Dynamic creation of a topologically-ordered Hamiltonian using spin-pulse control in the Heisenberg model

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Hamiltonian engineering is an important approach for quantum information processing, when appropriate materials do not exist in nature or are unstable. So far there is no stable material for the Kitaev spin Hamiltonian with anisotropic interactions on a honeycomb lattice, which plays a crucial role in the realization of both Abelian and non-Abelian anyons. Here, we show two methods to dynamically realize the Kitaev spin Hamiltonian from the conventional Heisenberg spin Hamiltonian using pulse-control techniques based on the Baker-Campbell-Hausdorff (BCH) formula. In the first method, the Heisenberg interaction is changed into Ising interactions in the first process of the pulse sequence. In the next process of the first method, we transform them to a desirable anisotropic Kitaev spin Hamiltonian. In the second more efficient method, we show that if we carefully design two-dimensional pulses that vary depending on the qubit location, we can obtain the desired Hamiltonian in only one step of applying the BCH formula. As an example, we apply our methods to spin qubits based on quantum dots, in which the effects of both the spin-orbit interaction and the hyperfine interaction are estimated.

Topological quantum computation has attracted considerable interest due to its robustness to local perturbations1. Anyons, which obey different statistics from bosons and fermions, are also of fundamental interest in physics2. Kitaev3 provided an exactly-solvable model of a spin-1/2 system on a honeycomb lattice with potential links to topological quantum computation, for both Abelian and non-Abelian anyons. The Kitaev Hamiltonian is given by an anisotropic spin model on a 2D honeycomb lattice

$$ H_K = J_x \sum_{x \text{-links}} X_j X_k + J_y \sum_{y \text{-links}} Y_j Y_k + J_z \sum_{z \text{-links}} Z_j Z_k $$

where $X_j$, $Y_j$ and $Z_j$ are the Pauli spin operators and the interaction type ($x$, $y$, and $z$ links) depends on the direction of the bond between the two sites (Fig. 1). The model in Eq. (1) can be mapped to free Majorana fermions coupled to a $Z_2$ gauge field and has two types of interesting ground states, the so-called phase $A$ and phase $B$, depending on the relative magnitude of $J_x$, $J_y$ and $J_z$. The region $J_{\alpha_x} \leq J_{\alpha_y} + J_{\alpha_z}$, where $\alpha_i (i = 1,2,3)$ refers to $x,y,z$, is the gapless $B$ phase in which non-Abelian anyons appear, and the other region is the gapped phase $A$, where Abelian anyon statistics is expected. In the $B$ phase, an additional external magnetic field opens an energy gap. This Kitaev model has opened a new

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possibility of realizing anyon based on spin systems. However, it is not easy to find materials that have such anisotropic spin-spin interactions.

Even if we can find a possible material for realizing a desired Hamiltonian, we have to integrate and fabricate it by attaching many electrodes and probes to confirm whether it is sufficiently controllable. Regarding artificial realizations of the Kitaev Hamiltonian, theoretical proposals have been made using optical lattices and superconducting qubits. In Ref. [You et al.], used different qubit-qubit interactions depending on the coupling direction. Here, we consider how to generate the Kitaev Hamiltonian starting from the Heisenberg Hamiltonian.

The Heisenberg Hamiltonian describes two-body interactions in many magnetic materials and artificial systems such as cold atoms, semiconductor quantum dot (QD) systems, donor systems, and nitrogen-vacancy (NV) centers. The Heisenberg Hamiltonian is given by

$$H = \sum_{i<j} J_{ij} S_i \cdot S_j$$

where only the nearest-neighbor interactions are assumed here. The problem to be solved is to find a way to derive the Kitaev Hamiltonian Eq. (1) from the Heisenberg Hamiltonian of Eq. (2). The difficulty is to derive the anisotropic interaction of the Kitaev Hamiltonian from the uniform interaction of the Heisenberg Hamiltonian. For example, although the tunneling couplings $J_{ij}$ of the spin qubits based on QDs can be varied uniformly by attaching gate electrodes, we cannot control the anisotropy of the interactions by only changing the strength of the tunneling couplings. The purpose of this paper is to propose two methods to dynamically derive the Kitaev Hamiltonian from the Heisenberg Hamiltonian.

