

Title: Quantum Mechanics as a Theory of Systems with Limited Information Content

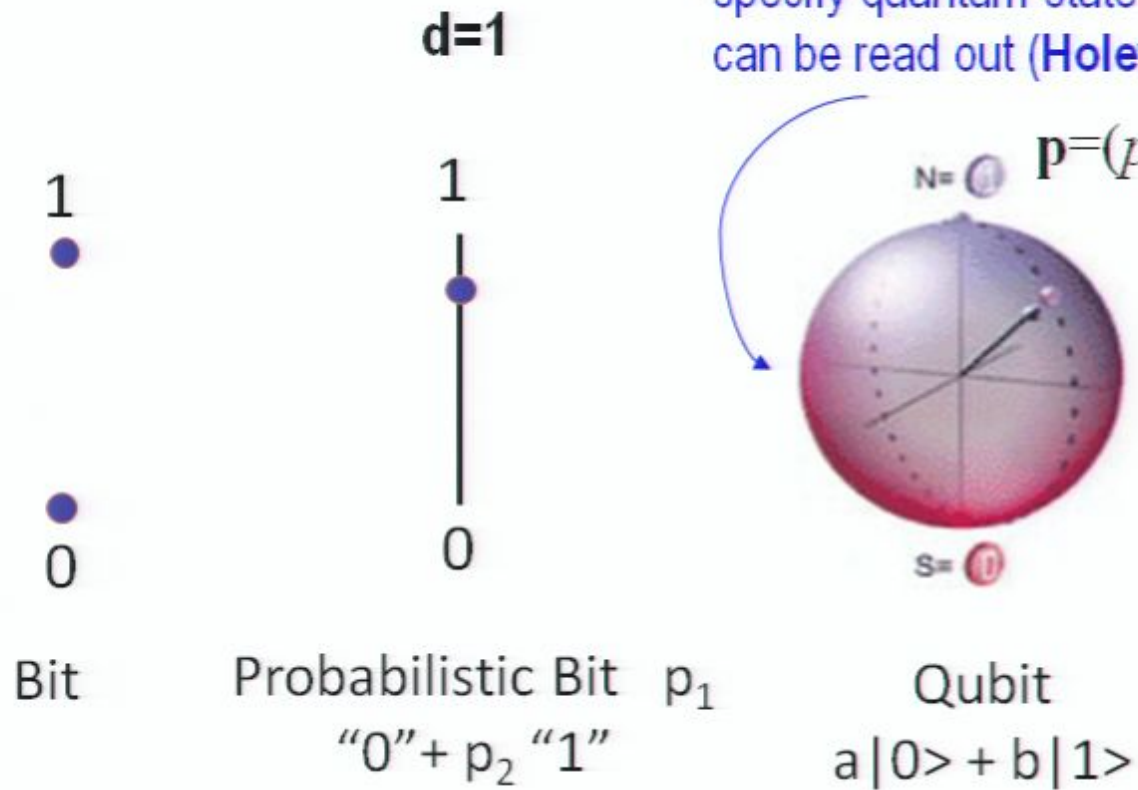
Date: Aug 09, 2009 11:00 AM

URL: <http://pirsa.org/09080002>

Abstract: I will consider physical theories which describe systems with limited information content. This limit is not due observer's ignorance about some "hidden" properties of the system - the view that would have to be confronted with Bell's theorem - but is of fundamental nature. I will show how the mathematical structure of these theories can be reconstructed from a set of reasonable axioms about probabilities for measurement outcomes. Among others these include the "locality" assumption according to which the global state of a composite system is completely determined by correlations between local measurements. I will demonstrate that quantum mechanics is the only theory from the set in which composite systems can be in entangled (non-separable) states. Within Hardy's approach this feature allows to single out quantum theory from other probabilistic theories without a need to assume the "simplicity" axiom. 1. Borivoje Dakic, Caslav Brukner (in preparation) 2. Caslav Brukner, Anton Zeilinger, Information Invariance and Quantum Probabilities, arXiv:0905.0653 3. Tomasz Paterek, Borivoje Dakic, Caslav Brukner, Theories of systems with limited information content, arXiv:0804.1423

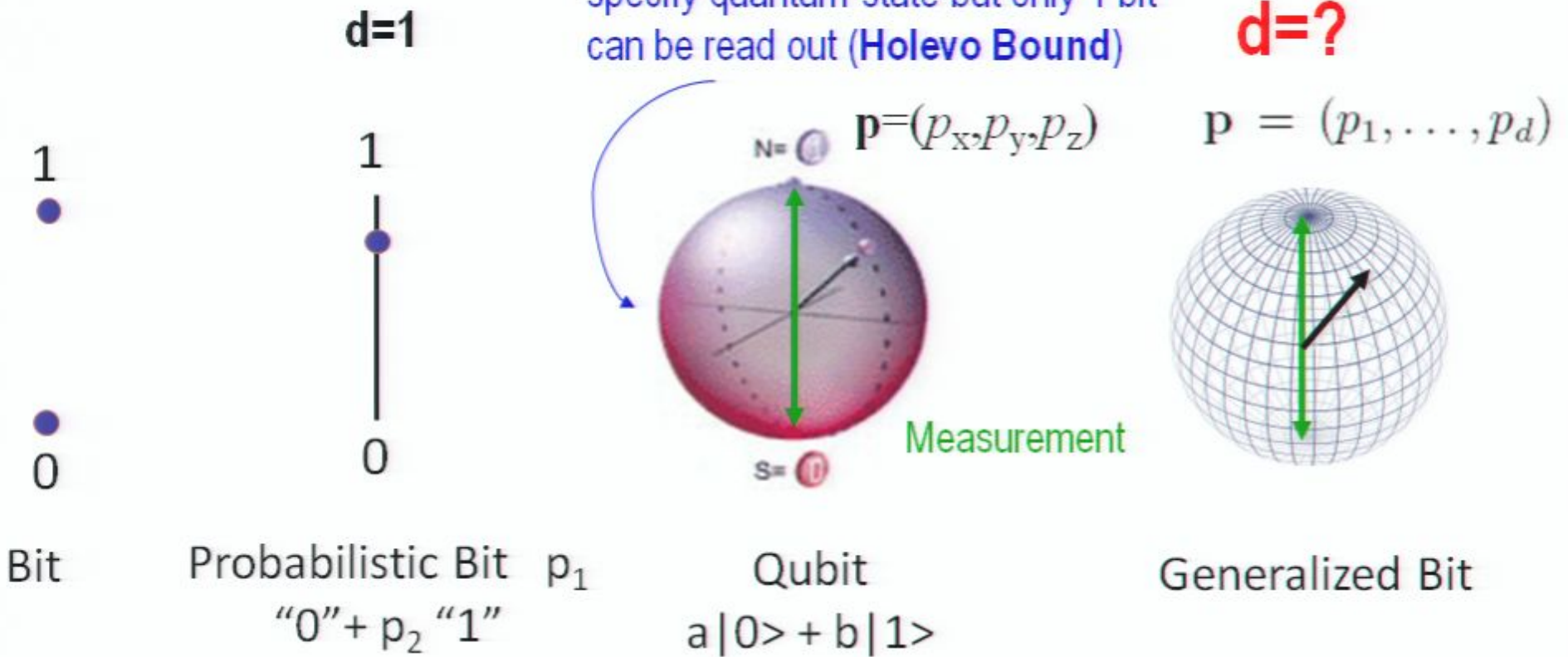
1 Bit Systems (L=2)

$d=3$ real numbers needed to specify quantum state but only 1 bit can be read out (**Holevo Bound**)



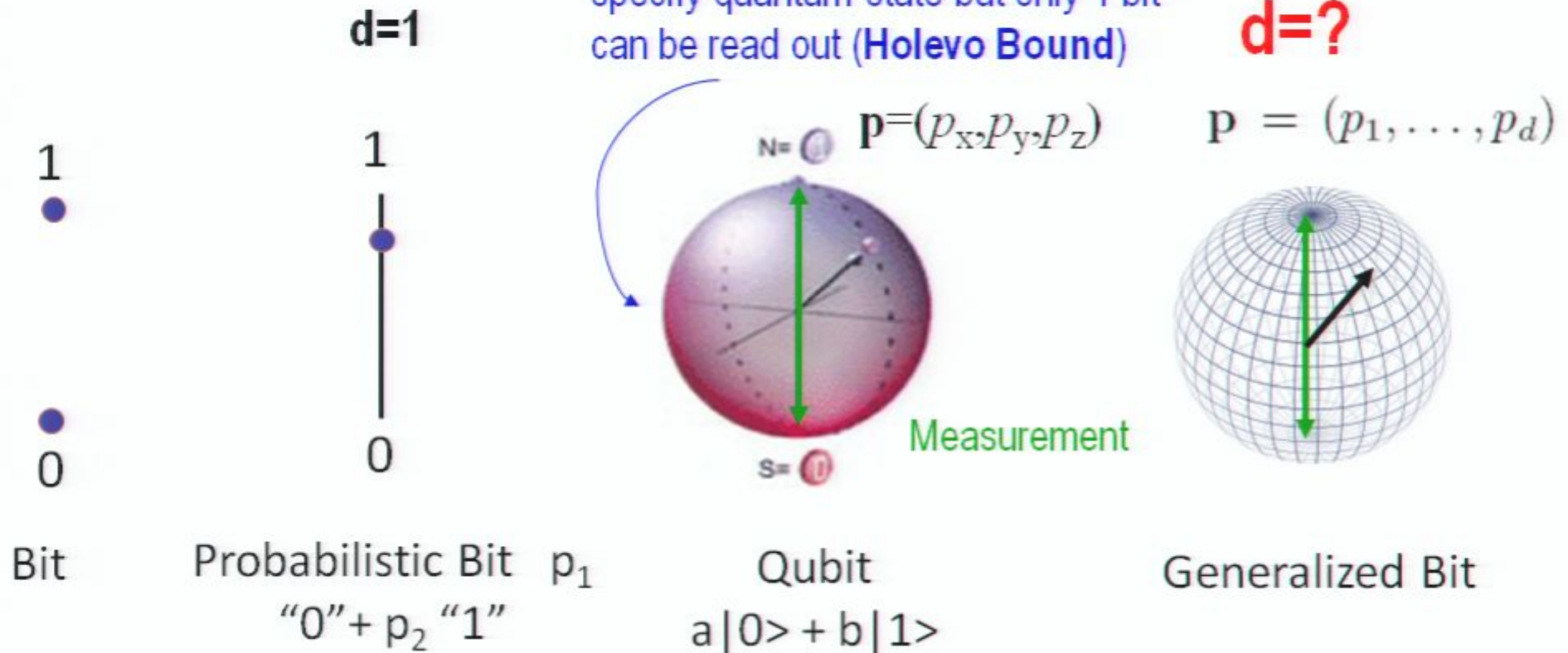
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”The most elementary system contains one bit of information.”

This talk

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2. What is the set of axioms that singles out quantum theory ?
3. What is the physics of a two-level system with general d ("generalized bit"; g-bit) ?
4. Features of information processing and computation with g-bits ?

Why „Reconstructing Quantum Theory“?

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1. **Axiomatization:** simple, more easily comprehensible physical principles are then “the reason” for counter-intuitive features of quantum mechanics, such as contextuality or violation of Bell’s inequality, Tsirlason’s bound.

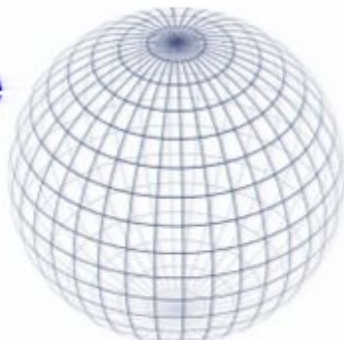
Why „Reconstructing Quantum Theory“?

- 1. Axiomatization:** simple, more easily comprehensible physical principles are then “the reason” for counter-intuitive features of quantum mechanics, such as contextuality or violation of Bell’s inequality, Tsirlason’s bound.
- 2. New Physics:** either there are additional principle(s) that single out quantum theory, or the alternative ones are possible and perhaps even realized in nature in a domain that is still beyond our observations.

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d-1-sphere



Directional degrees of freedom (spin)
embedded in d spatial dimensions?

Quantum Gravity: Dimension different
from 3 (+1) at “small scales”.

“If, as Professor Wheeler has argued, the origin of quantum mechanics’ structure is to be sought in a theory of observation and observers and meaning, then we would do well to focus our attention not on amplitudes but on quantities which are more directly observable.”

William Wootters,
Quantum mechanics without probability amplitudes
Foundations of Physics, 1986

Quantum Mechanics based on Reals

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$$\hat{\rho}$$

Density matrix
(L-level system)

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- **Two Qubits** $\psi = (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, T)$:



$$\begin{aligned} x_i &= \text{Tr} \hat{\rho} \sigma_i \otimes \mathbb{1}, \\ y_i &= \text{Tr} \hat{\rho} \mathbb{1} \otimes \sigma_i, \\ T_{ij} &= \text{Tr} \hat{\rho} \sigma_i \otimes \sigma_j, \quad i = 1, 2, 3 \end{aligned}$$

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Correlations (indicated by a red dashed line pointing to T_{ij})

Local Bloch vectors (indicated by red arrows pointing to the σ_i terms in the equations)

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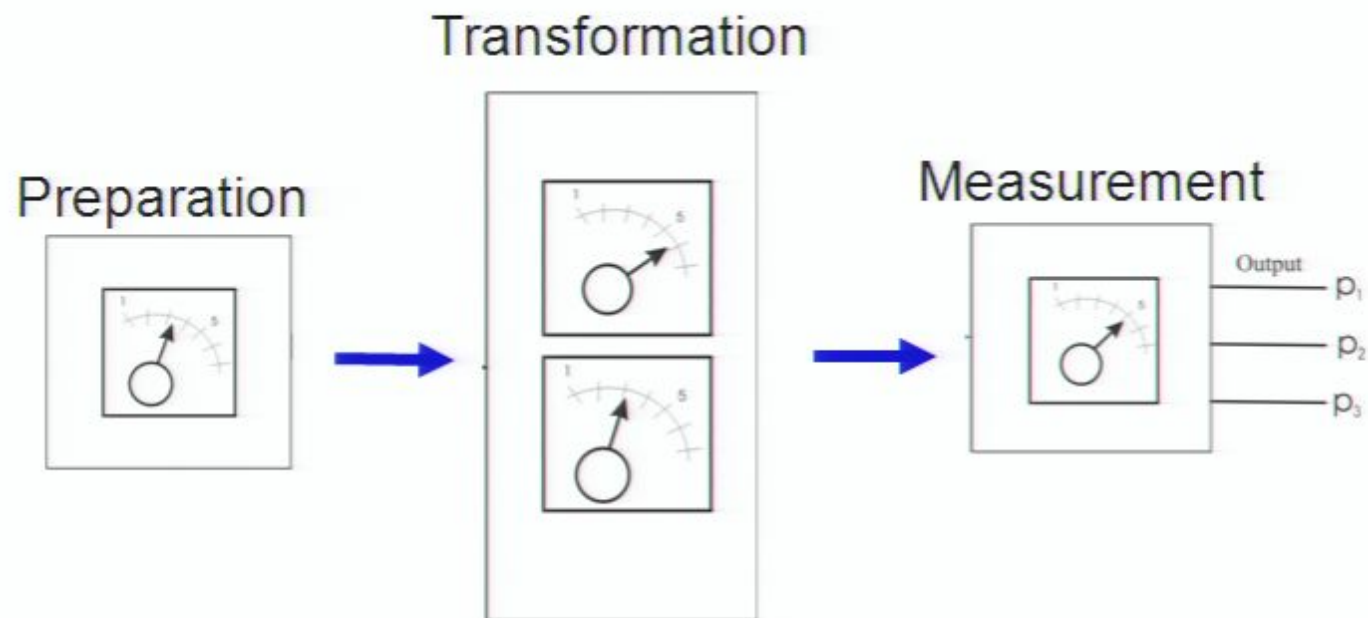
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Correlations Local Bloch vectors

$$|\psi(x)\rangle = \cos \frac{x}{2} |0\rangle |1\rangle + \sin \frac{x}{2} |1\rangle |0\rangle$$

