



Advanced Quantum Machine Learning

Prof Ahmed El-Mahdy

Dean

12/8/2025

Agenda

- More QML models
 - QAOA
 - Quantum Reinforcement Learning
 - Quantum LSTM
- Issues in QML
 - Barren-Plateaus
 - Effect of Noise
 - Ansatz Design
- Flooding Predication Case Study

QAOA

- The Max-Cut graph problem
- The Hamiltonian Formulation
 - $H_c = \sum_{(i,j) \in e} Z_i Z_j$
- Adiabatic Quantum Computing
 - Gama and Alpha operators
- Formulation in machine learning problem

Quantum Reinforcement Learning

- Quick introduction to reinforcement learning
 - State
 - Action
 - Reward
- The goal is learning a policy:

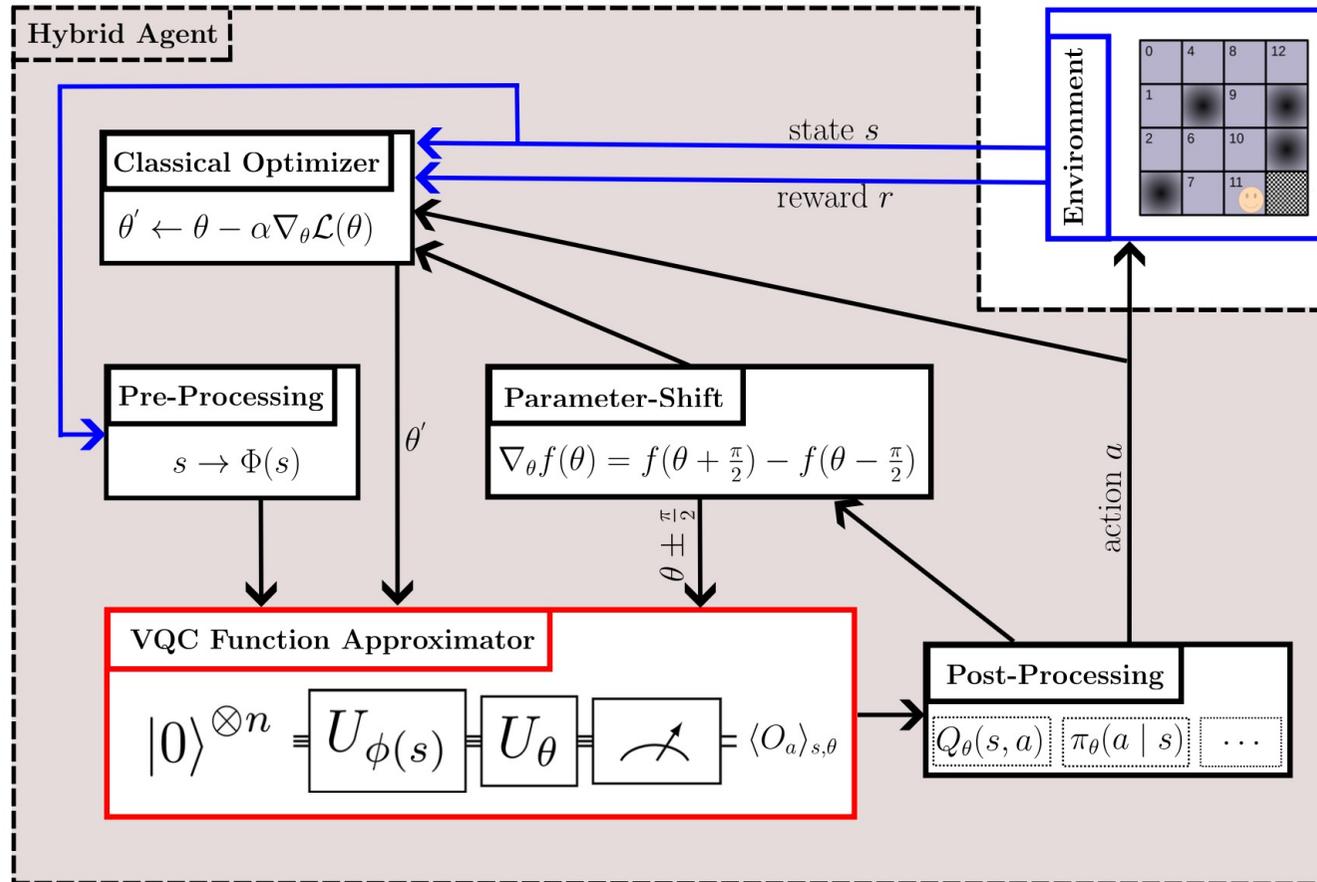
$$\pi : \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{A} \rightarrow [0, 1]$$

