

Les Houches Summer School, Session CVII--  
Current Trends in Atomic Physics

ÉCOLE DE PHYSIQUE  
des HOUCHES



# Quantum Control, Measurement and Tomography

## Lecture II: Quantum Measurement

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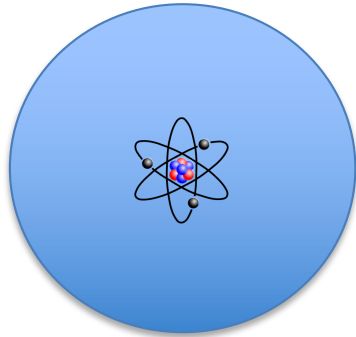
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# Syllabus

- Lecture I: Quantum Control
  - Foundations of Quantum Control Theory
  - Atomic Spins as a Quantum Control Testbed
- Lecture II: Quantum Measurement
  - Foundation of Quantum Measurement Theory
  - Continuous measurement and quantum trajectories
- Lecture III: QND Measurement – Spin Squeezing
  - Measuring Spins via Polarization Spectroscopy
  - Quantum control for enhanced spin squeezing
- Lecture IV: Quantum Tomography
  - Foundation of Quantum Tomography
  - Quantum Tomography via Continuous Measurement

# Quantum Measurement Theory

# Textbook Quantum Measurement



Quantum system

$$|\psi\rangle_S = \sum_m c_m |m\rangle_S$$

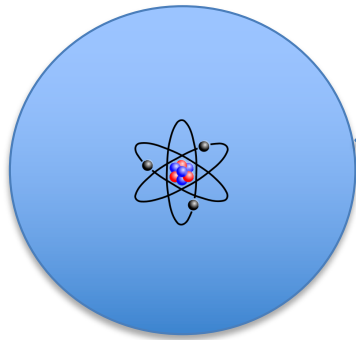


“Classical  
Meter”

Meter measures observable

$$\hat{O} = \sum_m m |m\rangle\langle m|$$

# Textbook Quantum Measurement



Quantum system

$$|\psi\rangle_S = \sum_m c_m |m\rangle_S$$

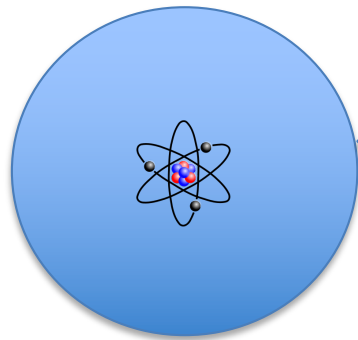


“Classical  
Meter”

Meter measures observable

$$\hat{O} = \sum_m m |m\rangle\langle m|$$

# Textbook Quantum Measurement



Quantum system



“Classical Meter”

Meter measures observable

Post-Measurement  $|\psi\rangle_S \Rightarrow |m\rangle\langle m||\psi\rangle_S = c_m |m\rangle_S$

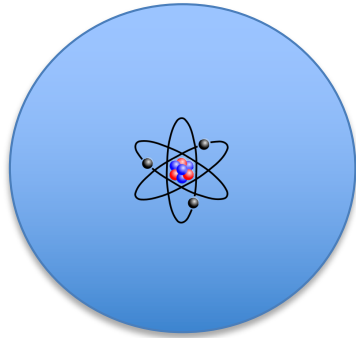
$$\hat{O} = \sum_m m |m\rangle\langle m|$$

Renormalize  $|\psi\rangle_S = |m\rangle_S$

“Collapse of the wave function”

Probability of finding  $m$ :  $P_m = |\langle m|\psi\rangle|^2 = |c_m|^2$   
Born Rule

# Von Neumann Theory of Measurement



Quantum system

$$|\psi\rangle_S = \sum_m c_m |m\rangle_S$$



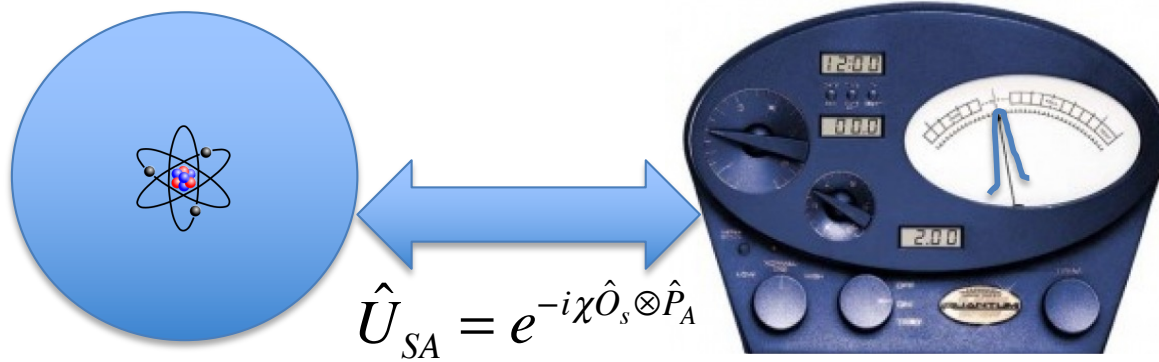
Quantum Meter (ancilla)

$$|\Phi_0\rangle_A$$

“Quantum  
degrees of  
freedom”

$$|\Psi\rangle_{SA}^{in} = |\psi\rangle_S \otimes |\Phi_0\rangle_A$$

# Von Neumann Theory of Measurement



Quantum system

Quantum Meter (ancilla)

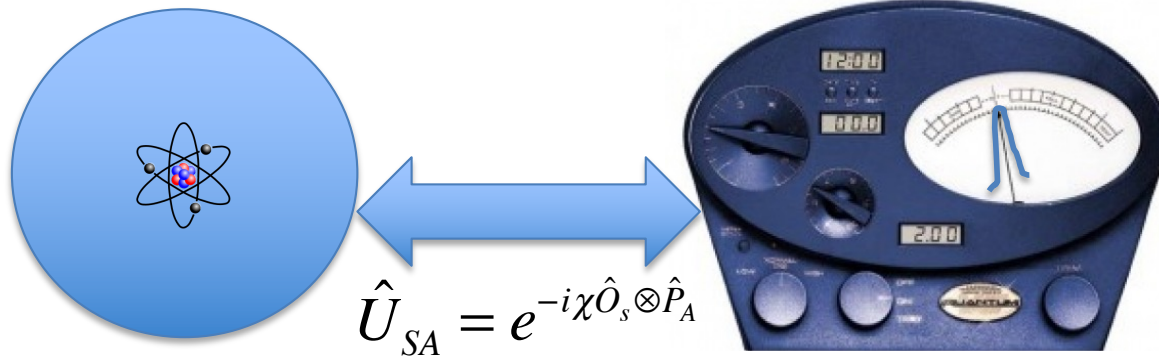
$$|\psi\rangle_S = \sum_m c_m |m\rangle_S$$

$$|\Phi_0\rangle_A$$

$$|\Psi\rangle_{SA}^{in} = |\psi\rangle_S \otimes |\Phi_0\rangle_A$$



# Von Neumann Theory of Measurement



Quantum system

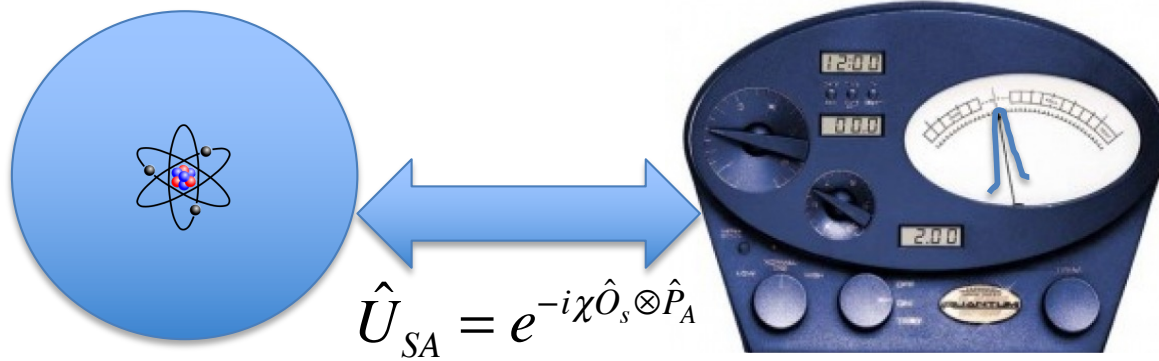
Quantum Meter (ancilla)

$$|\psi\rangle_S = \sum_m c_m |m\rangle_S$$

$$|\Phi_0\rangle_A$$

$$|\Psi\rangle_{SA}^{out} = \hat{U}_{SA} |\Psi\rangle_{SA}^{in} = \hat{U}_{SA} |\psi\rangle_S \otimes |\Phi_0\rangle_A = e^{-i\chi\hat{O}_s \otimes \hat{P}_A} |\psi\rangle_S \otimes |\Phi_0\rangle_A$$

