Lecture 3:

Decodability transition in error corrupted topological states



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Ground state topological order

(i) Topological ground state degeneracy







(iii) Topological entanglement entropy



Recent demonstrations of topological order

1. Z₂ topological order in Rydberg atom arrays

Semeghini et al. Science 2021

 Measured Wilson and t'Hooft lines (Open string order parameters)

2. Toric code state realized in a SC qubit array

Google quantum AI Science 2021

• Measured the topological entanglement entropy

But these systems are not prepared in their ground state! They are mixed states due to decoherence.





Corrupted topological states



- Is topological order sharply defined in such corrupted mixed states?
- What are the possible phases?
- How to diagnose mixed topological states ?

Two conflicting perspectives on the fate of topological order in the corrupted mixed state

1. Existence of an error threshold \rightarrow Topological transition in ρ ?

Intrinsic Topological transition in the underlying mixed state ρ ?

For Toric Code: Dennis et al., J. Math. Phys. 2002

i) Detect error syndromes: projects onto a configuration of anyons



ii) Attempt to correct errors by annihilating anyons in pairs

Phase transition in the failure probability at a critical error rate. In principle can depend on the matching algorithm





No logical error

Two conflicting perspectives on the fate of topological order in the corrupted mixed state

2. Local decoherence = finite depth unitary circuit

Topologically ordered state Ancillas $|\Phi
angle = \prod_i U_i(p)|\Psi_0
angle\,(\otimes_i|0
angle_i)$

Cannot get singular change in any expectation value:

 $\langle \Phi | \hat{O} | \Phi \rangle = \operatorname{tr}(\rho \, \hat{O})$

From this perspective, the mixed state remains topological for any finite decoherence strength.

How to resolve the conflict ?



Resolution: transitions in an errorfield double

Treat the density matrix as a state vector in a doubled Hilbert space:

$$\rho_{0} = |\psi_{0}\rangle \langle \psi_{0}| \rightarrow |\rho_{0}\rangle \rangle = |\psi_{0}\rangle \otimes |\psi_{0}\rangle$$
$$|\rho\rangle\rangle = \prod_{i} \sum_{\ell} K_{\ell,i} \overline{K}_{\ell,i} |\psi_{0}, \psi_{0}\rangle$$
$$\underbrace{\mathcal{N}_{\text{EFD}}}$$



Decoherence is a non-unitary transformation of the state vector.

➤ Can drive phase transitions in |ρ⟩ , diagnosed by super-observables:
$$\langle\!\langle \hat{O} \rangle\!\rangle \equiv \frac{\langle\!\langle \rho | O \, \bar{O} | \rho \rangle\!\rangle}{\langle\!\langle \rho | \rho \rangle\!\rangle} = \frac{\operatorname{tr}(\hat{O} \rho \, \hat{O}^{\dagger} \rho)}{\operatorname{tr}(\rho^2)}$$

Physical interpretation: overlap ~ distinguishability between the ensembles defined by the two mixed states ρ and $\hat{O}\rho\hat{O}^{\dagger}$

Decoherence induced anyon condensation

Example: bit-flip errors in the toric code $|\rho\rangle\rangle = \exp\left(\gamma \sum_{i} X_{i} \overline{X}_{i}\right) |\psi_{0}, \psi_{0}\rangle\rangle$ $= \exp\left(\gamma \sum_{\langle \ell\ell' \rangle} (m_{\ell} \overline{m}_{\ell}) (m_{\ell'} \overline{m}_{\ell'})\right) |\rho_{0}\rangle\rangle$



Drives condensation of $m\overline{m}$

Diagnosed by the open string order parameter (creation operator of $m\overline{m}$)

$$\widehat{O}_{m\overline{m}}(r) = O_m(r) \otimes O_m^*(r) = \prod_i^r X_i \overline{X}_i$$
$$\langle\!\langle \widehat{O}_{m\overline{m}}(r) \rangle\!\rangle \neq 0$$



= Overlap between the corrupted state and the same corrupted state injected with a single m anyon. If vanishing, then the anyon excitation is well defined.

Mapping to a boundary transition

$$|\rho\rangle\rangle = \lim_{\beta \to \infty} \mathcal{N}_{\rm EFD} \; e^{-\beta(H+\bar{H})} |\rho_{\rm ref}\rangle\rangle$$



Path integral for the norm $\langle\!\langle \rho | \rho \rangle\!\rangle$

Two TQFTs in 2+1d space time coupled by the decoherece channel on the defect plane τ =0



Important distinction from bulk anyon condensation

Boundary condensation of $m\overline{m}$ doesn't lead to confinement of e



- Large world lines occur with decaying probability
- Wilson loop always follows a perimeter law
- Condensing $m\overline{m}$ on the boundary doesn't confine e



>Pauli-Y and -Z errors can give condensed phases of $e\bar{e}$ and $f\bar{f}$

>How to classify the possible error-induced phases?