$$\pi(s, a) = \Pr(A_t = a \mid S_t = s)$$

Solution

$$Q^{new}(S_t, A_t) \leftarrow (1 - \underbrace{\alpha}_{\text{learning rate}}) \cdot \underbrace{Q(S_t, A_t)}_{\text{current value}} + \underbrace{\alpha}_{\text{learning rate}} \cdot \left(\underbrace{R_{t+1}}_{\text{reward}} + \underbrace{\gamma}_{\text{discount factor}} \cdot \underbrace{\max_a Q(S_{t+1}, a)}_{\text{estimate of optimal future value}} \right)$$

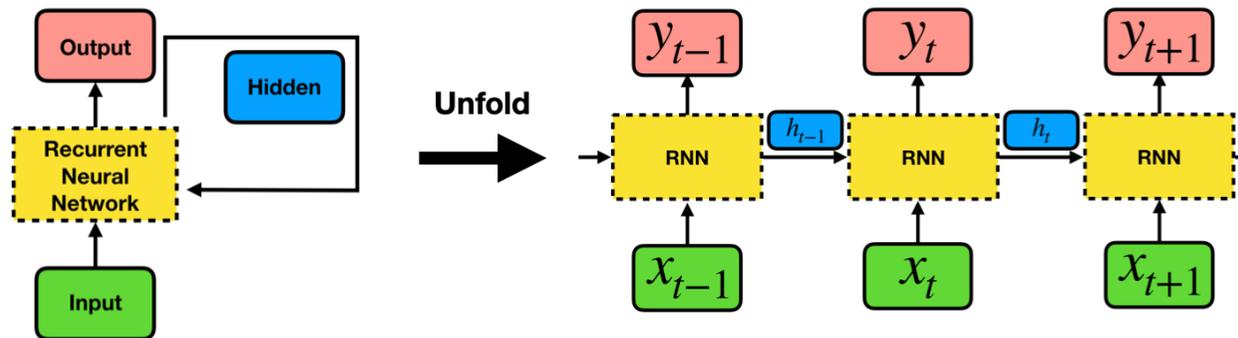
new value (temporal difference target)



