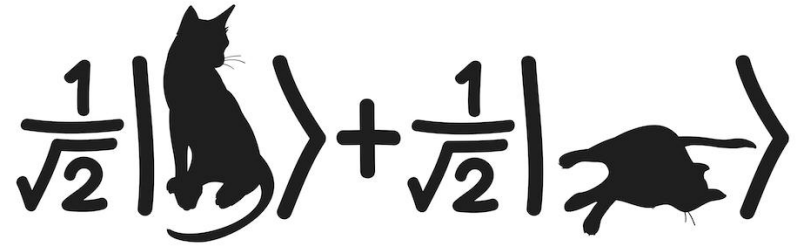


# Quantum Mechanics & Quantum Computation

Umesh V. Vazirani

University of California, Berkeley



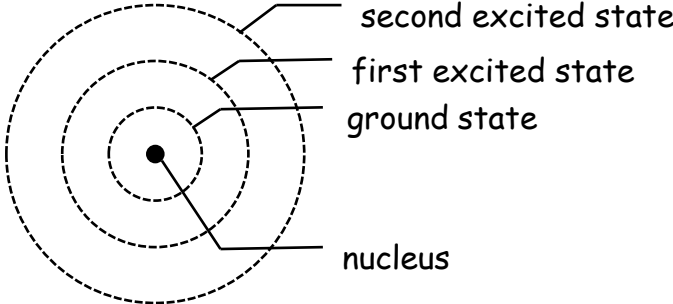
## Lecture 2: Qubits & Uncertainty Principle

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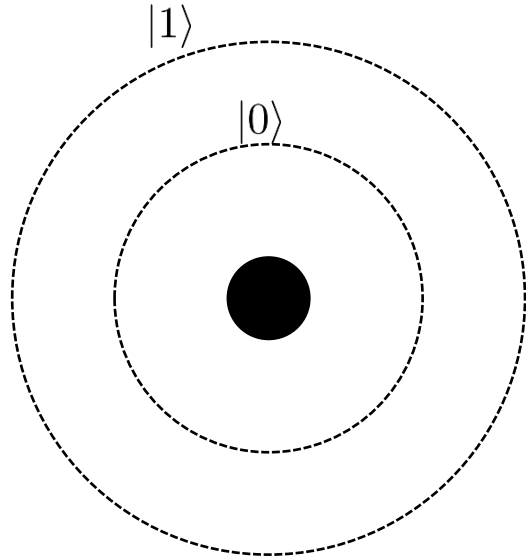
Qubits

# Using an electron to represent a bit:

Energy of an electron in an atom



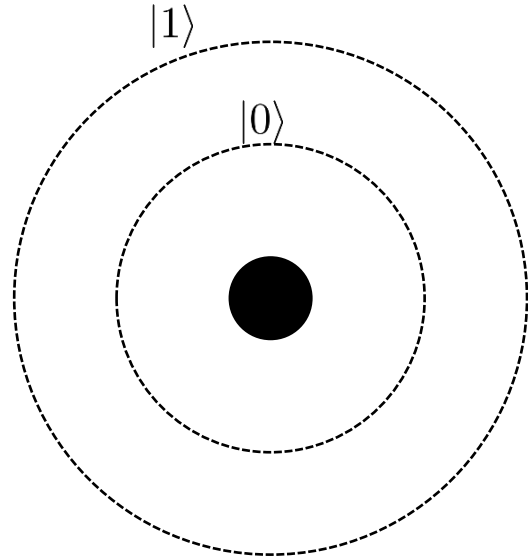
## Using an electron to represent a bit:



ground state  $\leftrightarrow 0$   
excited state  $\leftrightarrow 1$

Ground with prob  $\frac{1}{3}$   
Excited with prob  $\frac{2}{3}$ .

