

Quantum computational advantages using photons and beyond

Hui Wang

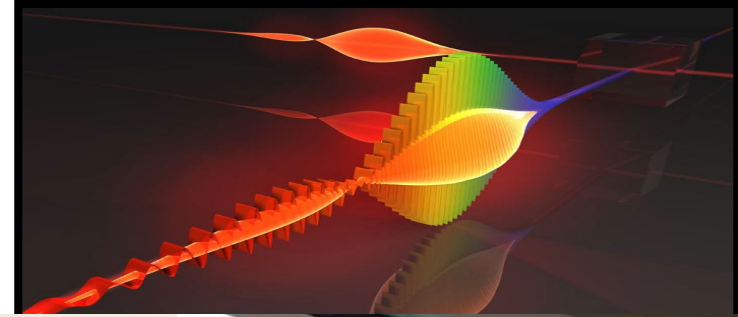
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Quantum information technologies with photons

Quantum bits can be encoded in the polarization of single photons

$$|H\rangle = |0\rangle \quad |V\rangle = |1\rangle$$



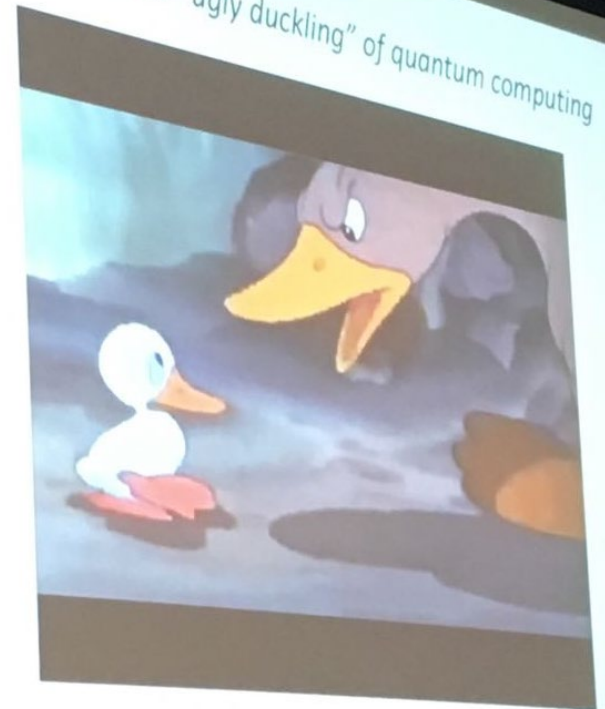
Why do people like photons?

- ✓ Flying qubit (fastest quantum information transmitter)
- ✓ Robust qubit (with weak interaction with environment)
- ✓ High-precision manipulation with off-the-shell devices
- ✓ Interconnections between distant physical systems

Why do people dislike photons?

- ✓ Photon loss is everywhere...
- ✓ Weak interaction – deterministic CNOT is hard

Photonics is the “ugly duckling” of quantum computing

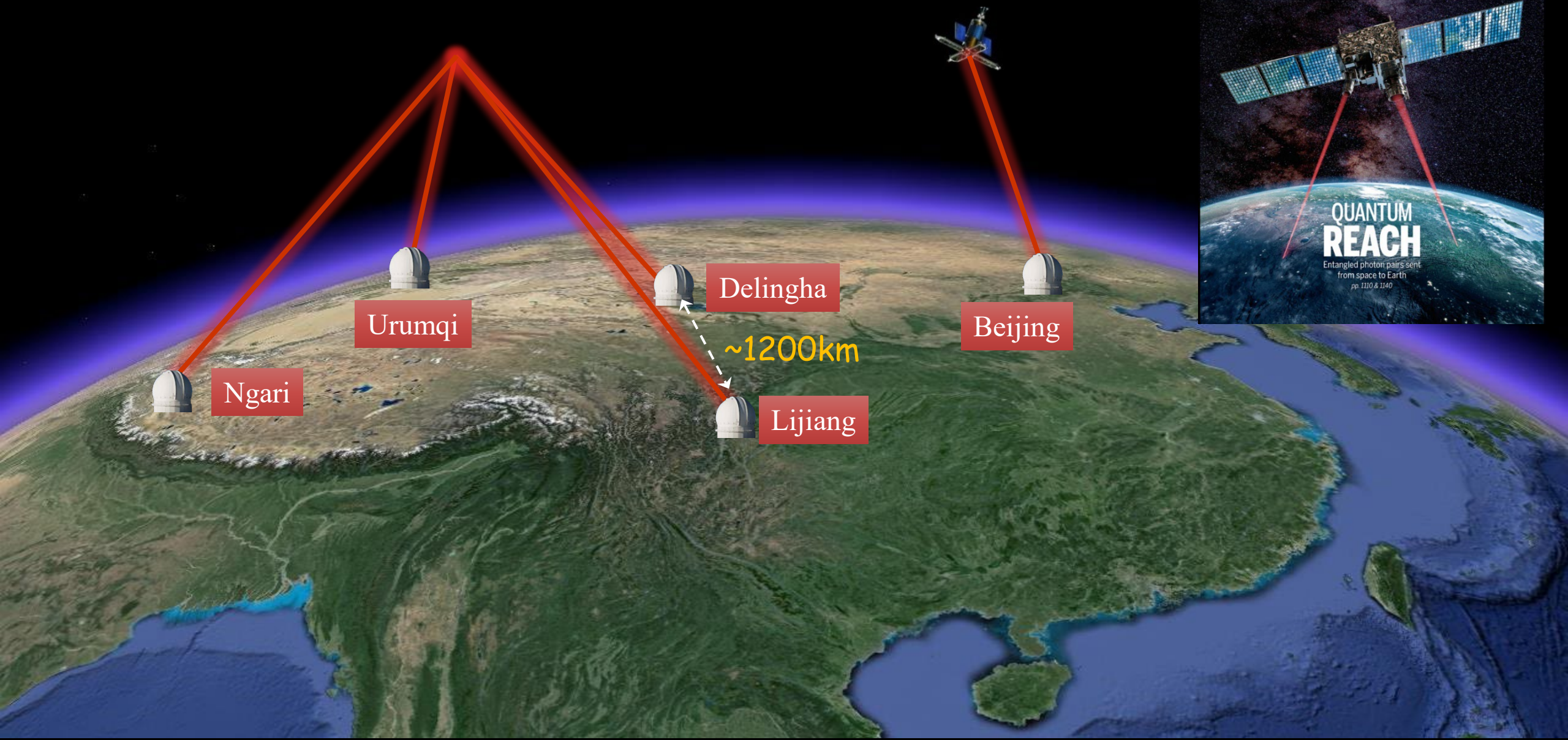


Toward a space-ground integrated quantum network



Micius quantum experiments in space, Lu, Cao, Peng, Pan, *Rev. Mod. Phys.* **94**, 035001 (2022)

Quantum communications and network



Quantum communications and network

Micius – Graz, Austria

Date	Sifted key	QBER	Final key
06/18/2017	1361 kb	1.4%	266 kb
06/19/2017	711 kb	2.3%	103 kb
06/23/2017	700 kb	2.4%	103 kb
06/26/2017	1220 kb	1.5%	361 kb

Micius – Xinglong, China

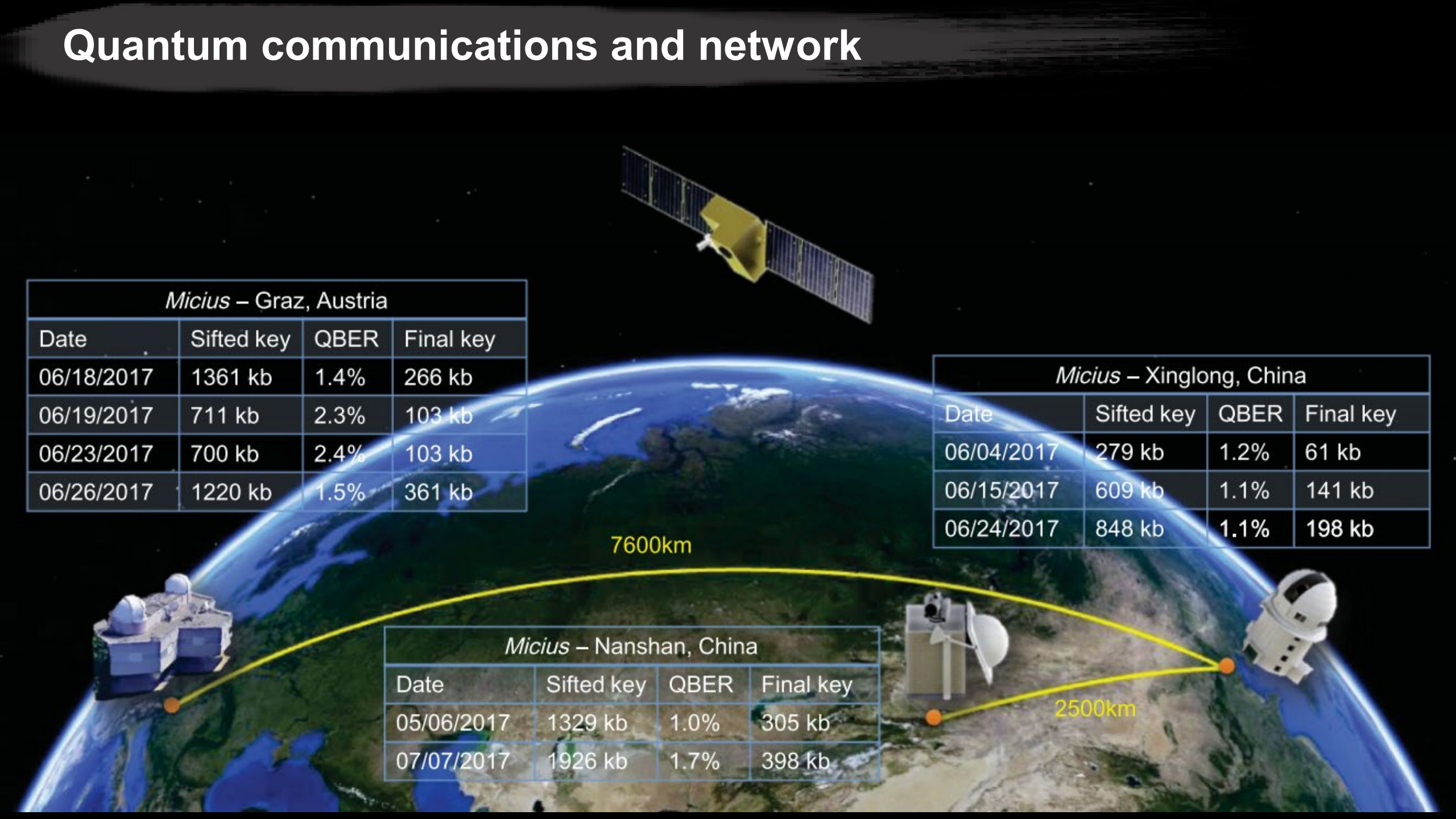
Date	Sifted key	QBER	Final key
06/04/2017	279 kb	1.2%	61 kb
06/15/2017	609 kb	1.1%	141 kb
06/24/2017	848 kb	1.1%	198 kb

Micius – Nanshan, China

Date	Sifted key	QBER	Final key
05/06/2017	1329 kb	1.0%	305 kb
07/07/2017	1926 kb	1.7%	398 kb

7600km

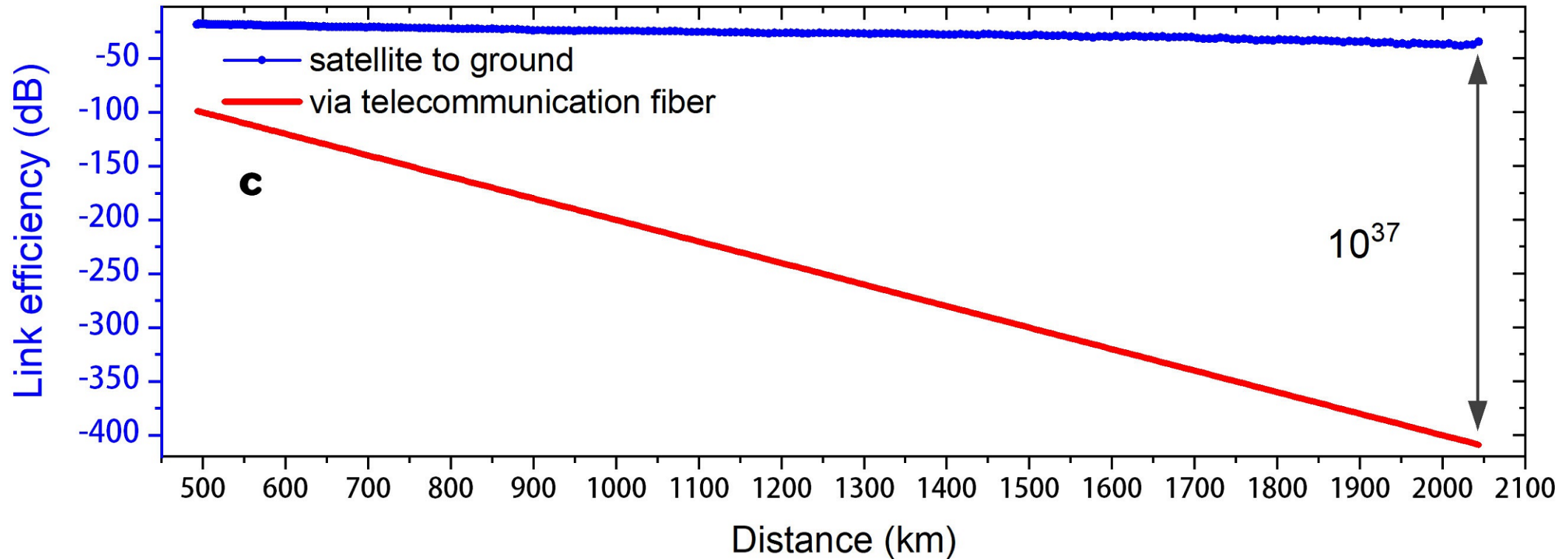
2500km



The second quantum communication satellite, named “Jinan”, a city in China, is launched in 27 July 2022.



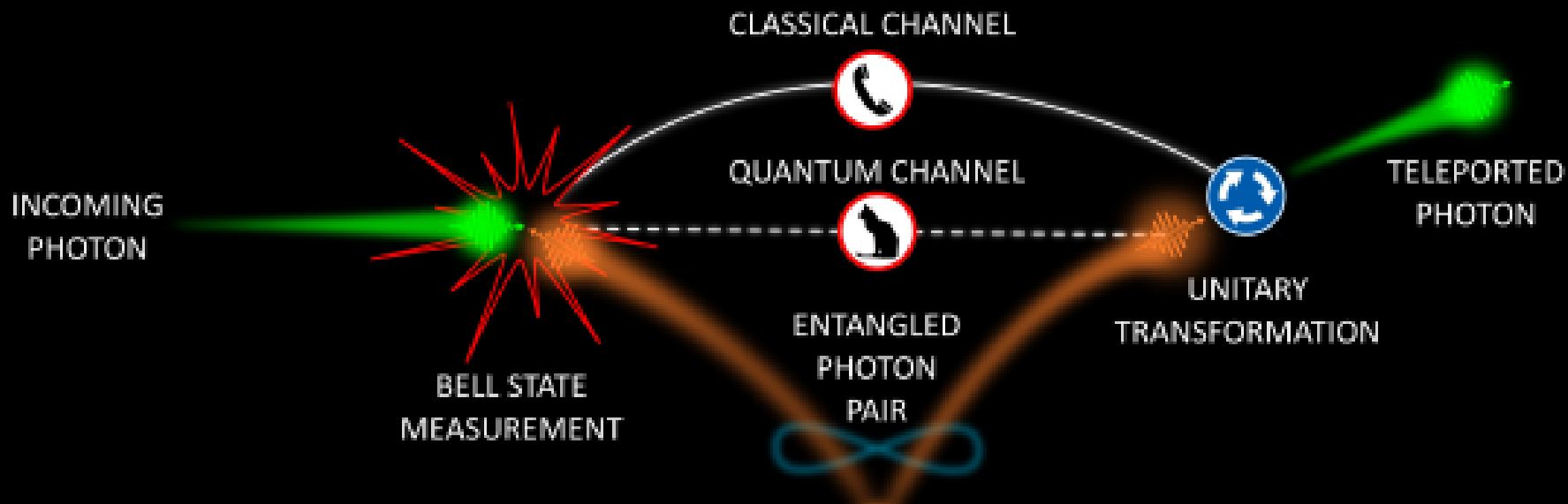
Why satellite? Is optical fiber not good enough?



Photon loss is the biggest enemy in quantum communications and optical quantum computation...

Speaking of long-distance lossless travel...



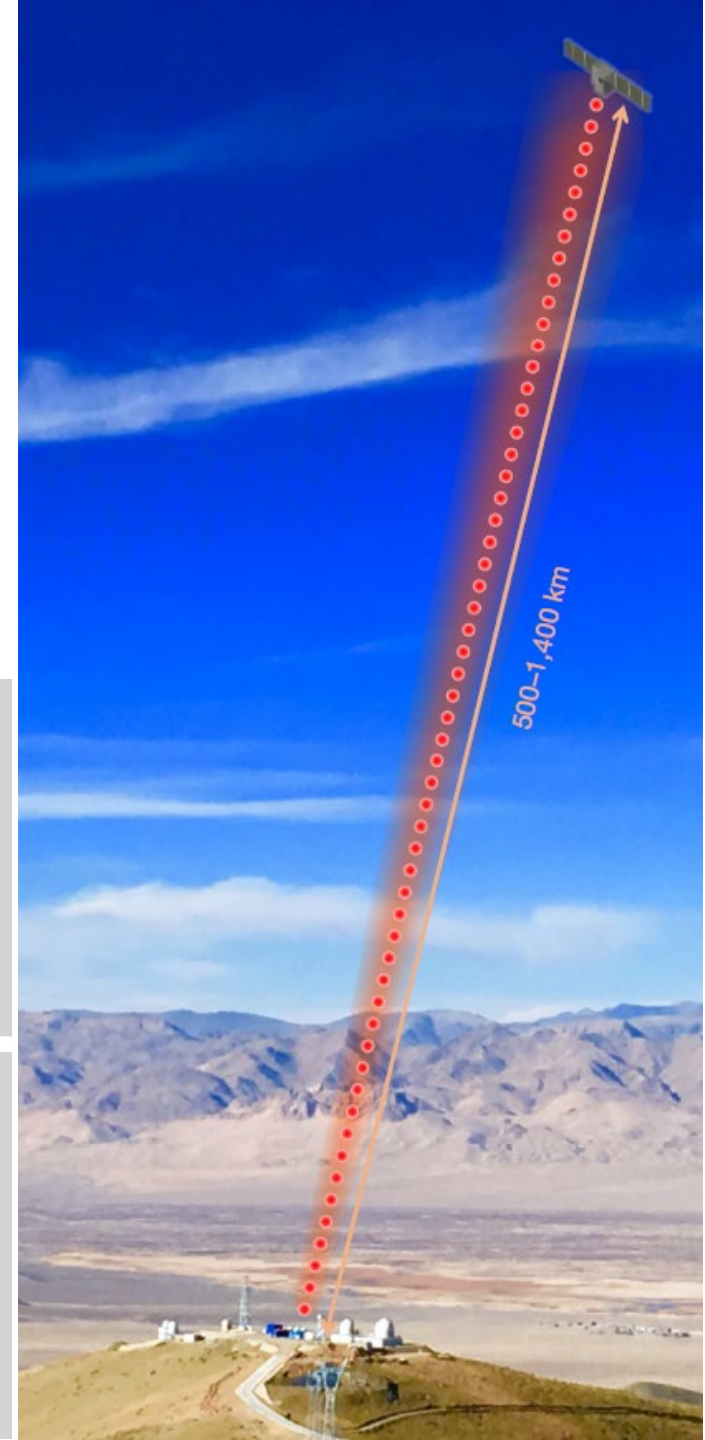
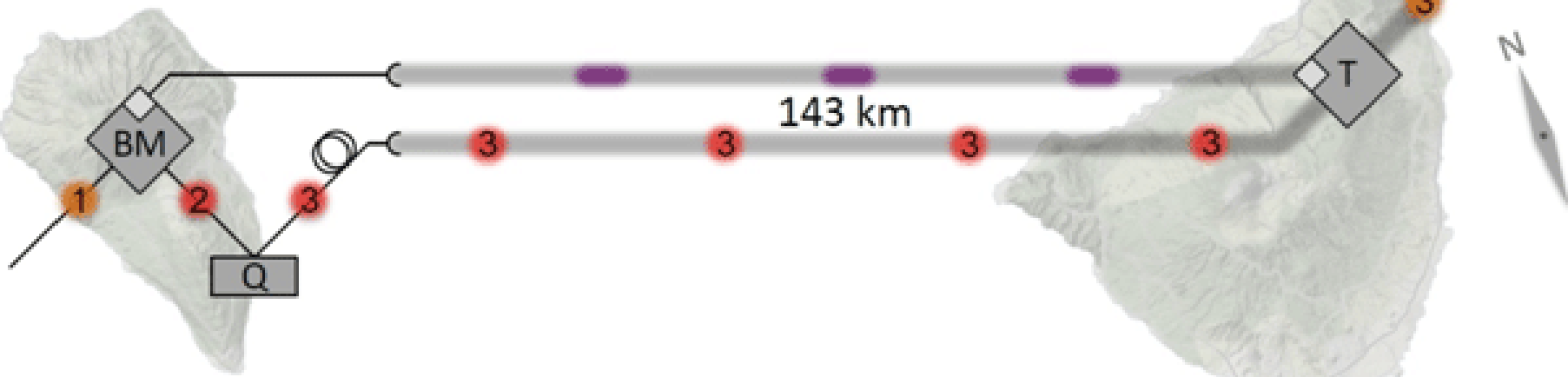


By sharing an entanglement channel and LOCC, quantum teleportation can transfer the quantum state of a photon to a distant location without actually moving the particle.

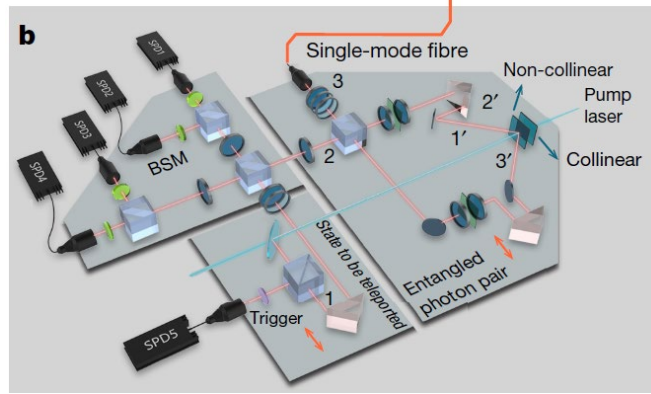
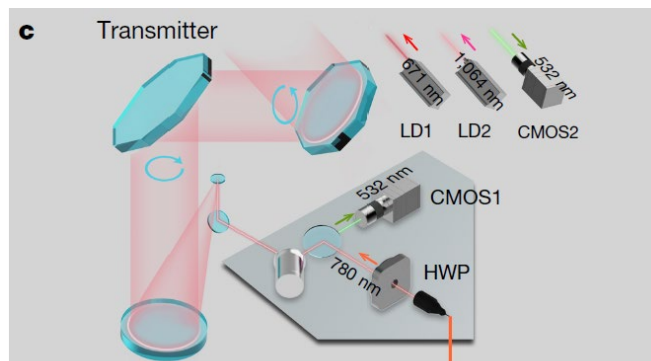
So, lossless already? Not at all....

La Palma

Teneriffa

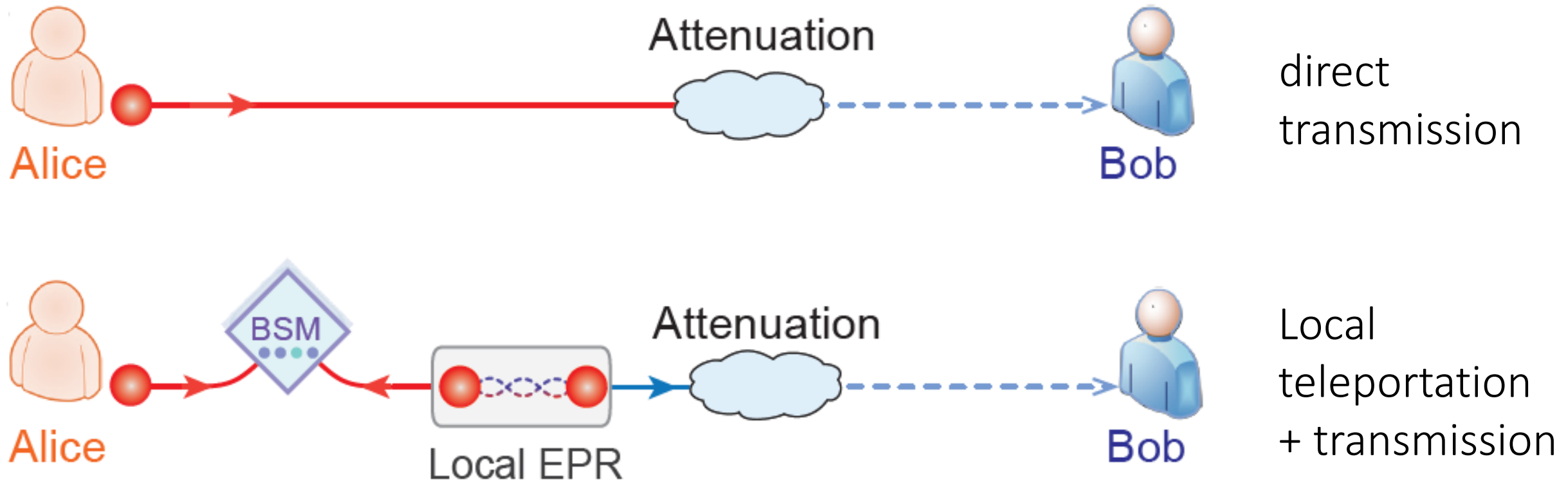


The previous long-distance single photon teleportation experiments are **actually**:
local teleportation + long-distance transmission of the teleported photon!



