



# Geometric phases, adiabaticity and decoherence in *qubits*

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## Who cares about qubits?

### Fully controllable quantum systems:

A PLAY-GROUND FOR QUANTUM PHYSICS

**STUDY** interplay of **quantum** effects with **decoherence**  
when we have **good control of BOTH.**

**Quantum effects:**    ♣ **super-positions**    ♣ **interference**  
                         ♣ **entanglement**    ♣ **tunnelling**

**Control:**    ♦ **system's Hamiltonian** (including inter-qubit couplings)  
                 ♦ **excellent read-out** of system state.

♣ **environment coupling strength** and *operator*  
♣ **environment spectrum**

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**IF** we have thousands of qubits, we **MIGHT** have a **quantum computer**

# Overview

- la phase de Berry POUR LES NULS : abelian and non-abelian
- Berry phase in qubits

## DECOHERENCE: when system is not isolated

- phase information in adiabatic limit for non-isolated system?
    - Naïve arguments say **NO**
    - Experiments say **YES**
 } Resolving contradiction
  - Berry phase modified by environment :
    - remains **geometric** (not monopole) also **complex**  $\Rightarrow$  *geometric dephasing*
  - geometric phases to avoid decoherence? *No!*
  - symmetries to avoid decoherence? decoh-free subspace, Saclay “quantronium”
- 
- geometric/topological/holonomic quantum computing :
    - No such thing as a free lunch !!*

## What is Berry phase ?

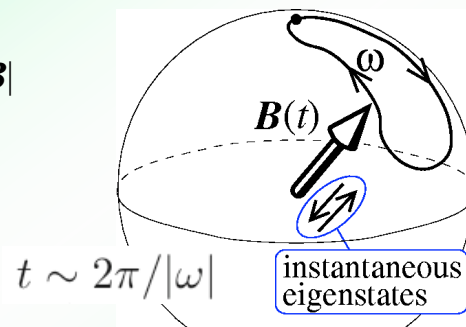
Berry (1984)

Slowly varying B-field :

rate of rotation,  $|\omega| \ll |B|$

$$P(|\uparrow\rangle \rightarrow |\downarrow\rangle) \sim \omega/B \rightarrow 0$$

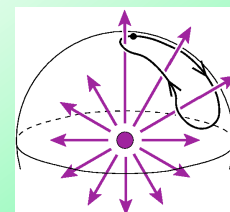
i.e. Adiabatic evolution



$$\Phi = \Phi_{\text{Dynamic}} + \Phi_{\text{Berry}} + \mathcal{O}[(Bt)^{-1}]$$

$$\Phi_{\text{Dynamic}} = \frac{1}{2}|B|t$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_{\text{Berry}} &= \frac{1}{2} \text{(enclosed solid angle)} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \text{(flux of monopole thru loop)} \end{aligned}$$



# La phase de Berry pour les nuls

Berry (1987)

⇒ Rotating frame – rotates with B-field : Hamiltonian ≈ time-indep.

**Lab-frame**

$t = 2\pi n / |\omega|$

**Rotating-frame**

**time-indep. Hamiltonian**  
total field =  $B + \omega$   
energy gap =  $|B + \omega|$

**Total phase** =  $|B + \omega| t = |B| t + |\omega| t \cos \theta$

↑ dyn. phase  
↑ Berry phase

**In general:**

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{rot}} = i[\partial U / \partial t] U^{-1} + U \mathcal{H}_{\text{lab}} U^{-1}$$

**Lab-frame**

**Rotating-frame**

$B_+(t) = B_0 + \omega(t)$

**Berry phase is SHIFT of levels due to pseudo-forces/fields**

## Berry phase in qubit systems?

**Potential solid-state realisation**

**Berry phase in Superconducting Nanocircuit (qubit)** Falci *et al* (2000)

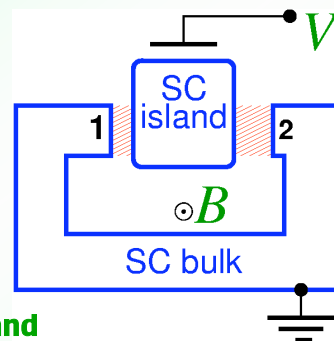
$$\mathcal{H} = E_C (n - n_V)^2 - E_J(B) \cos[\theta - \alpha_B]$$

