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# An introduction to quantum cryptography, computation and error correction.

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## Quantum cryptography and computation

- RSA public-key system

- Quantum mechanics from scratch

- BB84 quantum key distribution protocol

- Shor's factorization algorithm based on quantum Fourier transform

## Quantum error correction (QEC)

- Classical error correction

- QEC in discrete-time

- Continuous-time QEC and measurement-based feedback

- Autonomous QEC and coherent feedback

## Appendix: two key quantum systems

- Qubit (half-spin)

- Harmonic oscillator (spring)

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- Invented by Rivest, Shamir and Adleman in 1977, this protocole relies on the factorization difficulty of RSA integer  $n = pq$  with  $p$  and  $q$  large prime numbers (typically  $\log_2(n) \sim 2048$ ).
- 3-step protocol based on the **public key**  $(n, e)$ , with  $e$  invertible modulo  $(p-1)(q-1)$  and the **secrete key**  $d$ , inverse of  $e$  modulo  $(p-1)(q-1)$ :
  1. Encryption of  $M$  by Alice:  $M \mapsto A = M^e \pmod{n}$  (efficient exponentiation by squaring  $\leq \log_2(e)$  multiplications  $\pmod{n}$ )
  2. Alice sends  $A$  to Bob on a public classical communication channel (possibly spied by the bad Oscar)
  3. Decryption of  $A$  by Bob:  $M = A^d$  where  $d$  is known only by Bob <sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Euler-Fermat theorem combined with Chinese-remainder theorem ensures that for arbitrary integers  $M$  and  $k$ ,  $M^{k\varphi(n)+1} = M \pmod{n}$  where  $\varphi(n) = \varphi(pq) = (p-1)(q-1)$  is the Euler's totient function (use  $ed = 1 + r\varphi(n)$  for some integer  $r$ ).

- ▶ To recover  $M$  from knowing  $A$ ,  $e$  and  $n$ , the bad Oscar has to solve  $A = M^e \pmod{n}$ . Specialists conjecture that there do-not exist  $C$  and  $k > 0$  and an algorithm starting with input  $(n, e, A)$  providing  $M$  with less that  $C(\log n)^k$  evaluations of universal classical gates **AND**, **XOR** and **NOT** (RSA problem conjectured outside complexity class **P**).
- ▶ If one has access to the factorization  $pq = n$ , one recovers the secret key  $d$  as the inverse of  $e$  modulo  $(p - 1)(q - 1)$  (Euclidean polynomial algorithm providing the greatest common divisor).
- ▶ Factorization, which is in the complexity class **NP**, is guessed to be outside complexity class **P**: conjecture  $\mathbf{P} \subsetneq \mathbf{NP}$ .

Issues around quantum cryptography and computation:

1. **unconditionally secure key distribution**: BB84 quantum protocol (commercially available, see <https://www.idquantique.com/>).
2. **factorization in " polynomial time"** via Shor algorithm (success probability  $O(1)$  with  $O((\log n)^3)$  operations)  
(quantum computer with  $3 \log_2 n + c$  logical qubits, far from being available yet for 2048-bit RSA numbers  $n$ ).

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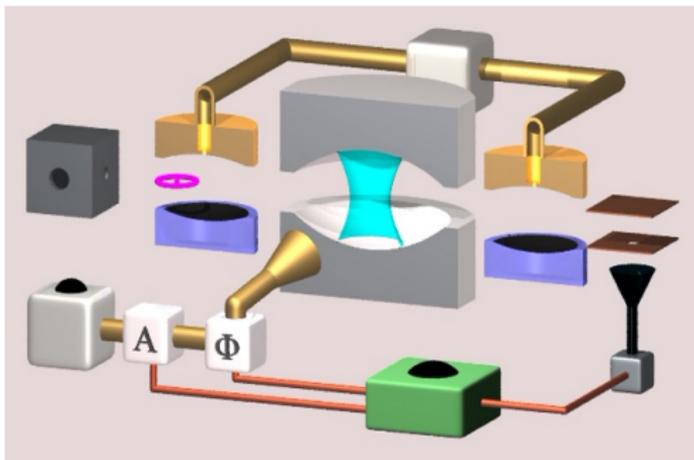
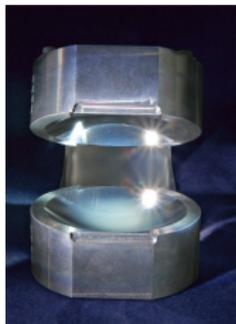
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## The first experimental realization of a quantum-state feedback:

microwave photons  
(10 GHz)



**Theory:** I. Dotsenko, ...: Quantum feedback by discrete quantum non-demolition measurements: towards on-demand generation of photon-number states. *Physical Review A*, **2009**, 80: 013805-013813.

**Experiment:** C. Sayrin, ..., S. Haroche: Real-time quantum feedback prepares and stabilizes photon number states. *Nature*, **2011**, 477, 73-77.

1. **Schrödinger**: wave funct.  $|\psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ ,

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

2. **Origin of dissipation: collapse of the wave packet** induced by the measurement of observable  $\mathbf{O}$  with spectral decomp.  $\sum_{\mu} \lambda_{\mu} \mathbf{P}_{\mu}$ :
  - ▶ measurement outcome  $\mu$  with proba.  $\mathbb{P}_{\mu} = \langle\psi|\mathbf{P}_{\mu}|\psi\rangle$  depending on  $|\psi\rangle$ , just before the measurement
  - ▶ measurement back-action if outcome  $\mu = y$ :

$$|\psi\rangle \mapsto |\psi\rangle_+ = \frac{\mathbf{P}_y |\psi\rangle}{\sqrt{\langle\psi|\mathbf{P}_y|\psi\rangle}}$$

3. **Tensor product for the description of 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:  $\mathbf{O} = \mathbf{I}_S \otimes \mathbf{O}_M$ .

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<sup>2</sup>S. Haroche and J.M. Raimond. *Exploring the Quantum: Atoms, Cavities and Photons*. Oxford Graduate Texts, 2006.

- **System**  $S$  corresponds to a quantized harmonic oscillator:

$$\mathcal{H}_S = \left\{ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \psi_n |n\rangle \mid (\psi_n)_{n=0}^{\infty} \in l^2(\mathbb{C}) \right\},$$

where  $|n\rangle$  is the photon-number state with  $n$  photons ( $\langle n_1 | n_2 \rangle = \delta_{n_1, n_2}$ ).

- **Meter**  $M$  is a qubit, a 2-level system:

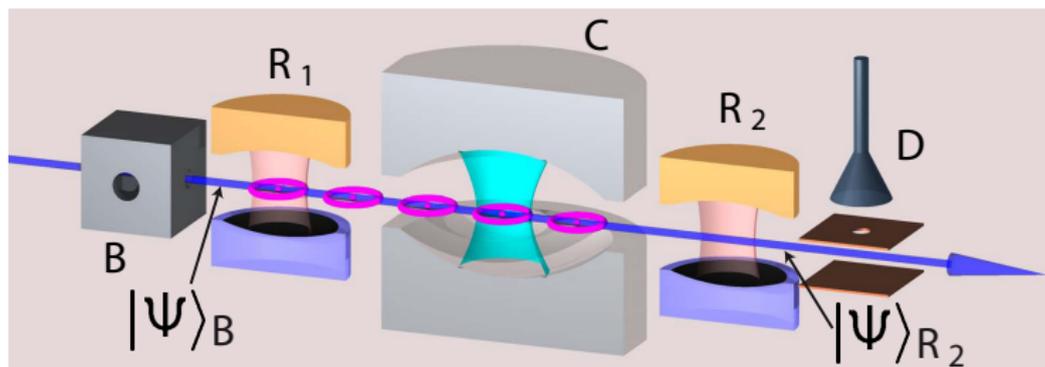
$$\mathcal{H}_M = \left\{ \psi_g |g\rangle + \psi_e |e\rangle \mid \psi_g, \psi_e \in \mathbb{C} \right\},$$

where  $|g\rangle$  (resp.  $|e\rangle$ ) is the ground (resp. excited) state ( $\langle g|g\rangle = \langle e|e\rangle = 1$  and  $\langle g|e\rangle = 0$ )

- **State of the composite system**  $|\Psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}_S \otimes \mathcal{H}_M$ :

$$\begin{aligned} |\Psi\rangle &= \sum_{n \geq 0} \left( \Psi_{ng} |n\rangle \otimes |g\rangle + \Psi_{ne} |n\rangle \otimes |e\rangle \right) \\ &= \left( \sum_{n \geq 0} \Psi_{ng} |n\rangle \right) \otimes |g\rangle + \left( \sum_{n \geq 0} \Psi_{ne} |n\rangle \right) \otimes |e\rangle, \quad \Psi_{ne}, \Psi_{ng} \in \mathbb{C}. \end{aligned}$$

Ortho-normal basis:  $(|n\rangle \otimes |g\rangle, |n\rangle \otimes |e\rangle)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ .



