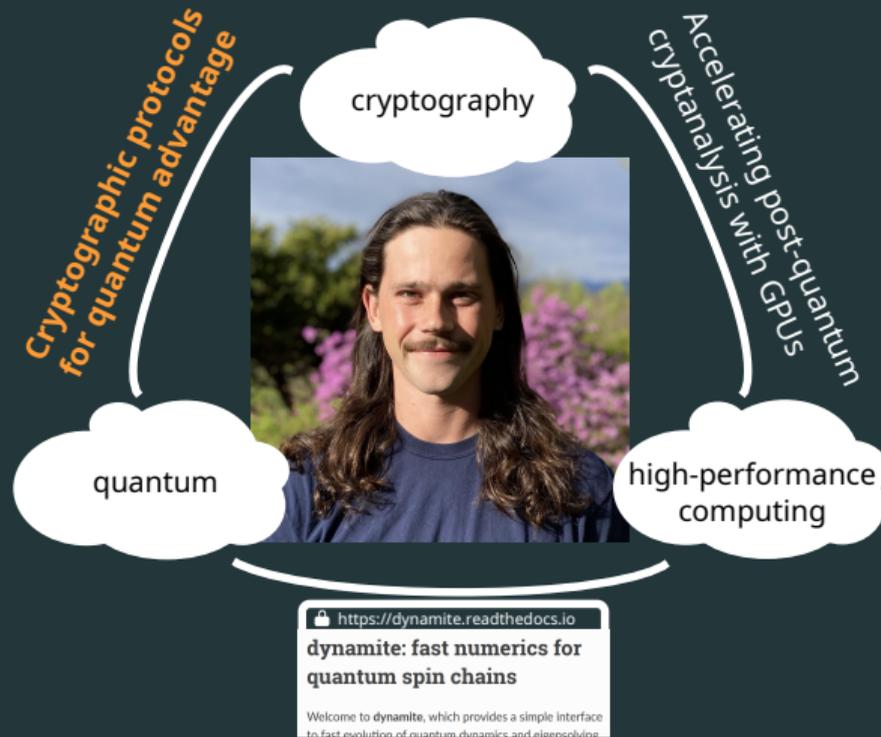
<https://dynamite.readthedocs.io>

**dynamite: fast numerics for  
quantum spin chains**

Welcome to **dynamite**, which provides a simple interface  
to fast evolution of quantum dynamics and eigenvalues

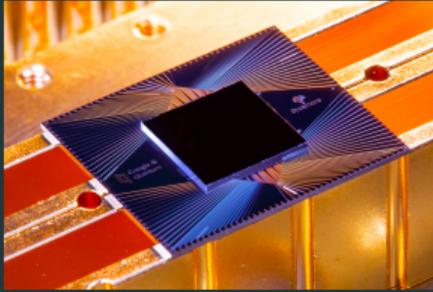
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# Quantum computational advantage

Recent sampling-based demonstrations:



Random circuit sampling  
[Arute et al., Nature '19]

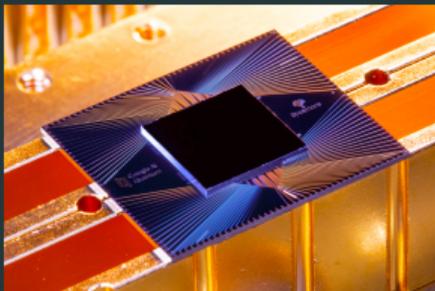


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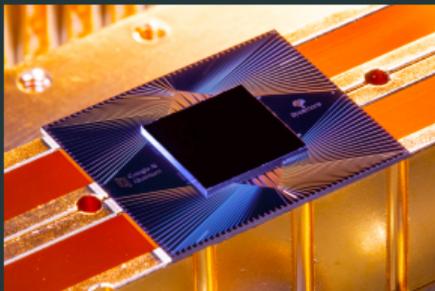
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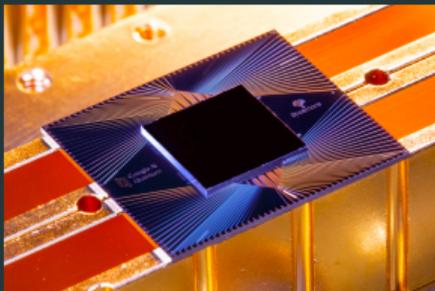
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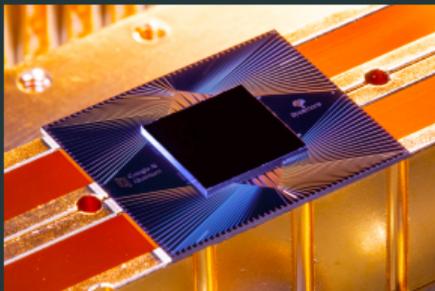


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**Quantum is the only reasonable explanation for observed behavior,**  
under some assumptions about the inner workings of the device

## “Black-box” quantum computational advantage

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

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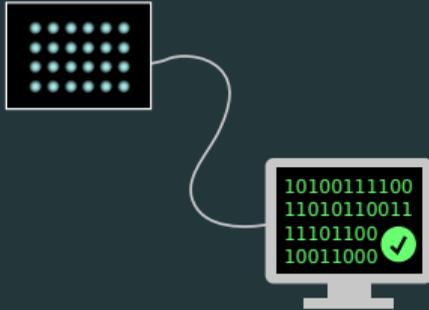
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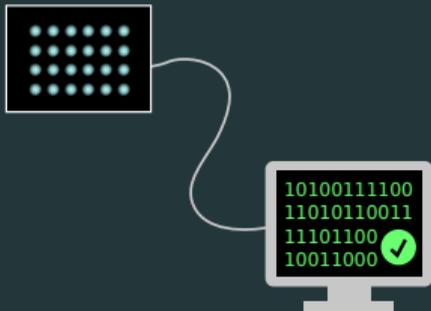
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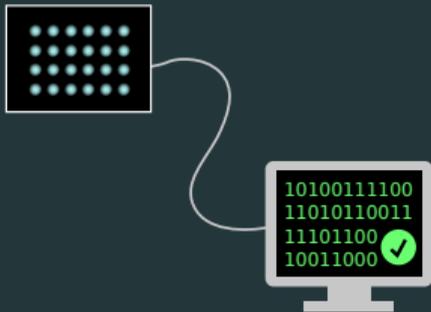


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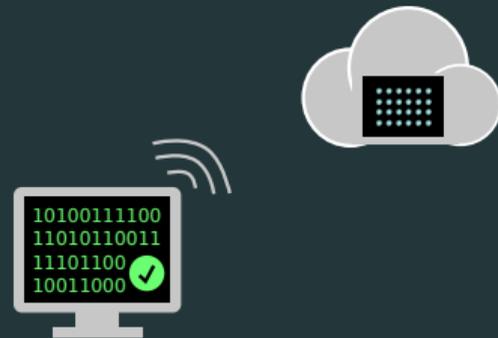
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Reframing: disprove null hypothesis that output was generated classically.