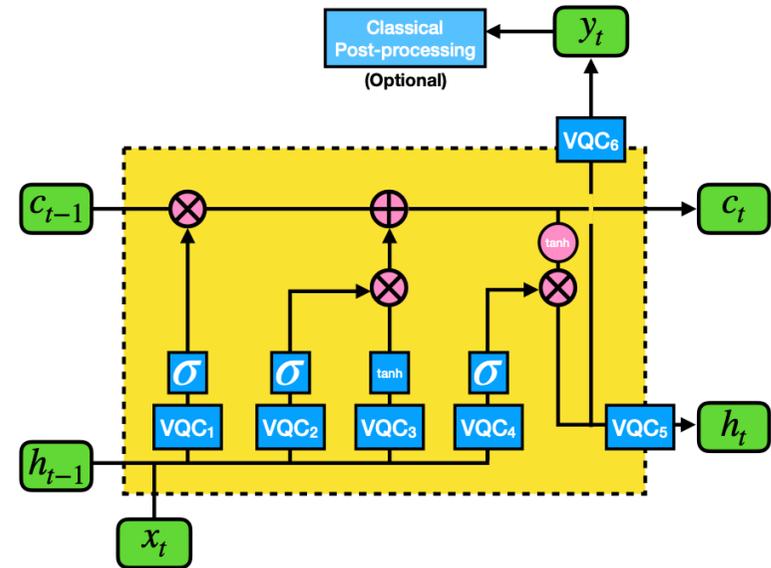
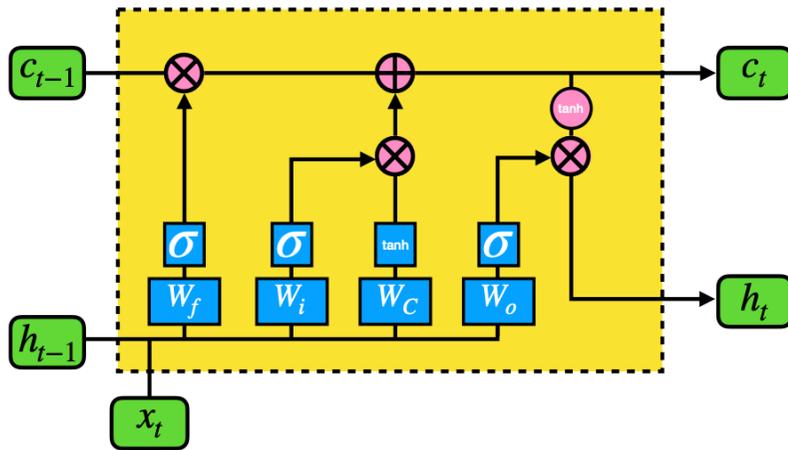
Meyer et al. 2024

Quantum LSTM

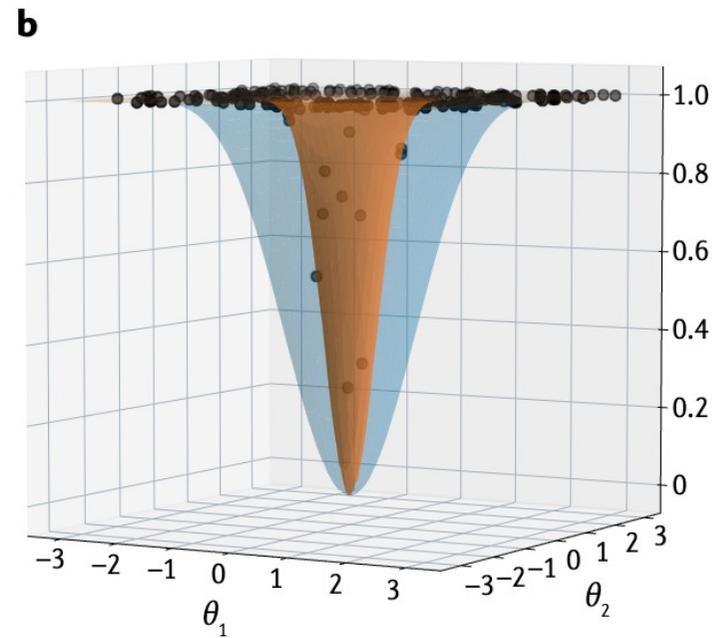
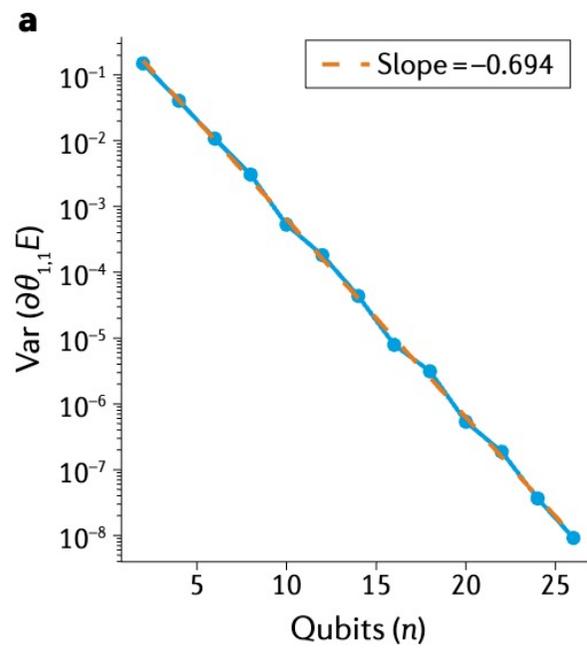
- Long Short Term Memory
- Recurrent Neural Network



