

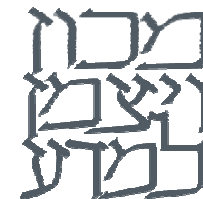
# Quantum Optimal Control for Superconducting Qubits with



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UNIVERSITÄT  
DES  
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# Overview

- Quantum Optimal Control (QOC)
- New QOC algorithm - **GOAT**
- Application to superconducting qubits

# Overview

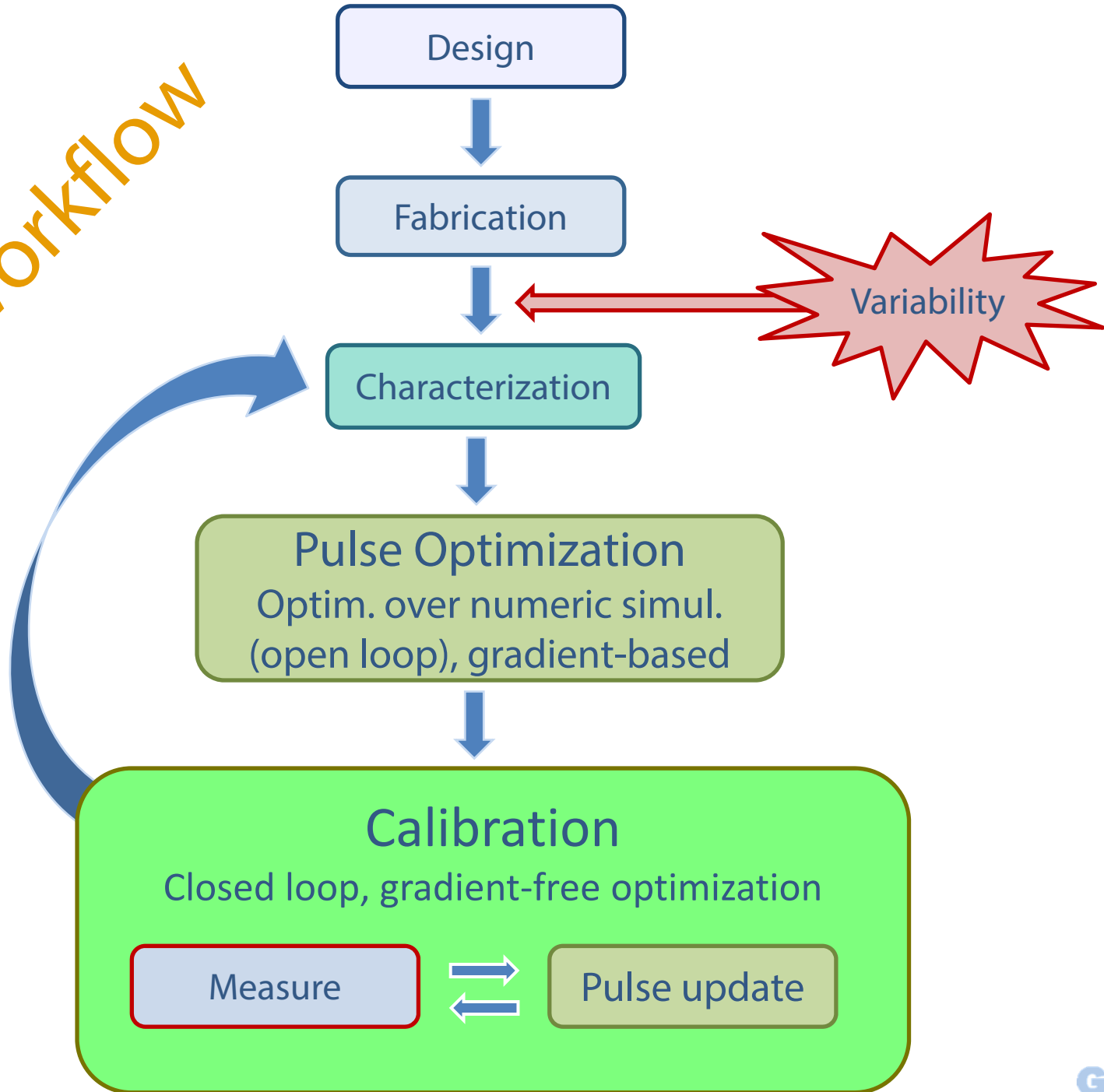
- Quantum Optimal Control (QOC)
- New QOC algorithm - GOAT
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S. J. Glaser, et al., *The European Physical Journal D* 69.12 (2015): 1-24

C. P. Koch, *Journal of Physics: Condensed Matter* 28.21 (2016): 213001



# QOC Workflow



# Requirements from QOC

- Optimize state transfer, gate generation, etc.
- Unitary, Lindblad, non-Markovian, etc.
- Flexible
  - Everything is constrained
  - Ansatz + AWG + Filter + IQ mixer + Filter
  - Multi-goal
  - more
- Quick
- Accurate

# Quantum Optimal Control

Given

$$H(t) = H_0 + \sum_{k=1}^K c_k(t) H_k$$

Find control fields

$$c_k(t)$$

such that we have very accurate

- State preparation, or
- Gate generation, or
- Cooling (super-operator generation), or ...

# Quantum Optimal Control

Given

$$H(\bar{\alpha}, t) = H_0 + \sum_{k=1}^K c_k(\bar{\alpha}, t) H_k$$

$$c_k(\bar{\alpha}, t) = \sum_{j=1}^m A_{k,m} \exp\left(-\frac{(t - \tau_{k,m})^2}{\sigma_{k,m}^2}\right)$$

$$\bar{\alpha} = \{A_{k,m}, \tau_{k,m}, \sigma_{k,m}\}_{k=1\dots K, j=1\dots m}$$

$$|A_{k,m}| \leq 500\text{MHz}$$

$$U(\bar{\alpha}, T) = \mathbb{T} \exp\left(\int_0^T -\frac{i}{\hbar} H(\bar{\alpha}, t) dt\right)$$

$$g(\bar{\alpha}) = 1 - \frac{1}{\dim(U)} \left| U_{goal}^\dagger U(\bar{\alpha}, T) \right|$$

Task: Find  $\bar{\alpha}$  such that  $g(\bar{\alpha})$  minimal





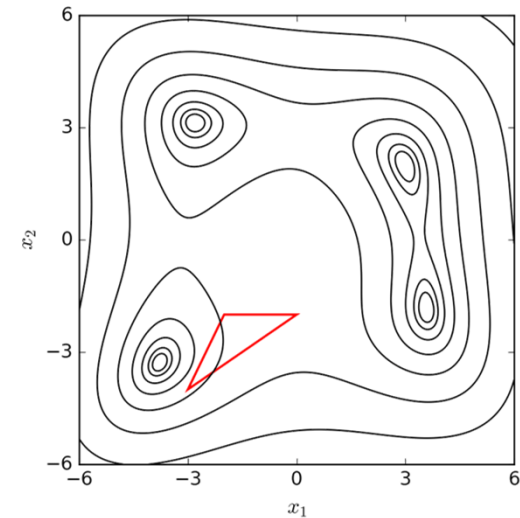
# QOC Algorithms

- Direct methods - No gradient information
- Variational methods - Gradient based

# QOC Algorithms – Direct

## Direct methods - No gradient information

- Pro
  - Only require black-box goal function evaluators
  - Great for closed loop calibration
  - Relatively simple
- Con
  - Slow
  - Very slow in high dimension search spaces



