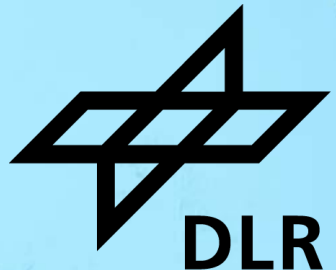


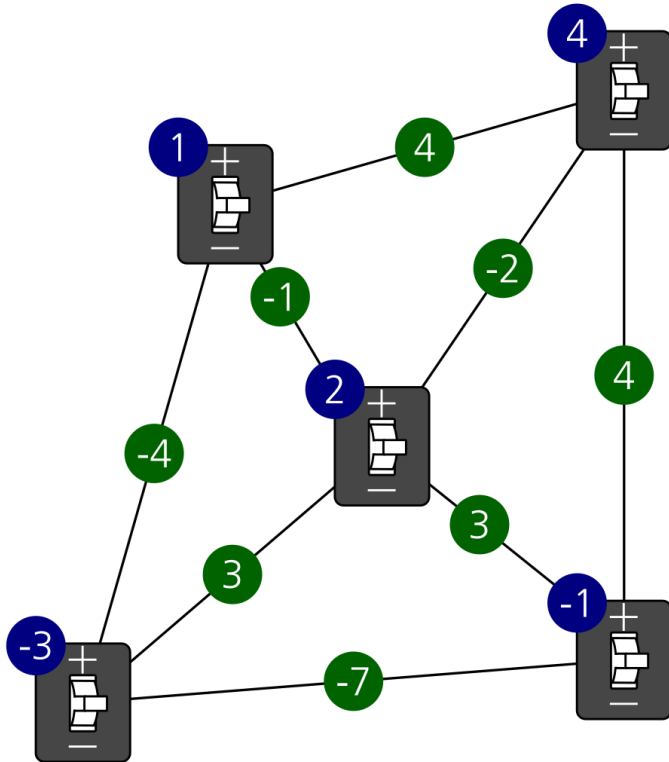
PRACTICAL EVALUATION OF THE OPTIMAL EMBEDDED ISING PROBLEM

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German Aerospace Center (DLR) – Institute of Software Technology (SC)



Ising Problem



Definition

An **Ising model** over graph G with **weights** $W \in \mathbb{R}^{V(G)}$ and **strengths** $S \in \mathbb{R}_{\neq 0}^{E(G)}$ is a function $I_{W,S} : \{-1, 1\}^{V(G)} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with

$$I_{W,S}(s) := \sum_{v \in V(G)} W_v s_v + \sum_{vw \in E(G)} S_{vw} s_v s_w.$$

We call G the **interaction graph** of the Ising model.

