

Quantum Systems: Dynamics and Control¹

Mazyar Mirrahimi², Pierre Rouchon³, Alain Sarlette⁴

January 28th, 2020

¹See the web page:

<http://cas.ensmp.fr/~rouchon/MasterUPMC/index.html>

²INRIA Paris, QUANTIC research team

³Mines ParisTech, QUANTIC research team

⁴INRIA Paris, QUANTIC research team

1 Spin-1/2 systems

2 Spin/spring systems

Recall: the three basic features of quantum models⁵

- 1 **Schrödinger**: wave funct. $|\psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ or density op. $\rho \sim |\psi\rangle\langle\psi|$

$$\frac{d}{dt}|\psi\rangle = -\frac{i}{\hbar}\mathbf{H}|\psi\rangle, \quad \frac{d}{dt}\rho = -\frac{i}{\hbar}[\mathbf{H}, \rho], \quad \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{H}_0 + u\mathbf{H}_1$$

- 2 **Entanglement and tensor product** for composite systems (S, M) :

- Hilbert space $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_S \otimes \mathcal{H}_M$
- Hamiltonian $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{H}_S \otimes \mathbf{I}_M + \mathbf{H}_{int} + \mathbf{I}_S \otimes \mathbf{H}_M$
- observable on sub-system M only: $\mathbf{O} = \mathbf{I}_S \otimes \mathbf{O}_M$.

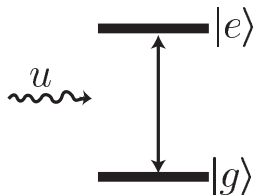
- 3 **Randomness and irreversibility** induced by the **measurement** of observable \mathbf{O} with spectral decomp. $\sum_{\mu} \lambda_{\mu} \mathbf{P}_{\mu}$:

- measurement outcome μ with proba.
 $\mathbb{P}_{\mu} = \langle\psi|\mathbf{P}_{\mu}|\psi\rangle = \text{Tr}(\rho\mathbf{P}_{\mu})$ depending on $|\psi\rangle$, ρ just before the measurement
- measurement back-action if outcome $\mu = y$:

$$|\psi\rangle \mapsto |\psi\rangle_+ = \frac{\mathbf{P}_y|\psi\rangle}{\sqrt{\langle\psi|\mathbf{P}_y|\psi\rangle}}, \quad \rho \mapsto \rho_+ = \frac{\mathbf{P}_y\rho\mathbf{P}_y}{\text{Tr}(\rho\mathbf{P}_y)}$$

⁵S. Haroche, J.M. Raimond: Exploring the Quantum: Atoms, Cavities and Photons. Oxford University Press, 2006.

2-level system (spin-1/2)



The simplest quantum system: a ground state $|g\rangle$ of energy ω_g ; an excited state $|e\rangle$ of energy ω_e . The quantum state $|\psi\rangle \in \mathbb{C}^2$ is a linear superposition $|\psi\rangle = \psi_g|g\rangle + \psi_e|e\rangle$ and obeys to the Schrödinger equation (ψ_g and ψ_e depend on t).

Schrödinger equation for the uncontrolled 2-level system ($\hbar = 1$):

$$i \frac{d}{dt} |\psi\rangle = \mathbf{H}_0 |\psi\rangle = (\omega_e |e\rangle\langle e| + \omega_g |g\rangle\langle g|) |\psi\rangle$$

where \mathbf{H}_0 is the Hamiltonian, a Hermitian operator $\mathbf{H}_0^\dagger = \mathbf{H}_0$.

