



ICTS Bengaluru: Quantum Trajectories

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Slides based on
A tutorial introduction to quantum stochastic master equations
based on the qubit/photon system,
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- Photons measured by resonant qubits

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- Continuous-time diffusive limit

- Diffusive SME

- Kraus maps and numerical schemes for diffusive SME

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1. Schrödinger ($\hbar = 1$): wave funct. $|\psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$, density op. $\rho \sim |\psi\rangle\langle\psi|$

$$\frac{d}{dt}|\psi\rangle = -iH|\psi\rangle, \quad H = H_0 + uH_1 = H^\dagger, \quad \frac{d}{dt}\rho = -i[H, \rho].$$

2. Origin of dissipation: collapse of the wave packet induced by the measurement of $O = O^\dagger$ with spectral decomp. $\sum_y \lambda_y P_y$:

- ▶ measurement outcome y with proba.

$\mathbb{P}_y = \langle\psi|P_y|\psi\rangle = \text{Tr}(\rho P_y)$ depending on $|\psi\rangle$, ρ just before the measurement

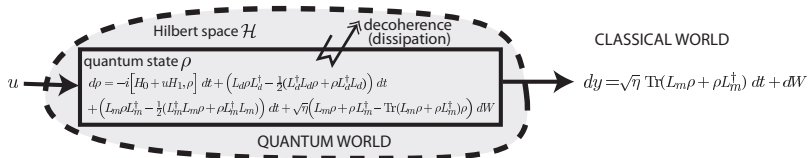
- ▶ measurement back-action if outcome y :

$$|\psi\rangle \mapsto |\psi\rangle_+ = \frac{P_y|\psi\rangle}{\sqrt{\langle\psi|P_y|\psi\rangle}}, \quad \rho \mapsto \rho_+ = \frac{P_y\rho P_y}{\text{Tr}(\rho P_y)}$$

3. Tensor product for the description of composite systems (S, C) :

- ▶ Hilbert space $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_S \otimes \mathcal{H}_C$
- ▶ Hamiltonian $H = H_S \otimes I_C + H_{SC} + I_S \otimes H_C$
- ▶ observable on sub-system C only: $O = I_S \otimes O_C$.

¹S. Haroche and J.M. Raimond (2006). *Exploring the Quantum: Atoms, Cavities and Photons*. Oxford Graduate Texts.



$t \mapsto \rho_t$ continuous time function (not differentiable), solution of

$$d\rho_t = -i \left[H_0 + u H_1, \rho_t \right] dt + \left(\sum_{\nu=d,m} L_\nu \rho_t L_\nu^\dagger - \frac{1}{2} (L_\nu^\dagger L_\nu \rho_t + \rho_t L_\nu^\dagger L_\nu) \right) dt + \dots$$

$$\dots + \sqrt{\eta} \left(L_m \rho_t + \rho_t L_m^\dagger - \text{Tr}(L_m \rho_t + \rho_t L_m^\dagger) \rho_t \right) dW_t,$$

where $\eta \in [0, 1]$ and the same Wiener process W_t is shared by the state dynamics and the output map

$$dy_t = \sqrt{\eta} \text{Tr}(L_m \rho_t + \rho_t L_m^\dagger) dt + dW_t.$$

²A. Barchielli and M. Gregoratti. *Quantum Trajectories and Measurements in Continuous Time: the Diffusive Case*. Springer Verlag, 2009.

$t \mapsto \rho_t$ piece wise smooth time function, solution of

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

where $\bar{\theta} \geq 0$ (dark count rate) and $\bar{\eta} \in [0, 1]$ (detection efficiency) and where the counting detector outcome $dy_t \in \{0, 1\}$ with

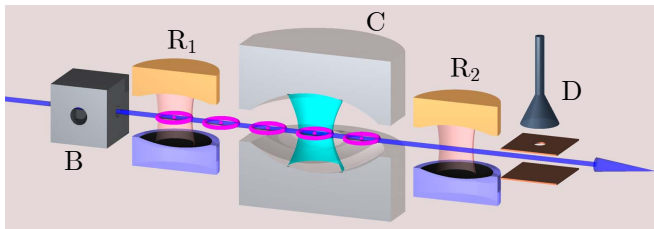
- $dy_t = 0$ with probability $1 - \left(\bar{\theta} + \bar{\eta} \text{Tr}(V\rho_t V^\dagger) \right) dt$ and then

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

- $dy_t = 1$ with probability $\left(\bar{\theta} + \bar{\eta} \text{Tr}(V\rho_t V^\dagger) \right) dt$, and then

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

³see, e.g., J. Dalibard, Y. Castin, and K. Mølmer. Wave-function approach to dissipative processes in quantum optics. *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, 68(5):580–583, February 1992.



- ▶ Dispersive qubit/photon interaction: $H_{int} = -\chi(|e\rangle\langle e| - |g\rangle\langle g|) \otimes n$ (with χ a constant parameter) yields $e^{-iTH_{int}}$, the Schrödinger propagator during the time $T > 0$, given with $\theta = \chi T$ by

$$U_{\theta} = |g\rangle\langle g| \otimes e^{-i\theta n} + |e\rangle\langle e| \otimes e^{i\theta n}.$$

- ▶ resonant qubit/photon interaction: $H_{int} = i\frac{\omega}{2}(|g\rangle\langle e| \otimes a^{\dagger} - |e\rangle\langle g| \otimes a)$ (with ω a constant parameter) yields $e^{-iTH_{int}}$, the Schrödinger propagator during the time $T > 0$, given with $\theta = \omega T/2$ by

$$U_{\theta} = |g\rangle\langle g| \otimes \cos(\theta\sqrt{n}) + |e\rangle\langle e| \otimes \cos(\theta\sqrt{n+1}) \\ + |g\rangle\langle e| \otimes \frac{\sin(\theta\sqrt{n})}{\sqrt{n}} a^{\dagger} - |e\rangle\langle g| \otimes a \frac{\sin(\theta\sqrt{n})}{\sqrt{n}}.$$

⁴LKB for Laboratoire Kastler Brossel.