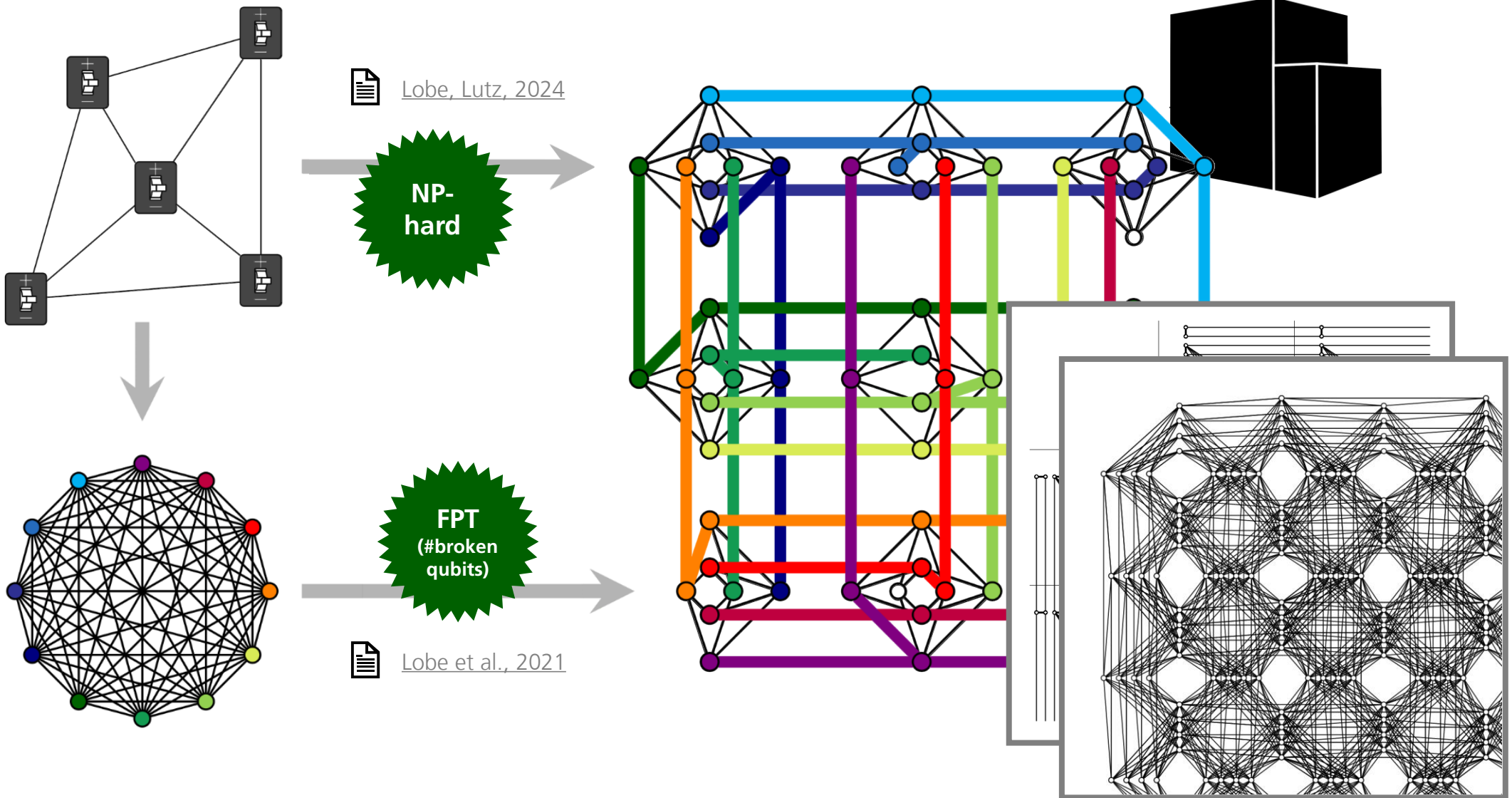
ISING PROBLEM

Given a graph G , $W \in \mathbb{R}^{V(G)}$ and $S \in \mathbb{R}^{E(G)}$, find s that solves

$$\min_{s \in \{-1, 1\}^{V(G)}} I_{W,S}(s).$$

NP-hard

Embedding Problem for Restricted Hardware Graphs



Embedded Ising Problem

 Lobe, Kaibel, 2023

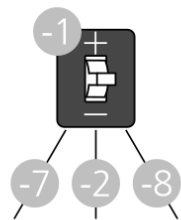


$$\begin{aligned}\bar{I}_{\bar{W}, \bar{S}}(s) &:= \sum_{q \in V(H_\varphi)} \bar{W}_q s_q + \sum_{pq \in E_\varphi \cup E_\delta} \bar{S}_{pq} s_p s_q \\ &= \sum_{v \in V(G)} \left(\sum_{q \in \varphi_v} \bar{W}_q s_q + \sum_{pq \in E(H[\varphi_v])} \bar{S}_{pq} s_p s_q \right) + \sum_{vw \in E(G)} \left(\sum_{pq \in \delta_{vw}} \bar{S}_{pq} s_p s_q \right)\end{aligned}$$

