



# Continuous-variable non-locality and contextuality

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# Motivations

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- CV quantum systems promising candidates for implementing quantum informational tasks.

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- Quantum mechanics infinite dimensional.

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- Quantum mechanics infinite dimensional.
- *"Now, it may happen that the two wave functions,  $\psi_k$  and  $\phi_r$ , are eigenfunctions of two non-commuting operators corresponding to some physical quantities  $P$  and  $Q$ , respectively. [...] Let us suppose that the two systems are two particles, and that*

$$\psi(x_1, x_2) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{\frac{2\pi i}{h}(x_1 - x_2 + x_0)p} dp$$

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*[...] Since we have here the case of a continuous spectrum [...]"*. [Einstein35]



# Framework

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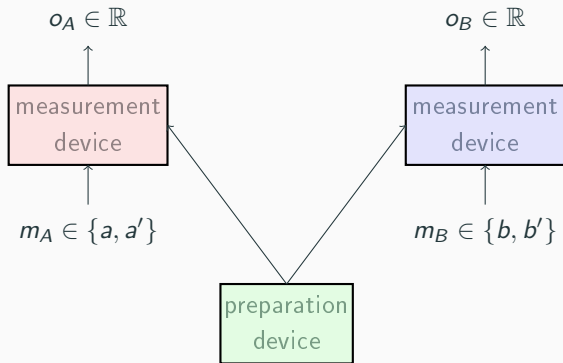


# Framework

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A typical bipartite experiment

# Operational depiction



# Framework

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Measurement scenario

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A measurement scenario is a triple  $\langle X, \mathcal{M}, \mathbf{O} \rangle$  where:

- $X$  a finite set of measurements - e.g.

$$X = \{a, a', b, b'\}$$

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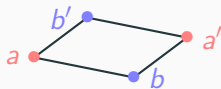
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$$\mathcal{M} = \{\{a, b\}, \{a, b'\}, \{a', b\}, \{a', b'\}\}$$



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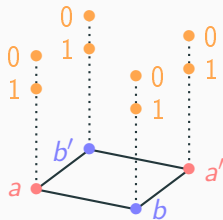
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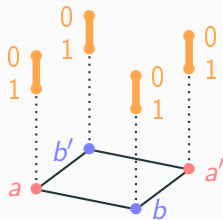
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$$\mathbf{O} = \mathbb{R} \text{ or } \mathbf{O} = [0, 1]$$



# Framework

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Empirical models



## Definition - empirical model

An *empirical model*  $e$  on a measurement scenario  $\langle X, \mathcal{M}, \mathbf{O} \rangle$  is a family  $e = \{e_C\}_{C \in \mathcal{M}}$  where  $e_C$  is a *probability measure* on  $\mathbf{O}_C$  which satisfies the compatibility condition:

$$e_C|_{C \cap C'} = e_{C'}|_{C \cap C'}$$

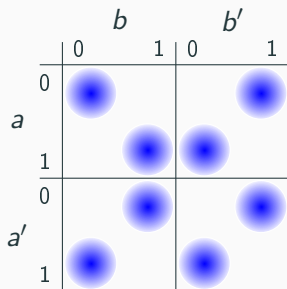
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		$b$		$b'$	
		0	1	0	1
$a$	0	1/2	0	0	1/2
	1	0	1/2	1/2	0
$a'$	0	0	1/2	0	1/2
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## Definition - extendability

An empirical model  $e$  is said to be **extendable** (or **noncontextual**) if there exists a probability measure  $\mu$  on  $\mathbf{O}_X$  such that  $\forall C \in \mathcal{M}. \mu|_C = e_C$ .

# Framework

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CV hidden variable models

## Definition - hidden variable model

A *hidden variable model* on a measurement scenario  $\langle X, \mathcal{M}, \mathbf{O} \rangle$  consists of:

- A measurable space  $\Lambda = \langle \Lambda, \mathcal{F}_\Lambda \rangle$  of *hidden variables*.

