



# CodeQuest

a Weapon of Mass Simulation  
in the War on Noise

# Outline

- Why we care about building a quantum computer.
- Why quantum information is constantly at risk.
- How codes can protect information.
- What CodeQuest is, and why it matters.
- Case Study: Lattice Codes
- Conclusions

# Quantum mechanics is fuzzy

Actual size



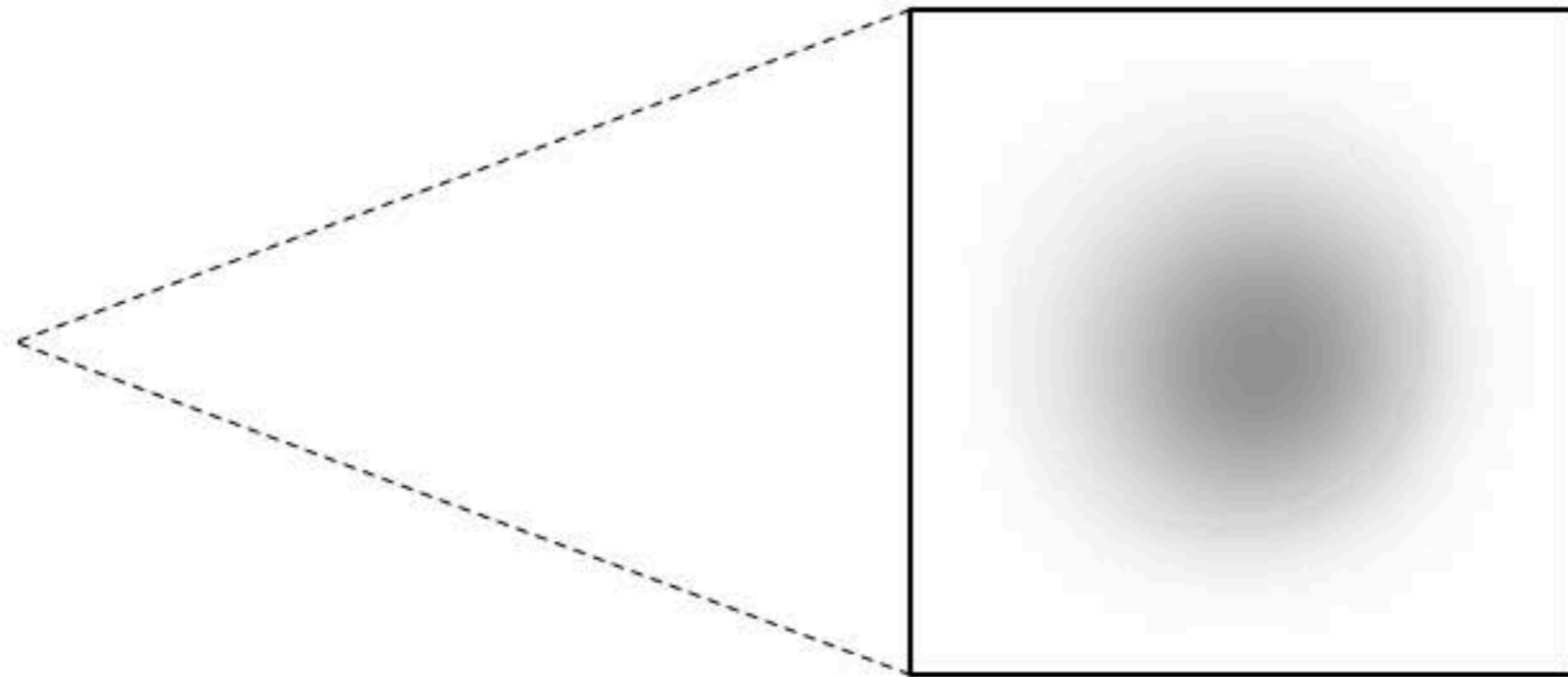
Magnified



# Quantum mechanics is fuzzy

Actual size

Magnified



# Quantum mechanics is fuzzy

Actual size

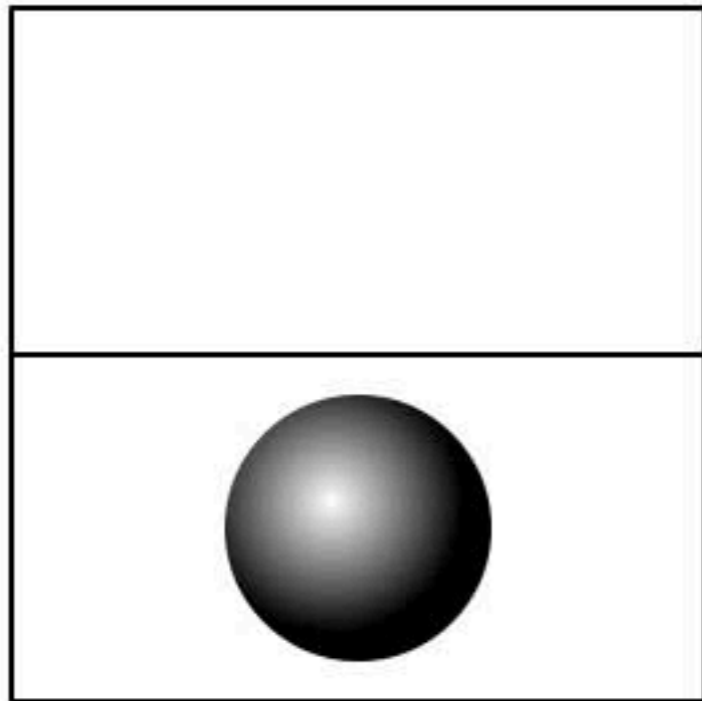


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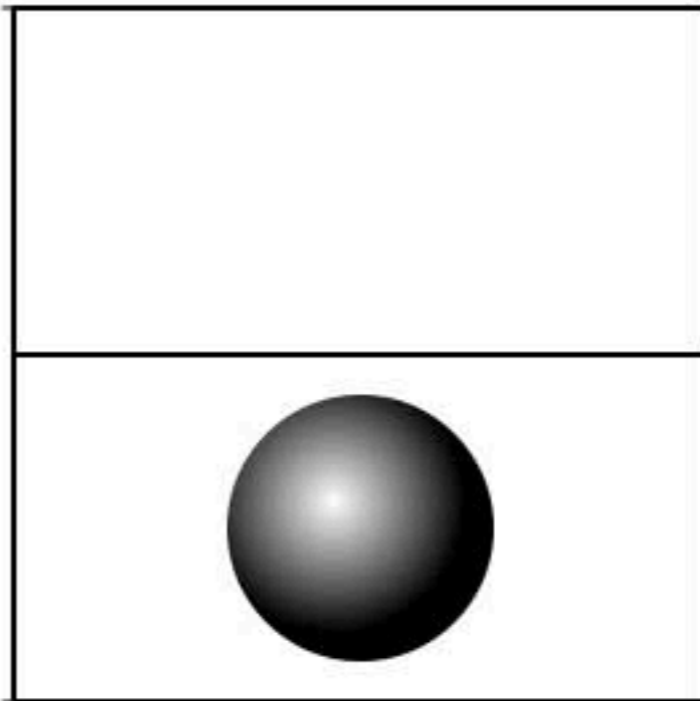


