

Intro to Quantum Information

Classically:

"bits" - 0 or 1  
          ↑      ↑  
          "off" "on"

Voltage "low" "high"

QM:

QM superpositions;  
entanglement;  
wave function collapse

↓  
quantum information

- Quantum cryptography
- Quantum computing
- Quantum teleportation



Quantum cryptography

Use "randomness" for secure distribution of information

Conventional cryptography: • if we do not have the key => can't decode the message (takes too long to do calculations)

Quantum cryptography:

- relies on fundamental properties of QM => exchange of info with security & no amount of calculation can crack the code
- other people may find a way to do them faster

Important: no-cloning theorem

Quantum cryptography is secure because no one can guarantee to make an exact replica of an arbitrary QM state of the system.

Examples of systems •  $e^-$  with a particular spin state

can one clone?  $\leftarrow$  • photon with a particular polarisation  
(make another  $e^-$  or photon in exactly the same state without changing the state of the original  $e^-$  or photon)

Let's say our initial state is  $|\psi_a\rangle_1 |\psi_s\rangle_2$   
Two-particle      particle 1 is in the state  $\psi_a$       particle 2 is in some "start" state

$$(|\psi_a\rangle_1, |\psi_s\rangle_2 \equiv |\psi_a\rangle_1 \otimes |\psi_s\rangle_2)$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{E}_1 \otimes \mathcal{E}_2}$

Consider  $|\psi_a\rangle_1$  to be some sort of a basis state

For example: • polariz. of a photon can be described as  $c_1|H\rangle + c_2|V\rangle$ , so  $|H\rangle$  &  $|V\rangle$  would be "basis" states  
• for  $e^-$  :  $|+\rangle, |-\rangle$  are basis states

Consider a unitary linear operator (3)

$$\hat{U} = e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} \hat{H} (t - t_0)}$$

↑  
e.g. time evolution

such that  $\hat{U} |\psi_a\rangle_1 |\psi_s\rangle_2 = |\psi_a\rangle_1 |\psi_a\rangle_2$

Let's say we are able to do it with another basis state as well:

$$\hat{U} |\psi_b\rangle_1 |\psi_s\rangle_2 = |\psi_b\rangle_1 |\psi_b\rangle_2$$

leaves particle 1 in the original state but changes the "starting" state of particle 2 to the "clone" of that of particle 1

Now let's try to do the same if the state we are attempting to clone is a superposition:

$$|\psi\rangle_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\psi_a\rangle_1 + |\psi_b\rangle_1)$$

Then, the initial state for a 2-particle system is

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\psi_a\rangle_1 + |\psi_b\rangle_1) |\psi_s\rangle_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\psi_a\rangle_1 |\psi_s\rangle_2 + |\psi_b\rangle_1 |\psi_s\rangle_2)$$

QM are linear operators so

$$\hat{U} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\psi_a\rangle_1 |\psi_s\rangle_2 + |\psi_b\rangle_1 |\psi_s\rangle_2) \right) =$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\psi_a\rangle_1 |\psi_a\rangle_2 + |\psi_b\rangle_1 |\psi_b\rangle_2)$$

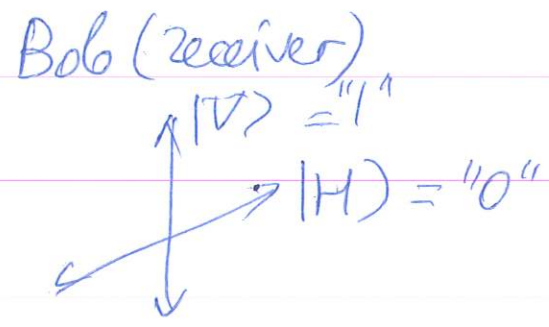
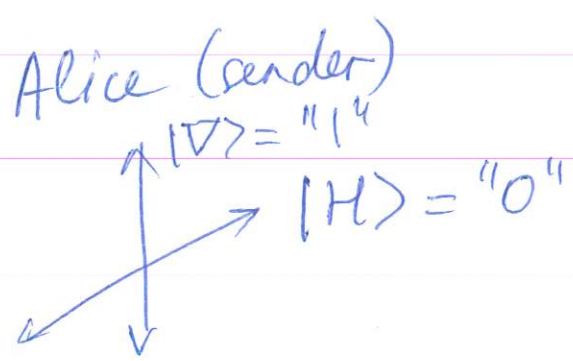
but for cloning we wanted =

$$\frac{1}{2} (|\psi_a\rangle_1 + |\psi_b\rangle_1) (|\psi_a\rangle_2 + |\psi_b\rangle_2)$$

So even if we could clone basis states, we can't clone an arbitrary quantum state  $\Rightarrow$  backup of quantum states is impossible!

