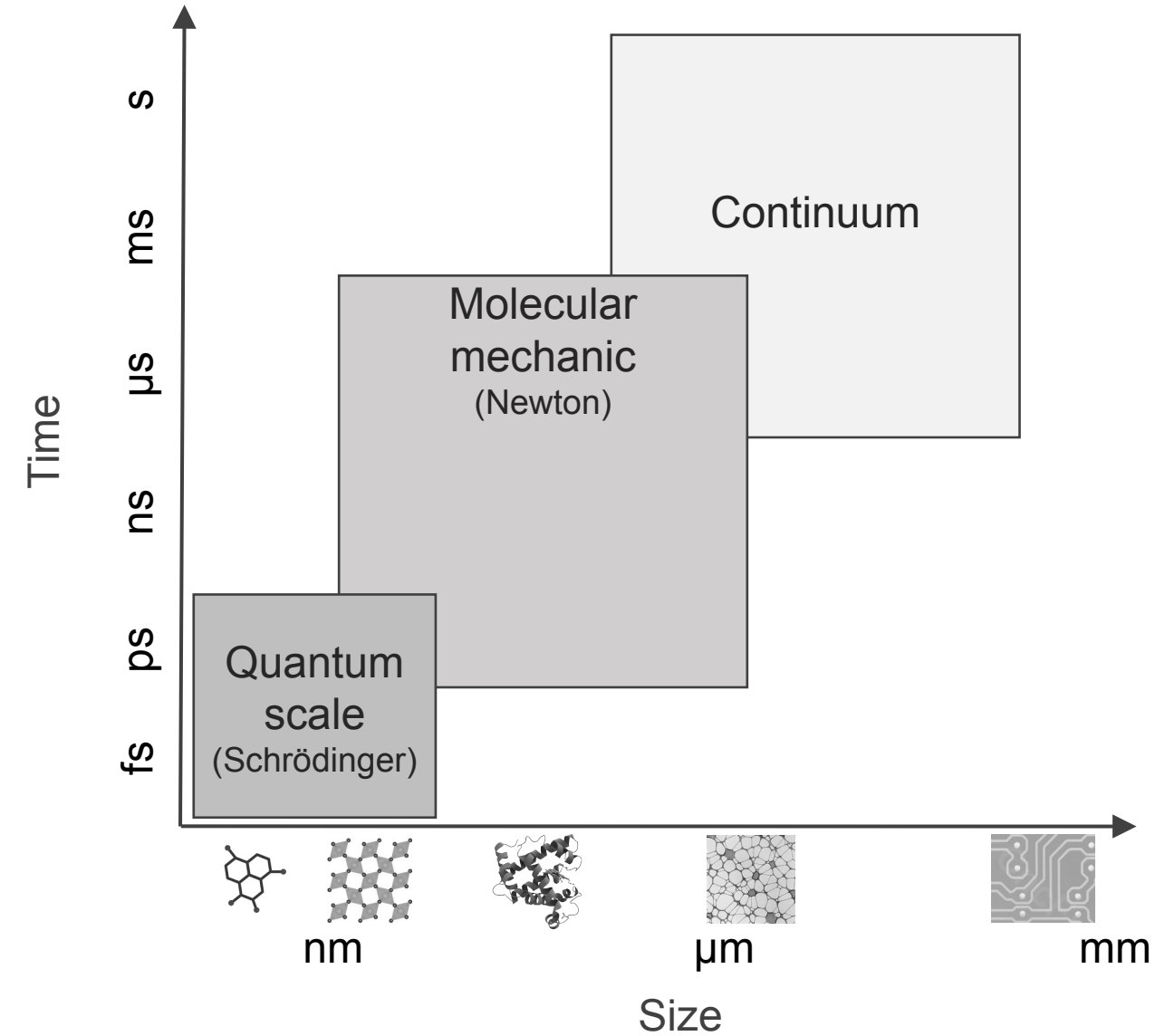


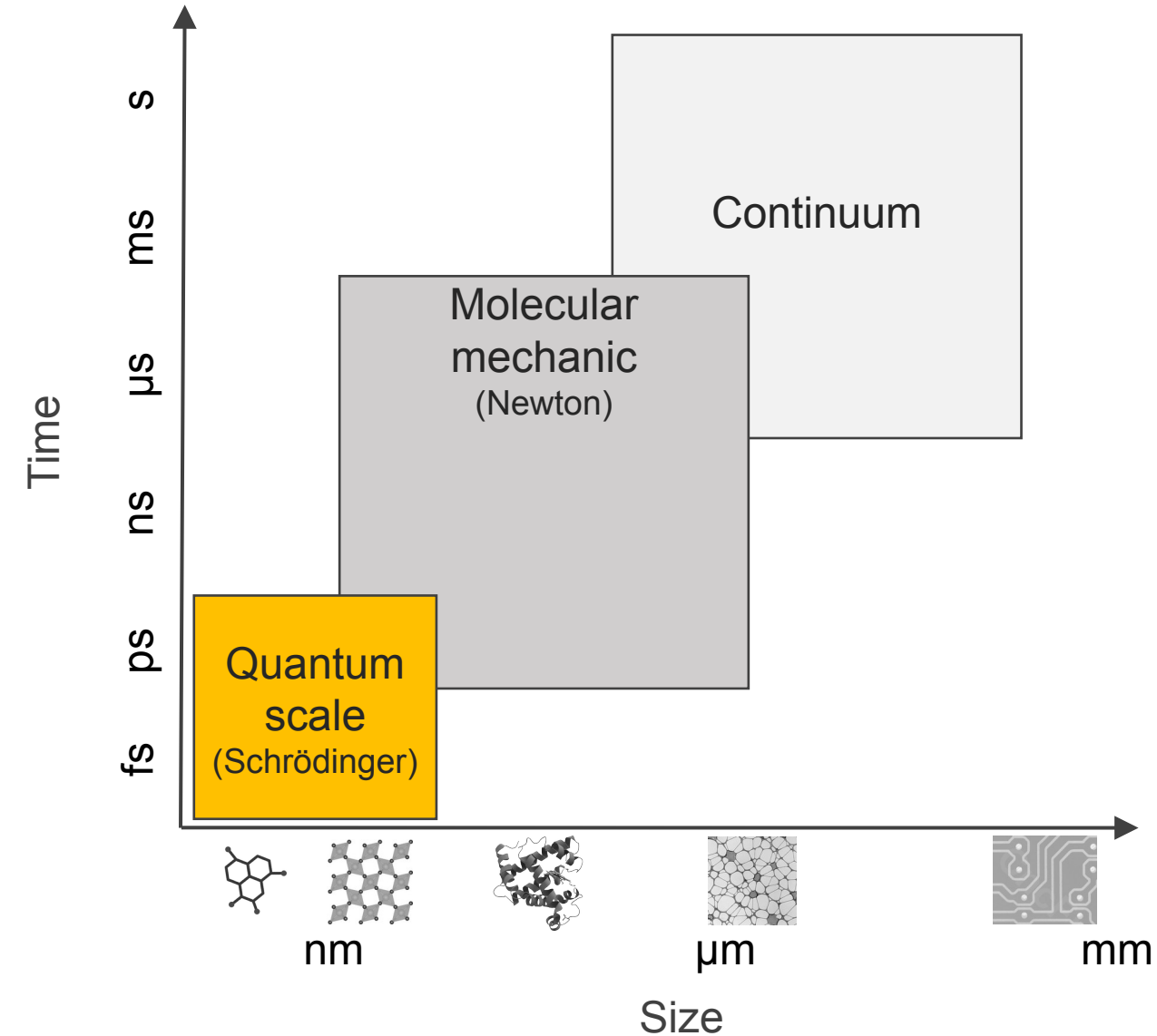
# Quantum algorithms for electronic structure

Matthieu Saubanère

# Simulate matter **today**

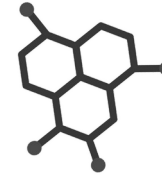


# Simulate matter **today**

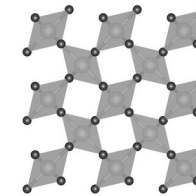


## Different systems :

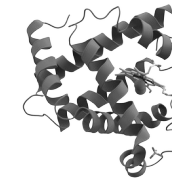
Molecules



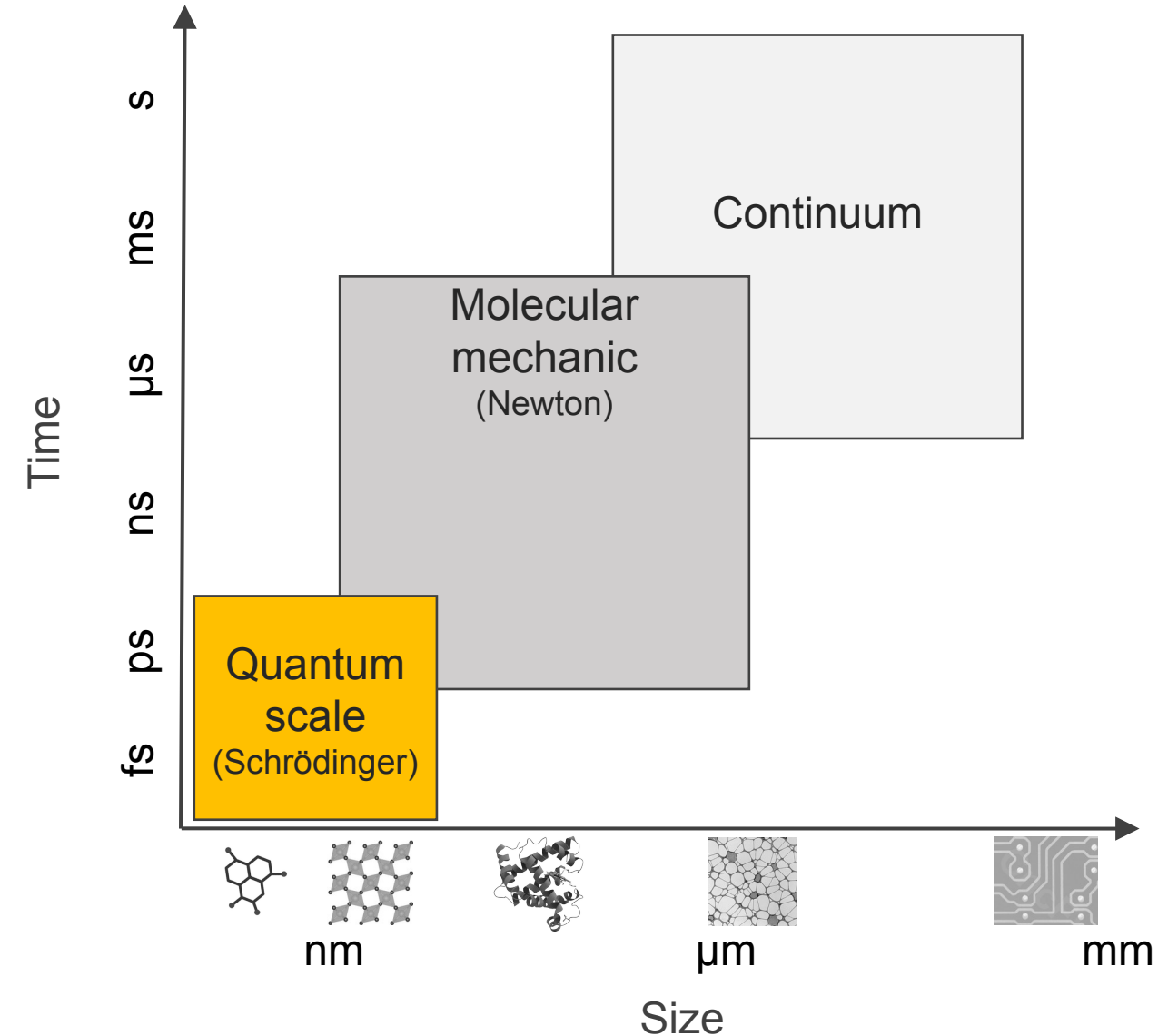
Materials



Proteins



# Simulate matter **today**



## Different applications :

Health (drug design)

Energy conversion and storage

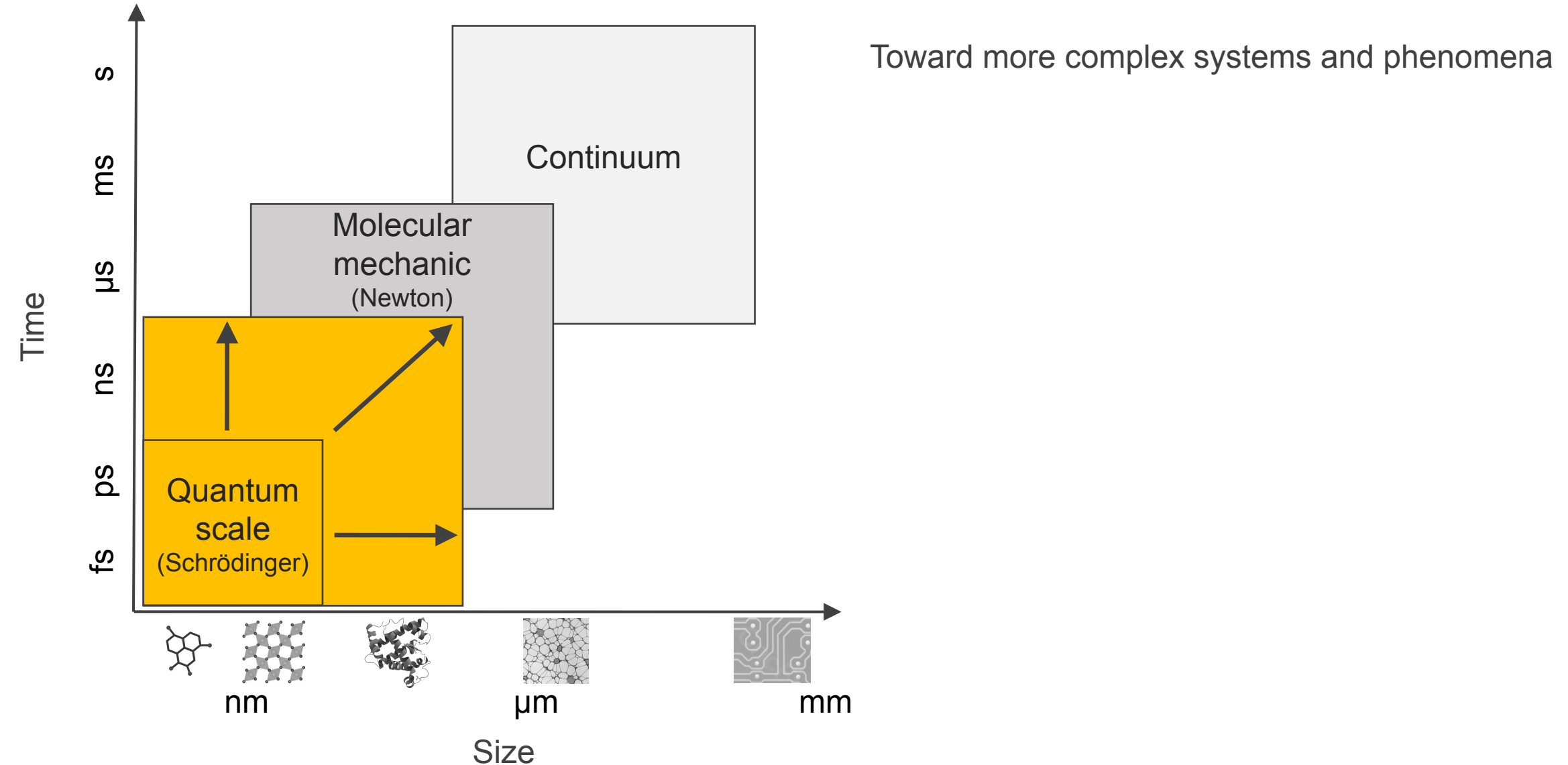
Quantum technologies

Environment

Electronics

...

