

# Qubit Radiation Simulations, Beam Experiments And Error Propagation

**Paolo Rech**

DII, Università di Trento

**Gioele Casagrande**

DISI, Università di Trento

# Radiation-Induced faults in Qubits

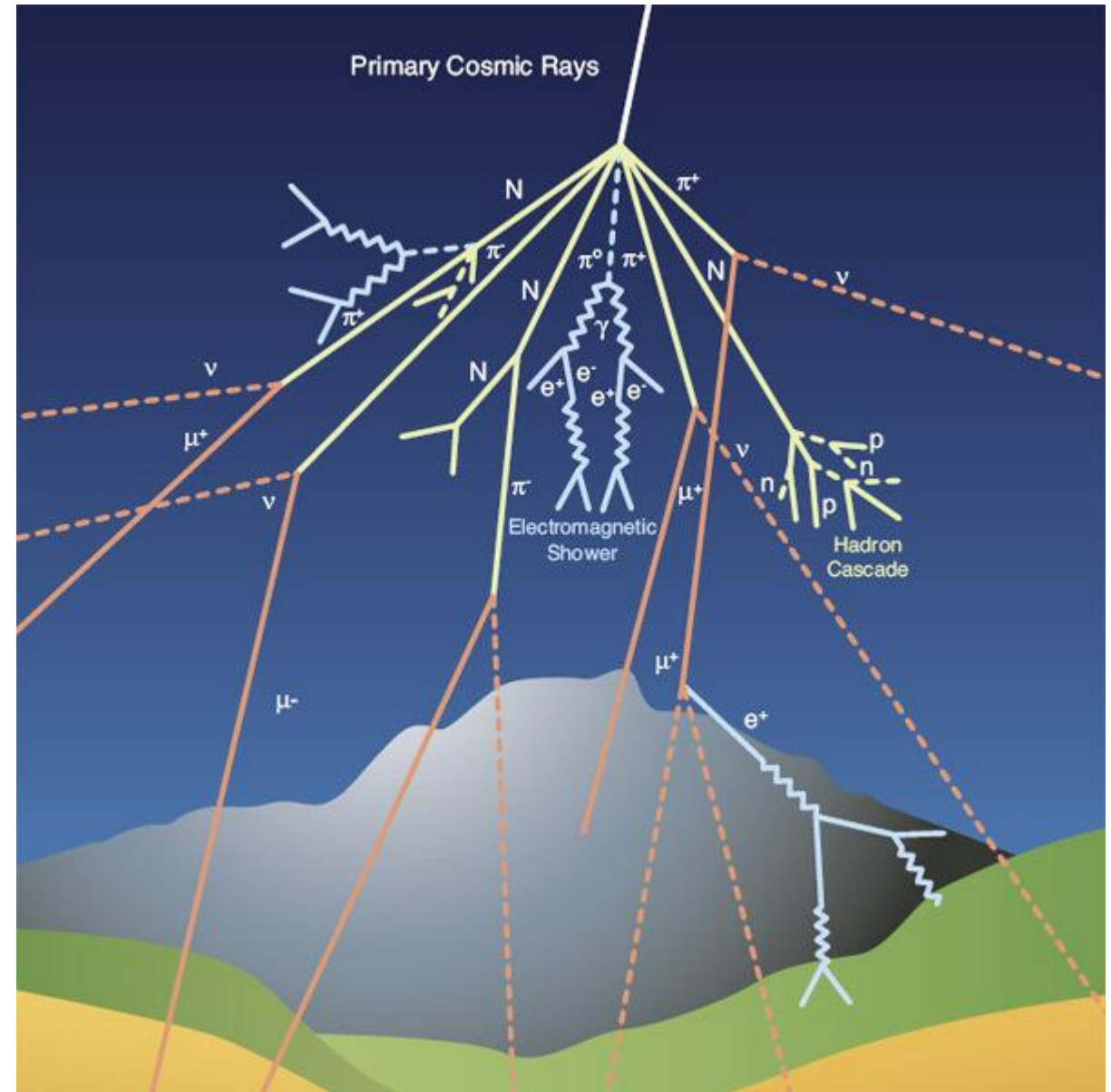
Energy deposition is known to influence the qubit state.

[Cardani, 2021; Cardani, 2023]

How does the corruption propagate in the quantum circuit?