# QOC Algorithms - Direct

## Direct methods - No gradient information

- Deterministic - CRAB:
  - Arbitrary analytic controls (usually Fourier basis)
  - Simplex search (e.g. Nelder-Mead)
  - Deterministic

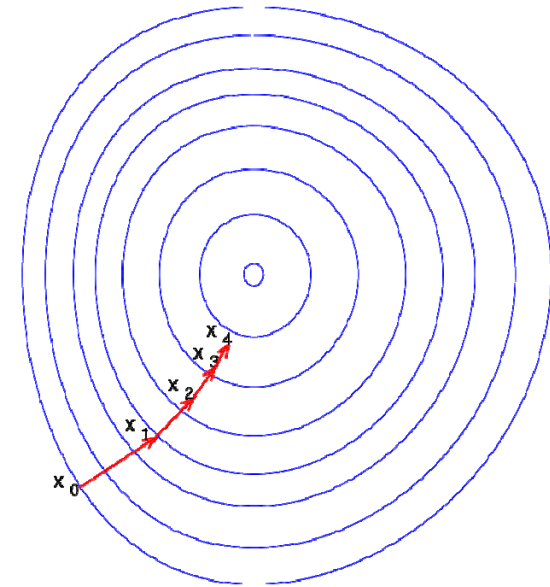
T. Caneva, T. Calarco, and S. Montangero. Phys. Rev. A, 84(2):022326, 2004  
P. Doria, T. Calarco, and S. Montangero. Phys. Rev. Lett., 106:190501 (2011)

- Stochastic
  - CMA-ES (Covariance Matrix Adaptation Evolution Strategy)
  - NES (Natural Evolution Strategy)
  - Genetic algorithms, Particle swarms

# QOC Algorithms - Variational

## Variational methods- Gradient based

- Pro
  - Fast
  - Can handle large parameter spaces
  - Optional: Monotonic convergence
- Con
  - Requires gradient of goal w.r.t. control params
  - Usually based on the Pontryagin Max. Principle (PMP)
    - Non-trivial mathematically
    - Requires backwards-in-time propagation of an adjoint state

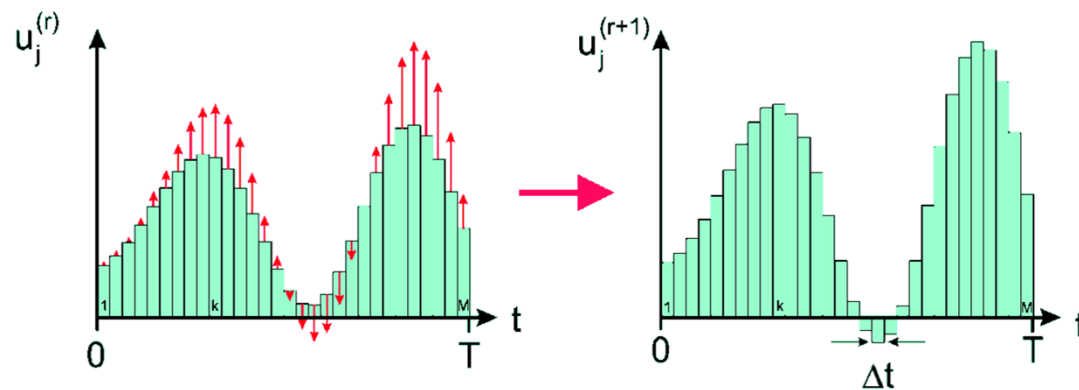


L. S. Pontryagin, V. G. Bol'tanskii, R. S. Gamkre-lidze, and E. F. Mischenko. The Mathematical Theory of Optimal Processes. Pergamon Press, New York (1964)

# QOC Algorithms - GRAPE

## Variational methods- Gradient based

- GRAPE
  - PWC parametrization of control fields
  - Fast gradient-based optimization (L-BFGS)
  - Arbitrary ansatz, constraints, filters: non-trivial



N. Khaneja, et al., J. Magn. Reson., 172(2) 296 (2005)

P. de Fouquieres, S. G. Schirmer, S. J. Glaser, and I. Kuprov, J. Magn. Reson., 212(2) 412 (2011)

S. Machnes, et. al.. PRA, 84 022305 (2011)



# QOC Algorithms - Krotov

## Variational methods- Gradient based

- Krotov
  - Based on PMP (i.e. required backwards propagation)
  - Monotonic convergence
  - In theory flexible - both PWC and analytic ansatz
  - In practice ... mathematically non-trivial

V. F. Krotov, Global Methods in Optimal Control Theory. Dekker, New York, 1996

D. M. Reich, M. Ndong, and C. P. Koch, JCP 136, 104103 (2012)

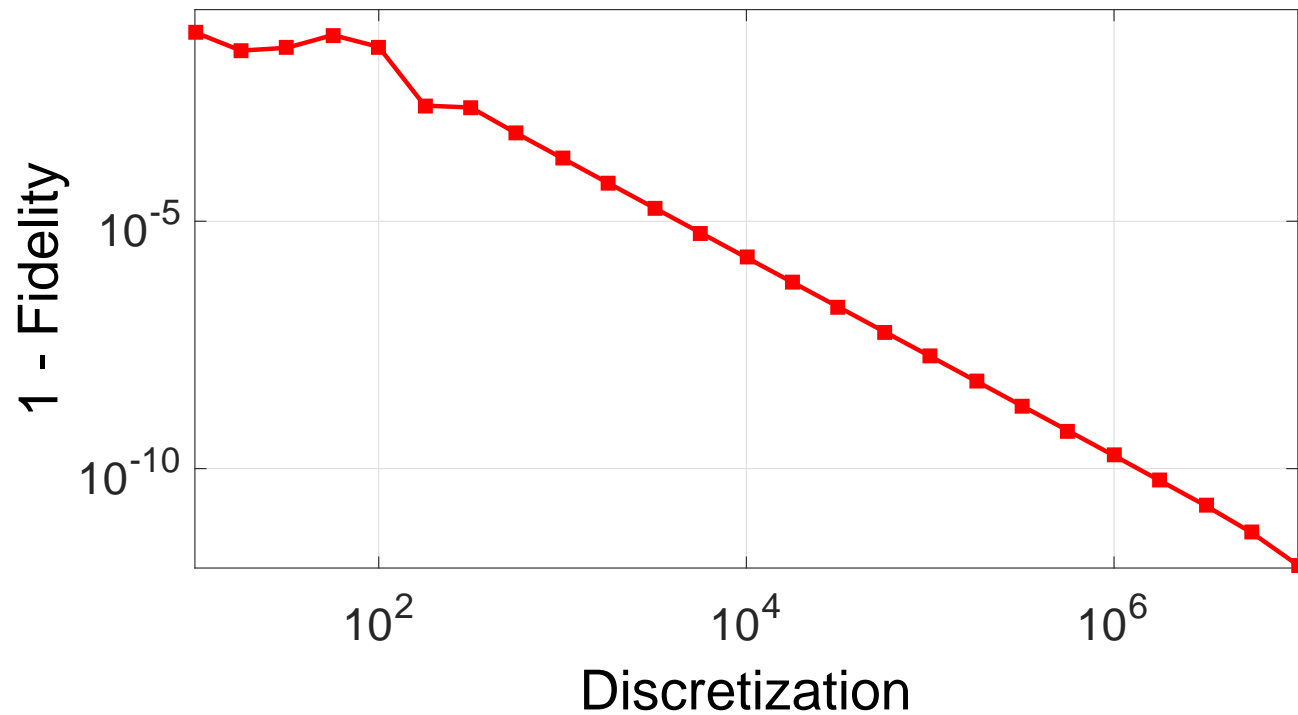
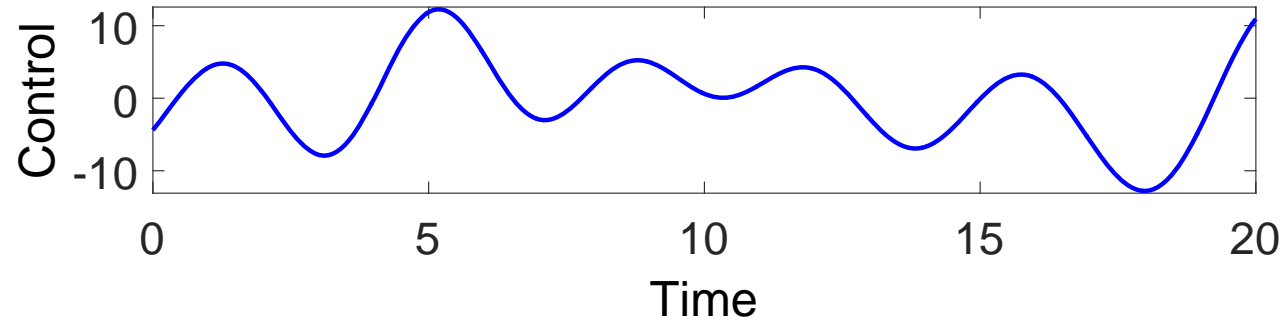
R. Eitan, M. Mundt, and D. J. Tannor, Phys. Rev. A, 83(5):053426, 2011



