

Abstract Submitted  
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**Soft decoding of a qubit readout apparatus**<sup>1</sup> BENJAMIN D'ANJOU, WILLIAM A. COISH, McGill University — Qubit readout is commonly performed by thresholding a collection of analog detector signals to obtain a sequence of single-shot bit values. The intrinsic irreversibility of the mapping from analog to digital signals discards soft information associated with an *a posteriori* confidence that can be assigned to each bit value when a detector is well-characterized. Accounting for soft information, we show significant improvements in enhanced state detection with the quantum repetition code as well as quantum state/parameter estimation. These advantages persist in spite of non-Gaussian features of realistic readout models, experimentally relevant small numbers of qubits, and finite encoding errors. These results show useful and achievable advantages for a wide range of current experiments on quantum state tomography, parameter estimation, and qubit readout.

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