

Semantics for a Quantum Programming Language by Operator Algebras

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Radboud University Nijmegen

QPL 2014
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Master thesis
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Overview

- Semantics for a first-order functional quantum programming language **QPL** [Selinger 2004]
- Use the category $\mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}}$ of W^* -algebras and normal completely positive pre-unital maps
- $\mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}}$ is a \mathbf{Dcppo}_{\perp} -enriched SMC with \mathbf{Dcppo}_{\perp} -enriched finite products
- “nice” enough to give a semantics for QPL

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Overview

- Semantics for a first-order functional quantum programming language **QPL** [Selinger 2004]
- Use the category $\mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}}^?$ of W^* -algebras and normal completely positive pre-unital maps
quantum operations in the Heisenberg picture
- $\mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}}$ is a \mathbf{Dcppo}_{\perp} -enriched SMC with \mathbf{Dcppo}_{\perp} -enriched finite products
- “nice” enough to give a semantics for QPL

Outline

- Quantum Operation
- Selinger's QPL
- Operator Algebras and Quantum Operation
- Semantics for QPL by W^* -algebras
- Future work and Conclusions

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Quantum Operation [Kraus]

(aka. superoperator)

$\mathcal{H}_1, \mathcal{H}_2$: Hilbert spaces

$\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{H}_i)$: the set of trace class operators on \mathcal{H}_i

$\mathcal{T}(\mathbb{C}^n) \cong \mathcal{M}_n$ the set of $n \times n$ matrices

Def. A linear map $\mathcal{E} : \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{H}_1) \rightarrow \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{H}_2)$ is a **quantum operation (QO)**

$\stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff}$ it is **completely positive** and **trace-nonincreasing**.

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$\mapsto \mathcal{E}(\rho)$: positive operator on \mathcal{H}_2 with $0 \leq \text{tr}(\mathcal{E}(\rho)) \leq 1$
i.e. subnormalised **state** on \mathcal{H}_2

Complete positivity

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$\stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$

$\text{id} \otimes \mathcal{E}: \mathcal{M}_n \otimes \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{H}_1) \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_n \otimes \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{H}_2)$ is positive
 $\cong \mathcal{T}(\mathbb{C}^n \otimes \mathcal{H}_1) \quad \cong \mathcal{T}(\mathbb{C}^n \otimes \mathcal{H}_2)$

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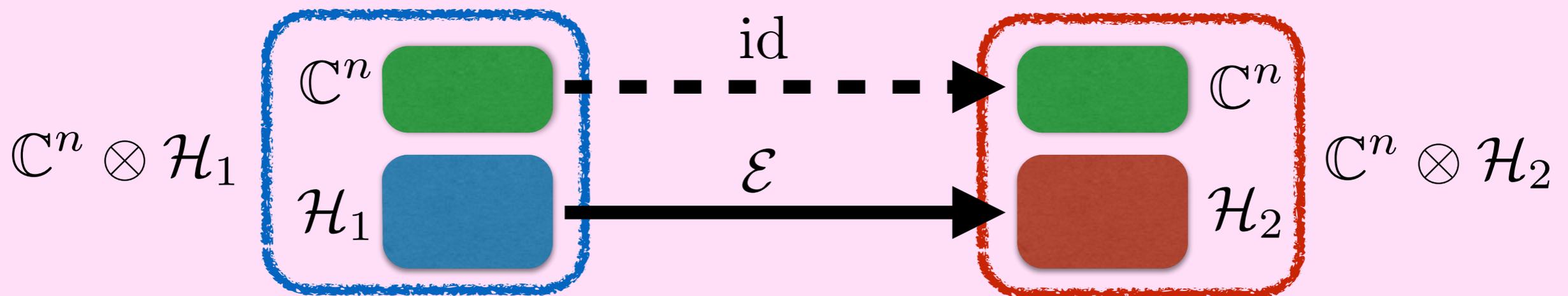
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Compatibility with composition (i.e. tensor product) of systems



Dualising Quantum Operations

$\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_i)$: the set of bounded operators on \mathcal{H}_i

Fact. There is a 1-1 correspondence:

$\mathcal{E} : \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{H}_1) \longrightarrow \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{H}_2)$ bounded

$\mathcal{E}^* : \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_2) \longrightarrow \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_1)$ weak*-continuous (called ***normal***)

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This correspondence restricts to:

$$\mathcal{E} : \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{H}_1) \longrightarrow \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{H}_2) \text{ **QO**, i.e. CP trace-nonincreasing}$$

$$\mathcal{E}^* : \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_2) \longrightarrow \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_1) \text{ normal CP pre-unital (sub-unital)}$$

$$\mathcal{E}^*(\mathcal{I}) \leq \mathcal{I}$$

Schrödinger vs Heisenberg picture

QOs arise in two equivalent (dual) forms:

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\mathcal{E} is a QO in the **Schrödinger** picture (**states** evolve)

\mathcal{E}^* is a QO in the **Heisenberg** picture (**observables** evolve)