# QOC– Dos and Don'ts

- Don't
  - Don't use Piece-Wise Constant (PWC) – it is a poor approximation for bandwidth-limited controls.
  - Don't use an approximate Hamiltonian
- Do
  - Gradient based optimization is much faster
  - Use analytic controls
    - You only need a few parameters
    - You only want a few parameters
    - Flexible: ansatz and constraints

# PWC is a poor approx. of smooth controls





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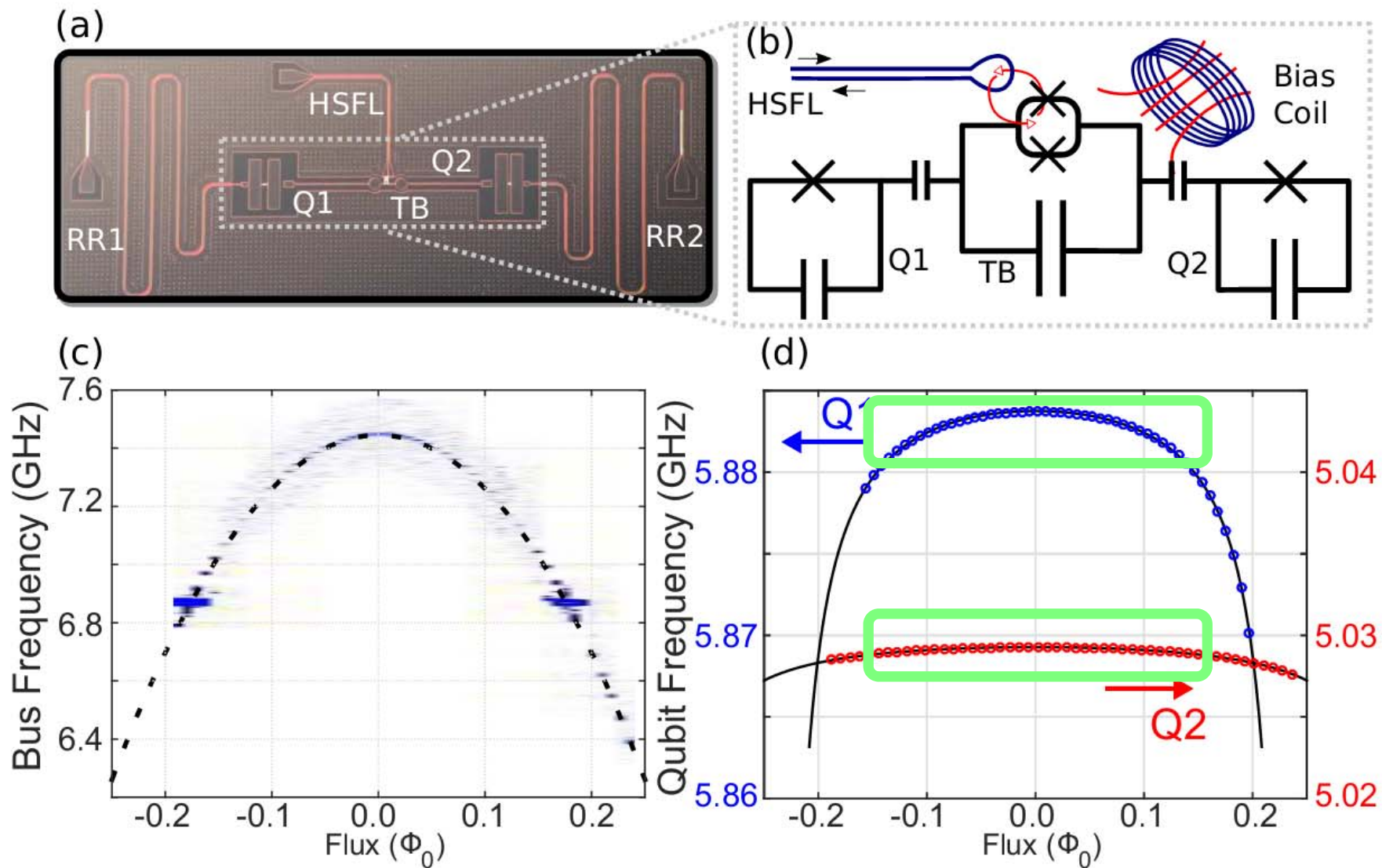
Get the Model Right

