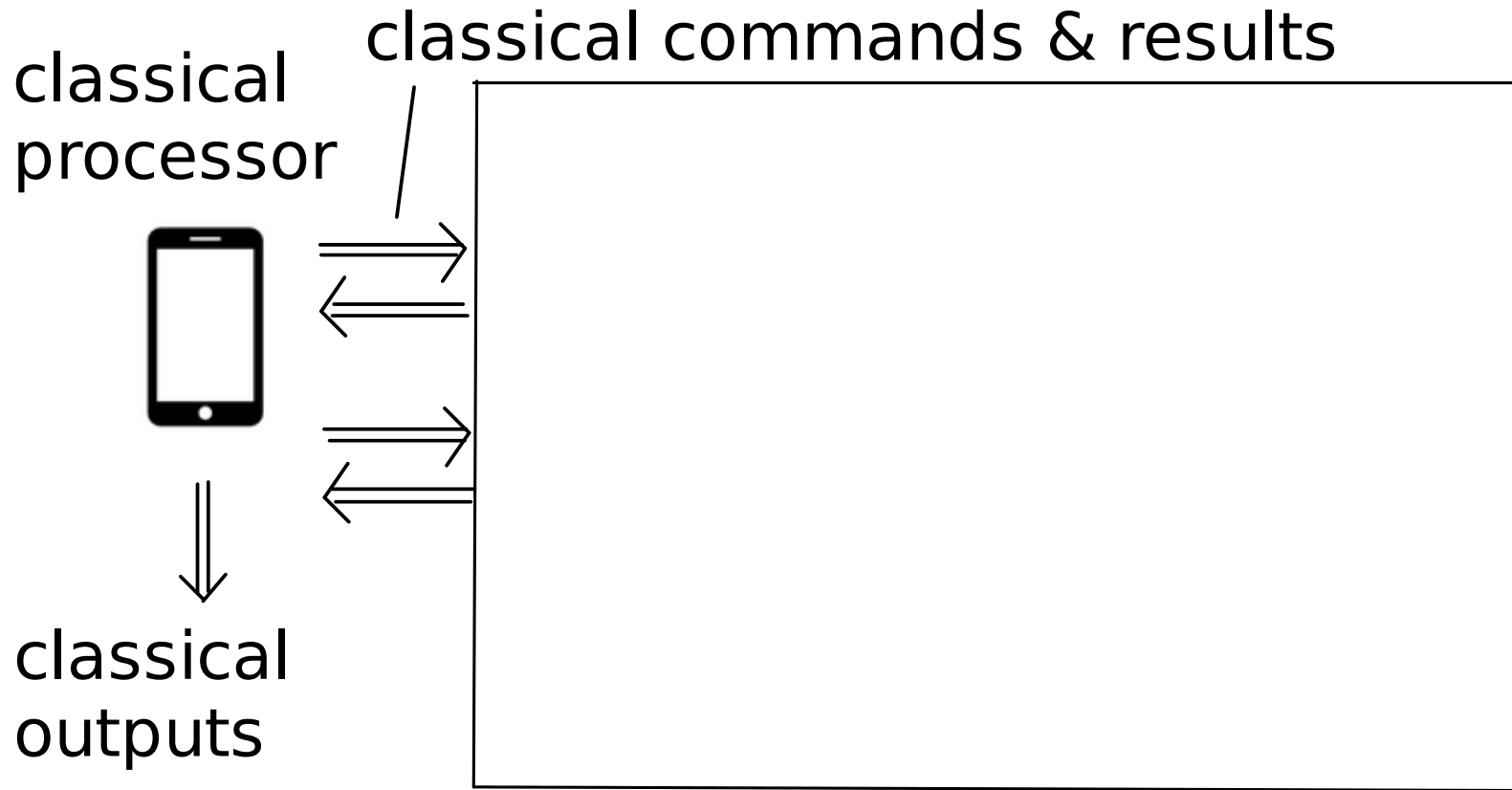


5. Quantum circuits

- (a) Quantum circuit model (KLM 4.1, NC 1.3.4) ←
- (b) Quantum gates (NC 4.2-4.3, KLM 4.2)
- (c) Continuous universal set of quantum gates (reading)
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- (g) Quantum circuits for measurements (KLM 4.5*)
- (h) Hardness of approximating most unitaries (reading)
(NC 4.5.6)

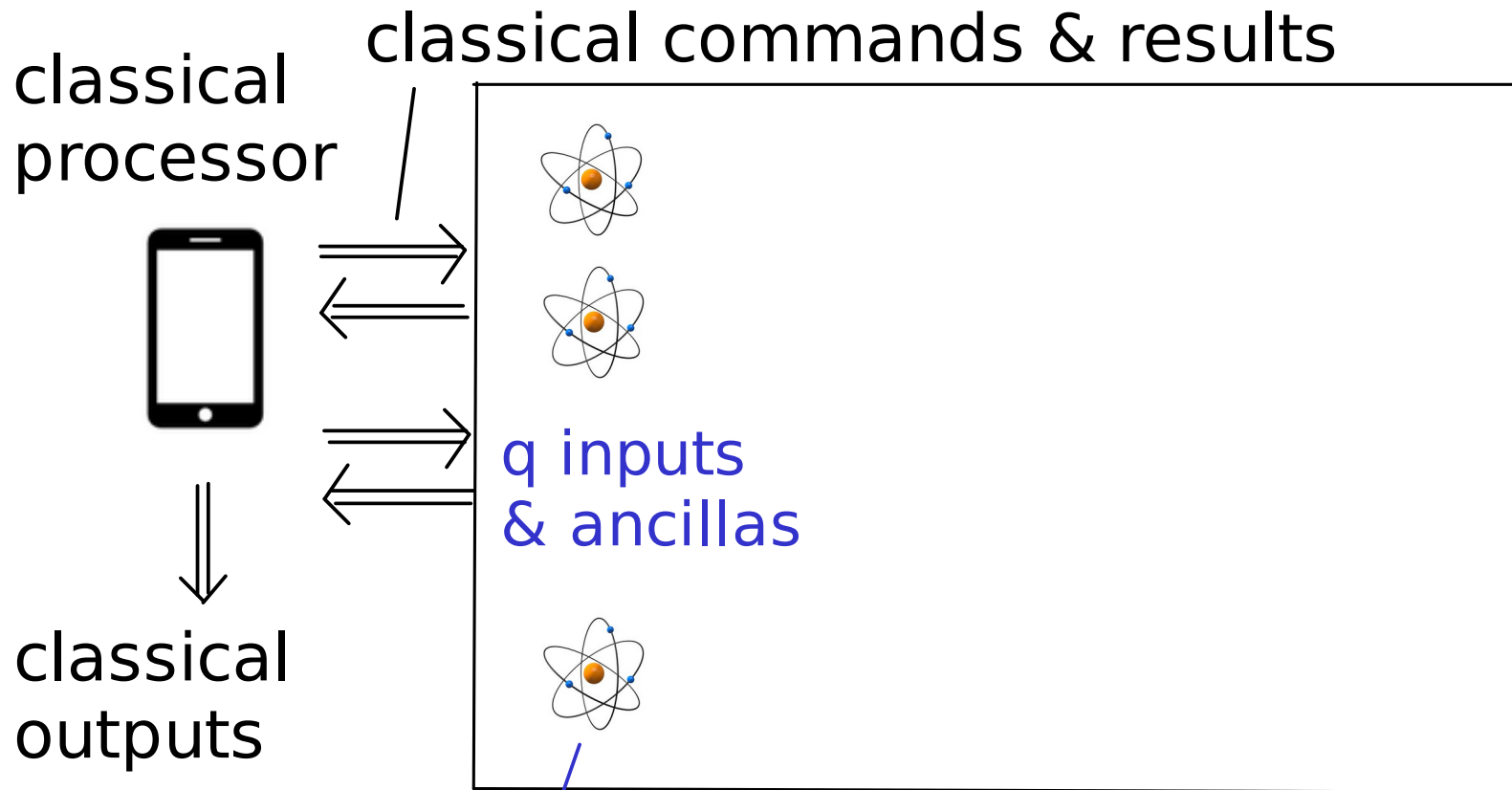
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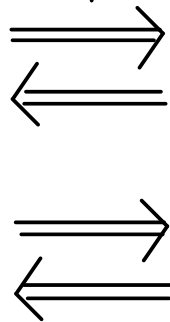
q registers (e.g., qubits):
ions / spins / atoms /
photons / quantum dots /
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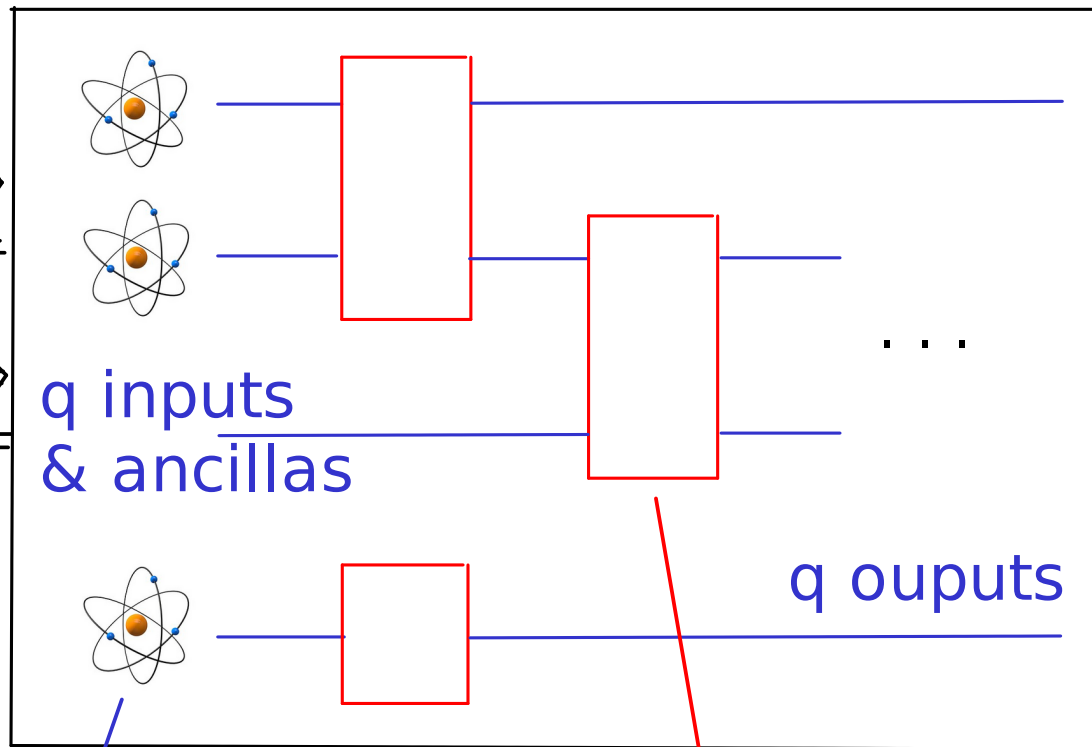
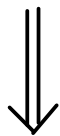
A computation in the quantum setting:

