



Quantum Algorithms

Definitions, Measurement,
Uncomputation, Intro to Phase
Kickback

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Tensor Product of Vectors

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^3 \quad \otimes \quad y = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^3 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \begin{bmatrix} x_1 y \\ x_2 y \\ x_3 y \end{bmatrix} \quad \longrightarrow \quad x \otimes y = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 y_1 \\ x_1 y_2 \\ x_1 y_3 \\ x_2 y_1 \\ x_2 y_2 \\ x_2 y_3 \\ x_3 y_1 \\ x_3 y_2 \\ x_3 y_3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Each component of x multiplies the entire vector y .

$$\dim(\mathbb{C}^3 \otimes \mathbb{C}^3) = 9$$

Tensor Product of Vectors: Binary Example

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^3 \otimes y = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^3 \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1y \\ 0y \\ 1y \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow x \otimes y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \cdot 0 \\ 1 \cdot 1 \\ 1 \cdot 1 \\ 0 \cdot 0 \\ 0 \cdot 1 \\ 0 \cdot 1 \\ 1 \cdot 0 \\ 1 \cdot 1 \\ 1 \cdot 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Each component of x multiplies the entire vector y .

$$\dim(\mathbb{C}^3 \otimes \mathbb{C}^3) = 9$$

Formal Definition

Definition 1 (Tensor Product)

Let V and W be vector spaces over a field K with bases

$$e_1, \dots, e_m \quad \text{and} \quad f_1, \dots, f_n,$$

respectively.

The **tensor product** $V \otimes W$ is a vector space over K of dimension mn , equipped with a bilinear operation

$$\otimes : V \times W \longrightarrow V \otimes W.$$

The tensor product space $V \otimes W$ has basis

$$e_i \otimes f_j, \quad i = 1, \dots, m, \quad j = 1, \dots, n.$$

Definition adapted from Nannicini, *Quantum Algorithms for Optimizers* [1].

Kronecker Product (Matrix Version of Tensor Product)

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Each entry of A multiplies the entire matrix B .

$$A \otimes B = \begin{bmatrix} 1B & 0B \\ 1B & 1B \end{bmatrix}$$

$\Downarrow$

$$A \otimes B = \left[\begin{array}{cc|cc} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right].$$

Dimensions

$$A, B \in \mathbb{C}^{2 \times 2}$$

$\Downarrow$

$$A \otimes B \in \mathbb{C}^{4 \times 4}$$

Formal Definition: Kronecker Product

Definition 2 (Kronecker Product)

Let

$$A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}, \quad B \in \mathbb{C}^{p \times q}.$$

The **Kronecker product** of A and B is

$$D := A \otimes B \in \mathbb{C}^{mp \times nq},$$

defined by

$$A \otimes B = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11}B & \cdots & a_{1n}B \\ a_{21}B & \cdots & a_{2n}B \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1}B & \cdots & a_{mn}B \end{bmatrix}.$$

Relation to Definition 1. The Kronecker product is a generalization of the tensor product from vectors to matrices. For column vectors, the Kronecker product reduces to the usual vector tensor product.

Source: Nannicini, *Quantum Algorithms for Optimizers*, Definition 1.2; see Definition 1.1 for the tensor product [1].

Hermitian Conjugate and Tensor-Power Notation

Notation:

$$A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}, \quad \mathbb{S} \text{ is a vector space.}$$

Conjugate Transpose or Hermitian conjugate

$$A^\dagger := \overline{A}^T$$

Also written as A^H ; here we use $A^\dagger$.

Repeated tensor products

$$A^{\otimes n} = \underbrace{A \otimes A \otimes \cdots \otimes A}_{n \text{ times}}, \quad \mathbb{S}^{\otimes n} = \underbrace{\mathbb{S} \otimes \mathbb{S} \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathbb{S}}_{n \text{ times}}.$$

Binary Strings

Example

$$\vec{j} = (1, 0, 1, 1) \in \{0, 1\}^4.$$

- A binary string of length q is written as

$$\vec{j} \in \{0, 1\}^q, \quad q \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}.$$

- The arrow indicates that $\vec{j}$ is a **string of binary digits**.
- The k -th digit of $\vec{j}$ is written

$$\vec{j}_k \in \{0, 1\}, \quad k = 1, \dots, q.$$

For

$$\vec{j} = (1, 0, 1, 1),$$

we have

$$\vec{j}_1 = 1, \quad \vec{j}_2 = 0, \quad \vec{j}_3 = 1, \quad \vec{j}_4 = 1.$$

Binary String and Its Integer Value

We use j without the arrow to denote the **decimal integer represented by $\vec{j}$** .

$$j = \sum_{k=1}^q \vec{j}_k 2^{q-k}$$

Example

$$\vec{j} = (1, 0, 1, 1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} j &= \vec{j}_1 2^3 + \vec{j}_2 2^2 + \vec{j}_3 2^1 + \vec{j}_4 2^0 \\ &= 1(2^3) + 0(2^2) + 1(2^1) + 1(2^0) \\ &= 8 + 0 + 2 + 1 \\ &= \boxed{11}. \end{aligned}$$

Most Significant Bit and Least Significant Bit

Consider a binary string

$$\vec{j} = (\vec{j}_1, \vec{j}_2, \dots, \vec{j}_q).$$

Most Significant Bit (MSB)

The bit associated with the **largest power of 2**.