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- A measurable space  $\Lambda = \langle \Lambda, \mathcal{F}_\Lambda \rangle$  of *hidden variables*.
- A probability measure  $p$  on  $\Lambda$ .
- For each maximal context  $C \in \mathcal{M}$ , a probability kernel  $k_C: \Lambda \rightarrow \mathbf{O}_C$ , satisfying the following compatibility condition:

$$\forall \lambda \in \Lambda. \quad k_C(\lambda, -)|_{C \cap C'} = k_{C'}(\lambda, -)|_{C \cap C'}$$

## Hidden variable models

Let  $\langle \Lambda, p, k \rangle$  a hidden variable on  $\langle X, \mathcal{M}, \mathbf{O} \rangle$ . Then empirical model:

$$e_C(B) = \int_{\Lambda} k_C(-, B) dp = \int_{\lambda \in \Lambda} k_C(\lambda, B) dp(\lambda)$$



## Definition - determinism

A hidden variable model  $\langle \Lambda, p, k \rangle$  is said to be **deterministic** if  $k_C(\lambda, -): \mathcal{F}_C \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a Dirac measure for every  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  and for every maximal context  $C \in \mathcal{M}$ ; in other words, there is an assignment  $\mathbf{o} \in O_C$  such that  $k_C(\lambda, -) = \delta_{\mathbf{o}}$ .

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## Definition - factorisability

A hidden-variable model  $\langle \Lambda, p, k \rangle$  is said to be **factorisable** if  $k_C(\lambda, -): \mathcal{F}_C \rightarrow [0, 1]$  factorises as a product measure for every  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  and for every maximal context  $C \in \mathcal{M}$ . That is, for any family of measurable sets  $(B_x \in \mathcal{F}_x)_{x \in C}$ ,

$$k_C(\lambda, \prod_{x \in C} B_x) = \prod_{x \in C} k_C|_{\{x\}}(\lambda, B_x)$$

where  $k_C|_{\{x\}}(\lambda, -)$  is the marginal of the probability measure  $k_C(\lambda, -)$  on  $\mathbf{O}_C = \prod_{x \in C} \mathbf{O}_x$  to the space  $\mathbf{O}_{\{x\}} = \mathbf{O}_x$ .

# A Fine-Abramsky-Brandenburger theorem in CV

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# A FAB theorem in CV [Abramsky11]

## Theorem

Let  $e$  be an empirical model on a measurement scenario  $\langle X, \mathcal{M}, \mathbf{O} \rangle$ .  
The following are equivalent:

(1)  $e$  is extendable;

$\exists \mu$  on  $\mathbf{O}_X$  s.t.  $\forall C \in \mathcal{M}. \mu|_C = e_C$

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- (1)  $e$  is extendable;
- (2)  $e$  admits a realisation by a deterministic hidden-variable model;  
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- (3)  $e$  admits a realisation by a factorisable hidden-variable model.

$k_C(\lambda, \prod_{x \in C} B_x) = \prod_{x \in C} k_C|_{\{x\}}(\lambda, B_x)$  for a family of measurable sets  $(B_x \in \mathcal{F}_x)_{x \in C}$ .

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**Q.** What does it tell us?

**A.** Nonlocality special case of contextuality.  
Captured by notion of extendability.



# Quantifying contextuality

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What fraction of the empirical model  $e$  admits a deterministic hidden-variable model? [Abramsky11] [Abramsky17]

## Noncontextual fraction

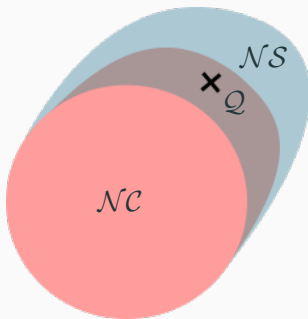
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## Definition - noncontextual fraction

$$\text{NCF}(e) = \sup \{ \mu(O_X) \mid \mu \in \mathbb{M}(\mathbf{O}_X), \forall C \in \mathcal{M}. \mu|_C \leq e_C \} \in [0, 1]$$

