

# Permutationally invariant quantum tomography

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- 1 **Motivation**
  - Why quantum tomography is important?
- 2 **Quantum experiments with multi-qubit systems**
  - Physical systems
  - Local measurements
- 3 **Full quantum state tomography**
  - Basic ideas and scaling
  - Experiments
  - Approaches to solve the scalability problem
- 4 **Permutationally invariant tomography**
  - Main results
  - Example: XY PI tomography
  - Example: Experiment with a 4-qubit Dicke state
- 5 **Extra slide 1: Number of settings**

# Why tomography is important?

- Many experiments aiming to create many-body entangled states.
- Quantum state tomography can be used to check how well the state has been prepared.
- However, the number of measurements scales **exponentially** with the number of qubits.

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## State-of-the-art in experiments

- 14 qubits with trapped cold ions  
T. Monz, P. Schindler, J.T. Barreiro, M. Chwalla, D. Nigg, W.A. Coish, M. Harlander, W. Haensel, M. Hennrich, R. Blatt, arxiv:1009.6126, 2010.
- 10 qubits with photons  
W.-B. Gao, C.-Y. Lu, X.-C. Yao, P. Xu, O. Gühne, A. Goebel, Y.-A. Chen, C.-Z. Peng, Z.-B. Chen, J.-W. Pan, Nature Physics, 6, 331 (2010).

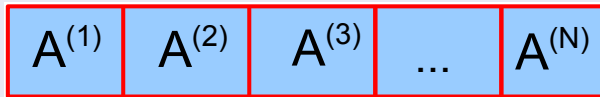
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# Only local measurements are possible

## Definition

A single **local measurement setting** is the basic unit of experimental effort.

A local setting means measuring operator  $A^{(k)}$  at qubit  $k$  for all qubits.



- All two-qubit, three-qubit correlations, etc. can be obtained.

$$\langle A^{(1)}A^{(2)} \rangle, \langle A^{(1)}A^{(3)} \rangle, \langle A^{(1)}A^{(2)}A^{(3)} \rangle, \dots$$



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# Full quantum state tomography

- The density matrix can be reconstructed from  $3^N$  measurement settings.

## Example

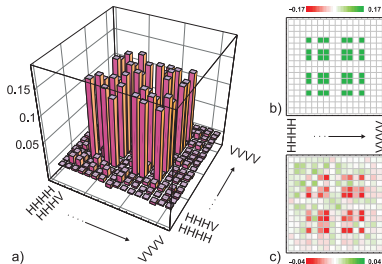
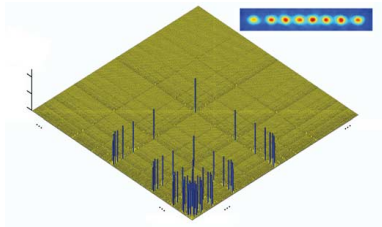
For  $N = 4$ , the measurements are

1.	X	X	X	X
2.	X	X	X	Y
3.	X	X	X	Z
		...		
$3^4$ .	Z	Z	Z	Z

- Note again that the number of measurements scales **exponentially** in  $N$ .

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# Experiments with ions and photons



- H. Haeffner, W. Haensel, C. F. Roos, J. Benhelm, D. Chek-al-kar, M. Chwalla, T. Koerber, U. D. Rapol, M. Riebe, P. O. Schmidt, C. Becher, O. Gühne, W. Dür, R. Blatt, Nature 438, 643-646 (2005).
- N. Kiesel, C. Schmid, G. Tóth, E. Solano, and H. Weinfurter, Phys. Rev. Lett. 98, 063604 (2007).

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# Approaches to solve the scalability problem

- If the state is expected to be of a certain form (MPS), we can measure the parameters of the ansatz.  
S.T. Flammia *et al.*, [arxiv:1002.3839](#); M. Cramer, M.B. Plenio, [arxiv:1002.3780](#);  
O. Landon-Cardinal *et al.*, [arxiv:1002.4632](#).
  
- If the state is of low rank, we need fewer measurements.  
D. Gross *et al.*, [Phys. Rev. Lett. 105, 150401 \(2010\)](#).
  
- We make tomography in a subspace of the density matrices (our approach).

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# Permutationally invariant part of the density matrix

## Permutationally invariant part of the density matrix:

$$\rho_{\text{PI}} = \frac{1}{N!} \sum \Pi_k \rho \Pi_k^\dagger,$$

where  $\Pi_k$  are all the permutations of the qubits.

