

The Measurement Calculus

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Abstract

We propose a calculus of local equations over one-way measurement patterns [1], which preserves interpretations, and allows the rewriting of any pattern to a standard form where entanglement is done first, then measurements, then local corrections. We infer from this that patterns with no dependencies, or using only Pauli measurements, can only realise unitaries belonging to the Clifford group.

1 Introduction

The *one-way* model centres on 1-qubit measurements as the main ingredient of quantum computation [1, 2, 3], and is believed by physicists to lend itself to easier implementations [4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]. During computations, measurements and local corrections are allowed to depend on the outcomes of previous measurements.

We first develop a notation for such classically correlated sequences of entanglements, measurements, and local corrections. Computations are organised in patterns, and we give a careful treatment of the composition and tensor product (parallel composition) of patterns. We show next that such pattern combinations reflect the corresponding combinations of unitary operators. An easy proof of universality follows.

So far, this constitutes mostly a work of clarification of what was already known from the series of papers introducing and investigating the properties of the one-way model [1, 2, 3]. However, we work here with an extended notion of pattern, where inputs and outputs may overlap in any way one wants them to, and this obtains more efficient - in the sense of using fewer qubits - implementations of unitaries. Specifically, our universal set consists of patterns using only 2 qubits. From it we obtain a 3 qubits realisation of the R_z rotations and

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a 14 qubit realisation for the controlled- U family: a significant reduction over the known implementations.

However, the main point of this paper is to introduce alongside our notation, a calculus of local equations over patterns that exploits the fact that 1-qubit xy -measurements are closed under conjugation by Pauli operators. We show that this calculus is sound in that it preserves the patterns interpretations. Most importantly, we derive from it a simple algorithm by which any general pattern can be put into a standard form where entanglement is done first, then measurements, then corrections.

The consequences of the existence of such a procedure are far-reaching. First, since entangling comes first, one can prepare the entire entangled state needed during the computation right at the start: one never has to do “on the fly” entanglements. Second, since local corrections come last, only the output qubits will ever need corrections. Third, the rewriting of a pattern to standard form reveals parallelism in the pattern computation. In a general pattern, one is forced to compute sequentially and obey strictly the command sequence, whereas after standardisation, the dependency structure is relaxed, resulting in lower depth complexity. Last, the existence of a standard form for any pattern also has interesting corollaries beyond implementation and complexity matters, as it follows from it that patterns using no dependencies, or using only the restricted class of Pauli measurements, can only realise a unitary belonging to the Clifford group.

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2 Measurement Patterns

We first develop a notation for 1-qubit measurement based computations. The basic commands one can use in a pattern are:

- 2-qubit entanglement operators E_{ij}
- 1-qubit measurements M_i^α
- and 1-qubit Pauli corrections X_i, Z_i

The indices i, j represent the qubits on which each of these operations apply, and α is a parameter in $[0, 2\pi]$. These three types of command will be referred to as E, M and C . Sequences of such commands, together with two distinguished—possibly overlapping—sets of qubits corresponding to inputs and outputs, will be called *measurement patterns*, or simply patterns. These patterns can be combined by composition and tensor product as we will see.

Importantly, corrections and measurements are allowed to depend on previous measurement outcomes. We shall prove later that patterns without those classical dependencies can only realise unitaries that are in the Clifford group. Thus dependencies are crucial if one wants to define a universal computing model (that is to say, a model where all unitaries over $\otimes^n \mathbb{C}^2$ can be realised), and it is also crucial to develop a notation that will handle these dependencies. This is what we do now.

2.1 Commands

The entanglement commands are defined as $E_{ij} := \wedge Z_{ij}$, while the correction commands are the Pauli operators X_i and Z_i .

A *1-qubit measurement* command, written M_i^α , is given by a pair of complement orthogonal projections, on:

$$|+\alpha\rangle := \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle + e^{i\alpha}|1\rangle) \quad (1)$$

$$|-\alpha\rangle := \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle - e^{i\alpha}|1\rangle) \quad (2)$$

where the parameter α is called the *angle* of the measurement. For $\alpha = 0$, $\alpha = \frac{\pi}{2}$, one obtains the X and Y Pauli measurements. Operationally, measurements will be understood as destructive measurements, consuming their qubit. The *outcome* of a measurement done at qubit i will be denoted by $s_i \in \mathbb{Z}_2$. Since one only deals here with patterns where qubits are measured at most once (see condition (D1) below), this is unambiguous. We take the specific convention that $s_i = 0$ if under the corresponding measurement the state collapses to $|+\alpha\rangle$, and $s_i = 1$ if to $|-\alpha\rangle$.

Outcomes can be summed together resulting in expressions of the form $s = \sum_{i \in I} s_i$ which we call *signals*, and where the summation is understood as being done in \mathbb{Z}_2 . We define the *domain* of a signal as the set of qubits it depends on.

As said, both corrections and measurements may depend on signals. Dependent corrections will be written X_i^s and Z_i^s , and dependent measurements will be written ${}^t[M_i^\alpha]^s$, where s and t are signals. The meaning of dependencies for corrections is straightforward: $X_i^0 = Z_i^0 = I$ (no correction is applied), while $X_i^1 = X_i$ and $Z_i^1 = Z_i$. In the case of dependent measurements, the measurement angle will depend on s and t as follows:

$${}^t[M_i^\alpha]^s := M_i^{(-1)^s \alpha + t\pi} \quad (3)$$

so that, depending on the parities of s and t , one may have to modify the α to one of $-\alpha$, $\alpha + \pi$ and $-\alpha + \pi$. These modifications correspond to conjugations of measurements under X and Z :

$$X_i M_i^\alpha X_i = M_i^{-\alpha} \quad (4)$$

$$Z_i M_i^\alpha Z_i = M_i^{\alpha+\pi} \quad (5)$$

and so we will refer to them as the X and Z -actions. Note that these two actions are commuting, since $-\alpha + \pi = -\alpha - \pi$ up to 2π , and hence the order in which one applies them doesn't matter.¹ As we will see later, relations (4) and (5) are key to the propagation of dependent corrections, and to obtaining patterns in the standard entanglement, measurement, correction form. Since measurements considered here are destructive ones, the above equations actually simplify to $M_i^\alpha X_i = M_i^{-\alpha}$, and $M_i^\alpha Z_i = M_i^{\alpha+\pi}$.

Another point worth noticing is that the domain of the signals of a dependent command, be it a measurement or a correction, represents the set of measurements which one has to do before one can determine the actual value of the command.

¹Should one extend the basic model with other local corrections, which is perfectly possible, one would have to include in measurement dependencies their corresponding actions on measurement angles.

We have completed our catalog of basic commands, including dependent ones, and we turn now to the definition of measurement patterns.

2.2 Patterns

Definition 1 *Patterns consists of three finite sets V, I, O , together with two injective maps $\iota : I \rightarrow V$ and $o : O \rightarrow V$ and a finite sequence of commands $A_n \dots A_1$ applying to qubits in V such that:*

(D0) *no command depends on an outcome not yet measured;*

(D1) *no command acts on a qubit already measured;*

(D2) *a qubit i is measured if and only if i is not an output.*

The set V is called the pattern *computation space*, and we write \mathfrak{H}_V for the associated quantum state space $\otimes_{i \in V} \mathbb{C}^2$. To ease notation, we will forget altogether about the maps ι and o , and write simply I, O instead of $\iota(I)$ and $o(O)$. Note however, that these maps are useful to define classical manipulations of the quantum states, such as permutations of the qubits. The sets I, O will be called respectively the pattern *inputs* and *outputs*, and we will write \mathfrak{H}_I , and \mathfrak{H}_O for the associated quantum state spaces. The sequence $A_n \dots A_1$ will be called the pattern *command sequence*, while the triple (V, I, O) will be called the pattern *type*.

To run a pattern, one prepares the input qubits in some input state $\psi \in \mathfrak{H}_I$, while the non-input qubits are all set in the $|+\rangle$ state, then the commands are executed in sequence, and finally the result of the pattern computation is read back from outputs as some $\phi \in \mathfrak{H}_O$. Clearly, for this procedure to succeed, we had to impose the (D0), (D1) and (D2) conditions. Indeed if (D0) fails, then at some point of the computation, one will want to execute a command which depends on outcomes that are not known yet. Likewise, if (D1) fails, one will try to apply a command on a qubit that has been consumed by a measurement (recall that we use destructive measurements). Condition (D2) is there to make sure that the final state belongs to the output space \mathfrak{H}_O , *i.e.*, that all non-output qubits, and only them, will have been consumed by a measurement when the computation ends.

