

# Complete Equational Theories for Quantum circuits

Alexandre Clément

LMF, Inria QuaCS, Université Paris-Saclay

Joint work with Noé Delorme, Nicolas Heurtel, Shane Mansfield, Simon Perdrix, Benoît Valiron  
and Renaud Vilmart

Marseille, November 26, 2024

# Introduction

**Equational theory** = a set of equations, aka non-oriented rewrite rules. E.g.



Can be useful for:

- Optimization
- Hardware constraint satisfaction
- Verification via equivalence checking
- Error correction, ...

For example:

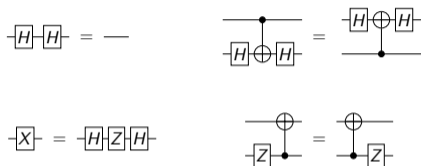


**Complete** if any two equivalent circuits can be transformed into each other.



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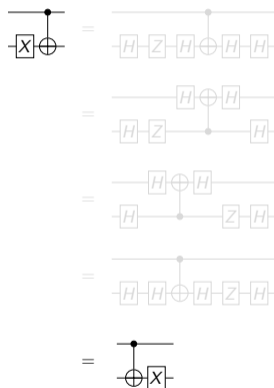
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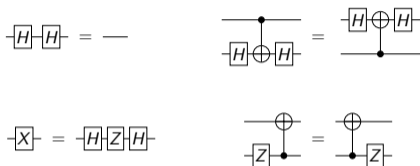
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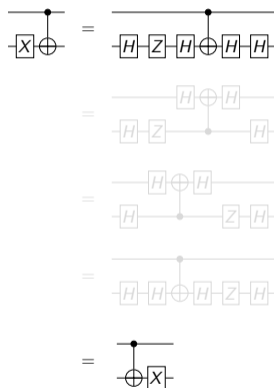
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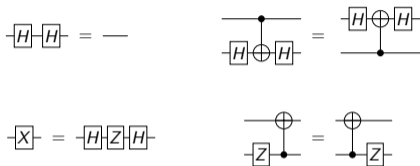
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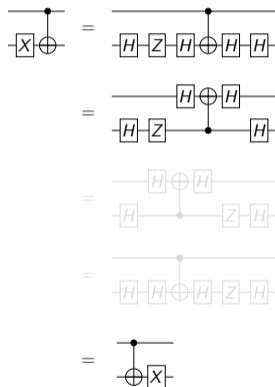
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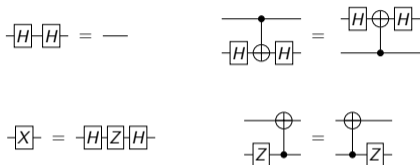
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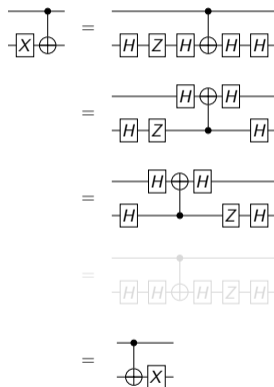
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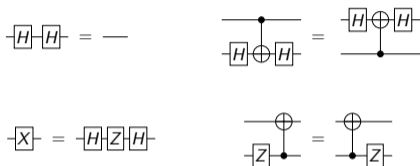
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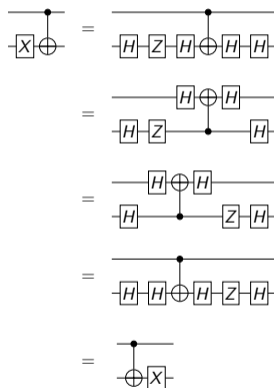
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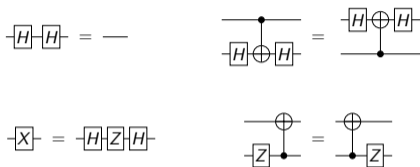


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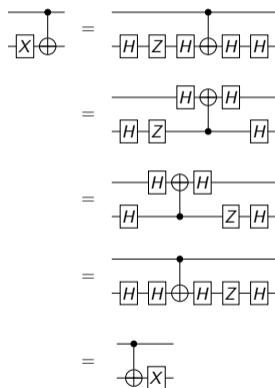
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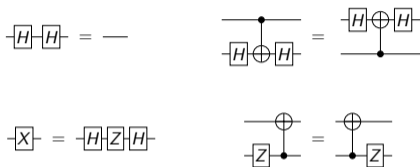
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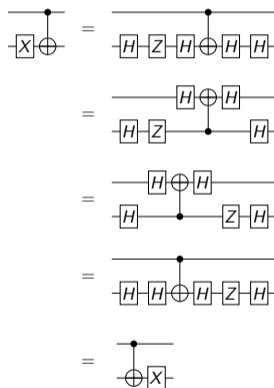
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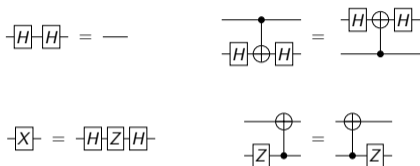
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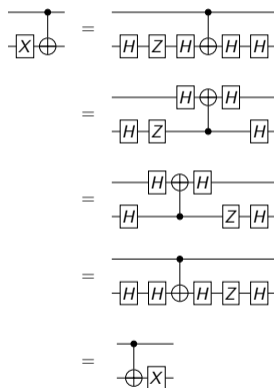
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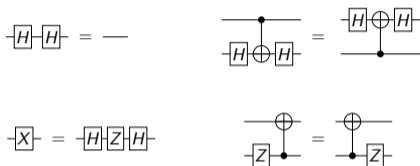
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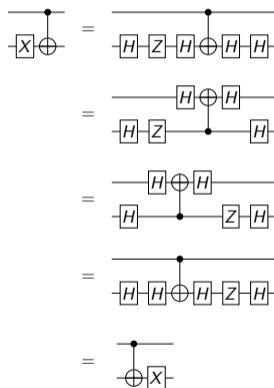
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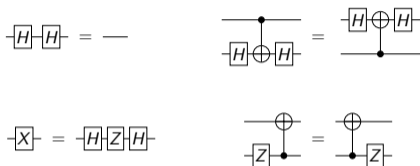
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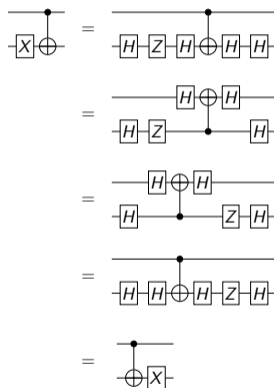
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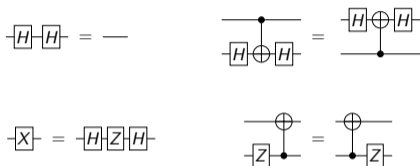
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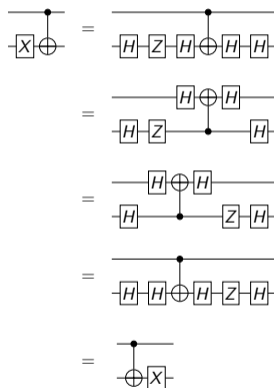
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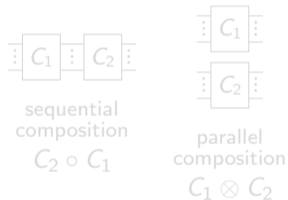
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# Quantum Circuits as a Graphical Language

We consider the PROP of quantum circuits generated by:



Structure of PROP:



+ a few axioms, e.g.



