



# Building Hybrid Quantum-Classical Pipelines

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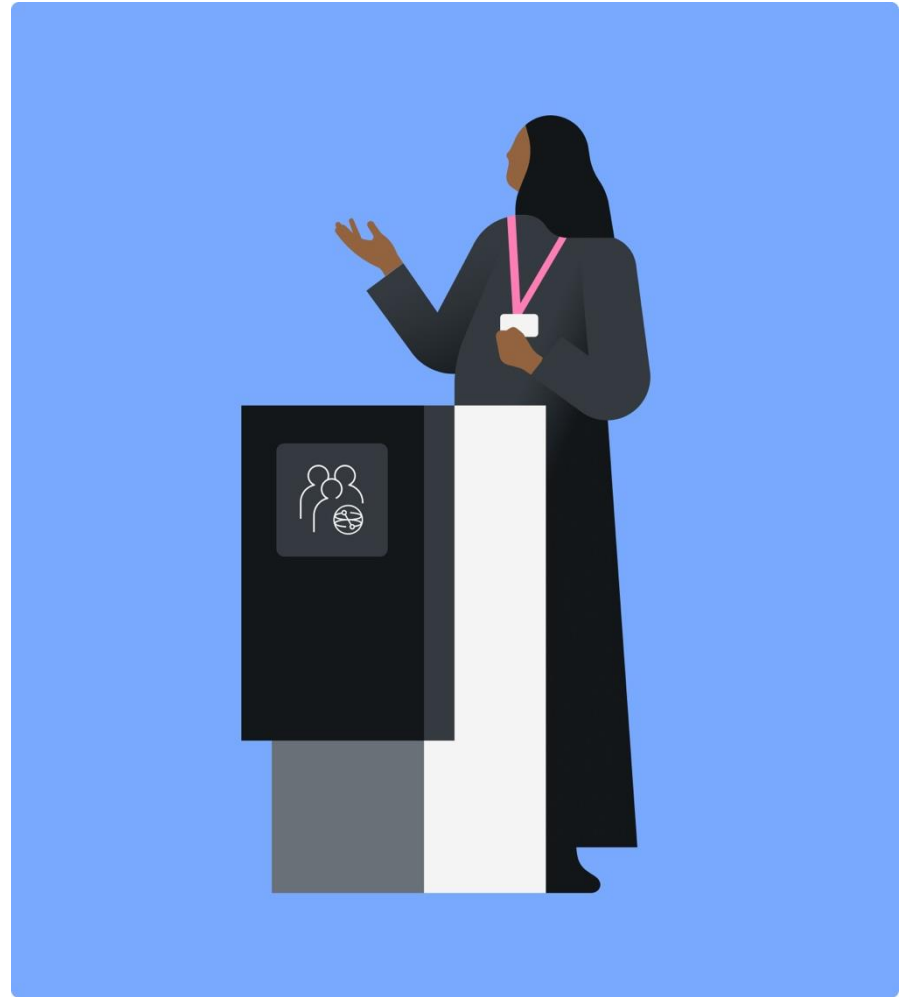
**#OSSummit**

# Agenda



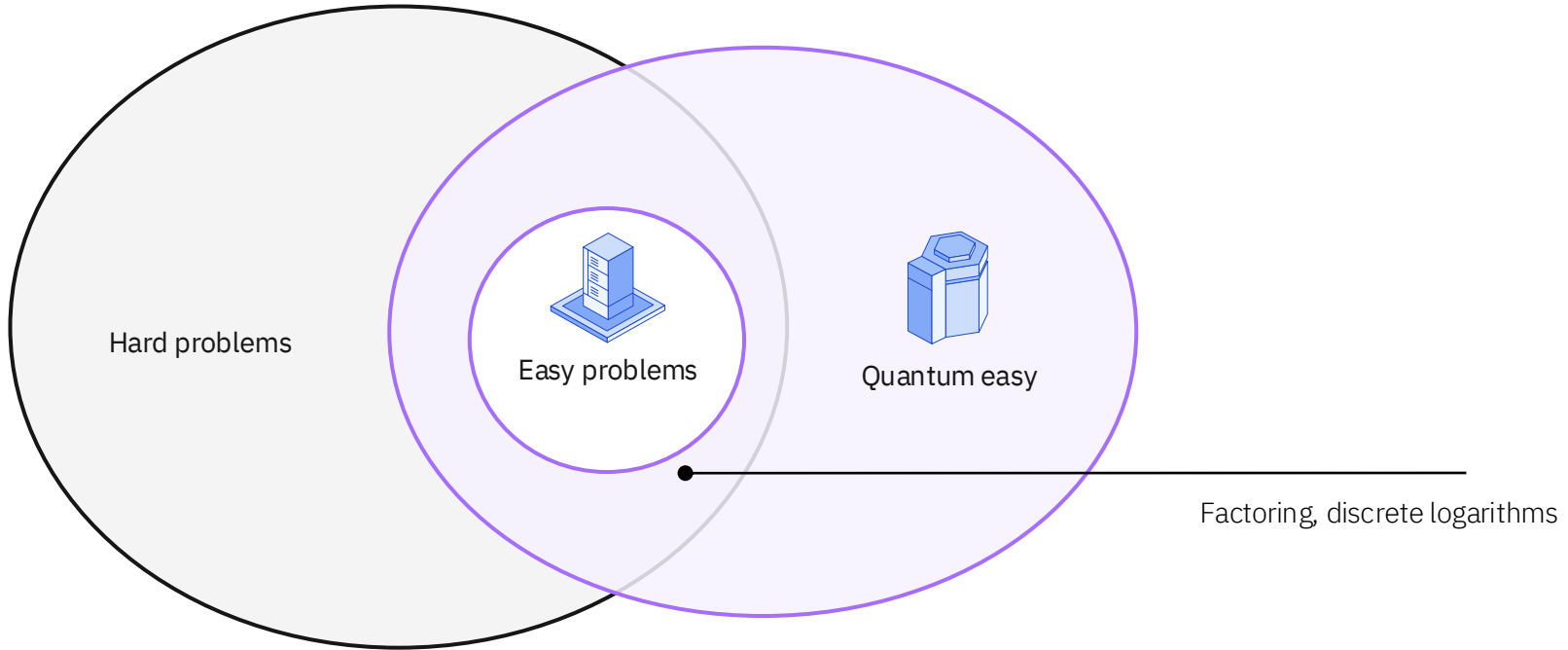
- Quantum-centric Super Computing
- Quantum fundamentals
- Qiskit
- Hybrid Pipeline Demo
- Q&A