- ▶ When atom comes out  $B$ , the quantum state  $|\Psi\rangle_B$  of the composite system is **separable**:  $|\Psi\rangle_B = |\psi\rangle \otimes |g\rangle$ .
- ▶ Just before the measurement in  $D$ , the state is in general **entangled** (not separable):

$$|\Psi\rangle_{R_2} = \mathbf{U}_{SM}(|\psi\rangle \otimes |g\rangle) = (\mathbf{M}_g |\psi\rangle) \otimes |g\rangle + (\mathbf{M}_e |\psi\rangle) \otimes |e\rangle$$

where  $\mathbf{U}_{SM} = \mathbf{U}_{R_2} \mathbf{U}_C \mathbf{U}_{R_1}$  is a unitary transformation (Schrödinger propagator) defining the measurement operators  $\mathbf{M}_g$  and  $\mathbf{M}_e$  on  $\mathcal{H}_S$ . Since  $\mathbf{U}_{SM}$  is unitary,  $\mathbf{M}_g^\dagger \mathbf{M}_g + \mathbf{M}_e^\dagger \mathbf{M}_e = \mathbf{I}$ .

Just before detector  $D$  the quantum state is **entangled**:

$$|\Psi\rangle_{R_2} = (M_g |\psi\rangle) \otimes |g\rangle + (M_e |\psi\rangle) \otimes |e\rangle$$

Just after outcome  $y$ , the state becomes **separable**<sup>3</sup>:

$$|\Psi\rangle_D = \left( \frac{M_y}{\sqrt{\langle \psi | M_y^\dagger M_y | \psi \rangle}} |\psi\rangle \right) \otimes |y\rangle.$$

Outcome  $y$  obtained with probability  $\mathbb{P}_y = \langle \psi | M_y^\dagger M_y | \psi \rangle$ .

**Quantum trajectories** (Markov chain, stochastic dynamics):

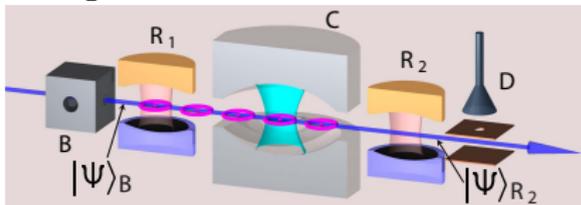
$$|\psi_{k+1}\rangle = \begin{cases} \frac{M_g}{\sqrt{\langle \psi_k | M_g^\dagger M_g | \psi_k \rangle}} |\psi_k\rangle, & y_k = g \text{ with probability } \langle \psi_k | M_g^\dagger M_g | \psi_k \rangle; \\ \frac{M_e}{\sqrt{\langle \psi_k | M_e^\dagger M_e | \psi_k \rangle}} |\psi_k\rangle, & y_k = e \text{ with probability } \langle \psi_k | M_e^\dagger M_e | \psi_k \rangle; \end{cases}$$

with state  $|\psi_k\rangle$  and measurement outcome  $y_k \in \{g, e\}$  at time-step  $k$ :

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<sup>3</sup>Measurement operator  $O = I_S \otimes (|e\rangle\langle e| - |g\rangle\langle g|)$ .

$$|\Psi\rangle_{R_2} = U_{R_2} U_C U_{R_1} (|\psi\rangle \otimes |g\rangle)$$



$$U_{R_1} = I_S \otimes \left( \left( \frac{|g\rangle + |e\rangle}{\sqrt{2}} \right) \langle g| + \left( \frac{-|g\rangle + |e\rangle}{\sqrt{2}} \right) \langle e| \right)$$

$$U_C = e^{-i\frac{\phi_0}{2} N} \otimes |g\rangle \langle g| + e^{i\frac{\phi_0}{2} N} \otimes |e\rangle \langle e|$$

$$U_{R_2} = U_{R_1}$$

$$U_{R_1} (|\psi\rangle \otimes |g\rangle) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\psi\rangle \otimes |g\rangle + |\psi\rangle \otimes |e\rangle)$$

$$U_C U_{R_1} (|\psi\rangle \otimes |g\rangle) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \left( e^{-i\frac{\phi_0}{2} N} |\psi\rangle \right) \otimes |g\rangle + \left( e^{i\frac{\phi_0}{2} N} |\psi\rangle \right) \otimes |e\rangle \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} |\Psi\rangle_{R_2} &= \frac{1}{2} \left( \left( e^{-i\frac{\phi_0}{2} N} |\psi\rangle \right) \otimes (|g\rangle + |e\rangle) + \left( e^{i\frac{\phi_0}{2} N} |\psi\rangle \right) \otimes (-|g\rangle + |e\rangle) \right) \\ &= \left( -i \sin\left(\frac{\phi_0}{2} N\right) |\psi\rangle \right) \otimes |g\rangle + \left( \cos\left(\frac{\phi_0}{2} N\right) |\psi\rangle \right) \otimes |e\rangle \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $M_g = -i \sin(\frac{\phi_0}{2} N)$  and  $M_e = \cos(\frac{\phi_0}{2} N)$ .

Quantum Monte-Carlo simulations with MATLAB: QNDphoton.m

<sup>4</sup>M. Brune, ... : Manipulation of photons in a cavity by dispersive atom-field coupling: quantum non-demolition measurements and generation of "Schrödinger cat" states . Physical Review A, 45:5193-5214, 1992.

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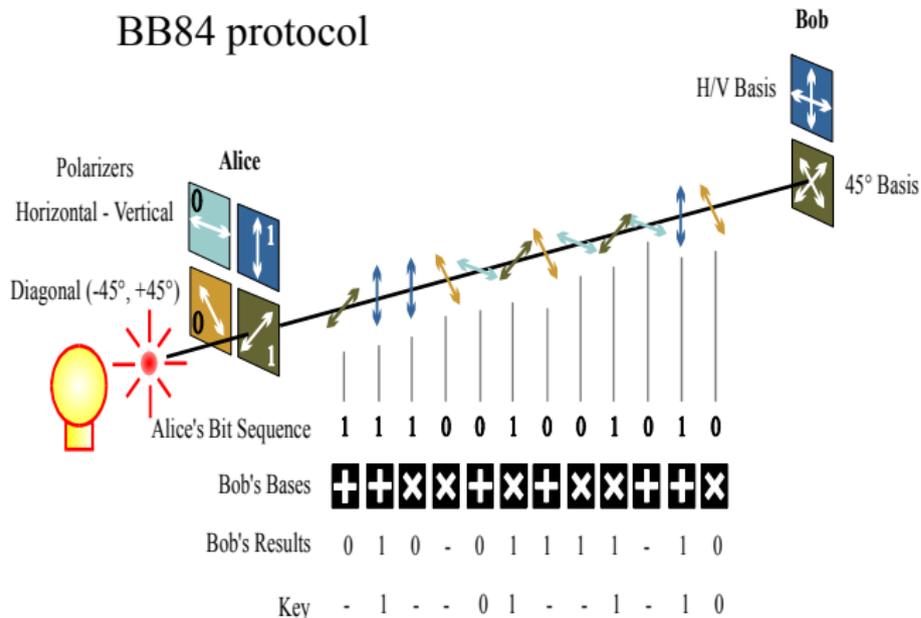
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## BB84 protocol



A first quantum sequence via a quantum communication channel:

1. Alice sends to Bob a large number  $N$  of linearly polarized photons (i.e. qubits  $|\psi\rangle = a_0|0\rangle + a_1|1\rangle$ ) along 4 possible directions:
  - ▶ horizontal ( $|0\rangle$ ) or vertical ( $|1\rangle$ ).
  - ▶  $+\pi/4$  ( $\frac{|0\rangle+|1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$ ) or  $-\pi/4$  ( $\frac{|0\rangle-|1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$ ).
2. For each photon received from Alice, Bob chooses a measurement
  - ▶ H/V:  $Z = |0\rangle\langle 0| - |1\rangle\langle 1|$
  - ▶  $\pm\pi/4$ :  $X = |1\rangle\langle 0| + |0\rangle\langle 1| = \left(\frac{|0\rangle+|1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}\right)\left(\frac{\langle 0|+\langle 1|}{\sqrt{2}}\right) - \left(\frac{|0\rangle-|1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}\right)\left(\frac{\langle 0|-\langle 1|}{\sqrt{2}}\right)$

A second classical sequence via a public communication channel:

1. For each photon, Alice and Bob exchange the type of chosen polarization  $Z$  or  $X$  (but not its value).
2. For 50% of the photons sharing the same polarization (around  $N/4$ ), Alice and Bob exchange their values (H/V or  $\pm\pi/4$ ).
3. For 50% of the photons with same polarization (around  $N/4$ ), Alice and Bob keep secret their values

If the exchanged values (H/V or  $\pm\pi/4$ ) coincide, Alice and Bob are convinced that the quantum communication was not spied by the bad Oscar. The remaining values (around  $N/4$  and kept secret) will then form a coding key exploited by Alice and Bob in a classical cryptographic protocol.