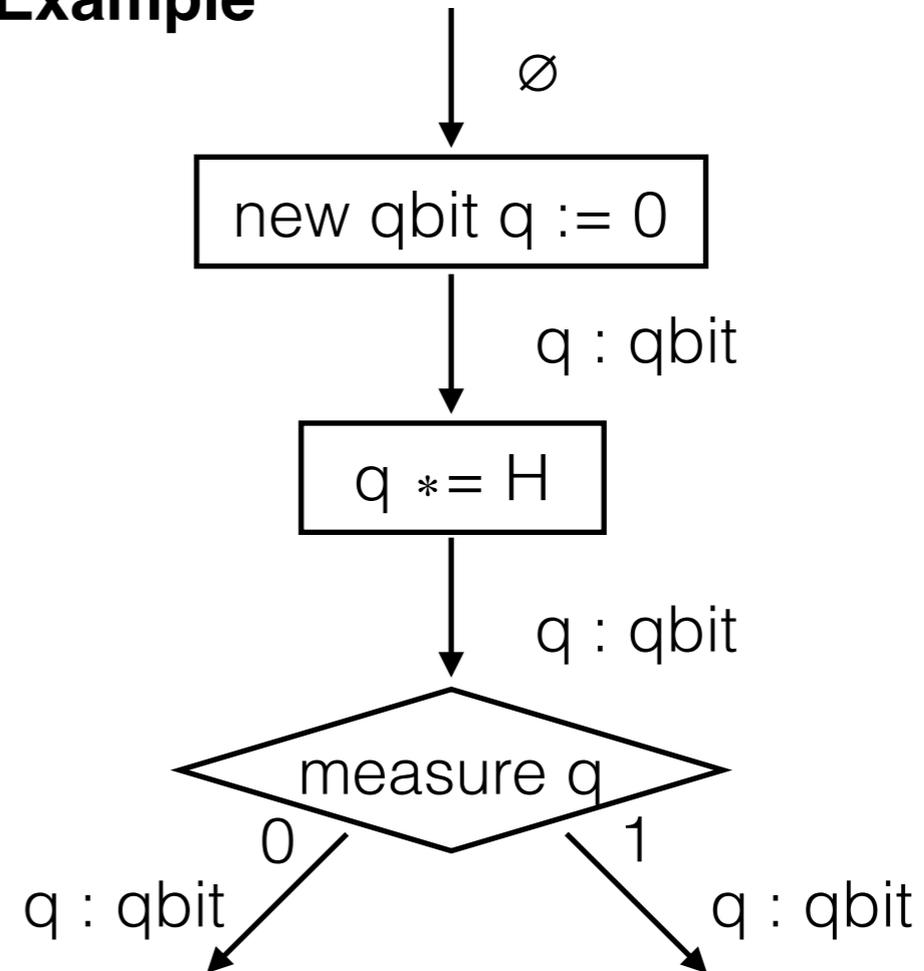
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Selinger's QPL

- QPL (QFC) [Selinger 2004]
- First-order functional quantum programming language
- Loop and recursion
- “Quantum data, Classical control”
- Data types: qbit, bit
- Written as a flow chart

