

QUANTUM CONTROL OF LIGHT AND MATTER

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# Fundamentals of Dynamical Decoupling (DD)

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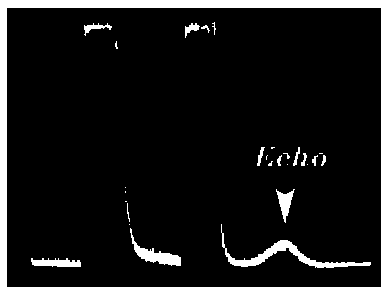


# I. Motivation & Overview

# What is DD?...

From: **Coherent averaging techniques**

Coherent control of nuclear spin Hamiltonians in high-resolution NMR spectroscopy.



Paradigmatic example: Spin echo

E.L. Hahn, PR **80**, 580 (1950);  
U. Haeberlen & J.S. Waugh, PR **175**, 453 (1968).

- **Refocusing** – Use of tailored pulse sequences to selectively 'turn off' undesired spin couplings over a time interval.

$$H = \omega_1 \sigma_z^1 + \omega_2 \sigma_z^2 \rightarrow H_{eff} = 0 \quad \text{Non-selective}$$

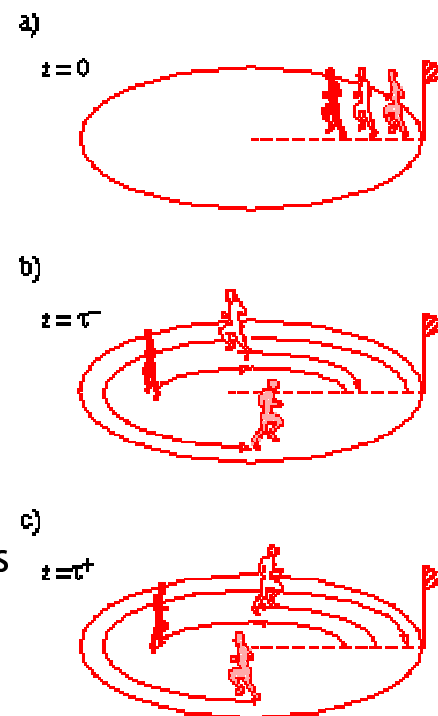
$$H = \omega_1 \sigma_z^1 + \omega_2 \sigma_z^2 \rightarrow H_{eff} = \omega_1 \sigma_z^1 \quad \text{Selective}$$

- **Decoupling** – Refocusing of couplings to a specific subset of degrees of freedom, which are effectively 'traced out'.

$$H = \omega_1 \sigma_z^1 + \omega_2 \sigma_z^2 + J \sigma_z^1 \sigma_z^2 \rightarrow H_{eff} = \omega_1 \sigma_z^1$$

Motivation:

- Elimination of couplings during signal acquisition;
- Enhancement of spectral resolution.



The "race-track" echo:  
Effective time reversal

## ...Why do we need it in QIP?

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To:      **Dynamical decoupling techniques** ↔ **Open-loop Hamiltonian engineering**

Open-loop dynamical control schemes relying on the application of unitary control operations drawn from a basic (finite) repertoire.

Motivation: Need for effectively removing unwanted coherent and decoherent evolution ubiquitous in physical realizations of QIP!

- Dynamical coherent control of unitary (closed-system) evolution:
  - Halt natural evolution: **'no-op'/quantum storage**
  - Switch off selected qubit couplings: **Universal Hamiltonian simulation**
  - Remove couplings to non-computational degrees of freedom: **Leakage suppression**
  - ... ..
- Dynamical coherent control of non-unitary (open-system) evolution:
  - Remove coupling to environment: **Decoherence suppression (no redundancy, no measurement)**
  - Symmetrize coupling to environment: **DFS/NS synthesis**
  - ... ..

Remark: Control tasks meaningful for both physical and logical (encoded) qubits...

# A paradigmatic example: DD of qubit dephasing-I

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

Dephasing spin-boson model:

$$H_0 = H_S \otimes I_E + I_S \otimes H_E + H_{SE} = \omega_0 \sigma_z \otimes I_E + I_S \otimes \sum_k \omega_k b_k^\dagger b_k + \sigma_z \otimes \sum_k g_k (b_k + b_k^\dagger)$$

→ Preferred ( $z$ ) basis:  $[H_S, H_{SE}] = 0$  – However, genuinely quantum bath:  $[H_E, H_{SE}] \neq 0$

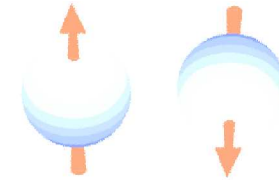
Free [exact] coherence dynamics:

$$\rho_{01}(t) \equiv \langle 0 | \rho(t) | 1 \rangle = \rho_{01}(0) \exp(2i\omega_0 t) \exp(-\Gamma_0(t))$$

$$\Gamma_0(t) = \int_0^\infty d\omega I(\omega) [2\bar{n}(\omega, T) + 1] \frac{1 - \cos(\omega t)}{\omega^2}$$

Spectral density

Decoherence function



Control action:

A train of identical, resonant  $\pi$  pulses, with separation  $\Delta t$  – arbitrarily strong and fast (BB).

Elementary spin-flip cycle of duration  $T_c = 2\Delta t$ :

$$U(T_c) = P U_0(\Delta t) P U_0(\Delta t) = e^{-i H'_0 \Delta t} e^{-i H_0 \Delta t} \equiv e^{-i H_{eff} T_c}, \quad H'_0 = P^\dagger H_0 P = -H_S + H_E - H_{SE}$$

$$H_{eff} = H'_0 + H_0 + O(\Delta t) \approx I_S \otimes H_E \quad \text{Approximate time reversal as long as bath is 'frozen'!}$$

# A paradigmatic example: DD of qubit dephasing-2

Controlled [exact] stroboscopic coherence dynamics,  $t_N = NT_c$ :

$$\Gamma_0(t_N) \rightarrow \Gamma_c(t_N) = \int_0^\infty d\omega I_c(\omega, T_c) [2\bar{n}(\omega, T) + 1] \frac{1 - \cos(\omega t_N)}{\omega^2}, \quad I_c(\omega, T_c) = I(\omega) \tan^2\left(\frac{\omega T_c}{4}\right)$$

DD-renormalized spectral density

$$\lim_{T_c \rightarrow 0, N \rightarrow \infty} \rho_{10}(t_N = NT_c) = \rho_{10}(0)$$

