February 13-17, 2023: Quantum Computing, Quantum Machine Learning and Quantum Information Theories

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Entanglement and density matrices

1. Last week we discussed the spectral decomposition of an operator, Density matrices and Measurements.

2. This week we start by reviewing density matrices and measurements from previous lecture, see https://github.com/CompPhysics/QuantumComputingMachineLearning/blob/gh-pages/doc/pub/week3/ipynb/week3.ipynb

3. Thereafter our plans are to discuss the Schmidt decomposition and entanglement

- **Reading recommendation**: Scherer, Mathematics of Quantum Computations, chapter 4

- See also whiteboard notes

- Video of lecture

In order to study entanglement and why it is so important for quantum computing, we need to introduce some basic measures and useful quantities. For these endeavors, we will use our two-qubit system from the second lecture in order to introduce, through examples, density matrices and entropy. These two quantities, together with technicalities like the Schmidt decomposition define important quantities in analyzing quantum computing examples.

The Schmidt decomposition is again a linear decompostions which allows us to express a vector in terms of tensor product of two inner product spaces. In quantum information theory and quantum computing it is widely used as away to define and describe entanglement.

First entanglement encounter

Two-qubit system. This system can be thought of as composed of two subsystems A and B. Each subsystem has computational basis states

$$|0\rangle_{\mathrm{A,B}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^T \qquad |1\rangle_{\mathrm{A,B}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^T .$$

The subsystems could represent single particles or composite many-particle systems of a given symmetry. This leads to the many-body computational basis states

$$|00\rangle = |0\rangle_{\mathrm{A}} \otimes |0\rangle_{\mathrm{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^T ,$$

and

$$|10\rangle = |1\rangle_{\mathrm{A}} \otimes |0\rangle_{\mathrm{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^T ,$$

and

$$|01\rangle = |0\rangle_{\mathrm{A}} \otimes |1\rangle_{\mathrm{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^T ,$$

and finally

$$|11\rangle = |1\rangle_{\mathrm{A}} \otimes |1\rangle_{\mathrm{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^T .$$

Bell states. The above computational basis states, which define an ONB, can in turn be used to define another ONB. As an example, consider the so-called Bell states

$$|\Phi^+\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[|00\rangle + |11\rangle \right] ,$$

$$|\Phi^-\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[|00\rangle - |11\rangle \right] ,$$

$$|\Psi^+\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[|10\rangle + |01\rangle \right] ,$$

and

$$|\Psi^-\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[|10\rangle - |01\rangle \right] .$$

It is easy to convince oneself that these states also form an orthonormal basis.

Measuring one of the qubits of one of the above Bell states, automatically determines, as we will see below, the state of the second quabit. To convince ourselves about this, let us assume we perform a measurement on the qubit in system A by introducing the projections with outcomes 0 or 1 as

$$\boldsymbol{P}_0 = |0\rangle\langle 0|_A \otimes \boldsymbol{I}_B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \otimes \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} ,$$

for the projection of the $|0\rangle$ state in system A and similarly

$$\boldsymbol{P}_1 = |1\rangle\langle 1|_A \otimes \boldsymbol{I}_B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \otimes \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

for the projection of the $|1\rangle$ state in system A.

We can then calculate the probability for the various outcomes by computing for example the probability for measuring qubit 0

$$\langle \Phi^+|\boldsymbol{P}_0|\Phi^+\rangle = \frac{1}{2}\left[\langle 00| + \langle 11|\right] \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \left[|00\rangle + |11\rangle\right] = \frac{1}{2}.$$

Similarly, we obtain

$$\langle \Phi^+|\boldsymbol{P}_1|\Phi^+\rangle = \frac{1}{2}\left[\langle 00| + \langle 11|\right] \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \left[|00\rangle + |11\rangle\right] = \frac{1}{2}.$$

After the above measurements the system is in the states

$$|\Phi_0^{'}\rangle = \sqrt{2}\left[|0\rangle\langle 0|_A \otimes \boldsymbol{I}_B\right]|\Phi^+\rangle = |00\rangle,$$

and

$$|\Phi_1^{'}\rangle = \sqrt{2}\left[|0\rangle\langle 0|_A \otimes \boldsymbol{I}_B\right]|\Phi^+\rangle = |11\rangle.$$

We see from the last two equations that the state of the second qubit is determined even though the measurement has only taken place locally on system A.