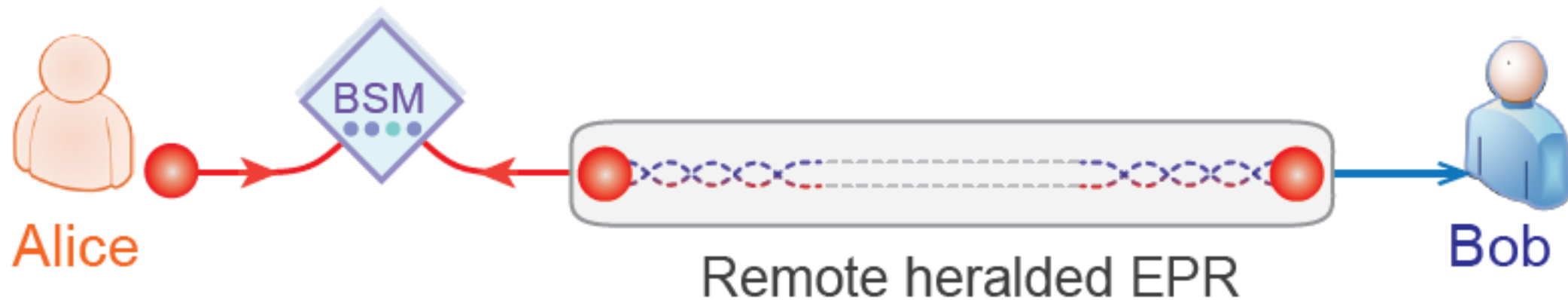
Quantum teleportation advantage?

By using teleportation, the single photon has a better survival probability than using direct transmission.



Do it the right way:

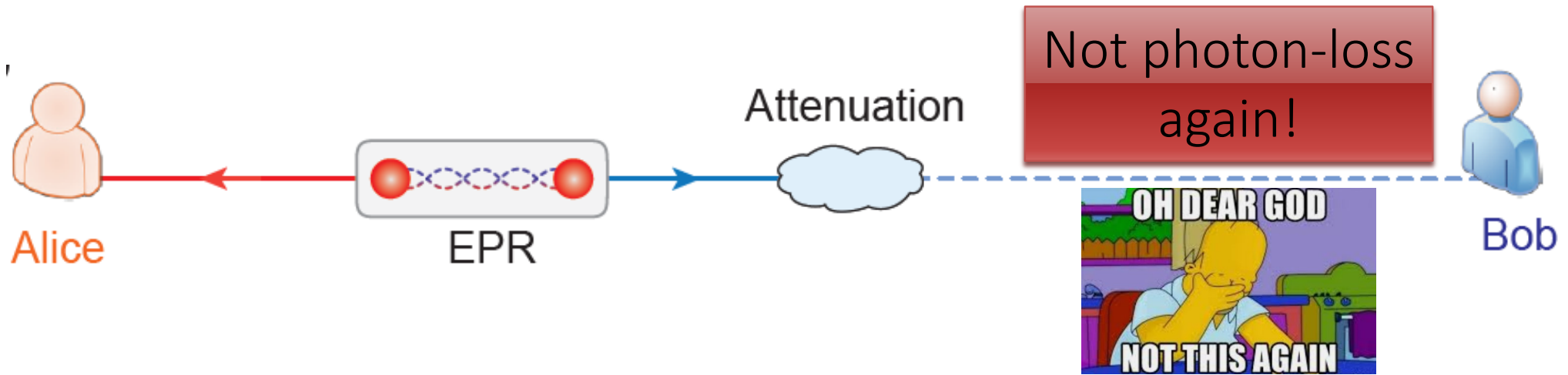
Prior distributed entangled photons with high heralding efficiency, then teleportation



How to do this?



Remote heralded EPR



Alice

EPR

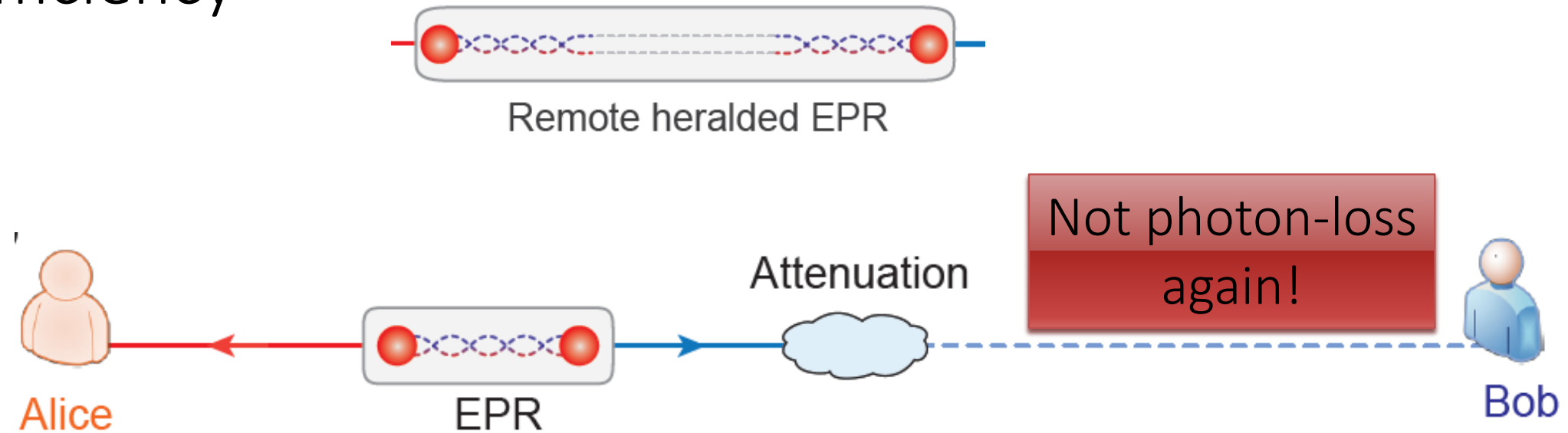
Attenuation

Not photon-loss
again!

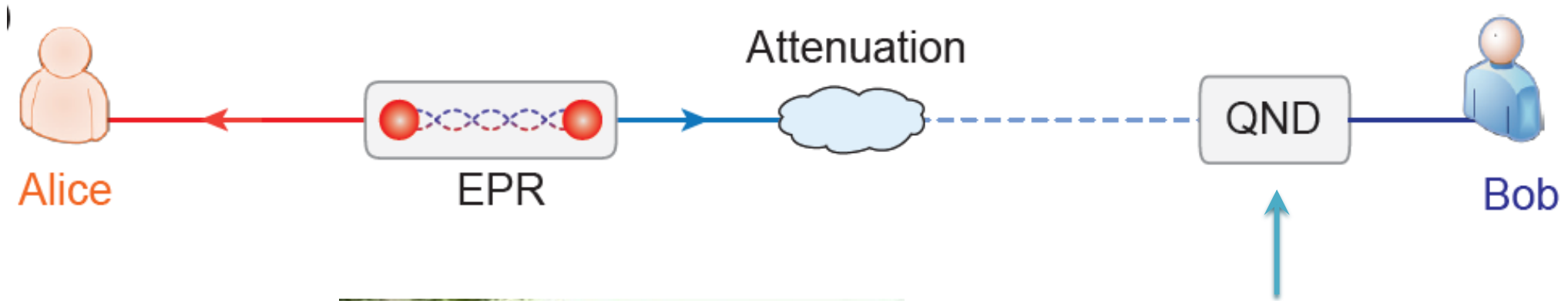
Bob



Prior distributed entangled photons with high heralding efficiency

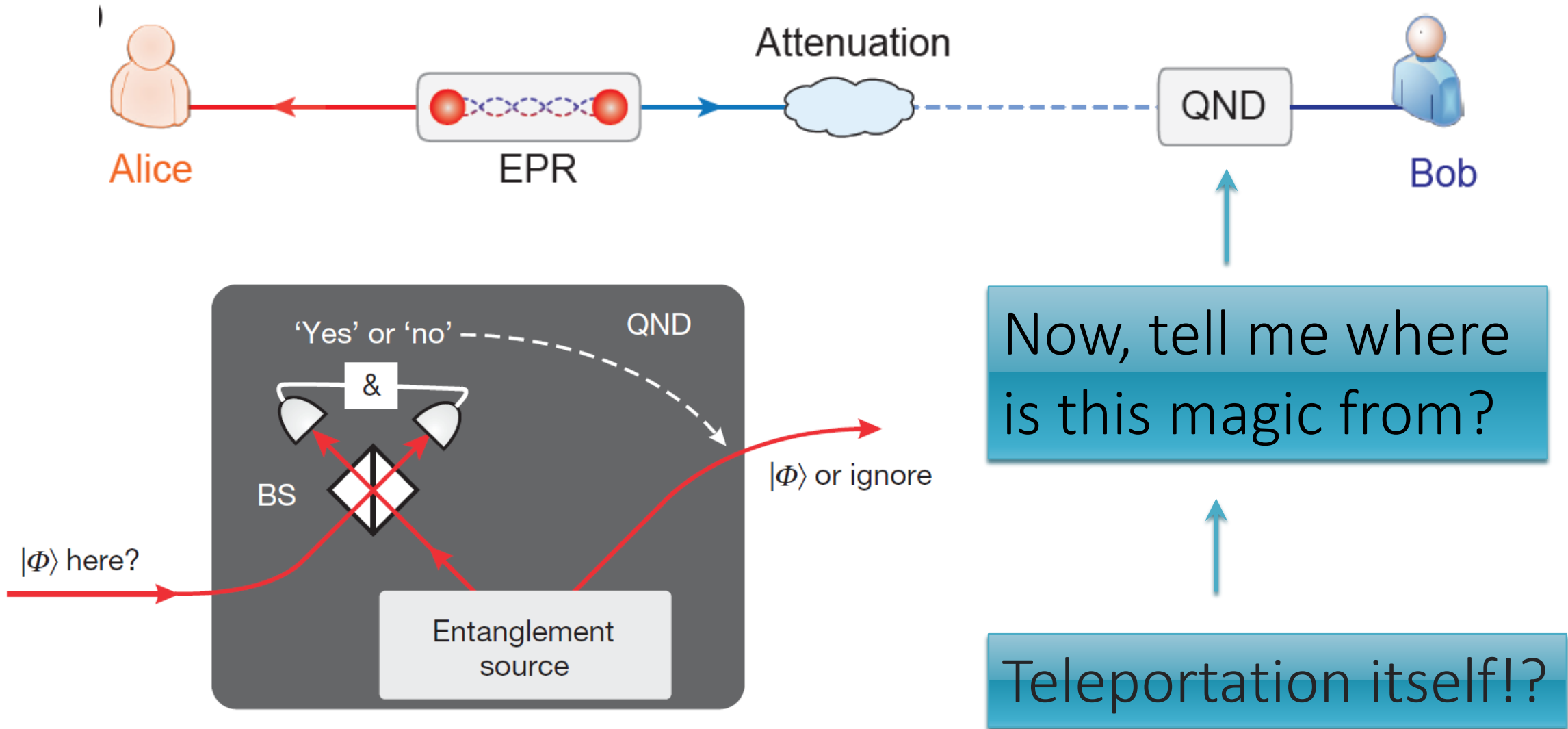


What if, you have this magic, to see a photon but without destroying it?



Now, tell me where is this magic from?

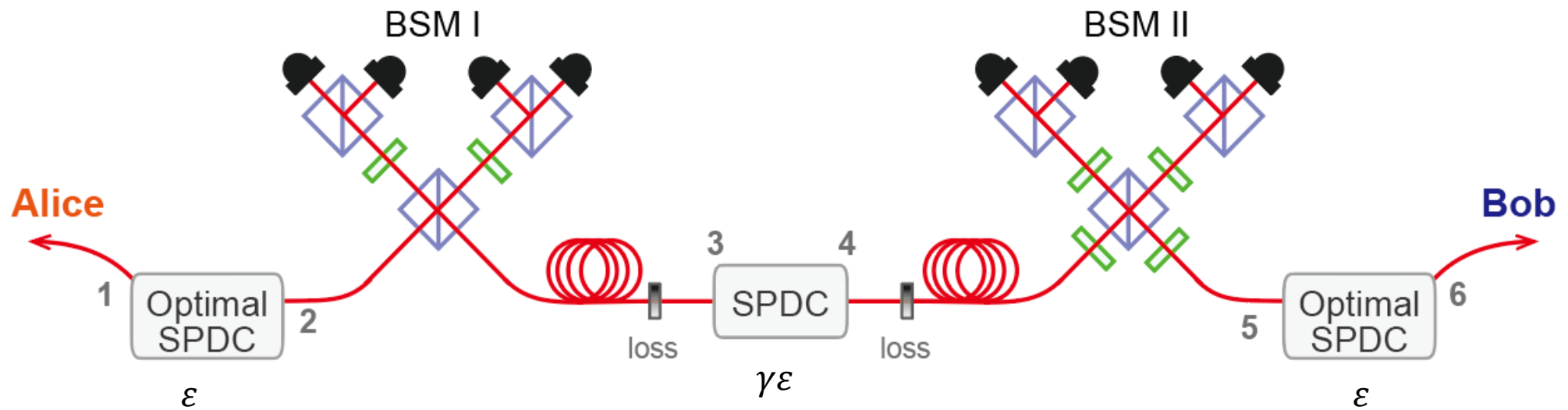
Teleportation itself!?



In principle, OK

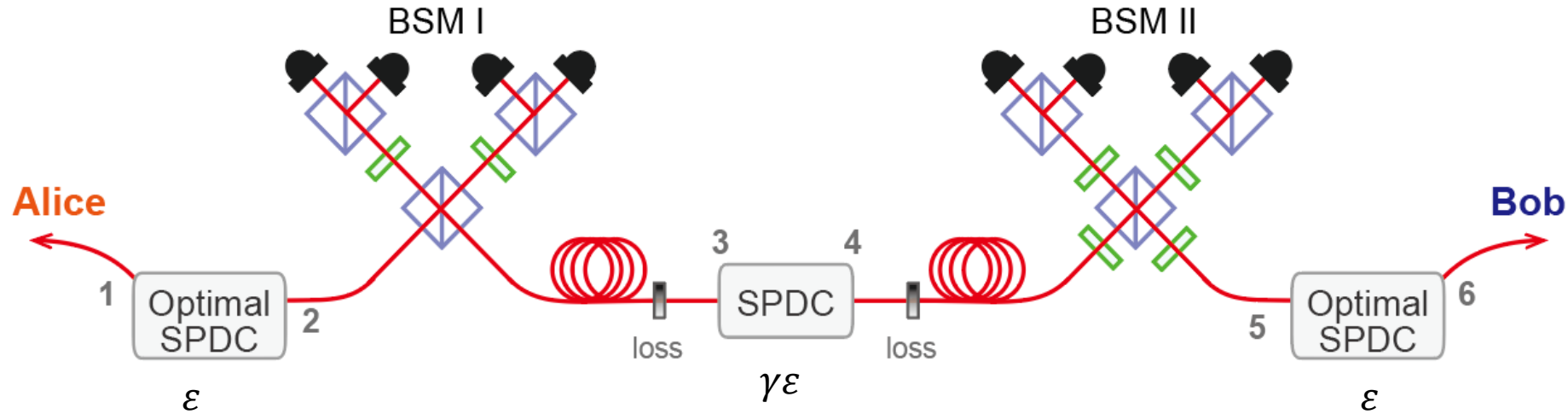
But in practice, two technological problems:

1. Probabilistic and multi-pair emission of SPDC



Noise: (1-2) 2 pairs, (3-4) 1 pairs, (5-6) 0 pairs;
(1-2) 0 pairs, (3-4) 1 pairs, (5-6) 2 pairs;
(1-2) 2 pairs, (3-4) 0 pairs, (5-6) 2 pairs;

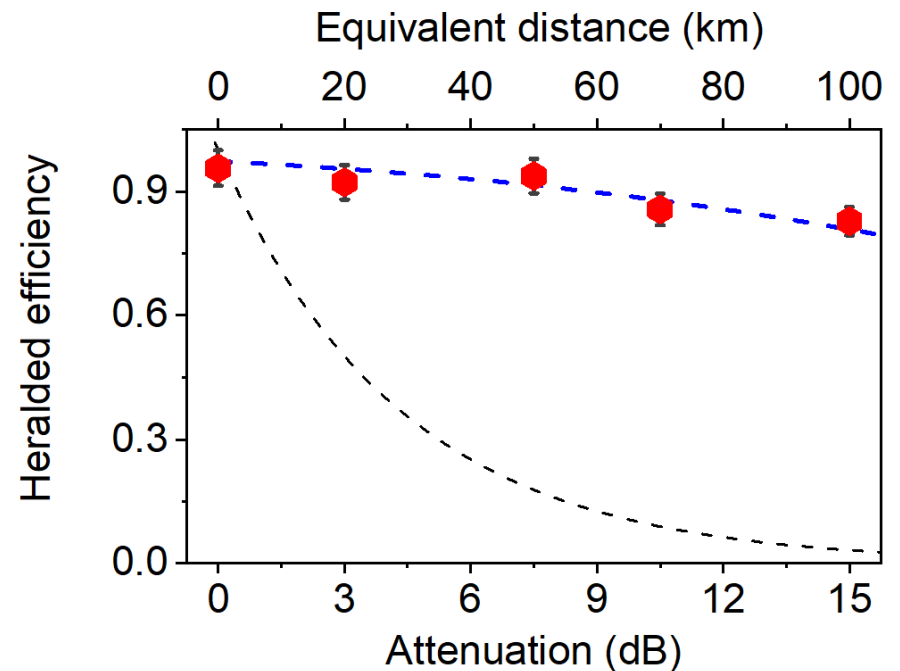
1. Probabilistic and multi-pair emission of SPDC



Trigger event sets: (from left to right)

	Generation	Probability
Signal	{1, 1, 1}	$p_0 \approx \gamma \varepsilon^3 \eta / 4.$
Noise 1	{2, 0, 2}	$p_1 \approx \varepsilon^4 / 16.$
Noise 2	{1, 2, 0} & {0, 2, 1}	$p_2 \approx \frac{18}{224} \eta^2 \gamma^2 \varepsilon^3 + \frac{6}{28} \eta^2 (1 - \sqrt{\eta}) \gamma^2 \varepsilon^3.$

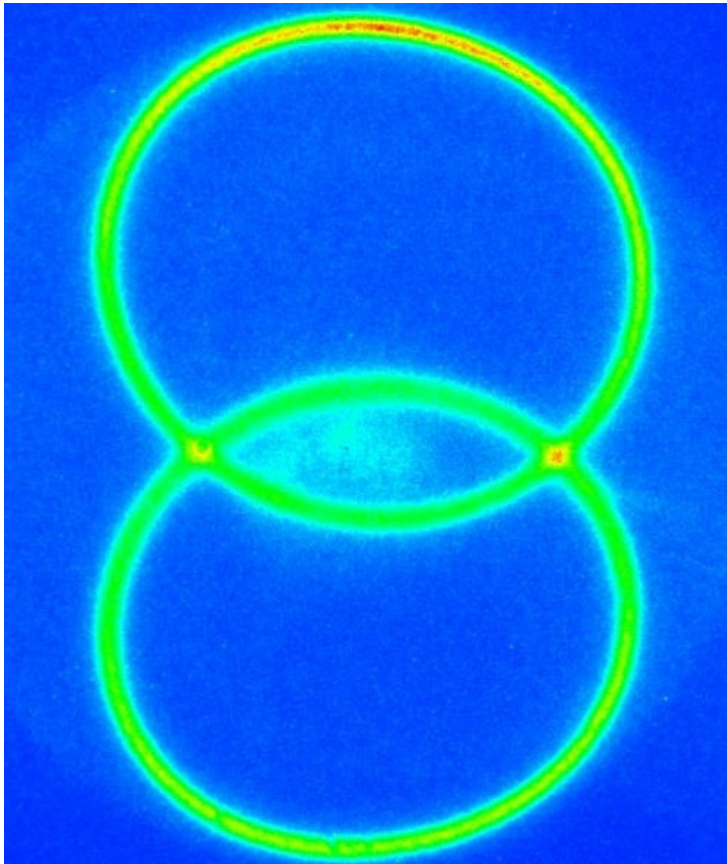
Success rate = $p_0 / (p_0 + p_1 + p_2).$



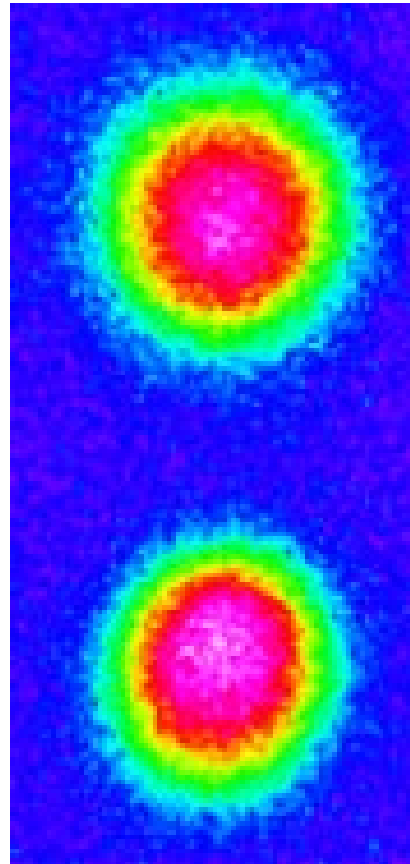
2. Telecom SPDC entangled photon pairs with high indistinguishability and high heralding efficiency



8-photon entanglement,
Nature Photonics (2012)

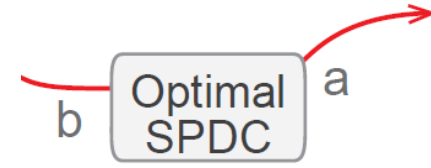


10-photon entanglement,
Phys. Rev. Lett. (2016)



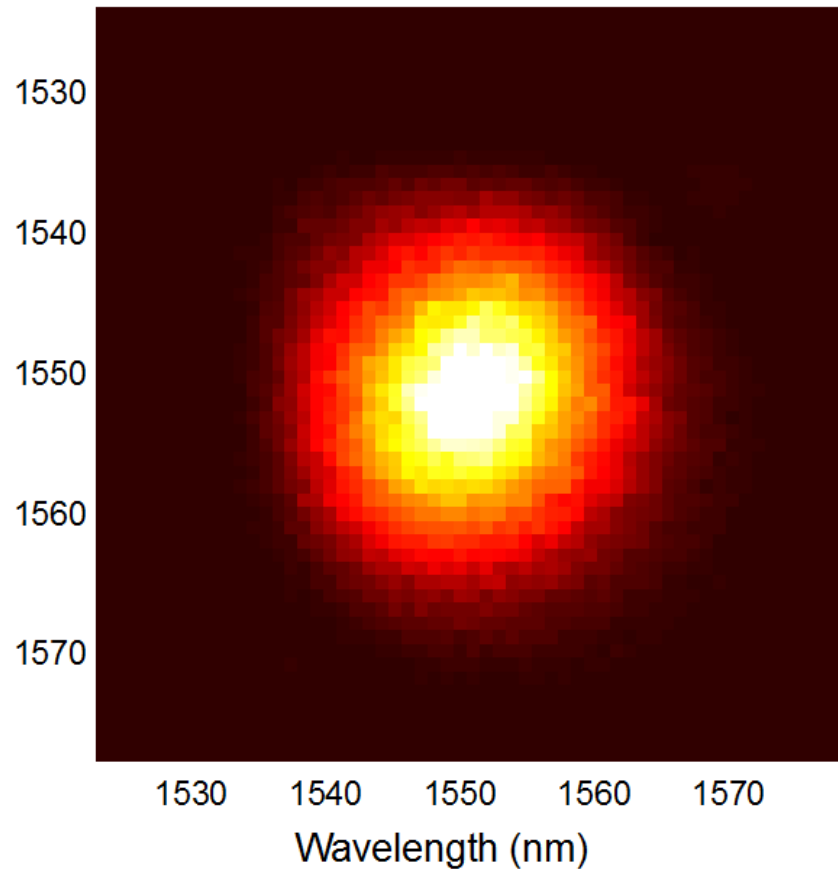
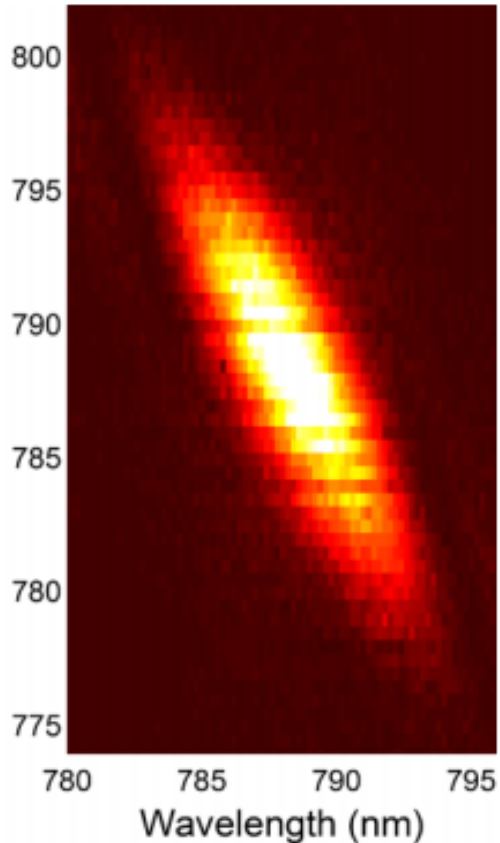
- Key technique: beamlike type-II SPDC emitting as two separate circular beams in a Gaussian-like intensity distribution
- Increasing the collection efficiency to 70%, with an indistinguishability of $\sim 91\%$ simultaneously
- 4 times brighter entangled photon source than the 8-photon source, by using only 65% pump power

2. Telecom SPDC entangled photon pairs with high indistinguishability and high heralding efficiency



10-photon entanglement,
Phys. Rev. Lett. (2016)

12-photon entanglement,
Zhong et al. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* (2018)

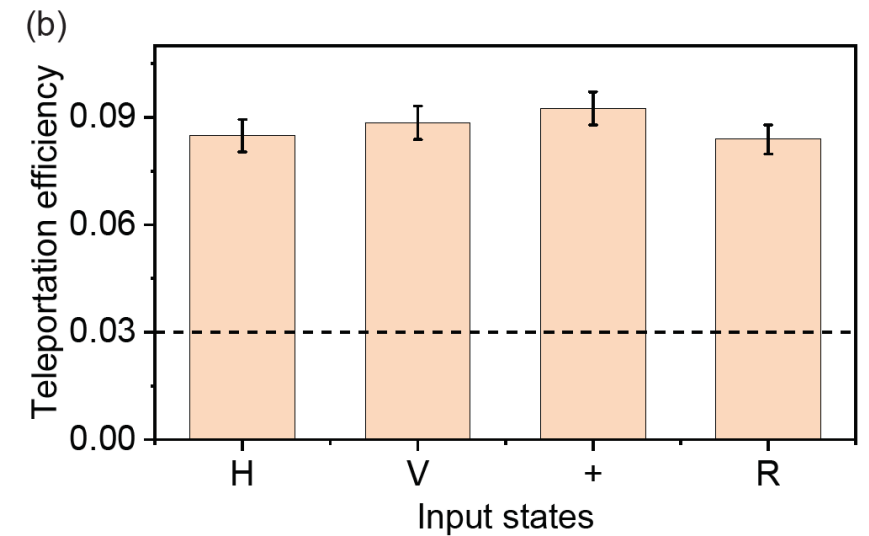
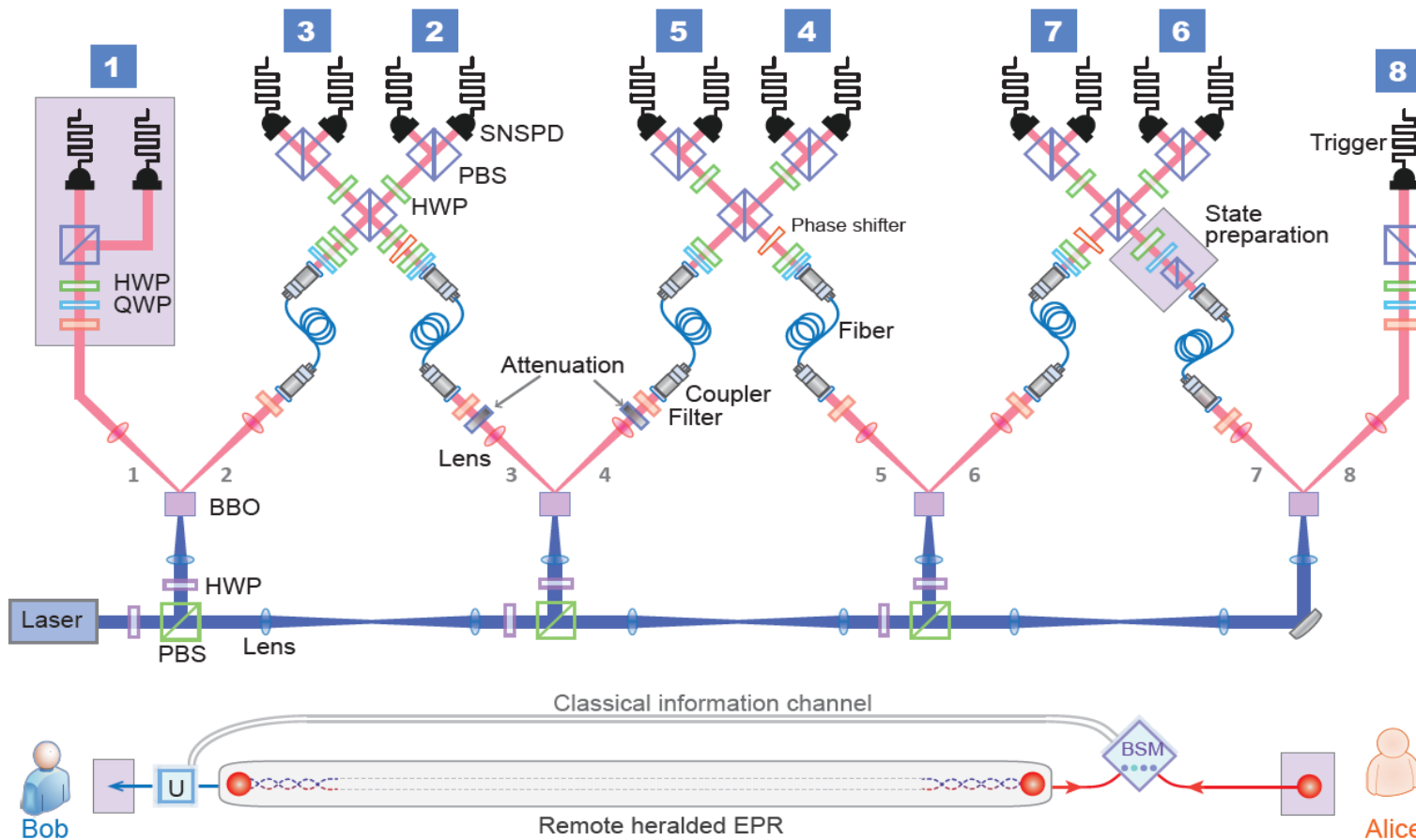


- Key technique: frequency uncorrelated & beamlike SPDC
- Simultaneously 97% heralding efficiency and 96% indistinguishability between independent single photons
- “Make SPDC great again” CYL 15/03/2018 QCMC



Quantum teleportation advantage

By using teleportation, the single photon has a better survival probability than using direct transmission.



