

Entanglement-enhanced AC magnetometry in the presence of Markovian noises



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T. Sichanugrist, H. Fukuda, T. Moroi, K. Nakayama, S. Chigusa, N. Mizuochi, M. Hazumi, and Y. M. arXiv:2410.21699 (2024)

Collaborators



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- 👤 Hajime Fukuda (Tokyo University)
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- 👤 Kazunori Nakayama (Tohoku University)
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- 👤 Hazumi Masao (KEK)

Main point



🐦 To measure **DC** magnetic field with qubits, we **cannot improve** the sensitivity by using a cat (GHZ) state under the effect of high-frequency parallel noise

S. Huelga *et al.* Physical Review Letters 79.20 (1997): 3865.

🐦 To measure **AC** magnetic field with qubit, we **can improve** the sensitivity by using a cat state under the effect of high-frequency parallel noise for some cases.

T. Sichanugrist, H. Fukuda, T. Moroi, K. Nakayama, S. Chigusa, N. Mizuochi, M. Hazumi, and **Y. M.**
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- 3 . Entanglement enhanced quantum sensing (AC)

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Nitrogen vacancy centers in diamond

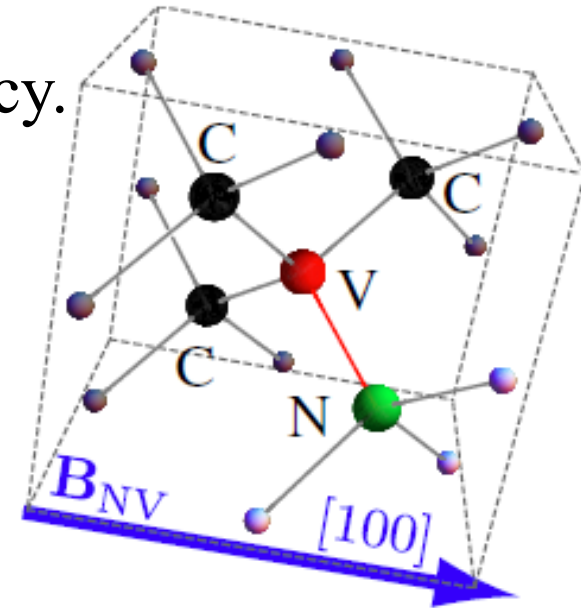
NV center is a nearest-neighbor pair of a nitrogen atom and a vacancy.

→ Electron spins are trapped, which we can use as a qubit

→ Candidate to realize quantum enhanced magnetic field sensing

Advantage

- Long coherence time (a few milli seconds at room temperature)
- Spin polarization is possible by illuminating optical laser
 - Spin readout can be performed via photoluminescence

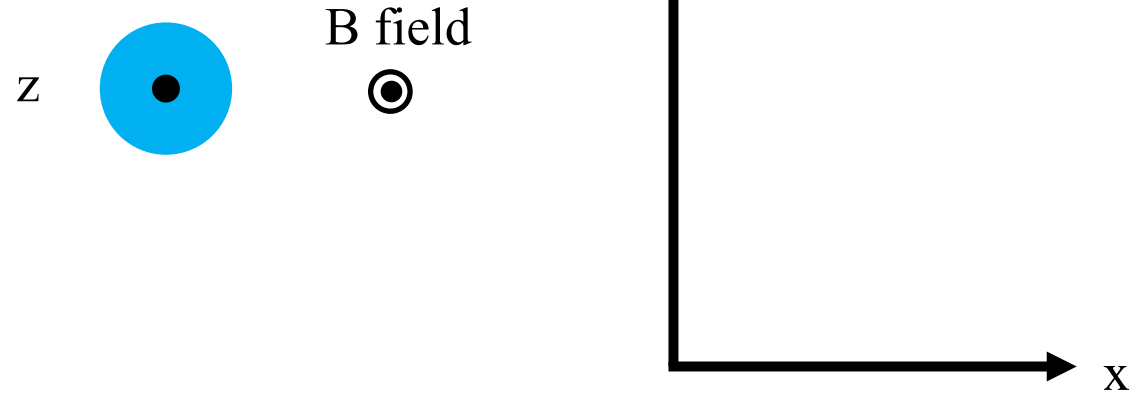


S. Saito, et al.
PRL 111.10 (2013): 107008.

Hamiltonian for an electron spin

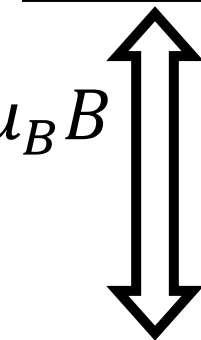
$$H = \frac{1}{2}\omega\hat{\sigma}_z$$

$$\hat{\sigma}_z = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$



Zeeman splitting

$$\omega = g\mu_B B$$



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

Spin up
along z direction

$|0\rangle = |\downarrow\rangle$ along z direction

Spin down

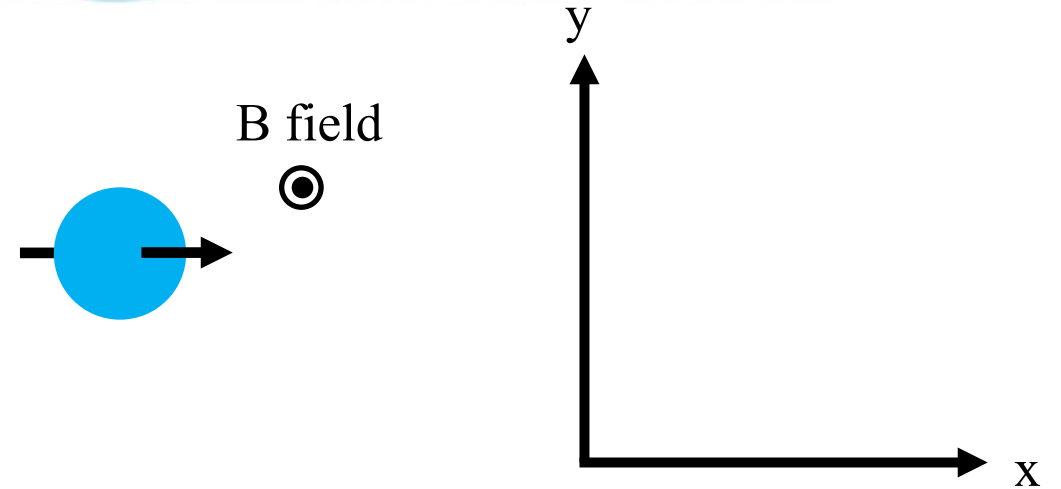
**If we know the value of ω ,
We also know the value of B**

Time evolution

$$i \frac{d}{dt} |\psi(t)\rangle = H |\psi(t)\rangle$$

$$|\psi(t)\rangle = e^{-iHt} |\psi(t=0)\rangle$$

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \omega \hat{\sigma}_z$$



Prepare the state of $|+\rangle$

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

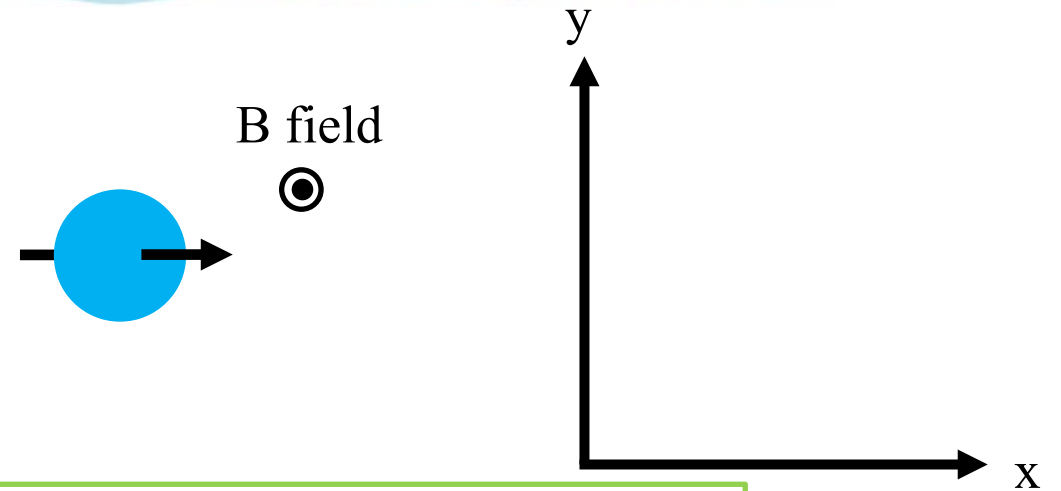
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$$|\psi(t)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(e^{\frac{i\omega t}{2}} |0\rangle + e^{-\frac{i\omega t}{2}} |1\rangle \right)$$



Rotation in the X-Y plane
with an angle of ωt

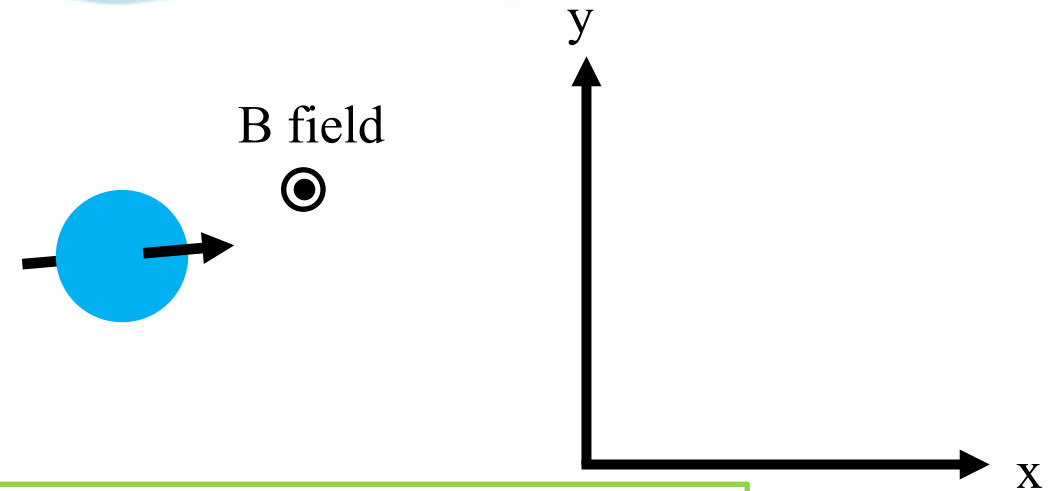
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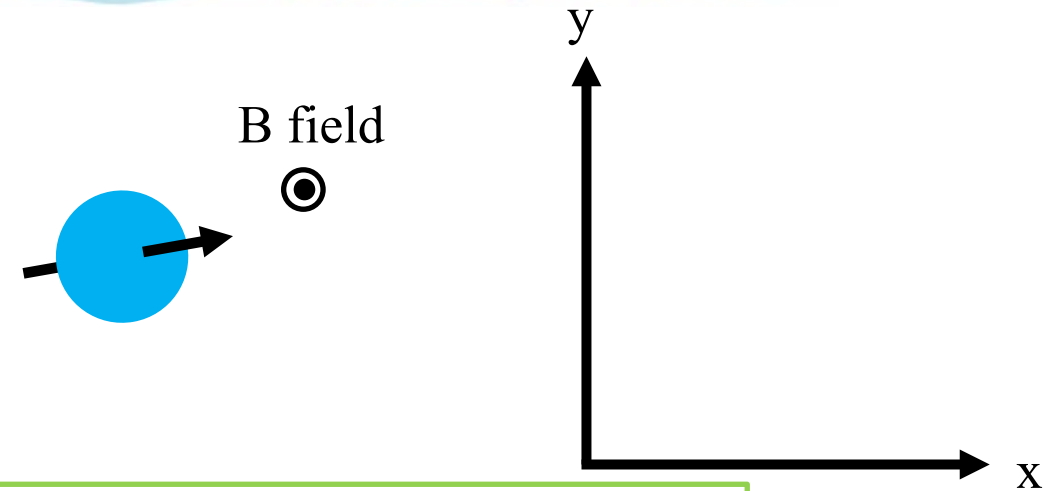
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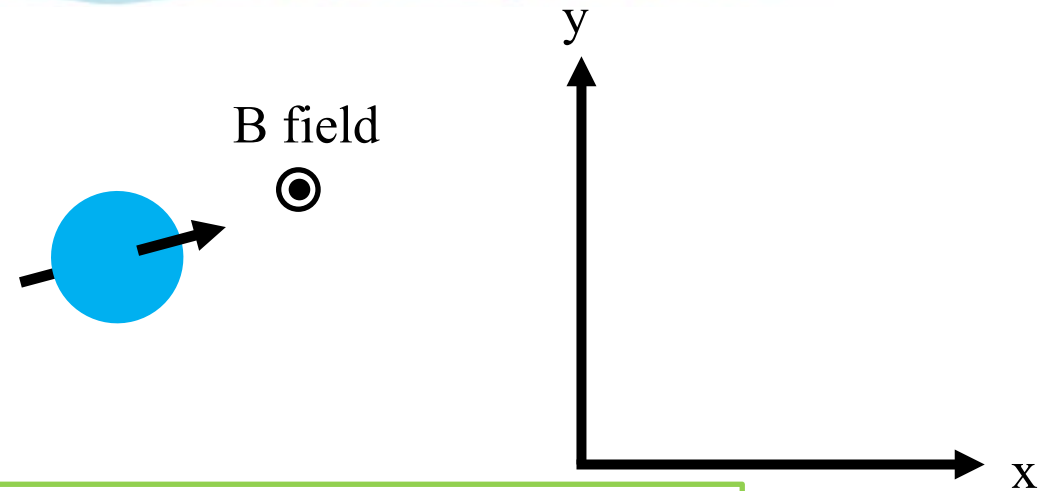
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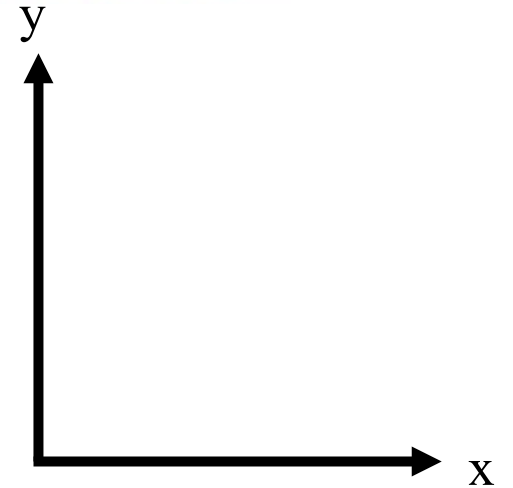
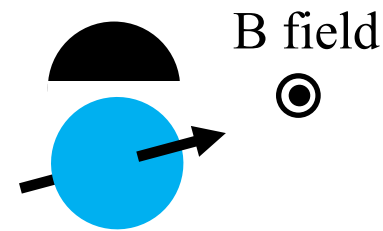
$$|\psi(t)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(e^{\frac{i\omega t}{2}} |0\rangle + e^{-\frac{i\omega t}{2}} |1\rangle \right)$$



