

# Stochastic Gradient Descent for Hybrid Quantum-Classical Optimization

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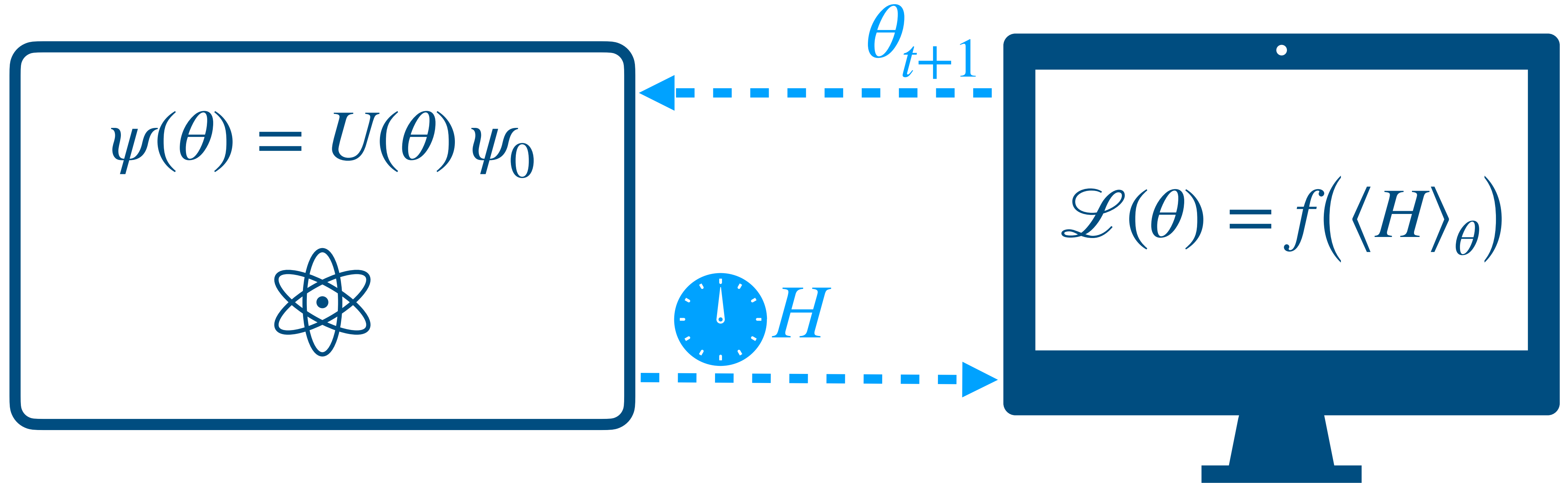
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[frederikwil.de/slides/pas2020](https://frederikwil.de/slides/pas2020)



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# Hybrid quantum-classical algorithms



- Variational Quantum Eigensolver (VQE) [1]

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

- Quantum Approximate Optimization Algorithm (QAOA) [2]

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

# Hybrid methods are promising for NISQ devices

- Ideally: Only do the **quantum-easy-classically-hard part** on the quantum device
- **Variational principle** has a long history
- **Short coherence times** are OK due to iterative process
- (Implicit) **error mitigation** by the classical optimizer **[1]**

# Optimization

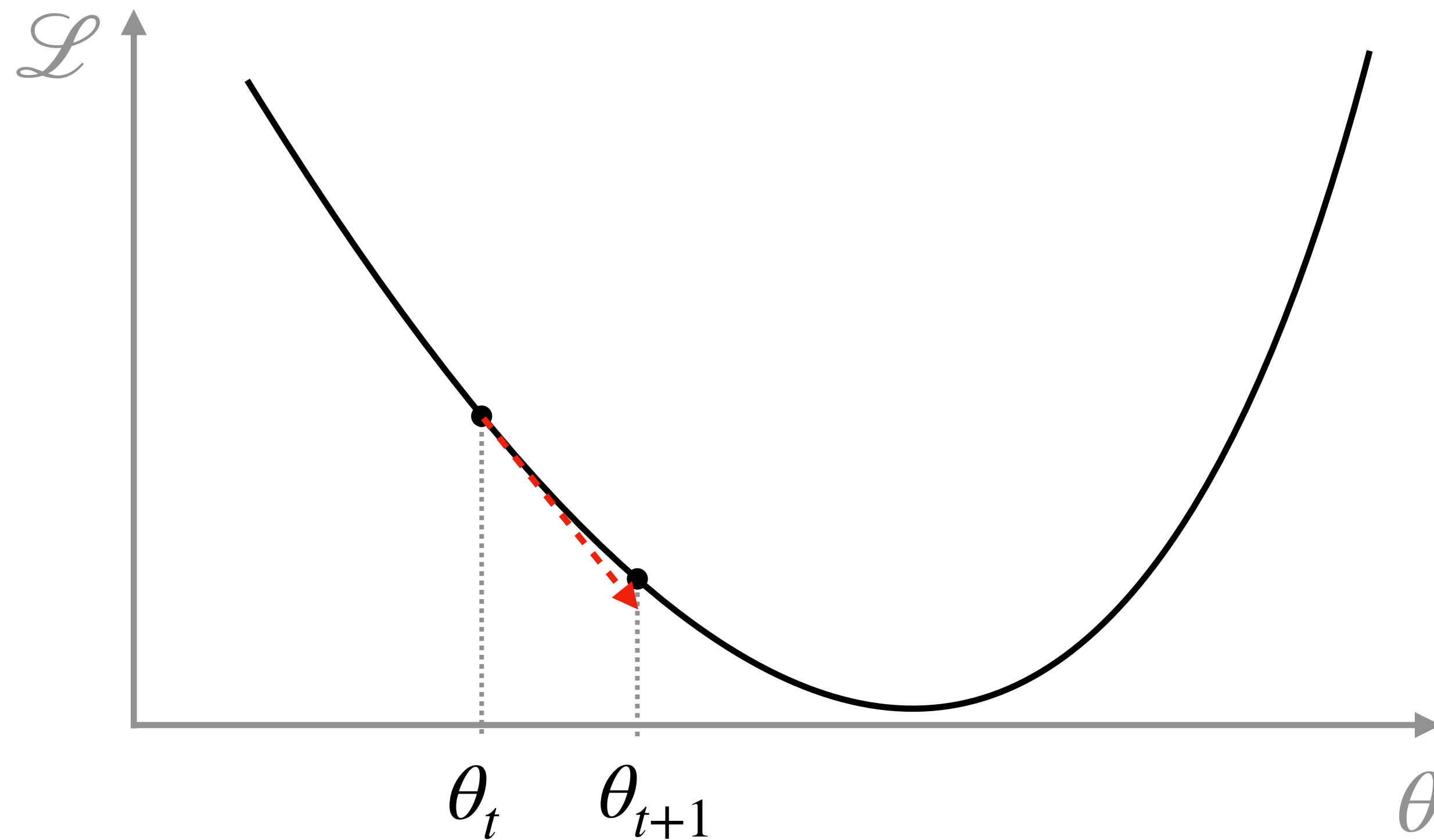
## 0-th order:

