

Magic State Distillation From Quadratic Residue based CSS codes

Placeholder Subtitle

Mihir Talati, Leonardo S.P Velloso

December 2, 2025

Presentation Outline

Presentation Outline

- Background
 - Magic State Distillation Overview
 - Transversal Gates
 - Self-Dual Codes
 - Doubled QR Codes
 - Distillation Protocol
- Motivation and Approach
 - Methodology
 - Hypothesis
 - Yield
 - Scaling
- Simulation
 - Algorithm
 - Results
 - Analysis
- Conclusion
- Potential Future Work

Background

Magic State Distillation Overview

- Fault-Tolerant QC: In many stabilizer codes, Clifford gates are transversal while T is not
- Applying $T \longrightarrow$ spreads error \longrightarrow **NOT FAULT-TOLERANT**
- Motivation:
 - i) Universal Gate Set \longrightarrow we want "net effect" of a T gate without actually using it
 - ii) Magic state distillation is the process of "refining" imperfect magic states
 - iii) Sequence of Pauli measurements and Clifford group operations generate less, but better magic states
 - iv) Higher fidelity

Transversal Gatesets Background

Transversal Gate

A quantum operation \mathcal{F} acting on m blocks (n qubits per block) is called transversal if it can be written as a tensor product of gates G_i , i.e

$$\mathcal{F} = \bigotimes_{i=1}^n G_i$$

where

- G_i acts on the i^{th} qubit of each block
- G_i acts on an m -qubit space (one qubit from each of the m blocks)
- No G_i ever touches more than one qubit in the same block

Transversal Gatesets Background

- Properties for Fault-Tolerant Quantum Computing:
 - i) GPP – Applying gate avoids error blow-up inside the block
 - ii) GCP – makes the codes' correctable errors behave nicely through the gate

Constraints Imposed by Transversal Gates

- **Eastin–Knill Theorem:** No QECC can realize a universal gate set using only transversal gates.
- Transversal gates preserve the structure of stabilizer codes: they map Pauli errors to Pauli errors (GCP).
- Logical gates implementable transversally are restricted to a **finite subgroup** of the Clifford hierarchy.
- Non-Clifford logical gates (e.g. T) cannot be implemented transversally in standard codes \Rightarrow need magic states.

CSS Code Formalization

- Built from two classical linear codes

$$C_Z \subset C_X \subset \{0,1\}^n.$$

- Encodes $k = \dim(C_X) - \dim(C_Z)$ logical qubits into n physical qubits.
- Logical basis states are uniform superpositions over cosets:

$$|x + C_Z\rangle.$$

- Error structure splits cleanly through stabilizers:
 - C_Z corrects bit-flip (X) errors
 - C_X corrects phase-flip (Z) errors
- Useful in distillation: Pauli-type noise handled independently, supports some Clifford Gates

- A CSS code is **self-dual** if its classical code satisfies

$$C = C^\perp$$

- Then the X and Z -stabilizers come from the same linear code
- This creates strong X/Z symmetry in the error structure
- Such symmetry allows more Clifford gates to be transversal (e.g., H , sometimes CNOT), which is useful for distillation

Doubled QR Codes: Construction Summary

- Begin with two ingredients:
 - a **self-dual, doubly-even** (Hamming weight is multiple of 4) CSS code (gives X/Z symmetry and transversal Cliffords)
 - a **QR-derived doubly-even** CSS code (provides high distance)
- Apply a **doubling map** to combine these two codes
- The resulting code is **weakly triply-even** (multiple of 8), enabling a transversal logical T gate.
- Final product: a family of $[[n, 1, d]]$ codes with high distance and lower qubit overhead for transversal Clifford and T

Bravyi–Haah Magic State Distillation

- Uses **triorthogonal** (or weakly triply-even) CSS codes to distill high-fidelity $|T\rangle$ magic states
- Input: multiple noisy copies of $|T\rangle$ with physical error rate p
- Protocol applies only **Clifford operations** and **Pauli measurements** on the encoded blocks
- Output: a smaller number of magic states with error rate suppressed to $O(p^k)$ where k depends on the code (Bravyi–Haah has $k \geq 3$)
- Assumptions: transversal Clifford gates available; code satisfies triorthogonality (or weak triply-even structure) for logical T
- Target: preparation of high-fidelity logical $|T\rangle$ states for universal FTQC.

