

# MP 472 Quantum Information and Computation

<http://www.thphys.may.ie/staff/jvala/MP472.htm>

## Outline

### Quantum bits

- Bloch representation
- composition of quantum states – tensor product of Hilbert spaces
- separable and entangled states
- superdense coding

### Quantum operations

- postulate of quantum mechanics regarding observables
- matrix representation of operators
- eigenvalues and eigenvectors
- adjoint and hermitian operators
- normal, unitary, positive operators

### Quantum measurement

# Postulates of quantum mechanics

## Quantum state

- At a fixed time  $t$ , the state of a physical system is defined by specifying a ket  $|\psi(t)\rangle$  belonging to the state space  $\mathcal{H}$ .

## Quantum observable

- Every measurable physical quantity  $\mathcal{A}$  is described by an operator  $\mathbf{A}$  acting on  $\mathcal{H}$ ; this operator is an observable.

## Quantum Dynamics

- The time evolution of the state vector  $|\psi(t)\rangle$  is governed by the Schrodinger equation  $i\hbar d|\psi(t)\rangle/dt = \mathbf{H}(t)|\psi(t)\rangle$  where  $\mathbf{H}(t)$  is the observable associated with the total energy of the system.

## Measurement

- The only possible result of the measurement of a physical quantity  $\mathcal{A}$  is one of the eigenvalues of the corresponding observable  $\mathbf{A}$ .
- When the physical quantity  $\mathcal{A}$  is measured on a system in the normalized state  $|\psi\rangle$ , the probability  $p(a_n)$  of obtaining the (non-degenerate) eigenvalue  $a_n$  of the corresponding observable  $\mathbf{A}$  is:  $P(a_n) = |\langle u_n | \psi \rangle|^2$ , where  $|u_n\rangle$  is the normalized eigenvector of  $\mathbf{A}$  with the eigenvalue  $a_n$ .
- If the measurement of the physical quantity  $\mathcal{A}$  on the system in the state  $|\psi\rangle$  gives the result  $a_n$ , the state of the system immediately after the measurement is the normalized projection,  $P_n|\psi\rangle / (\langle \psi | \psi \rangle)^{1/2}$ , of  $|\psi\rangle$  onto the eigenspace associated with  $a_n$ .

# Quantum bit

Classical bit is a set of two elements:  $\mathbb{B} = \{0,1\}$

Quantum bit is a two-dimensional Hilbert space:  $\mathcal{H}^2 \simeq \mathbb{C}^2$

• orthonormal basis:  $\{|0\rangle, |1\rangle\}$   $\langle i|j\rangle = \delta_{ij}$ ,  $i, j = 0, 1$  (Kronecker delta)

• a state of a quantum bit:

$$|\phi\rangle = c_0|0\rangle + c_1|1\rangle \in \mathcal{H}^2 \simeq \mathbb{C}^2$$

$$c_k \in \mathbb{C}, \text{ for } k=0, 1, \text{ s.t. } |c_0|^2 + |c_1|^2 = 1$$

# Towards Bloch representation

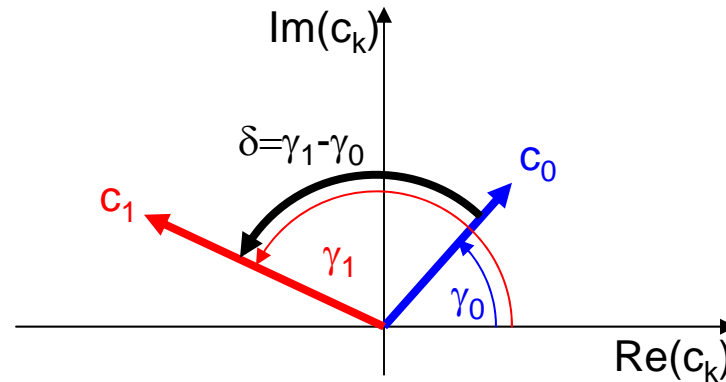
$$|\phi\rangle = c_0|0\rangle + c_1|1\rangle \quad c_k \in \mathbb{C}, \text{ for } k=0, 1, \text{ s.t. } |c_0|^2 + |c_1|^2 = 1$$

Is a quantum state really a vector?

