### Gaussian and non-Gaussian resources in quantum optics

### Francesco Arzani

quantum resources Gaussian non-Gaussian Classification of mathematical problems as linear and nonlinear is like classification of the Universe as bananas and non-bananas.









Quantum Architectures, Algorithms, Applications and their Theory

## **Quantum optics**

Light is used for ordinary (classical) communications



Light had a central role in the development of Quantum Mechanics



Atomic spectra



Blackbody radiation



Photoelectric Effect



**Quantum Electrodynamics** 

Lots of know-how, theory, instrumentation

Photons interact weakly

Easy to protect fragile quantum states

# **Quantum information processing**



[MLF+22] Nature 606 (2022) [SER+22] arXiv:2211.09116 (2022)

- 1. Continuous variables in quantum optics : an introduction
- 2. Gaussian operations : definitions, experimental tools
- 3. Protocols accessible through Gaussian operations
- 4. Limitations of Gaussian operations
- 5. Non-Gaussian resources in optics
- 6. Protocols accessible with non-Gaussian operations

# **Formalism**

### Rosetta stone

**DV** : information encoded in *d*-level systems (typically d = 2)

$$lpha \left| 0 
ight
angle + eta \left| 1 
ight
angle$$
 $\Pr \left( 0 
ight) = \left| lpha 
ight|^2$ 
 $\left| lpha 
ight|^2 + \left| eta 
ight|^2 = 1$ 
 $\mathcal{H} = \mathbb{C}^2$ 

CV : information encoded in observables with continuous spectrum, e.g. :  $\hat{q}$ ,  $\hat{p}$  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} \psi(x) |x\rangle_q \, \mathrm{d}x$  $\Pr(q \in [x, x + \mathrm{d}x]) = |\psi(x)|^2 \, \mathrm{d}x$ 

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} |\psi(x)|^2 \, \mathrm{d}x = 1$$
$$\mathcal{H} = L^2 \left(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}\right)$$

# **Continuous-variable quantum systems**

Free electromagnetic field

$$\begin{split} H &= \frac{\epsilon_0}{2} \int_{\Omega} d^3 r \left[ \boldsymbol{E}^2 \left( \boldsymbol{r}, t \right) + c^2 \boldsymbol{B}^2 \left( \boldsymbol{r}, t \right) \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j} \omega_j \left( Q_j^2(t) + P_j^2(t) \right) \\ & \text{Expand on basis Maxwell Eqs. solutions} \end{split}$$

Impose: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} \hat{Q}_j, \hat{P}_l \end{bmatrix} = i\delta_{j,l}$$
  
Define:  $\hat{a}_j = \frac{\hat{Q}_j + i\hat{P}_j}{\sqrt{2}}$  $\hat{H} = \sum_j \omega_j \left( \hat{a}^{\dagger}\hat{a} + \frac{1}{2} \right)$ 

Abstraction: harmonic oscillators



Physical realization: electric field



# Phase space description

Quadratures ~ position and momentum

**Wigner function** ~ <u>Quasi</u>-probability distribution in phase space

$$W_{\rho}(q,p) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int dx e^{ipx} \langle q - x/2|\rho|q + x/2 \rangle$$

Marginals Trace  

$$Pr(q) = \int dp W_{\rho}(q, p)$$

$$Pr(p) = \int dq W_{\rho}(q, p)$$

$$Tr [AB] = \int dq dp W_{A}(q, p) W_{B}(q, p)$$

# Phase space description

Quadratures ~ position and momentum

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### Aside: modes

Electric field as many **modes**:

Normalized solutions  $f_j(\vec{r},t)$  of Maxwell's equations

Mode basis  $\int f_n(\vec{r},t) \cdot f_m^*(\vec{r},t) d^3r dt = \delta_n^m$ 

Quantum Hilbert space(s)  $f_1 \longleftrightarrow \hat{a}_1$ 

$$f_2 \longleftrightarrow \hat{a}_2$$

· · ·

$$|\Psi\rangle = \sum_{n1,n2,\dots} A_{n1n2\dots} |n1:f_1\rangle \otimes |n2:f_2\rangle \otimes \dots$$

