

TQCI - Towards industrial applications of  
quantum algorithms  
November 14, 2024 – EDF Lab, Saclay

# Quantum Algorithms for Fracture Mechanics

**Contributors:**

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# Solving PDEs

- Substantial differences in length scales within the studied systems.
- Typically involves solving sparse linear systems.
- At EDF :  $\sim 10^9$  CPU hours each year & lots of research work in specific cases
- Goal : any speedup or reduction in power consumption.

# Agenda

- **1) Classical Simulation of Fracture Mechanics**
- 2) A textbook case study : Pre-cracked plane
- 3) VQA for Fracture Mechanics
- 4) Application to thermodynamics

# PDE in structural mechanics at EDF:

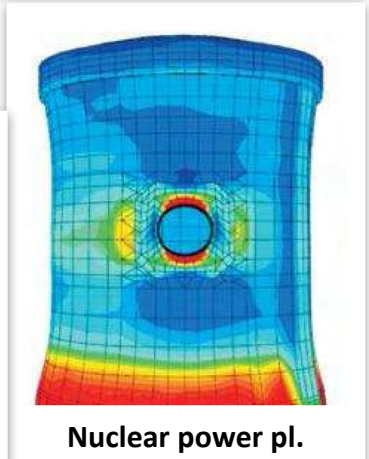
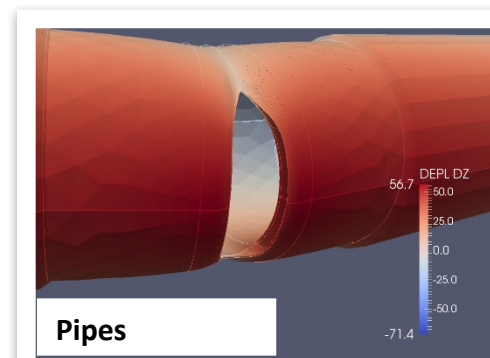
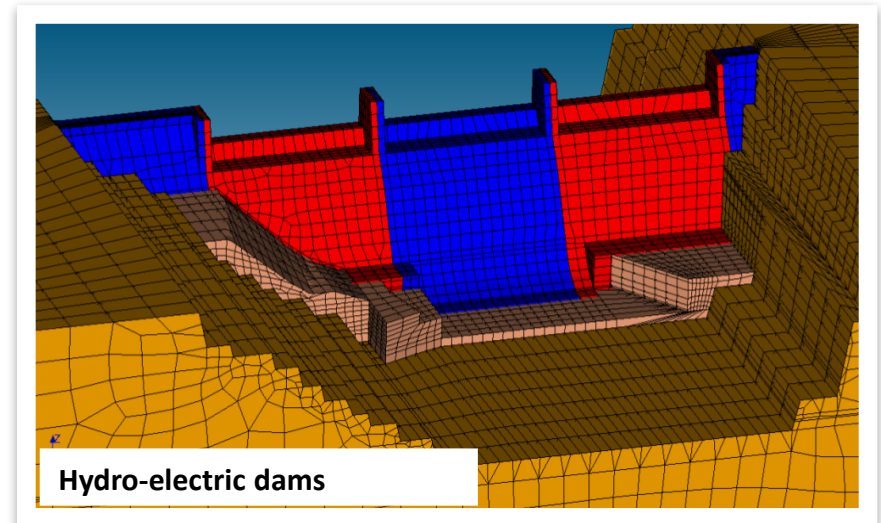
**1946** EDF (Electricité de France) was created

**1988** Code\_Aster, finite elements software

**2017** First Quantum project at EDF R&D

**2021** PDE with quantum algorithms

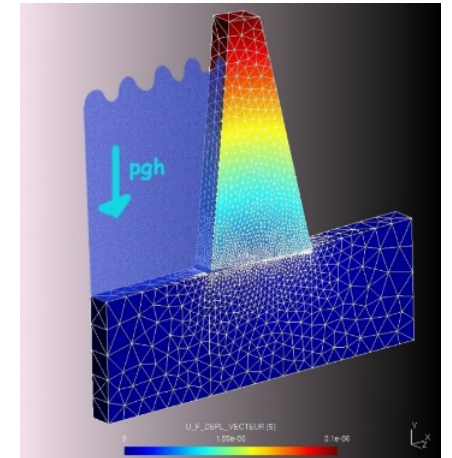
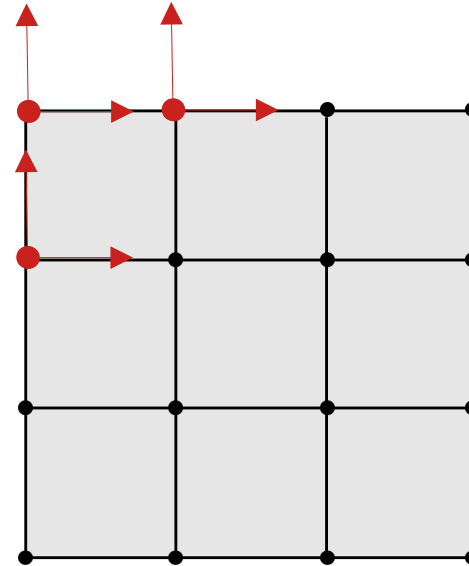
**202X** Quantum integration in Code\_Aster



# Fracture structural mechanics

- PDE Navier-Cauchy for linear elasticity

$$\nabla (\nabla \cdot \vec{u}) + (1 - 2\nu) \nabla^2 \vec{u} = \vec{u}$$



# Fracture structural mechanics

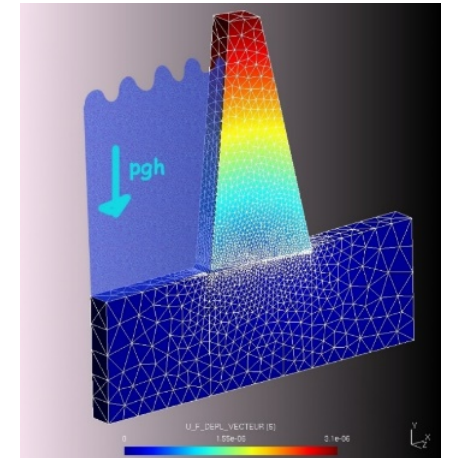
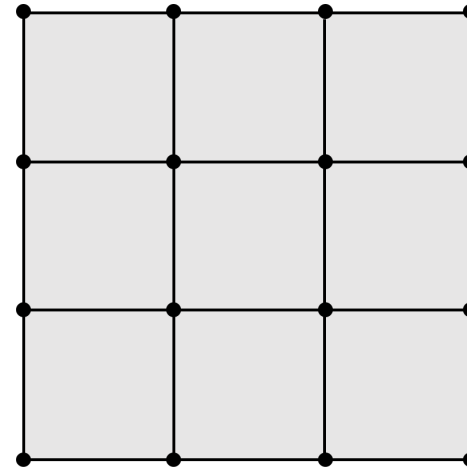
- PDE Navier-Cauchy for linear elasticity

$$\nabla (\nabla \cdot \vec{u}) + (1 - 2\nu) \nabla^2 \vec{u} = \vec{f}$$

- Finite elements discretization (mesh)

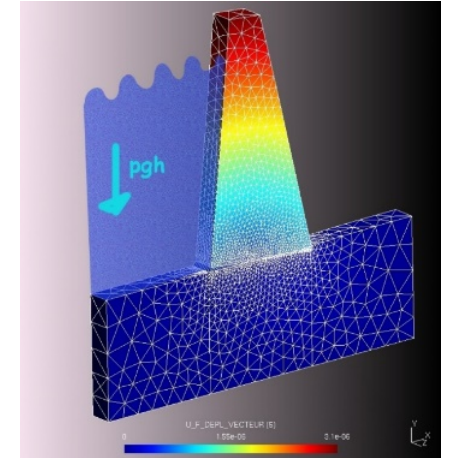
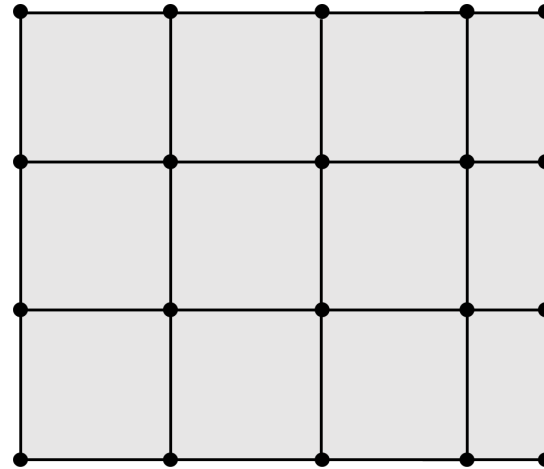
$$K \vec{u} = \vec{f} \Leftrightarrow \min_{\vec{u}} \left( (\vec{u} K \vec{u}) / 2 - (\vec{f}, \vec{u}) \right)$$

- Linear algebra problem with large sparse mechanical stiffness matrix



# Classical Workflow

- Define a discretization
- Define spots of interest (remeshing)
- Get the entire displacements or some black-box “observable”



