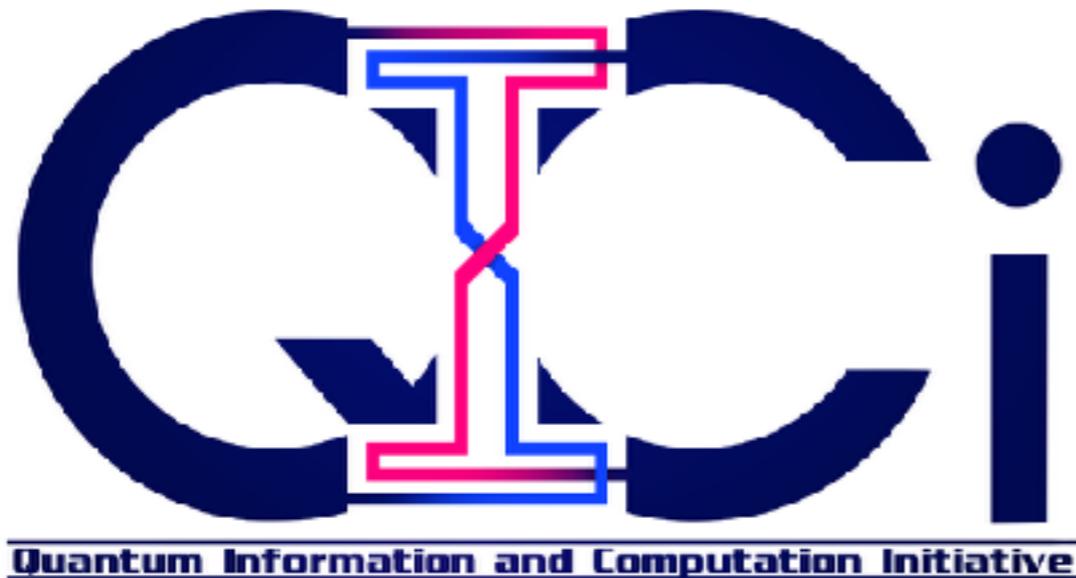


# *QUANTUM SUPERPOSITION OF CAUSAL ORDERS*

*Giulio Chiribella*

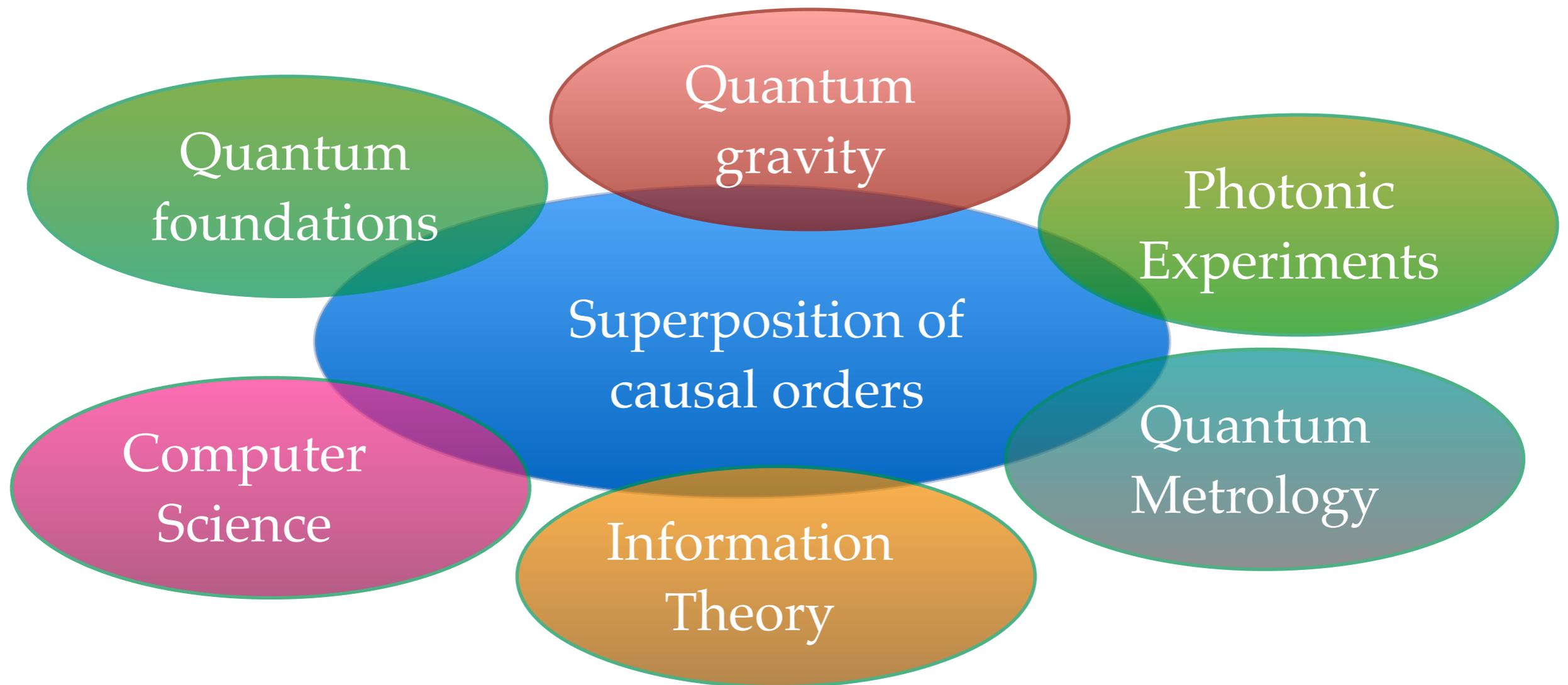
*QICI, The University of Hong Kong*



PhD Course, University of Palermo, 28 Nov 2022



# CAUSAL STRUCTURE IN QUANTUM PHYSICS



# FROM GRAVITY TO QUANTUM INFORMATION

Journal of Physics A: Mathematical and Theoretical

Towards quantum gravity: a framework for probabilistic theories with non-fixed causal structure

Lucien Hardy

Published 7 March 2007 • 2007 IOP Publishing Ltd

[Journal of Physics A: Mathematical and Theoretical, Volume 40, Number 12](#)



[Quantum Reality, Relativistic Causality, and Closing the Epistemic Circle](#) pp 379-401 | [Cite as](#)

## Quantum Gravity Computers: On the Theory of Computation with Indefinite Causal Structure

Authors

[Authors and affiliations](#)

Lucien Hardy 

General relativity is a deterministic theory with non-fixed causal structure.  
Quantum theory is a probabilistic theory with fixed causal structure.  
In this paper we build a framework for probabilistic theories with non-fixed causal structure.  
This combines the radical elements of general relativity and quantum theory.



Lucien Hardy, Perimeter Institute

# SUPERPOSITION OF CAUSAL STRUCTURES

## Beyond Quantum Computers

G. Chiribella, G. M. D'Ariano, P. Perinotti, B. Valiron

The manuscript poses and addresses a new very fundamental issue in Quantum Computer Science, which is going to have a radical impact on the way we currently conceive quantum computation. We show that there exists a new kind of "higher-order" quantum computation, potentially much more powerful than the usual quantum processing, which is feasible, but cannot be realized by a usual quantum circuit. In order to implement this new kind of computations one needs to change the rules of quantum circuits, also considering circuits with the geometry of the connections that can be itself in a quantum superposition. The new kind of computation poses also fundamental problems for unexplored aspects of quantum mechanics in a non-fixed causal framework, which go far beyond computer-science problems, and may be of relevance in quantum gravity.

[arXiv:0912.0195](https://arxiv.org/abs/0912.0195)

### Quantum computations without definite causal structure

Giulio Chiribella, Giacomo Mauro D'Ariano, Paolo Perinotti, and Benoit Valiron  
Phys. Rev. A **88**, 022318 – Published 14 August 2013

We show that quantum theory allows for transformations of black boxes that cannot be realized by inserting the input black boxes within a circuit in a predefined causal order. The simplest example of such a transformation is the *classical switch of black boxes*, where two input black boxes are arranged in two different orders conditionally on the value of a classical bit. The quantum version of this transformation—the *quantum switch*—produces an output circuit where the order of the connections is controlled by a quantum bit, which becomes entangled with the circuit structure. Simulating these transformations in a circuit with fixed causal structure requires either postselection or an extra query to the input black boxes.

[Phys. Rev. A 88, 022318 \(2013\)](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevA.88.022318)

# THE QUANTUM SWITCH

An hypothetical machine that combines two black boxes in a coherent superposition of alternative orders.

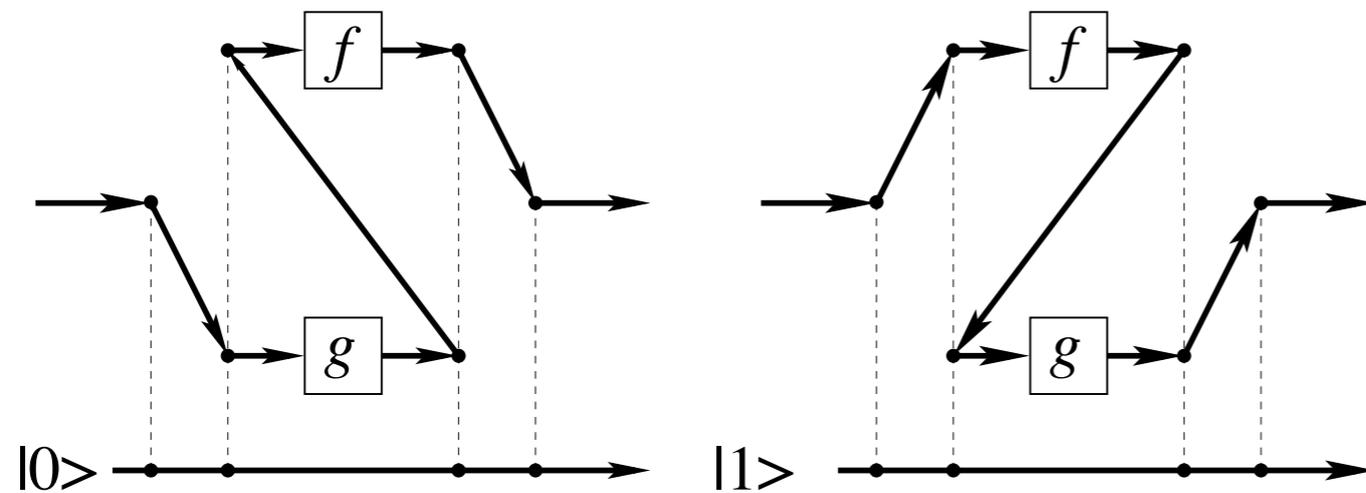


FIG. 1: Quantum machine with classical control over movable wires.

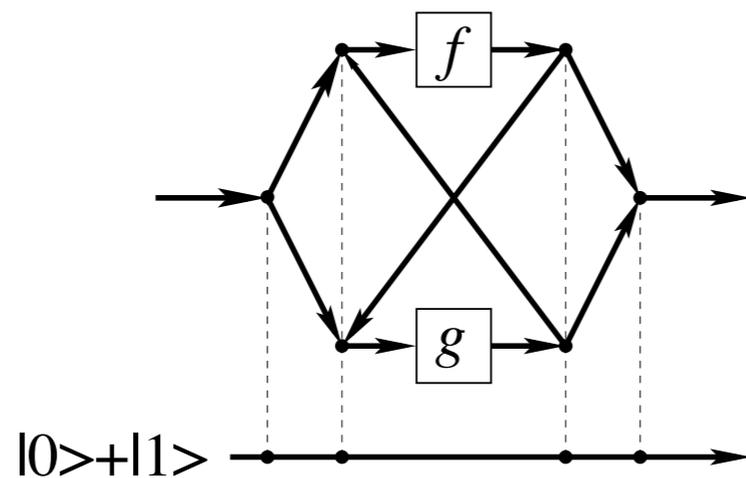


FIG. 2: Quantum machine with quantum control over movable wires.

figures from  
arXiv:0912.0195

# INFORMATION-THEORETIC ADVANTAGES

[Open Access](#) | [Published: 02 October 2012](#)

## Quantum correlations with no causal order

[Ognjan Oreshkov](#) , [Fabio Costa](#) & [Časlav Brukner](#)

*Nature Communications* **3**, Article number: 1092 (2012) | [Cite this article](#)

Rapid Communication

## Perfect discrimination of no-signalling channels via quantum superposition of causal structures

[Giulio Chiribella](#)

*Phys. Rev. A* **86**, 040301(R) – Published 10 October 2012

Editors' Suggestion

## Computational Advantage from Quantum-Controlled Ordering of Gates

[Mateus Araújo](#), [Fabio Costa](#), and [Časlav Brukner](#)

*Phys. Rev. Lett.* **113**, 250402 – Published 18 December 2014

## Enhanced Communication with the Assistance of Indefinite Causal Order

[Daniel Ebler](#), [Sina Salek](#), and [Giulio Chiribella](#)

*Phys. Rev. Lett.* **120**, 120502 – Published 22 March 2018

## Quantum Metrology with Indefinite Causal Order

[Xiaobin Zhao](#), [Yuxiang Yang](#), and [Giulio Chiribella](#)

*Phys. Rev. Lett.* **124**, 190503 – Published 14 May 2020

## Quantum Refrigeration with Indefinite Causal Order

[David Felce](#) and [Vlatko Vedral](#)

*Phys. Rev. Lett.* **125**, 070603 – Published 11 August 2020

# EXPERIMENTS

## Experimental superposition of orders of quantum gates

Lorenzo M. Procopio , Amir Moqanaki, Mateus Araújo, Fabio Costa, Irati Alonso Calafell, Emma G. Dowd, Deny R. Hamel, Lee A. Rozema, Časlav Brukner & Philip Walther 

*Nature Communications* **6**, Article number: 7913 (2015) | [Cite this article](#)

Editors' Suggestion

## Indefinite Causal Order in a Quantum Switch

K. Goswami, C. Giarmatzi, M. Kewming, F. Costa, C. Branciard, J. Romero, and A. G. White  
*Phys. Rev. Lett.* **121**, 090503 – Published 31 August 2018

## Experimental Quantum Switching for Exponentially Superior Quantum Communication Complexity

Kejin Wei, Nora Tischler, Si-Ran Zhao, Yu-Huai Li, Juan Miguel Arrazola, Yang Liu, Weijun Zhang, Hao Li, Lixing You, Zhen Wang, Yu-Ao Chen, Barry C. Sanders, Qiang Zhang, Geoff J. Pryde, Feihu Xu, and Jian-Wei Pan  
*Phys. Rev. Lett.* **122**, 120504 – Published 28 March 2019

