

# The Syntax and Semantics of Simply-typed Quantum Control

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Acknowledgements to: Kostia Chardonnet, Robin Kaarsgaard, Benoît Valiron, Vladimir Zamdzhiev



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Méthodes  
Formelles



Équipe MOCQUA. 30th May 2024

# What is Quantum Control?

- Flow of the program controlled by **pure quantum** data.
- **No** use of **measurement** to control the flow.

```
input: |xy>
```

```
if x:
```

```
    |xy>
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```
else:
```

```
    |x(1-y)>
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input: |xy>
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if meas(x):
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    |y>
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	$ xy\rangle$		$ y\rangle$
else :		else :	
	$ x(Uy)\rangle$		$ Uy\rangle$

(My) Quantum Control: work with **reversible** quantum operations.

They are more known as **unitaries**.

Is this approach **new**?

# The syntax

Types:

$I$      $A \oplus B$      $A \otimes B$      $\text{Nat}$

Terms and semantics as **isometries**:

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Terms and semantics as **isometries**:

	Syntax	$\mathbb{C}^n$	
	$*$ : I	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$	$ 0\rangle$
	$\text{left } *$ : I $\oplus$ I	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$	$ 0\rangle$
	$\text{right } *$ : I $\oplus$ I	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$	$ 1\rangle$
	$(\alpha \cdot \text{left } *) + (\beta \cdot \text{right } *)$ : I $\oplus$ I	$\begin{pmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{pmatrix}$	$\alpha  0\rangle + \beta  1\rangle$

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$$\mathbb{I} \quad A \oplus B \quad \boxed{A \otimes B} \quad \text{Nat}$$

Terms and semantics as **isometries**:

$$\text{Syntax} \quad \mathbb{C}^n$$

$$t_i: \mathbb{I} \oplus \mathbb{I} \quad \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_i \\ \beta_i \end{pmatrix} \quad |\phi_i\rangle$$

$$t_1 \otimes t_2: (\mathbb{I} \oplus \mathbb{I}) \otimes (\mathbb{I} \oplus \mathbb{I}) \quad \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \alpha_2 \\ \beta_1 \alpha_2 \\ \alpha_1 \beta_2 \\ \beta_1 \beta_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad |\phi_1\rangle \otimes |\phi_2\rangle$$

# The syntax

Types:

I     $A \oplus B$      $A \otimes B$     Nat

Terms and semantics as **isometries**:

Syntax     $\ell^2(\mathbb{N})$

zero : Nat     $e_0$      $|0\rangle$

$t$  : Nat     $e_n$      $|n\rangle$

S  $t$  : Nat     $e_{n+1}$      $|n+1\rangle$



# The syntax

Types:

$I$     $A \oplus B$     $A \otimes B$     $\text{Nat}$     $\mu X.A$

Terms and semantics as **isometries**:

Syntax    $\bigoplus_{n=0}^{\infty} H^{\otimes n}$

$t: A[\mu X.A/X]$     $\star$

$\text{fold } t: \mu X.A$     $\star$

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Can be seen as  $\lambda$ -abstractions with pattern-matching.

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# Semantics of unitaries

$$\text{Operationally: } CNOT = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} (\text{left } *) \otimes x & \mapsto (\text{left } *) \otimes x \\ (\text{right } *) \otimes (\text{left } *) & \mapsto (\text{right } *) \otimes (\text{right } *) \\ (\text{right } *) \otimes (\text{right } *) & \mapsto (\text{right } *) \otimes (\text{left } *) \end{array} \right\}$$

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Mathematically:

$$\left[ \vdash \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} t_1 & \mapsto t'_1 \\ & \vdots \\ t_m & \mapsto t'_m \end{array} \right\} : A \leftrightarrow B \right] = \sum_{i=1}^m [\Delta \vdash t'_i : B] \circ [\Delta \vdash t_i : A]^\dagger$$

## How do we ensure unitarity?

A **syntactic** notion of **orthonormal basis** (ONB).

In linear algebra, a **unitary** transforms an ONB into an ONB.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} t_1 & \mapsto & t'_1 \\ & \vdots & \\ t_m & \mapsto & t'_m \end{array} \right\}$$

This is a unitary if **both**  $\{t_i\}_i$  and  $\{t'_j\}_j$  are ONBs.

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$$ONB_A\{x\} \quad ONB_{A \otimes B}\{x \otimes y\}$$

$$ONB_{I \oplus I}\{\text{left } *, \text{right } *\}$$

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$$ONB_{\text{Nat}}\{\text{zero}, S \text{ zero}, S S x\}$$

$$ONB_{I \oplus I}\left\{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\text{zero} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}S \text{ zero}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\text{zero} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}S \text{ zero}, S S x\right\}$$

# Properties

With a suitable **equational theory** (cf. my thesis).

## Theorem

If  $\Delta \vdash t: A$  is well-typed and  $ONB_A(\{t_i\})$  then  $\Delta \vdash t = \sum_i \alpha_i t_i: A$ .

It implies that there is a unique **normal form**. And thus:

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$$\cdot \vdash t_1 = t_2: A \quad \text{iff} \quad \llbracket \cdot \vdash t_1: A \rrbracket = \llbracket \cdot \vdash t_2: A \rrbracket.$$

With a **denotational** semantics in Hilbert spaces and **isometries**.

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Other cool result: our syntactic ONBs are **realisations** of the identity.

If  $ONB_A(S)$ , then  $\sum_{t \in S} \llbracket t \rrbracket \circ \llbracket t \rrbracket^\dagger = \text{id}$ .

## What about Higher-order?

Comparison with the  $\lambda$ -calculus is **limited**.

In a unitary  $\{t_i \mapsto t'_i\}$ , the components  $t_i$  and  $t'_i$  are **ground** terms.

Cannot take a unitary as an **input** and cannot **output** a unitary.

Need to add a **new form** of (higher-order) functions.

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We have a  **$\lambda$ -calculus** at the level of unitaries.



# What does Higher-order achieve?

A general **control** operation.

$$\lambda\phi. \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} (\text{left } *) \otimes x & \mapsto (\text{left } *) \otimes x \\ (\text{right } *) \otimes x & \mapsto \text{let } y = \phi \ x \ \text{in} \\ & (\text{right } *) \otimes y \end{array} \right\}$$

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The quantum **switch**.

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## Conjecture

Completeness still holds with higher-order.

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Recursion!

With a fixed point combinator.

