

Tighter Uncertainty and Reverse Uncertainty Relations

Arun Kumar Pati

Quantum Information and Computation Group
Harish-Chandra Research Institute, Allahabad, India

ICQF-17, December 9th, 2017, NIT Patna, India

Plan

- Introduction.

Plan

- Introduction.
- Uncertainty relations

Plan

- Introduction.
- Uncertainty relations
- Tighter uncertainty relations

Plan

- Introduction.
- Uncertainty relations
- Tighter uncertainty relations
- Reverse uncertainty relations

Plan

- Introduction.
- Uncertainty relations
- Tighter uncertainty relations
- Reverse uncertainty relations
- Summary and conclusions

History

- Quantum mechanics is the finest theory of nature that explains behavior of atoms and subatomic particles.
- It has been enormously successful in giving correct results in practically every situation.
- In spite of the overwhelming success of quantum mechanics, the foundations of the subject contain many paradoxes.

History

- (Heisenberg) Matrix mechanics [Zeitschrift für Physik, **33**, 879-893 (1925)].
- (Schrödinger) wave mechanics. [E. Schrödinger, Ann. der Physik, **384**, 361-376 (1926)].
- The wave mechanics appealed to many physicists. It is equivalent to matrix mechanics.
- Intense debate between the alternative versions of quantum mechanics formed the background for the development of uncertainty relation and the Copenhagen Interpretation.

History

- I knew of [Heisenberg's] theory, of course, but I felt discouraged, not to say repelled, by the methods of transcendental algebra, which appeared difficult to me, and by the lack of visualizability.
-Schrödinger in 1926
- The more I think about the physical portion of Schödinger's theory, the more repulsive I find it...What Schrödinger writes about the visualizability of his theory 'is probably not quite right,' in other words it's crap.
-Heisenberg, writing to Pauli (1926)

History

- It is meaningless to ascribe any properties or even existence to anything that has not been measured.

Bohr: “Nothing is real unless it is observed”.

- Einstein: It is the theory which decides what we can observe.
- I believe that the existence of the classical “path” can be formulated as follows:
The “path” comes into existence only when we observe it.
–Heisenberg, in uncertainty principle paper (1927)

Uncertainty Principle

- (1927) Heisenberg's uncertainty principle is a fundamental result in quantum physics and gives profound insights to quantum world.
- Minimum amount of unavoidable momentum disturbance and inaccuracy in position measurement $\Delta x \Delta p \sim h$
- However, he did not give a precise definition for Δx and Δp .

One can never know with perfect accuracy both of those two important factors which determine the movement of one of the smallest particle—its position and its velocity.

Uncertainty Relation

- Robertson Uncertainty Relation (1927): Bounds the product of the variances for two observables through the expectation value of the commutator

$$\Delta A^2 \Delta B^2 \geq \left| \frac{1}{2} \langle \psi | [A, B] | \psi \rangle \right|^2 \quad (1)$$

- There is a limit to the precision with which a pair of non-commuting observables can be measured.
- Robertson and Kennard (1927) relation $\Delta x \Delta p \geq \frac{\hbar}{2}$.

More precisely the position of a particle is determined, the less precisely its momentum can be known.

Uncertainty Principle vs Relation

- Uncertainty principle is different than uncertainty relation. Both appear in similar formulations that even many practicing physicists tend to confuse.
- Heisenberg version is about uncertainty principle: in observing a quantum particle we inevitably disturb it.
- When we measure the position of an electron with an error Δx , we disturb the momentum of the electron by the amount Δp .

- This (UR) inequality shows that the fluctuation exists regardless whether we measure or not—preparation uncertainty.
- This inequality does not say anything about what happens when a measurement is performed.
- Robertson-Kennard formulation is therefore totally different from Heisenberg's.
- But many physicists, probably including Heisenberg himself, have been under the impression that both formulations describe same phenomenon.

Introduction

- Quantum mechanics has many distinguishing features from classical mechanics in the microscopic world.

Introduction

- Quantum mechanics has many distinguishing features from classical mechanics in the microscopic world.

Introduction

- Quantum mechanics has many distinguishing features from classical mechanics in the microscopic world.
- Existence of incompatible observables lead to uncertainty relations.

Introduction

- Quantum mechanics has many distinguishing features from classical mechanics in the microscopic world.
- Existence of incompatible observables lead to uncertainty relations.

Introduction

- Quantum mechanics has many distinguishing features from classical mechanics in the microscopic world.
- Existence of incompatible observables lead to uncertainty relations.
- Owing to the seminal works by Heisenberg, Robertson and Schrödinger, lower bounds were shown to exist for the product of variances of two non-commuting observables.

Introduction

- Quantum mechanics has many distinguishing features from classical mechanics in the microscopic world.
- Existence of incompatible observables lead to uncertainty relations.
- Owing to the seminal works by Heisenberg, Robertson and Schrödinger, lower bounds were shown to exist for the product of variances of two non-commuting observables.

Introduction

- Quantum mechanics has many distinguishing features from classical mechanics in the microscopic world.
- Existence of incompatible observables lead to uncertainty relations.
- Owing to the seminal works by Heisenberg, Robertson and Schrödinger, lower bounds were shown to exist for the product of variances of two non-commuting observables.
- Recently, along with Maccone we have discovered stronger uncertainty relations for all incompatible observables. The stronger uncertainty relations have also been experimentally tested.

Introduction

- Quantum mechanics has many distinguishing features from classical mechanics in the microscopic world.
- Existence of incompatible observables lead to uncertainty relations.
- Owing to the seminal works by Heisenberg, Robertson and Schrödinger, lower bounds were shown to exist for the product of variances of two non-commuting observables.
- Recently, along with Maccone we have discovered stronger uncertainty relations for all incompatible observables. The stronger uncertainty relations have also been experimentally tested.

Introduction

- Quantum mechanics has many distinguishing features from classical mechanics in the microscopic world.
- Existence of incompatible observables lead to uncertainty relations.
- Owing to the seminal works by Heisenberg, Robertson and Schrödinger, lower bounds were shown to exist for the product of variances of two non-commuting observables.
- Recently, along with Maccone we have discovered stronger uncertainty relations for all incompatible observables. The stronger uncertainty relations have also been experimentally tested.
- Entropic uncertainty relations also capture the essence of quantum uncertainty and the incompatibility between two observables, but in a state-independent way.