## Experimental Transmission of Quantum Information Using a Superposition of Causal Orders

Yu Guo, Xiao-Min Hu, Zhi-Bo Hou, Huan Cao, Jin-Ming Cui, Bi-Heng Liu, Yun-Feng Huang, Chuan-Feng Li, Guang-Can Guo, and Giulio Chiribella  
*Phys. Rev. Lett.* **124**, 030502 – Published 24 January 2020

## Experimental verification of an indefinite causal order

Giulia Rubino<sup>1,\*</sup>, Lee A. Rozema<sup>1</sup>,  Adrien Feix<sup>1,2</sup>, Mateus Araújo<sup>1,2</sup>,  Jonas M. Zeuner<sup>1</sup>, Lorenzo ...  
[+ See all authors and affiliations](#)

*Science Advances* 24 Mar 2017:  
Vol. 3, no. 3, e1602589  
DOI: 10.1126/sciadv.1602589

+ recent review

### Experiments on quantum causality

*AVS Quantum Sci.* **2**, 037101 (2020); <https://doi.org/10.1116/5.0010747>

 K. Goswami  and  J. Romero 

# PLAN OF THE TALK

- **Foundations:** quantum supermaps and the quantum SWITCH
- **Applications:** query complexity, quantum communication, quantum metrology

# THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK: QUANTUM SUPERMAPS

*To see a World in a Grain of Sand  
And a Heaven in a Wild Flower  
Hold Infinity in the palm of your hand  
And Eternity in an hour.*

*William Blake, ca. 1803*

# FORGET EVERYTHING, EXCEPT QUANTUM STATES

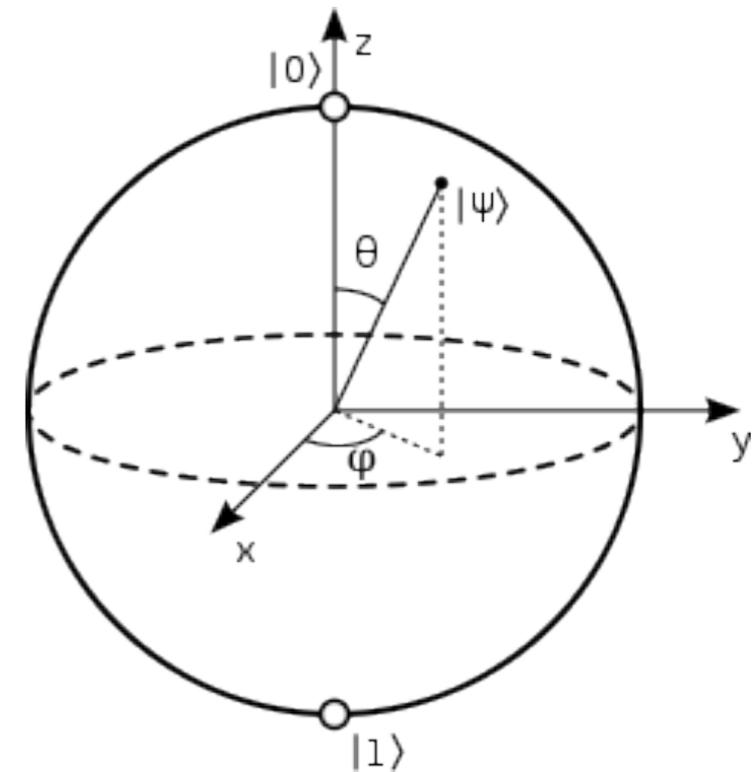
**Promise:** there exist quantum systems.

**Quantum system**  $\longrightarrow$  Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H} = \mathbb{C}^d$

**Quantum states** = density matrices

$$\rho \in L(\mathcal{H}), \quad \langle \psi | \rho | \psi \rangle \geq 0 \quad \forall |\psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}, \quad \text{Tr}[\rho] = 1$$

$$\rho \geq 0$$

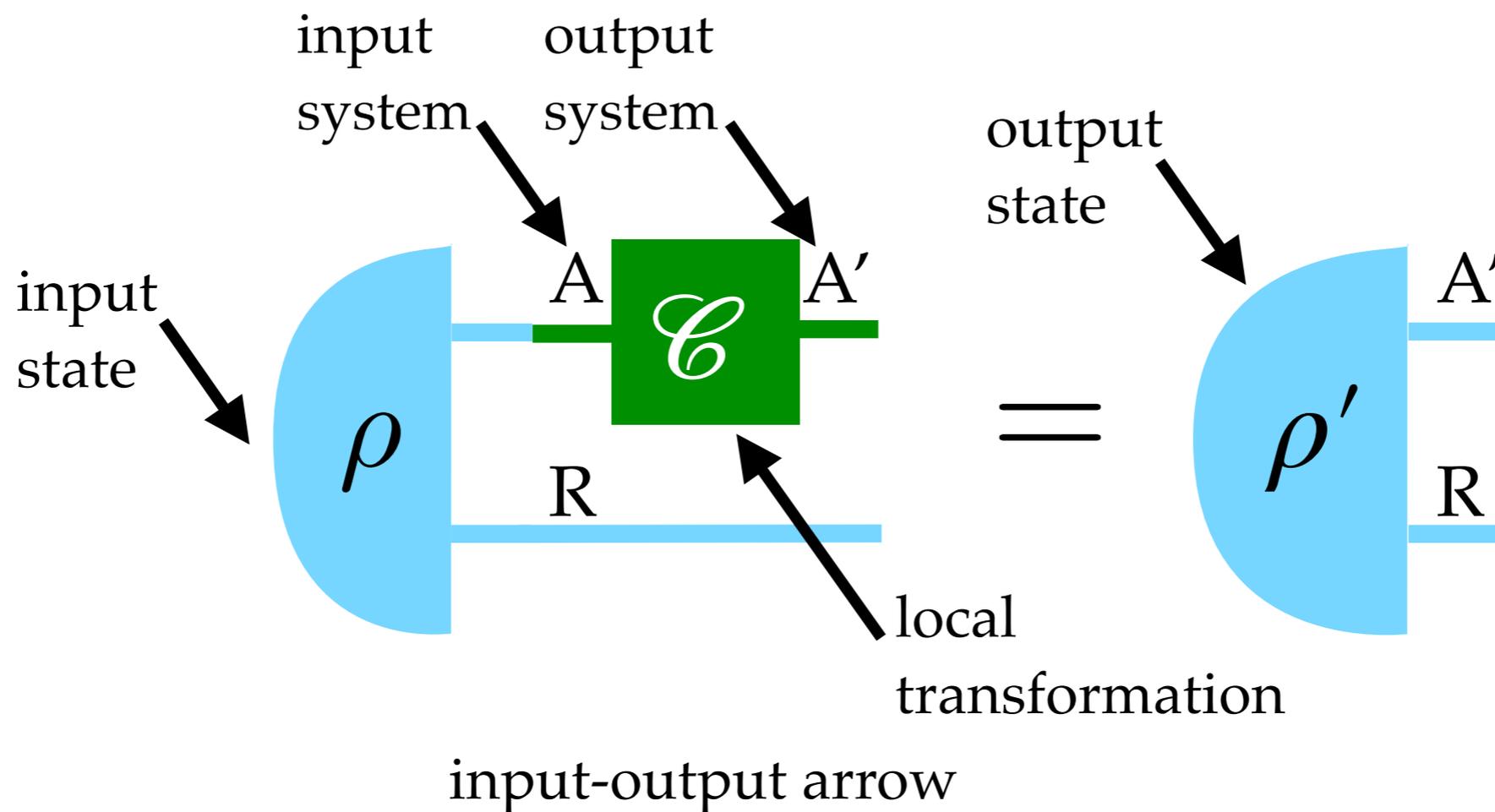


Question:

What is the most general way  
to transform  
quantum states into quantum states?

# ADMISSIBLE MAPS

**Admissible map:** must be **linear\*** and **send states into states**, even when acting **locally** on one part of a composite system



\*why linear?

see GC, D'Ariano, and Perinotti, *Quantum from Principles*, in *Quantum Theory: Informational Foundations and Foils*, Springer 2016, arXiv:1506.00398, p. 11

# EXAMPLE AND NON-EXAMPLE

- Example: unitary map  $\mathcal{U}(\rho) := U\rho U^\dagger$ ,  $U^\dagger U = U U^\dagger = I$

- Non-example: transpose map  $\Theta(\rho) := \rho^T \quad \forall \rho$

Apply it to  $|\Phi^+\rangle := \sum_k |k\rangle \otimes |k\rangle / \sqrt{d}$ ,

get non-positive matrix.

# CHARACTERIZATION OF THE ADMISSIBLE MAPS

Every admissible map has a *Kraus representation*

$$\mathcal{E}(\rho) = \sum_i C_i \rho C_i^\dagger \quad \text{with} \quad \sum_i C_i^\dagger C_i = I$$

completely positive                      trace-preserving

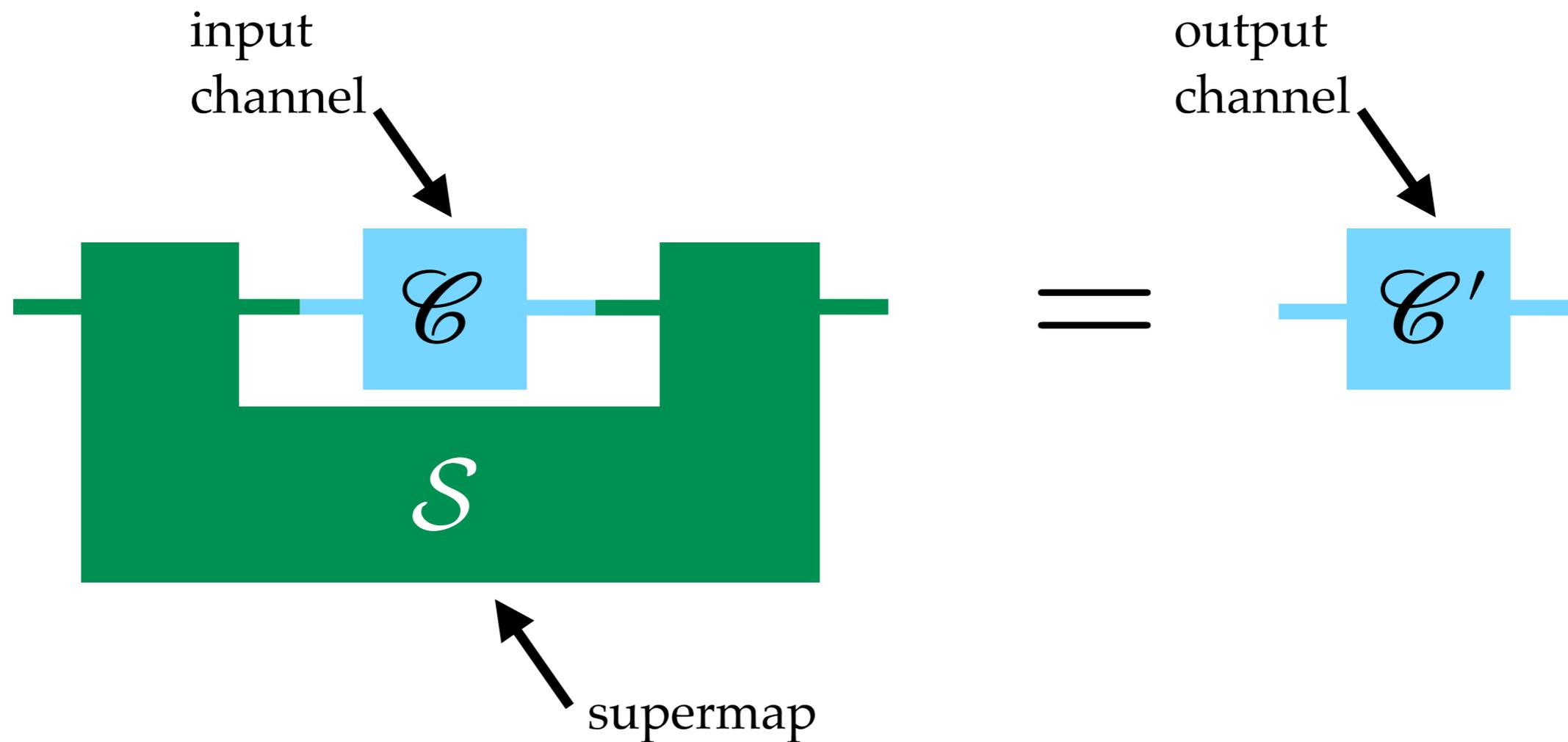
Admissible maps = completely positive, trace-preserving maps  
=: quantum channels

Next Level:

What is the most general way  
to transform  
quantum channels into quantum channels?

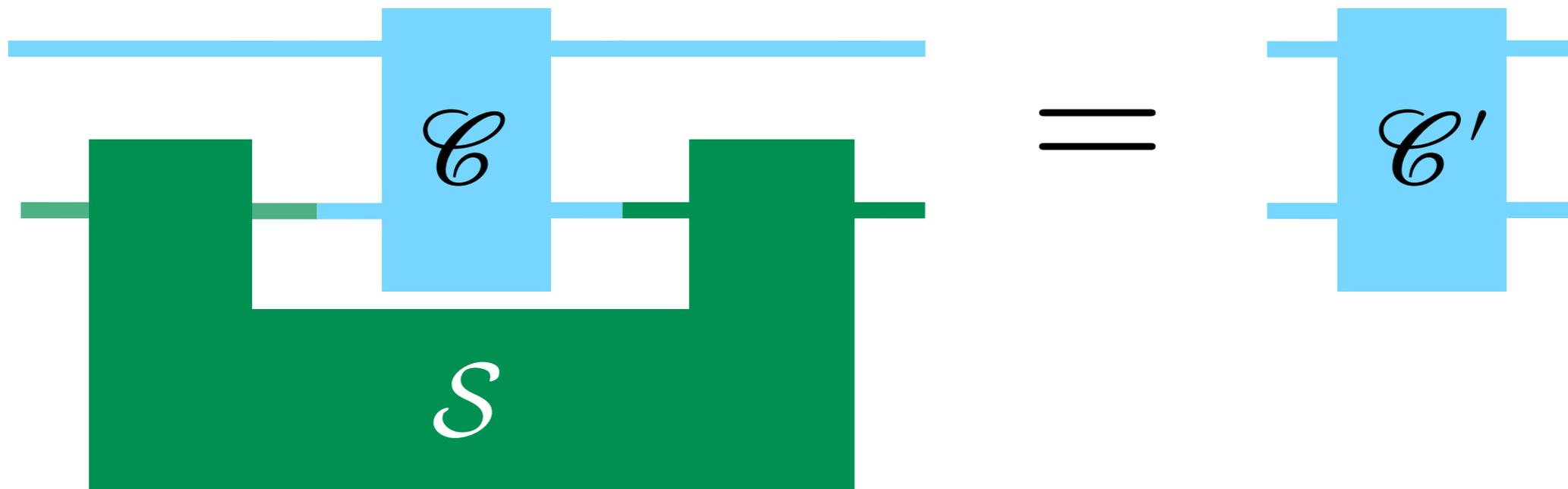
# SUPERMAPS

Supermaps = transformations of quantum channels



# ADMISSIBLE SUPERMAPS

Admissible supermap: must be **linear\***  
and **send channels into channels**,  
even when acting **locally** on one part of  
a bipartite channel

