

SMR.1587 - 13

*SCHOOL AND WORKSHOP ON
QUANTUM ENTANGLEMENT, DECOHERENCE, INFORMATION, AND
GEOMETRICAL PHASES IN COMPLEX SYSTEMS
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**Dynamical control of decoherence
via active decoupling techniques:
Random dynamical decoupling**

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These are preliminary lecture notes, intended only for distribution to participants



Dynamical control of decoherence via active decoupling techniques: *Random dynamical decoupling*

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Why decoherence control?

1

Goal: Maintain & *coherently* manipulate *long-lived* quantum states under realistic *open-system* dynamics.

● **Practical motivation:**

- Challenge to practically realize **quantum information processing**.
- Experimental progress in **nanoscale design and fabrication**.
- Precision measurements, **quantum-limited systems**.

● **Conceptual motivation:**

- Develop **control-theoretic framework** for open quantum systems.

Control toolbox:

Passive quantum
stabilization

Reservoir
Engineering &
Robust Design

Noiseless
Subsystems

Quantum
Feedback

Decoherence
Control

Active quantum
stabilization

Error-Correcting
Codes

Dynamical
Decoupling

☞ This talk



From: Coherent averaging techniques

Coherent control of nuclear spin Hamiltonians in HR multi-pulse NMR spectroscopy.

E.L. Hahn, PR 80, 580 (1950);

U. Haeberlen & J.S. Waugh, PR 175, 453 (1968).

To: Dynamical decoupling techniques

Open-loop dynamical control schemes relying on the repeated application of pulsed or switched controls drawn* from a finite control set.

*deterministically or...

- Dynamical decoupling with *unlimited* control resources
- Bang-bang decoupling [arbitrary strength, arbitrarily fast, perfect control]

Problem: How do we design *efficient* and *robust* decoupling schemes operating under realistic control assumptions?

- Dynamical decoupling with *limited* control resources
- Eulerian decoupling [**bounded strength**, still arbitrarily fast, **faulty** control]
- *... **stochastically!**
- Random decoupling [arbitrary strength, **not necessarily ultrafast?**, perfect control]

L. Viola & S. Lloyd, PRA **58**, 2733 (1998).

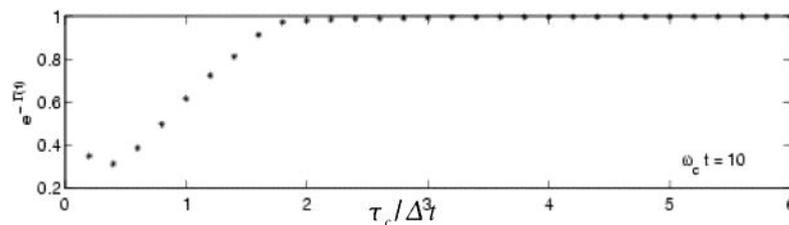
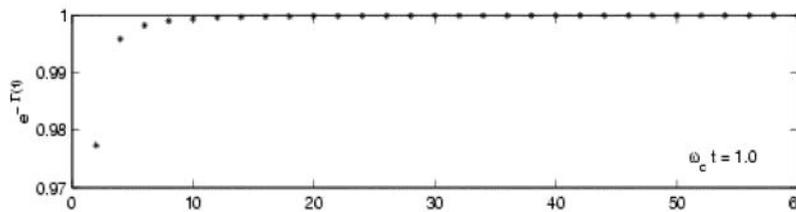
Dephasing spin-boson model:

$$H_0 = \nu_0 \sigma_z + \sum_k \omega_k b_k^\dagger b_k + \sigma_z \sum_k g_k (b_k + b_k^\dagger)$$

Control action:

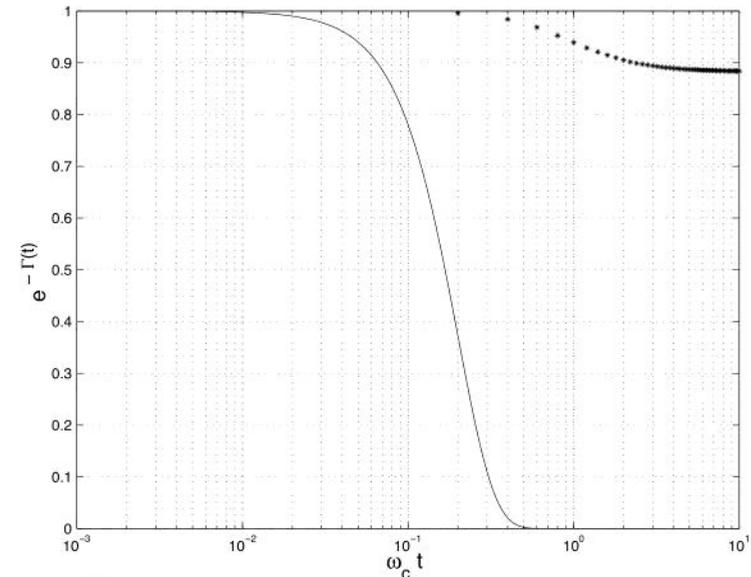
A train of identical, resonant π pulses, with separation Δt - **arbitrarily strong and fast (BB)**.

