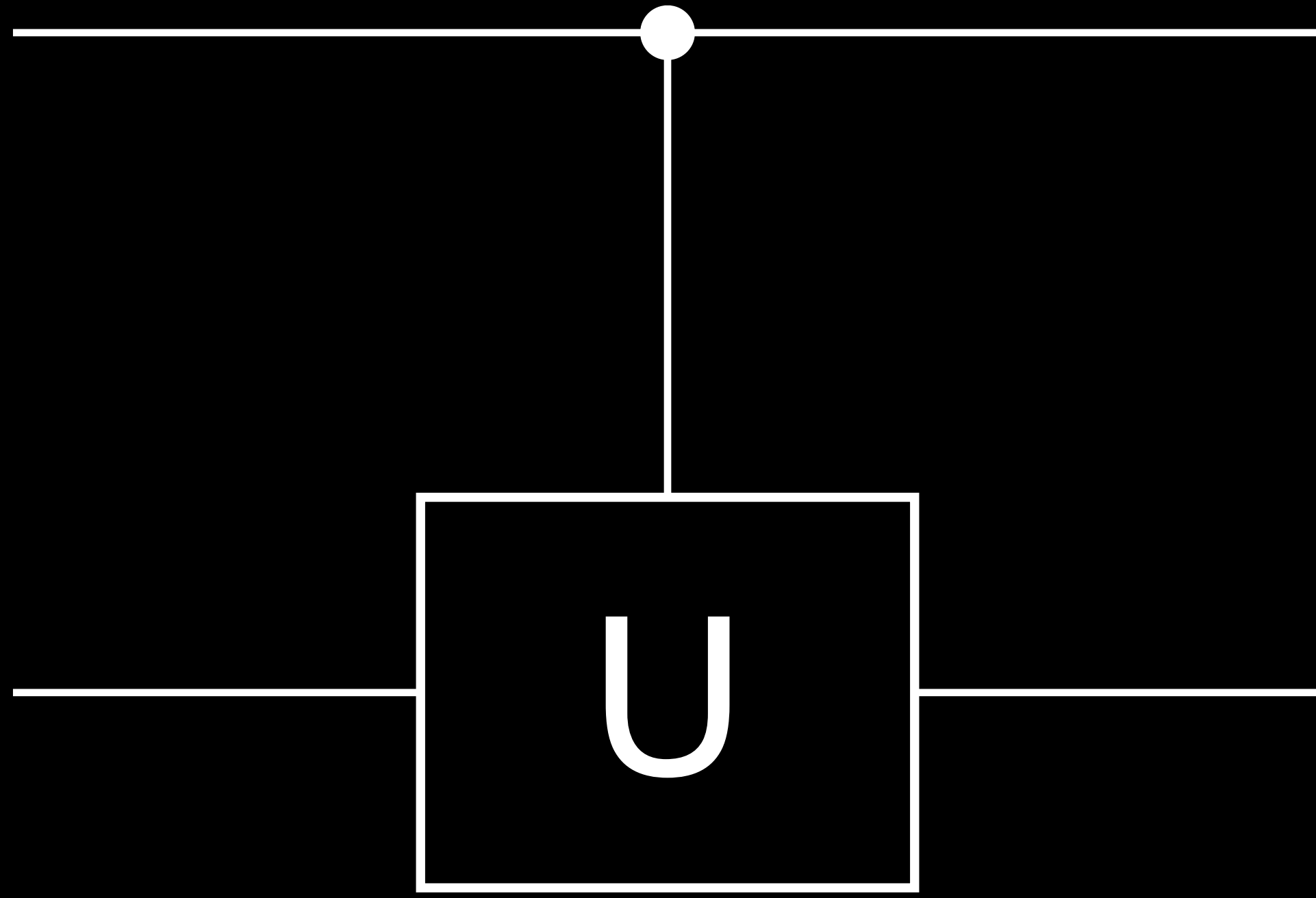


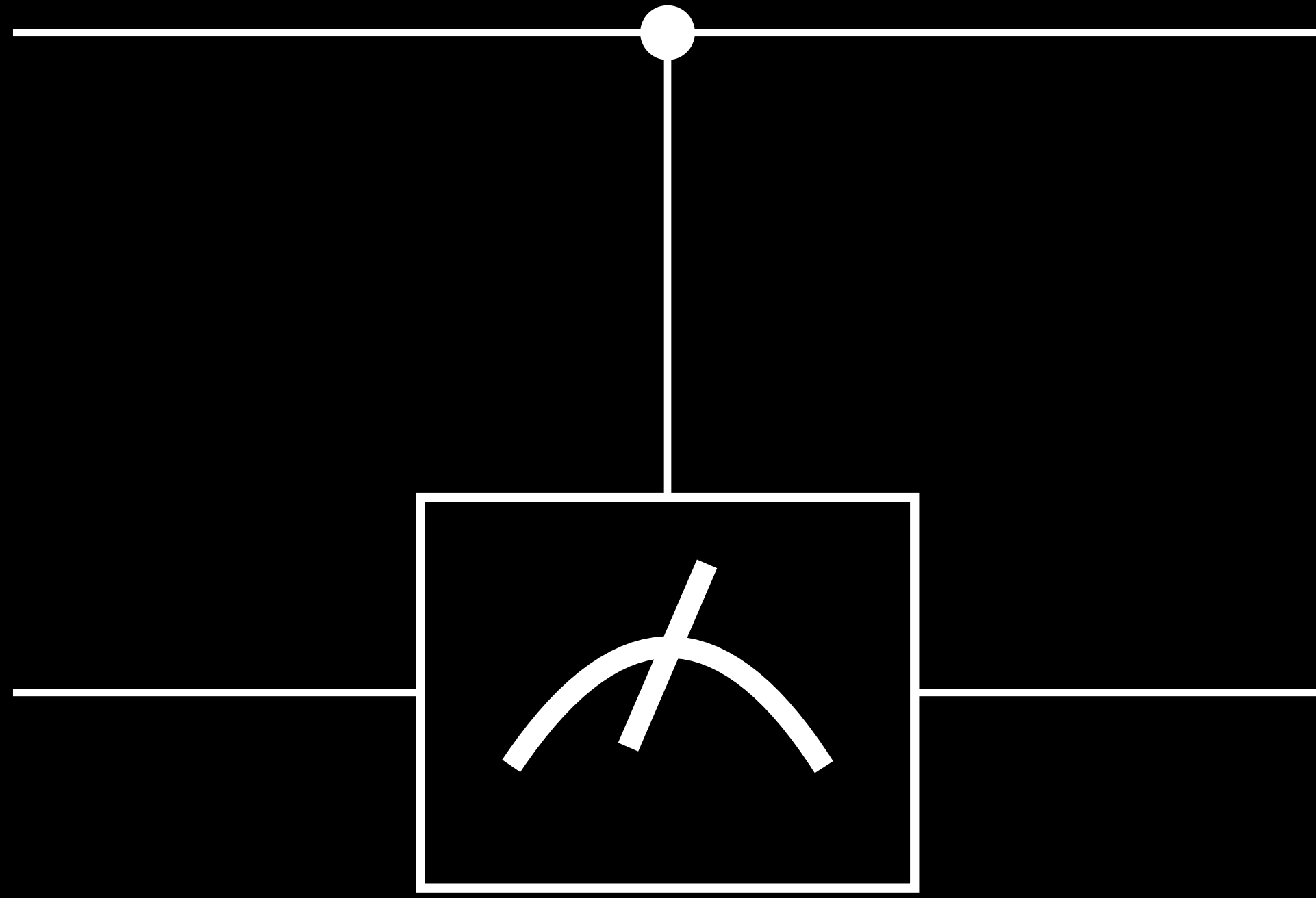
# Programming with Quantum- Controlled Quantum Channels

