Quantum Measurement
Zeno Effect

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Modeling Quantum Hardware: open dynamics and control
Universität Konstanz

No phenomenon is a real phenomenon until it is an observed phenomenon.

– John Archibald Wheeler 1970

Historical Note

1900 Plank & Einstein: Blackbody Radiation

1920 Bohr, Heisenberg: Copenhagen interpretation
Born: Probabilistic interpretation $P(m) = |\langle m|\psi\rangle|^2$
Schrödinger: Measurement Problem

1930 EPR Paradox

1932 von Neumann: *Mathematical Foundations of Quantum Mechanics*

1970 Decoherence Theory

Experimental Interest

Projective Measurement

Measurement Operator $\hat{M} = \sum m|m\rangle$ on ψ:

$$p(m) = |\langle m|\psi\rangle|^2$$

$$\psi \xrightarrow{\text{Measuring } m} |m\rangle$$

Neglegting Normalization and Degenercy: POVM Measurement

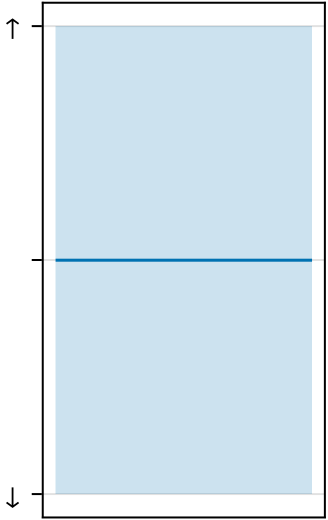
Quantum Computation and Quantum Information, M. A. Nielsen et al. 2010 (2.2.3)

Example: Superposition

$$H = \sigma_z$$

$$|\psi > \propto |\uparrow\rangle + |\downarrow\rangle$$

$\Rightarrow$ Superposition is stable



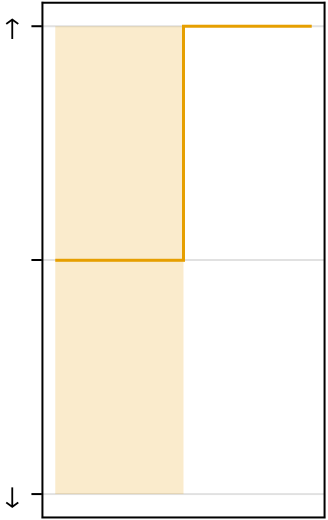
Example: Superposition

$$H = \sigma_z$$
$$|\psi > \propto |\uparrow\rangle + |\downarrow\rangle$$

$\Rightarrow$ Superposition is stable

$$M = \sigma_z$$

$\Rightarrow p(\uparrow) = p(\downarrow)$



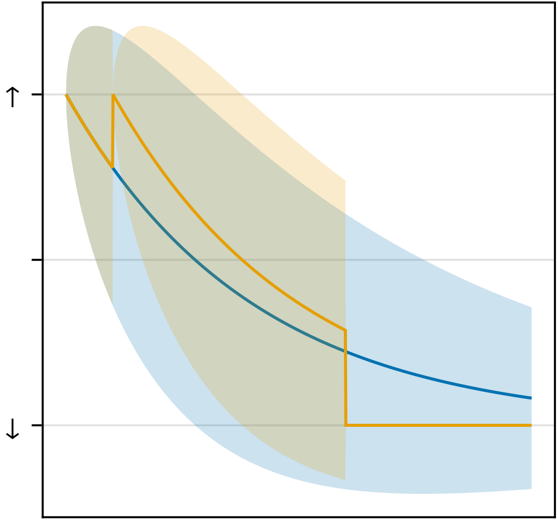
Example: Decay and Zeno

$$H = \sigma_z$$

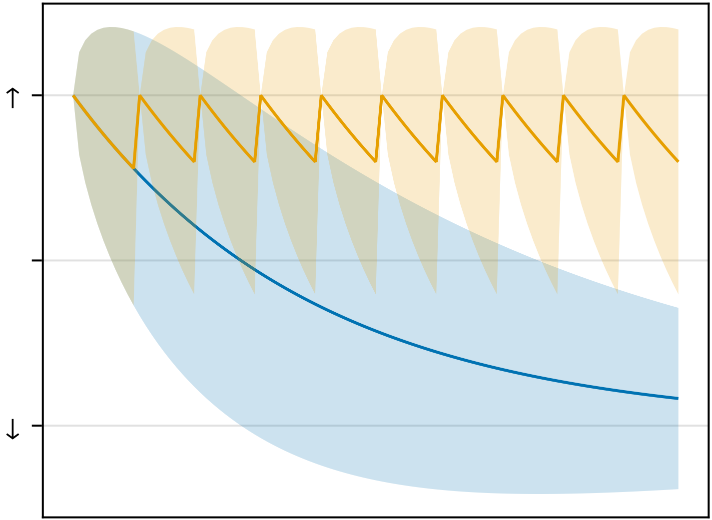
$$|\psi > \propto |\uparrow\rangle$$

$$M = \sigma_z$$

$$J = \kappa\sigma_-$$



Example: Zeno



Zeno Effect

- Zeno of Elea (460 BCE): Arrow paradox
- Misra and Sudarshan (1977): “The Zeno’s paradox in quantum theory”
- Experimentally demonstrated (1990) with 5000 $^{9}Be^{+}$ ions at 250 mK
- Used in Magnetometers and possibly birds

“Quantum Zeno effect explains magnetic-sensitive radical-ion-pair reactions”, Kominis 2009

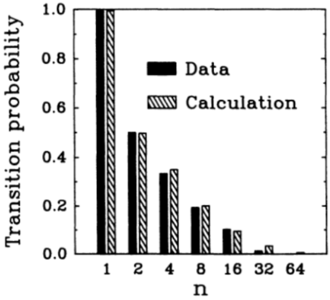


FIG. 3. Graph of the experimental and calculated $1 \rightarrow 2$ transition probabilities as a function of the number of measurement pulses n. The decrease of the transition probabilities with increasing n demonstrates the quantum Zeno effect.

“Quantum Zeno effect”, Itano et al. 1990

Weak Measurement

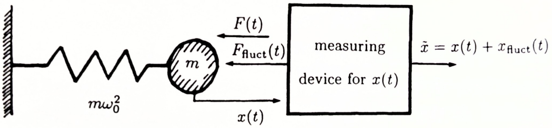
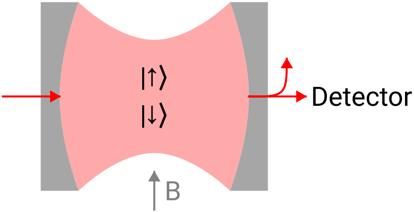


Fig. 8.4 Detection of a classical force by monitoring the coordinate of an oscillator on which it acts.

Quantum measurement, Vladimir Braginsky et al. 1992

Rabi Oscillations Setup



$$
\begin{aligned}
H &= g\,(a^\dagger a)(\sigma^+\sigma^-) && \text{Coupling} \\
&\quad + g_s\,(\sigma^+ + \sigma^-) && \text{Magnetic} \\
&\quad - i\beta(a^\dagger - a) && \text{Optic} \\
J &= \kappa\ a && \text{Dissipation} \\
C &= \sqrt{\kappa\eta}\ a && \text{Measurement}
\end{aligned}
$$

"Stochastic master equation for a probed system in a cavity", A. E. B. Nielsen et al. 2008

Time evolution