

Quantum Measurements of Scattered Particles

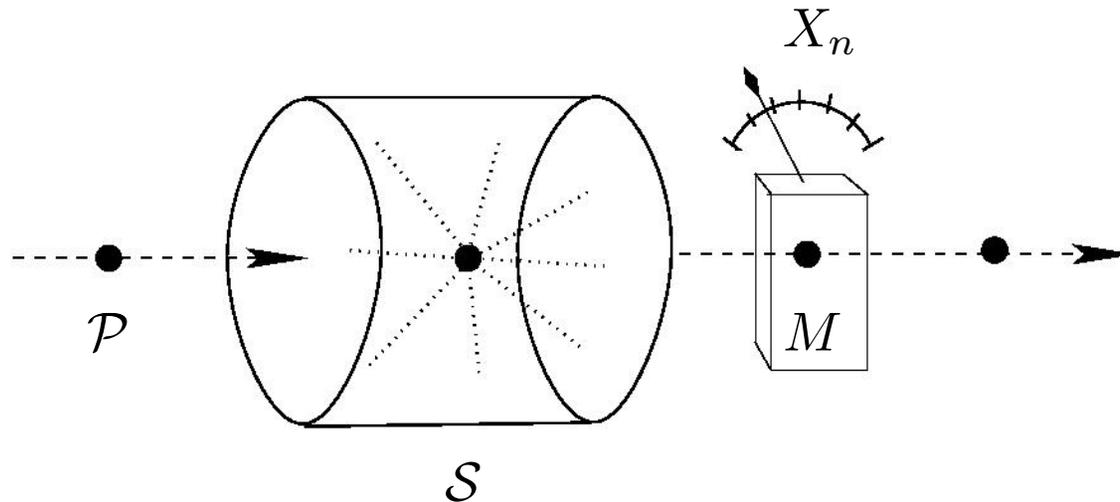
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Measurement of scattered probes



\mathcal{P} : probe
 \mathcal{S} : scatterer
 M : measurement
 }
 $\{X_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ measurement history

Incoming probe states: ω_{in} independent and identical

Single probe-scatterer interaction: duration τ , operator V

Projective von Neumann measurement: operator M , $X_n \in \text{spec}(M)$

- Both \mathcal{S} and \mathcal{P} are finite-dimensional quantum systems.
- The single probe - scatterer dynamics is generated by the Hamiltonian

$$H = H_{\mathcal{S}} + H_{\mathcal{P}} + V.$$

- The incoming probe states are stationary.
- During scattering, a new probe becomes entangled with \mathcal{S} , which is entangled with all previous probes $\Rightarrow X_n$ are dependent random variables.

- **Ergodicity assumption**

Without measurements the scattering process drives \mathcal{S} to an asymptotic state (independent of the initial condition). The convergence is exponentially quick in time.

\Rightarrow The scatterer loses memory. Correlations between X_k and X_m decrease for growing time difference $|k - m|$, because \mathcal{S} initiates convergence to asymptotic state during time span $|k - m|$.

Decay of correlations

$\sigma(X_{k_1}, \dots, X_{k_N})$: Sigma-algebra generated by N random variables X_{k_1}, \dots, X_{k_N}

Example: $\{X_5 = m, X_7 \in \{m', m'', m'''\}\} \in \sigma(X_5, X_7)$

Theorem (Correlation decay). *There are constants $c > 0$, $\gamma > 0$ such that, for all $A \in \sigma(X_k, \dots, X_l)$, $B \in \sigma(X_m, \dots, X_n)$, $1 \leq k \leq l < m \leq n \leq \infty$, we have*

$$|P(A \cap B) - P(A)P(B)| \leq c e^{-\gamma(m-l)} P(A).$$



- Decaying correlations \Rightarrow **Kolmogorov Zero-One Law:**
Any event A in the tail sigma-algebra (“tail event”)

$$\mathcal{T} = \bigcap_{k \geq 1} \sigma(X_k, X_{k+1}, \dots)$$

satisfies $P(A) = 0$ or $P(A) = 1$.