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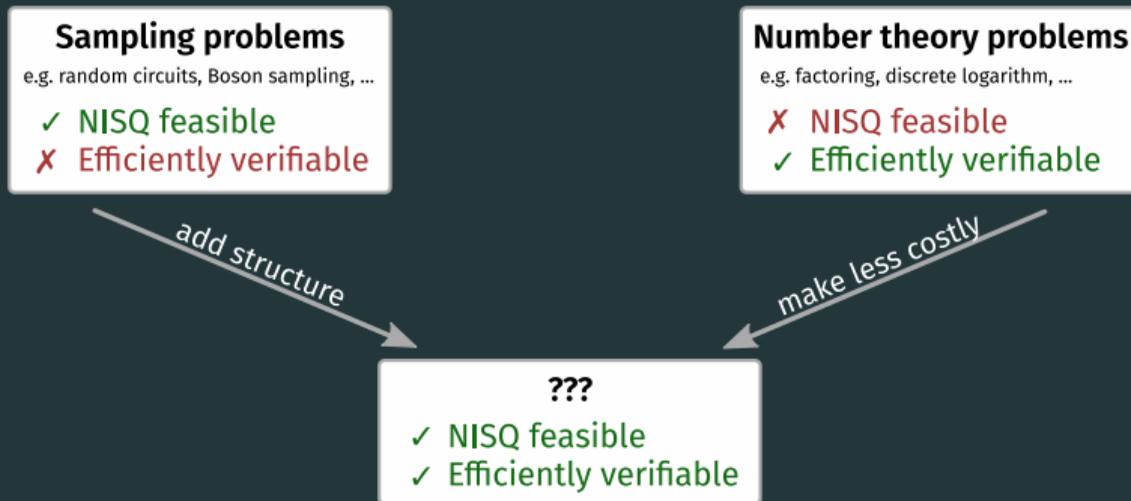
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NISQ: Noisy Intermediate-Scale Quantum devices



## Adding structure to sampling problems

Example: sampling “IQP” circuits (products of Pauli  $X$ 's)

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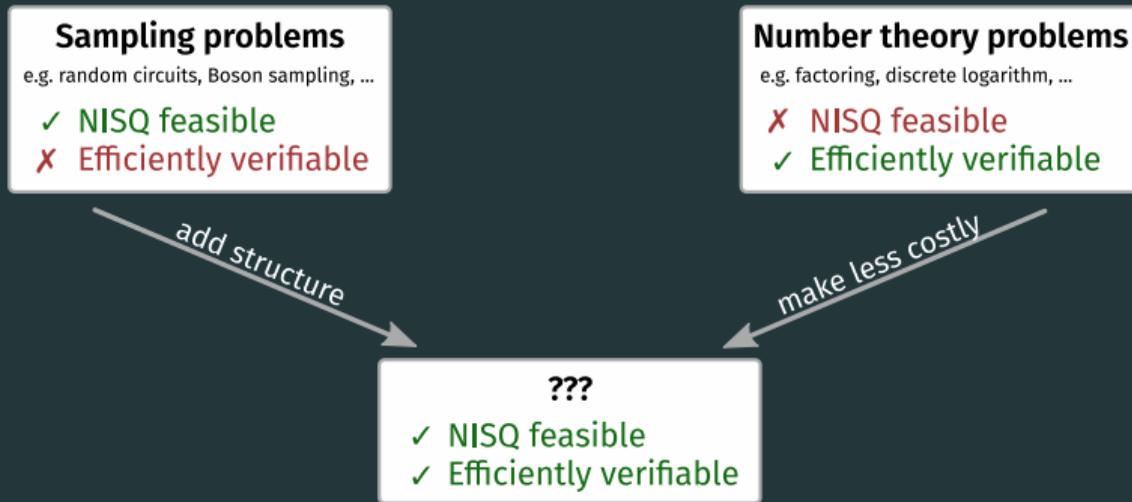
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Adding structure opens opportunities for classical cheating

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## Making number theoretic problems less costly

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Can we demonstrate quantum *capability* without needing to solve such a hard problem?

## Zero-knowledge proofs: differentiating colors

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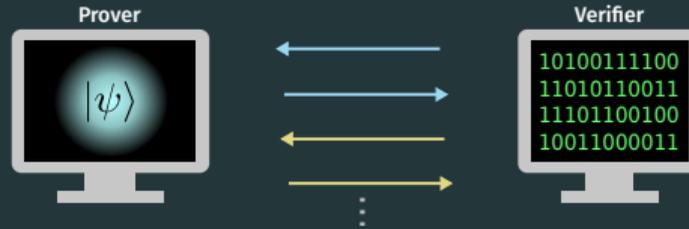
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**Goal:** find protocol as verifiable and classically hard as factoring—  
but less expensive than actually finding factors (via Shor)

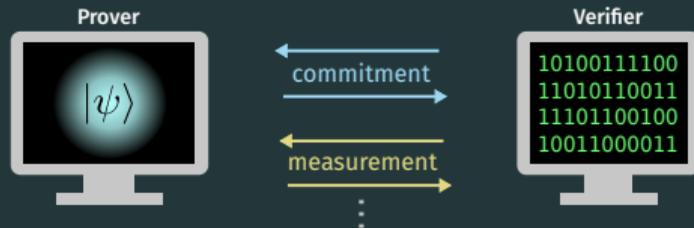
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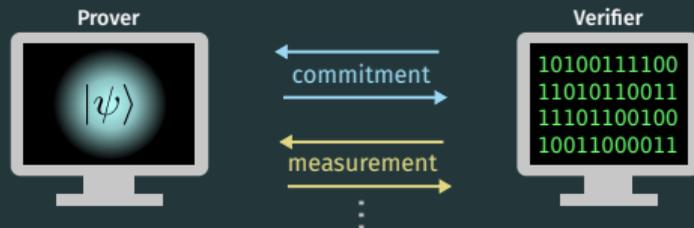


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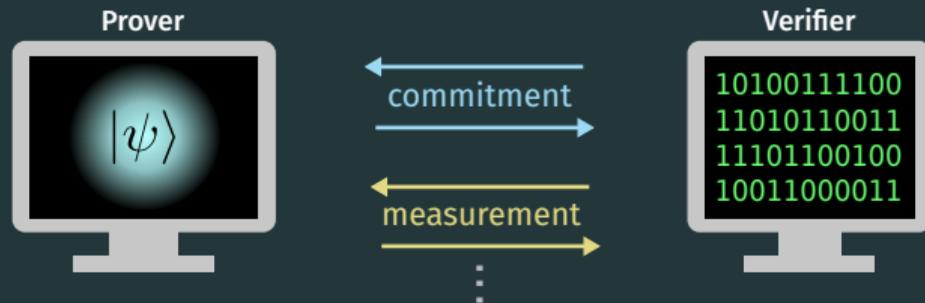
Round 2: Verifier asks for **measurement** in specific basis, prover performs it

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).