# What exactly is a mode?



# **Gaussian operations**

### **Gaussian states**

$\hat{a} 0\rangle = 0$	$\langle \hat{q} \rangle = \langle \hat{p} \rangle = 0$	$\Delta^2 \hat{q} = \Delta^2 \hat{p} = \frac{1}{2}$
$\hat{a} \alpha\rangle = \alpha \alpha\rangle$	$egin{aligned} &\langle\hat{q} angle \propto  ext{Re}(lpha) \ &\langle\hat{p} angle \propto  ext{Im}(lpha) \end{aligned}$	$\Delta^2 \hat{q} = \Delta^2 \hat{p} = \frac{1}{2}$
$\hat{D}(lpha)\hat{S}(r) 0 angle$	$egin{aligned} &\langle\hat{q} angle \propto  ext{Re}(lpha) \ &\langle\hat{p} angle \propto  ext{Im}(lpha) \end{aligned}$	$\Delta^2 \hat{q} = \frac{1}{\Delta^2 \hat{p}} = \frac{e^{-2r}}{2}$
$ ho_{ m th} \propto e^{-eta \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a}}$	$\langle \hat{q} \rangle = \langle \hat{p} \rangle = 0$	$\Delta^2 \hat{q} = \Delta^2 \hat{p} \ge \frac{1}{2}$

### **Gaussian unitary operators**

Vector notation

$$\boldsymbol{\xi} = \left( egin{array}{c} \boldsymbol{q} \ \boldsymbol{p} \end{array} 
ight) \quad [\xi_j, \xi_k] = i J_{jk}$$

$$J = \left(\begin{array}{cc} 0 & \mathbb{I} \\ -\mathbb{I} & 0 \end{array}\right)$$

Standard symplectic form



Generated by quadratic polynomials:

$$U_G = \exp\left[-it\mathcal{P}\left(\hat{q}, \hat{p}\right)\right]$$
$$\deg\left(\mathcal{P}\right) \le 2$$

Action on Wigner function:

$$W_{U_G \rho U_G^{\dagger}}(\boldsymbol{x}) = W_{\rho}(S^{-1}(\boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{\eta}))$$

## **Gaussian unitary operators**

Vector notation  $\boldsymbol{\xi} = \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{q} \\ \boldsymbol{p} \end{pmatrix} \quad [\xi_j, \xi_k] = iJ_{jk}$ 

$$J = \left(\begin{array}{cc} 0 & \mathbb{I} \\ -\mathbb{I} & 0 \end{array}\right)$$

Standard symplectic form



Bloch-Messiah (Euler) decomposition:

 $S = R_1 K R_2$ 



## Squeezing

Heisenberg picture:

$$\left(\begin{array}{c}q^{(0)}\\p^{(0)}\end{array}\right)\mapsto \left(\begin{array}{c}e^{-r}q^{(0)}\\e^{r}p^{(0)}\end{array}\right)$$





$$|r\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\cosh r}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-\tanh r)^n \frac{\sqrt{(2n)!}}{2^n n!} |2n\rangle$$

$$\lim_{r \to \infty} |r\rangle = |0\rangle_q$$
$$\lim_{r \to -\infty} |r\rangle = |0\rangle_p$$

## **Linear optics**

- Conserve total particle number (« passive »)
- Symplectic & orthogonal action
- Can be constructed as beam splitters + free evolution

**Change of modes**  

$$g_k(\vec{r},t) = \sum_m U_{km} f_m(\vec{r},t)$$
**Linear optics**  
 $\hat{b}_k = \sum_m (U^{\dagger})_{km} \hat{a}_m$ 

## **Displacements**



### Measurements



## **Channels**

#### Stinespring:

- 1. Add auxiliary systems in Gaussian states
- 2. Perform overall Gaussian unitary
- 3. Measure some modes



### **Protocols using only Gaussian operations**

# Gaussian quantum protocols

Quantum teleportation

Quantum key distribution

Quantum illumination

Quantum secret sharing

Quantum error correction\*

. . .

# **Quantum teleportation**









Multi-party cryptographic primitive to securely share a quantum state



D. Markham & P. van Loock AIP Conference Proceedings (2011)



Y. Cai et al, Nat. Comm. 8 (2017)



F. Arzani et al, PRA 100 (2019)

Multi-party cryptographic primitive to securely share a quantum state



secret state  $\rho_s$ Encoding : Linear optics daria Decoding **Almost any!** 

Quantum state sharing with almost any passive interferometer

- Generalizes previous protocols
- Experimentally friendly
- Related to erasure correcting codes

Y. Cai et al, Nat. Comm. 8 (2017) F. Arzani et al, PRA 100 (2019)

### Random schemes for quantum state sharing



F. Arzani et al, PRA 100 (2019)

Francesco Arzani

### **Correcting stochastic errors**

VOLUME 80, NUMBER 18 PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

4 May 1998

#### **Error Correction for Continuous Quantum Variables**

Samuel L. Braunstein

SEECS, University of Wales, Bangor LL57 1UT, United Kingdom (Received 21 November 1997)