**Security: Oscar cannot clone the photon emitted by Alice.**

Assume that exists a quantum machine copying the original qubit onto a second clone qubit. The initial wave function of the composite system (original qubit, clone qubit, quantum machine) reads

$$|\Xi\rangle_{t=0} = |\psi\rangle \otimes |b\rangle \otimes |f_b\rangle.$$

where  $|\psi\rangle \in \mathbb{C}^2$  is the original state,  $|b\rangle$  the initial state of the clone (b for blank) and  $|f_b\rangle$  the initial state of the cloning machine.

The cloning process is associated to a unitary transformation  $U_T$  independent of  $|\Xi\rangle_{t=0}$  and satisfying

$$\forall |\psi\rangle, \quad |\psi\rangle \otimes |\psi\rangle \otimes |f_{|\psi\rangle}\rangle = U_T(|\psi\rangle \otimes |b\rangle \otimes |f_b\rangle).$$

In particular

$$\begin{aligned} |0\rangle \otimes |0\rangle \otimes |f_{|0\rangle}\rangle &= U_T(|0\rangle \otimes |b\rangle \otimes |f_b\rangle) \\ \left(\frac{|0\rangle+|1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \otimes \left(\frac{|0\rangle+|1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \otimes \left|f_{\frac{|0\rangle+|1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}}\right\rangle &= U_T\left(\left(\frac{|0\rangle+|1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \otimes |b\rangle \otimes |f_b\rangle\right) \end{aligned}$$

Impossible with  $|\Xi\rangle = |0\rangle \otimes |b\rangle \otimes |f_b\rangle$  and  $|\Lambda\rangle = \left(\frac{|0\rangle+|1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \otimes |b\rangle \otimes |f_b\rangle$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = |\langle \Xi | \Lambda \rangle| > \frac{1}{2} \geq |\langle \Xi | U_T^\dagger U_T | \Lambda \rangle|$$

since  $U_T$  preserves Hermitian product:

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- Input: composite odd number  $n$ .
- Output: a non trivial factor  $a$  of  $n$  in  $O((\log n)^2(\log \log n)(\log \log \log n))$  universal classical/quantum operations.
- Algorithm:
  1. Check whether  $n = a^b$  with  $a, b > 1$  (polynomial classical algorithm); possible return of  $a$  and stop.
  2. Otherwise, **choose randomly**  $x \in \{2, \dots, n - 1\}$ . If  $a = \gcd(x, n) > 1$  (Euclidian division), return  $a$  and stop.
  3. Otherwise **determine with a quantum computer the order  $r$  of  $x$  modulo  $n$**  (the smallest  $r > 1$  such that  $x^r = 1 \pmod{n}$ )<sup>5</sup>
    - ▶ If  $r$  even and  $1 < \gcd(x^{r/2} \pm 1, n) < n$ , then return  $a = \gcd(x^{r/2} \pm 1, n)$  and stop.
    - ▶ Otherwise (probability  $\leq \eta < 1$  independent of  $n$ ) goto step 2.

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<sup>5</sup>Shor's algorithm is detailed in Chapter 5 of M.A. Nielsen, I.L. Chuang: Quantum Computation and Quantum Information. Cambridge University Press, 2000.

- The canonical  $\ell$ -qubit basis (basis of  $\mathbb{C}^{2^\ell} \equiv (\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes \ell}$ ) is labelled by  $\{0, \dots, 2^\ell - 1\} \ni j \equiv (j_1, \dots, j_\ell) \in \{0, 1\}^\ell$  with

$$|j\rangle = |j_1 j_2 \dots j_\ell\rangle = |j_1\rangle \otimes |j_2\rangle \otimes \dots \otimes |j_\ell\rangle \text{ and } j = \sum_{s=1}^{\ell} j_s 2^{\ell-s}.$$

- To the data  $1 < x < n < 2^\ell$  with  $\gcd(x, n) = 1$  is associated  $\mathbf{U}$  a **unitary transformation** on  $\ell$ -qubits (**permutation** between vectors  $|j\rangle$ )

if  $y \leq n - 1$ ,  $\mathbf{U}|y\rangle = |xy \bmod(n)\rangle$ , otherwise  $\mathbf{U}|y\rangle = |y\rangle$ .

- For  $r$  the order of  $x \bmod(n)$  and any  $s \in \{0, \dots, r - 1\}$  the  $\ell$ -qubit state

$$|u_s\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{r}} \sum_{k=0}^{r-1} e^{\frac{-2i\pi sk}{r}} |x^k \bmod(n)\rangle \text{ satisfies } \mathbf{U}|u_s\rangle = e^{\frac{-2i\pi s}{r}} |u_s\rangle$$

and  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{r}} \sum_{s=0}^{r-1} |u_s\rangle = |1\rangle$ .

- Modular exponentiation algorithm to compute  $\mathbf{U}$  with  $O(\ell^3)$  1-qubit gates <sup>6</sup> and **CNOT** 2-qubit gates <sup>7</sup> (non trivial quantum algorithm...)

<sup>6</sup>Unitary  $e^{i\theta} e^{-i\alpha Z/2} e^{-i\beta X/2} e^{-i\gamma Z/2}$  with  $(\theta, \alpha, \beta, \gamma) \in [0, 2\pi]$ .

<sup>7</sup>**CNOT**  $|y_1 y_2\rangle = |y_1 z_2\rangle$  where  $\{0, 1\} \ni z_2 = y_1 + y_2 \bmod(2)$ .

- Computations of the usual discrete Fourier transform

$$\mathbb{C}^{2^\ell} \ni (x_0, \dots, x_{2^\ell-1}) \mapsto (y_0, \dots, y_{2^\ell-1}) \in \mathbb{C}^{2^\ell}$$

$$y_j = \frac{1}{2^{\ell/2}} \sum_{k=0}^{2^\ell-1} e^{\frac{2i\pi jk}{2^\ell}} x_k; \quad x_k = \frac{1}{2^{\ell/2}} \sum_{j=0}^{2^\ell-1} e^{\frac{-2i\pi jk}{2^\ell}} y_j$$

requires  $O(\ell 2^\ell)$  additions and multiplications (FFT).

- It is also a unitary transformation of  $\mathbb{C}^{2^\ell} \equiv (\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes \ell}$ , the quantum Fourier transform (QFT)

$$|j_1\rangle \dots |j_\ell\rangle = |j\rangle \mapsto \frac{\sum_{k=0}^{2^\ell-1} e^{\frac{2i\pi jk}{2^\ell}} |k\rangle}{2^{\ell/2}}$$

with the binary decomposition  $j = \sum_{s=1}^{\ell} j_s 2^{\ell-s}$ .

