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# Quantum Error Correction for Long-Distance Quantum Communication

*Institute of Physics, University of Mainz*

Peter van Loock

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Peter van Loock, Fabian Ewert, Marcel Bergmann

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# Overview

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- ✓ Old versus New Quantum Repeaters: QED vs. QEC
- ✓ Photon Loss Codes
- ✓ Ultrafast Long-Distance Quantum Communication

# Overview

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- ✓ Old versus New Quantum Repeaters: QED vs. QEC
- ✓ Photon Loss Codes
- ✓ Ultrafast Long-Distance Quantum Communication  
with **Linear Optics**

# Classification of Quantum Repeaters

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- 1.) Original Quantum Repeaters (Briegel et al., DLCZ,...):  
use entanglement distribution, swapping, **purification**  
(loss, local errors)
- 2.) Quantum repeaters with **purification** (loss) and **QECC** (local errors)
- 3.) Quantum repeaters with **QECC** only (loss and local errors)

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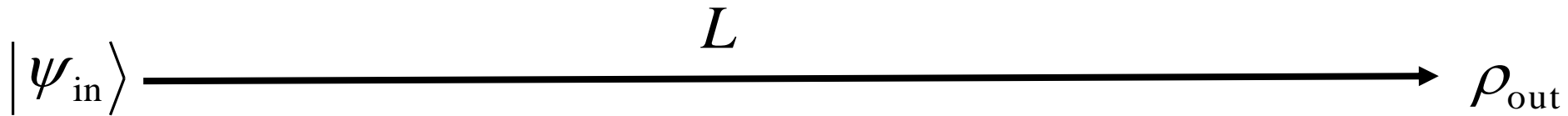
Original Quantum Repeaters:  
Quantum Error **Detection**  
for Long-Distance  
Quantum Communication

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# Direct Transmission of Flying Qubits

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$$|\psi_{\text{in}}\rangle = \alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle$$



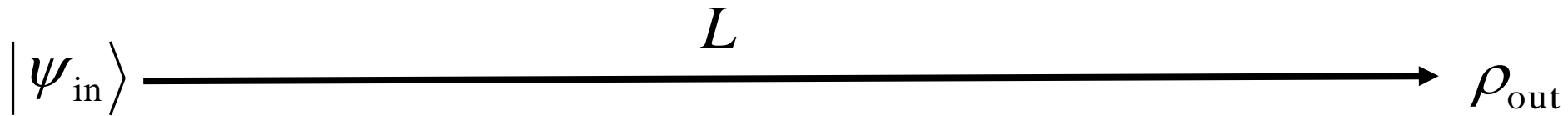
$$\rho_{\text{out}} = \left( \alpha|0\rangle + \beta\sqrt{\eta}|1\rangle \right) \times \text{H.c.} + |\beta|^2 (1-\eta)|0\rangle\langle 0|$$

$$\eta = \exp(-L/L_{\text{att}})$$

# Direct Transmission of Flying Qubits

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$$|\psi_{\text{in}}\rangle = \alpha|10\rangle + \beta|01\rangle$$



$$\rho_{\text{out}} = \eta |\psi_{\text{in}}\rangle\langle\psi_{\text{in}}| + (1-\eta)|00\rangle\langle 00|$$

$$\eta = \exp(-L/L_{\text{att}}) = F = \langle\psi_{\text{in}}|\rho_{\text{out}}|\psi_{\text{in}}\rangle$$



# Direct Transmission of Flying Qubits

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$$|\psi_{\text{in}}\rangle = \alpha|10\rangle + \beta|01\rangle$$



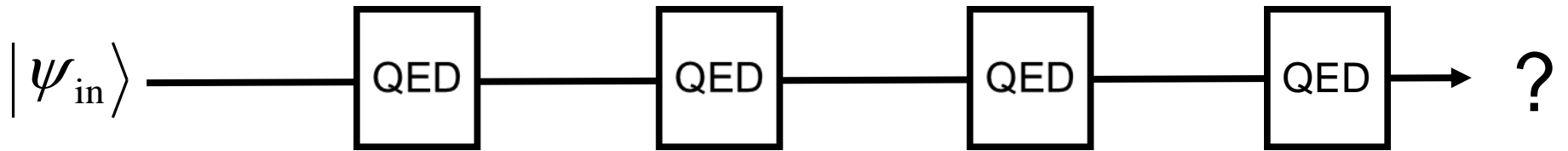
$$\rho_{\text{out}}^{\text{PS}} = \eta |\psi_{\text{in}}\rangle\langle\psi_{\text{in}}|$$

$$\eta = \exp(-L/L_{\text{att}}) = P_{\text{succ}} = \text{Tr}(\rho_{\text{out}}^{\text{PS}})$$

# QED on Flying Qubits

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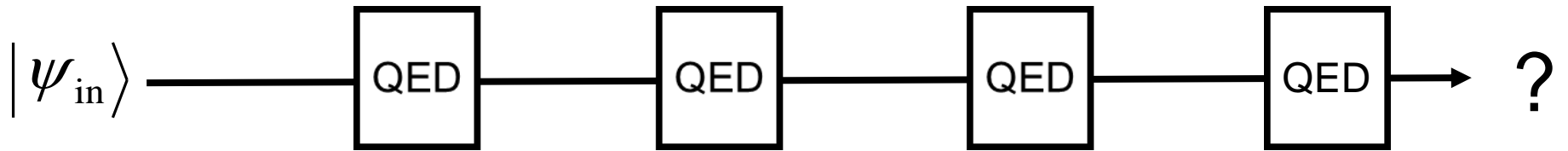
$$|\psi_{\text{in}}\rangle = \alpha|10\rangle + \beta|01\rangle$$



# QED on Flying Qubits

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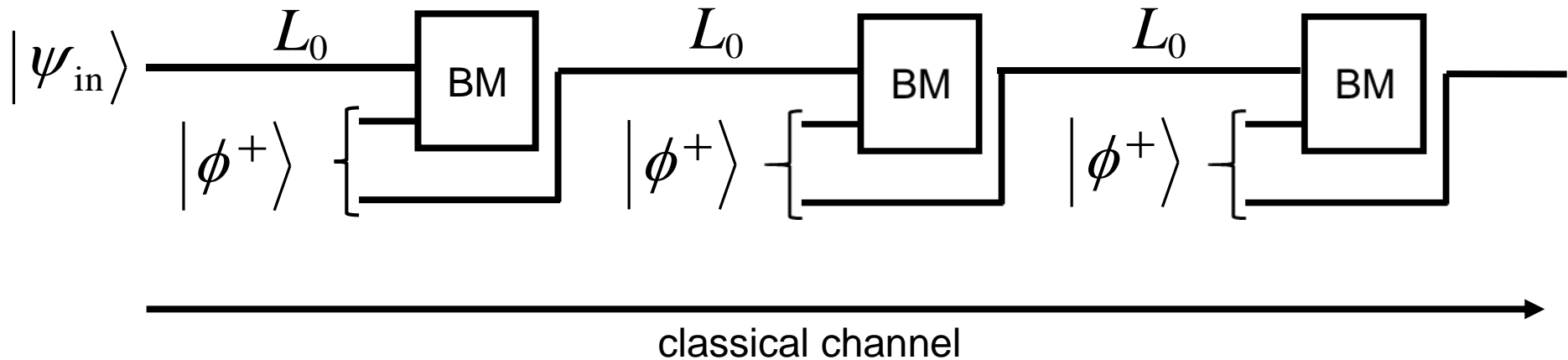
$$|\psi_{\text{in}}\rangle = \alpha |10\rangle + \beta |01\rangle$$



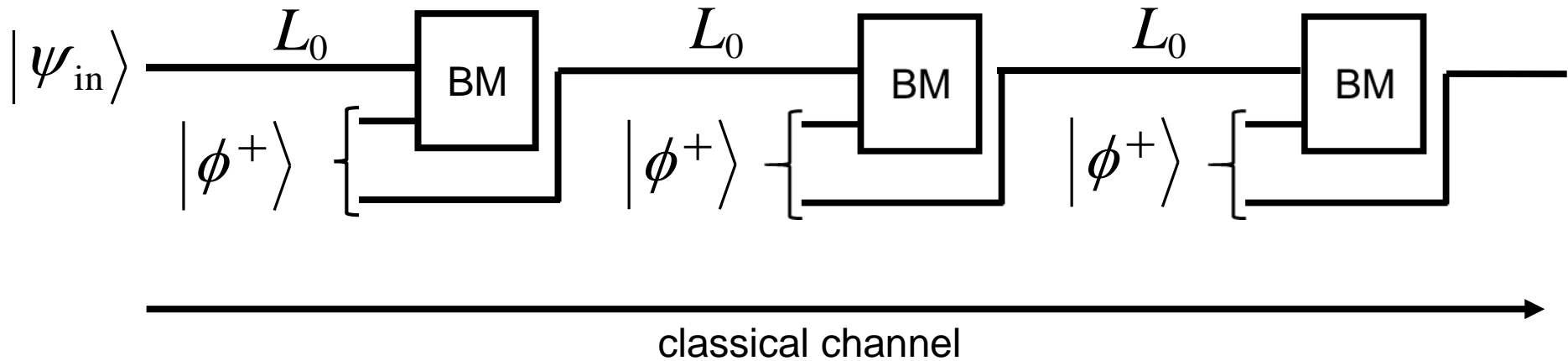
....need to detect the qubit **non-destructively**