Uncertainty relations

- With the advent of quantum information theory, uncertainty relations in particular, have been established as important tools for a wide range of applications.

Uncertainty relations

- With the advent of quantum information theory, uncertainty relations in particular, have been established as important tools for a wide range of applications.

Uncertainty relations

- With the advent of quantum information theory, uncertainty relations in particular, have been established as important tools for a wide range of applications.
- Further, it has been used in entanglement detection, security analysis of quantum key distribution in quantum cryptography, quantum metrology and quantum speed limit.

Uncertainty relations

- With the advent of quantum information theory, uncertainty relations in particular, have been established as important tools for a wide range of applications.
- Further, it has been used in entanglement detection, security analysis of quantum key distribution in quantum cryptography, quantum metrology and quantum speed limit.

Uncertainty relations

- With the advent of quantum information theory, uncertainty relations in particular, have been established as important tools for a wide range of applications.
- Further, it has been used in entanglement detection, security analysis of quantum key distribution in quantum cryptography, quantum metrology and quantum speed limit.
- In most of these areas, particularly, in quantum entanglement detection and quantum metrology or quantum speed limit, where a small fluctuation in an unknown parameter of the state of the system is needed to detect, state-dependent relations may be useful.

Uncertainty relations

- With the advent of quantum information theory, uncertainty relations in particular, have been established as important tools for a wide range of applications.
- Further, it has been used in entanglement detection, security analysis of quantum key distribution in quantum cryptography, quantum metrology and quantum speed limit.
- In most of these areas, particularly, in quantum entanglement detection and quantum metrology or quantum speed limit, where a small fluctuation in an unknown parameter of the state of the system is needed to detect, state-dependent relations may be useful.

Uncertainty relations

- With the advent of quantum information theory, uncertainty relations in particular, have been established as important tools for a wide range of applications.
- Further, it has been used in entanglement detection, security analysis of quantum key distribution in quantum cryptography, quantum metrology and quantum speed limit.
- In most of these areas, particularly, in quantum entanglement detection and quantum metrology or quantum speed limit, where a small fluctuation in an unknown parameter of the state of the system is needed to detect, state-dependent relations may be useful.
- Thus, a focus on the study of the state dependent, tighter uncertainty and the reverse uncertainty relations based on the variance is important.

Uncertainty relations

- Uncertainty relations in terms of variances of incompatible observables are generally expressed in two forms— product form and sum form.

Uncertainty relations

- Uncertainty relations in terms of variances of incompatible observables are generally expressed in two forms— product form and sum form.

Uncertainty relations

- Uncertainty relations in terms of variances of incompatible observables are generally expressed in two forms— product form and sum form.
- Although, both of these kinds of uncertainty relations express limitations in the possible preparations of the system by giving a lower bound to the product or sum of the variances of two observables, product form cannot capture the concept of incompatibility of observables properly because it may become trivial even when observables do not commute.

Uncertainty relations

- Uncertainty relations in terms of variances of incompatible observables are generally expressed in two forms— product form and sum form.
- Although, both of these kinds of uncertainty relations express limitations in the possible preparations of the system by giving a lower bound to the product or sum of the variances of two observables, product form cannot capture the concept of incompatibility of observables properly because it may become trivial even when observables do not commute.

Uncertainty relations

- Uncertainty relations in terms of variances of incompatible observables are generally expressed in two forms— product form and sum form.
- Although, both of these kinds of uncertainty relations express limitations in the possible preparations of the system by giving a lower bound to the product or sum of the variances of two observables, product form cannot capture the concept of incompatibility of observables properly because it may become trivial even when observables do not commute.
- In this sense, uncertainty relations in terms of the sum of variances capture the concept of incompatibility more accurately.

Uncertainty relations

- Uncertainty relations in terms of variances of incompatible observables are generally expressed in two forms— product form and sum form.
- Although, both of these kinds of uncertainty relations express limitations in the possible preparations of the system by giving a lower bound to the product or sum of the variances of two observables, product form cannot capture the concept of incompatibility of observables properly because it may become trivial even when observables do not commute.
- In this sense, uncertainty relations in terms of the sum of variances capture the concept of incompatibility more accurately.

Uncertainty relations

- Uncertainty relations in terms of variances of incompatible observables are generally expressed in two forms— product form and sum form.
- Although, both of these kinds of uncertainty relations express limitations in the possible preparations of the system by giving a lower bound to the product or sum of the variances of two observables, product form cannot capture the concept of incompatibility of observables properly because it may become trivial even when observables do not commute.
- In this sense, uncertainty relations in terms of the sum of variances capture the concept of incompatibility more accurately.
- It may be noted that earlier uncertainty relations that provide a bound to the sum of the variances comprise a lower bound in terms of the variance of the sum of observables, entropic uncertainty relations, sum uncertainty relation for angular momentum observables, sum uncertainty relations for N-incompatible observables, uncertainty relations for noise and disturbance and also uncertainty relations for non-Hermitian operators.

Uncertainty relations

- Uncertainty relations in terms of variances of incompatible observables are generally expressed in two forms— product form and sum form.
- Although, both of these kinds of uncertainty relations express limitations in the possible preparations of the system by giving a lower bound to the product or sum of the variances of two observables, product form cannot capture the concept of incompatibility of observables properly because it may become trivial even when observables do not commute.
- In this sense, uncertainty relations in terms of the sum of variances capture the concept of incompatibility more accurately.
- It may be noted that earlier uncertainty relations that provide a bound to the sum of the variances comprise a lower bound in terms of the variance of the sum of observables, entropic uncertainty relations, sum uncertainty relation for angular momentum observables, sum uncertainty relations for N-incompatible observables, uncertainty relations for noise and disturbance and also uncertainty relations for non-Hermitian operators.