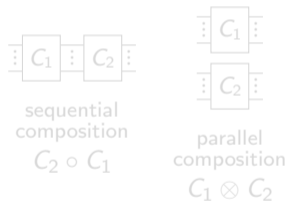
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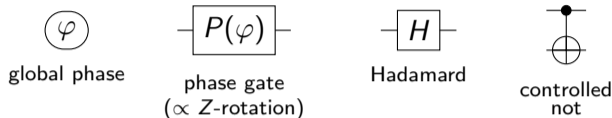


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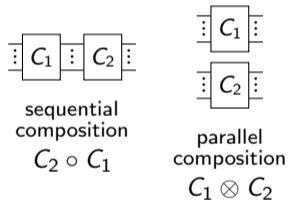


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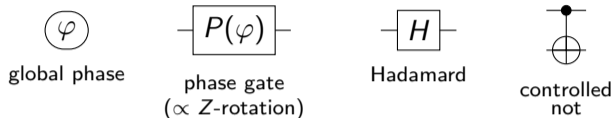
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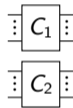
Structure of PROP:



swap gate

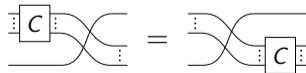
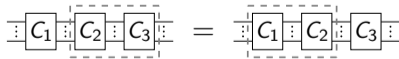


sequential composition  
 $C_2 \circ C_1$



parallel composition  
 $C_1 \otimes C_2$

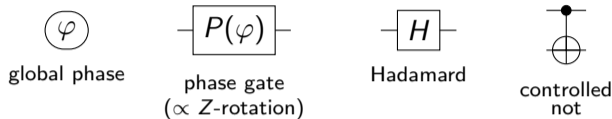
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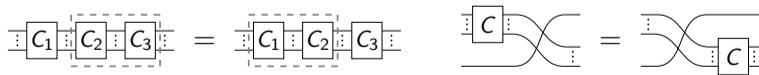
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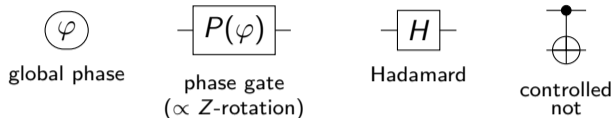
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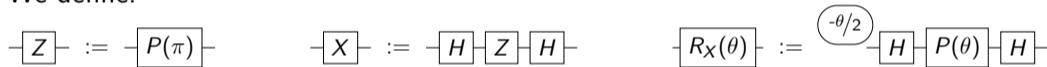
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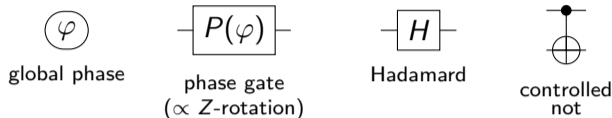
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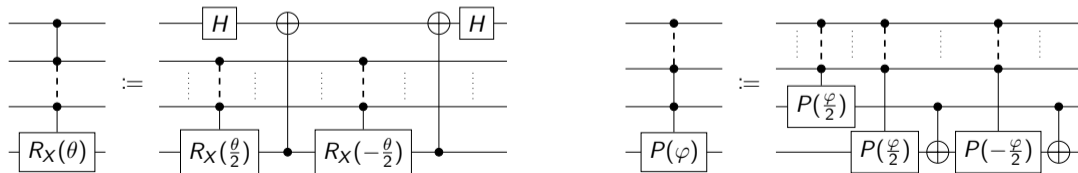
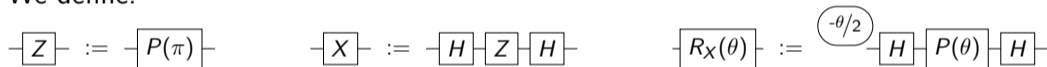
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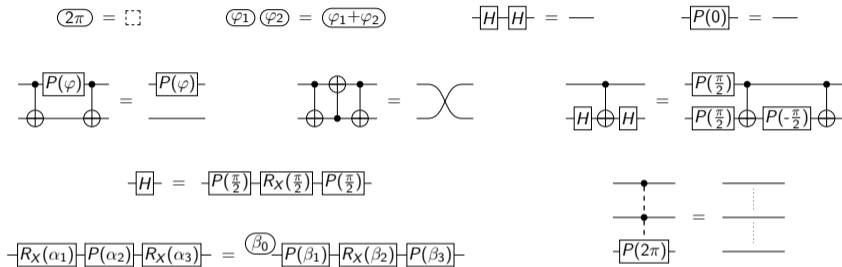


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# A Minimal Complete Equational Theory for Quantum Circuits

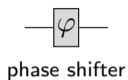


**Theorem (Completeness [C., Delorme, Perdrix, 2023])**

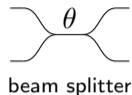
*Any two equivalent circuits can be transformed into each other.*

# A Graphical Language for Polarisation-Preserving Linear Optical Circuits

The PROP of  $LO_{PP}$ -circuits is generated by:

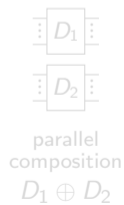


$$e^{i\varphi}$$



$$\begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & i \sin \theta \\ i \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

Structure of PROP:

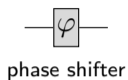


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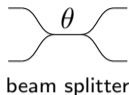


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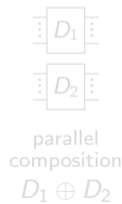


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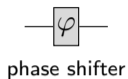
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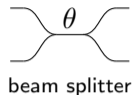
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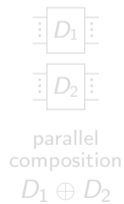


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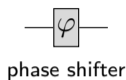
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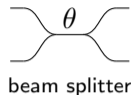
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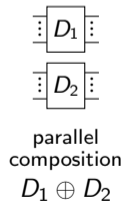
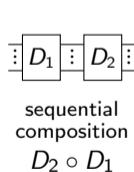


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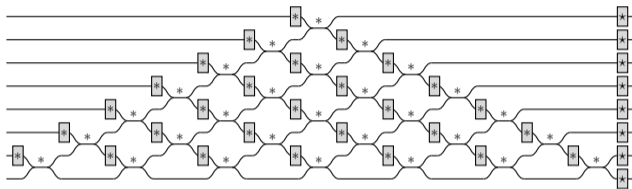
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# A Graphical Language for Polarisation-Preserving Linear Optical Circuits

Universal form:



M. Reck, A. Zeilinger, H. J. Bernstein, P. Bertani, *Experimental realization of any discrete unitary operator*, 1994.

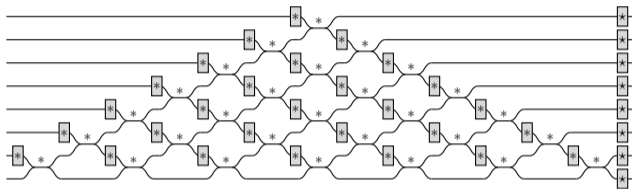
Proposition (Universality)

For any unitary  $U: \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$ , there exists a  $\text{LO}_{\text{PP}}$ -circuit  $D: n \rightarrow n$  such that  $\llbracket D \rrbracket = U$ .