Rotation in the X-Y plane
with an angle of ωt

Projective measurement along y direction

$$|\psi(t)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(e^{\frac{i\omega t}{2}} |0\rangle + e^{-\frac{i\omega t}{2}} |1\rangle \right)$$



Projection operator along y direction

$$\hat{\mathcal{P}}_{\pm} = \frac{1}{2} (\hat{\mathbf{1}} \pm \hat{\sigma}_y)$$

Probability to project the state into y direction

$$P_{\pm} = \langle \psi(t) | \mathcal{P}_{\pm} | \psi(t) \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \pm \frac{1}{2} \sin \omega t$$

Quantum sensing with a finite resource

If the number of repetition N is infinity large, the estimation of B is perfect. However, the actual experiment has a finite resource.

Goal

To minimize the estimation uncertainty by using a finite resource

Typical resource for sensing

- L qubits
- T seconds

Assumption

- Necessary time for state preparation and readout is negligibly small

Quantum field sensing with a qubit

Goal Estimating B or ω by using a qubit (electron spin)

1. State preparation

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



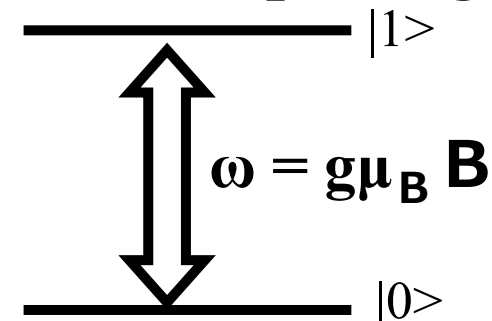
2. Time evolution (interaction with B field)

$$|\psi(t)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(e^{\frac{i\omega t}{2}}|0\rangle + e^{-\frac{i\omega t}{2}}|1\rangle)$$



3. Read out the spin (projection to the y direction)
Getting the measurement results either 0 or 1

Zeeman splitting



Quantum field sensing with a qubit

Goal Estimating B or ω by using a qubit (electron spin)

1. State preparation

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

Repeat N times

2. Time evolution
(interaction with B field)

$$|\psi(t)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(e^{\frac{i\omega t}{2}}|0\rangle + e^{-\frac{i\omega t}{2}}|1\rangle)$$

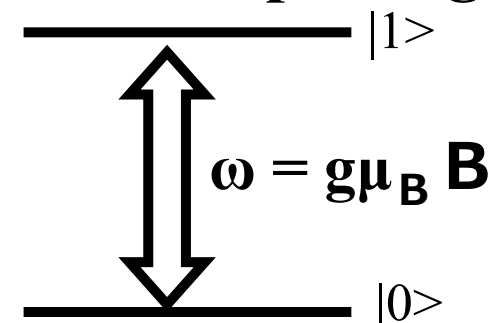
3. Read out the spin (projection to the y direction)

Projection probability

$$P_+ = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \sin \omega t \simeq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \omega t$$

Estimating the value of ω

Zeeman splitting



Procedure to estimate the value of ω

Theoretical calculation

$$P_+ = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \sin \omega t \simeq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \omega t$$

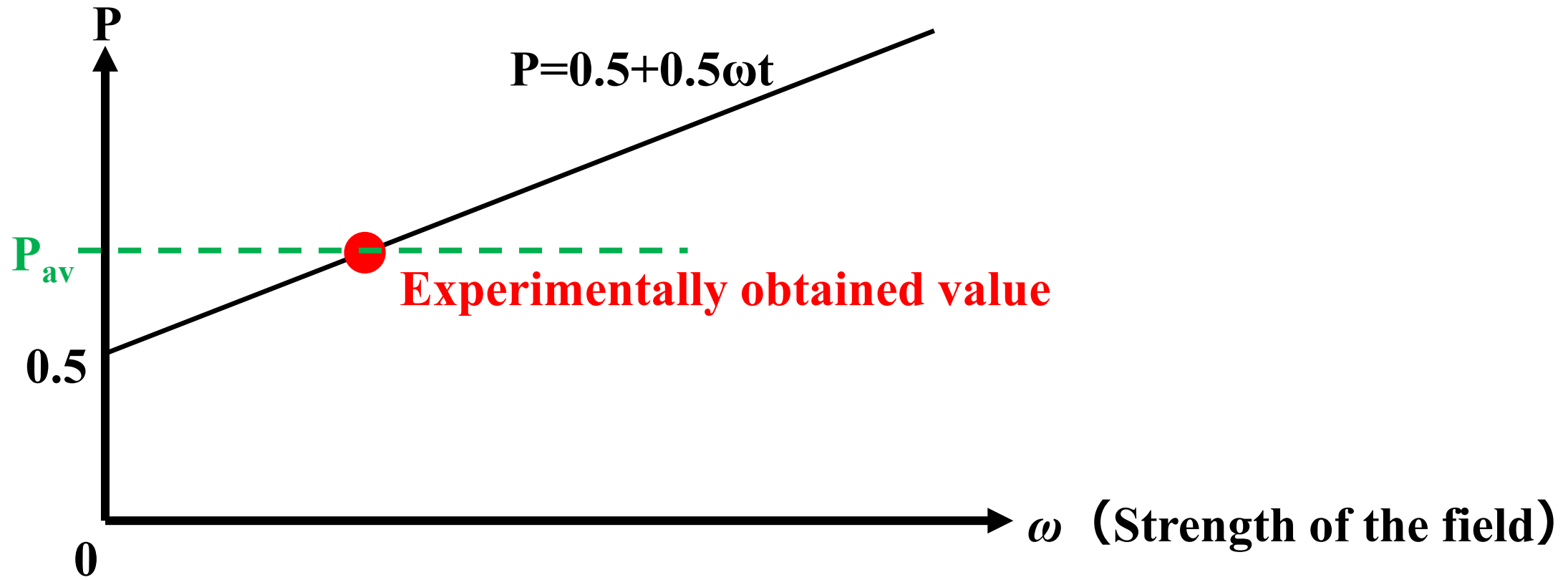
Experimentally obtained values

$$Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_N \Rightarrow P_{av} = (Y_1 + Y_2 + \dots + Y_N) / N$$

