

# A tale of two RLs

For Quantum Systems

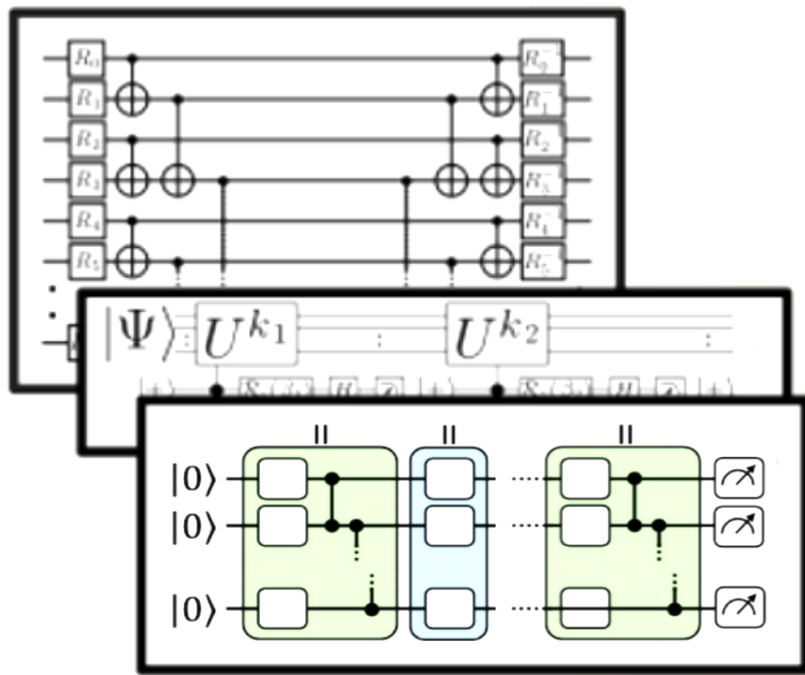
Evert van Nieuwenburg

$\langle aQa \rangle$   
<https://aqa.liacs.nl/>



# We have a division for applied quantum algorithms

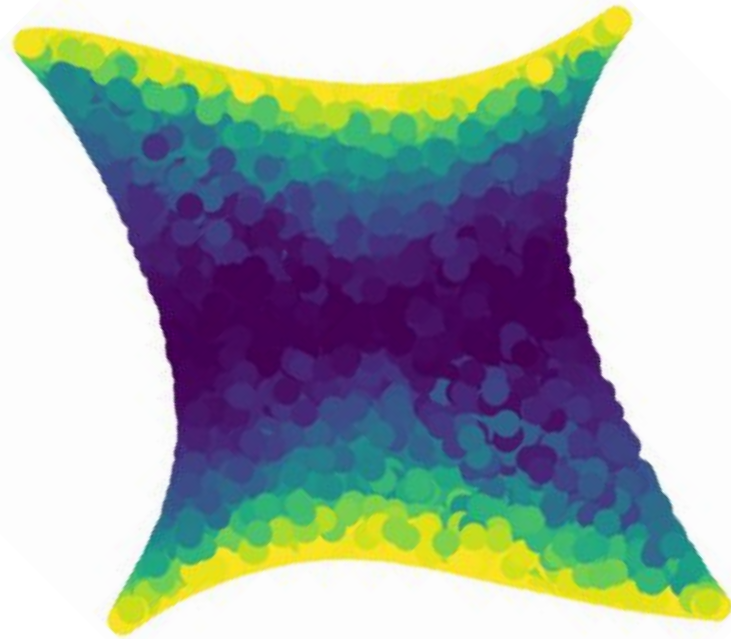
## $\langle aQa \rangle$



Provable (learning) advantages and separations



Hardware(-aware) design and optimization



Efficient algorithms and applications



**Alfons Laarman**



**Hao Wang**



**Vedran Dunjko**



**Evert van Nieuwenburg**



**Anna Dawid**



**Jordi Tura**



# Disclaimer

Lots of work-in-progress

I want to get across the main ideas, don't expect to follow details (but ask!)

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To demonstrate the need for useful representations...  
...please perform this division

$$\text{CCLXI} / \text{IX} = \dots$$



$$261 / 9 = 29$$

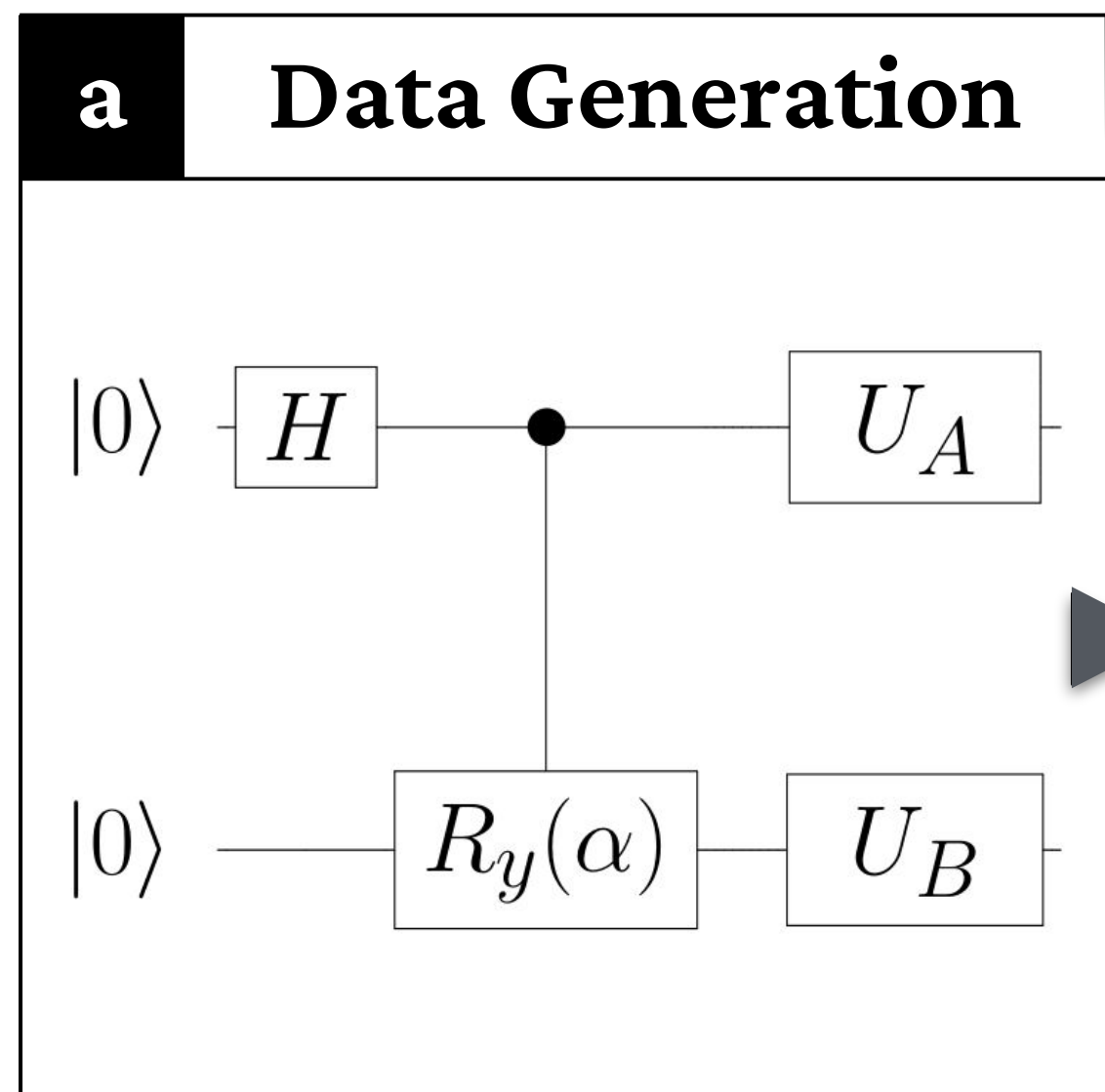
A good representation is...

... one that makes follow-up tasks easier

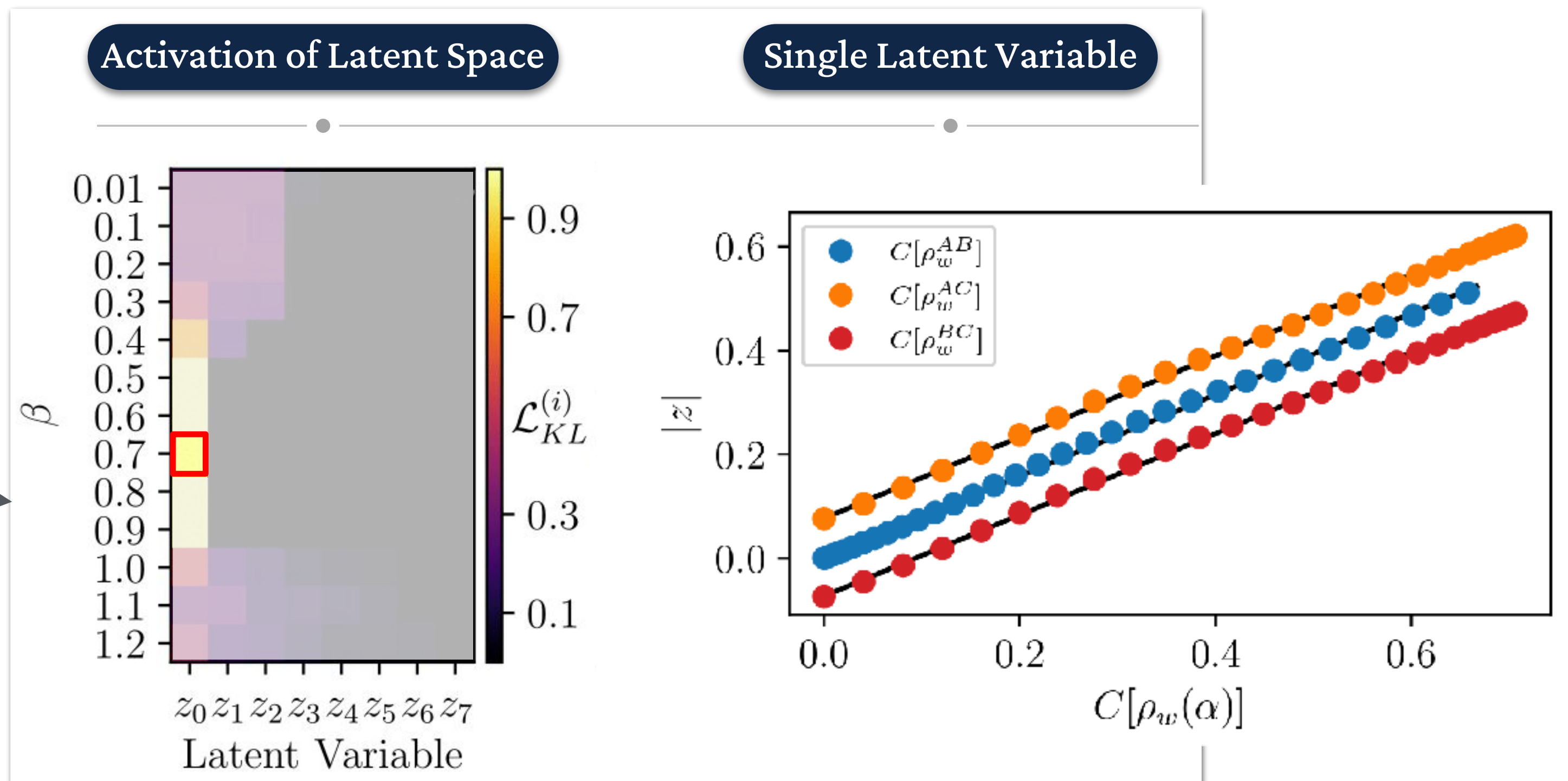
1. Easier to interpret
2. Less memory needed
3. More symmetric
4. Easier to manipulate
5. ...

For this talk, I'd like to focus on the interpretability aspect

A quick demo: Which (single!) real number would you choose to characterize an arbitrary 2-qubit state?

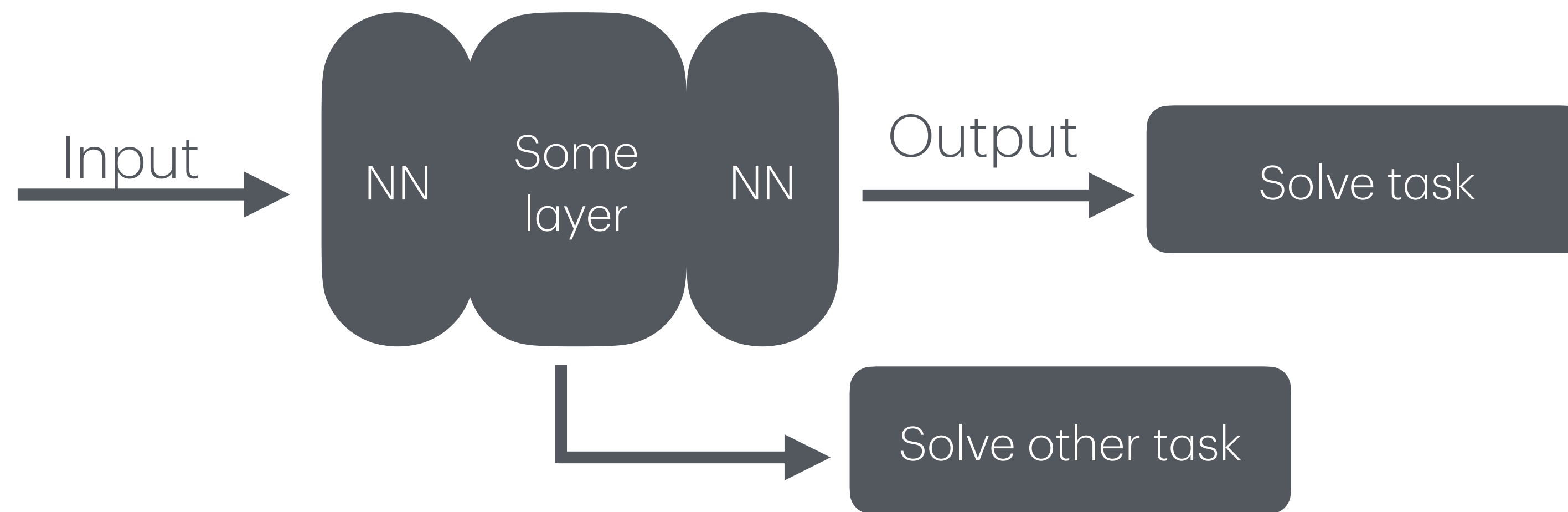


beta-VAE



Felix Frohnert

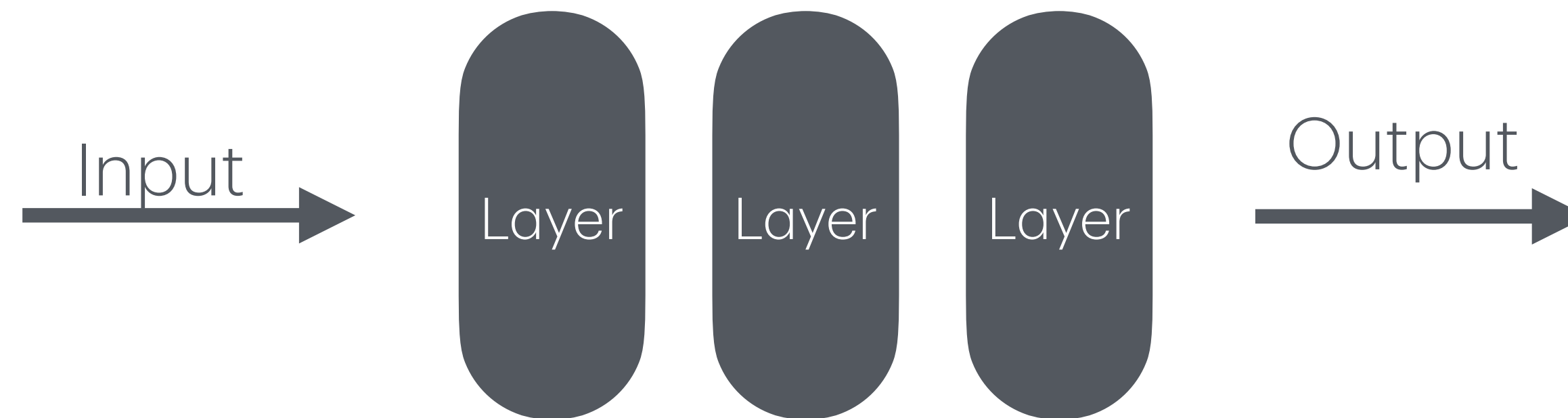
Representations can also be learned in non-bottlenecked models



