

# Quantum Error Correction

Surviving as a Quantum Computer in a Classical World

P471 Term-Paper Presentation

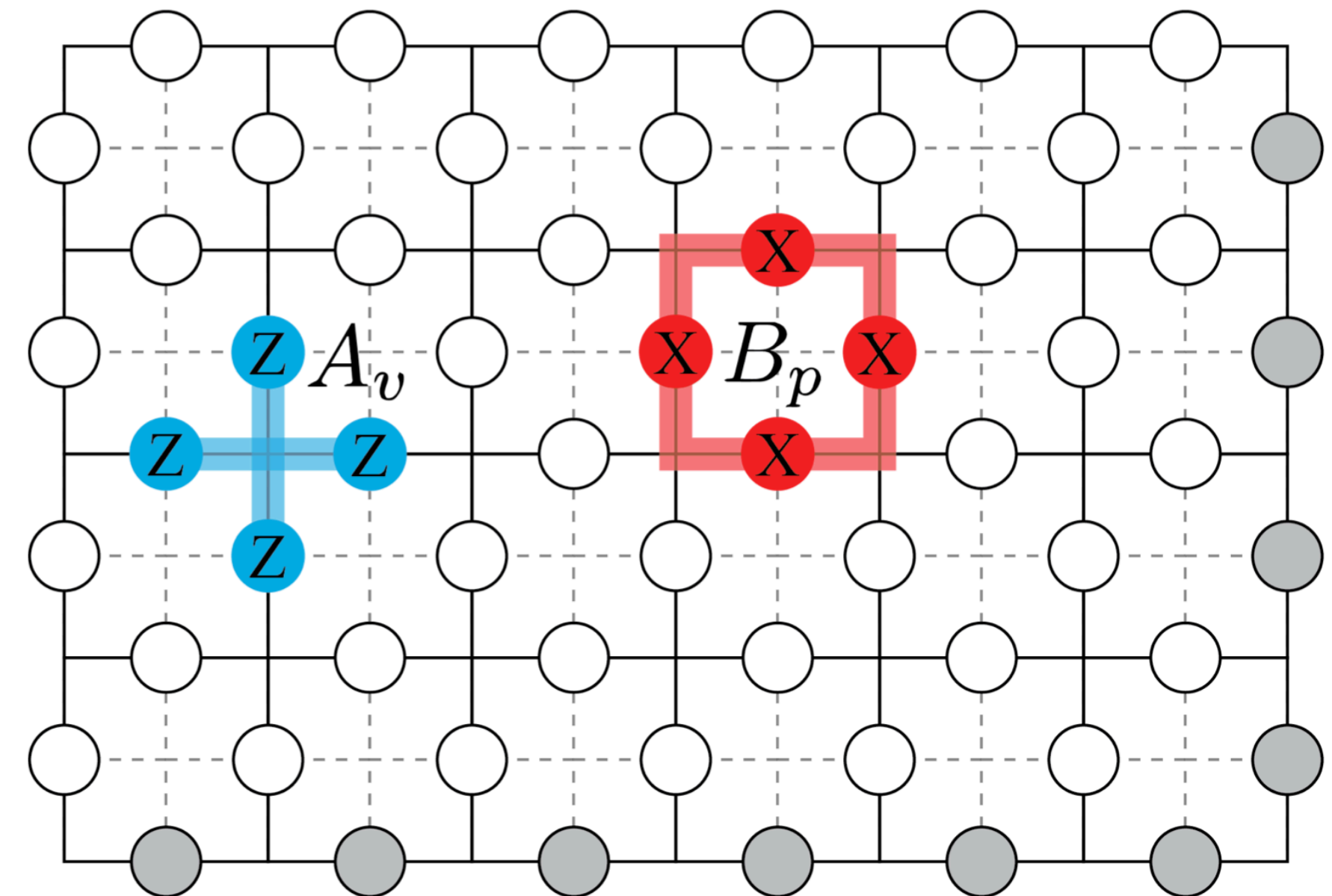
Deepak Kumar Sharma

Diptarko Choudhury

Jabed Umar

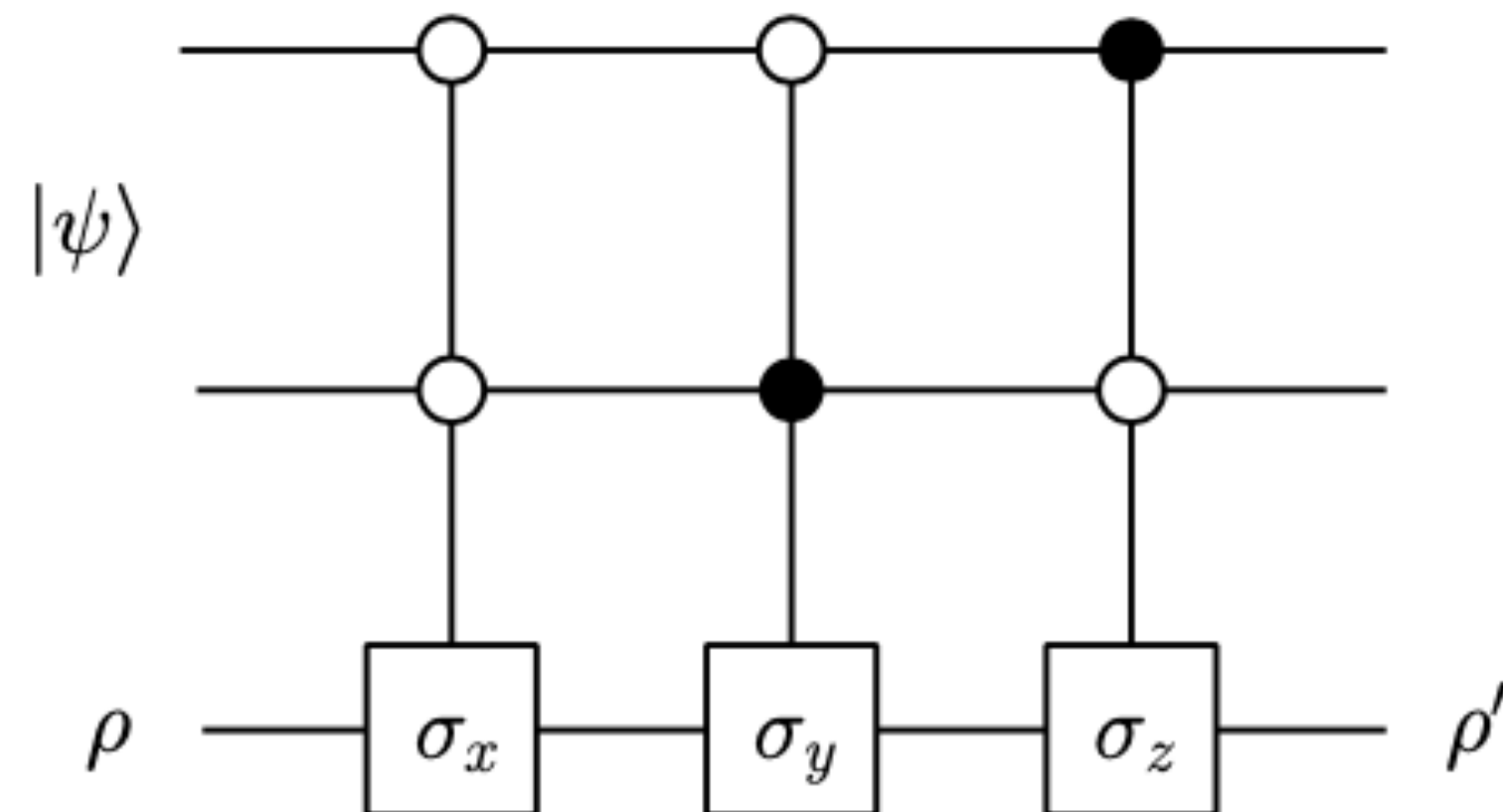
Sagar Prakash Barad

Sajag Kumar



# Decoherence

Recall!



$$\rho = \frac{1}{2}(I + r \cdot \sigma) \longrightarrow \rho' = \frac{1}{2}(I + r' \cdot \sigma)$$

$$x' = (1 - 2|\beta|^2 + |\gamma|^2) x$$

$$y' = (1 - 2|\gamma|^2 + |\alpha|^2) y$$

$$z' = (1 - 2|\alpha|^2 + |\beta|^2) z$$

$$|\Psi\rangle = \alpha|00\rangle + \beta|01\rangle + \gamma|10\rangle + \delta|11\rangle$$

Different values of  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta$  leads to different kinds of noisy channels.

# Classical Error Correction

The general errors are bit flips.

$$0 \rightarrow 1$$

$$1 \rightarrow 0$$

## Repetition Code

The naive way is to add redundancy.

$$0 \rightarrow 000$$

Apply majority voting rule.

Reduces the chance of errors.

## Classical Linear Code

Encode  $k$  bits in  $n$  bits using a generator matrix  $\mathbf{G}$ .

Parity matrix  $H$  acting on codewords vanishes.

Suppose an error  $e$  occurs such that

$$y' \rightarrow y + e \implies Hy' = He$$

Classical errors can be detected and corrected  
iff all the  $He$ 's are distinct.

---

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad He_1 = (11)^T, He_2 = (10)^T, He_3 = (01)^T$$

So single bit flip errors can be detected and corrected for the 3 bit repetition code.

