

# Introduction to Quantum Computing

## Overview:

- I.) From bits to qubits: Dirac notation, measurements, Bloch sphere
- II.) Quantum circuits: basic single-qubit & two-qubit gates, multipartite quantum states
- III.) Entanglement: Bell states, Teleportation, Q-sphere

## I. From bits to qubits.

- classical states for computation are either "0" or "1"
- in quantum mechanics, a state can be in **superposition**, i.e., simultaneously in "0" and "1"  
 → superpositions allow to perform calculations on many states at the same time  
 ⇒ quantum algorithms with **exponential speed-up**

BUT: once we measure the superposition state, it collapses to one of its states

(→ we can only get one "answer" and not all answers to all states in the superposition)  
 ⇒ it is not THAT easy to design quantum algorithms, but we can use **interference effects**  
 (→ "wrong answers" cancel each other out, while the "right answer" remains)

## Dirac notation

- used to describe quantum states: let  $a, b \in \mathbb{C}^2$ . (→ 2-dimensional vector with complex entries)
  - ket:  $|a\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \end{pmatrix}$  ← complex conjugated & transposed
  - bra:  $\langle b| = |b\rangle^+ = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix}^+ = (b_1^* \ b_2^*)$
  - bra-ket:  $\langle b|a\rangle = a_1 b_1^* + a_2 b_2^* = \langle a|b\rangle^* \in \mathbb{C}$  (→ complex number)
  - ket-bra:  $|a\rangle\langle b| = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 b_1^* & a_1 b_2^* \\ a_2 b_1^* & a_2 b_2^* \end{pmatrix}$  (→  $2 \times 2$ -matrix)
- we define the states  $|0\rangle := \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $|1\rangle := \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ , which are orthogonal:  $\langle 0|1\rangle = 1 \cdot 0 + 0 \cdot 1 = 0$
- all quantum states are normalized, i.e.,  $\langle \psi|\psi\rangle = 1$ , e.g.  $|\Psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot (|0\rangle + |1\rangle) = \begin{pmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}$

## Measurements

- we choose orthogonal bases to describe & measure quantum states ( $\rightarrow$  projective measurement)
- during a meas. onto the basis  $\{|0\rangle, |1\rangle\}$ , the state will collapse into either state  $|0\rangle$  or  $|1\rangle \rightarrow$  as those are the eigenstates of  $\hat{\sigma}_z$ , we call this a  $z$ -measurement
- there are infinitely many different bases, but other common ones are
 
$$\{|+\rangle := \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle + |1\rangle), |-\rangle := \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle - |1\rangle)\}$$
 corresponding to the eigenstates of  $\hat{\sigma}_x$  and  $\hat{\sigma}_y$ , respectively.
- **Born rule:** the probability that a state  $|\psi\rangle$  collapses during a projective meas. onto the basis  $\{|x\rangle, |x^\perp\rangle\}$  to the state  $|x\rangle$  is given by
 
$$P(x) = |\langle x | \psi \rangle|^2 \quad , \quad \sum_i P(x_i) = 1$$
- examples:
  - $|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}(|0\rangle + \sqrt{2}|1\rangle)$  is meas. in the basis  $\{|0\rangle, |1\rangle\}$ :
 
$$\rightarrow P(0) = \left| \langle 0 | \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}(|0\rangle + \sqrt{2}|1\rangle) \right|^2 = \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \underbrace{\langle 0 | 0 \rangle}_1 + \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \underbrace{\langle 0 | 1 \rangle}_0 \right|^2 = \frac{1}{3} \rightarrow P(1) = \frac{2}{3}$$
  - $|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle - |1\rangle)$  is measured in the basis  $\{|+\rangle, |-\rangle\}$ :
 
$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow P(+)&= |\langle + | \psi \rangle|^2 = \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\langle 0 | + \langle 1 |) \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot (|0\rangle - |1\rangle) \right|^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \left| \underbrace{\langle 0 | 0 \rangle}_1 - \underbrace{\langle 0 | 1 \rangle}_0 + \underbrace{\langle 1 | 0 \rangle}_0 - \underbrace{\langle 1 | 1 \rangle}_1 \right|^2 = 0 \rightarrow \text{expected, as } \langle + | \psi \rangle - \langle + | - \rangle = 0 \\ &\hookrightarrow P(-) = \left| \langle - | \psi \rangle \right|^2 = \text{orthogonal} \end{aligned}$$

