

# 3/18 Quantum Error correcting codes

## Classical Error correcting code

$C$   $k$ -dim subspace  $\mathbb{F}_2^n$

rate:  $k/n$

Hamming  
↓

distance:  $\min \{wt(x) : x \in C^{\neq 0}\}$

$wt(x-y) \quad x, y \in C \quad (0 \in C)$

Goal Encode length  $k$  strings, add redundancy.

EX: Repetition code  $C = \{ \underbrace{0 \dots 0}_n, \underbrace{1 \dots 1}_n \}$

Rate:  $1/n$

Dist:  $n$

EX: Parity code

$C = \{ x \in \mathbb{F}_2^n : x_1 + \dots + x_n = 0 \}$

Rate:  $(n-1)/n$

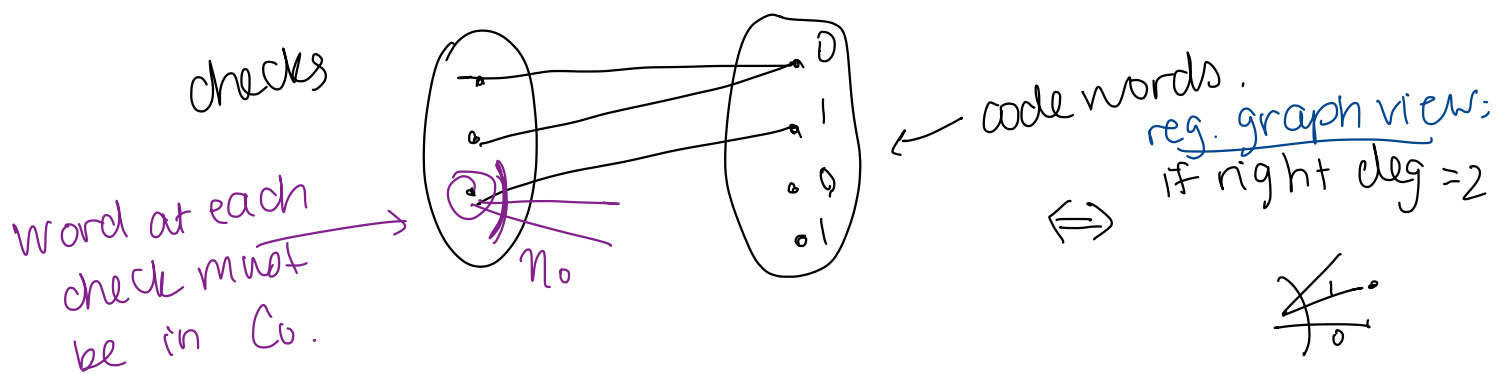
Dist:  $2$

00...011

## Tanner code:

$C_0$  "base code"

blocklength  $n_0$



Blocklength =  $|E|$  in the regular graph view  $n_0$ -reg. graph

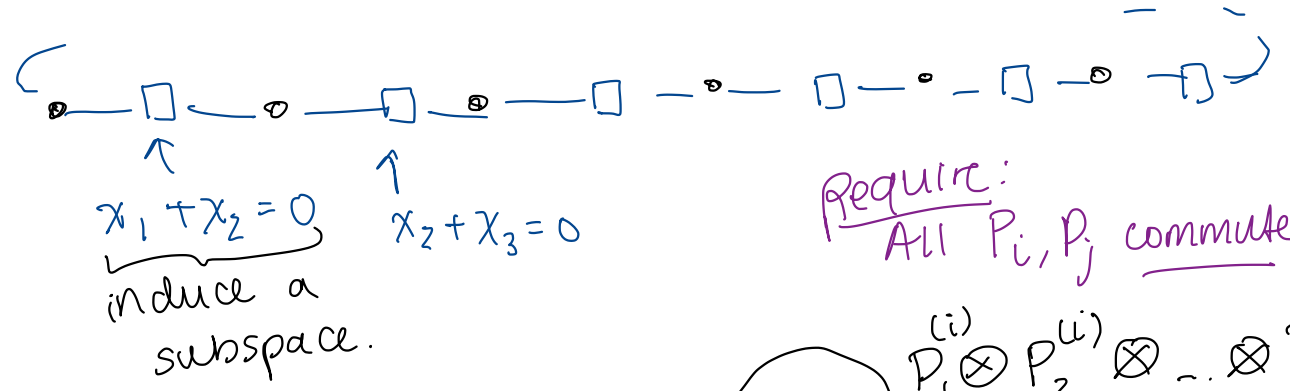
If  $G$  expanding,  $C_0$  is "good"

$\Rightarrow C$  is also "good"

# How about Quantum?

classical

$$C = \bigcap \{ \text{subspaces } S_i : v \in \mathbb{F}_2^n \text{ that satisfy check } i \}$$



## Quantum:

$$C = \bigcap \{ \text{subspaces } S_i : \forall v \in S_i \quad P_i v = v \}$$

$\uparrow$   
 n qubits  
 $2^n$  dim space.

