

# Stochastic Gradient Descent for Hybrid Quantum-Classical Optimization

Frederik Wilde  
[frederikwil.de/jmc2021](https://frederikwil.de/jmc2021)

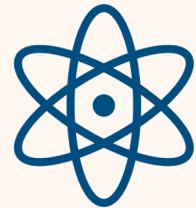
Journées de la Matière Condensée  
2021-08-25



- 1) Hybrid Quantum-Classical Models
- 2) Optimization
- 3) Parameter Shift Rules
- 4) Stochastic Gradient Descent

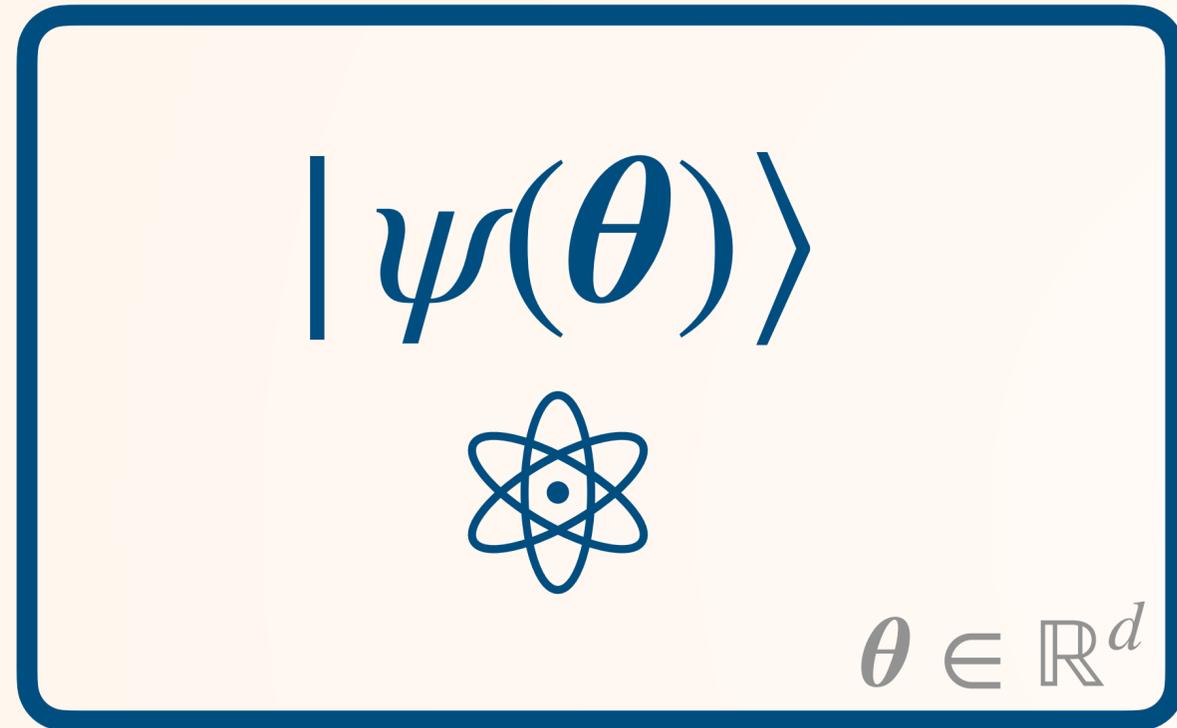
# Hybrid quantum-classical algorithms

$|\psi(\theta)\rangle$



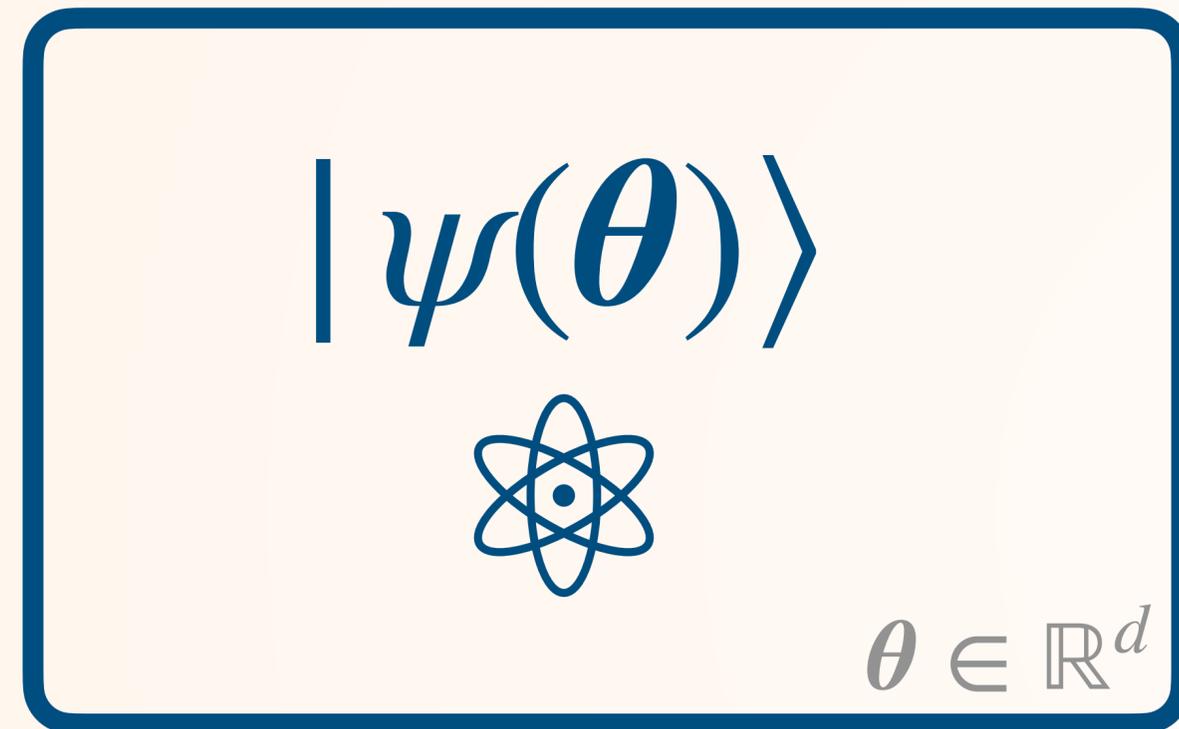
$\theta \in \mathbb{R}^d$

# Hybrid quantum-classical algorithms



$H$  measurement  
→

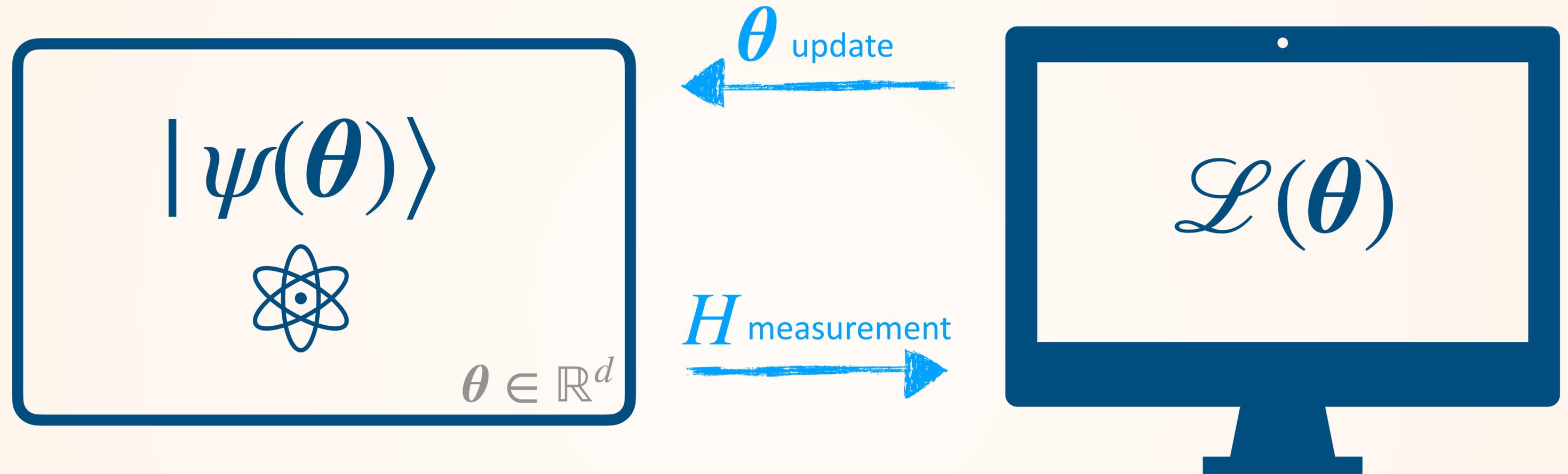
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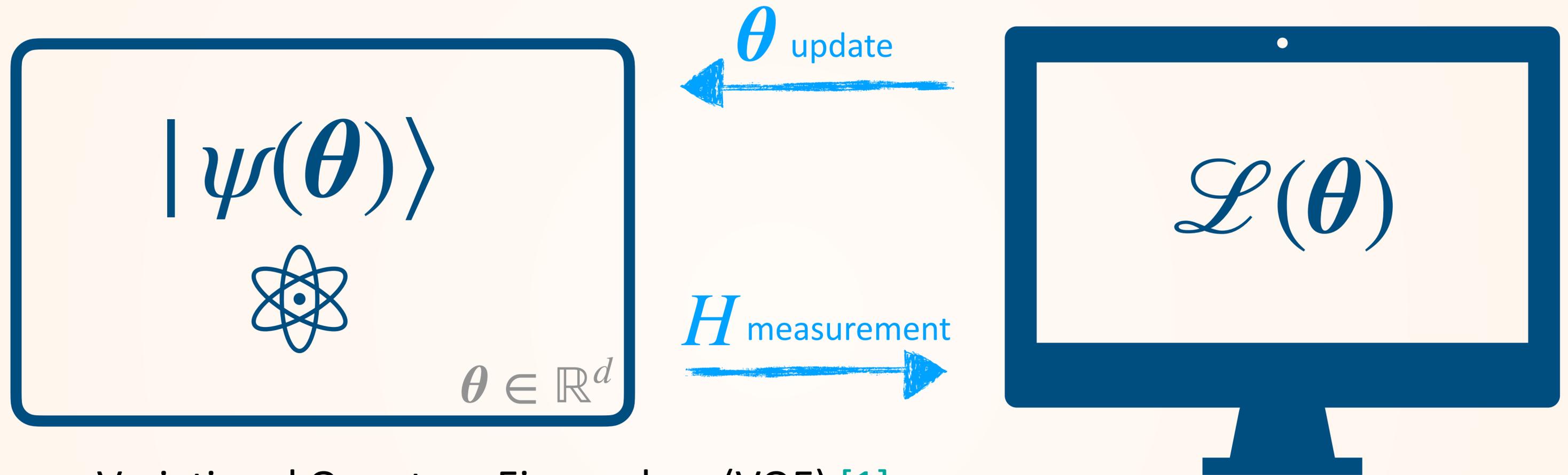
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# Hybrid quantum-classical algorithms



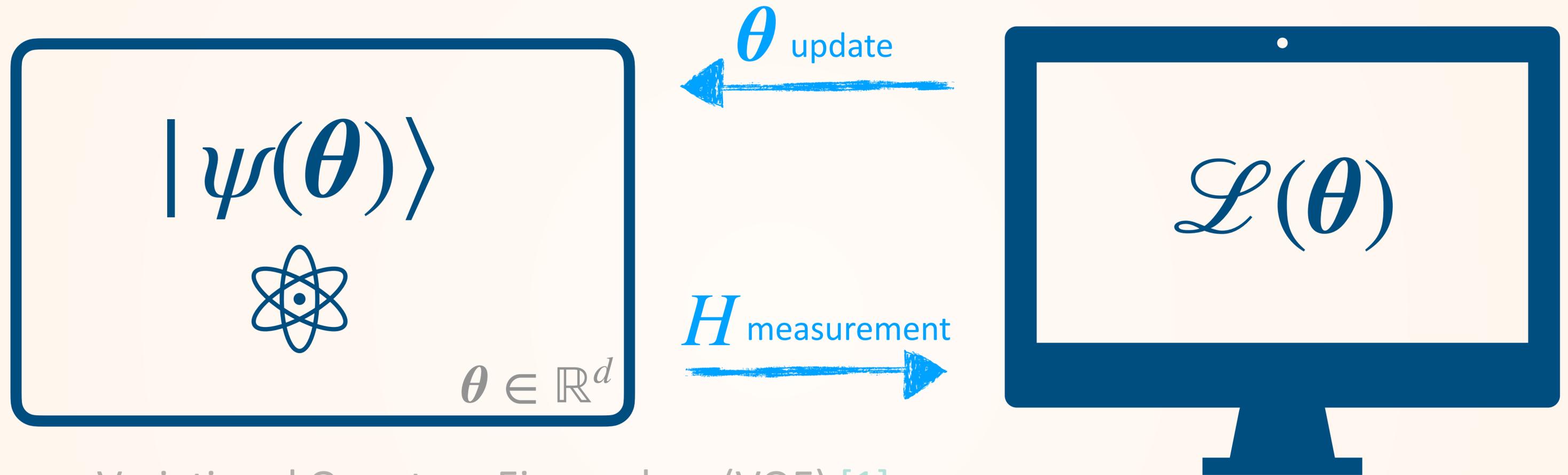
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- Variational Quantum Eigensolver (VQE) [1]

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta) = \langle \psi(\theta) | H | \psi(\theta) \rangle$$