Decoherence suppression if $\Delta t \ll \tau_c$



Low-temperature Ohmic bath

$$\frac{\omega_c}{T} = 100 \quad \frac{\Delta t}{\tau_c} = 2N \frac{\tau_c}{t} \quad N = 1, \dots, N_{max} = 30$$



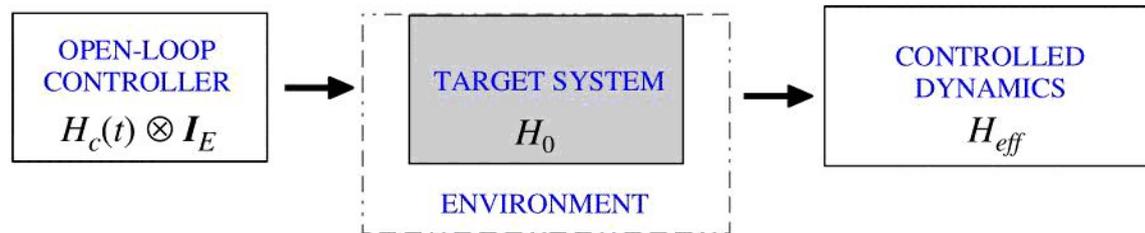
High-temperature Ohmic bath

$$\frac{\omega_c}{T} = 0.01 \quad \frac{\Delta t}{\tau_c} = 0.1 \quad \omega_c t_N = 2N \left(\frac{\Delta t}{\tau_c} \right),$$

$$N = 1, \dots, N_{max} = 50$$

Both suppression and acceleration possible...

Quantum interference effect mediated by non-Markovian response.



$$\mathcal{H}_S \simeq \mathbb{C}^d \quad \text{for some } d$$

- Target system S is coupled to *uncontrollable environment* E : Total drift

$$H_0 = H_S \otimes I_E + I_S \otimes H_E + \sum_a S_a \otimes B_a, \quad S_a \in \text{End}(\mathcal{H}_S), \text{ traceless}$$

- Adjoin controller acting on S alone, $H_0 = H_0 + H_c(t) \otimes I_E$

Design object: $U_c(t) = T \exp \left\{ -i \int_0^t dx H_c(x) \right\}$ **Control propagator**

Controlled evolution: $U(t) = U_c(t) \tilde{U}(t)$

$$\tilde{U}(t) = T \exp \left\{ -i \int_0^t dx U_c^\dagger(x) H_0 U_c(x) \right\} \quad \text{Logical propagator}$$

→ The logical propagator $\tilde{U}(t)$ describes the evolution of the system in a *logical frame* that follows the applied control.

- Assume that controller operates **cyclically**: $U_c(t + T_c) = U_c(t)$ for $T_c > 0$.
 → Logical and physical frames coincide at times $t_M = M T_c$.

Stroboscopic controlled evolution: $U(t_M = M T_c) = \tilde{U}(t_M = M T_c)$.

- Assume that drift Hamiltonian is *time-independent*, with $\|H_0\|_2 \leq K = \text{Max} |\text{eig}(H_0)|$
 → A time-independent average Hamiltonian exists s.t.

$$U(t_M = M T_c) = \exp\{-i \bar{H} t_M\} = \exp\{-i(\bar{H}^{(0)} + \bar{H}^{(1)} + \dots)t_M\}$$

Magnus series

Convergent for $K T_c < 1$.

- First-order decoupling: Generate \bar{H} to lowest order in T_c ,

$$\bar{H}_0 = \frac{1}{T_c} \int_0^{T_c} dx U_c^\dagger(x) H_0 U_c(x)$$

\bar{H}_0 approaches \bar{H} in the **fast control limit**, $T_c = T/M$, $M \rightarrow \infty$.

- Physical requirement for manipulation:

Coupling must remain coherent over manipulation time scale, $T_c \ll \tau_c = \min_i \{\tau_i^{corr}\}$

Decoherence contributions from $\bar{H}^{(k)}$ scale as $O(K T_c)^{2k} = O(T_c / \tau_c)^{2k}$, $k \geq 1$. Focus on \bar{H}_0 .

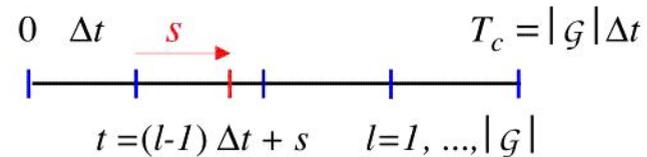
L. Viola, E. Knill, S. Lloyd, PRL **82**, 2417 (1999).