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

# Optimization

**1st order:**

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



# Optimization

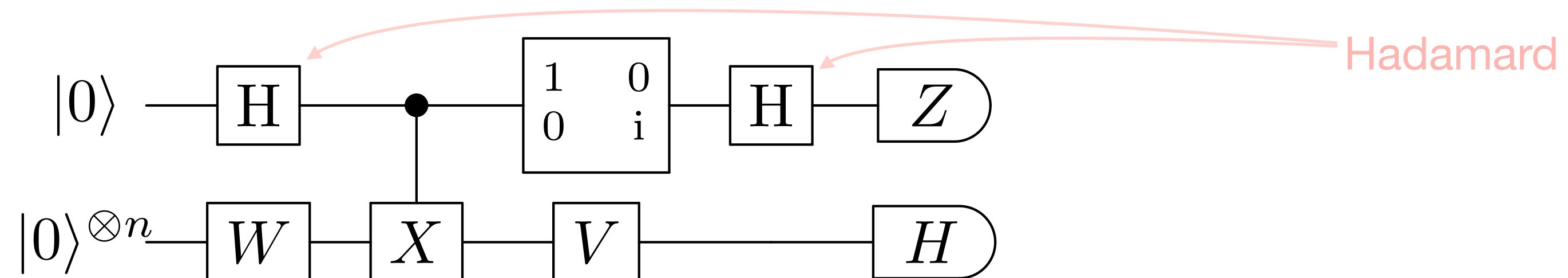
## 1st order:

- gradient is expensive (no-cloning thm, no autograd)

- "exact" gradient is accessible




- gradient as a circuit [1]  $V e^{-i\theta X} \tilde{W} = VW, \quad |\psi\rangle = VW|0\rangle$

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



- Parameter-shift rule [2,3]  $\partial_{\theta} \langle H \rangle = \langle H \rangle_{\theta+\pi/4} - \langle H \rangle_{\theta-\pi/4}$

# Sources of stochasticity

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

Some data

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

hardware-dependent  
(shots might actually be cheap)

non-commuting components

dependent on circuit architecture  
(at least factor of 2)

1. Measurement shots

2. Observable components

3. Data

4. Parameter-shift terms

# Sources of stochasticity

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

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



# Fast QAOA optimization

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

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

$\rightarrow 2n$  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.

