

Lecture 3: No Cloning Theorem & Quantum Entanglement

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Theorem 0.1 (No Cloning Theorem) *It is impossible to create a copy of an arbitrary unknown quantum state*

Proof. If possible let us assume U is the unitary operator for cloning.

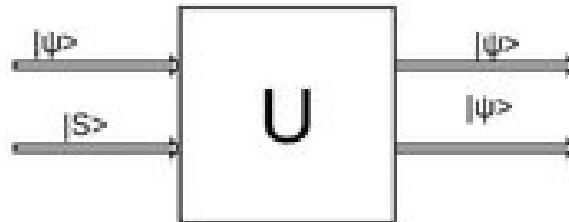


Figure 1: Digaram of cloning a quantum set

From the Diagram it can be observed that

$$U|\psi\rangle|S\rangle = |\psi\rangle|\psi\rangle \tag{1}$$

for $\phi \neq \psi$

$$U|\phi\rangle|S\rangle = |\phi\rangle|\phi\rangle \tag{2}$$

Take the inner product of the both sides of (1) and (2)

$$\begin{aligned} \langle S|\langle\psi|U^+U|\phi\rangle|S\rangle &= \langle\psi|\langle\psi|\phi\rangle|\phi\rangle \\ \langle S|\langle\psi|\phi\rangle|S\rangle &= \langle\psi|\langle\psi|\phi\rangle|\phi\rangle[U^+U = I] \\ \langle\psi|\phi\rangle\langle S|S\rangle &= \langle\psi|\phi\rangle\langle\psi|\phi\rangle[\langle\psi|\phi\rangle \text{ is a scalar product}] \\ \langle\psi|\phi\rangle &= \langle\psi|\phi\rangle^2[\langle S|S\rangle = 1] \end{aligned}$$

let $\langle\psi|\phi\rangle = x$

we have

$$x = x^2 \implies \text{either } x = 0 \text{ or } x = 1$$

$$\implies \langle\psi|\phi\rangle = 0 \text{ or } 1$$

$\implies \psi$ and ϕ are either orthogonal or is in the same state

For any two arbitrary states it is not true that they will be orthogonal. Hence it is not possible to perfectly copy any arbitrary quantum state \square

1 Entanglement

1.1 Definition

The joint state ψ_{AB} of two particles A and B is called separable if ψ_{AB} can be written as a product of the individual states α_A and β_B i.e if $\psi_{AB} = \alpha_A \otimes \beta_B$

The states of two particles are said to be entangled if their joint state is not separable.

1.2 Example

1. This is an example of a separable state
$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|00\rangle_{AB} + |01\rangle_{AB}) = |0_A\rangle \otimes \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0_B\rangle + |1_B\rangle)\right)$$
2. This is an example of an entangled state
$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0_A0_B\rangle + |1_A1_B\rangle)$$

One may think that it is possible to communicate faster than light using entanglement. But that will violate the special theory of relativity which says no signal can travel faster than light. Suppose there are two particles A and B in the entangled state as mentioned in example 2. Now they are taken far apart (e.g., One in the earth and other in the moon). Now a measurement is done on A. After measurement A can be in state 0 with 50% probability and in state 1 with 50% probability. If A is in state 0 B will automatically collapse in 0 and if A is in state 1 B will automatically collapse in 1 . So B's state can be discovered using the measurement on A only. But there lies a falacy. B can only know his state if A communicates with him to inform about its own state. So classical communication has to happen, which can not be faster than light.