Starting now we will write (D) for the conjunction of our three definiteness conditions (D0), (D1) and (D2). Whether a given pattern verifies (D) or not is statically verifiable on the pattern command sequence. Here is a concrete example:

$$\mathfrak{H} := (\{1, 2\}, \{1\}, \{2\}, X_2^{s_1} M_1^0 E_{12})$$

with computation space $\{1, 2\}$, inputs $\{1\}$, and outputs $\{2\}$. To run \mathfrak{H} , one first prepares the first qubit in some input state ψ , and the second qubit in state $|+\rangle$, then these are entangled to obtain $\wedge Z_{12}(\psi_1 \otimes |+\rangle_2)$. Once this is done, the first qubit is measured in the $|+\rangle, |-\rangle$ basis. Finally an X correction is applied on the output qubit, if the measurement outcome was $s_1 = 1$. We will do this calculation in detail later, and prove that this pattern implements the Hadamard operator H .

In general, a given pattern may use auxiliary qubits which are neither inputs nor outputs qubits. Usually one tries to use as few of them as possible, since these participate to the *space complexity* of the computation.

A last thing to note, is that one does not require inputs and outputs to be disjoint subsets of V . This seemingly innocuous additional flexibility is actually quite useful to give parsimonious implementations of unitaries [10]. While the restriction to disjoint inputs and outputs is unnecessary, it has been discussed whether imposing it results in patterns which are easier to realise physically. Recent work [11, 6, 7] however, seems to indicate it is not the case.

2.3 Pattern combination

We are interested now in how one can combine patterns into bigger ones.

The first way to combine patterns is by composing them. Two patterns \mathfrak{P}_1 and \mathfrak{P}_2 may be composed if $V_1 \cap V_2 = O_1 = I_2$. Provided that \mathfrak{P}_1 has as many outputs as \mathfrak{P}_2 has inputs, by renaming the pattern qubits, one can always make them composable.

Definition 2 *The composite pattern $\mathfrak{P}_2\mathfrak{P}_1$ is defined as:*

- $V := V_1 \cup V_2, I = I_1, O = O_2,$
- *commands are concatenated.*

The other way of combining patterns is to tensorise them. Two patterns \mathfrak{P}_1 and \mathfrak{P}_2 may be tensorised if $V_1 \cap V_2 = \emptyset$. Again one can always meet this condition by renaming qubits in a way that these sets are made disjoint.

Definition 3 *The tensor pattern $\mathfrak{P}_2 \otimes \mathfrak{P}_1$ is defined as:*

- $V = V_1 \cup V_2, I = I_1 \cup I_2, \text{ and } O = O_1 \cup O_2,$
- *commands are concatenated.*

Unlike in the composition case, all unions involved here are disjoint. Therefore commands from distinct patterns freely commute, since they apply to disjoint qubits, and when we say that commands have to be concatenated, this is only for definiteness.

It is routine to verify that the definiteness conditions (D) are preserved under composition and tensor.

2.4 Standard patterns

One might want to subject patterns to a further condition:

(EMC) commands occur *E*s first, then *M*s, then *C*s.

This last condition (EMC) is of a completely different nature. Patterns not respecting it will be called *wild*. Later on, we will introduce the measurement calculus and show a simple rewriting procedure turning any given wild pattern into an equivalent one which is in (EMC) form. We call this procedure *standardisation*, and also say that a pattern meeting the (EMC) condition is *standard*.

Before turning to this matter, we need a clean definition of what it means for a pattern to implement or to realise a unitary operator, together with a proof that the way one can combine patterns is reflected in their interpretations. This is key to our proof of universality.

3 Running a pattern

Besides quantum states which are non-zero vectors in some \mathfrak{H}_V , one needs a classical state recording the outcomes of the successive measurements one does in a pattern. So it is natural to define the computation state space as:

$$\mathcal{S} := \bigcup_{V,W} \mathfrak{H}_V \times \mathbb{Z}_2^W$$

where V, W range over finite sets. In other words a computation state is a pair q, Γ , where q is a quantum state and Γ is a map from some W to the outcome space \mathbb{Z}_2 . We call this classical component Γ an *outcome map*, and denote by \emptyset the empty outcome map in \mathbb{Z}_2^\emptyset .

3.1 Commands as actions

We need a few notations. For any signal s and classical state $\Gamma \in \mathbb{Z}_2^W$, such that the domain of s is included in W , we take s_Γ to be the value of s given by the outcome map Γ . That is to say, if $s = \sum_I s_i$, then $s_\Gamma := \sum_I \Gamma(i)$ where the sum is taken in \mathbb{Z}_2 . Also if $\Gamma \in \mathbb{Z}_2^W$, and $x \in \mathbb{Z}_2$, we define:

$$\Gamma[x/i](i) = x, \Gamma[x/i](j) = \Gamma(j) \text{ for } j \neq i$$

which is a map in $\mathbb{Z}_2^{W \cup \{i\}}$.

We may now see each of our commands as acting on the state space \mathcal{S} :

$$\begin{aligned} q, \Gamma &\xrightarrow{E_{ij}} \wedge Z_{ij} q, \Gamma \\ q, \Gamma &\xrightarrow{X_i^s} X_i^{s_\Gamma} q, \Gamma \\ q, \Gamma &\xrightarrow{Z_i^s} Z_i^{s_\Gamma} q, \Gamma \\ q, \Gamma &\xrightarrow{t[M_i^\alpha]^s} \langle +_{\alpha_\Gamma} |_i q, \Gamma[0/i] \rangle \\ q, \Gamma &\xrightarrow{t[M_i^\alpha]^s} \langle -_{\alpha_\Gamma} |_i q, \Gamma[1/i] \rangle \end{aligned}$$

where $\alpha_\Gamma = (-1)^{s_\Gamma} \alpha + t_\Gamma \pi$ following equation (3). Suppose $q \in \mathfrak{H}_V$, for the above relations to be defined, one needs the indices i, j on which the various command apply to be in V . One also needs Γ to contain the domains of s and t , so that s_Γ and t_Γ are well-defined. This will always be the case during the run of a pattern because of condition (D).

All commands except measurements are deterministic and only modify the quantum part of the state. The measurements actions on \mathcal{S} are not deterministic, so that these are actually binary relations on \mathcal{S} , and modify both the quantum and classical parts of the state. The usual convention has it that when one does a measurement the resulting state is *renormalised*, but we don't adhere to it here, the reason being that this way, the probability of reaching a given state can be read off its norm, and the overall treatment is simpler.

We introduce an additional command called *shifting*:

$$q, \Gamma \xrightarrow{S_i^s} q, \Gamma[\Gamma(i) + s_\Gamma/i]$$

It consists in shifting the measurement outcome at i by the amount s_Γ . Note that the Z -action leaves measurements globally invariant, in the sense that

Note that even when \mathfrak{P} is deterministic, all branches might not be equally likely. When \mathfrak{P} is deterministic, one defines a norm-preserving map $U_{\mathfrak{P}}$ from \mathfrak{H}_I to \mathfrak{H}_O by:

$$U_{\mathfrak{P}}(q) := \frac{\|q\|}{\|q'\|} q' \quad (8)$$

Note that when $q \rightarrow_{\mathfrak{P}} q'$, $q' \neq 0$, so that the definition above always make sense. Note also that because \mathfrak{P} is deterministic, this map depends on the choice of q' only up to a global phase. One can further comment that since we took the convention not to renormalise measurement results, we have to do here a global renormalisation to define the pattern interpretation.

One says that a deterministic pattern \mathfrak{P} *realises* or *implements* $U_{\mathfrak{P}}$, or equivalently that $U_{\mathfrak{P}}$ is the *interpretation* of \mathfrak{P} .