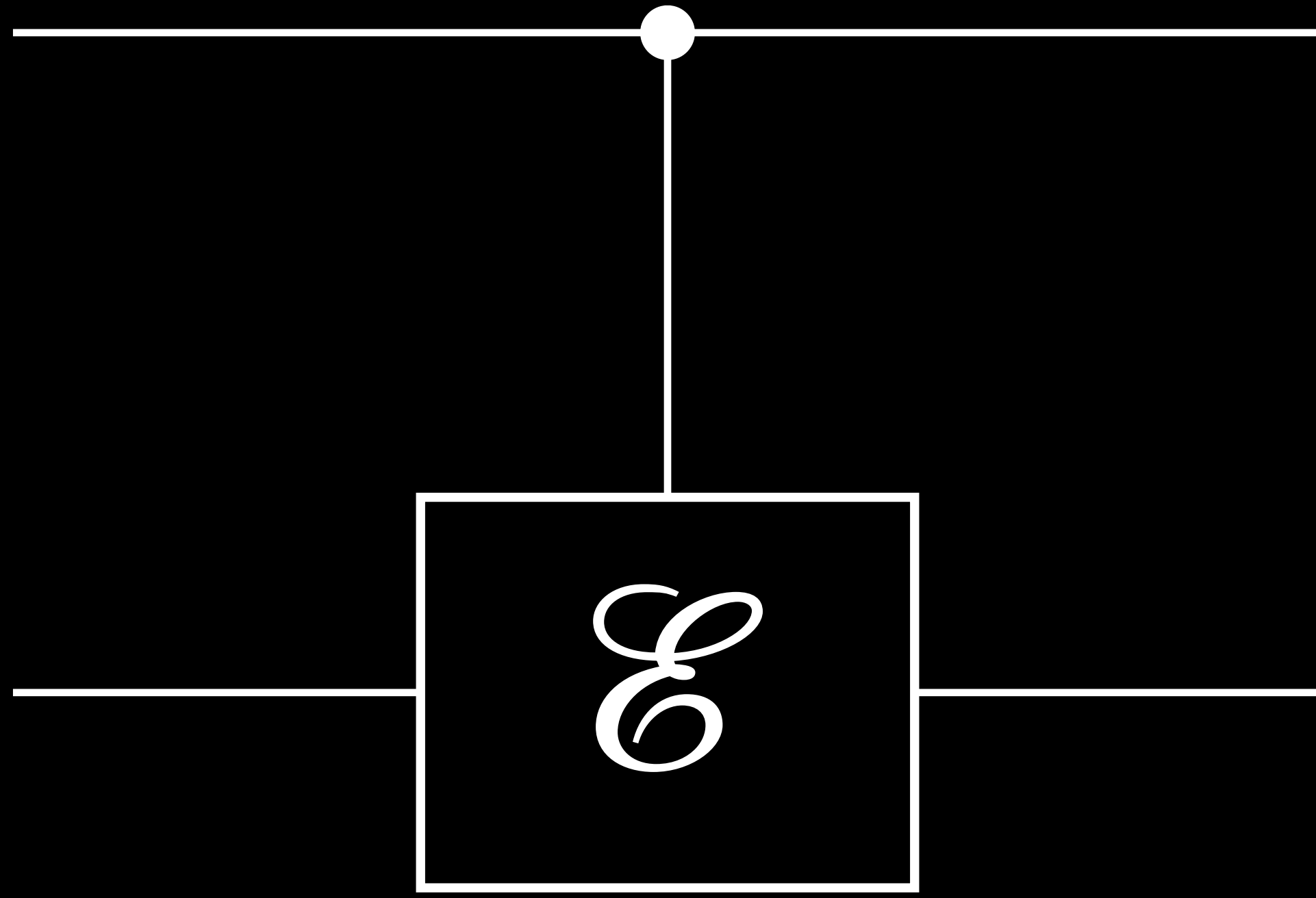
LIQCS 2026. 19 Jun 2026. Paris.

Kengo Hirata (University of Edinburgh), Takeshi Tsukada (Chiba University)



