

Quantum State Representation

(A) Vector State
 Ex: $|\psi\rangle = a|0\rangle + b|1\rangle$

(A/B) $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_A \otimes \mathcal{H}_B$
 Ex: $|\psi\rangle = |\psi_A\rangle \otimes |\psi_B\rangle$
 If not, $|\psi\rangle$ is entangled

$\rho_i \rightarrow |\psi_i\rangle \begin{cases} \text{tr}(\rho^2) = 1 & \text{pure states} \\ \text{tr}(\rho^2) < 1 & \text{mixed states} \end{cases}$

(Cnv. A) $\rho_A = \text{tr}_{B \cup C} \{ \rho_{\text{total}} \}$

How do they transform?

Quantum State Transformation

For closed systems, we want to understand what type of U leads to

$$|\psi_1\rangle = U|\psi_0\rangle$$

$$\rho_1 = |\psi_1\rangle\langle\psi_1| = U|\psi_0\rangle\langle\psi_0|U^\dagger = U\rho_0 U^\dagger$$

$\psi_0 \xrightarrow{\quad} \psi_1$

- reversible
- norm preserving
- linear

$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{• reversible} \\ \text{• norm preserving} \\ \text{• linear} \end{array} \right\} U \text{ is unitary}$
 $UU^\dagger = U^\dagger U = \mathbb{1}$

$$U^\dagger |\psi_1\rangle = U^\dagger U |\psi_0\rangle = |\psi_0\rangle$$

If we want the time evolution, we use the Schrödinger

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} |\psi(t)\rangle = \hat{H} |\psi(t)\rangle \quad |\psi(t_0)\rangle = |\psi_0\rangle$$

$\hat{H} \rightarrow$ Hamiltonian

If we want to solve this equation

$$|\psi(t)\rangle = \exp\left[-\frac{i}{\hbar} \hat{H} (t - t_0)\right] |\psi_0\rangle = U(t, t_0) |\psi_0\rangle$$

\hookrightarrow propagator

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt} (U \rho U^\dagger) = \frac{dU}{dt} \rho U^\dagger + U \rho \frac{dU^\dagger}{dt} \quad \frac{dU}{dt} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} \hat{H} U$$

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} U \rho U^\dagger + \frac{i}{\hbar} U \rho U^\dagger H = -\frac{i}{\hbar} [\hat{H}, \rho(t)]$$

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} [\hat{H}, \rho] \quad \text{VON-NEUMANN equation}$$

Ex 1: A two-level system completely isolated. The Hamiltonian is

$$\hat{H} = \frac{\hbar \omega}{2} \hat{\sigma}_z \quad \hat{\sigma}_z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{Pauli matrix})$$

$$|\psi(0)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle + |1\rangle)$$

At what time t $|\psi(t)\rangle = |\psi(0)\rangle$?

Unitary evolution

$$\begin{aligned} |\psi(t)\rangle &= \exp\left[-\frac{i}{\hbar} \hat{H} t\right] |\psi(0)\rangle \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} e^{-i\omega t/2} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\omega t/2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (e^{-i\omega t/2} |0\rangle + e^{i\omega t/2} |1\rangle) \end{aligned}$$

$$e^A = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} A^n$$

$$e^{-i\omega t/2} = e^{i\omega t/2} = 1 \rightarrow \frac{\omega t}{2} = 2\pi \rightarrow t = \frac{4\pi}{\omega} \cdot n \rightarrow t' = \frac{4\pi}{\omega}$$

Non-unitary evolution

It is needed when we lose information about the state. In other words, the operation is not reversible



$$\rho_A = \text{tr}_{\text{ENV}} \{ \rho_{\text{tot}} \}$$

To model the transformation, we use a trace-preserving completely positive maps, usually called quantum map

$$\rho_1 = \mathcal{E}(\rho_0) \quad \mathcal{E}: \text{quantum map}$$

To be a valid operation, \mathcal{E} must satisfy

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① Linearity $\mathcal{E}(\alpha \rho_A + \beta \rho_B) = \alpha \mathcal{E}(\rho_A) + \beta \mathcal{E}(\rho_B)$