Energy is defined up to a constant: \mathbf{H}_0 and $\mathbf{H}_0 + \varpi(t)\mathbf{I}$, $\varpi(t) \in \mathbb{R}$ arbitrary, correspond to the same physical system. If $|\psi\rangle$ satisfies

$i \frac{d}{dt} |\psi\rangle = \mathbf{H}_0 |\psi\rangle$ then $|\chi\rangle = e^{-i\vartheta(t)} |\psi\rangle$ with $\frac{d}{dt} \vartheta = \varpi$ obeys to

$i \frac{d}{dt} |\chi\rangle = (\mathbf{H}_0 + \varpi \mathbf{I}) |\chi\rangle$. Thus for any ϑ , $|\psi\rangle$ and $e^{-i\vartheta} |\psi\rangle$ represent the same physical system: The **global phase** of a quantum system $|\psi\rangle$

can be chosen **arbitrarily at any time**. Indeed, it is **unobservable**, it has no impact on measurement results nor dynamics.

The controlled 2-level system

Take origin of energy such that ω_g (resp. ω_e) becomes $-\frac{\omega_e - \omega_g}{2}$ (resp. $\frac{\omega_e - \omega_g}{2}$) and set $\omega_{eg} = \omega_e - \omega_g$

The solution of $i\frac{d}{dt}|\psi\rangle = H_0|\psi\rangle = \frac{\omega_{eg}}{2}(|e\rangle\langle e| - |g\rangle\langle g|)|\psi\rangle$ is

$$|\psi\rangle_t = \psi_{g0} e^{\frac{i\omega_{eg}t}{2}} |g\rangle + \psi_{e0} e^{-\frac{i\omega_{eg}t}{2}} |e\rangle.$$

With a classical electromagnetic field described by $u(t) \in \mathbb{R}$, the system follows the controlled Hamiltonian

$$H(t) = \frac{\omega_{eg}}{2} \sigma_z + \frac{u(t)}{2} \sigma_x = \frac{\omega_{eg}}{2} (|e\rangle\langle e| - |g\rangle\langle g|) + \frac{u(t)}{2} (|e\rangle\langle g| + |g\rangle\langle e|)$$

The controlled Schrödinger equation $i\frac{d}{dt}|\psi\rangle = (H_0 + u(t)H_1)|\psi\rangle$ reads:

$$i\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_e \\ \psi_g \end{pmatrix} = \frac{\omega_{eg}}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_e \\ \psi_g \end{pmatrix} + \frac{u(t)}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_e \\ \psi_g \end{pmatrix}.$$

with the 3 Pauli Matrices⁶

$$\sigma_x = |e\rangle\langle g| + |g\rangle\langle e|, \quad \sigma_y = -i|e\rangle\langle g| + i|g\rangle\langle e|, \quad \sigma_z = |e\rangle\langle e| - |g\rangle\langle g|$$

⁶They correspond, up to multiplication by i , to the 3 imaginary quaternions.

$$\sigma_x = |e\rangle\langle g| + |g\rangle\langle e|, \quad \sigma_y = -i|e\rangle\langle g| + i|g\rangle\langle e|, \quad \sigma_z = |e\rangle\langle e| - |g\rangle\langle g|$$

$$\sigma_x^2 = I, \quad \sigma_x\sigma_y = i\sigma_z, \quad [\sigma_x, \sigma_y] = 2i\sigma_z, \quad \text{circular permutation} \dots$$

- Since for any $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$, $e^{i\theta\sigma_x} = \cos\theta + i\sin\theta\sigma_x$ (idem for σ_y and σ_z), the solution of $i\frac{d}{dt}|\psi\rangle = \frac{\omega_{eg}}{2}\sigma_z|\psi\rangle$ is

$$|\psi\rangle_t = e^{-\frac{i\omega_{eg}t}{2}\sigma_z}|\psi\rangle_0 = \left(\cos\left(\frac{\omega_{eg}t}{2}\right)I - i\sin\left(\frac{\omega_{eg}t}{2}\right)\sigma_z \right) |\psi\rangle_0$$