Mapping to one dimensional edge states



Edge of quadruple topological order

K-matrix classification for Abelian topological order

Generalized Chern-Simons edge theory:

$$\mathcal{L}[\phi] = \frac{1}{4\pi} \sum_{I,J} \mathbb{K}_{IJ} \partial_{\tau} \phi^{I} \partial_{y} \phi^{J} - \mathbb{V}_{IJ} \partial_{y} \phi^{I} \partial_{y} \phi^{J} + \mathcal{L}_{swap} + \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{N}}$$

Restrict to incoherent errors (don't create superpositions of different anyon pairs) $K_i = \alpha_r \alpha_{r'}$

Different ways to gap the edge:





Restrict to incoherent errors

Generally classified by "Lagrangian subgroups" of anyon condensates Levin PRX 2013, Barkeshli et al, PRB 2013

K-matrix classification for Abelian topological order

Generalized Chern-Simons edge theory:

$$\mathcal{L}[\phi] = \frac{1}{4\pi} \sum_{I,J} \mathbb{K}_{IJ} \partial_{\tau} \phi^{I} \partial_{y} \phi^{J} - \mathbb{V}_{IJ} \partial_{y} \phi^{I} \partial_{y} \phi^{J} + \mathcal{L}_{swap} + \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{N}}$$



Model		Memory	Edge condensate (generators of Lagrangian subgroup)	Error that realizes the phase
Toric code	Ι	Quantum	$e_1\overline{e}_2,\overline{e}_1e_2,m_1\overline{m}_2,\overline{m}_1m_2$	No error
	II	Classical	$e_1\overline{e}_1, e_2\overline{e}_2, e_1\overline{e}_2, m_1\overline{m}_1m_2\overline{m}_2$	Incoherent e error
	III	Classical	$m_1\overline{m}_1,m_2\overline{m}_2,m_1\overline{m}_2,e_1\overline{e}_1e_2\overline{e}_2$	Incoherent m error
	IV	Classical	$f_1\overline{f}_1, f_2\overline{f}_2, f_1\overline{f}_2, e_1\overline{e}_1e_2\overline{e}_2$	Incoherent f error
	V	Trivial	$e_1\overline{e}_1,e_2\overline{e}_2,m_1\overline{m}_1,m_2\overline{m}_2$	Incoherent e and m error
Double semion	Ι	Quantum	$m_{a,1}\overline{m}_{a,2},\overline{m}_{a,1}m_{a,2},m_{b,1}\overline{m}_{b,2},\overline{m}_{b,1}m_{b,2}$	No error
	II	Quantum	$m_{a,1}\overline{m}_{a,1},m_{a,2}\overline{m}_{a,2},m_{b,1}\overline{m}_{b,2},\overline{m}_{b,1}m_{b,2}$	Incoherent m_a error
	III	Quantum	$m_{b,1}\overline{m}_{b,1},m_{b,2}\overline{m}_{b,2},m_{a,1}\overline{m}_{a,2},\overline{m}_{a,1}m_{a,2}$	Incoherent m_b error
	IV	Quantum	$b_1\overline{b}_1,b_2\overline{b}_2,b_1\overline{b}_2,m_{a,1}\overline{m}_{a,1}m_{a,2}\overline{m}_{a,2}$	Incoherent b error
	V	Trivial	$m_{a,1}\overline{m}_{a,1},m_{a,2}\overline{m}_{a,2},m_{b,1}\overline{m}_{b,1},m_{b,2}\overline{m}_{b,2}$	Incoherent m_a and m_b error

- Because of the doubling this applies also to chiral topological states
- Can be generalized to chiral non abelian states

Ground state topological order



How to generalize these defining properties to corrupted mixed states?

Information theoretic diagnostics

(i) Coherent information

- Encode information into the degenerate ground state
- Apply decoherence channel
- How much of the information can be recovered?

$$I_c(R\rangle Q) := S_Q - S_{QR}.$$

• For successful quantum error correction need $I_c = S_R$



Information theoretic diagnostics

(ii) Quantum relative entropy

Doubled string order parameter

Information theoretic measure of the integrity of anyon excitations



Distinguishability between the corrupted state and the with an extra anyon.