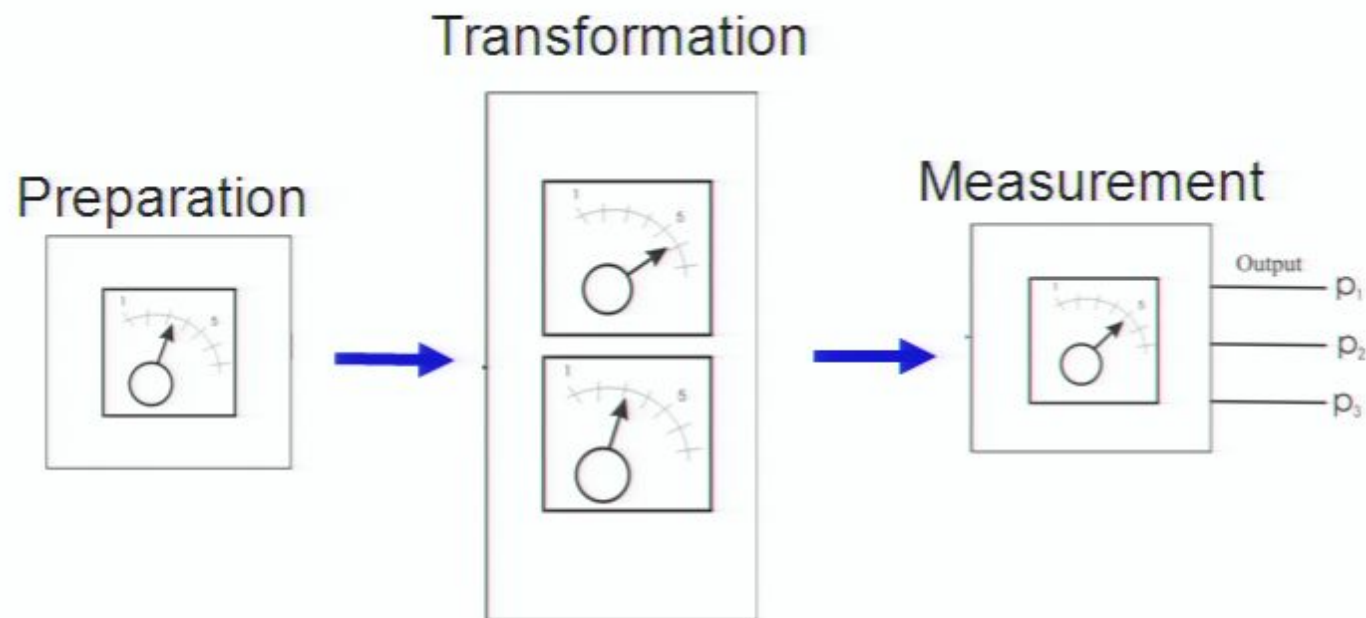
$$\psi(x) = ((0, 0, \cos x)^T, (0, 0, -\cos x)^T, \text{diag}[\sin x, \sin x, -1])$$

Operational approach



Operational approach

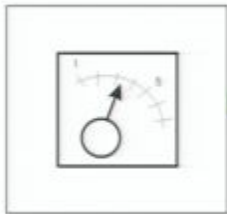
(with some interpretational remarks occasionally*)



*More at PIAF '09 New Perspectives on the Quantum State,
Sept. 27 – Oct. 2, 2009

Pure & Mixed States

Preparation



$$\mathbf{p} = (p_1, \dots, p_d)$$

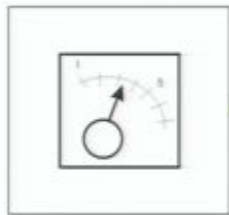
$$x_i = \frac{Lp_i - 1}{L - 1} \dots$$

The state is a set of probabilities ...

... or Bloch vectors.

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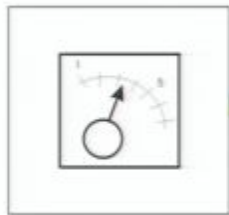
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$\lambda \mathbf{p}_1 + (1 - \lambda) \mathbf{p}_2 \mapsto \lambda \mathbf{x}_1 + (1 - \lambda) \mathbf{x}_2$ preserves linear structure of mixtures

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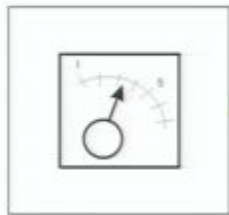
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The state is **pure** if there exists a (non-degenerative or maximal) measurement and an event for which $p_i = 1$.

“Deterministic answer in an experiment“

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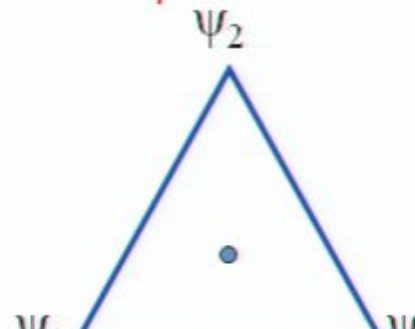
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The state is **mixed** if it is a convex mixture of pure states.

$$\mathbf{p} = \sum_i \lambda_i \mathbf{p}_i$$

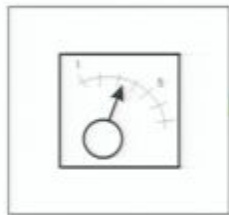
$$1 \geq \lambda_i \geq 0, \quad \sum_i \lambda_i = 1$$



Transformations

Pure & Mixed States

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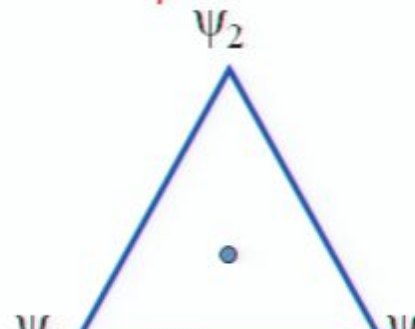
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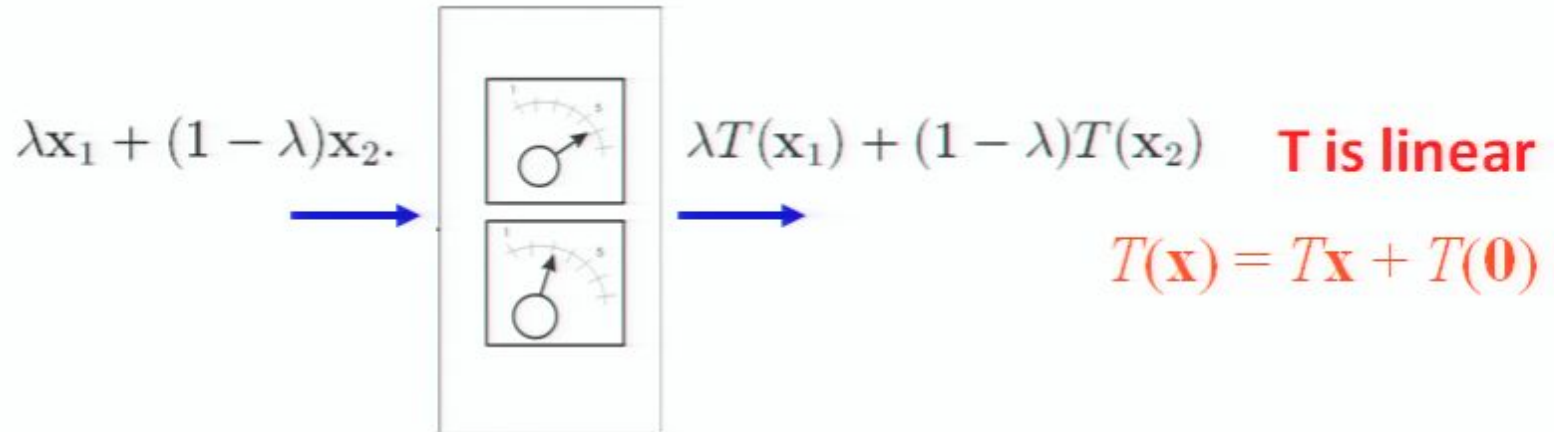
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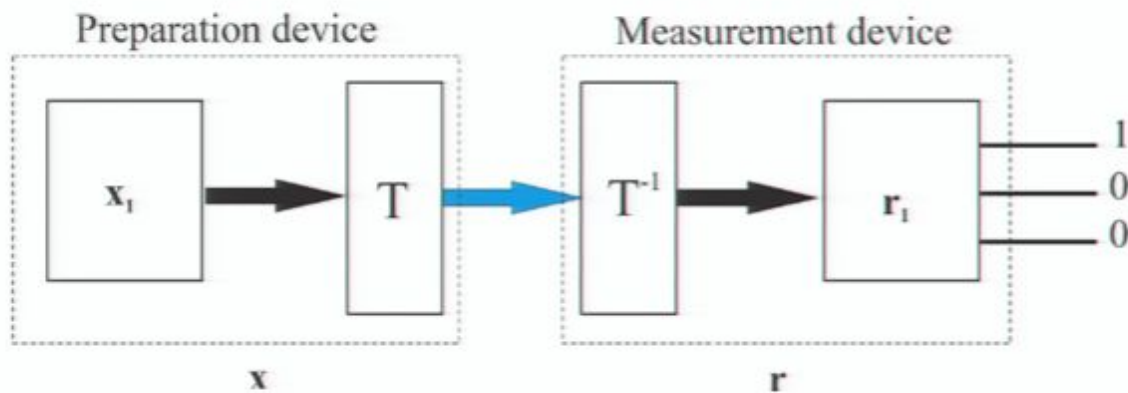
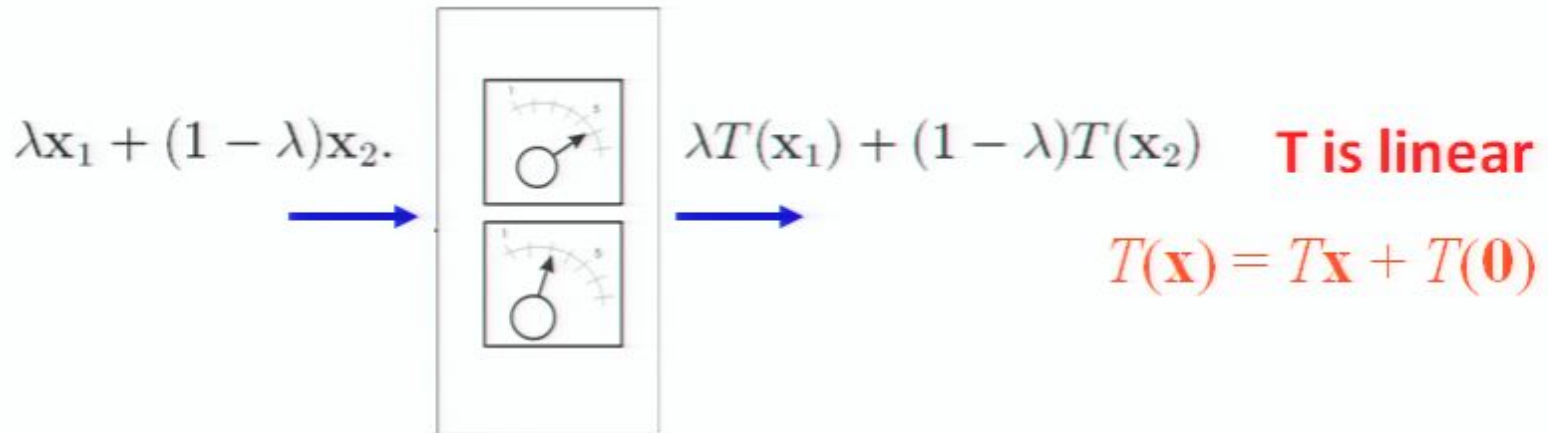