# QED on Flying Qubits

Bell measurement detects syndrome and „recovers“ in one step:  
no loss = 2-photon detection,  
photon lost = 1-photon detection



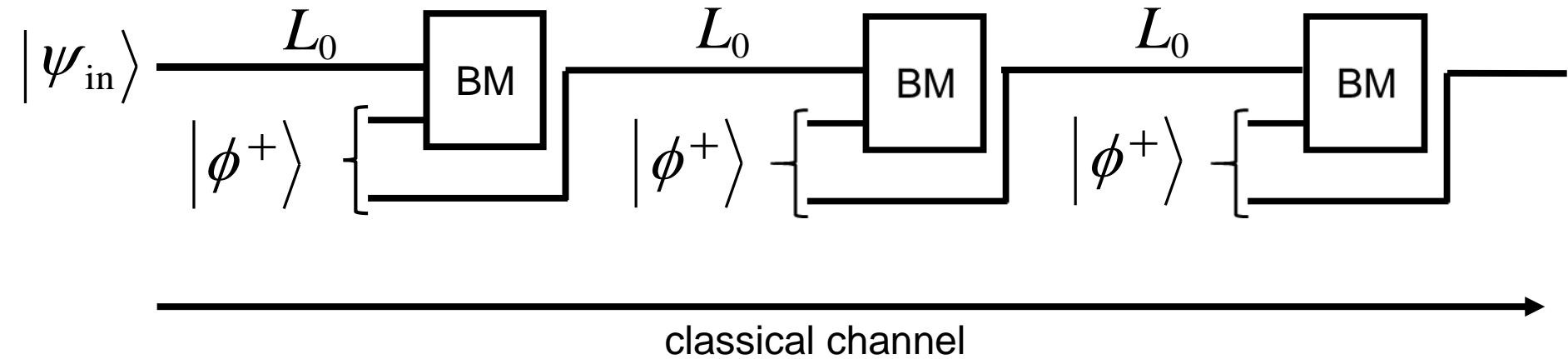
# QED on Flying Qubits



## Complications:

- ✓ on-demand generation of local Bell states
- ✓ Bell measurement with unit success probability
- ✓ **never beats direct transmission**

# QED on Flying Qubits



$$P_{\text{succ}} = \left[ P_{\text{BM}} \exp\left(-L_0 / L_{\text{att}}\right) \right]^{L/L_0} \leq \exp\left(-L / L_{\text{att}}\right)$$

( for any  $L_0$  )

# Original Quantum Repeater

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**Essence of subexponential scaling:**

some form of quantum error detection

and quantum memories

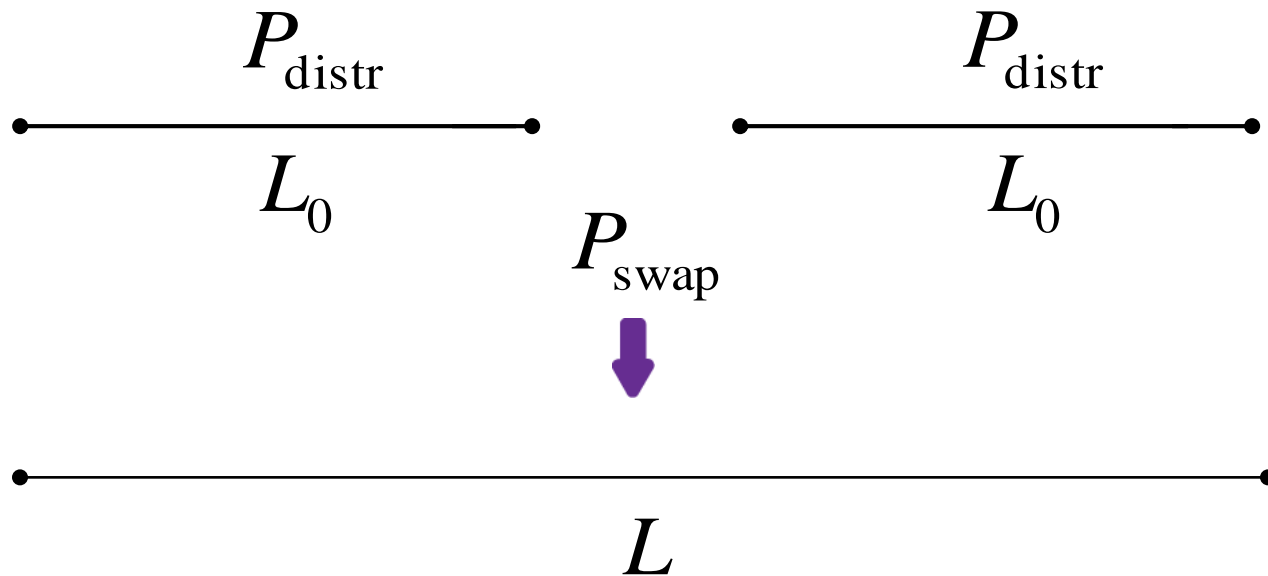
# Original Quantum Repeater

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- ✓ distribute **known, entangled** states
- ✓ distribute different copies in each segment
- ✓ QED/entanglement purification
- ✓ quantum memories
- ✓ **two-way** classical communication

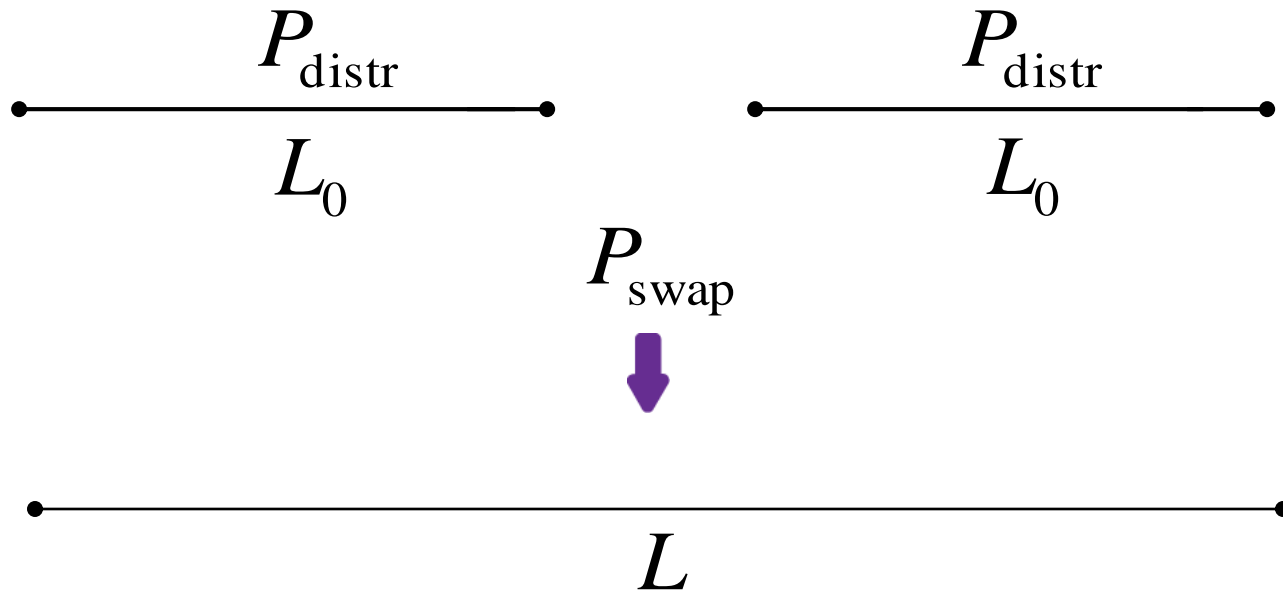


# With Memories: Quantum Repeater



$$\text{Rate} \sim P_{\text{distr}} \left( \frac{2}{3} P_{\text{swap}} \right)^{\log_2(L/L_0)} \sim (L/L_0)^{\log_2(2/3 P_{\text{swap}})}$$

# Without Memories: Quantum Relay



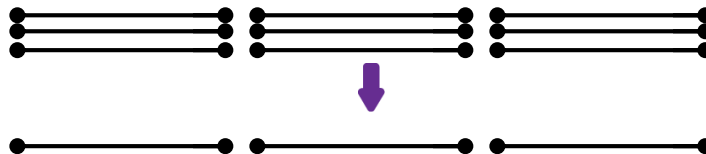
$$\text{Rate} \sim P_{\text{distr}}^{L/L_0} \cdot P_{\text{swap}}^{L/L_0 - 1}$$