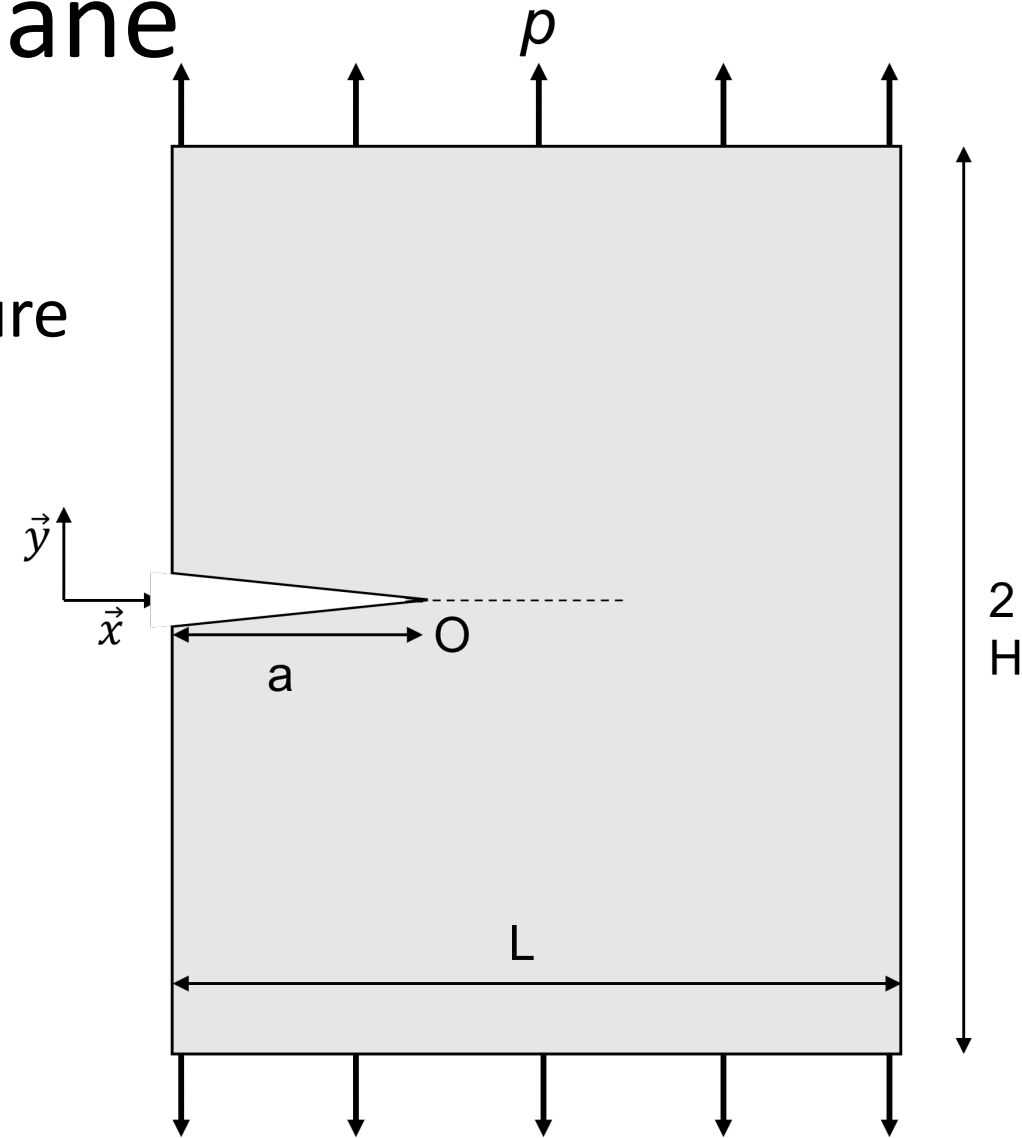
# Agenda

- 1) Classical Simulation of Fracture Mechanics
- **2) A textbook case study : Pre-cracked plane**
- 3) VQA for Fracture Mechanics
- 4) Application to thermodynamics



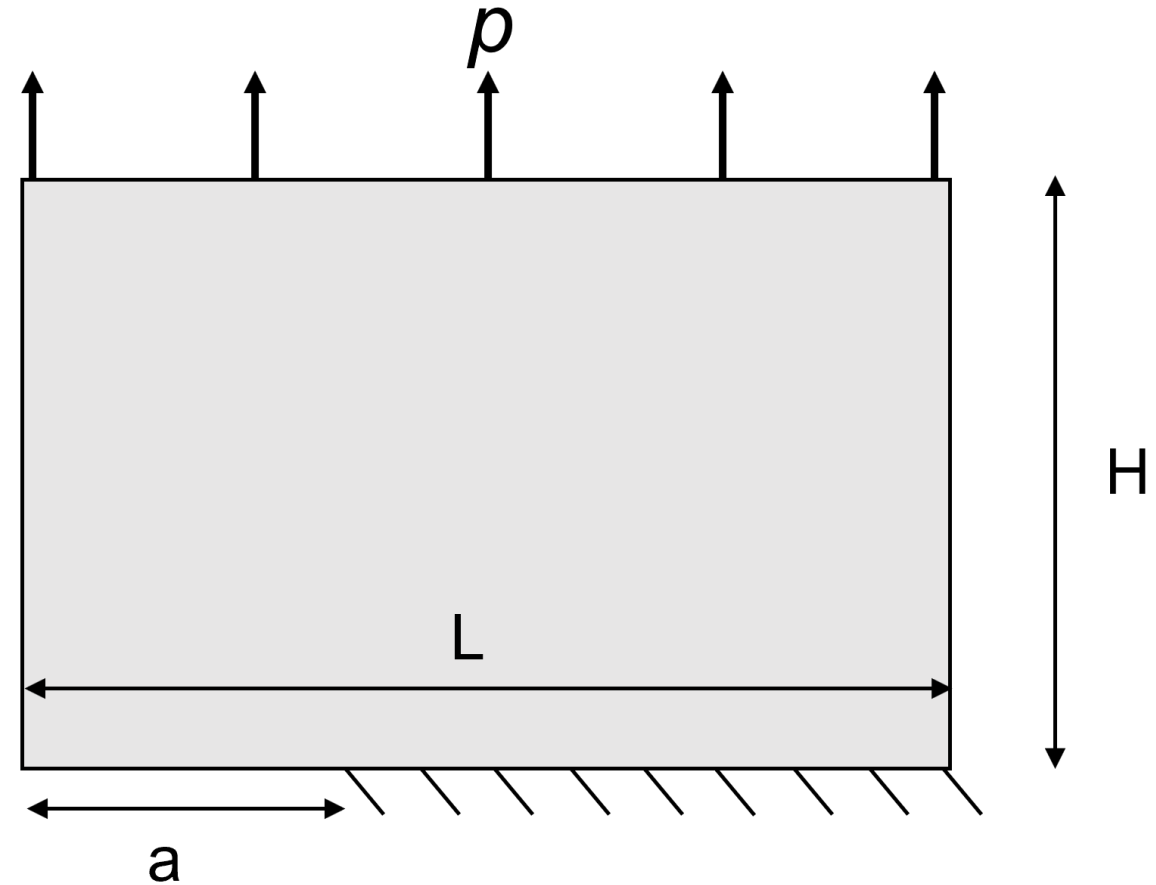
# Pre-cracked plane

- A 2D plane under some sort of vertical pressure
- A crack is already present
- Useful problem using linear elasticity



# Pre-cracked plane

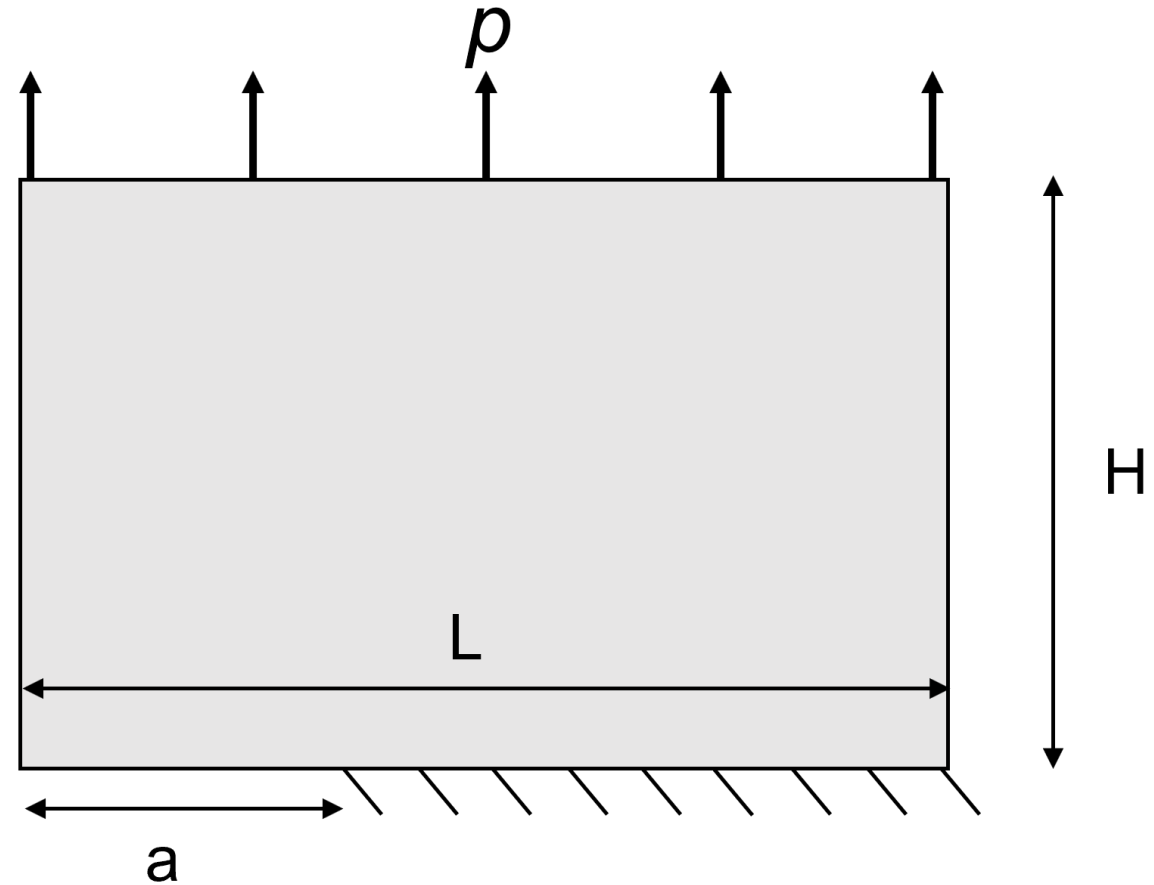
- A 2D plane under some sort of pressure
- A crack is already present
- Useful problem using linear elasticity
- Both Dirichlet and Neumann boundary conditions
- Symmetric problem