② Trace-preserving $\text{Tr}(\mathcal{E}(\rho)) = 1$

③ Complete positivity

$$\langle \phi_A | \mathcal{E}(\rho) | \phi_A \rangle \geq 0 \quad \forall \phi_A \in \mathcal{H}_A$$

$$\langle \phi_{AB} | \mathcal{E}_A \otimes \mathbb{I}(\rho_{AB}) | \phi_{AB} \rangle \geq 0 \quad \forall \phi_{AB} \in \mathcal{H}_{AB} = \mathcal{H}_A \otimes \mathcal{H}_B$$

④ Hermiticity - preserving

$$\mathbb{I} \downarrow \rho = \rho^\dagger \rightarrow \mathcal{E}(\rho) = [\mathcal{E}(\rho)]^\dagger$$

This set of properties indicate that \mathcal{E} can be represented as

$$\mathcal{E}(\rho) = \sum_j K_j \rho K_j^\dagger \quad \text{KRAUS - sum representation}$$

with $\sum_j K_j^\dagger K_j = \mathbb{I}$

Ex:



① If we keep track of the environment, we know U

$$U: \begin{cases} U|0\rangle_A |0\rangle_E \rightarrow |0\rangle_A |0\rangle_E \\ U|1\rangle_A |0\rangle_E \rightarrow \sqrt{p}|0\rangle_A |1\rangle_E + \sqrt{1-p}|1\rangle_A |0\rangle_E \end{cases}$$

② If we don't keep track of env. \rightarrow if must trace it out

Suppose: $\rho_{AE} = \rho_A \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0|_E \rightarrow \rho_{AE}(\rho) = U(\rho_A \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0|_E)U^\dagger$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr}_{\text{ENV.}}(\rho_{AE}(\rho)) &= \sum_{j=1}^{N_E} (\mathbb{I}_A \otimes \langle j|_E) U \rho_A \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0|_E U^\dagger (\mathbb{I}_A \otimes |j\rangle_E) \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^{N_E} \underbrace{\mathbb{I}_A (\langle j| U |0\rangle_E)}_{K_j} \rho_A \underbrace{(\langle 0| U^\dagger |j\rangle_E) \mathbb{I}_A}_{K_j^\dagger} = \sum_{j=1}^{N_E} K_j \rho_A K_j^\dagger \end{aligned}$$

• $K_0 |0\rangle_A = \langle 0| U |0\rangle_E |0\rangle_A = \langle 0|0\rangle_E |0\rangle_A = |0\rangle_A$

$$\bullet K_0 |0\rangle_A = \langle 0|U|0\rangle_E |0\rangle_A = \langle 0|0\rangle_E |0\rangle_A = |0\rangle_A$$

$$\bullet K_0 |1\rangle_A = \langle 0|U|0\rangle_E |1\rangle_A = \sqrt{p} \langle 0|1\rangle_E^0 |0\rangle_A + \sqrt{1-p} \langle 0|0\rangle_E^1 |1\rangle_A = \sqrt{1-p} |1\rangle_A$$

$$\bullet K_1 |0\rangle_A = \langle 1|U|0\rangle_E |0\rangle_A = \langle 1|0\rangle_E^0 |0\rangle_A = 0$$

$$\bullet K_1 |1\rangle_A = \langle 1|U|0\rangle_E |1\rangle_A = \sqrt{p} |0\rangle_A$$

Using the basis $\{|0\rangle, |1\rangle\}$

$$K_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{1-p} \end{pmatrix} \quad K_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \sqrt{p} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Sanity check

$$K_0^\dagger K_0 + K_1^\dagger K_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1-p \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ \sqrt{p} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \sqrt{p} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1-p \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & p \end{pmatrix} = \mathbb{1}$$

This particular $\mathcal{E}(p)$ is called amplitude-damping channel

Exercise: Start with a TLS in the state

$$|\psi\rangle_A = |1\rangle_A$$

Apply the quantum map $\mathcal{E}(p)$ amplitude-damping channel over this state. Under what condition $\mathcal{E}(p_A)$ is a pure state? Use the Kraus state decomposition.

$$\rho_A = |1\rangle\langle 1| = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathcal{E}(p) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{1-p} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{1-p} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \sqrt{p} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ \sqrt{p} & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} p & 0 \\ 0 & 1-p \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{tr}([\mathcal{E}(p_A)]^2) = \text{tr} \left[\begin{pmatrix} p^2 & 0 \\ 0 & (1-p)^2 \end{pmatrix} \right] = \underbrace{p^2 + (1-p)^2}_{\text{solutions } p=0 \text{ or } p=1} = 1$$