A simple quantum encryption scheme

Bennett & Brassard 1984  $\Rightarrow$  use single photons  
- demonstrated over 48 km optical fiber network  
- - - through atmosphere (2000)  
- - - over 1.6 km

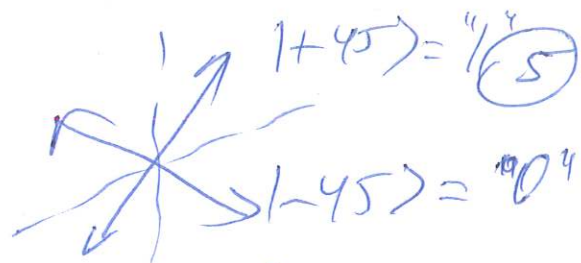
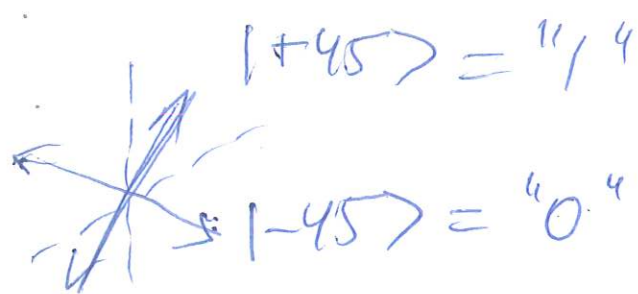


Alice sends a vertically polarized photon ("1")

Bob has a polarizer & separate polarizations onto two detectors  $\Rightarrow$  when he gets a photon in a vertically polarized detector  $\Rightarrow$  "1"

Problem: scheme is not secure

If Eve ("eavesdropper") inserts a detection system like Bob's, intercepts a photon, and re-sends the photon like Alice, no one will know!



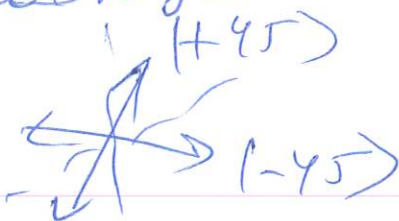
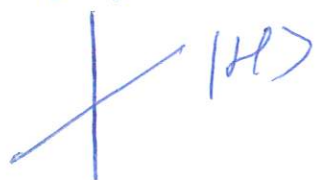
$$|\pm 45\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|H\rangle \pm |V\rangle)$$

$\Rightarrow$  Bob still gets info

If Eve still has her detectors she will have 50% prob. to detect "0" or "1"  $\Rightarrow$



$|V\rangle$  no info (and Bob will know to look for intercepts!)



and vice versa

$\Rightarrow$  no meaningful transmission

error (Eve's error would be 50% and since she can't clone  $\Rightarrow$  Bob would notice)

To secure the communication:

Alice & Bob each randomly choose between  $(|H\rangle - |V\rangle)$  &  $(|45\rangle - |-45\rangle)$  configuration to communicate a bit  $\Rightarrow$

so 2 configurations  $\Rightarrow$  meaningful

2 - - -  $\Rightarrow$  not meaningful

and then call (public phone) to confirm which bits were meaningful.

Current research:

- develop quantum cryptographic techniques with security against sophisticated attacks
- monitor error rates & exclude consequences from partial interception of messages