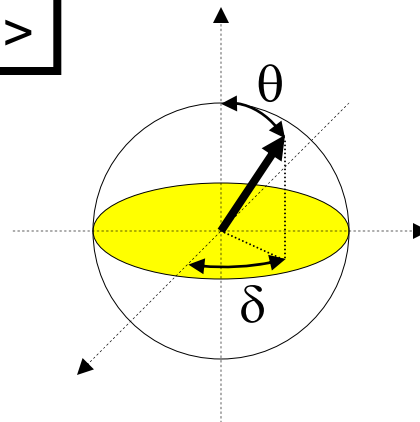
Actually it is a ray, i.e.  $e^{i\gamma}|\psi\rangle$ ,  $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$ , because the global phase,  $e^{i\gamma}$ , is not observable in quantum mechanics and what matters is only a relative phase between individual basis states, e.g.:

$$c_0 = |c_0| \exp(i\gamma_0)$$

$$c_1 = |c_1| \exp(i\gamma_1)$$



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



## Density matrix for a qubit

- a state of a quantum bit:

$$|\phi\rangle = c_0|0\rangle + c_1|1\rangle \quad c_k \in \mathbb{C}, \text{ for } k=0, 1, \text{ s.t. } |c_0|^2 + |c_1|^2 = 1$$

$$|\phi\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} c_0 \\ c_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- a density matrix of a qubit (pure state case)

$$\rho = |\phi\rangle\langle\phi| = |c_0|^2|0\rangle\langle 0| + c_0^*c_1|0\rangle\langle 1| + c_1^*c_0|1\rangle\langle 0| + |c_1|^2|1\rangle\langle 1|$$

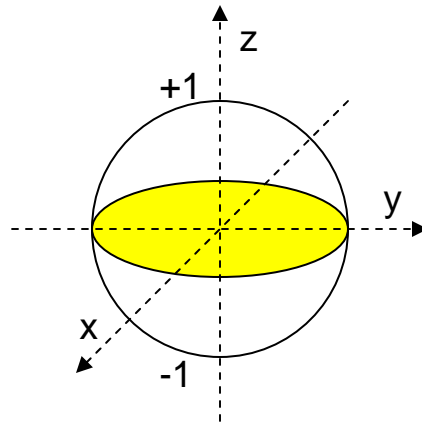
$$|\phi\rangle\langle\phi| = \begin{bmatrix} c_0 \\ c_1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_0^* & c_1^* \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} |c_0|^2 & c_0c_1^* \\ c_0^*c_1 & |c_1|^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Bloch representation

$$x = 2\text{Re}(c_0^*c_1)$$

$$y = 2\text{Im}(c_0^*c_1)$$

$$z = |c_0|^2 - |c_1|^2$$



# Bloch sphere

Bloch representation

$$x = 2\text{Re}(c_0 c_1^*)$$

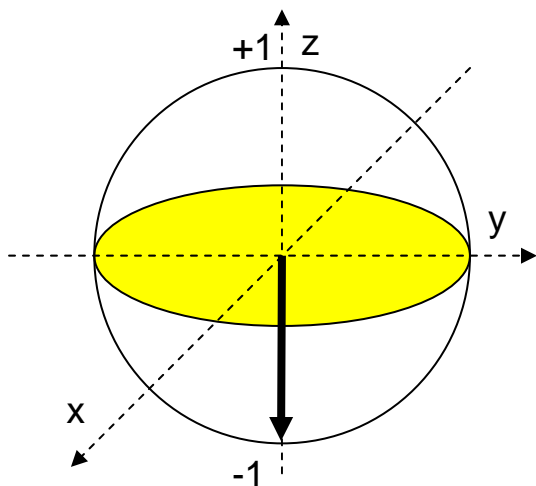
$$y = 2\text{Im}(c_0 c_1^*)$$

$$z = |c_0|^2 - |c_1|^2$$

Examples:

