Quantum computing for nuclear and particle physics

Felix Ringer Stony Brook University

Annual Theory Meeting, Durham University, UK, 12/17/24



Probing the fundamental structure of matter



Quantum chromodynamics (QCD)



Large Hadron Collider CERN



High-energy collider experiments















- Theory of the strong interaction between quarks and gluons
- The Lagrangian $\mathcal{L} = \overline{\psi} \left(i \partial^{\mu} \gamma_{\mu} m \right) \psi + g_s \overline{\psi} \gamma^{\mu} T_a \psi A^a_{\mu} \frac{1}{\Lambda} F^{\mu\nu}_a F^a_{\mu\nu}$





• QCD coupling constant $\alpha_s = \frac{g_s^2}{\Lambda_{\tau}}$

Nobel Prize 2004



Quantum chromodynamics

Huston, Rabbertz, Zanderighi (PDG)









$$\sigma = \sigma^{(0)} + \alpha_s \, \sigma^{(1)} + \alpha_s^2 \, \sigma^{(2)} + \dots$$

2. Nonperturbative at low energies

- Simulations using a lattice discretization
- Path integral vs. Hamiltonian formulation (imaginary vs. real time)
- Quantum computing for real-time dynamics?

Wilson; Kogut, Susskind `70s

Quantum chromodynamics



Introduction



Quantum computing & fundamental physics

• Quantum advantage for random circuit sampling (2019)



• Progress toward long-lived logical qubits using quantum error correction (2023, 24)





Quantum computing & fundamental physics

• Quantum advantage for random circuit sampling (2019)



• Progress toward long-lived logical qubits using quantum error correction (2023, 24)



• Scalar field theory $|\langle X | U(t, t_0) | \phi \phi \rangle|^2$

Jordan, Lee, Preskill `10-`17



• Is QCD scattering in BQP?



Scalar Field Theory





Toward simulating scattering processes

- Need to simulate classically intractable real-time dynamics
- Compton scattering amplitudes, inmedium correlation functions or full scattering events







$\sim \int dt \, d\vec{x} \, e^{iq \cdot x} \, \langle P_f | \mathcal{T}[\mathcal{O}(t, \vec{x})\mathcal{O}(0)] | P_i \rangle$ QCD factorization



Qubits, qudits & qumodes

Applications in fundamental physics

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Qubits & qumodes



Lattice models and non-Abelian theories





Quantum chromodynamics

- Theory of the strong interaction between quarks and gluons
- The Lagrangian $\mathcal{L} = \overline{\psi} \left(i \partial^{\mu} \gamma_{\mu} m \right) \psi + g_s \overline{\psi} \gamma^{\mu} T_a \psi A^a_{\mu} \frac{1}{\Lambda} F^{\mu\nu}_a F^a_{\mu\nu}$



Simulate quarks and gluons with different quantum resources?



Huston, Rabbertz, Zanderighi (PDG)







Qubits, qudits and qumodes

Elementary units for computing

• Qubits

- Superconducting circuits, cold atoms, trapped ions, topological qubits
- Digital gate-based computing





Introduction



Qubits, qudits and qumodes

Elementary units for computing

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• Qudits

- Multi-level d > 2 computational units
- Gates e.g. X_d , Z_d , $C_2[R_d]$
- Various hardware platforms





Qubits, qudits and qumodes

Elementary units for computing

• Qubits

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- Digital gate-based computing





• Qumodes

 Photonics, trapped ions, superconducting circuits



- Infinite-dimensional Hilbert space
- Gate based but with continuous variables







Quantum simulations for collider physics

Use the Hamiltonian formulation instead

$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{1}{2}\pi^2 + \frac{1}{2}\left(\nabla\phi\right)^2 + \frac{1}{2}m_0^2\phi^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4!}\phi^4$$

- Discretize spatial component x = an, n = 0, ..., L 1
- Truncate the local Hilbert space