# Simulate matter on a quantum computer (QC) ?



# Challenge: solve the Schrodinger Eq.

$$\hat{H}|\Psi\rangle = E|\Psi\rangle$$

Contains all interactions

$$\begin{pmatrix} \blacksquare & & \\ & \blacksquare & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & \blacksquare \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \\ \\ \\ \end{pmatrix} = E \begin{pmatrix} \\ \\ \\ \end{pmatrix}$$

Diagonalization

$$\tilde{H} = U^\dagger H U$$
$$\begin{pmatrix} \blacksquare & & \\ & \blacksquare & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & \blacksquare \end{pmatrix}$$

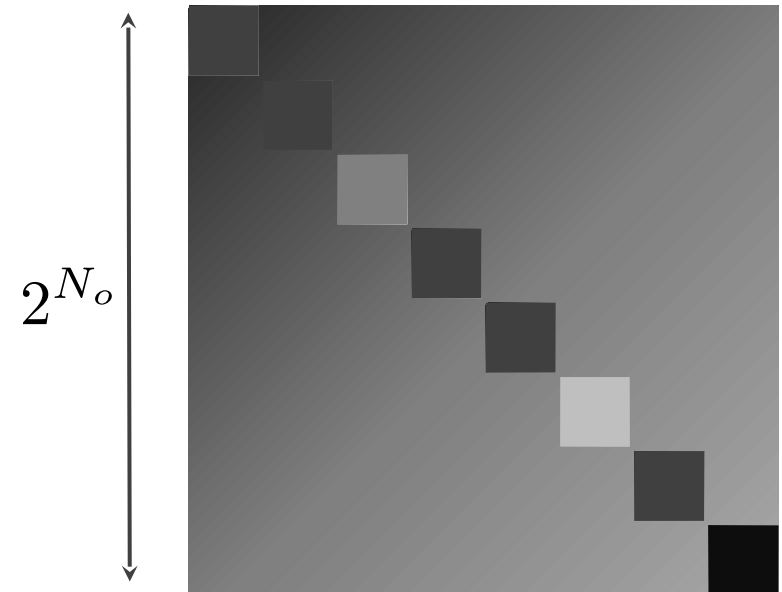
# Challenge: solve the Schrodinger Eq.

$$\hat{H}|\Psi\rangle = E|\Psi\rangle$$

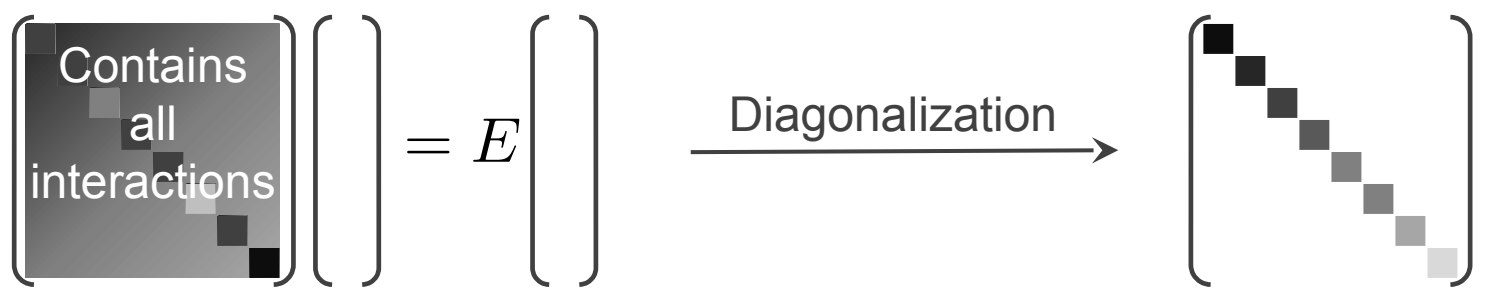
Contains all interactions

$$\begin{pmatrix} \text{Contains all interactions} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} = E \begin{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{Diagonalization}} \begin{pmatrix} \text{Diagonal matrix} \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\tilde{H} = U^\dagger H U$$

Given a mono-electronic basis containing  $N_o$  spin-orbitals  $\rightarrow$



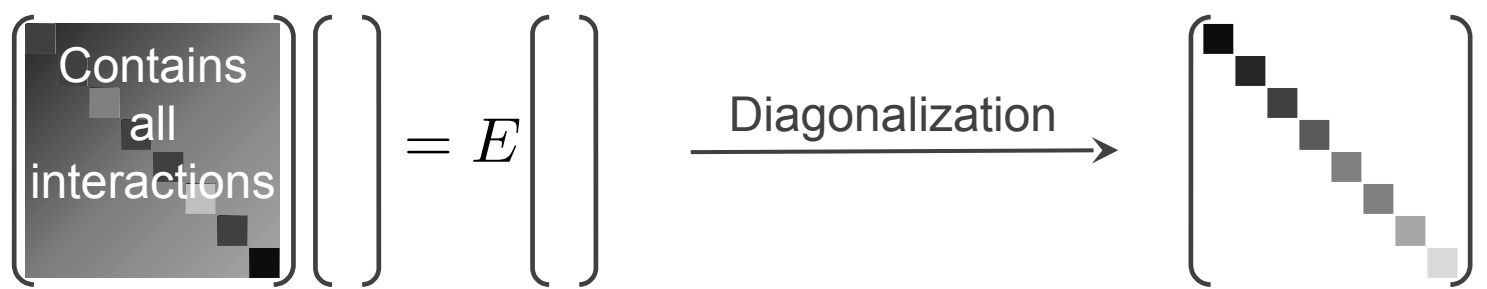
# Challenge: solve the Schrodinger Eq.

$$\hat{H}|\Psi\rangle = E|\Psi\rangle$$

$$\tilde{H} = U^\dagger H U$$

Classical Algorithms : { Numerical diagonalization –FCI– (Lanczos, QR)



# Challenge: solve the Schrodinger Eq.

$$\hat{H}|\Psi\rangle = E|\Psi\rangle$$

$$\tilde{H} = U^\dagger H U$$

Classical Algorithms :

- Numerical diagonalization –FCI– (Lanczos, QR)
- Basis set truncation / Active space reduction
- Ansatz wave-function (Gutzwiller/ Coupled Cluster)
- Perturbation theory

# Challenge: solve the Schrodinger Eq.

$$\hat{H}|\Psi\rangle = E|\Psi\rangle$$

Contains all interactions

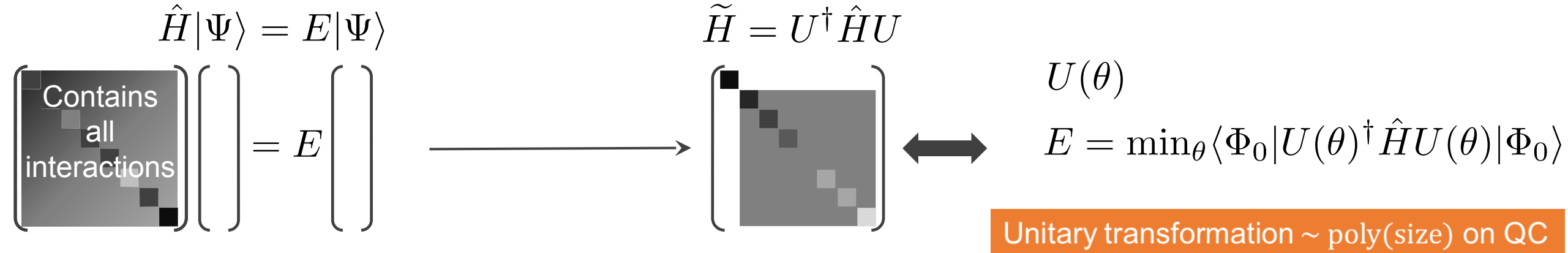
$$\begin{pmatrix} \text{Contains all interactions} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} = E \begin{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{Diagonalization}} \begin{pmatrix} \text{Diagonal matrix} \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\tilde{H} = U^\dagger H U$$

Classical Algorithms :

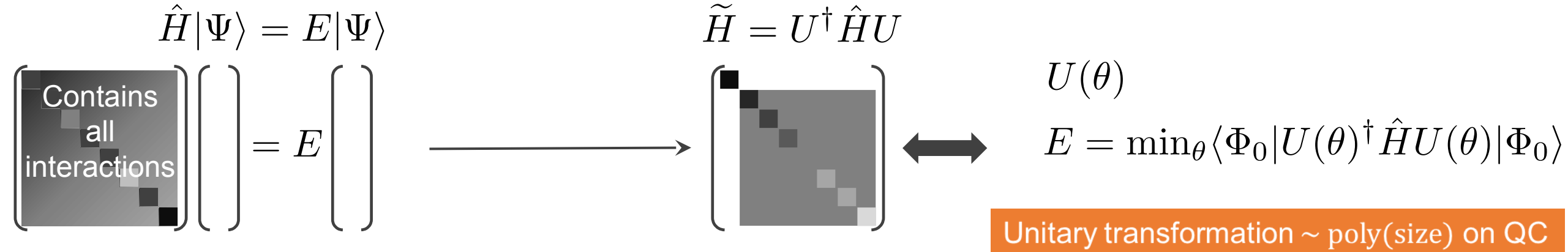
- Numerical diagonalization –FCI– (Lanczos, QR)
- Basis set truncation / Active space reduction
- Ansatz wave-function (Gutzwiller/ Coupled Cluster)
- Perturbation theory

Quantum Algorithms

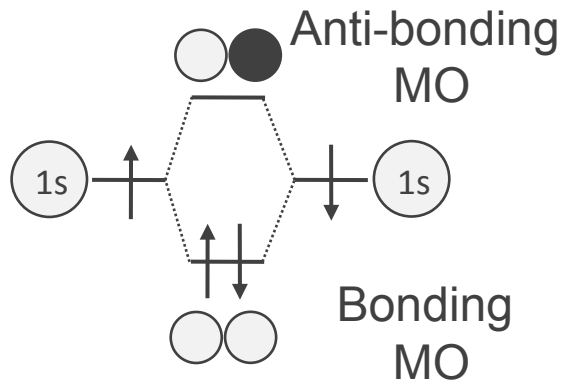
# Variational quantum algorithms: general concept



# Variational quantum algorithms: general concept

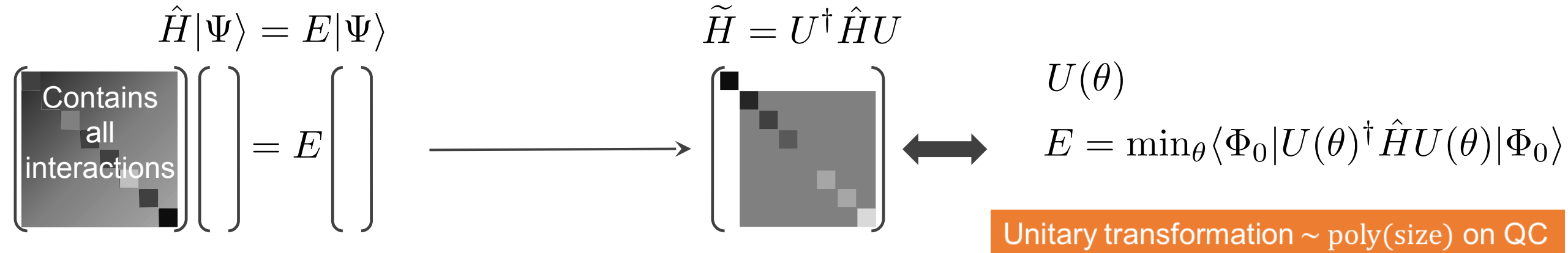


H<sub>2</sub> molecule (sto-3)

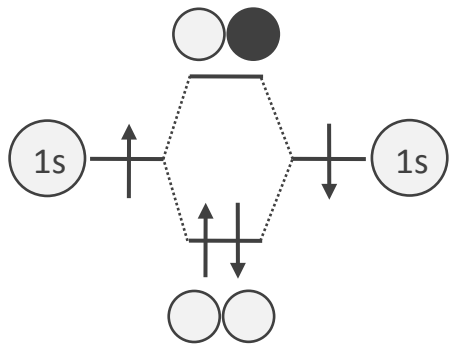


Hartree-Fock  
 $|\Phi_0\rangle$

# Variational quantum algorithms: general concept



H<sub>2</sub> molecule (sto-3)