3.3 Short examples

First we give a quick example of a deterministic pattern that has branches with different probabilities. Its type is $V = \{1, 2\}$, $I = O = \{1\}$, and its command sequence is M_2^α . Therefore, starting with input q , one gets two branches:

$$q \otimes |+\rangle, \emptyset \xrightarrow{M_2^\alpha} \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}(1 + e^{-i\alpha})q, \emptyset[0/2] \\ \frac{1}{2}(1 - e^{-i\alpha})q, \emptyset[1/2] \end{cases}$$

Thus this pattern is indeed deterministic, and implements the identity up to a global phase, and yet the two branches have respective probabilities $(1 + \cos \alpha)/2$ and $(1 - \cos \alpha)/2$, which are not equal in general.

There is an interesting variation on this first example. The pattern of interest, call it \mathfrak{T} , has the same type with command sequence $X_1^{s_2} M_2^0 E_{12}$. Again, \mathfrak{T} is deterministic, and branches have different probabilities, as in the preceding example, but now in addition these probabilities may depend on the input. The associated transformation is easier to describe as a cp-map, $T(\rho) := A\rho A^* + B\rho B^*$ with:

$$A := \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, B := \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

One has $A^*A + B^*B = I$, so T is indeed a completely positive and trace-preserving linear map. In general, saying that \mathfrak{T} is deterministic is equivalent to saying that the associated cp-map T sends pure density operators to pure ones, and it seems natural to call such cp-maps *deterministic*. In our example, T is given by $T(|\psi\rangle\langle\psi|) = \langle\psi, \psi\rangle|0\rangle\langle 0|$, so T is indeed deterministic (in the technical sense just defined), but clearly for no unitary U does one have $T(\rho) := U\rho U^*$. Although we will be mainly concerned with patterns realising unitary embeddings, it is interesting to note that not all deterministic cp-maps are actually liftings of unitary embeddings.

For our final example, we return to the pattern \mathfrak{H} , already defined above. Let us consider for a start the pattern with same space $\{1, 2\}$, and same inputs and outputs $I = \{1\}$, $O = \{2\}$, as \mathfrak{H} , but shorter command sequence $M_1^0 E_{12}$. Starting with input $q = (a|0\rangle + b|1\rangle)|+\rangle$, one has two computation branches,

branching at M_1^0 :

$$(a|0\rangle + b|1\rangle)|+\rangle, \emptyset \xrightarrow{E_{12}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(a|00\rangle + a|01\rangle + b|10\rangle - b|11\rangle), \emptyset$$

$$\xrightarrow{M_1^0} \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}((a+b)|0\rangle + (a-b)|1\rangle), \emptyset[0/1] \\ \frac{1}{2}((a-b)|0\rangle + (a+b)|1\rangle), \emptyset[1/1] \end{cases}$$

and since $\|a+b\|^2 + \|a-b\|^2 = 2(\|a\|^2 + \|b\|^2)$, both transitions happen with equal probabilities $\frac{1}{2}$. Both branches end up with non proportional outputs, so the pattern is *not* deterministic. However, if one applies the local correction X_2 on either of the branches ends, both outputs will be made to coincide. If we choose to let the correction bear on the second branch, we obtain the pattern \mathfrak{H} , already defined. We have just proved $H = U_{\mathfrak{H}}$, that is to say \mathfrak{H} realises the Hadamard operator.

3.4 Composing, Tensoring and Interpretation

With our definitions in place, we first infer that pattern combinations correspond to combinations of their interpretations. From this an easy structured argument for universality will follow.

Recall that two patterns $\mathfrak{P}_1, \mathfrak{P}_2$ may be combined by composition provided \mathfrak{P}_1 has as many outputs as \mathfrak{P}_2 has inputs. Suppose this is the case, and suppose further that \mathfrak{P}_1 and \mathfrak{P}_2 respectively realise some unitaries U_1 and U_2 , then the composite pattern $\mathfrak{P}_2\mathfrak{P}_1$ realises U_2U_1 .

Indeed, the two diagrams representing branches in \mathfrak{P}_1 and \mathfrak{P}_2 :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathfrak{H}_{I_1} \cdots \cdots \cdots \mathfrak{H}_{O_1} & & \mathfrak{H}_{I_2} \cdots \cdots \cdots \mathfrak{H}_{O_2} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathfrak{H}_{I_1} \times \mathbb{Z}_2^\emptyset \xrightarrow{p_1} \mathfrak{H}_{V_1} \times \mathbb{Z}_2^\emptyset \Rightarrow \mathfrak{H}_{O_1} \times \mathbb{Z}_2^{V_1 \setminus O_1} & & \mathfrak{H}_{I_2} \times \mathbb{Z}_2^\emptyset \xrightarrow{p_2} \mathfrak{H}_{V_2} \times \mathbb{Z}_2^\emptyset \Rightarrow \mathfrak{H}_{O_2} \times \mathbb{Z}_2^{V_2 \setminus O_2} \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \end{array}$$

can be pasted together, since $O_1 = I_2$, and $\mathfrak{H}_{O_1} = \mathfrak{H}_{I_2}$. But then, it is enough to notice 1) that preparation steps p_2 in \mathfrak{P}_2 commute with all actions in \mathfrak{P}_1 since they apply on disjoint sets of qubits, and 2) that no action taken in \mathfrak{P}_2 depends on the measurements outcomes in \mathfrak{P}_1 . It follows that the pasted diagram describes the same branches as does the one associated to the composite $\mathfrak{P}_2\mathfrak{P}_1$.

A similar argument applies to the case of a tensor combination, and one has that $\mathfrak{P}_2 \otimes \mathfrak{P}_1$ realises $U_2 \otimes U_1$.

The same holds even for non-deterministic patterns considered as implementing cp-maps. But we will not be concerned with this generalised setting in this paper.

4 Universality

Define the two following patterns on $V = \{1, 2\}$:

$$\mathfrak{J}(\alpha) := X_2^{s_1} M_1^{-\alpha} E_{12} \quad (9)$$

$$\wedge \mathfrak{J} := E_{12} \quad (10)$$

with $I = \{1\}$, $O = \{2\}$ in the first pattern, and $I = O = \{1, 2\}$ in the second. Note that the second pattern does not have overlapping inputs and outputs.

Proposition 5 *The patterns $\mathfrak{J}(\alpha)$ and $\wedge\mathfrak{J}$ are universal.*

First, we claim $\mathfrak{J}(\alpha)$ and $\wedge\mathfrak{J}$ respectively realise $J(\alpha)$ and $\wedge Z$, with:

$$J(\alpha) := \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & e^{i\alpha} \\ 1 & -e^{i\alpha} \end{pmatrix}$$

We have already seen in our example that $\mathfrak{J}(0) = \mathfrak{H}$ implements $H = J(0)$, thus we already know this in the particular case where $\alpha = 0$. The general case follows by the same kind of computation.² The case of $\wedge Z$ is obvious.

Second, we know that these unitaries form a universal set for $\otimes^n \mathbb{C}^2$ [10]. Therefore, from the preceding section, we infer that combining the corresponding patterns will generate patterns realising any unitary in $\otimes^n \mathbb{C}^2$. \square

These patterns are indeed among the simplest possible. As a consequence, in the section devoted to examples, we will find that our implementations have often little space complexity.

Remarkably, in our set of generators, one finds a single measurement and a single dependency, which occurs in the correction phase of $\mathfrak{J}(\alpha)$. Clearly one needs at least one measurement, since patterns without measurements can only implement unitaries in the Clifford group. It is also true that dependencies are needed for universality, but we have to wait for the development of the measurement calculus in the next section to give a proof of this fact.

5 The measurement calculus

We turn to the next important matter of the paper, namely standardisation. The idea is quite simple. It is enough to provide local pattern rewrite rules pushing E s to the beginning of the pattern, and C s to the end.

5.1 The equations

A first set of equations give means to propagate local Pauli corrections through the entangling operator E_{ij} . Because $E_{ij} = E_{ji}$, there are only two cases to consider:

$$E_{ij} X_i^s = X_i^s Z_j^s E_{ij} \tag{11}$$

$$E_{ij} Z_i^s = Z_i^s E_{ij} \tag{12}$$

These equations are easy to verify and are natural since E_{ij} belongs to the Clifford group, and therefore maps under conjugation the Pauli group to itself.