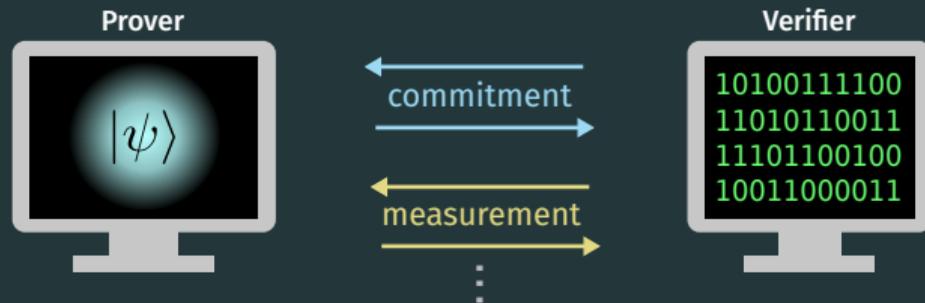
Can be extended to verify arbitrary quantum computations! (arXiv:1804.01082)

# Hardness proof: rewinding



From a “proof of hardness” perspective:

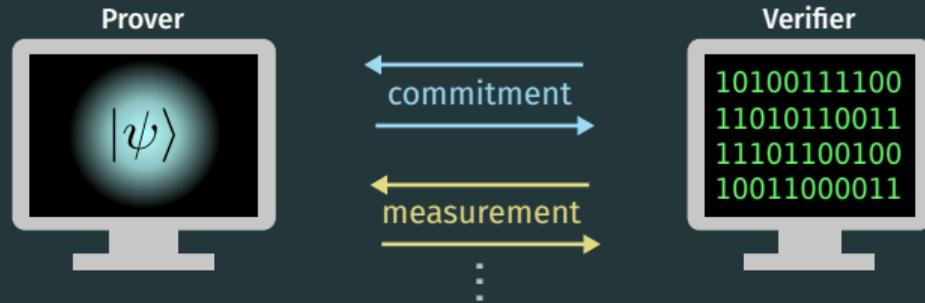
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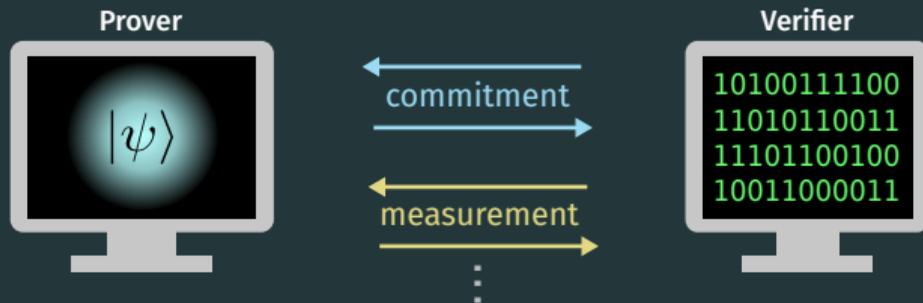
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“Rewinding” proof of hardness doesn’t go through for quantum prover—can even use functions that are quantum claw-free!

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

How does the prover commit to a state?

Consider a **2-to-1** function  $f$ :

for all  $y$  in range of  $f$ , there exist  $(x_0, x_1)$  such that  $y = f(x_0) = f(x_1)$ .

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Evaluate  $f$  on uniform superposition

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Measure 2<sup>nd</sup> register as  $y$



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Generating a valid state without trapdoor uses  
superposition + wavefunction collapse—inherently quantum!

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**Example:**  $4^2 \equiv 11^2 \equiv 16 \pmod{35}$ ; and  $11 - 4 = 7$



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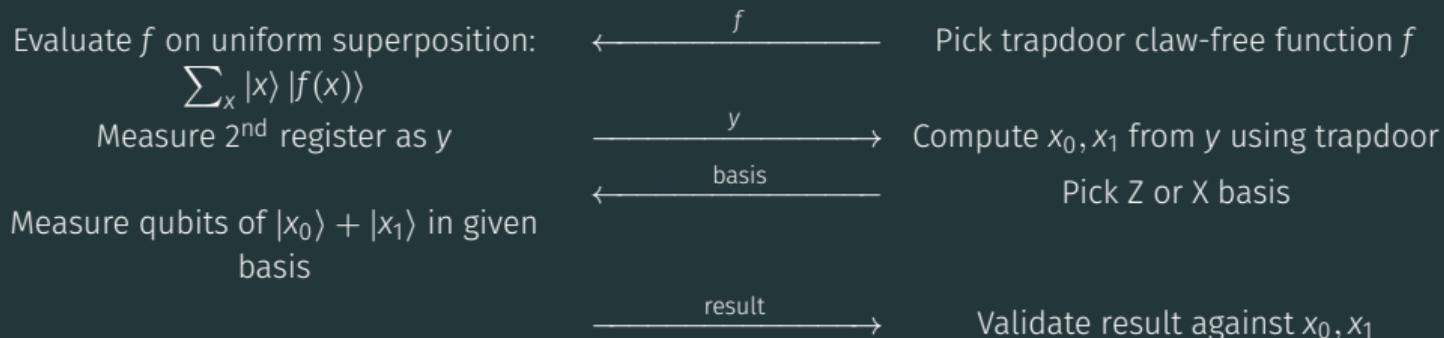
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Measure qubits of  $|x_0\rangle + |x_1\rangle$  in given basis

$\xleftarrow{f}$

$\xrightarrow{y}$

$\xleftarrow{\text{basis}}$

$\xrightarrow{\text{result}}$

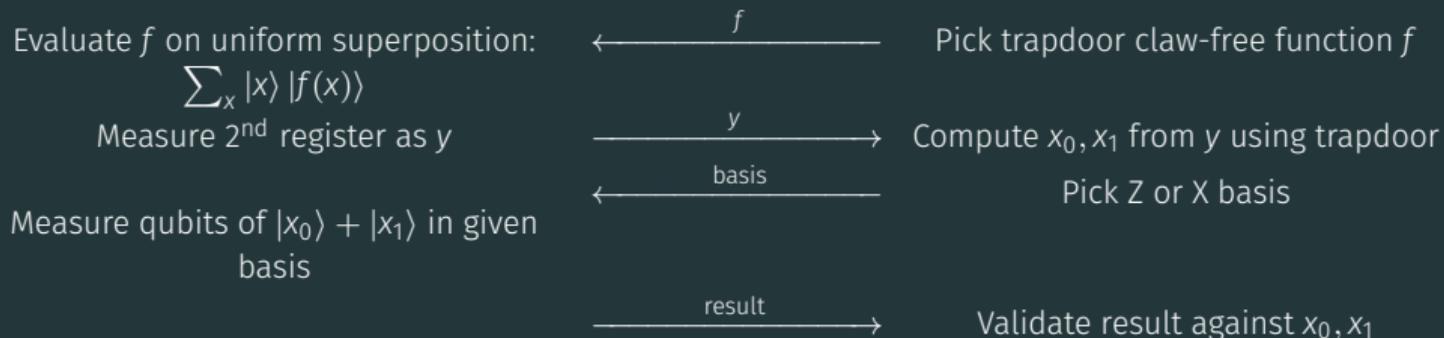
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Pick Z or X basis