For

1011,

the leftmost bit contributes

$$1 \cdot 2^3 = 8.$$

$$\boxed{\text{MSB} = 1}$$

Least Significant Bit (LSB)

The bit associated with the **smallest power of 2**.

For

1011,

the rightmost bit contributes

$$1 \cdot 2^0 = 1.$$

$$\boxed{\text{LSB} = 1}$$

Big-Endian and Little-Endian Ordering

Big-endian

MSB comes first.

$$\vec{j} = (1, 0, 1, 1)$$

$$j = \sum_{k=1}^q \vec{j}_k 2^{q-k}$$

$$j = 1(2^3) + 0(2^2) + 1(2^1) + 1(2^0) = 11.$$

$$\underbrace{1}_{\text{MSB}} \ 0 \ 1 \ \underbrace{1}_{\text{LSB}}$$

Little-endian

LSB comes first.

$$\vec{j} = (1, 1, 0, 1)$$

$$j = \sum_{k=1}^q \vec{j}_k 2^{k-1}$$

$$j = 1(2^0) + 1(2^1) + 0(2^2) + 1(2^3) = 11.$$

$$\underbrace{1}_{\text{LSB}} \ 1 \ 0 \ \underbrace{1}_{\text{MSB}}$$

Same integer, different ordering convention.

Classical Bit vs Quantum Qubit

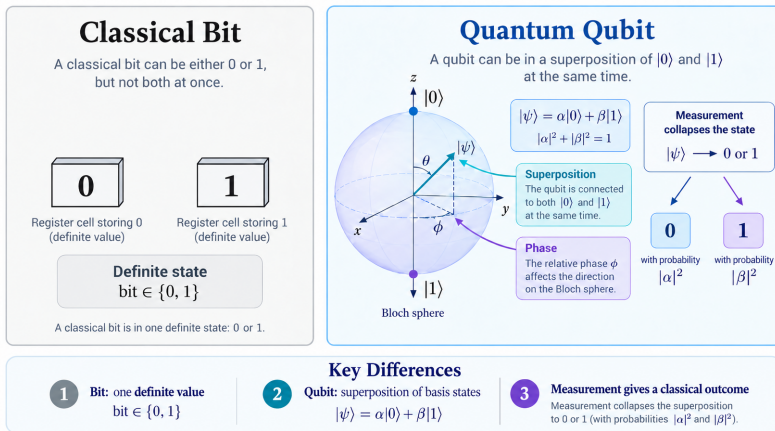


Figure 1: Comparison of a classical bit and a quantum qubit.

What is a Quantum State?

- A **quantum state** is the mathematical description of a quantum system.
- Mathematically, it is represented by a **complex vector**

$$\psi \in \mathbb{C}^n.$$

- A valid quantum state must be a **unit vector**:

$$\|\psi\|_2 = 1$$

- Equivalently,

$$\sum_{j=1}^n |\psi_j|^2 = 1.$$

A quantum state is therefore a normalized complex vector.

Working with Quantum States Mathematically

Now that we know that a quantum state is a normalized complex vector, two natural questions arise:

1. **How do we represent and work with quantum states in a mathematical setting?**
2. **How do we extend the description of a single qubit to a general n -qubit quantum system?**

General Qubit State

A qubit state is written as a linear combination of the basis states

$$|0\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad |1\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Hence,

$$|\psi\rangle = \alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle$$

with

$$\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}, \quad |\alpha|^2 + |\beta|^2 = 1.$$

Equivalently,

$$|\psi\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix}.$$

α and β are the amplitudes of the qubit state.

Hadamard Basis

Besides the standard basis $\{|0\rangle, |1\rangle\}$, we will also use the **Hadamard basis**.

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

Using the standard basis vectors,

$$H|0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad H|1\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Thus, the Hadamard basis is

$$\{H|0\rangle, H|1\rangle\}.$$

Quantum State Notation

Bra-Ket Notation

- Introduced by **Paul Dirac** in 1939 as a compact and elegant notation for quantum states.
- The terms “**bra**” and “**ket**” come from the word bracket.

Ket ($|\psi\rangle$)

A ket represents a quantum state as a column vector.

$$|\psi\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} \psi_1 \\ \psi_2 \\ \vdots \\ \psi_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Hermitian
conjugate

$\dagger$

Bra ($\langle\psi|$)

A bra is the Hermitian conjugate (conjugate transpose) of a ket.

$$\langle\psi| = (|\psi\rangle)^\dagger = [\bar{\psi}_1 \quad \bar{\psi}_2 \quad \cdots \quad \bar{\psi}_n]$$

Figure 2: Bra-ket notation for representing quantum states.

Formal Definition: Basis State

Let

$$\mathcal{B} = \{|j\rangle\}_{j \in J}$$

be a chosen basis for the space of quantum states, where J is the **index set** labeling the basis vectors.

Definition 3 (Basis State)

A quantum state $|\psi\rangle$ is called a **basis state** if

$$|\psi\rangle = \alpha_k |k\rangle$$

for some $k \in J$, where

$$\alpha_k \in \mathbb{C}, \quad |\alpha_k|^2 = 1.$$

Here, k is simply an index in J . When the basis is indexed by binary strings, we write $\vec{k}$ for the binary string and k for its corresponding decimal integer.