Manuscript submitted (2022)

Quantum information technologies with photons

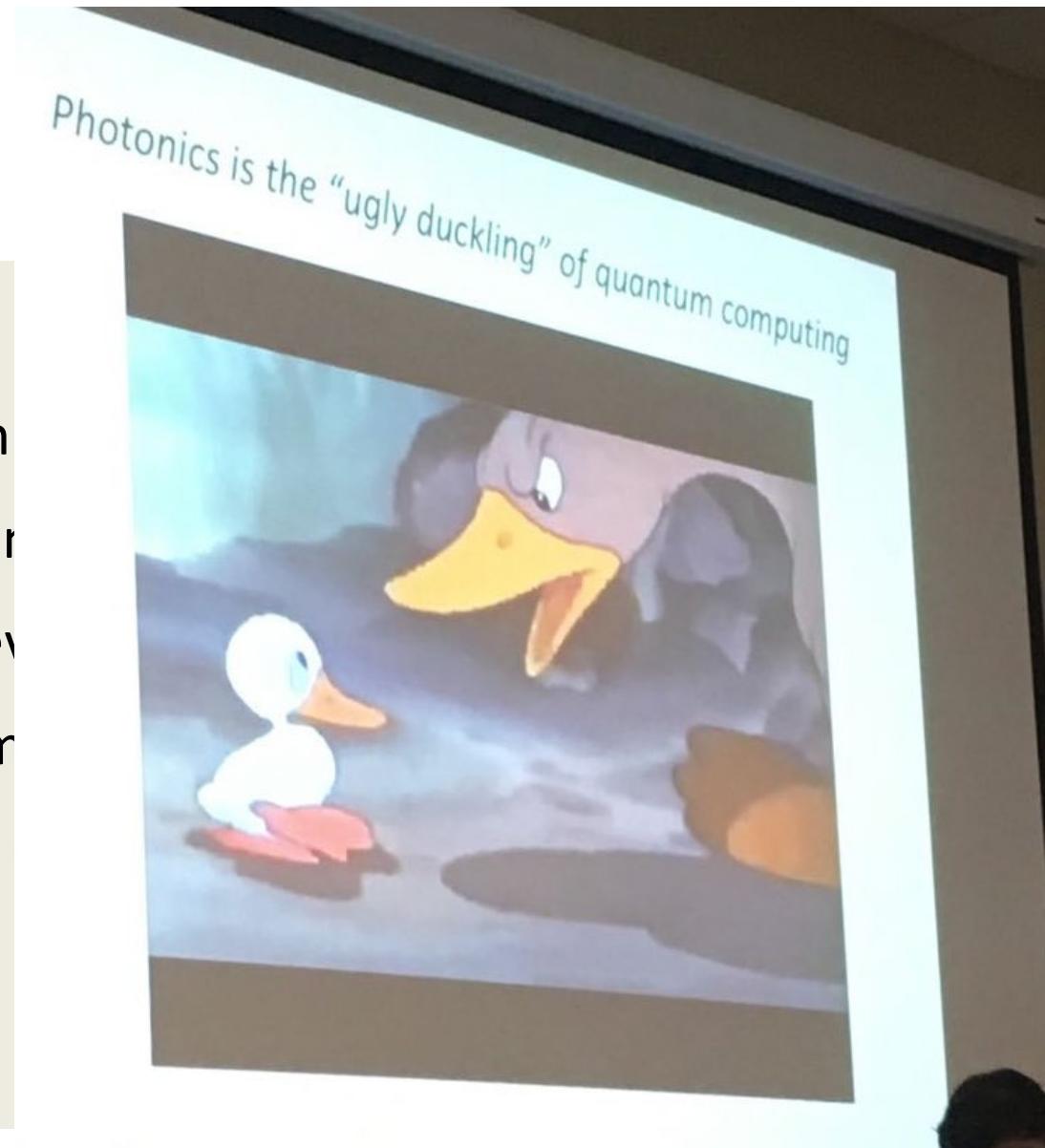
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Why do people dislike photons?

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Two remarkable insights reshaped our view on photonic quantum computing

Knill Laflamme Milburn (2001)

You can get the required nonlinearity from single-photon detection, boost the CNOT success rate using ancillary single photons, teleportation, and QEC...

But, although with huge overhead reduction (10^5 to 10^2 per gate), this scheme is still very, very, very out of the reach of the current technologies.

Aaronson Arkhipov (2011):

Remarkable (and surprising to us) computational power from seeming simple linear optics networks!

Greatly relaxed experimental demands (get rid of the most challenging parts).

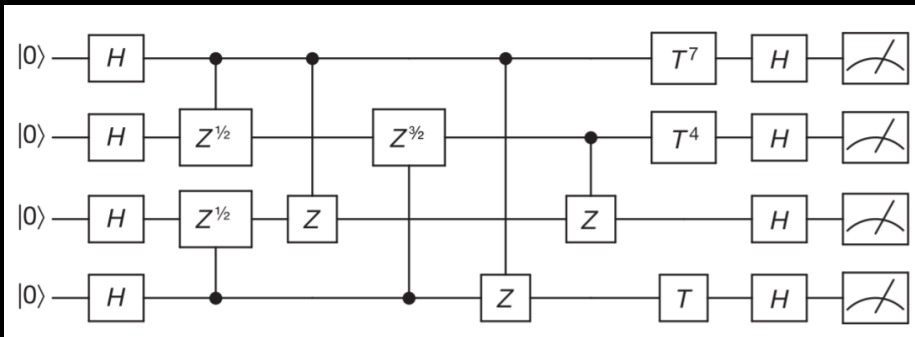
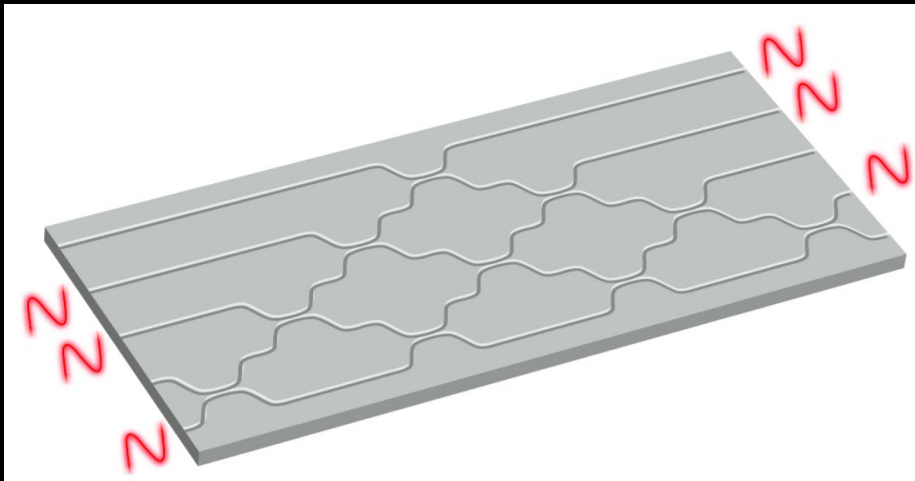
Achievable
goals, the first
step to self
improvement



J.K. Rowling Harvard Commencement Speech 2008

Quantum computational advantage/supremacy

- Boson sampling
- IQP
- Random circuit sampling



50-100 physical qubits with ~1% error rate

Compared to Shor's algorithm:

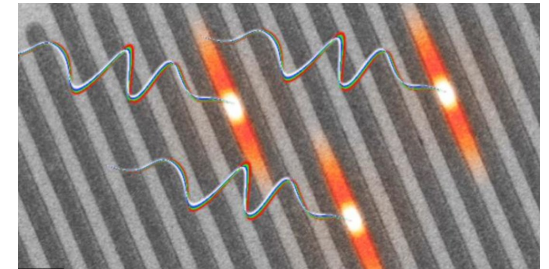
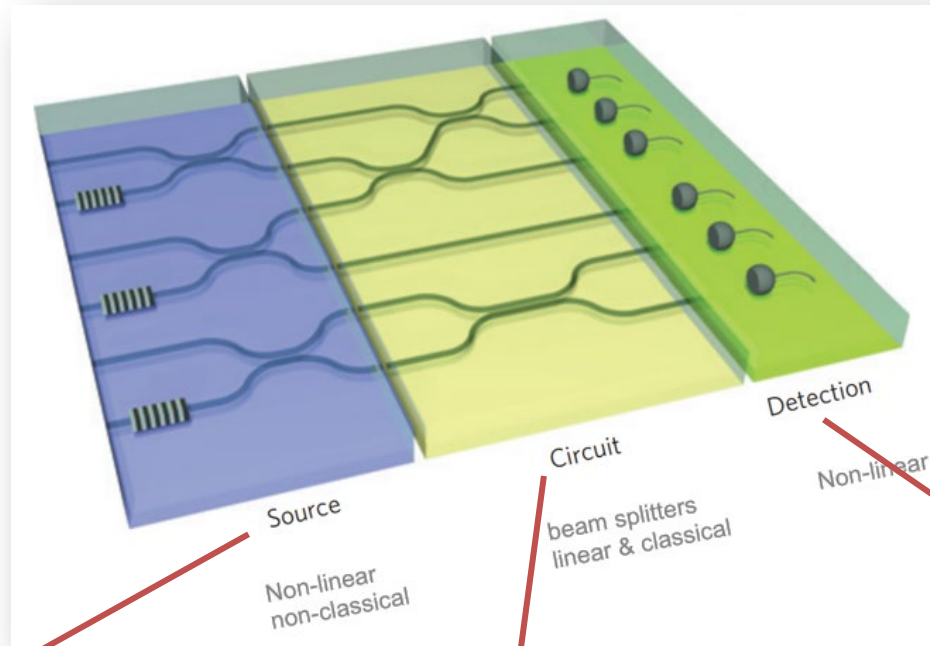
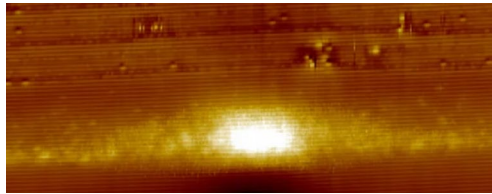
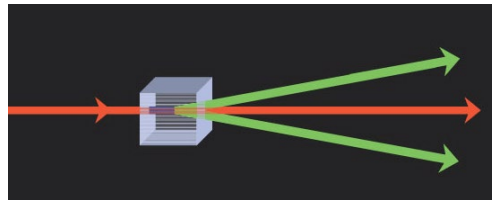
- Much easier to experimentally implement,
- With more compelling complexity-theoretic evidence

Qubit budget for Shor's algorithm

Historical cost estimate at $n = 2048$	Physical gate error rate	Physical qubits (millions)
Fowler et al. 2012 [9]	0.1%	1000
O'Gorman et al. 2017 [18]	0.1%	230
Gheorghiu et al. 2019 [19]	0.1%	170
(ours) 2019 (1 factory)	0.1%	16
(ours) 2019 (1 thread)	0.1%	19
(ours) 2019 (parallel)	0.1%	20

Gidney et al. <https://arxiv.org/abs/1905.09749>

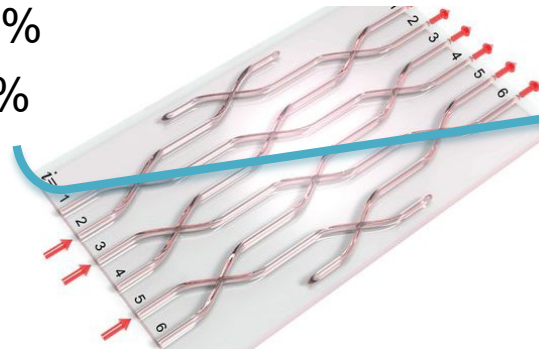
In 2013...



Counts ~600,000/s
Indistinguishability ~90%
Source efficiency ~0.8%

Circuit efficiency: 10%-30%

Detection efficiency: 85-90%



30-photon boson sampling

$\sim 10^{-100}$ Hz

BosonSampling Experiments

Last year, groups in Brisbane, Oxford, Rome, and Vienna reported the first 3- and 4-photon BosonSampling experiments, confirming that the amplitudes were given by 3×3 and 4×4 permanents



of experiments \geq # of photons!

BosonSampling Experiments

Last year, groups in Brisbane, Oxford, Rome, and Vienna reported the first 3- and 4-photon BosonSampling experiments, confirming that the amplitudes were given by 3×3 and 4×4 permanents



of experiments \geq # of photons!

Obvious challenge for scaling up: Need n -photon coincidences (requires either postselection or deterministic single-photon sources)

Check list for a *perfect* single-photon source



1. High efficiency



- I. Quantum efficiency—the decay of excited states should predominantly result in an emitted photon.
- II. Deterministic generation—upon a **pulsed** excitation, the source should deterministically emit one photon in a push-button fashion.
- III. High collection efficiency—the radiated photons should be extracted with a high efficiency to a **single spatial mode**.

2. High purity—the emission should have a **vanishing** multi-photon probability. $G^2(0)=0$



3. High indistinguishability—individual photons emitted at different trials should be quantum mechanically **identical** to each other in **all degree of freedom (time, frequency etc.)**

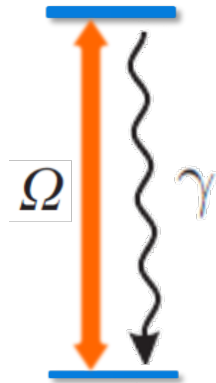
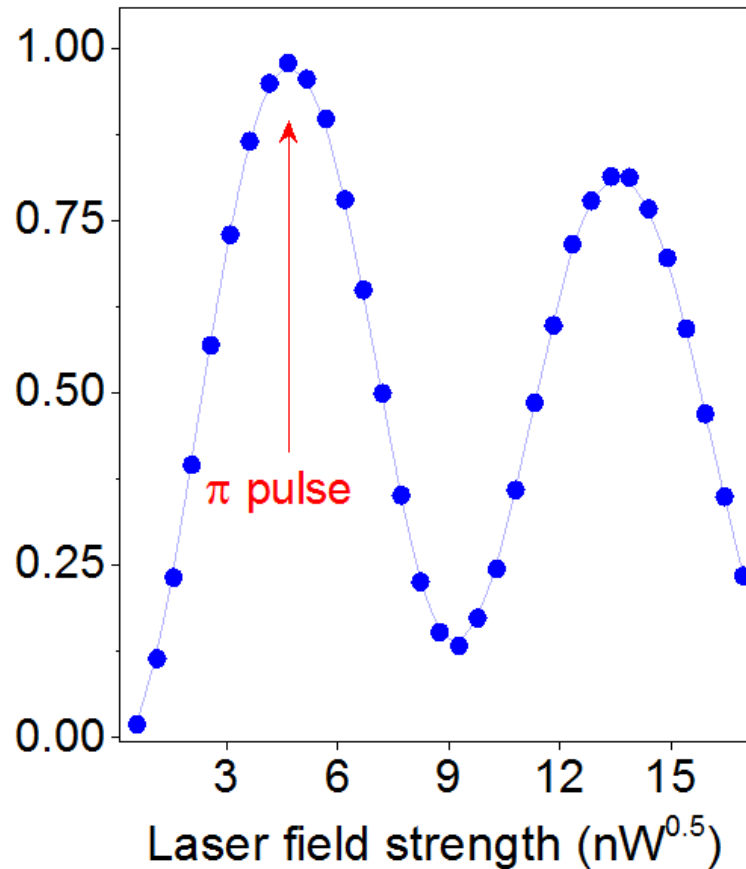


Check list for a *perfect* single-photon source



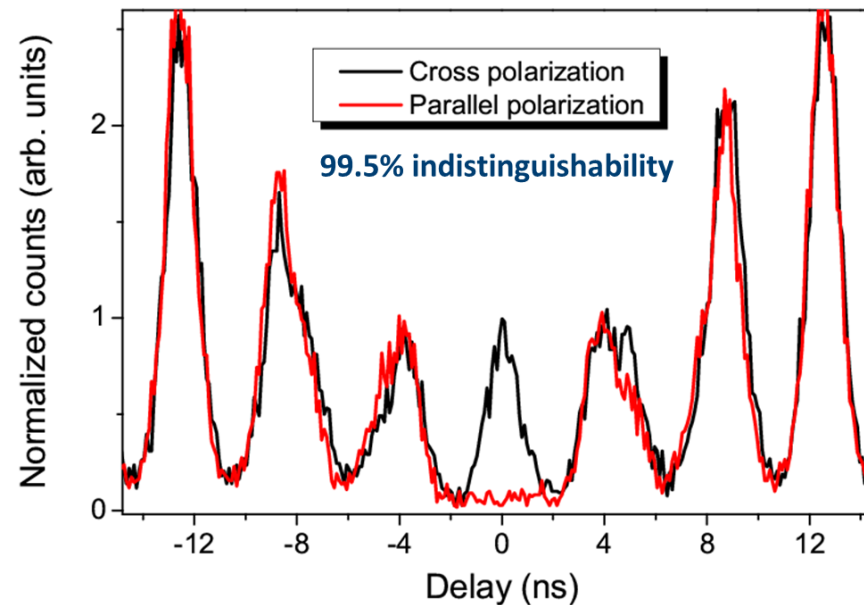
Getting them all working together is difficult...

Pulsed resonance fluorescence

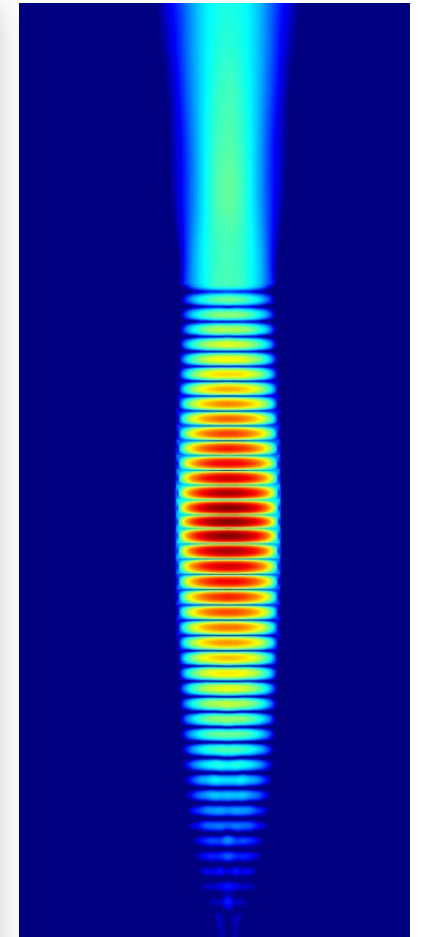
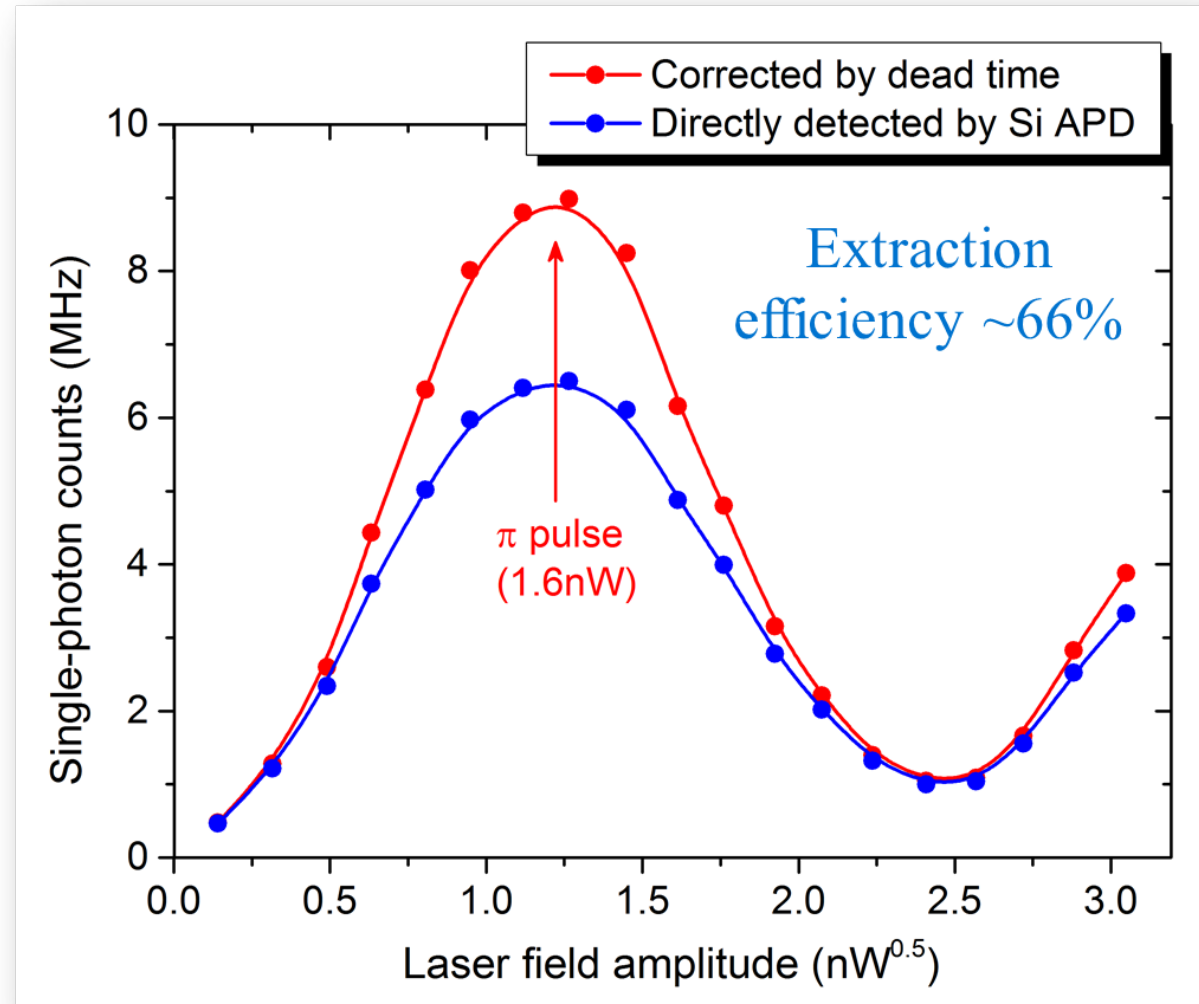
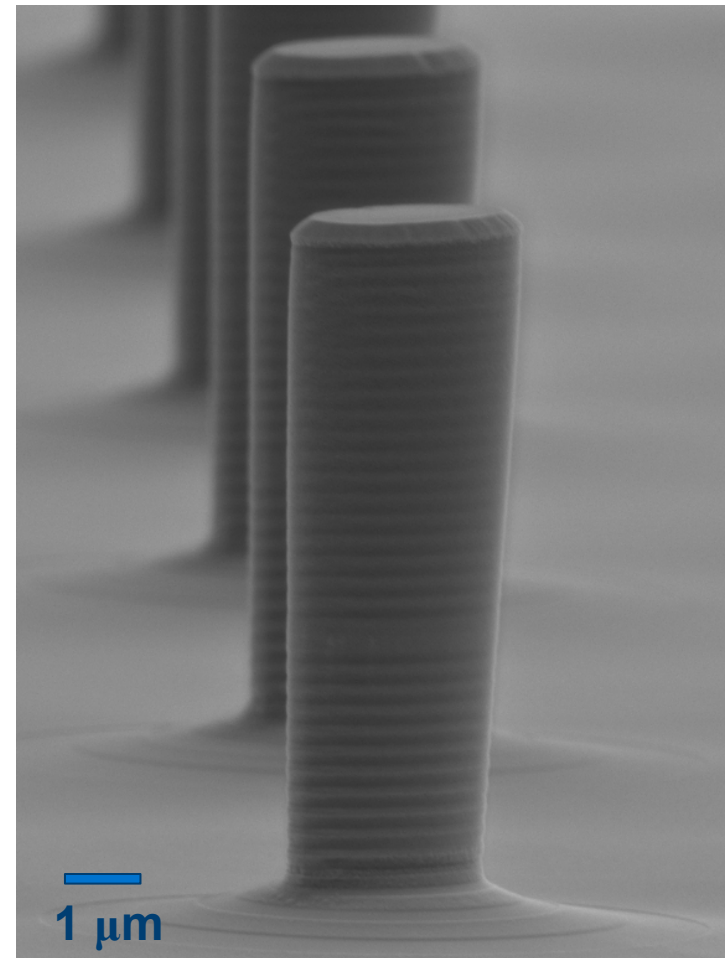