## Bloch sphere:

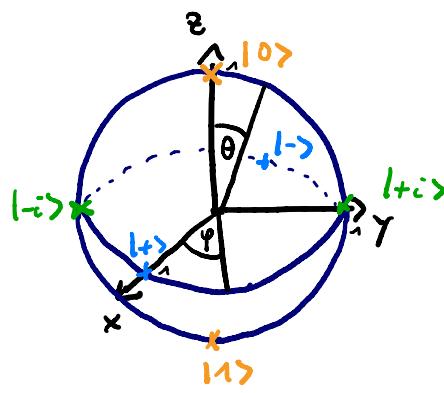
We can write any normalized (pure) state as  $|\psi\rangle = \cos \frac{\Theta}{2} |0\rangle + e^{i\varphi} \sin \frac{\Theta}{2} |1\rangle$ ,

where  $\varphi \in [0, 2\pi]$  describes the relative phase and  $\Theta \in [0, \pi]$  determines the probability to measure  $|0\rangle / |1\rangle$ :  $p(|0\rangle) = \cos^2 \frac{\Theta}{2}$ ,  $p(|1\rangle) = \sin^2 \frac{\Theta}{2}$ .

$\Rightarrow$  all normalized pure states can be illustrated on the surface of a sphere with radius  $|\vec{r}| = 1$ , which we call the Bloch sphere

$\Rightarrow$  the coordinates of such a state are given by the Bloch vector:  $\vec{r} = \begin{pmatrix} \sin \Theta \cos \varphi \\ \sin \Theta \sin \varphi \\ \cos \Theta \end{pmatrix}$

- examples:
- $|0\rangle$ :  $\theta=0, \varphi$  arbitrary  $\rightarrow \vec{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$
  - $|1\rangle$ :  $\theta=\pi, \varphi$  arb.  $\rightarrow \vec{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$
  - $|+\rangle$ :  $\theta=\frac{\pi}{2}, \varphi=0 \rightarrow \vec{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$
  - $|-\rangle$ :  $\theta=\frac{\pi}{2}, \varphi=\pi \rightarrow \vec{r} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$
  - $|+i\rangle$ :  $\theta=\frac{\pi}{2}, \varphi=\frac{\pi}{2} \rightarrow \vec{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$
  - $|-i\rangle$ :  $\theta=\frac{\pi}{2}, \varphi=\frac{3\pi}{2} \rightarrow \vec{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$



Be careful: On the Bloch sphere, angles are twice as big as in Hilbert space,

e.g.  $|0\rangle$  &  $|1\rangle$  are orthogonal, but on the Bloch sphere their angle

is  $180^\circ$ . For a general state  $|+\rangle = \cos\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)|0\rangle + \dots \rightarrow \theta$  is the

angle on the Bloch sphere, while  $\frac{\theta}{2}$  is the actual angle in Hilbert space!

$\Rightarrow$  Z-measurement corresponds to a projection onto the z-axis and analogously for X & Y!

## II. Quantum Circuits

- "circuit model": sequence of building blocks that carry out elementary computations, called gates



### Single qubit gates

- classical example: NOT  $|1\rangle \rightarrow |0\rangle$
- quantum examples: as quantum theory is unitary, quantum gates are represented by

unitary matrices:  $U^\dagger U = 11$

$$\text{recall Diac notation: } U = \begin{pmatrix} u_{00} & u_{01} \\ u_{10} & u_{11} \end{pmatrix} = u_{00}|0\rangle\langle 0| + u_{01}|0\rangle\langle 1| + u_{10}|1\rangle\langle 0| + u_{11}|1\rangle\langle 1|$$

$$-\quad \tilde{\sigma}_x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = |0\rangle\langle 1| + |1\rangle\langle 0|$$

Diac notation

$$\hookrightarrow \tilde{\sigma}_x|0\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = |1\rangle, \quad \tilde{\sigma}_x|1\rangle = \underbrace{(\tilde{\sigma}_x|0\rangle)}_{\downarrow} \cdot |1\rangle = |0\rangle$$

$\Rightarrow$  bit flip  $\hat{=}$  NOT-gate, e.g.  $|0\rangle \xrightarrow{\tilde{\sigma}_x} |1\rangle \Rightarrow$  rotation around x-axis by  $\pi$

$$-\quad \tilde{\sigma}_z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = |0\rangle\langle 0| - |1\rangle\langle 1|$$

$$\hookrightarrow \tilde{\sigma}_z|+\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = |-\rangle, \quad \tilde{\sigma}_z|-\rangle = (|0\rangle\langle 0| - |1\rangle\langle 1|) \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle - |1\rangle)$$

