

# Mathematical methods for modeling and control of open quantum systems<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Lecture-notes, slides and Matlab simulation scripts available at:  
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- 1 Structure of dynamical models in discrete time
- 2 Structure of dynamical models in continuous time
  - Diffusive models
  - Jump models
  - Mixed diffusive/jump models
- 3 Quantum Non Demolition (QND) measurement of photons
  - Monte Carlo simulations and experiments
  - Martingales and convergence of Markov chains
  - QND martingales for photons
- 4 Homodyne measurement of a qubit

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- Any open model of quantum system in discrete time is governed by a Markov chain of the form

$$\rho_{k+1} = \frac{\mathbb{K}_{y_k}(\rho_k)}{\text{Tr}(\mathbb{K}_{y_k}(\rho_k))},$$

with the probability  $\text{Tr}(\mathbb{K}_{y_k}(\rho_k))$  to have the measurement outcome  $y_k$  knowing  $\rho_k$ .

- The structure of the super-operators  $\mathbb{K}_y$  is as follows. Each  $\mathbb{K}_y$  is a linear completely positive map (a quantum operation, a partial Kraus map<sup>5</sup>) and  $\sum_y \mathbb{K}_y(\rho) = \mathbb{K}(\rho)$  is a Kraus map, i.e.  $\mathbb{K}(\rho) = \sum_\mu \mathbf{K}_\mu \rho \mathbf{K}_\mu^\dagger$  with  $\sum_\mu \mathbf{K}_\mu^\dagger \mathbf{K}_\mu = I$ .

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<sup>5</sup>Each  $\mathbb{K}_y$  admits the expression

$$\mathbb{K}_y(\rho) = \sum_\nu \mathbf{M}_{y,\nu} \rho \mathbf{M}_{y,\nu}^\dagger$$

where  $(\mathbf{M}_{y,\nu})$  are bounded operators on  $\mathcal{H}$ .

- Without measurement record, the quantum state  $\rho_k$  obeys to the master equation

$$\rho_{k+1} = \mathbb{K}(\rho_k).$$

since  $\mathbb{E}(\rho_{k+1} | \rho_k) = \mathbb{K}(\rho_k)$  (ensemble average).

- In finite dimension,  $\mathbb{K}$  is always a contraction (not strict in general) for many metrics such as the following ones: for any density operators  $\rho$  and  $\rho'$  we have

$$\|\mathbb{K}(\rho) - \mathbb{K}(\rho')\|_1 \leq \|\rho - \rho'\|_1 \text{ and } F(\mathbb{K}(\rho), \mathbb{K}(\rho')) \geq F(\rho, \rho')$$

where the trace norm  $\|\bullet\|_1$  and fidelity  $F$  are given by

$$\|\rho - \rho'\|_1 \triangleq \text{Tr}(|\rho - \rho'|) \text{ and } F(\rho, \rho') \triangleq \text{Tr} \left( \sqrt{\sqrt{\rho}\rho'\sqrt{\rho}} \right).$$

- The "Heisenberg description" is given by iterates  $\mathbf{A}_{k+1} = \mathbb{K}^*(\mathbf{A}_k)$  from an initial bounded Hermitian operator  $\mathbf{A}_0$  of the dual map  $\mathbb{K}^*$  characterized as follows:  $\text{Tr}(\mathbf{A}\mathbb{K}(\rho)) = \text{Tr}(\mathbb{K}^*(\mathbf{A})\rho)$  for any bounded operator  $\mathbf{A}$  on  $\mathcal{H}$ . Thus

$$\mathbb{K}^*(\mathbf{A}) = \sum_{\mu} \mathbf{K}_{\mu}^{\dagger} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{K}_{\mu} \quad \text{when} \quad \mathbb{K}(\rho) = \sum_{\mu} \mathbf{K}_{\mu} \rho \mathbf{K}_{\mu}^{\dagger}.$$

$\mathbb{K}^*$  is an unital map, i.e.,  $\mathbb{K}^*(\mathbf{I}) = \mathbf{I}$ , and the image via  $\mathbb{K}^*$  of any bounded operator is a bounded operator.

- When  $\mathcal{H}$  is of finite dimension, we have, for any Hermitian operator  $\mathbf{A}$ :

$$\lambda_{\min}(\mathbf{A}) \leq \lambda_{\min}(\mathbb{K}^*(\mathbf{A})) \leq \lambda_{\max}(\mathbb{K}^*(\mathbf{A})) \leq \lambda_{\max}(\mathbf{A})$$

where  $\lambda_{\min}$  and  $\lambda_{\max}$  correspond to the smallest and largest eigenvalues.

- If  $\bar{\mathbf{A}} = \mathbb{K}^*(\bar{\mathbf{A}})$ , then  $\text{Tr}(\rho_k \bar{\mathbf{A}}) = \text{Tr}(\rho_0 \bar{\mathbf{A}})$  is a constant of motion of  $\rho$ .

Take a Kraus map  $\mathbb{K}$  and its adjoint unital map  $\mathbb{K}^*$ . When  $\mathcal{H}$  is of finite dimension, the following two statements are equivalent :

- Global convergence towards the fixed point  $\bar{\rho} = \mathbb{K}(\bar{\rho})$  of  $\rho_{k+1} = \mathbb{K}(\rho_k)$ : for any initial density operator  $\rho_0$ ,  $\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \rho_k = \bar{\rho}$ .
- Global convergence of  $\mathbf{A}_{k+1} = \mathbb{K}^*(\mathbf{A}_k)$ : there exists a unique density operator  $\bar{\rho}$  such that, for any initial bounded operator  $\mathbf{A}_0$ ,  $\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \mathbf{A}_k = \text{Tr}(\mathbf{A}_0 \bar{\rho}) \mathbf{I}$ .

