# Particle Tracking with a Quantum Computer

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# **Particle Physics Experiments**

- **Motivation:** study Standard Model of Particle Physics + search for new physics
- Aftermath of collision/interaction between particles lets us infer the structure of the fundamental components
- As particles move through detector, it deposits energy ("**hit**") in each layer
- The path the particle takes depends on the particle's characteristic and detector
- **Goal:** Reconstruct trajectories of multiple particles from a set of hits



# **Challenges in track reconstruction**

- Large data volume
- High density of hits
- Noise and false signals
- imperfect hardware leads to inaccuracies
- Complex trajectories

# Innovative and effective track reconstruction techniques required





# **LUXE: Laser und XFEL Experiment**

- Investigate transition from QED to strong-field QED (black holes, neutron stars)
- **Detect:** Straight positron tracks in four-layered pixel detector (no timing info)
- Challenge:
  - Large range of positrons Dense detector regions





# **Muon Colliders**

- Next gen experiment for high-energy collisions (cleaner collisions, less background)
- Detect: range of particles with detector system (timing info)
- Challenge:
  - Large background

# LUXE

- Investigate transition from QED to strong-field QED (black holes, neutron stars)
- **Detect:** Straight positron tracks in four-layered pixel detector (no timing info)
- Challenge:
  - Range of positrons
  - Dense detector regions

# **Muon Colliders**

- Next gen experiment for high-energy collisions

- **Detect:** range of particles with detector system (timing info)
- Challenge:
  - Large background

# **Overview:** quantum tracking project

![](_page_6_Figure_1.jpeg)

https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2304.01690

$$O(a, b, T) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} a_i T_i + \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j < i}^{N} b_{ij} T_i T_j \quad T_i, T_j \in \{0, 1\}$$
  
Binary:  
0: discarded  
1: kept

$$O(a, b, T) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} a_i T_i + \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j < i}^{N} b_{ij} T_i T_j \quad T_i, T_j \in \{0, 1\}$$

weigh triplets by a<sub>i</sub>

$$O(a, b, T) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} a_i T_i + \sum_{i}^{N} \sum_{j < i}^{N} b_{ij} T_i T_j \quad T_i, T_j \in \{0, 1\}$$

$$assign each$$
triplet pair  
connectivity  $b_{ij}$ 

$$\prod_{j=0}^{T_i} \prod_{j=0}^{T_j} \prod_{j=0}^{T_i} \prod_{j=0}^{$$

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$$assign each$$
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$$Goal: T_i$$

$$audruget:$$

$$b_{ij} < 0$$

$$conflict: T_i$$

$$b_{ij} < 0$$

$$conflict: T_i$$

$$b_{ij} < 0$$

$$Conflict: T_i$$

$$Conflict: T_$$

- Empirically derived
- **Goal:** maximize good quadruplets and minimise conflicts
- **Ground state** of QUBO gives us our optimal set of triplets

# **Annealing and Gate-based Simulator: LUXE results**

![](_page_11_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### **Gate-based Simulator: Muon collider results**

![](_page_12_Figure_1.jpeg)

 $ncy = \frac{nacks}{N_{tracks}^{generated}}$ 

## **Summary and Outlook**

- Difficult tracking environments ask for new tracking algorithms
- SA, simulated gate-based and CKF show comparable performance
- QC may be leveraged for highly entangled or complex tracking problems
- ✤ Learn QUBO formulation for data directly

### Experience

![](_page_15_Picture_1.jpeg)

- QUBO entries are difficult to derive analytically or empirically
- Learn encoding from data directly
- QUBOs can be used for all problems that can formulated as a binary decision

![](_page_16_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_19_Figure_1.jpeg)

## Learned QUBO encodings: Results

![](_page_20_Figure_1.jpeg)

# Thank you!