Example: Binary and Decimal Basis Indices

Consider the binary index set

$$J = \{0, 1\}^2.$$

Its elements are the four binary strings

$$\vec{k} \in \{00, 01, 10, 11\}.$$

Each binary string $\vec{k}$ has a corresponding decimal integer k :

Binary string $\vec{k}$	Decimal k	Basis vector
00	0	$ 00\rangle$
01	1	$ 01\rangle$
10	2	$ 10\rangle$
11	3	$ 11\rangle$

For example,

$$\vec{k} = 10 \iff k = 2.$$

Thus,

$$|\vec{k}\rangle = |10\rangle, \quad \alpha_k = \alpha_2.$$

Example: Basis State

For the basis

$$\mathcal{B} = \{|00\rangle, |01\rangle, |10\rangle, |11\rangle\},$$

a general state is written as

$$|\psi\rangle = \alpha_0|00\rangle + \alpha_1|01\rangle + \alpha_2|10\rangle + \alpha_3|11\rangle.$$

If $|\psi\rangle$ is a **basis state**, then exactly one amplitude is nonzero.

For example, if the basis state is $|10\rangle$, then

$$\alpha_0 = 0, \quad \alpha_1 = 0, \quad |\alpha_2|^2 = 1, \quad \alpha_3 = 0.$$

Thus,

$$|\psi\rangle = \alpha_2|10\rangle.$$

Superposition of Basis States

Let

$$\mathcal{B} = \{|j\rangle\}_{j \in J}$$

be a chosen basis, where J is the index set.

Any quantum state can be written as a **linear combination** of the basis states:

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_{j \in J} \alpha_j |j\rangle.$$

Definition 4 (Superposition of Basis States)

The state $|\psi\rangle$ is in a **superposition of basis states** if more than one coefficient α_j is nonzero.

Superposition of Quantum States

Given two quantum states $|\psi\rangle$ and $|\phi\rangle$, form a **linear combination**

$$|\tilde{\chi}\rangle = \alpha|\psi\rangle + \beta|\phi\rangle, \quad \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}.$$

If $|\tilde{\chi}\rangle \neq 0$, normalize it:

$$|\chi\rangle = \frac{\alpha|\psi\rangle + \beta|\phi\rangle}{\|\alpha|\psi\rangle + \beta|\phi\rangle\|_2}.$$

Then $|\chi\rangle$ is a valid quantum state and is called a **superposition of $|\psi\rangle$ and $|\phi\rangle$** .

Superposition of Quantum States

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Then $|\chi\rangle$ is a valid quantum state and is called a **superposition of $|\psi\rangle$ and $|\phi\rangle$** .

Remark 1

*The states $|\psi\rangle$ and $|\phi\rangle$ must belong to the **same state space**; in particular, their vector representations must have the same dimension.*

n -Qubit State

Definition 5 (General n -Qubit State)

An n -qubit quantum state is a unit vector in

$$(\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes n}.$$

Using the 2^n computational basis states

$$\{|\vec{j}\rangle : \vec{j} \in \{0, 1\}^n\},$$

a general state is written as a superposition (linear combination)

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_{\vec{j} \in \{0, 1\}^n} \alpha_j |\vec{j}\rangle$$

with amplitudes $\alpha_j \in \mathbb{C}$ satisfying

$$\sum_{\vec{j} \in \{0, 1\}^n} |\alpha_j|^2 = 1.$$

State Vector Representation: Two Qubits

A two-qubit state can be written as the linear combination

$$|\psi\rangle_2 = \alpha_0|00\rangle + \alpha_1|01\rangle + \alpha_2|10\rangle + \alpha_3|11\rangle.$$

Collect the amplitudes into the vector

$$\boldsymbol{\alpha} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_0 \\ \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \alpha_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

with

$$\alpha_j \in \mathbb{C}, \quad \sum_{j=0}^3 |\alpha_j|^2 = 1.$$

Thus, the state is completely determined by the amplitudes

$$\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3.$$

State Vector as a Matrix-Vector Product

For the two-qubit computational basis,

$$\mathcal{B} = \{|00\rangle, |01\rangle, |10\rangle, |11\rangle\}.$$

The state

$$|\psi\rangle_2 = \alpha_0|00\rangle + \alpha_1|01\rangle + \alpha_2|10\rangle + \alpha_3|11\rangle$$

can be written as

$$|\psi\rangle_2 = \begin{bmatrix} |00\rangle & |01\rangle & |10\rangle & |11\rangle \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_0 \\ \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \alpha_3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

State of a Generic n -Qubit System

For n qubits, the computational basis is

$$\mathcal{B} = \left\{ |\vec{j}\rangle : \vec{j} \in \{0, 1\}^n \right\},$$

which contains 2^n basis states.

By Definition 4, a general n -qubit state is a **superposition of these basis states**:

$$|\psi\rangle_n = \sum_{\vec{j} \in \{0, 1\}^n} \alpha_j |\vec{j}\rangle$$

with

$$\alpha_j \in \mathbb{C}, \quad \sum_{\vec{j} \in \{0, 1\}^n} |\alpha_j|^2 = 1.$$

State vector

$$|\psi\rangle_n = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_0 \\ \alpha_1 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_{2^n-1} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^{2^n}$$

Inner and Outer Products

Let $|\psi\rangle$ and $|\phi\rangle$ be two quantum states belonging to the same state space. Recall that

$$\langle\psi| := |\psi\rangle^\dagger, \quad \langle\phi| := |\phi\rangle^\dagger.$$

Definition 6 (Inner Product)

The **inner product** of $|\psi\rangle$ and $|\phi\rangle$ is

$$\langle\psi|\phi\rangle = |\psi\rangle^\dagger|\phi\rangle \in \mathbb{C}.$$

Thus, the inner product produces a **scalar**.