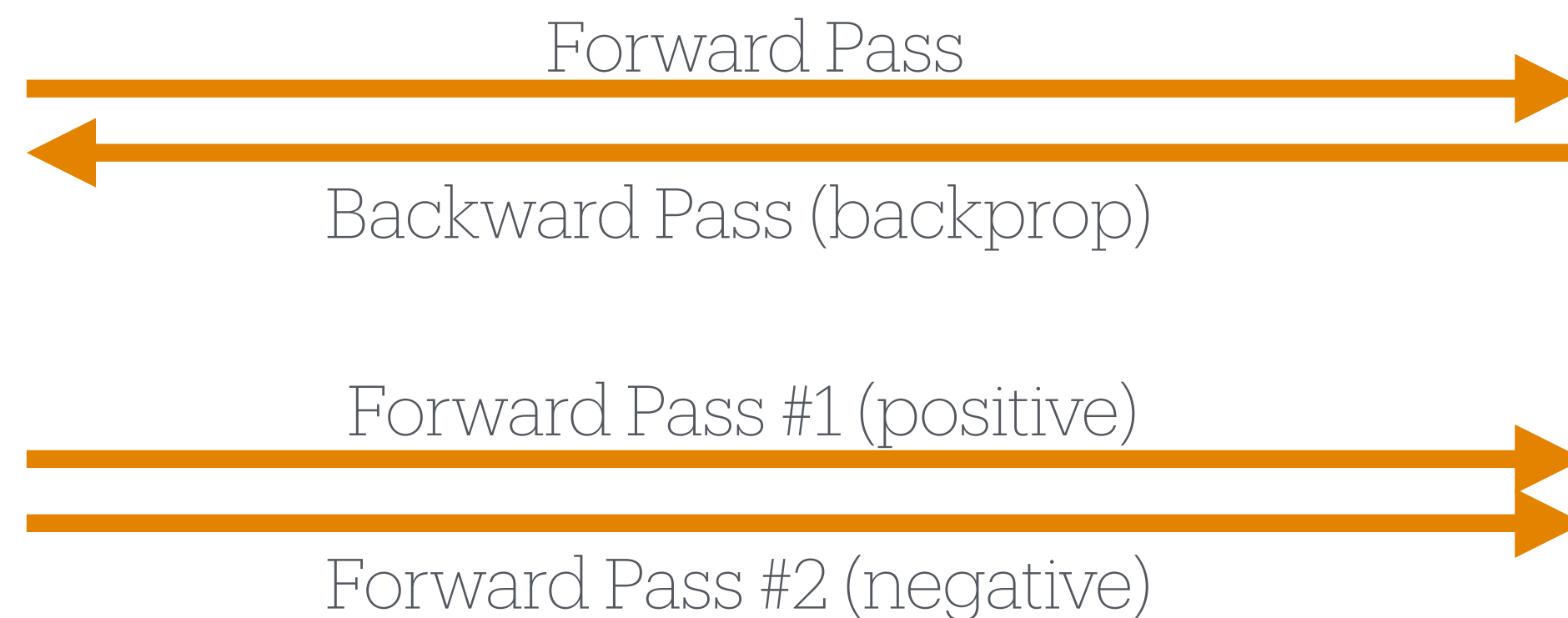
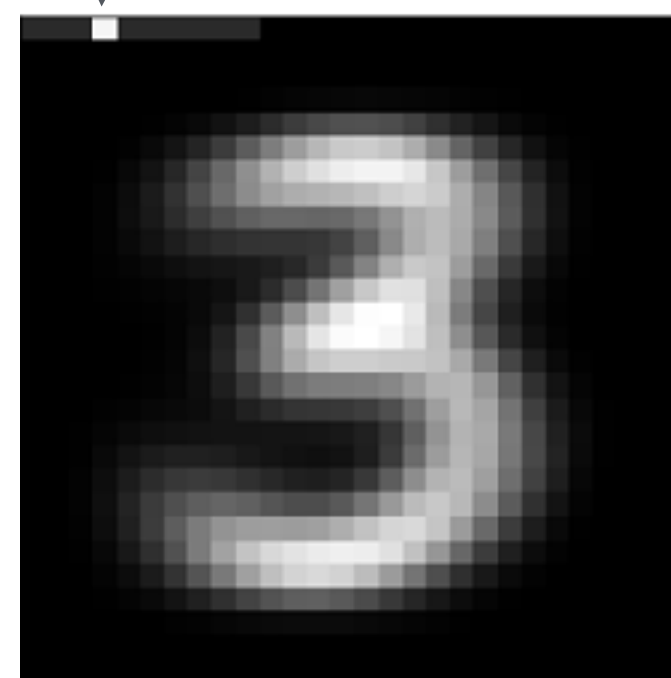


# The Forward-Forward algorithm

Training\* each layer separately (seems to) give better representations\*\*



e.g. one-hot encoding *in image*

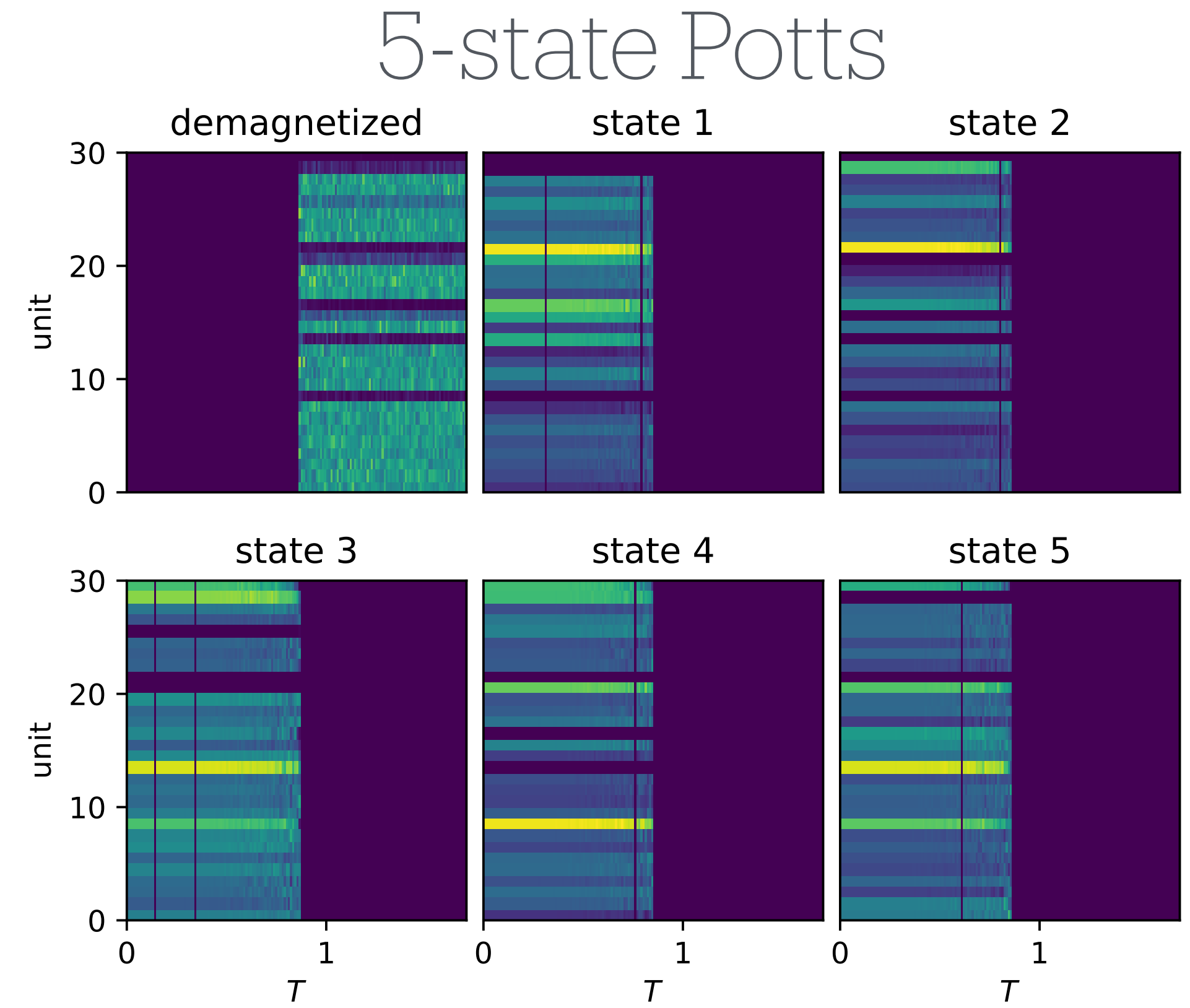
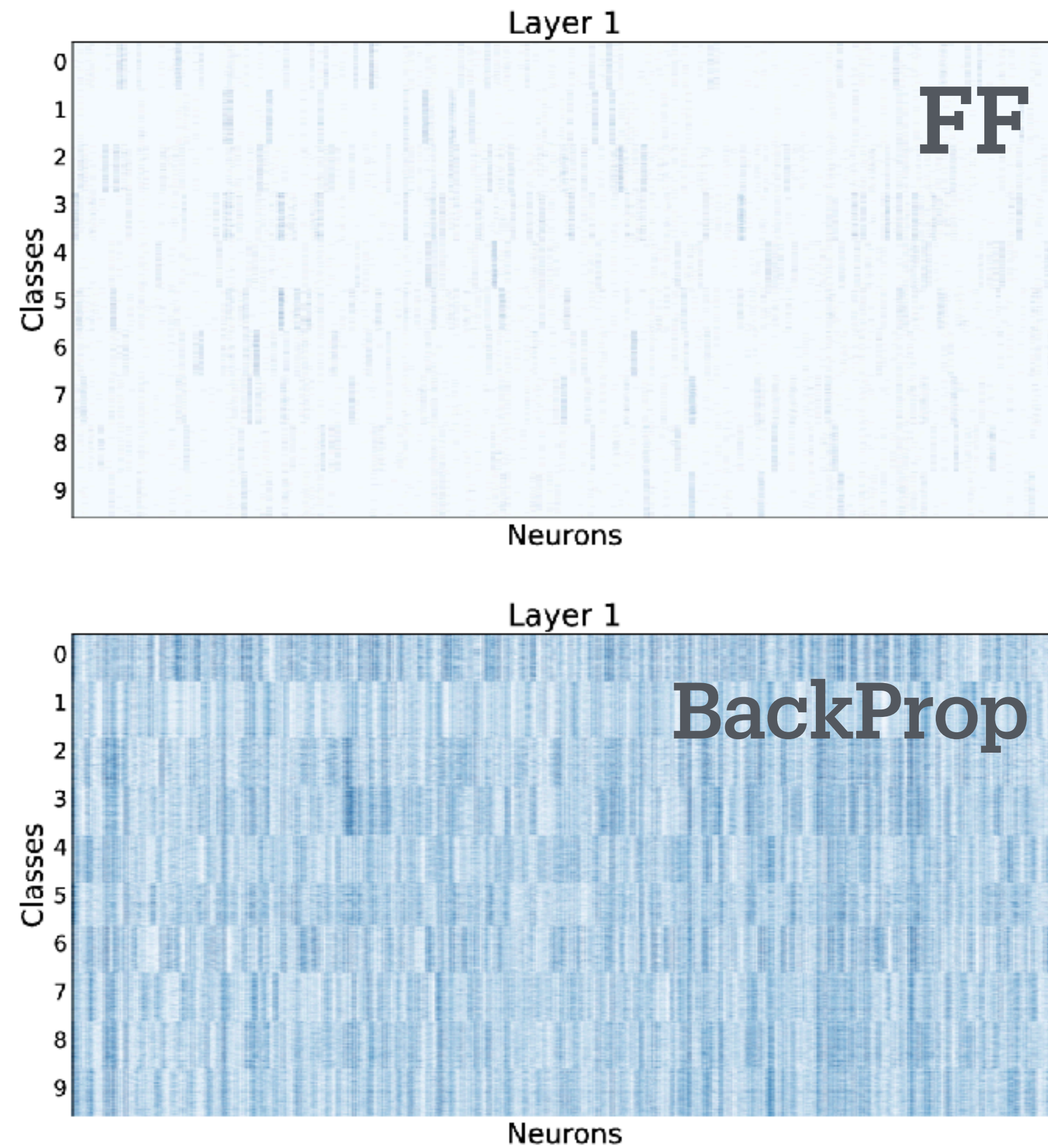


arXiv:2212.13345  
arxiv:2305.18353

\*Not with back propagation!  
\*\*Sparser, and for phase transitions they cluster

# The neurons learn sparse representations

MINIST

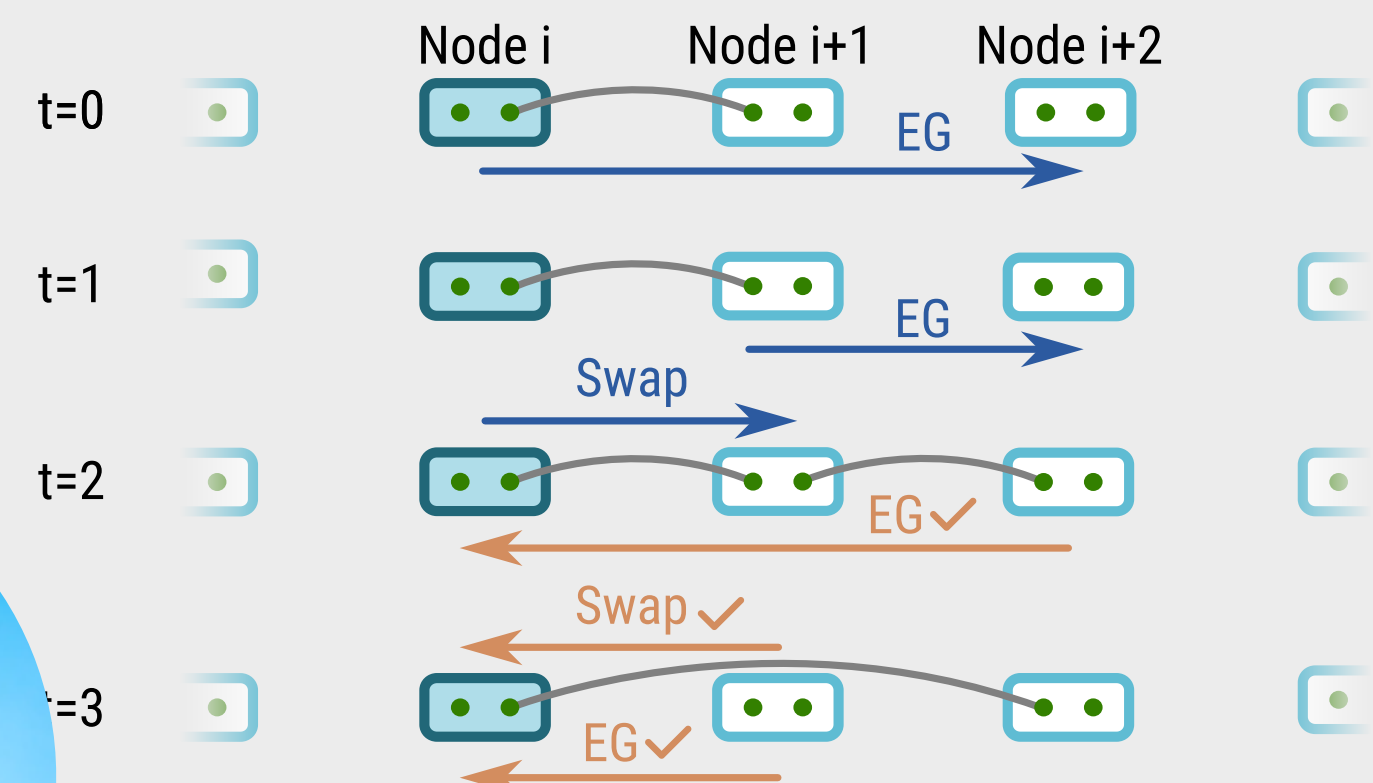


Not shown: the representations found by FF easily cluster using PCA, for various models (i.e. classify phase transitions)