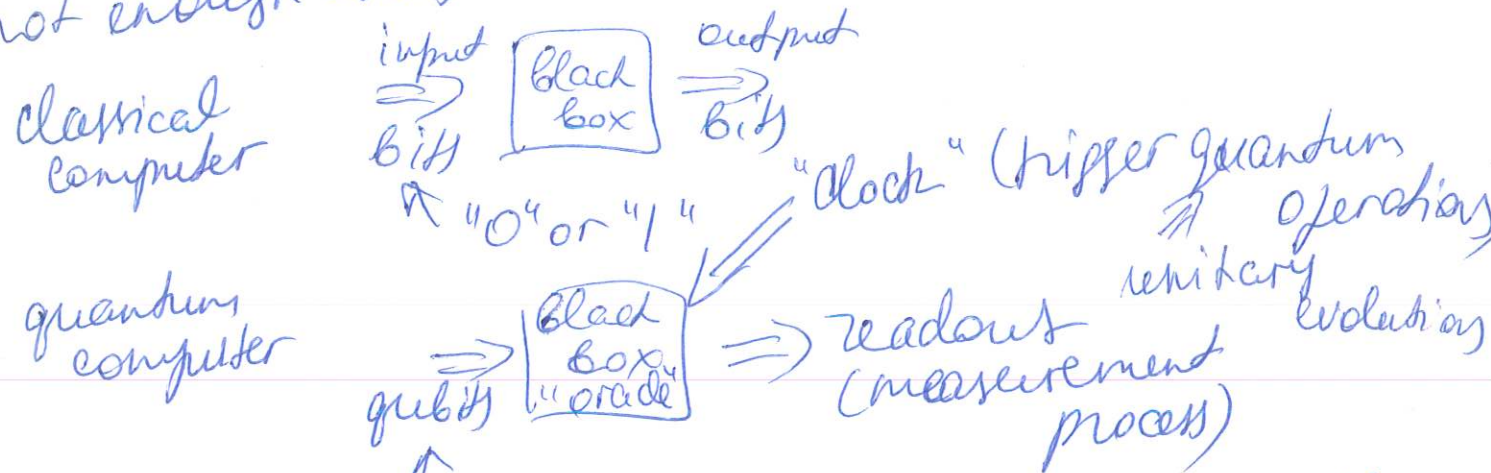
# Quantum computing

(6)

Operate on a quantum state rather than classical  
 $N$  two-level QM systems as inputs  $\Rightarrow 2^N$  numbers

For  $N=300$   
 Binary inputs  
 not enough atoms to store  $2^{300}$  numbers at 1 atom (number)

classical machine can't do it



$|Y\rangle = \leftarrow = c_0|0\rangle + c_1|1\rangle$   
 $\hat{=} \begin{bmatrix} c_0 \\ c_1 \end{bmatrix}$   
 any QM system that can exist in a two-state superposition (e-spin, photon polarization, atom in a superpos. of two states)  
 necessarily throw away some of the info about the final state  
 loss is one of the major issues

$|0\rangle, |1\rangle \Rightarrow$   
 $|H\rangle, |V\rangle$   
 $|+\rangle, |-\rangle$   
 $|s\rangle, |e\rangle$

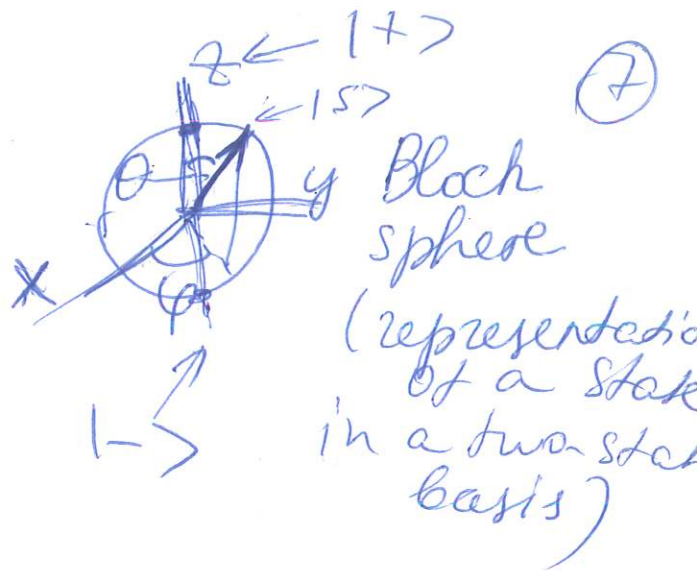
logical "0"  
 Basic operations: (to act on a qubit)  
 Hadamard operator:  $U_H = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$   
 Z operator:  $U_Z = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$

$$U_{NOTX} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\hat{A}$   
NOT X operator

$$|S\rangle = \cos\frac{\theta}{2} |+\rangle + e^{i\varphi} \sin\frac{\theta}{2} |-\rangle$$

$\theta, \varphi$  on Bloch sphere characterize the spin state  
& geometrical  $x, y, z$  directions  $\Rightarrow$  directions of the eigenvectors of the corresponding spin operators