# Original Quantum Repeater

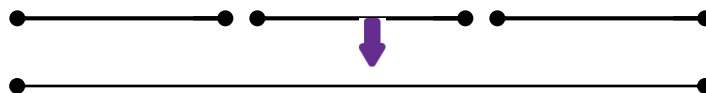
✓ Entanglement Distribution



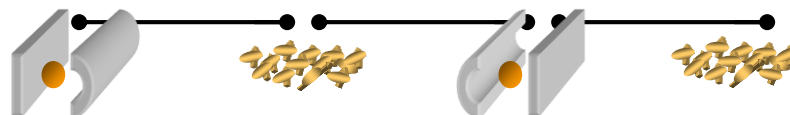
✓ Entanglement Purification  
(Quantum Error Detection)



✓ Entanglement Swapping

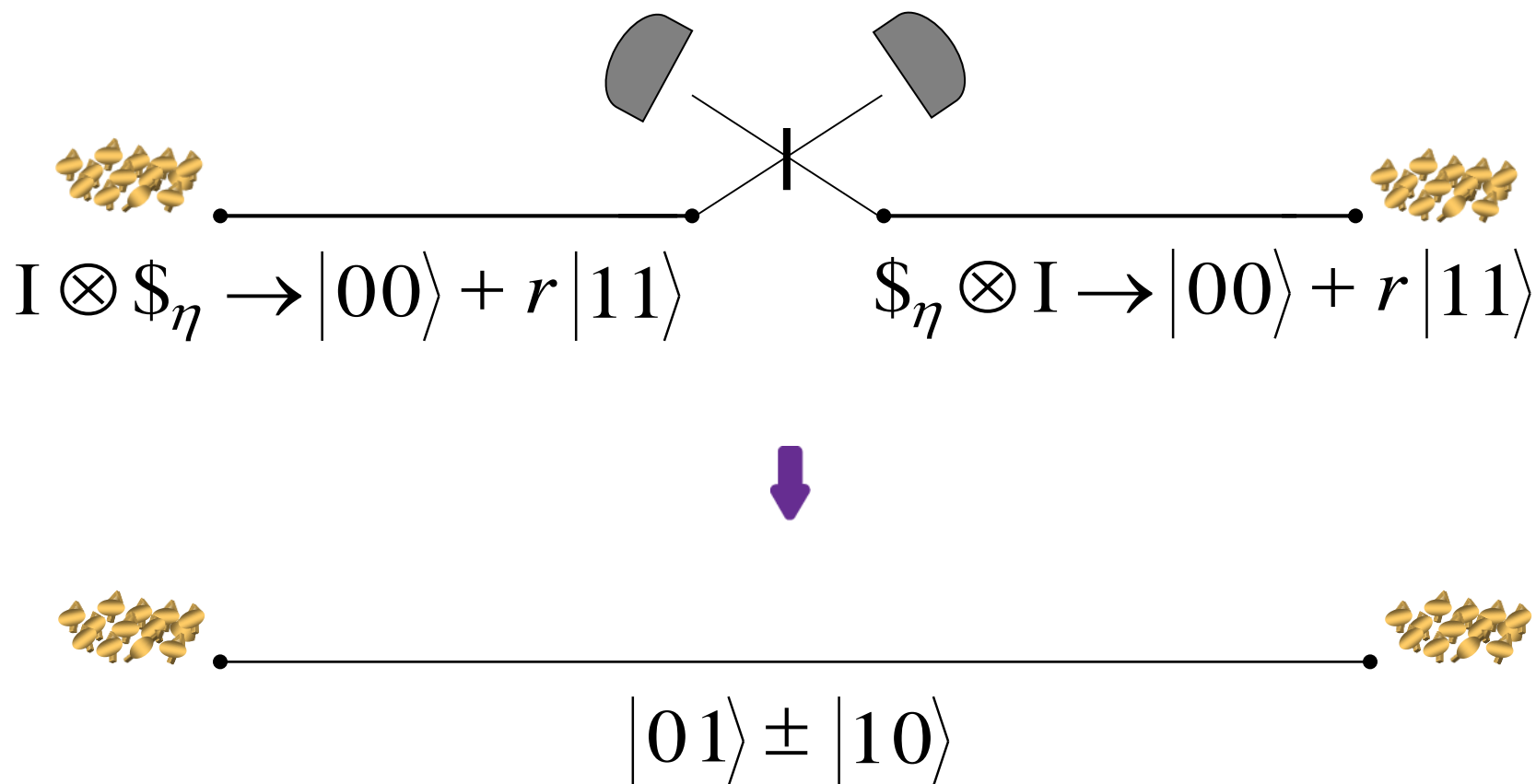


✓ Quantum Memories



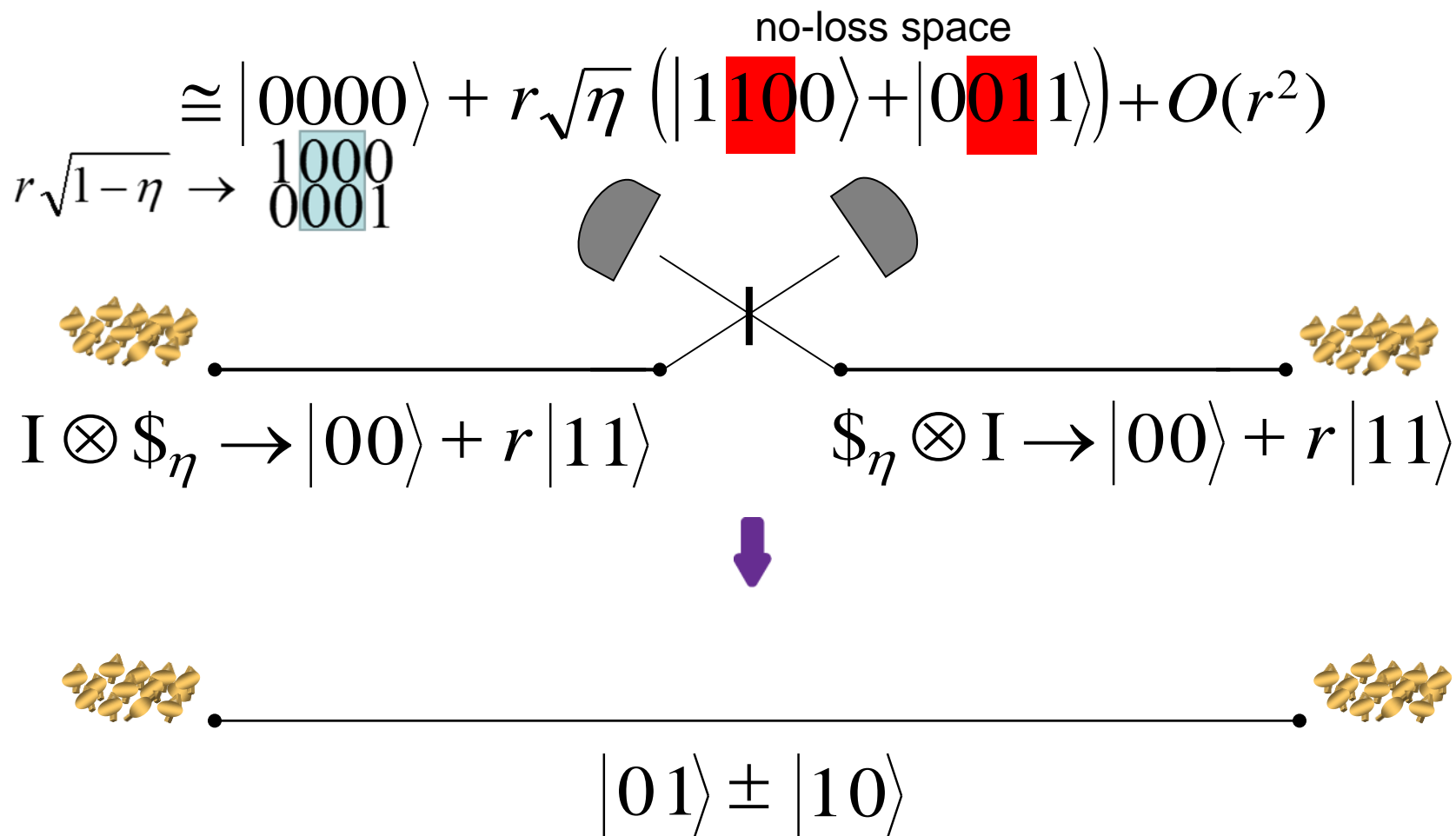
# DLCZ Quantum Repeater

L.M. Duan, M.D. Lukin, J.I. Cirac, P. Zoller, Nature 414, 413 (2001)