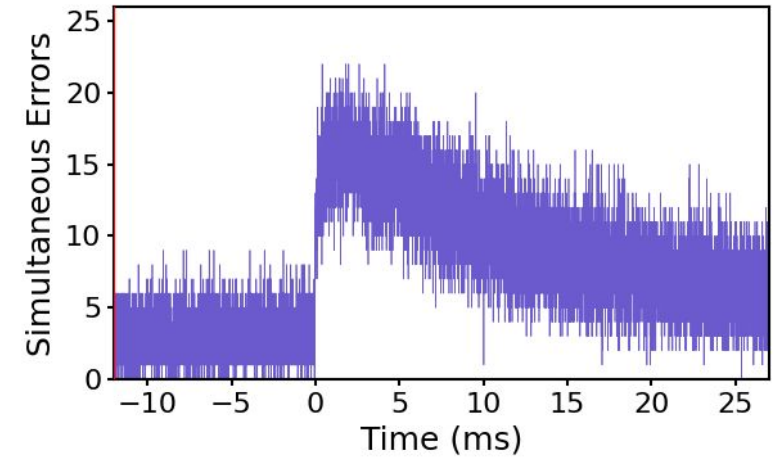
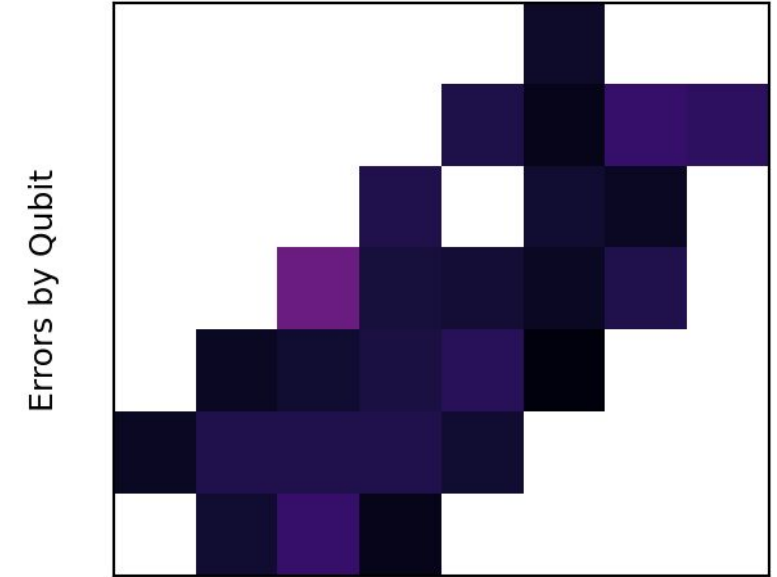
- Physically in time and space
- Logically

[CERN-DI-9905005, 1999]