So  $\Rightarrow$   $U$ 's perform rotations of the vector (qubit) on the Bloch sphere

In practice: B-fields for spin qubits  
pulses  
EM fields for atomic states qubits  
polarisation components for photon-based qubits

Another operation:

interaction between 2 qubits  $\Rightarrow$  Controlled-NOT (C-NOT)

2-qubit state is a vector in a 4D Hilbert space

$$|4\rangle = C_{00} |0\rangle_{\text{control}} |0\rangle_{\text{target}} + C_{01} |0\rangle_{\text{control}} |1\rangle_{\text{target}} + C_{10} |1\rangle_{\text{control}} |0\rangle_{\text{target}} + C_{11} |1\rangle_{\text{control}} |1\rangle_{\text{target}} = \begin{bmatrix} C_{00} \\ C_{01} \\ C_{10} \\ C_{11} \end{bmatrix}$$

# Quantum Teleportation

(9)

Transfer a quantum state from one place to another w/o actually transferring the specific carrier of the state

"share entanglement"

note: can't clone

Entangled states: e.g. two photons (EPR pair)

$$|\Phi^\pm\rangle_{12} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|H\rangle_1 |H\rangle_2 \pm |V\rangle_1 |V\rangle_2)$$

$$|\Psi^\pm\rangle_{12} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|H\rangle_1 |V\rangle_2 \pm |V\rangle_1 |H\rangle_2)$$

Bell states

Expt. realization: spont. optical parametric down-conversion  $\Rightarrow$  general EPR pairs

$$\omega = \omega_1 + \omega_2$$

$$\vec{k} = \vec{k}_1 + \vec{k}_2$$

Alice

classical info (phone)

Bob

output

input photon

Bell state meas.

cont. unit delay

photon 3 after 1/2 trans.

photon 2

photon 3

EPR source

$$|\psi\rangle_1 = C_H |H\rangle_1 + C_V |V\rangle_1$$

photon 1

$$|\Psi^-\rangle_{23} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|H\rangle_2 |V\rangle_3 - |V\rangle_2 |H\rangle_3)$$

core trick

entangled photons 2 & 3

$$|\Psi\rangle_{123} = |\psi\rangle_1 |\Psi\rangle_{23} = \frac{1}{2} [ |\Phi^+\rangle_{12} (C_H |V\rangle_3 - C_V |H\rangle_3) + |\Phi^-\rangle_{12} (C_H |V\rangle_3 + C_V |H\rangle_3) + |\Psi^+\rangle_{12} (-C_H |H\rangle_3 + C_V |V\rangle_3) - |\Psi^-\rangle_{12} (-C_H |H\rangle_3 - C_V |V\rangle_3) ]$$

$$+ |\Psi^+\rangle_{12} (C_H |V\rangle_3 + C_V |H\rangle_3) + |\Psi^-\rangle_{12} (-C_H |H\rangle_3 + C_V |V\rangle_3) -$$



$$|\Psi\rangle_{123} = (C_H |H\rangle_2 + C_V |V\rangle_3) \quad (10)$$

So  $|\Psi\rangle_{123}$  is presented as a superposition of Bell states for photons 1 & 2

Now Alice makes a measurement of the Bell state and, say, gets  $|\Phi^-\rangle_{12} \Rightarrow$  then

$$|\Psi\rangle_{123} = \frac{1}{2} |\Phi^-\rangle_{12} (C_H |V\rangle_3 + C_V |H\rangle_3)$$

after the measurement

Alice tells Bob over the phone the result ( $|\Phi^-\rangle_{12}$ ) and so Bob knows that photon 3 is in the state  $C_H |V\rangle_3 + C_V |H\rangle_3$ .

Not the same as original  $C_H |H\rangle_1 + C_V |V\rangle_1$  but easily fixed by polarisation components ( $|V\rangle \rightarrow |H\rangle$ )  
Then photon 3 is in the same state  $|H\rangle \rightarrow |V\rangle$

as photon 1 without Alice or Bob ever knowing what the state was (i.e.  $C_H$  &  $C_V$ )

(For other Alice's measurement results  $\Rightarrow$  choose different polarisation components)

$\Rightarrow$  equivalent of a unitary transformation

Note: measurements of photons 1 & 2 by Alice affect the state of photon 3  $\Rightarrow$  EPR paradox