Unique if we impose conditions on the parameters  $\longrightarrow$  **Normal form**

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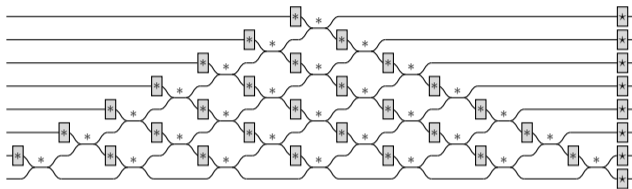
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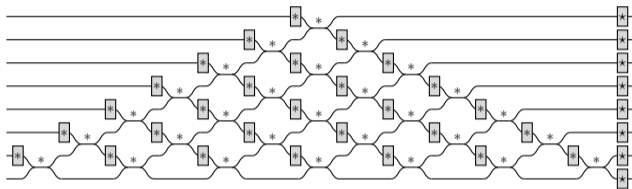
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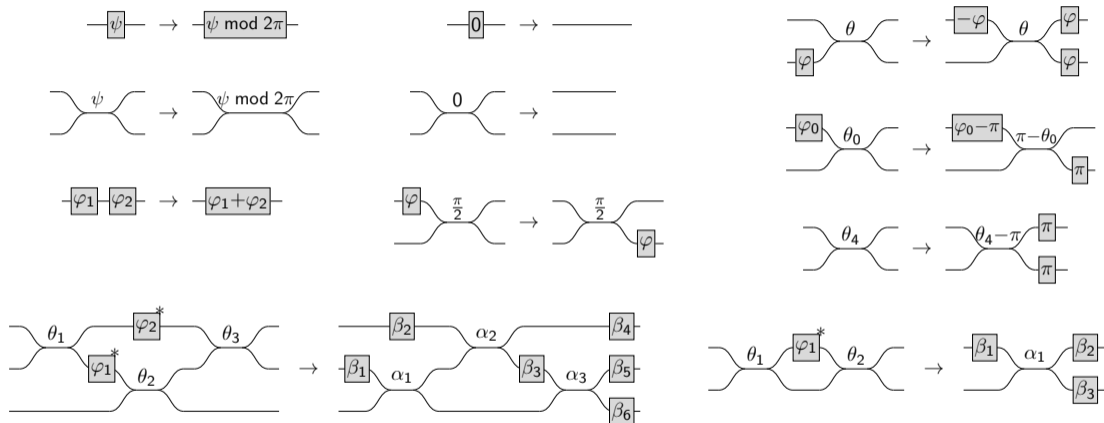
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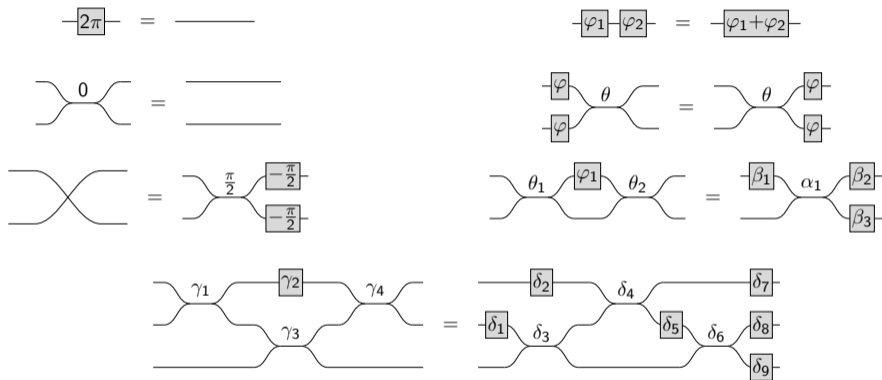
# A Rewriting System for $LO_{PP}$ -Circuits



where  $\psi \in \mathbb{R} \setminus [0, 2\pi)$ ;  $\varphi, \varphi_1, \varphi_2 \in (0, 2\pi)$ ;  $\varphi_0, \theta_4 \in [\pi, 2\pi)$ ;  $\theta, \theta_0, \theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3 \in (0, \pi)$ ; and  $\theta_0 \neq \frac{\pi}{2}$ .



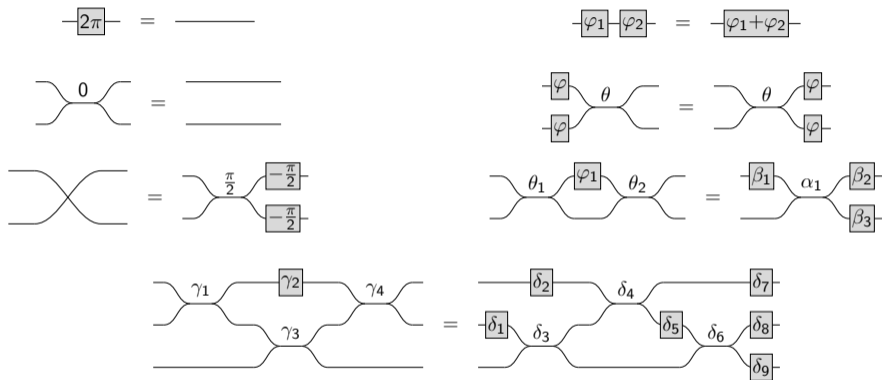
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Theorem (Completeness [C., Heurtel, Mansfield, Perdrix, Valiron, 2022])

*Any two equivalent  $LO_{PP}$ -circuits can be transformed into each other.*

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## Remark

The  $2^n$ -mode  $\text{LO}_{\text{PP}}$ -circuits are universal for  $2^n \times 2^n$  unitaries, like the  $n$ -qubit quantum circuits.