**Consider only lowest 2 charge-states of island**

$$|\uparrow\rangle \equiv |n\rangle \quad \& \quad |\downarrow\rangle \equiv |n + 1\rangle$$

**Reduced Hamiltonian:**

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}} = \begin{pmatrix} E_J \cos(\alpha_B) \\ E_J \sin(\alpha_B) \\ E_C (1 - n_V) \end{pmatrix} \cdot \hat{\sigma}$$



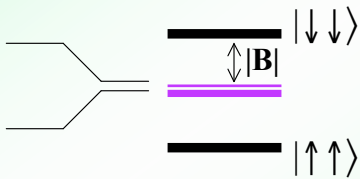
- Environment?**
- ♣ charge fluctuations couple via  $\sigma_z$
  - ♣ current fluctuations couple via  $\sigma_x, \sigma_y$

## Non-abelian geometric phase (Berry phase of degenerate levels)

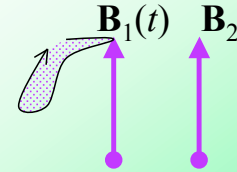
Wilczek-Zee (1984)

... POUR LES NULS

Two spin-1/2 in same field  $\Rightarrow$  two degenerate levels

$$\begin{aligned}
 |\psi_0\rangle &= |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle \\
 |\psi_1\rangle &= |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle + |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle
 \end{aligned}$$


Now do "Berry" to one spin (with  $|\mathbf{B}_1(t)| = |\mathbf{B}_2|$ )



dynamic phases cancel  $\Rightarrow$  total phase = Berry phase

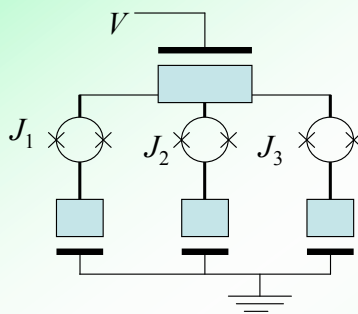
$$\begin{aligned}
 |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle &\xrightarrow{\text{adiab}} e^{i\Phi_{\text{Berry}}} |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - e^{-i\Phi_{\text{Berry}}} |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle \\
 &= \cos\Phi_{\text{Berry}} |\psi_0\rangle + i \sin\Phi_{\text{Berry}} |\psi_1\rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

$$|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle \xrightarrow{\text{non-adiab}} a_1|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - a_2|\downarrow\uparrow\rangle + (\omega/B)[a_3|\downarrow\downarrow\rangle - a_4|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle]$$

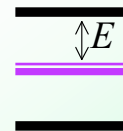
## Non-abelian Berry phase in SC qubits

Faoro-Siewert-Fazio (2003)

Potential experiment:



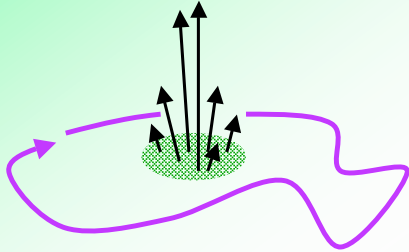
Energy levels



# Topological Berry phase

For complicated Hamiltonians : **Berry flux through path not uniform**

i.e. in rotating frame : “ $\omega$ ” is complicated function of Hamiltonian’s parameters



Localised Berry flux

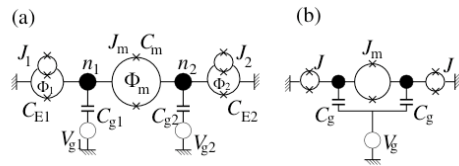
⇒ Topological Berry phase

ONLY winding number matters

Potential expt:

Cholascinski 2005

Two SC charge qubits



Can also use effect to make **quantised charge pump**

# DECOHERENCE:

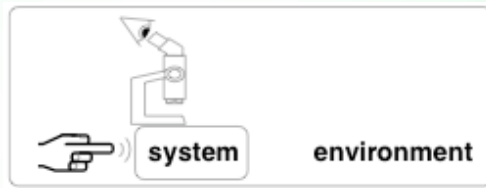
quantum physics for **non-isolated systems**

Define :

“SYSTEM” = degrees of freedom that we **control/measure**

“ENVIRONMENT” = all other degrees of freedom

Universe =



System’s reduced density matrix :  $\rho_{\text{system}} = \text{Tr}_{\text{env}}[\rho_{\text{universe}}]$

Universe : Hamiltonian evolution

System : **dissipative** evolution

## Models of system + environment

### ① Spin coupled to quantum environment

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{univ}} = \mathcal{H}_{\text{syst}} + \mathcal{H}_{\text{interaction}} + \mathcal{H}_{\text{env}}$$

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{syst}} = -\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{B}(t) \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} \quad \mathcal{H}_{\text{interaction}} = -\sum_n C_n (a_n^\dagger + a_n) \sigma_z$$

where  $a_n^\dagger, a_n$  create/annihilate  $n$ th environment mode

**Example : spin-boson model** Leggett *et al* (1986,87)  
Environment = oscillators with smooth spectral distrib.

### ② Spin coupled to classical coloured noise

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{syst}} = -\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{B}(t) + \mathbf{K}(t)) \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} \quad \text{where } \langle \mathbf{K}(t) \mathbf{K}(0) \rangle = C^2 f(t)$$

**Equiv. to quantum for many quantities:**  $T_1, T_2$ , Lamb shift, etc  
Caldeira-Leggett(1983), Whitney-Makhlin-Shnirman-Gefen (2004)

## Berry phase with dephasing?

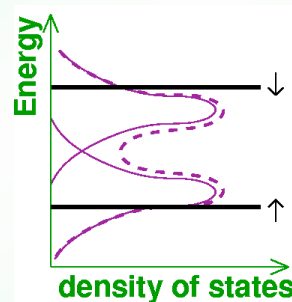
Environment induces level-broadening

⇒ No Gap

$$P(|\uparrow\rangle \rightarrow |\downarrow\rangle) \rightarrow 1 \quad \text{as } t \rightarrow \infty$$

No Adiabaticity ⇒ No Berry phase

**BUT : All real expts are non-isolated,  
yet Berry phase is observed**



Whitney-Gefen, *PRL* (2003)

Berry phase is observable whenever

adiabatic time  $\ll$  dephasing time

$$\hbar / E_{\text{gap}} \ll T_2$$

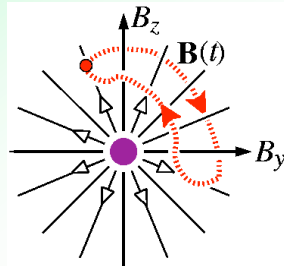
i.e. require small matrix elements for transitions not a true gap

## Env.-induced modification of the Berry phase

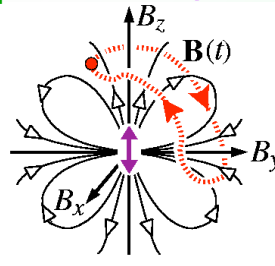
get phase as  $\oint$  along path of  $\mathbf{B}(t) \Rightarrow$  use Stokes' theorem

$\Rightarrow$  surface int.  $\Phi_{\text{Berry}} = \int d\mathbf{S} \cdot (\mathbf{b} + \delta\mathbf{b})$

monopole  
pseudo-field  $\mathbf{b}$



"quadrupole"  
pseudo-field  $\delta\mathbf{b}$



Angular =  $Y_{20}(\theta, \varphi)$   
Radial  $\neq B^{-4}$   
(non-zero curl)

Amplitude of monopole =  $1/2$

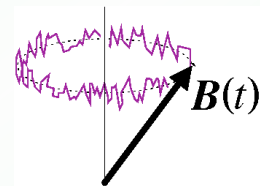
Amplitude of "quadrupole" =  $C^2 \times$  complex function (env. spectrum)

