

# Quantum Processes and Computation

## Assignment 2, Hilary 2026

*Solutions are shown after each question. Note some solutions are marked **Sketch**. These are intended to be instructions on how to work out the solution yourself, rather than an example of how you should answer this question on an exam.*

**Exercise 1:** We can write the cup/cap for any dimension as a sum over ONB elements:

$$\cup = \sum_{i=1}^d \begin{smallmatrix} \downarrow \\ \triangle_i \\ \downarrow \end{smallmatrix} \quad \cap = \sum_{i=1}^d \begin{smallmatrix} \uparrow \\ \triangle_i \\ \uparrow \end{smallmatrix}$$

(i) Using this definition (and not the matrix form) verify the yanking equations.

$$\begin{smallmatrix} \cap \\ \cup \end{smallmatrix} = \quad \quad \quad \begin{smallmatrix} \cap \\ \cap \end{smallmatrix} = \cup$$

(ii) Compute the matrices for the cup and cap in 3 dimensions.

**Begin Solution:** ....

(i) These can be verified using the properties of ONBs and sums. For the first one:

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{smallmatrix} \cap \\ \cup \end{smallmatrix} &= \sum_i \begin{smallmatrix} \uparrow \\ \triangle_i \\ \downarrow \end{smallmatrix} \sum_j \begin{smallmatrix} \downarrow \\ \triangle_j \\ \downarrow \end{smallmatrix} = \sum_{ij} \begin{smallmatrix} \uparrow \\ \triangle_i \\ \downarrow \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} \downarrow \\ \triangle_j \\ \downarrow \end{smallmatrix} \\ &= \sum_{ij} \delta_i^j \begin{smallmatrix} \downarrow \\ \triangle_i \\ \uparrow \end{smallmatrix} = \sum_i \begin{smallmatrix} \downarrow \\ \triangle_i \\ \uparrow \end{smallmatrix} = \end{aligned}$$

For the second one:

$$\begin{smallmatrix} \cap \\ \cap \end{smallmatrix} = \sum_i \begin{smallmatrix} \cap \\ \triangle_i \\ \triangle_i \end{smallmatrix} = \sum_i \begin{smallmatrix} \downarrow \\ \triangle_i \\ \downarrow \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} \downarrow \\ \triangle_i \\ \downarrow \end{smallmatrix} = \cup$$

(ii) This is a column vector, whose entries correspond to the basis elements  $|i, j\rangle$  for  $i, j \in \{0, 1, 2\}$ . If  $i = j$ , the entry is a 1, otherwise it is a 0. This results in the following vector:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

*n.b. it is the same as the columns of a  $3 \times 3$  identity matrix, all stacked on top of each other. Cups in all dimensions have this same pattern. The cap is the transpose of the above, which is row vector:*

$$(1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1)$$

**End Solution** .....

**Exercise 2 (5.86):** This exercise is about encoding classical functions as linear maps using ONB states and effects, as explained in Section 5.3.4. For a function  $F : \{0, 1\}^m \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$ , we can define an associated linear map  $f$  as follows:

$$\begin{array}{c} | \\ f \\ | \end{array} = \sum_{(a_1 \dots a_m \mapsto b_1 \dots b_n) \in F} \begin{array}{c} | \\ \backslash \\ b_1 \\ \diagup \\ a_1 \\ \diagdown \\ \dots \\ \diagup \\ a_m \\ \diagdown \\ | \end{array} \dots \begin{array}{c} | \\ \backslash \\ b_n \\ \diagup \\ a_n \\ \diagdown \\ | \end{array}$$

where the notation  $(a_1 \dots a_m \mapsto b_1 \dots b_n) \in F$  means we are summing over the *graph of  $F$* , i.e. the set of bitstrings  $\{(a_1, \dots, a_m, b_1, \dots, b_n) \mid F(a_1, \dots, a_m) = (b_1, \dots, b_n)\}$ .