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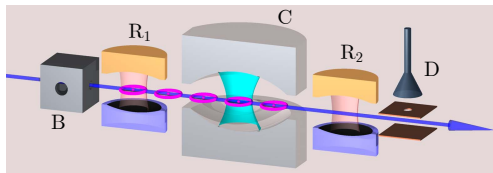
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$$U = \left(\left(\left(\frac{|g\rangle - |e\rangle}{\sqrt{2}} \right) \langle g| + \left(\frac{|g\rangle + |e\rangle}{\sqrt{2}} \right) \langle e| \right) \otimes I \right) \\ \left(|g\rangle\langle g| \otimes e^{-i\theta n} + |e\rangle\langle e| \otimes e^{i\theta n} \right) \\ \left(\left(\left(\frac{|g\rangle + |e\rangle}{\sqrt{2}} \right) \langle g| + \left(\frac{-|g\rangle + |e\rangle}{\sqrt{2}} \right) \langle e| \right) \otimes I \right)$$

applied on $|\Psi\rangle = |g\rangle \otimes |\psi\rangle$ yields

$$U (|g\rangle|\psi\rangle) = |g\rangle \cos(\theta n)|\psi\rangle + |e\rangle i \sin(\theta n)|\psi\rangle.$$

Markov process induced by the passage of qubit number k :

$$|\psi_{k+1}\rangle = \begin{cases} \frac{\cos(\theta n)|\psi_k\rangle}{\sqrt{\langle\psi_k|\cos^2(\theta n)|\psi_k\rangle}} & \text{if } y_k = g \text{ with probability } \langle\psi_k|\cos^2(\theta n)|\psi_k\rangle ; \\ \frac{i \sin(\theta n)|\psi_k\rangle}{\sqrt{\langle\psi_k|\sin^2(\theta n)|\psi_k\rangle}} & \text{if } y_k = e \text{ with probability } \langle\psi_k|\sin^2(\theta n)|\psi_k\rangle ; \end{cases}$$

where $y_k \in \{g, e\}$ classical signal produced by measurement of qubit k .

The density operator formulation ($\rho \equiv |\psi\rangle\langle\psi|$):

$$\rho_{k+1} = \begin{cases} \frac{M_g \rho_k M_g^\dagger}{\text{Tr}(M_g \rho_k M_g^\dagger)} & \text{if } y_k = g \text{ with probability } \text{Tr}(M_g \rho_k M_g^\dagger); \\ \frac{M_e \rho_k M_e^\dagger}{\text{Tr}(M_e \rho_k M_e^\dagger)} & \text{if } y_k = e \text{ with probability } \text{Tr}(M_e \rho_k M_e^\dagger); \end{cases}$$

with measurement Kraus operators $M_g = \cos(\theta n)$ and $M_e = \sin(\theta n)$. Notice that $M_g^\dagger M_g + M_e^\dagger M_e = I$.

For θ/π irrational, almost sure convergence towards a Fock state $|\bar{n}\rangle\langle\bar{n}|$ for some \bar{n} based on the Lyapunov function (super-martingale)

$$V(\rho) = \sum_{0 \leq n_1 < n_2} \sqrt{\langle n_1 | \rho | n_1 \rangle \langle n_2 | \rho | n_2 \rangle}$$

that converges in average towards 0 since

$$\mathbb{E} \left(V(\rho_{k+1}) \mid \rho_k \right) \leq \left(\max_{0 \leq n_1 < n_2} |\cos(\theta(n_1 \pm n_2))| \right) V(\rho_k).$$

Probability that a realisation converges towards $|\bar{n}\rangle\langle\bar{n}|$ given by its initial population $\langle \bar{n} | \rho_0 | \bar{n} \rangle$

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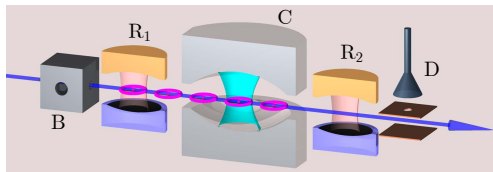
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Jump SME in continuous-time



Wave function $|\Psi\rangle$ of the composite qubit/photon system just before D :

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(|g\rangle\langle g| \cos(\theta\sqrt{n}) + |e\rangle\langle e| \cos(\theta\sqrt{n+1}) \right. \\ & \quad \left. + |g\rangle\langle e| \frac{\sin(\theta\sqrt{n})}{\sqrt{n}} a^\dagger - |e\rangle\langle g| a \frac{\sin(\theta\sqrt{n})}{\sqrt{n}} \right) |g\rangle |\psi\rangle \\ & = |g\rangle \cos(\theta\sqrt{n}) |\psi\rangle - |e\rangle a \frac{\sin(\theta\sqrt{n})}{\sqrt{n}} |\psi\rangle \end{aligned}$$