²Equivalently, this follows from $J(\alpha) = HP(\alpha)$, with $P(\alpha) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\alpha} \end{pmatrix}$ and:

$$X_2^{s1} M_1^{-\alpha} E_{12} = X_2^{s1} M_1^0 P(\alpha)_1 E_{12} = \mathfrak{H}P(\alpha)_1.$$

A second set of equations give means to push corrections through measurements acting on the same qubit. Again there are two cases:

$${}^t[M_i^\alpha]^s X_i^r = {}^t[M_i^\alpha]^{s+r} \quad (13)$$

$${}^t[M_i^\alpha]^s Z_i^r = {}^{t+r}[M_i^\alpha]^s \quad (14)$$

These equations follow easily from equations (4) and (5). They express the fact that the measurements M_i^α are closed under conjugation by the Pauli group, very much like equations (11) and (12) express the fact that the Pauli group is closed under conjugation by the entanglements E_{ij} .

Define the following convenient abbreviations:

$$\begin{aligned} [M_i^\alpha]^s &:= {}^0[M_i^\alpha]^s, \quad {}^t[M_i^\alpha] := {}^t[M_i^\alpha]^0, \quad M_i^\alpha := {}^0[M_i^\alpha]^0, \\ M_i^x &:= M_i^0, \quad M_i^y := M_i^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

Particular cases of the equations above are:

$$\begin{aligned} M_i^x X_i^s &= M_i^x \\ M_i^y X_i^s &= [M_i^y]^s = {}^s[M_i^y] = M_i^y Z_i^s \end{aligned}$$

The first equation, follows from $-0 = 0$, so the X action on M_i^x is trivial; the middle equation, second row, is because $-\frac{\pi}{2}$ is equal $\frac{\pi}{2} + \pi$ modulo 2π , and therefore the X and Z actions coincide on M_i^y . So we obtain the following:

$${}^t[M_i^x]^s = {}^t[M_i^x] \quad (15)$$

$${}^t[M_i^y]^s = {}^{s+t}[M_i^y] \quad (16)$$

which we will use later to prove that patterns with measurements of the form M^x and M^y may only realise unitaries in the Clifford group.

5.2 The rewrite rules

We now define a set of rewrite rules, obtained by directing the equations above:

$$\begin{aligned} E_{ij} X_i^s &\Rightarrow X_i^s Z_j^s E_{ij} & EX \\ E_{ij} Z_i^s &\Rightarrow Z_i^s E_{ij} & EZ \\ {}^t[M_i^\alpha]^s X_i^r &\Rightarrow {}^t[M_i^\alpha]^{s+r} & MX \\ {}^t[M_i^\alpha]^s Z_i^r &\Rightarrow {}^{r+t}[M_i^\alpha]^s & MZ \end{aligned}$$

to which we need to add the *free commutation rules*, obtained when commands operate on disjoint sets of qubits:

$$\begin{aligned} E_{ij} A_{\vec{k}} &\Rightarrow A_{\vec{k}} E_{ij} & \text{with } A \neq E \\ A_{\vec{k}} X_i^s &\Rightarrow X_i^s A_{\vec{k}} & \text{with } A \neq C \\ A_{\vec{k}} Z_i^s &\Rightarrow Z_i^s A_{\vec{k}} & \text{with } A \neq C \end{aligned}$$

where \vec{k} represent the qubits acted upon by command A , and are supposed to be distinct from i and j .

Condition (D) is easily seen to be preserved under rewriting.

Under rewriting, the computation space, inputs and outputs remain the same, and so are the entanglement commands. Measurements might be modified, but there is still the same number of them, and they are still acting on the same qubits. The only induced modifications concern local corrections and dependencies. We also take due note that these equations only propagate dependencies. If there was none at the start, none will be created in the rewriting process.

5.3 Standardisation

Write $\mathfrak{P} \Rightarrow \mathfrak{P}'$, respectively $\mathfrak{P} \Rightarrow^* \mathfrak{P}'$, if both patterns have the same type, and one obtains \mathfrak{P}' 's command sequence from \mathfrak{P} 's one by applying one, respectively any number, of the rules above. Say \mathfrak{P} is *standard* if for no \mathfrak{P}' , $\mathfrak{P} \Rightarrow \mathfrak{P}'$.

Because all our equations are sound, one has that whenever $\mathfrak{P} \Rightarrow^* \mathfrak{P}'$, and both patterns are deterministic, then $U_{\mathfrak{P}} = U_{\mathfrak{P}'}$.

One can show by a standard rewriting theory argument, that for all \mathfrak{P} , there exists a unique standard \mathfrak{P}' , such that $\mathfrak{P} \Rightarrow^* \mathfrak{P}'$, and moreover \mathfrak{P}' satisfies the (EMC) condition. Reaching the standard form takes at most quadratic time in the number of commands in \mathfrak{P} . Details are given in the appendix.

5.4 Signal shifting

One can extend the calculus to include the shifting command S_i^t . This allows one to dispose of dependencies induced by the Z -action, and obtain sometimes standard patterns with smaller depth complexity, as we will see in the next section devoted to examples.

$${}^t[M_i^\alpha]^s \Rightarrow S_i^t [M_i^\alpha]^s \quad (17)$$

$$X_j^s S_i^t \Rightarrow S_i^t X_j^{s[t+s_i/s_i]} \quad (18)$$

$$Z_j^s S_i^t \Rightarrow S_i^t Z_j^{s[t+s_i/s_i]} \quad (19)$$

$${}^t[M_j^\alpha]^s S_i^r \Rightarrow S_i^r {}^t[M_j^\alpha]^{s[r+s_i/s_i]} \quad (20)$$

where $s[t/s_i]$ denotes the substitution of s_i with t in s , s, t being signals. The first additional rewrite rule was already introduced as equation (6), while the other ones are merely propagating the signal shift. Clearly also, one can dispose of S_i^t when it hits the end of the pattern command sequence. We will refer to this new set of rules as \Rightarrow_S .

6 Examples

In this section we develop some examples illustrating both pattern composition, pattern standardisation, and signal shifting. We compare our implementations with the implementations given in the reference paper [3]. To combine patterns one needs to rename their qubits as we already noticed. We use the following concrete notation: if \mathfrak{P} is a pattern over $\{1, \dots, n\}$, and f is an injection, we write $\mathfrak{P}(f(1), \dots, f(n))$ for the same pattern with qubits renamed according to f . We also write $\mathfrak{P}_2 \circ \mathfrak{P}_1$ for pattern composition to ease reading.

Teleportation.

Consider the composite pattern $\mathfrak{J}(\beta)(2, 3) \circ \mathfrak{J}(\alpha)(1, 2)$ with computation space $\{1, 2, 3\}$, inputs $\{1\}$, and outputs $\{3\}$. We run our standardisation procedure so as to obtain an equivalent standard pattern:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{J}(\beta)(2, 3) \circ \mathfrak{J}(\alpha)(1, 2) &= X_3^{s_2} M_2^{-\beta} E_{23} X_2^{s_1} M_1^{-\alpha} E_{12} \\ &\Rightarrow_{EX} X_3^{s_2} M_2^{-\beta} X_2^{s_1} Z_3^{s_1} M_1^{-\alpha} E_{23} E_{12} \\ &\Rightarrow_{MX} X_3^{s_2} Z_3^{s_1} [M_2^{-\beta}]^{s_1} M_1^{-\alpha} E_{23} E_{12} \end{aligned}$$

Let us call the pattern just obtained $\mathfrak{J}(\alpha, \beta)$. If we take as a special case $\alpha = \beta = 0$, we get:

$$X_3^{s_2} Z_3^{s_1} M_2^x M_1^x E_{23} E_{12}$$

and since we know that $\mathfrak{J}(0)$ implements H and $H^2 = I$, we conclude that this pattern implements the identity, or in other words it teleports qubit 1 to qubit 3. As it happens, this pattern obtained by self-composition, is the same as the one given in the reference paper [3, p.14].

