

How long does it take to obtain a physical density matrix?



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Wigner RCP, Budapest

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- 1 Motivation**
 - Why quantum tomography is important?
- 2 Quantum experiments with multi-qubit systems**
 - Physical systems
 - Local measurements
- 3 Full quantum state tomography**
 - Basic ideas and scaling
 - Experiments
 - Approaches to solve the scalability problem
- 4 How to obtain a density matrix**
- 5 Extra slides**

Why tomography is important?

- Many experiments aiming to create many-body entangled states.
- Quantum state tomography can be used to check how well the state has been prepared.
- However, the number of measurements scales **exponentially** with the number of qubits.

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State-of-the-art in experiments

- 14 qubits with trapped cold ions

T. Monz, P. Schindler, J.T. Barreiro, M. Chwalla, D. Nigg, W.A. Coish, M. Harlander, W. Haensel, M. Hennrich, R. Blatt, arxiv:1009.6126, 2010.

- 10 qubits with photons

W.-B. Gao, C.-Y. Lu, X.-C. Yao, P. Xu, O. Gühne, A. Goebel, Y.-A. Chen, C.-Z. Peng, Z.-B. Chen, J.-W. Pan, Nature Physics, 6, 331 (2010).

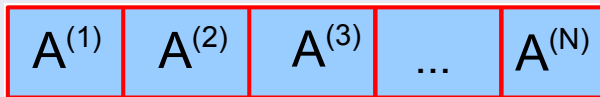
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Only local measurements are possible

Definition

A single **local measurement setting** is the basic unit of experimental effort.

A local setting means measuring operator $A^{(k)}$ at qubit k for all qubits.



- All two-qubit, three-qubit correlations, etc. can be obtained.

$$\langle A^{(1)} A^{(2)} \rangle, \langle A^{(1)} A^{(3)} \rangle, \langle A^{(1)} A^{(2)} A^{(3)} \rangle \dots$$

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Full quantum state tomography

- The density matrix can be reconstructed from 3^N measurement settings.

Example

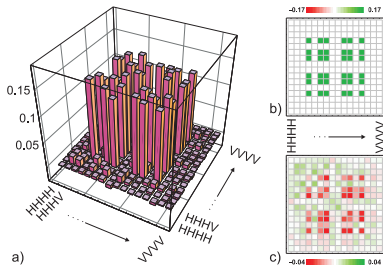
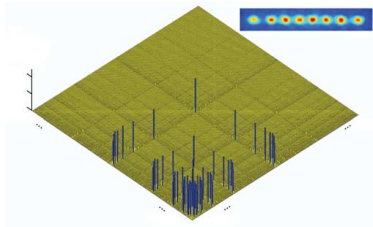
For $N = 4$, the measurements are

1.	X	X	X	X
2.	X	X	X	Y
3.	X	X	X	Z
		...		
3^4 .	Z	Z	Z	Z

- Note again that the number of measurements scales **exponentially** in N .

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Experiments with ions and photons



- **8 ions:** H. Haeffner, W. Haensel, C. F. Roos, J. Benhelm, D. Chek-al-kar, M. Chwalla, T. Koerber, U. D. Rapol, M. Riebe, P. O. Schmidt, C. Becher, O. Gühne, W. Dür, R. Blatt, Nature 438, 643-646 (2005).
- **4 photons:** N. Kiesel, C. Schmid, G. Tóth, E. Solano, and H. Weinfurter, Phys. Rev. Lett. 98, 063604 (2007).
- **6 photons:** C. Schwemmer, G. Tóth, A. Niggebaum, T. Moroder, D. Gross, O. Gühne, and H. Weinfurter, Phys. Rev. Lett. 113, 040503 (2014).