If we on the other hand consider a state like

$$|00\rangle = |0\rangle_A \otimes |0\rangle_B,$$

this is a pure product state of the single-qubit, or single-particle states, of two qubits (particles) in system A and system B, respectively. We call such a state for a **pure state**. Quantum states that cannot be written as a mixture of other states are called pure quantum states, while all other states are called mixed quantum states.

A state like one of the Bell states (where we introduce the subscript AB to indicate that the state is composed of single states from two subsystem)

$$|\Phi^+\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\left[|00\rangle_{AB} + |11\rangle_{AB}\right],$$

is on the other hand a mixed state and we cannot determine whether system A is in a state 0 or 1. The above state is a superpostion of the states $|00\rangle_{AB}$ and

$|11\rangle_{AB}$ and it is not possible to determine individual states of systems A and B, respectively.

We say that the state is entangled. This yields the following definition of entangled states: a pure bipartite state $|\psi\rangle_{AB}$ is entangled if it cannot be written as a product state $|\psi\rangle_A \otimes |\phi\rangle_B$ for any choice of the states $|\psi\rangle_A$ and $|\phi\rangle_B$. Otherwise we say the state is separable.

As an example, consider an ansatz for the ground state of the helium atom with two electrons in the lowest $1s$ state (hydrogen-like orbits) and with spin $s = 1/2$ and spin projections $m_s = -1/2$ and $m_s = 1/2$. The two single-particle states are given by the tensor products of their spatial $1s$ single-particle states $|\phi_{1s}\rangle$ and and their spin up or spin down spinors $|\xi_{sm_s}\rangle$. The ansatz for the ground state is given by a Slater determinant with total orbital momentum $L = l_1 + l_2 = 0$ and totalt spin $S = s_1 + s_2 = 0$, normally labeled as a spin-singlet state. This ansatz for the ground state is then written as, using the compact notations

$$|\psi_i\rangle = |\phi_{1s}\rangle_i \otimes |\xi\rangle_{s_i m_{s_i}} = |1s, s, m_s\rangle_i,$$

with i being electron 1 or 2, and the tensor product of the two single-electron states as $|1s, s, m_s\rangle_1 |1s, s, m_s\rangle_2 = |1s, s, m_s\rangle_1 \otimes |1s, s, m_s\rangle_2$, we arrive at

$$\Psi(\boldsymbol{r}_1, \boldsymbol{r}_2; s_1, s_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[|1s, 1/2, 1/2\rangle_1 |1s, 1/2, -1/2\rangle_2 - |1s, 1/2, -1/2\rangle_1 |1s, 1/2, 1/2\rangle_2 \right].$$

This is also an example of a state which cannot be written out as a pure state. We call this for an entangled state as well.

A so-called maximally entangled state is given by for a bipartite system as

$$|\Psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{d}} \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} |ii\rangle.$$

We call a bipartite state composed of systems A and B (these systems can be single-particle systems, or single-qubit systems representing low-lying states of complicated many-body systems) for separable if its density matrix ρ_{AB} can be written out as the tensor product of the individual density matrices ρ_A and ρ_B, that is we have for a given probability distribution p_i

$$\rho_{AB} = \sum_i p_i \rho_A(i) \otimes \rho_B(i).$$

If we cannot write the density matrix in this form, we say the system AB is entangled. In order to see this, we can use the so-called Schmidt decomposition, which is essentially an application of the singular-value decomposition.

The Schmidt decomposition allows us to define a pure state in a bipartite Hilbert space composed of systems A and B as

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} \sigma_i |i\rangle_A |i\rangle_B,$$

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where the ampltitudes σ_i are real and positive and their squared values sum up to one, $\sum_i \sigma_i^2 = 1$. The states $|i\rangle_A$ and $|i\rangle_B$ form orthornormal bases for systems A and B respectively, the amplitudes λ_i are the so-called Schmidt coefficients and the Schmidt rank d is equal to the number of Schmidt coefficients and is smaller or equal to the minimum dimensionality of system A and system B, that is $d \leq \min(\dim(A), \dim(B))$.