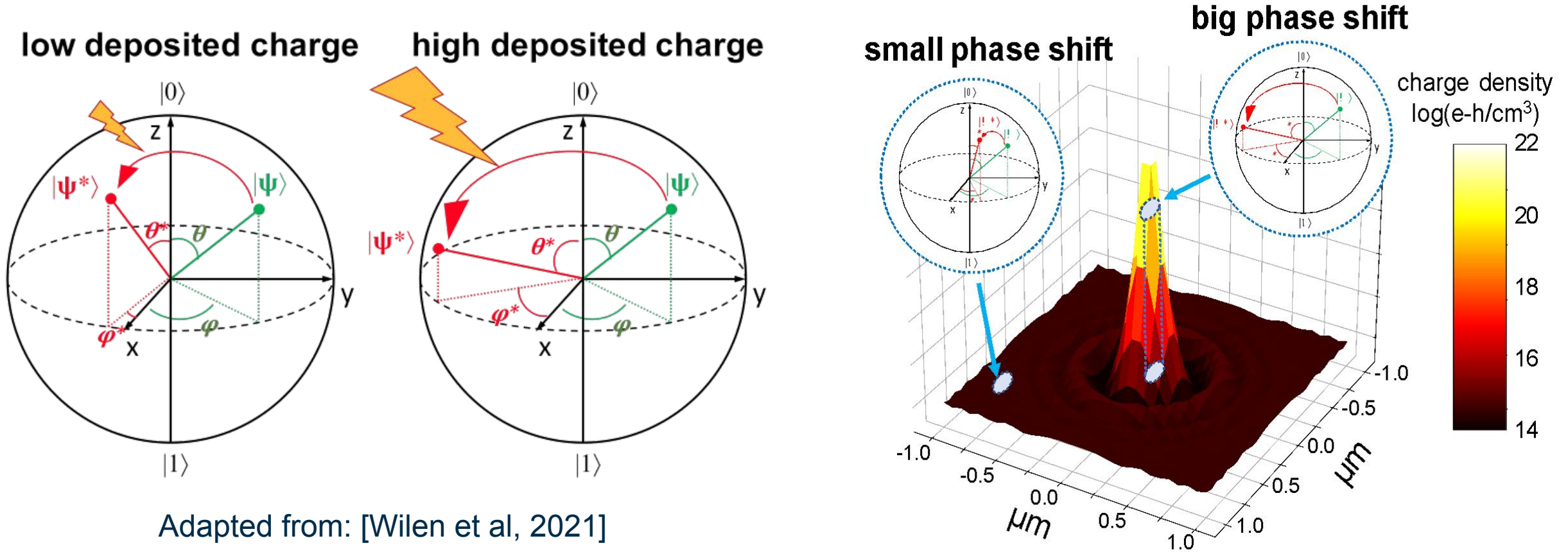
# Radiation impact on QC

- Field test on Google *Sycamore*:  
10mm<sup>2</sup> chip with 25 qubits
- Fault transient **persistence**: 25ms  
Orders of magnitude **longer** than single circuit execution
- Fault frequency ~ **once every 10s**



[McEwen et al, 2022]+[GoogleAI blog post]

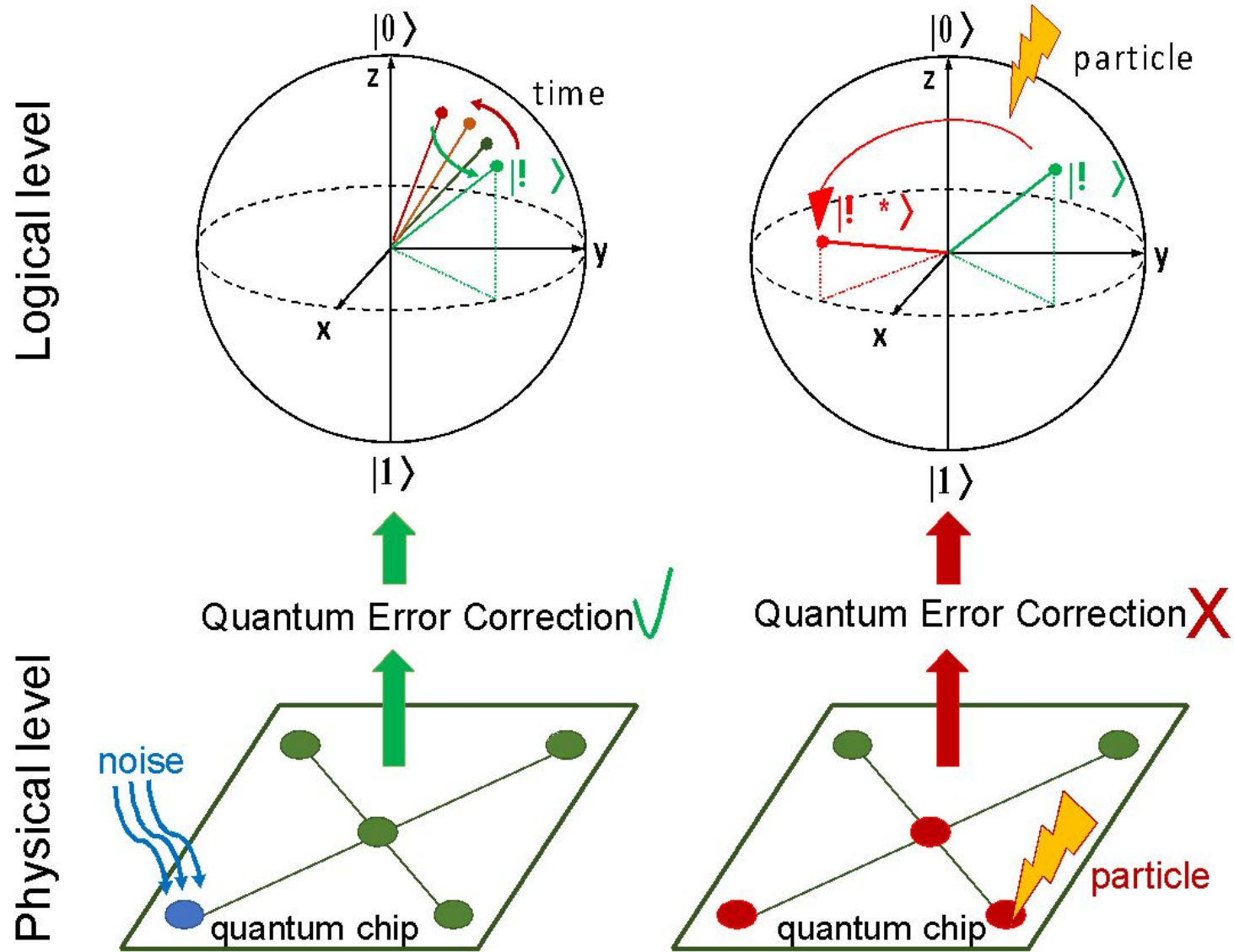
# Ionizing radiation in transmons devices



Any particle of any energy can disturb a qubit. There is no longer a “critical charge”, since qubits state is not binary.