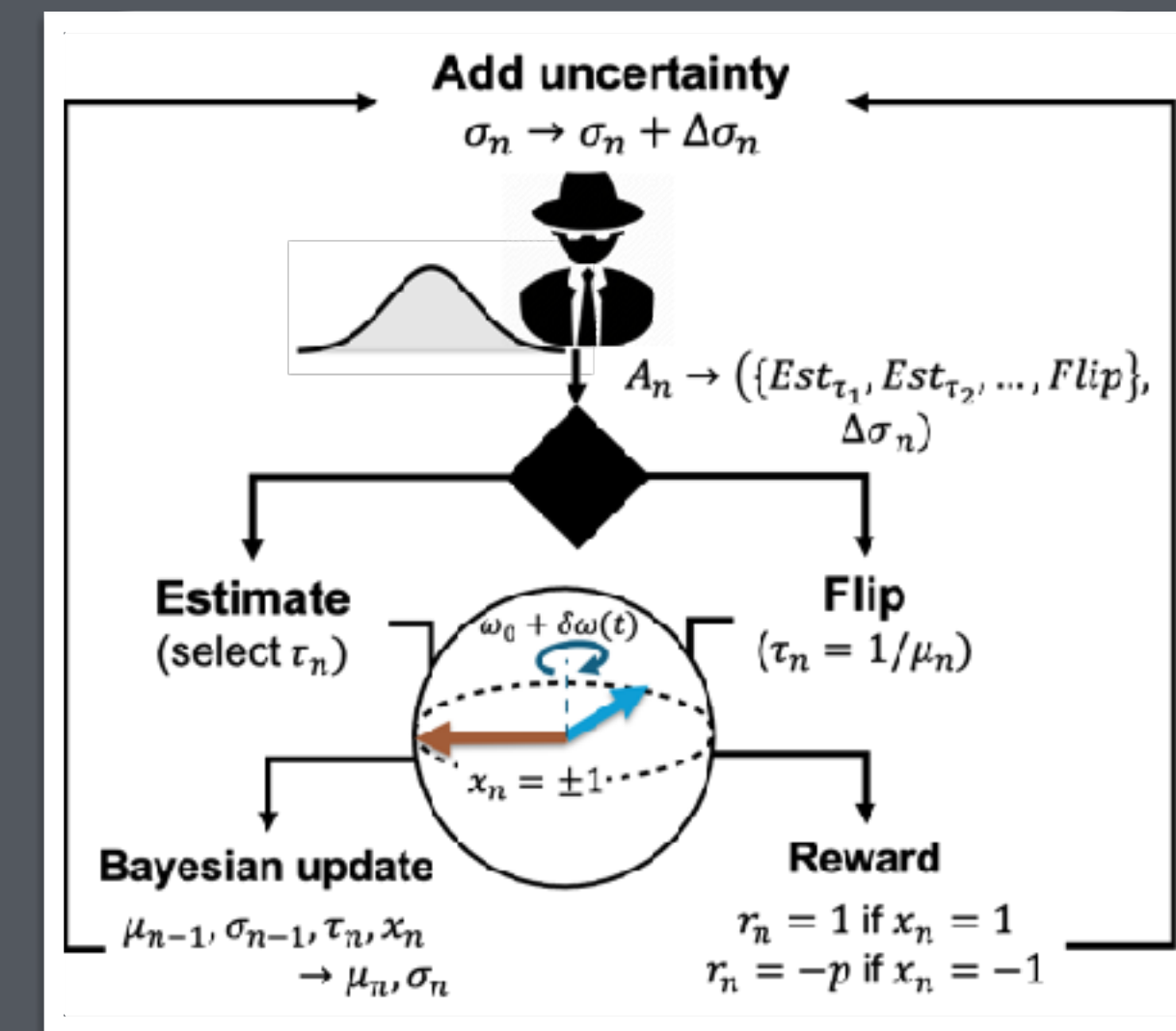
# The strategy learned by an RL agent... ...is also generally interpretable

## Entanglement Distribution in a Quantum Network

Agent acting on partial knowledge



## Qubit Control in a Noisy Environment

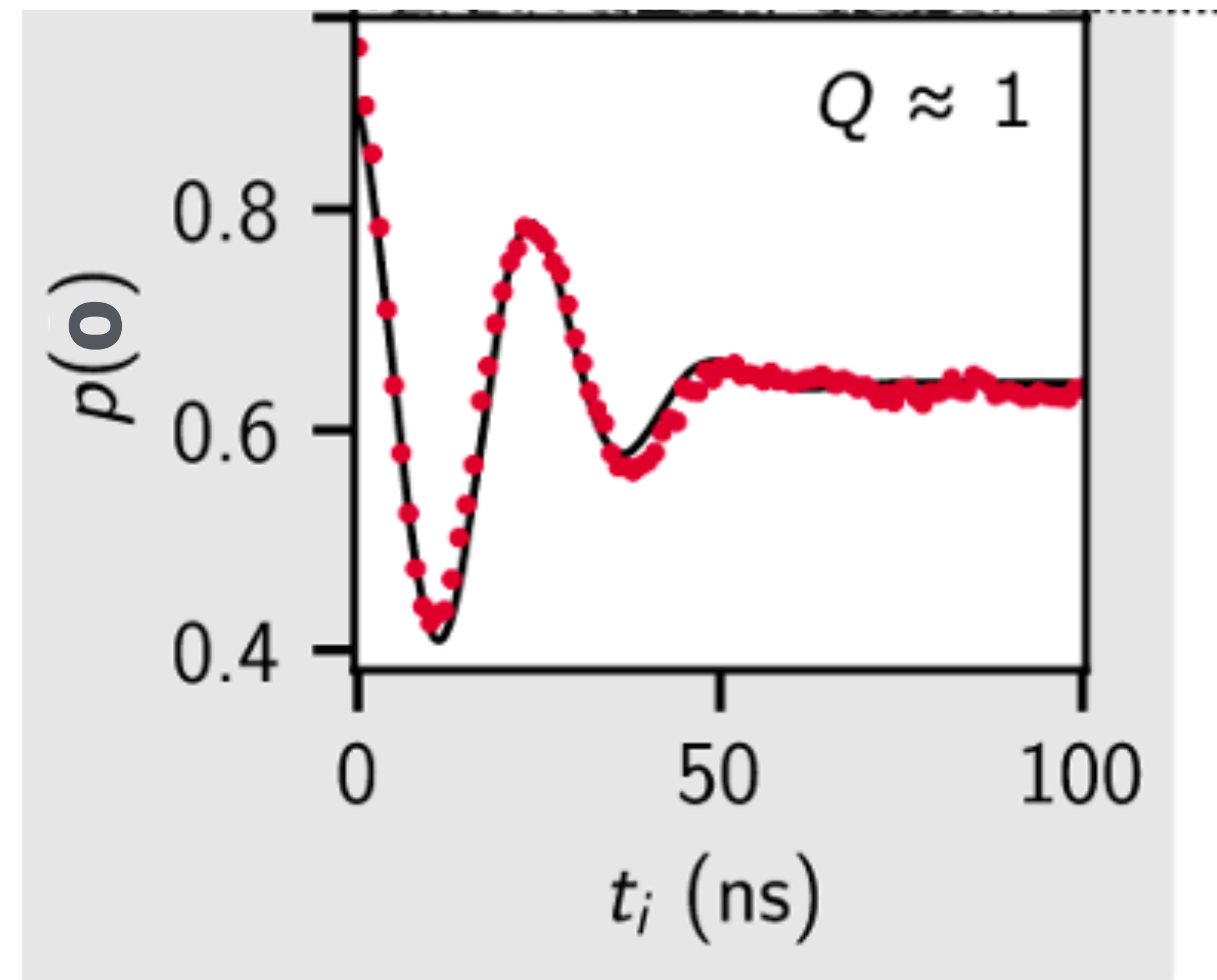
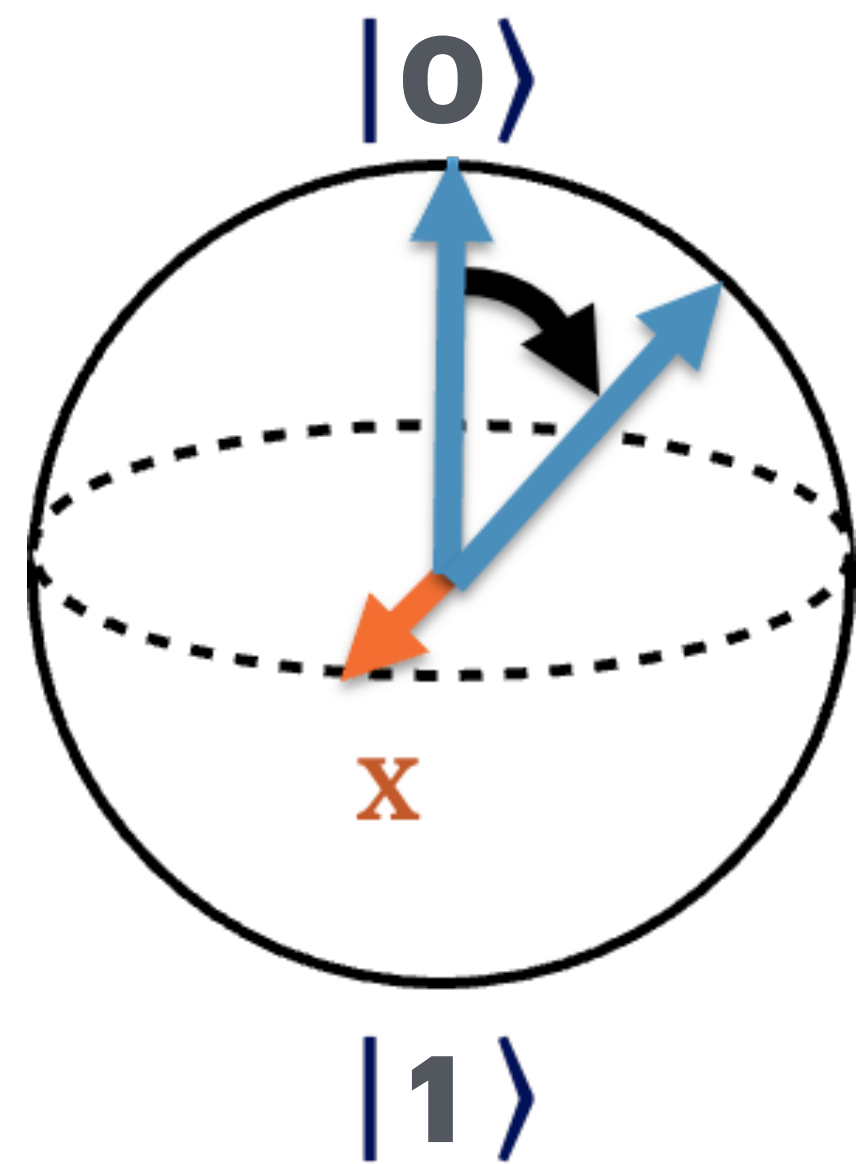


Jan Li

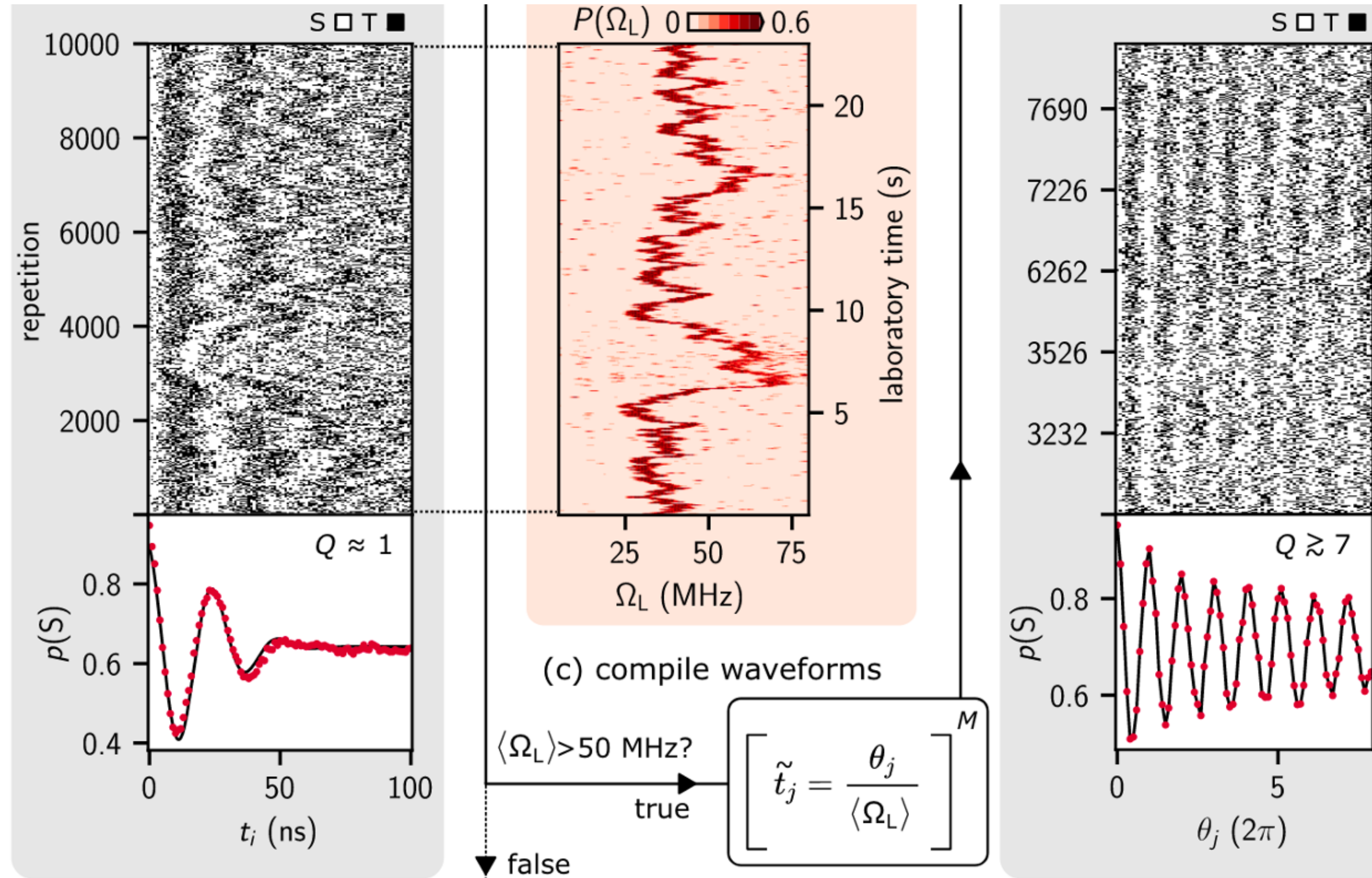


Jan Krzywda (PD)