# Convergence

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

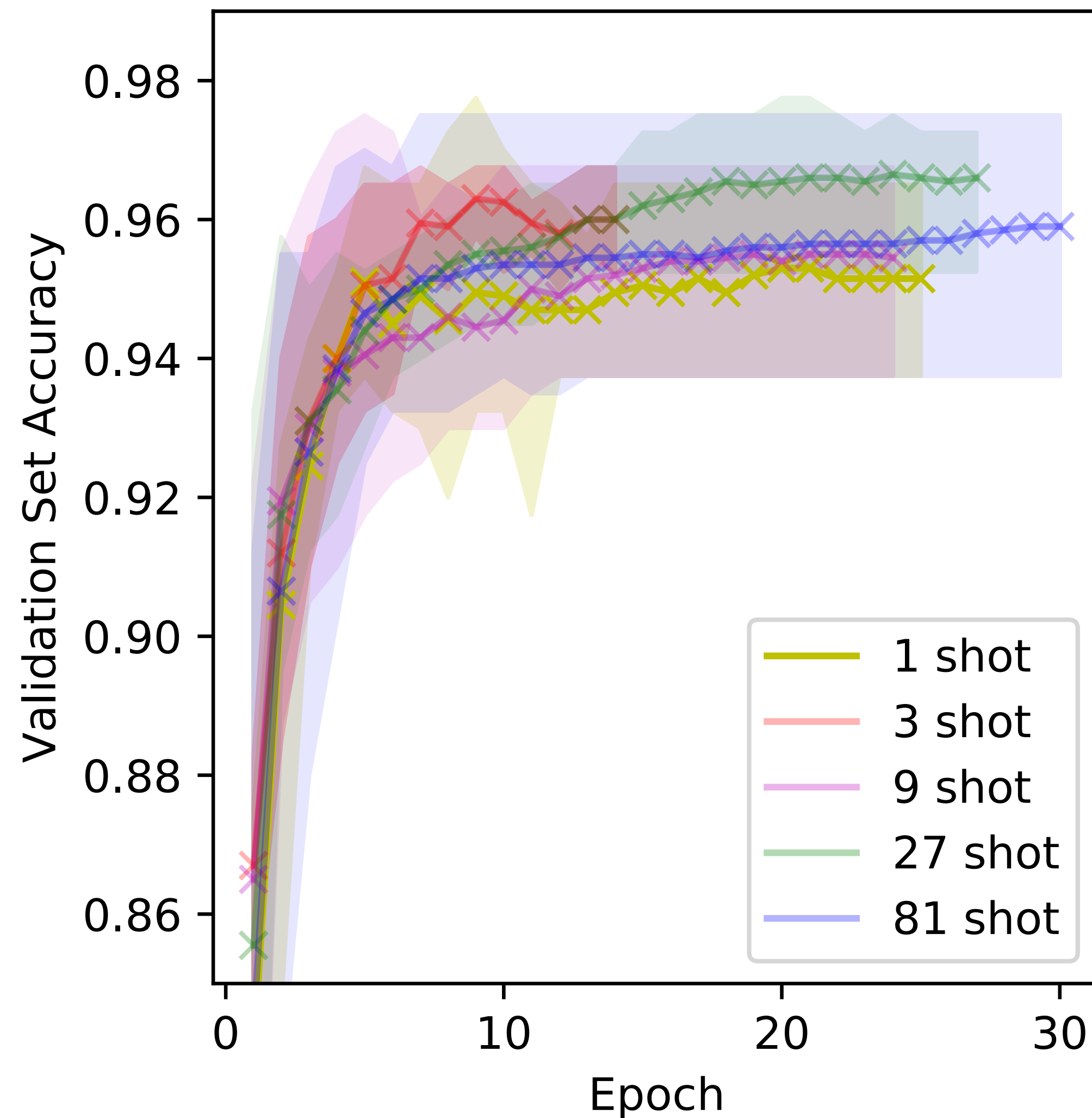
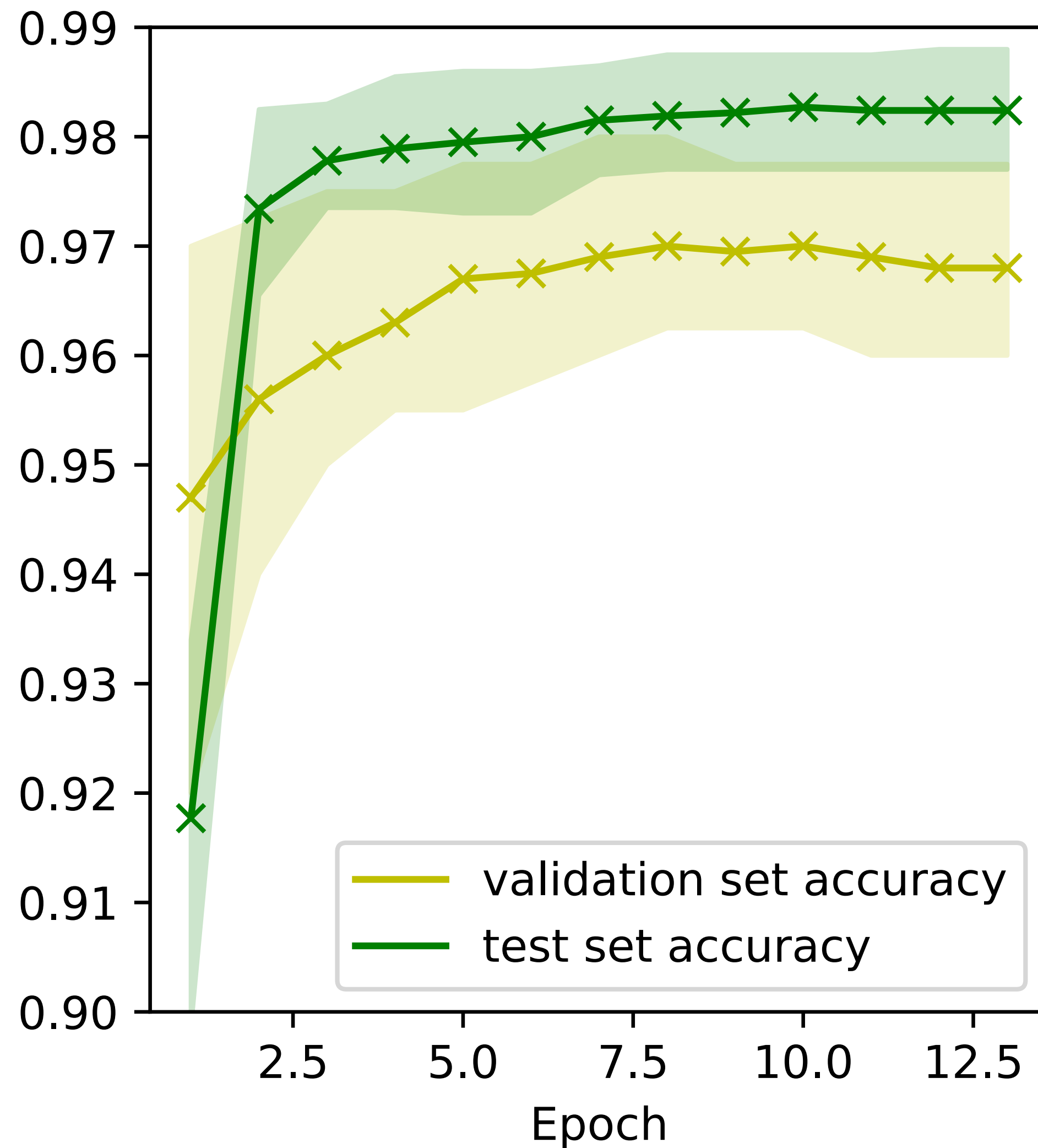
- Solved for polynomial loss functions