Definition 7 (Outer Product)

The **outer product** of $|\psi\rangle$ and $|\phi\rangle$ is

$$|\psi\rangle\langle\phi| = |\psi\rangle|\phi\rangle^\dagger.$$

Thus, the outer product produces a **matrix**.

Formal Definition: Entanglement

Definition 8 (Entangled State)

An n -qubit state $|\psi\rangle_n$ is called **entangled** if there do not exist single-qubit states

$$|\psi_1\rangle, \dots, |\psi_n\rangle$$

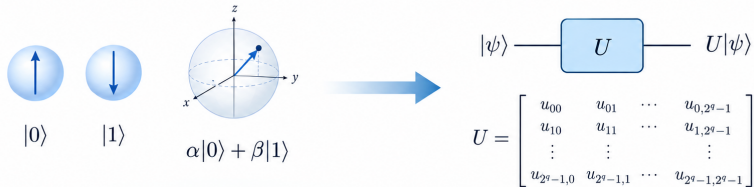
such that

$$|\psi\rangle_n = |\psi_1\rangle \otimes |\psi_2\rangle \otimes \dots \otimes |\psi_n\rangle.$$

If such a decomposition exists, then the state is called **separable** or a **product state**.

From Understanding Qubits to Operations on Qubits

From states to quantum gates



Postulate 2. A quantum operation (or gate) acting on q qubits is represented by a unitary matrix in $\mathbb{C}^{2^q \times 2^q}$.

Why Are Quantum Gates Unitary?

A quantum operation, or **gate**, transforms a state as

$$|\psi\rangle \mapsto U|\psi\rangle.$$

A valid quantum state must remain normalized after the operation:

$$\|U|\psi\rangle\|_2^2 = \langle\psi|U^\dagger U|\psi\rangle = 1.$$

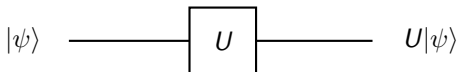
Since this must hold for every normalized state $|\psi\rangle$,

$$\boxed{U^\dagger U = I.}$$

Hence, U must be a **unitary matrix**.

Introduction to a Single-Qubit Circuit

A single-qubit circuit shows how a qubit state changes when a **single-qubit gate** is applied.



The circuit is read from **left to right**:

$$|\psi\rangle \mapsto U|\psi\rangle$$

where

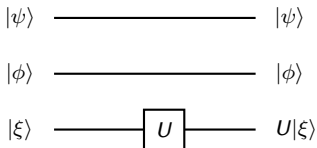
$$U \in \mathbb{C}^{2 \times 2}$$

is a unitary matrix representing the single-qubit gate.

Multi-Qubit Circuit: Product State

Consider three qubits in the product state

$$|\psi\rangle \otimes |\phi\rangle \otimes |\xi\rangle.$$



Only the third qubit is acted on:

$$|\psi\rangle \otimes |\phi\rangle \otimes |\xi\rangle \mapsto |\psi\rangle \otimes |\phi\rangle \otimes U|\xi\rangle.$$

Equivalently,

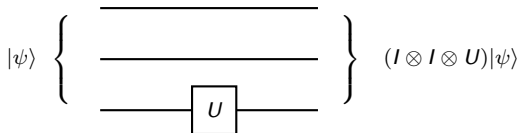
$$I \otimes I \otimes U.$$

Multi-Qubit Circuit: Entangled State

As mentioned earlier an entangled state, cannot be factored into individual qubit states:

$$|\psi\rangle \neq |\psi_1\rangle \otimes |\psi_2\rangle \otimes |\psi_3\rangle.$$

Therefore, the action of a gate on one qubit must be described through the **full state**.



Hence,

$$|\psi\rangle \mapsto (I \otimes I \otimes U)|\psi\rangle.$$

For entangled states, we evolve the entire joint state, not the qubits independently.

What is Quantum Measurement?

A quantum state is described by its **amplitudes**. For a state

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_j \alpha_j |j\rangle,$$

the amplitude α_j tells us the contribution of the basis state $|j\rangle$ to $|\psi\rangle$.

When the state is measured, the squared magnitude of the amplitude gives the probability of observing that basis state:

$$\Pr(\text{observe } |j\rangle) = |\alpha_j|^2.$$

For a single qubit,

$$|\psi\rangle = \alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle,$$

so measurement produces one classical outcome

$$x \in \{0, 1\}$$

with

$$\Pr(x = 0) = |\alpha|^2, \quad \Pr(x = 1) = |\beta|^2.$$

Formal Definition: Single-Qubit Measurement

Let $|\psi\rangle_n$ be an n -qubit state as in Definition 5:

$$|\psi\rangle_n = \sum_{\vec{j} \in \{0,1\}^n} \alpha_j |\vec{j}\rangle.$$

Definition 9 (Measurement of Qubit k)

Let Q_k denote the **random variable corresponding to the measurement outcome of the k -th qubit**, with sample space

$$Q_k \in \{0, 1\}.$$

Its probability distribution is

$$\Pr(Q_k = 0) = \sum_{\substack{\vec{j} \in \{0,1\}^n \\ j_k = 0}} |\alpha_j|^2, \quad \Pr(Q_k = 1) = \sum_{\substack{\vec{j} \in \{0,1\}^n \\ j_k = 1}} |\alpha_j|^2.$$