# Von Neumann Theory of Measurement



Quantum system

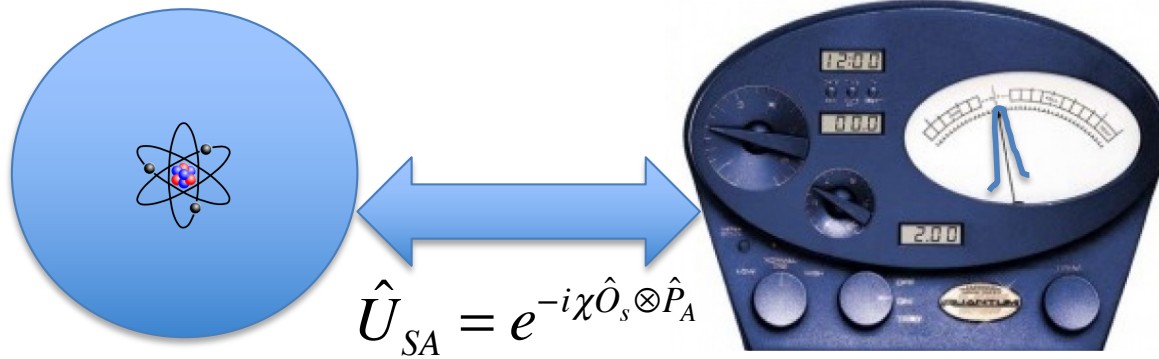
Quantum Meter (ancilla)

$$|\psi\rangle_S = \sum_m c_m |m\rangle_S$$

$$|\Phi_0\rangle_A$$

$$\begin{aligned} |\Psi\rangle_{SA}^{out} &= \hat{U}_{SA} |\Psi\rangle_{SA}^{in} = \hat{U}_{SA} |\psi\rangle_S \otimes |\Phi_0\rangle_A = e^{-i\chi \hat{O}_S \otimes \hat{P}_A} |\psi\rangle_S \otimes |\Phi_0\rangle_A \\ &= \sum_m c_m |m\rangle_S \otimes e^{-i\chi m \hat{P}_A} |\Phi_0\rangle_A \end{aligned}$$

# Von Neumann Theory of Measurement



Quantum system

Quantum Meter (ancilla)

$$|\psi\rangle_S = \sum_m c_m |m\rangle_S$$

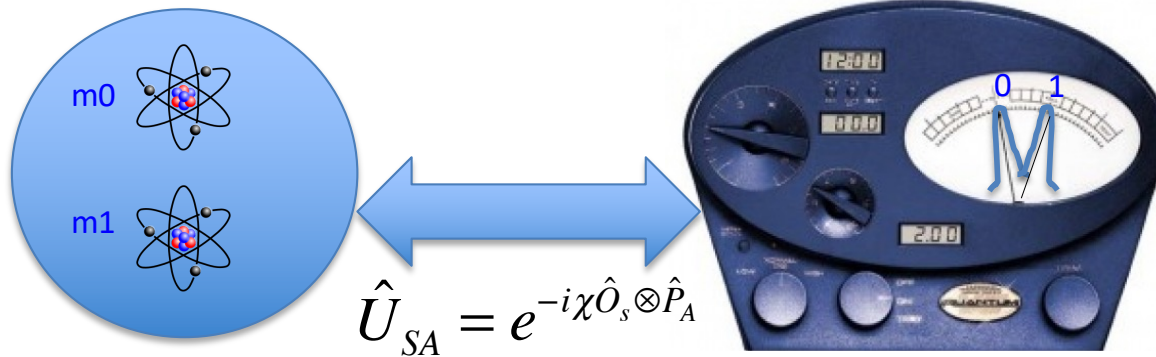
$$|\Phi_0\rangle_A$$

$$\begin{aligned} |\Psi\rangle_{SA}^{out} &= \hat{U}_{SA} |\Psi\rangle_{SA}^{in} = \hat{U}_{SA} |\psi\rangle_S \otimes |\Phi_0\rangle_A = e^{-i\chi\hat{O}_s \otimes \hat{P}_A} |\psi\rangle_S \otimes |\Phi_0\rangle_A = \\ &= \sum_m c_m |m\rangle_S \otimes e^{-i\chi m \hat{P}_A} |\Phi_0\rangle_A = \sum_m c_m |m\rangle_S \otimes |\Phi_{\chi m}\rangle_A \end{aligned}$$

Meter is displaced by an amount proportional to the eigenvalue to be measured.

# Von Neumann Theory of Measurement

Example:  
Atom is in  
superposition of  
two eigenstates



$$\begin{aligned}
 |\Psi\rangle_{SA}^{out} &= \hat{U}_{SA} |\Psi\rangle_{SA}^{in} = \hat{U}_{SA} |\Psi\rangle_S \otimes |\Phi_0\rangle_A = \sum_m c_m e^{-i\chi\hat{O}_s \otimes \hat{P}_A} (|m\rangle_S \otimes |\Phi_0\rangle_A) \\
 &= \sum_m c_m |m\rangle_S \otimes e^{-i\chi m \hat{P}_A} |\Phi_0\rangle_A = \sum_m c_m |m\rangle_S \otimes |\Phi_{\chi m}\rangle_A \\
 &= c_0 |m_0\rangle_S \otimes |\Phi_{\chi m_0}\rangle_A + c_1 |m_1\rangle_S \otimes |\Phi_{\chi m_1}\rangle_A
 \end{aligned}$$

If  $\langle \Phi_{\chi m'} | \Phi_{\chi m} \rangle = \delta_{mm'}$  then meter states are perfectly distinguishable  $\rightarrow$  **Projection**

“Find” meter in state  $|\Phi_{\chi m}\rangle_A \rightarrow$  Collapse system state as well

Post-Measurement (Unnormalized)

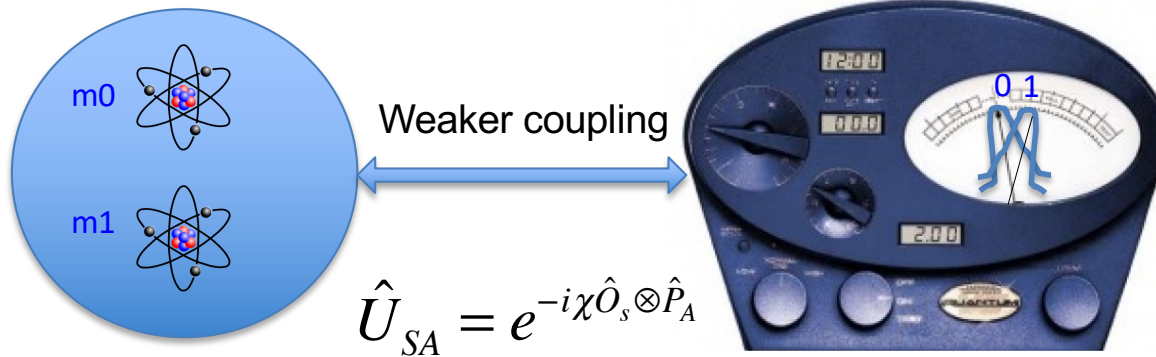
Probability

$$|\tilde{\psi}\rangle_S^{out} = \langle \Phi_{\chi m} | U_{SA} | \Psi \rangle_{SA}^{in} = c_m |m\rangle_S = (|m\rangle\langle m|) | \Psi \rangle_S^{in}$$

$$P_{\chi m} = \left\| |\tilde{\psi}\rangle_S^{out} \right\|^2 = |c_m|^2$$

# General Theory of Measurement

Example:  
Atom is in  
superposition of  
two eigenstates



$$\begin{aligned}
 |\Psi\rangle_{SA}^{out} &= \hat{U}_{SA} |\Psi\rangle_{SA}^{in} = \hat{U}_{SA} |\Psi\rangle_S \otimes |\Phi_0\rangle_A = \sum_m c_m e^{-i\chi \hat{O}_s \otimes \hat{P}_A} (|m\rangle_S \otimes |\Phi_0\rangle_A) \\
 &= \sum_m c_m |m\rangle_S \otimes e^{-i\chi m \hat{P}_A} |\Phi_0\rangle_A = \sum_m c_m |m\rangle_S \otimes |\Phi_{\chi m}\rangle_A \\
 &= c_0 |m_0\rangle_S \otimes |\Phi_{\chi m_0}\rangle_A + c_1 |m_1\rangle_S \otimes |\Phi_{\chi m_1}\rangle_A
 \end{aligned}$$