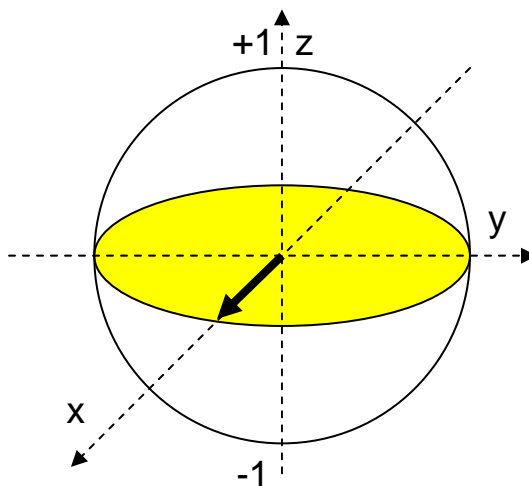
$$|\phi\rangle = |1\rangle$$

$$|\phi\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} c_0 \\ c_1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



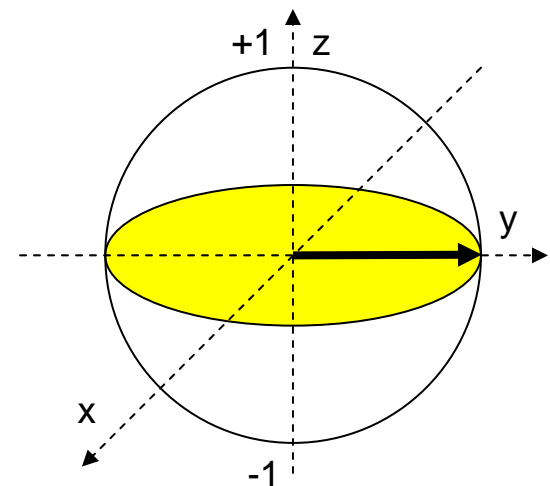
$$|\phi\rangle = 2^{-1/2}(|0\rangle + |1\rangle)$$

$$|\phi\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} c_0 \\ c_1 \end{pmatrix} = 2^{-1/2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$|\phi\rangle = 2^{-1/2}(|0\rangle + i|1\rangle)$$

$$|\phi\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} c_0 \\ c_1 \end{pmatrix} = 2^{-1/2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{pmatrix}$$



## Composition of Hilbert spaces

A tensor product of vector space  $V$  and  $U$  is a vector space  $W$  whose dimension is  $(\dim V) \cdot (\dim U)$ . Thus a Hilbert space of  $n$  qubits is

$$\underbrace{\mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \dots \otimes \mathbb{C}^2}_{n\text{-times}} = \mathbb{C}^{2^n}$$

Let  $\mathcal{B}_U = \{|u_1\rangle, \dots, |u_n\rangle\}$  be a basis of  $U$  and  $\mathcal{B}_V = \{|v_1\rangle, \dots, |v_n\rangle\}$  be a basis of  $V$ , then a basis of  $W = V \otimes U$  is  $\{|u_1 v_1\rangle, \dots, |u_n v_n\rangle\}$  where  $|u_k v_l\rangle = |u_k\rangle \otimes |v_l\rangle$ .

