Quantum Mechanics & Quantum Computation

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Lecture 5: Quantum Gates

Evolution of a qubit

Superposition

• Allowable states of k-level system: unit vector in a k-dimensional complex vector space (called a Hilbert space).



Measurement

- A measurement is specified by choosing an orthonormal basis.
- The probability of each outcome is the square of the length of the projection onto the corresponding basis vector.
- The state collapses to the observed basis vector.



If $|u_0\rangle, |u_1\rangle, \dots, |u_{k-1}\rangle$ was the chosen basis and $|\psi\rangle = \alpha_0 |u_0\rangle + \alpha_1 |u_1\rangle + \dots + \alpha_{k-1} |u_{k-1}\rangle$

 u_i with probability $|\alpha_i|^2 = |(|\psi\rangle, |u_i\rangle)|^2$ New state is $|u_i\rangle$



How does a qubit evolve?



How does a qubit evolve?

Qubits evolve by rotating the Hilbert space.

It is a rigid body rotation, meaning that the angles between vectors are preserved.

Rotation Matrix

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• Rotation of the space is a linear transformation. Represent by a matrix:

Example

$$|0\rangle \rightarrow cq\theta |0\rangle + sin\theta |1\rangle$$

$$|1\rangle \rightarrow -sin\theta |0\rangle + cq\theta |1\rangle$$

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$$|0\rangle = (cq\theta |0\rangle + sin\theta |1\rangle)$$

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$$+ \beta (-sin\theta |0\rangle + cq\theta |1\rangle)$$

$$+ \beta (-sin\theta |0\rangle + cq\theta |1\rangle)$$

$$R_{\theta} = (cq\theta - sin\theta) (0) = (\xi - (zq\theta - \beta sin\theta) |0\rangle + (\alpha sn\theta + \beta cq\theta) |1\rangle$$

$$R_{-\theta} = (cq\theta - sin\theta) = R_{\theta}^{T} \qquad R_{\theta} R_{-\theta} = I$$

$$R_{\theta} R_{\theta}^{T} = R_{\theta}^{T} R^{\theta} = I$$