If  $\langle \Phi_{\chi m'} | \Phi_{\chi m} \rangle \neq \delta_{mm'}$  then meter states are not perfectly distinguishable  $\rightarrow$  **POVM**

Example: Measure meter observable  $X \rightarrow$  (weak) backaction on system state

Unnormalized

$$|\tilde{\psi}\rangle_S^in|_X = \langle X_A | \hat{U}_{SA} |\Psi\rangle_{SA}^{in} = \hat{K}_X |\psi\rangle_S^in$$

Krause operator

$$\hat{K}_X = \langle X_A | \hat{U}_{SA} | \Phi_{0,A} \rangle$$

# General Theory of Measurement

Post-measurement state

$$|\tilde{\psi}\rangle_S^{out}|_X = \langle X_A | \hat{U}_{SA} | \Psi \rangle_{SA}^{in} = \hat{K}_X |\psi\rangle_S^{in}$$

Krause operator

$$\hat{K}_X = \langle X_A | \hat{U}_{SA} | \Phi_{0,A} \rangle$$

Probability of finding X on the meter  $P_X = \left\| |\tilde{\psi}_s^{out}\rangle_X \right\|^2 = \langle \psi_s^{in} | \hat{K}_X^\dagger \hat{K}_X | \psi_s^{in} \rangle = \langle \psi_s^{in} | \hat{E}_X | \psi_s^{in} \rangle$

$\{ \hat{E}_X = \hat{K}_X^\dagger \hat{K}_X \}$  POVM = Positive Operator Valued Measure

• Positive operators:  $P_{X|\psi} = \langle \psi | \hat{E}_X | \psi \rangle \geq 0$ ,  $P_{X|\rho} = Tr(\hat{\rho} \hat{E}_X) \geq 0$

• Completeness:  $\int dX \hat{E}_X = \hat{I} \Rightarrow \int dX P_{X|\rho} = 1$

$$\int dX \hat{E}_X = \int dX \hat{K}_X^\dagger \hat{K}_X = \int dX \langle \Phi_0 | \hat{U}_{SA}^\dagger | X \rangle \langle X | \hat{U}_{SA} | \Phi_0 \rangle = \langle \Phi_0 | \hat{U}_{SA}^\dagger \hat{U}_{SA} | \Phi_0 \rangle = 1$$

# General Theory of Measurement

Most general measurement in quantum mechanics

$\{\hat{E}_\mu\}$  POVM = Positive Operator Valued Measure

- Positive operators:  $\hat{E}_\mu \geq 0$ ,
  - Completeness:  $\sum_\mu \hat{E}_\mu = \hat{I}$
  - Born rule:  $P_\mu = \text{Tr}(\hat{E}_\mu \hat{\rho})$
- 
- Beyond projective measurements onto eigenstates of observables
  - Number of measurement outcomes can be arbitrary
  - Post-measurement state depends on measurement model

# Example: Measurement with Gaussian Noise

Ancilla State (initial state of the meter):

$$\langle X | \Phi \rangle_A = \pi^{-1/4} e^{-\frac{1}{2}X^2}$$

Gaussian centered on  $X=0$   
 Unit variance in  $|\langle X | \Phi \rangle_A|^2$   
 Unnormalized

Kraus Operator

$$\hat{K}_X = \langle X_A | \hat{U}_{SA} | \Phi_{0,A} \rangle = \langle X_A | e^{-i\chi \hat{O}_s \otimes \hat{P}_A} | \Phi_{0,A} \rangle$$

$$= \langle X_A - \chi \hat{O}_s | \Phi_{0,A} \rangle = \pi^{-1/4} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(X - \chi \hat{O}_s)^2} = \pi^{-1/4} e^{-\frac{\chi^2}{2}(\hat{O}_s - \underbrace{X/\chi}_{\mathcal{M}})^2}$$

$$\hat{K}_{\mathcal{M}} \equiv \left(\frac{\chi^2}{\pi}\right)^{1/4} e^{-\frac{\chi^2}{2}(\hat{O}_s - \mathcal{M})^2}$$

Recall  $\hat{O}_s = \sum_m m |m\rangle\langle m|$

POVM Elements

$$\hat{E}_{\mathcal{M}} = \hat{K}_{\mathcal{M}}^\dagger \hat{K}_{\mathcal{M}} = \frac{e^{-\chi^2(\hat{O}_s - \mathcal{M})^2}}{\sqrt{\pi\chi^2}} = \sum_m \frac{e^{-\chi^2(m - \mathcal{M})^2}}{\sqrt{\pi\chi^2}} |m\rangle\langle m|$$

Projector on  $m$ , convolved with a noisy Gaussian



# Example: Measurement with Gaussian Noise

Probability of finding X  
on the meter

$$P_{\mathcal{M}} = \langle \psi_s^{in} | \hat{E}_{\mathcal{M}} | \psi_s^{in} \rangle$$

$$\hat{E}_{\mathcal{M}} = (\chi^2 \pi)^{-1/2} \sum_m e^{-\chi^2 (m - \mathcal{M})^2} |m\rangle \langle m|$$

Note:

$$\lim_{\chi \rightarrow \infty} \hat{E}_{\mathcal{M}} = \sum_m \delta(m - \mathcal{M}) |m\rangle \langle m| = |m = \mathcal{M}\rangle \langle m = \mathcal{M}| \quad \text{Projector!}$$

If system is in eigenstate  $|m\rangle$   $P_{\mathcal{M}|m} = \langle m | \hat{E}_{\mathcal{M}} | m \rangle = (\chi^2 \pi)^{-1/2} e^{-\chi^2 (m - \mathcal{M})^2}$

Measurement is uncertain since meter is quantum object with fluctuations

Uncertainty in deduced m-value due to quantum meter:  $\Delta m^2 \Big|_{meter} = \chi^{-2}$  (meter noise)

If system not in eigenstate  $|\psi\rangle_s = \sum_m c_m |m\rangle_s$   $\Delta m^2 \Big|_{state} = \sum_m (m - \langle m \rangle)^2 |c_m|^2$