Coherent drive, no time jitter

Pump power ~ 4 orders of magnitude lower, deterministic

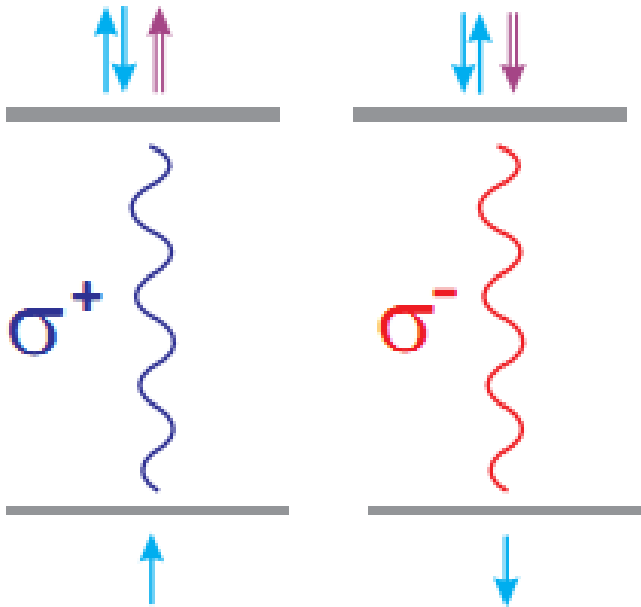


Quantum dot in a micropillar



Ding *et al.* PRL **116**, 020401 (2016)

The last-mile, “50%” efficiency, problem



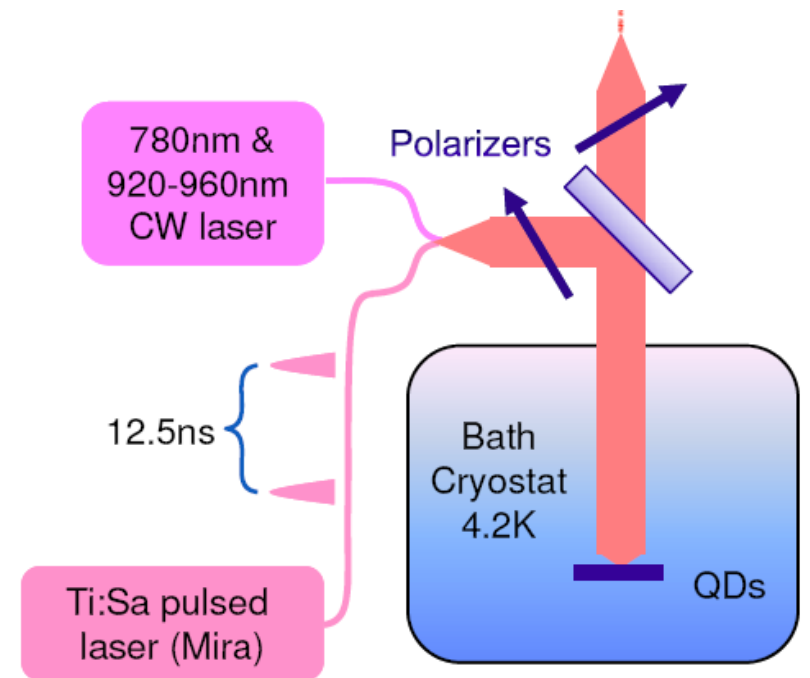
Degenerate two-level system, emit single photons randomly at left or right circular polarization.

→ Polarization filtering with 50% loss



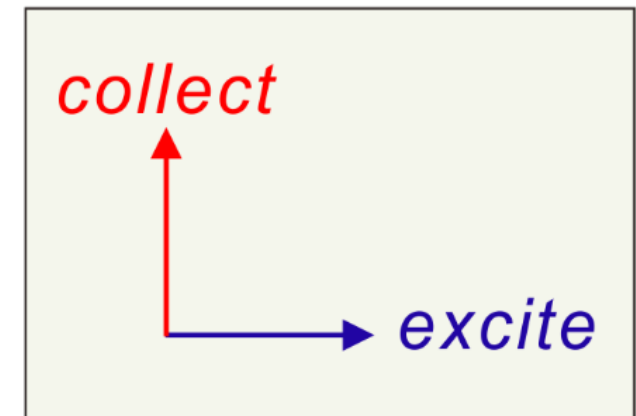
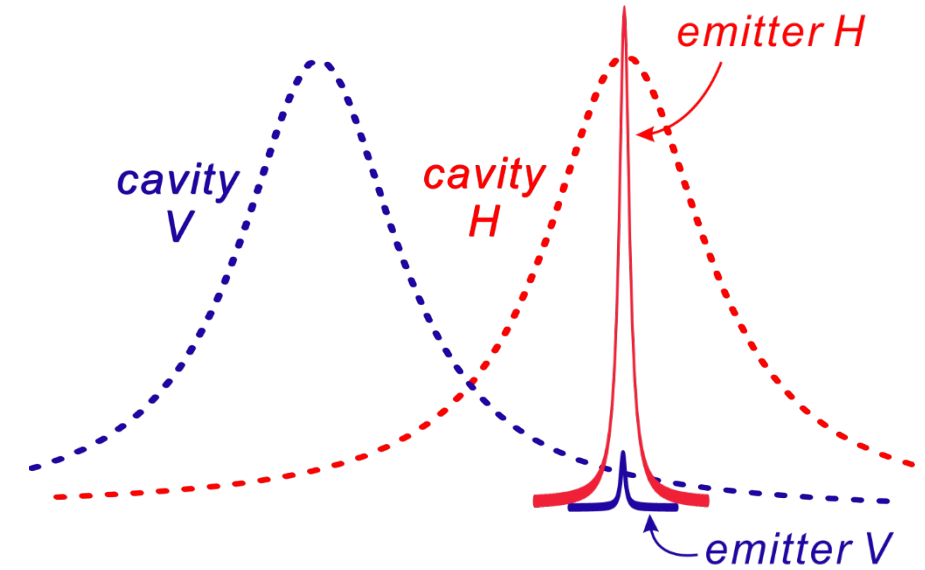
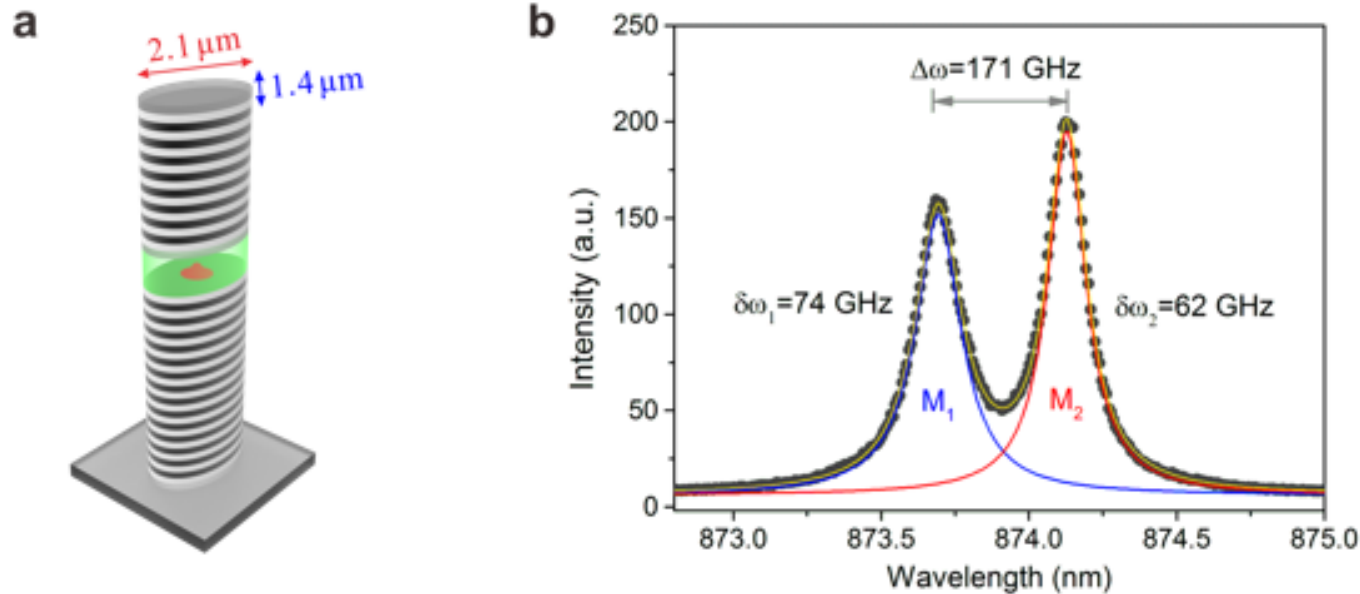
Cross-polarization to extinguish the huge excitation laser background

→ Polarization filtering with 50% loss

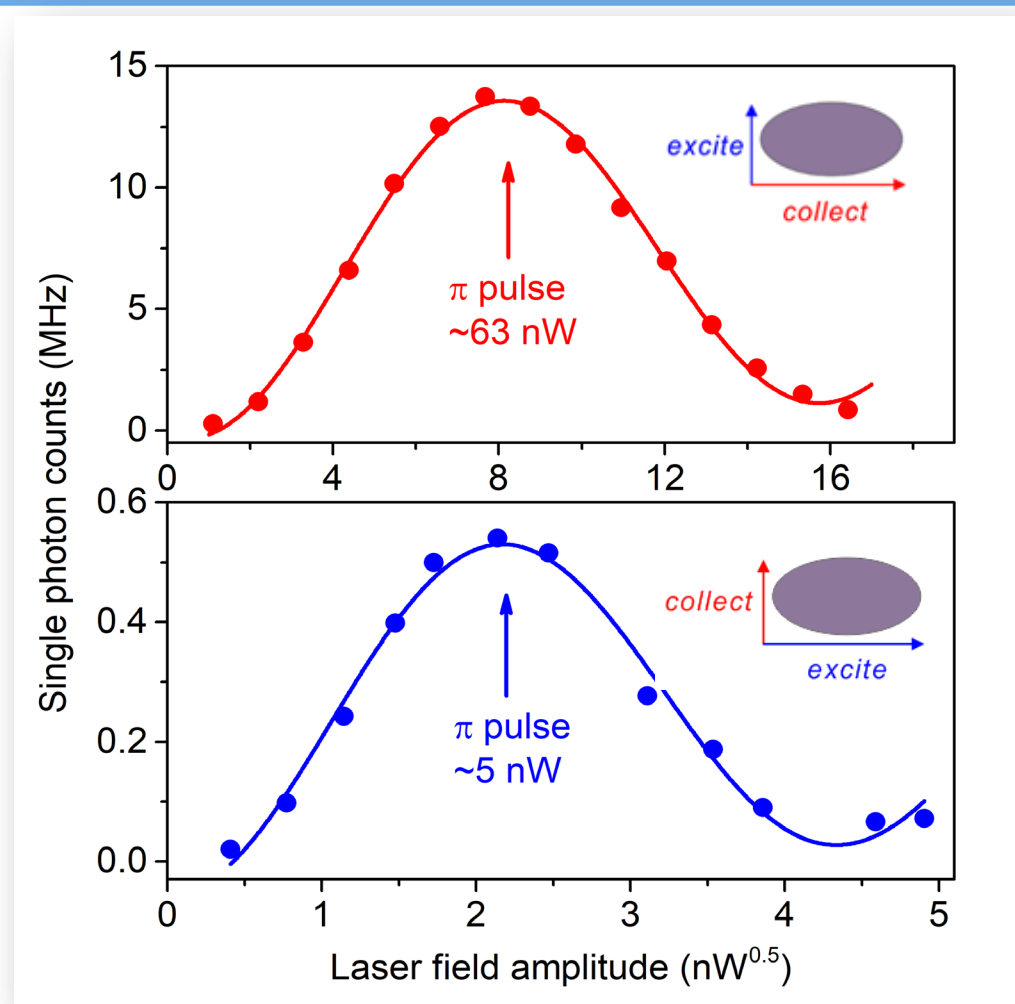
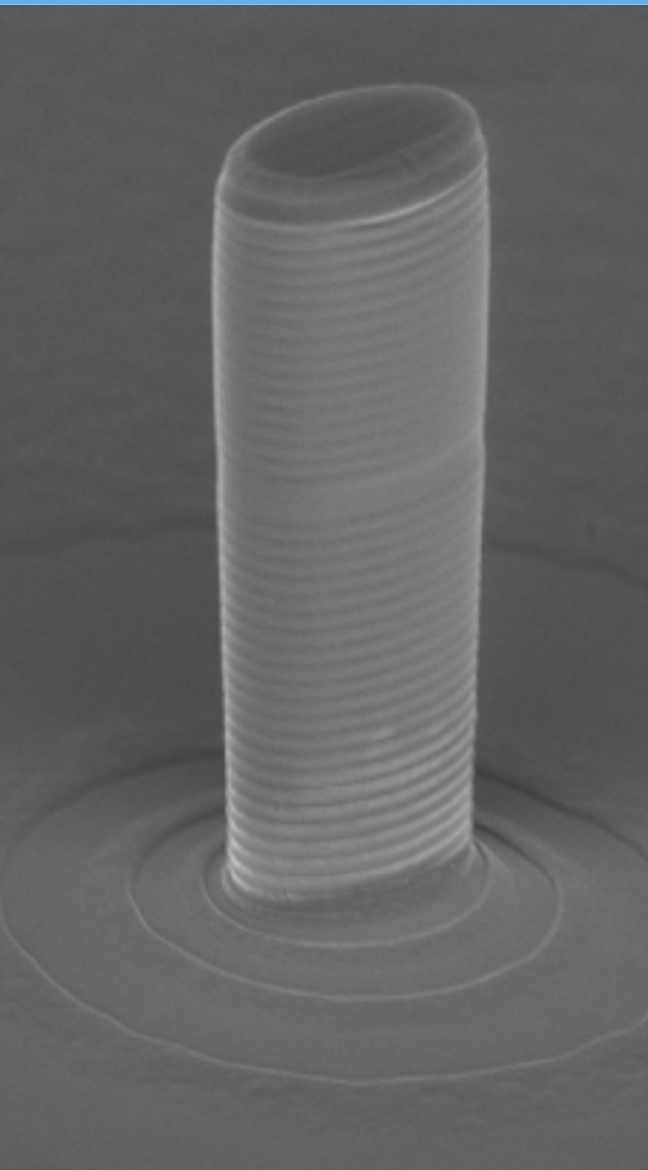


Polarized microcavity: Kill two birds with one stone

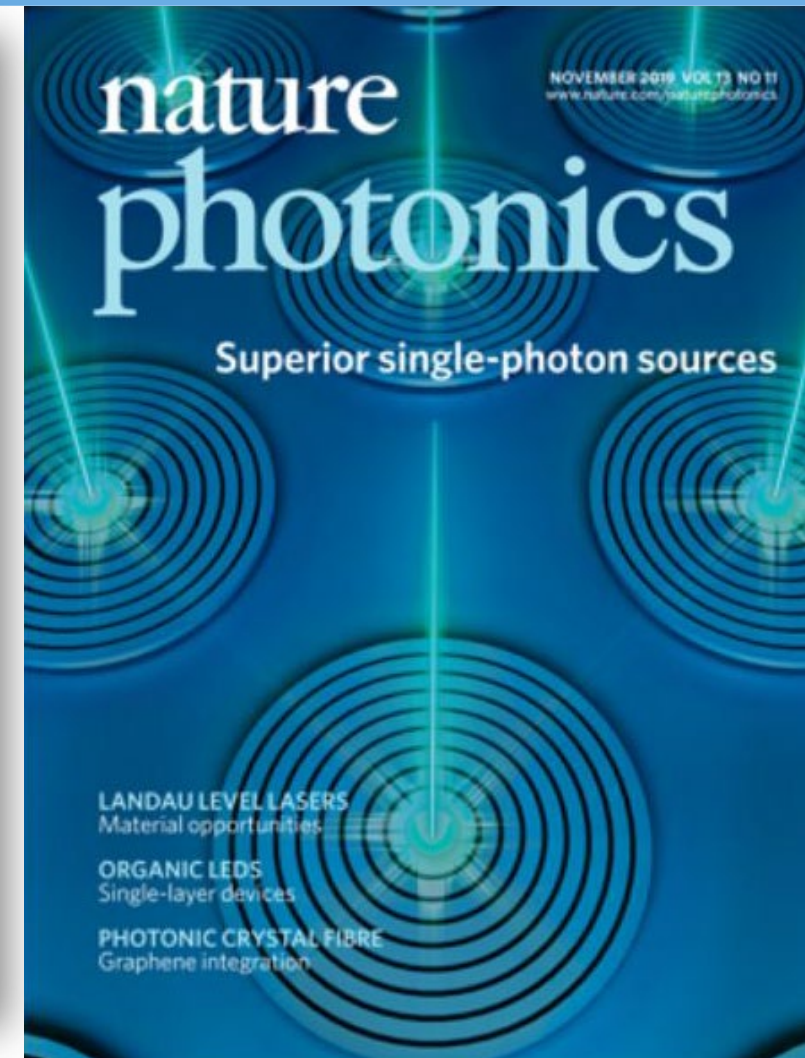
- Breaking the symmetry of the microcavity
- Polarization-selective Purcell enhancement
- Orthogonal excitation-collection geometry



Polarized indistinguishable single photons



Purity 99%, Indistinguishability 97%





Wang et al., Nature Photonics 13, 770 (2019)

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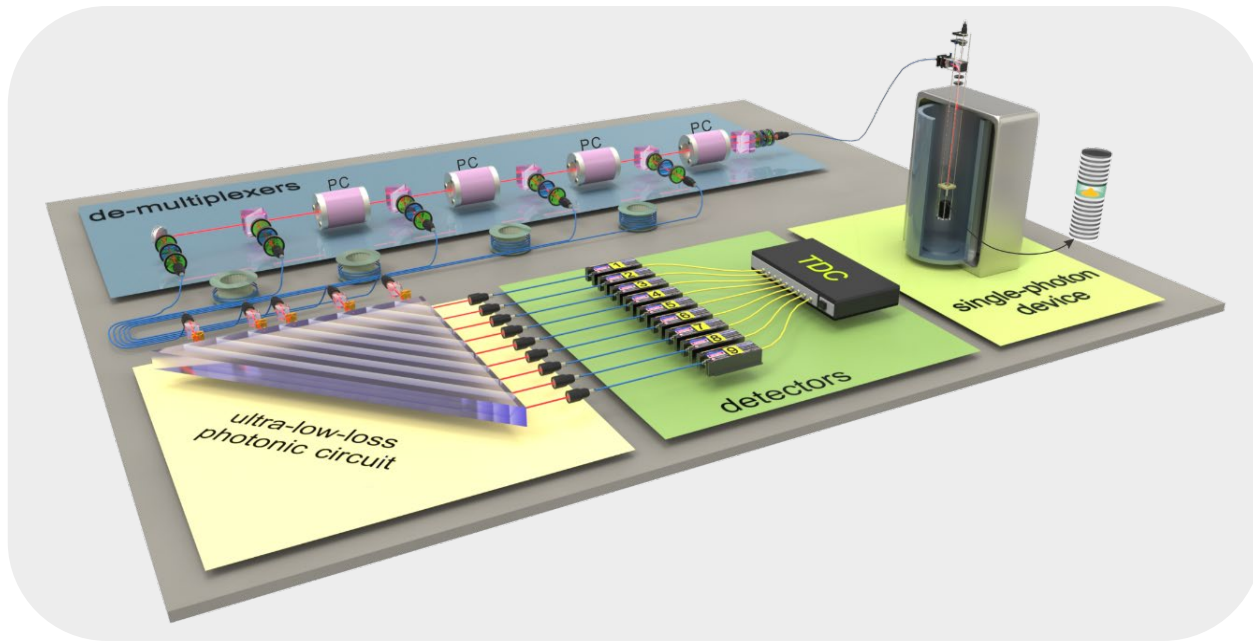
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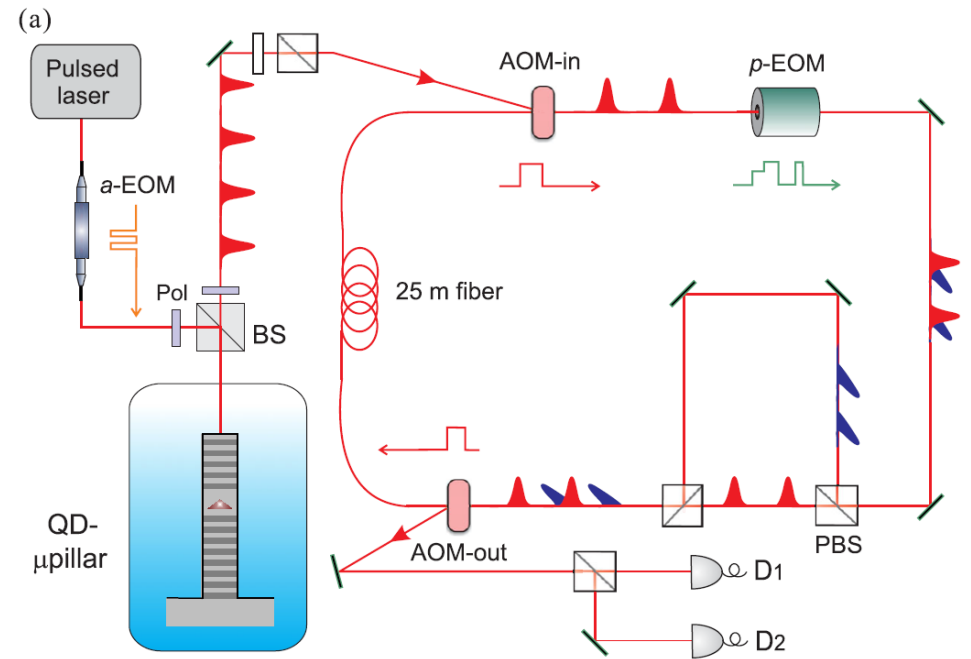
3. High indistinguishability— dual photons emitted at different trials should be quantum mechanically **identical** to each other in **all degree of freedom (time, frequency etc.)**



Interferometer:
high transmission rate, random, full connectivity,
phase stability, spatial overlap, simultaneously.