## How do we get these results?

### ♣ Toy problem : Noisy classical field

Whitney-Gefen, *Proc. Moriond* (2001)

Whitney-Makhlin-Shnirman-Gefen, *Proc. NATO-ARW* (2004)



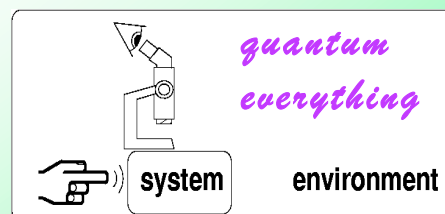
### ♣ Fully quantum problem :

coupling many environ. modes, trace them out

Use rotating frame trick

Whitney-Gefen, *PRL* (2003)

Whitney-Makhlin-Shnirman-Gefen,  
*PRL* (2005)

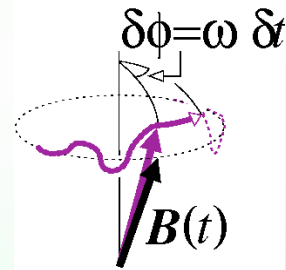


## Noisy classical field

**Toy problem : Gaussian white-noise** Whitney-Gefen (2001)

$$\mathcal{H} = -\frac{1}{2} [B(t) + K(t)].\sigma$$

where  $\langle K(\tau)K(0) \rangle_K = C^2 \delta(\tau)$



**Adiabatic evolution during one-time step**

$$\left\langle \exp \left[ i|B + K|\delta t + i\delta\phi \cos \theta_{(B+K)} \right] \right\rangle_K$$

$$\langle \dots \rangle_K = \int dK(\dots) \exp[-K^2 \delta t / C^2]$$

$\langle \cos \theta_{(B+K)} \rangle \Rightarrow$  **Modification of real (phase) geometric term**

**cross-terms in completed squ.**

$\Rightarrow$  **Imaginary part of geometric term**

$\Rightarrow$  **geometric dephasing**

## Quantum calculation: Master eqn

**Real time Dyson eqn :** 
$$\text{---} \xrightarrow{0} \text{---} \xrightarrow{t} \text{---} = \text{---} \xrightarrow{0} \text{---} \xrightarrow{t} \text{---} + \int_0^t dt' \text{---} \xrightarrow{0} \text{---} \xrightarrow{t'} \text{---} \xrightarrow{t} \text{---}$$

**exact Master equation for spin's density matrix**

Schoeller-Schon(1994)

$$\frac{d}{dt} \rho_{ij}(t) = -i [\mathcal{H}_{\text{sys}}, \rho(t)]_{ij} + \int_0^t d\tau \sum_{i'j'} \Sigma_{ij,i'j'}(\tau) \rho_{i'j'}(t-\tau)$$

**Sum of irreducible "self-energy" diagrams**

**APPROXIMATIONS : systematic weak-coupling and Markov**

Bloch-Redfield (1957)

$$\Sigma_{ij,i'j'}(\tau) = \text{---} \xrightarrow{R} \text{---} \xrightarrow{A} \text{---} + \text{---} \xrightarrow{R} \text{---} \xrightarrow{A} \text{---} + \text{---} \xrightarrow{R} \text{---} \xrightarrow{A} \text{---} + \text{---} \xrightarrow{R} \text{---} \xrightarrow{A} \text{---} + \dots$$

+ Assume environ. memory time,  $t_{\text{memory}} \ll T_2$

...but not  $t_{\text{memory}} \ll 1/B$

& no rotating wave approx



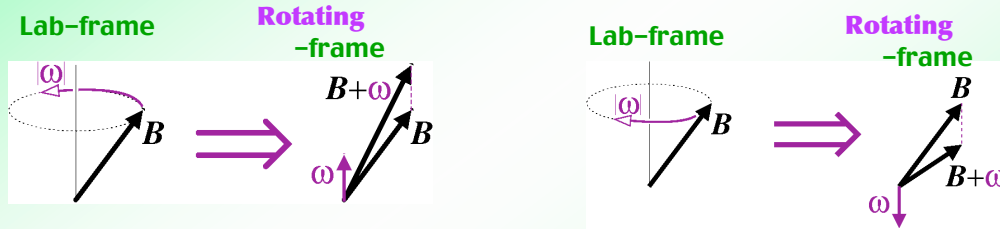


Berry phase is differential of **complex energy gap**;