# Pre-cracked plane

- $K$  coming from the stiffness conditions
- $f$  coming from the boundary conditions

$$K \vec{u} = \vec{f} \Leftrightarrow \min_{\vec{u}} \left( (\vec{u} K \vec{u}) / 2 - (\vec{f}, \vec{u}) \right)$$



# Agenda

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# Various Main Goals:

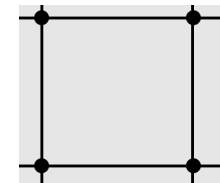
- Explore quantum advantage for solving **sparse linear systems**
- **Oracle** issue : efficient encoding of classical data into quantum system
- Identification of **observables**
- Adapt algorithms to different **boundary conditions**
- **Test-cases** relevant for EDF
- **Scaling and complexity**
- **NISQ to FTQC** transition

Any reduction in electricity consumption during these computations would offer a long-term advantage

# Fracture structural mechanics

First solution : naive Qiskit HHL (2008)

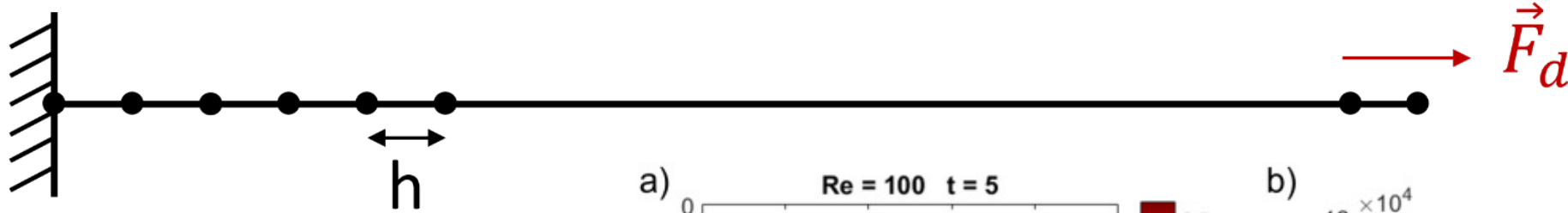
Size	2x2	4x4	8x8
CPU time, sec	0.1	1.3	184
# gates	335	5331	314 753
# qubits	5	8	11



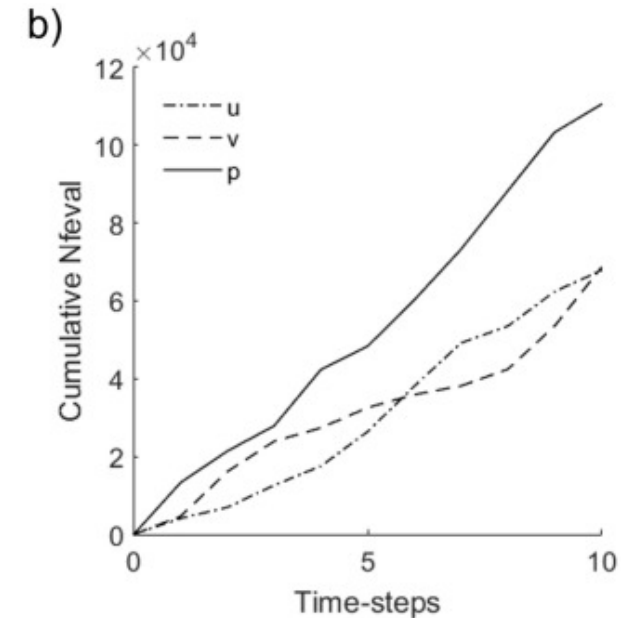
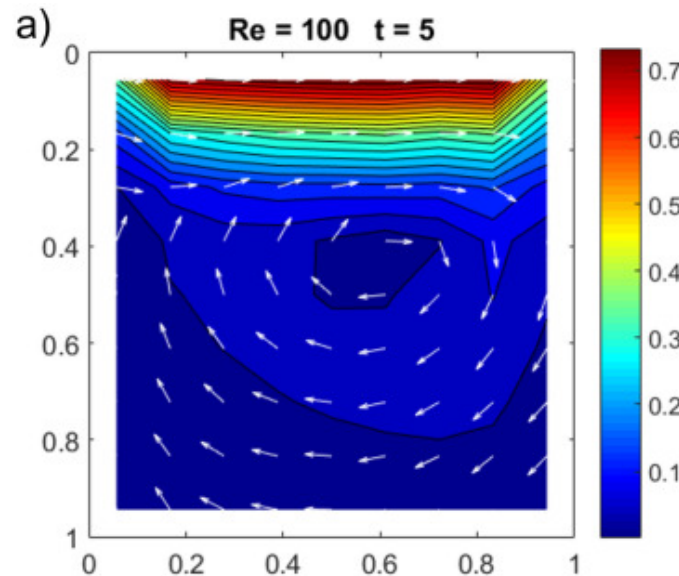
$$K \vec{u} = \vec{f} \Leftrightarrow \min_{\vec{u}} \left( (\vec{u} K \vec{u}) / 2 - (\vec{f}, \vec{u}) \right)$$

# State of the Art

- Improvements of HHL ([Childs 15], [Wossnig 17], ...)
- VQA for 1D structural mechanics [Liu 20]

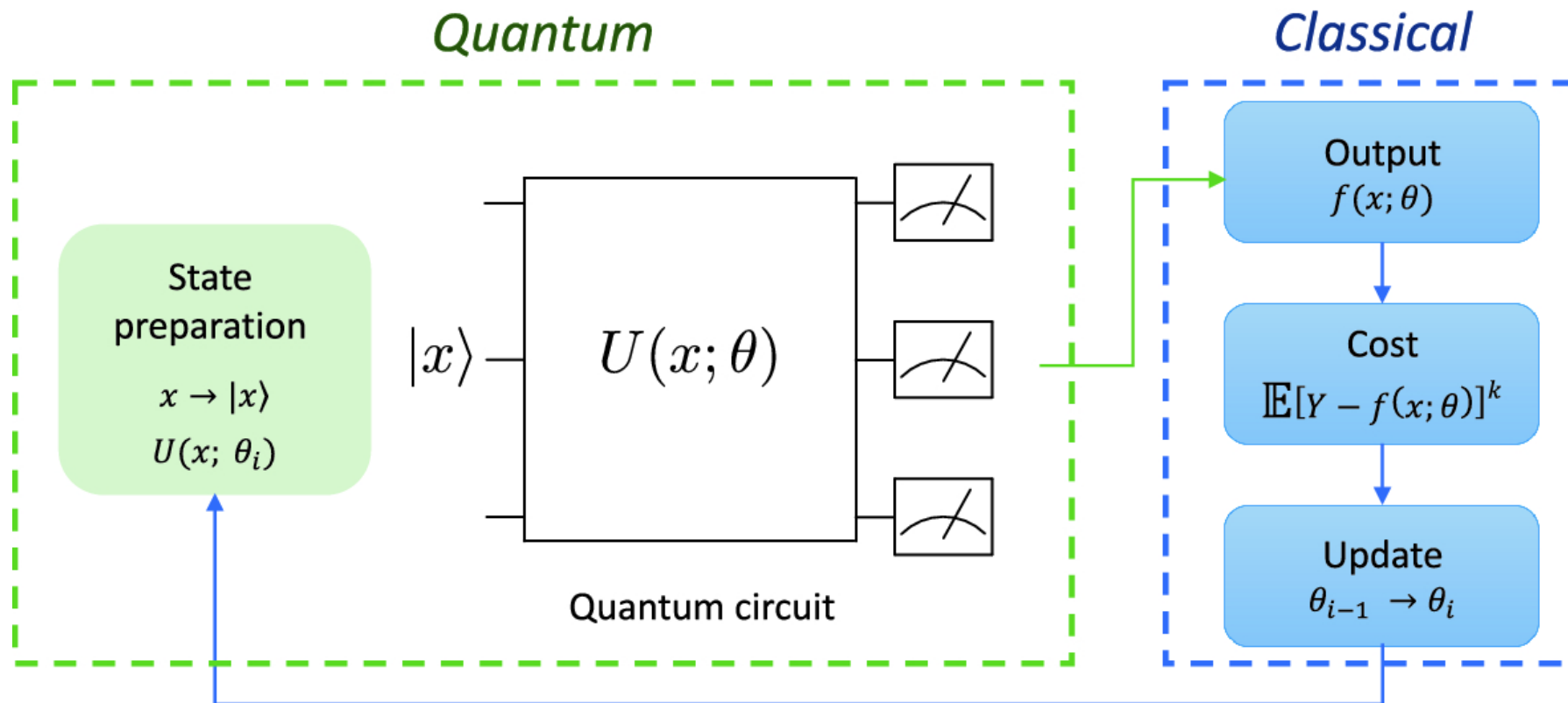


- VQA for 2D heat conduction & Incompressible Navier-Stokes [Leong 22]



# VQA general scheme

- We encode the displacements as quantum amplitudes :  $|u\rangle = \sum_a |x, y, d\rangle$
- We minimize the elastic energy observable to find the correct displacements.