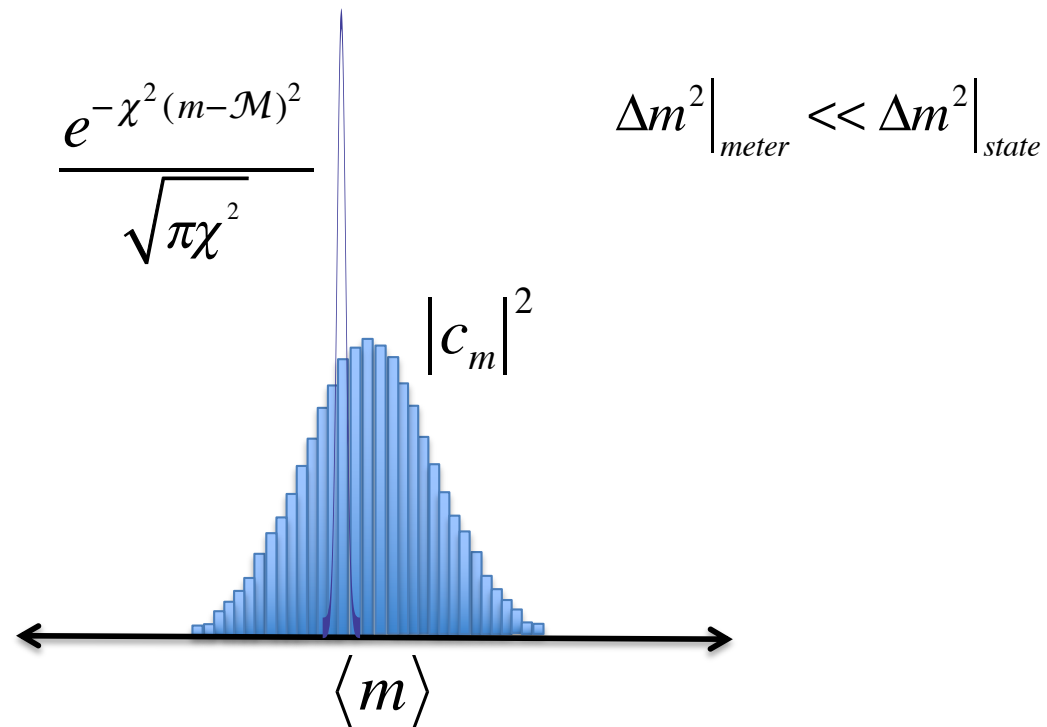
$$P_{\mathcal{M}|m} = \langle m | \hat{E}_{\mathcal{M}} | m \rangle = (\chi^2 \pi)^{-1/2} \sum_m e^{-\chi^2 (m - \mathcal{M})^2} |c_m|^2$$

(Projection noise)

# Measurement Backaction

Post-Measurement State (Unnormalized)

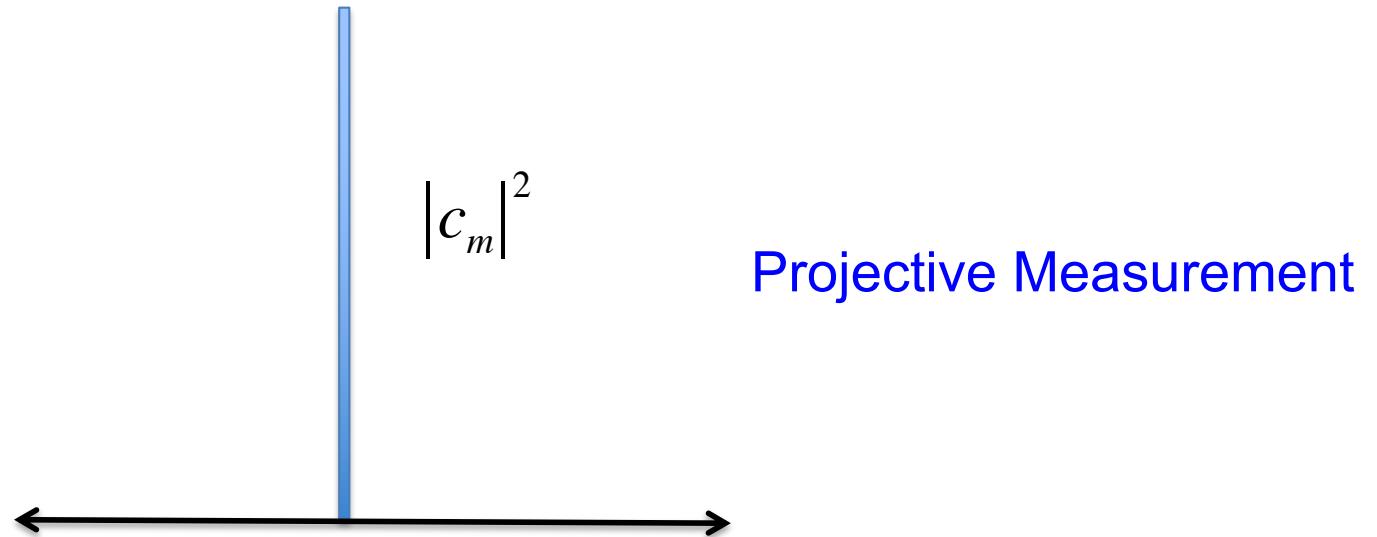
$$|\tilde{\psi}\rangle_S^{out} \Big|_{\mathcal{M}} = \hat{K}_{\mathcal{M}} |\psi\rangle_S^{in} = (\chi^2 \pi)^{-1/4} \sum_m e^{-\frac{\chi^2}{2}(m-\mathcal{M})^2} c_m |m\rangle$$



# Measurement Backaction

Post-Measurement State (Unnormalized)

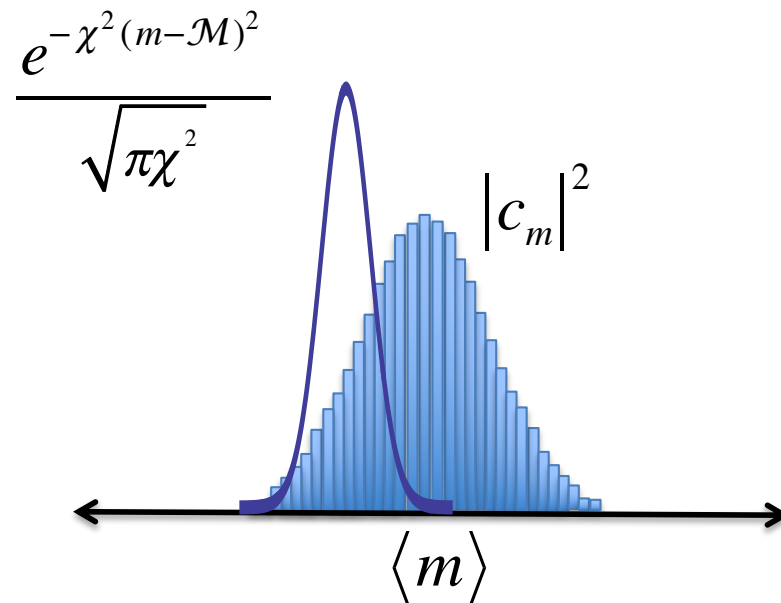
$$|\tilde{\psi}\rangle_S^{out}|_{\mathcal{M}} = \hat{K}_{\mathcal{M}}|\psi\rangle_S^{in} = (\chi^2\pi)^{-1/4} \sum_m e^{-\frac{\chi^2}{2}(m-\mathcal{M})^2} c_m |m\rangle$$



# Measurement Backaction

Post-Measurement State (Unnormalized)

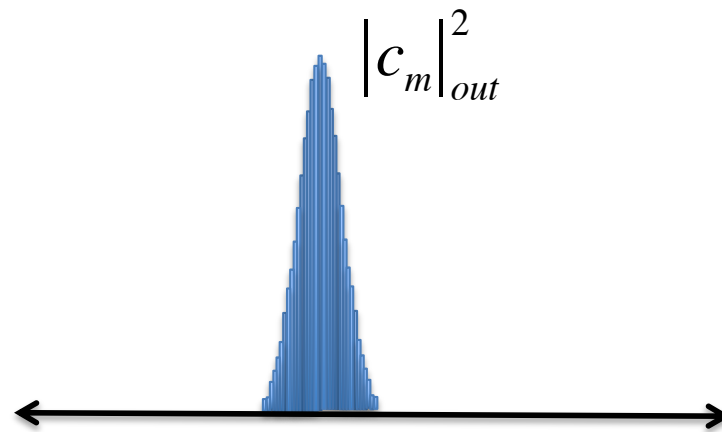
$$|\tilde{\psi}\rangle_S^{\text{out}} \Big|_{\mathcal{M}} = \hat{K}_{\mathcal{M}} |\psi\rangle_S^{\text{in}} = (\chi^2 \pi)^{-1/4} \sum_m e^{-\frac{\chi^2}{2}(m-\mathcal{M})^2} c_m |m\rangle$$



# Measurement Backaction

Post-Measurement State (Unnormalized)

$$|\tilde{\psi}\rangle_S^{out} \Big|_{\mathcal{M}} = \hat{K}_{\mathcal{M}} |\psi\rangle_S^{in} = (\chi^2 \pi)^{-1/4} \sum_m e^{-\frac{\chi^2}{2}(m-\mathcal{M})^2} c_m |m\rangle$$