- Tail event = does not depend on any finite collection of the X_k
- *Examples:*
 - $\{X_k \in S \text{ eventually}\} = \bigcup_{n \geq 1} \{X_k \in S \ \forall k \geq n\}$
 $= \bigcup_{n \geq 1} \bigcap_{l \geq 1} \{X_k \in S, k = n, \dots, n + l\} \in \mathcal{T}$
 - $P(X_k \in S \text{ ev.}) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} P(X_k \in S, k = n, \dots, n + l) \in \{0, 1\}$
 - $P(X_k \text{ converges}) = P(X_{k+1} = X_k \text{ eventually}) \in \{0, 1\}$

Weak interaction

- $$\begin{cases} P(X_n = m) = p_{\text{in}}(m) + O(V), \text{ where } p_{\text{in}}(m) = \omega_{\text{in}}(E_{M=m}) \\ P(X_k = m_k, X_l = m_l) = P(X_k = m_k)P(X_l = m_l) + O(V) \end{cases}$$
- $\Rightarrow P(X_{n+1} = X_n) = \sum_m p_{\text{in}}(m)^2 + O(V)$
- $$\begin{aligned} P(X_n \text{ converges}) &\leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(X_{n+1} = X_n) \\ &= \sum_m p_{\text{in}}(m)^2 + O(V) \end{aligned}$$
- $\sum_m p_{\text{in}}(m)^2 \leq 1$. Equality $\Leftrightarrow \omega_{\text{in}}(E_m) = \delta_{m,m^*}$ for exactly one m^*
 $\Rightarrow \text{Var}_{\text{in}}(M) \equiv \omega_{\text{in}}(M^2) - \omega_{\text{in}}(M)^2 = 0$
- *Conclusion:* If $\text{Var}_{\text{in}}(M) > 0$ and V is small, then $P(X_n \text{ converges}) = 0$.

Proposition. *There is a constant C such that, for any $S \subset \text{spec}(M)$ with $\omega_{\text{in}}(E_S) \neq 1$, if $\|V\| \leq C(1 - \omega_{\text{in}}(E_S))$, then*

$$P(X_n \in S \text{ eventually}) = 0.$$

Frequencies

- Frequency of possible measurement outcome m :

$$f_m \equiv \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \{ \#k \in \{1, \dots, n\} : X_k = m \}$$

- ω_+ : asymptotic state of the scatterer (no measurement dynamics)
- τ : probe - scatterer interaction time
- $H = H_S + H_P + V$: single probe-scatterer Hamiltonian
- E_m : spectral projection of M associated to the eigenvalue m

Theorem. *The frequency f_m exists as an almost everywhere limit and takes the deterministic value*

$$f_m = \omega_+ \otimes \omega_{\text{in}} \left(e^{i\tau H} E_m e^{-i\tau H} \right).$$

- More generally, for m fixed,

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \{ \#j \leq n + m : X_j \in S_1, \dots, X_{j+m} \in S_m \} \\ &= \omega_+ \otimes \omega_{\text{in}} \cdots \otimes \omega_{\text{in}} (e^{i\tau H_1} \cdots e^{i\tau H_m} E_{S_1} \cdots E_{S_m} e^{-i\tau H_m} \cdots e^{-i\tau H_1}) \end{aligned}$$

Statistical average

- Statistical average of $\{X_n\}$:

$$\bar{X}_n \equiv \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n X_j$$

Theorem (Strong law of large numbers). *As $n \rightarrow \infty$, the sequence \bar{X}_n converges almost everywhere to the deterministic value*

$$\mu \equiv \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \bar{X}_n = \omega_+ \otimes \omega_{\text{in}} \left(e^{i\tau H} M e^{-i\tau H} \right).$$

Repeated interactions setup

At time step n , the first $n - 1$ probes have scattered and the n -th one is interacting with the scatterer.

- Hilbert space: $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_S \otimes \mathcal{H}_P \otimes \mathcal{H}_P \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathcal{H}_P$
- Initial state: $\rho_0 = \rho_S \otimes \rho_{\text{in}} \otimes \rho_{\text{in}} \otimes \cdots \otimes \rho_{\text{in}}$
- Define the Hamiltonian

$$H_j = \sum_{k=1}^n H_{\mathcal{P},k} + H_S + V_j$$

where V_j is a fixed interaction operator V acting on S and the j -th \mathcal{P}

- Dynamics (no measurement)

$$\rho_n = e^{-i\tau H_n} \cdots e^{-i\tau H_1} \rho_0 e^{i\tau H_1} \cdots e^{i\tau H_n}$$

- Measurement observable: self-adjoint M on $\mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{P}}$, eigenvalues m_j , spectral projections E_{m_j}
- Suppose M is measured on each probe exiting the scattering process, and that the measurement results are m_1, \dots, m_n . Then the (full) state after the last measurement is

$$\rho_n = \frac{E_{m_n} e^{-i\tau H_n} \dots E_{m_1} e^{-i\tau H_1} \rho_0 e^{i\tau H_1} E_{m_1} \dots e^{i\tau H_n} E_{m_n}}{P(m_1, \dots, m_n)},$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} P(m_1, \dots, m_n) \\ = \text{Tr} \left(E_{m_n} e^{-i\tau H_n} \dots E_{m_1} e^{-i\tau H_1} \rho_0 e^{i\tau H_1} E_{m_1} \dots e^{i\tau H_n} E_{m_n} \right) \end{aligned}$$

is the probability of the measurement history m_1, \dots, m_n .