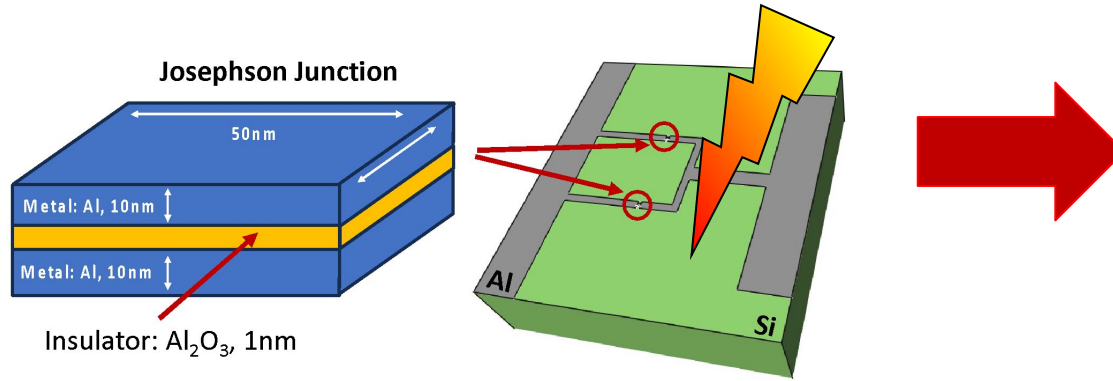
# Ionizing radiation in transmons devices



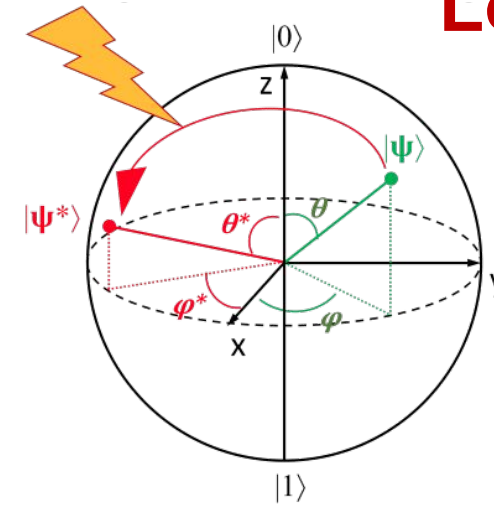
# Research path

## 1 – modelling radiation effect in qubits

Physical level



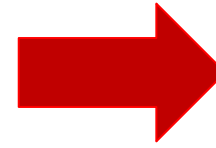
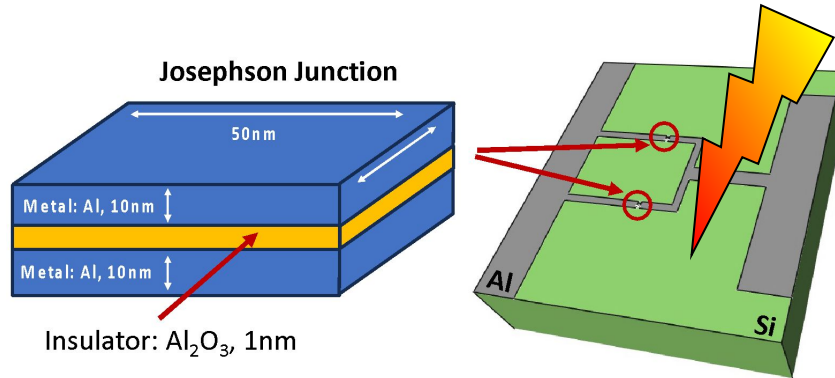
Logic level



