# DISCRETE QUANTUM THEORIES AND COMPUTING

Yu-Tsung Tai

(戴淯琮)

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the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

Doctoral Committee

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Amr A. Sabry (عمرو صبري), PhD

_____

Gerardo Ortiz, PhD

_____

Dylan Paul Thurston, PhD

_____

Andrew J. Hanson, PhD

_____

Shouhong Wang (汪守宏), PhD

Defense Date

# DEDICATION

I would like to dedicate my thesis to my parents, Cheng-Tien Tai (戴振洰) and Feng-Ming Chang (張鳳鳴). Thanks for encouraging me to study abroad and all your support during my Ph.D. study.

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Yu-Tsung Tai

(戴淯琮)


DISCRETE QUANTUM THEORIES AND COMPUTING

Our primary research interest is to build a quantum computing model characterizing realistic quantum computers. While most of the quantum computing models based on uncomputable numbers, that is, the continuum of real numbers, most of the classical computers in our daily life are digital instead of analog computers. This highlight the necessity to investigate discrete models for quantum theory and computing. Specifically, we start from replacing the continuum of complex numbers by the discrete finite fields. Although we have fruitful results on their geometric implications and computing powers, their probability models are still not completely satisfactory. To address this issue, we further exploited quantum interval-valued probability, and proved an imprecise version of foundational results such as the Gleason and Kochen-Specker theorems.

Amr A. Sabry (عمرو صبري), PhD


Gerardo Ortiz, PhD


Dylan Paul Thurston, PhD


Andrew J. Hanson, PhD


Shouhong Wang (汪守宏), PhD

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# Chapter 1

# INTRODUCTION

This marriage of quantum mechanics and computer science first envisioned and popularized by Feynman has created an awkward, but opportune, moment. The embarrassing dilemma was concisely described by Aaronson with the following three statements [6, 7]:

(i) Textbook quantum mechanics is correct.

(ii) There does not exist an efficient classical factoring algorithm.

(iii) The extended Church-Turing thesis —that probabilistic Turing machines can efficiently simulate any physically realizable model of computation —is correct [8, 9].

There is overwhelming evidence to support each of these statements. The theoretical framework of quantum mechanics (i) has withstood decades of experimental confirmation. Entire industries are founded on the assumption (ii) that algorithms like RSA are secure and they also have withstood years of attempted attacks [10, 11]. Finally the entire field of complexity theory in computer science which has also withstood years of field testing rests, in essence, on assumption (iii) [12, 13]. And yet at least one of these three statements *must be false*! Indeed if there is a corresponding efficient classical factoring algorithm, then we concede (ii). If it is correct Shor's efficient factoring algorithm is realizable, and we can prove there is no efficient classical factoring algorithm, we concede (iii). Otherwise, if we cannot implement Shor's algorithm no matter how hard we try, textbook quantum

mechanics, i.e., (i) may need to be improved by a better theory. It is unlikely that there will be a simple resolution to this awkward situation. It is more likely that the resolution will emerge from deep and careful analyses of the foundations of each field.

When we check the compatibility between quantum mechanics and computer science, we found their fundamental assumptions are different. On one hand, the quantum theory is based on infinitely precise real and complex numbers. Its prediction could fit the physical reality by utilizing error analysis technique although these prediction cannot be completely faithful because of the measurement precision. On the other hand, current computers mostly perform digital computation, except some analog chips communicating with physical world [14]. While the computability of digital parts is faithfully characterized by its theoretical model, the Turing machine [15], the computability of analog chips in reality is far weaker than the theoretical prediction of real computation [16, 17, 18, 19]. One of the reason behind this gap is also due to measurement precision, and some of their computability difference cannot be compensated by error analysis technique. All these problems for classical computation could potentially apply to quantum computation. Because we are agnostic about whether the physical reality is ultimately discrete or continuous, we tried to develop two different types of quantum theories and computing models to address these issues. Since the discrete classical computing model faithfully represents digital computers, we first tried to build discrete quantum theories and computing by considering quantum theories and computing over finite fields in Chapter 3. Since error analysis technique cannot always compensate the inevitable problem of measurement precision, we then incorporate the idea of finite precision measurement into the quantum theory in Chapter 4, and hope it could describe the physical reality and computability more faithful.

# Chapter 2

# CONVENTIONAL QUANTUM THEORY AND COMPUTING

The part of conventional quantum theory (CQT) used by quantum circuit model is described by the following:

(i) $D$ orthonormal basis vectors for a Hilbert space of dimension $D$,

(ii) the normalized $D$ complex probability amplitude coefficients describing the contribution of each basis vector,

(iii) a set of probability-conserving unitary matrix operators that suffice to describe all required state transformations of a quantum circuit,

(iv) and a measurement framework.

In Sec. 2.1, we focus on the discrete geometric issues raised by the properties (i) and (ii) given above for CQT. In Sec. 2.2, we address the property (iii) by describing product and entangled $n$-qubit states and unitary matrices in quantum circuit model. In Sec. 2.3, we introduce the important issues of (iv) and the foundations of quantum probability space.

## 2.1  GEOMETRICAL STRUCTURE OF STATES

There are many things that are assumed in CQT, such as the absence of zero norm states for non-zero vectors, and the decomposition of complex amplitudes into a pair of ordinary real numbers. One also typically assumes the existence of a $D$-dimensional Hilbert space with an orthonormal basis, allowing us to write *pure* states in general as Hilbert space vectors with an Hermitian inner product:

$$|\Psi\rangle = \sum_{i=0}^{D-1} \alpha_i |i\rangle .$$
(2.1)

Here $\alpha_i \in \mathbb{C}$ are complex probability amplitudes, $\vec{\alpha} \in \mathbb{C}^D$, and the $\{|i\rangle\}$ is an orthonormal basis of states obeying $\langle i|k\rangle = \delta_{ik}$.

The meaning of this is that any state $|\Phi\rangle = \sum_{i=0}^{D-1} \beta_i |i\rangle$ can be projected onto another state $|\Psi\rangle$ by writing

$$\langle \Phi|\Psi\rangle = \sum_{i=0}^{D-1} \beta_i^* \alpha_i ,$$
(2.2)

thus quantifying the proximity of the two states. (Here $^*$ denotes complex conjugation.) This is one of many properties we take for granted in continuum quantum mechanics that challenge us in defining a discrete quantum geometry. To facilitate the transition to DQT carried out in later sections, we concern ourselves first with the properties of the simplest possible abstract state object in CQT, the single qubit state.

### 2.1.1  TWO-DIMENSIONAL HILBERT SPACE

A state in a two-dimensional Hilbert space, known as a qubit, already provides access to a wealth of geometric information and context. When we write the single qubit state as $|\psi_1\rangle = \alpha_0 |0\rangle + \alpha_1 |1\rangle$,

a convenience for computing probability and relative state properties is the normalization condition

$$\|\psi_1\|^2 = |\alpha_0|^2 + |\alpha_1|^2 = \alpha_0^*\alpha_0 + \alpha_1^*\alpha_1 = 1\,, \tag{2.3}$$

which identifies $\alpha_0$ and $\alpha_1 \in \mathbb{C}$ as probability amplitudes and implies the conservation of probability in the closed world spanned by $\{|0\rangle, |1\rangle\}$. Note that we distinguish for future use the *norm* $\|\cdot\|$ of a vector from the *modulus* $|\cdot|$ of a complex number. Continuing, we see that if we want only the irreducible state descriptions, we must supplement the process of computing Eq. (2.3) by finding a way to remove the distinction between states that differ only by an overall phase transformation $e^{i\theta}$, that is, $\alpha_0|0\rangle + \alpha_1|1\rangle$ and $e^{i\theta}\alpha_0|0\rangle + e^{i\theta}\alpha_1|1\rangle$ are representing the same physical state. This can be accomplished by the Hopf fibration [20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25], which can be written down as follows: let $\alpha_0 = x_0 + iy_0$ and $\alpha_1 = x_1 + iy_1$. Then Eq. (2.3) becomes the condition that the four real variables describing a qubit denote a point on the three-sphere $\mathbf{S}^3$ (a 3-manifold) embedded in $\mathbb{R}^4$:

$$x_0{}^2 + y_0{}^2 + x_1{}^2 + y_1{}^2 = 1\,. \tag{2.4}$$

We can reduce 3 degrees of freedom in Eq. (2.4) to 2 degrees of freedom by effectively removing $e^{i\theta}$ ( "fibering out by the circle $\mathbf{S}^1$" ). The standard form of this maps ( "the Hopf fibration" ) is

$$
\begin{aligned}
X &= 2\operatorname{Re}\alpha_0\alpha_1^* = 2x_0x_1 + 2y_0y_1\,, \\
Y &= 2\operatorname{Im}\alpha_0\alpha_1^* = 2x_1y_0 - 2x_0y_1\,, \\
Z &= |\alpha_0|^2 - |\alpha_1|^2 = x_0{}^2 + y_0{}^2 - x_1{}^2 - y_1{}^2\,.
\end{aligned}
\tag{2.5}
$$

By denoting the three-dimensional vector $(X, Y, Z)$ as $\hat{a}$, Eq. (2.4) implies these transformed coordinates obeying

$$\|\hat{a}\|^2 = X^2 + Y^2 + Z^2 = \left(|\alpha_0|^2 + |\alpha_1|^2\right)^2 = 1 \tag{2.6}$$