We propose an error correction coding algorithm for continuous quantum variables. We use this algorithm to construct a highly efficient 5-wave-packet code which can correct arbitrary single wave-packet errors. We show that this class of continuous variable codes is robust against imprecision in the error syndromes. A potential implementation of the scheme is presented. [S0031-9007(98)05865-7]

Journal of Modern Optics Vol. 57, No. 19, 10 November 2010, 1965–1971



#### A note on quantum error correction with continuous variables

Peter van Loock\*

Optical Quantum Information Theory Group, Max Planck Institute for the Science of Light, Institute of Theoretical Physics I, Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, Staudtstr. 7/B2, 91058 Erlangen, Germany

(Received 26 February 2010; final version received 30 May 2010)

We demonstrate that continuous-variable quantum error correction based on Gaussian ancilla states and Gaussian operations (for encoding, syndrome extraction, and recovery) can be very useful to suppress the effect of non-Gaussian error channels. For a certain class of stochastic error models, reminiscent of those typically considered in the qubit case, quantum error correction codes designed for single-channel errors may enhance the transfer fidelities even when errors occur in every channel employed for transmitting the encoded state. In fact, in this case, the error-correcting capability of the continuous-variable scheme turns out to be higher than that of its discrete-variable analogues.

$$W_{\text{out}}(x,p) = (1-\gamma)W_{\text{in}}(x,p) + \gamma W_{\text{error}}(x,p)$$

Same as input except for a few modes

**No-Go results for Gaussian operations** 

### **Cannot correct Gaussian noise**

PRL 102, 120501 (2009)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending 27 MARCH 2009

#### **No-Go Theorem for Gaussian Quantum Error Correction**

Julien Niset,<sup>1</sup> Jaromír Fiurášek,<sup>2</sup> and Nicolas J. Cerf<sup>1,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>QuIC, Ecole Polytechnique, CP 165, Université Libre de Bruxelles, 1050 Brussels, Belgium <sup>2</sup>Department of Optics, Palacký University, 17. listopadu 50, 77200 Olomouc, Czech Republic <sup>3</sup>Research Laboratory of Electronics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139, USA (Received 20 November 2008; published 24 March 2009)

We prove that Gaussian operations are of no use for protecting Gaussian states against Gaussian errors in quantum communication protocols. Specifically, we introduce a new quantity characterizing any singlemode Gaussian channel, called *entanglement degradation*, and show that it cannot decrease via Gaussian encoding and decoding operations only. The strength of this no-go theorem is illustrated with some examples of Gaussian channels.

fully Gaussian schemes are useless for loss, thermal noise, ...

# No entanglement distillation

VOLUME 89, NUMBER 13 PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

23 September 2002

#### **Distilling Gaussian States with Gaussian Operations is Impossible**

J. Eisert, S. Scheel, and M. B. Plenio

QOLS, Blackett Laboratory, Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, London, SW7 2BW, United Kingdom (Received 15 April 2002; published 4 September 2002)

We show that no distillation protocol for Gaussian quantum states exists that relies on (i) arbitrary local unitary operations that preserve the Gaussian character of the state and (ii) homodyne detection together with classical communication and postprocessing by means of local Gaussian unitary operations on two symmetric identically prepared copies. This is in contrast to the finite-dimensional case, where entanglement can be distilled in an iterative protocol using two copies at a time. The ramifications for the distribution of Gaussian states over large distances will be outlined. We also comment on the generality of the approach and sketch the most general form of a Gaussian local operation with classical communication in a bipartite setting.



### No computational advantage

VOLUME 88, NUMBER 9

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

4 March 2002

#### Efficient Classical Simulation of Continuous Variable Quantum Information Processes

Stephen D. Bartlett and Barry C. Sanders

Department of Physics and Centre for Advanced Computing–Algorithms and Cryptography, Macquarie University, Sydney, New South Wales 2109, Australia

Samuel L. Braunstein and Kae Nemoto

Informatics, Bangor University, Bangor, LL57 1UT, United Kingdom (Received 11 September 2001; revised manuscript received 26 November 2001; published 14 February 2002)

We obtain sufficient conditions for the efficient simulation of a continuous variable quantum algorithm or process on a classical computer. The resulting theorem is an extension of the Gottesman-Knill theorem to continuous variable quantum information. For a collection of harmonic oscillators, any quantum process that begins with unentangled Gaussian states, performs only transformations generated by Hamiltonians that are quadratic in the canonical operators, and involves only measurements of canonical operators (including finite losses) and suitable operations conditioned on these measurements can be simulated efficiently on a classical computer.