Trace preserving Kraus map  $\mathbf{K}_u$  depending on the classical control input  $u$ :

$$\mathbf{K}_u(\rho) = \sum_{\xi} \mathbf{M}_{u,\xi} \rho \mathbf{M}_{u,\xi}^{\dagger} \quad \text{with} \quad \sum_{\xi} \mathbf{M}_{u,\xi}^{\dagger} \mathbf{M}_{u,\xi} = \mathbf{I}.$$

Take a left stochastic matrix  $[\eta_{y,\xi}]$  ( $\eta_{y,\xi} \geq 0$  and  $\sum_y \eta_{y,\xi} \equiv 1, \forall \xi$ ) and set  $\mathbf{K}_{u,y}(\rho) = \sum_{\xi} \eta_{y,\xi} \mathbf{M}_{u,\xi} \rho \mathbf{M}_{u,\xi}^{\dagger}$ . The associated Markov chain reads:

$$\rho_{k+1} = \frac{\mathbf{K}_{u_k, y_k}(\rho_k)}{\text{Tr}(\mathbf{K}_{u_k, y_k}(\rho_k))} \quad \text{measurement } y_k \text{ with probability } \text{Tr}(\mathbf{K}_{u_k, y_k}(\rho_k)).$$

Classical input  $u$ , hidden state  $\rho$ , measured output  $y$ .

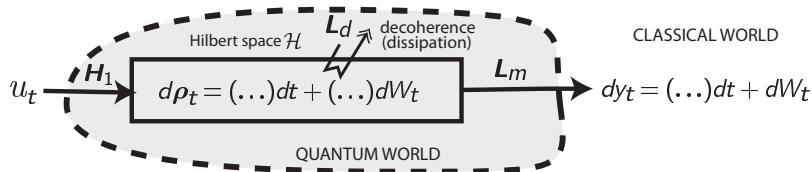
Ensemble average given by  $\mathbf{K}_u$  since  $\mathbb{E}(\rho_{k+1} | \rho_k, u_k) = \mathbf{K}_{u_k}(\rho_k)$ .

Markov model useful for:

- 1 Monte-Carlo simulations of quantum trajectories (decoherence, measurement back-action).
- 2 quantum filtering and parameter estimation: e.g. to get the quantum state  $\rho_k$  from  $\rho_0$  and  $(y_0, \dots, y_{k-1})$  (Belavkin quantum filter developed for diffusive models).
- 3 feedback design and Monte-Carlo closed-loop simulations



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**Continuous-time models:** stochastic differential systems (Itô formulation)  
**density operator**  $\rho$  ( $\rho^\dagger = \rho$ ,  $\rho \geq 0$ ,  $\text{Tr}(\rho) = 1$ ) as state ( $\hbar \equiv 1$  here):

$$d\rho_t = \left( -i[\mathbf{H}_0 + u_t \mathbf{H}_1, \rho_t] + \sum_{\nu=d,m} \mathbf{L}_\nu \rho_t \mathbf{L}_\nu^\dagger - \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{L}_\nu^\dagger \mathbf{L}_\nu \rho_t + \rho_t \mathbf{L}_\nu^\dagger \mathbf{L}_\nu) \right) dt + \sqrt{\eta_m} \left( \mathbf{L}_m \rho_t + \rho_t \mathbf{L}_m^\dagger - \text{Tr}((\mathbf{L}_m + \mathbf{L}_m^\dagger) \rho_t) \rho_t \right) dW_t$$

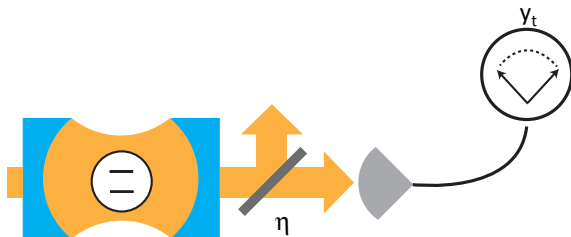
driven by the Wiener process  $W_t$ , with measurement  $y_t$ ,

$$dy_t = \sqrt{\eta_m} \text{Tr}((\mathbf{L}_m + \mathbf{L}_m^\dagger) \rho_t) dt + dW_t \quad \text{detection efficiencies } \eta_m \in [0, 1].$$

**Measurement backaction:**  $d\rho$  and  $dy$  share the same noises  $dW$ . Very different from the Kalman I/O state-space description widely used in control engineering.

<sup>6</sup>A. Barchielli, M. Gregoratti (2009): Quantum Trajectories and Measurements in Continuous Time: the Diffusive Case. Springer Verlag.

# Markov process under continuous measurement



Inverse setup of photon-box: photons read out a qubit.

## Two major differences

- measurement output taking values from a continuum of possible outcomes

$$dy_t = \sqrt{\eta} \text{Tr} \left( (\mathbf{L} + \mathbf{L}^\dagger) \rho_t \right) dt + dW_t.$$

- Time continuous dynamics.

$$d\rho_t = \left( -i[\mathbf{H}, \rho_t] + \sum_{\nu} \mathbf{L}_{\nu} \rho_t \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} - \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} \mathbf{L}_{\nu} \rho_t + \rho_t \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} \mathbf{L}_{\nu}) \right) dt \\ + \sum_{\nu} \sqrt{\eta_{\nu}} \left( \mathbf{L}_{\nu} \rho_t + \rho_t \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} - \text{Tr} \left( (\mathbf{L}_{\nu} + \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger}) \rho_t \right) \rho_t \right) dW_{\nu,t},$$

where  $W_{\nu,t}$  are independent Wiener processes, associated to measured signals with efficiencies  $\eta_{\nu} \in [0, 1]$ :

$$dy_{\nu,t} = dW_{\nu,t} + \sqrt{\eta_{\nu}} \text{Tr} \left( (\mathbf{L}_{\nu} + \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger}) \rho_t \right) dt.$$

Wiener process  $W_t$ :

- $W_0 = 0$ ;
- $t \rightarrow W_t$  is almost surely everywhere continuous;
- For  $0 \leq s_1 < t_1 \leq s_2 < t_2$ ,  $W_{t_1} - W_{s_1}$  and  $W_{t_2} - W_{s_2}$  are independent random variables satisfying  $W_t - W_s \sim N(0, t - s)$ .