• Take limits $L, \Lambda \to \infty, a \to 0$ + finite volume formalism

Kogut, Susskind `70s, Jordan, Lee, Preskill `11-`17







Time-dependent n-point correlation functions $\langle \mathcal{O}(t_1)\mathcal{O}(t_2) \rangle$







Toward quantum simulations for QCD

 Qumodes or continuous variables well suited for bosonic modes, scalar ϕ^4 , and gauge fields

 ϕ, t continuous, x = an discretized on a lattice

Marshall, Pooser, Siopsis, Weedbrock `15 Briceno, Edwards, Eaton, Gonzalez, Pfister, Siopsis 23 Abel, Spannowsky, Williams 24



Toward quantum simulations for QCD

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 ϕ, t continuous, x = an discretized on a lattice

• QCD Lagrangian





Develop a hybrid qubit/qumode approach

 $\mathcal{H}^m_{ ext{qumode}}\otimes\mathcal{H}^n_{ ext{qubit}}$

Quantum simulations with qumodes

- Bosonic raising/lowering $|n\rangle = \frac{(a^{\dagger})^n}{\sqrt{n!}}|0\rangle$ operators $\hat{a}, \hat{a}^{\dagger}$ and Fock states
- Quadratures \hat{X}, \hat{P} with $[\hat{X}, \hat{P}] = i\hbar$ and sta
- Visualize using Wigner functions

$$W(x,p) = \frac{1}{\pi\hbar} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \psi^*(x+y)\psi(x-y)e^{2ipy/\hbar} dy$$

Ground state (in the Fock basis) $|0\rangle$

see Lloyd, Braunstein `99



ate
$$|\psi\rangle = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \psi(x) |x\rangle \,\mathrm{d}x$$







Quantum simulations with qumodes

Universal gate set

- **Displacement** $D(z) = e^{z\hat{a}^{\dagger} z^{*}\hat{a}}$
- Rotation $R(\theta) = e^{i\theta \hat{a}^{\dagger}\hat{a}}$
- Two-qumode beam splitter $U_{\rm bs}(z) = e^{z\hat{a}\hat{b}^{\dagger} - z^*\hat{a}^{\dagger}\hat{b}}$ $z = \theta e^{i\phi}$
- Non-Gaussian operations



e.g. Kerr gate

see Lloyd, Braunstein `99



• Squeezing

$$S(z) = e^{\frac{1}{2}(z^*\hat{a}^2 - z\hat{a}^{\dagger 2})}$$



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Computational qubits

Circuit QED, see Bosonic Qiskit, Girvin, Wiebe et al. 22

Qubits & qumodes







• Qubits: electronic states of the trapped ion

• Qumodes: collective vibrational modes of the ion chain (phonons) Araz, Grau, Montgomery, FR `24



Circuit QED, see Bosonic Qiskit, Girvin, Wiebe et al. 22

Qubits & qumodes







- Qubits: electronic states of the trapped ion
- Qumodes: collective vibrational modes of the ion chain (phonons)
- Collective modes are more resilient to environmental noise compared to local modes
- N axial and 2N radial modes • Nions

Araz, Grau, Montgomery, FR `24



Circuit QED, see Bosonic Qiskit, Girvin, Wiebe et al. 22

Qubits & qumodes







- Qubits: electronic states of the trapped ion
- Qumodes: collective vibrational modes of the ion chain (phonons)
- Laser interacts with qubits



Need several qubits to control and readout qumodes



But keep as many "computational qubits" as possible

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Circuit QED, see Bosonic Qiskit, Girvin, Wiebe et al. 22

Qubits & qumodes







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Need several qubits to control and readout qumodes



Feasibility studies with a minimal number of control qubits

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Circuit QED, see Bosonic Qiskit, Girvin, Wiebe et al. 22

