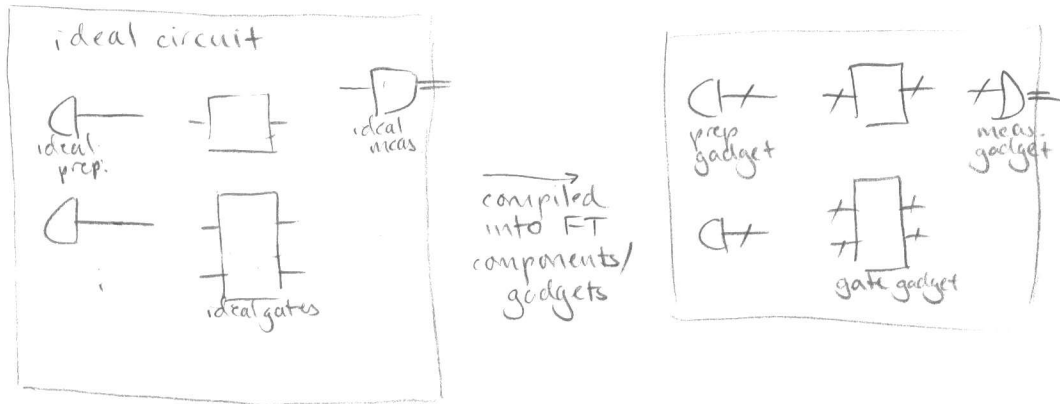


Lecture 7 2/2/10 Fault-tolerant error correction

Goal of fault tolerance



① With 0 noise, compiled ckt should simulate an ideal ckt.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{prep gadget} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \text{ideal prep.} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{ideal encoder} \end{array}$$

$$- \begin{array}{c} \text{gate gadget} \end{array} = - \begin{array}{c} \text{ideal gate} \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \text{error} \end{array}$$

$$- \begin{array}{c} \text{meas gadget} \end{array} = - \begin{array}{c} \text{ideal meas} \end{array}$$

Thus:

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{encoded ckt.} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \text{ideal ckt} \end{array}$$

② With "occasional" noise, simulation also works

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{ideal gate} \end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \text{gate gadget} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{error correction gadget} \end{array}$$

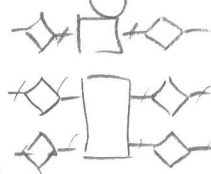
$$\begin{array}{c} \text{prep gadget} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \text{ideal prep.} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{error correction gadget} \end{array} \quad \text{if } r \leq t = \lfloor \frac{d-1}{2} \rfloor$$

$$- \begin{array}{c} \text{gate gadget} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{error correction gadget} \end{array} = - \begin{array}{c} \text{ideal gate} \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \text{error} \end{array} \quad \text{if } \sum r_i + s \leq t$$

$$- \begin{array}{c} \text{meas gadget} \end{array} = - \begin{array}{c} \text{ideal meas} \end{array} \quad \text{if } r + s \leq t$$

$$- \begin{array}{c} \text{gate gadget} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{error correction gadget} \end{array} = - \begin{array}{c} \text{error} \end{array} \quad \text{if } r + s \leq t$$

Call an "extended rectangle" (exRec) a gadget plus the preceding and following ECs



⇒ If every exRec has  $\leq t$  noise locations, the simulation works.  
 - we'll talk more about this definition later

③ In general, need to be able to recover noisy code blocks...

$$-E + \textcircled{r} + \textcircled{s} = -\textcircled{1} - E + \textcircled{s} \quad \text{if } s \leq t$$

Today: Fault-tolerant error correction

$$-E + \textcircled{r} + \textcircled{s} = -E + \textcircled{s} \quad \text{if } r + s \leq t$$

$$-E + \textcircled{r} + \textcircled{s} = -\textcircled{1} + E + \textcircled{s} \quad \text{if } s \leq t$$

(Note: = can be replaced by  $\leq$ .)

Example: Biased noise only bit-flip (X) errors

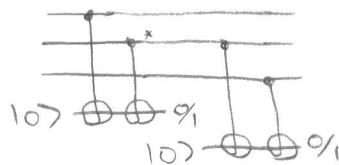
$$0 \rightarrow 000$$

$$1 \rightarrow 111$$

$$d=3, t=1$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 221 \\ 122 \\ \hline \bar{x} = XXX \\ \bar{z} = z11 \end{array}$$

correct errors  $\Leftarrow$  determine the syndrome  $\Leftarrow$  measure the stabilizers



Corrections

0	0	1
0	111	11X
1	X11	111

Fault tolerant? Rule 2 ✓ obvious since  $d=3$

Rule 1  $\rightarrow$   $r=1, s=0$  ✓ obvious

$r=0, s=1$  X an error at \*  $\rightarrow$  1XX error

Solutions?  $r=0, s=0$  ✓ stabilizer algebra

- for an FT EC proc. based on syndrome meas.

$$\begin{array}{r} s_1 221 \\ s_2 122 \\ \hline 21 \\ \hline XXX \\ 222 \end{array} \rightarrow \begin{array}{r} s_1 221 \\ s_2 122 \\ \hline 22121 \\ \hline 12212 \\ \hline XXX \\ 222 \end{array}$$

~ repeat both measurements 2x

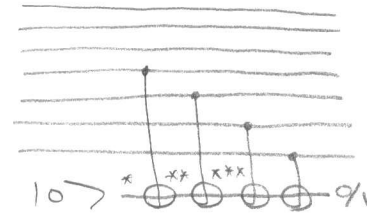
apply correction only if all meas. agree

$r=0, s=1 \Rightarrow$  no correction applied, one error survives

(note: suffices to repeat first stabiliser meas. only)