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Approaches to solve the scalability problem

- If the state is expected to be of a certain form (MPS), we can measure the parameters of the ansatz.
S.T. Flammia *et al.*, arxiv:1002.3839; M. Cramer, M.B. Plenio, arxiv:1002.3780; O. Landon-Cardinal *et al.*, arxiv:1002.4632.
- If the state is of low rank, we need fewer measurements.
D. Gross *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 105, 150401 (2010).
- We make tomography in a subspace of the density matrices (our approach).
G. Tóth *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 105, 250403 (2010); T. Moroder *et al.*, New J. Phys. 14, 105001 (2012); C. Schwemmer *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 113, 040503 (2014)

Obtain a density matrix

- The density matrix can be decomposed into correlations as

$$\varrho = \frac{1}{2^n} \sum_{\mu} T_{\mu} \sigma_{\mu},$$

where $\sigma_{\mu} = \sigma_{\mu_1} \otimes \sigma_{\mu_2} \otimes \cdots \otimes \sigma_{\mu_n}$, $\mu_i \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$, and σ_0 denotes the identity matrix.

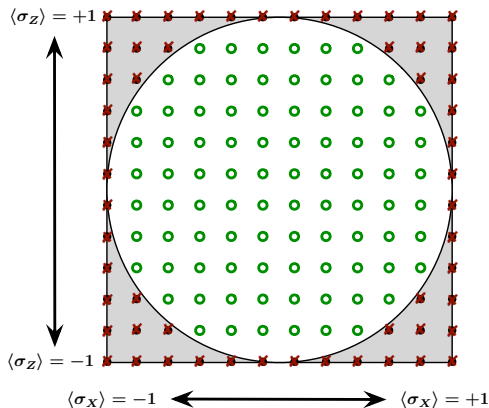
- The correlation matrix is defined as $T_{\mu} = \langle \sigma_{\mu} \rangle$.
- How can we obtain the estimate $\tilde{\varrho}$? We just measure T_{μ} .

Obtain a density matrix II

- How can we obtain the estimate $\tilde{\rho}$? We just measure $T_{\mu} = \langle \sigma_{\mu} \rangle$.
- Problem: we have finite number of measurements.

Obtain a density matrix III

- 1 qubit, 11 measurements.



Why negative eigenvalues are a problem?

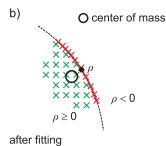
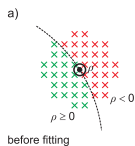
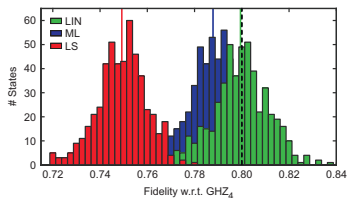
- We cannot calculate fidelities with a mixed state, entropies, purity, entanglement, etc.
- We can still calculate the fidelity with a pure state. This is just the expectation value of a projector.

Fitting

- Method to get rid of the negative eigenvalues of ρ .
- Find the physical density matrix in a best agreement with the experimental data.
- Main methods: maximum likelihood, least squares.

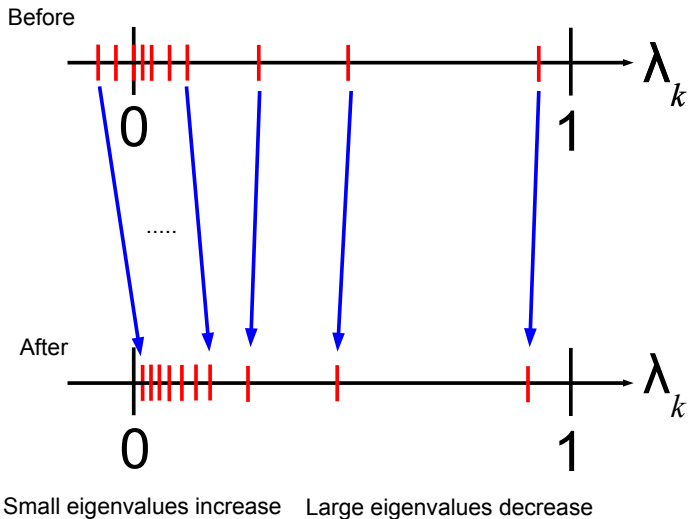
Problems with fitting

- Fidelity changes, bias, detection of fake entanglement



[Schwemmer et al., PRL 114, 080403 (2015).]