Post-Measurement State

Suppose measuring qubit k gives the observed value

$$x \in \{0, 1\}.$$

Only the basis states satisfying

$$\vec{j}_k = x$$

remain. The post-measurement state is

$$|\psi'\rangle = \sum_{\substack{\vec{j} \in \{0,1\}^n \\ \vec{j}_k = x}} \frac{\alpha_j}{\sqrt{\sum_{\substack{\vec{\ell} \in \{0,1\}^n \\ \vec{\ell}_k = x}} |\alpha_{\ell}|^2}} |\vec{j}\rangle$$

The denominator renormalizes the remaining amplitudes so that

$$\| |\psi'\rangle \|_2 = 1.$$

Remark 2

Since the only possible outcomes are 0 and 1,

$$\Pr(Q_k = 0) + \Pr(Q_k = 1) = 1,$$

so knowing one probability immediately determines the other.

QUANTUM
INFORMATION

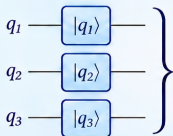

Quantum Register vs. State of the Register

SAME OBJECT. DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES.


QUBITS
TRANSFORM
WORLDS


Quantum Register

The (physical/logical) collection of qubits.


A 3-qubit
register

The register is a **fixed collection of qubits** (e.g., 3 qubits q_1, q_2, q_3). It remains the same object throughout the computation.

has a state


SAME REGISTER
DIFFERENT STATE


State of the Register (n -qubit state)

The mathematical description of that register.

Initial state
(e.g., all zeros)

$$|000\rangle$$

after gates
(state can change)

Final state
(superposition state)

$$\frac{|000\rangle + |111\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$$

Same state as a state vector (optional view)

Initial state vector
(for $|000\rangle$)

$$|000\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(8 amplitudes
for 3 qubits)

Final state vector
(for $(|000\rangle + |111\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$)

$$\frac{|000\rangle + |111\rangle}{\sqrt{2}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

(8 amplitudes
for 3 qubits)

The register stays the same; the state can change.

Summary


SAME
QUBITS

Quantum register

=

the qubits **themselves** (the physical/logical collection of qubits).

 n -qubit state

=

the mathematical description of those qubits.

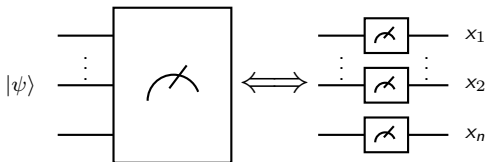

DIFFERENT
STATES

PHYSICAL HARDWARE × MATHEMATICAL STATES × QUANTUM POSSIBILITIES

Measurement of an n -Qubit System

Measuring an n -qubit state means measuring each qubit in the computational basis. The outcome is a classical bit string

$$\vec{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \{0, 1\}^n.$$



Measuring the full register is equivalent to measuring all qubits and collecting the classical outcomes:

$$|\psi\rangle \mapsto \vec{x} \in \{0, 1\}^n.$$

Amplitude and Phase of a Qubit

A generic single-qubit state is

$$|\psi\rangle = \alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle, \quad \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}, \quad |\alpha|^2 + |\beta|^2 = 1.$$

The complex amplitudes can be written in polar form:

$$\alpha = r_0 e^{i\phi_0}, \quad \beta = r_1 e^{i\phi_1}.$$

Quantity	Meaning
$r_0 = \alpha $	Magnitude of the amplitude of $ 0\rangle$
$r_1 = \beta $	Magnitude of the amplitude of $ 1\rangle$
ϕ_0, ϕ_1	Phases of the two amplitudes
r_0^2, r_1^2	Measurement probabilities of 0 and 1

The physically important phase is the **relative phase**

$$\phi = \phi_1 - \phi_0.$$

After removing the common global phase, the state can be written as

$$|\psi\rangle = \cos\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) |0\rangle + e^{i\phi} \sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) |1\rangle.$$

From Complex Amplitudes to Relative Phase

Since $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$, each amplitude has a **magnitude** and a **phase**.

Derivation

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha &= r_0 e^{i\phi_0}, & \beta &= r_1 e^{i\phi_1}, \\ |\psi\rangle &= r_0 e^{i\phi_0} |0\rangle + r_1 e^{i\phi_1} |1\rangle \\ &= r_0 e^{i\phi_0} |0\rangle + r_1 e^{i\phi_0} e^{i(\phi_1 - \phi_0)} |1\rangle \\ &= e^{i\phi_0} \left(r_0 |0\rangle + r_1 e^{i(\phi_1 - \phi_0)} |1\rangle \right).\end{aligned}$$

Define the **relative phase**

$$\phi = \phi_1 - \phi_0.$$

Then

$$|\psi\rangle = e^{i\phi_0} \left(r_0 |0\rangle + r_1 e^{i\phi} |1\rangle \right).$$

Ignoring the global phase gives

$$|\psi\rangle = r_0 |0\rangle + r_1 e^{i\phi} |1\rangle.$$

Reasoning

$r_0 = |\alpha|$ and $r_1 = |\beta|$ are the **magnitudes** of the amplitudes.

Using

$$e^{i\phi_1} = e^{i\phi_0} e^{i(\phi_1 - \phi_0)},$$

we rewrite the second amplitude so that $e^{i\phi_0}$ can be factored from the state.

After factorization, $e^{i\phi_0}$ multiplies the **entire state vector**. Hence it is called the **global phase**.