Uncertainty relations

- Uncertainty relations in terms of variances of incompatible observables are generally expressed in two forms— product form and sum form.
- Although, both of these kinds of uncertainty relations express limitations in the possible preparations of the system by giving a lower bound to the product or sum of the variances of two observables, product form cannot capture the concept of incompatibility of observables properly because it may become trivial even when observables do not commute.
- In this sense, uncertainty relations in terms of the sum of variances capture the concept of incompatibility more accurately.
- It may be noted that earlier uncertainty relations that provide a bound to the sum of the variances comprise a lower bound in terms of the variance of the sum of observables, entropic uncertainty relations, sum uncertainty relation for angular momentum observables, sum uncertainty relations for N-incompatible observables, uncertainty relations for noise and disturbance and also uncertainty relations for non-Hermitian operators.
- Recently, experiments have also been performed to test various uncertainty relations.

Uncertainty relations

- For any two non-commuting operators A and B , the Robertson-Schrödinger uncertainty relation for the state of the system $|\Psi\rangle$ is given by the following inequality

$$\Delta A^2 \Delta B^2 \geq \left| \frac{1}{2} \langle [A, B] \rangle \right|^2 + \left| \frac{1}{2} \langle \{A, B\} \rangle - \langle A \rangle \langle B \rangle \right|^2, \quad (2)$$

where the averages and the variances are defined over the state of the system $|\Psi\rangle$. This relation is a direct consequence of the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality. However, this uncertainty bound is not optimal.

Uncertainty relations

- For any two non-commuting operators A and B , the Robertson-Schrödinger uncertainty relation for the state of the system $|\Psi\rangle$ is given by the following inequality

$$\Delta A^2 \Delta B^2 \geq \left| \frac{1}{2} \langle [A, B] \rangle \right|^2 + \left| \frac{1}{2} \langle \{A, B\} \rangle - \langle A \rangle \langle B \rangle \right|^2, \quad (2)$$

where the averages and the variances are defined over the state of the system $|\Psi\rangle$. This relation is a direct consequence of the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality. However, this uncertainty bound is not optimal.

- Here, we provide a tighter bound and obtain a new uncertainty relation.

Uncertainty relations

- For any two non-commuting operators A and B , the Robertson-Schrödinger uncertainty relation for the state of the system $|\Psi\rangle$ is given by the following inequality

$$\Delta A^2 \Delta B^2 \geq \left| \frac{1}{2} \langle [A, B] \rangle \right|^2 + \left| \frac{1}{2} \langle \{A, B\} \rangle - \langle A \rangle \langle B \rangle \right|^2, \quad (2)$$

where the averages and the variances are defined over the state of the system $|\Psi\rangle$. This relation is a direct consequence of the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality. However, this uncertainty bound is not optimal.

- Here, we provide a tighter bound and obtain a new uncertainty relation.

Uncertainty relations

- For any two non-commuting operators A and B , the Robertson-Schrödinger uncertainty relation for the state of the system $|\Psi\rangle$ is given by the following inequality

$$\Delta A^2 \Delta B^2 \geq \left| \frac{1}{2} \langle [A, B] \rangle \right|^2 + \left| \frac{1}{2} \langle \{A, B\} \rangle - \langle A \rangle \langle B \rangle \right|^2, \quad (2)$$

where the averages and the variances are defined over the state of the system $|\Psi\rangle$. This relation is a direct consequence of the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality. However, this uncertainty bound is not optimal.

- Here, we provide a tighter bound and obtain a new uncertainty relation.

Let us consider two observables A and B in their eigenbasis as $A = \sum_i a_i |a_i\rangle \langle a_i|$ and $B = \sum_i b_i |b_i\rangle \langle b_i|$. Let us define $(A - \langle A \rangle) = \bar{A} = \sum_i \tilde{a}_i |a_i\rangle \langle a_i|$ and $(B - \langle B \rangle) = \bar{B} = \sum_i \tilde{b}_i |b_i\rangle \langle b_i|$. We express $|f\rangle = \bar{A}|\Psi\rangle$ and $|g\rangle = \bar{B}|\Psi\rangle$ as $|f\rangle = \sum_n \alpha_n |\psi_n\rangle$ and $|g\rangle = \sum_n \beta_n |\psi_n\rangle$, where $\{|\psi_n\rangle\}$ is an arbitrary complete orthonormal basis.

Tighter uncertainty relations

- Using the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality for two real vectors

$\vec{\alpha} = (|\alpha_1|, |\alpha_2|, |\alpha_3|, \dots)$, $\vec{\beta} = (|\beta_1|, |\beta_2|, |\beta_3|, \dots)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Delta A^2 \Delta B^2 &= \langle f|f \rangle \langle g|g \rangle = \sum_{n,m} |\alpha_n|^2 |\beta_m|^2 \\
 &\geq \left(\sum_n |\alpha_n| |\beta_n| \right)^2 = \left(\sum_n |\alpha_n^* \beta_n| \right)^2 \\
 &= \left(\sum_n |\langle \Psi | \bar{A} | \psi_n \rangle \langle \psi_n | \bar{B} | \Psi \rangle| \right)^2 \\
 &= \left(\sum_n |\langle \Psi | \bar{A} \bar{B}_n^\psi | \Psi \rangle| \right)^2, \tag{3}
 \end{aligned}$$

where $\bar{B}_n^\psi = |\psi_n \rangle \langle \psi_n | \bar{B}$, $\alpha_n = \langle \psi_n | \bar{A} | \Psi \rangle$ and $\beta_n = \langle \psi_n | \bar{B} | \Psi \rangle$.

Tighter uncertainty relations

- Using the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality for two real vectors

$\vec{\alpha} = (|\alpha_1|, |\alpha_2|, |\alpha_3|, \dots)$, $\vec{\beta} = (|\beta_1|, |\beta_2|, |\beta_3|, \dots)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Delta A^2 \Delta B^2 &= \langle f|f \rangle \langle g|g \rangle = \sum_{n,m} |\alpha_n|^2 |\beta_m|^2 \\
 &\geq \left(\sum_n |\alpha_n| |\beta_n| \right)^2 = \left(\sum_n |\alpha_n^* \beta_n| \right)^2 \\
 &= \left(\sum_n |\langle \Psi | \bar{A} | \psi_n \rangle \langle \psi_n | \bar{B} | \Psi \rangle| \right)^2 \\
 &= \left(\sum_n |\langle \Psi | \bar{A} \bar{B}_n^\psi | \Psi \rangle| \right)^2, \tag{3}
 \end{aligned}$$

where $\bar{B}_n^\psi = |\psi_n \rangle \langle \psi_n | \bar{B}$, $\alpha_n = \langle \psi_n | \bar{A} | \Psi \rangle$ and $\beta_n = \langle \psi_n | \bar{B} | \Psi \rangle$.