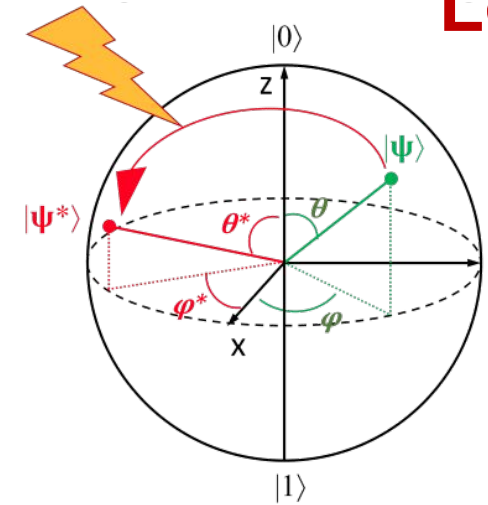
# Research path

## 1 – modelling radiation effect in qubits

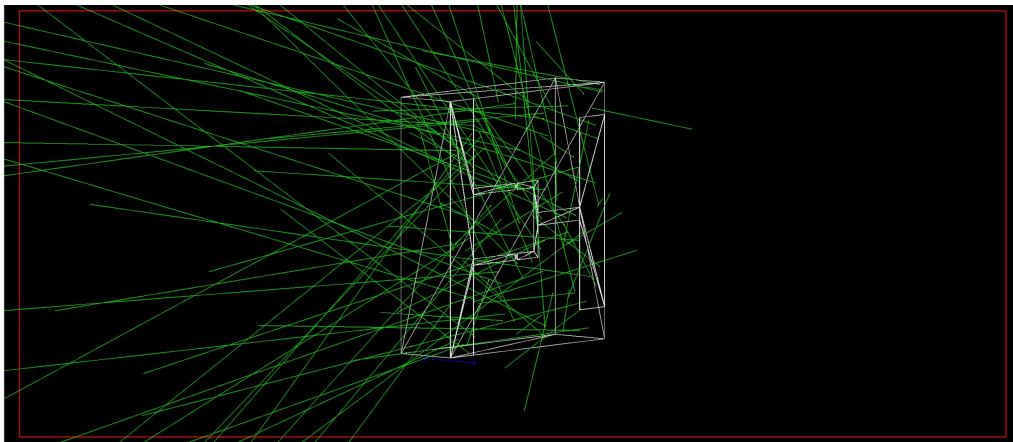
Physical level



Logic level



GEANT4 simulations\*



\*courtesy Gioele Casagrande

Beam experiments

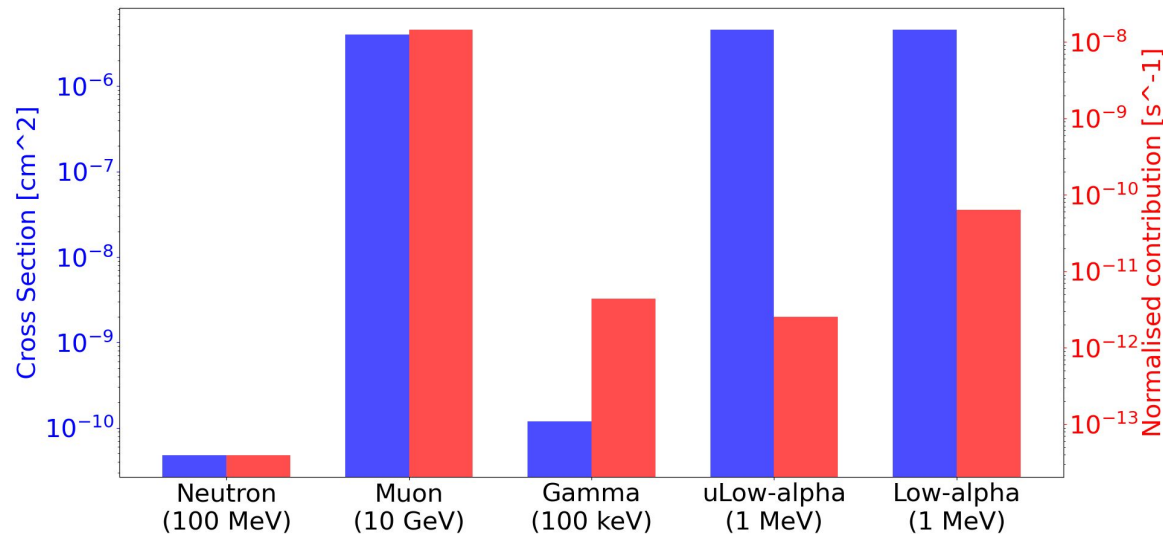
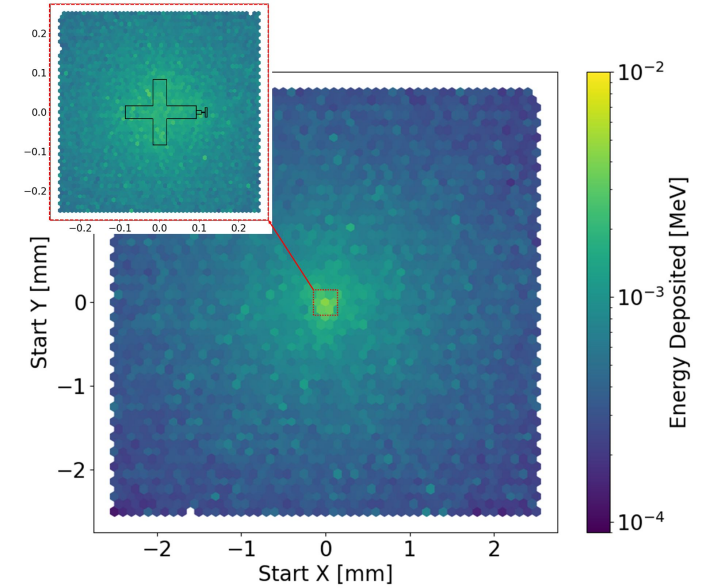


