

A DIFFERENT ANGLE ON QUANTUM UNCERTAINTY

[THE MEASURE ANGLE]

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$|\psi\rangle, \{|i\rangle\}$: How many $|i\rangle$ in $|\psi\rangle$?

2/3 I.H. & R. Mendris, arXiv:1807.03995

1/3 not published

quantum chaos

many-body localization

effective supports

effective description of quantum states

vacuum structure of gauge theories

topological insulators

effective counting

quantum Hall Effect

holography

ETH & thermalization

Anderson localization

efficiency of quantum computation

Dirac eigenmodes

quantum uncertainty

probability theory
(effective choices)

measure theory
(effective measure)

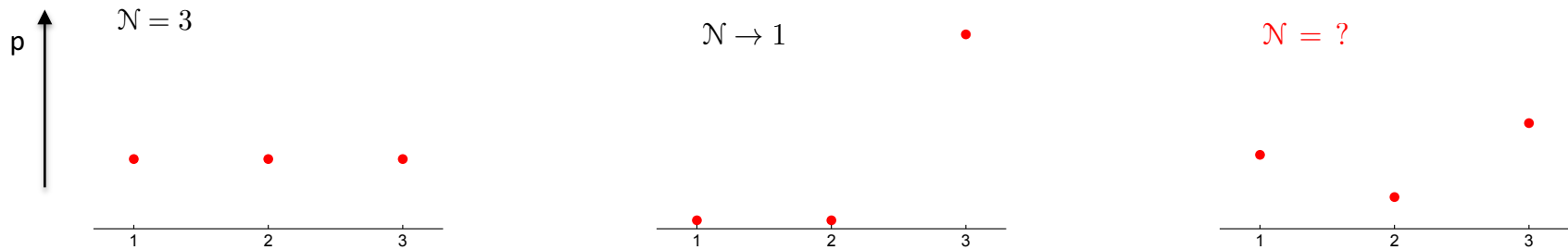
quantum information

measures of diversity

CANONICAL CONTEXT: spinless lattice Schrödinger particle wrt position basis

$|\psi\rangle \rightarrow \{\psi_i \mid i = 1, \dots, N\}$ How many positions (\mathcal{N}) is particle simultaneously in?

Quantum mechanics: $|\psi\rangle \rightarrow P = (p_1, p_2, \dots, p_N)$ $p_i = |\langle i \mid \psi\rangle|^2 = \psi_i^* \psi_i$



What is $\mathcal{N}[|\psi\rangle, \{|i\rangle\}] = \mathcal{N}[P]$????

Options:

- (i) ill-posed question in QM
- (ii) well-posed question in QM (how?)

?

STRATEGY :

- (1) Axiomatically define the set \mathfrak{N} of all $\mathcal{N} = \mathcal{N}[P]$ assigning effective number of states
- (2) Study the content and structure of \mathfrak{N}

Important convenience :

$$P = (p_1, \dots, p_N) \longrightarrow W \equiv NP = (w_1, \dots, w_N) \quad [\text{counting vector}]$$

$$\mathcal{N} = \mathcal{N}[W] \quad : \quad W \in \mathcal{W} \equiv \left\{ (w_1, \dots, w_N) \mid w_i \geq 0, \sum_{i=1}^N w_i = N, N \in \mathbb{N} \right\}$$

Participation Number :

Bell & Dean, 1970

$$\frac{1}{\mathcal{N}_p[W]} = \frac{1}{N^2} \sum_{i=1}^N w_i^2$$

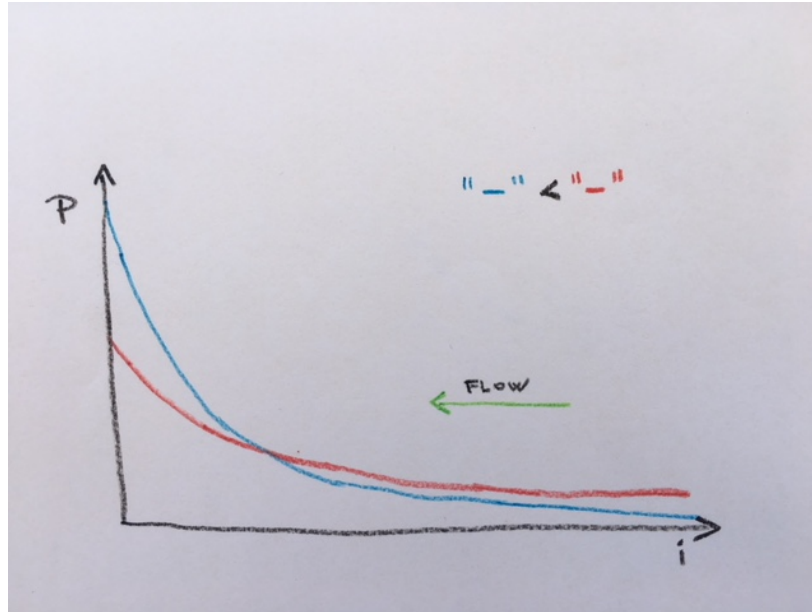
used profusely in localization studies to this day