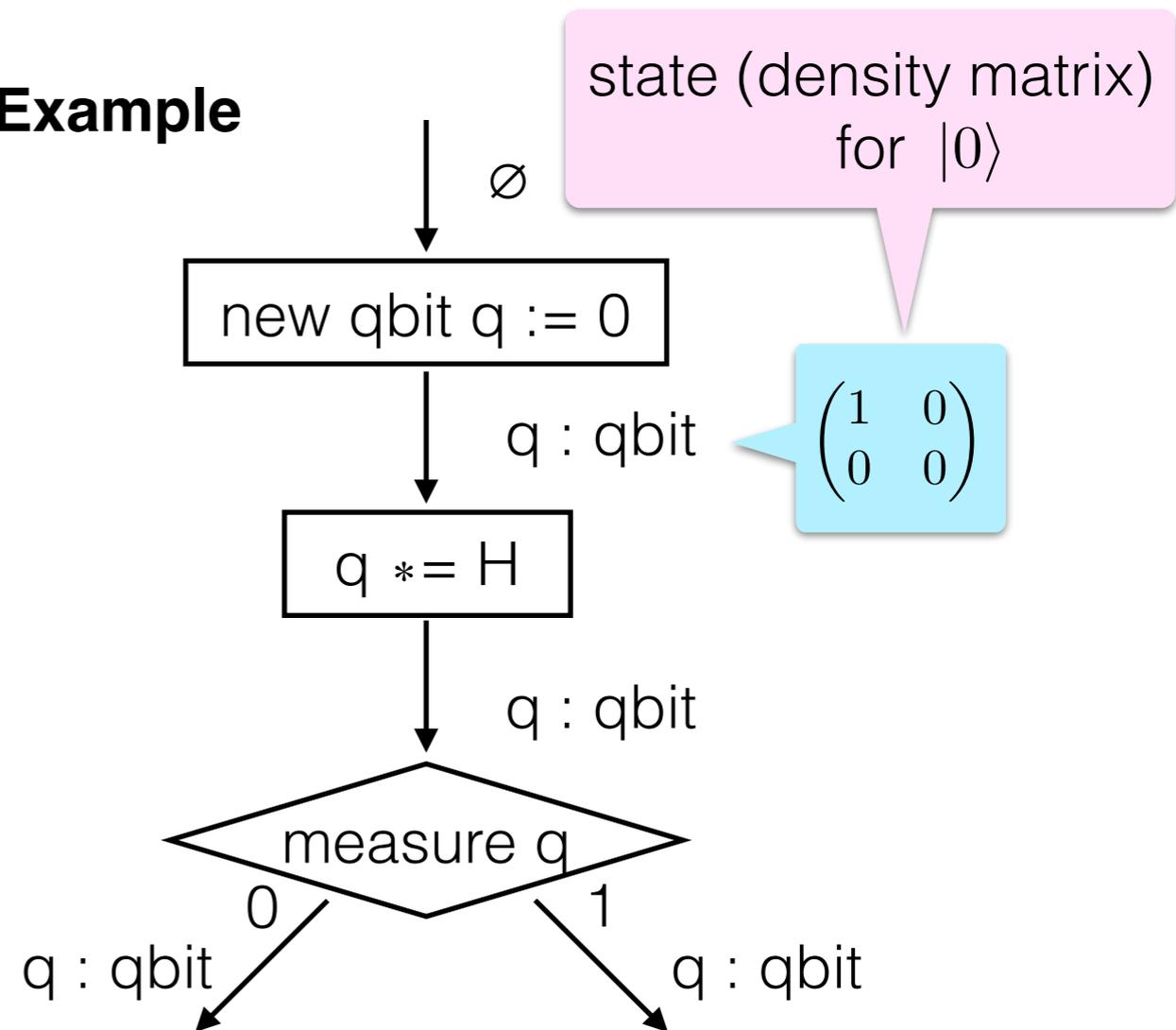
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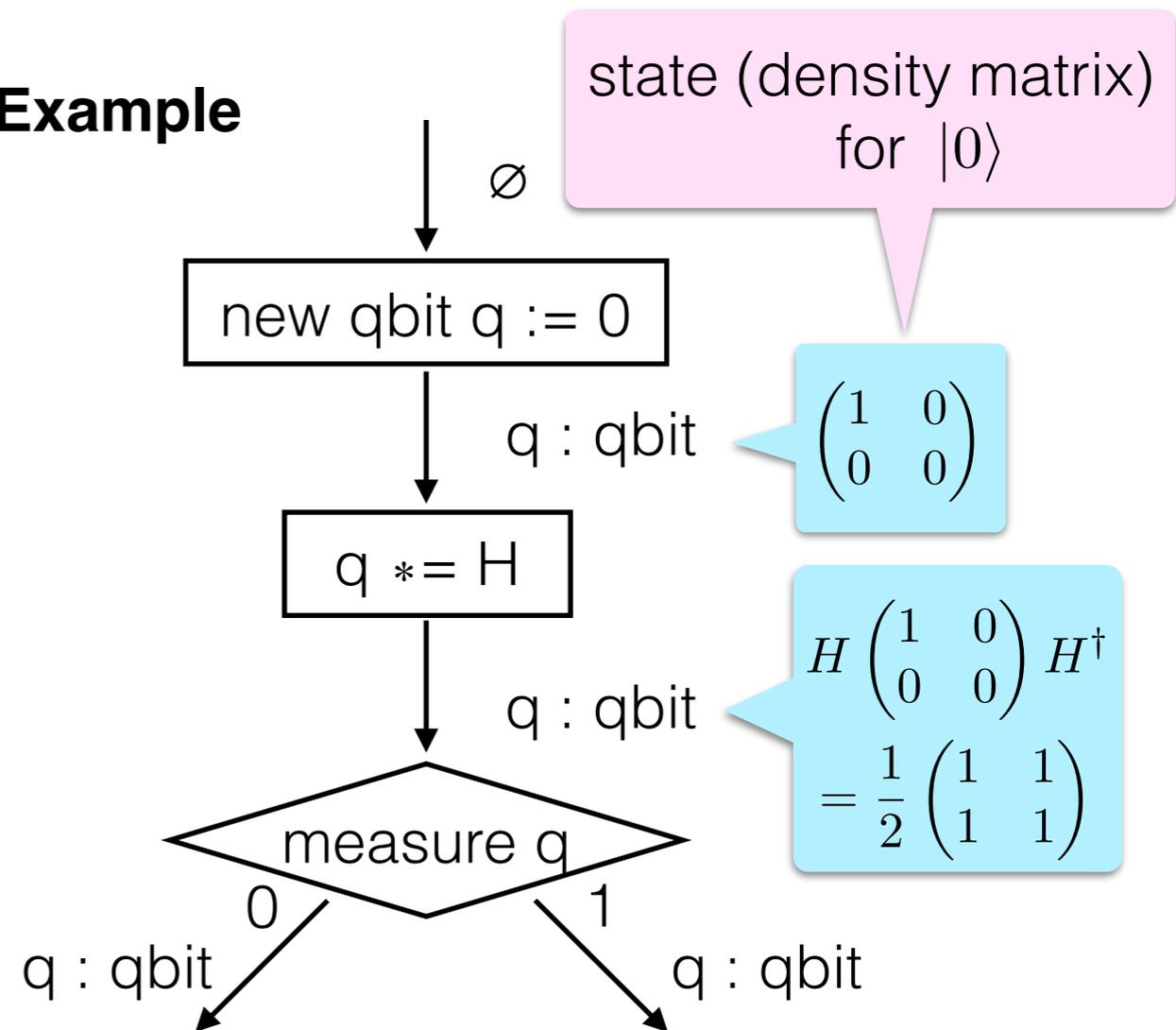
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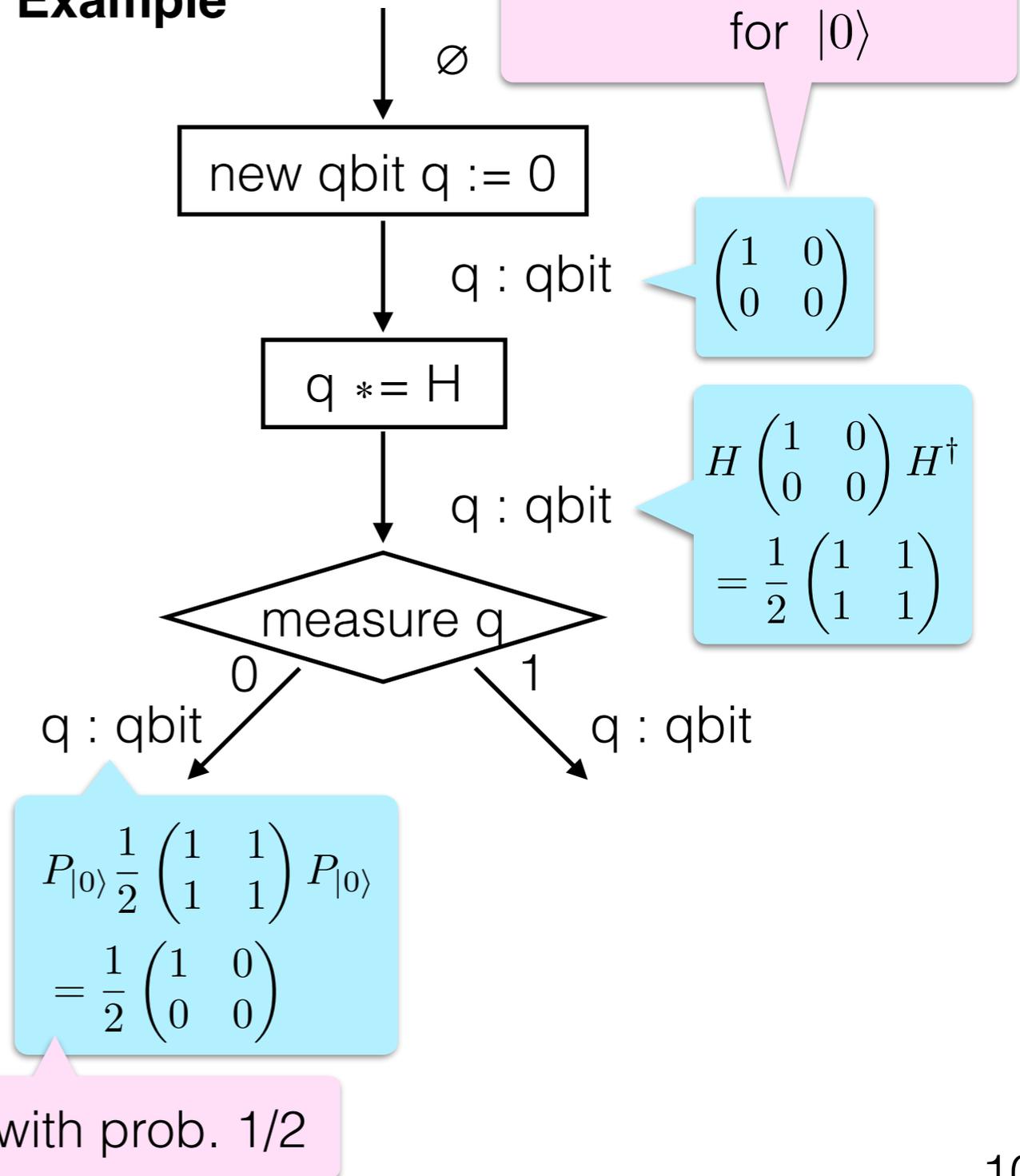
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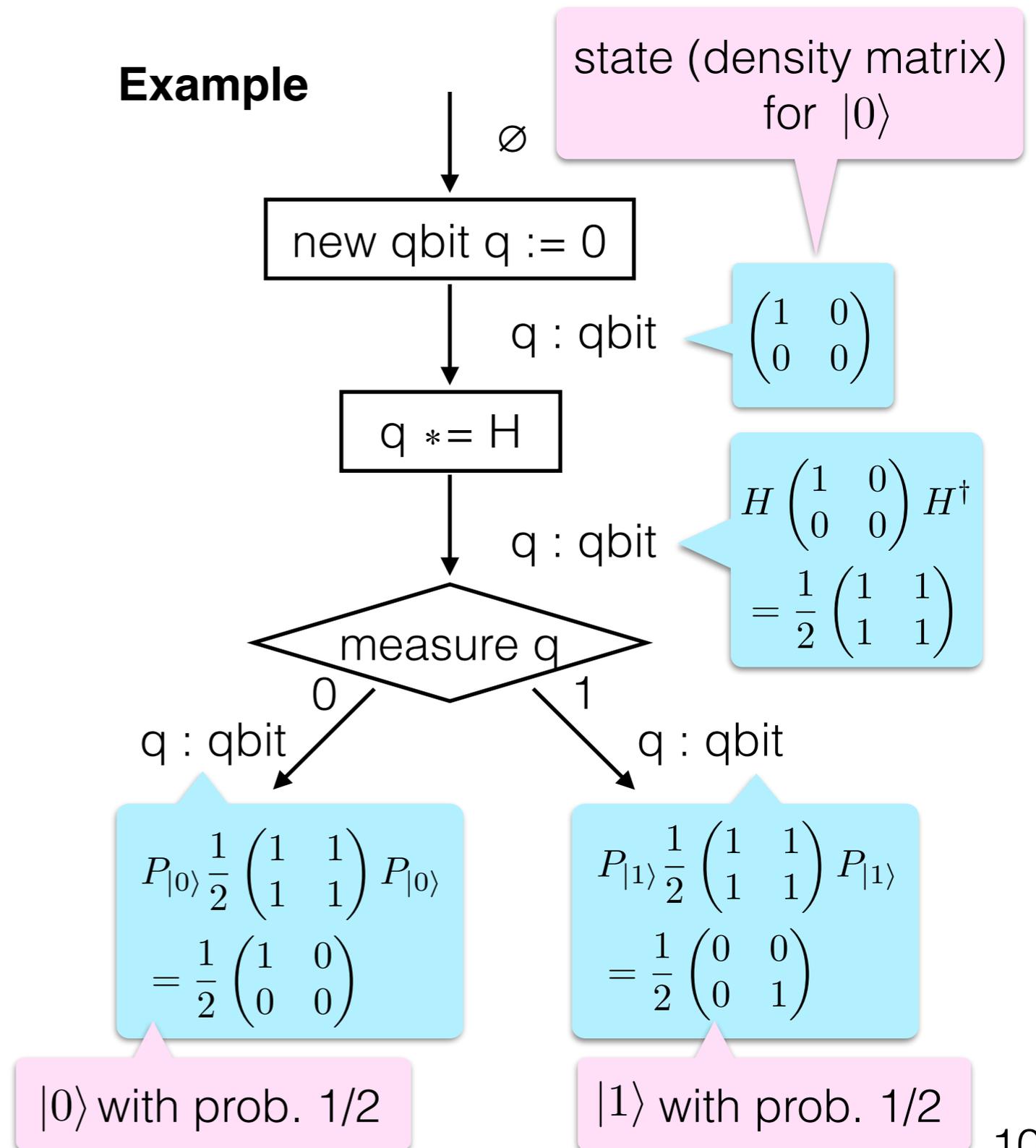