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|     (a)     |     (b)     |
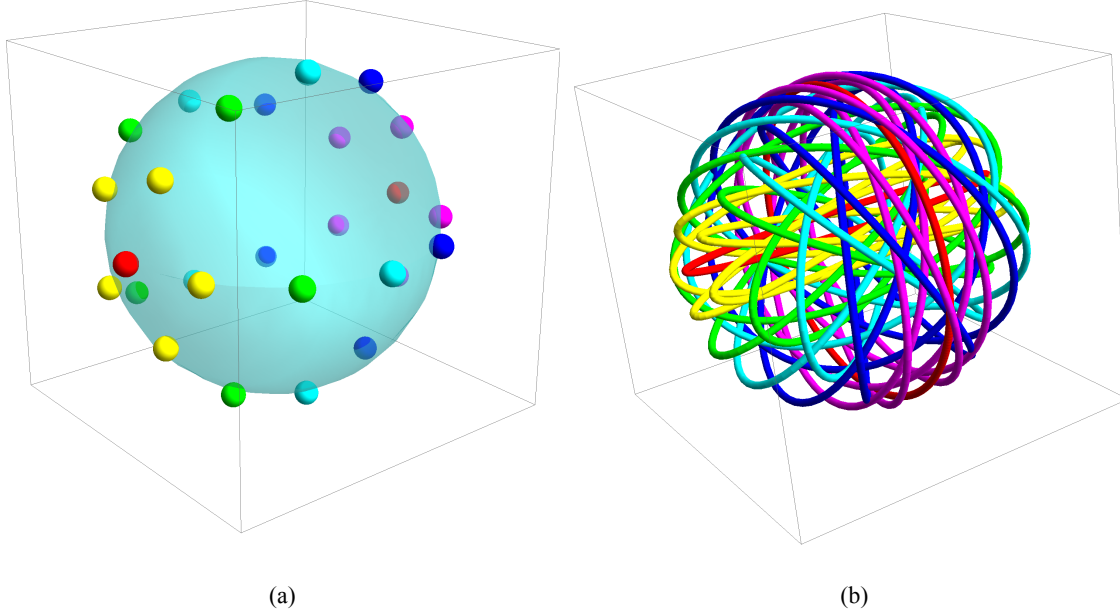
Figure 2.1: (a) The two-sphere $\mathbf{S}^2$ represented by Eq. (2.6), which is the irreducible space of one-qubit states, along with a representative set of points on the sphere. Each single point on the sphere in (a) corresponding to a circle in (b), and a whole family of circles (the paths of $e^{i\theta}$) on the three-sphere $\mathbf{S}^3$ represents the Hopf fibration, Eq. (2.5). Although $\mathbf{S}^3$ cannot be directly embedded in $\mathbb{R}^3$, three-sphere $\mathbf{S}^3$ can be regarded as attaching two three-dimensional ball on two sides of two-sphere $\mathbf{S}^2$. In this way, each circle in $\mathbf{S}^3$ can be represented as a circle in the three-dimensional ball as shown in (b). Moreover, points in (a) are color coded corresponding to circles in (b), e.g., one pole contains the red elliptical circle that would become an infinite-radius circle by a slightly different way to represent $\mathbf{S}^3$ in $\mathbb{R}^3$, and the opposite pole corresponds to the large perfectly round red circle at the equator.

and therefore have only two remaining degrees of freedom describing all possible distinct one-qubit quantum states. In Fig. 2.1, we illustrate schematically the family of circles *each one of which is collapsed to a point* $(\phi, \psi)$ on the surface $X^2 + Y^2 + Z^2 = 1$ by the Hopf map.

The resulting manifold is the two-sphere $\mathbf{S}^2$ (a 2-manifold) embedded in $\mathbb{R}^3$. If we choose one of many possible coordinate systems describing $\mathbf{S}^3$ via Eq. (2.4) such as

$$(x_0, y_0, x_1, y_1) = (\cos{(\theta + \phi)}\cos{\psi}, \ \sin{(\theta + \phi)}\cos{\psi}, \ \cos{(\theta - \phi)}\sin{\psi}, \ \sin{(\theta - \phi)}\sin{\psi}) \ ,$$

$$(2.7)$$
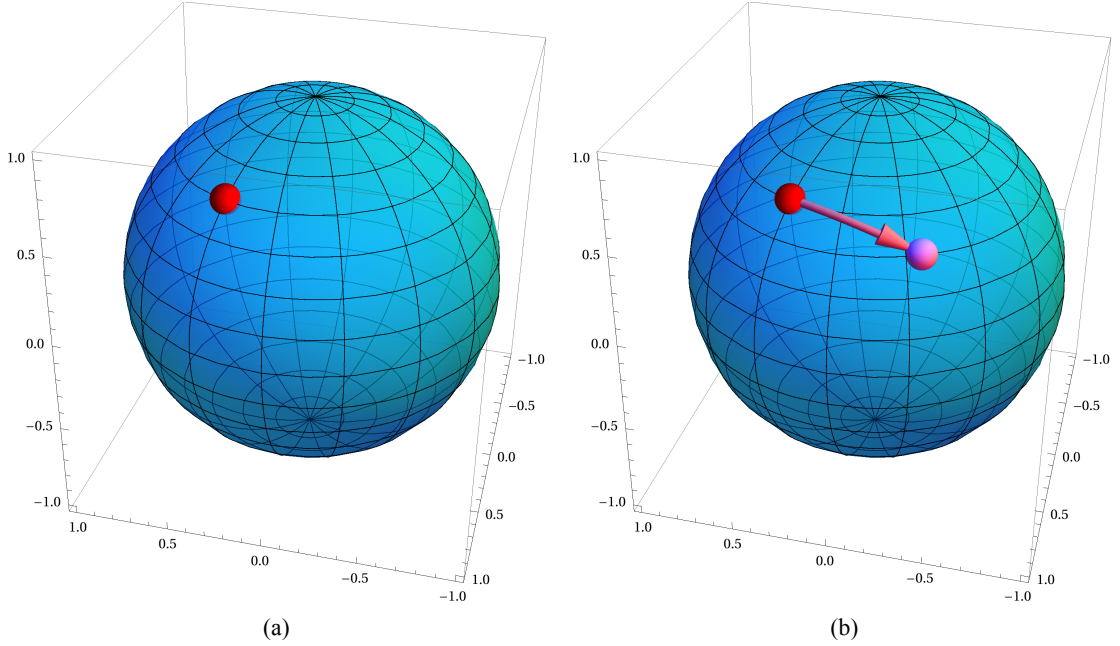
Figure 2.2: (a) The conventional Bloch sphere with a unique state represented by the point at the red sphere. (b) The geodesic shortest-distance arc connecting two one-qubit quantum states.

where $0 \leq \psi \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$, with $0 \leq \theta + \phi < 2\pi$ and $0 \leq \theta - \phi < 2\pi$, we see that

$$(X, Y, Z) = (\cos(2\phi)\sin(2\psi),\ \sin(2\phi)\sin(2\psi),\ \cos(2\psi)) . \tag{2.8}$$

Thus the one-qubit state is independent of $\theta$, and we can choose $\theta = \phi$ without loss of generality, reducing the form of the unique one-qubit states to $|\psi_1\rangle = e^{2i\phi}\cos\psi\,|0\rangle + \sin\psi\,|1\rangle$, and an irreducible state can be represented as a point on a sphere called the Bloch sphere, as shown in Fig. 2.2(a).

Thus the geometry of a single qubit reduces to transformations among points on $\mathbf{S}^2$, which can be parametrized in an infinite one-parameter family of transformations, one of which is the geodesic or minimal-length transformation. Explicitly, given two one-qubit states denoted by points $\hat{a}$ and $\hat{b}$ on $\mathbf{S}^2$, the shortest rotation carrying $\hat{a}$ to $\hat{b}$ is the SLERP (spherical linear interpolation) [26, 27]

$$S\left(\hat{a}, \hat{b}, t\right) = \hat{a}\,\frac{\sin((1-t)\omega)}{\sin\omega} + \hat{b}\,\frac{\sin(t\omega)}{\sin\omega}, \tag{2.9}$$

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where $\hat{a} \cdot \hat{b} = \cos \omega$. Figure 2.2(b) illustrates the path traced by a SLERP between two irreducible one-qubit states on the Bloch sphere. Because states in CQC are defined by infinite precision real numbers, it is not possible, even in principle, to make an exact state transition as implied by Fig. 2.2(b). In practice, one has to be content with approximate, typically exponentially expensive, transitions from state to state.

### 2.1.2 $D$-DIMENSIONAL HILBERT SPACE

The irreducible states in a $D$-dimensional Hilbert space are encoded in a similar family of geometric structures known technically as the complex projective space $\mathbb{C}\mathbf{P}^{D-1}$. We obtain these structures starting with the $D$ initially unnormalized complex coefficients of the $D$-dimensional basis $|\Psi\rangle = \sum_{i=0}^{D-1} \alpha_i |i\rangle$. We then follow the analog of the two-dimensional procedure: Conservation of probability requires that the norm of the vector $\vec{\alpha}$ be normalized to unity:

$$\langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle = \|\vec{\alpha}\|^2 = \sum_{i=0}^{D-1} |\alpha_i|^2 = 1 \,. \tag{2.10}$$

Thus the initial equation for the geometry of a quantum state describes a *topological sphere* $\mathbf{S}^{2D-1}$ embedded in $\mathbb{R}^{2D}$. To see this, remember that we can write the real and imaginary parts of $\alpha_i$ as $\alpha_i = x_i + iy_i$, so

$$\sum_{i=0}^{D-1} |\alpha_i|^2 = \sum_{i=0}^{D-1} x_i{}^2 + y_i{}^2 = 1 \tag{2.11}$$

describes the locus of a $2D$-dimensional real unit vector in $\mathbb{R}^{2D}$, which is by definition $\mathbf{S}^{2D-1}$, the $(2D-1)$-sphere.