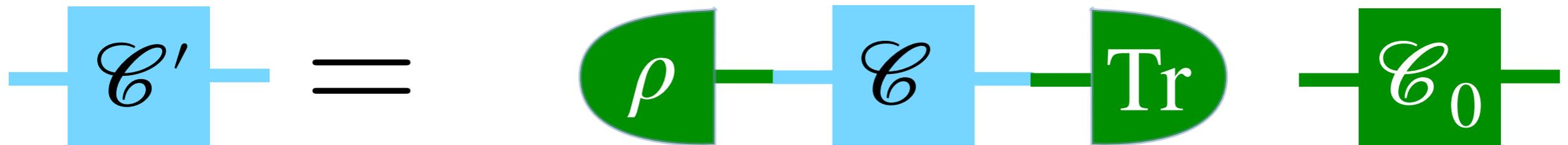


## EXAMPLES

- Encoding-decoding  $\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{C}) := \mathcal{D} \circ \mathcal{C} \circ \mathcal{E}$ ,  
with  $\mathcal{E}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$  fixed quantum channels



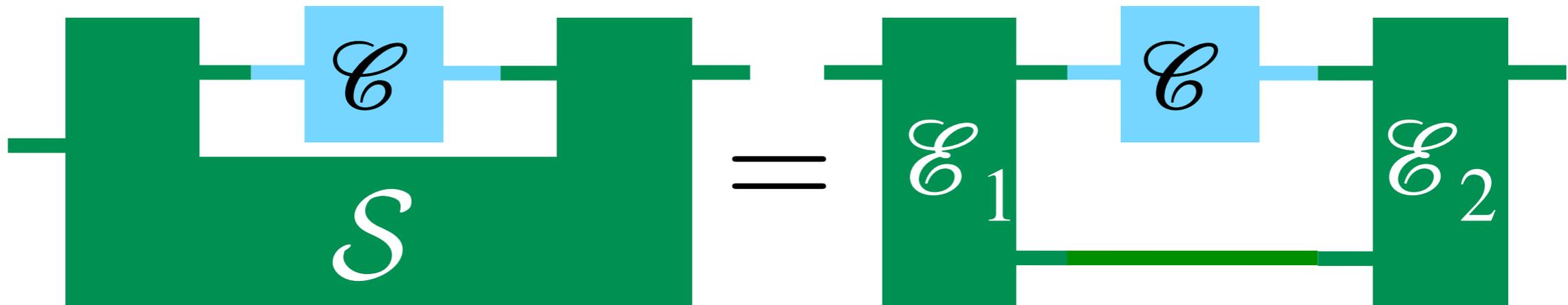
- Replacement  $\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{C}) := \text{Tr}[\mathcal{C}(\rho)] \mathcal{C}_0$ ,  
with  $\rho$  fixed state and  $\mathcal{C}_0$  fixed channel



# CHARACTERIZATION OF THE ADMISSIBLE SUPERMAPS

## Theorem

Every admissible supermap can be realized by a network of channels with memory:

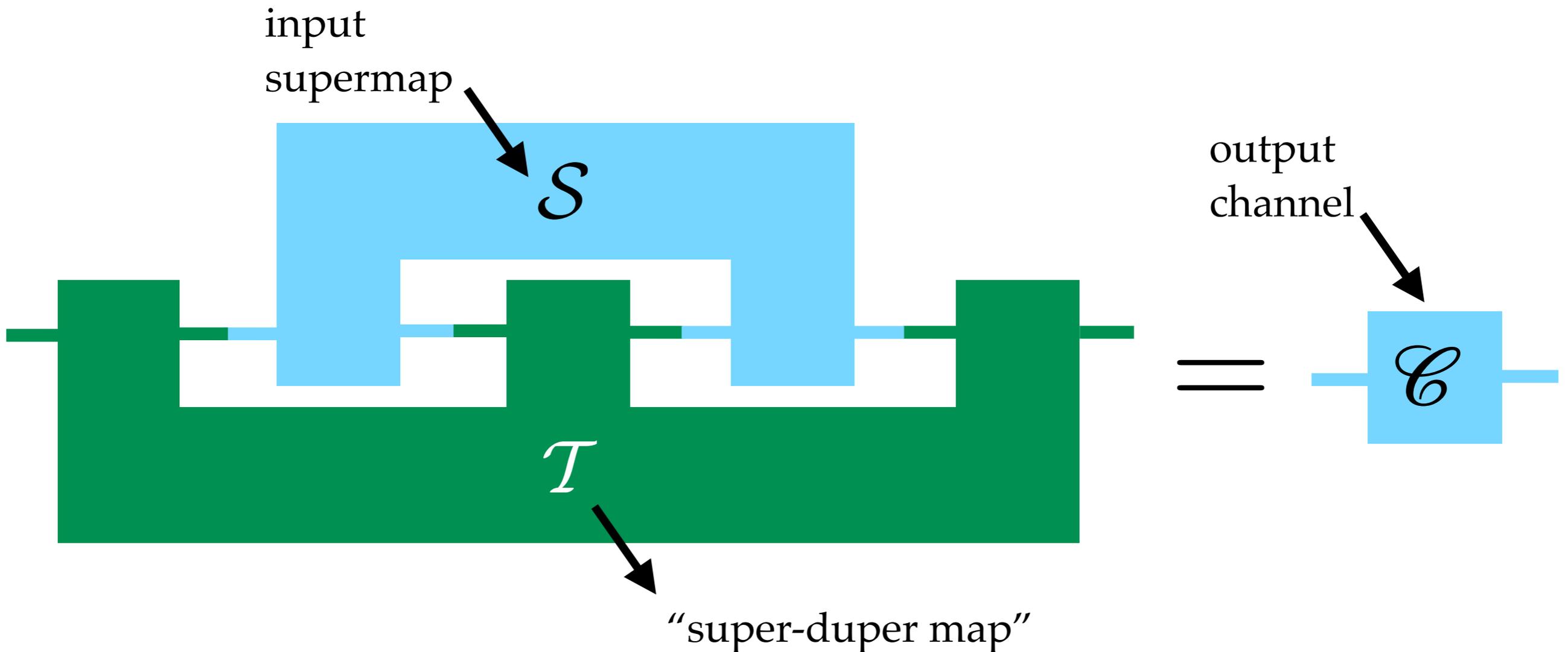


Chiribella, D'Ariano, and Perinotti, EPL 83, 30004 (2008)

Next Next Level:

What is the most general way  
to transform  
admissible supermaps into admissible channels?

# HIGHER-ORDER SUPERMAPS

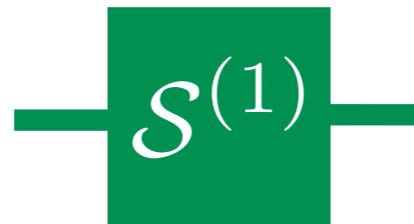


Admissible "super-duper map":

must be **linear\*** and **send admissible supermaps into channels**,  
even when acting **locally** on one part of a bipartite supermap

# ADMISSIBLE N-MAPS

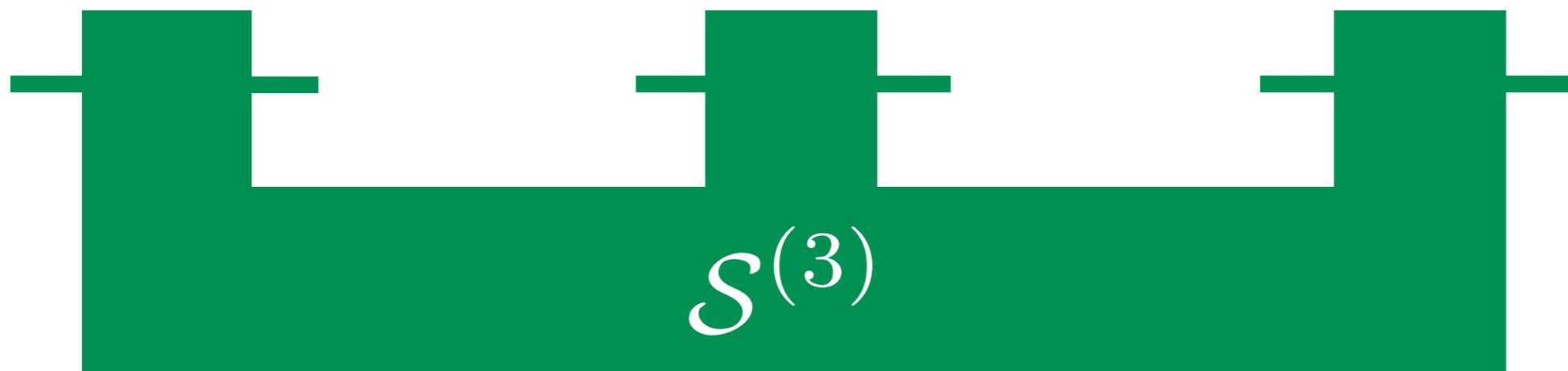
N=1 quantum channel



N=2



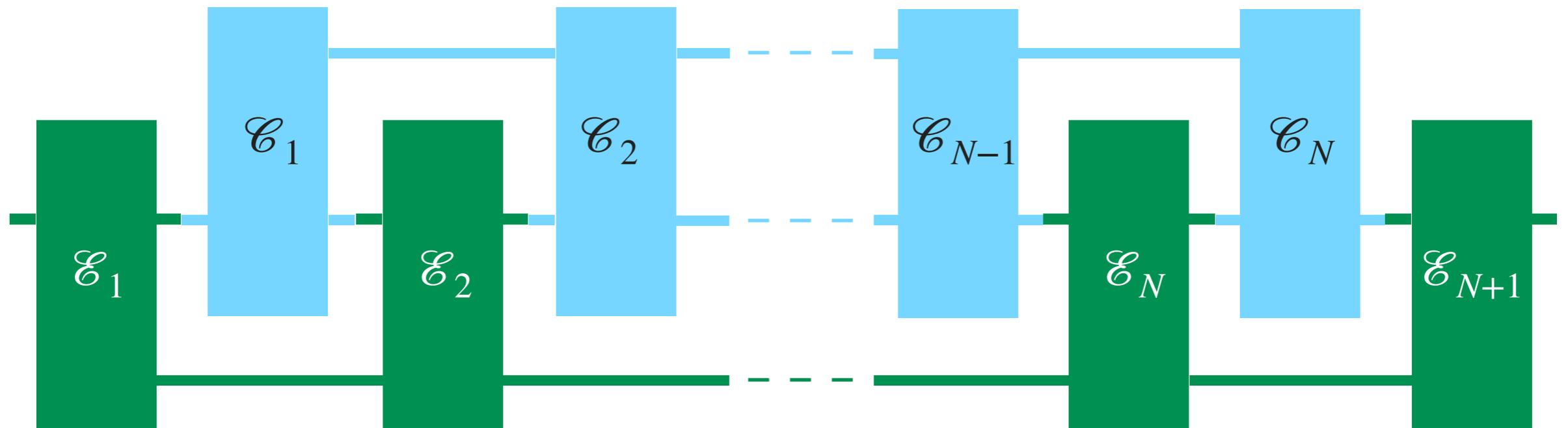
N=3



# REALIZATION OF ADMISSIBLE N-MAPS

## Theorem

Any admissible N-map can be realized by a sequential network of quantum channels with memory:

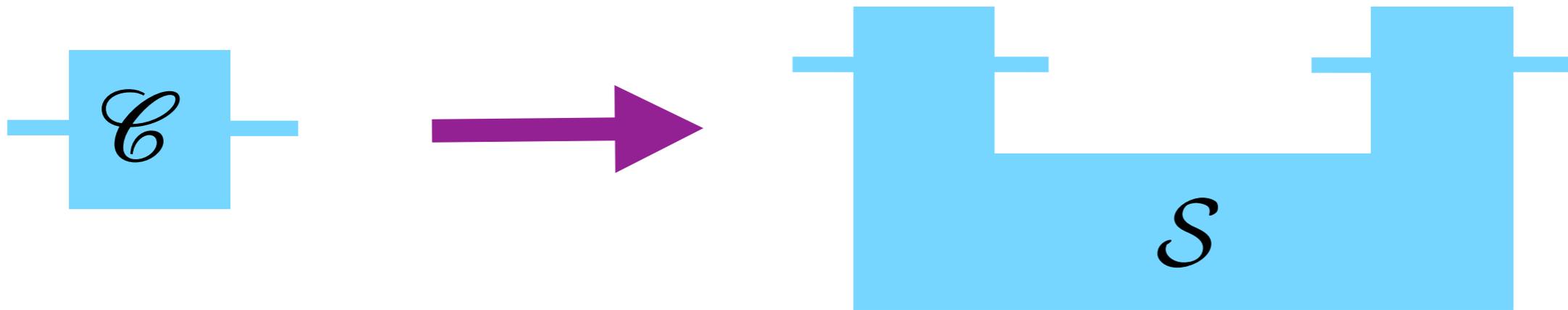


Chiribella, D'Ariano, and Perinotti, Phys. Rev. A 80, 022339 (2009)

Getting to the weird levels:  
What is the most general way  
to transform  
admissible supermaps into admissible supermaps?