The two methods provided here are based on pulse-control technique using the Baker-Campbell-Hausdorff (BCH) formula between the Heisenberg Hamiltonian and the transformed Hamiltonians. These transformed Hamiltonians are produced by applying appropriate pulse sequences to the Heisenberg Hamiltonian. The BCH formula is useful for creating desirable effective Hamiltonians. However, because unwanted terms are generated by the BCH formula, it is desirable to reduce the number of times the BCH formula is applied to different transformed Hamiltonian.

In the first method provided here, which we call the direct method, the Heisenberg interaction is changed into $XX$, $YY$, and $ZZ$ Ising couplings, by using the corresponding transformed Hamiltonians in the first process. In the second process of the direct method, three other transformed Hamiltonians are used to change the Ising couplings into the desired $x$, $y$, and $z$-links. When we count the number of the steps required to obtain the different transformed Hamiltonians, the direct method requires six steps to obtain the Kitaev spin Hamiltonian. In the second method, which we call the efficient method, we show that if we carefully design two-dimensional (2D) pulses that vary depending on the qubit location, we can obtain the desired Hamiltonian in only one step where one transformed Hamiltonian is used.

Because the engineered Hamiltonian is effective only for a finite time interval, the dynamical approach requires a refresh process in which the same pulse sequence for generating the Kitaev Hamiltonian is carried out. The idea of repeating the production process is very common in conventional digital computers, such as dynamic random access memory (DRAM), which essentially is a big capacitor and the amount of electric charge is lost over time. We consider the refresh overhead of the dynamical methods, and compare the two proposed methods quantitatively.

As a concrete example of the application of our methods, we consider the spin qubits based on QDs. In general, QDs have both spin-orbit interactions and hyperfine interactions. Therefore, we will discuss the effects of these interactions, other than the unwanted terms derived from the BCH formula, on the topological Hamiltonian, focusing on the gapped phase (phase $A$).

**Results**

**Dynamical creation of the Kitaev spin Hamiltonian from the Heisenberg model.** Now, we explain how to derive Eq. (1) from the Heisenberg Hamiltonian Eq. (2). The “creation” of Eq. (1) is carried...
out by combining \( H_S \) with a transformed Hamiltonian \( H_R \), which is produced by applying a customized pulse sequence to \( H_S \), like in nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR), by a repeated application of the BCH formula. Concretely, the target Hamiltonian \( H_{\text{tgt}} \) is approximately obtained by
\[
H_{\text{tgt}} = H_S + H_R,
\]
such as
\[
\exp(-itH_S)\exp(-itH_R) \approx \exp(-it(H_S + H_R) - t^2[H_S, H_R]/2 + ...),
\]
when \( J_t \gtrsim 1 \). In the exponent of the right side of this equations, the terms \( O(t^2) \) beyond the first term are the unwanted ones. The transformed Hamiltonian \( H_R \) is produced by using rotations of the Pauli operators, \( X_i \rightarrow -X_i, Y_i \rightarrow -Y_i \) and \( Z_i \rightarrow -Z_i \). These rotations are obtained by the operations given by
\[
\exp(\mp in\pi/2)X \exp(\pm in\pi/2) = -X,
\]
and \( \exp(\mp in\pi/2)Y \exp(\pm in\pi/2) = Y \). We have similar equations for the rotations of the \( Y \) and \( Z \) operators. In the following, we show that the first method (direct method) uses Eq. (3) six times, but the second method (efficient method) uses it only once.