n-Qubit  
Quantum  
Circuits

$C_1$

$C_2$

$2^n$ -Mode  
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$E$

$E$

**$2^n$ -Mode  
Optical  
Circuits**

Completeness of  $\text{LO}_{\text{PP}}$

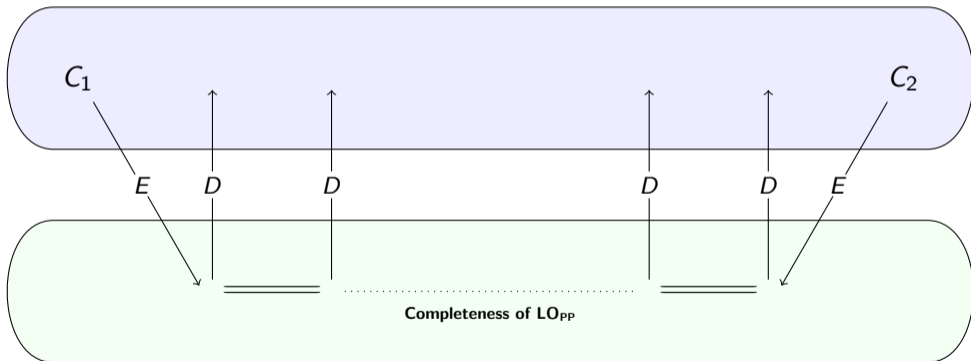
# Proof of Completeness for Quantum Circuits

## Remark

The  $2^n$ -mode  $\text{LO}_{\text{PP}}$ -circuits are universal for  $2^n \times 2^n$  unitaries, like the  $n$ -qubit quantum circuits.

**n-Qubit  
Quantum  
Circuits**

**$2^n$ -Mode  
Optical  
Circuits**



# Proof of Completeness for Quantum Circuits

## Lemma 1

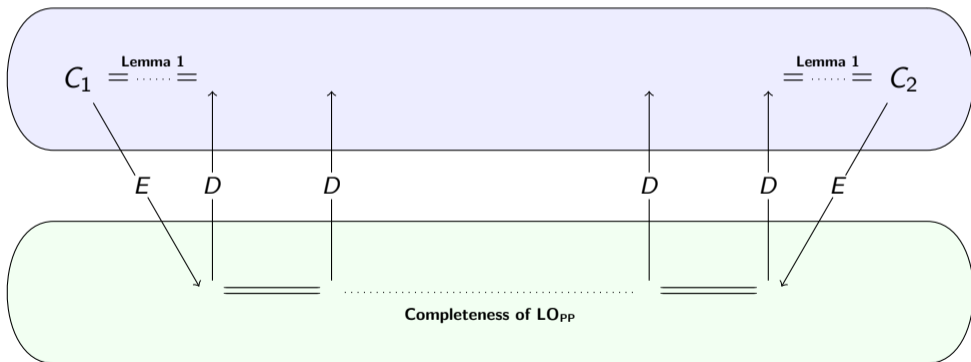
For any quantum circuit  $C$ ,  
 $QC \vdash D(E(C)) = C$ .

## Lemma 2

For every equation of the  $LO_{PP}$ -calculus, of the form  
 $D_1 = D_2$ , one has  $QC \vdash D(D_1) = D(D_2)$ .

n-Qubit  
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# Proof of Completeness for Quantum Circuits

## Lemma 1

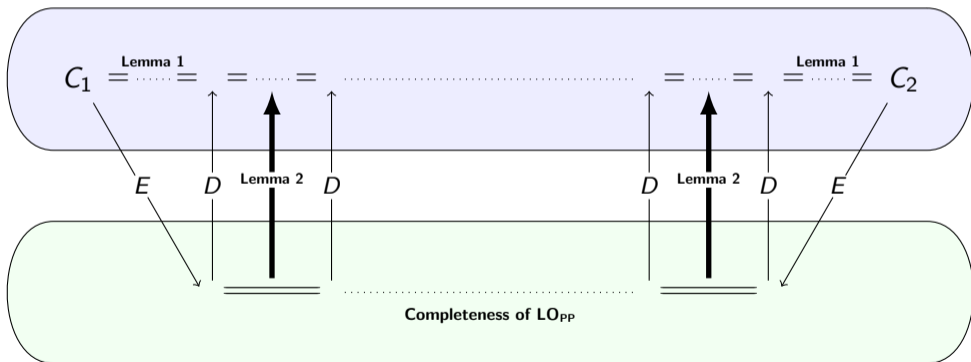
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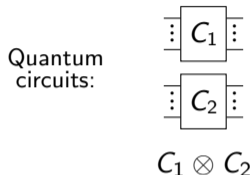
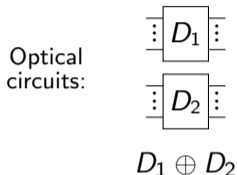
n-Qubit  
Quantum  
Circuits

$2^n$ -Mode  
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# Key Aspects of the Proof

- Note that optical circuits and quantum circuits have different structures:

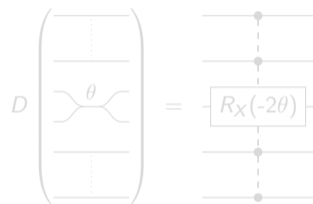


⇒ To define  $E$  and  $D$ , we “sequentialise” the circuits:



⇒ Some deformation rules need to be treated as proper equations.

- Decoding produces multi-controlled gates, e.g.:

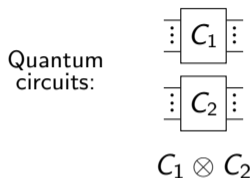
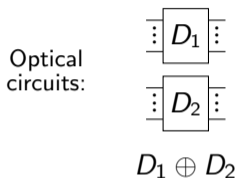


$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & & \\ & & 1 & & & \\ & & & \cos(\theta) & i \sin(\theta) & \\ & & & i \sin(\theta) & \cos(\theta) & \\ & & & & & 1 \\ & & & & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

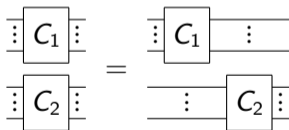
two-level matrix

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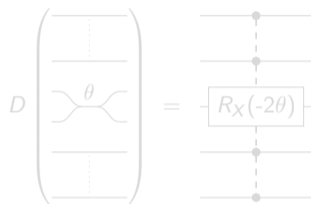


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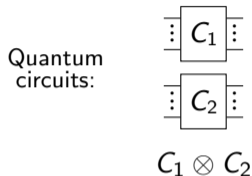
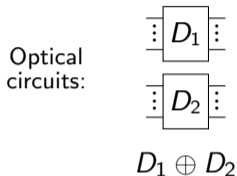


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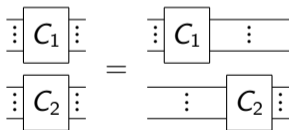
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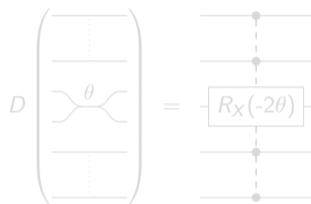


