DR. PETER SHOR, MIT

Quantum Money

Quantum money is a quantum cryptograph protocol with several players, one of whom we call the mint. We assume all participants have quantum computers. For a quantum money protocol, we need

- 1. The mint must be able to create a quantum money state (with an associated serial number)
- 2. A merchant holding the quantum money state and knowing the serial number must be able to verify that it is a valid quantum money state.
- 3. An aspiring counterfeiter having both the quantum money and the serial number cannot create two states which both pass the verification test.

Quantum money was first proposed in 2009. Since then, a number of quantum money schemes have been proposed, several of which have been broken. We will discuss the history of quantum money and sketch how some of the schemes work.