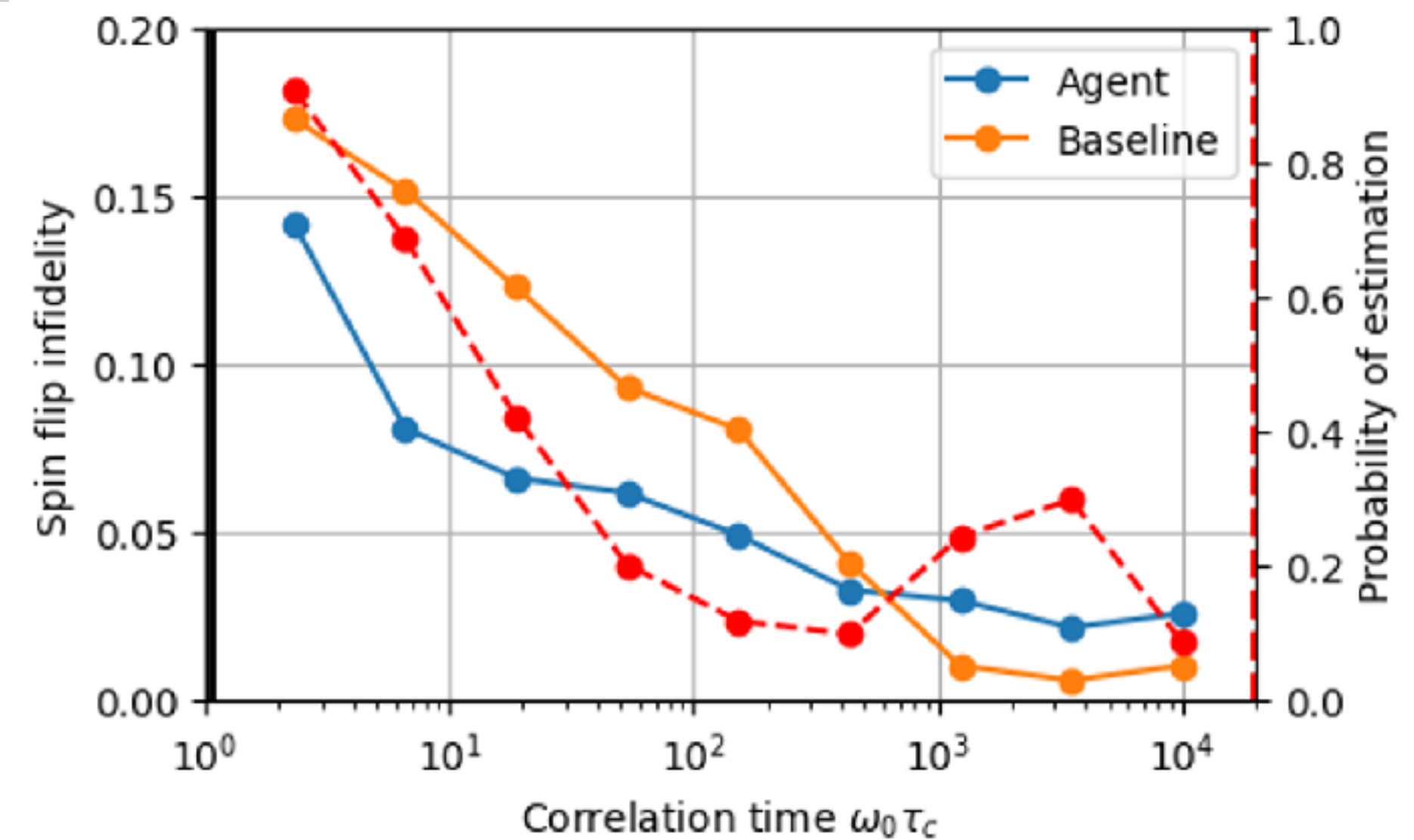
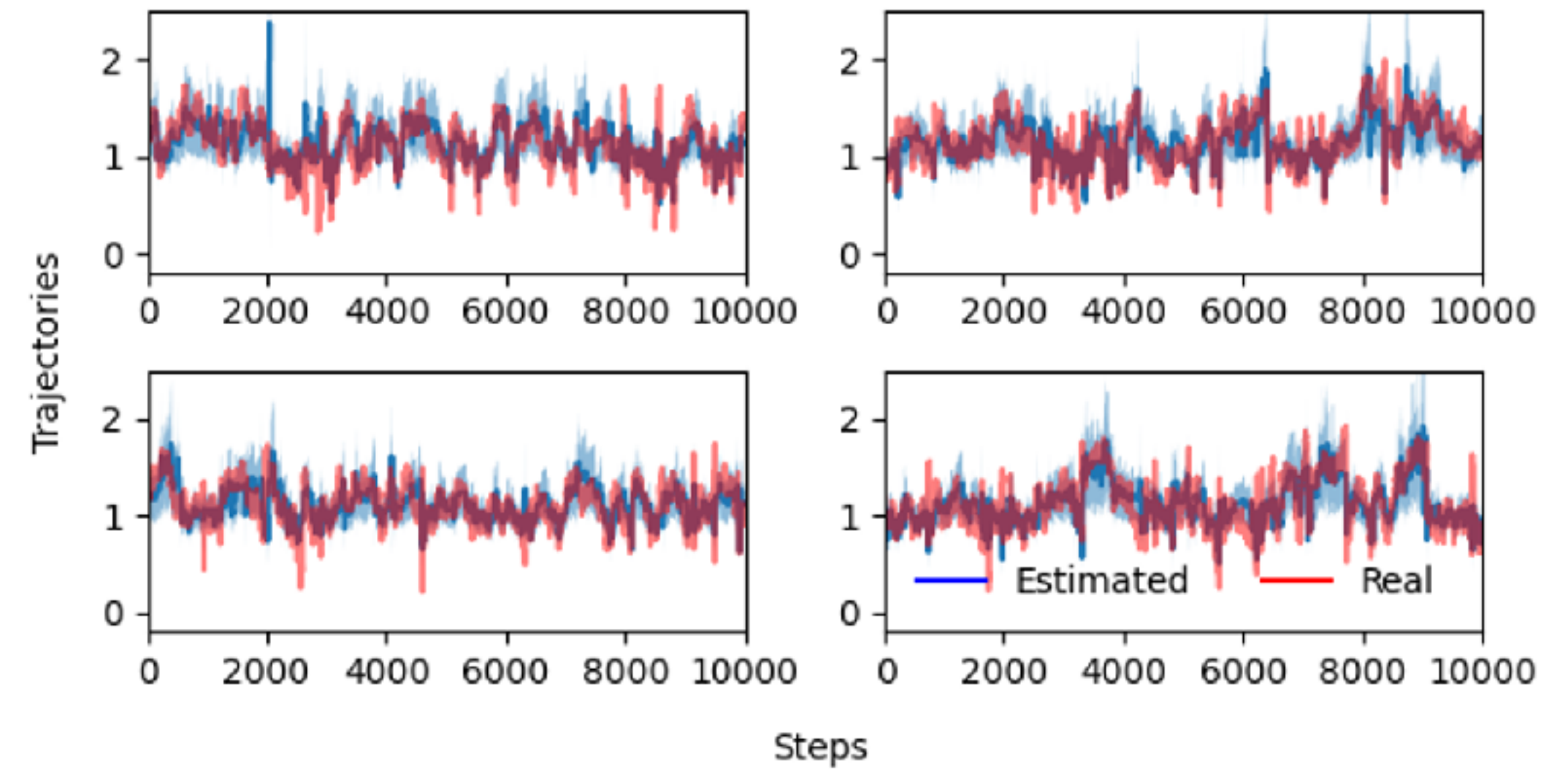
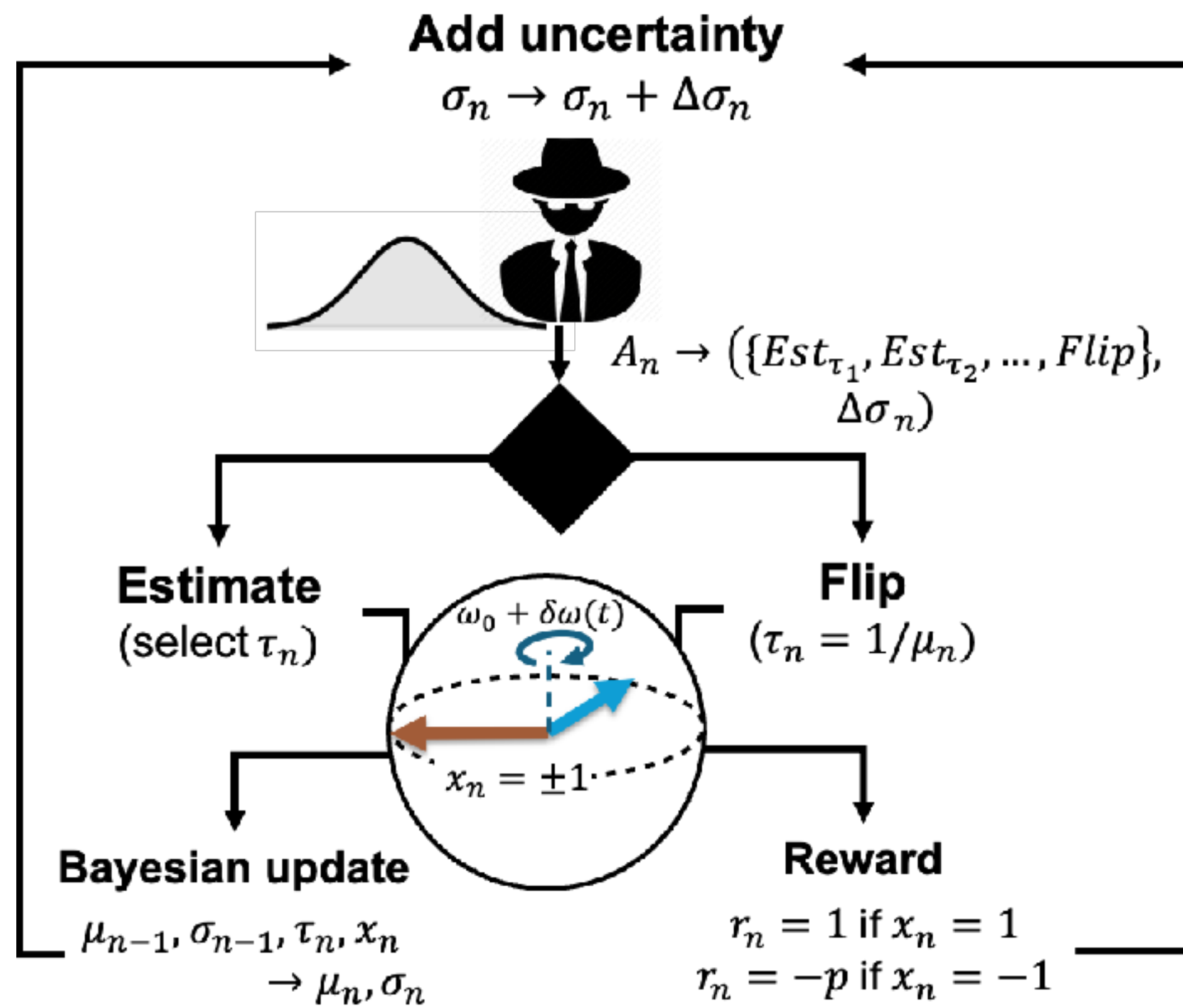
A basic implementation of an X gate on a qubit  
Works by applying a perpendicular field for a specific duration



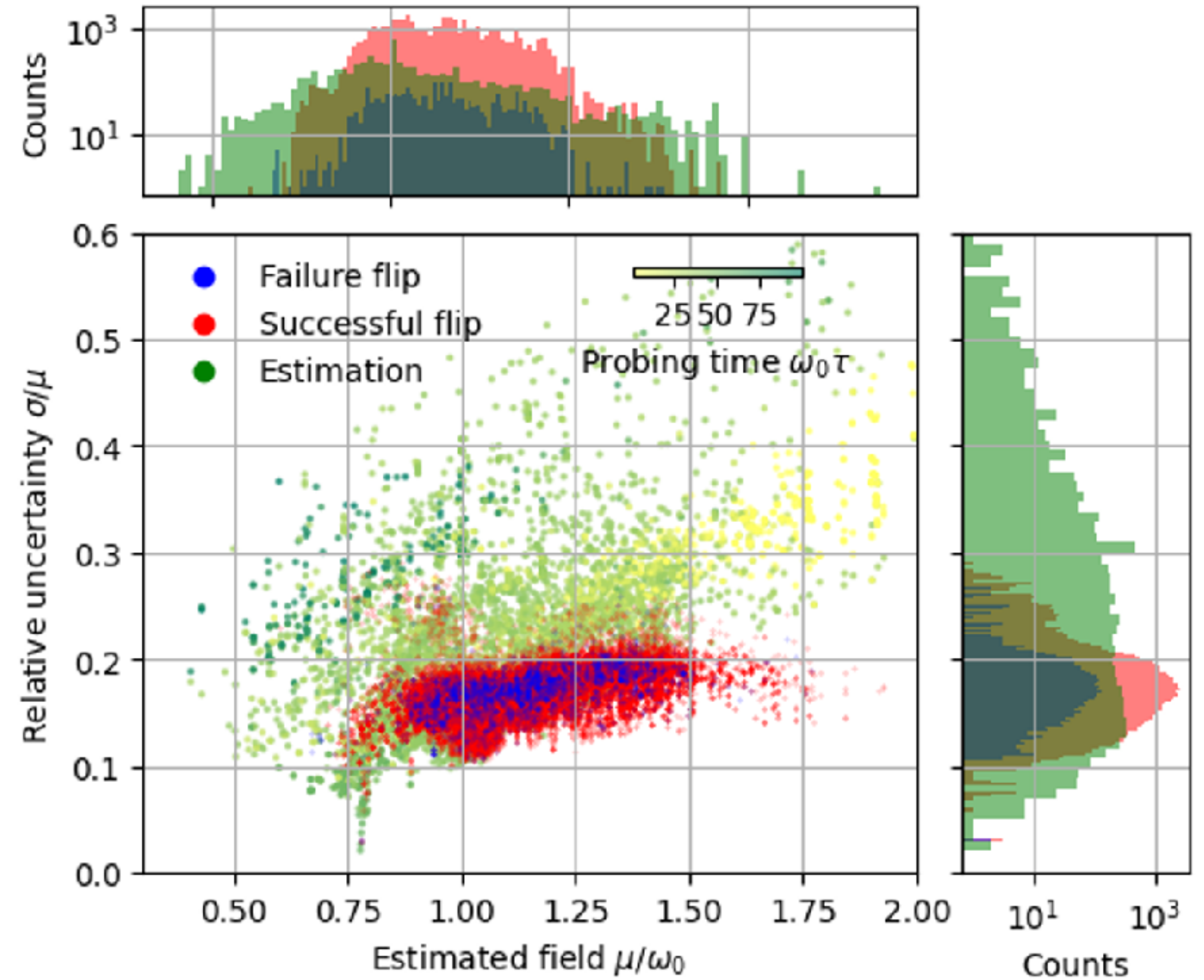
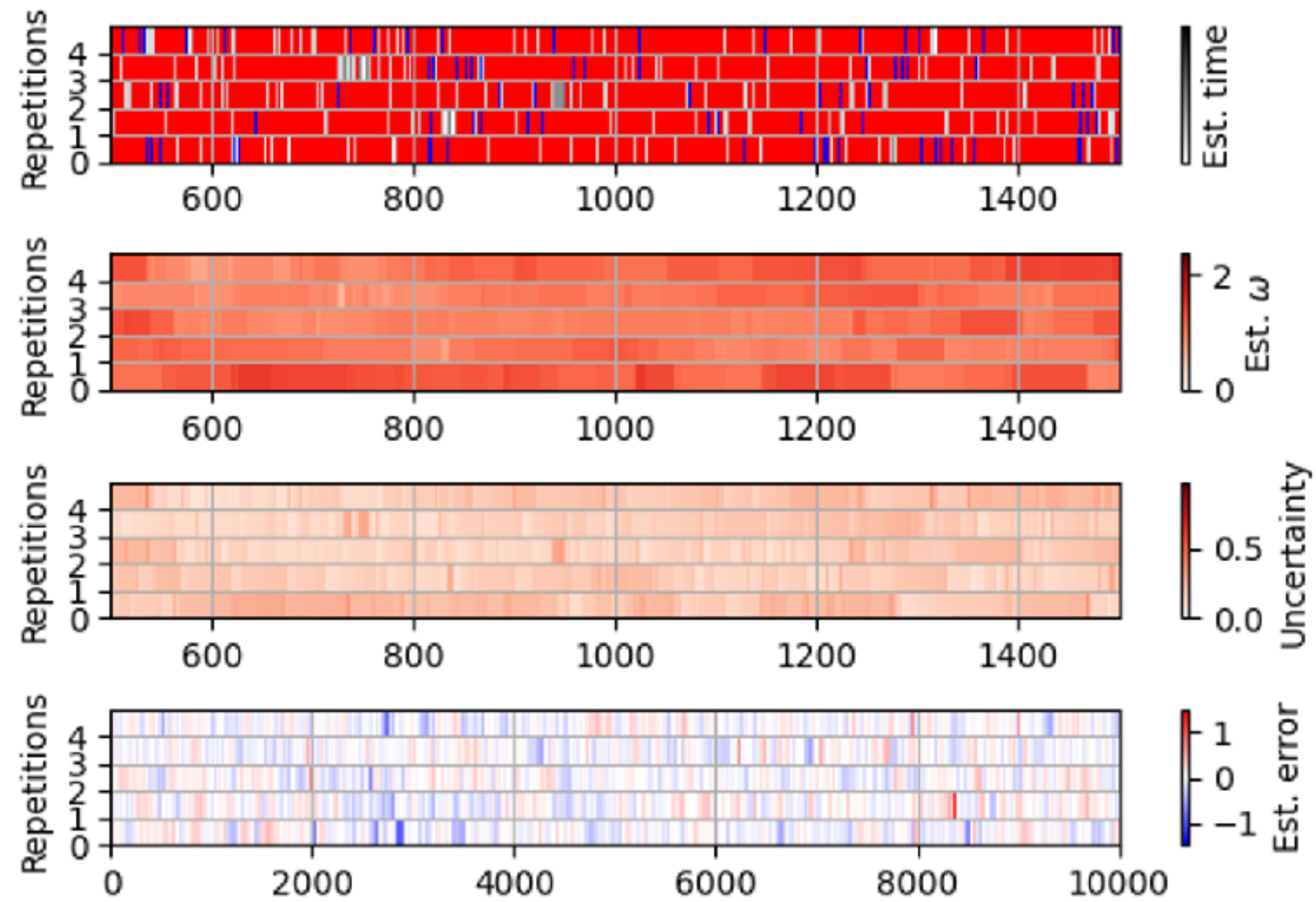
For slow noise, we can use Bayesian estimation  
 (noise ~ ms, experiments ~ ns)