$$\Phi_{\text{Berry}} = \oint d\varphi \frac{d}{dB_z} [B + \delta B + i\Gamma_2]$$

$$\Gamma_2 = T_2^{-1}$$

Easily understood by going to **rotating frame**



Lamb shift,  $\delta B$   
dephasing rate,  $\Gamma_2$  } Functions of rotating frame gap  $\propto |B+\omega|$

$\Rightarrow$  Taylor expand in  $\omega$

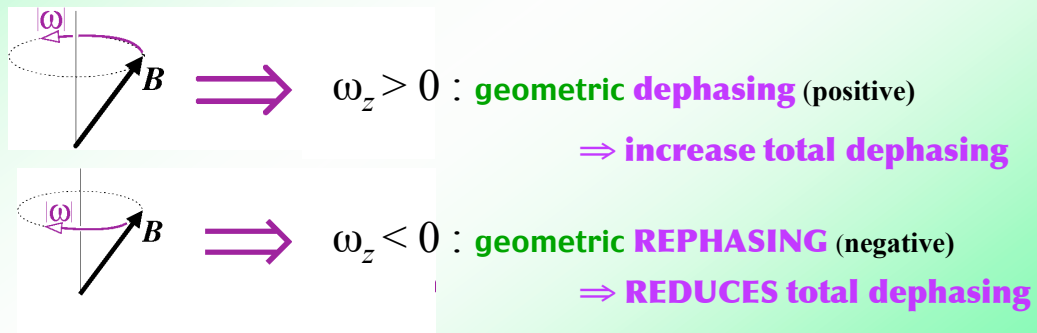
$\Rightarrow$  both have  $\omega$ -terms  $\Rightarrow$  Geometric terms

## Geometric dephasing

Imaginary part of Berry phase  $\Rightarrow$  dephasing

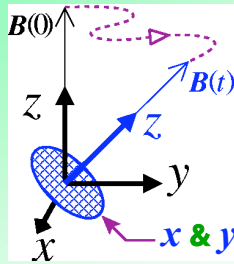
$$\text{Im}[\Phi_{\text{Berry}}] = \int_0^t dt' \omega_z \frac{d\Gamma_2}{dB_z}$$

Can be **either sign**; depends of direction of winding



...but it is only a **small** modification of total dephasing

## Gauge-independence for open paths?



Ambiguity in choice of  $x$  &  $y$  axes

$\Rightarrow$  gauge-dependence

of Berry phase for open paths

$x$  &  $y$  axes somewhere in this plane

Dephasing affects magnitude of off-diag. elements of density matrix

$$\text{Off-diag. matrix element} = \langle \sigma_x \rangle \pm i \langle \sigma_y \rangle$$

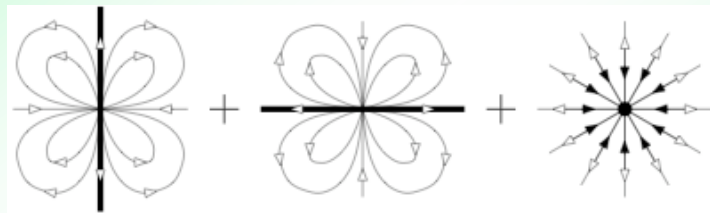
$$\text{Magnitude} = \sqrt{\langle \sigma_x \rangle^2 + \langle \sigma_y \rangle^2}$$

Independent of choice of  $x$  &  $y$  axes  $\Rightarrow$  gauge-independent

## Isotropic environment: no modification of Berry phase & no geometric dephasing

Consider isotropic coupling to environment

Isotropic  $\equiv$  z-axis coupling + y-axis coupling + x-axis coupling



All three couplings equal

$\rightarrow$  all three "quadrupoles" have equal strength

"Quadrupoles" sum to ZERO

$\rightarrow$  Berry phase unmodified by environment

$\rightarrow$  No geometric dephasing

## Geometric (topological/holonomic) quantum computing

*big problem*

adiabatic manipulation is *very slow*

one gate operation takes many coherent oscillations

cf. dynamic manipulation: 1 gate operation  $\sim$  1 coh. osc.