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$$\mathcal{L}(\theta) = \langle \psi(\theta) | H | \psi(\theta) \rangle$$

- Quantum Approximate Optimization Algorithm (QAOA) [2]

$$|\psi(\beta, \gamma)\rangle = e^{-i\beta_p X} e^{-i\gamma_p H} \dots e^{-i\beta_1 X} e^{-i\gamma_1 H} |+\rangle$$

$$X = -\sum_i \sigma_i^x$$

# Hybrid methods are promising for NISQ devices

[1] [L. Cincio et al., 2007.01210](#)

Review of NISQ algorithms: [K. Barathi et al., 2101.08448](#)

Review of variational algorithms: [M. Cerezo et al., 2012.09265](#)

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- Ideally: Only do the [quantum-easy-classically-hard part](#) on the quantum device

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# Hybrid methods are promising for NISQ devices

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- (Implicit) error mitigation by the classical optimizer [1]

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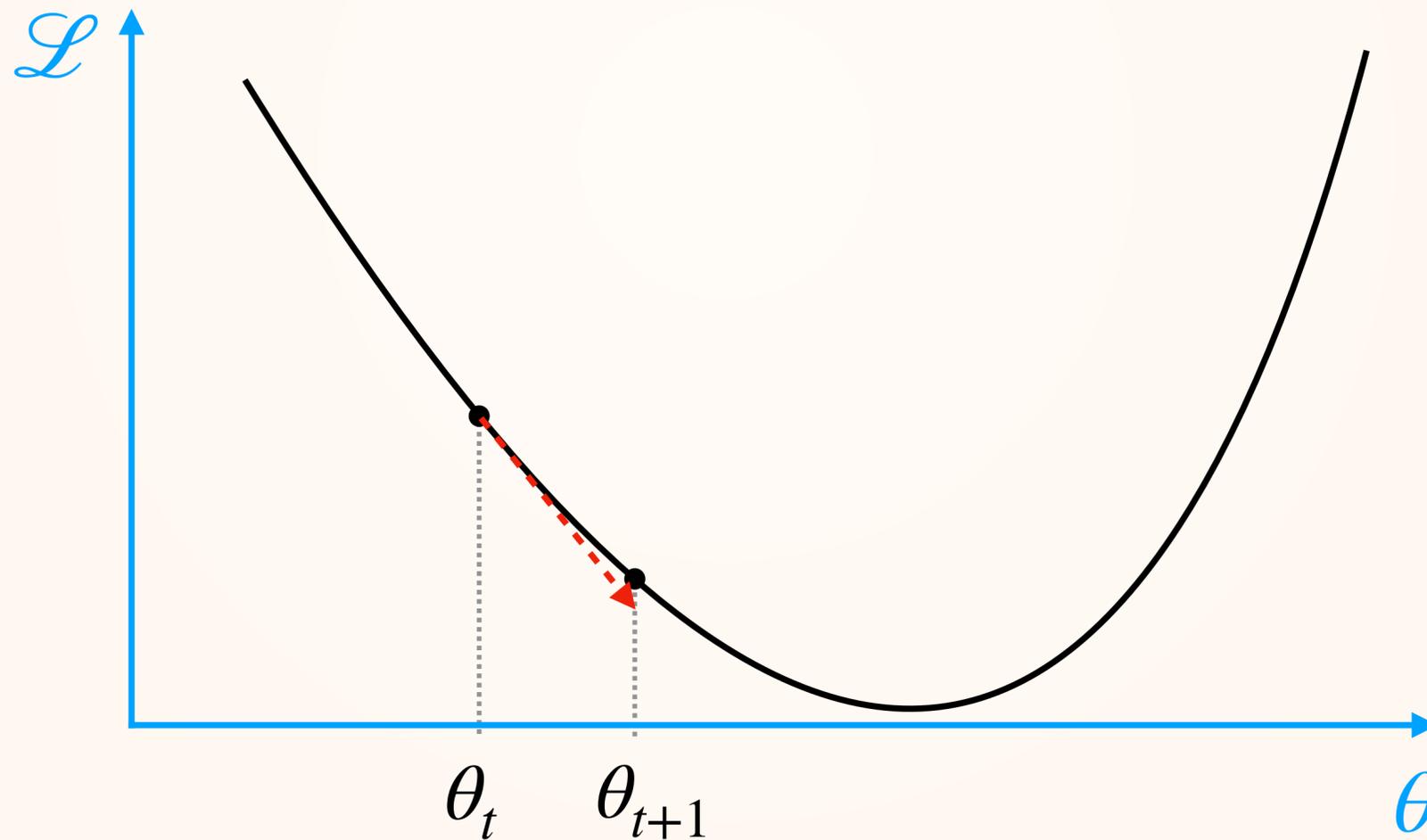
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# Zeroth-order Optimization