- For $\alpha, \beta = x, y, z$, $\alpha \neq \beta$ we have

$$\sigma_\alpha e^{i\theta\sigma_\beta} = e^{-i\theta\sigma_\beta} \sigma_\alpha, \quad (e^{i\theta\sigma_\alpha})^{-1} = (e^{i\theta\sigma_\alpha})^\dagger = e^{-i\theta\sigma_\alpha}.$$

and also $e^{-\frac{i\theta}{2}\sigma_\alpha}\sigma_\beta e^{\frac{i\theta}{2}\sigma_\alpha} = e^{-i\theta\sigma_\alpha}\sigma_\beta = \sigma_\beta e^{i\theta\sigma_\alpha}$

- Similarly to the harmonic oscillator, energy annihilation and creation operators: $\sigma_- = |g\rangle\langle e|$, $\sigma_+ = \sigma_-^\dagger = |e\rangle\langle g|$

Density matrix and Bloch Sphere

Consider the density operator $\rho = |\psi\rangle\langle\psi|$. Thus ρ is an Hermitian operator, ≥ 0 , that satisfies $\text{Tr}(\rho) = 1$, $\rho^2 = \rho$ and obeys to the Liouville equation:

$$\frac{d}{dt}\rho = -i[\mathbf{H}, \rho].$$

For a two level system $|\psi\rangle = \psi_g|g\rangle + \psi_e|e\rangle$ and

$$\rho = \frac{\mathbf{I} + x\sigma_x + y\sigma_y + z\sigma_z}{2}$$

where $(x, y, z) = (2\Re(\psi_g\psi_e^*), 2\Im(\psi_g\psi_e^*), |\psi_e|^2 - |\psi_g|^2) \in \mathbb{R}^3$
 $= (\text{Tr}(\sigma_x\rho), \text{Tr}(\sigma_y\rho), \text{Tr}(\sigma_z\rho))$

The Bloch vector $\vec{M} = (x, y, z)$ evolves on the unit sphere \mathbb{S}^2 of $\mathbb{R}^3 = \text{span}(\vec{e}_x, \vec{e}_y, \vec{e}_z)$, called the **the Bloch Sphere**, since $\text{Tr}(\rho^2) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$. The Liouville equation with $\mathbf{H} = \frac{\omega_{eg}}{2}\sigma_z + \frac{u}{2}\sigma_x$ corresponds to

$$\frac{d}{dt}\vec{M} = (u\vec{e}_x + \omega_{eg}\vec{e}_z) \times \vec{M}.$$

Consider $\mathbf{H} = (u\sigma_x + v\sigma_y + w\sigma_z)/2$ with $(u, v, w) \in \mathbb{R}^3$.

- 1 For (u, v, w) constant and non zero, compute the solutions of

$$\frac{d}{dt}|\psi\rangle = -i\mathbf{H}|\psi\rangle, \quad \frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{U} = -i\mathbf{H}\mathbf{U} \text{ with } \mathbf{U}_0 = \mathbf{I}$$

in term of $|\psi\rangle_0$, $\sigma = (u\sigma_x + v\sigma_y + w\sigma_z)/\sqrt{u^2 + v^2 + w^2}$ and $\omega = \sqrt{u^2 + v^2 + w^2}$. Indication: use the fact that $\sigma^2 = \mathbf{I}$.

- 2 Assume that, (u, v, w) depends on t according to $(u, v, w)(t) = \omega(t)(\bar{u}, \bar{v}, \bar{w})$ with $(\bar{u}, \bar{v}, \bar{w}) \in \mathbb{R}^3/\{0\}$ constant of length 1. Compute the solutions of

$$\frac{d}{dt}|\psi\rangle = -i\mathbf{H}(t)|\psi\rangle, \quad \frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{U} = -i\mathbf{H}(t)\mathbf{U} \text{ with } \mathbf{U}_0 = \mathbf{I}$$

in term of $|\psi\rangle_0$, $\bar{\sigma} = \bar{u}\sigma_x + \bar{v}\sigma_y + \bar{w}\sigma_z$ and $\theta(t) = \int_0^t \omega$.