Motivation and Approach

Bravyi-Haah Protocol for TE^* and triorthogonal codes

- Same BH protocol applied to each specific QR-based TE^* code.
- Inputs:
 - H_X matrix (rows = X stabilizers),
 - Logical-Z vector z_{\log} ,
 - Physical error rate p on each T-state,
 - Noise model: i.i.d. Z noise for magic state injection.
- For each code:

$$s(p) = \Pr[H_X e^T = 0], \quad p_{\text{out}}(p) = \Pr[z_{\log} \cdot e = 1 \mid \text{accepted}]$$

- We compute these numerically per-block.

Hypothesis

- TE* / QR-based codes have **better finite-size overhead** than:
 - Standard BH triorthogonal codes,
 - Generic doubled self-dual codes.
- Due to:
 - High distances at small n ,
 - Structure inherited from QR code weight distributions,
 - Particularly low-weight X-checks satisfying mod-8 conditions.
- Anticipated result:
 - Better yield/overhead for $n \lesssim 30 \rightarrow 100$ (depending on how many we can simulate),
 - But asymptotic exponent still $\gamma \rightarrow 2$.

- Yield quantifies “magic states out per magic state in”:

$$Y(p) = \frac{k \cdot s(p)}{n}$$

- For Jain–Albert codes:
 - Typically $k = 1$ so $Y = s(p)/n$.
 - Small and medium n have surprisingly high yields due to small block sizes.
- Comparison baseline:
 - Bravyi–Haah triorthogonal families ($n = 3k + 8$),
 - Self-dual doubled families used in prior constructions.

Scaling With Code Length

- Key theoretical fact from Jain–Albert:

$$d(n) \approx \Theta(\sqrt{n})$$

for both TE^* and triorthogonal families constructed.

- For a BH-style distillation:

$$p_{\text{out}}(p) \sim Cp^\alpha, \quad \alpha \approx d_Z$$

where d_Z = minimum weight undetected Z logical error.

- Thus,

$$\alpha(n) \approx \Theta(\sqrt{n})$$

- But:

$$\gamma_n = \log_\alpha(n/k) \rightarrow 2$$

meaning asymptotically the codes do not beat BH's 1.585 exponent.

- However: **finite-size performance may be significantly better.**

Simulation

Algorithm Overview [WIP]

- For each code:
 1. Import H_X and logical- Z .
 2. Sample error patterns $e \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p)^n$.
 3. Check acceptance: $H_X e^T = 0$.
 4. For accepted blocks, compute logical parity $z_{\text{log}} \cdot e$.

- Metrics:

$$s(p) = \frac{\text{accepted}}{N}, \quad p_{\text{out}}(p) = \frac{\text{harmful and accepted}}{\text{accepted}}, \quad Y = \frac{s(p)}{n}$$

- Y is a proxy for approximate per code distillation yield
- Complexity:
 - Monte Carlo: $O(Nrn)$ for r stabilizers.
 - Exhaustive enumeration for small n to compute α exactly.

- Placeholder description of the simulation setup and noise models.
- Mention computational tools or libraries anticipated for the study.

- Placeholder interpretation of simulated performance metrics.
- Discussion points comparing outcomes to expectations or baselines.

Conclusion

HYpothesis vs Results

- Placeholder statement of the working hypothesis before analysis.
- Criteria used to judge success or failure.

Potential Future Work

What's next?

- Placeholder list of follow-up experiments and protocol refinements.
- Suggestions for code design or distillation strategy improvements.