Qubits & qumodes







Type	Operation	Short	Operator	Estimated gate time	Estimated fidelity	Ref.
Qubit gates	Pauli operators		σ^i	$2 \ \mu s$	99.999%	[92]
	Rotation	$R_i(\theta)$	$e^{i heta\sigma^i/2}$	$2~\mu { m s}$	99.999%	[92]
	Controlled NOT	CNOT	$e^{irac{\pi}{4}(\mathbb{I}_1-\sigma_1^z)(\mathbb{I}_2-\sigma_2^x)}$	$30 \ \mu s$	99.9%	[93]
	Rotation	$R(\theta)$	$e^{i heta \hat{a}^{\dagger} \hat{a}}$.	$200~\mu\mathrm{s}^*$	99%*	[94]
	Displacement	D(z)	$e^{z \hat{a}^\dagger - z^* \hat{a}}$	$10 \ \mu s$	99%	[95]
Qumode gates	Single-mode squeezing	$\mathrm{S}(z)$	$e^{(z^*\hat{a}\hat{a}-z\hat{a}^\dagger\hat{a}^\dagger)/2}$	$3~\mu s$	98%	[96]
	Beam splitter	BS(z)	$e^{z \hat{a}^{\dagger} \hat{b} - z^* \hat{a} \hat{b}^{\dagger}}$	$250~\mu{ m s}$	99%	[68]
	Kerr	K(z)	$e^{i heta(\hat{a}^{\dagger}\hat{a})^2}$	$10 \ { m ms}^*$	$95\%^*$	[97]
	Cross-Kerr	$\operatorname{CK}(z)$	$e^{i heta \hat{a}\hat{b}^{\dagger}\hat{a}\hat{b}^{\dagger}\hat{b}}$	$800 \ \mu s$	97%	[98]
Hybrid gates	Red sideband	RSB(z)	$e^{iz\hat{a}\sigma^++iz^*\hat{a}^\dagger\sigma^-}$	$200 \ \mu s$	99.9%	[68]
	Blue sideband	BSB(z)	$e^{iz\hat{a}^{\dagger}\sigma^{+}+iz^{*}\hat{a}\sigma^{-}}$	$200 \ \mu s$	99.9%	[<mark>68</mark>]
	Controlled rotation	$CR(\theta)$	$e^{i heta\sigma^z \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a}}$	$200~\mu\mathrm{s}^*$	$99\%^*$	[13]
	Controlled displacement	$\mathrm{CD}(z)$	$e^{\sigma^z(z\hat{a}^\dagger-z^*\hat{a})}$	$800 \ \mu s$	$95\%^*$	[99]
	Controlled squeezing	$\mathrm{CS}(z)$	$e^{\sigma^z(z^*\hat{a}\hat{a}-z\hat{a}^\dagger\hat{a}^\dagger)/2}$	$120~\mu \mathrm{s}^*$	$99\%^*$	[13]
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Measurements	Qubit Pauli strings		σ^i	$145 \ \mu s$	99.99%	[100]
	Average phonon number		\hat{N}	$200 \ \mu s$	97%	[101]
	Qumode PNR		$\ket{n}ackslash{n}$	$400 \ \mu s$	99%	[102]
	Qumode homodyne		\hat{X}, \hat{P}	$200 \ \mu s$	$95\%^*$	[102]
	Hybrid		$\sigma^i \hat{X},\sigma^i \hat{P}$	$200 \mu {\rm s}^\dagger$	$95\%^\dagger$	

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¹⁷¹Yb⁺ ions in a linear Paul trap

where $z = \theta e^{i\phi}$

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Araz, Grau, Montgomery, FR `24

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• Hybrid gate example

Red sideband gate $U_{rsb}(z) = e^{iz\hat{a}\sigma^+ + iz^*\hat{a}^\dagger\sigma^-}$

Red sideband detuned laser

$$|0\rangle|n\rangle \leftrightarrow |1\rangle|n-1\rangle \ \ \forall$$

- Preserves the total number of excitations
- Beam splitter using two detuned red sidebands

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Qubits & qumodes







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Qubit & qumodes with transmons