QLSTM



Issues: Barren-Plateaus



Barren-Plateaus

- Causes:
 - The curse of dimensionality
- Handling:
 - Avoid hardware Efficient Ansatz
 - Use shallower circuits
 - Don't randomly initialise the model parameters

Effect of Noise

- Can cause Barren-Plateaus
- But VQA has generally
 - Noise immunisation
 - Noise mitigation
- The general strategy is again using shallow circuits
- Also error-correcting codes (fault tolerant quantum computer)

Ansatz Design

- Hardware Efficient Ansatz
- Problem Efficient Ansatz
- The Expressibility of the Ansatz
 - How uniformly do parameters explore the Hilbert Space
- The Entangling Capability of the Ansatz
 - How strong are the states entangled

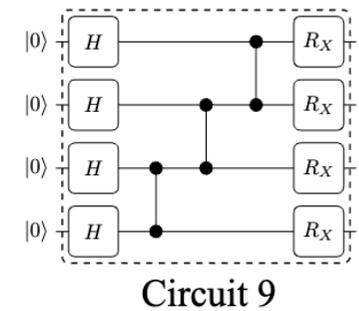
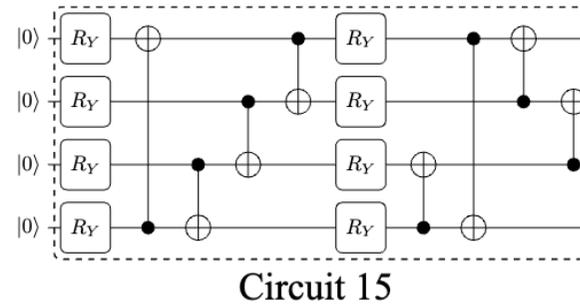
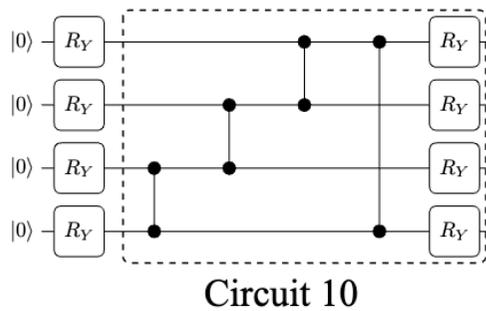
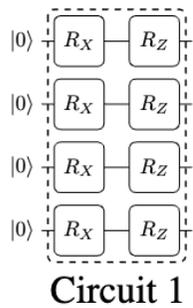
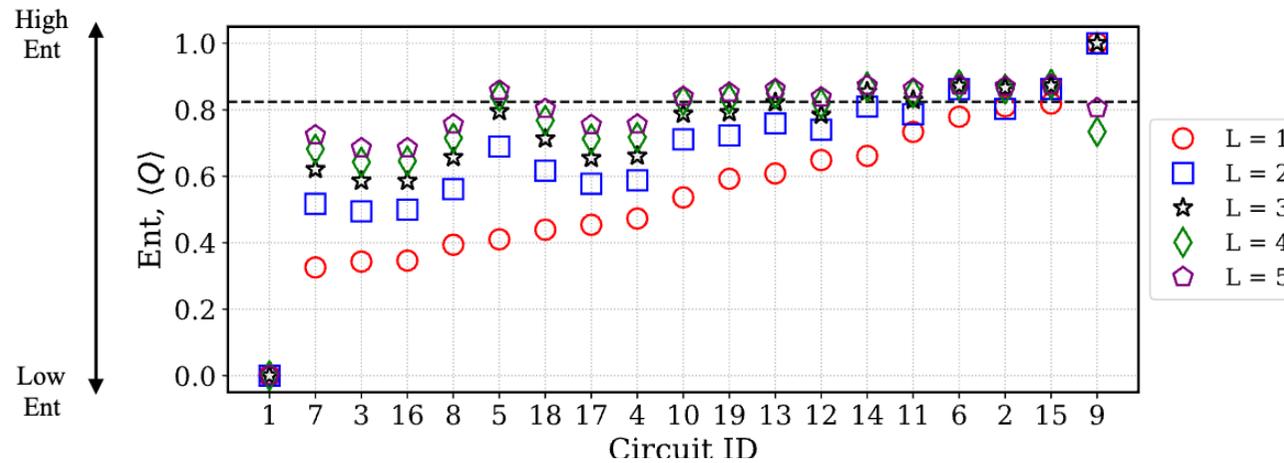
Entangling Capability