$$P_{\text{distr}} \sim \eta \cdot r^2; \quad F \approx 1 - O(r^2)$$

# DLCZ Quantum Repeater



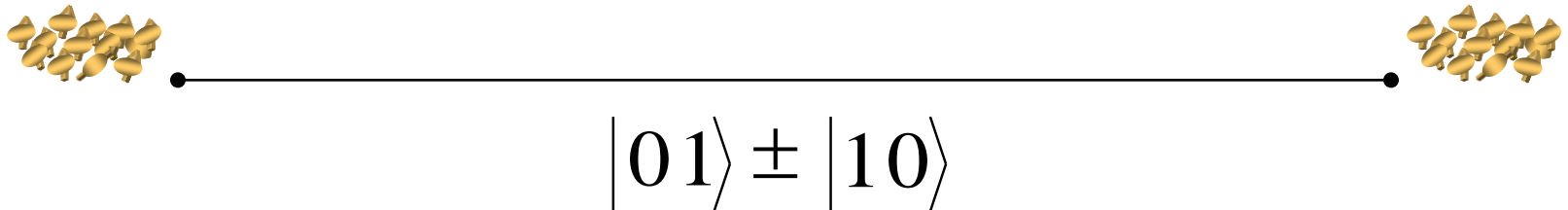
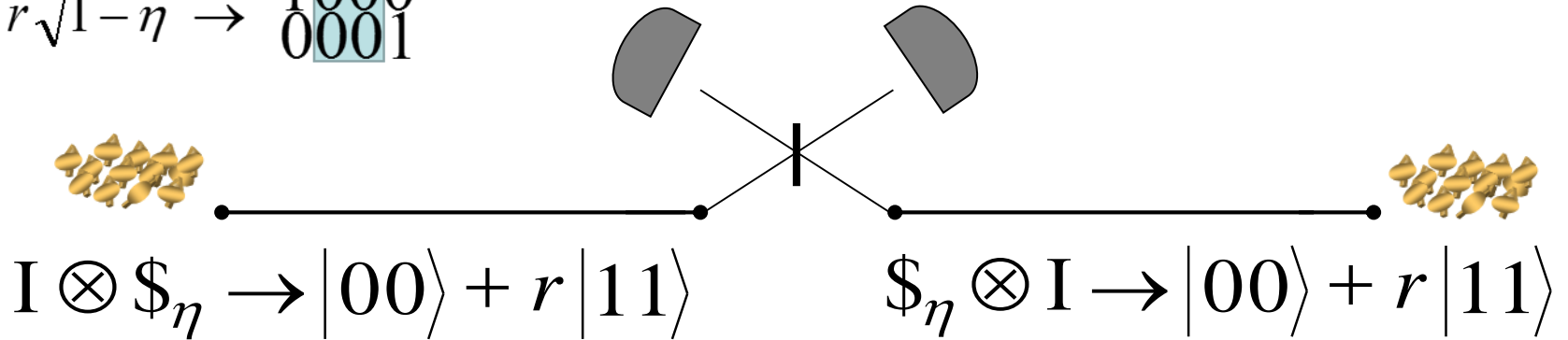
$$P_{\text{distr}} \sim \eta \cdot r^2; \quad F \approx 1 - O(r^2)$$

# DLCZ Quantum Repeater

loss space: only QED, not QEC!

$$\cong |0000\rangle + r\sqrt{\eta} (|1\underbrace{100}_{\text{red}}\rangle + |0\underbrace{011}_{\text{red}}\rangle) + O(r^2)$$

$r\sqrt{1-\eta} \rightarrow \begin{matrix} 1000 \\ 0001 \end{matrix}$



$$P_{\text{distr}} \sim \eta \cdot r^2; \quad F \approx 1 - O(r^2)$$

# Original Quantum Repeater

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- ✓ distribute known, entangled states
- ✓ distribute different copies in each segment
- ✓ QED/entanglement purification
- ✓ quantum memories
- ✓ two-way classical communication

Problems: very slow, limited by CC rates, good memories required

Rate  $\leq c / L$  e.g. 100Hz/1000km  $\sim 1 / O(\text{poly}(L))$

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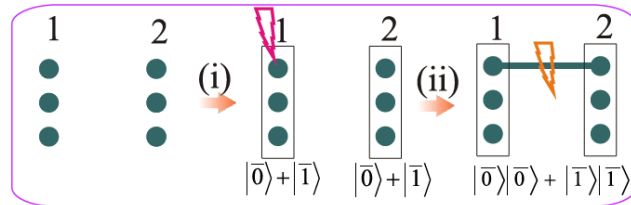
New Quantum Repeaters:  
Quantum Error **Correction**  
for Long-Distance  
Quantum Communication

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# Encoded Quantum Repeaters: Local Errors

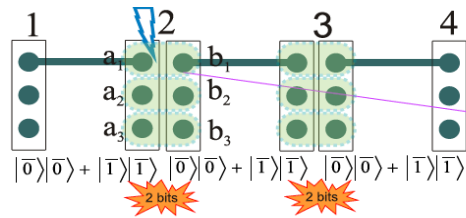
## 1. Encoded Generation



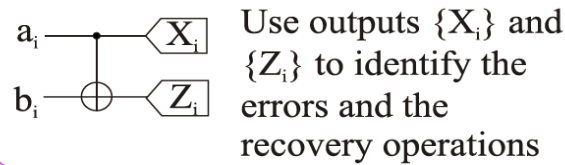
$$|\bar{0}\rangle = |000\rangle, |\bar{1}\rangle = |111\rangle$$

etc.

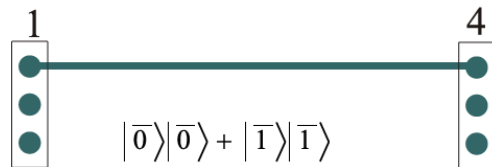
## 2. Encoded Connection



### Bell Measurement



## 3. Pauli Frame



L. Jiang *et al.*, Phys. Rev. A **79**, 032325 (2009);  
W.J. Munro *et al.*, Nat. Photon. **4**, 792 (2010)

$\sim 1 / O(\text{poly}(\log(L)))$   
implementation-independent

S. Bratzik, H. Kampermann, and D. Bruß, PRA **89**, 032335 (2014) secret key rates in QKD

N.K. Bernardes and P.v.L., PRA **86**, 052301 (2012) HQR with encoding

# Encoded Quantum Repeaters: Loss Errors



A.G. Fowler *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **104**, 180503 (2010)

W.J. Munro *et al.*, Nature Photon. **6**, 777 (2012)

K. Azuma, K. Tamaki, and H.-K. Lo, arXiv: 1309.7207

topological surface codes

parity loss codes

cluster states and feedforward

# Photon Loss Codes

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Leung's bosonic code:  $|\bar{0}\rangle = \frac{|40\rangle + |04\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$  ,  $|\bar{1}\rangle = |22\rangle$  exact

Leung's [4,1] AD code:

$$|\bar{0}\rangle = \frac{|0000\rangle + |1111\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$$
$$|\bar{1}\rangle = \frac{|0011\rangle + |1100\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$$

approximate

# Photon Loss Codes

Quantum Parity Code (QPC):

$$|\pm\rangle^{(n,m)} = \frac{\left(|\mathbf{0}\rangle^m \pm |\mathbf{1}\rangle^m\right)^{\otimes n}}{\sqrt{2}^n}, \text{ with } |\mathbf{0}\rangle^m = |\mathbf{10}\rangle^{\otimes m}, |\mathbf{1}\rangle^m = |\mathbf{01}\rangle^{\otimes m}$$

$$|\bar{\mathbf{0}}\rangle^{(n,m)} = \frac{\left(|+\rangle^{(n,m)} + |-\rangle^{(n,m)}\right)}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad |\bar{\mathbf{1}}\rangle^{(n,m)} = \frac{\left(|+\rangle^{(n,m)} - |-\rangle^{(n,m)}\right)}{\sqrt{2}}$$

QPC( $n,n$ ) corrects  $(n - 1)$  photon losses

# Photon Loss Codes

QPC(1,1):

$$|\pm\rangle^{(1,1)} = \frac{(|10\rangle \pm |01\rangle)}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad |\bar{0}\rangle^{(1,1)} = |10\rangle, \quad |\bar{1}\rangle^{(1,1)} = |01\rangle$$

QPC(2,2):

$$|\bar{0}\rangle^{(2,2)} = \frac{|10101010\rangle + |01010101\rangle}{\sqrt{2}},$$

$$|\bar{1}\rangle^{(2,2)} = \frac{|10100101\rangle + |01011010\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$$

→  $C_{\text{QPC}(2,2)} = C_{[4,1]} \circ C_{\text{Dual-Rail}}$  (is exact!)