# Research path

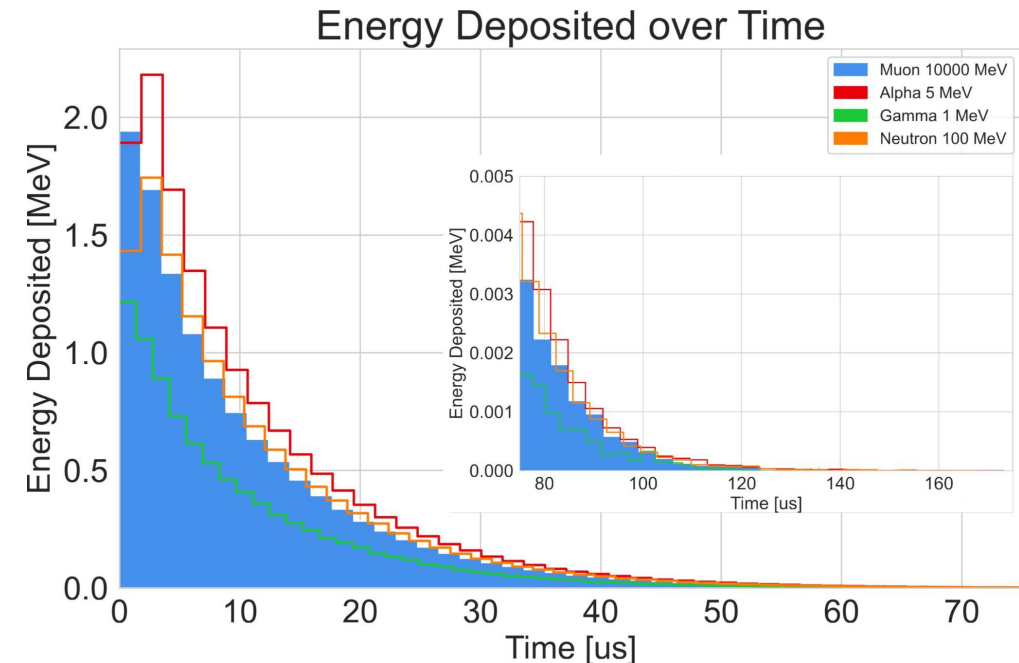
## 1 – modelling radiation effect in qubits

### GEANT4 simulations

- Muons are the most harmful particles
- Energy persistency in the substrate is  $O(100 \text{ us})$
- Energy spread in the substrate is (at least)  $O(\text{mm})$



HiCrest

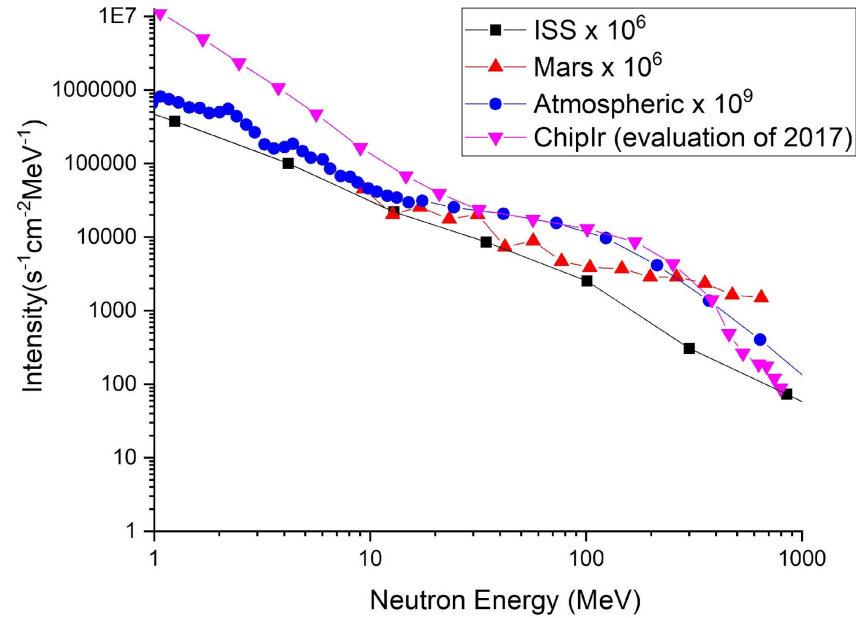




# Research path

## 1 – modelling radiation effect in qubits

ChipIR (Neutrons)