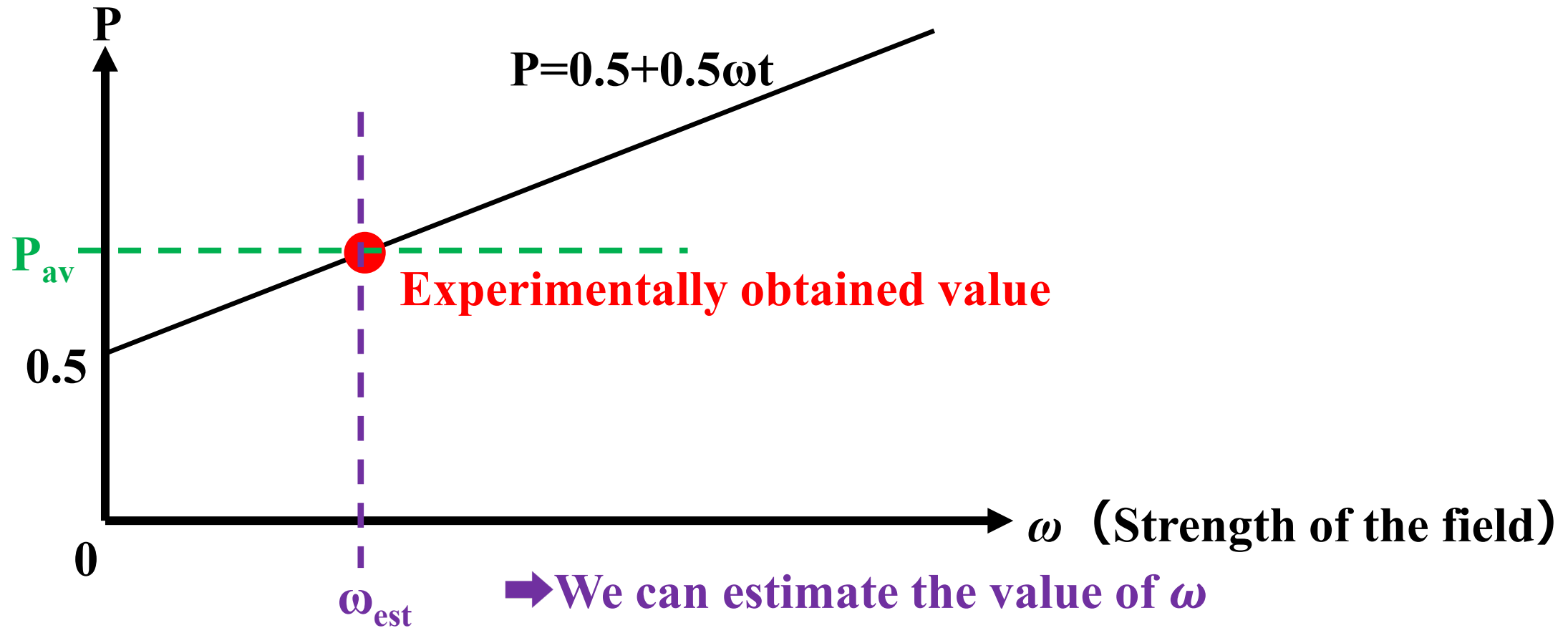
Estimation value

$$\omega_{est} = (2 P_{av} - 1) / t$$

Uncertainty of the estimation

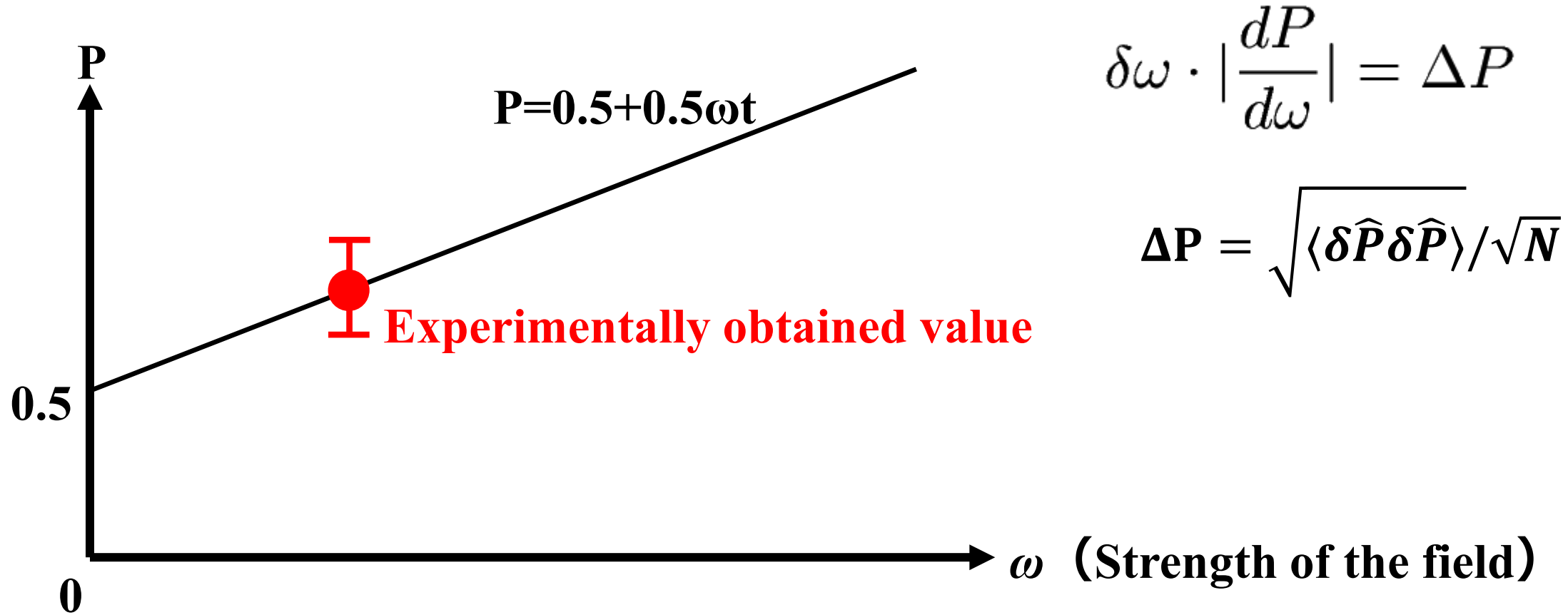


Uncertainty of the estimation

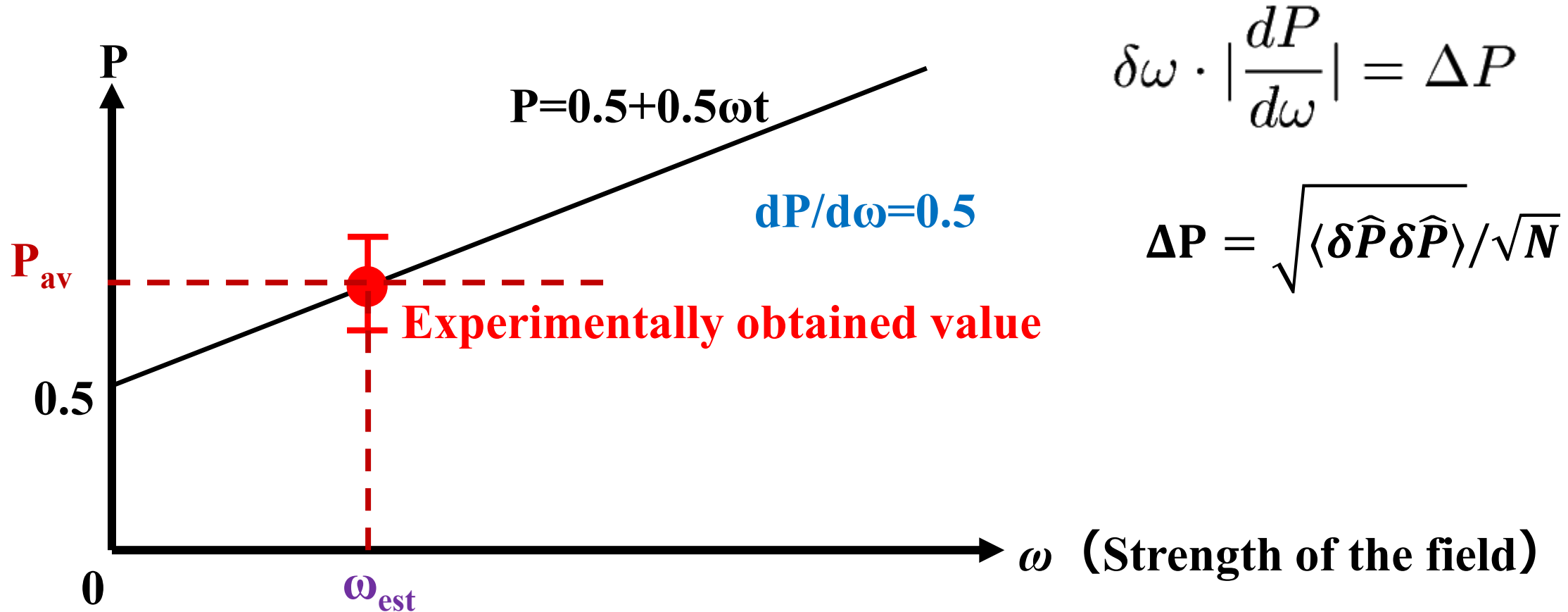


However, in the actual setup, there must be uncertainty due to the finite repetition

Uncertainty of the estimation

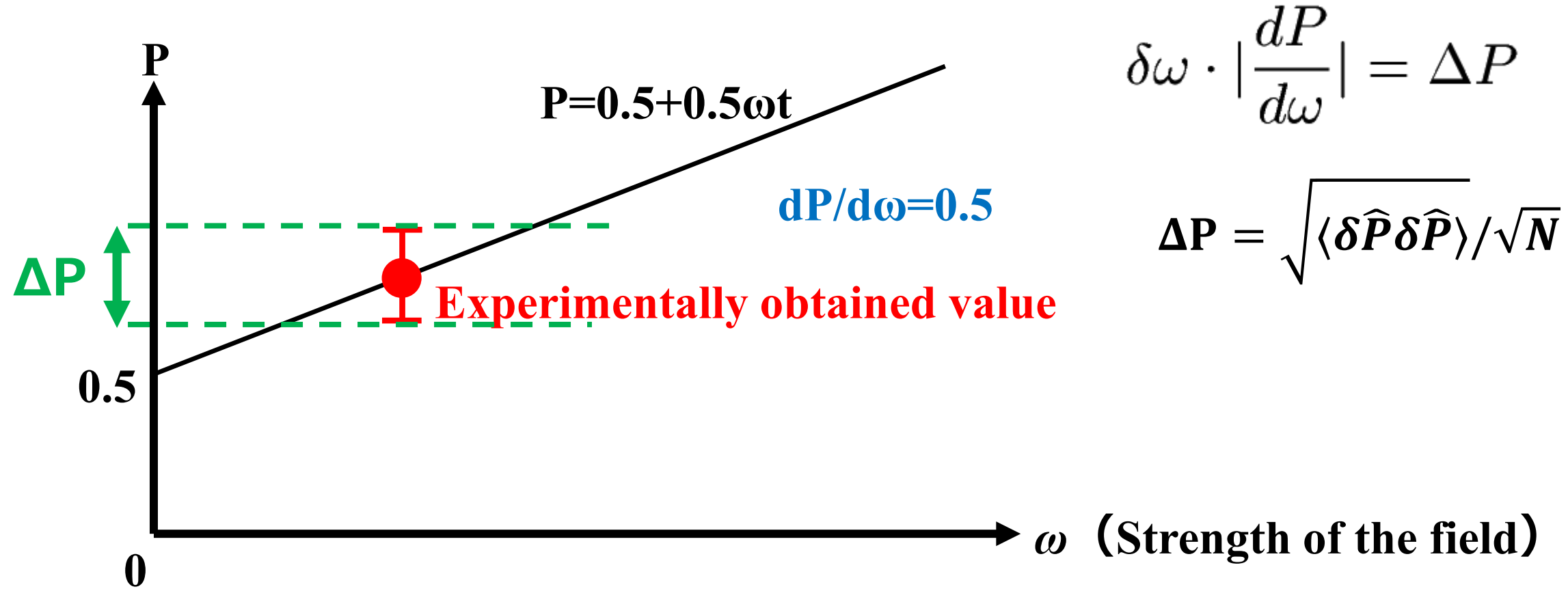


Uncertainty of the estimation

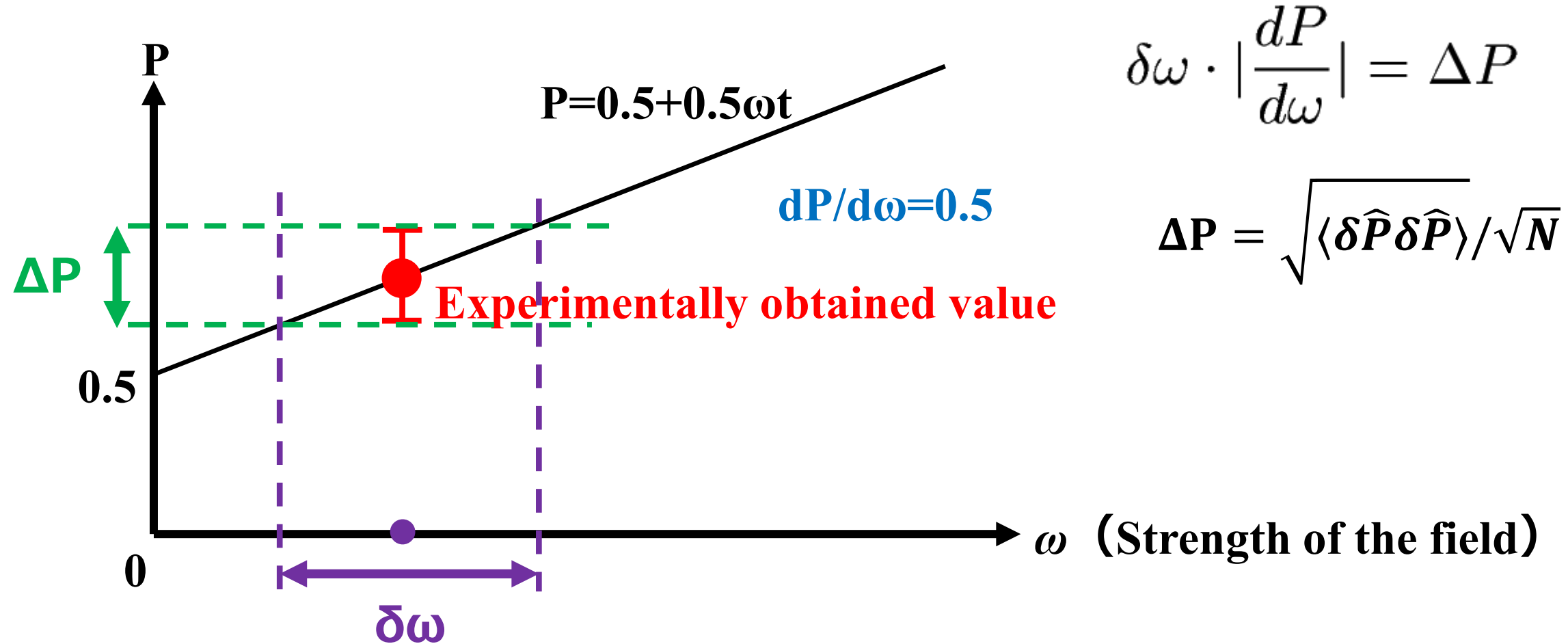


We obtain ω_{est} , but this contain an uncertainty

Uncertainty of the estimation



Uncertainty of the estimation



How to calculate the uncertainty (L separable qubits)

$$\delta\omega = \frac{\sqrt{\langle \delta\hat{P}\delta\hat{P} \rangle}}{\left| \frac{dP}{d\omega} \right|} \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} = \frac{\sqrt{P(1-P)}}{\left| \frac{dP}{d\omega} \right|} \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$$