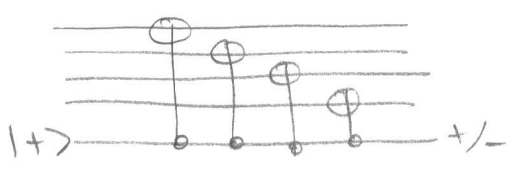
② Steane code

0001111  
0110011  
1010101



repeated syndrome extraction

for correcting  $\geq$  errors, meas X stabilizer syndromes:



use CC

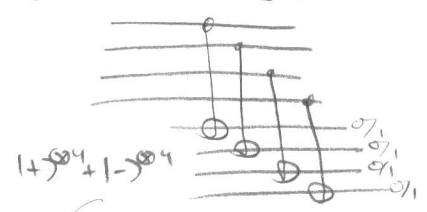
Fault tolerant?

X EC FT vs. X errors ✓

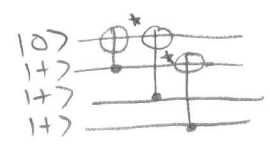
Z errors? - on ancilla  $\begin{matrix} * & \checkmark \\ x & \checkmark \\ x & \checkmark \\ x & \checkmark \end{matrix}$

- interacting diffuse encoded data w/ single-qubit ancilla  $\times$

Solutions? "Shor EC"

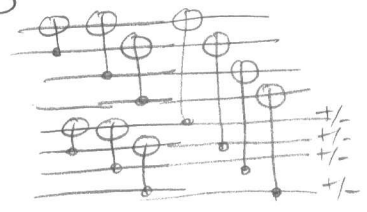


zzzz  
zzzz  
xx11  
1xx1  
11xx

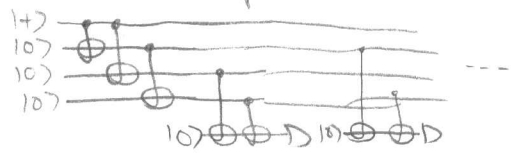


Not FT!

- Verify the ancilla before using it.

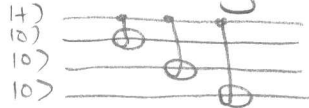


OR: compare bits



### Optimized Shor EC:

→ Note: Only some correlated errors possible.



one X error can create

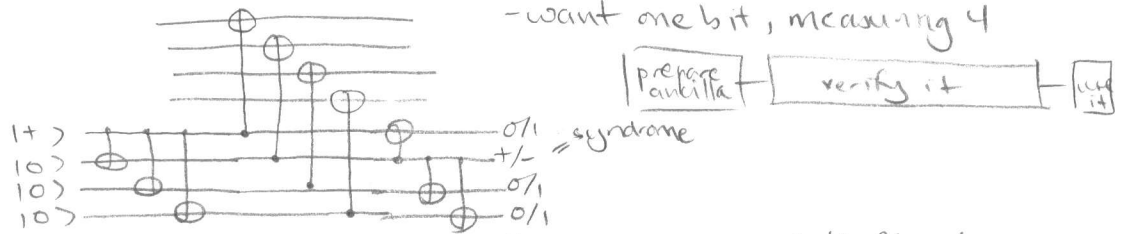
X	1	1	1
1	X	1	1
1	1	X	1
1	1	1	X
X	1	1	X

not XX11...

① ⇒ suffices?

② FT QC w/ slow measurements [Aliferis & DiVincenzo] <sup>0607047</sup>

- want one bit, measuring 4



0/1 = syndrome

+/- = syndrome

0/1

0/1

if ancilla qubits 1 & 4 are both flipped, flip data bits 1 & 4

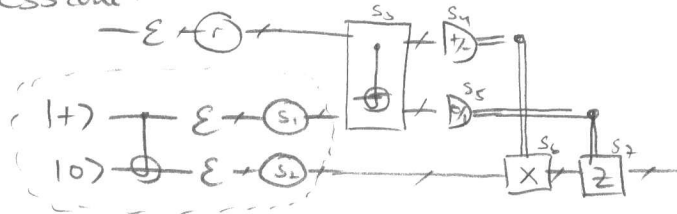
still need repeated syndrome extraction

Main disadvantage: works poorly for larger codes

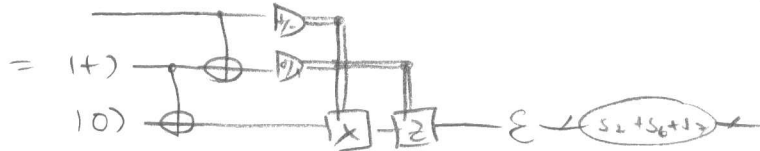
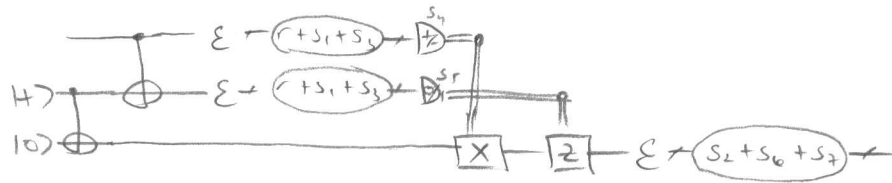
Next: Steane EC, Knill EC

- also reduce FT EC to FT state prep 2

Knill EC: reduces FT EC to FT prep of encoded Bell pairs  
 use a CSS code:



$$r + s_1 + s_2 + s_3 + s_4 + s_5 + s_6 + s_7$$



$$= \varepsilon \rightarrow (s_2 + s_6 + s_7)$$

Steane EC: Assume we have FT prep of  $|0\rangle$  and  $|1\rangle$ .

