

LOWER BOUNDS NON-CLIFFORD RESOURCES

by

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*Optionally, the thesis can be dedicated to someone, and the student can
enter the dedication content here.*

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Abstract

This is a test document.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to all the little people who make me look tall.

Chapter 1

Introduction

Get it done! Use reference material by Lamport [?] or Gooses, Mittelback, and Samarin [?].

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Chapter 2

Basic Techniques

2.1 Stabilizer Nullity

Definition 2.1.1 (Stabilizer). Let $|\psi\rangle$ be a non-zero n -qubit state. The stabilizer of $|\psi\rangle$ is the sub-group of the Pauli group \mathcal{P}_n on n qubits for which $|\psi\rangle$ is a $+1$ eigenstate, denoted by $\text{Stab}|\psi\rangle$. This means that $\text{Stab}|\psi\rangle = \{P \in \mathcal{P}_n \mid P|\psi\rangle = |\psi\rangle\}$. The states for which the size of the stabilizer is 2^n are called stabilizer states. States for which the stabilizer contains only the identity matrix are said to have a trivial stabilizer. If Pauli P is in $\text{Stab}|\psi\rangle$, we say that P stabilizes $|\psi\rangle$.

Proposition 2.1.2. *Let $|\psi\rangle$ be a non-zero n qubit state. Then we have the following facts about $\text{Stab}|\psi\rangle$:*

1. *$\text{Stab}|\psi\rangle$ does not contain $-I$.*
2. *All Pauli group elements contained in $\text{Stab}|\psi\rangle$ commute with each other and are Hermitian matrices.*
3. *The size of the stabilizer is equal to some power of two.*
4. *Given any Clifford Unitary C , the size of $\text{Stab}|\psi\rangle$ is always equal to the size of $\text{Stab}(C|\psi\rangle)$.*
5. *Finally, the size of the stabilizer is multiplicative for the tensor products of states, that is $|\text{Stab}(|\psi\rangle|\phi\rangle)| = |\text{Stab}|\psi\rangle| \cdot |\text{Stab}|\phi\rangle|$.*

Proof.

1. If $I \in \text{Stab}|\psi\rangle$, then $-|\psi\rangle = -I|\psi\rangle = |\psi\rangle$, which of course is not true for non-zero states.
2. First note that for any two Pauli's P, Q , they either commute or anti-commute. Now suppose $P, Q \in \text{Stab}|\psi\rangle$ anti-commute. Then $|\psi\rangle = PQ|\psi\rangle = -QP|\psi\rangle = -|\psi\rangle$.

This implies that $-I \in \text{Stab} |\psi\rangle$, which from above can't be true, so P and Q must commute.