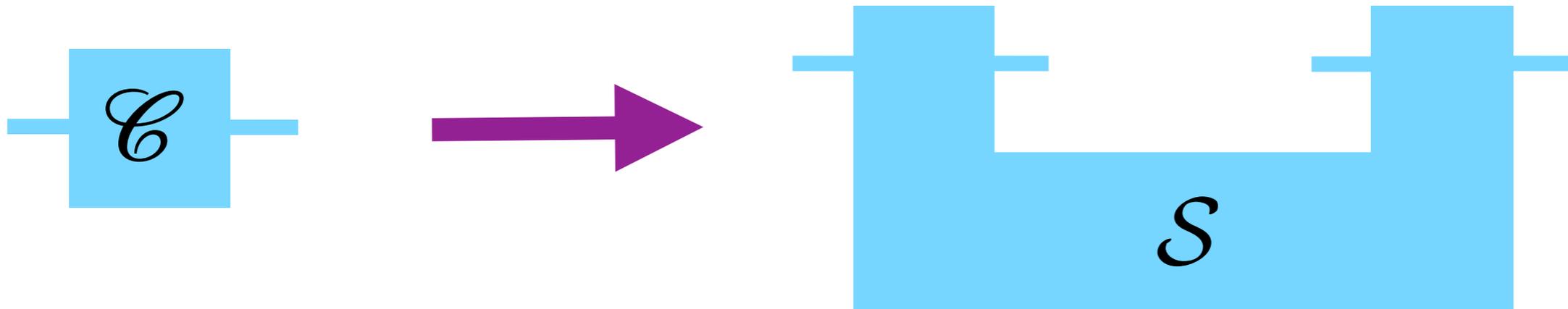
# THE EASIEST EXAMPLE

**Question:** what is the most general way to transform a quantum channel into a supermap?

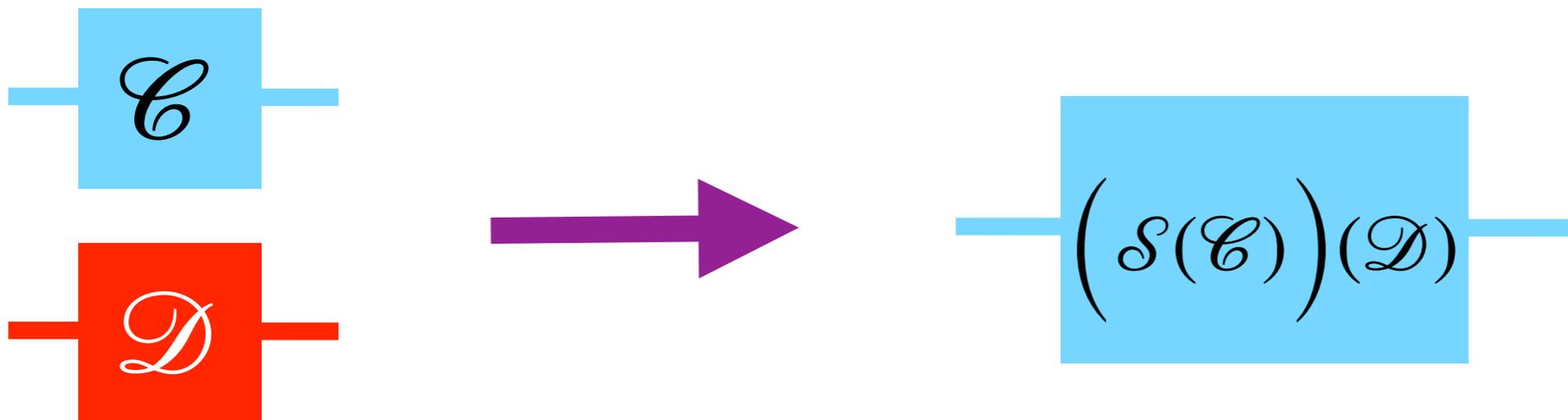


# EQUIVALENT FORMULATION

Transforming a channel into a supermap



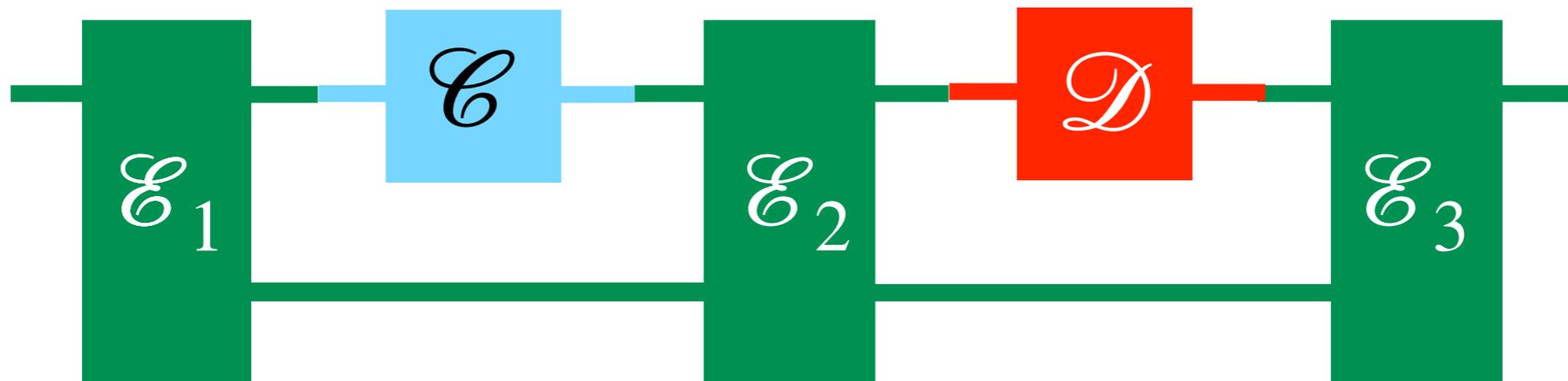
is equivalent to  
transforming a *pair* of channels into a channel



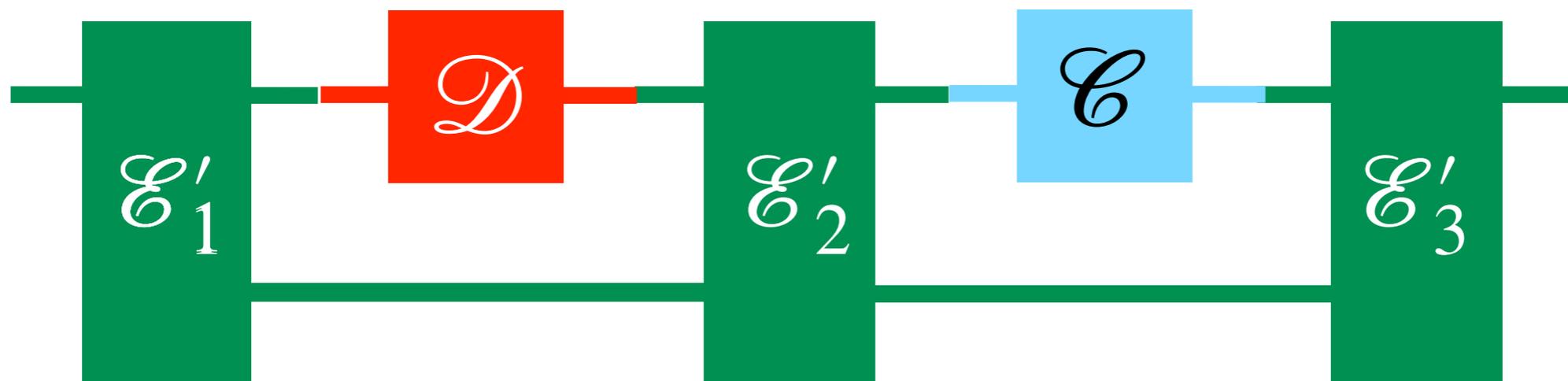
# TWO COMPLEMENTARY ORDERS

There are *two* alternative causal networks.

- First realization: place  $\mathcal{C}$  before  $\mathcal{D}$

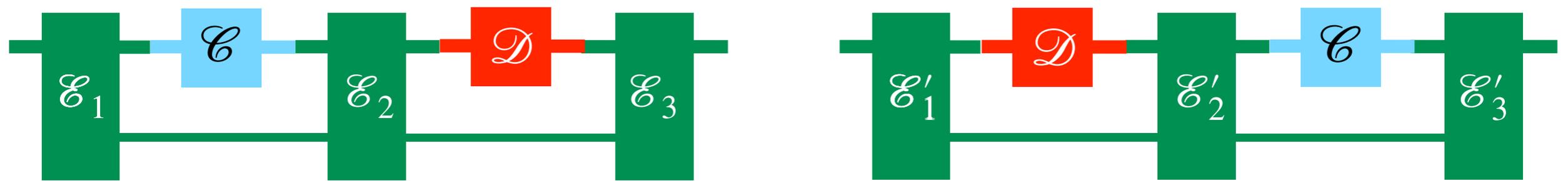


- Second realization: place  $\mathcal{D}$  before  $\mathcal{C}$



# MIXTURE VS SUPERPOSITION OF CAUSAL STRUCTURES

Two complementary choices of causal networks:



We could choose **randomly** between these two supermaps.

But we can also **choose coherently**,  
depending on the state of a control qubit.

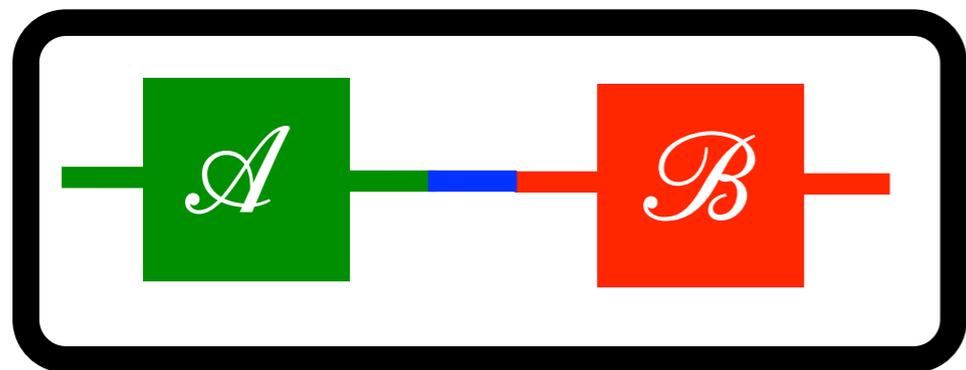
This gives us a **coherent superposition of causal structures**.

THE  
QUANTUM  
SWITCH

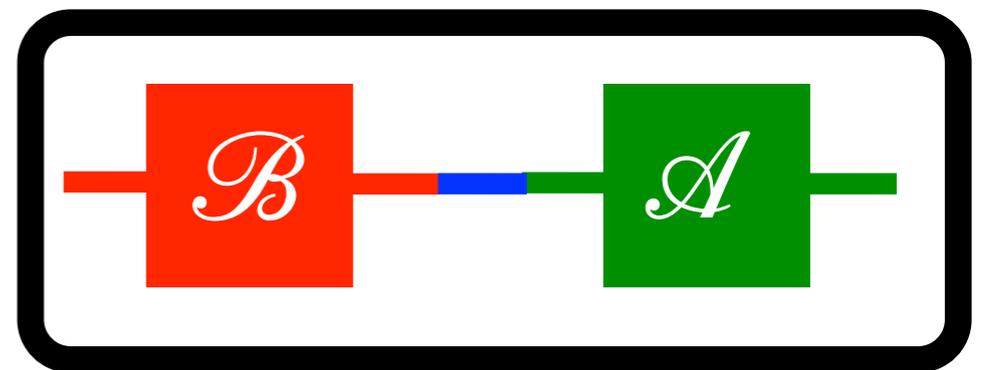
# THE (SIMPLIFIED) QUANTUM SWITCH

The (*simplified*) quantum SWITCH is the supermap that takes as input the two processes  and  with equal inputs/outputs

and *connects* them in a coherent superposition of the two configurations



and



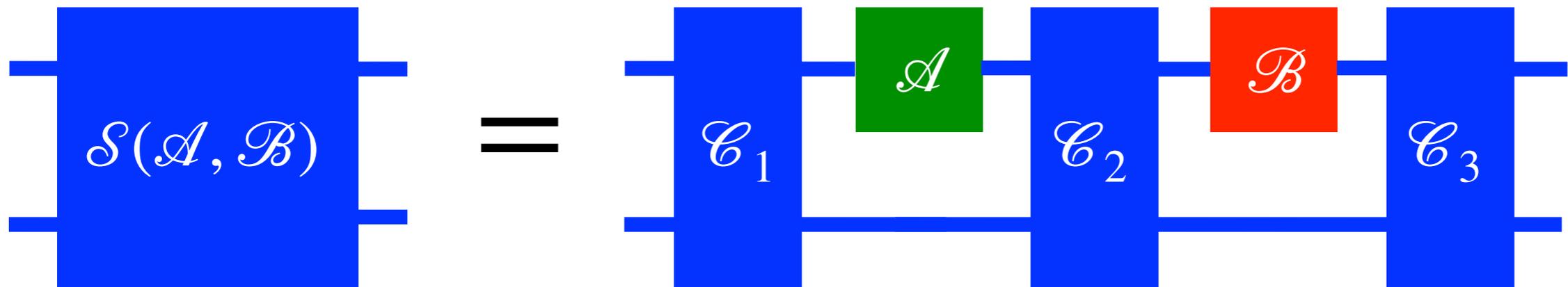
The quantum SWITCH produces a new channel  $\mathcal{S}(A, B)$  with Kraus operators

$$S_{ij} := A_i B_j \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0| + B_j A_i \otimes |1\rangle\langle 1|$$

# INCOMPATIBILITY WITH FIXED CAUSAL ORDER

Theorem (CDPV 2009/2013)

It is impossible to find quantum channels  $\mathcal{C}_1$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_2$ , and  $\mathcal{C}_3$  such that



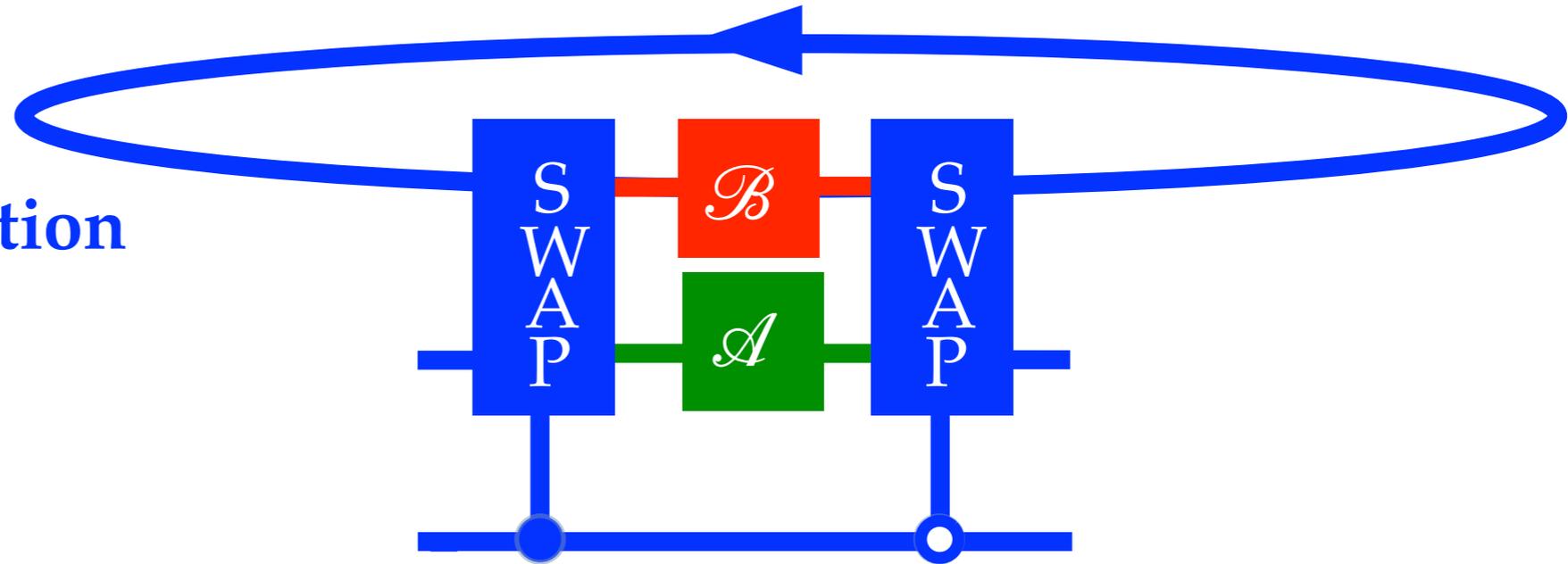
for all unitary  and 

(same holds with  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  in the opposite order,  
and for classical mixtures of the two orders)