A global phase does not change the physical predictions of the state, so it can be ignored [2].

The remaining phase difference

$$\phi = \phi_1 - \phi_0$$

is the physically relevant **relative phase**.

From Relative Phase to the Standard Qubit Form

Derivation

From the previous slide,

$$|\psi\rangle = r_0|0\rangle + r_1 e^{i\phi}|1\rangle.$$

Since $|\psi\rangle$ is normalized,

$$r_0^2 + r_1^2 = 1, \quad r_0, r_1 \geq 0.$$

Using

$$\cos^2 x + \sin^2 x = 1,$$

we parameterize

$$r_0 = \cos x, \quad r_1 = \sin x, \quad 0 \leq x \leq \frac{\pi}{2}.$$

Now write

$$x = \frac{\theta}{2}, \quad 0 \leq \theta \leq \pi.$$

Therefore,

$$|\psi\rangle = \cos\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)|0\rangle + e^{i\phi} \sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)|1\rangle$$

with

$$0 \leq \theta \leq \pi, \quad 0 \leq \phi < 2\pi.$$

Reasoning

The normalization condition

$$r_0^2 + r_1^2 = 1$$

matches the identity

$$\cos^2 x + \sin^2 x = 1.$$

Hence r_0 and r_1 can be represented by **cosine and sine**.

We then define

$$\theta = 2x,$$

so that

$$r_0 = \cos\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right), \quad r_1 = \sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right).$$

The parameter ϕ remains the **relative phase** from the previous slide.

Why $\theta/2$? Its geometric meaning will be introduced later.

Why Do We Use the Half-Angle $\theta/2$?

From normalization, we obtained

$$|\psi\rangle = \cos \gamma |0\rangle + e^{i\phi} \sin \gamma |1\rangle.$$

We have already encountered the term **Bloch sphere**. For a point on the unit sphere with polar angle θ , $z = \cos \theta$. For a qubit $|\psi\rangle = \alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle$, its corresponding z -coordinate [3] is

$$z = |\alpha|^2 - |\beta|^2.$$

For our state, $|\alpha| = \cos \gamma$, $|\beta| = \sin \gamma$, so

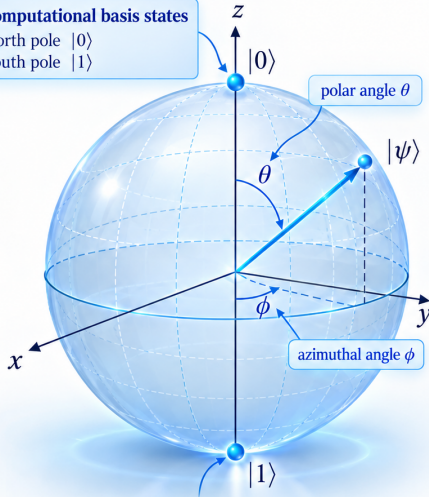
$$\begin{aligned} z &= \cos^2 \gamma - \sin^2 \gamma \\ &= \cos(2\gamma). \end{aligned}$$

To match the spherical-coordinate form $z = \cos \theta$, we choose

$$\boxed{\theta = 2\gamma} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \boxed{\gamma = \frac{\theta}{2}}.$$

Therefore,

$$|\psi\rangle = \cos \left(\frac{\theta}{2} \right) |0\rangle + e^{i\phi} \sin \left(\frac{\theta}{2} \right) |1\rangle.$$



Qubit state



Any pure state of a qubit can be represented as a point on the surface of the Bloch sphere (parameterized by θ and ϕ).

Qubit state (in computational basis)

$$|\psi\rangle = \cos \frac{\theta}{2} |0\rangle + e^{i\phi} \sin \frac{\theta}{2} |1\rangle$$

Bloch-sphere coordinates

$$(x, y, z) = (\sin \theta \cos \phi, \sin \theta \sin \phi, \cos \theta)$$

Pauli Gates

The four **Pauli gates** are single-qubit gates represented by the matrices

$$I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad X = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$Y = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad Z = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since each gate acts on one qubit,

$$I, X, Y, Z \in \mathbb{C}^{2 \times 2},$$

and each matrix is **unitary**.

Action of the Pauli Gates

The action of the Pauli gates on the single-qubit basis states $|0\rangle$ and $|1\rangle$ is

Gate	On $ 0\rangle$	On $ 1\rangle$	Effect
I	$I 0\rangle = 0\rangle$	$I 1\rangle = 1\rangle$	No change
X	$X 0\rangle = 1\rangle$	$X 1\rangle = 0\rangle$	Bit flip
Y	$Y 0\rangle = i 1\rangle$	$Y 1\rangle = -i 0\rangle$	Bit flip with phase
Z	$Z 0\rangle = 0\rangle$	$Z 1\rangle = - 1\rangle$	Phase flip

Circuit Diagrams of the Pauli Gates

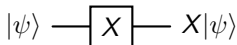
The Pauli gates are represented in circuit diagrams as single-qubit gates:

Identity Gate I



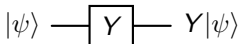
Leaves the state unchanged.

Pauli-X Gate



Acts as a bit flip.

Pauli-Y Gate



Bit flip with a phase factor.

Pauli-Z Gate



Acts as a phase flip.