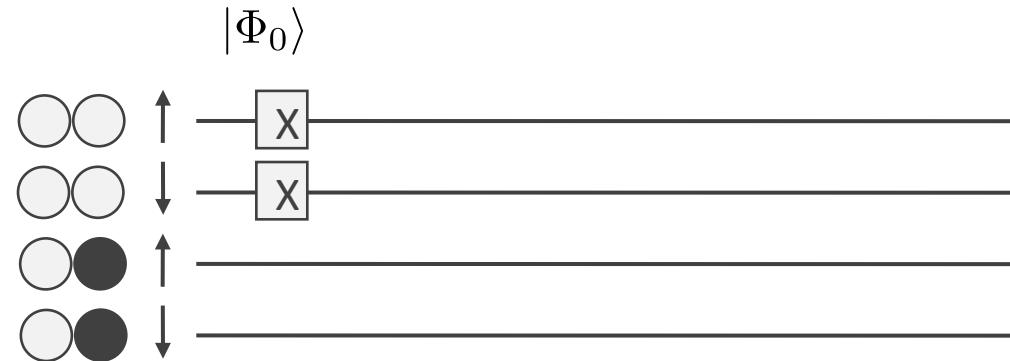


Hartree-Fock  
 $|\Phi_0\rangle$

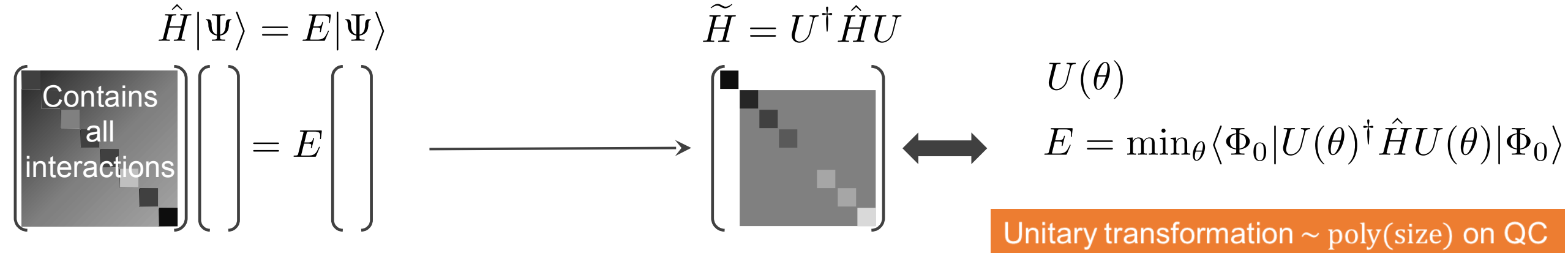
1 qubit = 1 spin-orbital

Jordan-Wigner mapping

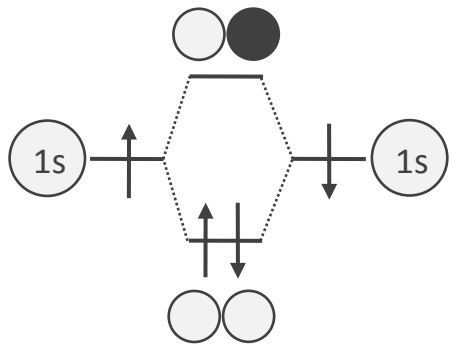
Construct  
HF state



# Variational quantum algorithms: general concept



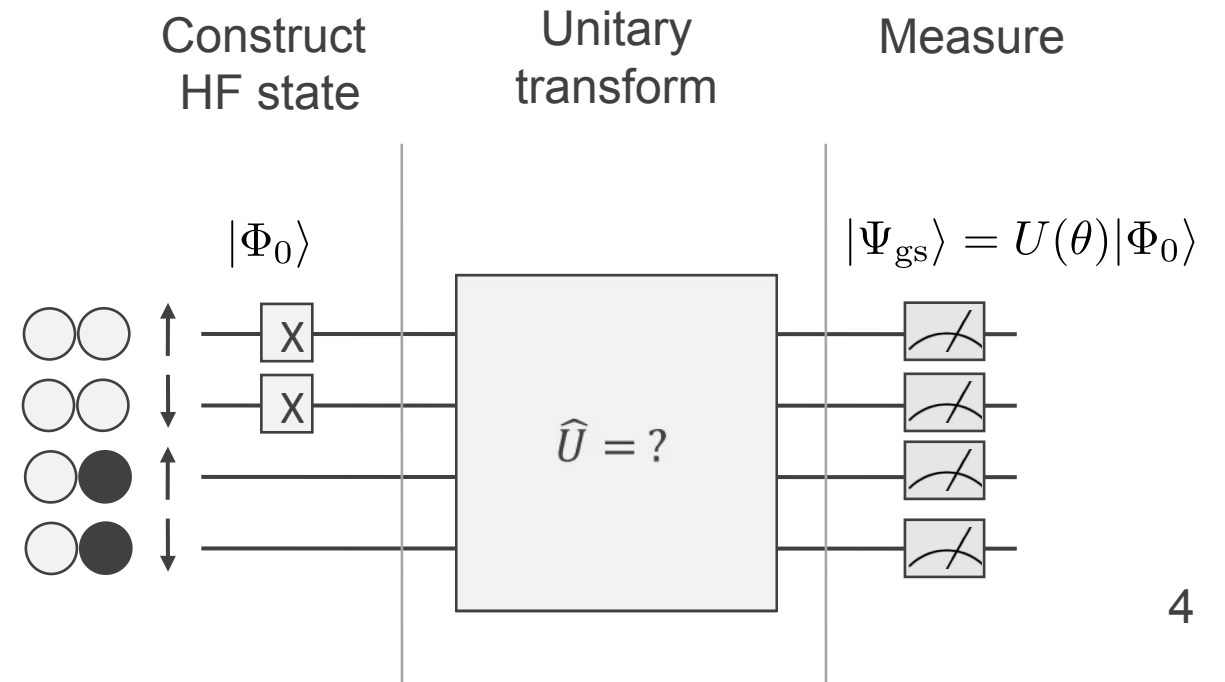
H<sub>2</sub> molecule (sto-3)



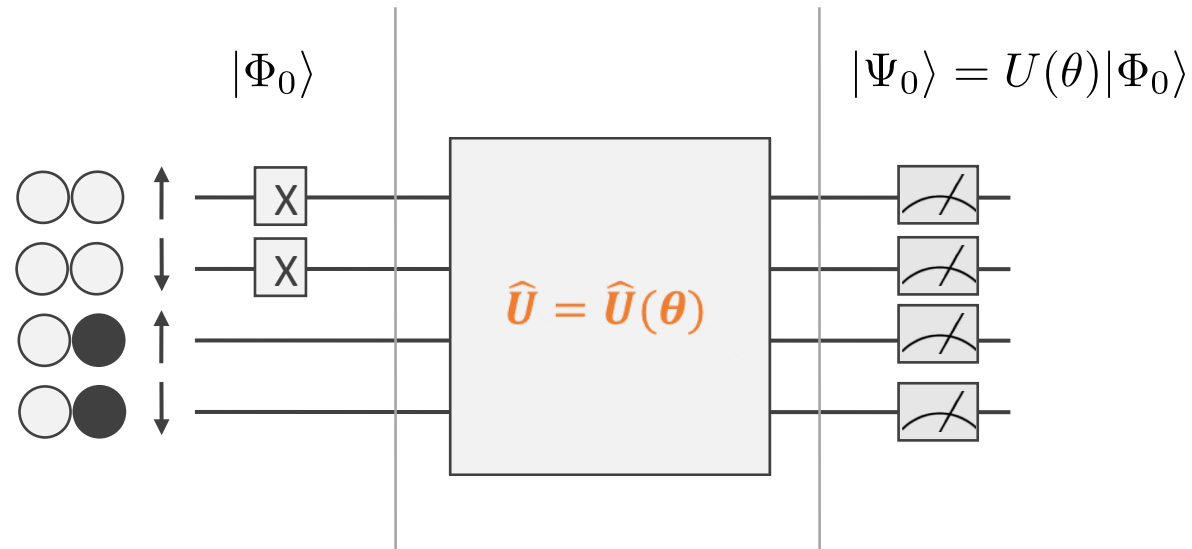
Hartree-Fock  
 $|\Phi_0\rangle$

1 qubit = 1 spin-orbital

Jordan-Wigner mapping



# Variational quantum algorithms: challenges



## Classical Numerical Cost ?

Optimization issues (non convex function / Barren plateau)

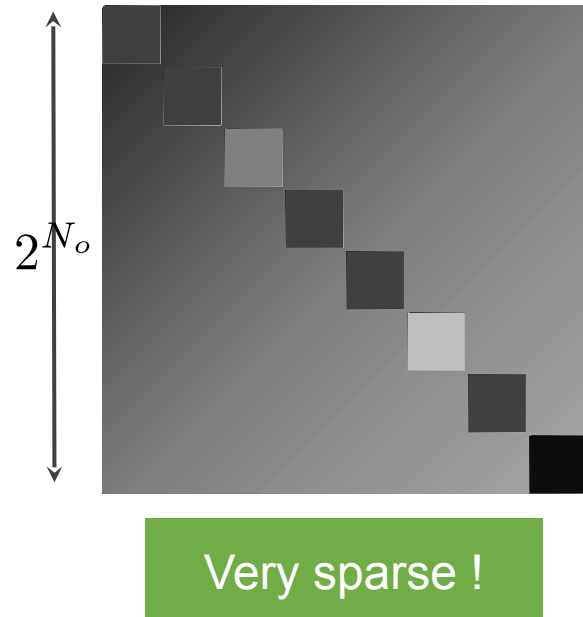
## Quantum Numerical Cost:

Physical ansatz : circuit depth  $\sim \text{size}^4$

Hardware efficient ansatz : circuit depth  $\sim \text{size}^2$

# Simplifying the problem:

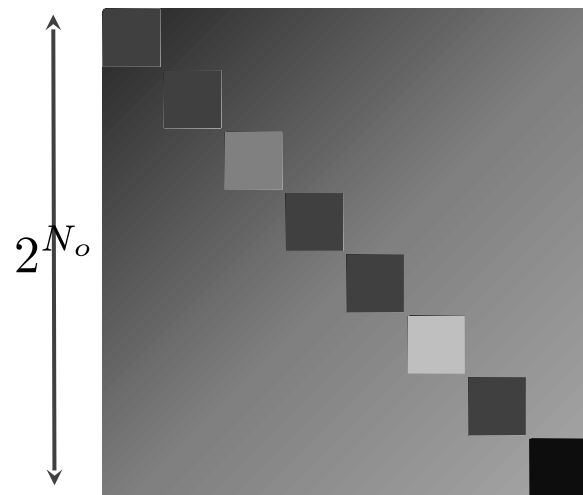
1– Symmetries :  $[\hat{H}, \hat{N}] = [\hat{H}, \hat{S}_z] = [\hat{H}, \hat{S}^2] = \dots = 0$



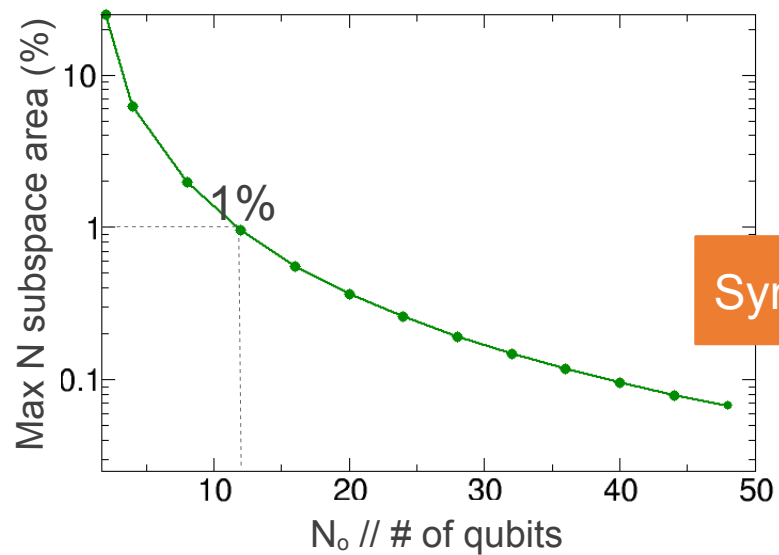


# Simplifying the problem:

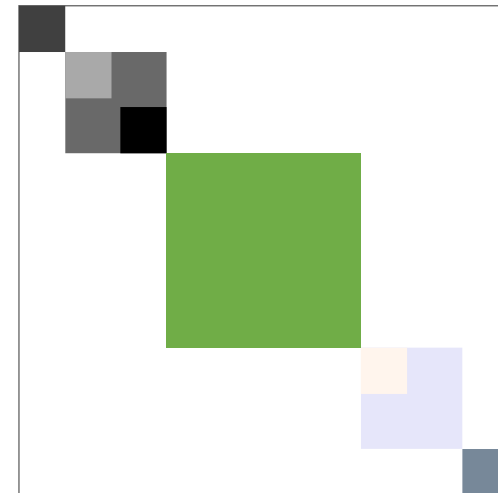
1– Symmetries :  $[\hat{H}, \hat{N}] = [\hat{H}, \hat{S}_z] = [\hat{H}, \hat{S}^2] = \dots = 0$



Very sparse !



Symmetries consideration mandatory



# Simplifying the problem:

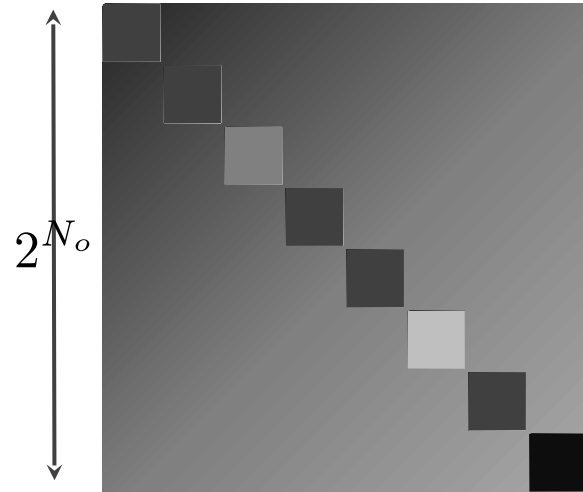
1– Symmetries :  $[\hat{H}, \hat{N}] = [\hat{H}, \hat{S}_z] = [\hat{H}, \hat{S}^2] = \dots = 0$

Symmetries consideration mandatory

2– Locality of interaction // Nearsightedness

Kinetic operator :  $\nabla$

Coulomb operator :  $\frac{1}{r} \rightarrow e^{-\kappa r}$   
(Thomas-Fermi)



Very sparse !

# Simplifying the problem:

1– Symmetries :  $[\hat{H}, \hat{N}] = [\hat{H}, \hat{S}_z] = [\hat{H}, \hat{S}^2] = \dots = 0$

Symmetries consideration mandatory

2– Locality of interaction // Nearsightedness

Kinetic operator :  $\nabla$

Coulomb operator :  $\frac{1}{r} \rightarrow e^{-\kappa r}$

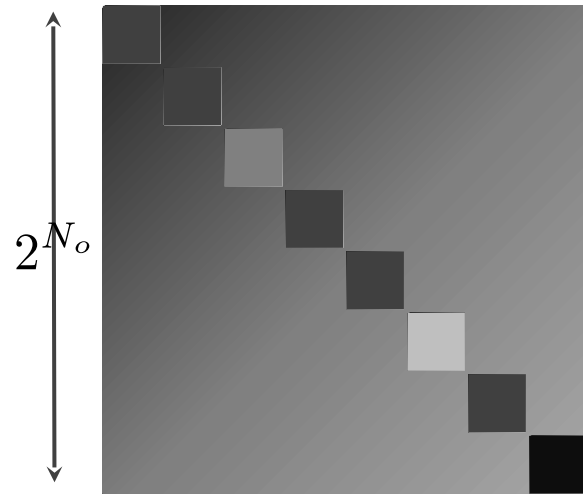
→ Localized basis-set empty the Hamiltonian !

Pre-optimized (DFT) basis set vs Off-chip optimization

[Cheng-Lin Hong et. al. PRX QUANTUM 3, 020360 \(2022\)](#)

[P. Besserve, M. Ferrero, and T. Ayrar, arXiv: 2406.14170 \(2024\)](#)

talk Thomas Ayrar !



Very sparse !