3. It is known that the Pauli group's cardinality is a power of two, and since $\text{Stab} |\psi\rangle$ is a subgroup of the Pauli group, $|\text{Stab} |\psi\rangle|$ must divide a power of two, thus it must also be a power of two.
4. First note that Clifford unitaries normalize pauli matrices, i.e. for some Clifford unitary C , and some pauli P , $CPC^\dagger = P'$, where P' is also a pauli. Now let $P \in \text{Stab} |\psi\rangle$ and let C be some Clifford unitary. Then $P'C |\psi\rangle = CPC^\dagger C |\psi\rangle = CP |\psi\rangle = C |\psi\rangle$, so $P' \in \text{Stab}(C |\psi\rangle)$. Now consider the map $\theta_C : \text{Stab} |\psi\rangle \rightarrow \text{Stab}(C |\psi\rangle)$ which takes elements $P \mapsto CPC^\dagger = P'$. This map has an inverse, $\theta_{C^\dagger} : \text{Stab}(C |\psi\rangle) \rightarrow \text{Stab}(C^\dagger C |\psi\rangle)$, which takes elements $P' \mapsto C^\dagger P' C$ (where we note that $\text{Stab}(C^\dagger C |\psi\rangle) = \text{Stab} |\psi\rangle$). Thus θ_C is a bijection, and so we have that $|\text{Stab} |\psi\rangle| = |\text{Stab}(C |\psi\rangle)|$.
5. Let $|\phi\rangle$ be another non-zero state on n qubits, and let $P \in \text{Stab} |\psi\rangle$ and $Q \in \text{Stab} |\phi\rangle$. Then $P \otimes Q |\psi\rangle |\phi\rangle = P |\psi\rangle \otimes Q |\phi\rangle = |\psi\rangle |\phi\rangle$. So $P \otimes Q \in \text{Stab} |\psi\rangle |\phi\rangle$. Now let $R \in \text{Stab} |\psi\rangle |\phi\rangle$. Then since R is a Pauli, we can write $R = R_1 \otimes R_2$, and $R |\psi\rangle |\phi\rangle = |\psi\rangle |\phi\rangle = R_1 \otimes R_2 |\psi\rangle |\phi\rangle \implies R_1 \in \text{Stab} |\psi\rangle$ and $R_2 \in \text{Stab} |\phi\rangle$. So every element in $\text{Stab} |\psi\rangle |\phi\rangle$ is of the form $R_1 \otimes R_2$ as above, thus $\text{Stab} |\psi\rangle |\phi\rangle = \text{Stab} |\psi\rangle \otimes \text{Stab} |\phi\rangle$. Then we have a bijection (from the direct product) $\theta : \text{Stab} |\psi\rangle \times \text{Stab} |\phi\rangle \rightarrow \text{Stab} |\psi\rangle \otimes \text{Stab} |\phi\rangle$, which gives us $|\text{Stab} |\psi\rangle |\phi\rangle| = |\text{Stab} |\psi\rangle \otimes \text{Stab} |\phi\rangle| = |\text{Stab} |\psi\rangle| \cdot |\text{Stab} |\phi\rangle|$.

□

An example of a stabilizer state is the $|0\rangle$ state, since there are 2^1 pauli's that stabilize it, namely I and Z . Note that for any Clifford C , $|\text{Stab} |0\rangle| = |\text{Stab}(C |0\rangle)| = 2^1 \implies C |0\rangle$ is a stabilizer state. An example of a non-stabilizer state is the first bell state $\beta_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|00\rangle + |11\rangle)$, which through computation one can find that it has the following stabilizers: $I \otimes I$, $X \otimes X$, and $Z \otimes Z$. Since there are exactly 3 stabilizers, and 3 is not a power of 2, β_1 cannot be a stabilizer state.

Corollary 2.1.3. *The computational basis state $|00 \dots 0\rangle$ on n -qubits is a stabilizer state. If $|\psi\rangle$ is a Stabilizer state, then there is a Clifford unitary C such that $C |\phi\rangle = |\psi\rangle$, where $|\phi\rangle$ is a computational basis state.*

Proof. First we prove that $|00\dots 0\rangle$ is a stabilizer state by induction, where the base case is the $|0\rangle$ state which we know is a stabilizer state from above (and $|\text{Stab}|0\rangle| = 2^1$). Now assume that $|00\dots 0\rangle$ is a stabilizer state on n -qubits with $|\text{Stab}|00\dots 0\rangle| = 2^k$. Let $P \in \text{Stab}|0\rangle$ and $Q \in \text{Stab}|00\dots 0\rangle$, then $(P \otimes Q)|0\rangle|00\dots 0\rangle = P|0\rangle \otimes Q|00\dots 0\rangle = |0\rangle|00\dots 0\rangle = |00\dots 00\rangle$ ($n+1$ qubits). So $P \otimes Q \in \text{Stab}|00\dots 00\rangle$, and from above arguments we know that every element in $\text{Stab}|00\dots 00\rangle$ is of this form, thus there are 2^{k+1} elements in $\text{Stab}|00\dots 00\rangle$, making it a stabilizer state. \square

Definition 2.1.4. Let $|\psi\rangle$ be a non-zero n -qubit state. The Stabilizer nullity of $|\psi\rangle$ is $\nu(|\psi\rangle) = n - \log_2|\text{Stab}|\psi\rangle|$.