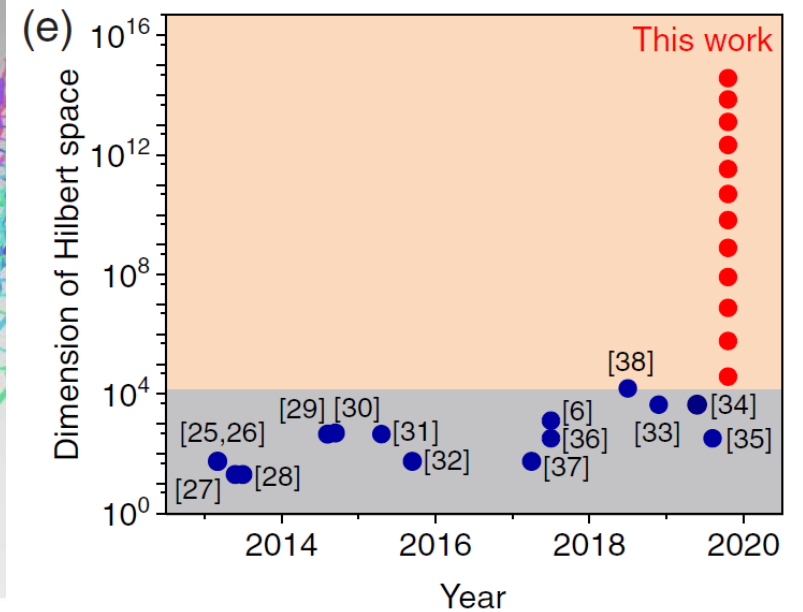
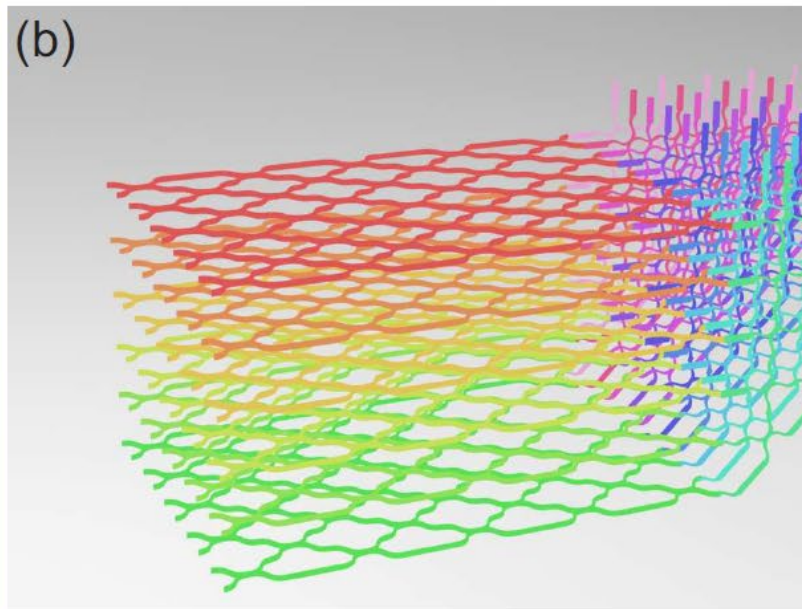
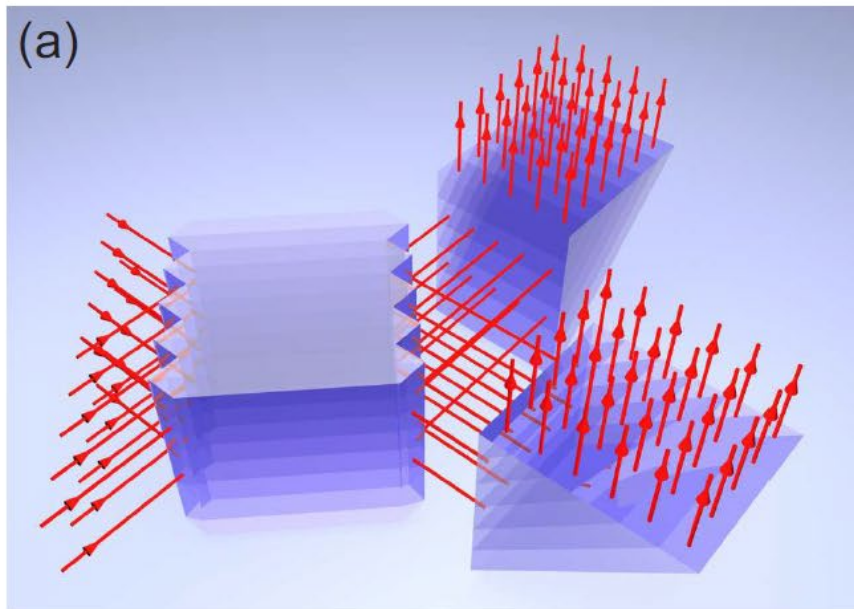
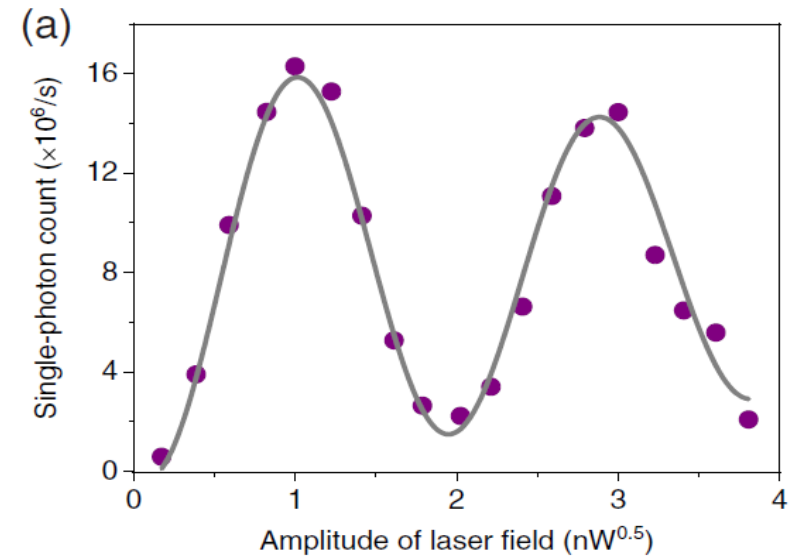
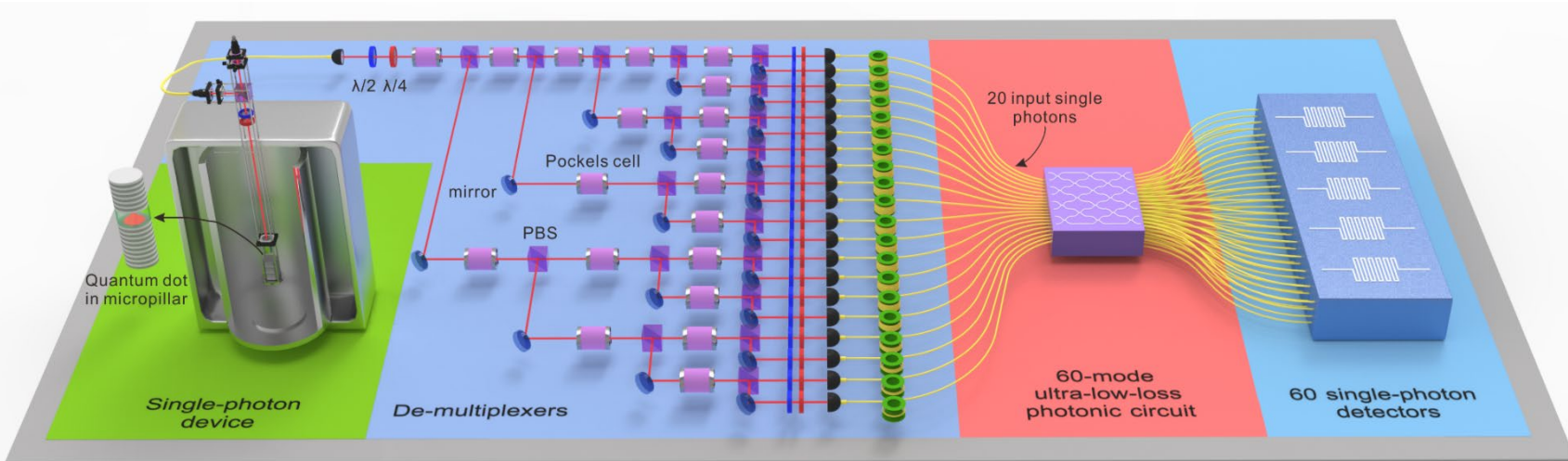


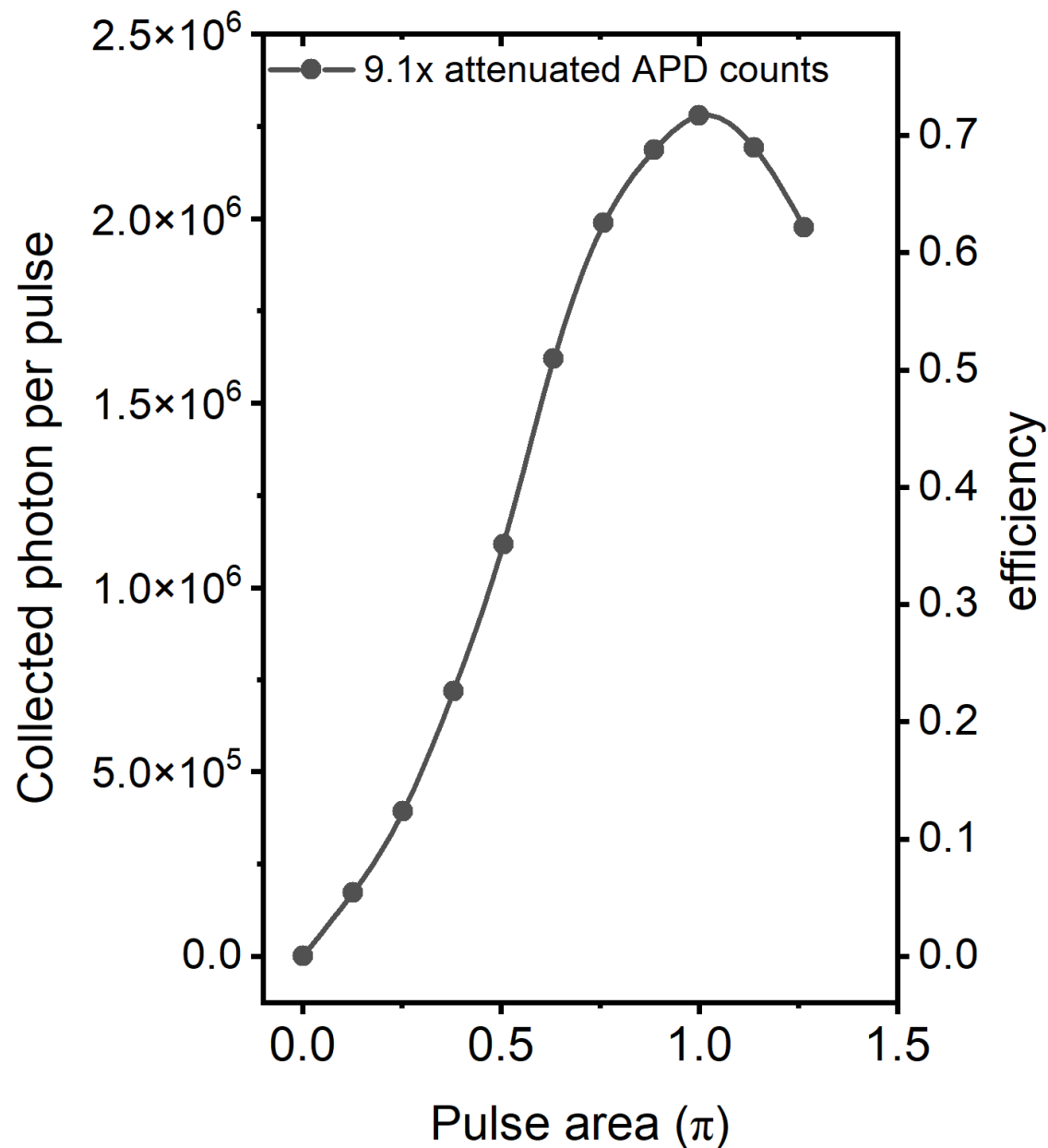
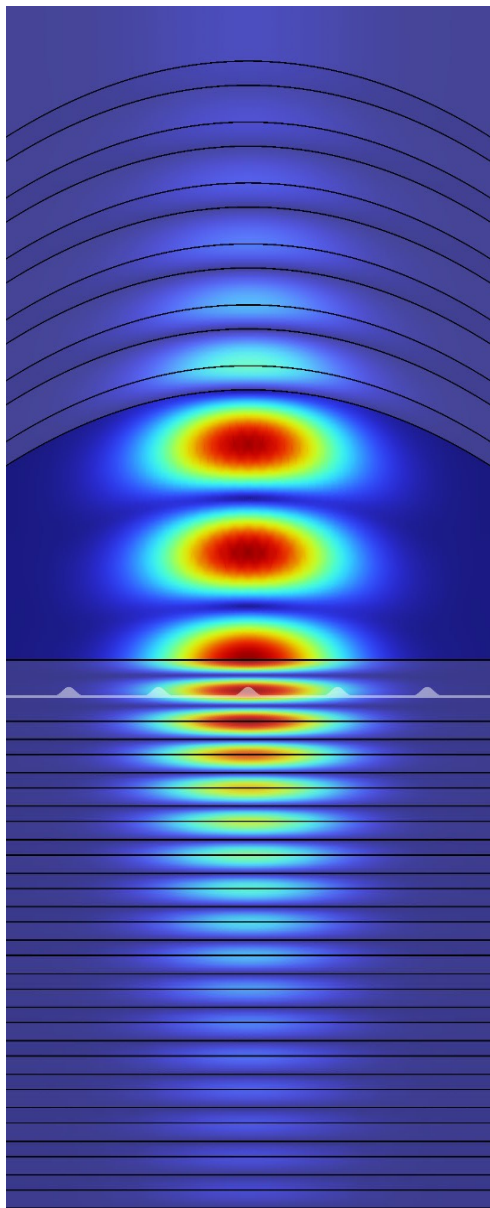
Micro-optics, high efficiency, Nat Photon 11, 361 (2017)



Electrically programmable, PRL 118, 190501 (2017)

2019: 20 single photon input 60-mode circuit



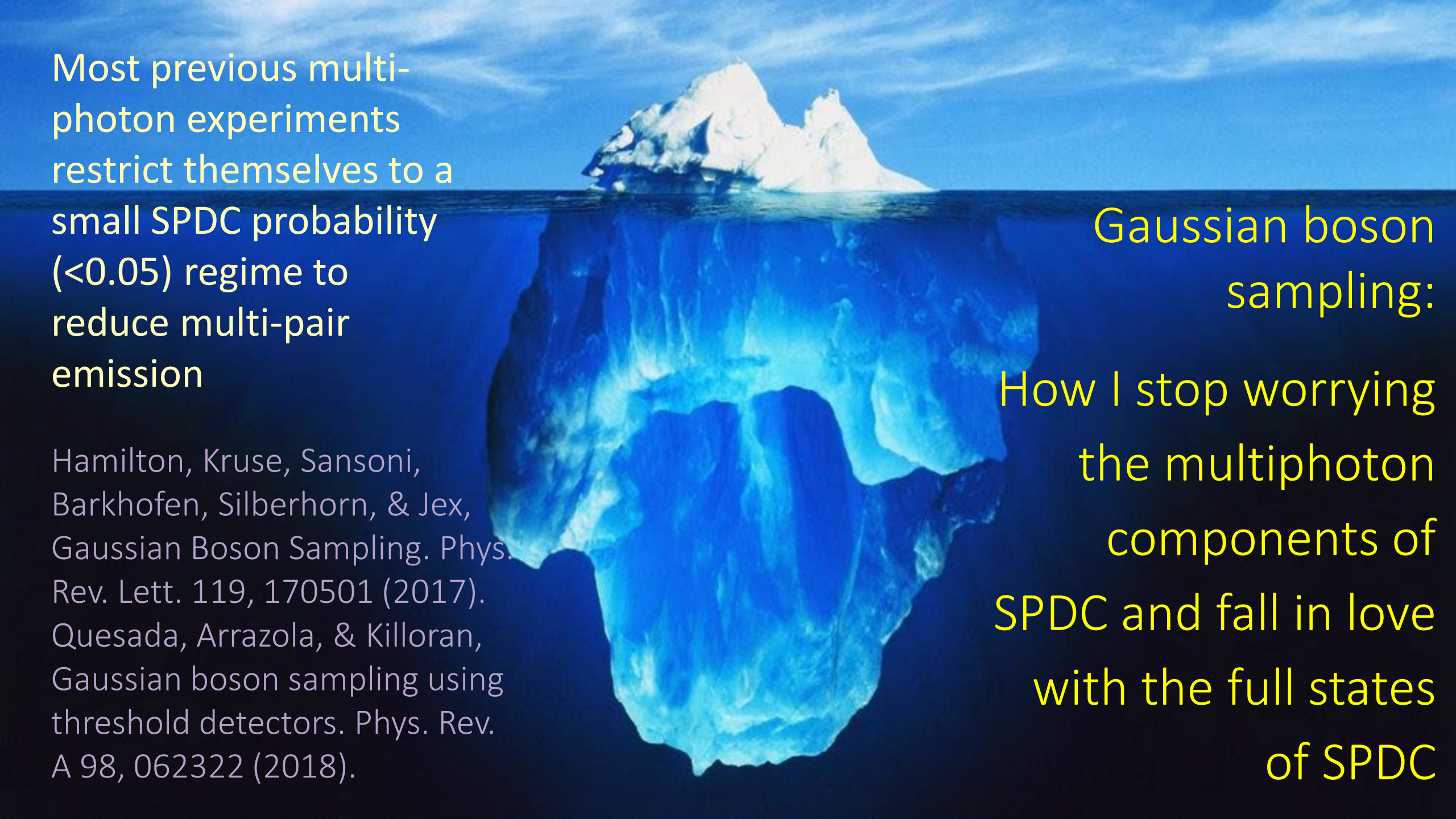


With further optimized sources, boson sampling with ~ 30 photons is possible

Old estimations from 2013 to 2016 on the regime of quantum supremacy were 20-30 photons

Neville, A. *et al.* (2017) proposed Metropolised independence sampling and raised the bar to ~ 50 photons!

How to go beyond 50?



Most previous multi-photon experiments restrict themselves to a small SPDC probability (<0.05) regime to reduce multi-pair emission

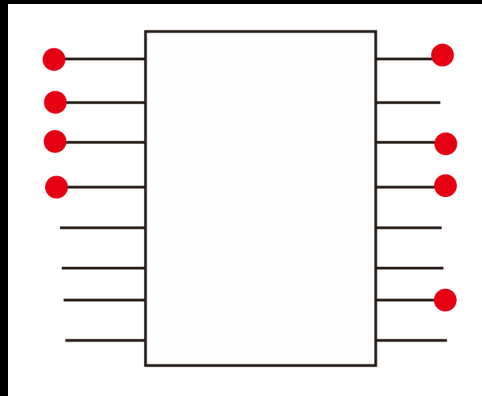
Hamilton, Kruse, Sansoni, Barkhofen, Silberhorn, & Jex, Gaussian Boson Sampling. Phys. Rev. Lett. 119, 170501 (2017).
Quesada, Arrazola, & Killoran, Gaussian boson sampling using threshold detectors. Phys. Rev. A 98, 062322 (2018).

Gaussian boson sampling:
How I stop worrying the multiphoton components of SPDC and fall in love with the full states of SPDC

It's all about the sum of the probability amplitudes of all indistinguishable paths that can lead to the event

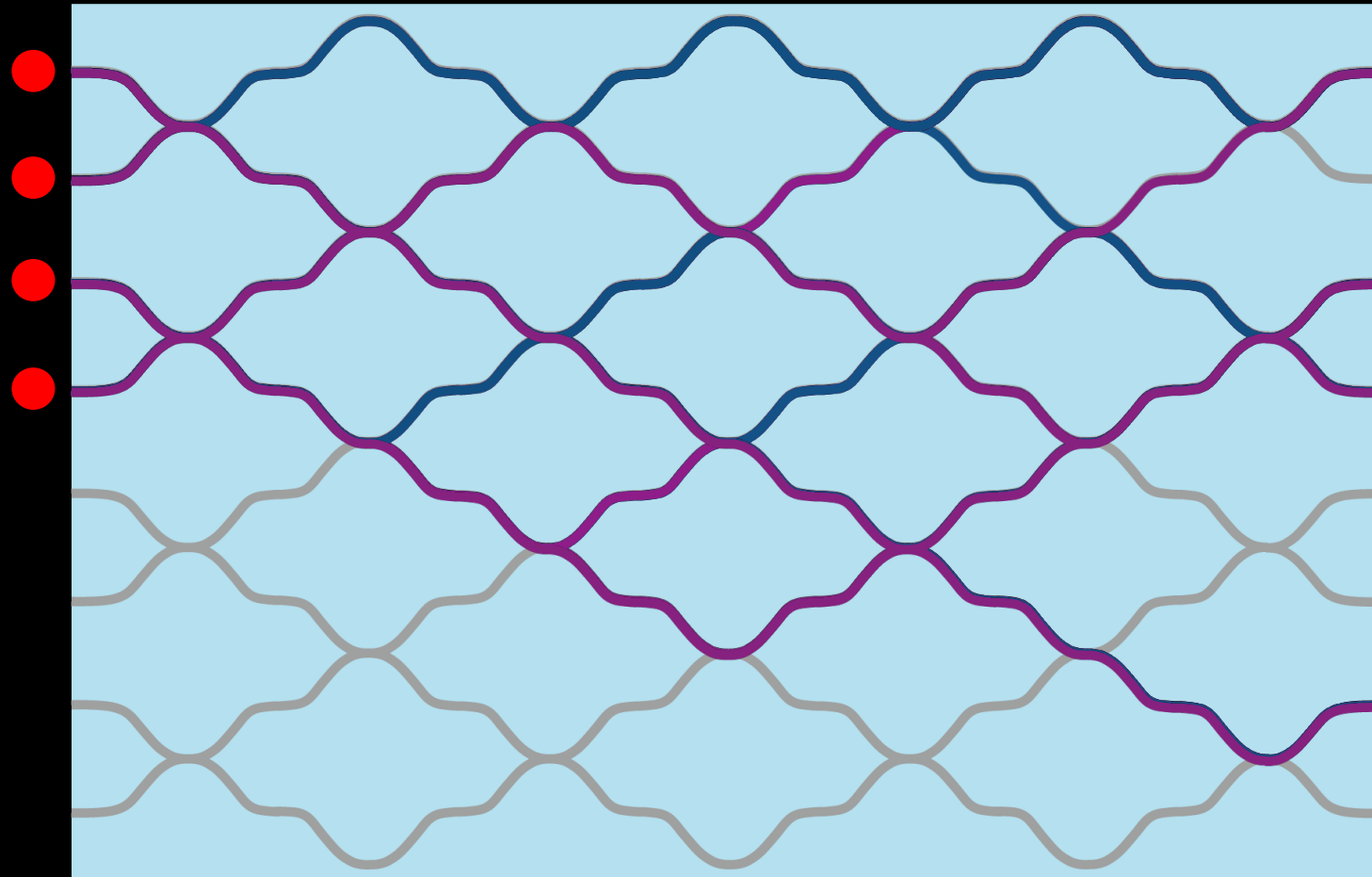


Output N -photon coincidence count



Aaronson-Arkhipov boson sampling

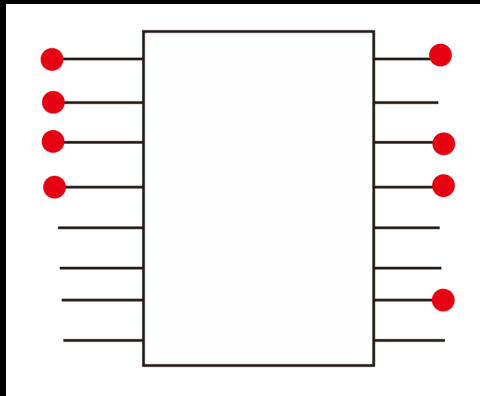
1234 \rightarrow 1347; already 23520 combinations



It's all about the sum of the probability amplitudes of all indistinguishable paths that can lead to the event



Output N -photon coincidence count

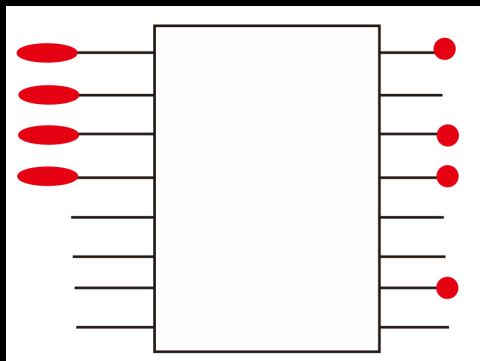


Aaronson-Arkhipov boson sampling

$$|\text{single photon}\rangle_{\text{input}} = |1\rangle$$

$$P_N = \left| \sum \text{all possible paths lead to } N\text{-photon count} \right|^2$$

$$= |\text{Permanent}(\text{submatrix})|^2$$



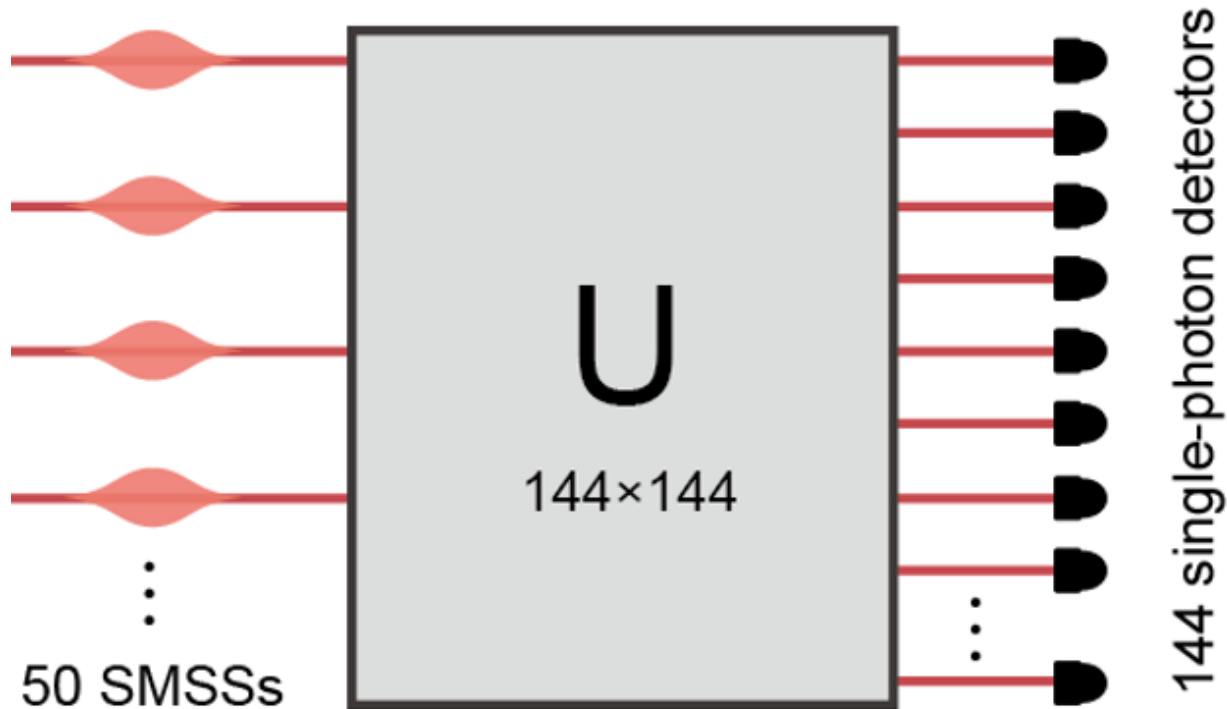
Gaussian boson sampling

$$|\text{squeezed vacuum}\rangle_{\text{input}} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} g(k) e^{ik\phi} |2k\rangle$$

$$P_N = \left| \sum \text{all possible input photon-number combination} \sum \text{all possible paths} \right|^2$$