# Simplifying the problem:

1– Symmetries :  $[\hat{H}, \hat{N}] = [\hat{H}, \hat{S}_z] = [\hat{H}, \hat{S}^2] = \dots = 0$

Symmetries consideration mandatory

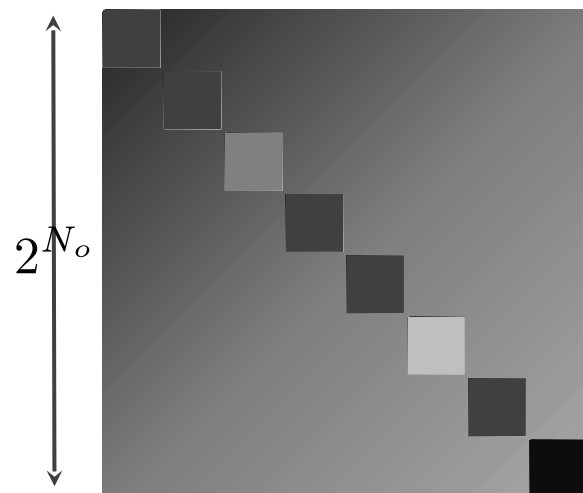
2– Locality of interaction // Nearsightedness

Kinetic operator :  $\nabla$

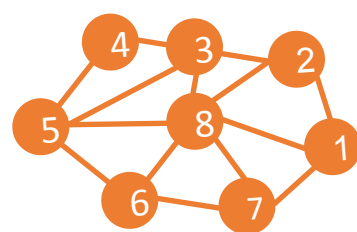
Coulomb operator :  $\frac{1}{r} \rightarrow e^{-\kappa r}$

→ Localized basis-set empty the Hamiltonian !

→ Divide-conquer strategy (embedding)

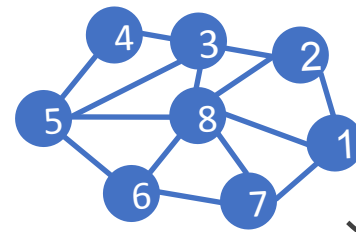


Very sparse !



Interacting  
electrons

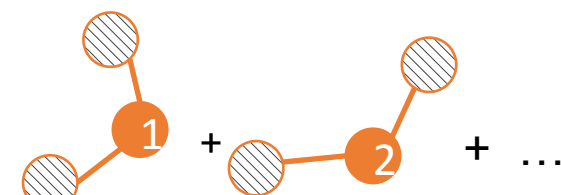
Embedding



Low-level

Divide

Conquer



High-level

# Outline:

1– Symmetries :  $[\hat{H}, \hat{N}] = [\hat{H}, \hat{S}_z] = [\hat{H}, \hat{S}^2] = \dots = 0$

Symmetries consideration mandatory

2– Locality of interaction // Nearsightedness

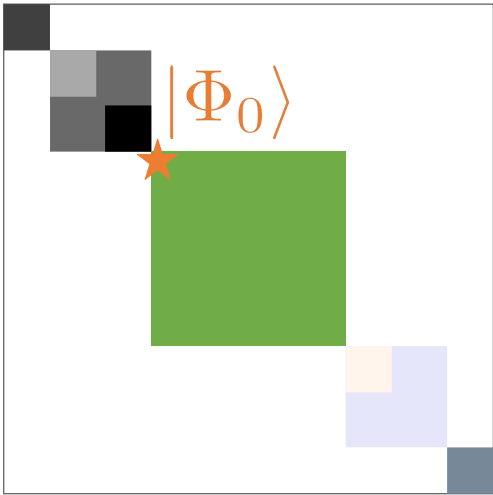
{ Kinetic operator :  $\nabla$   
Coulomb operator :  $\frac{1}{r} \rightarrow e^{-\kappa r}$

→ Localized basis-set empty the Hamiltonian !

Divide-conquer strategy (embedding)

# Symmetry preserving cost function

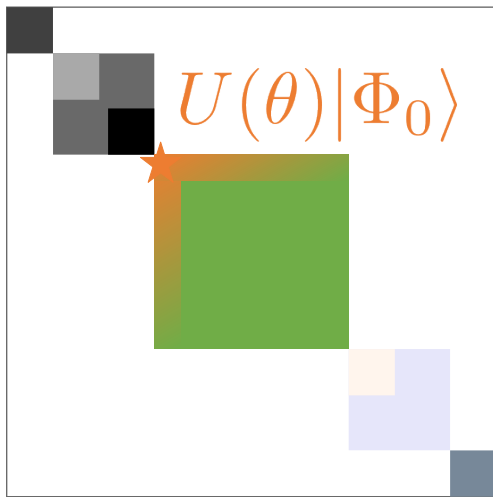
$$\begin{aligned}
 & \hat{H}|\Psi\rangle = E|\Psi\rangle \\
 & \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Contains} \\ \text{all} \\ \text{interactions} \end{array} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \\ \end{array} \right] = E \left[ \begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \\ \end{array} \right] \longrightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{c} \blacksquare \\ \blacksquare \blacksquare \\ \blacksquare \blacksquare \blacksquare \\ \blacksquare \blacksquare \blacksquare \blacksquare \end{array} \right] \longleftrightarrow \begin{array}{l} U(\theta) \\ E = \min_{\theta} \langle \Phi_0 | U(\theta)^\dagger \hat{H} U(\theta) | \Phi_0 \rangle \end{array}
 \end{aligned}$$



Physically motivated ansatz: preserves symmetry but deep circuit

# Symmetry preserving cost function

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \hat{H}|\Psi\rangle = E|\Psi\rangle \\
 & \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Contains} \\ \text{all} \\ \text{interactions} \end{array} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \\ \end{array} \right] = E \left[ \begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \\ \end{array} \right] \longrightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{c} \blacksquare \\ \blacksquare \blacksquare \\ \blacksquare \blacksquare \blacksquare \\ \blacksquare \blacksquare \blacksquare \blacksquare \end{array} \right] \longleftrightarrow \begin{array}{l} U(\theta) \\ E = \min_{\theta} \langle \Phi_0 | U(\theta)^\dagger \hat{H} U(\theta) | \Phi_0 \rangle \end{array}
 \end{aligned}$$

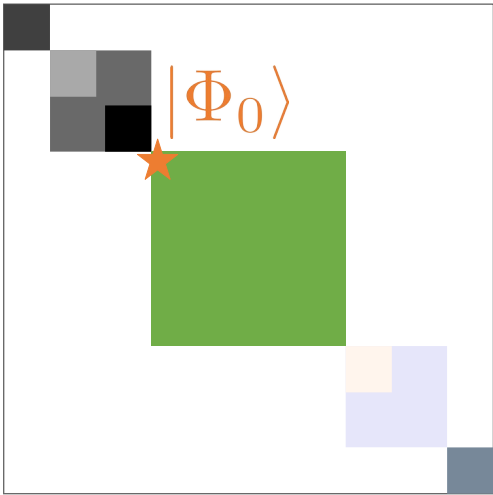


Physically motivated ansatz: preserves symmetry but deep circuit

→ ADAPT-VQE Nat. Commun 10,3007 (2019)

# Symmetry preserving cost function

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \hat{H}|\Psi\rangle = E|\Psi\rangle \\
 & \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Contains} \\ \text{all} \\ \text{interactions} \end{array} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \\ \end{array} \right] = E \left[ \begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \\ \end{array} \right] \quad \longrightarrow \quad \tilde{H} = U^\dagger \hat{H} U \\
 & \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Sparse matrix} \end{array} \right] \longleftrightarrow U(\theta) \\
 & E = \min_{\theta} \langle \Phi_0 | U(\theta)^\dagger \hat{H} U(\theta) | \Phi_0 \rangle
 \end{aligned}$$



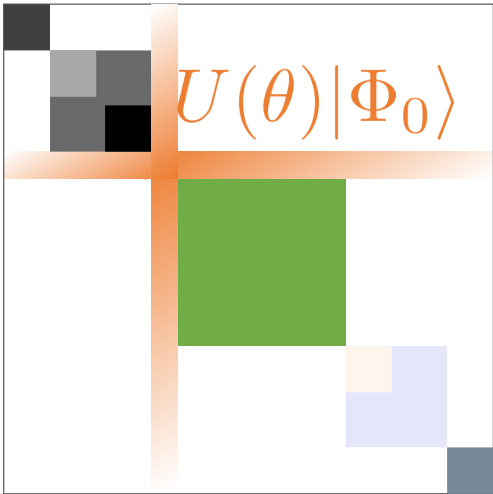
Physically motivated ansatz: preserves symmetry but deep circuit

Hardware efficient ansatz (HEA): do NOT preserve symmetry but shallow circuit



# Symmetry preserving cost function

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \hat{H}|\Psi\rangle = E|\Psi\rangle \\
 & \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Contains} \\ \text{all} \\ \text{interactions} \end{array} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \\ \end{array} \right] = E \left[ \begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \\ \end{array} \right] \longrightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Sparse matrix} \end{array} \right] \longleftrightarrow \begin{aligned} & U(\theta) \\ & E = \min_{\theta} \langle \Phi_0 | U(\theta)^\dagger \hat{H} U(\theta) | \Phi_0 \rangle \end{aligned}
 \end{aligned}$$

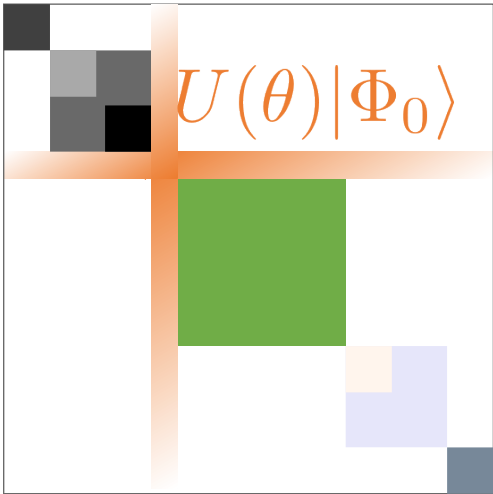


Physically motivated ansatz: preserves symmetry but deep circuit

Hardware efficient ansatz (HEA): do NOT preserve symmetry but shallow circuit

# Symmetry preserving cost function

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \hat{H}|\Psi\rangle = E|\Psi\rangle & & \tilde{H} = U^\dagger \hat{H} U \\
 \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Contains} \\ \text{all} \\ \text{interactions} \end{array} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \\ \end{array} \right] = E \left[ \begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \\ \end{array} \right] & \longrightarrow & \left[ \begin{array}{c} \blacksquare \\ \blacksquare \blacksquare \\ \blacksquare \blacksquare \blacksquare \\ \blacksquare \blacksquare \blacksquare \blacksquare \end{array} \right] \longleftrightarrow U(\theta) \\
 & & E = \min_{\theta} \langle \Phi_0 | U(\theta)^\dagger \hat{H} U(\theta) | \Phi_0 \rangle
 \end{array}$$



Physically motivated ansatz: **preserves symmetry** but **deep circuit**

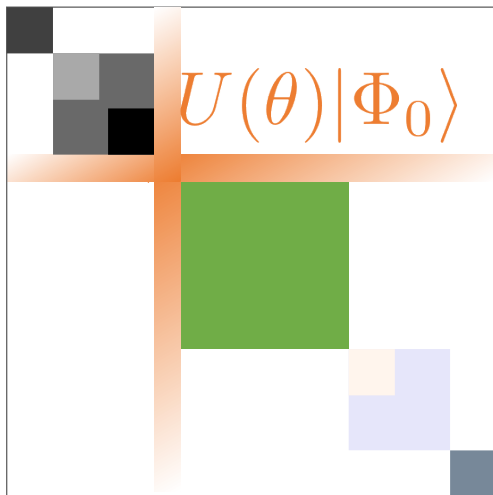
Hardware efficient ansatz (HEA): **do NOT preserve symmetry** but **shallow circuit**

→ Sym. Preserving ansätze npj Quantum Inf 6, 1 (2020); New J. Phys. 23, 113010 (2021)

→ Global optimization method (basin hopping) J. Chem. Theory Comput. 19, 1197 (2023)

# Symmetry preserving cost function

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \hat{H}|\Psi\rangle = E|\Psi\rangle & & \tilde{H} = U^\dagger \hat{H} U \\
 \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Contains} \\ \text{all} \\ \text{interactions} \end{array} \right) \begin{pmatrix} \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \end{pmatrix} = E \begin{pmatrix} \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \end{pmatrix} & \longrightarrow & \begin{pmatrix} \blacksquare & & & & \\ & \blacksquare & & & \\ & & \blacksquare & & \\ & & & \blacksquare & \\ & & & & \blacksquare \end{pmatrix} \longleftrightarrow \begin{array}{l} U(\theta) \\ E = \min_{\theta} \langle \Phi_0 | U(\theta)^\dagger \hat{H} U(\theta) | \Phi_0 \rangle \end{array}
 \end{array}$$



Physically motivated ansatz: preserves symmetry but deep circuit

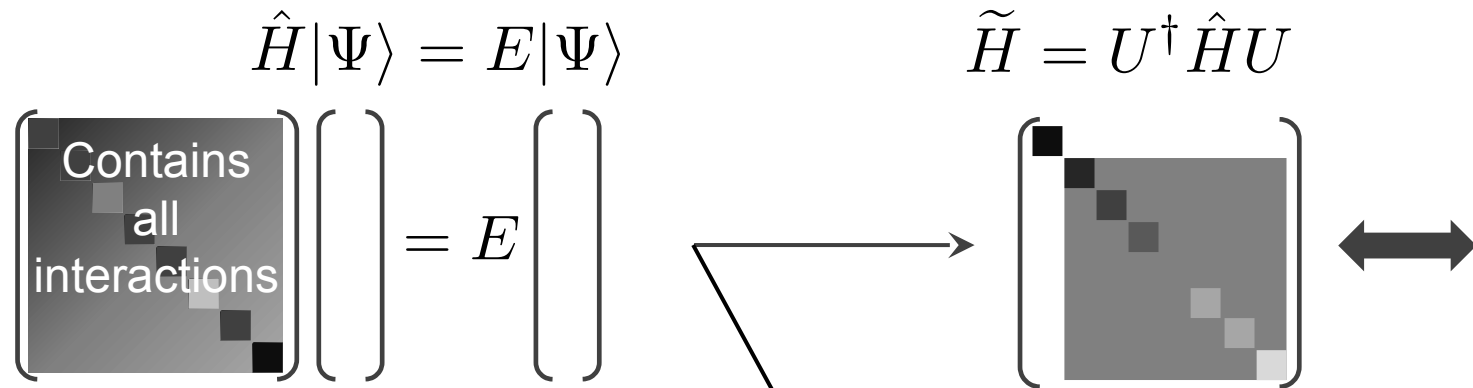
Hardware efficient ansatz (HEA): do NOT preserve symmetry but shallow circuit

Our strategy: modify the variational principle to preserve symmetry with HEA

# Symmetry preserving cost function

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \hat{H}|\Psi\rangle = E|\Psi\rangle & \tilde{H} = U^\dagger \hat{H} U & E = \min_{\theta} \langle \Phi_0 | U(\theta)^\dagger \hat{H} U(\theta) | \Phi_0 \rangle \\
 \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Contains} \\ \text{all} \\ \text{interactions} \end{array} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \\ \end{array} \right] = E \left[ \begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \\ \end{array} \right] & \longrightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{c} \blacksquare \\ \blacksquare \blacksquare \\ \blacksquare \blacksquare \blacksquare \\ \blacksquare \blacksquare \blacksquare \blacksquare \end{array} \right] & \longleftrightarrow \begin{array}{l} E = \min_{\theta} \left( \text{tr.} \left( \tilde{\Gamma} U(\theta)^\dagger \hat{H} U(\theta) \right) \right) \\ \tilde{\Gamma}_{ij} = \delta_{0i} \delta_{0j} \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