### Example:

- $\mathcal{B}_U = \{|0\rangle, |1\rangle\}$  be a basis of  $U$  and  $\mathcal{B}_V = \{|0\rangle, |1\rangle\}$  a basis of  $V$ , then a basis of  $W = V \otimes U$  is  $\{|00\rangle, |01\rangle, |10\rangle, |11\rangle\}$ ;

- tensor product of two vectors:

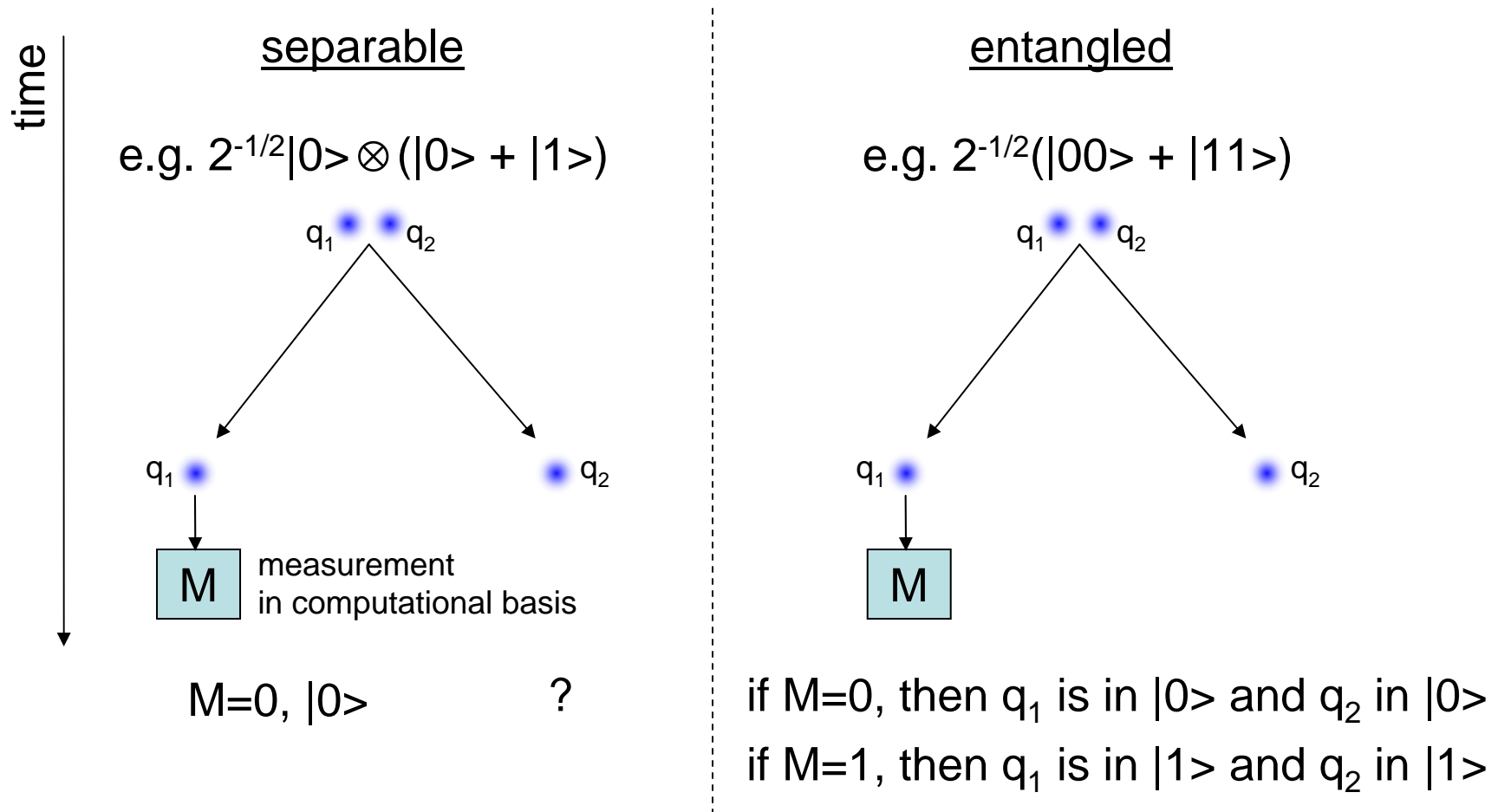
$$|\psi\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \end{pmatrix} \in U \quad |\phi\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} b_0 \\ b_1 \end{pmatrix} \in V \quad |\phi\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} a_0 b_0 \\ a_0 b_1 \\ a_1 b_0 \\ a_1 b_1 \end{pmatrix} \in W$$