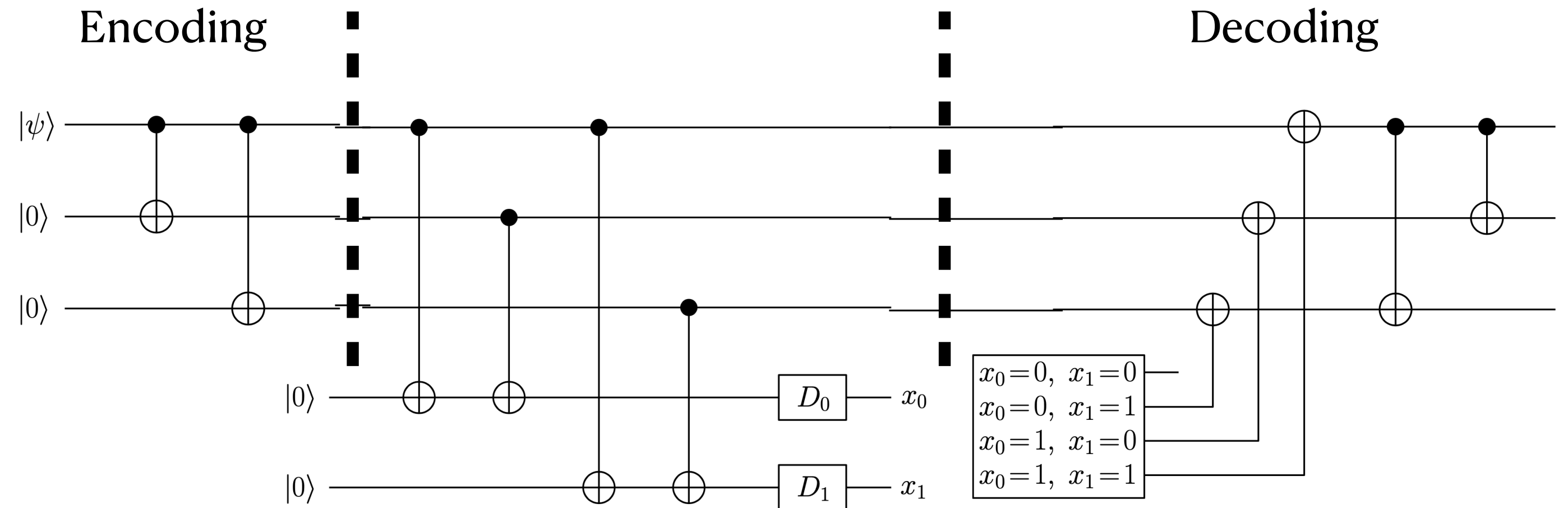
# Quantum Error Correction

**Encoding**

**Error Syndrome Measurement**

**Decoding**

Encoded state sent by Alice to Bob through a noisy quantum channel.



Error Syndrome Measurement

	$ 000\rangle$	$ 100\rangle$	$ 010\rangle$	$ 001\rangle$
$D_0$	0	1	1	0
$D_1$	0	1	0	1

# The Stabiliser Formalism

$$\mathcal{G}_n = \{\pm 1, \pm \iota\} \otimes \{I, X, Y, Z\}^{\otimes n}$$

Stabiliser group

$$\hat{O}|\Psi\rangle = |\Psi\rangle$$

Stabilised vector space

$$V_S$$

Generators of the stabiliser group

$$\langle g_1, g_2, \dots, g_n \rangle$$

Logical states

$$\langle g_1, \dots, g_n, (-1)^{x_1} \bar{Z}_1, \dots, (-1)^{x_k} \bar{Z}_k \rangle.$$

Syndrome measurement of the generators

$$\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \dots, \beta_4$$

## The Gottesman-Knill Theorem

# Fault-Tolerant Quantum Computation

Gates are not ideal!

There are many sources of errors.

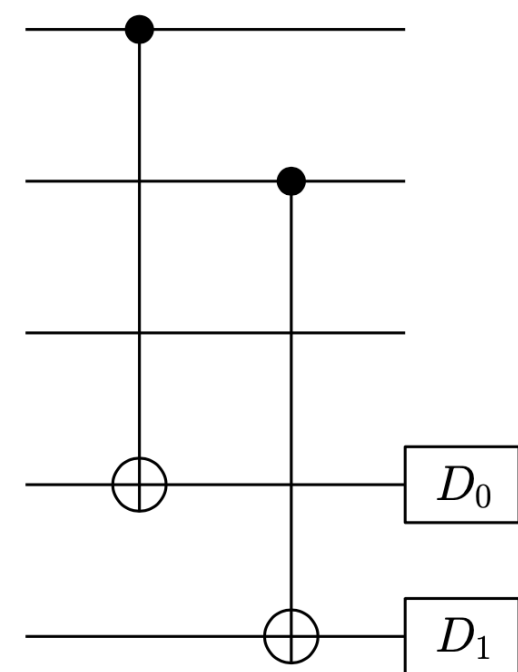
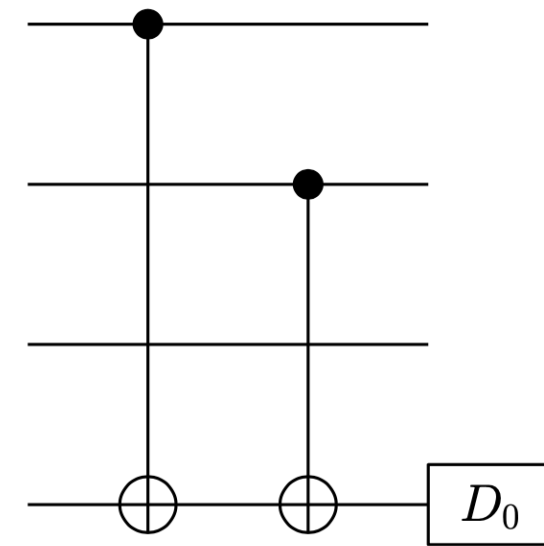
Unitary gates, measurement, interaction with the environment.

And they propagate!