This $\mathbf{S}^{2D-1}$ in turn is ambiguous up to the usual overall phase, inducing an $\mathbf{S}^1$ symmetry action, and identifying $\mathbf{S}^{2D-1}$ as an $\mathbf{S}^1$ bundle, whose base space is the $(D-1)$-complex-dimensional projective space $\mathbb{C}\mathbf{P}^{D-1}$. There are thus $2D-2$ irreducible real degrees of freedom ($D-1$ complex degrees of freedom) for a quantum state with a $D$-dimensional basis, $\{|i\rangle \mid i = 0, \ldots, D-1\}$.

In summary, the full space of a $D$-dimensional quantum state, including its overall phase defining its relationship to other quantum states, is the topological space $\mathbf{S}^{2D-1}$. For an isolated system, the overall phase is not measurable, and eliminating the phase dependence in turn corresponds to identifying $\mathbf{S}^{2D-1}$ as a circle bundle over the base space $\mathbb{CP}^{D-1}$, and therefore $\mathbb{CP}^{D-1}$ defines the $2D-2$ intrinsic, irreducible, degrees of freedom of the isolated $D$-dimensional state's dynamics. In mathematical notation, this would be written $\mathbf{S}^1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{S}^{2D-1} \to \mathbb{CP}^{D-1}$**TODO. Citation?**. For $D = 2$, the single qubit, we have $2 - 1 = 1$, and the base space of the circle bundle is $\mathbb{CP}^1 = \mathbf{S}^2$, the usual Bloch sphere. Note that only for $D = 2$ is this actually a sphere-like geometry due to an accident of low-dimensional topology.

### 2.1.3 EXPLICIT GENERALIZATION OF THE HOPF FIBRATION CONSTRUCTION

For a two-dimensional system, we could easily solve the problem of reducing the full unit-norm space to its irreducible components $\hat{a} = (X, Y, Z)$ characterizing the Bloch sphere. We have just argued that essentially the same process is possible for $D$-dimensional system: in the abstract argument, we simply identify the family of coefficients $\{\alpha_i\}$ as being the same if they differ only by an overall phase $\mathrm{e}^{i\theta}$. However, in practice this is not a construction that is easy to realize in a practical computation. We now outline an explicit algorithm for accomplishing the reduction to the irreducible $D$-dimensional state space $\mathbb{CP}^{D-1}$; this construction will turn out to be useful for the validation of our discrete results to follow below.

Given a normalized pure state $|\Psi\rangle = \sum_{i=0}^{D-1} \alpha_i |i\rangle$, a natural quantity characterizing an $D$-

dimensional system is its *density matrix*, $\rho = |\Psi\rangle\langle\Psi|$, or

$$
\rho = \begin{pmatrix}
|\alpha_0|^2 & \alpha_0\alpha_1^* & \cdots & \alpha_0\alpha_{D-1}^* \\
\alpha_1\alpha_0^* & |\alpha_1|^2 & \cdots & \alpha_1\alpha_{D-1}^* \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
\alpha_{D-1}\alpha_0^* & \cdots & \alpha_{D-1}\alpha_{D-2}^* & |\alpha_{D-1}|^2
\end{pmatrix} .
\tag{2.12}
$$

We can now use the complex generalization of the classical Veronese coordinate system for projective geometry to remove the overall phase ambiguity $e^{i\theta}$ from the $D$-dimensional states. If we take a particular weighting of the elements of the density matrix $\rho$, we can construct a *unit vector* of real dimension $D^2$ with the form:

$$
\hat{a} = \left( |\alpha_i|^2, \ldots, \sqrt{2}\,\mathrm{Re}\,\alpha_i\alpha_j^*, \ldots, \sqrt{2}\,\mathrm{Im}\,\alpha_i\alpha_j^*, \ldots \right) ,
\tag{2.13}
$$

where

$$
\hat{a} \cdot \hat{a} = \sum_{i=0}^{D-1} \left( |\alpha_i|^2 \right)^2 + \sum_{i=0}^{D-1}\sum_{\substack{j=0 \\ j\neq i}}^{D-1} \left(\mathrm{Re}\,\alpha_i\alpha_j^*\right)^2 + \left(\mathrm{Im}\,\alpha_i\alpha_j^*\right)^2 = \left(\sum_{i=0}^{D-1} |\alpha_i|^2\right)\left(\sum_{j=0}^{D-1} |\alpha_j|^2\right) = 1 .
\tag{2.14}
$$

This construction gives an explicit embedding of the $(D-1)$-dimensional complex, or $(2D-2)$-dimensional real, object in a real space of dimension $D^2$. However, this is somewhat subtle because the vector is of unit length, so technically the embedding space is a sphere of dimension $D^2 - 1$ embedded in $\mathbb{R}^{D^2}$. For example, the two-dimensional irreducible states could be represented in a four-dimensional embedding, but the magnitude of every coordinate would be one; furthermore, the object embedded in the resulting $\mathbf{S}^3$ is indeed $\mathbf{S}^2$ because we can fix one complex coordinate to be unity, and let one vary, giving a total of two irreducible dimensions. In fact one must choose *two* coordinate patches, one covering one pole of $\mathbf{S}^2$ with coordinates $\alpha_0 = 1 + i0$ and $\alpha_1 = x_1 + iy_1$, and the other patch covering the other pole of $\mathbf{S}^2$ with coordinates $\alpha_0 = x_0 + iy_0$ and $\alpha_1 = 1 + i0$.

**TODO. Explain the last part more clear or add a picture.**

We finally see that the irreducible $D$-dimensional state space $\mathbb{C}\mathbf{P}^{D-1}$ is described by $D$ projectively equivalent coordinates, one of which can always be scaled out to leave $(D-1)$ actual (complex) degrees of freedom. We must choose, in turn, $D$ different local sets of complex variables defined by taking the value $\alpha_k = 1$, with $k = 0, \ldots, D-1$, and allowing the remaining $D-1$ complex (or $2D - 2$ real) variables to run free. No single set of coordinates will work, since the submanifold including $\alpha_k = 0$ is undefined and another coordinate system must be chosen to cover that coordinate patch. This is a standard feature of the topology of non-trivial manifolds such as $\mathbb{C}\mathbf{P}^{D-1}$ (see any textbook on geometry [28]).

## 2.2   QUANTUM CIRCUIT MODEL

It has been 36 years since Feynman [29] proposed the idea about quantum computation. Although there are many models for quantum computing, the circuit model is still one of the most widespread models [30] no matter whether in theoretical study or in building a real quantum computer. Information in a quantum circuit is stored in qubits. Each qubit is a two-dimensional quantum system. For a two-qubit system, if the first and second qubit are described as the state $|\psi\rangle = \alpha_0 |0\rangle + \alpha_1 |1\rangle$ and $|\phi\rangle = \beta_0 |0\rangle + \beta_1 |1\rangle$, the state of the whole system is their tensor product

$$
\begin{aligned}
|\psi\rangle |\phi\rangle = |\psi\rangle \otimes |\phi\rangle &= (\alpha_0 |0\rangle + \alpha_1 |1\rangle) \otimes (\beta_0 |0\rangle + \beta_1 |1\rangle) \\
&= \alpha_0\beta_0 |0\rangle \otimes |0\rangle + \alpha_0\beta_1 |0\rangle \otimes |1\rangle + \alpha_1\beta_0 |1\rangle \otimes |0\rangle + \alpha_1\beta_1 |1\rangle \otimes |1\rangle \\
&= \alpha_0\beta_0 |0\rangle |0\rangle + \alpha_0\beta_1 |0\rangle |1\rangle + \alpha_1\beta_0 |1\rangle |0\rangle + \alpha_1\beta_1 |1\rangle |1\rangle
\end{aligned}
\tag{2.15}
$$

in the four-dimensional Hilbert space. For a $n$-qubit system, if we describe the $j$-th qubit as the state $|\psi_j\rangle$, the state of the whole system is tensor product of all subsystems

$$
|\Psi\rangle = |\psi_1\rangle \otimes \cdots \otimes |\psi_j\rangle \otimes \cdots \otimes |\psi_n\rangle = |\psi_1\rangle \cdots |\psi_j\rangle \cdots |\psi_n\rangle
\tag{2.16}
$$

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in the Hilbert space of dimension $D = 2^n$. However, not all quantum system can be expressed as the tensor product of its subsystems. This kind of system is called entangled, and will be described in the next section.**TODO. This paragraph need to be polished.**