$$\mathcal{L}(X) = \sum_{j=0}^k a_j X^j = \mathcal{L}(X_1, \dots, X_k)$$

$$e_k(\mathcal{L}(X)) = \frac{1}{k!} \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_k \in \mathcal{P}\{1, \dots, k\}} \mathcal{L}(x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_k})$$

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

# MNIST Classifier



8 qubits, 400 parameters, batch size = 1

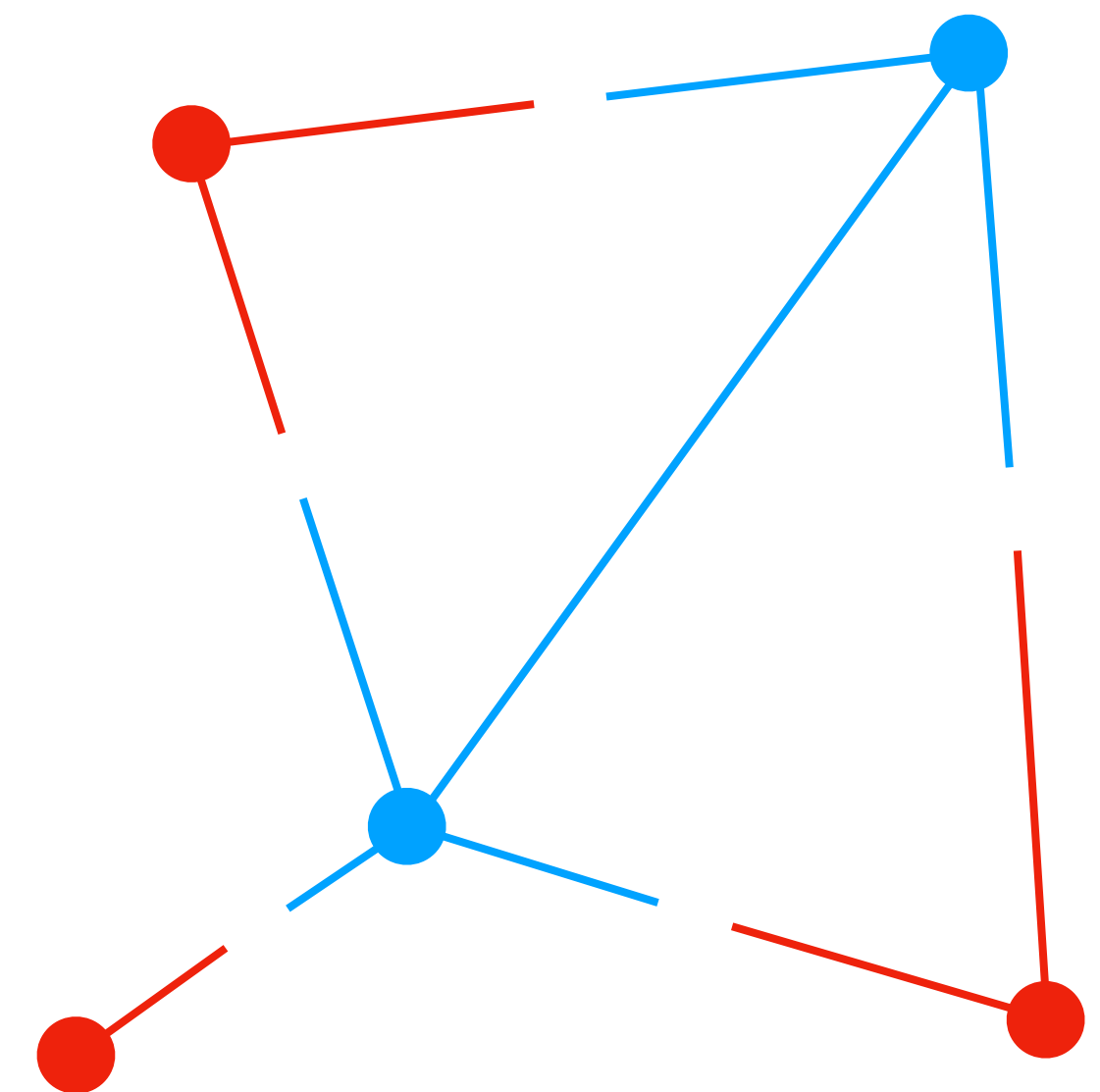
# MAXCUT with QAOA

- Given a graph  $G = (V, E)$  divide  $V$  into two subsets, s.t. the number of edges between those is maximal. ← NP-hard