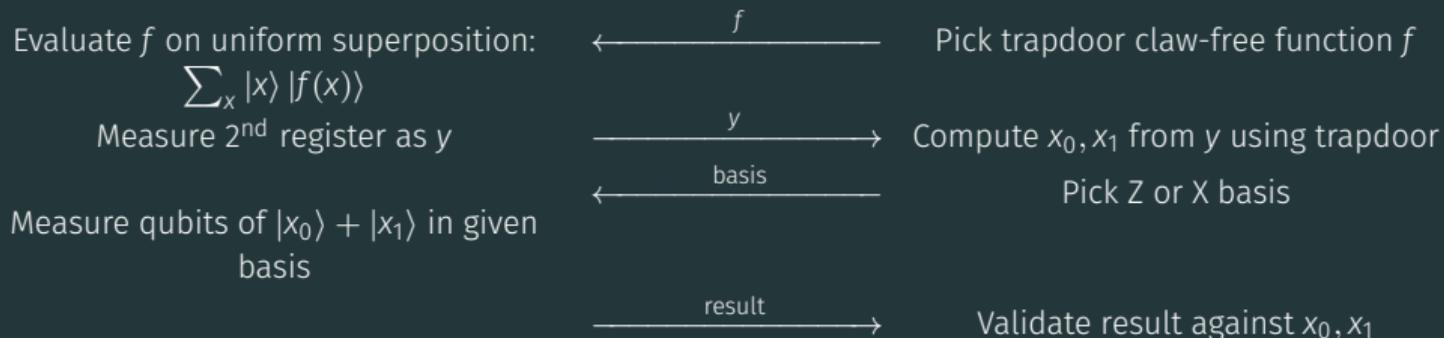
Validate result against  $x_0, x_1$

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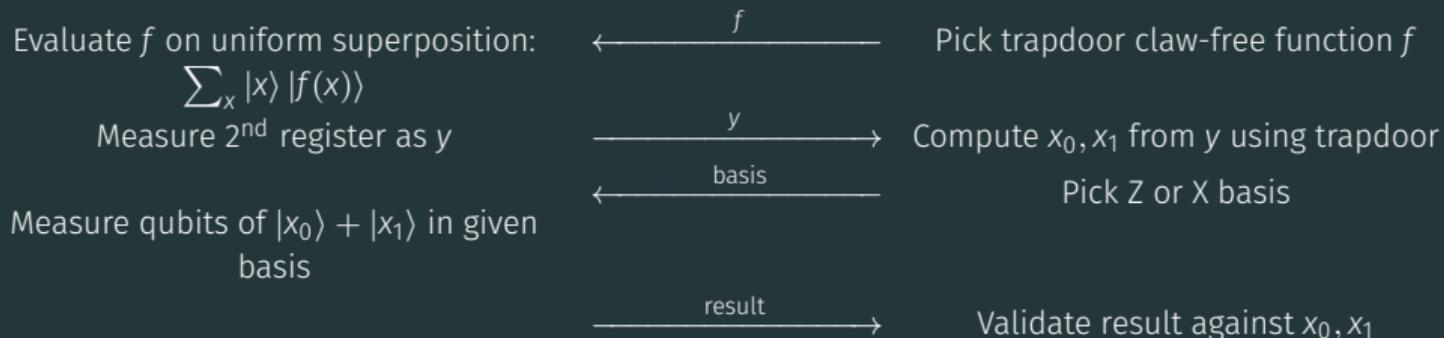
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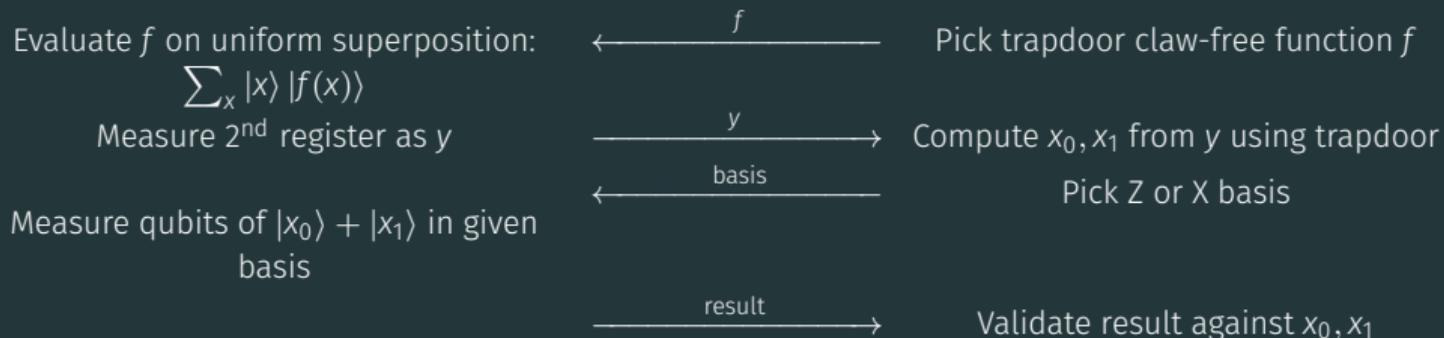
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Protocol requires **strong claw-free property**:

For any  $x_0$ , hard to find even a **single bit** about  $x_1$ .

# Trapdoor claw-free functions

Function family	Trapdoor	Claw-free	Strong claw-free
Learning-with-Errors [1]	✓	✓	✓
Ring Learning-with-Errors [2]	✓	✓	✗
$x^2 \bmod N$ [3]	✓	✓	✗
Diffie-Hellman [3]	✓	✓	✗

[1] Brakerski, Christiano, Mahadev, Vidick, Vazirani '18 (arXiv:1804.00640)

[2] Brakerski, Koppula, Vazirani, Vidick '20 (arXiv:2005.04826)

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BKW '20 removes need for strong claw-free property in the **random oracle model**. [2]

Can we do the same in the **standard model**? **Yes!** [3]

[1] Brakerski, Christiano, Mahadev, Vidick, Vazirani '18 (arXiv:1804.00640)

[2] Brakerski, Koppula, Vazirani, Vidick '20 (arXiv:2005.04826)

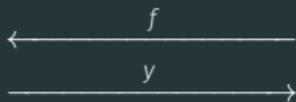
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Measure  $2^{\text{nd}}$  register as  $y$



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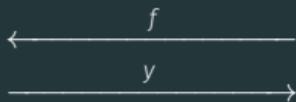
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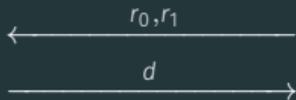


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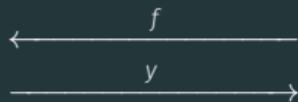
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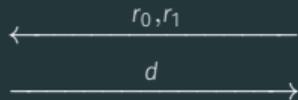


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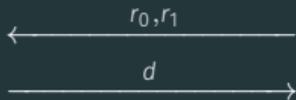