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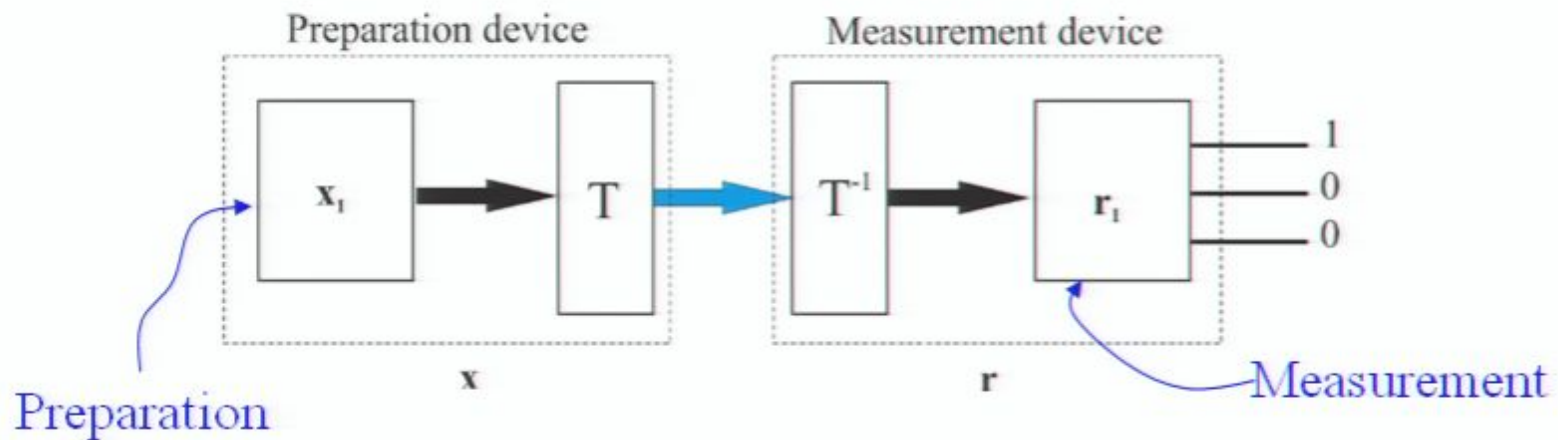
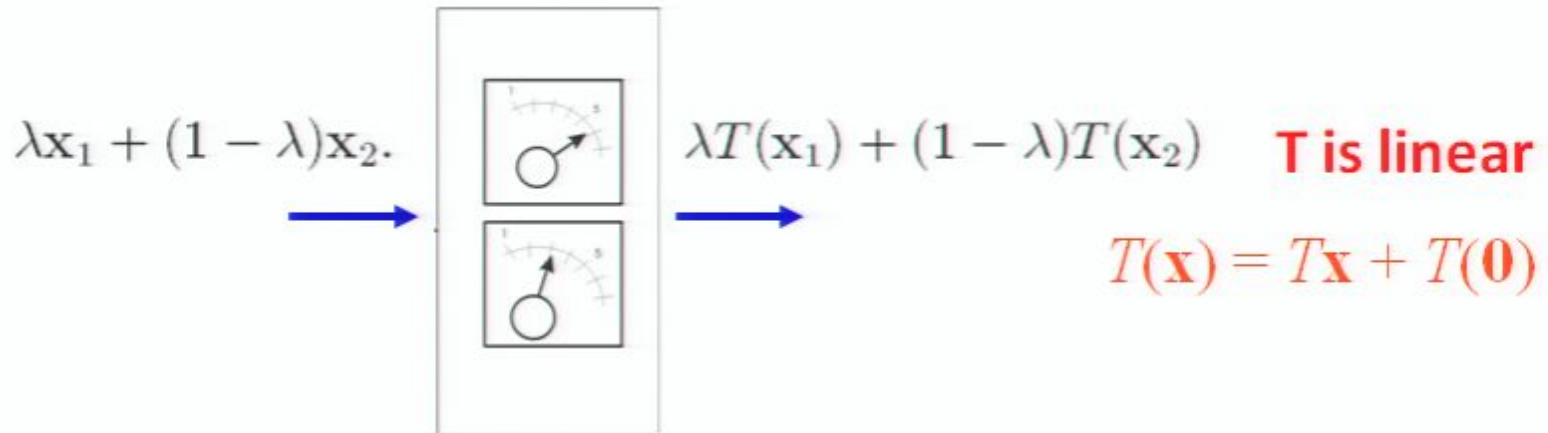
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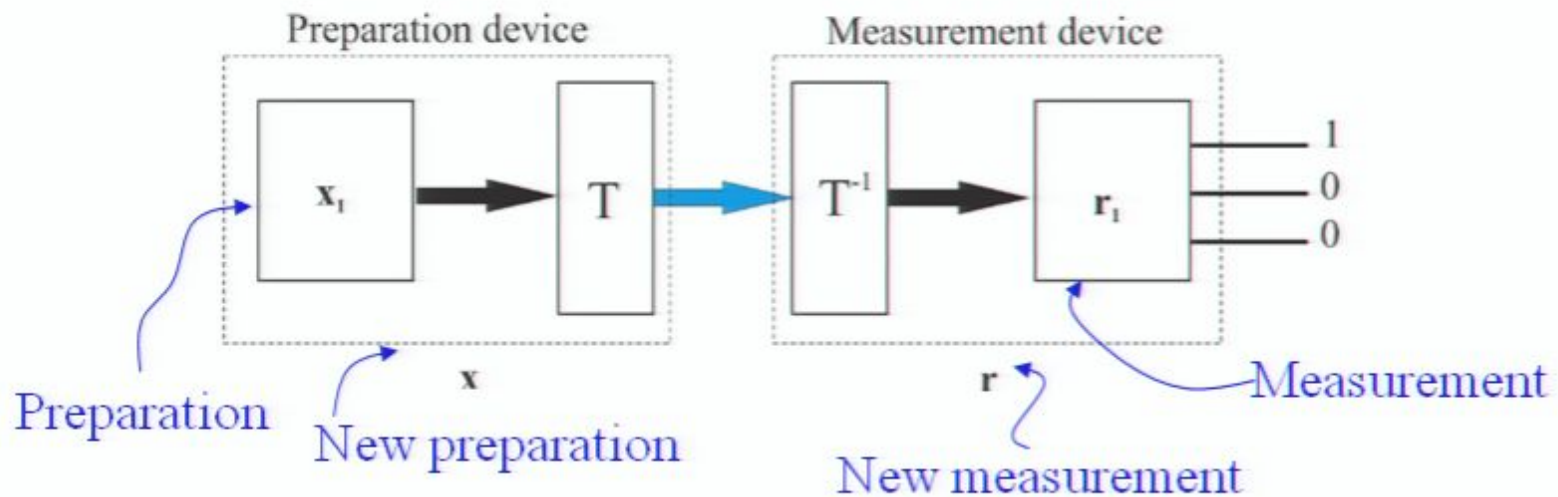
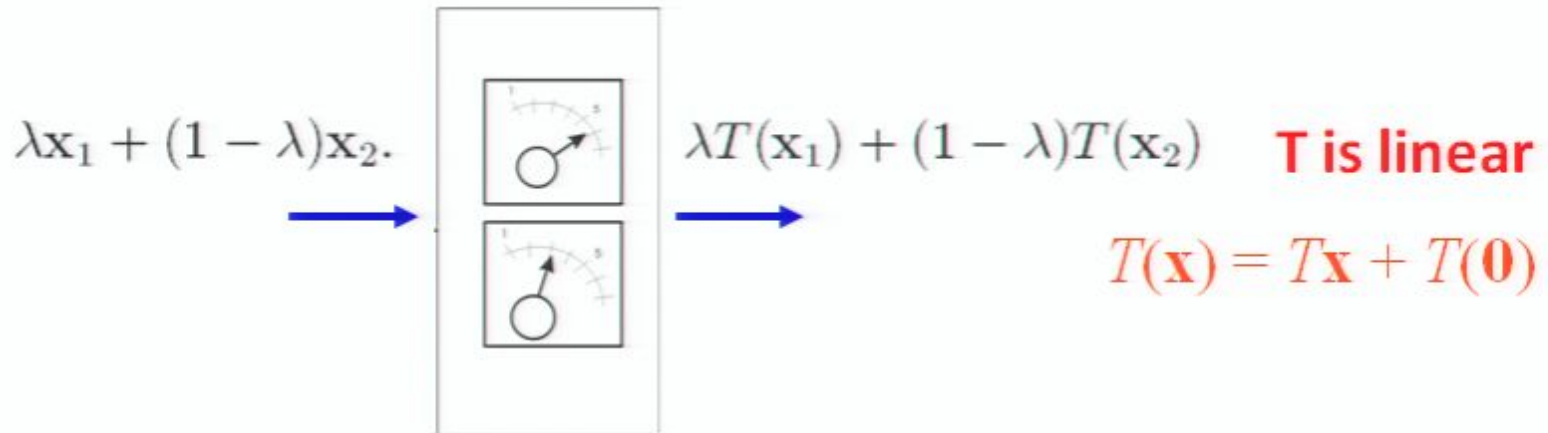
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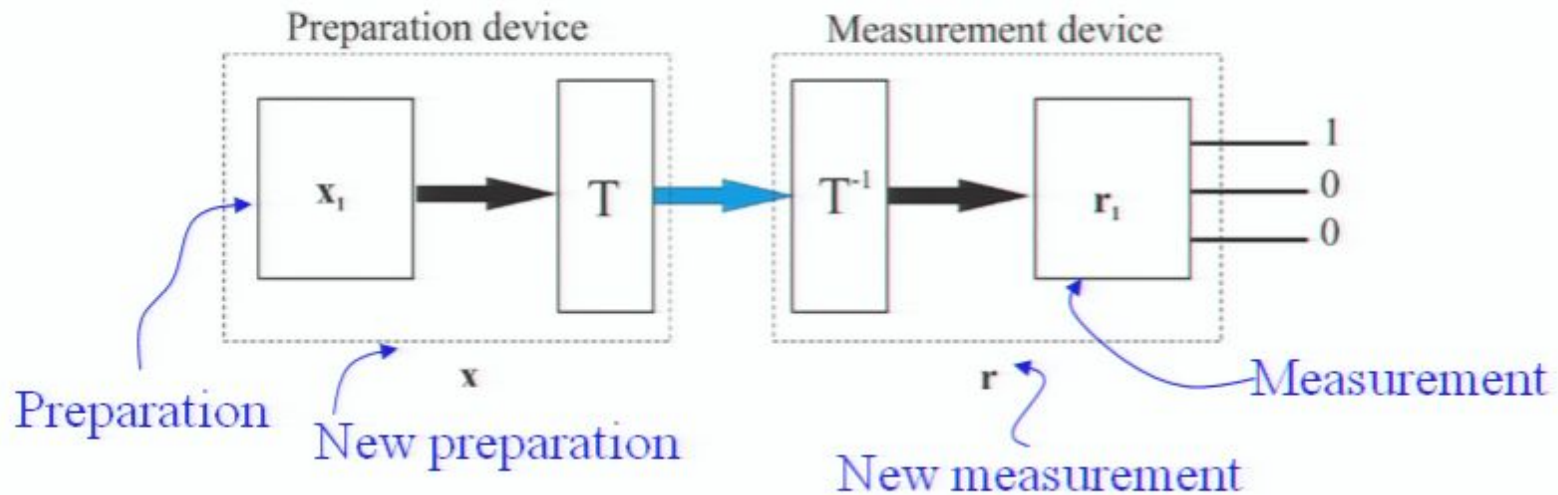
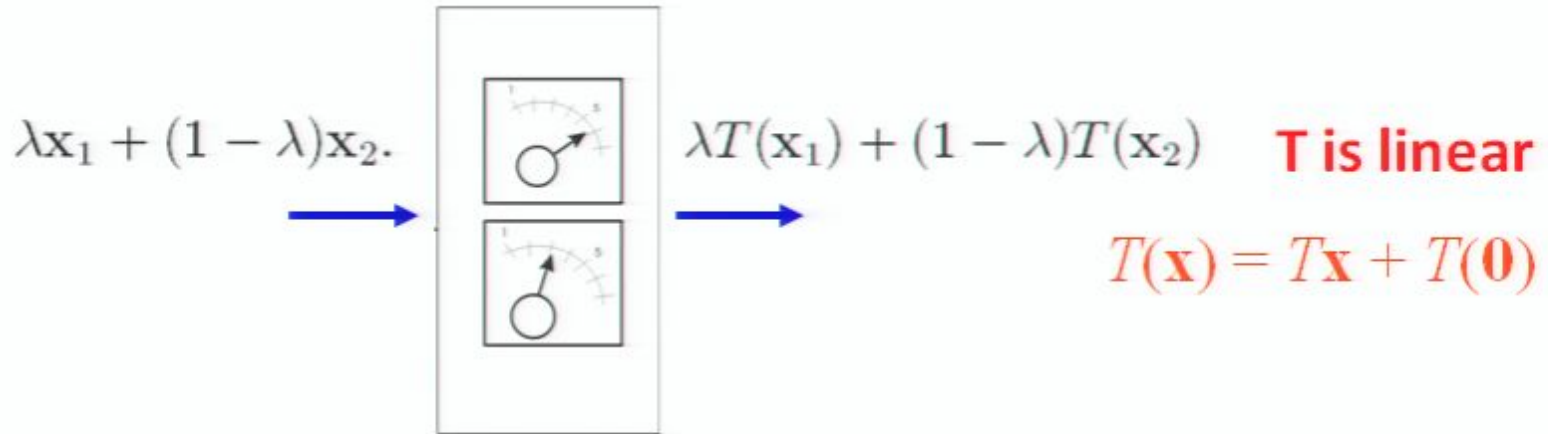
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T is assumed to be invertable (T^{-1} exists) => T preserves purity

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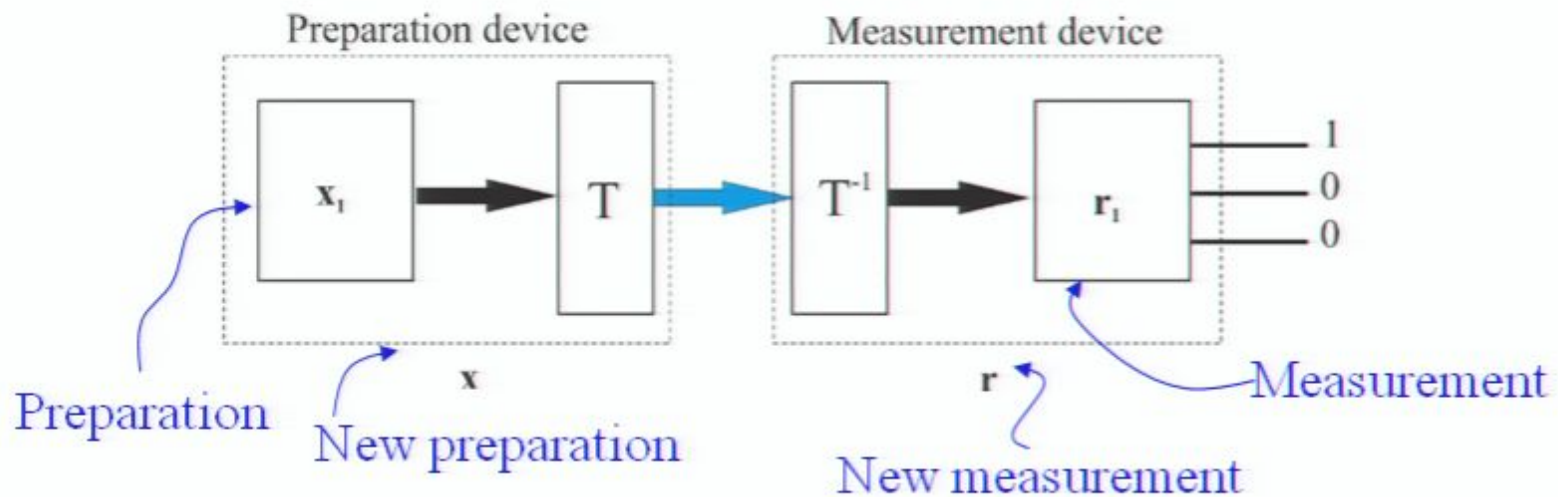
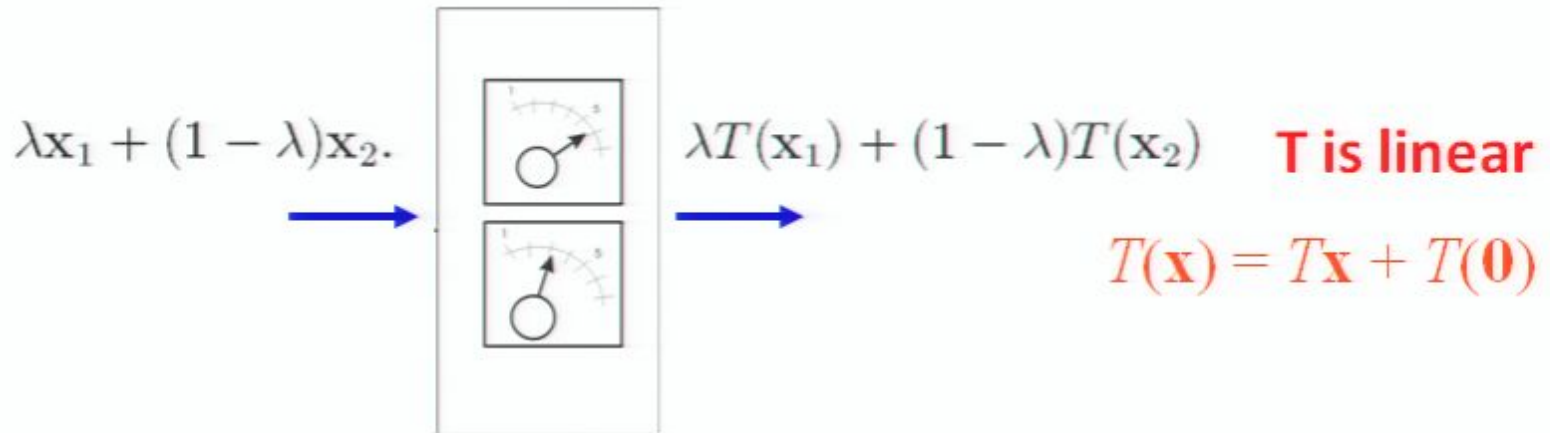
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Transformations