How to calculate the uncertainty (L separable qubits)

$$\delta\omega = \frac{\sqrt{\langle \delta\hat{P}\delta\hat{P} \rangle}}{\left| \frac{dP}{d\omega} \right|} \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} = \frac{\sqrt{P(1-P)}}{\left| \frac{dP}{d\omega} \right|} \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$$

$$P \simeq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\omega t$$

$$N = \frac{T}{t}L$$

Using L qubits, the uncertainty becomes L times smaller due to central limit theorem

How to calculate the uncertainty (L separable qubits)

$$\delta\omega = \frac{\sqrt{\langle \delta\hat{P} \delta\hat{P} \rangle}}{\left| \frac{dP}{d\omega} \right|} \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} = \frac{\sqrt{P(1-P)}}{\left| \frac{dP}{d\omega} \right|} \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$$

Substituting these into $\delta\omega$

$$P \simeq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\omega t$$

$$N = \frac{T}{t}L$$



$$\delta\omega = \frac{1}{t\sqrt{N}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{tTL}}$$

Uncertainty (inverse of the sensitivity)

Decoherence

Quantum state loses coherence due to the environment

Pure state

$$|\psi_0\rangle \Rightarrow$$

Mixed state

$$\rho = \sum_j p_j |\psi_j\rangle\langle\psi_j|$$

Example (dephasing)

$$|+\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle + |1\rangle) \Rightarrow \rho = 0.5|0\rangle\langle 0| + 0.5|1\rangle\langle 1|$$

Dephasing model (single qubit)

$$H_{\text{total}} = H + H_N(t)$$

Target field

$$H = \frac{\omega}{2} \sigma_z$$

Noise term

$$H_N(t) = \lambda f(t) \hat{\sigma}_z$$

$f(t)$ denotes a classical random variable

Non-bias

$$\overline{f(t)} = 0$$

White noise (small correlation time τ_c)

$$\overline{f(t')f(t'')} = \tau_c \delta(t' - t'')$$

Overline denotes an ensemble average

Analytical solution of the master equation

Master equation to represent decoherence

$$\frac{d\overline{\rho(t)}}{dt} = -\lambda^2\tau_c(\overline{\rho(t)} - \sigma_z\rho(t)\sigma_z)$$

Analytical solution of the master equation

$$\overline{\rho(t)} = \frac{1 + e^{-2\lambda^2\tau_c t}}{2}\rho(0) + \frac{1 - e^{-2\lambda^2\tau_c t}}{2}\hat{\sigma}_z\rho(0)\hat{\sigma}_z$$

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$$P = (1 + e^{-2\lambda^2\tau_c t})/2 \rightarrow \text{no effect from the noise}$$

$$P' = (1 - e^{-2\lambda^2\tau_c t})/2 \rightarrow \text{Phase flip } (\sigma_z) \text{ due to noise}$$

Time evolution with magnetic field and noise

Time evolution with noise

$$\overline{\rho(t)} = \frac{1 + e^{-t/T_2^*}}{2} \rho(0) + \frac{1 - e^{-t/T_2^*}}{2} \hat{\sigma}_z \rho(0) \hat{\sigma}_z$$

$$T_2^* = 1/(2\lambda^2\tau_c)$$

(T_2^* is a coherence time)

Time evolution with magnetic field and noise

$$\overline{\rho(t)} = \frac{1 + e^{-t/T_2^*}}{2} |\psi\rangle\langle\psi| + \frac{1 - e^{-t/T_2^*}}{2} \hat{\sigma}_z |\psi\rangle\langle\psi| \hat{\sigma}_z$$

$$|\psi\rangle = (e^{-\frac{i\omega t}{2}} |0\rangle + e^{\frac{i\omega t}{2}} |1\rangle) / \sqrt{2}$$

Uncertainty of the estimation with noise

Time evolution with magnetic field and noise

$$\overline{\rho(t)} = \frac{1 + e^{-t/T_2^*}}{2} |\psi\rangle\langle\psi| + \frac{1 - e^{-t/T_2^*}}{2} \hat{\sigma}_z |\psi\rangle\langle\psi| \hat{\sigma}_z$$

$$|\psi\rangle = (e^{-\frac{i\omega t}{2}} |0\rangle + e^{\frac{i\omega t}{2}} |1\rangle) / \sqrt{2}$$

Projection probability along y direction ($\omega t \ll 1$)

$$P = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{e^{-t/T_2^*}}{2} \sin\omega t \simeq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{e^{-t/T_2^*}}{2} \omega t$$

Uncertainty

$$\delta\omega = \frac{\sqrt{P(1-P)}}{|dP/d\omega|\sqrt{N}} \simeq \frac{e^{t/T_2^*}}{\sqrt{LTt}}$$

$$N = LT/t$$

Uncertainty of the estimation with noise

Time evolution with magnetic field and noise

$$\overline{\rho(t)} = \frac{1 + e^{-t/T_2^*}}{2} |\psi\rangle\langle\psi| + \frac{1 - e^{-t/T_2^*}}{2} \hat{\sigma}_z |\psi\rangle\langle\psi| \hat{\sigma}_z$$

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Projection probability along y direction ($\omega t \ll 1$)

$$P = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{e^{-t/T_2^*}}{2} \sin\omega t \simeq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{e^{-t/T_2^*}}{2} \omega t$$

Uncertainty

$$\delta\omega = \frac{\sqrt{P(1-P)}}{|dP/d\omega|\sqrt{N}} \simeq \frac{e^{t/T_2^*}}{\sqrt{L T t}} = \frac{\sqrt{2} e^{1/2}}{\sqrt{L T T_2^*}}$$

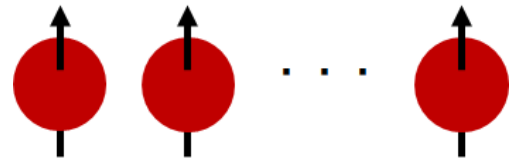
$t = T_2^*/2$ is optimal

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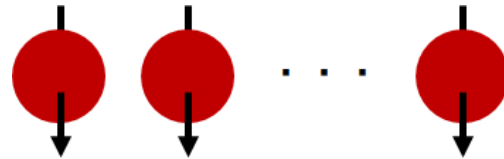


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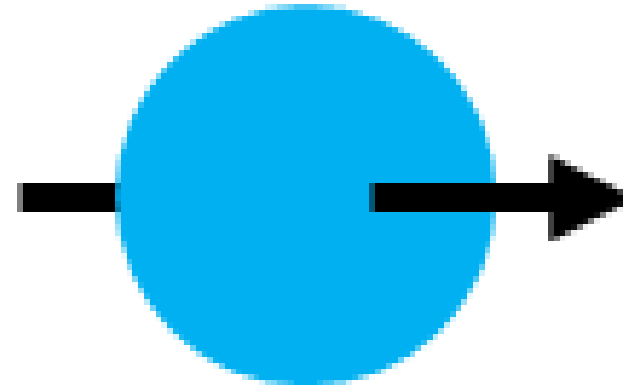
Quantum sensing with a cat (GHZ) state



or



=



Cat state

Superposition between
All spin up and all spin down
➔ a cat (GHZ) state

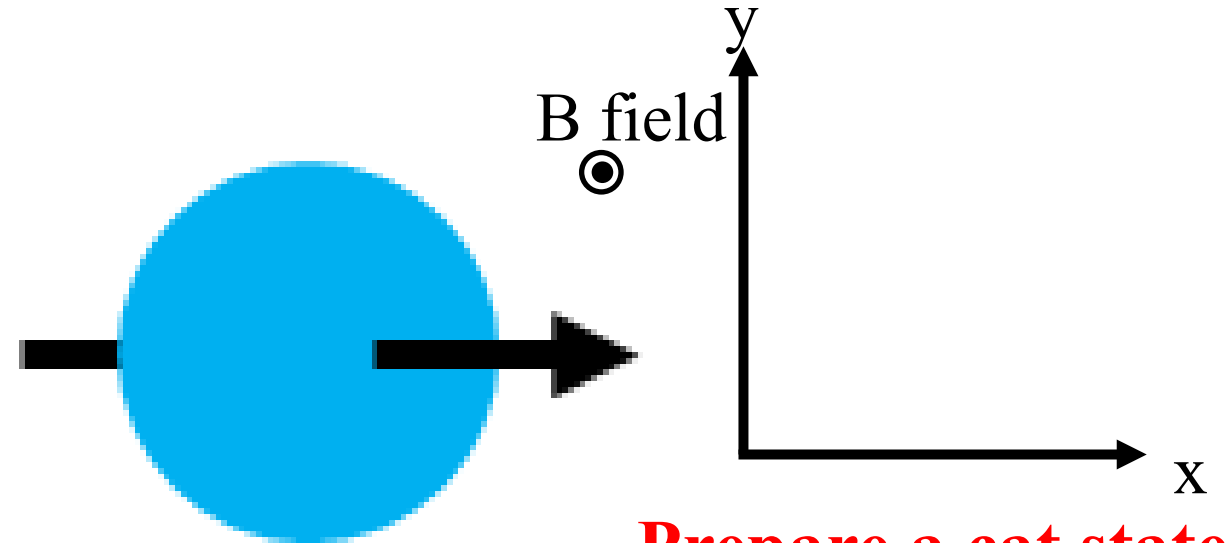
$$(|00 \dots 0\rangle + |11 \dots 1\rangle) / \sqrt{2}$$

Time evolution

$$i \frac{d}{dt} |\psi(t)\rangle = H |\psi(t)\rangle$$

$$|\psi(t)\rangle = e^{-iHt} |\psi(t=0)\rangle$$

$$H = \sum_{j=1}^L \frac{\omega}{2} \sigma_z^{(j)}$$



Prepare a cat state

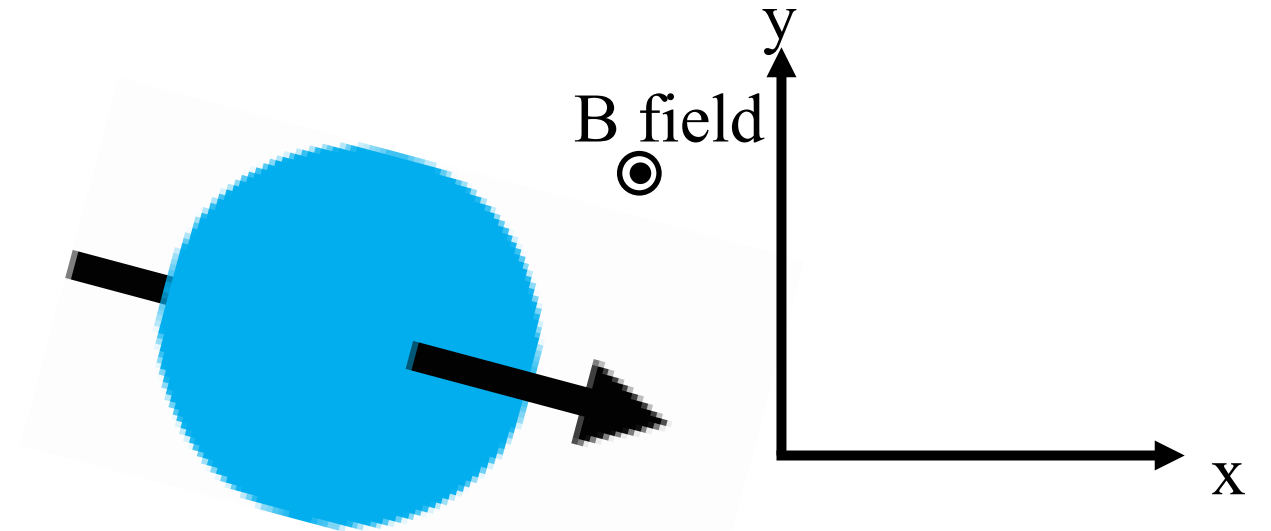
$$|\psi_{cat}\rangle = (|00 \dots 0\rangle + |11 \dots 1\rangle) / \sqrt{2}$$