$\swarrow \nearrow W_v t_v$
 $\swarrow \nearrow S_{vw} t_v t_w$

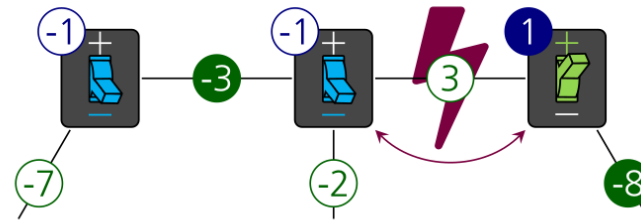
- with **proven equivalence** to original problem
- such that (at least optimal) solutions correspond to each other
- based on **synchronization** of the embedded variables

original vertex



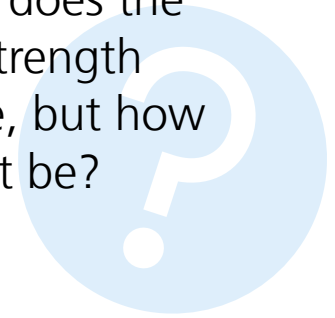
← ?

embedded vertices



$$= -1 - 0 - 17 = -18$$

How large does the coupling strength need to be, but how small can it be?

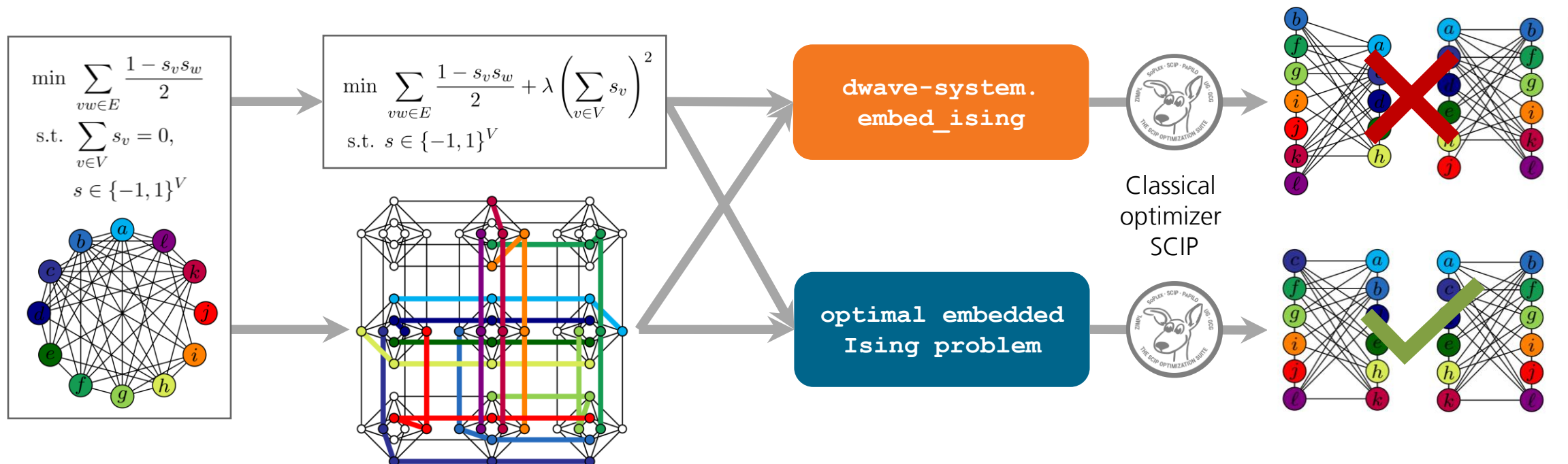


Get Embedded Ising via “Uniform Torque Compensation”