**Direct method**

The direct way to convert Eq. (2) to Eq. (1) requires six steps, as shown in Fig. 2. The first process is to create the three Ising Hamiltonians, \( H_x = \sum_i J_x X_i X_{i+1}, H_y = \sum_i J_y Y_i Y_{i+1}, H_z = \sum_i J_z Z_i Z_{i+1} \) from Eq. (2) and \( H_{\text{tgt}} \) as shown in Figs. 2(a,c,e). The generated Ising Hamiltonians are described by
\[
H_{\text{step}1}^\alpha = \log[\exp(itH_S)\exp(itH_R^\alpha)]/(it),
\]
where \( H_{\text{step}}^\alpha = P_1^{\alpha,1}H_S P_1^{\alpha} \) (\( \alpha = x, y, z \)) is a rotated Hamiltonian, in which \( P_1^\alpha \) shows \( \pi/2 \)-pulse rotations around the \( \alpha \)-axes on the lattice sites of Figs. 2(a,c,e). The next process is to eliminate unnecessary Ising interactions, such as...
\[
H_{\text{step}2}^{\alpha} = \log\left[\exp\left(itH_{\text{step}1}\right)\exp\left(itH_r^{\alpha}\right)\right]/(it),
\]  

(6)

where \(H_r^{\alpha} = P_2^{\alpha}H_{\text{step}1}^{\alpha}P_2^{\alpha}\) is obtained by applying a \(\pi/2\)-pulse operation \(P_2^{\alpha}\) depending on the links in Figs. 2(b,d,f).

Thus, the Kitaev Hamiltonian is dynamically obtained by

\[
H_r^{\text{dir}}(t) = \log\left[\exp\left(itH_{\text{step}2}^{\text{r}}\right)\exp\left(itH_{\text{step}2}^{\text{y}}\right)\exp\left(itH_{\text{step}2}^{\text{z}}\right)\right]/(it)
\]  

(7)

(See also Sec. 1 of the supplementary information). Note that parts of the Kitaev Hamiltonian do not commute, i.e., \(\sum_{x\text{-link}} X, \sum_{y\text{-link}} Y, \sum_{z\text{-link}} Z \neq 0\). Therefore, the unwanted terms emerge even in the process Eq. (7) \(\implies (7)\) of combining the XX, YY and ZZ Ising couplings. In the following, we show a better method in which the XX, YY and ZZ Ising couplings are generated in a single process.

**Efficient method.**

Because the coherence time is limited, a generation method using less time can be regarded as more efficient. When we apply rotation pulses more compactly, the Kitaev Hamiltonian \(H_r^{\text{eff}}\) is produced more efficiently from \(H_S\). Fig. 3 shows the distributions of the rotation pulses \(P_{\text{eff}}\) by which the BCH formula is used only once, such that

\[
2\tau H_r^{\text{eff}} = \tau (H_S + H_r^{\text{eff}}),
\]  

(8)

with \(H_r^{\text{eff}} = P_{\text{eff}}H_S P_{\text{eff}}\). The x-link of the colored honeycomb is produced by applying a rotation around the y-axis and that around the z-axis on both sides of the link. Similarly, the y (z)-link is produced by a rotation around the z (x)-axis and around the x (y)-axis on both sides of the link (see also Sec. II of the supplementary information).

**Refresh overhead**

If \(\tau_{\text{rot}}\) denotes the time of a single-qubit rotation, it takes \(2(2\tau_{\text{rot}} + \tau)\) and \(12(2\tau_{\text{rot}} + \tau)\) to produce the rotations \(\exp(-i2\tau H_r^{\text{eff}})\), and \(\exp(-i4\tau H_r^{\text{dir}})\), respectively. Similar to the conventional DRAM, here we define the **refresh overhead** as the effectiveness of the refresh of the quantum state:

\[
r_{\text{oh}} \equiv \text{refresh overhead} = \frac{\text{time required for refresh}}{\text{refresh interval}}.
\]  

(9)

The refresh overhead of the efficient method presented above is

\[
r_{\text{oh}}^{\text{eff}} = \frac{2\tau_{\text{rot}} + \tau}{\tau} \approx 2J_z\tau_{\text{rot}} + 1,
\]  

(10)

and that of the direct method shown previously is

\[
r_{\text{oh}}^{\text{dir}} = 3(2J_z\tau_{\text{rot}} + 1),
\]  

(11)
for $J_z \tau \lesssim 1$. Thus, the efficient method is three times more efficient than the direct method.