U: unitary

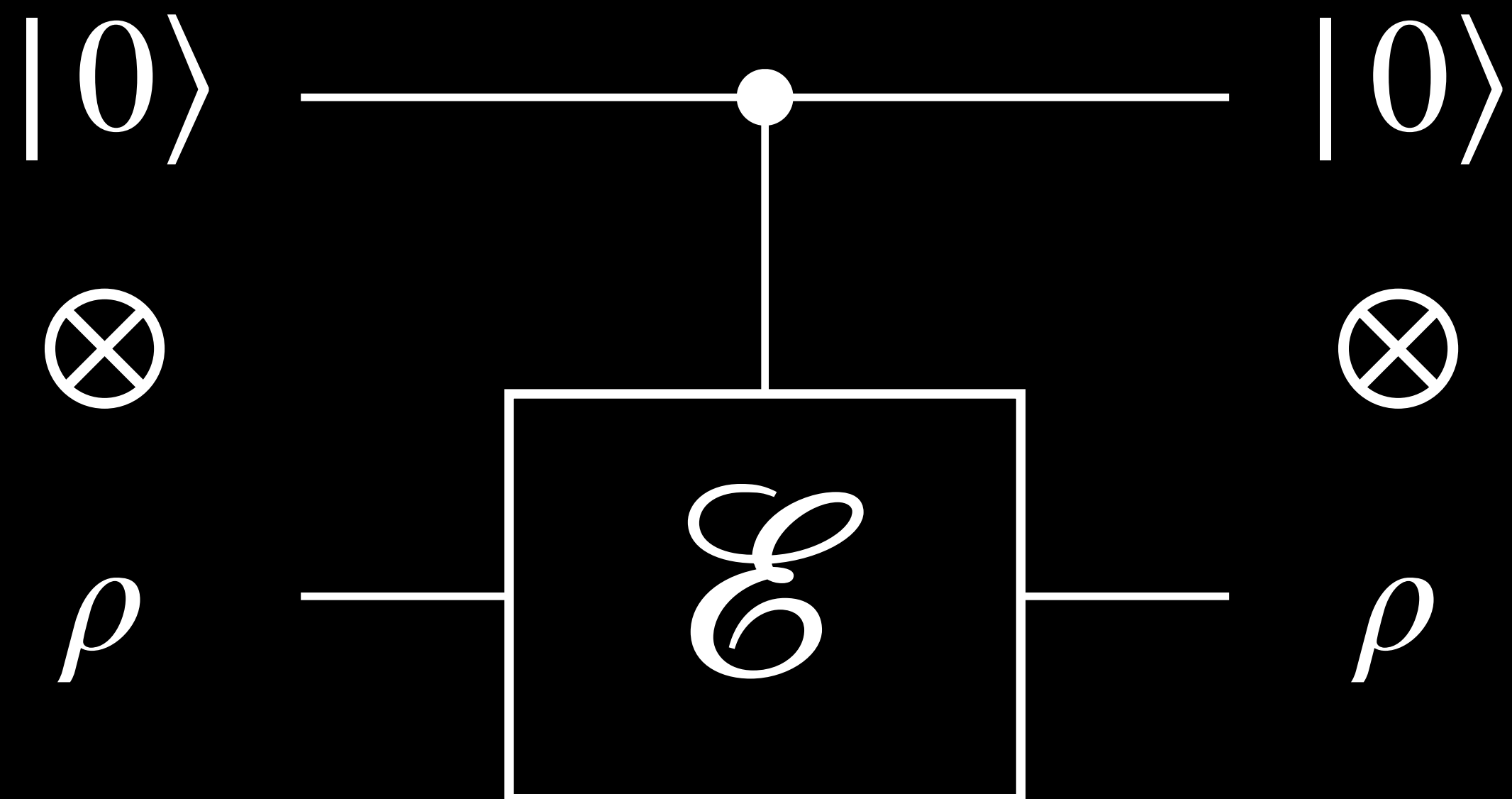




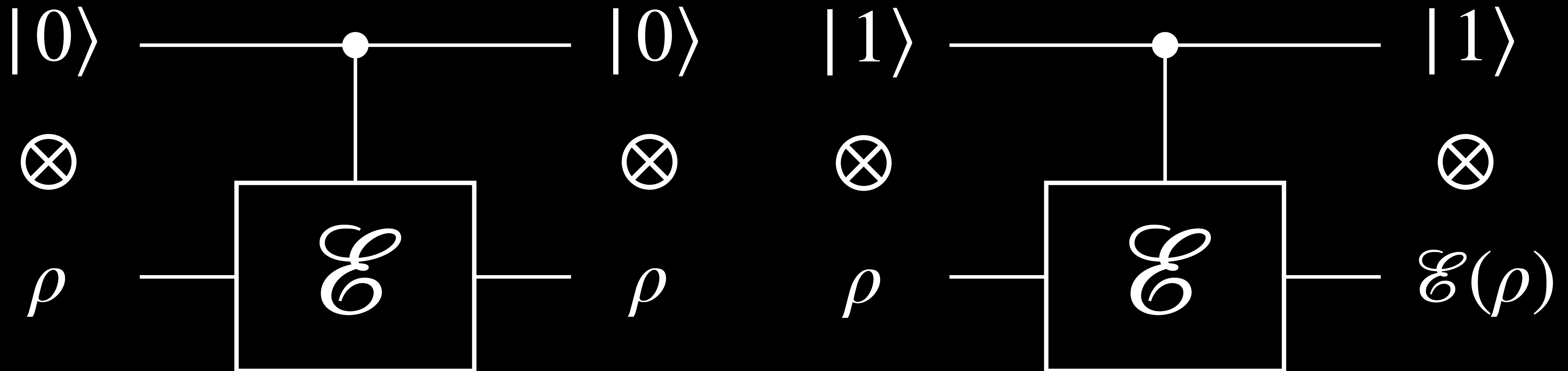
$\mathcal{E}$  : channel

# Axioms for controlled- $\mathcal{E}$

Axiom 1.

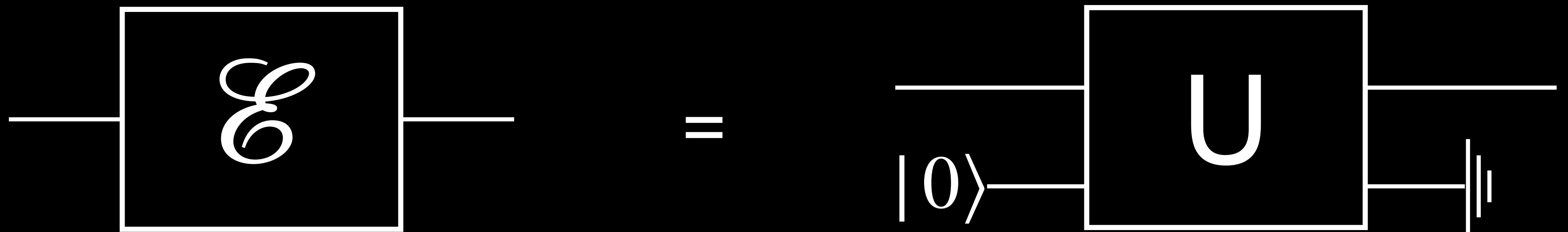


Axiom 2.



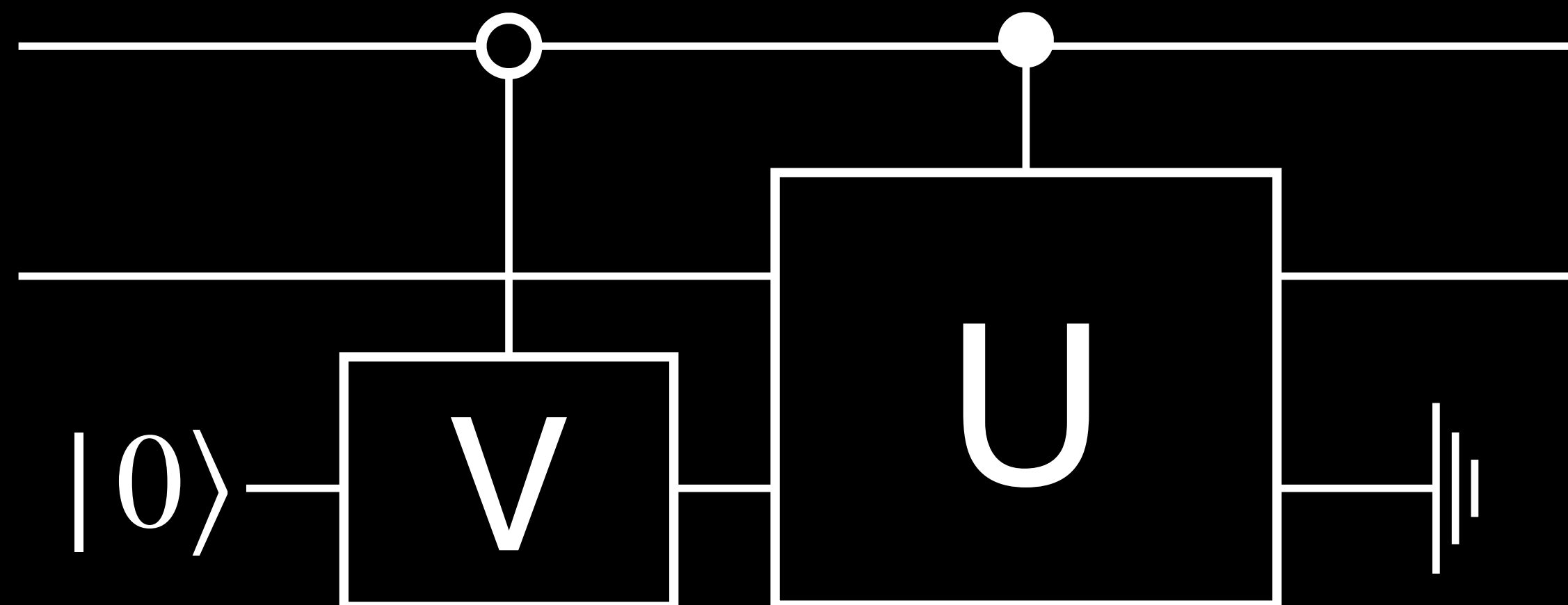
# Controlled- $\mathcal{E}$ by Purification