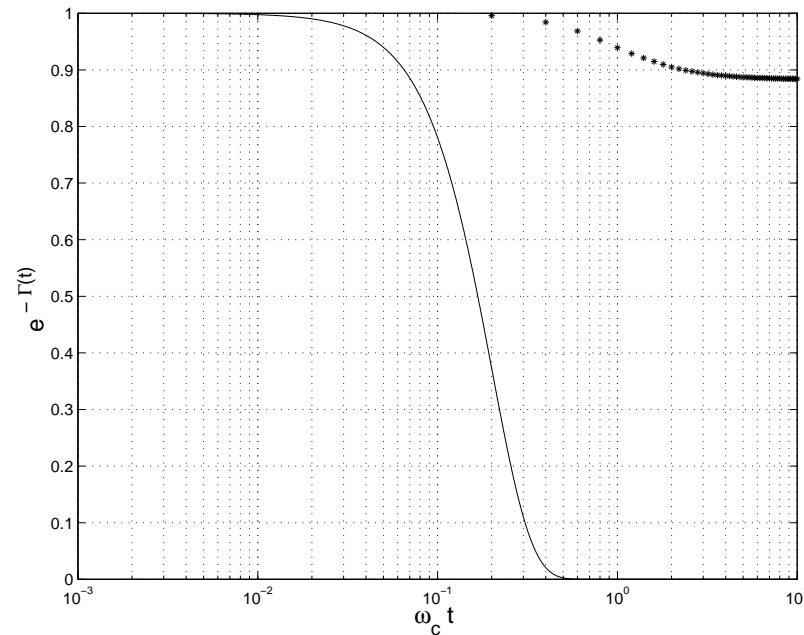
Decoherence suppression if control period  $T_c$  shorter than memory correlation time.

→ Formal analogy with quantum Zeno (and anti-Zeno) physics

→ Requirement for 'coherent averaging':

$$T_{DD} \ll \tau_c \sim 1/\omega_c = \min\{\tau^{corr}\}$$

Non-Markovian error regime



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

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

## 10+ yrs of DD: An (incomplete) overview...

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- 1998 [BB control for single qubit.](#) Viola & Lloyd, PRA **58**, 2733
- 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  
[Decoupling based on orthogonal arrays.](#) Stollsteimer & Mahler, PRA **64**, 052301
- 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  
Geometric interpretation of BB control. Byrd & Lidar, QIP **1**, 19
- 2003 [Robust bounded-strength design.](#) Viola & Knill, PRL **90**, 037901
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## An (incomplete) overview – Continued...

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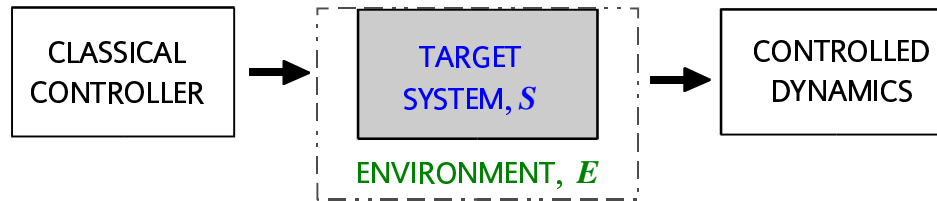
- 2004 Connection with quantum Zeno physics.  
Application to  $1/f$  spectral densities/power spectra.  
  
Connection with universal dynamical control.  
Decoupling based on Hamilton cycles.  
Equivalence with orthogonal arrays.
- 2005 BB control of nuclear quadrupolar qubit.  
Concatenated dynamical decoupling.  
Random dynamical decoupling.  
  
PAREC/Embedded dynamical decoupling.
- 2006 Decoupling based on Eulerian orthogonal arrays.  
Exp. BB control of fullerene qubits.
- 2007 Optimal decoupling for dephasing spin-boson model.  
DD for QDs/Long-time decoherence freezing.
- 2008 Universality of Uhrig DD for dephasing.  
Exp. DD-enhanced nuclear spin memory in P:Si.  
Exp. BB control of polarization qubits.
- 2009 Exp. Uhrig DD in trapped ions.  
Dynamically corrected gates.
- Facchi, Lidar, Pascazio, PRA **69**, 032314  
Shiokawa & Lidar, PRA **69**, 030302  
Faoro & Viola, PRL **92**, 1179051  
Kofman & Kuritzki, PRL **93**, 130406  
Roetteler, quant-ph/0408078  
Roetteler & Wocjan, quant-ph/0409135
- Fraval et al, PRL **95**, 030506  
Khodjasteh & Lidar, PRL **95**, 180501  
Viola & Knill, PRL **94**, 060502  
Santos & Viola, PRL **97**, 150501  
Kern & Alber, PRL **95**, 250501
- Wocjan, PRA **73**, 062317  
Morton et al, Nature Phys. **2**, 40
- Uhrig, PRL **98**, 100504  
Zhang *et al*, PRB **75**, 201302
- Yang & Liu, PRL **101**, 180403  
Morton et al, Nature **455**, 1085  
Damodarakurup et al, arXiv:0811.2654
- Biercuk *et al*, Nature **458**, 996  
Khodjasteh & Viola, PRL **102**, 080501





## II. Control-theoretic Framework

# System assumptions



$$H_{tot}(t) = [H_S + H_{ctrl}(t)] \otimes I_E + I_S \otimes H_E + \sum_a E_a \otimes B_a$$

- Target system S is in general an open quantum system: Total 'drift' Hamiltonian

$$H_0 = H_S \otimes I_E + I_S \otimes H_E + H_{SE}, \quad H_S \text{ traceless}$$

$$\mathcal{H} \simeq \mathcal{H}_S \otimes \mathcal{H}_E, \quad \mathcal{H}_S \simeq \mathbb{C}^d \text{ for some } d, \quad d = 2^n \text{ for } n \text{ qubits}$$

Reduced system dynamics:

$$\rho_S(t) = \text{Trace} \left\{ U(t) \rho_S(0) \otimes \rho_E(0) U^\dagger(t) \right\}$$

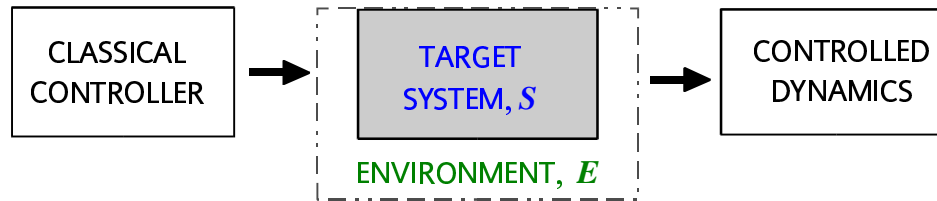
Closed-system limit (unitary dynamics) recovered for  $H_{SE} = 0$ .

- $H_{SE}$  responsible in general for unwanted non-unitary/decoherence effects:

$$H_{SE} = \sum_a S_a \otimes B_a, \quad S_a \text{ traceless} \quad \leftarrow \text{Error generators}$$

→ Bath operators  $H_S, B_a$  are assumed to be bounded but otherwise (potentially) unknown.