classical commands & results

classical processor



classical outputs

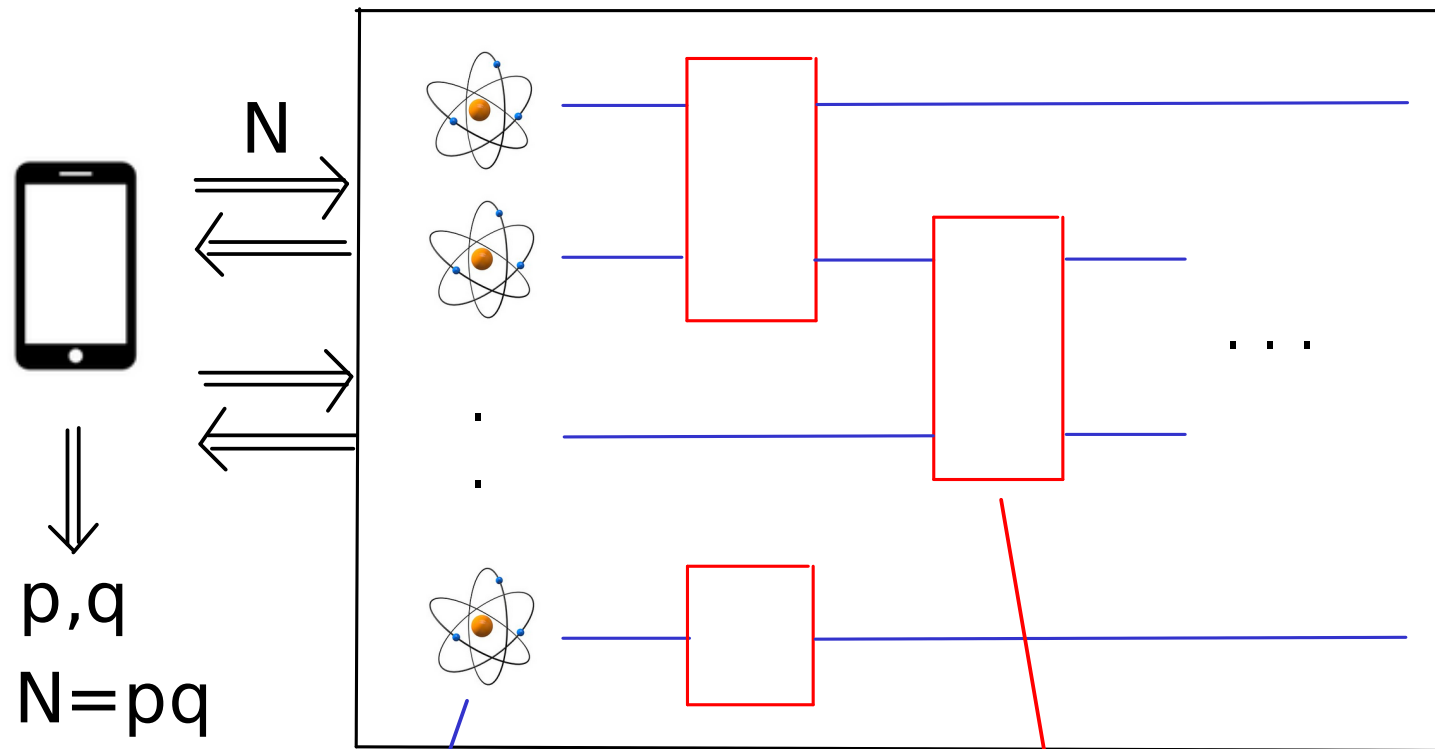


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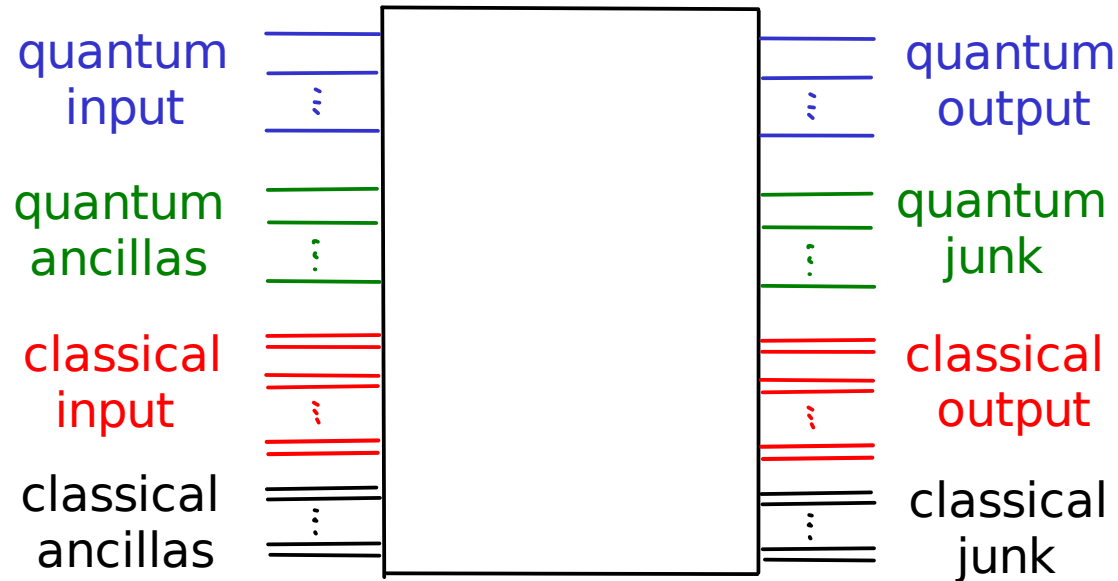
e.g., factoring with a quantum computer:



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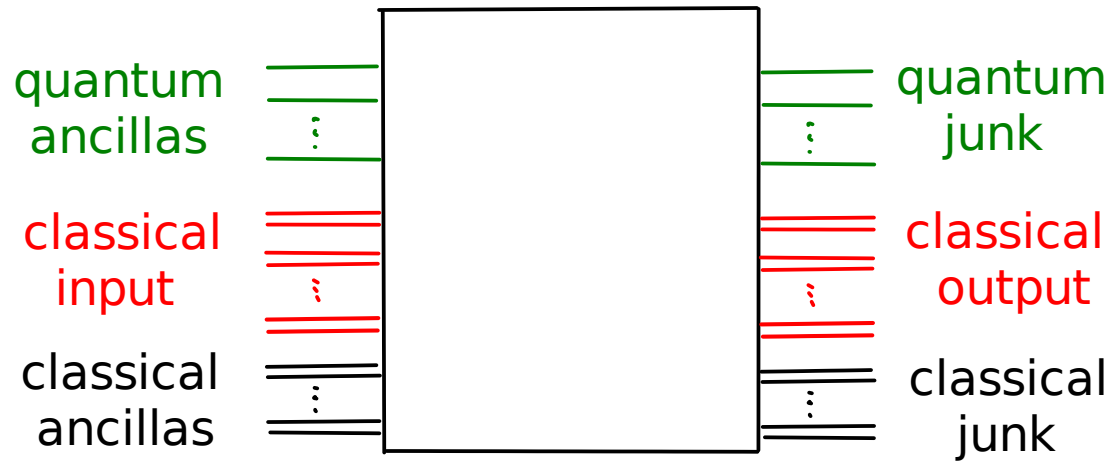
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A computation in the quantum setting:



- obeys QM :
- classical registers can control the unitary evolution
- classical computation allowed in the box

For quantum computation of **classical** problems
(no quantum inputs or outputs in topics 5-7):



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Simplifying ideas:

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e.g., we can perform the NOT gate on 1 bit by
encoding the bit as $|0\rangle$ or $|1\rangle$ and apply the unitary

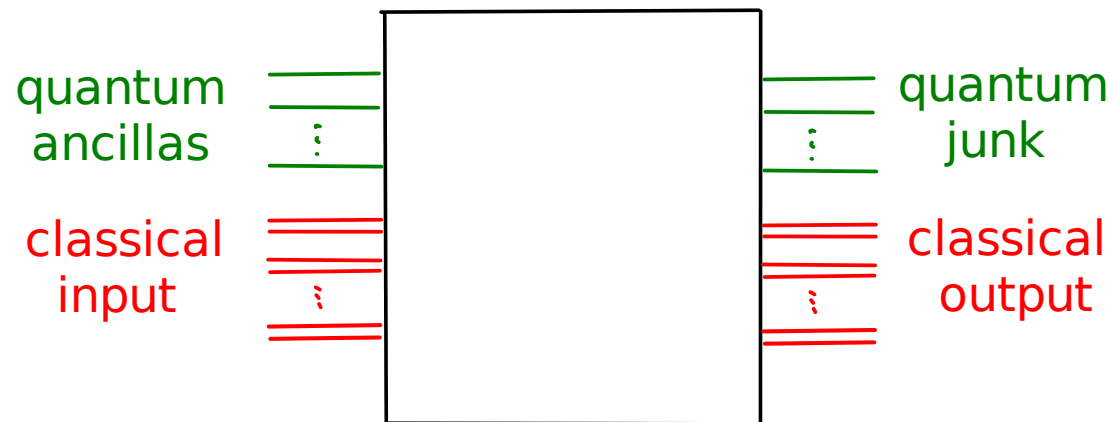
$$X = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

This follows from topic 2 (classical computation is
reversible, the Toffoli gate is unitary and universal
for classical computation).

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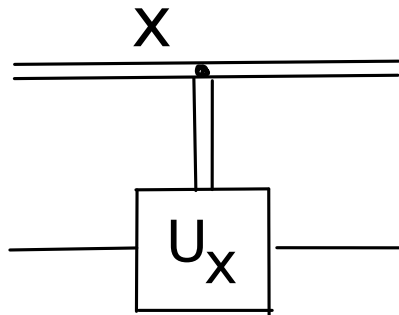
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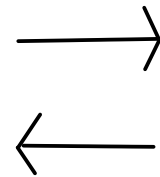


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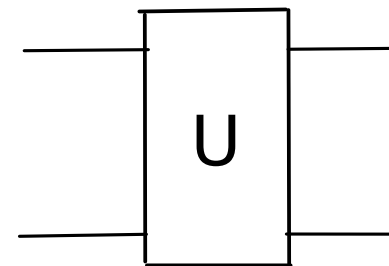
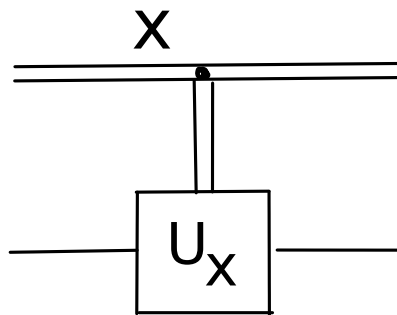
(2) Unitary operations controlled by classical data can be implemented as a "controlled-unitary" operation and vice versa.

If classical register C is in state x , then apply U_x to the quantum register Q



$$U = \sum_x |x\rangle\langle x|_C \otimes U_x_Q$$

unitary if the U_x 's are



For quantum computation of classical problems
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e.g., in superdense coding, Alice receives one of $0, x, y, z$ and she applies $\sigma_0, \sigma_x, \sigma_y, \sigma_z$ accordingly.
This is a unitary controlled by classical data.

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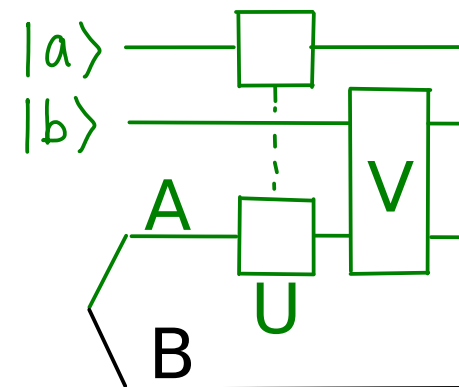
Instead, encode 0,x,y,z as

$$|ab\rangle = |00\rangle, |01\rangle, |11\rangle, |10\rangle$$

and apply 2 controlled unitaries:

$$U = |0\rangle\langle 0| \otimes I + |1\rangle\langle 1| \otimes \sigma_z$$

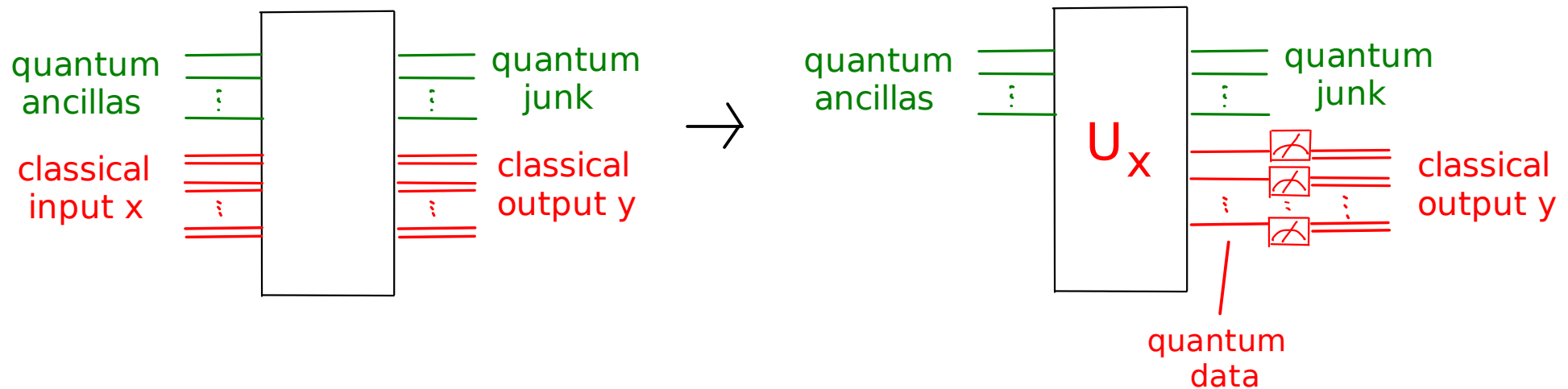
$$V = |0\rangle\langle 0| \otimes I + |1\rangle\langle 1| \otimes \sigma_x$$



For quantum computation of classical problems
(no quantum inputs or outputs in topics 5-7):

Simplifying ideas:

(3) Classical input is encoded in the choice of the unitary.