- Nelder-Mead method
- SPSA (simultaneous perturbation stochastic approximation) and RSGF combined with ADAM
- swarm optimization
- genetic algorithm
- [scikit-quant.org](https://scikit-quant.org) [2]

# First-order Optimization

Gradient descent method:  $\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t - \eta \nabla_{\theta} \mathcal{L} \Big|_{\theta_t}$



# First-order Optimization

- [1] [G. G. Guerreschi et al., 1701.01450](#) [3] [L. Banchi et al., 2005.10299](#)  
[2] [M. Schuld et al., PRA 2019](#)

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- $\partial_\theta \langle \psi | H | \psi \rangle = 2 \Im \langle \psi | H V X W | 0 \rangle = 2 \Im \langle \psi | H V X V^\dagger | \psi \rangle$

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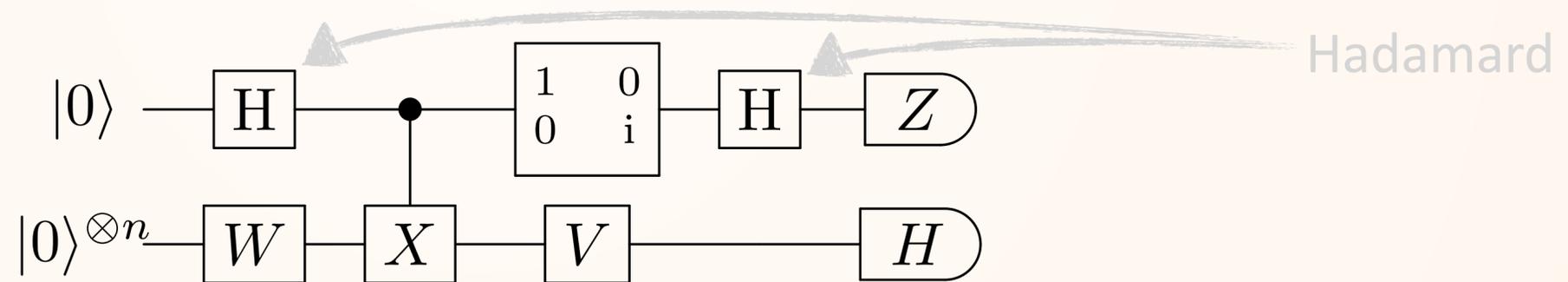
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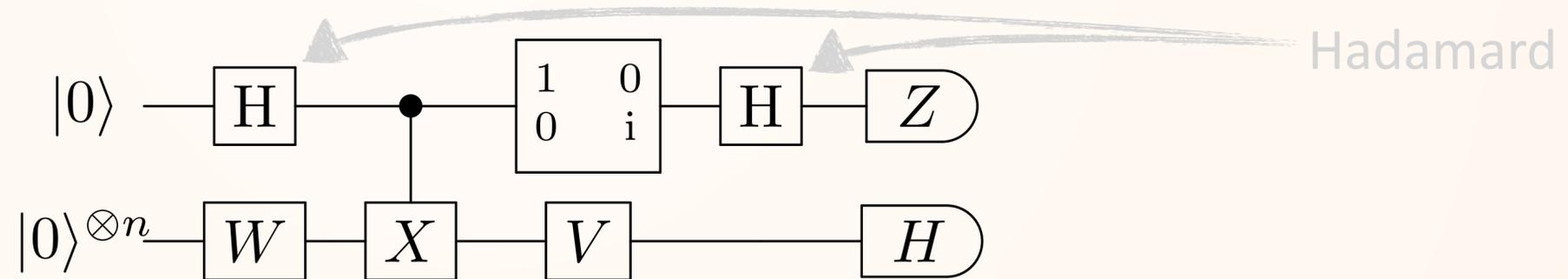
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- Parameter-shift rule [2,3]

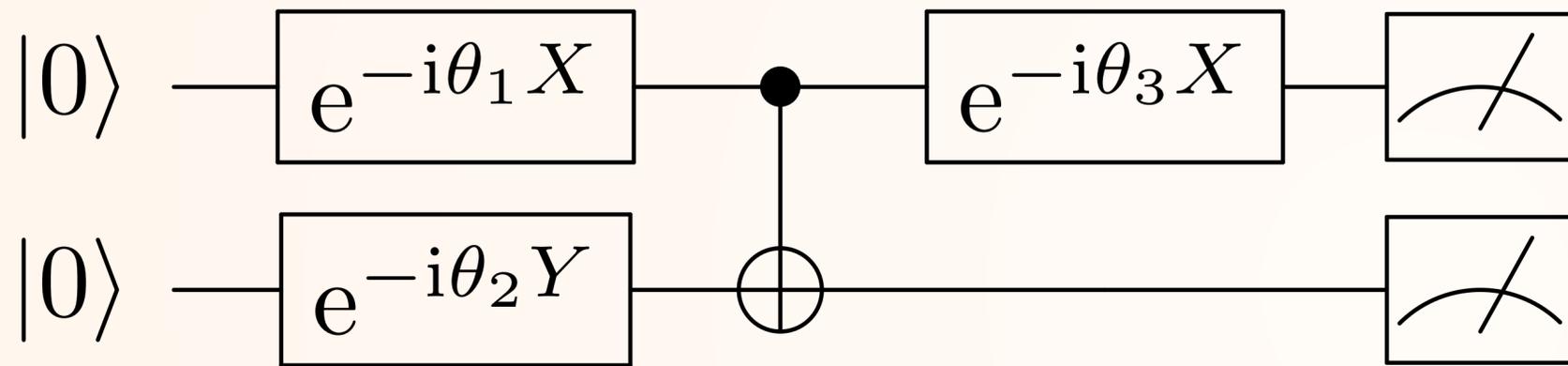
$$\partial_\theta \langle H \rangle = \langle H \rangle_{\theta+\pi/4} - \langle H \rangle_{\theta-\pi/4}$$

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Sample-estimator for  $\langle H \rangle$

Generator can only have two eigenvalues (here +1 and -1)

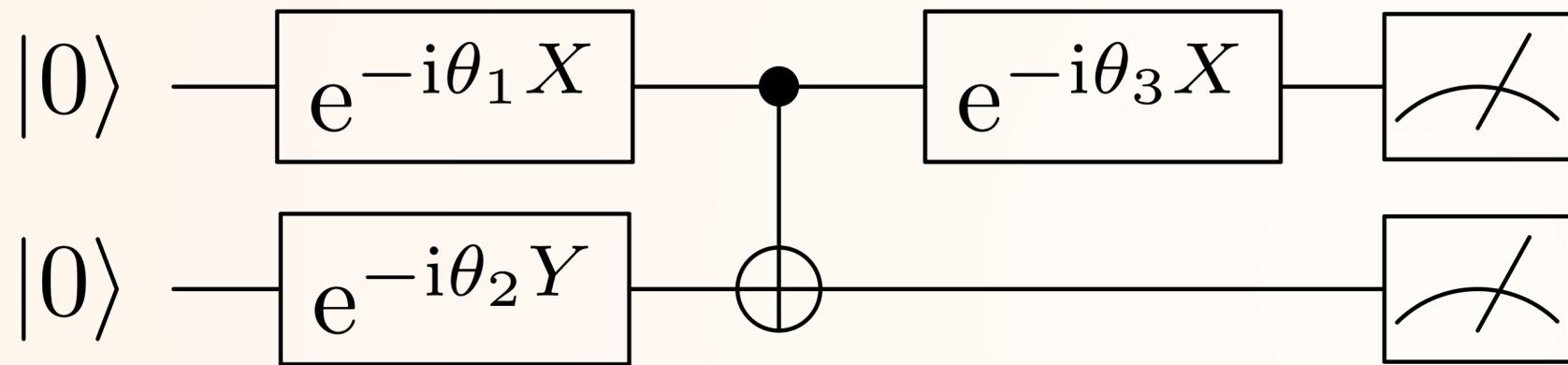
Generalizations for larger gates:

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$$\nabla_{\theta} \langle H \rangle = \left( \begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \\ \end{array} \right)$$

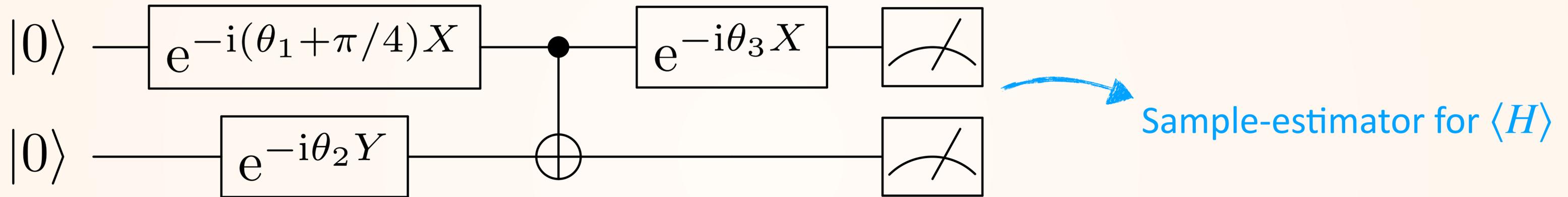
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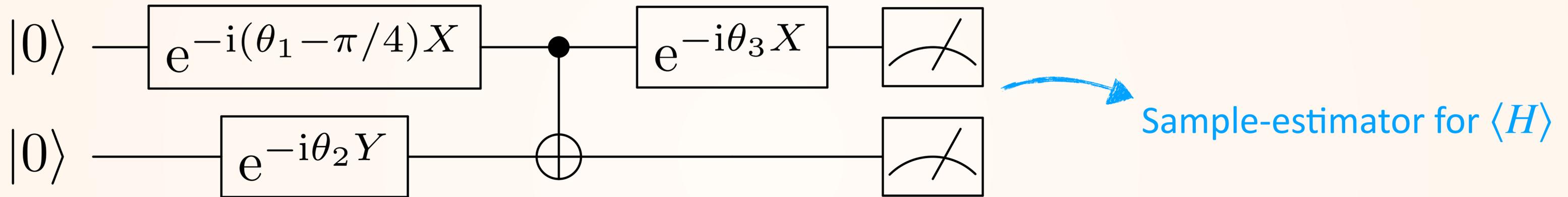
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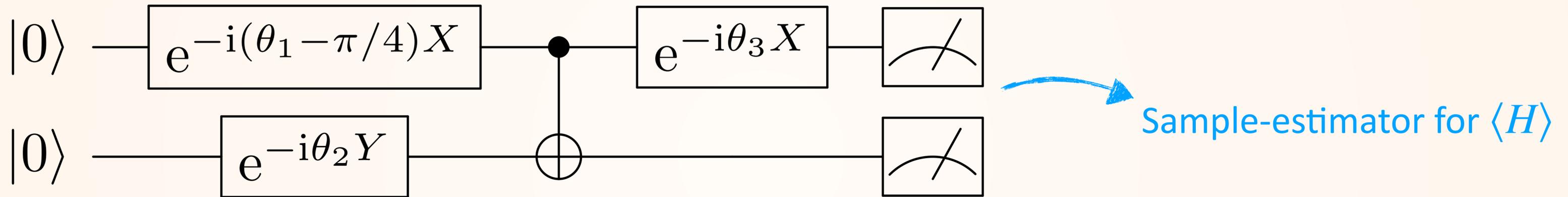
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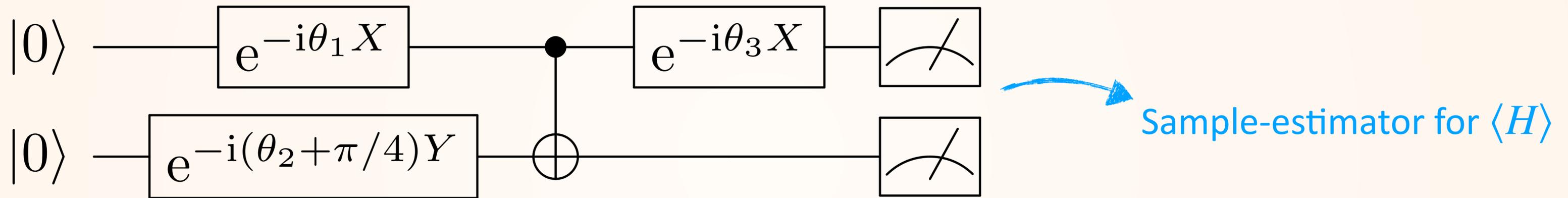
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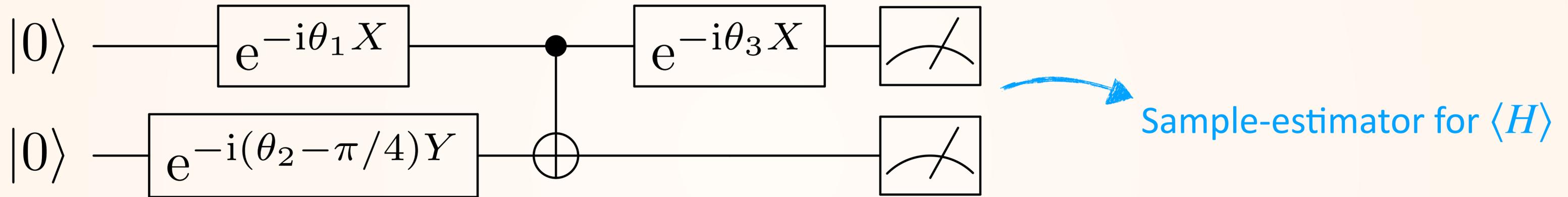
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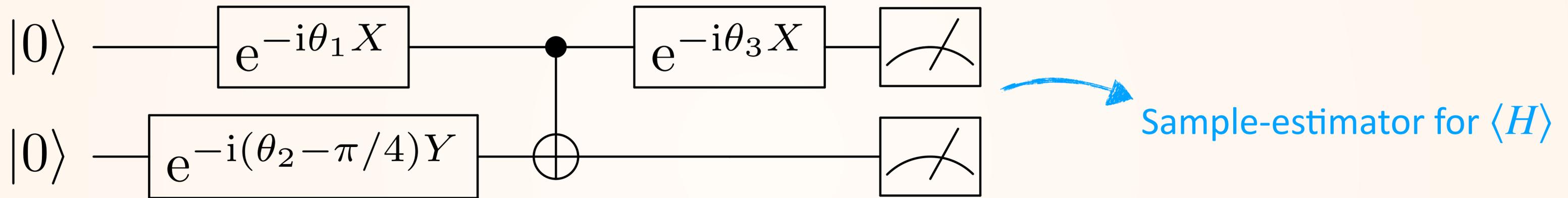
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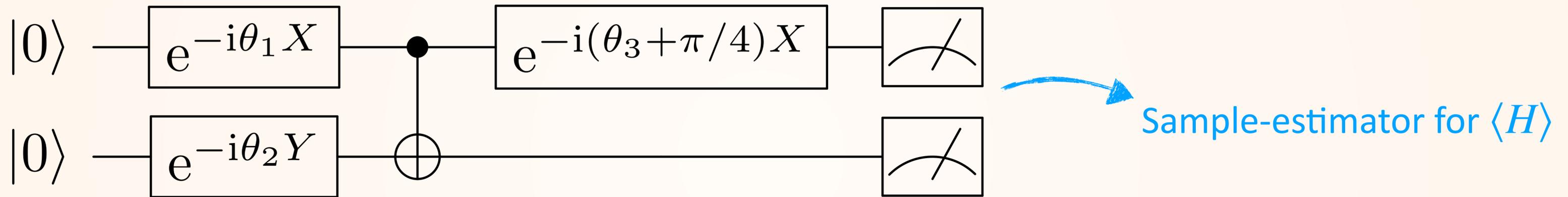
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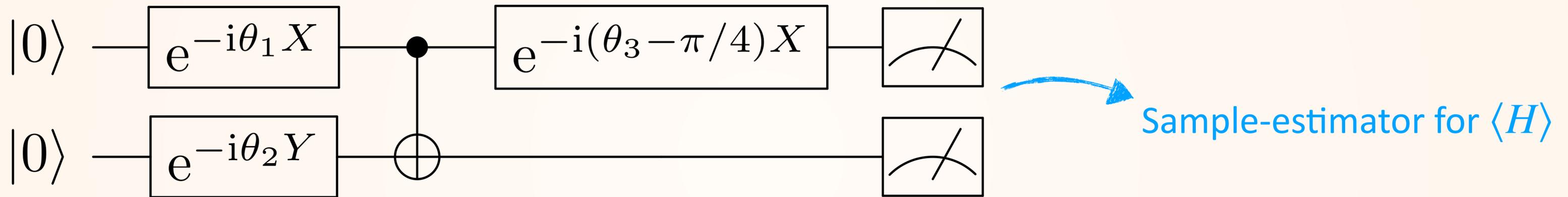
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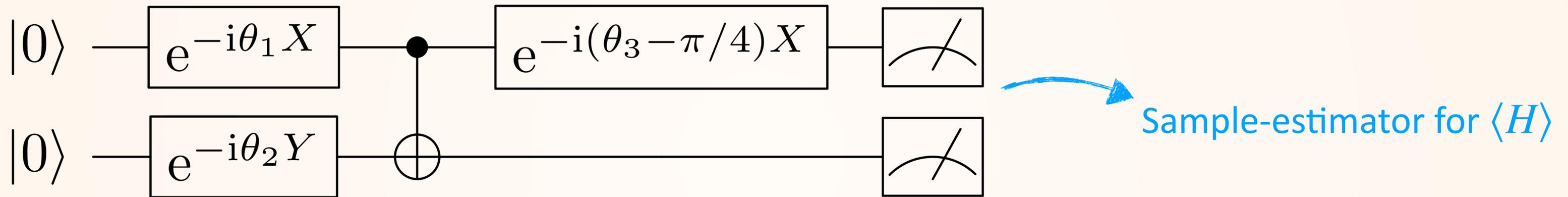
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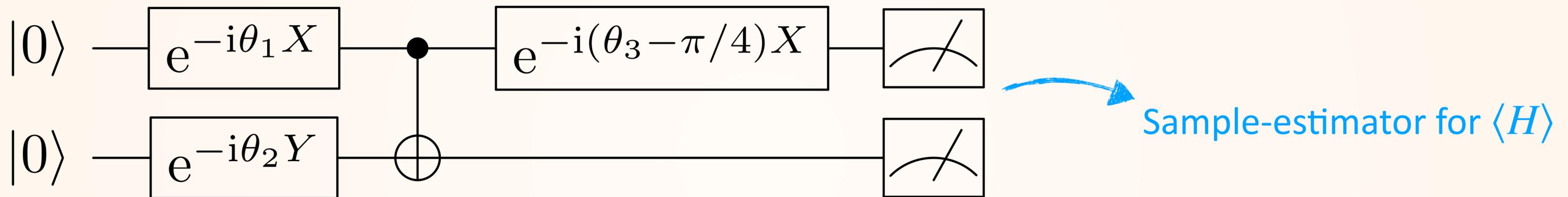
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Generalizations for larger gates:

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A single-shift rule is impossible!

[T. Hubregtsen et al., 2106.01388]

# Sources of stochasticity

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta) = \langle H \rangle_{\theta}$$

1. Measurement shots

# Sources of stochasticity

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta) = \left\langle \sum_j h_j \right\rangle_{\theta}$$

1. Measurement shots
2. Observable components

# Sources of stochasticity

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta) = \sum_i \left[ \left\langle \sum_j h_j \right\rangle_{(x_i, \theta)} - y_i \right]^2$$

$x_i \in \mathbb{R}^{3N}$	$y_i \in \{0,1\}$
	0
	1
	0

1. Measurement shots
2. Observable components
3. Data

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hardware-dependent  
(shots might actually be cheap)



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2. Observable components  non-commuting components
3. Data
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1. Measurement shots

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4. Parameter-shift terms

hardware-dependent

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non-commuting components

dependent on circuit architecture  
(at least factor of 2)

# Sources of stochasticity

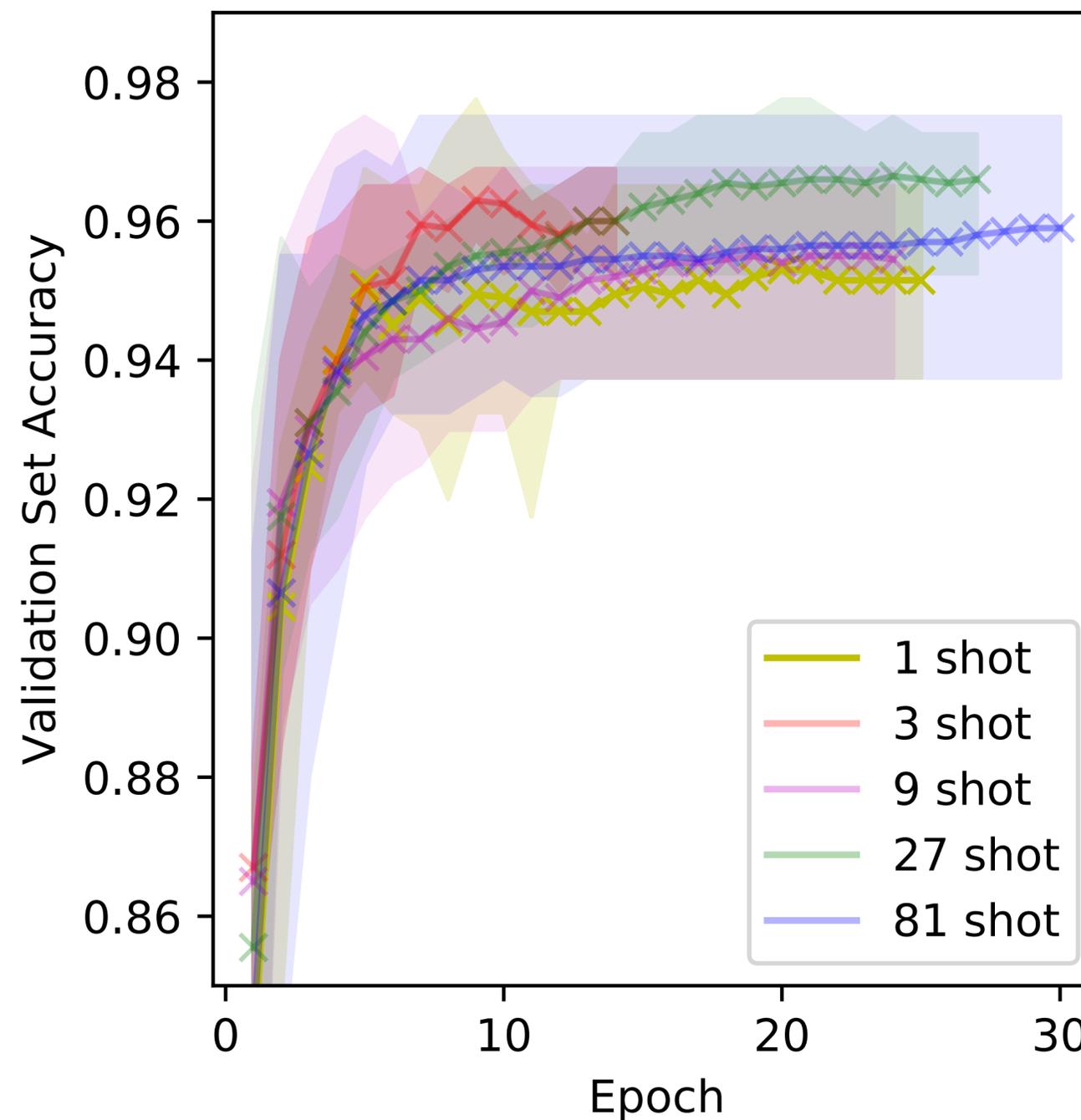
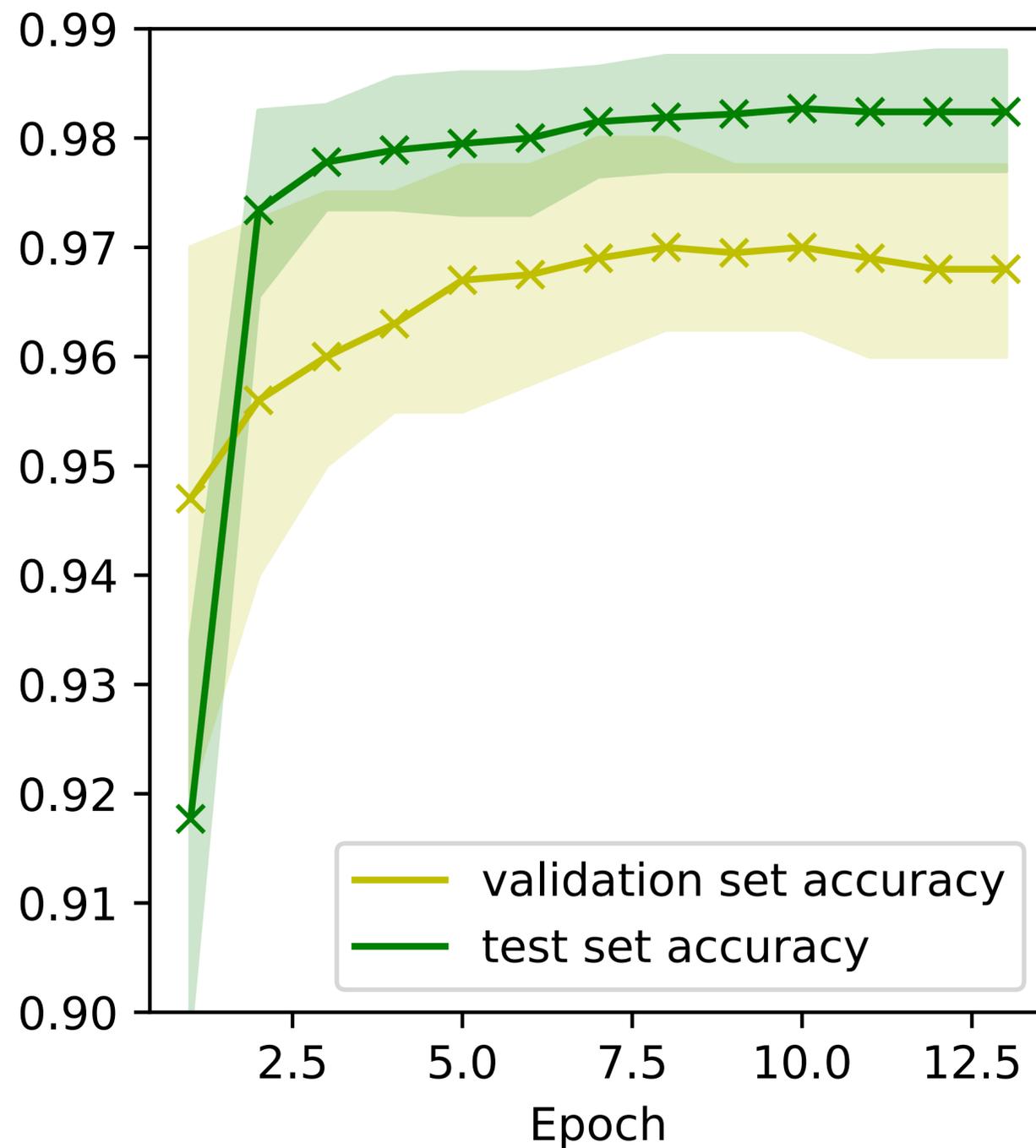
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$$\partial_\theta \mathcal{L} = \sum_i 2 \left[ \sum_j \langle h_j \rangle_{(x_i, \theta)} - y_i \right] \sum_j \frac{1}{2} \left( \langle h_j \rangle_{(x_i, \theta + \frac{\pi}{2})} - \langle h_j \rangle_{(x_i, \theta - \frac{\pi}{2})} \right)$$