# Control assumptions



$$H_{tot}(t) = [H_S + H_{ctrl}(t)] \otimes I_E + I_S \otimes H_E + \sum_a E_a \otimes B_a$$

- Environment E is uncontrollable: **Adjoin controller acting on S only,**

$$H_c(t) \equiv H_c(t) \otimes I_E, \quad H_c(t) = \sum_m (H_m \otimes I_E) u_m(t)$$

Design object:  $U_c(t) = Texp\{-i \int_0^t dx H_c(x)\}$  ← **Control propagator**

- Controlled evolutions are most easily described in a frame that follows applied control,

$$\tilde{\rho}_{SE}(t) = U_c^\dagger(t) \rho_{SE}(t) U_c(t)$$

$$\tilde{U}(t) = U_c^\dagger(t) U(t) = Texp\{-i \int_0^t dx U_c^\dagger(x) H_0 U_c(x)\}$$
 ← **Logical (or toggling-frame) propagator**

→ Logical-frame evolution is ruled by time-dependent Hamiltonian  $\tilde{H}(t) = U_c^\dagger(t) H_0 U_c(t)$ .

# Control objective and performance

DD problem = Open-loop steering problem for the (joint) propagator in an appropriate frame, subject to relevant control constraints.

- Assume that control inputs  $u_m(t)$  can realize a set of instantaneous BB pulses.

**DD benchmark:** Suppress evolution due to  $H_{SE}$  and/or  $H_S$  over desired evolution time  $T$



$$\tilde{U}(T) \approx \mathbf{I}_S \otimes U_E(T), \quad T > 0 \quad \text{NOOP gate/'time suspension'}$$

Arbitrary state preservation:

$$\tilde{\rho}_{SE}(T) = \rho_S(0) \otimes [U_E(T) \rho_E(0) U_E^\dagger(T)] \Rightarrow \rho_S(T) = U_c(T) \rho_S(0) U_c^\dagger(T) = \rho_S(0) = |\psi\rangle\langle\psi|$$

- Characterize DD quality by appropriate performance indicators, *e.g.*:

- Worst-case pure-state error (probability):

$$\epsilon_T = \text{Max}_{|\psi\rangle} \left\{ \text{Trace}_S \left( P_S^\perp \tilde{\rho}_S(t) \right) \right\}, \quad P_S = |\psi\rangle\langle\psi|, \quad P_S^\perp = \mathbf{I}_S - P_S$$

$1 - \epsilon_T =$  Minimum (input-output) fidelity

- Average input-output fidelity or gate entanglement fidelity...
- Fidelity error for a fixed [generic] initial state...

# Classification of DD schemes

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Design of DD schemes largely influenced by:

- Assumptions on control resources:

- (1) Type of control operations –

- Pulsed vs Continuous**
    - Unbounded vs Bounded strength**
    - Unbounded vs Bounded rate**

- ...

- (2) Mode of applying control operations –

- Deterministic vs Randomized**  
**(Cyclic vs Acyclic)**

- ...

- (3) Accuracy of control operations –

- Perfect vs Faulty**  
**(Systematic vs Random errors)**

- ...

- Assumptions on target Hamiltonian:

- Known vs Unknown (Model uncertainty)**
    - Time-independent vs Time-varying**

- ...

- Generic vs Local structure (Efficiency)**

- ...

ATTENTION PLEASE!



No claim (hope) of completeness – focus on basic DD design...



### III. Bang-Bang DD Protocols

# Periodic DD: Average Hamiltonian description

- Assume that **controller operates cyclically**:  $U_c(t + T_c) = U_c(t)$  for  $T_c > 0$ . **Cycle time**

→ Stroboscopic controlled evolution:  $U_c(T_c) = I_S, U(t_M = M T_c) = \tilde{U}(t_M = M T_c)$

- Assume that drift Hamiltonian is time-independent, with  $\|H_0\| \leq K = \text{Max} |eig(H_0)|$

→ A time-independent average Hamiltonian exists such that

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

$$\bar{H}^{(0)} \equiv \bar{H}_0 = \frac{1}{T_c} \int_0^{T_c} dt_1 \tilde{H}(t_1), \quad \bar{H}^{(1)} = -\frac{i}{2T_c} \int_0^{T_c} dt_2 \int_0^{t_2} dt_1 [\tilde{H}(t_2), \tilde{H}(t_1)]$$

Convergent for  $KT_c \ll 1$ . Higher-order terms  $\bar{H}^{(m)} T_c = O(KT_c)^m, m \geq 1$ .

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

$\bar{H}_0$  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,  $T_c \ll \tau_c = \min_i \{\tau_i^{corr}\}$

Focus on  $\bar{H}_0$  design

# Group-based DD design

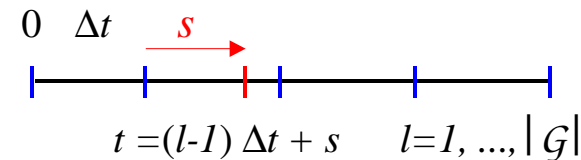
Keyword: Map time-average into group-theoretical average.

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

$$\mu(g_j) = \hat{g}_j \in \text{Mat}_d(\mathbb{C}), \quad \widehat{g_j g_k} = \hat{g}_j \hat{g}_k \text{ up to phase, } \hat{g}_0 = I_S.$$

- **PDD protocol:** Let  $T_c = |\mathcal{G}| \Delta t$  and assign  $U_c(t)$  over  $T_c$  as

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

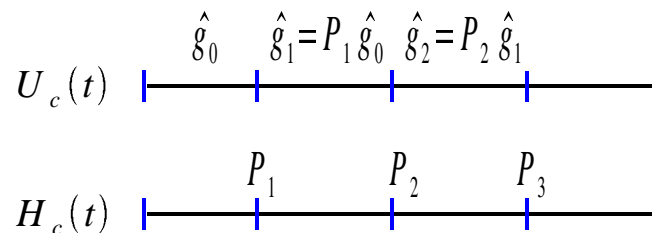


$$U_c(t) = \begin{matrix} \hat{g}_0 & t \in \Delta t_1 \\ \hat{g}_1 & t \in \Delta t_2 \\ \dots & \dots \\ \hat{g}_{|\mathcal{G}|-1} & t \in \Delta t_{|\mathcal{G}|} \end{matrix}$$

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

Sequence of BB pulses

$$P_k = \hat{g}_k \hat{g}_{k-1}^\dagger$$





# Decoupling by symmetrization

- Lowest-order BB effective Hamiltonian:

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

$\mathcal{G}$ -symmetrization

$\Pi_{\widehat{\mathcal{G}}}$  is the projector onto the commutant  $\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_{\mathcal{G}} = \{\text{operators commuting with all } \hat{g}_j\}$ .