$\uparrow$   
 "constraints"

$\uparrow$   
 $\mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \dots \otimes \mathbb{C}^2$

"stabilizer code"

Qubit:  $|0\rangle \quad |1\rangle$

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

$$|0\rangle \otimes |0\rangle \Leftarrow |00\rangle \quad |1\rangle \otimes |0\rangle \Leftarrow |10\rangle$$

What are  $P_s$ ? Pauli operators.  $2 \times 2$  complex matrices

Eigenvalues are all 1, -1

Generators:  $X = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$$X|0\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = |1\rangle$$

$$X|1\rangle = |0\rangle$$

"phase shift"  $\rightarrow Z = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$

$$Z|0\rangle = |0\rangle$$

$$Z|1\rangle = -|1\rangle$$

Obs:  $Z^2 = X^2 = I$

Error types:  $XZ = -ZX$

{CSS codes}  $\subseteq$  {stabilizer code}

very structured version

Q: Quantum Repetition Code?

Rate:  $1/3$

$|0\rangle \rightarrow |1\rangle$

$|0\rangle \mapsto |000\rangle$

$|1\rangle \mapsto |111\rangle$

Errors:  $P_1 \otimes P_2 \otimes P_3$

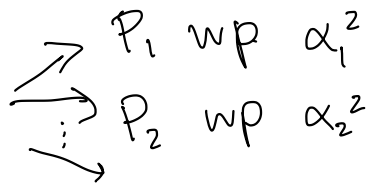
$(I \otimes X \otimes I) |000\rangle = |010\rangle$

$(I \otimes I \otimes Z) |111\rangle = -|111\rangle$

Reality: Distribution of errors.

error

$\sum \alpha_i P_i$



Stabilizers?

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} Z \otimes Z \otimes I \\ Z \otimes I \otimes Z \\ I \otimes Z \otimes Z \end{array} \right\}$

checks.

$Z \otimes Z \otimes I |000\rangle = |000\rangle$

$Z \otimes Z \otimes I |111\rangle = |111\rangle$

$I \otimes X \otimes I |000\rangle$

$\Rightarrow$  apply Z check

$|010\rangle$

$(Z \otimes Z \otimes I) (I \otimes X \otimes I) |000\rangle$

$= Z \otimes Z \otimes I |010\rangle$

$= -|010\rangle$

$(Z \otimes Z \otimes I) (I \otimes X \otimes I) |\psi\rangle$  stab.

$= - (I \otimes X \otimes I) (Z \otimes Z \otimes I) |\psi\rangle$

$= - (I \otimes X \otimes I) |\psi\rangle |\psi\rangle$

Ex error:

$I \otimes I \otimes Z$

← none of the stabilizers detect this error.

$\Rightarrow dist = 0$

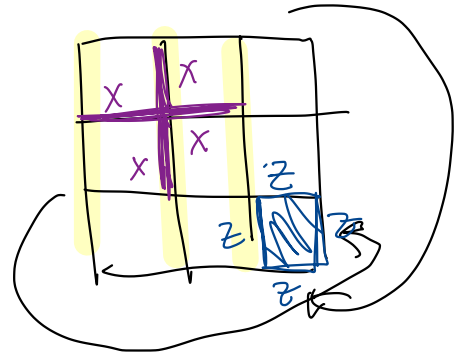
$E |\psi\rangle$

$P_i E |\psi\rangle = \pm 1 \cdot E P_i |\psi\rangle$

$= \pm 1 \cdot E |\psi\rangle$

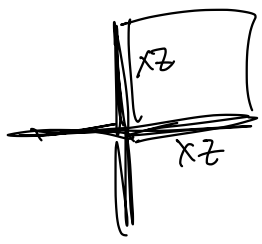
"True" Quantum Rep. Code : Toric code (Kitaev)

qubits live on edges

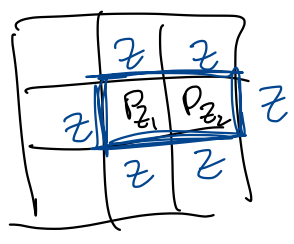
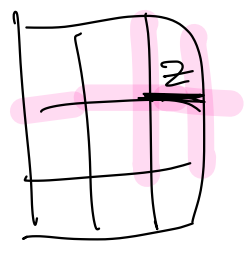
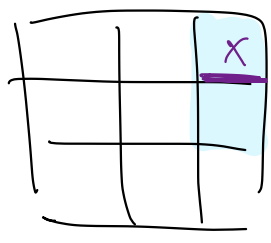


Z checks: "plaquettes"  
 X checks: "vertices"  
 generators of stabilizer group.

check: X and Z checks commute.



