

**Quantum observations
talk 5**

Vladimír Bužek

Research Center for Quantum Information, Bratislava, Slovakia

6 September 2012

**Sharif University of Technology,
Tehran**

Reconstruction of q-channels

Qubit – encoding orientation

Pure state of a spin -1/2 particle

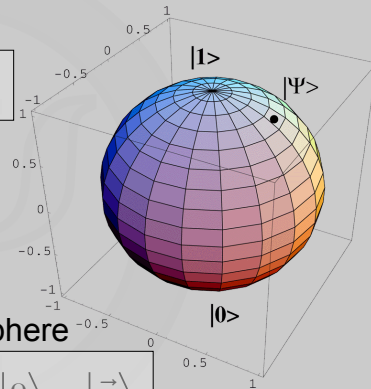
$$|\psi\rangle = \cos \vartheta/2 |1\rangle + e^{i\varphi} \sin \vartheta/2 |0\rangle$$

2-d Hilbert space

density operator

$$\hat{\rho} = \frac{1}{2}(\hat{I} + \vec{n} \cdot \vec{\sigma}) = \frac{1}{2}(\hat{I} + n_x \hat{\sigma}_x + n_y \hat{\sigma}_y + n_z \hat{\sigma}_z)$$

$$\rho = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \vec{n} \cdot \vec{\sigma}) = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & n_x \\ n_y & n_z \end{pmatrix} \leftrightarrow \vec{n} = (n_x, n_y, n_z)$$

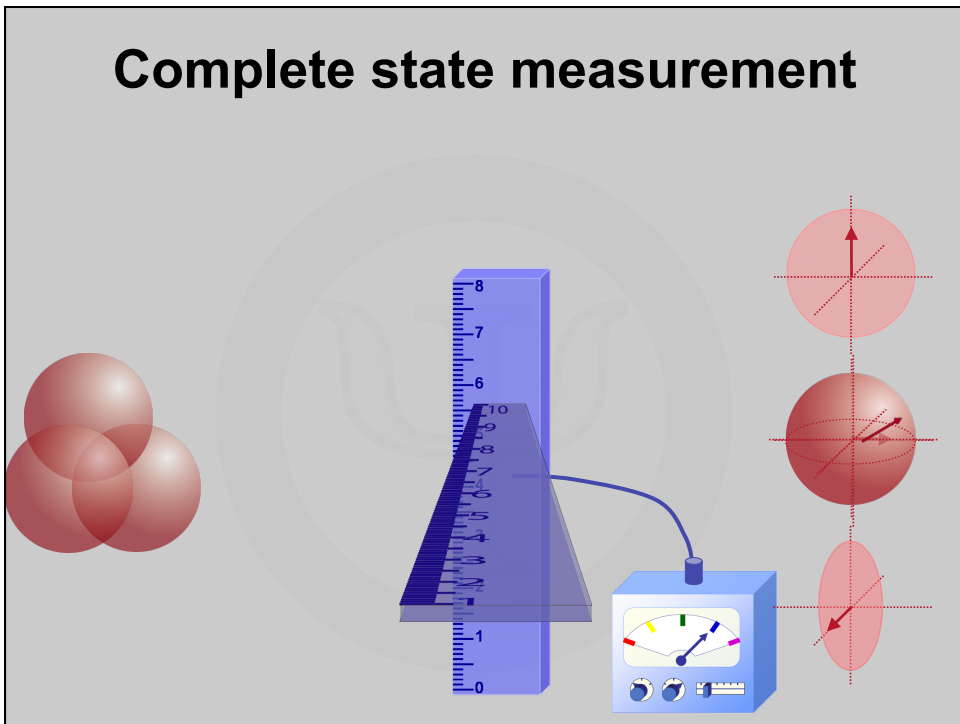


State space – Bloch (Poincare) sphere

$$|\psi\rangle = \cos \vartheta/2 |1\rangle + e^{i\varphi} \sin \vartheta/2 |0\rangle = |\vec{n}\rangle$$

$$\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\sigma} |\vec{n}\rangle = \vec{n} |\vec{n}\rangle$$

Complete state measurement



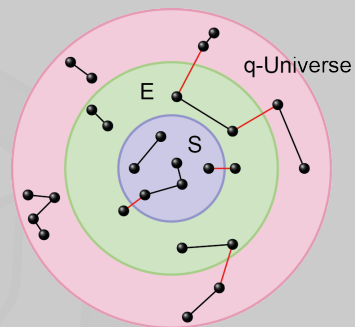
Black-box problem

- Having a black box (with no memory) processing one qubit in a time, how can we determine this channel?