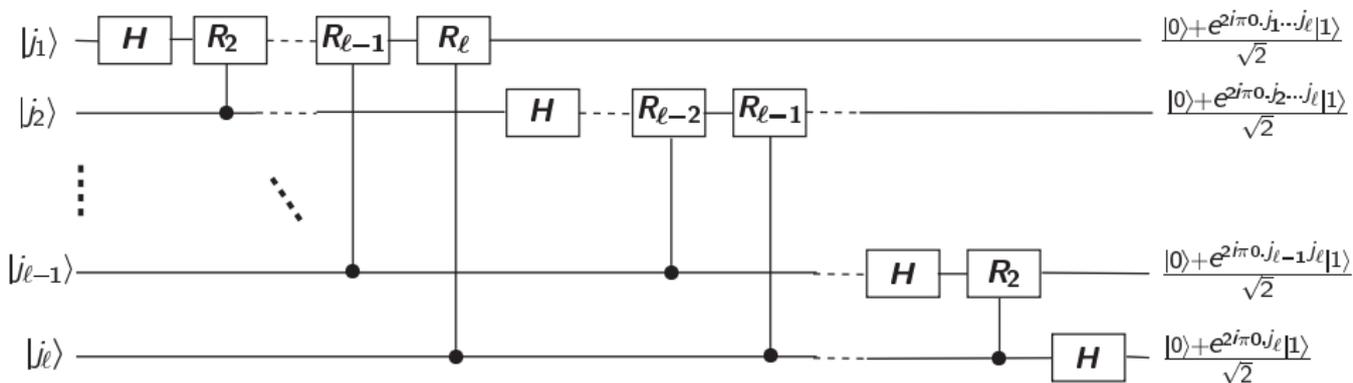
- The identity underlying the **quantum circuit implementing the QFT with  $O(\ell^2)$  1-qubit gates and 2-qubit gates:**

$$\frac{\sum_{k=0}^{2^\ell-1} e^{\frac{2i\pi jk}{2^\ell}} |k\rangle}{2^{\ell/2}} = \frac{(|0\rangle + e^{2i\pi 0 \cdot j_\ell} |1\rangle) (|0\rangle + e^{2i\pi 0 \cdot j_{\ell-1} j_\ell} |1\rangle) \dots (|0\rangle + e^{2i\pi 0 \cdot j_1 \dots j_\ell} |1\rangle)}{2^{\ell/2}}$$

with binary fraction notations  $0.j_s j_{s+1} j_m = j_s/2 + j_{s+1}/4 + \dots + j_m/2^{m-s+1}$ .

With Hadamard gate,  $H = \frac{(|0\rangle+|1\rangle)}{\sqrt{2}} \langle 0| + \frac{(|0\rangle-|1\rangle)}{\sqrt{2}} \langle 1|$ , and

**Controlled- $R_k$**  gate (2-qubit) where  $R_k = |0\rangle \langle 0| + e^{2i\pi/2^k} |1\rangle \langle 1|$ , the circuit



followed by a simple swap circuit reversing the order of the  $\ell$  qubits, one gets the QFT:

$$|j_1 \dots j_\ell\rangle \mapsto \frac{(|0\rangle + e^{2i\pi \cdot 0 \cdot j_\ell} |1\rangle) (|0\rangle + e^{2i\pi \cdot 0 \cdot j_{\ell-1} j_\ell} |1\rangle) \dots (|0\rangle + e^{2i\pi \cdot 0 \cdot j_1 \dots j_\ell} |1\rangle)}{2^{\ell/2}}$$

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- Single bit error model: the bit  $b \in \{0, 1\}$  flips with probability  $p < 1/2$  during  $\Delta t$  (for usual DRAM:  $p/\Delta t \leq 10^{-14} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ).
- Multi-bit error model: each bit  $b_k \in \{0, 1\}$  flips with probability  $p < 1/2$  during  $\Delta t$ ; **no correlation between the bit flips**.
- Use **redundancy** to construct with several physical bits  $b_k$  of flip probability  $p$ , a logical bit  $b_L$  with a flip probability  $p_L < p$ .
- The simplest solution, the **3-bit code** (sampling time  $\Delta t$ ):

$t = 0$ :  $b_L = [bbb]$  with  $b \in \{0, 1\}$

$t = \Delta t$ : measure the three physical bits of  $b_L = [b_1 b_2 b_3]$   
(**instantaneous**) :

1. if all 3 bits coincide, nothing to do.
2. if one bit differs from the two other ones, flip this bit  
(**instantaneous**);

- Since the flip probability laws of the physical bits are independent, the probability that the logical bit  $b_L$  (protected with the above error correction code) flips during  $\Delta t$  is  $p_L = 3p^2 - 2p^3 < p$  since  $p < 1/2$ .

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- **Local bit-flip errors:** each physical qubit  $|\psi\rangle = \alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle$  becomes  $X|\psi\rangle = \alpha|1\rangle + \beta|0\rangle$ <sup>8</sup> with probability  $p < 1/2$  during  $\Delta t$ .  
(for actual super-conducting qubit  $p/\Delta t > 10^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ).
- $t = 0$ :  $|\psi_L\rangle = \alpha|0_L\rangle + \beta|1_L\rangle \in \mathbb{C}^8$  with  $|0_L\rangle = |000\rangle$  and  $|1_L\rangle = |111\rangle$ .
- $t = \Delta t$ :  $|\psi_L\rangle$  becomes with

$$1 \text{ flip: } \begin{cases} \alpha|100\rangle + \beta|011\rangle \\ \alpha|010\rangle + \beta|101\rangle \\ \alpha|001\rangle + \beta|110\rangle \end{cases} ; 2 \text{ flips: } \begin{cases} \alpha|110\rangle + \beta|001\rangle \\ \alpha|101\rangle + \beta|010\rangle \\ \alpha|011\rangle + \beta|100\rangle \end{cases} ; 3 \text{ flips: } \alpha|111\rangle + \beta|000\rangle .$$

- Key fact: **4 orthogonal planes**  $\mathcal{P}_c = \text{span}(|000\rangle, |111\rangle)$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_1 = \text{span}(|100\rangle, |011\rangle)$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_2 = \text{span}(|010\rangle, |101\rangle)$  and  $\mathcal{P}_3 = \text{span}(|001\rangle, |110\rangle)$ .
- **Error syndromes:** 3 commuting observables  $S_1 = I \otimes Z \otimes Z$ ,  $S_2 = Z \otimes I \otimes Z$  and  $S_3 = Z \otimes Z \otimes I$  with spectrum  $\{-1, +1\}$  and outcomes  $(s_1, s_2, s_3) \in \{-1, +1\}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} -1- \quad s_1 = s_2 = s_3: \mathcal{P}_c \ni |\psi_L\rangle &= \begin{cases} \alpha|000\rangle + \beta|111\rangle & 0 \text{ flip} \\ \beta|000\rangle + \alpha|111\rangle & 3 \text{ flips} \end{cases} ; \text{ no correction} \\ -2- \quad s_1 \neq s_2 = s_3: \mathcal{P}_1 \ni |\psi_L\rangle &= \begin{cases} \alpha|100\rangle + \beta|011\rangle & 1 \text{ flip} \\ \beta|100\rangle + \alpha|011\rangle & 2 \text{ flips} \end{cases} ; (X \otimes I \otimes I)|\psi_L\rangle \in \mathcal{P}_c. \\ -3- \quad s_2 \neq s_3 = s_1: \mathcal{P}_2 \ni |\psi_L\rangle &= \begin{cases} \alpha|010\rangle + \beta|101\rangle & 1 \text{ flip} \\ \beta|010\rangle + \alpha|101\rangle & 2 \text{ flips} \end{cases} ; (I \otimes X \otimes I)|\psi_L\rangle \in \mathcal{P}_c. \\ -4- \quad s_3 \neq s_1 = s_2: \mathcal{P}_3 \ni |\psi_L\rangle &= \begin{cases} \alpha|001\rangle + \beta|110\rangle & 1 \text{ flip} \\ \beta|001\rangle + \alpha|110\rangle & 2 \text{ flips} \end{cases} ; (I \otimes I \otimes X)|\psi_L\rangle \in \mathcal{P}_c. \end{aligned}$$

<sup>8</sup>  $X = |1\rangle\langle 0| + |0\rangle\langle 1|$  and  $Z = |0\rangle\langle 0| - |1\rangle\langle 1|$ .