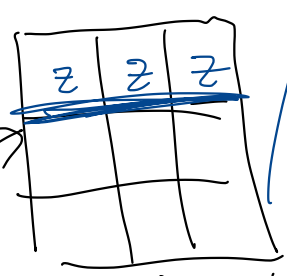
Error Detection:



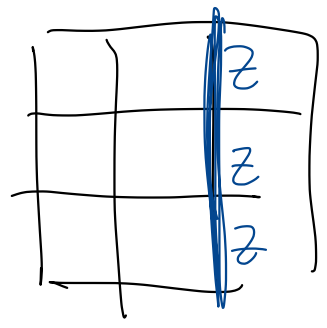
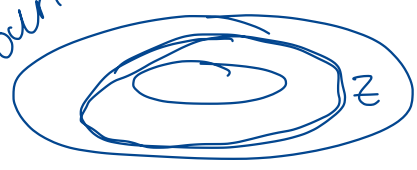
$P_{z_1}, P_{z_2} |\psi\rangle = |\psi\rangle$

← valid, since it is stabilized.

cycle.

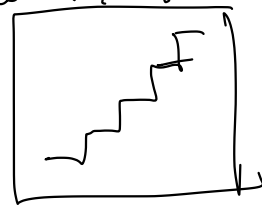


boundaries

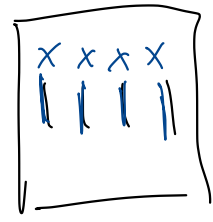
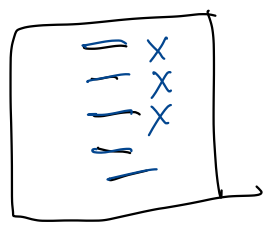


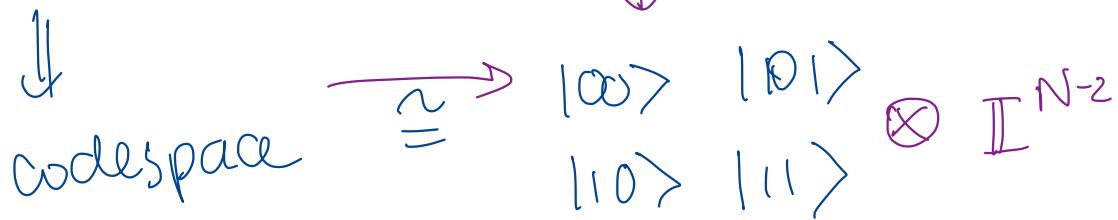
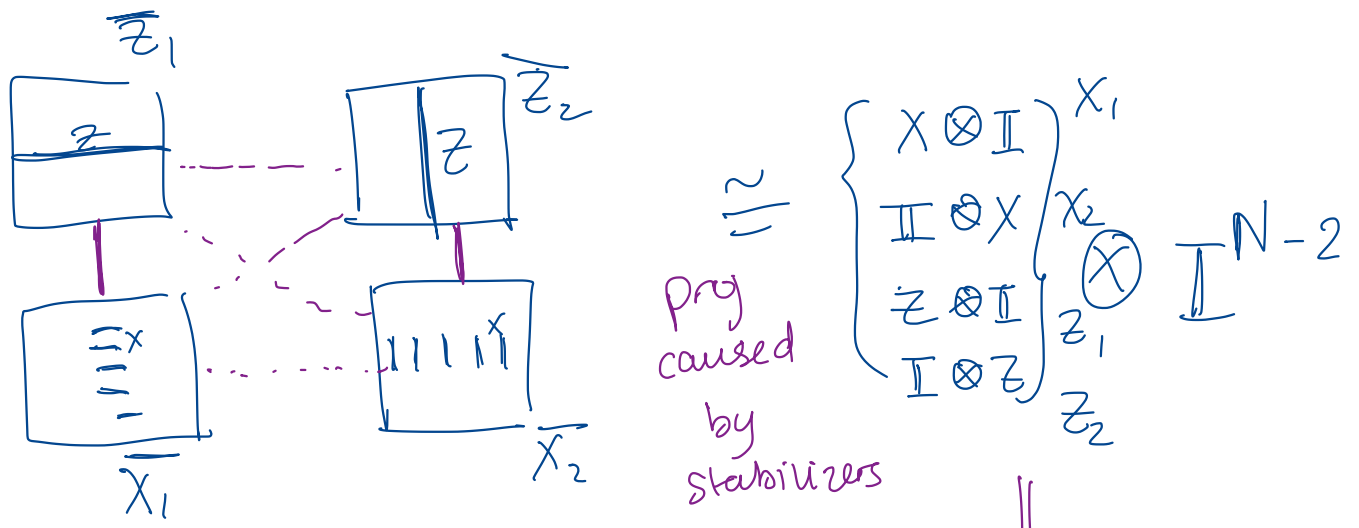
Paycle

