

1116-81-2181

Hideaki Obuse* (hideaki.obuse@eng.hokudai.ac.jp), Department of Applied Physics, Hokkaido University, Sapporo, Hokkaido 060-8628, Japan. *Topological phases of a \mathcal{PT} symmetric non-unitary quantum walk.*

Recently, a non-unitary one-dimensional quantum walk dynamics associated with gain and loss is implemented in a coupled fiber loops experiment [A. Regensburger *et al.*, *Nature* **488**, 167 (2012)]. The fact that the absolute value of the eigenvalue of the non-unitary time-evolution operator is kept to be unity suggests that the quantum walk possesses \mathcal{PT} symmetry (combined parity and time-reversal symmetry). In the present work, we directly identify the \mathcal{PT} symmetry operator, and then verify \mathcal{PT} symmetry of the time-evolution operator, which enable us to modify the system by keeping \mathcal{PT} symmetry. We further study topological phases of the \mathcal{PT} symmetric quantum walk, which is related to a topological insulator described by a \mathcal{PT} symmetric non-Hermitian Hamiltonian. We numerically confirm that the number of eigenvalues exhibiting localization is consistent with the topological number. We also find that only edge states originating to topological phases break \mathcal{PT} symmetry in the proper setup. This provides a way to observe the highly intense probability of localized states originating to topological phases on the one-dimensional non-unitary quantum walk in the actual experimental setup. (Received September 22, 2015)