**Fidelity**

Let us numerically estimate the improvement of the efficient method by calculating a time-dependent gate fidelity\(^{32}\). The time-dependent gate fidelity is defined by

$$F(t) = |\text{Tr} \left[ \exp(itH_K) U_p(t) \right]|/2^N,$$

(12)

where $U_p(t)$ denotes the evolution operator of the pulsed system. The gate fidelity shows how well the transformed Hamiltonian evolves compared with $H_K$. For the direct method, $U_p^{\text{dir}}(t)$ is given by

$$U_p^{\text{dir}}(t) = U_x^{(1)}(t) U_y^{(2)}(t) U_y^{(1)}(t) U_x^{(2)}(t) U_z^{(1)}(t) U_z^{(2)}(t),$$

(13)

with $U_\alpha^{(i)}(t) = \exp(-itH_\alpha) R_\alpha^{(i)} \exp(-itH_\alpha) R_\alpha^{(i)}$, for $i = 1, 2$ and $\alpha = x, y, z$. Note that $R_\alpha^{(1)}$ and $R_\alpha^{(2)}$ transform $H_\alpha$ into the rotated ones shown in Figs. 2(a,c,e) and (b,d,f), respectively. In contrast, for the efficient pulse arrangement, $U_p^{\text{eff}}(t)$ is expressed by

$$U_p^{\text{eff}}(t) = \exp(-itH_3) \exp(-itH_3^{\text{eff}}).$$

(14)

Thus, the evolution operator Eq. (14) of the efficient method is much simpler than that of the direct method Eq. (13). Here we consider the general case in which the spin-orbit interaction and the hyperfine interaction are added to the Heisenberg Hamiltonian Eq. (2), assuming the spin qubits based on QDs. The spin-orbit interaction is expressed by

$$V_{\text{so}} = \sum_{jk} [c_{so} \cdot (\sigma_j - \sigma_k) + d_{so} \cdot \sigma_j \times \sigma_k],$$

(15)

where $\sigma_j = (X_j, Y_j, Z_j)$, and the magnitudes of the spin-orbit vectors $c_{so} = (c_x, c_y, c_z)$ and $d_{so} = (d_x, d_y, d_z)$ are $10^{-2}$ smaller\(^{28}\) than $J_z$. The hyperfine interaction is given by the fluctuation of the field\(^{30}\), such as $V_{\text{hf}} = -\sum \{ \delta h_\alpha X_j + \delta h_\alpha Y_j + \delta h_\alpha Z_j \}$. We treat the hyperfine field as a static quantity because the evolution of the hyperfine field is $\sim 10\mu$s and much slower than the time-scale of the pulse-control $\sim 100$ns. The total Hamiltonian of this system is $H = H_3 + V_{\text{so}} + V_{\text{hf}}$. The Chebyshev expansion method is used for calculating the time-dependent behavior until its 6th-order term\(^{33}\). We have considered several parameter regions such as (i) $J_x = J_y = 0.3J_z$, $d_\alpha = 0$, and $\delta h_\alpha = 0$, (ii) $J_x = J_y = 0.3J_z$, $d_\alpha = 0.1$, and $\delta h_\alpha = 0.1$, and (iii) $J_x = J_y = J_z$, $d_\alpha = 0.3$, and $\delta h_\alpha = 0.3$ ($\alpha = x, y, z$). Figure 4 shows for the numerical results for $N = 10$ qubits (two honeycomb lattices) for $J_z = J_x = 0.3J_z$, $d_\alpha = 0.1$ and $\delta h_\alpha = 0.1$. In various parameter regions, the overlap with the Kitaev Hamiltonian is excellent when using the pulse-controlled method. We also find that iterating the same BCH formula\(^{34}\) greatly increases the gate fidelity, which is similar to the bang-bang control\(^{35}\).
Time-dependent Eigenvalue
In order to directly see the effects of the unwanted terms, spin-orbit terms, and hyperfine terms, we calculate the time-dependent eigenvalues of the effective Hamiltonian
\[ H_{\text{eff}} = H_S + H_R - \frac{i}{2t} [H_S, H_R], \]
for \( N = 6 \) (a,b) and \( N = 10 \) (c,d).