# Symmetry preserving cost function

$$\hat{H}|\Psi\rangle = E|\Psi\rangle$$


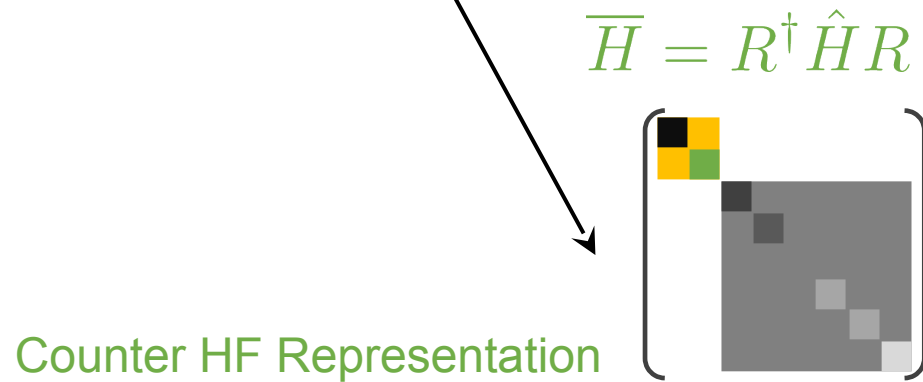
$$\tilde{H} = U^\dagger \hat{H} U$$

$$E = \min_{\theta} \langle \Phi_0 | U(\theta)^\dagger \hat{H} U(\theta) | \Phi_0 \rangle$$

$$E = \min_{\theta} \left( \text{tr.} \left( \tilde{\Gamma} U(\theta)^\dagger \hat{H} U(\theta) \right) \right)$$

$$\tilde{\Gamma}_{ij} = \delta_{0i} \delta_{0j}$$

Counter HF Representation

$$\overline{H} = R^\dagger \hat{H} R$$


$$R|\Phi_0\rangle = |\Phi_0\rangle$$

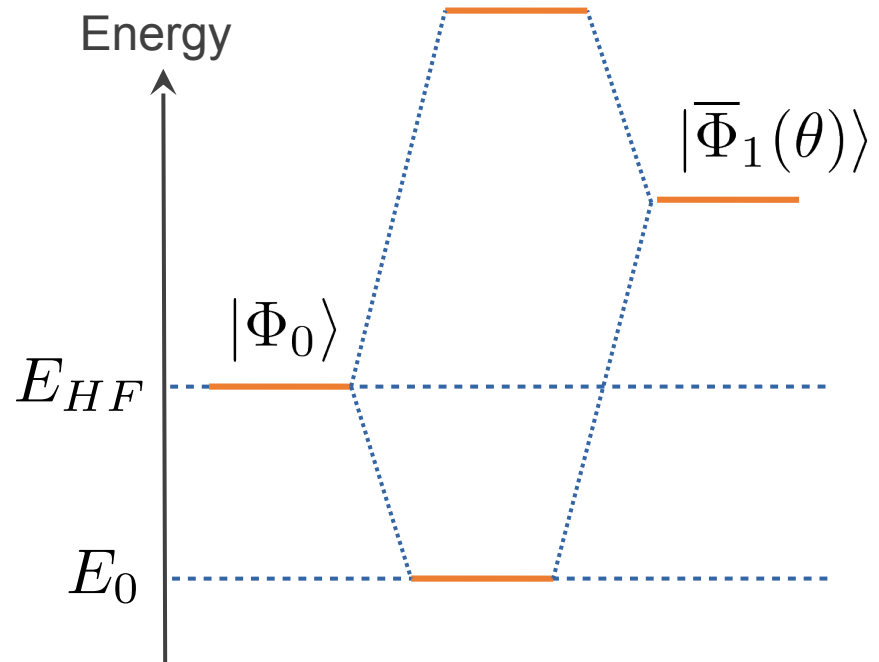
$$|\Psi_0\rangle = \omega|\Phi_0\rangle \pm \sqrt{1 - \omega^2} \overbrace{R|\Phi_1\rangle}^{|\overline{\Phi}_1\rangle}$$

$$E = \min_{\theta} \left( \text{tr.} \left( \overline{\Gamma} R(\theta)^\dagger \hat{H} R(\theta) \right) \right)$$

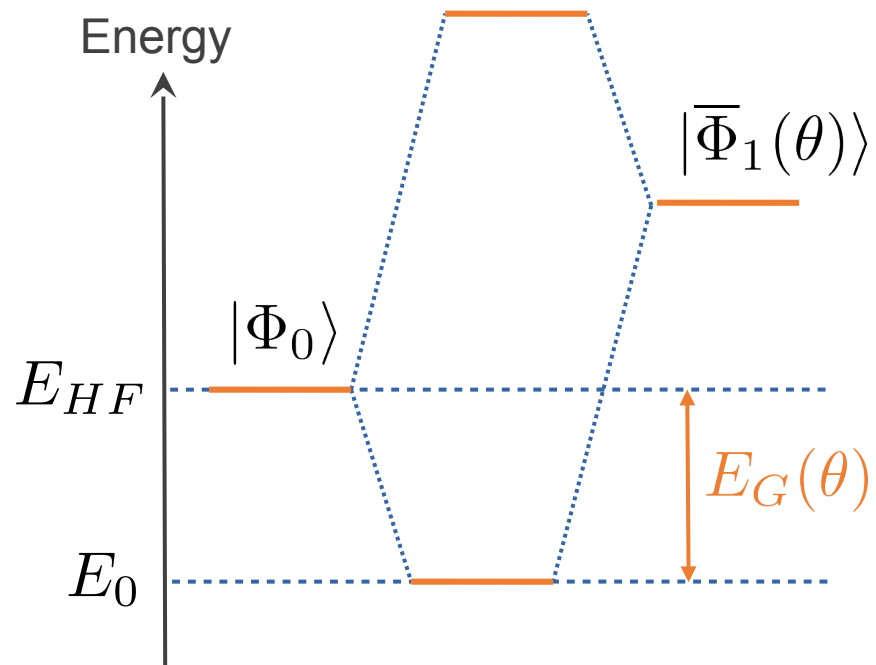
$$\overline{\Gamma}(\omega) = \begin{bmatrix} \blacksquare & \blacksquare \\ \blacksquare & \blacksquare \end{bmatrix}$$

Decomposition:  $U = RP(\omega)$

# Symmetry preserving cost function



# Symmetry preserving cost function



Instead of minimizing:

$$E = \min_{\theta} \left( \text{tr.} \left( \bar{\Gamma} R(\theta)^{\dagger} \hat{H} R(\theta) \right) \right)$$

Good guess hypothesis :  $\omega \geq 0.5$

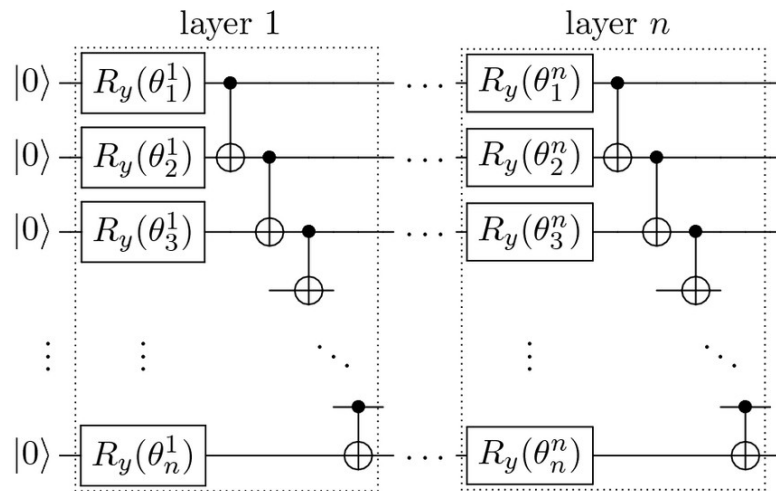
We minimize the Energy gain !

$$E_G(\theta) = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad \langle \Phi_0 | \hat{H} | \bar{\Phi}_1 \rangle$$

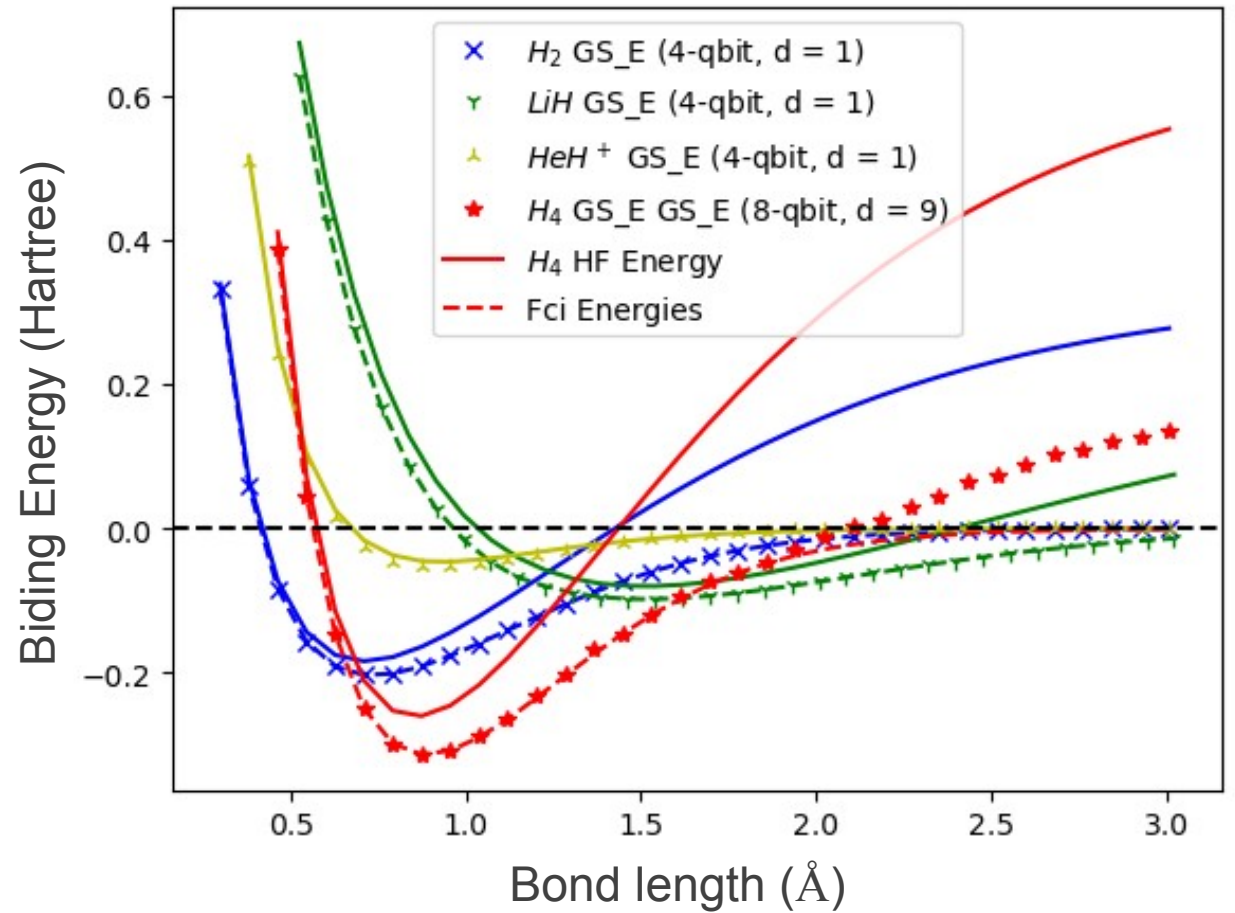
Require 3 measurements instead of 1 for standard VQE

# Potential energy surface

Basic HEA with d layer // Cobyla optimizer



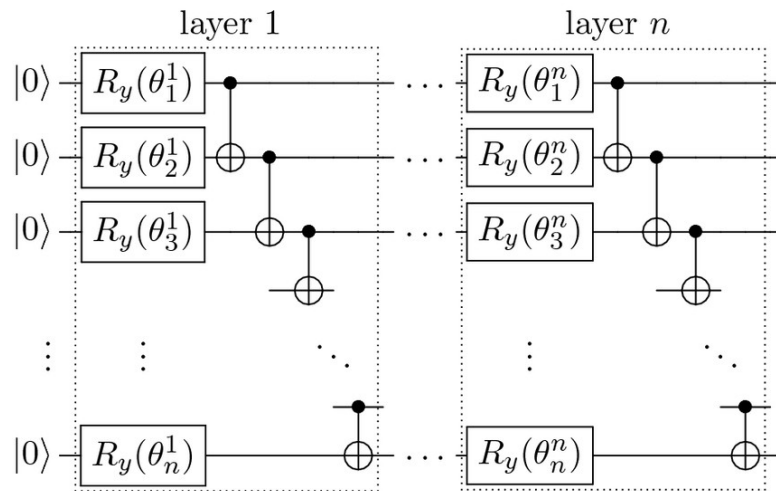
Kandala et. al. Nature 549, 242 (2017).