- Meyer-Wallach Measure

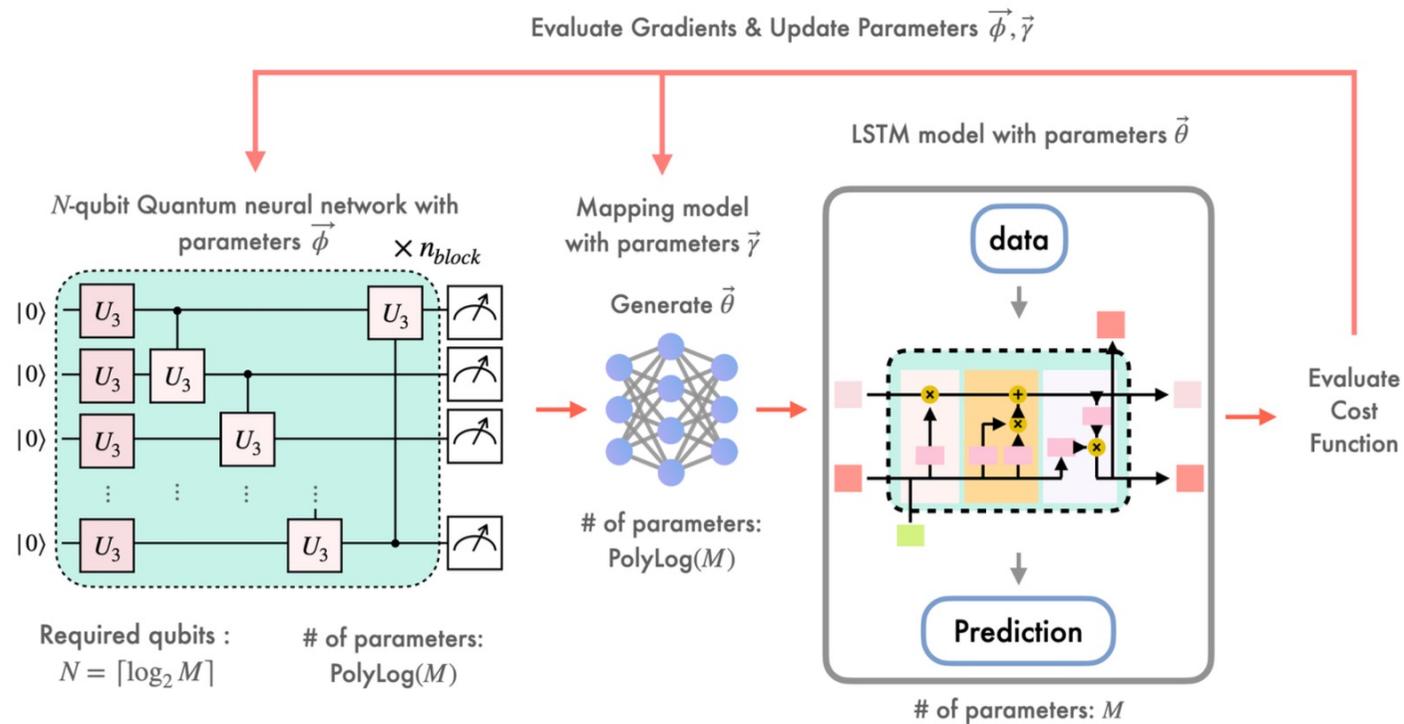
$$\iota_j(b) |b_1 \dots b_n\rangle = \delta_{bb_j} |b_1 \dots \hat{b}_j \dots b_n\rangle$$

$$Q(|\psi\rangle) \equiv \frac{4}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n D(\iota_j(0) |\psi\rangle, \iota_j(1) |\psi\rangle),$$