- Stochastic process of measurement outcomes $\{X_n\}$:

$$\Omega = (\text{spec}(M))^{\mathbf{N}} = \{ \omega = (\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots) : \omega_j \in \text{spec}(M) \}$$

\mathcal{F} : σ -algebra of subsets of Ω generated by cylinder sets

$$\{ \omega \in \Omega : \omega_1 \in S_1, \dots, \omega_n \in S_n, n \in \mathbf{N}, S_j \subseteq \text{spec}(M) \}$$

On (Ω, \mathcal{F}) define random variable $X_n : \Omega \rightarrow \text{spec}(M)$, representing the measurement outcome on probe n , by

$$X_n(\omega) = \omega_n, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

- Finite-dimensional distribution of $\{X_n\}$:

$$\begin{aligned} P(X_1 \in S_1, \dots, X_n \in S_n) \\ \equiv \text{Tr}(E_{S_n} e^{-i\tau H_n} \dots E_{S_1} e^{-i\tau H_1} \rho_0 e^{i\tau H_1} E_{S_1} \dots e^{i\tau H_n} E_{S_n}) \end{aligned}$$

extends to probability measure on (Ω, \mathcal{F}) .

Representation of joint probabilities

Liouville space (GNS): density matrices are viewed as vectors in an (“enlarged”) Hilbert space.

- ρ a density matrix on \mathcal{H} , dynamics $e^{-itH} \rho e^{itH}$
Represent ρ in $\mathcal{H} \otimes \mathcal{H}$ as

$$\rho = \sum_k p_k |\chi_k\rangle\langle\chi_k| \quad \mapsto \quad \Psi = \sum_k \sqrt{p_k} \chi_k \otimes \chi_k$$

- $\text{Tr} \rho A = \langle \Psi, (A \otimes \mathbb{1}) \Psi \rangle_{\mathcal{H} \otimes \mathcal{H}}$, so observables are identified as $A \otimes \mathbb{1}$.
- Dynamics is implemented as

$$(e^{itH} A e^{-itH}) \otimes \mathbb{1} = e^{it(H \otimes \mathbb{1} + \mathbb{1} \otimes H')} (A \otimes \mathbb{1}) e^{-it(H \otimes \mathbb{1} + \mathbb{1} \otimes H')}$$

for an *arbitrary self-adjoint* H'

- Dynamics generator: **Liouville operator**

$$L = H \otimes \mathbb{1} + \mathbb{1} \otimes H'$$

- Schrödinger dynamics: $\Psi_t = e^{-itL} \Psi$
- **Reference state:** trace state, $\Psi_{\text{ref}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\dim \mathcal{H}}} \sum_j \chi_j \otimes \chi_j$, where χ_j is arbitrary ONB of \mathcal{H}
- \mathcal{C} = complex conjugation in basis $\{\chi_j\}$, X an arbitrary operator:

$$(X \otimes \mathbb{1}) \Psi_{\text{ref}} = (\mathbb{1} \otimes \mathcal{C} X^* \mathcal{C}) \Psi_{\text{ref}}$$

$$\implies K \equiv H \otimes \mathbb{1} - \mathbb{1} \otimes \mathcal{C} H \mathcal{C} \text{ satisfies } K \Psi_{\text{ref}} = 0.$$

- Trace state “generates” any state:
For an arbitrary $\Psi \in \mathcal{H} \otimes \mathcal{H}$, $\exists!$ operator B s.t.

$$\Psi = (\mathbb{1} \otimes B) \Psi_{\text{ref}}, \quad \text{we set } B' \equiv \mathbb{1} \otimes B$$

- Putting things together:

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Tr}(\rho e^{itH} A e^{-itH}) &= \langle \Psi, e^{itL} (A \otimes \mathbb{1}) e^{-itL} \Psi \rangle \\
&= \langle \Psi_{\text{ref}}, (B')^* B' e^{itL} (A \otimes \mathbb{1}) e^{-itL} \Psi_{\text{ref}} \rangle \\
&= \langle \Psi_{\text{ref}}, (B')^* B' e^{itK} (A \otimes \mathbb{1}) \Psi_{\text{ref}} \rangle
\end{aligned}$$

- Apply this to the joint probability:

- Scalar product of $(\mathcal{H}_S \otimes \mathcal{H}_S) \otimes (\mathcal{H}_P \otimes \mathcal{H}_P) \otimes \dots \otimes (\mathcal{H}_P \otimes \mathcal{H}_P)$
- Reference state is product of trace states, $\Psi_{\text{ref}} = \Psi_S \otimes \Psi_P \otimes \dots \otimes \Psi_P$

$$\begin{aligned}
P(X_1 \in S_1, \dots, X_n \in S_n) &\equiv \text{Tr}(\rho_0 e^{i\tau H_1} E_{S_1} \dots e^{i\tau H_n} E_{S_n} e^{-i\tau H_n} \dots E_{S_1} e^{-i\tau H_1}) \\
&= \langle \Psi_{\text{ref}}, (B'_S)^* B'_S [(B'_1)^* B'_1 e^{i\tau K_1} (E_{S_1} \otimes \mathbb{1}_P)] \dots \\
&\quad \dots [(B'_n)^* B'_n e^{i\tau K_n} (E_{S_n} \otimes \mathbb{1}_P)] \Psi_{\text{ref}} \rangle
\end{aligned}$$

- Each $(B'_j)^* B'_j e^{i\tau K_j} E_{S_j}$ acts as an operator $(B')^* B' e^{i\tau K} E_{S_j}$ on the scatterer and a single probe, $(\mathcal{H}_S \otimes \mathcal{H}_S) \otimes (\mathcal{H}_P \otimes \mathcal{H}_P)$
- Let $P = |\Psi_P\rangle\langle\Psi_P|$ and identify

$$T_S = P(B')^* B' e^{i\tau K} E_S P$$

as acting on $\mathcal{H}_S \otimes \mathcal{H}_S$.

- Then we have the representation

$$P(X_1 \in S_1, \dots, X_n \in S_n) = \langle \Psi_S, (B'_S)^* B'_S T_{S_1} \cdots T_{S_n} \Psi_S \rangle$$

- $\text{spec}(T_S) \subset \{ |z| \leq 1 \}$
- No measurement: $T \equiv T_{\text{spec}(M)}$, $T\Psi_S = \Psi_S$
- **Ergodicity assumption:** The only eigenvalue of T on the unit circle is 1 and it is simple. Riesz projection: $|\Psi_S\rangle\langle\Psi_S^*|$

Showing decay of correlations

- We show that $|P(A \cap B) - P(A)P(B)| \leq c e^{-\gamma(m-l)}$ for events $A = \{\omega : X_l \in S_l\}$, $B = \{\omega : X_m \in S_m\}$
- We have

$$P(A \cap B) = \langle \Psi_S, T^{l-1} T_{S_l} T^{m-l-1} T_{S_m} \Psi_S \rangle$$

- By the ergodicity assumption,

$$\|T^k - |\Psi_S\rangle\langle\Psi_S^*|\| \leq C e^{-\gamma k}$$

and so

$$P(A \cap B) = \underbrace{\langle \Psi_S, T^{l-1} T_{S_l} \Psi_S \rangle}_{P(A)} \langle \Psi_S^*, T_{S_m} \Psi_S \rangle + O(e^{-\gamma(m-l)})$$

Next,

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \Psi_{\mathcal{S}}^*, T_{S_m} \Psi_{\mathcal{S}} \rangle &= \langle \Psi_{\mathcal{S}}, (|\Psi_{\mathcal{S}}\rangle\langle \Psi_{\mathcal{S}}^*|) T_{S_m} \Psi_{\mathcal{S}} \rangle \\ &= \langle \Psi_{\mathcal{S}}, T^{m-1} T_{S_m} \Psi_{\mathcal{S}} \rangle + O(e^{-\gamma m}) \\ &= P(B) + O(e^{-\gamma m})\end{aligned}$$

This shows that $|P(A \cap B) - P(A)P(B)| \leq c e^{-\gamma(m-l)}$.

The frequencies

We first show convergence of the mean.

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{E} \left[\#k \in \{1, \dots, n\} \text{ such that } X_k = m \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{m_1, \dots, m_n} \left(\sum_{j=1}^n \chi(m_j = m) \right) P(X_1 = m_1, \dots, X_n = m_n) \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n P(X_j = m) \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \langle \Psi_{\mathcal{S}}, T^{j-1} T_m \Psi_{\mathcal{S}} \rangle \\ &\longrightarrow \langle \Psi_{\mathcal{S}}, (|\Psi_{\mathcal{S}}\rangle\langle\Psi_{\mathcal{S}}^*|) T_m \Psi_{\mathcal{S}} \rangle = \langle \Psi_{\mathcal{S}}^*, T_m \Psi_{\mathcal{S}} \rangle \end{aligned}$$