Using this encoding, define:

$$\begin{array}{c} | \\ \text{XOR} \\ | \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} | \\ \backslash \\ 0 \\ \diagup \\ 0 \\ \diagdown \\ 0 \\ \diagup \\ 0 \\ \diagdown \\ | \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} | \\ \backslash \\ 1 \\ \diagup \\ 0 \\ \diagdown \\ 1 \\ \diagup \\ 1 \\ \diagdown \\ | \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} | \\ \backslash \\ 1 \\ \diagup \\ 1 \\ \diagdown \\ 0 \\ \diagup \\ 0 \\ \diagdown \\ | \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} | \\ \backslash \\ 0 \\ \diagup \\ 1 \\ \diagdown \\ 1 \\ \diagup \\ 1 \\ \diagdown \\ | \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} | \\ \text{CNOT} \\ | \end{array} := \begin{array}{c} | \\ \backslash \\ 0 \\ \diagup \\ 0 \\ \diagdown \\ 0 \\ \diagup \\ 0 \\ \diagdown \\ | \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} | \\ \backslash \\ 0 \\ \diagup \\ 1 \\ \diagdown \\ 1 \\ \diagup \\ 1 \\ \diagdown \\ | \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} | \\ \backslash \\ 1 \\ \diagup \\ 1 \\ \diagdown \\ 0 \\ \diagup \\ 0 \\ \diagdown \\ | \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} | \\ \backslash \\ 1 \\ \diagup \\ 0 \\ \diagdown \\ 1 \\ \diagup \\ 1 \\ \diagdown \\ | \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} | \\ \text{COPY} \\ | \end{array} := \begin{array}{c} | \\ \backslash \\ 0 \\ \diagup \\ 0 \\ \diagdown \\ 0 \\ \diagup \\ 1 \\ \diagdown \\ | \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} | \\ \backslash \\ 1 \\ \diagup \\ 1 \\ \diagdown \\ 1 \\ \diagup \\ 1 \\ \diagdown \\ | \end{array}$$

Show that

$$\begin{array}{c} | \\ \text{CNOT} \\ | \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} | \\ \text{XOR} \\ | \\ \diagup \\ \text{COPY} \\ \diagdown \\ | \end{array}$$

(Hint: try comparing the LHS to the RHS on all basis states, rather than writing out a big sum.)

Next, find  $\psi$  and  $\phi$  such that the following equation holds:

$$\begin{array}{c} | \\ \text{XOR} \\ | \\ \diagup \\ \text{COPY} \\ \diagdown \\ | \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} | \\ \backslash \\ \phi \\ \diagup \\ \psi \\ \diagdown \\ | \end{array}$$

Although it might not look like much now, this equation will turn out to lie at the heart of the notion of *complementarity* which is an important part of the ZX-calculus.

**Begin Solution:** .....

The first part can be done by plugging in basis states, and nothing that the LHS gives:

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{CNOT} \\ \boxed{\quad} \\ \swarrow x \quad \swarrow y \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \downarrow \\ \swarrow x \quad \swarrow x \oplus y \end{array}$$

and the RHS gives:

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{XOR} \\ \boxed{\quad} \\ \text{COPY} \\ \boxed{\quad} \\ \swarrow x \quad \swarrow y \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \downarrow \\ \swarrow x \quad \swarrow x \quad \swarrow y \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \downarrow \\ \swarrow x \quad \swarrow x \oplus y \end{array}$$

If I evaluate the second diagram at a basis state, I get:

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{XOR} \\ \boxed{\quad} \\ \text{COPY} \\ \boxed{\quad} \\ \swarrow x \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \downarrow \\ \swarrow x \quad \swarrow x \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \downarrow \\ \swarrow x \oplus x \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \downarrow \\ \swarrow 0 \end{array}$$