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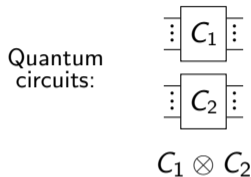
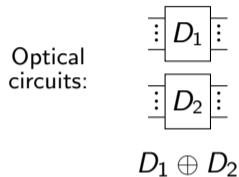


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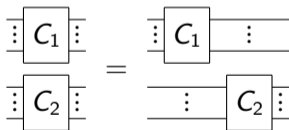
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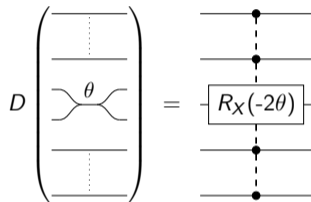


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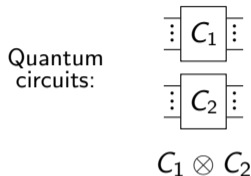
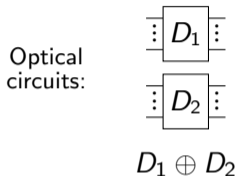


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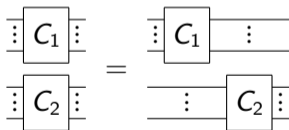
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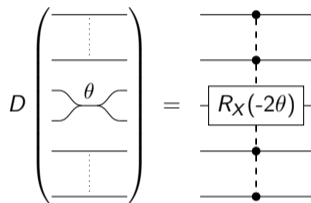


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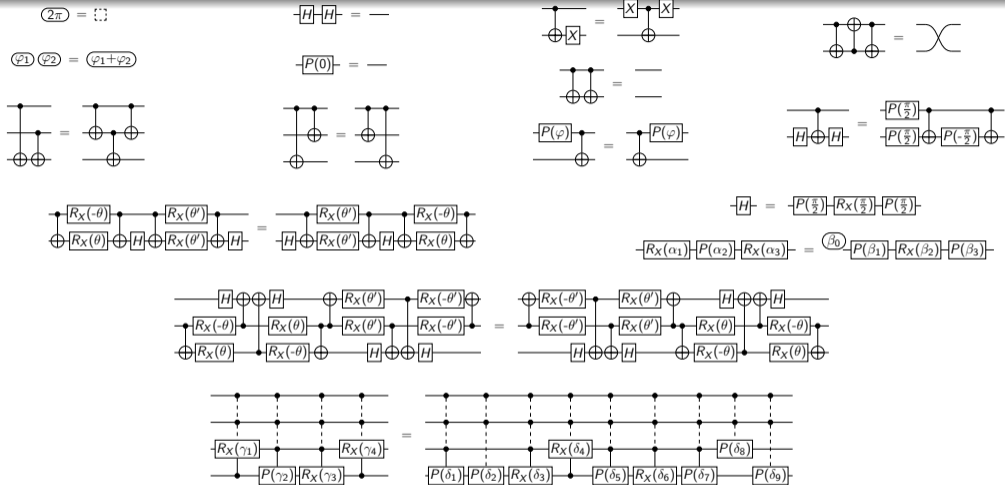
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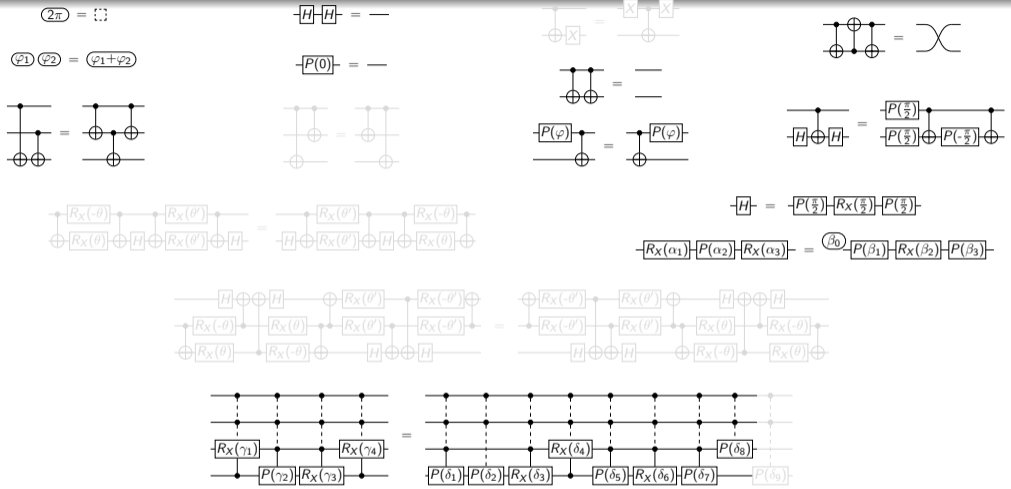
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# A Complete Equational Theory for Quantum Circuits



**Theorem (Completeness [C., Heurtel, Mansfield, Perdrix, Valiron, 2022])**  
*Any two equivalent circuits can be transformed into each other.*

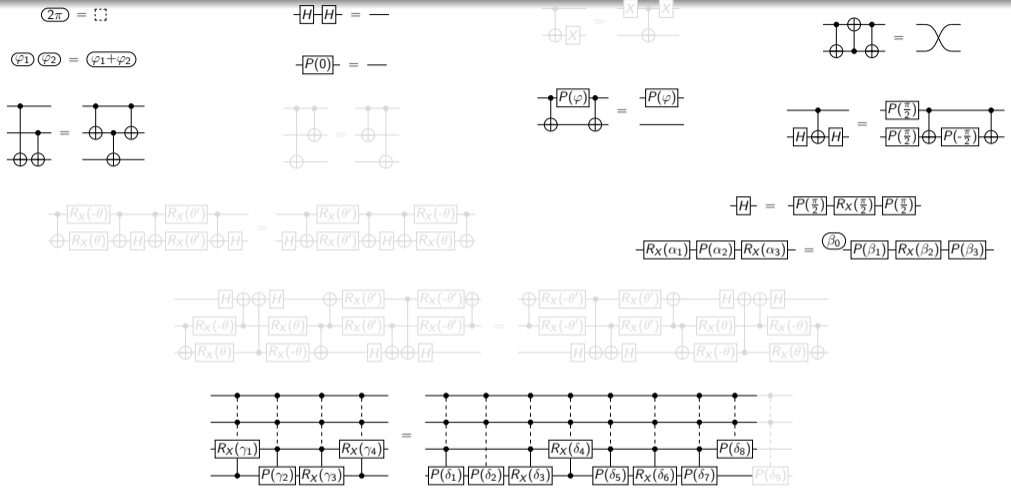
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# A Complete Equational Theory for Quantum Circuits

$$\boxed{2\pi} = \boxed{\square}$$

$$\boxed{\varphi_1} \boxed{\varphi_2} = \boxed{\varphi_1 + \varphi_2}$$

$$\boxed{H} \boxed{H} = \text{---}$$

$$\boxed{P(0)} = \text{---}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \oplus \\ \text{---} \\ \oplus \\ \bullet \end{array} \boxed{P(\varphi)} = \boxed{P(\varphi)} \text{---}$$