- On expressing $\langle \Psi | \bar{A} \bar{B}_n^\psi | \Psi \rangle = \frac{1}{2} (\langle [\bar{A}, \bar{B}_n^\psi] \rangle_\Psi + \langle \{ \bar{A}, \bar{B}_n^\psi \} \rangle_\Psi)$, the new uncertainty relation can be written as

$$\Delta A^2 \Delta B^2 \geq \frac{1}{4} \left(\sum_n \left| \langle [\bar{A}, \bar{B}_n^\psi] \rangle_\Psi + \langle \{ \bar{A}, \bar{B}_n^\psi \} \rangle_\Psi \right| \right)^2. \tag{4}$$

Tighter uncertainty relations

- The new uncertainty relation is tighter than the Robertson-Schrödinger uncertainty relation. To prove this let us start with the right hand side of Eq. (3) and note that

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\sum_n |\langle \Psi | \bar{A} \bar{B}_n^\psi | \Psi \rangle| \right)^2 &\geq \left| \sum_n \langle \Psi | \bar{A} \bar{B}_n^\psi | \Psi \rangle \right|^2 \\ &= \left| \langle \Psi | \bar{A} \bar{B} | \Psi \rangle \right|^2, \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

where we have used the fact that $|\sum_i z_i|^2 \leq (\sum_i |z_i|)^2$, $z_i \in \mathbb{C}$ for all i . Here, the last line in Eq. (5) is nothing but the bound obtained in Eq. (2).

Tighter uncertainty relations

- The new uncertainty relation is tighter than the Robertson-Schrödinger uncertainty relation. To prove this let us start with the right hand side of Eq. (3) and note that

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\sum_n |\langle \Psi | \bar{A} \bar{B}_n^\psi | \Psi \rangle| \right)^2 &\geq \left| \sum_n \langle \Psi | \bar{A} \bar{B}_n^\psi | \Psi \rangle \right|^2 \\ &= \left| \langle \Psi | \bar{A} \bar{B} | \Psi \rangle \right|^2, \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

where we have used the fact that $|\sum_i z_i|^2 \leq (\sum_i |z_i|)^2$, $z_i \in \mathbb{C}$ for all i . Here, the last line in Eq. (5) is nothing but the bound obtained in Eq. (2).

- Thus, our bound is indeed tighter than the Robertson-Schrödinger uncertainty relation.

Tighter uncertainty relations

- The new uncertainty relation is tighter than the Robertson-Schrödinger uncertainty relation. To prove this let us start with the right hand side of Eq. (3) and note that

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\sum_n |\langle \Psi | \bar{A} \bar{B}_n^\psi | \Psi \rangle| \right)^2 &\geq \left| \sum_n \langle \Psi | \bar{A} \bar{B}_n^\psi | \Psi \rangle \right|^2 \\ &= \left| \langle \Psi | \bar{A} \bar{B} | \Psi \rangle \right|^2, \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

where we have used the fact that $|\sum_i z_i|^2 \leq (\sum_i |z_i|)^2$, $z_i \in \mathbb{C}$ for all i . Here, the last line in Eq. (5) is nothing but the bound obtained in Eq. (2).

- Thus, our bound is indeed tighter than the Robertson-Schrödinger uncertainty relation.
- This uncertainty relation in Eq. (4) can further be tightened by optimizing over the sets of complete orthonormal bases as

$$\Delta A^2 \Delta B^2 \geq \max_{\{|\psi_n\rangle\}} \frac{1}{4} \left(\sum_n \left| \langle [\bar{A}, \bar{B}_n^\psi] \rangle_\Psi + \langle \{\bar{A}, \bar{B}_n^\psi\} \rangle_\Psi \right| \right)^2. \quad (6)$$

Tighter uncertainty relations

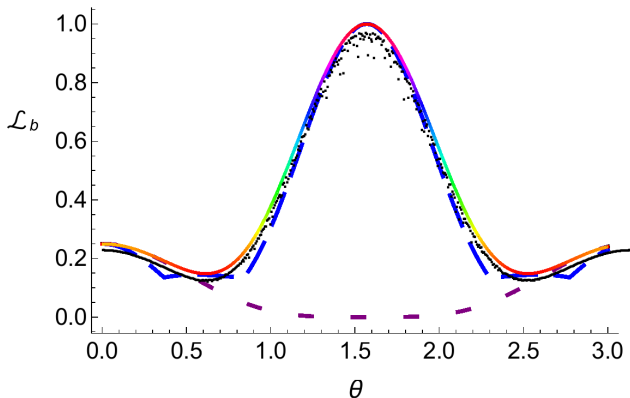


Figure : Here, we plot the lower bound of the product of variances of two incompatible observables, $A = L_x$ and $B = L_y$, two components of the angular momentum for spin 1 particle with a state $|\Psi\rangle = \cos \theta|1\rangle - \sin \theta|0\rangle$, where the state $|1\rangle$ and $|0\rangle$ are the eigenstates of L_z corresponding to eigenvalues 1 and 0 respectively. The long dashed (blue colored) line shows the lower bound of the product of variances given by (7), the flattest (purple colored, tiny dashed) curve stands for the bound given by Schrödinger uncertainty relation given by Eq. (2) and the continuous line (hue colored) plot denotes the product of two variances. Scattered black points denote the optimized uncertainty bound achieved by Eq. (6).