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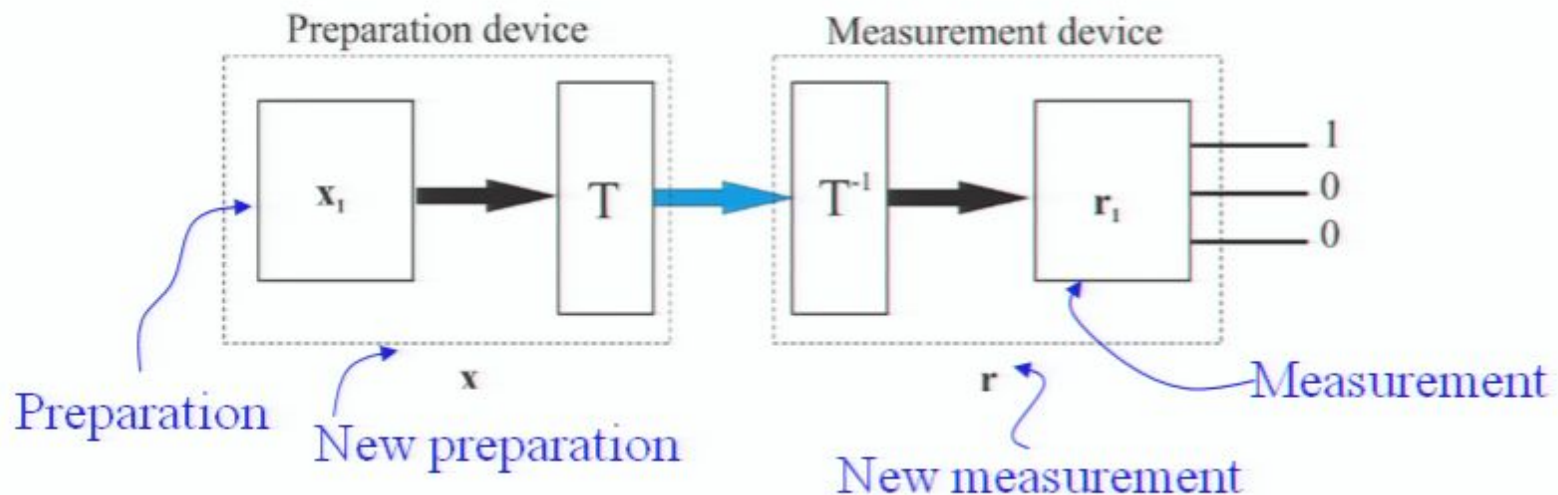
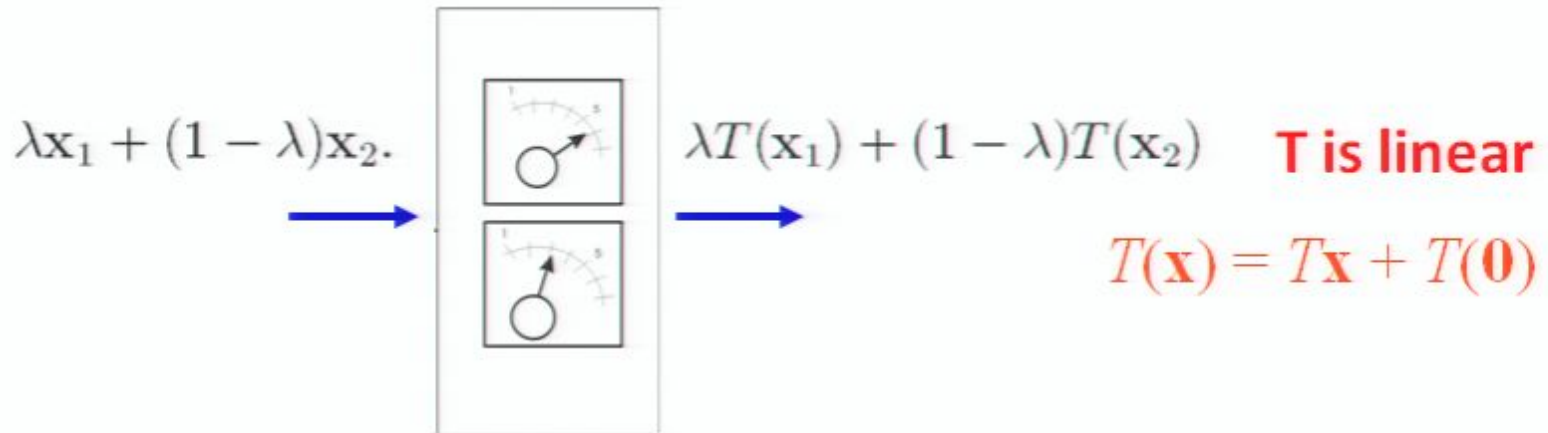
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→ All measurements return the same probability $1/L$ → $\mathbf{E} = \vec{0}$ → $T(\vec{0}) = \vec{0}$

T represented by d x d invertable matrix

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Assumption: There is a group representation of T in terms of orthogonal matrices O

“Schur-Aurebach theorem applies”

There is an invertible matrix **S** such that $\mathbf{O} = \mathbf{S} \mathbf{T} \mathbf{S}^{-1}$ and **O** is orthogonal matrix
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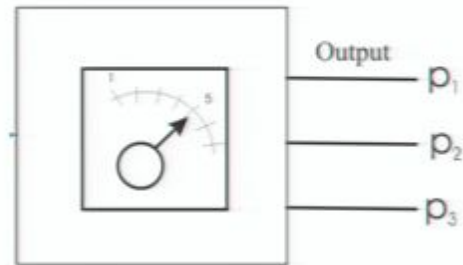
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Included:

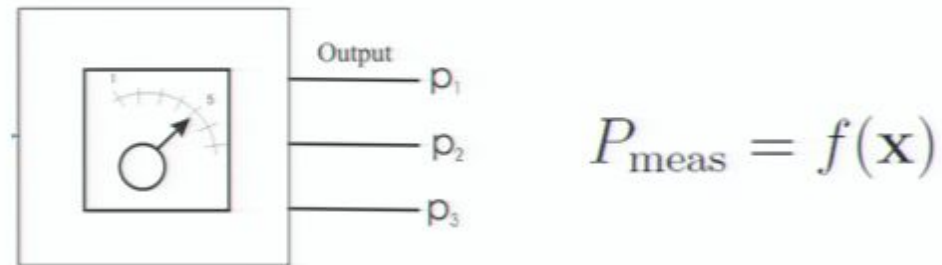
- finite groups

Measurements



$$P_{\text{meas}} = f(\mathbf{x})$$

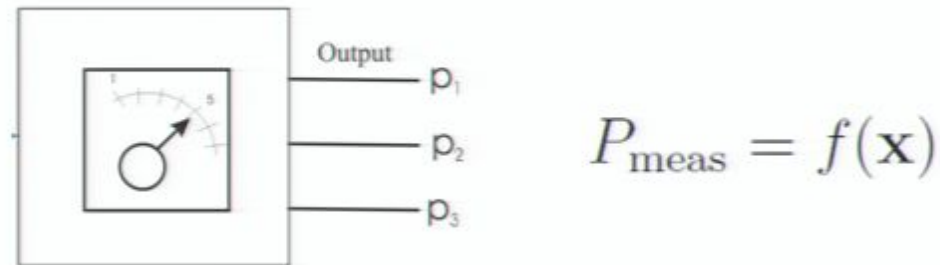
Measurements



Mixing coefficients are unchanged:

$$f(\lambda \mathbf{x}_1 + (1 - \lambda) \mathbf{x}_2) = \lambda f(\mathbf{x}_1) + (1 - \lambda) f(\mathbf{x}_2) \quad \& \quad f(\vec{0}) = \frac{1}{L}$$

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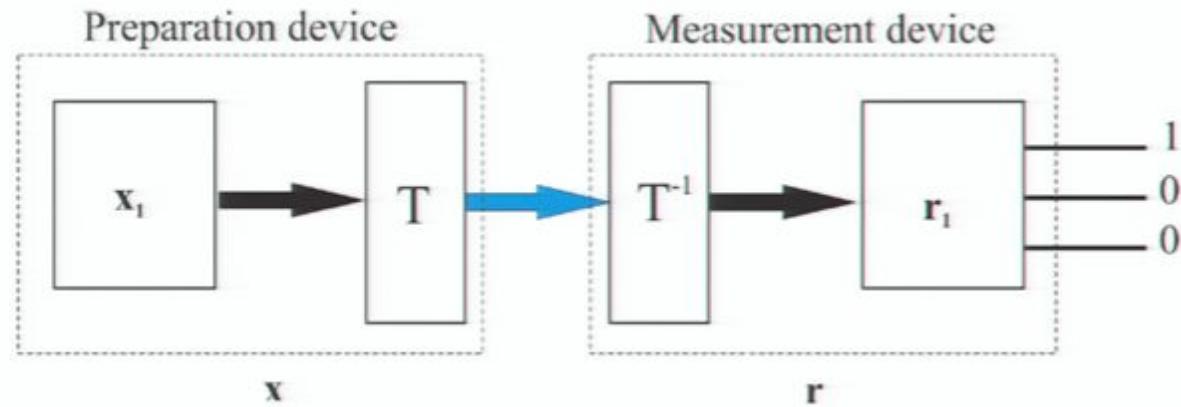
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Linear affine transformation:

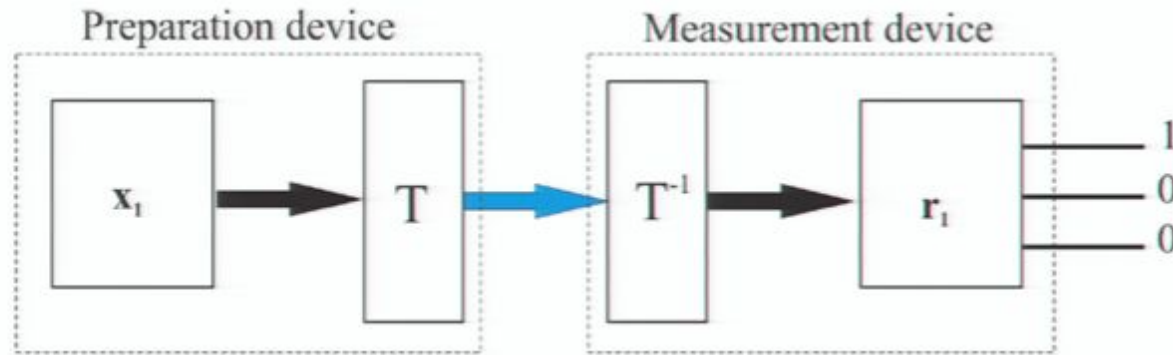
$$\rightarrow P_{\text{meas}} = \frac{1}{L} (1 + (L - 1) \mathbf{r}^T \mathbf{x}) \quad \text{Probability rule}$$

The vector \mathbf{r} represent the outcome for the given measurement setting, e.g. vector $(1, 0, 0, \dots)$ represents one of the outcomes for the first measurement.

The set of measurement vectors



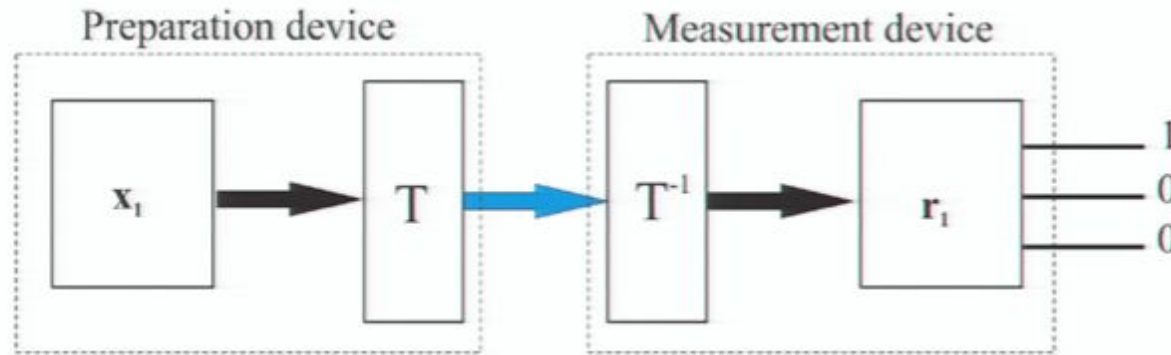
The set of measurement vectors



New coordinates $\mathbf{x} = T \mathbf{x}_1$, Old coordinates $\mathbf{r} = T^{-1T} \mathbf{r}_1$

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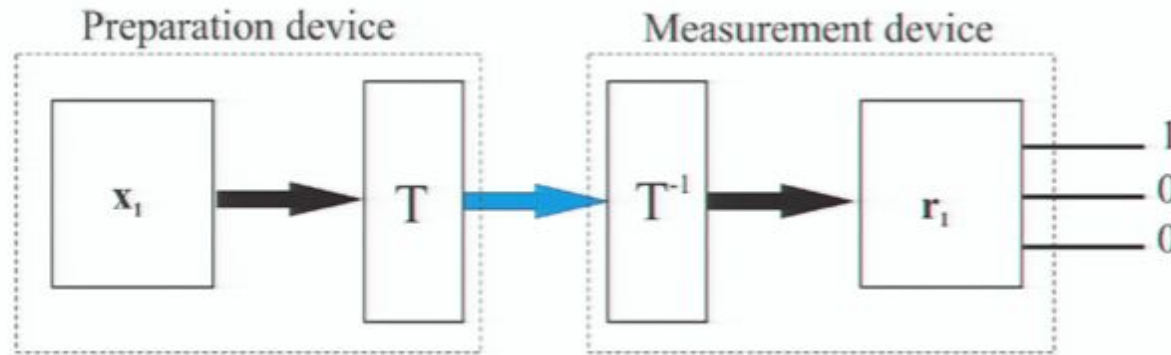
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New coordinates \mathbf{x} and Old coordinates \mathbf{r} are indicated by green arrows pointing to the respective variables in the equations.

Representation picture: $\mathbf{y} = S \mathbf{x} \quad \mathbf{m} = S^{-1T} \mathbf{r}$

$$P_{\text{meas}} = \frac{1}{L} (1 + (L - 1) \mathbf{m}^T \mathbf{y})$$

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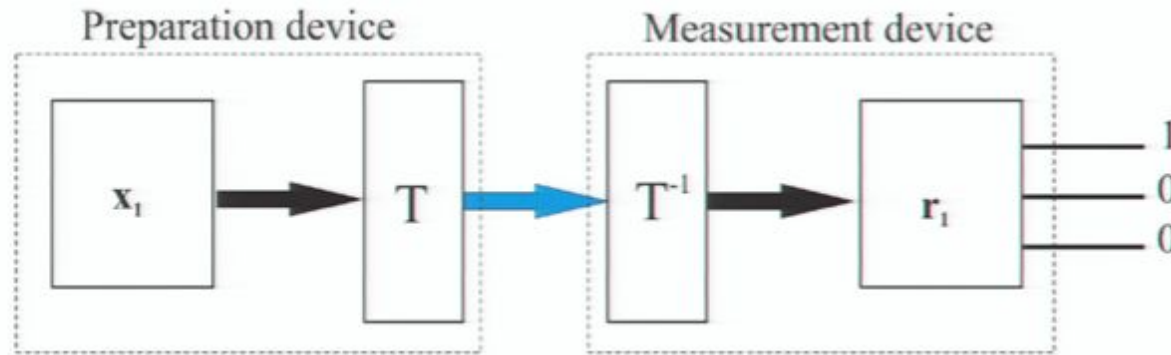


$$\begin{aligned} \text{New coordinates } \mathbf{x} &= T \mathbf{x}_1, & \text{Old coordinates } \mathbf{r}_1 &= T^{-1T} \mathbf{r} \\ \mathbf{r} &= T^{-1T} \mathbf{r}_1, & \mathbf{x}_1 &= T \mathbf{x} \end{aligned} \quad P_{\text{meas}} = \frac{1}{L} (1 + (L-1) \mathbf{r}^T \mathbf{x})$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \text{New coordinates } \mathbf{y} &= O \mathbf{y}_1, & \text{Old coordinates } \mathbf{m}_1 &= S^{-1T} \mathbf{m} \\ \mathbf{m} &= S^{-1T} \mathbf{m}_1, & \mathbf{y}_1 &= O \mathbf{y} \end{aligned} \quad P_{\text{meas}} = \frac{1}{L} (1 + (L-1) \mathbf{m}^T \mathbf{y})$$