Problems with fitting



Let us analyze the problem

- Completely mixed state

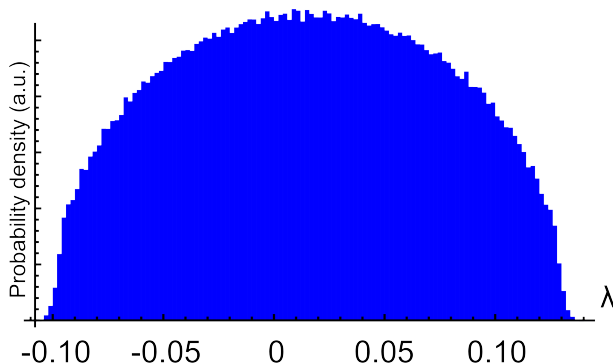
$$\rho_{\text{wn}} = \frac{1}{2^n} \sigma_{0,0,\dots,0} = \frac{1}{2^n} \mathbb{1}$$

with 2^n degenerate eigenvalues $\lambda_i = 1/2^n$.

- We use overcomplete tomography, which is based on measuring the Pauli correlations.

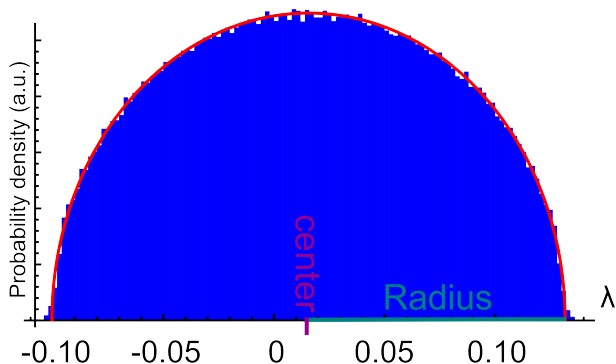
Distribution of eigenvalues

- Consider $n = 6$ qubit maximally mixed state
- Simulate $N = 100$ measurements per setting
- Estimate density matrix
- Repeat 10 000 times
- Histogram of eigenvalues



Distribution of eigenvalues

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How long do we have to measure to get a physical state?

- Pure state mixed with white noise

$$\rho_q = q|\psi\rangle\langle\psi| + (1 - q)\rho_{\text{cm}}.$$

- The center is shifted to

$$c_q = \frac{1 - q}{2^n - r}.$$

- The radius is

$$R = 2\sqrt{\frac{10^n - 1}{12^n}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \approx 2\left(\frac{5}{6}\right)^{\frac{n}{2}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}.$$

- Physical ρ if

$$R \leq c_q \Rightarrow N \geq N_0 = 4\left(\frac{5}{6}\right)^n \left(\frac{2^n - 1}{1 - q}\right)^2.$$

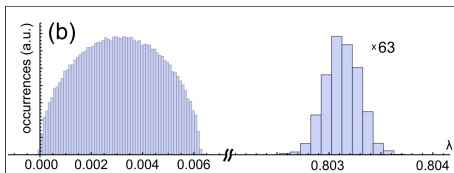
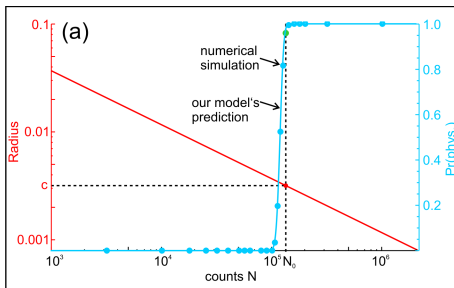
How long do we have to measure to get a physical state? II