# Quantifying contextuality

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Linear programming problems

# Linear programming

## Primal

$$(P) \begin{cases} \text{Find} & \mu \in \mathbb{M}_{\pm}(O_X) \\ \text{maximising} & \mu(O_X) \\ \text{subject to} & \forall C \in \mathcal{M}. \mu|_C \leq e_C \\ \text{and} & \mu \geq 0. \end{cases}$$

## Dual

$$(D) \begin{cases} \text{Find} & (f_C)_{C \in \mathcal{M}} \in \prod_{C \in \mathcal{M}} C_0(O_C, \mathbb{R}) \\ \text{minimising} & \sum_{C \in \mathcal{M}} \int_{O_C} f_C \, d e_C \\ \text{subject to} & \sum_{C \in \mathcal{M}} f_C \circ \rho_C^X \geq \mathbf{1} \text{ on } O_X \\ \text{and} & \forall C \in \mathcal{M}. f_C \geq 0 \text{ on } O_C. \end{cases}$$

# Quantifying contextuality

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Bell inequalities



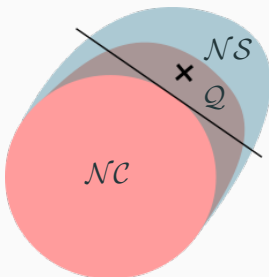
## New dual program

$$(B) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Find} \quad (\beta_C)_{C \in \mathcal{M}} \in \prod_{C \in \mathcal{M}} C_0(O_C, \mathbb{R}) \\ \text{maximising} \quad \sum_{C \in \mathcal{M}} \int_{O_C} \beta_C \, d\mathbf{e}_C \\ \text{subject to} \quad \sum_{C \in \mathcal{M}} \beta_C \circ \rho_C^X \leq 0 \text{ on } O_X \\ \text{and} \quad \forall C \in \mathcal{M}. \beta_C \leq |\mathcal{M}|^{-1} \mathbf{1} \text{ on } O_C. \end{array} \right.$$

# Generalised Bell inequalities

## New dual program

$$(B) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Find} \quad (\beta_C)_{C \in \mathcal{M}} \in \prod_{C \in \mathcal{M}} C_0(O_C, \mathbb{R}) \\ \text{maximising} \quad \sum_{C \in \mathcal{M}} \int_{O_C} \beta_C \, d\epsilon_C \\ \text{subject to} \quad \sum_{C \in \mathcal{M}} \beta_C \circ \rho_C^X \leq 0 \text{ on } O_X \\ \text{and} \quad \forall C \in \mathcal{M}. \beta_C \leq |\mathcal{M}|^{-1} \mathbf{1} \text{ on } O_C. \end{array} \right.$$



# Quantifying contextuality

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A hierarchy of Semi-Definite  
Programming problems

# A hierarchy of SDPs [Lasserre09] [Henrion14]

Idea  $\rightarrow$  relaxation of the problem:

- Measure  $\rightarrow$  moments of the measure and truncated sequence.

# A hierarchy of SDPs [Lasserre09] [Henrion14]

Idea  $\rightarrow$  relaxation of the problem:

- Measure  $\rightarrow$  moments of the measure and truncated sequence.
- Continuous functions  $\rightarrow$  SOS polynomials and fixed degree.

# A hierarchy of SDPs

## Primal

$$(P) \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \sup_{\mu \in \mathbb{M}_{\pm}(O_X)} \mu(O_X) & \longrightarrow y_0 \\ \text{s.t. } \forall C \in \mathcal{M}. \mu|_C \leq e_C & \longrightarrow M_k(\mathbf{y}^{e,C} - \mathbf{y}|_C) \succeq 0 \\ \mu \succeq 0 & \longrightarrow M_k(\mathbf{y}) \succeq 0 \end{array} \right.$$