Take *any* Stinespring dilation

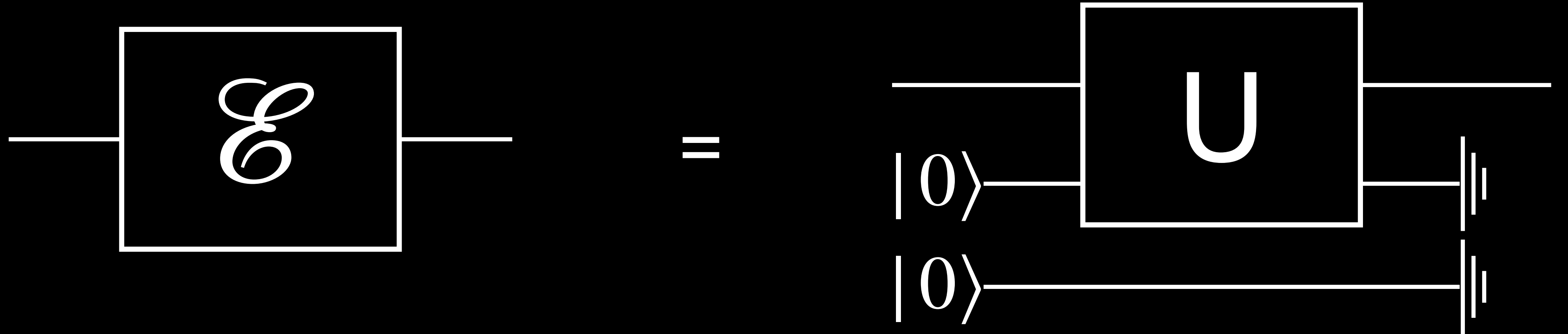


Then

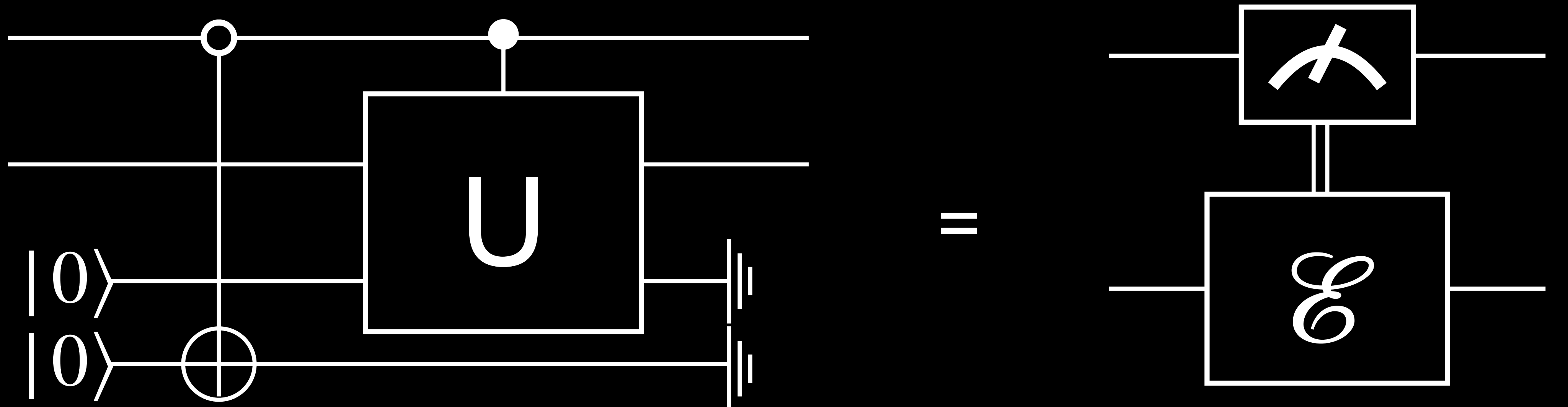
$\forall V$ : unitary,



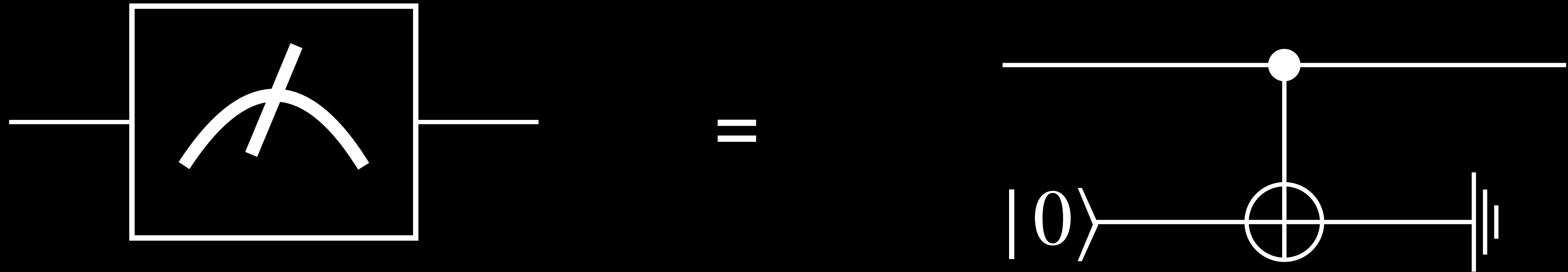
# Example of Purification 1.



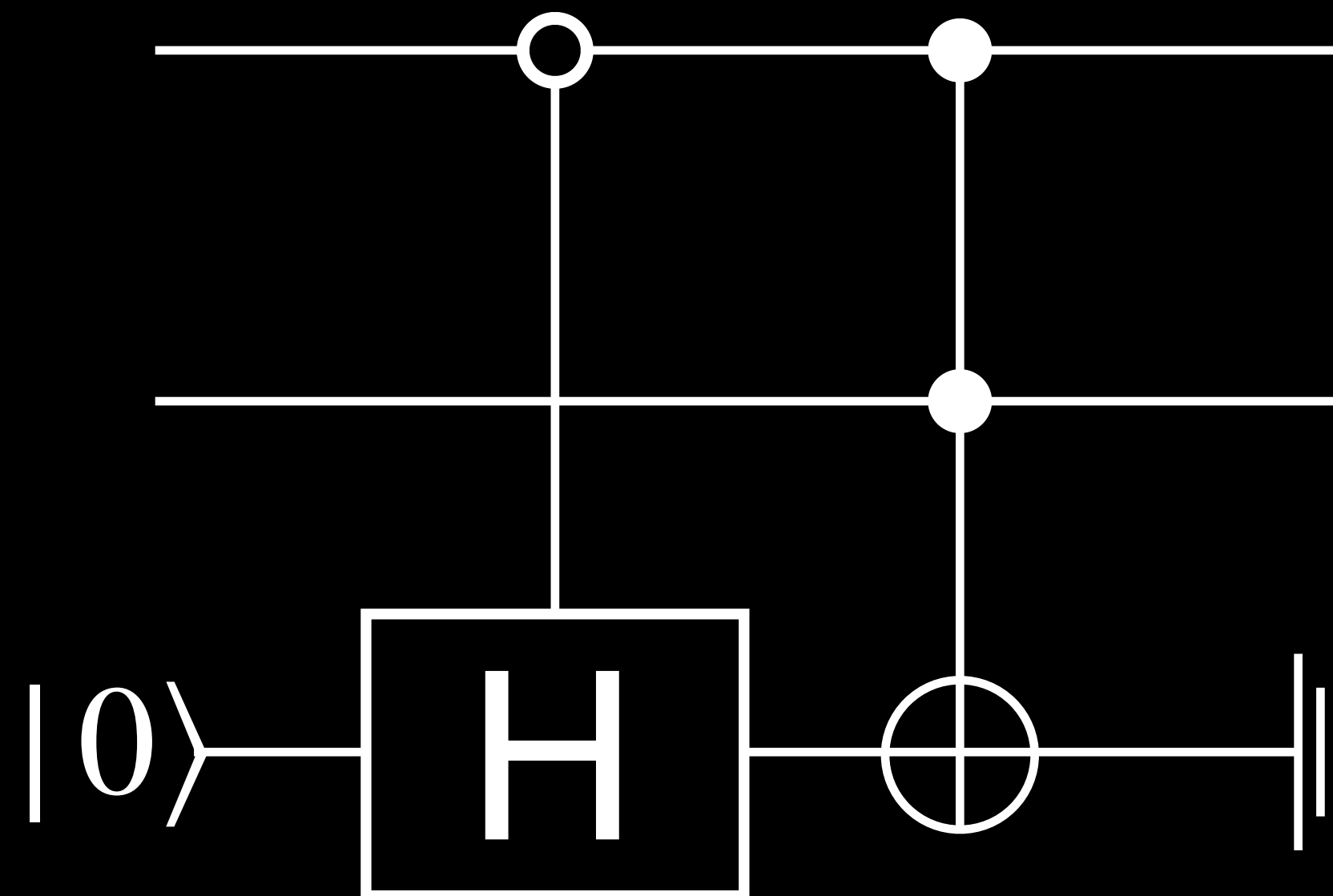
Then



# Example of Purification 2.



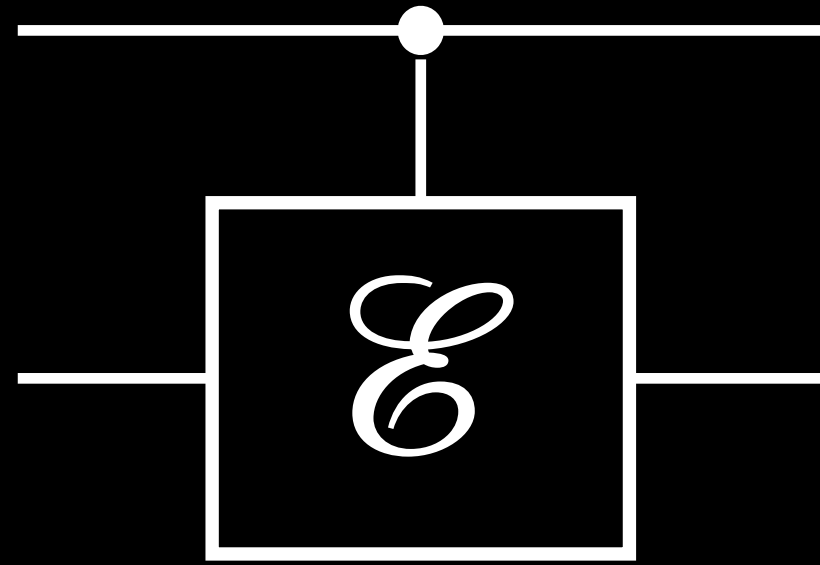
Then



Cannot tell the state of the control qubit

# No Go Theorem

For each  $\mathcal{E}$ ,



is determined only up to some unitary.