- Current implementation in D-Wave dwave-ocean-sdk with method `embed_ising`
 - calls `dwave-system.dwave.embedding.chain_strength.uniform_torque_compensation`
- Found **counterexample**
 - where the method does **not** provide an equivalent embedded Ising problem
 - based on the Graph Partitioning Problem with 12 nodes
 - embedded by D-Wave using `minorminer.find_embedding`

<https://github.com/dwavesystems> 

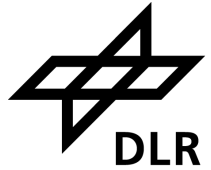
 Pelofske et al., 2022



Get the Optimal Embedded Ising Problem



Lobe, Kaibel, 2023



Requires to solve for each individual original vertex:

GAPPED WEIGHT DISTRIBUTION PROBLEM

Given graph $G = (V, E)$, $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^V$, $W \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ with $W < \sigma(V)$ and $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$:

$\min \vartheta$

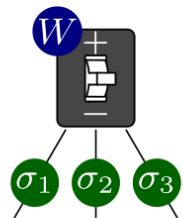
s.t. $\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}$, $\omega \in \mathbb{R}^V$

$$\vartheta \geq \frac{\min \{ \sigma(S) + \omega(S), \sigma(V \setminus S) - \omega(V \setminus S) \} + \gamma}{|\delta(S)|} \quad \forall \emptyset \neq S \subsetneq V,$$

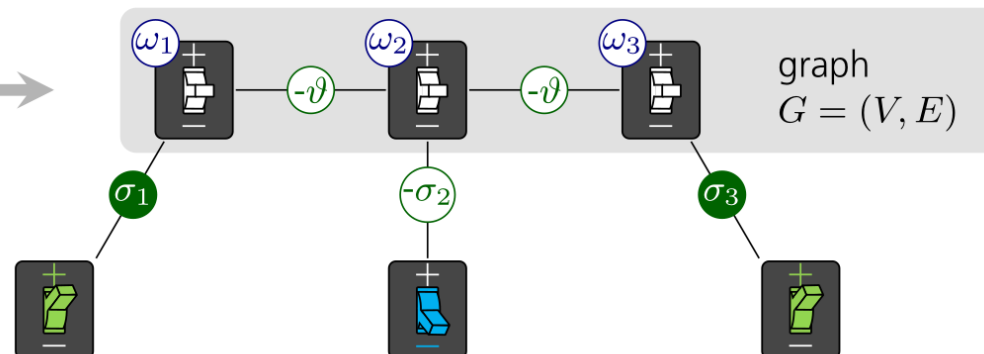
$$\omega(V) = W$$

polynomial
for trees

original vertex

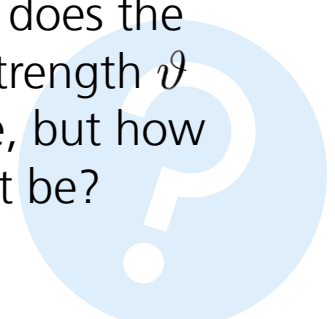


embedded vertices



- cut constraints are redundant for S or $V \setminus S$ not being connected
- **efficiently solvable** in practical embedding setup

How large does the coupling strength ϑ need to be, but how small can it be?



Get the Optimal Embedded Ising Problem



Lobe, Kaibel, 2023



Lobe, PhD Thesis, 2022



Requires to solve for each individual original vertex:

GAPPED INTEGER WEIGHT DISTRIBUTION PROBLEM

Given graph $G = (V, E)$, $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^V$, $W \in \mathbb{N}$ with $W < \sigma(V)$ and $\gamma \in \mathbb{N}_+$:

min ϑ

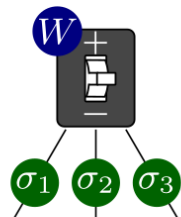
s.t. $\vartheta \in \mathbb{Z}$, $\omega \in \mathbb{Z}^V$,

$$\vartheta \geq \frac{\min \{ \sigma(S) + \omega(S), \sigma(V \setminus S) - \omega(V \setminus S) \} + \gamma}{|\delta(S)|} \quad \forall \emptyset \neq S \subsetneq V,$$