Resulting Markov process associated to the measurement of the observable $\sigma_z = |e\rangle\langle e| - |g\rangle\langle g|$ with classical output signal $y \in \{g, e\}$:

$$|\psi_{k+1}\rangle = \begin{cases} \frac{\cos(\theta\sqrt{n}) |\psi_k\rangle}{\sqrt{\langle \psi_k | \cos^2(\theta\sqrt{n}) | \psi_k \rangle}} & \text{if } y_k = g \text{ with probability } \langle \psi_k | \cos^2(\theta\sqrt{n}) | \psi_k \rangle ; \\ -\frac{a \frac{\sin(\theta\sqrt{n})}{\sqrt{n}} |\psi_k\rangle}{\sqrt{\langle \psi_k | \sin^2(\theta\sqrt{n}) | \psi_k \rangle}} & \text{if } y_k = e \text{ with probability } \langle \psi_k | \sin^2(\theta\sqrt{n}) | \psi_k \rangle ; \end{cases}$$

Density operator formulation;

$$\rho_{k+1} = \begin{cases} \frac{M_g \rho_k M_g^\dagger}{\text{Tr}(M_g \rho_k M_g^\dagger)} & \text{if } y_k = g \text{ with probability } \text{Tr}(M_g \rho_k M_g^\dagger) ; \\ \frac{M_e \rho_k M_e^\dagger}{\text{Tr}(M_e \rho_k M_e^\dagger)} & \text{if } y_k = e \text{ with probability } \text{Tr}(M_e \rho_k M_e^\dagger) ; \end{cases}$$

with measurement Kraus operators $M_g = \cos(\theta\sqrt{n})$ and $M_e = a \frac{\sin(\theta\sqrt{n})}{\sqrt{n}}$. Notice that, once again, $M_g^\dagger M_g + M_e^\dagger M_e = I$.

For $\theta\sqrt{n}/\pi$ irrational for all n , almost surely towards vacuum state $|0\rangle\langle 0|$.
Results from the following the Lyapunov function (super-martingale)

$$V(\rho) = \text{Tr}(n\rho)$$

since

$$\mathbb{E}\left(V(\rho_{k+1}) \mid \rho_k\right) = V(\rho_k) - \text{Tr}(\sin^2(\theta\sqrt{n})\rho_k) .$$

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With measurement imperfections, use Bayes rule by taking as quantum state, the expectation value of ρ_{k+1} knowing ρ_k and the information provides by the imperfect measurement outcome.

Assume detector D broken. From

$$\rho_{k+1} = \begin{cases} \frac{M_g \rho_k M_g^\dagger}{\text{Tr}(M_g \rho_k M_g^\dagger)} & \text{if } y_k = g \text{ with probability } \text{Tr}(M_g \rho_k M_g^\dagger) ; \\ \frac{M_e \rho_k M_e^\dagger}{\text{Tr}(M_e \rho_k M_e^\dagger)} & \text{if } y_k = e \text{ with probability } \text{Tr}(M_e \rho_k M_e^\dagger) ; \end{cases}$$

we get the quantum channel:

$$\rho_{k+1} = \mathcal{K}(\rho_k) \triangleq \mathbb{E}(\rho_{k+1} \mid \rho_k) = M_g \rho_k M_g^\dagger + M_e \rho_k M_e^\dagger.$$

When the qubit detector D , producing the classical measurement signal $y_k \in \{g, e\}$, has errors characterized by the error rate $\eta_e \in (0, 1)$ (resp. $\eta_g \in (0, 1)$) the probability of detector outcome g (resp. e) knowing that the perfect outcome is e (resp. g), Bayes law gives directly

$$\rho_{k+1} = \begin{cases} \mathbb{E}(\rho_{k+1} \mid y_k = g, \rho_k) = \frac{(1-\eta_g)M_g\rho_k M_g^\dagger + \eta_e M_e \rho_k M_e^\dagger}{\text{Tr}((1-\eta_g)M_g\rho_k M_g^\dagger + \eta_e M_e \rho_k M_e^\dagger)} \\ \quad \text{with probability } \mathbb{P}(y_k = g | \rho_k) = \text{Tr}((1-\eta_g)M_g\rho_k M_g^\dagger + \eta_e M_e \rho_k M_e^\dagger), \\ \\ \mathbb{E}(\rho_{k+1} \mid y_k = e, \rho_k) = \frac{\eta_g M_g \rho_k M_g^\dagger + (1-\eta_e)M_e \rho_k M_e^\dagger}{\text{Tr}(\eta_g M_g \rho_k M_g^\dagger + (1-\eta_e)M_e \rho_k M_e^\dagger)} \\ \quad \text{with probability } \mathbb{P}(y_k = e | \rho_k) = \text{Tr}(\eta_g M_g \rho_k M_g^\dagger + (1-\eta_e)M_e \rho_k M_e^\dagger) \end{cases}$$

Notice that a broken detector corresponds to $\eta_e = \eta_g = 1/2$ and one recovers the above quantum channel.

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General structure of discrete-time SME based on a quantum channel with the following Kraus decomposition (which is not unique)

$$\mathcal{K}(\rho) = \sum_{\mu} M_{\mu} \rho M_{\mu}^{\dagger} \quad \text{where} \quad \sum_{\mu} M_{\mu}^{\dagger} M_{\mu} = I$$

and a left stochastic matrix $(\eta_{y,\mu})$ where y corresponds to the different imperfect measurement outcomes. With $\mathcal{K}_y(\rho) = \sum_{\mu} \eta_{y,\mu} M_{\mu} \rho M_{\mu}^{\dagger}$, ones gets the following SME:

$$\rho_{k+1} = \frac{\mathcal{K}_{y_k}(\rho_k)}{\text{Tr}(\mathcal{K}_{y_k}(\rho_k))} \quad \text{where } y_k = y \text{ with probability } \text{Tr}(\mathcal{K}_y(\rho_k))$$

Notice that $\mathcal{K} = \sum_y \mathcal{K}_y$ since η is left stochastic.