Keyword: Map time-average into group-theoretical average.

- **Decoupling group:** $\mathcal{G} = \{g_j\}$, $j = 0, \dots, |\mathcal{G}| - 1$. $\mathbb{C}\mathcal{G}$ = decoupling algebra.
 \mathcal{G} acts on state space $\mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{G}}$ via a faithful, unitary, projective representation,

$$\mu(g_j) = \hat{g}_j \in \text{Mat}_d(\mathbb{C}), \quad \widehat{g_j g_k} = \hat{g}_j \hat{g}_k \text{ up to phase, } \hat{g}_0 = I.$$
- **BB protocol:** Let $T_c = |\mathcal{G}| \Delta t$ and assign $U_c(t)$ over T_c as

$$U_c((l-1)\Delta t + s) = \hat{g}_{l-1}$$



i.e.

$$U_c(t) = \begin{matrix} \hat{g}_0 & t = s \\ \hat{g}_1 & t = \Delta t + s \\ \dots & \dots \\ \hat{g}_{|\mathcal{G}|-1} & t = (|\mathcal{G}| - 1)\Delta t + s \end{matrix}$$

$$s \in [0, \Delta t)$$

Instantaneously change control propagator at the end of each control subinterval.

- Lowest-order BB effective Hamiltonian:

$$\bar{H}_0 = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{G}|} \sum_j \hat{g}_j^\dagger H_0 \hat{g}_j = \Pi_{\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_{\mathcal{G}}}(H_0),$$

\mathcal{G} -symmetrization

where $\Pi_{\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_{\mathcal{G}}}$ is the projector onto the commutant $\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_{\mathcal{G}}$.

- **Noise suppression** on entire state space iff $\Pi_{\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_{\mathcal{G}}}(S_a) = 0 \quad \forall a$.

$$\Pi_{\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_{\mathcal{G}}}(H_0) = \Pi_{\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_{\mathcal{G}}}(H_S) \otimes I_E + I_S \otimes H_E + \sum_a \Pi_{\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_{\mathcal{G}}}(S_a) \otimes B_a$$

- (1) **Maximal averaging:** $\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_{\mathcal{G}} = \mathbb{C}I$

→ \mathcal{G} acts *irreducibly* over \mathcal{H}_S . Averaging over a unitary error basis.

→ Required when unwanted interaction is arbitrary/unknown.

- (2) **Selective averaging:** $\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_{\mathcal{G}} \neq \mathbb{C}I$

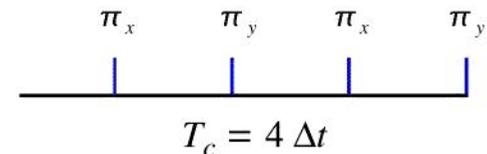
→ \mathcal{G} acts *reducibly* over \mathcal{H}_S .

→ \mathcal{G} may be determined from available knowledge of unwanted interaction.

- Examples: Single qubit

→ Suppression of *pure dephasing* via \mathbb{Z}_2 symmetrization.

→ Suppression of *arbitrary noise* via $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ symmetrization.



L. Viola, S. Lloyd, E. Knill, PRL **83**, 4888 (1999).

Problem: Manipulations of effective dynamics are constrained in symmetry and timing.

- **Decoupled control schemes:**

- (1) **Arbitrary (strength)/fast (switching) control (BB).**

- Use BB pulses available beside BB decoupling pulses. Must be synchronized with cycle time.

- (2) **Weak (strength)/slow (switching) control.**

- Any Hamiltonian $A \in \widehat{\mathfrak{C}}_{\mathcal{G}}$ 'can be applied in parallel with controller for times $\Delta T \gg T_c$.

- (3) **Weak (strength)/fast (switching) control.**

- A Hamiltonian $B \notin \widehat{\mathfrak{C}}_{\mathcal{G}}$ 'can be obtained by applying a modulated Hamiltonian

$$B_j = g_j B g_j^\dagger \text{ during the } j\text{th sub-interval of each control cycle: } \widetilde{H}_{\text{eff}} = \Pi_{\widehat{\mathfrak{G}}}(H_0) + B.$$

- **Universal decoupled control over $\mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{G}}$:**

Achievable by combining control according to different decoupled schemes, *e.g.*

- Alternate slow control from *two* distinct commutants (if two controllers available);

- Alternate slow control from $\widehat{\mathfrak{C}}_{\mathcal{G}}$ 'with weak/fast control outside.

- ...

Noise-tolerant universal quantum computation based solely on unitary means possible in principle.