The proof for the above decomposition is based on the singular-value decomposition. To see this, assume that we have two orthonormal bases sets for systems A and B, respectively. That is we have two ONBs $|i\rangle_A$ and $|j\rangle_B$. We can always construct a product state (a pure state) as

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_{ij} c_{ij} |i\rangle_A |j\rangle_B,$$

where the coefficients c_{ij} are the overlap coefficients which belong to a matrix $\boldsymbol{C}$. If we now assume that the dimensionalities of the two subsystems A and B are the same d, we can always rewrite the matrix $\boldsymbol{C}$ in terms of a singular-value decomposition with unitary/orthogonal matrices $\boldsymbol{U}$ and $\boldsymbol{V}$ of dimension $d \times d$ and a matrix $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ which contains the (diagonal) singular values $\sigma_0 \leq \sigma_1 \leq \ldots 0$ as

$$\boldsymbol{C} = \boldsymbol{U}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\boldsymbol{V}^\dagger.$$

This means we can rewrite the coefficients c_{ij} in terms of the singular-value decomposition

$$c_{ij} = \sum_k u_{ik} \sigma_k v_{kj},$$

and inserting this in the definition of the pure state $|\psi\rangle$ we have

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_{ij} \left(\sum_k u_{ik} \sigma_k v_{kj} \right) |i\rangle_A |j\rangle_B,$$

which we rewrite as

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_k \sigma_k \left(\sum_i u_{ik} |i\rangle_A \right) \otimes \left(\sum_j v_{kj} |j\rangle_B \right),$$

which we identify simply as, since the matrices $\boldsymbol{U}$ and $\boldsymbol{V}$ represent unitary transformations,

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_k \sigma_k |k\rangle_A |k\rangle_B.$$

It is straight forward to prove this relation in case systems A and B have different dimensionalities. Once we know the Schmidt decomposition of a state, we can immmediately say whether it is entangled or not. If a state ψ has is entangled, then its Schmidt decomposition has more than one term. Stated differently, the state is entangled if the so-called Schmidt rank is is greater than one. There is another important property of the Schmidt decomposition which is related to the

properties of the density matrices and their trace operations and the entropies. In order to introduce these concepts let us look at the two-qubit Hamiltonian described here.

Density matrix and simple Hamiltonian

These computational basis states define also the eigenstates of the non-interacting Hamiltonian

$$H_0|00\rangle = \epsilon_{00}|00\rangle,$$
$$H_0|10\rangle = \epsilon_{10}|10\rangle,$$
$$H_0|01\rangle = \epsilon_{01}|01\rangle,$$

and

$$H_0|11\rangle = \epsilon_{11}|11\rangle.$$

The interacting part of the Hamiltonian H_I is given by the tensor product of two σ_x and σ_z matrices, respectively, that is

$$H_\mathrm{I} = H_x\sigma_x \otimes \sigma_x + H_z\sigma_z \otimes \sigma_z,$$

where H_x and H_z are interaction strength parameters. Our final Hamiltonian matrix is given by

$$\boldsymbol{H} = \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_{00} + H_z & 0 & 0 & H_x \\ 0 & \epsilon_{10} - H_z & H_x & 0 \\ 0 & H_x & \epsilon_{01} - H_z & 0 \\ H_x & 0 & 0 & \epsilon_{11} + H_z \end{bmatrix}.$$

The four eigenstates of the above Hamiltonian matrix can in turn be used to define density matrices. As an example, the density matrix of the first eigenstate (lowest energy E_0) Ψ_0 is

$$\rho_0 = \left(\alpha_{00}|00\rangle\langle00| + \alpha_{10}|10\rangle\langle10| + \alpha_{01}|01\rangle\langle01| + \alpha_{11}|11\rangle\langle11|\right),$$

where the coefficients α_{ij} are the eigenvector coefficients resulting from the solution of the above eigenvalue problem.