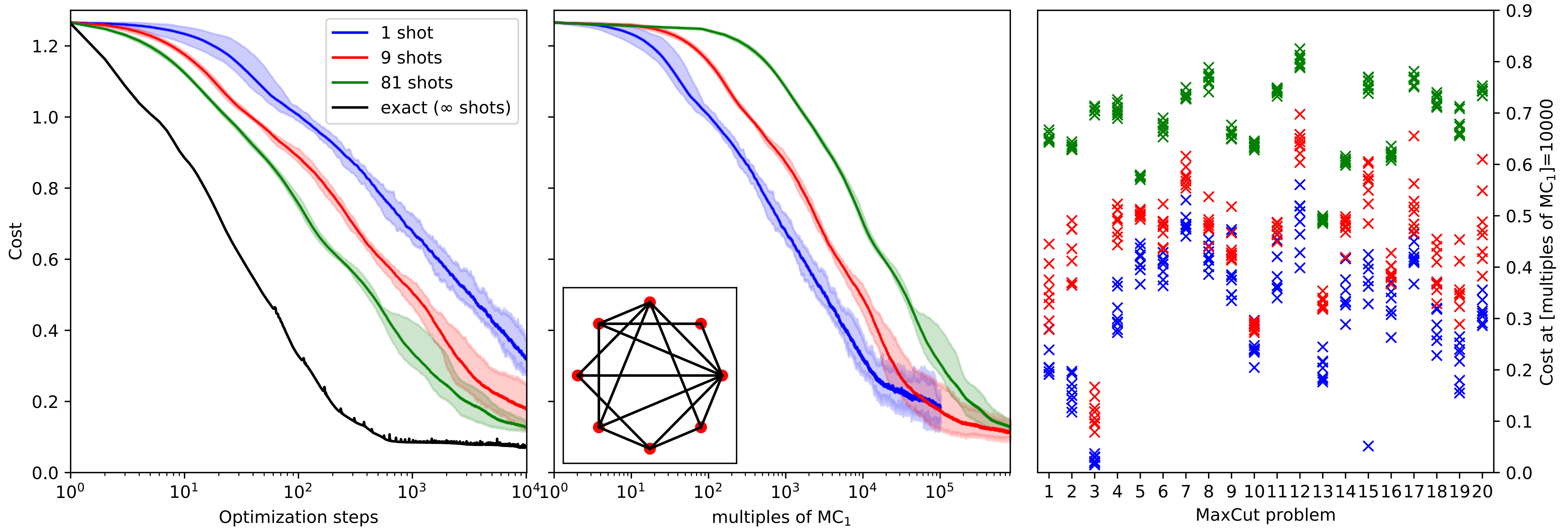
$$H = \sum_{(i,j) \in E} \sigma_i^z \sigma_j^z$$

- QAOA:

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



# MAXCUT with QAOA



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

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

# gradient

Alternatives:  
[Pennylane](#) (default.qubit.tf device)  
[Yao.jl](#)  
[Tensorflow Quantum](#)

[github.com/frederikwilde/gradient](https://github.com/frederikwilde/gradient)