- 3 Explain why (u, v, w) colinear to the constant vector $(\bar{u}, \bar{v}, \bar{w})$ is crucial, for the computations in previous question.

Summary: 2-level system, i.e. a qubit (spin-half system)

■ Hilbert space:

$$\mathcal{H}_M = \mathbb{C}^2 = \left\{ \psi_g |g\rangle + \psi_e |e\rangle, \psi_g, \psi_e \in \mathbb{C} \right\}.$$

■ Operators and commutations:

$$\sigma_z = |g\rangle\langle g| - |e\rangle\langle e|, \sigma_+ = \sigma_x + i\sigma_y = |e\rangle\langle g|$$

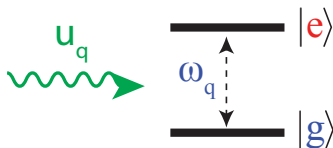
$$\sigma_x = \sigma_+ + \sigma_- = |g\rangle\langle e| + |e\rangle\langle g|;$$

$$\sigma_y = i\sigma_- - i\sigma_+ = i|g\rangle\langle e| - i|e\rangle\langle g|;$$

$$\sigma_z = \sigma_+ \sigma_- - \sigma_- \sigma_+ = |e\rangle\langle e| - |g\rangle\langle g|;$$

$$\sigma_x^2 = I, \sigma_x \sigma_y = i\sigma_z, [\sigma_x, \sigma_y] = 2i\sigma_z, \dots$$

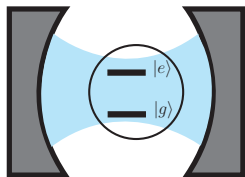
■ Hamiltonian: $H_M = \omega_q \sigma_z / 2 + U_q \sigma_x$.



1 Spin-1/2 systems

2 Spin/spring systems

Composite system: 2-level and harmonic oscillator



2-level system lives on \mathbb{C}^2 with $H_q = \frac{\omega_{eg}}{2} \sigma_z$
oscillator lives on $L^2(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}) \sim \ell^2(\mathbb{C})$ with

$$H_c = -\frac{\omega_c}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\omega_c}{2} x^2 \sim \omega_c \left(\mathbf{N} + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$\mathbf{N} = \mathbf{a}^\dagger \mathbf{a} \text{ and } \mathbf{a} = \mathbf{X} + i\mathbf{P} \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(x + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right)$$

The **composite system** lives on the **tensor product**
 $\mathbb{C}^2 \otimes L^2(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}) \sim \mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \ell^2(\mathbb{C})$ with **spin-spring Hamiltonian**

$$\mathbf{H} = \frac{\omega_{eg}}{2} \sigma_z \otimes I_c + \omega_c I_q \otimes \left(\mathbf{N} + \frac{1}{2} \right) + i\frac{\Omega}{2} \sigma_x \otimes (\mathbf{a}^\dagger - \mathbf{a})$$

with the typical scales $\Omega \ll \omega_c, \omega_{eg}$ and $|\omega_c - \omega_{eg}| \ll \omega_c, \omega_{eg}$.
Shortcut notations:

$$\mathbf{H} = \underbrace{\frac{\omega_{eg}}{2} \sigma_z}_{H_q} + \underbrace{\omega_c \left(\mathbf{N} + \frac{1}{2} \right)}_{H_c} + \underbrace{i\frac{\Omega}{2} \sigma_x (\mathbf{a}^\dagger - \mathbf{a})}_{H_{int}}$$