Entangling Capability



Flooding Prediction (Lin et al. 2024)



Flooding Prediction (Lin et al. 2024)

- A classical LSTM has M parameters
- The approach uses $\log M$ qubits!
- This is done by using the fact that n qubits has 2^n probabilities
- A NN is used with feature-based, prob
- The NN maps that into the corresponding LSTM parameter

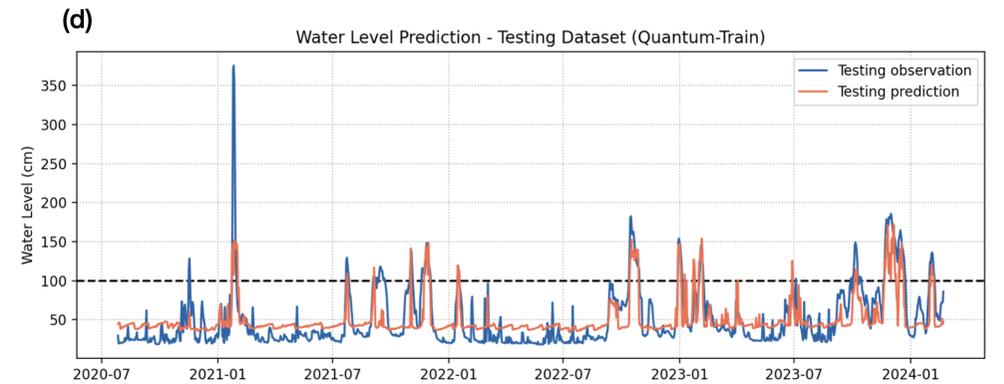
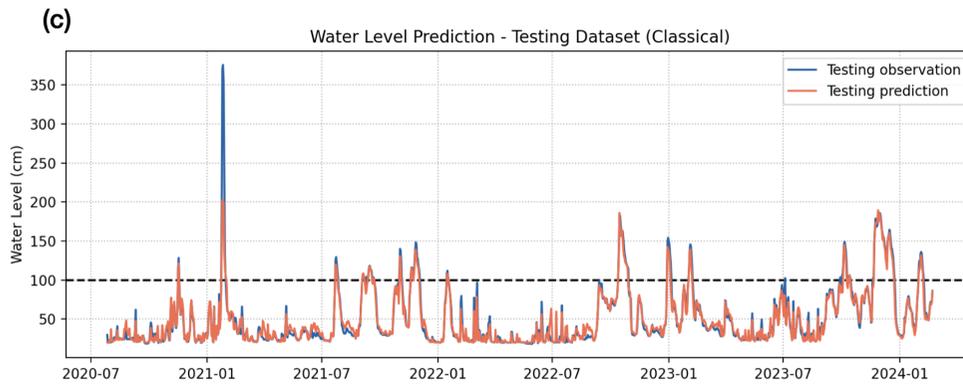
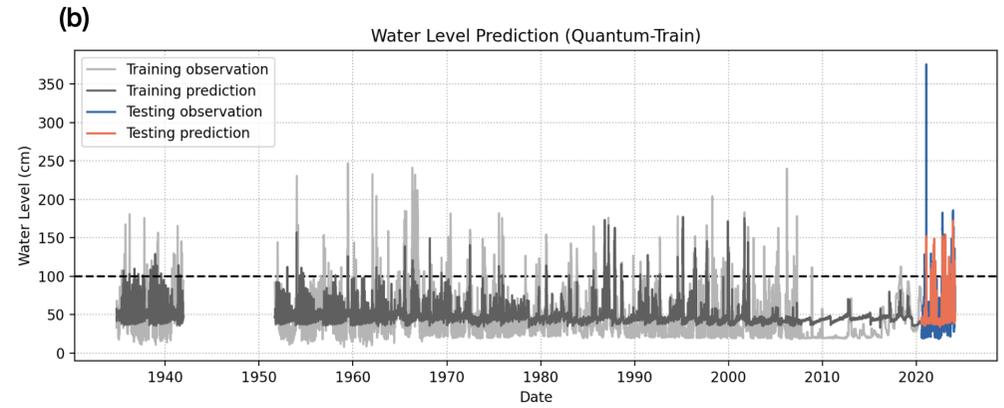
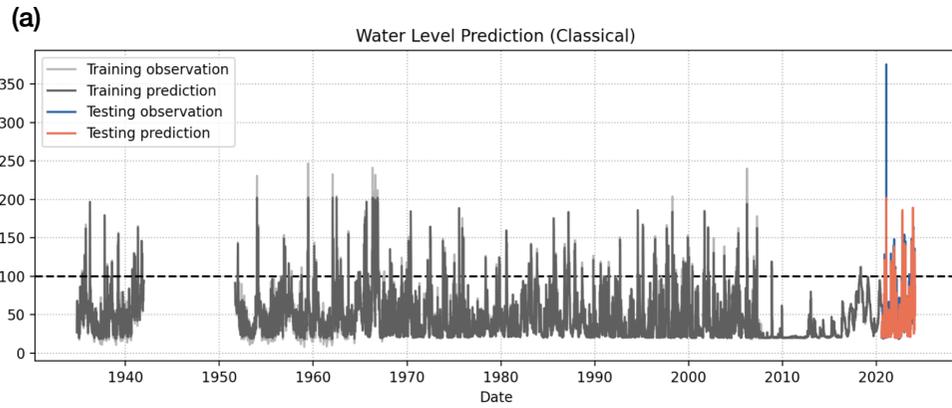
The problem