Required control resources *unrealistic* for three main reasons:

- **Amplitude requirement** for BB control design: **Arbitrarily strong control**
Instantaneous control pulses imply *unbounded* control strengths even for finite T_c .
Additional drawbacks:
 - Poor spectral *selectivity*.
 - Inappropriate for including drift during pulses.
- **Timescale requirement** for complete decoherence suppression: **Arbitrarily fast control**
Coupling must be coherent over manipulation time scale, $T_c \ll \tau_c = \min_i \{ \tau_i^{corr} \}$
 - Estimated control rates may be *prohibitively high* if τ_c is short.
 - Averaging is more and more *inefficient* with growing group size $|\mathcal{G}|$.
 - What about interactions which *fluctuate* on time scale short wrto T_c ?
- **Ideal control** resources: **Arbitrarily accurate control**
 - How tolerant of *systematic* control faults?
 - How tolerant of *random* imperfection/jitter?

Can we decouple under more realistic assumptions?...

L. Viola & E. Knill, PRL **90**, 037901 (2003).

Keyword: Design continuous $U_c(t)$ according to Eulerian cycle.

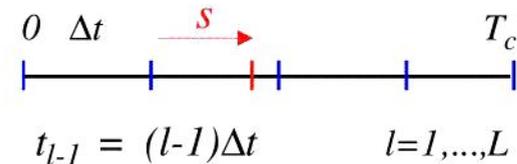
- **Control resources:** Assume ability to implement group generators,

$$\hat{y}_\lambda = \text{Texp} \left\{ -i \int_0^{\Delta t} ds h_\lambda(s) \right\} \equiv u_\lambda(\Delta t), \quad \lambda = 1, \dots, |\Gamma|.$$

- **Eulerian protocol:** Choose Eulerian cycle $\mathcal{P}_E = (\gamma_{\lambda_1}, \gamma_{\lambda_2}, \dots, \gamma_{\lambda_L})$ on $G(G, \Gamma)$.

Let $T_c = L \Delta t$ and assign $U_c(t)$ over T_c as

$$U_c(t_{l-1} + s) = u_l(s) U_c(t_{l-1})$$



$$U_c(t) = \begin{matrix} u_1(s) & t=s & s \in [0, \Delta t) \\ u_2(s) \hat{y}_{\lambda_1} & t=\Delta t+s \\ u_3(s) \hat{y}_{\lambda_2} \hat{y}_{\lambda_1} & t=2\Delta t+s \\ \dots & \dots \\ u_L(s) \hat{y}_{\lambda_{L-1}} & t=(L-1)\Delta t+s \end{matrix}$$

During the l -th interval, use as a control Hamiltonian the one that implements the generator \hat{y}_{λ_l} , with γ_{λ_l} colouring the l -th edge in \mathcal{P}_E .

$$\hat{y}_{\lambda_L} \dots \hat{y}_{\lambda_2} \hat{y}_{\lambda_1} = I \quad \text{by cyclicity.}$$

$G = \mathcal{H}_2 = \{ 0, 1 \}$, additive (mod 2), abelian

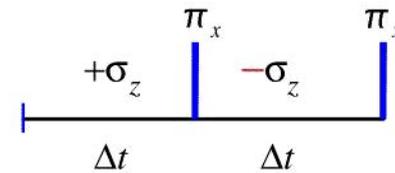
Generating set $\Gamma = \{ \gamma_1 \} = \{ 1 \}$, $\mathcal{P}_E = (\gamma_1, \gamma_1)$

- Applications: **Elimination of unwanted σ_z dynamics in a single qubit.**

$\mathcal{H}_G \simeq \mathbb{C}^2$, represent G in $\mathcal{U}(\mathcal{H}_G)$ as $\widehat{G} = \{ I, \sigma_x \}$, with $\Pi_{\widehat{G}}(\sigma_z) = 0$.

BB implementation:

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{H}_0 &= \frac{1}{2\Delta t} \left[\int_0^{\Delta t} ds I \sigma_z I + \int_0^{\Delta t} ds \sigma_x \sigma_z \sigma_x \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} [\sigma_z + \sigma_x \sigma_z \sigma_x] = 0 \end{aligned}$$

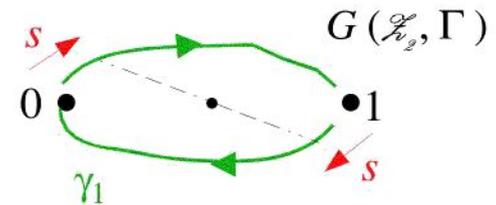


Eulerian implementation:

$$u_x(t) = \exp \left\{ -i \int_0^t du h_x(u) \right\},$$

$$h_x(t) = f(t) \sigma_x, \quad u_x(\Delta t) = \sigma_x$$

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{H}_0 &= \frac{1}{2\Delta t} \left[\int_0^{\Delta t} ds u_x^\dagger(s) \sigma_z u_x(s) + \int_0^{\Delta t} ds \sigma_x u_x^\dagger(s) \sigma_z u_x(s) \sigma_x \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2\Delta t} \left[\int_0^{\Delta t} ds u_x^\dagger(s) \sigma_z u_x(s) + \int_0^{\Delta t} ds u_x^\dagger(s) (-\sigma_z) u_x(s) \right] = 0 \end{aligned}$$



No time overhead wrto BB case.