There is an inherent tradeoff between using shots to estimate and choosing to run an experiment (here: X gate)



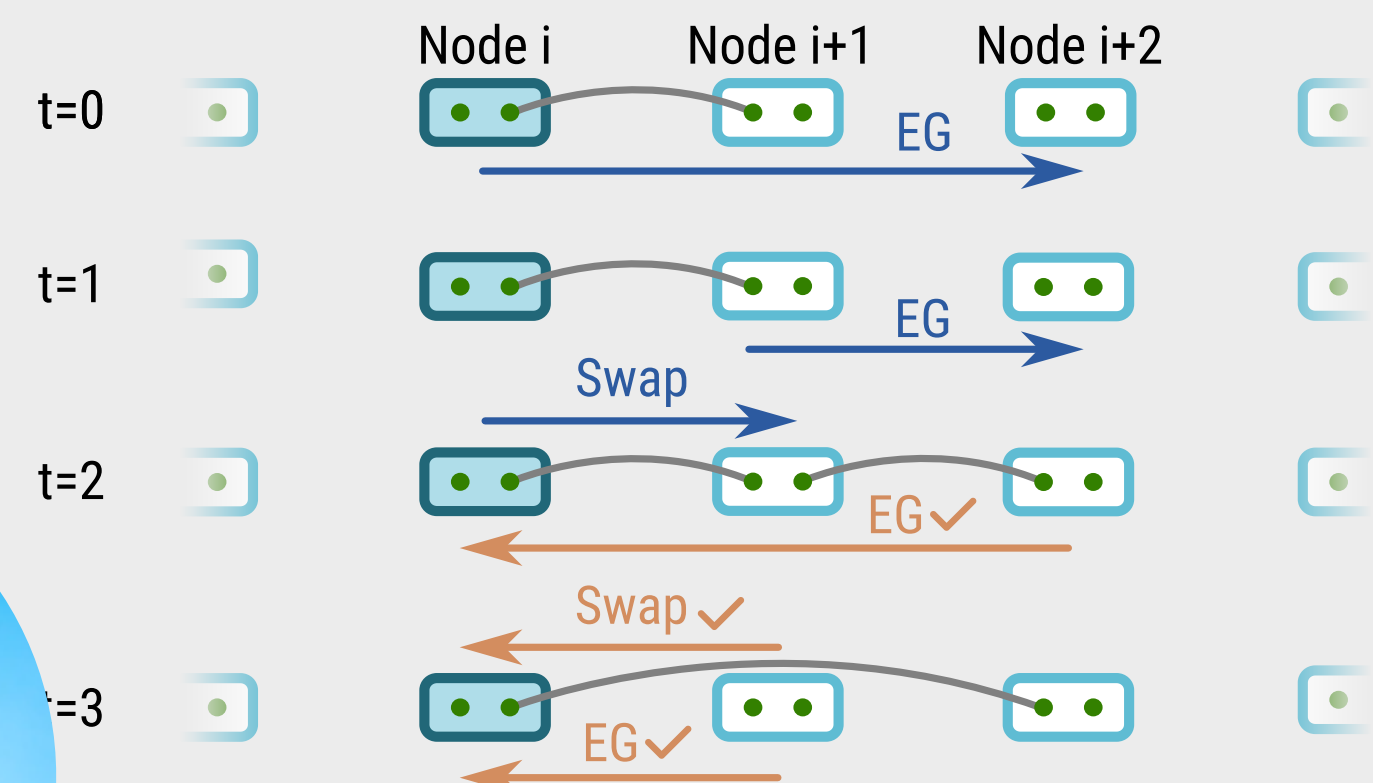
# The agent learns to estimate when it is uncertain



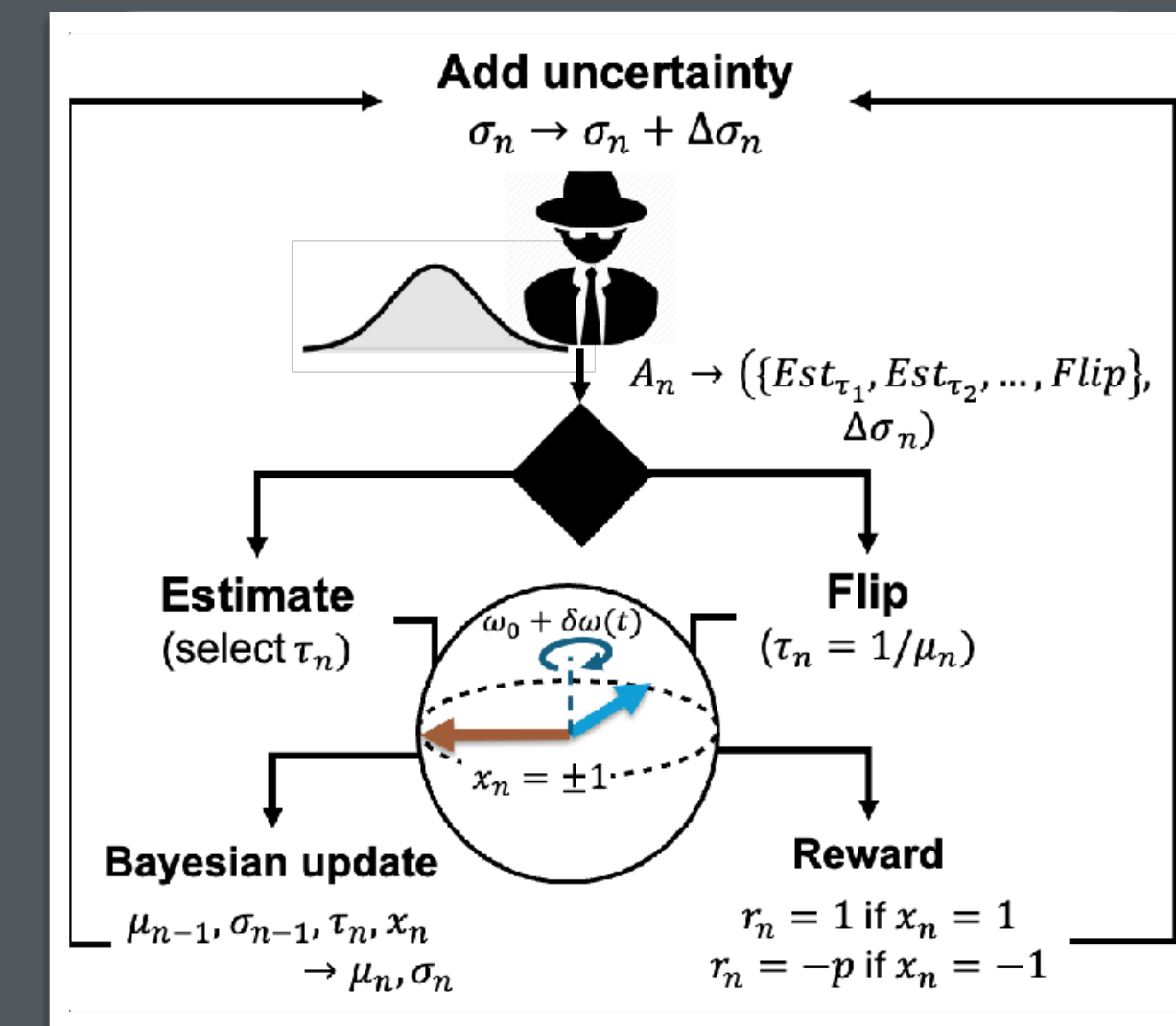
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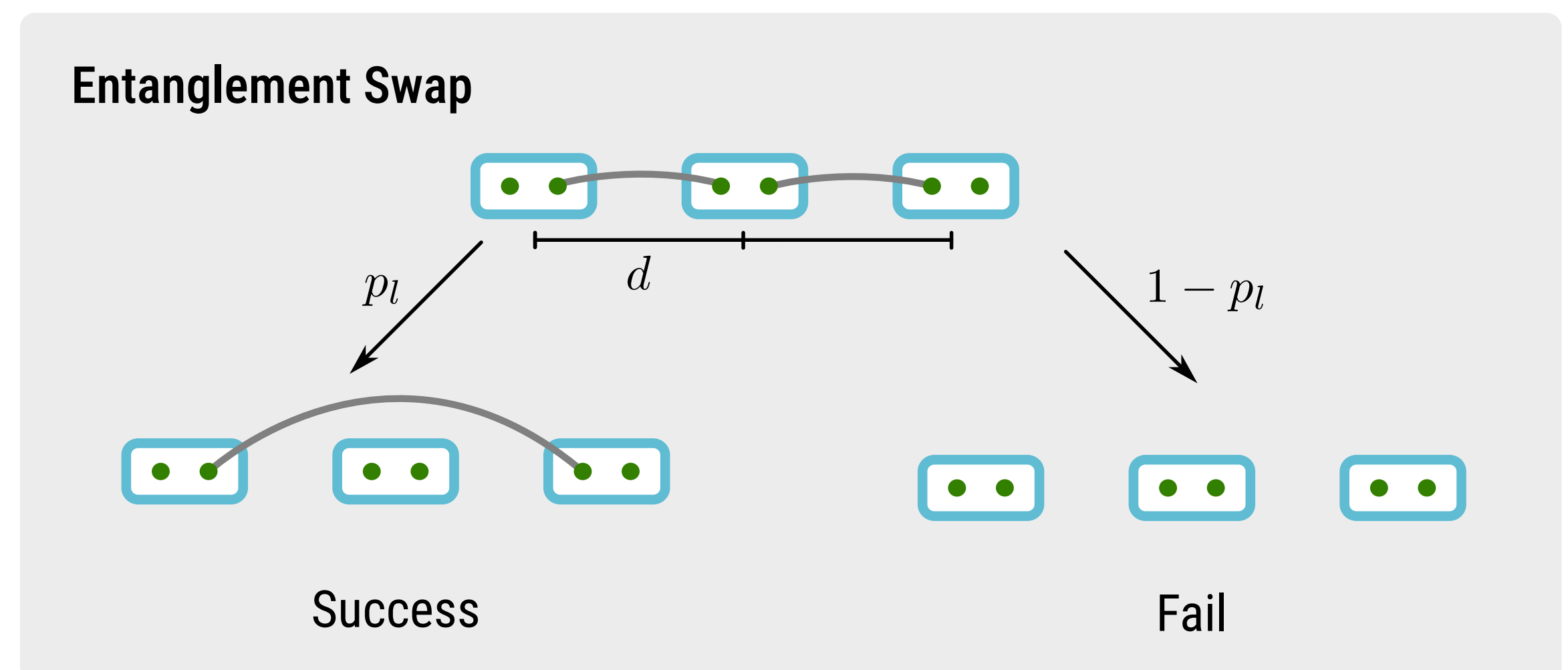
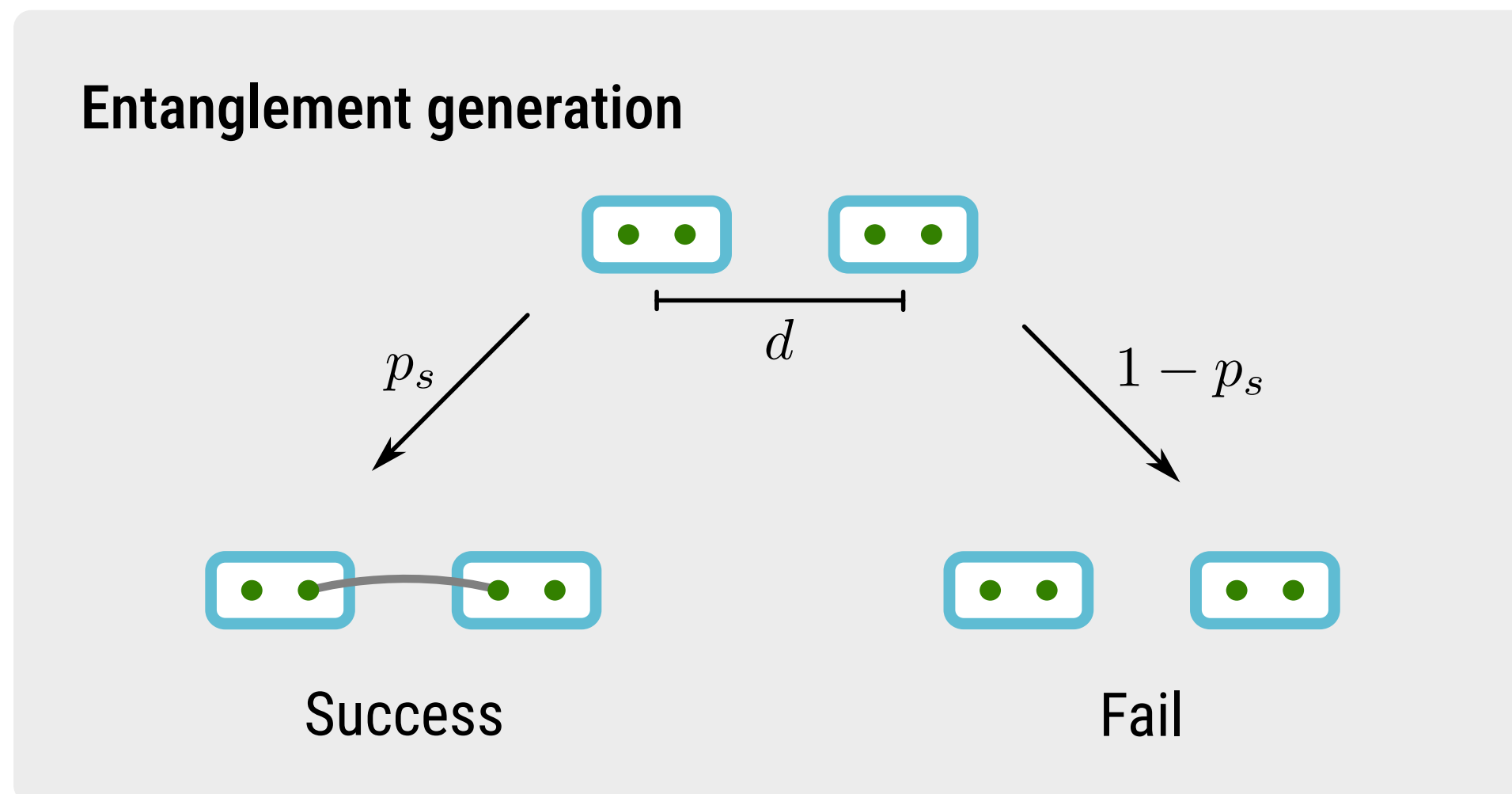
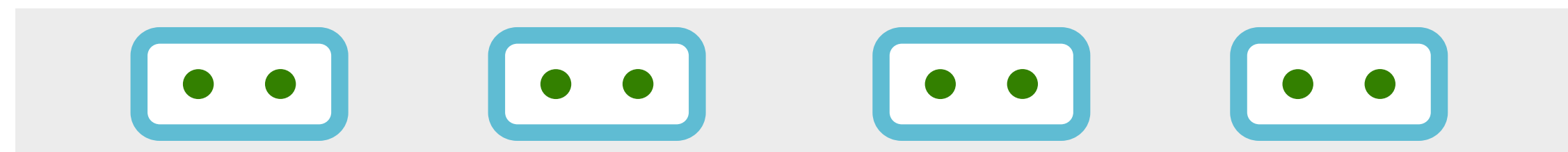
Jan Li



