

Solutions for exercises of Chapter 8 of “Nielesen and Chuang”

Michele Minervini

Exercise 8.1

Under unitary evolution, a pure state transforms as

$$|\psi\rangle \rightarrow U |\psi\rangle$$

Equivalently, the density matrix $\rho = |\psi\rangle \langle\psi|$ evolves as

$$\rho \rightarrow \mathcal{E}(\rho) = U |\psi\rangle \langle\psi| U^\dagger = U \rho U^\dagger$$

and therefore ρ transforms as $\rho \rightarrow U \rho U^\dagger$.

Exercise 8.2

The state after obtaining the measurement result m is

$$|\psi_i^m\rangle = \frac{M_m |\psi_i\rangle}{\sqrt{\langle\psi_i| M_m^\dagger M_m |\psi_i\rangle}}$$

Let $\rho = \sum_i p_i |\psi_i\rangle \langle\psi_i|$. Hence, for $\mathcal{E}_m(\rho) = M_m \rho M_m^\dagger$, after the measurement the final state is

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_m &= \sum_i p(i|m) |\psi_i^m\rangle \langle\psi_i^m| = \sum_i p(i|m) \frac{M_m |\psi_i\rangle \langle\psi_i| M_m^\dagger}{\langle\psi_i| M_m^\dagger M_m |\psi_i\rangle} = \\ &= \sum_i \frac{p(m|i)p_i}{p_m} \frac{M_m |\psi_i\rangle \langle\psi_i| M_m^\dagger}{\text{Tr}(M_m^\dagger M_m |\psi_i\rangle \langle\psi_i|)} = \\ &= \sum_i \frac{\text{Tr}(M_m^\dagger M_m |\psi_i\rangle \langle\psi_i|)}{\text{Tr}(M_m^\dagger M_m \rho)} p_i \frac{M_m |\psi_i\rangle \langle\psi_i| M_m^\dagger}{\text{Tr}(M_m^\dagger M_m |\psi_i\rangle \langle\psi_i|)} = \\ &= \sum_i p_i \frac{M_m |\psi_i\rangle \langle\psi_i| M_m^\dagger}{\text{Tr}(M_m^\dagger M_m \rho)} = \frac{M_m \rho M_m^\dagger}{\text{Tr}(M_m^\dagger M_m \rho)} = \\ &= \frac{\mathcal{E}_m(\rho)}{\text{Tr}(\mathcal{E}_m(\rho))} \end{aligned}$$

where we used the cyclic property of the trace $\text{Tr}(M_m^\dagger M_m \rho) = \text{Tr}(M_m \rho M_m^\dagger)$.

For the probability of the m state, using $p(m|i) = \langle\psi_i| M_m^\dagger M_m |\psi_i\rangle = \text{tr}(M_m^\dagger M_m |\psi_i\rangle \langle\psi_i|)$, we get

$$p(m) = \sum_i p_i p(m|i) = \sum_i p_i \langle\psi_i| M_m^\dagger M_m |\psi_i\rangle = \sum_i p_i \text{Tr}(M_m^\dagger M_m |\psi_i\rangle \langle\psi_i|) = \text{Tr}(\mathcal{E}_m(\rho))$$

Exercise 8.3

Initially we have the state $\rho \otimes |0_{CD}\rangle \langle 0_{CD}|$.

Consider the action of \mathcal{E} , with i basis for A and j basis for D):

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}(\rho) &= \text{tr}_A(\text{tr}_D(U[\rho \otimes |0_{CD}\rangle \langle 0_{CD}|]U^\dagger)) = \\ &= \sum_i \sum_j \langle i| \langle j| U[\rho \otimes |0_{CD}\rangle \langle 0_{CD}|]U^\dagger |j\rangle |i\rangle = \\ &= \sum_i \sum_j \langle i| \langle j| U |0_{CD}\rangle \rho \langle 0_{CD}| U^\dagger |j\rangle |i\rangle = \\ &= \sum_j E_j \rho E_j^\dagger \end{aligned}$$

where $E_j = \sum_i \langle i| \langle j| U |0_{CD}\rangle$.

Also, using $\sum_i |i\rangle \langle i| = I$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_j E_j^\dagger E_j &= \sum_i \sum_j \langle 0_{CD}| U^\dagger |j\rangle |i\rangle \langle i| \langle j| U |0_{CD}\rangle = \\ &= I \langle 0_{CD}| U^\dagger U |0_{CD}\rangle = I \langle 0_{CD}| 0_{CD}\rangle = I \end{aligned}$$

Exercise 8.4

The initial state is $\rho \otimes |0\rangle \langle 0|$. When we apply the quantum operation, it becomes:

$$\mathcal{E}(\rho) = \text{tr}_{env} [U (\rho \otimes |0\rangle \langle 0|) U^\dagger]$$

where $U = P_0 \otimes \mathcal{I} + P_1 \otimes X$.

We have that $E_k = \langle k| U |0\rangle$, hence using the orthogonality of the $|0\rangle$ and $|1\rangle$ states:

$$\begin{aligned} E_k &= \langle k| U |0\rangle = \\ &= \langle k| (|0\rangle \langle 0| \otimes \mathcal{I} + |1\rangle \langle 1| \otimes X) |0\rangle = \\ &= \langle 0| |0\rangle \langle 0| \otimes \mathcal{I} |0\rangle + \langle 1| |1\rangle \otimes X |0\rangle = \\ &= \langle 0| \otimes |0\rangle + \langle 1| \otimes |1\rangle = \\ &= |0\rangle \langle 0| + |1\rangle \langle 1| \end{aligned}$$

Thus $E_0 = P_0$, $E_1 = P_1$.

Therefore

$$\mathcal{E}(\rho) = |0\rangle \langle 0| \rho |0\rangle \langle 0| + |1\rangle \langle 1| \rho |1\rangle \langle 1|$$