$$= |\text{Hafnian}[\text{submatrix}(\gamma, \phi, U)]|^2$$

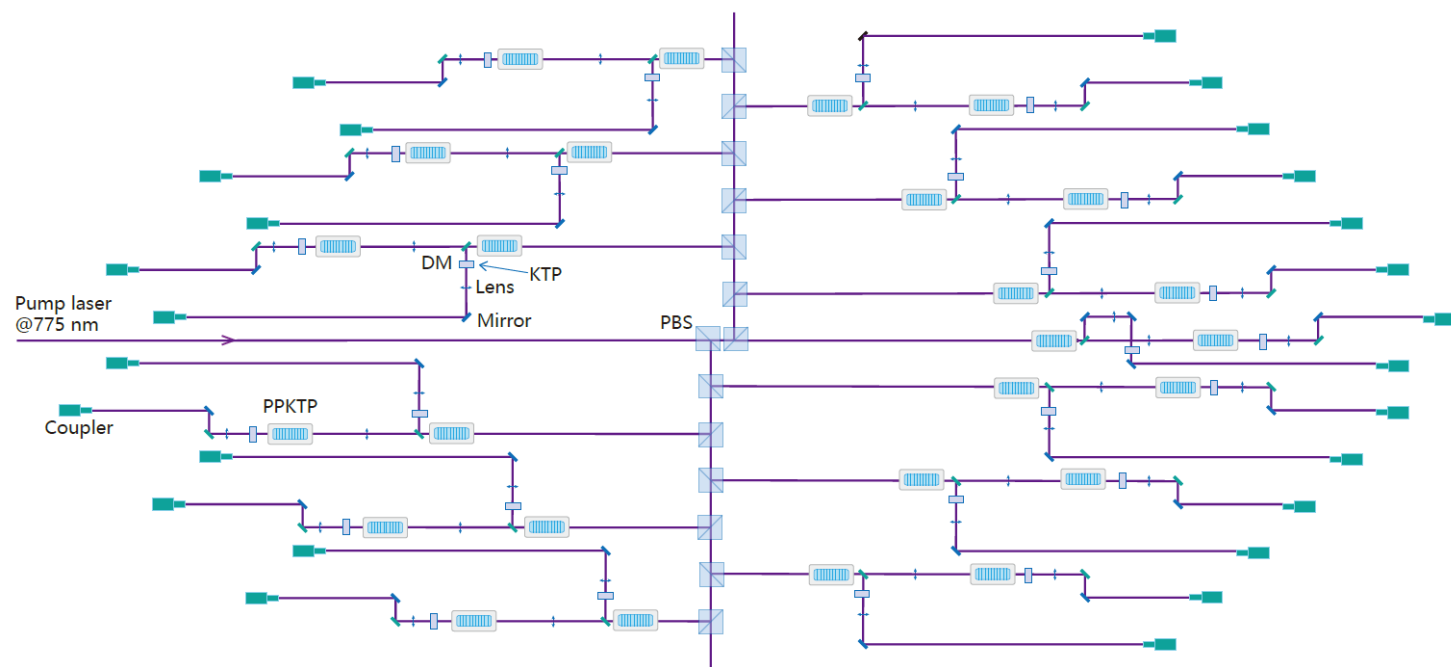
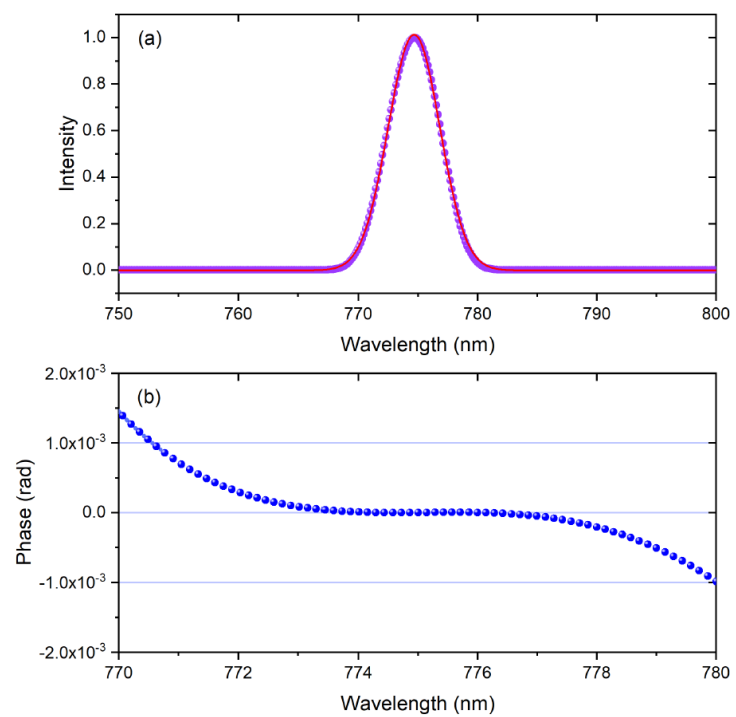
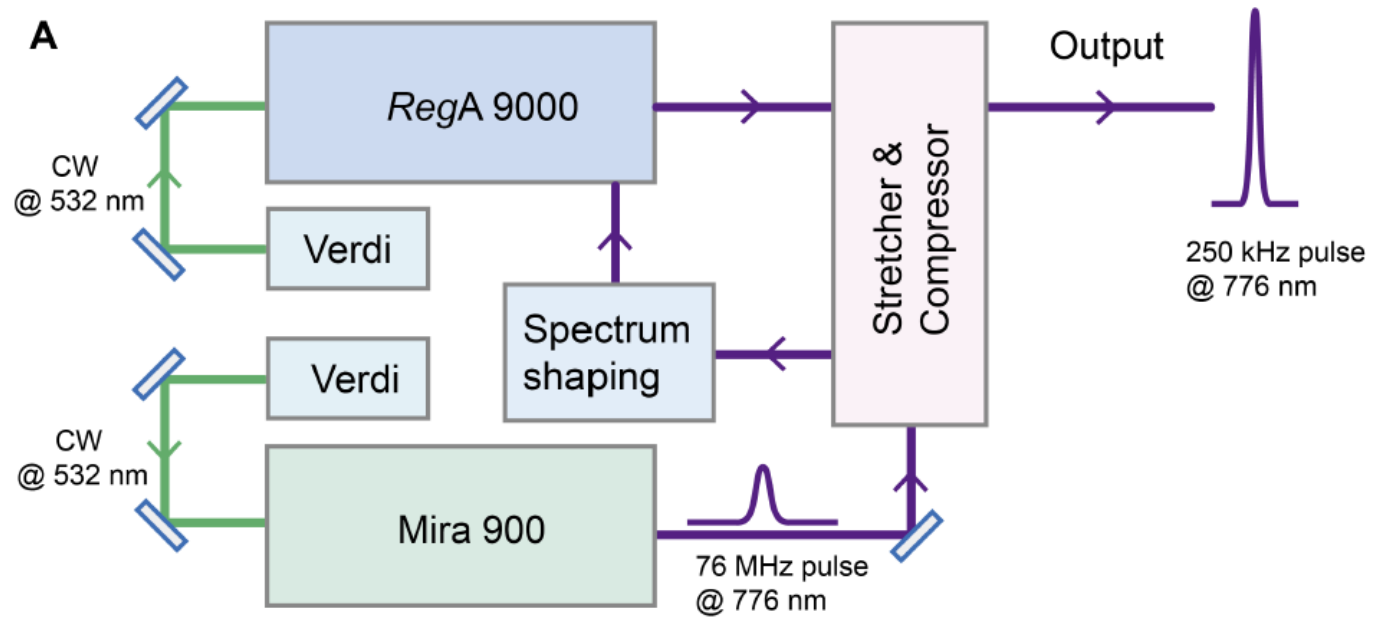
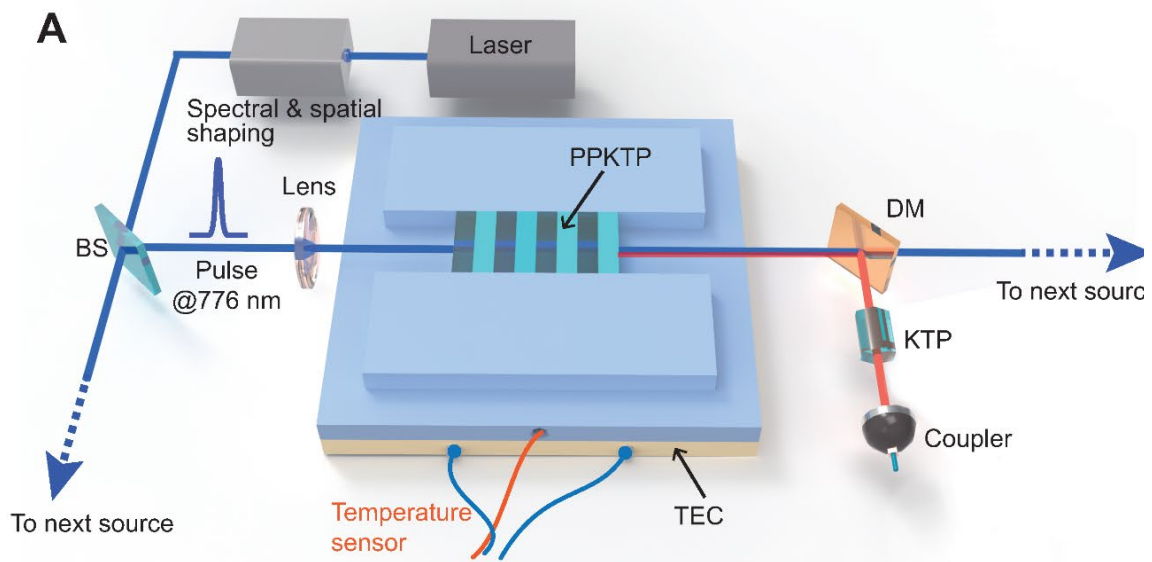
Shopping list of a large-scale GBS



Jiuzhang 2.0

Science 370, 1460 (2020); Phys. Rev. Lett. 127, 180502 (2021)

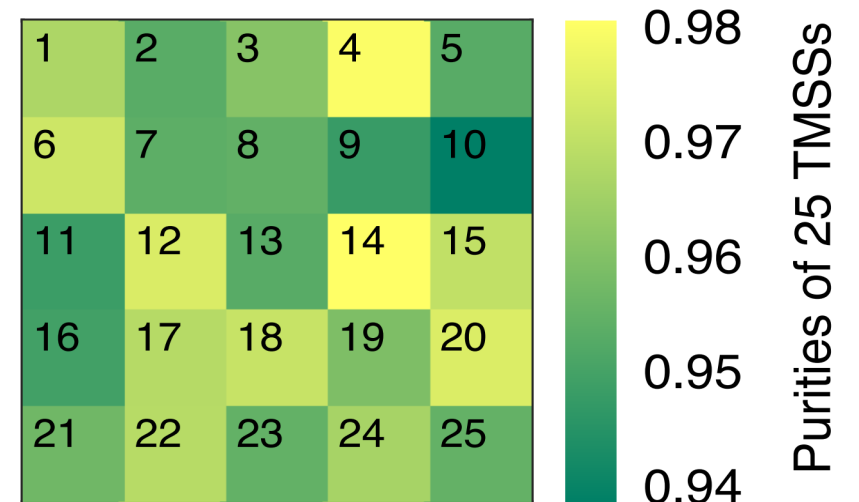
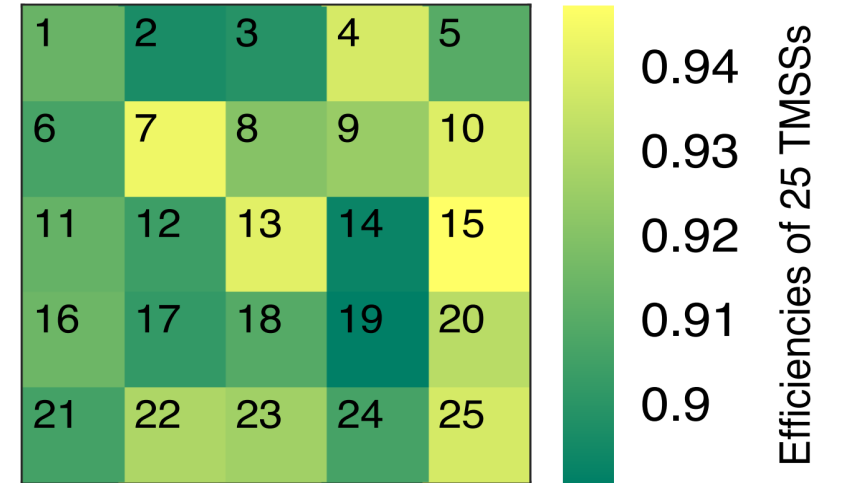
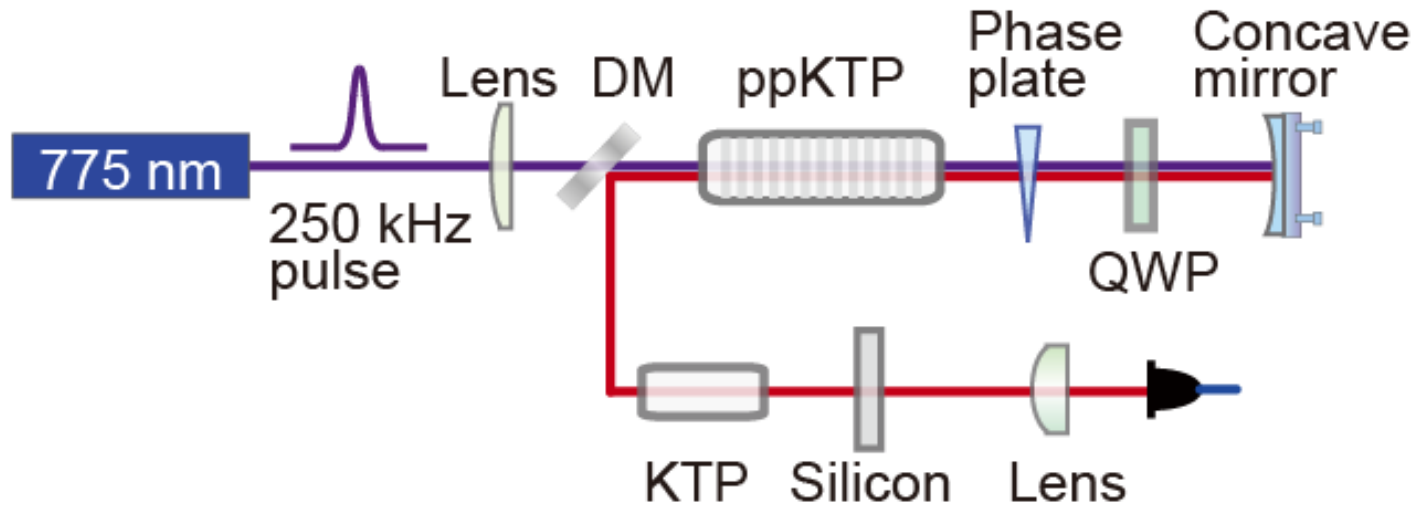
- Source: SMSS with high squeezing parameters, indistinguishability, and collection efficiency, *simultaneously*.
- Interferometer: large and deep, full connectivity, randomness, wave-packet overlap and phase stability, and near-unity transmission rate, *simultaneously*.
- Phase control from SMSS generation to propagation inside the interferometer.
- Detectors: many, high efficiency, fast.
- Validation of the obtained samples, and benchmarking using a supercomputer.



LASER inspired new source

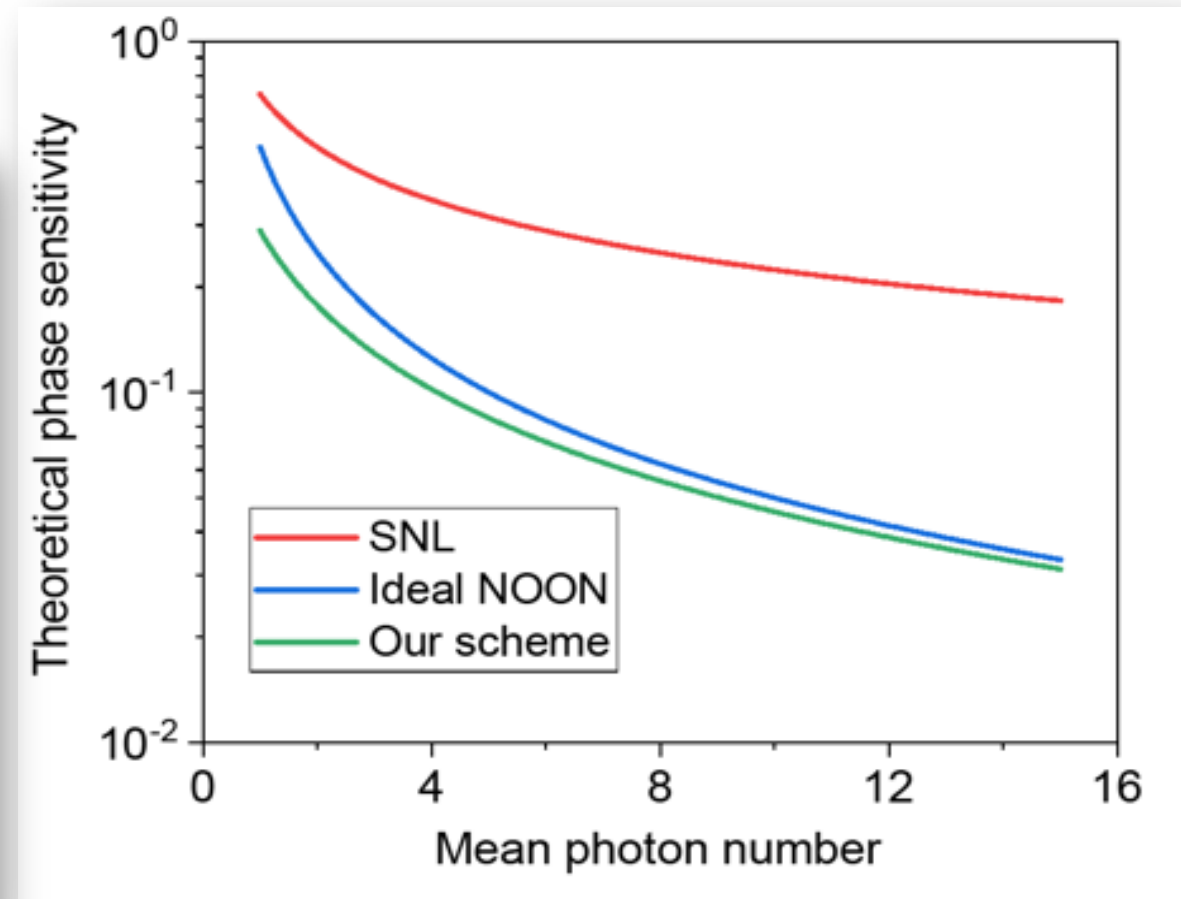
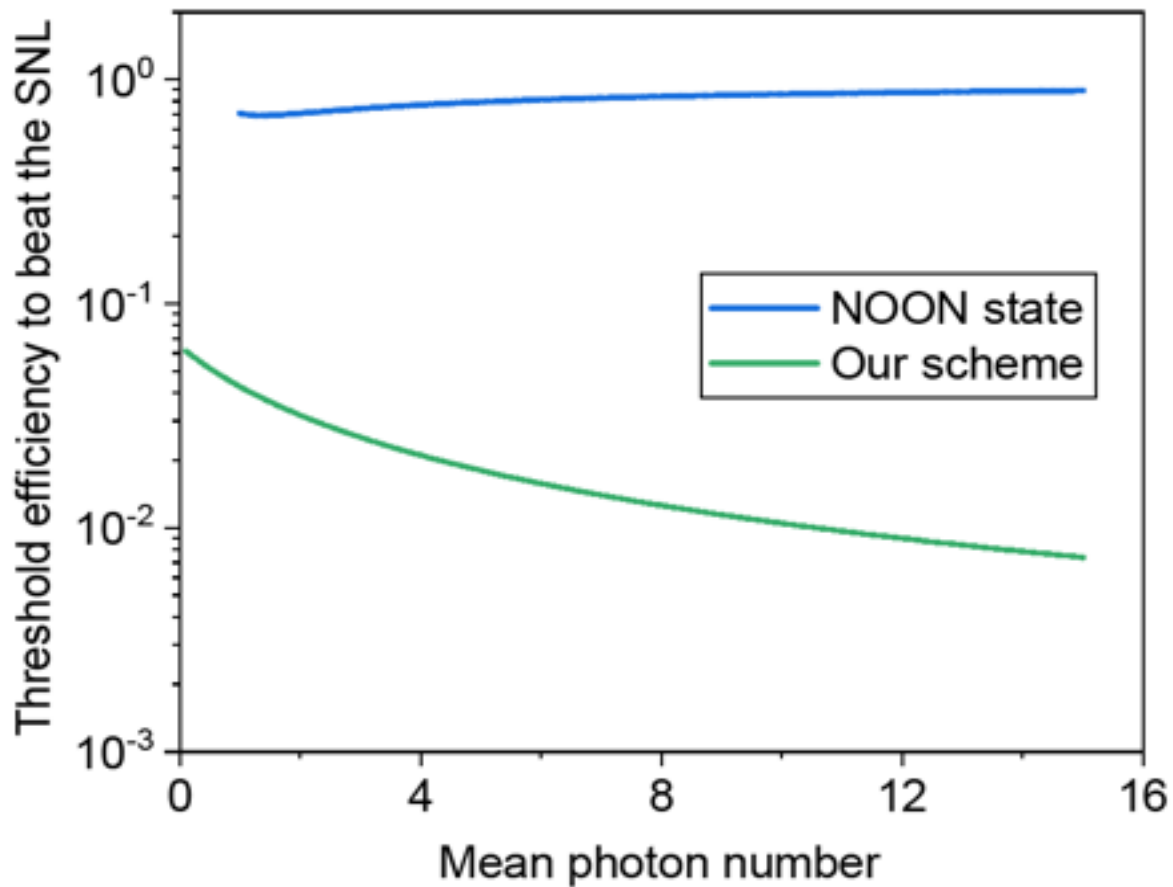
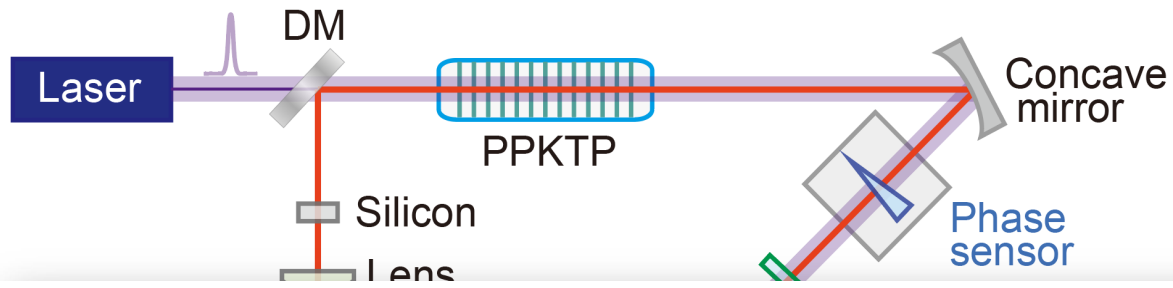
Stimulated PDC:

same laser power, 4 times brighter
squeezed light

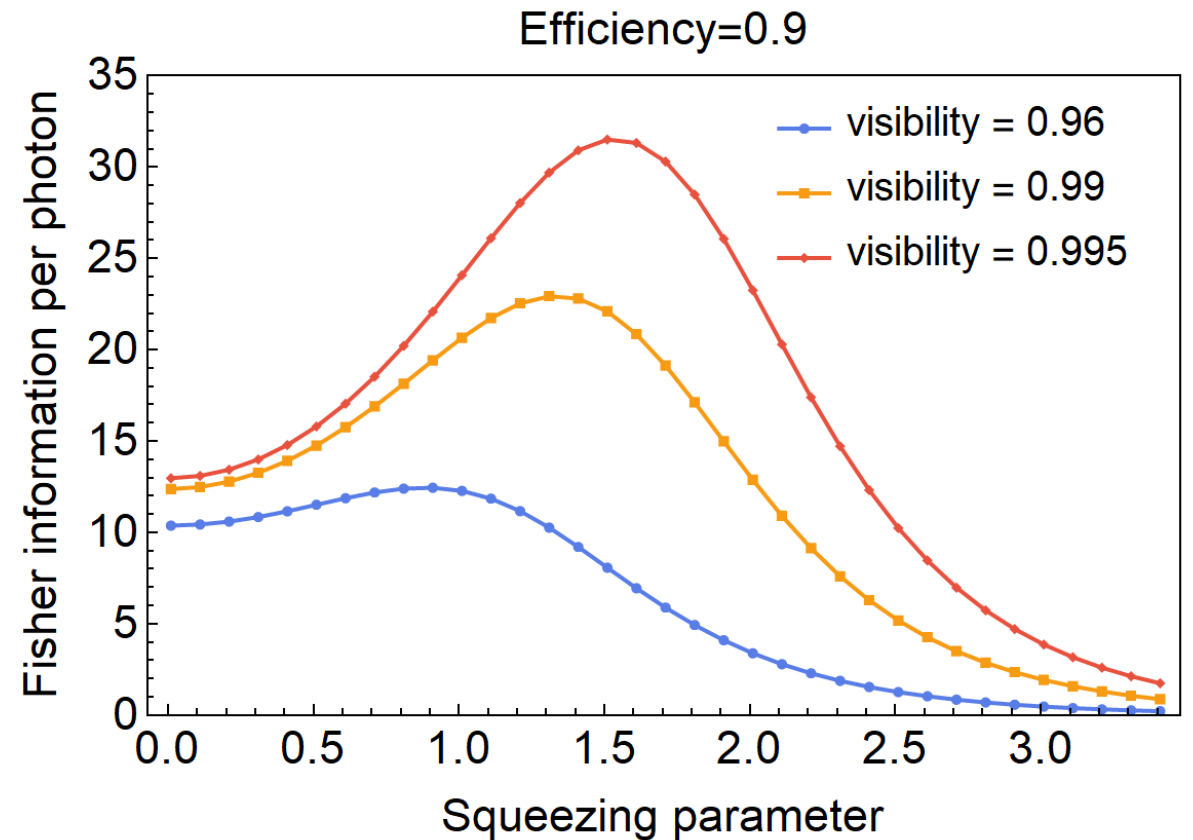
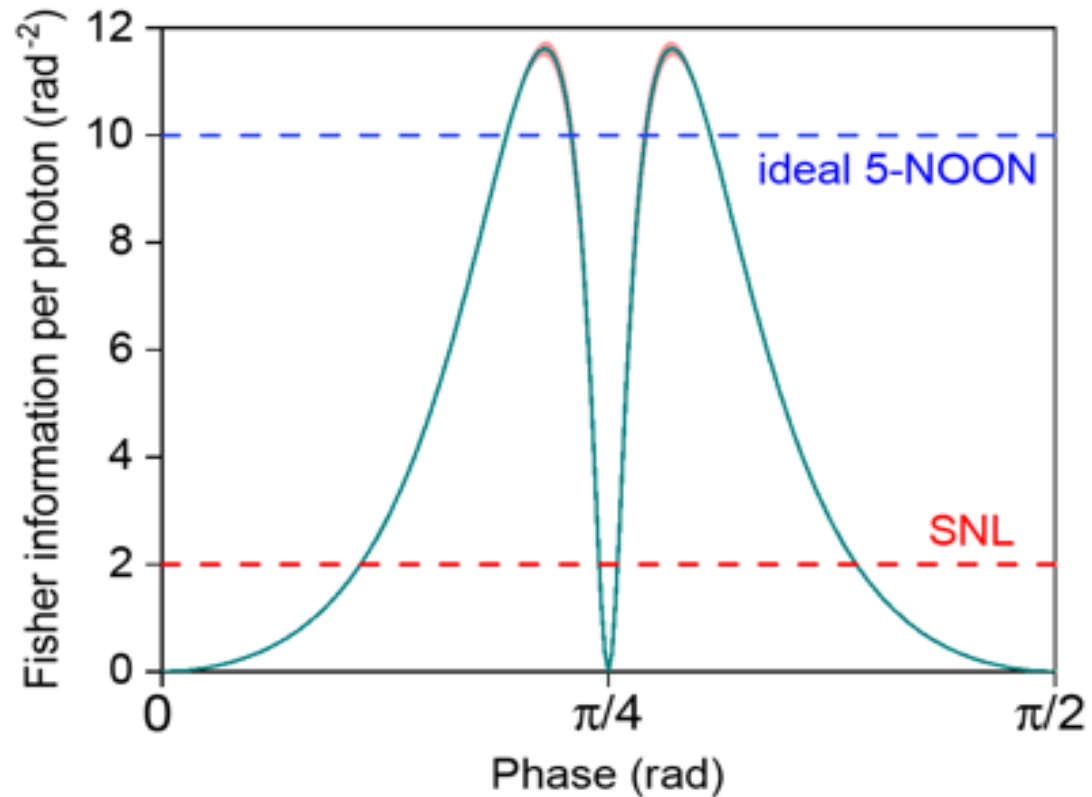