Average dynamics: Lindblad master equation

$$d\mathbb{E}(\rho_t) = \left( -i[\mathbf{H}, \mathbb{E}(\rho_t)] + \sum_{\nu} \mathbf{L}_{\nu} \mathbb{E}(\rho_t) \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} - \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} \mathbf{L}_{\nu} \mathbb{E}(\rho_t) + \mathbb{E}(\rho_t) \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} \mathbf{L}_{\nu}) \right) dt.$$

# Ito stochastic calculus

Given a diffusive Stochastic Differential Equation (SDE)

$$dX_t = F(X_t, t)dt + \sum_{\nu} G_{\nu}(X_t, t)dW_{\nu,t},$$

we have the following chain rule:

## Ito's rule

Defining  $f_t = f(X_t)$  a  $C^2$  function of  $X$ , we have

$$df_t = \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial X} \Big|_{X_t} F(X_t, t) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\nu} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial X^2} \Big|_{X_t} (G_{\nu}(X_t, t), G_{\nu}(X_t, t)) \right) dt + \sum_{\nu} \frac{\partial f}{\partial X} \Big|_{X_t} G_{\nu}(X_t, t) dW_{\nu,t}.$$

Furthermore

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbb{E}(f_t) = \mathbb{E} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial X} \Big|_{X_t} F(X_t, t) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\nu} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial X^2} \Big|_{X_t} (G_{\nu}(X_t, t), G_{\nu}(X_t, t)) \right).$$

# Link to partial Kraus maps (1)

$$d\rho_t = \left( -i[\mathbf{H}, \rho_t] + \sum_{\nu} \mathbf{L}_{\nu} \rho_t \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} - \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} \mathbf{L}_{\nu} \rho_t + \rho_t \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} \mathbf{L}_{\nu}) \right) dt \\ + \sum_{\nu} \sqrt{\eta_{\nu}} \left( \mathbf{L}_{\nu} \rho_t + \rho_t \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} - \text{Tr} \left( (\mathbf{L}_{\nu} + \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger}) \rho_t \right) \rho_t \right) dW_{\nu,t},$$

equivalent to

$$\rho_{t+dt} = \frac{\mathbf{M}_{dy_t} \rho_t \mathbf{M}_{dy_t}^{\dagger} + \sum_{\nu} (1 - \eta_{\nu}) \mathbf{L}_{\nu} \rho_t \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} dt}{\text{Tr} \left( \mathbf{M}_{dy_t} \rho_t \mathbf{M}_{dy_t}^{\dagger} + \sum_{\nu} (1 - \eta_{\nu}) \mathbf{L}_{\nu} \rho_t \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} dt \right)}$$

with

$$\mathbf{M}_{dy_t} = \mathbf{I} + \left( -i\mathbf{H} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\nu} \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} \mathbf{L}_{\nu} \right) dt + \sum_{\nu} \sqrt{\eta_{\nu}} dy_{\nu,t} \mathbf{L}_{\nu}.$$

Moreover, defining  $dy_{\nu,t} = s_{\nu,t} \sqrt{dt}$ :

$$\mathbb{P} \left( (s_{\nu,t} \in [s_{\nu}, s_{\nu} + ds_{\nu}])_{\nu} \mid \rho_t \right) = \text{Tr} \left( \mathbf{M}_{s\sqrt{dt}} \rho_t \mathbf{M}_{s\sqrt{dt}}^{\dagger} + \sum_{\nu} (1 - \eta_{\nu}) \mathbf{L}_{\nu} \rho_t \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} dt \right) \prod_{\nu} \frac{e^{-\frac{s_{\nu}^2}{2}} ds_{\nu}}{\sqrt{2\pi}}.$$

# Example of Ito calculations

With  $dy_t = \text{Tr} \left( (\mathbf{L} + \mathbf{L}^\dagger) \rho_t \right) dt + dW_t$

$$d\rho_t = \left( \mathbf{L} \rho_t \mathbf{L}^\dagger - \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{L}^\dagger \mathbf{L} \rho_t + \rho_t \mathbf{L}^\dagger \mathbf{L}) \right) dt + \left( \mathbf{L} \rho_t + \rho_t \mathbf{L}^\dagger - \text{Tr} \left( (\mathbf{L} + \mathbf{L}^\dagger) \rho_t \right) \rho_t \right) dW_t,$$

reads

$$\rho_{t+dt} = \frac{\mathbf{M}_{dy_t} \rho_t \mathbf{M}_{dy_t}^\dagger}{\text{Tr} \left( \mathbf{M}_{dy_t} \rho_t \mathbf{M}_{dy_t}^\dagger \right)}$$

where  $\mathbf{M}_{dy_t} = \mathbf{I} - \frac{dt}{2} \mathbf{L}^\dagger \mathbf{L} + dy_t \mathbf{L}$  and where one uses expansion including first order terms in  $dt$  and Ito rules

$$d\rho_t = \rho_{t+dt} - \rho_t, \quad dW_t = O(\sqrt{dt}), \quad dW_t^2 = dt, \quad dt dW_t = 0, \dots$$

- $\mathbb{P}$  defines a probability density up to a correction of order  $dt^2$ :

$$\int \mathbb{P}(s_t \in [s, s + ds] | \rho_t) = 1 + O(dt^2).$$

- Mean value of measured signal

$$\int s_\nu \mathbb{P}(s_t \in [s, s + ds] | \rho_t) = \sqrt{\eta_\nu} \text{Tr} \left( (\mathbf{L}_\nu + \mathbf{L}_\nu^\dagger) \rho_t \right) \sqrt{dt} + O(dt^{3/2}).$$

- Variance of measured signal

$$\int s_\nu^2 \mathbb{P}(s_t \in [s, s + ds] | \rho_t) = 1 + O(dt).$$

Compatible with  $dy_{\nu,t} = dW_{\nu,t} + \sqrt{\eta_\nu} \text{Tr} \left( (\mathbf{L}_\nu + \mathbf{L}_\nu^\dagger) \rho_t \right) dt.$