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Cryptographic secret (here)  $\Leftrightarrow$  Non-communication (Bell test)

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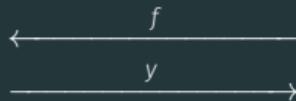
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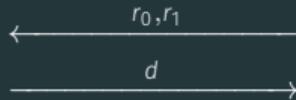
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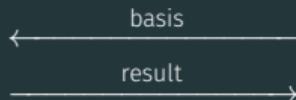
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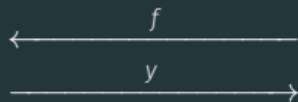


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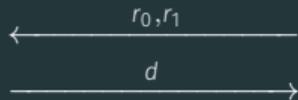


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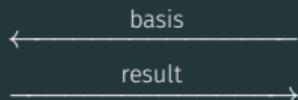
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**This protocol can use any trapdoor claw-free function!**

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**Next up:** tricks for the near term

Moving towards efficiently-verifiable quantum advantage in the near term

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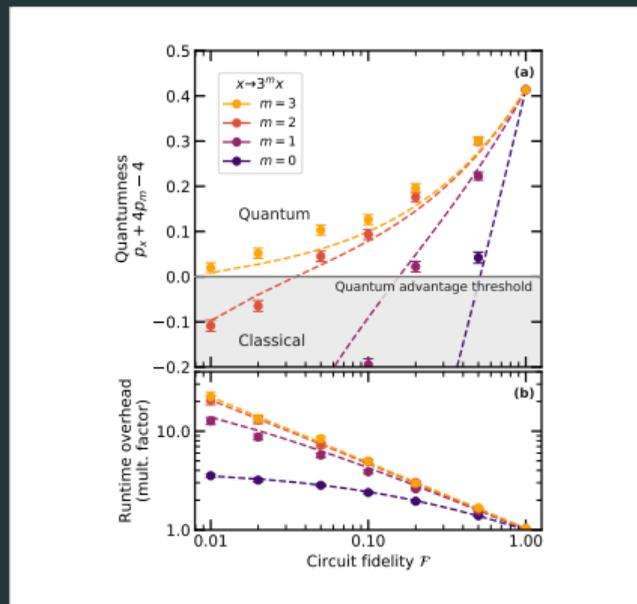
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When we generate  $\sum_x |x\rangle |f(x)\rangle$ , **add redundancy to  $f(x)$ , for bit flip error detection!**

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

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

## 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)

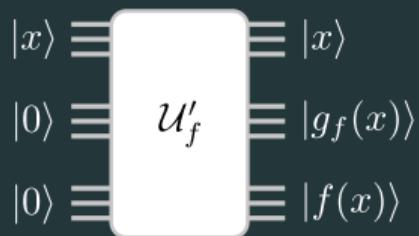
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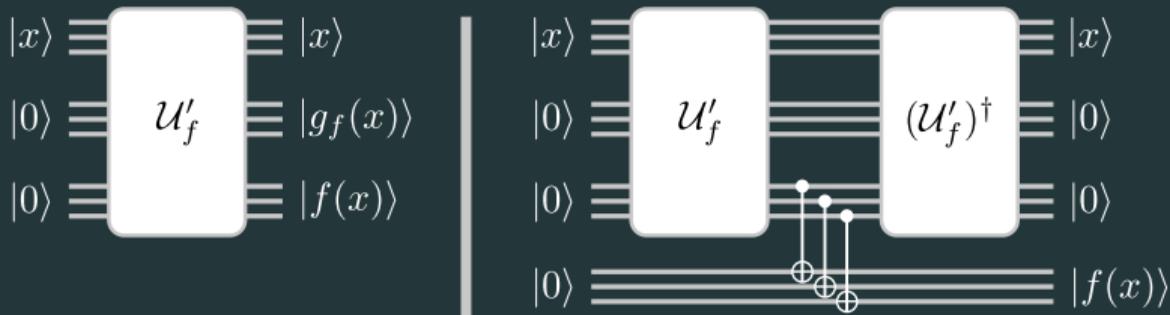
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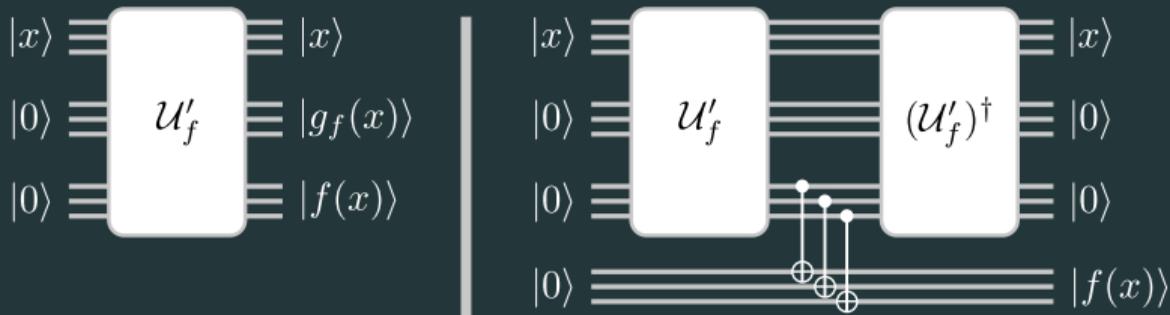
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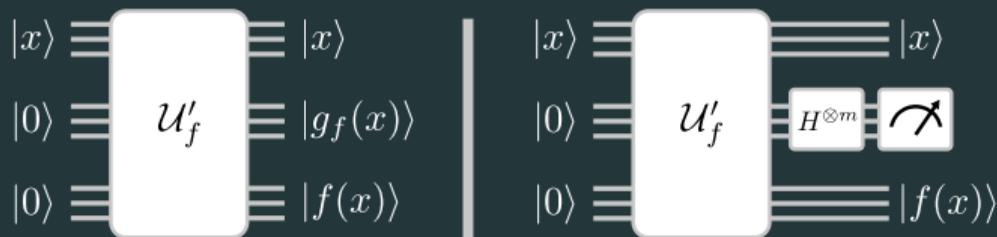
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Can we “measure them away” instead?

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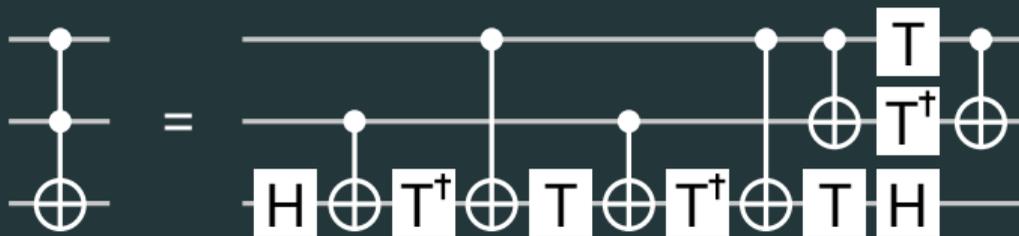
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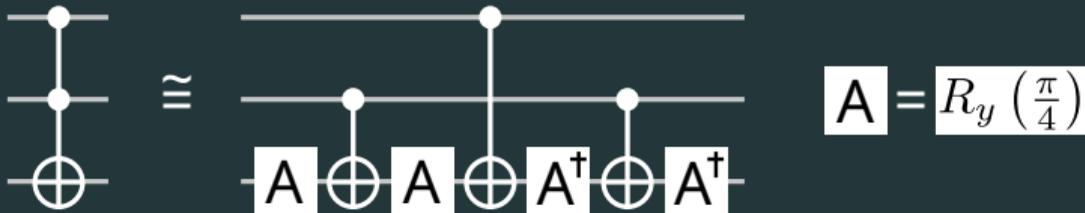
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- Certifiable randomness generation (Merkulov + Arnon-Friedman, also about to post!)