- **Local phase-flip error:** each physical qubit  $|\psi\rangle = \alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle$  becomes  $Z|\psi\rangle = \alpha|0\rangle - \beta|1\rangle$ <sup>9</sup> with probability  $p < 1/2$  during  $\Delta t$ .
- Since  $X = HZH$  and  $Z = HXH$  ( $H^2 = I$ ), use the **3-qubit bit flip code in the frame defined by  $H$ :**

$$|0\rangle \mapsto \frac{|0\rangle + |1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}} \triangleq |+\rangle, \quad |1\rangle \mapsto \frac{|0\rangle - |1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}} \triangleq |-\rangle, \quad X \mapsto HXH = Z = |+\rangle\langle+| + |-\rangle\langle-|.$$

- $t = +$ :  $|\psi_L\rangle = \alpha|+_L\rangle + \beta|-_L\rangle$  with  $|+_L\rangle = |+++ \rangle$  and  $|-_L\rangle = |-- \rangle$ .
- $t = \Delta t$ :  $|\psi_L\rangle$  becomes with

$$1 \text{ flip: } \begin{cases} \alpha| - + + \rangle + \beta| + - - \rangle \\ \alpha| + - + \rangle + \beta| - + - \rangle \\ \alpha| + + - \rangle + \beta| - - + \rangle \end{cases}; \quad 2 \text{ flips: } \begin{cases} \alpha| - - + \rangle + \beta| + + - \rangle \\ \alpha| - + - \rangle + \beta| + - + \rangle \\ \alpha| + - - \rangle + \beta| - + + \rangle \end{cases}; \quad 3 \text{ flips: } \alpha| - - - \rangle + \beta| + + + \rangle.$$

- Key fact: **4 orthogonal planes**  $\mathcal{P}_C = \text{span}(|+++ \rangle, |-- \rangle)$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_1 = \text{span}(|- + + \rangle, |+ - - \rangle)$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_2 = \text{span}(|+ - + \rangle, |- + - \rangle)$  and  $\mathcal{P}_3 = \text{span}(|+ + - \rangle, |- - + \rangle)$ .
- **Error syndromes:** 3 commuting observables  $S_1 = I \otimes X \otimes X$ ,  $S_2 = X \otimes I \otimes X$  and  $S_3 = X \otimes X \otimes I$  with spectrum  $\{-1, +1\}$  and outcomes  $(s_1, s_2, s_3) \in \{-1, +1\}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 -1- \quad s_1 = s_2 = s_3: \quad \mathcal{P}_C \ni |\psi_L\rangle &= \begin{cases} \alpha|+++ \rangle + \beta|-- \rangle \\ \beta|+++ \rangle + \alpha|-- \rangle \end{cases} \quad \begin{array}{l} 0 \text{ flip} \\ 3 \text{ flips} \end{array} \quad ; \text{ no correction} \\
 -2- \quad s_1 \neq s_2 = s_3: \quad \mathcal{P}_1 \ni |\psi_L\rangle &= \begin{cases} \alpha| - + + \rangle + \beta| + - - \rangle \\ \beta| - + + \rangle + \alpha| + - - \rangle \end{cases} \quad \begin{array}{l} 1 \text{ flip} \\ 2 \text{ flips} \end{array} \quad ; (Z \otimes I \otimes I)|\psi_L\rangle \in \mathcal{P}_C. \\
 -3- \quad s_2 \neq s_3 = s_1: \quad \mathcal{P}_2 \ni |\psi_L\rangle &= \begin{cases} \alpha| + - + \rangle + \beta| - + - \rangle \\ \beta| + - + \rangle + \alpha| - + - \rangle \end{cases} \quad \begin{array}{l} 1 \text{ flip} \\ 2 \text{ flips} \end{array} \quad ; (I \otimes Z \otimes I)|\psi_L\rangle \in \mathcal{P}_C. \\
 -4- \quad s_3 \neq s_1 = s_2: \quad \mathcal{P}_3 \ni |\psi_L\rangle &= \begin{cases} \alpha| + + - \rangle + \beta| - - + \rangle \\ \beta| + + - \rangle + \alpha| - - + \rangle \end{cases} \quad \begin{array}{l} 1 \text{ flip} \\ 2 \text{ flips} \end{array} \quad ; (I \otimes I \otimes Z)|\psi_L\rangle \in \mathcal{P}_C.
 \end{aligned}$$

<sup>9</sup>  $X = |1\rangle\langle 0| + |0\rangle\langle 1|$ ,  $Z = |0\rangle\langle 0| - |1\rangle\langle 1|$  and  $H = \left(\frac{|0\rangle+|1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}\right)\langle 0| + \left(\frac{|0\rangle-|1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}\right)\langle 1|$ .

- Take the phase flip code  $|+++ \rangle$  and  $|- - - \rangle$ . Replace each  $|+\rangle$  (resp.  $|-\rangle$ ) by  $\frac{|000\rangle + |111\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$  (resp.  $\frac{|000\rangle - |111\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$ ). **New logical qubit**  $|\psi_L\rangle = \alpha|0_L\rangle + \beta|1_L\rangle \in \mathbb{C}^{2^9}$ :

$$|0_L\rangle = \frac{(|000\rangle + |111\rangle)(|000\rangle + |111\rangle)(|000\rangle + |111\rangle)}{2\sqrt{2}}, \quad |1_L\rangle = \frac{(|000\rangle - |111\rangle)(|000\rangle - |111\rangle)(|000\rangle - |111\rangle)}{2\sqrt{2}}$$

- Local errors:** each of the 9 physical qubits can have a bit-flip  $X$ , a phase flip  $Z$  or a bit flip followed by a phase flip  $ZX = iY$ <sup>10</sup> with probability  $p$  during  $\Delta t$ .
- Denote by  $X_k$  (resp.  $Y_k$  and  $Z_k$ ), the local operator  $X$  (resp.  $Y$  and  $Z$ ) acting on physical qubit no  $k \in \{1, \dots, 9\}$ . Denote by  $\mathcal{P}_c = \text{span}(|0_L\rangle, |1_L\rangle)$  the code space. One get a family of the  $1 + 3 \times 9 = 28$  **orthogonal planes**:

$$\mathcal{P}_c, \quad (X_k \mathcal{P}_c)_{k=1, \dots, 9}, \quad (Y_k \mathcal{P}_c)_{k=1, \dots, 9}, \quad (Z_k \mathcal{P}_c)_{k=1, \dots, 9}.$$

- One can always construct **error syndromes** to obtain, when there is only one error among the 9 qubits during  $\Delta t$ , **the number  $k$  of the qubit and the error type it has undergone** ( $X$ ,  $Y$  or  $Z$ ). These 28 planes are then eigen-planes by the syndromes.
- If the physical qubit  $k$  is subject to **any kind of local errors** associated to arbitrary operator  $M = gI + aX + bY + cZ$  ( $g, a, b, c \in \mathbb{C}$ ),  $|\psi_L\rangle \mapsto \frac{M_k |\psi_L\rangle}{\sqrt{\langle \psi_L | M_k^\dagger M_k | \psi_L \rangle}}$ , the

**syndrome measurements will project the corrupted logical qubit on one of the 4 planes  $\mathcal{P}_c, X_k \mathcal{P}_c, Y_k \mathcal{P}_c$  or  $Z_k \mathcal{P}_c$ .** It is then simple by using either  $I, X_k, Y_k$  or  $Z_k$ , to recover up to a global phase the original logical qubit  $|\psi_L\rangle$ .

<sup>10</sup>  $X = |1\rangle\langle 0| + |0\rangle\langle 1|$ ,  $Z = |0\rangle\langle 0| - |1\rangle\langle 1|$  and  $Y = i|1\rangle\langle 0| - i|0\rangle\langle 1|$ .

- For a logical qubit relying on  $n$  physical qubits, the dimension of the Hilbert has to be larger than  $2(1 + 3n)$  to recover an arbitrary single-qubit error:  $2^n \geq 2(1 + 3n)$  imposing  $n \geq 5$ .
- Efficient constructions of quantum error-correcting codes: stabilizer codes, surface codes where the physical qubits are located on a 2D-lattice, topological codes, ...
- Fault tolerant computations: computing on encoded quantum states; fault-tolerant operations to avoid propagations of errors during encoding, gates and measurement; concatenation and threshold theorem, ...
- Error rates for a DRAM bit  $\leq 10^{-14} \text{ s}^{-1}$  and for a superconducting qubit  $\geq 10^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$  : high order error-correcting codes; important overhead (around 1000 physical qubits to encode a logical one<sup>11</sup>); scalability issues; ...

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<sup>11</sup>A.G. Fowler, M. Mariantoni, J.M. Martinis, A.N. Cleland: Surface codes: Towards practical large-scale quantum computation. Phys. Rev. A,86(3):032324, 2012.