# Quantum mechanics is fuzzy

Actual size



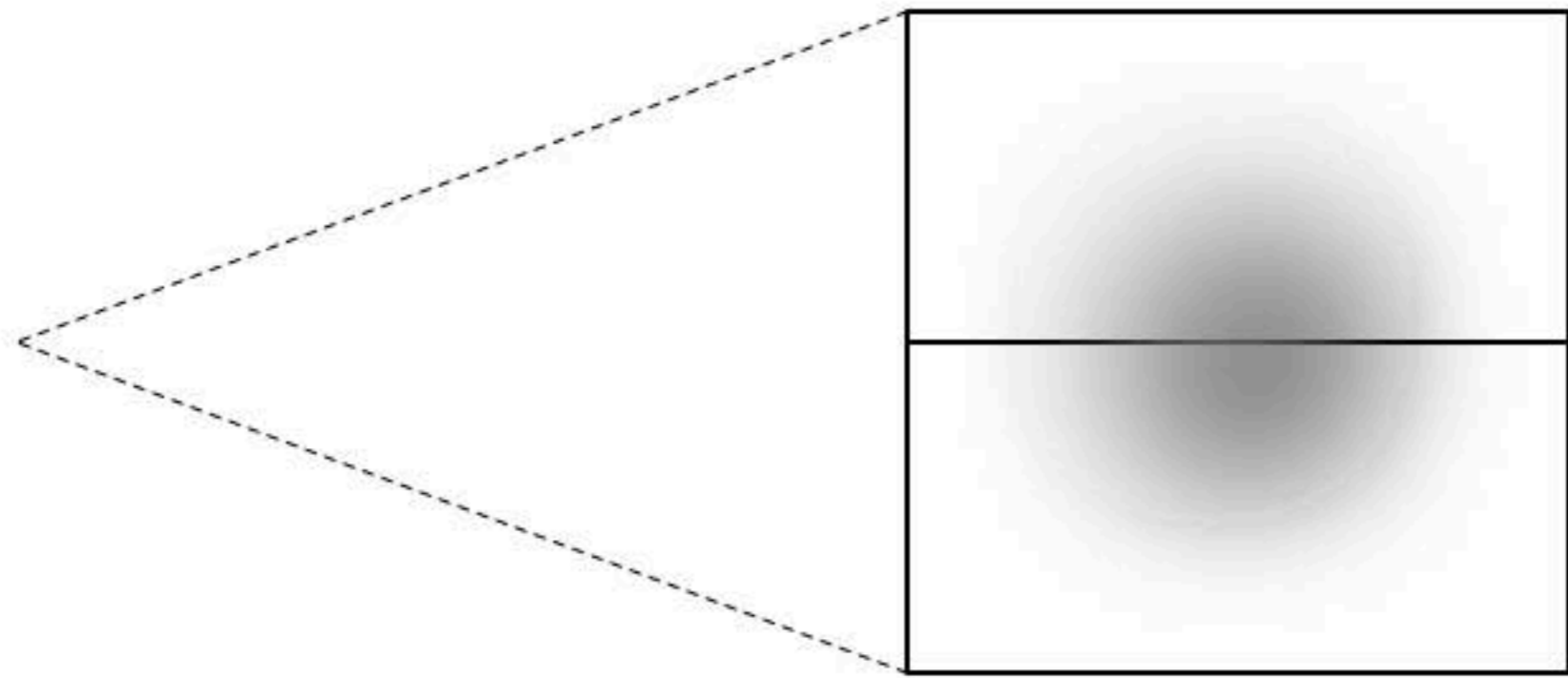
Magnified



# Quantum mechanics is fuzzy

Actual size

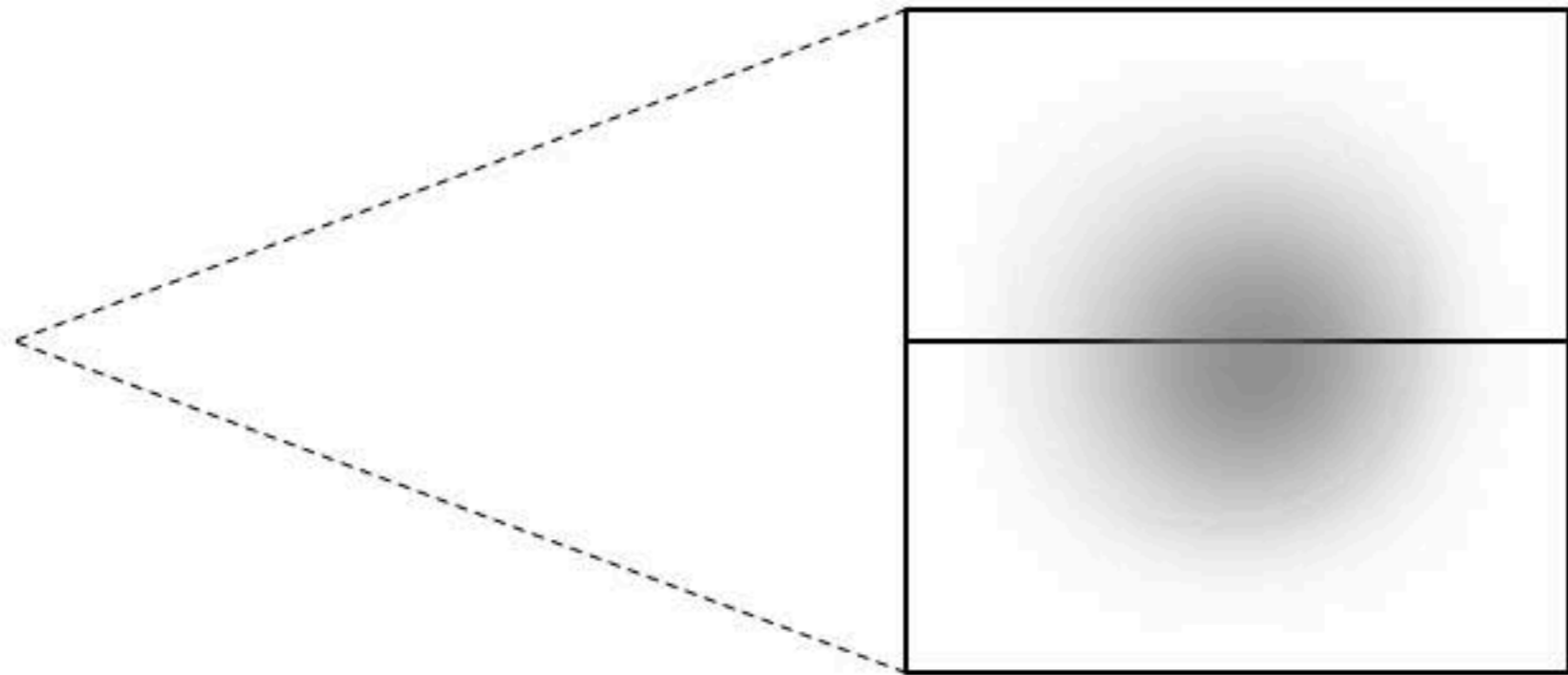
Magnified



# But who actually makes things that small?

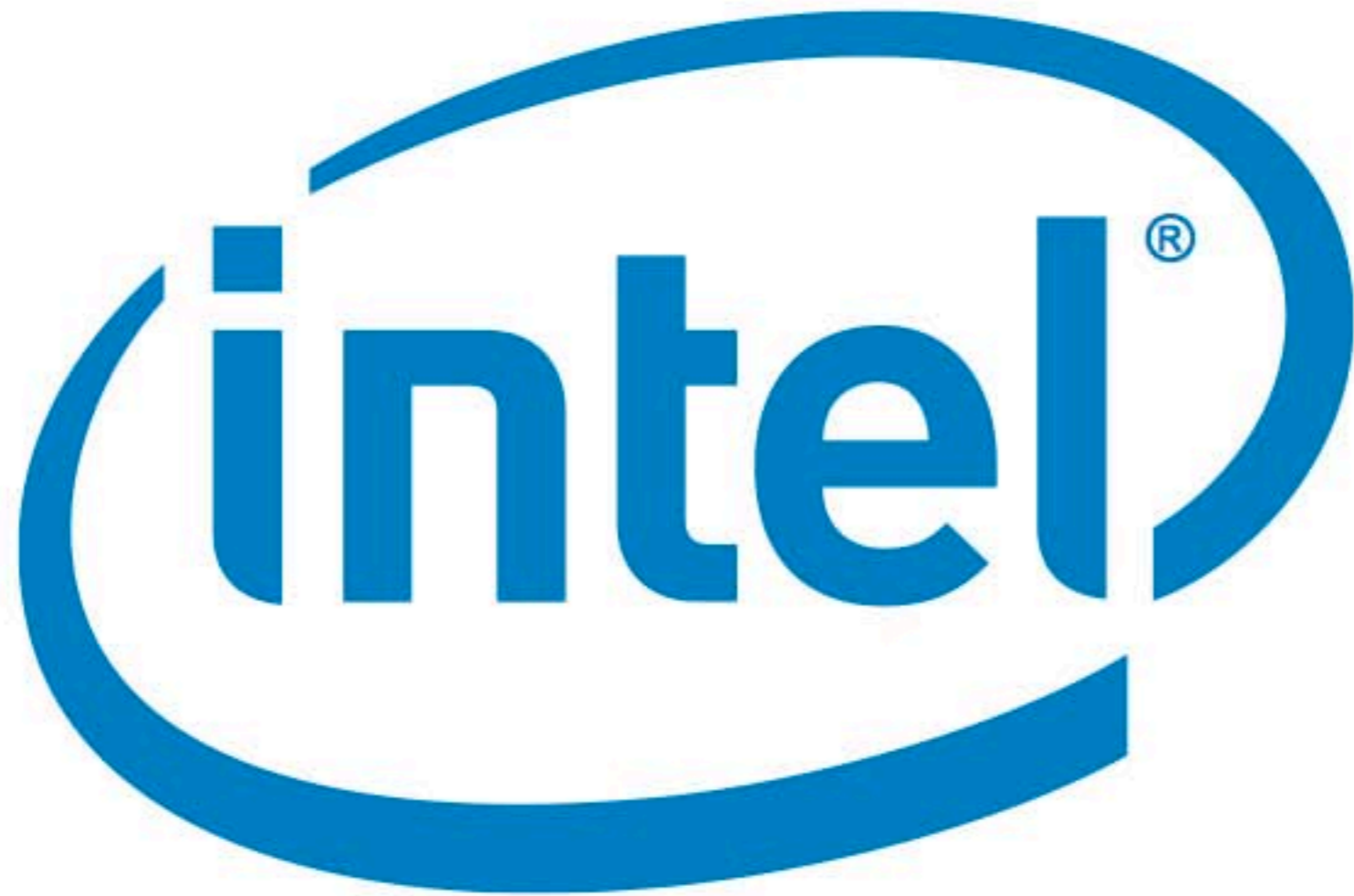
Actual size

Magnified





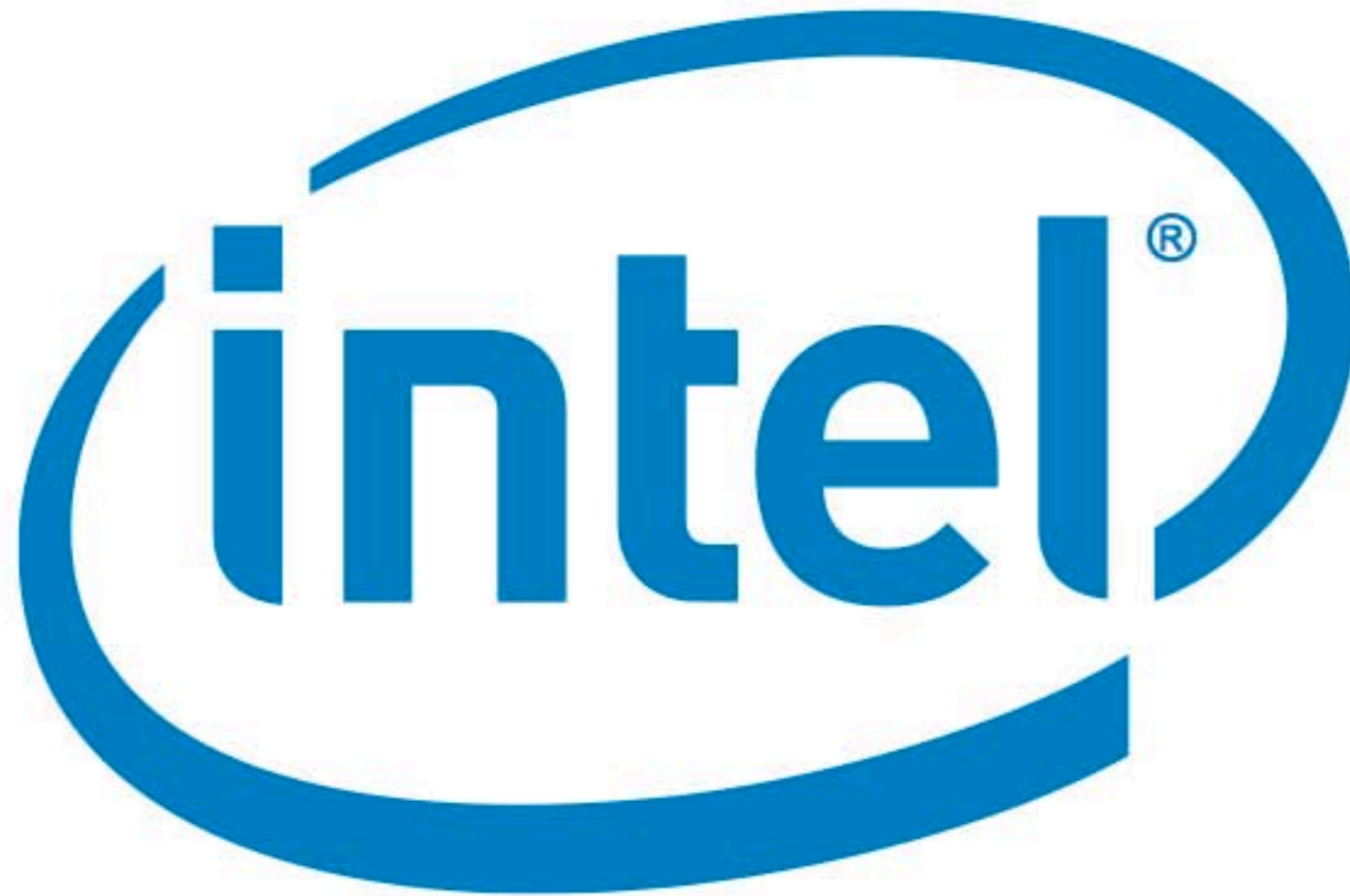
**But who actually makes things that small?**



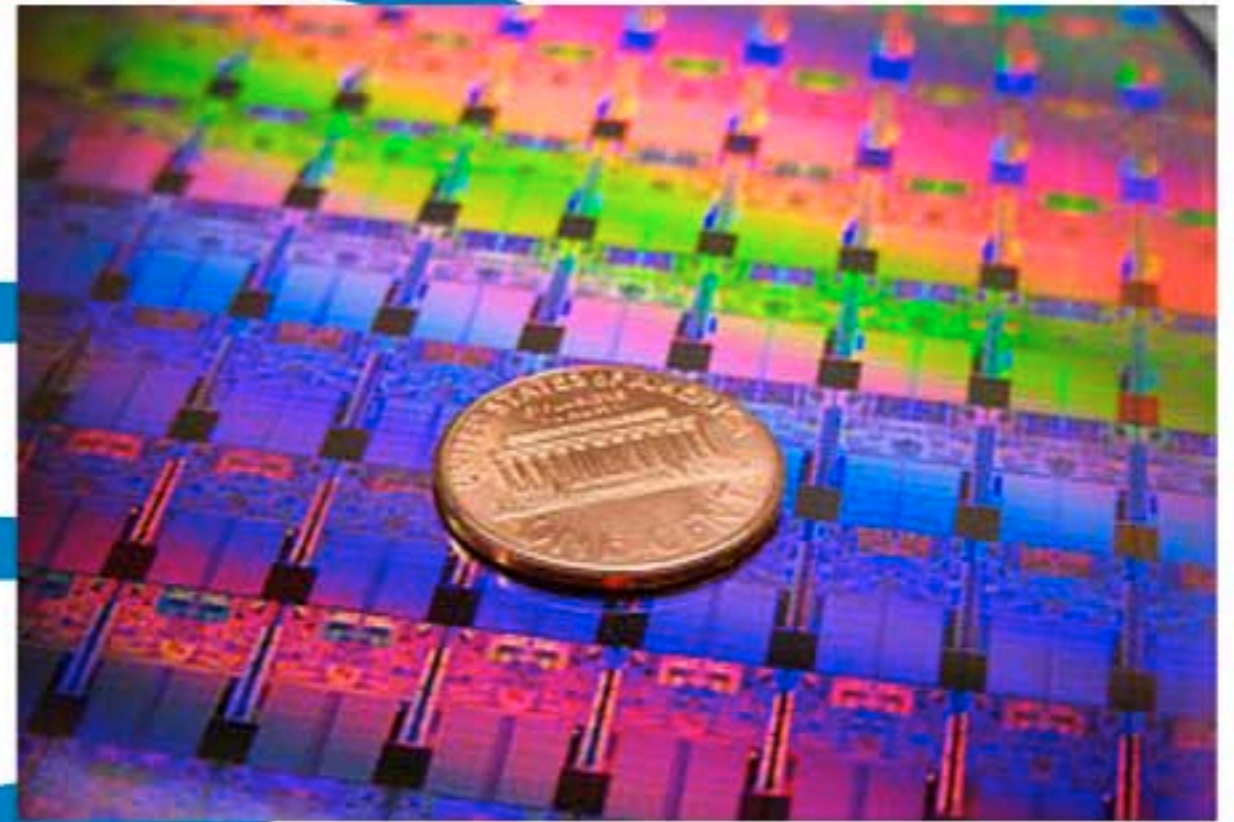
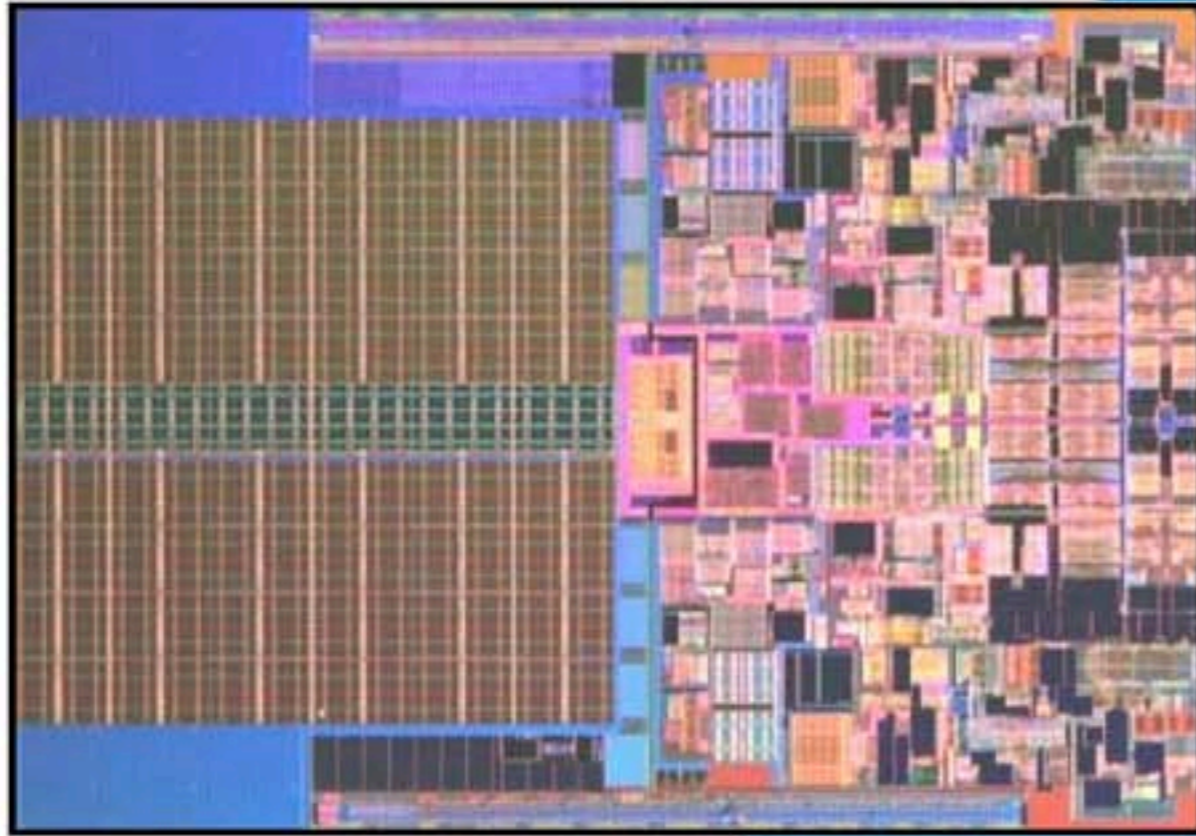
But who actually makes things that small?



**But who actually makes things that small?**

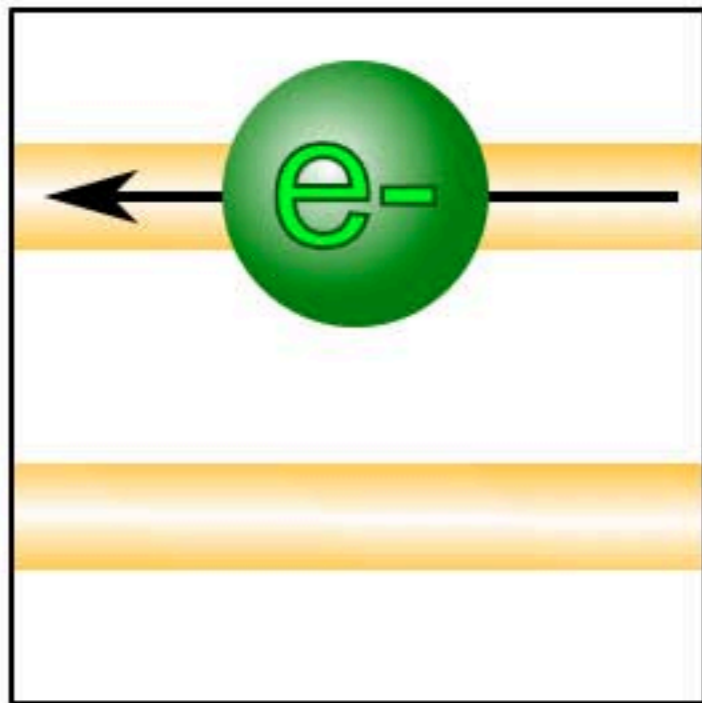


But who actually makes things that small?