Proposition 2.1.5. Let $|\psi\rangle$ be a non-zero n -qubit state and let P be an n -qubit Pauli matrix and suppose that the probability of a +1 outcome when measuring P on $|\psi\rangle$ is non-zero. Then there are two alternatives for the state $|\phi\rangle$ after measurement: either $|\text{Stab}|\phi\rangle| = |\text{Stab}|\psi\rangle|$ or $|\text{Stab}|\phi\rangle| \geq 2|\text{Stab}|\psi\rangle|$, both of which satisfy $\nu(|\phi\rangle) \leq \nu(|\psi\rangle)$.

Proof. First consider the simple case when P is in $\text{Stab}|\psi\rangle$. In this case, the "+1" measurement outcome occurs with probability 1 and $|\psi\rangle$ is unchanged. When P is not in $\text{Stab}|\psi\rangle$ we consider two alternatives. The first alternative is that P commutes with all elements of $\text{Stab}|\psi\rangle$. Recall we have the post-measurement state $|\phi\rangle = \frac{P|\psi\rangle}{\sqrt{\langle\psi|P^\dagger P|\psi\rangle}} = \frac{P|\psi\rangle}{\sqrt{\langle\psi||\psi\rangle}}$, and let $Q \in \text{Stab}|\psi\rangle$. Then $Q|\phi\rangle = \frac{QP|\psi\rangle}{\sqrt{\langle\psi||\psi\rangle}} = \frac{PQ|\psi\rangle}{\sqrt{\langle\psi||\psi\rangle}} = \frac{P|\psi\rangle}{\sqrt{\langle\psi||\psi\rangle}} = |\phi\rangle$. Note also that $\text{Stab}|\phi\rangle$ also contains $P\text{Stab}|\psi\rangle$, and thus $\text{Stab}|\phi\rangle$ contains $\text{Stab}|\psi\rangle \cup P\text{Stab}|\psi\rangle$ and thus its size is at least $2|\text{Stab}|\psi\rangle|$.

The second alternative is when P anti-commutes with some element $Q \in \text{Stab}|\psi\rangle$. Note that $Q|\psi\rangle = |\psi\rangle$ and $QPQ = -P$, so the probability of the +1 outcome is $\langle\psi|(I+P)|\psi\rangle/2 = \langle\psi|Q(I+P)Q|\psi\rangle/2 = \langle\psi|(I-P)|\psi\rangle/2$, which is the probability of the -1 outcome. Thus the probability of the +1 outcome is 1/2. Then $|\phi\rangle = (I+P)/\sqrt{2}|\psi\rangle$ where we fixed the normalization condition such that $\langle\phi|\phi\rangle = \langle\psi|\psi\rangle$. Also, observe that we can write $|\phi\rangle = (I+PQ)/\sqrt{2}|\psi\rangle$. Since $(I+PQ)/\sqrt{2}$ is a Clifford unitary equal to $\exp(i\pi P'/4)$ for $P' = iPQ$, we see that $|\phi\rangle$ and $|\psi\rangle$ differ by a Clifford and therefore $|\text{Stab}|\psi\rangle| = |\text{Stab}|\phi\rangle|$. \square

Definition 2.1.6 (Pauli Spectrum). Let $|\psi\rangle$ be a non-zero n -qubit state. The Pauli spectrum $\text{Spec}|\psi\rangle$ of ψ is:

$$\text{Spec}|\psi\rangle = \left\{ \frac{|\langle\psi|P|\psi\rangle|}{\langle\psi|\psi\rangle}, \forall P \in \{I, X, Y, Z\}^{\otimes n} \right\} \quad (2.1)$$

The Pauli spectrum is a list of 4^n real numbers each between 0 and 1 which is invariant⁶ under Clifford gates. Consider the following example.