- Related literature: Reconstructing  $\rho_{\text{PI}}$  for spin systems.  
[G. M. D'Ariano *et al.*, *J. Opt. B* **5**, 77 (2003).]
- Photons in a single mode optical fiber are always in a permutationally invariant state. Small set of measurements are needed for their characterization (experiments).  
[R.B.A. Adamson *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **98**, 043601 (2007); R.B.A. Adamson *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. A* 2008; L. K. Shalm *et al.*, *Nature* **457**, 67 (2009).]



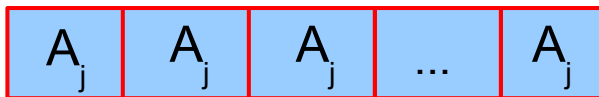
# Main results

## Features of our method:

- 1 Is for **spatially separated qubits**.
- 2 Needs the **minimal number of measurement settings**.
- 3 Uses the measurements that lead to the **smallest uncertainty possible** of the elements of  $\rho_{PI}$ .
- 4 **Gives an uncertainty** for the recovered expectation values and density matrix elements.
- 5 If  $\rho_{PI}$  is entangled, so is  $\rho$ . Can be used for entanglement detection!

# Measurements

- We measure the same observable  $A_j$  on all qubits. (Necessary for optimality.)



- Each qubit observable is defined by the measurement directions  $\vec{a}_j$  using  $A_j = a_{j,x}X + a_{j,y}Y + a_{j,z}Z$ .

## Number of measurement settings:

$$\mathcal{D}_N = \binom{N+2}{N} = \frac{1}{2}(N^2 + 3N + 2).$$

# What do we get from the measurements?

We obtain the expectation values for

$$\langle (A_j^{\otimes(N-n)} \otimes \mathbb{1}^{\otimes n})_{PI} \rangle$$

for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, \mathcal{D}_N$  and  $n = 0, 1, \dots, N$ .

# How do we obtain the Bloch vector elements?

A Bloch vector element can be obtained as

$$\underbrace{\langle (X^{\otimes k} \otimes Y^{\otimes l} \otimes Z^{\otimes m} \otimes \mathbb{1}^{\otimes n})_{\text{PI}} \rangle}_{\text{Bloch vector elements}} = \sum_{j=1}^{\mathcal{D}_N} \underbrace{c_j^{(k,l,m)}}_{\text{coefficients}} \times \underbrace{\langle (A_j^{\otimes (N-n)} \otimes \mathbb{1}^{\otimes n})_{\text{PI}} \rangle}_{\text{Measured data}}.$$

- Coefficients are not unique if  $n > 0$ .

# Uncertainties

The uncertainty of the reconstructed Bloch vector element is

$$\mathcal{E}^2[(X^{\otimes k} \otimes Y^{\otimes l} \otimes Z^{\otimes m} \otimes \mathbb{1}^{\otimes n})_{\text{PI}}] = \sum_{j=1}^{\mathcal{D}_N} |c_j^{(k,l,m)}|^2 \mathcal{E}^2[(A_j^{\otimes(N-n)} \otimes \mathbb{1}^{\otimes n})_{\text{PI}}].$$

- For a fixed set of  $A_j$ , we have a formula to find the  $c_j^{(k,l,m)}$ 's giving the minimal uncertainty.

# Optimization for $A_j$

- We have to find  $\mathcal{D}_N$  measurement directions  $\vec{a}_j$  on the Bloch sphere minimizing the variance

$$(\mathcal{E}_{\text{total}})^2 = \sum_{k+l+m+n=N} \mathcal{E}^2 \left[ (X^{\otimes k} \otimes Y^{\otimes l} \otimes Z^{\otimes m} \otimes \mathbb{1}^{\otimes n})_{\text{PI}} \right] \times \left( \frac{N!}{k!l!m!n!} \right).$$

# Summary of algorithm

## Obtaining the "total uncertainty" for given measurements

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \rho_0, \text{ the state we expect} \\ A_j, \text{ what we measure} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \text{BOX \#1} \Rightarrow (\mathcal{E}_{\text{total}})^2$$

## Evaluating the experimental results

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{measurement results} \\ A_j \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \text{BOX \#2} \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Bloch vector elements} \\ \text{variances} \end{array} \right.$$

# How much is the information loss?

Estimation of the fidelity  $F(\rho, \rho_{\text{PI}})$  :

$$F(\rho, \rho_{\text{PI}}) \geq \langle P_s \rangle_{\rho}^2 \equiv \langle P_s \rangle_{\rho_{\text{PI}}}^2,$$

where  $P_s$  is the projector to the  $N$ -qubit symmetric subspace.