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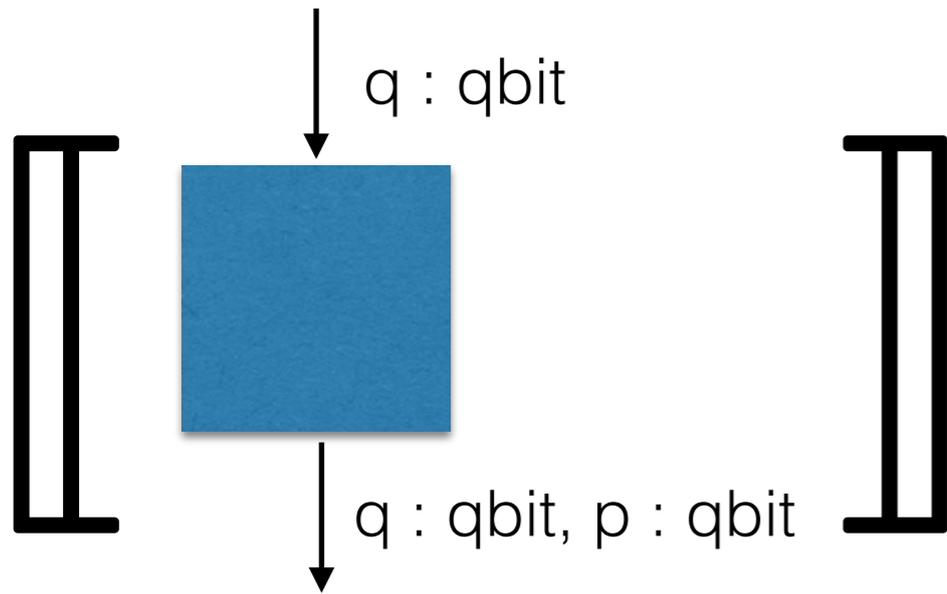
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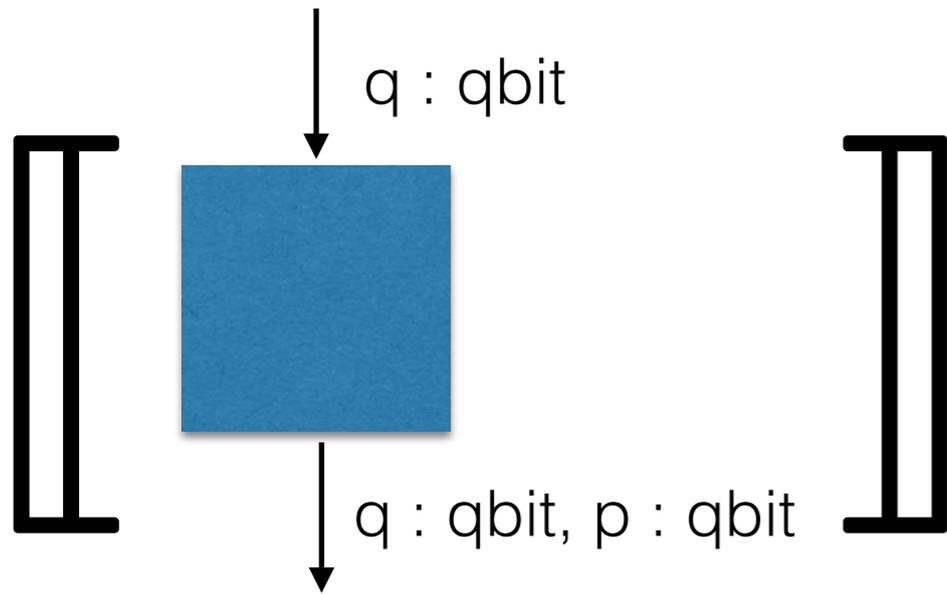
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Semantics for QPL