Tighter uncertainty relations

- Next, we derive an optimization-free uncertainty relation for two incompatible observables. For that we consider (say)

$$\bar{A}^2 = \sum_{i,j} (a_i - a_j F_{\Psi}^{aj})^2 |a_i\rangle \langle a_i| = \sum_i (\tilde{a}_i)^2 |a_i\rangle \langle a_i| \text{ and}$$

$$\bar{B}^2 = \sum_{i,j} (b_i - b_j F_{\Psi}^{bj})^2 |b_i\rangle \langle b_i| = \sum_i (\tilde{b}_i)^2 |b_i\rangle \langle b_i|, \text{ where } F_{\Psi}^x \text{ is nothing but the fidelity between the state } |\Psi\rangle \text{ and } |x\rangle \text{ (} |x\rangle = |a_i\rangle, |b_i\rangle \text{), } F(|\Psi\rangle, |x\rangle) = |\langle \Psi | x \rangle|^2.$$

Tighter uncertainty relations

- Next, we derive an optimization-free uncertainty relation for two incompatible observables. For that we consider (say)

$$\bar{A}^2 = \sum_{i,j} (a_i - a_j F_{\Psi}^{aj})^2 |a_i\rangle \langle a_i| = \sum_i (\tilde{a}_i)^2 |a_i\rangle \langle a_i| \text{ and}$$

$$\bar{B}^2 = \sum_{i,j} (b_i - b_j F_{\Psi}^{bj})^2 |b_i\rangle \langle b_i| = \sum_i (\tilde{b}_i)^2 |b_i\rangle \langle b_i|, \text{ where } F_{\Psi}^x \text{ is nothing but the fidelity between the state } |\Psi\rangle \text{ and } |x\rangle \text{ (} |x\rangle = |a_i\rangle, |b_i\rangle \text{), } F(|\Psi\rangle, |x\rangle) = |\langle \Psi | x \rangle|^2.$$

- Using the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, we obtain

$$\Delta A^2 \Delta B^2 \geq \left(\sum_i \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{a_i}} \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{b_i}} \tilde{a}_i \tilde{b}_i \right)^2, \quad (7)$$

where we use the inequality for two real vectors \vec{u} and \vec{v} defined as

$$\vec{u} = \left(\tilde{a}_1 \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{a_1}}, \tilde{a}_2 \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{a_2}}, \tilde{a}_3 \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{a_3}}, \dots \right), \vec{v} = \left(\tilde{b}_1 \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{b_1}}, \tilde{b}_2 \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{b_2}}, \tilde{b}_3 \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{b_3}}, \dots \right) \text{ and the quantities } \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{a_i}} \tilde{a}_i, \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{b_i}} \tilde{b}_i \text{ are arranged such that } \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{a_{i+1}}} \tilde{a}_{i+1} \geq \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{a_i}} \tilde{a}_i \text{ and } \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{b_{i+1}}} \tilde{b}_{i+1} \geq \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{b_i}} \tilde{b}_i.$$

Tighter uncertainty relations

- Next, we derive an optimization-free uncertainty relation for two incompatible observables. For that we consider (say)

$$\bar{A}^2 = \sum_{i,j} (a_i - a_j F_{\Psi}^{aj})^2 |a_i\rangle \langle a_i| = \sum_i (\tilde{a}_i)^2 |a_i\rangle \langle a_i| \text{ and}$$

$$\bar{B}^2 = \sum_{i,j} (b_i - b_j F_{\Psi}^{bj})^2 |b_i\rangle \langle b_i| = \sum_i (\tilde{b}_i)^2 |b_i\rangle \langle b_i|, \text{ where } F_{\Psi}^x \text{ is nothing but the fidelity between the state } |\Psi\rangle \text{ and } |x\rangle \text{ (} |x\rangle = |a_i\rangle, |b_i\rangle \text{), } F(|\Psi\rangle, |x\rangle) = |\langle \Psi | x \rangle|^2.$$

- Using the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, we obtain

$$\Delta A^2 \Delta B^2 \geq \left(\sum_i \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{a_i}} \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{b_i}} \tilde{a}_i \tilde{b}_i \right)^2, \quad (7)$$

where we use the inequality for two real vectors \vec{u} and \vec{v} defined as

$$\vec{u} = \left(\tilde{a}_1 \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{a_1}}, \tilde{a}_2 \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{a_2}}, \tilde{a}_3 \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{a_3}}, \dots \right), \vec{v} = \left(\tilde{b}_1 \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{b_1}}, \tilde{b}_2 \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{b_2}}, \tilde{b}_3 \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{b_3}}, \dots \right) \text{ and the quantities } \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{a_i}} \tilde{a}_i, \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{b_i}} \tilde{b}_i \text{ are arranged such that } \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{a_{i+1}}} \tilde{a}_{i+1} \geq \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{a_i}} \tilde{a}_i \text{ and } \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{b_{i+1}}} \tilde{b}_{i+1} \geq \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{b_i}} \tilde{b}_i.$$

- This new uncertainty relation depends on the transition probability between the state of the system and the eigenbases of the observables. The incompatibility is captured here not by the non-commutativity, rather by the non-orthogonality of the state of the system $|\Psi\rangle$ and the eigenbases of the observables $|a_i\rangle$ and $|b_i\rangle$.

Tighter uncertainty relations

- However, we know that the product of variances does not fully capture the uncertainty for two incompatible observables, since if the state of the system is an eigenstate of one of the observables, then the product of the uncertainties vanishes. To overcome this shortcoming, the sum of variances was invoked to capture the uncertainty of two incompatible observables. In this regard, stronger uncertainty relations for all incompatible observables were proposed. But, these uncertainty relations are not always tight and highly dependent on the states perpendicular to the chosen state of the system. Here, we propose new uncertainty relations that perform better than the existing bounds and need no optimization. We use the the parallelogram law for two real vectors to improve the bound on the sum of variances for two incompatible observables.