# Qubit (quantum bit):



complex amplitude:

$$\alpha |0\rangle + \beta |1\rangle$$

$\uparrow$  ground                       $\uparrow$  excited

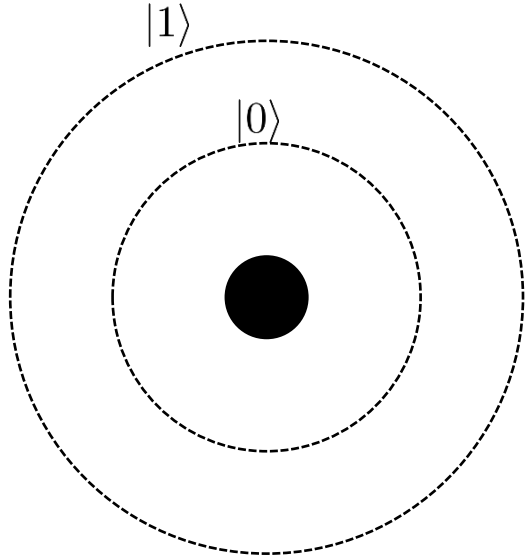
example:  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |0\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |1\rangle$   
 $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |0\rangle - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |1\rangle$

$$\left( \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}i \right) |0\rangle - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |1\rangle$$

---

$$|\alpha|^2 + |\beta|^2 = 1$$
$$\alpha = a + bi \quad |\alpha| = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$
$$|\alpha|^2 = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{2} \quad |\beta|^2 = \frac{1}{2}$$

# Qubit (quantum bit):



$$\alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle, \quad |\alpha|^2 + |\beta|^2 = 1.$$

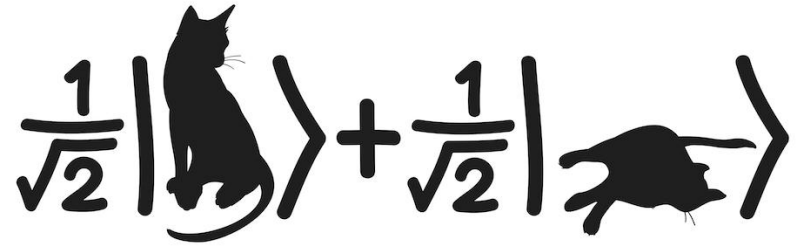
Measurement:

ground state	$ 0\rangle$	wp	$ \alpha ^2$
	$ 1\rangle$	wp	$ \beta ^2$

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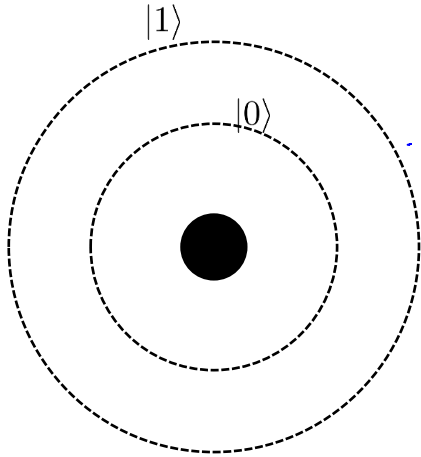
## Lecture 2: Qubits & Uncertainty Principle

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Geometric Representation

# Geometric Interpretation:

Ket Notation  
Dirac



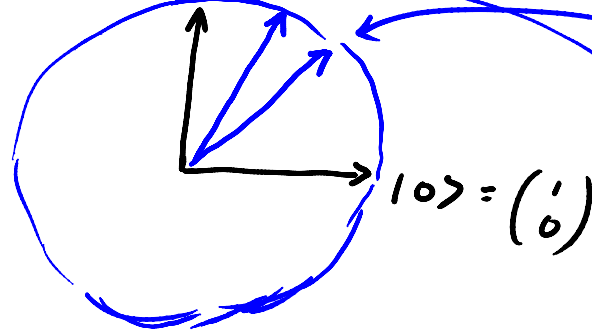
$$\underbrace{\alpha |0\rangle + \beta |1\rangle}_{\begin{pmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{pmatrix}}$$