$\Rightarrow$  phase flip  $\Rightarrow$  rotation around z-axis by  $\pi$

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

$$-\quad \tilde{\sigma}_y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} = i \cdot \tilde{\sigma}_x \cdot \tilde{\sigma}_z \quad \Rightarrow \text{bit \& phase flip}$$

$\Rightarrow \tilde{\sigma}_x, \tilde{\sigma}_y \& \tilde{\sigma}_z$  are the so-called Pauli matrices and  $\tilde{\sigma}_i^2 = 11 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  (does nothing)

$\Rightarrow$  together with identity 11 they form a basis of  $2 \times 2$  matrices

( $\rightarrow$  any 1-qubit rotation can be written as a linear combination of them)

- Hadamard gate: one of the most important gates for quantum circuits

$$H = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle\langle 0| + |0\rangle\langle 1| + |1\rangle\langle 0| - |1\rangle\langle 1|)$$

$$\hookrightarrow H|0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = |+\rangle, \quad H|1\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle\langle 0| + |0\rangle\langle 1| + |1\rangle\langle 0| - |1\rangle\langle 1|) \cdot |1\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle - |1\rangle) = |-\rangle$$

$\Rightarrow$  creates superposition! also  $H|+\rangle = |0\rangle, H|-\rangle = |1\rangle \Rightarrow$  used to change between X & Z basis

- similarly, as  $S = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & i \end{pmatrix}$  adds  $90^\circ$  to the phase  $\varphi$ :  $S \cdot |+\rangle = |+\rangle, S|-\rangle = |-\rangle$

$\Rightarrow S \cdot H$  is applied to change from Z to Y basis

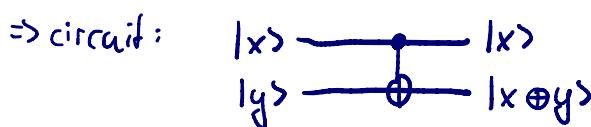
## Multipartite quantum states

- we use tensor products to describe multiple states:  $|a\rangle \otimes |b\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \end{pmatrix} \otimes \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 b_1 \\ a_1 b_2 \\ a_2 b_1 \\ a_2 b_2 \end{pmatrix}$
- example: system A is in state  $|1\rangle_A$  and system B is in state  $|0\rangle_B$   
 $\Rightarrow$  the total (bi-partite) state is  $|10\rangle_{AB} = |1\rangle_A \otimes |0\rangle_B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \otimes \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$
- ↳ remark: states of this form are called **uncorrelated**, but there are also bi-partite states that cannot be written as  $|\psi\rangle_A \otimes |\psi\rangle_B$ . These states are **correlated** and sometimes even **entangled** ( $\rightarrow$  very strong correlation), e.g.  $|\Psi\rangle_{AB}^{(0)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|00\rangle_{AB} + |11\rangle_{AB}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$   
 a so-called **Bell state**, used for teleportation, cryptography, Bell tests, etc.

## Two-qubit gates

- classical example: XOR  $x = \boxed{\text{XOR}} = x \oplus y \rightarrow \text{irreversible}$  ( $\rightarrow$  given the output we cannot recover the input)  
 BUT: as quantum theory is unitary, we only consider unitary and therefore **reversible** gates
- quantum example:  
 $CNOT = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = |00\rangle\langle 00| + |01\rangle\langle 01| + |10\rangle\langle 11| + |11\rangle\langle 10|$   
 $\hookrightarrow CNOT \cdot |00\rangle_{xy} = CNOT \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = |00\rangle_{xy}, \quad CNOT \cdot |10\rangle_{xy} = |11\rangle_{xy}$
- $\Rightarrow$ 

input	output
$x \ y$	$x \ x \oplus y$
$0 \ 0$	$0 \ 0$
$0 \ 1$	$0 \ 1$
$1 \ 0$	$1 \ 1$
$1 \ 1$	$1 \ 0$

 $\Rightarrow$  circuit:  
  
 $\hat{=}$  reversible XOR

$\Rightarrow$  we can show that every function  $f$  can be described by a reversible circuit

$\Rightarrow$  quantum circuits can perform all functions that can be calculated classically

### III. Entanglement

- If a pure state  $|\Psi_{AB}\rangle$  on systems A, B cannot be written as  $|\psi_A\rangle \otimes |\phi_B\rangle$ , it is entangled Bell states.