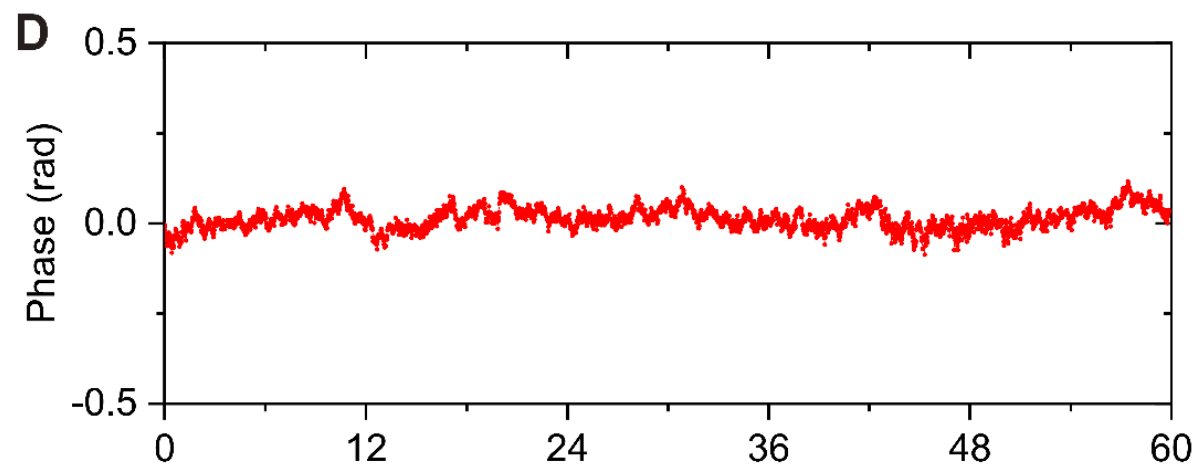
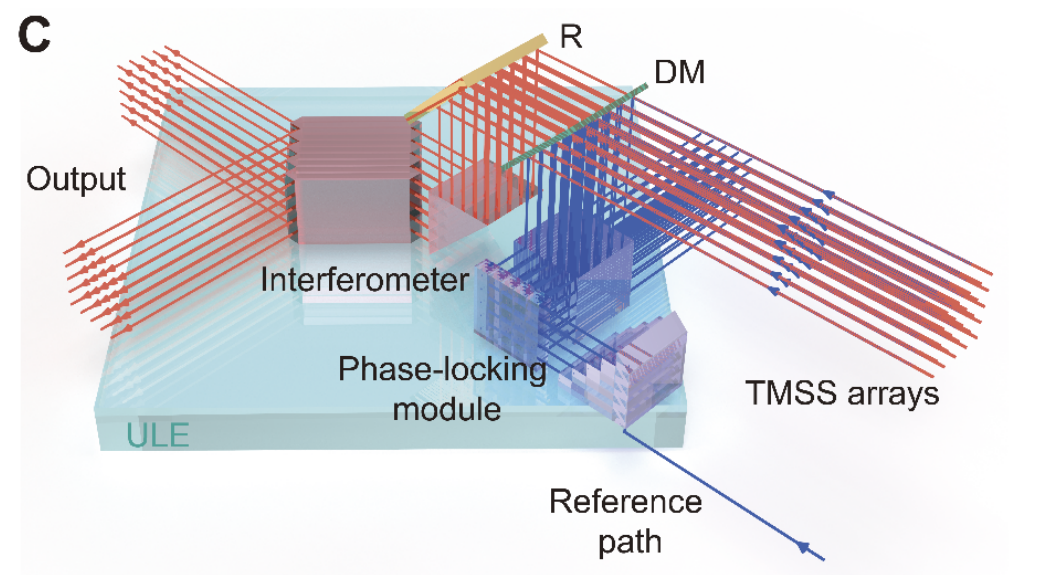
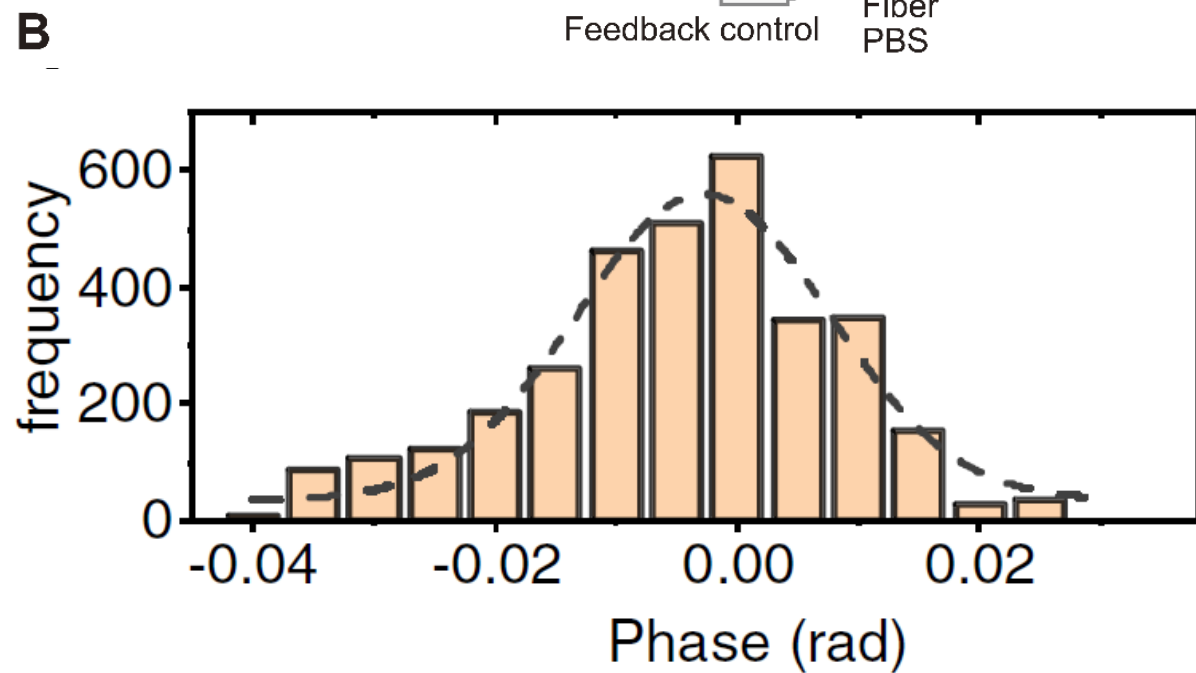
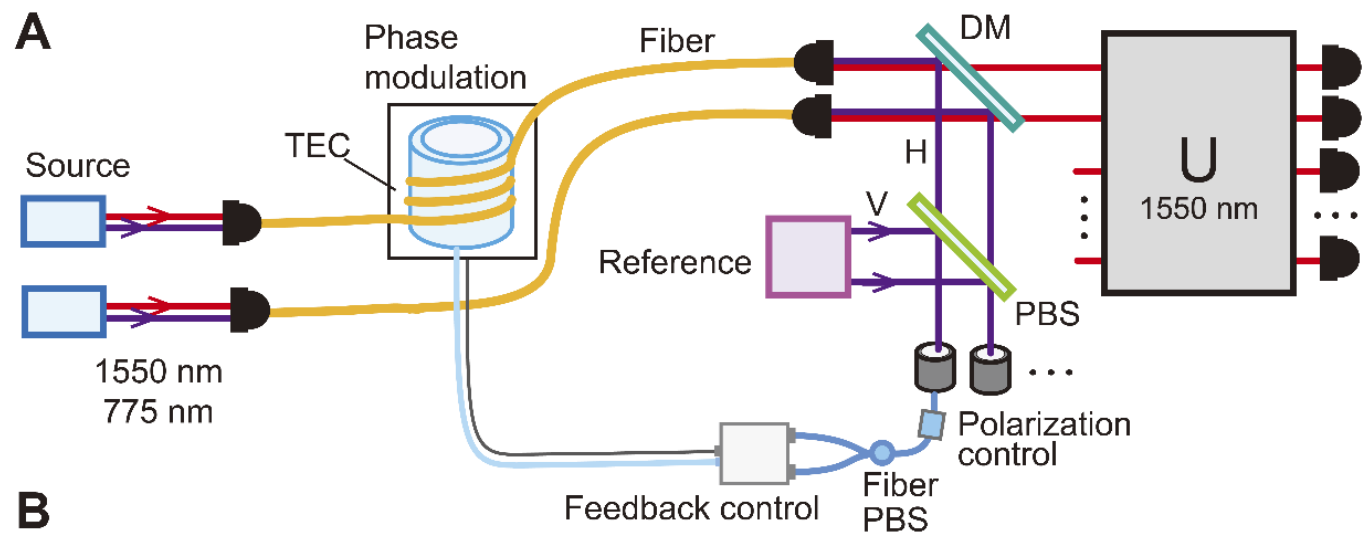
Science 370, 1460 (2020); Phys. Rev. Lett. 127, 180502 (2021)

Spin-off: Beyond-NOON metrology, unconditional, robust



Spin-off: Beyond-NOON metrology, unconditional, robust

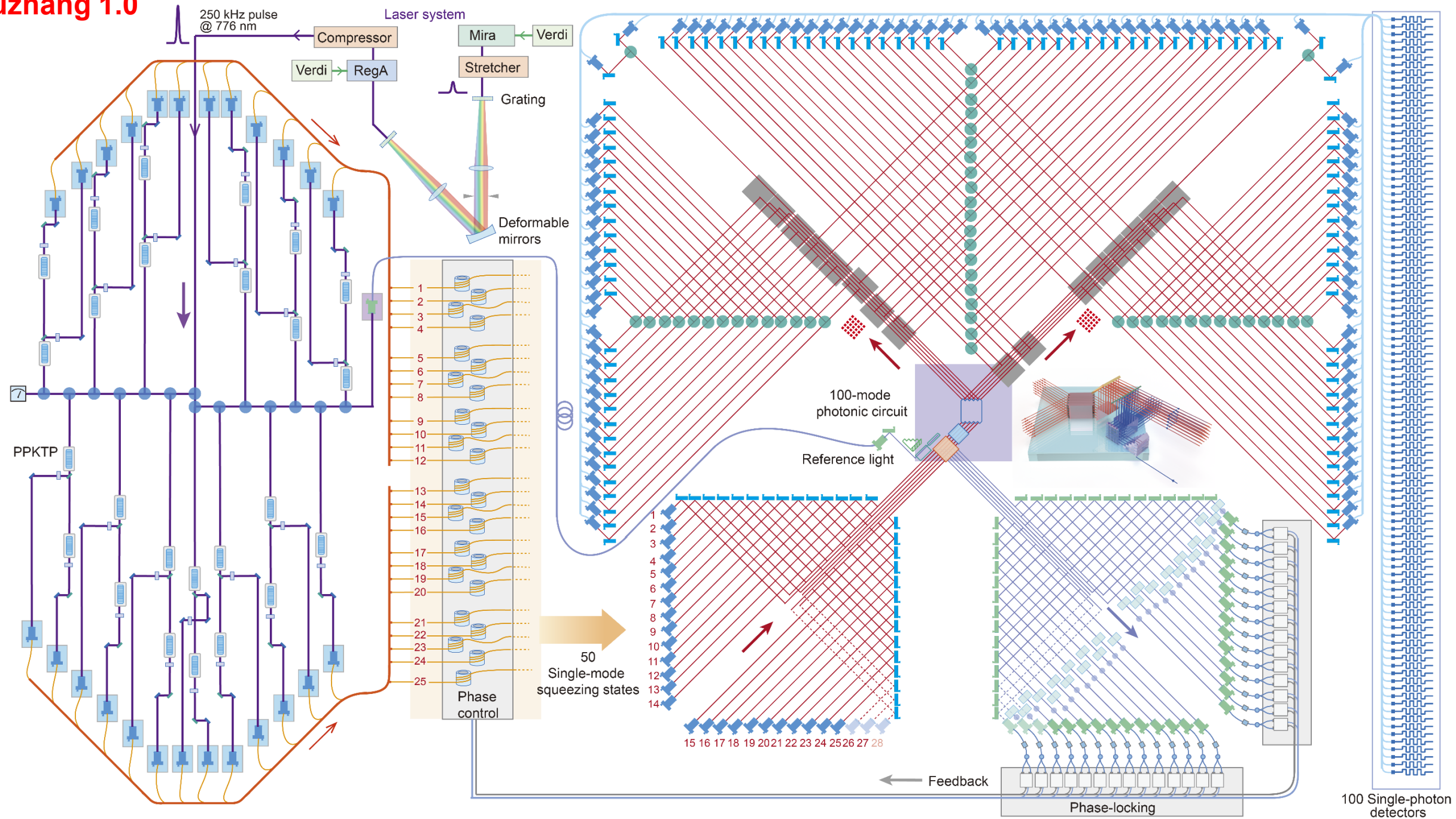




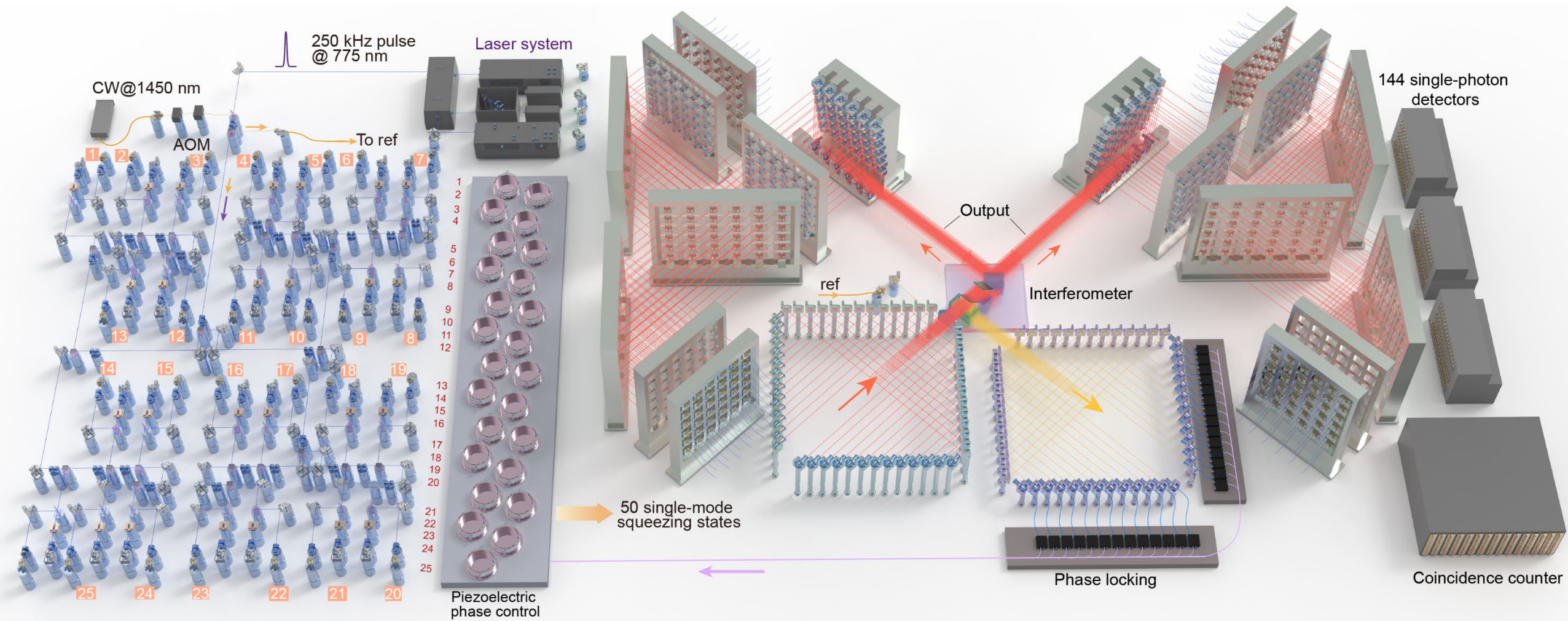
Quantum computing is like collecting seven dragon balls; only by putting all of them together, can it show the quantum computational power.



Jiuzhang 1.0



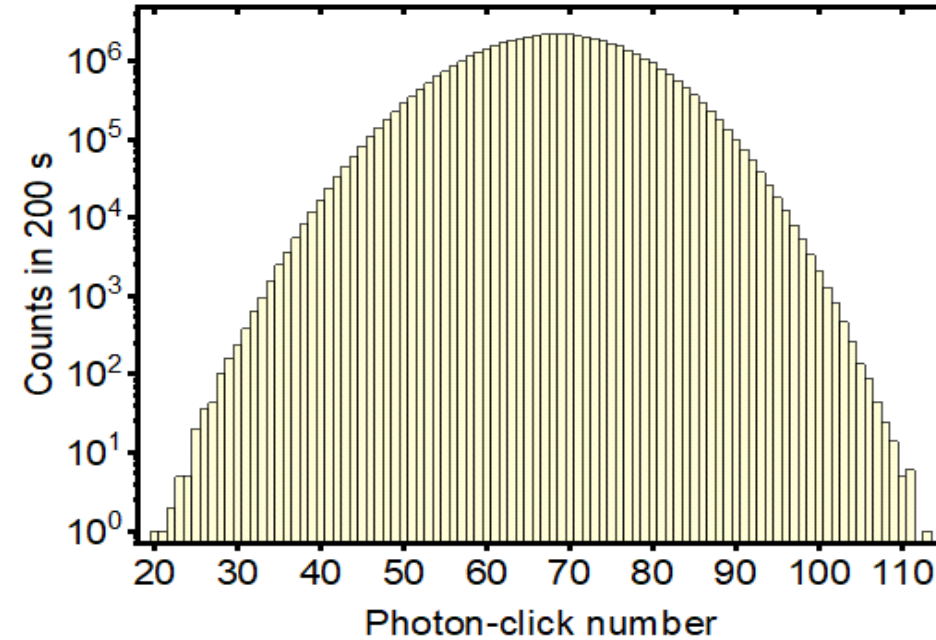
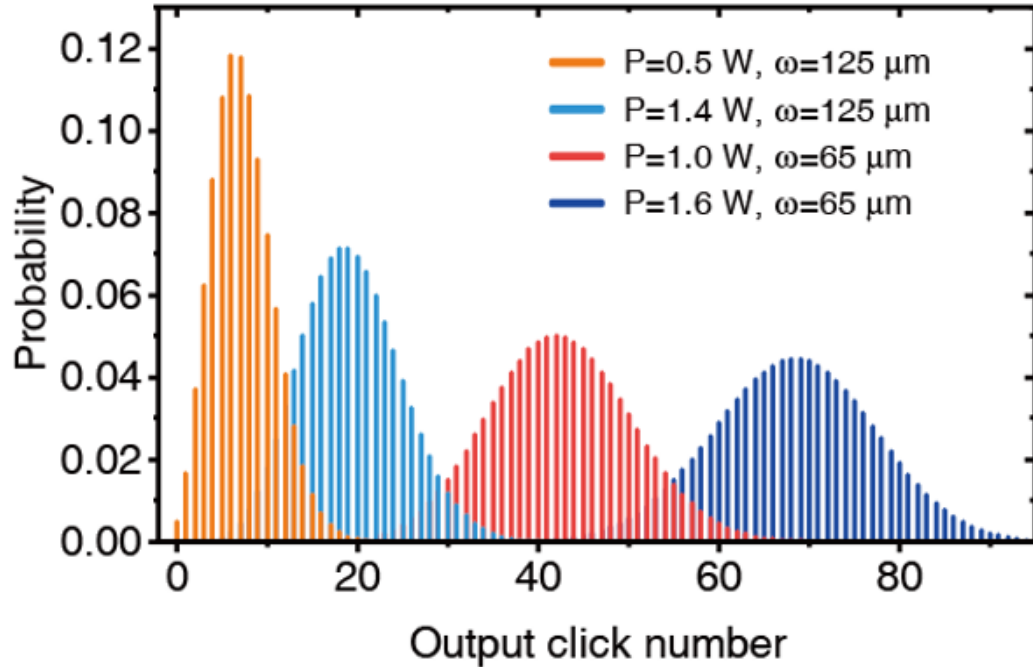
Jiuzhang 2.0



Science 370, 1460 (2020); Phys. Rev. Lett. 127, 180502 (2021)



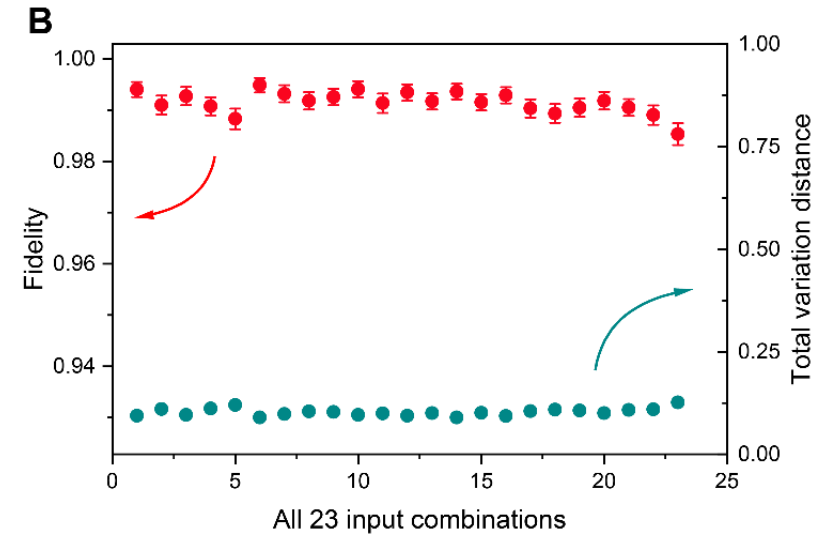
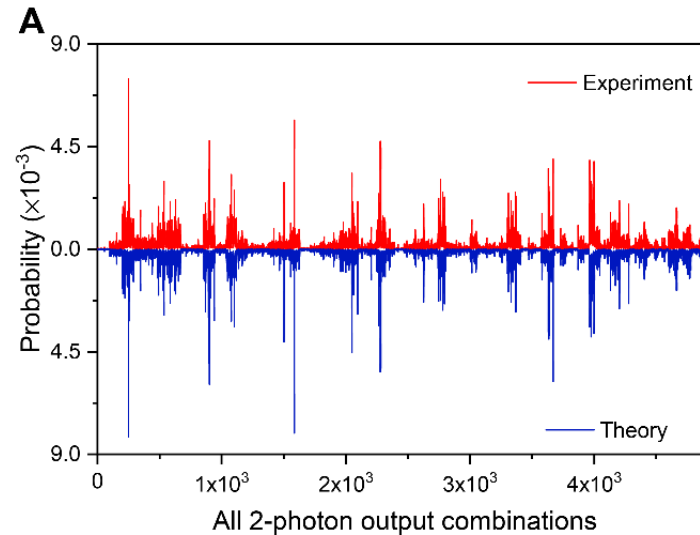
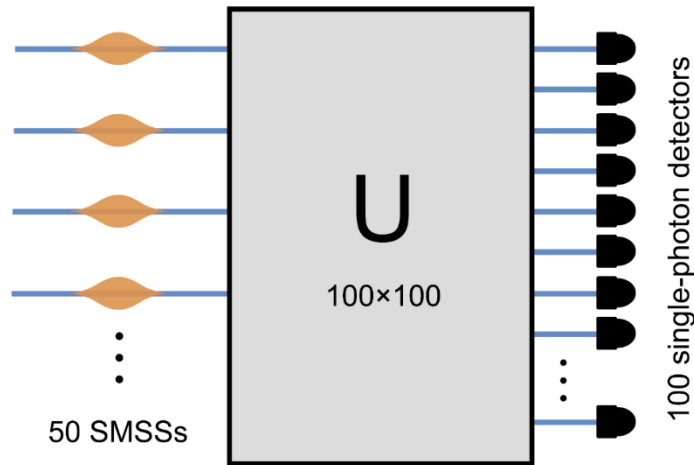
All the raw data are available at <http://quantum.ustc.edu.cn/web/node/951>



Max photon
click: 113

Unlike Shor's algorithm where its solution can be efficiently verified;
For the GBS, a full certification of the outcome is strongly conjectured to be intractable for classical computation.

System calibration



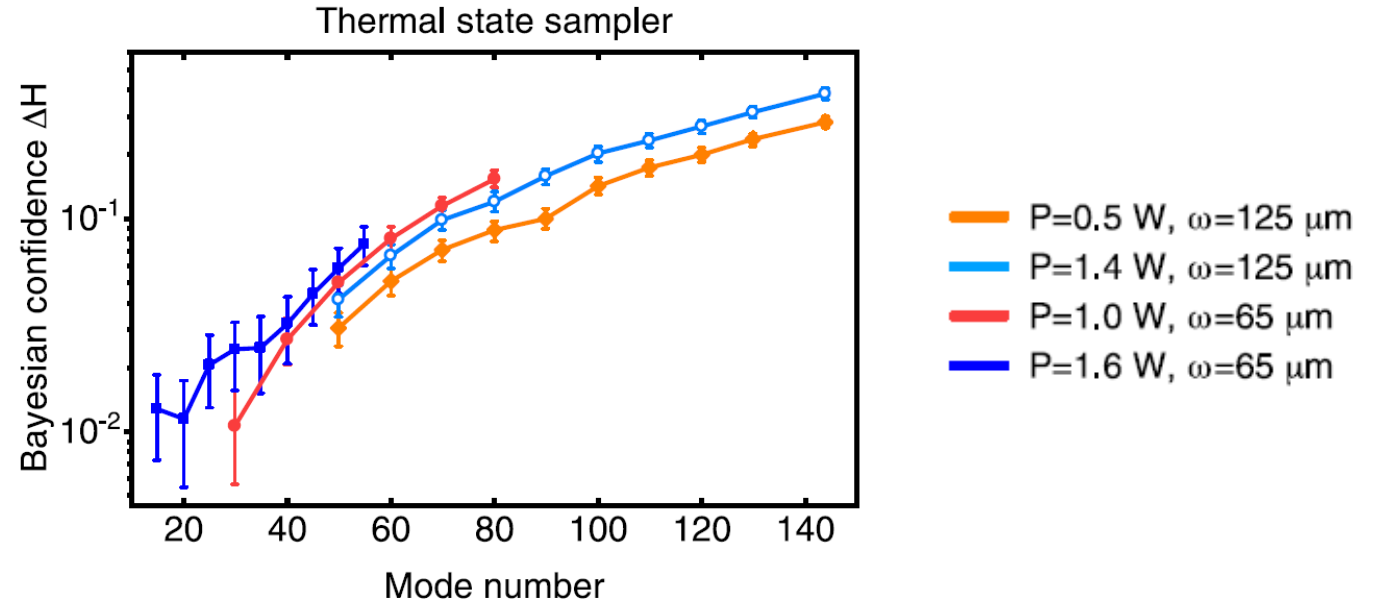
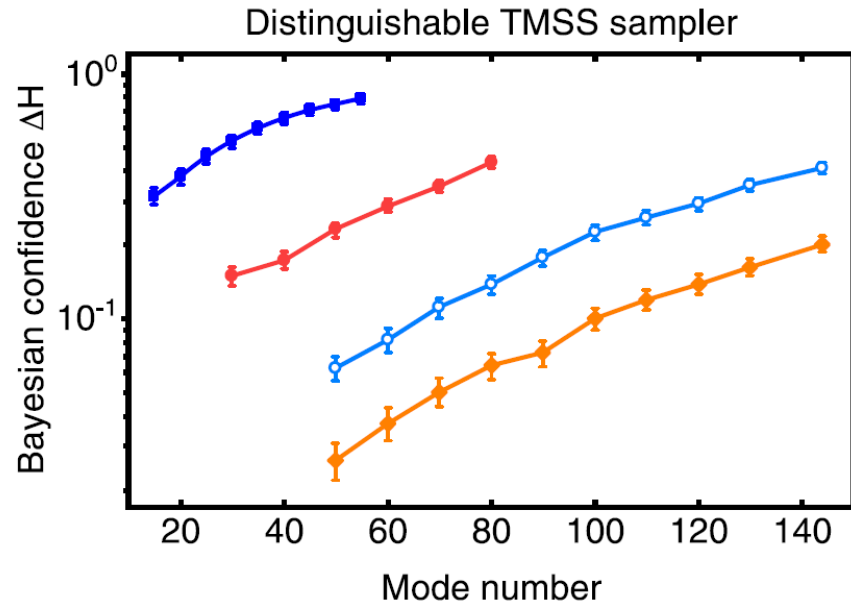
Validating the GBS

Gathering circumstantial evidence & ruling out possible hypotheses (spoofs):

- **Thermal states**—would result from excessive photon loss
- **Distinguishable**—would be caused by mode mismatch
- **Squeezed thermal states**—would be caused by thermal noise
- **Coherent state, uniform sampler, ...**

Bayesian test

A larger value of ΔH indicates a larger deviation between the GBS and the mockups.