# Quantum-centric super computing



## The source of quantum risk

There is a rich seam of problems that cannot be solved by classical and AI supercomputing, and never will. These are the trillion-dollar problems that quantum computing was designed to solve.



# The **new** wave of computing



## **Classical computer**

Well suited for many problems



## **Quantum computer**

Unlock classically intractable problems

What are these problems?

Modeling molecules, atoms, electrons, and quarks with **unprecedented accuracy**



Developing lighter, longer-lasting batteries for electric vehicles, electronics, and energy grid storage



Designing lighter, stronger materials to allow planes to be more efficient and to need less maintenance



Discovering new classes of antibiotics to counter the emergence of multidrug-resistant bacterial strains



Designing optimal superconductors for MRI, electromobility, and renewable energies

What are these problems?

Solving algebra in [exponential] spaces.  
Finding **hidden patterns** in structured problems.



Improving understanding of physical and chemical properties of materials



Improving patient outcomes by designing optimal cell-centric therapeutics

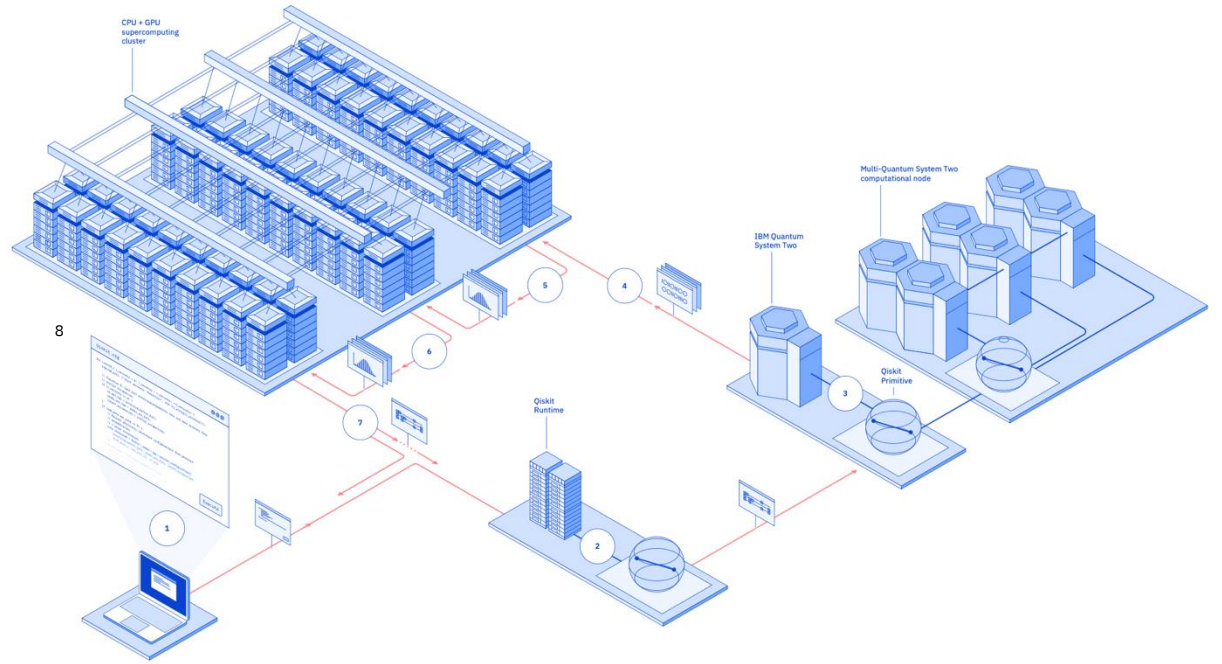


Strengthening risk management through better time series and sequence prediction