- The minimum number of measurements needed is

$$N_0 = 4 \left(\frac{5}{6} \right)^n \left(\frac{2^n - 1}{1 - q} \right)^2.$$

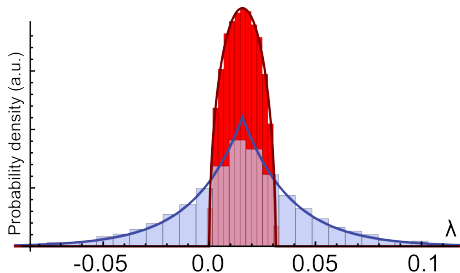
How long do we have to measure to get a physical state? III

- Six-qubit GHZ state mixed with $q = 0.2$ white noise



Other type of tomography

- Not all tomographies lead to a Wigner semicircle

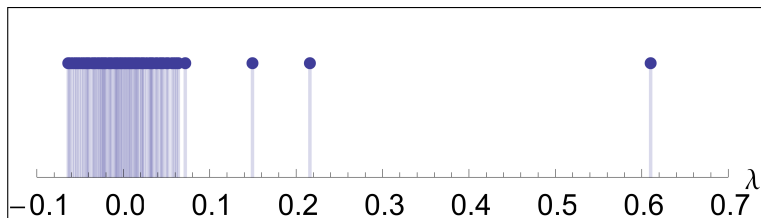


Hypothesis testing

- We prepare a six-qubit Dicke state

$$|D_6^{(3)}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}(|000111\rangle + |001011\rangle + \dots + |111000\rangle).$$

- Quantum state tomography with around 230 events per setting.
- Hypothesis: 3 eigenvalues + noise. Is this correct?

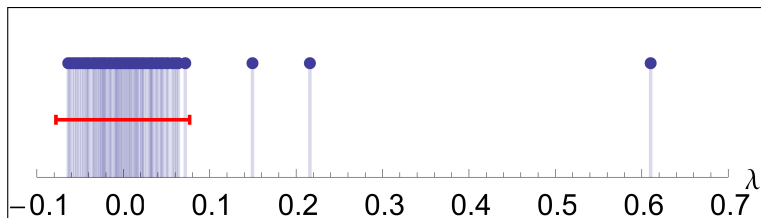


Hypothesis testing II

- We prepare a six-qubit Dicke state

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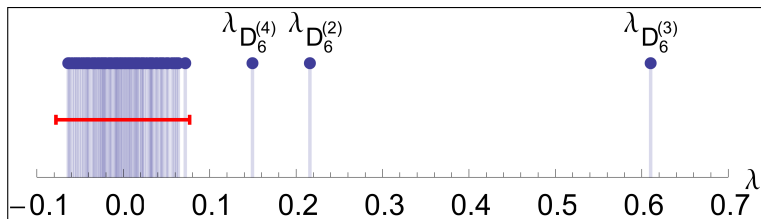