### 2.2.1 THE GEOMETRY OF ENTANGLEMENT

**TODO. Need to define (partial) trace and mixed state before this subsection...**

Entanglement may be regarded as one of the main characteristics distinguishing quantum from classical mechanics. Entanglement involves quantum correlations such that the measurement outcomes in one subsystem are related to the measurement outcomes in another one. Within the standard framework, given a quantum system composed of $n$ qubit subsystems, a pure state of the total system $|\Psi\rangle$ is said to be entangled if it cannot be written as a product of states of each subsystem. That is, a state $|\Psi\rangle$ is entangled if $|\Psi\rangle \neq |\psi_1\rangle \otimes \cdots \otimes |\psi_j\rangle \otimes \cdots \otimes |\psi_n\rangle$, where $|\psi_j\rangle$ refers to an arbitrary state of the $j$-th qubit, and $\otimes$ represents the tensor product. This is equivalent to saying that if one calculates the reduced density operator $\rho_j$ of the $j$-th subsystem by tracing out all the other subsystems, $\rho_j = \mathrm{Tr}_{\{1,\cdots,j-1,j+1,\cdots,n\}}(\rho)$, with $j = 1, \cdots, n$ and $\rho = |\Psi\rangle\langle\Psi|$, the normalized state $|\Psi\rangle$ is entangled if and only if at least one subsystem state is *mixed*; i.e., $\mathrm{Tr}_j\left(\rho_j^2\right) < 1$. For example, consider

$$\rho_j = \frac{1}{2}\left(\sigma_0 + \sum_{\mu=x,y,z} \langle\sigma_\mu^j\rangle \sigma_\mu^j\right), \tag{2.17}$$

where $\sigma_\mu^j$, $\mu = x, y, z$, are the Pauli operators acting on the $j$-th spin [30],

$$\sigma_\mu^j = \overbrace{\sigma_0 \otimes \cdots \otimes \sigma_0 \otimes \underbrace{\sigma_\mu}_{j^{\text{th}} \text{ factors}} \otimes \sigma_0 \otimes \cdots \otimes \sigma_0}^{n \text{ factors}}, \tag{2.18}$$

with

$$\sigma_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \sigma_x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \sigma_y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\mathrm{i} \\ \mathrm{i} & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \sigma_z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \tag{2.19}$$

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and $\left\langle \sigma_\mu^j \right\rangle = \left\langle \Psi \left| \sigma_\mu^j \right| \Psi \right\rangle$ denotes the corresponding expectation value. The vectors

$$\mathbf{X}_j = \left( \left\langle \sigma_x^j \right\rangle, \left\langle \sigma_y^j \right\rangle, \left\langle \sigma_y^j \right\rangle \right) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \tag{2.20}$$

allow a geometric representation of each reduced state in $\mathbb{R}^3$, satisfying $0 \leq \|\mathbf{X}_j\| \leq 1$. Since $\mathrm{Tr}_j \left( \rho_j^2 \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \|\mathbf{X}_j\|^2 \right)$, the state $|\Psi\rangle$ is entangled if $\|\mathbf{X}_j\| < 1$ for at least one $j$, represented by a point *inside* the corresponding local Bloch sphere. One may therefore consider $|\Psi\rangle$ to be maximally entangled if $\|\mathbf{X}_j\| = 0$ for all $j$. On the other hand, the state $|\Psi\rangle$ is unentangled (i.e., a product state) if $\|\mathbf{X}_j\| = 1$ for all $j$, corresponding to points lying on the surface of the Bloch sphere.

A natural geometric measure of multipartite entanglement is obtained by defining the *purity of a state relative to a set of observables* [31, 32]. If the set is chosen to be the set of *all local observables*, i.e., corresponding to each of the subsystems that compose the actual system, one recovers the standard notion of entanglement for multipartite systems. For example, if the system consists of $n$ qubits, we obtain a measure of conventional entanglement by calculating the purity relative to the set $\mathfrak{h} = \left\{ \sigma_x^1, \sigma_y^1, \sigma_z^1, \ldots, \sigma_x^n, \sigma_y^n, \sigma_z^n \right\}$,

$$P_\mathfrak{h} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{\mu=x,y,z} \left\langle \sigma_\mu^j \right\rangle^2 , \qquad\qquad 0 \leq P_\mathfrak{h} \leq 1 . \tag{2.21}$$

Since $\mathfrak{h}$ is a semi-simple Lie algebra, its generalized unentangled states are the generalized coherent states obtained by applying any group operation to a reference state such as $\left| \overline{0} \right\rangle = |0\rangle \otimes \cdots \otimes |0\rangle$. For the algebra $\mathfrak{h}$ of local observables, such group operations are simply local rotations on each qubit. In other words, the group orbit describing the generalized coherent states of $\mathfrak{h}$ comprises all the product states of the form $|\Psi\rangle = |\psi_1\rangle \otimes \cdots \otimes |\psi_n\rangle$, which have maximum purity (i.e., $P_\mathfrak{h} = 1$). Other states such as the Greenberger-Horne-Zeilinger state $|\Psi\rangle = |\mathrm{GHZ}_n\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( |0\rangle \otimes \cdots \otimes |0\rangle + |1\rangle \otimes \cdots \otimes |1\rangle \right)$ are (maximally) entangled relative to the set of local observables (i.e., $P_\mathfrak{h} = 0$).

Different entanglement measures are obtained when a set $\mathfrak{h}$ different from the local observables is chosen. An obvious example, in particular, is given by the set of all observables. In this case, the purity takes its maximum value independently of the pure quantum state [31, 32], expressing the fact that any state is a generalized coherent state of the Lie algebra of all observables.

## 2.2.2 QUANTUM CIRCUITS

**TODO. Further explain $\sigma_\mu^j$ used as a quantum circuit, control not, the Deutsch quantum black box [30], and maybe Deutsch Algorithm...**

## 2.3 QUANTUM PROBABILITY

Given a pure state $|\phi\rangle$, when we measure an observable represented by an Hermitian matrix $\mathbf{O}$, the measurement result is one of the eigenvalues of $\mathbf{O}$. The probability of getting a particular eigenvalue $\lambda$ is $\langle\phi|P|\phi\rangle$, where $P$ is the projection operator onto the eigenspace of $\lambda$. This rule of computing the probability is called the Born rule [33, 34, 35], which is used when we want to extract information from a quantum computer. For any mixed state $\rho$, the generalized Born rule induces a conventional quantum probability measure $\mu_\rho^B : \mathcal{E} \to [0,1]$, where $\mathcal{E}$ is the set of all projection operators on a given Hilbert space. Conversely, any quantum probability measure $\mu : \mathcal{E} \to [0,1]$ can be induced from a mixed state $\rho$ in the Hilbert space of dimension $d \geq 3$ according to Gleason's theorem [36, 37, 38, 39, 40]. In another word, this state $\rho$ is the unique state consistent with any given quantum probability measure.

## 2.4 HIDDEN VARIABLE MODEL AND QUANTUM CONTEXTU-ALITY

TODO. Explain enough background knowledge to support the discussion about contextuality in the end of Sec. 3.2. I have typed some literature review in writing course, but I need to decide whether it could be used or not before finish Sec. 2.3.

# Chapter 3

# QUANTUM THEORIES AND COMPUTING

# OVER FINITE FIELDS

## 3.1 FUNDAMENTALS OF FINITE FIELDS

### 3.1.1 BACKGROUND

A field $\mathbb{F}$ is an algebraic structure consisting of a set of elements equipped with the operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division [41, 42]. Fields may contain an infinite or a finite number of elements. The rational $\mathbb{Q}$, real $\mathbb{R}$, and complex numbers $\mathbb{C}$ are examples of infinite fields, while the set $\mathbb{F}_3 = \{0, 1, 2\}$, under multiplication and addition modulo 3, is an example of a finite field.

There are two distinguished elements in a field, the addition identity $0$, and the multiplication identity $1$. Given the field $\mathbb{F}$, the closed operations of addition, "$+$," and multiplication, "$*$," satisfy the following set of axioms:

1. $\mathbb{F}$ is an Abelian group under the addition operation $+$ (additive group);

2. The multiplication operation $*$ is associative and commutative. The field has a multiplicative identity and the property that every nonzero element has a multiplicative inverse;

3. Distributive laws: For all $a, b, c \in \mathbb{F}$

$$a * (b + c) \;=\; a * b + a * c, \tag{3.1}$$

$$(b + c) * a \;=\; b * a + c * a. \tag{3.2}$$

From now on, unless specified, we will omit the symbol $*$ whenever we multiply two elements of a field.

Finite fields of $q$ elements, $\mathbb{F}_q = \{0, \ldots, q - 1\}$, will play a special role in this work. A simple explicit example is $\mathbb{F}_3$ with the following addition and multiplication tables:

| + | 0 | 1 | 2 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 |

| * | 0 | 1 | 2 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 |

### 3.1.2 CYCLIC PROPERTIES OF FINITE FIELDS

The characteristic of a field is the least positive integer $m$ such that $m = 1 + 1 + 1 + \cdots + 1 = 0$, and if no such $m$ exists we say that the field has characteristic zero (which is the case for $\mathbb{R}$ for example). It turns out that if the characteristic is non-zero, it must be a prime $p$. For every prime $p$ and positive integer $r$ there is a finite field $\mathbb{F}_{p^r}$ of size $q = p^r$ and characteristic $p$, which is unique up to field isomorphism [20, 43]. The exponent $r$ is known as the *degree* of the field over its prime subfield[1] [44]. If the characteristic $p$ is an arbitrary prime number, we call the field *unrestricted*.