C.W.Holstrom, *Quantum detection and estimation theory* (Academic Press, New York, 1976)
 A.S.Holevo, *Probabilistic and statistical aspects of quantum theory* (North Holland, Amsterdam, 1982)
 J.F.Poyatos and J.I.Cirac, PRL 78, 390 (1997)

Open quantum systems



$$\hat{H}_{SE} = \hat{H}_S \otimes \hat{1}_E + \hat{H}_{int} + \hat{1}_S \otimes \hat{H}_E$$

$$\hat{\rho}_{SE}(t) = \exp[-i(t - t_0)\hat{H}_{SE}]\hat{\rho}_{SE}(t_0) \exp[i(t - t_0)\hat{H}_{SE}]$$

$$\hat{\rho}_{SE}(t_0) = \hat{\rho}_S(t_0) \otimes \hat{\rho}_E(t_0)$$

Reduced dynamics

$$\hat{\rho}_S(t) := \hat{\mathcal{T}}(t, t_0) \hat{\rho}_S(t_0) = \text{Tr}_E [\hat{\rho}_{SE}(t)]$$

$\hat{\mathcal{T}}(t, t_0)$ is a linear map which transforms the input state $\hat{\rho}_S(t_0)$ onto the output state $\hat{\rho}_S(t)$.

The question: how we can determine (reconstruct) the master equation which governs the time evolution of the reduced density operator $\hat{\rho}_S(t)$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \hat{\rho}(t) = \hat{\mathcal{L}}(t, t_0) \hat{\rho}(t).$$

Liouvillian superoperator

This master equation can be written in the *convolutionless* form

$$\frac{d}{dt} \hat{\rho}(t) = \hat{\mathcal{L}}(t, t_0) \hat{\rho}(t).$$

due to the fact that in the *finite-dimensional* Hilbert spaces matrix elements of density operators are analytic functions. Consequently, $\hat{\mathcal{T}}(t, t_0)$ are non-singular operators (except may be for a set of *isolated* values of t) in which case the inverse operators $\hat{\mathcal{T}}(t, t_0)^{-1}$ exist and the Liouvillian superoperator can be expressed as

$$\hat{\mathcal{L}}(t, t_0) := \left[\frac{d}{dt} \hat{\mathcal{T}}(t, t_0) \right] \hat{\mathcal{T}}^{-1}(t, t_0).$$

$\hat{\mathcal{T}}(t, t_0)$ is uniquely specified by \hat{H}_{SE} and by the initial state $\hat{\rho}_E(t_0)$ of the environment.

Reconstruction of the map $\hat{\mathcal{T}}(t, t_0)$

Let us assume that the system S has been initially prepared in a pure state

$$|\Psi(t_0)\rangle = \sum_{i_1=0}^N c_{i_1} |i_1\rangle$$

where $|i_1\rangle$ are basis vectors in the $(N + 1)$ -dimensional Hilbert space \mathcal{H}_S of the system under consideration.

The environment is initially prepared in a state $\hat{\rho}_E(t_0) = \sum_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2} d_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2} |\alpha_1\rangle_E \langle \alpha_2|$, where $|\alpha_i\rangle_E$ are basis vectors in the Hilbert space \mathcal{H}_E of the environment.