$\mathcal{N}_p \notin \mathfrak{N}$

participation number doesn't count

OLD KEY INGREDIENT : MONOTONICITY

enhancing the cumulation of probability cannot increase the effective number



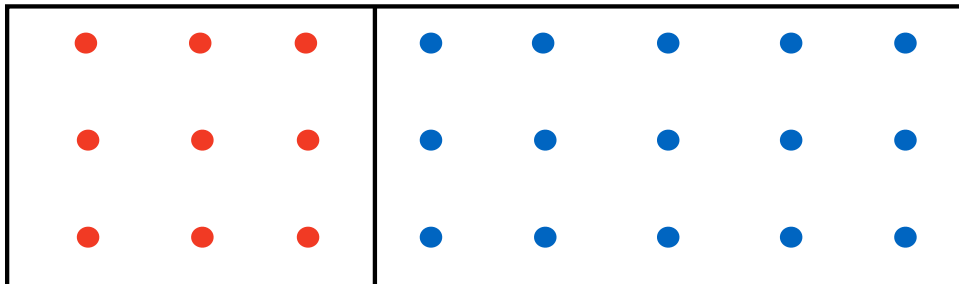
$$(M-) \quad \mathcal{N}(\dots w_i - \epsilon \dots w_j + \epsilon \dots) \leq \mathcal{N}(\dots w_i \dots w_j \dots) \quad , \quad w_i \leq w_j$$

monotonicity wrt cumulation

NEW KEY INGREDIENT : ADDITIVITY

N_1, W_1

N_2, W_2



$$N \rightarrow \mathcal{N}[W]$$

Effective number of states
has to be measure-like!

$$\mu(S_1 \cup S_2) = \mu(S_1) + \mu(S_2) \quad S_1 \cap S_2 = \emptyset$$

$$N_{12} = N_1 + N_2$$

$$\mathcal{N}[W_{12}] = \mathcal{N}[W_1] + \mathcal{N}[W_2]$$

Note: $W_1 \in \mathcal{W}_{N_1}, W_2 \in \mathcal{W}_{N_2} \Rightarrow W_1 \boxplus W_2 \in \mathcal{W}_{N_1+N_2}$

$$(a_1, \dots, a_N) \boxplus (b_1, \dots, b_M) \equiv (a_1, \dots, a_N, b_1, \dots, b_M)$$

$$\mathcal{N}[W_1 \boxplus W_2, N_1 + N_2] = \mathcal{N}[W_1, N_1] + \mathcal{N}[W_2, N_2] \quad , \quad \forall W_1, W_2, N_1, N_2$$

EFFECTIVE NUMBERS

$$(A) \quad \mathcal{N}[W_1 \boxplus W_2] = \mathcal{N}[W_1] + \mathcal{N}[W_2]$$

$$(S) \quad \mathcal{N}(\dots w_i \dots w_j \dots) = \mathcal{N}(\dots w_j \dots w_i \dots)$$

$$(B1) \quad \mathcal{N}(1, 1, \dots, 1) = N$$

$$(B2) \quad \mathcal{N}(N, 0, \dots, 0) = 1$$

$$(B) \quad 1 \leq \mathcal{N}[W] \leq N$$

(C) $\mathcal{N}[W]$ is continuous on \mathcal{W}

$$(M-) \quad \mathcal{N}(\dots w_i - \epsilon \dots w_j + \epsilon \dots) \leq \mathcal{N}(\dots w_i \dots w_j \dots) \quad , \quad w_i \leq w_j$$

monotonicity wrt cumulation

\mathfrak{N} : set of functions satisfying (A) , (S) , (B2) , (C) , (M-)