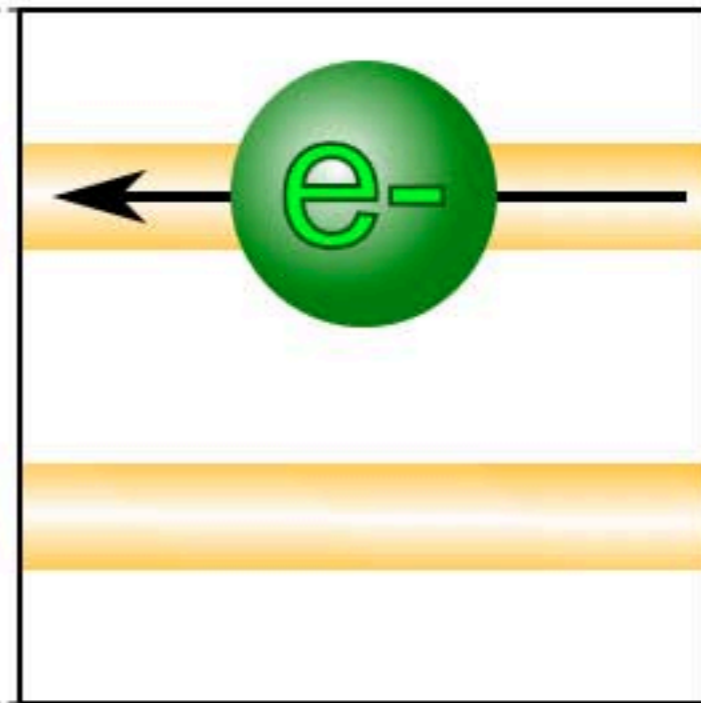


# But who actually makes things that small?

Actual size



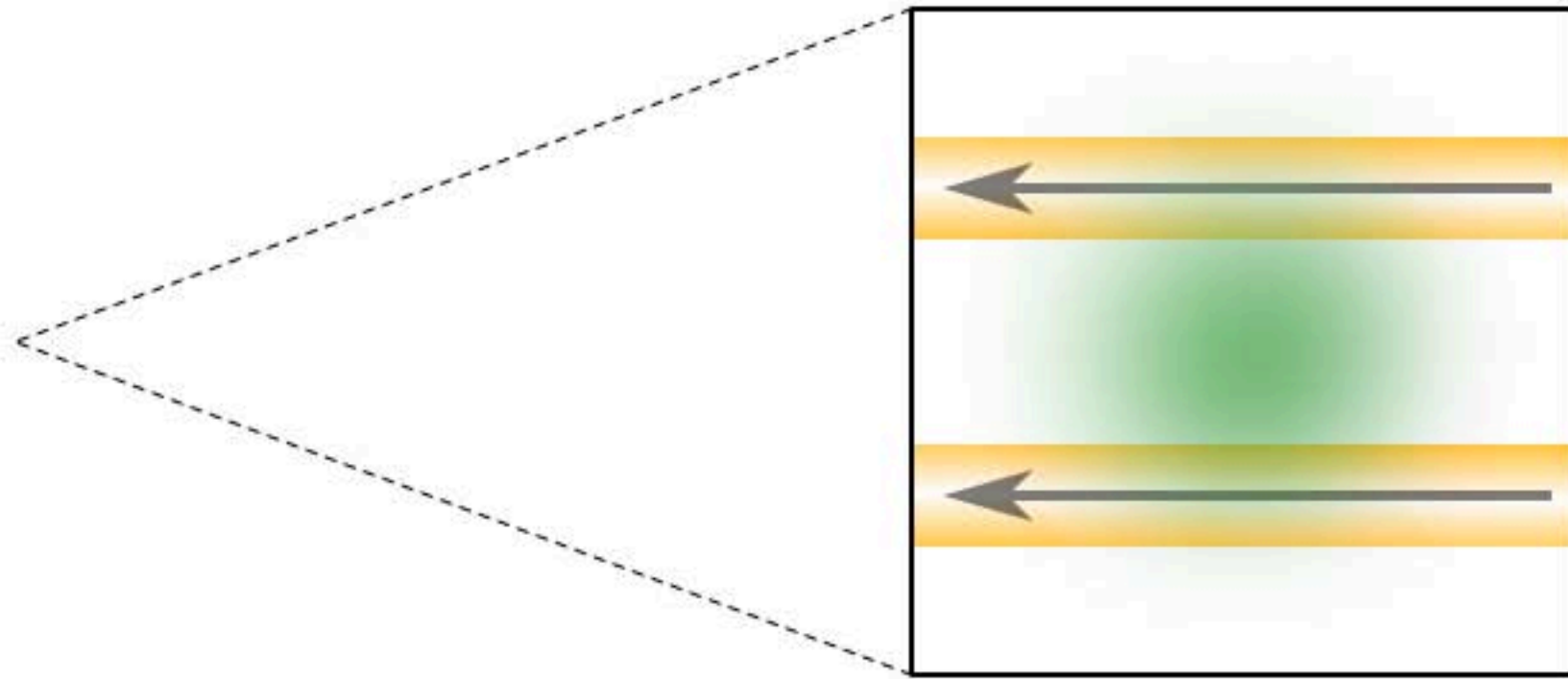
Magnified



# But who actually makes things that small?

Actual size

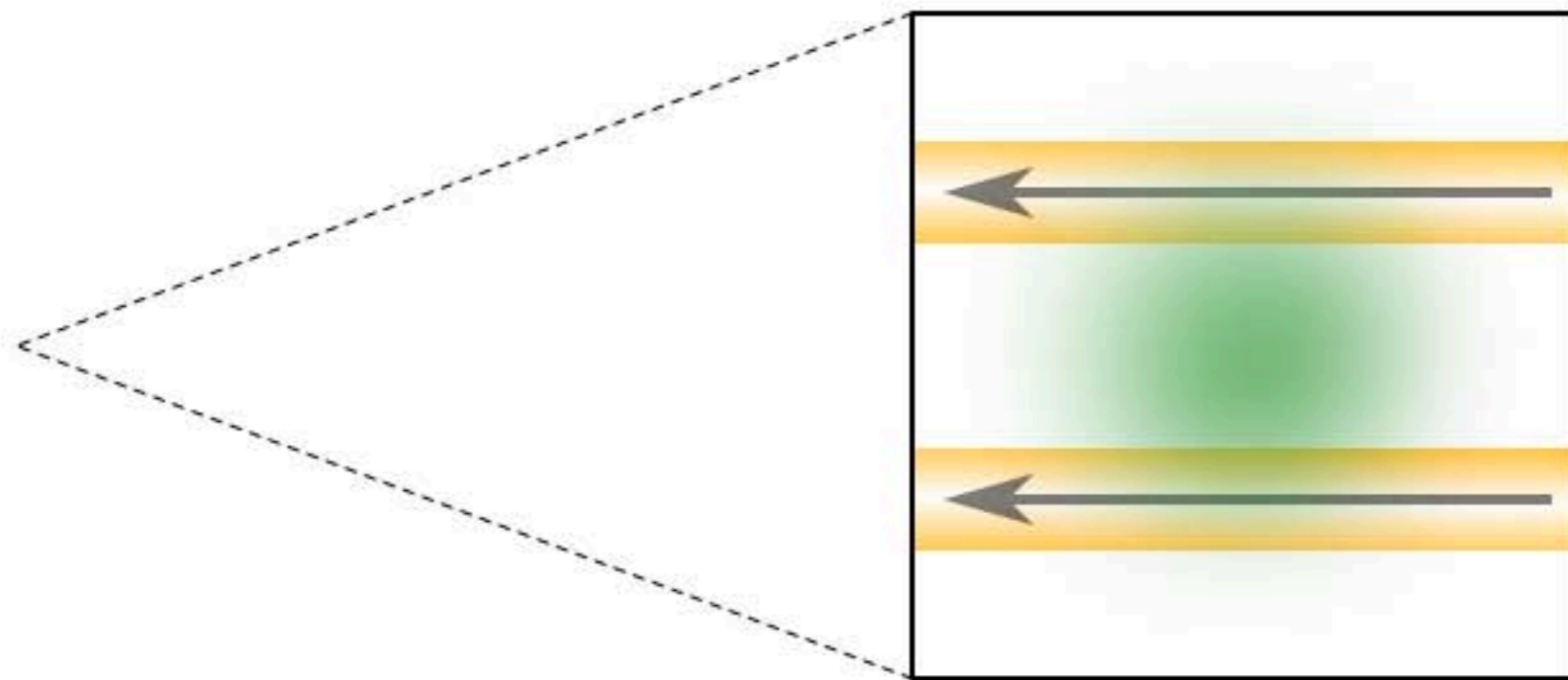
Magnified



# Quantum computing: embrace the fuzz!

Actual size

Magnified



# Quantum computing: embrace the fuzz!





# Quantum computing: embrace the fuzz!



**Quantum computing: embrace the fuzz!**

**0**

**1**

Quantum computing: embrace the fuzz!

000 10

01 11

# Quantum computing: embrace the fuzz!

000

100

001

101

010

110

011

111

# Quantum computing: embrace the fuzz!

0000      0001      1000      1001

0010      0011      1010      1011

0100      0101      1100      1101

0110      0111      1110      1111

# Quantum computing: embrace the fuzz!

$f(0000)$   $f(0001)$   $f(1000)$   $f(1001)$

$f(0010)$   $f(0011)$   $f(1010)$   $f(1011)$

$f(0100)$   $f(0101)$   $f(1100)$   $f(1101)$

$f(0110)$   $f(0111)$   $f(1110)$   $f(1111)$

# Quantum computing: embrace the fuzz!

$f(0000)$   $f(0001)$   $f(1000)$   $f(1001)$

$f(0010)$   $f(0011)$   $f(1010)$   $f(1011)$

$f(0100)$   $f(0101)$   $f(1100)$   $f(1101)$

$f(0110)$   $f(0111)$   $f(1110)$   $f(1111)$

Quantum computing: embrace the fuzz!

$f(0011)$





# Quantum computing: embrace the fuzz!

Factoring, discrete log [Shor 94]

Unstructured search [Grover 96]

Pell's equation [Hallgren 02]

Hidden shift problems [van Dam, Hallgren, Ip 03]

Graph traversal [CCDFGS 03]

Spatial search [AA 03, CG 03/04, AKR 04]

Element distinctness [Ambainis 03]

Various graph problems [DHHM 04, MSS 03,...]

Testing matrix multiplication [Buhrman, Špalek 04]

# Quantum computing: embrace the fuzz!

Factoring, discrete log [91, 04]

Unstructured search

Pell's equation

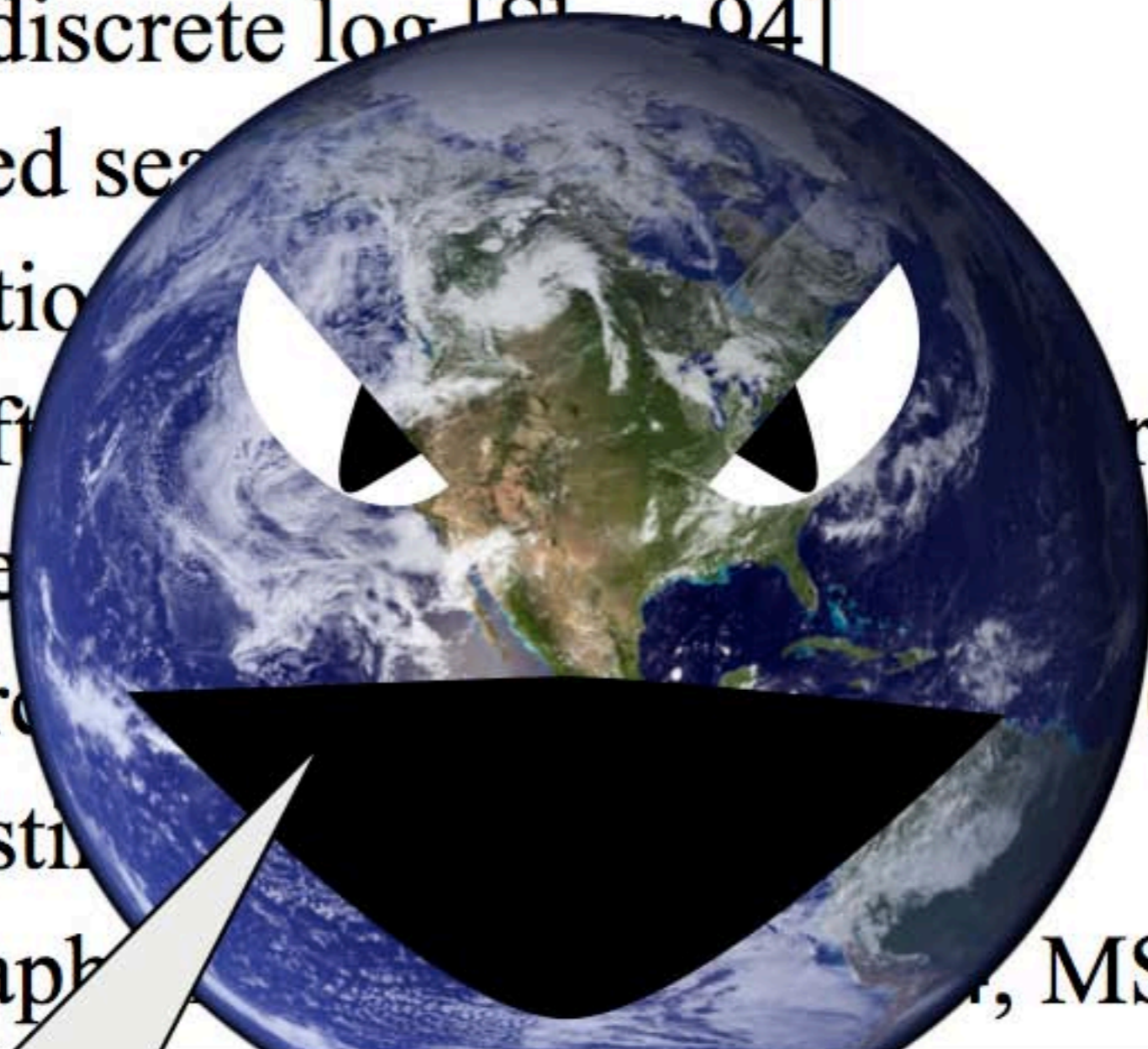
Hidden shift [10, 03]

Graph traversal

Spatial search [04]

Element distribution

Various graph problems, MSS 03, ...]



**I HATE QUANTUM COMPUTERS!!!**

# How quantum computers die



Quantum  
Computer



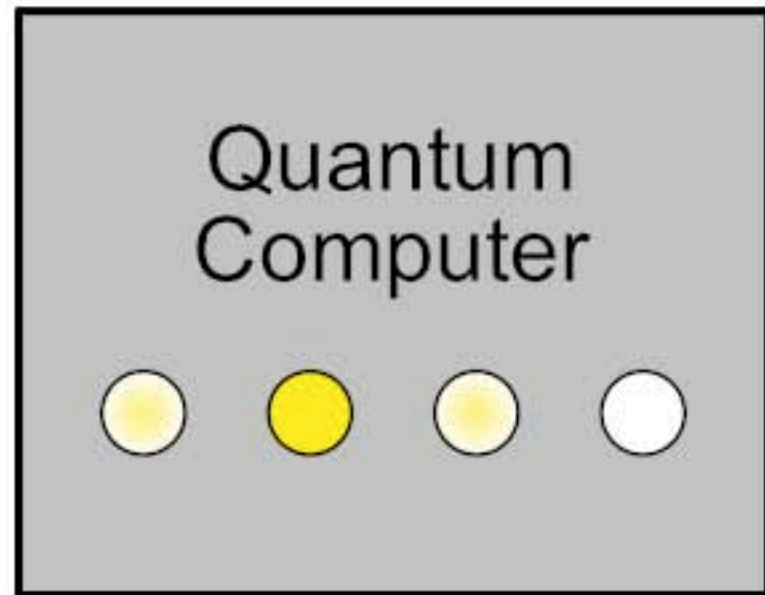
# How quantum computers die



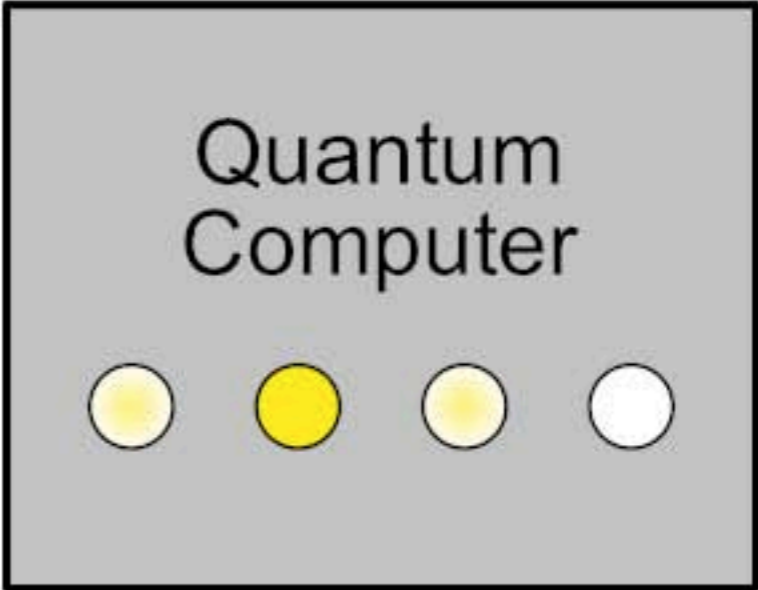
Quantum  
Computer



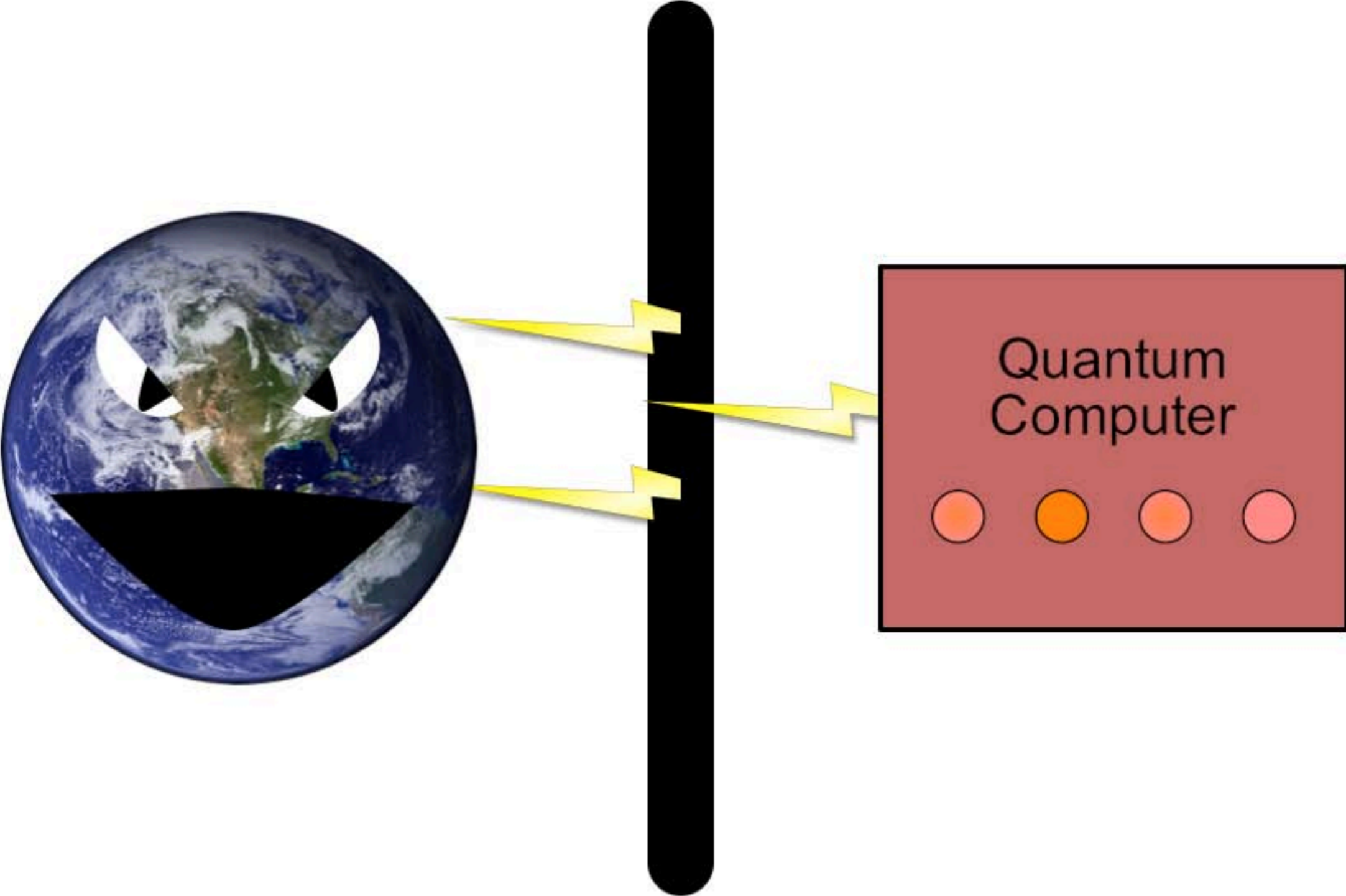
# How quantum computers die



# How quantum computers die



# How quantum computers die



# Classical error correction

0 1 0



0 wins!