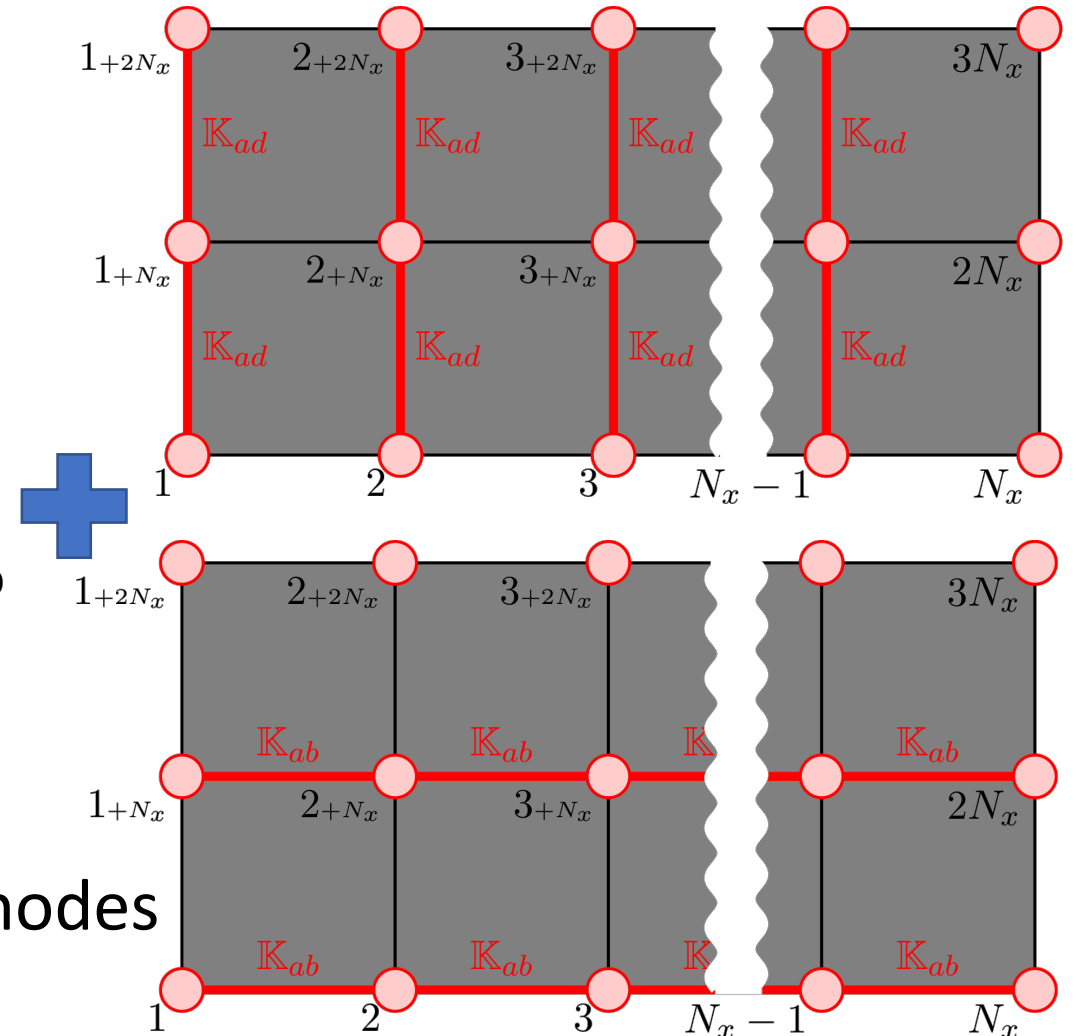
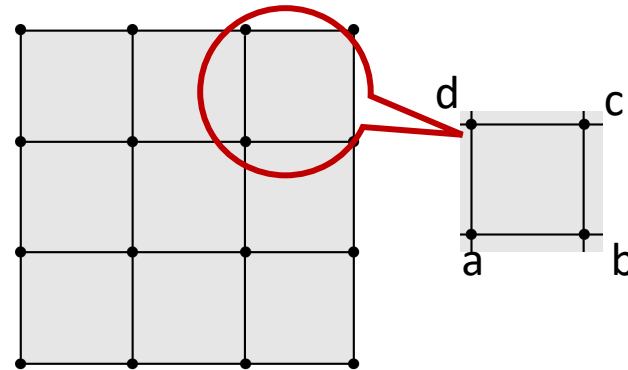
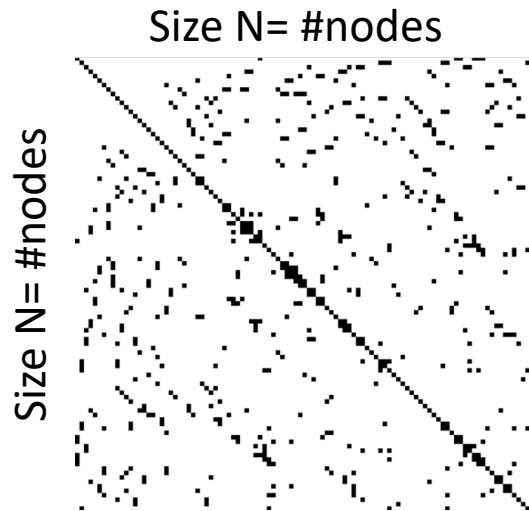




# Efficient encoding of the problem

- VQA algorithm for structural mechanics

$$\min (\langle u | K | u \rangle / 2 - \langle u | f \rangle)$$

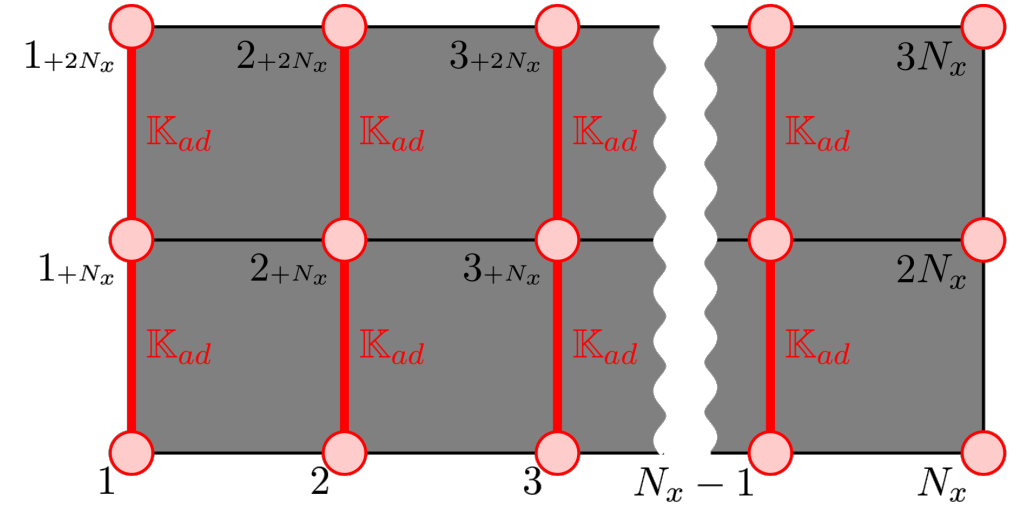
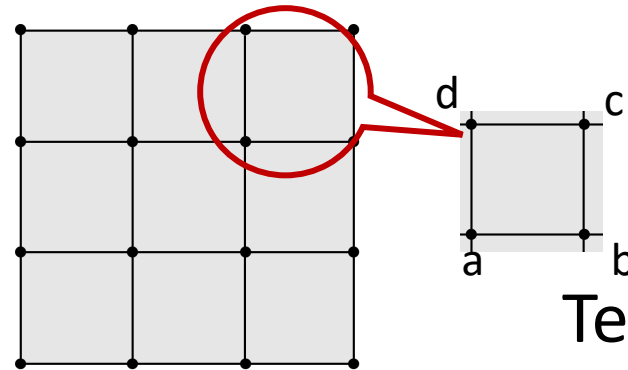
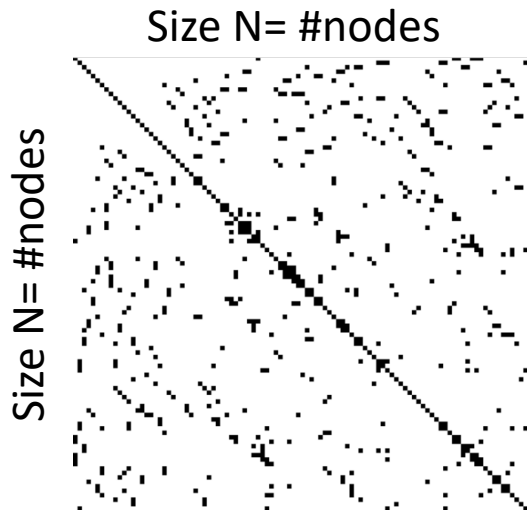