Filter out unwanted evolution using symmetry

(1) Closed-system setting:

- $\Pi_{\widehat{\mathcal{G}}}(H_0) = 0$ : **Non-selective (maximal) refocusing** (aka: 'annihilation')
- $\Pi_{\widehat{\mathcal{G}}}(H_0) \neq 0$ : Selective refocusing

(2) Open-system setting:

$$\rightarrow \Pi_{\widehat{\mathcal{G}}}(S_a) \equiv 0 : \bar{H}_0 = \left( \frac{1}{|\mathcal{G}|} \sum_j \cancel{g_j^\dagger H_S g_j} \right) \otimes I_E + I_S \otimes H_E + \sum_a \left( \frac{1}{|\mathcal{G}|} \sum_j \cancel{g_j^\dagger S_a g_j} \right) \otimes B_a$$

Refocusing

Error suppression

- $\Pi_{\widehat{\mathcal{G}}}(S_a) = \bar{S}_a$ : Error symmetrization

Remark: If  $\mathcal{G}$  acts irreducibly, averaging is always maximal by Schur's Lemma,  $\widehat{\mathcal{C}}_{\mathcal{G}} = \mathbb{C} I$ .

# BB DD by example-1

## 1. Single qubit with pure dephasing:

$$H_0 = \omega_0 \sigma_z \otimes I_E + I_S \otimes H_E + \sigma_z \otimes B_z$$

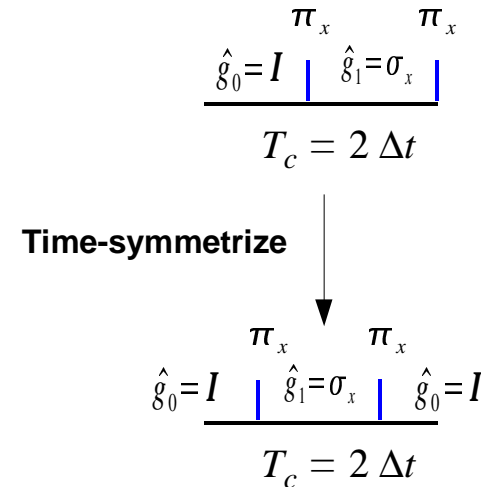
$$\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{X}_2 = \{0, 1\}, \text{ represented as } \widehat{\mathcal{G}} = \{I, \sigma_x\}$$

$$\overline{\sigma}_z = \frac{1}{2} [I \sigma_z I + \sigma_x \sigma_z \sigma_x] = 0$$

→ Second-order PDD by rearranging control path,

$$U_c(T_c - t) = U_c(t) \Rightarrow$$

Leading corrections of order  $O[(K T_c)^3]$ .



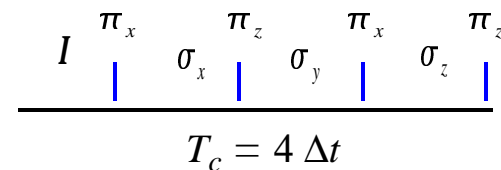
## 2. Single qubit with arbitrary decoherence:

$$H_0 = \omega_0 \sigma_z \otimes I_E + I_S \otimes H_E + \sum_{a=x,y,z} \sigma_a \otimes B_a$$

$$\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{X}_2 \times \mathcal{X}_2 = \{(0,1), (1,0)\}, \text{ represented as } \widehat{\mathcal{G}} = \{I, \sigma_x, \sigma_y, \sigma_z\}$$

$$\overline{\sigma}_x = \frac{1}{4} [I \sigma_x I + \sigma_x \sigma_x \sigma_x + \sigma_y \sigma_x \sigma_y + \sigma_z \sigma_x \sigma_z] = 0, \text{ etc.}$$

→ Different group paths yield same  $\overline{H}^{(0)}$  but different  $\overline{H}^{(1)}$ .



# BB DD by example-2

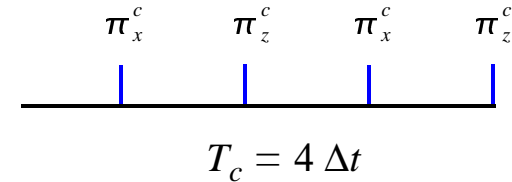
## 3. Quantum register with linear decoherence:

$$H_0 = \sum_{i=1}^n \omega_i \sigma_z^{(i)} \otimes I_E + I_S \otimes H_E + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{a=x,y,z} \sigma_a^{(i)} \otimes B_a^{(i)}$$

→ Independent vs collective decoherence:  $3n$  vs  $3$  error generators

$$\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{K}_2 \times \mathcal{K}_2 = \{(0,1), (1,0)\}, \text{ represented as } \widehat{\mathcal{G}} = \{I, X, Y, Z\}$$

$$X = \otimes_{i=1}^n \sigma_x^i \equiv \pi_x^c, \text{ etc. (collective pulses)} \Rightarrow \bar{\sigma}_a^i = 0 \quad \forall a, i.$$



## 4. Quantum register with arbitrary evolution and/or decoherence, $d=2^n$ :

→ Fully generic [unknown]  $H_S$  and/or  $H_{SE}$  contain arbitrary  $n$ -body qubit operators.

$$\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{K}_d \times \mathcal{K}_d, \text{ represented as } \widehat{\mathcal{G}}_P = \{I, \sigma_x, \sigma_y, \sigma_z\}^1 \otimes \dots \otimes \{I, \sigma_x, \sigma_y, \sigma_z\}^n, |\widehat{\mathcal{G}}_P| = 4^n$$

→ Recursively cycle each qubit through Pauli basis, e.g., for arbitrary 2-body couplings.

$$H_0 = \sum_{i=1}^n \omega_i \sigma_z^{(i)} + \sum_{i < j = 1}^n \sum_{a,b=x,y,z} J_{ab}^{ij} \sigma_a^{(i)} \otimes \sigma_b^{(j)}$$

$$n=3 \quad \begin{pmatrix} I & I & I & I & I & I & I & I & I & I & I & I & I & I & I & I \\ I & I & I & I & X & X & X & X & Z & Z & Z & Z & Y & Y & Y & Y \\ I & X & Z & Y & I & X & Z & Y & I & X & Z & Y & I & X & Z & Y \end{pmatrix}$$

**Exp inefficient...**

Complexity grows as  $4^{n-1}$

# The need for improved DD design...

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*BB PDD is very simple and attractive in principle, unfortunately way too idealized...*

- **Poor efficiency:** Averaging becomes unpractical with growing group size  $|\mathcal{G}|...$

- **Low-level averaging:** Unwanted interactions are removed only to the first order...

$$F_{\min}(T) \geq 1 - O\left(T^2 \Delta t^2 \|H_{\text{error}}\|^4\right)$$

- (1) Fidelity loss directly dominated by second-order corrections...
- (2) Residual error amplitudes add up coherently over multiple cycles...