# Classical error correction

0 0 0

I HATE DEMOCRACY!!!!!!!



# Quantum error correction

$Q_1$   $Q_2$   $Q_3$



# Quantum error correction

0 1 0

BWAHAHAHAHAHA!!!!!!!!!!!!



# Classical error correction: an alternative

$B_1$        $B_2$        $B_3$

Do we agree?

Do we agree?



# Classical error correction: an alternative

**B**<sub>1</sub>      **B**<sub>2</sub>      **B**<sub>3</sub>

Do we agree?

Do we agree?



# Classical error correction: an alternative

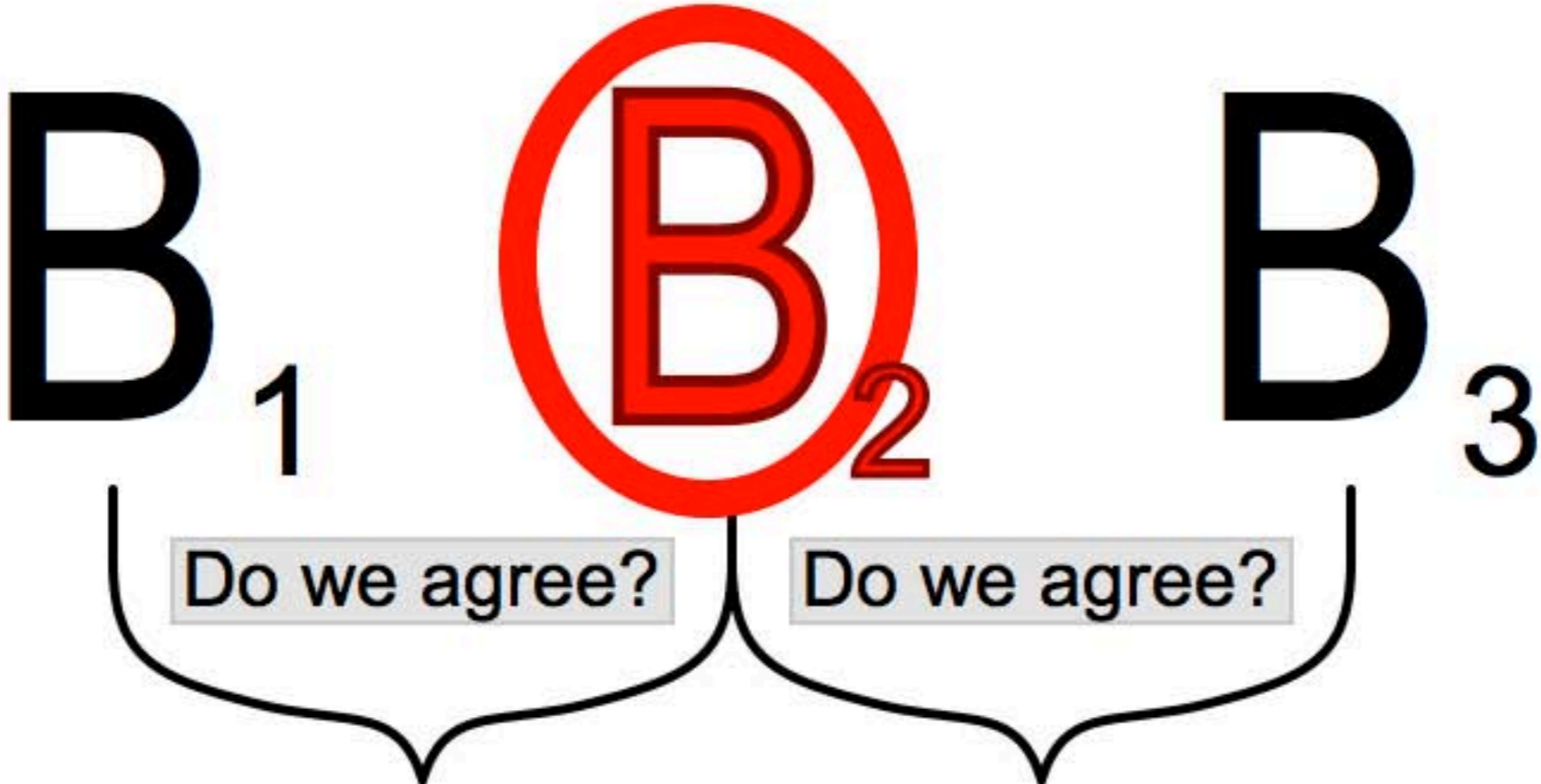
$B_1$        $B_2$        $B_3$

Do we agree?

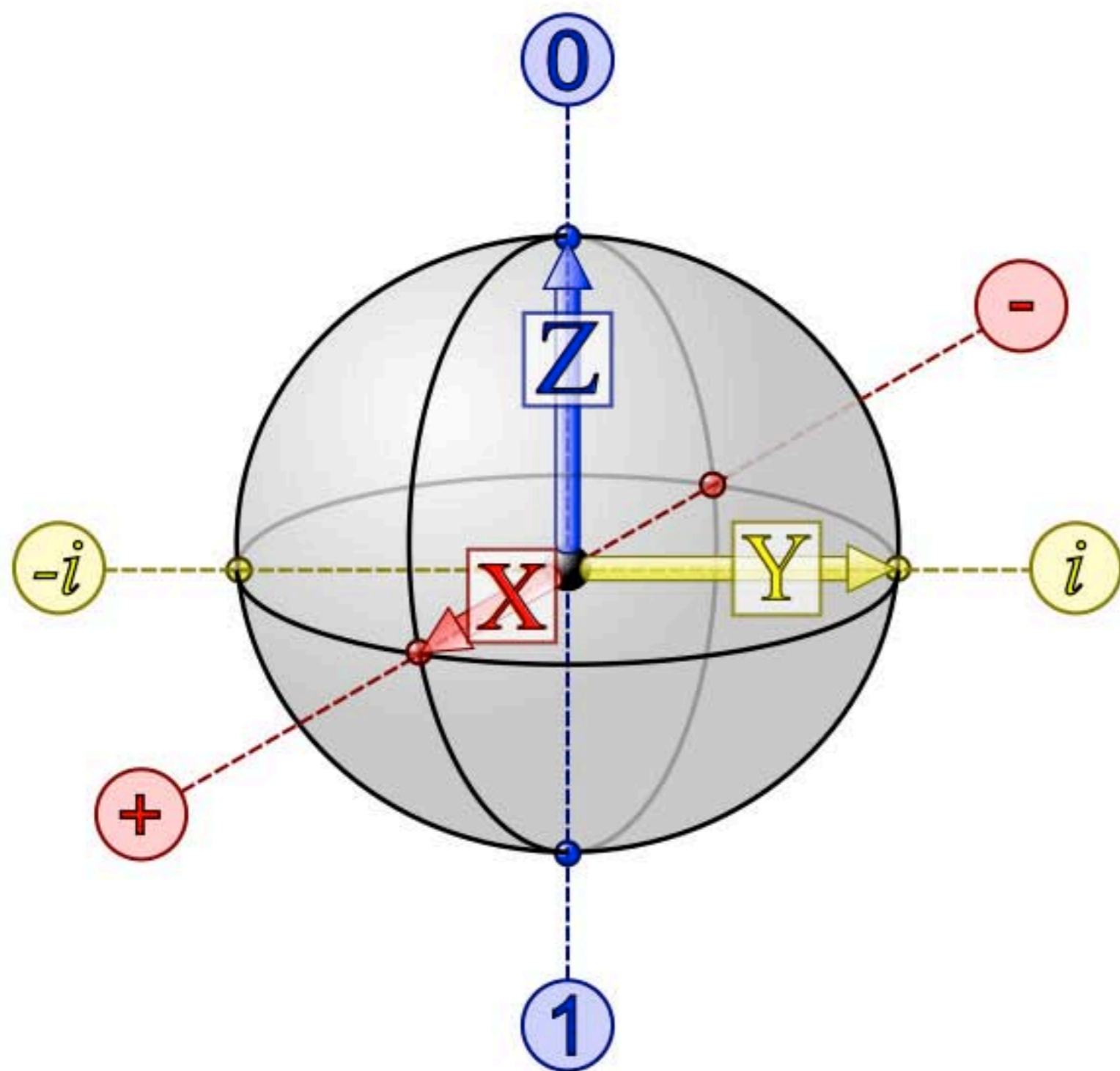
Do we agree?