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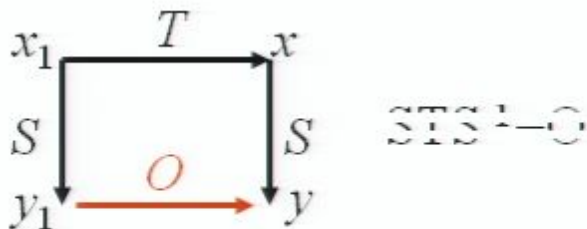
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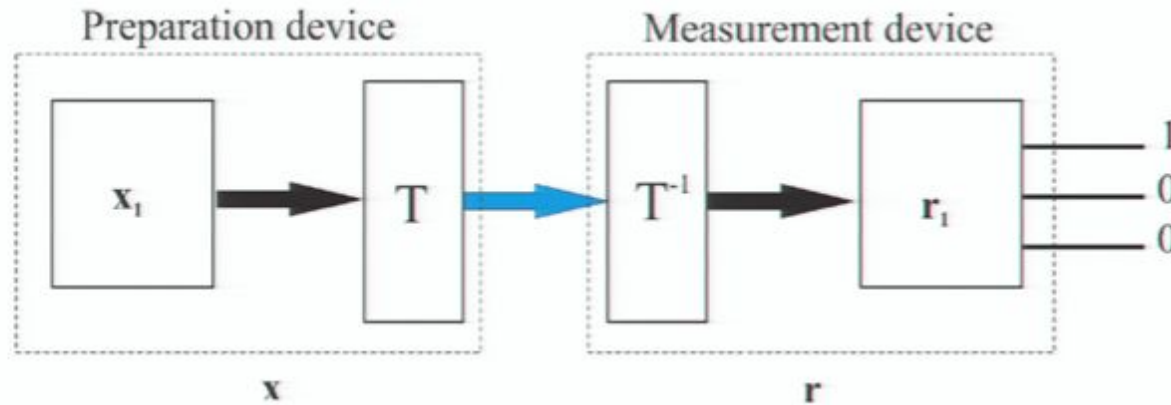
Representation picture: $\mathbf{y} = S\mathbf{x}$ $\mathbf{m} = S^{-1T}\mathbf{r}$

New coordinates $\mathbf{y} = O\mathbf{y}_1$, Old coordinates $\mathbf{m} = O\mathbf{m}_1$

$$P_{\text{meas}} = \frac{1}{L}(1 + (L-1)\mathbf{m}^T\mathbf{y})$$



The set of measurement vectors



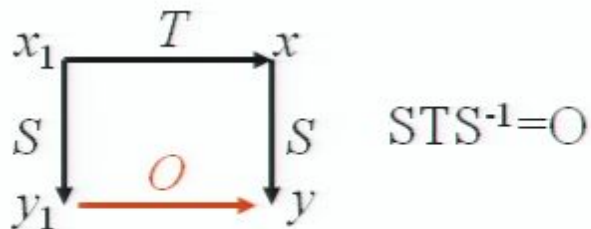
New coordinates $\mathbf{x} = T\mathbf{x}_1$, Old coordinates $\mathbf{r} = T^{-1T}\mathbf{r}_1$

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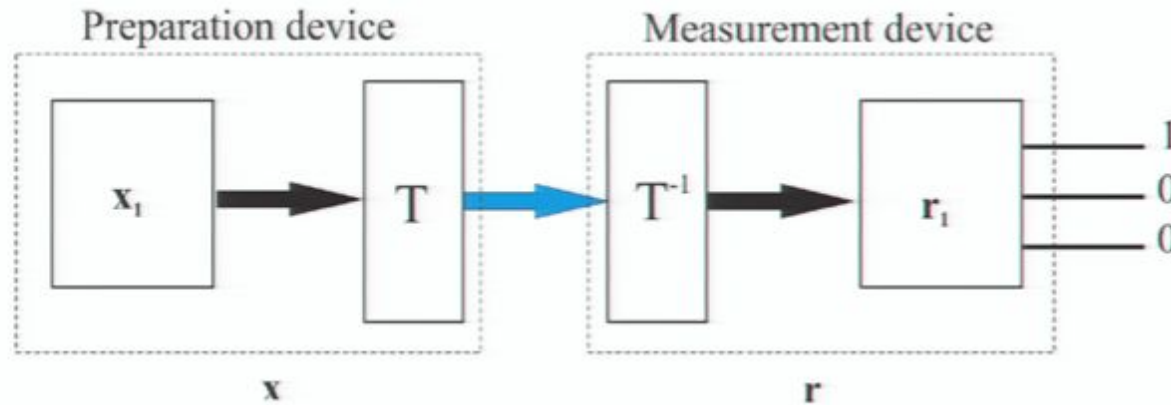
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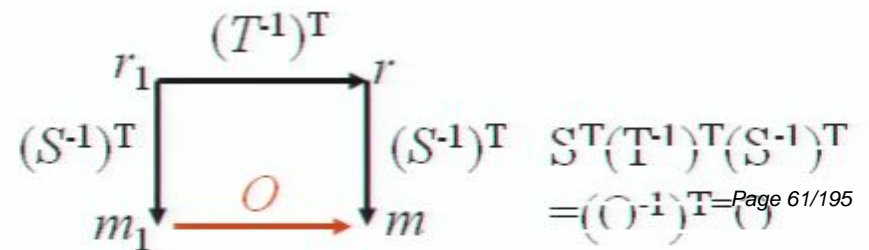
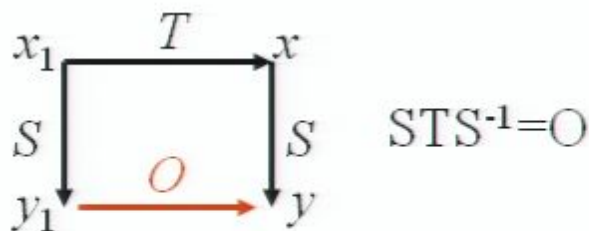
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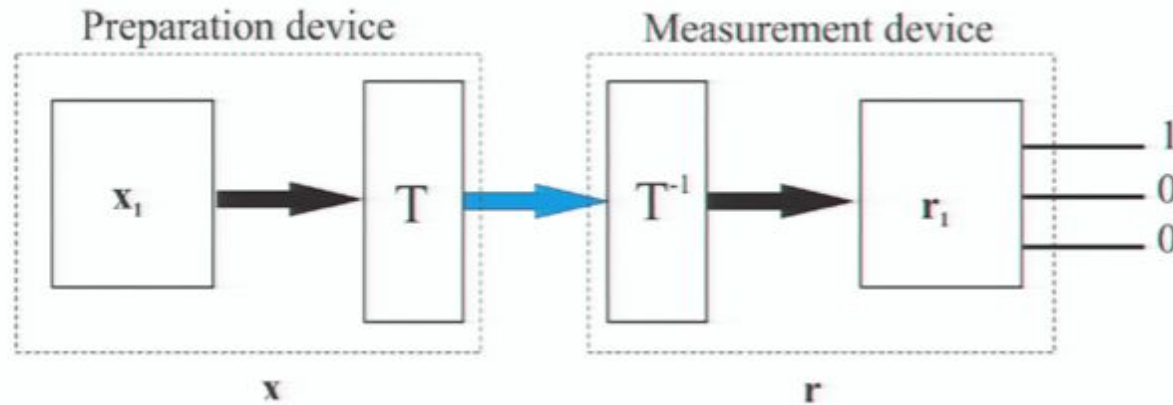
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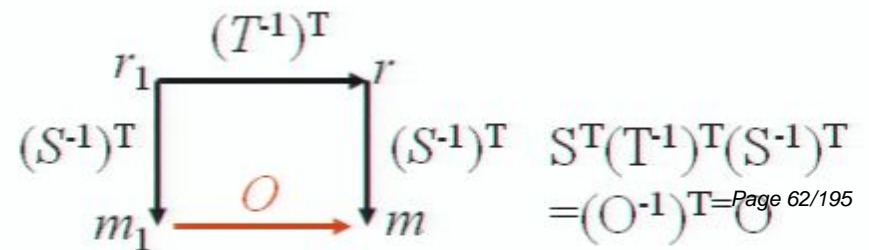
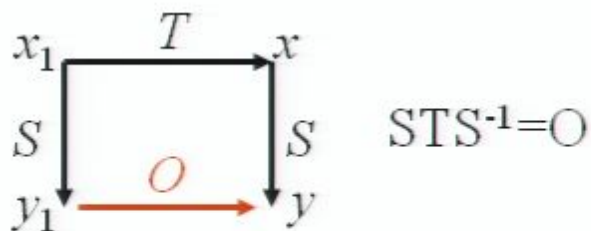
The set of measurement vectors



New coordinates $\mathbf{x} = T\mathbf{x}_1$, Old coordinates $\mathbf{r} = T^{-1T}\mathbf{r}_1$ $P_{\text{meas}} = \frac{1}{L}(1 + (L-1)\mathbf{r}^T\mathbf{x})$

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$$\begin{array}{l} \|\mathbf{y}\| = c_1, \\ \|\mathbf{m}\| = c_2, \end{array} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{y}_1/c_1 \text{ and } \mathbf{m}_1/c_2 \\ \text{are of the unit norm} \end{array}$$

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$$\begin{array}{l} \longrightarrow \|\mathbf{y}\| = c_1 \\ \|\mathbf{O K O}^T \mathbf{y}\| = c_1 \\ \text{for all } \mathbf{y} \end{array}$$

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$$\xrightarrow{\text{for all } \mathbf{y}} \|\mathbf{y}\| = c_1 \xrightarrow{\|\mathbf{m}\| = c_2} K = \mathbb{1} \quad \mathbf{m} = \frac{c_2}{c_1}\mathbf{y} \quad \mathbf{r} = \frac{c_2}{c_1}S^T S\mathbf{x} = D\mathbf{x}$$

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$$\begin{array}{l} \longrightarrow \|\mathbf{y}\| = c_1 \\ \longrightarrow \|\mathbf{OKO}^T \mathbf{y}\| = c_1 \end{array} \begin{array}{l} \longrightarrow K = \mathbb{1} \\ \text{for all } \mathbf{y} \end{array} \quad \mathbf{m} = \frac{c_2}{c_1} \mathbf{y} \quad \boxed{\mathbf{r} = \frac{c_2}{c_1} S^T S \mathbf{x} = D \mathbf{x}}$$

$$\mathbf{r} = D \mathbf{x} \quad D = \frac{c_2}{c_1} S^T S \quad \text{is positive symmetric invertible matrix}$$

The set of pure states

$$\mathbf{r} = D\mathbf{x} \quad D = \frac{c_2}{c_1} S^T S \text{ is positive symmetric matrix}$$

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\mathbf{x} are points on a d-dimensional ellipsoid

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Two-Level System

The set of pure states

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$$\text{Two-Level System} \quad \frac{1}{2} (1 + \mathbf{x}^T D \mathbf{y}) + \frac{1}{2} (1 + \mathbf{x}^{\perp T} D \mathbf{y}) = 1$$

Two basis states: $\mathbf{x}^{\perp} = -\mathbf{x}$.

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Do physical states form the entire d-dimensional sphere?

Maximal set consistent with $P(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \mathbf{x}_1^T \mathbf{x}_2) \geq 0$

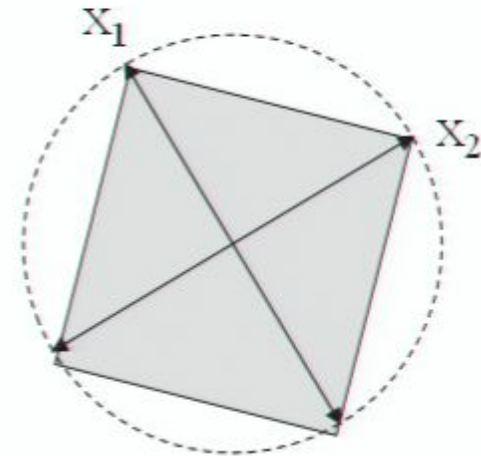
Axiom 1

Any state (pure or mixed) of 2-level system can be prepared by mixing at most 2 orthogonal states.

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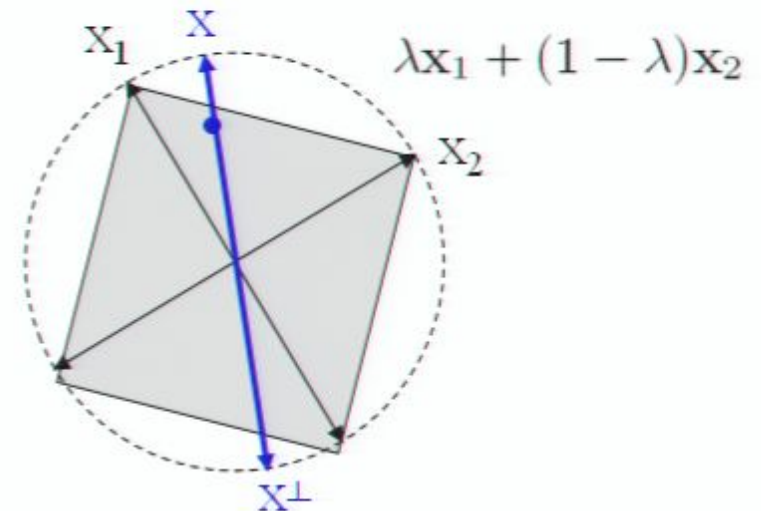


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Decomposition of state: $\lambda \mathbf{x} + (1 - \lambda) \mathbf{x}^\perp$



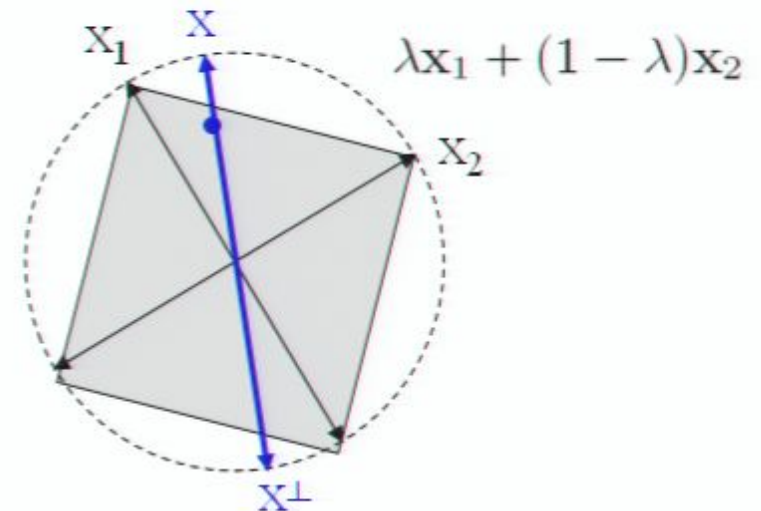
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Any state can be prepared as a mixture of classical bits 0 and 1

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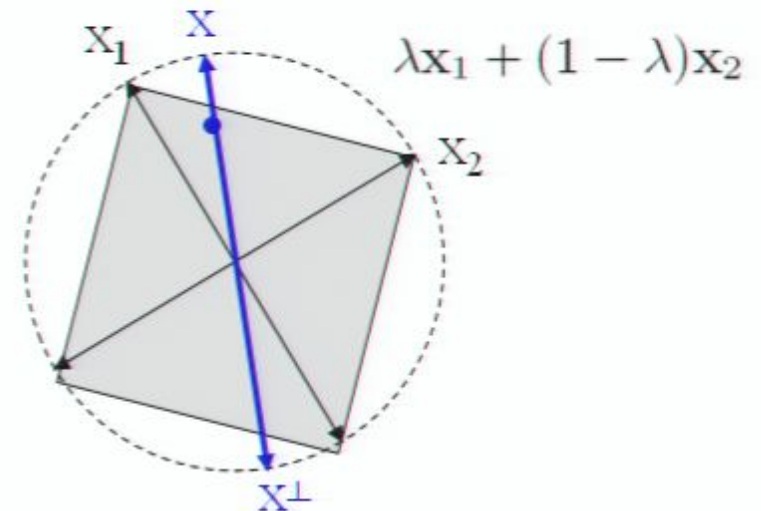
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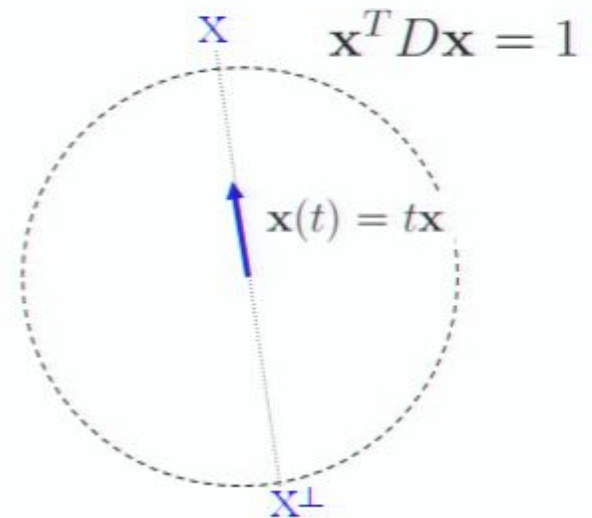
Existence of minimal entropy decomposition $H(p_x, 1-p_x) \leq H(p_{x1}, 1-p_{x1})$