# Photon Loss Codes

Quantum Parity Code (QPC):

$$Z_{ij} Z_{i,j+1} \quad i = 1 \dots n, \quad j = 1 \dots (m-1)$$

stabilizers for  
physical Pauli operators

$$\prod_{j=1}^m X_{ij} X_{i+1,j} \quad i = 1 \dots (n-1)$$

$$n(m-1) + n - 1 = nm - 1 \text{ independent stabilizers}$$

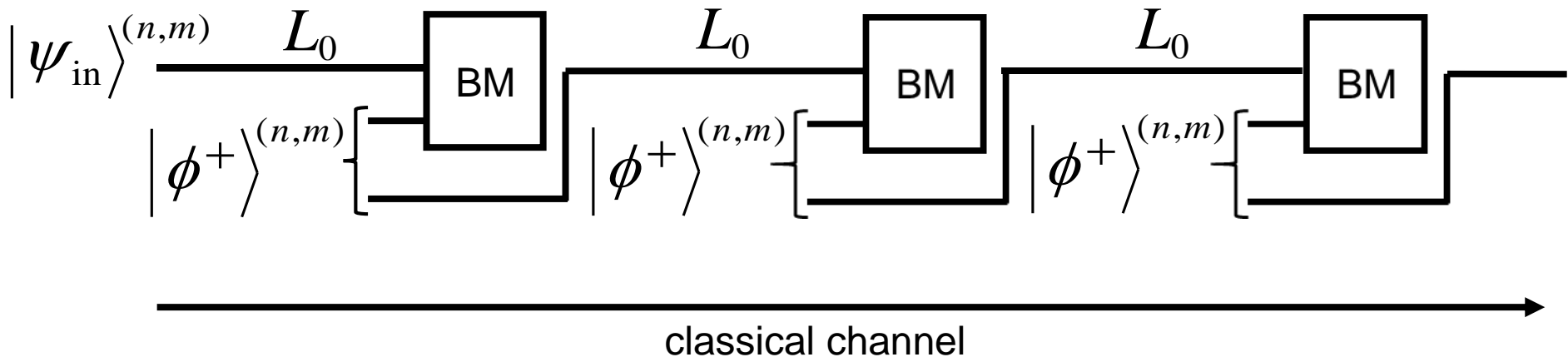
QPC(2,2):

$$\langle Z_{11} Z_{12}, Z_{21} Z_{22}, X_{11} X_{21} X_{12} X_{22} \rangle = \langle ZZII, IIZZ, XXXX \rangle$$

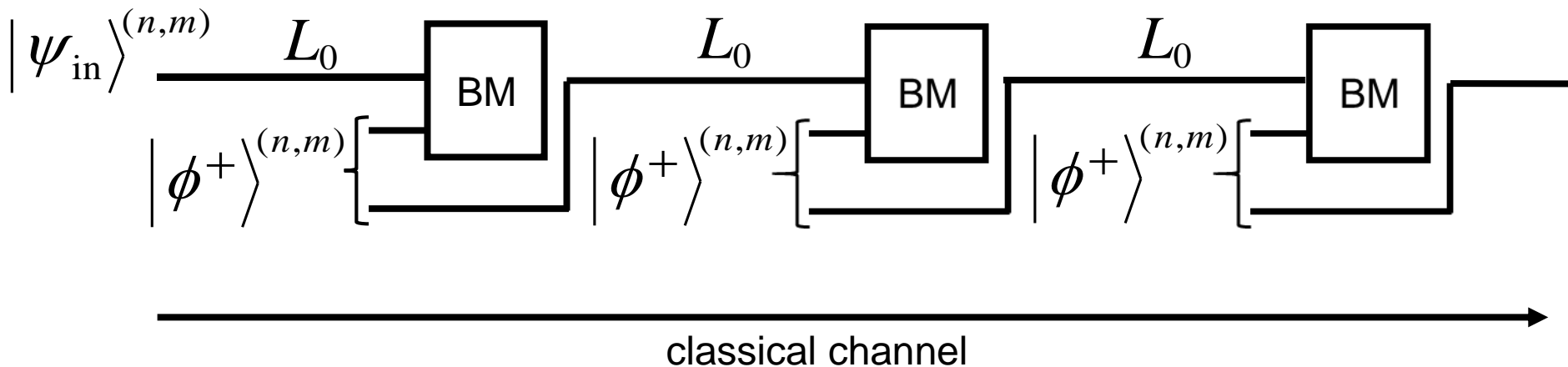
like [4,1] code

# Ultrafast Quantum Communication

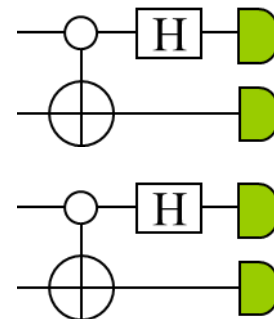
...replace DR-qubit/Bell states/BM's by QPC-encoded qubit/Bell states/BM's, use stabilizer formalism and exploit **transversality** of QPC code as a CSS code



# Ultrafast Quantum Communication



...many physical BM's for one logical BM  
via many physical CNOTs and  
many physical Hadamards:  
need **nonlinear** operations, matter-light  
interactions,...





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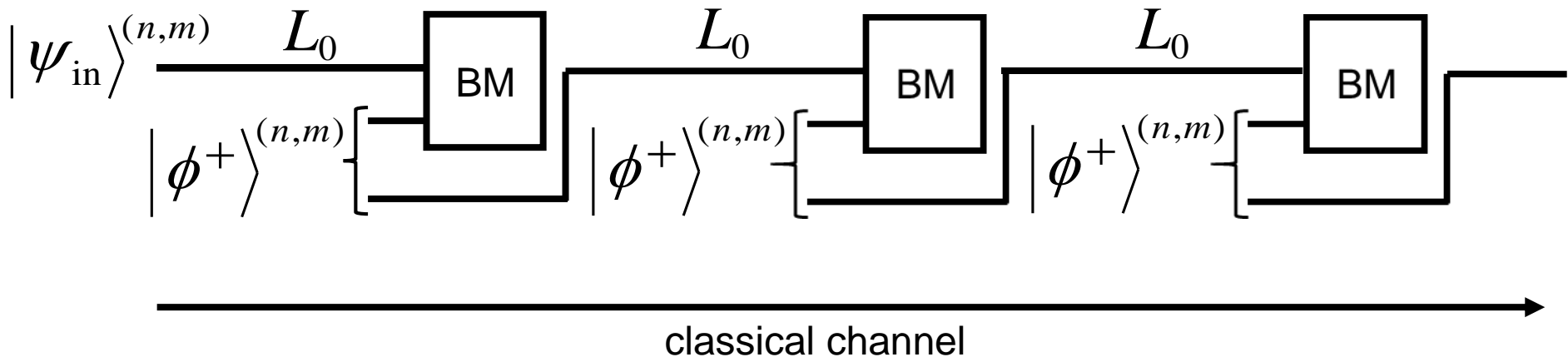
Ultrafast Long-Distance  
Quantum Communication  
with Linear Optics

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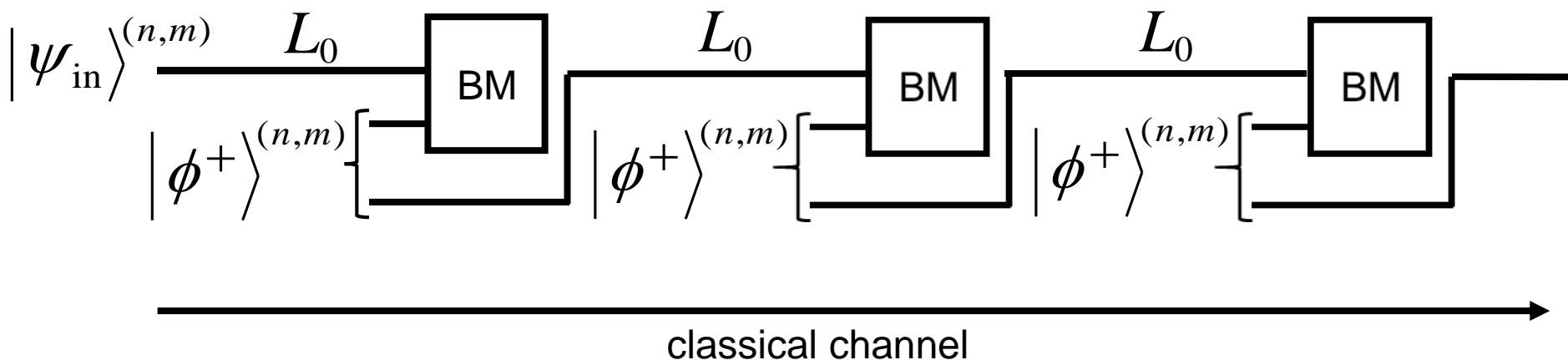
# Linear-Optics Quantum Communication