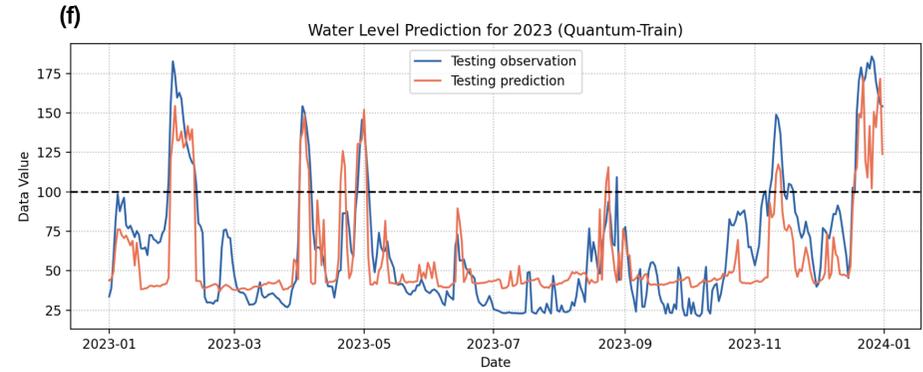
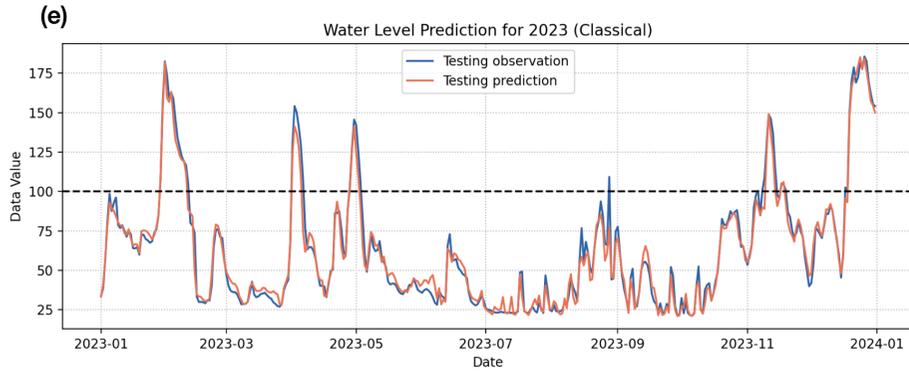
- Predict the water level on the Wupper river at a specific station
- Features:
 - Water levels and discharge rates from five river stations
 - Volume and fill levels of four water reservoirs
 - Weather data and forecast from three weather stations
 - 1 to 7 time lags points in the target station