Intrinsic robustness against any systematic error along z, y.

Generalize to arbitrary *time-independent* systems and couplings:

- Under mild assumptions on the control Hamiltonians, $h_l(s) \in \widehat{\mathbb{C}}_{\mathcal{G}} \quad \forall s \in [0, \Delta t], \forall l$, Eulerian design is able to retain the *same* \mathcal{G} -symmetrization of the BB limit:

$$\overline{H}_0 = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{G}|} \sum_j \hat{g}_j^\dagger H_0 \hat{g}_j$$

→ For every *finite* control period, $0 < T_c \ll \tau_c$, control can be implemented using *bounded-strength Hamiltonians*.

- Stability analysis: Non-ideal control implementation due to **systematic errors**:

$$H'_c(t) = H_c(t) + \Delta H_c(t) = \text{ideal control} + \text{error component},$$

$$H_{tot}(t) = H_0 + H'_c(t) = [H_0 + \Delta H_c(t)] + H_c(t).$$

→ Eulerian decoupling is intrinsically *stable against faulty control implementations*:

> Residual errors are themselves symmetrized: $\Delta H_c(s) \rightarrow \overline{\Delta H_c(s)} \in \widehat{\mathbb{C}}_{\mathcal{G}}$

> They are either averaged out, or they can be compensated for by encoding into subsystems of S .

Improved amplitude requirements + added robustness

- **Eulerian design:**
 - Solves amplitude requirement;
 - Significantly mitigates ideality requirement.
- Disadvantage: Control cycle is *lengthened* by a (polynomial) factor $|F|...$
 - > Partial fix for *few-body* Hamiltonians/interactions via combinatorial design:
Eulerian orthogonal arrays
[P. Wocjan, quant-ph/0410107.](#)
 - > Complexity of decoupling (= required number of averaging subinterval in a cycle) still *quadratic* in the number n of qubits – still significant for large n .
- Enhanced error tolerance also achievable by **concatenated dynamical decoupling:**
Nested cycles of pulses, with pulse interval shrinking between successive layers.
[K. Khodjasteh & D. A. Lidar, quant-ph/0408128.](#)
- Disadvantage: *Exponential number of pulses* needed...
 - Timing requirements very stringent;
 - No general applicability to time-dependent interactions.

Try a different approach...

L. Viola & E. Knill, submitted (2004).

Keyword: Assign $U_c(t)$ according to a random control path.

Focus on switching off the evolution due to a *generic* $H_S(t)$ (no environment).

- **Control resources:** Available control in a discrete or continuous compact \mathcal{G} ,

$$\mu(g_j) = \hat{g}_j \in \text{Mat}_d(\mathbb{C}), \text{ projective.}$$

- **Random protocol:** Rotate state of S according to \mathcal{G} randomly over time:

→ Past control operations and control times: **Known.**

→ Future control path: **Uniformly random.**

Depict the evolution of the system directly in the logical frame that follows the applied control.

Logical state: $\tilde{\rho}_S(t) = U_c^\dagger(t) \rho_S(t) U_c(t)$ Logical evolution: $\tilde{\rho}_S(t) = \tilde{U}(t) \tilde{\rho}_S(0) \tilde{U}^\dagger(t)$

$$\tilde{U}(t) = U_c^\dagger(t) U(t) = T \exp \left\{ -i \int_0^t dx U_c^\dagger(x) H_0 U_c(x) \right\}$$

→ Logical and physical frames **almost never** coincide: *Acyclic* decoupling.

- Characterize decoupling performance by an appropriate error metric on pure states:

A-priori error probability:

$$\epsilon_T(P_S) = E \{ \text{tr}_S (P_S^\perp \tilde{\rho}_S(t)) \} \quad P_S = |\psi\rangle_S \langle \psi|$$

$$= E \{ \text{tr}_S (P_S^\perp \tilde{U}(T) P_S \tilde{U}(T)^\dagger) \}$$

Worst-case pure-state error probability:

$$\epsilon_T = \text{Max}_{P_S} \{ \epsilon_T(P_S) \}$$

- Theorem (Random decoupling).** Suppose that the following conditions hold:

- (i) \mathcal{G} acts *irreducibly* on the state space.
- (ii) $U_c(t)$ is *uniformly random* for every fixed t .
- (iii) For any $t, s > 0$, $U_c(t)$ and $U_c(t+s)$ are *independent* for $s > \Delta t$.
- (iv) $\|H_S(t)\|_2 \leq K$ *uniformly* in time. Then

$$\epsilon_T = O(T \Delta t K^2) \quad T \Delta t K^2 \ll 1$$

Random averaging works!