## Link to partial Kraus maps (3)

$$d\rho_t = \left( -i[\mathbf{H}, \rho_t] + \sum_{\nu} \mathbf{L}_{\nu} \rho_t \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} - \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} \mathbf{L}_{\nu} \rho_t + \rho_t \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} \mathbf{L}_{\nu}) \right) dt \\ + \sum_{\nu} \sqrt{\eta_{\nu}} \left( \mathbf{L}_{\nu} \rho_t + \rho_t \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} - \text{Tr} \left( (\mathbf{L}_{\nu} + \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger}) \rho_t \right) \rho_t \right) dW_{\nu,t},$$

equivalent to

$$\rho_{t+dt} = \frac{\mathbf{M}_{dy_t} \rho_t \mathbf{M}_{dy_t}^{\dagger} + \sum_{\nu} (1 - \eta_{\nu}) \mathbf{L}_{\nu} \rho_t \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} dt}{\text{Tr} \left( \mathbf{M}_{dy_t} \rho_t \mathbf{M}_{dy_t}^{\dagger} + \sum_{\nu} (1 - \eta_{\nu}) \mathbf{L}_{\nu} \rho_t \mathbf{L}_{\nu}^{\dagger} dt \right)}$$

- Indicates that the solution remains in the space of semi-definite positive Hermitian matrices;
- Provides a time-discretized numerical scheme preserving non-negativity of  $\rho$ .

### Theorem

The above master equation admits a unique solution remaining for all  $t \geq 0$  in  $\{\rho \in \mathbb{C}^{N \times N} : \rho = \rho^{\dagger}, \rho \geq 0, \text{Tr}(\rho) = 1\}$ .

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With Poisson process  $\mathbf{N}(t)$ ,  $\langle d\mathbf{N}(t) \rangle = (\bar{\theta} + \bar{\eta} \text{Tr}(V\rho_t V^\dagger)) dt$ , and detection imperfections modeled by  $\bar{\theta} \geq 0$  (shot-noise rate) and  $\bar{\eta} \in [0, 1]$  (detection efficiency), the quantum state  $\rho_t$  is usually mixed and obeys to

$$d\rho_t = \left( -i[H, \rho_t] + V\rho_t V^\dagger - \frac{1}{2}(V^\dagger V\rho_t + \rho_t V^\dagger V) \right) dt \\ + \left( \frac{\bar{\theta}\rho_t + \bar{\eta}V\rho_t V^\dagger}{\bar{\theta} + \bar{\eta} \text{Tr}(V\rho_t V^\dagger)} - \rho_t \right) \left( d\mathbf{N}(t) - (\bar{\theta} + \bar{\eta} \text{Tr}(V\rho_t V^\dagger)) dt \right)$$

With proba.  $1 - (\bar{\theta} + \bar{\eta} \text{Tr}(V\rho_t V^\dagger)) dt$ ,  $d\mathbf{N}(t) = \mathbf{0}$  and

$$\rho_{t+dt} = \frac{M_0 \rho_t M_0^\dagger + (1 - \bar{\eta}) V \rho_t V^\dagger dt}{\text{Tr}(M_0 \rho_t M_0^\dagger + (1 - \bar{\eta}) V \rho_t V^\dagger dt)}$$

with  $M_0 = I - (iH + \frac{1}{2} V^\dagger V) dt$ .

With proba.  $(\bar{\theta} + \bar{\eta} \text{Tr}(V\rho_t V^\dagger)) dt$ ,  $\mathbf{N}(t + dt) - \mathbf{N}(t) = \mathbf{1}$  and

$$\rho_{t+dt} = \frac{M_0 \tilde{\rho}_t M_0^\dagger + (1 - \bar{\eta}) V \tilde{\rho}_t V^\dagger dt}{\text{Tr}(M_0 \tilde{\rho}_t M_0^\dagger + (1 - \bar{\eta}) V \tilde{\rho}_t V^\dagger dt)} \quad \text{with } \tilde{\rho}_t = \frac{\bar{\theta}\rho_t + \bar{\eta}V\rho_t V^\dagger}{\bar{\theta} + \bar{\eta} \text{Tr}(V\rho_t V^\dagger)}.$$

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The quantum state  $\rho_t$  is usually mixed and obeys to

$$d\rho_t = \left( -i[H, \rho_t] + L\rho_t L^\dagger - \frac{1}{2}(L^\dagger L\rho_t + \rho_t L^\dagger L) + V\rho_t V^\dagger - \frac{1}{2}(V^\dagger V\rho_t + \rho_t V^\dagger V) \right) dt \\ + \sqrt{\bar{\eta}} \left( L\rho_t + \rho_t L^\dagger - \text{Tr} \left( (L + L^\dagger)\rho_t \right) \rho_t \right) dW_t \\ + \left( \frac{\bar{\theta}\rho_t + \bar{\eta}V\rho_t V^\dagger}{\bar{\theta} + \bar{\eta} \text{Tr} (V\rho_t V^\dagger)} - \rho_t \right) \left( dN(t) - \left( \bar{\theta} + \bar{\eta} \text{Tr} (V\rho_t V^\dagger) \right) dt \right)$$

With  $dy_t = \sqrt{\bar{\eta}} \text{Tr} \left( (L + L^\dagger)\rho_t \right) dt + dW_t$  and  $dN(t) = 0$  with proba  $1 - \left( \bar{\theta} + \bar{\eta} \text{Tr} (V\rho_t V^\dagger) \right) dt$

$$\rho_{t+dt} = \frac{M_{dy_t} \rho_t M_{dy_t}^\dagger + (1 - \eta)L\rho_t L^\dagger dt + (1 - \bar{\eta})V\rho_t V^\dagger dt}{\text{Tr} \left( M_{dy_t} \rho_t M_{dy_t}^\dagger + (1 - \eta)L\rho_t L^\dagger dt + (1 - \bar{\eta})V\rho_t V^\dagger dt \right)}$$

with  $M_{dy_t} = I - \left( iH + \frac{1}{2}L^\dagger L + \frac{1}{2}V^\dagger V \right) dt + \sqrt{\bar{\eta}} dy_t L$ .