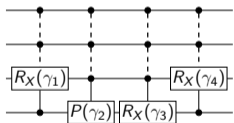
$$\begin{array}{c} \bullet \oplus \bullet \\ \oplus \bullet \oplus \\ \text{---} \end{array} = \text{---}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \oplus \\ \text{---} \\ \oplus \\ \bullet \end{array} \boxed{H} \boxed{H} = \boxed{P(\frac{\pi}{2})} \oplus \boxed{P(-\frac{\pi}{2})} \oplus \text{---}$$

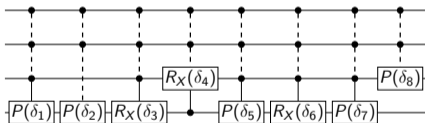
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$$\boxed{H} = \boxed{P(\frac{\pi}{2})} \boxed{R_X(\frac{\pi}{2})} \boxed{P(\frac{\pi}{2})}$$

$$\boxed{R_X(\alpha_1)} \boxed{P(\alpha_2)} \boxed{R_X(\alpha_3)} = \boxed{\beta_0} \boxed{P(\beta_1)} \boxed{R_X(\beta_2)} \boxed{P(\beta_3)}$$



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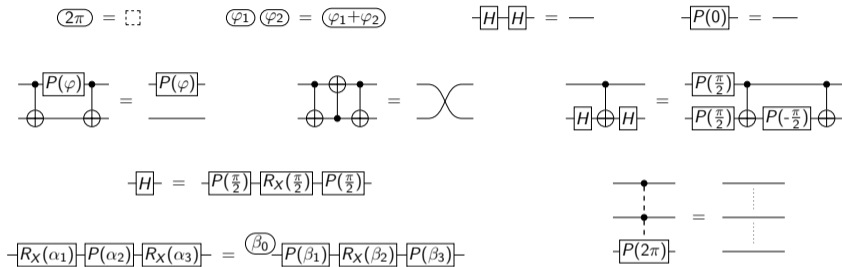
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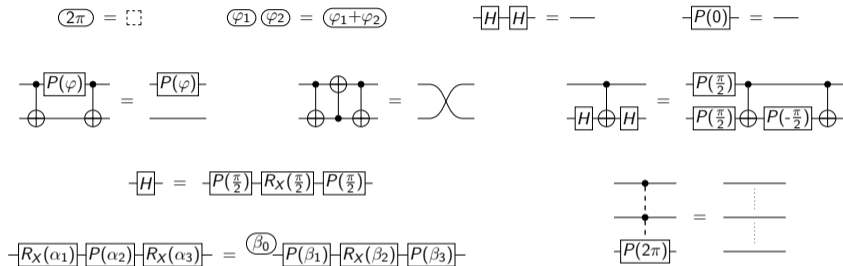
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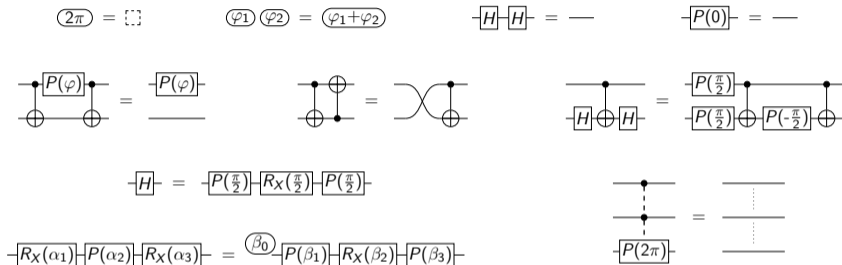
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# Minimality: Necessity of Equations on Any Number of Qubits

## Definition (Alternative Interpretation)

For any  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $\llbracket C \rrbracket_k^\# \in [0, 2\pi)$  be inductively defined (mod  $2\pi$ ) as

$$\llbracket C_2 \circ C_1 \rrbracket_k^\# = \llbracket C_2 \rrbracket_k^\# + \llbracket C_1 \rrbracket_k^\# \quad \llbracket \textcircled{\varphi} \rrbracket_k^\# = 2^k \varphi \quad \llbracket \text{---} \rrbracket_k^\# = \llbracket \text{---} \rrbracket_k^\# = 0$$

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## Proposition

$$\forall k \geq n, \quad e^{i \llbracket C \rrbracket_k^\#} = \det(\llbracket C \rrbracket)^{2^{k-n}}$$

## Corollary

For any  $C_1, C_2: n \rightarrow n$  and any  $k \geq n$ ,  
if  $\llbracket C_1 \rrbracket = \llbracket C_2 \rrbracket$  then  $\llbracket C_1 \rrbracket_k^\# = \llbracket C_2 \rrbracket_k^\#$ .

## Corollary

Any equational theory on at most  $k$  qubits  
is sound with respect to  $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket_k^\#$ .

$$\left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \vdots \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} : n \rightarrow n \right]_k^\# = 2^{1+k-n} \pi$$



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$$[[C_1 \otimes C_2]]_k^\# = [[C_1]]_k^\# + [[C_2]]_k^\# \qquad [[\text{-}P(\varphi)\text{-}]]_k^\# = 2^{k-1} \varphi \qquad [[\text{-}H\text{-}]]_k^\# = 2^{k-1} \pi$$

$$[[\text{---} \cdot \text{---} \oplus \text{---}]]_k^\# = 2^{k-2} \pi \qquad [[\text{---} \times \text{---}]]_k^\# = 2^{k-2} \pi$$

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# Minimality: Necessity of Equations on Any Number of Qubits

## Definition (Alternative Interpretation)

For any  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $\llbracket C \rrbracket_k^\# \in [0, 2\pi)$  be inductively defined (mod  $2\pi$ ) as

$$\llbracket C_2 \circ C_1 \rrbracket_k^\# = \llbracket C_2 \rrbracket_k^\# + \llbracket C_1 \rrbracket_k^\# \quad \llbracket \textcircled{\varphi} \rrbracket_k^\# = 2^k \varphi \quad \llbracket \text{---} \rrbracket_k^\# = \llbracket \text{---} \rrbracket_k^\# = 0$$

$$\llbracket C_1 \otimes C_2 \rrbracket_k^\# = \llbracket C_1 \rrbracket_k^\# + \llbracket C_2 \rrbracket_k^\# \quad \llbracket \text{---} \text{---} \rrbracket_k^\# = 2^{k-1} \varphi \quad \llbracket \text{---} \text{---} \rrbracket_k^\# = 2^{k-1} \pi$$

$$\llbracket \text{---} \oplus \text{---} \rrbracket_k^\# = 2^{k-2} \pi \quad \llbracket \text{---} \text{---} \rrbracket_k^\# = 2^{k-2} \pi$$

## Proposition

$$\forall k \geq n, \quad e^{i \llbracket C \rrbracket_k^\#} = \det(\llbracket C \rrbracket)^{2^{k-n}}$$

## Corollary

For any  $C_1, C_2: n \rightarrow n$  and any  $k \geq n$ ,  
if  $\llbracket C_1 \rrbracket = \llbracket C_2 \rrbracket$  then  $\llbracket C_1 \rrbracket_k^\# = \llbracket C_2 \rrbracket_k^\#$ .