$\approx$  There is no unique canonical choice

**Ill-definedness Issue**

# Second Story: Quantum SWITCH

For each  $\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{F} : (\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes n} \longrightarrow (\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes n}$ ,

take their Kraus decompositions

$$\{K_i\}_{i \in I} \quad \{L_j\}_{j \in J} .$$

**SWITCH**( $\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{F}$ ) :=

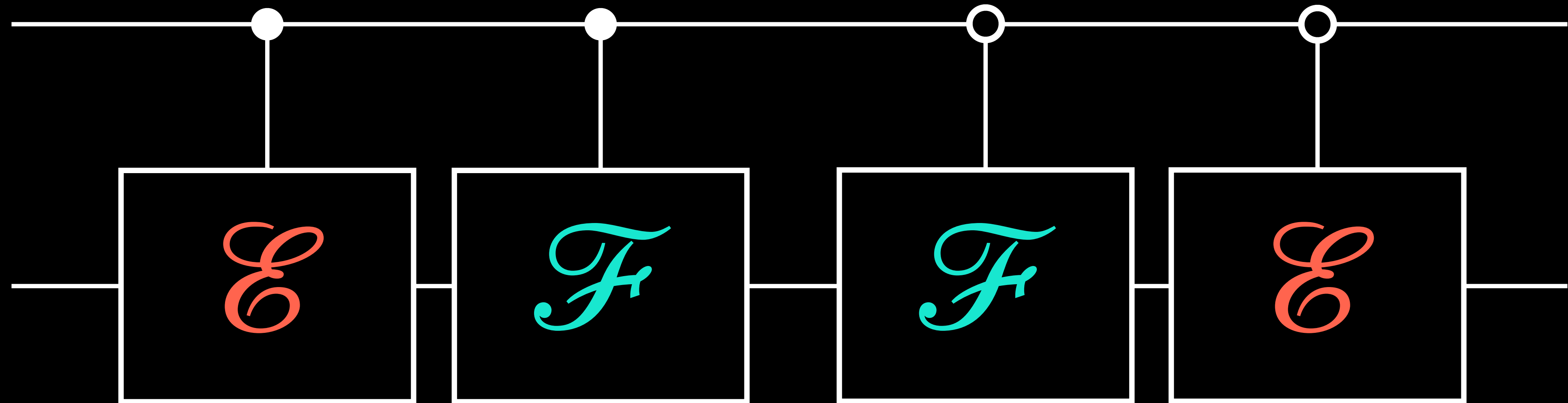
$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} &|0\rangle\langle 0| \otimes K_i \circ L_j \\ &+ |1\rangle\langle 1| \otimes L_j \circ K_i \end{aligned} \right\}_{i, j \in I \times J}$$

# Roughly speaking,

( $c$ : control qubit)

**SWITCH**( $\mathcal{E}$ ,  $\mathcal{F}$ )  $\simeq$

if  $c$  then  $\mathcal{F} \circ \mathcal{E}$  else  $\mathcal{E} \circ \mathcal{F}$



**Well-defined**

# Second Story: Quantum SWITCH

For each  $\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{F} : (\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes n} \longrightarrow (\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes n}$ ,

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**SWITCH**( $\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{F}$ ) :=

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} &|0\rangle\langle 0| \otimes K_i \circ L_j \\ &+ |1\rangle\langle 1| \otimes L_j \circ K_i \end{aligned} \right\}_{i, j \in I \times J}$$

# Question: What's the difference?

- General Controlled- $\mathcal{E}$

if  $c$  then  $\mathcal{E}$

Ill-definedness issue

- Depend on decomposition

- Quantum SWITCH

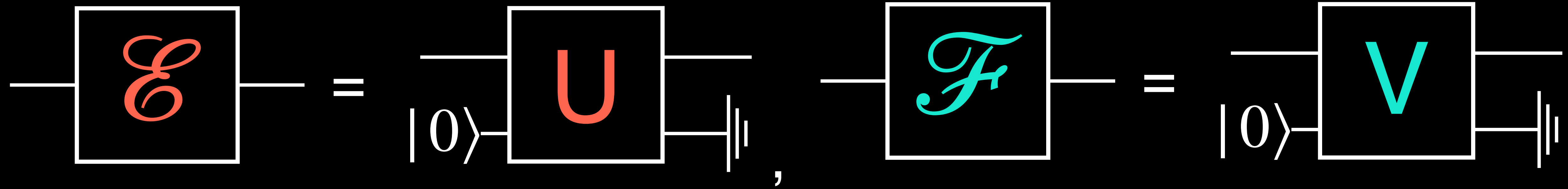
if  $c$  then  $\mathcal{F} \circ \mathcal{E}$   
else  $\mathcal{E} \circ \mathcal{F}$

Well-defined map

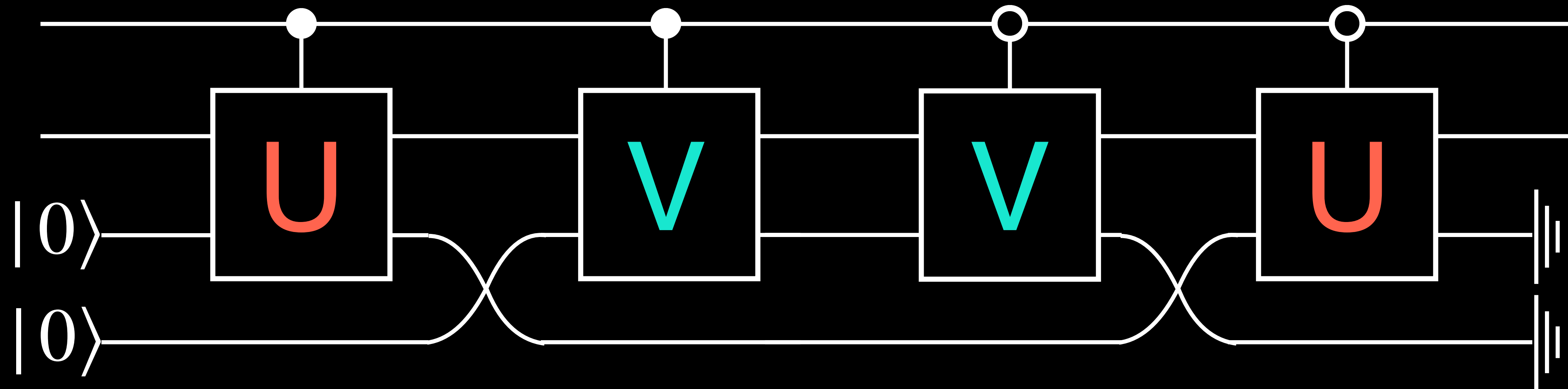
- Independent of choices of Kraus-decomp.