Get the Model Right

Get the Model Right

Simplified models needed for analytics

Detrimental for optimal control

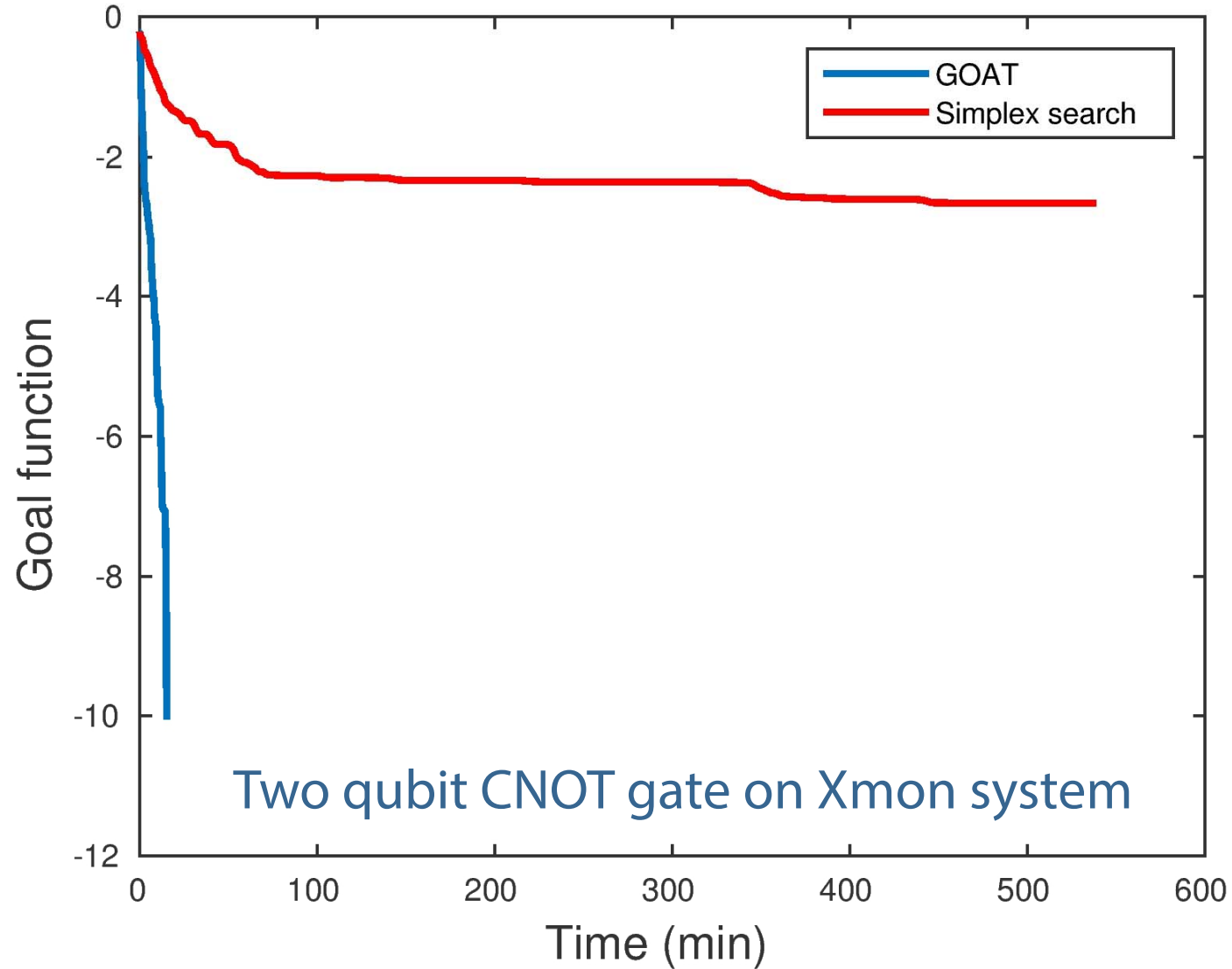


D. McKay, S. Filipp, A. Mezzacapo, E. Magesan, J. Chow, and J. Gambetta, arXiv 1604.0307 (2016)

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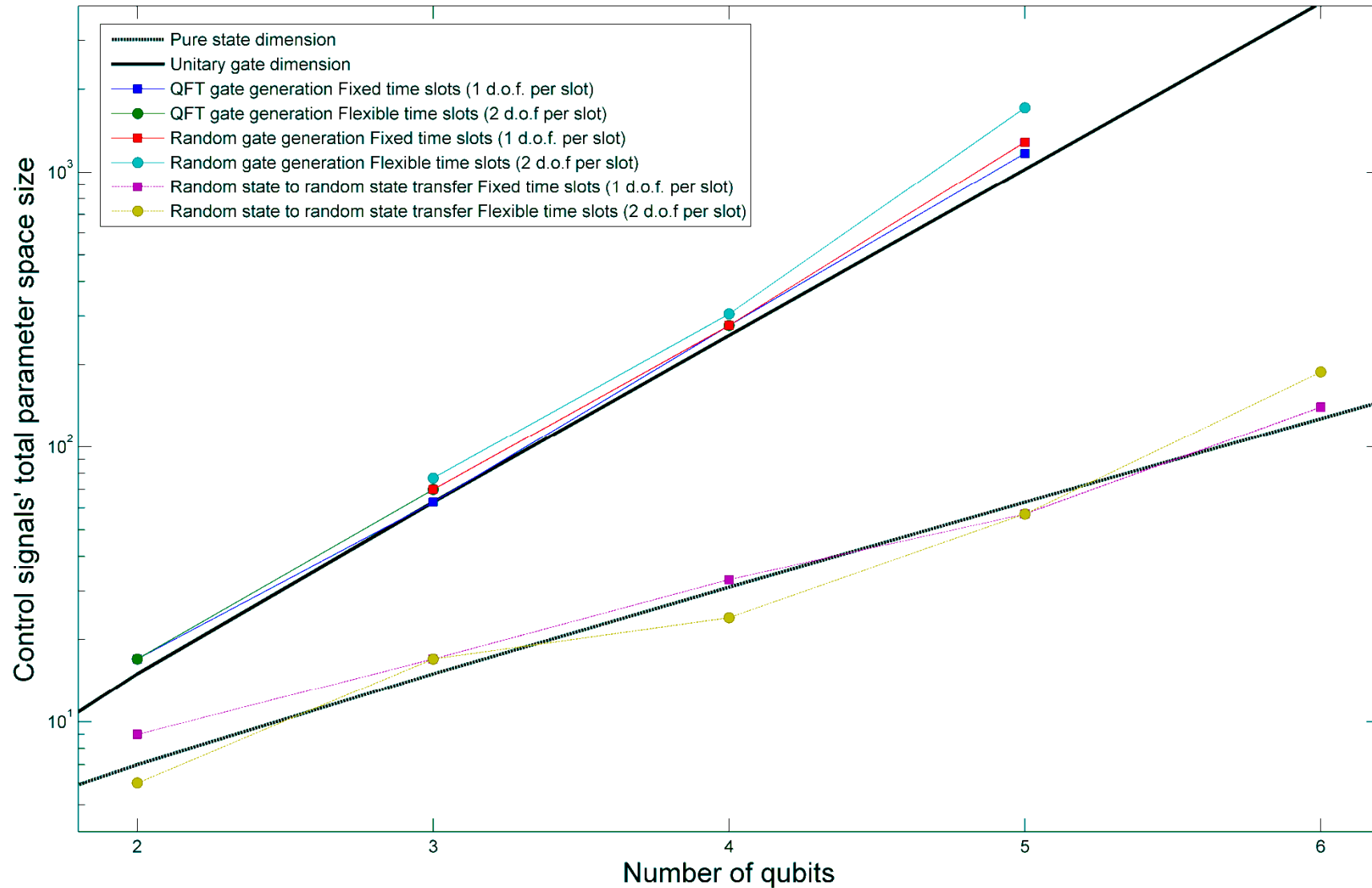
# Gradients allow faster search



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# Number of params = Hilbert space size



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  - Use analytic controls
    - You only need a few parameters
    - You only want a few parameters
    - Flexible: ansatz, constraints, filters, etc

# Overview

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- Application to superconducting qubits

# Typical optimal control setup

$$g(\bar{\alpha}) = 1 - \frac{1}{\dim(U)} \left| U_{\text{goal}}^\dagger U(\bar{\alpha}, T) \right|$$

$$U(\bar{\alpha}, T) = \mathbb{T} \exp \left( \int_0^T -\frac{i}{\hbar} H(\bar{\alpha}, t) dt \right)$$

$$H(\bar{\alpha}, t) = H_0 + \sum_{k=1}^K c_k(\bar{\alpha}, t) H_k$$

$$c_k(\bar{\alpha}, t) = \sum_{j=1}^m A_{k,m} \exp \left( - (t - \tau_{k,m})^2 / \sigma_{k,m}^2 \right)$$

$$\bar{\alpha} = \{A_{k,m}, \tau_{k,m}, \sigma_{k,m}\}_{k=1\dots K, j=1\dots m}$$

Find  $\partial_{\bar{\alpha}} g(\bar{\alpha})$  and follow the gradient.

