



# Quantum Protocols within Spekkens' Toy Model

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- Contextuality and non-locality are ubiquitous in quantum theory
- We study quantum protocols within Spekkens' toy model<sup>1</sup> — a **classical**, **realist**, and **local** theory phenomenologically very close to quantum theory

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Any quantum protocol existing in the toy model



Must be **Bell-local** and  
**non-contextual**

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# A few remarks on the toy model

## States

- Underlying states  $\rightarrow$  *Ontic* (= of reality/existence) — (i.e. the LHV)
- Observable states  $\rightarrow$  *Epistemic* (= of knowledge)
- Epistemic restriction: 'Knowledge Balance Principle' (KBP)
- KBP  $\Rightarrow$  uniform distributions over the ontic states

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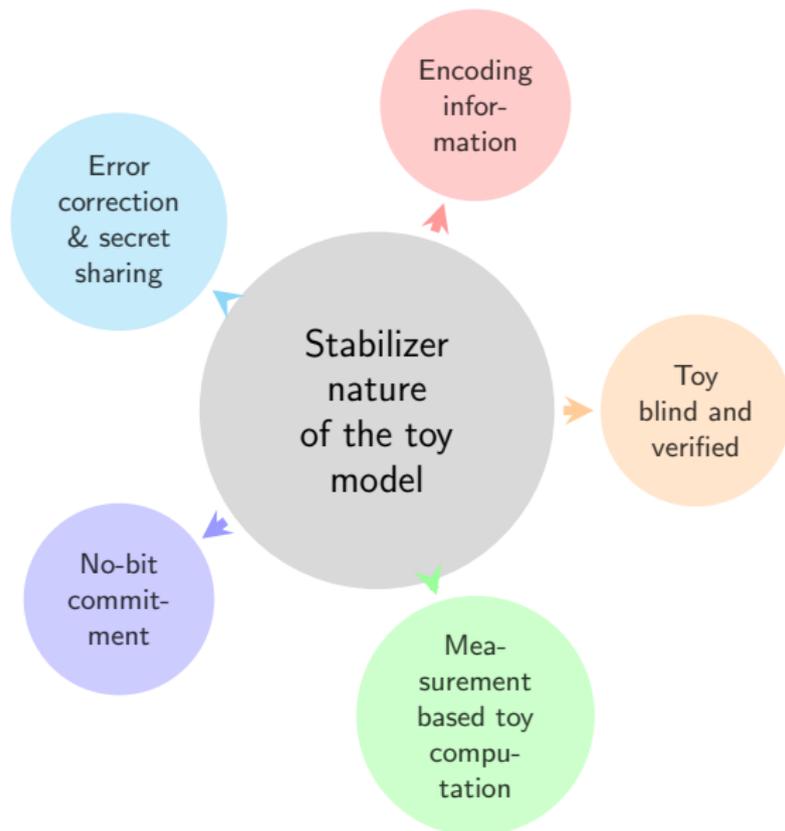
## Stabilizer structure

- Qubit stabilizer  $\approx$  Toy stabilizer
- Difference between quantum and toy well understood<sup>2</sup>
- However stabilizer formalism generalize the protocol more straightforwardly
- Toy model is local but steerable
- Computationally very weak model, i.e.  $\oplus L$  (Gottesman-Knill)

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# Summary of our results



# Toy stabilizer notation [Pusey '12]<sup>3</sup>

For a single system define a group composed by

$$G_1 = \left\{ \mathcal{I} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \mathcal{X} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \mathcal{Z} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \mathcal{Y} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

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Analogously to quantum, all states over  $n$  toy systems are described by

$$\text{the stabilizer group } S = \{s_1, \dots, s_{|S|}\} = \langle \overbrace{g_1, \dots, g_l}^{\text{Generators}} \rangle,$$

$S$  identifies a *diagonal* matrix

$$\rho_S = \frac{1}{4^n} \prod_{g \in \text{Gen}(S)} (\mathcal{I} + g)$$

where the elements of  $\rho_S$  are *probabilities* of each ontic state

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# Toy state evolution

1. **Reversible transformations** [Pusey'12] :  $4^n \times 4^n$  permutation matrices  $\tilde{U}$  over ontic states

$$\rho'_S = \tilde{U}\rho_S\tilde{U}^T,$$

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2. **Measurements** [Pusey'12]: given a toy state  $\rho_S$

$$\text{Measurement: } M = \sum_i \alpha_i P_{T_i}, \text{ where } \sum_i P_{T_i} = \mathcal{I}^n$$

$$\text{Probability outcome } \alpha_i: \text{prob}(\alpha_i) = \text{Tr}(P_{T_i} \rho_S),$$

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3. **Generalized Transformation**: 'Toy CPTP'

$$\text{Global permutation: } \sigma_S^{AR} = \tilde{U}^{AR} (\rho^A \otimes \sigma^R) \tilde{U}^{ART}$$

$$\text{Ancilla Measurement: } M = \sum_i q_i I^A \otimes P_{T_i}^R$$

$$\text{Ensamble: } \{\text{prob}(q_i), \chi_{S_i''}^A = \text{Tr}_R(\chi_{S_i''}^{AR})\}, \}$$

# Toy stabilizers vs quantum stabilizers

toy states  $\leftrightarrow$  quantum states

- $S^Q = \{XX, ZZ, -YY, II\} \not\leftrightarrow S^T = \{\mathcal{X}\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Z}\mathcal{Z}, -\mathcal{Y}\mathcal{Y}, II\}$  **not a toy state**  
 (*quantum-ly  $XZ = -iY$ , while toy-ly  $\mathcal{X}\mathcal{Z} = \mathcal{Y}$* )