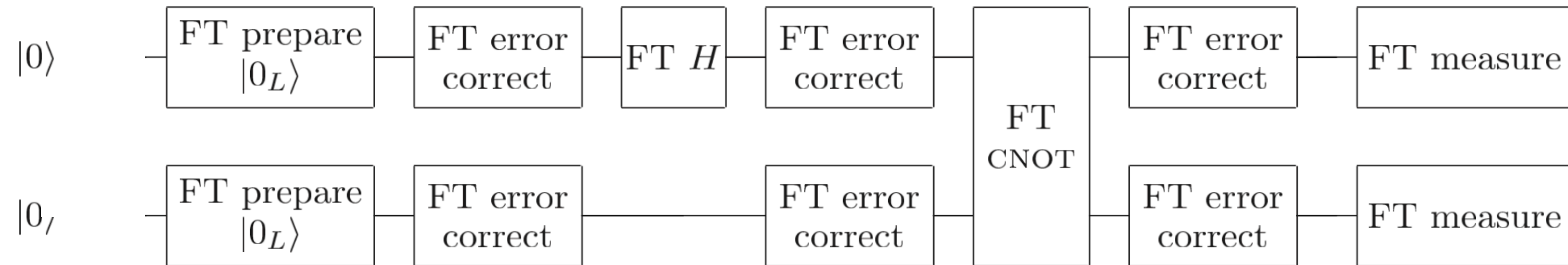
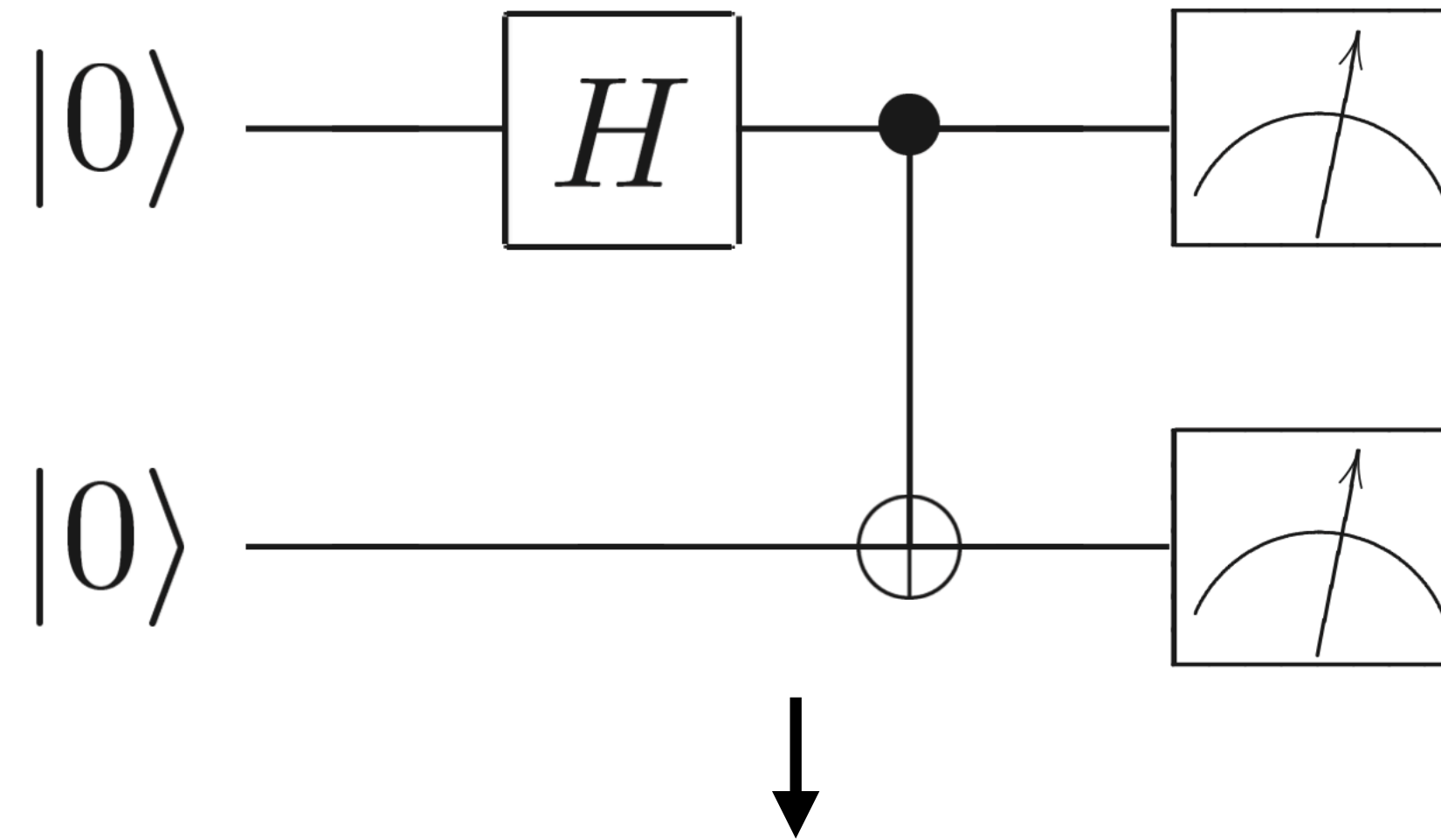
Yet,

We can perform **arbitrarily long** quantum computation, in principle.

Avoid error propagation.