## Beam experiments



# Research path

## 1 – modelling radiation effect in qubits

ChipIR (Neutrons)



NILE (mono-energetic neutrons)



muons

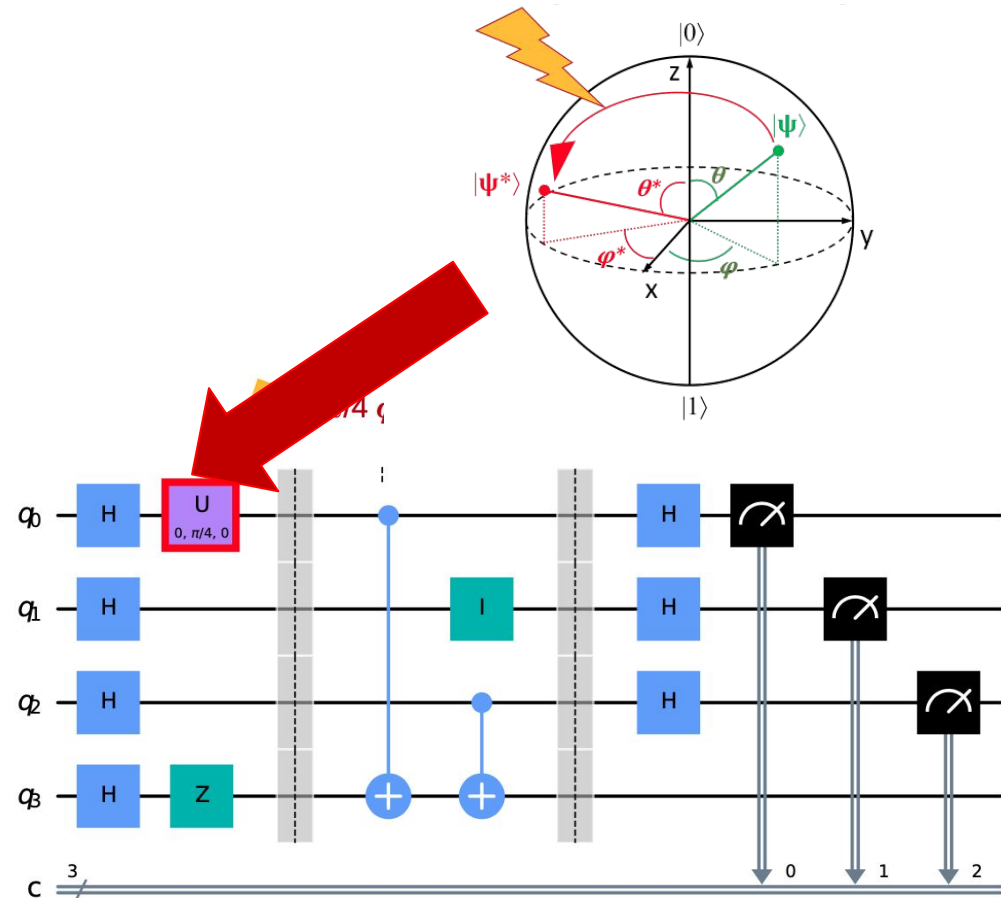
HiCrest

## Beam experiments



# Research path

- 1 – modelling radiation effect in qubits
- 2 – track fault propagation in quantum circuits\*