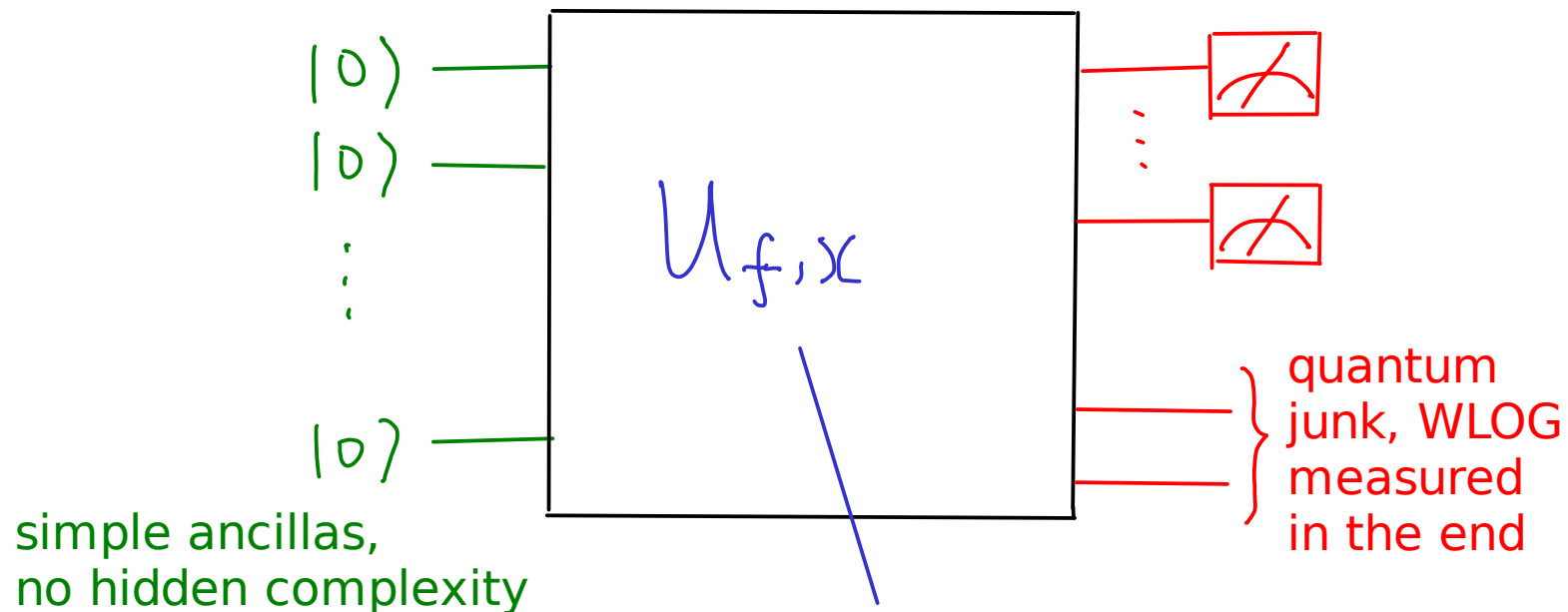
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- Only has quantum registers.
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Canonical quantum computation of classical problems:

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- Computation is unitary until final measurements.
- Classical input is encoded in the choice of the unitary.
- All registers can start as $|0\rangle$.
- Outputs (classical) are measurement outcomes.

Conventions as in classical circuits.



computation: arbitrary unitaries

With goals and ideas similar to topic 1:

Quantum circuit (acyclic graph):

- time going from left to right
- quantum wires (registers) carry quantum data
- gates are vertices in the graph

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(Assuming each register has the same dimension.)

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Are there "universal sets of quantum gates" that implement any arbitrary "computation" (i.e., unitary transformation)?

5. Quantum circuits

- (a) Quantum circuit model (KLM 4.1, NC 1.3.4) ✓
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Universal set of quantum gates

Definition: a set G of quantum gates is universal, if for any unitary U , there is a circuit using only gates from G performing U .

(c) Continuous universal set of quantum gates (reading)
(NC 4.5.1-4.5.2, KLM 4.3)

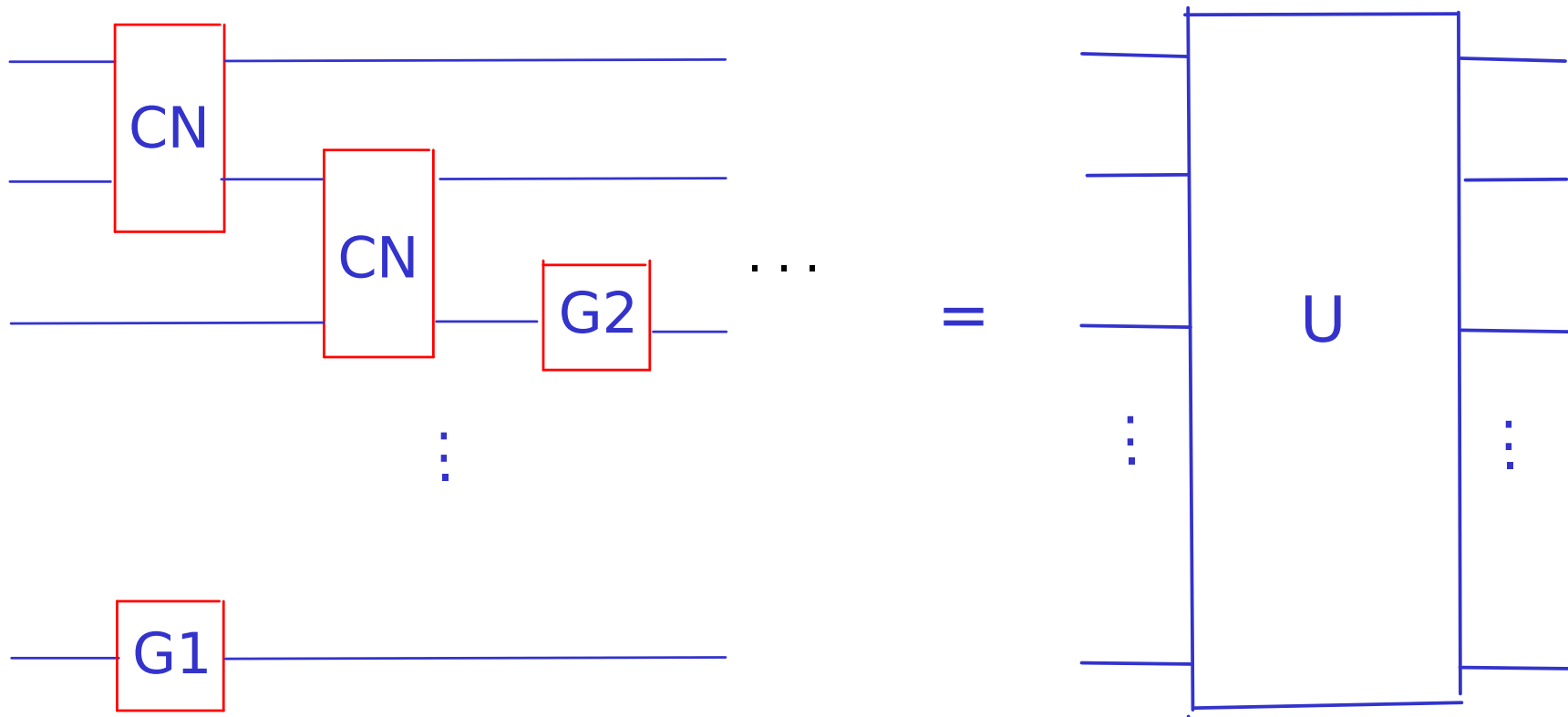
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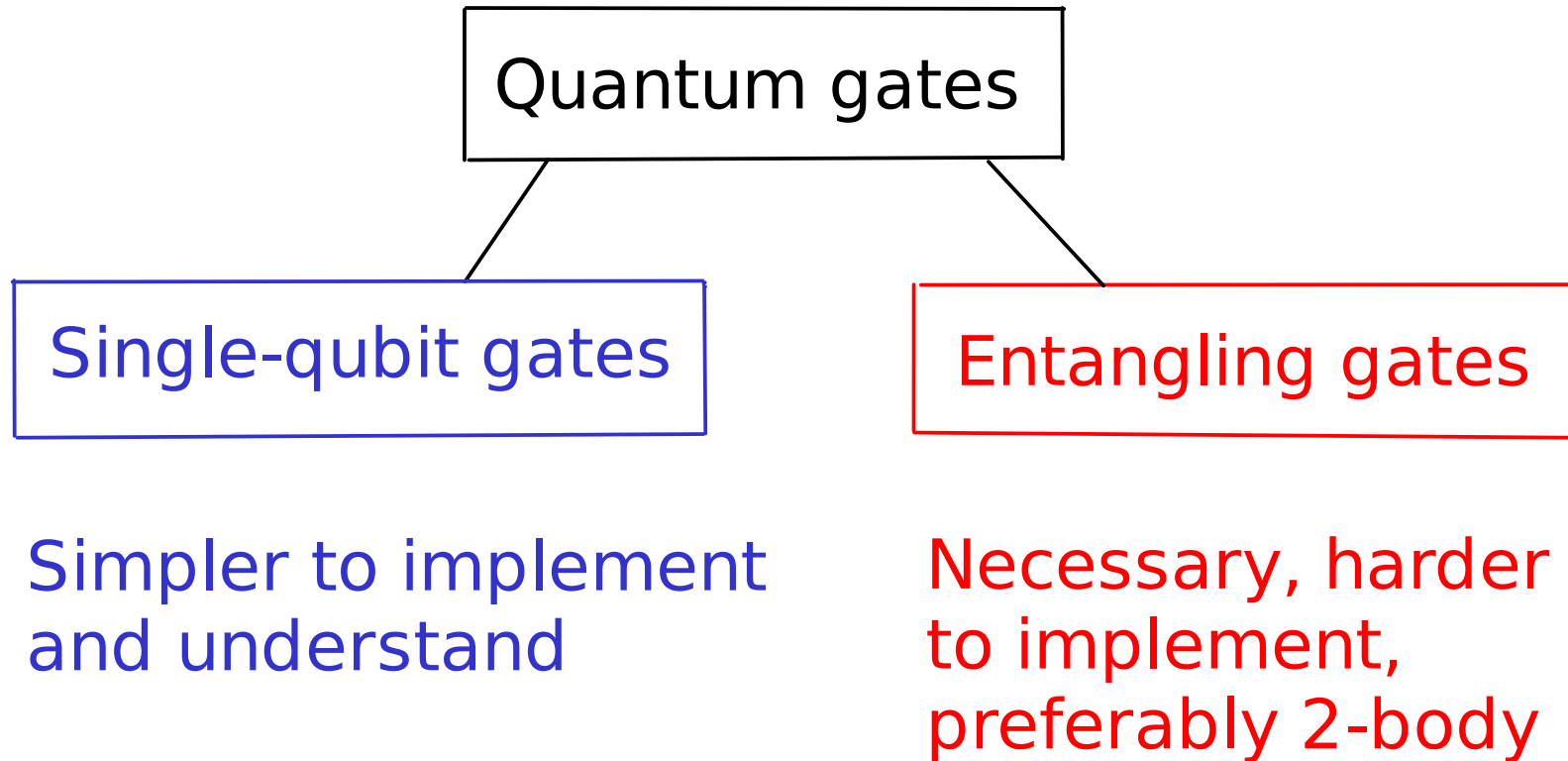
Theorem (NC 4.5.1-4.5.2) :
Let $S =$ set of all single-qubit gates.
The set $G = \{\text{CNOT}\} \cup S$ is universal.