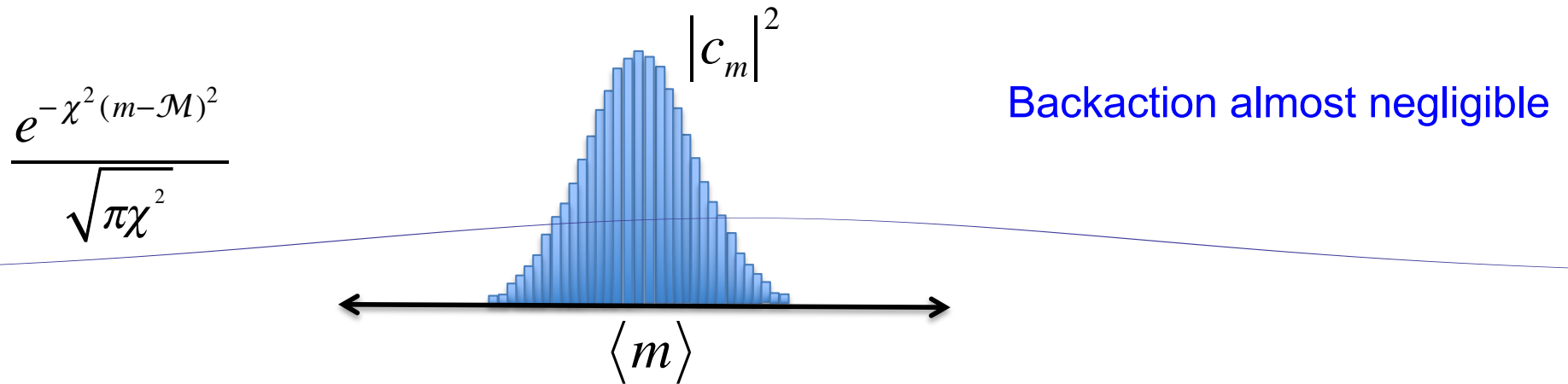


Weak measurement

(Do not confuse with  
“weak value” a la  
Aharonov)

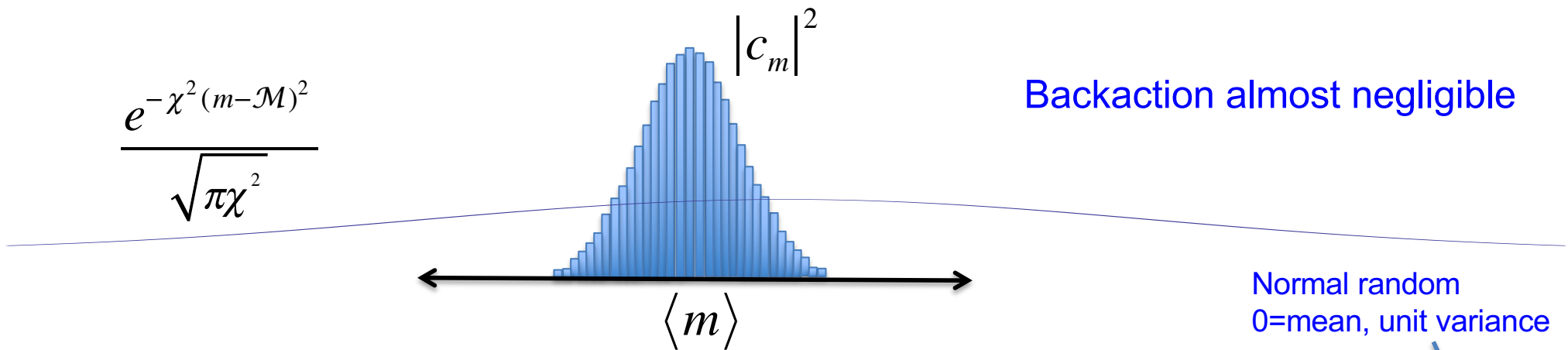
# Measurement Backaction

$$\Delta m^2 \Big|_{meter} \gg \Delta m^2 \Big|_{state}$$



# Measurement Backaction

$$\Delta m^2 \Big|_{meter} \gg \Delta m^2 \Big|_{state}$$

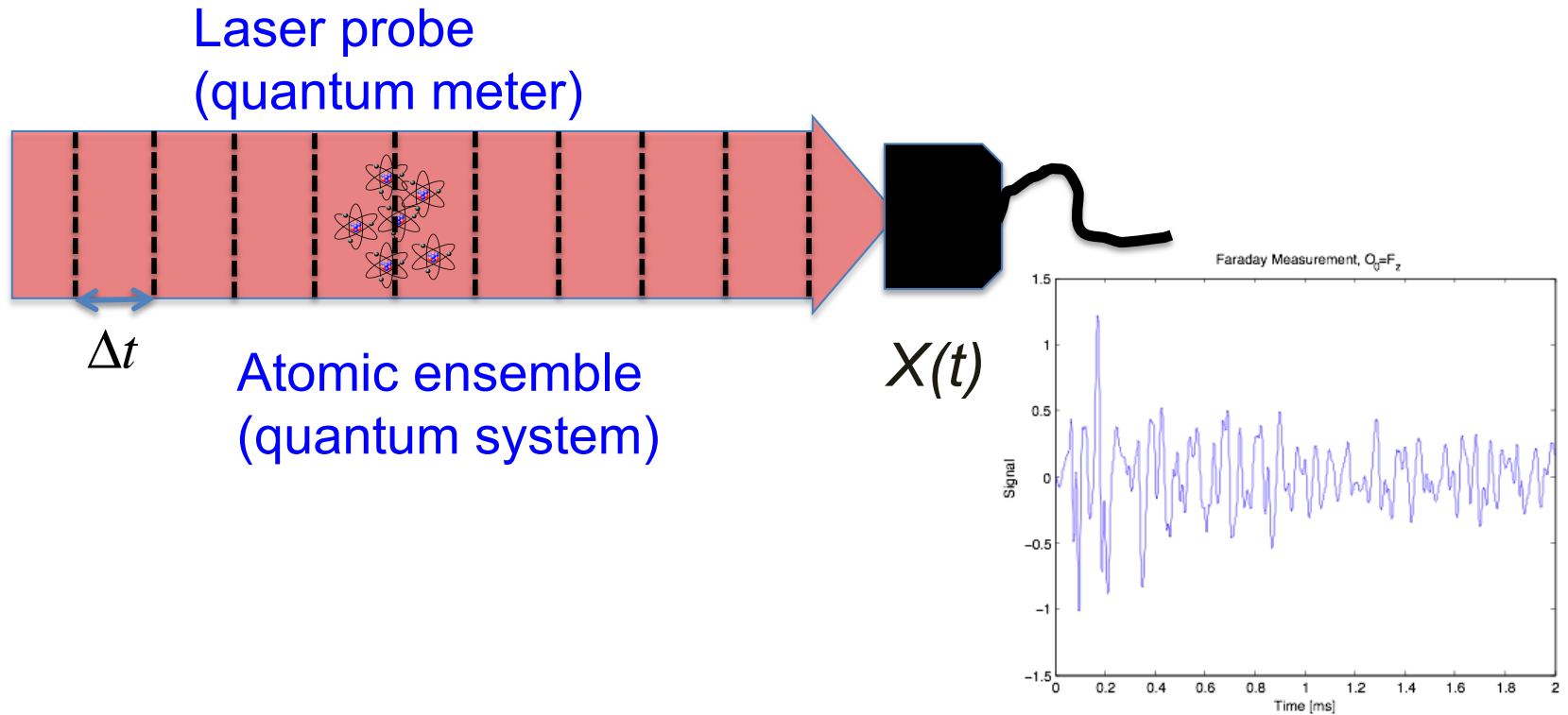


$$P_{\mathcal{M}} = \langle \psi_s^{in} | \hat{E}_{\mathcal{M}} | \psi_s^{in} \rangle \approx (\pi\chi^2)^{-1/2} e^{-\chi^2(\mathcal{M} - \langle \hat{O}_s \rangle)^2}$$

Mean field approximation.