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- Certifiable randomness generation (Merkulov + Arnon-Friedman, also about to post!)
- (likely) Remote state preparation

# Beyond quantum advantage

Can we say anything about *how* the quantum prover won the game?

**New results:** Brakersi, Gheorghiu, GDKM, Porat, Vidick '23 (will be on arXiv imminently!)

If TCF is quantum secure, the the prover *must* make anticommuting measurements

Takeaway: protocol can “certify a qubit”

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- Certifiable randomness generation (Merkulov + Arnon-Friedman, also about to post!)
- (likely) Remote state preparation
- (likely) **Classical, cryptographic verification of remote quantum computation!**  
(cf. Natarajan + Zhang, also about to post!)

# Looking forward

Interactive cryptographic protocols:

- **Near term:** Classically-verifiable quantum advantage
- **Longer term:** cryptographic applications!

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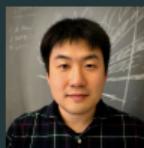
# Questions?



"Classically verifiable quantum advantage from a computational Bell test"  
[arXiv:2104.00687]



Norman Yao



Soonwon Choi



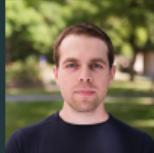
Umesh Vazirani



"Simple tests of quantumness also certify qubits" [on arXiv soon!]



Zvika Brakerski



Andru Gheorghiu



Eitan Porat



Thomas Vidick

Gregory D. Kahanamoku-Meyer

<https://gregdmeyer.github.io/>

Backup!



Evaluate  $f$  on uniform superposition:

$$\sum_x |x\rangle |f(x)\rangle$$

Measure 2<sup>nd</sup> register as  $y$

Measure qubits of  $|x_0\rangle + |x_1\rangle$  in given basis

$f$

$y$

basis

result

Pick trapdoor claw-free function  $f$

Compute  $x_0, x_1$  from  $y$  using trapdoor

Pick Z or X basis

Validate result against  $x_0, x_1$

# Interactive measurement: computational Bell test



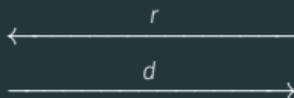
⋮

$$|x_0\rangle |x_0 \cdot r\rangle + |x_1\rangle |x_1 \cdot r\rangle$$

Measure all but ancilla in X basis

Measure qubit in basis

⋮



⋮

Pick random bitstring  $r$

Pick  $(Z + X)$  or  $(Z - X)$  basis  
Validate against  $r, x_0, x_1, d$

In this case, 1-qubit state:  $|0\rangle$  or  $|1\rangle$  if  $x_0 \cdot r = x_1 \cdot r$ , otherwise  $|+\rangle$  or  $|-\rangle$ .

# Computational Bell test: classical bound

Run protocol many times, collect statistics.

$p_Z$ : Success rate for Z basis measurement.

$p_{\text{Bell}}$ : Success rate when performing Bell-type measurement.

Under assumption of claw-free function:

**Classical bound:**  $p_Z + 4p_{\text{Bell}} \lesssim 4$

**Ideal quantum:**  $p_Z = 1, p_{\text{Bell}} = \cos^2(\pi/8)$

$$p_Z + 4p_{\text{Bell}} = 3 + \sqrt{2} \approx 4.414$$

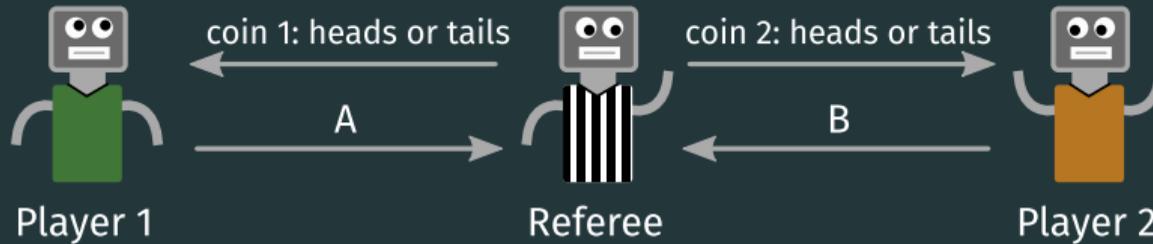
**Note:** Let  $p_Z = 1$ . Then for  $p_{\text{Bell}}$ :

Classical bound 75%, ideal quantum  $\sim$  85%.

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

# The CHSH game (Bell test)

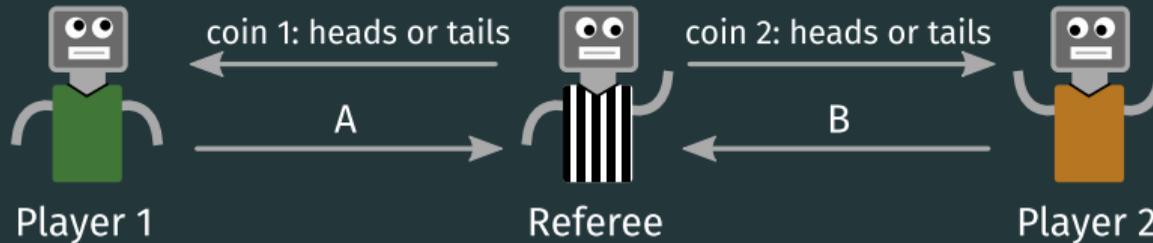
Cooperative two-player game; players can't communicate (non-local).



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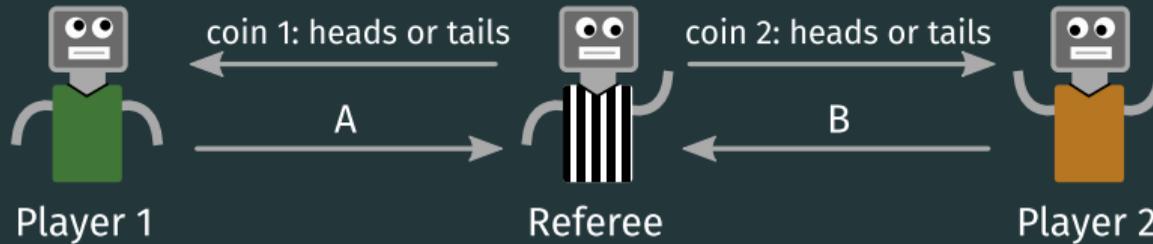
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**Classical optimal strategy:** return equal values, hope you didn't both get heads. 75% success rate.