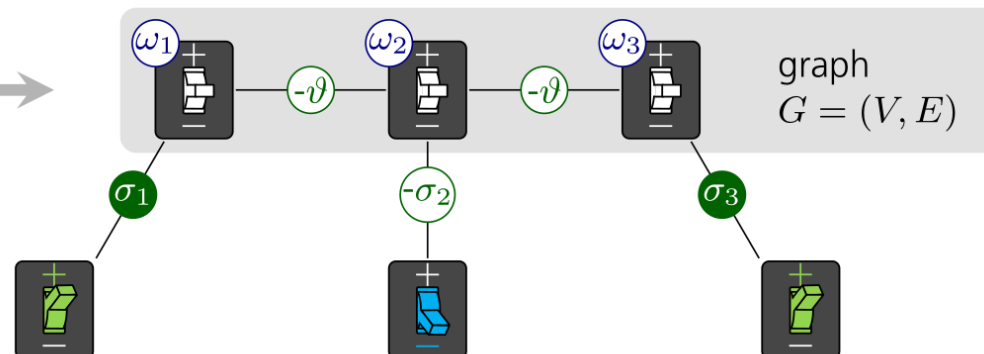
$$\omega(V) = W$$

polynomial
for trees

original vertex



embedded vertices



graph
 $G = (V, E)$

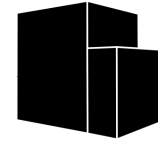
- cut constraints are redundant for S or $V \setminus S$ not being connected
- efficiently solvable** in practical embedding setup
- even in integer case