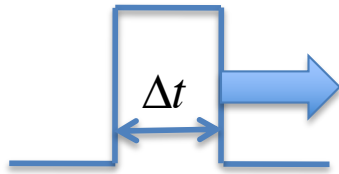
$$\mathcal{M} = \langle \psi_s | \hat{O}_s | \psi_s \rangle + \underbrace{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\chi}} \mathcal{N}}_{\text{Shot Noise}}$$

# Continuous Measurement

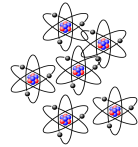




# Entangling Interaction

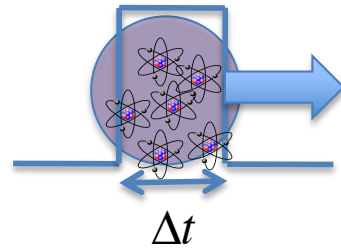


Light packet  
(quantum ancilla)

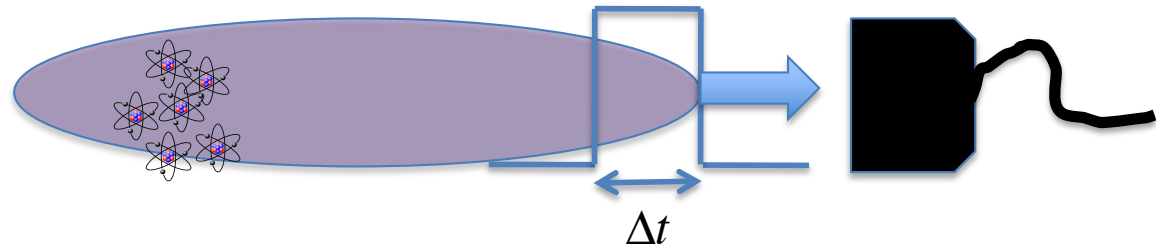


Atomic ensemble  
(quantum system)

# Entangling Interaction



# Entangling Interaction



$$\text{Signal} \propto \Delta t \quad \text{Shot noise} \propto \sqrt{\Delta t}$$

$$\text{SNR} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{\Delta t}} \quad \text{SNR variance} = \frac{1}{\kappa \Delta t} = \frac{1}{2\chi^2}$$

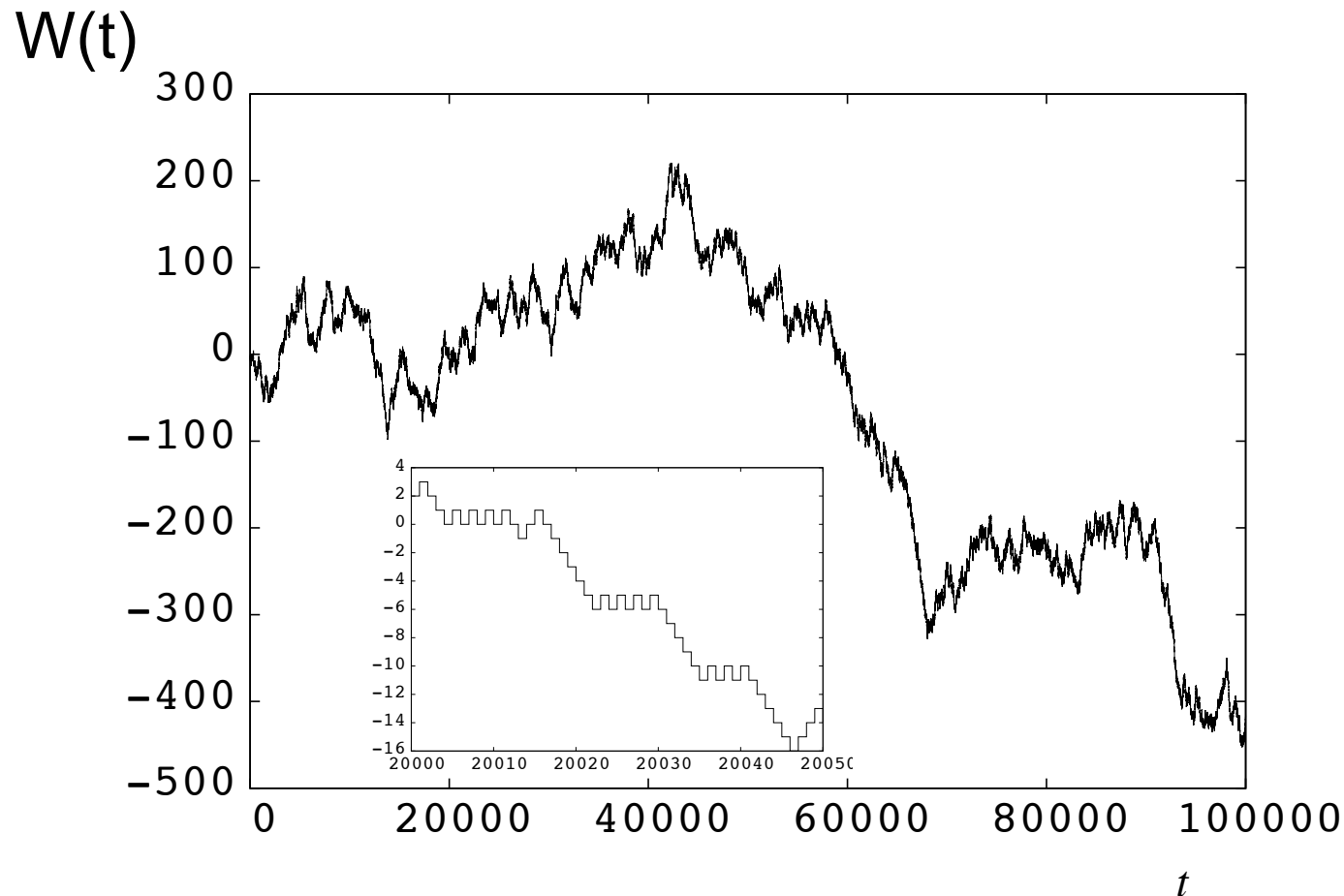
$\kappa$  = measurement rate

As  $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$ , weak measurement in any time-slice

$$\mathcal{M}(t) = \langle \psi(t) | \hat{O} | \psi(t) \rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\kappa \Delta t}} \mathcal{N}(t)$$

# White Noise: Wiener Stochastic Process

Brownian motion – random walk in 1D



$$P(W(t)) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi t}} \exp\left\{-\frac{W^2}{2t}\right\}$$

Gaussian:

$$\overline{W(t)} = 0 \quad \overline{W^2(t)} = t$$

# White Noise: Wiener Stochastic Process

Wiener interval  $\Delta W(t) = W(t + \Delta t) - W(t)$

$$\langle \Delta W(t_1) \Delta W(t_2) \rangle = \begin{cases} 0; & |t_1 - t_2| \geq \Delta t \\ \Delta t - |t_1 - t_2|; & |t_1 - t_2| \leq \Delta t \end{cases}$$

Ito stochastic differential  $dW(t) = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \Delta W(t) \sim \sqrt{dt} \mathcal{N}(t)$

$$\overline{dW(t)} = 0 \quad (dW(t))^2 = dt \quad dW(t)dt = 0$$

White Noise  $\xi(t) = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta W(t)}{\Delta t} = \frac{dW(t)}{dt} \quad \overline{\xi(t)\xi(t')} = \delta(t - t')$

Continuous Measurement  $\mathcal{M}(t) = \langle \hat{O} \rangle + \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\kappa \Delta t}} \mathcal{N}(t) = \langle \hat{O} \rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\kappa}} \frac{dW(t)}{dt}$

# Stochastic Schrödinger Equation

Evolution of the state conditioned on the measurement record

$$|\psi_c(t+dt)\rangle = \frac{\hat{K}_{\mathcal{M}}(t,dt)|\psi_c(t)\rangle}{\left\| \hat{K}_{\mathcal{M}}(t,dt)|\psi_c(t)\rangle \right\|}$$