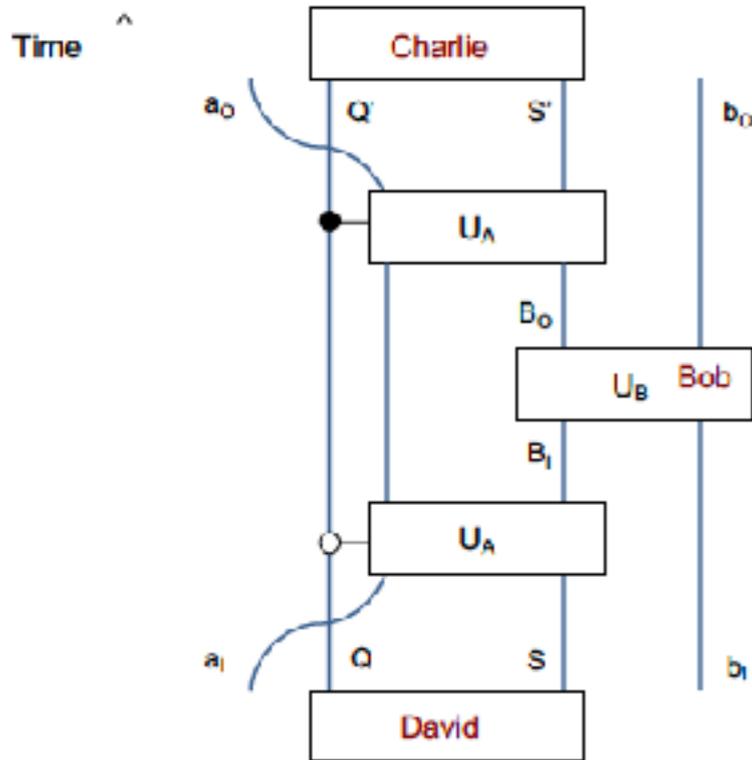
# REALIZATIONS / SIMULATIONS

## Time loops/ Postselected teleportation

CDPV 2009/2013

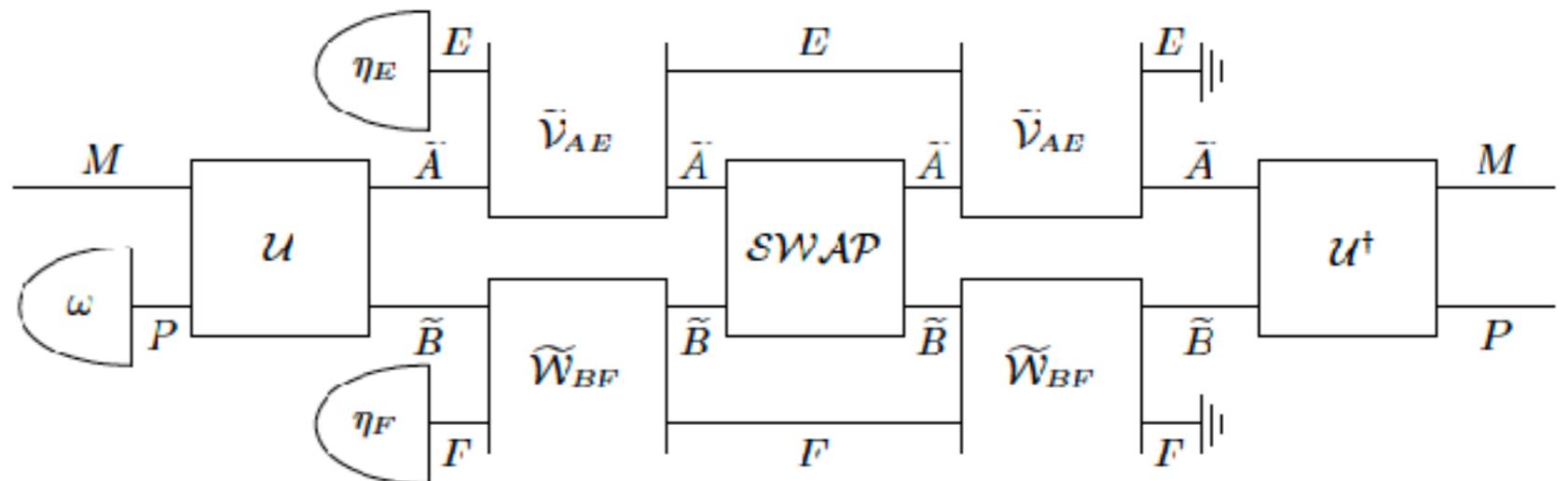


## Interferometric-type



With controlled operations

Oreshkov, Quantum 3, 206 (2019)



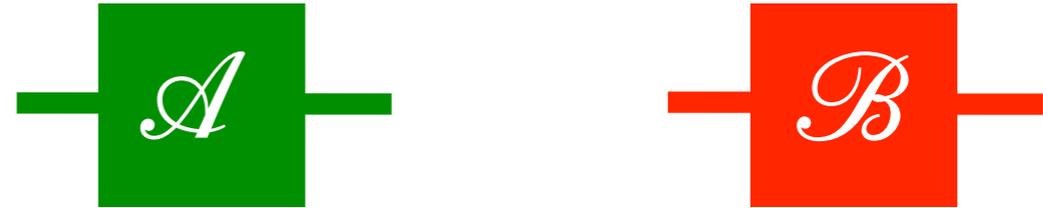
With modes and the vacuum

Chiribella and Kristjánsson, Proceedings of the Royal Society A, 475, 20180903 (2019)

APPLICATIONS  
OF  
THE QUANTUM SWITCH

# REDUCING QUERY COMPLEXITY

- Testing commutativity



*e.g. discover if operators commute or anti-commute*

probability of correct answer = 1 with the quantum SWITCH

< 1 for every testing strategy where  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  are connected in a definite order.

Chiribella, PRA 86, 040301(R) (2012)

Generalization to witnesses of indefinite causal order:

Araújo *et al*, NJP 17 10 (2015)

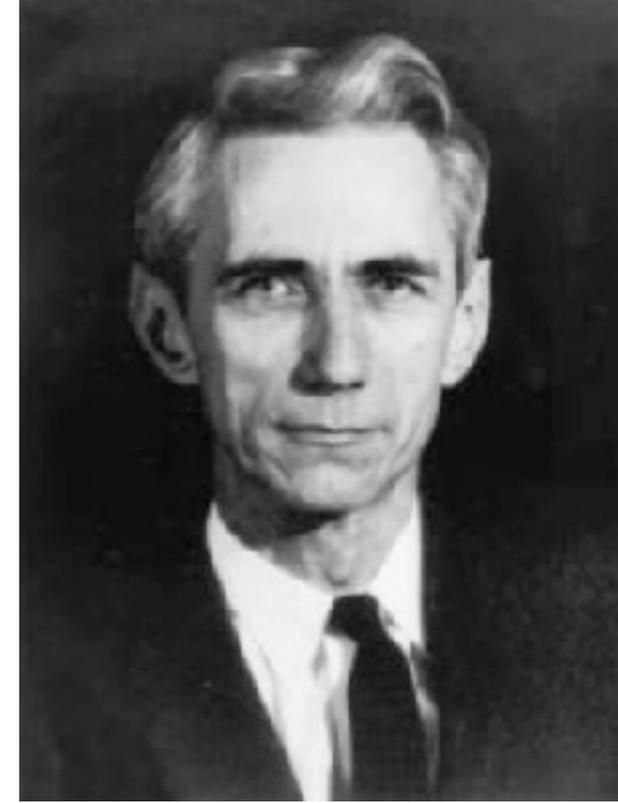
Extension to  $N$  channels:

Araujo, Costa, and Brukner, PRL 113, 250402 (2014)

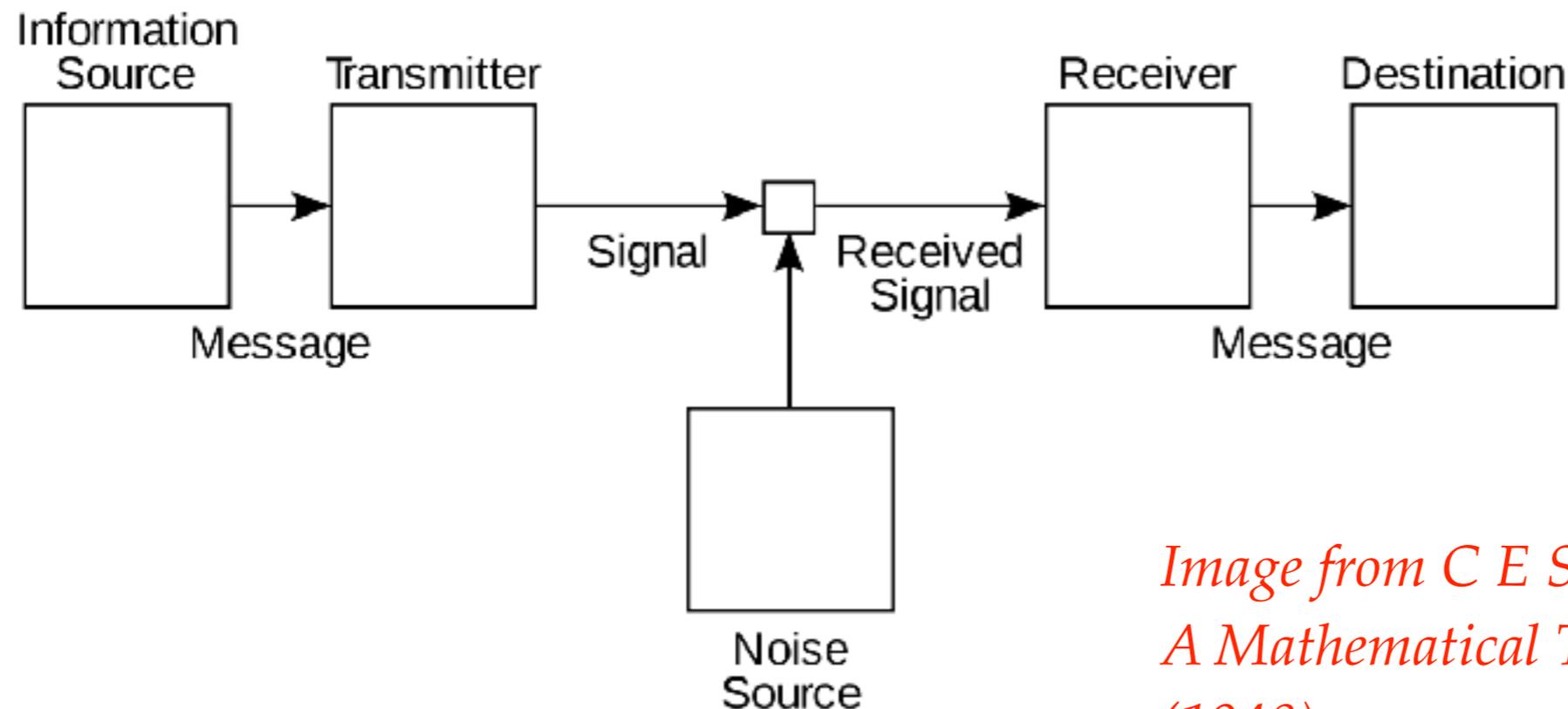
QUANTUM COMMUNICATION  
ASSISTED  
BY  
THE QUANTUM SWITCH

# CLASSICAL SHANNON THEORY

The carriers of information are classical:  
**classical states, classical channels,  
classical configuration of the channels**



Claude E. Shannon



*Image from C E Shannon,  
A Mathematical Theory of Communication  
(1948)*

# QUANTUM SHANNON THEORY

**Allows the state of the information carriers and the channels be quantum.**

**Messages can be quantum:**

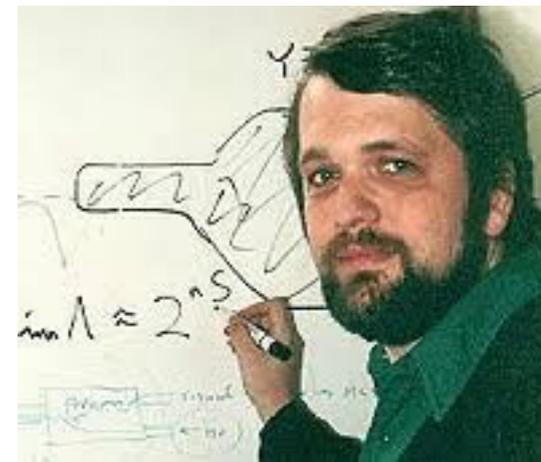
not just strings of bits, like 0010110111, but also quantum superpositions, like

$$|\Psi\rangle = \frac{|0010110111\rangle + |1010100011\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$$

*Still, the configuration of the communication channels is fixed.*



Alexander Holevo



Benjamin Schumacher



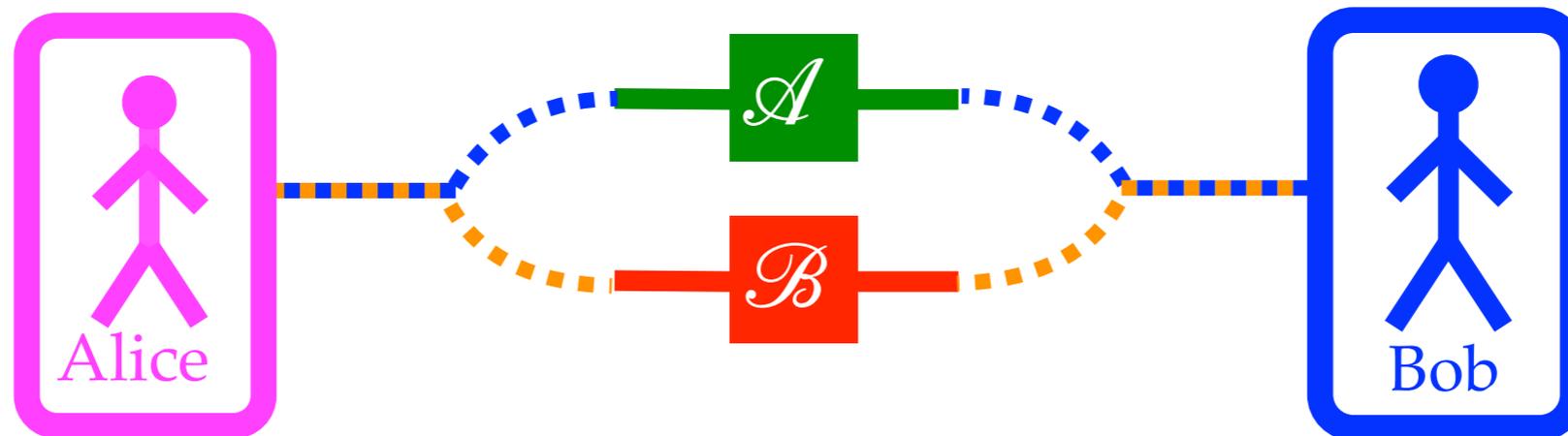
Charles Bennett

# QUANTUM CONFIGURATIONS

Quantum theory allows

*quantum-controlled configurations of the communication channels.*

- **Example 1:** message in a superposition of going through one communication channel or another