Jan Krzywda (PD)

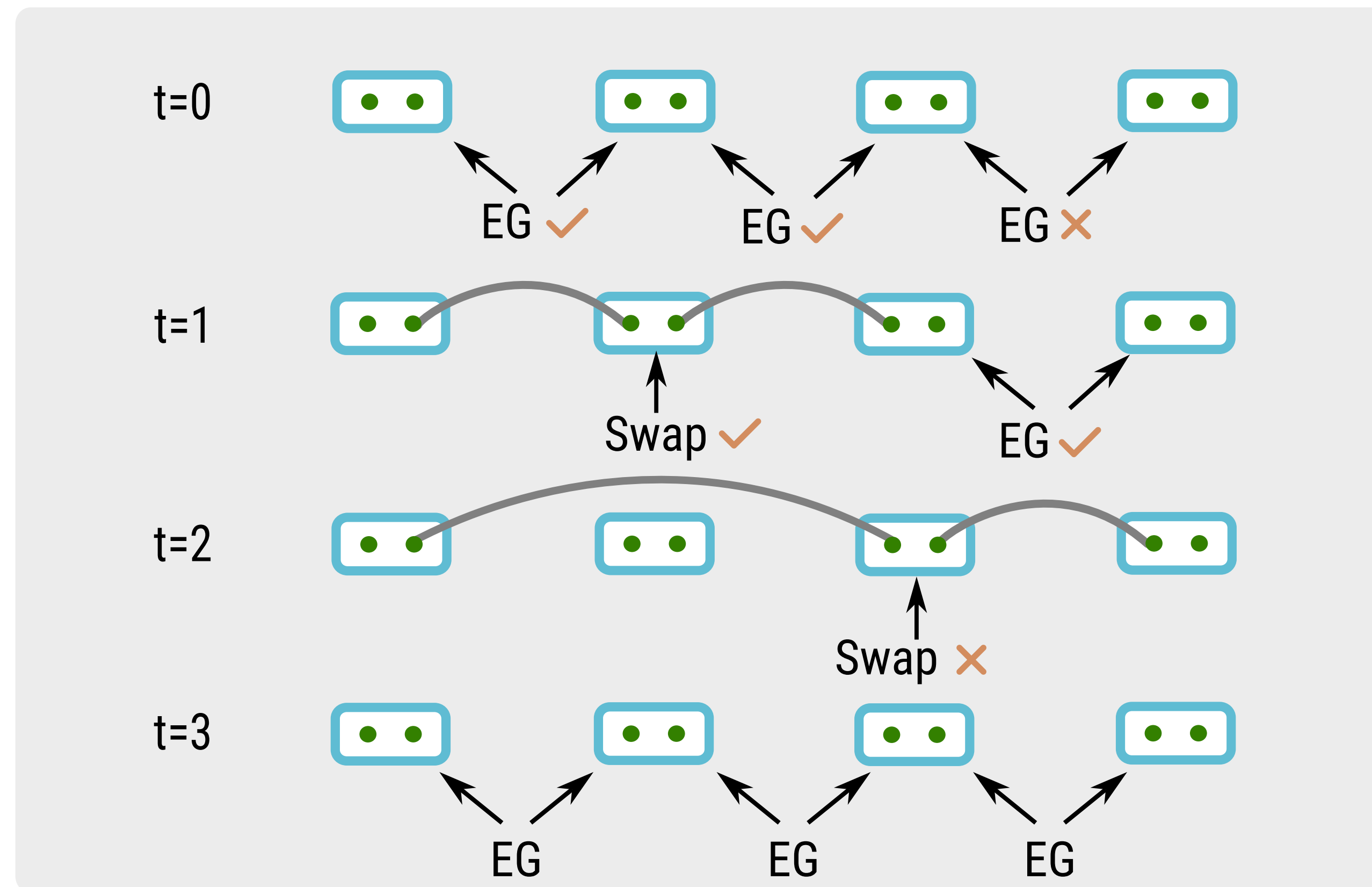


# Quantum networks consist of nodes with qubits and entanglement distribution is one of the core concepts

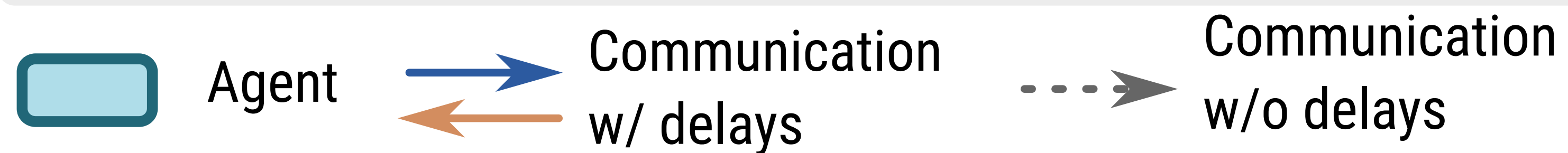
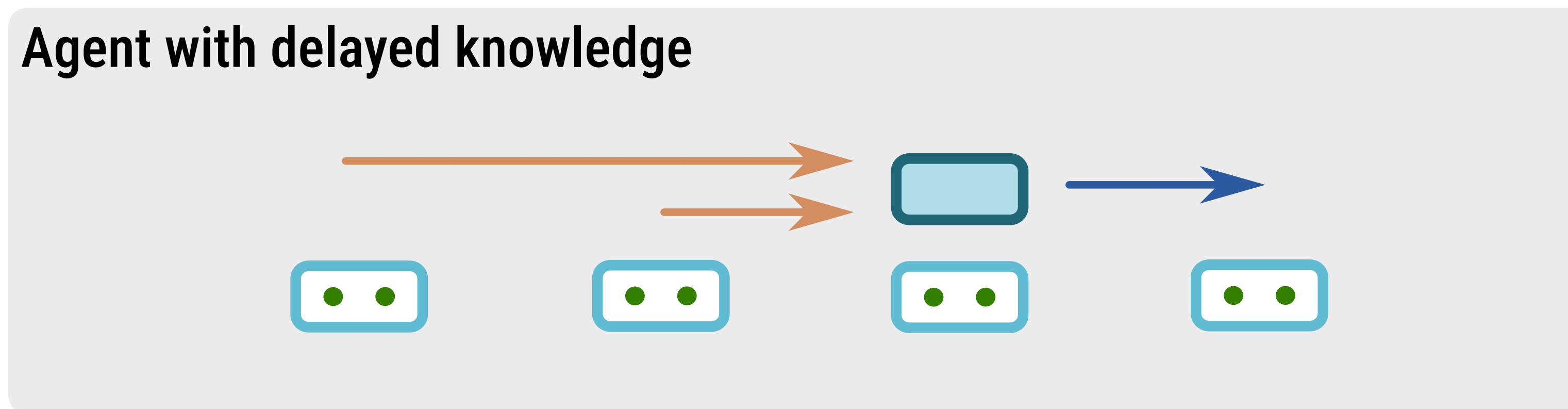
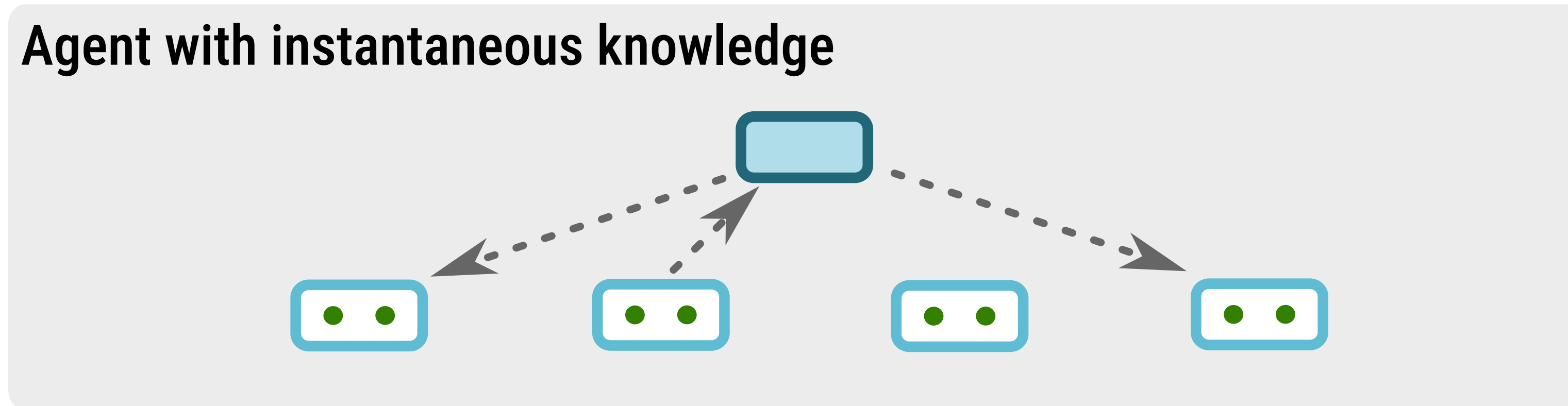


 Bell state     Quantum Repater

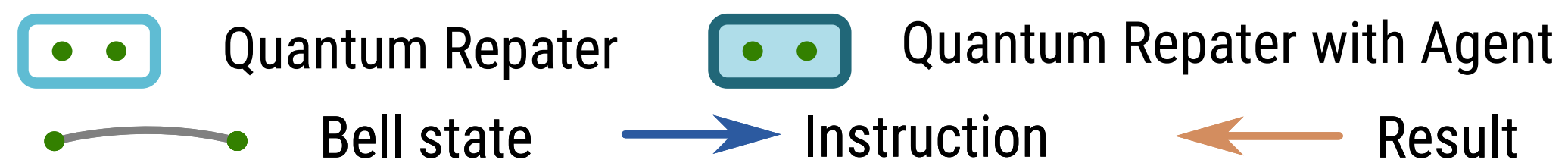
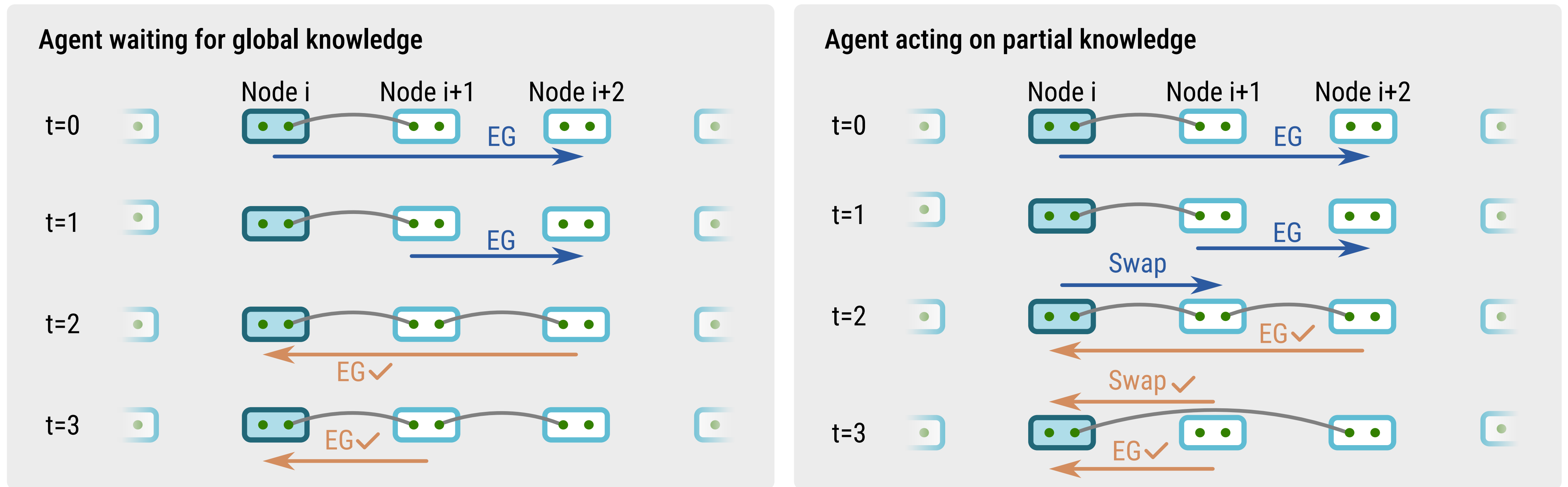
# The SWAP-asap protocol is the benchmark