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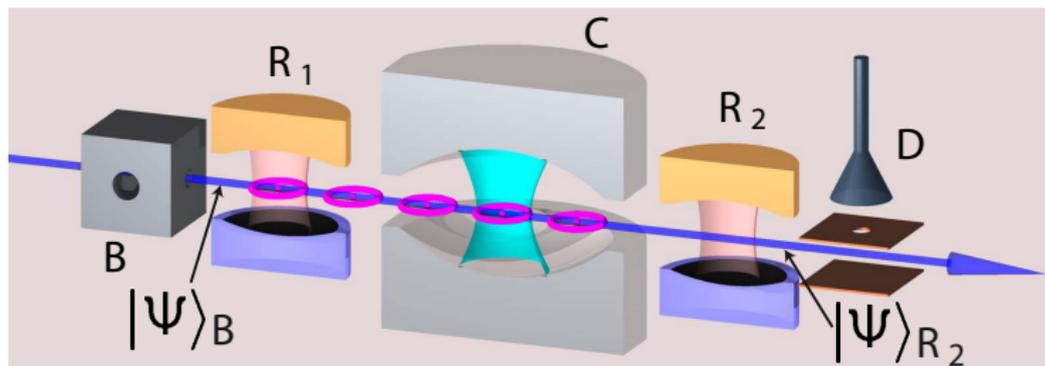
## Appendix: two key quantum systems

Qubit (half-spin)

Harmonic oscillator (spring)

- Quantum error correction is a **feedback scheme**: at each sampling time a measurement is performed and a correction depending only on the measurement outcome is applied.
- From a control engineering view point, QEC is based on a **static output feedback** scheme (feedback without memory) (called also **Markovian feedback**).
- In usual discrete-time setting, measurement (sensor) and correction (actuator) processes are assumed instantaneous.
- Natural question: how to take into account the **finite band-width of the measurement and correction processes**.
- Interest of continuous-time formulations for QEC:
  1. measurement and correction are faster than the error rates but not infinitely faster;
  2. qubit errors can occur during the measurement and the correction processes (fault-tolerance issues).

$|\psi\rangle$  replaced by  $\rho$  (density operator) obeying to a stochastic master equation (SME).



$$|\Psi\rangle_{R_2} = \mathbf{U}_{SM}|\Psi\rangle_B = \mathbf{U}_{SM}(|\psi\rangle \otimes |g\rangle) = (\mathbf{M}_g|\psi\rangle) \otimes |g\rangle + (\mathbf{M}_e|\psi\rangle) \otimes |e\rangle$$

with  $\mathbf{M}_g^\dagger \mathbf{M}_g + \mathbf{M}_e^\dagger \mathbf{M}_e = \mathbf{I}$ .

- **Quantum trajectories** (Markov chain, stochastic dynamics):

$$|\psi_{k+1}\rangle = \begin{cases} \frac{\mathbf{M}_g}{\sqrt{\langle \psi_k | \mathbf{M}_g^\dagger \mathbf{M}_g | \psi_k \rangle}} |\psi_k\rangle, & y_k = g \text{ with probability } \langle \psi_k | \mathbf{M}_g^\dagger \mathbf{M}_g | \psi_k \rangle; \\ \frac{\mathbf{M}_e}{\sqrt{\langle \psi_k | \mathbf{M}_e^\dagger \mathbf{M}_e | \psi_k \rangle}} |\psi_k\rangle, & y_k = e \text{ with probability } \langle \psi_k | \mathbf{M}_e^\dagger \mathbf{M}_e | \psi_k \rangle; \end{cases}$$

with state  $|\psi_k\rangle$  and measurement outcome  $y_k \in \{g, e\}$  at time-step  $k$ :

- The measurement outcome  $y_k$  at discrete-time step  $k$ , is replaced by the **small amount of measurement signal**  $dy_t \in \mathbb{R}$  obtained during an infinitesimal time interval  $[t, t + dt]$ .
- The **measurement operator**  $M_{y_k}$  becomes  $M_{dy_t}$  **close to identity**:

$$M_{dy_t} = I + \left( -\frac{i}{\hbar} \mathbf{H} - \frac{1}{2} \left( \mathbf{L}^\dagger \mathbf{L} \right) \right) dt + dy_t \mathbf{L}$$

where operator  $\mathbf{L}$  (not necessarily Hermitian) describes the measurement process and  $\mathbf{H}$  is the Hamiltonian corresponding to the coherent evolution.

- The measurement backaction reads

$$|\psi\rangle_{t+dt} = \frac{M_{dy_t} |\psi\rangle_t}{\sqrt{\langle \psi | M_{dy_t}^\dagger M_{dy_t} | \psi \rangle_t}}$$

- Probability density of  $dy \in \mathbb{R}$  knowing  $|\psi\rangle_t$ :  $\frac{e^{-\frac{dy^2}{2dt}}}{\sqrt{2\pi dt}} \langle \psi | M_{dy}^\dagger M_{dy} | \psi \rangle_t$ .

Coincides up to order  $O(dt^{3/2})$  terms to  $dy = \langle \psi | (\mathbf{L} + \mathbf{L}^\dagger) | \psi \rangle_t dt + dW$  where  $dW$  is a Wiener process (Gaussian of zero mean and variance  $dt$ ).

**Quantum Monte-Carlo simulations with MATLAB:** QNDqubit.m ( $\mathbf{L} = \sigma_z$ ,  $\mathbf{H} = 0$ )

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<sup>12</sup>For a mathematical exposure: A. Barchielli, M. Gregoratti: Quantum Trajectories and Measurements in Continuous Time: the Diffusive Case. Springer Verlag, 2009.

Consider once again the LKB photon-box:

$$|\psi_{k+1}\rangle = \begin{cases} \frac{M_g}{\sqrt{\langle \psi_k | M_g^\dagger M_g | \psi_k \rangle}} |\psi_k\rangle, & y_k = g \text{ with probability } \langle \psi_k | M_g^\dagger M_g | \psi_k \rangle; \\ \frac{M_e}{\sqrt{\langle \psi_k | M_e^\dagger M_e | \psi_k \rangle}} |\psi_k\rangle, & y_k = e \text{ with probability } \langle \psi_k | M_e^\dagger M_e | \psi_k \rangle; \end{cases}$$

Assume known  $|\psi_0\rangle$  and **detector out of order** ( $y = \emptyset$ ): **what about**  $|\psi_1\rangle$  ?

- ▶ Expectation value of  $|\psi_1\rangle \langle \psi_1|$  knowing  $|\psi_0\rangle$ :<sup>13</sup>

$$\mathbb{E} (|\psi_1\rangle \langle \psi_1| \mid |\psi_0\rangle) = M_g |\psi_0\rangle \langle \psi_0| M_g^\dagger + M_e |\psi_0\rangle \langle \psi_0| M_e^\dagger.$$

- ▶ Set  $K(\rho) \triangleq M_g \rho M_g^\dagger + M_e \rho M_e^\dagger$  for any operator  $\rho$ .
- ▶  $\rho_k$  expectation of  $|\psi_k\rangle \langle \psi_k|$  knowing  $|\psi_0\rangle$ :

$$\rho_{k+1} = K(\rho_k) \text{ and } \rho_0 = |\psi_0\rangle \langle \psi_0|.$$

**Linear map  $K$** : trace preserving Kraus map (quantum channel).

**Density operators  $\rho$** : convex space of Hermitian non-negative operators of trace one.

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<sup>13</sup> $|\psi\rangle \langle \psi|$ : orthogonal projector on line spanned by unitary vector  $|\psi\rangle$ .

Detector efficiency  $\eta \in [0, 1]$ . Output  $y \in \{g, e, \emptyset\}$ :

$$\rho_{k+1} = \begin{cases} \frac{\mathbf{K}_g(\rho_k)}{\text{Tr}(\mathbf{K}_g(\rho_k))}, & y_k = g \text{ with probability } \text{Tr}(\mathbf{K}_g(\rho_k)); \\ \frac{\mathbf{K}_e(\rho_k)}{\text{Tr}(\mathbf{K}_e(\rho_k))}, & y_k = e \text{ with probability } \text{Tr}(\mathbf{K}_e(\rho_k)); \\ \frac{\mathbf{K}_\emptyset(\rho_k)}{\text{Tr}(\mathbf{K}_\emptyset(\rho_k))}, & y_k = \emptyset \text{ with probability } \text{Tr}(\mathbf{K}_\emptyset(\rho_k)); \end{cases}$$

with Kraus maps

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{K}_g(\rho) &= \eta \mathbf{M}_g \rho \mathbf{M}_g^\dagger, & \mathbf{K}_e(\rho) &= \eta \mathbf{M}_e \rho \mathbf{M}_e^\dagger \\ \mathbf{K}_\emptyset(\rho) &= (1 - \eta) \left( \mathbf{M}_g \rho \mathbf{M}_g^\dagger + \mathbf{M}_e \rho \mathbf{M}_e^\dagger \right). \end{aligned}$$