- example: a basis vector  $|01\rangle$ :

$$|0\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \in U \quad |1\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \in V \quad |01\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \in W$$

# Separable and entangled states

What measurement on one part of a composite system tells us about the other parts? Let us try a bipartite system:



If the state is entangled, measurement on one of its parts completely determines the state of the other part.

## Separable states

Composite states which can be expressed as a tensor product of states of individual qubits is called a separable state.

Separable states of a composite system should be regarded as states of the uncorrelated (individual) constituents.

Example:

$$\begin{aligned} |\psi\rangle &= a|011\rangle + b|111\rangle = \\ &= (a|0\rangle + b|1\rangle) \otimes |1\rangle \otimes |1\rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$|\psi\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ a \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ b \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} \otimes \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \otimes \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

in the standard, i.e. computational, basis

# Entanglement

Examples: Bell states

$$|\beta_{00}\rangle = 2^{-1/2}(|00\rangle + |11\rangle)$$

$$|\beta_{01}\rangle = 2^{-1/2}(|00\rangle - |11\rangle)$$

$$|\beta_{10}\rangle = 2^{-1/2}(|01\rangle + |10\rangle)$$

$$|\beta_{11}\rangle = 2^{-1/2}(|01\rangle - |10\rangle)$$

Show that the Bell states form a basis of two-qubit Hilbert space

An entangled state can not be expressed as a tensor product of states of individual constituents:

$$|\beta_{00}\rangle = 2^{-1/2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Try to express this state as a tensor product

Example: multi-qubit entangled state

$$2^{-1/2}(|0000\rangle + |1111\rangle)$$

Is the following state entangled? How?

$$2^{-1/2}(|001\rangle + |111\rangle)$$

## Superdense coding

Task: Alice wants to send two classical bits of information, i.e. one of the bit strings  $\{00,01,10,11\}$  to Bob

Resources:

- Alice and Bob share two qubits in the Bell state  $|\beta_{00}\rangle$
- Alice can send her (one!) qubit to Bob



Alice

$$|\beta_{00}\rangle = 2^{-1/2}(|00\rangle + |11\rangle)$$



Bob

## Superdense coding



Alice

$$|\beta_{00}\rangle = 2^{-1/2}(|00\rangle + |11\rangle)$$



Bob

1) Depending on what bit string, 00, 01, 10, 11, Alice wants to send to Bob, she applies the following transformations on her qubit:

$$00: I \text{ (identity)} \quad |\beta_{00}\rangle = 2^{-1/2}(|00\rangle + |11\rangle) \longrightarrow |\beta_{00}\rangle = 2^{-1/2}(|00\rangle + |11\rangle)$$

$$01: Z \quad |\beta_{00}\rangle = 2^{-1/2}(|00\rangle + |11\rangle) \longrightarrow |\beta_{01}\rangle = 2^{-1/2}(|00\rangle - |11\rangle)$$

$$10: X \quad |\beta_{00}\rangle = 2^{-1/2}(|00\rangle + |11\rangle) \longrightarrow |\beta_{10}\rangle = 2^{-1/2}(|01\rangle + |10\rangle)$$

$$11: ZX=iY \quad |\beta_{00}\rangle = 2^{-1/2}(|00\rangle + |11\rangle) \longrightarrow |\beta_{11}\rangle = 2^{-1/2}(|01\rangle - |10\rangle)$$

2) The resulting Bell states are orthogonal and hence Bob can distinguish them by a measurement (in the Bell basis).