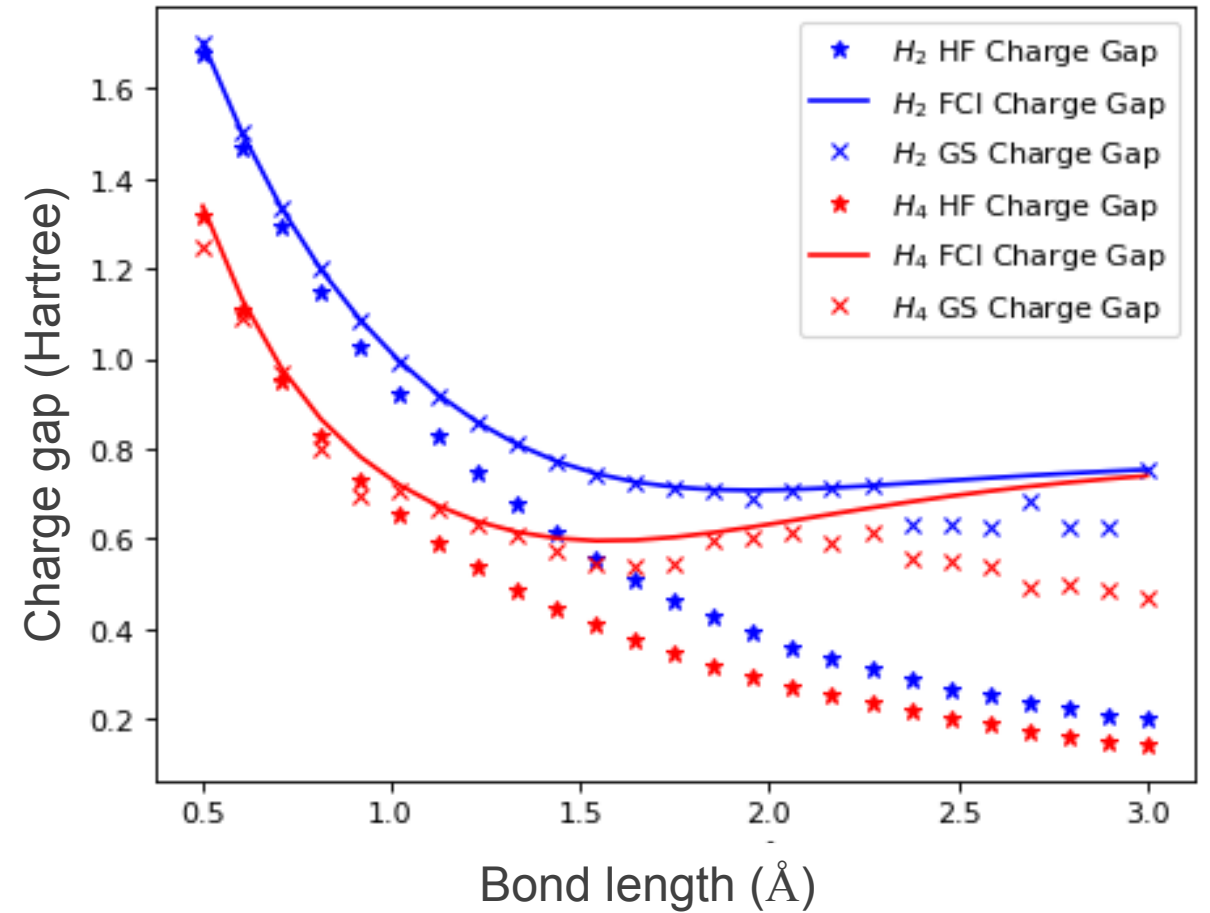


# Charge gap

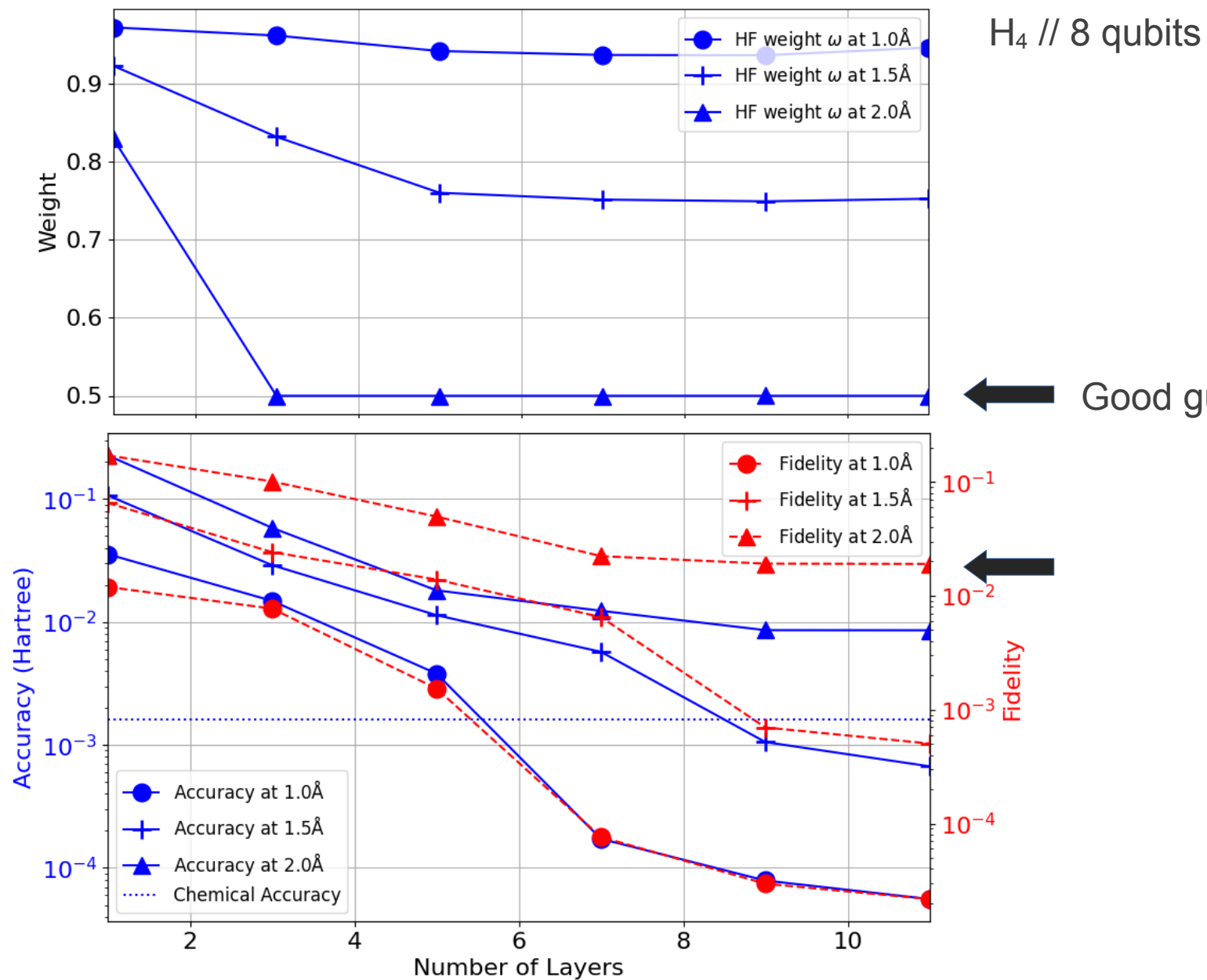
Basic HEA with d layer // Cobyla minimizer



Kandala et. al. Nature 549, 242 (2017).

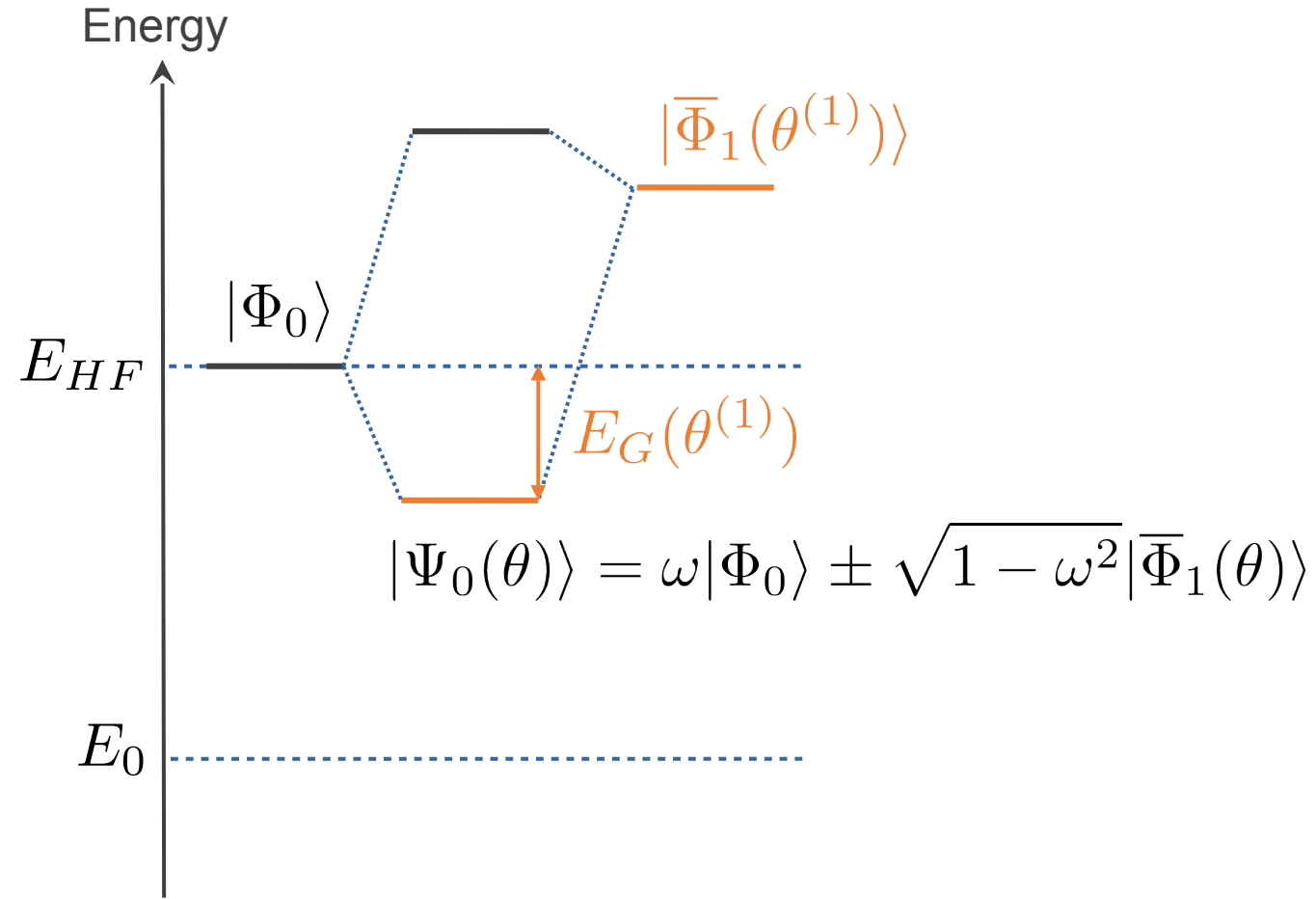


# Convergency



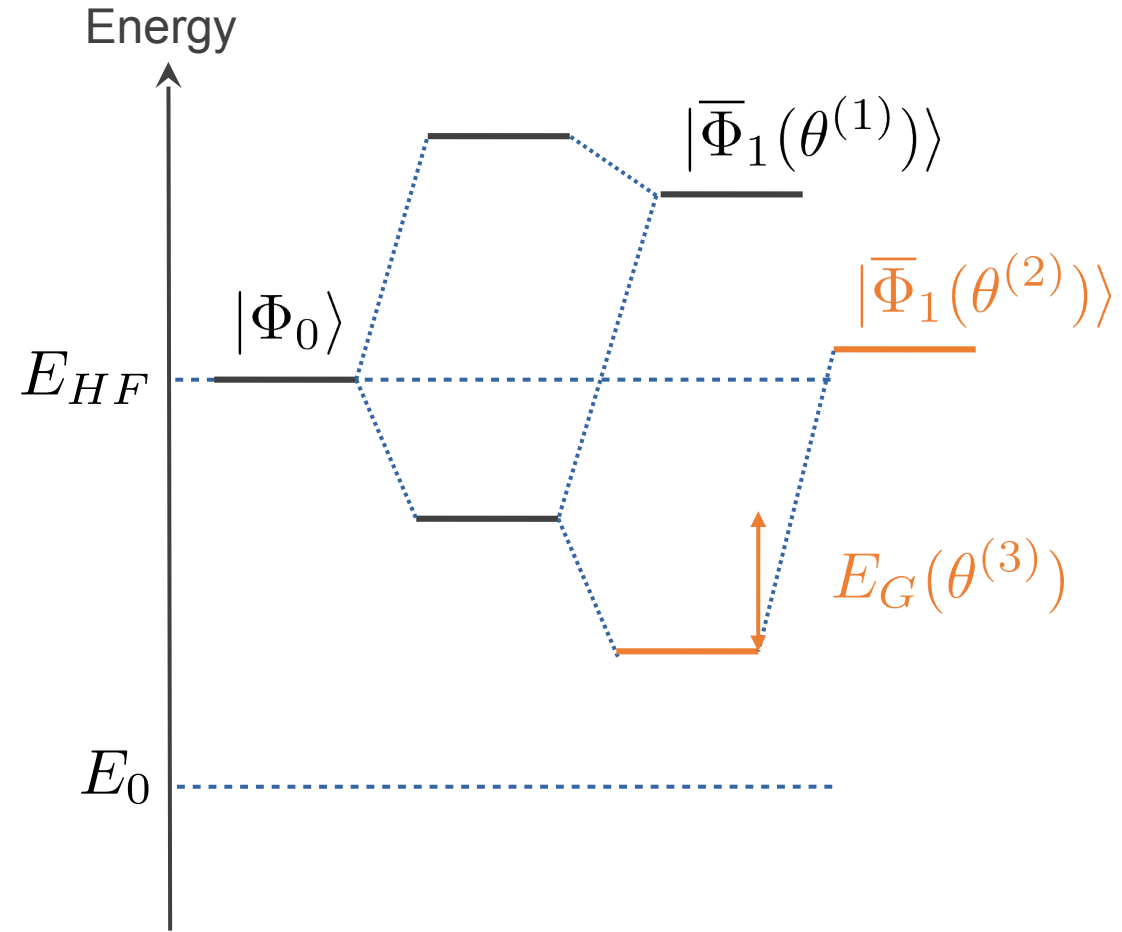
Iterative process:

$$|\Psi_0(\theta)\rangle = \omega|\Phi_0\rangle \pm \sqrt{1 - \omega^2}|\bar{\Phi}_1(\theta)\rangle \rightarrow |\Phi_0\rangle$$