...replace matter-qubit-based QPC-Bell states by optical QPC-Bell states  
and nonlinear light-matter interactions by **static linear optics**



# Linear-Optics Quantum Communication

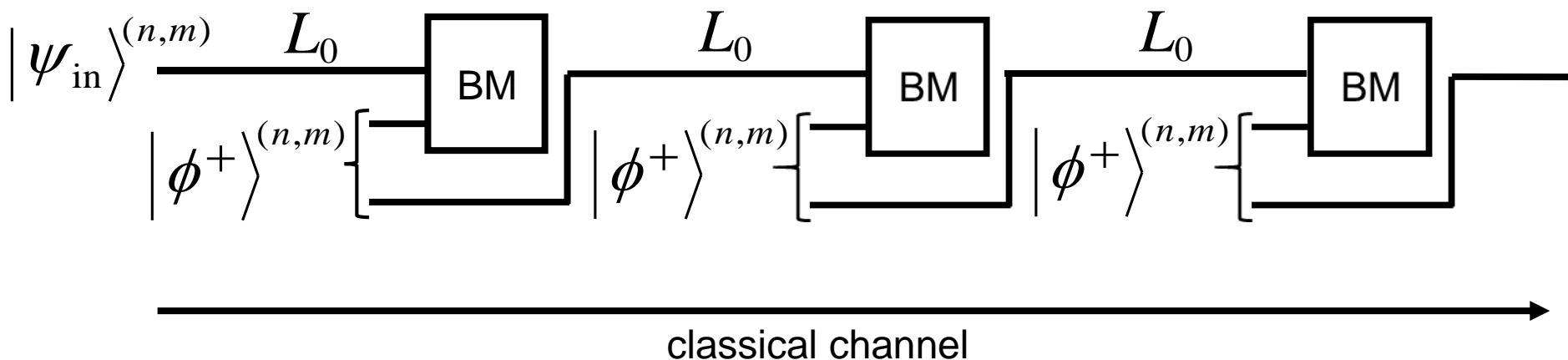
...replace matter-qubit-based QPC-Bell states by optical QPC-Bell states  
and nonlinear light-matter interactions by **static linear optics**



$$P_{\text{succ}} = \left[ \sum_{l=0}^{nm} P_{\text{BM},l} \binom{nm}{l} \eta^{nm-l} (1-\eta)^l \right]^{L/L_0} \quad \eta = \exp(-L_0 / L_{\text{att}})$$

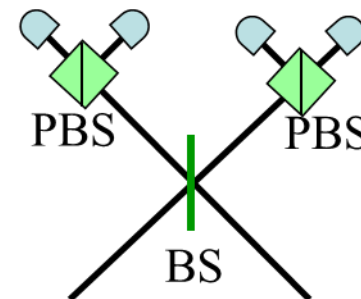
# Linear-Optics Quantum Communication

...replace matter-qubit-based QPC-Bell states by optical QPC-Bell states and nonlinear light-matter interactions by **static linear optics**



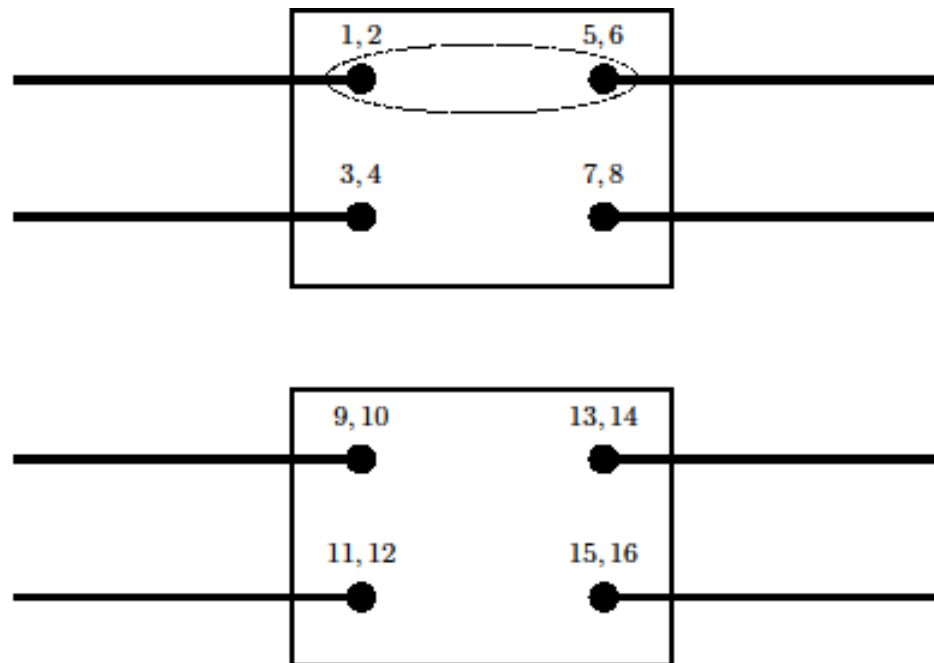
What is  $P_{\text{BM},l}$ ?

Can we again exploit „transversality“?



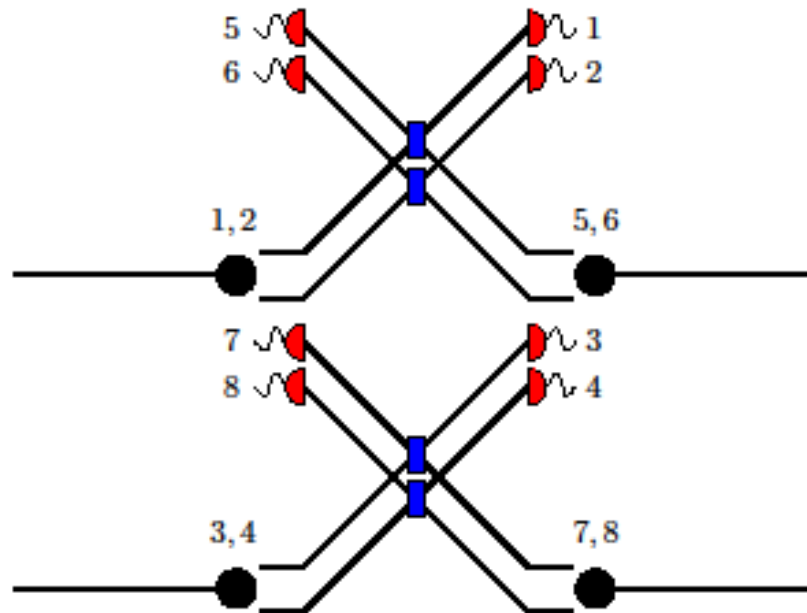
# Linear-Optics Quantum Communication

BM of QPC(2,2) encoded Bell states:



# Linear-Optics Quantum Communication

BM of QPC(2,2) encoded Bell states:



# Linear-Optics Quantum Communication

$(n, m)$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
(2,2)	75	50						
(3,2)	87.5	75	40					
(4,3)	93.75	87.5	77.27	61.36	40.91	20.45	5.84	
(5,3)	96.88	93.75	88.39	79.12	65.11	47.20	28.32	12.59
(10,5)	99.90	99.80	99.63	99.31	98.79	97.96	96.72	94.94

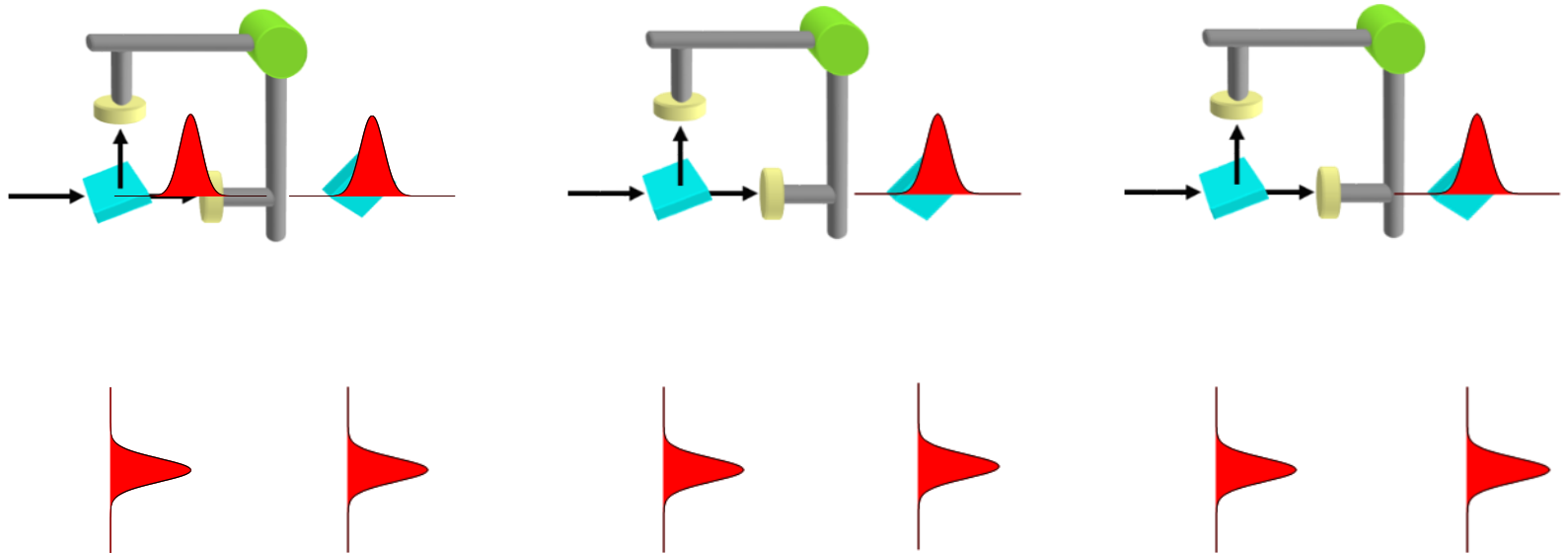
$(n, m)$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
(2,2)	75	50	7.14					
(3,2)	87.5	75	43.18	10.91	1.21			
(4,3)	93.75	87.5	77.72	63.44	46.22	29.35	15.91	7.21
(5,3)	96.88	93.75	88.58	80.08	67.99	53.30	38.03	24.38
(10,5)	99.90	99.80	99.63	99.32	98.82	98.05	96.91	95.31

