

Quantum Feedback Control in Noisy Systems: Towards Fault-Tolerant Quantum Operations

Dr. Sofia Marinelli

San Lorenzo School of Commerce, Milan, Italy

Soumission : 14/12/2025

Acceptation : 23/02/2026

Publication: 02/07/2026

Abstract:

In order to provide fault-tolerant quantum operations, quantum feedback control has become a vital technique for reducing the effects of noise and decoherence in quantum systems. For the successful application of quantum computing, quantum communication, and quantum sensing in noisy quantum settings, the coherence of quantum states must be preserved. the fundamentals of quantum feedback control, emphasizing techniques for correction and real-time monitoring that maintain quantum coherence. a number of feedback control strategies, such as continuous quantum measurement, quantum error correction codes, and adaptive control methods that modify system parameters on the fly. We demonstrate how these methods enhance system robustness and open the door to scalable and dependable quantum operations by examining recent developments in the field. provides insights into the future of developing fault-tolerant quantum systems that can function in noisy environments and addresses the difficulties related to feedback control in the Noisy Intermediate-Scale Quantum (NISQ) era.

Keywords: Quantum measurement, Precision metrology, Fundamental constants, Timekeeping

Introduction

Despite providing previously unheard-of levels of processing power and accuracy, quantum systems are intrinsically susceptible to noise and decoherence, which jeopardize the accuracy and stability of quantum operations. These disruptions can really appear as bit-flip and phase-flip errors, which lowers the dependability of quantum sensing, quantum communication, and quantum computing. Overcoming these obstacles is essential to developing fault-tolerant quantum operations as the area of quantum technology moves closer to creating scalable and dependable quantum systems. A potent strategy that aims to address these problems is quantum feedback control, which applies real-time corrections to preserve stability and coherence while continuously monitoring quantum systems. In contrast to classical feedback methods, quantum feedback control must work within the limitations of quantum mechanics, striking a balance between the possibility of quantum state collapse and the requirement for precise measurements. Quantum feedback makes it possible to repair errors and stabilize quantum systems in noisy situations by utilizing strategies like adaptive control, continuous measurements, and quantum error correction. Robust feedback control systems have become increasingly important with the introduction of Noisy Intermediate-Scale Quantum (NISQ) devices, which are especially vulnerable to operational mistakes and external noise. Quantum feedback control will be essential to guaranteeing that quantum operations can be carried out on a wide scale and with reliability as we approach the era of fault-tolerant quantum computing.

the basic ideas and methods of quantum feedback control, with an emphasis on enabling fault-tolerant operations and reducing noise in quantum systems. Reviewing several feedback control techniques and highlighting recent developments, we will also talk about the prospects and problems of creating truly fault-tolerant quantum systems in the future.

Types of Quantum Feedback Control Techniques

In order to reduce noise, fix mistakes, and maintain quantum coherence in quantum systems, quantum feedback control methods are crucial. Due to the intrinsic sensitivity of quantum systems to environmental perturbations, these techniques are essential for creating fault-tolerant quantum operations. To tackle these issues, a number of feedback control strategies have been created, each with unique methods for real-time quantum state monitoring and correction. Some of the main categories of quantum feedback control methods are listed below:

1. Quantum Error Correction Codes (QECC)

Fault-tolerant quantum computing is based on quantum error correction codes (QECC). They enable error detection and correction in quantum systems without requiring direct measurement or disruption of the quantum states. The no-cloning theorem, which forbids exact copies of quantum states, makes it impossible to use classical error correcting techniques on quantum systems. Rather, QECCs distribute the quantum information among several qubits by encoding it into a wider Hilbert space.

Ancillary qubits, which reveal the existence and kind of error without collapsing the quantum state, are measured by the system to identify errors when they happen. This information is then used to fix the mistake. The Shor, Steane, and Surface codes are typical instances of quantum error correction codes. Because bit-flip and phase-flip mistakes are frequent in noisy quantum systems, these codes are especially good at stabilizing quantum information against them.