Hadamard Gate

The **Hadamard gate** is a single-qubit unitary gate defined by

$$H = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

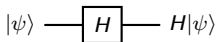
Its action on the computational basis states is

$$H|0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle + |1\rangle),$$

$$H|1\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle - |1\rangle).$$

Thus, the Hadamard gate transforms a basis state into an **equal superposition** of $|0\rangle$ and $|1\rangle$.

Circuit representation



Bitwise XOR and Bitwise Dot Product

Let $\vec{j}, \vec{k} \in \{0, 1\}^n$.

Definition 10 (Bitwise XOR)

The **bitwise XOR** of $\vec{j}$ and $\vec{k}$ is

$$\vec{j} \oplus \vec{k} = \vec{h}, \quad \vec{h} \in \{0, 1\}^n,$$

where, for each position $p = 1, \dots, n$,

$$\vec{h}_p = \begin{cases} 0, & \vec{j}_p = \vec{k}_p, \\ 1, & \vec{j}_p \neq \vec{k}_p. \end{cases}$$

Definition 11 (Bitwise Dot Product)

The **bitwise dot product** of $\vec{j}$ and $\vec{k}$ is

$$\vec{j} \bullet \vec{k} = \sum_{h=1}^n \vec{j}_h \vec{k}_h.$$

It counts the number of positions where both strings contain a 1.

Two-Qubit Gates: The CX (CNOT) Gate

A **two-qubit gate** acts jointly on two qubits and is represented by a unitary matrix in

$$\mathbb{C}^{4 \times 4}.$$

A fundamental example is the **controlled-X gate**, also called the **CNOT gate**. The first qubit is the **control** and the second qubit is the **target**.

control = 0	$\Rightarrow$	target unchanged,
control = 1	$\Rightarrow$	target is flipped.

Using the basis ordering

$$\{|00\rangle, |01\rangle, |10\rangle, |11\rangle\},$$

the matrix is

$$CX_{12} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Its action is

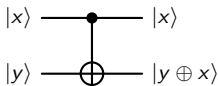
$$\begin{aligned} CX_{12}|00\rangle &= |00\rangle, & CX_{12}|01\rangle &= |01\rangle, \\ CX_{12}|10\rangle &= |11\rangle, & CX_{12}|11\rangle &= |10\rangle. \end{aligned}$$

CX Gate: Formula and Circuit Diagram

The action of the controlled- X gate is

$$CX_{12}|x\rangle|y\rangle = |x\rangle|y \oplus x\rangle, \quad x, y \in \{0, 1\}.$$

Here, $\oplus$ is the bitwise XOR operation from Definition 10.



The SWAP Gate

The **SWAP** gate is a two-qubit gate that exchanges the two qubits. If two qubits are in a product state, then

$$\text{SWAP}(|\psi\rangle_1 \otimes |\phi\rangle_1) = |\phi\rangle_1 \otimes |\psi\rangle_1.$$

Using the computational basis ordering

$$\{|00\rangle, |01\rangle, |10\rangle, |11\rangle\},$$

its action is

$$\text{SWAP}|00\rangle = |00\rangle, \quad \text{SWAP}|01\rangle = |10\rangle,$$

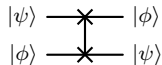
$$\text{SWAP}|10\rangle = |01\rangle, \quad \text{SWAP}|11\rangle = |11\rangle.$$

Hence, the matrix representation is

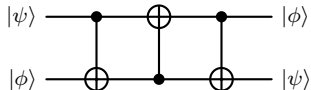
$$\text{SWAP} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

SWAP Gate: Circuit Diagram and Implementation

The circuit symbol for the SWAP gate is



It can be implemented using three controlled-X gates:



Thus,

$$\text{SWAP} = CX_{12} CX_{21} CX_{12}.$$

SWAP from Three CX Gates

The circuit constructed from three CX gates swaps qubits 1 and 2.

Proof. By linearity, it is enough to verify the action on the standard basis states [1]:

$$CX_{12}CX_{21}CX_{12}|00\rangle = CX_{12}CX_{21}|00\rangle = CX_{12}|00\rangle = |00\rangle,$$

$$CX_{12}CX_{21}CX_{12}|01\rangle = CX_{12}CX_{21}|01\rangle = CX_{12}|11\rangle = |10\rangle,$$

$$CX_{12}CX_{21}CX_{12}|10\rangle = CX_{12}CX_{21}|11\rangle = CX_{12}|01\rangle = |01\rangle,$$

$$CX_{12}CX_{21}CX_{12}|11\rangle = CX_{12}CX_{21}|10\rangle = CX_{12}|10\rangle = |11\rangle.$$

Therefore,

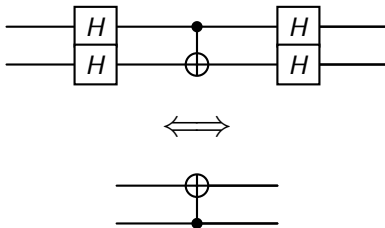
$$\begin{aligned} &\alpha_{00}|00\rangle + \alpha_{01}|01\rangle + \alpha_{10}|10\rangle + \alpha_{11}|11\rangle \\ &\quad \longmapsto \alpha_{00}|00\rangle + \alpha_{01}|10\rangle + \alpha_{10}|01\rangle + \alpha_{11}|11\rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Phase Kickback: A Guiding Question

Do CX (CNOT) gates always change the target qubit?

Phase Kickback: CNOT Under a Basis Change

Consider applying Hadamard gates to both qubits before and after CX_{12} .



$$H^{\otimes 2} CX_{12} H^{\otimes 2} = CX_{21}$$

Thus, changing both qubits to the Hadamard basis interchanges the roles of the control and target qubits.