Proposition 2.1.7. *The Pauli spectrum of the state $|\theta\rangle = (|0\rangle + e^{i\theta}|1\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$ is $\{1, \cos\theta, \sin\theta, 0\}$. The state $|\theta\rangle$ is therefore a stabilizer state only for $\theta = m\pi/2$ for some integer m .*

Proof. First note that $|\theta\rangle$ is normalized so $\langle\theta|\theta\rangle = 1$. Now by direct computation, we have:

- $\langle\theta|I|\theta\rangle = \langle\theta|\theta\rangle = 1$
- $\langle\theta|X|\theta\rangle = (\langle 1|e^{-i\theta} + \langle 0|)(|1\rangle + e^{i\theta}|0\rangle)/2 = (e^{-i\theta} + e^{i\theta})/2 = \cos\theta$
- $\langle\theta|Y|\theta\rangle = (\langle 1|e^{-i\theta} + \langle 0|)(i|1\rangle - ie^{i\theta}|0\rangle)/2 = i(e^{-i\theta} - e^{i\theta})/2 = i(-2\sin\theta)/2 = \sin\theta$
- $\langle\theta|Z|\theta\rangle = (\langle 1|e^{-i\theta} + \langle 0|)(|0\rangle - e^{i\theta}|1\rangle)/2 = 1 - 1 = 0$

Moreover, if $\theta = 2k\pi/2$ for some integer k , then $X \in \text{Stab}|\theta\rangle$, and if $\theta = (2k+1)\pi/2$, then $Y \in \text{Stab}|\theta\rangle$. Observe that $\forall\theta, I \in \text{Stab}|\theta\rangle$ and $Z \notin \text{Stab}|\theta\rangle$, thus $|\text{Stab}|\theta\rangle| = 2$ if and only if either X or $Y \in \text{Stab}|\theta\rangle$, or more generally if $\theta = m\pi/2$, for some integer m . \square

Note that the number of 1s in the Pauli spectrum of $|\psi\rangle$ is $|\text{Stab}|\psi\rangle|$.

2.2 Catalysis

Theorem 2.2.1. *Let F be a number field which contains $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ and which is closed under complex conjugation. Any stabilizer circuit applied to a density matrix with all entries in F produces a density matrix with all entries in F , with both density matrices written in the computational basis.*

For example, no stabilizer circuit on any number of $|CS\rangle$ or $|CCZ\rangle$ states (which have density matrices with all entries in $\mathbb{Q}(i)$) can be used to produce a $|T\rangle$ state (which has a density matrix with all entries in $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_8)$). Similarly, no stabilizer circuit on any number of $|T\rangle$ states can be used to produce a $|\sqrt{T}\rangle$ state (with entries in $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{16})$).

Proof. Suppose our stabilizer circuit acts upon N qubits initially in the $|0\rangle$ state. Clearly the density matrix $\rho_{\text{initial}} = (|0\rangle\langle 0|)^{\otimes n}$ has entries over \mathbb{Q} . We point out that all Clifford unitaries can be written as matrices with entries over $\mathbb{Q}(i)$, and therefore as matrices with

entries over F . Explicitly, the Clifford group is generated by H , CZ , and S which are defined as:

$$H = \frac{1}{1+i} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$S : |0\rangle \mapsto |0\rangle, |1\rangle \mapsto |1\rangle$$

$$CZ : |ab\rangle \mapsto (-1)^{a \wedge b} |ab\rangle$$

Given any gate U in the circuit is a tensor product of a unitary with entries over F and I and ρ has entries over F the product $U\rho U^\dagger$ is a density matrix with entries over F . Therefore applying the gates in the circuit preserves the required property. Note that measurement with or without post-selection can be described as:

$$\rho \mapsto \frac{P\rho P}{\text{Tr}\rho P}$$

$$\rho \mapsto \sum_{P \in \mathcal{P}} P\rho P$$

The projectors P above correspond to measurement in the computational basis and therefore can be written as matrices with entries over $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ and therefore over F . The product of matrices over F is a matrix over F . The trace of a matrix over F is also in F by the definition of a field. The quotient of a matrix over F and an element of F is again a matrix over F because any field is closed under the division operation. This completes the proof. \square