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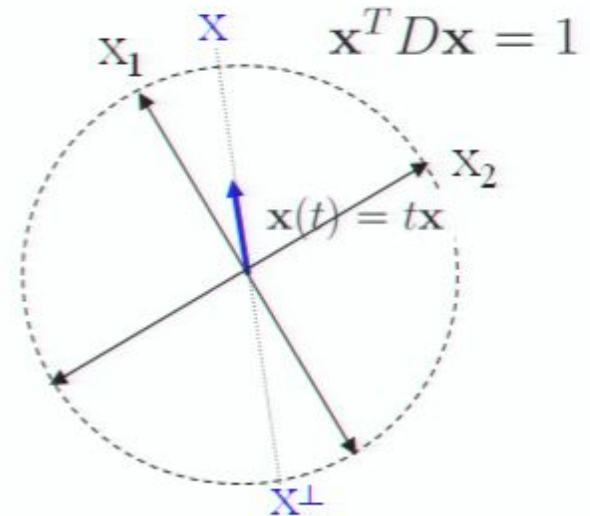
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Physical States = Entire Sphere



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$$\mathbf{x}(t) = t\mathbf{x} \longrightarrow \mathbf{x}(t) = t \sum_{i=1}^d c_i \mathbf{x}_i$$



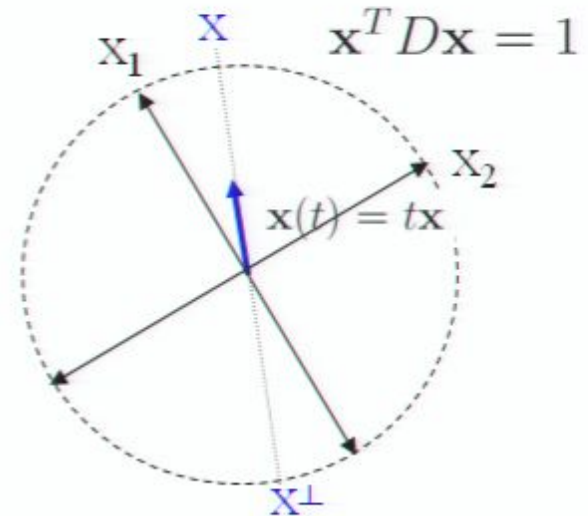
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For small t , positive numbers

$$\lambda_i(t) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{d} + tc_i \right) \quad \lambda_i^\perp(t) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{d} - tc_i \right)$$



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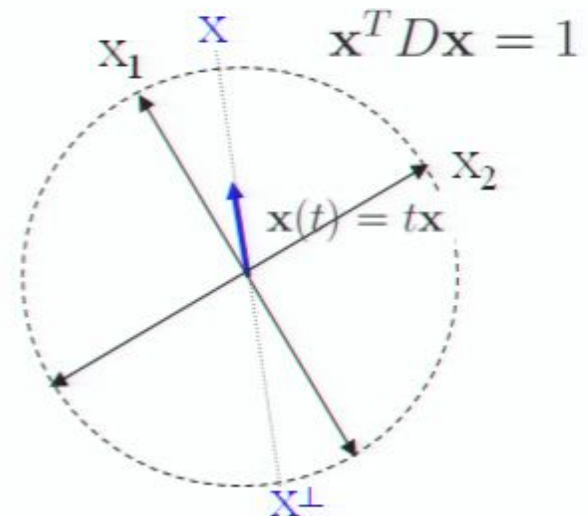
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Axiom1 $\longrightarrow \mathbf{x}(t) = t\mathbf{x} = \alpha \mathbf{x}_0 + (1 - \alpha)(-\mathbf{x}_0)$
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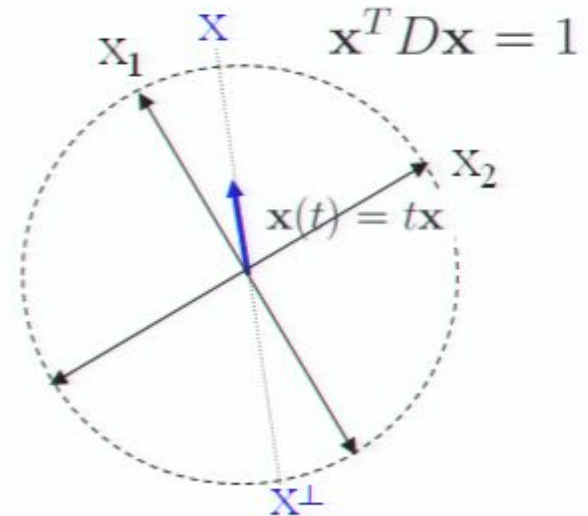
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Axiom1

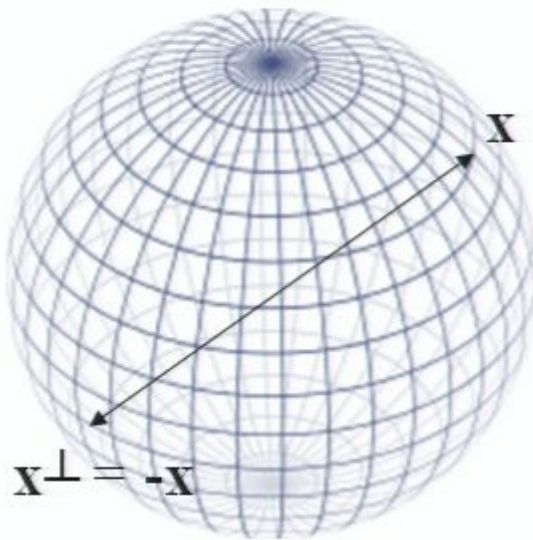
$$\longrightarrow \mathbf{x}(t) = t\mathbf{x} = \alpha \mathbf{x}_0 + (1 - \alpha)(-\mathbf{x}_0)$$

$$\alpha = \frac{1+t}{2} \text{ and } \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}_0$$

$\mathbf{x}(t)$ is physical state for all t – entire sphere



Physics of generalized bits

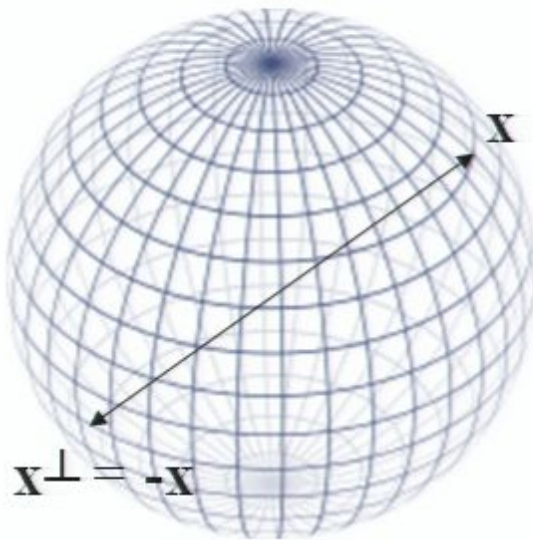


States, Measurement vectors
 $= S^{d-1}$

$$\mathbf{p} = (p_1, \dots, p_d)$$

$$\mathbf{x} = (2p_1 - 1, \dots, 2p_d - 1)$$

Physics of generalized bits



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Transformations

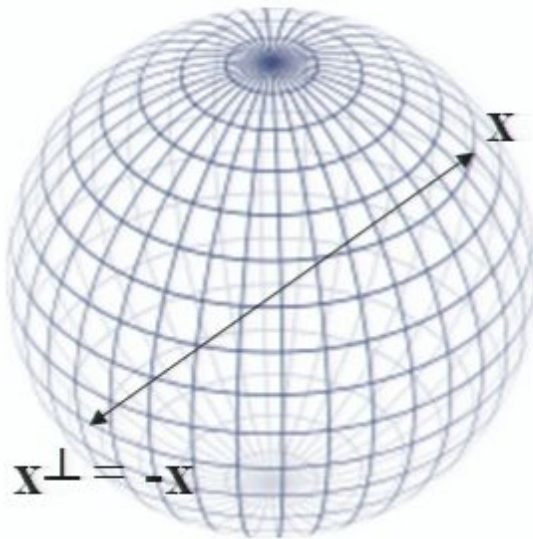
preserving purity $\|R\mathbf{x}\| = 1$

orthogonal matrix $R^T R = \mathbb{1}$

continuously connected with

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Physics of generalized bits



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1. How many complementary observables (MUBs) does g-bit have?
2. What are computational capabilities of g-bits?
3. Can two g-bits be entangled?

1 Bit Propositions

Boolean functions of a binary argument $x \in \{0, 1\} \rightarrow y = f(x) \in \{0, 1\}$

x	f_0	f_1	f_2	f_3
0	0	0	1	1
1	0	1	0	1

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1	0	1	0	1

b=0	b=1	
$f_0 f_1$	$f_2 f_3$	$f(0)=b$
$f_0 f_2$	$f_1 f_3$	$f(1)=b$
$f_0 f_3$	$f_1 f_2$	$f(1)=f(0)+b$

1 Bit Propositions

Boolean functions of a binary argument $x \in \{0, 1\} \rightarrow y = f(x) \in \{0, 1\}$

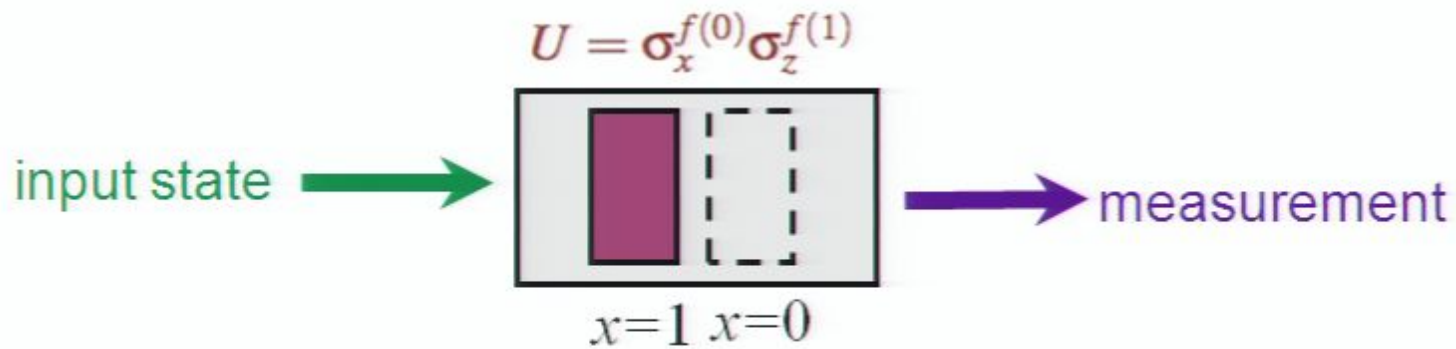
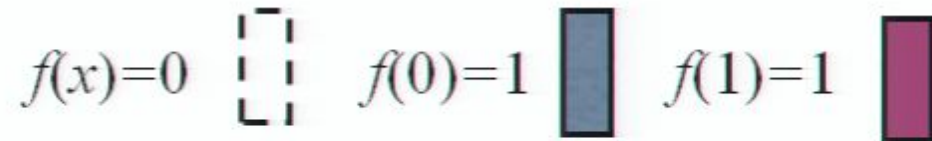
x	f_0	f_1	f_2	f_3
0	0	0	1	1
1	0	1	0	1

b=0	b=1	
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Given **1 bit of information resources** only 1 out of **3 complementary questions** can be answered.

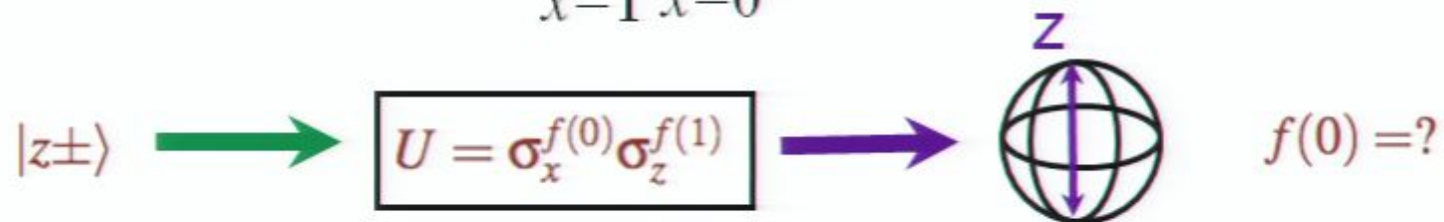
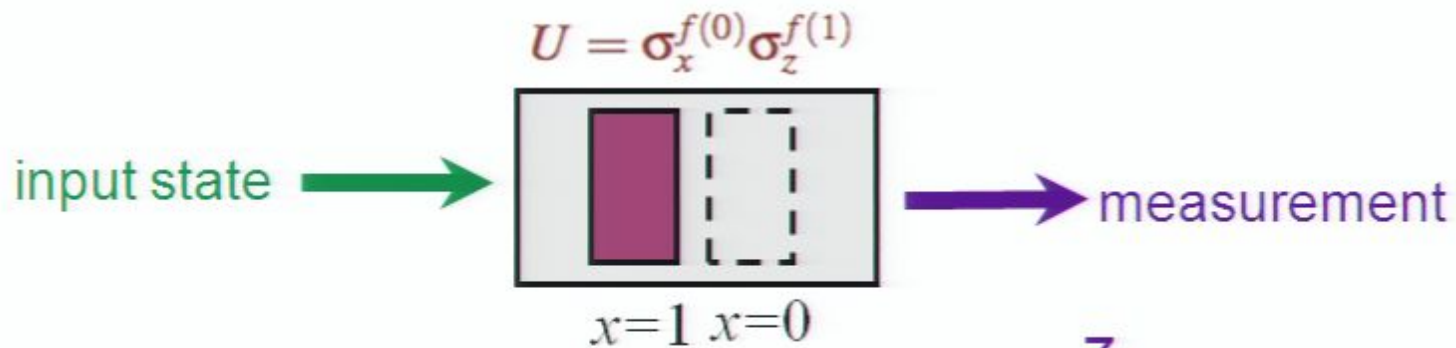
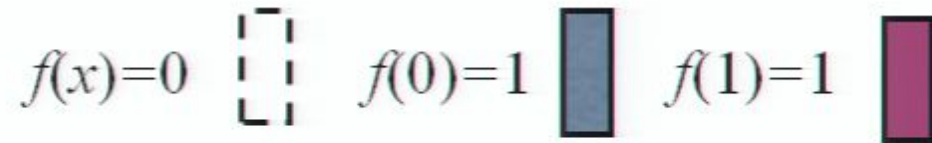
1 qubit can only reveal 1 bit