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- Note quantum-ly  $[X, Z] = 0$ , while toy-ly  $[\mathcal{X}, \tilde{Z}] = 0 = [\tilde{X}, \mathcal{Z}]$

# Translation criteria



*Equivalent*  $\equiv$  preserves some key figure of merit

## Difficulties:

1. Criteria fails when quantum protocol is non-local (e.g. Mermin square)
2. Ambiguity due to different group structure

i.e. quantum:  $XZ = -iY$ , toy:  $\mathcal{X}\mathcal{Z} = \mathcal{Y}$

Need a way to ensure consistency

# Toy purifications

*Proof sketch:*

Idea: use the stabilizer nature of the toy model

*Mixed state*

*Purification*

$$\rho_T^A \quad \overset{?}{\longleftrightarrow} \quad \rho_T^{AR}, \text{ s.t. } \text{Tr}_R(\rho_T^{AR}) = \rho_T^A$$

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note  $\forall s = s^A \otimes s^R \in S_Q^{AR}$

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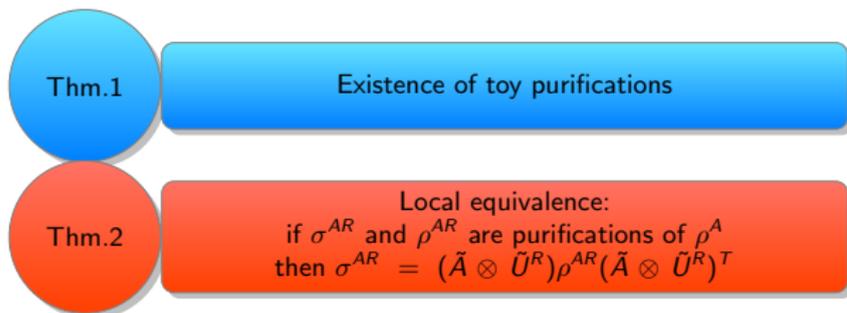


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Toy-Quantum ambiguity is pushed where it doesn't matter

# Purifications & no-bit commitment



Imply

- No-go theorem for perfect and imperfect toy bit commitment

*Proof:* exactly as in the quantum case!

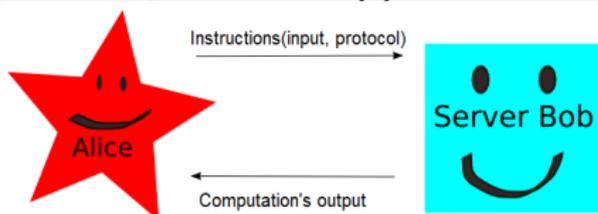
# Error correction

- We show  $\forall [n, k, d]^Q \longrightarrow [n, k, d]^{toy}$ , with same correcting properties
- Any toy  $[2k+1, 1, k]^{toy}$  E.C. code is equivalent to a  $(k, 2k+1)$  secret sharing code

## Key remarks

- Cloning is impossible in the toy model
- Information is spread through the resource
- Syndrome/errors is recovered through permutations/stabilizer interplay
- Choice of generators

# Blind and verified computation (i)



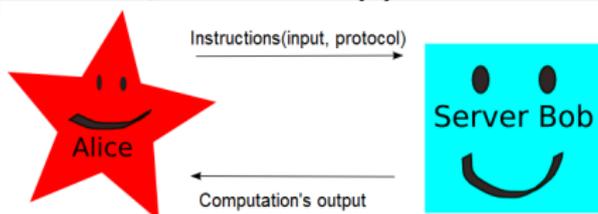
1. (*Blindness*) Bob gains no info about the computation he performs
2. (*Verified*) Bob's cheats or deviations from the agreed instruction are discovered with high probability

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**Big open question:** *can quantum computation be verified classically...?*

**Our question:** *are contextual resources needed?*

- [RUV<sup>4</sup>] explicitly uses Bell's tests
- [FK<sup>5</sup>]
  1. graph states [toy version, Pusey '12]
  2. measurement based quantum computation
  3. trapification & randomness

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# Blind and verified computation (ii)

## Outline

- Client weaker than server (no 'toy entanglement' and bounded computational power)
- Slight extension of the toy model to allow for classical control
  - Needed to *define* the protocol
  - Not a key issue
  - Gaussian motivated
- probability accepting an incorrect computation  $p_{fail} < 1 - \frac{1}{2n}$

## What does it imply?

- Suggest that structure of FK is Bell-local
  - Therefore steering correlations should be enough
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Recent work<sup>2</sup> provides a FK version based on steering

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<sup>2</sup>A. Cheorghiu, P. Wallden and E. Kashefi, Rigidity of quantum steering and one-sided device independent verifiable quantum computation, arXiv:1512.04401

# Considerations

## Our contribution

- A framework where toy protocols can be analyzed
- Despite classical and no-cloning  $\rightarrow$  error correction
- Properties of the encoding  $\rightarrow$  no bit commitment, secret sharing
- Despite locality  $\rightarrow$  can perform toy blind and verified

## Perspective

- Define a Gaussian blind and verified protocol
- Provide a generalized translation criteria

## Take home message

- Toy stabilizer protocols are non-trivial
- Steering correlations suffice for many interesting protocols

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Thank you for listening!