We still have:

$$\mathbb{E}(\rho_{k+1} \mid \rho_k) \triangleq \mathbf{K}(\rho_k) = \mathbf{M}_g \rho_k \mathbf{M}_g^\dagger + \mathbf{M}_e \rho_k \mathbf{M}_e^\dagger = \sum_y \mathbf{K}_y(\rho_k).$$

## Discrete-time quantum trajectories for open quantum systems

Four features:

1. **Bayes law:**  $\mathbb{P}(\mu/y) = \mathbb{P}(y/\mu)\mathbb{P}(\mu) / (\sum_{\mu'} \mathbb{P}(y/\mu')\mathbb{P}(\mu'))$ ,
2. **Schrödinger equations** defining unitary transformations.
3. **Partial collapse of the wave packet:** irreversibility and dissipation are induced by the measurement of observables with **degenerate** spectra.
4. **Tensor product for the description of composite systems.**

$\Rightarrow$  **Discrete-time Q. traj.** : **Markov processes** of state  $\rho$ , (density op.):

$$\rho_{k+1} = \frac{\sum_{\mu=1}^m \eta_{y,\mu} \mathbf{M}_{\mu} \rho_k \mathbf{M}_{\mu}^{\dagger}}{\text{Tr}(\sum_{\mu=1}^m \eta_{y,\mu} \mathbf{M}_{\mu} \rho_k \mathbf{M}_{\mu}^{\dagger})}, \text{ with proba. } \mathbb{P}_y(\rho_k) = \sum_{\mu=1}^m \eta_{y,\mu} \text{Tr}(\mathbf{M}_{\mu} \rho_k \mathbf{M}_{\mu}^{\dagger})$$

associated to **Kraus maps**<sup>14</sup> (ensemble average, quantum channel)

$$\mathbb{E}(\rho_{k+1}|\rho_k) = \mathbf{K}(\rho_k) = \sum_{\mu} \mathbf{M}_{\mu} \rho_k \mathbf{M}_{\mu}^{\dagger} \quad \text{with} \quad \sum_{\mu} \mathbf{M}_{\mu}^{\dagger} \mathbf{M}_{\mu} = \mathbf{I}$$

and left stochastic matrices (imperfections, decoherences)  $(\eta_{y,\mu})$ .

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<sup>14</sup>M.A. Nielsen, I.L. Chuang: Quantum Computation and Quantum Information. Cambridge University Press, 2000.

## Discrete-time models: Markov chains

$$\rho_{k+1} = \frac{\sum_{\mu=1}^m \eta_{y,\mu} \mathbf{M}_{\mu} \rho_k \mathbf{M}_{\mu}^{\dagger}}{\text{Tr}(\sum_{\mu=1}^m \eta_{y,\mu} \mathbf{M}_{\mu} \rho_k \mathbf{M}_{\mu}^{\dagger})}, \text{ with proba. } \mathbb{P}_y(\rho_k) = \sum_{\mu=1}^m \eta_{y,\mu} \text{Tr}(\mathbf{M}_{\mu} \rho_k \mathbf{M}_{\mu}^{\dagger})$$

with ensemble averages corresponding to Kraus linear maps

$$\mathbb{E}(\rho_{k+1} | \rho_k) = \mathbf{K}(\rho_k) = \sum_{\mu} \mathbf{M}_{\mu} \rho_k \mathbf{M}_{\mu}^{\dagger} \quad \text{with} \quad \sum_{\mu} \mathbf{M}_{\mu}^{\dagger} \mathbf{M}_{\mu} = \mathbf{I}$$

## Continuous-time models: stochastic differential systems <sup>15</sup>

$$d\rho_t = \left( -\frac{i}{\hbar} [\mathbf{H}, \rho_t] + \sum_{\nu} \mathbf{L}_{\nu} \rho_t \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} - \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} \mathbf{L}_{\nu} \rho_t + \rho_t \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} \mathbf{L}_{\nu}) \right) dt \\ + \sum_{\nu} \sqrt{\eta_{\nu}} \left( \mathbf{L}_{\nu} \rho_t + \rho_t \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} - \text{Tr}((\mathbf{L}_{\nu} + \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger}) \rho_t) \rho_t \right) dW_{\nu,t}$$

driven by Wiener processes  $dW_{\nu,t}$ , with measurements  $y_{\nu,t}$ ,

$dy_{\nu,t} = \sqrt{\eta_{\nu}} \text{Tr}((\mathbf{L}_{\nu} + \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger}) \rho_t) dt + dW_{\nu,t}$ , detection efficiencies  $\eta_{\nu} \in [0, 1]$  and Lindblad-Kossakowski master equations ( $\eta_{\nu} \equiv 0$ ):

$$\frac{d}{dt} \rho = -\frac{i}{\hbar} [\mathbf{H}, \rho] + \sum_{\nu} \mathbf{L}_{\nu} \rho \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} - \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} \mathbf{L}_{\nu} \rho + \rho \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} \mathbf{L}_{\nu})$$

<sup>15</sup>A. Barchielli, M. Gregoratti: Quantum Trajectories and Measurements in Continuous Time: the Diffusive Case. Springer Verlag, 2009.

With a single imperfect measurement  $dy_t = \sqrt{\eta} \text{Tr}((L + L^\dagger)\rho_t) dt + dW_t$  and detection efficiency  $\eta \in [0, 1]$ , the quantum state  $\rho_t$  is usually mixed and obeys to

$$d\rho_t = \left( -\frac{i}{\hbar}[\mathbf{H}, \rho_t] + \mathbf{L}\rho_t\mathbf{L}^\dagger - \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{L}^\dagger\mathbf{L}\rho_t + \rho_t\mathbf{L}^\dagger\mathbf{L}) \right) dt + \sqrt{\eta} \left( \mathbf{L}\rho_t + \rho_t\mathbf{L}^\dagger - \text{Tr}((\mathbf{L} + \mathbf{L}^\dagger)\rho_t) \rho_t \right) dW_t$$

driven by the Wiener process  $dW_t$

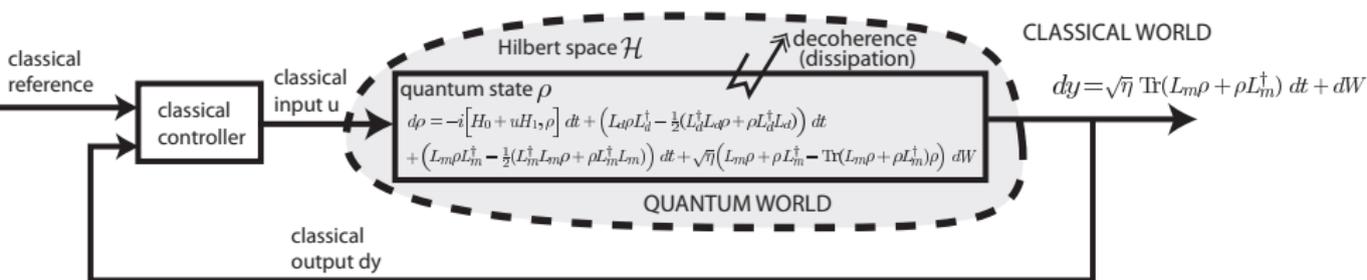
With **Itô rules**, it can be written as the following "discrete-time" Markov model

$$\rho_{t+dt} = \frac{\mathbf{M}_{dy_t}\rho_t\mathbf{M}_{dy_t}^\dagger + (1 - \eta)\mathbf{L}\rho_t\mathbf{L}^\dagger dt}{\text{Tr}(\mathbf{M}_{dy_t}\rho_t\mathbf{M}_{dy_t}^\dagger + (1 - \eta)\mathbf{L}\rho_t\mathbf{L}^\dagger dt)}$$

with  $\mathbf{M}_{dy_t} = I + \left(-\frac{i}{\hbar}\mathbf{H} - \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{L}^\dagger\mathbf{L})\right) dt + \sqrt{\eta}dy_t\mathbf{L}$ .

$\rho_0$  density operator  $\mapsto$  for all  $t > 0$ ,  $\rho_t$  density operator

<sup>16</sup>Such SME precisely describe cutting-edge experiments with superconducting qubits under homodyne and heterodyne continuous-time measurements. See, e.g., the group of Benjamin Huard at ENS-Lyon: <http://www.physinfo.fr/index.html>.



