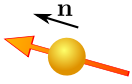


## Coherent vs anticoherent spin- $j$ states

### Coherent state



$$\langle \mathbf{J} \rangle = j\hbar \mathbf{n}$$

$|\psi_j\rangle$  is a spin- $j$  coherent state  $|\mathbf{n}\rangle$  if it is eigenstate of  $\mathbf{J} \cdot \mathbf{n}$  for some  $\mathbf{n}$  with the highest eigenvalue  $j\hbar$ .

### Anticoherent state



$$\langle \mathbf{J} \rangle = 0$$

$|\psi_j\rangle$  is a spin- $j$   $t$ -anticoherent state if [1]

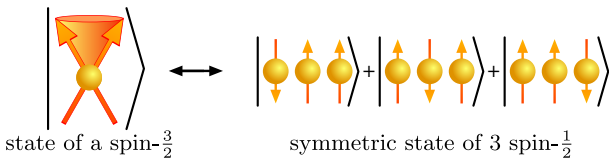
$$\langle \psi_j | (\mathbf{J} \cdot \mathbf{n})^k | \psi_j \rangle$$

does not depend on  $\mathbf{n}$  for  $k = 1, \dots, t$ .

## One-to-one mapping and geometrical representation

### One-to-one mapping

spin- $j$  state  $\leftrightarrow$  symmetric state of  $2j$  spin- $\frac{1}{2}$   
 $\leftrightarrow$  symmetric state of  $N = 2j$  qubits



Any  $N$ -qubit symmetric state  $|\psi_S\rangle$  can be expressed in the Dicke basis  $\{|D_N^{(k)}\rangle\}$  with  $|D_N^{(k)}\rangle = \mathcal{N} \sum_{\text{perm}} |\mathbf{0}_{N-k} \mathbf{1}_k\rangle$ , where  $\mathbf{a}_\ell$  is a string of  $\ell$  characters  $a$ ,  $N$  is the number of qubits and  $k$  the excitation number :

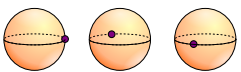
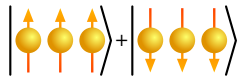
$$|\psi_S\rangle = \sum_{k=0}^N d_k |D_N^{(k)}\rangle, \quad \sum_{k=0}^N |d_k|^2 = 1$$

There is a formal correspondence between the standard  $|j, m\rangle$  basis (common eigenstates of  $J_z$  and  $\mathbf{J}^2$ ) and the Dicke basis :

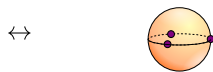
$$|j, m\rangle \leftrightarrow |D_{2j}^{(j-m)}\rangle \quad |\psi_j\rangle \leftrightarrow |\psi_S\rangle \quad (1)$$

### Majorana representation

symmetric state of  $N = 3$  qubits



$N = 3$  single-qubit states



$N = 3$  points on the Bloch sphere

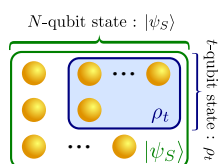
Majorana points can be located at the same position on the Bloch sphere, and the largest number of degenerated points is denoted by  $d_{\max} (\leq N)$ .

- Spin- $j$  coherent states are characterised by  $d_{\max} = 2j$ .

- Anticoherent states *can* only exist if  $d_{\max} \leq j$  [2].

## Conditions for anticoherence

A multiqubit symmetric state  $|\psi_S\rangle \leftrightarrow |\psi_j\rangle$  is  $t$ -anticoherent iff all  $t$ -qubit states are maximally mixed in the symmetric subspace [2,3], or if the expectation value of spin operators fulfill the following conditions [4] :



$$\rho_t = \frac{\mathbb{1}_{t+1}}{t+1} \iff \langle \psi_j | J_+^r J_z^q | \psi_j \rangle = \frac{\text{Tr}(J_z^q)}{2j+1} \delta_{r0}$$

for  $r = 0, \dots, t$ ,  $q = 0, \dots, t-r$ , where  $N$  is the number of qubits and  $\delta_{r0}$  the Kronecker symbol.