Here the Hilbert space \mathcal{H} is arbitrary and can be of infinite dimension, the Kraus operator M_{μ} are bounded operator on \mathcal{H} and ρ is a density operator on \mathcal{H} (Hermitian, trace-class with trace one, non-negative). When the index y or μ are continuous, discrete sums are replaced by integrals and probabilities by probability densities.

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Probe photon in the coherent state $|i \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{2}}\rangle$ with $\alpha > 0$. Just before D the composite qubit/photon wave function $|\Psi\rangle$ reads:

$$\left(|g\rangle\langle g|e^{-i\theta n} + |e\rangle\langle e|e^{i\theta n}\right)|\psi\rangle|i \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{2}}\rangle = \langle g|\psi\rangle|g\rangle|ie^{-i\theta}\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{2}}\rangle + \langle e|\psi\rangle|e\rangle|ie^{i\theta}\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{2}}\rangle.$$

Measurement outcome $y \in \mathbb{R}$ corresponding to observable

$$Q = \frac{a + a^\dagger}{\sqrt{2}} \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} q|q\rangle\langle q|dq \text{ where } \langle q|q'\rangle = \delta(q - q').$$

Since $|ie^{\pm i\theta}\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{2}}\rangle = \frac{1}{\pi^{1/4}} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{iq\alpha \cos \theta} e^{-\frac{(q \pm \alpha \sin \theta)^2}{2}} |q\rangle dq$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle g|\psi\rangle|g\rangle|ie^{-i\theta}\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{2}}\rangle + \langle e|\psi\rangle|e\rangle|ie^{i\theta}\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{2}}\rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi^{1/4}} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{iq\alpha \cos \theta} \left(e^{-\frac{(q - \alpha \sin \theta)^2}{2}} \langle g|\psi\rangle|g\rangle + e^{-\frac{(q + \alpha \sin \theta)^2}{2}} \langle e|\psi\rangle|e\rangle \right) |q\rangle dq. \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$|\psi_{k+1}\rangle = e^{iy_k \alpha \cos \theta} \frac{e^{-\frac{(y_k - \alpha \sin \theta)^2}{2}} \langle g|\psi_k\rangle|g\rangle + e^{-\frac{(y_k + \alpha \sin \theta)^2}{2}} \langle e|\psi_k\rangle|e\rangle}{\sqrt{e^{-(y_k - \alpha \sin \theta)^2} |\langle g|\psi_k\rangle|^2 + e^{-(y_k + \alpha \sin \theta)^2} |\langle e|\psi_k\rangle|^2}}$$

where $y_k \in [y, y + dy]$ with prob. $\frac{e^{-(y - \alpha \sin \theta)^2} |\langle g|\psi_k\rangle|^2 + e^{-(y + \alpha \sin \theta)^2} |\langle e|\psi_k\rangle|^2}{\sqrt{\pi}} dy$.

Density operator formulation

$$\rho_{k+1} = \frac{M_{y_k} \rho_k M_{y_k}^\dagger}{\text{Tr} \left(M_{y_k} \rho_k M_{y_k}^\dagger \right)} \quad \text{where } y_k \in [y, y + dy] \text{ with probability } \text{Tr} \left(M_y \rho_k M_y^\dagger \right) dy$$

and measurement Kraus operators

$$M_y = \frac{1}{\pi^{1/4}} e^{-\frac{(y - \alpha \sin \theta)^2}{2}} |g\rangle\langle g| + \frac{1}{\pi^{1/4}} e^{-\frac{(y + \alpha \sin \theta)^2}{2}} |e\rangle\langle e|.$$

Notice that

$$\text{Tr} \left(M_y \rho M_y^\dagger \right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-(y - \alpha \sin \theta)^2} \langle g | \rho | g \rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-(y + \alpha \sin \theta)^2} \langle e | \rho | e \rangle$$

and $\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} M_y^\dagger M_y dy = |g\rangle\langle g| + |e\rangle\langle e| = I$.

For $\alpha \neq 0$, almost sure convergence towards $|g\rangle$ or $|e\rangle$ deduced from Lyapunov function

$$V(\rho) = \sqrt{\langle g | \rho | g \rangle \langle e | \rho | e \rangle} \quad \text{with } \mathbb{E} \left(V(\rho_{k+1}) \mid \rho_k \right) = e^{-\alpha^2 \sin^2 \theta} V(\rho_k).$$

Detection imperfections: probability density of y knowing perfect detection q is a Gaussian given by $\frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi\sigma}} e^{-\frac{(y-q)^2}{\sigma}}$ for some error parameter $\sigma > 0$. Then the above Markov process becomes

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

where

$$\mathcal{K}_y(\rho) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi\sigma}} e^{-\frac{(y-q)^2}{\sigma}} M_q \rho M_q^\dagger dq$$

Standard computations using

$$M_q = \frac{1}{\pi^{1/4}} e^{-\frac{(q-\alpha \sin \theta)^2}{2}} |g\rangle\langle g| + \frac{1}{\pi^{1/4}} e^{-\frac{(q+\alpha \sin \theta)^2}{2}} |e\rangle\langle e|$$

show that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{K}_y(\rho) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi(1+\sigma)}} & \left(e^{-\frac{(y-\alpha \sin \theta)^2}{1+\sigma}} \langle g|\rho|g\rangle |g\rangle\langle g| + e^{-\frac{(y+\alpha \sin \theta)^2}{1+\sigma}} \langle e|\rho|e\rangle |e\rangle\langle e| \right. \\ & \left. + e^{-\frac{y^2}{1+\sigma} - (\alpha \sin \theta)^2} (\langle e|\rho|g\rangle |e\rangle\langle g| + \langle g|\rho|e\rangle |g\rangle\langle e|) \right). \end{aligned}$$