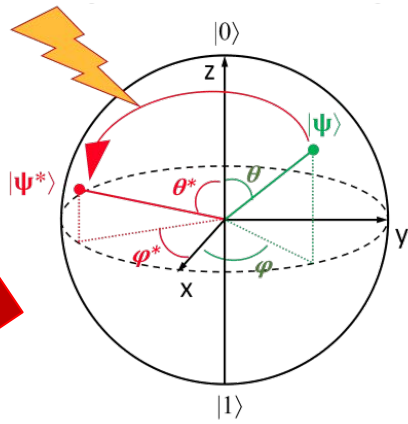


\*courtesy Marzio Vallero

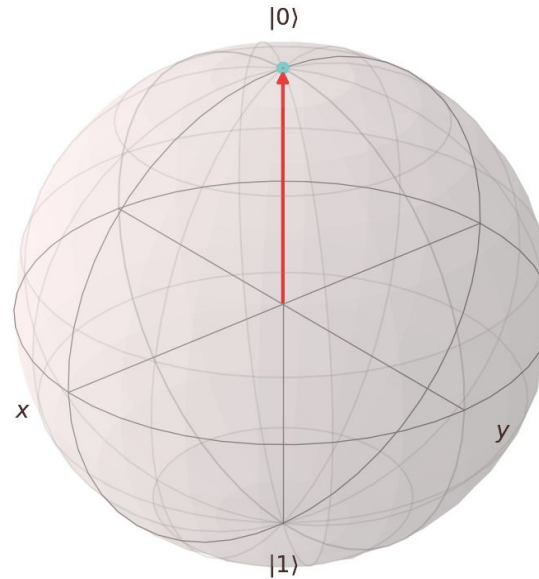


# Research path

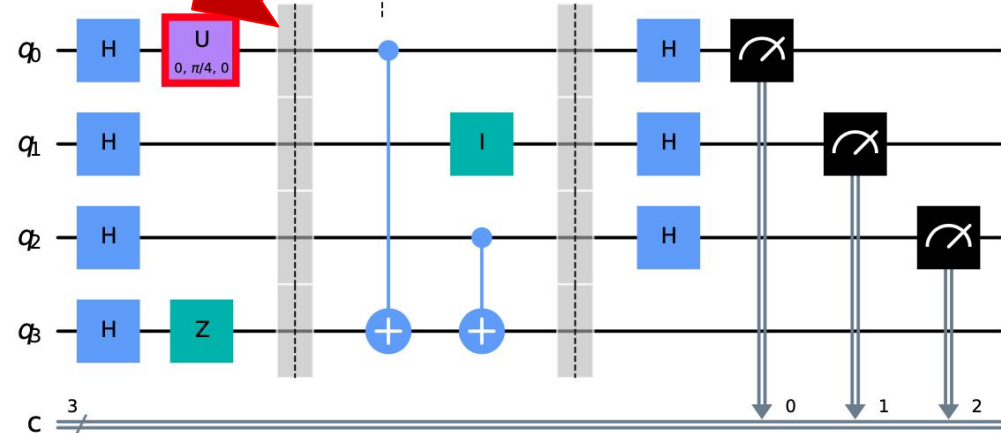
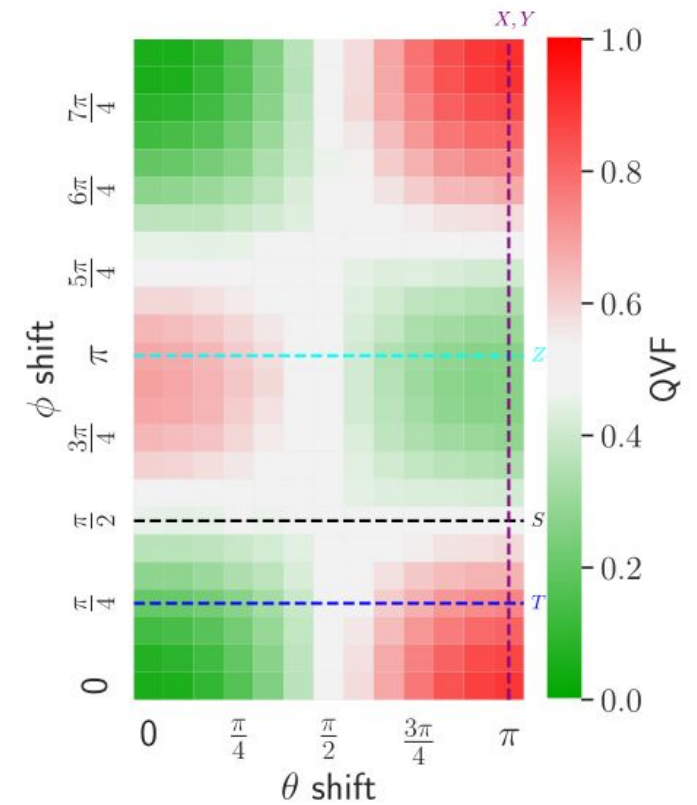
- 1 – modelling radiation effect in qubits
- 2 – track fault propagation in quantum circuits



## logic fault



## circuit output





# Research path

- 1 – modelling radiation effect in qubits
- 2 – track fault propagation in quantum circuits
- 3 – understand the operative fault effect in quantum devices
- 4 – measure the fault probability
- 5 – reduce fault propagation (QEC?)
- 6 – design and test improved Qubit layouts

# Thanks



UNIVERSITÀ  
DI TRENTO