The Schrödinger system

$$i \frac{d}{dt} |\psi\rangle = \left(\frac{\omega_{eg}}{2} \sigma_z + \omega_c \left(\mathbf{N} + \frac{\mathbf{I}}{2} \right) + i \frac{\Omega}{2} \sigma_x (\mathbf{a}^\dagger - \mathbf{a}) \right) |\psi\rangle$$

corresponds to **two coupled scalar PDE's**:

$$i \frac{\partial \psi_e}{\partial t} = + \frac{\omega_{eg}}{2} \psi_e + \frac{\omega_c}{2} \left(x^2 - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \right) \psi_e - i \frac{\Omega}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \psi_g$$
$$i \frac{\partial \psi_g}{\partial t} = - \frac{\omega_{eg}}{2} \psi_g + \frac{\omega_c}{2} \left(x^2 - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \right) \psi_g - i \frac{\Omega}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \psi_e$$

since $\mathbf{N} = \mathbf{a}^\dagger \mathbf{a}$, $\mathbf{a} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(x + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right)$ and $|\psi\rangle = (\psi_e(x, t), \psi_g(x, t))$,
 $\psi_g(\cdot, t), \psi_e(\cdot, t) \in L^2(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C})$ and $\|\psi_g\|^2 + \|\psi_e\|^2 = 1$.

Exercise: write the PDE for the controlled Hamiltonian

$$\frac{\omega_{eg}}{2} \sigma_z + \omega_c \left(\mathbf{N} + \frac{\mathbf{I}}{2} \right) + i \frac{\Omega}{2} \sigma_x (\mathbf{a}^\dagger - \mathbf{a}) + u_c (\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{a}^\dagger) + u_q \sigma_x$$

where $u_c, u_q \in \mathbb{R}$ are local control inputs associated to the oscillator and qubit, respectively.

The Schrödinger system

$$i \frac{d}{dt} |\psi\rangle = \left(\frac{\omega_{\text{eg}}}{2} \sigma_z + \omega_c \left(\mathbf{N} + \frac{1}{2} \right) + i \frac{\Omega}{2} \sigma_x (\mathbf{a}^\dagger - \mathbf{a}) \right) |\psi\rangle$$

corresponds also to an **infinite set of ODE's**

$$i \frac{d}{dt} \psi_{e,n} = \left((n + 1/2) \omega_c + \omega_{\text{eg}}/2 \right) \psi_{e,n} + i \frac{\Omega}{2} \left(\sqrt{n} \psi_{g,n-1} - \sqrt{n+1} \psi_{g,n+1} \right)$$
$$i \frac{d}{dt} \psi_{g,n} = \left((n + 1/2) \omega_c - \omega_{\text{eg}}/2 \right) \psi_{g,n} + i \frac{\Omega}{2} \left(\sqrt{n} \psi_{e,n-1} - \sqrt{n+1} \psi_{e,n+1} \right)$$

where $|\psi\rangle = \sum_{n=0}^{+\infty} \psi_{g,n} |g, n\rangle + \psi_{e,n} |e, n\rangle$, $\psi_{g,n}, \psi_{e,n} \in \mathbb{C}$.

Exercise: write the infinite set of ODE's for

$$\frac{\omega_{\text{eg}}}{2} \sigma_z + \omega_c \left(\mathbf{N} + \frac{1}{2} \right) + i \frac{\Omega}{2} \sigma_x (\mathbf{a}^\dagger - \mathbf{a}) + u_c (\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{a}^\dagger) + u_q \sigma_x$$

where $u_c, u_q \in \mathbb{R}$ are local control inputs associated to the oscillator and qubit, respectively.

$$\mathbf{H} \approx \mathbf{H}_{\text{disp}} = \frac{\omega_{eg}}{2} \sigma_z + \omega_c \left(\mathbf{N} + \frac{I}{2} \right) - \frac{\chi}{2} \sigma_z \left(\mathbf{N} + \frac{I}{2} \right) \quad \text{with } \chi = \frac{\Omega^2}{2(\omega_c - \omega_{eg})}$$