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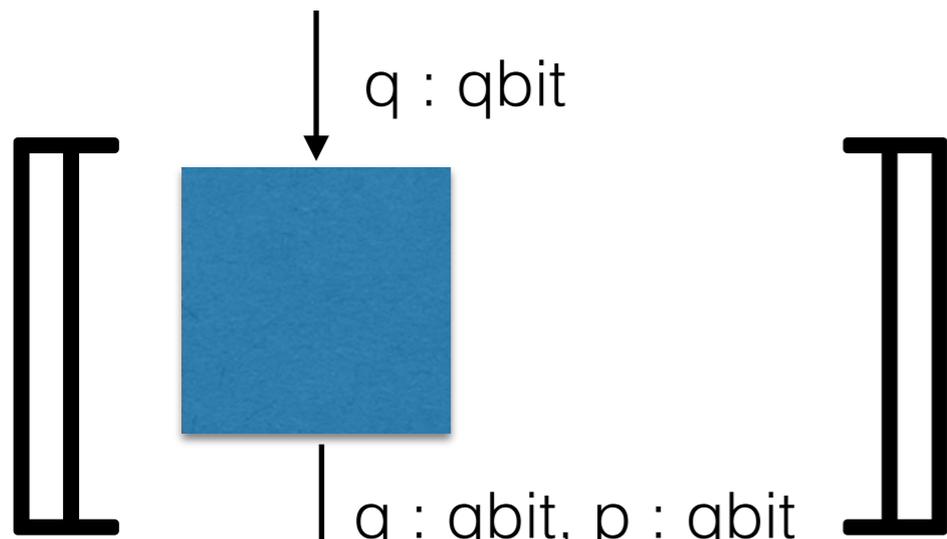