Proof: not difficult but long, left as reading ex.

It means for all n , for all unitary U acting on n qubits, there is a circuit with CNOT's and single qubit gates that implements U :



(b) Quantum gates



The Bloch sphere: a useful way to visualize a qubit

The most general qubit:

$$\begin{aligned} |\psi\rangle &= a_0 |0\rangle + a_1 |1\rangle \quad \text{where} \quad |a_0|^2 + |a_1|^2 = 1 \\ &= e^{i\eta} \left(\cos \frac{\theta}{2} |0\rangle + e^{i\phi} \sin \frac{\theta}{2} |1\rangle \right) \end{aligned}$$

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since $\exists \theta$ s.t. $|a_0|^2 = \cos^2 \theta$, $|a_1|^2 = \sin^2 \theta$
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real and non-negative

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In test Q2, you showed:

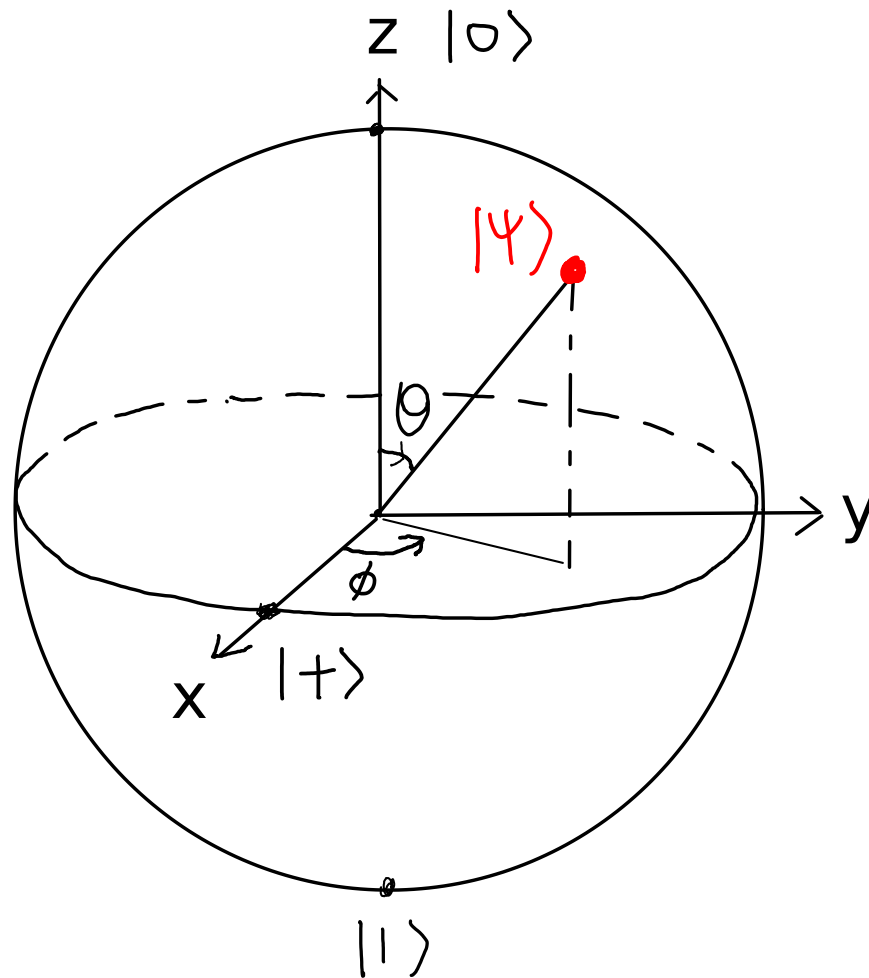
$$|\psi\rangle\langle\psi| = \frac{1}{2} (I + \cos \phi \sin \theta X + \sin \phi \sin \theta Y + \cos \theta Z)$$

forms a 3-dim, real, unit vector
called the Bloch vector

$$|\psi\rangle = e^{i\eta} \left(\cos \frac{\theta}{2} |0\rangle + e^{i\phi} \sin \frac{\theta}{2} |1\rangle \right)$$

$$|\psi\rangle\langle\psi| = \frac{1}{2} (I + \cos\phi \sin\theta X + \sin\phi \sin\theta Y + \cos\theta Z)$$

Plotting the 3
coordinates:



Single-qubit gates:

These are 2×2 complex unitaries acting on 1 qubit.

e.g., I, X, Y, Z, Hadamard

1st characterization of single-qubit gates

Theorem:

The most general single-qubit unitary has the form

$$e^{-i(\gamma I + \alpha X + \beta Y + \delta Z)}$$

for some $\gamma, \alpha, \beta, \delta \in \mathbb{R}$.

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Proof idea: U unitary iff $U = e^{iH}$

for some hermitian matrix H

Any 2×2 hermitian matrix is a linear combination of I, X, Y, Z with real coefficients (cf test Q2).

2nd characterization of single-qubit gates

Theorem:

The most general single-qubit unitary has the form

$$R_{\hat{n}}(\xi) := e^{i\varphi} e^{-i\frac{\xi}{2}(n_x X + n_y Y + n_z Z)}$$

where $\hat{n} = (n_x, n_y, n_z) \in \mathbb{R}^3$ is a unit vector.

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Proof: From the 1st char, the unitary has the form

$$e^{-i(\phi I + \alpha X + \beta Y + \gamma Z)}$$

We can choose

$$\varphi = \phi, \quad n_x = \frac{-\alpha}{\sqrt{\alpha^2 + \beta^2 + \gamma^2}}, \quad n_y = \frac{-\beta}{\sqrt{\alpha^2 + \beta^2 + \gamma^2}}, \quad n_z = \frac{-\gamma}{\sqrt{\alpha^2 + \beta^2 + \gamma^2}},$$

$$\xi = 2\sqrt{\alpha^2 + \beta^2 + \gamma^2}.$$

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What does $R_{\hat{n}}(\xi) := e^{i\varphi} e^{-i\frac{\xi}{2}(n_x X + n_y Y + n_z Z)}$

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So, if $|\psi\rangle\langle\psi| = \frac{1}{2}(I + aX + bY + cZ)$

and $U|\psi\rangle\langle\psi|U^\dagger = \frac{1}{2}(I + a'X + b'Y + c'Z)$

then the Bloch vector changes from (a,b,c) to (a',b',c') .

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Note: $|\psi\rangle \in \mathbb{C}^2$, $U \in U(2)$

but we are looking at a transformation on \mathbb{R}^3 .

e.g., consider $U = e^{-i\frac{\sigma}{2}z}$ ($\hat{n} = (0, 0, 1)$).

By power series expansion, $U = \begin{bmatrix} e^{-i\frac{\sigma z}{2}} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\frac{\sigma z}{2}} \end{bmatrix}$.