**Q. What is the difference?**

# Analysing SWITCH



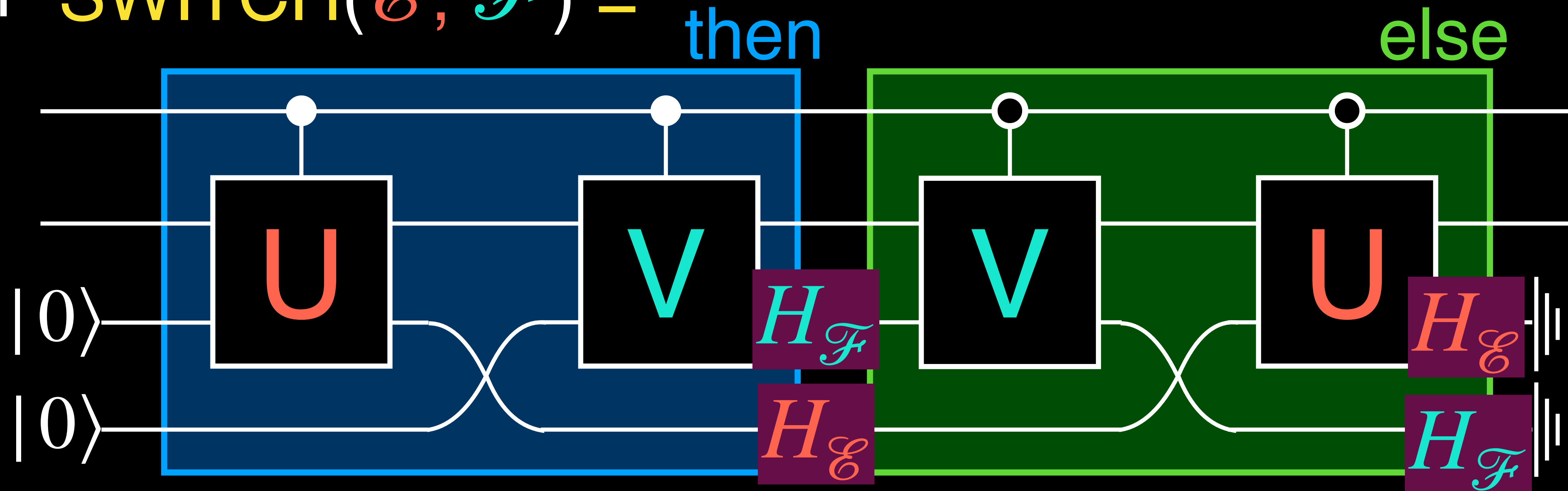
Then  $\text{SWITCH}(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{F}) =$



# Analysing SWITCH



Then **SWITCH**( $\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{F}$ ) = then



# Observation: correspondence problem

- General Controlled- $\mathcal{E}$

if  $c$  then  $\mathcal{E}$   
else id

No correspondence  
between then/else

- Quantum SWITCH

if  $c$  then  $\mathcal{F} \circ \mathcal{E}$   
else  $\mathcal{E} \circ \mathcal{F}$

Then/else clause share  
a **common auxiliary space**

# Goal: Programming Language with quantum control & Type System

*Every program should have a canonical semantics*

i.e.,  General control

 SWITCH

# Idea: Linear Types for qif

Correspondence of **auxiliary spaces**  
between then/else  $H_{\mathcal{E}}$   $H_{\mathcal{F}}$

# Idea: Linear Types for qif

Correspondence of auxiliary spaces

Correspondence of **channel usage**

qif  $c$  then  $\mathcal{F} \circ \mathcal{E}$   
else  $\mathcal{E} \circ \mathcal{F}$

# Idea: Linear Types for qif

Correspondence of auxiliary spaces

Correspondence of channel usage

**Idea: Linear usage of channels**

*= linear types*

qif  $c$  then  $\mathcal{F} \circ \mathcal{E}$   
else  $\mathcal{E} \circ \mathcal{F}$

Rough Idea:

$\Gamma$  = channels used in branches

$\Gamma \vdash M_1 : A$      $\Gamma \vdash M_2 : A$

---

$\Gamma, x: \text{qbit} \vdash \text{qif } x \text{ then } M_1 \text{ else } M_2 : \text{qbit} \otimes A$

# Idea: Linear Types for qif

Correspondence of auxiliary spaces

Correspondence of channel usage

**Idea: Linear usage of channels**

*= linear types*

qif  $c$  then  $\mathcal{F} \circ \mathcal{E}$   
else  $\mathcal{E} \circ \mathcal{F}$

Rough Idea:

$\{ f, g \} =$  channels used in branches

$f, g \vdash M_1 : A$        $f, g \vdash M_2 : A$

---

$f, g, x: \text{qbit} \vdash \text{qif } x \text{ then } M_1 \text{ else } M_2 : \text{qbit} \otimes A$

# Language with 2 derivations

**Types** ::= qbit | bool |  $A \otimes B$  |  $A \multimap B$

**Terms** ::= ( linear lambda calculus )

| U |  $|0\rangle$  | meas

| qif M then  $N_1$  else  $N_2$  | ...

**Type derivations**

$\Gamma \vdash_{\text{Hilb}} M : A$

$\Gamma \vdash_{\text{CPM}} M : A$

# Sublanguages Hilb & CPM

$\Gamma \vdash_{\text{Hilb}} M : A$       **pure**

- No Boolean, no measurement
- Unitary + linear lambda + qif

$\Gamma \vdash_{\text{CPM}} M : A$       **All CPM**

- Every types (classical  $\Rightarrow$  copyable)
- meas,  $|0\rangle, \dots$
- No qif

# Typing Rule 1: qif

## Typing rule

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\text{Hilb}} N_1 : A \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\text{Hilb}} N_2 : A \quad (A: \text{first order})}{\Gamma \vdash_{\text{Hilb}} \text{qif } M \text{ then } N_1 \text{ else } N_2 : \text{qbit} \otimes A}$$

E.g.

$y: \text{qbit}, f, g : \text{qbit} \multimap \text{qbit} \vdash_{\text{Hilb}} (g \circ f) y : \text{qbit}$

$y: \text{qbit}, f, g : \text{qbit} \multimap \text{qbit} \vdash_{\text{Hilb}} (f \circ g) y : \text{qbit}$

---

$x, y: \text{qbit}, f, g : \text{qbit} \multimap \text{qbit}$

$\vdash_{\text{Hilb}} \text{qif } x \text{ then } (g \circ f) y \text{ else } (f \circ g) y : \text{qbit} \otimes \text{qbit}$

# Typing Rule 2: Embedding

Typing rule

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\text{Hilb}} M : A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\text{CPM}} M : A}$$

E.g.

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} x, y: \text{qbit}, f, g : \text{qbit} \multimap \text{qbit} \\ \vdash_{\text{Hilb}} \text{SWITCH}(f, g, x, y) : \text{qbit} \otimes \text{qbit} \end{array}}{\begin{array}{l} x, y: \text{qbit}, f, g : \text{qbit} \multimap \text{qbit} \\ \vdash_{\text{CPM}} \text{SWITCH}(f, g, x, y) : \text{qbit} \otimes \text{qbit} \end{array}}$$

$x, y: \text{qbit}, f, g : \text{qbit} \multimap \text{qbit}$

$\vdash_{\text{CPM}} \text{SWITCH}(f, g, x, y) : \text{qbit} \otimes \text{qbit}$

---

$x, y: \text{qbit} \vdash_{\text{CPM}} \text{let } f = \mathcal{F} \text{ in}$

$\text{let } g = \mathcal{G} \text{ in}$

$\text{qif } x \text{ then } (g \circ f) y \text{ else } (f \circ g) y$

$: \text{qbit} \otimes \text{qbit}$

Note:  $f$  and  $g$  cannot be substituted

~~$\text{qif } x \text{ then } (\mathcal{F} \circ \mathcal{E}) y$   
 $\text{else } (\mathcal{E} \circ \mathcal{F}) y$~~

# Categorical Semantics: Hilb and CPM

Compact closed categories

**(F)Hilb**: (finite-dimensional) Hilbert spaces  
+ linear maps

**CPM**: (biproduct completion of) Hilbert spaces  
+ completely positive maps

Strong monoidal functor

$$\iota: \text{Hilb} \longrightarrow \text{CPM}; \quad f \longmapsto f(-)f^\dagger$$

# Categorical Semantics

$\Gamma \vdash_{\text{Hilb}} M : A$

$\llbracket M \rrbracket \in \text{Hilb}(\llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket, \llbracket A \rrbracket)$