Optimizing vehicle routing and scheduling for large-scale logistics networks

CPU  
+ GPU  
+ QPU



# Quantum-centric supercomputing

for accelerated scientific discovery

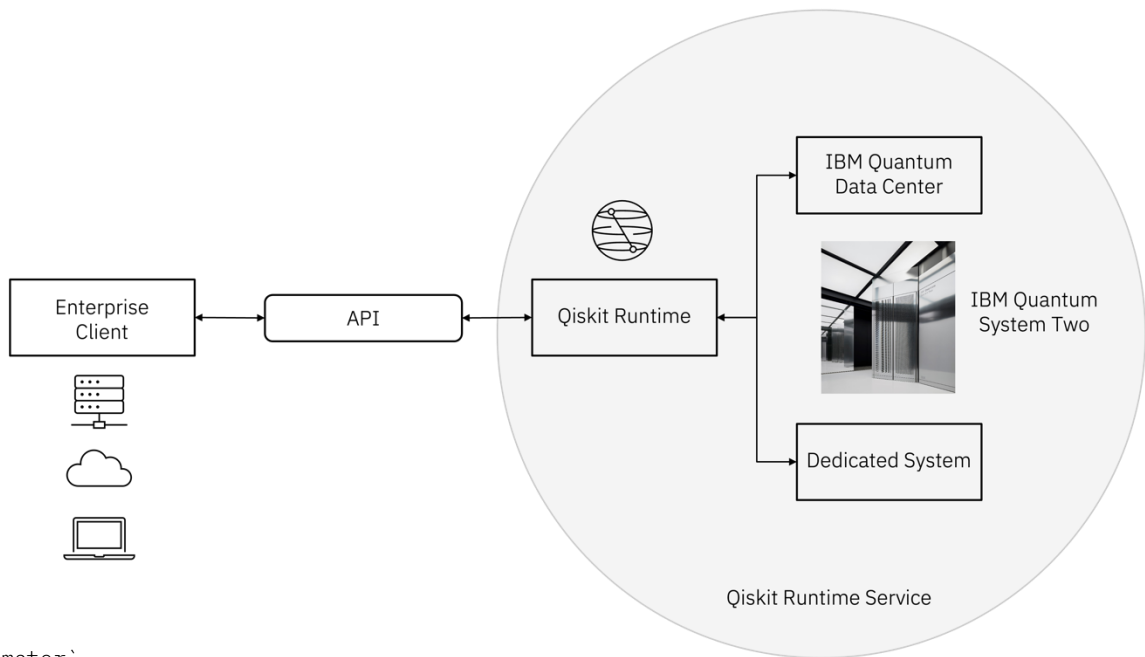
# Qiskit Runtime

Qiskit Runtime is a cloud-based service for executing quantum computations on IBM Quantum hardware that streamlines quantum computations and provides optimal implementations of Qiskit primitives.

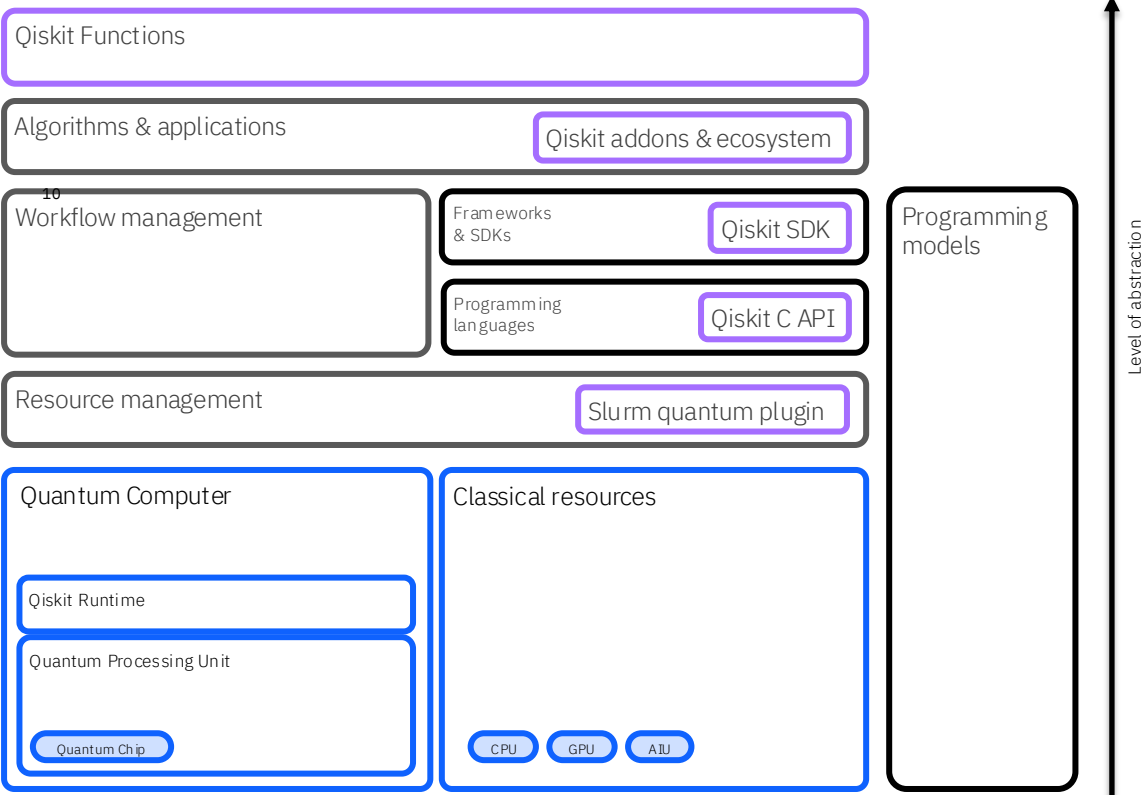
- Runs quantum programs on IBM Quantum hardware through IBM Quantum Platform or IBM Cloud
- Uses additional classical and quantum compute resources including error suppression and error mitigation techniques
- Offers three execution modes: Job, Session, and Batch for different use cases
- Simple installation via pip:  
``pip install qiskit-ibm-runtime``

How to import runtime primitives:

```
`from qiskit_ibm_runtime import EstimatorV2 as Estimator`  
`from qiskit_ibm_runtime import SamplerV2 as Sampler`
```



We are actively building toward a quantum-centric supercomputing future





# Researchers use quantum-centric supercomputing to simulate 12,635-atom protein complex

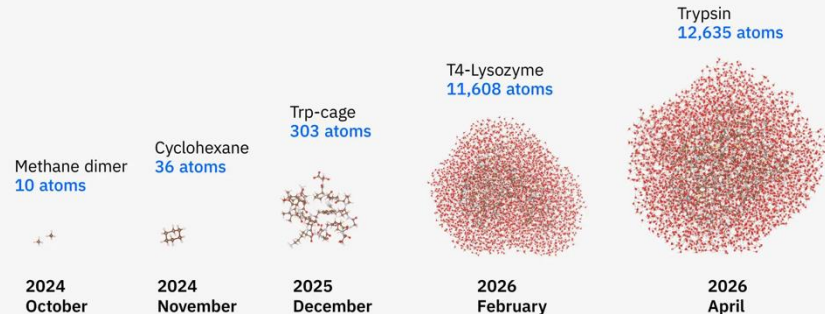
Date  
5 May 2026

Authors  
Rafi Letzter

Cleveland Clinic, RIKEN, IBM debut the largest heterogeneous quantum-classical (HQC) electronic-structure calculation to date, using up to 94 qubits.