## Corollary

Any equational theory on at most  $k$  qubits  
is sound with respect to  $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket_k^\#$ .

$$\left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \vdots \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} : n \rightarrow n \right]_k^\# = 2^{1+k-n} \pi$$

## Theorem

*Any complete equational theory on vanilla quantum circuits contains an equation on  $n$  qubits for every  $n$ .*

## Remark

This result remains true if

- we consider circuits up to global phases
- we change the set of generators.

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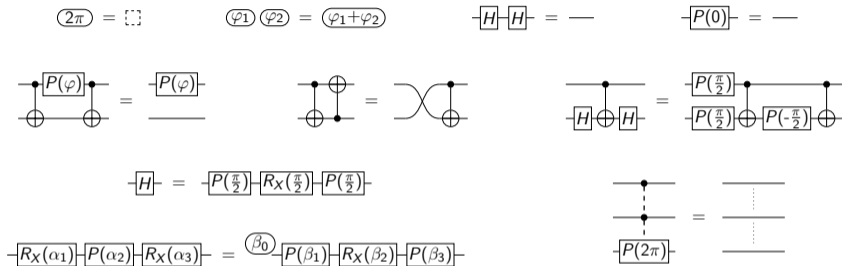
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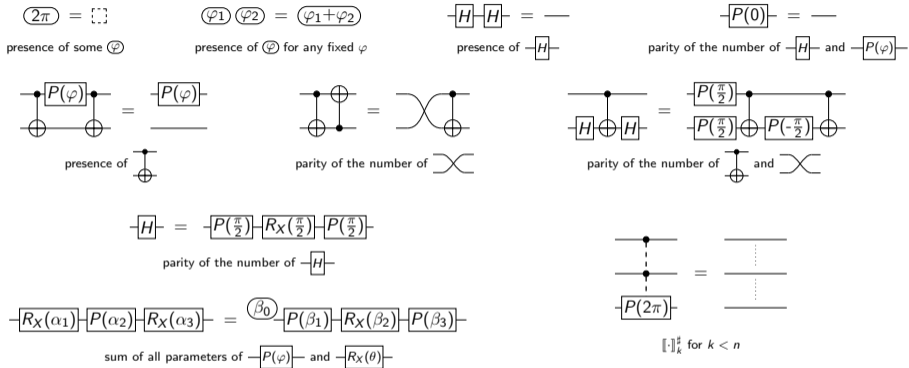


## Theorem (Minimality)

*None of these equations can be derived from the others.*



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# Circuits With Ancillae



preparation  
(i.e. initialisation)



release

# Circuits With Ancillae

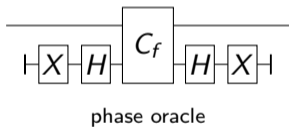
$|0\rangle$  —  
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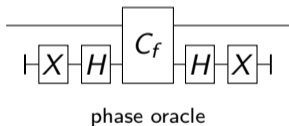
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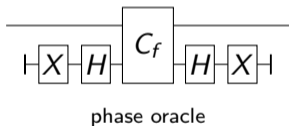


**universal for isometries**

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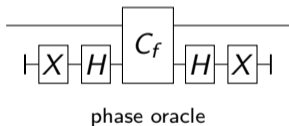
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(restriction to isometries )


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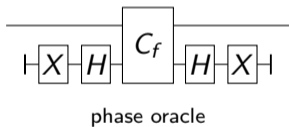
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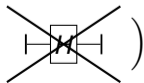
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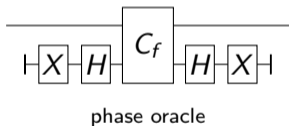
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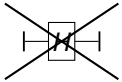
—  $|0\rangle$   
release

or


 —  
partial trace  
i.e. trace out  
i.e. discard




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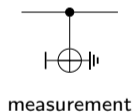
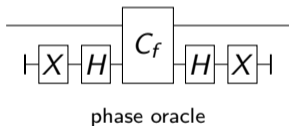
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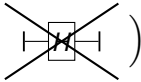
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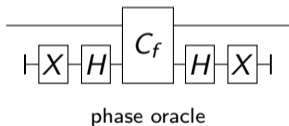
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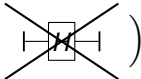
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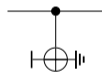
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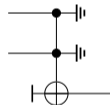
phase oracle

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measurement



classical  
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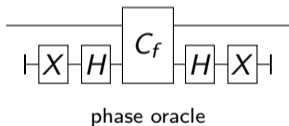
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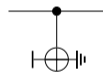
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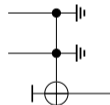
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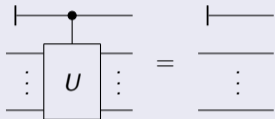
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## Lemma

Given a complete equational theory for vanilla quantum circuits, adding all equations of the following form makes it complete for quantum circuits with  $\vdash$ :



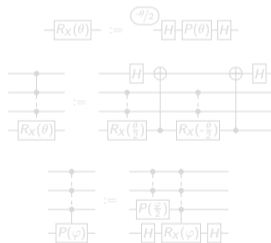
Proof using cosine-sine decomposition or following S. Staton, *Algebraic Effects, Linearity, and Quantum Programming Languages*, 2015.

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Given a complete equational theory for vanilla quantum circuits, adding the following two equations makes it complete for quantum circuits with  $\vdash$ :