- The data are successfully validated ($\Delta H > 0$).
- The validation confidence becomes even stronger for a larger mode number, with effectively smaller photon loss.
- This allows us to infer that the same setup with all modes in the quantum advantage regime would be validated with an even stronger confidence.

“We hope this work will inspire new theoretical efforts to verify large-scale GBS, improve the classical simulation strategies, and challenge the observed quantum computational advantage.”

– Zhong *et al.* (2020)

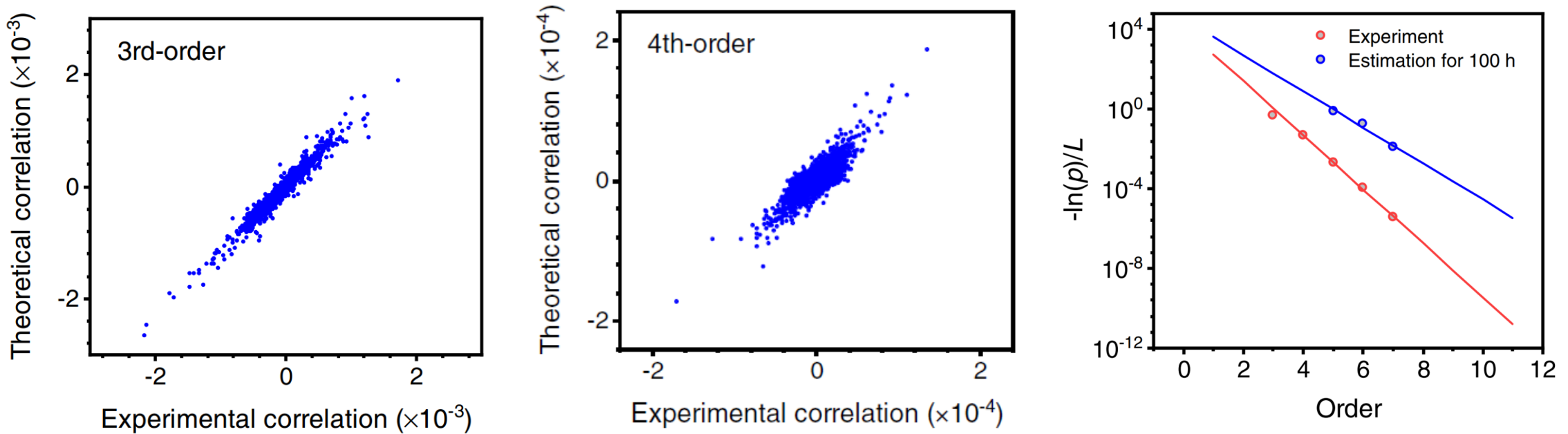
SpooF attacks



- Movie of Stephen Chow, *The Mermaid*

Google's classical attack: greedy algorithm [Villalonga et al. arXiv:2109.11525]

- Using only 1-order and 2-order correlation to generate mock up samples, which has better total variance distance on small-scale subsystem. But no high-order correlation.

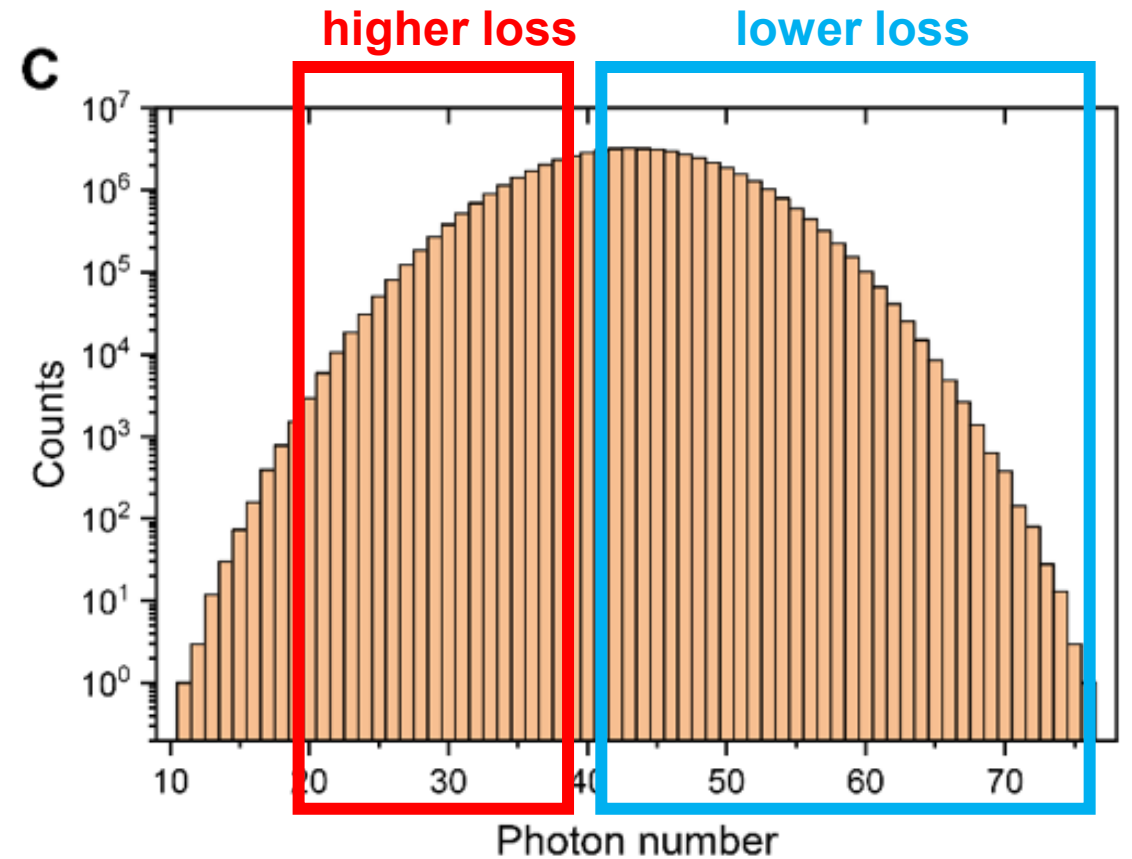
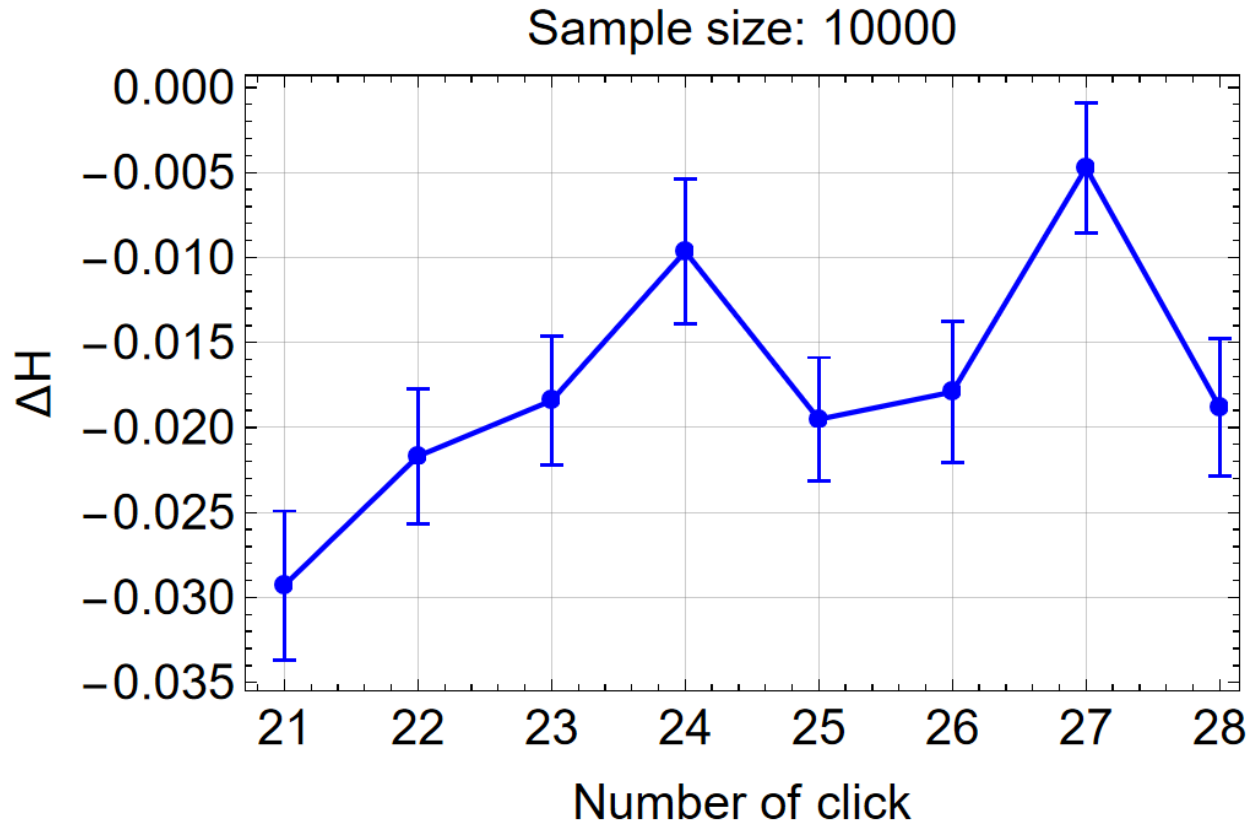


[Shchesnovich, arXiv:2204.07792] *Boson sampling cannot be faithfully simulated by only the lower-order multi-boson interferences*

Classical simulations accounting for only the lower-order multi-boson interferences can be efficiently distinguished from the quantum device with finite noise by checking the higher-order correlations.

Quesada's classical attack: modified squash states [Martínez-Cifuentes, et al. arXiv:2207.10058]

- Similar high-order correlations
- Have better Bayesian test (???), but HOG can validate



The history toward loophole-free Bell test...

Quantum
an

Freedman and Clauser, PRL 1972; Fry and Thompson, PRL 1976

Aspect et al. PRL 1982

Zeilinger et al. PRL 1998

Space-like separation

1. Experiments
2. Tests

Rowe et al. Nature 2001

Giustina et al. Nature 2013

Efficient detection

Quantum
over

Hanson et al. Nature (2015)

Zeilinger et al. PRL (2015)

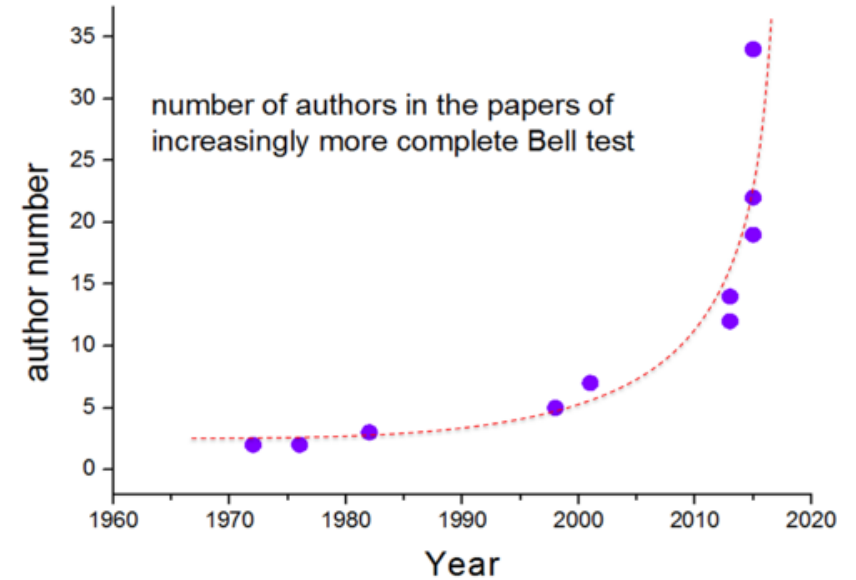
Shalm et al. PRL (2015)

Locality and detection

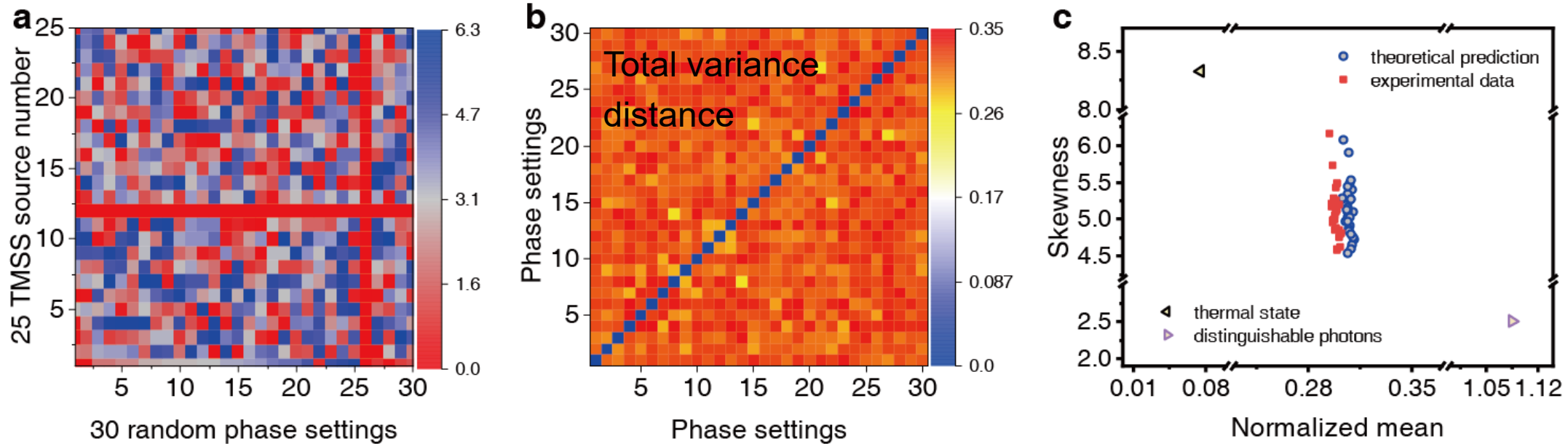
This
con
ver
the

... ..

Locality, detection, freedom
of choice, free will? ...



Phase-programmable GBS



We change 30 random input squeezed state phases and obtain 30 statistically different samples, each are validated against mockups. [Phys. Rev. Lett. 127, 180502 \(2021\)](#)

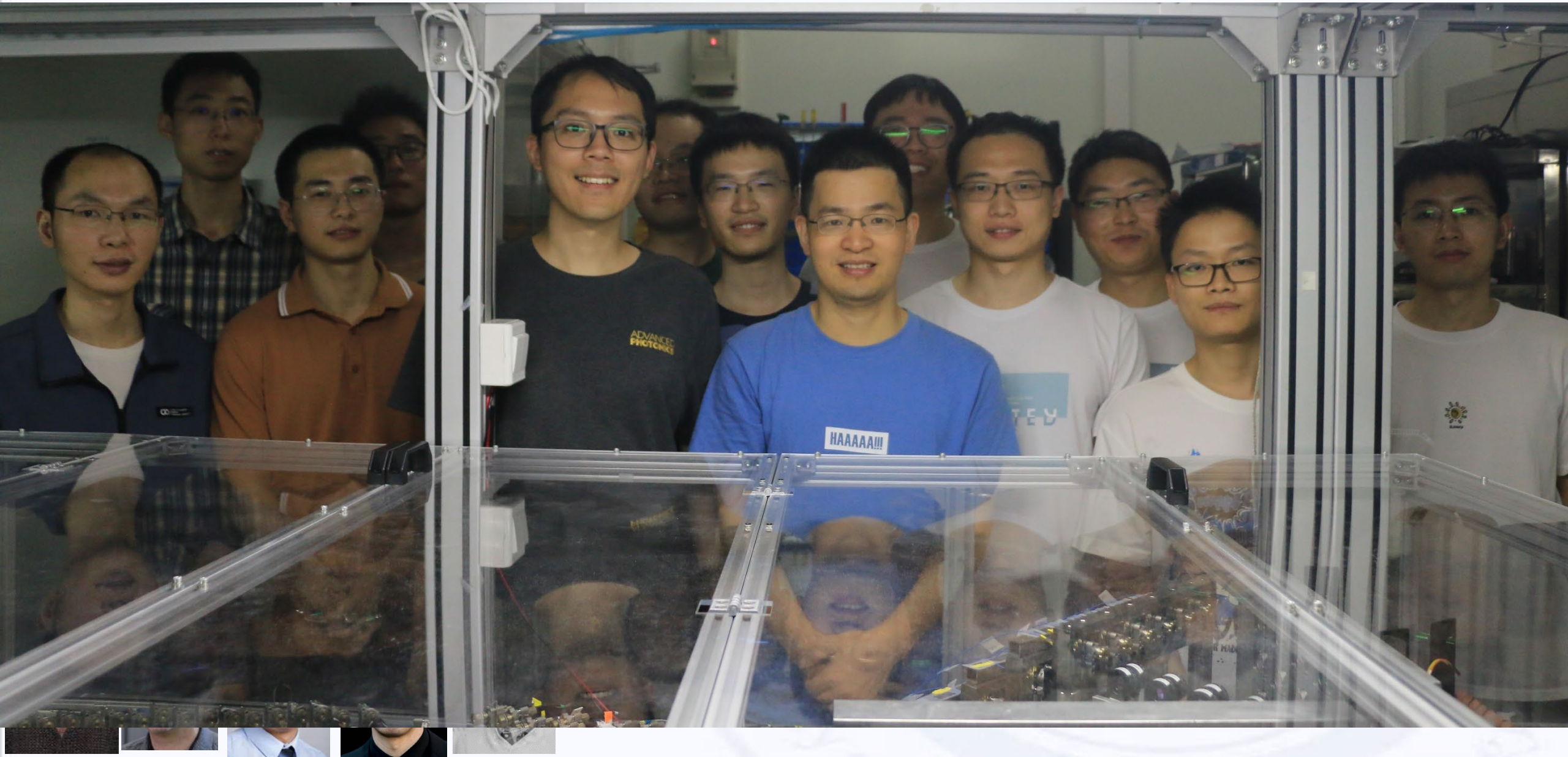
Future:

Higher efficiencies (source, transmission, detectors); possible applications; GKP code; photon-photon CNOT gate, superconducting qubits & optical tweezers...

Ruling out real-valued standard formalism of quantum theory, PRL 128, 040403 (2022);

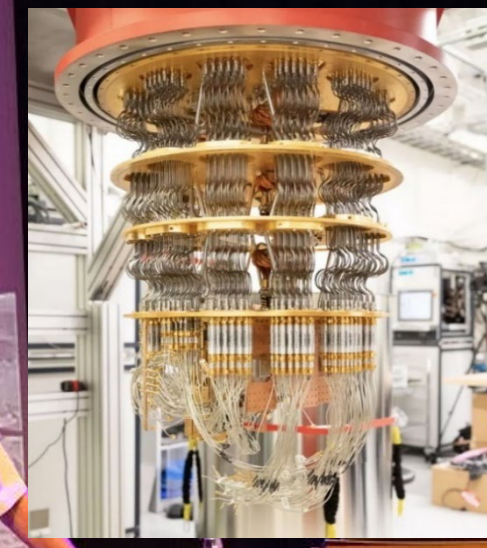
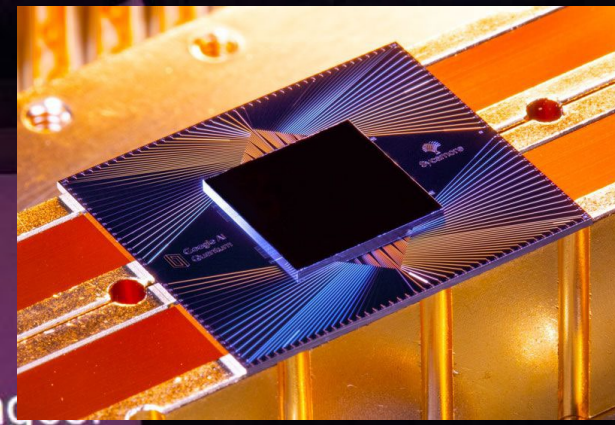
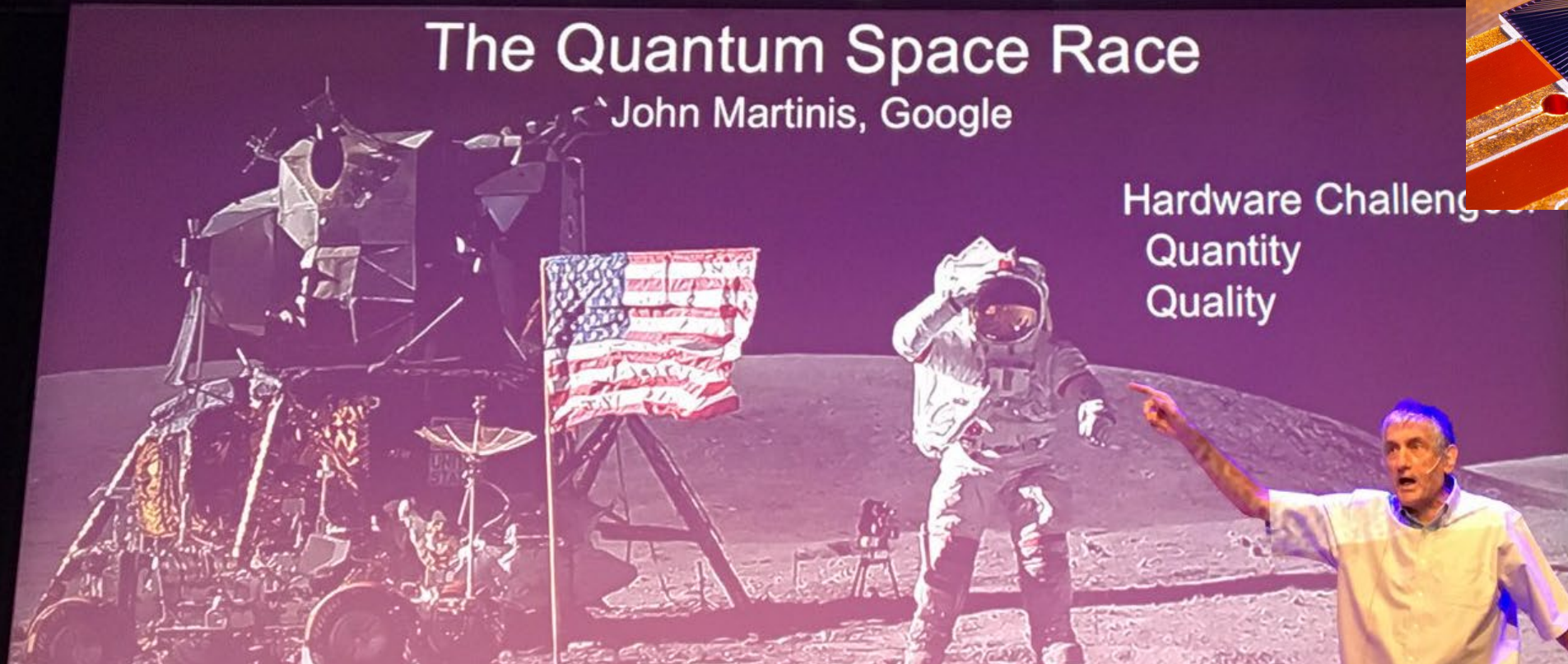
Strong quantum computational advantage with 56 and 60-qubit RCS, PRL 127, 180501 (2021)

Acknowledgement



The image shows a highly complex scientific experiment setup, likely a particle detector or a quantum optics experiment. It features a large, circular, perforated metal base plate. Numerous cylindrical components, possibly detectors or sensors, are arranged in concentric rings on this base. A dense network of white and black cables is connected to these components. In the foreground, there are several metal frames and structures, some containing small, glowing components. The overall lighting is a mix of blue and orange, creating a technical and futuristic atmosphere. A central text box with a white background and a thin black border contains the text "Thank you" in a red, sans-serif font.

Thank you



arXiv:2111.03011 [pdf, other] [quant-ph](#) [physics.comp-ph](#)

Solving the sampling problem of the Sycamore quantum supremacy circuits

Authors: Feng Pan, Keyang Chen, Pan Zhang

Abstract: We study the problem of generating independent samples from the output distribution of Google's Sycamore quantum circuits with a target accuracy for quantum supremacy. We propose a method that is significantly more efficient than existing methods.

Limitations of Linear Cross-Entropy as a Measure for Quantum Advantage

Authors: Xun Gao, Marcin Kalinowski, Chi-Ning Chou, Mikhail D. Lukin, Boaz Barak, Soonwon Choi

quantum supremacy. We propose a method that is significantly more efficient than existing methods. We demonstrate this on a quantum circuit with 53 qubits and 20 cycles, which is beyond the reach of classical computers.