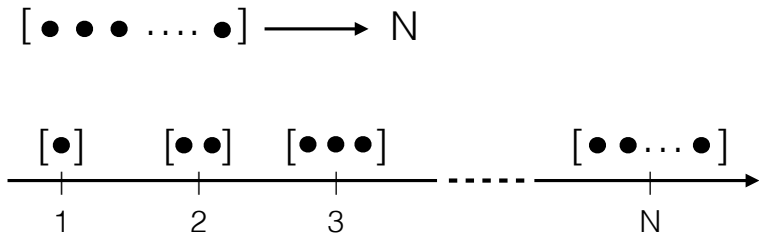
[(B1) and (B) follow]

$\mathcal{N}_p \notin \mathfrak{N}$ (not additive)

THE CONSISTENCY GAME

number of objects

natural numbers



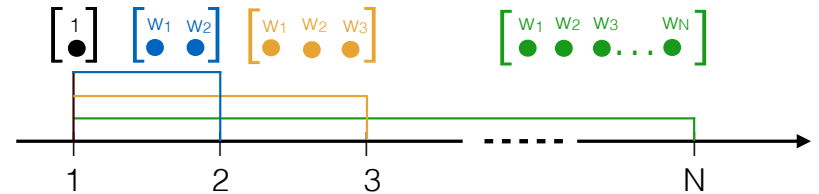
$$[\bullet \bullet] \sqcup [\bullet \bullet \bullet] \longrightarrow [\bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet]$$

$$2 + 3 = 5$$

number of objects with weights

effective numbers

$$\begin{bmatrix} w_1 & w_2 & w_3 & \dots & w_N \\ \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \dots & \bullet \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \mathcal{N}(w_1, w_2, w_3, \dots, w_N)$$



$$\begin{bmatrix} w_1 & w_2 \\ \bullet & \bullet \end{bmatrix} \sqcup \begin{bmatrix} v_1 & v_2 & v_3 \\ \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} w_1 & w_2 & v_1 & v_2 & v_3 \\ \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathcal{N}[W] + \mathcal{N}[V] = \mathcal{N}[W \boxplus V]$$

Theorem

There are infinitely many elements in \mathfrak{N} and there exists $\mathcal{N}_\star \in \mathfrak{N}$ such that

$$(a) \quad \mathcal{N}_\star[W] \leq \mathcal{N}[W] \leq \mathcal{N}_+[W] \quad \forall \mathcal{N} \in \mathfrak{N}, \forall W \in \mathcal{W}$$

$$(b) \quad \mathcal{N}_\star[W] < \mathcal{N}_+[W] \implies \{ \mathcal{N}[W] \mid \mathcal{N} \in \mathfrak{N} \} \supseteq [\alpha, \beta)$$

where W in (b) is arbitrary but fixed and $\alpha = \mathcal{N}_\star[W]$, $\beta = \mathcal{N}_+[W]$.

$$\mathcal{N}_\star[W] = \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{n}_\star(w_i) \quad \mathbf{n}_\star(w) \equiv \min\{w, 1\}$$

$$\mathcal{N}_+[W] = \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{n}_+(w_i) \quad \mathbf{n}_+(w) \equiv \begin{cases} 0, & w = 0 \\ 1, & w > 0 \end{cases} \quad \mathcal{N}_+ \notin \mathfrak{N}$$

- ❖ THERE IS A “MINIMAL AMOUNT” OF OBJECTS WITH PROBABILITY WEIGHTS
[least element]
- ❖ CONSISTENT EFF. AMOUNTS UP TO THE NUMBER OF NON-ZERO WEIGHTS
[no structure at the top: \mathcal{N}_\star represents the actual content of the concept]
- ❖ CONTINUUM OF EFFECTIVE COUNTING SCHEMES PERFECTLY NATURAL

WE NOW KNOW HOW TO COUNT WITH PROBABILITIES!

How did you say it works?

Example: Buying one hat, 6 choices, assign preferences (probabilities)

$$P = (0.01, 0.02, 0.10, 0.15, 0.30, 0.42)$$

$$W = (0.06, 0.12, 0.60, 0.90, 1.80, 2.52) \quad [\text{counting weights}]$$

$$\mathcal{N}_*[W] = 0.06 + 0.12 + 0.60 + 0.90 + 1.00 + 1.00 = 3.68$$

Question: How many hats are you effectively choosing from?

Answer: About 2.5

Reply: You are a liar!

This application a basis for the notion of **effective choices** in probability theory.