Aharonov, Anandan, Popescu, Vaidman, PRL 64, 2965 (1990), Oi, PRL 91, 067902 (2003)

Gisin, Linden, Massar, Popescu PRA 72, 012338 (2005)

Abbott, Wechs, Horsman, Mhalla, Branciard, Quantum 4, 333 (2020)

Chiribella and Kristjánsson, Proc. Royal Soc. A 475, 20180903 (2019)

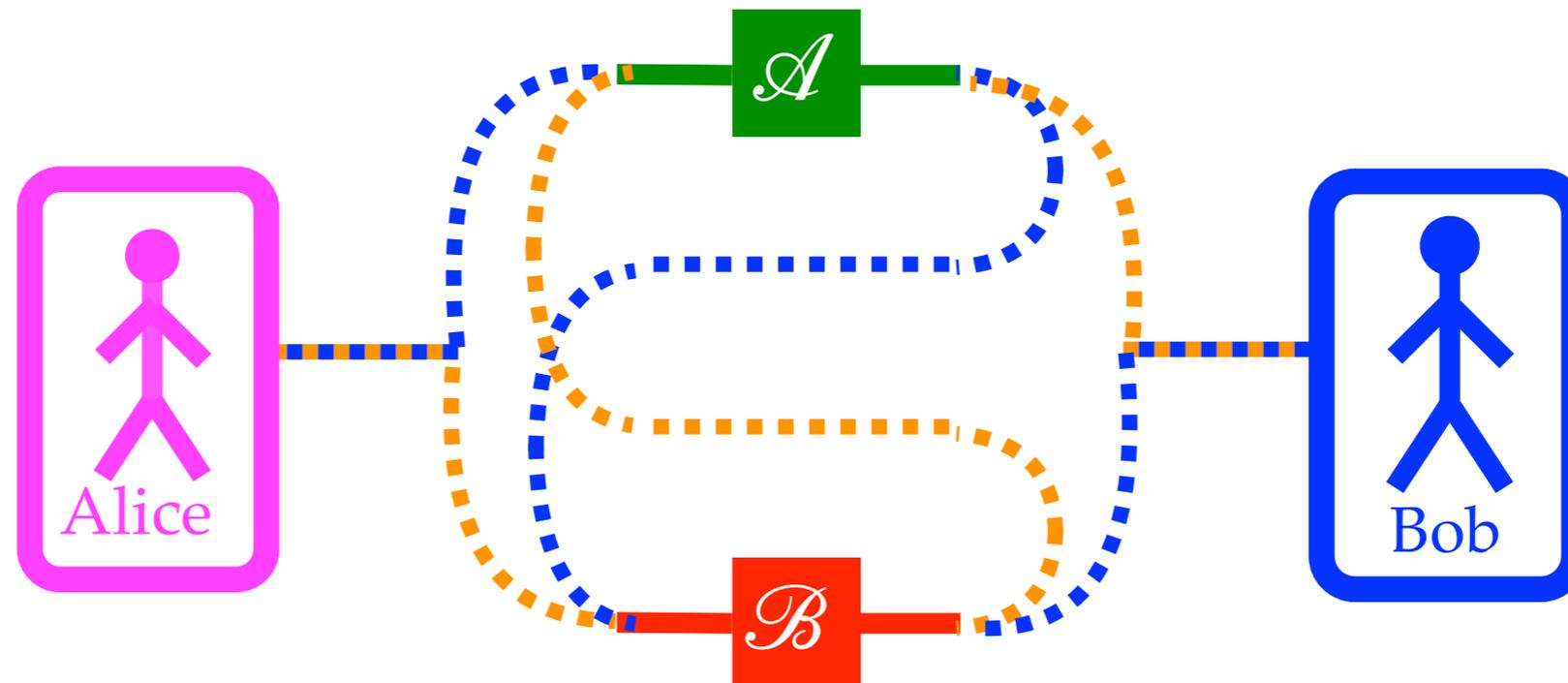
Dong, Nakayama, Soeda, Muraio, arXiv:1911.01645 (2019)

Kristjánsson and Chiribella, Phys. Rev. Research 3, 043147 (2021)

...

# QUANTUM CONFIGURATIONS

- **Example 2 (this talk):**  
message traversing two channels in a superposition of alternative causal orders



Ebler, Salek, Chiribella, Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 120502 (2018)

Goswami et al, Phys. Rev. Res. 2, 033292 (2020).

Salek, Ebler, Chiribella, arXiv:1809.06655

Chiribella, Banik, Bhattacharya, Guha, Alimuddin, Roy, Saha, Agrawal,  
arXiv:1810.10457; New Journal of Physics 23, 033039 (2021).

N. Loizeau and A. Grinbaum, Physical Review A 101, 012340 (2020).

Caleffi and Cacciapuoti, IEEE J. Sel. Areas Commun. 38, 575 (2020).

Bhattacharya, Maity, Guha, Chiribella, Banik, PRX Quantum 2, 020350 (2021), ...

# GENERAL SETTINGS

- Some communication devices are available to a **communication provider**. Each device is described by a quantum channel.

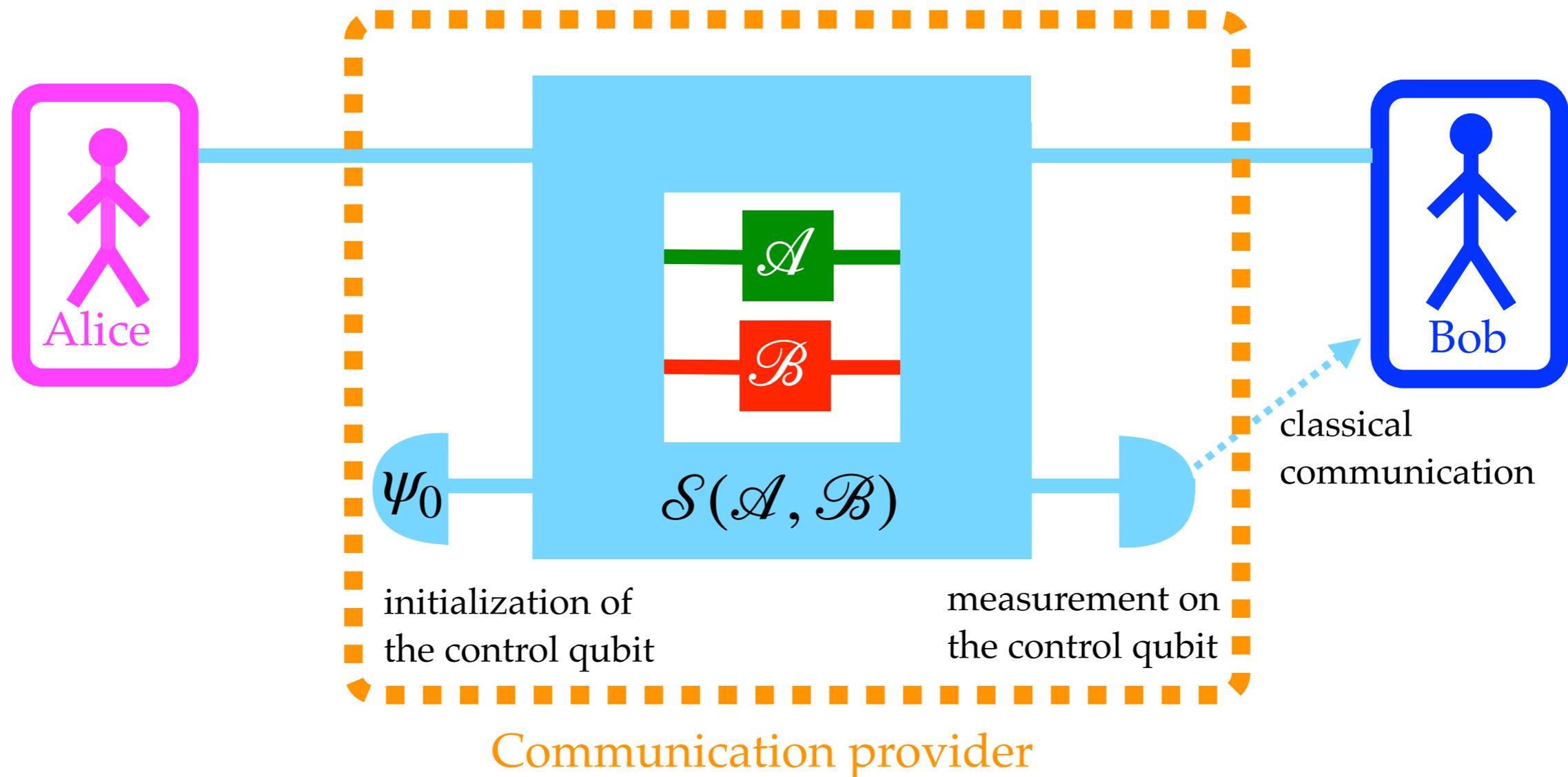


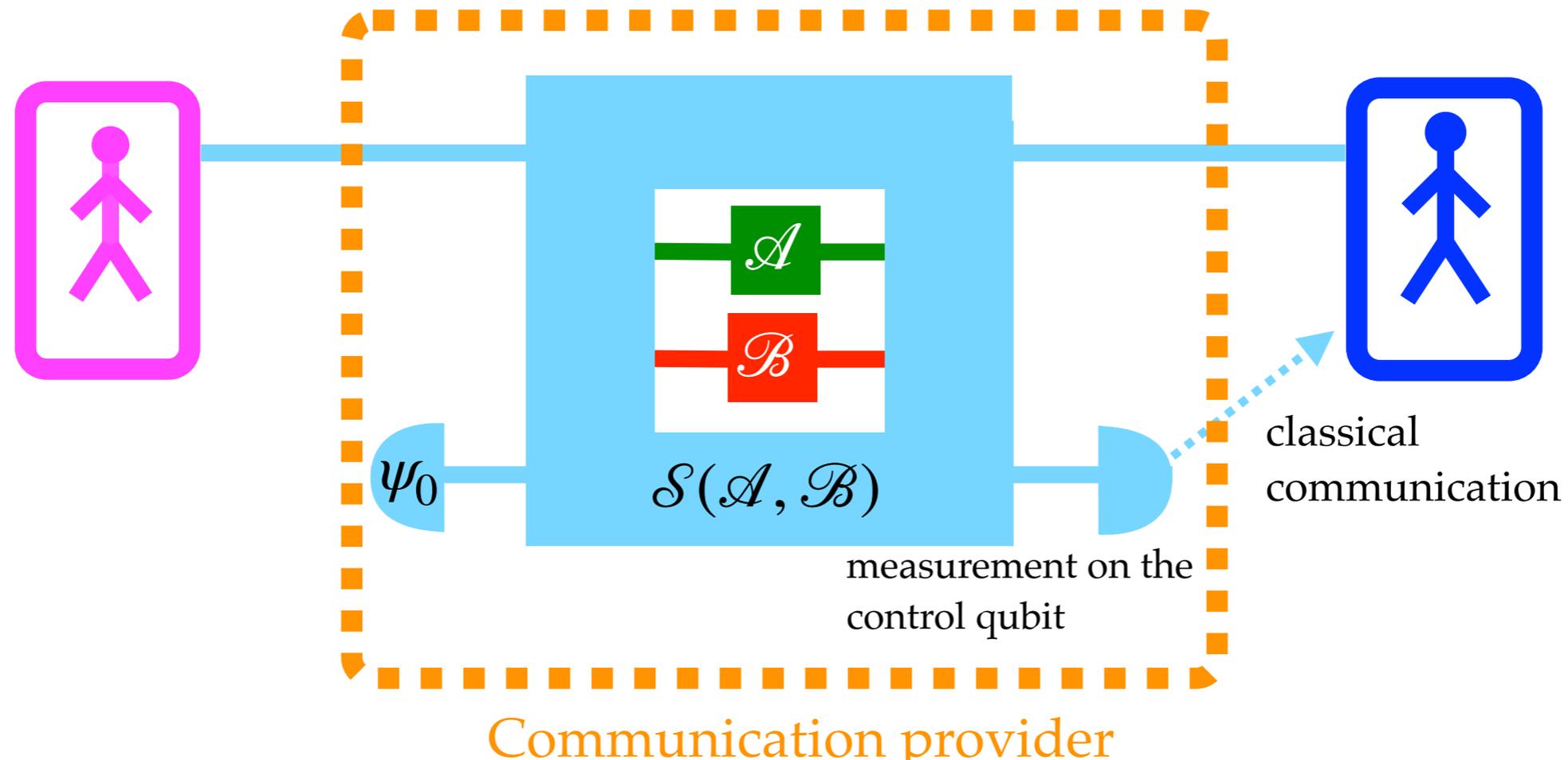
- The communication provider assembles the devices in a network, building an **effective channel** that connects a sender to a receiver.



# COMMUNICATION WITH QUANTUM SWITCH

Communication provider combines two devices in the quantum SWITCH, and uses the control system to assist the communication between a sender and a receiver.





This setting is similar to the setting of **quantum communication with classical feedback from the environment.**  
 Gregoratti and Werner, J. Mod. Opt. 50 915–33 (2003)

**Important difference:** *here we do not assume that the whole environment is accessible.*  
 The only accessible part of the environment is a two-dimensional system responsible for the order of channels  $A$  and  $B$ .  
 The environments of  $A$  and  $B$  are inaccessible.