For every $a \in \mathbb{F}_q$, $a \neq 0$, then $a^{q-1} = 1$, implying the Frobenius endomorphism (also a consequence of Fermat's little theorem) $a^q = a$, which in turn permits us to write the multiplicative inverse of any non-zero element in the field as $a^{-1} = a^{q-2}$, since $a^{q-2} a = a^{q-1} = 1$. Every subfield of the field $\mathbb{F}_q$, of size $q = p^r$, has $p^{r'}$ elements with some $r'$ dividing $r$, and for a given $r'$

---

[1] Fields $\mathbb{F}_q$ where $q$ is a power of a prime $p$, i.e., $q = p^r$, are known as Galois fields.

it is unique.

## 3.2 MODAL QUANTUM THEORY

Recently, Schumacher and Westmoreland [45, 46] and Chang et al. [47, 48] defined versions of quantum theory over *unrestricted* finite fields, which they call modal quantum theories (MQT) or Galois field quantum theories. Such theories retain several key quantum characteristics including notions of superposition, interference, entanglement, and mixed states, along with time evolution using invertible linear operators, complementarity of incompatible observables, exclusion of local hidden variable theories, impossibility of cloning quantum states, and the presence of natural counterparts of quantum information protocols such as superdense coding and teleportation. These modal theories are obtained by collapsing the Hilbert space structure over the field of complex numbers to that of a vector space over an *unrestricted* finite field. In the resulting structure, all non-zero vectors represent valid quantum states, and the evolution of a closed quantum system is described by *arbitrary* invertible linear maps.

Specifically, consider a one-qubit system with basis vectors $|0\rangle$ and $|1\rangle$. In conventional quantum theory, there exists an infinite number of states for a qubit of the form $\alpha_0 |0\rangle + \alpha_1 |1\rangle$, with $\alpha_0$ and $\alpha_1$ elements of the underlying field of complex numbers subject to the normalization condition $|\alpha_0|^2 + |\alpha_1|^2 = 1$. Moving to a finite field immediately limits the set of possible states as the coefficients $\alpha_0$ and $\alpha_1$ are now drawn from a finite set. In particular, in the field $\mathbb{F}_2 = \{0, 1\}$ of booleans, there are exactly four possible vectors: the zero vector, the vector $|0\rangle$, the vector $|1\rangle$, and the vector $|0\rangle + |1\rangle = |+\rangle$. Since the zero vector is considered non-physical, a one-qubit system can be in one of only three states. The dynamics of these one-qubit states is realized by any invertible linear map, i.e., by any linear map that is guaranteed never to produce the zero vector from a valid state. There are exactly 6 such maps, and their matrix representation with respect to the standard

basis are:

$$\sigma_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad S = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad (3.3a)$$

$$\sigma_x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad S^\dagger = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \qquad (3.3b)$$

For example,

$$S \left| 0 \right\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \left| + \right\rangle, \quad S \left| + \right\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \left| 0 \right\rangle. \quad (3.4)$$

This set of maps is clearly quite impoverished compared to the full set of one-qubit unitary maps in conventional quantum theory. In particular, it does not include the Hadamard transformation. However, this set also includes non-unitary maps such as $S$ and $S^\dagger$ that are not allowed in conventional quantum computation.

Measurement in the standard basis is fairly straightforward: measuring $\left| 0 \right\rangle$ or $\left| 1 \right\rangle$ deterministically produces the same state while measuring $\left| + \right\rangle$ nondeterministically produces $\left| 0 \right\rangle$ or $\left| 1 \right\rangle$ with no assigned probability distribution. When measuring an arbitrary state $\left| \phi \right\rangle \in \{\left| 0 \right\rangle, \left| 1 \right\rangle, \left| + \right\rangle\}$ in other bases $\{\left| \psi_0 \right\rangle, \left| \psi_1 \right\rangle\}$, we first represents $\left| \phi \right\rangle$ as the linear combination of the basis vectors $\beta_0 \left| \psi_0 \right\rangle + \beta_1 \left| \psi_1 \right\rangle$, where $\beta_0$ and $\beta_1$ are elements in the field $\mathbb{F}_2$. If $\beta_i$ is zero, measuring $\left| \phi \right\rangle$ is impossible to produce $\left| \psi_i \right\rangle$; otherwise, measuring $\left| \phi \right\rangle$ is possible to produce $\left| \psi_i \right\rangle$. Since only possibility and impossibility is predicted by the theory, modal quantum theories are named after these "modal" concepts.

Notice that the measurement process is complicated by the fact that the possibility to produce a basis vector $\left| \psi_i \right\rangle$ depending on the measurement basis. For example, measuring $\left| + \right\rangle$ is possible to produce $\left| 0 \right\rangle$ in the standard basis $\{\left| 0 \right\rangle, \left| 1 \right\rangle\}$ but is impossible to produce $\left| 0 \right\rangle$ in another basis $\{\left| + \right\rangle, \left| 0 \right\rangle\}$. In contrast, when measuring a state $\left| \phi \right\rangle$ in CQT, the probability to produce a basis vec-

tor $|\psi_i\rangle$ is completely determined by $|\psi_i\rangle$ and $|\phi\rangle$ no matter $|\psi_i\rangle$ is in which measurement basis. This phenomena of the measurement basis dependence in CQT only exists when discussing quantum contextuality. Despite this kind of "supercontextuality" of MQT, its computational model, modal quantum computing (MQC), having "supernatural" computational power is also far from conventional quantum computing as we will describe next.

## 3.3   MODAL QUANTUM COMPUTING

To understand the computational implications of the modal quantum theory defined over the field $\mathbb{F}_2$ of booleans, we developed a quantum computing model and established its correspondence to a classical model of logical programming with a feature that has quantum-like behavior [49]. In a conventional logic program, answers produced by different execution paths are collected in a sequence with *no* interference. However, in this modal quantum computing model over $\mathbb{F}_2$, these answers may interfere destructively with one another.

Our computations with this "toy" modal quantum theory showed that it possesses "supernatural" computational power. For example, one can solve a black box version of the UNIQUE − SAT problem [50] in a way that outperforms conventional quantum computing. The classical UNIQUE − SAT problem (also known as USAT or UNAMBIGUOUS − SAT **TODO. Add citation about where these two names come from.**) is the problem of deciding whether a given boolean formula has a satisfying assignment, assuming that it has at most one such assignment [51]. This problem is, in a precise sense [52], just as hard as the general satisfiability problem and hence all problems in the NP complexity class. Our black-box version of the UNIQUE − SAT problem replaces the boolean formula with an arbitrary black box. Solutions to this generalized problem can be used to solve an unstructured database search of size $N$ using $O(\log N)$ black box evaluations by binary search on the database. This algorithm then outperforms the known asymptotic bound $O\left(\sqrt{N}\right)$ for unstructured database search in conventional quantum computing.
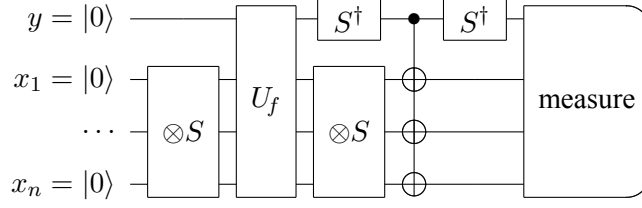
Figure 3.1: Circuit for black box $\mathrm{UNIQUE} - \mathrm{SAT}$ in modal quantum theory over the field $\mathbb{F}_2$. For further notation see text.

We can prove the unreasonable power of the arbitrary-function $\mathrm{UNIQUE} - \mathrm{SAT}$ starting with a classical function $f : \mathrm{Bool}^n \rightarrow \mathrm{Bool}$ that takes $n$ bits and returns at most one `true` result. To build a quantum algorithm, $f$ is first represented as the Deutsch quantum black box $U_f$ with [53, 30]

$$U_f \left| y \right\rangle \left| \overline{x} \right\rangle = \begin{cases} \left| y \right\rangle \left| \overline{x} \right\rangle , & \text{if } f\left(\overline{x}\right) = \texttt{false} ; \\[2mm] \left| \mathrm{not}\left(y\right) \right\rangle \left| \overline{x} \right\rangle , & \text{if } f\left(\overline{x}\right) = \texttt{true} , \end{cases} \tag{3.5}$$

where $\overline{x}$ denotes a sequence $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n$ of $n$ bits and $0$ and $1$ are identified as `false` and `true`, respectively. Then, we can give an algorithm (see Fig. 3.1) taking as input such a classical function that decides, deterministically and in a constant number of black box evaluations, whether $f$ is satisfiable or not:

**CASE I: $f$ IS UNSATISFIABLE; THE MEASUREMENT DETERMINISTICALLY PRO-DUCES $\left| 0 \right\rangle \left| \overline{0} \right\rangle$. TODO. This part use $\left| \overline{a} \right\rangle = \left| a_1 \right\rangle \ldots \left| a_n \right\rangle$ while previous parts use $\left| \Psi \right\rangle = \left| \psi_1 \right\rangle \cdots \left| \psi_j \right\rangle \cdots \left| \psi_n \right\rangle$. Moreover, bar is heavily used in QIVPM discussion later, so maybe not using bar here????**The state is initialized to $\left| 0 \right\rangle \left| \overline{0} \right\rangle$, with $\left| \overline{0} \right\rangle = \left| 0 \right\rangle \left| 0 \right\rangle \cdots \left| 0 \right\rangle$, i.e., the tensor product of $n$ $\left| 0 \right\rangle$ states. As Eq. (3.4), applying the map $S$ to each qubit in the second component of the state produces $\left| 0 \right\rangle \left| \overline{+} \right\rangle$ where $\left| \overline{+} \right\rangle$ denotes the sequence $\left| + \right\rangle \ldots \left| + \right\rangle$ of length $n$. Applying $U_f$ to the entire state has no effect since $U_f$ is the identity when $f$ is unsatisfiable. Applying $S$ to each qubit in the second component of the state produces $\left| 0 \right\rangle \left| \overline{0} \right\rangle$. Applying $S^\dagger$ to the first component leaves the state unchanged. As the first component of the state is $0$, applying the map $\sigma_0$ (which is

the identity) leaves the state unchanged.**TODO. Control-not need to be defined and explained in Sec. 2.2.2** Applying $S^\dagger$ to the first component leaves the state unchanged. Measuring the state will deterministically produce $|0\rangle\,|\overline{0}\rangle$.