## Measures of $t$ -anticoherence

Anticoherence conditions only allow to determine whether a state anticoherent is or not. In order to quantify the amount of anticoherence of a state, we introduce measures of anticoherence on the set of pure spin- $j$  states  $|\psi_j\rangle$ . We require a measure of  $t$ -anticoherence,  $\mathcal{A}_t$ , to fulfill the following conditions:

- $\mathcal{A}_t(|\psi_j\rangle) = 0 \Leftrightarrow |\psi_j\rangle$  is coherent
- $\mathcal{A}_t(|\psi_j\rangle) = 1 \Leftrightarrow |\psi_j\rangle$  is  $t$ -anticoherent
- $\mathcal{A}_t(|\psi_j\rangle) \in [0, 1]$  for any state  $|\psi_j\rangle$
- $\mathcal{A}_t(|\psi_j\rangle)$  is invariant under global phase changes and arbitrary spin rotations

## Measures of anticoherence based on purity

A measure satisfying all conditions above, based on the mapping (1) and the purity of the  $t$ -qubit reduced density matrix of  $|\psi_S\rangle\langle\psi_S|$ ,  $R_t \equiv \text{tr}(\rho_t^2)$ , reads

$$\mathcal{A}_t(|\psi_j\rangle) = (t+1)(1-R_t)/t \quad (2)$$

- $t = 1$

In this case, (2) is a linear function of the total variance [5],  $\mathbb{V} = \sum_{i=x,y,z} \langle J_i^2 \rangle - \langle J_i \rangle^2$ , and reads

$$\mathcal{A}_1(|\psi_j\rangle) = (\mathbb{V} - j)/j^2$$

- $t = 2$

In this case, (2) involves two-point correlators of spin operators, and reads

$$\mathcal{A}_2(|\psi_j\rangle) = (\mathbb{W} + \alpha) / \beta$$

where  $\alpha = \frac{j(j^2-2j+3)}{2(j-1)}$ ,  $\beta = \frac{(2j-1)^2 j}{3(j-1)}$ , and

$$\mathbb{W} = \mathbb{V} - \sum_{i,k=x,y,z} \langle J_i J_k \rangle \langle J_k J_i \rangle / (2j(j-1))$$

### Examples: GHZ and W states

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_1(|(j, j) + |j, -j\rangle/\sqrt{2}) &= 1 & \mathcal{A}_1(|j, 1-j\rangle) &= (2j-1)/j^2 \\ \mathcal{A}_2(|(j, j) + |j, -j\rangle/\sqrt{2}) &= 3/4 & \mathcal{A}_2(|j, 1-j\rangle) &= 3(j-1)/j^2 \end{aligned}$$

## Anticoherence and degeneracy of Majorana points

Anticoherence measures can be numerically optimized to find anticoherent states of given  $j$  and  $d_{\max}$ .

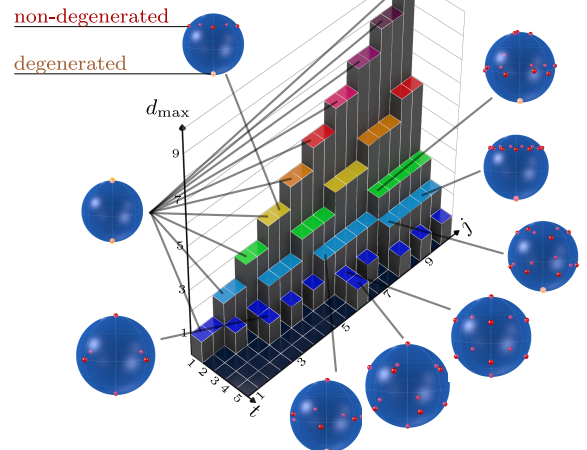


Fig.: Maximum degeneracy allowed for the existence of  $t$ -anticoherent states with a spin quantum number  $j$ .

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