Reconstruction of the map $\hat{\mathcal{T}}(t, t_0)$

The physical process $\hat{\mathcal{T}}(t_k, t_0)$ is determined by a transformation acting on basis vectors of the system and the environment

$$|i_1\rangle_S |\alpha_1\rangle_E \xrightarrow{\hat{\mathcal{T}}(t_k)} \sum_{j_1=0}^N \sum_{\beta_1} E_{(i_1 j_1)(\alpha_1 \beta_1)}(t_k) |j_1\rangle_S |\beta_1\rangle_E.$$

The output density operator $\hat{\rho}(t_k)$

$$\hat{\rho}(t_k) = \sum_{i_1, i_2=0}^N c_{i_1} (c_{i_2})^* \hat{R}_{(i_1, i_2)}(t_k),$$

where $(N + 1)^2$ operators $\hat{R}_{(i_1, i_2)}(t_k)$

$$\hat{R}_{(i_1, i_2)}(t_k) = \sum_{j_1, j_2=0}^N D_{(i_1, i_2)(j_1, j_2)}(t_k) |j_1\rangle \langle j_2|,$$

with

$$D_{(i_1, i_2)(j_1, j_2)}(t_k) = \sum_{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \gamma} d_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2} \times E_{(i_1 j_1)(\alpha_1 \gamma)}(t_k) E_{(i_2 j_2)(\alpha_2 \gamma)}^*(t_k).$$

Properties of $\hat{R}_{(i_1, i_2)}(t_k)$

The process $\hat{\mathcal{T}}(t_k)$ for a given time t_k is *completely* determined by $(N + 1)^2$ operators $\hat{R}_{(i_1, i_2)}(t_k)$, which in turn are specified by the $(N + 1)^2 \times (N + 1)^2$ matrix elements $D_{(i_1, i_2)(j_1, j_2)}(t_k)$.

$\hat{R}_{(i_1, i_2)}(t_k)$ have the properties

$$\text{Tr} \hat{R}_{(i_1, i_2)}(t_k) = \delta_{i_1, i_2}; \quad (\hat{R}_{(i_1, i_2)}(t_k))^\dagger = \hat{R}_{(i_2, i_1)}(t_k),$$

or, equivalently,

$$\sum_{j=0}^N D_{(i_1, i_2)(j, j)}(t_k) = \delta_{i_1, i_2}; \quad D_{(i_1, i_2)(j_1, j_2)}^*(t_k) = D_{(i_2, i_1)(j_2, j_1)}(t_k).$$

Determination of $\hat{R}_{(i_1, i_2)}(t_k)$

In order to specify the $(N + 1)^2$ operators $\hat{R}_{(i_1, i_2)}(t_k)$ one has to consider $(N + 1)^2$ specific initial conditions $|\Psi^{(k_1, k_2)}\rangle_{in} = \sum_{i_1=0}^N c_{i_1}^{(k_1, k_2)} |i_1\rangle$ where $k_1, k_2 = 0, 1, \dots, N$ and to measure the corresponding $(N + 1)^2$ output density operators $\hat{\rho}^{(k_1, k_2)}(t_k)$ which can be expressed as

$$\hat{\rho}^{(k_1, k_2)}(t_k) = \sum_{i_1, i_2=0}^N M_{(k_1, k_2)(i_1, i_2)} \hat{R}_{(i_1, i_2)}(t_k),$$

where

$$M_{(k_1, k_2)(i_1, i_2)} = c_{i_1}^{(k_1, k_2)} (c_{i_2}^{(k_1, k_2)})^*.$$

If the $(N + 1)^2$ initial conditions $|\Psi^{(k_1, k_2)}\rangle_{in}$ are chosen so, that the matrix $M_{(k_1, k_2)(i_1, i_2)}$ is invertible, then the set of equations can be solved with respect of the operators $\hat{R}_{(i_1, i_2)}(t_k)$.