Kraus operator for continuous measurement

$$\hat{K}_{\mathcal{M}}(t,dt)|\psi_c(t)\rangle = e^{-\frac{\kappa dt}{4}(\hat{O}-\mathcal{M}(t))^2} |\psi_c(t)\rangle$$

$$\mathcal{M}(t) = \langle \psi(t) | \hat{O} | \psi(t) \rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\kappa}} \frac{dW(t)}{dt}$$

$$\hat{K}_{\mathcal{M}}(t,dt) = e^{-\frac{\kappa dt}{4}(\Delta\hat{O}-dW/\sqrt{\kappa}dt)^2} \quad \Delta\hat{O} \equiv \hat{O} - \langle \psi(t) | \hat{O} | \psi(t) \rangle$$

# Stochastic Schrödinger Equation

$$\begin{aligned}
 \hat{K}_{\mathcal{M}}(t, dt) &= \exp \left\{ -\frac{\kappa dt}{4} \left( \Delta \hat{O}(t) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{\kappa}} \frac{dW}{dt} \right)^2 \right\} \\
 &= \exp \left\{ -\frac{\kappa dt}{4} \Delta \hat{O}^2(t) + \frac{\sqrt{\kappa} dW}{2} \Delta \hat{O}(t) \right\} \\
 &= 1 - \frac{\kappa dt}{4} \Delta \hat{O}^2(t) + \frac{\sqrt{\kappa} dW}{2} \Delta \hat{O}(t) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\kappa dW^2}{4} \Delta \hat{O}^2(t)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\hat{K}_{\mathcal{M}}(t, dt) = 1 - \frac{\kappa}{8} \Delta \hat{O}^2(t) dt + \frac{\sqrt{\kappa}}{2} \Delta \hat{O}(t) dW$$

$$\langle \psi | \hat{K}^\dagger \hat{K} | \psi \rangle = \langle \psi | 1 - \frac{\kappa}{4} \Delta \hat{O}^2(t) dt + \left( \frac{\sqrt{\kappa}}{2} \Delta \hat{O}(t) dW \right)^2 + \sqrt{\kappa} \Delta \hat{O}(t) dW | \psi \rangle = 1$$

# Stochastic Schrödinger Equation

$$\begin{aligned} |\psi_c(t+dt)\rangle &= \hat{K}(t,dt)|\psi_c(t)\rangle \\ &= \left(1 - \frac{\kappa}{8} \Delta \hat{O}^2(t) dt\right) |\psi_c(t)\rangle + \frac{\sqrt{\kappa}}{2} \Delta \hat{O}(t) dW |\psi_c(t)\rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$|d\psi_c(t)\rangle = |\psi_c(t+dt)\rangle - |\psi_c(t)\rangle$$

$$|d\psi_c(t)\rangle = -\frac{\kappa}{8} \Delta \hat{O}^2(t) |\psi_c(t)\rangle dt + \frac{\sqrt{\kappa}}{2} \Delta \hat{O}(t) |\psi_c(t)\rangle dW$$

$$|d\psi_c(t)\rangle = -\frac{\kappa}{8} \left(\hat{O} - \langle \hat{O} \rangle\right)^2 |\psi_c(t)\rangle dt + \frac{\sqrt{\kappa}}{2} \left(\hat{O} - \langle \hat{O} \rangle\right) |\psi_c(t)\rangle dW$$

“Quantum Trajectory”

“Quantum State Diffusion”



# Stochastic Master Equation

$$\begin{aligned}
 |\psi_c(t+dt)\rangle &= \hat{K}(t,dt)|\psi_c(t)\rangle \\
 &= \underbrace{\left(1 - \frac{\kappa}{8} \Delta \hat{O}_s^2(t) dt\right)}_{1 - \frac{i}{\hbar} \hat{H}_{\text{eff}} dt = 1 - \frac{1}{2} \hat{L}^\dagger \hat{L} dt} |\psi_c(t)\rangle + \underbrace{\frac{\sqrt{\kappa}}{2} \Delta \hat{O}_s(t) dW}_{\hat{L} dW} |\psi_c(t)\rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

No “click”
“click”

$$d\hat{\rho}_c = d(|\psi_c(t)\rangle\langle\psi_c(t)|) = |d\psi_c(t)\rangle\langle\psi_c(t)| + |\psi_c(t)\rangle\langle d\psi_c(t)| + |d\psi_c(t)\rangle\langle d\psi_c(t)|$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} \hat{L}^\dagger \hat{L} \hat{\rho}_c dt + \frac{1}{2} \hat{\rho}_c \hat{L}^\dagger \hat{L} dt + (\hat{L} \hat{\rho}_c + \hat{\rho}_c \hat{L}) dW + \hat{L} \hat{\rho}_c \hat{L}^\dagger dW^2$$

$$d\hat{\rho}_c = \underbrace{-\frac{1}{2} \{ \hat{L}^\dagger \hat{L}, \hat{\rho}_c \}}_{\text{Lindbladian}} dt + \underbrace{\hat{L} \hat{\rho}_c \hat{L}^\dagger}_{\text{Measurement backaction}} dt + (\hat{L} \hat{\rho}_c + \hat{\rho}_c \hat{L}) dW$$

# Stochastic Master Equation

$$\begin{aligned}
 |\psi_c(t+dt)\rangle &= \hat{K}(t,dt)|\psi_c(t)\rangle \\
 &= \underbrace{\left(1 - \frac{\kappa}{8} \Delta \hat{O}_s^2(t) dt\right)}_{1 - \frac{i}{\hbar} \hat{H}_{\text{eff}} dt = 1 - \frac{1}{2} \hat{L}^\dagger \hat{L} dt} |\psi_c(t)\rangle + \underbrace{\frac{\sqrt{\kappa}}{2} \Delta \hat{O}_s(t) dW}_{\hat{L} dW} |\psi_c(t)\rangle \\
 &\quad \text{No "click"} \qquad \qquad \qquad \text{"click"}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$d\hat{\rho}_c = d(|\psi_c(t)\rangle\langle\psi_c(t)|) = |d\psi_c(t)\rangle\langle\psi_c(t)| + |\psi_c(t)\rangle\langle d\psi_c(t)| + |d\psi_c(t)\rangle\langle d\psi_c(t)|$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} \hat{L}^\dagger \hat{L} \hat{\rho}_c dt + \frac{1}{2} \hat{\rho}_c \hat{L}^\dagger \hat{L} dt + (\hat{L} \hat{\rho}_c + \hat{\rho}_c \hat{L}) dW + \hat{L} \hat{\rho}_c \hat{L}^\dagger dW^2$$

$$d\hat{\rho}_c = \underbrace{-\frac{\kappa}{8} \{\Delta \hat{O}_s^2, \hat{\rho}_c\} dt + \frac{\kappa}{4} \Delta \hat{O}_s \hat{\rho}_c \Delta \hat{O}_s dt}_{\text{Lindbladian}} + \underbrace{\frac{\sqrt{\kappa}}{2} (\Delta \hat{O}_s \hat{\rho}_c + \hat{\rho}_c \Delta \hat{O}_s) dW}_{\text{Measurement backaction}}$$

# Stochastic Master Equation

$$\begin{aligned}
 |\psi_c(t+dt)\rangle &= \hat{K}(t,dt)|\psi_c(t)\rangle \\
 &= \underbrace{\left(1 - \frac{\kappa}{8} \Delta \hat{O}_s^2(t) dt\right)}_{1 - \frac{i}{\hbar} \hat{H}_{\text{eff}} dt = 1 - \frac{1}{2} \hat{L}^\dagger \hat{L} dt} |\psi_c(t)\rangle + \underbrace{\frac{\sqrt{\kappa}}{2} \Delta \hat{O}_s(t) dW}_{\hat{L} dW} |\psi_c(t)\rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 d\hat{\rho}_c &= d(|\psi_c(t)\rangle\langle\psi_c(t)|) = |d\psi_c(t)\rangle\langle\psi_c(t)| + |\psi_c(t)\rangle\langle d\psi_c(t)| + |d\psi_c(t)\rangle\langle d\psi_c(t)| \\
 &= -\frac{1}{2} \hat{L}^\dagger \hat{L} \hat{\rho}_c dt + \frac{1}{2} \hat{\rho}_c \hat{L}^\dagger \hat{L} dt + (\hat{L} \hat{\rho}_c + \hat{\rho}_c \hat{L}) dW + \hat{L} \hat{\rho}_c \hat{L}^\dagger dW^2
 \end{aligned}$$

$$d\hat{\rho}_c = \underbrace{-\frac{\kappa}{8} [\hat{O}_s, [\hat{O}_s, \hat{\rho}_c]] dt}_{\text{Lindbladian}} + \underbrace{\frac{\sqrt{\kappa}}{2} (\Delta \hat{O}_s \hat{\rho}_c + \hat{\rho}_c \Delta \hat{O}_s) dW}_{\text{Measurement backaction}}$$