- No Boolean
- Unitary + linear lambda + qif



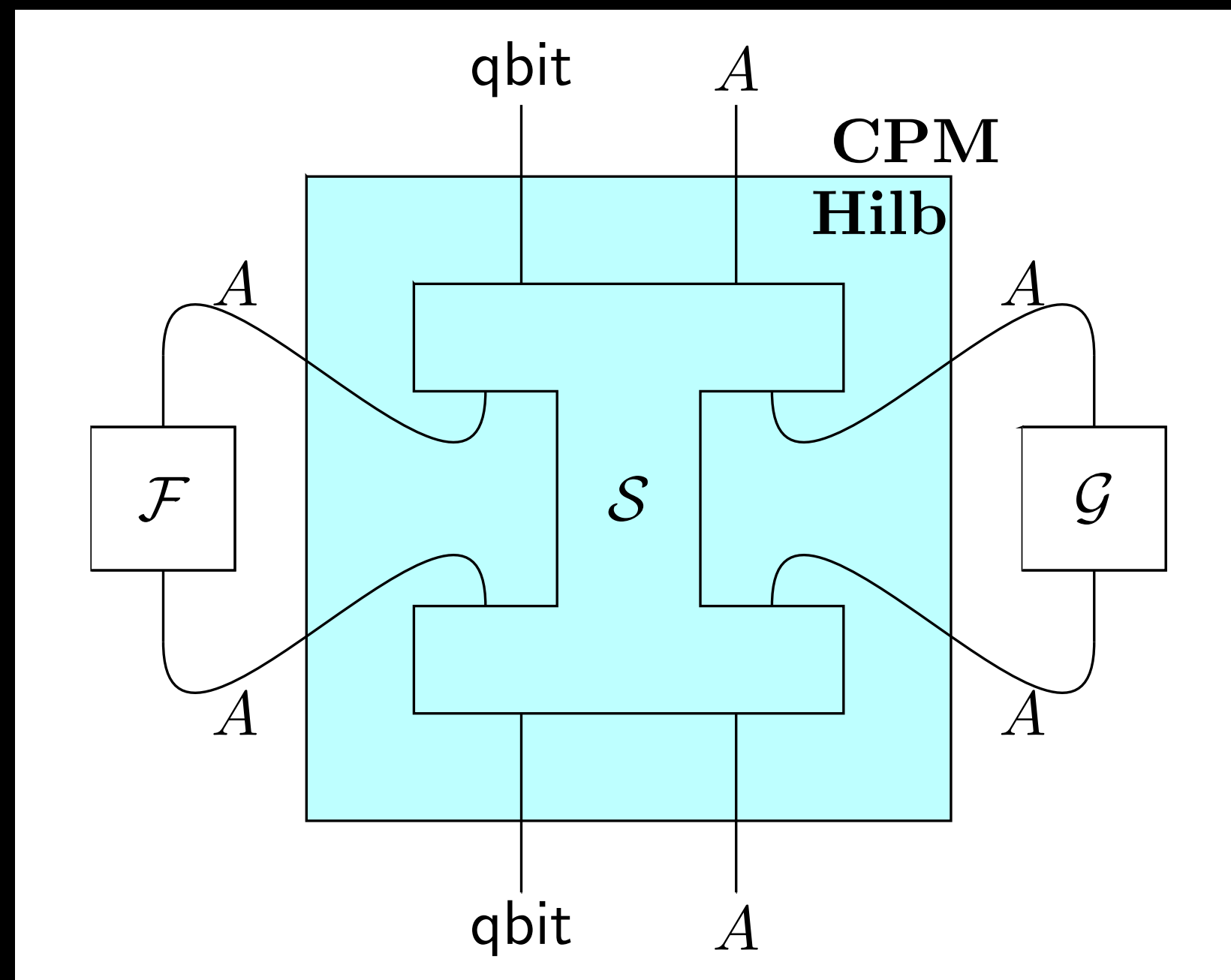
$\Gamma \vdash_{\text{CPM}} M : A$

$\llbracket M \rrbracket \in \text{CPM}(\llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket, \llbracket A \rrbracket)$

- Every types (classical  $\Rightarrow$  copyable)
- meas,  $|0\rangle, \dots$
- No qif