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Density operator formulation (perfect detection)

$$\rho_{k+1} = \frac{M_{y_k} \rho_k M_{y_k}^\dagger}{\text{Tr} \left(M_{y_k} \rho_k M_{y_k}^\dagger \right)} \quad \text{where } y_k \in [y, y + dy] \text{ with probability } \text{Tr} \left(M_y \rho_k M_y^\dagger \right) dy$$

and measurement Kraus operators

$$M_y = \frac{1}{\pi^{1/4}} e^{-\frac{(y - \alpha \sin \theta)^2}{2}} |g\rangle\langle g| + \frac{1}{\pi^{1/4}} e^{-\frac{(y + \alpha \sin \theta)^2}{2}} |e\rangle\langle e|.$$

Since

$$\mathbb{E} \left(y_k \mid \rho_k = \rho \right) \triangleq \bar{y} = -\alpha \sin \theta \text{Tr}(\sigma_z \rho), \quad \mathbb{E} \left(y_k^2 \mid \rho_k = \rho \right) \triangleq \overline{y^2} = 1/2 + (\alpha \sin \theta)^2.$$

When $0 < \alpha \sin \theta = \epsilon \ll 1$, we have up-to third order terms versus ϵy ,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{M_y \rho M_y^\dagger}{\text{Tr} \left(M_y \rho M_y^\dagger \right)} &= \frac{(\cosh(\epsilon y) - \sinh(\epsilon y) \sigma_z) \rho (\cosh(\epsilon y) - \sinh(\epsilon y) \sigma_z)}{\cosh(2\epsilon y) - \sinh(2\epsilon y) \text{Tr}(\sigma_z \rho)} \\ &\approx \frac{\rho - \epsilon y (\sigma_z \rho + \rho \sigma_z) + (\epsilon y)^2 (\rho + \sigma_z \rho \sigma_z)}{1 - 2\epsilon y \text{Tr}(\sigma_z \rho) + 2(\epsilon y)^2} \\ &= \rho + (\epsilon y)^2 (\sigma_z \rho \sigma_z - \rho) + \left(\sigma_z \rho + \rho \sigma_z - 2 \text{Tr}(\sigma_z \rho) \rho \right) \left(-\epsilon y - 2(\epsilon y)^2 \text{Tr}(\sigma_z \rho) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Replacing $\epsilon^2 y^2$ by its expectation value one gets, up to third order in ϵy and ϵ :

$$\frac{M_y \rho M_y^\dagger}{\text{Tr}(M_y \rho M_y^\dagger)} \approx \rho + \frac{\epsilon^2}{2} (\sigma_z \rho \sigma_z - \rho) + (\sigma_z \rho + \rho \sigma_z - 2 \text{Tr}(\sigma_z \rho) \rho) (-\epsilon y - \epsilon^2 \text{Tr}(\sigma_z \rho)).$$

Set $\epsilon^2 = 2dt$ and $\epsilon y = -2 \text{Tr}(\sigma_z \rho) dt - dW$. Since by construction

$$\mathbb{E}(\epsilon y_k \mid \rho_k = \rho) = -\epsilon^2 \text{Tr}(\sigma_z \rho) \text{ and } \mathbb{E}((\epsilon y_k)^2 \mid \rho_k = \rho) = \epsilon^2 + \epsilon^4$$

one has $\mathbb{E}(dW \mid \rho) = 0$ and $\mathbb{E}(dW^2 \mid \rho) = dt$ up to order 4 versus ϵ . Thus for dt very small, we recover the following diffusive SME⁵

$$\rho_{t+dt} = \rho_t + dt (\sigma_z \rho_t \sigma_z - \rho) + (\sigma_z \rho_t + \rho_t \sigma_z - 2 \text{Tr}(\sigma_z \rho_t) \rho) (dy_t - 2 \text{Tr}(\sigma_z \rho_t) dt)$$

with $dy_t = 2 \text{Tr}(\sigma_z \rho_t) dt + dW_t$ replacing $-\epsilon y$ and $dy_t^2 = dW_t^2 = dt$ (Ito rules).

⁵Convergence in distribution when $dt \mapsto 0^+$: tightness property

$$\forall T > 0, \exists M > 0, \forall dt > 0, \forall k, k_1, k_2 \in \{0, \dots, [T/dt]\}, \mathbb{E}(\|\rho_{k_1} - \rho_k\|^2 \|\rho_{k_2} - \rho_k\|^2 \mid \rho_0) \leq M(k_1 - k_2) dt,$$

and (Markov generator) convergence of $\frac{\mathbb{E}(f(\rho_{k+1}) \mid \rho_k = \rho) - f(\rho)}{dt}$ towards $\mathbb{E}(df_t \mid \rho_t = \rho) / dt$ for any C^2 real function f .

With measurement errors parameterized by $\sigma > 0$, the partial Kraus map

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{K}_y(\rho) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi(1+\sigma)}} & \left(e^{-\frac{(y-\epsilon)^2}{1+\sigma}} \langle g|\rho|g\rangle |g\rangle\langle g| + e^{-\frac{(y+\epsilon)^2}{1+\sigma}} \langle e|\rho|e\rangle |e\rangle\langle e| \right. \\ & \left. + e^{-\frac{y^2}{1+\sigma} - \epsilon^2} (\langle e|\rho|g\rangle |e\rangle\langle g| + \langle g|\rho|e\rangle |g\rangle\langle e|) \right) \end{aligned}$$

yields $\mathbb{E}(y_k \mid \rho_k) \triangleq \bar{y} = -\epsilon \text{Tr}(\sigma_z \rho)$ and $\mathbb{E}(y_k^2 \mid \rho_k) \triangleq \bar{y}^2 = (1+\sigma)/2 + \epsilon^2$.