- The hermitian  $K$  encodes links between nodes

# Efficient encoding of the problem

- VQA algorithm for structural mechanics

$$\min (\langle u | K | u \rangle / 2 - \langle u | f \rangle )$$



Tensor product decomposition for vertical contributions :

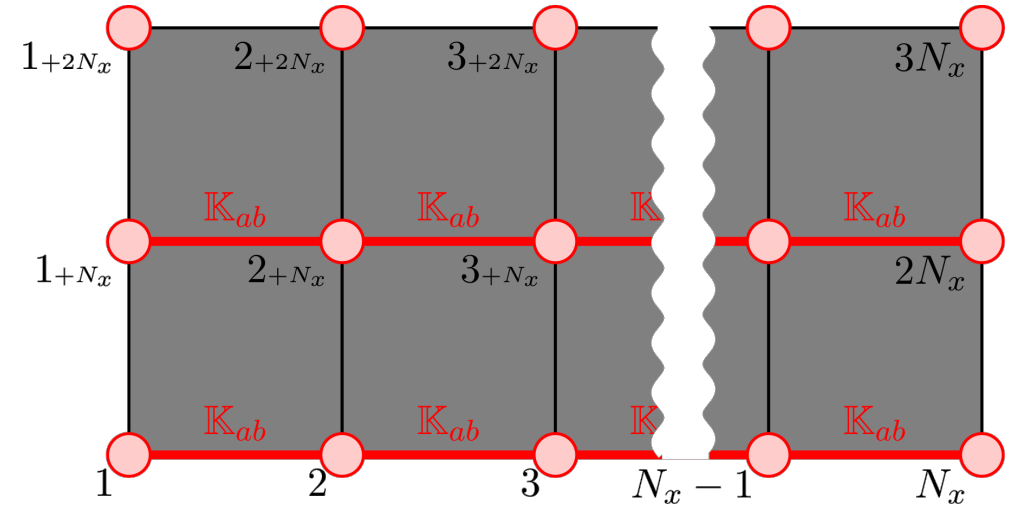
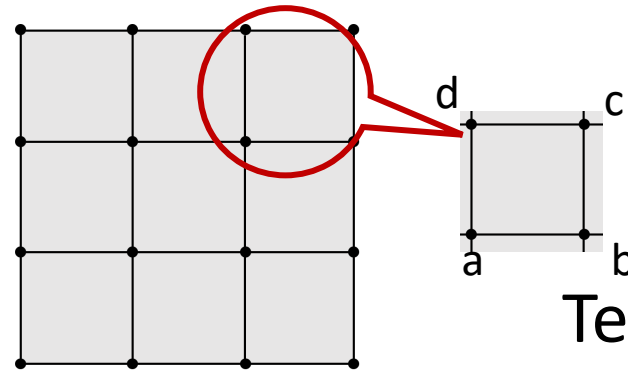
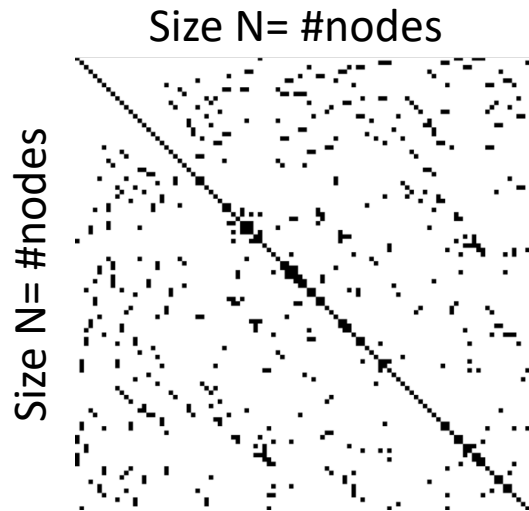
$$T_{N_y} \otimes D_{N_x} \otimes K_{ad}$$

- The hermitian K encodes links between nodes

# Efficient encoding of the problem

- VQA algorithm for structural mechanics

$$\min (\langle u | K | u \rangle / 2 - \langle u | f \rangle )$$



Tensor product decomposition for horizontal contributions :

$$D_{N_y} \otimes T_{N_x} \otimes K_{ab}$$

- The hermitian K encodes links between nodes

# Efficient encoding of the problem

- Not decomposing into the Pauli basis, but into a larger set.
- This larger set still fits the chosen hardware.

$$\mathbb{K} = \text{polynomial}(\mathbb{G}_{2 \times 2}) \otimes^{\log N_x \log N_y}$$

$$\mathbb{G}_{2 \times 2} \equiv \{p_{\pm}; \sigma_{\pm}; I_2\} \quad I_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$p_+ = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad p_- = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\sigma_+ = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \sigma_- = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

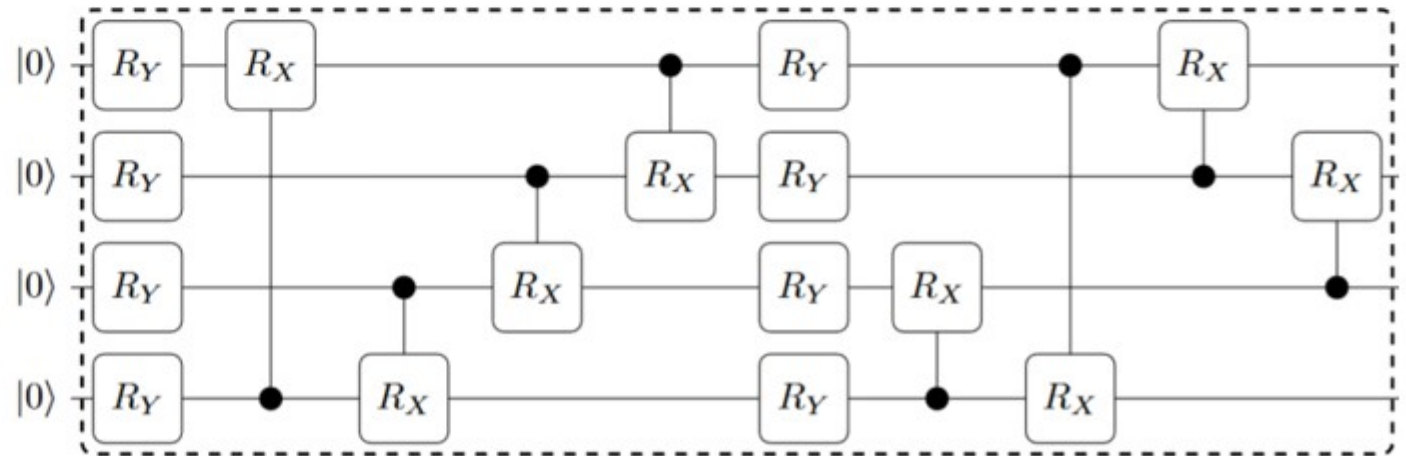
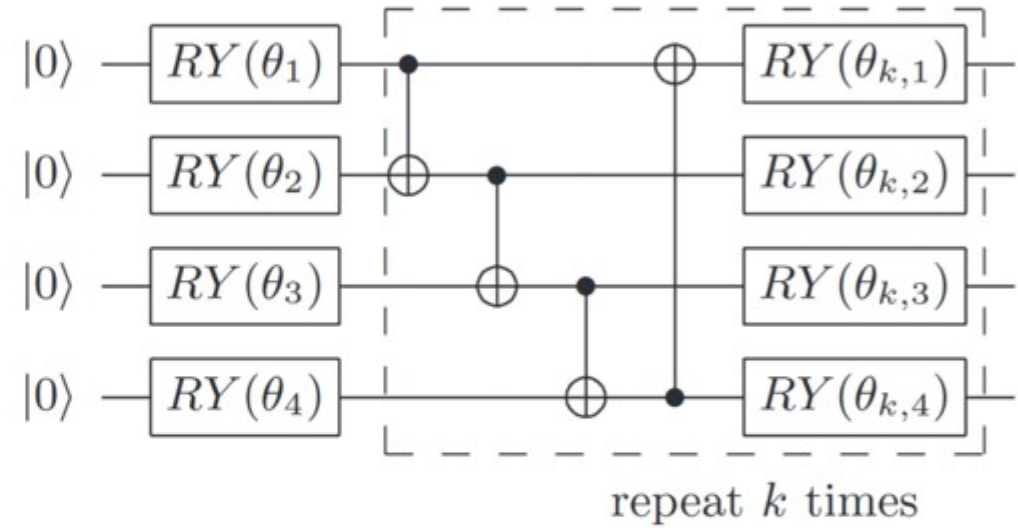
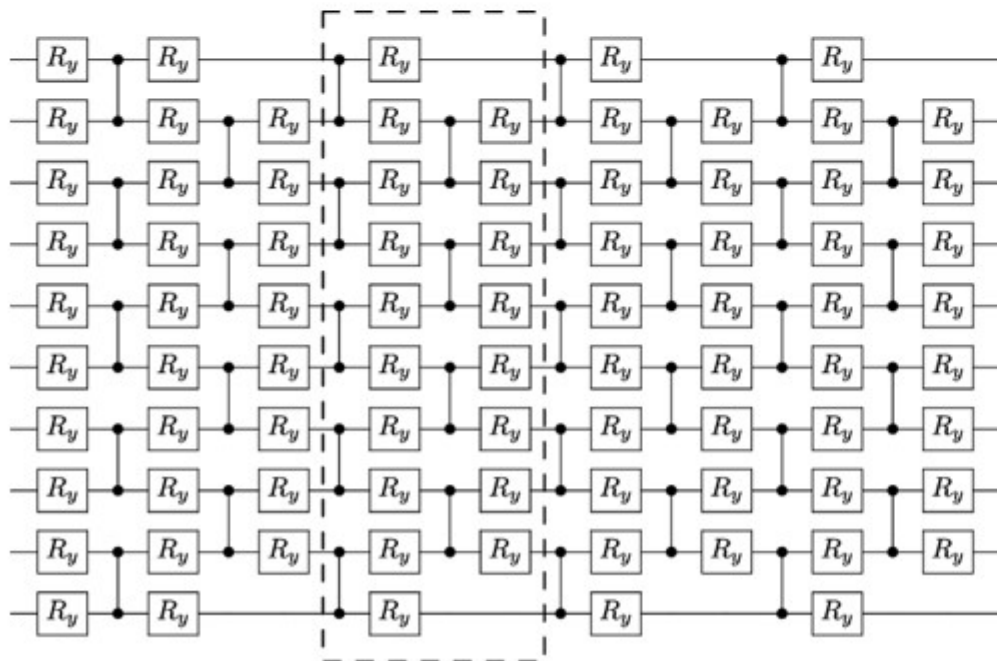
$$\mathbb{T}_{N_y} \otimes \mathbb{D}_{N_x} \otimes \mathbb{K}_{ad}$$