⇒ High-level  
DD design

- **Extremely unrealistic control resources...**

- (1) Instantaneous control pulses imply unbounded control strengths even for finite  $T_c...$ 
  - Poor spectral selectivity.
  - Inappropriate for including drift during pulses.
- (2) No build-up tolerance/reduced sensitivity against control imperfections...
- (3) Estimated control rates may be/seem prohibitively high for realistic open systems....

⇒ DD beyond  
BB assumption

⇒ Improved convergence analysis

# Improving DD efficiency: Combinatorial design

M. Stollsteimer & G. Mahler, PRA **64**, 052301 (2001); M. Roetteler & P. Wocjan, quant-ph/0409135.

*Keyword: Make explicit reference to multipartite structure of the target system.*

- Exploit combinatorial concept of **Orthogonal Array (OA)**: e.g., OA(16,5,4,2)

$$H_0 = \sum_{i=1} \sum_{i < j=1}^n \sum_{a,b=x,y,z} J_{ab}^{ij} \sigma_a^{(i)} \otimes \sigma_b^{(j)}$$

$M$ : # control time-slots       $n$ : # qubits

I	I	I	I	X	X	X	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Z	Z	Z	Z
I	X	Y	Z	I	X	Y	Z	I	X	Y	Z	I	X	Y	Z
I	X	Y	Z	X	I	Z	Y	Y	Z	I	X	Z	Y	X	I
I	X	Y	Z	Y	Z	I	X	Z	Y	X	I	X	I	Z	Y
I	X	Y	Z	Z	Y	X	I	X	I	Z	Y	Y	Z	I	X

Every pair of rows contains all 16 possible pairs of symbols precisely once.

Big saving over  $4^5!$

- Any OA( $M,n,4,2$ ) can be used to decouple  $n+1$  qubits governed by an arbitrary 2-local (bilinear) Hamiltonian using  $M$  control time-slots. OA( $M,k,4,2$ ) may be constructed from QEC codes with parameters

$$k = \frac{4^m - 1}{3}, \quad M = 4^m, \quad m \in \mathbb{N} \quad \text{Efficient scaling } M \text{ vs } k$$

Remark: OA approach may be extended to qudits with  $t$ -local interactions.

# Boosting DD performance: High-level DD design

*Design of high-level DD protocols in the BB limit has explored different venues...*

- (1) **Concatenated DD:** Recursively apply a lower-order periodic sequence.

Optimize short-time performance by **effective renormalization of  $H_{\text{error}}$** :

$$F_T = 1 - O\left(T^2 \|H_{\text{error}}^{\text{eff}}\|^2\right) \quad \text{Khodjasteh \& Lidar, PRL 95 (2005).}$$

→ Number of required pulses grows exponentially with concatenation level...

→ Very successful in single-qubit decoherence settings...

*Zhang et al, PRB 75 (2007); 77 (2008).*

- (2) **Optimal DD:** Achieve **exact cancellation of  $H_{\text{error}}$**  to desired order:

$$\Delta t_k = T \sin^2 \frac{k \pi}{2(N+1)}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, N \quad \text{Uhrig, PRL 98 (2007).}$$

→ Linear complexity, however only for purely dephasing interactions...

- (3) **Randomized DD:** Pick control operations and/or path at random.

Optimize long-time performance by enforcing **probabilistic cancellation of  $H_{\text{error}}$** :

$$F_T = 1 - O\left(T \Delta t^5 \|H_{\text{error}}\|^6\right) \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{LV \& E. Knill, PRL 94 (2005);} \\ \text{Santos \& LV, PRL 97 (2006).} \end{array}$$

→ Robust against model uncertainty, however requires tracking of control trajectory...



## IV. Bounded-strength DD Protocols

# Tools for bounded-strength design

Keyword: Eulerian cycles on Cayley graphs.

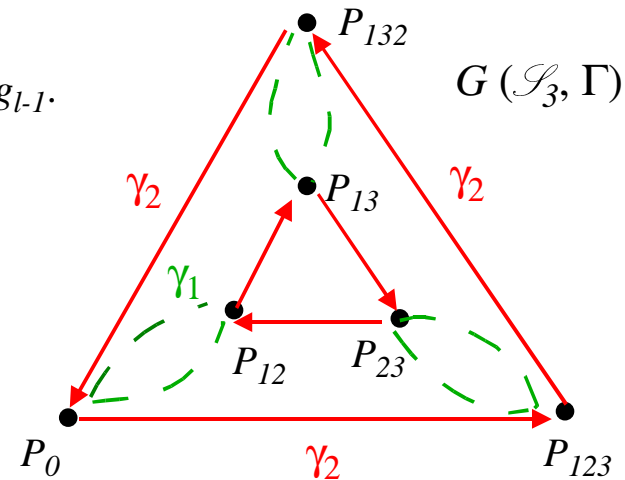
- Given  $G$ , choose a set of generators,  $\Gamma = \{ \gamma_\lambda \}$ ,  $\lambda = 1, \dots, |\Gamma|$ .

Rules for constructing the Cayley graph  $G(G, \Gamma)$ :

- Assign a vertex to each group element.
- Assign a color to each generator.
- Join vertex  $g_{l-1}$  to  $g_l$  by an edge of color  $\lambda$  iff  $g_l = \gamma_\lambda g_{l-1}$ .

$$G = \mathcal{S}_3 = \{ P_0, P_{12}, P_{23}, P_{13}, P_{123}, P_{132} \}$$

$$\Gamma = \{ \gamma_1, \gamma_2 \} = \{ P_{12}, P_{123} \} \quad \gamma_2 \gamma_1 = \gamma_1 \gamma_2^2$$



- Def:** An **Eulerian cycle** on  $G$  is a cycle that uses each edge exactly once. [Euler, 1766!]

- A Cayley graph supports Eulerian cycles of length

$$L = |G| |\Gamma| \quad \mathcal{P}_E(G(\mathcal{S}_3, \Gamma)) = (\gamma_2, \gamma_2, \gamma_2, \gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_1, \gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_1, \gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_1)$$



# Eulerian DD (EDD)

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

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

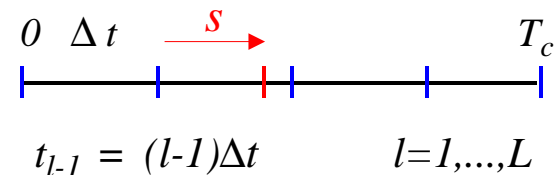
- **Control resources:** Assume ability to implement group generators,

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

- **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

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



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

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

# Eulerian symmetrization and robustness

- Lowest-order Eulerian effective Hamiltonian:

$$\bar{H}_0 = Q_{\hat{\mathcal{G}}}(H_0) = \Pi_{\hat{\mathcal{G}}}(F_{\hat{\Gamma}}(H_0)), \quad F_{\hat{\Gamma}}(X) = \frac{1}{|\Gamma|} \sum_{\lambda=1}^{|\Gamma|} \frac{1}{\Delta t} \int_0^{\Delta t} ds u_{\lambda}^{\dagger}(s) X u_{\lambda}(s).$$

Still  $\mathcal{G}$ -invariant, but average is over both the group generators and the control interval.