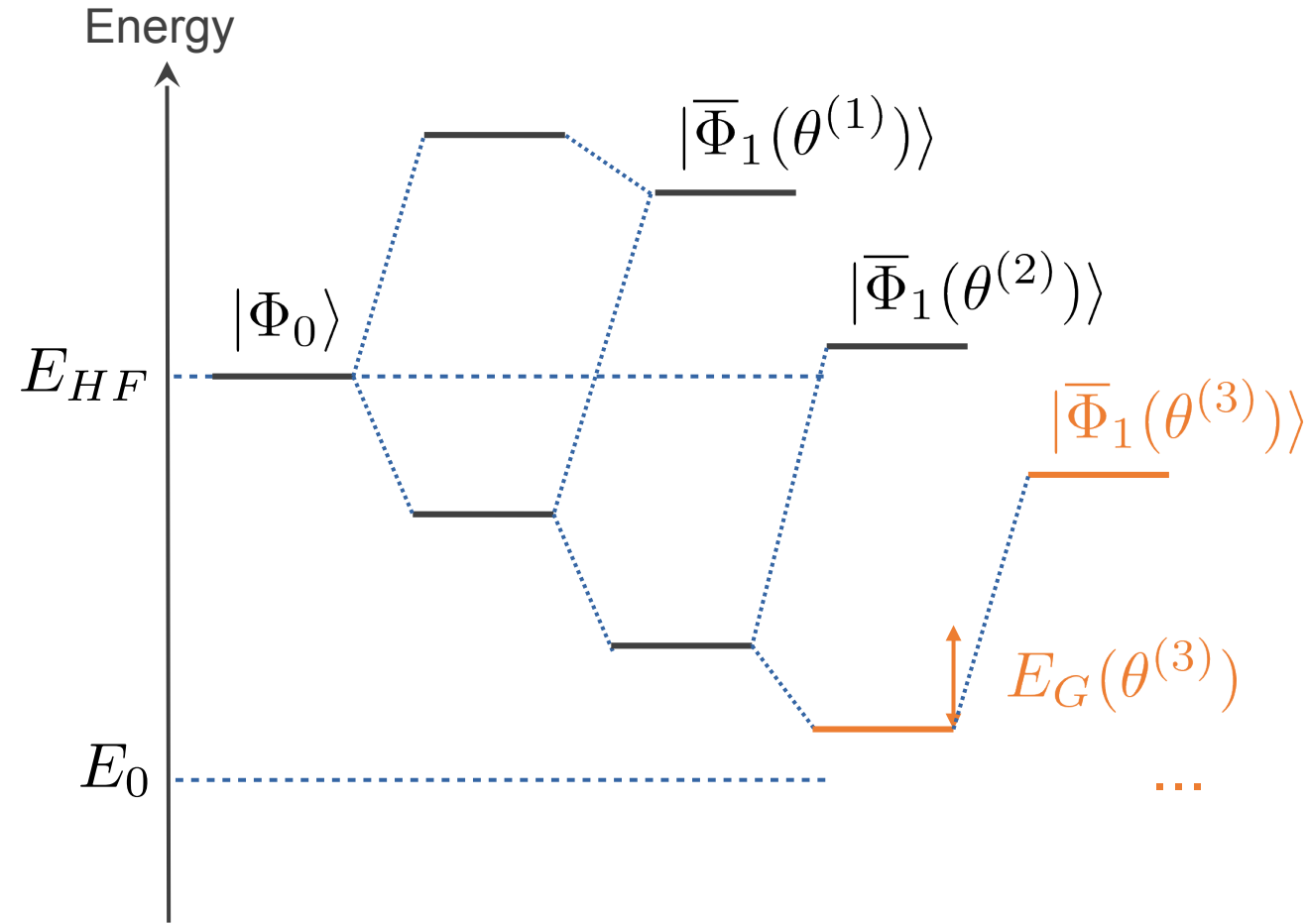
Iterative process:

$$|\Psi_0(\theta)\rangle = \omega|\Phi_0\rangle \pm \sqrt{1 - \omega^2}|\bar{\Phi}_1(\theta)\rangle \rightarrow |\Phi_0\rangle$$



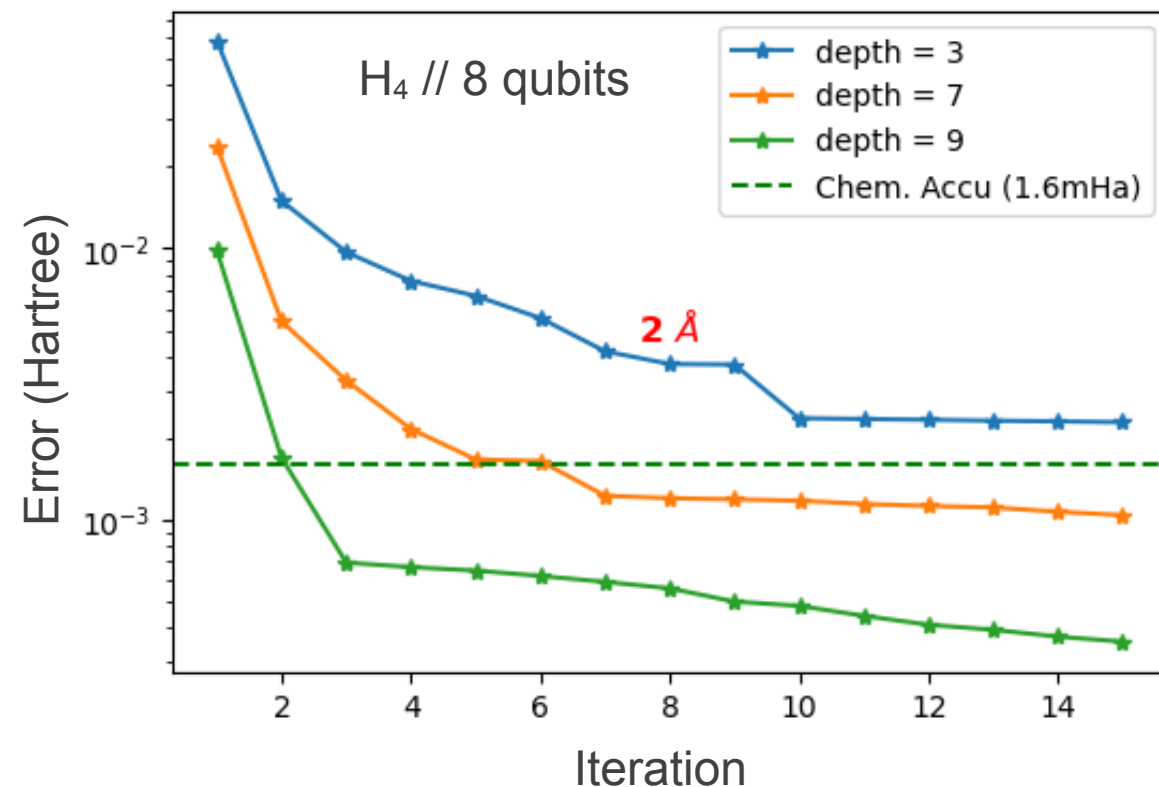
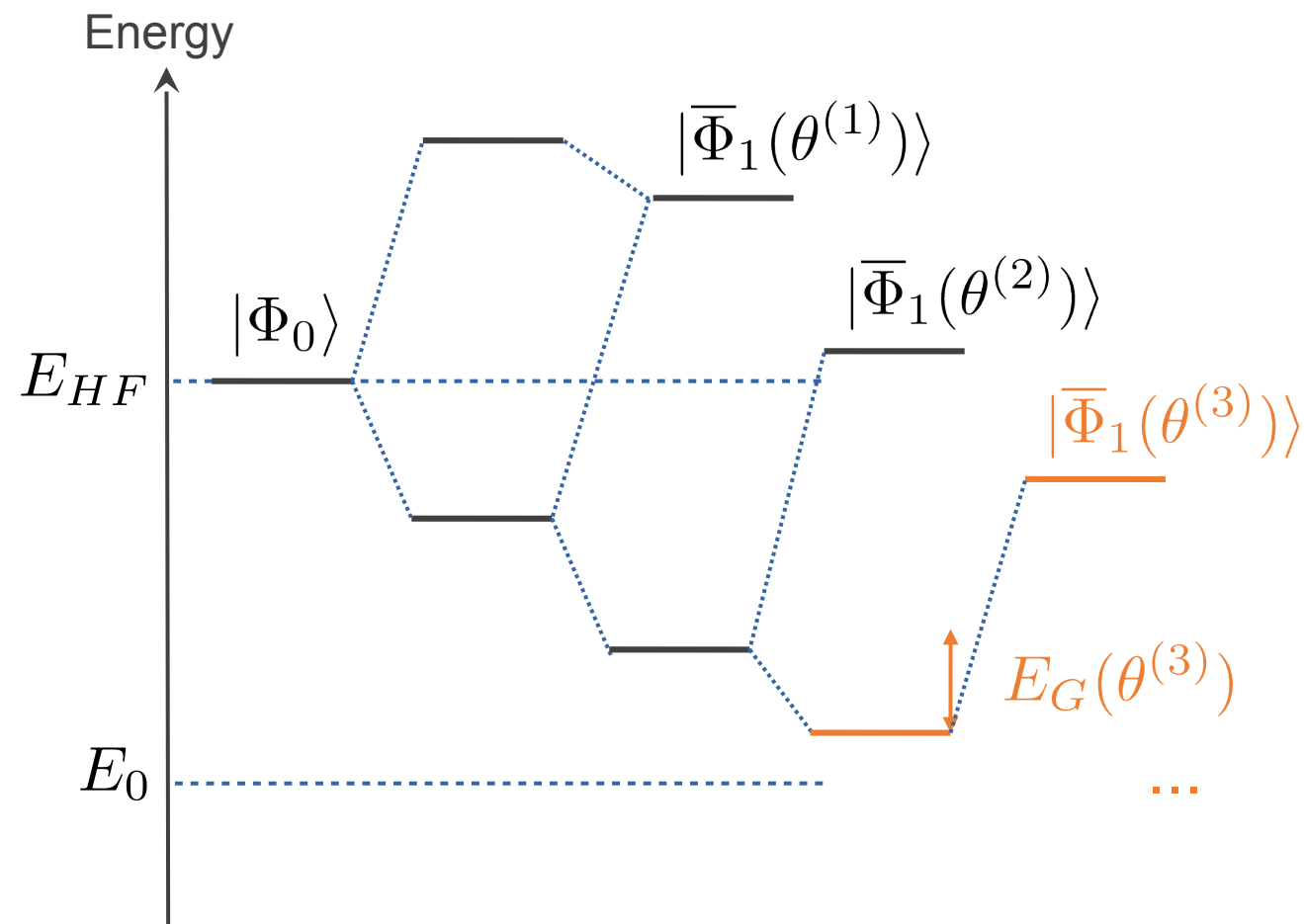
Iterative process:

$$|\Psi_0(\theta)\rangle = \omega|\Phi_0\rangle \pm \sqrt{1 - \omega^2}|\bar{\Phi}_1(\theta)\rangle \rightarrow |\Phi_0\rangle$$



Iterative process:

$$|\Psi_0(\theta)\rangle = \omega|\Phi_0\rangle \pm \sqrt{1 - \omega^2}|\bar{\Phi}_1(\theta)\rangle \rightarrow |\Phi_0\rangle$$



Iterative process converge rapidly !  
But more measurement to pay

# Outline:

1– Symmetries :  $[\hat{H}, \hat{N}] = [\hat{H}, \hat{S}_z] = [\hat{H}, \hat{S}^2] = \dots = 0$

Symmetries consideration mandatory

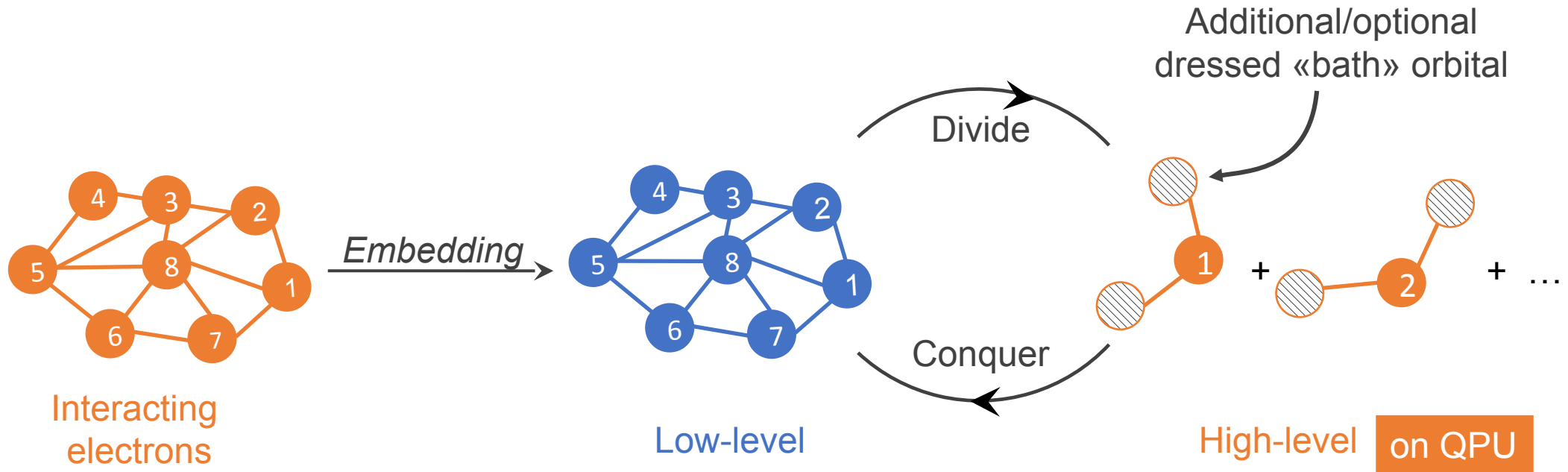
2– Locality of interaction // Nearsightedness

{ Kinetic operator :  $\nabla$   
Coulomb operator :  $\frac{1}{r} \rightarrow e^{-\kappa r}$

→ Localized basis-set empty the Hamiltonian !

Divide-conquer strategy (embedding)

# Divide and conquer strategies

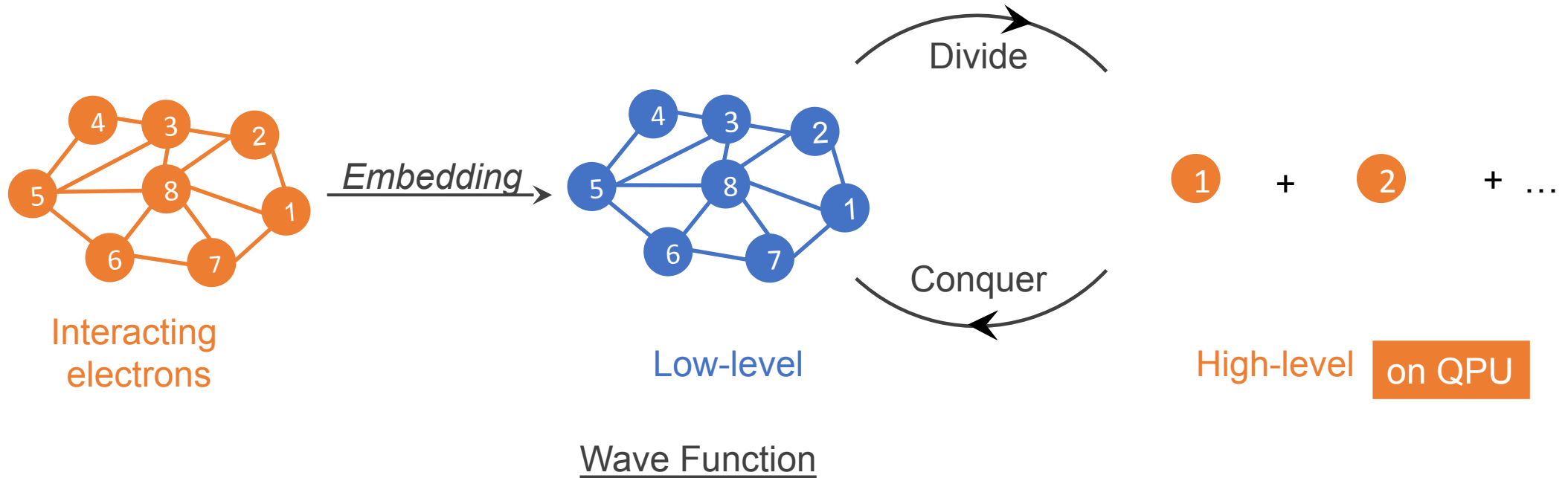


Wave Function : Single-Determinant  
Reduced quantities : Density // 1RDM  
Green's function : 1GF // 2GF