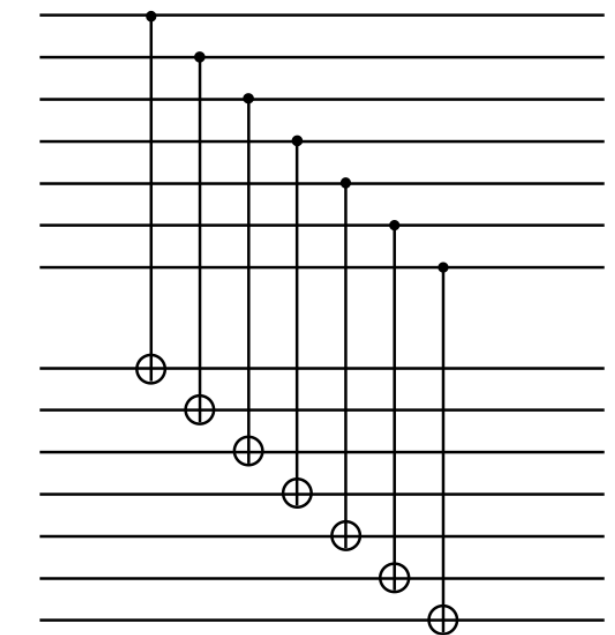


Corrects  $t$  errors then failure probability should be  $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{t+1})$



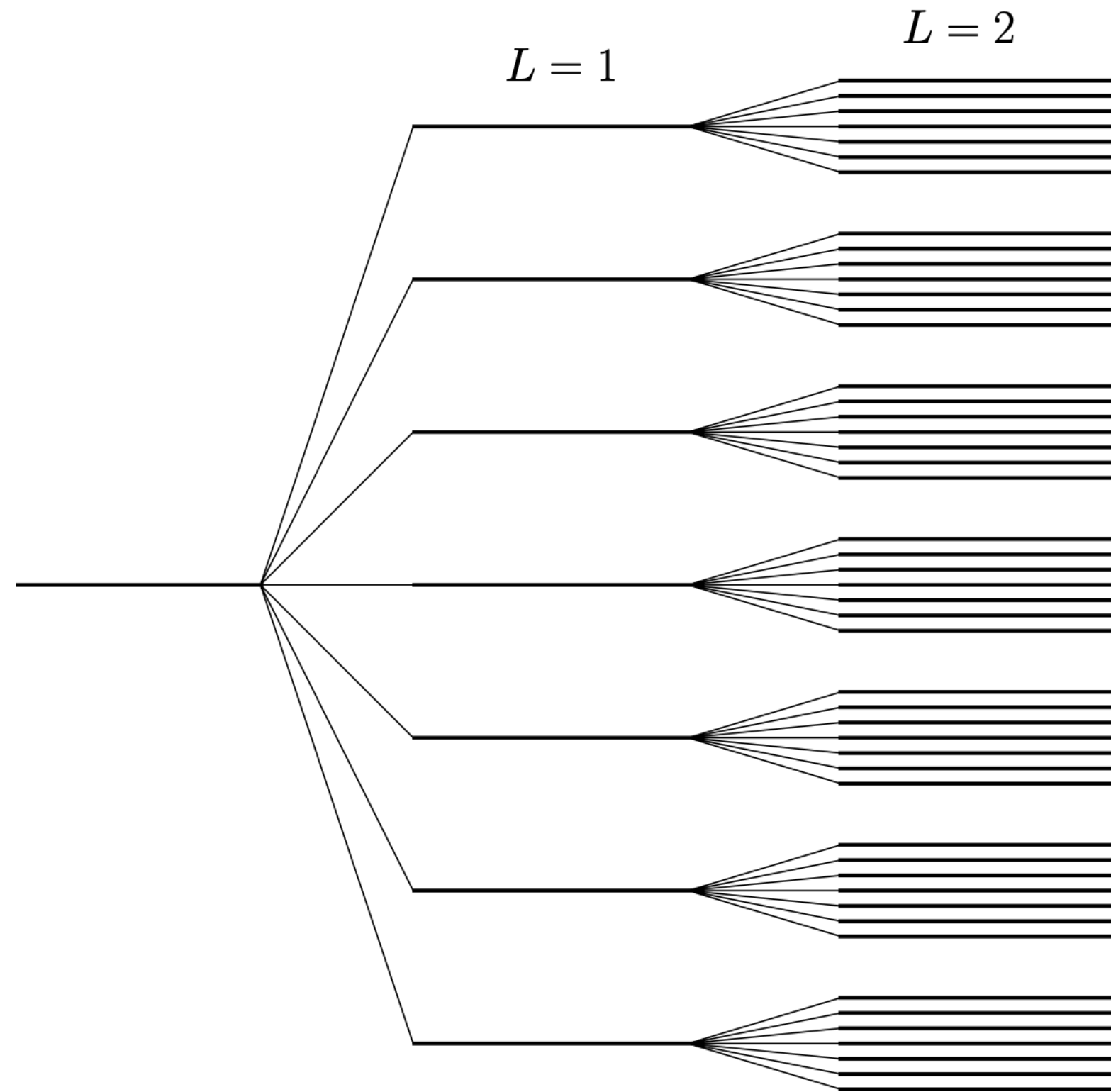
Need a fault-tolerant prescription for preparation, measurement and error correction.

Need fault tolerant gates!