***x*-rotation.**

Here is the reference implementation of an *x*-rotation [3, p.17], $R_x(\alpha)$:

$$X_3^{s_2} Z_3^{s_1} [M_2^{-\alpha}]^{s_1} M_1^x E_{23} E_{12} \quad (21)$$

with type $\{1, 2, 3\}$, $\{1\}$, and $\{3\}$. There is a natural question which one might call the recognition problem, namely how does one know this is implementing $R_x(\alpha)$? Of course there is the brute force answer to that, which we applied to compute our simpler patterns, and which consists in computing down all the four possible branches generated by the measurements at qubits 1 and 2. Another possibility is to use the stabiliser formalism as explained in the reference paper [3]. Yet another possibility is to use *pattern composition*, as we did before, and this is what we are going to do.

We know that $R_x(\alpha) = J(\alpha)H$ up to a global phase, hence the composite pattern $\mathfrak{J}(\alpha)(2, 3) \circ \mathfrak{H}(1, 2)$ implements $R_x(\alpha)$. Now we may standardise it:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{J}(\alpha)(2, 3) \circ \mathfrak{H}(1, 2) &= X_3^{s_2} M_2^{-\alpha} E_{23} X_2^{s_1} M_1^x E_{12} \\ &\Rightarrow_{EX} X_3^{s_2} Z_3^{s_1} M_2^{-\alpha} X_2^{s_1} M_1^x E_{23} E_{12} \\ &\Rightarrow_{MX} X_3^{s_2} Z_3^{s_1} [M_2^{-\alpha}]^{s_1} M_1^x E_{23} E_{12} \end{aligned}$$

obtaining exactly the implementation above. Since our calculus is preserving interpretations, we deduce that the implementation is correct.

***z*-rotation.**

Now, we have a method here for synthesising further implementations. Let us replay it with another rotation $R_z(\alpha)$. Again we know that $R_z(\alpha) = H R_x(\alpha) H$, and we already know how to implement both components H and $R_x(\alpha)$.

So we start with the pattern $\mathfrak{H}(4, 5) \circ \mathfrak{R}_x(\alpha)(2, 3, 4) \circ \mathfrak{H}(1, 2)$ and standardise it:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{H}(4, 5) \circ \mathfrak{R}_x(\alpha)(2, 3, 4) \circ \mathfrak{H}(1, 2) &= \\ \mathfrak{H}(4, 5) X_4^{s_3} Z_4^{s_2} [M_3^\alpha]^{1+s_2} M_2^x E_{34} E_{23} X_2^{s_1} M_1^x E_{12} &\Rightarrow_{EX} \\ \mathfrak{H}(4, 5) X_4^{s_3} Z_4^{s_2} [M_3^\alpha]^{1+s_2} M_2^x X_2^{s_1} E_{34} Z_3^{s_1} M_1^x E_{123} &\Rightarrow_{EZ} \\ \mathfrak{H}(4, 5) X_4^{s_3} Z_4^{s_2} [M_3^\alpha]^{1+s_2} Z_3^{s_1} M_2^x X_2^{s_1} M_1^x E_{1234} &\Rightarrow_{MX} \\ \mathfrak{H}(4, 5) X_4^{s_3} Z_4^{s_2} [M_3^\alpha]^{1+s_2} Z_3^{s_1} M_2^x M_1^x E_{1234} &\Rightarrow_{MZ} \\ X_5^{s_4} M_4^x E_{45} X_4^{s_3} Z_4^{s_2} s_1 [M_3^\alpha]^{1+s_2} M_2^x M_1^x E_{1234} &\Rightarrow_{EX} \\ X_5^{s_4} Z_5^{s_3} M_4^x X_4^{s_3} Z_4^{s_2} s_1 [M_3^\alpha]^{1+s_2} M_2^x M_1^x E_{12345} &\Rightarrow_{MX} \\ X_5^{s_4} Z_5^{s_3} [M_4^x]^{s_3} Z_4^{s_2} s_1 [M_3^\alpha]^{1+s_2} M_2^x M_1^x E_{12345} &\Rightarrow_{MZ} \\ X_5^{s_4} Z_5^{s_3} s_2 [M_4^x]^{s_3} s_1 [M_3^\alpha]^{1+s_2} M_2^x M_1^x E_{12345} & \end{aligned}$$

To ease reading $E_{23} E_{12}$ is shortened to E_{123} , $E_{12} E_{23} E_{34}$ to E_{1234} , and ${}^t[M_i^\alpha]^{1+s}$ is used as shorthand for ${}^t[M_i^{-\alpha}]^s$.

Here for the first time, we see MZ rewritings, inducing the Z -action on measurements. The obtained standardised pattern can therefore be rewritten further using the extended calculus:

$$\begin{aligned} X_5^{s_4} Z_5^{s_3 s_2} [M_4^x]^{s_3 s_1} [M_3^\alpha]^{1+s_2} M_2^x M_1^x E_{12345} &\Rightarrow_S \\ X_5^{s_2+s_4} Z_5^{s_1+s_3} M_4^x [M_3^\alpha]^{1+s_2} M_2^x M_1^x E_{12345} & \end{aligned}$$

obtaining again the pattern given in the reference paper [3, p.5].

However, just as in the case of the R_x rotation, we also have $R_z(\alpha) = HJ(\alpha)$ up to a global phase, hence the pattern $\mathfrak{H}(2, 3)\mathfrak{J}(\alpha)(1, 2)$ also implements $R_z(\alpha)$, and we may standardise it:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{H}(2, 3) \circ \mathfrak{J}(\alpha)(1, 2) &= X_3^{s_2} M_2^x E_{23} X_2^{s_1} M_1^{-\alpha} E_{12} \\ &\Rightarrow_{EX} X_3^{s_2} Z_3^{s_1} M_2^x X_2^{s_1} M_1^{-\alpha} E_{123} \\ &\Rightarrow_{MX} X_3^{s_2} Z_3^{s_1} M_2^x M_1^{-\alpha} E_{123} \end{aligned}$$

obtaining a 3 qubits standard pattern for the z -rotation, which is simpler than the preceding one, because it is based on the $\mathfrak{J}(\alpha)$ generators. Since the z -rotation $R_z(\alpha)$ is the same as the phase operator:

$$P(\alpha) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\alpha} \end{pmatrix}$$

up to a global phase, we also obtain with the same pattern an implementation of the phase operator. In particular, if $\alpha = \frac{\pi}{2}$, using the extended calculus, we get the following pattern for $P(\frac{\pi}{2})$: $X_3^{s_2} Z_3^{s_1+1} M_2^x M_1^y E_{123}$.

General rotation.

The realisation of a general rotation based on the Euler decomposition of rotations as $R_x(\gamma)R_z(\beta)R_x(\alpha)$, would results in a 7 qubits pattern. We get a 5 qubits implementation based on the $J(\alpha)$ decomposition [10]:

$$R(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) = J(0)J(-\alpha)J(-\beta)J(-\gamma)$$

(The parameter angles are inverted to ease the reading of the computation below.) The extended standardisation procedure yields:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{J}(0)(4, 5)\mathfrak{J}(-\alpha)(3, 4)\mathfrak{J}(-\beta)(2, 3)\mathfrak{J}(-\gamma)(1, 2) &= \\ X_5^{s_4} M_4^0 E_{45} X_4^{s_3} M_3^\alpha E_{34} X_3^{s_2} M_2^\beta E_{23} X_2^{s_1} M_1^\gamma E_{12} &\Rightarrow_{EX} \\ X_5^{s_4} M_4^0 E_{45} X_4^{s_3} M_3^\alpha E_{34} X_3^{s_2} M_2^\beta X_2^{s_1} Z_3^{s_1} M_1^\gamma E_{123} &\Rightarrow_{MX} \\ X_5^{s_4} M_4^0 E_{45} X_4^{s_3} M_3^\alpha E_{34} X_3^{s_2} Z_3^{s_1} [M_2^\beta]^{s_1} M_1^\gamma E_{123} &\Rightarrow_{EXZ} \\ X_5^{s_4} M_4^0 E_{45} X_4^{s_3} M_3^\alpha X_3^{s_2} Z_3^{s_1} Z_4^{s_2} [M_2^\beta]^{s_1} M_1^\gamma E_{1234} &\Rightarrow_{MXZ} \\ X_5^{s_4} M_4^0 E_{45} X_4^{s_3} Z_4^{s_2 s_1} [M_3^\alpha]^{s_2} [M_2^\beta]^{s_1} M_1^\gamma E_{1234} &\Rightarrow_{EXZ} \\ X_5^{s_4} M_4^0 X_4^{s_3} Z_4^{s_2} Z_5^{s_3 s_1} [M_3^\alpha]^{s_2} [M_2^\beta]^{s_1} M_1^\gamma E_{12345} &\Rightarrow_{MXZ} \\ X_5^{s_4} Z_5^{s_3 s_2} [M_4^0]^{s_1} [M_3^\alpha]^{s_2} [M_2^\beta]^{s_1} M_1^\gamma E_{12345} &\Rightarrow_S \\ X_5^{s_2+s_4} Z_5^{s_1+s_3} M_4^0 [M_3^\alpha]^{s_2} [M_2^\beta]^{s_1} M_1^\gamma E_{12345} & \end{aligned}$$

CNOT ($\wedge X$).