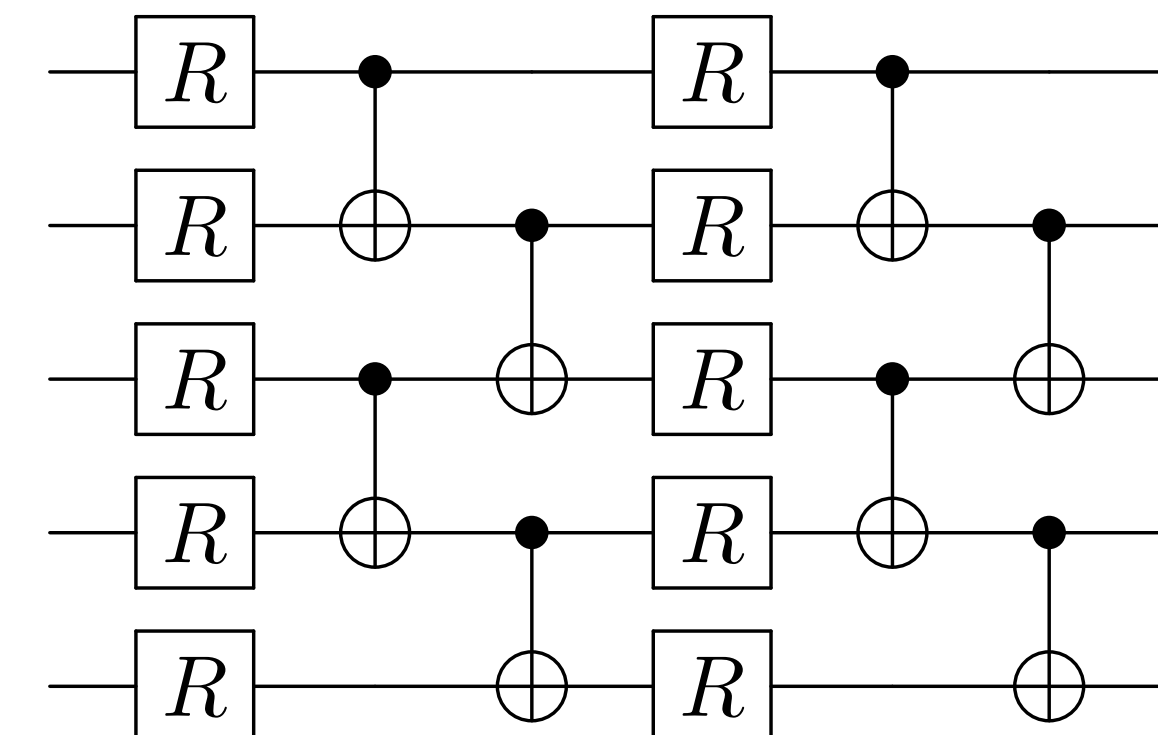
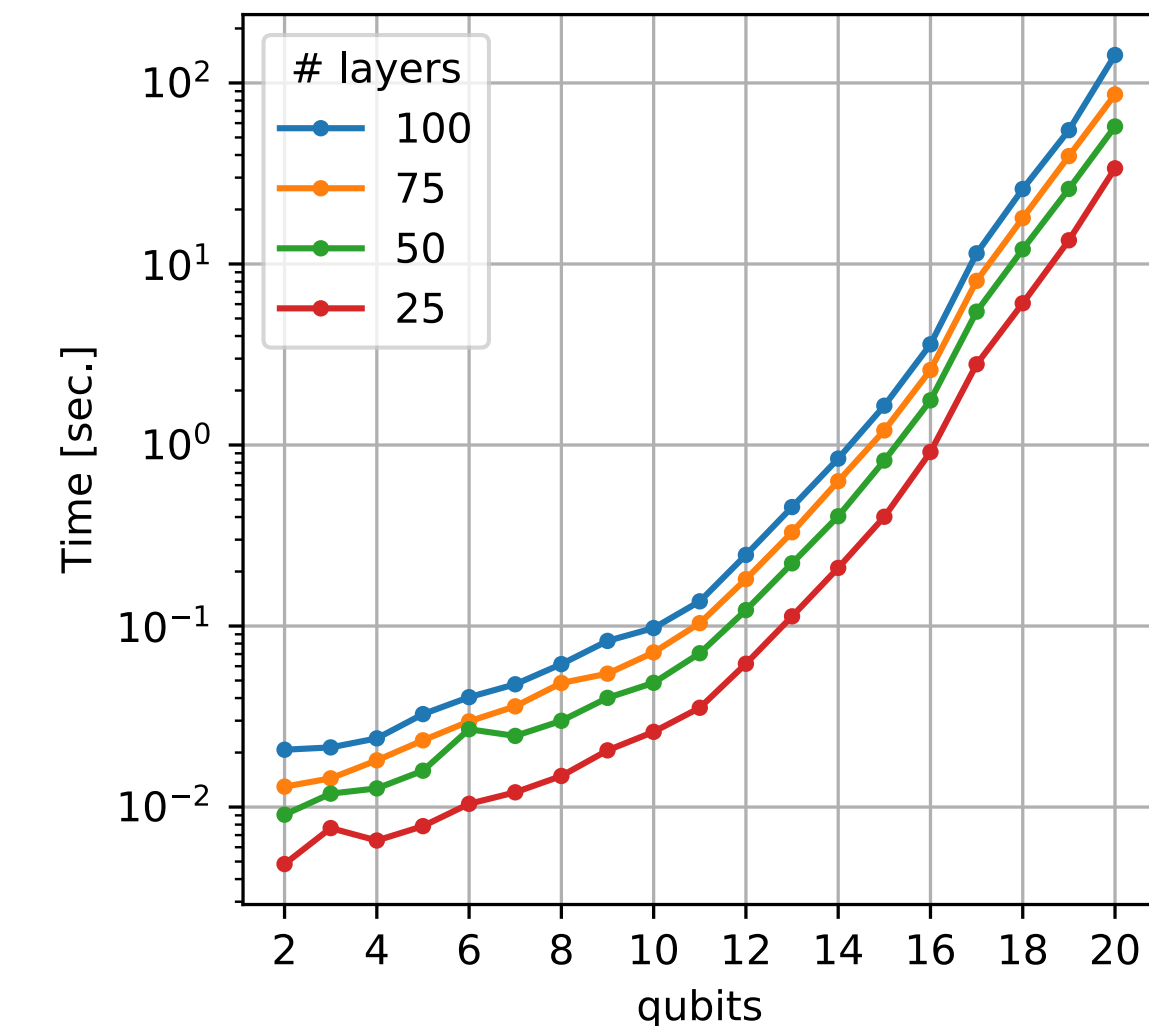
calculate gradients of quantum circuits efficiently (in simulation!)

```
import numpy as np
from gradient.circuit_logic import RandomRotations

interactions = np.array([[None, 1., None],
                        [None, None, -1.],
                        [None, None, None]])

observable = {'zz': interactions}
axes = np.array([[0, 0, 0],
                [1, 2, 1]])

circuit = RandomRotations(observable, axes)
expectation_value, gradient = circuit.gradient(angles)
```



Disclaimer:



**Under construction!**

currently the above applies to the 'restructure' branch  
contact me for any questions :-)

# 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 "shot budget" amongst Hamiltonian terms (randomly!) to decrease the estimator's variance.

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

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

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

# What now?

- Non-polynomial loss functions
- Beyond parameter shift rule
- #(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](#)



# Thanks for your attention

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arxiv: [1910.01155](https://arxiv.org/abs/1910.01155)