The problem/approach

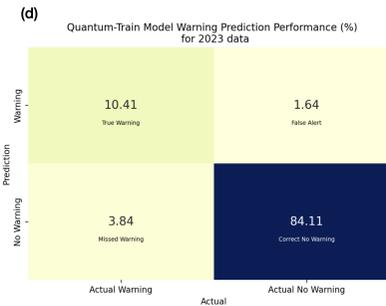
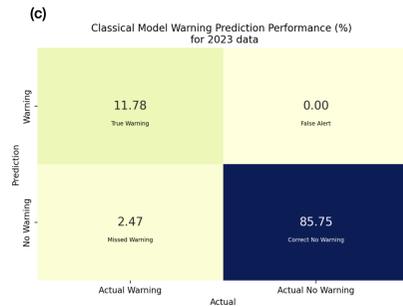
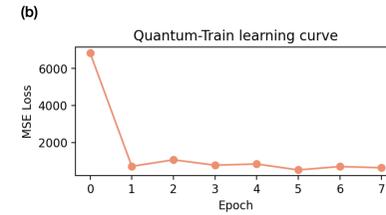
- 30 features
- Several hours to two days of input data to the LSTM
- Predict the maximum water level for the next 24 hours





(a)

| | Classical | QT (simu.) |
|--------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| MSE | 38.02 | 475.91 |
| MAE | 4.19 | 17.44 |
| # of training parameter | 40451 | 18830 |
| Training time | 1.5 min | 11 hr |



Conclusions

- QML has shown comparative results to classical ML in terms of performance
- Initial results indicate fewer parameters
- However, we still do not know how scalable the approach is

References

- Lin, Chu-Hsuan Abraham, Chen-Yu Liu, and Kuan-Cheng Chen. "Quantum-train long short-term memory: Application on flood prediction problem." In 2024 IEEE International Conference on Quantum Computing and Engineering (QCE), vol. 2, pp. 268-273. IEEE, 2024.
- Deloitte quantum climate challenge 2024
- Larocca, Martin, Supanut Thanasilp, Samson Wang, Kunal Sharma, Jacob Biamonte, Patrick J. Coles, Lukasz Cincio, Jarrod R. McClean, Zoë Holmes, and Marco Cerezo. "Barren plateaus in variational quantum computing." *Nature Reviews Physics* (2025): 1-16.
- Meyer, Nico, Christian Ufrecht, Maniraman Periyasamy, Daniel D. Scherer, Axel Plinge, and Christopher Mutschler. "A survey on quantum reinforcement learning." *arXiv preprint arXiv:2211.03464* (2022).
- Cerezo, Marco, Akira Sone, Tyler Volkoff, Lukasz Cincio, and Patrick J. Coles. "Cost function dependent barren plateaus in shallow parametrized quantum circuits." *Nature communications* 12, no. 1 (2021): 1791.
- McClean, Jarrod R., Sergio Boixo, Vadim N. Smelyanskiy, Ryan Babbush, and Hartmut Neven. "Barren plateaus in quantum neural network training landscapes." *Nature communications* 9, no. 1 (2018): 4812.
- Sim, Sukin, Peter D. Johnson, and Alán Aspuru-Guzik. "Expressibility and entangling capability of parameterized quantum circuits for hybrid quantum-classical algorithms." *Advanced Quantum Technologies* 2, no. 12 (2019): 1900070.
- Cerezo, Marco, Andrew Arrasmith, Ryan Babbush, Simon C. Benjamin, Suguru Endo, Keisuke Fujii, Jarrod R. McClean et al. "Variational quantum algorithms." *Nature Reviews Physics* 3, no. 9 (2021): 625-644.



Thank You