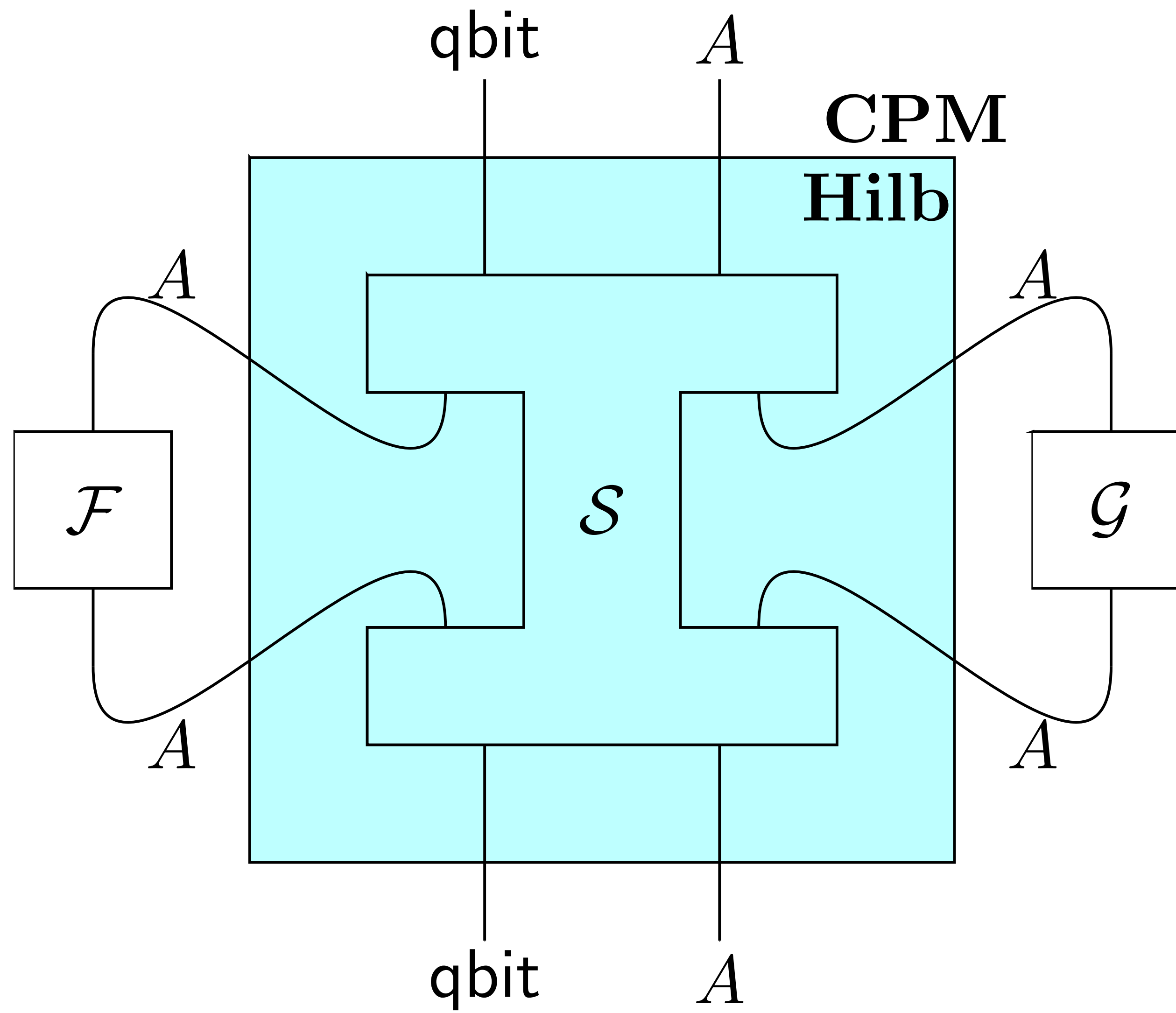
# Operational Semantics

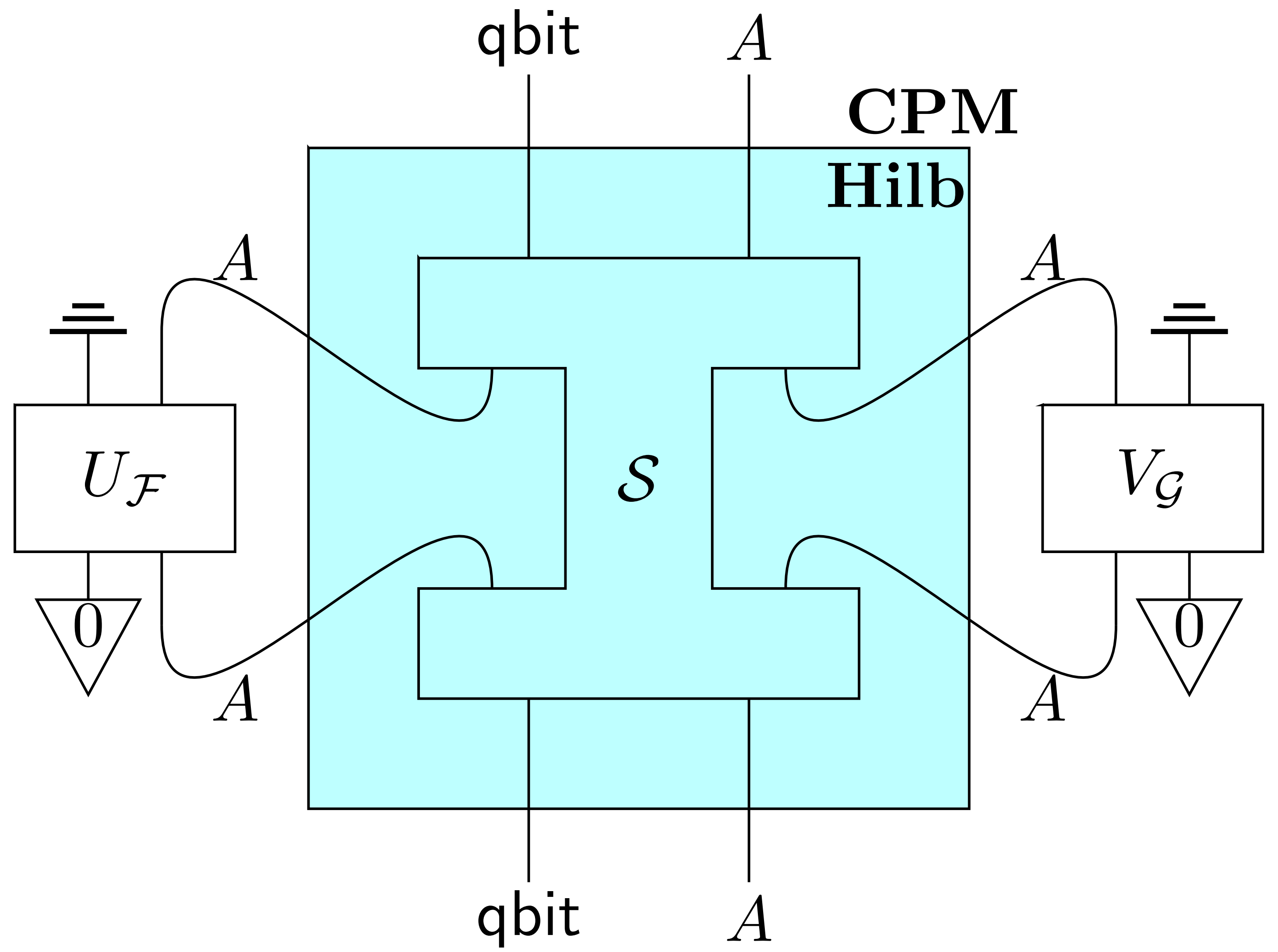
$x, y: \text{qbit} \vdash_{\text{CPM}} \text{let } f = \mathcal{F} \text{ in}$   
 $\text{let } g = \mathcal{G} \text{ in}$   
 $\text{qif } x \text{ then } (g \circ f) y \text{ else } (f \circ g) y$   
 $: \text{qbit} \otimes \text{qbit}$

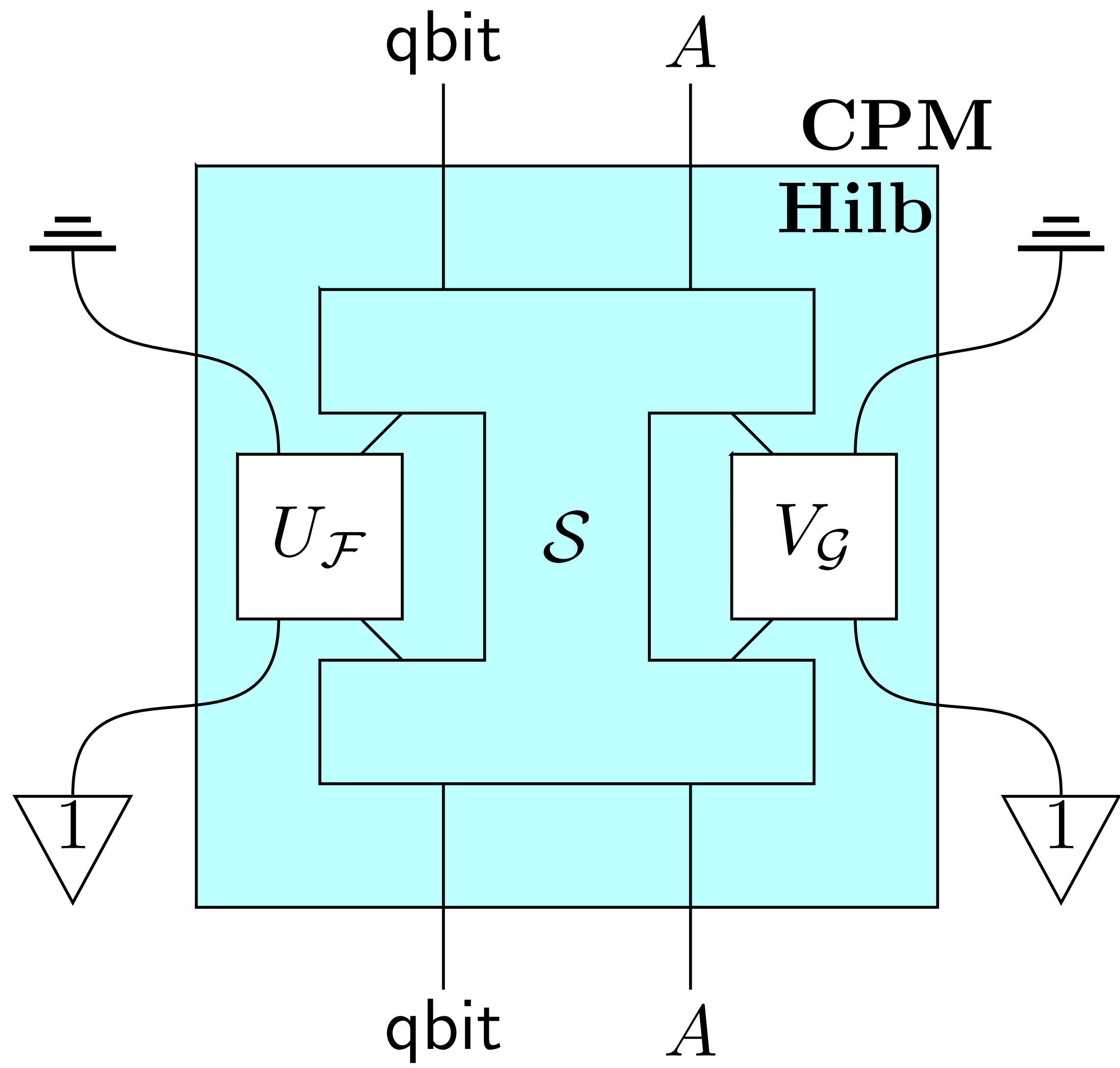


Note:  $f$  and  $g$  cannot be substituted

~~$\text{qif } x \text{ then } (\mathcal{F} \circ \mathcal{G}) y$~~   
 ~~$\text{else } (\mathcal{G} \circ \mathcal{F}) y$~~







# Summary

- General controlled- $\mathcal{E}$  **vs.** quantum SWITCH  
    ill-defined                      well-defined
- **Observation:** Correspondence Problem
- **Proposal:** Linearity and 2-layer language
  - Canonical categorical semantics (= no choice)
  - Operational semantics by dilation