Tighter uncertainty relations

- However, we know that the product of variances does not fully capture the uncertainty for two incompatible observables, since if the state of the system is an eigenstate of one of the observables, then the product of the uncertainties vanishes. To overcome this shortcoming, the sum of variances was invoked to capture the uncertainty of two incompatible observables. In this regard, stronger uncertainty relations for all incompatible observables were proposed. But, these uncertainty relations are not always tight and highly dependent on the states perpendicular to the chosen state of the system. Here, we propose new uncertainty relations that perform better than the existing bounds and need no optimization. We use the the parallelogram law for two real vectors to improve the bound on the sum of variances for two incompatible observables.
- Using the parallelogram law for two real vectors \vec{u} and \vec{v} , one can derive a lower bound on the sum of variances of two observables as

$$\Delta A^2 + \Delta B^2 \geq \frac{1}{2} \sum_i \left(\tilde{a}_i \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{a_i}} + \tilde{b}_i \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{b_i}} \right)^2. \quad (8)$$

As shown in Fig. (2), the bound obtained in Eq. (8) is one of the tightest optimization free bound.

Tighter uncertainty relations

- However, we know that the product of variances does not fully capture the uncertainty for two incompatible observables, since if the state of the system is an eigenstate of one of the observables, then the product of the uncertainties vanishes. To overcome this shortcoming, the sum of variances was invoked to capture the uncertainty of two incompatible observables. In this regard, stronger uncertainty relations for all incompatible observables were proposed. But, these uncertainty relations are not always tight and highly dependent on the states perpendicular to the chosen state of the system. Here, we propose new uncertainty relations that perform better than the existing bounds and need no optimization. We use the the parallelogram law for two real vectors to improve the bound on the sum of variances for two incompatible observables.
- Using the parallelogram law for two real vectors \vec{u} and \vec{v} , one can derive a lower bound on the sum of variances of two observables as

$$\Delta A^2 + \Delta B^2 \geq \frac{1}{2} \sum_i \left(\tilde{a}_i \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{a_i}} + \tilde{b}_i \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{b_i}} \right)^2. \quad (8)$$

As shown in Fig. (2), the bound obtained in Eq. (8) is one of the tightest optimization free bound.

- If one allows the optimization over a set of states, then the procedure used to derive the uncertainty relation given in Eq. (6) can be used to derive another set of uncertainty relations using the parallelogram law for two real vectors $\vec{\alpha}$ and $\vec{\beta}$.

Tighter uncertainty relations

Using the parallelogram law, one obtains

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta A^2 + \Delta B^2 &\geq \frac{1}{2} \sum_n \left(|\alpha_n| + |\beta_n| \right)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_n \left(|\langle \psi_n | \bar{A} | \Psi \rangle| + |\langle \psi_n | \bar{B} | \Psi \rangle| \right)^2.\end{aligned}\quad (9)$$

An optimization over the set of complete bases provides a more tighter bound as

$$\Delta A^2 + \Delta B^2 \geq \max_{\{|\psi_n\rangle\}} \frac{1}{2} \sum_n \left(|\langle \psi_n | \bar{A} | \Psi \rangle| + |\langle \psi_n | \bar{B} | \Psi \rangle| \right)^2.\quad (10)$$

Tighter uncertainty relations

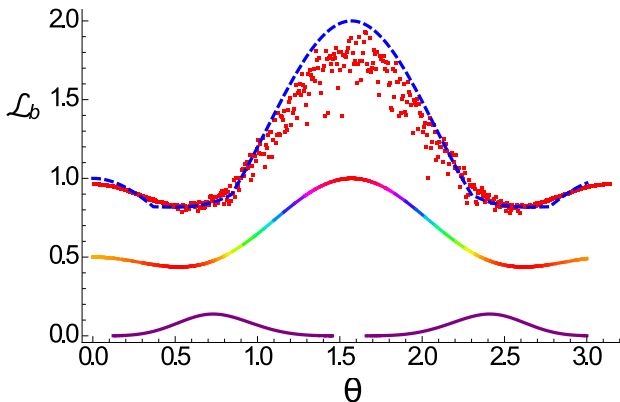


Figure : Here, we plot the lower bound of the sum of variances for two incompatible observables, $A = L_x$ and $B = L_y$, two components of the angular momentum for spin-1 particle with a state $|\Psi\rangle = \cos \theta|1\rangle - \sin \theta|0\rangle$, where the state $|1\rangle$ and $|0\rangle$ are the eigenstates of L_z corresponding to eigenvalues 1 and 0 respectively. Blue dashed line curve shows the lower bound of the sum of variances given by (8), the continuous line (hue colored) plot denotes the bound given by Eq. (4) in and the flattest discontinuous (purple coloured) plot gives the bound given by Eq. (2). Scattered red points are the uncertainty bound achieved by Eq. (3). As observed from the plot, the bound given by Eq. (8) is one of the tightest bounds in the literature. The bound given by Eq. (3) in is the only bound, which surpasses at only few points.

Reverse uncertainty relations

- Does quantum mechanics restrict upper limit to the product and sum of variances of two incompatible observables?

Reverse uncertainty relations

- Does quantum mechanics restrict upper limit to the product and sum of variances of two incompatible observables?
- Here, for the first time, we introduce the reverse bound, i.e., the upper bound to the product and the sum of variances of two incompatible observables.

Reverse uncertainty relations

- Does quantum mechanics restrict upper limit to the product and sum of variances of two incompatible observables?
- Here, for the first time, we introduce the reverse bound, i.e., the upper bound to the product and the sum of variances of two incompatible observables.
- To prove the reverse uncertainty relation for the product of variances of two observables, we use the reverse Cauchy-Schwarz inequality for positive real numbers.

Reverse uncertainty relations

- Does quantum mechanics restrict upper limit to the product and sum of variances of two incompatible observables?
- Here, for the first time, we introduce the reverse bound, i.e., the upper bound to the product and the sum of variances of two incompatible observables.
- To prove the reverse uncertainty relation for the product of variances of two observables, we use the reverse Cauchy-Schwarz inequality for positive real numbers.
- This states that *for two sets of positive real numbers c_1, \dots, c_n and d_1, \dots, d_n , if $0 < c \leq c_i \leq C < \infty$, $0 < d \leq d_i \leq D < \infty$ for some constants c, d, C and D for all $i = 1, \dots, n$, then*

$$\sum_{i,j} c_i^2 d_j^2 \leq \frac{(CD + cd)^2}{4cdCD} \left(\sum_i c_i d_i \right)^2. \quad (11)$$