Determination of $\hat{R}_{(i_1, i_2)}(t_k)$

To make the reconstruction possible the matrix M has to be invertible. Obviously, there are many choices of such matrix. For instance M is given by complex amplitudes $c_i^{(k_1, k_2)}$ specified as

$$c_i^{(k_1, k_2)} = \begin{cases} (\delta_{i, k_1} + \delta_{i, k_2})/\sqrt{2} & \text{if } k_1 > k_2 \\ \delta_{i, k_1} & \text{if } k_1 = k_2 \\ (\delta_{i, k_1} + i\delta_{i, k_2})/\sqrt{2} & \text{if } k_1 < k_2 \end{cases} . \quad (1)$$

The reconstruction process described above gives us a set of operators $\hat{R}_{(i_1, i_2)}(t_k)$ which describe the transition of the system from the state $\hat{\rho}(t_0)$ to the state $\hat{\rho}(t_k)$ at a given time t_k . In principle, one can perform a whole sequence of such reconstructions at different times t_1, t_2, \dots, t_K so that the *reduced dynamics* of the studied system can be reconstructed from the measured data.

Reconstruction of $\hat{\mathcal{L}}(t)$

Now our task is to determine (reconstruct) from a set of measurements of the output states $\hat{\rho}^{(k_1, k_2)}(t)$ for given input states $\hat{\rho}^{(k_1, k_2)}(t_0)$, the form of the Liouvillian superoperator $\hat{\mathcal{L}}(t)$.

The operators $\hat{R}_{(i_1, i_2)}(t)$ are also governed by the same master equation

$$\frac{d}{dt} \hat{R}_{(i_1, i_2)}(t) = \hat{\mathcal{L}}(t) \hat{R}_{(i_1, i_2)}(t),$$

Alternatively, for matrix elements $D_{(i_1, i_2)(k_1, k_2)}(t)$

$$\frac{d}{dt} D_{(i_1, i_2)(k_1, k_2)}(t) = \sum_{j_1, j_2=0}^N D_{(i_1, i_2)(j_1, j_2)}(t) G_{(j_1, j_2)(k_1, k_2)}(t),$$

Here the matrix $G_{(j_1, j_2)(k_1, k_2)}(t)$ is defined as

$$G_{(j_1, j_2)(k_1, k_2)}(t) = \langle k_1 | \left(\hat{\mathcal{L}}(t) |j_1\rangle \langle j_2| \right) |k_2\rangle,$$

and it *uniquely* determines the Liouvillian superoperator $\hat{\mathcal{L}}(t)$.

Reconstruction of $\hat{\mathcal{L}}(t)$

We already know how to reconstruct matrices D from the measured data for arbitrary time t (from these data we can also evaluate the corresponding time derivatives). Providing the matrix $D_{(i_1, i_2)(j_1, j_2)}(t)$ is not singular its inverse $\tilde{D}_{(j_1, j_2)(i_1, i_2)}(t)$ can be found and then the reconstructed matrix $G_{(j_1, j_2)(k_1, k_2)}(t)$ is given by a simple expression

$$G_{(j_1, j_2)(k_1, k_2)}(t) = \sum_{i_1, i_2=0}^N \tilde{D}_{(j_1, j_2)(i_1, i_2)}(t) \frac{d}{dt} D_{(i_1, i_2)(k_1, k_2)}(t)$$

from which the superoperator $\hat{\mathcal{L}}(t)$ at time t can be determined.

The end

Example 1: Decay of 2-level atom

Let us consider a two-level system (a two-level atom, a spin-1/2, or a qubit) with a two-dimensional Hilbert space \mathcal{H}_S spanned by two vectors $|1\rangle$ and $|0\rangle$. In order to specify the Liouvillian superoperator $\hat{\mathcal{L}}(t)$ for the two-level atom we have to know the time evolution of four initial states. Let us assume that from the measured data it is found that these states evolve as

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\rho}^{(0,0)}(t) &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}; & \hat{\rho}^{(1,1)}(t) &= \begin{pmatrix} e^{-\Gamma t} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 - e^{-\Gamma t} \end{pmatrix}. \\ \hat{\rho}^{(0,1)}(t) &= \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} e^{-\Gamma t} & ie^{-\Gamma t/2} \\ -ie^{-\Gamma t/2} & 2 - e^{-\Gamma t} \end{pmatrix}; \\ \hat{\rho}^{(1,0)}(t) &= \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} e^{-\Gamma t} & e^{-\Gamma t/2} \\ e^{-\Gamma t/2} & 2 - e^{-\Gamma t} \end{pmatrix}.\end{aligned}$$