For  $N(t + dt) - N(t) = 1$  of proba.  $\left( \bar{\theta} + \bar{\eta} \text{Tr} (V\rho_t V^\dagger) \right) dt$  we have

$$\rho_{t+dt} = \frac{M_{dy_t} \tilde{\rho}_t M_{dy_t}^\dagger + (1 - \eta)L\tilde{\rho}_t L^\dagger dt + (1 - \bar{\eta})V\tilde{\rho}_t V^\dagger dt}{\text{Tr} \left( M_{dy_t} \tilde{\rho}_t M_{dy_t}^\dagger + (1 - \eta)L\tilde{\rho}_t L^\dagger dt + (1 - \bar{\eta})V\tilde{\rho}_t V^\dagger dt \right)} \text{ with } \tilde{\rho}_t = \frac{\bar{\theta}\rho_t + \bar{\eta}V\rho_t V^\dagger}{\bar{\theta} + \bar{\eta} \text{Tr} (V\rho_t V^\dagger)}$$

# General diffusive-jump SME

The quantum state  $\rho_t$  is usually mixed and obeys to

$$d\rho_t = \left( -i[H, \rho_t] + \sum_{\nu} L_{\nu} \rho_t L_{\nu}^{\dagger} - \frac{1}{2}(L_{\nu}^{\dagger} L_{\nu} \rho_t + \rho_t L_{\nu}^{\dagger} L_{\nu}) + V_{\mu} \rho_t V_{\mu}^{\dagger} - \frac{1}{2}(V_{\mu}^{\dagger} V_{\mu} \rho_t + \rho_t V_{\mu}^{\dagger} V_{\mu}) \right) dt \\ + \sum_{\nu} \sqrt{\eta_{\nu}} \left( L_{\nu} \rho_t + \rho_t L_{\nu}^{\dagger} - \text{Tr} \left( (L_{\nu} + L_{\nu}^{\dagger}) \rho_t \right) \rho_t \right) dW_{\nu,t} \\ + \sum_{\mu} \left( \frac{\bar{\theta}_{\mu} \rho_t + \sum_{\mu'} \bar{\eta}_{\mu, \mu'} V_{\mu'} \rho_t V_{\mu'}^{\dagger}}{\bar{\theta}_{\mu} + \sum_{\mu'} \bar{\eta}_{\mu, \mu'} \text{Tr} \left( V_{\mu'} \rho_t V_{\mu'}^{\dagger} \right)} - \rho_t \right) \left( dN_{\mu}(t) - \left( \bar{\theta}_{\mu} + \sum_{\mu'} \bar{\eta}_{\mu, \mu'} \text{Tr} \left( V_{\mu'} \rho_t V_{\mu'}^{\dagger} \right) \right) dt \right)$$

where  $\eta_{\nu} \in [0, 1]$ ,  $\bar{\theta}_{\mu}, \bar{\eta}_{\mu, \mu'} \geq 0$  with  $\bar{\eta}_{\mu'} = \sum_{\mu} \bar{\eta}_{\mu, \mu'} \leq 1$  are parameters modelling measurements imperfections.

When  $\forall \mu, dN_{\mu}(t) = 0$ , we have

$$\rho_{t+dt} = \frac{M_{dy_t} \rho_t M_{dy_t}^{\dagger} + \sum_{\nu} (1 - \eta_{\nu}) L_{\nu} \rho_t L_{\nu}^{\dagger} dt + \sum_{\mu} (1 - \bar{\eta}_{\mu}) V_{\mu} \rho_t V_{\mu}^{\dagger} dt}{\text{Tr} \left( M_{dy_t} \rho_t M_{dy_t}^{\dagger} + \sum_{\nu} (1 - \eta_{\nu}) L_{\nu} \rho_t L_{\nu}^{\dagger} dt + \sum_{\mu} (1 - \bar{\eta}_{\mu}) V_{\mu} \rho_t V_{\mu}^{\dagger} dt \right)}$$

with  $M_{dy_t} = I - \left( iH + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\nu} L_{\nu}^{\dagger} L_{\nu} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\mu} V_{\mu}^{\dagger} V_{\mu} \right) dt + \sum_{\nu} \sqrt{\eta_{\nu}} dy_{\nu,t} L_{\nu}$  and where

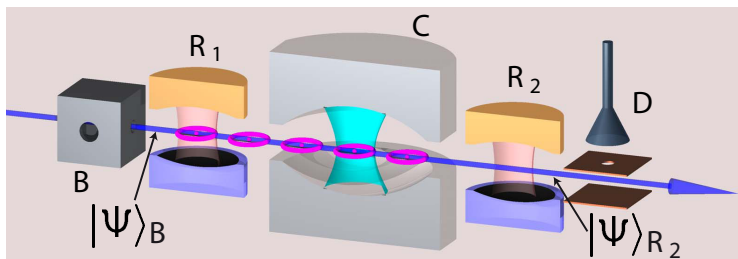
$$dy_{\nu,t} = \sqrt{\eta_{\nu}} \text{Tr} \left( (L_{\nu} + L_{\nu}^{\dagger}) \rho_t \right) dt + dW_{\nu,t}.$$

If, for some  $\mu$ ,  $N_{\mu}(t + dt) - N_{\mu}(t) = 1$ , we have a similar transition rule

$$\rho_{t+dt} = \frac{M_{dy_t} \tilde{\rho}_t M_{dy_t}^{\dagger} + \sum_{\nu} (1 - \eta_{\nu}) L_{\nu} \tilde{\rho}_t L_{\nu}^{\dagger} dt + \sum_{\mu'} (1 - \bar{\eta}_{\mu'}) V_{\mu'} \tilde{\rho}_t V_{\mu'}^{\dagger} dt}{\text{Tr} \left( M_{dy_t} \tilde{\rho}_t M_{dy_t}^{\dagger} + \sum_{\nu} (1 - \eta_{\nu}) L_{\nu} \tilde{\rho}_t L_{\nu}^{\dagger} dt + \sum_{\mu'} (1 - \bar{\eta}_{\mu'}) V_{\mu'} \tilde{\rho}_t V_{\mu'}^{\dagger} dt \right)} \text{ with } \tilde{\rho}_t = \frac{\bar{\theta}_{\mu} \rho_t + \sum_{\mu'} \bar{\eta}_{\mu, \mu'} V_{\mu'} \rho_t V_{\mu'}^{\dagger}}{\bar{\theta}_{\mu} + \sum_{\mu'} \bar{\eta}_{\mu, \mu'} \text{Tr} \left( V_{\mu'} \rho_t V_{\mu'}^{\dagger} \right)}.$$