Lindblad Master Equation

Now we are ready to look at the quantum equation of motion for a state ρ_A . We would like to express this incremental evolution in the Kraus form

$$\mathcal{E}_{\Delta t}(\rho_A) = \sum_j K_j(\Delta t) \rho_A(t) K_j^\dagger(\Delta t) = \rho_A(t + \Delta t)$$

* Disclaimer: we have assumed $\rho_{A,E} = \rho_A \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0|_E$, i.e., they are not entangled

This approximation is valid as long as the env. has a number of DoF very large, so that the correlation with the system τ_c is very short

$$\tau_c \ll \Delta t \ll T$$

↳ timescale we want to describe *
Markov approximation

So we want to find

$$\frac{d\rho_A}{dt} = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\rho_A(t + \Delta t) - \rho_A(t)}{\Delta t} \quad \blacksquare$$

We can assume

$$K_0 = \mathbb{1} - i\Delta t K + O(\Delta t^2) \quad (\text{close to the identity})$$

$$K_j = \sqrt{\Delta t} L_j \quad j \geq 1 \quad (\text{very small})$$

Let's split K in a Hermitian/Anti-Hermitian

$$K = \frac{H}{\hbar} - iJ \quad \begin{cases} H = \frac{K + K^\dagger}{2} = H^\dagger \\ J = i \frac{K - K^\dagger}{2} = J^\dagger \end{cases}$$

For the map $\mathcal{E}(\rho_A)$, using the first order in Δt

$$\begin{aligned} K_0 \rho_A K_0^\dagger &= (\mathbb{1} - i\Delta t K) \rho_A (\mathbb{1} + i\Delta t K^\dagger) \\ &= \left[\mathbb{1} - i\Delta t \left(\frac{H}{\hbar} - iJ \right) \right] \rho_A \left[\mathbb{1} + i\Delta t \left(\frac{H}{\hbar} + iJ \right) \right] \\ &= \rho_A - \frac{i\Delta t}{\hbar} H \rho_A - \Delta t J \rho_A + \frac{i\Delta t}{\hbar} \rho_A H - \Delta t \rho_A J \\ &= \rho_A - \frac{i\Delta t}{\hbar} [H, \rho_A] - \Delta t (J \rho_A + \rho_A J) \quad \star \end{aligned}$$

the other elements ($j \neq 0$)

$$K_j \rho_A K_j^\dagger = \Delta t L_j \rho_A L_j^\dagger \quad \star$$

Also

$$\sum_j K_j^\dagger K_j = \mathbb{1} \rightarrow K_0^\dagger K_0 + \sum_{j \neq 0} \Delta t L_j^\dagger L_j = \mathbb{1}$$

$$K_0^\dagger K_0 = (\mathbb{1} + i \Delta t K^\dagger) (\mathbb{1} - i \Delta t K) = \mathbb{1} + \Delta t (i (K^\dagger - K)) = \mathbb{1} - 2 \Delta t J$$

$$\mathbb{1} - 2 \Delta t J + \sum_{j \neq 0} \Delta t L_j^\dagger L_j = \mathbb{1} \rightarrow J = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j \neq 0} L_j^\dagger L_j \quad *$$

Plugging equations * into ■, we have

$$\frac{d\rho_A}{dt} = \rho_A - \frac{i \Delta t}{\hbar} [H, \rho_A] - \Delta t \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j \neq 0} (L_j^\dagger L_j \rho_A + \rho_A L_j^\dagger L_j) + \Delta t \sum_{j \neq 0} L_j \rho_A L_j^\dagger - \rho_A(t)$$

$$\frac{d\rho_A}{dt} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} [H, \rho_A] + \sum_{j \neq 0} L_j \rho_A L_j^\dagger - \frac{1}{2} (L_j^\dagger L_j \rho_A + \rho_A L_j^\dagger L_j)$$

Master equation
in the Lindblad form

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = \mathcal{L}[\rho]$$

↳ Lindbladian superoperator

The L_j are called jump or collapse operator

- with probability $p_j = \Delta t \text{tr}[L_j^\dagger \rho L_j]$ a quantum jump would occur

- If not, we have an evolution with the effective Hamiltonian

$$H_{\text{eff}} = H - \frac{i}{\hbar} \sum_{j \neq 0} L_j^\dagger L_j$$

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} (H_{\text{eff}} \rho - \rho H_{\text{eff}}^\dagger)$$