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Time evolution with magnetic field

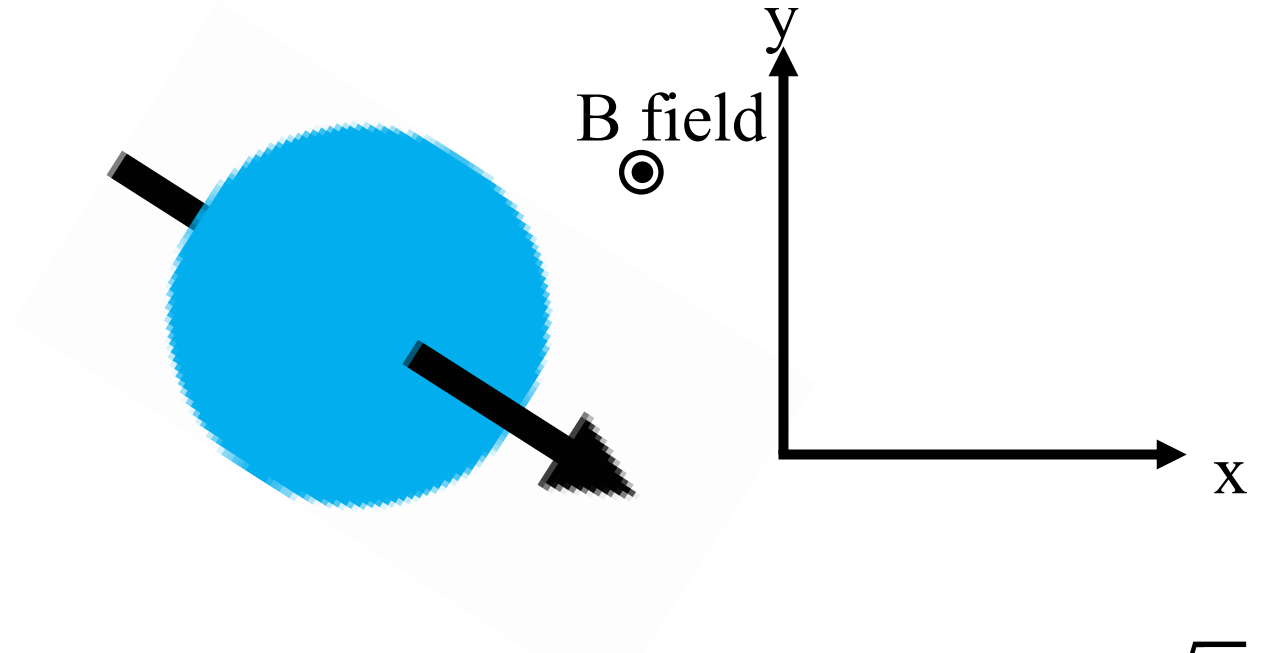
$$e^{-iHt} |\psi_{cat}\rangle = (e^{-\frac{iL\omega t}{2}} |00 \dots 0\rangle + e^{\frac{iL\omega t}{2}} |11 \dots 1\rangle) / \sqrt{2}$$

Time evolution

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Time evolution with magnetic field

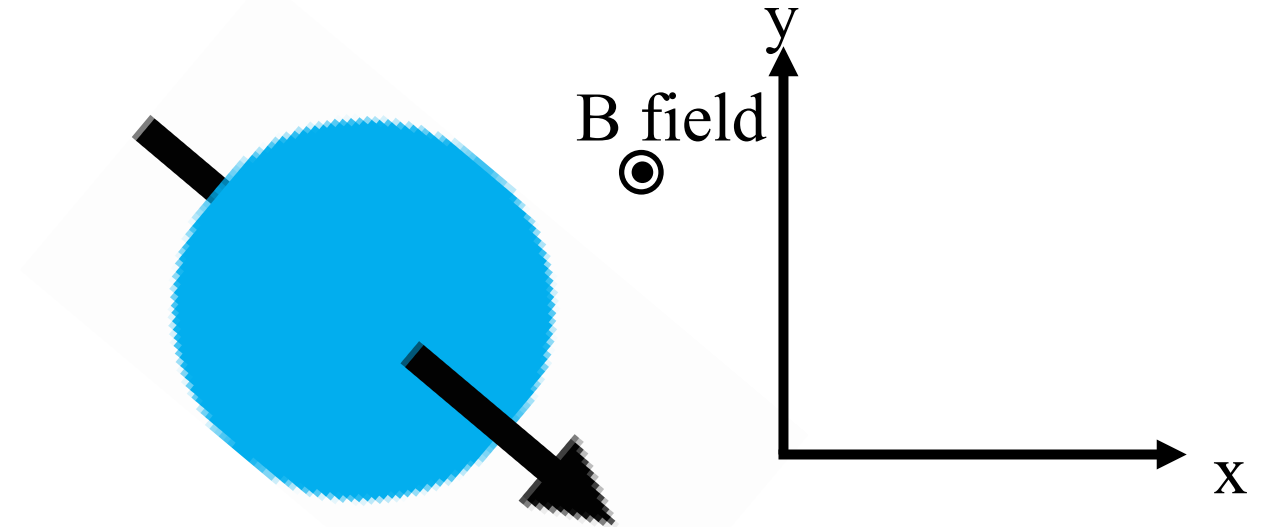
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Time evolution with magnetic field

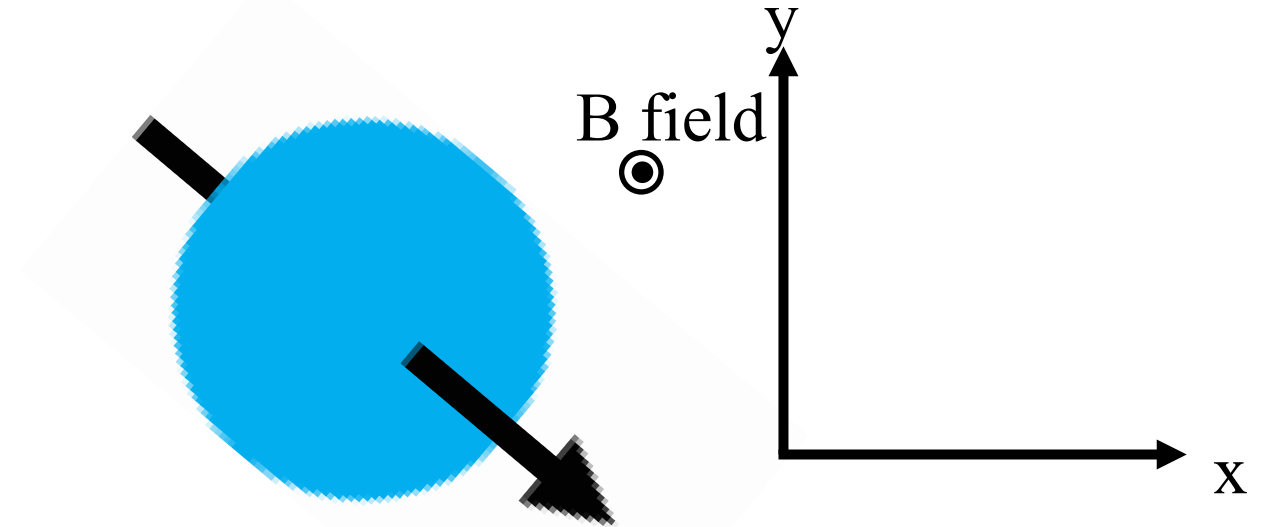
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$$|\psi_{cat}\rangle = (|00 \dots 0\rangle + |11 \dots 1\rangle) / \sqrt{2}$$

Phase acquisition is L times larger than that of a qubit

$$e^{-iHt} |\psi_{cat}\rangle = (e^{-\frac{iL\omega t}{2}} |00 \dots 0\rangle + e^{\frac{iL\omega t}{2}} |11 \dots 1\rangle) / \sqrt{2}$$

Projection probability for a cat state

$$i \frac{d}{dt} |\psi(t)\rangle = H |\psi(t)\rangle$$

$$|\psi(t)\rangle = e^{-iHt} |\psi(t=0)\rangle$$

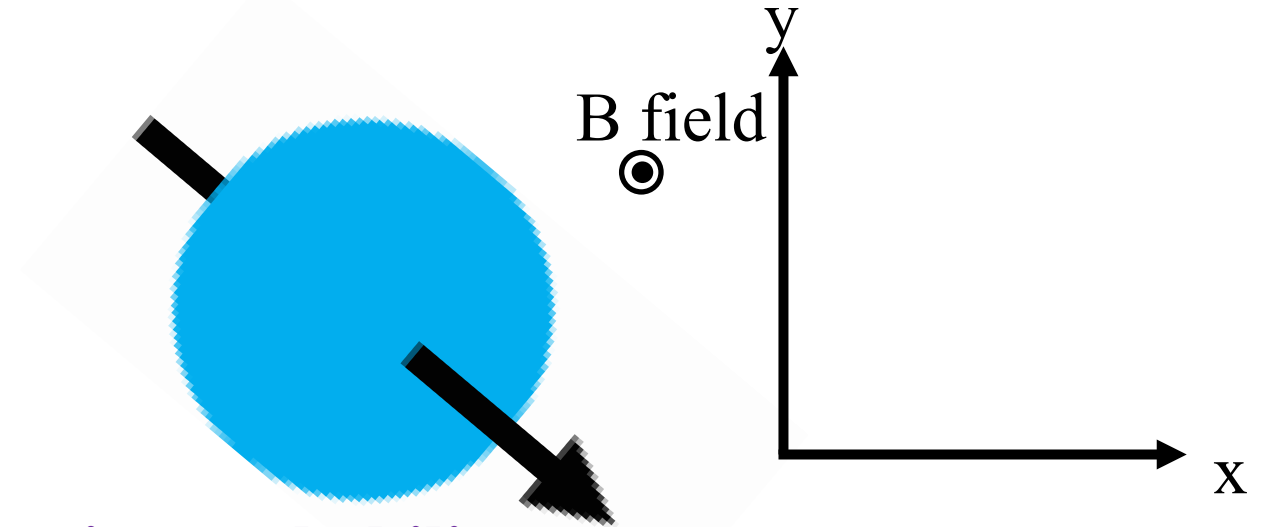
$$H = \sum_{j=1}^L \frac{\omega}{2} \sigma_z^{(j)}$$

Projection probability

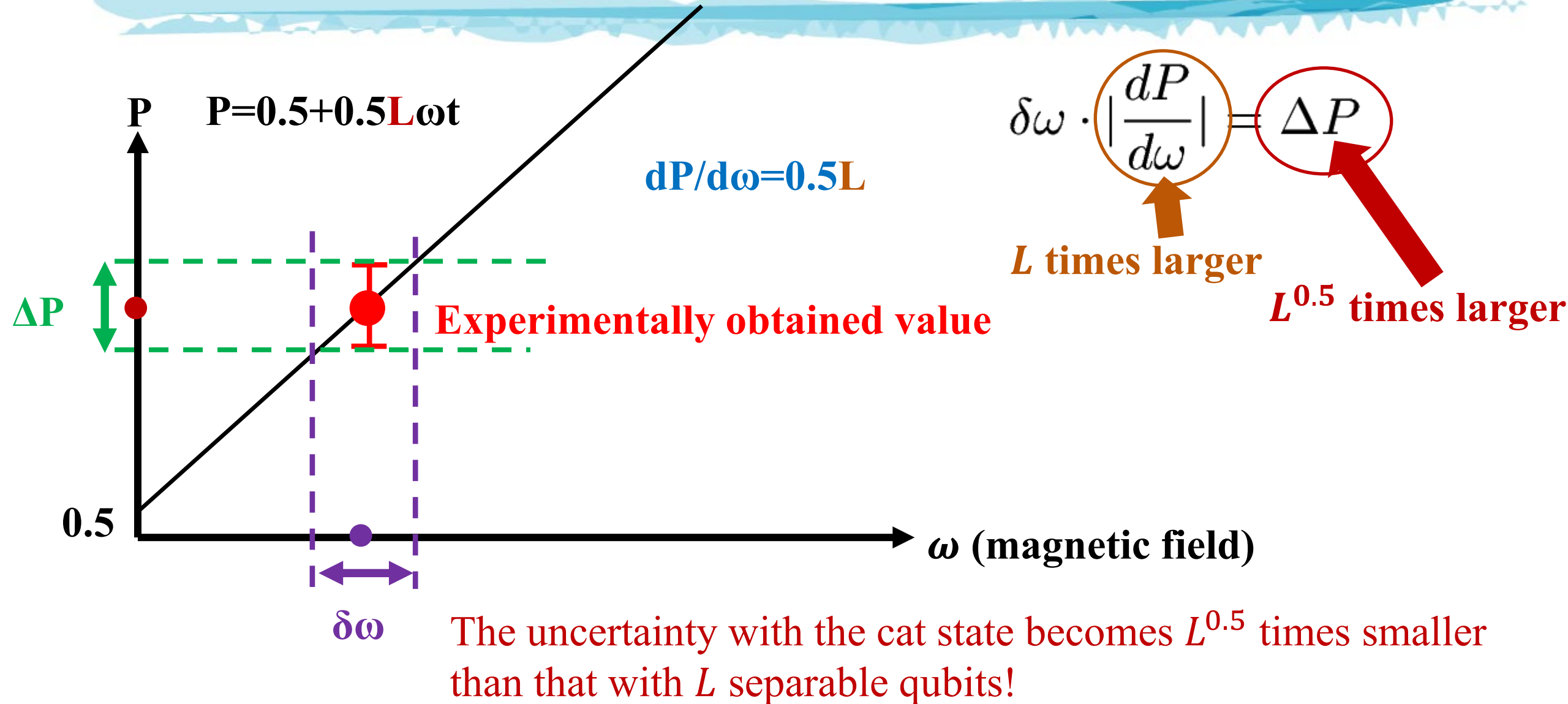
$$P_{cat} \approx \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} L\omega t$$