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# LKB photon box : open-loop dynamics ideal model



Markov process:  $|\psi_k\rangle \equiv |\psi\rangle_{t=k\Delta t}$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\Delta t$  sampling period,

$$|\psi_{k+1}\rangle = \begin{cases} \frac{\mathbf{M}_g|\psi_k\rangle}{\sqrt{\langle\psi_k|\mathbf{M}_g^\dagger\mathbf{M}_g|\psi_k\rangle}} & \text{with } y_k = g, \text{ probability } \mathbb{P}_g = \langle\psi_k|\mathbf{M}_g^\dagger\mathbf{M}_g|\psi_k\rangle; \\ \frac{\mathbf{M}_e|\psi_k\rangle}{\sqrt{\langle\psi_k|\mathbf{M}_e^\dagger\mathbf{M}_e|\psi_k\rangle}} & \text{with } y_k = e, \text{ probability } \mathbb{P}_e = \langle\psi_k|\mathbf{M}_e^\dagger\mathbf{M}_e|\psi_k\rangle, \end{cases}$$

with

$$\mathbf{M}_g = \cos(\varphi_0 + \mathbf{N}\vartheta), \quad \mathbf{M}_e = \sin(\varphi_0 + \mathbf{N}\vartheta).$$



# QND measurement of photons

**Markov process:** density operator  $\rho_k = |\psi_k\rangle\langle\psi_k|$  as state.

$$\rho_{k+1} = \begin{cases} \frac{\mathbf{M}_g \rho_k \mathbf{M}_g^\dagger}{\text{Tr}(\mathbf{M}_g \rho_k \mathbf{M}_g^\dagger)} & \text{with } y_k = g, \text{ probability } \mathbb{P}_g = \text{Tr}(\mathbf{M}_g \rho_k \mathbf{M}_g^\dagger); \\ \frac{\mathbf{M}_e \rho_k \mathbf{M}_e^\dagger}{\text{Tr}(\mathbf{M}_e \rho_k \mathbf{M}_e^\dagger)} & \text{with } y_k = e, \text{ probability } \mathbb{P}_e = \text{Tr}(\mathbf{M}_e \rho_k \mathbf{M}_e^\dagger), \end{cases}$$

with

$$\mathbf{M}_g = \cos(\varphi_0 + \mathbf{N}\vartheta), \quad \mathbf{M}_e = \sin(\varphi_0 + \mathbf{N}\vartheta).$$

Quantum Monte Carlo simulations (2 Matlab scripts):

[IdealQNDphoton.m](#) [RealisticQNDphoton.m](#)

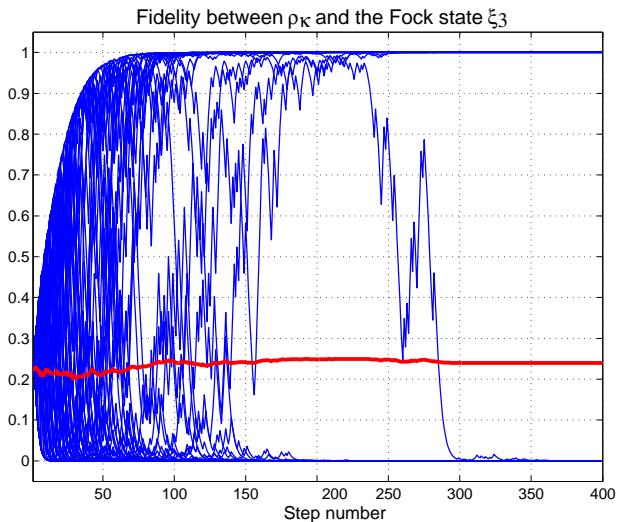
**Experimental data**

## Quantum Non-Demolition (QND) measurement

The measurement operators  $\mathbf{M}_{g,e}$  commute with the photon-number observable  $\mathbf{N}$ : **photon-number states  $|n\rangle\langle n|$  are fixed points of the measurement process.** We say that the measurement is QND for the observable  $\mathbf{N}$ .

# Asymptotic behavior: numerical simulations

100 Monte-Carlo simulations of  $\text{Tr}(\rho_k|3\rangle\langle 3|)$  versus  $k$



## Convergence of a random process

Consider  $(X_k)$  a sequence of random variables defined on the probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$  and taking values in a metric space  $\mathcal{X}$ . The random process  $X_k$  is said to,

- 1 converge **in probability** towards the random variable  $X$  if for all  $\epsilon > 0$ ,

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(|X_k - X| > \epsilon) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(\omega \in \Omega \mid |X_k(\omega) - X(\omega)| > \epsilon) = 0;$$

- 2 converge **almost surely** towards the random variable  $X$  if

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} X_k = X\right) = \mathbb{P}\left(\omega \in \Omega \mid \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} X_k(\omega) = X(\omega)\right) = 1;$$

- 3 converge **in mean** towards the random variable  $X$  if  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}(|X_k - X|) = 0$ .