The task could not be accomplished by sending one classical bit only but one quantum bit is sufficient to transmit two classical bits of information.

## Entanglement in bipartite systems

Theorem (Schmidt's decomposition):

Suppose  $|\psi\rangle$  is a pure state of a bipartite composite system, AB. Then there exist orthonormal states  $|i_A\rangle$  for system A, and  $|i_B\rangle$  for system B s.t.

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_i \lambda_i |i_A\rangle |i_B\rangle$$

where  $\lambda_i$  are non-negative real numbers satisfying  $\sum_i \lambda_i^2 = 1$  known as Schmidt coefficients.

The number of non-zero values of  $\lambda_i$  is called the Schmidt number.

If the Schmidt number is 1, then the quantum state is a product state, otherwise it is an entangled state.

$$|\beta_{00}\rangle = 2^{-1/2}(|00\rangle + |11\rangle)$$

$$|\beta_{01}\rangle = 2^{-1/2}(|00\rangle - |11\rangle)$$

$$|\beta_{10}\rangle = 2^{-1/2}(|01\rangle + |10\rangle)$$

$$|\beta_{11}\rangle = 2^{-1/2}(|01\rangle - |10\rangle)$$

What is the Schmidt number for these states?

# Postulates of quantum mechanics

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- Every measurable physical quantity  $\mathcal{A}$  is described by an operator  $\mathbf{A}$  acting on  $\mathcal{H}$ ; this operator is an observable.

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- When the physical quantity  $\mathcal{A}$  is measured on a system in the normalized state  $|\psi\rangle$ , the probability  $p(a_n)$  of obtaining the (non-degenerate) eigenvalue  $a_n$  of the corresponding observable  $\mathbf{A}$  is:  $P(a_n) = |\langle u_n | \psi \rangle|^2$ , where  $|u_n\rangle$  is the normalized eigenvector of  $\mathbf{A}$  with the eigenvalue  $a_n$ .
- If the measurement of the physical quantity  $\mathcal{A}$  on the system in the state  $|\psi\rangle$  gives the result  $a_n$ , the state of the system immediately after the measurement is the normalized projection,  $P_n|\psi\rangle / (\langle \psi | \psi \rangle)^{1/2}$ , of  $|\psi\rangle$  onto the eigenspace associated with  $a_n$ .

# Operators

A linear operator  $A$  between vector spaces  $V$  and  $U$  is defined to be a function  $A: V \rightarrow U$  which is linear in its inputs:

$$A \sum_i c_i |v_i\rangle = \sum_i c_i A|v_i\rangle$$

we write  $A|v\rangle$  to denote  $A(|v\rangle)$ .

Examples:

- the identity operator  $I_V: V \rightarrow V$ ,  $I_V|v\rangle = |v\rangle$
- the zero operator  $0|v\rangle = 0$

Suppose  $V, U$  and  $W$  are vector spaces, and  $A: V \rightarrow U$  and  $B: V \rightarrow W$  are linear operators, then a composition of  $B$  with  $A$ ,  $BA: V \rightarrow W$ , is defined as  $(BA)|v\rangle = B(A|v\rangle)$  (which we abbreviate as  $BA|v\rangle$ ).

## Matrix representation

Let  $A: V \rightarrow U$  be a linear operator between vector spaces  $V$  and  $U$ , with the basis  $\mathcal{B}_V = \{|v_1\rangle, |v_2\rangle, \dots, |v_m\rangle\}$  and  $\mathcal{B}_U = \{|u_1\rangle, |u_2\rangle, \dots, |u_n\rangle\}$ . then for each  $j$  in the range  $1, \dots, m$ , there exist complex numbers  $A_{1j}$  through  $A_{nj}$  s.t.

$$A |v_j\rangle = \sum_i A_{ij} |u_i\rangle$$

The matrix whose entries are  $A_{ij}$  is said to form a matrix representation of the operator  $A$ .