- Simplest implementation setting:
 - *Discrete* control group \mathcal{G} . Enforce random walk on \mathcal{G} through a *sequence of equally spaced BB pulses randomly drawn from \mathcal{G} .*

- Extend to a system S coupled to an environment E : Seek error metric depending only on reduced state of S in the logical frame:

A-priori error probability:

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_T(P_S) &= \mathbf{E} \{ \text{tr}_S (P_S^\perp \tilde{\rho}_S(t)) \} \quad P_S = |\psi\rangle_S \langle \psi|, P_E = |\phi\rangle_E \langle \phi| \\ &= \mathbf{E} \{ \text{tr}_{S,E} (P_S^\perp \otimes \mathbf{I}_E \tilde{U}^\dagger(T) P_S \otimes P_E \tilde{U}^\dagger(T)^\dagger) \} \\ \tilde{U}^\dagger(t) &= T \exp \left\{ -i \int_0^t dx U_c^\dagger(x) [H_S + H_{SE}] U_c(x) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Worst-case pure-state error probability:

$$\epsilon_T = \text{Max}_{P_S} \{ \epsilon_T(P_S) \}$$

- **Theorem (Random decoherence control).** Suppose that the same irreducibility, uniformity, and independence assumptions hold as before, and that in addition

(iv) $\|H_S(t) + H_{SE}(t)\|_2 \leq K$ uniformly in time. Then

$$\epsilon_T = O(T \Delta t K^2) \quad T \Delta t K^2 \ll 1$$

→ K is a measure of the overall noise strength, $1/K \sim \tau_c = \min_i \{ \tau_i^{\text{corr}} \}$.

Arbitrarily accurate decoupling of S from E possible on average in the logical frame.

How does this compare to standard cyclic decoupling?...

• **Theorem (Deterministic error bound).** Suppose that the following conditions hold:

- (i) \mathcal{G} acts *irreducibly* on the state space.
- (ii) $U_c(t)$ is assigned according to a cyclic scheme with $M=|\mathcal{G}|$ intervals.
- (iii) $\|H_s\|_2 \leq K$, $KT_c < 1$. Then

$$\epsilon_T = O\left((TT_c K^2)^2\right) \quad TT_c K^2 \ll 1 - KT_c$$

• Meaning: $R = T \Delta t K^2 = (K \Delta t)^2 \frac{T}{\Delta t} = \text{Max error probability/step} * \text{No. of Steps}$

$$\epsilon_T^{\text{Random}} = O(R) \quad \text{vs} \quad \epsilon_T^{\text{Deterministic}} = O\left(R(M^2 R)\right)$$

→ Superior performance of *cyclic* decoupling expected if:

1. Any time-dependence has time scale *longer* than $T_c = M\Delta t$;
2. $M^2 R \ll 1$

→ Superior performance of *random* decoupling expected if:

1. Time-dependencies have time scale *short* compared $T_c = M\Delta t$, long compared to Δt ;
2. $M^2 R \gg 1$

L. F. Dos Santos & L. Viola, submitted (2004).

Keyword: Assign $U_c(t)$ according to a random control path on \mathcal{K}_2 .

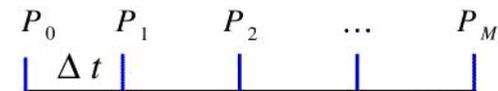
- System: Single qubit decohering via coupling to a bosonic bath,

$$H_0 = \nu_0 \sigma_z + \sum_k \omega_k b_k^\dagger b_k + \sigma_z \sum_k g_k (b_k + b_k^\dagger)$$

- Control: A train of **random BB pulses**, with separation Δt ,

$$\text{Prob}\{P_j = I\} = 0.5$$

$$\text{Prob}\{P_j = \pi_x\} = 0.5$$



$$T_M = M\Delta t$$

→ Exact expression for decay of coherence element *in the logical frame*:

$$\tilde{\rho}_{01}(t_M) = Z_{01}(t_M) \tilde{\rho}_{01}(0) \quad Z_{01}(t_M) = \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \sum_k \left| \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} \Xi_j e^{i\omega_k t_j} \xi_k(\Delta t) \right|^2 \coth \left(\frac{\omega_k}{2k_B T} \right) \right\}$$

$$Z_{01}(t_M) = \exp \{ -\Gamma(t_M) \} \quad \Xi_j = (-1)^{\lambda_0 + \dots + \lambda_j} \quad \xi_k(\Delta t) = \frac{2g_k}{\omega_k} (1 - e^{i\omega_k \Delta t})$$