Phase acquisition is L times larger than that of a qubit

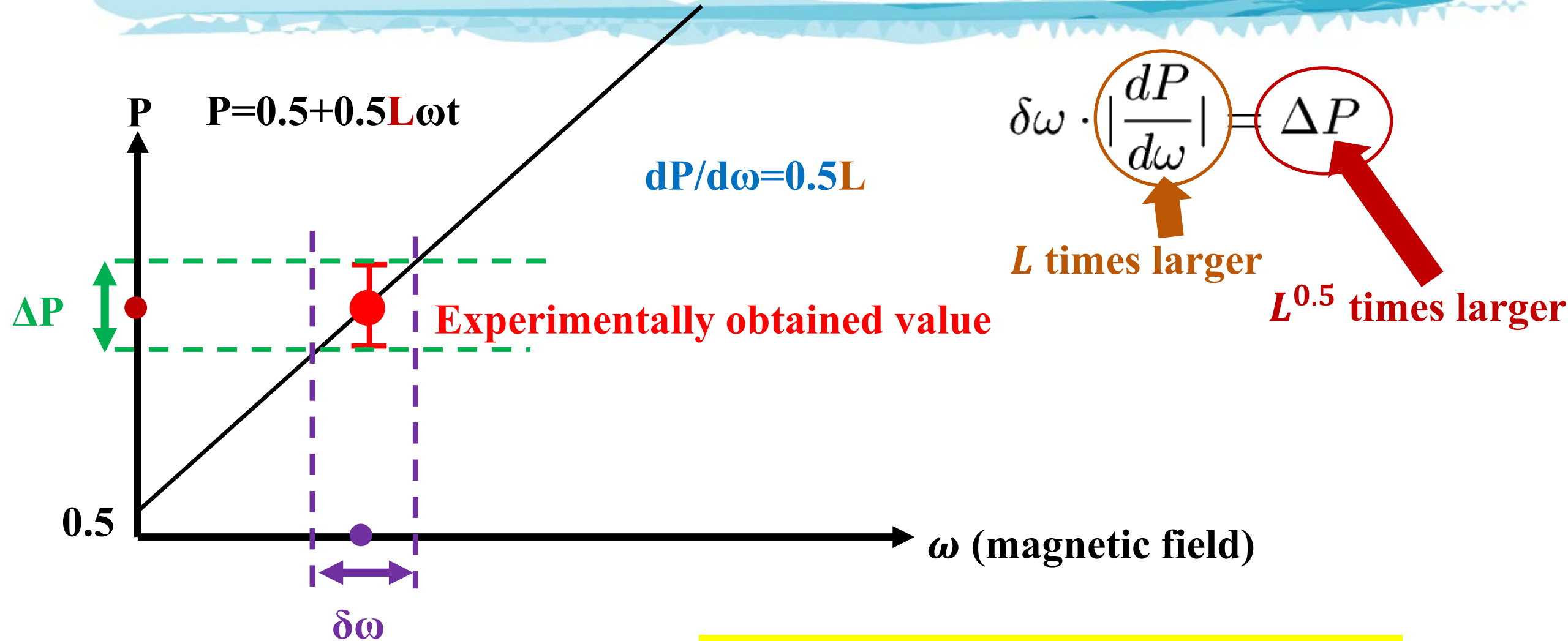
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Uncertainty of the estimation



Uncertainty of the estimation



What happens if there is decoherence?

Decoherence for a single qubit

$$\overline{\rho(t)} = \frac{1 + e^{-t/T_2^*}}{2} |\psi\rangle\langle\psi| + \frac{1 - e^{-t/T_2^*}}{2} \hat{\sigma}_z |\psi\rangle\langle\psi| \hat{\sigma}_z$$

$$|\psi\rangle = (e^{-\frac{i\omega t}{2}} |0\rangle + e^{\frac{i\omega t}{2}} |1\rangle) / \sqrt{2}$$

For simplicity, we use a short-time approximation

$$\rho(t) \simeq \left(1 - \frac{t}{2T_2^*}\right) |\psi\rangle\langle\psi| + \frac{t}{2T_2^*} \sigma_z |\psi\rangle\langle\psi| \sigma_z$$

Error probability

Decoherence for a cat state

$$\rho(t) \simeq \left(1 - \frac{Lt}{2T_2^*}\right) |\psi_{cat}\rangle\langle\psi_{cat}| + \frac{Lt}{2T_2^*} \sigma_z |\psi_{cat}\rangle\langle\psi_{cat}| \sigma_z$$

Error probability

$$|\psi_{cat}\rangle = (e^{-\frac{iL\omega t}{2}} |00 \cdots 0\rangle + e^{\frac{iL\omega t}{2}} |11 \cdots 1\rangle) / \sqrt{2}$$

Probability to be affected by noise becomes L times larger

Decoherence for a cat state

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\rightarrow If $Lt/2T_2^*$ approach to 1, a cat state is destroyed

$\rightarrow Lt/2T_2^*$ should be smaller than 1, and so we should set $t \simeq T_2^*/L$

\rightarrow no signal enhancement by the cat state

\rightarrow no improvement of the sensitivity

Usefulness of the cat (GHZ) state

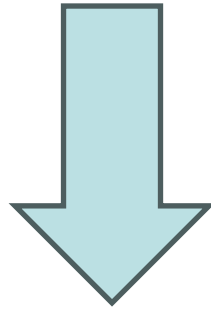


To measure DC magnetic field, the use of the cat state does not improve the sensitivity under the effect of high-frequency parallel noise

S. Huelga *et al.* Physical Review Letters 79.20 (1997): 3865.

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To measure DC magnetic field, the use of the cat state does not improve the sensitivity under the effect of high-frequency parallel noise



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To measure AC magnetic field, the use of the cat state can improve the sensitivity under the effect of high-frequency parallel noise for some cases

T. Sichanugrist, H. Fukuda, T. Moroi, K. Nakayama, S. Chigusa, N. Mizuochi, M. Hazumi, and Y.M., arXiv:2410.21699 (2024)

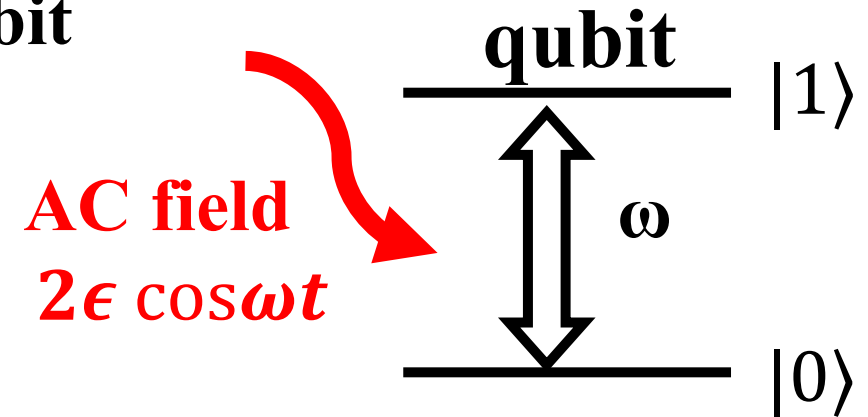
AC magnetic field sensing with a qubit (resonant)

Applying AC field along x direction to the qubit

$$H = H_0 + \Delta H$$

$$H_0 = -\frac{\omega}{2} \sigma_z$$

$$\Delta H = -2\epsilon \cos \omega t \sigma_x$$



AC field frequency is the same as the qubit energy (resonant)

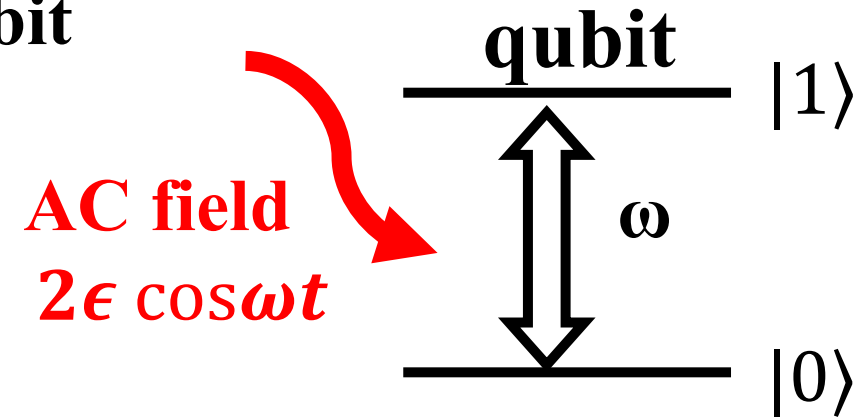
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Going into a rotating frame (interaction picture)