$$\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$$

$$|\alpha|^2 + |\beta|^2 = 1.$$

2 Dimensional  
Complex  
unit vector.

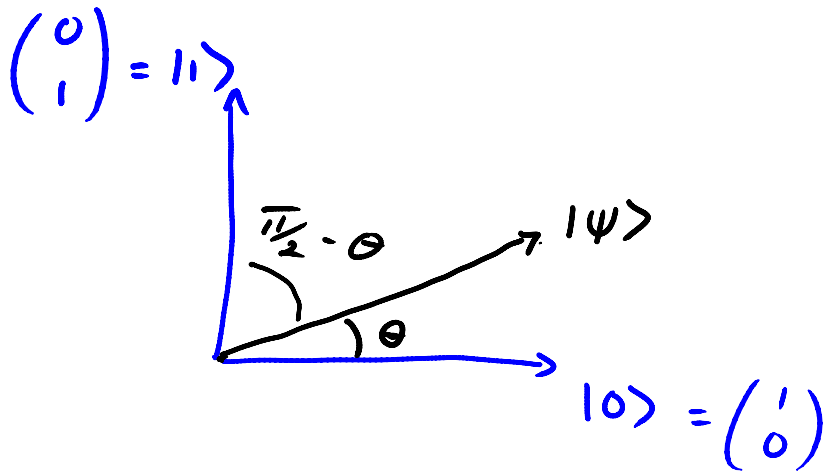
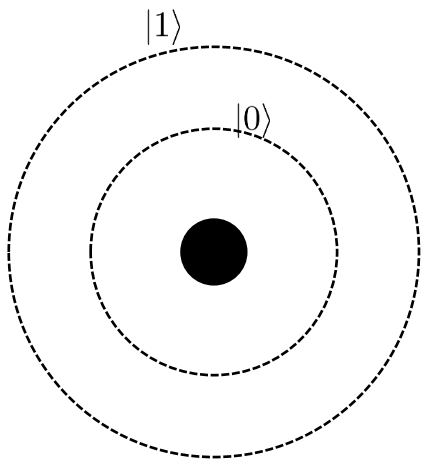
$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = |1\rangle$$



$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |0\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |1\rangle &= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \\ \frac{1}{2} |0\rangle + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} |1\rangle & \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} |0\rangle &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ \alpha = 1 \quad \beta = 0 \\ |1\rangle &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ \alpha = 0 \quad \beta = 1 \end{aligned}$$

# Measurement:

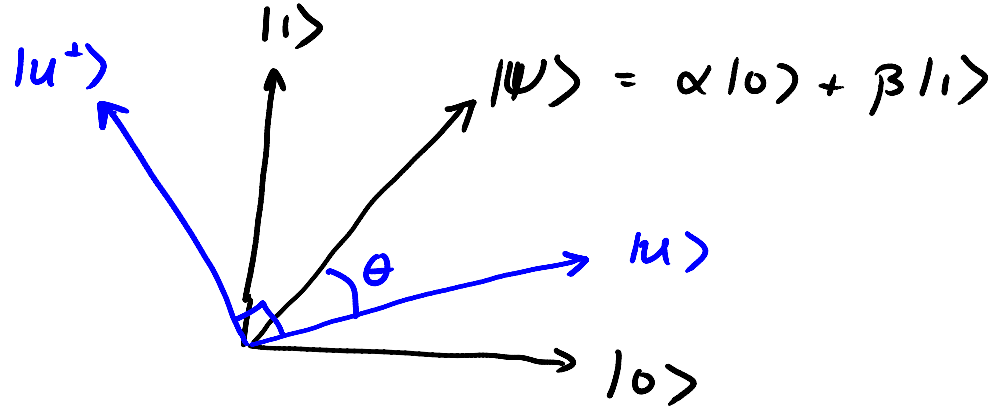
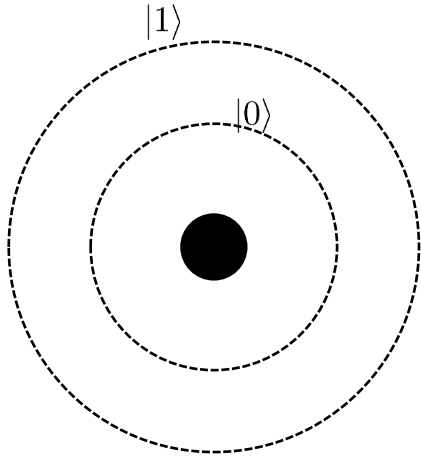