Reverse uncertainty relations

- Using this inequality for $c_i = \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{a_i}}|\tilde{a}_i|$ and $d_i = \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{b_i}}|\tilde{b}_i|$, one can show that the product of variances of two observables satisfies the relation

$$\Delta A^2 \Delta B^2 \leq \Omega_{ab}^{\Psi} \left(\sum_i \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{a_i}} \sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{b_i}} |\tilde{a}_i| |\tilde{b}_i| \right)^2, \quad (12)$$

where $\Omega_{ab}^{\Psi} = \frac{(M_{\Psi}^a M_{\Psi}^b + m_{\Psi}^a m_{\Psi}^b)^2}{4M_{\Psi}^a M_{\Psi}^b m_{\Psi}^a m_{\Psi}^b}$ with $M_{\Psi}^a = \max\{\sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{a_i}}|\tilde{a}_i|\}$, $m_{\Psi}^a = \min\{\sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{a_i}}|\tilde{a}_i|\}$, $M_{\Psi}^b = \max\{\sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{b_i}}|\tilde{b}_i|\}$ and $m_{\Psi}^b = \min\{\sqrt{F_{\Psi}^{b_i}}|\tilde{b}_i|\}$.

- If one uses the reverse Cauchy-Schwarz inequality for the two real positive vectors $\vec{\alpha}$ and $\vec{\beta}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta A^2 \Delta B^2 &\leq \Lambda_{\alpha\beta}^{\psi\Psi} \left(\sum_n |\alpha_n| |\beta_n| \right)^2 \\ &= \frac{\Lambda_{\alpha\beta}^{\psi\Psi}}{4} \left(\sum_n \left| \langle [\bar{A}, \bar{B}_n^{\psi\Psi}] \rangle + \langle \{\bar{A}, \bar{B}_n^{\psi\Psi}\} \rangle \right| \right)^2, \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

where $\Lambda_{\alpha\beta}^{\psi\Psi} = \frac{(M_{\psi\Psi}^{\alpha} M_{\psi\Psi}^{\beta} + m_{\psi\Psi}^{\alpha} m_{\psi\Psi}^{\beta})^2}{4M_{\psi\Psi}^{\alpha} M_{\psi\Psi}^{\beta} m_{\psi\Psi}^{\alpha} m_{\psi\Psi}^{\beta}}$ with $M_{\psi\Psi}^{\alpha} = \max\{|\alpha_n|\}$, $m_{\psi\Psi}^{\alpha} = \min\{|\alpha_n|\}$, $M_{\psi\Psi}^{\beta} = \max\{|\beta_n|\}$ and $m_{\psi\Psi}^{\beta} = \min\{|\beta_n|\}$.

- One can optimize the right hand side.

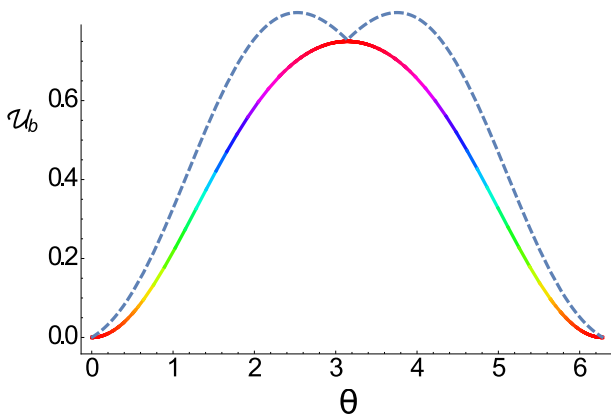


Figure : Here, we plot the upper bound of the product of variances for two incompatible observables, $A = \sigma_x$ and $B = \sigma_z$, two components of the angular momentum for spin $\frac{1}{2}$ particle with a state $\rho = \frac{1}{2} \left(I_2 + \cos \frac{\theta}{2} \sigma_x + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \sigma_y + \frac{1}{2} \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \sigma_z \right)$. Blue dashed line curve is the upper bound of the product of the two variances given by (12) and the continuous line (hue colored) plot denotes the product of the two variances.

Reverse uncertainty relations

- Next, we derive the reverse uncertainty relation for the sum of variances using the Dunkl-Williams inequality. It is a state dependent upper bound on the sum of variances. The Dunkl-Williams inequality states that *if f, g are non-null vectors in the real or complex inner product space, then*

$$\|f - g\| \geq \frac{1}{2}(\|f\| + \|g\|)\left\|\frac{f}{\|f\|} - \frac{g}{\|g\|}\right\|. \quad (14)$$

- Now, if we take $|f\rangle = \bar{A}|\Psi\rangle$ and $|g\rangle = \bar{B}|\Psi\rangle$ as defined earlier, then, using the Dunkl-Williams inequality we obtain the following equation

$$\Delta A + \Delta B \leq \frac{\sqrt{2}\Delta(A - B)}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{\text{Cov}(A, B)}{\Delta A \Delta B}}}, \quad (15)$$

where, $\text{Cov}(A, B) = \frac{1}{2}\langle\{A, B\}\rangle - \langle A\rangle\langle B\rangle$ is the *quantum covariance* of the operators A and B in quantum state $|\Psi\rangle$. Since $\frac{\text{Cov}(A, B)}{\Delta A \Delta B} \leq 1$ the quantity inside the square root in the denominator of the Eq. (15) is always positive.

- Squaring the both sides of the equation, we obtain an upper bound on the sum of variances as

$$\Delta A^2 + \Delta B^2 \leq \frac{2\Delta(A - B)^2}{\left[1 - \frac{\text{Cov}(A, B)}{\Delta A \Delta B}\right]} - 2\Delta A \Delta B. \quad (16)$$

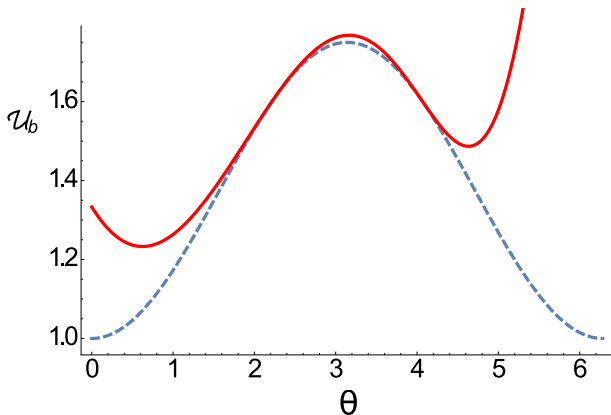


Figure : Here, we plot the upper bound of the sum of variances for two incompatible observables, $A = \sigma_x$ and $B = \sigma_z$, two components of the spin angular momentum for spin $\frac{1}{2}$ particle with a state $\rho = \frac{1}{2} \left(I_2 + \cos \frac{\theta}{2} \sigma_x + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \sigma_y + \frac{1}{2} \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \sigma_z \right)$. The continuous line (red colored) plot is the upper bound of the sum of the two variances given by (16) and the blue dashed curve denotes the sum of the two variances.