# MNIST Classifier

8 qubits, 400 parameters, batch size = 1

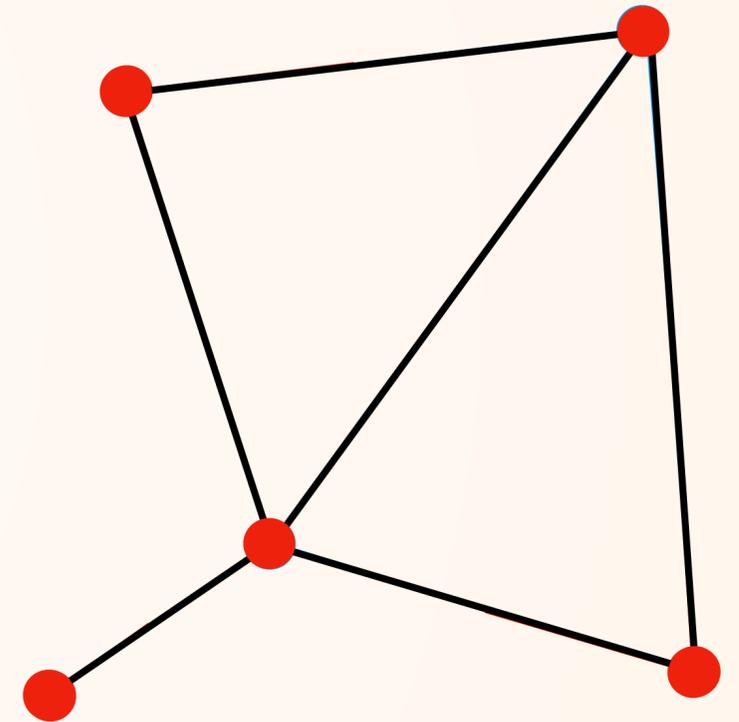
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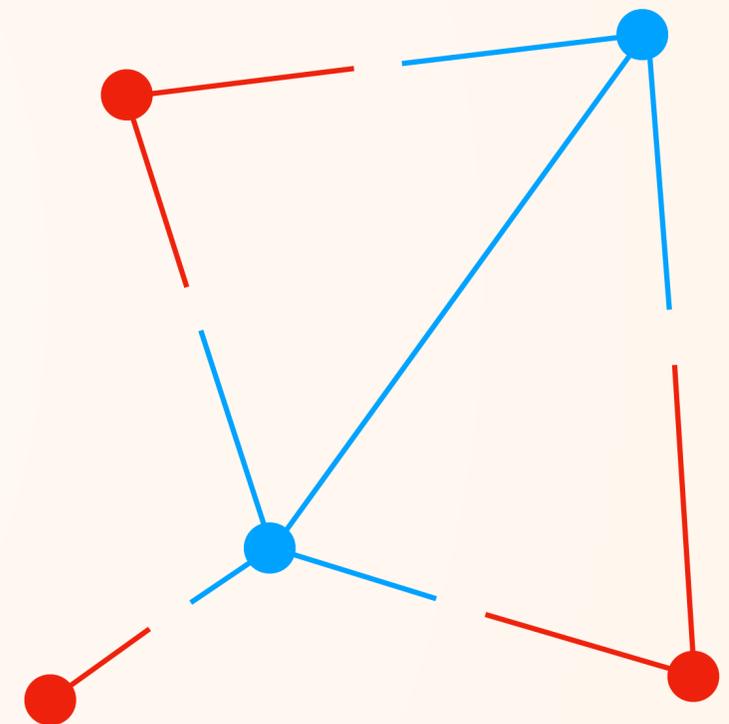
# MAXCUT with QAOA

- $G = (V, E)$  Problem: Divide  $V$  into two subsets, s.t. the number of edges between them is maximal. ← NP-hard