- How to achieve QEC with the above measurement-based feedback scheme where the controller admits a memory (a dynamical system, possibly stochastic).
- In <sup>17</sup> QEC is implicitly formulated as feedback **stabilization of the code space  $\mathcal{P}_c$**  under **quantum non demolition measurement**. Numerical closed-loop simulations indicate promising convergence properties but a precise mathematical convergence analysis is missing. Many open issues such as precise estimates of convergence rates in closed-loop <sup>18</sup>

<sup>17</sup>C. Ahn, A. C. Doherty, and A. J. Landahl. Continuous quantum error correction via quantum feedback control. Phys. Rev. A, 65:042301, March 2002.

<sup>18</sup>Preliminary results in, e.g., G. Cardona, A. Sarlette, and PR. Exponential stochastic stabilization of a two-level quantum system via strict Lyapunov control. arXiv:1803.07542.

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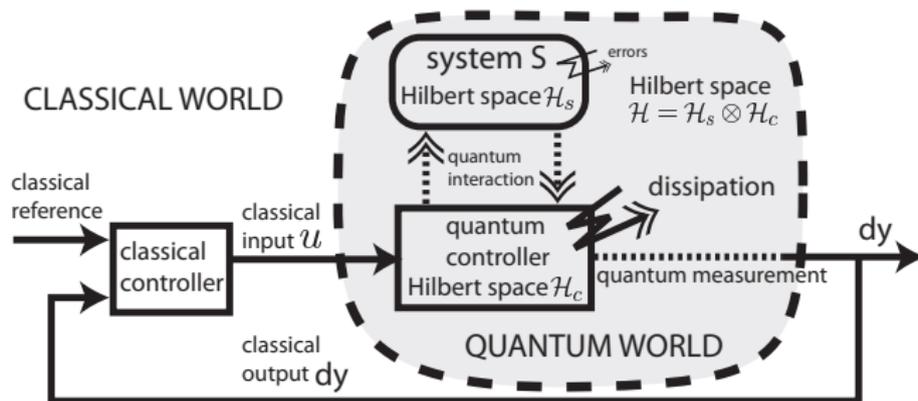
Autonomous QEC and coherent feedback

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Qubit (half-spin)

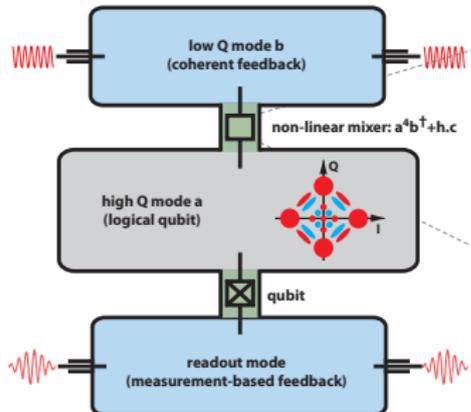
Harmonic oscillator (spring)

- Quantum analogue of Watt speed governor where a **dissipative** mechanical system controls another mechanical system<sup>19</sup>
- Coherent feedback where the controller is another quantum systems<sup>20</sup>:



<sup>19</sup>J.C. Maxwell: [On governors](#). Proc. of the Royal Society, No.100, 1868.

<sup>20</sup>Optical pumping ([Kastler 1950](#)), coherent population trapping ([Arimondo 1996](#)), dissipation engineering, autonomous feedback: ([Zoller, Cirac, Wolf, Verstraete, Devoret, Siddiqi, Lloyd, Viola, Ticozzi, Mirrahimi, Sarlette, ...](#))



- Quantic in Paris<sup>a</sup>: 3 theoreticians, 1 experimentalist, 4 PhD, 2 PostDocs.
- Development of theoretical methods and experimental devices ensuring robust processing of quantum information.

<sup>a</sup><https://team.inria.fr/quantic/>

- Address Quantum Error Correction (QEC) in a new direction<sup>21</sup>: instead of relying on a large number of physical qubits and collective syndrome measurements to obtain a logical qubit, engineer a logical qubit of tunable high fidelity, localized in a single harmonic oscillator (**cat qubit**), relying on measurement-based and coherent feedback schemes, exploiting typical nonlinearities of Josephson superconducting circuits, and subject essentially to one error channel (finite photon life-time).

<sup>21</sup>M. Mirrahimi, Z. Leghtas, V.V. Albert, S. Touzard, R.J. Schoelkopf, L. Jiang, and M.H. Devoret. Dynamically protected cat-qubits: a new paradigm for universal quantum computation. *New Journal of Physics*, 16:045014, 2014.

- ▶ Hilbert space:

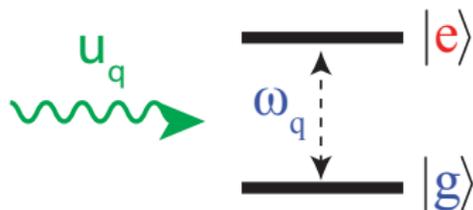
$$\mathcal{H}_M = \mathbb{C}^2 = \left\{ c_g |g\rangle + c_e |e\rangle, c_g, c_e \in \mathbb{C} \right\}.$$

- ▶ Quantum state space:

$$\mathcal{D} = \left\{ \rho \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}_M), \rho^\dagger = \rho, \text{Tr}(\rho) = 1, \rho \geq 0 \right\}.$$

- ▶ Operators and commutations:

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_z &= |g\rangle\langle e|, \sigma_+ = \sigma_z^\dagger = |e\rangle\langle g| \\ \sigma_x &= \sigma_z + \sigma_+ = |g\rangle\langle e| + |e\rangle\langle g|; \\ \sigma_y &= i\sigma_z - i\sigma_+ = i|g\rangle\langle e| - i|e\rangle\langle g|; \\ \sigma_z &= \sigma_+\sigma_z - \sigma_z\sigma_+ = |e\rangle\langle e| - |g\rangle\langle g|; \\ \sigma_x^2 &= I, \sigma_x\sigma_y = i\sigma_z, [\sigma_x, \sigma_y] = 2i\sigma_z, \dots \end{aligned}$$



- ▶ Hamiltonian:  $\mathbf{H}_M/\hbar = \omega_q \sigma_z/2 + \mathbf{u}_q \sigma_x$ .

- ▶ Bloch sphere representation:

$$\mathcal{D} = \left\{ \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{I} + x\sigma_x + y\sigma_y + z\sigma_z) \mid (x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3, x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \leq 1 \right\}$$

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<sup>22</sup> See S. M. Barnett, P.M. Radmore: Methods in Theoretical Quantum Optics. Oxford University Press, 2003.

- ▶ Hilbert space:

$$\mathcal{H}_S = \left\{ \sum_{n \geq 0} \psi_n |n\rangle, (\psi_n)_{n \geq 0} \in l^2(\mathbb{C}) \right\} \equiv L^2(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C})$$

- ▶ Quantum state space:

$$\mathcal{D} = \{ \rho \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}_S), \rho^\dagger = \rho, \text{Tr}(\rho) = 1, \rho \geq 0 \}.$$

- ▶ Operators and commutations:

$$\mathbf{a} |n\rangle = \sqrt{n} |n-1\rangle, \mathbf{a}^\dagger |n\rangle = \sqrt{n+1} |n+1\rangle;$$

$$\mathbf{N} = \mathbf{a}^\dagger \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{N} |n\rangle = n |n\rangle;$$

$$[\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a}^\dagger] = \mathbf{I}, \mathbf{a} f(\mathbf{N}) = f(\mathbf{N} + \mathbf{I}) \mathbf{a};$$

$$\mathbf{D}_\alpha = e^{\alpha \mathbf{a}^\dagger - \alpha^\dagger \mathbf{a}}.$$

$$\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{X} + i\mathbf{P} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( x + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right), [\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{P}] = i\mathbf{I}/2.$$

- ▶ Hamiltonian:  $\mathbf{H}_S/\hbar = \omega_c \mathbf{a}^\dagger \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{u}_c (\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{a}^\dagger)$ .

(associated classical dynamics:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \omega_c p, \frac{dp}{dt} = -\omega_c x - \sqrt{2} u_c).$$

- ▶ Classical pure state  $\equiv$  coherent state  $|\alpha\rangle$

$$\alpha \in \mathbb{C} : |\alpha\rangle = \sum_{n \geq 0} \left( e^{-|\alpha|^2/2} \frac{\alpha^n}{\sqrt{n!}} \right) |n\rangle; |\alpha\rangle \equiv \frac{1}{\pi^{1/4}} e^{i\sqrt{2}x\Im\alpha} e^{-\frac{(x-\sqrt{2}\Re\alpha)^2}{2}}$$

$$\mathbf{a} |\alpha\rangle = \alpha |\alpha\rangle, \mathbf{D}_\alpha |0\rangle = |\alpha\rangle.$$