The black box encodes the Boolean functions



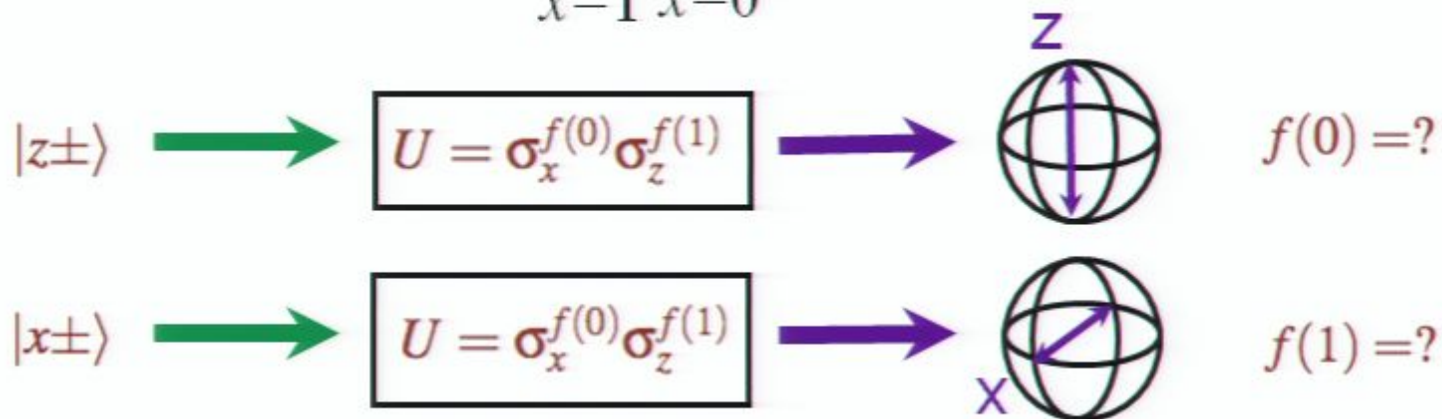
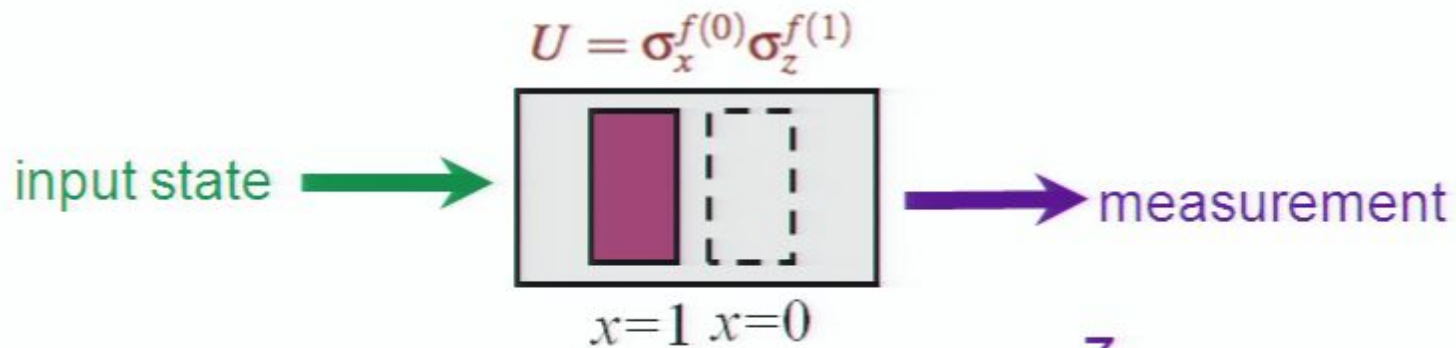
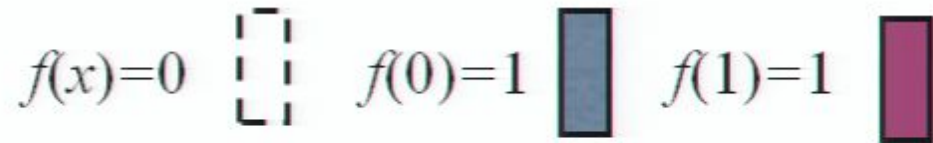
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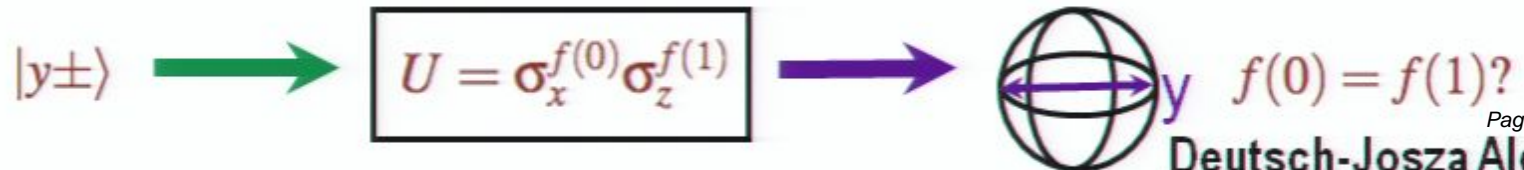
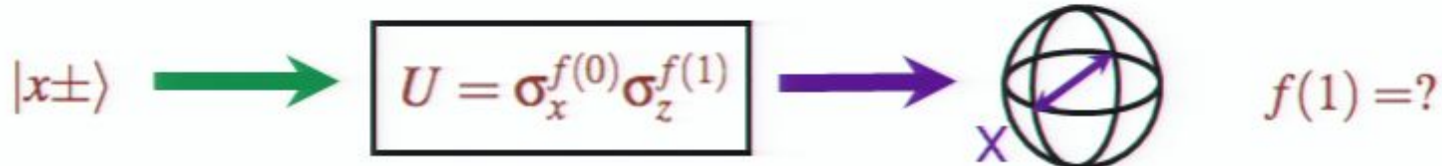
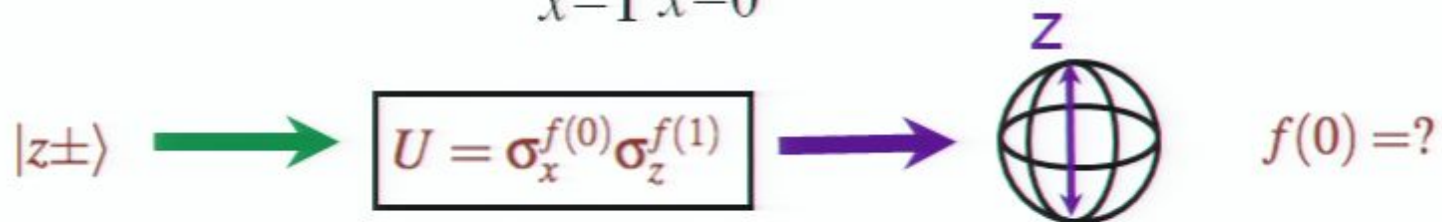
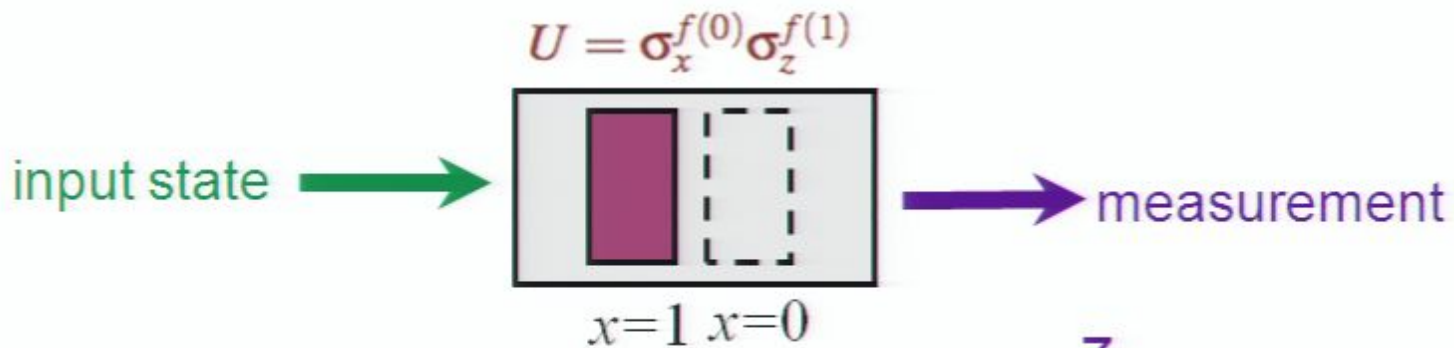
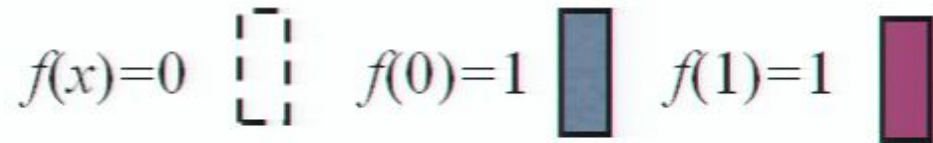
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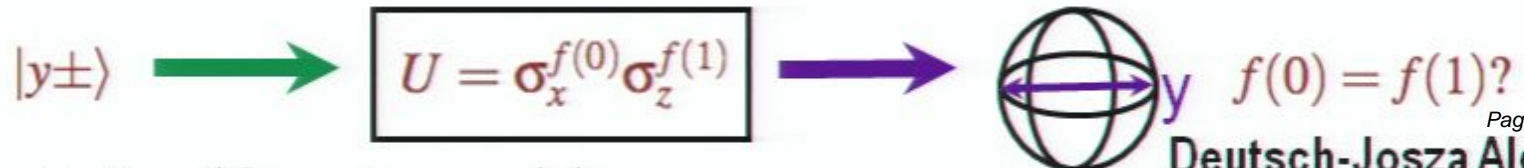
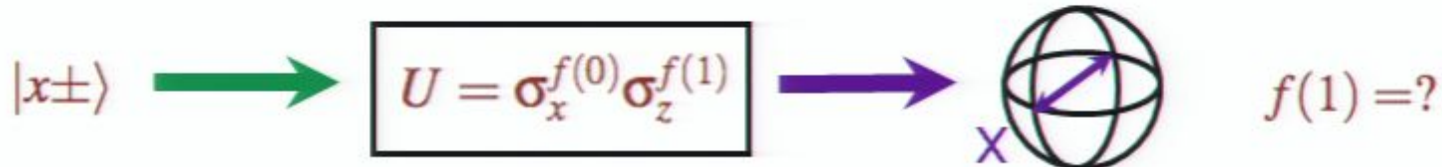
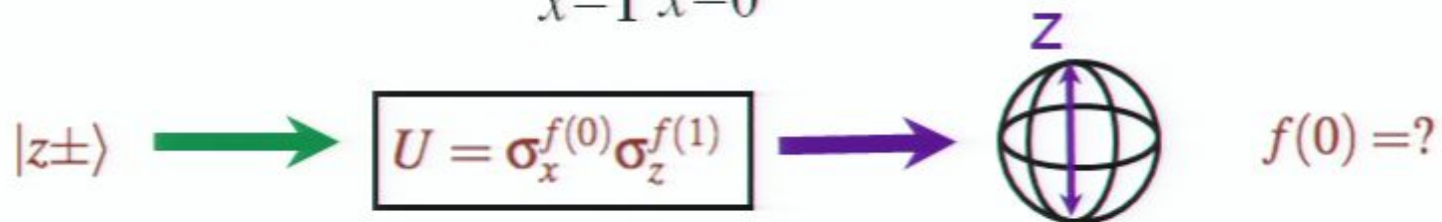
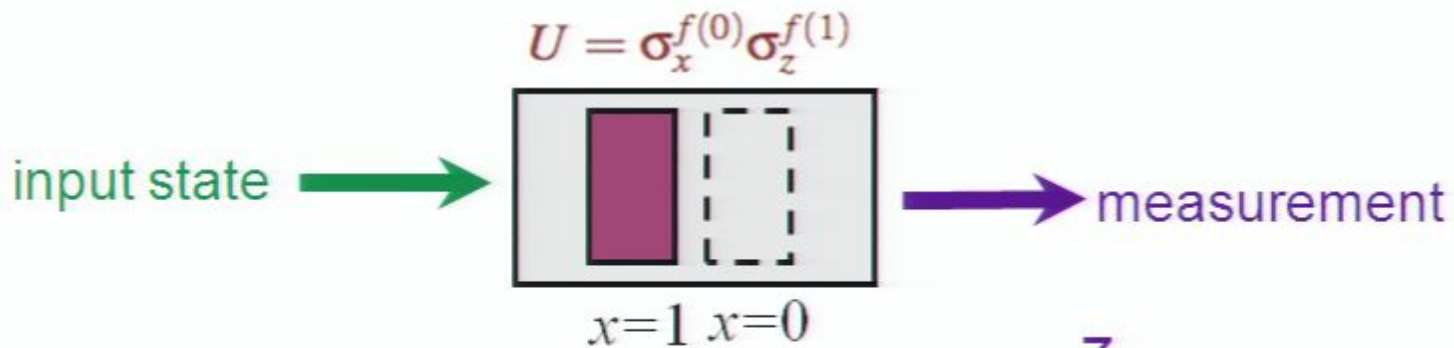
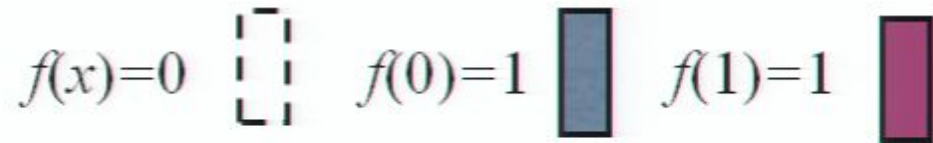
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How many complementarity questions?



Classical bit, **1** question: Is there an object in the black box?

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Qubit, **3** complementary questions

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Qubit, **3** complementary questions



$$x \in \{0, 1, 2\} \rightarrow y = f(x) \in \{0, 1\}$$

7 complementary questions

$x=2$ $x=1$ $x=0$

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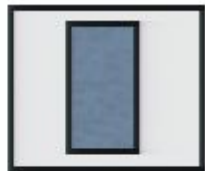
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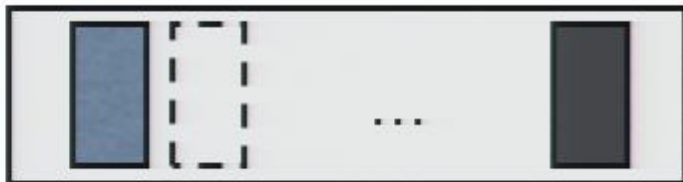
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$$x \in \{0, 1, \dots, s-1\} \rightarrow y = f(x) \in \{0, 1\}$$

$$\binom{s}{1} + \binom{s}{2} + \dots + \binom{s}{s} = 2^s - 1$$

complementary questions

Case $d=2^3-1=7$



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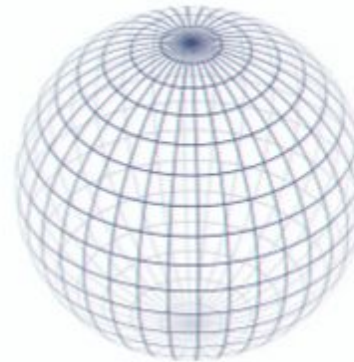
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7-dimensional “Bloch” sphere,
states = vectors

Physical operations = rotations

Probability rule: $P(\vec{m}|\vec{n}) = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \vec{m} \cdot \vec{n})$



**Discrete or
Continuous Set
States**

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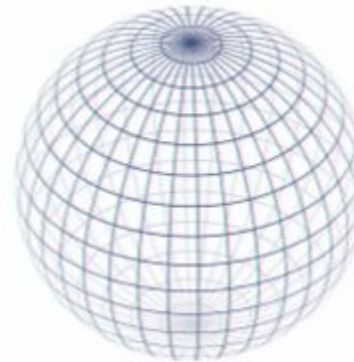
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$$R_0 \rightarrow \text{diag}[-1, 1, 1, -1, -1, 1, -1]$$

$$R_1 \rightarrow \text{diag}[1, -1, 1, -1, 1, -1, -1]$$

$$R_2 \rightarrow \text{diag}[1, 1, -1, 1, -1, -1, -1]$$

“Clifford
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 $SO(7)$, $\det R=1$

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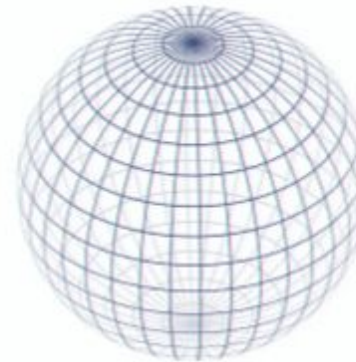
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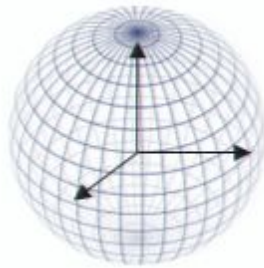
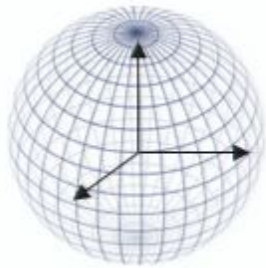
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Axiom (2) on Composite Systems:

The state of a composite system is completely determined by a set of probabilities for local measurements and the correlations between these measurements.