- Provided that the errors generated during each interval are correctable by the DD group, **EDD achieves the same  $\mathcal{G}$ -symmetrization of the BB limit with finite control strengths:**

$$\bar{H}_0 = Q_{\hat{\mathcal{G}}}(H_0) = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{G}|} \sum_j \hat{g}_j^{\dagger} H_0 \hat{g}_j$$

→ BB limit formally recovered for  $F_{\hat{\Gamma}}(X) = X$  i.e.  $h_l = 0$  during  $\Delta t_l$ .

→ A 2nd-order protocol may be obtained by a **time-symmetric 'Euler supercycle'** (SEDD).

- **EDD automatically incorporates robustness properties against systematic control errors:**

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

→ Control errors are also symmetrized:  $Q_{\hat{\mathcal{G}}}[\Delta H_c(s)] \in \widehat{\mathcal{C}}_{\hat{\mathcal{G}}}$

→ Full 'fault-tolerance' if DD group acts irreducibly.

# EDD by example-I

## 1. Single qubit with pure dephasing revisited:

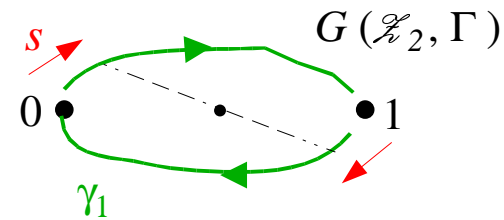
$\mathcal{G} = \mathbb{Z}_2 = \{0, 1\}$ , represented as  $\widehat{\mathcal{G}} = \{I, \sigma_x\}$

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

$$u_x(t) = \exp\left\{-i \int_0^t ds h_x(s) \sigma_x\right\}$$

$$u_x(\Delta t) = \sigma_x \equiv X$$

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



Euler cycle:  $\gamma_1, \gamma_1 = X X$

SEDD:  $(X X)(X^\dagger X^\dagger)$

'Continuous-time spin-echo'

- No time-overhead wrto BB case.
- Second-order DD implemented by pairs of alternating-phase pulses.
- Robustness (1<sup>st</sup> order) against any systematic error along  $z, y$ :

$$Q_{\widehat{\mathcal{G}}}[\sigma_z(t)] = 0, \quad Q_{\widehat{\mathcal{G}}}[\sigma_y(t)] = 0.$$

LV, JMO 51, 2357 (2004).

# EDD by example-2

## 2. Single qubit with arbitrary decoherence revisited:

$$\mathcal{G} = \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 = \{(0,1), (1,0)\}$$

Generating set  $\Gamma = \{\gamma_1, \gamma_2\} = \{(0,1), (1,0)\}$ ,

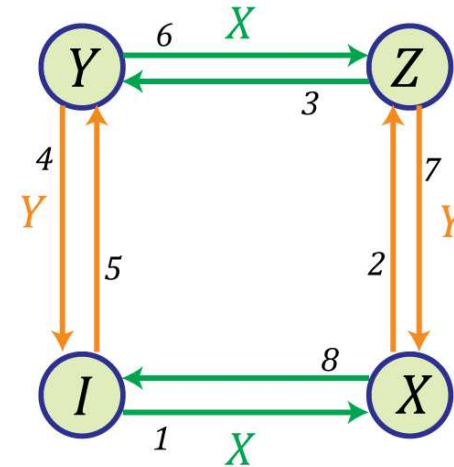
$$\mathcal{P}_E = (\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_2, \gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_1)$$

$$u_x(t) = \exp\left\{-i \int_0^t ds h_x(s) \sigma_x\right\}$$

$$u_y(t) = \exp\left\{-i \int_0^t ds h_y(s) \sigma_y\right\}$$

→ Time-overhead wrto BB case: Factor of 2.

→ Fully robust (to 1<sup>st</sup> order) against systematic faults.



Generators:  $X, Y$

Euler cycle:  $X Y X Y Y X Y X$

## 3. Quantum register with linear decoherence revisited:

$$\mathcal{G} = \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 = \{(0,1), (1,0)\}$$

Now work under the collective (tensor power) representation,

$$\mathcal{P}_E = (\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_2, \gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_1), \text{ with collective generators, } \gamma_1 = X^{(all)} = X_1 \otimes \dots \otimes X_n$$

→ Control may be realized through **collective Hamiltonians**:

$$\gamma_2 = Y^{(all)} = Y_1 \otimes \dots \otimes Y_n$$

$$u_x^{(all)} = \exp\left[-i \int_0^t ds h_x(s) \left(\sum_j^n \sigma_x^{(j)}\right)\right]$$

Khodjasteh & LV, arXiv:0906.0525.



V. (Some) Experimental  
Demonstrations

# Optical polarization qubits: Single-axis BB DD

Berglund [with P. Kwiat], quant-ph/00100001.

Qubit computational basis:  $\{|H\rangle, |V\rangle\}$

Input photon state:

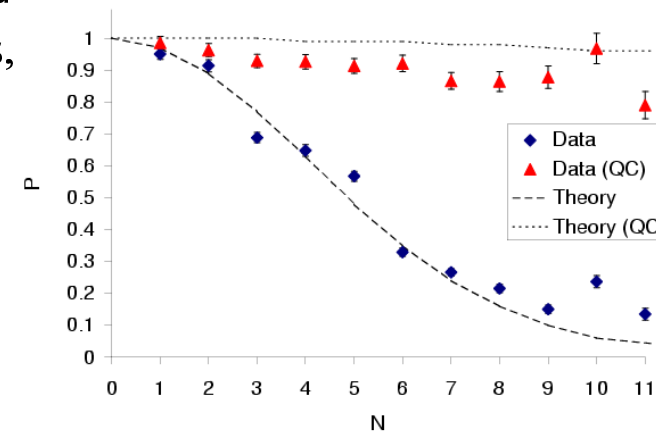
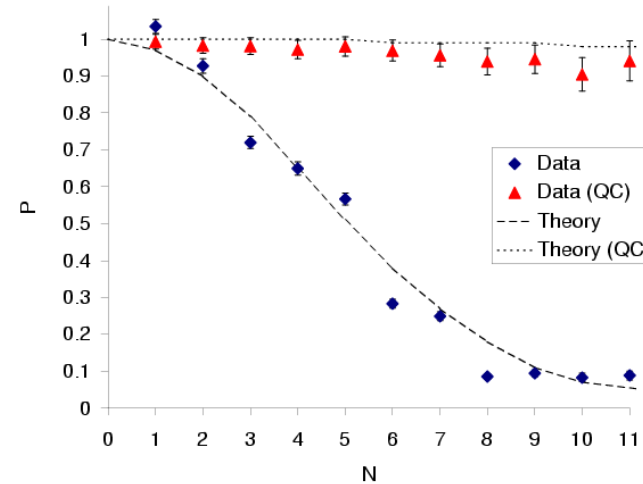
$$|\Psi\rangle_{input} = \int d\omega A(\omega)|\omega\rangle \otimes |\psi\rangle, \quad |\psi\rangle = c_H|H\rangle + c_V|V\rangle$$

→ Decoherence introduced by unwanted coupling between polarization and frequency degrees of freedom (frequency-insensitive detection).