**CASE II: $f$ IS SATISFIABLE; THE MEASUREMENT PRODUCES SOME STATE OTHER THAN $|0\rangle\,|\overline{0}\rangle$.** Assume the function $f$ is satisfiable at some input $a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n$ denoted $\overline{a}$, and where $|\overline{a}\rangle = |a_1\rangle \ldots |a_n\rangle$. In the second step, the state becomes $|0\rangle\,|\overline{+}\rangle$ as above. We can write this state as $|0\rangle\,|\overline{a}\rangle + \Sigma_{\overline{x} \neq \overline{a}} |0\rangle\,|\overline{x}\rangle$. Applying $U_f$ produces $|1\rangle\,|\overline{a}\rangle + \Sigma_{\overline{x} \neq \overline{a}} |0\rangle\,|\overline{x}\rangle$. We can rewrite this state as $|+\rangle\,|\overline{a}\rangle + \Sigma_{\overline{x}} |0\rangle\,|\overline{x}\rangle = |+\rangle\,|\overline{a}\rangle + |0\rangle\,|\overline{+}\rangle$, where the summation is now over all vectors (notice that $|0\rangle\,|\overline{a}\rangle + |0\rangle\,|\overline{a}\rangle$ is the zero vector). Applying $S$ to each qubit in the second component produces $|+\rangle\,\left|\overline{S(a)}\right\rangle + |0\rangle\,|\overline{0}\rangle$. Applying $S^\dagger$ to the first component produces: $|1\rangle\,\left|\overline{S(a)}\right\rangle + |0\rangle\,|\overline{0}\rangle$. Applying control-not gate, which applying $\sigma_0$ or $\sigma_x$ on the second component depending on the first component of the state, and produces

$$|1\rangle\left(\sigma_x\left|\overline{S(a)}\right\rangle\right) + |0\rangle\left(\sigma_0\,|\overline{0}\rangle\right) = |1\rangle\left|\overline{\text{not}\,(S(a))}\right\rangle + |0\rangle\,|\overline{0}\rangle\,. \tag{3.6}$$

Applying $S^\dagger$ to the first component produces $|+\rangle\left|\overline{\text{not}\,(S(a))}\right\rangle + |0\rangle\,|\overline{0}\rangle$. For the measurement of $|+\rangle\left|\overline{\text{not}\,(S(a))}\right\rangle + |0\rangle\,|\overline{0}\rangle$ to be guaranteed to never be $|0\rangle\,|\overline{0}\rangle$, we need to verify that $|+\rangle\left|\overline{\text{not}\,(S(a))}\right\rangle$ has one occurrence $|0\rangle\,|\overline{0}\rangle$. **TODO. The following need to be rewritten.**This can be easily proved as follows. Since each $a_i$ is either 0 or 1, then each $S(a_i)$ is either $+$ or 1, and hence each not $(S(a_i))$ is either $+$ or 0. The result follows since any state with a combination of $+$ and 0, when expressed in the standard basis, would consist of a superposition containing the state $|0 \ldots\rangle$.

## 3.4 DISCRETE QUANTUM THEORY (I)

### 3.4.1 COMPLEXIFIED FINITE FIELDS

Our next objective is to develop more realistic discrete quantum theory variants that exclude "supernatural" algorithms such as the one presented above. Our first such plausible framework [54] is based on complexifiable finite fields. To incorporate complex numbers for quantum amplitudes, we exploit the fact that the polynomial $x^2 + 1$ is *irreducible* ($x^2 + 1 = 0$ has no solution) over a prime field $\mathbb{F}_p$ with $p$ odd if and only if $p$ is of the form $4\ell + 3$, with $\ell$ a non-negative integer [20, 43]. For example, given any $x \in \mathbb{F}_3 = \{0, \pm 1\}$, when $x = 0$, we have $x^2 + 1 = 0^2 + 1 = 1$; when $x = \pm 1$, we have $x^2 + 1 = (\pm 1)^2 + 1 = 1$. Therefore, $x^2 + 1$ is irreducible over $\mathbb{F}_3$. In contrast, over $\mathbb{F}_5$, $2^2 + 1 = 0$ so that $x^2 + 1$ is reducible.

We achieve our goal by observing that any field $\mathbb{F}_p$ with $p = 4\ell + 3$ is extensible to a field $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$ whose elements can be viewed as discrete complex numbers with the real and imaginary parts in $\mathbb{F}_p$. In a complexified finite field $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$, the Frobenius automorphism that maps $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}_{p^2}$ to $\alpha^p \in \mathbb{F}_{p^2}$ acts like complex conjugation [20, 55, 43]. For example, in $\mathbb{F}_{3^2}$, we have $(2 + \mathrm{i})^3 = 8 + 12\mathrm{i} - 6 - \mathrm{i} = 2 + 11\mathrm{i}$ which, in the field, is equal to $2 - \mathrm{i}$ since $11 \equiv -1 \pmod 3$.

We define the *field norm* $\mathsf{N}(\cdot)$ as the map from $a + \mathrm{i}b \in \mathbb{F}_{p^2}$ to $a^2 + b^2 \in \mathbb{F}_p$,

$$\mathsf{N}(a + \mathrm{i}b) = a^2 + b^2. \tag{3.7}$$

We avoid the square root in the discrete field framework because, unlike the continuous case, the square root does not always exist.

### 3.4.2 VECTOR SPACES

In this section we want to build a theory of discrete vector spaces that approximates as closely as possible the features of conventional quantum theory. Such a structure would ideally consist of the

following: (i) a vector space over the field of complex numbers, and (ii) an inner product $\langle\Phi|\Psi\rangle$ associating to each pair of vectors a complex number, and satisfying the following properties:

(A) $\langle\Phi|\Psi\rangle$ is the complex conjugate of $\langle\Psi|\Phi\rangle$;

(B) $\langle\Phi|\Psi\rangle$ is conjugate linear in its first argument and linear in its second argument;

(C) $\langle\Psi|\Psi\rangle$ is always non-negative and is equal to 0 only if $|\Psi\rangle$ is the zero vector.

It turns out that a vector space defined over a finite field cannot have an inner product satisfying the properties above. However, we will introduce an Hermitian "dot product" satisfying some of those properties.

We are interested in the vector space $\mathcal{H}$ of dimension $D$ defined over the complexified field $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$. Let $|\Psi\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_0 & \alpha_1 & \dots & \alpha_{D-1} \end{pmatrix}^T$ and $|\Phi\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_0 & \beta_1 & \dots & \beta_{D-1} \end{pmatrix}^T$ represent vectors in $\mathcal{H}$, with numbers $\alpha_i$ and $\beta_i$ drawn from $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$, and where $(\cdot)^T$ is the transpose.

**Definition 3.4.1** (Hermitian dot product). Given vectors $|\Phi\rangle$ and $|\Psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$, it can be shown [55] the Hermitian dot product is always reducible to the form

$$\langle\Phi|\Psi\rangle = \sum_{i=0}^{D-1} \beta_i^p \alpha_i. \tag{3.8}$$

Two vectors $|\Phi\rangle$ and $|\Psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ are said to be orthogonal if $\langle\Phi|\Psi\rangle = 0$. This product satisfies conditions (A) and (B) for inner products but violates condition (C) since in every finite field there always exists a non-zero vector $|\Psi\rangle$ such that $\langle\Psi|\Psi\rangle = 0$. The reason is that addition in finite fields eventually "wraps around" (because of their cyclic or modular structure), allowing the sum of non-zero elements to be zero. The fraction of non-zero vectors satisfying $\langle\Psi|\Psi\rangle = 0$ decreases with the order $p$.

For any vector $|\Psi\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_0 & \alpha_1 & \dots & \alpha_{D-1} \end{pmatrix}^T$, the Hermitian dot product $\langle\Psi|\Psi\rangle$ is equal to $\sum_{i=0}^{D-1} \mathsf{N}(\alpha_i)$, which is the sum of the field norms for the complex coefficients [56]. For conve-

nience, we now extend the field norm to include vector arguments by defining

$$\mathsf{N}\left(|\Psi\rangle\right) = \langle\Psi|\Psi\rangle = \sum_{i=0}^{D-1} \mathsf{N}\left(\alpha_i\right) . \tag{3.9}$$

The field norm of a vector can vanish for non-vanishing vectors.