# Deriving GOAT (very simple)

$$g(\bar{\alpha}) = 1 - \frac{1}{\dim(U)} \left| U_{goal}^\dagger U(\bar{\alpha}, T) \right|^2$$

$$\partial_{\bar{\alpha}} g(\bar{\alpha}) = ? - \text{real} \left( \frac{g^*}{|g|} \frac{1}{\dim(U)} \text{Tr} \left( U_{goal}^\dagger \partial_{\bar{\alpha}} U(\bar{\alpha}, t) \right) \right)$$

$$g = \text{Tr} \left( U_{goal}^\dagger U(\bar{\alpha}, t) \right)$$

$$\partial_{\bar{\alpha}} U(\bar{\alpha}, t) = ?$$

$\partial_{\bar{\alpha}} U (\bar{\alpha}, t)$  via modified Schrödinger

$$\partial_t U = -\frac{i}{\hbar} H U$$

$$\partial_{\bar{\alpha}} \partial_t U = -\frac{i}{\hbar} ((\partial_{\bar{\alpha}} H) U + H \partial_{\bar{\alpha}} U)$$

$\partial_{\bar{\alpha}} U (\bar{\alpha}, t)$  via modified Schrödinger

$$\partial_t U = -\frac{i}{\hbar} H U$$

$$\partial_t \partial_{\bar{\alpha}} U = -\frac{i}{\hbar} ((\partial_{\bar{\alpha}} H) U + H \partial_{\bar{\alpha}} U)$$

$$\partial_t \begin{pmatrix} U \\ \partial_{\bar{\alpha}} U \end{pmatrix} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} \begin{pmatrix} H & 0 \\ \partial_{\bar{\alpha}} H & H \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} U \\ \partial_{\bar{\alpha}} U \end{pmatrix}$$

This is the GOAT core idea



# Deriving GOAT (very simple)

$$\partial_t \begin{pmatrix} U \\ \partial_{\bar{\alpha}} U \end{pmatrix} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} \begin{pmatrix} H & 0 \\ \partial_{\bar{\alpha}} H & H \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} U \\ \partial_{\bar{\alpha}} U \end{pmatrix}$$

$$H(\bar{\alpha}, t) = H_0 + \sum_{k=1}^K c_k(\bar{\alpha}, t) H_k$$

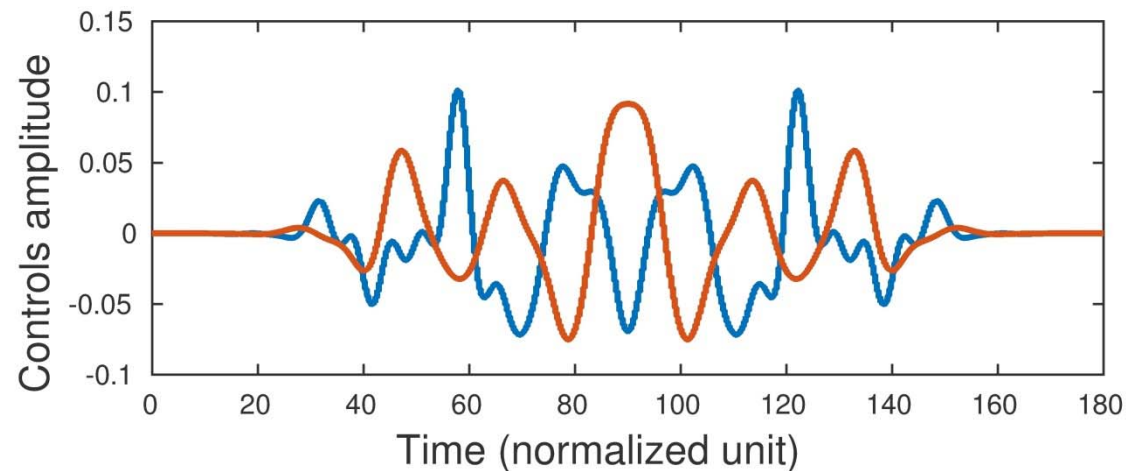
$$\partial_{\bar{\alpha}} H(\bar{\alpha}, t) = \sum_{k=1}^K \partial_{\bar{\alpha}} c_k(\bar{\alpha}, t) H_k$$

# Constraints?

$$c_k(t) = A e^{-\frac{(t-\tau)^2}{\sigma^2}} \quad A = 500 \text{ MHz} \frac{\sin(p)+1}{2}$$

Smooth start / finish

$$c_k(\bar{\alpha}, t) \longrightarrow w(t) c_k(\bar{\alpha}, t)$$





# I don't have time tell you

how GOAT can do

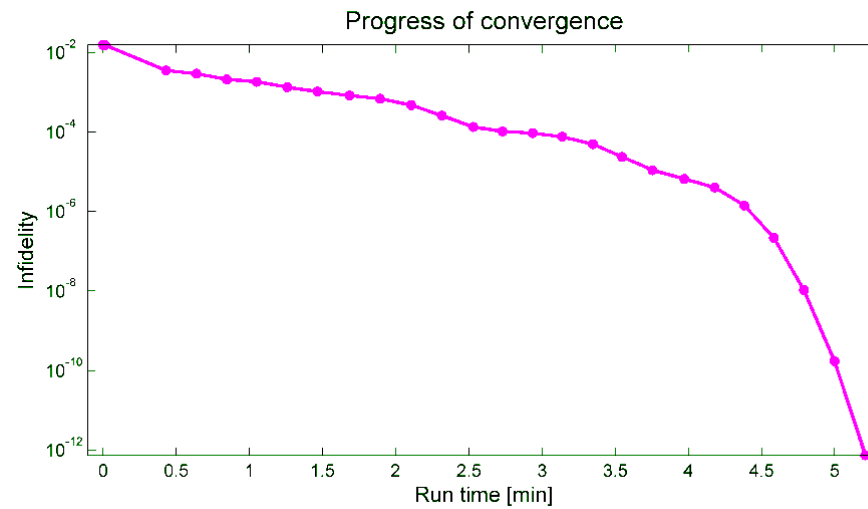
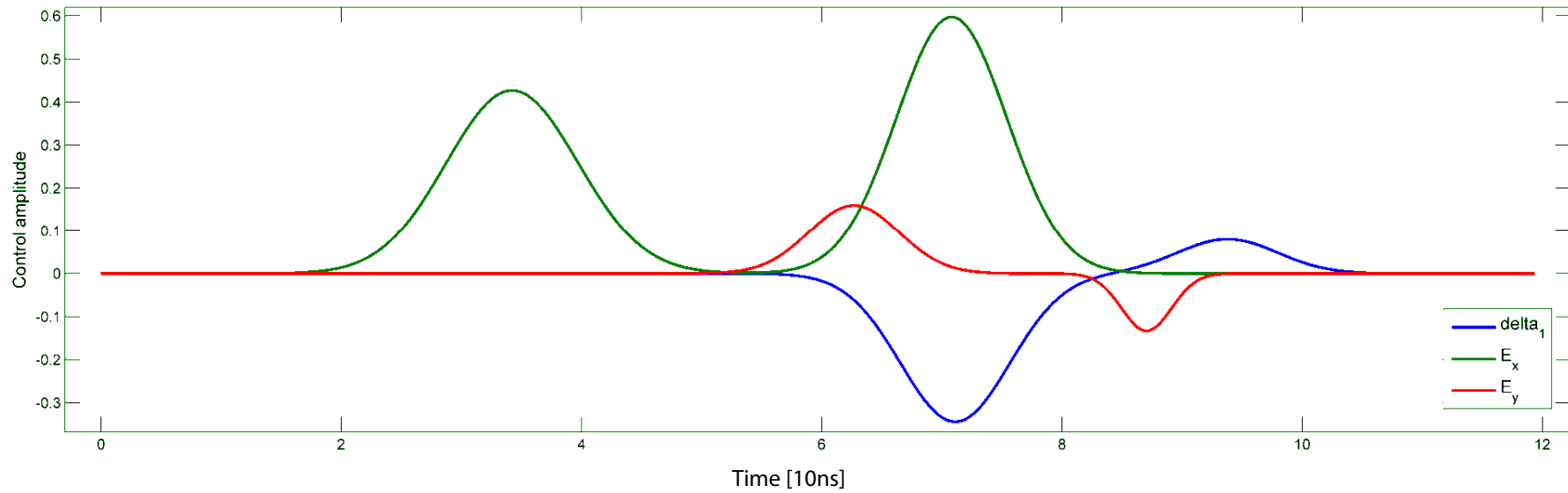
- Filters
- Perfect entangler, without knowing which
- Optimal gate duration for best fidelity
- Multi-goal optimization
- Robustness
- Open systems