Native transmon gates

Gate Name	Gate Operation			
Mode gates				
$\mathrm{R}_i(heta)$	$\exp\left(-i heta\hat{n}_i ight)$			
$\mathrm{D}_i(lpha)$	$\exp\left(lpha \hat{a}_{i}^{\dagger}-lpha^{*} \hat{a}_{i} ight)$			
$\mathrm{BS}_{i,j}(arphi, heta)$	$\exp\left(-i heta\left(e^{iarphi}\hat{a}_{i}^{\dagger}\hat{a}_{j}+e^{-iarphi}\hat{a}_{i}\hat{a}_{j}^{\dagger} ight) ight)$			
Transmon gates				
$\mathrm{R}_{i}^{z}(heta)$	$\exp\left(-irac{ heta}{2}\hat{Z}_i ight)$			
$\mathrm{R}_{i}^{arphi}(heta)$	$\exp\left(-i\frac{\theta}{2}\hat{\sigma}_{i}^{\varphi}\right)$ $\hat{\sigma}_{i}^{\varphi} = \hat{X}_{i}\cos\varphi + \hat{Y}_{i}\sin\varphi$			
Transmon-Mode gates				
$\mathrm{CR}_{i,j}(heta)$	$\exp\left(-irac{ heta}{2}\hat{Z}_{i}\hat{n}_{j} ight)$			
$\mathrm{C}\Pi_{i,j}$	$\exp\left(-irac{\pi}{2}\hat{Z}_{i}\hat{n}_{j} ight)$			
$ ext{CD}_{i,j}(lpha)$	$\exp\left(\hat{Z}_{i}\left(lpha\hat{a}_{j}^{\dagger}-lpha^{*}\hat{a}_{j} ight) ight)$			
$\mathrm{SNAP}_{i,j}(ec{ heta})$	$\exp\left(-i\hat{Z}_{i}\sum_{n} heta_{n}\left n ight angle\left\langle n ight _{j} ight)$			
$\mathrm{SQR}_{i,j}(ec{ heta},ec{arphi})$	$\sum_n \mathrm{R}_i^{arphi_n}(heta_n) \otimes \ket{n}ig\langle n ight _j$			

Liu, Singh, Smith et al. `24 Crane, Smith, Tomesh et al. 24

- Different native gate set
- Connectivity
- Coherence times
 - Trapped ions:
 - Qubits $\mathcal{O}(s)$, qumodes $\mathcal{O}(ms)$
 - Transmons:
 - Qubits $\mathcal{O}(ms)$, qumodes $\mathcal{O}(s)$

Qubits, qudits & qumodes

Applications in fundamental physics

Lattice models and non-Abelian theories

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Lattice models and non-Abelian theories





I-dimensional Hamiltonian with N lattice sites



The many-body Jaynes-Cummings model

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- Qumode nearest-
- neighbor hopping

Qumodes Qubits

Onsite qumode-qubit









• I-dimensional Hamiltonian

$$\hat{H} = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \omega_c a_n^{\dagger} a_n$$

$$+\sum_{n=1}^{N}\omega_a\sigma_n^+\sigma_n^-$$

$$+\kappa \sum_{n=1}^{N} \left(a_{n+1}^{\dagger} a_n + a_n^{\dagger} a_{n+1} \right)$$

-



 $+\eta \sum_{n=1}^{N} \left(a_n \sigma_n^+ + a_n^\dagger \sigma_n^- \right)$

The many-body Jaynes-Cummings model

$$\sim a_{n+1}^{\dagger}a_n + a_n^{\dagger}a_{n+1}$$

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total number of excitations is conserved

$$[\hat{H}, \hat{N}_{\text{tot}}] = 0$$
 where $\hat{N}_{\text{tot}} = \sum_{n=1}^{N} a_n^{\dagger} a_n + \sum_{n=1}^{N} \sigma^+ \sigma^-$

ed to the Schwinger model, gauge theory + fermions





Real-time evolution



The many-body Jaynes-Cummings model

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Trotter decomposition

$$U_1(t) = \prod_j e^{-iH_jt}$$

Lattice models and non-Abelian theories

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Real-time evolution



- Open boundary conditions
- 4 sites and qumodes truncated to 4 levels for the classical simulation