# The Threshold Theorem



$$p_L \approx \frac{(\alpha^2 \epsilon)^{2^L}}{\alpha^2}$$

$\alpha$  - number of sites where error can happen.  
 $\epsilon$  - error probability rate.

$$p_L \leq \frac{\epsilon_0}{T}$$

$T$  - number of logical quantum gates.  
 $\epsilon_0$  - accuracy.

$$L > \bar{L} \sim \log \left[ \frac{\log (T / (\alpha^2 \epsilon_0))}{\log (1 / (\alpha^2 \epsilon_0))} \right]$$

$$n \sim \left[ \frac{\log (T / (\alpha^2 \epsilon_0))}{\log (1 / (\alpha^2 \epsilon_0))} \right]^{\log n}$$

$n$  - number of required qubits.



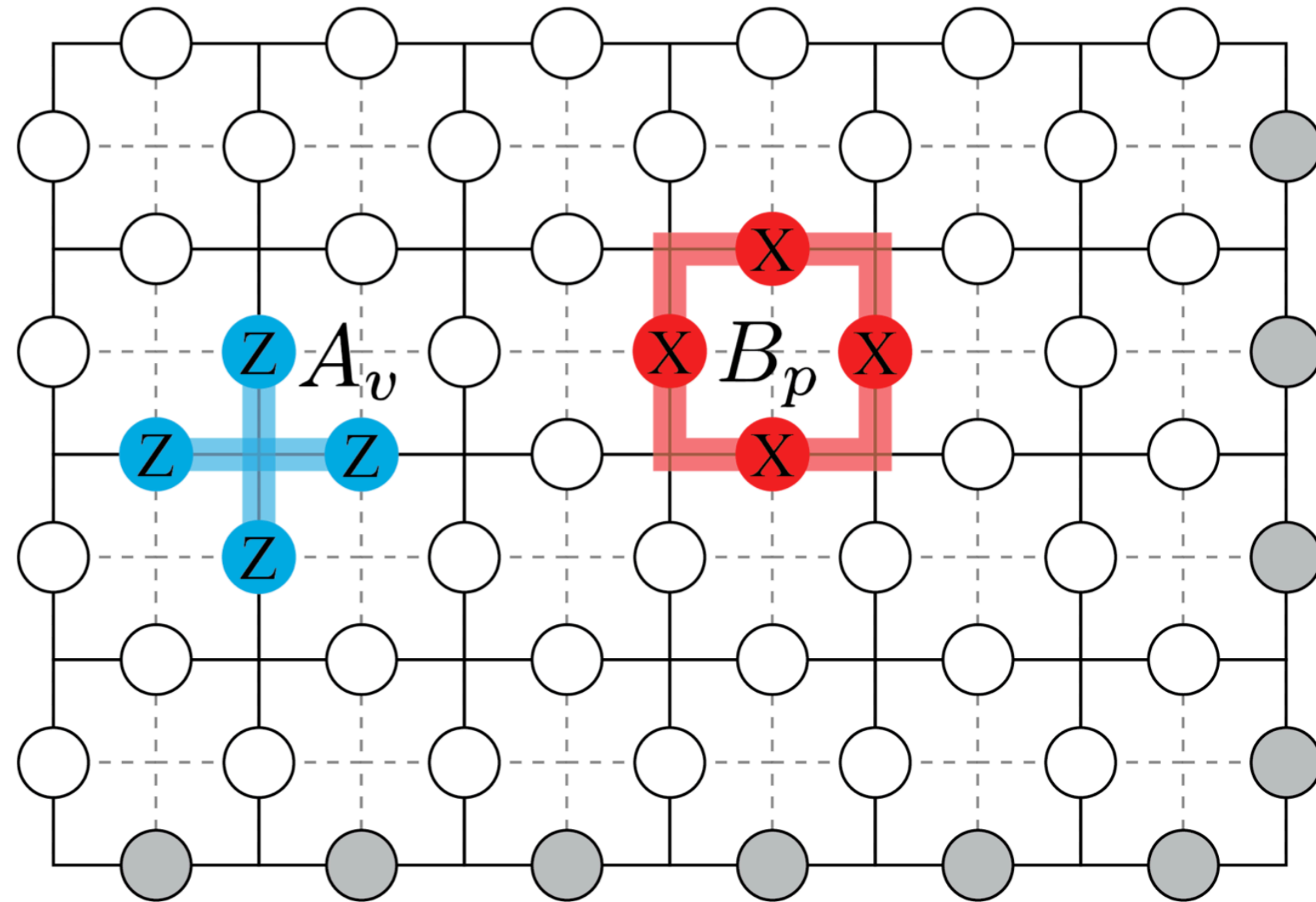
# The Toric Code

$$H = - \sum_v A_v - \sum_p B_p$$

$$[A_v, B_p] = 0$$

$$A_v^2 = B_p^2 = 1$$

So the eigenvalues are **+1** or **-1**.



$$A_v = \prod_{j \in \text{star}(v)} Z_j \quad \Bigg| \quad B_p = \prod_{j \in \text{bdy}(p)} X_j$$

The ground state of  $H$  is the simultaneous eigenstate of the star and plaquette operators with eigenvalues **+1**.

# Ground State

## Dimension of the ground state manifold

(N - 1) constraints from star operator.  
(N-1) constraints from plaquette operator.