$$: \mathcal{M}_2 \longrightarrow \mathcal{M}_2 \otimes \mathcal{M}_2 \cong \mathcal{M}_4$$

QO (in Schrödinger picture)

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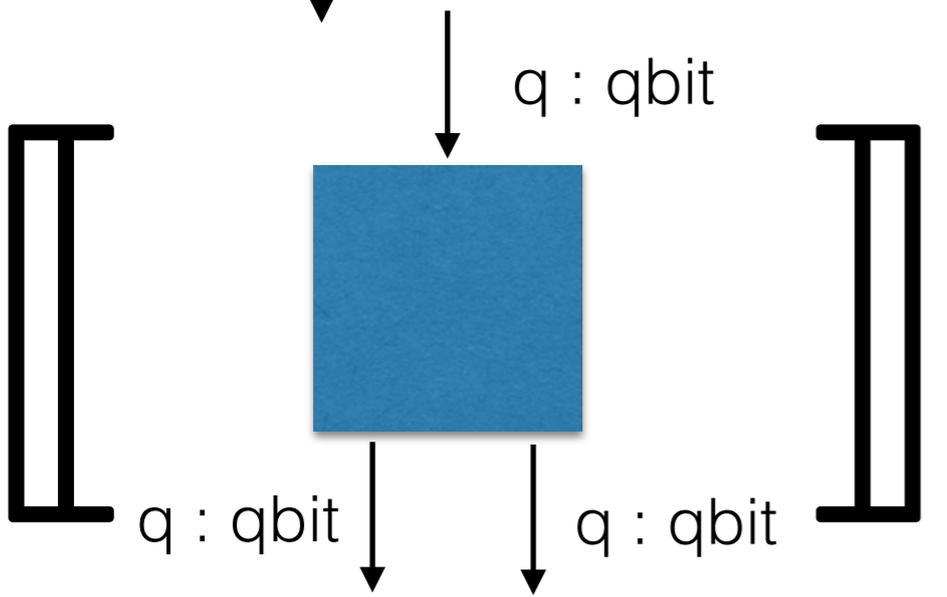
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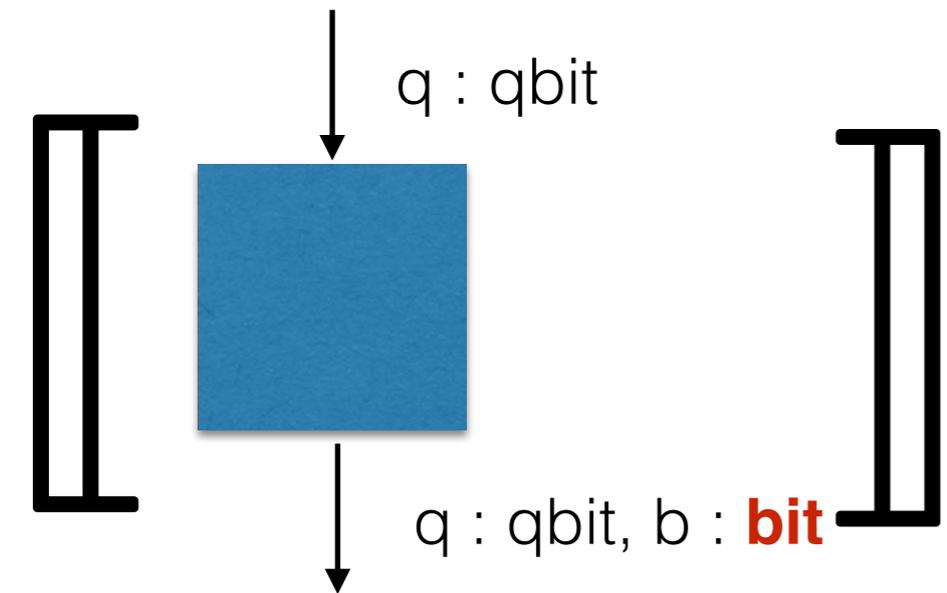
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= ??



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Kraus' "simple" QO is **not** suitable for **classical** control/data

Selinger's QO

Selinger's solution: generalise QOs into maps of type

$$\mathcal{E}: \bigoplus_{j=1}^k \mathcal{M}_{n_j} \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{i=1}^l \mathcal{M}_{m_i}$$



direct sum
(of vector spaces)

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A linear map $\mathcal{E}: \bigoplus_{j=1}^k \mathcal{M}_{n_j} \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{i=1}^l \mathcal{M}_{m_i}$ is a **QO**
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it is CP and trace-nonincreasing.

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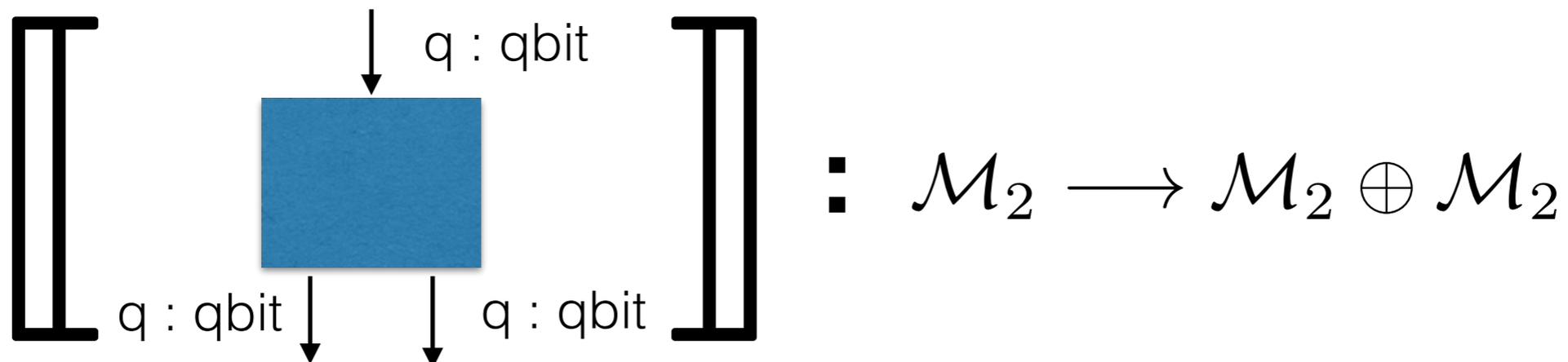
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The category \mathbf{Q}

Def. The category \mathbf{Q} is defined as follows.