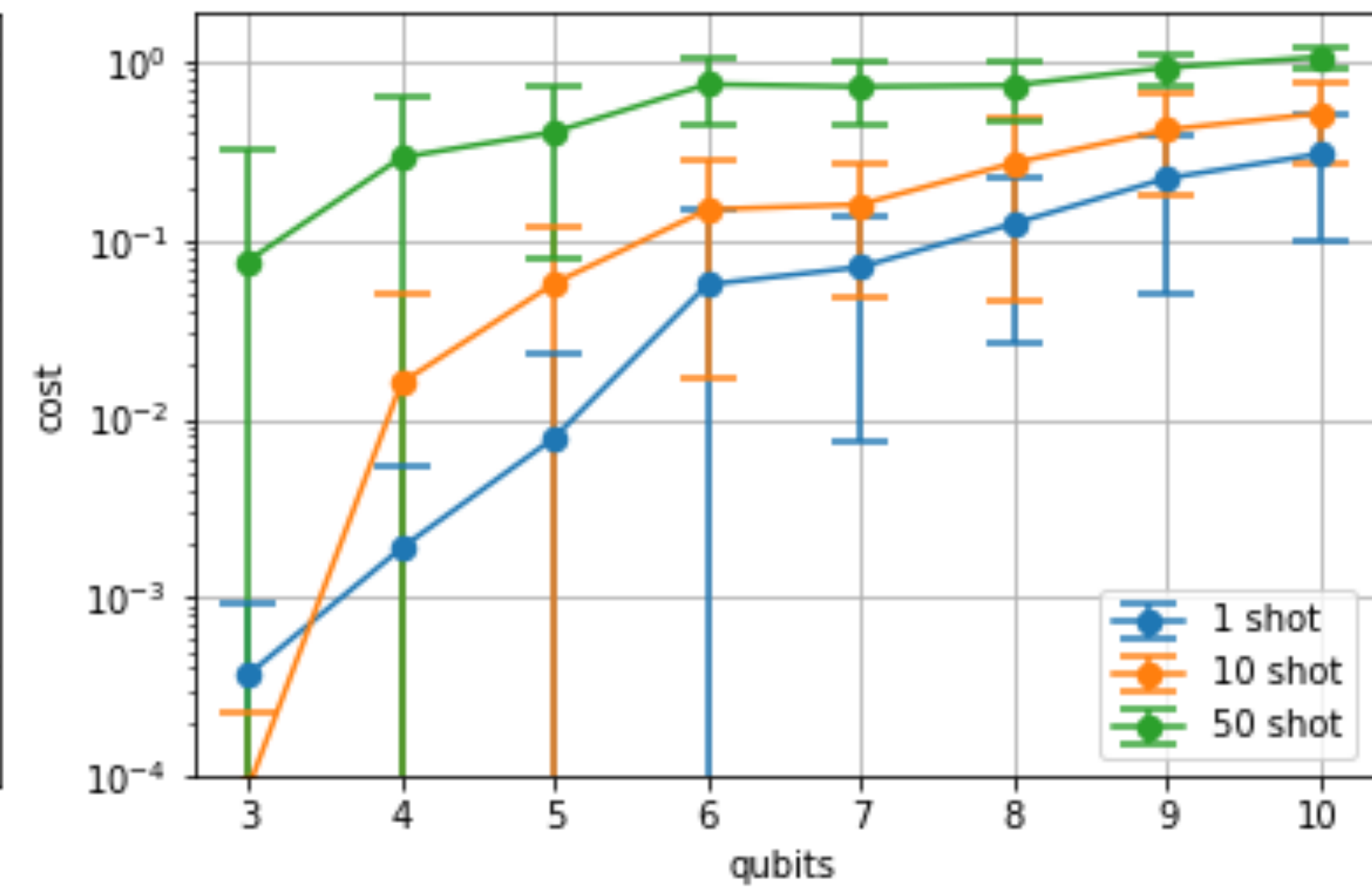
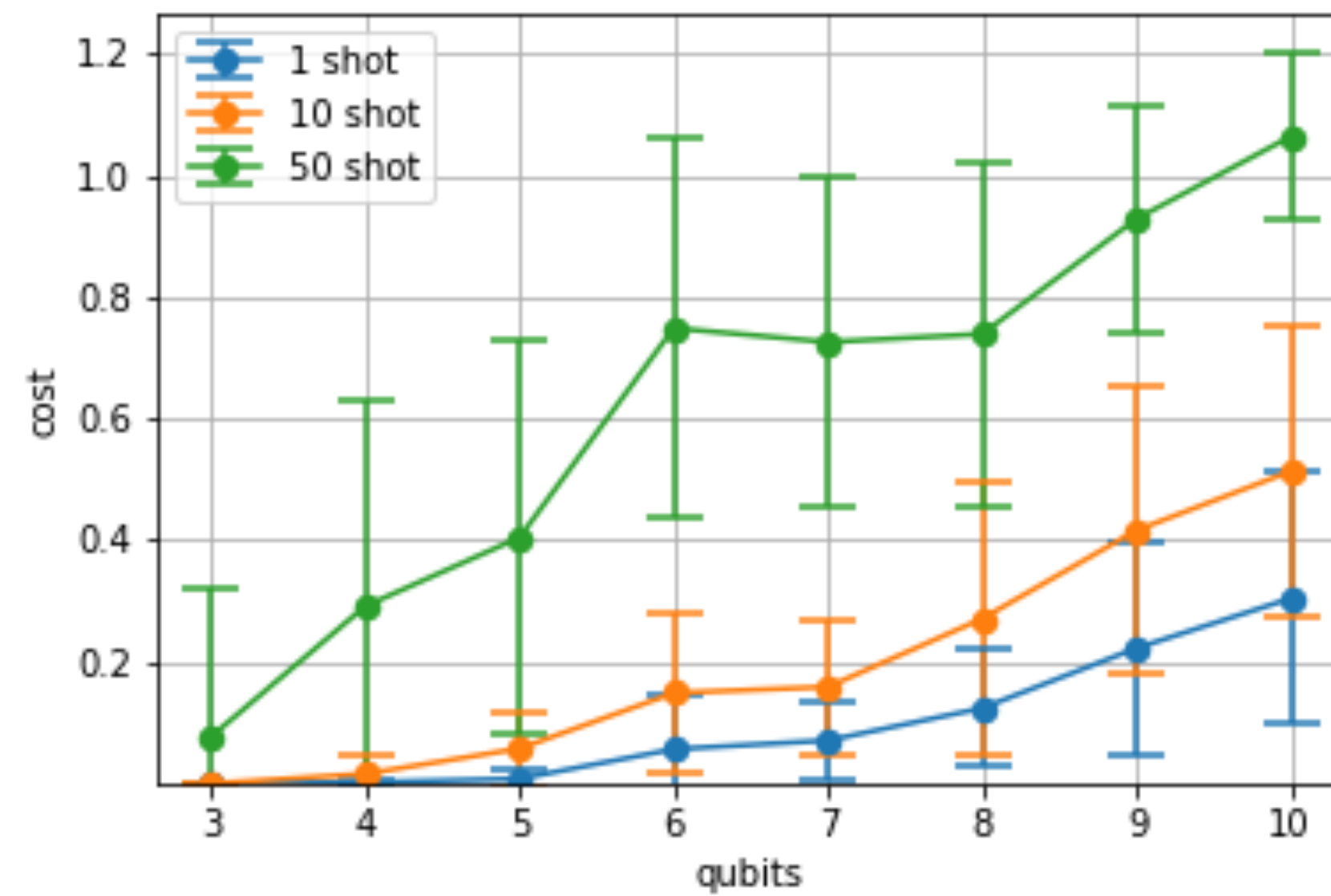
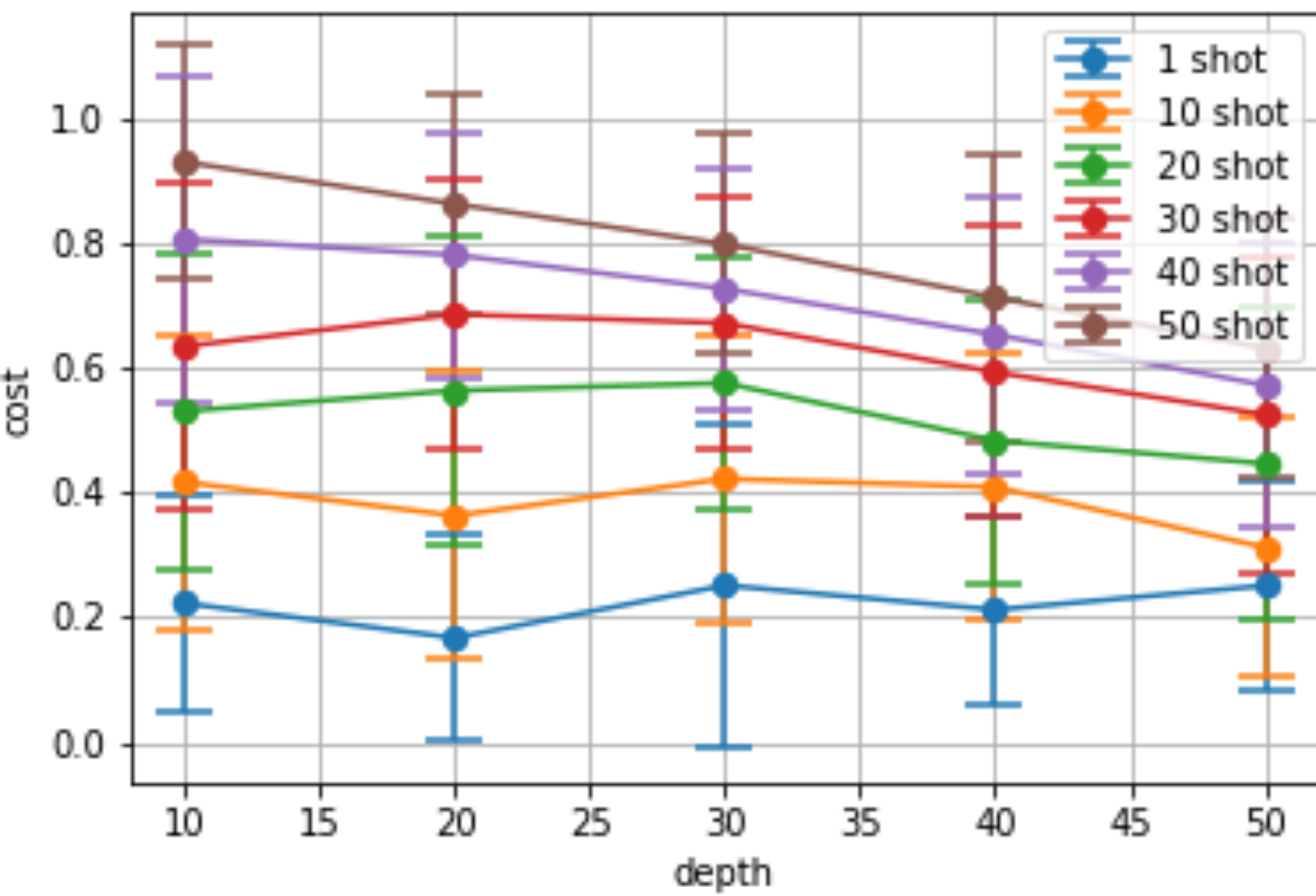
Slides at:

[frederikwil.de/slides/pas2020](https://frederikwil.de/slides/pas2020)

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# 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  $\mathbb{E}(X) = x_0$

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

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