## Dual

$$(D) \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \inf_{(f_C) \in \Pi \text{ Co}(O_C, \mathbb{R})} \sum_{C \in \mathcal{M}} \int_{O_C} f_C \, d e_C & \longrightarrow \inf_{\substack{(f_C) \subset \Sigma^2 \mathbb{R}[x]_k \\ (\sigma_j) \subset \Sigma^2 \mathbb{R}[x]_{k-r_j}}} \sum_{C \in \mathcal{M}} \int_{O_C} f_C \, d e_C \\ \text{s.t. } \sum_{C \in \mathcal{M}} f_C \circ \rho_C^X \geq \mathbf{1} \text{ on } O_X & \longrightarrow \sum_{C \in \mathcal{M}} f_C - \mathbf{1} = \sigma_0 + \sum_{j=1}^m \sigma_j P_j \\ \forall C \in \mathcal{M}. f_C \geq 0 \text{ on } O_C & \end{array} \right.$$

# A hierarchy of SDPs

## Primal

$$(SP_k) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \sup_{y \in \mathbb{R}^{s(k)}} y_0 (= \mu(O_X)) \\ \text{s.t. } \forall C \in \mathcal{M}. M_k(y^{e,C} - y|_C) \succeq 0 \\ M_k(y) \succeq 0 \\ \forall j \in \{1, \dots, m\}. M_{k-r_j}(P_j y) \succeq 0 \end{array} \right.$$

## Dual

$$(SD_k) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \inf_{\substack{(f_C) \subset \Sigma^2 \mathbb{R}[x]_k \\ (\sigma_j) \subset \Sigma^2 \mathbb{R}[x]_{k-r_j}}} \sum_{C \in \mathcal{M}} \int_{O_C} f_C \, d e_C \\ \text{s.t. } \sum_{C \in \mathcal{M}} f_C - \mathbf{1} = \sigma_0 + \sum_{j=1}^m \sigma_j P_j \end{array} \right.$$

## A hierarchy of SDPs

### Theorem

*The optimal values of the hierarchy of semidefinite programs ( $SD_k$ ) provide monotonically decreasing upper bounds on the optimal solution of the linear program ( $D$ ) that converge to its value  $NCF(e)$ . That is,*

$$\inf (SD_k) \downarrow \inf(D) = NCF(e) \quad \text{as } k \rightarrow \infty$$



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Also holds for the primal ( $SP_k$ ):

$$NCF(e) = \sup(P) \stackrel{\text{strong duality}}{=} \inf(D) \leq \inf(SD_k)$$

$$\sup(P) \leq \sup(SP_k) \leq \inf(SD_k)$$

## Outlook:

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- Numerical implementation and applications to real CV experiments.
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- Relate CV to advantages for quantum computation.

Thank you!

-  S. Abramsky and A. Brandenburger, “The sheaf-theoretic structure of non-locality and contextuality”, *New Journal of Physics*, **13**(11), 113036 (2011).
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# Elements of measure theory



## Some elements of measure theory

- *Measurable space*: pair  $\mathbf{X} = \langle X, \mathcal{F}_X \rangle$  e.g.  $\langle X, \mathcal{P}(X) \rangle, \langle \mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}) \rangle$

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- A *measurable function*  $f$  between measurable spaces  $\mathbf{X} = \langle X, \mathcal{F}_X \rangle$  and  $\mathbf{Y} = \langle Y, \mathcal{F}_Y \rangle$  is a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  s.t. for any  $E \in \mathcal{F}_Y$ ,  $f^{-1}(E) \in \mathcal{F}_X$ .

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- A *measure* on a measurable space  $\mathbf{X} = \langle X, \mathcal{F}_X \rangle$  is a function  $\mu : \mathcal{F}_X \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{R}}$ .  
Set of measures:  $\mathbb{M}(\mathbf{X})$  (signed  $\mathbb{M}_{\pm}(\mathbf{X})$ ) - probability measures:  $\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{X})$ .  
Allow to integrate well-behaved measurable functions:  $\int_{\mathbf{X}} f d\mu$ .