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If $|\psi\rangle = e^{i\eta} \left(\cos\frac{\theta}{2} |0\rangle + e^{i\phi} \sin\frac{\theta}{2} |1\rangle \right)$

then $U|\psi\rangle = e^{i\eta} \left(e^{-i\frac{\sigma z}{2}} \cos\frac{\theta}{2} |0\rangle + e^{i\frac{\sigma z}{2}} e^{i\phi} \sin\frac{\theta}{2} |1\rangle \right)$
 $= e^{i\eta} e^{-i\frac{\sigma z}{2}} \left(\cos\frac{\theta}{2} |0\rangle + e^{i\sigma} e^{i\phi} \sin\frac{\theta}{2} |1\rangle \right)$

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So, when $|\psi\rangle \rightarrow U|\psi\rangle$, $\phi \rightarrow \xi + \phi$
 θ unchanged

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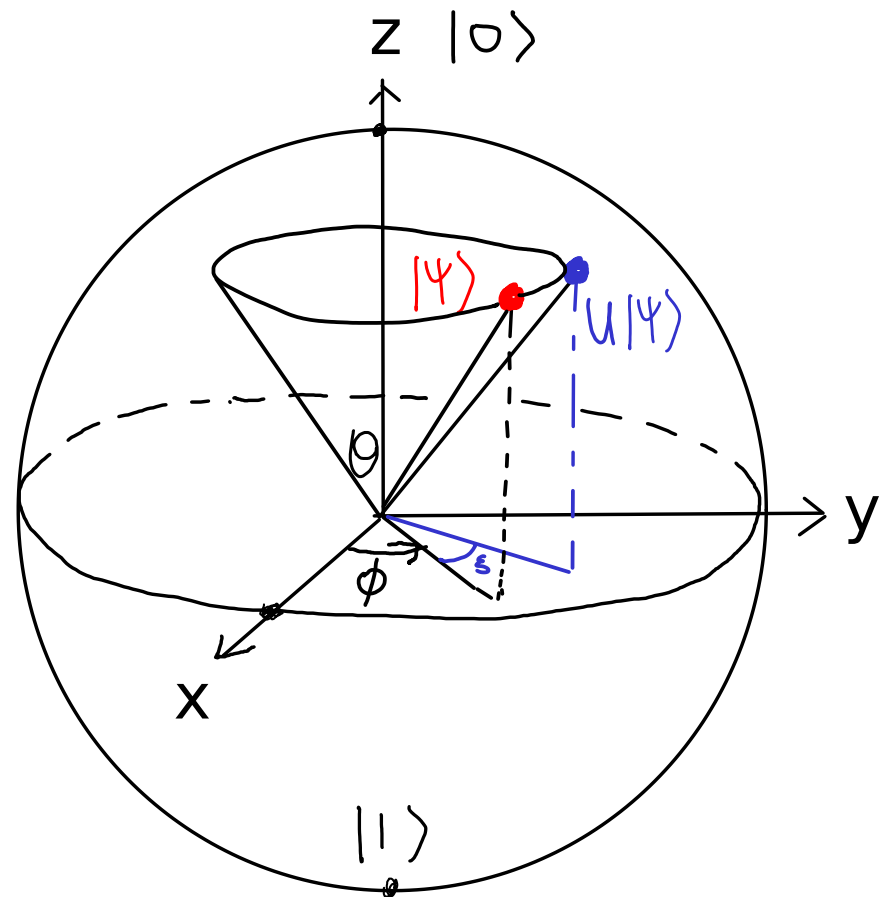
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$e^{-i\frac{\xi}{2}Z}$ is a rotation about the z-axis of angle ξ !

End of e.g.



use right-
hand-rule

So, $e^{-i\frac{\xi}{2}z}$ is a rotation about the z-axis of angle ξ ,

What is $e^{i\varphi} e^{-i\frac{\xi}{2}(n_x X + n_y Y + n_z Z)}$?

2nd characterization of single-qubit gates

Claim: $R_{\hat{n}}(\xi) := e^{i\varphi} e^{-i\frac{\xi}{2}(n_x X + n_y Y + n_z Z)}$

rotates the Bloch vector by an angle ξ
about the axis $\hat{n} = (n_x, n_y, n_z)$.

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$= I$
since \hat{n} is a unit vector

So, what are the eigenvalues of M ?

$M = n_x X + n_y Y + n_z Z$ hermitian so real eigenvalues.

$\text{tr}(M) = 0, M^2 = I.$

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So, the eigenvalues are $+1, -1$.

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$\text{tr}(M) = 0, M^2 = I.$

So, the eigenvalues are $+1, -1.$

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unitary $V!$

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When we apply V or V^\dagger to the qubit, how does the Bloch vector transform?

$$\because M = V Z V^\dagger$$

$$\frac{1}{2}(I + M) = V \frac{1}{2}(I + Z) V^\dagger$$

(add I to both sides
then divide by 2)

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$$\therefore M = V Z V^\dagger$$

$$\frac{1}{2}(I + M) = V \frac{1}{2}(I + Z) V^\dagger$$

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$$\frac{1}{2}(I + n_x X + n_y Y + n_z Z)$$

$\therefore V$ takes the Bloch vector $(0,0,1)$ to (n_x, n_y, n_z) .

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$\therefore V$ takes the Bloch vector $(0,0,1)$ to (n_x, n_y, n_z) .

Furthermore, conjugating the above equation by V^\dagger

$$V^\dagger M V = Z, \text{ so, } V^\dagger \text{ takes } (n_x, n_y, n_z) \text{ to } (0,0,1).$$

Altogether:

$$R_{\hat{n}}(\xi) = e^{i\varphi} V e^{-i\frac{\xi}{2}z} V^\dagger$$

1. V^\dagger takes (n_x, n_y, n_z) to $(0,0,1)$.

2. $e^{-i\frac{\xi}{2}z}$ rotates about the z-axis $(0,0,1)$ of angle ξ ,

3. V takes $(0,0,1)$ back to (n_x, n_y, n_z) .

$\therefore R_{\hat{n}}(\xi)$ rotates about the axis (n_x, n_y, n_z) of angle ξ ,

For the Pauli matrices:

$$\sigma_x = X = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \sigma_y = Y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \sigma_z = Z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix},$$

they are all π rotations on the Bloch sphere, but they are also generators of rotations, namely:

$$R_x(\alpha) := e^{-i\frac{\alpha}{2}X}$$

$$R_y(\alpha) := e^{-i\frac{\alpha}{2}Y}$$

$$R_z(\alpha) := e^{-i\frac{\alpha}{2}Z}$$

These are rotations about the x, y, z-axes of angle α .

Remark:

$$U = R_{\hat{n}}(\xi) = e^{i\varphi} e^{-i\frac{\xi}{2}(n_x X + n_y Y + n_z Z)}$$

Consider the mapping
from 2×2 matrices to 2×2 matrices:

$$f(M) = U M U^\dagger.$$

What are the invariances of f ?

|
set of M such that $f(M) = M$

Remark:

$$U = R_{\hat{n}}(\xi) = e^{i\psi} e^{-i\frac{\xi}{2}(n_x X + n_y Y + n_z Z)}$$

Consider the mapping
from 2×2 matrices to 2×2 matrices:

$$f(M) = U M U^\dagger.$$

What are the invariances of f ?

$$f(I) = I, f(M) = M, \\ \text{so, for all scalars } a, b, f(aI + bM) = aI + bM$$

Fact: if $U \neq I$, then, no more invariances.

Proof: exercise. Hint: consider a spanning set
for 2×2 matrices that include I and M .

Question:

Suppose a 2x2 unitary U does the following:

$$U \times U^\dagger = Y$$

$$U Y U^\dagger = Z$$

$$U Z U^\dagger = X$$

Which of the following can be U?

(a) $(X+Y+Z) / \sqrt{3}$

(b) $e^{-i\frac{\pi}{2}} (X+Y+Z) / \sqrt{3}$

(c) $e^{-i\frac{\pi}{3}} (X+Y+Z) / \sqrt{3}$

(d) $e^{i\frac{\pi}{3}} (X+Y+Z) / \sqrt{3}$

$$U X U^\dagger = Y$$

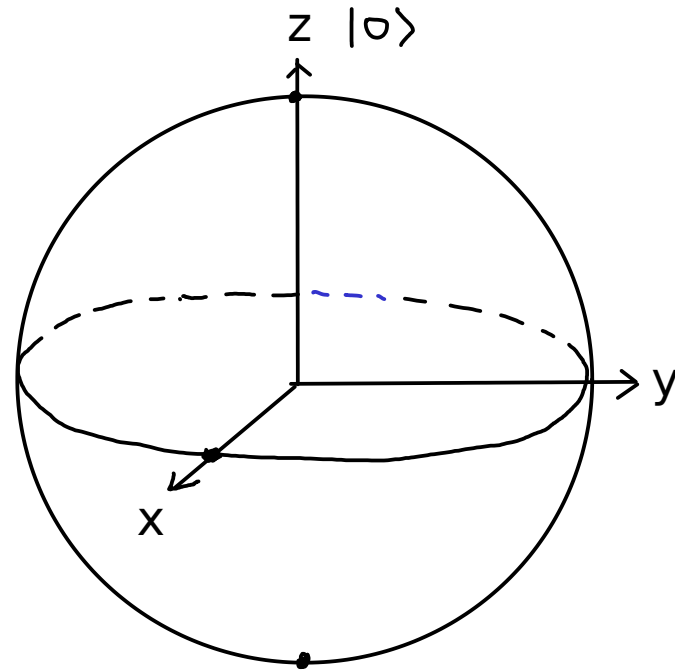
$$U Y U^\dagger = Z$$

$$U Z U^\dagger = X$$

So, the axis of rotation on the Bloch sphere is

$$(X + Y + Z) / \sqrt{3}$$

since this matrix is an invariant under the conjugation by U .