This is our first example with two inputs and two outputs. We use here the trivial pattern \mathfrak{J} with computation space $\{1\}$, inputs $\{1\}$, outputs $\{1\}$, and empty command sequence, which implements the identity over \mathfrak{H}_1 .

One has $\wedge X = (I \otimes H) \wedge Z(I \otimes H)$, so we get a pattern using 4 qubits over $\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$, with inputs $\{1, 2\}$, and outputs $\{1, 4\}$, where one notices that inputs and outputs intersect on the control qubit $\{1\}$:

$$(\mathfrak{J}(1) \otimes \mathfrak{h}(3, 4)) \wedge \mathfrak{J}(1, 3)(\mathfrak{J}(1) \otimes \mathfrak{h}(2, 3)) = X_4^{s_3} M_3^x E_{34} E_{13} X_3^{s_2} M_2^x E_{23}$$

By standardising:

$$\begin{aligned} X_4^{s_3} M_3^x E_{34} E_{13} X_3^{s_2} M_2^x E_{23} &\Rightarrow_{EX} \\ X_4^{s_3} Z_1^{s_2} M_3^x E_{34} X_3^{s_2} M_2^x E_{13} E_{23} &\Rightarrow_{EX} \\ X_4^{s_3} Z_4^{s_2} Z_1^{s_2} M_3^x X_3^{s_2} M_2^x E_{13} E_{23} E_{34} &\Rightarrow_{MX} \\ X_4^{s_3} Z_4^{s_2} Z_1^{s_2} M_3^x M_2^x E_{13} E_{23} E_{34} & \end{aligned}$$

Note that we are not using here the E_{1234} abbreviation, because the underlying structure of entanglement is not a chain. This pattern was already described in Aliferis and Leung's paper [12]. In their original presentation the authors actually use an explicit identity pattern (using the teleportation pattern $\mathfrak{J}(0, 0)$ presented above), but we know from the careful presentation of composition that this is not necessary.

GHZ.

We present now a family of patterns preparing the GHZ entangled states $|0 \dots 0\rangle + |1 \dots 1\rangle$. One has:

$$\text{GHZ}(n) = (H_n \wedge Z_{n-1n} \dots H_2 \wedge Z_{12}) |+\dots+\rangle$$

and by combining the patterns for $\wedge Z$ and H , we obtain a pattern with computation space $\{1, 2, 2', \dots, n, n'\}$, no inputs, outputs $\{1, 2', \dots, n'\}$, and the following command sequence:

$$X_n^{s_n} M_n^x E_{nn'} E_{(n-1)'n} \dots X_{2'}^{s_2} M_2^x E_{22'} E_{12}$$

Under that form, the only apparent way to run the pattern is to execute all commands in sequence. The situation changes completely, when we bring the pattern to extended standard form:

$$\begin{aligned} X_n^{s_n} M_n^x E_{nn'} E_{(n-1)'n} \dots X_{3'}^{s_3} M_3^x E_{33'} E_{2'3} X_2^{s_2} M_2^x E_{22'} E_{12} &\Rightarrow \\ X_n^{s_n} X_{2'}^{s_2} M_n^x E_{nn'} E_{(n-1)'n} \dots X_{3'}^{s_3} M_3^x Z_3^{s_2} M_2^x E_{33'} E_{2'3} E_{22'} E_{12} &\Rightarrow \\ X_n^{s_n} X_{2'}^{s_2} M_n^x E_{nn'} E_{(n-1)'n} \dots X_{3'}^{s_3 s_2} [M_3^x] M_2^x E_{33'} E_{2'3} E_{22'} E_{12} &\Rightarrow^* \\ X_n^{s_n} \dots X_{3'}^{s_3} X_{2'}^{s_2 s_{n-1}} [M_n^x] \dots^{s_2} [M_3^x] M_2^x E_{nn'} E_{(n-1)'n} \dots E_{33'} E_{2'3} E_{22'} E_{12} &\Rightarrow_S \\ X_n^{s_2+s_3+\dots+s_n} \dots X_{3'}^{s_2+s_3} X_{2'}^{s_2} M_n^x \dots M_3^x M_2^x E_{nn'} E_{(n-1)'n} \dots E_{33'} E_{2'3} E_{22'} E_{12} & \end{aligned}$$

All measurements are now independent of each other, it is therefore possible after the entanglement phase, to do all of them in one round, and in a subsequent round to do all local corrections. In other words, the obtained pattern has constant depth complexity 2.

Controlled- U .

This final example presents another instance where standardisation obtains a low depth complexity. For any 1-qubit unitary U , one has the following decomposition of $\wedge U$ in terms of the generators $J(\alpha)$ [10]:

$$\wedge U_{12} = J_1^0 J_1^{\alpha'} J_2^0 J_2^{\beta+\pi} J_2^{-\frac{\gamma}{2}} J_2^{-\frac{\pi}{2}} J_2^0 \wedge Z_{12} J_2^{\frac{\pi}{2}} J_2^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} J_2^{-\frac{-\pi-\delta-\beta}{2}} J_2^0 \wedge Z_{12} J_2^{-\frac{-\beta+\delta-\pi}{2}}$$

with $\alpha' = \alpha + \frac{\beta+\gamma+\delta}{2}$. By translating each J operator to its corresponding pattern, we get the following wild pattern for $\wedge U$:

$$\begin{aligned} & X_C^{s_B} M_B^0 E_{BC} X_B^{s_A} M_A^{-\alpha'} E_{AB} X_k^{s_j} M_j^0 E_{jk} X_j^{s_i} M_i^{-\beta-\pi} E_{ij} \\ & X_i^{s_h} M_h^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} E_{hi} X_h^{s_g} M_g^{\frac{\pi}{2}} E_{gh} X_g^{s_f} M_f^0 E_{fg} E_{Af} X_f^{s_e} M_e^{-\frac{\pi}{2}} E_{ef} \\ & X_e^{s_d} M_d^{-\frac{\gamma}{2}} E_{de} X_d^{s_c} M_c^{\frac{\pi+\delta+\beta}{2}} E_{cd} X_c^{s_b} M_b^0 E_{bc} E_{Ab} X_b^{s_a} M_a^{\frac{\beta-\delta+\pi}{2}} E_{ab} \end{aligned}$$

In order to run the wild form of the pattern one needs to follow the pattern commands in sequence. The situation changes completely after extended standardisation:

$$\begin{aligned} & Z_k^{s_i+s_g+s_e+s_c+s_a} X_k^{s_j+s_h+s_f+s_d+s_b} X_C^{s_B} Z_C^{s_A+s_e+s_c} \\ & M_B^0 M_A^{-\alpha'} M_j^0 [M_i^{-\beta-\pi}]^{s_h+s_f+s_d+s_b} [M_h^{\frac{\gamma}{2}}]^{s_g+s_e+s_c+s_a} [M_g^{\frac{\pi}{2}}]^{s_f+s_d+s_b} \\ & M_f^0 [M_e^{-\frac{\pi}{2}}]^{s_d+s_b} [M_d^{-\frac{\gamma}{2}}]^{s_c+s_a} [M_c^{\frac{\pi+\delta+\beta}{2}}]^{s_b} M_b^0 M_a^{\frac{\beta-\delta+\pi}{2}} \\ & E_{BC} E_{AB} E_{jk} E_{ij} E_{hi} E_{gh} E_{fg} E_{Af} E_{ef} E_{de} E_{cd} E_{bc} E_{ab} E_{Ab} \end{aligned}$$

Now the order between measurements is relaxed, as one sees in figure 1, which describes the dependency structure of the standard pattern above. Specifically, all measurements can be completed in 7 rounds. This justifies our earlier claim that standardisation lowers depth complexity, and reveals inherent parallelism in a pattern.