$$\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ | \\ \hline \square S \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \hline \square T \\ | \\ \bullet \\ | \\ \hline \square T \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ | \\ \hline \oplus \\ | \\ \hline \square T^\dagger \\ | \\ \bullet \\ | \\ \hline \oplus \\ | \\ \hline \end{array} \text{ implies } \begin{array}{c} \hline \square T \\ | \\ \bullet \\ | \\ \hline \square T \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ | \\ \hline \square S \\ | \\ \bullet \\ | \\ \hline \oplus \\ | \\ \hline \square T \\ | \\ \bullet \\ | \\ \hline \oplus \\ | \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Definition 2.2.2 (Conversion Notation). The equation $|A\rangle \rightarrow |B\rangle$ indicates that resource state $|A\rangle$ can be converted into resource state $|B\rangle$ with stabilizer operations in the absences of a catalyst. On the other hand, $|A\rangle \xRightarrow{|C\rangle} |B\rangle$, which is equivalent to $|A\rangle |C\rangle \rightarrow |B\rangle |C\rangle$, indicates the conversion can proceed with the use of a catalyst $|C\rangle$ (which may sometimes be omitted above the arrow). When a process is impossible, we strike through the arrow, for example $|A\rangle \not\rightarrow |B\rangle$ signifies that $|A\rangle$ cannot be converted to $|B\rangle$ by stabilizer operations even in the presence of an arbitrary catalyst. In cases involving multiple copies of a given state such as $|A\rangle^{\otimes 2} \xRightarrow{|C\rangle} |B\rangle$, we sometimes write $2|A\rangle \xRightarrow{|C\rangle} |B\rangle$ to avoid clutter.

Chapter 3

Conversion of Resource States

Theorem 3.0.1. *Let $|U\rangle$ be an n -qubit magic state for a diagonal unitary U from the 3rd level of the Clifford hierarchy, and let $\tau(U)$ be the minimum number of T gates needed to implement U using the gate set $\{CNOT, S, T\}$. The following resource conversion is possible*

$$|U\rangle \xrightarrow{|T\rangle^{\otimes \tau(U) - \nu(|U\rangle)}} |T\rangle^{\otimes 2\nu(|U\rangle) - \tau(U)}$$

Proof. Recall the following phase polynomial formalism. For any diagonal unitary in the 3rd level Clifford hierarchy we have $U_f = \sum_x \exp(if(x)\pi/4) |x\rangle \langle x|$, where $f : \mathbb{Z}_2^n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_8$ is of cubic form and so can be decomposed as the phase polynomial $f(x) = \sum_{a_k \neq 0} a_k \lambda_k(x) \pmod{8}$ where $a_k \in \mathbb{Z}_8$ and each λ_k is a \mathbb{Z}_2 linear function. That is, each λ_k has the form $\lambda_k(x) = (P_{1,k}x_1) \oplus (P_{2,k}, x_2) \dots (P_{n,k}, x_n) \pmod{2}$ where $P_{j,k}$ are binary. Thus we can describe the function by a binary matrix P and vector a , with columns corresponding to nonzero a_k (so the number of columns is the number of terms in f). For a function with a single term $f(x) = a_k \lambda_k(x)$, an easily verified circuit decomposition is $U_{\lambda_k} = \sum_x \exp(i\lambda_k(x)\pi/4) |x\rangle \langle x| = V_{CNOT(\lambda_k)}^\dagger T_1^{a_k} V_{CNOT(\lambda_k)}$ where T_1 is a T gate acting on qubit 1 and $V_{CNOT(\lambda_k)}$ is a cascade of CNOT gates such that

$$V_{CNOT(\lambda_k)} |x\rangle = V_{CNOT(\lambda_k)} |x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\rangle = |\lambda_k(x_1), x_2, \dots, x_n\rangle.$$

Now note that if a_k is even then $T_1^{a_k} = S_1^{a_k/2}$ is a Clifford and the whole circuit is Clifford. But if a_k is odd then $T_1^{a_k} = T_1 S_1^{(a_k-1)/2}$ and only a single T gate is used. Now, generalizing to a phase polynomial f with many terms we have $U_f = \prod_k U_{\lambda_k}$ and so the T -count for the associated circuit is equal to the number of odd valued a_k (so if all values are even then the unitary is Clifford).