**Decoherence suppression
in the fast control limit:**

$$E \{ Z_{01}(t_M) \} \rightarrow 1$$

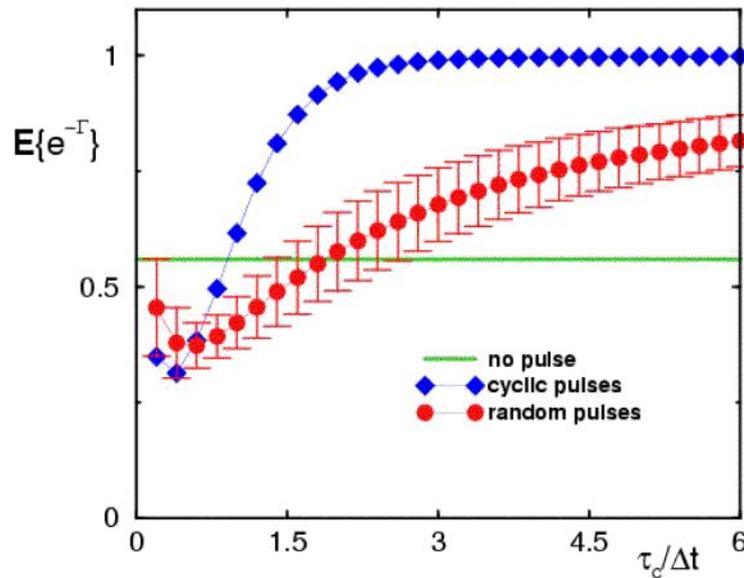
→ Quantitative study of *typical* performance in various regimes possible...

Constant interactions-

$$H_{SE} = \sigma_z \sum_k g_k (b_k + b_k^\dagger)$$

Low-temperature Ohmic bath

$$\frac{\omega_c}{T} = 100 \quad \omega_c t = 10$$



1. Randomization works.
2. No improvement for const couplings (G too small!) - yet...
3. Safer decoupling procedure for time-dep couplings.

Time-varying interactions-

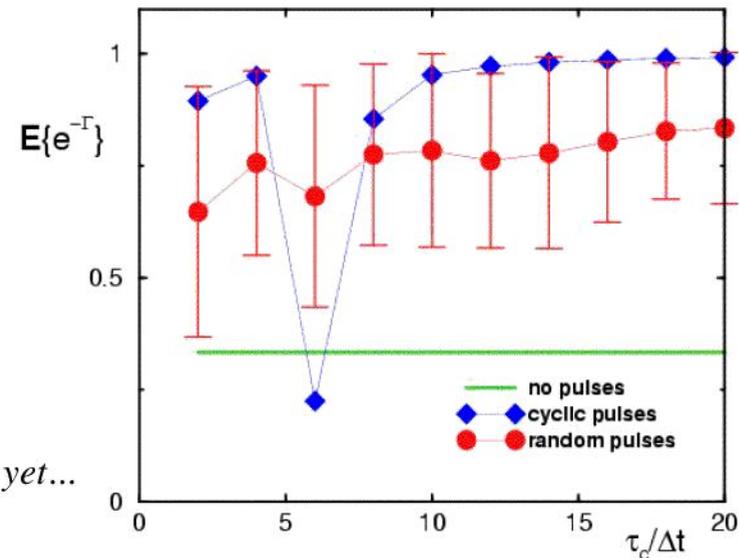
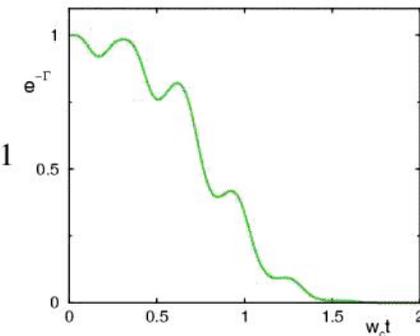
$$g_k \rightarrow g_k(t) = g_k \cos(c_1 t) * \sin(c_2 t)$$

High-temperature Ohmic bath

$$\frac{\omega_c}{T} = 0.01 \quad \omega_c t = 1$$

$$c_1 = 295 \pi$$

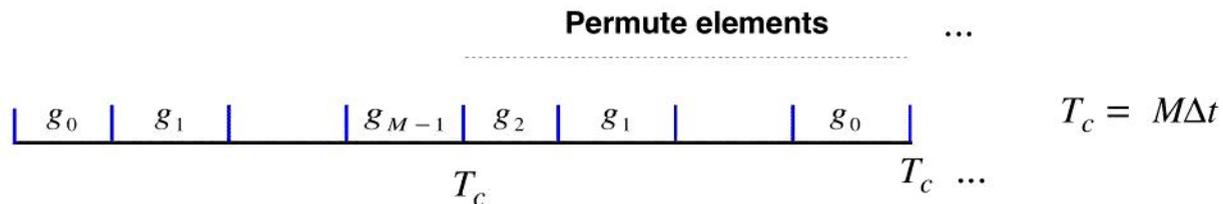
$$c_2 = 325 \pi$$



- **Hybrid decoupling schemes:** Merge cyclic with random control design

→ Randomize the cycles:

If $|\mathcal{G}|=M$, there are $M!$ paths to follow to traverse \mathcal{G}



Retains stroboscopic overlap between physical and logical frame.