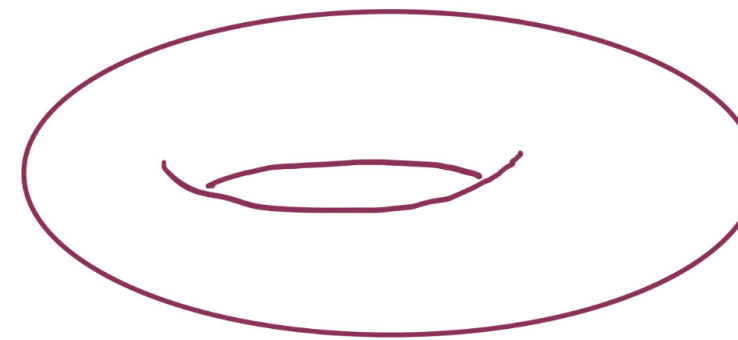


(2N-2) total constraints.

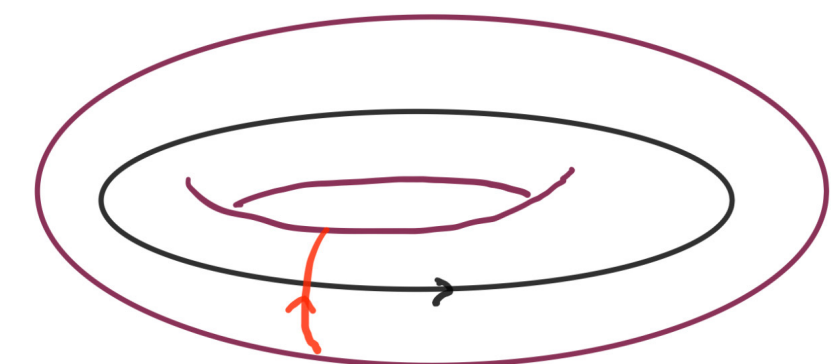
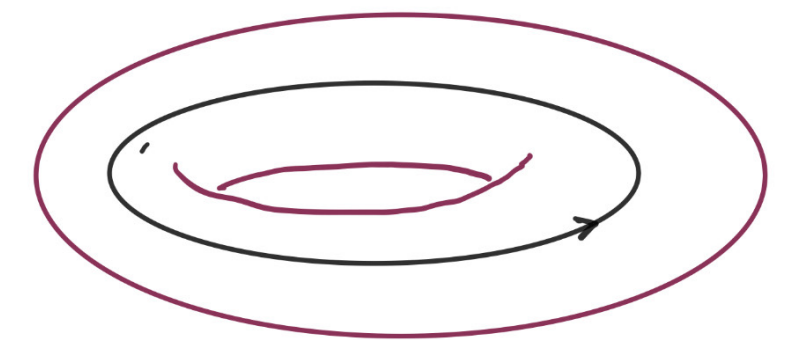
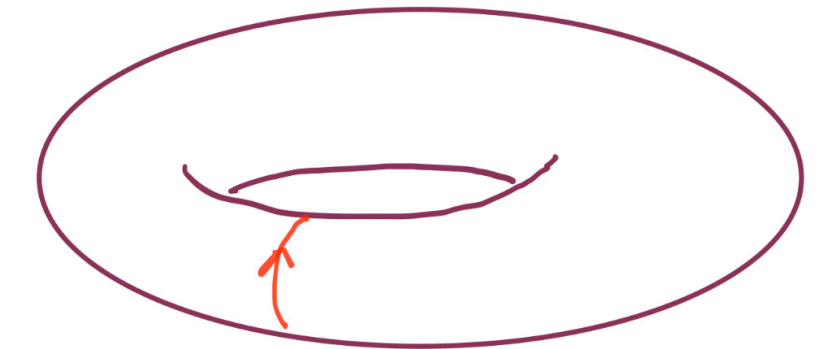


Only 2 independent degrees of freedom.