PRL 109, 230503 (2012)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending 7 DECEMBER 2012

#### Positive Wigner Functions Render Classical Simulation of Quantum Computation Efficient

A. Mari<sup>1,2,3</sup> and J. Eisert<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Dahlem Center for Complex Quantum Systems, Freie Universität Berlin, 14195 Berlin, Germany <sup>2</sup>Institute for Physics and Astronomy, University of Potsdam, 14476 Potsdam, Germany <sup>3</sup>NEST, Scuola Normale Superiore and Istituto di Nanoscienze-CNR, 56126 Pisa, Italy (Received 6 September 2012; published 4 December 2012)

We show that quantum circuits where the initial state and all the following quantum operations can be represented by positive Wigner functions can be classically efficiently simulated. This is true both for continuous-variable as well as discrete variable systems in odd prime dimensions, two cases which will be treated on entirely the same footing. Noting the fact that Clifford and Gaussian operations preserve the positivity of the Wigner function, our result generalizes the Gottesman-Knill theorem. Our algorithm provides a way of sampling from the output distribution of a computation or a simulation, including the efficient sampling from an approximate output distribution in the case of sampling imperfections for initial states, gates, or measurements. In this sense, this work highlights the role of the positive Wigner function as separating classically efficiently simulable systems from those that are potentially universal for quantum computing and simulation, and it emphasizes the role of negativity of the Wigner function as a computational resource.

no universal quantum computation

**Non-Gaussian resources in optics** 





Easy to protect fragile quantum states





Very hard to entangle single photons, implement coherent non-Gaussian evolution



# Fock states and number resolving detection



Image : Ashton Bradley, Wikipedia

## "on-off" ("click") detectors



# "on-off" ("click") detectors

# $\text{POVM}: \{|0\rangle\langle 0|, \ \mathbb{I}-|0\rangle\langle 0|\}$



### **Protocols using non-Gaussian resources**

# **Quantum computational advantage**

#### **Boson sampling:**

Classically hard to sample from the output probability distribution

## **Universal CV "computation"**



# **Polynomial approximations to NG gates**



Single-photon non-unitary operations can be used to approximate non-Gaussian *unitary* evolution

# **Protecting from Gaussian error channels**



Joshi, Noh, Gao, Q. Sc. Tech. 6 (2021)

### **Gottesman-Kitaev-Preskill codes I**



D. Gottesman, A. Kitaev, J. Preskill PRA 64 (2001)

### **Gottesman-Kitaev-Preskill codes II**

$$egin{aligned} \mathcal{S} &= \langle D(oldsymbol{\xi}_1), \ldots, D(oldsymbol{\xi}_{2n}) 
angle \ D(oldsymbol{\xi}_j) D(oldsymbol{\xi}_k) &= e^{i \phi_{jk}} D(oldsymbol{\xi}_j + oldsymbol{\xi}_k) \ \hline \mathcal{S} &\cong \mathcal{L} = \{ \sum_j z_j oldsymbol{\xi}_j ~:~ z_j \in \mathbb{Z} \} \end{aligned}$$

D. Gottesman, A. Kitaev, J. Preskill PRA 64 (2001)

Francesco Arzani

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# The lattice point of view

For exponential noise suppression: more oscillators

Up to now: *concatenation*  $\rightarrow$  regard as effective qubits, add qubit-level code

→ "lattice picture" only for individual oscillators, not for whole code

### **Q:** Can lattice properties be exploited more? Yes!

### upshot:

### lattices are very well studied!

J. Conway and N. Sloane. Sphere packings, lattices and groups, volume 290. 1988

#### ...but not so much for GKP! Gottesman, Kitaev, Preskill PRA 64 (2001)

Harrington, Preskill PRA 64 (2001) Hänggli, Heinze, König, PRA 102 (2020) Hänggli, König, IEEE TIT 68(2) (2021)

Schmidt, van Loock, PRA 105 (2022) Royer, Singh, Girvin, PRX Quantum 105 (2022) Lin, Chamberland, Noh PRX Quantum 4 (2023) Conrad, Eisert, Seifert, arXiv:2303.02432 (2023)

### J. Conrad, J. Eisert, FA, Quantum (2022)

- Code properties from lattice bases
- Symplectic operations
- Distance bounds for GKP codes
- Decoding problem and  $\Theta$  functions
- GKP codes beyond concatenation

# Thank you!