To reduce non-adiabatic effects to  $< 10^{-4}$

each gate operation must take time  $> 10^4$  coherent oscillations

*... but*

perhaps adiabatic manipulation

has much less decoherence?

Needs decoherence time  $> 10^4$  longer than

dynamic manipulation

### Does adiabatic manipulation have less decoherence?

Berry set-up : Environment decoheres adiabatic system at same rate as static system

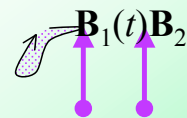
*bad!*

Reason: fluctuations of dynamic phase

### Adiabatic manipulation with degenerate levels (non-abelian)

Appears better: no dynamic phase

$$\begin{aligned} |\psi_0\rangle &= |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle \\ |\psi_1\rangle &= |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle + |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle \end{aligned}$$



... but “accidental” degeneracy – not respected by environment

If two spins see different environments:

average dyn. phase = 0, but fluctuations are as static system

If two spins see same environment via operator like  $[\sigma_z^{(1)} + \sigma_z^{(2)}]$

average dynamic phase = 0, but fluctuations exist for  $|\psi_1\rangle = |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle + |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle$

*not good!*

## Avoiding noise by symmetry

$$\text{System-environment coupling} = \hat{O}_{\text{system}} \hat{O}_{\text{environ}}$$

Barenco *et al* (1997)

**Decoherence free subspaces** : find symmetry of  $\hat{O}_{\text{system}}$

i.e. two spins with  $\hat{O}_{\text{system}} = [\sigma_z^{(1)} + \sigma_z^{(2)}]$

→ state  $|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle$  is **decoupled from environment**

Two such states form *decoherence free subspace*.

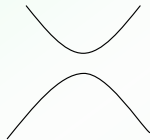
... but another environment coupling will **always** "spoil the party"

Saclay "quantronium" : find symmetry of  $\hat{O}_{\text{environ}}$

decoherence time =  $10^4$  coherent oscillations

$$\text{Coupling} = \alpha (B_x, B_y, B_z) (a^\dagger + a) \sigma + \beta (B_x, B_y, B_z) (a^\dagger + a)^2 \sigma$$

**Symmetry point where**  $\alpha (B_x, B_y, B_z) = 0$



**Motto:** can use symmetries to remove **worst** decoherence  
...but don't expect **no** decoherence

## Open questions for geometric quantum computing

(pure speculation)

- **avoid noise by symmetry**  
find system with a **noise-"free"** parameter space  
(**symmetry surface not point**)
- **use adiabatic manipulation in noise-"free" space**

### Practical questions:

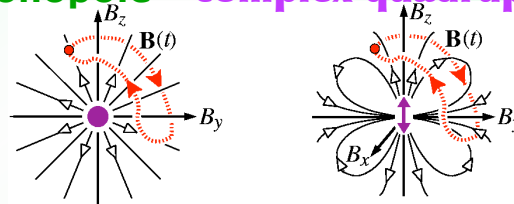
- **adiabatic manipulation is only best route**  
if **dynamic manipulation impossible inside noise-"free" space**.  
Could such a situation exist?
- is decoherence time in **noise-"free" space**  
>  $10^4$  longer than elsewhere?

## Summary of geometric phases with decoherence

- ① Geometric phases observable for **weak-dissipation**;  $BT_2 \gg 1$   
i.e. small **matrix elements** for spin-flip

- ② Berry phase **modified** by **anisotropic** environment

For spin  $\uparrow \rightarrow$  **monopole + complex quadrupole**



- ③ Geometric dephasing: **increases/decreases** dephasing

- ④ quantum computing using adiabatic manipulation:

*No such thing as a free lunch!*

a priori : worse than dyn. manipulation ... potential to improve??