And all of these with full gradient information

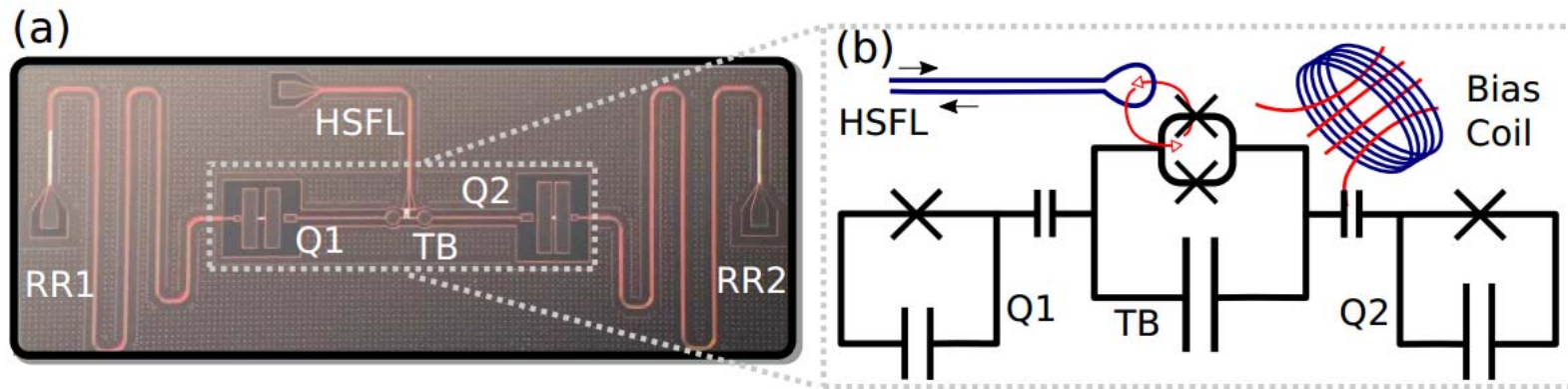
# Overview

- The challenges of quantum optimal control
- New optimization algorithm - GOAT
- Application to superconducting qubits

# Example: Transmon gates



# Flux Tunable Coupler



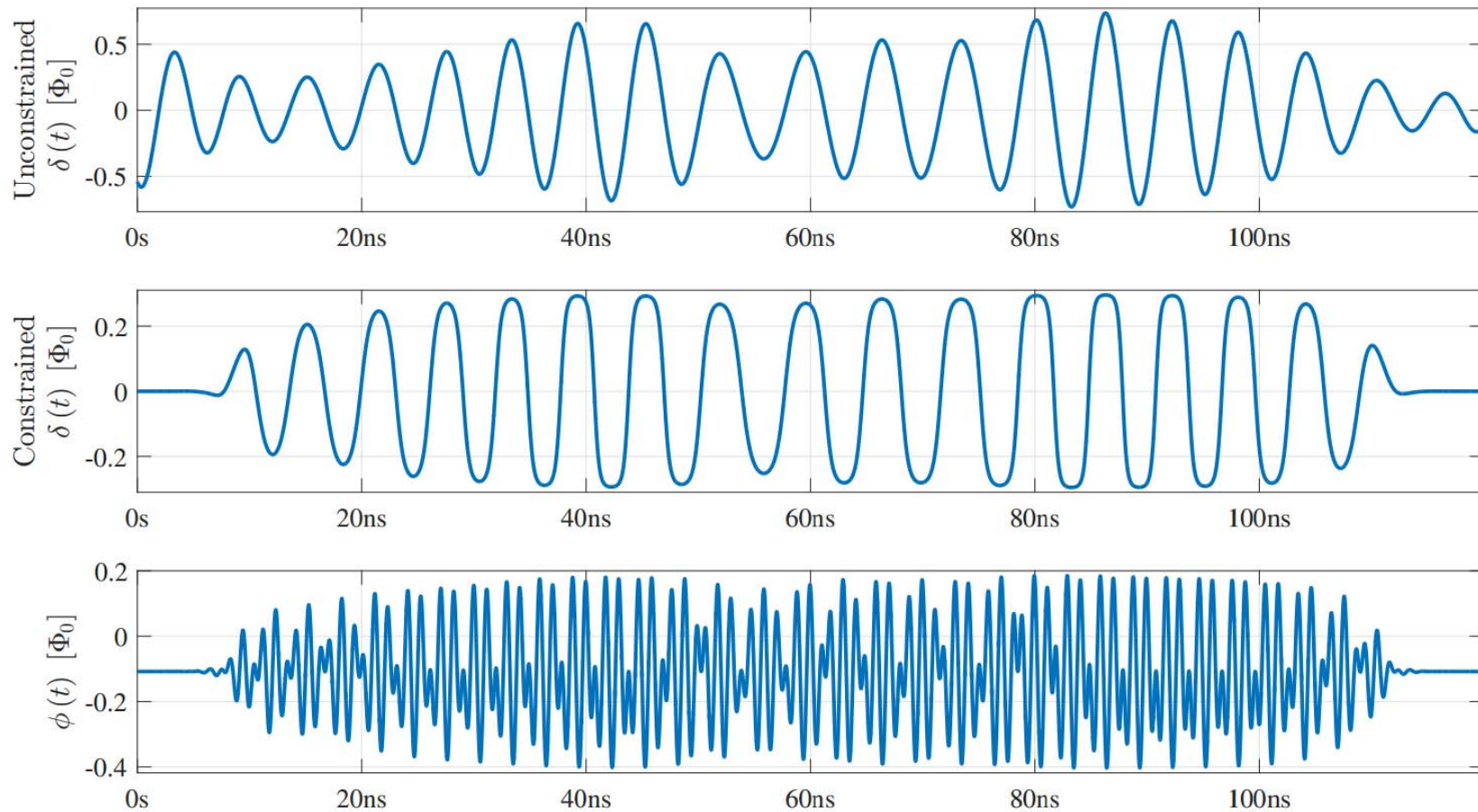
D. McKay, S. Filipp, A. Mezzacapo, E. Magesan, J. Chow, and J. Gambetta, arXiv 1604.0307 (2016)