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Ground state preparation



Qubit





cf. Lloyd et al. `18, Siopsis et al. `23

Hamiltonian-based VQA

Araz, Grau, Montgomery, FR `24





Ground state preparation









cf. Lloyd et al. `18, Siopsis et al. `23

Hamiltonian-based VQA

Araz, Grau, Montgomery, FR `24







Qumodes and the O(3) model

• Hamiltonian I+Id

Angular momentum

Global non-abelian symmetry



• The fields are treated as continuous variables



Jha, FR, Siopsis, Thompson 23

Unit 3-vectors at sites i,j



Introduce 3 qumodes per lattice site and enforce $\phi_1^2 + \phi_2^2 + \phi_3^2 = 1$



Qumodes and the O(3) model

• Hamiltonian I+Id

Angular momentum

Global non-abelian symmetry

• Real-time evolution



Jha, FR, Siopsis, Thompson 23



Unit 3-vectors at sites i,j

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Lattice models and non-Abelian theories



Qumodes and the O(3) model

• Hamiltonian I+Id

Global non-abelian symmetry

• Extension to SU(2) gauge theories





Alternatively Schwinger-boson formulation

Jha, FR, Siopsis, Thompson 23

V Unit 3-vectors at sites i,j

Ale, Bauer, Jha, FR, Siopsis, Thompson 24

Lattice models and non-Abelian theories







Qubits, qudits & qumodes

Applications in fundamental physics

Applications in nuclear and particle physics

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Lattice models and non-Abelian theories



Applications in fundamental physics

• Full scattering process

$$|p_1, p_2\rangle_{\text{in}} = S_{11\to 11}(E;\eta) |p_1, p_2\rangle_{\text{out}} + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \prod_{i=1}^{n} \int dPS_i S_{11}$$

• Tensor network simulations for Ising Field Theory in 1+1d with up to 2000 sites



Jha, Milsted, Neuenfeld, Preskill, Vieira 24 see also e.g. Savage et al., Davoudi et al.

 $_{\rightarrow X_n}(p_1, p_2, q_1, \ldots, q_n; \eta) |q_1, \ldots, q_n\rangle_{\text{out}}$





Applications in fundamental physics

• Full scattering process

$$|p_1, p_2\rangle_{\text{in}} = S_{11\to 11}(E;\eta) |p_1, p_2\rangle_{\text{out}} + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \prod_{i=1}^{n} \int dPS_i S_{11}$$

• Tensor network simulations for Ising Field Theory in 1+1d with up to 2000 sites



cf. Zamolodchikov, Ziyatdinov `II

Jha, Milsted, Neuenfeld, Preskill, Vieira 24 see also e.g. Savage et al., Davoudi et al.

 $_{\rightarrow X_n}(p_1, p_2, q_1, \ldots, q_n; \eta) | q_1, \ldots, q_n \rangle_{\text{out}}$







Toward parton distribution functions

- Real-time quasi-PDFs
- Schwinger model

$${\cal L}=\overline{\psi}(i{D\!\!\!/}\,$$
 –

- Continuum limit requires a large lattice
- Extension to 3D hadron structure
- Fragmentation functions Grieninger, Zahed `24

 $(-m)\psi - \frac{1}{\Lambda}F^{\mu\nu}F_{\mu\nu}$

Grieninger, Ikeda, Zahed `24 see also Xing et al., Rico et al.