optimal embedded
Ising problem

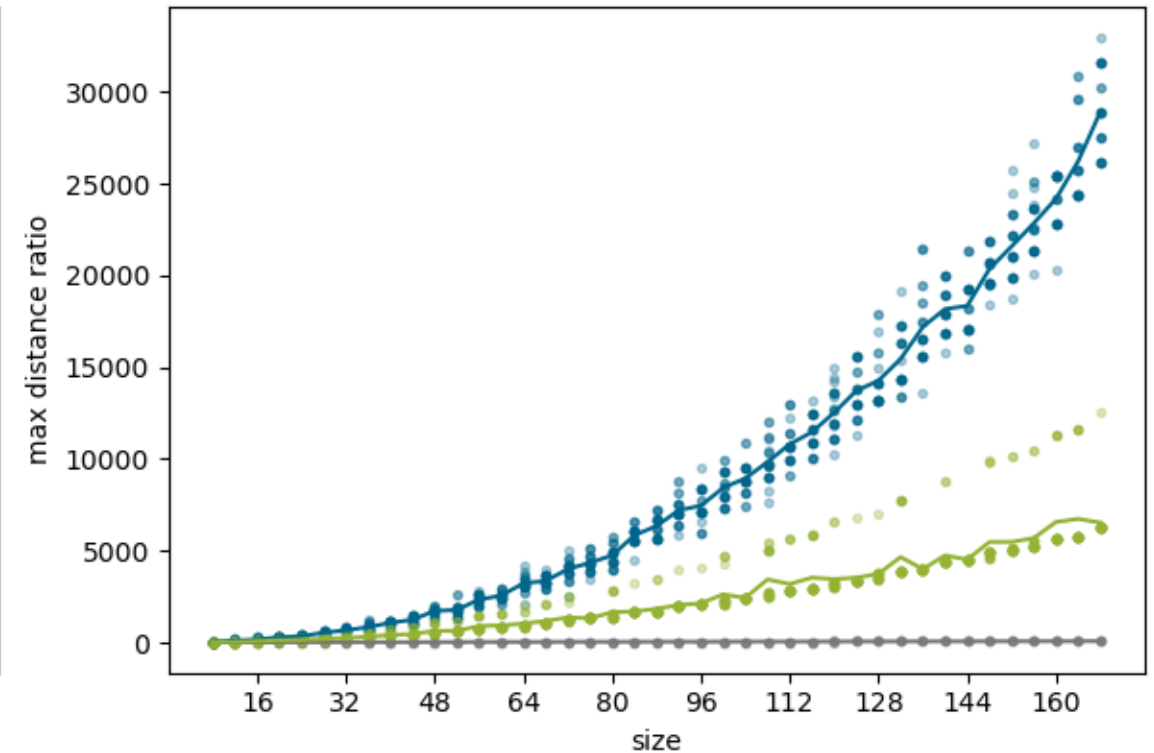
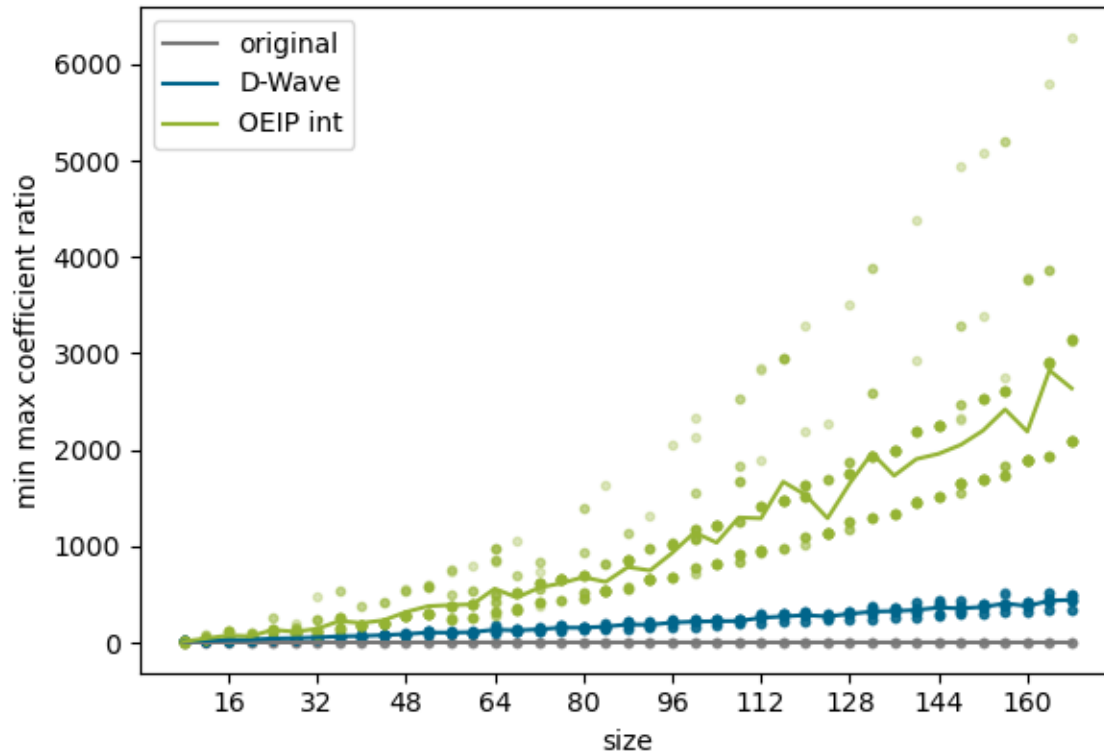