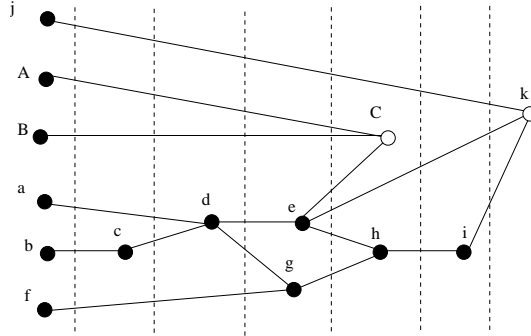


Figure 1: The dependency graph for the standard $\wedge U$ pattern.

7 The no dependency theorems

From standardisation we can also infer results related to dependencies. We start with a simple observation which is a direct consequence of standardisation.

Lemma 6 *Let \mathfrak{P} be a pattern implementing some unitary U , and suppose \mathfrak{P} 's command sequence has measurements only of the M^x and M^y kind, then U has a standard implementation, having only independent measurements, all being of the M^x and M^y kind (therefore of depth complexity at most 2).*

Write \mathfrak{P}' for the standard pattern associated to \mathfrak{P} . By equations (15) and (16), the X -actions can be eliminated from \mathfrak{P}' , and then Z -actions can be eliminated

by using the extended calculus. The final pattern still implements U , has no longer any dependent measurements, and has therefore depth complexity at most 2. \square

Theorem 1 *Let U be a unitary operator, then U is in the Clifford group iff there exists a pattern \mathfrak{P} implementing U , having measurements only of the M^x and M^y kind.*

The “only if” direction is easy, since we have seen in the example section, standard patterns for $\wedge X$, H and $P(\frac{\pi}{2})$ which had only M^x and M^y measurements. Hence any Clifford operator can be implemented by a combination of these patterns. By the lemma above, we know we can actually choose these patterns to be standard.

For the “if” direction, we prove that U belongs to the normaliser of the Pauli group, and hence by definition to the Clifford group. In order to do so we use the standard form of \mathfrak{P} written as $\mathfrak{P} = C_{\mathfrak{P}} M_{\mathfrak{P}} E_{\mathfrak{P}}$ which still implements U , and has only M^x and M^y measurements.

Let i be an input qubit, and consider the pattern $\mathfrak{P}'' = \mathfrak{P} C_i$, where C_i is either X_i or Z_i . Clearly \mathfrak{P}'' implements $U C_i$. First, one has:

$$C_{\mathfrak{P}'} M_{\mathfrak{P}'} E_{\mathfrak{P}'} C_i \Rightarrow_{EC}^* C_{\mathfrak{P}'} M_{\mathfrak{P}'} C' E_{\mathfrak{P}'}$$

for some *non-dependent* sequence of corrections C' , which, up to free commutations can be written uniquely as $C'_O C''$, where C'_O applies on output qubits, and therefore commutes to $M_{\mathfrak{P}'}$, and C'' applies on non-output qubits (which are therefore all measured in $M_{\mathfrak{P}'}$). So, by commuting C'_O both through $M_{\mathfrak{P}'}$ and $C_{\mathfrak{P}'}$ (up to a global phase), one gets:

$$C_{\mathfrak{P}'} M_{\mathfrak{P}'} C' E_{\mathfrak{P}'} \Rightarrow^* C'_O C_{\mathfrak{P}'} M_{\mathfrak{P}'} C'' E_{\mathfrak{P}'}$$

Using equations (15), (16), and the extended calculus to eliminate the remaining Z -actions, one gets:

$$M_{\mathfrak{P}'} C'' \Rightarrow_{MC,S}^* S M_{\mathfrak{P}'}$$

for some product $S = \prod_{\{j \in J\}} S_j^1$ of constant shiftings, applying to some subset J of the non-output qubits. So:

$$\begin{aligned} C'_O C_{\mathfrak{P}'} M_{\mathfrak{P}'} C'' E_{\mathfrak{P}'} &\Rightarrow^* C'_O C_{\mathfrak{P}'} S M_{\mathfrak{P}'} E_{\mathfrak{P}'} \\ &\Rightarrow^* C'_O C''_O C_{\mathfrak{P}'} M_{\mathfrak{P}'} E_{\mathfrak{P}'} \end{aligned}$$

where C''_O is a further constant correction obtained by shifting $C_{\mathfrak{P}'}$ with S . This proves that \mathfrak{P}'' also implements $C'_O C''_O U$, and therefore $U C_i = C'_O C''_O U$ which completes the proof, since $C'_O C''_O$ is a non dependent correction. \square

The only if part of this theorem already appears in previous work [3, p.18].

We can further prove that dependencies are crucial for the universality of the model. Observe first that if a pattern has no measurements, and hence no dependencies, then it follows from (D2) that $V = O$, *i.e.*, all qubits are outputs. Therefore computation steps involve only X , Z and $\wedge Z$, and it is not surprising that they compute a unitary which is in the Clifford group. The general argument essentially consists in showing that when there are measurements, but still no dependencies, then the measurements are playing no part in the result.

Theorem 2 *Let \mathfrak{P} be a pattern implementing some unitary U , and suppose \mathfrak{P} 's command sequence doesn't have any dependencies, then U is in the Clifford group.*

Write \mathfrak{P}' for the standard pattern associated to \mathfrak{P} . Since rewriting is sound, \mathfrak{P}' still implements U , and since rewriting never creates any dependency, it still has no dependencies. In particular, the corrections one finds at the end of \mathfrak{P}' , call them C , bear no dependencies. Erasing them off \mathfrak{P}' , results in a pattern \mathfrak{P}'' which is still standard, still deterministic, and implementing $U' := C^*U$.

Now how does the pattern \mathfrak{P}'' run on some input ϕ ? First $\phi \otimes |+\dots+\rangle$ goes by the entanglement phase to some $\psi \in \mathfrak{H}_V$, and is then subjected to a sequence of independent 1-qubit measurements. Pick a basis \mathcal{B} spanning the Hilbert space generated by the non-output qubits $\mathfrak{H}_{V \setminus O}$ and associated to this sequence of measurements.

Since $\mathfrak{H}_V = \mathfrak{H}_O \otimes \mathfrak{H}_{V \setminus O}$ and $\mathfrak{H}_{V \setminus O} = \bigoplus_{\phi_b \in \mathcal{B}} [\phi_b]$, where $[\phi_b]$ is the linear subspace generated by ϕ_b , by distributivity, ψ uniquely decomposes as:

$$\psi = \sum_{\phi_b \in \mathcal{B}} \phi_b \otimes x_b$$

where ϕ_b ranges over \mathcal{B} , and $x_b \in \mathfrak{H}_O$. Now since \mathfrak{P}'' is deterministic, there exists an x , and scalars λ_b such that $x_b = \lambda_b x$. Therefore ψ can be written $\psi' \otimes x$, for some ψ' . It follows in particular that the output of the computation will still be x (up to a scalar), no matter what the actual measurements are. One can therefore choose them to be all of the M^x kind, and by the preceding theorem U' is in the Clifford group, and so is $U = CU'$, since C is a Pauli operator. \square

From this section, we conclude in particular that any universal set of patterns has to include dependencies (by the preceding theorem), and also needs to use measurements M^α where $\alpha \neq 0$ modulo $\frac{\pi}{2}$ (by the theorem before). This is indeed the case for the universal set $\mathfrak{J}(\alpha)$ and $\wedge\mathfrak{J}$.

8 Conclusion

We presented a calculus for 1-qubit measurement based quantum computing. We have seen that pattern combinations allow for a structured proof of universality, which also results in parsimonious implementations. We have shown further that our calculus defines a quadratic-time standardisation algorithm transforming any pattern to a standard form where entanglement is done first, then measurements, then local corrections. And finally, we have inferred from this procedure that patterns with no dependencies, or using only Pauli measurements, may only implement unitaries in the Clifford group.