$$\mathbb{D}_{N_y} \otimes \mathbb{T}_{N_x} \otimes \mathbb{K}_{ab}$$

# Recovering the solution

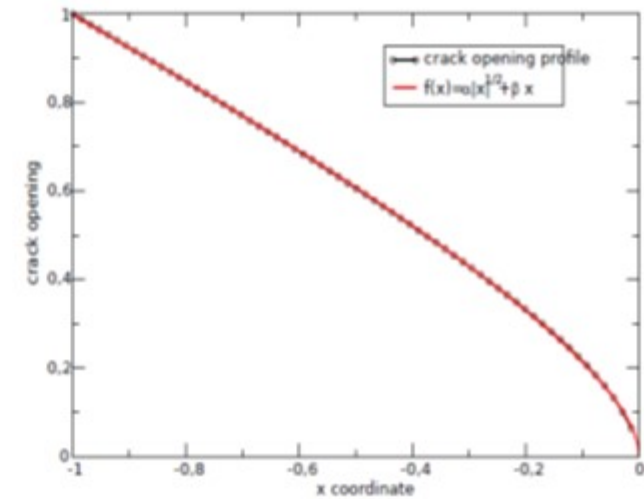
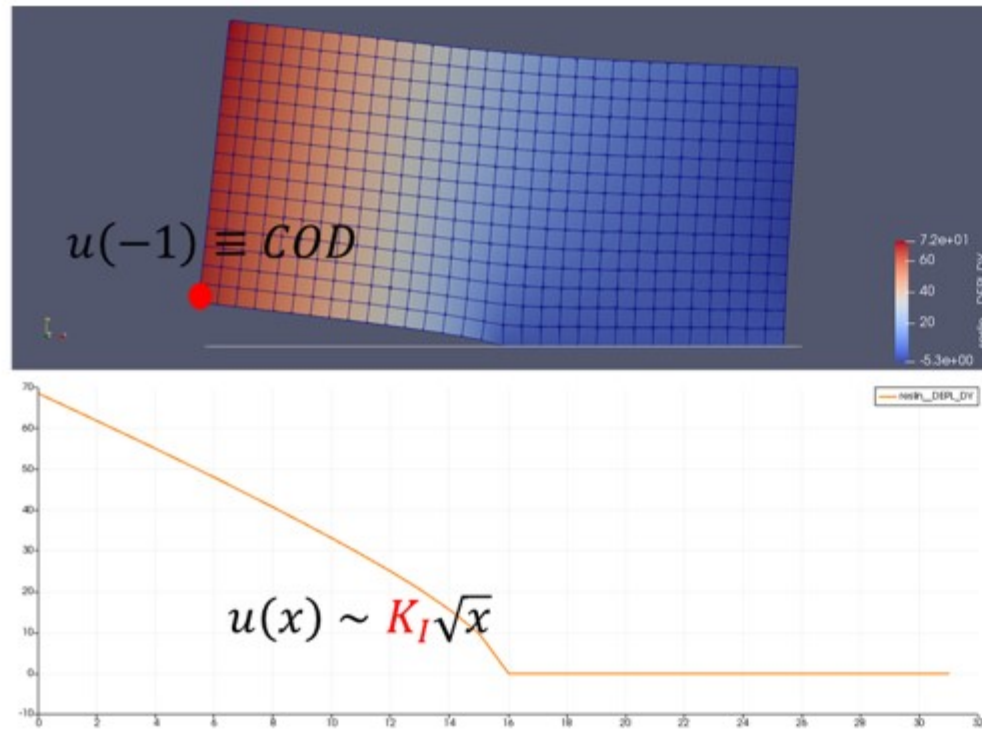
Ansätze: quantum parametrization

$$|u\rangle = U^{\otimes \text{layer}} |0 \dots 00\rangle$$



# Crack propagation: relevant observables

Application for pre-cracked plate: two scalar observables

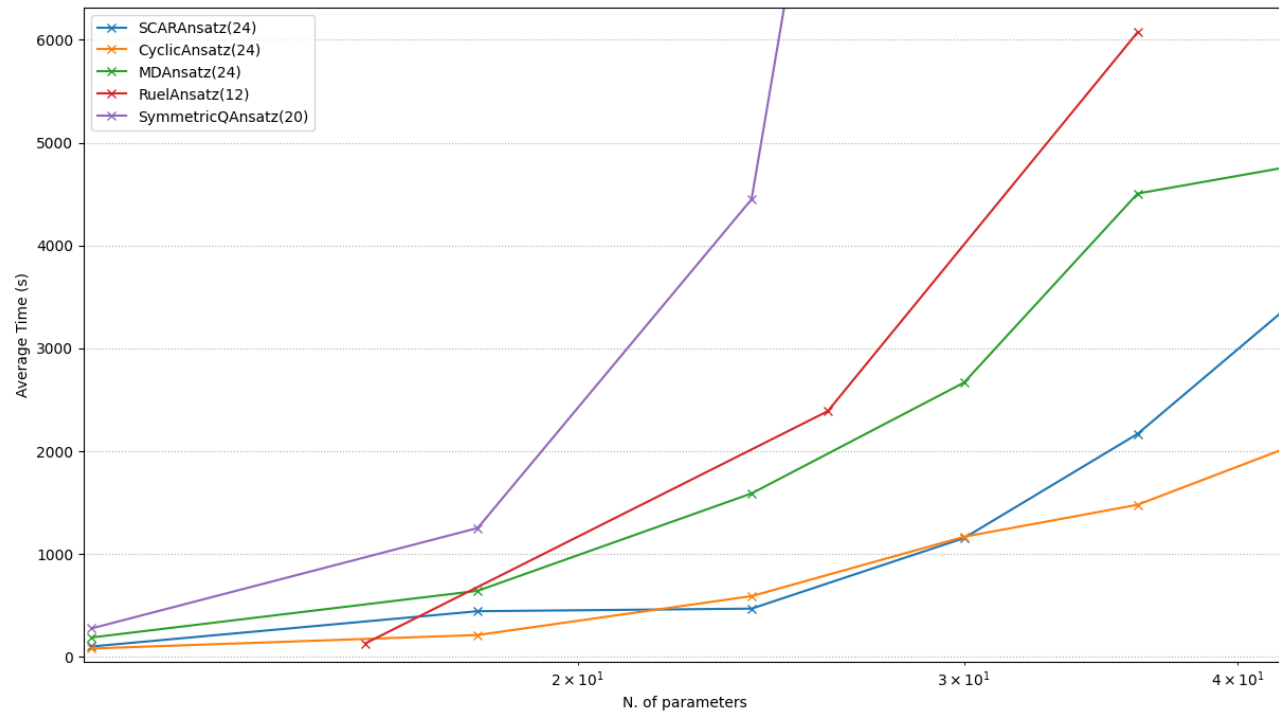


- Crack opening displacement (COD)
- Stress intensity factor  $K_I$  (SIF)