Examples:

Let  $V$  be a vector space with the basis  $\{|0\rangle, |1\rangle\}$  (a qubit!)

- the identity operator in matrix representation is given as

$$I = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- the bit and phase flip operators in matrix representation is

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad Z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad iY = XZ = i \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$X$ ,  $Y$  and  $Z$  are called Pauli operators/matrices

## Eigenvalues and eigenvectors

An *eigenvector* of a linear operator  $A$  on a vector space  $V$  is a non-zero vector  $|v\rangle \in V$  s.t.:  $A|v\rangle = v|v\rangle$  where  $v \in \mathbb{C}$  is called *eigenvalue*.

The *eigenspace* corresponding to eigenvalue  $v$  is the set of vectors which have eigenvalue  $v$ . When an eigenspace is more than one dimensional we say that it is degenerate.

A *diagonal representation* for an operator  $A$  on a vector space  $V$  is a representation:

$$A = \sum_i \lambda_i |i\rangle\langle i|$$

where the vectors  $|i\rangle$  form an orthonormal set of eigenvectors for  $A$  with corresponding eigenvalues  $\lambda_i$ . Diagonal representations are also known as *orthonormal decompositions*.

An operator is said to be *diagonalizable* if it has diagonal representation.

Example:

$$Z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = |0\rangle\langle 0| - |1\rangle\langle 1|$$

## Adjoint and hermitian operators

Let  $A$  be a linear operator on a Hilbert space  $V$ , then there exists a unique linear operator called *adjoint* or *Hermitian conjugate*  $A^+$  on  $V$  s.t.

for all  $|v\rangle, |w\rangle \in V$ ,

$$\langle v | (A | w \rangle) = (\langle v | A^+ ) w \rangle$$

A acting on  $|w\rangle$ 
A<sup>+</sup> acting on  $\langle v|$

Notes:

$$(AB)^+ = B^+A^+$$

$$(A|v\rangle)^+ = \langle v|A^+ \text{ (we define a bra } \langle v| = |v\rangle^+)$$

adjoint is anti-linear:

$$\left( \sum_i a_i A_i \right)^+ = \sum_i a_i^* A_i^+$$

$$A^+ = (A^*)^T \text{ (complex conjugate and transpose)}$$

An operator  $A$  is called a *Hermitian* operator if  $A=A^+$ . These operators represent quantum observables.

Eigenvalues of a Hermitian operator are real numbers.

Example: Projector  $P_v = |v\rangle \langle v|$  where  $|v\rangle \in V$  is an orthonormal state

$$P_v = P_v^+$$

$$P_v = P_v^2$$

## Normal, unitary and positive operators

Let  $A$  be a linear operator on a Hilbert space  $V$ , we say it is *normal* if  $A^+A = AA^+$ .

Are Hermitian operators normal?

A linear operator (or matrix)  $U$  is said to be *unitary* if  $U^+U = UU^+ = I$ .

Are unitary operators normal?

Unitary operators preserve inner product between vectors:

$$(\langle v|U^+)(U|w\rangle) = \langle v|U^+U|w\rangle = \langle v|I|w\rangle = \langle v|w\rangle$$

A *outer product representation* for a unitary operator  $U$  on a vector space  $V$  is a representation:

$$U = \sum_i \lambda_i |w_i\rangle\langle v_i|$$

where the vectors  $|v_i\rangle$  form an orthonormal basis. The vectors  $|w_i\rangle$  are defined as  $U|v_i\rangle$  and thus are also orthonormal vectors.

A hermitian operator (or matrix)  $A$  is said to be *positive* if  $\langle v|A|v\rangle$  is a real non-negative number for all  $|v\rangle$ .

If  $A$  is *strictly greater than zero* for all  $|v\rangle \neq 0$ , we say it is *positive definite*.

Example: density matrices are positive definite.