$$H_I = e^{iH_0 t} \Delta H e^{-iH_0 t}, \rho_I = e^{-iH_0 t} \rho e^{iH_0 t}$$

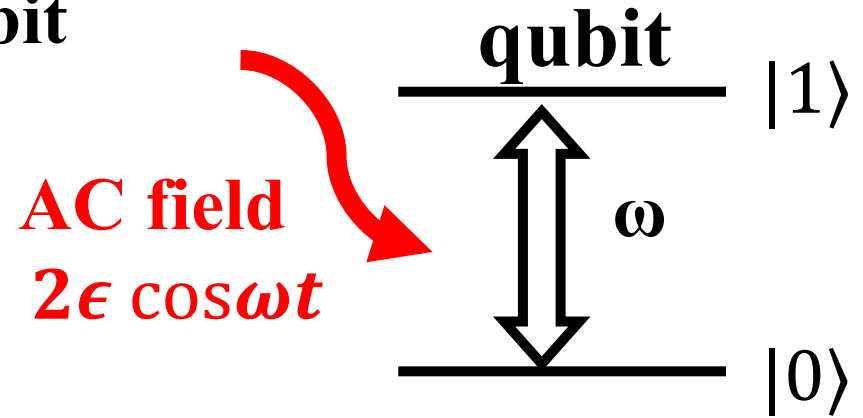
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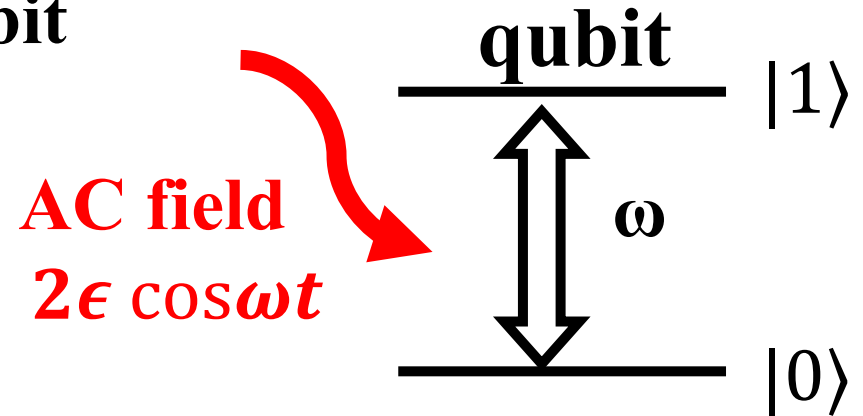
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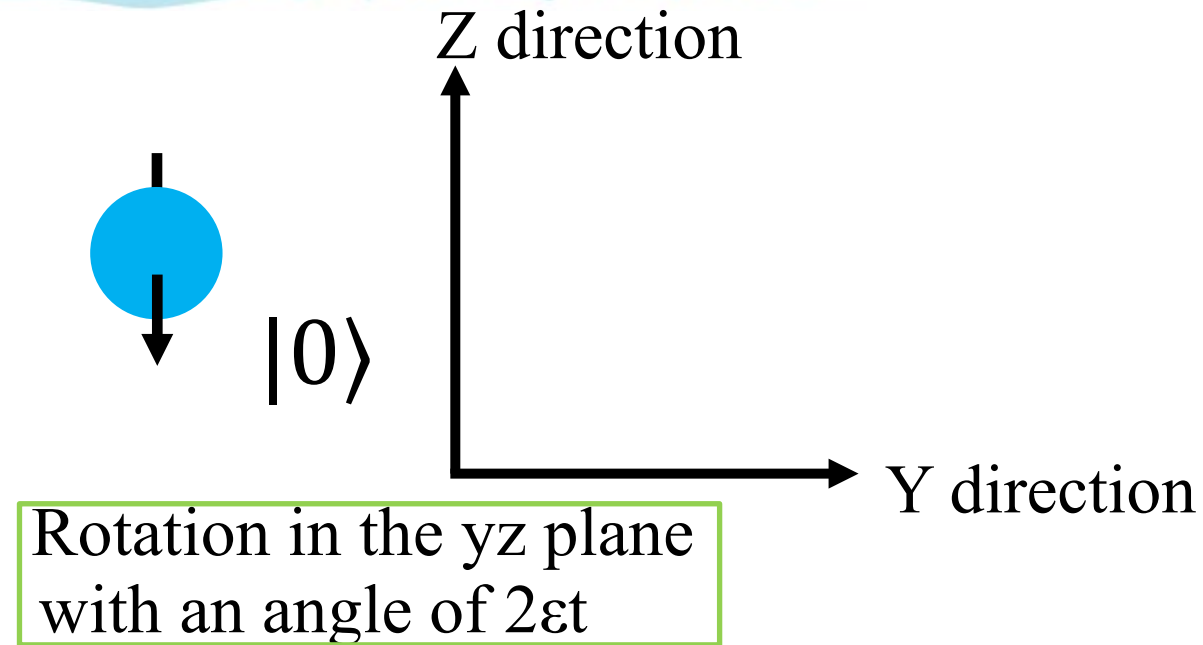
The same as the DC field in the rotating frame
→ The same sensitivity as the DC field

Time evolution in the rotating frame

$$i \frac{d}{dt} |\psi(t)\rangle = H |\psi(t)\rangle$$

$$|\psi(t)\rangle = e^{-iHt} |\psi(t=0)\rangle$$

$$H = -\epsilon \sigma_x$$

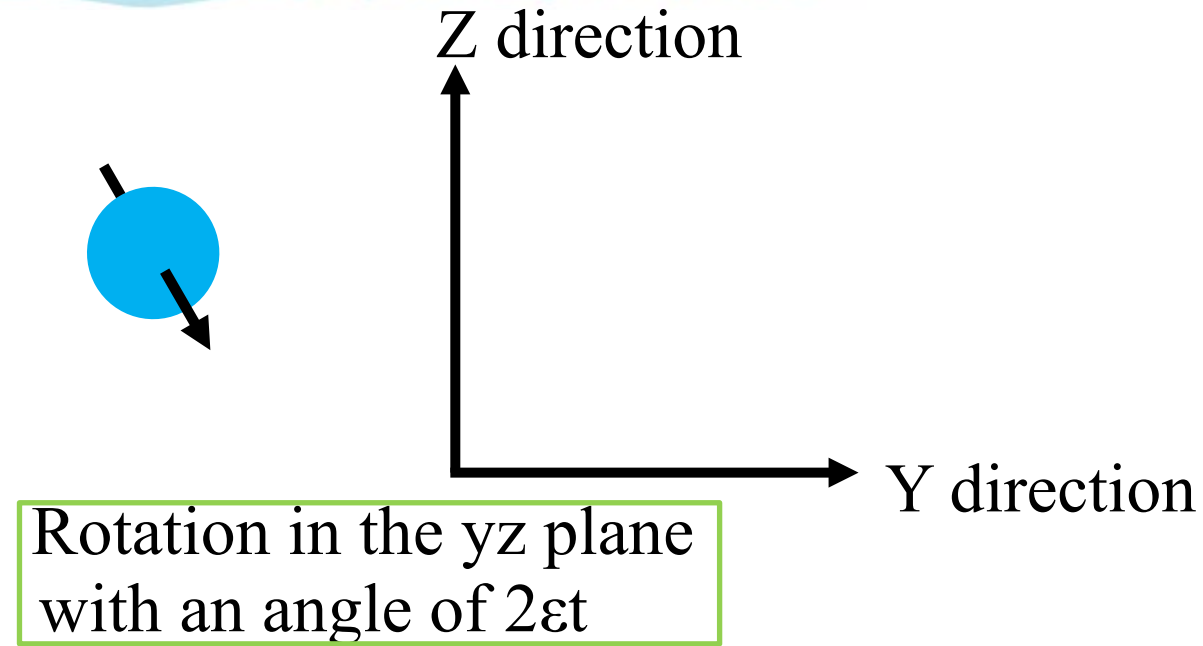


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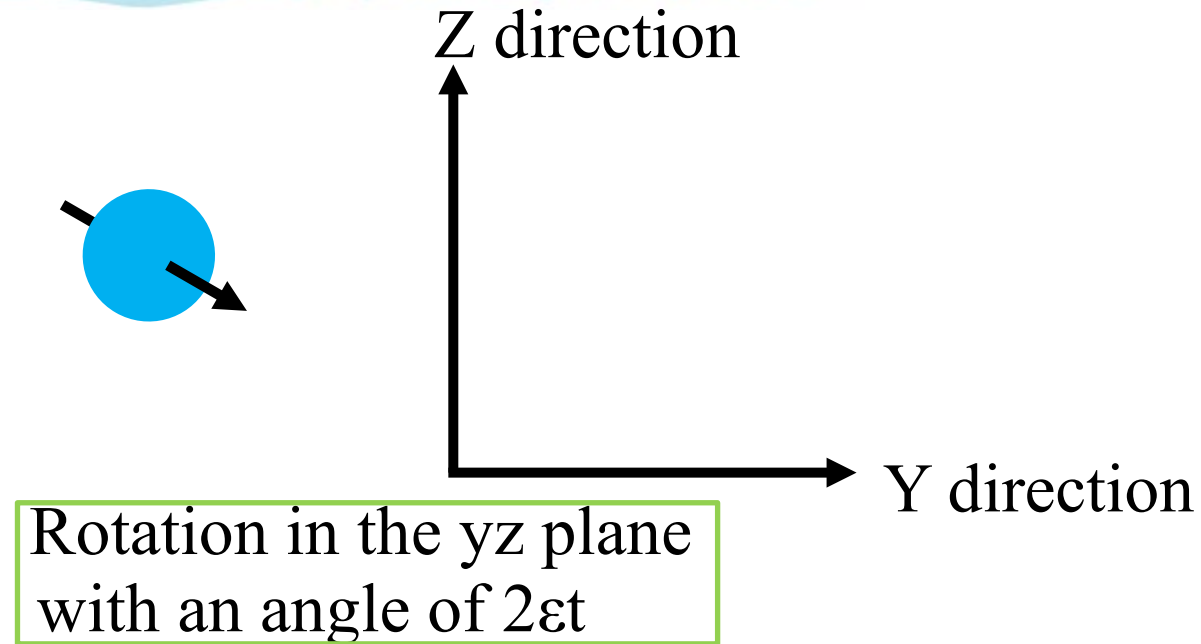


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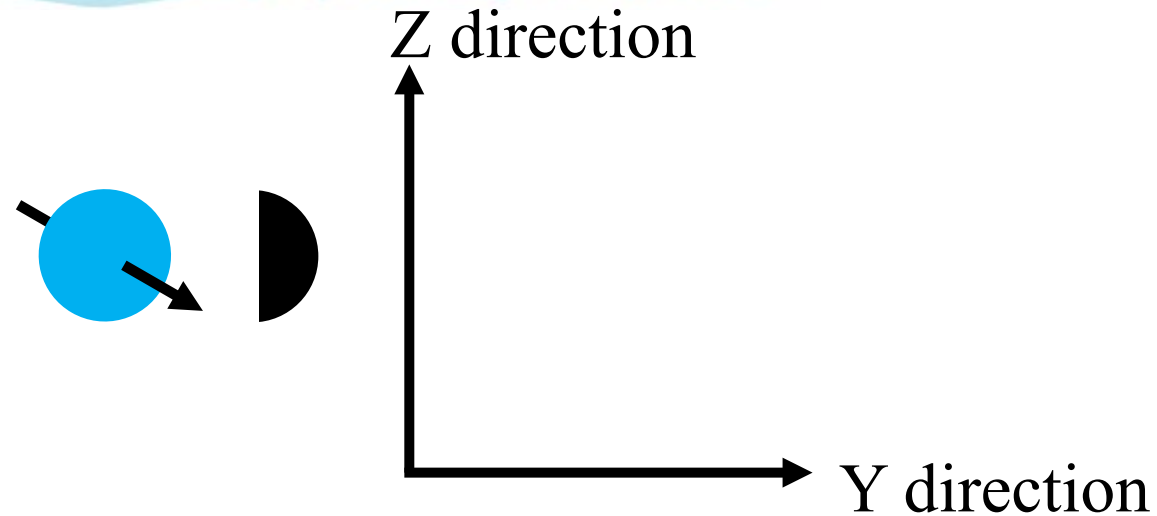
Projective measurement

Projection operator

$$\hat{\mathcal{P}}_{\pm} = \frac{1}{2}(\hat{\mathbb{1}} \pm \hat{\sigma}_y)$$

Projection probability to y direction

$$P = \frac{1}{2} - \sin \epsilon t$$



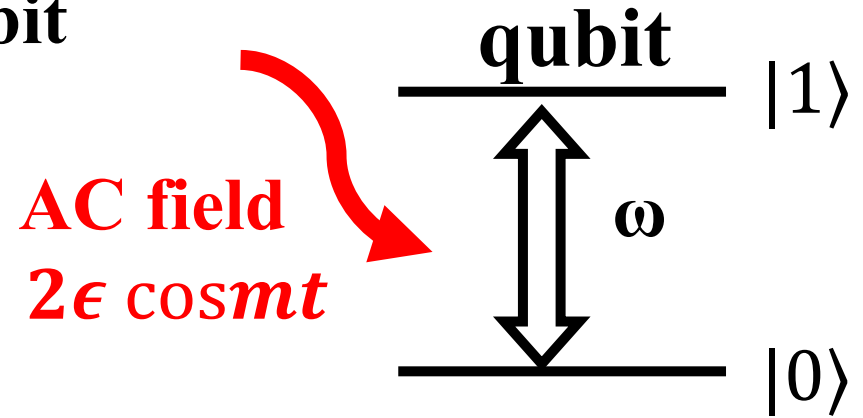
AC magnetic field sensing with a qubit (**non-resonant**)

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$$H = H_0 + \Delta H$$

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AC field frequency is **different** as the qubit energy (**non-resonant**)