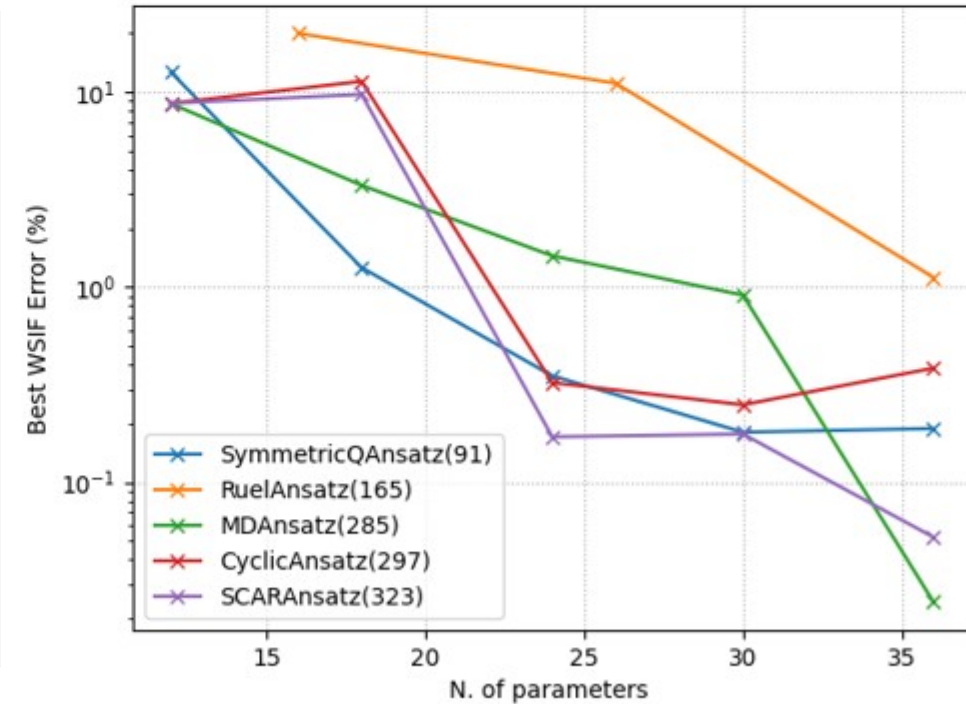
# Benchmarking real Ansätze

Application for pre-cracked plate: convergence of SIF observable

8 horizontal and 4 vertical nodes, penalty = 10

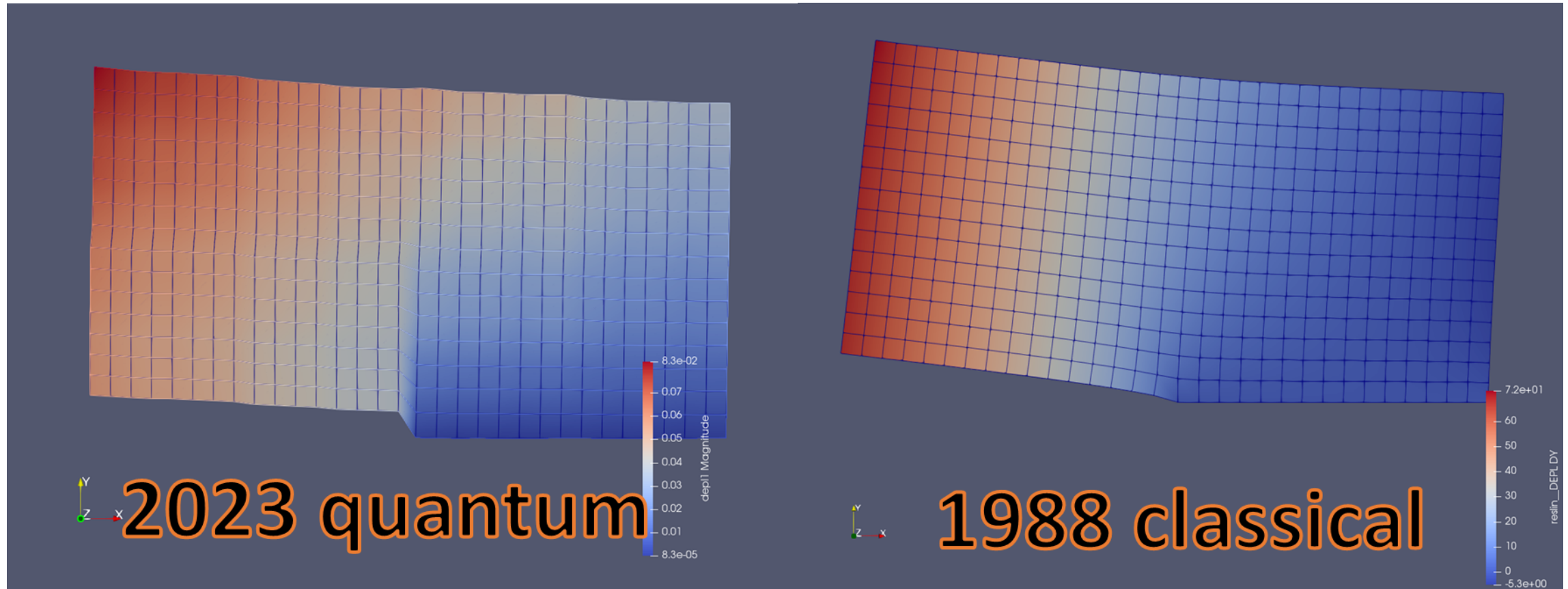


8 horizontal and 4 vertical nodes, penalty = 10



# Simulations: classical versus quantum

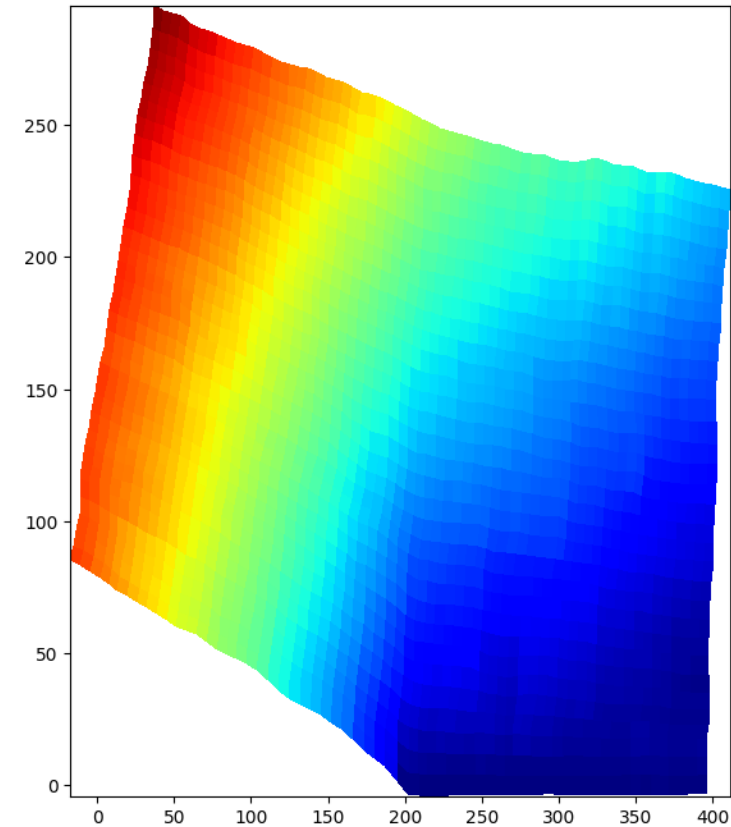
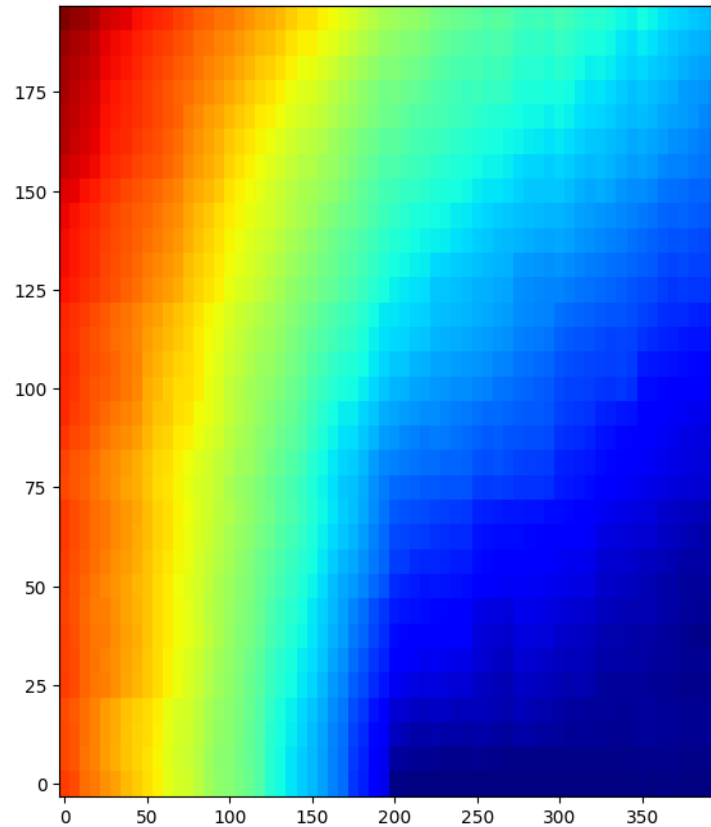
Application for pre-cracked plate: simulated quantum ‘tomography’





# Simulations: classical versus quantum

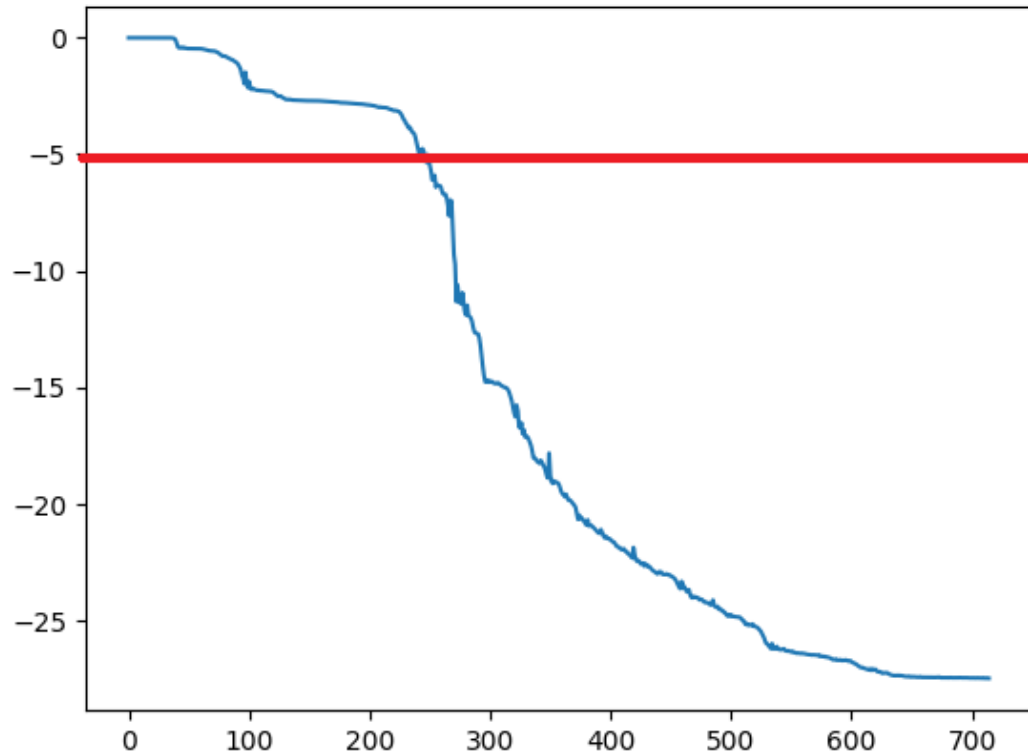
Application for pre-cracked plate: simulated quantum 'tomography'