# Classical error correction: an alternative

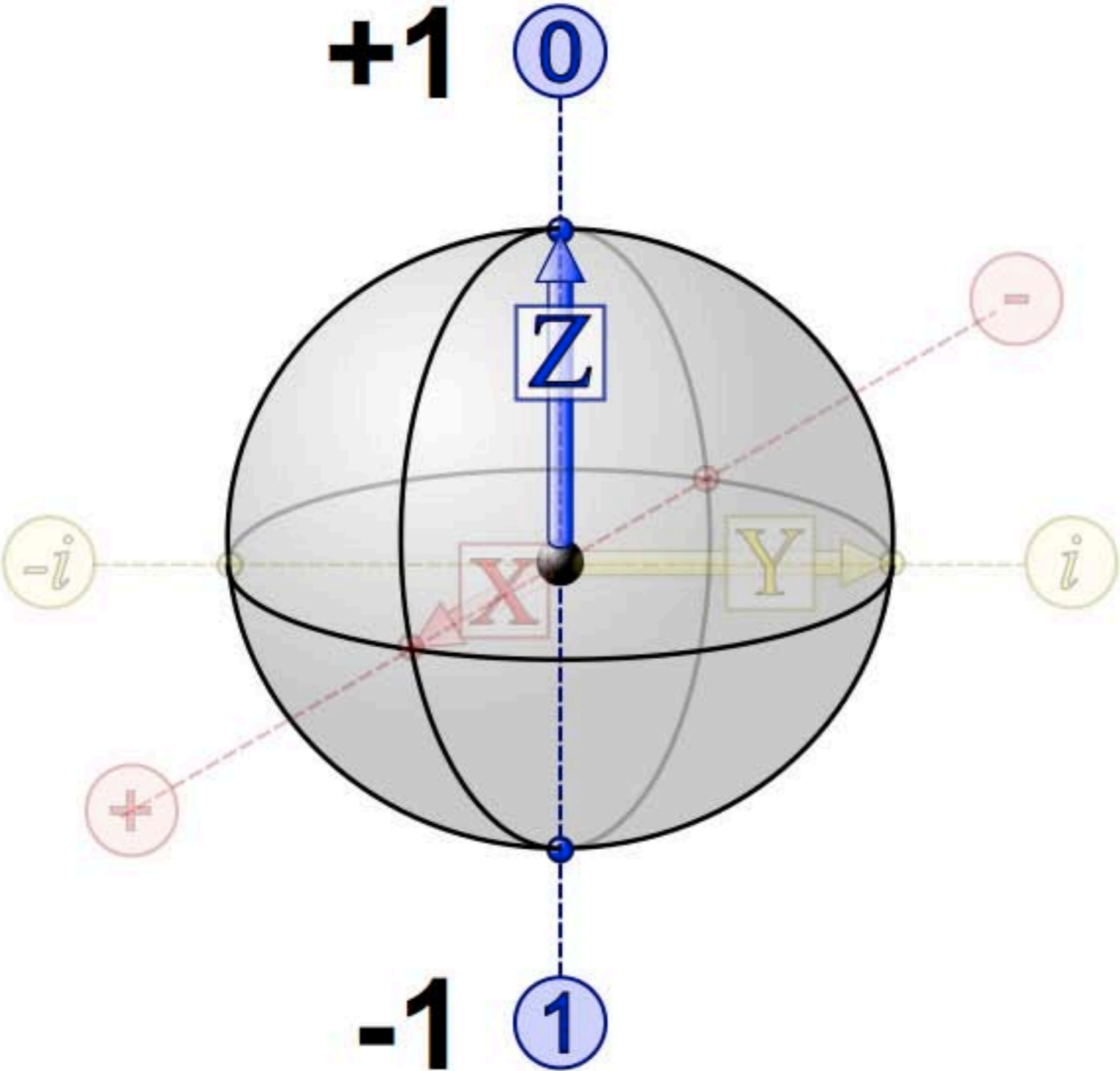


# Quantum measurement

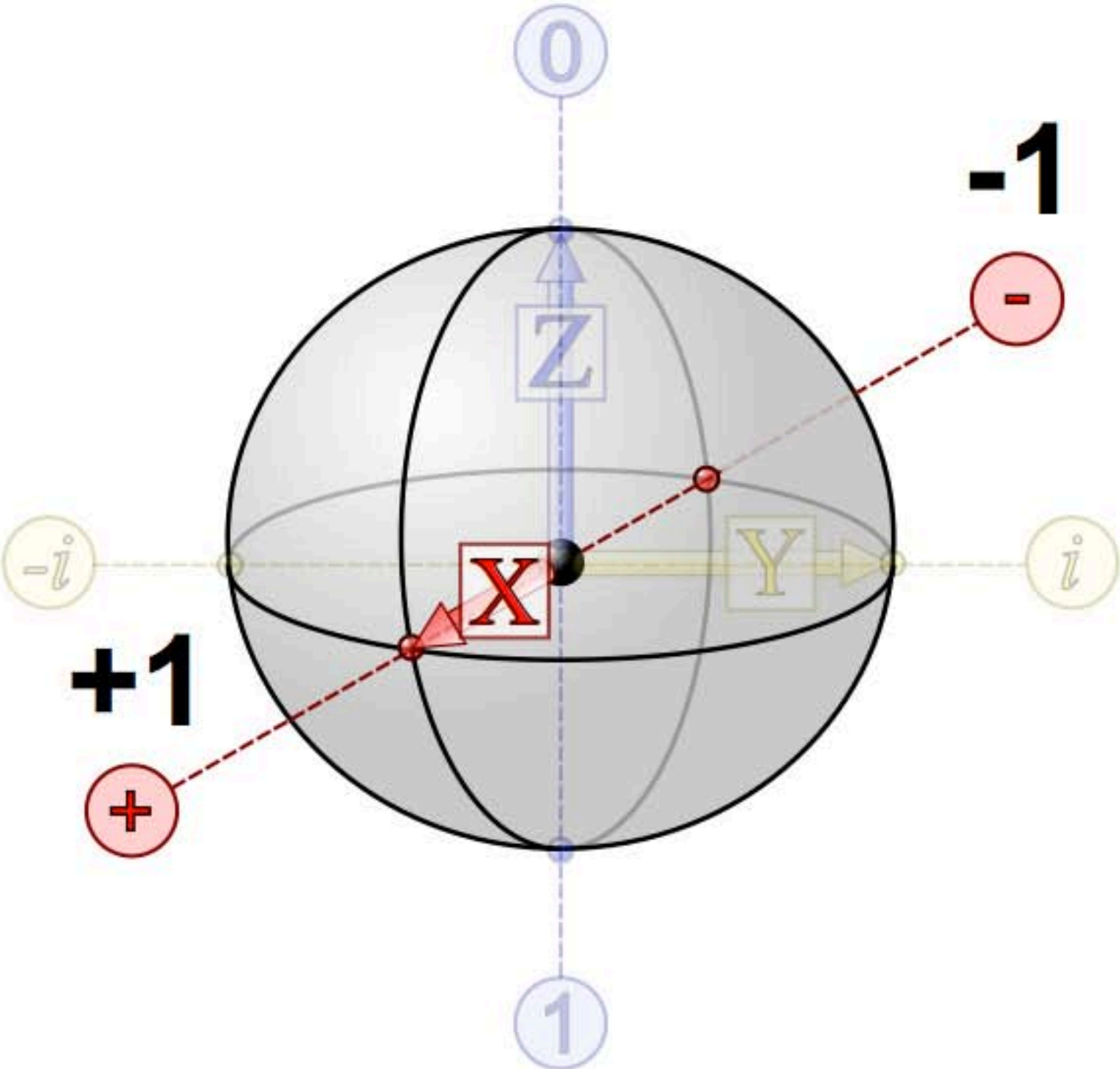




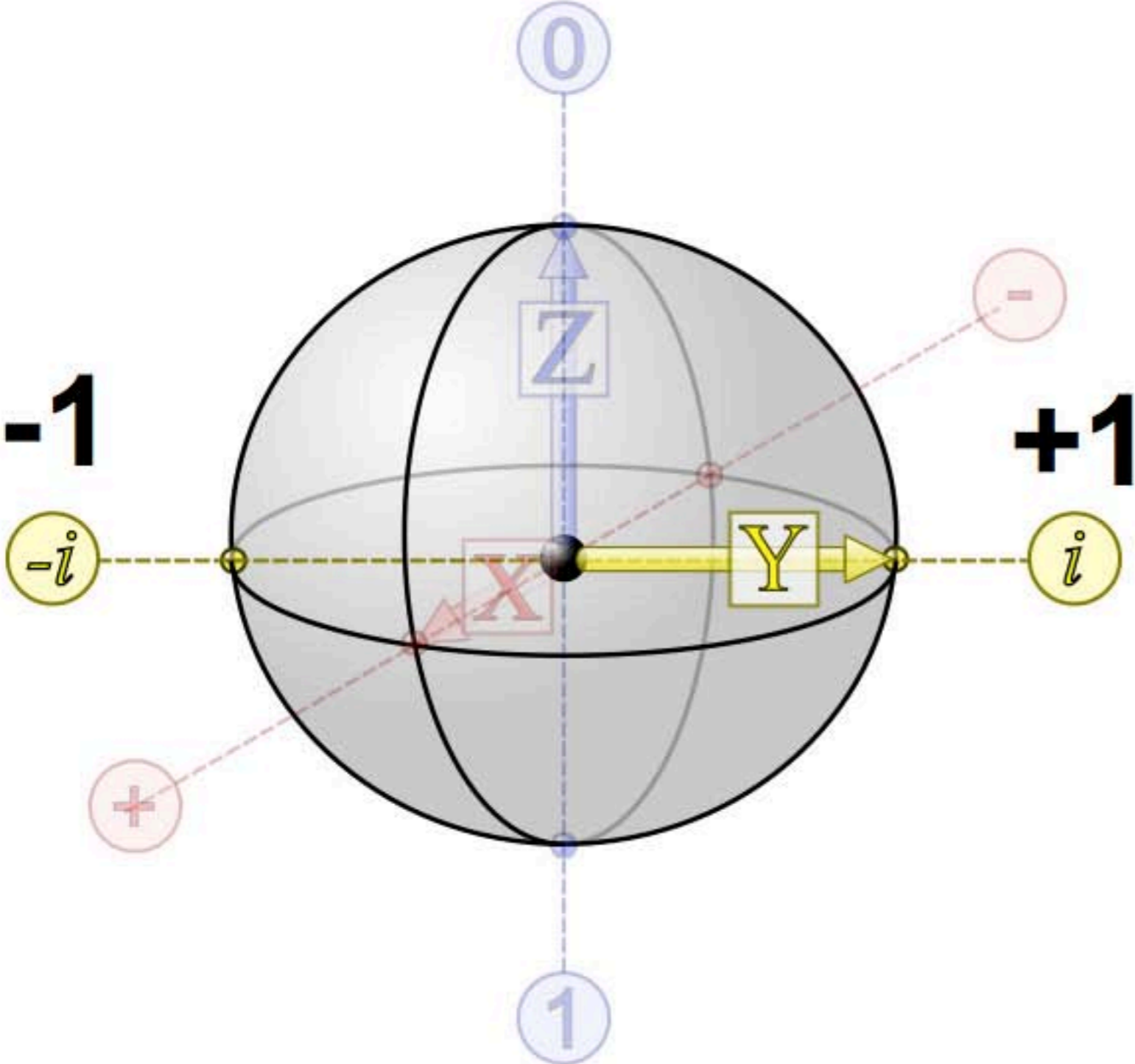
# Quantum measurement



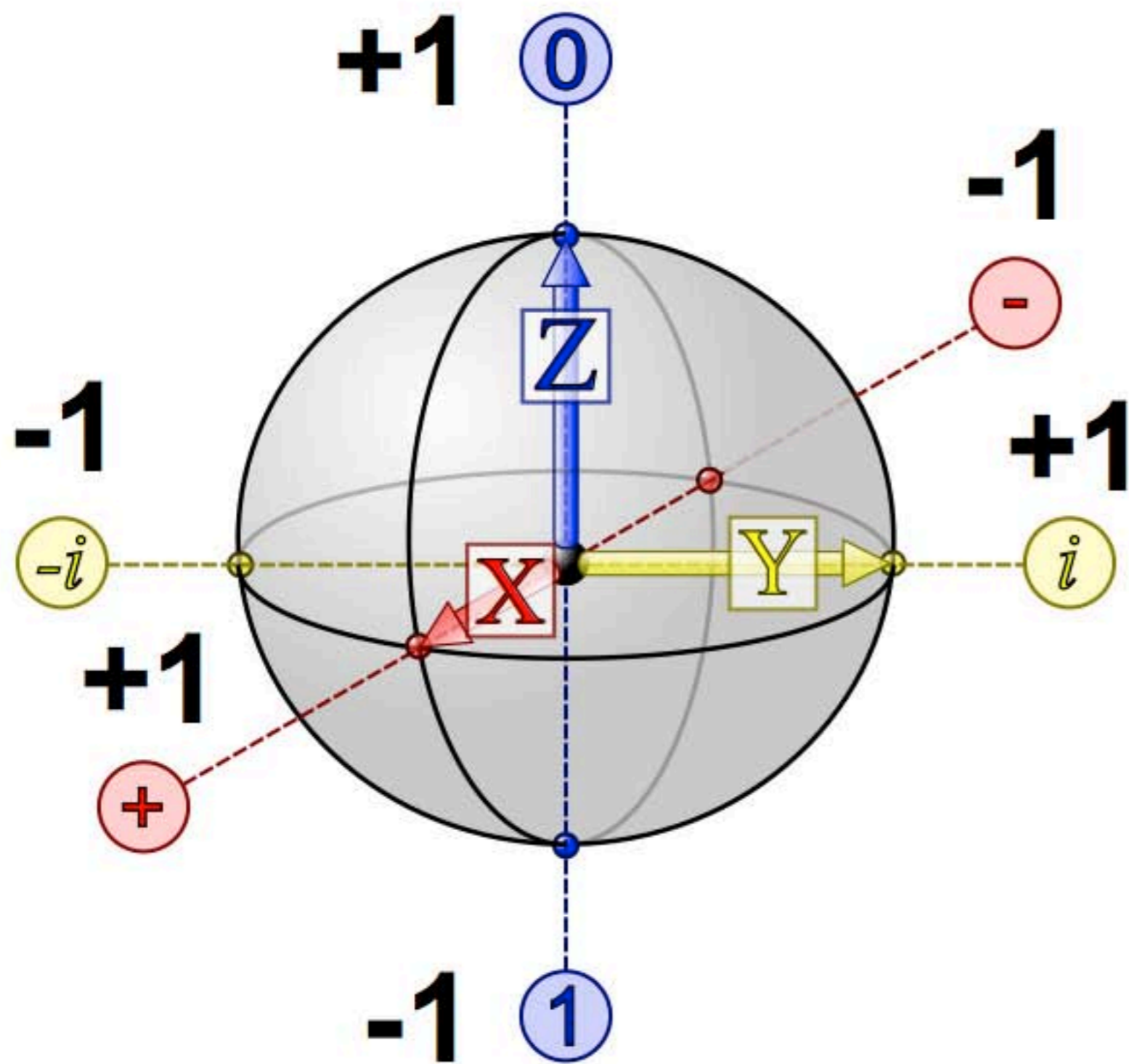
# Quantum measurement



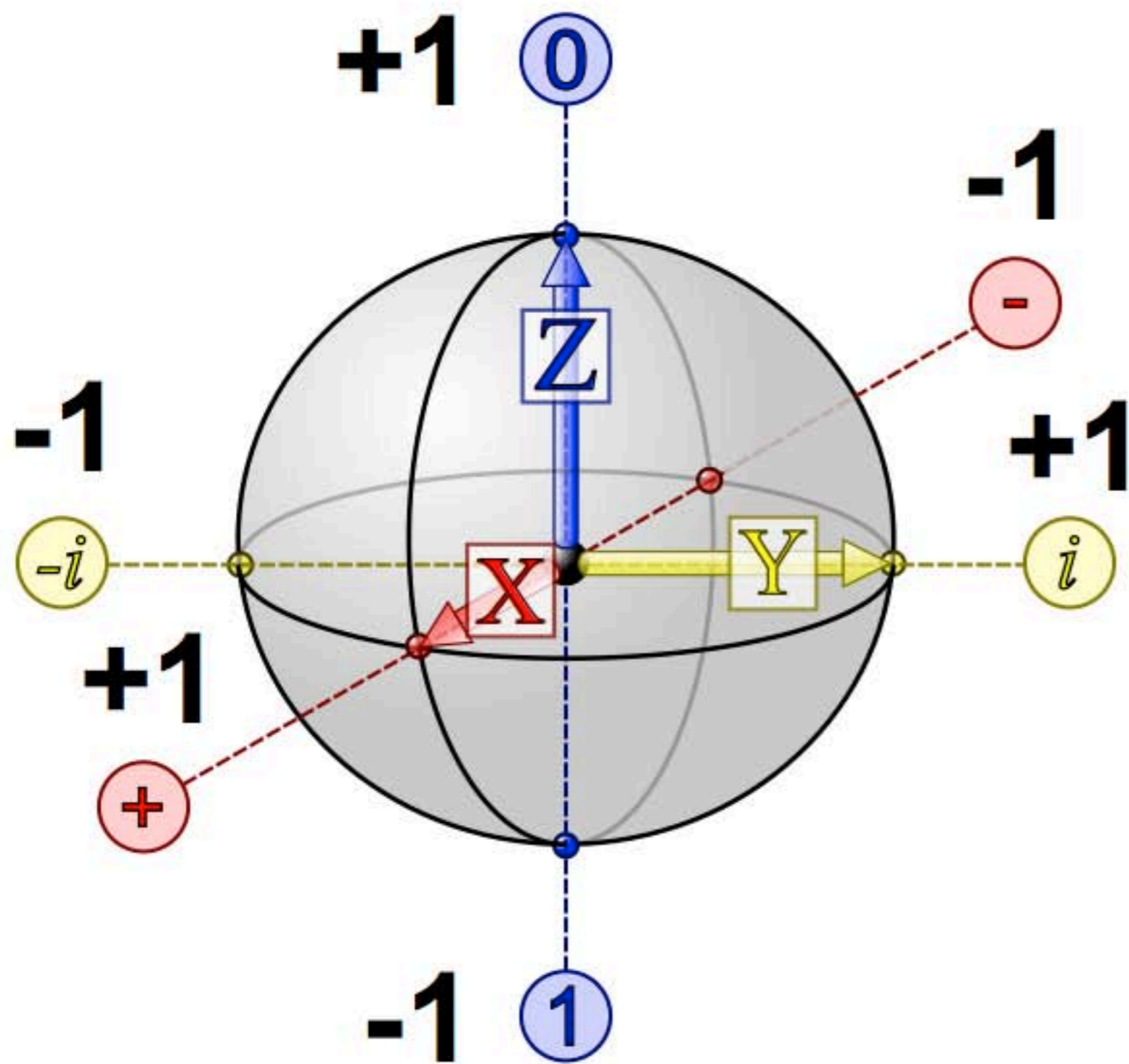
# Quantum measurement



# Quantum measurement



# Quantum measurement



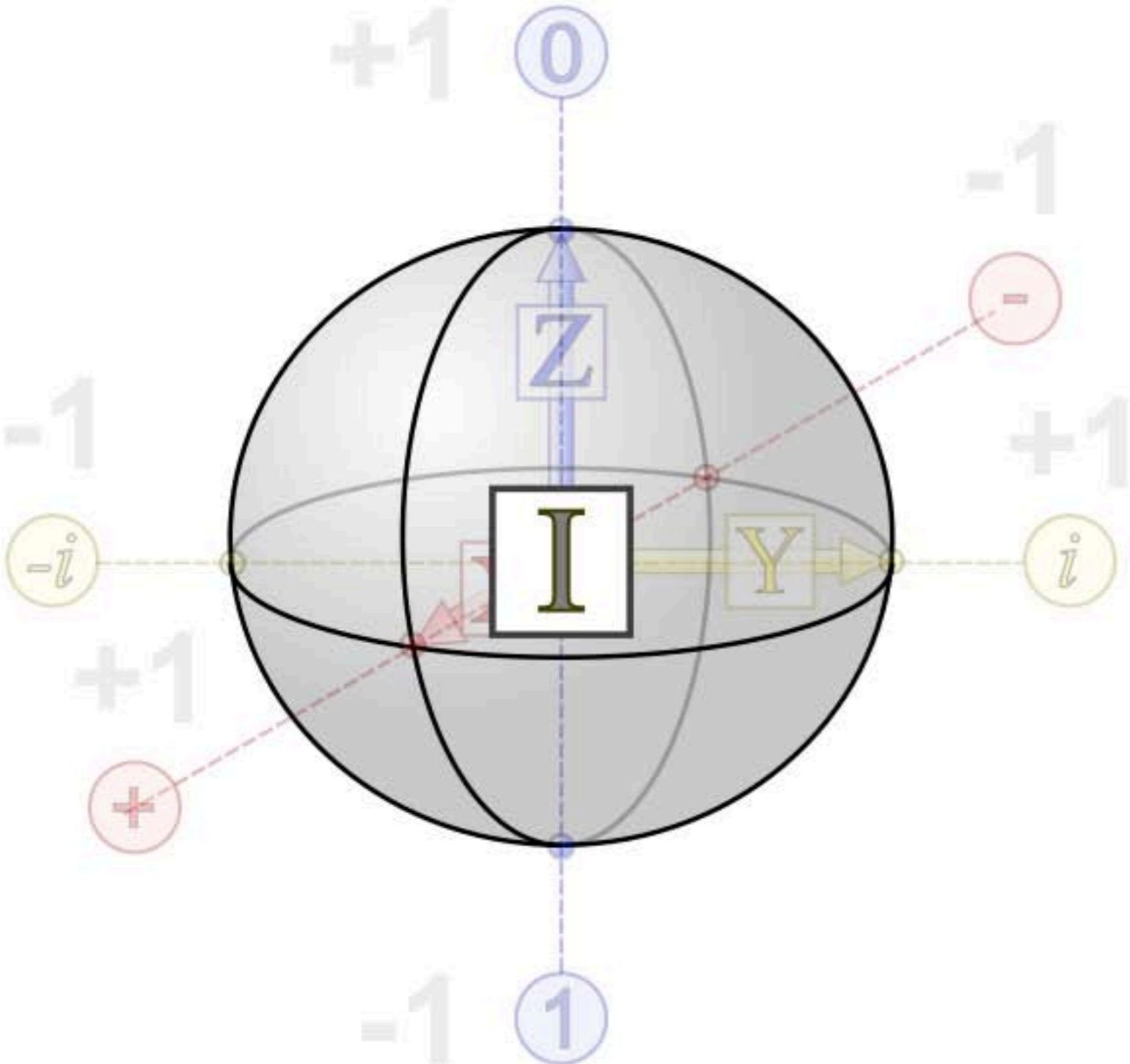
First code

<b>Z</b>	I	I
----------	---	---

I	<b>Z</b>	I
---	----------	---

I	I	<b>Z</b>
---	---	----------

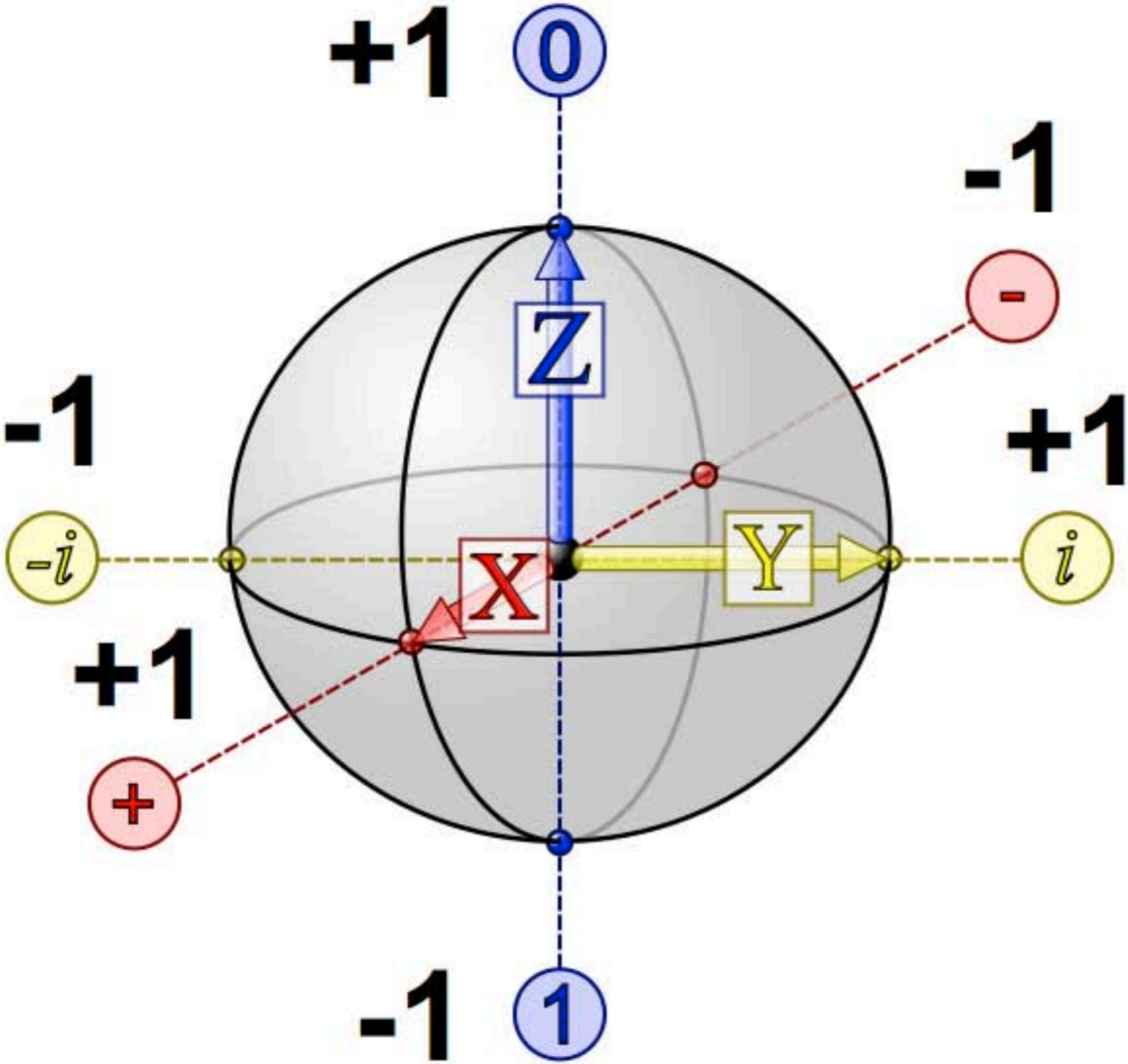
# Quantum measurement



## First code

$Z$	$I$	$I$
$I$	$Z$	$I$
$I$	$I$	$Z$

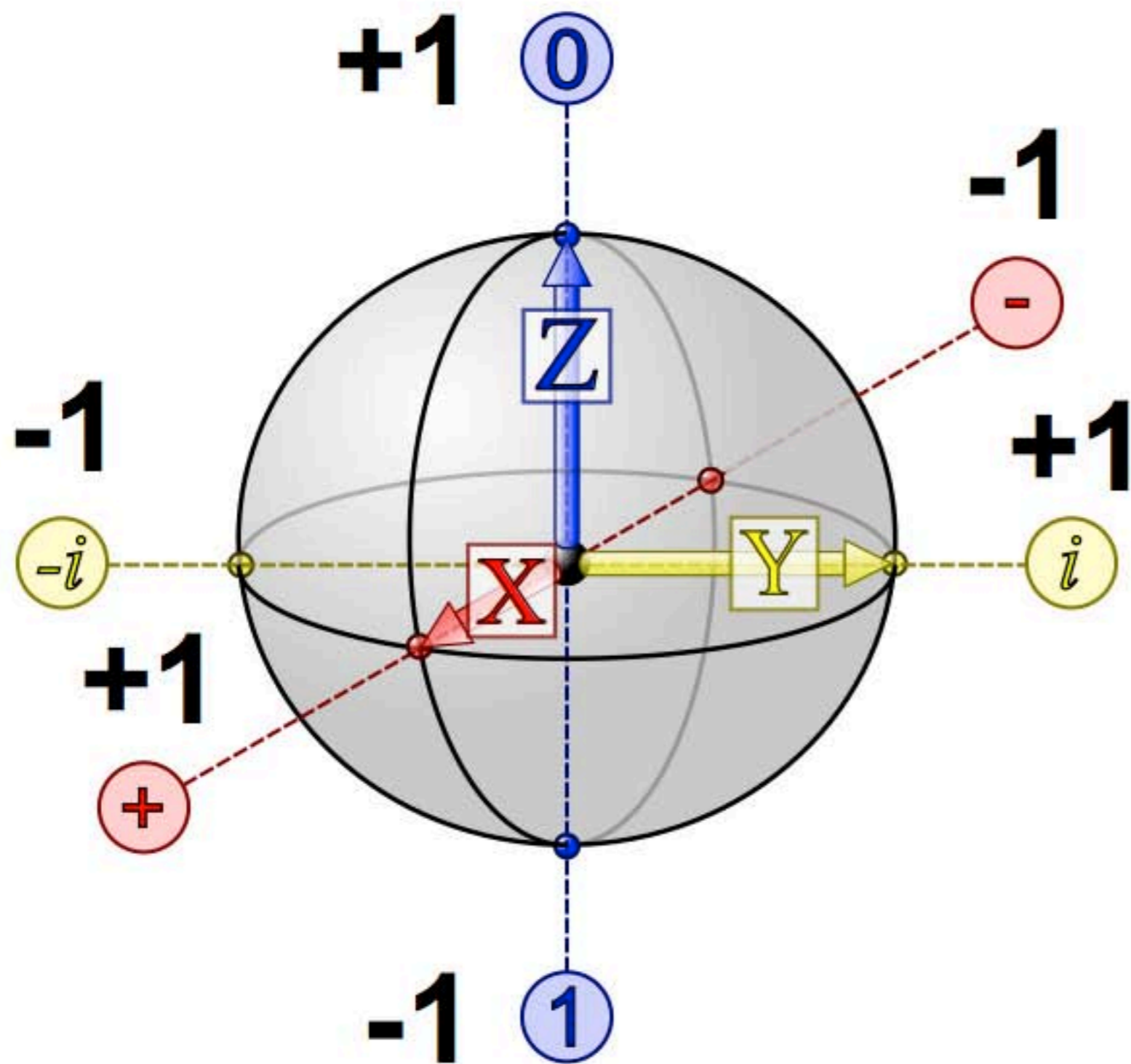
# Quantum measurement



First code

<b>Z</b>	I	I
I	<b>Z</b>	I
I	I	<b>Z</b>