Table 1: Success probabilities  $p_l$  in % of the one-sided (top) and the symmetric BM (bottom) given the total number of photons lost  $l$ .

$$P_{\text{BM}, l=0} = 1 - 2^{-n}$$

QPC-encoded BM works asymptotically well with linear optics (no loss)  
and it even still works in the presence of losses !

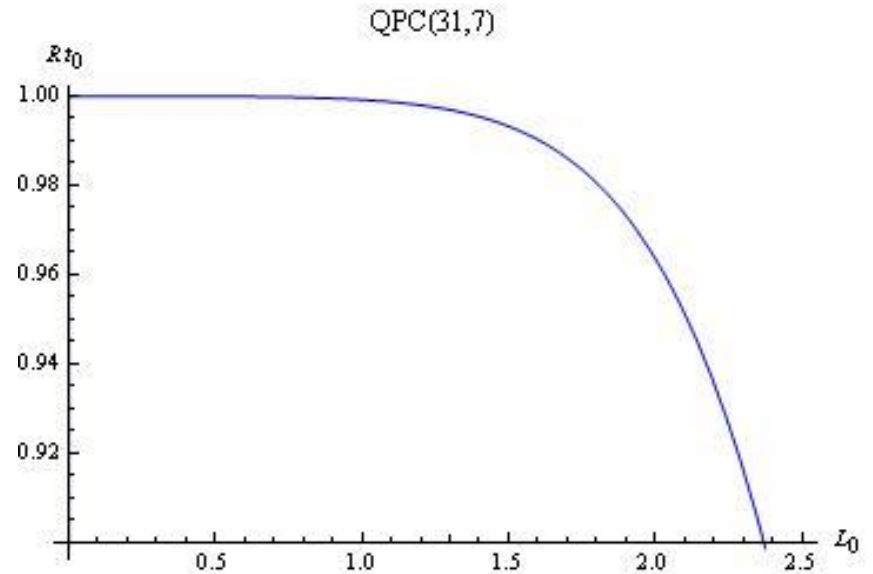
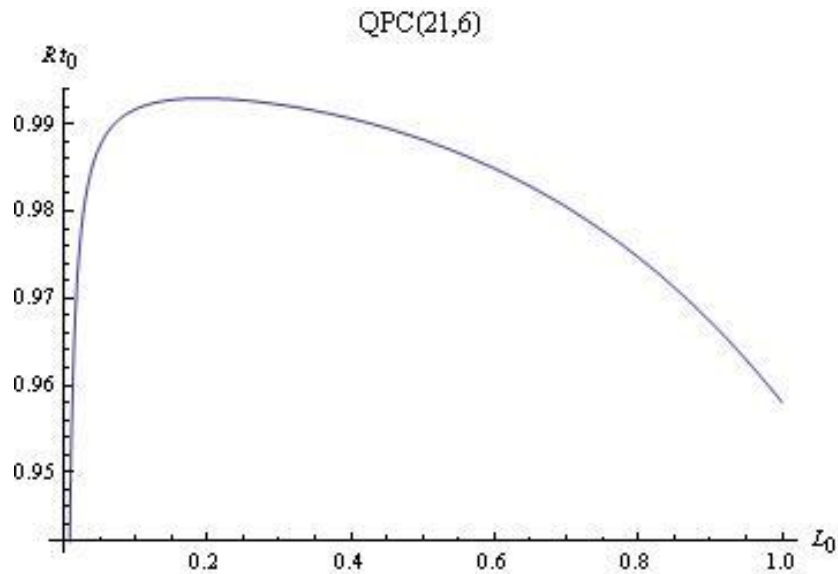
# Linear-Optics Quantum Communication





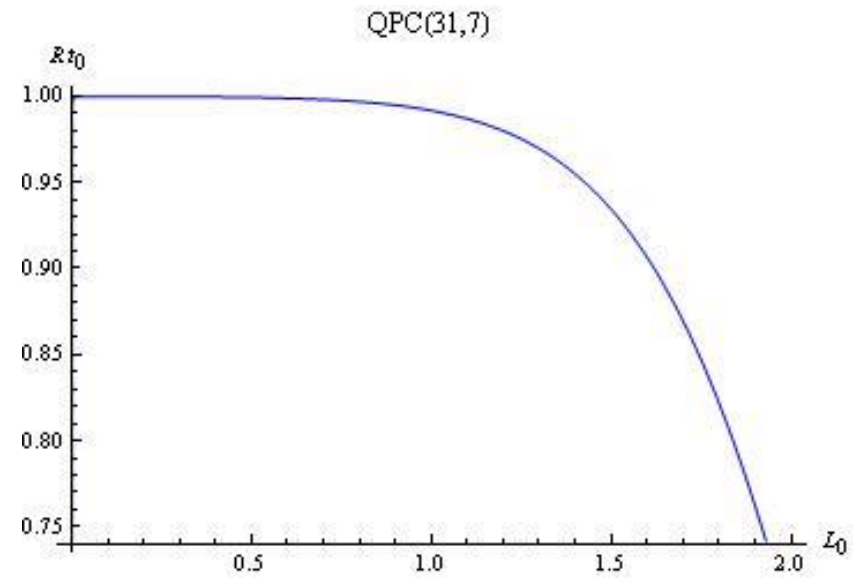
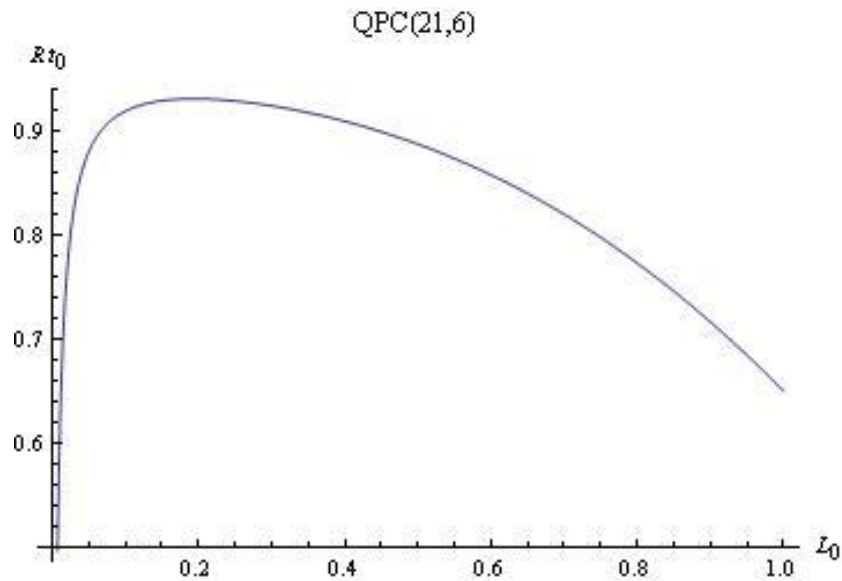
# Success Probabilities (Temporal Cost)