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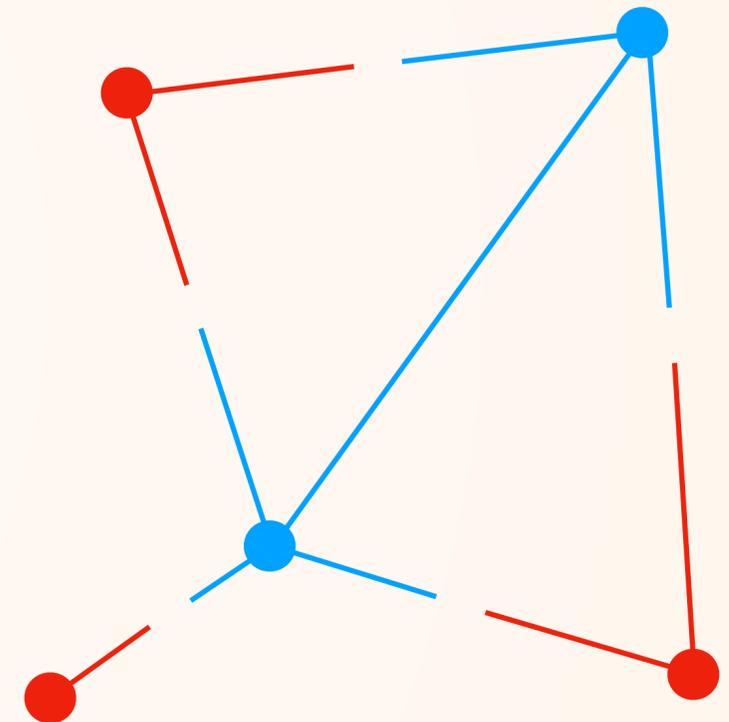
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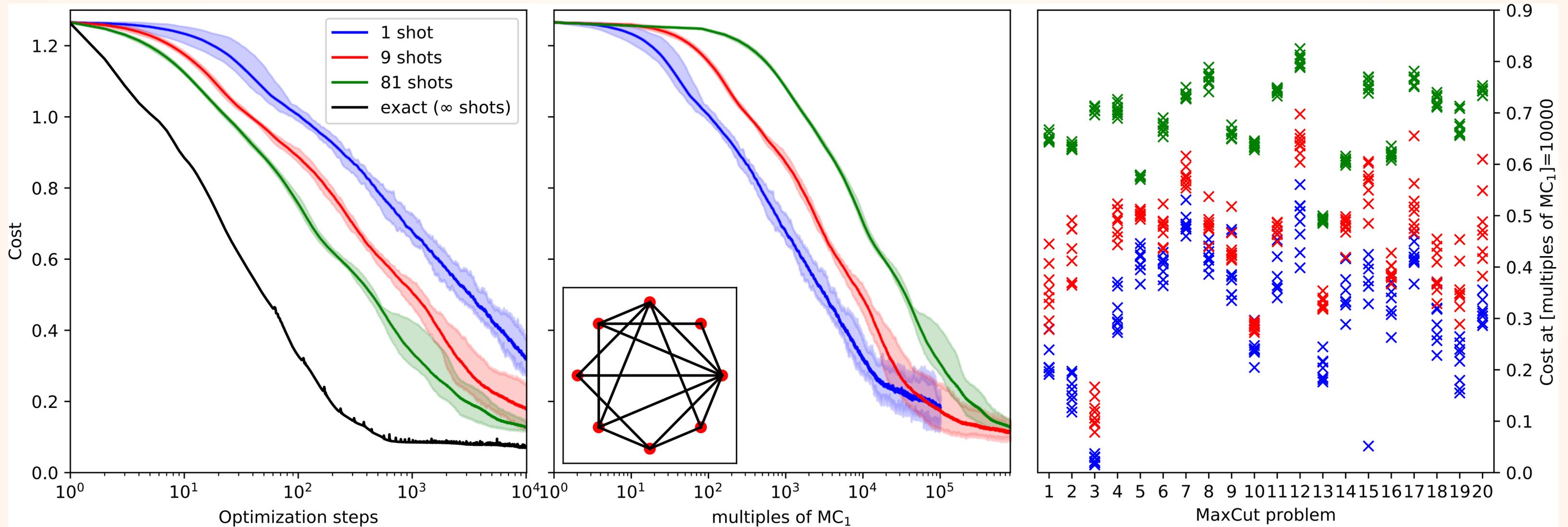
$$H = \sum_{(i,j) \in E} \sigma_i^z \sigma_j^z$$

- QAOA:

$$|\psi(\beta, \gamma)\rangle = e^{-i\beta_p X} e^{-i\gamma_p H} \dots e^{-i\beta_1 X} e^{-i\gamma_1 H} |+\rangle$$

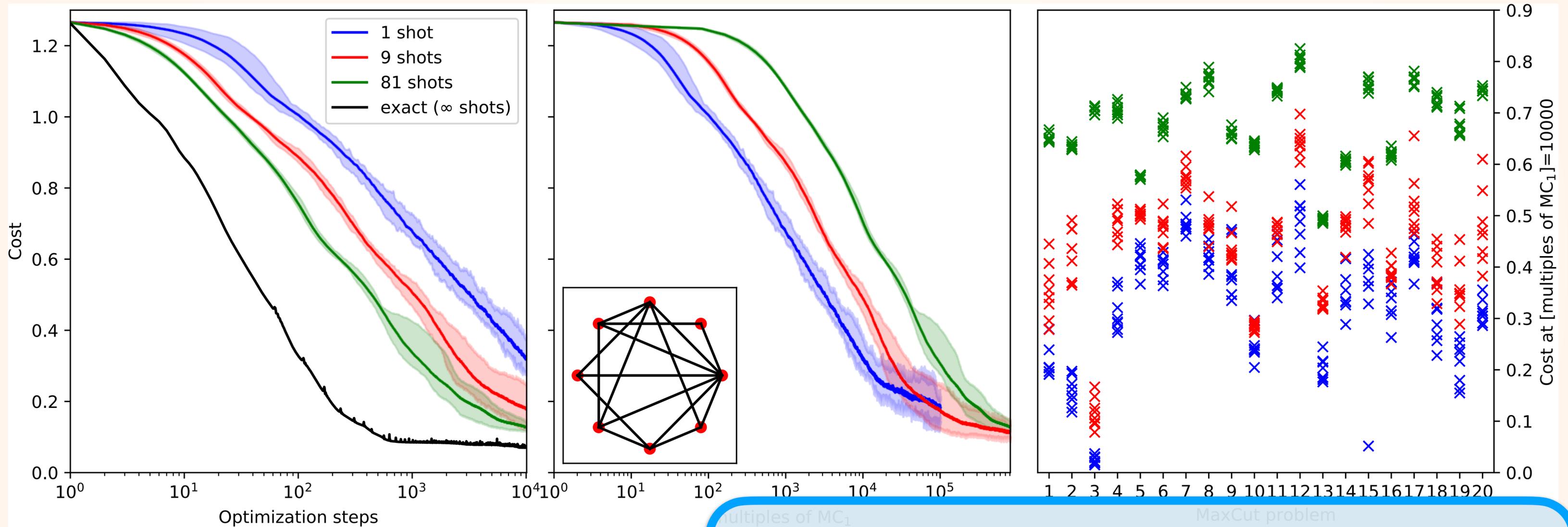


# MAXCUT with QAOA



$p=50$ , random graphs  $|V| = 8$ ,  $|E| = 16$

# MAXCUT with QAOA



**Number of shots is a hyper parameter.**

$p=50$ , random graphs  $|V|=8$ ,  $|E|=16$

# Related work

[1] [J. Napp et al., 1901.05374](#)

[2] [J. M. Kübler et al., Quantum 2020](#)

[3] [A. Arrasmith et al., 2004.06252](#)

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individual Coupled Adaptive Number of Shots

$$\#(\text{shots}) = \frac{2L\alpha}{2 - L\alpha} \frac{\hat{\text{Var}}(g_i)}{g_i^2}$$

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- Rosalin [3]

Cleverly distribute and adapt "shot budget" amongst Hamiltonian terms. → Weighted Random Sampling

[1] [J. Napp et al., 1901.05374](#)

[2] [J. M. Kübler et al., Quantum 2020](#)

[3] [A. Arrasmith et al., 2004.06252](#)

[4] [B. van Straaten et al., PRX Quant. 2021](#)

# Related work

- Rigorous separation between 0th and 1st order optimization [1]

- iCANS [2]

individual Coupled Adaptive Number of Shots

$$\#(\text{shots}) = \frac{2L\alpha}{2 - L\alpha} \frac{\hat{\text{Var}}(g_i)}{g_i^2}$$

- Rosalin [3]

Cleverly distribute and adapt "shot budget" amongst Hamiltonian terms. → Weighted Random Sampling

- Rigorous bounds on required number of shots [4]

[1] [J. Napp et al., 1901.05374](#)

[2] [J. M. Kübler et al., Quantum 2020](#)

[3] [A. Arrasmith et al., 2004.06252](#)

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# Convergence

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**Problem:**  $\mathbb{E}(\mathcal{L}(X)) \neq \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{E}(X))$

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- Solved for polynomial loss functions

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- Provable convergence under certain assumptions about  $\mathcal{L}$  [1]
  - Polyak-Lojasiewicz (PL) inequality "no local minima"
  - Lipschitz continuity

# Thanks for your attention

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[Quantum 4, 314 \(2020\)](#)

Slides at:

[frederikwil.de/jmc2021](https://frederikwil.de/jmc2021)

# What now?

[1] [W. Lavrijsen et al., 2004.03004](#)

[2] [J. J. Meyer et al., 2006.06303](#)

# What now?

- Non-polynomial loss functions

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# What now?

- Non-polynomial loss functions
- #(measurement shots) and barren plateaus

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# What now?