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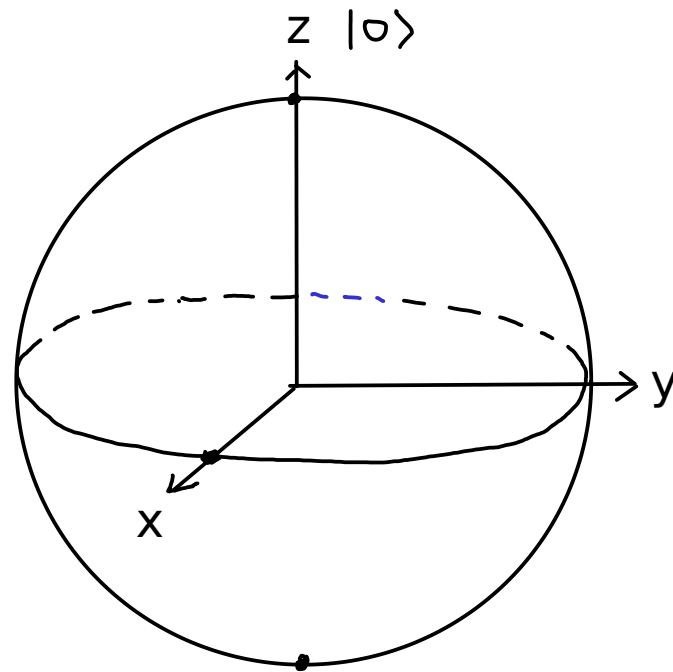
So, the axis of rotation on the Bloch sphere is

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The angle of rotation is ^{???} $\pm \xi = 2\pi/3$

since $U^3 = I$.



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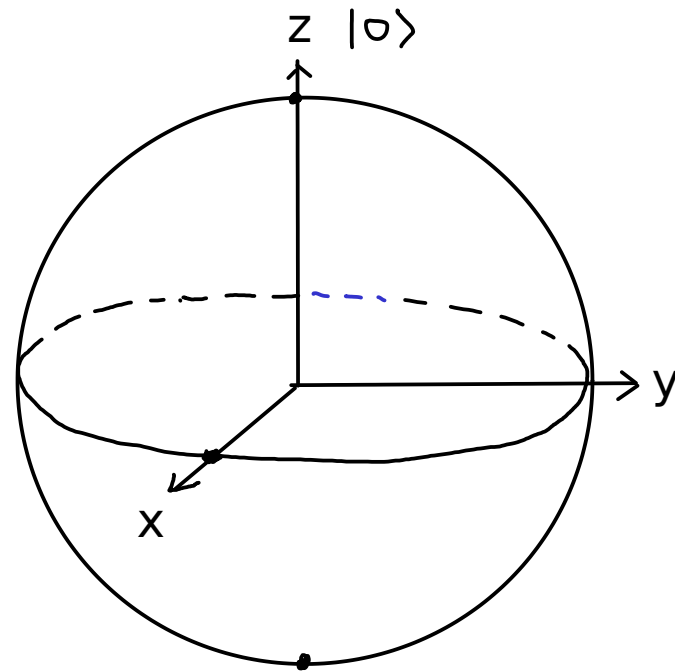
$$(X+Y+Z)/\sqrt{3}$$

since this matrix is an invariant under the conjugation by U.

The angle of rotation is $\theta = 2\pi/3$.

$$\text{Answer} = e^{-i\frac{\xi}{2}(X+Y+Z)/\sqrt{3}} = e^{-i\frac{\pi}{3}(X+Y+Z)/\sqrt{3}}$$

(c)



3rd characterization of single-qubit gates

Theorem: (NC Thm 4.1)

The most general single-qubit unitary has the form

$$U = e^{i\alpha} R_z(\beta) R_y(\gamma) R_z(\delta)$$

where $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta \in \mathbb{R}$.

(From Euler angles, but there is also a quick direct proof using linear algebra.)

Check lecture time ... may demote proof to reading.

Theorem: (NC Thm 4.1)

The most general single-qubit unitary has the form

$$U = e^{i\alpha} R_z(\beta) R_y(\gamma) R_z(\delta)$$

where $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta \in \mathbb{R}$.

Proof: any 2x2 unitary has the form

relative phase
between the
2 columns

$$U = e^{i\alpha} \begin{pmatrix} e^{-i\frac{\delta}{2}} \underbrace{-i\frac{\beta}{2}}_{\text{relative phase}} \cos\frac{\gamma}{2} & -e^{i\frac{\delta}{2}} \underbrace{-i\frac{\beta}{2}}_{\text{relative phase}} \sin\frac{\gamma}{2} \\ e^{-i\frac{\delta}{2}} \underbrace{+i\frac{\beta}{2}}_{\text{relative phase}} \sin\frac{\gamma}{2} & e^{i\frac{\delta}{2}} \underbrace{+i\frac{\beta}{2}}_{\text{relative phase}} \cos\frac{\gamma}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

overall phase for both columns

$U|0\rangle$: general qubit state up to overall phase

$U|1\rangle$: qubit state ortho to $U|0\rangle$ up to a phase

Finally, checking:

phases multiplied to rows

$$R_z(\beta) R_y(\gamma) R_z(\delta)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} e^{-i\frac{\beta}{2}} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\frac{\beta}{2}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos\frac{\gamma}{2} & -\sin\frac{\gamma}{2} \\ \sin\frac{\gamma}{2} & \cos\frac{\gamma}{2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e^{-i\frac{\delta}{2}} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\frac{\delta}{2}} \end{pmatrix}$$
phases multiplied to cols

$$= \begin{pmatrix} e^{-i\frac{\delta}{2}} e^{-i\frac{\beta}{2}} \cos\frac{\gamma}{2} & -e^{-i\frac{\delta}{2}} e^{-i\frac{\beta}{2}} \sin\frac{\gamma}{2} \\ e^{-i\frac{\delta}{2}} e^{i\frac{\beta}{2}} \sin\frac{\gamma}{2} & e^{-i\frac{\delta}{2}} e^{i\frac{\beta}{2}} \cos\frac{\gamma}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

completes the proof.

Corollary:

The most general single-qubit unitary has the form

$$W = e^{i\alpha} R_z(\beta) R_x(\gamma) R_z(\delta)$$

where $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta \in \mathbb{R}$.



y in the theorem

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The most general single-qubit unitary has the form

$$W = e^{i\alpha} R_z(\beta) R_x(\gamma) R_z(\delta)$$

where $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta \in \mathbb{R}$.

Proof: $W = R_z(-\frac{\pi}{2}) U R_z(\frac{\pi}{2})$ for some 2×2 unitary U .

because you can take

$$R_z(\frac{\pi}{2}) W R_z(-\frac{\pi}{2}) = U$$

Corollary:

The most general single-qubit unitary has the form

$$W = e^{i\alpha} R_z(\beta) R_x(\gamma) R_z(\delta)$$

where $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta \in \mathbb{R}$.

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From the theorem $U = e^{i\alpha} R_z(\beta) R_y(\gamma) R_z(\delta)$.

for some $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta \in \mathbb{R}$,

so, $W = R_z(-\frac{\pi}{2}) e^{i\alpha} R_z(\beta) R_y(\gamma) R_z(\delta) R_z(\frac{\pi}{2})$