This allows us to split the unitary U_f into a Clifford and non-Clifford part. For each a_k coefficient, we define $b_k \in \mathbb{Z}_4$ and $c_k \in \mathbb{Z}_2$ such that $a_k = 2b_k + c_k$ (so $c_k = 1$ if and only if a_k is odd). Now for functions $g(x) = \sum_{c_k \neq 0} c_k \lambda_k(x)$ and $h(x) = \sum_{b_k \neq 0} b_k \lambda_k(x)$ we have that $f = g + h$ and $U_f = U_{g+2h} = U_g U_{2h}$ where U_{2h} is a Clifford Unitary. The non-Clifford part is U_g and all the terms have odd valued co-coefficients, so the number of terms in g gives an upper bound

on $\tau(U_g)$ as discussed earlier. It follows that if the function g has m (odd-valued) terms then the state can be prepared using m many T gates/states. Note that for any given unitary U_g there is an equivalence class of different functions g that all result in the same unitary but with different numbers of terms. From now on we will assume that g is the optimal representative with the fewest number of terms, denoted by $\tau(U_g)$. Furthermore, there is a binary matrix P description of g with a number of columns also equal to $\tau(U_g)$. A trivial but relevant example is $U = T^{\otimes n}$ for which $P = \mathbb{1}_n$ and $\tau(T^{\otimes n}) = n$.

The next important step is that given a unitary U_g we may also be able to remove terms from g by applying inverse T gates. More generally, given two such unitaries U_g and $U_{g'}$ with phase polynomials g and g' , we have that $U_{g'} = U_g U_\Delta$ where $\Delta = g - g'$. Therefore,

$$|U_{g'}\rangle = U_\Delta |U_g\rangle \quad (3.1)$$

and

$$|T\rangle^{\otimes \tau(U_\Delta)} |U_{g'}\rangle \rightarrow |U_g\rangle \quad (3.2)$$

The number of T states needed is $\tau(U_\Delta)$, which just the number of terms where g and g' differ.

Using arguments from [?], given any P we can always bring it into row-reduced echelon form using a CNOT circuit. Then

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{1}_r & A \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.3)$$

where $\mathbb{1}_r$ is an identity matrix of size $r := \text{rank}(P)$. If P is full rank the additional 0 padding is not present. Note that if P has any 0 rows then the unitary acts trivially on the corresponding qubits leaving them in the $|+\rangle$ state, meaning that $|U\rangle = U|+\rangle = |\psi\rangle|+\rangle^{\otimes(n-r)}$ for some state $|\psi\rangle$. Also, for an n qubit stabilizer state $|\phi\rangle$,

$$\nu(|\phi\rangle) = 0 \Rightarrow \log_2 |\text{Stab } |\phi\rangle| = n \quad (3.4)$$

Next, observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \log_2 |\text{Stab } |U\rangle| &= \log_2 |\text{Stab } (|\psi\rangle|+\rangle^{\otimes(n-r)})| \\ &= \log_2 (|\text{Stab } |\psi\rangle| \cdot |\text{Stab } |+\rangle^{\otimes(n-r)}|) \\ &= \log_2 |\text{Stab } |\psi\rangle| + \log_2 |\text{Stab } |+\rangle^{\otimes(n-r)}| = \log_2 |\text{Stab } |\psi\rangle| + (n-r) = \alpha + n - r \end{aligned}$$

for some positive integer $\alpha = \log_2 |Stab|\psi\rangle|$. Hence $\log_2 |Stab|U\rangle| \geq n - r$, so rearranging¹⁰ we have that $n - \log_2 |Stab|U\rangle| = \nu(|U\rangle) \leq r$.

Using our earlier argument, we can always remove from P the columns corresponding to the matrix A using a number of T states equal to the number of columns in A . Since A has $\tau(U_g) - r$ columns, this requires the same quantity of T states. The resulting $U_{g'}$ has $P' = \mathbb{1}_r$ (with possibly some 0 row padding) which corresponds to r copies of T states. Therefore, we can perform

$$|U_g\rangle |T\rangle^{\otimes(\tau(U_g)-r)} \rightarrow |T\rangle^{\otimes r} \quad (3.5)$$

If $r = \nu(U_g)$ then we have the result of the theorem. If $r > \nu(U_g)$ then the result is even stronger than the theorem, and so the theorem holds in either case. \square

Chapter 4

Conclusion

Did it!