- Non-polynomial loss functions
- #(measurement shots) and barren plateaus
- Impact of noise [1]  
Robustness through the parameter shift rule? [2]

[1] [W. Lavrijsen et al., 2004.03004](#)

[2] [J. J. Meyer et al., 2006.06303](#)

# **Fast QAOA optimization**

# Fast QAOA optimization

$$|\psi(\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma})\rangle = e^{-i\beta_p X} e^{-i\gamma_p H} \dots e^{-i\beta_1 X} e^{-i\gamma_1 H} |+\rangle$$

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$e^{i\beta_p \sigma_1^x} \dots e^{i\beta_p \sigma_n^x}$   $\rightarrow$   $2n$  parameter shift terms

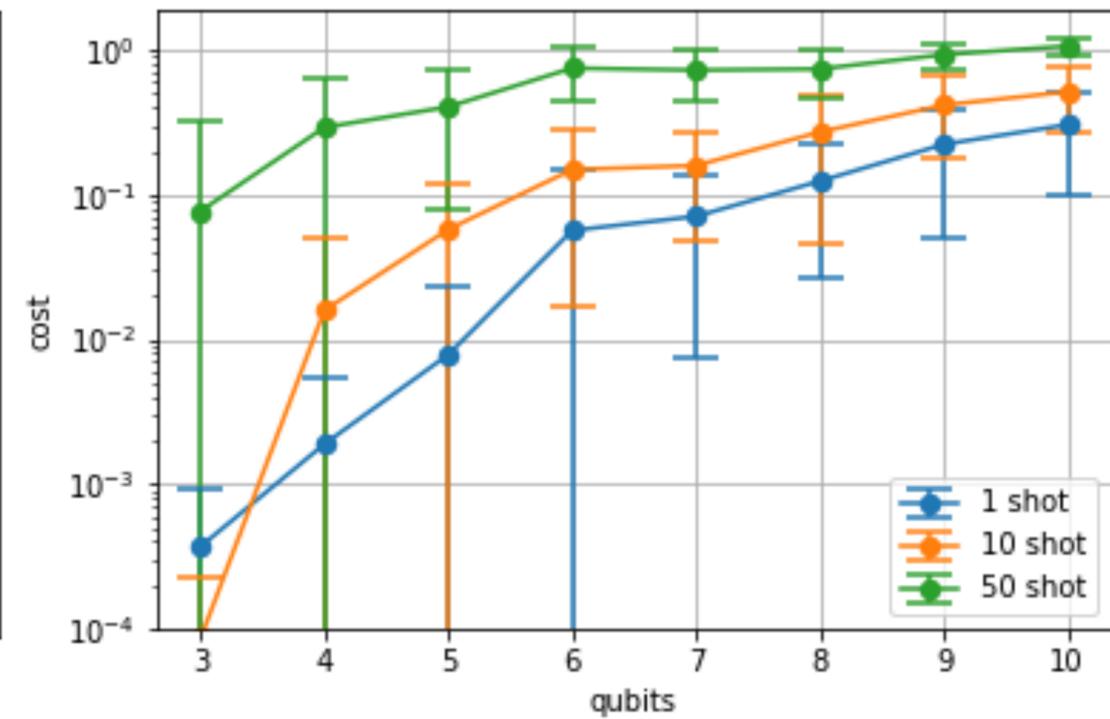
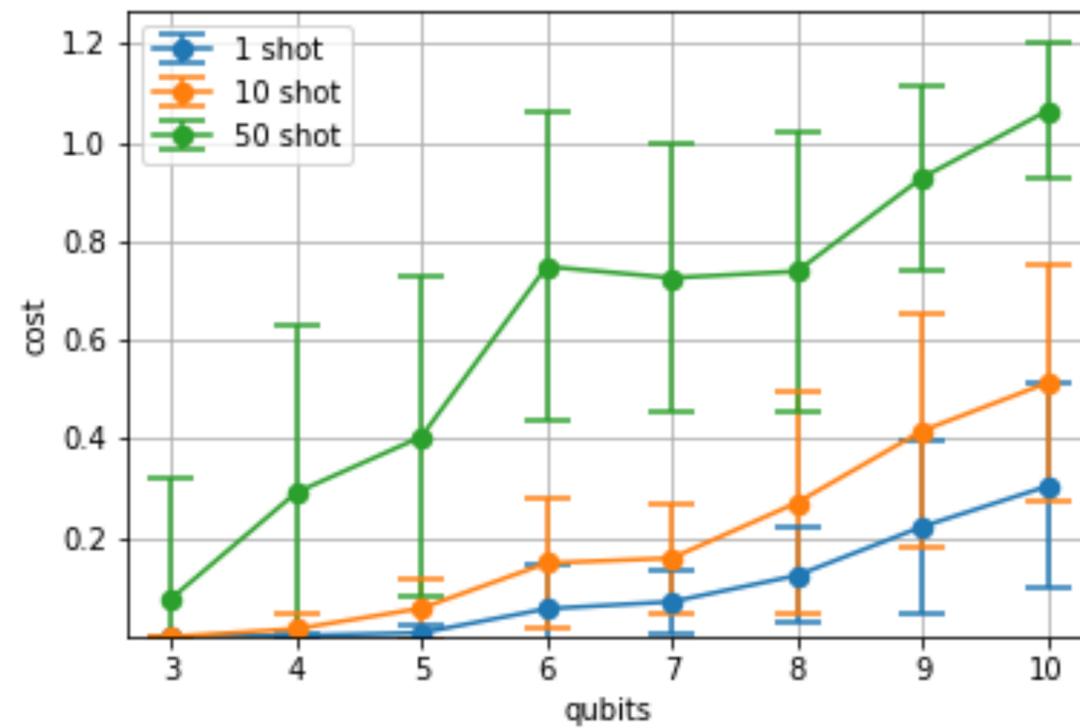
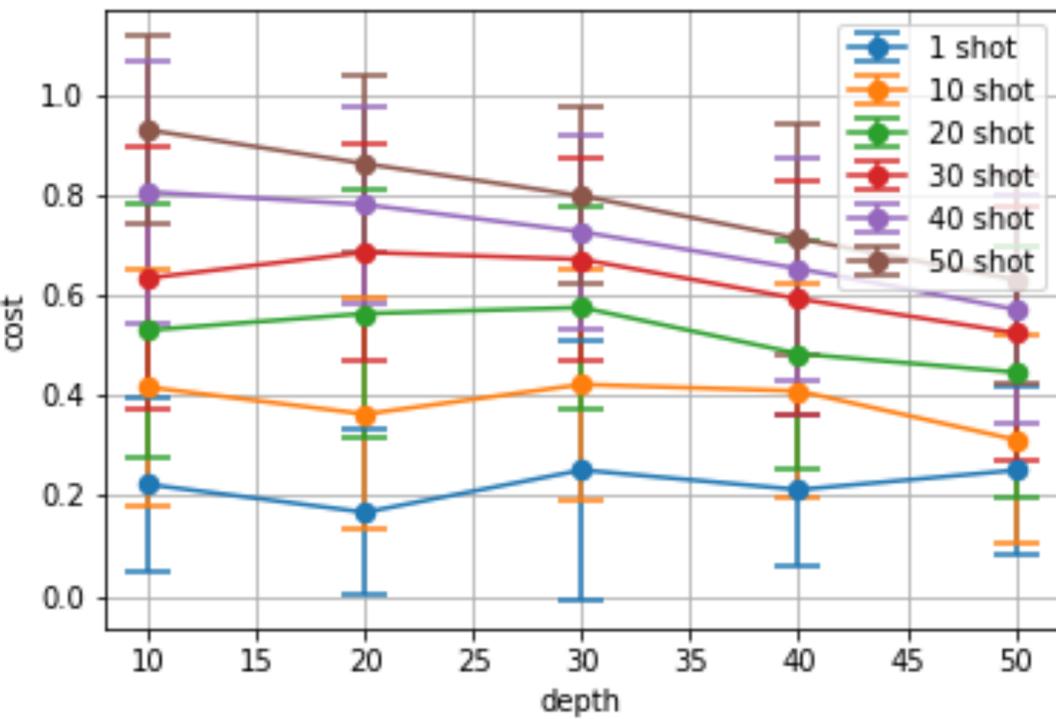
$\rightarrow$   $2m$  parameter shift terms

Sampling **PS terms** alone reduces #(circuit evaluations)

by a factor of  $\frac{2p}{2pn + 2pm} = \frac{1}{n + m}$  per optimization step.

# Scaling

QAOA on Erdős–Rényi graphs (edge probability 30%) ~20 samples/data-point (unpublished)



# Corrections for polynomial loss functions

- Let  $X$  represent the measurement
- Expand  $\mathcal{L}(X)$  around  $\mathbb{E}(X) = x_0$

- $$\mathcal{L}(X) = \mathcal{L}(x_0) + \mathcal{L}'(x_0)(X - x_0) + \sum_{n=2}^s \frac{1}{n!} \mathcal{L}^{(n)}(x_0) (X - x_0)^n$$

- $$\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}(X)] = \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}(x_0)] + \sum_{n=2}^s \frac{1}{n!} \mathcal{L}^{(n)}(x_0) \mathbb{E}[(X - x_0)^n]$$