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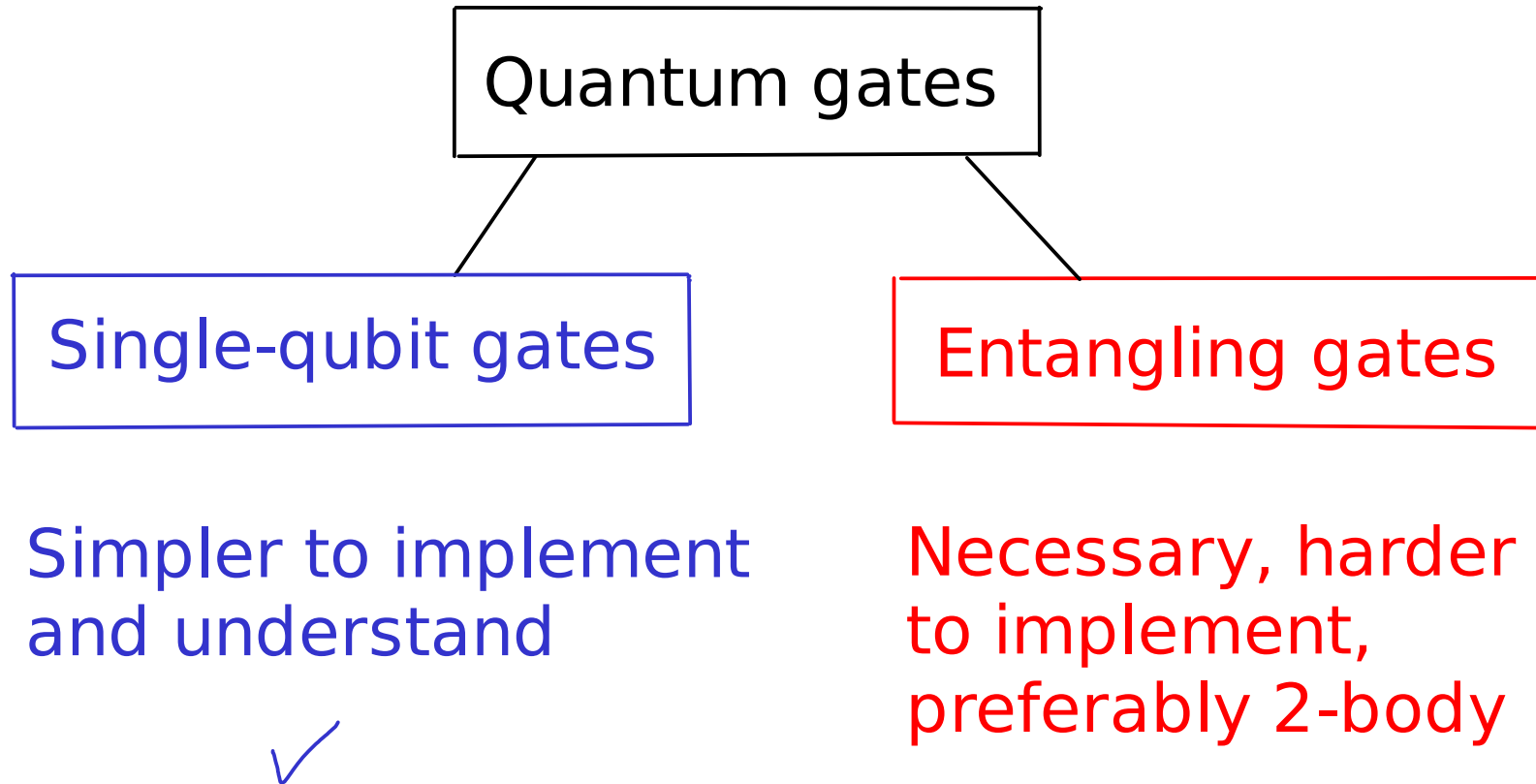
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(b) Quantum gates

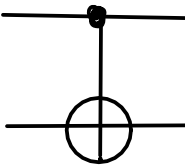


Entangling gates:

Definition: a unitary U that acts on two systems S_1 , S_2 is a tensor product unitary if $U = U_1 \otimes U_2$ for some unitaries U_1 (U_2) acting on S_1 (S_2).

A unitary U is called entangling if it is not a tensor product unitary.

Entangling gates:

Example: CNOT  control (1st qubit)
target (2nd qubit)

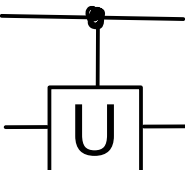
Action on a basis: $|0\rangle|0\rangle \longrightarrow |0\rangle|0\rangle$
 $|0\rangle|1\rangle \longrightarrow |0\rangle|1\rangle$
 $|1\rangle|0\rangle \longrightarrow |1\rangle|1\rangle$
 $|1\rangle|1\rangle \longrightarrow |1\rangle|0\rangle$

Conditioned on control being "1" (filled circle)
apply a NOT to the target.

Matrix representation: $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

Entangling gates:

Generalization:
controlled-U



Action on a basis:

$$\begin{aligned} |0\rangle|0\rangle &\longrightarrow |0\rangle|0\rangle \\ |0\rangle|1\rangle &\longrightarrow |0\rangle|1\rangle \\ |1\rangle|0\rangle &\longrightarrow |1\rangle U|0\rangle \\ |1\rangle|1\rangle &\longrightarrow |1\rangle U|1\rangle \end{aligned}$$

Conditioned on control being "1" (filled circle)
apply U to the target.

Matrix representation:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & U & \\ 0 & 0 & & \end{pmatrix}$$

In Dirac notation: $C-U = |0\rangle\langle 0| \otimes I + |1\rangle\langle 1| \otimes U$.

Labelling the **control register "C"** and **target register "T"**

$\forall |\psi\rangle, a, b =$

$$(a|0\rangle + b|1\rangle)_C |\psi\rangle_T \rightarrow a|0\rangle_C |\psi\rangle_T + b|1\rangle_C (U|\psi\rangle_T)$$

Question:

Let $U \neq I$. Is there an input for which the control qubit is changed by the controlled-U gate?

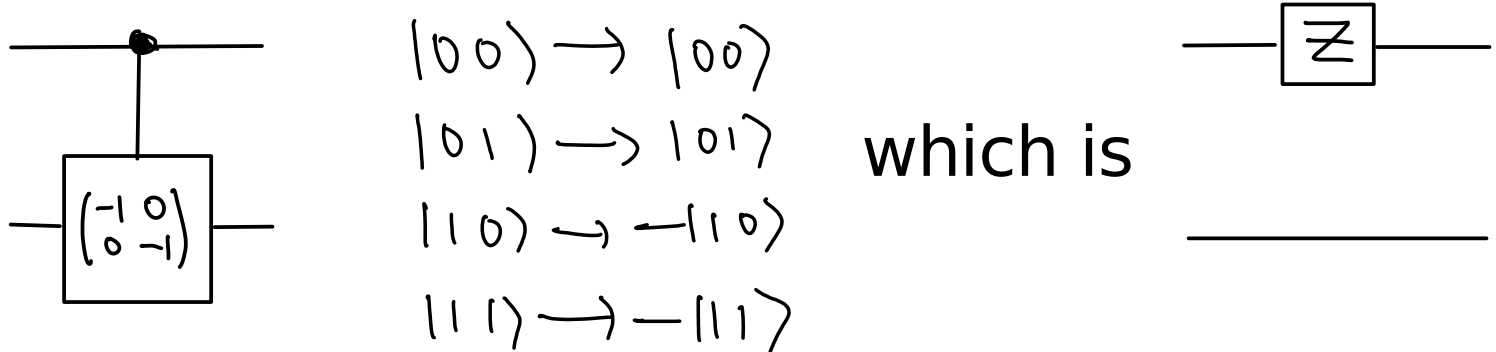
- (a) for any such U , there is always an input such that the control qubit changes,
- (b) for some U , the control qubit never changes, for some other U , there is an input such that the control qubit changes,
- (c) the control qubit is never changed by a controlled-U gate.

Answer in the next 3 pages. Please do not read before we vote ...

(c) is wrong.

Unlike the classical setting, the control register of a c-U gate can be changed by the gate !

e.g.1 $c(-I) = Z \otimes I$



NB. Overall phase of U matters when taking c-U.

e.g.2, for CNOT, consider the input

$$\frac{|0\rangle + |1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}} \otimes \frac{|0\rangle - |1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{1}{2} (|00\rangle + |10\rangle - |01\rangle - |11\rangle)$$

Output after a CNOT: $\frac{1}{2} (|00\rangle + |11\rangle - |01\rangle - |10\rangle)$

$$= \frac{|0\rangle - |1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}} \otimes \frac{|0\rangle - |1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$$

(a) is correct. If $U \neq I$, there is an input whose controlled qubit is changed by controlled- U :

Proof: let U has eigenvalues λ_0, λ_1 with corresponding eigenvectors $|e_0\rangle, |e_1\rangle$.

Since $U \neq I$, at least one eigenvalue not equal to one.

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WLOG: let $\lambda_0 \neq 1$.

Take the input: $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle + |1\rangle)_C \otimes |e_0\rangle_T$

Output of the gate: $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|0\rangle_C \otimes |e_0\rangle_T + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|1\rangle_C \otimes \lambda_0|e_0\rangle_T$

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 $= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle + \lambda_0|1\rangle)_C \otimes |e_0\rangle_T$

So the control qubit is changed (a "phase kick-back")!

Question:

Is the SWAP gate, defined by: $|i\rangle|j\rangle \rightarrow |j\rangle|i\rangle$
entangling?

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

Question:

Is the SWAP gate, defined by: $|i\rangle|j\rangle \rightarrow |j\rangle|i\rangle$
together with all single qubit gates, a universal
gate set for quantum computation ?

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

Recall for classical circuits:

Definition: universal set of gates

A set of gates G is universal if :

for any positive integers n, m

and

for any function $f : \{0,1\}^n \rightarrow \{0,1\}^m$

there is a circuit to compute f using the gates in G .

For quantum circuits: the possible unitaries form a continuous set. Do we need a continuous set of gates for universality (e.g., CNOT+all 1-qubit gates)?