DLR-SC Quantum Computing Software
gitlab.com/quantum-computing-software

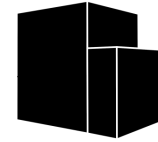
Preliminary Results of Experiments



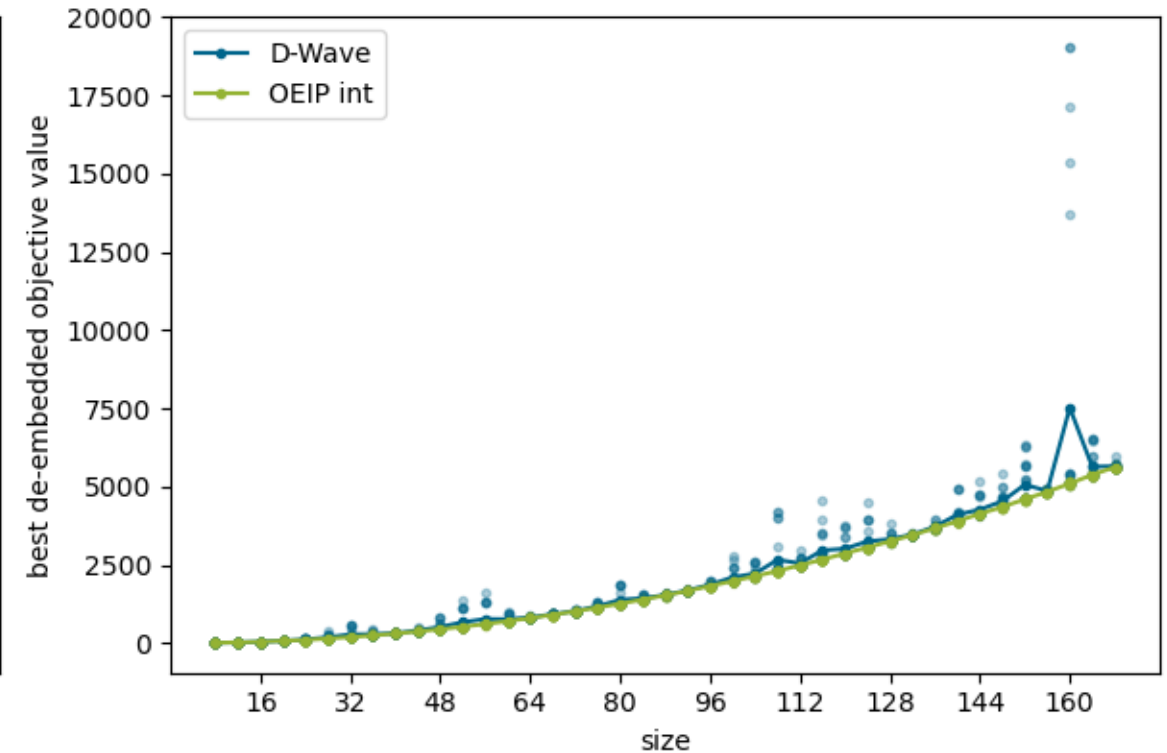
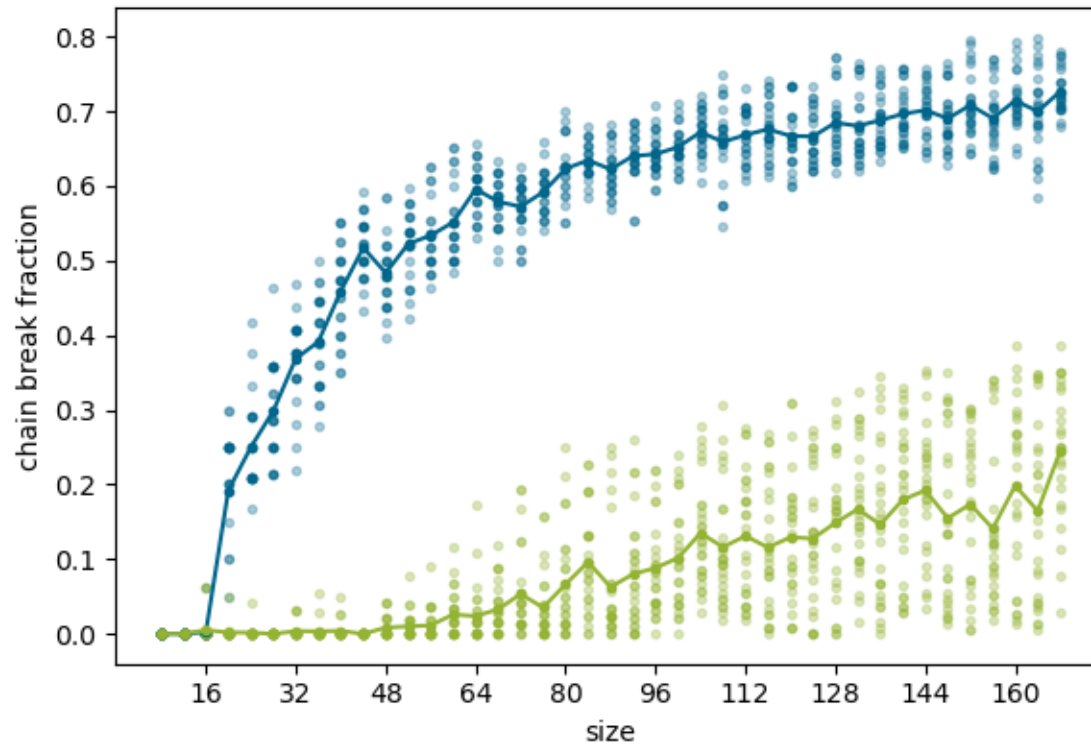
- Graph Partitioning instances
 - with fixed density of 0.8 for increasing size
 - averaged over 5 random instances and 5 precalculated embeddings for each size