Researchers used a quantum-centric supercomputing workflow to simulate protein–ligand chemistry, with the largest simulation reaching over 12,000 atoms (30,000 orbitals).

The work modeled the proteins T4-Lysozyme and Trypsin in solution with binding agents.

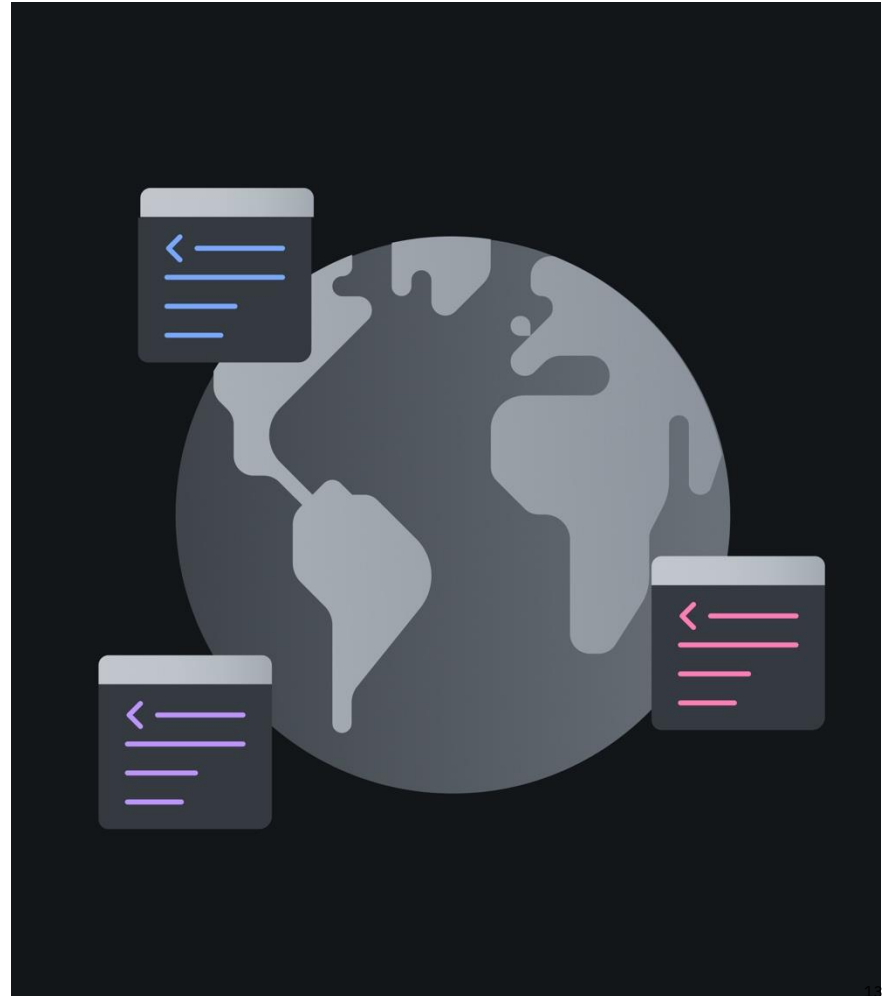


Researchers achieved a 40-fold increase in system size and 210x improvement in accuracy over previous results, driven by new algorithm developments and tight integration of QPUs, CPUs, and GPUs.

The result shows quantum computing is already useful for real chemistry problems.



# Quantum Fundamentals

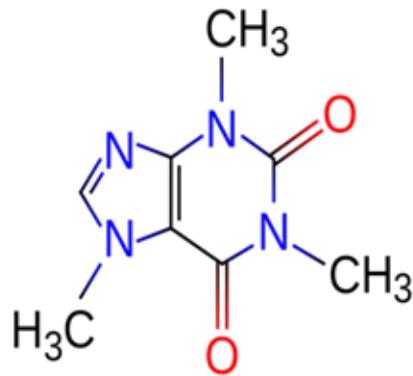


# Computing with caffeine

If our best classical computers are so powerful, shouldn't we be able to perfectly simulate molecules and chemical reactions?

This would allow us to accelerate discovery of new compounds and processes for healthcare, materials, alloys, and sustainable energy creation.

Let's consider caffeine ...





# Computing with caffeine

Although it's impossible to completely represent the molecular configuration of caffeine on today's most powerful super computers, we could represent it using 160 **logical qubits**.



# The limit of bits

For decades we've been simplifying nature into **1**s and **0**s because that was the only way we could **manage** to create a useful and scalable system of computation.

```
001001101110010010001001001001100100111
001011100111110010100100011100010001001
010001001001010101001010101110010011011
100100100010010010011001001110010111001
111100101001000111000100010010100010010
010101010010101011101110011100101011110
```

# The limit of bits

For decades we've been simplifying nature into **1**s and **0**s because that was the only way we could **manage** to create a useful and scalable system of computation.