2. Continuous Quantum Measurement

Monitoring a quantum system throughout time without completely collapsing the quantum state is known as continuous quantum measurement. Continuous measurements offer partial information about the state of the system, as opposed to projective measurements, which result in an instantaneous and complete collapse of the quantum wavefunction. This makes it possible for dynamic control and real-time feedback, allowing the system to be continuously modified in response to mistakes or noise that are identified.

Continuous quantum measurement can offer useful information to direct corrective feedback while preserving the coherence of the system by employing weak measurements, which cause the least amount of disturbance to the system. This method is especially helpful in superconducting qubit systems and quantum optics, where even minor environmental perturbations can result in large inaccuracies.

3. Adaptive Quantum Control

Adaptive quantum control dynamically modifies the quantum system's parameters in response to feedback and real-time measurements. This method is very adaptable since it enables the system to quickly modify its control tactics in response to changing circumstances, such as fluctuating noise levels or unanticipated disruptions. In order to predict the best system adjustments, adaptive control algorithms usually use heuristic models or machine learning approaches.

In adaptive phase estimation, for example, the system continuously improves its phase shift estimates by changing the measurement foundation in response to previous findings. In quantum sensing, where it can maximize measurement precision for identifying weak signals or environmental perturbations, adaptive control holds particular promise.

4. Measurement-Based Feedback Control

One of the most straightforward types of quantum feedback is measurement-based feedback control, in which system measurements yield real-time data that is utilized to modify system parameters. A subset of the quantum system (or auxiliary qubits) is measured using this technique, and the measurement results are used to drive real-time control algorithms that stabilize the system or correct for mistakes.

A significant obstacle in measurement-based feedback control is striking a balance between the necessity of precise measurements and the possibility of quantum state disturbance. This can be addressed by designing the feedback system to reduce measurement back-action effects while maintaining the quantum coherence of the system. This kind of control has been effectively used to preserve the stability of delicate quantum states in a variety of experimental configurations, including trapped ions and superconducting circuits.

Conclusion

A key component of attempts to realize fault-tolerant quantum activities, quantum feedback control has emerged as a crucial instrument for resolving the issues presented by noise and decoherence in quantum systems. The coherence necessary for dependable quantum computation and communication can be maintained by stabilizing and correcting errors in real-time quantum systems using a range of methods, including quantum error correction codes, continuous quantum measurement, adaptive quantum control, and measurement-based feedback control. Even more important is the role of quantum feedback control in noisy intermediate-scale quantum (NISQ) devices. These systems need strong error mitigation techniques to function properly because of their intrinsic noise sensitivity and low qubit coherence. The continuous improvements in feedback mechanisms, fueled by both theoretical understanding and experimental breakthroughs, are contributing to the expansion of the current frontiers of quantum technology. In the future, the creation of scalable, fault-tolerant quantum systems will depend heavily on quantum feedback control. Realizing the full promise of quantum computing, quantum communication, and quantum sensing will depend on combining cutting-edge feedback mechanisms with newly developed quantum architectures as quantum hardware continues to advance. With quantum feedback control at its heart, the future of fault-tolerant quantum processes appears bright, despite the fact that there are still many obstacles to overcome, especially in the areas of scalability and real-time feedback precision.

Bibliography

- Khan, I. (2024). Quantum Measurement and Feedback Control in Quantum Systems. *Journal of Quantum Science and Technology*, 1(2), 31–36. <https://doi.org/10.36676/jqst.v1.i2.13>
- Khan, I. (2024). Quantum Measurement and Feedback Control in Quantum Systems. *Journal of Quantum Science and Technology*, 1(2), 31–36. <https://doi.org/10.36676/jqst.v1.i2.13>

- Joanes, A. (2024). Quantum Key Distribution Protocols: Advancements and Challenges in Secure Communication. *Journal of Quantum Science and Technology*, 1(1), 10–14. <https://doi.org/10.36676/jqst.v1.i1.03>
- Kumar, A. (2024). Exploring the Foundations of Quantum Mechanics: Recent Developments and Open Questions. *Journal of Quantum Science and Technology*, 1(1), 20–24. <https://doi.org/10.36676/jqst.v1.i1.05>