The corresponding PDE is :

$$\begin{aligned} i \frac{\partial \psi_e}{\partial t} &= + \frac{\omega_{eg}}{2} \psi_e + \frac{1}{2} \left(\omega_c - \frac{\chi}{2} \right) \left(x^2 - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \right) \psi_e \\ i \frac{\partial \psi_g}{\partial t} &= - \frac{\omega_{eg}}{2} \psi_g + \frac{1}{2} \left(\omega_c + \frac{\chi}{2} \right) \left(x^2 - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \right) \psi_g \end{aligned}$$

The propagator, the t -dependant unitary operator \mathbf{U} solution of $i \frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{H} \mathbf{U}$ with $\mathbf{U}(0) = \mathbf{I}$, reads:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{U}(t) &= e^{i\omega_{eg}t/2} \exp \left(-i(\omega_c + \chi/2)t \left(\mathbf{N} + \frac{I}{2} \right) \right) \otimes |g\rangle\langle g| \\ &\quad + e^{-i\omega_{eg}t/2} \exp \left(-i(\omega_c - \chi/2)t \left(\mathbf{N} + \frac{I}{2} \right) \right) \otimes |e\rangle\langle e| \end{aligned}$$

Exercise: write the infinite set of ODE's attached to the dispersive Hamiltonian \mathbf{H}_{disp} .

The Hamiltonian becomes (Jaynes-Cummings Hamiltonian):

$$\mathbf{H} \approx \mathbf{H}_{JC} = \frac{\omega}{2} \sigma_z + \omega \left(\mathbf{N} + \frac{\mathbf{1}}{2} \right) + i \frac{\Omega}{2} (\sigma_- \mathbf{a}^\dagger - \sigma_+ \mathbf{a}).$$

The corresponding PDE is :

$$i \frac{\partial \psi_e}{\partial t} = + \frac{\omega}{2} \psi_e + \frac{\omega}{2} \left(x^2 - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \right) \psi_e - i \frac{\Omega}{2\sqrt{2}} \left(x + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \psi_g$$
$$i \frac{\partial \psi_g}{\partial t} = - \frac{\omega}{2} \psi_g + \frac{\omega}{2} \left(x^2 - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \right) \psi_g + i \frac{\Omega}{2\sqrt{2}} \left(x - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \psi_e$$

Exercise: Write the infinite set of ODE's attached to the Jaynes-Cummings Hamiltonian \mathbf{H} .

Exercise: For $H_{JC} = \frac{\omega}{2}\sigma_z + \omega\left(N + \frac{1}{2}\right) + i\frac{\Omega}{2}(\sigma_+ a^\dagger - \sigma_- a)$ show that the propagator, the t -dependant unitary operator U solution of $i\frac{d}{dt}U = H_{JC}U$ with $U(0) = I$, reads

$U(t) = e^{-i\omega t\left(\frac{\sigma_z}{2} + N + \frac{1}{2}\right)} e^{\frac{\Omega t}{2}(\sigma_+ a^\dagger - \sigma_- a)}$ where for any angle θ ,

$$e^{\theta(\sigma_+ a^\dagger - \sigma_- a)} = |g\rangle\langle g| \otimes \cos(\theta\sqrt{N}) + |e\rangle\langle e| \otimes \cos(\theta\sqrt{N+I}) \\ - \sigma_+ \otimes a \frac{\sin(\theta\sqrt{N})}{\sqrt{N}} + \sigma_- \otimes \frac{\sin(\theta\sqrt{N})}{\sqrt{N}} a^\dagger$$

Hint: show that

$$\left[\frac{\sigma_z}{2} + N, \sigma_+ a^\dagger - \sigma_- a\right] = 0 \\ (\sigma_+ a^\dagger - \sigma_- a)^{2k} = (-1)^k \left(|g\rangle\langle g| \otimes N^k + |e\rangle\langle e| \otimes (N+I)^k\right) \\ (\sigma_+ a^\dagger - \sigma_- a)^{2k+1} = (-1)^k \left(\sigma_- \otimes N^k a^\dagger - \sigma_+ \otimes a N^k\right)$$

and compute the series defining the exponential of an operator.