But the future isn't just **1**s and **0**s.

```
001001101110010010001001001001100100111
001011100111110010100100011100010001001
010001001001010101001010101110010011011
100100100010010010011001001110010111001
111100101001000111000100010010100010010
010101010010101011101110011100101011110
```

# Bits and classical logic circuits

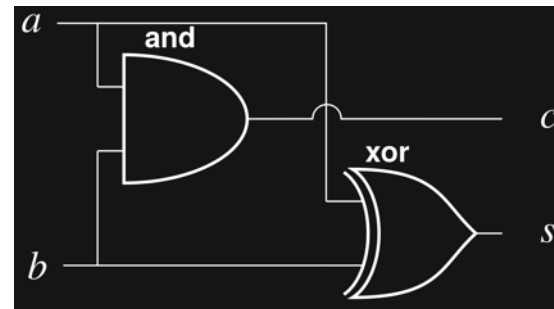
0

•

•

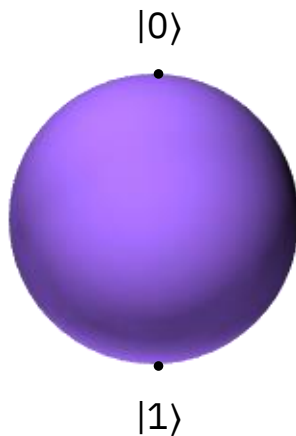
1

A **bit** is a controllable classical object that is the unit of information

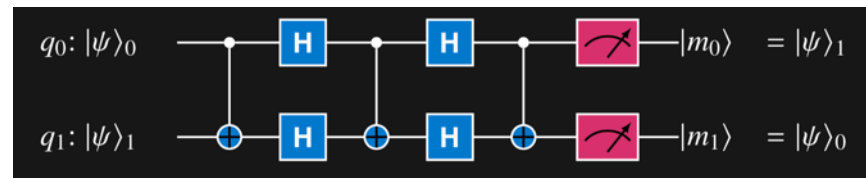


A **classical logic** circuit is a set of gate operations on bits and is the unit of computation

# Quantum bits (qubits) and quantum circuits

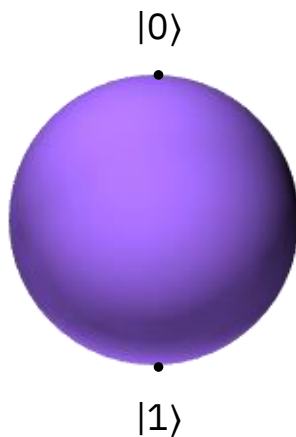


A **quantum bit** or qubit is a controllable quantum object that is the unit of information



A **quantum** circuit is a set of quantum gate operations on qubits and is the unit of computation

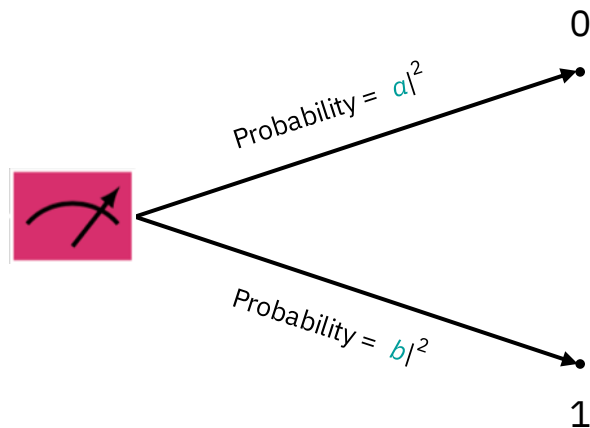
# Bits and qubits



A qubit's **state** is a combination of  $|0\rangle$  and  $|1\rangle$ :

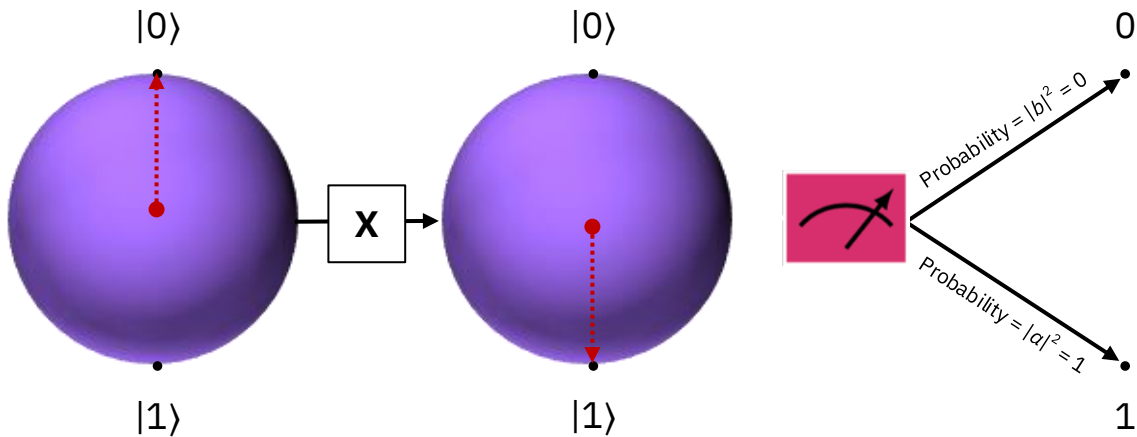
$$a |0\rangle + b |1\rangle$$

This means that a single qubit contains **two** pieces of information.



When we measure a qubit, it becomes **0** or **1** based on probability.

# Bits and qubits: the effect of the X gate on $|0\rangle$



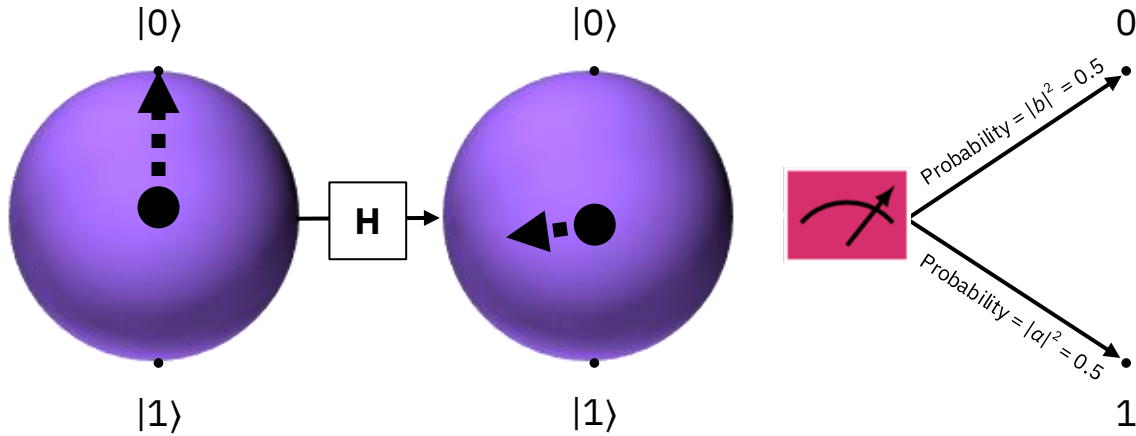
The **X** gate reverses  $|0\rangle$  and  $|1\rangle$ :

