

Today's outline - April 14, 2022



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- Quantum error correcting codes

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- Correctable sets of errors

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- Diagnosing errors

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Reading assignment: 11.3

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Homework Assignment #07:
Chapter 9:2,3,4; Chapter 10:3,4,11
Due Thursday, April 21, 2022

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Exam #2 - April 26, 2022

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U_C may well have some action on other states not in W but this is generally ignored

Correctable sets of errors



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Codes not satisfying this condition are said to be degenerate

Example 11.2.6



For the $[[3,1]]$ code and a set of errors $\mathcal{E} = \{E_{ij}\}$ the correctable error set for a single-qubit bit-flip error is

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One must choose one of the two sets to correct for and generally single-qubit bit-flips are much more probable than two-qubit bit-flips

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Suppose that C is a $[[n, k]]$ quantum code that is nondegenerate with respect to a correctable error set $\mathcal{E} = \{E_i\}, 0 \leq i < M$

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Let W_M be the subspace of V which is orthogonal to W , since the W_i are mutually orthogonal there is an observable O with eigensubspaces which are the W_i

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If P_i is the projector of O onto subspace W_i
and $m = \log_2 M$, U_P is a unitary operator
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$$U_P : |w\rangle|0\rangle \mapsto \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} P_j |w\rangle |j\rangle = \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} b_j |w_j\rangle |j\rangle$$

By measuring the m ancilla qubits, the error syndrome s identifying the subspace of the error state $W_s = E_s C$

Thus applying the operator E_s^\dagger will recover the corrected state: $E_s^\dagger |w\rangle = E_s^\dagger E_s |v\rangle = |v\rangle$

U_P is a syndrome extraction operator which places the value s into the m -qubit ancilla register

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$$U_P : |b_2, b_1, b_0, 0, 0\rangle \rightarrow |b_2, b_1, b_0, a_1 = b_2 \oplus b_1, a_2 = b_2 \oplus b_0\rangle$$

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Measuring $a_1 = i$ and $a_0 = j$ projects the state into $W_{ij} = E_{ij}C$ and E_{ij}^\dagger is the error corrector

Example 11.2.10



The C_{BF} single-qubit bit-flip correction circuit can be adapted to directly apply the correction after applying U_{BF} by applying V_{BF}

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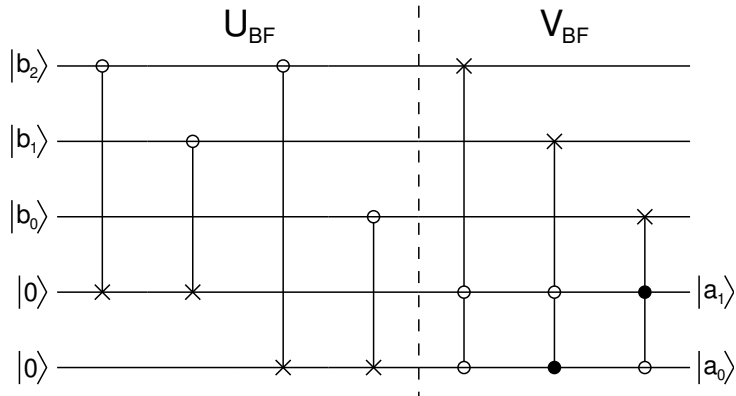
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Example 11.2.10 (cont.)



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With the above circuit, it is possible to correct linear combinations of errors

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Example 11.2.10 (cont.)



$$V_{BF} = E_0^\dagger \otimes |00\rangle\langle 00| + E_1^\dagger \otimes |01\rangle\langle 01| + E_2^\dagger \otimes |10\rangle\langle 10| + E_3^\dagger \otimes |11\rangle\langle 11|$$

$$E_0^\dagger = E_0 = I \otimes I \otimes I, \quad E_1^\dagger = E_1 = I \otimes I \otimes X, \quad E_2^\dagger = E_2 = I \otimes X \otimes I, \quad E_3^\dagger = E_3 = X \otimes I \otimes I$$

With the above circuit, it is possible to correct linear combinations of errors

Suppose we start with a state $|\tilde{0}\rangle = |000\rangle$ and there is an error $E = \alpha E_3 + \beta E_2$

$$|u\rangle = U_{BF}[(E|000\rangle) \otimes |00\rangle] = U_{BF}[(\alpha|100\rangle + \beta|010\rangle) \otimes |00\rangle] = \alpha|100\rangle|11\rangle + \beta|010\rangle|10\rangle$$

Now use V_{BF} to directly correct the logical state to its initial value, noting that only one term survives for each term of $|u\rangle$

$$\begin{aligned} V_{BF}|u\rangle &= (E_0^\dagger \otimes \cancel{|00\rangle\langle 00|} + E_1^\dagger \otimes \cancel{|01\rangle\langle 01|} + E_2^\dagger \otimes \cancel{|10\rangle\langle 10|} + E_3^\dagger \otimes |11\rangle\langle 11|) \alpha|100\rangle|11\rangle + \\ &\quad (E_0^\dagger \otimes \cancel{|00\rangle\langle 00|} + E_1^\dagger \otimes \cancel{|01\rangle\langle 01|} + E_2^\dagger \otimes |10\rangle\langle 10| + E_3^\dagger \otimes \cancel{|11\rangle\langle 11|}) \beta|010\rangle|10\rangle \\ &= (\alpha E_3^\dagger |100\rangle) |11\rangle + (\beta E_2^\dagger |010\rangle) |10\rangle = |000\rangle (\alpha|11\rangle + \beta|10\rangle) \end{aligned}$$

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The ancilla can be measured independently and transformed to $|00\rangle$ if they need to be reused

Error correction across multiple blocks



A quantum $[[n, k]]$ code, C encodes $m \cdot k$ logical qubits in $m \cdot n$ computational qubits



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The operator $\tilde{U} = U_C(U \otimes I)U_C^\dagger$ is one such (inefficient) operator