$$|\psi\rangle = \cos\theta |0\rangle + \sin\theta |1\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta \\ \sin\theta \end{pmatrix}$$

Measure: see  $|0\rangle$  wp  $\cos^2\theta$   
 $|1\rangle$  wp  $\sin^2\theta$   
 $\cos^2\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta\right)$



## Measurement in arbitrary basis:



Measure  $|\psi\rangle$  in  $u, u^\perp$  basis

see:  $|u\rangle$  wp  $\cos^2\theta$

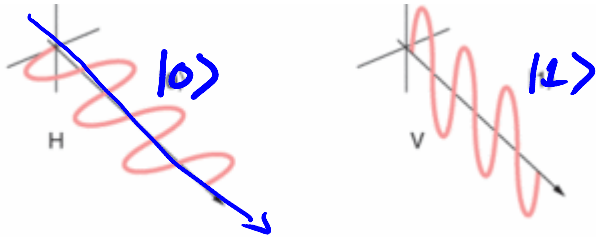
$|u^\perp\rangle$  wp  $\sin^2\theta$ .

$$|u\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|0\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|1\rangle$$

$$|u^\perp\rangle = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|0\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|1\rangle$$

# Another Example of Qubits

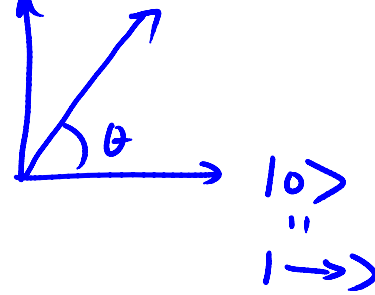
Photon polarization



Horizontally and vertically orientated electric field oscillations.

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |0\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |1\rangle$$

$$|\uparrow\rangle = |1\rangle$$



# Measuring Polarization



(c) Ashley Elmeroy 2008

lens



~~blocked~~



transmitted.



$|\uparrow\rangle$  goes through.  
 $|\rightarrow\rangle$  gets blocked

$\cos\theta |\uparrow\rangle + \sin\theta |\rightarrow\rangle$   
transmitted w.p.  $\cos^2\theta$   
New state =  $|\uparrow\rangle$

Blocked w.p.  $\sin^2\theta$ .

# Measuring Polarization



back    ↑  
front    →

$\cos \theta |\uparrow\rangle + \sin \theta |\rightarrow\rangle$   
transmitted wp  $\cos^2 \theta$

$|\uparrow\rangle$   
blocked wp 1.

---

Middle    ↗  
→ transmitted wp  $\frac{1}{2}$   
 $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |\uparrow\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |\rightarrow\rangle$

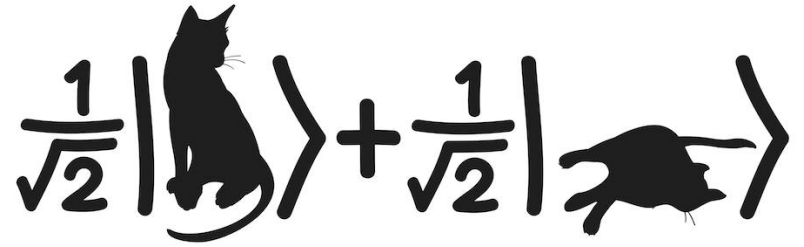
front    →  
transmitted wp  $\frac{1}{2}$   
 $|\rightarrow\rangle$

}  $\frac{1}{4}$

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## Lecture 2: Qubits & Uncertainty Principle