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Allow to integrate well-behaved measurable functions:  $\int_{\mathbf{X}} f d\mu$ .
- *Push-forward*: a measurable function  $f : \mathbf{X} \rightarrow \mathbf{Y}$  carries any measure  $\mu$  on  $\mathbf{X}$  to a measure  $f_*\mu$  on  $\mathbf{Y}$  s.t.  $f_*\mu(E) = \mu(f^{-1}(E))$  for  $E$  measurable in  $\mathbf{Y}$ .  
Important use: *marginal measure*.

## Some elements of measure theory

- Measurable space: pair  $\mathbf{X} = \langle X, \mathcal{F}_X \rangle$  e.g.  $\langle X, \mathcal{P}(X) \rangle, \langle \mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}) \rangle$
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Important use: *marginal measure*.  $\pi_i : \mathbf{X}_1 \times \mathbf{X}_2 \rightarrow \mathbf{X}_i$  then  $\mu|_{\mathbf{X}_i} = \pi_{i*}\mu$  and for  $E$  measurable in  $\mathbf{X}_1$ ,  $\mu|_{\mathbf{X}_1}(E) = \mu(\pi_1^{-1}(E)) = \mu(E \times \mathbf{X}_2)$ .

## Derivation of the LP duality

## Primal

$$(P) \begin{cases} \text{Find} & \mu \in \mathbb{M}_{\pm}(O_X) \\ \text{maximising} & \mu(O_X) \\ \text{subject to} & \forall C \in \mathcal{M}. \mu|_C \leq e_C \\ \text{and} & \mu \geq 0. \end{cases}$$

$$\mathcal{L}(\mu, (f_C)) := \underbrace{\mu(O_X)}_{\text{objective}} + \underbrace{\sum_{C \in \mathcal{M}} \int_{O_C} f_C \, d(e_C - \mu|_C)}_{\text{constraints}}$$

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$$\sup_{\mu} \inf_{(f_C)} \mathcal{L}(\mu, (f_C))$$



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$$\inf_{(f_C)} \sup_{\mu} \mathcal{L}(\mu, (f_C))$$

## Dual

$$(D) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Find} \quad (f_C)_{C \in \mathcal{M}} \in \prod_{C \in \mathcal{M}} C_0(O_C, \mathbb{R}) \\ \text{minimising} \quad \sum_{C \in \mathcal{M}} \int_{O_C} f_C \, d e_C \\ \text{subject to} \quad \sum_{C \in \mathcal{M}} f_C \circ \rho_C^X \geq \mathbf{1} \text{ on } O_X \\ \text{and} \quad \forall C \in \mathcal{M}. f_C \geq 0 \text{ on } O_C. \end{array} \right.$$

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A *generalised Bell inequality*  $(\beta, R)$  on a measurement scenario  $\langle X, \mathcal{M}, \mathbf{O} \rangle$  is a family  $\beta = (\beta_C)_{C \in \mathcal{M}}$  with  $\beta_C \in C_0(O_C, \mathbb{R})$  for all  $C \in \mathcal{M}$ , together with a bound  $R \in \mathbb{R}$ , such that for all noncontextual empirical models  $e$  on  $\langle X, \mathcal{M}, \mathbf{O} \rangle$  it holds that

$$\langle \beta, e \rangle_2 := \sum_{C \in \mathcal{M}} \int_{O_C} \beta_C \, d e_C \leq R.$$



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## Normalised violation

The *normalised violation* of a Bell inequality  $(\beta, R)$  by an empirical model  $e$  is:

$$\frac{\max\{0, \langle \beta, e \rangle_2\}}{\|\beta\| - R}$$

where:  $\|\beta\| = \sum_{C \in \mathcal{M}} \sup\{\beta(\mathbf{o}) \mid \mathbf{o} \in O_C\}$

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## Theorem

Let  $e$  be an empirical model.

- (i) The normalised violation by  $e$  of any Bell inequality is at most  $CF(e)$ ;
- (ii) if  $CF(e) > 0$  then for every  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists a Bell inequality whose normalised violation by  $e$  is at least  $CF(e) - \epsilon$ .