Can we do better with entanglement?

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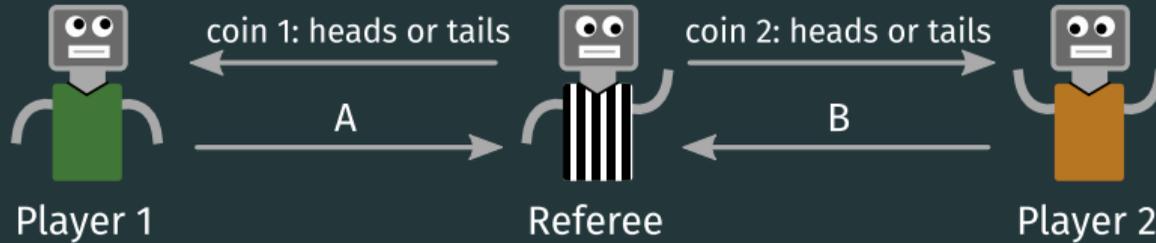


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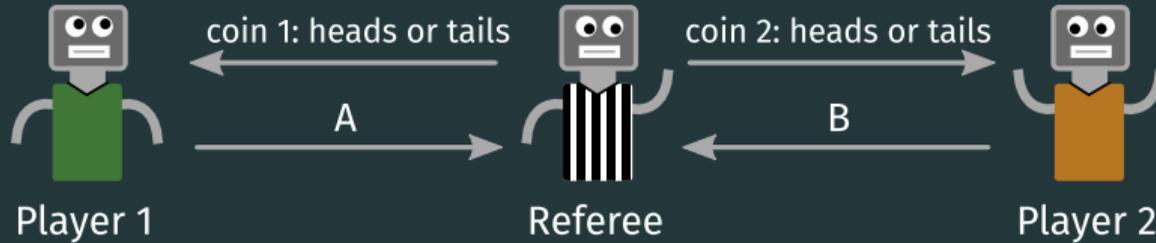


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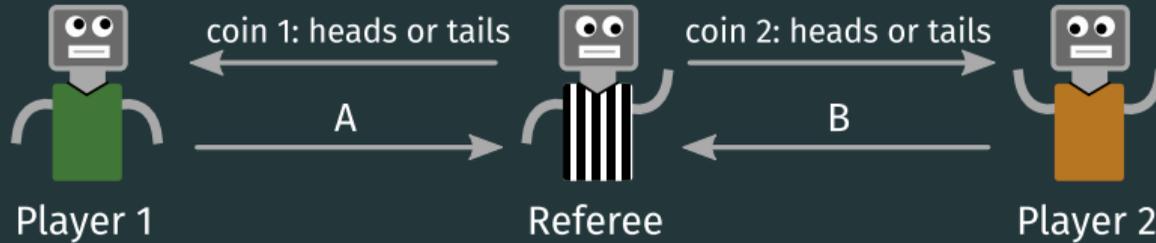
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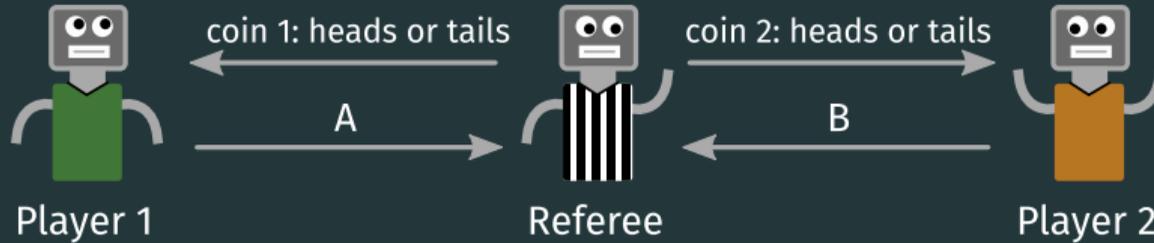
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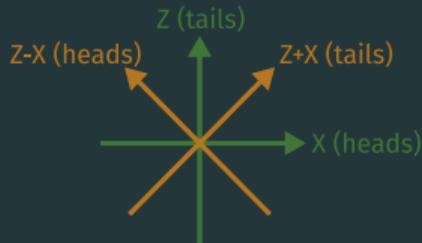


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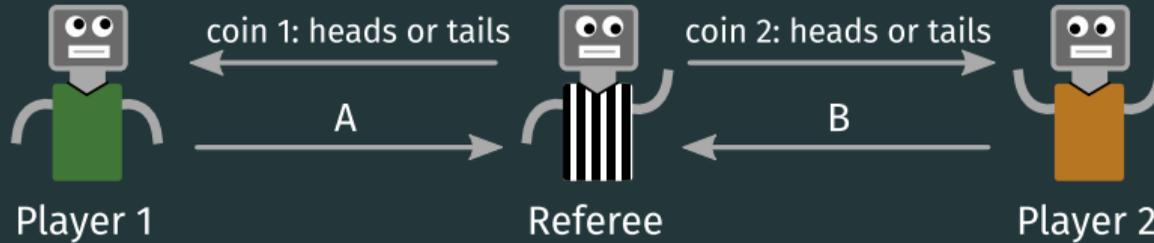
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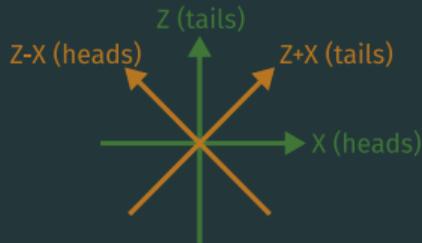
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**Quantum:  $\cos^2(\pi/8) \approx 85\%$**

**Classical: 75%**

# Intermediate measurements in the lab



Trapped Ion Quantum Information lab at U. Maryland (→ Duke)

First proof-of-concept demonstration of these protocols, in trapped ions!  
(arXiv:2112.05156)



Dr. Daiwei Zhu



Prof. Crystal Noel



Prof. Christopher Monroe

and others!