Hypothesis testing III

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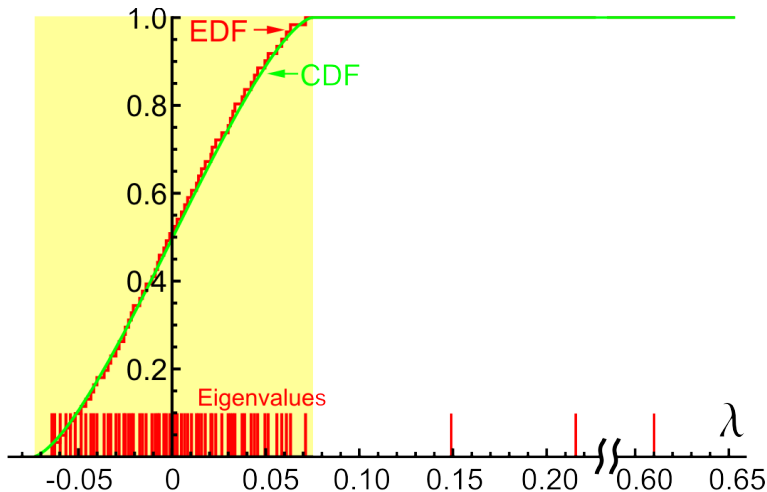
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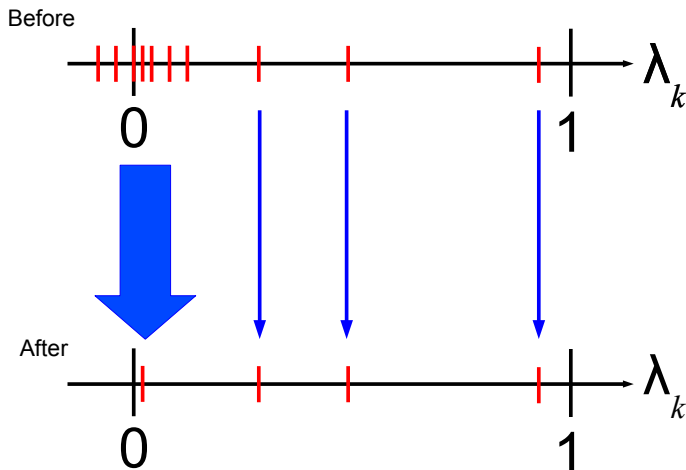


Is the hypothesis correct?

- Empirical distribution function (EDF) vs. Cumulative distribution function (CDF) of the Wigner semicircle



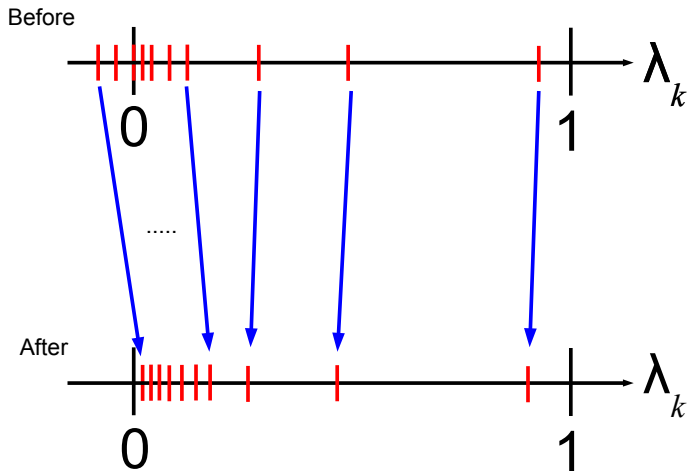
Our method



Small eigenvalues are replaced by their average

Large eigenvalues do not change

Just to compare: old method



Summary

- We discussed the distribution of the eigenvalues of density matrices obtained from tomography.
- We suggested a method to get rid of negative eigenvalues.
- I thank Lukas Knips for most of the figures for this talk.

See:

L. Knips, C. Schwemmer, N. Klein, J. Reuter, G. Tóth, and H. Weinfurter,

How long does it take to obtain a physical density matrix?,
arxiv:1512.06866.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!



Derivation (slide from Lukas Knips)

- Concept: compare moments of eigenvalue distribution to moments of ideal semicircle function

- Define semicircle distribution

$$f_{c,R}(x) = \frac{2}{\pi R^2} \sqrt{(x-c)^2 - R^2}$$

with (even) moments

$$m_2^{\text{sc}} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{0,R}(x) x^2 dx = \left(\frac{R}{2}\right)^2,$$

$$m_4^{\text{sc}} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{0,R}(x) x^4 dx = 2 \left(\frac{R}{2}\right)^4,$$

$$m_6^{\text{sc}} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{0,R}(x) x^6 dx = 5 \left(\frac{R}{2}\right)^6,$$

$$m_8^{\text{sc}} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{0,R}(x) x^8 dx = 14 \left(\frac{R}{2}\right)^8.$$