$$H = \sum_k \omega_k a^\dagger a - \alpha |2\rangle \langle 2|_k + \omega_{TB}(\Phi) b^\dagger b + g_k (a_k^\dagger b + b^\dagger a_k)$$

$$\omega_{TB}(\Phi) = \omega_{TB,0} \sqrt{|\cos(\pi\Phi/\Phi_0)|}$$

$$\Phi = \Theta + \delta(t) \cos(\omega_\Phi t)$$

# Flux Tunable Coupler



6 Fourier components, full system model  
 $10^{-12}$  infidelity (excluding dephasing)

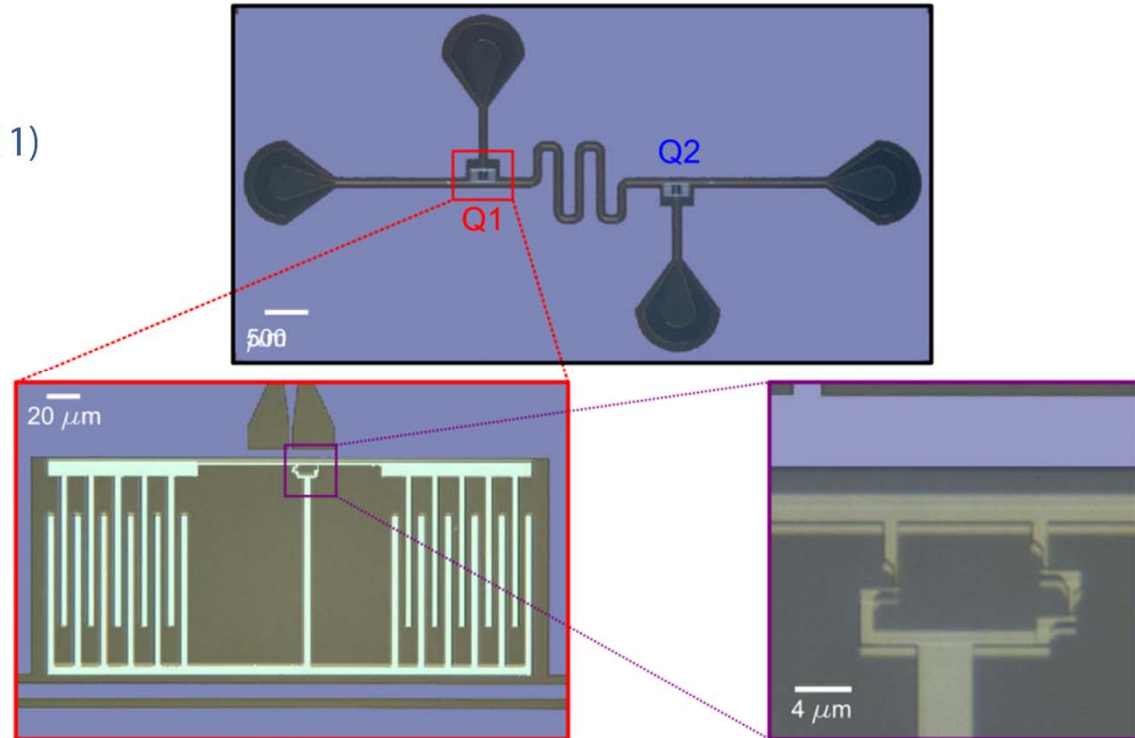


# Cross-Resonance Gate

[1] Rigetti, Devoret, PRB (2010)

[2] J. Chow et al., PRL 107, 080502 (2011)

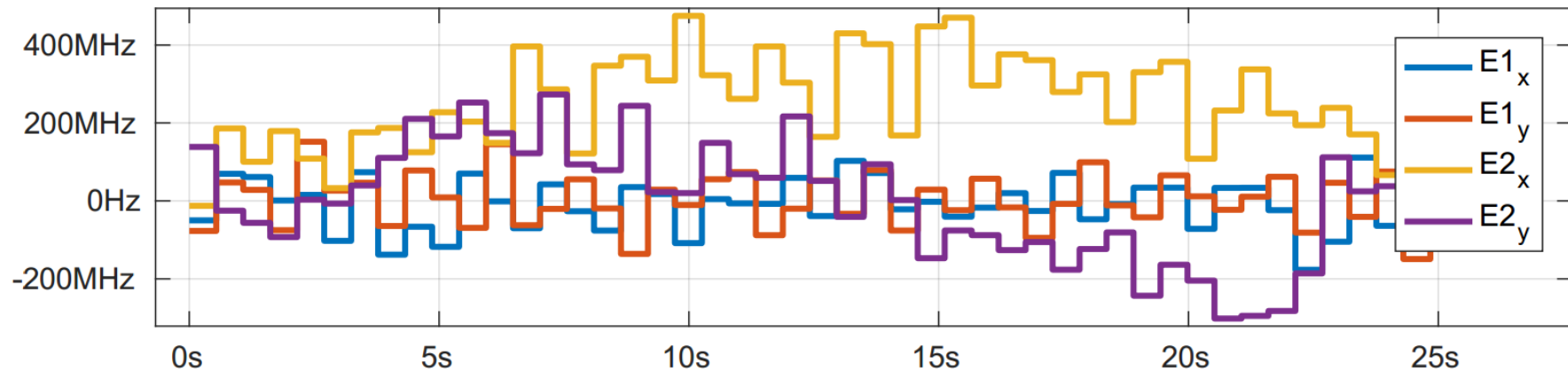
[3] S. Sheldon et al., arXiv 1603.04821



Preliminary work:

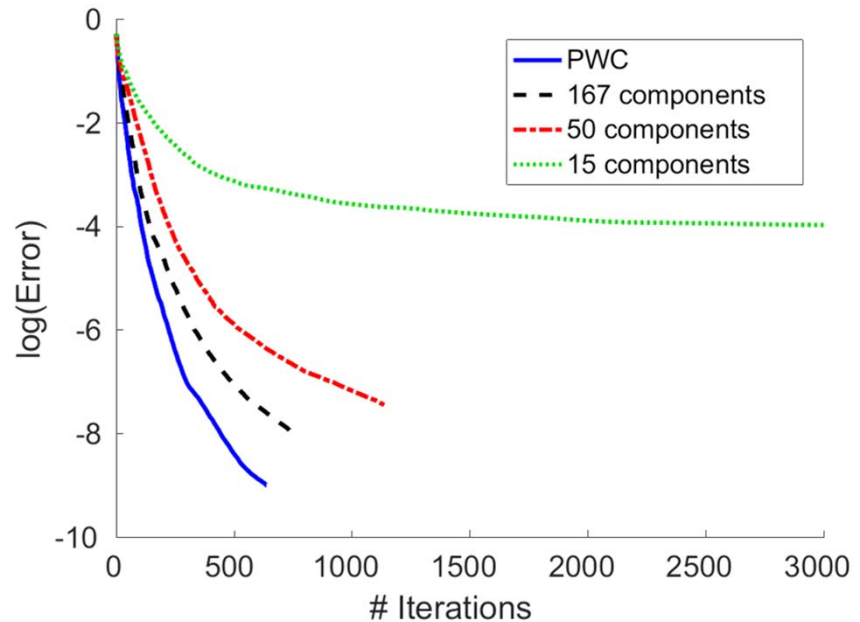
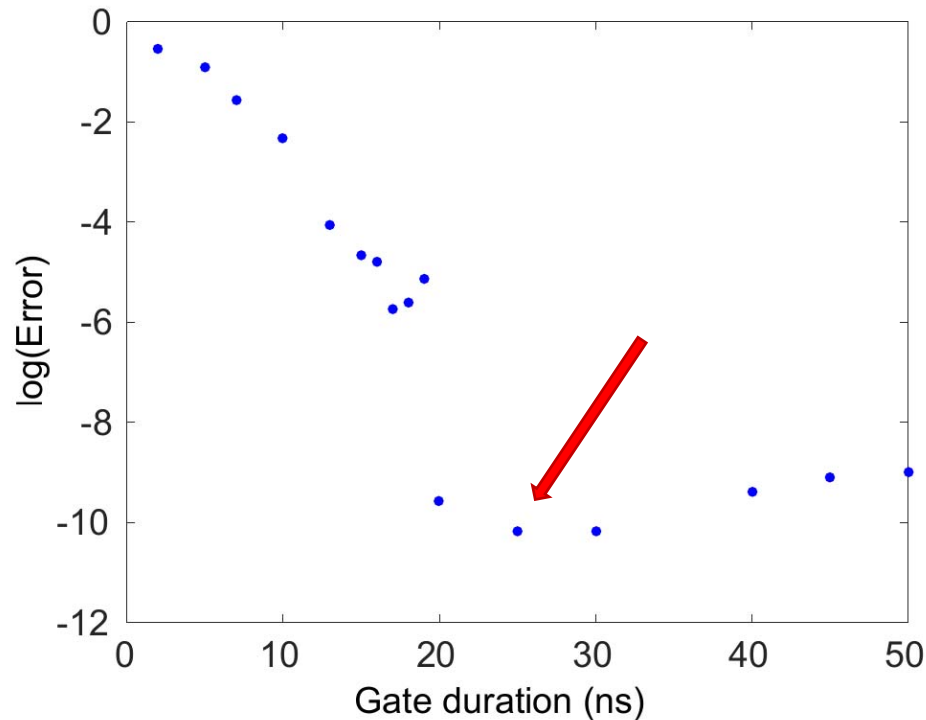
- Speed limit
- Fast & simple pulses enabling calibration

# Speed Limit



- XY controls for the two qubits
- AWG 50x0.5ns
- Infidelity  $1.6 \times 10^{-5}$

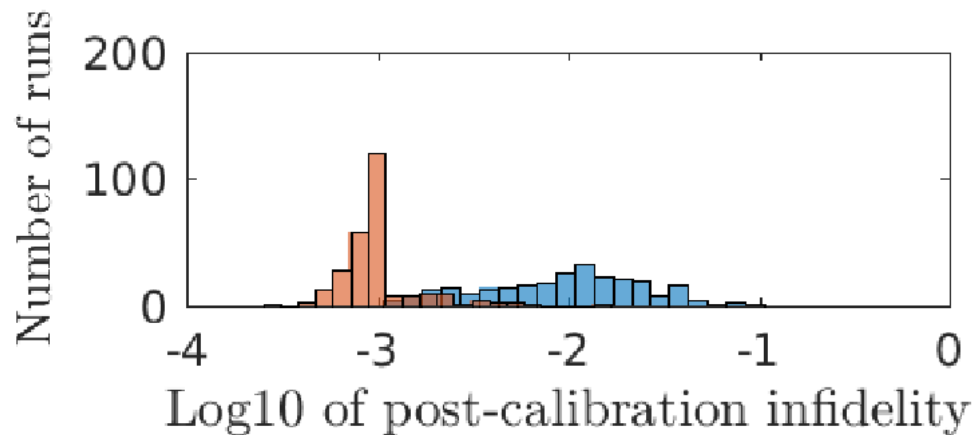
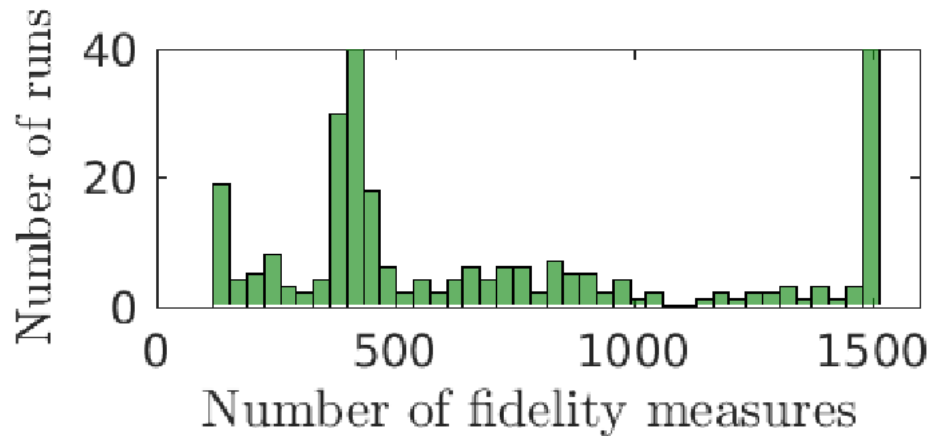
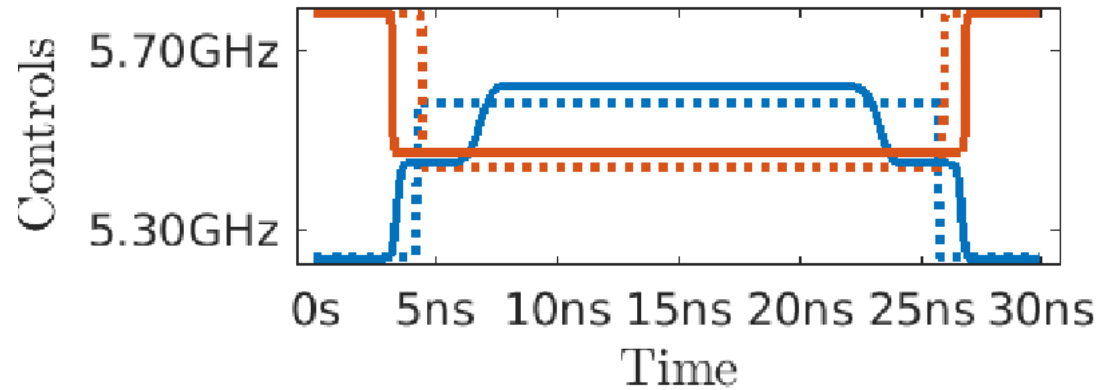
# Speed limits & optimal speed



- Too short: Leakage (non-adiabatic)
- Too long: Markov
- Optimal speed for best fidelity

- Simple pulses are hard





Few Params

=

Easy  
experimental  
Calibration

# Summary

- Optimal control requires the model to be as accurate as possible
- Current optimal control techniques suffer from either low-accuracy, mathematical complexity, insufficient flexibility or slow convergence rates.
- GOAT is a novel, highly flexible, conceptually simple and easy-to-implement gradient-based optimal control algorithm.
- GOAT is extremely well-suited for optimization of calibration-ready pulses for real-world experiments.

Thank you !



Looking for experiments

