Quantum vs classical: non-locality, contextuality, and informatic advantage

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Motivation

Computers are physical machines

Motivation

- Computers are physical machines
- But Computer Science tends to ignore this



The Ladder of Abstraction

Indeed, therein lies its great strength!



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Motivation

- use quantum resources for information-processing tasks
- delineate the scope of quantum advantage

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- use quantum resources for information-processing tasks
- delineate the scope of quantum advantage
- What non-classical features of quantum mechanics are responsible for quantum advantage?
 - identify the essential structure
 - theory-independent

Einstein–Podolsky–Rosen

Spooky' action at a distance.

Einstein-Podolsky-Rosen

- 'Spooky' action at a distance.
- But is this so spooky?

Einstein-Podolsky-Rosen

- 'Spooky' action at a distance.
- But is this so spooky?
- ▶ EPR conclusion: QM is incomplete

Empirical data



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 $o_B \in \{0, 1\}$



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• Propositional formulae ϕ_1, \ldots, ϕ_N

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Using elementary logic and probability:

$$1 = \operatorname{Prob}(\neg \bigwedge \phi_i) = \operatorname{Prob}(\bigvee \neg \phi_i)$$
$$\leq \sum_{i=1}^{N} \operatorname{Prob}(\neg \phi_i) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} (1 - p_i) = N - \sum_{i=1}^{N} p_i.$$

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• Hence,
$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} p_i \leq N-1$$
.

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-	a_1	b_1	1/2	0	0	1/2
	a_1	b ₂	3/8	1/8	1/8	3/8
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The inequality is violated by 1/4.

Contextuality

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- What was our unwarranted assumption?

Contextuality

- But the Bell table can be realised in the real world.
- What was our unwarranted assumption?
- > That all variables could in principle be observed simultaneously.

- ▶ Not all properties of a quantum system may be observed at once.
- > Jointly measurable observables provide **partial**, **classical snapshots**.

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M. C. Escher, Ascending and Descending

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Local consistency

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Local consistency vs Global inconsistency

Abramsky–Brandenburger framework

Measurement scenario $\langle X, \mathcal{M}, O \rangle$:

- X is a finite set of measurements or variables
- O is a finite set of outcomes or values
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Example: (2,2,2) Bell scenario

- The set of variables is $X = \{a_1, a_2, b_1, b_2\}$.
- The outcomes are $O = \{0, 1\}$.
- The measurement contexts are:

$$\{ \{a_1, b_1\}, \{a_1, b_2\}, \{a_2, b_1\}, \{a_2, b_2\} \}.$$

Measurement scenarios



Examples: Bell-type scenarios, KS configurations, and more.

Another example: 18-vector Kochen–Specker

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- A set of 18 variables, $X = \{A, \ldots, O\}$
- A set of outcomes $O = \{0, 1\}$
- ► A measurement cover *M* = {*C*₁,..., *C*₉}, whose contexts *C_i* correspond to the columns in the following table:

U_1	U_2	U_3	U_4	U_5	U_6	U ₇	U_8	U_9
A	A	Н	Н	В	1	Р	Р	Q
В	Ε	- 1	K	Ε	K	Q	R	R
С	F	С	G	М	Ν	D	F	М
D	G	J	L	N	0	J	L	0

Empirical Models

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$$s = [a_1 \mapsto 0, b_1 \mapsto 1]$$
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In multipartite scenarios, compatibility = the **no-signalling** principle.

A (compatible) empirical model is **non-contextual** if there exists a **global distribution** $d \in \operatorname{Prob}(O^X)$ on the joint assignments of outcomes to all measurements that marginalises to all the e_C :

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Contextuality:

family of data which is locally consistent but globally inconsistent.

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The import of results such as Bell's and Bell–Kochen–Specker's theorems is that there are **contextual** empirical models arising from quantum mechanics.

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- Given an empirical model e, define possibilistic model poss(e) by taking the support of each distributions.
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a_1b_1	1/2	0	0	1/2		a_1b_1	1	0	0	1
a_1b_2	3/8	1/8	1/8	3/8	\mapsto	a_1b_2	1	1	1	1
a_2b_1	3/8	1/8	1/8	3/8		a_2b_1	1	1	1	1
a_2b_2	1/8	3/8	3/8	1/8		a_2b_2	1	1	1	1

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a_1b_1		0	0			a_1b_1	1	0	0	1
a_1b_2		1/8	1/8		\mapsto	a_1b_2	1	1	1	1
a_2b_1		1/8	1/8			a_2b_1	1	1	1	1
a_2b_2	1/8			1/8		a_2b_2	1	1	1	1

In some instances, this is enough to witness contextuality!