Uncomputation

Definition 12 (Uncomputation)

Uncomputation reverses a quantum computation so that temporary auxiliary and working registers return to their initial all-zero states, while the useful output is preserved.

Suppose

$$f : \{0, 1\}^m \longrightarrow \{0, 1\}^n.$$

A unitary U_f implements the computation of f using an additional working register.

The basic idea is

compute $\longrightarrow$ save the useful output $\longrightarrow$ reverse the computation.

Since U_f is unitary,

$U_f^{-1} = U_f^\dagger.$

Uncomputation: Quantum Registers

The construction uses four quantum registers:

$$\boxed{|\vec{x}\rangle_m, \quad |\vec{0}\rangle_n, \quad |\vec{0}\rangle_q, \quad |\vec{y}\rangle_n.}$$

- $|\vec{x}\rangle_m$: input register with m qubits,
- $|\vec{0}\rangle_n$: auxiliary register with n qubits,
- $|\vec{0}\rangle_q$: working register with q qubits,
- $|\vec{y}\rangle_n$: output register with n qubits.

The auxiliary and working registers begin in their **all-zero basis states**:

$$|\vec{0}\rangle_n, \quad |\vec{0}\rangle_q.$$

Uncomputation: Computing $f(\vec{x})$

Initially, the four registers are

$$|\vec{x}\rangle_m |\vec{0}\rangle_n |\vec{0}\rangle_q |\vec{y}\rangle_n.$$

The unitary U_f acts on the first three registers:

$$|\vec{x}\rangle_m |\vec{0}\rangle_n |\vec{0}\rangle_q \xrightarrow{U_f} |\vec{x}\rangle_m |f(\vec{x})\rangle_n |w(\vec{x})\rangle_q.$$

Here,

$$|f(\vec{x})\rangle_n$$

is stored in the n -qubit auxiliary register.

$$|w(\vec{x})\rangle_q$$

denotes temporary information in the q -qubit working register.

Uncomputation: State After Computing $f(\vec{x})$

Including the output register, the state after applying U_f is

$$|\vec{x}\rangle_m |f(\vec{x})\rangle_n |w(\vec{x})\rangle_q |\vec{y}\rangle_n.$$

At this point,

- the input register still contains $|\vec{x}\rangle_m$,
- the auxiliary register contains $|f(\vec{x})\rangle_n$,
- the working register contains temporary information $|w(\vec{x})\rangle_q$,
- the output register is still $|\vec{y}\rangle_n$.

The next step is to save $f(\vec{x})$ in the output register before applying $U_f^\dagger$.

Uncomputation: Saving the Useful Output

After applying U_f , the state is

$$|\vec{x}\rangle_m |f(\vec{x})\rangle_n |w(\vec{x})\rangle_q |\vec{y}\rangle_n.$$

We now copy $f(\vec{x})$ into the output register using bitwise controlled- X operations:

$$|\vec{y}\rangle_n \mapsto |\vec{y} \oplus f(\vec{x})\rangle_n.$$

Therefore,

$$|\vec{x}\rangle_m |f(\vec{x})\rangle_n |w(\vec{x})\rangle_q |\vec{y}\rangle_n \mapsto |\vec{x}\rangle_m |f(\vec{x})\rangle_n |w(\vec{x})\rangle_q |\vec{y} \oplus f(\vec{x})\rangle_n$$

The useful value $f(\vec{x})$ is now preserved in the **output register**.

The next step is to apply

$$U_f^\dagger$$

to reset the auxiliary and working registers.

Uncomputation: Resetting the Temporary Registers

After saving the useful output, the state is

$$|\vec{x}\rangle_m |f(\vec{x})\rangle_n |w(\vec{x})\rangle_q |\vec{y} \oplus f(\vec{x})\rangle_n.$$

Now apply $U_f^\dagger$ to the first three registers:

$$|\vec{x}\rangle_m |f(\vec{x})\rangle_n |w(\vec{x})\rangle_q \xrightarrow{U_f^\dagger} |\vec{x}\rangle_m |\vec{0}\rangle_n |\vec{0}\rangle_q.$$

The output register is not affected by $U_f^\dagger$, so the final state is

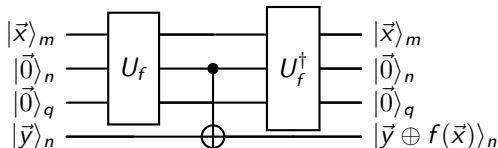
$$|\vec{x}\rangle_m |\vec{0}\rangle_n |\vec{0}\rangle_q |\vec{y} \oplus f(\vec{x})\rangle_n.$$

Thus,

temporary registers reset while the useful output is preserved .

Uncomputation: Circuit Summary

Combining the previous steps, uncomputation is implemented by the following **compute–copy–uncompute** circuit:



$$|\vec{x}\rangle_m |\vec{0}\rangle_n |\vec{0}\rangle_q |\vec{y}\rangle_n \mapsto |\vec{x}\rangle_m |\vec{0}\rangle_n |\vec{0}\rangle_q |\vec{y} \oplus f(\vec{x})\rangle_n.$$

The middle controlled- X operation applies **CNOT gates** from the auxiliary register to the output register, producing

$$|\vec{y}\rangle_n \mapsto |\vec{y} \oplus f(\vec{x})\rangle_n.$$

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