### 3.4.3 IRREDUCIBLE DISCRETE $D$-DIMENSIONAL STATES: GENERALIZED DISCRETE BLOCH SPHERE

In the one-qubit state with coefficients in $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$, the discrete analog of the Bloch sphere is constructed by exact analogy to the continuous case: we first require that the coefficients of the single qubit basis obey

$$\|\psi_1\|^2 = |\alpha_0|^2 + |\alpha_1|^2 = 1 \tag{3.10}$$

in the discrete field. In **??**, we show that there are $p(p^2-1)$ such values.**TODO. Check reference...** Given this requirement, which is similar in form to the conservation of probability, but not as useful due to the lack of orderable probability values, we can immediately conclude that the discrete analog of the Hopf fibration is again

$$\begin{aligned}
X &= 2\operatorname{Re}\alpha_0\alpha_1^* = 2x_0x_1 + 2y_0y_1 , \\
Y &= 2\operatorname{Im}\alpha_0\alpha_1^* = 2x_1y_0 - 2x_0y_1 , \\
Z &= |\alpha_0|^2 - |\alpha_1|^2 = {x_0}^2 + {y_0}^2 - {x_1}^2 - {y_1}^2 .
\end{aligned} \tag{3.11}$$

but now with all computations in $\pmod{p}$. At this point one simply writes down all possible discrete values for the complex numbers $(\alpha_0, \alpha_1)$ satisfying Eq. (3.10) and enumerates those that project to the same value of $\{X, Y, Z\}$. This equivalence class is the discrete analog of the circle in the complex plane that was eliminated in the continuous case. In **??**, we show that $p + 1$ discrete values

of $\{\alpha_0, \alpha_1\}$ with unit norm map to the same point under the Hopf map Eq. (3.11); we may think of these as discrete circles or projective lines of equivalent, physically indistinguishable, complex phase. The surviving $p(p-1)$ values of $\{\alpha_0, \alpha_1\}$ correspond to irreducible physical states of the discrete single qubit system. for example, choosing the underlying field to be $\mathbb{F}_{3^2}$, there are exactly 6 single-qubit state vectors to populate the Bloch sphere; the four equivalent phase-multiples mapping to each of the six points on the $\mathbb{F}_{3^2}$ Bloch sphere are collapsed and regarded as physically indistinguishable. In Figure 3.2, we plot the irreducible states on the Bloch sphere for $p = 3, 7$, and 11. Note that the Cartesian lengths of the real vectors corresponding to the points on the Bloch sphere vary considerably due to the nature of discrete fields; we have artificially normalized them to a "continuous world" unit radius sphere for conceptual clarity.
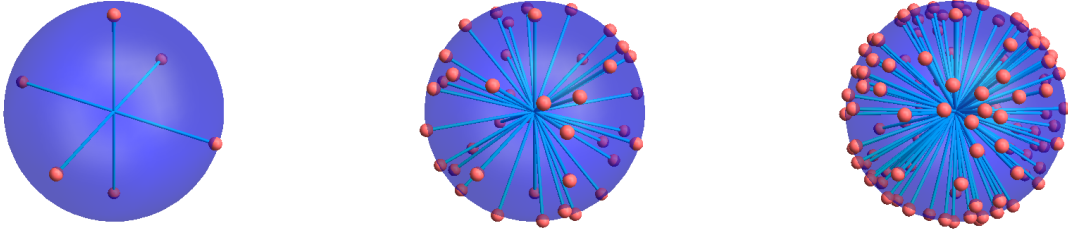


Figure 3.2: Schematically normalized plots of the elements of the discrete Bloch sphere, the irreducible single-qubit (two-dimensional) state vectors with unit norm over the field $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$. We show the results for $p = 3, 7$, and 11. For example, in $\mathbb{F}_{3^2}$, there are 24 vectors of unit norm, but only the 6 inequivalent classes appear in the plot. The $p + 1 = 4$ equivalent vectors in each class differ only by a complex discrete phase.

### 3.4.4 COUNTING STATES ON THE $n$-QUBIT BLOCH SPHERE

We have the unique opportunity in the finite-field approach to quantum computing to precisely identify and enumerate the physical states. In the conventional theory, as we have seen, we employ a generalized Hopf fibration on the normalized states to project out a circle of phase-equivalent states,

yielding the generalized Bloch sphere.

In the introduction to this section, we sketched the counting of the irreducible single-qubit discrete states. To count the number of inequivalent discrete states for the general $n$-qubit case with coefficients in $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$, we first must find the set of unit-norm states, and then determine the equivalence classes of unit-norm states under discrete phase transformations; we can then enumerate the list of states on the discrete generalized Bloch sphere. By executing computer searches of these spaces, we discovered an hypothesis for a closed-form solution for the counting of the states, and were then able to find a rigorous inductive proof of the enumeration, which is presented in the Appendix.

This process of describing the discrete $n$-qubit irreducible states can again be understood geometrically by following the discrete analog of the Hopf fibration. First, we construct the discrete version of the quadratic unit-length form that automatically annihilates the distinction among states differing only by a discrete phase,

$$\hat{a} = (|\alpha_i|^2, ..., \sqrt{2}\,\mathrm{Re}\,\alpha_i\alpha_j^*, \ldots, \sqrt{2}\,\mathrm{Im}\,\alpha_i\alpha_j^*, \ldots)\,, \tag{3.12}$$

where

$$\hat{a} \cdot \hat{a} = \left(\sum_{i=0}^{D-1} |\alpha_i|^2\right)^2 = 1\,. \tag{3.13}$$

From **??**, we know that $p + 1$ elements of this discrete $\mathbf{S}^{2 \times 2^n - 1}$ structure map to the *same point* in $\hat{a}$. Each set of $(p + 1)$ redundant points is, geometrically speaking, the *discrete Hopf fibration circle* living above each *irreducible* point of the $n$-qubit state description. These $p + 1$ points are interpretable as the $p$ finite points plus the single point at infinity of the projective discrete line (see, e.g., [**Arnold**]).

The next part of this argument is the determination of the unit-norm states, effectively the space of allowed discrete partitions of unity; we cannot exactly call these "probability-conserving" sectors

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of the state coefficients since we do not have a well defined notion of probability, but we do have a well-defined notion of partition of unity. The tally of unit-norm states is $p^{2^n-1}(p^{2^n}-1)$ (see **??**) compared to the total number $p^{2\times 2^n}$ of possible complex integer state vectors that could be chosen. This unit-norm state structure is the discrete analog of $\mathbf{S}^{2\times 2^n-1}$.

Finally, we repeat the last step of the $n$-qubit continuous Hopf fibration process for discrete $n$-qubit states, eliminating the discrete set of $p+1$ equivalent points that map to the same point $\hat{a}$ on the generalized $n$-qubit Bloch sphere. Dividing the tally $p^{2^n-1}(p^{2^n}-1)$ of unit norm states by the $p+1$ elements of each phase-equivalent discrete circle, we find

$$\frac{p^{2^n-1}(p^{2^n}-1)}{p+1} = p^{2^n-1}(p-1)\prod_{k=1}^{n-1}(p^{2^k}+1)$$

as the total count of unique irreducible states in a discrete $n$-qubit configuration (see **??**). The resulting object is precisely the discrete version of $\mathbb{C}\mathbf{P}^{D-1}$, which we might call a *discrete complex projective space* or $\mathbf{D}\mathbb{C}\mathbf{P}^{D-1}$, where $D = 2^n$ as usual.

## 3.5   DISCRETE QUANTUM COMPUTING (I)

Given a complexified finite field $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$ and its Hermitian dot product (Eq. (**??**)) much of the structure of conventional quantum computing can be recovered. For example, the smallest field $\mathbb{F}_{3^2}$ is already rich enough to express the standard Deutsch-Jozsa [**NCbook**] algorithm, which requires only normalized versions of vectors or matrices with the scalars $0$, $1$, and $-1$. Similarly, other deterministic quantum algorithms (algorithms for which we may determine the outcome with certainty), such as Simon's and Bernstein-Vazirani, perform as desired [**simon**]. Algorithms such as Grover's search will not work in the usual way because we lack (the notion of) ordered angles and probability in general.

It is possible, in some situations, to exploit the cyclic behavior of the field to creatively cancel
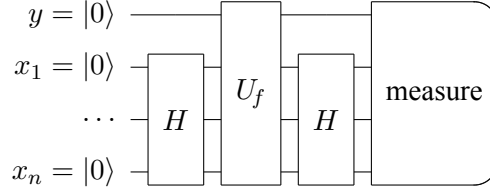
Figure 3.3: Circuit for black box $\mathrm{UNIQUE - SAT}$ in discrete quantum computing.

probability amplitudes and solve problems with what again appears to be "supernatural" efficiency. We illustrate this behavior with the algorithm in Fig. 3.3, which is a variant of the one in Fig. 3.1. Unlike the modal quantum theory algorithm, the new algorithm does not always succeed deterministically using a constant number of black box evaluations. We can, however, show that supernatural behavior occurs if the characteristic $p$ of the field divides $2^N - 1$. For a database of fixed size $N$, matching the conditions becomes less likely as the size of the field increases. Nevertheless, for a *given* field, it is always possible to expand any database with dummy records to satisfy the divisibility property. Physically, we are taking advantage of additional interference processes that happen because of the possibility of "wrapping around" due to modular arithmetic. We do not know, in general, whether this version of discrete quantum computing actually enables the rapid solution of NP-complete problems.

## 3.6 DISCRETE QUANTUM THEORY AND COMPUTING (II)

Our third model, discrete quantum theory (II) [2], restricts states in some local region of $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}^{2^n}$. Within a local region, a notion of inner product and probability could be recovered. Its discrete quantum computing can be further applied to the deterministic Deutsch-Jozsa algorithm [57, 35] and the probabilistic Grover algorithm [58, 34, 35].

