

## Homework Assignment 3

65 points

DUE: 6 August (Tuesday)

**1. Pure-state density operator (10 points).**

For both (a) and (b), assume that  $\rho^\dagger = \rho$ .

(a) Show that the condition  $\text{Tr}(\rho) = \text{Tr}(\rho^2) = 1$  is **not** sufficient to make  $\rho$  a density operator.

(b) Show that the condition  $\text{Tr}(\rho^2) = \text{Tr}(\rho^3) = 1$  suffices to make  $\rho$  a pure-state density operator.

**2. Qubit ensemble decomposition (15 points).**

Consider the qubit state

$$\rho = \frac{3}{4} |0\rangle\langle 0| + \frac{1}{4} |1\rangle\langle 1|. \quad (1)$$

(a) Consider the set of all states with  $\langle Z \rangle = 1/2$ . Give ensemble decompositions for  $\rho$  comprises of (i) two states from the set; (ii) three states from the set; (iii) all states in the set.

(b) Give an ensemble decomposition for  $\rho$  that includes all pure states, i.e., is an integral over the surface of the Bloch sphere

**3. Schmidt decomposition for three qubits? (10 points).**

Consider three qubits,  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$ .

(a) Show that an arbitrary pure state  $|\psi\rangle$  of the three qubits can be transformed to the following Schmidt-like form using local unitary operators on  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$ :

$$\begin{aligned} & \cos \theta |0\rangle \otimes \underbrace{(\cos \chi |0\rangle \otimes |0\rangle + \sin \chi |1\rangle \otimes |1\rangle)}_{|\phi_0\rangle} + \\ & \sin \theta |1\rangle \otimes \underbrace{\left[ \cos \xi (\sin \chi |0\rangle \otimes |0\rangle - \cos \chi |1\rangle \otimes |1\rangle) + e^{i\delta} \sin \xi (\cos \eta |0\rangle \otimes |1\rangle + \sin \eta |1\rangle \otimes |0\rangle) \right]}_{|\phi_1\rangle}. \end{aligned}$$

The states  $|\phi_0\rangle$  and  $|\phi_1\rangle$  are orthonormal states of  $BC$ . Five parameters,  $\theta, \chi, \xi, \eta$ , and  $\delta$  are necessary to specify an arbitrary three-qubit pure state; determine the range of these five parameters. [Hint: Schmidt decompose  $|\psi\rangle$  with respect to the division  $A$  vs.  $BC$ . Then Schmidt decompose one of the resulting Schmidt states of  $BC$  with respect to the division  $B$  vs.  $C$ , writing the other  $BC$  Schmidt state in the resulting Schmidt bases of  $B$  and  $C$ .]

The presence of four terms in  $|\phi_1\rangle$ , instead of just the first two terms or the last two terms, prevents this from being a genuine three-qubit Schmidt decomposition. This illustrates why there is generally no three-particle Schmidt decomposition.

- (b) Find all the marginal density operators of the three qubits, that is,  $\rho_{AB}, \rho_{BC}, \rho_{AC}, \rho_A, \rho_B$ , and  $\rho_C$ .

#### 4. Quantum nonlocality without probabilities (10 points).

Consider the following state of three qubits:

$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{|+++\rangle - |--\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}.$$

This is, up to a sign flip, the *Greenberger-Horne-Zeilinger* (GHZ) state.

- (a) Show that  $|\psi\rangle$  is a +1 eigenstate of  $X \otimes Y \otimes Y$ ,  $Y \otimes X \otimes Y$ , and  $Y \otimes Y \otimes X$ .
- (b) Use the results of part (a) to argue that each qubit has well-defined values of  $X$  and  $Y$ . For qubit  $j$ , denote these values by  $x_j$  and  $y_j$ . We say that these values are *elements of reality*. What does local realism, i.e., the assumption of realistic values that are undisturbed by measurements on other spins, predict for the product of the outcomes of measurements of  $X$  on each qubit?
- (c) What does quantum mechanics predict for the product of the outcomes of  $X$  measurements on each qubit?

#### 5. Maximal Bell-CHSH violation. (20 points).

Consider two qubits,  $X$  and  $Y$ . Let  $A = \sigma_X \cdot \mathbf{a}$ ,  $B = \sigma_Y \cdot \mathbf{b}$ ,  $C = \sigma_X \cdot \mathbf{c}$ , and  $D = \sigma_Y \cdot \mathbf{d}$ , where  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}$  and  $\mathbf{d}$  are unit vectors in three dimensions. We omit the subscripts  $X$  and  $Y$  on the Pauli operators in the following because ordering in tensor products indicates which system the Pauli operators apply to. Now let

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{B} &= A \otimes B + C \otimes B + C \otimes D - A \otimes D \\ &= \sigma \cdot \mathbf{a} \otimes \sigma \cdot (\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{d}) + \sigma \cdot \mathbf{c} \otimes \sigma \cdot (\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{d}) \\ &= |\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{d}| \sigma \cdot \mathbf{a} \otimes \sigma \cdot \mathbf{f} + |\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{d}| \sigma \cdot \mathbf{c} \otimes \sigma \cdot \mathbf{g} \end{aligned}$$

be the *Bell operator*, where  $\mathbf{f}$  and  $\mathbf{g}$  are unit vectors which lie along the directions of  $\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{d}$  and  $\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{d}$ . The quantity we called  $S$  in our discussion of the CHSH inequality is the expectation value of the Bell operator, i.e.,  $S = \langle \mathcal{B} \rangle$ .

- (a) Show the *Tsirelson's bound*:  $|S| = |\langle \mathcal{B} \rangle| \leq 2\sqrt{2}$ , which gives the maximal violation of the Bell-CHSH inequality.
- (b) Find the conditions for equality in Tsirelson's bound.