Similar approximations with $\epsilon^2 = 2dt$ and dt very small, yield an SME with detection efficiency $\eta = \frac{1}{1+\sigma}$:

$$\rho_{t+dt} = \rho_t + dt \left(\sigma_z \rho_t \sigma_z - \rho \right) + \sqrt{\eta} \left(\sigma_z \rho_t + \rho_t \sigma_z - 2 \text{Tr}(\sigma_z \rho_t) \rho \right) dW_t$$

with $dy_t = \sqrt{\eta} \text{Tr}(\sigma_z \rho_t + \rho_t \sigma_z) + dW_t \sim -\epsilon y / \sqrt{1+\sigma}$.

Convergence towards either $|g\rangle$ or $|e\rangle$ (QND measurement of the qubit) based on Lyapunov fonction $V(\rho) = \sqrt{1 - \text{Tr}(\sigma_z \rho)^2}$ and Ito rules:

$$dV = -\frac{zdz}{\sqrt{1-z^2}} - \frac{dz^2}{2(1-z^2)^{3/2}} = -\frac{zdz}{\sqrt{1-z^2}} - 2\eta^2 V dt$$

where $z = \text{Tr}(\sigma_z \rho)$, $dz = 2\eta(1-z^2)dW$ and $dz^2 = 4\eta^2(1-z^2)^2 dt$. Since $\mathbb{E}(dz \mid z) = 0$, $\bar{V}_t = \mathbb{E}(V(z_t) \mid z_0)$ solution of $\frac{d}{dt} \bar{V}_t = -2\eta^2 \bar{V}_t$.

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General form of diffusive SME with Ito formulation:

$$\begin{aligned}
 d\rho_t &= \left(-i[H, \rho_t] + \sum_{\nu} L_{\nu} \rho_t L_{\nu}^{\dagger} - \frac{1}{2} (L_{\nu}^{\dagger} L_{\nu} \rho_t + \rho_t L_{\nu}^{\dagger} L_{\nu}) \right) dt \\
 &\quad + \sum_{\nu} \sqrt{\eta_{\nu}} \left(L_{\nu} \rho_t + \rho_t L_{\nu}^{\dagger} - \text{Tr} \left((L_{\nu} + L_{\nu}^{\dagger}) \rho_t \right) \rho_t \right) dW_{\nu,t}, \\
 dy_{\nu,t} &= \sqrt{\eta_{\nu}} \text{Tr} \left(L_{\nu} \rho_t + \rho_t L_{\nu}^{\dagger} \right) dt + dW_{\nu,t}
 \end{aligned}$$

with efficiencies $\eta_{\nu} \in [0, 1]$ and $dW_{\nu,t}$ being independent Wiener processes.
Equivalent formulation with Ito rules:

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

with $M_{dy_t} = I + \left(-iH - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\nu} L_{\nu}^{\dagger} L_{\nu} \right) dt + \sum_{\nu} \sqrt{\eta_{\nu}} dy_{\nu,t} L_{\nu}$. Moreover $dy_{\nu,t} = s_{\nu,t} \sqrt{dt}$ follows the following probability density knowing ρ_t :

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

⁶A. Barchielli and M. Gregoratti. *Quantum Trajectories and Measurements in Continuous Time: the Diffusive Case*. Springer Verlag, 2009.

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Linearity/positivity/trace preserving numerical integration scheme for

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

With $M_0 = I + (-iH - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\nu} L_{\nu}^{\dagger} L_{\nu}) dt$, $S = M_0^{\dagger} M_0 + (\sum_{\nu} L_{\nu}^{\dagger} L_{\nu}) dt$ set

$$\tilde{M}_0 = M_0 S^{-1/2}, \quad \tilde{L}_{\nu} = L_{\nu} S^{-1/2}.$$

Sampling of $dy_{\nu,t} = s_{\nu,t} \sqrt{dt}$ according to the following probability law:

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

where $\tilde{M}_{dy_t} = \tilde{M}_0 + \sum_{\nu} \sqrt{\eta_{\nu}} dy_{\nu,t} \tilde{L}_{\nu}$. Exact Kraus-map formulation:

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

⁷ A. Jordan, A. Chantasri, P.R. and B.Huard. Anatomy of fluorescence: quantum trajectory statistics from continuously measuring spontaneous emission. *Quantum Studies: Mathematics and Foundations*, 3(3):237–263, 2016.

