# Quantum vs classical: <br> non-locality, contextuality, and informatic advantage 

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DEPARTMENT OF

## COMPUTER SCIENCE

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Q DAYS 2019
CMAT - Centro de Matemática, Universidade do Minho 12th April 2019

## Motivation

- Computers are physical machines


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


Indeed, therein lies its great strength!

AN $\times 64$ PROCESSOR IS SCREAMING ALONG RT BIUIONS OF CYCLES PER SECOND TO RUN THE XNU KERNEL, WHICH IS FRANICALLY WORKING THROUGH ALL THE POSIX-SPECIFED ABSTRACTION TO CREATE THE DARWIN SYSTEM UNDERIYING OS X, WHICH IN TURN IS STRAINING ITSELF TO RUN FIREFOX AND ITS GECKO RENDERER, WHICH CREATES A PASH OBTECT WHICH RENDERS DOZENS OF VIDEO FRAMES EVERY SECOND

BECAUSE I LANTED TO SEEA CAT JUPP INTO A BOX AND FALL OVER.


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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

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- 'Spooky' action at a distance.
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- EPR conclusion: QM is incomplete


## Empirical data



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


## Analysis of the Bell table

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The inequality is violated by $1 / 4$.

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- That all variables could in principle be observed simultaneously.


## Snapshots

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- 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
- $\mathcal{M}$ is a cover of $X$, indicating joint measurability (contexts)


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Example: $(2,2,2)$ Bell scenario

- The set of variables is $X=\left\{a_{1}, a_{2}, b_{1}, b_{2}\right\}$.
- The outcomes are $O=\{0,1\}$.
- The measurement contexts are:

$$
\left\{\left\{a_{1}, b_{1}\right\}, \quad\left\{a_{1}, b_{2}\right\}, \quad\left\{a_{2}, b_{1}\right\}, \quad\left\{a_{2}, b_{2}\right\}\right\} .
$$

## Measurement scenarios



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

## Another example: 18-vector Kochen-Specker

- A set of 18 variables, $X=\{A, \ldots, O\}$


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- A set of 18 variables, $X=\{A, \ldots, O\}$
- A set of outcomes $O=\{0,1\}$
- A measurement cover $\mathcal{M}=\left\{C_{1}, \ldots, C_{9}\right\}$, whose contexts $C_{i}$ correspond to the columns in the following table:

| $U_{1}$ | $U_{2}$ | $U_{3}$ | $U_{4}$ | $U_{5}$ | $U_{6}$ | $U_{7}$ | $U_{8}$ | $U_{9}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $A$ | $A$ | $H$ | $H$ | $B$ | $I$ | $P$ | $P$ | $Q$ |
| $B$ | $E$ | $I$ | $K$ | $E$ | $K$ | $Q$ | $R$ | $R$ |
| $C$ | $F$ | $C$ | $G$ | $M$ | $N$ | $D$ | $F$ | $M$ |
| $D$ | $G$ | $J$ | $L$ | $N$ | $O$ | $J$ | $L$ | $O$ |

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Joint outcome or event in a context $C$ is $s \in O^{C}$, e.g.

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Empirical model: family $\left\{e_{C}\right\}_{C \in \mathcal{M}}$ where $e_{C} \in \operatorname{Prob}\left(O^{C}\right)$ for $C \in \mathcal{M}$.
It specifies a probability distribution over the events in each context.
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Compatibility condition: the distributions "agree on overlaps"

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In multipartite scenarios, compatibility $=$ the no-signalling principle.

## Contextuality

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

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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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|  |  |  | $a_{1} b_{1}$ | 1 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 |  |  |  |  |
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| :--- | :--- |

In some instances, this is enough to witness contextuality!

## Contextuality (topo)logically

## Hardy model

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There are some global sections,


Classical assignment: $\left[a_{1} \mapsto 1, a_{2} \mapsto 1, b_{1} \mapsto 1, b_{2} \mapsto 1\right]$

## Contextuality (topo)logically



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Logical contextuality: Not all sections extend to global ones.

## Contextuality (topo)logically

Popescu-Rohrlich box

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## Strong contextuality:


no event can be extended to a global assignment.

$$
a_{1} \leftrightarrow b_{1} \quad a_{1} \leftrightarrow b_{2} \quad a_{2} \leftrightarrow b_{1} \quad a_{2} \oplus b_{2}
$$

What does this have to do with
quantum advantage?


## Non-local games

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A strategy is described by the probabilities $P\left(o_{A}, o_{B} \mid i_{A}, i_{B}\right)$.
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: $o_{A} \oplus o_{B}$.
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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

| $A$ | $B$ | $C$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $D$ | $E$ | $F$ |
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System of linear equations over $\mathbb{Z}_{2}$ :

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
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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- Contextuality has been associated with quantum advantage in information-processing and computational tasks.


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- Measure of contextuality $\rightsquigarrow$ quantify such advantages.


## Measuring contextuality

We introduce the contextual fraction
(generalising the notion of non-local fraction)

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- Relates to quantifiable advantages in QC and QIP tasks


## The contextual fraction

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Which fraction of a model admits a non-contextual explanation?
Consider subdistributions $c \in \operatorname{SubProb}\left(O^{X}\right)$ such that:

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Equivalently, maximum weight $\lambda$ over all convex decompositions

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e=\lambda e^{N C}+(1-\lambda) e^{\prime}
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where $e^{N C}$ is a non-contextual model. $e^{S C}$ is strongly contextual!

$$
\operatorname{NCF}(e)=\lambda \quad \operatorname{CF}(e)=1-\lambda
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## Contextuality and MBQC

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## E.g. Raussendorf (2013) $\ell 2-\mathrm{MBQC}$

- measurement-based quantum computing scheme ( $m$ input bits, $/$ 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.



## Contextuality and MBQC

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$\oplus \mathbf{L} \longrightarrow \mathbf{P}$


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- Raussendorf (2013): If an $\ell 2-M B Q C$ deterministically computes a non-linear Boolean function $f: 2^{m} \longrightarrow 2^{\prime}$ then the resource must be strongly contextual.
- Probabilistic version: non-linear function computed with sufficently large probability of success implies contextuality.


## Contextual fraction and MBQC

- Goal: Compute Boolean function $f: 2^{m} \longrightarrow 2^{\prime}$ using $\ell 2-M B Q C$


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(average distance between $f$ and closest $\mathbb{Z}_{2}$-linear function)
where for Boolean functions $f$ and $g, d(f, g):=2^{-m} \mid\left\{\mathbf{i} \in 2^{m} \mid f(\mathbf{i}) \neq g(\mathbf{i})\right\}$.

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- Average probability of success computing $f$ (over all $2^{m}$ possible inputs): $\bar{p}_{S}$.
- Then,

$$
1-\bar{p}_{S} \geq \operatorname{NCF}(e) \nu(f)
$$

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to mean that $e$ is a (compatible) emprical model on $\langle X, \mathcal{M}, O\rangle$.

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- The operations remind one of process algebras.


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- Resource theory a la Coecke-Fritz-Spekkens.
(resource theory of combinable processes)
- Device-independent processes
- Operations remind one of process algebra
- Process calculus:
operational semantics by (probabilistic) transitions
- bissimulation, metric / approximation
- (modal) logic for device-independent processes
- Sequencing:
- so far, it hides middle steps


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- One can measure a non-maximal context (face $\sigma$ of complex)
- leaving a model on scenario $\mathrm{Ik}_{\sigma} \mathcal{M}$


## Questions...