$$a |0\rangle + b |1\rangle \mapsto b |0\rangle + a |1\rangle$$

$a = 1$  and  $b = 0$ , so  $|0\rangle$  is mapped to  $|1\rangle$ .

When measured, the result is **1**  
with 100% probability.

# Bits and qubits: the effect of the H gate on $|0\rangle$



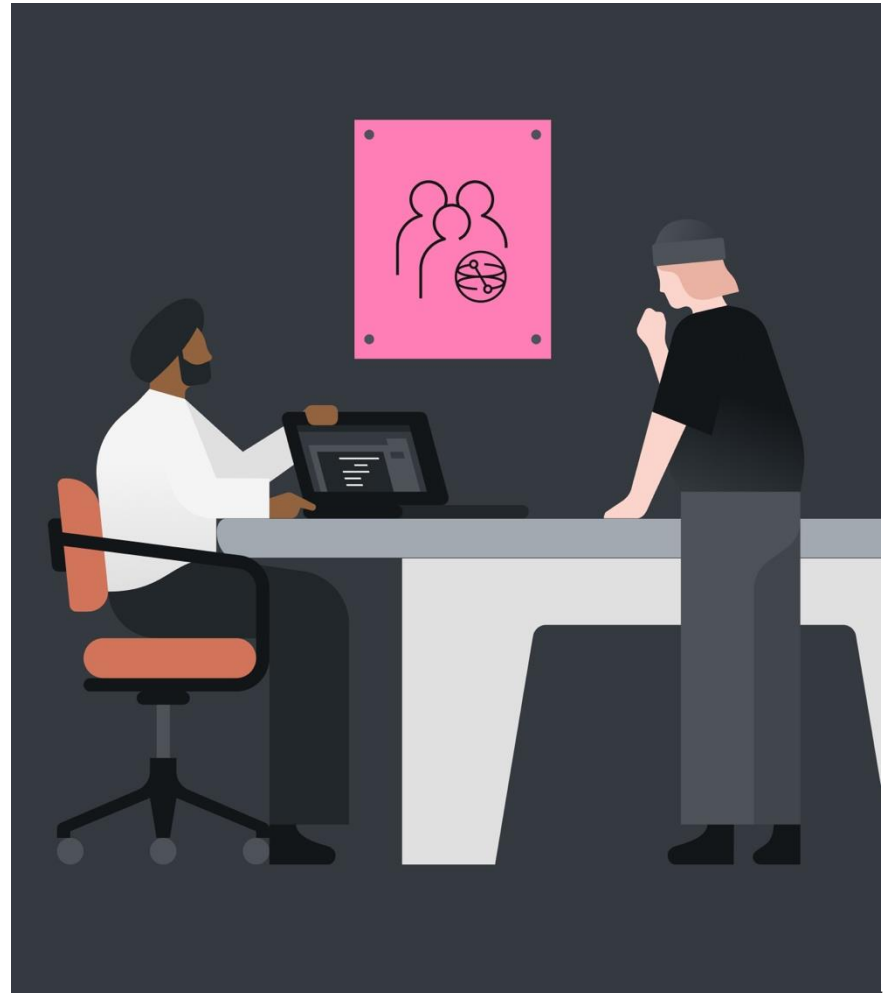
The **H** gate maps  $|0\rangle$  via

$$|0\rangle \mapsto \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |0\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |1\rangle = a |0\rangle + b |1\rangle$$

$$\text{Since } a = b = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, |a|^2 = |b|^2 = \frac{1}{2}.$$

When measured, the probability of getting **0** or **1** is the same, 0.5.  
Quantum randomness!

Qiskit



# What is Qiskit?

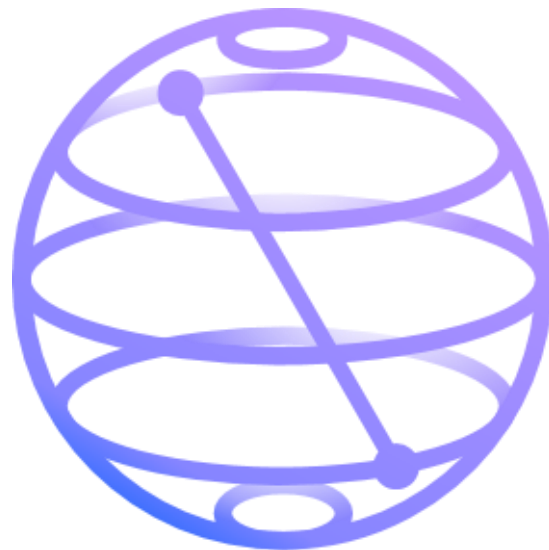
The name "Qiskit" is a general term referring to a collection of software for executing programs on quantum computers.

**Qiskit SDK** is an open-source SDK for working with quantum computers at the level of extended quantum circuits, operators, and primitives.

[github.com/Qiskit/qiskit](https://github.com/Qiskit/qiskit)  
[quantum.cloud.ibm.com/docs](https://quantum.cloud.ibm.com/docs)

The **Qiskit Ecosystem** is a collection of software and projects that build on or extend Qiskit.

