This is a peer review of the poster and oral presentation “Hardware-Efficient Decomposition of Qudit Gates” by Sean Dougherty. The poster was very well put and informative. Sean explained the background of his research, the approach he took as well as how he got to the final result. The focus of the poster was very clear. All information was relevant to the project and was important to understanding the result. The research was well done, multiple reliable sources were shown on the poster with a clear use of references in the introduction.

The poster was very easy to follow. Each section was separated into boxes and titled correspondingly. The introduction was clear to see as well as the results. Nonetheless, the information he was presenting was a bit complex and might have required a bigger introduction or background so that everyone could understand.

Sean used effective use of visual aids to make the poster easier to understand. As said before, Sean separated each section making the information easy to follow. He used visual representations to explain complex topics in quantum computing. The text was readable thanks to the large font. When Sean presented the poster to me, he seemed very enthusiastic and knowledgeable about his project. He was always concerned about making sure everyone understood the poster and the explanation.

Sean seemed to have rehearsed his presentation beforehand. He was always sure of the things he was explaining and never got stuck. He managed the presentation smoothly and had great pacing. He didn’t have notes and only used the poster to explain visual representations, meaning he knew deeply about the topic.

Sean was very sensitive to his audience, he maintained eye contact throughout all the presentation. He repeatedly asked if the audience understood or had any questions during his presentation. This made it feel a safe space for interaction and was helpful. Whenever I asked a question Sean was happy to explain it to me.