```
fix  $\phi$ . { ... }
```

## Quick stop: Recursion in Classical Reversibility

Suppose we have a syntax with:

- Only reversible functions,
- Inductive types,
- A fixpoint operator,
- A CbV operational semantics.

It is Turing-complete! (proven by Kostia Chardonnet)

Sound and adequate denotational semantics in **partial injective** functions.

Given two sets  $A$  and  $B$ , the set  $[A \multimap B]$  has **nice** properties for fixpoints.

Read about it: [CLV23].

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(The category of partial injective functions between sets is enriched in pointed dcpos.)

Read about it: [CLV23].



## Until we meet again

Reasons to believe that *general quantum* recursion does not hold.

In Hilbert spaces: no **enrichment** (some details?), no **trace** (conjecture).

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- *“Non-terminating quantum-controlled program do not make sense.”*
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## Thank you!

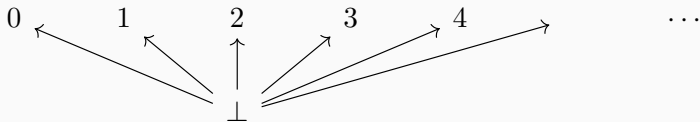
Come to my defence on 19th June, 2pm.

# Domain theory (for babies)

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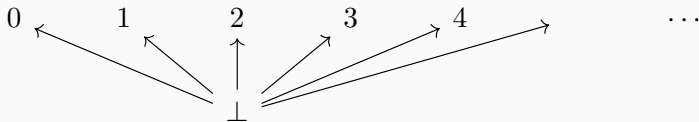
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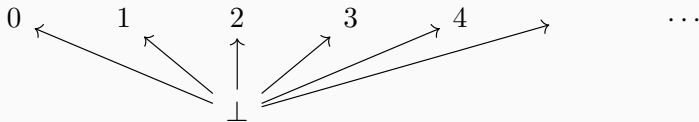


The set  $[D \rightarrow D']$  of **monotone** functions also has **nice** properties.

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The set  $[D \rightarrow D']$  of **monotone** functions also has **nice** properties.

How do we use it?



## Interpretation of recursion

Define  $F : [[\mathbb{N}_\perp \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_\perp] \rightarrow [\mathbb{N}_\perp \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_\perp]]$  as:

$$F(g)(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = 0, \\ n \times g(n-1) & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$

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## Interpretation of recursion

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The interpretation of the factorial is then the **limit** of  $(F^n(\perp))_n$ .

A notion of **limit** linked to the order is necessary.

## Quick stop: Recursion in Classical Reversibility

Read about it: [CLV23].

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Suppose we have a syntax with:

- Only reversible functions,
- Inductive types,
- A fixpoint operator,
- A CbV operational semantics.

It is Turing-complete! (proven by Kostia Chardonnet)

Sound and adequate denotational semantics in **partial injective** functions.

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(The category of partial injective functions between sets is enriched in pointed dcpos.)

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# The Quantum Case

A unitary operator  $f$  is such that the inverse of  $f$  is its adjoint.

Dimension 2 for simple examples.

Reversible quantum operations are **subunitaries** such as:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$
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Arguably, **undefined** ( $\perp$ ) in a Hilbert space is the **zero** vector  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ .

$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  is less defined than  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  which is less defined than  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

## A disappointment

However, this order does not interact well with composition:

$$\begin{aligned} & \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \leq \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \text{thus} \quad & \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \circ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \circ \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \leq \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \circ \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}, \\ \text{i.e.} \quad & 1/2 \leq 0. \end{aligned}$$



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### **Theorem (No go theorem)**

*There is no such order on subunitary maps between Hilbert spaces.*