[qiskit.github.io/ecosystem](https://qiskit.github.io/ecosystem)



# Qiskit 2.0

*Released April 2025*

Qiskit 2.0 is the first release to introduce a C API beyond the usual Python interface, marking the beginning of multi-language support. This sets the foundation for accessing Qiskit from C directly and building bindings for other programming languages on top of C interface.

## Two modes of operation:

- Standalone C usage (no Python runtime dependency) - [Installation Guide](#)
- Embedded extension, for calling the C API from a Python context Python - [Extension Guide](#)

Currently, the C interface is minimal but growing: [C API Reference](#)

## Other Qiskit 2.0 highlights:

- Rust-powered performance boosts: Up to 2× faster circuit construction and ~20% faster transpilation.
- Support for abstract/deferred timing in dynamic circuits: Enables use of stretches for complex timing logic.
- New 'Box' support: Atomic blocks for the transpiler; useful for twirling, noise learning, and more.

Quantum Resource Management Interface (QRMI) an open standard for integrating quantum resources

Thin and vendor-agnostic layer to access, control, and monitor underlying on-prem or cloud quantum systems

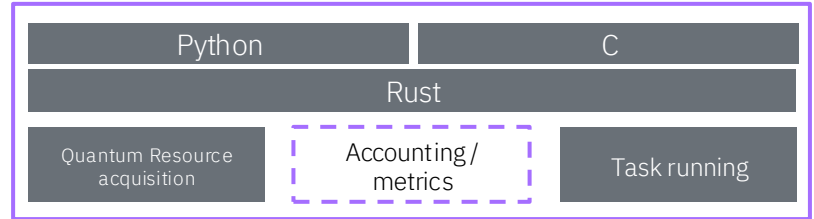
**Contributors:**

- IBM Quantum
- Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
- Pasqal
- STFC Hartree Centre
- Cleveland Clinic
- Oak Ridge National Laboratory
- Jülich Supercomputing Centre
- Poznań Supercomputing and Networking Center
- ParTec

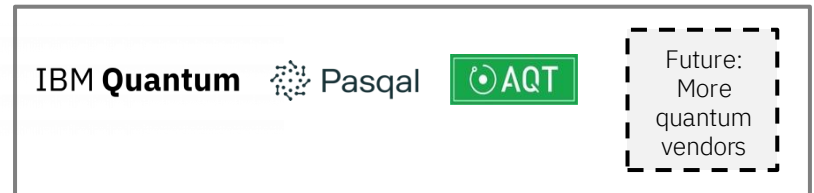
HPC Plugins



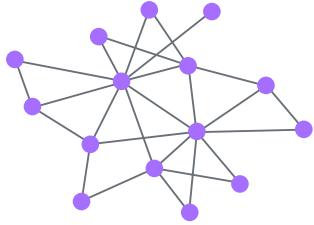
QRMI <https://github.com/qiskit-community/qrmi>



Hardware Support



# Qiskit Pattern: The anatomy of a quantum algorithm



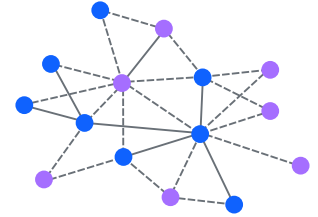
```
PassManager([UnitarySynthesis(),  
            BasisTranslator(),  
            EnlargeWithAncilla(),  
            AISwap(),  
            Collect1qRuns(),  
            Optimize1qGates(),  
            Collect2qBlocks(),  
            ConsolidateBlocks()])
```

 Sampler 000101...,  
110110...

circuit( $\hat{\theta}$ ) bit-strings

 Estimator  $\langle O \rangle$

circuit( $\hat{\theta}$ ) +  
observable  $\hat{O}$  expectation  
value




01  
**Map** problem instance  
to quantum circuits and  
operators

02  
**Optimize** for target  
hardware execution

03  
**Execute** via  
Qiskit Runtime

04  
**Result** processing

  
Map

  
Optimize

  
Execute

  
Post-Process

# Qiskit Installation Instructions



## To Install Qiskit:

You can use an online jupyter lab environment ([quantum.cloud.ibm.com/docs/en/guides/online-lab-environments](https://quantum.cloud.ibm.com/docs/en/guides/online-lab-environments)) or install Qiskit locally.

Follow the Qiskit installation guide ([docs.quantum.ibm.com/guides/install-qiskit](https://docs.quantum.ibm.com/guides/install-qiskit)) to complete the following steps:

1. Install python

2. Install Qiskit

- Create a virtual environment and activate it
- Install qiskit including the visualization extra packages: ``pip install qiskit[visualization]``
- Install qiskit-ibm-runtime: ``pip install qiskit-ibm-runtime``
- Install jupyter: ``pip install jupyter``