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a_1	b_1	1	1	1	1
a_1	b ₂	0	1	1	1
a 2	b_1	0	1	1	1
a 2	b ₂	1	1	1	0

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a_1	b_2	0	1	1	1
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Hardy model

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 $a_2 \vee b_1$



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 $a_2 \vee b_1$ $a_1 \vee b_2$



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a 2 `	∨ <mark>b</mark> 1	a	$b_1 \vee b_2$	_	$(a_2 \wedge b_2)$



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There are some global sections,

Classical assignment: $[a_1 \mapsto 1, a_2 \mapsto 1, b_1 \mapsto 1, b_2 \mapsto 1]$



There are some global sections, but ...



There are some global sections, but ...



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There are some global sections, but...

Logical contextuality: Not all sections extend to global ones.



no event can be extended to a global assignment.

 $a_1 \leftrightarrow b_1$ $a_1 \leftrightarrow b_2$ $a_2 \leftrightarrow b_1$ $a_2 \oplus b_2$

What does this have to do with quantum advantage?



IT'S NOT A BUG IT'S A FEATURE

Alice and Bob cooperate in solving a task set by Verifier

May share prior information,

Alice	Bob

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A strategy is described by the probabilities $P(o_A, o_B | i_A, i_B)$.

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A strategy is described by the probabilities $P(o_A, o_B \mid i_A, i_B)$.

A perfect strategy is one that wins with probability 1.

The AND game

- Verifier sends a bit to each of Alice and Bob, i_A and i_B .
- Each returns an output bit, o_A and o_B .
- Their outputs are combined by verifier: $o_A \oplus o_B$.
- ▶ They win if they implement the AND function: $o_A \oplus o_B = o_A \land o_B$

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Classically, they can win with probablity at most 3/4

Quantumly, the Bell table allows for a higher probability. In fact, one can reach $(2+\sqrt{2})/4\approx 0.85$

Binary constraint systems games



Magic square:

- Fill with 0s and 1s
- rows and first two columns: even parity
- last column: odd parity

Binary constraint systems games

A	В	С
D	Ε	F
G	Н	1

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System of linear equations over \mathbb{Z}_2 :

$A \oplus B \oplus C = 0$	$A \oplus D \oplus G = 0$
$D \oplus E \oplus F = 0$	$B \oplus E \oplus H = 0$
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Clearly, this is not satisfiable in \mathbb{Z}_2 .

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The system has a quantum solution but no classical solution!

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► MBQC

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► Measure of contextuality ~→ quantify such advantages.

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- ► Monotone wrt operations that don't introduce contextuality ~> resource theory

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- Precise relationship to violations of Bell inequalities (Dual LP)
- Relates to quantifiable advantages in QC and QIP tasks

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Which fraction of a model admits a non-contextual explanation?

Consider **subdistributions** $c \in \text{SubProb}(O^X)$ such that:

 $\forall_{C\in\mathcal{M}}. \ c|_C \leq e_C$.

Non-contextual fraction: maximum weight of such a subdistribution.

Non-contextuality: global distribution $d \in \text{Prob}(O^X)$ such that:

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Non-contextual fraction: maximum weight of such a subdistribution.

Equivalently, maximum weight λ over all convex decompositions

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$$e = \lambda e^{NC} + (1 - \lambda) e^{SC}$$

where e^{NC} is a non-contextual model. e^{SC} is strongly contextual!

$$\mathsf{NCF}(e) = \lambda$$
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Contextuality and MBQC

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- measurement-based quantum computing scheme (*m* input bits, *l* output bits, *n* parties)
- classical control:
 - pre-processes input
 - determines the flow of measurements
 - post-processes to produce the output

only \mathbb{Z}_2 -linear computations.



 Additional power to compute non-linear functions resides in using resources displaying contextual correlations.

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- Probabilistic version: non-linear function computed with sufficiently large probability of success implies contextuality.

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(average distance between f and closest \mathbb{Z}_2 -linear function)

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Then,

$$1 - \bar{p}_S \geq \mathsf{NCF}(e) \nu(f)$$

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> The operations remind one of process algebras.

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Sequencing	$\begin{aligned} CF(e_1 \otimes e_2) &\leq CF(e_1) + CF(e_2) - CF(e_1)CF(e_2) \\ NCF(e_1; e_2) &\geq NCF(e_1)NCF(e_2) \end{aligned}$

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 - \blacktriangleright leaving a model on scenario ${\sf lk}_{\sigma}\mathcal{M}$

Questions...

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R S Barbosa Quantum vs classical: non-locality, contextuality, and informatic advantage