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Probe photon is in the vacuum state $|0\rangle$. Composite qubit/photon wave function $|\Psi\rangle$ before D :

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(|g\rangle\langle g| \cos(\theta\sqrt{n}) + |e\rangle\langle e| \cos(\theta\sqrt{n+1}) \right. \\ & \quad \left. + |g\rangle\langle e| \frac{\sin(\theta\sqrt{n})}{\sqrt{n}} a^\dagger - |e\rangle\langle g| a \frac{\sin(\theta\sqrt{n})}{\sqrt{n}} \right) |\psi\rangle|0\rangle \\ & = (\langle g|\psi\rangle |g\rangle + \cos\theta \langle e|\psi\rangle |e\rangle) |0\rangle + \sin\theta \langle e|\psi\rangle |g\rangle |1\rangle. \end{aligned}$$

With measurement observable $n = \sum_{n \geq 0} n |n\rangle\langle n|$, outcome $y \in \{0, 1\}$ reads (density operator formulation)

$$\rho_{k+1} = \begin{cases} \frac{M_0 \rho_k M_0^\dagger}{\text{Tr}(M_0 \rho_k M_0^\dagger)} & \text{if } y_k = 0 \text{ with probability } \text{Tr}(M_0 \rho_k M_0^\dagger); \\ \frac{M_1 \rho_k M_1^\dagger}{\text{Tr}(M_1 \rho_k M_1^\dagger)} & \text{if } y_k = 1 \text{ with probability } \text{Tr}(M_1 \rho_k M_1^\dagger); \end{cases}$$

measurement Kraus operators $M_0 = |g\rangle\langle g| + \cos\theta |e\rangle\langle e|$ and $M_1 = \sin\theta |g\rangle\langle e|$. Almost convergence analysis when $\cos^2(\theta) < 1$ towards $|g\rangle$ via the Lyapunov function (super martingale)

$$V(\rho) = \text{Tr}(|e\rangle\langle e| \rho) \text{ since } \mathbb{E}\left(V(\rho_{k+1}) \mid \rho_k\right) = \cos^2\theta V(\rho_k).$$

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Since $\text{Tr} \left(M_0 \rho M_0^\dagger \right) = 1 - \sin^2 \theta \text{Tr} (\sigma \rho \sigma_+)$ and

$\text{Tr} \left(M_1 \rho M_1^\dagger \right) = \sin^2 \theta \text{Tr} (\sigma \rho \sigma_+)$, one gets with $\sin^2 \theta = dt$ and $y \sim dN$, an SME driven by Poisson process $dN_t \in \{0, 1\}$ of expectation value $\text{Tr} (\sigma \rho_t \sigma_+) dt$ knowing ρ_t :

$$d\rho_t = \left(\sigma \rho_t \sigma_+ - \frac{1}{2} (\sigma_+ \sigma \rho_t + \rho_t \sigma_+ \sigma) \right) dt + \left(\frac{\sigma \rho_t \sigma_+}{\text{Tr} (\sigma \rho_t \sigma_+)} - \rho_t \right) \left(dN_t - \left(\text{Tr} (\sigma \rho_t \sigma_+) \right) dt \right).$$

At each time-step, one has the following choice:

- ▶ with probability $1 - \text{Tr} (\sigma \rho_t \sigma_+) dt$, $dN_t = N_{t+dt} - N_t = 0$ and

$$\rho_{t+dt} = \frac{M_0 \rho_t M_0^\dagger}{\text{Tr} \left(M_0 \rho_t M_0^\dagger \right)}$$

with $M_0 = I - \frac{dt}{2} \sigma_+ \sigma$.

- ▶ with probability $\text{Tr} (\sigma \rho_t \sigma_+) dt$, $dN_t = N_{t+dt} - N_t = 1$ and

$$\rho_{t+dt} = \frac{M_1 \rho_t M_1^\dagger}{\text{Tr} \left(M_1 \rho_t M_1^\dagger \right)}$$

with $M_1 = \sqrt{dt} \sigma$.

With left stochastic matrix $\begin{pmatrix} 1 - \bar{\theta}dt & 1 - \bar{\eta} \\ \bar{\theta}dt & \bar{\eta} \end{pmatrix}$ including shot noise of rate $\bar{\theta} \geq 0$ and detection efficiency $\bar{\eta} \in [0, 1]$:

► $dN_t = N_{t+dt} - N_t = 0$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_{t+dt} &= \frac{(1 - \bar{\theta}dt)M_0\rho_tM_0^\dagger + (1 - \bar{\eta})M_1\rho_tM_1^\dagger}{\text{Tr}\left((1 - \bar{\theta}dt)M_0\rho_tM_0^\dagger + (1 - \bar{\eta})M_1\rho_tM_1^\dagger\right)} \\ &= \frac{M_0\rho_tM_0^\dagger + (1 - \bar{\eta})M_1\rho_tM_1^\dagger}{\text{Tr}\left(M_0\rho_tM_0^\dagger + (1 - \bar{\eta})M_1\rho_tM_1^\dagger\right)} + O(dt^2). \end{aligned}$$

with probability

$$1 - \left(\bar{\theta} + \bar{\eta} \text{Tr}(\sigma_- \rho_t \sigma_+)\right) dt = \text{Tr}\left((1 - \bar{\theta}dt)M_0\rho_tM_0^\dagger + (1 - \bar{\eta})M_1\rho_tM_1^\dagger\right) + O(dt^2)$$

and where $M_0 = I - \frac{dt}{2}\sigma_+\sigma_-$ and $M_1 = \sqrt{dt}\sigma_-$.

► $dN_t = N_{t+dt} - N_t = 1$ and

$$\rho_{t+dt} = \frac{\bar{\theta}dt M_0\rho_tM_0^\dagger + \bar{\eta}M_1\rho_tM_1^\dagger}{\text{Tr}\left(\bar{\theta}dt M_0\rho_tM_0^\dagger + \bar{\eta}M_1\rho_tM_1^\dagger\right)} = \frac{\bar{\theta}\rho_t + \bar{\eta}\sigma_- \rho_t \sigma_+}{\bar{\theta} + \bar{\eta} \text{Tr}(\sigma_- \rho_t \sigma_+)} + O(dt)$$

with probability

$$(\bar{\theta} + \bar{\eta} \text{Tr}(\sigma_- \rho_t \sigma_+)) dt = \text{Tr}\left(\bar{\theta}dt M_0\rho_tM_0^\dagger + \bar{\eta}M_1\rho_tM_1^\dagger\right) + O(dt^2)$$