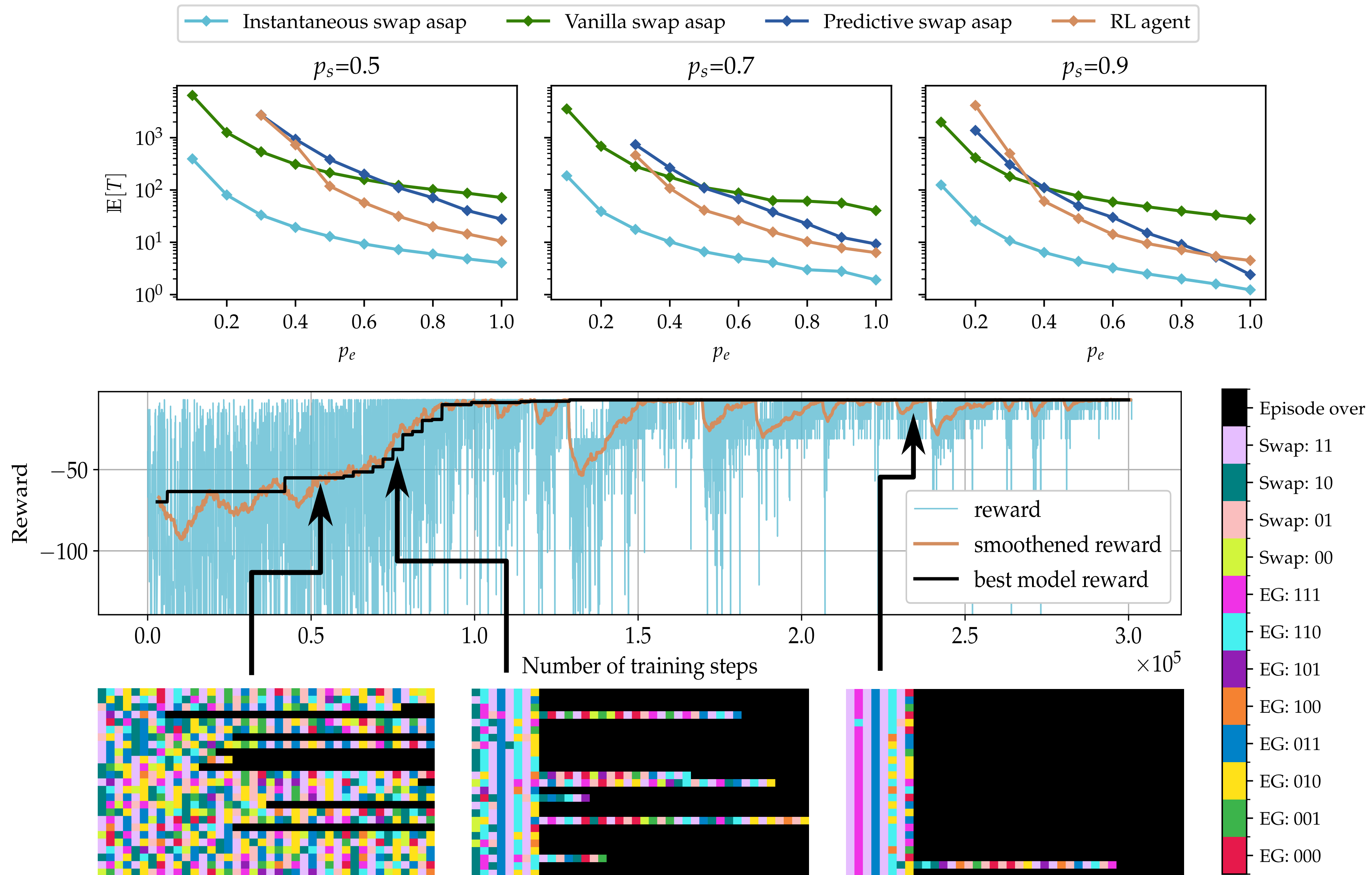
But in reality, we need to take classical communication into account  
(We are considering a single agent for now, not one at each node)



# An RL agent *could* help us find a better strategy with CC



Compared to heuristic benchmarks, the RL agent performs well

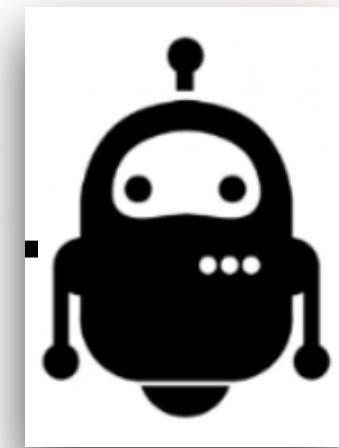
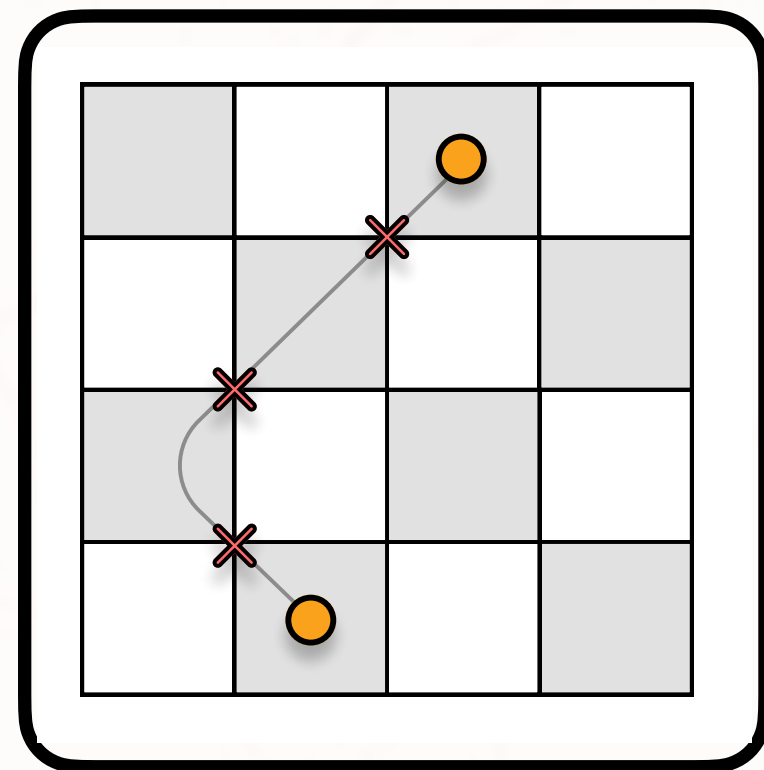


# Quantum Games for/as Research

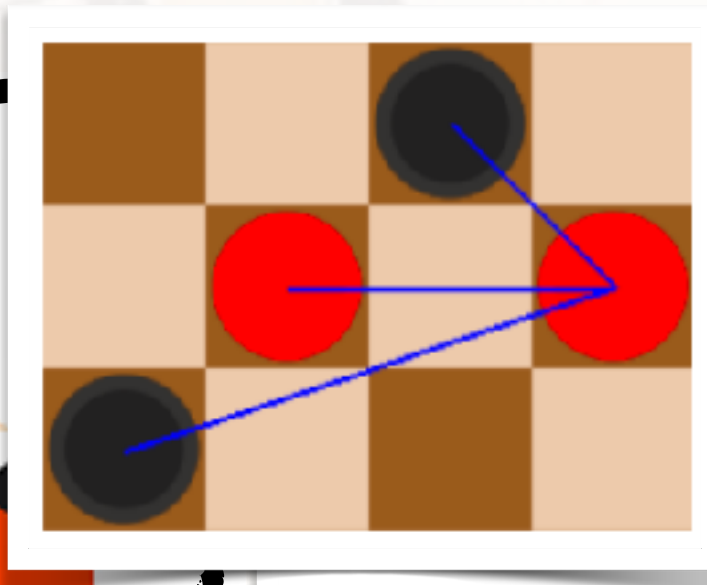
Gamify Quantum Problem  
Solve game with AI

Quantum AI for  
(Quantum) Games

Quantum Game Theory



"Fox in a hole"



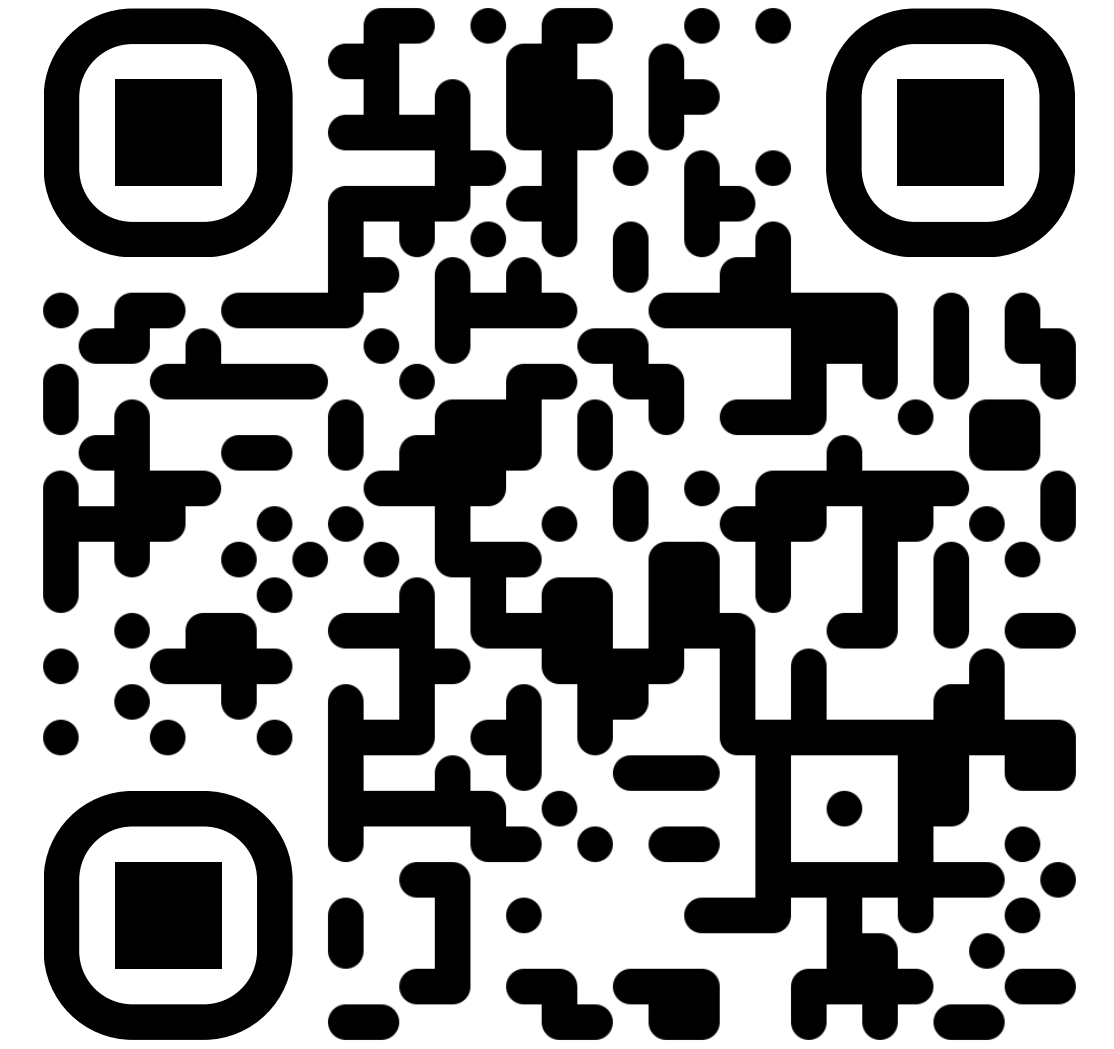
$$\rho_{i\dots N}$$

$$u_i(\rho) = \text{Tr}(\rho R_i)$$

$$u_i(\rho) \geq u_i(\rho'_i \otimes \rho_{-i}) \quad \forall i$$

**Quantum Nash Equilibrium**

*Can a classical AI optimize strategies for quantum systems?  
Does a quantum circuit do better than a classical neural network?*



**SciGym RL library  
Discord!**

# Please reach out!

**Evert van Nieuwenburg**

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[e.p.l.van.nieuwenburg@liacs.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:e.p.l.van.nieuwenburg@liacs.leidenuniv.nl)