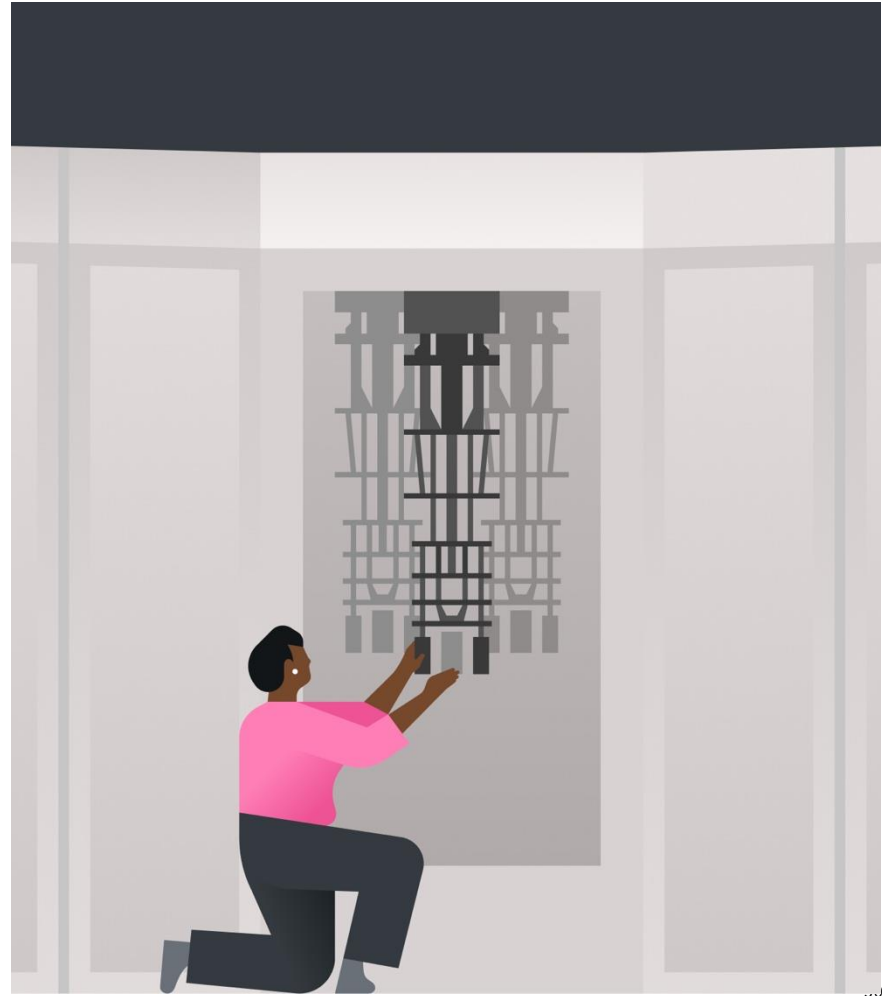
## To Access Hardware:

Follow this guide ([docs.quantum.ibm.com/guides/setup-channel](https://docs.quantum.ibm.com/guides/setup-channel)) to setup an IBM Quantum account

1. Register IBM Quantum account using your institutional email
2. Save token to your local computer



# Demo: end-to-end hybrid quantum-classical execution pipeline



Today's classical security protocols  
will be obsolete tomorrow

Prime factors

$$= p \times q$$

2048-bit composite integer

```
25195908475657893494027183240048398571429282126204032
02777713783604366202070759555626401852588078440691829
06412495150821892985591491761845028084891200728449926
87392807287776735971418347270261896375014971824691165
07761337985909570009733045974880842840179742910064245
86918171951187461215151726546322822168699875491824224
33637259085141865462043576798423387184774447920739934
23658482382428119816381501067481045166037730605620161
96762561338441436038339044149526344321901146575444541
78424020924616515723350778707749817125772467962926386
35637328991215483143816789988504044536402352738195137
863656439212010397122822120720357
```

Expected computation time

The most powerful computer today:

**Millions of years**

Shor's quantum algorithm:

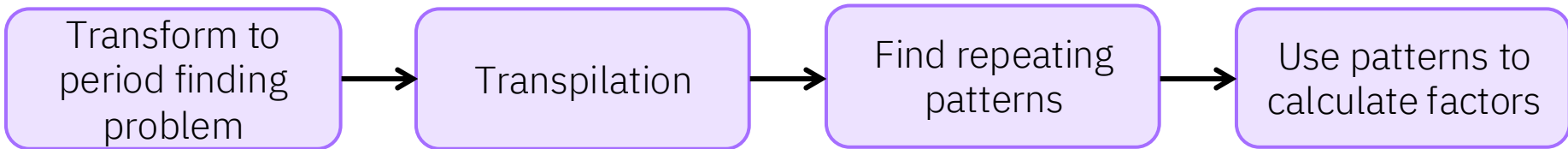
**Hours**

Public key encryption • Digital signatures • Key exchange algorithms

---

RSA • DSA • ECC • ECDSA • DH

Qiskit Pattern:  
The anatomy of a quantum algorithm



01  
**Map** problem instance to quantum circuits and operators

02  
**Optimize** for target hardware execution

03  
**Execute** via Qiskit Runtime

04  
**Result** processing

---

Q<sup>+</sup>  
Map

---

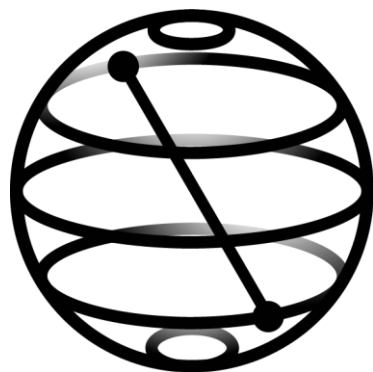
⌘  
Optimize

---

⌘  
Execute

---

📈  
Post-Process





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# Order-finding by phase-estimation

To connect the order-finding problem to phase estimation, consider a system whose classical state set is  $\mathbb{Z}_N$ .

For a given element  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_N^*$ , define an operation as follows:

$$M_\alpha |x\rangle = |\alpha x\rangle \quad (\text{for each } x \in \mathbb{Z}_N)$$

This is a **unitary operation** — but only because  $\gcd(\alpha, N) = 1$ !

## Example

Let  $N = 15$  and  $\alpha = 2$ . The operation  $M_\alpha$  has this action:

$M_2 0\rangle =  0\rangle$	$M_2 5\rangle =  10\rangle$	$M_2 10\rangle =  5\rangle$
$M_2 1\rangle =  2\rangle$	$M_2 6\rangle =  12\rangle$	$M_2 11\rangle =  7\rangle$
$M_2 2\rangle =  4\rangle$	$M_2 7\rangle =  14\rangle$	$M_2 12\rangle =  9\rangle$
$M_2 3\rangle =  6\rangle$	$M_2 8\rangle =  1\rangle$	$M_2 13\rangle =  11\rangle$
$M_2 4\rangle =  8\rangle$	$M_2 9\rangle =  3\rangle$	$M_2 14\rangle =  13\rangle$