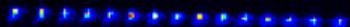
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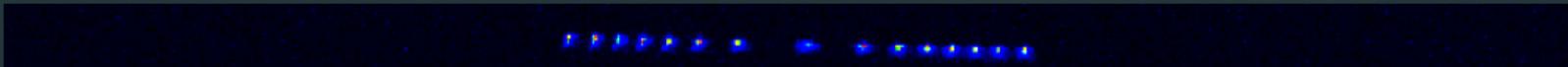
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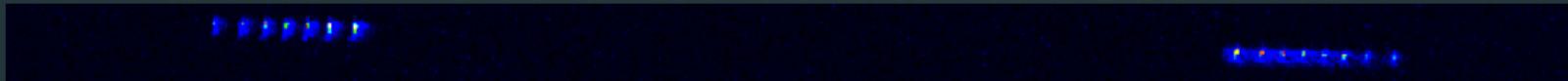
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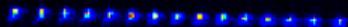
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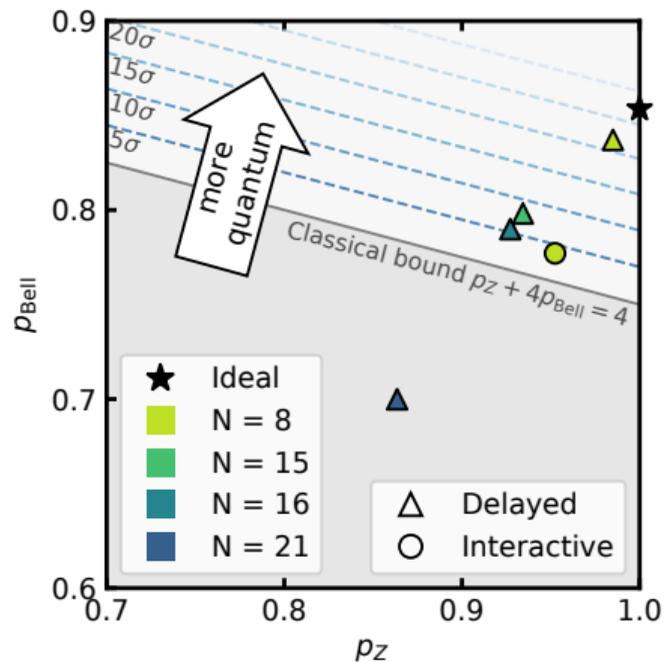


# Interactive proofs on a few qubits

Experimental results for  $f(x) = x^2 \bmod N$

Up and right is stronger evidence of quantumness

GDKM, D. Zhu, et al. (arXiv:2112.05156)



## Quantum circuits for $x^2 \bmod N$

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Decompose this as

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Advantages:

- Everything is diagonal (it's just a phase)!
- Modulo is automatic in the phase
- Simple decomposition into few-qubit gates

# Implementation

**New goal:**  $\tilde{U} |x\rangle |z\rangle = \exp\left(2\pi i \frac{x^2}{N} z\right) |x\rangle |z\rangle$

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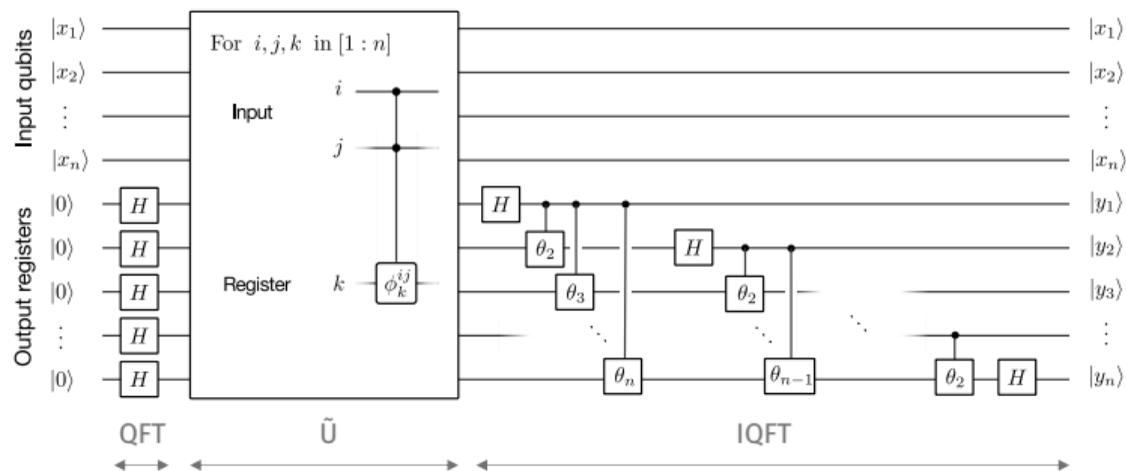
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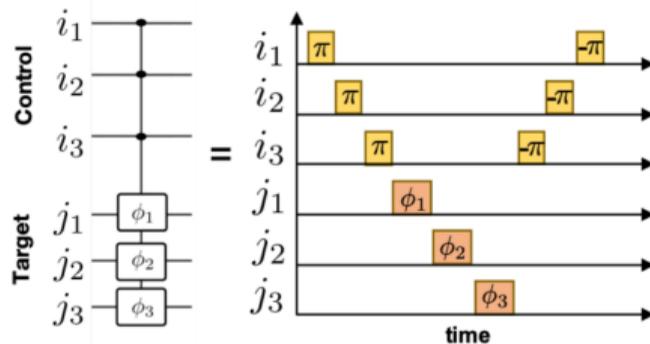
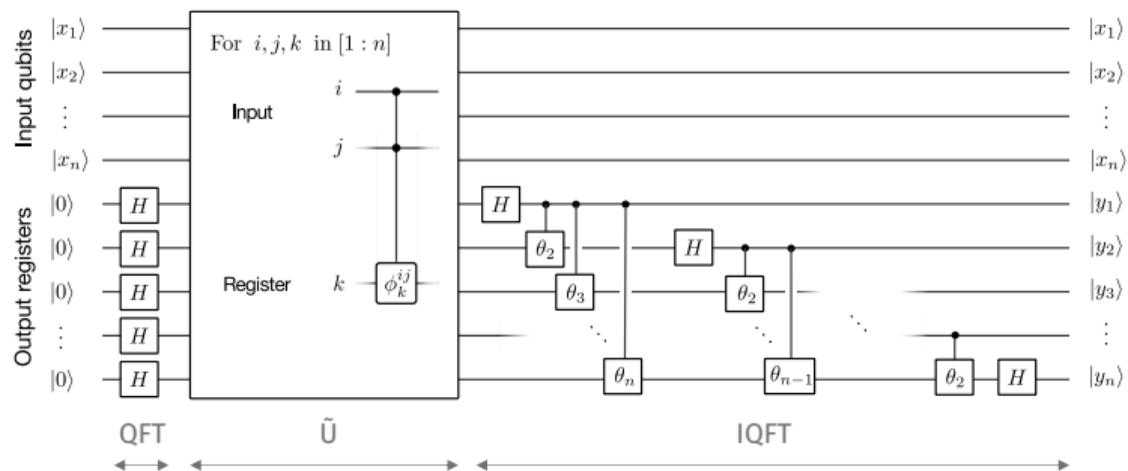
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- “Apply phase whenever  $x_i = x_j = z_k = 1$ ”
- These are CPhase gates (of arb. phase)!

# Leveraging the Rydberg blockade



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## Decisional Diffie-Hellman (DDH)

**Problem (not TCF):** Consider a group  $\mathbb{G}$  of order  $N$ , with generator  $g$ .  
Given the tuple  $(g, g^a, g^b, g^c)$ , determine if  $c = ab$ .

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How to build a TCF?

Trapdoor [Peikert, Waters '08; Freeman et al. '10]: linear algebra in the exponent

Claw-free [GDKM et al. '21 (arXiv:2104.00687)]: collisions in linear algebra in the exponent!

# Full protocol