- Next, since $T_m = P(B')^* B' e^{i\tau K} E_m P$,

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle \Psi_{\mathcal{S}}^*, T_m \Psi_{\mathcal{S}} \rangle &= \langle \Psi_{\mathcal{S}}^* \otimes \Psi_{\mathcal{P}}, (B')^* B' e^{i\tau K} E_m \Psi_{\mathcal{S}} \otimes \Psi_{\mathcal{P}} \rangle \\
&= \langle \Psi_{\mathcal{S}}^* \otimes \Psi_{\mathcal{P}}, (B')^* B' e^{i\tau L} E_m e^{-i\tau L} \Psi_{\mathcal{S}} \otimes \Psi_{\mathcal{P}} \rangle \\
&= \langle \Psi_{\mathcal{S}}^* \otimes \Psi_{\text{in}}, e^{i\tau L} E_m e^{-i\tau L} \Psi_{\mathcal{S}} \otimes \Psi_{\text{in}} \rangle \\
&= \omega_+ \otimes \omega_{\text{in}} (e^{i\tau H} E_m e^{-i\tau H}).
\end{aligned}$$

- Use a probabilistic *4th moment method* to upgrade the convergence in expectation to almost sure convergence, *i.e.*,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \left[\#k \in \{1, \dots, n\} : X_k = m \right] = \omega_+ \otimes \omega_{\text{in}} (e^{i\tau H} E_m e^{-i\tau H}) \quad a.s.$$

Evolution of the scatterer

- ω_n : state of scatterer at time step n
- ω_n is random variable – determined by random measurement history

Lemma. *The expectation $\mathbf{E}[\omega_n]$ is the state obtained by evolving the initial state according to the repeated interaction dynamics without measurement.*

Proof. For a given measurement path m_1, \dots, m_n ,

$$\omega_n(A) = \frac{\langle \Psi_{\mathcal{S}}, T_{m_1} \cdots T_{m_n} A \Psi_{\mathcal{S}} \rangle}{\langle \Psi_{\mathcal{S}}, T_{m_1} \cdots T_{m_n} \Psi_{\mathcal{S}} \rangle}$$

So

$$\mathbf{E}[\omega_n(A)] = \sum_{m_1, \dots, m_n} \langle \Psi_{\mathcal{S}}, T_{m_1} \cdots T_{m_n} A \Psi_{\mathcal{S}} \rangle = \langle \Psi_{\mathcal{S}}, T^n A \Psi_{\mathcal{S}} \rangle.$$

A spin-spin example

- Both \mathcal{S} and \mathcal{P} are spins,

$$H_{\mathcal{S}} = H_{\mathcal{P}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Energy-exchange interaction

$$V = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \otimes \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \text{h.c.} \quad \in \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{S}} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{P}}$$

- Take incoming probes to be in state up,

$$\omega_{\text{in}} \leftrightarrow \rho_{\text{in}} = \left| \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right|$$

- Final state ω_+ of scatterer (under dynamics without measurement) is spin up.
- Here, $\omega_+ \otimes \omega_{\text{in}}$ is invariant under probe-scatterer dynamics (Hamilt. H).
 \Rightarrow the frequencies and mean are those of incoming states,

$$f_m = \omega_{\text{in}}(E_m), \quad \mu = \omega_{\text{in}}(M)$$

So scatterer becomes ‘transparent’ after many interactions.

- Measurement of outgoing spin along the direction given by an angle $\theta \in [0, \pi/2]$ in $x - z$ plane; $\theta = 0$ is spin up direction (Azimuthal angle plays no role, as Hamiltonian is invariant under rotation about z -axis)
- Measurement operator

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & -\cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

- Possible measurement outcomes: $m = 1, -1$
- The operators T, T_m can be calculated explicitly. One shows

$$P(X_n = 1 \text{ eventually}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \theta = 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } \theta \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

- Frequencies: $f_{+1} = \cos^2(\theta/2)$, $f_{-1} = \sin^2(\theta/2)$; average: $\mu = \cos \theta$.
- Large deviation analysis: e.g. logarithmic moment-generating function for \bar{X}_n , $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{-1} \log \mathbf{E}[e^{n\alpha \bar{X}_n}]$, can be analyzed via spectral properties of operators T_S . For example ($0 < \epsilon < \epsilon' \ll 1$)

$$P(\epsilon \leq |\bar{X}_n - \cos \theta| \leq \epsilon') \sim \exp \left[-n \left\{ \frac{\epsilon^2}{2 \sin^2 \theta} + O((\epsilon')^4) \right\} \right], \quad n \rightarrow \infty$$

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et

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