## 3.7  TOWARD DISCRETE QUANTUM PROBABILITY

When people tried to define quantum probability over finite fields, people tended to treat the original Born rule as an axiom, and tried to modify it to get a discrete Born rule [45, 47, 2, 59]. However, any modified Born rule could hardly work on the whole vector space, since there is no inner product on the whole vector space over finite fields. Instead of treating the Born rule as an axiom, the Born rule can actually be deduced from a set of abstract definitions and axioms according to Gleason's theorem. Although we might hope to deduce a discrete Born rule directly from a similar set of definitions and axioms, no discrete Born rule satisfies certain properties motivated by Gleason's theorem with infinitely precise real-number probability [5]. Since the state spaces are now discrete and finite, this suggests us to consider a discrete Born rule mapping to finite number of intervals called interval-valued probability [60, 3]. To adopting the idea of interval-valued probability step-by-step, before attempting to study quantum interval-valued probability over finite fields, we will first review the classical interval-valued probability, and extend it with the conventional quantum theory.

# Chapter 4

# TOWARD A QUANTUM MEASUREMENT

# THEORY WITH ERROR: QUANTUM

# INTERVAL-VALUED PROBABILITY

## 4.1   CLASSICAL INTERVAL-VALUED PROBABILITY

In the classical setting, there are several proposals for "imprecise probabilities" [61, 62, 63, 60, 64, 65]. Although these proposals differ in some details, they all share the fact that the probability $\bar{\mu}(E)$ of an event $E$ is generalized from a single *real number* to an *interval* $[l, r]$, where $l$ intuitively corresponds to the strength of evidence for the event $E$ and $1 - r$ corresponds to the strength of evidence against the same event. Given a sample space $\Omega$ and a set of intervals $\mathscr{I}$, similar to a classical probability measure $\mu : 2^\Omega \to [0, 1]$, a classical interval-valued probability measure (IVPM) $\bar{\mu} : 2^\Omega \to \mathscr{I}$ needs to satisfy some coherent axioms. By satisfying the convexity axiom [66, 62, 63, 65], Shapley proved that there is always a classical probability measure consistent with the classical IVPM $\bar{\mu}$ [66, 62, 65]. Given any random variable, its expectation value with respect to classical probability measures consistent with $\bar{\mu}$ is consistent with its Choquet integral [67, 62, 65] with respect to $\bar{\mu}$ [68, 62, 65].

## 4.2 QUANTUM INTERVAL-VALUED PROBABILITY

The quantum extension, quantum interval-valued probability measure (QIVPM) $\bar{\mu} : \mathcal{E} \to \mathscr{I}$, is a generalization of both classical IVPMs $\bar{\mu} : 2^{\Omega} \to \mathscr{I}$ and conventional quantum probability measures $\mu : \mathcal{E} \to [0, 1]$ [3], because QIVPMs reduce to classical IVPMs when the space of quantum events $\mathcal{E}$ is restricted to mutually commuting events, and reduces to conventional quantum probability measures when mapping to infinitely precise uncountable intervals $\mathscr{I}_{\infty} = \{[x, x] \mid x \in [0, 1]\}$. While Shapley and Gleason both proved there must be a "state" consistent with any given QIVPM in the reduced cases, in general there exists a QIVPM such that no state is consistent with it. However, we found a class of QIVPMs such that all QIVPMs in this class are consistent with a non-empty "ball" of quantum states whose radius is defined by the maximal length of the intervals, and recovers the original Gleason theorem asymptotically. Similarly, the conventional quantum expectation value and the classical Choquet integral are together generalized to the quantum interval-valued expectation value. This is used to prove an imprecise Kochen-Specker theorem [69, 70, 37, 38, 35] which suggests a possible resolution of the Meyer-Mermin debate on the impact of finite-precision measurement on the Kochen-Specker theorem [71, 72].

# Chapter 5

# FURTHER QUESTIONS

When people proved the original Gleason theorem, people usually exploited the geometrical struc-

ture of real 3-dimensional Hilbert space [36, 38, 39, 40]. Since our finite-precision extension of the

Gleason theorem only applies on a class of QIVPMs, we might want to ask how to modify these

geometrical arguments to have a Gleason-type theorem for general QIVPMs. We will further study

the tensor product structure among QIVPMs which is essential for defining product and entangled

states, and serves the basis to discuss quantum nonlocality [73, 37, 38, 35] and quantum computing

with QIVPMs. Finally, we want to improve the discrete quantum theories to consider QIVPMs over

finite fields in future research.

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**Yu-Tsung Tai**
**LinkedIn :** https://www.linkedin.com/in/yu-tsung-tai-9aa30551
**GitHub :** https://github.com/yuttai

## EDUCATION

**Indiana University Bloomington (IUB) (GPA: 3.802/4.0)**       **2010 – Present**

- Ph.D. double-major in Mathematics and Computer Science     (expected) August 2018
- Master of Science in Computer Science     May 2016
- Master of Arts in Mathematics     December 2012

**National Taiwan University (NTU) (GPA: 3.68/4.0)**       **2002 – 2006**

- Bachelor of Science in Mathematics (Rank: 4/48)     June 2006

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[1] Y.-T. Tai, A. J. Hanson, G. Ortiz and A. Sabry, "Quantum Interval-Valued Probability: Contextuality and the Born Rule," 25 December 2017. [Online]. Available: https://arxiv.org/abs/1712.09006. Accepted by Physical Review A.

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## CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

**Quantum Interval-Valued Probability: Contextuality and the Born Rule**

- Talk in Interdisciplinary Logic Seminar, IUB     August 2017
- Poster Session in Contextuality: Conceptual Issues, Operational Signatures, and Applications, Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics     July 2017

**Introduction to Discrete Quantum Theories and Computing**

- Talk in Theory Seminar, Department of Computer Science, IUB     March 2017

**Real Computation**

- Talk in Theory Reading Group, Department of Computer Science, IUB     Feb 2016

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Taught with Full Responsibility**

- MATH-T101 Mathematics for Elementary Teachers I, IUB               Fall 2017
- MATH-M216 Calculus II (Online), Indiana University East            Summer 2012

**Designed and Edited Online Courses, Data Science Program, IUB**

- Basic Linear Algebra and Calculus with Python (Designer)     Summer 2017 – Present
- Machine Learning with Python (Editor)                          Fall 2016 – Present
- Introduction to C++ (Designer)                                Summer 2016 – Fall 2017

**Taught Recitation Sessions, IUB**

- MATH-M211 Calculus I                                               Fall 2016
- MATH-M212 Calculus II                            Summer 2014, Fall 2014, Fall 2015
- CSCI-B501 Theory of Computing                                     Spring 2015

**Assisted and Graded, IUB**

- [CSCI-B609](#) Topics in Algorithms and Computing Theory (AlphaGo)     Spring 2018
- INFO-I231 Introduction to the Mathematics of Cybersecurity        Spring 2017
- CSCI-B503 Algorithms Design and Analysis                          Spring 2016
- MATH-M119 Brief Survey of Calculus I                       Fall 2013, Spring 2014
- MATH-M303 Linear Algebra for Undergraduates                       Spring 2013
- MATH-M118 Finite Mathematics                               Fall 2010, Fall 2012
- MATH-M301 Linear Algebra and Applications                         Spring 2012
- MATH-M365 Introduction to Probability and Statistics               Fall 2011
- MATH-M120 Brief Survey of Calculus II                             Spring 2011
- MATH-S312 Honors Course in Calculus IV                            Spring 2011

**Taught Mini-Courses in NTU Math Camps**

- There is No Formula for General Quintic Equations in Terms of Radicals     2005
- Game Theory                                                          2004

## RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

- Research Assistant, Kelley School of Business, IUB                  May 2016
- Research Assistant, Department of Computer Science, IUB           Summer 2015
- Research Associate, Department of Computer Science, IUB           Summer 2013
- Research Assistant, Department of Economics, NTU          January 2008 – July 2009

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Programming Languages:

  Python (with NumPy, matplotlib, and SymPy), Mathematica, Visual Basic for Application, HTML, C/C++, LaTeX, MATLAB, Isabelle, Agda, Scheme, SQL

- Platforms:

  Microsoft Windows (7, 10, 8, XP, 98, 95, 3.1), Cygwin, Red Hat Linux, MS-DOS 6.22

- Office and Project Management Softwares:

  Microsoft Outlook, Microsoft PowerPoint, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Word,

  Adobe Acrobat, Adobe Dreamweaver CC, Adobe Captivate 9,

  LyX, ShareLaTeX, Trello, Google Docs, Google Sheets, Slack, emacs

- Version Control Systems:

  Git, Apache Subversion

- Integrated Development Environments:

  Eclipse, PyCharm, Visual Studio 2013

- Fluency of Languages:

  Chinese (Native), English (Fluent), Japanese (Beginning), French Reading (Beginning)

## AWARDS AND HONORS

- Studying Abroad Scholarship, Ministry of Education, Taiwan, R.O.C.          2010 – 2012
- Presidential Award, NTU                              Spring 2005, Fall 2005, Spring 2006
- Distinction Award, 1st Taiwan Mathematical Contest of Modeling for Undergraduate Students                                             September 2003

## CLUB ACTIVITIES

- Account Administrator of ptt2.cc                                          2006 – 2009
- NTU Go Club                                                              2002 – 2006