**EXAMPLE:  
COMPLETELY  
DEPOLARIZING  
CHANNELS**

**Ebler, Salek, Chiribella, Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 120502 (2018)**

# COMPLETELY DEPOLARIZING CHANNELS

Suppose we are given

**two completely depolarizing channels (CDCs)**

$$\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{B} \quad \text{with} \quad \mathcal{A}(\rho) = \mathcal{B}(\rho) = \frac{I}{d} \quad \forall \rho$$

**In standard quantum Shannon theory,  
these two channels are useless.**

**Their classical capacity is 0 bits.**

## TWO CDCS IN A QUANTUM SWITCH

**Input channels:**  $\mathcal{A}(\rho) = \mathcal{B}(\rho) = \frac{I}{d}$

**Initial state of control qubit:**  $|\psi_0\rangle = \sqrt{p} |0\rangle + \sqrt{1-p} |1\rangle$

**Effective channel from Alice to Bob + Charlie**

$$\mathcal{C}_{\text{eff}}(\rho) = p \frac{I}{d} \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0| + (1-p) \frac{I}{d} \otimes |1\rangle\langle 1|$$

$$+ \sqrt{p(1-p)} \frac{\rho}{d^2} \otimes |0\rangle\langle 1| + \text{h.c.}$$

interference term

# CLASSICAL CAPACITY

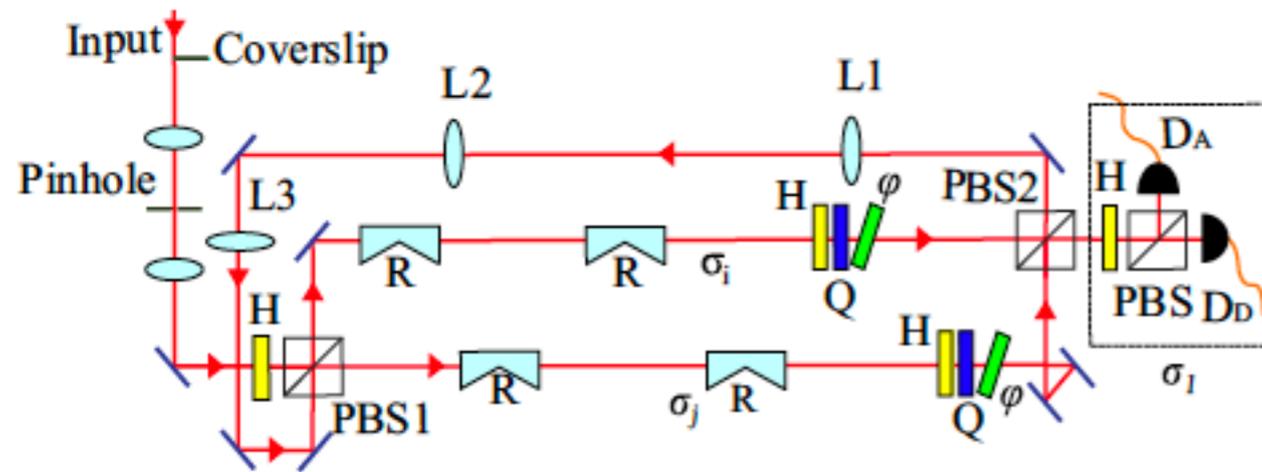
A **lower bound** to the classical capacity is the Holevo information

$$\chi(\mathcal{C}_{\text{eff}}) = \log d - p \log p - (1 - p) \log(1 - p) \\ + \left\{ \binom{d+1}{2d^2} \log \binom{d+1}{2d^2} + \binom{d-1}{2d^2} \log \binom{d-1}{2d^2} + 2(d-1) \binom{1}{2d} \log \binom{1}{2d} \right\}$$

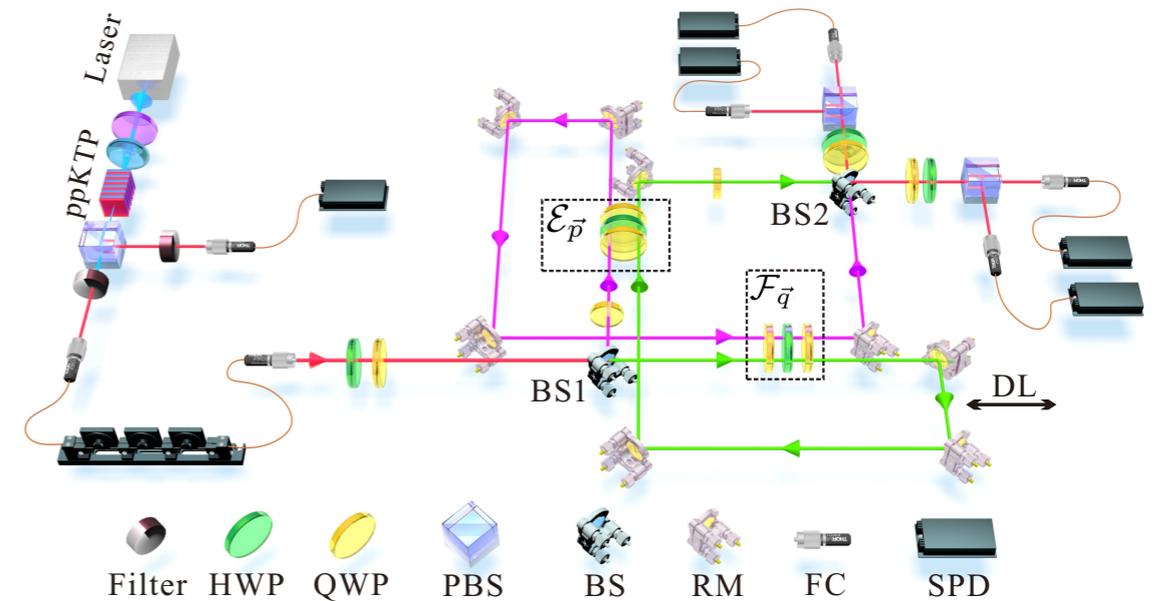
- **it is non-zero (for qubits 0.049 bits)**
- **it is maximum for  $p = 1/2$  (uniform superposition of orders)**
- **it decreases with  $d$**
- **later proven to be equal to the capacity**

Chiribella, Wilson, and Chau, Phys. Rev. Lett. 127, 190502 (2021)

# EXPERIMENTS



**Polarization control, spatial modes target**  
 Goswami, Cao, Paz-Silva, Romero, and White  
 Phys. Rev. Research 2, 033292 (2020)



**Path control, polarization target**  
 Guo et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 124, 030502 (2020).

Review:

## Experiments on quantum causality

AVS Quantum Sci. 2, 037101 (2020); <https://doi.org/10.1116/5.0010747>

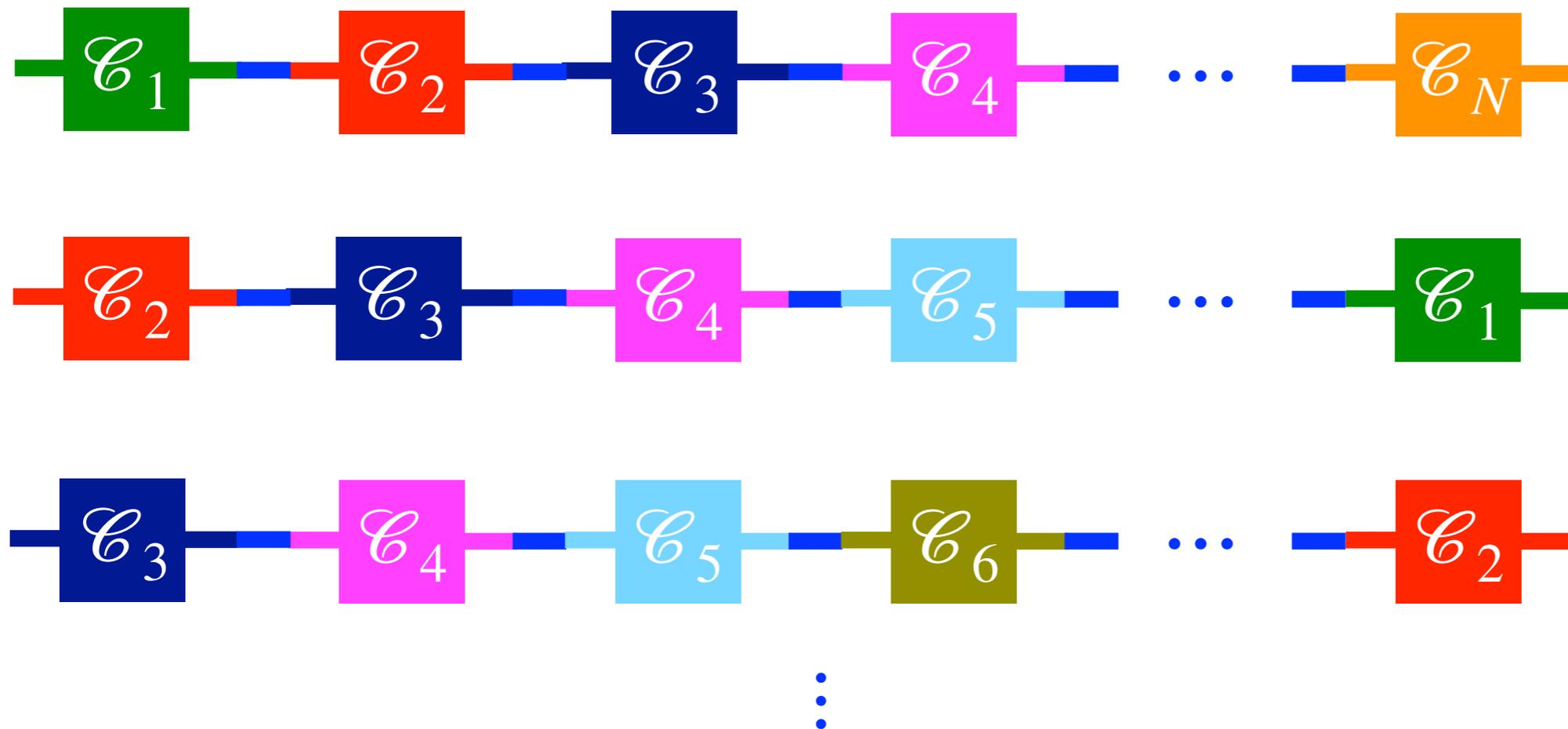
 K. Goswami<sup>a)</sup> and  J. Romero<sup>b)</sup>

QUANTUM COMMUNICATION  
THROUGH  $N$  CDCS  
IN  
 $N$  CYCLIC ORDERS

**Chiribella, Wilson, and Chau**, Phys. Rev. Lett. 127, 190502 (2021)

# CYCLIC PERMUTATIONS

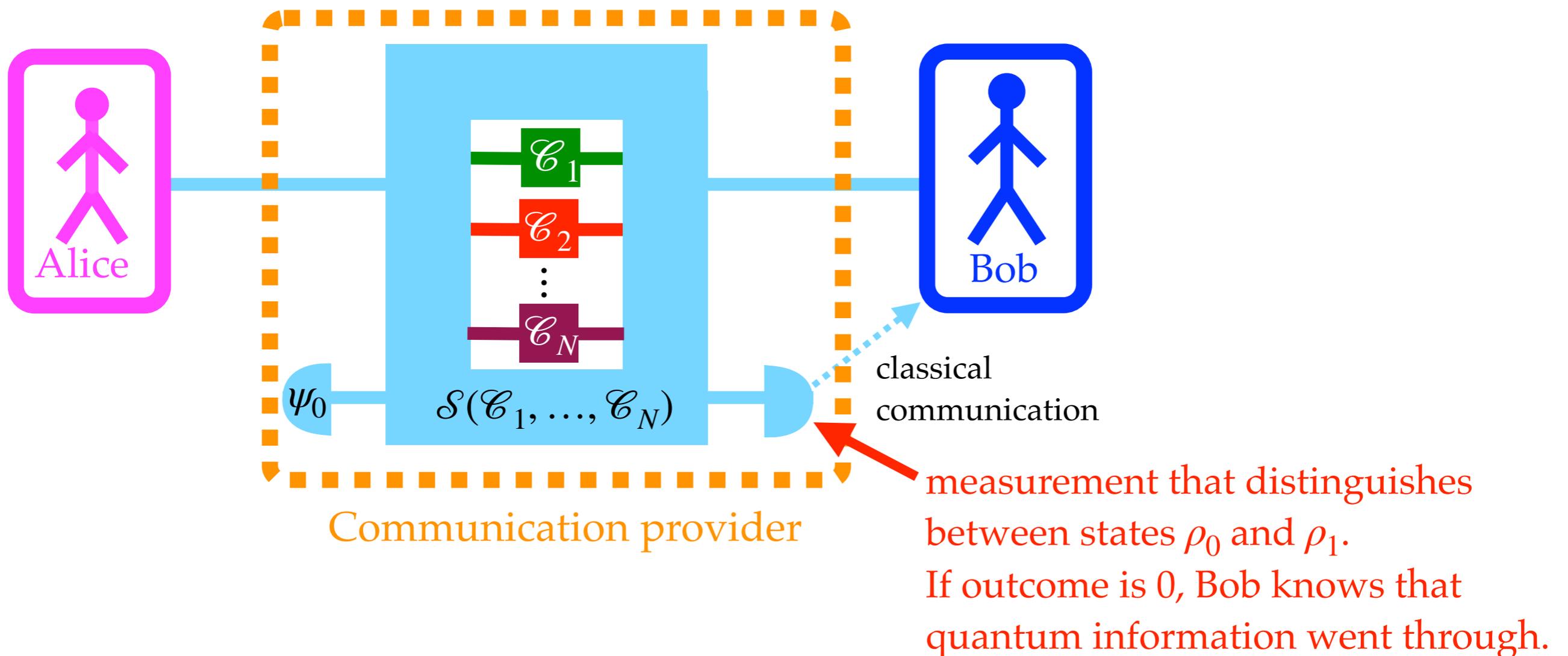
For  $N \geq 2$  noisy channels, consider communication protocols with quantum control on the  $N$  cyclic permutations



- L. M. Procopio, F. Delgado, M. Enríquez, N. Belabas, and J. A. Levenson, *Physical Review A* 101, 012346 (2020).  
S. Sazim, M. Sedlak, K. Singh, and A. K. Pati, *Physical Review A* 103, 062610 (2021).  
M. Wilson and G. Chiribella, *Electronic Proceedings in Theoretical Computer Science* 340, 333 (2021).

# HERALDED TRANSMISSION OF QUANTUM STATES

For large  $N$ , quantum states can be transmitted with success probability  $\frac{1}{d^2} + O(1/N)$  and error vanishing as  $O(d^2/N)$



## FINITE $N$ REGIME

Quantum information can be transmitted reliably  
if  $N$  is **sufficiently large**.

How large?

- if  $N \leq d + 1$ , quantum information **cannot be transmitted**.
- if  $N > d + 1$ , quantum information **can be transmitted with the assistance of two-way classical communication**.

cf. Bennett, DiVincenzo, Smolin, and Wootters, Physical Review A 54, 3824 (1996).