Example 1: Decay of 2-level atom

Now we can apply our reconstruction scheme and we find for the matrix $G_{(j_1, j_2)(k_1, k_2)}(t)$ the expression

$$G_{(j_1, j_2)(k_1, k_2)}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} -\Gamma & 0 & 0 & \Gamma \\ 0 & -\Gamma/2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\Gamma/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

This matrix corresponds to the Liouvillian which defines the master equation

$$\frac{d}{dt}\hat{\rho} = \hat{\mathcal{L}}\hat{\rho} = \frac{\Gamma}{2} [2\hat{\sigma}_-\hat{\rho}\hat{\sigma}_+ - \hat{\sigma}_+\hat{\sigma}_-\hat{\rho} - \hat{\rho}\hat{\sigma}_+\hat{\sigma}_-],$$

describing the decay of a two-level atom into a zero-temperature reservoir. The Liouvillian is time independent which reflects the fact that the state of the reservoir does not change in time under the influence of the system.

Example 2: Decay of 2-level atom

Let us consider a single two-level atom coupled to K modes of the electromagnetic field in a one-dimensional cavity of the length L . The spectrum of modes is discrete with frequencies $\omega_k = k\pi c/L$. The corresponding total Hamiltonian in the dipole and rotating-wave approximations reads

$$\hat{H} = \omega_A \hat{\sigma}_z + \sum_{k=1}^K \omega_k \hat{a}_k^\dagger \hat{a}_k + \sum_{k=1}^K \lambda_k (\hat{\sigma}_+ \hat{a}_k + \hat{\sigma}_- \hat{a}_k^\dagger).$$

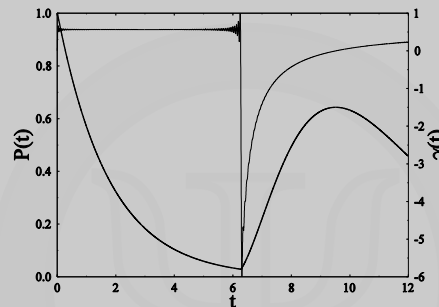
The field is assumed to be initially in the *vacuum* state. By applying our algorithm we find the master equation for the atom

$$\frac{d}{dt} \hat{\rho} = \hat{\mathcal{L}} \hat{\rho} = \frac{\gamma(t)}{2} [2\hat{\sigma}_- \hat{\rho} \hat{\sigma}_+ - \hat{\sigma}_+ \hat{\sigma}_- \hat{\rho} - \hat{\rho} \hat{\sigma}_+ \hat{\sigma}_-],$$

except the "decay" rate $\Gamma \rightarrow \gamma(t)$ is now explicitly time dependent. It can be expressed in terms of the "measured" probability $P(t) = \langle 1 | \hat{\rho}_A(t) | 1 \rangle$ that the upper atomic level is excited:

$$\gamma(t) = - \left(\frac{dP(t)}{dt} \right) P(t)^{-1}.$$

Example 2: Decay of 2-level atom



The time evolution of the decay rate $\gamma(t)$ (thin line) and the population of the excited atomic level $P(t)$ (thick line). We assume the atom to be in the center of the 1-D cavity, so it is coupled only to the odd modes (i.e. $\lambda_{2k} = 0$). We assume $L = 2\pi$ and $c = 1$ so that $\omega_{2k+1} = k+1/2$, and $\lambda_{2k+1} = \lambda = 0.3$. The effective density of modes which interact with the atom is $d_{eff}(\omega) = L/2c\pi = 1$. Therefore the decay rate $\Gamma = 2\pi\lambda^2 d_{eff}(\omega) \simeq 0.564$. We consider $K = 400$ modes of the field initially in the vacuum state and the atom (with $\omega_A = 101$) in its upper state $|1\rangle$.