$\text{Paycle} |\psi\rangle \neq |\psi\rangle$



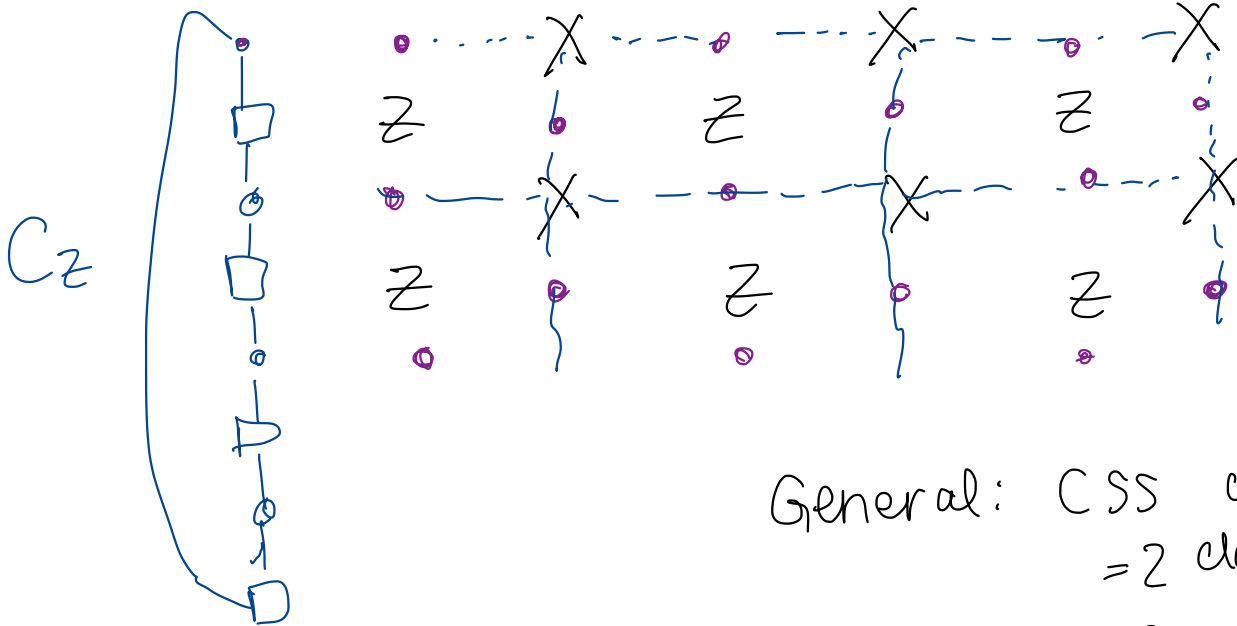
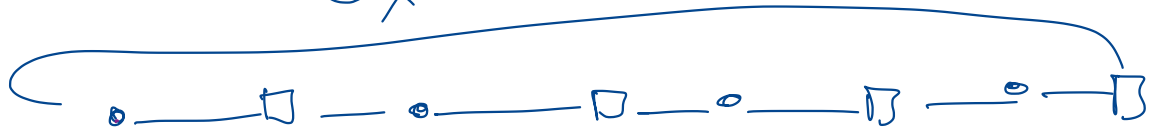
⇒





$\exists U$  unitary st  $\bar{X}_1 = U X_1 U^\dagger$   
 $\bar{Z}_1 = U Z_1 U^\dagger$

$C_X$



General: CSS code  
 = 2 classical codes

$C_X \perp C_Z \quad C_X^\perp \subseteq C_Z$