

Exercise 4.1.5

For ensemble $\{\{1/2, |0\rangle\}, \{1/2, |1\rangle\}\}$, the corresponding density matrix is given by

$$\begin{aligned}\rho &= \sum_x p_X(x) |\psi_x\rangle \langle \psi_x| = \frac{1}{2} |0\rangle \langle 0| + \frac{1}{2} |1\rangle \langle 1| \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\end{aligned}\tag{1}$$

For ensemble $\{\{1/2, |+\rangle\}, \{1/2, |-\rangle\}\}$, the corresponding density matrix is given by

$$\begin{aligned}\rho &= \sum_x p_X(x) |\psi_x\rangle \langle \psi_x| = \frac{1}{2} |+\rangle \langle +| + \frac{1}{2} |-\rangle \langle -| \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{4} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{4} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\end{aligned}\tag{2}$$

From eq. (1) and eq. (2), we see that two ensembles have same density operator.