These are four so-called Bell states that are maximally entangled and build an orthonormal basis:

$$|\Psi^{00}\rangle := \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|00\rangle + |11\rangle)$$

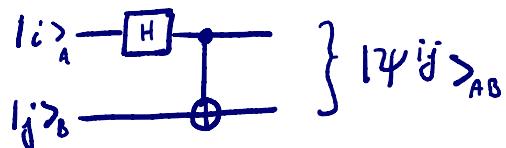
$$|\Psi^{01}\rangle := (|01\rangle + |10\rangle)$$

$$|\Psi^{10}\rangle := \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|00\rangle - |11\rangle)$$

$$|\Psi^{11}\rangle := (|01\rangle - |10\rangle)$$

→ in general we can write  $|\Psi^{ij}\rangle = (I \otimes \sigma_x^j \cdot \sigma_z^i) |\Psi^{00}\rangle$

#### Creation of Bell states



initial state

$$|i,j\rangle_{AB}$$

$$(H_A \otimes I_B) |i,j\rangle_{AB}$$

$$|\Psi^{ij}\rangle$$

$$|00\rangle$$

$$(|00\rangle + |10\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$$

$$(|00\rangle + |11\rangle)/\sqrt{2} = |\Psi^{00}\rangle$$

$$|01\rangle$$

$$\xrightarrow{H_A}$$

$$(|01\rangle + |11\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$$

$$\xrightarrow{CNOT_{AB}}$$

$$(|01\rangle + |10\rangle)/\sqrt{2} = |\Psi^{01}\rangle$$

$$|10\rangle$$

$$(|00\rangle - |10\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$$

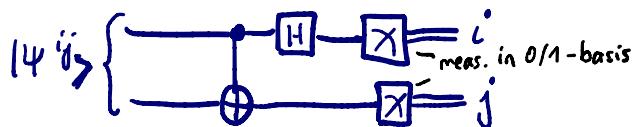
$$(|00\rangle - |11\rangle)/\sqrt{2} = |\Psi^{10}\rangle$$

$$|11\rangle$$

$$(|01\rangle - |11\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$$

$$(|01\rangle - |10\rangle)/\sqrt{2} = |\Psi^{11}\rangle$$

→ opposite direction: Bell measurement



→ classical outcomes i,j correspond to a meas. of the state  $|\Psi^{ij}\rangle$

# Teleportation

- Goal: Alice wants to send her (unknown) state  $|\phi\rangle_s := \alpha|0\rangle_s + \beta|1\rangle_s$  to Bob.

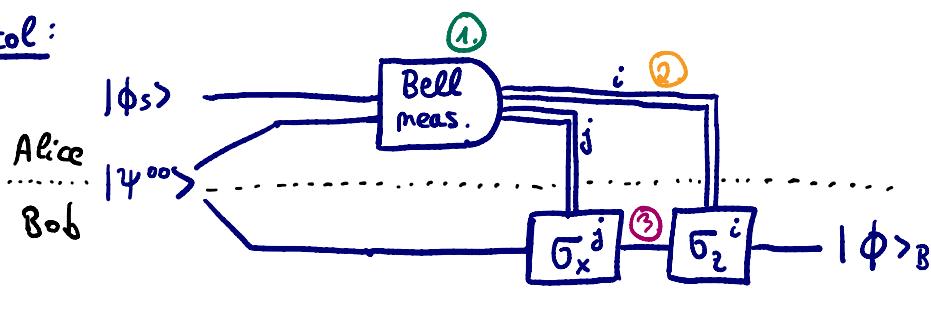
She can only send him two classical bits though. They both share the

maximally entangled state  $|\Psi^{00}\rangle_{AB} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|00\rangle_{AB} + |11\rangle_{AB})$ .

⇒ initial state of the total system:

$$\begin{aligned}
 |\phi\rangle_s \otimes |\Psi^{00}\rangle_{AB} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\alpha|000\rangle_{SAB} + \alpha|011\rangle_{SAB} + \beta|100\rangle_{SAB} + \beta|111\rangle_{SAB}) \\
 &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}}[(|00\rangle_{SA} + |11\rangle_{SA}) \otimes (\alpha|0\rangle_B + \beta|1\rangle_B) + (|01\rangle_{SA} + |10\rangle_{SA}) \otimes (\alpha|1\rangle_B + \beta|0\rangle_B) \\
 &\quad + (|00\rangle_{SA} - |11\rangle_{SA}) \otimes (\alpha|0\rangle_B - \beta|1\rangle_B) + (|01\rangle_{SA} - |10\rangle_{SA}) \otimes (\alpha|1\rangle_B - \beta|0\rangle_B)] \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} [|\Psi^{00}\rangle_{SA} \otimes |\phi\rangle_B + |\Psi^{01}\rangle_{SA} \otimes (\bar{\sigma}_x |\phi\rangle_B) \\
 &\quad + |\Psi^{10}\rangle_{SA} \otimes (\bar{\sigma}_z |\phi\rangle_B) + |\Psi^{11}\rangle_{SA} \otimes (\bar{\sigma}_x \bar{\sigma}_z |\phi\rangle_B)]
 \end{aligned}$$

- Protocol:



1. Alice performs a meas. on S & A in the Bell basis.
2. She sends her classical outputs  $i, j$  to Bob.
3. Bob applies  $\bar{\sigma}_z^i \bar{\sigma}_x^j$  to his qubit and gets  $|\phi\rangle_B$

1. Alice's measurement → Bob's state

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 |\Psi^{00}\rangle & |\phi\rangle_B \\
 |\Psi^{01}\rangle & \bar{\sigma}_x |\phi\rangle_B \\
 |\Psi^{10}\rangle & \bar{\sigma}_z |\phi\rangle_B \\
 |\Psi^{11}\rangle & \bar{\sigma}_x \bar{\sigma}_z |\phi\rangle_B
 \end{array}$$

2. Alice sends  $i, j$

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 00 & 00 \\
 01 & 01 \\
 10 & 10 \\
 11 & 11
 \end{array}$$

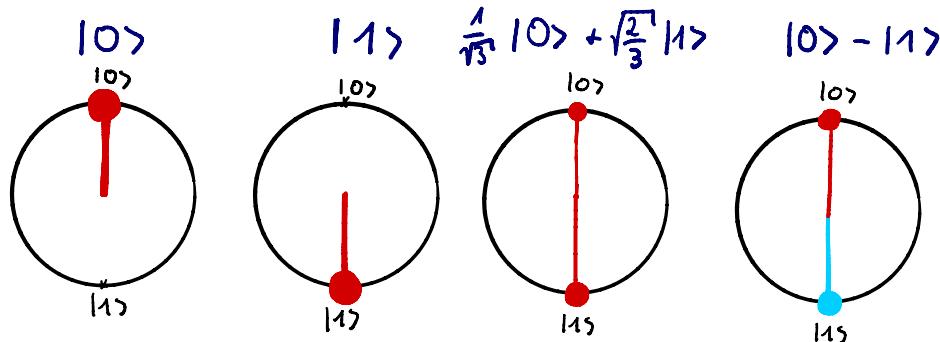
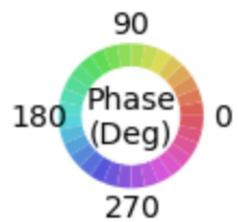
3. Bob applies → Bob's final state

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 00 & |\phi\rangle_B \\
 01 & \bar{\sigma}_x \\
 10 & \bar{\sigma}_z \\
 11 & \bar{\sigma}_z \bar{\sigma}_x
 \end{array}$$

Note, that Alice's state collapsed during the measurement, so she does not have the initial state  $|\phi\rangle_s$  anymore. This is expected due to the no-cloning theorem, as she cannot copy her state, but just send her state to Bob when destroying her own.

## Q-Sphere

- Bloch sphere can only illustrate the state of 1 qubit  $\Rightarrow$  for multiple qubits: Q-sphere
- for one qubit: - the "north pole" represents state  $|0\rangle$ , the "south pole" state  $|1\rangle$ 
  - the size of the blob is proportional to the prob. of measuring the respective state
  - the color indicates the relative phase compared to state  $|0\rangle$



- for  $n$  qubits, there are  $2^n$  basis states, e.g. for  $n=3$  we have  $000, 001, 010, 100, 011, 101, 110, 111$   
 $\Rightarrow$  we plot those basis states as equally distributed points on a sphere, with  $0^{\otimes n}$  on the "north pole",  $1^{\otimes n}$  on the "south pole" and all other states aligned on parallels, s.t. the number of "1"s on each latitude is constant and increasing from North to South

example: for  $n=3$ :

$\rightarrow$  size & color of the blobs as before

e.g.  $\frac{1}{2} \cdot (|000\rangle - |011\rangle + \sqrt{2} \cdot i \cdot |101\rangle)$