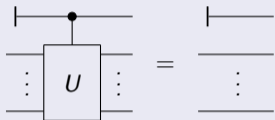
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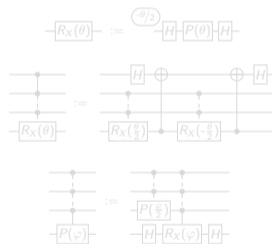
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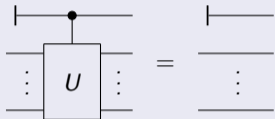
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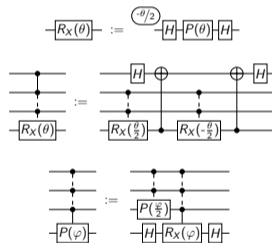
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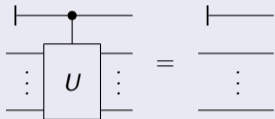
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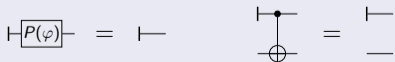
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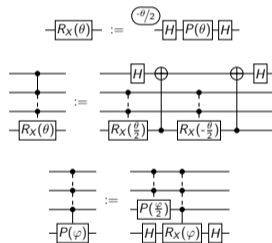
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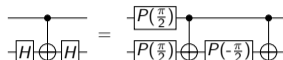
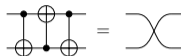
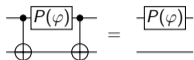
# Circuits With Initialisations ( $\vdash$ )

$$(2\pi) = \boxed{\square}$$

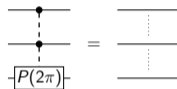
$$(\varphi_1) (\varphi_2) = (\varphi_1 + \varphi_2)$$

$$\boxed{H} \boxed{H} = \text{---}$$

$$\boxed{P(0)} = \text{---}$$



$$\boxed{H} = \boxed{P(\frac{\pi}{2})} \boxed{R_X(\frac{\pi}{2})} \boxed{P(\frac{\pi}{2})}$$



$$\boxed{R_X(\alpha_1)} \boxed{P(\alpha_2)} \boxed{R_X(\alpha_3)} = (\beta_0) \boxed{P(\beta_1)} \boxed{R_X(\beta_2)} \boxed{P(\beta_3)}$$

## Theorem (Completeness)

*Any two equivalent circuits can be transformed into each other.*

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$$\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \boxed{P(\varphi)} \\ \oplus \end{array} = \boxed{P(\varphi)}$$

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# Multi-Controlled Gates Using Auxiliary Qubits

Using auxiliary qubits, one can give alternative definitions of multi-controlled gates:



## Corollary

*In the presence of  $\vdash$  and  $\dashv$ , one can get rid of the  $n$ -qubit axiom:*



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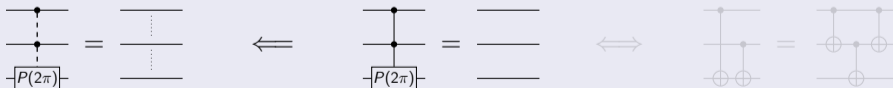
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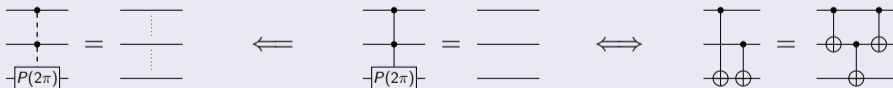
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$$\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \text{---} \\ \bullet \\ \text{---} \\ \bullet \\ \text{---} \\ \oplus \end{array} \boxed{P(2\pi)} = \text{---}$$

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## Theorem (Completeness)

Any two equivalent circuits can be transformed into each other.

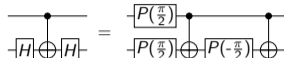
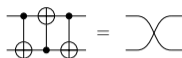
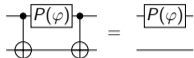
# Circuits With Ancillae ( $\vdash$ and $\dashv$ )

$$\boxed{2\pi} = \boxed{\square}$$

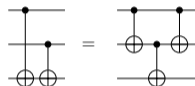
$$\boxed{\varphi_1} \boxed{\varphi_2} = \boxed{\varphi_1 + \varphi_2}$$

$$\boxed{H} \boxed{H} = \text{---}$$

$$\boxed{P(0)} = \text{---}$$



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# Circuits With Trace Out ( $\vdash$ and $\dashv$ )

$$(2\pi) = \square$$

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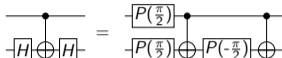
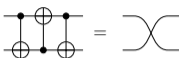
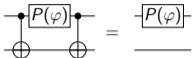
# Circuits With Trace Out ( $\vdash$ and $\dashv$ )

$$(2\pi) = \boxed{\phantom{0}}$$

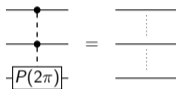
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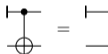


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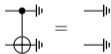
$$\vdash \boxed{P(\varphi)} = \vdash$$



$$\vdash \dashv = \boxed{\phantom{0}}$$

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$$\boxed{P(\varphi)} \dashv = \dashv$$



Carette, Jeandel, Perdrix, Vilmart, *Completeness of Graphical Languages for Mixed States Quantum Mechanics*, 2019, or Huot and Staton, *Quantum Channels as a Categorical Completion*, 2019.

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# Multi-Controlled Gates Using Auxiliary Qubits

Using auxiliary qubits, one can give alternative definitions of multi-controlled gates:



## Corollary

*In the presence of  $\vdash$  and  $\dashv\vdash$ , one can get rid of the  $n$ -qubit axiom:*



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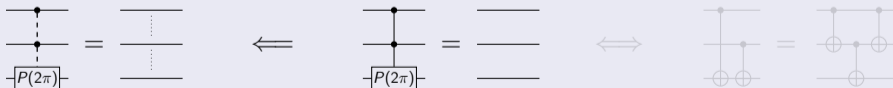
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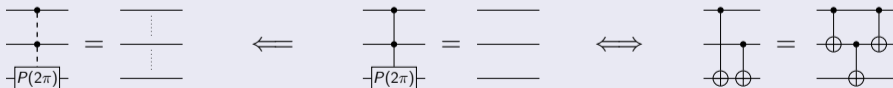
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$$\begin{array}{c} \oplus \\ | \\ \bullet \\ | \\ \oplus \end{array} = \text{---}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ | \\ \boxed{H} \oplus \boxed{H} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ | \\ \boxed{P(\frac{\pi}{2})} \\ | \\ \oplus \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ | \\ \boxed{P(-\frac{\pi}{2})} \\ | \\ \oplus \end{array}$$

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# Some Ongoing Follow-Up Work

- **Towards Clifford+T Quantum Circuits**

- Method based on “Clifford+T optical circuits”, made of Hadamard beam splitters and  $\frac{\pi}{4}$  phases.
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- **Working in Other Fields Than  $\mathbb{C}$**

- Real numbers
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- **Theorem:** the sets of angles closed under  $\text{---} \boxed{R_x(\alpha_1)} \text{---} \boxed{P(\alpha_2)} \text{---} \boxed{R_x(\alpha_3)} \text{---} = \textcircled{\circ} \text{---} \boxed{P(\beta_1)} \text{---} \boxed{R_x(\beta_2)} \text{---} \boxed{P(\beta_3)} \text{---}$  correspond to fields of constructible numbers.  $\rightarrow$  Any usefulness for practical applications ?

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Summary of the results:

- A minimal complete equational theory for vanilla quantum circuits.
- First minimality result for a quantum graphical language (except PBS-calculus).  
    Shortly after, minimality for qudit ZW-calculus (R. Vilmart and M. de Visme, January 2024).
- One needs equations on an unbounded number of qubits.
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Some perspectives:

- Ongoing work: Clifford+T, other fields/constructible angles, qudits.
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