This tells me that  $|\phi\rangle$  should be  $|0\rangle$ . For  $\langle\psi|$ , I need the effect that “deletes” any basis state:  $\langle\psi| = \langle 0| + \langle 1| = \sum_i \langle i|$ . Then  $\langle\psi|0\rangle = \langle\psi|1\rangle = 1$ , so:

$$\begin{array}{c} \downarrow 0 \\ \swarrow \psi \\ \swarrow x \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \downarrow 0 \end{array}$$

**End Solution** .....

**Exercise 3:** Let the *Hadamard gate*, which sends the Z-basis to the X-basis be defined as follows:

$$\begin{array}{c} \boxed{H} \\ \downarrow \\ \begin{array}{c} \downarrow 0 \\ \swarrow 0 \quad \swarrow 1 \\ \swarrow 0 \quad \swarrow 1 \end{array} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \downarrow 0 \\ \swarrow 0 \quad \swarrow 1 \\ \swarrow 0 \quad \swarrow 1 \end{array}$$

where

$$\begin{array}{c} \downarrow 0 \\ \swarrow 0 \quad \swarrow 1 \end{array} := \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \begin{array}{c} \downarrow 0 \\ \swarrow 0 \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \downarrow 1 \\ \swarrow 1 \end{array} \right) \quad \begin{array}{c} \downarrow 1 \\ \swarrow 0 \quad \swarrow 1 \end{array} := \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \begin{array}{c} \downarrow 0 \\ \swarrow 0 \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \downarrow 1 \\ \swarrow 1 \end{array} \right)$$

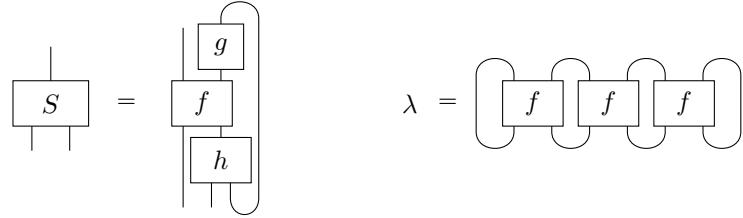
Compute the matrix of  $H$ . Show that  $H = H^\dagger = H^T$ . Using this fact (or otherwise) show that  $H$  also sends the X-basis back to the Z-basis.

**Begin Solution:** .....

*Sketch:* The matrix can be computed by plugging in each of the 4 bras and kets of the computational basis. We can see it sends X-basis elements to Z-basis elements by applying the adjoint to both sides of the definition of  $H$  and using  $H = H^\dagger$ .

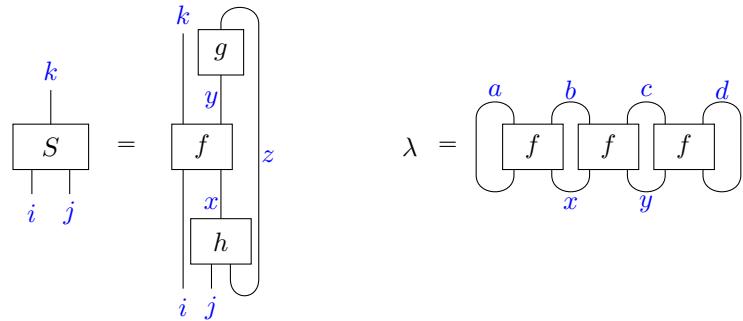
**End Solution** .....

**Exercise 4:** Write the following diagrams as tensor contractions, i.e. as sums over products of matrix elements  $f_{ij}^{kl}$ , etc.



**Begin Solution:** .....

Labelling the wires with some index names:



...we get:

$$S_{ij}^k = \sum_{xyz} f_{ix}^{ky} g_y^z h_{jz}^x$$

$$\lambda = \sum_{abcdxy} f_{ax}^{ab} f_{xy}^{bc} f_{yd}^{cd}$$

Note  $\lambda$  is a scalar, so all indices on the RHS are summed over.

**End Solution** .....