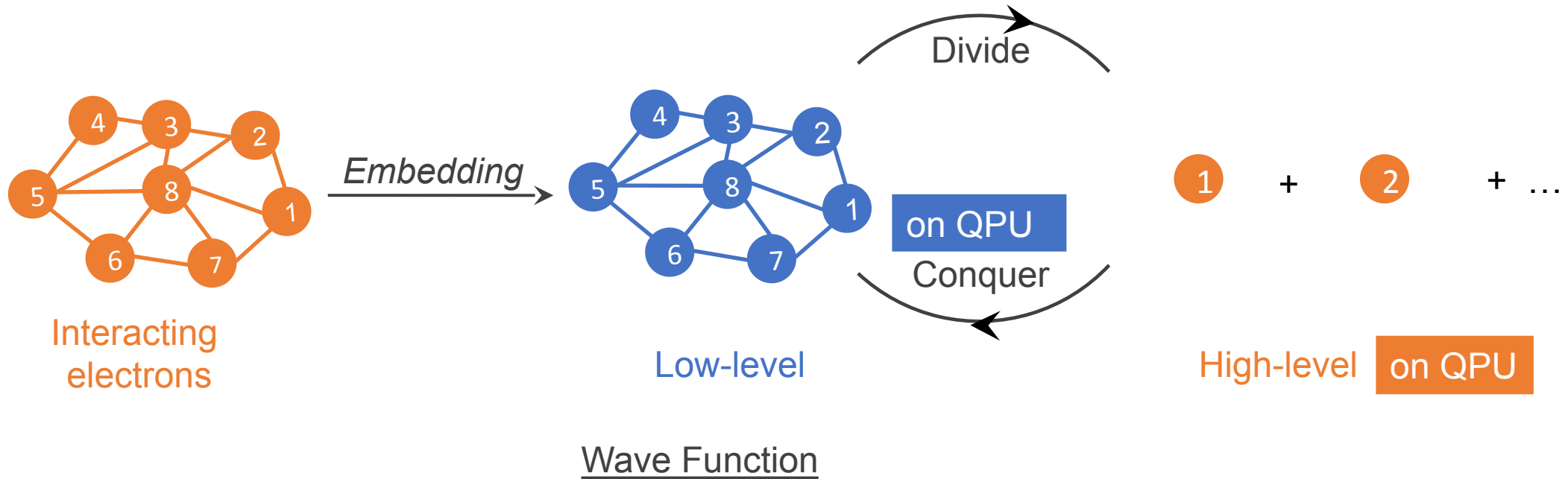
JCTC, 13, 4063-4078 (2017)  
JCTC, 16, 119-219 (2020)  
PRR, 3, 033230 (2021)  
JPCL, 12, 1104-1109 (2021)  
JCTC, 17, 2116-2125 (2021)  
PRX, 12, 011046 (2022)  
JCP, 157, 214112 (2022)  
PRX Quantum, 3, 010339 (2022)  
NPJ Comput. Mater., 9, 78 (2023)  
JCTC, 19, 1487-1498 (2023)



# Divide and conquer strategies for quantum state preparation



# Divide and conquer strategies for quantum state preparation



The most simple case :  $\text{X} \uparrow + \downarrow \quad |\Phi_0\rangle = \prod \text{X}$

Conquest on QC  $\rightarrow |\Psi_0\rangle = U|\Phi_0\rangle$

# Divide and conquer strategies for quantum state preparation

The most simple case :   $\uparrow$  +  $\downarrow$   $|\Phi_0\rangle = \prod$  

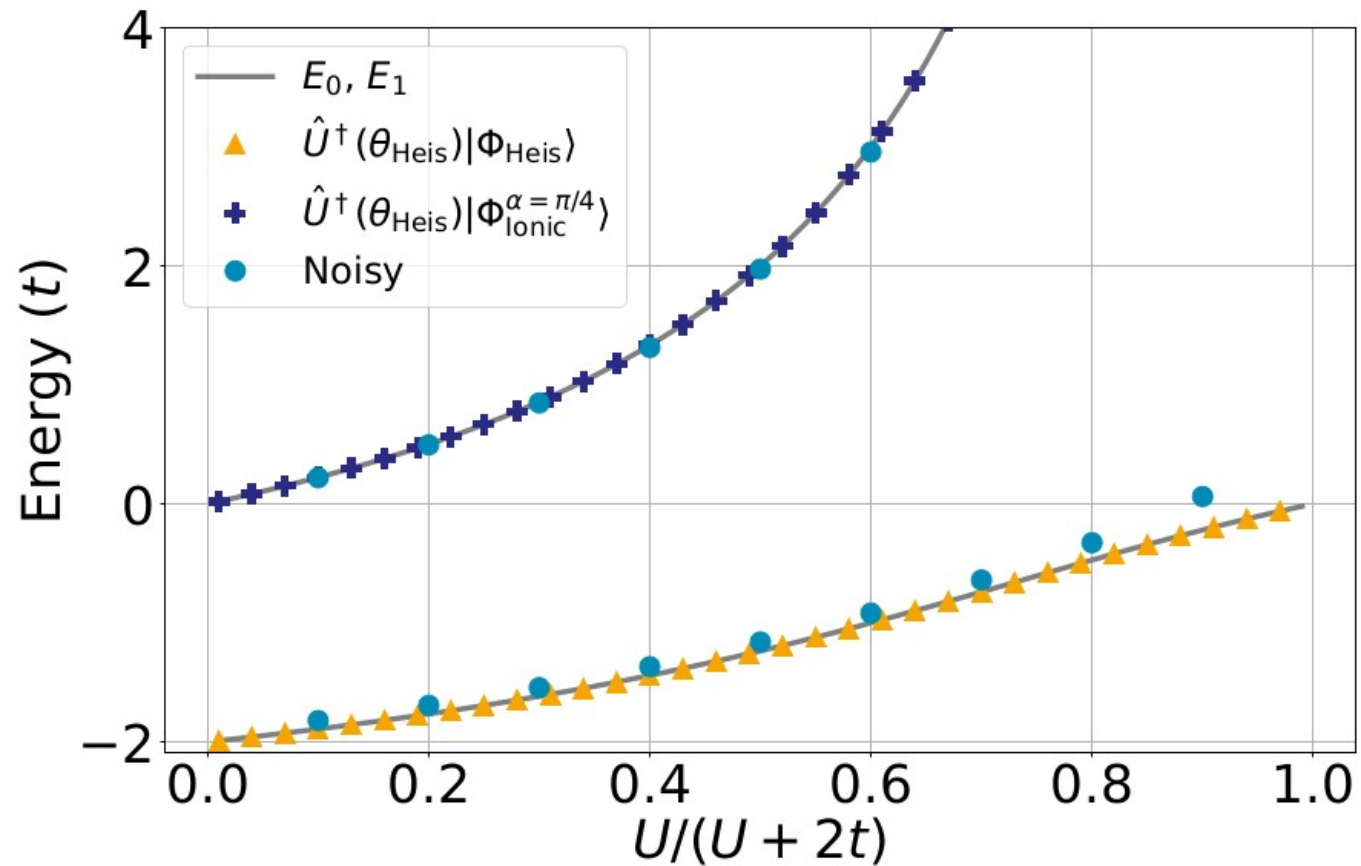
Conquest on QC  $\rightarrow |\Psi_0\rangle = U|\Phi_0\rangle$

$$U = e^S$$

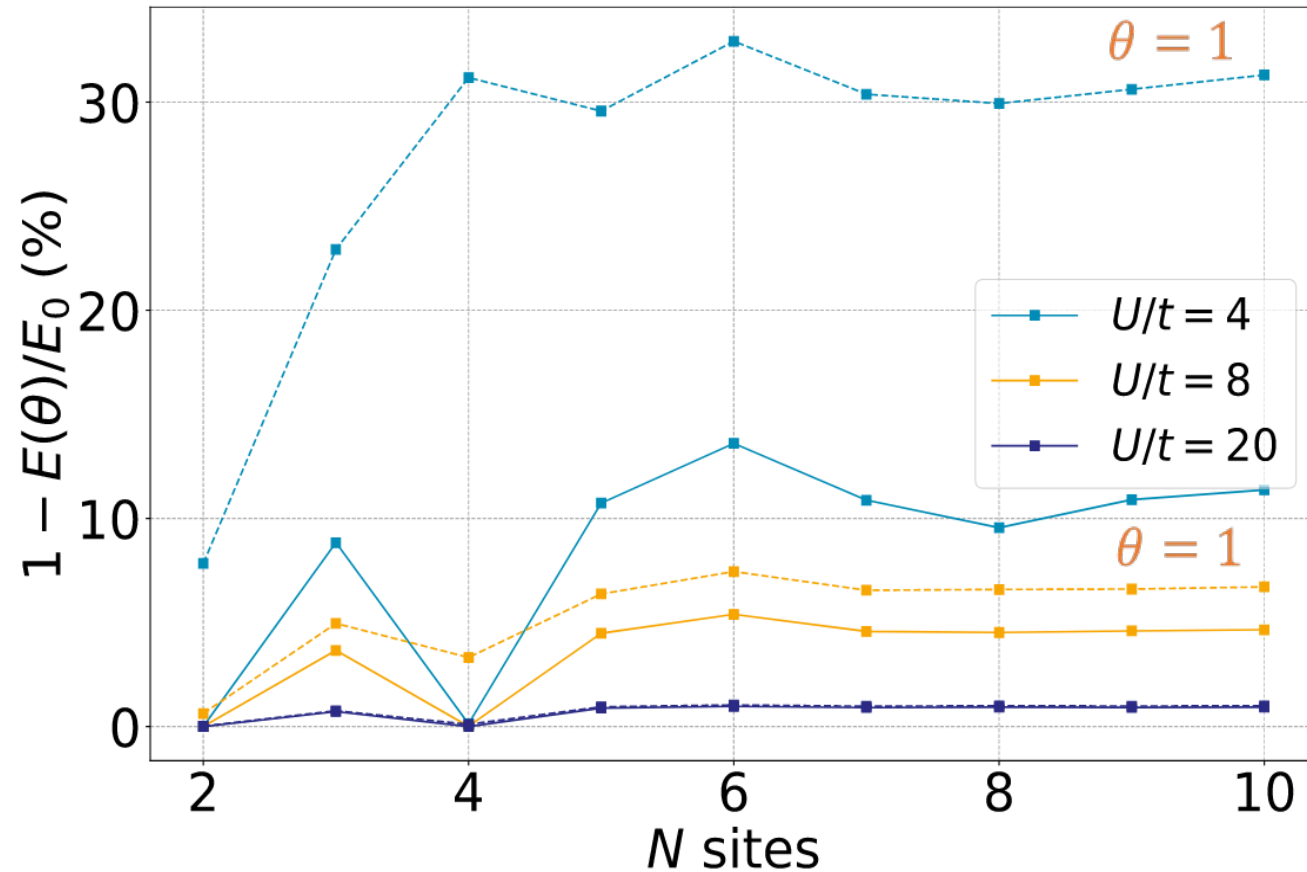
$$U \rightarrow U(\theta)$$

# Hubbard dimer

Exact with one single variational parameter !  $U = e^{\theta S}$



# Larger Hubbard rings



Collaboration B. Murta, International Iberian Nanotechnology Laboratory  
Heisenberg state preparation : [Phys. Rev. B 109, 035128 \(2024\)](#)

Students/post docs:



Quentin Marécat (graduated)  
Schrieffer-Wolff/Embedding

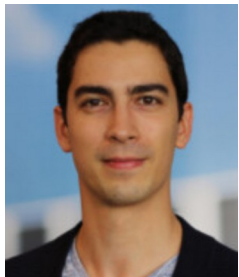


Matteo de Santis  
Embedding on QC



Hazat Akande  
Symmetry preserving cost-function

Collaborations:

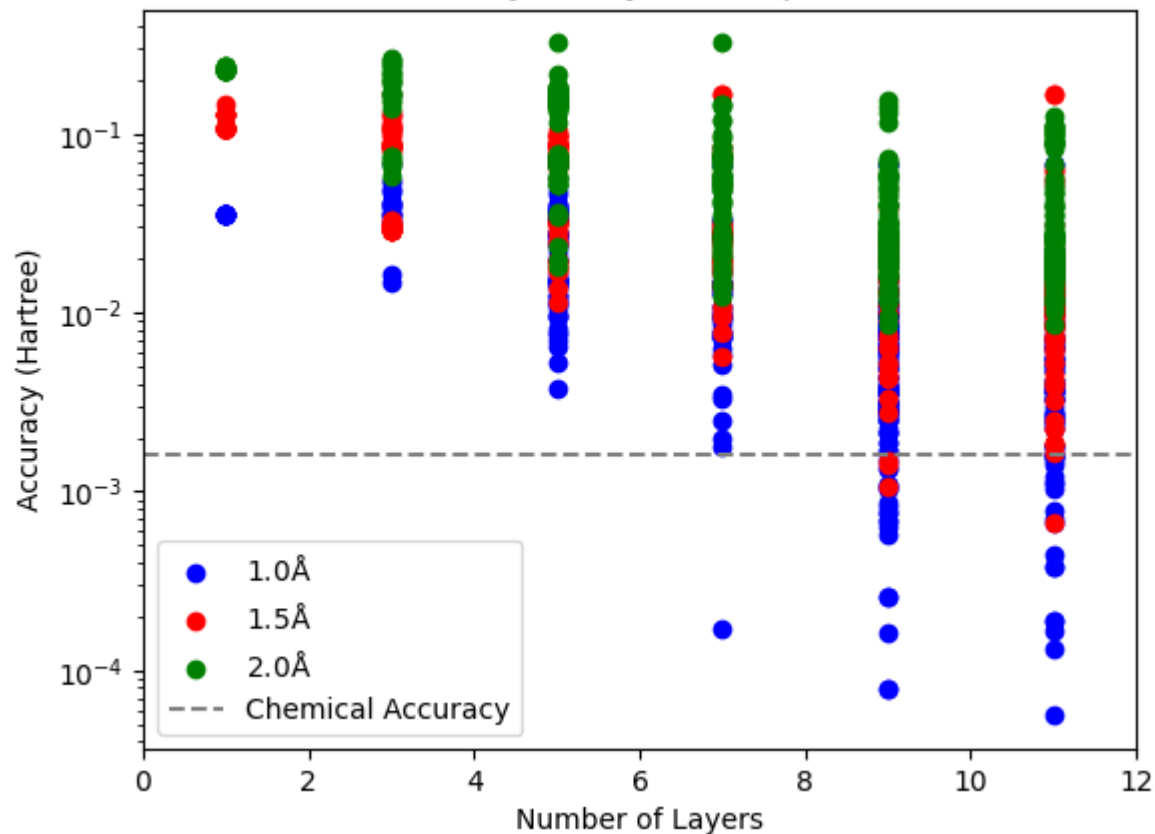


Bruno Senjean  
Institut Charles Gerhardt Montpellier



# Non-convex energy landscape

Accuracy vs Layers Comparison



Fidelity vs Layers Comparison