$$\text{Rate } R = P_{\text{succ}} / t_0$$



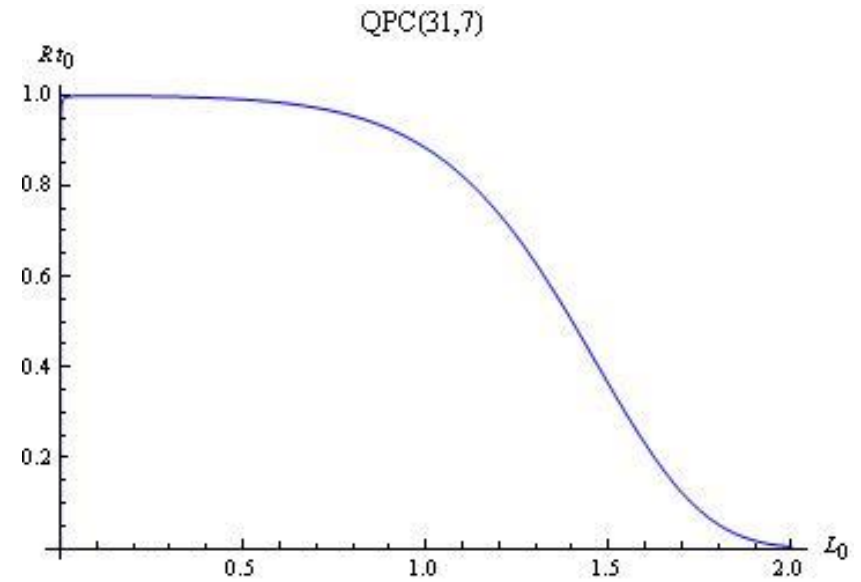
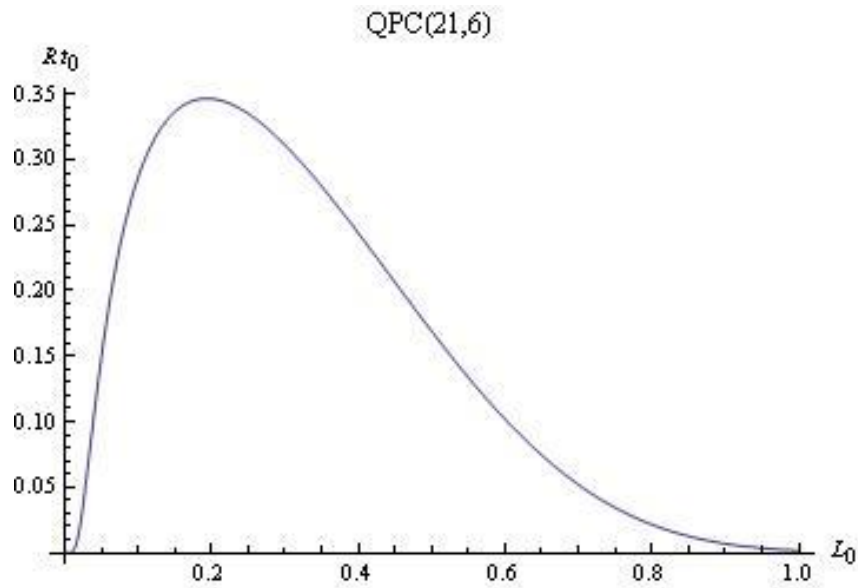
1000 km

# Success Probabilities (Temporal Cost)



10000 km

# Success Probabilities (Temporal Cost)

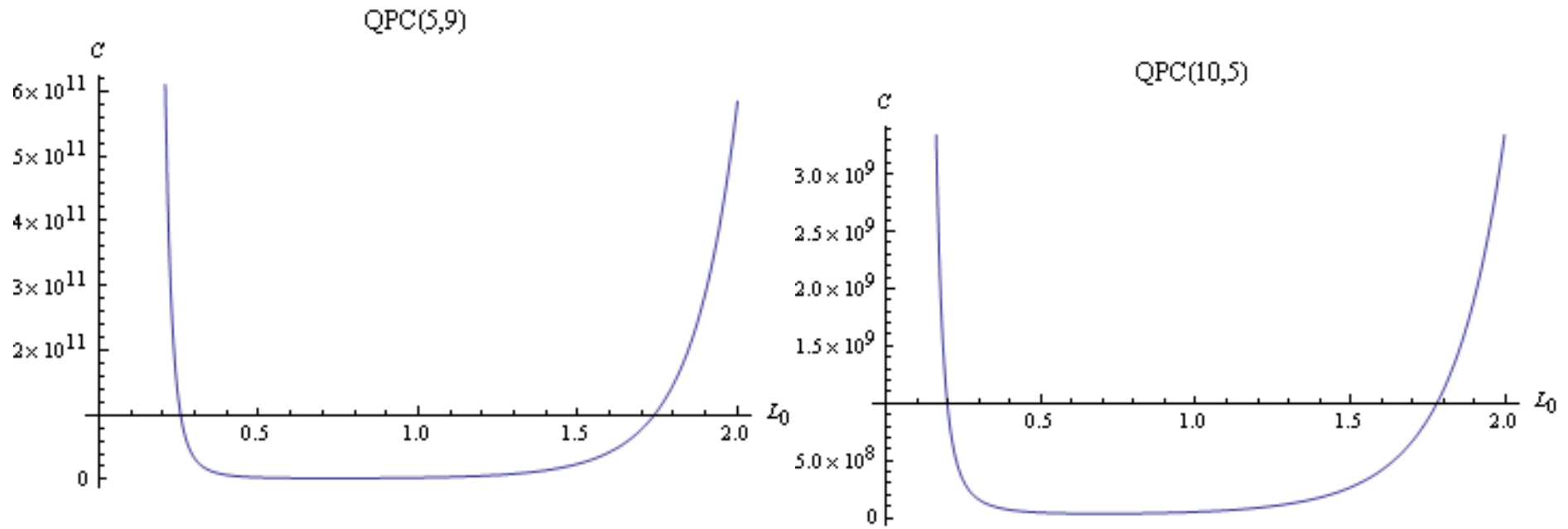


150000 km

# Total Cost

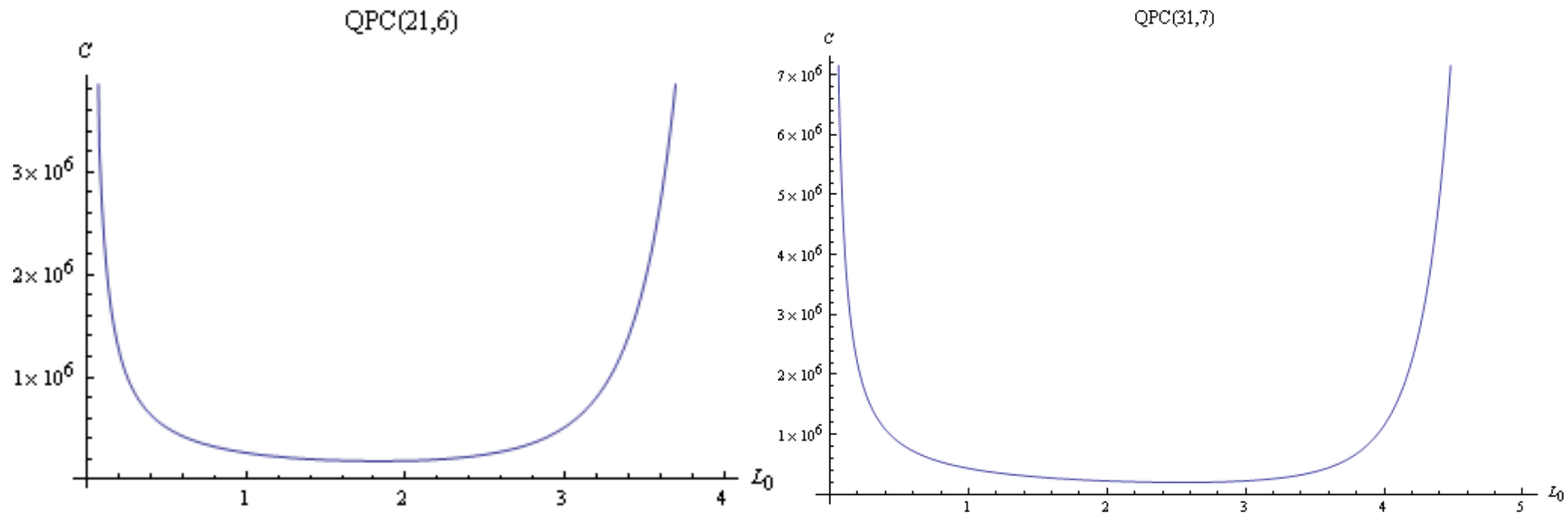
$$C = (2nm / R) L / L_0 = (2nmt_0 / P_{\text{succ}}) L / L_0$$

S. Muralidharan, J. Kim, N. Lütkenhaus, M.D. Lukin, and L. Jiang, PRL **112**, 250501 (2014)



1000 km

# Total Cost



1000 km

# Summary

- ✓ Standard quantum repeaters using **QED** are scalable in principle, but slow
- ✓ New generation of quantum repeaters using **QEC** significantly improve the rates
- ✓ Ultrafast loss-code-based scheme is implementable with **linear optics**

QR rates near CC rates, only limited by local times