→ BB control according to  $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{L}_2 = (I, X)$  implemented by periodically interchanging polarization eigenstates, faster than optical correlation time  $\tau_c \approx L_c/c$ ,

$$\mathbf{R}|H\rangle = |V\rangle, \quad \mathbf{R}|V\rangle = \pm|H\rangle$$

↖  $\lambda/2$  or  $\lambda/4$  waveplate, or optically active quartz rotator



# Optical polarization qubits: Two-axis BB DD

Damokarakurup *et al*, arXiv:0811.2654 (Nov 2008).

Qubit computational basis:  $\{|H\rangle, |V\rangle\}$

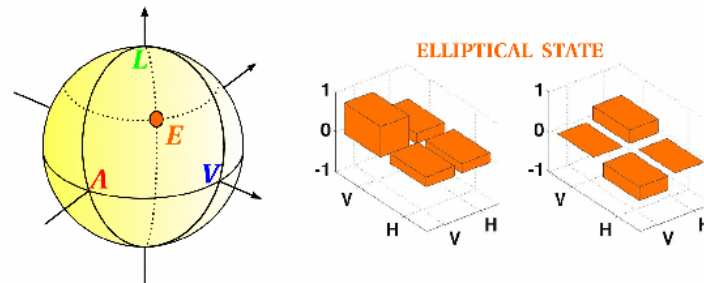
→ Decoherence in an arbitrary basis engineered through suitable cavity design:  
Insert a Soleil-Babinet element in front of each of two 45-deg plane mirrors

→ BB polarization control achieved through full Pauli-group DD (two active operation/cycle)

$$\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{H}_2 \times \mathcal{H}_2 = (I, X, Y, Z) \rightarrow XZXZ$$

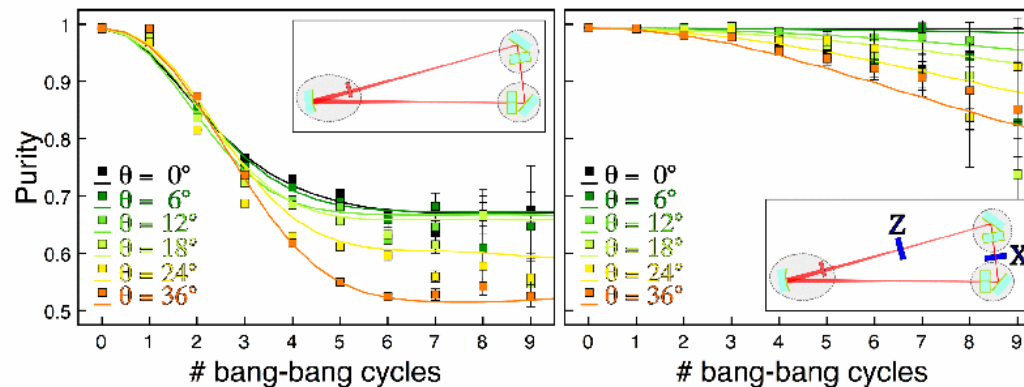
$$Z = |H\rangle\langle H| - |V\rangle\langle V|,$$

$$X = |H\rangle\langle V| + |V\rangle\langle H|$$



Without Bang-Bang

With Bang-Bang



Active DD-correction of arbitrary single-qubit errors

# DD in solid-state nuclear-quadrupole qubits

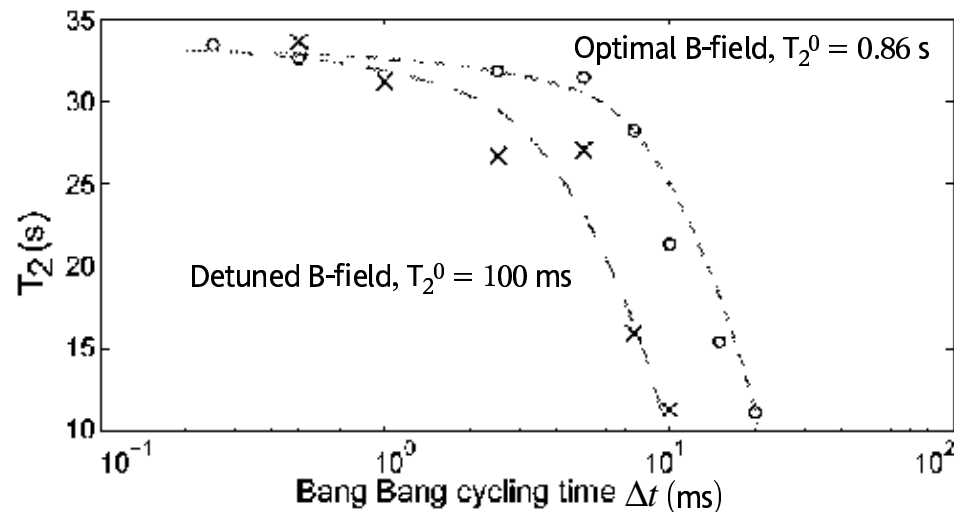
Fraval, Sellars & Longdell, PRL **95**, 030506 (2005).

System: Crystal of  $\text{Y}_2\text{SiO}_5$  doped with  $\text{Pr}^{3+}$  ions.

Electronic ground state splits into 3 doubly degenerate levels with  $m_l = \pm 5/2, \pm 3/2, \pm 1/2$

→ Quantum coherence stored in hyperfine transition  $m_l = -1/2 \rightarrow +3/2$

→ Decoherence primarily due to slowly fluctuating magnetic fields as a result of cross-relaxation



DD according to

$$\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{H}_2 = (\mathbf{I}, \mathbf{X})$$

Hyperfine coherence time  
extended to > 30s.