### Trivial Ground State

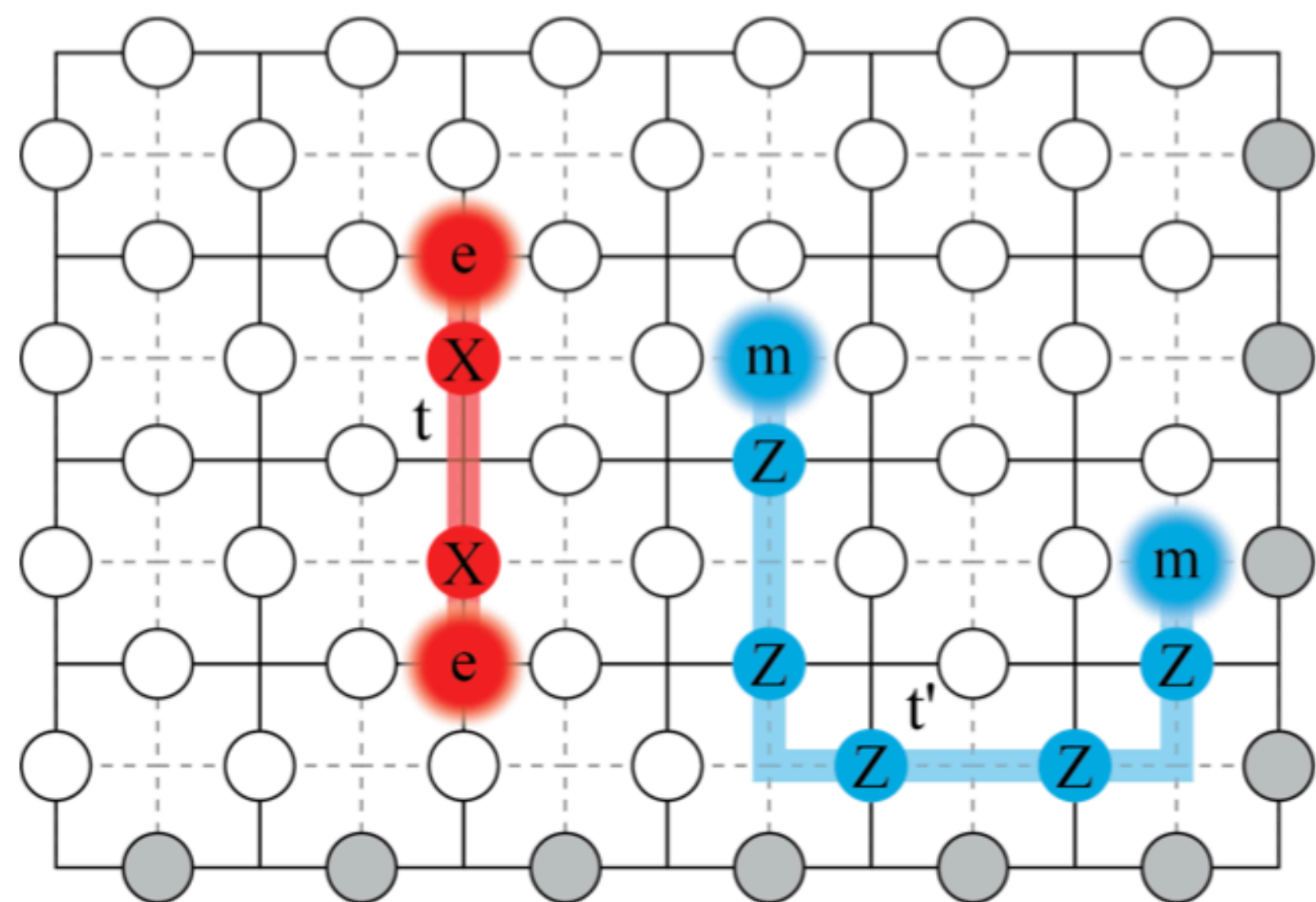
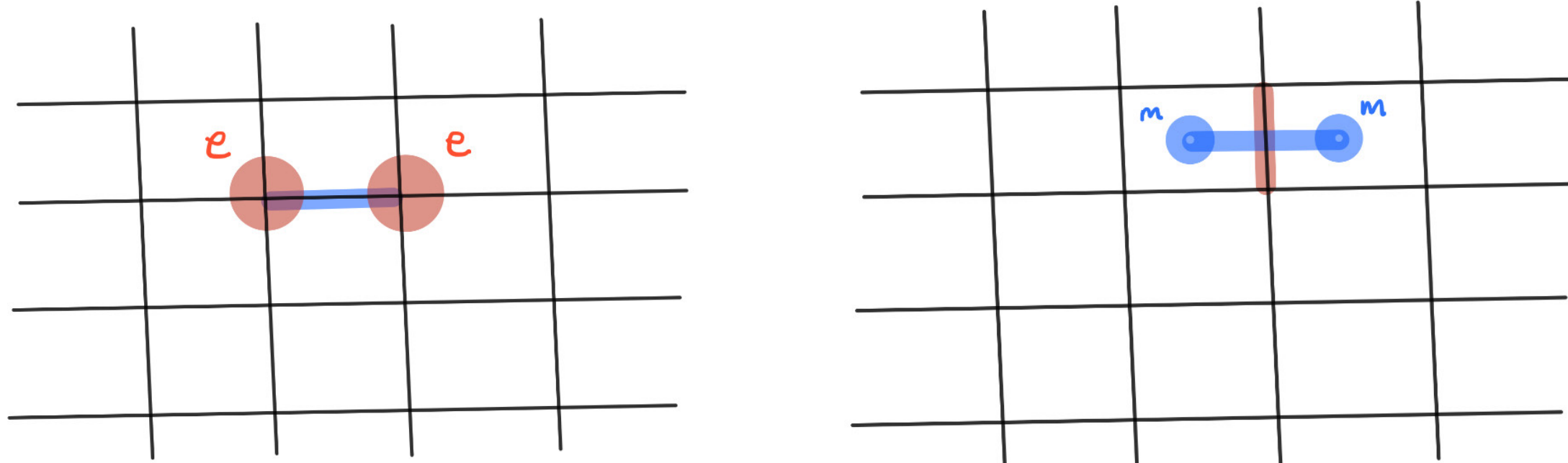


### Non-Trivial Ground State



The ground state manifold is four dimensional.

# Excited States



There is an energy gap between the ground state and the excited states.

$$\Delta E \geq 2$$

The difference in the eigenvalues of the star/plaquette operators is **2**.

# Toric code is a stabiliser code!

Generators of the stabiliser group  $\{A_v, B_p\}$

The vector space stabilised is spanned by the ground states.

The excitations form the set of correctable errors.

The following operators can perform computation

$$L_{xe} = \prod_{j \in \text{all}(x)} X_j \quad L_{xm} = \prod_{j \in \text{all}(x)} Z_j \quad L_{ze} = \prod_{j \in \text{all}(z)} X_j \quad L_{zm} = \prod_{j \in \text{all}(x)} Z_j$$

Because there was a gap between the ground and the excited states,  
the toric code is fault tolerant.

Thank you!