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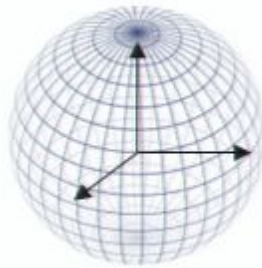
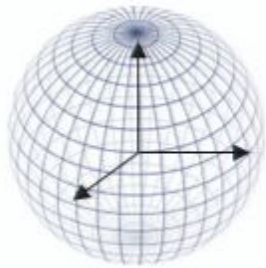


$$\psi = (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, T)$$

Local vectors Correlations

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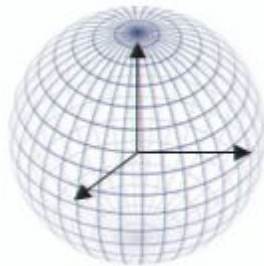
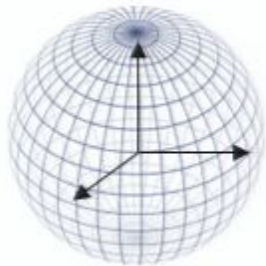
$$d(L_1) + d(L_2) + d(L_1)d(L_2) = d(L_1L_2)$$

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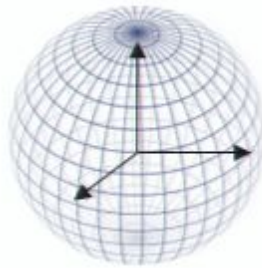
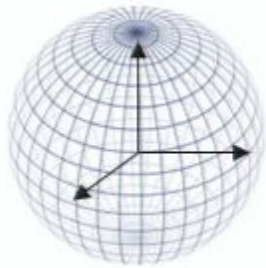
Real Quantum Mechanics: $2 + 2 + 2 \times 2 < 9$

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The diagram illustrates the decomposition of the state vector $\psi = (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, T)$. The term \mathbf{x} is associated with 'Local vectors', and the term T is associated with 'Correlations'. Blue arrows point from the text 'Local vectors' to \mathbf{x} and from 'Correlations' to T . Additionally, a blue arrow points from the text 'Local vectors' to \mathbf{y} , indicating that \mathbf{y} is also part of the local vectors component.

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Product states: $\psi_p = (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, T = \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y})$

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General State

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Continuously Connected with Identity

Local transformations: $(R_1, R_2)\psi = (R_1 \mathbf{x}, R_2 \mathbf{y}, R_1 T R_2^T)$ SO(d)

$$\text{diag}[t_1, \dots, t_d] = R_1 T R_2^T$$

Singular value decomposition

An “Entanglement Witness”

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Regular local transformation if d even as $\det E = 1$

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 \end{aligned}
 \xrightarrow{\text{red arrow}}
 \begin{aligned}
 \|\mathbf{y}\| &= 1. \\
 \|\mathbf{x}\| &= 1 \\
 \|T\| &= 1
 \end{aligned}$$

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**No entanglement,
only product states!**

Axiom (3) on Subspaces:

Upon any two linearly independent state ψ_1, ψ_2 one can construct a two-dimensional subspace that is isomorphic to $d-1$ sphere \mathcal{S}^{d-1} .

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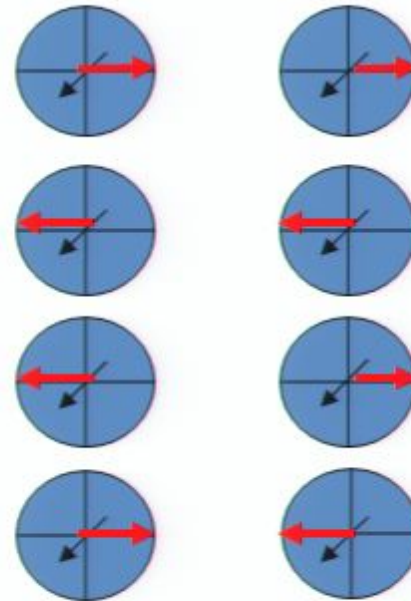
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Axiom (3) on Subspaces:

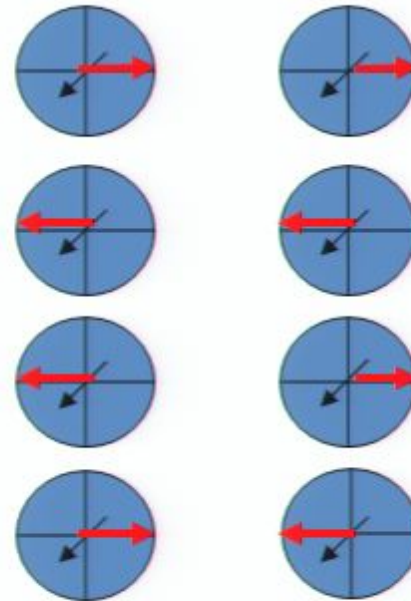
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State Ψ belongs to
12 subspace iff:

$$P_{12}(\psi, \psi_1) + P_{12}(\psi, \psi_2) = 1$$

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The only product state belonging to S_{12} are Ψ_1 and Ψ_2 .

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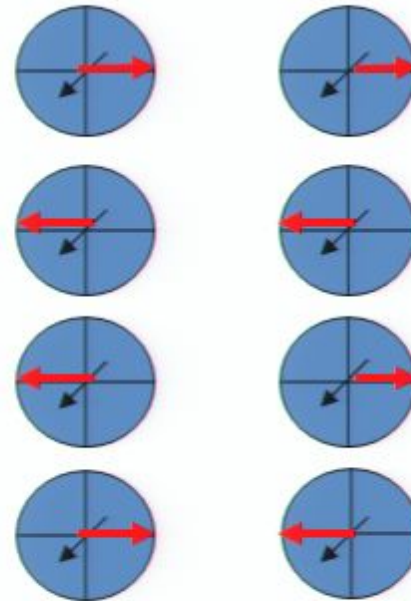
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$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= P_{12}(\psi_p, \psi_1) + P_{12}(\psi_p, \psi_2) \\ &= \frac{1}{4}(1 + \mathbf{x}\mathbf{e}_1 + \mathbf{y}\mathbf{e}_1 + (\mathbf{x}\mathbf{e}_1)(\mathbf{y}\mathbf{e}_1)) + \frac{1}{4}(1 - \mathbf{x}\mathbf{e}_1 - \mathbf{y}\mathbf{e}_1 + (\mathbf{x}\mathbf{e}_1)(\mathbf{y}\mathbf{e}_1)) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(1 + (\mathbf{x}\mathbf{e}_1)(\mathbf{y}\mathbf{e}_1)) \\ &\Rightarrow \mathbf{x}\mathbf{e}_1 = \mathbf{y}\mathbf{e}_1 = 1 \vee \mathbf{x}\mathbf{e}_1 = \mathbf{y}\mathbf{e}_1 = -1 \\ &\Leftrightarrow \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{e}_1 \vee \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y} = -\mathbf{e}_1. \end{aligned}$$

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Lemma 2:

$$\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$$

Lemma 2:

$$Re_1 = -e_1$$

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$$R\mathbf{e}_1 = -\mathbf{e}_1$$

If the state $\psi \in S_{12}$ then, $\psi' = (R, \mathbb{1})\psi \in S_{34}$ and
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d must be 3
(in a theory with entanglement)

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1. Flipping **the first** and the **i-th** coordinate of a local vector x : $\psi_i = (R_i, \mathbb{1})\psi$
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After transformation 1 the state is in subspace 34:

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After transformation 1 the state is in subspace 34:

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for all i, j, k, l

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d = 3

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 $(\mathbb{1}, R_{jkl})$

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$$\Rightarrow y_1^2 + y_i^2 + \|\mathbf{T}_1^{(y)}\|^2 + \|\mathbf{T}_i^{(y)}\|^2 = 2$$

4. Flipping **the first**, the **j-th**, **k-th** and the **l-th** coordinate of local vector y :

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d = 3

$$\psi = (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, T) \quad T = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{T}_1^{(y)} & \mathbf{T}_2^{(y)} & \cdots & \mathbf{T}_d^{(y)} \end{pmatrix}$$
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**No entanglement,
only product states!**

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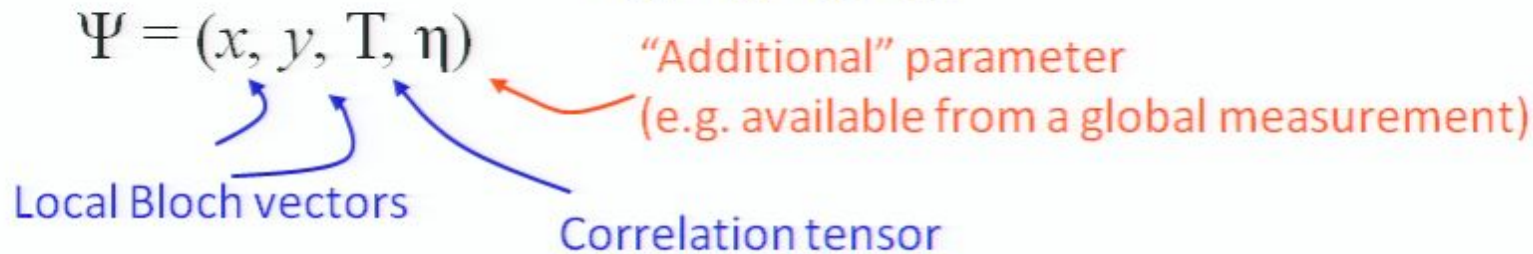
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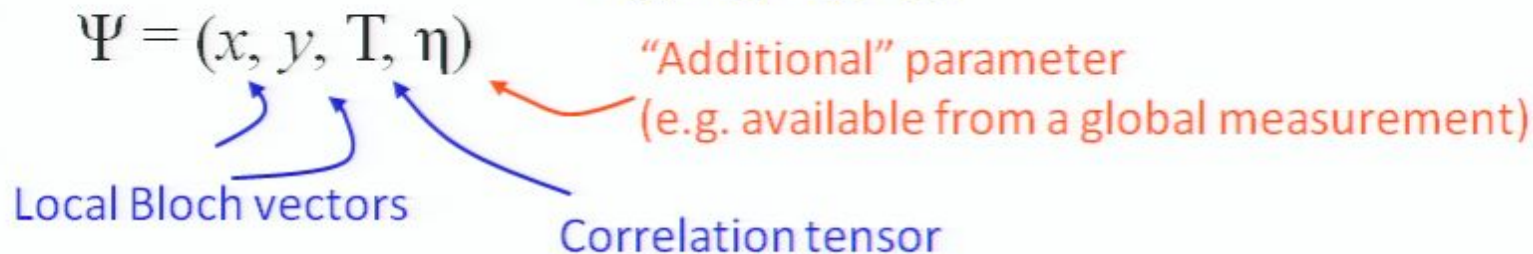
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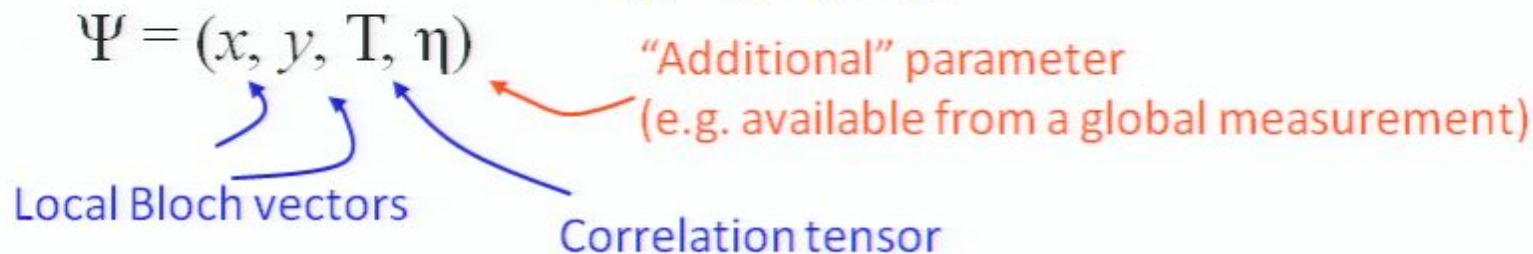
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➔ Maximal violation of Bell’s inequality possible!
 Bell (CHSH) inequality violated **iff** $(T_{xx})^2 + (T_{zz})^2 \geq 1$ (=2 for max)

Hardy's 5 Axioms

Axiom 1. (Probabilities) *Relative frequencies (measured by taking the proportion of times a particular outcome is observed) tend to the same value (which we call the probability) for any case where a given measurement is performed on an ensemble of n systems prepared by some given preparation in the limit as n becomes infinite.*

Axiom 2. (Simplicity) *K is determined by a function of N (i.e. $K = K(N)$) where $N = 1, 2, \dots$ and where, for each given N , K takes the minimum value consistent with the axioms.*

Axiom 3. (Subspaces) *A system whose state is constrained to belong to an M dimensional subspace (i.e. have support on only M of a set of N possible distinguishable states) behaves like a system of dimension M .*

Axiom 4. (Composite system) *A composite system consisting of subsystems A and B satisfies $N = N_A N_B$ and $K = K_A K_B$.*

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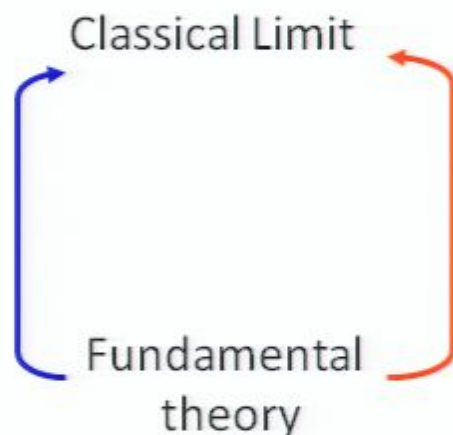
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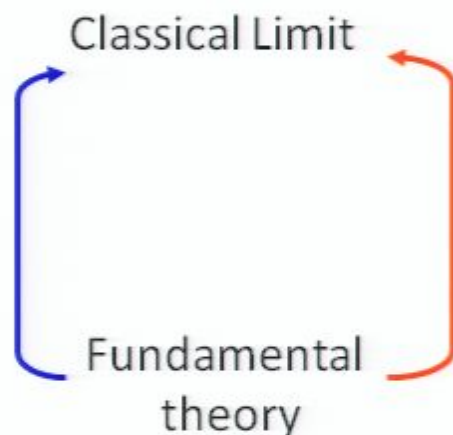
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J. Kofler, C. B.,
Classical world arising out of quantum physics
under the restriction of coarse-grained
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Phys. Rev. Lett. 99, 180403 (2007)

C. B. arXiv:0905.3363,
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physics (UniMolti modi della filosofia 2008/2)

Thank you for your attention!

FWF

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