Hadronization and string breaking

- QED in I+I dimensions Schwinger `62
- Model of hadronization
- Confining potential $V \sim r$





$$\mathcal{L} = \overline{\psi}(i\not\!\!D - m)\psi - \frac{1}{4}F^{\mu\nu}F_{\mu\nu}$$

Pythia Lund string hadronization Florio, Kharzeev et al. `23, Kharzeev, Zahed et al. `23

Applications in nuclear and particle physics







Hadronization and string breaking

• Full scattering process



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Florio, Frenklakh, Kharzeev et al. `24

Studies of entanglement and thermalization

Applications in nuclear and particle physics

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Hadronization and string breaking

• Full scattering process



Evolution of a hadron wave packet



Florio, Frenklakh, Kharzeev et al. 24

Studies of entanglement and thermalization

Farrell, Illa, Ciavarella, Savage `24

Applications in nuclear and particle physics





Vacuum



String breaking — medium modification

Lee, Mulligan, FR, Yao `24









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String breaking — medium modification

Lee, Mulligan, FR, Yao `24

1.00

0.75

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t}\rho_{S} = -i\left[H_{S},\rho_{S}\right]$$
0.50

$$+\sum_{j=1}^{m}\left(L_{j}\rho_{S}L_{j}^{\dagger} - \frac{1}{2}L_{j}^{\dagger}L_{j}\rho_{S} - \frac{1}{2}\rho_{S}L_{j}^{\dagger}\right)$$
0.25

- 0.00
- -0.25

-0.50

-0.75

- String breaking in a thermal background
 - Lindblad evolution

-1.00









String breaking — medium modification

Lee, Mulligan, FR, Yao `24

1.00

-0.75
$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t}\rho_S = -i\left[H_S, \rho_S\right]$$
-0.50
$$m_{\mathrm{e}} \epsilon$$

0.25
$$+ \sum_{j=1}^{1} \left(L_j \rho_S L_j^{\dagger} - \frac{1}{2} L_j^{\dagger} L_j \rho_S - \frac{1}{2} \rho_S L_j^{\dagger} L_j \rho_S \right)$$

- 0.00
- -0.25

-0.50

-0.75

- String breaking in a thermal background
 - Lindblad evolution

-1.00



Simulations may inform modeling of nuclear medium effects







Qubits, qudits & qumodes

Applications in fundamental physics

F. Ringer

Conclusions



Lattice models and non-Abelian theories





- Quantum computing well-suited to address challenges in fundamental physics
- Exploration of qubits, qudits, qumodes
- Small-scale simulations
- Continuum extrapolations
- Building up toward simulations of the Standard Model



Conclusions



December 17, 2024

Conclusions



- Two-qumode beam splitter Katz, Monroe `22, Kim et al. `23
- Laser does not interact with the two modes directly
 - Potential bottleneck



Araz, Grau, Montgomery, FR `24

 $U_{\rm bs}(z) = e^{z\hat{a}^{\dagger}\hat{b} - z^*\hat{a}\hat{b}^{\dagger}}$





• Eight ¹⁷¹Yb⁺ ions in a linear Paul trap



• E.g. two-qumode beam splitter $U_{\rm bs}(z) = e^{z \hat{a}^{\dagger} \hat{b} - z^{*} \hat{a} \hat{b}^{\dagger}}$

Feasible with current platforms

and the second

Araz, Grau, Montgomery, FR `24





Real-time evolution

$$H = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \omega_c a_n^{\dagger} a_n + \sum_{n=1}^{N} \omega_a \sigma_n^{+} \sigma_n^{-} + \kappa \sum_{n=1}^{N} \left(a_{n+1}^{\dagger} a_n + a_n^{\dagger} a_{n+1} \right) + \eta \sum_{n=1}^{N} \left(a_n \sigma_n^{+} + a_n^{\dagger} \sigma_n^{-} \right)$$



Araz, Grau, Montgomery, FR `24





$$+\eta \sum_{n=1}^{N} \left(a_n \sigma_n^+ + a_n^\dagger \sigma_n^- \right)$$

 $+\kappa\sum_{n=1}^{N} \left(a_{n+1}^{\dagger}a_n + a_n^{\dagger}a_{n+1}\right)$

 $\hat{H} = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \omega_c a_n^{\dagger} a_n$

 $+\sum_{n=1}^{N}\omega_a\sigma_n^+\sigma_n^-$

Hamiltonian ansatz

The many-body Jaynes-Cummings model

Araz, Grau, Montgomery, FR `24

Include additional number-nonconserving gates