Using the *Catalan* numbers

$$C_{j+1} = C_j \frac{2(2j+1)}{j+2}$$

we obtain

$$m_{2k}^{\text{sc}} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{0,R}(x) x^{2k} dx = C_k \left(\frac{R}{2}\right)^{2k}$$

- Odd (centralized) moments vanish

- Goal: reproduce Catalan numbers in distribution of eigenvalues

- Calculate all moments of eigenvalue distribution:

$$\begin{aligned} m_k^{\text{ev}} &= \frac{1}{2^n} \sum_{i=1}^{2^n} \mathbb{E} [\lambda_i^k] \\ &= \frac{1}{2^n} \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{i=1}^{2^n} \lambda_i^k \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{1}{2^n} \text{Tr} (D^k) \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{1}{2^n} \text{Tr} \left((U^\dagger \rho U)^k \right) \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{1}{2^n} \text{Tr} (\rho^k) \right] \end{aligned}$$

- Second moment of (centered) distribution:

$$\begin{aligned} m_2^{\text{ev}} &= \frac{1}{2^{3n}} \sum_{\mu, \sigma} \mathbb{E} [T_{\mu} T_{\sigma}] 2^n \delta_{\mu, \sigma} \\ &= \frac{2^n}{2^{3n}} \sum_{\mu} \mathbb{E} [T_{\mu}^2] \end{aligned}$$

overcomplete Pauli scheme:

$$\begin{aligned} m_2^{\text{ev}} &= \frac{1}{4^n N} \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \binom{n}{j} \frac{3^{n-j}}{3^j} \\ &= \frac{10^n - 1}{12^n} \frac{1}{N}. \end{aligned}$$

with n qubits, N events per basis element.

- Comparison of m_{2k}^{sc} , m_{2k}^{ev} yields:

$$R = 2 \sqrt{\frac{10^n - 1}{12^n}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$$

- Fourth moment:

$$\begin{aligned} m_4^{\text{ev}} &= \frac{1}{2^n} \sum_{i=1}^{2^n} \mathbb{E} [\lambda_i^4] \\ &= \frac{1}{2^{2n}} \sum_{\mu, \sigma, \gamma, \lambda} \mathbb{E} [T_{\mu} T_{\sigma} T_{\gamma} T_{\lambda}] \\ &\quad \cdot \text{Tr} (\sigma_{\mu} \sigma_{\sigma} \sigma_{\gamma} \sigma_{\lambda}) \\ &= \frac{1}{2^{5n}} \frac{1}{2!} \sum_{\mu} \sum_{\nu: \{\nu \neq \mu\}} \mathbb{E} [T_{\mu}^2 T_{\nu}^2] \\ &\quad \cdot \text{Tr} \left(\sum_{i=1}^6 \mathcal{P}_i (\sigma_{\mu} \sigma_{\nu} \sigma_{\mu} \sigma_{\nu}) \right) \end{aligned}$$

- Sixth moment:

$$\begin{aligned} m_6^{\text{ev}} &= \frac{1}{2^n} \sum_{i=1}^{2^n} \mathbb{E} [\lambda_i^6] \\ &\approx \frac{1}{2^{7n}} \frac{1}{3!} \sum_{\mu} \sum_{\nu: \{\nu \neq \mu\}} \sum_{\tau: \{\tau \neq \mu, \tau \neq \nu\}} \\ &\quad \mathbb{E} [T_{\mu}^2 T_{\nu}^2 T_{\tau}^2] \cdot \\ &\quad \text{Tr} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{90} \mathcal{P}_i (\sigma_{\mu} \sigma_{\nu} \sigma_{\mu} \sigma_{\nu} \sigma_{\tau} \sigma_{\tau}) \right) \end{aligned}$$

non-crossing



crossing



- Only non-crossing partitions (amount given by *Catalan* numbers) contribute:

$$m_k^{\text{ev}} = \frac{1}{2^n} \sum_{i=1}^{2^n} \mathbb{E} [\lambda_i^{2k}] = \frac{C_k}{N^k} \quad \square$$