 $D(\rho || \rho_{\alpha}) := \operatorname{tr} \rho \log \rho - \operatorname{tr} \rho \log \rho_{\alpha}$



Information theoretic diagnostics



Sub-system logarithmic negativity



A measure of quantum entanglement in a mixed state

$$\mathcal{E}_{A}(\rho) := \log \|\rho^{T_{A}}\|$$
$$= c|\partial A| - \gamma_{N}$$

Conjectured topological term

Example: TC+incoherent errors

 Toric code with incoherent errors, i.e. bit-flip and phase errors (generalizations to Zn Toric code with certain errors are straightforward)

$$A_{s} = \prod_{\ell \in \text{star}(s)} X_{\ell}, \quad B_{p} = \prod_{\ell \in \text{plaq}(p)} Z_{\ell} \qquad \qquad \rho_{0} \to (1 - p_{x})\rho_{0} + p_{x}X_{\ell}\rho_{0}X_{\ell} \\ \rho_{0} \to (1 - p_{z})\rho_{0} + p_{z}Z_{\ell}\rho_{0}Z_{\ell}$$

• There are two representations of the error-corrupted state





The toric code as a test case

Pauli-X and Z errors

$$\mathcal{N}_X[\rho] = (1 - p_x)\rho + p_x X_i \rho X_i$$
$$\mathcal{N}_Z[\rho] = (1 - p_z)\rho + p_z Z_i \rho Z_i$$

Density matrix as an effective loop model:

 $\rho_0 = \prod \frac{1+A_s}{2} \prod \frac{1+B_p}{2} = \sum g_x g_z$

No errors:

Errors add loop tension:

$$\rho = \sum_{g_x, g_z} e^{-\mu_x |g_x| - \mu_z |g_z|} g_x g_z$$



The toric code as a test case

Information theoretic quantities derived from the stat-mech model for



Information theoretic diagnostics in the stat-mech model

All three diagnostics detect ferromagnetic ordering and undergo transition simultaneously

- Relative entropy is order parameter correlation

$$D^{(n)} = rac{1}{1-n} \log \left\langle \sigma_{i_l}^{(1)} \sigma_{i_r}^{(1)}
ight
angle$$

Ferro: O(1)

Para: $\propto |i_l - i_r|$

- Coherent info is related to inserting large defects

$$I_c^{(n)} = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{a=x,z} \log \left(\sum_{\mathbf{d}_{a1}\mathbf{d}_{a2}} e^{-F_{n,a}^{(\mathbf{d}_{a1},\mathbf{d}_{a2})}} \right) - 2\log 2$$



- Negativity is excess free energy for spin pinning



Connection to quantum error correction

Quantum error correction algorithm:

- Detect anyons by syndrome measurements
- Annihilate anyons in pairs

non-unitary, partial loss of coherent info.

 $p_c \geqslant p_{c,\text{algo}}$



<u>Dennis et. al. 2002:</u> Optimal algorithm for correcting incoherent errors in the toric code. Maps to critical point of random bond Ising model (RBIM)

Indeed we can show an exact duality between the n-flavor Ising and the replicated RBIM

Error configuration picture (low-T expansion) $\rho = \sum_{\mathcal{C}_x, \mathcal{C}_z} P(\mathcal{C}_x, \mathcal{C}_z) X^{\mathcal{C}_x} Z^{\mathcal{C}_z} |\Psi_0\rangle \langle \Psi_0 | Z^{\mathcal{C}_z} X^{\mathcal{C}_x} \qquad \text{tr}\rho^n = \mathcal{Z}_{\text{RBIM}}$

Summary

- Decoherence induced topologically ordered phases map to boundary anyon condensation



- Characterized by information theoretic measures

(i) Quantum relative entropy $D(\rho||\rho_{\alpha}) := \mathrm{tr}\rho\log\rho - \mathrm{tr}\rho\log\rho_{\alpha}$

(ii) Coherent information

 $I_c(R)Q) := S_Q - S_{QR}.$ U $\mathcal{E}_A := \log \|\rho^{T_A}\|_1 = a|\partial A| - \gamma_N$



(iii) Topological entanglement negativity

Outlook

- Quantization of log negativity demonstrated only for Toric code. More general understanding?
- Generalize the edge theory to information theoretic quantities (replica limit of n-copy CS theory)
- Characterize non abelian states subject to dissipation
- Intrinsic error thresholds for quantum computation with non-abelian anyons.