# Quantum measurement



First code

**Z** I I

I **Z** I

I I **Z**

Second code

**Z** **Z** I

I **Z** **Z**



# The Feynman Algorithm (applied to codes)

1. Write down the problem.
2. Think real hard.
3. Write down the answer.

# The Feynman Algorithm (applied to codes)

1. Write down the problem.

2. *A mind is a terrible  
thing to waste!*

3. Write down the answer.



# CodeQuest

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# The CodeQuest Algorithm

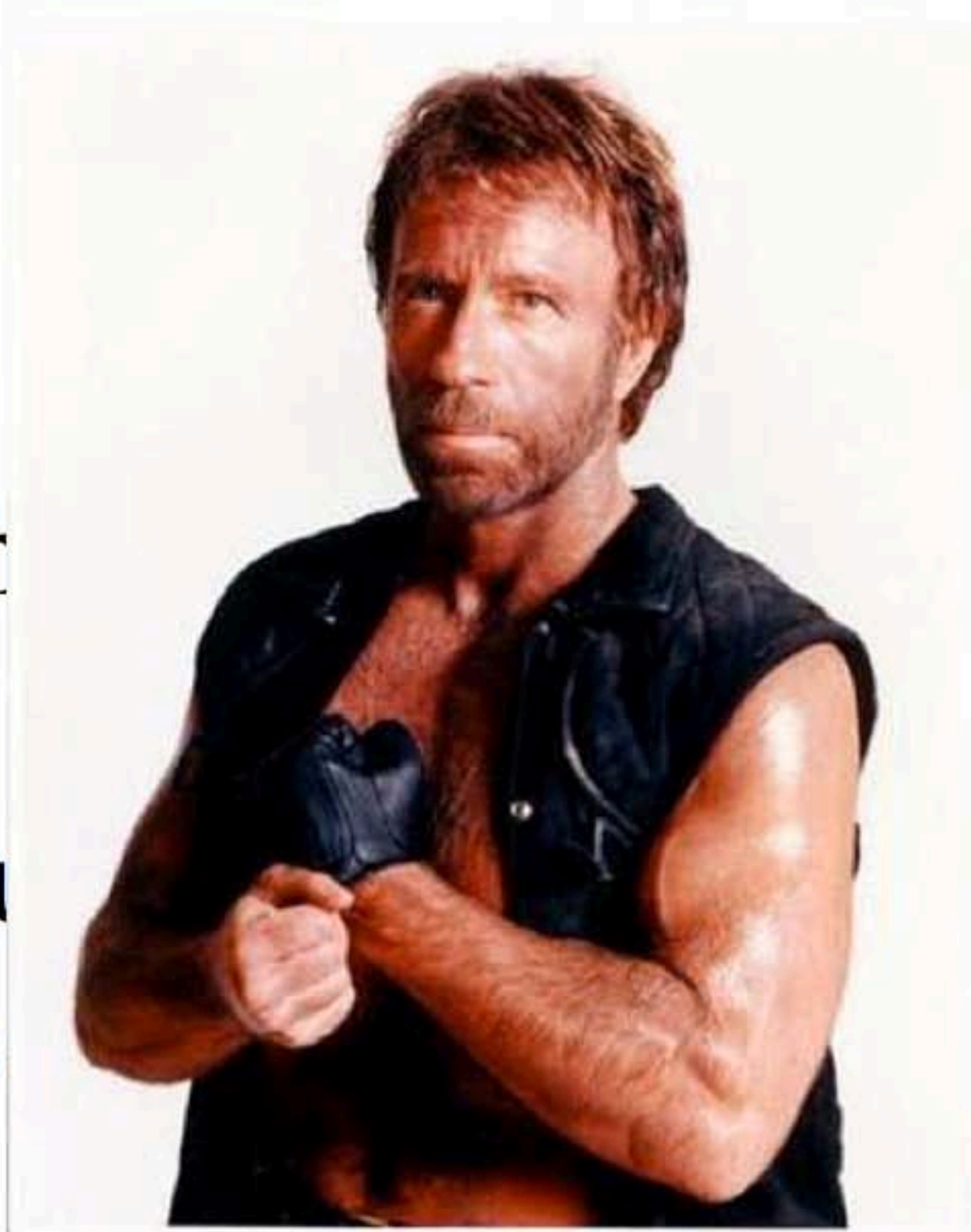
1. Input quantum measurements.
2. Let the computer think real hard.
3. Output the optimal code using those measurements.

# The CodeQuest Algorithm

1. Input

2. Let th

3. Output  
those

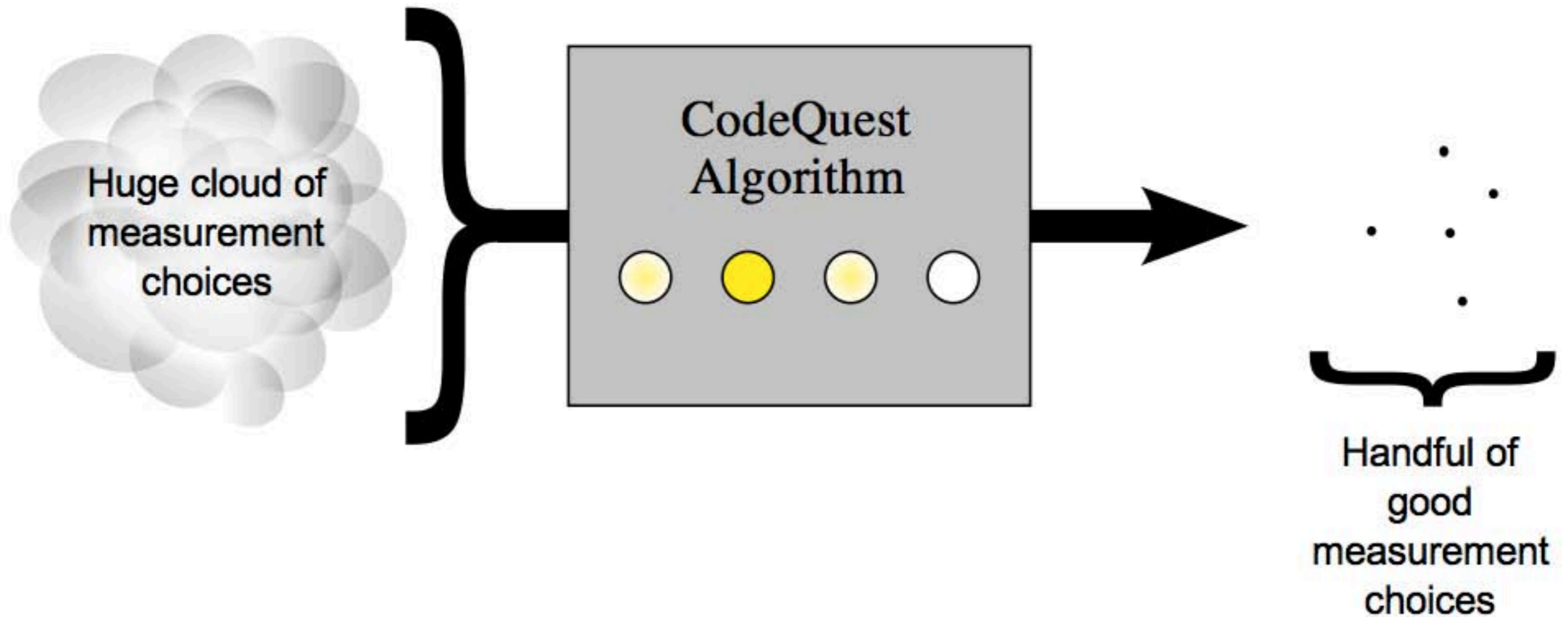


ments.

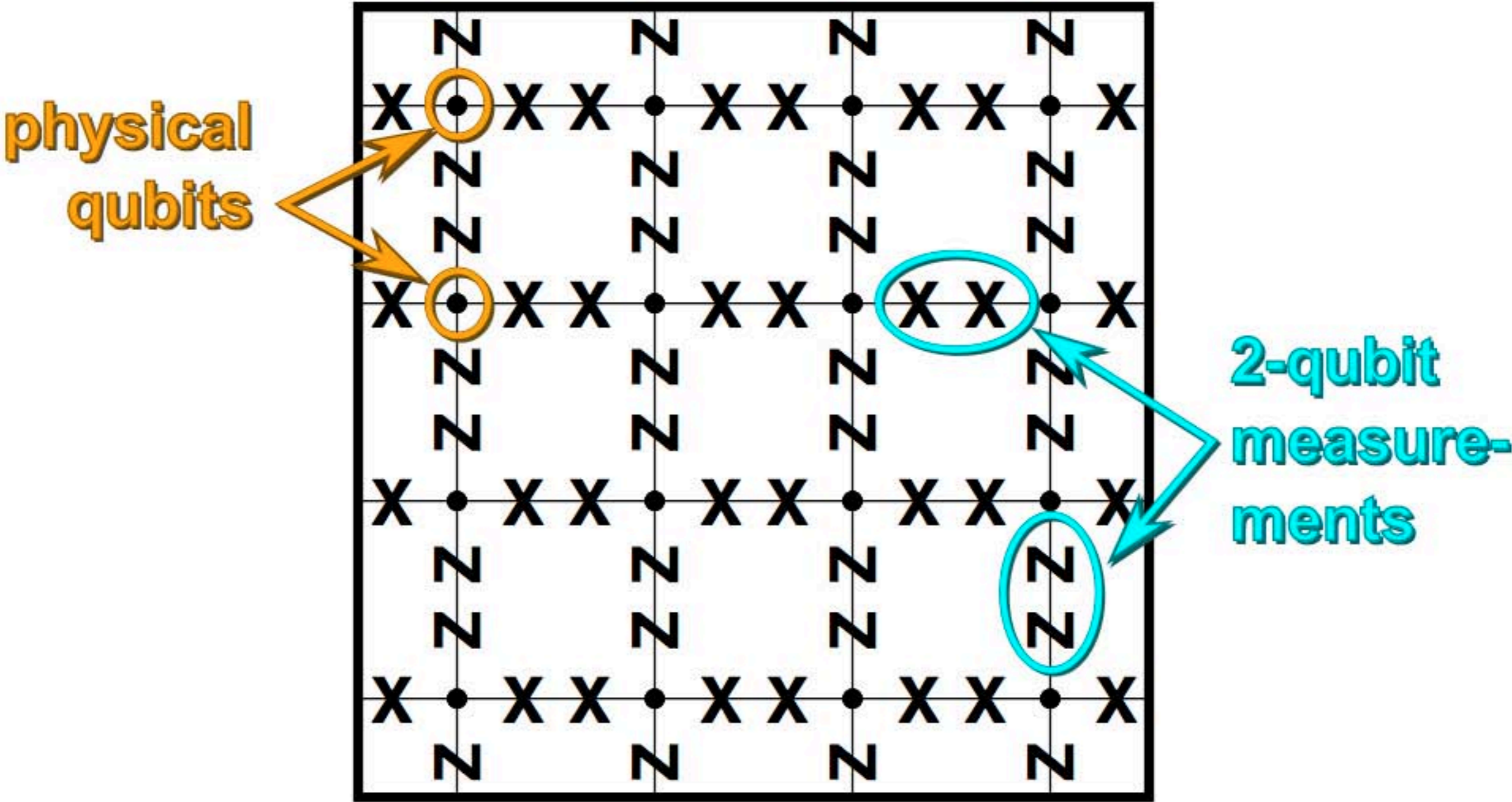
deal hard.