# Stochastic Master Equation

$$\begin{aligned}
 |\psi_c(t+dt)\rangle &= \hat{K}(t,dt)|\psi_c(t)\rangle \\
 &= \underbrace{\left(1 - \frac{\kappa}{8} \Delta \hat{O}_s^2(t) dt\right)}_{1 - \frac{i}{\hbar} \hat{H}_{eff} dt = 1 - \frac{1}{2} \hat{L}^\dagger \hat{L} dt} |\psi_c(t)\rangle + \underbrace{\frac{\sqrt{\kappa}}{2} \Delta \hat{O}_s(t) dW}_{\hat{L} dW} |\psi_c(t)\rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 d\hat{\rho}_c &= d(|\psi_c(t)\rangle\langle\psi_c(t)|) = |d\psi_c(t)\rangle\langle\psi_c(t)| + |\psi_c(t)\rangle\langle d\psi_c(t)| + |d\psi_c(t)\rangle\langle d\psi_c(t)| \\
 &= -\frac{1}{2} \hat{L}^\dagger \hat{L} \hat{\rho}_c dt + \frac{1}{2} \hat{\rho}_c \hat{L}^\dagger \hat{L} dt + (\hat{L} \hat{\rho}_c + \hat{\rho}_c \hat{L}) dW + \hat{L} \hat{\rho}_c \hat{L}^\dagger dW^2
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 d\hat{\rho}_c &= -\frac{i}{\hbar} [\hat{H}, \hat{\rho}_c] + \mathcal{L}_{Decoherence}[\hat{\rho}_c] && \text{General SME} \\
 &\quad -\frac{\kappa}{8} [\hat{O}_s, [\hat{O}_s, \hat{\rho}_c]] dt + \frac{\sqrt{\kappa}}{2} (\Delta \hat{O}_s \hat{\rho}_c + \hat{\rho}_c \Delta \hat{O}_s) dW
 \end{aligned}$$

# QND Measurement via continuous measurement

## Quantum Nondemolition (QND) Measurement

- Standard paradigm of quantum measurement.
  - If a system is in an eigenstate, measurement doesn't disturb it; backaction into conjugate variables.
  - QND measurement can reduce uncertainty in observable (squeezing)
- **Mathematical definition:**  
QND measurement of an observable  $\leftrightarrow$  Kraus operator commutes observable

$$\left[ \hat{K}_{\mathcal{M}}, \hat{O} \right] = 0$$

# QND Measurement via continuous measurement

Evolution of moments of observables under continuous measurement:

$$d\langle \hat{O}^n \rangle = \text{Tr}(\hat{O}^n d\hat{\rho}_c) = \sqrt{\kappa} \langle \hat{O}^n \Delta \hat{O} \rangle dW$$

$$\Rightarrow d\langle \hat{O} \rangle = \sqrt{\kappa} \langle \hat{O} \Delta \hat{O} \rangle dW = \sqrt{\kappa} \langle \Delta \hat{O}^2 \rangle dW$$

$$\Rightarrow d\langle \hat{O}^2 \rangle = \sqrt{\kappa} \langle \hat{O}^2 \Delta \hat{O} \rangle dW$$

$$\Rightarrow d\langle \Delta \hat{O}^2 \rangle = d\left(\langle \hat{O}^2 \rangle - \langle \hat{O} \rangle^2\right) = d\langle \hat{O}^2 \rangle - 2\langle \hat{O} \rangle d\langle \hat{O} \rangle - \left(d\langle \hat{O} \rangle\right)^2$$

$$= \sqrt{\kappa} \left( \langle \hat{O}^2 \Delta \hat{O} \rangle - 2\langle \hat{O} \rangle \langle \Delta \hat{O}^2 \rangle \right) dW - \kappa \langle \Delta \hat{O}^2 \rangle^2 dt$$

$$= \sqrt{\kappa} \langle \Delta \hat{O}^3 \rangle dW - \kappa \langle \Delta \hat{O}^2 \rangle^2 dt$$

0 When Gaussian

# QND Measurement via continuous measurement

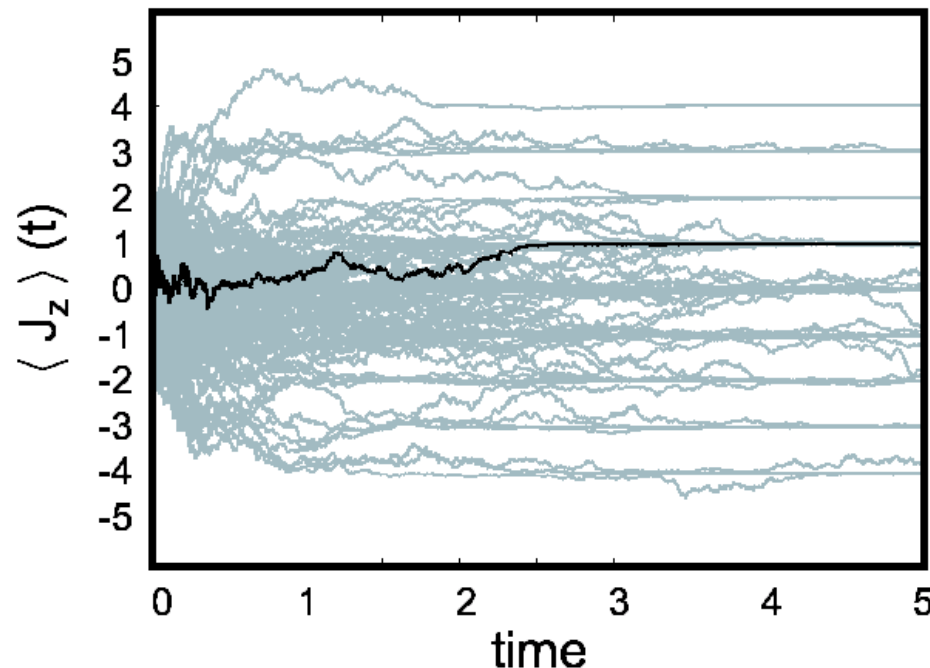
Evolution of moments of observables under continuous measurement:

$$d\langle\hat{O}\rangle = \sqrt{\kappa}\langle\Delta\hat{O}^2\rangle dW \quad \text{Mean position randomly kicked (projection noise)}$$

$$d\langle\Delta\hat{O}^2\rangle = -\kappa\langle\Delta\hat{O}^2\rangle^2 dt \Rightarrow \langle\Delta\hat{O}^2(T)\rangle = \frac{\langle\Delta\hat{O}^2(0)\rangle}{1+\kappa T\langle\Delta\hat{O}^2(0)\rangle} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{\kappa T} \text{ for } \kappa T \gg 1$$

Projection noise squeezed to the shot noise resolution of probe

Example:  
QND measurement  
of spin projection  $J_z$   
for spin  $J=4$



Stockton *et al.*,  
Phys. Rev. A **70**,  
002206 (2004)

# Take-Away Lessons

- Von Neumann paradigm of quantum measurement describes how a quantum meter gains information about a quantum system.
- Most general measurement in quantum mechanics: POVM
  - Arbitrary number of possible measurement outcomes.
  - Born rule: probability of measurement outcome.
  - Measurement back action: Kraus operators update state conditioned on measurement outcome.
- “Weak” nonprojective measurements
  - Different projective outcomes not fully resolvable by the meter.
  - Measurement backaction weakly disturbs the state.
  - Information gain / disturbance tradeoff.
- Continuous measurement
  - Continuous probe “slice of time” differentially measures system
  - Stochastic Schrödinger equation: continuous-time evolution of the state conditioned the continuous measurement record