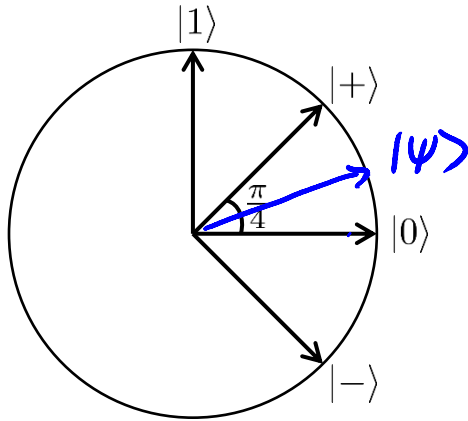
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Uncertainty Principle

# Uncertainty principle

*One can never know with perfect accuracy both of those two important factors which determine the movement of one of the smallest particles – its position and its velocity.*

- Werner Heisenberg



$|0\rangle, |1\rangle$  } bit

$$\left. \begin{aligned} |+\rangle &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |0\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |1\rangle \\ |-\rangle &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |0\rangle - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |1\rangle \end{aligned} \right\} \text{sign}$$

bit  $\leftrightarrow$  position

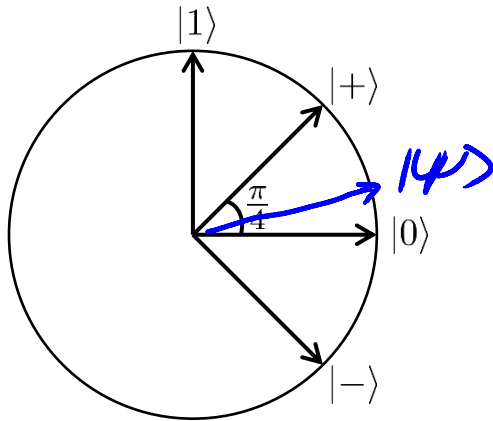
sign  $\leftrightarrow$  velocity/momentum

# Uncertainty principle

One can never know with perfect accuracy both of those two important factors which determine the movement of one of the smallest particles – its position and its velocity.

- Werner Heisenberg

- Can we know both bit and sign of a qubit simultaneously?



Bit value known perfectly:

$|0\rangle$  or  $|1\rangle$

Sign value perfectly known:

$|+\rangle$  or  $|-\rangle$

- To quantify this, can define **spread** of a quantum state.

$$|\psi\rangle = \alpha_0|0\rangle + \alpha_1|1\rangle = \beta_0|+\rangle + \beta_1|-\rangle$$

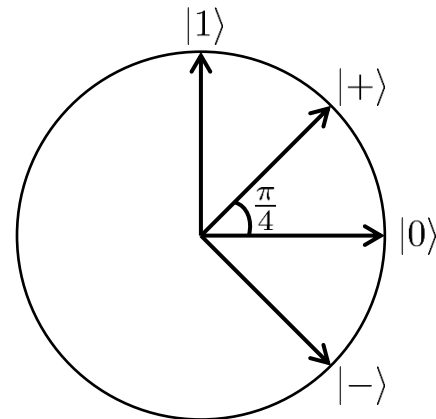
- The spread in standard basis :=  $S(|\psi\rangle) = |\alpha_0| + |\alpha_1|$  .
- The spread in sign basis :=  $\hat{S}(|\psi\rangle) = |\beta_0| + |\beta_1|$  .

$$S(|0\rangle) = 1 + 0 = 1$$

$$\hat{S}(|0\rangle) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = \sqrt{2}$$

$$S(|+\rangle) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = \sqrt{2}$$

$$\hat{S}(|+\rangle) = 1 + 0 = 1$$



- Uncertainty principle for bit and sign:**  $\underbrace{S(|\psi\rangle)}_{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \text{ or } \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}} \underbrace{\hat{S}(|\psi\rangle)}_{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \text{ or } \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}} \geq \sqrt{2}$  for any  $|\psi\rangle$ .