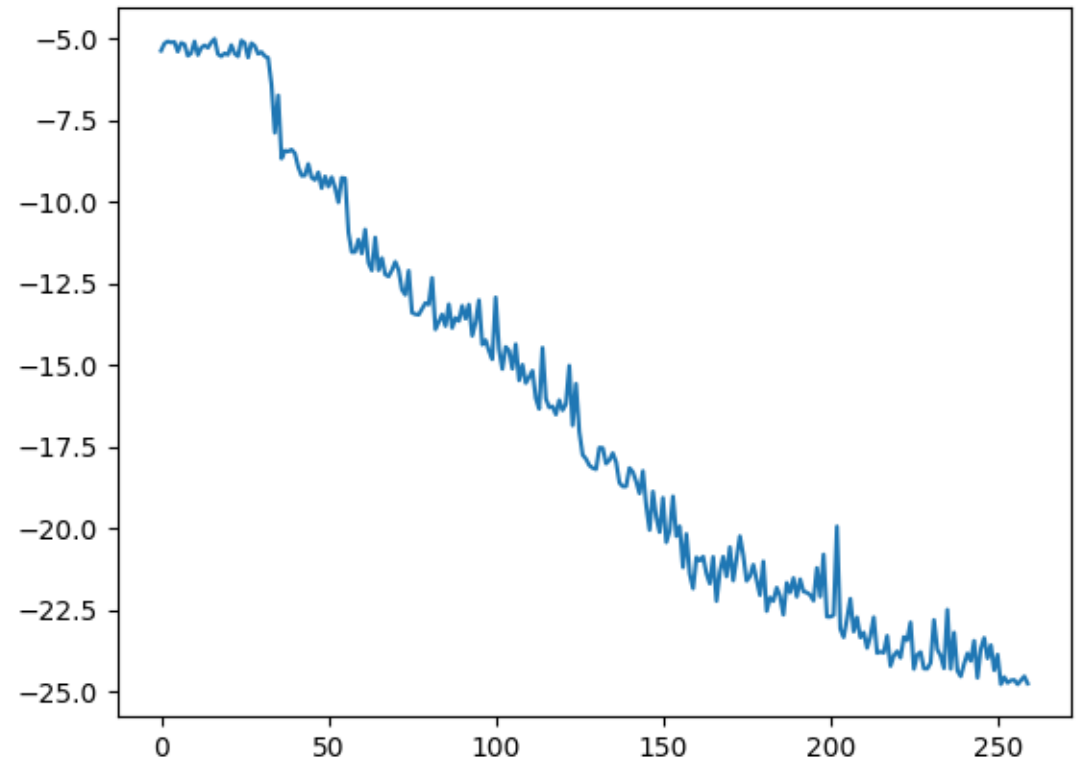
# Quantum Simulations

Example for 4 qubits :

## Noiseless gradient descent



## Noisy gradient descent

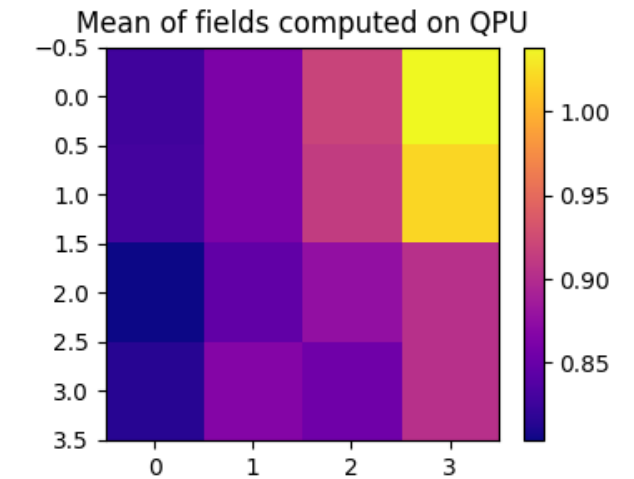
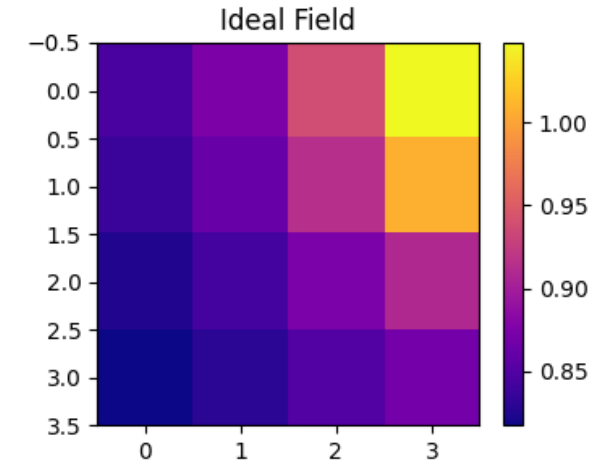
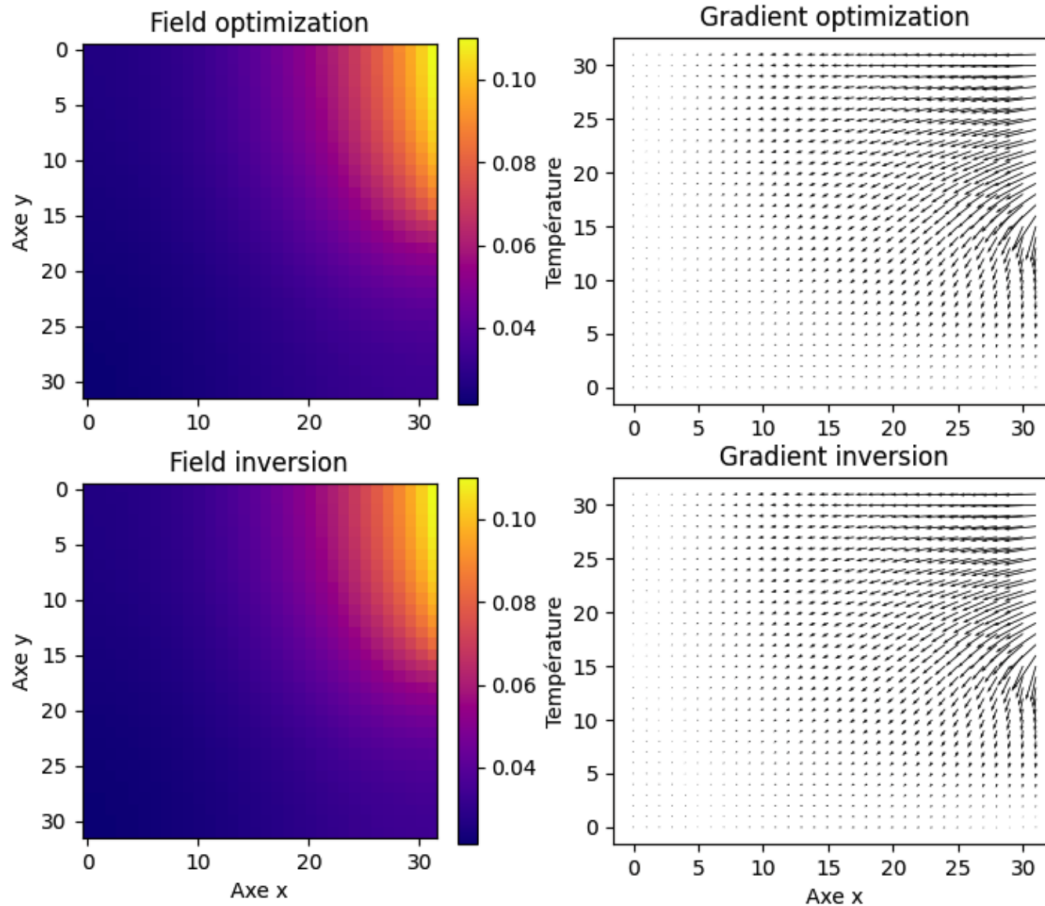


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# Application to thermodynamics

- Application on QPU and large-scale simulations



# Further improvements & applications

- Analyzing noise effects and hardware dependency
- Hardware-efficient 2D heat conduction
- Demonstration and formalization of quantum advantage
- Complex 2D geometries (block-wise)
- 3D case, polar case, more complex FEM geometries
- Find a mechanical case corresponding to a HHL implementation

# Quantum Algorithms for Fracture Mechanics

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**Thanks for listening !**