Jump SME with shot noise rate $\bar{\theta}$ and detection efficiency $\bar{\eta}$

$$d\rho_t = \left(\sigma \rho_t \sigma_+ - \frac{1}{2} (\sigma_+ \sigma \rho_t + \rho_t \sigma_+ \sigma) \right) dt + \left(\frac{\bar{\theta} \rho_t + \bar{\eta} \sigma \rho_t \sigma_+}{\text{Tr}(\bar{\theta} \rho_t + \bar{\eta} \sigma \rho_t \sigma_+)} - \rho_t \right) \left(dN_t - (\bar{\theta} + \bar{\eta} \text{Tr}(\sigma \rho_t \sigma_+)) dt \right).$$

corresponds to the following choices

► $dN_t = N_{t+dt} - N_t = 0$

$$\rho_{t+dt} = \frac{M_0 \rho_t M_0^\dagger + (1 - \bar{\eta}) M_1 \rho_t M_1^\dagger}{\text{Tr}(M_0 \rho_t M_0^\dagger + (1 - \bar{\eta}) M_1 \rho_t M_1^\dagger)}$$

with probability $1 - (\bar{\theta} + \bar{\eta} \text{Tr}(\sigma \rho_t \sigma_+)) dt$,

► $dN_t = N_{t+dt} - N_t = 1$ and

$$\rho_{t+dt} = \frac{\bar{\theta} \rho_t + \bar{\eta} \sigma \rho_t \sigma_+}{\bar{\theta} + \bar{\eta} \text{Tr}(\sigma \rho_t \sigma_+)}$$

with probability $1 - (\bar{\theta} + \bar{\eta} \text{Tr}(\sigma \rho_t \sigma_+)) dt$,

where $M_0 = I - \frac{dt}{2} (\sigma_+ \sigma + I)$ and $M_1 = \sqrt{dt} \sigma$.

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General structure of a Jump SME in continuous time with counting process N_t with increment expectation value knowing ρ_t given by $\langle dN_t \rangle = (\bar{\theta} + \bar{\eta} \text{Tr}(V \rho_t V^\dagger)) dt$, with $\bar{\theta} \geq 0$ (shot-noise rate) and $\bar{\eta} \in [0, 1]$ (detection efficiency):

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

Here H and V are operators on an underlying Hilbert space \mathcal{H} , H being Hermitian. At each time-step between t and $t + dt$, one has the following recipe

- $dN_t = 0$ with probability $1 - (\bar{\theta} + \bar{\eta} \text{Tr}(V \rho_t V^\dagger)) dt$

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

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

- $dN_t = 1$ with probability $(\bar{\theta} + \bar{\eta} \text{Tr}(V \rho_t V^\dagger)) dt$,

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

⁸ J. Dalibard, Y. Castin, and K. Mølmer. Wave-function approach to dissipative processes in quantum optics. *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, 68(5):580–583, 1992.

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

Take a discretization step $dt > 0$ and set $M_0 = I - (iH + \frac{1}{2}V^\dagger V) dt$, $\tilde{M}_0 = M_0 S^{-1/2}$ and $\tilde{V} = V S^{-1/2}$ with $S = M_0^\dagger M_0 + V^\dagger V dt$. Use the following numerical CP scheme:

► $dN_t = 0$ with probability $\text{Tr} \left(e^{-\bar{\theta}dt} \tilde{M}_0 \rho_t \tilde{M}_0^\dagger + (1 - \bar{\eta}) dt \tilde{V} \rho_t \tilde{V}^\dagger \right)$

$$\rho_{t+dt} = \frac{e^{-\bar{\theta}dt} \tilde{M}_0 \rho_t \tilde{M}_0^\dagger + (1 - \bar{\eta}) dt \tilde{V} \rho_t \tilde{V}^\dagger}{\text{Tr} \left(e^{-\bar{\theta}dt} \tilde{M}_0 \rho_t \tilde{M}_0^\dagger + (1 - \bar{\eta}) dt \tilde{V} \rho_t \tilde{V}^\dagger \right)}.$$

► $dN_t = 1$ with probability $\text{Tr} \left((1 - e^{-\bar{\theta}dt}) \tilde{M}_0 \rho_t \tilde{M}_0^\dagger + \bar{\eta} dt \tilde{V} \rho_t \tilde{V}^\dagger \right)$

$$\rho_{t+dt} = \frac{(1 - e^{-\bar{\theta}dt}) \tilde{M}_0 \rho_t \tilde{M}_0^\dagger + \bar{\eta} dt \tilde{V} \rho_t \tilde{V}^\dagger}{\text{Tr} \left((1 - e^{-\bar{\theta}dt}) \tilde{M}_0 \rho_t \tilde{M}_0^\dagger + \bar{\eta} dt \tilde{V} \rho_t \tilde{V}^\dagger \right)}.$$

Probabilities are preserved exactly: for any ρ_t , $\bar{\theta} \geq 0$, $\bar{\eta} \in [0, 1]$

$$\text{Tr} \left(e^{-\bar{\theta}dt} \tilde{M}_0 \rho_t \tilde{M}_0^\dagger + (1 - \bar{\eta}) dt \tilde{V} \rho_t \tilde{V}^\dagger \right) + \text{Tr} \left((1 - e^{-\bar{\theta}dt}) \tilde{M}_0 \rho_t \tilde{M}_0^\dagger + \bar{\eta} dt \tilde{V} \rho_t \tilde{V}^\dagger \right) \equiv 1$$