# Some definitions

## Markov process

The sequence  $(X_k)_{k=1}^{\infty}$  is called a Markov process, if for all  $k$  and  $\ell$  satisfying  $k > \ell$  and any measurable function  $f(x)$  with  $\sup_x |f(x)| < \infty$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}(f(X_k) \mid X_1, \dots, X_\ell) = \mathbb{E}(f(X_k) \mid X_\ell).$$

## Martingales

The sequence  $(X_k)_{k=1}^{\infty}$  is called respectively a *supermartingale*, a *submartingale* or a *martingale*, if  $\mathbb{E}(|X_k|) < \infty$  for  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ , and

$$\mathbb{E}(X_k \mid X_1, \dots, X_\ell) \leq X_\ell \quad (\mathbb{P} \text{ almost surely}), \quad k \geq \ell$$

or

$$\mathbb{E}(X_k \mid X_1, \dots, X_\ell) \geq X_\ell \quad (\mathbb{P} \text{ almost surely}), \quad k \geq \ell,$$

or finally,

$$\mathbb{E}(X_k \mid X_1, \dots, X_\ell) = X_\ell \quad (\mathbb{P} \text{ almost surely}), \quad k \geq \ell.$$

## H.J. Kushner invariance Theorem

Let  $\{X_k\}$  be a Markov chain on the compact state space  $S$ . Suppose that there exists a non-negative function  $V(x)$  satisfying  $\mathbb{E}(V(X_{k+1}) | X_k = x) - V(x) = -\sigma(x)$ , where  $\sigma(x) \geq 0$  is a positive continuous function of  $x$ . Then the  $\omega$ -limit set (in the sense of almost sure convergence) of  $X_k$  is included in the following set

$$I = \{X \mid \sigma(X) = 0\}.$$

Trivially, the same result holds true for the case where

$\mathbb{E}(V(X_{k+1}) | X_k = x) - V(x) = \sigma(x)$  with  $\sigma(x) \geq 0$  and  $V(x)$  bounded from above ( $V(X_k)$  is a submartingale),.

Stochastic version of Lasalle invariance principle for Lyapunov function of deterministic dynamics.

# Asymptotic behavior

## Theorem

Consider for  $\mathbf{M}_g = \cos(\varphi_0 + \mathbf{N}\vartheta)$  and  $\mathbf{M}_e = \sin(\varphi_0 + \mathbf{N}\vartheta)$

$$\rho_{k+1} = \begin{cases} \frac{\mathbf{M}_g \rho_k \mathbf{M}_g^\dagger}{\text{Tr}(\mathbf{M}_g \rho_k \mathbf{M}_g^\dagger)} & \text{with } y_k = g, \text{ probability } \mathbb{P}_g = \text{Tr}(\mathbf{M}_g \rho_k \mathbf{M}_g^\dagger); \\ \frac{\mathbf{M}_e \rho_k \mathbf{M}_e^\dagger}{\text{Tr}(\mathbf{M}_e \rho_k \mathbf{M}_e^\dagger)} & \text{with } y_k = e, \text{ probability } \mathbb{P}_e = \text{Tr}(\mathbf{M}_e \rho_k \mathbf{M}_e^\dagger), \end{cases}$$

with an initial density matrix  $\rho_0$  defined on the subspace  $\text{span}\{|n\rangle \mid n = 0, 1, \dots, n^{\max}\}$ . Also, assume the non-degeneracy assumption  $\forall n \neq m \in \{0, 1, \dots, n^{\max}\}, \cos^2(\varphi_m) \neq \cos^2(\varphi_n)$  where  $\varphi_n = \varphi_0 + n\vartheta$ .

Then

- for any  $n \in \{0, \dots, n^{\max}\}$ ,  $\text{Tr}(\rho_k |n\rangle\langle n|) = \langle n | \rho_k |n\rangle$  is a martingale
- $\rho_k$  converges with probability 1 to one of the  $n^{\max} + 1$  Fock state  $|n\rangle\langle n|$  with  $n \in \{0, \dots, n^{\max}\}$ .
- the probability to converge towards the Fock state  $|n\rangle\langle n|$  is given by  $\text{Tr}(\rho_0 |n\rangle\langle n|) = \langle n | \rho_0 |n\rangle$ .

- For any function  $f$ ,  $V_f(\rho) = \text{Tr}(f(\mathbf{N})\rho)$  is a martingale:  
 $\mathbb{E}(V_f(\rho_{k+1}) | \rho_k) = V_f(\rho_k)$ .
- $V(\rho) = \sum_{n \neq m} \sqrt{\langle n|\rho|n\rangle \langle m|\rho|m\rangle}$  is a strict super-martingale:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}(V(\rho_{k+1}) | \rho_k) &= \sum_{n \neq m} (|\cos \phi_n \cos \phi_m| + |\sin \phi_n \sin \phi_m|) \sqrt{\langle n|\rho|n\rangle \langle m|\rho|m\rangle} \\ &\leq rV(\rho_k) \end{aligned}$$

with  $r = \max_{n \neq m} (|\cos \phi_n \cos \phi_m| + |\sin \phi_n \sin \phi_m|)$  and  $r < 1$ .

- $V(\rho) \geq 0$  and  $V(\rho) = 0$  means that exists  $n$  such that  $\rho = |n\rangle\langle n|$ .

**Interpretation:** for large  $k$ ,  $V(\rho_k)$  is very close to 0, thus very close to  $|n\rangle\langle n|$  (“pure state” = maximal information state) for an a priori random  $n$ .

Information extracted by measurement makes state “less uncertain” a posteriori but not more predictable a priori.

# Exercice

Consider the Markov chain  $\rho_{k+1} = \mathbf{M}_{y_k}(\rho_k)\mathbf{M}_{y_k}^\dagger / \text{Tr}(\mathbf{M}_{y_k}(\rho_k)\mathbf{M}_{y_k}^\dagger)$  where  $y_k = g$  (resp.  $y_k = e$ ) with probability  $p_{g,k} = \text{Tr}(\mathbf{M}_g\rho_k\mathbf{M}_g^\dagger)$  (resp.  $p_{e,k} = \text{Tr}(\mathbf{M}_e\rho_k\mathbf{M}_e^\dagger)$ ). The Kraus operators are given by

$$\mathbf{M}_g = \cos\left(\frac{\theta_1}{2}\right) \cos\left(\frac{\Theta}{2}\sqrt{\mathbf{N}}\right) - \sin\left(\frac{\theta_1}{2}\right) \left(\frac{\sin\left(\frac{\Theta}{2}\sqrt{\mathbf{N}}\right)}{\sqrt{\mathbf{N}}}\right) \mathbf{a}^\dagger$$
$$\mathbf{M}_e = -\sin\left(\frac{\theta_1}{2}\right) \cos\left(\frac{\Theta}{2}\sqrt{\mathbf{N}+1}\right) - \cos\left(\frac{\theta_1}{2}\right) \mathbf{a} \left(\frac{\sin\left(\frac{\Theta}{2}\sqrt{\mathbf{N}}\right)}{\sqrt{\mathbf{N}}}\right)$$

with  $\theta_1 = 0$ . Assume the initial state to be defined on the subspace  $\{|n\rangle\}_{n=0}^{n^{\max}}$  and that the cavity state at step  $k$  is described by the density operator  $\rho_k$ .