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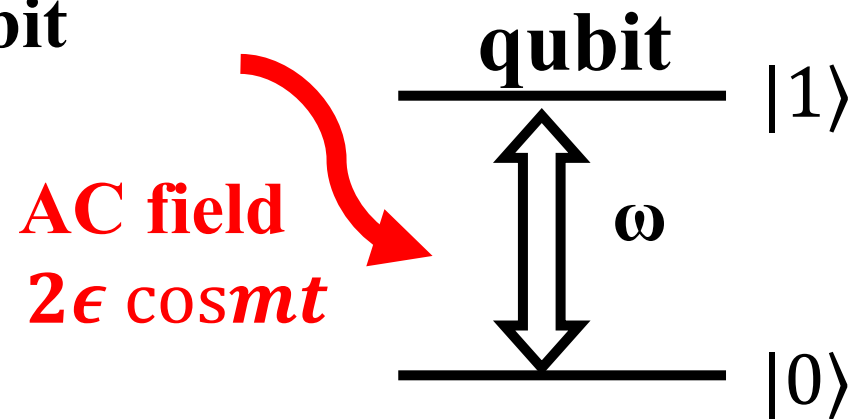
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Going to the rotating frame

$$H_I \simeq -\frac{\omega - m}{2} \sigma_z - \epsilon \sigma_x$$



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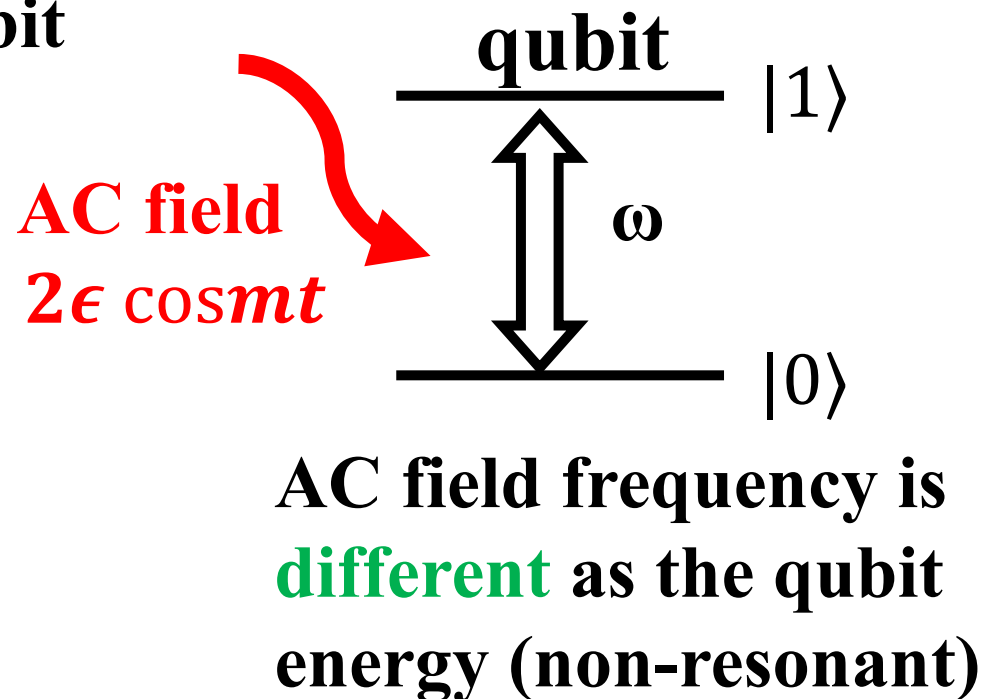
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Going to the rotating frame

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For a large detuning ($\omega - m$),
the signal becomes smaller, and estimating ϵ becomes difficult



Time evolution with noise for L qubits

$$H^i = H_0^i + \Delta H^i, \quad H_0^i = -\frac{1}{2}\omega\sigma_Z^i, \quad \Delta H^i = -2\epsilon\sigma_X^i \cos mt$$

Hamiltonian for i -th qubit

Time evolution with noise for L qubits

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Total Hamiltonian

$$H = H_0 + \Delta H, \quad H_0 = \sum_{j=1}^L H_0^j, \quad \Delta H = \sum_{j=1}^L \Delta H^j$$

$$H_I \equiv e^{iH_0 t} \Delta H e^{-iH_0 t} \quad \rho \equiv e^{-iH_0 t} \rho_I e^{iH_0 t}.$$

$$\frac{d\rho_I(t)}{dt} = -i[H_I, \rho_I] + D_{I,X}[\rho], \quad D_{I,X}[\rho] = \frac{\Gamma_X}{2} \sum_{j=1}^L \left(\sigma_X^j \rho \sigma_X^j - \frac{1}{2}\rho \right),$$

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Interaction picture

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Master equation

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$T_1 = 1/\Gamma_x$ is the energy relaxation time

$$H_I \equiv e^{iH_0 t} \Delta H e^{-iH_0 t} \quad \rho \equiv e^{-iH_0 t} \rho_I e^{iH_0 t}.$$

Noise direction is the same as that with AC field



Master equation

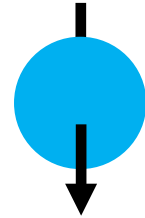
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Initial state

Initial state for AC field sensing with separable states

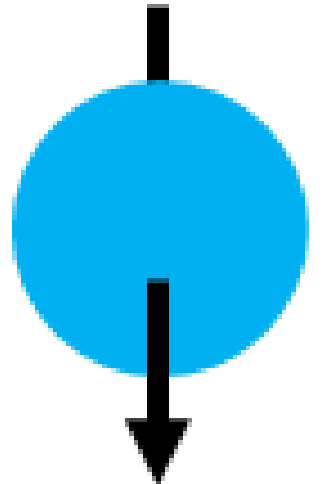
$$|\psi_{\text{indv}}(0)\rangle \equiv |0\rangle = \frac{|+\rangle + |-\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$|\pm\rangle = (|0\rangle + |1\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$$



Initial state for entanglement enhanced AC field sensing

$$|\psi_{\text{GHZ}}(0)\rangle = \frac{|+\rangle^{\otimes L} + |-\rangle^{\otimes L}}{\sqrt{2}}$$



Projection probability after the interaction with AC field

Projection probability
for separable states

$$p_Y = \frac{1}{2} - \epsilon t e^{-\Gamma_X t} W(t)$$

Projection probability
for the cat (GHZ) state

$$p_{\text{GHZ},Y} \simeq \frac{1}{2} - e^{-L\Gamma_X t} L\epsilon t W(t)$$

$$W(t) \simeq \begin{cases} 2 & \text{for } t \lesssim |\omega + m|^{-1} \\ 1 & \text{for } |\omega + m|^{-1} \lesssim t \lesssim |\omega - m|^{-1} \\ \frac{1}{|\omega - m|t} & \text{for } |\omega - m|^{-1} \lesssim t \end{cases}$$

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When the detuning $(\omega - m)$ is much smaller than $1/t$, the signal is similar with that of DC field sensing

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When the detuning $(\omega - m)$ is much larger than $1/t$, the signal becomes smaller

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Interpretation
 Uncertainty between time and energy
 $t \cdot \delta\omega \simeq 1$
 the detectable bandwidth
 becomes larger

Estimation uncertainty of the AC field strength

Uncertainty with L separable qubits

$$\delta\epsilon^{(\text{indv})} \simeq \begin{cases} \sqrt{\frac{|\omega - m|}{T}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{L}} & \text{for } \Gamma_X \lesssim |\omega - m| \\ \sqrt{\frac{\Gamma_X}{T}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{L}} & \text{for } \Gamma_X \gtrsim |\omega - m| \end{cases}$$

Uncertainty with a cat (GHZ) state

$$\delta\epsilon^{(\text{GHZ})} \simeq \begin{cases} \sqrt{\frac{|\omega - m|}{T}} \frac{1}{L} & \text{for } L\Gamma_X \lesssim |\omega - m| \\ \sqrt{\frac{\Gamma_X}{T}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{L}} & \text{for } L\Gamma_X \gtrsim |\omega - m| \end{cases}$$

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For a large detuning ($\omega - m$), the uncertainty with the cat state is L times smaller than that of the separable states

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The detectable bandwidth becomes larger for the cat state!

Estimation uncertainty of the AC field strength

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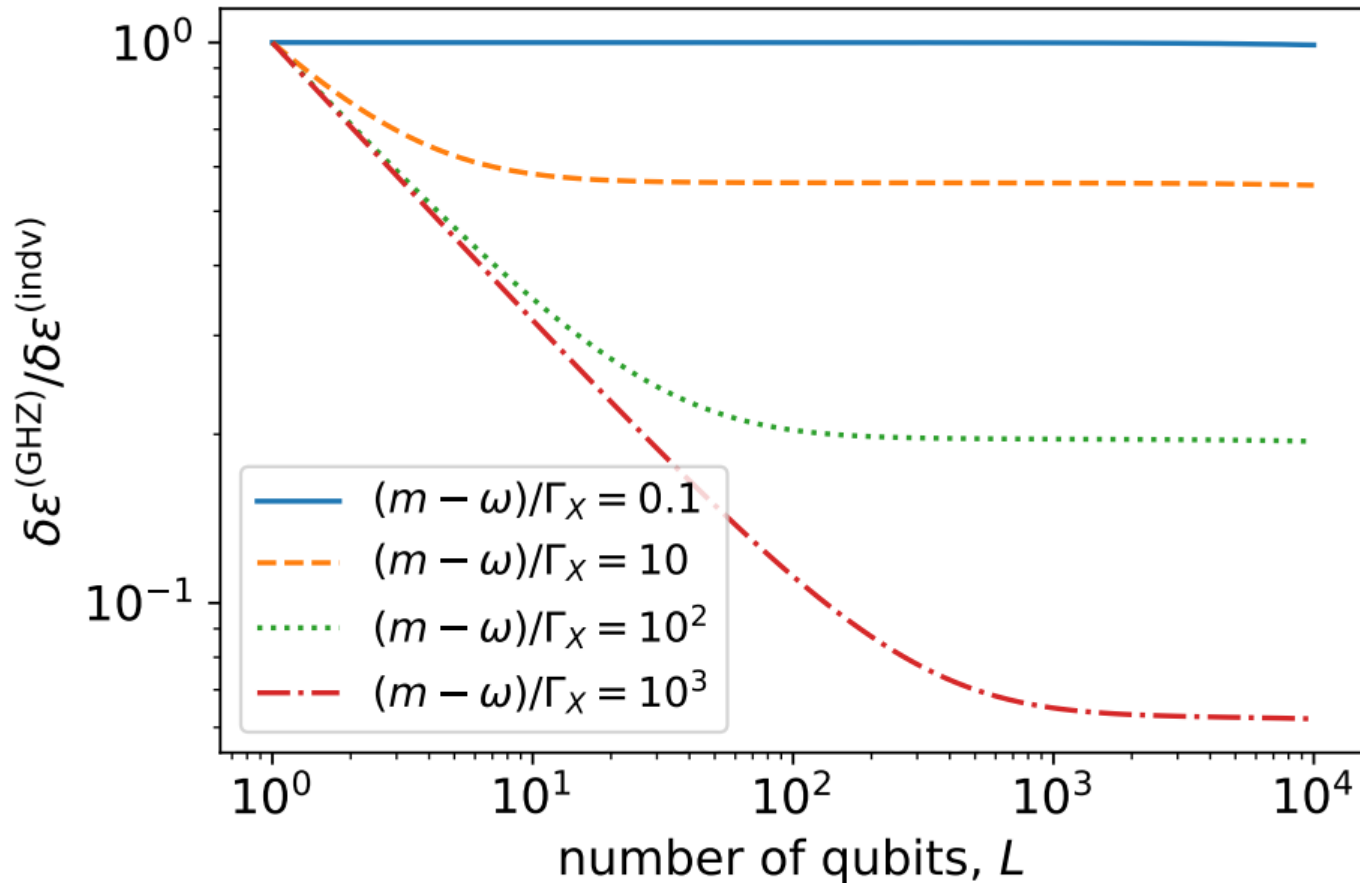
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For a small detuning ($\omega - m$), there are no advantage to use the cat state!

Comparison of the sensitivity

Paralell noise



For a large detuning ($\omega - m$),
we can decrease the uncertainty
by using the cat state!

Conclusion



👉 To measure **DC** magnetic field with qubits, we **cannot improve** the sensitivity by using a cat (GHZ) state under the effect of high-frequency parallel noise

S. Huelga *et al.* Physical Review Letters 79.20 (1997): 3865.

👉 To measure **AC** magnetic field with qubit, we **can improve** the sensitivity by using a cat state under the effect of high-frequency parallel noise for some cases.

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arXiv:2410.21699 (2024)