As can be seen in Fig. (4), the bound is actually tight for some classes of qubit states.

Summary and conclusions

- Arguably, the uncertainty relations are the most fundamental relations in quantum theory.

Summary and conclusions

- Arguably, the uncertainty relations are the most fundamental relations in quantum theory.
- To summarize, we have derived tighter, state-dependent uncertainty relations both in the sum as well as the product form for the variances of two incompatible observables.

Summary and conclusions

- Arguably, the uncertainty relations are the most fundamental relations in quantum theory.
- To summarize, we have derived tighter, state-dependent uncertainty relations both in the sum as well as the product form for the variances of two incompatibles observables.
- We have also introduced state-dependent reverse uncertainty relations based on variances.

Summary and conclusions

- Arguably, the uncertainty relations are the most fundamental relations in quantum theory.
- To summarize, we have derived tighter, state-dependent uncertainty relations both in the sum as well as the product form for the variances of two incompatible observables.
- We have also introduced state-dependent reverse uncertainty relations based on variances.
- Significance of the uncertainty and the reverse relations is that for a fixed amount of 'spread' of the distribution of measurement outcomes of one observable, the 'spread' for the other observable is bounded from both the sides.

Summary and conclusions

- Arguably, the uncertainty relations are the most fundamental relations in quantum theory.
- To summarize, we have derived tighter, state-dependent uncertainty relations both in the sum as well as the product form for the variances of two incompatibles observables.
- We have also introduced state-dependent reverse uncertainty relations based on variances.
- Significance of the uncertainty and the reverse relations is that for a fixed amount of 'spread' of the distribution of measurement outcomes of one observable, the 'spread' for the other observable is bounded from both the sides.
- These uncertainty relations will play an important role in quantum metrology, quantum speed limits and many other fields of quantum information theory due to the fact that these relations are optimization free, state-dependent and tighter than the most of the existing bounds.

Summary and conclusions

- Arguably, the uncertainty relations are the most fundamental relations in quantum theory.
- To summarize, we have derived tighter, state-dependent uncertainty relations both in the sum as well as the product form for the variances of two incompatibles observables.
- We have also introduced state-dependent reverse uncertainty relations based on variances.
- Significance of the uncertainty and the reverse relations is that for a fixed amount of 'spread' of the distribution of measurement outcomes of one observable, the 'spread' for the other observable is bounded from both the sides.
- These uncertainty relations will play an important role in quantum metrology, quantum speed limits and many other fields of quantum information theory due to the fact that these relations are optimization free, state-dependent and tighter than the most of the existing bounds.
- The reverse uncertainty relations should set the stage for addressing an important issue in quantum metrology, i.e., to set the upper bound of error in measurement and the upper bound for the time of quantum evolutions.



RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

doi:10.1038/nindia.2017.98 Published online 1 August 2017

Quantum physics gets a reverse uncertainty relation

Theoretical physicists from the Harish-Chandra Research Institute (HRI) in Allahabad have derived a new kind of relation in quantum mechanics called the "Reverse Uncertainty Relation", that could find applications in various areas of quantum physics, quantum information and quantum technology¹.

Debasis Mondal, Shrobona Bagchi and Arun Kumar Pati from HRI show, for the first time, that there is an upper limit to how accurately one can simultaneously measure the position and momentum of a particle.

The original uncertainty principle introduced in 1927 by Werner Heisenberg is a rule in quantum mechanics which sets a "lower" limit on the product of the "variances" of two "incompatible observables" (such as position and momentum), but it was not known if there is any "upper" limit.

"We show that there is indeed an upper limit," Pati, one of the authors, told *Nature India*. "The reverse uncertainty relation shows that there is a "spread" or "range" for both the sum and product of variances of two non-commuting observables," he said. In addition to the reverse uncertainty relation, the authors have proved a new and tighter uncertainty relation from which the Heisenberg uncertainty relation directly follows.

The new relation may be useful in setting an upper limit in "quantum metrology," which exploits quantum systems to reach unprecedented levels of precision in measurements. "Thus, this is not only of fundamental interest but can have applications in diverse areas of quantum physics," Pati said adding "the reverse uncertainty relation should open up a whole new direction of explorations in quantum mechanics which we have not thought of."

References

1. Mondal, D. *et al.* Tighter uncertainty and reverse uncertainty relations. *Phys. Rev. A* **95**, 052117 (2017) doi: 10.1103/PhysRevA.95.052117

References

- W. Heisenberg, Zeitschrift fur Physik (in German) **43**, 172 (1927).
- H. P. Robertson, Phys. Rev. **34**, 163 (1929).
- E. Schrodinger, Proc. Cambridge Philos. Soc. **31**, 553 (1935).
- P. Busch, T. Heinonen, P. J. Lahti, Phys. Rep. **452**, 155 (2007).
- P. Busch, P. Lahti, R. F. Werner, Phys. Rev. Lett. **111**, 160405 (2013)
- L. Maccone and A. K. Pati, Phys. Rev. Lett. **113**, 260401 (2014).
- K. Wang, X. Zhan, Z. Bian, J. Li, Y. Zhang, and P. Xue, Phys. Rev. A **93**, 052108 (2016).
- S. Bagchi and A. K. Pati, Phys. Rev. A **94**, 042104 (2016).
- D. Mondal, S. Bagchi and A. K. Pati, Phys. Rev. A **95**, 052117 (2017).

THANK YOU