BACK TO QUANTUM STATES :

$|\psi\rangle, \{|i\rangle\}$: How many $|i\rangle$ in $|\psi\rangle$?

(i) ill-posed question in QM

(ii) well-posed question in QM (how?) ✓

Answer:

$$\mathcal{N}_\star[|\psi\rangle, \{|i\rangle\}] = \mathcal{N}_\star[W] \quad W = (w_1, \dots, w_N) \quad w_i = N |\langle i | \psi \rangle|^2$$

$$\mathcal{N}_\star[W] = \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{n}_\star(w_i) \quad \mathbf{n}_\star(w) \equiv \min\{w, 1\}$$

Quantum Uncertainty

canonical experiment: $\hat{O} \longleftrightarrow \{(|i\rangle, O_i) \mid i = 1, 2, \dots, N\}$ non-degenerate

$|\psi\rangle \xrightarrow{\text{measure } \hat{O}} \{(|i_\ell\rangle, O_{i_\ell}) \mid \ell = 1, 2, \dots\}$

uncertainty of $|\psi\rangle$ wrt \hat{O} = indeterminacy encoded by $\{(|i_\ell\rangle, O_{i_\ell})\}$

STANDARD

HERE

spread of outcomes

distance on the spectrum

abundance of distinct outcomes

metric uncertainty

measure uncertainty

ρ -uncertainty

μ -uncertainty

$$\Delta = \Delta[|\psi\rangle, \hat{O}]$$

$$\mathcal{N} = \mathcal{N}[|\psi\rangle, \{|i\rangle\}]$$

[e.g. standard deviation]

[complete theory in [arXiv:1807.03995](https://arxiv.org/abs/1807.03995)]

MEASURE UNCERTAINTY PRINCIPLE

Set \mathfrak{N} of effective number functions \mathcal{N} exhausts all quantum μ -uncertainties

$$\mathcal{N}[|\psi\rangle, \{|i\rangle\}] = \mathcal{N}[W] \quad , \quad W = (w_1, \dots, w_N) \quad , \quad w_i = N |\langle i|\psi\rangle|^2$$

[U₀] *The μ -uncertainty of $|\psi\rangle$ with respect to $\{|i\rangle\}$ is at least $\mathcal{N}_*[W]$ states.*

classical state

$$S \xrightarrow{\text{measurement}} S$$

$$\mu\text{-uncertainty} = 1$$

quantum state

$$|\psi\rangle \xrightarrow{\text{measurement}} |i\rangle$$

$$\text{minimal } \mu\text{-uncertainty} = \mathcal{N}_*$$

ECONOMICAL EXPRESSION OF FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN QUANTUM AND CLASSICAL

μ – UNCERTAINTY OF SCHRÖDINGER PARTICLE IN \mathbb{R}^D

When regularizations removed/continuous spectra: measure uncertainties are **effective volumes**

Example: Schrödinger particle in bounded region A of \mathbb{R}^D described by wave-function ψ

$$\mathcal{V}_\star[\psi] = \int_A \nu_\star(x) d^D x \quad \nu_\star(x) = \min \{ V \psi^\star(x) \psi(x), 1 \}$$

QUANTUM UNCERTAINTY EXPRESSED AS A GENERALIZATION OF THE JORDAN CONTENT!

Formulation entirely general in terms of the setting (system, Hilbert space)

TAKE-AWAYS

- ❖ IDENTITY-COUNTING PROBLEMS ARE WELL-DEFINED AND SOLVED IN QUANTUM MECHANICS
[I.H. & R.M. arXiv:1807.03995]
- ❖ BY VIRTUE OF EXTENDING THE CLASSICAL NOTION OF MEASURE VIA PROBABILITY
counting → effective counting , counting measure → diversity measure ,
Jordan content → effective Jordan content
- ❖ CONSEQUENTLY MUCH MORE BASIC THAN “QUANTUM” SETTING
Effective counting arises classically virtually everywhere!
- ❖ FRUITFUL EXTENSION OF QUANTUM UNCERTAINTY INTO MEASURE UNCERTAINTY
COMPLETELY UNDER CONTROL UNLIKE METRIC UNCERTAINTY
- ❖ QUALITATIVELY NEW TYPE OF UNCERTAINTY PRINCIPLE

quantum chaos

many-body localization

effective supports

effective description of quantum states

vacuum structure of gauge theories

topological insulators

effective counting

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