Objects: $\bigoplus_{j=1}^k \mathcal{M}_{n_j}$ for each sequence of natural numbers (n_1, \dots, n_k)

Arrows: $\mathcal{E} : \bigoplus_{j=1}^k \mathcal{M}_{n_j} \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{i=1}^l \mathcal{M}_{m_i}$ Selinger's QO

Categorical Property of \mathbf{Q}

\mathbf{Q} is an SMC $(\mathbf{Q}, \otimes, \mathbb{C})$ with finite coproducts $(\oplus, 0)$ such that \otimes distributes over $(\oplus, 0)$:

$$A \otimes (B \oplus C) \cong (A \otimes B) \oplus (A \otimes C), \quad A \otimes 0 \cong 0 .$$

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tensor product

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the category of pointed ω cpo's and ω -continuous maps

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Thm. With the interpretation of types

$$\llbracket \text{qbit} \rrbracket = \mathcal{M}_2$$

$$\llbracket \text{bit} \rrbracket = \mathbb{C} \oplus \mathbb{C}$$

\mathbf{Q} gives a semantics for QPL.

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Sufficient condition to give a semantics for QPL

- \mathbf{C} is an $\omega\mathbf{Cppo}$ -enriched SMC (\mathbf{C}, \otimes, I) with $\omega\mathbf{Cppo}$ -enriched finite coproducts $(\oplus, 0)$ such that \otimes distributes over $(\oplus, 0)$:

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- An object $\llbracket \text{qbit} \rrbracket \in \mathbf{C}$
 $(\llbracket \text{bit} \rrbracket = I \oplus I)$
- Some additional conditions...

$$\begin{aligned} f \circ \perp &= \perp \\ f \otimes \perp &= \perp \\ \iota: I \oplus I &\rightarrow \llbracket \text{qbit} \rrbracket \\ p: \llbracket \text{qbit} \rrbracket &\rightarrow I \oplus I \\ p \circ \iota &= \text{id} \end{aligned}$$

Thm. Such \mathbf{C} gives a semantics for QPL.

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Operator Algebras

Concrete (*-subalgebra of $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$)	Abstract (Hilbert space-free)
norm-closed	C^* -algebra
weakly closed, unital = von Neumann algebra	W^* -algebra

- First, von Neumann algebras are introduced by von Neumann, motivated by quantum theory
- In the context of quantum theory, operator algebras are seen as algebras of **observables**
- **Algebraic** quantum theory
 - Emphasis on operator algebras, rather than Hilbert spaces
 - Successful in quantum field theory, quantum statistical mechanics

W^* -algebra

Def. (Sakai's characterisation)

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Eg. $\mathcal{E}^* : \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_2) \longrightarrow \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_1)$ QO in the Heisenberg picture
is (by def.) a normal CP pre-unital map betw. W^* -alg.

The category $\mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}}$

Def. The category $\mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}}$ is defined as follows.

Objects: W^* -algebras

Arrows: normal CP pre-unital maps

QO $\mathcal{E}^* : \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_2) \longrightarrow \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_1)$ is an arrow in $\mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}}$

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Moreover, there is one-to-one correspondence:

$$\mathcal{E} : \bigoplus_{j=1}^k \mathcal{M}_{n_j} \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{i=1}^l \mathcal{M}_{m_i} \quad \text{Selinger's QO, i.e. arrow in } \mathbf{Q}$$

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This gives a full embedding $\mathbf{Q} \longrightarrow (\mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}})^{\text{op}}$

Various Quantum Operations

Kraus' (simple) QO

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normal CP pre-unital map between W^* -algebras

$$f : M \longrightarrow N \quad \text{in} \quad \mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}}$$

Various Quantum Operations

Kraus' (simple) QO

$$\mathcal{E} : \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{H}_1) \longrightarrow \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{H}_2)$$

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Selinger's QO

$$\mathcal{E} : \bigoplus_{j=1}^k \mathcal{M}_{n_j} \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{i=1}^l \mathcal{M}_{m_i}$$

normal CP pre-unital map between W^* -algebras

$$f : M \longrightarrow N \quad \text{in} \quad \mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}}$$

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$\mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}}$ naturally arises as the category whose arrows are **quantum operations** (in the Heisenberg picture)

The present work shows:

$\mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}}$ is “nice” enough to give a sem. for QPL

Outline

- Quantum Operation
- Selinger's QPL
- Operator Algebras and Quantum Operation
- **Semantics for QPL by W^* -algebras**
- Future work and Conclusions

Sufficient condition to give a semantics for QPL

- \mathbf{C} is an $\omega\mathbf{Cppo}$ -enriched SMC (\mathbf{C}, \otimes, I) with $\omega\mathbf{Cppo}$ -enriched finite coproducts $(\oplus, 0)$ such that \otimes distributes over $(\oplus, 0)$:

$$A \otimes (B \oplus C) \cong (A \otimes B) \oplus (A \otimes C), \quad A \otimes 0 \cong 0 .$$

- An object $\llbracket \text{qbit} \rrbracket \in \mathbf{C}$
 $(\llbracket \text{bit} \rrbracket = I \oplus I)$
- Some additional conditions...

$$\begin{aligned} f \circ \perp &= \perp \\ f \otimes \perp &= \perp \\ \iota: I \oplus I &\rightarrow \llbracket \text{qbit} \rrbracket \\ p: \llbracket \text{qbit} \rrbracket &\rightarrow I \oplus I \\ p \circ \iota &= \text{id} \end{aligned}$$

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Goal: $(\mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}})^{\text{op}}$ satisfies these conditions

Categorical Property of $\mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}}$

$\mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}}$ is an SMC $(\mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}}, \bar{\otimes}, \mathbb{C})$

with finite products $(\oplus, 0)$

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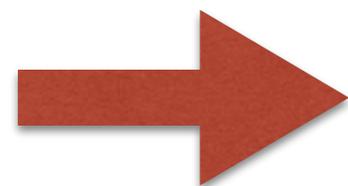
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$\mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}}$ is $\omega\mathbf{Cppo}$ -enriched?