using

# The CodeQuest Algorithm

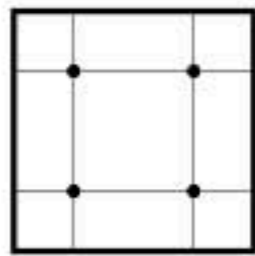
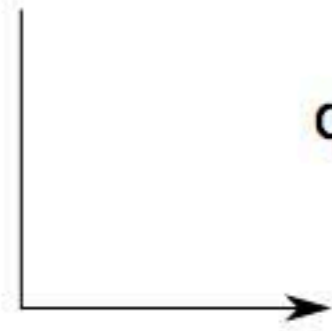


# Case Study: Lattice codes



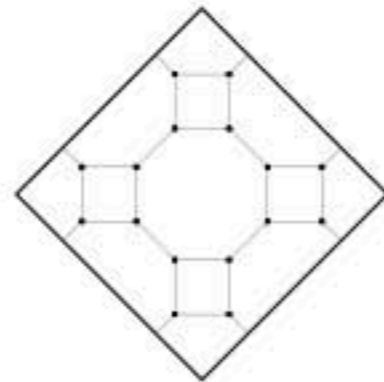
# Case Study: Lattice codes

(# of measurement choices)



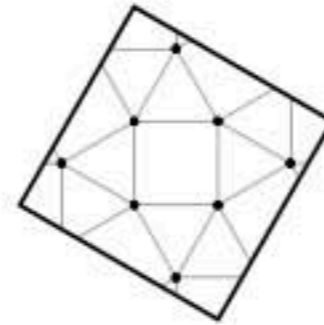
quadrille

(10)



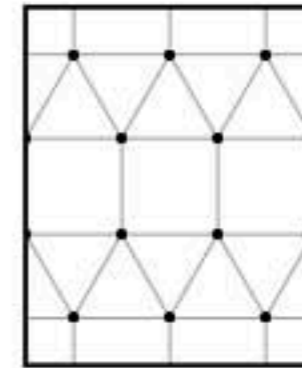
truncated  
quadrille

(155)



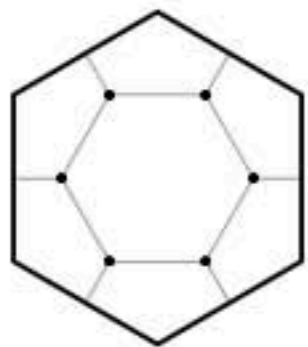
snub  
quadrille

(706,881)



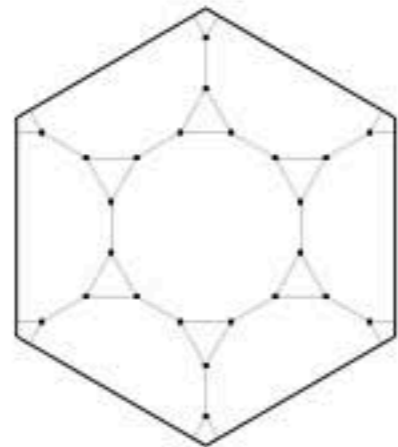
isosnub  
quadrille

(743)



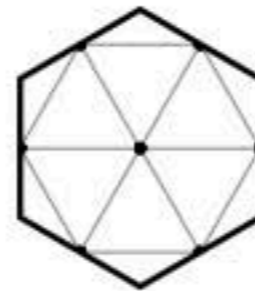
hextille

(11)



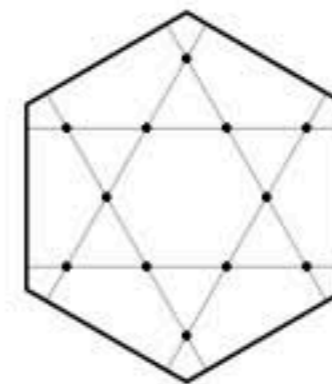
truncated  
hextille

(2392)



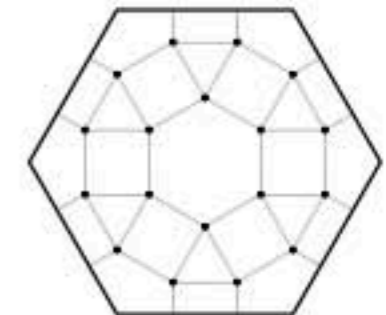
deltille

(58)



hexadeltille

(594)



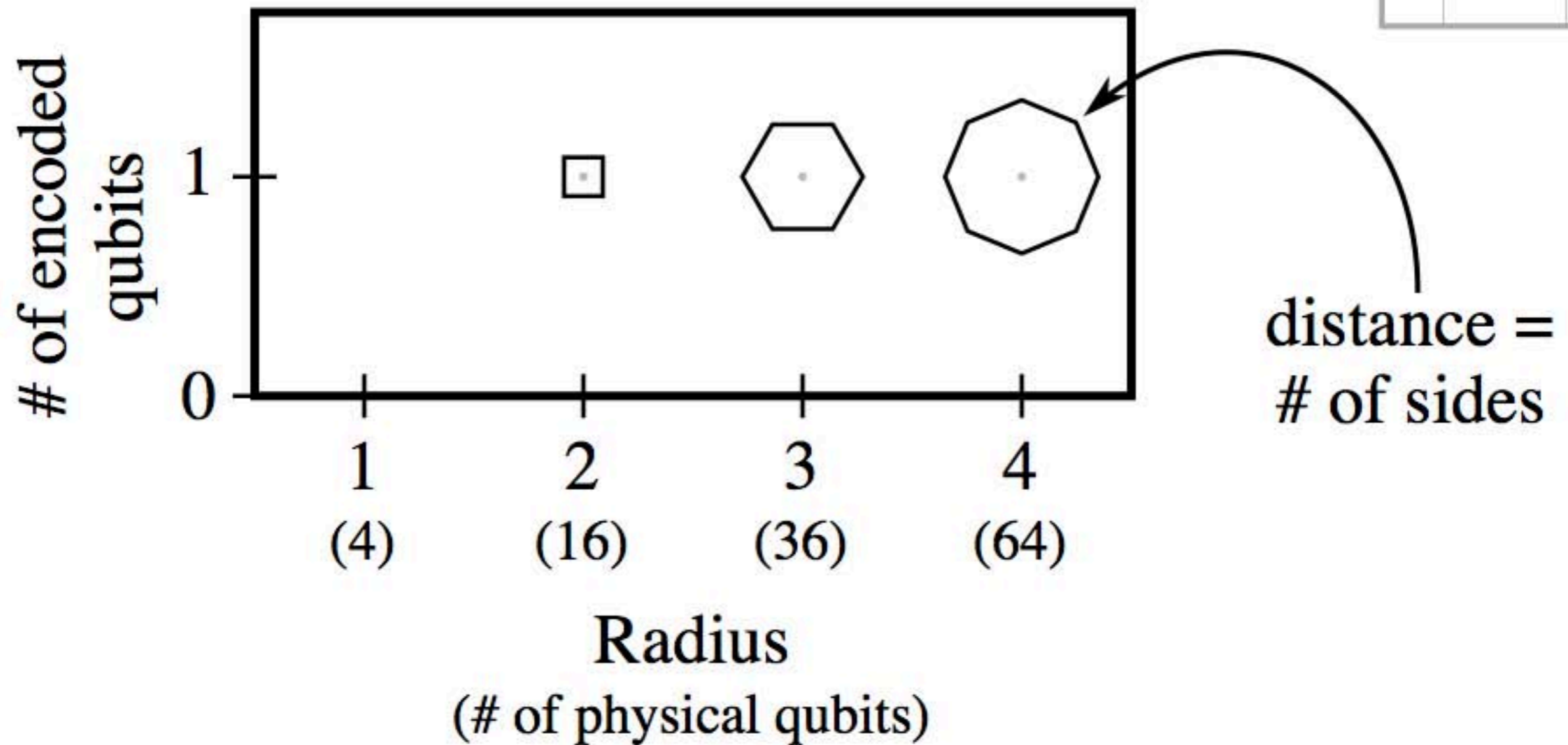
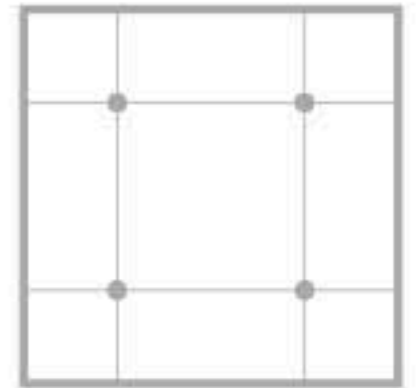
rhombi-  
hexadeltille

(904,741)