One could well wonder whether these ideas extend to other measurement based models, perhaps based on different families of entanglement operators, more general measurements and other types of local corrections. We think they are. Preliminary investigations show that both the notation and the calculus can be extended to some comprehensive version of the teleportation model based on 2-qubit measurements [13], which is embeddable in the one-way model in a very strong sense. Likewise, a variation of the measurement calculus was obtained for an approximately universal 1-qubit measurement based model using only Pauli measurements [14].

We also feel that the methods explored here can be stretched further and made to be relevant to the study of error propagation and error correcting, but this demands using mixed states, and as a preliminary step to set up the interpretation of patterns as cp-maps.

Finally, there is also a compelling reading of dependencies as classical communications, while local corrections can be thought of as local quantum operations in a multipartite scenario. Along this reading, standardisation pushes non-local operations to the beginning of a distributed computation, and it seems the measurement calculus could prove useful in the area of quantum protocols. To push this idea further, one needs first to lay down a proper definition of a distributed version of the measurement calculus, which is it what we did in a recent paper [15].

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9 Appendix

We prove here that standardisation has indeed the properties quoted in the body of the paper. First, we need a lemma:

Lemma 7 (Termination) *For all \mathfrak{P} , there exists finitely many \mathfrak{P}' such that $\mathfrak{P} \Rightarrow^* \mathfrak{P}'$.*

Suppose \mathfrak{P} has command sequence $A_n \dots A_1$. Set $e \leq n$ to be the number of E commands in \mathfrak{P} . As we noted earlier, this number is invariant under \Rightarrow . Moreover E commands in \mathfrak{P} can be ordered by increasing depth, and this order, written $<_E$, is also invariant, since EE commutations are forbidden explicitly in the free commutation rules.

Define the following depth function d on E and C commands in \mathfrak{P} :

$$d(A_i) = \begin{cases} i & \text{if } A_i = E_{jk} \\ n - i & \text{if } A_i = C_j \end{cases}$$

Define further the following binary sequence of length e , $d_E(\mathfrak{P})(i)$ is the depth of the E -command of rank i according to $<_E$. By construction this sequence is strictly increasing. Define finally the measure $m(\mathfrak{P}) := (d_E(\mathfrak{P}), d_C(\mathfrak{P}))$ with:

$$d_C(\mathfrak{P}) = \sum_{C \in \mathfrak{P}} d(C)$$

We claim the measure we just defined decreases lexicographically under rewriting, in other words $\mathfrak{P} \Rightarrow \mathfrak{P}'$ implies $d(\mathfrak{P}) > d(\mathfrak{P}')$, where $<$ is the lexicographic ordering on \mathbb{N}^{e+1} .

To clarify these definitions, let us have an example. Suppose \mathfrak{P} 's command sequence is of the form $EXZE$, then $e = 2$, $d_E(\mathfrak{P}) = (0, 3)$, and $m(\mathfrak{P}) = (0, 3, 3)$. Now, if one considers the rewrite $EEEX \Rightarrow EXZE$, the measure of the left hand side is $(1, 2, 2)$, while the measure of the right hand side, as said, is $(0, 3, 3)$, and indeed $(1, 2, 2) > (0, 3, 3)$.

Let us now consider all cases starting with an EC rewrite. Suppose the E command under rewrite has depth d and rank i in the order $<_E$. Then all E s of smaller rank have same depth in the right hand side, while E has now depth $d-1$ and still rank i . So the right handside has a strictly smaller measure. Note that when $C = X$, because of the creation of a Z (see the example above), the last element of $m(\mathfrak{P})$ may increase, and for the same reason all elements of index $j > i$ in $d_E(\mathfrak{P})$ may increase. This is why we are working with a lexicographical ordering.

Suppose now one does an MC rewrite, then $d_C(\mathfrak{P})$ strictly decreases, since one correction is absorbed, while all E commands have equal or smaller depths. Again the measure strictly decreases.

Next, suppose one does an EA rewrite, and the E command under rewrite has depth d and rank i . Then it has depth $d - 1$ in the right hand side, and all other E commands have invariant depths, since we forbade the case when A is itself an E . It follows that the measure strictly decreases.

Finally, upon an AC rewrite, all E commands have invariant depth, except possibly one which has smaller depth in the case $A = E$, and $d_C(\mathfrak{P})$ decreases strictly because we forbade the case where $A = C$. Again the claim follows.

So all rewrites decrease our ordinal measure, and therefore all sequences of rewrites are finite, and since the system is finitely branching (there are no more than n possible single step rewrites on a given sequence of length n), we get the statement of the theorem. \square

It is not too difficult to strengthen the result above, by showing that the longest possible rewriting of \mathfrak{P} is quadratic in n , where n is the length of \mathfrak{P} 's command sequence.

Say \mathfrak{P} is *standard* if for no \mathfrak{P}' , $\mathfrak{P} \Rightarrow \mathfrak{P}'$.

Proposition 8 (Standardisation) *For all \mathfrak{P} , there exists a unique standard \mathfrak{P}' , such that $\mathfrak{P} \Rightarrow^* \mathfrak{P}'$, and \mathfrak{P}' satisfies the (EMC) condition.*

Since the rewriting system is terminating, confluence follows from local confluence (meaning whenever two rewrite rules can be applied, one can rewrite further both transforms to a same third expression). Then, uniqueness of the standard form is an easy consequence (actually, for terminating rewriting systems, unicity of standard forms and confluence are equivalent). Looking for critical pairs, that is occurrences of three successive commands where two rules can be applied simultaneously, one finds that there are only two types: $E_{ij}M_kC_k$ with i, j and k all distinct, and $E_{ij}M_kC_l$ with k and l distinct. In both cases local confluence is easily verified.

Suppose now \mathfrak{P}' does not satisfy (EMC). Then, either there is a pattern EA with A not of type E , or there is a pattern AC with A not of type C . In the former case, E and A must operate on overlapping qubits, else one may apply a free commutation rule, and A may not be a C since in this case one may apply an EC rewrite. The only remaining case is when A is of type M , overlapping E 's qubits, but this is what condition (D1) forbids, and since (D1) is preserved under rewriting, this contradicts the assumption. The latter case is even simpler. \square

9.1 Discussion

We have shown that under rewriting any pattern can be put in (EMC) form, which is what we wanted. We actually proved more, namely that the standard form obtained is unique.

However, one has to be a bit careful about the significance of this additional piece of information. Note first that unicity is obtained because we dropped the CC free commutations, and all EE commutations, thus having a very rigid notion of command sequence. One cannot put them back as rewrite rules, since they obviously ruin termination and uniqueness of standard forms.

A reasonable thing to do, would be to take this set of equations as generating an equivalence relation on command sequences, call it \equiv , and hope to strengthen the results obtained so far, by proving that all reachable standard forms are equivalent.

But this is too naive a strategy, since $E_{12}X_1X_2 \equiv E_{12}X_2X_1$, and:

$$\begin{aligned} E_{12}X_1^sX_2^t &\Rightarrow^* X_1^sZ_2^sX_2^tZ_1^tE_{12} \\ &\equiv X_1^sZ_1^tZ_2^sX_2^tE_{12} \end{aligned}$$

obtaining an expression which is not symmetric in 1 and 2. To conclude, one has to extend \equiv to include the additional equivalence $X_1^sZ_1^t \equiv Z_1^tX_1^s$, which fortunately is sound since these two operators are equal up to a global phase. We conjecture that this enriched equivalence is preserved.

A remark is that the arguments given in this appendix are quite abstracted from the actual quantum operators involved, and will continue to hold in many variants of the model. Specifically, suppose one has three types of commands, E_I , M_J , and C_i , where I, J are finite sets of integers, and i is an integer, and one has the following rewrite schemes:

$$\begin{aligned} E_I C_i &\Rightarrow (\prod_i C_i) E_I \\ M_I C_i &\Rightarrow M_I \end{aligned}$$

with $i \in I$, and the obvious generalisations of free commutation rules, then one can show standardisation following the exact same arguments, provided of course, each instance of these schemes has a unique associated rewrite (else one loses confluence in general). The 2-qubit calculus developed for teleportation based quantum computing [13] is another instance of this abstract situation.