- $F(\rho, \rho_{\text{PI}})$  can be estimated only from  $\rho_{\text{PI}}$ !
- Proof: using the theory of angular momentum for qubits.
- Similar formalism appear concerning handling multi-copy qubit states:

[ J. I. Cirac, A. K. Ekert, C. Macchiavello, Optimal purification of single qubits PRL 1999. ]

[ E. Bagan *et al.*, PRA 2006;

G. Sentís, E. Bagan, J. Calsamiglia, R. Muñoz-Tapia, Multi-copy programmable discrimination of general qubit states, PRA 2010. ]



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## Simple example: XY PI tomography

- Let us assume that we want to know only the expectation values of operators of the form

$$\langle A(\phi)^{\otimes N} \rangle$$

where

$$A(\phi) = \cos(\phi)\sigma_x + \sin(\phi)\sigma_y.$$

- The space of such operators has dimension  $N + 1$ . We have to choose  $\{\phi_j\}_{j=1}^{N+1}$  angles for the  $\{A_j\}_{j=1}^{N+1}$  operators we have to measure.

## Simple example: XY PI tomography II

- Let us assume that we measure

$$\langle A_j^{\otimes N} \rangle$$

for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, N + 1$ .

- Reconstructed values and uncertainties

$$\underbrace{\langle A(\phi)^{\otimes N} \rangle}_{\text{Reconstructed}} = \sum_{j=1}^{N+1} \underbrace{c_j^{(\phi)}}_{\text{coefficients}} \times \underbrace{\langle A_j^{\otimes N} \rangle}_{\text{Measured data}}$$

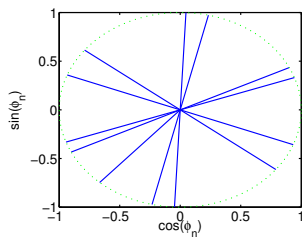
Reconstructed                      coefficients                      Measured data

$$\mathcal{E}^2[A(\phi)] = \sum_{j=1}^{N+1} |c_j^{(\phi)}|^2 \mathcal{E}^2(A_j^{\otimes N}).$$

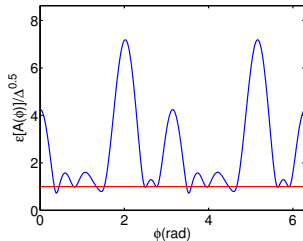
- Let us assume that all of these measurements have a variance  $\Delta^2$ .

# Simple example: XY PI tomography III

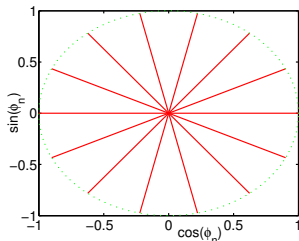
- Numerical example for  $N = 6$ .



Random directions  $\phi_j$



Uncertainty of  $A(\phi)^{\otimes N}$

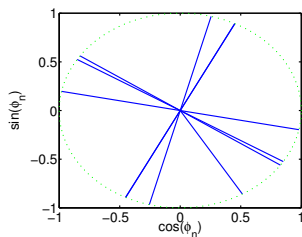


Uniform directions

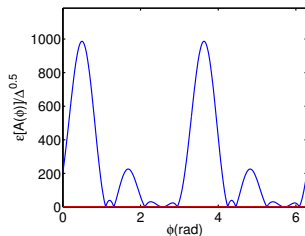
# Simple example: XY PI tomography IV

- Numerical example for  $N = 6$ . This random choice is even worse

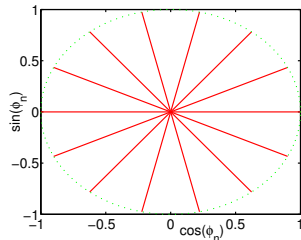
...



Random directions  $\phi_j$



Uncertainty of  $A(\phi)^{\otimes N}$

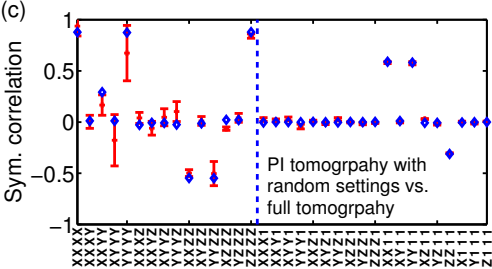


Uniform directions

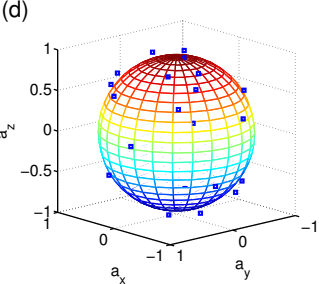
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# Random settings (exp.)