\( J_z = J_y = 0.3J_z \) (a,c) use \( d_x = d_y = \delta h_x = \delta h_y = 0. \) (b,d) use \( d_x = d_y = \delta h_x = \delta h_y = 0.1J_z. \) Eigenenergies are scaled by \( J_z. \)

Toric code Hamiltonian
The unperturbed Hamiltonian of the A phase is given by
\[ H_0 = -J_z \sum_{\text{links}} Z_{i}Z_{i+1}, \]
whose ground state is a degenerate dimer state. Then,
\[ V_0 = -J_x \sum_{x=1}^{N-1} X_{x}X_{x+1} - J_y \sum_{y=1}^{N-1} Y_{y}Y_{y+1}, \]
acts as a perturbation and generates the toric code Hamiltonian \( H_{\text{A-phase}} = H_0 + V_0. \) Comparing the unwanted terms \( H_{\text{w}} = -it [H_S, H_R]/4, \) the spin-orbit terms, and the hyperfine terms, with the effective toric code Hamiltonian in Ref. \(^3\) implies the constraints

\[ \left( \frac{1}{4} J_z^3 N, 2d_x d_y/J_z, \frac{\delta h_x \delta h_y}{J_z} \right) < J_{\text{eff}}^K, \]

where \( \alpha = x, y \) and \( J_{\text{eff}}^K = (J_x^3 J_y^3 / 16 J_z^3) \) (see Sec. VI of the supplementary information). From these estimates, in order to realize the topological quantum computation, both the spin-orbit and the hyperfine interactions should be as small as possible.

Effects of errors in rotations.
Let us consider the effects of errors in rotations. In Eq. (4), when there is a pulse error \( \delta \) in \( \theta = \pi/2 + \delta \). These rotations are carried out by the operations:

\[ \exp(-i\theta Y)X\exp(i\theta Y) = -(\cos 2\delta) X + i(\sin 2\delta) Z, \]

\[ \exp(-i\theta Z)X\exp(i\theta Z) = -(\cos 2\delta) X - i(\sin 2\delta) Y. \]
We have similar equations for the $Y$ and $Z$ components. When we apply these equations with $\delta = 1$ to the Heisenberg Hamiltonian $H_S$, we have
\[
\exp(-i\theta X_i) H_S \exp(i\theta X_i) \rightarrow \sum_{ij} J_{ij} \{X_i X_j + [-Y_i - (2\delta) Z_i] Y_j + [-Z_i + (2\delta) Y_i] Z_j\},
\]
(19)
\[
\exp(-i\theta Y_i) H_S \exp(i\theta Y_i) \rightarrow \sum_{ij} J_{ij} \{-Z_i - (2\delta) X_i Y_j + Y_i Y_j + [-X_i + (2\delta) Z_i] Y_j\},
\]
(20)
\[
\exp(-i\theta Z_i) H_S \exp(i\theta Z_i) \rightarrow \sum_{ij} J_{ij} \{-X_i - (2\delta) Y_i Z_j + Y_i Y_j + [X_i + (2\delta) X_i] Y_j + Z_i Z_j\}
\]
(21)
Thus, the unwanted terms from the pulse errors are counted in order of $12\delta$. It is considered that these pulse errors can be reduced by using the conventional composite pulse method developed in NMR.

Discussion

Because our methods use many single-qubit rotations, a short $\tau_{\text{rot}}$ is important such that all the operations can be carried out during the coherence time of the system. For example, when $\tau_{\text{rot}} \approx 1$ ns, the efficient method requires a time of $4\tau_{\text{rot}} \approx 4$ ns and the direct method requires a time of $24$ ns. In this case, the coherence time should be longer than at least $24$ ns for the realization of both methods. As an example, we consider the spin-qubit based on QDs, in which the coherence time is estimated by the dephasing time. When the dephasing time is $T_\delta \sim 10$ ns as in Ref. [11], only the efficient method is applicable. When the dephasing time is $T_\delta \sim 100$ ns as in Ref. [12], both methods can be applied.