- **Significantly faster averaging expected for large control groups:**

Examples, n qubits: Unitary error groups, $M=4^n$; Symmetric groups: $M=n!...$

- **Ongoing work:**

- Develop more *physical* understanding: *How* is randomization working?
- Error-bounds for hybrid schemes.
- Typical performance of *discrete* randomly-controlled (*qudit*) systems.
- Typical performance of *continuous* randomly-controlled (*harmonic*) systems.
- Stability analysis: Concatenation and *fault-tolerance* properties.
- Schemes for randomly controlled *universal quantum computation*.

...

- Dynamical decoupling techniques offer a well-defined conceptual framework to address a variety of open-loop coherent-control problems for quantum systems:
 - Decoherence control.
 - Quantum-dynamical engineering, physical and logical degrees of freedom.
- Eulerian design represents a significant advance over BB design in terms of both the required control resources (*bounded* vs unbounded-strengths) and the resulting control performance (intrinsic *robustness*).
- Randomization offers the potential for *faster convergence* and *relaxed timing requirements* compared to cyclic decoupling in relevant control scenarios.
 - New prospects for efficient, robust dynamical decoupling schemes...
 - Largely unexplored setting for quantum-dynamical control...

More soon!...

Further reading (A very incomplete list...)

- 1968 Coherent averaging in NMR. Haeberlen & Waugh, PR **175**, 453
- 1998 BB control/Spin echo for single qubit. Viola & Lloyd, PRA **58**, 2733; Ban, JMO **45**, 2315
- 1999 Error suppression/symmetrization. Viola, Knill, Lloyd, PRL **82**, 2417; Zanardi, PLA **258**, 77
Universal decoupled control. Viola, Lloyd, Knill, PRL **83**, 4888; Duan & Guo, PLA **261**, 139
Parity kicks for quantum oscillator. Vitali & Tombesi, PRA **59**, 4178
- 2000 Dynamical generation of Nss/DFSs. Viola, Knill, Lloyd, PRL **85**, 3520
Algebraic framework. Knill, Laflamme, Viola, PRL **84**, 2525; Zanardi, PRA **63**, 012301
Collisional decoherence suppression. Search & Berman, PRL **85**, 2272; PRA **62**, 053405
Off-resonant effect suppression. Tian & Lloyd, PRA **62**, 050301
- 2001 Exp. BB suppression of single-photon dephasing. Berglund, quant-ph/0010001
Inhibition of decay to continuum. Agarwal, Scully, Walther, PRL **86**, 4271
Encoded dynamical decoupling. Lidar & Wu, PRL **88**, 017905; Viola, PRA **66**, 012307
- 2002 Exp. realization of encoded dynamical decoupling. Fortunato, Viola, NJP **4**, 5.1
Universal quantum simulation. Wocjan et al, QIC **2**, 133; Lloyd & Viola, PRA **65**, 010101
Heating/finite temperature reservoir. Vitali & Tombesi, PRA **65**, 012305
DFS dynamical generation. Wu & Lidar, PRL **88**, 207902
Solid-state QC design and decoherence. Byrd & Lidar, PRL **89**, 047901
Universal leakage suppression. Wu, Byrd, Lidar, PRL **89**, 127901
Empirical BB control. Byrd & Lidar, quant-ph/0205156
Non-linear reservoir couplings. Uchiyama & Aihara, PRA **66**, 032313
- 2003 Robust bounded-strength design. Viola & Knill, PRL **90**, 037901

(over →)

Further reading (continued)

- 2004 Connection with Quantum Zeno physics.
Application to $1/f$ spectral densities/power spectra.
- Connection with universal dynamical control.
Decoupling based on Hamilton cycles.
Concatenated dynamical decoupling.
Control of entanglement.
Equivalence with orthogonal arrays.
Decoupling based on Eulerian orthogonal arrays.
[Random dynamical decoupling](#).
- Application to nanomechanical resonator cooling.
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- Facchi, Lidar, Pascazio, PRA **69**, 032314
Shiokawa & Lidar, PRA **69**, 030302
Faoro & Viola, PRL **92**, 117905
Falci et al, PRA **70**, 040101
Kofman & Kuritzki, PRL **93**, 130406
Roetteler, quant-ph/0408078
Khodjasteh & Lidar, quant-ph/0408128
Uchiyama & Aihara, quant-ph/0408139
Roetteler & Wocjan, quant-ph/0409135
Wocjan, quant-ph/0410107
Viola & Knill, submitted
Dos Santos & Viola, submitted
Zhang, Wang, Sun, quant-ph/0410149