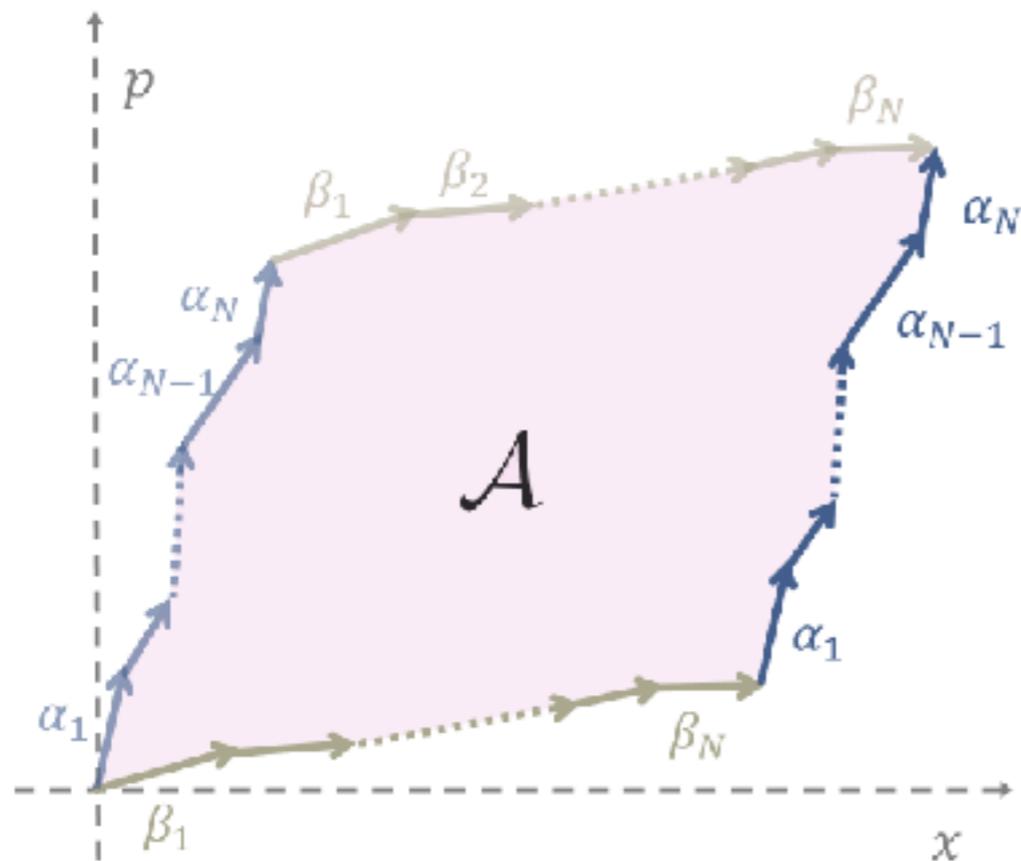
For qubits,  $N=4$  is enough!

Potential experiment with the techniques of Taddei et al., PRX Quantum 2, 010320 (2021).

# QUANTUM METROLOGY WITH INDEFINITE CAUSAL ORDER

**Zhao, Yang, and Chiribella**, Phys. Rev. Lett. 124, 190503 (2020)

# ESTIMATION OF A PHASE SPACE AREA



**Settings:** A harmonic oscillator is subject to two sets of phase space displacements. The task is to estimate the phase space area enclosed by the corresponding paths.

For concreteness, consider position and momentum displacements

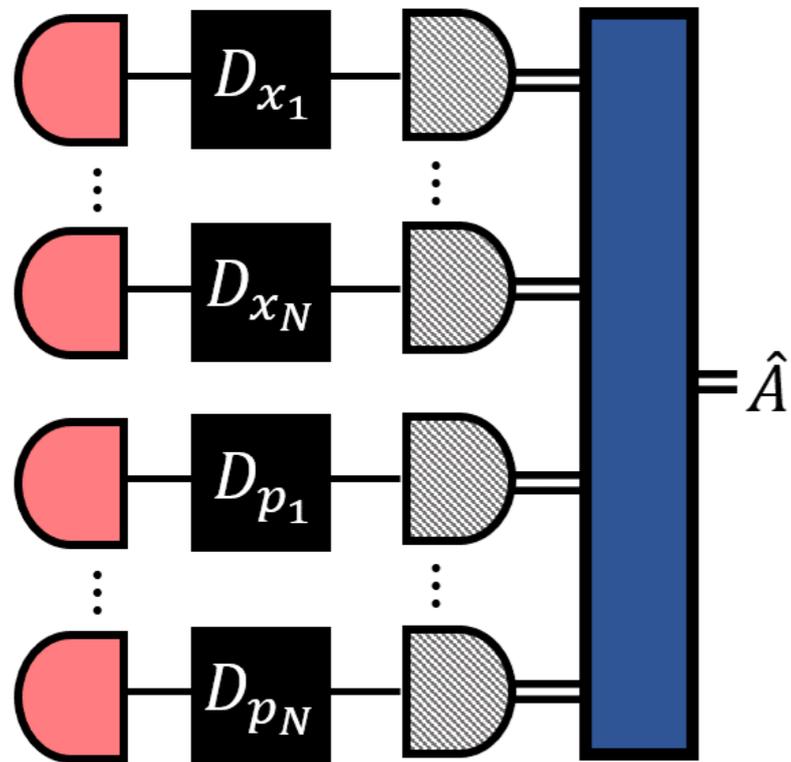
$$D_{x_j} = \exp[-ix_j P] \quad j \in \{1, \dots, N\}$$

$$D_{p_k} = \exp[ip_k X] \quad k \in \{1, \dots, N\}$$

**Task:** estimate the regularized area  $A := \mathcal{A}/N^2$

# CAUSALLY ORDERED STRATEGIES (1)

**Strategy 1:** estimate each displacement independently



For a single displacement  $z$ ,  
the *Root Mean Square Error (RMSE)* is

$$\Delta z = \frac{1}{\sqrt{8\nu E}} \quad \text{with}$$

$\nu$  = number of repetitions of the experiment

$E = \langle X^2 + P^2 \rangle / 2$  = average energy of the probe

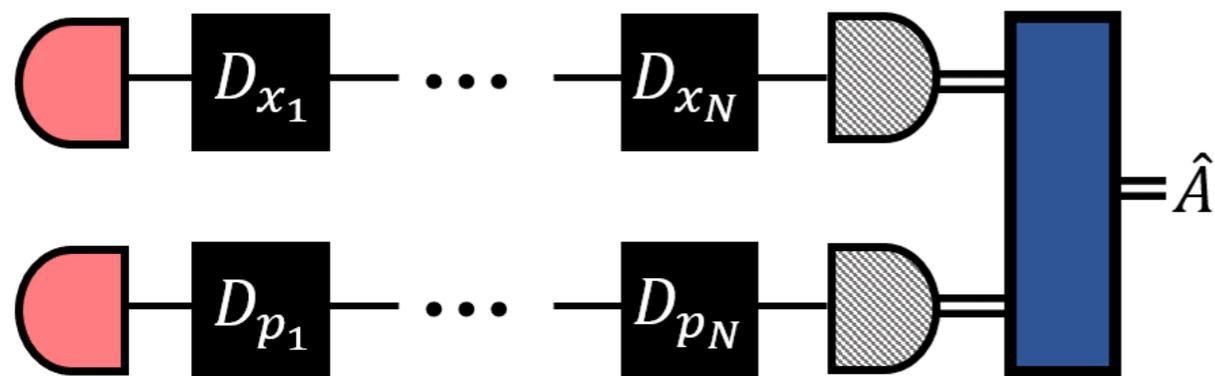
The averages and their product are computed classically.

RMSE for the product:  $\Delta A = O\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\nu N}}\right)$

(standard quantum limit w.r.t.  $N$ )

## CAUSALLY ORDERED STRATEGIES (2)

**Strategy 2:** separately estimate the total displacements  
in  $x$  and  $p$



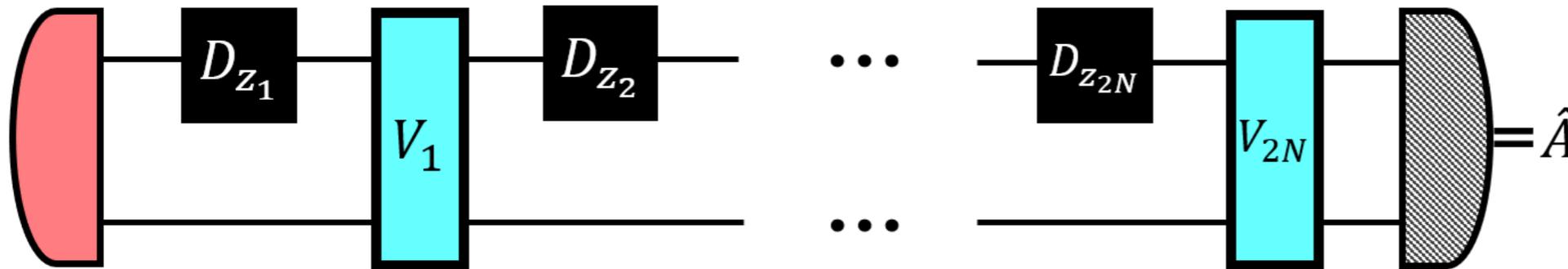
The product is then computed classically.

RMSE for the product:  $\Delta A = O\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\nu N}}\right)$

(Heisenberg limit w.r.t.  $N$ )

# CAUSALLY ORDERED STRATEGIES (3)

## Most general causally ordered strategy



General bound on RMSE: 
$$\Delta A_{\text{fixed}} = \Omega \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{\nu N}} \right)$$

No causally ordered scheme (with bounded energy) can beat Heisenberg limit w.r.t.  $N$

# ADVANTAGE OF THE QUANTUM SWITCH

For small  $A$ , the quantum SWITCH yields

$$\Delta A_{\text{switch}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\nu} N^2}$$

to be contrasted with the bound  $\Delta A_{\text{fixed}} = \Omega\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\nu} N}\right)$  for general strategies with definite causal order.

In general, the quantum SWITCH enables estimation of the phase

$$\phi = \sum_{i,j} x_i p_j \pmod{2\pi} \quad \text{with error } \Delta\phi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\nu}}$$

whereas causally-ordered strategies have error  $\Delta\phi = \Omega\left(\frac{N}{\sqrt{\nu}}\right)$

# IN SHORT

entanglement  $\longrightarrow$  quadratic speedup over unentangled strategies (Heisenberg limit)

indefinite causal order  $\longrightarrow$  further quadratic speedup over causally ordered strategies (super-Heisenberg scaling)

# EXPERIMENT

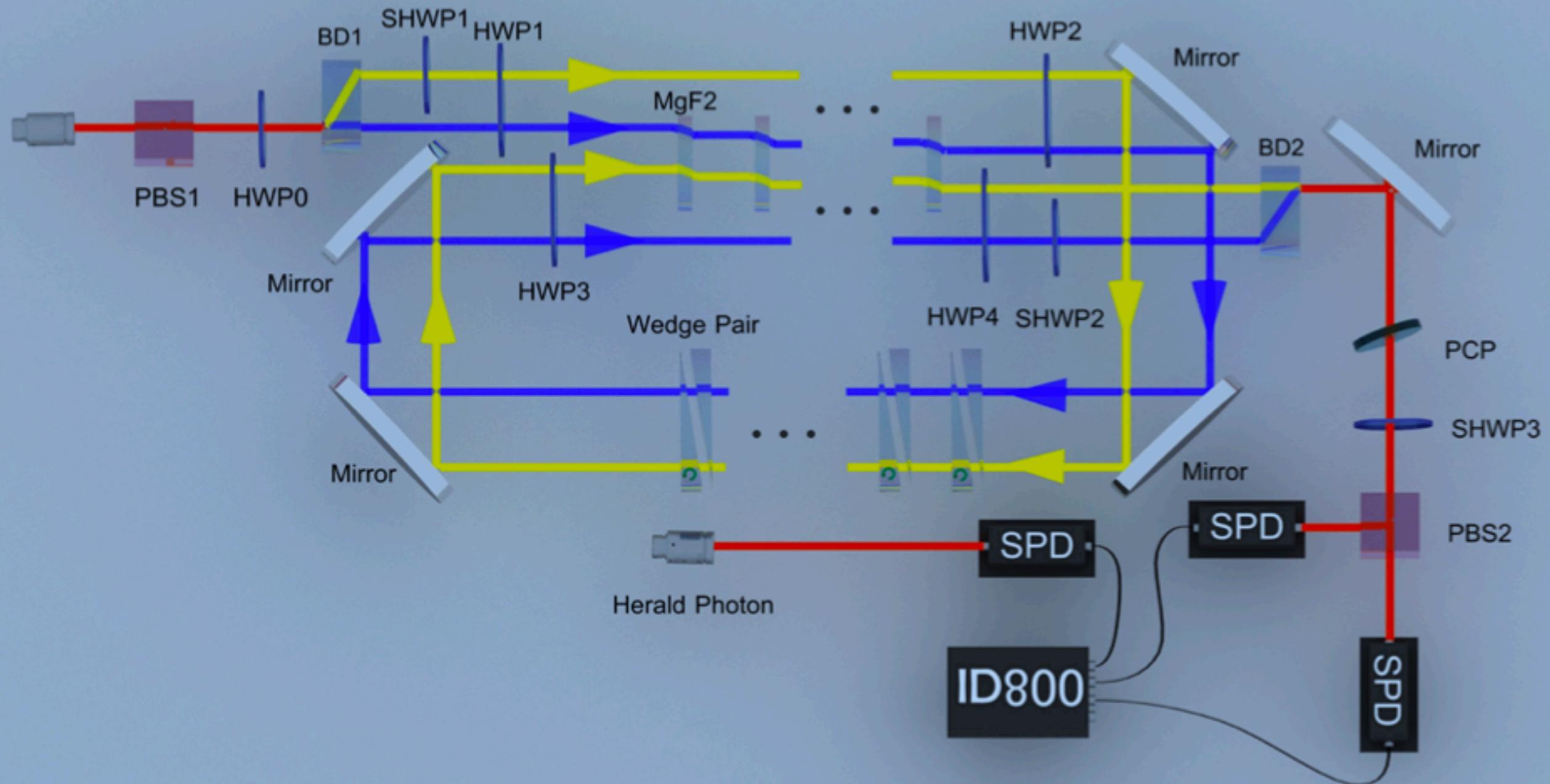


Image from Yin et al, Experimental super-Heisenberg quantum metrology with indefinite gate order, <https://www.researchsquare.com/article/rs-1327792/v1>

# FUTURE DIRECTIONS

# OUTLOOK

- Quantum communication
  - multiparty protocols
  - transition to quantum thermodynamics

Felce and Vedral, Phys. Rev. Lett. 125, 070603 (2020)

Guha, Alimuddin, and Parashar, Phys. Rev. A 102, 032215 (2020)

Simonov, Francica, Guarnieri, and Paternostro, Phys. Rev. A 105, 032217 (2022)

- Quantum metrology
  - super-Heisenberg scaling with qubits?
  - more robustness in noisy metrology?
  - more practical applications?