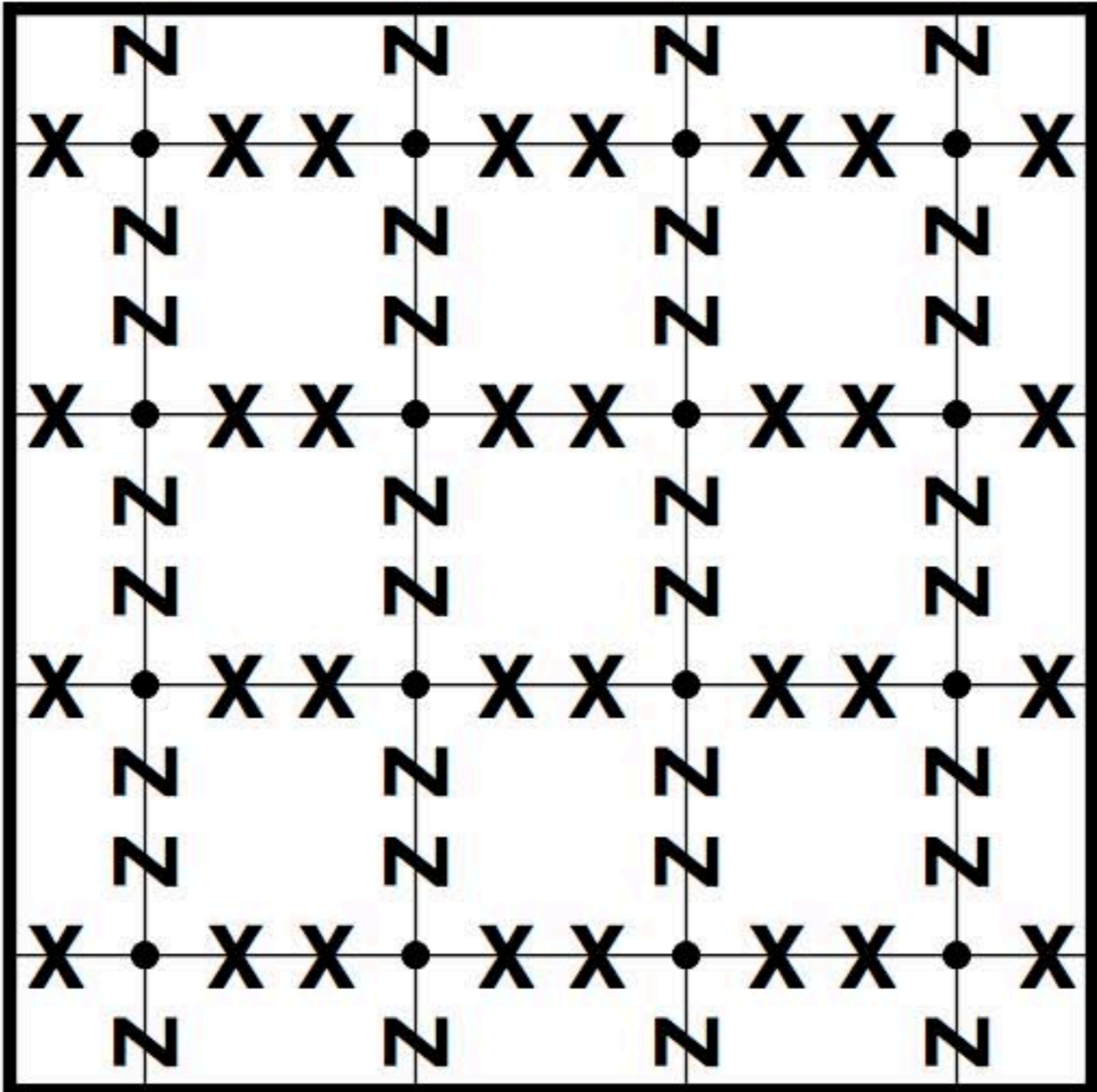
# Case Study: Lattice codes

Codes found for the quadrille tiling

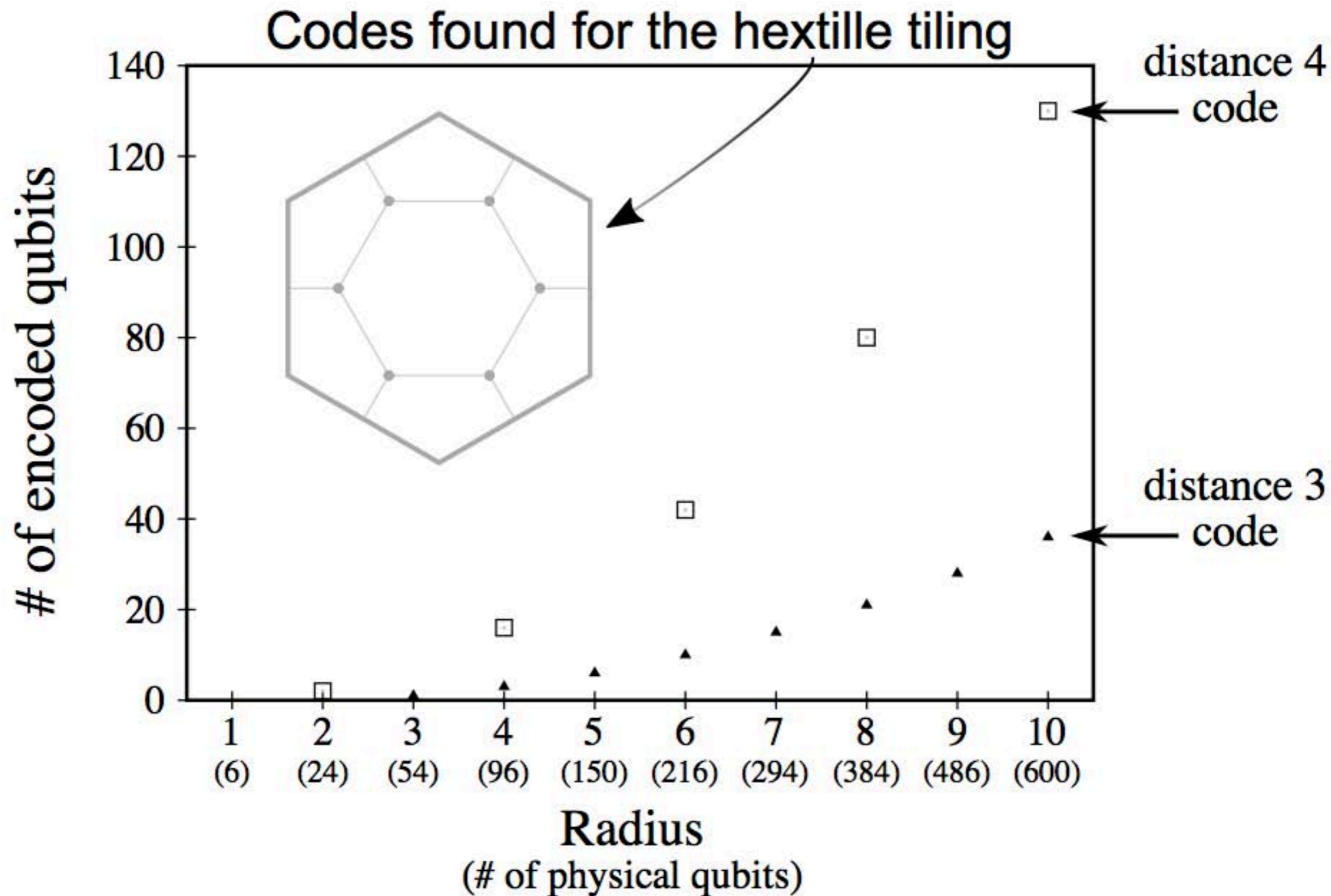


# Case Study: Lattice codes

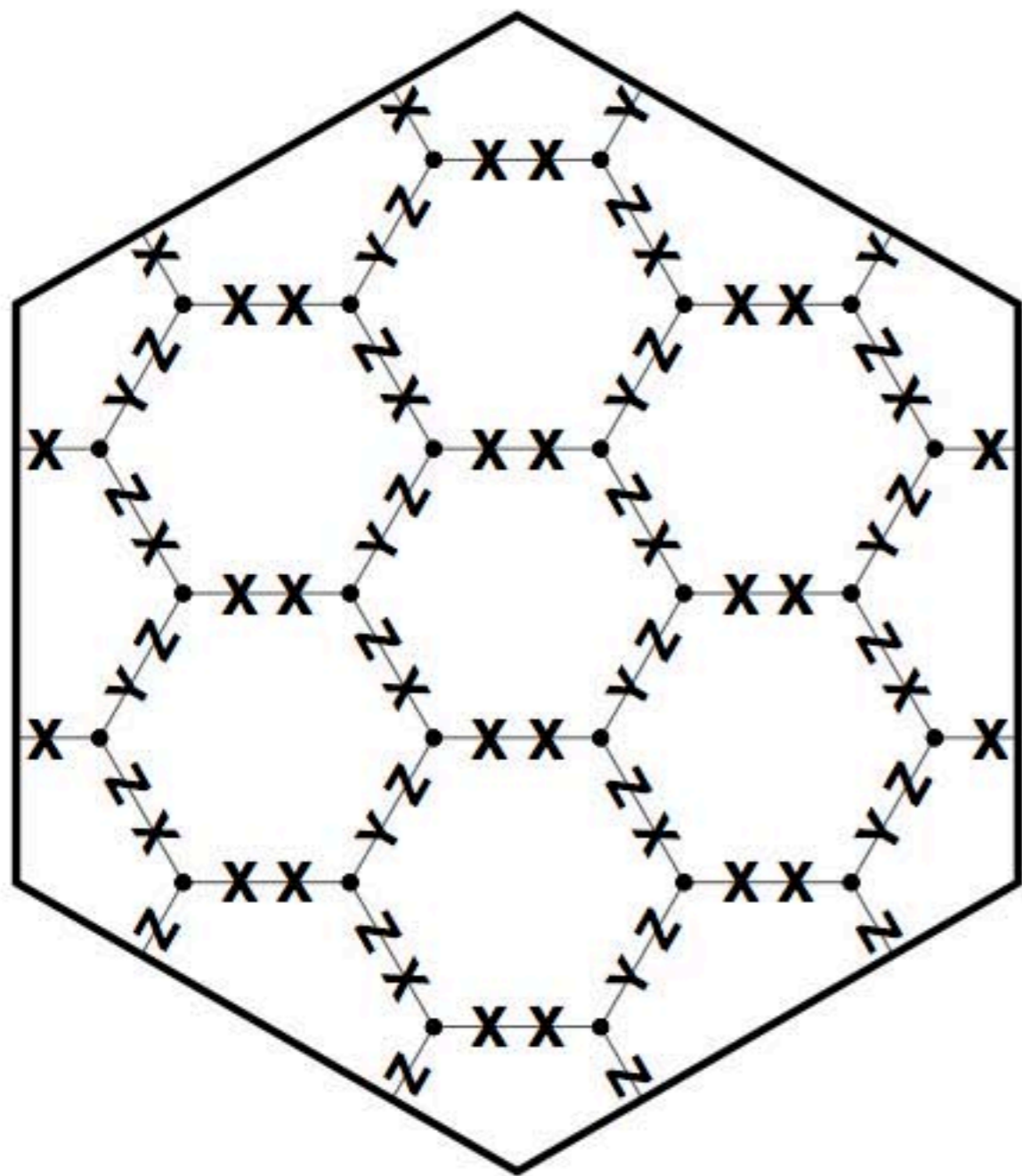
## Bacon-Shor Code



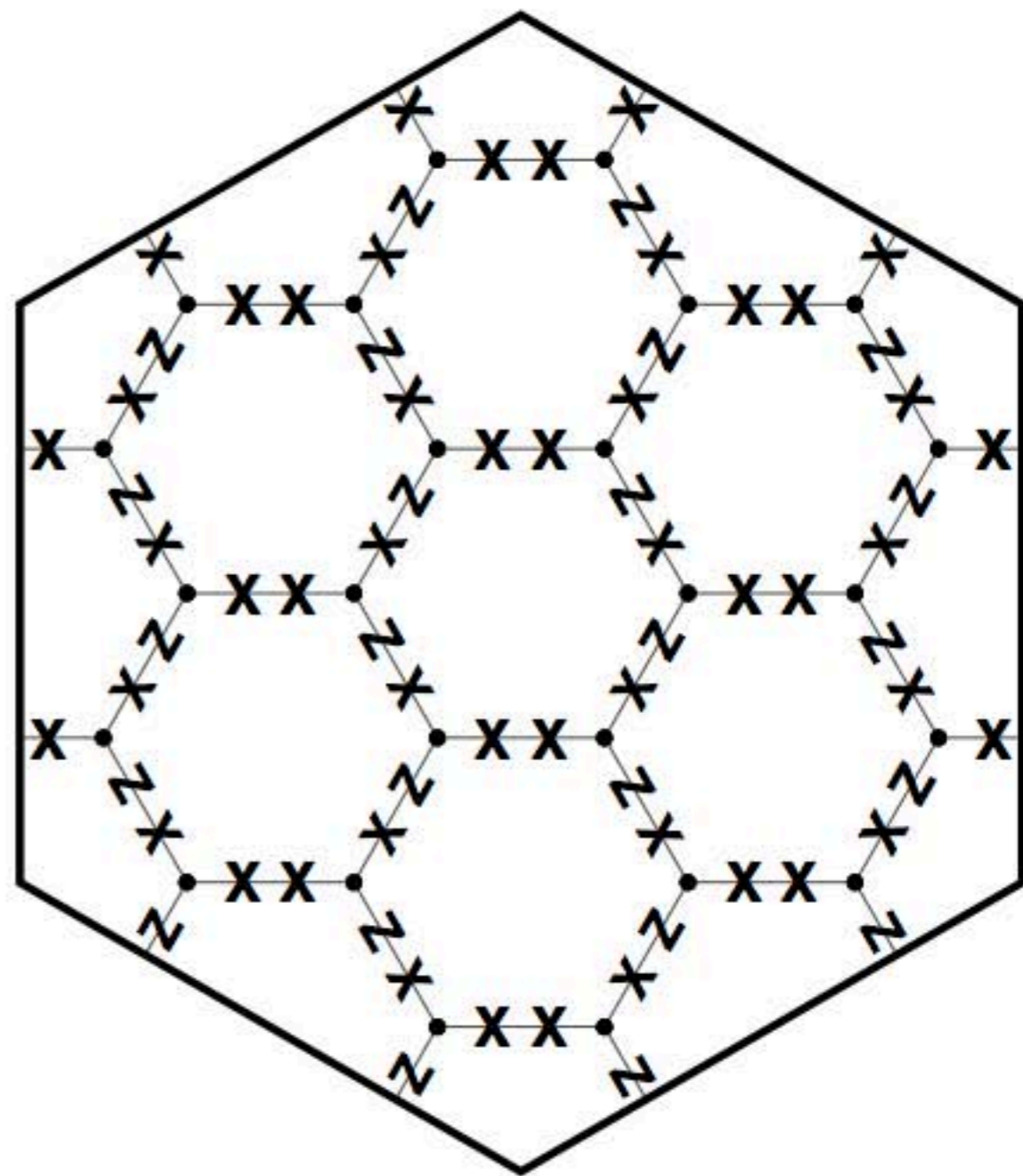
# Case Study: Lattice codes



# Case Study: Lattice codes



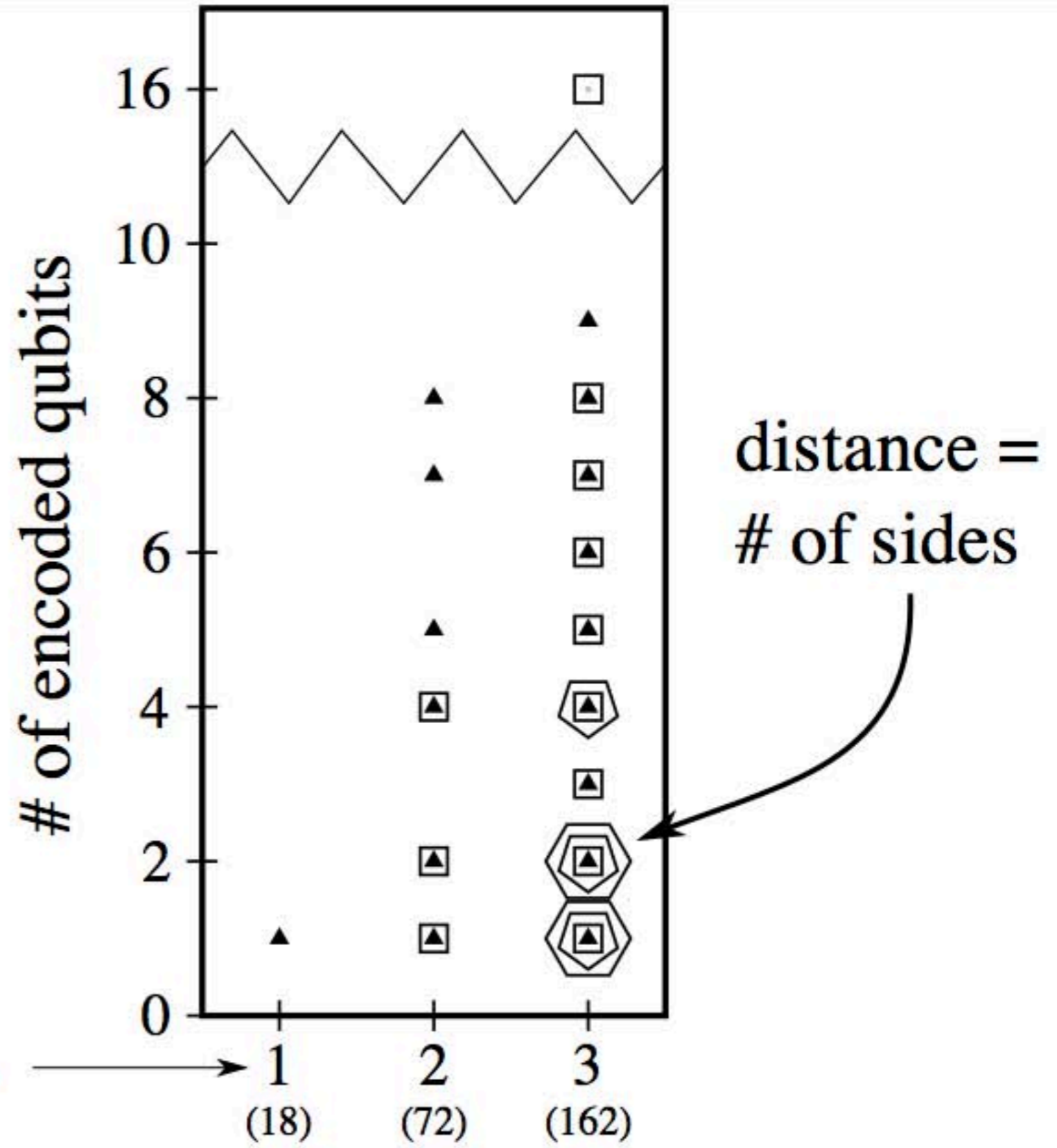
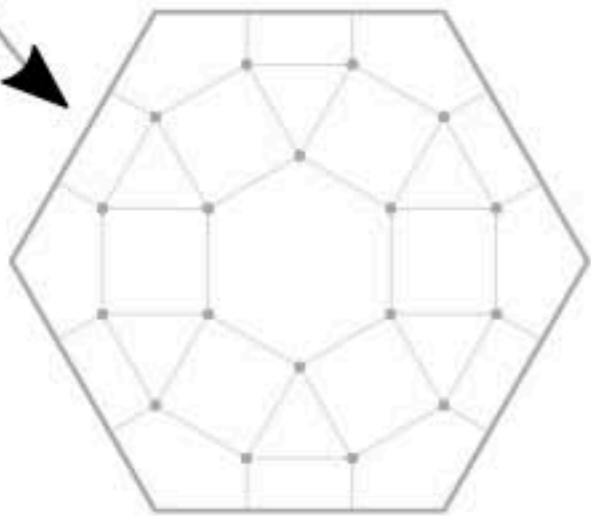
distance 3  
code



distance 4  
code

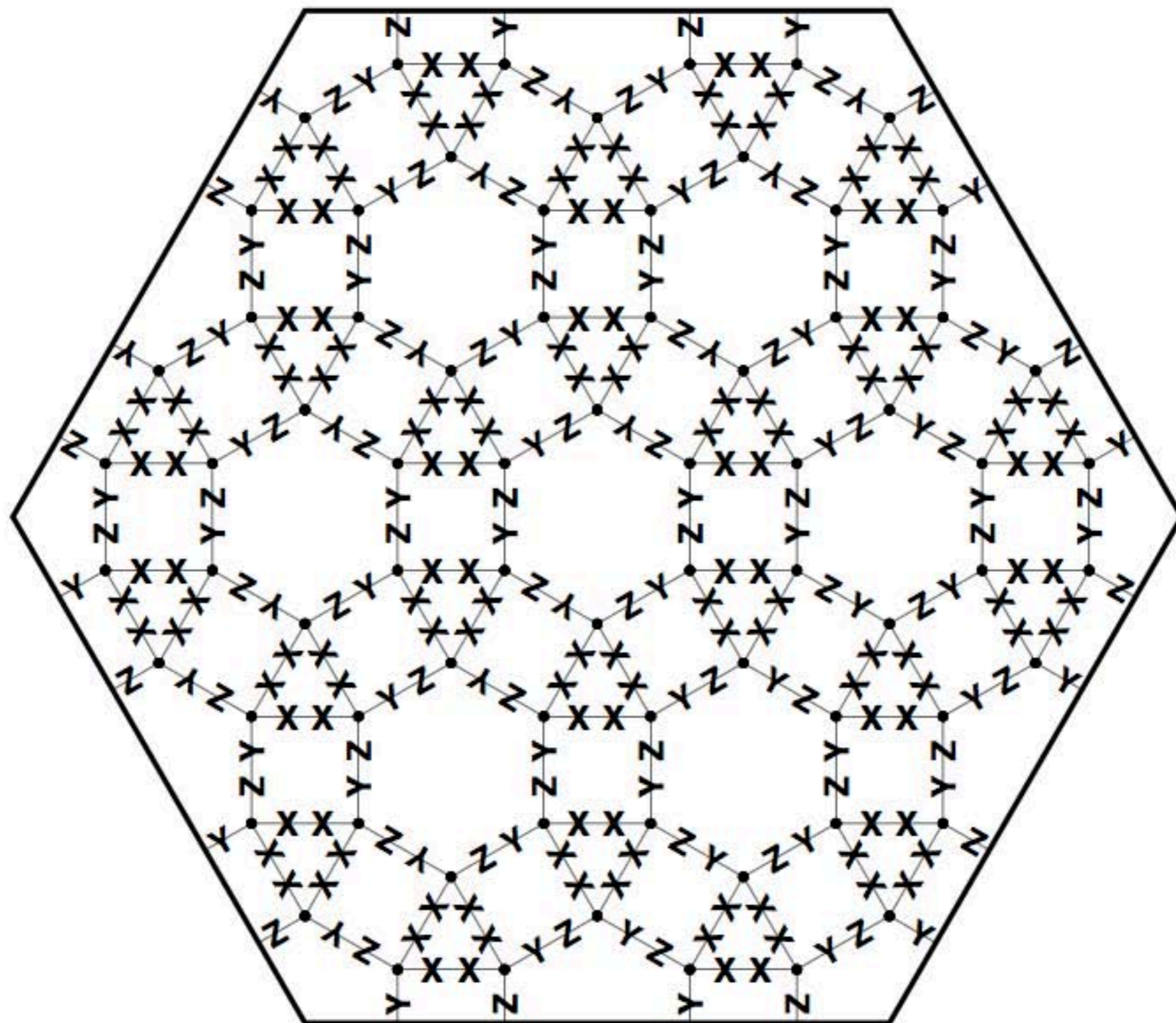
# Case Study: Lattice codes

Codes found for the  
rhombihexadeltille  
tiling



Radius  
(# of physical qubits)

# Case Study: Lattice codes



# Conclusions

- Building a quantum computer is an important project to attempt.
- Finding good codes to protect quantum information is a necessary part of building a robust quantum computer.
- CodeQuest changes the paradigm for finding codes by enabling the use of systematic computational search instead of scattershot mental guesswork.