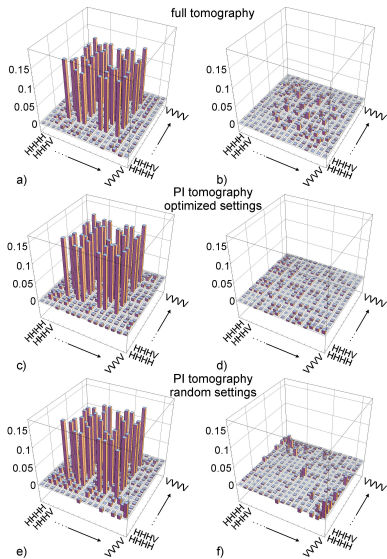
The measured correlations



$\vec{a}_j$  measurement directions



# Density matrices (exp.)

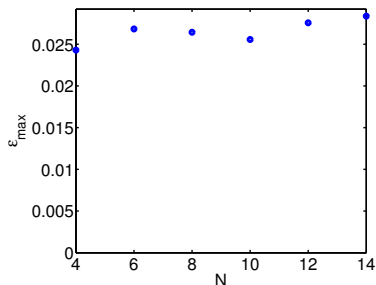


# PI tomography for larger systems

- We determined the optimal  $A_j$  for p.i. tomography for  $N = 4, 6, \dots, 14$ . The maximal squared uncertainty of the Bloch vector elements is

$$\epsilon_{\max}^2 = \max_{k,l,m,n} \mathcal{E}^2[(X^{\otimes k} \otimes Y^{\otimes l} \otimes Z^{\otimes m} \otimes \mathbb{1}^{\otimes n})_{\text{PI}}]$$

(Total count is the same as in the experiment: 2050.)



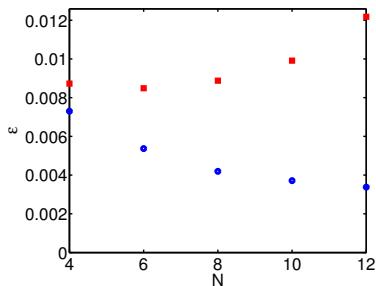
# Expectation values directly from measured data

- Operator expectation values can be recovered directly from the measurement data as

$$\langle Op \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^{\mathcal{D}_N} \sum_{n=1}^N c_{j,n}^{Op} \langle (A_j^{\otimes(N-n)} \otimes \mathbb{1}^{\otimes n})_{PI} \rangle,$$

where the  $c_{j,n}^{Op}$  are constants.

- $Op = |D_N^{(N/2)}\rangle\langle D_N^{(N/2)}|$ , blue:  $\varrho_0 \propto \mathbb{1}$ , red: upper bound for any  $\varrho_0$ .



# Comparison with other methods for efficient tomography

- If a state is detected as entangled, it is surely entangled. **No assumption is used concerning the form of the quantum state.**
- Expectation values of all permutationally invariant operators are the same for  $\rho$  and  $\rho_{\text{PI}}$ .
- Typically, it can be used in experiments in which permutationally invariant states are created.

# Participants in the project



**Harald Weinfurter**  
MPQ, Munich



**Roland Krschek**  
MPQ, Munich



**David Gross**  
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**Witlief Wiczorek**  
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Bilbao

# Summary

- We discussed permutationally invariant tomography for large multi-qubits systems.
- It paves the way for quantum experiments with more than 6 – 8 qubits.

See:

G. Tóth, W. Wieczorek, D. Gross, R. Krischek, C. Schwemmer, and H. Weinfurter, Permutationally invariant quantum tomography, Phys. Rev. Lett. 105, 250403 (2010).

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!



# How many settings we need?

- Expectation values of  $(X^{\otimes k} \otimes Y^{\otimes l} \otimes Z^{\otimes m} \otimes \mathbb{1}^{\otimes n})_{\text{PI}}$  are needed.
- For a given  $n$ , the dimension of this subspace is  $\mathcal{D}_{(N-n)}$  (simple counting).
- Operators with different  $n$  are orthogonal to each other.
- Every measurement setting gives a single real degree of freedom for each subspace
- Hence the number of settings cannot be smaller than the largest dimension, which is  $\mathcal{D}_N$ .