General operations (maps, channels)

- The density operator

$$\rho = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \vec{r} \cdot \vec{\sigma}) = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \leftrightarrow \vec{r} = (x, y, z)$$

- The general operation is an affine transformation of the Bloch sphere

$$\vec{r} \rightarrow \vec{r}' = T\vec{r} + \vec{t}$$

$$\rho' = \mathcal{E}[\rho] = \sum_l A_l \rho A_l^\dagger$$

$$\mathcal{E} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \vec{t} & \vec{T} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ x & \alpha_1 & \alpha_2 & \alpha_3 \\ y & \beta_1 & \beta_2 & \beta_3 \\ z & \gamma_1 & \gamma_2 & \gamma_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

- With $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \leq 1$ and $\forall j \quad (x - \alpha_j) + (y - \beta_j) + (z - \gamma_j) \leq 1$

Complete Positivity

- Every guess must be completely positive – in general it is hard to achieve analytically
- Check is done by applying an operation in the form

$$\Omega = I \otimes \mathcal{E}$$

on to the maximally entangled state

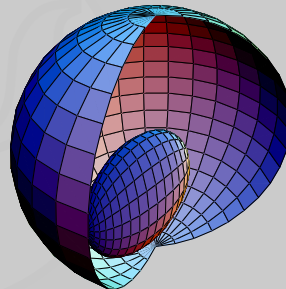
$$|\phi_{-}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle \otimes |1\rangle - |1\rangle \otimes |0\rangle)$$

Example: Specific channel

- Let us assume a specific transformation – map, channel

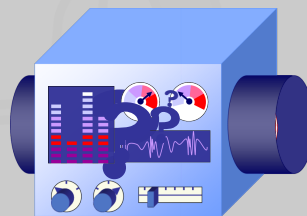
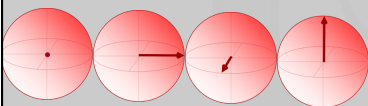
$$\rho' = \mathcal{E}[\rho] = \sum_l A_l \rho A_l^\dagger$$

$$\mathcal{E} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.5 & 0.2 & -0.1 & 0.1 \\ 0 & 0.2 & 0 & -0.3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.3 & 0.3 \end{pmatrix}$$



Complete reconstruction

- For a complete estimation one needs four different states, which are linearly independent.



- Limited resources?

Reconstruction of processes

- Data from the Wunderlich exp.

$$\mathcal{E}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -0.015955 & 0.526585 & 0.009145 & 0.069145 \\ 0.042555 & -0.117015 & 0.581045 & -0.106285 \\ 0.0212745 & -0.1170145 & -0.0319145 & 0.8191495 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3)$$

complete positivity: OK
closer phase damping channel: $\lambda = 0.53$ with $d = 0.166$
phase damping diagonal: $\lambda = 0.55$
phase damping sv: $\lambda = 0.56$
singular values: 0.81285, 0.596037, 0.529654
initiality: $d(\mathcal{E}_1, I) = 0.05$

$$\mathcal{E}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -0.12234 & 0.43021 & -0.0386 & -0.1965 \\ 0.050335 & -0.02905 & 0.428395 & -0.071695 \\ -0.026142 & 0.153802 & 0.153802 & 0.802732 \end{pmatrix} \quad (4)$$

complete positivity: OK
shear phase damping channel: $\lambda = 0.45$ with $d = 0.25$
phase damping diagonal: $\lambda = 0.42$
phase damping sv: $\lambda = 0.44$
singular values: 0.543171, 0.449961, 0.428712
initiality: $d(\mathcal{E}_2, I) = 0.12$

$$\mathcal{E}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -0.03226 & 0.46227 & 0.2043 & -0.0215 \\ -0.021505 & -0.086625 & 0.376345 & -0.073275 \\ -0.0161285 & -0.1021515 & 0.0161285 & 0.7580685 \end{pmatrix} \quad (5)$$

complete positivity: OK
shear phase damping channel: $\lambda = 0.41$ with $d = 0.24$
phase damping diagonal: $\lambda = 0.42$
phase damping sv: $\lambda = 0.44$
singular values: 0.77543, 0.504205, 0.374885
initiality: $d(\mathcal{E}_3, I) = 0.04$