# DD in electron-nuclear spin qubits

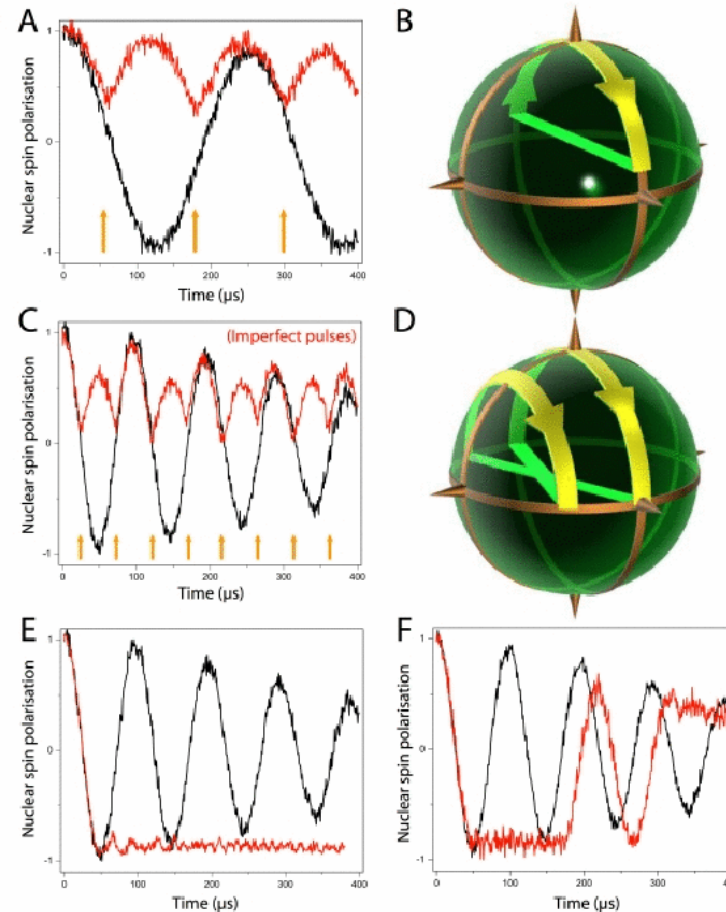
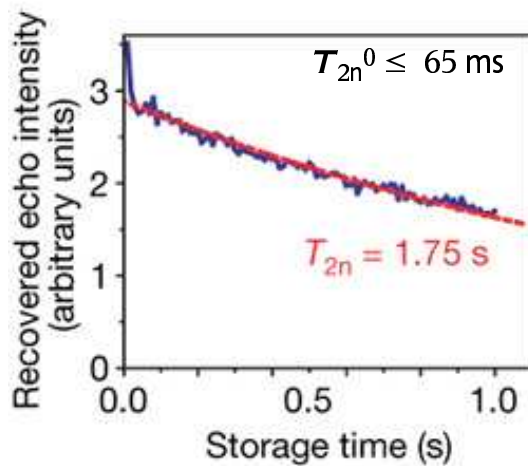
Morton *et al*, Nature Phys. **2**, 40 (2006).

2-qubit system supported by 4 levels in 12-level spin manifold of fullerene N@C60 molecule:

$$m_S^{electron} = +3/2, -3/2, \quad m_I^{nucl} = 0, 1$$

→ Strong engineered coupling (RF driving) is introduced to drive Rabi nuclear oscillations, and removed by DD on the electron.

$$\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{H}_2 = (I, Z)$$



→ DD-enhanced quantum storage of electron-spin state in the nuclear-spin state of  $^{31}\text{P}$  in  $^{28}\text{Si}$  single crystal.

Morton *et al*, Nature **455**, 1085 (2008).

# DD in trapped-ion qubits

Biercuk *et al*, Nature **458**, 996 (2009); arXiv:0905.0286 (May 2009).

System: Array of  ${}^9\text{Be}^+$  ions in a Penning trap.  
 Qubit states: Ground-state electron-spin-flip transition.

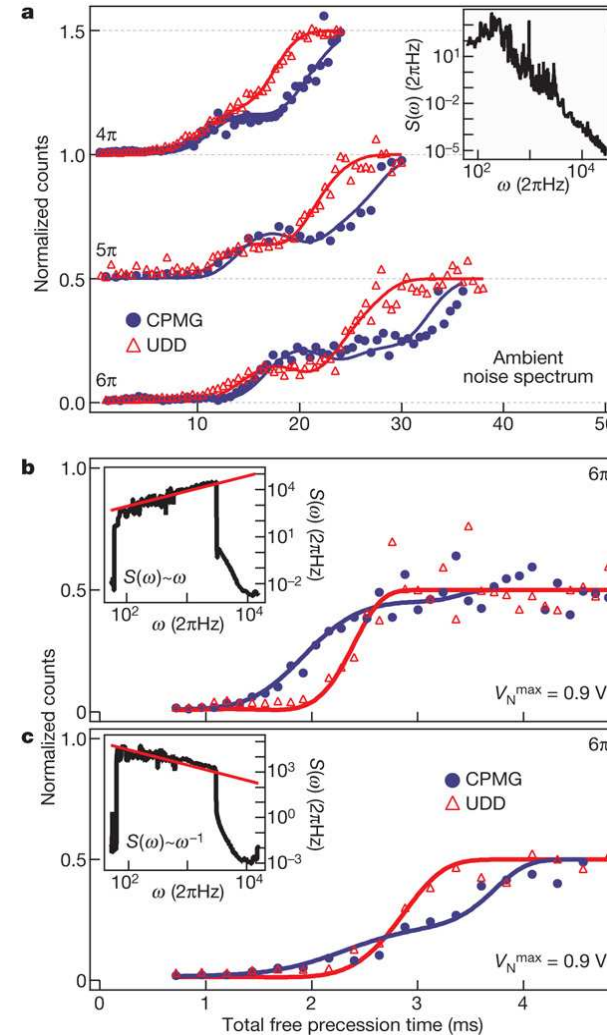
$$(m_I, m_J) = +3/2, \pm 1/2$$

→ Phase decoherence due to ambient [magnetic field] noise as well as engineered phase noise

$$S(\omega)_{\text{ambient}} \approx \frac{1}{\omega^4}, \quad S(\omega)_{\text{eng}} \approx \omega \Theta(\omega - \omega_c)$$

→ Quantitative comparison between BB control based on uniformly spaced vs optimally spaced  $\pi_x$  pulses in different purely-dephasing environments

UDD significantly outperforms uniform DD in the presence of noise with a 'hard' spectral cut-off.



## Essential reading on DD theory

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- *Dynamical suppression of decoherence in two-state quantum systems* – LV & S. Lloyd, *Phys. Rev. A* **58**, 2733 (1998).
- *DD of open quantum systems* – LV, E. Knill & S. Lloyd, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **82**, 2417 (1999).
- *Robust DD of quantum systems with bounded controls* – LV & E. Knill, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **90**, 037901 (2003).
- *Enhanced convergence and robust performance of randomized DD* – L.F. Santos & LV, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **97**, 0150501 (2006).
- *Performance of deterministic DD schemes: Concatenated and periodic sequences* – K. Khodjasteh & D. A. Lidar, *Phys. Rev. A* **75**, 062310 (2007).
- *Keeping a quantum bit alive by optimized  $\pi$ -pulse sequences* – G.S. Uhrig, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **98**, 100504 (2007).
- *Introduction to quantum dynamical decoupling* – LV, Book chapter, forthcoming [check my research group webpage@Dartmouth...]

...*Thank you for your attention...*

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