**1** Show that

$$\mathbb{E}(\text{Tr}(\mathbf{N}\rho_{k+1}) \mid \rho_k) = \text{Tr}(\mathbf{N}\rho_k) - \text{Tr}\left(\sin^2\left(\frac{\Theta}{2}\sqrt{\mathbf{N}}\right)\rho_k\right).$$

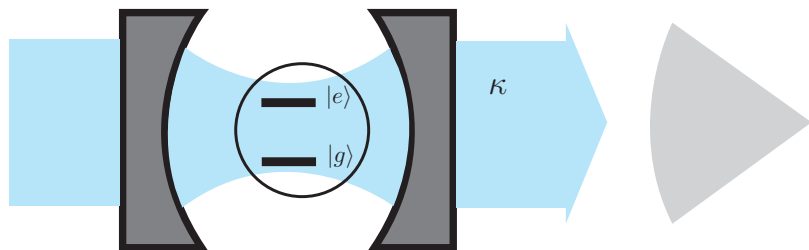
**2** Assume that for any integer  $n$ ,  $\Theta\sqrt{n}/\pi$  is irrational. Then prove that almost surely  $\rho_k$  tends to the vacuum state  $|0\rangle\langle 0|$  whatever its initial condition is.

**3** When  $\Theta\sqrt{n}/\pi$  is rational for some integer  $n$ , describe the possible  $\omega$ -limit sets for  $\rho_k$ .



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# Dispersive measurement of a qubit



Inverse setup of photon-box: photons read out a qubit.

## Approximate model

Cavity's dynamics are removed (singular perturbation techniques) to achieve a qubit SME:

$$\begin{aligned}d\rho_t &= -i[\mathbf{H}, \rho_t]dt + \frac{\Gamma_m}{4}(\sigma_z \rho_t \sigma_z - \rho_t)dt \\ &\quad + \frac{\sqrt{\eta\Gamma_m}}{2}(\sigma_z \rho_t + \rho_t \sigma_z - 2\text{Tr}(\sigma_z \rho_t)\rho_t)dW_t, \\ dy_t &= dW_t + \sqrt{\eta\Gamma_m}\text{Tr}(\sigma_z \rho_t)dt.\end{aligned}$$

# Quantum Non-Demolition measurement

$$\begin{aligned}d\rho_t &= -i[\mathbf{H}, \rho_t]dt + \frac{\Gamma_m}{4}(\sigma_z \rho_t \sigma_z - \rho_t)dt \\ &\quad + \frac{\sqrt{\eta\Gamma_m}}{2}(\sigma_z \rho_t + \rho_t \sigma_z - 2\text{Tr}(\sigma_z \rho_t)\rho_t)dW_t, \\ dy_t &= dW_t + \sqrt{\eta\Gamma_m}\text{Tr}(\sigma_z \rho_t)dt.\end{aligned}$$

Uncontrolled case:  $\mathbf{H} = \omega_{\text{eg}}\sigma_z/2$ .

Interpretation as a Markov process with Kraus operators

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{M}_{dy_t} &= \mathbf{I} - \left( i\frac{\omega_{\text{eg}}}{2}\sigma_z + \frac{\Gamma_m}{8}\mathbf{I} \right) dt + \frac{\sqrt{\eta\Gamma_m}}{2}\sigma_z dy_t, \\ \sqrt{(1-\eta)dt}\mathbf{L} &= \frac{\sqrt{(1-\eta)\Gamma_m}dt}{2}\sigma_z.\end{aligned}$$

QND measurement

Kraus operators  $\mathbf{M}_{dy_t}$  and  $\sqrt{(1-\eta)dt}\mathbf{L}$  commute with observable  $\sigma_z$ : qubit states  $|g\rangle\langle g|$  and  $|e\rangle\langle e|$  are fixed points of the measurement process. The measurement is QND for the observable  $\sigma_z$ .

# QND measurement: asymptotic behavior

## Theorem

Consider the SME

$$d\rho_t = -i[\mathbf{H}, \rho_t]dt + \frac{\Gamma_m}{4}(\sigma_z \rho_t \sigma_z - \rho_t)dt \\ + \frac{\sqrt{\eta\Gamma_m}}{2}(\sigma_z \rho_t + \rho_t \sigma_z - 2\text{Tr}(\sigma_z \rho_t)\rho_t)dW_t,$$

with  $\mathbf{H} = \frac{\omega_{\text{eg}}}{2}\sigma_z$  and  $\eta > 0$ .

- For any initial state  $\rho_0$ , the solution  $\rho_t$  converges almost surely as  $t \rightarrow \infty$  to one of the states  $|g\rangle\langle g|$  or  $|e\rangle\langle e|$ .
- The probability of convergence to  $|g\rangle\langle g|$  (respectively  $|e\rangle\langle e|$ ) is given by  $p_g = \text{Tr}(|g\rangle\langle g|\rho_0)$  (respectively  $\text{Tr}(|e\rangle\langle e|\rho_0)$ ).
- The convergence rate is given by  $\eta\Gamma_M/2$ .

Proof based on the Lyapunov function  $V(\rho) = \sqrt{1 - \text{Tr}^2(\sigma_z \rho)}$  with

$$\frac{d}{dt}\mathbb{E}(V(\rho)) = -\frac{\eta\Gamma_M}{2}\mathbb{E}(V(\rho))$$

Monte Carlo simulations: [IdealQNDqubit.m](#) [RealisticQNDqubit.m](#)