Yes! In fact, $\mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}}$ is \mathbf{Dcppo}_{\perp} -enriched

the category of pointed dcpos and strict Scott-continuous maps

Monotone closedness of W^* -algebras

Thm. Every W^* -algebra is **monotone closed**, *i.e.* every norm-bounded directed set of self-adjoint elements has a supremum (which is self-adjoint).

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 $\iff [0, 1]_A = \{a \in A \mid 0 \leq a \leq 1\}$ is directed complete.

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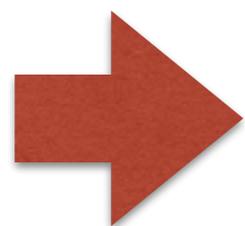
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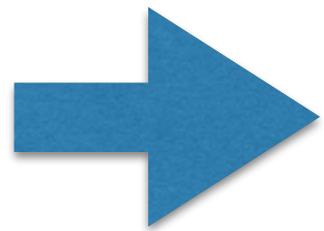
For every W^* -algebra M , $[0, 1]_M$ is a (pointed) dcpo.

W^* -algebras and Domain theory

Prop. $f: M \rightarrow N$ positive pre-unital map betw. W^* -alg.
 f is normal (i.e. weak*-continuous)
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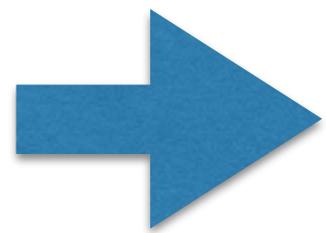
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W^* -algebras behave well domain-theoretically

Dcpo structure of W^* -algebras “lifts” to hom-set
with an ordering: $f \sqsubseteq g \stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} g - f$ is CP

Thm. $M, N : W^*$ -algebras.

$\mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}}(M, N)$ is a pointed dcpo.

Moreover, the composition of arrows

$$\mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}}(N, L) \times \mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}}(M, N) \rightarrow \mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}}(M, L)$$
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We can also show:

$$\mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}}(M, N) \times \mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}}(M', N') \rightarrow \mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}}(M \bar{\otimes} M', N \bar{\otimes} N')$$

$$(f, g) \mapsto f \bar{\otimes} g$$

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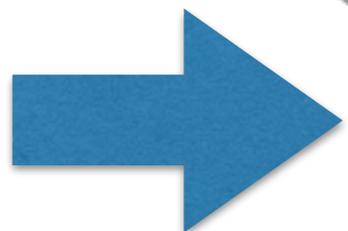
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Cho

15



$(\mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}})^{\text{op}}$ gives a semantics for QPL

Comparison with Selinger's original semantics

- Recall that there is a full embedding:

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in the Schrödinger picture

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the category of **finite dimensional** W^* -algebras

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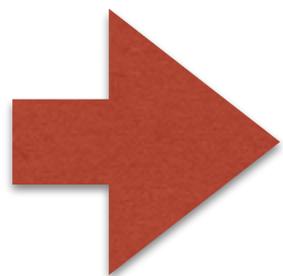
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$(\mathbf{Wstar}_{\mathbf{CP-PU}})^{\text{op}}$ can be seen as an **infinite** dimensional extension of \mathbf{Q}

C^* vs W^*

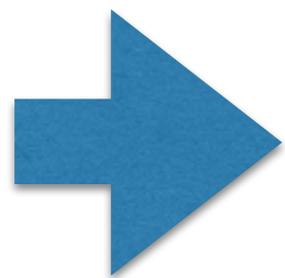
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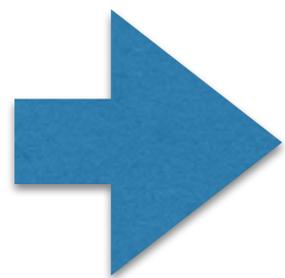
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W^* -algebras are the appropriate setting

(Note: $\mathbf{FdCstar}_{CP-PU} = \mathbf{FdWstar}_{CP-PU} \simeq \mathbf{Q}^{op}$)

QPL with infinite types

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$$\ell^\infty(X) := \left\{ \varphi: X \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \mid \sup_{x \in X} |\varphi(x)| < \infty \right\}$$

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⋮

$$[[\text{nat}]] = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbb{C} \cong l^\infty(\mathbb{N})$$

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Classical computation in commutative W^* -algebras

Thm.

There is an embedding

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with $\ell^\infty(X \times Y) \cong \ell^\infty(X) \overline{\otimes} \ell^\infty(Y)$

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the category of **commutative** W^* -algebras

Classical (deterministic) computation in **Set** arises as a map between **commutative** W^* -algebras

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- Quantum Operation
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- Semantics by operator algebras for **higher**-order quantum programming languages, or **quantum lambda calculi**

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Q. Is $(\mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}})^{\text{op}}$ monoidal closed?

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- Semantics by operator algebras for **higher**-order quantum programming languages, or **quantum lambda calculi**

Q. Is $(\mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}})^{\text{op}}$ monoidal closed?

- Exploit the duality between commutative W^* -algebras and measurable space

cf. Gelfand duality $(\mathbf{CCstar}_{\text{M-I-U}})^{\text{op}} \simeq \mathbf{CompHaus}$

Conclusions

- Normal CP pre-unital maps between W^* -algebras generalise Kraus' and Selinger's QO
- $\mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}}$ is a \mathbf{Dcppo}_{\perp} -enriched SMC with \mathbf{Dcppo}_{\perp} -enriched finite products
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Conclusions

- Normal CP pre-unital maps between W^* -algebras generalise Kraus' and Selinger's QO
- $\mathbf{Wstar}_{\text{CP-PU}}$ is a \mathbf{Dcppo}_{\perp} -enriched SMC with \mathbf{Dcppo}_{\perp} -enriched finite products
 - “nice” enough to give a semantics for Selinger's QPL
- W^* -algebras give a flexible model for quantum computation
 - accommodate infinite dim. structures and classical (= commutative) computation
- The present work is the first step. A lot of things to do!
 - *cf.* Mathys Rennela's work (MFPS XXX, 2014)