Preliminary Results of Experiments

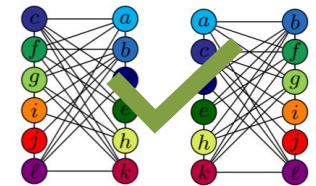
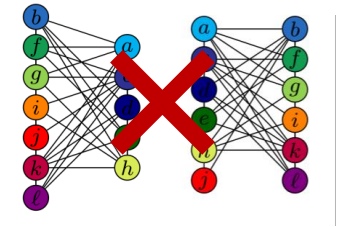


- Graph Partitioning instances
 - with fixed density of 0.8 for increasing size
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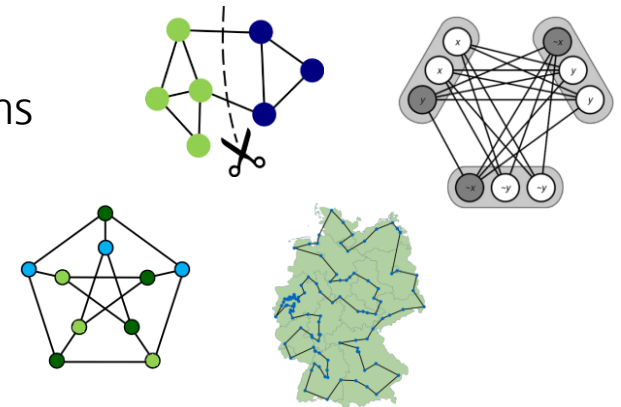
Conclusion & Outlook

- The Uniform Torque Compensation method does in general not provide provable equivalent embedded Ising problems
 - Spreads doubt in particular for larger problems, where the optimal solutions cannot be checked against anymore
 - How is the annealer supposed to solve the problem, if it was ill-defined?
- The optimal embedded Ising problem formulation does
 - Improves the chain break fraction significantly and the success probability to some extent
 - Independent of hardware graph, only embedding structure required



→ Next Steps

- Actually **study the performance of the annealer** on well-defined problems
- Try more problems with different properties
- Investigate different de-embedding methods
- Explore the average rather than the worst case estimation



Imprint



Topic: Practical Evaluation of the Optimal Embedded Ising Problem

Event: APS Global Physics Summit

Date: 2025-03-18

Author: Dr. Elisabeth Lobe

Institute: German Aerospace Center (DLR) – Institute of Software Technology (SC)

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