We can then in turn define the density matrix for the subsets A or B as

$$\rho_A = \mathrm{Tr}_B(\rho_0) = \langle0|\rho_0|0\rangle_B + \langle1|\rho_0|1\rangle_B,$$

or

$$\rho_B = \mathrm{Tr}_A(\rho_0) = \langle0|\rho_0|0\rangle_A + \langle1|\rho_0|1\rangle_A.$$

The density matrices for these subsets can be used to compute the so-called von Neumann entropy, which is one of the possible measures of entanglement. A pure state has entropy equal zero while entangled state have an entropy larger than zero. The von-Neumann entropy is defined as

$$S(A, B) = -\text{Tr}\left(\rho_{A,B} \log_2(\rho_{A,B})\right).$$

The example here shows the above von Neumann entropy based on the density matrix for the lowest many-body state. We see clearly a jump in the entropy around the point where we have a level crossing. At interaction strenght $\lambda = 0$ we have many-body states purely defined by their computational basis states. As we switch on the interaction strength, we obtain an increased degree of mixing and the entropy increases till we reach the level crossing point where we see an additional and sudden increase in entropy. Similar behaviors are observed for the other states. The most important result from this example is that entanglement is driven by the Hamiltonian itself and the strength of the interaction matrix elements and the non-interacting energies.

```python
%matplotlib inline
from  matplotlib import pyplot as plt
import numpy as np
from scipy.linalg import logm, expm
def log2M(a): # base 2 matrix logarithm
    return logm(a)/np.log(2.0)

dim = 4
Hamiltonian = np.zeros((dim,dim))
#number of lambda values
n = 40
lmbd = np.linspace(0.0,1.0,n)
Hx = 2.0
Hz = 3.0
# Non-diagonal part as sigma_x tensor product with sigma_x
sx = np.matrix([[0,1],[1,0]])
sx2 = Hx*np.kron(sx, sx)
# Diagonal part as sigma_z tensor product with sigma_z
sz = np.matrix([[1,0],[0,-1]])
sz2 = Hz*np.kron(sz, sz)
noninteracting = [0.0, 2.5, 6.5, 7.0]
D = np.diag(noninteracting)
Eigenvalue = np.zeros((dim,n))
Entropy = np.zeros(n)

for i in range(n):
    Hamiltonian = lmbd[i]*(sx2+sz2)+D
    # diagonalize and obtain eigenvalues, not necessarily sorted
    EigValues, EigVectors = np.linalg.eig(Hamiltonian)
    # sort eigenvectors and eigenvalues
    permute = EigValues.argsort()
    EigValues = EigValues[permute]
    EigVectors = EigVectors[:,permute]
    # Compute density matrix for selected system state, here ground state
    DensityMatrix = np.zeros((dim,dim))
    DensityMatrix = np.outer(EigVectors[:,0],EigVectors[:,0])
    # Project down on substates and find density matrix for subsystem
    d = np.matrix([[1,0],[0,1]])
    v1 = [1.0,0.0]
    proj1 = np.kron(v1,d)
    x1 = proj1 @ DensityMatrix @ proj1.T
    v2 = [0.0,1.0]
    proj2 = np.kron(v2,d)
```

```python
        x2 = proj2 @ DensityMatrix @ proj2.T
        # Total density matrix for subsystem
        total = x1+x2
        # von Neumann Entropy for subsystem
        Entropy[i] = -np.matrix.trace(total @ log2M(total))
        # Plotting eigenvalues and entropy as functions of interaction strengths
        Eigenvalue[0,i] = EigValues[0]
        Eigenvalue[1,i] = EigValues[1]
        Eigenvalue[2,i] = EigValues[2]
        Eigenvalue[3,i] = EigValues[3]
plt.plot(lmbd, Eigenvalue[0,:] ,'b-',lmbd, Eigenvalue[1,:],'g-',)
plt.plot(lmbd, Eigenvalue[2,:] ,'r-',lmbd, Eigenvalue[3,:],'y-',)
plt.xlabel('$\lambda$')
plt.ylabel('Eigenvalues')
plt.show()
plt.plot(lmbd, Entropy)
plt.xlabel('$\lambda$')
plt.ylabel('Entropy')
plt.show
```

Lecture next week.

1. More on Density natrices and traces

2. Entanglement and entropies

3. Einstein-Podolsky-Rosen paradox

4. Bell's inequalities