Next, let us discuss a measurement process of topological quantum computation in spin qubits. The toric code and the surface code are based on the stabilizer formalism where desired quantum states are obtained by stabilizer measurements. These measurements can be carried out using conventional spin-qubit operations by manipulating the Heisenberg model with appropriate magnetic fields. However, because the desired states are not always eigenstates of the Heisenberg Hamiltonian, the desired states are not preserved. Thus, our proposed methods, which can preserve the desired states of the topological quantum computation, are important after the measurement. Let us estimate the measurement time in more detail. In each measurement process of the surface code, four CNOT gates and two Hadamard gates are required. When each CNOT gate consists of two $\text{SWAP}$s and each $\text{SWAP}$ requires a time $\pi/(8J_{\text{meas}})$, where $J_{\text{meas}}$ is a Heisenberg coupling strength for the measurement, one stabilizer measurement cycle approximately requires a time $\pi/J_{\text{meas}}$. Because a short measurement time and a long coherence-preserving time ($\sim J^{-1}$) are preferable, it is desirable for the coupling strength between qubits to be changeable, and therefore $J_{\text{meas}} > J$ is desirable. The coupling $J$ of the Heisenberg interaction can be changed by the gate voltage in spin-qubit systems based on QDs. As an example, $J \approx 0.1$–$1$ $\mu$eV is obtained, when the voltage difference between two GaAs QDs is less than $10$ mV, and we can choose $J \approx 0.1$ $\mu$eV and $J_{\text{meas}} \approx 1$ $\mu$eV. When $J \approx 0.1$ $\mu$eV ($\approx 0.0116$ K), the period $Jt \lesssim 1$ corresponds to the refresh time $t \sim 24.2$ ns.

Because the fabrication process is not easy in qubits of any type, the variation of the coupling constant $J$ cannot be avoided in experiments. In this paper, we have shown the effect of the spin-orbit and the hyperfine interactions as examples of the unwanted terms of our methods. Thus, as long as the variation of $J$ is small, it can be included as a small perturbation without significant effects on the generation of the Kitaev Hamiltonian and the toric code Hamiltonian.

In summary, we proposed two methods to dynamically generate a Kitaev spin Hamiltonian on a honeycomb lattice from the Heisenberg spin Hamiltonian by using a dynamical approach. We also considered the effects of the unwanted terms of the BCH, the spin-orbit interaction, and the hyperfine interaction, for spin qubits based on QDs. We clarified that, if these terms are sufficiently small, a dynamic topological quantum computation is available by periodically reproducing the topological Hamiltonian.

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Author Contributions
T.T. carried out all the calculations. All authors contributed to the discussions, the interpretation of the work, and the writing of the manuscript.

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Erratum: Dynamic creation of a topologically-ordered Hamiltonian using spin-pulse control in the Heisenberg model

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This Article contains typographical errors.

In Equation (1):

\[ H_\kappa = J_\chi \sum_{\chi \text{-links}} X_\chi X_k - J_y \sum_{y \text{-links}} Y_y Y_k - J_z \sum_{z \text{-links}} Z_z Z_k \]

should read:

\[ H_\kappa = -J_\chi \sum_{\chi \text{-links}} X_\chi X_k - J_y \sum_{y \text{-links}} Y_y Y_k - J_z \sum_{z \text{-links}} Z_z Z_k \]

In the Introduction section,

“In Ref. [You] > [8], You et al. used different qubit-qubit interactions depending on the coupling direction.”

should read:

“In Ref. [8], You et al. used different qubit-qubit interactions depending on the coupling direction.”

In the Direct Methods section,

“from Eq. (2) as shown in Fig. 2(a,c,e).”

should read:

“from Eq. 2 as shown in Fig. 2(a,c,e).”

And lastly,

“Therefore, the unwanted terms emerge even in the process Eq. (7) of combining the XX, YY and ZZ Ising couplings.”

should read:

“Therefore, the unwanted terms emerge even in the process Eq. (7) of combining the XX, YY and ZZ Ising couplings.”