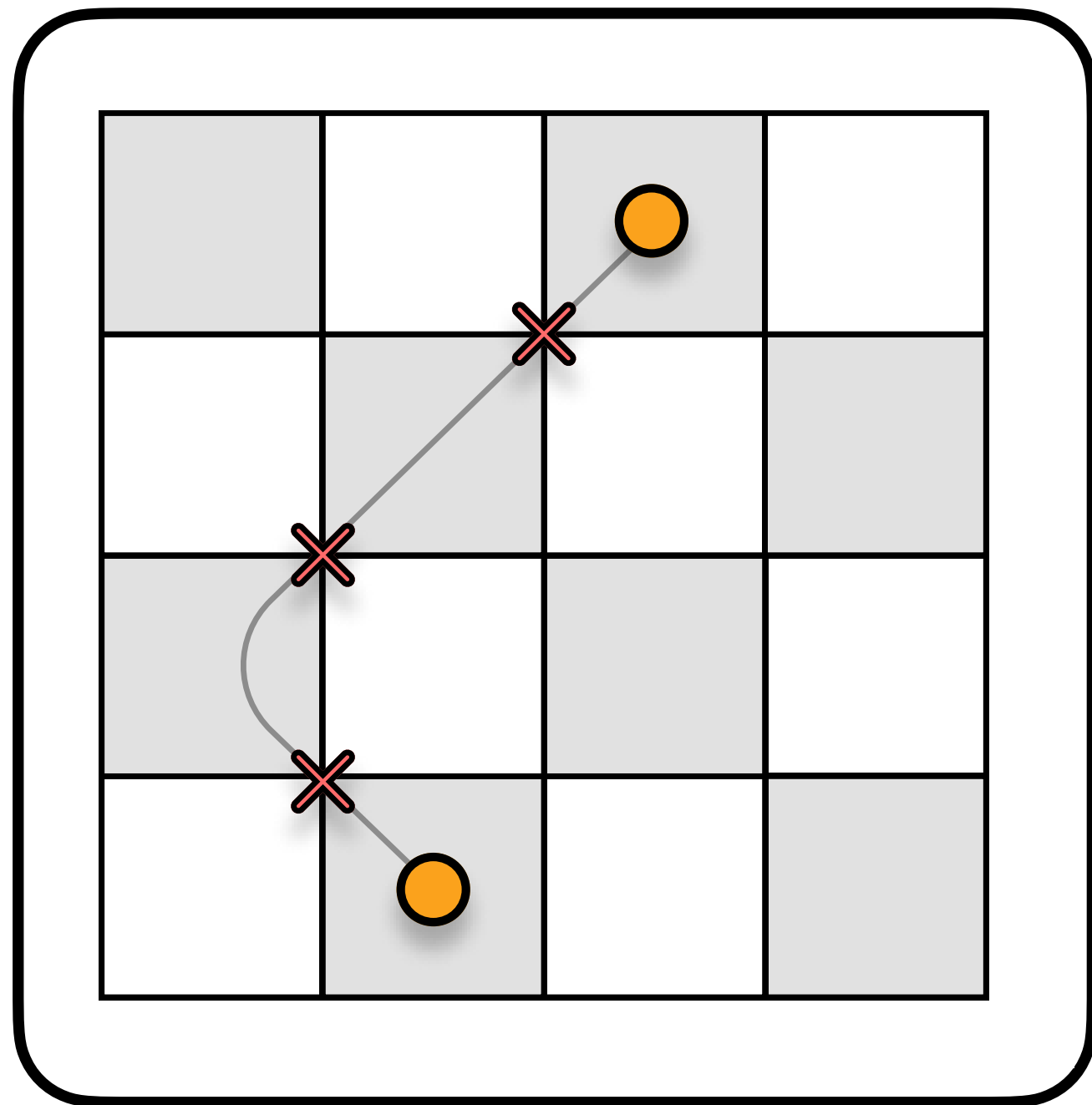
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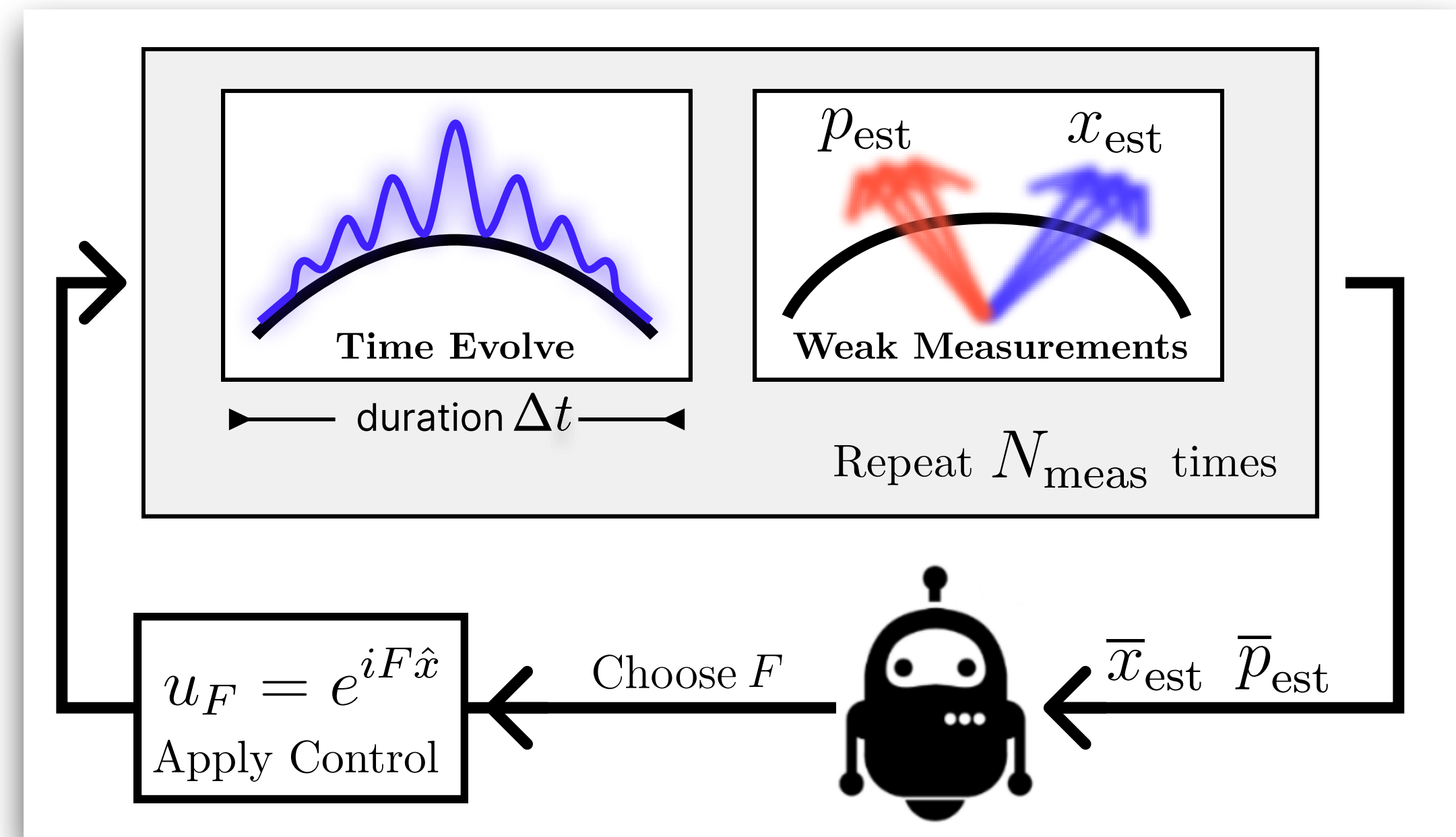


# AI for Quantum Control

How do you control something you cannot look at?



**Quantum Error Correction**



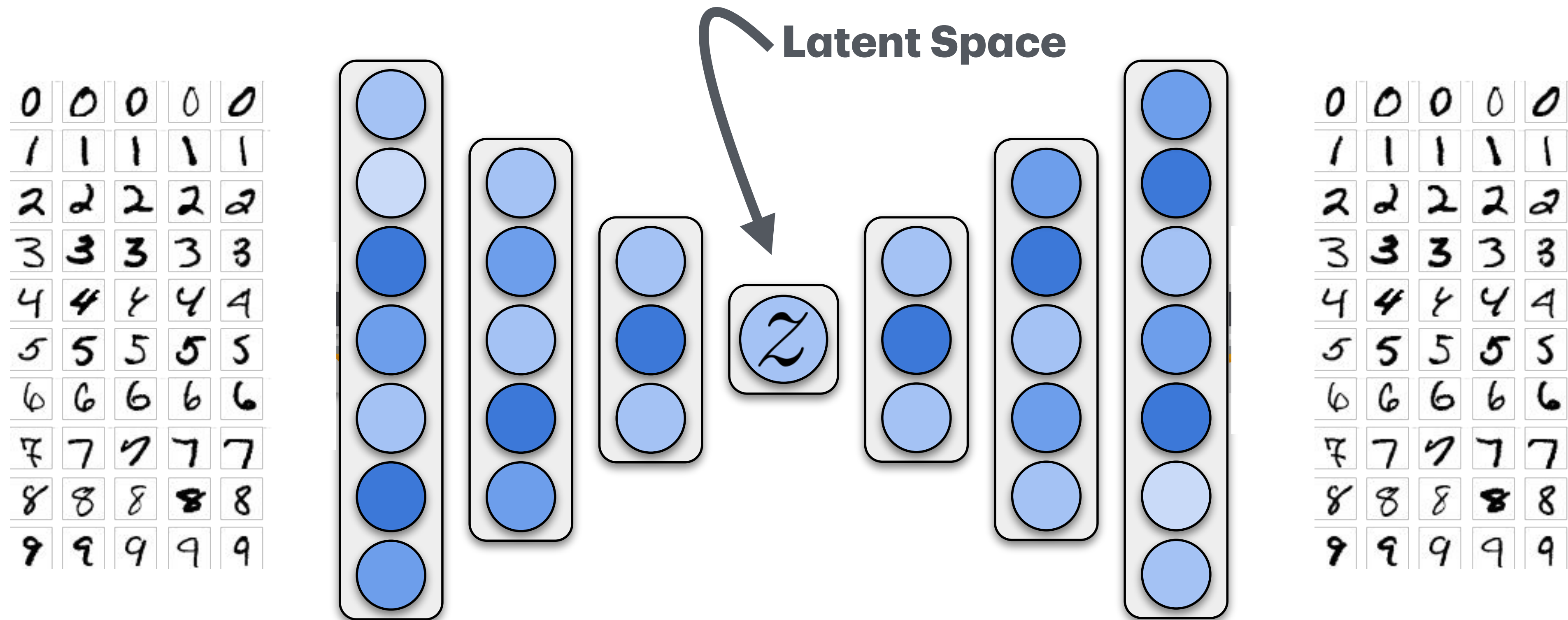
**The Quantum Cartpole**

*Can a classical AI optimize strategies for quantum systems?  
Does a quantum circuit do better than a classical neural network?*



# Dimensionality reduction...

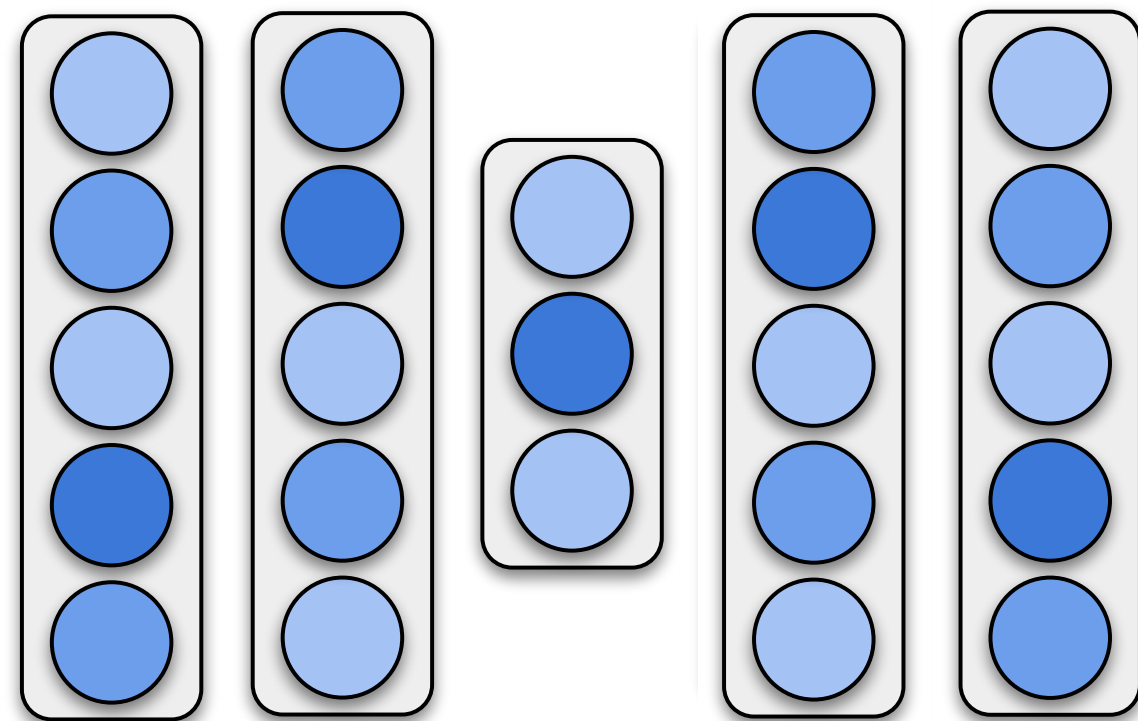
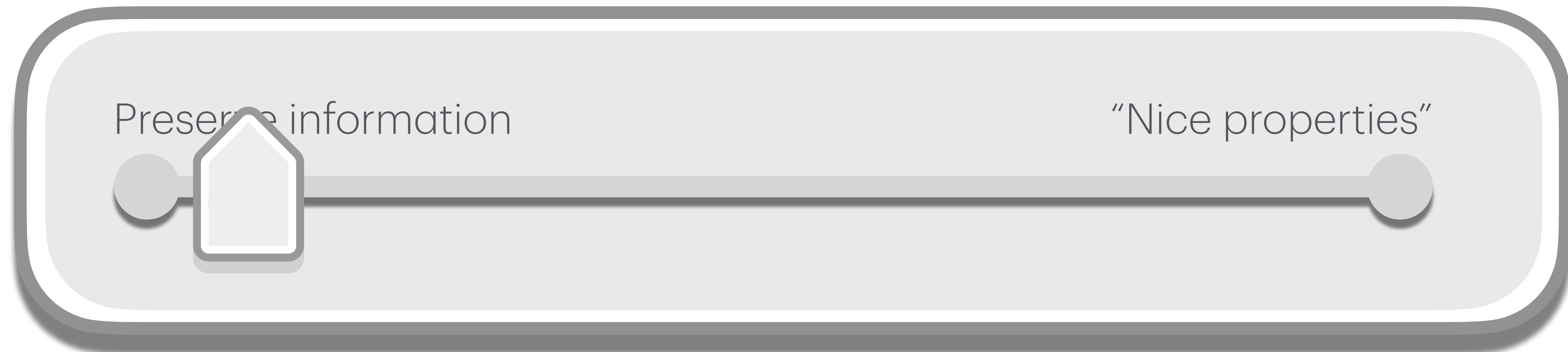
...is a good way of representation learning



# There is an inherent tradeoff...

...in representation learning

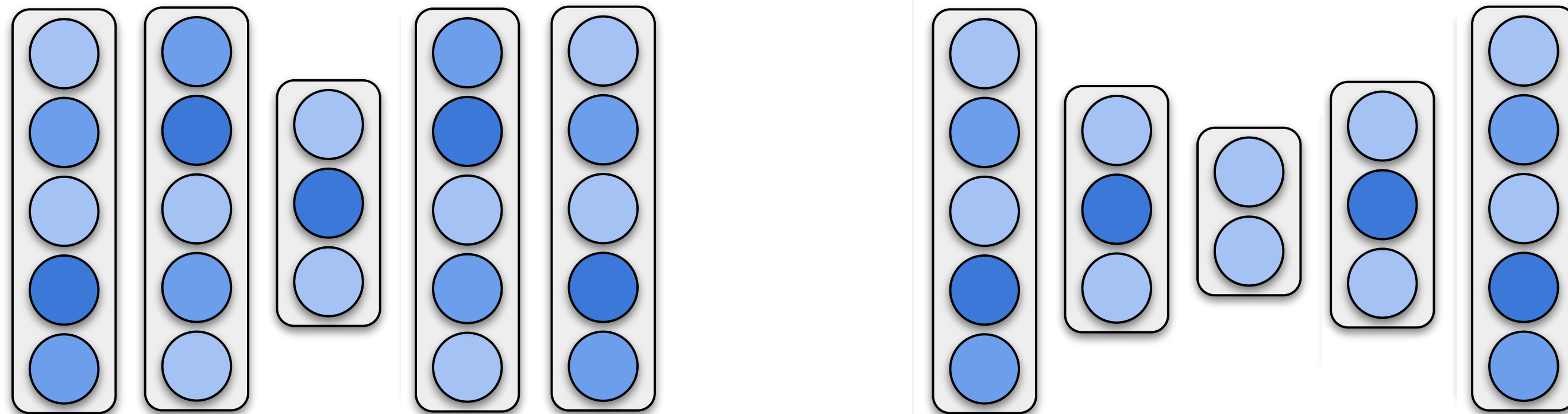
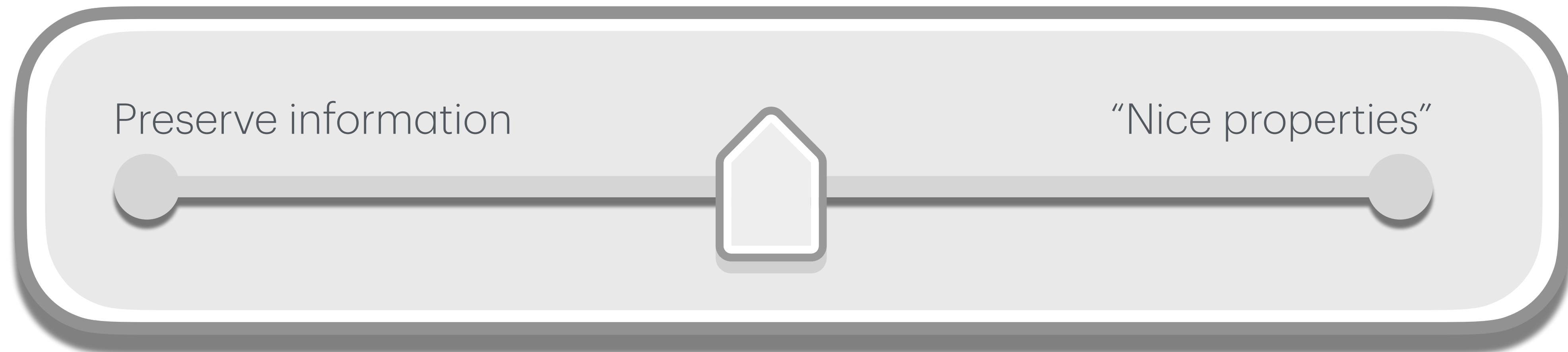
## Information Bottleneck



# There is an inherent tradeoff...

...in representation learning

## Information Bottleneck



# There is an inherent tradeoff...

...in representation learning

## Information Bottleneck