Clickology: Maximum likelihood

- ML works with finite sets of data, not with infinite ensembles
- In case of quantum operations, the relevant data are
 - Input state specification ρ_i
 - Measurement direction $|\psi\rangle_i$
 - Measurement outcome (binary) p_i

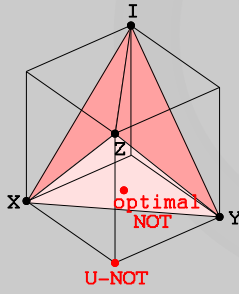
We build a functional $F = \prod_i [\langle \psi_i | \mathcal{E}(\rho_i) | \psi_i \rangle p_i + (1 - \langle \psi_i | \mathcal{E}(\rho_i) | \psi_i \rangle)(1 - p_i)]$

- The numerical task is to find the \mathcal{E} , for which this functional reaches the maximum (using the logarithm of functional)
- Trace-preservation is obtained automatically from the parameterization, CP has to be checked in the algorithm

Unital operations

- Displacement $\vec{t} = 0$
- Affine transformation specified as
- Positivity $\forall j \quad |\lambda_j| \leq 1$
- Complete positivity $|\lambda_1 \pm \lambda_2| \leq |1 \pm \lambda_3|$

$$\varepsilon = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \vec{T} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda_3 \end{pmatrix}$$



Unital CP maps are embedded in the set of all positive unital maps (cube). The CP maps form a tetrahedron with four unitary transformations in its corners (extremal points) I,x,y,z corresponding to the Pauli sigma-matrices.

The unphysical U-NOT operation $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = -1$ and its optimal completely positive approximation quantum universal NOT gate $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = -1/3$ are shown.

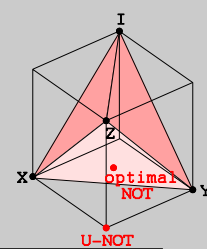
$$|\psi\rangle = \alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle \rightarrow |\psi^\perp\rangle = \beta^*|0\rangle - \alpha^*|1\rangle$$

M.Ziman & V.Buzek, PRA 72, 022110 (2005).

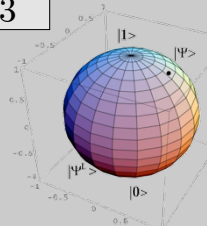
Non-physical maps: U-NOT gate

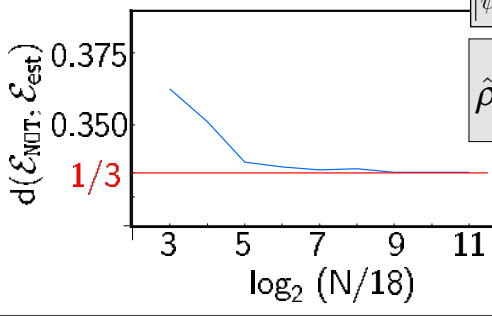
- Universal NOT gate $\varepsilon = \text{diag}(1, -1, -1, -1)$
- Best approximation $\varepsilon = \text{diag}(1, -1/3, -1/3, -1/3)$
- 6 input states – eigenstates of σ_j
- 3 measurements σ_j
- N=100 x 18 clicks

$$|\psi\rangle = \alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle \rightarrow |\psi^\perp\rangle = \beta^*|0\rangle - \alpha^*|1\rangle$$



$$\hat{\rho}_{meas}^\perp = \frac{1}{3} \hat{\rho}^\perp + \frac{1}{3} \hat{I}$$





Approximation of non-physical maps

- **Nonlinear polarization rotation**
- 1800 input states
- 3 measurements

$$\varepsilon[\rho] = \exp\left(i\frac{\Theta}{2}\langle\sigma_z\rangle_\rho\sigma_z\right)\rho\exp\left(-i\frac{\Theta}{2}\langle\sigma_z\rangle_\rho\sigma_z\right)$$

$$\varepsilon = \text{diag}(1, \lambda, \lambda, 1)$$

